

Mapping Report for Young Lives Research Policy Program on  
Violence Affecting Children and Youth (VACAY)

Emebet Mulugeta  
Addis Ababa University and  
Nia Centre for Children and Family Development (NiaCCFD)

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## **Executive Summary**

The current literature review was conducted with the aim of reviewing provisions on VACAY in relevant policies, strategies and programs; indicating gaps in studies conducted on VACAY, and identifying key government, NGO and academic stakeholders working in the areas of VACAY.

A desk review of policies, strategies, programs and studies conducted on violence affecting children and youth was made. Various types of searches were conducted in locating documents: internet search covering available academic sites; websites of various relevant government and non-government organizations and library search.

### ***Legal, Policy and Strategic Frameworks***

In relation to legal provisions, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is one of the international instruments ratified by Ethiopia. Among the provisions are the responsibilities of governments to take appropriate measures to protect the child from all forms of violence, abuse, sexual exploitation and neglect while in the care of parents or guardians. The establishment of programmes to the child and caretakers to prevent child abuse and provision of support to those children who have become victims are also stipulated. Regionally, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the child reiterates the provisions given in the CRC.

The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia states the freedom of children from corporal punishment or cruel and inhumane treatment at home, school and other institutions. The Revised Family Code (2000) abolishes child marriage and prevents marriage without consent. It also establishes the invalidity of marriage concluded by violence.

The Revised Criminal Code (2004) has criminalized various forms of violence perpetrated against children and women. On maltreatment of children, it gives an imprisonment up to three months for ill-treating, neglecting, over tasking or beating a child under one's care. But if these causes grave injury to the health, well-being, education or physical or psychological development of the child, imprisonment can go up to one year. Abduction and rape have also been criminalized, rape of a child under one's care resulting into an imprisonment up to 20 years, and rape causing grave serious physical injury and death resulting into life imprisonment.

The draft National Child policy (2011) provides for the preventing, elimination of social, economic and harmful traditional practices and other abuses. It also stipulates the protection of children from any form of sexual, physical, psychological and labour abuses and outlines the responsibilities of various parties. In addition, the guideline by the Ministry of Education (MoE) on educational leadership and administration prevents corporal punishment. It elaborates on the role of communities in ensuring that designed programmes integrate the principles of equality, justice and democratic culture. In addressing sexual harassment and violence in educational institutions, the MoE has included a number of measures to be taken

by educational institutions including the development of anti-harassment code in order to prevent harassment and violence perpetrated against children and youth, especially girls.

The Ethiopian Women Development and Change Package prepared by the then Ministry of Women Affairs (MoWA) includes elimination of Harmful Traditional Practices (HTPs) as one of the programmes in empowering women (MoWA, 2005). The current Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) has also developed the the National Strategy Harmful Traditional Practices (HTP) in collaboration with development partners. The National Action Plan on the Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFLC) in Ethiopia (2014) aims to reduce and eliminate the incidence of WFCL by 2014, and to create a conducive environment for addressing all other forms of child labour in the long term.

### ***Violence affecting Children (VAC)***

As seen in the literature, physical and psychological violence is a common occurrence among children. Physical violence occurring at home ranges between 84% (ACPF, 2006) to 73.7% (Save and ACPF, 2005). Girls are vulnerable when they are between the age of 10 and 17 (Save & ACPF, 2005). The various forms of physical abuse included beatings with an object (71.1%), striking or punching with a hand (59.5%) and kicking (43.3%). Other less frequently reported abuses were being denied of food, being tied, being locked up and making children inhale smoking pepper. Perpetrators of physical violence at home are parents, and in most cases for its serious forms fathers, brothers, and guardians are responsible, and at school teachers and school boys perpetrate physical violence (Save & ACPF, 2005; ACPF, 2006).

Corporal punishment is practiced in schools despite its prohibition by the MoE. Physical violence at school ranges from 83% (ACPF, 2005) to 34% (Save, MoE & MoWA, 2008). Children are most vulnerable when they are between 16 and 18 years, and it is higher for boys than girls. According to a report based on Young Lives data younger children more vulnerable than older ones. Physical attacks in the form of harassment mostly with sexual intention is high for girls.

The possibility of bringing about temporary or permanent physical injuries is one of the consequences of physical violence (ACPF, 2006). Psychological problems such as unhappiness, humiliation, low self-esteem, anxiety and anger were among the harms. Running away to increase the number of street children, and for some girls joining the sphere of commercial sex work were two of additional social problems. It is also noted that physical punishment in school leads to low performance and dropout (Save the Children & ACPF, 2005) and it is one of the reasons for disliking school (Portela & Pells, 2015).

Tolerance of physical or corporal punishment by children and consideration of it as an acceptable way of child disciplining method can be two of the factors for its continued practice. Within family context, socio-economic status of families, situations that oblige children to live with relatives and stepparents such as death of a parent and divorce were found to be factors (Pankhurst and Negussie, 2015). Lack of awareness about its harmfulness, large class size in schools, and lack of alternative way of child disciplining both at home and

schools were also pointed out as factors.

The studies show that psychological violence is quite a common practice. At home insults, being shouted or glared at, intimidation and threats are the forms that psychological violence takes. At school shouting or glaring at, insults, intimidation and threats, ridicule and causing embarrassment, suspension from class, and forcing children to repeatedly write words or sentences that are supposed to show remorse are reported. Children between the ages of 16 and 18 experience more psychological violence compared to children of other age groups, and boys in general experience psychological violence more than girls (Save the Children & ACPF, 2005).

Sexual violence against children manifested in various forms is prevalent in Ethiopia. The different forms of sexual violence perpetrated against girls as identified in the study by Save the Children, MoE & MoWA (2008) were the use of bad or abusive languages thrown at female students by the school community, touching private or intimate parts of girls, physical attack for refusing sexual advances, uninvited kissing, attempted rape, and completed rape.

According to a study conducted in Jimma, 68.7% of the girls in the study were subjected to sexual violence: 51% harassment; 18% forced sex; 17% unwelcomed kissing (Worku, et al, 2006). In Addis Ababa 30% of those covered in the study were exposed to rape before the age of 18, and girls were among the perpetrators (ACPF, 2006). In SNPPR 11% of the students were rape victims (Mekuria et al, 2015). In Eastern Ethiopia, 70% of the boys admitted perpetrating at least one form of sexual violence: 62% sexual assault, 38% sexual coercion, and 23% sexual aggression. Perpetrators in the community include male friends, adults in the neighbourhood, street wanderers. In schools it is mostly boys, male teachers, and other support staff.

Sexual violence against male children has also been noted. In selected Addis Ababa high schools, 68.2% of life time sexual harassment, 8.7% of attempted rape and 4.3% of completed rape was reported (Haile, Kebeta & Kassie, 2013). Among street children in Addis Ababa, 28.6% of the children reported various forms of sexual violence; 25 out of 36 children reported a once time incident, while 11 of the children were exposed to multiple times. Children living on the streets, those under the age of 15 and those who were newcomers to the streets were most vulnerable (Tadele, 2009).

Consequences of sexual violence include physical harms such as injury of the genitalia, bleeding, pregnancy, abortion, and infectious diseases (Dibaba, 2007). Among the psychological impacts are lack of sleep, self-hate, low self-esteem, depression, suicidal thought, anxiety, and aggressiveness (Jemal, 2008). Social impacts include dropping out of school (Gorfu & Demissie, 2007 & Jemal 2012).

There are a number of factors that increase the risk of sexual abuse among children. Two of these are age and poverty. Young girls are more vulnerable because of lack of information, lack of ability to negotiate, and lack of physical strength that helps self-defence (Kebede, W.

Giorgis & Damte, 2004). Lack of awareness can also be another factor for the continued practice of sexual violence Gorfu and Demisse (2007). Poverty exposes young girls to work in areas where they can be exposed to violence. Living arrangement of children, parental education and lack of discussion about violence and sexuality are among the family related factors. Among the social and cultural factors forced marriage, stereotyped perception and attitude towards girls, lack of capacity and sensitiveness of structures addressing violence were identified. Lack of commitment and capacity on the part of stakeholders that implement legal provisions is identified as one of the factors that perpetuate violence against children.

### ***Violence affecting Youth (VAY)***

Many of the studies related to youth are conducted in the context of secondary schools and higher educational institutions with emphasis on sexual violence, with very few studies carried out in communities. In relation to community studies, a survey conducted in seven regions of Ethiopia showed that 16% of rural girls and 12% of urban girls had encountered forced sex (Erulkar et al., 2010). Another study in Jimma showed that 25% of the study participants had their first experience of sex because of rape (Dibaba, 2007).

Regarding educational institutions, a study in Addis Ababa University showed that among the study participants, 41.8% encountered sexual harassment, 12.7% lifetime completed rape, 27.5% attempted rape, and 1.8% were raped in the 12 months prior to the study (Tadesse, 2004). In Jimma University 50% faced insistent request for romantic relationship; 45% were repeatedly asked for dates, even when they said 'no'; 43% were touched; 35% encountered attempts by men to stroke or fondle them, and 30% were exposed to unwanted discussion of personal or sexual matters (Kassahun, 2009). In Wolaita Sodo University 24.2% reported physical violence; 23.4% attempted rape; 18.7% verbal harassment; 11.3% forced sexual initiation, and 8.7% mentioned completed rape (Tora, 2013). In Ambo University, verbal sexual harassment (47.8%) and physical sexual harassment (35.5%) were reported in the 12 months prior to the study (Eshetu, 2015).

Consequences of violence against youth when it involves rape include temporary and permanent bodily injury, unusual vaginal discharge, genital swelling or genital ulcer, and abortion. Among the psychological impacts are fear, embarrassment, confusion, hopelessness, self-blame, feeling sad and guilty, lack of sleep, low self-esteem, suicidal thoughts, and suicide attempt. Its academic repercussions are lack of focus and concentration, lack of motivation, poor achievement, self-doubt in relation to one's capacity to make it at the university, and dropping out.

A number of factors expose youth to violence: age gaps favouring men; peer pressure; the desire to maintain relationships, parental separation or divorce; poverty, living with individuals other than parents; indulging in risky behaviours; lack of discussion and weak legal and social support system are among the factors.

### ***Violence Affecting Young Women – Intimate Partner Violence***

There is no national survey on IPV showing the prevalence rate and its variation from place

to place, but available studies indicate that IPV is widely practiced in Ethiopia. Forms of IPV identified were slaps, punches, kicking, beating with a stick, burning, rape, use of weapons, insults, constant degradation, calling names, and withholding family support. The WHO study that was carried out in two rural districts in Ethiopia covering 3016 women showed that 49% of the ever-partnered women have experienced violence by a partner at some point in their lives, and 29% during the last 12 months prior to the study.

The survey conducted in seven regions showed that 22% of married girls did not want their first sex with their husbands, and 18% indicated that their marital sexual initiation was forced. In the same survey 6% of the male included in the survey reported physical violence inflicted by their wives with more rural men reporting than urban men (2010). A study in Gondar revealed 32.2% of the study participants encountered physical violence; 35.7% intimidation, and 19.2% forced sex (2004). In SNNPR study, beating was experienced by 34.0%, slapping by 32.9%, and chasing out of the house by 25.4%, and psychological violence by 49.5% of the studied women (2011). In Tigray 38.6% reported physical violence in the 12 months prior to the study. In East Harargie 19.6% of the women mentioned that they faced physical violence combined with psychological violence (2013). In Addis Ababa 53% of the women experienced physical violence and 63.9% sexual violence (forced sex and engaging in sexual act they did not like (2014).

Consequence of physical violence included bruises, body aches, injured or broken bone, punctures, dislocations, miscarriage (2008, 2009), while emotional exhaustion, low self-esteem, and low self-confidence, anxiety and depression were among the psychological impacts (2007).

The driving factors for IPV are embedded in socio-cultural context that disempowers women causing them to be exposed to violence and also fail to protect themselves from thereof. These include lack of education, lack of economic empowerment and lower decision making role of women, child marriage, lack of decision on the use of family planning, and the patriarchal values that put women subordinate to men. The immediate causes, on the other hand, can be alcohol use of male partners, lack of money which is frustrating to men as well as the whole family, jealousy, the difference in age between partners, lack of implementation of legal and policy provisions on violence, and weakness of structures that address violence such as police, justice, etc.

Not much is done on reactions and coping strategies of victims of violence. In relation to corporal punishment studies show that children accept corporal punishment if it is not severe and excess and it if not combined with psychological abuse and they try to avoid corporal punishment by keeping rules (Poluha, 2004). Some other studies show that children are against corporal punishment and they respect parents who don't administer corporal punishment more than those who do (Abdulwassie, 2007).

In relation to sexual violence, many, especially young people, don't report due to several reasons including not knowing where to go, fear of families' reaction, and fear of perpetrators, lack of appropriate support from the police, and in the case street children,

violence perpetrated by some police officers. However, various types of coping strategies have been identified in the studies. These included talking to friends and getting support, engaging in spiritual activities, avoiding alcohol, and avoiding thoughts about the incidence of violence.

### ***Research Gaps***

Among the research gaps identified are:

- Studies of violence against boys;
- Context based studies reflecting the various socio-economic and cultural contexts;
- Reasons for recurring incidences of violence against the same individuals;
- Qualitative studies that look into views and coping strategies of victims, and for corporal punishment perspectives of parents/guardians;
- Recurring sexual victimization of children and young people needs to be further explored to stop the cycle of violence;
- Bullying is the least investigated issue among the different forms of violence affecting children, requiring attention;
- The inconsistent relationship between age and corporal punishment needs further investigation;
- Views of parents who are in most cases the perpetrators of violence taking place at home;
- Qualitative studies investigating differences between and within genders and ages, and of processes leading up to violence.
- Studies on reactions to and coping with violence and protective factors.

### ***Government, Non - Government and Academic Stakeholders Working on VACAY***

#### **MoE**

The Gender Directorate in the MoE works, among others, on the elimination of violence against girls in educational institution. One of its interventions is ensuring that the various forms of sexual violence against girls are addressed in the strategies and guidelines prepared to address gender equality in education.

#### **ACPF**

ACPF is a regional organisation with a head office in Addis Ababa. ACPF works to bring issues related African children to the public agenda. Inspired by universal values, informed by global experiences and knowledge, and guided by the needs and conditions of African children, it works at different levels and areas. Its programmatic focuses include providing a forum for dialogue; strengthening the capacity of child-rights and human-rights organisations, and assisting governments, policy makers and NGOs in developing and implementing pro-child policies and programmes.

#### **Save the Children**

Child protection is among the areas of intervention by Save the Children Ethiopia Office. Save the Children works to protect children from various forms of violence including sexual

abuse and exploitation, physical and humiliating punishment and neglect, among others. Save works with a large number of partners and implements over 40 projects on the areas of child protection in many different parts of Ethiopia.

### **UNICEF**

UNICEF is one of the UN organisations that has been working on violence against children and women. UNICEF intervenes both at grassroots and strategic levels. One of the recent initiatives is its membership in the National Coordinating Body established to address the problems of violence against women and children in a holistic and coordinated manner. Along with the Federal Attorney General, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA), Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA), and other 15 relevant stakeholders, UNICEF is tasked with ensuring the launching of a multi-sectoral and integrated responses to prevent and reduce incidences of violence against women and children.

### **UNFPA**

UNFPA is one of the UN agencies that works on promoting the rights of every woman, man and child to enjoy healthy life and equal opportunity. In its strategic plan, the UNFPA indicates that one of the outputs is the delivery of Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services to women in crises including survivors of sexual violence. It underlines GBV and the integration of GBV programming into broader SRH services.

### **Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA)**

The Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA) is a not-for-profit Women's advocacy group founded in June 1995 by women lawyers. With the head office in Addis Ababa, it has five branch offices in Assosa, Awassa, Bahirdar, Diredawa, Nazareth and Gambella. After EWLA's re-registration as a local Non-Profit Organization (NGO) as per the new Charities and Societies Proclamation, its focus has become limited to the provision of free legal aid and other relevant services to women who don't have access to the justice system and women victims of violence.

### **Network of Ethiopian Women's Associations (NEWA)**

NEWA was originally established in 2003 as a national network of NGOs and women's associations working for gender equality and women's advancement found in various regions of the country. Following the promulgation of the new Charities and Societies law in 2009, NEWA reorganized itself as a consortium whose members are all Ethiopian Societies. NEWA has 8 member organizations and associations located in different regions of the country.

### **Association for Women's Sanctuary and Development (AWSAD)**

AWSAD has a number of programmes for women victims of violence. It accommodates victims in its safe houses found in Addis Ababa and Adama, provides medical services and basic literacy education, and professional skills development for women survivors with the aim of economically empowering women, including the provision of seed money to start up

small businesses.

**Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment (FSCE)**

FSCE operates in five cities: Addis Ababa, Adama, Dire Dawa, Bahir Dar and Dessie. It has five programmes areas: Prevention and Promotion, Protection, Rehabilitation and Reintegration, and child Research and Resource Development programmes. The programmes most relevant to the current review, ‘protection’ and ‘rehabilitation and reintegration’ work with parents of vulnerable children whose parents are engaged in abusive and neglectful treatment, children who are victims of abuse and neglect and children in difficult circumstances and grave exploitation such as sexually abused.

**Association for the Prevention and Protection of Children against Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN)**

ANPPCAN-Ethiopia was established in 1990 with the objectives of protecting children against abuse, neglect and exploitation; promoting child rights; conducting studies on issues of child abuse and neglect; intervening in cases of child abuse and exploitation, and advocating for legal, social and administrative changes to improve the well-being of children. It operates in North Gondar and North Wollo of Amhara Regional State, North Shoa in Oromia Regional State, Hawassa town and Shebedino and Gorche woredas of Sidama in SNNPR, and Addis Ababa.

## **1. Introduction**

Young Lives is a project that has been studying 12,000 children in four countries: Ethiopia, India, Peru and Vietnam, following them over 15 years as they grow into adolescence and young adulthood. It studies the dynamic and changing nature of childhood poverty and the complex relationship between poverty and other forms of adversity in order to improve understanding of the causes, patterns and consequences of childhood poverty and examine how policies affect children's well-being. It provides evidence for the development and implementation of policies and practices that will reduce childhood poverty and improve delivery of services to children in the study countries and globally.

