

Daphne Booklets: Issues and experiences in combating violence against children, young people and women

Family violence



Disclaimer

This booklet was written by Dr June Kane in collaboration with the Daphne Programme management team of the European Commission. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the policies of the European Union or the positions of its Member States.

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Introduction



In the European Commission, we have always been very clear in our views that the EU needs a global strategy to tackle all problems related to children, but this is perhaps most important when we consider the situation of children who suffer violence within their domestic setting. These young citizens of Europe are hidden behind the closed doors of the family home and may seem to be similarly hidden from the services that European Member States provide for their most vulnerable people. We cannot allow them to go unprotected and we must intervene when they are at risk or fall victim to violence.

This includes the violence of corporal punishment, which is too often brushed aside as 'discipline' or 'parents' responsibility'. Europe has long called for outlawing this form of sanctioned violence in the family. We all agree that women should be protected from physical and psychological abuse in the home; children deserve no less.

All the research we have shows that beating a child is no way to teach them. There are much better ways that are much more effective in helping children to learn the difference between right and wrong and to respect the role of the grown-ups in their family. The one thing children do learn when they are beaten or verbally abused by the people responsible for them is that this kind of behaviour is acceptable when you are grown up and that those who are younger, smaller or weaker just have to accept it.

For many children, this sad, misleading lesson also comes from witnessing a loved one being hurt by a family member. Imagine how it must feel to see your father being violent towards your mother. The two people you should be able to love and trust unconditionally, outside your reach. This picture of a family caught up in violence haunts me and should stay with all of us. We can put labels on it – domestic violence, child abuse, or whatever – but we must not let words get in the way of the horrendous reality that is still present in Europe: in relationships that are supposed to be built on love, we find violence of the worst kinds.

Europe has already done a great deal to legislate against family violence and to put services in place to both protect potential victims and give support to those who have suffered. But it takes more than laws and programmes to stop family violence. We have to decide, each and every one of us, that we will simply not accept any form of violence in the family, no matter who inflicts it and no matter what their 'reasoning'. We have to stand up and be counted on this issue: recognise it, report it and never, ever turn aside and let it continue.

Jacques Barrot

Vice-President of the European Commission, in charge of Justice, Freedom and Security

Foreword



Violence against women by their male partners is not a private affair but a public and political problem. It is a human rights violation and we should not forget that EU countries are bound by the international human rights agreements they have entered into, as well as the European instruments that should govern their actions. Of course, there are obstacles in the way, but these have to be overcome.

One obstacle is the long tradition of some forms of violence against women being seen as 'normal'. Many Europeans still think that what happens within a family or quasi-family relationship is no one's business except the people involved. This is especially true in the case of family violence against women, because so often women are still seen as second-class citizens who are subordinate to the men in their lives. Such discrimination also applies to the case of children who are subjected to violence in their family; they, too, are very often considered to be subordinate and so valid targets of violence.

In Europe we have been working to eliminate violence against women for many years, but it may well take several decades more before we win this battle. We therefore need long-term commitment from lawmakers, those who implement the laws, and governments who fix priorities and allocate budgets to education, social services, policing and protection services.

It is of particular importance that women and children experiencing violence in their family should have easy, free access to safe accommodation, counselling and legal support. Even where the law allows for the perpetrator to be removed from the family home, rather than obliging the victims to leave, a woman and child may well need temporary refuge while the legal process is put in place, and access to supportive people who understand what they are going through.

When we set up the first women's shelter in Austria in 1978, we did not know that, some 30 years later, the network of shelters – mostly run by women's organisations – would have increased to almost 30, receiving some 3 000 women and children a year and now funded almost 100% by public funds. Austria now also has counselling centres for women and specialist centres for migrant women. Since 1999 there has been a free helpline that operates round the clock, financed by the federal government. Still this is not enough. There are not enough places to meet demand and some women live far away from the shelters. The work has to continue.

In recent years, the work of organisations based around women's shelters and counselling services has been enhanced by the ability and opportunity to join networks that bring together similar organisations across Europe. The WAVE-network has achieved much and the Daphne Programme has been an incredibly important support to our efforts to improve services and measures to prevent and respond to violence in the family. As long as this problem continues, we shall also continue to grow in strength and determination.

Rosa Logar

Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre, Vienna, and WAVE-Network

The problem



The first challenge facing anyone trying to learn about, act against or legislate in the field of 'family violence' is to know what that means and how it differs from domestic, conjugal, intimate partner violence or any of the other terms or phrases used in the context of the home or close relationships.

For a long time, the term 'domestic violence' was the label most commonly used to refer to violence that occurred in the home. The term was used by feminist groups to refer more specifically to violence inflicted on women by their male partners, whatever their marital status. They argued – and the available statistics confirm this – that the majority of 'domestic violence' cases clearly fall into the category of 'gendered violence', that is violence inflicted on women/girls because of their sex, and most often by men.

Perhaps in reaction to this, some groups working with lesbian/gay victims of violence in the home began to use the phrase 'intimate partner violence', making the point that it is not only heterosexual women who suffer at the hands of the person who is supposed to love them, but also both women and men in same-sex relationships. There is also the less studied but still documented reality that some men are victims of violence at the hands of their female partners.

Children's organisations weighed in to the debate when it became clear that the research being done on domestic/ intimate partner violence, and the many government and non-governmental initiatives mounted to stop it, were largely ignoring the fact that violence between partners, of whatever sex, frequently also involves the children of one or both partners. Children who witness violence against their mother or father are often traumatised. They may feel fear, helplessness, hatred or any number of other emotions; there is no single response to witnessing violence against a loved one. In some instances, especially as children get older, they may try to defend the victim and become directly involved in the act of violence. In some cases, they may side with the perpetrator and begin to act violently towards the victim themselves. Or they may transfer these different reactions to their relationships with others, inside and outside the family, becoming determinedly protective of those they care about, or adopting domineering, cruel stances towards them. It is also the case that, where one partner is violent towards the other, she or he is potentially also violent to the children involved.

Children are also direct victims of violence in the family. This may take the form of physical or psychological violence at the hands of one or more parents/step-parents or sometimes inflicted by other family members such as siblings. It may include sexual abuse, especially for girls. Corporal and psychological punishment inflicted in the form of 'discipline' may also be considered a form of violence and increasingly the concept of 'reasonable' levels of corporal punishment – still allowable in some European Member States' legislation – is being brought into question. Former member of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, Thomas Hammarberg, has said, "To draw an analogy, no one would argue that a 'reasonable' level of wife-beating should be permitted".

^{1.} Violence against girls in the family is also considered to include harmful traditional practices, including female genital mutilation/cutting as well as so-called 'honour crimes' that may include murder. These are covered in detail in Booklet 3 in this series.

^{2.} Summary record of the Consideration of the United Kingdom (CRC/C/SR.205), United Nations Committee on the rights of the child, Geneva 1995.

In recent years, this debate over terms and definitions has grown even more complex, as more has become known about the violence that can occur in less formal or established relationships, for example between people who are 'dating' but who may or may not stay together in the longer term. The phenomenon known as 'date rape' is perhaps the most widely publicised example of violent behaviour in this context. The concept of 'family violence' has grown, too, to include 'elder abuse' – violence against older members of the family, which takes advantage of their frailness and dependence, and that is, in fact, the 'mirror image' of violence against children in the family environment.

The truth is that, whatever the label, violence in the context of relationships occurs and not infrequently. It is a sad fact that, where people come together in what is supposed to be a loving relationship, some of the people involved in that relationship will abuse the close bonds that hold it together to impose their will on other parties in the relationship, whether that is wife, husband, *de facto* partner, girlfriend, boyfriend, same-sex partner, parent or child. In extreme cases, family violence might involve, for example, husband being violent to wife and children, husband and wife being violent to younger children, or older children being violent to mother and younger siblings.

In all these instances, there are common elements to the violence that occurs: it presumes that it is acceptable for a stronger person to hit or otherwise inflict violence on a more vulnerable person; that violence is an appropriate or effective means of making that person do what the perpetrator wants them to do or of punishing them for not doing these things; that one person has a right to inflict violence on another; and that there is social approval of such behaviour.³

When the stark reality of family violence is laid out like this, it seems almost unthinkable that anyone would consider it acceptable. And yet a 1999 Eurobarometer survey on domestic violence against women, for example, showed that 2.3% of Europeans considered domestic violence 'acceptable in certain circumstances' and 0.7% 'in all circumstances'. That suggests that 3 out of every 100 Europeans considered domestic violence to be legitimate, acceptable behaviour.

