

The Fundamental Objective of Gender-based Violence is to Address the Root Causes and Motivators of Violence Against Women and Girls

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Abstract:- By addressing the underlying causes and motivators of violence against women and girls and by offering reflections on gender and gender-based violence, primary preventive activities for gender-based violence (GBV) aim to encourage change. Social norms of acceptable behavior are influenced by the environment and culture. Harmful social norms that foster GBV include men's right to reprimand women and children and women's sexual purity as well as the importance of family honor over women's safety. One of the most pervasive types of human rights abuse and a violation of human dignity worldwide is gender-based violence. No of their social level, cultural or religious background, civil status, sexual orientation, or gender identity, millions of women, men, and children experience gender-based violence every year throughout all Council of Europe member states. The fundamental human rights principles upon which the Council of Europe is built and to which its member states have committed themselves are undercut by gender-based violence.

The phrase "violence against women" refers to a wide range of wrongdoings committed against women and girls throughout their lives. Violence against women is defined as "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion, or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life" by the UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women. The term "gender based" is used to underline that violence is rooted in inequalities between women and men. This statement defines violence as acts that cause or have the capacity to inflict harm.

Keywords:- Gender Violence; Violence Against Women and Girl; "Gender Ideology"; Gender Identity; Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV); Sexual and Reproductive Rights; Sexual Orientation; Structural Violence; Survivor/Victim; Hate Crime Equality, Human Rights.

I. INTRODUCTION

Gender-based violence (GBV) is defined as "many types of harmful behavior directed at women and girls because of their sex," and it is a significant public health issue as well as a violation of human rights. (United Nations Fund for Women (UNIFEM, 1999). Violence against

women or violence that disproportionately affects women is both terms used to describe gender-based violence (GBV), is a serious global public health problem that has been linked to poor physical, reproductive, and mental health outcomes for women and girls. Intimate partner violence (IPV) and sexual assault are two types of violence against women and girls (VAWG), which impact one in three women worldwide and 35% of women in the Middle East (Heise, Ellsberg, Gottmoeller, 2002, WHO, 2013).

The lives and livelihoods of transgender individuals, sexual minorities, and women are all limited by gender-based violence (GBV), a serious public health concern (Heise & Garcia-Moreno, 2002; Nakray, 2013; Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000). Domestic violence (DV), also known as intimate partner violence, is the most prevalent type of GBV. According to the World Health Organization (WHO, 2013), 35% of women worldwide experience physical or sexual abuse, and about 38% of intimate partner homicides, according to estimates from this organization. One of the most pervasive and persistent challenges affecting women and girls worldwide is gender-based violence (GBV) (Decker, Latimore, Yasutake, Haviland, AhmedS, Blum, 2015, Devries, Mak, Garcia-Moreno, Petzold, 2013, Watts, Zimmerman, 2002, Garcia-Moreno, Jansen, Ellsberg, Heise, Watts, 2006). Women and girls are more likely to experience various types of gender-based violence (GBV) during times of war and other humanitarian crises (Vu, Adam, Wirtz, Pham, Rubenstein, Glass, Wirtz, Pham, Glass, Loochkartt, Kidane, Cuspoca, 2014, Sloand, Killion, Gary, Dennis, Glass, Hassan, 2015).

The World Health Organization [WHO] 2002] defines GBV as any act, including threats, coercion, or denial of liberty, that causes or is likely to cause bodily, sexual, or psychological injury or suffering to women. According to Heise, Ellsberg, and Goheemoeller (1999), this harm results from the unequal power relationships between men and women and is furthered by the patriarchal values system that is deeply ingrained, the perpetuation of customs that place women beneath men, the prevalence of illiteracy, poverty, and women's low status in society. (Kapur, 1995; Federal Ministry of Health & UMCEF, 2002; Meena, 1992). Additionally, numerous statutory, custodial, and religious provisions leave women particularly vulnerable to assault.

II. WOMEN VOICE AND AGENCY

Improvements in agency and voice are inconsistent, and the enabling environment modifications have not yet fully permeated daily life. Women's agency and voice are restricted by gender-based violence, particularly in vulnerable and contentious circumstances. The consolidation of peace and security in unstable and post-conflict contexts depends on addressing gender inequities. It's been a while since I've been in a situation where I've had to deal with a situation where I've had to deal with a situation where I've had to deal with. The typical gender roles that men and women assume can change as a result of prolonged exposure to conflict and catastrophe. While gender equality challenges prevalent in fragile and conflict-affected situations are generally similar to those in other developing countries, important contextual factors in those situations require different operational approaches. These shifts can present opportunities to reassess and transform gender roles for positive change.

Persistent gender inequalities in outcomes are a result of the lack of agency for women. The capacity to make decisions about one's own life and take appropriate action to bring about desired results is known as agency. In all nations and cultures, men and women are capable of making these decisions differently, frequently to the detriment of women. The reality of making decisions and using agency is nuanced and vastly differs between and within nations. Nevertheless, women's agency globally can be addressed by focusing on specific expressions of agency, such as freedom and gender-based violence; the ability to have voice and influence in society; and the ability to exercise control over when to marry, engage in sexual activity, and become pregnant (Word Bank, 2014b) (Word Bank, 2014b). In most nations, legislation addressing intimate partner violence has made significant progress. Nonetheless, one of the most flagrant and pervasive violations of women's rights is still violence against women and girls. Globally, about one-third of women have been the victim of physical, sexual, or both types of abuse by an intimate relationship. Although it is crucial to provide survivors with treatment and support, most women (6–10) who suffer violence never ask for assistance or report it to anyone (World Bank, 2014b).

III. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR GENDER-BASE VIOLENCE: ECOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

The ecological model has been modified to look at various forms of violence that women are exposed to. It was initially developed as a framework for understanding some of the major elements that increase women's and girls' risk of experiencing intimate partner violence. Four degrees of risk are used to arrange the model: person, relationship, community, and society. Heise's ecological model of gender-based violence against women and girls can be used as a starting point to arrange the components that have been shown to contribute to gender-based violence against teenage girls in humanitarian contexts. With the use of this

conceptual framework, researchers, policy makers, and practitioners may better comprehend the many elements that might lead to gender-based violence at the personal, interpersonal, social, and societal levels. An individual's propensity to commit or experience violence is influenced by personal traits derived from biology or personal history. Heise's ecological framework, which is shown on the right in the picture, was adjusted by us to take into consideration these increased and new threats. Although this modified model can be a useful tool for conceptualizing gender-based violence risk factors in a specific humanitarian scenario, it is important to realize that different components and characteristics of the eco-system will have a bigger impact in different situations.

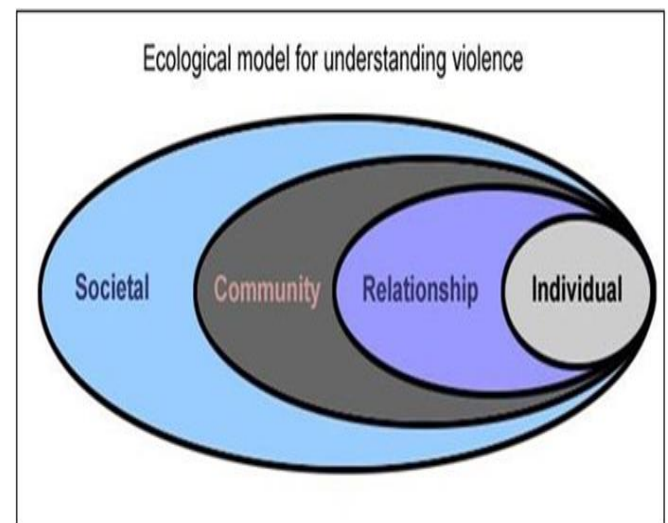


Fig 1 Ecological Model for Understanding Violence
Source: Heise et al., 1999; Krug et al., 2002; CDC, 2004

➤ Individual Factors

Abramsky, Watts, and Garcia-Moreno (2011) found that adult perpetrators and survivors of gender-based violence are much more likely to have witnessed or experienced violence as a child than non-perpetrators and non-survivors). Also linked to violence against adolescent girls are alcohol usage, self-esteem, financial position, and education (Heise, 1998: 262).

In emergency situations, where education is frequently interrupted for extended periods of time, the connection between education and the risk of violence may be particularly important. A substantial amount of research shows that women who identify as members of actual or perceived sexual or gender minorities or who have a physical or intellectual handicap are more likely to experience gender-based violence (van der Heijden, Harries, Abrahams, 2019). Adolescent females in particular run a significant risk of gender-based violence, according to research that have indicated that younger age is linked to a higher likelihood of experiencing and perpetrating gender-based violence (Romans, Forte, Cohen, Du Mont, Hyman, 2007, Jewkes, Sen, Garcia-Moreno, 2002).

➤ *Relationships*

Male dominance, money control, and alcohol usage among men are all factors that enhance the risk of violence for adolescent girls. For adolescent girls in close relationships, relationship conflict also raises the risk of gender-based violence (Heise, 1998: 262–90). Girls are more likely to experience physical and sexual abuse if their households are larger, less functional (Usta, Farver, 2010:361-68). In an emergency, a number of relational elements that contribute to gender-based violence generally could become more acute and important. For instance, extreme financial stress may cause a man to resort to violence as a stress reduction technique (Annan, Brier, 2010:152-59). Adolescent females may be more vulnerable to violence in emergency situations where economic strains of all types are prevalent (Bermudez, Stark, Bennouna, 2019: 178-91).

Emergencies may result in a reduction in the number of jobs usually held by males as well as legal restrictions on employment. In times of need, women and girls frequently take on the burden of decision-making and income creation, endangering the perception of their husbands' or dads' manhood and the traditional position of the breadwinner (Perrin, Marsh, Clough, 2019: 13). According to research, when women and girls are economically empowered, men may resort to violence to restore conventional gender and family hierarchies in areas where male dominance norms are particularly strong (Hynes, Sterk, Hennink, Patel, De Padilla, Yount, 2016: 17–33).

➤ *Community Factors*

Living alone in a community and having a lower socioeconomic status are both factors that can predict whether adolescent females would experience gender-based violence at the community level. (Hamilton, Marsh, 2016: 261–76). Adolescent girls are more likely to experience gender-based violence when they live in unstable housing, in unsafe neighborhoods, or during an armed conflict (Coulton, Crampton, Irwin, Spilsbury, Korbin, 2007: 1117–42). Natural disasters and armed conflict can destabilize existing social support networks within communities, which increases the risk of violence against women (Rubenstein, Lu, MacFarlane, Stark, 2020: 31-44).

➤ *Societal Factors*

Societal standards have a big impact on how common gender-based violence is in societies. In both humanitarian and non-humanitarian contexts, it has been demonstrated that rigid gender roles, male dominance, and patriarchal social norms all contribute to an increase in men's gender-based violence perpetration and women's gender-based violence experiences (Pallitto, O'Campo, 2005: 2205-16). In societies where using violence as a standard method of conflict resolution, gender-based violence is more prevalent (Gage, 2005: 343–64). Gender-based violence abusers may feel freer to act without consequence if there are no legal frameworks in place to safeguard victims (Okello, and Hovil, 2007: 433).

