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Title: Economic effects of interventions to reduce interpersonal violence

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Abstract:

Violence is defined as: "The intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment or deprivation" ¹¹This definition explicitly includes psychological harm and deprivation among the effects of violence, with corresponding implications for calculation of the economic effects of violence. While there is general agreement that psychological distress is an important component of the economic burden of violence, most studies have not quantified it in calculating the economic effects of violence. Among those that have, there is little agreement in the methodologies used. This document defines interpersonal violence to include violence between family members and intimates, and violence between acquaintances and strangers that is not intended to further the aims of any formally defined group or cause. Within the broad category of interpersonal violence, family and partner violence includes child abuse, intimate partner violence and elder abuse. Acquaintance and stranger violence includes stranger rape or sexual assault, youth violence, violence occurring during property crimes and violence in institutional settings such as schools, workplaces and nursing homes. Self directed violence, war, state sponsored violence and other collective violence are specifically excluded from these definitions. To assess the economic dimensions of interpersonal violence, it is necessary to understand the causes and identify the factors that increase the likelihood of people becoming victims and perpetrators of such violence. No single factor can explain why one individual, community or society is more or less likely to experience interpersonal violence. Instead, the Report showed that interpersonal violence is a complex phenomenon rooted in the interaction of many factors ranging from the biological to the political. To capture this complexity, there was adopted an ecological model that organizes the risk factors for interpersonal violence into four interacting levels: the individual level, relationships, community contexts and societal factors.

Introduction:

Conclusions:

References:

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