Once violence is a reality of family life – however that family is defined – it can spread through the generations and migrate into the relationships that children form as they become adults. For this reason alone, what in this publication is labelled 'family violence' is among the most pernicious forms of violence of all, inflicting not only individual suffering but also eating at the roots of the social structure.

The consequences of family violence are wide-ranging on individual victims, the family itself and the wider community. Women who are victims of violence within the family suffer not only the repercussions of physical violence but also the long-term damage caused by psychological violence. They may be humiliated, made to feel useless and helpless, isolated from friends and other family members and live in fear. Violent partners may manipulate the victims' lives so that they cannot go out to work and are thus financially dependent on their abuser. Women in abusive relationships often feel trapped, not only by the conflicting pressures of fear and yet love for the perpetrator but also because they do not want to 'break up the family', and in particular fear that their children will suffer if they try to leave the relationship. A woman who does escape an abusive relationship may have to leave everything behind knowing that she may never see her belongings again; practical questions are another deterrent to leaving. If she takes the children with her, they may have to change schools and move away from friends, which may make her feel guilty.

Children experiencing violence in the family also suffer both physical and psychological harm. The UN study on violence against children⁴ has outlined the developmental consequences of violence against children in the family as:

"fatal and non-fatal injury, cognitive impairment and failure to thrive, and the psychological and emotional consequences of experiencing or witnessing painful and degrading treatment that they cannot understand and are powerless to prevent... These include feelings of rejection and abandonment, impaired attachment, trauma, fear, anxiety, insecurity and shattered self-esteem... A growing body of evidence suggests that exposure to violence or trauma alters the developing brain by interfering with normal neuro-developmental processes."

Where the violence is acute, age-related changes in children's behaviour may include an increased risk of suicidal thoughts and behaviour. Such violence can be a significant contributing factor in adult illness and death. 'Childhood experience of violence has been linked to alcohol and drug abuse, cancer, chronic lung disease, depression and a number of other conditions including liver disease, obesity and chronic reproductive health problems', the study notes. Additionally, of course, children who leave an abusive family home with an escaping parent, or who run away by themselves, face the same kind of practical obstacles the abused parent would: nowhere to live, no financial means and, if on their own, the high risk of being a child living without adult support.

The costs to society of the breakdown of the family unit and of the individual results of family violence are enormous. A mathematical model drawn up for the United Kingdom in 2004, for example, estimated the annual cost of 'domestic violence' (i.e. against women and not including violence against other family members) to the state was around €4.3 billion (£3.1 billion) and to employers around €2 billion (£1.3 billion). The cost of human and emotional suffering was estimated at €25 billion (£17 billion) a year, and the annual total cost to the United Kingdom alone of €34 billion (£23 billion) or €555 per person each year. This included the costs of police actions and other arms of the criminal justice system, healthcare, social services, emergency housing, civil legal support, other services and loss to economic output. Comparable exercises have been carried out for a number of other EU Member States: Finland estimates the cost of domestic violence to be approximately €91 million a year, Spain €2.4 billion and the Netherlands €151 million.

With the total for these four countries reaching almost € 38 billion a year, it is clear that the figure for Europe as a whole – and for just one component of family violence – would be staggering. Family violence is thus not only a human rights challenge, a health issue, a social evil and a long-term threat to social stability, it is also an enormous financial burden.

^{4.} P Pinheiro: World Report on violence against children, UN Secretary-General's study on violence against children, Geneva 2006, pp.63-64.

^{5.} S Walby: The cost of domestic violence, Women and Equality Unit, UK Department of Trade and Industry, London 2004.

^{6.} Council of Europe: Combating violence against women: Stocktaking study on the measures and actions taken in Council of Europe Member States, Council of Europe, Strasbourg 2006.

Some facts and figures



Like many forms of violence, the violence that occurs in the home or family environment is difficult to put numbers to. Family violence is one of the most hidden forms of violence because it mostly happens in the private sphere, behind the closed doors of the family home. This fact has also long been associated with reluctance on the part of authorities and indeed community groups and individuals to 'intervene'.

In addition, there is considerable under-reporting of family violence, not only because of the stigma many people feel is associated with it but also because of the very nature of the relationships in which the violence occurs: women, men and children find it difficult to come to terms with the fact that someone they love is hurting them. Women may convince themselves that the physical and psychological abuse they suffer is not really 'violence' at all but a sign of affection, proof that the person they love wants to make them a better person. Victims of violence by a partner often say they think the violent person will change, that she or he is not always violent but at times loving and kind, and that it was just too much alcohol, or drugs, or something else that triggered the violence. Sadly, very often victims say they prompted the violence themselves by doing or saying something 'wrong', and that they 'deserved it'

The case of family violence against children is both similar and different. Very young children may know no better and believe that all parents are violent towards their children. They may believe that physical and psychological violence are 'normal' forms of discipline or 'teaching' in the family – especially where such violence is also used in their school environment. Like adult victims of family violence, children depend on the family environment for love, but also for practical things like shelter and food. As a result, family violence is grossly under-reported and the statistics that are available are just the tip of the iceberg.

The available data is therefore mainly indicative and generally given as a broad range rather than a single figure.⁷ In 2005, for example, the World Health Organisation (WHO) calculated from a review of 35 country studies that between 10 and 52% of women reported being physically abused by an intimate partner at some point in their lives. Between 10 and 30% of women said they had suffered sexual violence by an intimate partner.⁸

The UN violence study estimated that between 133 million and 275 million children worldwide witness violence at home each year, with 4.6-11.3 million of these children living in developed countries.

In Europe, the European Women's Lobby estimates that between 20 and 25% of women have been subjected to physical violence by a partner – approximately one in five. Some 12-15% of women are estimated to have been in a 'violent relationship' after the age of 16.

^{7.} Available national figures are included in the next section.

^{8.} WHO: WHO Multi-country study on women's health and domestic violence against women, World Health Organisation, Geneva 2005.

^{9.} EWL: Unveiling the hidden data on domestic violence in the EU, European Women's Lobby, Brussels 1999.

^{10.} Council of Europe: Campaign to combat violence against women, including domestic violence (2007-8), fact sheet downloadable from: www.coe.int/stopviolence/intergov

Family violence claims the lives of four children under the age of 14 each day in the European region, some 1300 every year, according to WHO data.¹¹ UNICEF's Innocenti Research Centre reviewed child maltreatment deaths in 30 rich nations, including 23 European states, and estimated the total number of deaths of children under the age of 15 each year as a result of physical assault and/or neglect to be 3500. Of these, two die every week in Germany and the UK, and three a week in France.¹² The risk of death is about three times greater for children in their first year of life than for those aged one to four, who in turn face twice the risk of those aged five to 14. The younger the child, the more likely their death will be at the hands of a close family member.¹³

Evidence from industrialised countries suggests that between 40 and 70% of men who use physical violence against their partners are also violent towards their children and that about half of the female victims also abuse their children. In short, many children live in 'violent households', and in these cases disciplining children may also be violent. In the UK, for example, Department of Health research in 1997 showed that roughly one in six children had been severely punished by their mothers, with 'severe' defined as involving 'the intention or potential to cause injury or psychological damage, use of implements, repeated actions or over a long period of time'. \(^{14}\)

Moreover, the UK's Women and Equality Unit considers that domestic violence against women has the highest rate of repeat victimisation of any crime, with 35% of households having a second incident within five weeks of the first. One incident of domestic violence is reported to the police every minute in the UK, and on average two women a week are killed by a male partner or former partner.¹⁵

These few statistics leave no doubt that family violence is a major challenge for Europe.

^{11.} WHO Regional Office for Europe: Home sweet home – a myth for many children, press release EURO/04/05, Copenhagen and Geneva, 15 March 2005.

^{12.} UNICEF: A league table of child maltreatment deaths in rich nations, Innocenti Research Centre, Florence 2003.

^{13.} UN Secretary-General's study on violence against children: Violence in the home and family, background paper prepared for the Europe and Central Asia Regional Consultation, Ljubljana 2005.

^{14.} G Nobes and M Smith: 'Physical punishment of children in two-parent families', Clinical Child Psychology and Psychiatry, Vol. 2 (1997), pp.271-281.