IV. GENDER BASE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

An all-encompassing word for any harmful act committed against someone's will that is motivated by socially constructed (i.e., gender-based) distinctions between people who are male and female. It covers coercion and other types of liberty violations as well as acts that result in physical, sexual, or mental harm or suffering. Most frequently, the term "gender-based violence" is used to emphasize how institutional inequality between men and women, which exists in every society in the world, serves as a defining and essential component of the majority of violent acts committed against women and girls. Sexual assaults conducted specifically with the intention of upholding unfair gender stereotypes of masculinity and femininity also fall under the category of gender-based violence.

GBV is described as "violence that is intended against a woman because she is a woman or that disproportionately impacts women" by the United Nations. It includes threats of doing so, coercion, and other forms of liberty infringement, as well as acts that cause bodily, psychological, or sexual injury or suffering (Violence against women is addressed in General Recommendation No. 19 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). (VAW, 1992).

Given that women are the most frequent victims and survivors of violence, the phrase "gender-based violence" is frequently used as a synonym for violence against women. Violence against women is defined as "any act of gender-based violence that results in or is likely to result in physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion, or arbitrary deprivations of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life" in the United Nations' 1993 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Power disparities between men and women are the root cause of GBV and contribute to their maintenance on an individual, home, community, and state level (Terry & Hoare, 2007).

It's critical to understand that not all women are treated equally as objects of subordination and that not only men are responsible for GBV when discussing GBV in general and violence against women in particular. For a variety of reasons, including culture, tradition, and self-preservation, women may participate in reinforcing gender hierarchy. Gender-based violence (GBV) is frequently focused on violence against women, however it also affects children of both sexes and adult males at considerable rates. GBV is defined as "physical, mental, or social abuse aimed against a person because of his or her gender or gender role in a society or culture," broadening the definition in this way. A person cannot decline or explore other options under certain situations without suffering serious social, bodily, repercussions (IGWG, 2006).

➤ *GBV Comprises a Variety of Methods which can be Undetectable or overt, such as:*

- Aggression, such as punching, kicking, or using weapons;
- Consistent humiliation, manipulation, demeaning treatment, and threats constitute emotional assault;
- Coerced sex and other forced sexual behavior that is deemed demeaning or humiliating constitute sexual violence;
- Economic violence: denying someone access to money or other resources in an effort to exert control over them (Population Council, 2008).

The primary purpose of these closely related and mutually reinforcing kinds of abuse, which can occur singularly, consecutively, or in combination, is to maintain control over resources and power and to uphold hierarchical gender relations (Maynard, 1996). GBV works by gradually eroding the autonomy and self-worth of women.

GBV patterns and legal and societal perceptions of its acceptance differ from place to place. Instead of being based on a shared understanding of inherent harm, definitions of wrongdoing through violence at the communal and social levels (Green, 1999). From the prenatal stage until old age, GBV may also be experienced differently (Population Council, 2008; Heise, 1994). GBV against women, especially intimate partner violence, is one of the most widespread, expensive, and underreported human rights abuses in the world. (Arias & Corso, 2005; Heise, Ellsberg, & Gottmoeller, 2002). Regional estimates show that women from the Americas have the second-highest prevalence of such violence, while global statistics show that 35.6% of women have encountered physical and/or sexual abuse (World Health Organization [WHO], 2013). The risk of exposure is among the highest in the world, and a significant majority of women and girls encounter GBV, particularly physical and sexual violence. (Jeremiah, Gamache, & Hegamin-Younger, 2013; Jeremiah, Quinn, & Alexis, 2017; Reid, Reddock, & Nickening, 2014). In one of the few quantitative studies, Bott, Guedes, Goodwin, and Mendoza (2012) found that the effect of IPV ranged from 17.3% to 53.3% for women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Given that violence against women is frequently committed by a romantic partner and may have detrimental effects on both the abused women and themselves, there has been an increase in recent research looking at rates and patterns of domestic violence for a review of the research on the effects of IPV on health and exposed children, see Campbell, 2002 (see Holt, Buckley, & Whelan, 2008 for a review of literature on the impact of exposure to domestic violence on children). The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) 2015 Guidelines for Incorporating GBV Interventions in Humanitarian Action defines GBV as any harmful act that is performed against a person's will and that is based on socially ascribed (i.e., gender) disparities between females and males. It includes threats of doing so, coercion, and other forms of liberty infringement, as well as acts that cause bodily, sexual, or mental injury or suffering.

These detrimental behaviors can happen both in public and privately (IASC. Guidelines for Integrating Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action, 2015).

Consistently, GBV survivors describe detrimental effects on their physical, emotional, and reproductive health. Because women do not disclose GBV to providers or access healthcare or other resources, the harmful health and social effects are frequently never addressed (e.g., protection, legal, traditional authorities) because of social norms that place the blame for the assault on the victim (e.g., because she was working outside the home, working alone after dark, or not dressed modestly), norms that put protecting family honor above the safety of the survivor, and institutional acceptance of gender-based violence as a common and expected aspect of displacement and conflict (McCleary-Sills, Namy, Nyon, Rweyemamu, Salvatory, Steven, 2016, Stark, Warner, Lehmann, Boothby, 2013, Wirtz, Glass, Pham, Abera, Rubenstein, Singh, 2013).

V. CONSEQUENCES OF GENDER-BASE VIOLENCE

The scope and severity of GBV have extremely detrimental effects on both the person and society globally. When girls and women are subjected to gender-based violence, the likelihood of early sexual debut, coercive sex, transactional sex, and unprotected sex is significantly increased, in addition to being a primary contributor to suffering, disease, and mortality. (Population Council, 2008). Greater rates of morbidity, mortality, and health issues like HIV and other STIs, health risks from unwanted pregnancies, and mental illness are present among those who have suffered gender-based violence. (Krug et al., 2002; Mugawe & Powell, 2006; IGWG of USAID, 2006; Terry & Hoare, 2007).

