



Violence against women and girls 5



Addressing violence against women: a call to action

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VIOLENCE AFFECTS GIRLS AND WOMEN AT EVERY AGE AND STAGE OF LIFE

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Approximately **20%** of women and **5-10%** of men report being sexually abused as children.²

FORCED/EARLY MARRIAGE

Latest international estimates indicate that more than **60 million** women aged 20-24 years were married before the age of 18 years. About half of the girls in early marriage live in south Asia.⁴

A total of **1,957** honour killing events occurred in Pakistan from 2004 to 2007.⁷

KILLINGS IN THE NAME OF HONOUR

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Globally, **30%** women who have ever been in a relationship have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by their intimate partner.⁸

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

It is estimated that globally **7%** of women have been sexually assaulted by someone other than a partner since age 15, although data is lacking in some regions.⁸

More than **125 million** women and girls alive have been cut in 29 countries in Africa and the Middle East where FGM/C is concentrated.³

FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION / CUTTING

11.4 million¹

TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND GIRLS



A FEW COMMON TYPES OF VIOLENCE

WHY DOES VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS MATTER?

Violence against **WOMEN and GIRLS...**



is a profound symbol of **gender inequality** and social injustice

hurts girls' and women's bodies, minds and hearts



hinders social and economic development

prevents girls and women's equal participation at every personal, social and political level



reinforces other forms of discrimination including based on disability, age, race, sexuality, HIV status, class and caste

is **extremely costly** – for families, communities and nations





SHOW LEADERSHIP

1

Recognise violence against women and against girls as human rights violations, and a barrier to health and development. **Speak out** against violence, and **allocate** the needed resources to prevent and respond to violence.



CREATE EQUALITY

2

Develop and enforce national level laws, implement policies and strengthen capacities of institutions to address violence against women and promote equality between women and men.



CHANGE NORMS

3

Invest in violence prevention programming, to promote the empowerment of women, gender equitable social norms, non-violent behaviours, and effective non-stigmatising responses for violence survivors.



CHALLENGE SECTORS

4

Strengthen the role of the sectors (health, security, education, justice, etc) by integrating training on violence against women into curricula, allocating budgets, creating policies and implementing systems to identify and support survivors, as part of a co-ordinated multi-sectoral response.



INVEST IN RESEARCH AND PROGRAMMING

5

Support research and programming to learn how to best prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, inform policies and monitor progress.

LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL LEADERS AND POLICY MAKERS COMMIT TO 5 ACTIONS



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RECOMMENDATIONS	INDICATOR
Show leadership	The presence of a national action plan and/or allocated budget to address VAWG.
Create equality	The presence of any laws that discriminate between women and men.
Change norms	Proportion of women, (and men, if data available) who think that a man is justified in beating his wife/partner in at least one circumstance.
Challenge sectors	The presence of national standard operating procedures/guidelines to provide care and support for women experiencing intimate partner violence and/or sexual violence.
Invest in research, data collection and civil society	The presence of national population based surveys on the prevalence of VAWG implemented in the past 5 years.

“It is my hope that political and religious leaders will step forward and use their influence to communicate clearly that violence against women and girls must stop, that we are failing our societies, and that the time for leadership is now.”



President Carter