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THE CONCEPT AND ESSENCE OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

The article highlights the work of foreign and domestic scientists and experts in understanding the concept and essence of gender-based violence. The author emphasizes that, despite technological achievements and global recognition of the need to establish and build democracy, the rule of law, human rights and freedoms, there are numerous cases of illegal use of various forms of violence against individuals, which encroach on their human dignity and threaten their lives and health.

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One of the most common manifestations of violence in society is gender-based violence. This violence is directed against a person in connection with his belonging to a certain gender. No person is immune from this violence. Persons from different social groups can become perpetrators and their victims: men, women, children, pensioners, youth, unemployed, marginalized, etc.

In different eras of human development, the matriarchal and patriarchal foundations of society formed and supported stereotypes regarding the gender roles of women and men, thereby determining the features of their relationships, the extent of permitted and prohibited behavior, the content and scope of rights and freedoms. At the same time, different civilizations have different attitudes towards gender-based violence and its victims. In particular, what is unacceptable in Western civilization is a permissible form of human coexistence in Muslim, Chinese or Indian civilizations.

In the opinion of the author, gender-based violence covers both active and passive actions of the offender, and his motives, as a rule, are determined by gender roles or gender stereotypes that have developed as a result of historical, cultural, national or political circumstances. Gender-based violence is a type of discriminatory practices that cause significant moral, physical, psychological and economic harm to victims. Manifestations of gender-based violence increase inequality in society, hinder the development of democracy, human rights and freedoms, the rule of law, and the development of civil society.

The author believes that in Ukraine, as a democratic, legal state, there should be not only legislative mechanisms to combat gender-based violence, but also political, religious and social barriers that would maximally condemn such violent behavior and promote social understanding and harmony.

Keywords: gender, violence, gender-based violence, gender equality, discrimination.

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