➤ *Gender-based Violence is a Human Rights Violation*

The dignity of individuals is relentlessly under attack, and human rights are being violated. The basic human right to be free from violence is violated by gender-based violence, which also lowers one's self-esteem and sense of worth. Along with having an impact on one's physical and emotional health, it can cause self-harm, social isolation, hopelessness, and suicide attempts. Physical and emotional health are in danger when gender-based violence occurs. Everyone has a right to feel safe and secure, and when this isn't the case, people's ability to function in their families, communities, and society at large is likely to be limited, since self-realization and growth are hampered.

➤ *Discrimination is Committed when Women are Harmed.*

Its foundations are harmful presumptions and biases against women and other non-heteronormative or gender-binary individuals. Due to this, gender-based violence has the potential to push women and other impacted groups to the outside of society and give them a sense of inferiority or helplessness. Gender-based violence serves as a form of correction by example for males who act contrary to dominant masculine gender roles. The perceived threat that a man's difference poses to normalized and prevailing

gender stereotypes may be linked to the severity of the "punishment" meted out to men (homosexual, bisexual, or gay) who act contrary to expectations regarding male gender roles. Their very existences may collide and seem to refute the notion that men and women have different societal roles and innate behavioral patterns.

➤ *Gender-based Violence is an Obstacle to Gender Equality*

Gender equality is necessary for the defense of human rights, the preservation of democracy, and the upholding of the rule of law. Gender-based violence supports a heteronormative society by upholding male authority. Contrarily, gender equality asks for individuals of all genders to have equal rights, visibility, and opportunities for empowerment, taking the lead, and involvement in all facets of public and private life. The idea of gender equality also implies that men and women should have equal access to and distribution of resources.

➤ *The Prevalence of Gender-based Violence is Underreported, and Offenders Frequently go Unpunished.*

Widely held myths that are particularly powerful include the idea that family and domestic problems should be kept private. Because of this, it can be difficult to disclose domestic abuse and may impede the provision of aid and support, putting the victim of abuse at risk of further harm or even death. Violence also frequently silences those who are harmed by it. By remaining silent about domestic abuse, we are also engaging in the behavior of the offenders. Many countries have laws that forbid and punish gender-based violence, however there are some that lag behind in this area. The Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention calls for the criminalization of many types of gender-based violence.

➤ *Gender-based Violence Affects Everyone*

Children who grow up in homes where a woman is abused are likewise affected by violence (sometimes not physically, but always psychologically). Youngsters who witness violence may internalize violent standards, coming to believe that it is acceptable or even normal. Additionally, they were raised in a violent culture, which may have limited their ability to develop as individuals and make contributions to society. Gender-based violence can have an impact on friends, family, and workplace.

The usage of numerous services, including medical, psychological, law enforcement, and the court system, as well as the loss of income or job for victims makes gender-based violence very expensive. Underachievers are less productive as a result of their poor performance at job and in education. Because they are unable to stay at home, many victims of gender-based abuse need accommodation, which in certain situations can result in homelessness. While there are facilities for abused women and their children in many places around Europe (albeit not in sufficient numbers), the lack of LGBT+ shelters continues to be a severe issue. The economic and sociopolitical injustice that women endure in many nations both fuels and exacerbates GBV (Population

Council, 2008). Violence is a key factor in both individual women's poverty and poverty in general since it restricts women's alternatives, talents, and productivity both inside and outside the house. (Terry & Hoare, 2007). GBV inhibits productivity, depletes human capital, and stifles economic expansion. Women's poverty is a problem that is exacerbated by GBV exposure, and this poverty renders women more susceptible to GBV. Women's lack of economic empowerment is seen by their lack of access to and control over resources like land, personal property, income, and credit (UN-GA, 2006 as cited by Population Council, 2008).

The utilization of multiple services, such as medical, psychological, law enforcement, and the legal system, as well as the fact that victims lose their cash or jobs result in a considerable financial cost when gender-based violence occurs. As a result, people are less productive and do poorly at work and in school. Because they are unable to do so at home, many victims of gender-based violence need a place to live, which in certain situations can result in homelessness. Such people require shelter services, and while there exist facilities for abused women and their children in many locations throughout Europe (albeit not in sufficient numbers), the dearth of LGBT+ shelters continues to be a serious problem.

VI. GENDER BASE VIOLENCE CAUSES AND ASSOCIATED RISK FACTORS

The unequal power dynamics between men and women are one of the most overtly expressed through gender-based violence, especially violence against women. Remember that the perpetrator is the primary cause of the violence; victims of gender-based violence are never held accountable for the attacker's actions. Gender-based violence in our cultures is not solely the result of one cause; rather, a number of factors interact to produce the issue, which cannot be properly explained by any one factor alone.

➤ *Factors Related to Culture:*

Patriarchal and sexist ideologies justify violence to ensure the dominance and supremacy of men. Other cultural factors include gender stereotypes and prejudice, normative expectations of femininity and masculinity, the socialization of gender, an understanding of the family as a private space under male authority, and a general acceptance of violence as a part of the public sphere (for example, street harassment of women) and/or as an acceptable means to resolve conflict and assert oneself. The idea of women's entitlement and ownership has been used by religious and historical traditions to justify the physical abuse of women. In turn, the idea of ownership legitimizes control over women's sexuality, which many legal systems have believed necessary to preserve patrilineal inheritance. In many countries, sexuality is also linked to the idea of supposed family honor. The death of women suspected of sullyng the family's honor by engaging in illicit sex or getting married and divorcing without the family's permission is permitted under traditional standards in these communities. Because they are seen as a "challenge" to societal standards, LGBT+

youth homelessness and the occurrence of hate crimes against them are both explained by norms surrounding sexuality. The widespread rape of women can be explained by the same sexual norms.