The Ethiopian study covers 3,000 children living in 20 sites across Addis Ababa and the other four major regions in Ethiopia - Amhara, Oromia, Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR), and Tigray. Being from two age groups, those who were born in 1994-95 and 2001-02, the project explores and explains what poverty means for these children and how they experience it; what their aspirations and dreams are and the stumbling blocks they face in their current situation while growing into adulthood. Combining subjective experiences and objective measures, the project works to provide research outcomes and convincing evidence to influence policy directions and practical interventions.

Currently, Young Lives has received funding from OAK Foundation to Study Violence Affecting Children and Youth (VACAY) in Ethiopia. The aim of the planned study is increasing understanding of the causes, processes and consequences of VACAY in order to come up with recommendations for addressing and preventing it.

## **2. Objectives**

The objective of this consultancy work is to carry out a policy context analysis and a review of relevant literature on VACAY including an initial mapping of governmental and non-governmental actors. More specifically, the current exercise aims to:

- review provisions on VACAY in related policies, strategies and programs;
- review related literature in the areas of violence affecting children and youth, and indicate gaps; and
- identify key government, NGO and academic stakeholders working in these fields.

### **3. Methodology**

The methodology utilized was a desk review of policies, strategies, programs and studies conducted on violence affecting children and youth. Secondary data sources such as relevant legal instruments and strategies, research and evaluation reports were examined. Various types of searches were conducted in locating documents: internet search covering available academic sites; websites of various relevant government and non-government organizations and library search.

The documents were classified into different categories: laws, policies, strategies, programs, studies, and others along violence against children and violence against youth, which make up the major sections of this report.

### **4. Findings**

This part of the report presents the outcome of the review under various sections: Legal, Policy and Strategic Frameworks; Violence affecting Children with its own sub-sections; Violence affecting Youth; Violence affecting Young Women (Intimate Partner Violence); Perspectives from Qualitative Studies; Government, Non-Government and Academic Stakeholders Working on VACAY; Conclusions and Gaps, and Key Organizations and Potential Partners.

#### **a. Legal, Policy and Strategic Frameworks**

Ethiopia, as a member of States that attempt to tackle various economic, social, and political issues signs, ratifies and adopts various international and regional legal instruments. Art 9(4) of the Federal Constitution (1995) makes all the international treaties ratified by Ethiopia an integral part of the law of the country. Therefore, some relevant international and regional instruments on violence against children ratified by Ethiopia are briefly described in this section.

Regarding the rights of children, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is one of the instruments ratified by Ethiopia. In relation to the rights of the child, Article 19.1 mentions that “States Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child” Article 19.2. talks about establishing social programmes for the provision of

adequate support for the child and those who care for the child to prevent child abuse and the identification of other support systems for those who have become victims. Art. 28(2) stipulates that school discipline needs to be consistent with the child's human dignity and other provisions contained in the CRC. Art. 37(a) provides that no child shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (United Nations General Assembly, 1989).

A regional instrument on children's rights is the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. On the protection of the child from abuse, Article 16.1 of the Charter stipulates that "States Parties shall take legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment and especially physical or mental injury or abuse, neglect or maltreatment including sexual abuse while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child". On sexual violence, Article 27.1. provides that "States Parties shall undertake to protect the child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and shall in particular take measures to prevent inducement, coercion or encouragement of a child to engage in any sexual activity" (Organization for African Unity (OAU), 1999).

Regarding national instruments, Article 36.1.e of the Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia clearly stipulates that children are to be free from corporal punishment or cruel and inhumane treatment in schools and other institutions responsible for the care of children. In relation to laws, the Revised Family Code (2000) contains provisions that address marriage concluded by force. Article 7 states that no woman and man are allowed to marry before the age of 18. In its Article 6, it stipulates that marriage shall take place only when both spouses have given their free and full consent, and that marriage concluded as a result of consent forced by violence will not be valid (Article 14). If a marriage was concluded by violence, the spouse can apply to the court for dissolution (Article 35).

The Revised Criminal Code (2004) has criminalized various forms of violence perpetrated against children and women. On maltreatment of children, Article 576.1 states that if an individual responsible for the custody or charge of a minor ill-treats, neglects, over tasks or beats him or her for any reason or in any manner, he/she will be punishable with simple imprisonment not exceeding three months. But if the crime causes grave injury to the health, well-being, education or physical or psychological development of the minor, Article 567.2.

stipulates that the punishment shall be, in addition to the deprivation of family rights of the criminal, simple imprisonment for not less than one year. On abduction, Article 587 explains that whoever abducts a child/woman by violence, or obtains her consent by threat, intimidation or deceit will be punished. If the abduction is accompanied by rape the punishment will be severe, and the conclusion of marriage with the abductor will not do away with criminal liability and does not prohibit the victim from seeking compensation under civil law. Article 620 recognises and criminalizes rape out of wedlock, but marital rape is not given consideration. According to Article 620.2, if the rape is committed on a young woman between the age of 13 and 18, or at any establishment where the victim receives services or protection, or on a woman/child who is incapable of understanding the consequences, or if the rape is committed by a number of men acting in concert, the punishment will be rigorous imprisonment ranging from 5 to 20 years. As per article 620.3, if the rape has caused serious physical injury or death, the punishment will be life imprisonment. These provisions also apply to a person who commits such crimes to a marriage partner or a person cohabiting in an irregular union (FDRE, 2004).

In terms of policy, the draft National Child Policy (2011) formulated by the Ethiopian government puts preventing and eliminating social, economic and harmful traditional practices and other abuses which are obstacles to the proper upbringing of children as one of its specific objectives. Among the major policy issues under ‘civil rights and freedoms of children’, protecting children from any form of sexual, physical, psychological, and labour abuses is one of them. The roles and responsibilities of families and other relevant organisations in protecting children from any physical and psychological abuse, and in the incidence of abuse cooperating and providing the necessary rehabilitation have also been highlighted by the policy (FDRE, 2011).

In addition, the guideline by the Ministry of Education on educational leadership and administration has outlined the possible punishments that a teacher who uses corporal punishment receives. It further elaborates on the role of communities in overseeing the designing of strategies to create a programme that integrates the principles of equality, justice and democratic culture in order to raise responsible citizens through their representation in Education and Training Executive Boards established at various levels (MoE, 2002).

In relation to sexual harassment and violence in the educational institutions, the Ministry of Education (MoE) has been working along different lines. In its “Strategy for Gender Equality

in the Education and Training Sector”, the Ministry highlights that harassment and violence are serious problems students, especially female students encounter. It also outlines the different measures to be taken in order to address the problem. These include preparing a sexual harassment policy that will be adopted and implemented by higher educational institutions; development of anti-harassment code of conduct for Colleges of Teacher Education and Technical Vocational Education and Training institutions, and training law enforcement agencies on sexual harassment and substance abuse (MoE, 2013). Accordingly, the Ministry in collaboration with UNICEF has developed anti-harassment codes of conduct for educational institutions, which is to be adopted by various educational institutions taking their local context into consideration. The anti-harassment codes of conduct for Technical Vocational Education and Training institutions has also been prepared (MoE, 2013).

The Ethiopian Women Development and Change Package prepared by the then Ministry of Women Affairs (MoWA) includes elimination of Harmful Traditional Practices (HTPs) as one of the programmes in empowering women (MoWA, 2005). As HTPs include abduction and other forms of violence against women such as physical violence, its implementation would address issues of violence affecting female children and young women. In addition, the MoWCYA, in partnership with developmental partners has developed the National Strategy Harmful Traditional Practices (HTP). The strategy envisions to contribute towards the goals of the Growth & Transformation Plan (GTP) of Ethiopia by reducing physical, sexual, psychological, socio-economical impacts of HTPs against women and children. It also intends to contribute to the protection of the human rights of women by ensuring that the rights of women and children are not violated due to HTP. It aims to “institutionalize evidence and right-based, effective and efficient national and sub-national mechanisms and systems and thereby creating an enabling environment for the prevention and elimination of traditional practices harmful and prejudicial to women and girls in Ethiopia”.

Another instrument that deals with violence is the National Action Plan on the Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) in Ethiopia (2014). The overall goal of the plan is to reduce and eliminate the incidence of WFCL by 2014, and to create a conducive environment for addressing all other forms of child labour in the long term. The NAP is especially relevant as it provides a comprehensive intervention framework focusing on sexually abused and exploited children. It covers a broad range of sexual violence, including rape and defilement, trafficking, child prostitution, child pornography and early marriage. Since victims of sexual

abuse and exploitation belong in the WFCL category, the NAP is expected to play a significant role in identifying measures and actions to be taken by different stakeholders in order to address the problem. It also recognizes that child prostitution is the most prevalent type of WFCL in urban centres across Ethiopia. It further indicates that the highest number of victims of child prostitution are found among children who have voluntarily migrated or been trafficked from rural areas to urban centres. Interventions identified include legislation and enforcement; education and vocational training; socio-economic empowerment; creating knowledge-base and capacity building; awareness raising and community mobilization; coordination and implementation of the plan on child labour, and monitoring and evaluation (NAP, p.18)

Though available studies show that different forms of VACAY are prevalent affecting children and young people, it seems that a strong and integrated legal instrument addressing all dimensions of VACAY is missing. The provisions available are scattered in different instruments with a major gap seen in the criminal law which fails to address intimate partner sexual violence.

#### **b. Literature Review on VACAY**

Most studies conducted on violence fall into two major categories: Violence against Children (VAC) and Violence against Women (VAW). In many of the studies, the age category specified for young people (19-25) overlaps with the studies conducted with children and frequently with studies conducted with women. Many of the studies on violence affecting young people are conducted in educational institutions with a bias towards sexual violence. However, despite the overlaps and different levels of emphasis given to violence affecting different age groups and sexes, here attempt is made to present the report around three major sections: Violence affecting Children, Violence Affecting Young People and Intimate Partner Violence.

## **i. Violence affecting Children (VAC)**

### **Definition**

Considering the forms of violence to be covered in the review, the report has used the definition of violence adopted by the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The CRC defines violence as “all forms of physical or mental violence, injury and abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse” (CRC, Article 19.1). Literature shows that in many cases physical and psychological violence<sup>1</sup> go hand in hand and they happen in combination. Therefore, these two forms of violence are discussed together in the section that follows.

### **1. Physical and Psychological Violence**

According to the definition by Save the Children, physical abuse/violence includes cases of violent physical force causing actual or likely physical injury or suffering, which includes hitting, shaking, burning and torture (Save the Children, n.d.). Psychological violence, on the other hand, involves humiliating and degrading treatment such as bad name calling, constant criticism, belittling, persistent shaming, solitary confinement and isolation. Studies show that physical and psychological violence with the intent of disciplining or punishment perpetrated by family members, schools and others close to the child is a common occurrence in Ethiopia.

In a retrospective survey carried out by the African Child Policy Forum (ACPF) in Addis Ababa among the 485 girls covered in the survey, 84% of them reported that they have been physically abused. The various forms of physical abuse included beatings with an object (71.1%), striking or punching with a hand (59.5%) and kicking (43.3%). Other less frequently reported abuses were being denied of food, being tied and locked up. The study further revealed that girls were most vulnerable to physical violence when they were in the age range of 10 and 17. The physical abuses happen in their own home perpetrated mostly by their mothers, fathers or brothers in the form of disciplining (ACPF, 2006). The study also revealed the pervasiveness of psychological violence among the studied girls/young women. In relation to this, 71.5% of the respondents said that they were insulted; 67.6% mentioned that they were shouted or glared at, and 50.1% had witnessed the severe beating of a family

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<sup>1</sup>Though most literature uses psychological and emotional violence interchangeably, O'Hagan (1995) argues that the two are different in that emotional violence and its consequences are related to our day-to-day feelings and emotional functioning, while psychological violence affects cognitive functioning as well. Despite the controversies, this review uses psychological and emotional abuse interchangeably.

member, a friend or a neighbour (ACPF, 2006). The study further showed that, similar to physical violence, psychological violence is perpetrated by close family members, such as mothers and fathers.

In a study by the ACPF and Save the Children carried out in Addis Ababa, Oromia, Amhara, Tigray and SNNPR to look into the prevalence of corporal and other inhuman and degrading punishment of children, most parents and school teachers explained that corporal punishment is an acceptable way of disciplining children if it is administered in mild doses and forms. The study revealed the existence of various forms of physical and humiliating punishments used as disciplinary measures at home ranging from slapping to beating with hot iron and making children inhale smoking pepper. It further showed that beatings using sticks, belts, plastic hose, rope, and electric wire were the most common forms of punishment. Physical assaults using hands and feet, such as pinching, slapping, cuffing, hitting the head with a clenched fist and kicking the back were also noted. The results of a questionnaire filled out by the children showed the percentage of children who experienced various forms of physical punishment. Accordingly, 74.1% were hit with a stick, 73.3% were hit on their head, 70.3% were slapped, 69.1% were punched, 63.7% were whipped with a belt, and 53.1% were forced to kneel down. Looking into age variation for physical violence, the study showed that those children aged between 16 and 18 reported more violence compared to those falling in the age ranges of four and nine, and 10 and 15. The rate of physical violence reported by boys was higher than those of girls. However, the data revealed that girls between the age of 12 and 18 were continuously abused and controlled with the pretext of protecting them from sexual violence (Save the Children & African Child Policy Forum, 2005).

On psychological violence, study participants explained that no child could grow without experiencing some kind of psychological violence in the form of reprimand; psychological punishments like insults, shouting and making threats are common in all study sites, and they are considered to be less harmful by parents and other community members. The most common psychological violence experienced by the children in this study included being shouted or glared at (71.8%), insults (76.7%), and intimidation and threats (65.5%) (Save the Children & ACPF, 2005). The study by Save the Children and ACPF further revealed that children between the ages of 16 and 18 experience more psychological violence compared to children of other age groups, and boys in general experience psychological violence more than girls. The study also indicated that psychological violence was also common in schools.

In fact, some interviewees explained that because of the restrictions imposed against using corporal punishment teachers were putting more energy on psychological violence. The common forms of psychological violence inflicted on children in schools were: shouting or glaring at (61.1%), insults (70.3%), intimidation and threats (54.3%), ridicule causing embarrassment (46.6%), suspension from class (46.6%), and forcing children to repeatedly write words or sentences that were supposed to show remorse (45.0) (p. 29). Though in less frequency, psychological violence is also perpetrated in communities, with more frequency on street children compared to students. Similar to the incidence of physical violence, psychological violence is encountered more by older children (16-18) compared to those of younger ones (4-9 and 10-15), with the least incident on children of 4 to 9.

A more recent rapid assessment by Ayode (2012) conducted in Addis Ketema sub-city of Addis Ababa also showed the widespread use of corporal punishment. According to the study, close to a quarter of respondents indicated that corporal punishment is a disciplinary measure often administered by parents. Most frequently perpetrators of physical violence were parents (49.3%); guardians (25%), and teachers (21.3%). In addition, psychological violence such as scolding, threatening or intimidating (18%) and depriving children of some basic necessities were disciplinary measures used by parents when children misbehaved (Ayode, 2012).

Physical punishment was found to be practiced in schools despite its prohibition by the MoE (MoE, 2002). The study by Save the Children & ACPF (2005) showed the prevalence of physical and psychological violence in schools. Child respondents in the study reported on the various forms; kneeling down (81.3%), hitting the head (77.8%), pinching (74.4%), slapping (72%), and hitting with a stick (60.8%) were the most common forms of punishment at school. The study further shows that children between the ages of 16 and 18 were more likely to be physically punished compared to those children aged 4 to 9 and 10 to 15, and children between the age of 4 and 9 were least likely to be physically abused.

Using Young Lives data Pankhurst and Negussie (2015) show the prevalence of high level of corporal punishment in schools. According to the data at age of 8, about 4 out of 10 children experienced corporal punishment in school during the last week prior to the study, while 1 out of 8 children experienced violence at the age of 15, showing that the incidence of physical abuse is more on younger children. This is supported by the qualitative data, in

which younger children reported more incidence of physical violence compared to older children. Similar to the other studies, the data shows that more boys experience physical punishment in schools compared to girls.

A study that aimed to investigate the prevalence of violence against girls was conducted in the nine regions and the two administrative cities of Ethiopia covering a total of 1,268 students (761 girls and 507 boys), 342 teachers, and 324 parents as study participants. The study indicated that significant proportion of the study participants pointed out the existence of high level of violence against girls in school, and higher percentages were registered by respondents in Addis Ababa, Afar, and SNNPR, while Dire Dawa and Harari were on the lower side. The most frequent forms of violence mentioned by all participants was verbal and physical abuse that are inflicted on girls by male students, out of school boys, older men, young unmarried men, soldiers and police officers, while they were on the way to and back from school. There was also an agreement among respondents that abduction was the least frequent form of violence (Save the Children Denmark, MoE & MoWA, 2008).

Regarding physical violence, the Save the Children Denmark, MoE & MoWA study identified three forms: corporal punishment at home and in schools, beatings or physical attack, and snatching of girls' personal belongings. Regarding corporal punishment, 34% of the students and 25% of the teachers reported the use of corporal punishment in schools despite the banning of this practice. Seventy-four percent of the teachers, 46% of the students and 62% of the parents indicated that physical attacks directed at girls' in the form of harassment, degrading treatment and attacks with sexual intention were also prevalent, with most incidents taking place, as mentioned earlier, on the girls' trip to school and on the way back home. However, 41% of the parents, 35% of the teachers, and 41% of the students pointed out physical attacks happen in school compounds as well. Snatching personal belongings of female students which occurs mostly on the way to and back from school was mentioned by 62% of teachers, 39% of parents and 23% of student respondents (Save the Children Denmark, MoE & MoWA, 2008).

In relation to psychological violence, the study identified verbal insult, humiliating, threatening and name calling as the four forms of psychological abuse perpetrated against female children. All respondents, teachers, parents and female students agreed that most psychological violence occurs on the way to and from school. The qualitative findings revealed that in schools some teachers humiliate female students in front of their classmates

for various reasons including for not giving correct answers to questions asked by the teacher. On their way to and from school older boys were the most frequently mentioned perpetrators of psychological violence against girls, which according to informants was sexually motivated (Save the Children, MoE & MoWA, 2008). Regional variations have also been noted in the incidence of psychological abuse. For example, the use of bad or abusive language was experienced frequently among girls in Tigray (21%), Amhara (29%), Benishangul Gumuz (28%) and Gambella (22%). The lowest level of this type of experience is found in Afar (5%), Somali (3%) and Addis Ababa (4%) (Save the Children, MoE & MoWA, 2008).

