

how to act
against
gender
violence



**Municipal Information Centre for Women
Equality Council
City Council of Linares**



“Gender violence is a type of violence manifested through discrimination, situations of inequality and subjugation of women due to the fact of them being women.”

(The Law of Preventative and Protection Measures against Gender Violence in the Autonomous Region of Andalusia. Art.3)

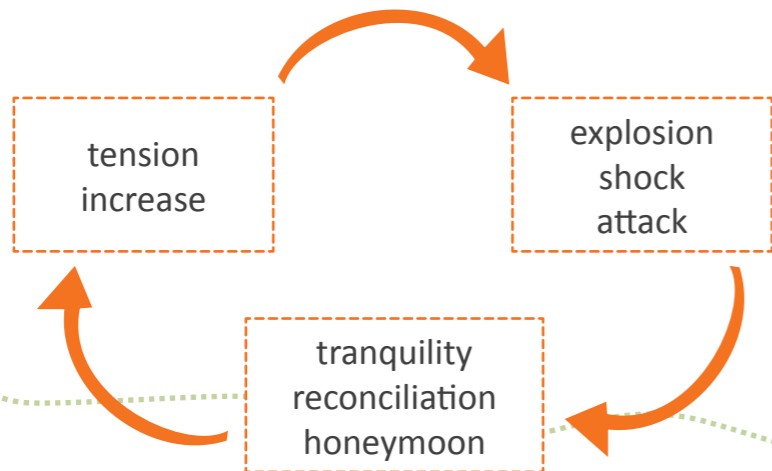
The violence, which the aforementioned law is referred to, includes any act of violence based on gender differences, which may eventually cause the physical, sexual and psychological suffering of a woman.

Manifestations of violence against women

Physical Violence

It is any use of force against your body, done by anyone who is or who has ever been your husband, boyfriend or a partner, regardless of causing visible injuries or not. You are also suffering this kind of violence when he hits you, pulls your hair, spits on you, bites you, kicks you, grabs you by the neck or threatens with weapons...

THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE



Psychological Violence

It is the behaviour, either verbal or nonverbal, which creates in a woman lack of self-appreciation, suffering, insecurity, and doubts about her worth. It happens when he demands from you obedience and when you yield to what he wants from you, when he isolates you and moves away from you your relatives and friends, when he controls everything you do, when he does not let you work or study, when he blames you for everything, when he discredits you in public or private, when he looks at you with contempt, when he tries to make you think you are useless, stupid or mad.

Verbal Violence

When you suffer insults, degrading comments, humiliating remarks about you lacking physical attractiveness, your inferiority or incompetence. When you are shouted at and blamed as much as in private as in front of other people.

Social Abuse

It happens when he prevents you from maintaining family contacts, when he controls your relations with other people; your telephone conversations; when he does not let you do things together with him, when he forces himself upon you, or when he makes himself the victim in public saying that it is you who mistreats him...

Emotional Violence

When he ignores your presence and ridicules your feelings; when he gets angry without any reason, when he goes away without any explanation, when he takes decisions which affect both of you without first consulting it with you, when he stands you up; when he gets jealous for no reason and continuously suspects you; when he blames you for everything and never admits his blame; when he demands that you know what he thinks and what he likes or dislikes; when he undermines your authority in front of your children; when he does not respect your intimacy and demands that you tell him everything; when he reads your letters and listens in on your conversations; when he threatens you with committing suicide, when he burdens you with all the family responsibilities; when he does not take responsibility for the children and then blames you for their lack of success and when he threatens you with taking them away from you, when the moment he tells you he loves you, he starts to ignore you, humiliate you and scorn you.

