

# **LANGUAGE IN MEDIA**

## **REPRESENTATION OF RAPE CASES**

### **GROUP FACING VIOLENCE**

Anna Ceranto - Alba Riera Relats - Margherita

Mazzarol - Kyriaki Veliki - Mihaela Cebanu

# Group Members



**ANNA  
CERANTO**



**ALBA RIERA  
RELATS**



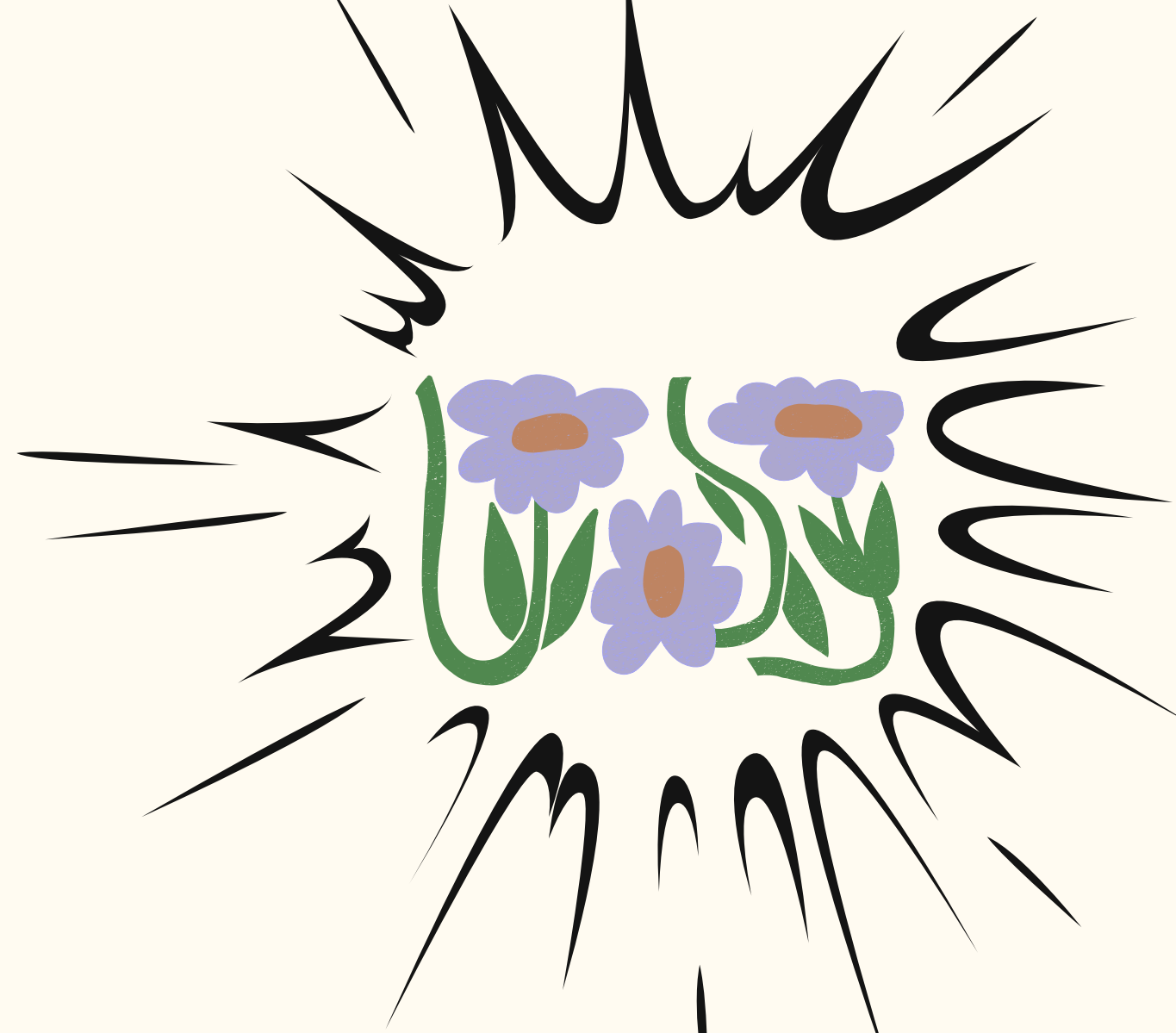
**MARGHERITA  
MAZZAROL**



**KYRIAKI  
VELIKI**



**MIHAELA  
CEBANU**



**“IT’S TRUE THAT I HEAR LOTS OF WOMEN, AND MEN, WHO SAY  
YOU’RE VERY BRAVE. I SAY IT’S NOT BRAVERY, IT’S WILL AND  
DETERMINATION TO CHANGE SOCIETY.”**

Gisèle Pelicot



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# Methodology



