

European report on preventing violence and knife crime among young people

Dinesh Sethi, Karen Hughes, Mark Bellis, Francesco Mitis and Francesca Racioppi
WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2010

Available online PDF [116p.] at <http://bit.ly/dm3KnU>

“.....Interpersonal violence is the third leading cause of death and a leading cause of disability among young people (those aged 10–29 years) in the 53 countries in the WHO European Region. This report describes the burden that violence imposes on the Region, particularly its poorer countries and groups; risk factors and their interactions; factors that can protect young people from violence; and the evidence supporting the efficacy of preventive action. The report concludes by calling for greater investment in prevention and mainstreaming of the objective of preventing violence among young people into other areas of health and social policy.

This burden of disease and death from youth violence is unequally distributed, and 9 of 10 homicide deaths in the Region occur in low- and middle-income countries. Irrespective of country income, interpersonal violence disproportionately affects young people from deprived sections of society and males, who suffer 4 of 5 homicide deaths. Many biological, social, cultural, economic and environmental factors interact to increase young people’s risk of being involved in violence and knife-related crime.

Factors that can protect young people against violence include good social skills, self-esteem, academic achievement, strong bonds with parents, positive peer groups, good attachment to school, community involvement and access to social support. Good evidence indicates that reducing risk factors and enhancing protective factors will reduce violence.

The experience accumulated by countries within and outside the Region shows that social policy and sustained and systematic approaches that address the underlying causes of violence can make European countries in the Region much safer for young people....“

Content

Executive summary v

1. Overview: violence among young people in the WHO European Region
2. The scale of the problem
3. Risk factors for violence among young people and violence using knives
4. Effective interventions and programming
5. Addressing violence among young people in the European Region: opportunities for action

Annex 1. Additional results and definitions

Annex 2. Methods used

Annex 3. List of health ministry focal people who responded to questionnaire on knife-related violence

To request a copy/copies, please write specifying the number of copies to violenceinjury@ecr.euro.who.int
The Russian edition is under production and will be available soon.

Dr Dinesh Sethi MSc MD MRCP FFPH Violence and Injury Prevention - Rome Italy Office WHO Regional Office for Europe

* * *

This message from the Pan American Health Organization, PAHO/WHO, is part of an effort to disseminate information Related to: Equity; Health inequality; Socioeconomic inequality in health; Socioeconomic health differentials; Gender; Violence; Poverty; Health Economics; Health Legislation; Ethnicity; Ethics; Information Technology - Virtual libraries; Research & Science issues. [DD/ KMC Area]

"Materials provided in this electronic list are provided "as is". Unless expressly stated otherwise, the findings and interpretations included in the Materials are those of the authors and not necessarily of The Pan American Health Organization PAHO/WHO or its country members".

[PAHO/WHO Website](#)

Equity List - Archives - Join/remove: <http://listserv.paho.org/Archives/equidad.html>

Twitter <http://twitter.com/eqpaho>

IMPORTANT: This transmission is for use by the intended recipient and it may contain privileged, proprietary or confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient or a person responsible for delivering this transmission to the intended recipient, you may not disclose, copy or distribute this transmission or take any action in reliance on it. If you received this transmission in error, please dispose of and delete this transmission.

Thank you.