

RATIONALE | WHY IS STOP NEEDED?

Domestic Violence: Descriptions

Abstract

Domestic violence can be defined as systemic violence in a relationship used to gain and keep control and power over another person. It is not a one-time event and can include physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, and technical or financial abuse. The term gender-based violence marks that this abuse is not caused by the personality and behavior of the individual involved but is rooted in society. The prevalence of domestic violence highlights its global impact, with significant variation across regions and communities.

Women, non-binary individuals, and marginalized groups, including those with disabilities, are disproportionately affected. Intersectional factors like race, socioeconomic status, and systemic inequalities further exacerbate vulnerabilities. Almost one third of European women have experienced physical violence and / or sexualized violence over their lifetime by an intimate partner. Being attacked and abused by an intimate partner destroys not only the integrity of the body and soul, but also trust in life itself, in others and in one's own abilities.

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