Bullying is another psychological violence perpetrated against children. Not much study has been found on this issue during this review. However, an MA thesis shows the prevalence of some degree of bullying<sup>2</sup> in schools. This school based study on bullying conducted in selected schools in Addis Ababa, covering 379 grade 11 and 12 students with an average age of 18 revealed that 2% of the participants reported to have been bullied on a regular basis; 9% has seen others bullied, and 2% admitted to have bullied others. Close to half the victims believed they were bullied for no particular reason, while 10% reported that they were bullied because of their gender or their physical appearances. In most cases the perpetrators were older boys (Abera, 2013).

## ***2. Consequences of Physical/Psychological Violence***

The possibility of bringing about temporary or permanent physical injuries is one of the consequences of physical violence. The study by ACPF indicated that in the study conducted in Addis Ababa, over half of those who reported experiencing physical violence said that they had bruises or scratches, broken bones or teeth, or bleeding, and as a result 13.7% of those who were hit or punched, 19.2% of those who were choked, burned or stabbed, and 11.3% of those who were overworked had to seek medical assistance (2006).

The same study revealed negative psychological, social, and academic consequences as well. Psychological problems such as unhappiness, humiliation, low self-esteem, anxiety and anger were among the harms. Running away to increase the number of street children, and for some girls joining the sphere of commercial sex work were two of additional social problems. It is

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<sup>2</sup> Bullying in this study is defined as is intentional, repeated negative (unpleasant or hurtful) behavior by one or more persons directed against a person(s) who has/have difficulty defending him/herself/themselves.

also noted that physical punishment in school leads to low performance and dropout (Save the Children & ACPF, 2005). Portela and Pells (2015) also underline the association between corporal punishment and low self-esteem as well as cognitive performance, especially math for those children who have experienced corporal punishment at the age of eight. In addition to lowered school performance and self-esteem, the study indicated that one of the reasons why children dislike school is violence; 42% of the 8 year-old children covered in the study reported that violence was one of the reasons why they disliked school. The forms of violence mentioned were student fighting, teachers' beatings, and pupils teasing.

### ***3. Correlates of Physical Violence***

Tolerance of physical or corporal punishment and consideration of it as an acceptable way of child disciplining method can be reasons for its continued practice. In the study carried out by Save the Children and African Child Policy Forum "Many adults consider physical and humiliating punishments as acceptable ways to discipline a child, so long as they are not excessive. ... light punishments like caning, pinching, scolding, glaring, shouting and so forth are in most communities considered not only acceptable but are also seen as a parental right to ensure the upbringing of a child with good manners" (Save the Children & ACPF, 2005, p. 25).

The cultural context in which physical punishment happens also encourages the practice. The Ethiopian culture that considers children as the property of parents and thus implying that parents have rights to discipline children according to their beliefs is one factor that encourages physical and psychological violence against children. This along with the low status given to children combined with the lack awareness about the harmfulness of physical and psychological violence and unavailability of information on alternative ways of disciplining children contribute to a high level of violence (Save the Children and ACPF, 2005; ACPF, 2014).

Within family context, Pankhurst and Negussie's (2015) have identified a number of family related factors that are associated with physical violence. Regarding socio-economic status of families, their finding shows a negative association between wealth status of families and incidence of physical punishment; in the study children from less poor families reported higher rates of physical punishment. Others family related factors identified included situations that oblige children to live with relatives and stepparents such as death of a parent

and divorce. The study further highlighted gender based factors that makes girls more vulnerable to violence than boys, which included overwork and exploitation, vulnerability to rape and forced marriage.

The belief that physical and psychological violence in moderation do not harm children is prevalent in school context as well. Even though most teachers accept, in principle, the abolition of corporal punishment, they consider it to be unrealistic in Ethiopian context. They underline the difficulties encountered in knowing students' background and treating them accordingly because of large class sizes, lack of sufficient guidance and professional counsellors to deal with behavioural problems, and other similar factors including obstacles in using alternative modes of discipline. As a result, some teachers and school principals believe that minor forms of corporal punishment is necessary in schools (Save the Children and ACPF, 2005). A study conducted in Central Zone of Tigray to investigate the attitude of primary school teachers towards corporal punishment also found that teachers hold a positive attitude towards the use of corporal punishment. More than half (60%) of the respondents agreed that corporal punishment is an easiest way of disciplining children, and hence its use unavoidable, and 65% believed that it is the most effective way to manage serious behaviour problems. The research further noted that with increased years of teaching, teachers' attitude towards the use of corporal punishment becomes favourable. Looking into inter group differences, the researchers found no significant difference in the use of corporal punishment between male and female teachers, but a difference of attitude between teachers teaching in urban and in semi-urban schools, with teachers in urban schools having a more favourable attitude towards the use of corporal punishment than those in semi-urban schools. The researchers attribute this difference to fast paced life in urban areas and the associated lack of time and patience to use any other disciplinary methods. Another inter group difference noted in the study is the difference of attitude between teachers who believe they have rich knowledge about problem behaviour and its school based management and those who believe they have inadequate knowledge, with those having rich knowledge holding a less favourable attitude towards the use of corporal punishment (Teklu and Kumar, 2014).

In relation to school and classroom related factors, large number of children per class and problems related to enforcing relevant legal and policy provisions have been two of the factors for continued use of physical punishment identified by Portela & Pells (2015) as well. Pankhurst & Nathan (2015) indicated the positive relation between enrolling in public school

and higher prevalence of physical punishment, which might be related to class size and incidence of physical punishment.

Physical and, many times, the accompanying psychological violence that are mostly perpetrated in the name of child disciplining both at home and school occur in a certain socio-cultural context. As indicated earlier the belief that physical punishment in moderation doesn't harm children and how parents discipline or treat their children is their own personal affair contribute to the continuation of the practice. Though Ethiopia has made legal commitments to do away with physical and any other degrading and harmful disciplining methods and treatments, lack of awareness and information on alternative ways of child disciplining, problems related to enforcing legal commitments come in the way of eliminating them. Within these social and structural contexts other instigating factors include alcohol use in the family, poverty, and large family size. In the study by Pankhurst and Negussies (2015) children listed out a number of immediate causes for getting physical punishment. These included not performing assigned tasks; disobeying caregivers, and making their school or play a priority over caregivers' other demands.

#### ***4. Sexual Violence***

Sexual violence is any form of sexual activity imposed on a child. It includes the inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful or psychologically harmful sexual activity; the use of children in commercial sexual exploitation; the use of children in audio or visual images of child sexual abuse; and child prostitution, sexual slavery, sexual exploitation in travel and tourism, trafficking (within and between countries) and sale of children for sexual purposes and forced marriage (CRC, 2011).

Studies show that sexual violence against children manifested in various forms is prevalent in Ethiopia. The different forms of sexual violence perpetrated against girls as identified in the study by Save the Children, MoE & MoWA (2008) were the use of bad or abusive languages thrown at female students by the school community, touching private or intimate parts of girls, physical attack for refusing sexual advances, uninvited kissing, attempted rape, and completed rape. The study by ACPF (2006) conducted in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda shows that in Ethiopia the most frequently occurring forms of sexual violence are verbal sexual violence experienced by 53% of the respondents and indecent touching mentioned by 41.8% of the respondents. An earlier study by Save the Children and ACPF (2005) also showed that

sexual harassment and rape were more widespread than any other forms, and that when it comes to sexual violence at home domestic workers and girls staying with relatives other than their parents were more vulnerable. In relation to rape ACPF (2006) highlighted that among the sampled respondents, about 30% were raped before they reached 18. The report further noted that girls who experience sexual violence were usually subjected to more than one kind, for example, rape could be accompanied by indecent touching as well as verbal sexual violence. Girls between the age of 14 and 17 were found to be most vulnerable to almost all types of sexual abuse. Male friends followed by adult males in the neighbourhood are the most frequently mentioned perpetrators of sexual violence. In some cases, female friends have also been mentioned as perpetrators. For example, 12.7% of the individuals who perpetrated verbal sexual violence; 13.5% of those who exposed genitalia; 27% of those who forced girls to look at pornography, and 24% of those who forced the girls to perform oral sex were girl friends (ACPF, 2006).

A study by Worku, Gebremariam and Jayalakshmi (2006) carried out in one high school in Jimma town shows that among the 323 female students who filled out a questionnaire, 68.7% were subjected to sexual abuse. The most frequent incident was verbal sexual harassment (51.4%), followed by forced sexual intercourse (18.0%), and unwelcome kissing reported by 17.1% of the respondents. The fact that sexual harassment is the most widely occurring sexual violence at school was also underlined by the Save the Children and ACPF (2005) study. Another study carried out on high school female students in the same area revealed that among 1,118 female students covered in the study, 20.4% had their first experience of sex as result of forced sex or rape. Out of the 26.5% study participants who were sexually active 29.1% were raped, and among these more than three-quarters were raped more than once in their life time. Perpetrators used various ways to coerce victims; 32.6% violence or beating up; 29.9% threats, and 17.5% got victims drunk. Other forms of violence reported included offensive sexual languages or comments (49.8%); non-consensual touching (31.1%), and non-consensual kissing (28.2%). Perpetrators were mostly, street wanderers (50.7%), male students (31.3%) and teachers (17.4%) (Gorfu & Demsse, 2007).

Sexual violence occurs in a wide variety of contexts. In a school setting, in a community, and between couples be it in a marriage or dating relationship. A study by the Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA) revealed that among the 208 women covered in their survey, 14 had explained that they had been requested and threatened by school authorities to have

sexual intercourse when they were young. The study by EWLA also noted that according to Walta Information Centre, one of the government broadcasting organizations, in the year 2000 alone there were 2,263 reported cases of rape on women and young girls (Emebet, Original and Mellese 2004). Another school-based survey conducted in two towns revealed that the prevalence of completed and attempted rape among female students was 5% and 10%, respectively, and 85% of the victims were below the age of 18. In addition, 78% of the female students had explained that rape was a major problem (Mulugeta, Kassaye, and Berhane 1998). A similar study carried out on female adolescents in Addis Ababa high schools showed that among those who were sexually experienced, 40.9% have encountered rape at least once in their life time, and 13.7% of them had non-consensual sex in the 12 months before the interview (Tesema, 2006). The study by Endashaw (2008) also revealed that among the 600 female high school students in Addis Ababa included in the study, 60% had experienced rape once in their life time, while 24% were raped twice. A study conducted on female adolescent high school student in Arba Minch town, Gammo Goffa zone of Southern Ethiopia also showed that among the 369 female student who participated in the study, the percentage of life time rape<sup>3</sup> was 11% (Mekuria, Nigussie & Abera, 2015). Among other forms of sexual violence perpetrated against the girls were verbal harassment (40.1%); caressing breasts and the genitalia (28.7%), and unwelcome kissing (29.3%). Perpetrators included school mates (30%), neighbours (12.5%), family members (15%), stepfathers (10%), unknown individuals (17.5%), and school teachers (17.5%). A recent study conducted in Addis Ababa also revealed that girls experience sexual violence in school and perpetrators were mostly boys and male teachers (Le Mat, 2016).

Regarding the incidence of rape in communities, a study carried out on female adolescents in Jimma town revealed that among the adolescents who were sexually active, more than a quarter (25.9%) had their first experience of sex because of rape. Majority of them were raped when they were between 10 and 14 years of old. For 62% of the girls, rape was committed by individuals who were well familiar with the victims including boyfriends, relatives, acquaintances and neighbours. Among those who were victims of rape, 22% have encountered rape two or more times (Dibaba, 2007). In another study carried out on school girls in Dessie town, 55.9% of the respondents explained that they knew of school girls who

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<sup>3</sup> A life time rape victim is a person who have had an experience of rape at any age prior to the particular study being undertaken.

were forced to sexual relationship by individuals that did not belong to the school community (Gilenesh & Woldekidan, 2000).

Similarly, in a study of violence against female students by Save the Children, MoE and MoWA (2008) attempted rape occurring outside the school compound was reported by quite a number of respondents. It was mentioned by 17% of the girls from Benishangul Gumuz, 15% of girls from Oromia, and 15% of girls in SNNPR. Slightly lower rate was reported by girls in Gambella (11%) and Dire Dawa (11%). Completed rape was reported by girls in Somali (7%), Afar (6%), and Gambella (6%).

A study of child sexual abuse using cases reported to Child Protection Units (CPUs) of Addis Ababa Police Commission and three selected non-governmental organizations showed that among the total of 64 cases reported between between July 2005 and December 2006, 23% were victims of sexual violence. On the average 21 cases of child sexual abuse were reported each month, the majority (89%) of the victims being female children. Most of them were violated in their own home by someone they know closely (Jemal, 2012).

In a study conducted in Addis Ketema sub-city in Addis Ababa, male and female household respondents have reported the prevalence of various forms of sexual violence against women. According to the data, 65.9% claimed that they have witnessed rape of children; 23.9% reported that they know about attempted rape perpetrated against children; sexual harassment was reported by 4.9% of the respondents, while 2.4% mentioned other forms such as molestation (Desta, 2013). In addition, the same study indicated the high prevalence of child commercial sex in the area; 65.4% reported that child sexual exploitation in commercial sex is quite a usual practice.

In a study that targeted male students to investigate their role in the perpetration of sexual violence against female students, male students admitted the existence of the problem and their participation in the perpetration. Using a random sample of 774 Eastern Ethiopia male secondary school students, the researcher found that 70% reported perpetration of at least one form of sexual violence against female students. Looking into specific forms of sexual violence, about 56% of the male students admitted committing a sexual offense (unwanted sexual comments, jokes, discussions); 62% perpetrated sexual assault (unwanted touching, kissing, petting); 38% committed sexual coercion (unwanted sexual intercourse through verbal manipulation or psychological pressure), and 23% perpetrated sexual aggression

(physically forced sexual intercourse). Age variation has been noted in the degree of perpetration of sexual violence against girls; young men aged 19 to 24 years reported significantly higher mean perpetration scores in all the four forms of sexual violence than those adolescents aged 16 to 18 years or 14 to 15 years (Bekele, 2012).

What the review shows is that there is a high prevalence of sexual violence mostly victimising female children. The degree differs for the different forms of sexual violence, verbal sexual harassment taking the lion's share. However, the rate of forced sex or rape perpetrated against female children is high.

### ***5. Consequences of Sexual Violence***

Sexual violence results in a number of negative consequences, physical, social and psychological depending on the form of violence the victims have gone through. In the study by Dibaba (2007) conducted in Jimma town, 42.2% of the victims of rape indicated that they have had injury of the genitalia; 21% reported pregnancy; 10% have undergone abortion, and 16.7% have mentioned discharge from the genitalia. In addition, a number of negative psychological impacts ranging from lack to sleep to suicidal thought have been reported by the victims. Participants in the study by Mekuria, Nigussie & Abera (2015) also reported that unwanted pregnancy and abortion to be the most common reproductive outcomes of rape.

Participants in the study by Gorfu & Demisse (2007) mentioned a number of physical and psychological harms. In terms of physical problems, 29.6% of the rape victims experienced too much bleeding; 12.4% had vaginal discharge; 15.1% reported infections of the pelvic organs. On psychological disturbances, 24.6% reported self-hate and low self-esteem; 23.6% felt anxiety; 10.3% depression, and 11.3% contemplated suicide. Quite a proportion (26%) of the victims dropped out of school. Similar situations were reported in the study by Jemal (2012). Those children who were sexually violated reported psychological problems such as anxiety, feeling lonely, being easily irritated, verbal and physical aggressiveness, frequent break down, attempt to run away from home, fear of men, and attempt to commit suicide were reported by the sexually abused children (Jemal, 2012).

An institution-based study that looked into the psychosocial consequences of child sexual abuse in the context of child marriage, forced rape and child prostitution revealed the various types of psychosocial problems victims encounter. The results of the study showed that sexually abused children demonstrated significantly higher scores than non-sexually abused children in intrusive thoughts, avoidance, hyper arousal, and the perception that the world is dangerous was more noted among the sexually abused than those non abused children (Wondie et al., 2011).

### ***6. Correlates of Sexual Violence***

There are a number of factors that increase the risk of sexual abuse among children. Two of these are age and poverty. Young girls are more vulnerable because of lack of information, lack of ability to negotiate, and lack of physical strength that helps self-defence. Supporting this contention, a study that looked at a statistical report in one of the Wereda police stations showed that the highest number of girls that had been victims of crimes of violence such as rape, assault, attempted murder and battery came from the age group of 16 and 18 (Kebede, W. Giorgis & Damte, 2004). According to Melesse and Kassie (2005), among the 214 sexually abused children covered in their study, 93% were females who are under the age of 15.

Age as a factor in sexual violence in the context of child marriage has also been identified by some studies. According to Erulkar (2013), in the survey that covered seven regions of Ethiopia, one in six young women had married by age 15, and those married at an early age were less likely than others to have known about the marriage in advance or had wanted it. She pointed out these children were at a higher risk of intimate partner violence including forced first marital sex (Erulkar, 2013). In support of this, she pointed out that 32% of those married before the age of 15 had experienced forced sexual initiation compared to those who were married between the age of 18 and 19, and were also more likely to have experienced IPV. In relation to age Mekuria, Nigussie & Abera (2015) also showed that among the victims of rape in their study, 30% have indicated that the perpetrators were 10 or more years older than themselves.

Dibaba (2007) also identified age as one factor increasing vulnerability to sexual violence. He indicated that life time rape is associated with age (youth between 20-24 compared to those 15 to 19). Other factors identified in the study included living arrangements (living

alone due to several reasons), number of sexual partners (multiple sexual partners), use of alcohol, and early sexual initiation such as between 10 and 14 (Dibaba, 2007). Living arrangement as a factor has surfaced in another study as well. In studying violence against female students living arrangement of students was one of the factors significantly related to childhood sexual violence. Other factors discerned included father's educational status and lack of discussion about sexuality and reproductive health with parents (Mekuria, Nigussie & Abera, 2015). The association between parental education and child marriage with the consequent possibility of sexual abuse has also been highlighted by Erulkar (2013). Lack of discussion, in addition to increasing children's vulnerability to sexual violence, also makes accessing supportive services and getting justice for the crime difficult. For example, in Gorfu and Demisse (2007)'s study, of the 65.3% of the female students, who did not report to the justice system about their rape experiences, 45.4% did not do so because they were afraid of their parents' reactions.

