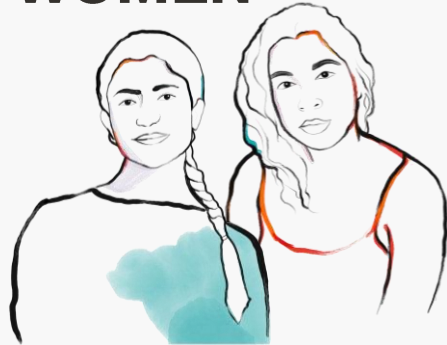


VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Types, consequences, and patterns of violence against women

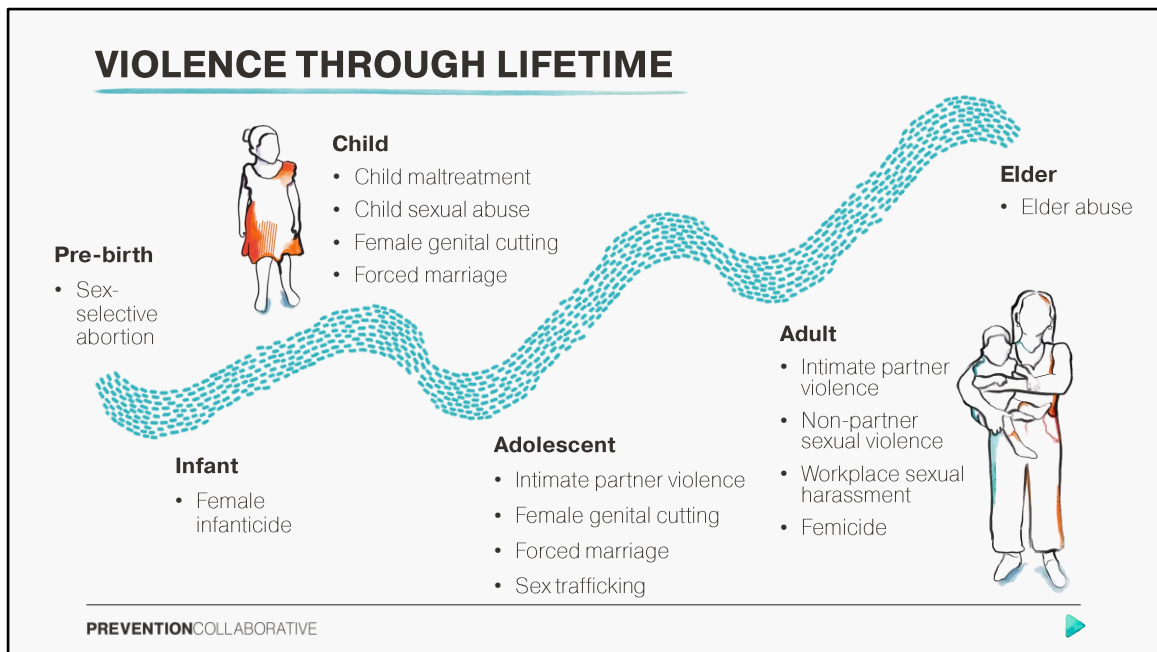


PREVENTIONCOLLABORATIVE



In this topic, we will cover the different types of violence women experience across their lifetime and across settings as well as the long-term and cumulative consequences of this violence.

