

The role of men in combating violence against women

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1. Background

At its fifty-eight session, the general Assembly of the United Nations requested the Secretary-General to conduct an in-depth study on all forms and manifestations of violence against women, as identified in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the UN-document “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century.” In light of the increasing attention paid to the role of men in combating violence against women, it is important to include a discussion on the role of men in this study, which can also serve as a basis for recommendations of strategies to combat violence against women.

I was then contacted by The United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women and asked to prepare a short background paper on the role of men in combating violence against women, which will serve as input for the preparation of the larger study. The study should contain current thinking and discussions on this topic. It should give a synopsis of the issues, debates, policy approaches that are being developed, as well as the kinds of practical action that is currently taking place. It should be based on literature review as well as reflection of practice. The brief should take a global perspective, providing also an analysis of regional/subregional particularities of issues and approaches.

This short study has been made in the period between October 15th to December 1st with the use of relevant literature and sources available. The time limit has forced me to highlight a few examples of good practice under each chapter. More examples of initiatives and practices could be found, but the probability is high that they will follow the same approaches, philosophy and ways of working as those mentioned in this study. Several of these different projects are mentioned in the list of resources and in the appendix 1 (Africa only).

The paper first presents an introduction to the area. This introduction will concentrate on the broader development in the thinking of men and violence and the changes in the perspectives on men’s violence. Thereafter different initiatives will be drawn attention to. These are grouped into general prevention strategies (Part 3), treatment programs (Part 4), youth and schools (Part 5) and fatherhood (Part 6). The last part is devoted to recommendations for further actions.

It is important to state that the three more specific areas of attention in this paper, treatment, youth and schools, and fatherhood, are not arbitrarily chosen. Rather, they are the areas mostly referred to in the debates around engaging men in combating violence against women, and these are the areas on which several of the dominating

programs on men and violence worldwide concentrate. Moreover, these three areas are all in different ways important both in developing knowledge of men, masculinities, and the reason for violence, and are directly related to changing masculinity and men's violent behavior.

Several areas that need attention are not mentioned in this paper. There are men working on changing laws, working with police officers and men in the military, giving courses for family counseling workers, working with health issues and men in prison, all related to the broad work on ending violence against women. These initiatives are more ad hoc in different countries and not systematically organized. However, their importance must be stressed. Strengthening the judicial reaction against sexual violence and physical violence against women is an important instrument for a societal reaction on violence. Providing specialized and responsible personnel with real knowledge on violence in intimate relationships at every police station is extremely important, since the police officers often are the first ones to encounter such cases. Training both family counseling workers and health personnel about domestic violence is also a way of ending the silence around violence against women. Men should be encouraged to strengthening the work in these areas as a way of ending violence.

2. Introduction

The *State of World Population 2005* report from United Nations Population Fund states that gender equality and reproductive health are indispensable to the realization of United Nations millennium goals. Further it is made clear that "gender-based violence is perhaps the most widespread and socially tolerated of human rights violations." There is a direct link between gender-based violence, gender equality, and health. Traditionally in the discussions on gender-based violence, the focus has been on men's violence against women and the need to provide battered women with support and help. Men's part in the violence, and to what degree it is possible to involve men in combating the violence, has been discussed to a lesser degree. This has now started to change. As the movement for gender equality itself has undergone a similar shift over time, from an early emphasis on women alone to the recognition of the need to engage men in the process, we can detect a shift in the approach to understanding and combating violence. This paper is a contribution to this shift of focus to see men and women as more interconnected and related within a gender system.

The most obvious argument for the necessity for such a change is that helping the victimized women does not stop men from continuing to use violence. To be able to stop violence we have to work with boys and men. More and more politicians, NGO's and researchers acknowledge this. However, we are forced to recognize that we have a long way to go. Very few leading politicians in the world have shown any specific interest in the issues of interpersonal violence or to address violence in intimate relationships; even fewer are willing to discuss it from a point of view that includes an understanding of the male factor.

During the last ten-fifteen years, a new trend has emerged in the discussion regarding men and violence. Whereas the approach around 1990 was characterized by

moralizing and judgment of men—typically presented in generalized phrases regarding men as such— the discussion today is more nuanced. Five aspects with respect to the discussion regarding men and violence are evident as of 2005:

- The knowledge regarding the extent as well as the consequences of men’s violence is increasing on an international basis. At the same time, the taboos around the topic are diminishing while the topic of violence in intimate relationships is receiving more public attention. This has led to a greater awareness that men must be engaged in the work against violence against women.
- Increasingly, treatment options catered towards men show that it is possible to change men’s violent behavior. This underscores the value of working with men’s violence and has led to a more optimistic approach to the field.
- Increased research on men’s violence has led to new insights regarding the causes of men’s violence. The element of power has been supplied by understandings of men’s experiences of disempowerment, together with more insight into men’s own experiences of violence as children, as well as the clear connection between violence and other social and economic relations and age. This has led the discussion from the more general polemic that “all men are potentially violent” to a more sober understanding of the fact that most men never exert violence against their partner and that violence typically is linked to distinctive individual and social contexts.
- Recent research also shows that women’s violence against men in intimate relationships is more extensive than what one previously thought, although this kind of violence is not of the same extent, nor does it usually have the same emotional or physical consequences as men’s violence against women. Nonetheless, this knowledge serves to reduce the polarization of gender while increasing the engagement of men.
- On a parallel note, there is evidence that men in general are more exposed to violence than women and that men who are exposed to grave violence are, to a large degree, traumatized in a similar manner as women who are exposed to violence. However, it is clear that this kind of violence is exerted by men against men.