BEIJING +30

GMMP 2020

LITERATURE

ARTICLES CHOICE

LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS

COMPARISON CRITERIA

FINAL RESULTS



GUIDELINES



WEBSITE



CALL FOR ACTION

# Analysis and Criteria

- Victim-Blaming language
- Perpetrator-Excusing language
- Pain pornography
- Is the word victim used? Do they use the word Survivor?
- How is the survivor depicted?
- How is the perpetrator depicted?
- Gender of the journalist

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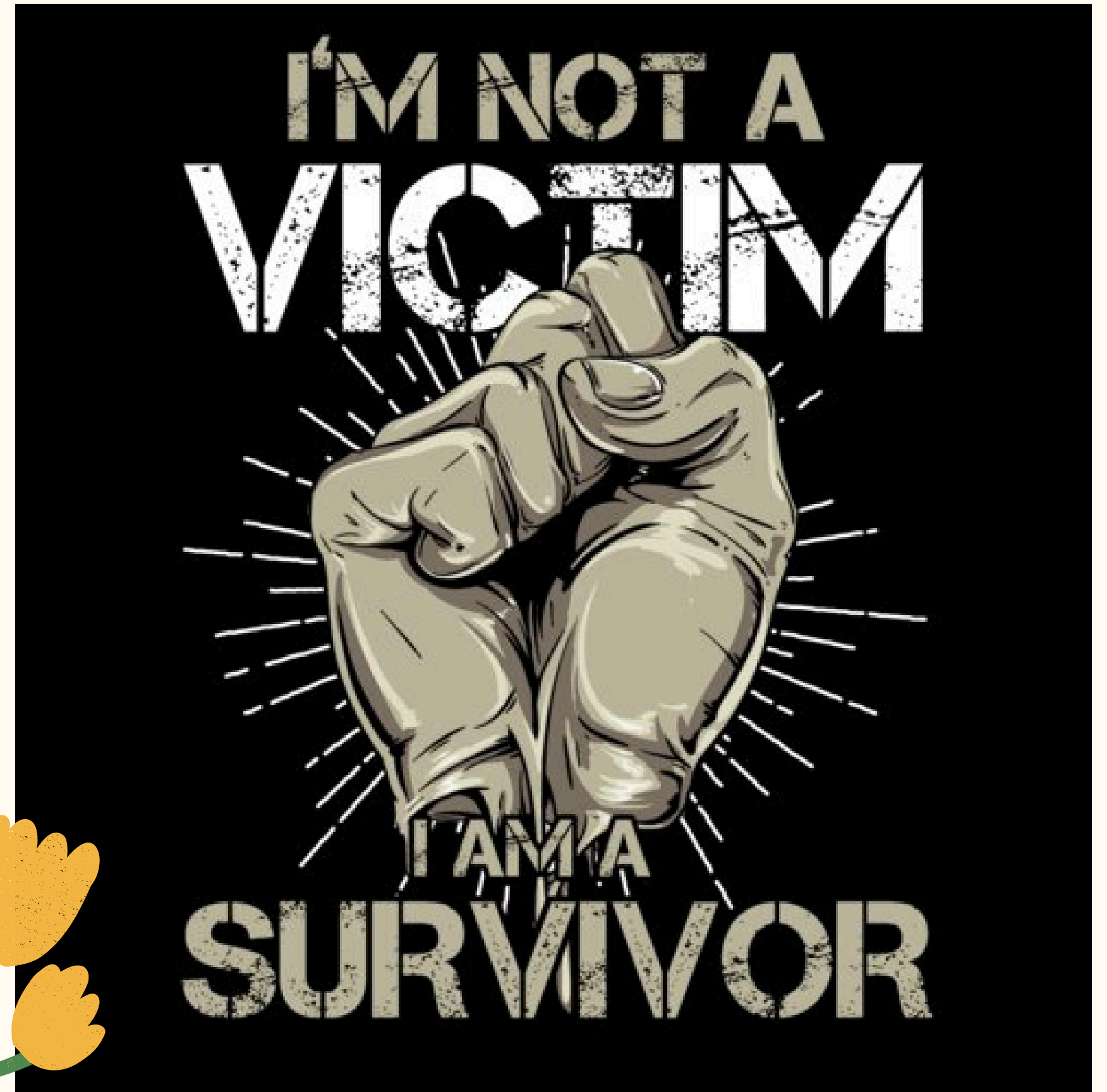
WEBSITE



