

THE NEED



In every community and cultural group, every day, thousands of children and youth are harmed by emotional, physical and/or sexual maltreatment. The ramifications on individuals, families and society are staggering: children and families become embedded in pain and dysfunction while society attempts to respond with crisis interventions that are often too little, too late.

Violence against children and youth is widespread in the world and in Canada

- Worldwide, 150 million girls and 75 million boys experience sexual violence yearly.
- There are over 1 million images of child sexual abuse on the Internet.
- Girls with disabilities are victims of sexual abuse four times more often than girls without disabilities.
- Only 2.4% of the world's children are legally protected from corporal punishment in all settings.
- Every year 1 in 5 children is sexually solicited online.
- 275 million children witness violence in their homes yearly.
- In Canada:
 - 38% of children under 18 are physically abused.
 - 25% of children under 18 are sexually abused.
 - 75% of Aboriginal girls under the age of 18 have been sexually abused.



Relationship violence among youth is rampant

- Survey findings indicate that 30–35% of youth report violence within dating relationships.



Bullying and harassment take a toll every day on young people

- In Canada, 39% of children under 18 have been bullied.
- A major study in Toronto schools found that a bullying act took place every 7 minutes; teachers were aware of only 4% of these incidents.

PREVENTION IS THE SOLUTION

The effectiveness of prevention education is well-documented. A recent study found that young women who had not received sexual abuse prevention education in childhood were twice as likely to experience sexual abuse than those who had participated in such a program.



RespectED: Violence & Abuse Prevention has been helping to promote healthier relationships and safer communities since 1984. Built on decades of Red Cross experience in prevention education, community-based safety programming, and volunteer involvement, this award-winning service has helped more than 4 million children, youth and adults understand violence issues. All programs engage learners in an interactive process, and encourage a proactive, comprehensive, community approach to prevention that incorporates education for youth and adults, risk assessment, policy development, evaluation, advocacy and monitoring.

The aim of RespectED: Violence & Abuse Prevention is to break the cycle of abuse, neglect, harassment and interpersonal violence through prevention services, and in so doing, promote safe and supportive relationships between individuals, within the family and throughout our communities.

HOW RESPECTED HELPS

RespectED educates and certifies volunteers, teachers, and community members as Prevention Educators. In collaboration with schools, sport organizations, community agencies, and other institutions, RespectED Prevention Educators deliver presentations and workshops that enable participants to:

- define healthy relationships
- understand violence and abuse of power
- promote safe environments
- learn that abuse, harassment and bullying are never the victim's fault
- locate helping resources.



RESPECTED PROGRAMS



MAKING A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY

1. Comprehensive Risk Management Programs

- **Ten Steps to Creating Safe Environments for Children and Youth** equips youth-serving organizations to establish safe environments for young people through risk assessment, policy development, codes of conduct, and educational and support services.
- **Prevention in Motion** helps adults and organizations to create safer environments through an increased understanding of abuse, neglect, their indicators and effects on children. It is available in-person and online, and can be customized to suit the audience, including sport, child/youth care, faith institutions, and others
- **Walking the Prevention Circle** acknowledges the history, challenges and potential of Aboriginal individuals and communities while exploring issues related to abuse, neglect and interpersonal violence.

2. Preventing Violence Against Children and Youth Programs

- **c.a.r.e.** (Canada) & **Be Safe!** (International) are personal safety programs with the goal to prevent abuse against children aged 5–9. These programs combine story-telling, puppetry, songs and interactive activities and games to educate children, parents, teachers and community members.
- **It's Not Your Fault** helps youth define abuse and neglect, understand why it occurs and how to get help or help a friend. This program has received the Seal and Certificate of Recommendation from the national Curriculum Services Canada.

- **Respect in Schools & Respect in Sport** are on-line programs from Respect Group Inc. that educate parents and adult leaders in the school and sport environment respectively on the prevention of abuse, bullying and harassment.

3. Promoting Healthy Dating Relationships for Youth Programs

- **Promoting Healthy Dating Relationships** examines healthy and unhealthy peer romantic relationships, focusing on dispelling stereotypes, and helps youth build communication and prevention skills.
- **Promoting Healthy Dating Relationships for Youth** helps adults examine the issues relating to youth relationship violence, defines sexual assault, emotional and physical abuse, and offers prevention strategies.

4. Prevention of Bullying & Harassment Programs

- **Beyond the Hurt** explores all aspects of bullying and peer harassment, interpersonal power issues, the rights and responsibilities of individuals, as well as prevention and intervention strategies. This program is delivered by youth, to youth.
- **Youth Peer Facilitator Training** equips youth to understand bullying and harassment and deliver Beyond the Hurt to their peers to help create a school environment that is respectful and safe for all young persons.
- **Beyond the Hurt** for adults explores the dynamics of bullying and peer harassment, and helps adults establish appropriate policies and guidelines to foster prevention and intervention.
- **Respect in the Workplace** is an online program of Respect Group Inc. that helps companies of all sizes, in any industry, to empower employees to understand and stop discrimination, harassment and workplace bullying.

- ● **Training programs** are available in each of RespectED's four program areas, and certify Prevention Educators to deliver RespectED programs. Both online and in-person options are available and can address many unique audiences.

● Programs for Children ● Programs for Youth ● Programs for Adults

.....
To order RespectED materials or to register for courses in RespectED's OnLine Learning Centre, please contact 1-888-307-7997 or wz-contactcentre@redcross.ca.

For more information on RespectED programs, please visit www.redcross.ca/respected or email respected@redcross.ca.

Since 1984, RespectED has educated more than 4 million children, youth and adults.