➤ *Legal Considerations:*

many communities view being a victim of gender-based violence as shameful and frail, and many women continue to be accused of inciting violence on themselves through their actions. This explains why reporting and investigation continue to be at low levels. The legal distinction between public and private settings persisted in certain nations until recently, making women particularly susceptible to domestic violence. The Istanbul Convention guarantees everyone's right to live without fear of violence in both the public and private realms, especially for women. While most types of gender-based violence are criminalised in most European nations, the practices of law enforcement in many cases favour the perpetrators, which helps to account for low levels of trust in public institutions and for the fact that most of these crimes go unreported. In many nations, the decriminalization of homosexuality is still fairly new. The legalization of equal marriage has brought about progress in many places, but it has also occasionally sparked opposition. For instance, it has strengthened views that the traditional family is a union of a man and a woman.

➤ *Economic Factors:*

Due to their overall lack of financial resources, women and LGBT+ people are disproportionately vulnerable to violence. It creates vicious cycles of poverty and brutality, making it very difficult for the victims to break free. When they are facing unemployment and destitution, men may resort to violent methods of expressing their masculinity.

➤ *Political Factors:*

Women and LGBT+ people also have fewer opportunities to influence discussions, alter policies, and take action to stop gender-based violence and promote equality because of their underrepresentation in politics and positions of power. Inadequate funds and focus are also given to domestic violence, and gender-based violence is occasionally written off as a non-issue. The women's and LGBT+ groups, which also called attention to some forms of inequality, have put traditional gender norms under scrutiny. This threat to the status quo has been used as justification for aggression by some people.

VII. WHAT MAKES VIOLENCE BASED ON GENDER A PROBLEM

When gender-based violence occurs, human rights are violated because it repeatedly injures victims' dignity and robs them of their rights. The basic human right to be free from violence is violated by gender-based violence, which also undermines one's sense of self-worth and self-esteem. In addition to making a difference on one's mental and bodily well-being, and it may lead to self-harm, social isolation, despair, and suicide attempts.

➤ *Gender-based Violence Threatens a Person's Physical and Psychological Integrity:*

Everyone deserves to feel safe and secure, and when this isn't the case, people's ability to function in their families, communities, and society at large is likely to be limited, as their capacity for self-realization and progress is compromised. Gender-based violence makes it more difficult for everyone to realize their rights to happiness, fulfillment, and personal growth.

➤ *Gender-based Violence is Discrimination:*

Because it is rooted in harmful stereotypes and prejudices that target women and other people who do not fit into the traditional gender binary or heteronormative society. Hence, gender-based violence may push women and other affected people to the periphery of society and give them a sense of worthlessness or helplessness. Gender-based violence serves as a form of correction by example for males who act contrary to dominant masculine gender roles. Whether gay, bisexual, or straight, the intensity of the "punishment" for men who don't act in accordance with expectations of male gender roles may be connected to the perceived threat that their diversity poses to normalized and prevailing notions about gender. Their very existences may collide and seem to refute the notion that men and women have different societal roles and innate behavioral patterns.

➤ *Gender-based Violence is an Obstacle to Gender Equality:*

Gender equality is necessary for the defense of human rights, preservation of democracy, and upholding of the rule of law. Violence against women upholds male authority and promotes a heteronormative society. Contrarily, gender equality asks for individuals of all genders to have equal rights, visibility, and opportunities for empowerment, taking the lead, and involvement in all facets of public and private life. The idea of gender equality also suggests that men and women should have equal access to and distribution of resources.

➤ *Gender-based Violence is Under-Reported and there is Often Impunity for Perpetrators:*

That "what occurs at home should stay at home" or "it is nobody's business what happens in the family" are common clichés that have a lot of influence. Due to this, reporting domestic abuse can be difficult and may impede the provision of aid and support, putting the victim of abuse at risk of further harm or even death. Additionally, people who are affected by violence are typically silenced by it. We also encourage its behaviors when we keep silent in the face of domestic violence. While most countries have laws that prohibit and punish gender-based violence, there are several that lag behind in this area. Numerous forms of gender-based violence should be made illegal, according to the Istanbul Convention of the Council of Europe.

Everyone is impacted by gender-based violence; children who are reared in homes where women are abused are also victims. Youngsters who witness violence could internalize violent standards, or think that violence is "normal" or appropriate. Also, they were nurtured in a

violent culture, which can limit their capacity to grow as people and contribute to society. Gender-based violence can have an impact on friends, family, and workplace.

VIII. SPECIFIC MANIFESTATIONS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Violence is generally connected primarily with physical aggression, overlooking other nonphysical forms. As there are many various "categories" of violence, it is impossible to accurately categorize them. The following forms of violence are mentioned in the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention:

➤ *Physical Violence*

Beating, burning, kicking, punching, biting, maiming, killing, or the use of items or weapons are all examples of physical violence. Because there is frequently initial coercion and because those engaged frequently end up becoming victims of additional violence as a result of their enslavement, some classifications also include human trafficking and slavery under the category of physical violence. Physical violence is any act that aims to inflict pain or other physical harm or that actually does so. As with all forms of violence, the primary intent of the perpetrator is not just to inflict bodily harm, though this may not always be the case, but also to restrict the other. Physical abuse makes it evident to the victim that the abuser is capable of doing things to them that they do not want to happen. Physical violence in close relationships, sometimes referred to as domestic violence, continues to be a widespread occurrence in every country.