These new perspectives have led to a new foundation for a more informed debate regarding the topic of men and violence than an approach that might be more informed by ideology. The use of language and vocabulary has also changed, and this in a manner that can serve to be more inclusive regarding the engagement of men in the discussion about violence against women. In this way, it seems that we have more potential to succeed in including men in the work against violence today than only ten years ago.

An investigation of the exertion of violence in various districts in Uttar Pradesh, India, demonstrates how new findings can contribute to raising new questions regarding men’s violence. The study shows that men’s attitudes and reported use of violence varied significantly. The amount of men who admitted beating their wives varied from 18 % in Naintal district to 45 % in Banda district. This raises a question regarding what it is about these two different contexts that can account for the large

differences in use of violence.¹ Another example is a new pilot study from Germany on violence against men. More than 70 % of the men reported being exposed to physical punishment in their childhood (from both fathers and mothers), and almost 40 % said they were treated in such a way that it was psychologically damaging.²

These two examples force two important questions: Why is it that many men don't exert violence even though they live in a patriarchic society and what is the consequence of the extensive violence boys experience as children all over the world in terms of reproducing men's violence against other men as well as women? These kinds of questions have resulted in more men becoming interested in understanding that violence is a matter that must be taken seriously.

The therapeutic work with men who have a problem with violence has revealed the extensive capacity men have to repress and project their own exertion of violence. Hence, the combination of shame and repression has made it difficult for men to engage in therapeutic work. New knowledge, new approaches, and an openness to see men's violence against women in light of men's violence against other men, parents' violence against children, and women's violence against men leads to a more holistic understanding of violence and the reproduction of violence in society. The idea is that this understanding will serve to engage men to a larger degree in the work against violence.

This report will emphasize the potential in involving men in combating violence against women while underscoring that this potential lies in the recognition of, on the one hand, a profound understanding of the consequences of violence for the victim and, on the other hand, that a masculinity free from violence leads to a better life also for men. In this way, it becomes evident that the work against violence belongs to the broader context of work towards increased gender equality and better living conditions for women as well as men.

The report will discuss various areas that have been proven to be effective in terms of combating violence against women, from debates about men's violence to specific efforts to combat it. Four aspects will be emphasized:

- More general prevention strategies
- Treatment of men with a violent behavior
- Socialization of boys and educational work
- Fatherhood

3. Prevention strategies

Whereas items 4-6 present various prevention strategies, the point of this section is to consider more general strategies in combating violence against women; points 4-6 cover more specific strategies to end men's violence. In the past, both national and international campaigns against violence have had a general appeal. Typically, the

¹ *World Report on Violence and Health*. Geneva: World Health Organization 2002, p 97.

² *Violence Against Men. Men's experiences of interpersonal violence in Germany. Results of a pilot study*. Germany: Federal Ministry for Family Affairs 2004.

goal has been twofold: on the one hand, to remove the taboo surrounding violence in intimate relationships and, on the other hand, to affect the extent of violence. These campaigns have contributed to raise the general awareness about violence against women and to place the phenomenon on the public agenda. However, it is unclear if these kinds of campaigns have any direct link to reducing the extent of violence. Typically, men perceive these kinds of campaigns as geared towards women. Therefore, in order for these campaigns to reach men, it is crucial that they are explicitly focused on involving men, which has implications both for content as well as style.

White Ribbon Campaign

The White Ribbon Campaign (WRC) is the largest and most successful of the campaigns that seek to reach men. During the fourteen years of its existence, WRC has developed and changed the perspective on men's violence and thus it presents a model of recent developments in the work with men and violence.

Three men started the WRC in Toronto, Canada, in 1991. Wearing a white ribbon became a symbol of men's opposition to men's violence against women. Wearing a white ribbon is a personal pledge never to commit, condone nor remain silent about violence against women. Since the beginning in 1991, the campaign has spread to forty-seven countries throughout the world, including South Africa, South Asia, New Zealand, Tonga, Brazil, Germany, and the Nordic countries, and it is by far the most well known of all initiatives to get men involved in combating violence against women. WRC works as a decentralized campaign, with full national and local autonomy. The campaign relies on volunteer support and financial contributions from individuals and organizations. The campaign has developed educational materials for use in schools, a well developed internet site with useful resources, and important experiences from world wide activities on men and violence against women.

During its years of work WRC has gradually changed its language to a more inclusive way of addressing men, like "Real men don't hurt. Our future has no violence against women". The change of language is not only because of marketing, but quite important to be able to reach out to men. Since WRC is directly focused on getting men and boys involved, it is necessary to use a more positive language to give men a chance to be a part of a positive change of society.

It is also worth noting that WRC—in addition to working on general attitudes—has focused on working with the socialization of boys, recognizing that boys are coached into using violence. Moreover, in recent years, the organization has developed a sharper focus in its work with fatherhood. WRC's focus on working more directly and specifically with young boys and fathers is in line with other initiatives, as well as areas of concern to which this report calls attention.

Contacts:

White Ribbon Campaign, <http://www.whiteribbon.com/>

See also Michael Kaufman: www.michaelkaufman.com

Working with Men and Boys – to promote gender equality and to end violence against boys and girls. Save the Children Sweden-Denmark, Regional Program for South and Central Asia.

Save the children Sweden-Denmark have developed a special program for working with men and boys in South and Central Asia. Their goals are to develop strategies and concrete action plans for increasing partnership with men and boys to address both violence against boys and girls. The initiative has taken on a broad angle in presenting the problem, which involves perspectives on socialization of boys and girls (from religion, from parents, from school etc), perceptions of masculinities and what it means to be a man, basic human rights principles and issues around gender equality in a broader sense.