Poverty is another factor that pushes children in situations that increases the likelihood of rape. A study by Ayalew and Yemane (2002) revealed that one of the major reasons for the children to join prostitution was poverty, and most of these children were subject to sexual violence including rape. In Desta (2007)'s study more than a quarter of the household survey respondents indicated that poverty is a major reason for girls to engage in commercial sex work, and a related factor mentioned was lack of parental care mentioned by 20% of the respondents. A similar study of child prostitutes carried out in Addis Ababa showed that rape is the most serious problem. According to this study, 41.7% of the girls were raped at least one time. Street gangs, policemen, drunks, and clients were among the individuals who perpetrate the rape.

Another poverty-related problem is joining the street life. A research on street children conducted in Ethiopia revealed that 44% of the girls had been raped and 26% had been sexually attacked (Lalor 1999). A similar study carried out on female street adolescents showed that among the sexually active adolescents, 43% had their first experience of sex as a result of rape, which was usually accompanied by other forms of violence such as beatings and threatening with pocket knife. Furthermore, for 60% of the female adolescents' rape is a repetitive problem (Mitike 2000).

Lack of awareness can also be another factor for the continued practice of sexual violence. Gorfu and Demisse (2007) in their discussion with study participants found that sexual

harassment is a part of life. The participants elaborated that insistent request for romantic or sexual relationship, despite the girls' lack of interest, is considered as a common way of approaching girls for romantic or sexual relationship not as violent act. As a result, it is continuously practiced and remains one of the reasons for lack of reporting.

Lack of commitment and capacity on the part of stakeholders that implement legal provisions is identified as one of the factors that perpetuate violence against children, more specifically against girls. The gap in the law for failing to address harassment is also identified as a factor which led to condoning violence that children particularly girls face (Hailemariam, 2015; Desta, 2013). A related problem is lack of comprehensive, sensitive and responsive services for victims of violence due to lack of capacity as well as awareness.

The review shows that often violence happens when children, especially girls are on their way to and back from school (Save the Children, MoE & MoWA, 2013). Therefore, school distance that increases the chance of children getting exposed to violence, in some cases, that forces them to live away from families in areas where school is available is considered as one of the correlates of violence affecting children (Hailemariam, 2015).

The perception that girls are inferior to boys or men is also identified as one of the contributing factors for violence against female children. In this biased perception, girls are treated differently and asked for sexual favours or put into coercion to receive. For example, in the school context, good grades and in other contexts to get various types of support are used to coerce girls (Hailemariam, 2015).

The review shows the different level factors that are related to child sexual abuse, and more specifically to the sexual abuse of girls. Economic factors, such as poverty, cultural factors that place girls in an inferior position and expose them to practices including forced marriage, sexual coercion, sexual harassment and social factors related to familial situation are identified. Structural factors including school distance, lack of supportive services for victims, and lack of capacity to implement legal and policy provisions have also surfaced.

### **c. Violence affecting Youth (VAY)**

There is not much research specifically on violence against youth; the age gaps of youth, as specified in the TOR overlaps, sometimes with the studies carried out on children and most of the time with the studies carried out on women. In addition, many of the studies related to

youth are conducted in the context of secondary schools and higher educational institutions with emphasis on sexual violence. Therefore, this part of the literature, in many cases, includes literature that covers adolescents and other times those individuals who are a little beyond 25 with a bias towards educational institutions and sexual violence.

#### **i. Physical and Sexual Violence**

On violence occurring in the community, a study conducted in Assendabo town of Jimma zone covering 323 young women showed that among study participants, 8% were life time sexual assault victims and 1.5% were sexually assaulted in the 12 months prior to the study. Among those life time sexual assault victims, majority (73.1%) were victims of rape and 19.2% had encountered sexual assault more than once. About 80% of the victims were under the age of 18 when the sexual violence happened and many were students living with their families (Bogale, Tessema & Haile, 2004). The survey by the UNFPA and Population Council also showed that 15% of the total population of girls reported having ever been forced to have sex either during their first sexual encounter or subsequent encounters (16% of rural girls and 12% of urban girls). The same study revealed that among the male study participants, 2% of them reported having experienced forced sex (Erulkar, et al., 2010).

A study carried out in Jimma revealed that among the 588 females aged between 15 and 24, 28.4% have experienced physical violence in the form of beating, 17.7% attempted rape, 15.3% completed rape, and 3.6% have gone through forced marriage. About 25% of the female victims had their first experience of sex because of rape. In many of the cases, rape was committed by a person well known by the victim including boyfriends (32.8%), relatives (12.1%) and neighbors (12.1%). Strangers (22.4%) were also among the perpetrators (Dibaba, 2007).

Another study conducted in Dire Dawa, Harar, and Jigiga, Eastern Ethiopia that covered 764 female students between the ages of 14 and 24 found that 68% of the female students has experienced at least once instance of sexual violence. Among these, 52% have had at least one incident of sexual offence (verbal/psychological pressure for sexual activity); 56% has encountered sexual assault (unwanted sexual bodily contacts); 25% have been coerced into sex (intercourse because of verbal/psychological pressure and persuasion), and 15% were victims of sexual aggression (intercourse by physical force) (Bekele, Van Aken, & Dubas, 2012). A recent study conducted in three high schools in Dilla town of SNNPR revealed a 13.2% prevalence of sexual violence. The study also identified drinking alcohol, chewing

khat, and using illicit drugs as main factors associated to the incidence of sexual violence, and elaborated that the likelihood of experiencing sexual violence was higher among students who use drugs and chew khat (Tarekegn 2014).

Available studies show that female students in higher educational institutions also experience sexual violence; female students report encounters of sexual violence both prior and after joining higher education institutions. A study conducted by Tadesse (2004) covering 612 female students at Addis Ababa University showed that the prevalence of lifetime completed rape was 12.7 % and attempted rape 27.5%, and 1.8% were raped in the 12 months prior to the study. Sexual harassment in lifetime was noted to be 58%, while the incident in the past 12 months prior to the study 41.8%. Of those who were sexually active, 17% initiated sex forced and 15% were persuaded due to a promise made by a boyfriend, and 5% because they needed money; the rest were initiated into sex for some other reasons including their own desire (37%).

A study that covered 1,024 female college students in Mekelle revealed that GBV<sup>4</sup> is a common experience and a serious concern among college students in the study area. According to the study, GBV included physical and sexual violence experienced during life time and in the 12 months before the study. About 62% of the study participants reported being life time victims of GBV, 46.8% during their stay in college, and 40.2% during the year in which the study took place. Participants in Focus Group Discussion (FGD) explained that GBV was quite common both inside and outside the colleges. The discussion highlighted that especially verbal harassment and unwanted intentional body contacts were considered as part of the participants' lives. Specifically, on physical violence, the data revealed that 46.3% of the females had experienced at least one form of physical violence (G/Yohannes, 2007). In relation to sexual violence, among the 34.9% of the study participants who were sexually active, 37% indicated that they were initiated into sex against their will. Reasons included family pressure for marriage (41%), peer pressure (18%) and false promise (8%). The study further showed that 45.4% of the study participants reported life time prevalence of at least any one of form of sexual violence. Among these, 28.1% were violated in the 12 months

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<sup>4</sup> GBV in this study is defined as a form of violence that targets individuals or groups of individuals on the basis of their gender that results in or is likely to result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivations of liability, whether occurring in public or private life.

preceding the study, 34.4% while in college, and 41.2% before joining college. Quite a proportion has experienced sexual violence repeatedly: 17.8% twice, 14% three times, and 10% four and above times. Among the perpetrators in this study, intimate partners (husbands and boy friends) make up the large majority (42.1%), followed by family members or other relatives (14%), and strangers, teachers and fellow students (G/Yohannes, 2007).

A study in Woilaita Sodo University in Southern Ethiopia that covered 374 female students revealed that 24.2% have experienced physical violence; 23.4% attempted rape; 18.7% verbal harassment; 11.3% forced sexual initiation, and 8.7% completed rape. The study further noted that close to half (42%) of the victims had experienced the violence while they were in high school and during their first year stay at the university, while 11.1% were violated while in their second and third year of their study at the university. The rest had encountered violence during their childhood. Perpetrators of attempted rape, in many cases, were boyfriends (34.5%), and family members and relatives (23.5%) (Tora, 2013).

Harassment is a form of violence most frequently perpetrated against young people. A study by Eshetu (2015) conducted among 414 female students in Ambo secondary and preparatory school uncovered that the prevalence of sexual harassment among female students throughout school life was 35.5% and the rate for the 12 months prior to the study 33.3%. The two forms of sexual harassment reported in the 12 months preceding the study were: verbal sexual harassment (47.8%) and physical sexual harassment (35.5%). The most commonly occurring forms of unwanted sexual harassment that were experienced by female students in the schools were being repeatedly told sexual stories or jokes (50.7%); getting comments on sexual life (47%); being repeatedly asked for a date, drink or dinner even when refusing (46.4%); encountering several attempts to establish romantic relationship despite efforts to discourage (45.7%) and getting offensive remarks about appearance or body (44.2%). Perpetrators were mostly male students (58%); male teachers (33.3%); other support staff in schools (21%), and female students (11.6%) (Eshetu, 2015).

Another study by Kassahun (2009) investigated the situation of sexual harassment among female students in Jimma University and its impacts. According to this study that covered 304 female students enrolled in 8 faculties, sexual harassment is a highly prevalent phenomenon. Half of the study participants reported that they had experienced insistent request to establish romantic relationship despite their efforts to discourage the person; 45% indicated that they had been repeatedly asked for dates, dinner or drink even when they said

'no'; 43% reported that they were touched in a way that made them uncomfortable; 35% reported that men had made attempts to stroke or fondle them, and 30% revealed that they have encountered attempts of drawing them into unwanted discussion of personal or sexual matters (Kassahun, 2009). Study participants have reported a number of negative effects such as feeling scared, feeling embarrassed, sleep disturbance, loss of appetite and lowered confidence, as a result of the harassment.

Another study that is different from those reviewed so far is a study that investigated young males as targets of sexual violence. A study by Haile, Kebeta & Kassie (2013) looked into the issues of sexual violence perpetrated against males. Based on a study of 830 male students from nine schools in Addis Ababa, it was revealed that life time sexual harassment of study participants was 68.2%; attempted rape 8.7%, and of that of completed rape 4.3%. About half of those participants who had been victims of completed rape indicated that it happened while they were sleeping with perpetrators, and about a quarter used force to accomplish the rape. In majority of the cases, perpetrators were known individuals, and in more than one-third of the cases the violence happened in the perpetrators' home (Haile, Kebeta & Kassie, 2013).

In the study of male street children, Tadele (2009), 28.6% of the children reported that they had encountered various forms of sexual abuses. Though the reported rate of violence seems not much, in the FGDs the children presented sexual abuse as a major concern both among the younger age (9-14) and older age (15-18) groups. A key informant also explained that sexual violence against boys is increasing, with an estimated 4 out of 10 children being violated though the figure might vary from month to month. According to the study the most vulnerable children were those who live on the streets, children under the age of 15 and those who were newcomers to the streets, while the perpetrators being from all walks of life (Tadele, 2009). Among those who had experienced sexual violence (36), 25 of them reported being violated only once, while of 11 they had experienced the incident multiple times. Among the victims only 17% reported the incident seeking legal support. The reasons behind non-reporting were fear of stigmatization, fear of revenge by perpetrators, and lack of trust in law enforcing bodies. Among the perpetrators the most frequently mentioned were: peers (46.1%), strangers (16.7%), relatives or guardians (11.1%) and foreigners (6.3%). In the FGDs the children explained that rich and elderly men who manipulate the children with money, with the promise of finding them jobs, and other gifts were in the top list among the abusers.

The study identified some factors that expose the children to sexual violence. These included the illegality and the stigma attached to homosexuality, which leads perpetrators to go to children who are vulnerable, poverty, the spread of pornography that promote homosexuality, substance abuse, lack of shelter, lack of awareness on the part of newly coming street children as well as concerned bodies who are responsible for child protection, and limited legal protection and responsiveness of the legal system.

## **ii. Consequences Physical and Sexual Violence affecting Youth**

Violence against young people is accompanied by various physical, psychological, social and, for those in school or college, academic impacts. The study by G/Yohannes (2007) of female students in Mekelle colleges revealed that the consequences of physical violence included feeling of unease around people (33%); poor academic performance (14.1%); withdrawal from or failure in academic performance (12.6%), and temporary bodily injury (11%). Consequences of sexual violence, specifically completed rape, reported by study participants included, unusual vaginal discharge (11%) and abortion (8%). Psychological consequences such as fear (77%), hopelessness (42%), self-blame (30%) and feeling of sadness (24%), suicidal ideation (17%) and suicide attempt (10%) were also reported. Reported social consequences were poor achievement or failure in school (37%), withdrawal from school (22%), rejection from family (17%) and rejection from friends (16%). Similar findings were mentioned by Tadesse (2004). These included vaginal discharge, genital swelling or genital ulcer, unwanted pregnancy, abortion and various psychological disturbances.

In the study by Bogale, Tessema & Haile (2004) of sexually assaulted women, unwanted pregnancy, unsafe abortion and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) were the major consequences of the assault. Similarly, in Dibaba (2007)'s study of sexual violence, among victims of rape 21% reported they had become pregnant; 10% had undergone abortion; 42.2% reported having had injury of the genitalia, and 16.7% had unusual discharge from the genitalia and these were accompanied by various negative psychological outcomes. Among the psychological problems were fear and anxiety (67.8%); blaming oneself and feeling guilty (53.3%); lack of sleep (44.4%), and low self-esteem (41.1%).

The impact of harassment has also been noted in several studies. Wudu & Melese (2009) in their study of Jimma University female students found out that 17.6% of the female students dropped out due to sexual harassment. A study by Kassahun (2009) in the same university

showed the various impacts sexual harassment has on female students. Among the emotional or psychological impacts were fear (64.7%), embarrassment (51.8%), confusion (41.3%), discomfort (39.6%), sleep disturbance (35.3%), and self-doubt in relation to one's capacity to make it at the university (33.7%). Its effects on academic activities were manifested in lack of focus in class (51.8%), lack of concentration during study (38%), lack of motivation to go to class (30%), lowered performance (22.1%), and changing a seat in class (21.5%). Tadesse (2004) also highlighted the negative association between sexual violence and academic performance among the victims she studied at Addis Ababa University. In the same vein, in a study of factors affecting female students' academic performance in Bahir Dar University, Mersha, Bishaw and Tegegne (2013) explained that sexual harassment or attempted sexual assault reported by 35% of the study participants as one of the causes for low academic performance of female students.

The negative consequences of sexual violence have been registered on male victims as well. Haile, Kebeta & Kassie (2013)'s study uncovered that male victims of completed rape reported a sense of helplessness (16.7%) and decreased school performance (8.3%).

### **iii. Correlates of Violence affecting Youth**

A number of social, economic and personal factors expose young people to violence. Some of these identified in the reviewed literature are discussed below.

Bekele & Van Aken (2012) in their study of female students in three towns in Eastern Ethiopia found some factors that increases the chance of young women falling victims of sexual violence. These included the age gaps favouring men; peer pressure on the part of young girls; the desire to maintain relationships the girls have established with young men, and indulging in risky behaviours such as the use of khat and shisha, and consuming alcohol. Endahsaw (2008) also found a significant association between the use of khat and alcohol by the girls and incidence of rape. Similar factors were mentioned in Eshetu (2015)'s study of sexual harassment: peer influence, parents' separation or divorce, and chewing khat were among the factors.

The inability to name and label violence as illegal and as violation of rights, and also not reporting violence incidents to appropriate bodies are problems that make violence continue. In Erulkar's (2010) study, 15% of victims of violence felt that they deserved it. In particular, rural women were more likely to feel deserving of violence (22 percent of rural women vs. 4

percent of urban women) (Erulkar, 2010). In G/Yohannes (2007)'s study it was only 15.9% who reported the violence to their families and 4.7% to the police; the rest kept it to themselves because of shame and guilt, fear of family reaction, not knowing what to do about it, fear of community reaction and fear of perpetrators, which encourages and perpetuates violence. In the same vein, 33 (10.2%) of the respondents and 21 (80.8%) of the victims prefer to keep quiet about the event due to fear of associated social stigma. In Desta's (2013) study the limitation in the legal and other social and psychological support that discourages victims from reporting has also been highlighted (Desta, 2013).

Other social factors include living arrangement and the need for money or financial needs. In relation to this, Tadesse's (2004) study of Addis Ababa University female students revealed that rape was associated with living alone, having a boyfriend, and having financial problems, and coming from a divorced family. Similarly, Haile, Kebeta & Kassie (2013)'s study of male sexual violence revealed that living alone and living with individuals other than parents are factors related to vulnerability for sexual violence. The literature shows that a number of personal, social and economic factors contribute to incidences of violence affecting young people.

#### **d. Violence Affecting Young Women**

As explained earlier, there is an overlap of age in the literature that covers violence affecting young women as most studies cover reproductive age, which is between 15 and 49. Regarding violence, the issues that received most attention is Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), which usually combines physical, psychological and sexual violence. Therefore, the section below discusses IVP, its consequences and correlates.

##### **i. Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)**

‘Intimate partner violence’ (IVP) refers to physical, sexual or psychological harm by a current or former partner or spouse (Rutherford et al., 2007, p. 677). It is a situation where women are exposed to violence repeatedly in cases where they continue to live with the perpetrator. In many cases of IPV, physical violence is combined with other forms of violence such as psychological and sexual violence (G/Yohannes, 2007). Therefore, the section on IPV presents other forms of violence in addition to physical violence that occur in a couple situation.

There is no national survey on IPV showing the prevalence rate and its variation from place to place, but available studies indicate that IPV is widely practiced in Ethiopia. The WHO study that was carried out in two rural districts in Ethiopia covering 3,016 women showed that 49% of the ever-partnered women have experienced violence by a partner at some point in their lives, and 29% during the last 12 months prior to the study. More than one-third of the women were exposed to at least one serious physical violence such as being hit with a fist or some hard stuff, kicked, beaten up, choked or threatened with a weapon. Among the injuries sustained abrasions or bruises were quite common, followed by sprains and dislocations, injuries to eyes and ears, fractures and broken teeth. The same survey found that 59% of ever-partnered women experienced sexual violence at some point, and 44% during the 12 months preceding the survey (WHO, 2005).