^{15.} Women and Equality Unit: Domestic violence: Key facts, 2007, downloadable at www.womenandegualityunit.gov.uk/domestic violence: Key facts, 2007, downloadable at www.womenandegualityunit.gov.uk/domestic violence: Key facts.htm.

National and European legislation and frameworks



Europe has not been slow in acknowledging this reality and responding to it. Most individual Member States have a broad range of legislation covering the components of family violence, both specific and non-specific. Some legislation relates quite specifically to domestic violence; some focuses on violence against children and in particular protecting them from harm. In a few cases, there is specific legislation citing violence in the family; in many more instances, family relationships are dealt with only as an aggravating circumstance in violence that is covered under more general headings.

There is no doubt that the most comprehensive responses have been to domestic violence, generally defined as violence against a woman by her male partner. This reflects both the strength of lobbying and public response to this problem but also to the fact that data has been more systematically collected since the 1960s and so is more effective in advocacy efforts and useful in underpinning legislative reform. In 1997, the European Women's Lobby established the European Policy Action Centre and the European Observatory on Violence against Women. The European Parliament called for action to promote zero tolerance of domestic violence and, in January 1999, the European Commission launched the first pan-European campaign against domestic violence, with significant results. Awareness and understanding of the issue grew and reporting increased. The problem, though, did not go away. Hidden behind closed doors, domestic violence – like all family violence – resists attempts to bring it into the open and end it all together. In November 2006, therefore, the Council of Europe launched a new, multimillion-euro campaign to give a boost to public awareness of domestic violence and to reach a new generation of Europeans whose tolerance of violence has increased in these more violent times.

Although it is not binding, an Opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee in May 2006 (2006/C 110/15) reiterated the need for continued vigilance on the issue of domestic violence and called for a pan-European strategy, reflecting concerns that the responses of individual European countries vary widely. The Committee particularly called for an EU-wide study on the prevalence of domestic violence against women, its impact on individuals and society, and the financial costs. This was to reflect concerns that, although in many European countries data is more readily available on violence, there are still countries that do not systematically collect data and additionally, even where data is collected, that the parameters used differ considerably and do not allow for Europe-wide analysis or comparison.

In 2006, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe adopted Resolution 1512 (2006) reiterating parliamentary unity in combating domestic violence against women, calling on national parliaments to take a number of actions condemning domestic violence and addressing a wide range of needs including coordinated action, research and funding. Follow-up recommendations were adopted in 2007: Rec 1817 (2007) and Rec 1582 (2007). A number of other European instruments are applicable to domestic violence in the general context of violence against women, including Council of Europe Recommendation Rec (2002) 5 on the protection of women against violence, and Recommendation Rec (2000) 1450 on violence against women in Europe.

Although there is little EU law dealing specifically with domestic violence, the obligations imposed by the EU legal framework (including the European Social Charter) regarding violence against women governs Member States' obligations with regard to domestic violence. Additionally, all EU Member States took part in the 1995 Beijing Conference on Violence against Women and adopted the Declaration and Platform for Action emerging from it.

In relation to violence against children in the family setting, there have been a number of Europe-wide initiatives relating to sexual violence perpetrated by a family member, but less progress in the area of other forms of violence against children, and in particular in relation to corporal punishment. This despite the fact that in June 2004 the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe accepted a recommendation calling for a Europe-wide ban on corporal punishment.¹⁷ As early as 1985, the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly adopted Recommendation Rec (85) 4 on Violence in the Family.

Individual Member States have introduced a range of laws in recent years that aim to address the components of family violence. Austria introduced a Domestic Violence Bill in 1997 that allowed for the violent person to be removed from the conjugal home for up to seven days (amended to 10 days in 2000). Police records show that there were 7 235 expulsion orders in 2006 and a further 6 467 police interventions in cases of domestic violence in Austria that year. A 2003 amendment to the Enforcement of Order Act reinforced protection against family violence, extending provisions on 'domestic' violence to all family members and 'near relatives'.

Belgium developed a National Plan of Action on Violence against Women in 2001, with a second four-year phase ending in 2007. Since November 1997, violence 'in the couple' has been recognised (without specific punishment) and since January 2003 the Belgian Penal Code has allowed for a victim of domestic violence to be given possession of the family home. Article 405c of the Code includes the family setting as an aggravating factor in cases of violence against children, and Article 398 outlaws corporal punishment.

In 2001 and 2002, the Czech Republic reported 592 and 511 cases respectively of physical maltreatment of a child by a parent or family member, and 123/101 cases of sexual abuse by a parent. Some 16% of women are estimated to have experienced domestic violence, the largest group being those between the ages of 25 and 40, and some 61% of cases occurring between husband and wife. Law 91/2004 amended the Penal Code to cover 'maltreatment of a person living in a shared household', although limiting the enforcement response to threats of sanctions, resulting in usually a warning or fine. There is no legislation against corporal punishment, although the 1998 Family Act requires parents to protect the best interests of the child. Since 2002 the Czech Criminal Code includes the protection of children from sexual abuse. Chapter 7 also covers 'crimes against life and health', including infanticide, and Section 215 relates to child maltreatment.¹⁸

In 2006, France introduced Law 2006-399 to reinforce the prevention and repression of violence 'in the couple' or against minors. Since 1994, French penal law has recognised the act of conjugal rape and the nature of the intimate partner relationship is considered an aggravating factor in violent crime. This is in the face of some telling statistics: in 2003 and 2004 in France, there were 211 violent deaths within the couple, of which 164 were women and 47 men. Ten per cent of all homicides are committed by a former partner. In 2004 alone, 8 899 men and 131 women were charged with crimes or felonies against an intimate partner.

Germany has no specific penal law on domestic violence. However, laws in the individual Länder allows for removal of the abusive partner in cases of spousal assault – this in the light of statistics that indicate that, in Berlin alone, there are some 3 600 cases annually of domestic violence resulting in injury. Since the late 1990s, when the 1997 Act to Reform Children's Legislation recognised the importance of protecting children from violence, there have been several specific pieces of legislation relating to violence against children in the family. Corporal punishment is illegal, as a result of the legislation in 2000'to banish force in the upbringing of children and juveniles'.

^{16.} See Regional law and standards (EU), at: www1.umn.edu/humanrts/svaw/domestic/laws/regional.htm.

^{17.} Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 1666 (2004), adopted on 24 June 2004. See also: Violence in the home and family, background paper for the Europe and Central Asia Regional Consultation for the UN study on violence against children, Ljubljana, Slovenia, July 2005. The paper notes also that the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC) in 2000 also called for corporal punishment of children to end.

^{18.} In this section, statistics and information on relevant legislation are taken from a series of fact sheets produced for the internal use of the Daphne Programme management team in 2006. Additional information is drawn from the Council of Europe's 2006 Stocktaking study on the measures and actions taken in Council of Europe Member States to combat violence against women (Strasbourg, 2006).

Greece has no systematically recorded data on violence against children or women and sample surveys are too small to be indicative. The term 'violence against women' is not used in the Greek Penal Code, which considers all people equal under the law. Domestic violence is covered only where there is physical assault or visible injury, although the Family Law aims to establish equal rights within marriage. In 2002, a new bill introducing a legal definition of violence also covered marital rape.

Danish law also embodies the principle of equality under the law, with the Danish Criminal Code applying equally to adults and children; however certain sections focus on violence against specific targets. Section 210 of the Criminal Code covers sexual abuse within the family; Section 213 relates to neglect or maltreatment by a spouse, child, dependent or relation. The Penal Code specifically covers Crimes in Family Relations and domestic violence is mentioned as early as 1683 in Danish legislation, although there was no specific law related to it. In 2004 the Danish National Observatory on Violence against Women set up a database to track violence against women. Meanwhile, between 2001 and 2003 there were some 5 392 recorded cases of violence against children.

In Estonia, some 200 women are reported to suffer physical violence every day (2002 Report to CEDAW), twothirds of which are committed in the home and 33 of which are sexual in nature. The Estonian Penal Code covers infanticide, rape and sexual abuse, although domestic violence is not a distinct criminal offence. Violence in the family is generally penalised under sections relating to criminal offences against the person. There are, however, a number of Acts relating to Child Protection and Family Law.

