



Univerza v Mariboru

Fakulteta za varnostne vede



arrrs

JAVNA AGENCIJA ZA RAZISKOVALNO DEJAVNOST  
REPUBLIKE SLOVENIJE



UNIVERZITET CRNE GORE  
PRAVNI FAKULTET



# Interpersonal Violence in Rural Settings

ANDREA DRAŠKOVIĆ 136/19

KRISTINA JANKOVIĆ 55/19

NINA PREMOVIĆ 157/18

DIJANA MOJAŠEVIĆ 204/18

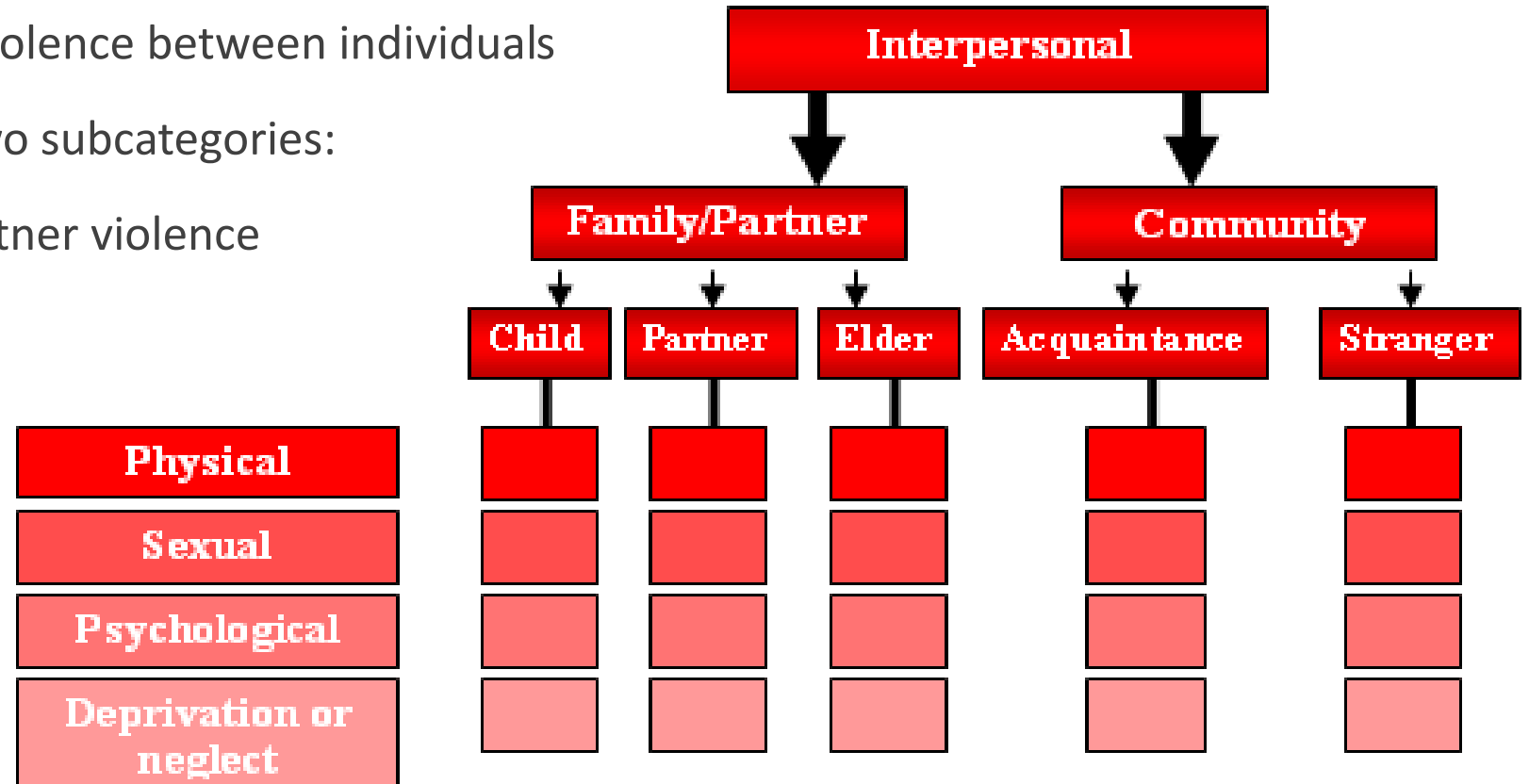
TEODORA RADOŠEVIĆ 222/18



# Definitions of Interpersonal violence

Interpersonal violence is violence between individuals  
and it is subdivided into two subcategories:

