

# TYPES OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT AGAINST CHILDREN



Most violence against children involves at least one of six main types of interpersonal violence that tend to occur at different stages in a child's development

## 1 MALTREATMENT (INCLUDING VIOLENT PUNISHMENT)

involves physical, sexual and psychological/emotional violence; and neglect of infants, children and adolescents by parents, caregivers and other authority figures, most often in the home but also in settings such as schools and orphanages.



## 2 BULLYING (INCLUDING CYBER-BULLYING)

is unwanted aggressive behaviour by another child or group of children who are neither siblings nor in a romantic relationship with the victim. It involves repeated physical, psychological or social harm, and often takes place in schools and other settings where children gather, and online.



## 3 YOUTH VIOLENCE

is concentrated among children and young adults aged 10–29 years, occurs most often in community settings between acquaintances and strangers, includes bullying and physical assault with or without weapons (such as guns and knives), and may involve gang violence.



## 4 INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE (OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE)

involves physical, sexual and emotional violence by an intimate partner or ex-partner. Although males can also be victims, intimate partner violence disproportionately affects females. It commonly occurs against girls within child marriages and early/forced marriages. Among romantically involved but unmarried adolescents it is sometimes called “dating violence”. says Geneen Roth.



## 5 SEXUAL VIOLENCE

includes non-consensual completed or attempted sexual contact and acts of a sexual nature not involving contact (such as voyeurism or sexual harassment); acts of sexual trafficking committed against someone who is unable to consent or refuse; and online exploitation.

## 6 EMOTIONAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL

violence includes restricting a child's movements, denigration, ridicule, threats and intimidation, discrimination, rejection and other non-physical forms of hostile treatment.



When directed against girls or boys because of their biological sex or gender identity, any of these types of violence can also constitute gender-based violence.

