

Do Now

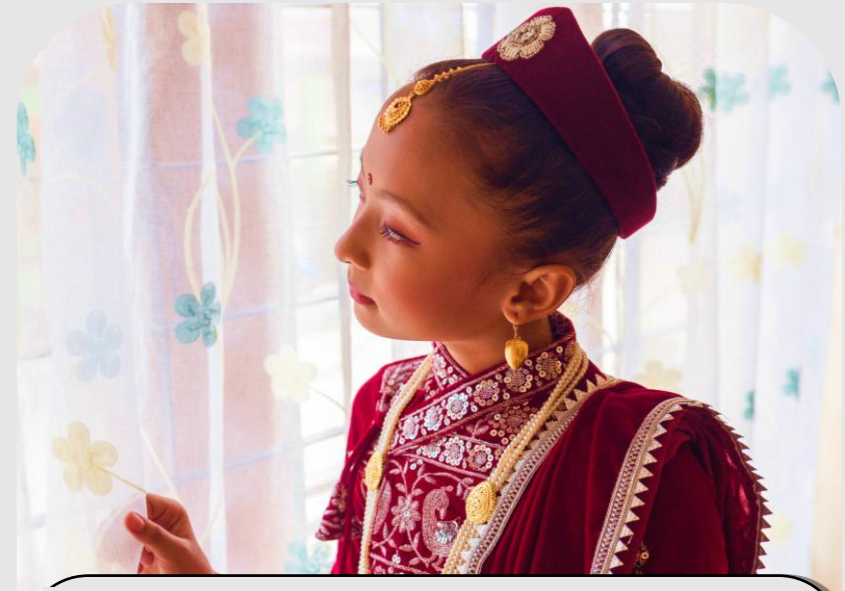
Forced marriages and why they are illegal



Zara hadn't been looking forward to her Grandma's funeral in Pakistan, but her family had promised her she would still be able to study and chat to friends online.

Yet when Zara arrived, however, her parents took her phone off her. She was then taken shopping by an auntie she didn't know well. 'Really? Dress shopping – for a funeral?' Zara was confused.

Discuss: What could really be happening to Zara in this situation?



What's the difference between a forced marriage and an arranged marriage?

I think the difference is...

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Learning outcomes:

Explain the differences between forced and arranged marriages in detail and how a person can access help at different stages in the proceedings using new key terms.

Watch first:

<https://youtu.be/ggjXp8EIFw4>



We have a lot of new key terms today so instead of writing them all down these will be the focus of our Task One activity.



Forced Marriage and Arranged Marriage

The Difference Between Forced and Arranged Marriage

A forced marriage happens when one or both people are made to marry without their full consent. They are not given the choice to say no. Forced marriage is a serious crime in the UK and a violation of human rights.

An arranged marriage is not the same as a forced marriage. In an arranged marriage, the families help to find a suitable partner. Both people must agree to the marriage and have the right to refuse. Families may consider religion, culture, education, or family background when suggesting a partner.

Why Forced Marriages Happen

Forced marriages can happen for several reasons, such as to keep family “honour,” to keep property or money within the family, due to social or financial pressure, and in some cases, because a family sees their child as a burden. Some young people are even taken abroad on what they believe is a holiday, only to have their passports taken away and be forced to marry.



Forced Marriage and Arranged Marriage

Who is at Risk

Forced marriage is rare in the UK, but it does happen. Victims are often aged between 13 and 30, though it can happen at any age. Many cases involve families from certain cultural backgrounds, but it is important to remember that no religion or culture truly supports forced marriage.

The Consequences of Forced Marriage

Forcing someone into marriage is illegal. In the UK, since 2014, parents or others found guilty can face up to seven years in prison. UK citizens forced into marriage abroad are protected by the same law. Forced marriage can lead to serious mental and physical harm, risk of violence or abuse from a spouse or their family and in extreme cases, self-harm or suicide. This kind of violence is sometimes called “honour-based violence.”

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Getting Help

Forced marriage is often planned in secret, so it is important to speak up early. If you are worried that someone you know is at risk do not try to intervene yourself, but tell a trusted adult, such as a teacher. If you are being pressured into marriage remember that UK law protects you, even if you are abroad. If you believe travelling abroad will lead to a forced marriage, call 999 and ask the police for help. If you realise at the airport, you can use the emergency phone number on the back of cubicle doors in most UK airports, or speak to airport staff. If you are overseas, seek help from the local police, the British Embassy, or someone you trust in the UK.