CALL FOR ACTION



# THE CASES







## **National case Italy**

This case is about a group sexual abuse happened in Palermo, Italy, in summer 2023, where eight boys raped a girl. The case gained national attention, TV, national newspapers and social networks talked about it.



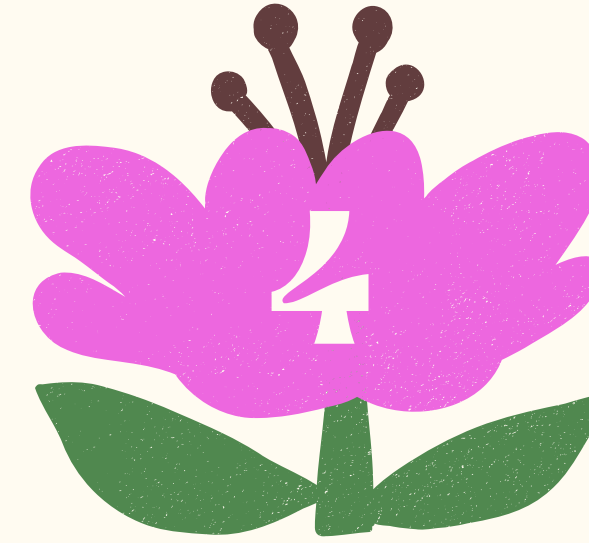
## **”La Manada” Spain**

A group Rape case (2016) that became considered a “breaking point” for feminism and justice for sexual abuse and violence policy in Spain.



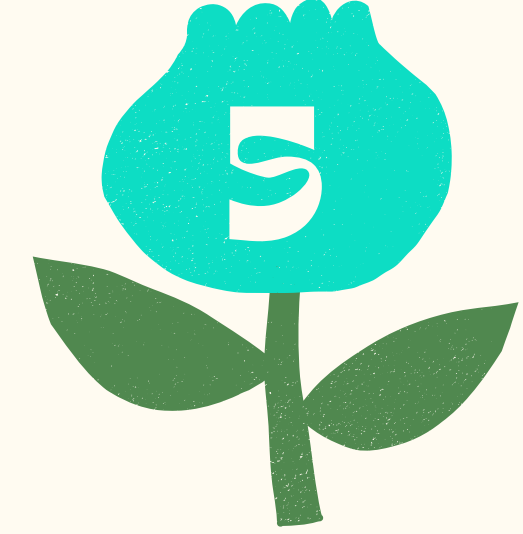
## **Greek Case Case**

The case involves the media coverage of the rape and omicide of a 34-year-old woman at the end of December 2012. The language used in reporting on the case reflects societal discomfort in addressing this kind of violence directly.



