

# Making it Happen: Ending Violence against



# Children's voices

*“When I was like twelve, I thought I was pregnant by my father. I contemplated suicide because I was just saying to myself, How am I going to explain this to people. I mean, I was only twelve years old. Nobody is going to believe me”.*

Girl, North America, 2005

*“One boy tried to escape, but he was caught. His hands were tied and then they made us, the other captives, kill him with a stick. I felt sick... They pointed a gun to me, so I had to do it. I see him in my dreams and he is saying I killed him for nothing, and I am crying.”*

Boy, former child soldier



**Save the Children**

# The UN Study on Violence against Children

In 2006 the United Nations launched a global study on Violence against Children with a central message:



*No violence against children is justifiable, and all violence against children is preventable*

# Violence is a global concern

- Sexual abuse and exploitation
- Child Trafficking
- Physical and humiliating punishment
- Child Labour
- Traditional practices such as
  - Female genital mutilation
  - Child Marriage



**Save the Children**

# The UN Study estimates

- 150 million girl's and 73 million boy's worldwide are raped or subject to sexual violence each year
- 126 million children are involved in hazardous work
- 1.2 million children are trafficked every year
- 3 million girls and women are subjected to Female Genital Mutilation every year



**Save the Children**

# Violence is under reported

*‘We are at disadvantage because of our age. Adults don’t believe what we say when something happens. That’s why we don’t say anything’*

Paulo Nicaragua



**Save the Children**



# Government's accountability

Only 25 State's have prohibited all violence against children. Laws and policies to stop violence are seldom effectively implemented.





# The UN Study recommends:

- Strengthen national and local commitments (including national policies and strategies)
- Prohibit all violence against children
- Prioritise prevention
- Promote non-violent values and awareness raising
- Enhance the capacity of all who work with and for children
- Provide recovery and social reintegration services
- Ensure the participation of children
- Create accessible and child friendly reporting systems and services
- Ensure accountability and impunity
- Address the gender dimension of violence against children
- Develop and implement systematic national data collection and research efforts
- Strengthen international commitments

# What is Save the Children doing ?



# Child protection in emergencies

Save the Children prevents family separation, sexual exploitation and the recruitment of children into armed forces and groups.



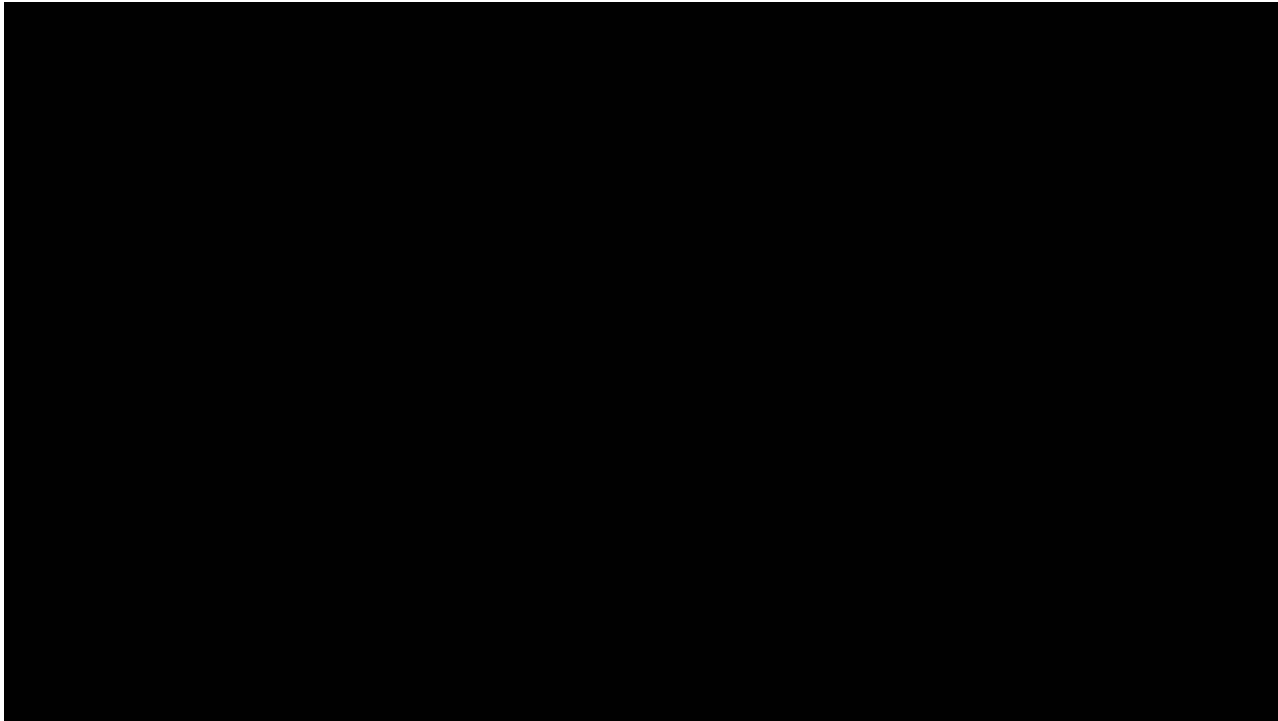
We provide services, child friendly spaces, and we promote reintegration of children with families and communities.

