Violence against children
Violence against children: piecing together the puzzle

What is the prevalence?

What drives it?

What are its costs and consequences?

What works for prevention and response?

How well is the system performing?

What is the cost of intervention?
Violence against Children: Hidden in Plain Sight

• New report from UNICEF presents the latest statistics on violence against children, drawing on data from internationally comparable sources from 190 countries.
Key findings: Seven disturbing facts

1) Violence is the leading cause of injury and death among children
2) The most common form of violence against children occurs at home
3) Bullying, physical fights and physical attacks are common occurrences in the lives of children
4) 120 million girls have been subjected to forced sexual intercourse and other forced sexual acts
5) Young brides are at heightened risk of violence
6) Most victims of violence do not disclose their experiences
7) Condoning attitudes and social norms put children at risk
Prevalence and consequences in East Asia and the Pacific

• Based upon a review of over 6,000 articles, synthesizes findings of 239 prevalence studies and 178 consequence studies undertaken in East Asia and the Pacific
Key findings on prevalence in the region

- Physical abuse is more prevalent for boys, and in lower to middle income countries (19%-35%)
- Sexual abuse more prevalent for girls (11-22% girls vs 3-16% boys) except in low income countries (16% boys vs 13% girls)
- 12-32% of boys and girls report witnessing parental violence;
- Experience of emotional abuse ranges from 13-41%, and is highest is amongst girls in high income countries
- Three out of four children experience violent discipline
Key findings on consequences

**Mental health risks**
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Developmental
- Sleep
- PTDS
- Shame
- Obsessive
- Dissociation
- Loss of memory
- Other mental ill-health

**Impact on employment**
- Others

---

13% to 31% of mental disorders are attributable to sexual or emotional abuse

One-third to one-half of early smoking initiation attributable to experiences of child physical abuse

28% to 43% of female intimate partner victimization linked to child sexual abuse or witnessing parental violence

Data on consequences for educational and employment outcomes are missing
The economic burden of violence against children

- This research links data on the prevalence and consequences of violence, with the economic value of disability-adjusted life years lost.
Key findings:

The estimated annual economic loss due to child maltreatment is US $206 billion, accounting for approximately 2% of the region’s GDP.
What works

- Case studies from around the globe that illustrate the impact that well-crafted prevention and response strategies can have on reducing the prevalence and consequences of violence against children.
- Many have produced significant results in a relatively short period of time.
Key Findings: Six strategies for action

1. Supporting parents, caregivers, families
2. Helping children and adolescents manage risks and challenges
3. Changing attitudes and social norms
4. Promoting and providing support services for children
5. Implementing laws and policies that protect children
6. Carrying out data and research
Review of National Child Protection Systems

• Commissioned by Regional CP Working Group

• Based upon existing research in Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Kiribati, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, PNG, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Solomon, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.
Key findings

- Much progress in the development of legal frameworks
- “Issues” focus remains
- Disconnect with local socio-cultural contexts
- Lack of human and financial resources remain critical constraints
- Systems generally disintegrated and not functioning in a holistic manner,
# ASEAN VAC legislative review

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Laws governing:</th>
<th>Brunei</th>
<th>Cambodia</th>
<th>Indonesia</th>
<th>Lao PDR</th>
<th>Malaysia</th>
<th>Myanmar</th>
<th>Philippines</th>
<th>Singapore</th>
<th>Thailand</th>
<th>Vietnam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child abuse</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic violence</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harmful traditional practices</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence in schools</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical violence in the community</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age of consent and statutory rape</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual offences</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child prostitution</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child sex tourism</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child pornography</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child trafficking</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child abduction</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in conflict with the law</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worst forms of child labour</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minumum working age &amp; light work</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Compliance with international standards:**
- ✔️: largely compliant
- 🟠: partially compliant
- 🔴: not at present compliant
- NC: Information not available or unclear

[Unicef logo]
THANK YOU!

Akum
Khob Chai
Khob Khun
Terima kasih
Cam’ on
Salamat po
Kyay Zu Tin Par Tal