Chapter 2 of the Finnish Constitution states that children are equal to adults under the law, and Section 7 covers the right to life, personal liberty and integrity. Despite this, a survey of 15-year-olds in Finland in 1992 found that 72% had suffered 'mild' corporal punishment at home (mostly at the hands of their mother) and 8% 'severe' (mostly at the hands of their father). This is despite the fact that, as early as 1984, the Custody of Children and Right of Access Act prohibited corporal punishment and all forms of violence and crude behaviour towards children. Sexual abuse of children is more severely punished when the perpetrator is a family member, including when that person is not a biological parent (e.g. a step-parent). Sexual violence within marriage is also criminalised.

The Supreme Prosecutor's Office of Hungary released figures showing that between January 2001 and September 2003 there were 287 reported cases of sexual assault where the perpetrator was related to the victim; in 161 of these the victim was a minor. There are no official statistics on domestic violence, which is not identified in Hungarian criminal law. There are a number of child-specific instruments, including the 1997 Protection of Children and the Administration of Guardianship Affairs Act, which prohibits all instances of inhuman or degrading treatment, and protection against violence including 'cruel, inhuman or degrading corporal punishment, disciplining or treatment'.

The Irish National Observatory on Violence against Women reported that there were 11037 calls to the national domestic violence helpline in 2002 and that, of the 90 women murdered between 1995 and 2002, two thirds had been killed in their own home. Garda statistics record 10 248 domestic violence incidents in 2002, with 91% of the perpetrators being men. The significant increase between the 2002 figure and the 1996 figure of 4645 coincides with the introduction in 1996 of the Domestic Violence Act.

There are no official figures for domestic violence in Latvia, although in 2005 the United Nations population agency, UNFPA, noted that women in Latvia rarely report intimate partner violence to the police. ¹⁹ In a survey from 2003, three out of ten women interviewed said that they had been physically assaulted. There were 3 857 recorded cases of violence against children between 2000 and 2003, although the perpetrators of this violence are not recorded. NGOs report that abandonment and child abuse, including sexual abuse, are relatively widespread in Latvia but that law enforcement is rigorous and that there have been a number of successful court cases to remove children from abusive parents.

In 2001, a UNICEF survey of Lithuanian children between the ages of nine and 17 showed that violent behaviour affects 65% of families in that country. Alcohol-triggered child abuse is of particular concern, with 39 000 children estimated to be living in dysfunctional families in January 2005. In the first seven months of 2005, 13 children died

as a result of family violence. The penalty for violence against minors is imprisonment of one to two years. The Law on Supplementing Article 56 of the Lithuania Law on Fundamentals of Protection of the Rights of the Child (2001) permits the child rights protection agency, with or without the police, to remove a child from parental care. A 1999 study notes that almost 43% of married and cohabiting women reported were victims of physical or sexual violence by their current partner, although only 10.6 per cent of the women reported this to the police.

Luxembourg reports that there is no 'social pattern' of child abuse, although isolated events occur. A physicians' organisation estimates that some 200 cases of child abuse are recorded at hospitals each year which result in legal action. The situation is similar in the case of domestic violence. Police figures for the ten months between 1 November 2003 and 21 August 2004 record 239 police actions for domestic violence. Also in 2003, 428 women accompanied by 521 children were given refuge in women's homes. The Penal Code covers child maltreatment as well as physical and psychological torture, and voluntary physical harm. The 2003 Domestic Violence Act includes physical, psychological and sexual violence, and relates not only to male violence against women but also to family violence more generally. The law stipulates that the perpetrator will be removed from the family home for ten days, which can be extended by an additional three months. The law also makes conjugal rape illegal.

The Government of Malta reported in 2004 that it addresses violence against children under the broad heading of 'family law'. That same year a Commissioner for Children took up office. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has commented on the lack of a ban on corporal punishment and the maintenance of the 'reasonable chastisement' clause. A Domestic Violence Act that came into force in February 2006 foresees the setting-up of a Commission on Domestic Violence to advise the government and formulate strategies.

Laws are constantly being reviewed and updated, so this review of national legislation in the EU is not meant to be exhaustive. What is clear, however, is the vast diversity in the way Member States approach legal frameworks relating to family violence and the clear need for more harmony among these approaches. Equally necessary is a consistent and systematic approach to data collection covering the various aspects of family violence, with clear indications of the perpetrator of such violence, his/her relationship to the victim and the measures to be taken to ensure that the violence does not recur, including such measures as removal of the perpetrator from the family home, restraining orders and protection for children of both the victim and the perpetrator.

This is absolutely vital in light of the available statistics. Portugal, for example, reported 37 930 cases of family violence between 1 January and 21 December 2000, with just over 96% of these being domestic violence and the remaining violence against minors. Portugal's legal battery includes general provisions against violence in the Penal Code, Civil Code provisions on parental abuse of children and a ban on corporal punishment.

Conjugal rape is also an area where there is much inconsistency, with some Member States recognising it as a criminal act and others not considering it at all. Slovenia, for example, legislates against rape including that occurring within marriage, although this is under-reported. Slovenia's children are mostly protected against violence through provisions of the Penal Code, with Article 183 specifically referring to sexual abuse of a child by a person who has a caretaking responsibility for them. Such abuse is punishable by imprisonment of not less than one and no more than nine years. A number of new laws are being drafted, including on domestic violence prevention. Corporal punishment is not explicitly prohibited in the family context although the Penal Code can be quoted under the heading 'offences against life and body' (Articles 133-135).

Between 2000 and 2003, Spain recorded 2777 cases of child maltreatment within the family context (not including abandonment or sexual abuse); domestic violence accounted for 64 047 recorded reports in 2003 alone. Between 2001 and 2004, 233 women died at the hands of a partner or former partner. Spain does, however, have a considerable legal framework in place relating to family violence and, as in some other Member States, it may be that the developed legal framework and efforts in public awareness have resulted in more cases of family violence being reported and pursued. Organic Law 14/1999 classified domestic violence, for the first time, as a specific crime. Violence against children is covered under general articles in the Spanish Constitution. The Civil Code prohibits corporal punishment of children except when 'reasonable and moderate' as a form of discipline.

Sweden is considered to have led the way in legislating against corporal punishment. In a 1980 survey, 51% of parents said they used physical violence against their children as punishment. After legal prohibition and sustained efforts to influence public attitudes and behaviour, a repeat survey 20 years later indicated just 8% of parents using physical violence as punishment. Nevertheless, official statistics suggest that child abuse often goes unreported. In 2001 a parliamentary committee noted that one in ten Swedish children said they had on some occasion experienced (unspecified) violence in the home. Reporting, however, continues to be rigorous and is growing. Children are considered equal to all other citizens in the Swedish Constitution, and there are also specific laws relating to violence against children: the Social Services Act and Care of Young Persons Special Provision Act, as well as provisions in the Penal Code. In 1998, the Penal Code was updated with an article specifically prohibiting domestic violence.

In 2003, the Government of the United Kingdom released its *Safety and justice* consultation paper on domestic violence and subsequently a range of studies and initiatives was launched.²⁰ The UK's Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill was reported to be the most significant piece of legislation on this issue for 30 years.

A recent review of measures taken by Council of Europe Member States to eliminate violence against women also notes a provision of the Violence in the Family Law of Cyprus, which explicitly states that violence within the family is an aggravating factor carrying more severe penalties. Interestingly, when violence against the woman is carried out in the presence of children, the woman herself is required to give evidence under threat of prosecution. Information on some Member States remains incomplete, and it should be noted that this is an area where laws have for a number of years been under review. This brief overview, however, shows how diverse and disharmonised the legal approach to family violence is in Europe.

Experiences from the Daphne Programme

Since it began in 1997, the Daphne Programme has supported a wide range of projects related to family violence. As knowledge and understanding of the issues have increased, the projects have become more targeted and practical, in line with developing expertise among the organisations receiving support.

The Beijing Conference on Women in September 1995 had significantly raised awareness of violence against women in particular, and through 1996 many European NGOs were planning campaigns to add to public understanding of the issue in general, more specific details on the situation in EU countries. Similarly, the first World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Stockholm in August 1996 raised the profile of this particular form of violence against children and mobilised NGOs in Europe to look at the different forms that violence against children can take.