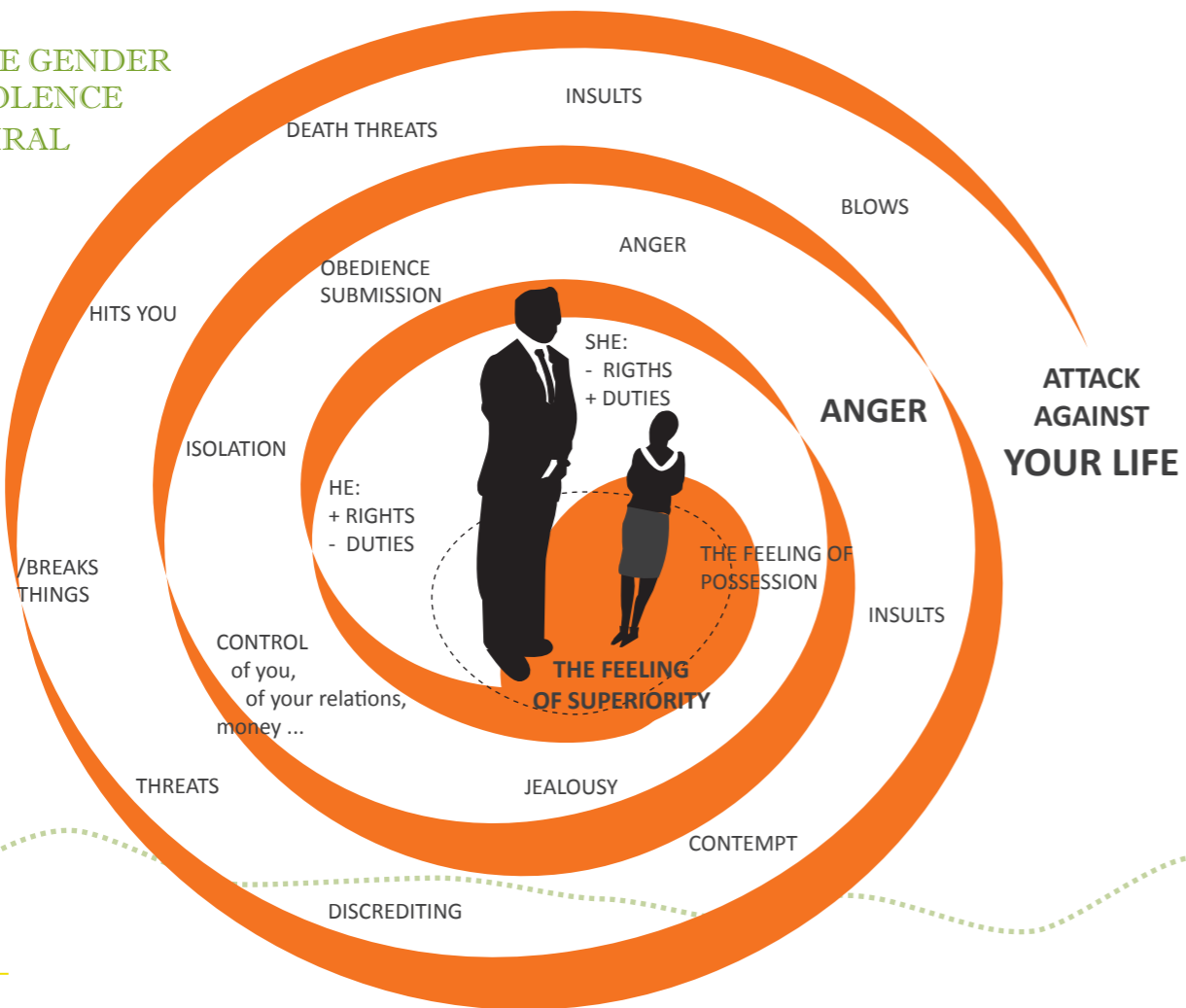
Economic Violence

You suffer economic violence when he tells you that everything belongs only to him and when he underrates your work as a housewife; when he is in charge of the money and when he obliges you to continuously ask for it or when he demands that you tell him how much you spend; when he does not give you enough money for the maintenance of the family while he indulges in satisfying his whims; when he ignores your legitimate needs of maintaining hygiene and personal care; when purchases goods without taking you into account.

Sexual Violence

It always happens when he forces you to maintain sexual relations with him against your will, specifically when he tells you it is your 'obligation'; when he makes you do things which you find unpleasant and degrading; when does not respect your feelings or your suffering and he gets angry when you cut him off; when he keeps on insisting until you finally gives in; when you feel used because he does not show you any respect and affection...

THE GENDER VIOLENCE SPIRAL



In the event of aggression suffering

1º Go to the Healthcare Centre

Irrespective of the seriousness of your injuries, you are advised to describe the acts of physical and emotional aggression, to which you fell victim, to the medical personal. Your explanations should be as detailed as possible.

