

#ANY WOMAN ANYWHERE CAMPAIGN

Stand with us to end all
violence against
#AnyWomanAnywhere
Violence against women is
not inevitable
**We know that we can
prevent this**



Violence Prevention in Your Constituency: A Short Guide for MSPs





VIOLENCE PREVENTION IN YOUR CONSTITUENCY:

A SHORT GUIDE FOR MSPS

What is primary prevention?

Primary prevention of violence against women and girls (VAWG) is a long-term strategy that prevents violence from ever happening by challenging attitudes, values and structures that sustain gender inequality. Equally Safe, Scotland's strategy to prevent and eradicate VAWG identifies gender inequality as the root cause of this violence. ¹

Equally Safe prioritises primary prevention under Priority 1 "Scottish society embraces equality and mutual respect and rejects all forms of violence against women and girls" and Priority 2 "Women and girls thrive as equal citizens – socially, culturally, economically and politically". ²

What does primary prevention involve?

Primary prevention work aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- 1.** Increased public understanding of the causes and impact of VAWG
- 2.** People have better skills, confidence and motivation to change their own behaviour, challenge other people's behaviour and challenge cultural and structural gender inequality
- 3.** Diminished harmful attitudes and behaviours relating to VAWG
- 4.** Reduced structural inequalities that create and/or exacerbate VAWG
- 5.** Reduced levels of VAWG ³

To end VAWG we must recognise the different ways in which gender inequality will interplay with other forms of discrimination. Primary prevention work should address intersecting forms of inequality, recognising that gender inequality cannot be separated from other forms of inequality. This can be achieved through partnerships and coalitions that build coordinated challenges to gender inequality, racism, ableism, ageism, classism, homophobia and transphobia; and promote social and economic justice.

¹ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/equally-safe/>

² <https://www.gov.scot/publications/equally-safe/>

³ Primary Prevention Learning Set, VAF, 2016



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1. Promote and normalise Gender Equality in your constituency

- Speak publicly about the continuum of VAWG and drive greater public understanding of the links between all forms of VAWG and their cause - women's social, economic and political inequality.
- Display campaign posters and leaflets and helpline contacts (see below) in your office.
- Promote women's independence and decision-making in public life and relationships.
- Foster positive role models and challenge harmful gender stereotypes and roles.
- Examine local structures and how they contribute to gender inequality.
- Challenge the condoning of violence against women.
- Support gender equal nurseries, Equally Safe at School, Equally Safe at Work and Equally Safe in Higher Education projects within your constituency.

2. Promote Primary Prevention in National Strategy

- Utilise a gender analysis when reviewing policy/strategy/legislation. A gender analysis is a framework for interpreting the differences in women's and men's lives, experiences, behaviours, status, opportunities and limitations. It also investigates the social, economic, political and cultural structures which serve to maintain or transform gender-based stereotypes, inequalities and abuses. It recognises that women's and men's lives and therefore experiences and needs are different, and may require different responses to ensure equal outcomes.
- Conduct gender budgeting analysis (GBA). GBA is an approach that systematically takes account of how public spending decisions impact on women and men. Frequently, the resource allocation process leads to unintended and unequal consequences, which an integrated consideration of gender perspectives could avoid.
- Support Equally Safe projects and funding of external primary prevention projects
- Tackle the gender stereotyping and inequality which occurs from an early age and continues throughout our lives. To achieve equality and safety for all women, it is vital that we address all forms of social, political and cultural discrimination, inequality and disadvantage.

3. Promote Primary Prevention and Gender Equality as an Employer

- Ensure gender equality within employment practice. As employers MSPs hold an important role in promoting gender equality within the workplace. Zero Tolerance has created a toolkit to help employers ensure that their employees feel safe and supported and that their workplace challenges the attitudes that underpin violence: Zero Tolerance at Work.
- Strengthen positive, equal and respectful relations between and among women and men in your workplace.



CONTACT US

Should you wish for any further information or support, please contact Zero Tolerance Policy Officer Amy Johnson on 0131 556 7365 or at amy.johnson@zerotolerance.org.uk

GET HELP

If you or someone you know is in immediate danger or in need of urgent protection, call the police on 999.

Police Scotland

999 – Emergency

101 – Non-Emergency

FOR HELPLINE SUPPORT

PLEASE CALL

Scotland's Domestic Abuse & Forced Marriage Helpline

0800 027 1234

Free, confidential, 7 days, 24 hours a day

helpline@sdafmh.org.uk

(response within 2 days by email)

Respect Phonline

For anyone who is concerned about their own behaviour towards their partner (male, female, in heterosexual or same-sex relationships)

0808 802 4040, confidential

Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.

Female Genital Mutilation

(FGM) helpline

0800 028 3550

Free, confidential,

7 days, 24 hours a day or at

fgmhelp@nspcc.org.uk

Childline

0800 11 11 – Free, confidential,

7 days, 24 hours a day

Rape Crisis Scotland Helpline offers free and confidential support and information by phone or email. It is for anyone, women and men, affected by sexual violence, no matter when or how it happened. Phone any day between 6pm and midnight on 08088 01 03 02 or if you are deaf or hard of hearing on minicom number 0141 353 3091. We can arrange for language interpreters if your first language is not English.

AMINA The Muslim Women's Resource Centre Helpline

0808 8010 301 or email

TalkToUs@mwrc.org.uk

The Helpline is a listening ear and signposting service for Muslim women across Scotland. Helpline is open Monday to Friday – 10am–4pm for any Muslim-identified women, and on Wednesdays from 6pm–9pm for young Muslim women (ages 16-25). It is free from mobiles and landlines and will not appear on your phone bill. We can help women in English, Arabic, Punjabi, Urdu. Any other languages can be accessed using a translating service as required.

Zero Tolerance is not able to provide helpline support or legal advice.