



Women have the right to live free of violence

Delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled

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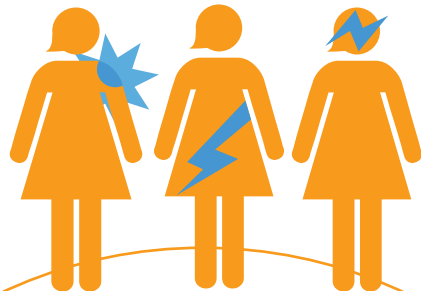
The United Nations
sexual and reproductive
health agency

What is gender-based violence?

- Violence against women and girls takes many forms of sexual, physical, emotional and economic abuse. Some examples are domestic violence, rape and unwanted sex, intimidation, harassment and trafficking.
- Violence against women and girls is often perpetrated by husbands, relatives, teachers and colleagues.
- The underlying cause of gender-based violence is gender inequality.
- Violence against women cannot be justified by tradition or culture.

Violence against women is a silent emergency

- One in three women worldwide experience gender-based violence in their lifetime.
- It is difficult to talk about domestic violence. Too many women suffer in silence. Are you one of them? You are not alone.
- Most cases of gender-based violence go unreported because women are afraid or ashamed to seek justice and help.



Some consequences of gender-based violence

- Sexual violence wreaks havoc on women's health. It leads to sexually transmitted infections, unwanted pregnancies and unsafe abortions.
- Violence against women causes physical injury, suffering and, in the worst cases, death.
- Gender-based violence leaves deep psychological scars that can take years to overcome.

Women and men have to stand together

- Fathers, husbands, uncles and brothers can do their part to eliminate violence against women and girls.
- Real change happens when men and boys partner together with women and girls against gender-based violence.