The regional program uses theater, film, advertisement, pressure on political leaders, and trainings program for men/boys as ways of reaching out to men. The initiative underlines the following components as important parts of training programs for men/boys: Men's language, gender and power relations, alternative forms of solving conflict, sexuality, life skills, self-reflections and gender socialization.

Their experiences from working with men have lead to these three key learning's:

- Instead of focusing on individual males acts of violence, it is better to focus on the entire culture that creates violence and dominant forms of masculinities.
- Men and boys also need space and opportunity to discuss their feeling with other males, but opportunities should also be created where both sexes are able to share their concerns and perspectives with each other in a structured and non-confrontational way.
- Men/boys and women/girls both pay a heavy price of gender stereotyping, since it limits both sexes possibilities to develop according to their full potential. Both should be targeted in order to bring about change.

In a way these two more general initiatives to mobilize men against violence against women, WRC and Save the Children, point to the necessity to combine such initiatives with a possibility for men to get help individually for their violent behavior. Save the Children points out that its focus is “on the entire culture that creates violence” and not on individual men. I will stress that it is significant to stimulate work with men both on an individual level and on a cultural level.

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4. Treatment programs

There has been a tremendous development in the area of treatment programs for men with a violent behavior. From the early American programs twenty years ago, which were based on referrals and a moral approach, to programs now based on a much

more professional psychotherapeutic treatment. Along the line there have been several debates around treatment of men, with a lot of skepticism around the effect of such treatment. Several new studies show that treatment gives result; either that violence is reduced or stopped. Today most researchers and experts on violence are supporting treatment programs for men.

In the discussion on treatment it is necessary to separate between programs based on referral or voluntary men. The tendency shows that voluntary treatment gives better result. One important fact is that the dropout factor is much higher in referral programs. So far there have not been any studies on whether or not the content of the program should be different if it is based on referral or voluntary men.

The World Report on Violence and Health refers to an international review that concludes that treatment programs work best if they:

- Continue for a longer rather than shorter periods
- Change men's attitudes enough for them to discuss their behavior
- Sustain participation in the program (WHO 2002, p.106)

One of the first countries to implement treatment of men with a violent behavior by law was Mexico. The State of Oaxaca's Law of Assistance and Prevention against Domestic Violence from 2001, states that all men with a violent behavior should be offered treatment. Even though this is not a real possibility yet for all men that need it, Mexico has established several treatment programs for men. One of these, which is worth looking into, is Coriac, a self help program for men with a violent behavior: www.coriac.org

In the last years, Europe has led the discussion on different methods and approaches. In 2004 The Council of Europe arranged an expert conference on Therapeutic treatment of men perpetrators of violence within the family. The report from the conference can be found on the Council's homepage:

http://www.coe.int/T/E/Human_Rights/Equality/05_Violence_against_women/095_EG-SEM-MV%282004%29Proceedings.asp#TopOfPage

Still treatment programs are scarce in Europe, only few cities can offer well developed treatment programs. One of the few countries where there has been a thorough development in both the setup of the treatment and a more systematic institutional possibility for men to get help is Norway. The Alternative to Violence (ATV),

http://www.atv-stiftelsen.no/index.cfm?kat_id=19

offers today not only help to men with a violent behavior in several cities in Norway, but also women who are violent towards their partner, women exposed to intimate violence, children experiencing violence in their family, violent girls (10-18 years old), men sentenced of violent crimes, and men and women from ethnic minorities.

With almost twenty years of experience, ATV has developed a specific method of therapy for men with a violent behavior, as a combination of both individual sessions and group therapy. Several thousands of men have voluntarily gone through the treatment program, and follow-up studies indicate substantial change among the men both in praxis and attitudes.

Just recently the EU sponsored Daphne Program II 2004-2008: To prevent and combat violence against children, young people and women and to protect victims and groups at risk, supported the Dissens-lead (Berlin) initiative Working with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence in Europe. The aims of the project is to establish the necessary conditions for a Europe-wide exchange of best practices and an ongoing discussion about standards in the work with perpetrators of domestic violence. The results of this study have the potential for establishing basic principles for starting out new treatment programs for men with a violent behaviour. <http://www.dissens.de/>

It is important to recognize that establishing treatment centers and advertising treatment programs in the public have a broader impact on the understanding of men's violence in the society. Not only does it help single men with a violent behavior, but it sends out a clear message that violence against your partner is such an act that it can and needs to be treated. This kind of public communication is significant; it gives a straight message that can speak directly to men that violence is nothing to be proud about, nor is violence a problem, a behavior, with which they are stuck. On the contrary, help is available.

5. Educational work

Working with young men is one of the common denominators for all the initiatives focused on men and violence against women. It is linked to more theoretical discussions on boys and socialization into masculinity (Mac an Ghail 1994, Connell 2000, Barker 2005). Studies point out a significant tendency among young boys to prove that they are men through performing sexuality, homophobia, and demonstrating willingness to use violence and accept violence. Although the gender system in the last decades has changed, the socialization of boys is surprisingly stable and rigid when it comes to values and understanding of masculinity and gender relations.

In a rapidly changing world with high unemployment worldwide, mobility and instability, being a young man could be seen as a risk factor in and of itself: "From a public health perspective, it could be concluded from even the most superficial glance at the data that being a young man between 15 and 24, particularly a low-income, urban-based young man, is in itself a risk factor" (Barker p.2). And this group of young men is also directly linked to violence against women. *The World Report on violence and health* states that "young age and low income were consistently found to be factors linked to the likelihood of a man committing physical violence against a partner" (WHO 2002, p.97). This statement is supported by a brand new prevalent study on violence in intimate relationship in Norway that shows that age is an important factor, and violence occurred to a must higher degree among young couples between 18 and 30.