A doctor will send a medical report to the Domestic Violence Court. Don't forget to ask for a copy of the aforementioned report.

You are advised to get in contact with the Women's Information Centre in Linares by dialling the following number **953 60 03 93**.

2º File a complaint

Go to the Police Station, Local Police or the nearest Civil Guard. These bodies possess a special protocol against cases of gender violence. Additionally, they guarantee safety and protection that you may need.

When filing a complaint ask for a **Protective Order**. The police will then fill it out and send to the Court together with a police report.

- Remember that you have the right to keep one copy of the complaint and one copy of the Protective Order.
- Remember that the moment you lodge a complaint, you gain the right to be assisted by a lawyer in the case when you do not have financial means or when the amount of your salary is not double a minimum interprofessional salary (Free Court Services). You have to bear in mind though that if you choose a freelance lawyer, it has to be a person specialising in this type of offences.

THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE JUDICIARY FIGHT THE MYTH OF THE “FALSE ALLEGATIONS”

A report presented by the Observatory fighting against Gender Violence of the Supreme Judicial Council (CGPJ) concludes that “The incidence of false allegations related to crime is residual male violence”

14th, October, 2009

3º At the Court

It is the judge that issues the Protective Order within 72 hours. The judge examines you and your abuser separately.

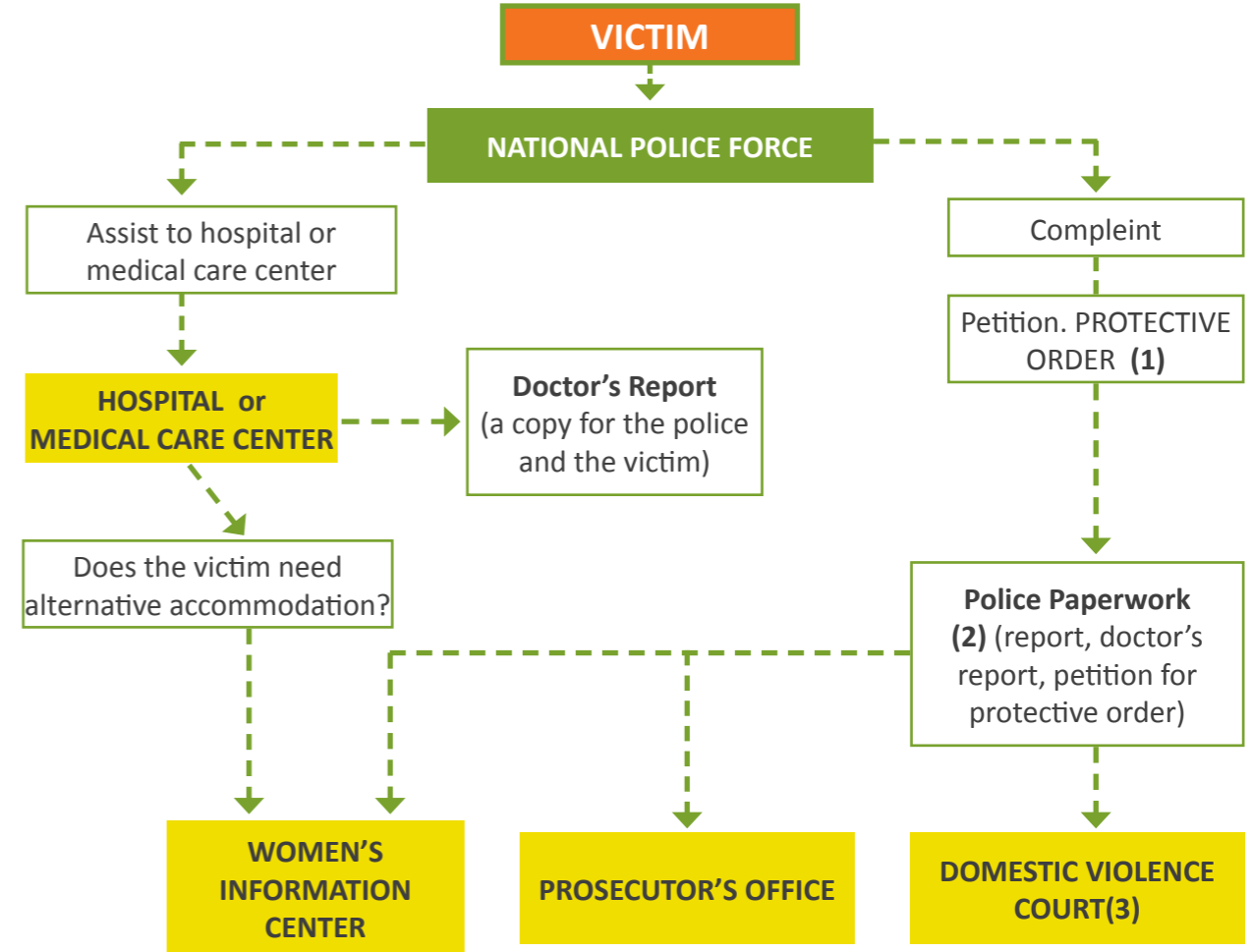
This order contains penal measures of a precautionary character, such as isolation of the abuser from the victim or temporal imprisonment before announcing the verdict.

