



GENDER BASED VIOLENCE



KNOW THE FACTS

What is Gender Based Violence?

Any act of violence that is directed against a person on the basis of gender. It includes acts of physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering, threats, intimidation and deprivations of liberty. It can happen in the family, in the general community or be committed by the state.

Domestic violence: occurs in intimate or family relations and spaces. It is commonly fatal, in some cases causing the death of the victims.

Physical violence: may include spitting, scratching, biting, grabbing, shaking, shoving, pushing, restraining, throwing, twisting, slapping, punching, choking, burning or use of weapons (e.g., household objects, knives, guns), poisoning or chemical substances against the victim.

Economic Violence: involves control of the victim by denying access to economic resources, e.g. by withholding finances, stopping the person from getting a job, preventing ownership of property, preventing a partner to be a part of economic decisions of the household.

Sexual violence: includes rape, sexual slavery, sexual harassment and use of threat or coercion to have sex, trafficking for sexual exploitation, forced pregnancy, forced sterilization or abortion, forced marriage, female genital mutilation, incest, use of violence during sexual relations.

Emotional violence: verbal attacks or acts to humiliate and cause fear, includes shouting, swearing insults, threat of harm, accusing, locking the victim in or out of the house, extreme jealousy, etc.

Harmful traditional practices: relates to rituals, traditions or cultural practices that have a prejudicial effect to the health, physical and psychological integrity, or the full exercise of human rights.

Why end Gender Based Violence?

- ▶ It violates fundamental rights of a human being
- ▶ It reduces the human dignity of the violated person
- ▶ It affects the weak and vulnerable members of society
- ▶ It destroys family structures and relations
- ▶ It denies freedom, health, choices and threatens life



LACVAW
Legislative Advocacy
Coalition on Violence
Against Women

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VIOLENCE AGAINST PERSONS PROHIBITION ACT



KNOW THE FACTS

What is the VAPP Act?

The VAPP is a Law that provides a legal framework for the prevention of all forms of violence against vulnerable persons, especially women and girls. to eliminate violence in private and public life, prohibits all forms of violence including physical, sexual, psychological, domestic, harmful Traditional Practices, discrimination against persons. It defines violence and provides all round protection and effective remedies for victims as well as punishment of offenders.

The Importance of the VAPP Act

It protects all persons against violence, a law for all Nigerians without discrimination

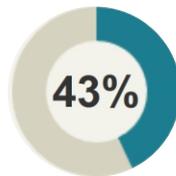
It is a product of an inclusive and consultative process and presents a harmonized legislation that incorporates 9 other Bills presented before the National Assembly of Nigeria from 1999 to 2008.

It provides for institutional arrangements to facilitate and enhance access to justice and support for survivors of violence.

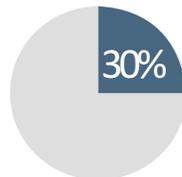
It identifies and defines all forms of violence in line with the reality and experiences in Nigeria and the country's obligations under international and regional treaties especially CEDAW, the African Union Protocol on the Rights of women and the Rome Statute.

It consolidates and realigns the provisions of the Penal Code/Criminal Code/Evidence Act etc. to respond to current forms of violations in all circumstances.

It clearly allots specialized roles for line institutions such as social welfare departments, hospitals, religious institutions, the police, and other law enforcement agencies.



43% of Nigerian girls are married off before they are 18 years old



3 out of 10 women every hour of the day suffer domestic violence

Who is responsible for Implementing the VAPP Act?

- The law courts
- The Law Enforcement Agencies
- Civil Society
- Government
- YOU



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