A study that investigated the prevalence and risk factors associated with IPV in Sidama, Southern Ethiopia using 1,094 households showed that physical violence occurs at a significantly high rate; beating with some objects was reported by 34.0%, slapping by 32.9%, and chasing the woman out of the house by 25.4% of the respondents (Regassa, 2011). The same study revealed that the highest form of violence that women encounter was psychological violence; insults by a husband was reported to be a common happening on

61.2% of the study participants. Another study carried out in two districts in SNNPR covering 1,994 women showed that lifetime prevalence of physical violence by an intimate partner was 49.5%; more than a quarter of the women had experienced moderate or severe forms of emotional violence, and close to 10% indicated experiencing sexual violence before the age 15 (Deyessa et al, 2009).

A survey conducted by UNFPA and Population Council covering 12,600 adolescents and young people in seven regions of Ethiopia also showed the various forms of violence young married people experience. According to the findings, 13% of urban and 9% of rural females had experienced physical violence at the hands of their husbands. Regarding males, 6% of the men had experienced physical violence inflicted by their wives with more rural men reporting physical violence from their wives than urban men. Similar to the WHO study, the most common forms of physical violence experienced by women include, slapping, being pushed or having something thrown at (Erulkar, 2010). Psychological violence usually occurs in combination with physical violence. In the survey of young people mentioned above, 6% of the respondents reported being insulted and 5% being humiliated (Erkular, 2010).

Sexual violence is a frequent experience among the youth and covered in many of the studies conducted. According to the UNFPA and Population Council survey, in addition to physical violence, forced sex is an experience many women go through, especially during their first sexual experience. The survey showed that 22% of married girls did not want their first sex with their husbands, and 18% indicated that their marital sexual initiation was forced.

Similarly, a study conducted in Gondar, Northwest of Ethiopia covering 1,104 women revealed that more than a quarter (32.2%) of the women reported having experienced physical violence at least once in their life time, and 30.5% had experienced physical assault in the six months preceding the study. Beating was the most common experience mentioned by 71% of the women who have been exposed to physical violence; beatings with a stick (80.3%), slapping (32.1%), kicking on different parts of their body (16.9%), and punching (10.1%) were the forms of physical violence reported (Yigzaw, Yebire & Kebede, 2004). The study further revealed that in addition to physical violence, quite a number of the women have experienced forced sex and physical intimidation, 19.2% and 35.7%, respectively. A qualitative study with 46 participants in the same study uncovered that beatings and verbal aggression were mentioned by almost all study participants as expressions of partner's violence. Instances of physical abuse included slaps, punches, kicking, beating with a stick,

burning, and use of weapons, while insults, constant degradation, calling of names, and withholding family support were indicated as examples of psychological abuses. Almost all the study participants agreed that there is always a conflict in married life. However, conflict becomes problematic when it is resolved by beating wives. Some participants reiterated that eliminating violence is unrealistic since it is a part of life and that beating is acceptable if it is not severe and does not inflict injury on women. Among those who accept beatings, some considered beatings by a husband as a sign of love, and that the husband is responsible for correcting an erring wife with violence; otherwise he would be considered as unmanly and docile. In relation to forced sex, many of the male FGD participants expressed a favourable attitude with the justification that partners need to fulfill each others' needs and that it is challenging for men to sleep with a woman without having sex, while women participants were against this. There is a mixed feeling towards psychological abuse, some accepting it, while others demonstrating their unfavourable attitude (Yigzaw, et al, 2010).

In Tigray, Hawzein town, a study conducted with the participation of 629 married women showed that the incidence of physical violence among the women in the 12 months prior to the study was 38.6%, and slapping was the most frequent form of physical violence followed by kicking or punching. Threatening with a weapon, which makes psychological abuse was reported by 8.7% of the women (Fisseha et al., 2014). A qualitative study of 39 female participants showed that women undergo physical, sexual and emotional violence. The women explained forced sex or marital rape was an experience they go through. They also explained that the lack of say and decision making over the use of family planning was another challenge they encountered. Regarding physical violence beating is a recurring form of physical violence. Psychological violence such as threatening, intimidating and prohibiting women from going to places, blaming and humiliating were listed out to be problems the participating women talked about. The study reiterated violence comes in sets, a person who is sexually abused is also likely to be abused physically, and a person who is physically abused is likely to be abused psychologically (Alen & Nighallaigh, 2013).

A study covering 12 rural and urban Kebeles in Kersa district of East Harargie, Oromia region showed that among the 858 women of reproductive age included in the study, 19.6% had experienced violence, and in 70.3% the of the cases perpetrators were husbands. All the women who have experienced physical violence have also experienced psychological or emotional violence such as insults and threats (Shanko et al, 2013).

Another study carried out in Agaro town, Southwest of Addis Ababa uncovered that among the 515 partnered women who participated in the study, 166 (32%) had experienced physical violence of various forms including slapping and punching, and 171 (33%) reported having experiences of sexual violence in their lifetime. In Amhara region of Gozman Woreda, a study carried out to look into the prevalence of physical violence against women covering 1,035 research participants showed that the prevalence of women's lifetime physical violence was 43.7% and, 28.3% of the women in the study have experienced intimate partner physical violence in the 12 months prior to the study (Megib et al., 2014). A much higher rate of physical violence was reported in a study carried out in Fagitalekoma Woreda, Awi zone, Amhara region. Among the 682 married women included in the study, more than three quarters (78%) reported that they had experienced at least one type of domestic violence perpetrated by their current husband in the 12 months prior to the study (Semahegn, Tefera & Misra, 2013). Fifty-eight percent have experienced physical violence including being pushed, shoved, punched, slapped, kicked, dragged or being attacked with knife or burned. The same study indicated that 73.3% of the women have experienced various types of psychological violence such as insulting, threatening using objects like a stick, a knife, and a gun, intimidating, controlling the whereabouts of women, and restricting their movements. The rate of sexual violence perpetrated by husbands in the 12 months before the survey was 49.1%, and the various forms included forced sex, intentionally depriving sex, and forcing to engage in sexual acts not acceptable by the women. Among all forms of sexual violence, forced sex was the most frequently happening incident, experienced by 44.3% of the women (Semahegn, Tefera & Misra, 2013).

A study conducted in Kolfe Keranio sub-city of Addis Ababa showed that among a total of 368 married women included in the study, 53.8% of the married women claimed to have experienced physical violence, such as being beaten with a stick or stone, punched, kicked, slapped, choked or burnt. Among these, 34.4% reported having experienced physical violence in the 12 months prior to the study. In the same study 63.9% of the women, explained their experience of sexual violence mostly forced sex and engaging in sexual acts they did not like. While the life time sexual abuse reported was 63.9%, 33.4% reported that they have experienced violence in the 12 months preceding the study (Jemal, 2014). An earlier qualitative study conducted with 13 women victims of violence in the same sub-city showed that women suffered physical, sexual and psychological violence (Mulatu, 2007). The same study revealed that in addition to the different forms of physical violence, insult,

humiliation, intimidation, restricting their movements, limiting their social contacts, and thereby socially isolating them were the psychological violence women endured. The sexual violence women suffered from included rape and forced sex.

In summary, what the review shows is that IPV is a highly prevalent practice seen in the various regions though the degree may vary from place to place. The most commonly occurring form is physical violence, and quite a significant percent were subjected to sexual violence. Psychological violence, in most cases, accompanies physical and sexual violence women go through

## **ii. Consequences of IPV**

Studies show that IPV is accompanied by a variety of negative consequences on victims including physical/health and psychological repercussions. A study by Deyessa, et al (2009) showed that among the victims of physical violence, 75.7% had bruises or physical body aches and 41(22.7%) injured or broken bone. About 47 (6.9%) women reported that their household properties were deliberately damaged (Deyessa, et al, 2009). Psychological problems such as anxiety and depression were also associated with IVP. The same study showed that depressive episodes were seen more on women who had experienced physical violence compared to those who did not: 7% compared to 2.7. Depressive episodes were seen more frequently among those women who were physical abused while pregnant and who had sustained physical injuries.

The study by Mulatu (2007) showed that physical injuries including bruises, lesions and fractures were some of the consequences of physical violence. The researcher further explained among the 15 research participants, two had suffered from miscarriage due to physical violence endured while pregnant. Among the psychological consequences reported by study participants were emotional exhaustion, low self-esteem, and low self-confidence.

A study conducted in Agaro town, Southwest of Ethiopia with 520 ever-partnered women showed 32% of the study participants reported experiencing physical violence and 33% sexual violence. Among those who experience physical violence, the most common types of physical injury were abrasion or bruises (66%), puncture/cuts (45%), and dislocation (18.5%). Severe forms of physical injury such as eye/ear injury (12.3%), penetrating injury (5%), fracture and burn (1.5%) were reported. The study further underlined that all forms of violence were associated with poor perceived general status of women's health (Deribew,

2008).

### **iii. Correlates of IPV**

The driving factors for IPV can be categorized as underlying and immediate factors. The underlying factors are embedded in socio-cultural context that disempowers women causing them to be exposed to violence and also fail to protect themselves from thereof. These include lack of education, lack of economic empowerment and lower decision making role of women, and the patriarchal values that put women subordinate to men. The immediate causes on the other hand can be alcohol use of male partner, lack of money which is frustrating to the man as well as the whole family, and the difference in age between partners. The immediate factors are the manifestation of the underlying factors.

Regarding immediate causes a study in Awi zone of Amhara region showed that alcohol use by male partners and the age gap favouring men were two of the predicting factors for women to experience violence. The same study revealed that women's lack of decision making power in the household and lack of education are drivers of domestic violence (Semahegn, Simachew & Abdulahi, 2013). Lack of decision making could be the outcome of a gender relationship in the study community where men are privileged with more power both in the household and the community. The authors argue that a possible reason for the prevalence of high rate of physical violence can be related to traditional gender norms that support wife beating in the study area. A similar contention was made by Tadesse (2004) as well.

The study by Semahegn, Simachew and Abdulahi (2013) showed that women whose husbands consume alcohol were 1.9 times more likely to experience domestic violence than women whose husbands do not consume alcohol. Women whose husbands made decisions on household issues were 2.3 times more likely to experience domestic violence than couples who made joint decisions. The study further highlighted that women who were pregnant in the last 12 months were 2.1 times more likely to experience domestic violence than those who were not pregnant. Unlike the assumption that poverty or low income is correlated with IPV, this study indicated that women living in a household earning annual income 280.22 - 508.76 USD were 1.9 times more likely to experience domestic violence than women living in a household earning less than 280.22 USD (Semahegn, Simachew and Abdulahi, 2013).

In a study of VAW conducted in Kolfe Keranio Sub-city of Addis Ababa, Mulatu (2007)

identified poverty, alcohol use, jealousy and transgression of gender roles such as being assertive, making decisions, and in general taking up roles and demonstrating behaviours usually assigned to men as causes of domestic violence against women. In explaining the multi-level causes of domestic violence, Mulatu (2007) argues that domestic violence results from interaction between personal, economical, social, political, and cultural factors. The cultural system predisposes, justifies and perpetuates domestic violence. The socio-economic standing of women predisposes them to domestic violence and perpetuate their inferior status. Though there are political commitments and legal policy frameworks providing for the protection of women from violence, lack of implementation of these commitments due to several factors including lack of capacity and victims' failure to report contribute to the continuation of the problem. The structural constraints encountered in addressing sexual violence has been noted by Le Mat (2015) as well.

In relation to the cultural system that predisposes, justifies and perpetuates violence against women, a study conducted in North Gondar revealed that women study participants accept physical abuse of husbands as normal part of life as long as it is mild. In fact, some women indicated that beating by a husband signifies love. The belief that wife beating is a disciplinary measure to put women back on track when going astray and the notion that a husband who cannot make his wife behave is weak create an environment conducive for violence. In relation to marital rape many of the participants including a judge among them condoned forced sex explaining that a woman has to provide her husband with sexual services despite her feelings. The authors further argue that the lack of awareness about violence against women has placed emphasis on justifying triggering causes and severity of the consequences within a societal context that makes violence a normative action (Yigzaw, et al, 2010).

#### **e. Findings from Qualitative Studies**

Based on available studies, this section of the report attempts to summarise findings from qualitative studies. In addition to the forms of violence and the type of victims, it presents children's perception of violence as well as their reactions towards various forms of violence perpetrated against them.

##### **i. Corporal Punishment/Physical Violence**

According to Poluha's study (2004), children's behaviour is shaped using a system of praise and punishment. Very small children are not punished since it is believed that they would not

understand their misdeeds; children differentiate between bad and good behaviour when they are between three and five. This contention is supported by the study conducted by Save the Children and ACPF (2005) as well. When older children misbehave, especially if they have been reprimanded for the misbehaviour earlier, they get beatings; it is believed that punishment nips bad behaviour before it gets out of control. Chutta (2007) also underlined that punishment is considered as part of child upbringing. She further explained that adults, especially those in the position of parents, elder siblings and teachers are bestowed with responsibilities for children, attached to which are rewards and punishment which they can use when required (Poluha, 2004). Light punishment such as pinching and minor beating was found to be acceptable by most FGD participants in Save the Children and ACPF's (2005) study also, especially when children become difficult. The study further noted that some adults did not accept the abolition of physical punishment and neither did they understand the whole issues of children's rights in general. Physical punishment is carried out mostly by fathers, while mothers can slap or pinch the children (Poluha, 2004).

Children in Poluha's (2004) accepted their punishment since they felt that it is the right and duty of parents to do so and believed that parents punished them because they cared. Though children accepted punishment from parents, they had a different reaction towards punishment administered by elder siblings or other close family members, who were usually older and more powerful than themselves; that was considered as physical violence (Poluha, 2004).

Corporal punishment is administered in schools as well. At school children are punished by teachers, class monitors, and unit leaders. As Poluha (2004) explained corporal punishment was reproduced and institutionalized in schools through male monitors who were sanctioned by the teachers to administer physical punishment. Punishments include insults, physical abuse, and fines, spanking, beatings with a rod or stick, kneeling down, assigning of tasks such as cleaning toilet for girls and digging gardens for boys (Tamene, 2007).

There are mixed feelings expressed by children about the use of corporal punishment in schools. In Poluha's study the children justified beatings by teachers saying that it was because the children did not listen to the teacher, and because the teacher wanted them to be better. They also considered physical punishment better than others such as cleaning, taking off points from their test scores, parent consultation or being sent to the principal's office. Since the children were not able to stop physical punishment they simply attempted to keep the rules and work on their studies in order to avoid it (Poluha, 2004).

Too much corporal punishment was considered as violence, and was subject to criticism. Most children in Abdulwassie's (2007) and Tamene's (2007) study also agreed that light punishments such as reprimands and light ear pinching were considered right and acceptable, but not severe beatings. Similarly, many of the students in Chutta's (2007) believed that punishment was appropriate if somebody did something wrong, since it kept one away from misbehaving again and helped to grow into a decent person. However, it was indicated that severe punishment could result into harms. The child participants in the study by Save the Children and ACPF (2005) were also sceptical about the effectiveness of physical punishment.

In addition to severity, there are situations that make children question and reject corporal punishment. For example, when insults and disrespect are combined with physical punishment, children lose respect for the teacher and find the punishment unacceptable, but still continue obeying for fear of punishment.

Abdulwassie (2007) indicated that at home a parent who listens and understands is respected more than one who administers harsh physical punishment. He explained that children did not respect teachers that insulted or beat them even though they tried to obey due to fear. The study further revealed that children showed disrespect for a teacher who administered severe physical punishment and also ridicule students in front of classmates by calling him by his name instead of adding prefixes that show respect; being careless when writing notes given by him; deliberately missing his class; not inviting him for different celebrations that are organized by families, and finding ways to threaten him. Especially when children did not understand why they were beaten as shown in the study of Save the Children and ACPF (2005), they oppose physical punishment.

Severity of physical punishment combined with the feeling that parents or guardians are not caring results into a complete rejection of punishment and feeling of bitterness among the children. In a study carried out on 10 high school students (5 girls and 5 boys) in Suluta secondary school in Sululta town, the adolescents explained that they were beaten, slapped, punched, pinched as children, which they explained resulted in physical injury. Perpetrators included parents, stepparents, brothers, uncles, aunts, cousins and relatives. Conflict between parents and divorce, alcohol abuse by fathers, and being raised by relatives were factors that exposed the children to physical abuse. Regarding the psychological consequences of physical abuse, the children explained that they have problem of trusting other people; feel

worthless; have difficulties regulating and controlling their emotions, and encounter problems in their interpersonal relations. They indicated that physical punishment has negative repercussions (Tsegaye, 2010).

## **ii. Sexual Violence**

A number of situations expose children and young people to violence. As indicated in the earlier sections, especially when it comes to sexual violence, poverty as a factor stands out. In the study conducted by Ynitiso et al (2009), one of the risk factors for sexual abuse was the poverty surrounding the study area, Merkato. The study pointed out that majority of the girls were pushed into commercial sex by poverty. Informants pointed out that the fact sex work did not require certain conditions such as a guarantor, education and other skills, one could enter into it very easily, thus making poor girls vulnerable. Poverty along with a host of other factors such as death of a parent/s, marital conflict, alcohol abuse, drug addition makes the environment unsafe for children. Poor families send their children to work on the street increasing their risk of exposure to violence including sexual violence (Yntiso, 2009). According to the study, strangers, passers by, sugar daddies, clients for those working in commercial sex were among the perpetrators. Supporting the preceding argument, the study shows that most rape victims in the study area came from low income families and single parent homes. Records also show that sexual violence was one of the outstanding criminal activities in the study area. According to the information from Addis Ketema Sub-city police, in 2007/08 alone, 77 cases of child rape were reported, among these 11 were boys. According to informants, other factors that increase the vulnerability of children to sexual abuse include alcohol and substance abuse; the existence of a large number of houses that show pornography; the business of renting beds where girls in the family were expected to find customers staying out late in the streets, and were also expected to sleep in the same room with strangers.

Another study by Adem (2010) in Addis Ketema, the same area studied by Ynitiso (2009) has identified similar risk factors among victims of sexually violated female adolescents. Poverty, conflict and violence in the family including physical, psychological and sexual violence, peer influence, death of a parent/parents, family breakdown due to divorce and trafficking were the factors that pushed girls to street life. Once girls are in the streets, other risk factors expose them to sexual violence. The risk factors identified by the study included alcohol consumption by either a perpetrator or the victim or both; engagement in commercial

sex work, and unsafe working condition and sleeping areas. The study indicated that sexual harassment and attempted and completed rape were the most frequently occurring forms of violence.