## **Moldova case**

The articles discuss the 2016 case of psychiatrist from Moldova, sentenced for sexually assaulting multiple women, highlighting inadequate care for people with disabilities, media portrayal of sensitive issues, and calls for societal and systemic change.



## **Local Case Italy**

A relatively underreported and localized instance of rape, which occurred in a small town in Northern Italy.

# Gisèle Pelicot

International coverage

Italy - Spain - Moldova - Greece





# Guidelines

## MEDIA

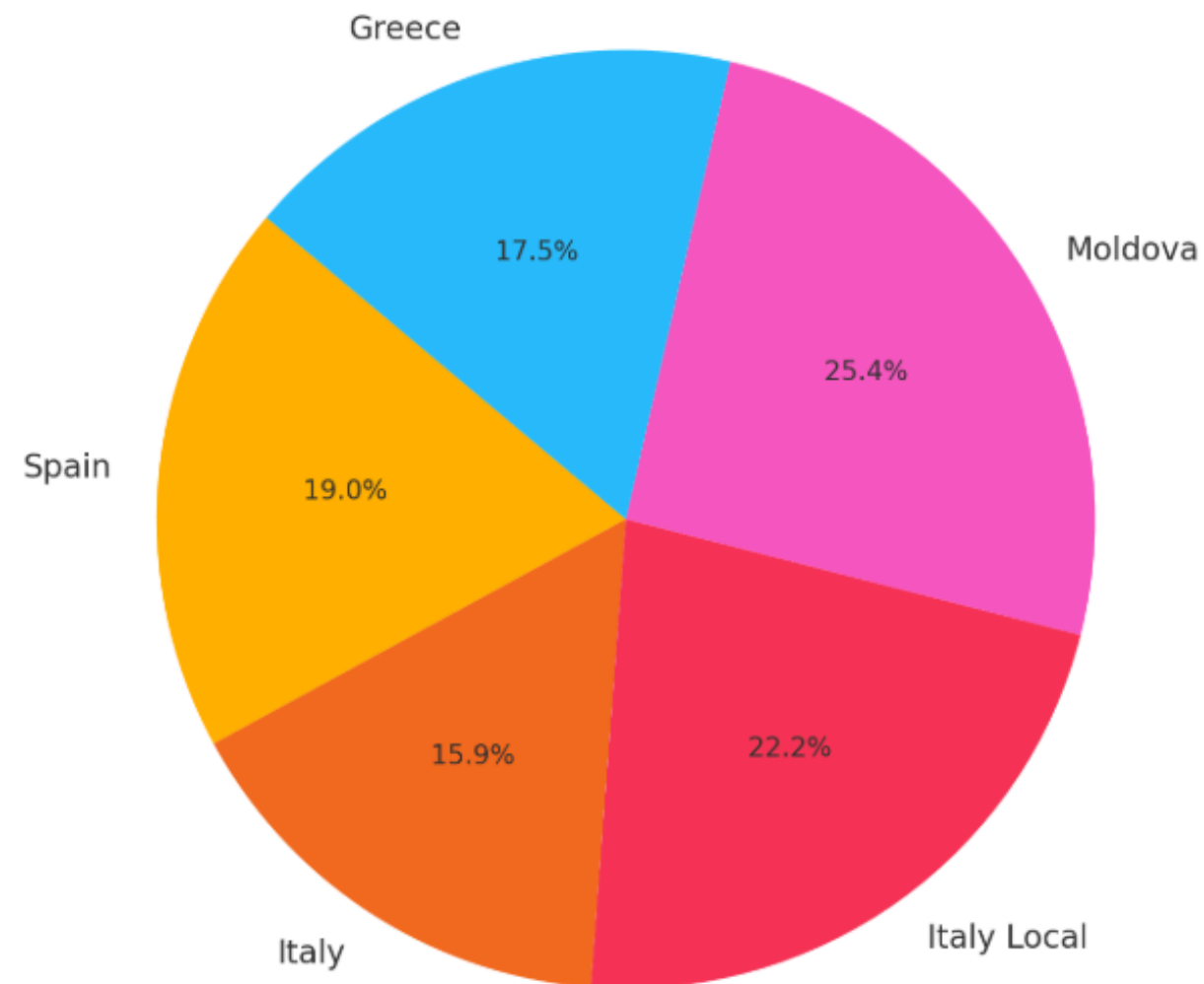
- Survivor-Centered Reporting
- Avoid Reinforcing Rape Myths
- Use Appropriate Language
- Address Public and Legal Perceptions
- Avoid Pain Pornography At All Cost: Be Accurate Without Detail
- Contextualize the Issue
- Avoid Harmful Stereotypes
- Handle Interviews/Quotes with Care
- Consider Your Audience
- Audit Your Practices