Young people are impacted by private physical violence as well. As has already indicated, children who witness parental abuse suffer severe psychological damage. Children and teenagers who witness marital violence frequently get injuries as well, sometimes unintentionally and sometimes as a result of their attempts to stop the abuse. To defend their mother and siblings, young males occasionally conduct crimes against the abusive parent (usually the father), and children frequently suffer as a result of the abuser's retaliation against the mother. The fact that the abuser threatens to hurt or murder the children if the mother leaves is actually a major reason why many moms choose to remain in an abusive relationship. Young people's close relationships are also characterized by physical violence. Talking about it can be challenging because they might not live together all the time.

Public gender-based violence is frequently linked to presumptions and expectations about gender roles. LGBT+ people or those regarded as gay, lesbian, or "different" may experience verbal harassment, name-calling, threats, and physical attacks in public. A lesbian woman may be attacked when she walks down the street holding hands with her partner, or there may be "spontaneous" eruptions of violence against LGBT+ individuals, such as groups going to popular gay men's gathering areas to beat them up. In this respect, public affection becomes a safety issue, and research suggests that many LGBTs avoid from exhibiting

affection in public. Usually, this kind of street violence goes unreported.

➤ *Verbal Violence and Hate Speech*

There are proverbs or idioms from many different cultures that claim that words are harmless, and there is a lengthy history that instructs us to overlook verbal abuse. Nonetheless, the target of the attacks has a right to consider themselves verbal abuse victims when these attacks become routine, systematic, and targeted at their vulnerable areas (Fredman, op.cit., p. 37). Putdowns (in private or in public), ridicule, the use of particularly offensive swear words, disparaging remarks about the other's family members, and threats of various types of violence—either against the victim or against someone close to them—can all be considered forms of verbal violence. Other instances, the victim's background, such as their religion, culture, language, (perceived) sexual orientation, or customs, may be important to the verbal abuse. Abusers frequently purposefully target these concerns in a way that is unpleasant, humiliating, and threatening to the victim, depending on the portions of the victim that are the most emotionally sensitive.

The majority of verbal abuse that women endure due of their gender is sexualized and is therefore classified as sexual violence. Verbal gender-based violence in public can take the shape of remarks and jokes directed at women or the portrayal of women as sex objects, both of which are highly influenced by gender roles. (e.g. jokes about sexual availability, prostitution, and rape). Bullying and young people (perceived) sexuality are commonly linked. (especially boys). The repeated derogatory usage of terminology such as 'queer' or 'fag' is sometimes traumatising for persons seen as gays and lesbians. Most likely because of this, many homosexuals and lesbians don't 'come out' until they graduate from high school.

Hate speech may include verbal violence. It can come in a variety of forms, including verbal threats against an individual or a group of individuals based on certain features, videos, memes, or images shared on social media. Hate speech is described as follows by the European Commission on Racism and Intolerance:

(...) advocacy, promotion, or incitement, in any form, of the denigration, hatred, or vilification of a person or group of people, as well as any harassment, insult, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, or threat in regard to such a person or group of people, and the justification of all the foregoing forms of expression, on the grounds of "race," "color," descent, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, language, religion or belief, sex, gender (Lentin, 2004).

In both the public and private arenas, gender-based hate speech primarily targets LGBT+ persons and women (in this case, it is frequently referred to as "sexist hate speech") based on sex, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The public realm in question includes the Internet. Yet, this type of gender-based abuse can also occur via

secret emails or messages received through internet messaging services.

Jokes, distributing false information, threats, slander, incitement to violence, and expressions of hate are only a few examples of gender-based hate speech. It tries to degrade, dehumanize, and instill fear in a person or group of people. Gender-based hate speech is typically very damaging for the person it targets, just like any other kind of violence: victims of hate speech frequently feel powerless and unsure of what to do. They experience anxiety, fear, low self-esteem, and occasionally even suicidal attempts. Hate crimes, which are motivated by prejudice and target someone whose identity differs from the perpetrators, can occasionally result from hate speech. Hate crimes can be committed using physical force, vandalism of property, arson, or even murder. Because of particular traits that they are thought to possess, the victims are specifically chosen.

➤ *Psychological Violence*

All types of violence include a psychological component because the main objective of being violent or abusive is to undermine the integrity and dignity of another person. Additionally, certain forms of violence employ strategies that don't fit into any of the other categories and could be said to produce psychological violence in its most "pure" form. This includes seclusion or detention while concealing information, spreading rumors, and using threatening language or actions.

Psychological violence in the private realm refers to actions that threaten another person but lack verbal or physical components, such as defiantly ignoring or ignoring the other person or acting in a way that alludes to prior violent acts. This kind of violence frequently takes place in public and involves isolating young people who behave in ways that are contrary to conventional gender roles.. Peer groups employ isolation in the public domain most frequently, but responsible adults, like teachers and sports coaches, can also use it. Isolation often refers to being left out of particular group activities. In a manner similar to psychological abuse in the private sector, it can also include intimidation.

➤ *Sexual Violence*

It is becoming increasingly obvious that sexual assault, like other forms of violence, is an abuse of power when more information about the circumstances surrounding it becomes available. Any non-consensual vaginal, anal, or oral penetration of another person using any bodily part or object is considered sexual violence, as is engaging in other non-consensual sexual actions with a person or inciting another person to engage in such acts with a third party. Sexual violence includes attempted rape and marital rape. Forced dangerous sex, forced masturbation in front of others, forced unsafe sex, sexual harassment, and abuse including reproduction are some examples of forced sexual behaviors.