- ❖ Family and intimate partner violence
- ❖ Community violence



# Definitions of Interpersonal violence

---

- *Family or partner violence* refers to violence within the family or between intimate partners. It includes child maltreatment, dating and intimate partner violence (IPV) and elder maltreatment.
- *Community violence* occurs among individuals who are not related by family ties, but who may know each other. It includes youth violence, bullying, assault, rape or sexual assault by acquaintances or strangers, and violence that occurs in institutional settings such as schools, workplaces, and prisons.

# Child maltreatment

---

Abuse and neglect that occurs to children under 18 years of age. It includes:

- Physical ill-treatment
- Emotional ill-treatment
- Sexual abuse
- Neglect
- Negligence
- Exploitation



# Child Maltreatment



Worldwide,  
**1 in 4 adults** were  
physically abused  
as children.

## The Health Sector Responds



World Health  
Organization

## Child maltreatment has serious consequences.

The effects can be immediate.

Victims of child maltreatment can suffer serious injuries — or die.



Every year, about **41,000** children under 15 years are victims of homicide.  
More deaths from child maltreatment go unreported — since they're incorrectly documented as due to other causes.

The consequences can also last a lifetime.

Adults who were abused or neglected as children have a higher risk of:



Perpetrating or  
being a victim  
of violence



Depression



Obesity



High-risk sexual  
behaviours and  
unintended  
pregnancies



Harmful use  
of tobacco,  
drugs, and  
alcohol

Studies show that child maltreatment has high economic costs — in medical expenses, legal costs, and lost productivity.



Child maltreatment can actually slow a country's economic and social development.



# Child maltreatment - Rural settings

---

Family communities in rural areas are different from the urban ones. They are characterized by conservative-patriarchal upbringing, which in certain cases can lead to an increase in violence against children.

- Violence that mainly affects girls: child marriages, sexual exploitation and violence and human trafficking.
- Violence that mainly affects boys: child labor and peer physical violence.

# Chronic stressors in rural families

---

Families in rural areas are largely isolated from urban settlements, making it very difficult to adapt to modern lifestyles. Although bad treatment of children cannot be justified in any case, there is a certain degree of guilt that can be attributed to the state and institutions that are obliged to protect the rights of the child, preventively, and not only repressively.

This means that it is very important for the state to cooperate with families in rural areas, in order to bring them closer to the modern way of life and change the traditional habits that are not recognized as abuse in such communities.

# Intimate partner violence

---

Intimate partner violence is a violence against a spouse or emotional partner and refers to the behavior in a relationship that causes physical, sexual or psychological harm, including:

- physical assault,
- sexual violence,
- psychological abuse,
- behavioral control.



# Intimate partner violence – Rural settings

---

Research on the experience of domestic violence against women in rural areas showed that women within the family are most exposed to psychological violence, followed by economic, physical and sexual violence.

Most victims don't leave their abusive partner. As a reason, they cited:

- ❖ the fear of even greater violence,
- ❖ they did not believe that it would help them,
- ❖ they were ashamed,
- ❖ they thought that it was not serious.

There are many ways in which a man, especially in rural areas, establishes control and power over a woman:

- Coercion and threats
- Intimidation
- Emotional abuse
- Isolation
- Using children
- Male privilege
- Economic abuse



# Solutions

---

Victims of violence usually do not have the courage or security to seek help because they lack trust in institutions and support from their family and the environment. Society teaches victims, especially women, to be silent and to suffer for the sake of children, for the sake of their family, and for the sake of their home. It is very important to provide:

- ❖ support of family and friends
- ❖ support of institutions
- ❖ financial support
- ❖ employment assistance



# Elder maltreatment

---

Ill-treatment of elderly family members or community member implies a violation of basic human rights of persons who are unable to protect themselves because of their age.