Educational work among boys and young men seems therefore both appropriate and extremely important to be able to combat violence against women. Some of the initiatives on working with young men will here be mentioned.

Working with young men in Africa

There exist several initiatives and programs for young men in different countries in Africa. In their broad and in-depth study *Young Men and the Construction of Masculinity in Sub-Saharan Africa*, Gary Barker and Christine Ricardo gives an overview of promising initiatives (see Appendix 1).

While gender increasingly has become a more important term for analyzing and understanding the situation in Africa, there are still very few studies including men and boys as gendered persons. To be able to work with young men and understand their situation, studies on men and masculinities seem more important than ever. At the same time it is important to take into account the huge differences and diversity of masculinities in Africa.

In her article, *The Negative Side of Development Interventions and Gender Transitions: Impoverished Male Roles Threaten Peace*, Constantina Safilios-Rothschild underlines the necessity to focus on young men and masculinities in development programs in Africa. (Breines, Connell, Eide 2000) In one of three recommendations for actions she mentions socialization of boys (another is strengthening fatherhood). But she also points out that this must be “the most complicated to implement, it is long term and can only impact future generations, and is probably the most costly”. (p.91)

Barker & Ricardo point to a few common principles in the work with young men in Africa: Explicit inclusion of discussions of manhood/masculinities in educational activities, creating enabling environments, broader alliance-building, and including the multiple needs of young men. This involves both a critical perspective of masculinities and an empathic understanding of the living conditions of young men in the region. Often understandings of men in Africa are normative and simplistic. A broader view on incidences which includes perspectives on men’s role in a gendered system is necessary.

Barker & Ricardo draws the attention to three programs worth special attention: Stepping Stones, Conscientizing male adolescents in Nigeria and Men as partners program in South Africa. The layouts of the three programs are presented in appendix 1. Stepping Stones is the largest of the three programs with ongoing activities in 20 different African countries. All these three programs have a wider perspective than violence, but all three have men’s violence against women as a core issue. Evaluations of the programs have found that they have positive effects on relationship building and reduced violence against partners.

Instituto Promundo, Brazil

Promundo is a Brazilian NGO that works internationally to promote gender equality and child and youth development. Their Program H: http://www.promundo.org.br/controlPanel/materia/view/330?locale=en_US stimulates young men to question traditional “norms” associated with masculinity and promotes both discussion and reflection about the “costs” of traditional masculinity as well as the advantages of gender equitable behaviors, such as better care for their own health. They also have a program M for young women. In their approaches to young men they use workshops, campaigns, and other different kinds of innovative ways of

reaching out to young men. One of the key issues they discuss is violence against other boys and against women.

In addition to working with violence and attitudes towards violence these workshops provide a lot of information about the real lives of young men (and young girls). Learning from adults—being beaten or being witness to violence—seems like a recurrent and overwhelming problem for the kids. Like one young man in one of the group said: “I don’t know what a relationship based on respect [between a man and a woman] looks like. I’ve never seen one”. (Barker p.119) Studies on reasons for violence show that young men who use violence to a very large extent have either been witness to their fathers beating their mothers, been victim of violence themselves, or both. This draws attention to the fact that violence is a learned behavior, and may therefore be unlearned. This is an important ideology of the educational work with young men.

White ribbon Campaigns School education kit

One of the most developed educational programs is by the already mentioned White Ribbon Campaign, and is called the White Ribbon Campaign's Education and Action Kit:

http://www.whiteribbon.com/educational_materials/

The material in this teaching program has been used for more than ten years, and has recently been through a thorough evaluation and restructuring. There are versions for 12-14 year olds and one for 14-20 year olds. The Kit combines in-class lessons with school-wide projects to raise awareness about violence against women, and to promote ideals about gender equality and healthy relationships.

By developing such a kit the WRC points to the fact that there is a lack of awareness and mandatory teaching on these themes in traditional school, and that such a kit has to be developed outside of school. This gives a picture of how conservative schooling still is when it comes to gender perspectives and training in most parts of the world.

A kit like this will empower youth to end violence through education, skill development, and social competence. It focuses both on themselves and gives strategies of self-awareness, while it also reflects upon social change and gives youth ideas of how to participate in efforts of change among peer groups, in culture in general, and in their intimate relationships.

Young Men’s camp, Philippine

From reports provided by the news, there is also evidence that there has been arranged a Young Men's Camp on Gender Issues, Sexuality and Prostitution in the Philippines. The camp, organized by the Coalition Against the Trafficking of Women Asia-Pacific (CATW-AP) and funded by the US-based Oak Foundation, seeks to educate men between 16 and 20 on gender issues. It has been impossible to find more information about the camp, and if it is a one time experience or not. It seems like an important and interesting initiative that should be followed up.

6. Fatherhood issues

Just as working with youth and young men has been a key strategy in combating men's violence, working with fathers has been another. Fatherhood began to receive attention in the nineteen sixties during the debates that sought to understand the crises within masculinities. The first period of the fatherhood studies focused on the consequences of the lack of fathers on children's psychological development, especially boys. This was followed up in the eighties with studies on how to involve fathers in caretaking, fathers and work, and boys' witnessing fathers' violence against mothers.