We advocate for an end of impunity, for safe monitoring mechanism and we promote peace building.

# Impact of conflict on children



# Children in Sierra Leone affected by war



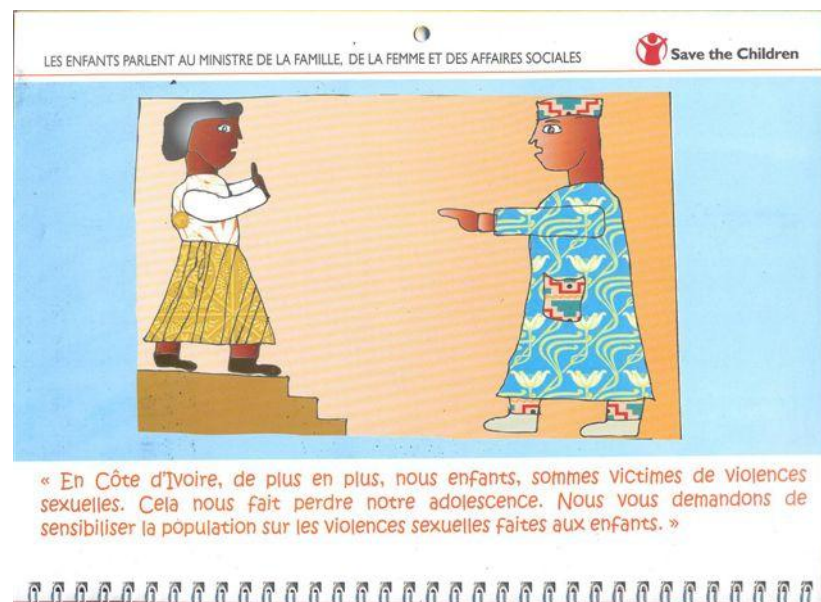
# Children without Appropriate Care

Save the Children calls on every government to make a long term commitment to building family support services and family based alternative care.

