



**EUROPEA COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE - GENERAL JUSTICE AND HOME  
AFFAIRS**

Directorate A  
Unit A/5 Citizenship, Charter of Fundamental Rights,  
Racism and Xenophobia, Daphne Programme

**Daphne Programme – Year 2002**

**DAPHNE PROJECT n° 01/166/WC**

**“Dal silenzio alla parola: violenza assistita da  
bambini/e e strumenti di intervento”**

## Final Report

### **1. Pedagogic pack and helping process for suffering violence (children and women)**

*“Home trusts” (Verità sgradevoli)* is a cartoon in which the protagonists (children and kids) see violence events against their mothers. It is addressed to children and kids from eight to thirteen years, but it could be used for elder or younger children too, however always in the presence of an adult. Some children themselves suffer violence. The cartoon deals with the problem of violence of genre, masculine, against women and children, as main form of domestic violence. The cartoon gives every child a way to reach consciousness of some effects of the violent behaviour and some strategies to make adults listen to them, meaning for adults relatives and/ or persons near to the minor. This cartoon has also the aim to make children less lonely and to make them conscious of the good choices and of the different ways for asking help.

Leeds Animation Workshop has made a flexible and transferable instrument, making the right corrections to the instrument accompanying the cartoon, object of our work. It is a pedagogic pack composed of: a twelve minutes video, translated into Italian and French and a manual for teachers, pedagogists, educators, animators, school, social and sanitary operators who work directly with children and their parents. It is an instrument, which helps to break silence and to build effective interventions against domestic violence addressed to women (mothers, sisters) and to children.

In Palermo, we have put into effect activities, which have involved as beneficiaries:

- *As training* is concerned, 40 education operators and volunteers of the involved area.
- *As experimentation* of the pedagogic instrument 200 children aged between 8/10 years and 12 children and kids resident downtown Palermo.
- *As counseling* 100 women who have taken advantage of the advices given by the reception center of Le Onde Onlus
- *As dissemination* of the results 100 sanitary operators, 150 teachers and social operators involved in the actions of information and proposal to use the pedagogic pack.

At Caen the final beneficiaries of the intervention are:

- *For the advertisement* of the actions, the three pedagogic teams of the three schools involved in the initial sensitization actions.
- *For counseling* and accompanying, 50 women of the area interested in the project.
- *For sensitization* 50 operators of the area.
- *For dissemination* of the results ong , local institutions and local schools.

In both countries indirect beneficiaries of the actions have been either public authorities or women organism, which work in the field of education and intervention against violence on women and minors.

## **2. The research on perception of violence from teachers and educators**

The research has developed in two phases:

1. Elaboration of a questionnaire to be administered to a group of teachers and animators of the associations and of the social centers who work in the quarter for as much as two years in Palermo and at Caen . Then we have compared the results of the different local realities.
2. Mastery of the data collected by the questionnaires through quality interviews to privileged witnesses, man and women from Palermo, to taste opinions and judgments on the problem seen from different points of view and to get a deeper knowledge of some aspects come out from the results of the questionnaire.

The territorial backgrounds in which the research has developed are different either for geographic characteristics or for cultural structures. One of them is an area of new urbanisation with a strong presence of strangers. It is placed in the context of a busy town in Normandy characterized by familiar nuclear structures and by integration with the cultural French models, where female emancipation is a fundamental element of the new social model. The other is an old residential area devastated by war and by carelessness where there are many strangers and evident social clashes between the poor part and the rebuilt one. It is placed downtown Palermo, Sicily, characterized by a familiar net cultural and by a territorial control due to organized criminality and by hate towards the institutional and repressive intervention.

Two very different places and life styles with different qualities of life and of territories, both lived as quarters at high risk of violence more than other quarters of

the same town. But the answers of the Italian and French interviewed are similar, except for some aspects that come out as signals:

- Children behaviour and typology of violence show that the phenomenon is mainly related to male
- Some signs which can perceive violence thanks to the behaviour of the parents and the children, especially the attitudes that depreciate the children (Caen) and the possibility of the mothers to take decisions (Palermo);
- Effectiveness of the coming out ways after the signaling of the case that underlines a difference between the satisfaction of the teachers from Caen and the scant satisfaction of those ones from Palermo where the critical intervention areas are hardly seen.

There is, instead, a total agreement about the necessity of a better training for who work with children on signs and helping methods in case of violence.

### ***3. Evaluation and dissemination of results***

The evaluation of the results and of the difficulties has allowed us to define some firm points on the structuring of the prevention interventions of violence against minors.

1. Children are witnesses who want to speak about the problem they live at home. This word, stirred by a suitable instrument, such as the cartoon and the animation activities, **must be received from people prepared to listening, trained on the themes of violence and linked with people who can intervene on the problem without producing effects of secondary self-pity.**
2. **The local nets, which want to operate against violence, must be multi sectorial** and they must foresee the analysis of the interventions, the resources, the binding forces of the law.
3. The exchange of good praxis is useful if the conditions of application of them are similar and if they can stimulate interest and local sensitivity, **a community project isn't enough to create the conditions for experimentation praxis tested in other countries where there is a structural rigidity about the possibility to experiment with such actions.**

The condition not to be ignored for the success of an experimental action is that of recognition from the local actors on the foreseen activities and on the authorities who suggest them (recognition of competences and capacities to the partner who carries out the plan).

The pedagogic pack and the research results will spread through:

- Internet - web pages structuring with the information about the project and its products. Public of the web sites are schools, universities, local services, anti violence nets.
- Regione Sicilia - we are working on a protocol, which allows to build a training course for teachers at regional level, by using the training experience realized in Daphne and the needs come out from the interviewed in the research.

- POR Sicilia e PON Security - by using the measures expected to realize sensitization actions and the work made with children and adults on the themes of the project.
- Local Institutions both in Palermo and at Caen- setting up of actions of continuity. In Palermo another activity has been funded in the interested area and the possibility to adapt the second LAW video. At Caen Mairie has funded sensitization actions and the press of the reports (research and pedagogic manual).