

Linea Rosa: a safe place for those wanting to escape violence

Linea Rosa is an Antiviolence Centre which helps and supports women who undergo moments of discomfort and difficulty, who are victims or have been victims of physical, psychological, sexual or economic abuse. The social workers and volunteers receive and support women, listening to them or guiding them towards making choices which break off violent relationships, helping them in moments of discomfort and following them towards the creation of their own independence. Linea Rosa Association receives women both on the phone and in person, carries out individual meetings, offers accommodation at safe houses with secret addresses and at Casa Dafne - a place created to favour gradual social reinsertion, offers legal advice with lawyers who give a free first consultation and begin legal procedures only upon the women's request. Linea Rosa collaborates with the Social Services, Questura, the Carabinieri, the Tribunal, Volunteer Associations, Antiviolence Centres and Women's Centres in Emilia Romagna and throughout Italy. These institutions only become involved upon the women's consent.

Over the space of about 15 years, Linea Rosa has received 2330 women, revealing that it's above all within the walls of the home, where paradoxically one believes to be safest, that violence plays its main role. From 1998 to 31st December 2005 the safe house accommodated 55 women, 24 of whom foreign, along with their 69 children.

Linea Rosa is located in Ravenna at via Mazzini, 57/a, phone 0544 216316. Social workers are on call Monday to Friday from 9.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m., Wednesdays from 9.00 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. (only upon appointment) and Saturdays from 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.. Linea Rosa is also located in Russi at piazza Farini, 35, Tuesdays from 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m., phone 0544 583901; for further information visit www.linearosa.it.