



THE PRESIDENT

Jerusalem, February 25, 2021

Dear Prof. Weil,


I am writing this letter while we are still in shock in the wake of the recent murder case of Diana Raz, may her memory be a blessing, at the hands of her husband. This murder is just one in a series of horrifying incidents that have rocked Israeli society.

The late novelist Toni Morrison wrote in one of her books that 'Misery don't call ahead. That's why you have to stay awake-otherwise it just walks on in your door.' The initiative of the Israel Observatory on Femicide aims to convey that same important message – our duty to stay alert, to better understand the reality which we live in, and to prevent suffering and further pain.

Your initiative, Prof. Weil, is blessed and crucial. As a society, we have a responsibility to protect all our citizens, male and female, and to provide them with a safe environment. Through the establishment of a professional body, which will collect all data on the terrible murder cases of women in Israel, we hope to improve our ways of dealing with this phenomenon, and help preventing the next murder.

I want to thank you for initiating this observatory, wish that it will be beneficial and will help save lives. Through initiatives like this, we commemorate the memory of the murdered women, preserve their narratives, and work towards creating a safer future for young girls, for women and for the entire Israeli society.

Sincerely,


Reuven (Ruv) Rivlin