



Preventing youth violence: An overview of the evidence.

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Management of Noncommunicable
Diseases, Disability, Violence and
Injury Prevention



**World Health
Organization**

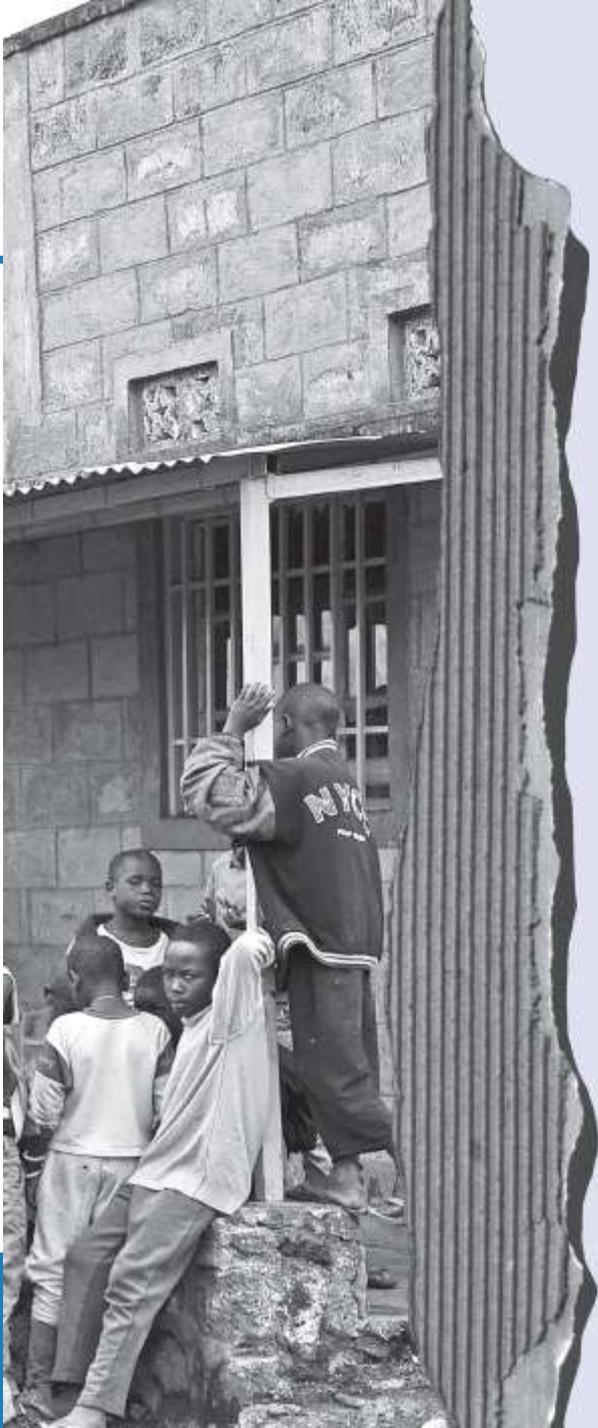
Snapshot of the content

What is in it?

1. Burden, health and social consequences of youth violence
2. Causes and risk factors for youth violence
3. What works to prevent youth violence.
4. Actions to advocate for and to address youth violence

What is new?

- Comprehensiveness
- Life-course approach
- Science-based
- Focus on settings with limited financial, human and technical resources



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Youth violence definition, prevalence and consequences

Youth violence accounts for 43% of all homicides

- 4th leading cause of death in young people between 10-29 years old
- 83% of all victims are male

Top 10 causes of death in persons aged 10–29 years, 2012, world

Road traffic injuries	361 515 ^a
HIV/AIDS	293 920 ^a
Self-harm	256 180 ^a
Homicide	205 303 ^b
Maternal conditions	151 036 ^a
Lower respiratory infections	138 151 ^b
Diarrhoeal diseases	123 236 ^a
Drowning	105 576 ^a
Meningitis	82 032 ^a
Ischaemic heart disease	72 038 ^a

Non-fatal youth violence affects large proportion of young people

Worldwide:

