

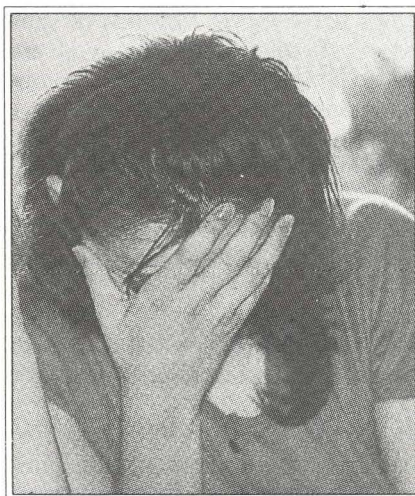
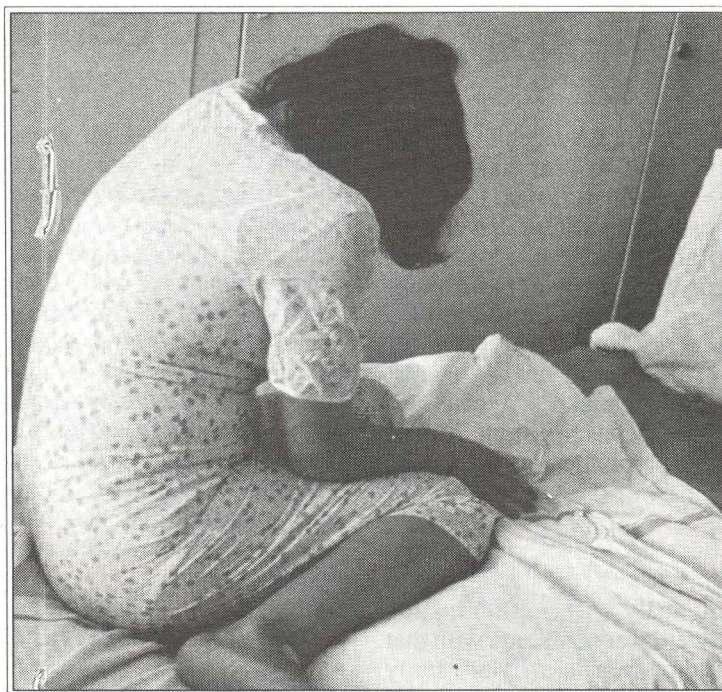
Violence Against Women in Croatia

The violence against women in former Yugoslavia is chilling. Below are excerpts from one of the many tragedies reported. These were transmitted to Al-Raida from the International PEN Women's Committee and a Women's Group in Croatia. Women's groups all over the world are networking the news and planning for action and protest.

Z.N. age 40.

As soon as Chetniks (serbs) came into our city, they selected women, children and old people; men were taken to a concentration camp with an excuse that they were mobilized. They put hundreds of us in a school in Doboje and they turned it into a camp. Our Serbian neighbors locked us in. I knew many; they used to visit our house. As soon as we entered a camp, "marticevic" (followers of Milan Martić, a Serbian leader) came in with guns and selected young women and girls. They put them in the hall and told the Chetniks to do with the women what they pleased.

There was silence. Then the crazy, dirty, stinking Chetniks jumped at the women like animals; they tore off their clothes, pulled their hair, cut their breasts with their knives. They'd cut the belly of the women who wore the traditional baggy trousers. Those who screamed would be killed on the spot.



In front of a few hundred prisoners they raped and tortured women and girls for days. It was unbearable to watch girls being raped in front of their fathers. In the evening, after heavy drinking, the Chetniks would come in the hall with lamps. Stepping on us, they would look for girls, not older than 12, 13.

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