LANCET SERIES ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS
Violence against women and girls 1

Prevention of violence against women and girls: what does the evidence say?

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Systematic Review of Reviews of effective interventions to prevent violence against women and girls

58 systematic and comprehensive reviews

290 individual impact evaluations

84 evaluations using rigorous methods with aim to reduce VAWG

Update for 2012-2014

27 effective interventions
Current evidence is skewed towards:

- High-income countries
- Response vs. prevention
- Focus on IPV
In low and middle income countries:

• Greater focus on prevention
• More forms of VAWG – child marriage, FGM, sexual assault
• Address gender equality and social norms
• Engagement of men and boys
Characteristics of promising approaches for violence prevention

- Involve multiple sectors (health, education, justice, etc.) at multiple levels (national, local)
- Challenge acceptability of violence, while also addressing underlying risk factors, such as poverty, gender norms
- Support the development of new skills (communication and conflict resolution)
- Integrate violence prevention into existing development platforms
- Promote engagement of all members of communities
Examples of effective approaches in low-middle income countries

IMAGE project

SASA!

Tostan

Photo credit: Heidi Brady/Raising Voices
Recommendations for the Call to Action

- More interventions addressing primary prevention of violence
- More rigorous evidence on all types of VAWG, particularly from the global south, exploring issues of intervention cost, sustainability, and scalability
- More evaluations looking at VAWG in diverse populations
- Standardized data and indicators