

16 FACTS ABOUT GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Let's end gender-based violence.

The world has made progress in the fight against gender-based violence. But as these 16 facts show, gender-based violence — especially against women and girls — remains a global problem with many consequences, from education to health outcomes. Everyone has a role to play in making the world safer for all, regardless of sex or gender.

THE PROBLEM



1 in 3

women has experienced physical or sexual violence.



70 PERCENT

Women and girls comprise 70 percent of human trafficking victims worldwide.

Violence is as likely as cancer to kill or injure a woman between the ages of 15 and 44.



Transgender individuals are also affected. At least 1,700 transgender people have been murdered in 63 countries over the last seven years.

Sexual violence against men and boys has been documented in more than 25 conflict-affected countries over the last 10 years.



25 PERCENT

women alive today were married in childhood.

Schools are often sites of gender-based violence. Each year roughly 246 million students, mostly women and girls, experience violence at the hands of other students or teachers



THE CONSEQUENCES



Child brides are often denied education opportunities and are at greater risk of early pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections.



Gender-based violence increases women's risk of a long list of health problems, among them reproductive health disorders, drug and alcohol abuse, HIV infection, and suicide.



School-related violence has been linked to poor academic performance and higher dropout rates, which are in turn linked to lower lifelong earnings

The household-level economic costs of gender-based violence include missed work, loss of family income, and limited ability to care for children.

At a macroeconomic level, intimate partner violence has been shown to cost the United States alone \$5.8 billion per year in health care and lost productivity.

THE SOLUTION



At least 119 countries have passed laws on domestic violence and 125 have laws on sexual harassment.

Child marriage is declining globally, especially the marriage of girls under 15.

The Middle East and North Africa have made the fastest progress in curbing child marriage. The highest rates are in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

Gender-based violence is a complex problem that requires a global commitment and collaboration across health, education, and other sectors to end.



SOURCES:

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