INTERGRATING VAW & VAC INTO PARENTING PROGRAMMES

Lessons from Kenya

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WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & CHILDREN?

 Violence against women
  • Shared risk factors
  • Common social norms
  • Common and compounding consequences
  • Co-occurrence
  • Overlap in adolescence
  • Intergenerational effects

 Violence against children

- Intimate partners are by far the most common perpetrators of violence against girls and women.
- Harsh discipline in the family is the most common form of violence against children.
- VAC and VAW intersect in various ways.
- Various approaches have demonstrated that it is possible to address both types of violence simultaneously.
PARENTING INTERVENTIONS ADDRESSING IPV AND CHILD MALTREATMENT

There is good evidence that parenting interventions are effective for tackling both intimate partner violence and child maltreatment

- They sit at the intersection of VAW/C
- Have a large constituency
PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE FROM A LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

Between September 2019 and February 2021 collaborated with ICS- SP (a Parenting NGO working in Kenya, Tanzania, and Cote d’Ivoire) through an accompaniment programme.
ACCOMPANIMENT PROGRAMME

- 18-month programme
- Designed to promote mutual and participatory learning, and reflective thinking through one face-to-face workshop and bi-monthly virtual learning sessions
ACCOMPANIMENT PROGRAMME

Facilitated by mentors from the Collaborative - experts in VAW/C prevention and designing gender transformative parenting programmes.

Mentors selected collaboratively with ICS through a matching process.
AREAS COVERED IN MENTORSHIP SESSIONS

- Foundations of VAW and VAC prevention
- Global and regional evidence around VAW/C intersections
- Introduction to gender and gender equity
- Review the SP theory of change, training manual and M&E framework
OUTCOME OF THE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

The ICS team had a significant mindset shift and a better understanding of gender transformative programming.

The SP programme is enriched with gender-transformative content and grounded on an evidence-informed theory of change.

SP is now being adapted by the Kenyan Government as the National parenting manual.
Adequate time (6 to 8 months) is needed to support parenting partners, who are not well versed in gender and VAW/C concepts.

Inclusion of a VAW/C prevention foundational session is critical in ensuring everyone is on the same page before getting into more complex issues.

Critical to have programme team reflect on their own attitudes and beliefs before starting to design or strengthen their programs – critical reflections, value clarification, roles plays.

Key to find common language that is acceptable to both VAW and VAC fields.
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