## PUBLIC

- Speak Up Against Victim-Blaming
- Challenge Stereotypes
- Insist on Survivor-Centered Reporting
- Demand Privacy and Consent
- Call Out Misuse of Language
- Promote Trauma-Informed Approaches
- Educate and Encourage Constructive Conversations
- Support Survivor-Led Initiatives
- Hold Media Outlets Accountable
- Show Solidarity with Survivors

# Comparison

Media Adherence to Guidelines by Country (Based on Document Analysis)



EMPATHY AND SURVIVOR-CENTERED REPORTING

AVOIDANCE OF PAIN PORNOGRAPHY

TONE TOWARD PERPETRATORS

NEUTRAL AND OBJECTIVE REPORTING

USE OF BROADER CONTEXT

# Results



<https://herwordspd.wordpress.com/>

## About us

We are a group of five young women from different corners of Europe, united by a shared commitment to shedding light on the critical issue of rape and how it is portrayed in the media. Coming from diverse backgrounds, we each bring a unique perspective and personal connection to our work:

- **Kiki (Greece):** Sharing insights on a Greek case, and delves into how cultural narratives and local media frame rape in her home country.
- **Mihaela (Moldova):** It explores how the media portray sensitive issues and how they call for change in society and local systems.
- **Margherita & Anna (Italy):** with two different sides of the Italian media world, National and Local, they analyze the way sensationalism or localized reporting can impact the representation of Rape in the same country.
- **Alba (Spain):** analyses how Spanish media builds the narrative about a case of sexual violence that was a breaking point. There is

## Call to Action



### Speak Up Against Victim-Blaming

**What to look for:** Articles that suggest the survivor’s actions, clothing, or choices contributed to the assault.

**Action:** Comment respectfully, pointing out the issue.

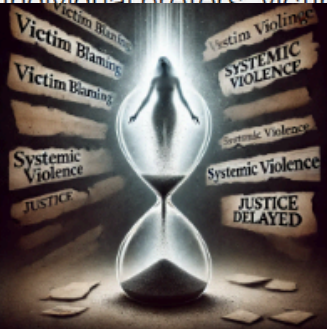
## Guidelines

### Survivor-Centered Reporting

**Respect Privacy:** Avoid sharing details that could identify the survivor (name, address, workplace, or other specifics), unless the survivor consents to it.

**Blur Relationships:** If the perpetrator is known to the survivor, avoid describing relationships in ways that might identify the survivor, unless the survivor consents to it.

**Use Survivor-Preferred Terms:** Refer to individuals as “survivors” rather than “victims,” unless quoting legal or medical terminology or if the individual prefers “victim.”



