

VOICES AGAINST VIOLENCE



A programme
for children
and young people to
stop violence against
girls and women

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) is creating a global community committed to ending violence against girls and young women. As experts in education, community action and advocacy, we are reaching out to 30 million people in over 100 countries to break the culture of silence on violence and take action to end it.

Building from a whisper to a shout we will end violence against girls.



World Association
of Girl Guides
and Girl Scouts



The campaign aims to end violence against girls and young women through five key pillars:

- 1. Global awareness campaign**
- 2. Education programme**
- 3. Research and policy development**
- 4. Lobbying**
- 5. National and community campaigns**



A major part of the educational component of the Stop the Violence campaign is **Voices against Violence**, a non-formal education curriculum developed in partnership with UN Women. Five million children and young people in over 100 countries will take part in *Voices against Violence*.

WHAT IS VOICES AGAINST VIOLENCE?

Voices against Violence is a non-formal education curriculum which supports children and young people to understand their right to live without violence and discrimination; to identify different forms of violence; and to gain the skills and confidence to speak out and take action in preventing violence in their own lives and in their communities.

Voices against Violence has been developed by the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in partnership with experts in gender-based violence and non-formal education. It has been peer reviewed by UN Women and by women's rights organization, CREA. The curriculum has been developed for worldwide use – it can be adapted for different cultural, social and legal contexts and has already been successfully piloted in 20 countries worldwide.

“What impressed me most was how willing they were to help each other come to their own solutions - we've never really had discussions like this before, so I was quite surprised by how mature most of the girls were!”

Facilitator, UK

1 in 5 girls and young women aged under 15 experience sexual abuse

More than **60 million girls** worldwide become child brides

More than **140 million girls** experience female genital mutilation

In Malawi **50 per cent of schoolgirls** reported being touched in a sexual way without their consent either by a teacher or another classmate

In the UK **one in three young women** aged between 13 and 17 has experienced sexual abuse from a partner; one in four has experienced physical abuse from a partner.

At least **60 million girls** are 'missing' due to female infanticide

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The curriculum takes participants through six learning stages:



START leaders begin by developing a supportive and safe space for children and young people to talk about gender inequality and about violence against girls and young women



IDENTIFY participants learn about different forms of violence against girls and young women



THINK participants think about gender roles and stereotypes. They look at how gender inequality and discrimination can be overcome



SPEAK OUT participants increase their awareness about the rights of women and girls and develop skills to speak out for them



SUPPORT participants explore what it means to have an equal and respectful relationship. They develop skills to form their own positive relationships and to safely support their friends if they are experiencing violence



TAKE ACTION finally groups develop and run a campaign event or activity to stop violence against girls and young women in the community, nationally or globally

The course can be run over a period of six or more weeks, or it can be run during a camp or a conference, or as an online course.

AGE GROUPS

The curriculum is divided into different age groups – for early, younger, middle and older years – with age-appropriate activities on different forms of violence for each group. All ages look at topics which include gender stereotyping and gender discrimination, domestic violence, child abuse, and sexual bullying. Older groups look at topics such as informed consent, sexual harassment, relationship abuse, sexualisation, female genital mutilation and forced and early marriage.

“...although I felt initially cautious about the topic, I was very impressed by the response from the girls, and it did bring some of their fears/concerns and thoughts out... It was encouraging that they felt they could open up to us and talk about things which worried/frightened them”

Facilitator, UK

WHAT SUPPORT DO FACILITATORS/TRAINERS GET?

Violence against girls and young women is a challenging topic to tackle. WAGGGS provides a comprehensive facilitator's handbook which helps to prepare them and their group to run the curriculum. The handbook includes a range of tools, factsheets and guidance to help deliver the programme.

WAGGGS also provides training and implementation guidelines to support facilitators' training and to ensure they are able to deliver the programme safely and effectively.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

If you belong to an organization working with children and young people, you can take part in the Voices against Violence curriculum. The curriculum is free to use. However, we want you to use it safely in your community. If you are interested in running the programme, please contact the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (stoptheviolence@wagggs.org) so that we can assist you in assessing and building your capacity and ensure that structures are in place to deliver the programme safely. For example, you will need an approved child protection policy, access to local support services and adequate training for facilitators to deliver the programme.

Even if you do not have all of these structures, WAGGGS may be able to assist you.

The curriculum is available in English, French, Spanish and Arabic. It will be made available to approved organizations electronically and is easy to print off.

“The Voices against Violence curriculum will play a big role in not only ending violence against girls and young women but also speaking out loudly about it. Finally there will be programme that addresses violence against girls and young women”

Facilitator, Malta

SOME ACTIVITIES

Here are just some examples of the different activities available in the curriculum:

EARLY YEARS

(around 5 to 7 year olds)

Housework

This activity uses household chores to explore gender roles and gender stereotyping. Participants are invited to try out a number of household 'tools' such as a broom, a telephone, a cloth, a spanner, a paintbrush or a saucepan. They are then invited to put the tools into a 'girl' pile or a 'boy' pile depending on who is most likely to use them. Are the piles equal? Are there any tools in a middle pile (for either girls or boys to use)? How can we make sure that there are more tools in the middle pile? Who does the housework in the home? Are household tasks equally shared out between girls and boys, men and women? Do women and girls get teased for doing 'boy' jobs, and do boys and men get teased for doing 'girl' jobs? Are some jobs seen as less important than others? Participants will learn that all household jobs are important and that it is important that they are shared out equally.



YOUNGER YEARS

(around 7 to 11 year olds)

Friendship bracelet

Participants begin by moving around the room saying hello to each other as if they are best friends with that person. They are invited to think about whether they said hello in a different way because they imagined they were best friends. This leads them to think about what makes a best friend. Participants go on to make a friendship bracelet and as they use different coloured strands they talk about the different 'strands' of being a friend, and the characteristics of a good friend. The group explores what a good friend might do if they are worried about their friend and how they can access support safely. The participants explore what they would like in a respectful relationship in the future.



MIDDLE YEARS

(around 12 to 16 year olds)

Mapping safety

This session explores areas in the local community where participants feel safe and where they don't feel safe. Participants are invited to line up in two lines opposite each other. Taking turns, one person walks down the middle of the lines on their own. No one speaks to that person. The participants then walk down in pairs. Participants are asked how they felt doing this activity. Were there times when they felt safer or when they felt less safe? Why was this? Participants then draw local maps on which they highlight places and areas where they feel safe or comfortable and places where they feel unsafe. The facilitator discusses how for some girls and young women, places like school or home can be unsafe. Participants discuss how they can feel safer in their community.



OLDER YEARS

(around 17 to 25 year olds)

Why did she not just leave

This session looks at different forms of violence and factors that may lead women to stay in abusive relationships. The group looks at case studies showing different forms of violence – dating violence, domestic violence, early or forced marriage, and honour killings. By working in groups, participants explore what prevents young women from leaving an abusive relationship. The groups draw an outline of a person's body to explore different reasons why a young woman might not leave an abusive relationship. For example, they may look at the heart – what might the young woman be feeling? The head – what might she be thinking? The eyes and ears – who was she seeing and what advice might she be given (doctor, family, friends, teachers etc)? The feet – where could she go for help?



ALL AGES

Run a local campaign

All groups will run a TAKE ACTION session which will give them the skills to run a local campaign to stop violence against girls and young women and which is appropriate to the age group.



If you would like more information about the
Voices against Violence curriculum please contact
stoptheviolence@wagggg.org

If we don't take a stand, who will?

www.stoptheviolencecampaign.com

**STOP
THE
VIOLENCE**

Speak out
for girls' rights