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AN EXAMPLE OF TORTURE, DEGRADING AND DEGRADING BEHAVIOR PRACTICES: "REVERSE HANDCUFFS" (REVERSE HANDCUFFS IN APPLICATIONS TO HRFT DUE TO TORTURE BETWEEN 2018-2021)

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Aim: Measures taken against persons deprived of their liberty cannot be applied in the form of discrediting, violating the presumption of innocence and, most importantly, torture, other cruel, degrading and humiliating ill-treatment. It is aimed to make visible how often the reverse clamp application, which is not included in the law and tried to be legitimized by the circular of the General Directorate of Security, is applied and the medical damages it causes.

Materials-Methods: 1830 applicants who applied to the HRFT for being tortured in Turkey and whose detention dates were 01.01.2018 and above are included. The sociodemographic characteristics of the applicants, the type of cuff application, the physical and psychological findings and diagnoses were evaluated by frequency analysis and chi-square in the IBM SPSS Statistics (Ver.20.0) program.

Results: It is understood that a total of 749 (40.9%) applications, of which 444 (24.3%) applications were reversed and 305 (16.7%) were reverse-tight, were subjected to reverse clamping. 232 (31%) of the applicants who were exposed to reverse handcuffs were female, 504 (67.3%) were male, 13 (1.7%) were nonbinary/queer, the lowest was 16, and the highest was 76, 18 years of age. It was determined that 9 (1.2%) patients under the age of 65 and 5 (0.7%) over the age of 65 were exposed to reverse clamping, and the mean age was 30.0 (±10.85). No findings were found in 230 applicants (30.7%) in physical evaluations.

It has been determined that pain and limitation in shoulder movements are the first in terms of complaints and findings, and wrist (307), shoulder (204) and forearm (203) injuries, sprains and strains in the joints, tendon and nerve injuries follow in terms of physical diagnoses. Rotator kuff syndrome and injury were detected in 76 cases, and fractures were detected in 4 applications, including shoulder, ulna, wrist and carpal bone. It was observed that 66.7% of the applicants who were applied reverse clamps and had a psychiatric evaluation received a psychiatric diagnosis.

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Conclusion: When evaluated together with the findings in the applications, it was evaluated that the reverse handcuffs practices are a torture method that causes physical and mental disorders, and that it is applied illegally, including even children.

Keyword: Reverse Handcuffs, Torture, Neuropaty, Rotator cuff injury

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