The study of female street children in Lideta area also showed that one major vulnerability factor in the lives of the studied children was poverty. Children coming from low income families work on the streets, sometimes late in the evening increasing their chance of exposure to sexual violence (Hirpa, 2006). Family break down, death of a parent/s, conflict and violence in the family, migration due to different reasons, trafficking, and peer pressure were other factors that pushed the children to the streets, and thus increasing the risk of exposure to sexual violence. Rape was reported to be one form of sexual violence perpetrated against girls working on the street. The study further elaborated that girls who worked and lived on the streets were much more vulnerable than those who worked on the streets and went back home. The chance of getting exposed to gang rape was also worse for those who live on the streets. The study showed that rape was usually committed by individuals who were older and stronger than the girls. Unwanted touch and fondling and forced kissing were the other forms of sexual violence encountered by the girls.

Hirpa (2007) discussed that underlying causes of sexual violence in terms of power discourses. He explained that perpetrators in the study were men from different socio-economic and age categories. However, they all used power, physical power, financial power, hierarchical power bestowed on them by the society due to its patriarchal nature, to commit sexual violence against the victims. Similarly, both boys and girls in Le Mat (2015) study discussed sexual violence in the context of gender inequality and norms and practices that privileged and empowered one sex over the other, in this case men over women.

In the context of a norm that places more values on men over women, women become vulnerable to violence, though the degree of vulnerability is mediated by other factors such as education, economic status, family situation and others. Though not as vulnerable as the street working children or children in Merkato area, girls in Le Mat's (2016) study explained that they were sexually violated by both boys and male teachers at school. Commenting on looks and touching without permission were two forms of sexual violence identified in the study, and the girls explained that boys were forceful and aggressive. In relation to male teachers, manipulation of girls for sex through grade, looking at the girls and commenting on their bodies during gym class, commenting on clothes and looks were the types of sexual

violence recounted by the girls (Le Mat, 2016).

There are also studies showing the prevalence of male children sexual abuse. A qualitative study conducted on eight children who were victims of sexual violence revealed similar factors that makes boys vulnerable to sexual violence. The study by Belay (2009) indicated that poverty in the family, orphanhood, conflict in the family, lack of open communication in the family and awareness about the problems of boys' sexual abuse, living in a poor environment surrounded by alcohol, drugs, and pornography, and lack of proper care and attention given to children were factors associated with exposure of children to sexual violence. Another factor that is highlighted in the study was unawareness of victims about sexual abuse of boys and their failure to recognise the intent of perpetrators in the actions preceding the violence. Except in the case of two children, most of the perpetrators were individuals well known by the boys in their living areas.

According to Belay (2009) in some cases, parents blamed the children for being gullible and becoming victims of violence, and they were also discouraged from following through the justice system due to fear of stigma and the long process of it takes and the lack of responsiveness. Key informants also explained the difficulty of establishing cases due to the need to substantiate the case with evidence, and also the delay created in reporting the crime. As one of the children in the study explained the police required so much detail which he was unable to provide due to delayed reporting of the case.

Bleeding, irritation of anal areas, and pain during excretion were among the physical problems encountered by the boys in Belay's (2009) study. In relation to psychological and social difficulties, feeling of betrayal, losing trust in people, isolating oneself, feeling of guilt and shame, feeling of insecurity especially around men, fear that others may come to know about their victimization, anxiety about the possibility of contracting HIV, and nightmares were some of the problems mentioned by the children. Socially, most of the children explained that they isolate themselves, one of the reasons being bad feeling they developed as a result of insults in the neighbourhood, and friends and peers using derogatory terms related to their victimisation. Some also mentioned that their academic performance has been negatively impacted, and one explained that he had dropped out of school (Belay, 2009).

### **iii. Reactions, coping strategies, and protective factors in the context of sexual violence**

Keeping quiet was a reaction noted on most victims in response to sexual violence. In the study by Mekuria, Nigussie & Abera (2015), a female interviewee explained that female students who were victim of rape kept the violence secret, ashamed of even buying emergency contraceptive, for which they became pregnant. Some went for illegal abortion which led to several health complications. Children in Hirpa (2007)'s study also explained that they did not report the violence due to several reasons including not knowing where to go, fear of families' reaction, and fear of perpetrators. It has also been pointed out that lack of appropriate support from the police and in some cases, violence perpetrated by some police officers were other factors that discouraged the girls in Hirpa's (2007) study from reporting. The study by Adem (2010) also indicated that female street adolescents did not report the violence to relevant bodies due to fear of revenge by perpetrators and lack of understanding and support from legal bodies, in this case the police. The girls reported that the police blamed the girls for exposing themselves to trouble, and that they were considered as lairs and cheaters. Similarly, in Belay's (2009) study victims were not willing to report the problem to relevant bodies nor were they willing to inform their parents for various reasons including fear of perpetrators, bribe offered by perpetrators, and fear of parents' reactions. In many cases, the disclosure of the abuse took place after a long time, in the case of one child after three months, which barred the victim from receiving appropriate care and service in time.

Moving away from the victims' perspective, Yntiso, et al. (2009) discusses protective factors and resilience of victims of sexual violence. In their study of children who have not fallen to be victims of sexual abuse despite their vulnerability, a number of protective factors were identified. These included: having a loving and supporting family, which helped children to stick to the family instead of trying to find love, support, guidance and affirmation elsewhere; positive peer influence; skills in locating, accessing and using resources that helped them to have vision and plan their lives; personal competence to discern threats and devise strategies to avoid them; social skills to form networks to protect each other; support from NGOs and active involvement in school clubs, and involvement in religious institutions or spirituality. Parents and other key informants also identified similar characteristics that protect children from sexual violence. Among these were having life goals; having few good friends, frequenting church, engaging themselves in activities that help their achievement, having

personal strength, and having close relationship with families.

Regarding age based differences in protecting themselves from sexual violence or sexual exploitation, the study showed that differences were noted between older groups (15+) and younger groups (10 -13) in that older groups were influenced more by media, books, and the social environment more than the younger groups. The older groups were also able to identify subtler threats compared to the younger group who identified concrete actions such as cuddling with boys, laughing with boys, talking to boys or men as situations exposing them to sexual violence (Yntiso, et al, 2009).

The coping strategies utilized by victims in Adem's (2010) study were using their social network of friends to talk about the violence, sharing with them meals and other consumables such as khat; engaging in spiritual activities such as going to church and listening to spiritual songs; attempting to avoid thinking about the incident, and taking alcohol and drugs. Some of the protective mechanisms were: having a sexual partner among the street boys; avoiding alcohol when working in a commercial sex; seeking protection of friends and their advice, working in hotels owned by someone they know.

In summary, the reaction mostly resorted to in response to violence was keeping quiet, which perpetuates the problem. Reporting took place, for the majority, after quite a long time, which made getting appropriate services and getting justice difficult. The lack of understanding and responsiveness of the legal bodies, especially the police have also been noted, especially when the victims were street girls. On the other hand, a number of protective factors and coping strategies have been identified. The protective factors are made up of personal resources such as the ability to access social support, to be competent enough to identify risks, having vision and setting goals, and spirituality, while social resources include understanding and supporting family, friends, NGOs providing support and school clubs.

## **5. Government, Non - Government and Academic Stakeholders Working on VACAY**

Quite a variety of government, non-government and academic stakeholders work on the area of VACAY. However, relevant information on major government stakeholders such as MoH, MoWCA and MoLSA could not be accessed from documents and the internet. Therefore, the section on stakeholders is limited to, mostly, NGOs with the understanding that government and academic stakeholders for which documents could not be found will be covered in second part of the mapping process during the interviews.

### **MoE**

The Gender Directorate in the MoE works, among others, on the elimination of violence against girls in educational institution. One of its interventions is ensuring that the various forms of sexual violence against girls are addressed in the the strategies and guidelines prepared to address gender equality in education. In collaboration with development partners it develops anti-harassment codes of conduct to be used by various educational institutions. Two examples, are the anti-harassment code of conduct for higher education institutions (2011) and the anti harassment code of conduct for Technical Vocational Education and Training institutions developed in 2013. Studies in the area of School Related Gender Based Violence (SRGBV) are also carried out with the assistance of development partners.

### **ACPF**

ACPF is a regional organisation with a head office in Addis Ababa. ACPF works to bring issues related African children to the public agenda. Inspired by universal values, informed by global experiences and knowledge, and guided by the needs and conditions of African children, it works at different levels and areas. Its programmatic focuses include providing a forum for dialogue; strengthening the capacity of child-rights and human-rights organisations; and assisting governments, policy makers and NGOs in developing and implementing pro-child policies and programmes. As part of its activities and in partnership with other NGOs it regularly publishes research on timely and relevant issues. Among the areas covered by its research are violence against children in Ethiopia and other African countries including violence against girls. Relevant publications of ACPF have been reviewed in this report.

## **Save the Children**

Child protection is among the areas of intervention by Save the Children Ethiopia Office. Save the Children works to protect children from various forms of violence including sexual abuse and exploitation, physical and humiliating punishment and neglect, among others. Save the Children aims, "... to strengthen awareness, collaboration, advocacy and protection mechanisms for children within families, communities, school environments, the health sector, the judicial system and law enforcement services" (Save the Children, n.d.). Save works with a large number of partners and implements over 40 projects on the areas of child protection in many different parts of Ethiopia. In collaboration with other organizations and also in implementing projects Save the Children undertakes research and evaluation of projects.

## **UNICEF**

UNICEF is one of the UN organisations that has been working on violence against children and women. UNICEF intervenes both at grassroots and strategic levels. One of the recent initiatives is its membership in the National Coordinating Body established to address the problems of violence against women and children in a holistic and coordinated manner. Along with the Federal Attorney General, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA), Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA), and other 15 relevant stakeholders, UNICEF is tasked with ensuring the launching of a multi-sectoral and integrated responses to prevent and reduce incidences of violence against women and children. Among the responsibilities of the coordinating body are: leading the multi-sectoral and integrated response against violence affecting women and children; intervening to reduce and prevent violence; improving services provided to victims, ensuring that victims receive age appropriate and gender and child sensitive services including justice; ensuring that in all the process the best interest of the child is considered, and designing policies and strategies to fight violence against women and children.

As a follow up to this, UNICEF in collaboration with the Federal General Attorney has developed a strategic plan to reduce the high degree of Violence against Women and Children (VAWC) and the unfavourable situation of child justice by addressing the gaps and challenges at policy, institutional and practical levels, and initiating comprehensive multi-sectoral and integrated prevention and response to VAWC and child justice (FMoJ & UNICEF, 2012). The strategy is based on the gaps identified in policies, structures, services

and coordination in both prevention and response activities.

Ultimately targeting both urban and rural children who are survivors of or vulnerable to VAWC, children in contact with the criminal justices as perpetrators and victims, and children involved in civil case in relation to custody, maintenance, parentage and inheritance, the strategic plan uses four building blocks to set out overall strategic goals and sectoral objectives as well as to formulate specific measures to address the identified gaps. The four building blocks included in the strategic plan are: improving laws and policies; improving systems and capacity building; service provision, and community mobilization and coordination. It has also identified key focal sectors and institutions that are to be involved in the implementation of the multi-sectoral and integrated response.

The overall goal of the strategic plan is stated to be improved protection of the rights of women and children who are survivors of and vulnerable to violence and child justice through putting in place coordinated and functional protection system that respects the rights of women and children. Among the specific goals and strategic issues are: improved legal and policy framework; improved systems and capacity among sectors and institutions working in the area; increased access to immediate and comprehensive and effective and support to survivors; an integrated and multi-sectoral national response to VAWC, and improved awareness and response to address VAWC among community members. The strategic plan elaborates on key strategies and activities related to the abovementioned four building blocks and implementation, coordination and monitoring mechanisms are also outlined (FMoJ & UNICEF, 2012).

In 2012 UNICEF has collaborated with the Federal Attorney General in developing the subsequent multi-year operational plan that translates the strategic plan into practical actions. The operational plan presents a logical framework with intervention logic, verifiable indicators of achievement, means of verification and assumptions for the overall objectives, purposes, and expected results for the different levels of intervention identified in the strategic plan. It further provides operational matrices that elaborate on implementation plan for specific activities to be undertaken by key implementing sectors, along with the estimated budget for the operational period.

## **UNFPA**

UNFPA is one of the UN agencies that works on promoting the rights of every woman, man

and child to enjoy healthy life and equal opportunity. In its strategic plan, ‘The UNFPA strategic plan, 2014-2017’, it indicates that one of the outputs is the delivery of Sexual and Reproductive (SRH) services to women in crises including survivors of sexual violence. Another output that emphasizes on gender equality mentions that women get SRH services. It also underlines GBV and the integration of GBV programming into broader SRH services. The UNFPA in phase two of its UNFPA Country programme has output 10 as “Strengthened institutional response to address harmful traditional practices and gender-based violence and provide information and services to survivors of gender-based violence, including within a humanitarian context”. Accordingly, in collaboration with various NGOs and the government, it has been implementing a programme on prevention and management of GBV with a target of increased protection of children, youth, women from abuse, violence, exploitation and discrimination and for those who have already been victims aiming for complete rehabilitation. Accordingly, from 2012 to 2015 a programme was implemented in six regions of the country with efforts put to enable women to speak out against GBV and to provide victims with the necessary support using various strategies including capacity building of relevant stakeholders, advocacy, provision of shelter, health and psychosocial support to victims, and strengthening coordinating mechanisms.

### **Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA)**

The Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA) is a not-for-profit Women’s advocacy group founded in June 1995 by women lawyers. The association began its work in 1996 after its registration as a civic association by the Ministry of Justice. With the head office in Addis Ababa it has five branch office in Assosa, Awassa, Bahirdar, Diredawa, Nazareth and Gambella. After EWLA’s re-registration as a local Non-Profit Organization (NGO) as per the new Charities and Societies Proclamation, its focus has become limited to the provision of free legal aid and other relevant services to women who don’t have access to the justice system and women victims of violence.

### **Network of Ethiopian Women's Associations (NEWA)**

NEWA was originally established in 2003 as a national network of NGOs and women’s associations working for gender equality and women’s advancement found in various regions of the country. Following the promulgation of the new Charities and Societies law in 2009, NEWA reorganized itself as a consortium whose members are all Ethiopian Societies. Today, NEWA has 8 member organizations and associations located in several regions of the

country. Along with its member organizations, NEWA works with the aim of sustaining the transformational struggle for gender equality and women's empowerment in Ethiopia with a vision of creating a society where gender equality is the normal context for women's and men's lives.

### **Association for Women's Sanctuary and Development (AWSAD)**

The former Tsotawi Tekat Tekelakay Mahiber (TTTM), currently known as Association for Women's Sanctuary and Development (AWSAD) was established to advance women's social and economic development and provide support for women and girls that faced physical and psychological harm.

AWSAD has a number of programmes for women victims of violence; it accommodates victims in its safe houses found in Addis Ababa and Adama; provides medical services and basic literacy education; professional skills development for women survivors with the aim of economically empowering women, including the provision of seed money to start up small businesses. Training and capacity building is one of the programmes of AWSAD. It focuses on community and governmental institutions such as community members and local leaders, police force, teachers and students in schools, staffs of women's and children affairs offices, with the objectives of enhancing their capacity to provide quality services and to create supportive environment for women and girls.

While in the safe house women are provided with safe home, food, medication, counseling, basic literacy education and skill development trainings. Psychological support for survivors of physical and psychological harms and reintegration of survivors to the society is another function of the safe house. Those survivors who already have taken their cases to the court will be given legal follow up services and those who need to take their cases to court will be given support to do so. Women who suffered from various forms of violence come to AWSAD. Among the forms of violence are: early forced marriage, beatings, eviction from home, rape, attempted rape, domestic violence, attempted murder, and abandonment by a husband. According to the statistics compiled from 2006 to 2012, the most frequent forms of violence survivors go through is rape (AWSAD, 2013).

### **Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment (FSCE)**

The previously Forum on Street Children-Ethiopia (FSCE) established in 1989 has been

operational since then. After the promulgation of the Ethiopian Civil Charities and Societies FSCE adjusted its programmes and was renamed Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment (FSCE). FSCE operates in five cities: Addis Ababa, Adama, Dire Dawa, Bahir Dar and Dessie. It has five programmes areas: Prevention and Promotion, Protection, Rehabilitation and Reintegration, and child Research and Resource Development programmes. The programmes most relevant to the current review, ‘protection’ and ‘rehabilitation and reintegration’ work with parents of vulnerable children whose parents are engaged in abusive and neglectful treatment, children who are victims of abuse, and neglect and children in difficult circumstances and grave exploitation such as sexually abused. Strategies include strengthening community based care and support service, reunifying trafficked children or children on the move into their families and identification and withdrawal of children who have been victims of sexual and other forms of abuse, and rehabilitating them using community based rehabilitation centres. Among other activities of the Child Research and Resource Development Programme, conducting relevant research in child focused issues and topics and publication, and documentation and dissemination of materials related to child problems are two.

#### **Association for the Prevention and Protection of Children against Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN)**

ANPPCAN-Ethiopia was established in 1990 with the objectives of protecting children against abuse, neglect and exploitation; promoting child rights; conducting studies on issues of child abuse and neglect; intervening in cases of child abuse and exploitation, and advocating for legal, social and administrative changes to improve the well-being of children. It operates in North Gondar and North Wollo of Amhara Regional State, North Shoa in Oromia Regional State, Hawassa town and Shebedino and Gorche woredas of Sidama in SNNPR, and Yeka, Arada, Addis Ketema and Kirkos Sub-cities in Addis Ababa.

Its main areas of intervention include Child Protection, Awareness Raising and Advocacy on Child Rights, HTP and HIV/AIDS, Capacity Building of Child Protection Structures, Child Participation, and Right based Development programmes. Under its ‘child protection’ programme ANPPCAN – Ethiopia, provides both prevention and rehabilitation services for children affected by abuse, neglect and exploitation. It also operates a Child Helpline which provides medical, counseling, legal and family reunification services for victims of child abuse.

## **6. Conclusions and Gaps**

### **a. Physical and Psychological Violence Affecting Children**

The review shows that physical and, most times, in combination with psychological violence is quite a common practice at home and in schools. A few studies also show that psychological violence occurs in communities with the most vulnerable groups being street children. The most common forms of physical violence perpetrated in the name of child disciplining include hitting with various items including sticks; whipping using belt, slapping and punching. Psychological violence such as scolding, insulting, shouting at, threatening and intimidating were among the identified forms of psychological violence. A different form of physical violence identified in schools is kneeling down, in addition to the similar ones perpetrated at home. Regarding psychological violence at schools, there is a notion that psychological violence is more relied on at schools as a disciplinary method because of the restrictions placed against using corporal punishment. In addition to the forms of psychological violence that happen at home, ridicule, causing embarrassment, and suspension from class are additional ones seen in schools. The incidence of physical and psychological violence is found to be more prevalent among older children compared to the young ones, and among boys compared to girls.