Media Representation of a Local/Lesser known Italian Rape Case  
January 8, 2025



Examining the Bălți Doctor Rape Case  
January 8, 2025



La Manada: Analyzing Media Coverage and Public Reaction  
January 8, 2025



Gisèle Pelicot: Media Narratives and Domestic Violence  
January 8, 2025



Victim Representation in Palermo’s Sexual Violence Coverage  
January 8, 2025

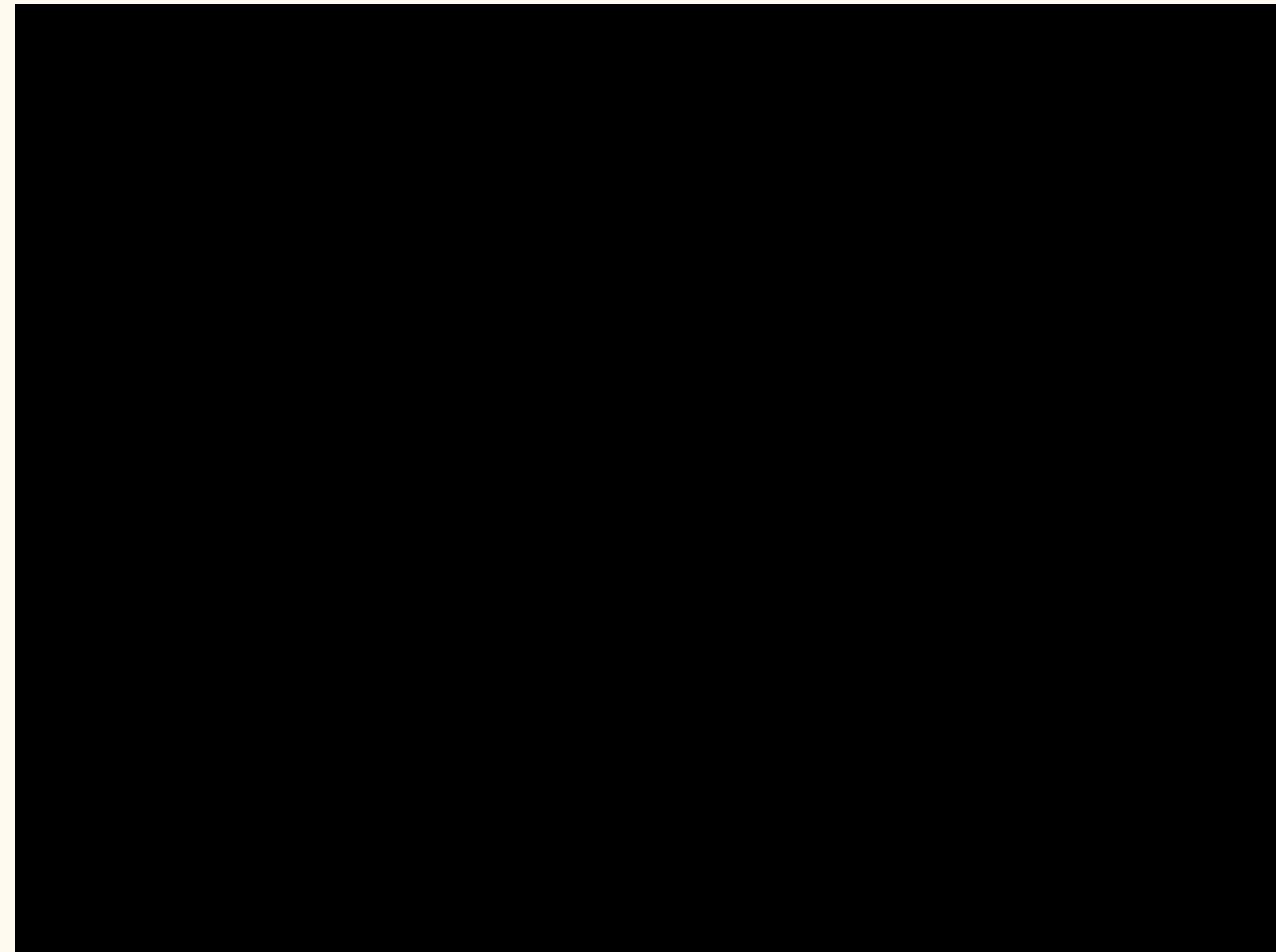


Zoi Dalaklidou: Analyzing Media Language and Victim Narratives  
January 3, 2025





# Podcast







# Thank you!

“Not fragile like a flower, fragile like a bomb”  
- Frida Kahlo & Ruth Bader Ginsburg