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WEBINAR

LAUNCH: EVIDENCE BRIEFS ON HOW PARENTING PROGRAMMES CAN REDUCE VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN AND WOMEN

21st February, 2024 | 9AM New York | 3PM Rome | 5PM Nairobi

MEETING ETIQUETTE



Questions

Please enter your questions to our speakers in the Q&A box.



Recording

This meeting will be recorded and be available on our website.



Introduce yourself!

Use the chat box writing your name, country and organisation.

MEET OUR SPEAKERS!



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PARENTING PROGRAMMES TO REDUCE VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN AND WOMEN

Reducing children's exposure to violence in the family requires work – with individuals, families, communities, services, and systems – to change attitudes, behaviours, and norms.

We focus on parenting programmes because:

- They already reach parents and caregivers in many communities
- Evidence suggests they can be strengthened to reduce violence against both children and women
- And there is growing interest among practitioners to do so!



ABOUT THE SERIES

Four briefs to support parenting practitioners to adopt a gender-transformative approach to prevent violence against children and violence against women in parenting programmes.

The briefs build upon each other to outline the **why**, **what**, and **how**.

Brief #1
Why it is
important.

Brief #2
What gender-
transformative
programmes
look like.

Brief #3
How to adapt
programmes to
address both
types of
violence.

Brief #4
How to measure
change.

Coming soon...

We refer to parents and caregivers interchangeably – as individuals with a primary role caring for children, whether biological, adoptive, or foster parents, grandparents, other relatives, or guardians.

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BRIEF #1: WHAT'S INSIDE

The brief makes the case for **why** parenting programmes should seek to reduce violence against children *and* violence against women.

It is organised around three parts:

- 1** Why violence prevention matters for parenting programmes
- 2** Evidence that parenting programmes can reduce violence in the home
- 3** Why parenting programmes should promote gender equality

Recommended resources – guidance, courses, research – to understand the intersections between violence against children and women.



#1: WHY IT IS IMPORTANT

Many children grow up in homes characterised by violence against themselves and their mothers or female caregivers.

- Violent discipline by parents and caregivers and intimate partner violence often **co-occur** in families.
- Both types of violence have:
 - Similar and compounding consequences for children's and women's health, and child development.
 - Intergenerational effects.
 - Shared risk factors and social norms – **rooted in gender inequality.**

Harmful gender norms perpetuating violence also fundamentally shape parenting practices and children's opportunities.



#1: WHY IT IS IMPORTANT

Growing evidence that parenting programs can reduce both violent discipline and intimate partner violence **simultaneously**.

- Evidence from parenting programmes and violence prevention programmes with couples
- Many effective programmes are **gender-transformative**.
- Evidence is limited – we need more programming and evaluation.

This evidence highlights entry-points for strengthening parenting programmes to reduce violence against children and women.

Failing to do so is a missed opportunity – and may even undermine parenting programme outcomes.



BRIEF #2: WHAT'S INSIDE

The brief unpacks **what** gender-transformative parenting programmes that reduce family violence typically look like, to provide insights for strengthening parenting programmes:

- 1 What gender-transformative parenting programmes to reduce family violence are
- 2 Their common programme principles
- 3 Their common delivery features and characteristics
- 4 Their common programme content

Recommended resources – guidance, courses, research – to support the design of gender-transformative programmes, including how to engage men.



#2: WHAT PROGRAMMES LOOK LIKE

Gender-transformative parenting programmes seek to address the root causes of gender-based inequalities and to challenge or transform harmful gender roles, norms and power imbalances.

These programmes work with parents to promote caring, supportive and non-violent interactions for the whole family.

They also often work to support:

- Equitable relationships where partners share responsibility and decision-making
- Parent/caregiver capacity to raise children free from gender stereotypes



#2: WHAT PROGRAMMES LOOK LIKE

Gender-transformative parenting programmes share common principles:

- Are grounded in gender equality and women's rights.
- Explicitly engage men as equitable parents and caregivers, alongside women.
- Engage communities in programme design or adaptation.
- Apply a strengths-based approach and meet parents where they are.
- Promote women's and children's safety and rights.
- Recognise that violence prevention requires work at all levels of the socioecological model.



#2: WHAT PROGRAMMES LOOK LIKE

Gender-transformative parenting programmes share common content, including participatory activities designed to:

- Promote critical reflection on gender norms and power imbalances.
- Raise awareness of violence and its consequences.
- Build couple relationship skills.
- Strengthen caregiving and parenting skills.
- Build skills to manage emotions.
- Promote more equitable family dynamics.
- Promote positive gender socialisation.

These core features and commonalities provide insights to strengthen parenting programmes to reduce family violence.



BRIEF #3: WHAT'S INSIDE

This brief guides practitioners on **how** to integrate IPV prevention and gender equality within existing parenting programmes.

Organised around five stages, with key steps and checklists:

- 1** Gain organisational and stakeholder buy-in for adaptation.
- 2** Consult parents and understand gender and violence in your context.
- 3** Adapt your programme recruitment, content, and design.
- 4** Test and refine your adapted programme.
- 5** Train and adequately support facilitators to successfully implement.

Recommended Resources to support all stages of adaptation.



#3: HOW TO ADAPT PROGRAMMES

Adaption requires time and investment.

But doing so can help to unlock parents' potential to raise children in more equitable, loving, and nonviolent families.

The guidance can be adapted depending on your starting point:

- Some programmes require only small changes.
- Others need to significantly revisit how they currently do things.

After adaptation:

- Monitoring and evaluation is critical to understand what is working (and not) and impact on intended outcomes.
- **Brief #4: How to measure change** – coming soon...



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Please let us know how you use the briefs!

MEET OUR SPEAKERS!



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