Real life examples task:

1. Read each real-life scenario and identify whether the case describes a forced marriage or an arranged marriage.
2. Explain why you think this is the case.
3. Explain what actions could be taken by the victim (or loved ones who are aware and want to help) and why.



Case Study:	Forced or arranged?	Why I think this:	Action the victim could take (if applicable) and why.
Dev has always been shy and dreads speaking to girls he likes. Dev's parents have friends who have a daughter, Savi, who likes the look of Dev's picture. After meeting a couple of times and getting on well, Dev and Savi's parents have started to plan a wedding, with Dev and Savi's help.			
Laila and Gary are Jehovah's Witnesses. Their parents are keen for them to marry within their faith. Gary's parents have been inviting Laila round for dinner for a while now and have begun to hint to Laila's parents how suitable they would be as a married couple but have stressed to Gary that they won't invite her again if he's not keen. Gary is very keen.			
Ali's parents have discovered he is gay. Mortified that this does not fit in with their culture or religion, they have decided Ali must marry a girl before he disgraces the family honour. Ali is unaware of this and thinks he is travelling to India to watch a cricket match.			

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cousin and speaking about a 'drop on point'. She has had a text off her boyfriend to say, 'your Dad's just told me to forget about you - I won't see you again. What's going on?'			
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<p>Ali's parents have discovered he is gay. Mortified that this does not fit in with their culture or religion, they have decided Ali must marry a girl before he disgraces the family honour. Ali is unaware of this and thinks he is travelling to India to watch a cricket match.</p>			

Case Study:	Forced or arranged?	Why I think this:	Action the victim could take (if applicable) and why.
<p>Aisha has been tricked by her parents. She was told she was going to her aunt's funeral in Pakistan and instead was threatened at knife-point by her uncle to marry some man twenty years older than her. It seems her family are in a lot of debt and this was the only way it could be paid off. Aisha's mother keeps crying and saying, 'I wish there was another way, you know we love you.' Aisha is very confused and can't believe they would do this. The new husband has stolen her phone and sold it. He expects Aisha to do farm work all day but at least he disappears at night to gamble.</p>			
<p>Fatima is at Birmingham Airport. It has suddenly dawned on her that something doesn't feel right. Her brother keeps going off to make phone calls to her cousin and speaking about a 'drop off point'. She has had a text off her boyfriend to say, 'your Dad's just told me to forget about you – I won't see you again. What's going on?'</p>			

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Useful helplines and charities:

Young Minds. Child and adolescent mental health charity for teens struggling with any subject. Call: 0808 802 5544



Teen Line | Teens Support hotline - Connect, talk, get help! Teen Line's highly trained teen listeners provide support, resources and hope to any teen who is struggling.

<https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/you-co/types-crime/abusive-relationships/forced-marriage/> Support and advice for victims and loved ones.

<https://karmanirvana.org.uk/> Specialist forced marriage charity with support and advice for victims and loved ones.



Reporting a Concern at Thornden School

- It is important to us that all of you feel safe, happy and belong at Thornden.
- We also know that sometimes it is not as easy as simply telling a member of staff
- It could be:
 - A friend you are worried about
 - Someone being unkind to you
 - Something you have heard and think we should know

How can you report anything you are worried about?

- Speak to a member of staff or parent / carer
- Visit the Well Being Den or Head of Year area
- On Satchel each week you will be sent a link to a form to share any worries you have
- On our school website homepage there is a 'Report a Concern' link.
- In the Student Bulletin there is a 'Report a Concern' link
- On all school desktops there is a 'Report a Concern' logo to click and report anything

Need Support? You're Not Alone

If anything in today's lesson has affected you, or you want to talk to someone, there is help available.

Mental Health & Low Mood

YoungMinds – <https://www.youngminds.org.uk>

Kooth – <https://www.kooth.com>

Mind – <https://www.mind.org.uk>

Talk to Someone

Your Tutor or Head of Year – We're here to help.

Wellbeing Team and School Nurse

Report a Concern on Satchel

Safeguarding Team with the Purple lanyards

Healthy Lifestyle

NHS Every Mind Matters – <https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters>

Change4Life – <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life>

Apps That Can Help

Calm – For mindfulness and sleep.

Headspace – Meditation and stress relief.

Clear Fear – Manage anxiety (designed for young people).

MeeTwo – Anonymously talk to other teens, moderated by experts.

Eating Concerns

Beat Eating Disorders –

<https://www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk>

NHS Live Well – Eating Disorders –

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/conditions/eating-disorders/>