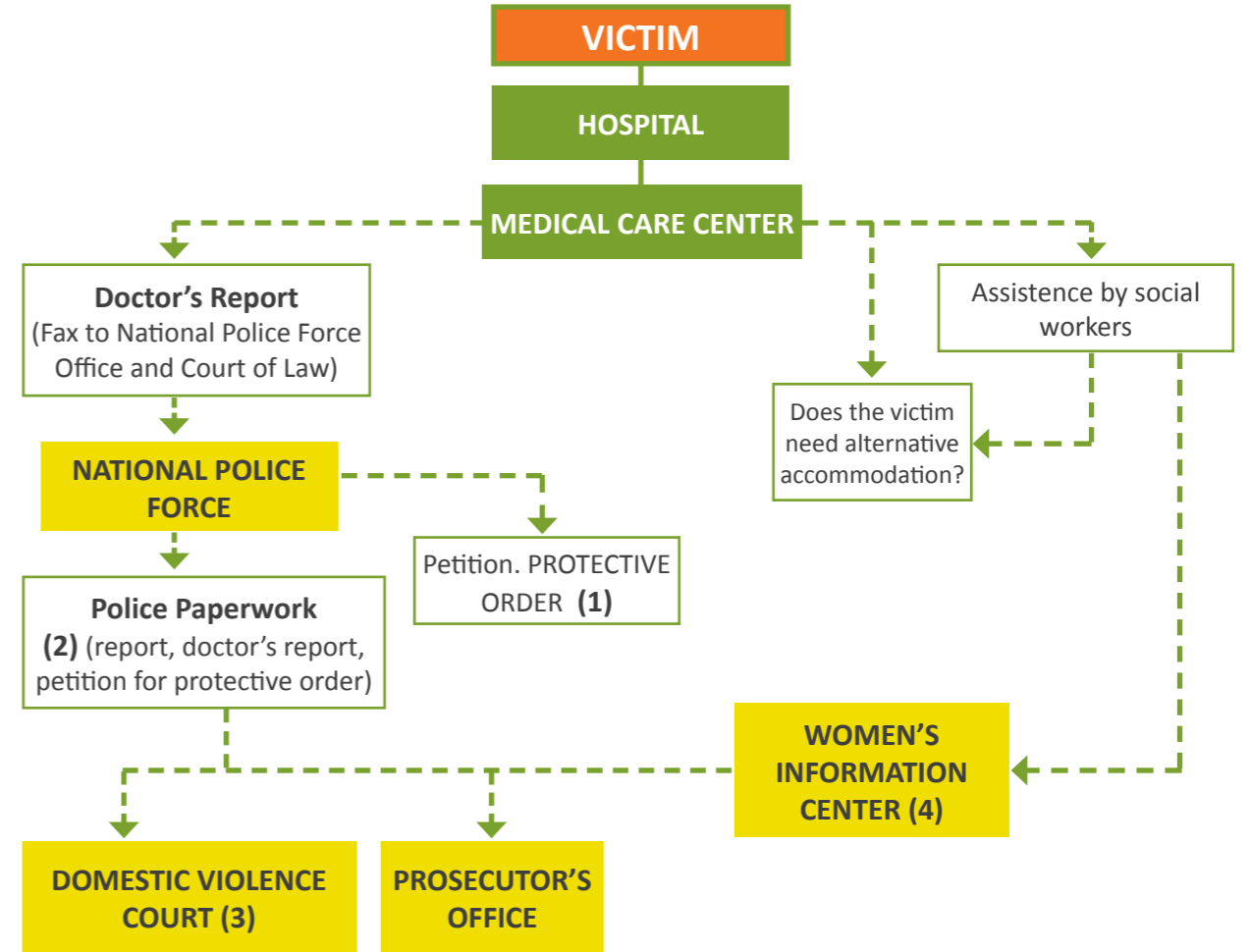
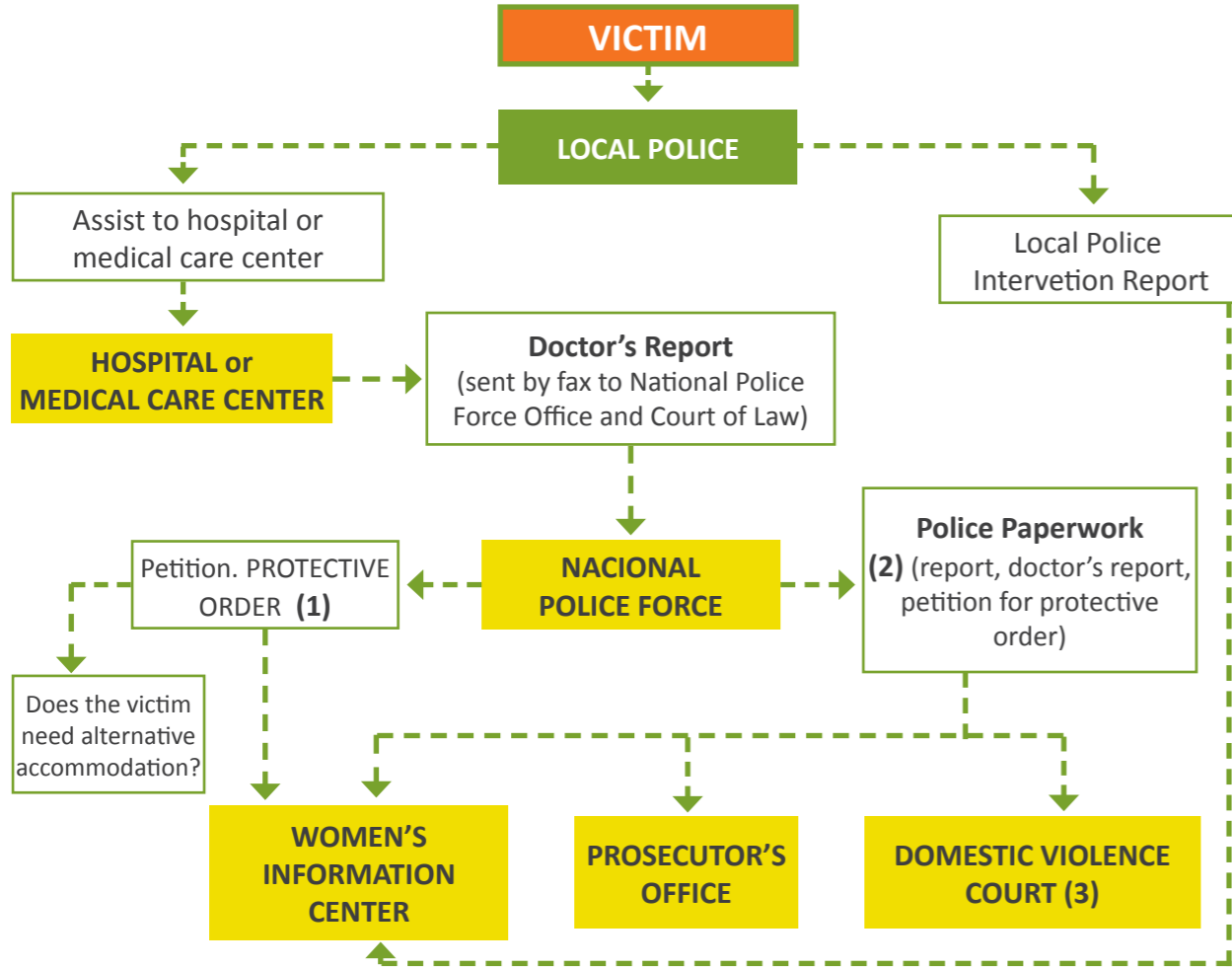
And civil precautionary measures, such as responsibility for the family home, custody and maintenance of children.