Today we have a broader picture of the interconnections between several approaches to fatherhood. The combination of the numbers of distant or nonexistent fathers, violent fathers, fathers who are violent to mothers, and fathers either without work or working too much, points to a real crisis within the family. New European research (Puchert, Gärtner, Höyng 2005) found that involved fathers are an important factor for happiness for both women, men, and children within families. This also relates to findings in Nordic countries where fatherhood policy has led to a much higher involvement with children among fathers in a positive way.

Working with fathers is therefore linked both directly to gender equality issues and issues around violence. For example all the above mentioned programs have perspectives on fathers as part of their work against violence and for gender equality. ATV started its program with children that had been victims of violence because of the new knowledge around the huge possibility of social heritage of men's violence – from fathers to sons. Both Instituto Promundo and The White Ribbon Campaign have a focus on fatherhood and care as a way of transforming masculinities and ending violence. Working with fathers and building caring fatherhood must therefore be seen as a cardinal way to combating violence against women and children. It does not only affect the fathers as such, but also the coming generations of boys.

The Fatherhood Project

An interesting fatherhood project can be found in Africa, and it is called The Fatherhood Project. It is led by the Child, Youth and Family Development research program at the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) and based in Durban:

<http://www.hsrc.ac.za/fatherhood/index.html>

The Fatherhood Project aims to recognize, encourage and support men's care and protection of children. Many children in South Africa (and in the rest of the world) grow up without their biological father. In the absence of a biological father, the father's role is often performed by step-fathers, older brothers, grandfathers, uncles and cousins, friends, teachers, preachers, health care workers, and, to a large degree, also by mothers. The Fatherhood Project also has a clear understanding of fathers' violence, both against their partners and against children, and this is an important reason for the activities in the project.

The core activity in the project is a photographic exhibition which consists of approximately 120 photographs, selected from hundreds sent in by photographers from all over South Africa. It features the work of a wide range of contributors, including some of South Africa's best-known photographers, as well as students and children who used disposable cameras to record the people they recognize as fathers. Amongst the most profoundly affecting images on display are those taken by 10-12 year-old children living in urban and rural environments. These children produced images that are a powerful testimony to the enduring presence of committed fatherhood, even amongst the most disadvantaged communities. The exhibition travels around South Africa, hosted by different institutions and organizations. These organizations are developing a range of activities to tie in with the Fatherhood Project, including community photographs or art exhibitions, musical or dramatic performances, debates, essay writing or poetry competitions, poetry slams, seminars, and workshops.

Father's quota

The only state organized initiative that will be mentioned here is the establishment of specific father's quota as a part of the paid parental leave system in the Nordic countries, most developed in Norway and Iceland. Iceland has divided the paid parental leave in the most democratic way: three months for the mother, three for the father, and three months that the parents can share as they like it. In Norway, one out of eleven months is reserved for fathers only; however, the new government intends to extend it to three months.

The father's quota has been a huge success both in Norway and Iceland, where eight out of ten fathers uses it. Studies shows that most families are satisfied with the system, but wants it prolonged.

There is not a direct link between the politics of the father's quota and violence, but there is a philosophy around it that is based on the thinking that caring fathers are the opposite of violent fathers. Efforts to build structural changes that make it easier for men to be caring fathers will indirectly influence the amount of domestic violence. Caring and family-involved fathers will also influence on the socialization of boys into men, giving new pictures and stories of responsible masculinity.

Fatherhood initiative and activities have the advantage that it combines benefits for men as well as for women and children.

7. Recommendations

Ending men's use of violence as part of other social development goals

It is important not to separate discussions on men's violence from other social issues, and therefore also important to address the question of ending men's violence as part of other social development goals. This includes areas like poverty, unemployment,

health, alcohol, drugs, social justice, and, of course, HIV-AIDS. It is critical to continue to encourage this holistic approach within the UN programming.

Support initiatives aimed at addressing and involving men and boys

Almost all of the initiatives around the world that have a clear focus on men's role in combating violence against women have extremely limited resources. It is necessary to invest more extensively in supporting these initiatives financially. A few of the programs are basically run by men only, but most of them are organized by men and women in common. It should be underlined that the UN wants men to be engaged in this work. Men as ambassadors and models in the work for a non-violent society are an important part of the picture.

New forms of partnership between UN agencies and various programs around the world should be developed, for example between the White Ribbon Campaign both internationally and in specific countries.

Initiatives with a clear focus on men and masculinities will not only help men escape a violent circle, but help both them, their partners, and children to gain a better life. Thus such initiatives, while aimed towards men and boys, are also initiatives that serve the well-being of women and girls.

Focus on schooling, fathers and treatment

The UN should in their programs and world wide initiatives have a clear focus on schooling, fatherhood, and treatment in discussions and reports on how to combat violence. These are three main areas for changing masculinity in contemporary society.

More knowledge on men and masculinities

There is a huge lack of knowledge on men and masculinities in a gender perspective throughout the world. Initiatives should be taken to broaden the understanding and knowledge on men and violence. Today most people still think of gender in a biological and deterministic way, rather than as a cultural construction open to change. This has a huge impact on the understanding and acceptance of violence against women and children. International research programs should therefore be encouraged.

Expert group meetings on how to reach out to men (and women) in power and establishing basic outlines of good programs

There should be arranged a UN expert group meeting with a clearly defined focus. Two issues seem most important: Developing strategies to reach out to and get more men in power involved in combating violence and, secondly, establishing basic

principles for developing good programs for ending men's violence. Regional considerations need to be taken into account.

Among the participants should be: Conscientizing male adolescents (Nigeria), Dissens (Germany), Instituto Promundo (Brazil), Reform – Resource center for men (Norway), Save the Children, Regional Program for South and Central Asia (Nepal), White Ribbon Campaign (Canada).

