



## 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

### What is gender-based violence?

The term refers to all forms of violence directed at someone because of their gender. This includes acts that cause or could cause physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering including threats of harm or coercion, in public or in private life. It is most often used to refer to men's violence against women.

### What are its drivers?

Research broadly shows that this type of violence happens as a result of gender inequality - a system where women and men do not have equal status, power, resources or opportunities in their society and are not valued or respected in the same way.

As a result, the drivers of this kind of violence are distinctly gendered. According to Our Watch, these are:

#### 1. **Condoning of violence against women**

When societies, institutions or communities support or condone violence against women, levels of such violence are higher.

#### 2. **Men's control of decision-making and limits to women's independence in public and private life**

This can happen in private relationships - where men who control decision-making, limit women's autonomy and hold rigid ideas on acceptable female behaviour are more likely to be violent - and in the public sphere - where men's greater control over power, resources and decision-making sends a message that women have less value and are therefore less worthy of respect.

#### 3. **Rigid gender stereotyping and dominant forms of masculinity**

Promoting these has the effect of reproducing the conditions that create gender inequality and underpins gendered violence.

#### 4. **Male peer relations and masculinity that emphasise aggression, dominance and control**

### Statistics on gender-based violence

- In 2022, **60 women** were killed as a result of gender-based violence in Australia
- Globally, **five women or girls** are killed **every hour** by someone in their own family
- An estimated **736 million women** - almost one in three - have been subjected to physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, or both at least once in their life
- **26% of women aged 15 and older** have been subjected to intimate partner violence
- **24% of adolescent girls** who have been in a relationship have experienced physical and/or sexual violence from an intimate partner
- **16% of young women aged 15 to 24** have experienced physical and/or sexual violence from an intimate partner in the past 12 months
- **Less than 40% of women** who experience violence seek help of any sort

### How can I take part in the 16 Days of Activism campaign?

#### **Listen and Learn**

Find out more about gender-based violence, gender equality and ways to challenge problematic gender norms in our society.

#### **Use Your Voice**

Join in conversations on social media using the hashtag #16Days or #16Days 2023

#### **Donate to a feminist cause**

There are countless groups working for gender equality or women's rights. Consider helping their work with a donation.