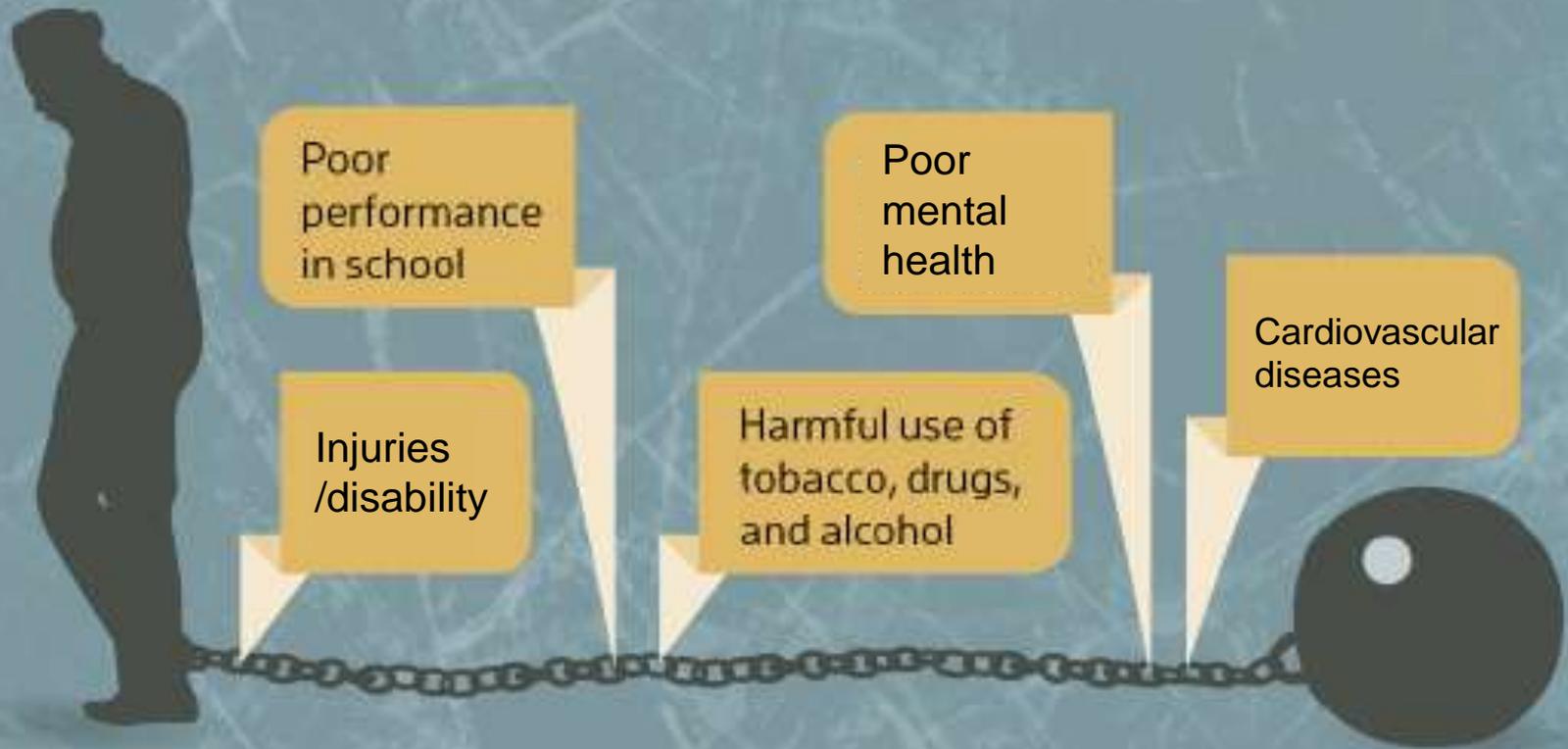
4 out of 10 young people have been in physical fight in the last year



1 out of 4 teenagers is bullied



...leading to long-lasting health and social consequences





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Risk factors for youth violence

Risk factors

- By developmental stage

- Conception/early infancy
- Infancy
- Childhood
- Early adolescence
- Late adolescence
- Early adulthood

