

Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Consular Services

FORCED MARRIAGES ABROAD

YOUR RIGHT TO CHOOSE

Are you worried about being forced into a marriage abroad?

A marriage should be entered into with the free and full consent of both parties.

A small number of young people find themselves being forced into marriage when they go abroad.

YOU have the right to legal protection. If someone is forcing you into a marriage they may be in breach of the law in the UK and other countries.

In order to protect yourself think carefully before you decide to go

IF YOU DO GO, BEFORE LEAVING YOU SHOULD: (Key heading)

- Contact the Community Liaison Unit at the Foreign Office
 - telephone: 020 7008 0230
 - or email clu@fco.gov.uk;
- Fill in and detach the card at the end of this leaflet. Keep it in a safe place and take it with you when you travel.

It will be really helpful if you can leave the following details with the Unit:

- your name as shown on your passport;
- your passport number, date and place of issue;
- your date of birth;
- a recent photograph of yourself.
- your parents' names;
- your address and telephone number in the UK;
- address and telephone number in the country you are visiting;
- names and addresses of other relatives you might be visiting abroad;
- the date you are expecting to return to the UK;
- details of a trusted and reliable friend or relative in the UK.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU.

**ANY INFORMATION YOU GIVE US WILL BE TREATED
CONFIDENTIALLY**

MAKE SURE YOU TAKE WITH YOU

- the address and contact numbers of the British High Commission/Embassy in the country you are visiting; (These are available from the Foreign Office on 020 7008 0230 and website www.fco.gov.uk)
- some money in case you need to make telephone calls or for transport.

WHEN YOU ARE ABROAD, IF YOU FEAR YOU ARE GOING TO BE FORCED INTO A MARRIAGE, (Key Heading)

Contact the nearest British High Commission/Embassy and we:

- will try to help you get back to the UK;
- can issue emergency passports;
- will try to provide safe accommodation and transport in the country you are in;

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO DO

- You/or a friend will need to provide money for your ticket home. We can, in exceptional circumstances, give you a loan to get back to the UK. You will need to repay this when you get back.
- you will need your passport details;
- you may need to get to the nearest British High Commission/Embassy

If you cannot get to the High Commission/Embassy we will still try to do everything possible to help.

DUAL NATIONALITY

Dual Nationality means being the national of more than one country. You may be a dual national if one of your parents holds the nationality of another country. This may limit what we can do.

BUT we aim to provide protection for all British passport holders habitually resident in the UK, regardless of whether or not they are dual nationals.

For further information please contact:

**Community Liaison Unit, G55
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
Old Admiralty Building
London SW1A 2PA
Telephone: 020 7008 0230/0109**

BEFORE YOU GO REMEMBER TO: (Key Heading)

Fill in and detach the card below and take it with you when you travel

High Commission/Embassy – Address and (Telephone No):

Your Passport Number:

Date of Issue:

Place of Issue:

Name and address of relative in country you are visiting:

The Community Liaison Unit (00 44 20 7008 0230 – email: clu@fco.gov.uk);

**IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO GO THROUGH A FORCED MARRIAGE, WE
WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO HELP YOU.**