8. Resources

Publications

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World Report on Violence and Health (2002). World Health Organization, Geneva.

Internet sites on men's anti-violence activities

(This list of internet sites is taken from Michael Flood's extremely copious bibliography of writing on men, masculinities, gender, and sexualities, <http://mensbiblio.xyonline.net/>)

Men in the Movement to End Violence Against Women: Campaigns and Campaign Materials

<http://www.vawnet.org/DomesticViolence/PreventionAndEducation/Campaigns/MenCampaigns.php>

A collection of campaigns organized by or aimed at men to prevent domestic violence and/or encourage men's involvement in the movement to end violence against women.

Toolkit for Working with Men and Boys to Prevent Gender-Based Violence.

A comprehensive resource for practitioners to work with men and boys to prevent

violence. This toolkit is a follow up to our 2003 online discussion series and consolidates resources from many different initiatives from around North America.
www.endabuse.org/toolkit

Working with Men to Prevent Violence Against Women: An Overview (Part One), by Alan Berkowitz (October 2004). Provides an overview of current efforts involving men in the prevention of violence against women. This document discusses men role in prevention, what is effective in men prevention, and cultural issues and considerations in working with men.

http://www.vawnet.org/DomesticViolence/Research/VAWnetDocs/AR_MenPreventVAW1.php

Working with Men to Prevent Violence Against Women: An Overview (Part Two), by Alan Berkowitz (October 2004). Discusses best practices in prevention, provides an overview of different program modalities and formats, and reviews pedagogies that can be used in working with men to prevent violence against women.

http://www.vawnet.org/DomesticViolence/Research/VAWnetDocs/AR_MenPreventVAW2.php

Men's anti-violence activism (published works)

<http://mensbiblio.xyonline.net/violence2.html#Antiviolenceactivism>

Men Can Stop Rape (formerly the Men's Rape Prevention Project) - USA

<http://www.mencanstoprape.org/>

White Ribbon Campaign - men working to end men's violence against women. Canada (where the WRC began)

<http://www.whiteribbon.com/>

Building Partnerships to End Men's Violence – Papers and summaries from a 2003 online discussion, focused on four topics:

- (1) Building a Big Tent Approach to Working with Men;
- (2) Innovation within Batterer Intervention Programs: Community based approaches to enhancing safety and accountability;
- (3) Building Bridges between Responsible Fatherhood Programs and Programs working to End Men's Violence;
- (4) Young Men as Allies in Preventing Violence and Abuse: Building Effective Partnerships with Schools.

<http://endabuse.org/bpi/>

Virtual Seminar Series on Men's Roles and Responsibilities in Ending Gender-based Violence, United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), 2002.

<http://www.un-instraw.org/en/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=909&Itemid=182>

Virtual Seminar Series

<http://www.un-instraw.org/en/index.php?option=content&task=blogcategory&id=118&Itemid=184>

Papers include;

Political Connections: Men, Gender and Violence - Alan Greig

A Coordinated Collaborative Approach to Address and Combat Teen Dating Abuse -
Rus Ervin Funk
Etc.

“Men’s collective anti-violence activism and the struggle for gender justice.”
Development (Special Issue: Violence against Women and the Culture of
Masculinity) 44 (2001).

<http://www.xyonline.net/Mensantiviol.shtml>.

Arguing that men are both part of the problem and part of the solution, Flood
emphasises that men’s anti-violence activism is a crucial element in the struggle for
gender justice.

EuroWRC (European White Ribbon Campaign)

www.euowrc.org/

Men Stopping Violence - USA

<http://www.menstoppingviolence.org/>

Men Against Violence (Yahoo e-mail list)

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/menagainstviolence/>

Men Ending Rape

<http://www.menendingrape.org/index.htm>

Alan Berkowitz, Rape prevention

<http://www.alanberkowitz.com/>

Papers available here (<http://www.alanberkowitz.com/papers.html>) include;
Fostering Men's Responsibility for Preventing Sexual Assault
Guidelines for Consent in Intimate Relationships
Etc.

Instituto Promundo's work on violence prevention

<http://www.promundo.org.br/materia/view/95>

Five articles documenting and exploring violence prevention work with young men in
Brazil by the Instituto Promundo. Projects include the training of young men from
low income areas of Rio de Janeiro as change agents in gender-based violence
prevention and the promotion of sexual and reproductive health.

Mensafe.com (Australian website for men to make non-violence pledges)

<http://www.mensafe.com/home.htm>

No More: Men's Outreach For Rape Education - USA

<http://www.nomorerape.org/>

Men Stopping Rape, Inc. - USA

<http://danenet.danenet.org/msr/>

Masculinity and sexual harassment

<http://www.mun.ca/sexualharassment/Masculinity.html>

Michael Kaufman: writer/speaker on men's issues

Includes;

The AIM Framework: Addressing and Involving Men and Boys To Promote Gender Equality and End Gender Discrimination and Violence

The Seven P's of Men's Violence

Building a Movement of Men Working to End Violence Against Women

Men Taking Action to End Gender-based Violence

Working with Men and Boys to Challenge Sexism and End Men's Violence

Articles of the White Ribbon Campaign

Men must abandon notion they are violent by nature

Better Fathering Will Help End Violence

<http://www.michaelkaufman.com/>

Paul Kivel, violence prevention educator

<http://www.paulkivel.com/links1/homecurrent.html>

Ending Men's Violence Citebase (Jack Straton)

<http://www.nomas.org/EMVCiteb.doc>

Men Against Violence Against Women - Trinidad & Tobago

<http://welcome.to/mavaw>

One in Four - Walk Across America

<http://www.oneinfour.com/>

A 3,500 mile walk across America by four men in 2001, to raise awareness about sexual assault.