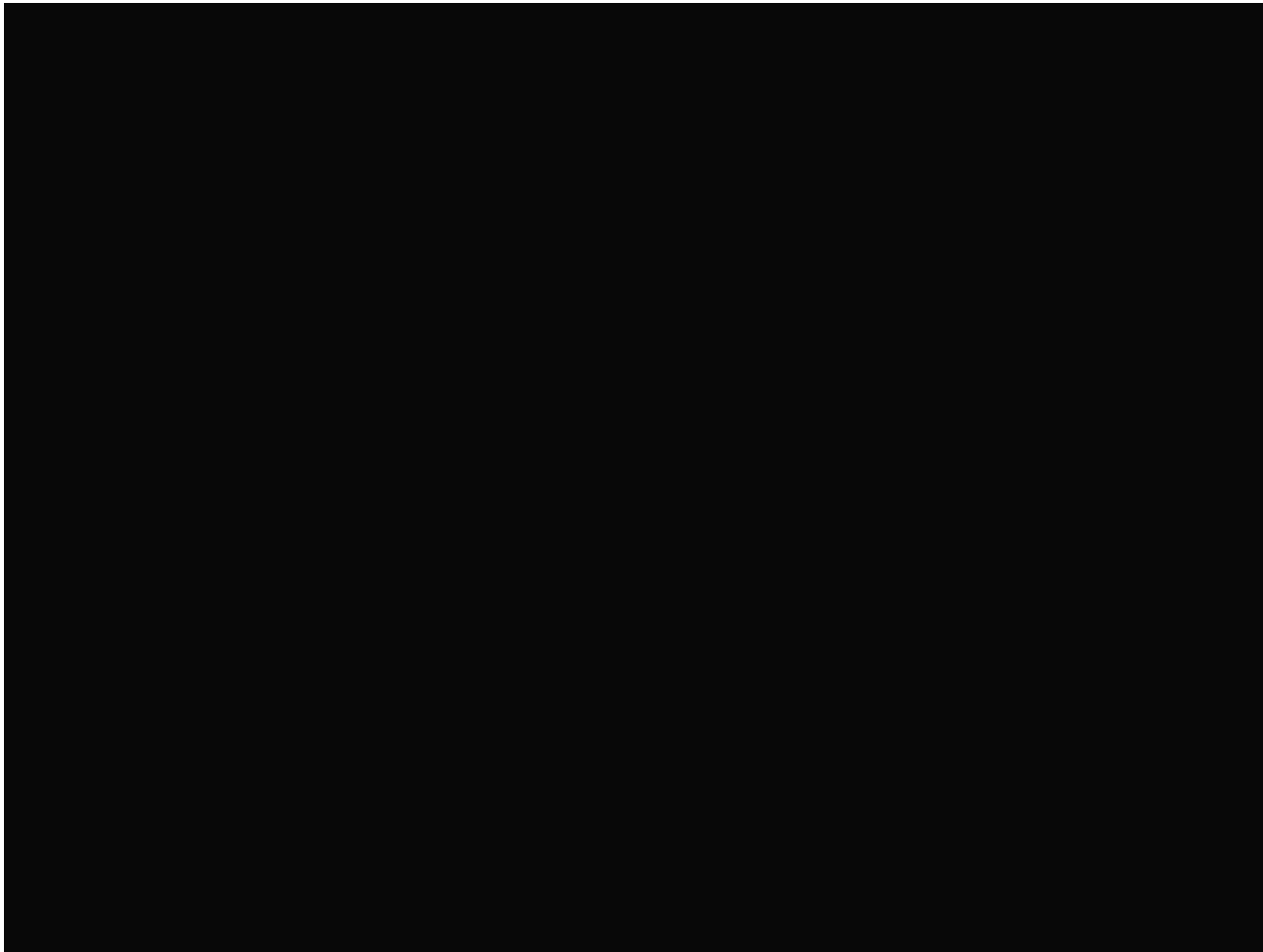


# Child led research and advocacy

Children across Côte d'Ivoire developed key messages on sexual violence for TV and radio spots. In Senegal, children conducted action based research on violence in schools.



