

VIETNAM DV LAWS

Aside from the provisions on the infliction of physical injuries discussed below, Article 151 of the Vietnamese Penal Code is the only piece of criminal law directly relevant to domestic violence. The provision is entitled “ill-treating or persecuting grand-parents, parents, spouses, children, grandchildren and/or fosterers” and stipulates that persons who “ill-treat or persecute” family members “thus causing *serious* consequences or who have already been administratively sanctioned for such acts but repeat their violations, shall be subject to warning, noncustodial reform for up to two years or a prison term of between three months and two years.”

Article 4 of the Law on Marriage and the Family states in similar terms to the Penal Code that “ill treatment and persecution against grandparents, parents, spouses, children, grandchildren, siblings or other family members are forbidden.” The Law provides that “agencies, organisations and individuals have the right to request the Court or other competent bodies to take measures to promptly stop and severely handle” persons committing acts in violation of the Law. Article 107 on the implementation of the Law on Marriage and the Family stipulates that violations of its provisions shall “depending on the nature and seriousness of their violations, be administratively sanctioned or examined for penal liability, if causing any damage, they must pay compensation.”

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