- By ecological level

- Individual
- Family and close relationships
- Community
- Society

ECOLOGICAL LEVEL	DEVELOPMENTAL STAGE					
	CONCEPTION AND EARLY INFANCY 0-1 YEARS	INFANCY 1-3 YEARS	CHILDHOOD 4-11 YEARS	EARLY ADOLESCENCE 12-14 YEARS	LATE ADOLESCENCE 15-18 YEARS	EARLY ADULTHOOD 18-29 YEARS
Individual risk factors	Attention deficit, hyperactivity, conduct disorder or other behavioural disorders					
	Male sex					
	Genetic factors					
	Low intelligence					
	Involvement in crime and delinquency					
	Low academic achievement					
	Parental drug use			Illicit drug use		
						Harmful use of alcohol
	Child maltreatment					
						Unemployment
Family and close relationship risk factors	Poor parental supervision					
	Harsh and inconsistent discipline by parents					
	Divorce of parents					
	Teenage pregnancy					
	Parental depression					
	Family history of antisocial behaviour					
	Unemployment in the family					
	Harmful alcohol use during pregnancy					
					Delinquent peers	
					Gang membership	
Community and society level risk factors	Access to alcohol					
	Illicit drug markets					
	Harmful use of drugs					
	Access to firearms					
	Poverty					
	Inequality					

Risk factors

While some risk factors are consistent across settings...

...risk factors are shaped by the local context

Important to consider social determinants



Weak governance, poor rule of law, social norms, unemployment, inequality, rapid social change, limited educational opportunities



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**What is the
evidence for
youth violence
prevention?**

Parenting and early childhood development strategies	Home visiting programmes	?
	Parenting programmes	+
	Early childhood development programmes	+

School-based academic and social skills development strategies	Life and social skills development	+
	Bullying prevention	+
	Academic enrichment programmes	?
	Dating violence prevention programmes	+/-
	Financial incentives for adolescents to attend school	?
	Peer mediation	+/-
	After-school and other structured leisure time activities	?

Strategies for young people at higher risk of, or already involved in, violence	Therapeutic approaches	+
	Vocational training	?
	Mentoring	?
	Gang and street violence prevention programmes	?

Community- and society-level strategies	Hotspots policing	+
	Community- and problem-orientated policing	+
	Reducing access to and the harmful use of alcohol	+
	Drug control programmes	+
	Reducing access to and misuse of firearms	+
	Spatial modification and urban upgrading	+
	Poverty de-concentration	+

Parenting and early childhood development strategies

Home visiting programmes	?
Parenting programmes	+
Early childhood development programmes	+

- 3 clusters promising
- Parenting and ECD
- Schools-based bullying prevention and lifeskills
- Community and society level strategies

Life and social skills development	+
Bullying prevention	+
Academic enrichment programmes	?
Dating violence prevention programmes	+/-
Financial incentives for adolescents to attend school	?
Peer mediation	+/-
After-school and other structured leisure time activities	?

Strategies for young people at higher risk of, or already involved in, violence

Therapeutic approaches	+
Vocational training	?
Mentoring	?
Gang and street violence prevention programmes	?

Community- and society-level strategies

Hotspots policing	+
Community- and problem-orientated policing	+
Reducing access to and the harmful use of alcohol	+
Drug control programmes	+
Reducing access to and misuse use of firearms	+
Spatial modification and urban upgrading	+
Poverty de-concentration	+

Parenting and early childhood development strategies

Home visiting programmes
Parenting programmes
Early childhood development programmes

?
+
+

School-based academic and social skills development strategies

Life and social skills development
Bullying prevention
Academic enrichment programmes
Dating violence prevention programmes
Financial incentives for adolescents
Peer mediation
After-school and other structured time activities

+
+
?
+/-

• More studies focusing on individual level prevention strategies

Strategies for young people at higher risk of, or already involved in, violence

Therapeutic approaches
Vocational training
Mentoring
Gang and street violence prevention programmes

+
?
?
?