Reflected in:

- Neglecting
- Physical, sexual and psychological abuse
- Material abuse
- Abandonment

# Elder maltreatment – Rural settings

---

There are different risk factors that can lead to this kind of social anomaly, such as:

- Risk factors related to community and social norms: isolation of the elderly; many older people are isolated due to physical or mental illness. The loss of friends and family members reduces opportunities for social interaction. Cultural norms are recognized as important, older people are often portrayed as weak and dependent.
- Individual risk factors related to the victim: an elderly person with cognitive or physical impairment is at an increased risk; healthier people are more likely to avoid abuse than those in less good health.

# Elder maltreatment – Rural settings

---

- The most common abusers are adult child victims, relatives or grandchildren. The perpetrators of violence against the elderly are in more than half of the cases women (daughters or daughters-in-law) who care for the victims on a daily basis. Caring for disabled elderly people is very stressful, especially when it comes to the elderly with mental and physical difficulties. When a caregiver is ill-prepared for the task he or she has to perform, the possibility of abuse is greater.
- Some families are more prone to violence, because violence is a learned behavior. In these families, violence is the only reaction they can use to respond to stressful situations.



# Community violence

---

Community violence is the exposure to intentional acts of interpersonal violence, committed in public areas by individuals who are not intimately related to the victim.

Common types of community violence that affect youth include individual and group conflicts:

- Bullying
- Fighting
- Shooting in public areas
- Civil war
- „War-like“ condition

# Community violence

---

Although some types of trauma are accidental, community violence is an intentional attempt to hurt one or more people and includes:

- homicides,
- sexual assaults,
- robberies,
- weapons attacks (e.g., bats, knives, guns).

# Statistics Montenegro 2017

---

## Family and partner violence

- Child maltreatment (neglect and abuse of a minor) - 11 cases reported (including 3 from past years), 2 left unsolved by the end of the year
- Elder maltreatment - 253 reported cases (including 20 from past years), 63 unsolved by the end of the year
- Sexual abuse - 7 reported cases
- Economic abuse (denying verdicted alimony) - 255 reported cases (including 51 from past years)

## Community violence

- Rape and attempted rape - 14 reported cases (3 solved by the end of the year)
- Physical assault:
  - Fighting - 338 reported cases (severe 175 and other lighter body injuries 163), of which 151 were solved cases by the end of the year
  - Weapon attacks - 26 reported cases (including 7 cases from past years), 2 cases left unsolved by the end of the year



# Statistics Montenegro 2018

---

## Family and partner violence

- Child maltreatment:  
Neglect and abuse of a minor - 10 cases reported (including 2 from past years), just 1 left unsolved by the end of the year;  
Minor sexual abuse - 3 reported cases
- Elder maltreatment - 319 reported cases (including 11 from past years), 4 unsolved by the end of the year
- Sexual abuse - 14 reported cases, 5 cases left unsolved by the end of the year
- Economic abuse (denying verdicted alimony) - 284 reported cases (including 42 from past years)

## Community violence

- Rape - 16 reported cases (just 1 unsolved by the end of the year)
- Physical assault:  
Fighting - 454 reported cases (severe 220 and other lighter body injuries 234) of which 242 were solved by the end of the year  
Weapon attacks - 21 reported cases (including 4 cases from past years), just 1 case left unsolved

# Statistics Montenegro 2019

---

## Family and partner violence

- Child maltreatment:  
Neglect and abuse of a minor - 15 cases reported (including 1 from past years), 5 left unsolved by the end of the year;  
Minor sexual abuse - 1 reported case
- Elder maltreatment - 334 reported cases (including 28 from past years), 2 unsolved by the end of the year
- Sexual abuse - 18 reported cases
- Economic abuse (denying verdicted alimony) - 249 reported cases (including 38 from past years)

## Community violence

- Rape - 7 reported cases (all cases were solved by the end of the year)
- Physical assault:  
Fighting - 378 reported cases (severe 184 and other lighter body injuries 194) of which 362 were solved by the end of the year  
Weapon attacks - 22 reported cases (including 3 cases from past years), just 1 case left unsolved

---

Thank you for your attention!