Perpetrators of physical and sexual violence are mostly close family members such as parents, brothers, and in schools, teachers. However, in relation to violence against girls occurring while they are on their way to and back from school, the culprits were older boys.

Not much research was found on the consequences of psychological violence, since psychological violence is discussed along with or in the context of physical violence. However, the negative impacts of physical violence are shown in physical, psychological, social and academic consequences. These included temporary or permanent physical damages, psychological problems such as humiliation, unhappiness, low self-esteem, anger and anxiety, running away and low cognitive/academic performance.

Among the reasons for the persistence of physical and psychological violence as disciplinary methods are that many consider corporal punishment and harsh reprimands as acceptable ways of child disciplining. Qualitative studies have also revealed that children view light physical punishment as appropriate way of child disciplining. The cultural context that imply that parents have rights to employ disciplinary method they see fit and the low status given

children in terms of rights encourage physical violence. Other factors are poverty, large class size in the context of school, and lack of awareness and knowledge about alternative ways of child disciplining.

### **b. Sexual Violence**

The review shows that sexual violence affecting children, especially female children is a highly prevalent phenomenon that happens in different contexts. Verbal sexual violence, sexual harassment manifested in various ways including sexual comments and jokes, indecent touching, sexual coercion, forced sex, attempted and completed rape were among the offenses. The most frequently practiced form of sexual violence is verbal sexual harassment. The incidence of rape is also quite high, studies reporting percentages ranging from 10 to 40%

Especially in the cases of attempted and completed rape, in most cases, perpetrators are family members, boyfriends, relatives, acquaintances, neighbours, and teachers, while violence such as verbal sexual harassment and non-consensual touching are perpetrated by street wanderers, male students and teachers.

Various negative consequences result from sexual violence depending on the type of sexual violence victims have experienced. Rape results into bleedings, injury of the genitalia, unwanted pregnancy causing abortion, and various types of infections. Psychological repercussions include lack of sleep, low self-esteem, anxiety, depression and suicidal thoughts.

Personal, economic, social and structural factors are associated with the incidence of sexual violence. Poverty is the main economic factor, while age gap favouring perpetrators, substance abuse, having multiple sexual relationships make up the personal factors, and in the case of children factors such as conflict and violence in the family, living with others such as relatives, and working in unsafe areas were factors identified. Social factors include living alone, lack of discussion about sexuality and reproductive health issues in the family, and the predominant perception that girls are not equal to boys. Structural factors that are related to sexual violence are school distance and lack of commitment and capacity in implementing commitments made to protect children from sexual abuse.

The limited studies that dealt with coping strategies and protective factors of vulnerable children and coping of victims of violence identify personal and social resources in both the protection and coping. These include personal competence and skills in identifying threats and protecting oneself; accessing information and social support systems both in the family and outside, and relying on these support systems instead of going elsewhere. Social support systems such as family love and support, and support from NGOs and clubs were the social resources discerned. In the case of victims of violence, the coping strategies were accessing and using social support systems including friends, going to church, avoiding the thoughts about the incident, and, in some cases, the use of substance.

### **c. Violence Affecting Young People**

Physical, sexual and psychological violence are experienced by young people at home, in educational institutions and communities. In general, next to physical violence, sexual violence is a highly prevalent phenomenon. Unmarried young people experience more varied types of violence compared those who are in wedlock; in addition to those they commonly share with married young people such as beatings, insults, and rape, unmarried young women experience verbal sexual harassment, unwanted bodily contact, and sexual coercion. Among the different forms of sexual violence, rape was a recurrent problem occurring in a variety of frequency in all the studies, and many of those who are victims of rape are victimized repeatedly.

Perpetrators are also different for married young women and those of unmarried ones. For those who were married perpetrators are almost always husbands, while a variety of individuals inflict violence on unmarried young women. These include individuals well familiar with the victims, strangers, boyfriends and in educational institutions where violence is seen in high rate male students, male teachers, other support staff and sometimes female students themselves were among the perpetrators.

Impacts of violence against young people depend on the forms of violence. Consequences of physical violence include bodily harms, and psychological problems such as feeling of apprehension. In many of the victims, sexual violence specifically rape, has resulted in unwanted pregnancy, abortion, STIs, and related to psychological problems such as anxiety, guilt feelings, self-blame and lowered self-esteem. Sexual harassment most frequently occurs

in educational institutions resulting, among others, into embarrassment, confusion, sleep disturbance and low academic performance.

Personal factors such as age favouring perpetrators, giving in to peer pressure on the part of young people, the desire to fulfil the request of boyfriends with the intention of sustaining the relationship, risky behaviour such as consuming khat, shisha and alcohol were identified as factors related to the various forms of violence, especially sexual violence. Parental divorce, living alone, the perception that violence is part of life and thus accepting it, and failing to report violence were some of the social factors. In addition, economic factors expressed in the need for money has also come out as a factor.

#### **d. IPV**

IPV is a commonly experienced violence among partnered women. Though it is difficult to generalize and conclude that it happens to all people and in all places due to the nature of the studies reviewed, incidents range from 78% in Awi zone of Amhara region (Semahegn, Tefera & Misra, 2013) to 13% in urban and 9% in rural areas (Erulkar, 2013). The most commonly occurring forms of physical violence are beating, slapping, being pushed or having something thrown, in some cases burning, choking, and being attacked with a knife. Sexual violence also prevalent ranging from 52% (WHO, 2005) and 22% (Erulkar, 2013), mostly occurring forms being forced sex. Similarly, psychological violence is rampant ranging from 61.2% reported by Regassa (2010) to 19.2% (Yigzaw, et al. 2010). The most commonly occurring forms of psychological violence are insults and degradation, intimidating, threatening with a weapons, restricting and controlling movements and social contacts.

IPV results into a number of negative physical, social and psychological repercussions. Among the physical harms are bodily injury including fractures and broken bones. Psychological impacts include anxiety, depression, and poor perceived status of health.

A number of immediate and root causes contribute to the occurrence of IPV. Among the root causes are social and economic factors such as the predominant patriarchal values that place women in a subordinate position, lack of education, lack of economic empowerment and lower decision making role of women. The immediate factors are made up of age gap favouring a male partner; alcohol abuse, jealousy, and transgression of the prescribed gender roles.

### **e. Research Gaps**

The following tentative list of research gaps have been identified from the review to be expanded and refined in the second part of the mapping.

- The majority of the studies on sexual violence are about girls and young women, despite the contention in one of the studies and media information that victimisation of male children and young males is also on the rise.
- In the studies attempting to identify causes or factors for sexual violence, especially as it relates to the victimization of young women, most of them focus on immediate personal and social factors with less emphasis on root causes behind these immediate factors. For example, age gap, substance abuse, peer pressure, condoning and accepting as part of life, and family breakdown are highlighted, which are instigating factors not root causes.
- In most Ethiopian societies it is a fact that girls and boys are treated differently based on the socially prescribed roles; however, there are not many studies that show if there are differences in the type of violence girls and boys encounter, in the degree of exposure and other related factors except some that indicate boys are more exposed to physical violence than girls. In order to address issues that happen differentially for girls and boys, studies that look into the probably existing differences should be carried out.
- The review identified various physical, psychological, social and academic negative impacts of physical violence. However, there is no information about whether these negative consequences differ by age and sex. Since adversity and coping is mediated by age and sex, inquiry needs to be made as to how sex and age mediate the impacts of various forms of violence.
- The study by Save the Children, MoE and MoWA (2008) shows inter regional variations for the incidence of the various forms of sexual violence affecting children; for example, psychological violence is seen more in some regions compared to others. This needs to be explored further to find out the reasons for interregional differences and the factors attached to these differences.
- The review showed that many victims of rape experience rape repeatedly. Though some studies identified some correlates, the reasons behind this repeated victimization needs to be further explored to stop the cycle of violence.

- Bullying is the least investigated issue among the different forms of violence affecting children. Though it may exist in high degrees the lack of awareness about bullying and the inability to name and articulate it may hide the incidence as well as the negative impacts it may bring on children. Therefore, an exploratory study investigating bullying may be considered.
- A number of negative psychological, social and cognitive consequences of corporal punishment or physical violence have been reported. However, it would be challenging to generalize and also conclude about these consequences since the studies used different measures and, in some cases, they do not provide operational definitions for the different concepts. A study that can clarify these issues and strengthen the arguments may be considered.
- Age as a factor for physical violence among children and IPV has been shown to have inconsistent relationship; age increasing the likelihood in some and decreasing the likelihood in other, the same with income. The inconsistencies in these findings require further investigation.
- Though parents are in most cases the perpetrators of violence taking place at home, their views have not been sufficiently investigated.
- Most studies are quantitative with limited description of differences between and within genders and ages, and of processes leading up to violence.
- Few studies have been conducted on reactions to and coping with violence and protective factors, which requires attention.

## **7. Key Organisations and Potential Partners**

A number of government, non-government and UN organisations are working on VACAY. Among the ones identified from documents and internet the following key partners are suggested.

### **a. Violence Affecting Children**

ACPF as a partner in the research endeavour on VACAY would have great contribution in many ways. Its research and publication experiences in the area of violence affecting children would provide an opportunity for experience sharing. Its networks would help for dissemination of research outcomes and advocacy. Therefore, it is suggested as a partner.

As indicated earlier child protection is one of the major programmes in Save the Children. Both the practical and theoretical knowledge Save the Children has acquired over the years as well as its connection with other organizations working on child protection would contribute a lot to Young Lives' planned research project.

UNICEF works on VACAY on various fronts. Its education programme partners with the MoE to eliminate violence in the education sector. Its collaboration with the MoE in developing anti harassment codes of conduct for the schools, Technical Vocational Education and Training institutions, and higher education institution is one instance. In addition, under its child protection programme UNICEF works in several areas including forced child marriage. It has also been collaborating with UNFPA on the elimination of VAW. Due to its networks and experiences on VACAY, UNICEF could be a potential partner to Young Live's VACAY research.

UNFPA and UNICEF have been collaborating globally and in Ethiopia in a systematic manner in the areas of gender equality and women's empowerment with a focus on Gender Based Violence and Violence against Women and Children, Abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting and Ending Child Marriage; adolescent & youth development (with a particular focus on HIV/AIDS and Sexual and Reproductive Health), and on child protection and gender-based violence in emergency/humanitarian settings.

### **b. Violence Affecting Young People**

Earlier youth issues were handled under the previously Ministry of Women Children and Youth Affairs (MoWCYA). A number of activities have also been undertaken by the Ministry including the preparation of young people development report and youth development index though both don't mentioned violence as an issue to be addressed. Currently, the youth issue has been placed under the newly established Ministry of Youth and Sport. Though the Ministry of Youth and Sport at this point may not be actively engaged in research and advocacy on violence affecting youth, it would help to involve it as it is a major government stakeholder.

The review shows that most of the studies carried out on violence involved young women as a targets with a focus on GBV, specifically sexual violence. Therefore, involving organizations that work on the issue would help get practical insights and issues that need further investigation. Accordingly, it is suggested to consider AWSAD. As explained earlier, AWSAD provides shelter for women, in many cases women victims of violence, and provides them with necessary support and recovery rehabilitation possibilities.

NEWA is another organisation that advocates against violence affecting women. NEWA is a networking organizations with member organizations working on various issues including education. Therefore, involving NEWA not only will bring its experiences but also indirectly access the experiences and insights of its member organizations.

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## Appendix

### Appendix I – Bibliographic and Methodological Information of Reviewed Studies

No	Author	Title	Year	Methodology and Sampling				
				Method	Place of Study	Size	Sex	Age
1	Abdulwassie, Awan	Conceptualizations of children and childhood: the case of Kolffe and Semen Mazagaja, Addis Ababa.	2007	Qualitative approach. Semi-structured and informal interviews, FGDs, and observation were used.	Addis Ababa, Kolffe and Semein Mazagaja areas.	Parents, elderly people, and boys and girls.		
2	Aberra, Mariamawit	School bullying: The case of selected schools in Addis Ababa.	2013	Quantitative method, with a survey design. Purposive sampling technique was employed to select participants.	Addis Ababa	379 students participated	193 female and 181 male (of the 379 cases ,five did not indicate their gender)	Average age was17 years
3	Adem, Addisalem	Sexual violence against female street adolescents: exploring the experience of sexually violated female street adolescents.	2010	Qualitative method, with a case study. Non probability sampling or purposive sampling was used.	Addis Ababa, Addis Ketema sub-city.	A total of 14 individuals: 5 for depth interviews, 7 individuals for FGD, and 2 individuals as key informants.	The participants were all females.	15-19 years of age

4	African Child Policy Forum	Violence against girls in Africa: A retrospective survey in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda	2006	Mainly quantitative with qualitative method used as a supplementary method. The study was a retrospective study.	Addis Ababa	485 children	All female	All between the ages of 18 and 24.
5	African Child Policy Forum	The African report on violence Against children	2014	A desk-based review of contextual study and qualitative methods. A multistage sampling approach including cluster, simple random and stratified sampling was employed in the research. A structured questionnaire was administered by enumerators and interviews were conducted.	Ethiopia	A total of 588 children, 588 parents and 560 young adults were interviewed.	For children (11-17), boys were 294 and female were 294. Both male and female youth were 280 in total.	The children were between the age of 11-17, and the youth between the age of 18 and 24.
6	African Child Policy Forum and Save the Children Sweden	Sticks, stones and brutal words: The violence against children in Ethiopia	2006	Mixed method approach. employing a combination of stratified, purposeful and quota sampling using gender, age, level of education, status, role, type of community and organization as strata.	Addis Ababa, Oromia, Amhara, Tigray and SNNPRS	Total number of 2321 respondents: children, parents, teachers, community leaders, representatives of child-focused organizations, as well as judicial and law enforcement officials.	Both female and male.	Below 18 and between 18 and 25.

7	Allen, Mary & NiRaghallaigh, Muireann	Domestic Violence in a developing context: The perspectives of women in Northern Ethiopia	2013	Qualitative research methodology with purposive sampling used to select participants.	Tigray region of northern Ethiopia.	39 women	39 female	Three groups: 18 - 25 25 - 35 and 35+ years of age.
8	Andualem, Megib, Tiruneh, Gebyaw, Gizachew, Ayu & Jara, Dube.	The prevalence of intimate partner physical violence against women and associated factors in Gozaman Woreda, Northwest Ethiopia.	2014	Quantitative (community based cross-sectional study). A Multistage sampling method was used to selected study participants.	Gozaman Woreda, Northwest Ethiopia	1010 married women	1010 female	15 -19 = 9 20- 29= 216 30-39= 307 40-49= 272 50-59= 137 60+ =69
9	Ayalew, T. & Berhane, Y.	Child prostitution: magnitude and related problems	2000	A cross-sectional study design, with structured questionnaire as data collection tool.	Ethiopia	A total of 650 commercial sex workers.	650 female	
10	Ayode, Desta	Rapid assessment on child protection in Addis Ababa, Addis Ketema Sub-city, Woreda 08.	2012	Both quantitative and qualitative method were used to gather data. Simple random sampling method was used to select respondents for the quantitative method.	Addis Ababa. Merkato (the biggest market place in the city), Woreda 8 of Addis Ketema sub-city.	24 children, 338 household heads, 32 community members (FGD), 8 police officers (FGD), 10 key informants (NGOs, GOs and Individuals) participated in the study.	Among the 338 heads of households, 121 were male and 217 were female.	The age range of heads of households was 19 -90
11	Bekele A., Belachew	Determinants of sexual violence among Eastern Ethiopia secondary school students.	2012	Mixed method approach was used. Multistage sampling technique used to select participants.	Dire Dawa, Harar, Jijiga	A total of 1586 secondary school students participated in the study.	793 males and 793 females.	All between 14 and 24 years of age.

12	Bekele, A. Blachew, Van Aken, Marcel A. G. & Dubas, J. S.	Sexual violence victimization among female secondary school students in Eastern Ethiopia.	2012	Mixed methodology approach. FGDs and interviews were conducted for the qualitative approach and a questioner was used to collect quantitative data. A multistage sampling method utilized to select participants.	Dire Dawa, Harar and Jijiga.	341 female students from Dire Dawa, 251 from Harar, and 172 from Jijiga	764 females	The mean age of the respondents was 16.81
13	Belay, Ephrem	Sexual abuse of male children	2009	Qualitative method, using an exploratory research design. Purposive sampling technique was used to select participants.	Addis Ababa.	8 sexually abused children participated in the study	All of them were male	12-17 years of age
14	Bogale, Adye. Tessema, Fasil & Haile, Amha	Assessment of sexual assault among women in Assendabo town, Oromia region, South West Ethiopia.	2004	Quantitative (A cross-sectional study). A systematic random sample was used to select study subjects.	Assendabo town, Oromia region, South West Ethiopia	323 participants.	323 female	10 years and above
15	Chutta, Nardos	Conceptualizations of children and childhood in Bishoftu, Oromia	2007	Qualitative approach with structured and semi-structured interviews, informal interviews, FGDs, observations and photographs were used.	Two schools in rural and urban Bishoftu.		Boys and girls	

16	Deribew, Amare	The physical health consequences of intimate partner violence against women in Agaro town, Southwest Ethiopia	2008	Quantitative method. Systematic sampling technique was applied to select participants.	Agaro town, Southwest Ethiopia	510 ever-partnered women	510 women	All between the age of 15 - 49 years
17	Deyessa, <u>Negussie</u> ; Berhane, <u>Yemane</u> ; Alem, <u>Atalay</u> ; Ellsberg, Mary; Emmelin, Maria; Hogberg, <u>Ulf</u> , and <u>Gunnar, Kullgren</u> .	Intimate partner violence and depression among women in rural Ethiopia: a cross-sectional study.	2009	Quantitative method (community-based cross-sectional survey). Simple random sampling technique applied to select participants.	Meskan and Mareko, two rural districts in Ethiopia	1994 participants	All female	Between 15 and 49 years
18	Endashaw, Belay	Factors Contributing to sexual violence against female high school students in Addis Ababa	2008	Cross sectional design, with FGD as a supplemental data collection method.	Addis Ababa	600 high school students selected from 12 schools in 6 sub-cities using stratified sampling.	All female	Between 14 and 20 years.