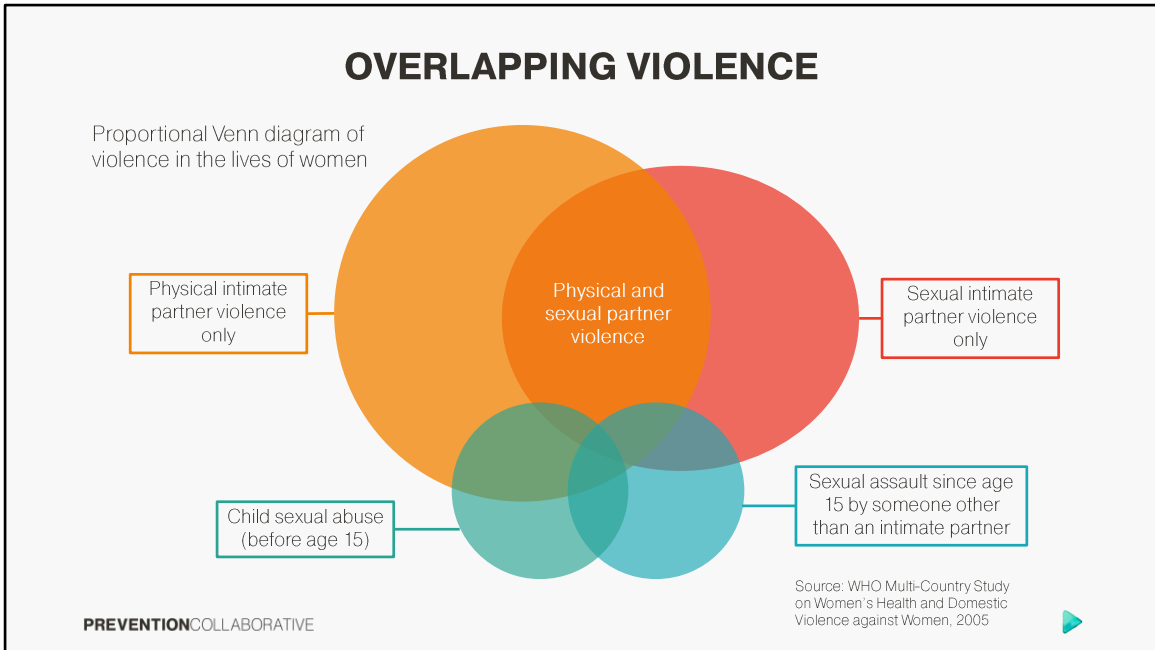
PREVENTION FOUNDATIONS—REFRESHER



Women may experience different forms of violence throughout their lifetime. As they mature they face different risks, and their experiences of violence are often gendered.

- Before a girl is born, this can start with sex-selective abortion.
- As an infant, a girl may experience female infanticide.
- As a child, she may experience child maltreatment, child sexual abuse, female genital cutting, and/or forced marriage.
- As she matures into an adolescent, she may start to experience intimate partner violence, whether in a dating relationship or marriage. She may also experience female genital cutting or forced marriage and is susceptible to sex trafficking.
- As an adult, particularly once married, she may experience intimate partner violence. If she's working, she may face workplace sexual harassment.
- Even when a woman grows older, she may experience specific abuse as an older woman because she is unmarried or because she is widowed. In some settings, this may include accusations of witchcraft.

PREVENTION FOUNDATIONS—REFRESHER



Globally, the most common forms of violence against women include physical and sexual intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence (including rape) and sexual harassment, and emotional or psychological abuse.

Some women may suffer multiple forms of abuse at the same time or at different stages of their lives. This especially occurs in intimate partner violence, where physical, sexual, and emotional violence often overlap.

The overlap between different types of violence, particularly physical and sexual intimate partner violence, is clear in this proportional Venn diagram from the World Health Organization Multi-Country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence against Women with 24,000 women in 10 countries.

PREVENTION FOUNDATIONS—REFRESHER

VARIATION

- Specific setting
- Specific populations

PREVENTIONCOLLABORATIVE

Types of violence against women also vary by context and by population. For example, we see honour killings in certain parts of the world and among particular populations.

When working on violence against women programmes, it is important to understand the specific types of violence and harmful practices in the specific contexts and among the specific populations you are working with.

PREVENTION FOUNDATIONS—REFRESHER

CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLENCE

- Physical, emotional, social, and economic
- Widespread, long term, and cumulative

PREVENTIONCOLLABORATIVE

Violence against women undermines equal rights and has severe physical, emotional, social, and economic consequences for women, their children, families, communities, and societies. These consequences can be long term and cumulative.

CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLENCE

Individual Woman

- Direct injuries, long-term physical conditions, or death
- Poor mental health
- Sexual and reproductive health problems
- Substance abuse



PREVENTIONCOLLABORATIVE



For example, for individual women, research shows that the negative consequences include:

- Direct injuries (e.g. fractures), long-term physical conditions (e.g. gastrointestinal, chronic pain), or death
- Poor mental health (e.g. depression, post-traumatic stress disorder)
- Sexual and reproductive health problems (e.g. sexually transmitted infections, unwanted pregnancies, risks to maternal and foetal health, childbirth complications)
- Substance abuse (including alcohol)

CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLENCE

Individual Child

- More likely to have emotional and behavioural problems and perform poorly at school
- More likely to become a perpetrator of intimate partner violence in later life (boys)
- More likely to experience intimate partner violence in later life (girls)



PREVENTIONCOLLABORATIVE



For children who witness intimate partner violence, there is evidence to show that:

- Children are more likely to have emotional and behavioural problems and perform poorly at school
- A boy who experiences or witnesses violence is more likely to become a perpetrator of intimate partner violence in later life
- A girl who experiences or witnesses violence is more likely to experience intimate partner violence in later life

CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLENCE

Household / Family

- Lower household income and productivity
- Increased expenditures on services



PREVENTIONCOLLABORATIVE



Violence against women also have negative impacts on the household and family including:

- Lower household income and productivity
- Increased expenditures on medical, protection, social, or justice services

CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLENCE

Community

- Reinforce acceptance of violence and impunity for perpetrators
- Deprive the community of women's economic, social, and leadership contributions



PREVENTIONCOLLABORATIVE



At a community level, high levels of violence against women can:

- Reinforce acceptance of violence and impunity for perpetrators
- Deprive the community of women's economic, social, and leadership contributions

PREVENTION FOUNDATIONS—REFRESHER

CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLENCE

Society

- Increased demand on services
- Loss of women as productive workforce
- Reduced gross domestic product



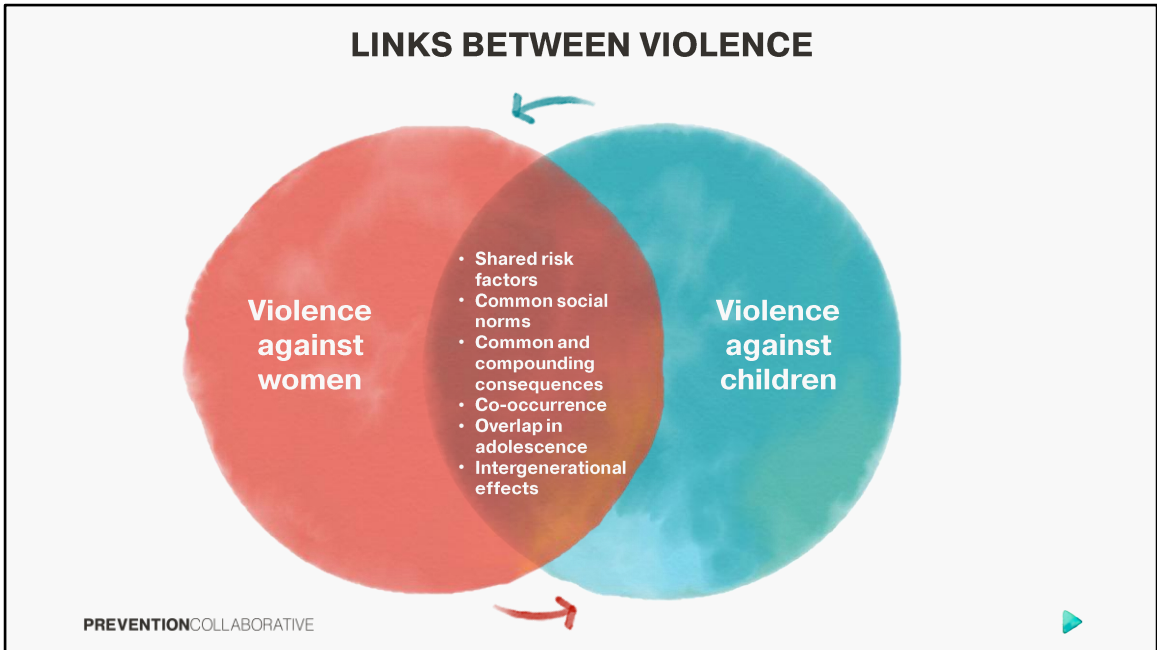
PREVENTIONCOLLABORATIVE



At a society level, high levels of violence against women can result in:

- Increased demand on key services (health, police, justice)
- Loss of women as productive workforce due to injury or ill health
- Reduced gross domestic product (national economy)

