Pandemic Panic: A horrifying rise in gender based violence

As the pandemic rages across the world, news of horrors that remained confined within homes begins to travel rapidly.

With gender-based violence on the rise in Egypt, during the Covid-19 pandemic, conversations that remained hidden behind closed doors began to come out.

As strict measures were enforced across the city during the lockdown, access to help became harder. With cries for help ringing louder, it seemed that there really wasn’t enough help around.

Help, now online

Here’s how people are overcoming Covid 19 challenges and reaching out to help.

An increasing number of gender-based violence cases were stuck at home with violent family members.

As numbers increased and meeting became harder, psychological clinics became helpless and overwhelmed. With time, activists and human rights organisations started turning to using online resources to reach out and help GBV cases.

LGBTQ rights violated, people imprisoned

Sudden arrests of LGBTQ people based on their gender has sparked massive outrage among human rights activists across Egypt.

Put on detention without proper trials and hearings, these individuals are at an increased risk during the pandemic.

Cases of innocents imprisoned along with Covid 19 patients have been brought to light multiple times. Will things change for the better?

illustrated by sol0
WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED HAD THE NGOs NOT STEPPED UP TO HELP THOSE IN NEED? WOULD THINGS HAVE BEEN MORE GRIM?

AT THE END OF THE DAY, PSYCHOLOGICAL OR EVEN LEGAL SUPPORT OF THE RIGHT KIND IS NOT EASY TO COME BY AT TIMES LIKE THESE...

THOUGH THINGS LOOK MORE OPTIMISTIC FOR LGBTQ REFUGEES, THERE IS A GRIM REALITY WE ALL MUST FACE.

A REALITY THAT IS ROOTED IN STIGMATISED GOVERNMENT POLICIES, A COMPLETE LACK OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF ANY SORT AND THE LACK OF LEGAL COOPERATION.

BUT LIKE THE REST OF THE WORLD, WE ARE LEARNING HOW TO NAVIGATE THROUGH THESE MURKY WATERS. WE ARE LEARNING TO LEAD SURVIVORS TO SAFETY AND WE ARE LEARNING TO KEEP OURSELVES SAFE...