Some types of sexual assault are more prevalent in the private realm and are related to the victim's personal boundaries. The criminal purposefully breaks these limits: Examples include forcing someone to engage in specific sexual behaviors, date rape, sexual attention withholding as punishment, or compelling someone to watch (and occasionally replicate) pornography. Every type of sexual assault has the potential to occur in both the public and private domains. However, there are three distinct types of sexual violence that are worth mentioning in the public sphere: workplace sexual harassment, the use of sexual violence as a tool of war and torture, and the use of sexual violence against (perceived) LGBT+ individuals as "punishment" for defying conventional gender roles are all examples of sexual violence.

➤ *Socio-Economic Violence*

Socioeconomic hardship can increase a victim's susceptibility to other types of violence and even provide a justification for the use of such violence. Economic data from around the world clearly demonstrate that feminization of poverty¹¹, which makes women typically more economically vulnerable than males, is one of the effects of globalization. However, the phenomenon of economic vulnerability is also present on a personal scale. Due to the fact that a sizable portion of abusive relationships have this phenomenon identified as distinct from others, it deserves to be placed in its own group. The danger of violence may still exist due to status conflicts and emasculation issues, particularly in existing violent partnerships, even though the gender roles are reversed and a woman has a higher economic status in a relationship. The victim may be denied the ability to earn a living on their own (by designating them as "housewives" or forcing them to labor for free in a family business) or may be subjected to specific physical abuse that renders them unfit for employment.

The prevalent female power dynamics in societies are both a cause and an effect of socio-economic violence in the public domain. Denial of access to services, exclusion from specific jobs, denial of pleasure, and denial of the enjoyment of civil, cultural, social, and political rights are some examples. It may also involve denial of access to education or (equally) paid labor (mostly for women). Those who identify as LGBT+ may even face criminal prosecution. Some social and economic gender-based violence that occurs in the open results in women becoming monetarily dependent on their relationships (lower wages, very low or no child-care benefits, or benefits being tied to the income tax of the wage-earning male partner). A dependent relationship like this one allows someone who has a propensity for domestic violence to behave without worrying about losing their partner.

➤ *Domestic Violence or Violence in Intimate Relationships*

The most prevalent kind of gender-based violence is domestic or intimate partner abuse. It also needs special consideration because relationship-based violence has very different dynamics than violent situations involving outsiders. The fact that domestic violence was long regarded to be a private, domestic matter has severely hampered

acknowledgment of the phenomena as a human rights violation. The phenomenon became more elusive as a result of the perception that international human rights legislation only applied to relationships between people and states. However, it is becoming increasingly clear that if a state fails to defend its citizens from abuse or violence, both state action and state inaction may result in state liability under international law. ("due diligence" principle).

Domestic violence is defined as "acts of physical, sexual, psychological, or economic violence that occur within the family or domestic unit or between former or current spouses or partners, whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the victim," according to the Istanbul Convention. The majority of the time, the majority of the time, the majority of the time, the majority of the time, the majority of the time, the majority of the time, the majority of the time, the majority of the time, the majority of the time, the majority of the time. Domestic violence causes significant physical and mental pain, injuries, and frequently death. Examples include rape, battering, sexual or psychological abuse. It is done against the victim's will with the purpose to control, humiliate, and terrify the person. Because police and legal systems are either gender-insensitive, hostile, or nonexistent, victims are frequently left without any redress.

IX. VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

According to research, the cost of violence against women could account for roughly 2% of the worldwide GNP (GDP). Any culture that tolerates violence against women and girls must pay a heavy financial price. The detrimental effects on women's engagement in civic, professional, and educational activities undercut efforts to reduce poverty. It causes lost productivity and employment and depletes the resources of companies, the court system, the health care industry, and social services. 2016 (UN Women). It is evident that communities as a whole bear the financial burden of gender-based violence in addition to the severe and immediate suffering experienced by victims.

Gender-based violence encompasses a variety of harmful behaviors in all contexts, including female genital mutilation, trafficking. It also includes gender-based killings, rape and sexual violence, forced marriage, which includes child marriage of children under 18, sexual harassment in the workplace, in schools, and in public places. Lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women and girls are more likely to be the targets of attackers since they are already ostracized due of these other parts of their identities (UN Women, 2017).

➤ *There are Numerous Different ways that Children might be Harmed.*

There are many different ways that violence against children expresses itself. It is important to compare the all-encompassing definition of violence provided. The prevalence of child abuse worldwide (2015). Even while data on the many forms of violence against children (VAC) is limited, recent statistics demonstrate that VAC is pervasive. (UNICEF, 20118). The graph below shows the

prevalence of various forms of child abuse around the world and makes it abundantly evident that corporal punishment is the most common type of child abuse:

- Physical restraint (Corporal punishment)
- Bullying
- Physical fight
- Physical violence: Adolescent
- Sexual violence: Adolescent
- Child homicide

Adolescent females around the world die from violence more frequently than any other cause (UNICEF, 2014b). Although while all children are susceptible to physical abuse, a variety of factors influence how likely they are to experience certain types of violence. For instance, young children are typically most susceptible to major bodily harm, with fatal cases frequently occurring among babies. Similar to adults, teenagers may be more likely to commit homicide in areas where there is armed conflict (SRSG, 2016).

X. CHILDREN'S EFFECTS FROM VIOLENCE

Neglect, trauma, and violence all have an adverse effect on a child's development. However, recent studies have demonstrated that abuse and neglect can physiologically impact a child's brain development (UNICEF, 2017). For those impacted by violence, there are long-term negative health, social, and economic effects that can include: mental and physical health issues; increased health and other risk behaviors; exposure to additional violence; physical injury disability; reduced health-related quality of life; lower educational attainment; and lower levels of adult economic well-being.