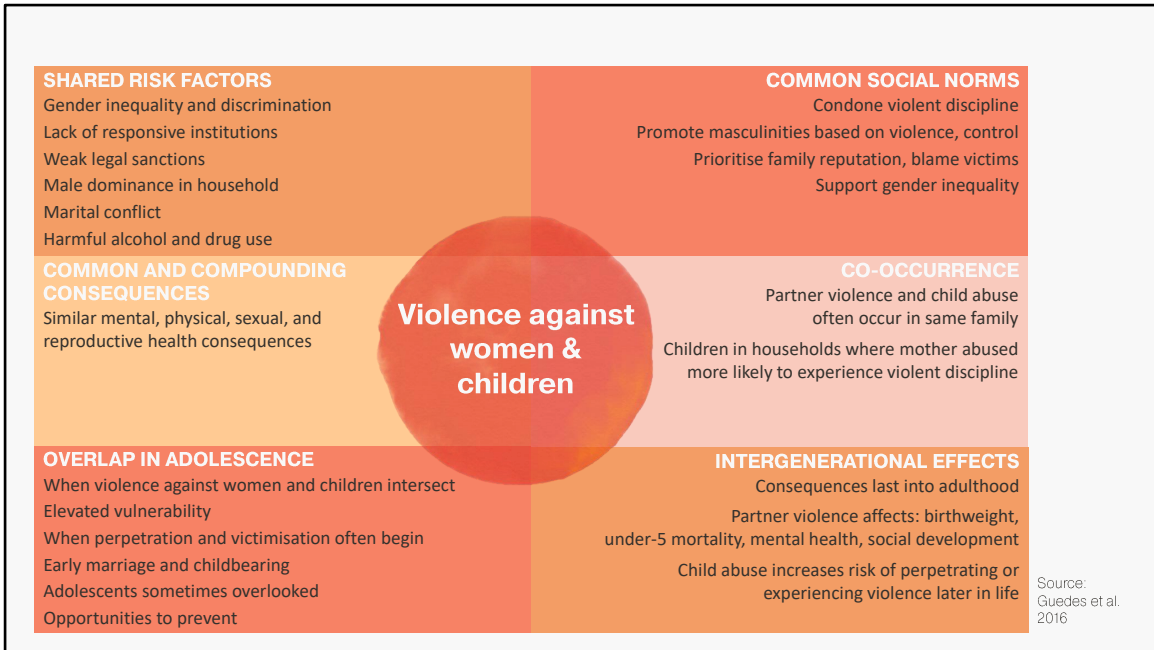
PREVENTION FOUNDATIONS—REFRESHER



It's also important to understand how violence against women and violence against children are related, particularly intimate partner violence and child abuse and maltreatment in the home. Strong evidence shows the multiple links between the two, including:

- Shared risk factors
- Common social norms underpinning both
- Common and compounding consequences
- Co-occurrence often in the same household
- An overlap in adolescence as girls grow up to be women
- Intergenerational effects

PREVENTION FOUNDATIONS—REFRESHER



Let's unpack that a little further.

- **Shared risk factors:** We can see that gender inequality and discrimination are risk factors for both violence against women and violence against children. In households where there are high levels of marital conflict, we see that violence against women and harsh child discipline are more likely to happen.
- **Common social norms:** Social norms that promote masculinities based on violence and on control of women and children underpin both forms of violence.
- **Common and compounding consequences:** Thinking back to the consequences we covered in this topic, we see similar mental, physical, sexual, and reproductive health consequences for women and for girls.
- **Co-occurrence:** For example, children living in households where the mother is being abused are also more likely to experience violent discipline.
- **Overlap in adolescence:** This is really where we start to see an intersection of violence against children and violence against women as a girl grows up to be an adolescent and a young adult. This is a period of elevated vulnerability for young women.
- **Intergenerational effects:** If we look over the long term, we see links in terms of intergenerational effects, and we also see that intimate partner violence has an impact on the next generation. For example, abuse against pregnant women can result in lower child birth weight and poor mental health and social development of children.

PREVENTION FOUNDATIONS—REFRESHER



PREVENTION
COLLABORATIVE
feminist inspired | evidence driven