Community- and society-level strategies

Hotspots policing
Community- and problem-orientated policing
Reducing access to and the harmful use of alcohol
Drug control programmes
Reducing access to and misuse use of firearms
Spatial modification and urban upgrading
Poverty de-concentration

+
+
+
+
+
+
+

Parenting and early childhood development strategies	Home visiting programmes ? ← Parenting programmes + Early childhood development programmes +
School-based academic and social skills development strategies	Life and social skills development + Bullying prevention + ← Academic enrichment programmes ? ← Dating violence prevention programmes +/- Financial incentives for adolescents to attend school ? ← Peer mediation +/- After-school and other structured leisure time activities ? ←
Strategies for young people at higher risk of, or already involved in, violence	Therapeutic approaches + Vocational training ? ← Mentoring ? Gang and street violence prevention programmes ?
Community- and society-level strategies	Hotspots policing + Community- and problem- Reducing access to and the Drug control programmes Reducing access to and mis Spatial modification and urban upgrading + Poverty de-concentration +

• Youth violence as outcome not measured

Parenting and early childhood development strategies	Home visiting programmes	?
	Parenting programmes	+
	Early childhood development programmes	+

School-based academic and social skills development strategies	Life and social skills development	+
	Bullying prevention	+
	Academic enrichment programmes	?
	Dating violence prevention programmes	+/-
	Financial incentives for adolescents to attend school	?
	Peer mediation	+/-
	After-school and other structured leisure time activities	?

Strategies for young people at higher risk of, or already involved in, violence	Therapeutic approaches	+
	Vocational training	?
	Mentoring	?
	Gang and street violence prevention programmes	?

Community- and society-level strategies	Hotspots policing	+
	Community- and problem-oriented policing	+
	Reducing access to and the availability of firearms	+
	Drug control programmes	+
	Reducing access to and misuse use of firearms	+
	Spatial modification and urban upgrading	+
Poverty de-concentration	+	

• Heterogeneity of prevention strategies

Parenting for lifelong health in South Africa

A woman wearing a black headscarf and glasses is sitting on the grass, talking to two young children. One child is a girl in a white shirt and black leggings, and the other is a boy in a dark shirt. The woman is wearing a light blue t-shirt and jeans. They are outdoors in front of a building with a porch and columns. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting it's daytime.

Suite of affordable parenting programmes for low-resource settings for parents of babies, young children and adolescents

->Increased positive parenting behaviours

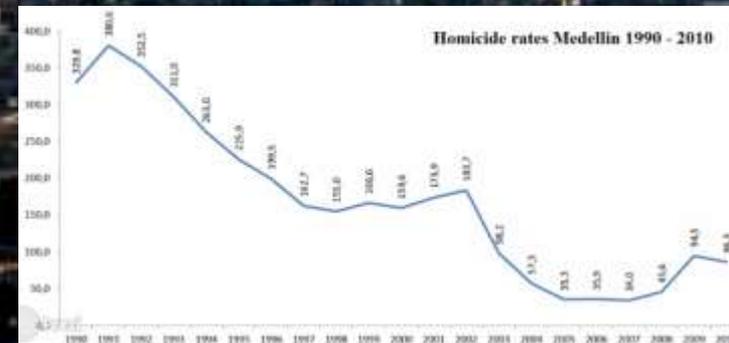
->high acceptance and enrolment

Cluster randomized controlled trial underway

Urban upgrading in Medellín / Colombia

Improve transport and quality of life in informal settlements located on the mountainside -> improved employment opportunities.

66% greater decline in homicides in intervention neighbourhoods



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What governments and civil society can do to implement youth violence prevention programmes



Developing foundations for effective youth violence prevention

- Raising awareness
- Developing effective partnerships with other sectors
- Collect, compile and disseminate data
- Develop evaluation capacity
- Develop policy framework
- Develop human and institutional capacities



Thank you.



<http://bit.ly/1QTPIEu>



<http://www.who.int/violenceprevention/en/>



<http://www.facebook.com/whoviolenenceprevention>



<http://twitter.com/WHOviolencenews>