



# ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN (EVAC)

*Discourse with Political Leaders in MP*

*28<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2022*

# Important to include VAC in public discourse

- VAC is highly prevalent and yet invisible

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- VAC affects all human rights and has long lasting consequences in development

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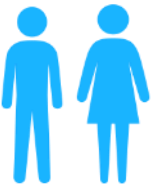
- VAC is costly

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- VAC is socially accepted and deeply permeated by gender issues

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- VAC requires multisectoral and multistakeholder actions



# Evidence (India/Madhya Pradesh)

Indicator	India	Madhya Pradesh		Source
	2019-21	2006	2020-21	
Women age 20-24 years married before age 18 years (%)	23.3	53.0	23.1	NFHS-5
Women age 15-19 years who were already mothers or pregnant at the time of the survey (%)	6.8	13.6	5.1	NFHS-5
Ever-married women who have ever experienced spousal violence (%)	29.3	45.7	28.1	NFHS-5
Ever-married women who have experienced violence during pregnancy	3.1	NA	2.3	NFHS-5
Children < 5 years whose births was registered (%)	89.1	29.7	94.1	NFHS-5
Girls below 6 Year per 1000 boys	929	960	956	NFHS-5
Indicator-Crime	India	Madhya Pradesh		Source
	2020	2009	2020	
Missing Children	59,262	427	8,751	NCRB
Crime against children	128,531	4646	17,008	NCRB

# What is Violence Against Children (VAC)

Violence Against Children includes all forms of **physical, sexual, online or mental violence, abuse, neglect or negligent** treatment.

Specifically:

- **Child maltreatment**, including violent discipline/corporal punishment, and domestic violence
- **Peer violence**, including bullying
- **Online Violence**
- **Sexual violence**, abuse and exploitation.
- Technically does not include other forms of exploitation
  - Child Labour
  - Child Marriage, etc.
- Target 16.2 of the SDGs is to “end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against, and torture of, children”.



# National & State Efforts towards EVAC

## Opportunities

- India has comprehensive policy and legal framework.
- India has banned corporal punishment for children up to the age of 14 years under RTE Act.
- Children's right to protection is a priority of the National Plan of Action for Children 2016.
- **National flagship schemes such as the ICPS, BBBP.**
- **Madhya Pradesh State Child Protection Policy 2020**
- **Madhya State Action Plan for Child Protection 2018**
- Increasing visibility of issues of violence, particularly sexual violence and recently domestic violence.

## Challenges

- Poor capacities, scarce funding, lack of sub-district structures.
- Attention has been focused on high profile sexual abuse but less in other forms of violence that are commonplace.
- Effective mechanisms to prevent violence from occurring in the first place are lacking.
- Violent discipline is socially widely accepted.

# Settings

- **Family and communities:** where domestic violence, sexual violence and corporal punishment often occurs
- **Schools:** where bullying, corporal discipline and sexual abuse often occur
- **Institutions:** where child maltreatment, sexual violence and abuse often occurs
- **Online:** especially sexual abuse (including sexual exploitation and 'grooming'), as well as bullying
- **On the move and on the streets:** where vulnerable children may be expose to violence





# What could we do

## 1. Creating an Enabling Environment

- EVAC prioritized as an agenda for public discussion and debate, including in state assemblies, and Panchayat Raj Institutions

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- Increased budget allocation for preventing violence against children across departments such as Education, DWCD, Health and Police

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- EVAC gains priority in party manifestoes, election manifestoes, etc.

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- EVAC is visibilised through political, religious and social/tribal leaders, sports persons, celebrities and other influencers

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- Self Reflection and Behavior Change: Examine and reflect our own attitude and perspective towards children and women

# What could we do

## 3. Empowering Children, Adolescents and Youth

- Ensuring all children are in school; mobilizing children out of school/in labour/in street situations to be enrolled in school.

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- Life skills education for children in various spaces, including institutions

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- Cyber education and CSA orientation integrated into school education

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- Orientation programmes for children on Child Sexual abuse and other forms of violence

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- Adolescent participation platforms such as Adolescent groups, student cadet cops, NSS, NYKS, school cabinets, and their voices are heard through 'samvads' by policy makers and influences





**Thank You**