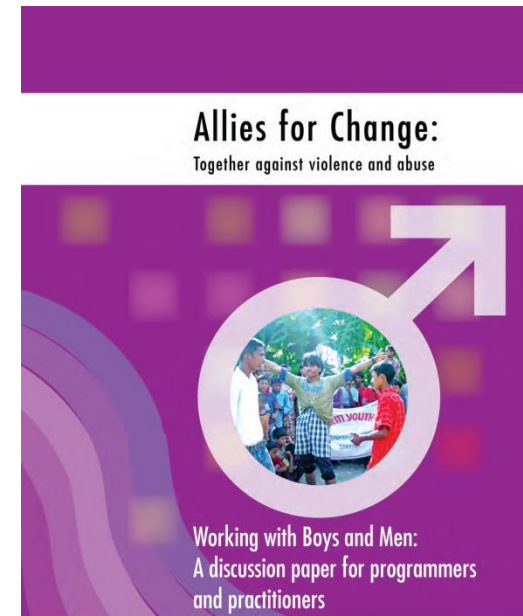
# School Sweet School






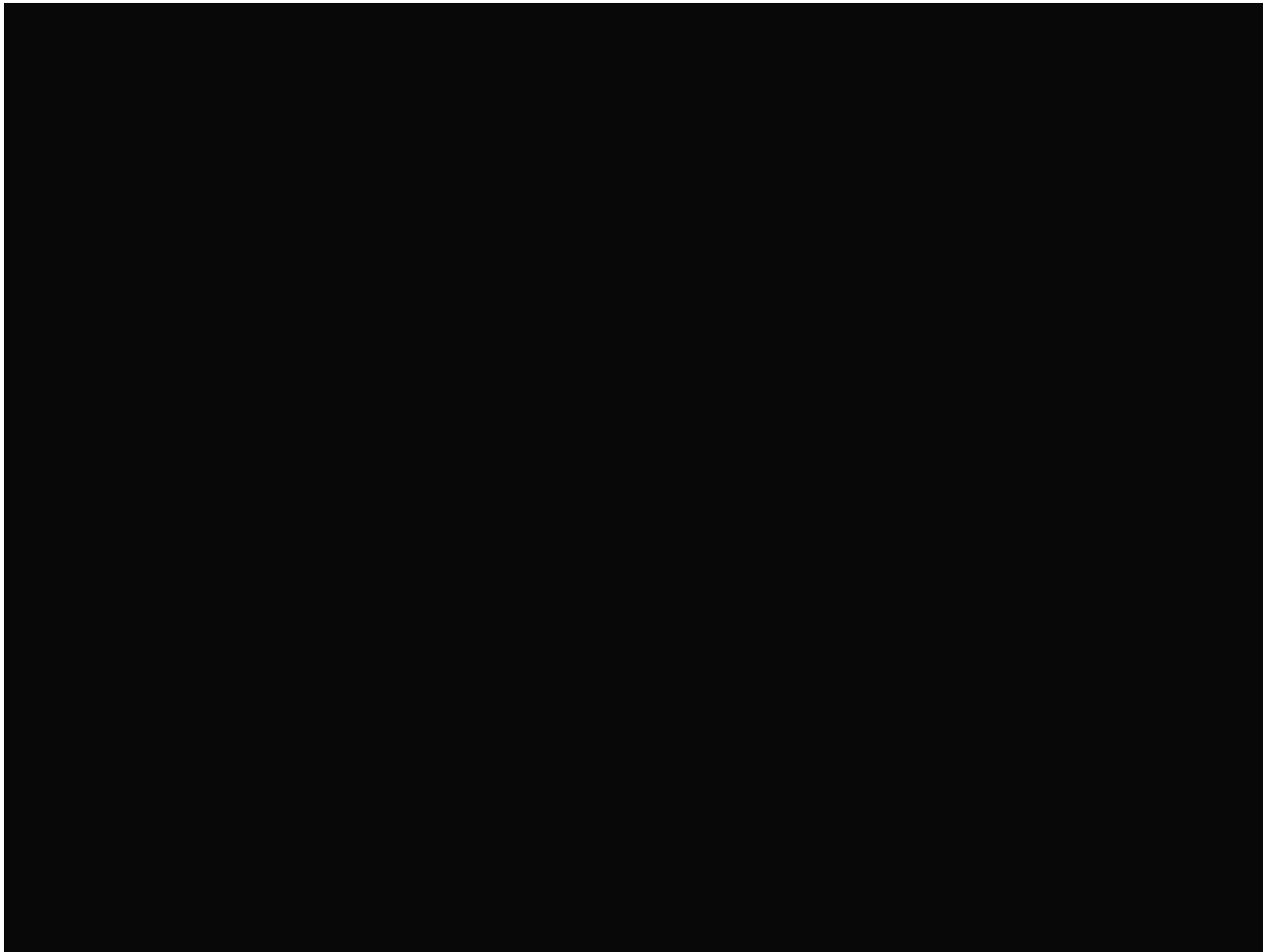
# Engaging Boys and Men

In South and Central Asia, Save the Children is committed to working with boys and men – in partnership with girls and women – to challenge gender discrimination and gender based violence.



 Save the Children

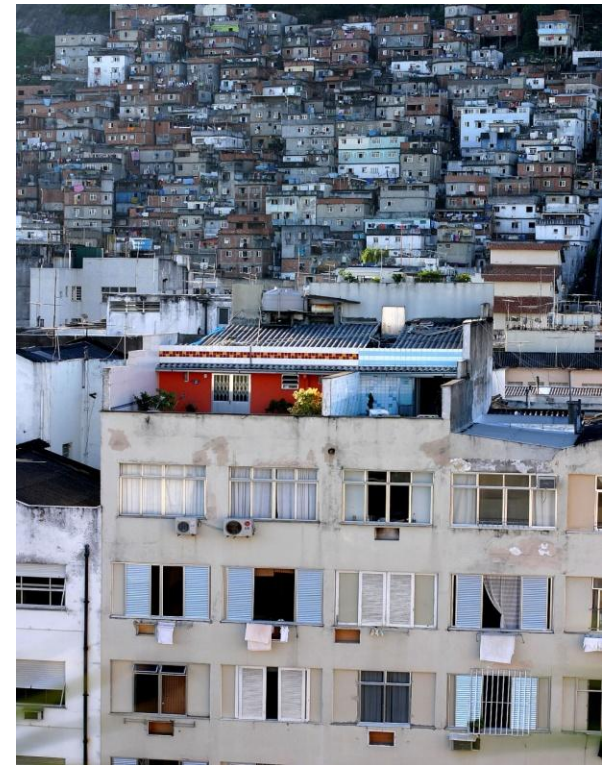
# Boys unite to end Violence



# Children and organised violence

Gun homicide is the most common death among children in Rio de Janeiro. Save the Children works to prevent children from getting involved in organised violence.

[Life in the Risk Zone](#)



**Save the Children**

# Corporal Punishment

*”My father says I am slow in the head, therefore he hits me. It hurts inside.”* Bengali boy, age 12

*”I have to admit that in the initial stage I was not convinced that physical and humiliating punishment didn't work. But when I was taught the alternatives during a training course, I started to change a bit when managing my children. They told me that they much more preferred this way of explaining to them why I got mad at them. I realised that this new way worked better in the long run”*



**Save the Children**

# Changing Attitudes in Romania



# The Child Protection Initiative

Save the Children's Child Protection Initiative (CPI) became operational in May 2009 and is one of Save the Children's 8 Global Initiatives and part of Save the Children's Global Strategy for all Member organizations to prioritise and support.