In 1997, Daphne's first year of activity, the Swedish organisation ROKS (Riksorganisationen for kvinnojourer i Sverige) joined with women's shelters, businesses, trade unions and municipal authorities across Sweden to run a high profile campaign on domestic violence against women. One important aspect of this Daphne-supported project (1997/008/W) was the evaluation element that measured not only the percentage of the population that had seen the publicity materials but also the percentage change in the understanding of domestic violence. In fact, the evaluation showed that most people already knew that most violence against women occurs in the home, but importantly the percentage of people who knew that victims could turn to a women's shelter for help rose from 70 to 80% after the campaign. There was also an increase in calls to women's shelters.²¹

The next year, a British organisation, LAW (Leeds Animation Workshop), tackled the challenge of helping schoolchildren and teachers to understand and take action when they or their friends or students witnessed violence at home (1998/035/C). Their research showed that violence in the home was one of the greatest concerns of children aged eight to 13, but that it was rarely discussed at school. A lively video called *Home truths* uses gender- and culture-neutral animated cartoon characters to illustrate different situations of violence in the home, and a range of options for children to act. One child turns to a teacher for help, another to a family member and a third to friends. The message is that there is help available and that no child should be ashamed or silent if he or she experiences violence within the family. There is a teachers' booklet to accompany the video to support class discussion and school policies. *Home truths* has proved so successful that it has since been produced in a number of EU languages – one of the advantages of using animation, which does not require' lip synching.'²²

- 21. Four other projects in 1997 focused on domestic violence in rural areas (1998/133/W), a series of seminars across the EU on preventing violence against children and women (1998/197/WC), awareness-raising to end corporal punishment of children (1997/428/C) and to promote understanding of the risks and ways to avoid violence towards elderly women (1997/414/W). It should be noted that, because family violence is a broad issue, not all Daphne projects related to it can be detailed here. See the list at the end of this booklet and, for further details of individual projects, consult the Daphne Toolkit website. Note also that many projects have more than one element an awareness-raising project, for example, may also include a research component or creation of a network of partners. This section focuses on the primary output of the projects.
- 22. The video package was, for example, translated into Greek, Lithuanian and Albanian and piloted in these countries through Daphne project 2004-2/039/C. Daphne project 1998/111/WC also focused on awareness-raising that year. The Confédération Nationale des Radios Libres developed materials on violence against children and women for broadcast across 200 local community radio stations in Europe. The ALCIPE project (1998/115/W) targeted the general public but also professionals working with women to increase understanding of domestic violence. Specific messages encouraging women experiencing or threatened with violence to come forward and report their situation were included on posters, leaflets and stickers. Project 1998/108/W focused on understanding male violence; 1998/126/WC increased understanding of domestic violence as depicted on television and in films; and 1998/183/W engaged journalists to consider the role of publicity and other media in preventing violence against women.

A campaign developed by the Belgian NGO Vie Féminine in 1999 focused on helping women to understand that domestic violence goes beyond physical violence and includes psychological, economic, sexual and verbal abuse, and that none of these abusive behaviours should be accepted. As part of a multi-faceted project that included professional training and research (1999/203/W), Vie Féminine and partners in France and Italy produced a postcard-sized concertina folder in full colour telling the story of a woman whose situation at home becomes more and more threatening, from early 'caring' suggestions that she should not go out with friends to downright insults that she is worthless and 'deserves' to be punished. At each stage, the image of the woman gets smaller. An accompanying information sheet provides contact addresses and encourages women who recognise themselves in the story to seek advice and help.²³ It is particularly important, when prompting women to think about potential risks they face or about an already violent situation, to provide information that will guide them to seek help through available services.

In 2000, awareness-raising projects homed in on some specific at-risk groups. A German project run by Stichting ProJob (2000/330/WC) aimed to break through the cultural taboos related to domestic violence in migrant communities. It included a travelling exhibition, as well as a training programme in self-help mechanisms for migrant and refugee women and a manual for professionals working with them. A British project (2000/092/WC) developed by the University of Nottingham's School of Education focused on giving a voice to Muslim women victims of violence in the UK, Germany and the Netherlands. Interviews with the women and developing a website featuring their individual (but anonymous and untraceable) biographies helped the partners to identify common themes and challenges.²⁴

Also in 2000, the European Women's Lobby began a three-year project to establish a European Observatory on Women. This phase (2000/046/W) included the creation of a 'think tank' and the development of public campaigns on violence against women. Later phases comprised the setting-up of national observatories in a number of EU countries and continued linking these through the think-tank process.²⁵

As awareness of family violence in Europe grew, Daphne projects focused more on responding to this increased understanding by providing services to those reporting violence and capacity building of the professionals involved. In many cases, this included the creation and piloting of multi-agency teams and systems, recognising the fact that family violence is a complex problem and that those at risk or a victim of it need support in a number of different areas at the same time: social services, counselling, legal advice and often temporary accommodation.²⁶

A two-year project that began in 2000 (2000/012/WC) aimed to build on the experience of a multi-agency group that had been working together in West Lothian, Scotland. The project set out to test whether the mechanisms that they had been using were transferable to other EU countries, starting with Sweden and Italy. They looked at how different agencies communicate with each other and how they respond to situations of violence in the family. Representatives of the police, judiciary, social services, health and family services, children's agencies, NGOs, volunteer groups and other public authorities all have a role to play but how they work together avoiding duplication and confusion is crucial to an effective, speedy response. One of the interesting lessons to come out of the project was the importance of 'speaking the same language'. Different agencies use different terms and even have different ideas about issues they are all dealing with, and these can be an obstacle to collaboration. The project noted that, over the two years, this problem gradually disappeared, but in an everyday working situation, the problem needed to be tackled early and mutual understanding negotiated.

^{23.} Other awareness-raising projects in 1999 included: 1999/232/WC, focusing on domestic violence in northern Greece; 1999/285/W, a comprehensive project that aimed to both inform and mobilise workers and employers around domestic violence as a workplace issue; 1999/027/W, which included a public information campaign on violence against women.

^{24.} Also in 2000, an innovative French project, 2000/076/WC, developed a board game intended to help female victims of violence or at risk to learn about their rights and empower them to act. In another groundbreaking initiative (project 2000/027/W), the UK Catholic Institute for International Relations organised a speaking tour of men from Latin America and the Caribbean to share their experiences of working in the field of 'men, masculinity and violence'.

^{25.} Daphne projects 2001/011/WY and 2003/022/W. There were fewer mass awareness campaigns after 2000, with more targeted efforts reflecting generally higher levels of public understanding of family violence. In 2005, the organisation proFem organised a congress on laws relating to family violence and their implementation (2005-1/072/W); ALCVIOL undertook awareness-raising on the treatment of alcoholic violent men (2005-1/080/WYC). In 2006 the Association for a New Education chose the slogan 'Respect works' for its awareness campaign to prevent violence in child raising.

^{26.} See the list at the end of this booklet for information on projects focusing on multi-agency approaches to combating family violence.

The Department of Child and Youth Welfare of the City of Vienna ran a project in 2001 (2001/111/C) that looked at multi-agency approaches targeting parents and parents-to-be. This primary prevention project worked on the premise that family violence is more a social phenomenon than a personality-driven problem and that all those who come into contact with parents and parents-to-be should be mobilised to recognise incipient problems and deal with these proactively. These might include financial problems, stress or work-related issues, for example. Even the birth of a baby can trigger problems in a relationship as the baby demands time and attention; both parents can become tired and stressed, and money may become tight. A number of different actors including doctors, hospital and clinic staff, social workers and representatives of financial institutions may recognise the signs of stress but need to know how to work together to ensure an appropriate response.

A 2004 project (2004-1/039/C) took multi-agency collaboration one step further. The Helene-Kaisen-Haus organisation analysed and documented the work of an existing multi-agency response team in Bremerhaven that is mobilised in cases where children are judged to be at risk of violence in their family. From this, the Fachhochschule in Frankfurt, a project partner, compiled a handbook designed to help other multi-agency groups to work towards creating supportive environments for families in need of help. This was then piloted by a partner in Austria working with at-risk families and, finally, social welfare staff from Poland were introduced to the approach. The approach taken, which relies on a professional carer overseeing a team of semi-professionals, is highly effective and cost-effective, but one conclusion of the project was that ongoing funding for this sort of low-level support is often not provided because public funds are generally allocated only to professional services.

The vital role that professionals, semi-professionals and volunteers play in preventing and responding to family violence is reflected also in the number of Daphne projects that, over the years, have focused on training. This is also an important element of ensuring smooth communication, and giving everyone involved in anti-family violence actions the same level of understanding and the means to cooperate with others.

