

**We
can**

We Can End All Violence Against Women



**Violence
against
women
is
universal.
It injures
or kills
one in
three
women
across
the
world.**

13

We Can End

Nearly 50 per cent of women
in South Asia face violence in
their homes at some time in
their life.

50

We can

All Violence Against Women

Violence against women is now recognised as a human rights violation and its definition includes physical, sexual or psychological harm:

Any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm done towards women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.

Pakistan

- ❑ In Pakistan, 80 per cent of women experience violence within their homes

- ❑ In India, every six hours, somewhere, a young married woman is burned alive, beaten to death, or forced to commit suicide

Bangladesh

- ❑ In Bangladesh, 47 per cent women experience physical violence at the hands of their intimate partners

Sri Lanka

- ❑ In Sri Lanka, surveys reveal 60 per cent of women suffer domestic violence

Nepal

- ❑ In Nepal, published figures suggest between 5,000 and 7,000 Nepali women and girls are trafficked for sex work each year

- ❑ In Afghanistan, there is a significant incidence of rape, forced marriage, abductions, and assaults

Why the Campaign to End Violence Against Women (VAW)?

- ❑ One in every two women in South Asia faces violence in her home
- ❑ Social customs and attitudes that support violence against women are entrenched and institutionalised at all levels – home, family, community, society, and the State
- ❑ Violence and discrimination threaten women's lives, rights and limits their choices in practically all spheres of life
- ❑ As a result, there are 50 million fewer women in South Asia today than there should be
- ❑ Breaking the silence on this violence is not a real option for most women; to do so would threaten their lives



About *We Can*

Over the next six years, the South Asia regional campaign to end violence against women in the six countries seeks to achieve:

- A fundamental shift in social attitudes and beliefs that support VAW
- A collective and visible stand against VAW
- Popular support to end VAW
- A range of local, national and regional alliances to address VAW

years
Six
countries

We can

Our Strategy

By 2011, the campaign will reach and influence 50 million ordinary men and women across South Asia to oppose VAW and adopt more gender-equal practices in their own lives. To achieve this aim:

- Over five million 'change agents' - people who will work to influence men and women - will be mobilised
- A series of highly visible and coordinated community mobilisation programmes will be used to take the individual campaigns forward
- The campaigns will rely on the use of mass media and other innovative means of communication

Areas of Focus

Reach Out to the Region

The campaign has identified issues and strategies through joint consultations with a wide range of organisations in each country

Bangladesh

domestic violence within marital relationships

Sri Lanka

domestic violence

India

domestic violence within marital relationships

Nepal

trafficking of women and girls

Pakistan

honour killing

Afghanistan

domestic violence

About Us

The South Asia regional campaign to end violence against women is a coalition of more than 400 civil society groups, organisations and individuals in six countries of South Asia.

The campaign has been initiated by Oxfam International, a confederation of 12 organisations working together in more than 100 countries to find lasting solutions to poverty, suffering and injustice.

**We
can**



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