- **Remember that you have to ask for these measure steps explicitly.** The divorce or separation process can prolong so it is recommended that you have financial means to support your children.
- It is important that you have the PROTECTIVE ORDER with you so that you can show it to the police if the abuser approaches or communicates with you.
- Remember it is the offender for whom these restricting rights measures have been established, and it is him who has to stay away from places where you are. If not, he will be committing an offense of breach of a measure imposed by the court.

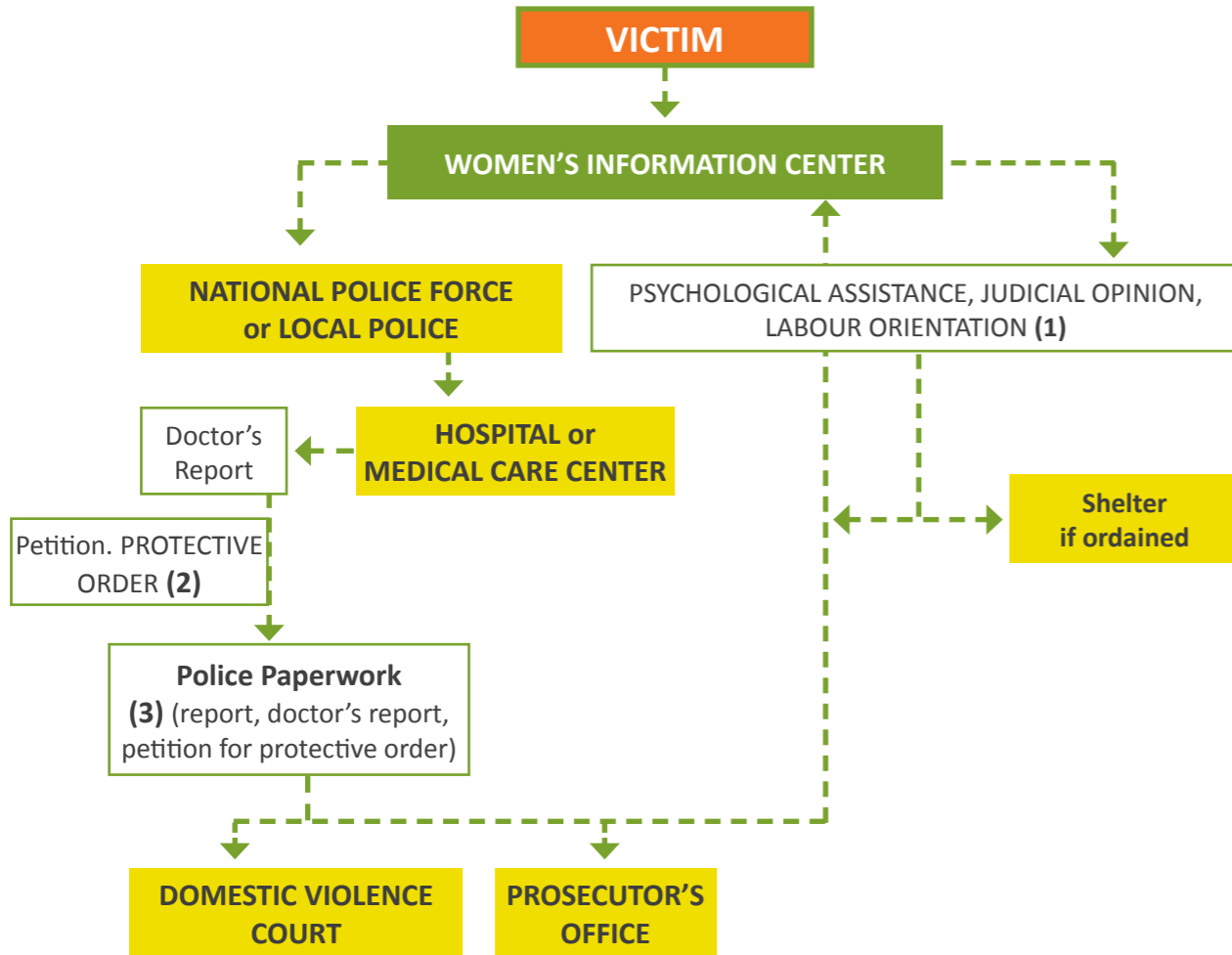
4º The Protective Order

- It is a measure which prohibits the attacker from getting closer to the victim or establishing type of communication with her.
- The Protective Order activates social welfare measures, grants and benefits put at your disposal by the State, the Autonomous Communities and Social Services Councils. To get more information about it, it is recommended that you enquire at the Women's Information Centre.
- You will have the right to the telephone assistance service. This is a telephone equipped with a GPS that activates an alarm signal by pressing only one button. You can use it whenever you feel in danger.
- National Police has Preventative, Protective and Assistance Units created for the victims of gender violence (UPAP), composed of specialised agents offering victims escort and protection.
- Local Police also employs agents who offer specialised services to the victims of this type of offences.





Women's Information Centre



The Women's Information Centre, dependent to Women's Institute of Andalusia and the City Council of Linares, offers you extensive advice tailored to your needs through various departments:

- **Psychological Department** offers psychological care to the needy victims in the form of personal and group therapies. It also cares for the children of these women through agreements with other institutions.
- **The Legal Department** offers legal help tailored to the criminal proceedings and civil measures.
- **The Department of Training and Employment** is aimed at improving the employability of women through the identification and development of personal resources and professional career paths: Planning and development programming, training initiatives and employment programs aimed at the unemployed in general and at groups with special difficulties of access to employment.

From the Women's Information Centre the following directives are given to:

- ↳ Emergency Resources and Andalusian Shelters' Network if the situation requires it.