Since 1997, Daphne projects have provided family violence-related training for police officers, volunteer social workers, media professionals, health personnel, counsellors, teachers, medical students and home-based carers, as well as mixed audiences of professionals involved in some aspect of family welfare. An interesting project in 1997 focused on training soon-to-be-married couples to understand the responsibilities of married life and to think about their role as future parents (1997/088/WC) and that same year the Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children prepared training and briefing materials to educate parents on how to deal with children who had experienced domestic violence (1997/148/C). A 2006 project (2006-1/276/W) focused on training health professionals to recognise and respond to violence against older women perpetrated within the family setting.

In the first of a series of Daphne projects, the Institut de l'Humanitaire in France set out to provide health sector professionals with training and a working tool to help them to deal with cases of domestic violence (1999/163/W).²⁷ This involved the creation of an on-line support through which health professionals are able to exchange information and ideas relating to domestic violence and its health consequences. The site also includes reference materials and contacts, and is aimed at both general practitioners and specialised health personnel in the fields of emergency services, paediatrics, occupational medicine, gynaecology, obstetrics, psychiatry, forensic medicine and surgery, as well as paramedical staff. The site (www.sivic.org) exists in French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian and English.²⁸

A key aspect of training and indeed of effective action across the board is having access to reliable, comprehensive information and data. Research and data collection projects have been a feature of the Daphne Programme since it began. Studies undertaken have ranged from 'pure' research investigating a particular issue with a view to increasing knowledge on that topic, to evaluative studies that have attempted to measure the effectiveness of anti-violence initiatives and statistical data collection.

^{27.} Follow-up projects were 2000/190/W and 2001076/W. The Institut de l'Humanitaire was also a partner in project 2004-2/054/WY, which built upon its experience in more EU countries.

^{28.} Training materials produced with Daphne support are, in many cases, available for download through the Daphne Toolkit website. In some cases they are available on request from the project lead organisation; contact details are also in the Daphne Toolkit.

A number of early Daphne projects aimed to map out existing programmes and national responses to family violence with a view to recommending future directions for these. This provided important information to national authorities and the European Commission in planning new programmes and policies. In 1997, such studies included a French project (1997/120/WC) that measured the effectiveness of offender treatment programmes, aimed particularly at looking at what works in preventing recidivism by sex offenders. The highly sophisticated analysis, which developed measures for dependencies, likelihood of untrue responses, personal characteristics and other variables, focused in particular on the 'control rather than cure' approach that is common across most regions. Other projects that year looked at current European practices in preventing domestic violence (1997/123/W), UK and Finnish authorities' responses to victims' needs (1997/211/WC), and the response of social and welfare institutions in Italy, Belgium, the UK and France (1997/274/W).

The European Women's Lobby launched a major statistical survey in 1998 to map domestic violence in the EU (1998/086/W). Other research projects focused on specific areas of violence: male violence in the Armed Forces (1998/112/C), the role of schools in helping children in family violence situations (1998/158/C), and legal frameworks relating to violence against women (2000/018/WC). A number of projects aimed particularly at making recommendations regarding specific areas of anti-violence programming: the Italian volunteer organisation *Centro Nazionale per il Volontariato* researched and piloted the use of family mediation to protect children in situations of family break-up (2001/159/YC) and the French NGO *Les Traboules* evaluated programmes for violent men in the EU (2002/041/WYC).

An interesting project in 2004 (2004-1/059/YC) for the first time collected and documented data in several EU Member States on family violence experienced by children affected by parental alcohol problems, as well as accidents and injuries frequently associated with it. Data was gathered using a specially developed interview guide, ALVI-T, comprising standardised diagnostic instruments such as CAST (Children of Alcoholics Screening Test), ICECI (International Classification of External Causes of Injuries), CTS (Conflict Tactics Scales), YSR (Youth Self-Report 11-18) and KIDCOPE as well as qualitative methods. The project team interviewed children between the ages of 12 and 18 living with one or both parents or carers with an alcohol problem. They did this in co-operation with addiction treatment facilities in the partner countries. The data in each country was then edited and collected in a multinational data pool and analysed. The aim was to develop national guidelines for prevention and intervention in cases where children are at risk.

A 2005 project in the UK with partners in Sweden and Italy (2005-1/172/WYC) attempted to fill an important gap in understanding family violence by focusing in each country on areas of relative affluence and assessing the scope of family violence in prosperous parts of Europe. The premise of the project is that too frequently family violence is considered to occur among less affluent families. However, that type of violence is not a function of social or economic standing but of interpersonal relationships and that, although social or economic pressures can affect these, other 'triggers' also lead to violent behaviours. Family violence can, and does, occur in prosperous households, and needs to be made more visible so that appropriate responses are put in place. Economics were also the focus of a 2006 project that aimed to analyse the economic costs of conjugal violence in Europe (2006-1/134/WY).²⁹

In addition to research and data, Daphne projects have also produced a variety of 'tools' to equip those working in the area of family violence. These include a directory of organisations working in the area of violence against women (1997/018/W) to encourage sharing and networking; a computer application for the criminal justice system (1998/064/W); good practice compilations and websites, and indicators on conjugal violence and rape (2003/013/W and 2004-1/092/W); and manuals on methodologies and field experience.

^{29.} At the time of writing, this project has not yet been completed and no further details are available. Consult the Daphne Toolkit website for information when this becomes available.

A seminal project coordinated by WAVE (2003/136/W) produced a comprehensive set of guidelines for establishing and running a women's refuge. The guidelines have since been translated into many European languages and have formed the basis of a growing network of organisations, good practice exchange and training. It covers services for women such as counselling, admission procedures, safety planning, legal aid, and support in financial, housing, health and job-related matters, as well as training. The guidelines take into account the special needs of migrant and ethnic minority women and there is also a section on services for children. Practical issues such as management, personnel and financial administration are covered, as are operational matters such as teamwork, authority and responsibility, and employees' rights. A chapter on safety and security measures details necessary technical security precautions, security in temporary accommodation, the need for a confidential address and police protection, assessment of danger, security planning, self-defence, fire prevention and more. A section on public relations and awareness-raising explains how to provide information about women's refuges, create awareness of the problem and organise campaigns. A final chapter has guidelines for 24-hour helplines, special services for children, minority women and disabled women, perpetrators' programmes, legal assistance, intervention programmes, qualification and work for women, equality measures and national action plans, and gives an outlook on future developments. Two appendices contain declarations, resolutions, and recommendations issued by international organisations and a checklist for safety planning.30

Some Daphne projects included important elements of direct service provision to children and women at risk or experiencing family violence. These include counselling services, hotlines, information centres, treatment programmes and safe accommodation. In almost every case, the direction action was accompanied by a documentation or networking component, so that the grass-roots experiences of the coordinating organisation and partners could be shared across national boundaries.

The 'Europeaness' of Daphne projects is underlined by the many networks that have been created and developed across the region, many of which focus on the issue of family violence. In general these networks have involved NGOs sharing experiences and assessing good practice, supporting each other in improving their capacity and effectiveness. Often the networking project has included staff exchanges, meetings and study visits. In some instances, the network partners meet on-line. A 2003 project coordinated by the Portuguese NGO CESIS (2003/068/W) focused on exchanging practical experience among network partners who run or are otherwise involved in women's shelters. A specially created website (www.shelters-net.com) allows them to communicate and to post information of use to a wider audience. A 2004 project in Hungary (2004-1/160/W), with national partners and a partner in Bulgaria, aimed to set up a network to improve the quality of legal and support services for children and women who are victims of gender-based violence. This project included input from WAVE and the translation and adaptation of the shelter guidelines outlined above.

It is in the area of family violence that the Daphne Programme has supported the widest range of projects, across all areas of action from research to practical application and direct services. This reflects the complexity of the problem but also the fact that violence within the family is of overriding concern in Europe – often invisible, too often tolerated but insidious and impacting deeply on Europeans from all walks of life.³¹

^{30.} Other tools-related projects are listed in the projects list at the end of this booklet. Most of the tools can be downloaded from the Daphne Toolkit website or are available from the project coordinators. Note that not all tools have been translated into all EU languages and that some may need to be adapted and tested in different countries.

^{31.} This Daphne booklet does not include a section on 'Gaps and challenges' because the wide-ranging nature of the issue of family violence would require a separate booklet on these. Many of the studies and tools outlined in this booklet, and included in the projects list, include comprehensive information on areas that need to be addressed, with specific recommendations in many cases. Additionally, the two UN studies considered by the General Assembly in 2006 – the Secretary-General's study on violence against women and the Secretary-General's study on violence against children – include many pages of recommendations relating to violence in the family setting. The reader is referred to these for more detailed consideration.

