

# ALL WOMEN'S ACTION SOCIETY (AWAM)



**AWAM** was born out of the campaign, *Violence Against Women*, launched in March 1985 in conjunction with International Women's Day. For the first time in Malaysia, issues of rape, domestic violence, sexual harassment, prostitution and the portrayal of women in the media were highlighted to the public. The event inspired the formation of several women's groups in the country, one of which was AWAM, which was officially

Practice on the Prevention and Eradication of Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

- \* Lobbying for Sexual Harassment Legislation

## TRAINING

We offer customized programmes in areas which are considered our expertise, that is:

- \* Gender sensitizing and Rape Awareness programmes for government agency personnel from

## RESEARCH AND MODULES

Our research focuses on violence against women and aims to collect and process information, strengthen analysis and obtain a clearer picture of its incidence and impact in Malaysia.

- \* Research and publication of "The Rape Report: An Overview of Rape in Malaysia" in 2002
- \* Publication of outcomes of research on Sexual Harassment
- \* Research on negative portrayal of women in the media

## SERVICES

Since 1990, AWAM has provided a variety of services for women in crises. Currently, our services include:

- \* **TELENITA** (telephone counselling) and face-to-face counselling, both based at the AWAM Center in Sea Park, Petaling Jaya
- \* Legal Information Service on matters related to family, labour, immigration law, domestic violence, rape and sexual harassment. We also give assistance in other civil matters. For women who are not able to afford legal representative, we can help arrange for it. The Legal Information Service is free-of-charge. This is a joint project with Kuala Lumpur Bar Council Legal Aid Center
- \* Rape Survivors' Support Group (RSSG). Survivors of rape and sexual assault are supported and helped by other survivors of violence through a consistent and concerted process to enable and strengthen their capacity to make positive and realistic choices for themselves. This enables them to regain confidence and trust in non-violent relationships
- \* Empowerment Workshop for



registered in 1988.

AWAM is a non-governmental, non-profit, women organization and committed to improving the lives of women in Malaysia. AWAM's vision is to create a just and equitable society where women are treated with respect, and free from all forms of violence and discrimination.

What we do:

## LOBBYING & ADVOCACY

- \* Amendments to the laws relating to Rape and Gender Discrimination
- \* Enactment and implementation of Domestic Violence Act
- \* Introduction of the Code of

the police, welfare department and hospitals

- \* Rape Awareness training in schools and college students
- \* Sexual Harassment training for management and workers in various corporations and workplaces
- \* Public talks on issues related to Violence Against Women (VAW) to community groups and educational institutions
- \* Training for volunteer para counsellors which includes discussion on gender and issues related to Violence Against Women, as well as training on counselling skills