19	Erulkar, A.S., Ferede, A., Ambelu, W., Girma, W., Amdemika H., Gebremedhin, B., Legesse, B., Tameru, A., & Teferi, M.	Ethiopian young adult survey, a study in seven regions	2009	A population-based survey was conducted.	Conducted in urban and rural areas of seven regions: Addis Ababa; Afar; Amhara; Beneshangul Gumuz; Oromiya; Southern Nations Nationalities, and People's Region (SNNPR); and Tigray	10,080 young people participated in the study	Equal number of males & females participated in the study (5040 for each sex)	12–24 of age
20	Erulkar, Annabel	Early marriage, marital relations and intimate partner violence in Ethiopia.	2013	Quantitative approach was used in the study. A Population-based survey conducted. Two hundred fifty two enumeration areas (36 per region) were selected at random.	Seven regions of Ethiopia (Addis Ababa; Afar; Amhara; Beneshangul Gumuz; Oromiya; the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR); and Tigray	1,671 women	1,671 female	20–24 years of age

21	Eshetu, Ejeta	Assessment of sexual harassment and associated factors among grade 9-12 female students at schools in Ambo district, Oromia national regional state, Ethiopia.	2015	A mixed approach, with a structure pretested questionnaire and two FGDs conducted. Stratified and simple random sampling were employed for the selection participants for quantitative data.	Ambo district, Oromia national regional state, Ethiopia	414 participants	414 female participants	All between the age of 14 - 25 years
22	Fisseha, Girmatsion, Alemayehu, Mussie, Mirutse G/Meskel, Amare, Kahsay, W/aregay, Berhe, Birhane, Eyouel & Desta, Alem	Prevalence of physical violence and associated factors among married women in rural part of Northern Ethiopia.	2014	Quantitative method with a community based cross-sectional design was used. A systematic random sampling technique used to select the study subjects. A structured questionnaire was employed to collect data, with participants selected with systematic random sampling.	Ethiopia (Hawzien rural district)	660 ever married women	660 female	297(47.2%) found in age group of 54 and above years

23	G/Yohannes, Yaynshet.	Prevalence and factors related to gender based violence among female students of higher learning institutions in Mekelle town, Tigray, Northern Ethiopia	2007	A mixed approach with a quantitative institution based cross-sectional design in combination with qualitative methods. Cluster and simple random sampling were employed for questionnaire respondents and purposive sampling for FGD participants.	Mekelle town, Tigray region, Ethiopia.	A total of 1052 students participated in the study	All women	Below 20, 20-24, 24+ year olds, with most falling between the ages of 20 and 24.
24	Gorfu, Mekonnen and Demsee, Asresash	Sexual violence against schoolgirls in Jimma zone: Prevalence, patterns, and consequences.	2007	Mixed method approach (cross sectional survey and FGD). A stratified sampling technique and purposive sampling used in selecting participants.	Jimma	1118 school girls	All were female	Between the ages of 16 and 25 .
25	Haile, R. Tesfye, Kebeta, D. Nigussie, & Kassie, G. Mitike.	Prevalence of sexual abuse of male high school students in Addis Ababa	2013	Quantitative method (Descriptive cross sectional study). Multi stage sampling was employed involving simple random sampling technique at different stages.	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	884 high school boys	All male	18 years and above

26	Hailemariam, Theodros.	School Related Gender Based Violence (SRGVB) in Ethiopia: a desk review.	2015	A desk review was conducted using country, regional and program reports, survey assessments, research studies, and regional School Related Gender Based Violence reports	Addis Ababa city administration, Amhara, Oromia, Somali, and Benishangul Gumuz regions were covered.	.		
27	Hirpa, Yilma	Sexual abuse among female street children: the case of Lideta Sub-city, Addis Ababa.	2007	Qualitative approach – in-depth interviews, FGDs, and key informant interview were used.	Lideta Sub-city, Addis Ababa.	17 children selected and key informants selected using purposive sampling.	All the children were girls	Between 13 and 18.
28	Jemal, Fozia	Assessment of intimate partner violence against women by their husbands in Kolfe Keranio sub-city, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	2014	Cross sectional research design, using a structured questionnaire data collected by enumerators.	Addis Ababa	368 married women	All women	All between the ages of 15 and 60.
29	Jemal, Jibril	Child sexual abuse epidemic in Addis Ababa: some reflections on reported incidents, psychosocial consequences and implications.	2012	Quantitative method and document review as secondary resource. Purposive sampling technique was employed to select participants for a semi-structured questionnaire.	Addis Ababa	64 selected victims of child abuse	Both girls and boys	All between the age of 11-18, most falling between 15 and 18.

30	Kassahu, Tibebe	Sexual harassment: the case of Jimma University	2009	A quantitative cross-sectional study. A survey was used as data gathering technique, with simple random sampling employed to select participants.	Jimma	331 university students.	All girls	Between 17 and 24 years of age.
31	Kebede, Emebet, W. Giorgis, Original & Damite, Mellese	Violence against women in Addis Ababa	2004	A mixed approach with a with a survey questionnaire administered to 100 housewives, 100 female civil servants, and 100 high school female students. In-depth interviews conducted with law enforcement officials, gynaecologists, and obstetricians. Secondary data gathered from of official records of police stations, and prosecution offices.	Addis Ababa	300 respondents.	All women.	
32	Lakew, Z.	Alleged case of sexual assault reported to two Addis Ababa hospitals	2001	A cross-sectional descriptive study.	Tikur Anbessa and St. Paul's hospitals, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.	170 cases of sexual assault were seen, including children and youth	All females	0-29 years of age, most falling between 11 and 15 years of age.

33	Lalor, Kevin, J.	Street children: A comparative perspective	1999	Qualitative research method, with interview used as data collection method.	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	160 street children	Both boys girls and boys.	
34	Le Mat, Marielle L. J.	Sexual violence is not good for our country's development': Students' interpretations of sexual violence in a secondary school in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	2016	Qualitative method, with a total of 29 interviews and 4 FGDs. In-depth interviews with 9 girls and 6 boys, and FGDs with boys, girls, teachers and other professionals.	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Teachers, sexual and reproductive health professionals and 25 students participated in the study.	14 girls and 11 boys participated	Child participants between the age of 14 and 18 years.
35	Lelieveld, Marlijn	Child protection in the Somali region of Ethiopia	2011	Qualitative method and desk research of documents. Purposive sampling technique was used to choose schools and random sampling to select boys and girls for FGDs.	Somali region of Ethiopia	75 girls, 69 boys, 40 PTA/CMC members, 55 women and 26 men/elders, 26 key informants.	75 girls and 69 boys as child participants.	Most of the child participants were between 12 and 18 years of age.

36	Mekuria, Aleme, Nigussie Aderajew and Abera Muluemebet	Childhood sexual abuse experiences and its associated factors among adolescent female high school students in Arbaminch town, Gammu Goffa zone, Southern Ethiopia	2015	Mixed methodology approach, with a cross-sectional study with structured self-administered questionnaire for gathering quantitative data, and 14 in-depth interviews for gathering qualitative data. Random sampling technique was applied for selection of the survey respondents.	Arbaminch town, Gammu Goffa zone,	362 high school students for the questionnaire and 14 female students and teachers for in-depth interviews.	All female	Adolescents aged between 14 and 19.
37	Melese, Wudu & Fenta, Getahun	Trends and causes of female students dropout from teacher educations institutions in Ethiopia case of Jimma University	2009	Qualitative (interviews and FGDs), quantitative (questionnaire survey) and documentary review and were employed. Stratified and purposive sampling techniques used to select participants.	Jimma University, Jimma, Ethiopia	130 students for the survey and 6 instructors, gender officers and guidance and counseling officers.	All female students participants.	
38	Melesse, F. & Kassie, A.	Child abuse in urban setting: A one-year analysis of hospital information on abused children at Yekatit 12 Hospital, Addis Ababa	2005	A prospective cross-sectional analysis method was used to conduct the research	Yekatit 12 Hospital, Addis Ababa, Addis Ababa Ethio	214 abused children covered in the study	Among 214 children under the age of 15, years 93% were female.	

39	Mersha, Yeshimebrat, Bishaw, Alemayehu & Tegegne, Firew	Factors affecting female students' academic performance at Bahir Dar University	2013	Mixed approach methods were employed. Quantitative data obtained through questionnaire and qualitative included document analysis, student records, and interviews. Participants selected using simple random method.	Bahir Dar University, Bahir Dar, Ethiopia.	A total of 600 students participated in the study.	400 females and 200 male.	
40	Misganaw, Alemayehu C and Worku, Yalew A	Assessment of sexual violence among street females in Bahir-Dar town, North West Ethiopia: a mixed method study	2013	A mixed method approach. Purposive sampling technique used to collect data for the qualitative method and a special sampling technique was applied to collect data for the quantitative method.	Bahir-Dar town	404 street females participated for the quantitative method. 29 individuals for the qualitative method, which included key informant interviews with 4 stakeholders; 5 case studies; one FGD of 10 street girls and one FGD of 10 street boys.	In addition to stakeholder and case studies, 404 street girls and 10 street boys, and participated in the study.	All between the age of 15 – 49 years of age.

41	Mulatu, Sosena	Domestic violence against women: The case study of Kolfe Keranyo Sub-City	2007	Qualitative approach as a primary method with quantitative data as supplementary. FGD with 18 women and 15 in-depth interviews (12 of them victims & 3 key informants). Survey using 150 women for the quantitative data. Purposive sampling used to select participants.	Kolfe Keranyo Sub-City, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	A total of 183 research participants, with 150 survey respondents, 15 in-depth interviewees and 18 women FGD participants.	150 female survey respondents, 12 female in-depth interviewees, 2 male and 1 female key informants, and 18 female FGD participants.	Between 20 and 52 years of age
42	Nigussie, Berhanu	Child sexual abuse and its devastating effects on survivors: speaking the unspeakable	2014	Review of literature and author's own professional view.			Both female and male.	
43	Poluha, Eva.	The power of continuity: Ethiopia through the eyes of its children.	2004	Qualitative approach – participant observation, interviews and diaries written by children were used.	Addis Ababa, Merkato and Gojjam, Dangla.	Twenty girls and boys from Addis Ababa, with observation of a class with 105 children: 66 girls & 39 boys.	Observation of a class with 105: 66 girls & 39 boys.	Between the ages of 9 and 15.

44	Save the Children Denmark, Ministry of Education & Ministry of Women's Affairs	A Study on Violence against Girls in Primary Schools and Its Impacts on Girls' Education in Ethiopia. Addis Ababa.	2008	A survey administered to students, teachers and parents selected using a stratified three-stage cluster sampling procedure. A total of 452 FGDs conducted with students, teachers and parents, and 318 in-depth interviews carried out with school principals, Woreda education experts, officials from women's affairs, the police, and elders.	29 sample Woredas in Addis Ababa, Amhara, Tigray, Oromia, Somali, Benishangul Gumuz, SNNPR, Gambella, Harari, Afar, Dire Dawa.	1268 students from 116 primary and 11 secondary schools, 342 teachers and 324 parents, other key informants participated in the study.	761 females and 507 male students	
45	Save the Children	Child Protection	2016	Child friendly workshop method and secondary data were employed to collect data.	Addis Ababa city and Woldyia town.	A total of 65 children participated from the two sites.	34 male and 31 female	Below and above 12
46	Save the Children & African Child Policy Forum	Ending physical and humiliating punishment against children in Ethiopia	2005	Mixed Approach with a structured interview, FGDs and narrative/story telling. A combination of stratified and quota sampling techniques was used to select participants. Purposive sampling was used to select FGD participants and narratives	Addis Ababa, Oromia, Amhara, Tigray and SNNPR	A total of 2,321 individuals participated as respondents. Of these, 1,873 (82%) were children and the remaining 448 (18 percent) were teachers, parents, CBO leaders and representatives or officials of various organizations.	Among the children, 976 were males & 897 females. Among the teachers, parents, CBO leaders and representatives or officials of various organizations 290 were male and 158 were female.	All the children were between the age of 4 and 18 years old.

47	Semahegn, Agumasie, Belachew, Tefera & Abdulahi, Misra.	Domestic violence and its predictors among married women in reproductive age in Fagital ekoma Woreda, Awi zone, Amhara regional state, North Western Ethiopia.	2013	Mixed method approach. Systematic sampling technique used to select respondents for the quantitative method (structured questionnaire), and purposive sampling to select key informants for and focus group discussants.	Amhara regional state, North Western Ethiopia	682 married women for the structured questionnaire administered using enumerators, and 46 participants for in-depth interview and FGDs.	682 women and participants in 4 FGDs.	15-24 25-34 35-44 44+ years, most falling between 25 and 34.
48	Shanko, W., Wolday, M., Assefa, N. & Aro A. R.	Domestic violence against women in Kersa, Oromia region, eastern Ethiopia.	2013	Quantitative method with community-based cross-sectional interview-based survey. A Systematic random sampling technique applied to select participants.	Kersa district of Oromia region, Ethiopia	849 women	849 female	15–49 years.
49	Tadele, Getnet	‘Unrecognized victims’: Sexual abuse against male street children in Merkato area, Addis Ababa	2009	Cross-sectional mixed approaches with in-depth interviews, FGDs were used.	Merkato Area, Addis Ababa	186 children – 36 children for FGD, 24 for life history, 126 for a survey, and 36 key informants..	177 boys and 9 girls.	Between 9 and 18 years.

50	Tadesse, Seblework	Assessment of Sexual Coercion Among Addis Ababa University Female Students	2004	Mixed method approach, with a cross sectional survey for quantitative and FGD for gathering qualitative data. Multistage sampling, systematic, and purposive sampling were used in selection of study the participants.	Addis Ababa University	624 AAU undergraduate students	612 female students and 12 boys participated in FGD.	Below 20 20-24 and 25 and above, most falling within 20 and 24 age range.
51	Tamene, Ayele	Growing up in town and countryside in Amahra society	2007	Qualitative approach with semi-structured and key informant interviews, observations, diaries and FGDs were used.	Debre Markos and adjacent rural area.	50	40 boys and girls 10 adults	40 children between ages of 10 and 18 and 10 men and women above the age of 30..
52	Tarekegn, Desalegn	Assessment of the prevalence and associated factors of sexual violence among high school female students in Dilla Town, Gedoe Zone, SNNPR, Ethiopia	2014	Institution based cross-sectional design with self-administered questionnaire used.	Dilla Town, SNNPR	280 high school students selected using random sampling.	All female	Between 14 and 21.

53	Teklu, Fiseha & Kumar, Sreevalsa	Teachers' attitude towards corporal punishment: elementary schools of the Central Zone of Tigray Region in Ethiopia.	2014	Survey design (Closed ended questionnaire, with multi-stage cluster sampling used to select respondents.	Central Zone of Tigray	199 teachers	103 male and 96 female	
54	The African Child Policy Forum	Violence against girls in Africa: A retrospective survey in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda.	2006	Mixed method approach was applied in the study. Quantitative data collected using a questionnaire retrospectively responded, and open ended questionnaire to gather qualitative data.	Ethiopia, Addis Ababa.	500 girls	500 girls	All between the ages of 18 and 24 years.
55	The African Child Policy Forum and Save the Children Sweden.	Violence against children in Ethiopia: In their words	2006	Mixed method approach. Structured interview, FGD and Story Telling used instruments of data collection. Stratified, purposive and quota sampling techniques were used to select participants.	Addis Ababa, Oromia, Amhara, Tigray and SNNPR.	1873 children and young people between the ages of 18 and 25.	976 male & 897 female children.	Children below the age of 18 and young people between 18 and 25.

56	Tora, Ababayehu	Assessment of Sexual Violence Against Female Students in Wolaita Sodo University, Southern Ethiopia	2013	Quantitative method, data collected using structured, self-administered, and pretested questionnaire. Simple random sampling was employed to recruit participants.	Wolaita Sodo University	374 female students	374 female	Participants age ranged between was 17 and 25.
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56	Tsegaye, Admasu	The psychological effects of child physical abuse and neglect during adolescence: the case of Sululta secondary school students in grades 9 & 10	2010	Qualitative approach, specifically exploratory phenomenological approach was used. Purposive sampling technique was applied to select research participants.	Oromia regional state, Sululta town.	10 participants were involved in the study	5 female and 5 male were in the study.	18-20 years of age.
57	Wondie, Yemataw, Zemene, Workie Tafesse, Biruk , Reschke, Konrad and Schröder, Harry	The psychosocial consequences of child sexual abuse in Ethiopia: A case-control comparative analysis.	2011	Quantitative method with an institution based a cross-sectional design. The participants of the study were selected randomly.	Addis Ababa, Bahir Dar and Gondar	318 child sexual abuse survivors and 318 matched, non-sexually abused children participated. A total of 636 girls participated in the study.	636 female	All between the ages of 7 and 21.
58	Yigzaw, Tegbar, Berhane, Yemane, Deyessa, Nigussie, Kaba, Mirgissa	Perceptions and attitude towards violence against women by their spouses: A qualitative study in Northwest Ethiopia.	2010	Qualitative study using focus group discussions and in-depth interviews. Purposive sampling was used in selection of study the participants	Gondar town	46 participants	Male 22 and Female 24	All between the age of 19-90 years

59	Yigzaw, Tegbar, Yibrie, Anwar & Kebede, Yigzaw	Domestic violence around Gondar in Northwest Ethiopia.	2004	Quantitative method with cross-sectional community-based design. Systematic sampling technique employed to select participants.	Maksegn town and two accessible rural Kebeles, Gondar in Northwest Ethiopia	1104	All women	15 years and above.
60	Yntiso, Gebre, Gebre, Ayalew, Shiferaw, Rahel and Workineh, Hiwot.	Resilience in Children Exposed to <sup>SEP</sup> Sexual Abuse and Sexual Exploitation in Merkato, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.	2009	Qualitative approach- life history and key informant interviews were employed. Purposive sampling technique was employed.	Addis Ababa, Merkato area	Purposively selected 68 children. Parents and key informants from NGOs working in the area.	All female	Between the ages of 10 and 24, sub-divided into 3 groups.
61	Yohannes, Dibaba	Sexual violence against female youth in Jimma town: prevalence, risk factors, and consequences.	2007	Quantitative method with a cross sectional design. Systematic sampling technique was applied to select participants.	Jimma town	588 youth	All women.	Between the ages of 15 and 24.