

## A research-based model for understanding perpetration and its uses for evidence-based prevention

---

Keynote:  
Carol Hageman-White (Germany)  
*Facilitator:*  
Heinrich Geldschläger (Spain).

In 2010 we compiled a systematic overview of the research on what influences the likelihood of becoming a perpetrator of different forms of interpersonal violence. Reviewing the evidence, we found that the weight and influence for each factor and the interplay between them differ by form of violence, but together they describe a set of common roots of violence resulting from structural inequalities of gender, generation and sexual orientation.

The factors at play operate on different levels: in society and culture as a whole, through organisations and institutions, in the social worlds of daily interaction, and in the course of an individual's life history. There is not a single "root cause"; violence is not a disease, but a set of social practices of power, and it is almost always the interplay of factors that leads up to using violence.

In the meantime, the model has been used to developing a comprehensive prevention strategy for the UK, and it is now being recommended to Council of Europe member states, since the "Istanbul Convention" places signatories under an obligation to give priority to prevention, as well as an obligation (in Art. 16) to develop and support perpetrator programs.