- ↳ **AMUVI**, a foundation specialising in giving legal and psychological assistance to the victims of sexual violence. Women's Information Centre is the venue where all the proceedings take place.

The most important thing is your and your children's safety


The most precious thing you have as a person is your life, health and your body, so **REMEMBER** that:

- **Abandoning your Household** is no longer included as an offence in the Penal Code. It is an outdated concept incompatible with your right to be free.


- Your being forced to leave family home won't decrease in assets
- If at the moment of attack you can't call the police or leave home, open the doors and windows, scream, call for help, call your neighbours... **Do not be quiet !!**
- Tell your friends, family and colleagues about your situation. Do not be ashamed of what you are going through. You are not the one who fails to comply with the law.
- Looking for shelter in your relatives' or friends' home should only be a provisional solution, since in the end your attacker will find you and end up arguing with those persons.
- Make sure that collection and delivery of children does not take place in a family house and that you are accompanied by someone you trust.
- **Never** agree to talk to your violent expartner unaided. If he wants to talk, do it but your lawyer's presence.
- Remember that **900 200 999** is a free telephone number of the Andalusian Women's Institute, specialising in providing information, advice and help for the woman victims of maltreatment. This service is in operation 24 hours and takes over the responsibility for assisting victims while the Women's Information Centre remains closed.

You can also call...

 Gender Violence Emergency Centre at the national level: **016**

 National Police: **091**

 Local Police: **092**

 Civil Guard: **062**

 Court of First Instance for Gender Violence:

953 01 29 18

953 01 29 19

 Women's Information Centre: **953 60 03 93**



If you come across sexist advertisements or inadequate presentation of the image of women in the media, turn to the Women's Information Centre where you can report your complaints to **the Andalusian Controlling Body of Nonsexist Advertising of the Andalusian Women's Institute.**

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES IN LINARES

Police Station

16 Hernán Cortés Street

Tel: **953 60 60 68**

Local Police

Numancia Street

Tel: **953 64 91 15** **953 69 19 52**

Courts in Linares

49 Cánovas del Castillo Street

Tel: **953 01 29 18** (Court nº 4 for Gender Violence)



