

Why We Need More Responsible Perpetrator Programmes

Perpetrator Programmes Address the Real Cause of Gender-Based Violence: Perpetrators' Behaviour and Internalised Harmful Beliefs.

Safety

- Perpetrator programmes help with an informed risk-assessment for women and children throughout the programmes by offering up-to-date/new information on the situation.
- Through closely working with the perpetrators, the programmes can alert the system to threats of violence much earlier than many other institutions.
- Perpetrator programmes can monitor perpetrators during times of increased risk, e.g. during separations, and help keep (ex-)partners and children safe.

Engaging Men and Boys

- In articles 12 and 16, the Istanbul Convention directly refers to the necessity of setting up perpetrator programmes and engaging men and boys in addressing violence against women and girls.
- Perpetrator programmes offer a space for men to openly share their prejudices and harmful beliefs, a space in which these notions can be discussed and disproven.
- Perpetrators' lives are impacted negatively by their violence as well. Perpetrator programmes improve men's lives by helping them develop strategies to deal with their issues in less destructive ways.

Children and Family

- As part of a wider response, perpetrator programmes help prevent future generations from repeating the violence they experienced as children.
- Perpetrator programmes are the main services that can competently work with child services to change fathers' violent behaviour.
- Perpetrator programmes help perpetrators understand the effect and consequences their violence has on women and children.

Partner Support

- Perpetrator programmes are an easy to reach contact for women worried about their partner's violence who are not ready to leave the abusive relationships.
- Proactive partner contact through perpetrator programmes can reach women who do not know about/have never been in contact with women's support services.
- Perpetrator programmes hold perpetrators accountable for their acts, taking this responsibility from the (ex-)partners' shoulders.

Further information:
www.work-with-perpetrators.eu



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