Men's Nonviolence Project, Texas Council on Family Violence

http://www.tcfv.org/mens_non-violence.htm#menmakechoices

Non-Violence Alliance - USA

<http://www.endingviolence.com/>

Men Against Violence - Spain

<http://www.arrakis.es/~jcasado/hombres/>

Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) Program - USA

<http://www.sportinsociety.org/mvp.html>

Rape Myth-Busters: A program for young men about rape prevention (Australia)

http://www.shinesa.org.au/pdf/rape_myth_buster_manual_cards.pdf

A 97-page Australian program for young men on rape prevention. This handbook includes an overview and rationale, a discussion of program implementation, and the full program itself.

Boys-Talk: a program for young men about masculinity, non-violence and relationships -- Australia

<http://home.swiftdsl.com.au/%7Ebunyip/boystalk/welcome.html>

Boys-Talk, written by Brook Friedman, is a program for young men that examines masculinity, non-violence and relationships.

Men Against Sexual Assault (University of Texas) - USA
<http://www.utexas.edu/students/utmasa/>

Men Against Sexual Assault (University of Rochester) - USA
<http://www.sa.rochester.edu/masa/index.php>

Men Against Sexual Assault and Rape - Haverford College, PA, USA
<http://www.students.haverford.edu/masar/front.htm>

Jackson Katz (anti-sexist activist) - USA
<http://www.jacksonkatz.com/>

Men Ending Violence - Virginia Department of Health, USA
<http://www.vahealth.org/civp/sexualviolence/menendingviolence/>

Men Against Sexual Violence (MASV), sponsored by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR)
<http://www.menagainstsexualviolence.org/>

Teaching Sexual Ethics (Jo Weinberg)
<http://www.teachingsexualethics.org/home.htm>

Includes;

Consent Rules! – Simple rules for men in establishing consent in sexual interactions.
Men Unlearning Rape – Stories of, and reflections on, doing anti-rape workshops with men.

The Conversations of Consent: Sexual Intimacy Without Sexual Assault – How to work with men to make consent the basis for safer, and sexier, sexual intimacies.

Coming Home to a World Without Rape – What it would mean for men to come home to a world without rape, and the personal and political changes needed to get there.

Foubert's publications on anti-rape education
<http://jdfoub.people.wm.edu/publications.htm>

Men's Violence Prevention (Todd Denny) - USA
<http://www.olywa.net/tdenny/>

Discussions of men's involvement in 'Reclaim The Night' events and marches
In support of women and children only: <http://www.isis.aust.com/rtn/woonly.htm>
In support of men's involvement: <http://www.isis.aust.com/rtn/meninvole.htm>
On women's space: <http://www.isis.aust.com/rtn/womenonly.htm>
Overview: <http://www.isis.aust.com/rtn/started.htm#Getting%20Started>

Femnet- men against gender based violence (Reports from Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa, Malawi, etc.)
<http://www.femnet.or.ke/publications.asp>

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes: Men's March to Stop Rape, Sexual Assault & Gender Violence

5th Annual March - April 23, 2005
[http:// www.walkamileinhershoes.org](http://www.walkamileinhershoes.org)

Ending Gender-Based Violence: A Call for Global Action to Involve Men (132 pp. report)
<http://www.sida.se/Sida/jsp/polopoly.jsp?d=1250&a=24727>

Violence Against Women and the Culture of Masculinity (8 pp., Society for International Development, 2002)
<http://www.nea.org/international/images/sid.pdf>

Fact-sheet: Gender-based violence and masculinity
<http://www.unifem-eseasia.org/resources/factsheets/UNIFEMSheet5.pdf>
A seven-page outline of gender-based violence, masculinity, and the growing impetus to involve men in efforts to end gender-based violence.

Cameron, Margaret. (2000). Young men and violence prevention. *Trends and Issues in Crime and Criminal Justice*, No. 154, Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology
<http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/tandi/tandi154.html>
Reports on a consultation among young men on violence prevention, outlines effective means of violence prevention, identifies promising areas for policy development and program implementation.

Men, boys, and gender-based violence in South Central Asia
<http://www.crin.org/docs/resorces/publications/SC-Masculinities.doc>
This report (in Word format) reviews gender based violence and promoting gender equality with a focus of men and boys in the South Central Asia region. It summarises the three-day workshop on 'Strengthening partnership with men and boys to promote gender equality and end violence against girls and boys', where participants from the region met and shared practical experiences of and theoretical insights into working with men and boys on issues of masculinities that promote gender equality and non-violence towards children and women. The workshop also developed strategies and concrete action plans for increasing partnership with men and boys to address violence against girls and boys and for promoting gender equality from a child-rights based approach.

“Violence Against Women — It’s Against All the Rules” – community education campaign for men aged 21-29, NSW Attorney General’s Department, Australia.
<http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/cpd.nsf/pages/vaw-aar1>

Evaluation:

[http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/lawlink/vaw/ll_vaw.nsf/vwFiles/Report_IAATR_FinalEvaluation.doc](http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/lawlink/vaw/ll_vaw.nsf/vwFiles/Report_IAATR_FinalEvaluation.doc/$file/Report_IAATR_FinalEvaluation.doc)

A public education campaign to reduce and prevent violence against women, aimed at men aged 21 to 29 in New South Wales, Australia. Uses well-known male athletes and sporting language to build on men’s intolerance for violence against women, stimulate discussion, encourage broader understandings of violence against women, and encourage an awareness of the ramifications of violence and abuse.

