### Perpetrator Programmes Take Away Funding from Women's Support Services?

Funding in domestic violence is scarce and perpetrator programmes may receive money from the same sources as support services. Responsible perpetrator programmes are aware of this problem and make an effort to find alternative sources of income.

Financing from public sources has the benefit of ensuring the programmes are supervised and offering official channels in cases of misconduct.

In fact, the recognition of each other's work allows an effective collaboration in applying for funding and in working together. Through joint support, support services and perpetrator programmes can create stronger lobbying schemes, a more stable funding system and encourage independent funding.

Perpetrator programmes provide a gendered, holistic and victim-centred approach as an important part of the coordinated community response against gender-based violence. Through appropriate risk assessment and management, the safety of women and children can be increased. Responsible perpetrator work requires a close cooperation with specialised support services and is essential for the implementation of the Istanbul Convention to counteract violence against women and gender inequality.

## Do you have more questions about perpetrators programmes or the work we do? Ask us!

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Facebook: Work with Perpetrators - European

Network

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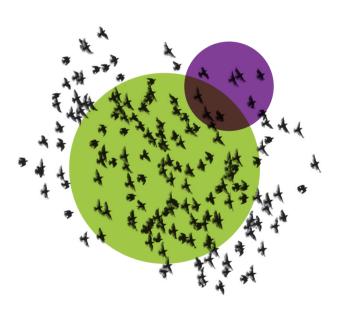
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# Perpetrator Programmes

**Starting a Conversation** 





#### Perpetrator Programmes Increase the Risk for (Ex-)Partners?

There is no such thing as a risk-free intervention, but responsible perpetrator programmes do their best to minimize these risks.

Shared information on perpetrator behaviour and continuous risk assessment in cooperation with the (ex-)partner increase the safety for women and their children and ensure the success of the intervention for men.

In fact, responsible perpetrator work can increase (ex-)partner and child safety by enabling faster and more informed responses to safety threats.

### Perpetrator Programmes Don't Take Women's Support Services into Account?

Ideally, perpetrator programmes are set up in close collaboration with women's support services, taking their work into account from the beginning.

A working relationship with women's services helps with a wider intervention, making both working with (ex-)partners and perpetrators more effective.

In fact, perpetrator programmes do not only have to take the work of women's support services into account, they should closely collaborate with them to ensure the (ex-)partner's safety and the programme's accountability to them and their children.

#### Perpetrator Programmes Focus Only on Men?

Responsible perpetrator programmes must provide a holistic and gendered understanding of men's violence and the consequences their behaviour has. Effective collaboration with women's support organisations and social services helps the programme focus on the (ex-)partner's and children's safety.

In fact, responsible perpetrator programmes prioritize the safety of women and children, as well as holding the perpetrators accountable.

## Perpetrator Programmes are a Form of Mediation or Couple's Counselling?

Perpetrator programmes are not a form of mediation or couple's counselling. They provide services aimed at preventing gender-based violence and holding the perpetrator accountable for his violent behaviour. Perpetrator programmes focus on working with men by engaging with their wrongdoings and the effects these have for themselves, their (ex-)partners and their children.

In fact, perpetrator programmes are obliged to comply with the Istanbul Convention, which prohibits performing mediation in cases of gender-based violence. The focus is on changing men's beliefs and practices that are harmful to women through responsible perpetrator work.

### Perpetrators use Programmes to Manipulate the System?

Perpetrators tend to be highly manipulative, but responsible perpetrator programmes are structured to address this issue.

Competent facilitators are trained to have the nature of perpetrators in mind and to use their courses to expose the deception for what it is.

In fact, good cooperation with responsible perpetrator programmes can sensitize judges and other actors in the system to the common manipulation through perpetrators.

#### Perpetrators Programmes Neglect the Consequences of Violence on Women and Children?

It is essential to provide the perpetrators with sufficient information about the effects of violence on women and children.

Programme facilitators are trained in understanding the consequences of violence and cooperation with women's support services helps uphold accountability towards survivors and their children.

In fact, responsible perpetrator programmes provide information about the effects of violence to help foster empathy and accountability in perpetrators.