The trauma of violence against children is common. Growth of a child's emotions, societal progress, and intellectual capacity are all impacted by abuse and neglect, and all of these consequences can result in troublesome behavior. Dissociation, hyperarousal, and affect dysregulation can result from emotional and physical abuse and neglect. This frequently takes place in the child's caregiver setting and has a detrimental impact on the child's ability to form healthy attachments and develop normally. Post-traumatic stress disorder is a diagnosable long-term illness that can be brought on by trauma brought on by experiencing violence or watching it (PTSD). PTSD is linked to a number of symptoms, such as:

- Refusal to admit to taking part in any exploitative circumstances;
- Difficulty recalling or remembering things clearly;
- Difficulty remembering events in a sequential or chronological order;
- Dreams, nightmares, flashbacks, and intrusive thoughts that force you to relive the experience;
- Avoiding bringing up the incident again;
- Consistent signs of excessive arousal, such as poor attention, sleep problems, and aggressive behavior.

Memory is reportedly impacted by PTSD in a variety of ways. Even children with PTSD may struggle to give a detailed account of what happened. Trauma is likely to result in a lack of cooperation, animosity, and an inability to clearly recall past events.

XI. VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN PREVENTION

To effectively prevent violence against children, a comprehensive strategy is required. Numerous other areas must be included, even though the legal system can play a role. Using multisectoral approach maximizes their effectiveness. Stakeholders are striving to end violence against children in many countries, but often their efforts are not adequately organized and supported. The seven methods for combating violence, abuse, and exploitation: (1) implementation and enforcement of laws; (2) norms and values; (3) safe environments; (4) changing adherence to restrictive and harmful gender and social norms; (5) community mobilization programs; (6) addressing "hotspots" and improving the built environment; and (7) modifying the adoption of harmful and constrictive gender and social norms (INSPIRE, 2016).

The United Nations Model measures (Economic and Social Council Resolution 2014/18) specify many categories of prevention measures with respect to the function of the justice system: (1) making all VAC prohibited, as well as making a number of major forms of violence unlawful; (2) designing programs to reduce violence that are efficient and appropriate for the situation; and (3) criticizing the practices that allow VAC. In truth, society' views of what constitutes acceptable behavior must drastically change if violence against children is to be prevented.

XII. ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Violence can be justified by norms as an essential component of childrearing or as a proper answer in dispute to society. Norms also impact the need for violence intervention: "Norms that favor family privacy or reputation, or that support male sexual entitlement and authority, can lead to victim blaming and deter both girls and boys from reporting violence or seeking treatment" (INSPIRE, 2018). It is critical to design and implement strategies to combat the social acceptance or tolerance of violence against children. There must be new ways to confront the myriad ways that violence against children is accepted. To oppose ideas that justify or normalize violence against children, such as tolerance for and acceptance of harmful practices like corporal punishment, targeted actions must be taken. UNODC (2015a). If there is proof that violent acts against children are still condoned in their own nation, lecturers might find it useful to consider this.

Therefore, it is necessary to designate VAC prevention as a top priority in the fight against crime. A comprehensive plan to end violence against children should include prevention efforts, based on our expanding understanding of

the causes of this type of violence and addressing the vulnerabilities that children face (United Nations, 2014, Article 12). Effective violence prevention programs must be developed in collaboration with child welfare, social welfare, health, and education authorities, as well as with civil society organizations (UNODC, 2015a). To contribute to the creation of a protective environment for children, it is generally necessary to strengthen the current child protection and justice system. Collaboration between the criminal judicial system and child protection agencies must be promoted. Collaboration protocols are frequently required to support continuing interagency cooperation.

XIII. RECOMMENDATIONS

➤ *Children*

The following are important tactics and actions to lower the possibility of violence against children in the court system:

- Preventing juvenile offenders from entering the justice system;
- Reducing the number of children incarcerated;
- Making ensure that taking away someone's freedom is only done as a last option;
- Ensuring that all minors involved in the juvenile justice system have access to counsel at all stages of the proceedings; or
- Setting up independent monitoring, inspection, and control procedures.

➤ *Women*

The States should act in the ways listed below:

- All actions involving the various national and local government branches should be coordinated by the states;
- Adequate funds and resources should be available for programs to end violence against women;
- States should collaborate with civil society organizations to develop and institutionalize good practices to reduce violence against women;
- States ought to ensure that information disseminated to the general public, kids, and teenagers advances gender equality and the renunciation of violence against women;
- Governments to make sure that victims have access to assistance including shelters and hotlines;
- To make sure that they are serving victims effectively, all professionals, especially those in the criminal justice and health sectors, should receive training;
- It's important to encourage the media to provide responsible and accurate coverage of violence against women;
- Criminal law should cover the full range of violence, including stalking, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, forced abortion, forced sterilization, as well as physical, mental, and sexual abuse;
- There should be protections for abuse victims under family and civil law, including access to protection orders and recognition that parental rights to child

contact shouldn't take precedent over the rights and safety of women and children who have been the victims of violence;

- To ensure timely risk assessments and safety precautions, police should act decisively.

XIV. CONCLUSION

This literature study has offered a summary of the intricate and interconnected elements that internationally contribute to GBV, as well as a brief discussion of its repercussions and preventative actions, even though it is not exhaustive. The complexity, multidimensionality, and historical, cultural, and societal roots of GBV make it difficult to eradicate. Nonetheless, GBV activists around the world have made great progress in recent years, raising awareness of the issue, providing tools for prevention and intervention, and seeing the adoption of laws, agreements, and policies on a national and international level. We must keep working to eradicate GBV as a human rights problem, a public health issue, and a development issue because it has such negative effects on survivors, their communities, and the women, men, and kids who care for them.

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