

PRACTICAL RESOURCE: ETHICAL REPORTING CHECKLIST (ADAPTED FOR GBV STORIES)

5-POINT ETHICAL CHECKLIST FOR EVERY GBV STORY

Before publishing any GBV-related story, run through this 5-point checklist:

Question	Why it Matters
1. Consent – Do we have informed, voluntary consent?	Ensures agency and prevents exploitation.
2. Identity Protection – Is the survivor fully anonymised (name, face, location, voice, identifiable details)?	Reduces stigma, legal risk, and retaliation.
3. Language Sensitivity – Is the story written using trauma-informed, non-judgmental language?	Protects dignity and avoids victim-shaming.
4. Context & Accuracy – Have we explained systemic causes beyond the incident?	Educates audiences and supports advocacy and accountability.
5. Potential Impact – Could this story cause harm to the survivor, their family or community?	Encourages responsibility over sensationalism.