Selected on-line resources



- The Daphne II and III Programme websites can be accessed through the European Commission EUROPA site:
 Daphne II: http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/2004_2007/daphne/funding_daphne_en.htm
 Daphne III: http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/daphne3/funding_daphne3_en.htm.
- The Daphne Toolkit, which includes descriptions, lessons and comments on all completed Daphne projects
 as well as useful links, 'tools and tips' and multimedia materials from the projects, is at http://ec.europa.eu/
 justice_home/daphne-toolkit. (Please note that the Toolkit is under reconstruction, resulting in a new address
 to which a link will be provided on the Daphne Programme website.) It is currently available only in English
 (with some source documents in other EU languages); it is intended to gradually update the resource in other
 languages.
- The Council of Europe website has information related to the 2007 campaign to combat violence against women, including domestic violence: www.coe.int/stopviolence/intergov.
- The United Nation's Secretary-General's study on violence against women can be accessed through www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw.
- The United Nation's Secretary-General's study on violence against children has its own dedicated resource site at www.unviolencestudy.org.

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Daphne-supported projects in the area of family violence



Awareness-raisi	ng	
1997/008/W	Multi-faceted publicity campaign to raise awareness and understanding of violence against women	ROKS
1997/133/W	Domestic violence in rural areas: educate children and teachers	AFAMER
1997/197/WC	Seminars on prevention of violence towards women and children in Europe	CADTM
1997/428/C	Ending of physical punishment of children campaign – Promote child-rearing	ISPCC
1997/414/W	Prevent violence against elderly women – If one day somebody	AVTR
1998/020/C	Ending of corporal punishment of children through education	ISPCC
1998/035/C	Violence in the home – Animated film for children and young people	LAW
1998/108/W	Understanding men's violence against women: Awareness-raising among authorities and the public	Kvinnojoure i Vast
1998/111/WC	Radio information campaign – Non-violence info – Local community stations	CNRL
1998/115/W	Information campaign on violence against women – Training, guidelines for the general public and professionals – The ALCIPE project	APAV
1998/126/WC	The nature of domestic violence, sexual exploitation and trafficking in women through the medium of television and cinema	LID
1998/183/W	The role of publicity and the media in preventing violence against women	FDI
1999/027/W	Violence against women and children: Information and action	CFEP
1999/156/WC	Launch of the European White Ribbon Campaign – Men say No to male violence	City & Shelte
1999/203/W	Everyday violence in working-class families – Women speak up, resist and act	Vie Féminine
1999/232/WC	Research and information sharing on the battery of women, children and teenagers in the county of loannina (Greece)	KATV
1999/285/W	Awareness-raising in the workplace of the issue of domestic violence – Training module and information/publicity packs	GMB
2000/027/W	Gender, masculinity and violence – Conference/speaking tour with representatives from men's organisations	CIIR
2000/046/W	Campaigns and European observatories on violence against women – Breaking the silence (Also 2001/011/WY, 2003/022/W)	EWL
2000/076/WC	Women victims of violence or at risk – Development of a board game intended to teach about rights and empowerment	MFPF 82
2000/092/WC	Muslim women across Europe – Voices from behind the veil	NOH
2000/330/WC	Domestic violence in immigrant communities – Time to count the costs of violence again women – The 'breaking through' project	Pro Job

		T.
2004-2/039/C	ESTIA – Children against violence at home	Socrates
2005-1/072/W	Congress on the legal situation and application of law in household violence in Europe	proFem
2005-1/080/ WYC	Treatment of Alcoholic Violent Men – TAVIM	ALCVIOL
2005-1/309/W	Awareness campaign on domestic violence – I am. On air against domestic violence	Brindisi
2006-1/125/C	'Respect works' – Awareness campaign to prevent violence in child raising	Association
		for a New Education
Multi-agency app	proaches	
1997/037/WC	Victims in Europe Surviving Through Assistance – VESTA	Victim Support
1998/117/WC	Multi-agency approach to domestic violence – Sensitising decision-makers and policy-makers	PWWA
2000/012/WC	Domestic Abuse Strategy Initiative (DASI) – Promote the benefits of a multi-agency approach to other European countries	VAWL
2000/066/WC	Battered women and their children: Local collaboration between agencies, organisations, popular movements and companies in the community	SKR
2001/111/C	Transnational and cross-disciplinary programme to prevent violence against children in the home	City of Vienna
2002/038/WYC	Domestic violence and violence towards women street prostitutes – Multidisciplinary networks – Say No to violence	Haringey Council
2002/181/WYC	Minority women victimised by repeat perpetrators – Service provision and policy-making	Centre for Gender Equality
2004-1/039/C	Prevention of domestic violence against children by establishing long-term multidisciplinary networks	Helena-Kaisen- Haus
2004/2/041/WYC	Young people say No to violence	Metropolitan Police Haringey
Training		
1997/034/W	Sensitisation of Greek police officers in protecting women from violence	XINI Centre of continuous vocational training
1997/088/WC	Marriage training to prevent domestic violence	DRS
1997/148/C	Parenting children who have experienced domestic violence	ISPCC
1998/040/W	Prevention of violence against women throughout Europe – Research and seminar for volunteers	AIC
1999/057/W	The role of the media (radio and press) in the prevention of violence towards women	REMPE
1999/096/W	Domestic violence – awareness-raising, training and information for professionals and victims – AVA	GSFEV
1999/163/W	Domestic violence – Training and on-line working support for health professionals	Institut de l'Humanitaire
1999/164/WC	ISS/ISSAH Man v. woman – Debate on domestic violence – Training of professionals, study of vulnerability	SCMS
1999/288/WC	Prevention of violence against women and children – Training and awareness-raising of professional groups in the framework of WAVE	AOF
2001/073/WYC	Anti-violence (self-defence) training: a key aspect of prevention and self-help for women and girls	CWASU

2001/101/W	Sexualised violence against girls and women in rural areas: Training of counsellors, support for self-help mechanisms, awareness-raising of the public	Notruf – Frauen gegen
2002/177/WY	Help the helper I – Health symptoms caused by sexual violence against women and girls	TF
2002/249/WYC	Violence to women – Training of future teachers for non-sexist education	SFR
2003/120/Y	Intimate partner violence (IPV) – Module for training medical students	CEREPRI – Athens Medical School
2004-2/060/WC	Treatment for Batterers in the Czech Republic – Professionals working in this area	LLP
2004-2/045/WC	Adapting the training programme on combating violence against women, originally produced by WAVE	NANE
2005-1/014/WC	STOP – No more collusion to the tolerance of silence! First contact police officers as allies for domestic violence victims	Warsaw
2005-1/034/W	Work with lesbian perpetrators of household violence: Conceptual development and production of a continuing training module	Broken Rainbow
2005-1/088/W	Stop violence against older women: I am strong – I am secure	GEFAS
2005-1/249/WYC	Prevention of interpersonal violence in a domestic context – A public health approach	Varmland
2005-2/041/WC	Violence at home and alcohol addiction – POLYPHEM	Szpital Specialistyczny
2005-2/070/WY	Healthcare providers and intimate partner violence – Training module	FPSHA
2005-2/068/W	Care for carers – violence against Alzheimer-affected elderly women	ISTISSS
2006-1/276/W	Breaking the taboo – Empowering health professionals to combat violence against older women within families	Austrian Red Cross
2006-1/211/WYC	PRO TRAIN – Improving multi-professional and healthcare training in Europe: Building on good practice in violence prevention	University of Osnabruck
Research, studies	and data	
1997/120/WC	Measuring the effectiveness of offender treatment programmes	CRASC
1997/123/W	Preventing domestic violence: European review of current practice	Crime Concern
1997/211/WC	Victims' needs, authorities' responses – Violence against children, young people, women	FMCHS
1997/274/W	The response of social and welfare institutions to violence against women	LSO
1998/086/W	Statistical research on domestic violence in the European Union	EWL
1998/112/C	Analysis of male violence in the Armed Forces and assistance to victims and their families	IDS
1998/211/W	Violent men – What to do with them?	AGVD
1999/158/C	School response and resources in helping children and young people exposed to domestic violence	FMCHS
2000/018/WC	Women's Link Worldwide: Linking laws protecting women around the world	FPFE
2000/106/WC	Prevalence of violence and its health consequences – Statistical data on violence and sexual assault in Denmark and Finland	NIPH
2001/076/W	Evaluation of medical care in conjugal violence: Comparative analysis and recommendations	Institut de I'Humanitaire
2001/159/YC	Ancora Matilde – The role of family mediation in family break-up	Centro Nazionale per il Volontariato