Taking Action For a Rape-Free Culture

<http://www.xyonline.net/rapefree.shtml>

Men Stopping Rape outline the many ways in which men can help erode rape and rape culture.

**Appendix 1:
From Barker & Ricardo 2005: Summary Table of Promising Approaches**

ORGANIZATION	FOCUS	KEY STRATEGIES	TARGET POPULATION	EVALUATION	COLLABORATIONS	LESSONS LEARNED
Conscientizing Male Adolescents (Nigeria)	Gender Socialization; Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS prevention; Prevention of gender-based violence	1-small group educational 2-distribution of newsletter in schools 3-community-based advocacy activities 4-peer promoters	Young men in Calabar and Uyo schools	Anecdotal reports and in-depth interviews indicate positive attitude and behavior change; future plans for systematic evaluation	Local schools; local NGO focused on promoting empowerment of young women	Critical and systematic discussion of masculinity more effective than specific focus on health and behavior; Engagement of young male leaders as positive role models has amplification effect among peers
The Fatherhood Project (Human Sciences Research Council, South Africa)	Social norms/ media	1-raise public awareness on importance of fathers through traveling photo exhibition 2-produce and disseminate existing research for advocacy and program efforts	General public; government representatives; social service organizations and professionals; foundations.	Anecdotal and media reports indicate growing public awareness of need to address male involvement and engage men as fathers.	Media; local government; universities NGO's; faith-based organizations; community-based organizations; private sector	Visual media is a strategic vehicle for promoting positive images of men
Men as Partners – Engender Health and Planned Parenthood Association of South Africa (South Africa)	Gender Socialization; Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS prevention; Prevention of gender-based violence -Community Violence Prevention	1- small group educational workshops 2- capacity-building of partner organizations 3-community action teams 4- national level advocacy	Young and adult men and women in male-only and mixed groups in workplaces, trade union, prisons, government, universities, and communities	Small-scale quantitative impact evaluation (2002) with 209 male participants; improvement in HIV knowledge and positive changes in attitudes towards gender roles, including issues related to gender-based violence; Quasi-experimental impact evaluation underway.	Labor federations, community-based HIV/AIDS organizations, South African National Defense Force, Hope Worldwide, national NGO specializing in HIV prevention care and support	Activities should engage men as positive partners in the promotion of health and equity; Strategic alliances at local and national levels help to ensure acceptability and sustainability of efforts

Men Sector (Botswana)	Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS prevention	1--information campaigns 2-- capacity building of key government and non-government coalition partners	Policy-makers and leaders of various male-dominated sectors; Young and adult men in defense forces, prisons, and communities	No official evaluation; anecdotal reports indicate increased awareness of need for male involvement in prevention and care-giving	Male-dominated organizations including Defense force, Department of Prisons and Rehabilitation, Police Services, Men Sex and AIDS, Ministers, House of chiefs and parliament	Engagement of national level institutions lends to credibility and reach of efforts; Government-led coalitions and policy efforts need committed and sustained funding
Soul City (South Africa)	Social norms /media; Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS prevention; Prevention of gender-based violence	1-broadcast of entertaining and educational television and radio programs in conjunction with dissemination of written materials and advocacy campaigns	General public of all ages; viewing analysis indicates popularity among young men – theme of most recent series is socialization and masculinities	Formative research for program content and follow-up evaluation with sample audience; programs viewed as important source of information and inspiration; link to increase in more gender-equitable attitudes and interpersonal communication about domestic violence	TV, Radio and Print Media; Non-governmental organizations, Universities	Diverse media strategies ensure that different audiences can be reached; Educational efforts over an extended period add to credibility and impact
Stepping Stones (Regional)	Gender Socialization; Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS prevention; Prevention of gender-based violence; Community violence prevention	1- small group educational workshops which engage entire communities	Young and adult men and women, in peer-based and mixed-groups	Small-scale evaluations indicate increased shared decision-making among couples, application of communication skills to both sex and non-sex issues and behavior changes in relation to more equitable income distribution, decreased gender-based violence and increased safer sex. – Large-scale randomized control	Community leaders and members	Peer-based groups are important spaces for exploring myths and perceptions related to gender and sexuality; mixed groups provide opportunities to discuss and commit to strategies for change; Endorsement of community leaders is important in the mobilization of participants and in ensuring sustained

				trial in South Africa underway		changes
Targeted AIDS Intervention (South Africa)	Gender Socialization; Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS prevention	1- peer education activities in schools and through sports clubs and events 2- training workshops for teachers and school leaders	Young men ages 11-18 in province of KwaZulu-Natal	Questionnaires and focus-group discussions indicate growing awareness of women's rights, appreciation for care-giving, and positive impact in delaying sexual debut	Local schools; South African Football Association	Role models , such as football players, are key partners in mobilizing and motivating young men to participate in activities; Activities should be culturally specific and fun
Positive Men's Union (POMU)–TASO (Uganda)	Gender Socialization; Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS prevention; HIV/AIDS support and treatment	1- support groups for men living with HIV/AIDS 2-support and long-term planning for affected families 3-community-outreach activities to build awareness	Young and adult men living with HIV/AIDS in Uganda and their families;	Anecdotal reports indicate increased health-seeking behavior among men and improved communication with partners	Women's organizations; Community leaders	Men need “safe” spaces in which they can discuss experiences and concerns in living with HIV/AIDS and practice care-giving and health-seeking skills; Collaborations with women's groups contribute an important perspective and help to that efforts address the holistic needs of men and their families