

Police Measures

If you are in direct danger, the police can protect you by:

- **prohibiting the perpetrator from entering your mutual home for a designated time** (sending-off),
- **taking the perpetrator into custody** in serious cases,
- **taking further measures for your protection** (a contact ban for example).

During this time, you will have the opportunity to initiate further action for your protection such as, e.g., making an application for judicial safety regulations.

The police must pursue offences committed and shall carry out interrogations and secure pieces of evidence.

Filing an application at court:

You can apply for protection regulations and the allocation of the home for sole use personally or through an attorney at law at the local court. The office for legal applications accepts personal applications. Please make an appointment. The consulting hours are:

Amtsgericht Brake, Rechtsantragsstelle

Bürgermeister-Müller-Str. 34
26919 Brake 04401/109-122

Amtsgericht Nordenham, Rechtsantragsstelle

Bahnhofstraße 56
26954 Nordenham 04731/946-211

You can get advice and support at the following offices

In emergencies:

Under **emergency 110** or at any police station.

Advice and help:

You will receive advice and support particularly in case of women's refuges (also itinerant consultation), emergency calls for women, representatives of the police for women and children, marriage and family advisory offices, general social services, youth welfare offices, education advisory offices, Association for the Protection of Children, White Ring, etc.

Polizeikommissariat Nordenham

Walther-Rathenau-Str. 4
26954 Nordenham 04731/9981-0

Polizeikommissariat Brake

Schrabberdeich 39
26919 Brake 04401/935-0

Beratungsstelle LaWeGa 04401/927-436

Weißer Ring e. V. 04408/970652

Frauenhäuser

Oldenburg e. V. 0441/47981
Bremen e. V. 0421/349573
AWO Bremen 0421/239611
Diakonisches Werk
Bremerhaven e.V 0471/83001
AWO Delmenhorst 04221/968181

Improved Protection for Victims of Domestic Violence

The Law on Protection against Violence

The Law on Protection against Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is not a private matter. With the Law on Protection against Domestic Violence, which has been in force since January 1st, 2002, the possibilities of legal protection relating to civil law for victims of domestic violence have clearly strengthened and perpetrators are made accountable for their actions to a greater extent.

Victims can:

- apply to the court for **legal measures for protection against violence and unwelcome advances and**
- assert **claims on the allocation of a shared home for his/her sole use** at the court.

The law is valid for married and unmarried couples as well as other partner-ships, it also applies to female as well as male victims of domestic violence. As domestic violence is principally carried out by men, only male perpetrators shall be referred to in the following.

Legal steps for protection against violence and unwanted advances

If you are being mistreated by your husband or partner, or if you are threatened by ill-treatment, or if you are the victim of unwanted advances, the court can make the necessary protection arrangements upon your application.

In particular, the court can prevent the perpetrator from:

- entering your home,
- remaining within a certain radius of your home,
- calling on specific places which you frequent (e. g. work, kindergarten, school, etc.),
- getting in contact with you over the telephone as well as via e-mail, fax, text messages, etc.,
- inducing meetings with you.

These protection regulations are limited. Rapid decisions are possible.

The infringement of a legal protection regulation is punishable.

Allocation of a shared or marital home

The prerequisites for the allocation of a shared home on a partnership basis or a marital home for his/her sole use have been eased:

Allocation of the home for her sole use in the case of husbands:

If your husband is mistreating or threatening you, you can apply for the allocation of the marital home at the local court – family division, 'Familiengericht'.

Allocation of a shared home for his/her sole use in other cases:

If your partner is mistreating or threatening you, you can apply for the allocation of the shared home for sole use, even if you are not married to one another.

The allocation of the home is also possible (limited), if

- you are not the sole owner of the home and/or
- your name is not on the lease.