2002/041/WYC	Evaluation of programmes for violent men – social position, effectiveness, quadrilingual guide to good practice	Les Traboules
2002/057/WYC	PENELOPE project – Concerning domestic violence in Southern Europe	APAV
2002/066/WY	Her story: Domestic violence in a rural environment	IDS
2003/080/W	HEIRAT II – Protection and aid measures for female marriage migrants from third countries in the EU Member States	European Migration Centre
2004-1/059/YC	Violence, accidents and injuries experienced by children affected by parental alcohol problems – ALC-VIOL	KFH-NW
2004-1/164/W	PANDORA – Domestic violence in Central Europe – Qualitative point of view in each country	APAV
2004-2/054/WY	Integration of violence and medical networks: VeRSO	Le Onde
2005-1/043/YC	Family violence and substance misuse with special attention to a child's perspective	A-Clinic
2005-1/172/WYC	A study of domestic violence in prosperous areas of Europe – Making the invisible visible	Surrey
2005-2/069/YC	MIND – How to understand family conflicts in order not to make victims	CNV
2005-2/086/WC	FEAR in IPV – Fatality European Assessment Review in Intimate Partner Violence	Napoli
2005-1/069/W	Violence against new immigrant women: Improving the evidence to inform policy and services in the European Union	LSHTM
2005-1/153/WY	Male complicity in gender violence: the chauvinist discourse as the underpinning of complicity	Gijon
2006-1/073/WY	Estimating the economic cost of conjugal violence in Europe (IPV EU COST)	Psytel
2006-1/134/WY	Meta-analysis of recommendations from Daphne projects on conjugal violence	Psytel
2006-1/242/W	Protecting victims of violence through pregnancy and delivery	Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Faculty of Medicine
2006-1/264/WY	Family violence – Minors who assault their parents	ALTEA
Tools and good p	ractice	
1997/018/W	NGO capacity building to combat violence against women in the EU: Directory of organisations	EWL
1998/064/W	Computer application for the criminal justice system – STATS – The DAIN project	HWA, UK
1998/077/W	Piloting systems of reporting and intervention in domestic violence – ISIDE	Le Onde
1998/268/WC	Testing a new organisational model of reception centres for minors who are victims of violence – Research and training	Cooperativa Compagni di Strada
1999/050/W	Eliminate violence against women – Exchange of good practice	EWL
1999/275/W	Best practice training and materials for working with perpetrators and their (ex) partners	DVIP
2000/129/WC	Analysis of the phenomenon of domestic violence – Guidelines for good practice and bibliography	AFMP
2000/190/W	European network of healthcare relating to conjugal violence: Web-based resource	Institut de l'Humanitaire

2000/269/WC	Working with violent men as part of a multi-agency approach to tackling domestic abuse	CEC
2000/332/W	Creation of a European Information Centre on violence against women – Europe-wide database	AOF
2001/214/W	Addiction work with women who have experienced violence – Models of good practice, courses	Hilfe fur Frauen
2003/013/W	Conjugal violence and rape – Indicators, database	Psytel
2003/136/W	Guidelines for setting up and running a women's refuge – WAVE	WAVE
2003/243/W	Computerised assessment of risks of spousal assault in Europe – Assessment guide SARA Canada	Differenza Donna
2003/070/W	Violence against women – Developing an editorial policy on Radio France Internationale with the cooperation of UNICEF	RFC
2003/206/W	A gender violence vigilance system in a European setting – Indicators for mediation	Municipality of Barcelona
2004-1/042/YC	European peer review of good practice: a tool to combat domestic violence	ESAN
2004-1/092/W	Database of indicators on domestic violence and rape – Extension to the ten new Member States	Psytel
2004-1/101/WY	Improving the response to intimate partner violence in military settings	Athens
2004-1/137/C	Witnessing violence – Professionals' and children's perspectives and development of tools	COMCA
2004-2/036/W	Domestic violence of immigrants: Dissemination of the 'breakthrough' method – Manual and methodology book	Tiye International
2004-2/063/WC	Good practices in screening of the victims of violence in intimate partnership in maternity and child welfare services	Vantaa
2004-1/144/WC	Combating violence against women in five Baltic and Nordic countries – Good practices	WIIC
2004-1/157/WYC	Bridging gaps – Models of cooperation between women's NGOs and state authorities to prevent violence against women and children	WAVE
2004-2/001/WY	ISS – Injury Surveillance System – Extension to violence towards teenagers and women	Psytel
2004-2/021/YC	Prevention practices against violence toward young people	FMSH
2004-2/052/W	HEIRAT III – Female marriage migrants – Awareness-raising and violence prevention	EMZ
2004-2/075/W	Prevention programmes of violence against women – Developing indicators and related data collection	Instituto Vasco de Criminología
2005-1/046/WY	Development of a prevention tool to combat violence against refugee women and girls in Europe: A participatory approach	ICRH
2005-1/075/WC	Breaking the cycle of intra-family abuse of children and women: The European multi-family therapy best practice model	Centre de protection de l'enfant de Gosselies
2005-1/217/W	Working with perpetrators of domestic violence in Europe – Good practices	Dissens
2006-1/088/WC	MUVI – Developing strategies to work with men who use violence in intimate relationships	Comune di Bologna
2006-1/098/W	Proposing new indicators – Measuring the effects of violence	Asociación de Mujeres para la Inserción Laboral

Victim support ar	nd services	
1997/023/WC	Drug, alcohol, physical and sexual violence	ESCAPE
1998/121/W	Counselling services for women affected by domestic violence and support activities	TfeV
1998/124/WC	Creation of a support centre for women, children and young people who are victims of maltreatment	RCTV
2000/072/W	Women who are victims of physical and psychological violence in High Normandy, France	CIDF
2000/150/WC	Violence against female migrants – Improve access to women's shelters, emergency hotlines, intervention services	Tiroler
2000/387/W	MALIKA – Services for refugee women requesting asylum in cases of gender-related violence	CIR
2002/234/WYC	Building a Europe-wide telephone hotline for violent men – Database, conference	EUGET
2004-1/149/W	Development and implementation of the practical basis of a gender-based treatment programme for violent men (hotline)	HCWG
2006-1/077/W	Survivors speak up for their dignity – Supporting victims and survivors of domestic violence	Nok a Nokert
2006-1/279/WC	IMPROVE – Quality services for victims of domestic violence	WAVE
Networks		
1997/025/WC	Protection against violence in their families for young women of Muslim origin in Germany – PAPATYA	TDF
1997/249/WC	Women Against Violence – Network of aid organisations – WAVE	WAVE
1998/127/WC	Action against domestic violence – Transnational network of experts from NGO women's projects	PBW
1998/203/WC	Christian education and action to resist domestic violence and sexual abuse	VASHTI
1998/230/WC	European network of non-governmental institutions to fight violence against women and children – WAVE	AOF
1998/265/WC	Women of an integrated network against violence – WIN the Violence	ASD
2000/234/W	POMBA – Combat domestic violence – Preventative training through existing local educational organisations or groups	SGI
2000/252/W	VIOLETA I – Prevention of domestic violence – network of institutions, bodies and public administrations from the EU	FDIBL
2003/068/W	Violence against women - Temporary shelter centres network – Website, conference – Shelters@net	CESIS
2003/107/W	Violence against women and girls – V-Day Europe – New players – Cultural events	UTVS (V-Day)
2003/175/WC	Network for multi-disciplinary prevention and anti-violence	Hôpital de Bordeaux
2004-1/160/W	Pilot project in providing integrated service for victims of violence against women	NANE
2004-2/065/WYC	V-Day Europe: Use of results – Global movement to end violence against women and girls	UTVS

Note: Full details of these projects and the organisations involved are available in the on-line resource: www.daphne-toolkit.org. Projects supported through the 2005 Call for Proposals (2005-) run through 2006 and complete reporting in 2007; projects supported through the 2006 Call for Proposals (2006-) run through 2007 and complete reporting in 2008. They are outlined in the Daphne Toolkit project listing but, since they have not reported at the time of writing, their conclusions are not reflected here.

European Commission

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