

I have asked for the floor to comment on a ~~study~~ recently published study on domestic violence and sexual abuse in the Sami Society. The study was initiated by the Sami Parliament of Norway.

Previous research has shown that many victims ~~of domestic violence~~ experience various types of barriers that prevent them from seeking help - or reporting domestic violence.

Studies of the interaction of Sami users with the health and social services, suggest that there are cultural challenges, as well as language barriers.

The study emphasizes the importance of Sami language - and cultural competence for the Sami school system and the Police.

it is also pointed out that many Sami still lack confidence in the Norwegian Society and that non-Sami employees in the health and social services and in the Police - need to be sensitive when meeting Sami families.

I mention this report, because I am confident that these challenges are not only a phenomenon in my country, but affect challenges all over the world.

The Perm. Forum has made several recommendations to States concerning violence against indigenous women and girls. <sup>World Perm.</sup> I hope that you will continue to keep ~~this issue~~ <sup>violence against women and girls</sup> on your agenda.