School-related gender-based violence (SRGBV) in Asia-Pacific

Violence in, on the way, and around schools in Asia-Pacific often stems from rigid social and gender norms.

What is it?
It takes physical, sexual, and psychological forms.

- Corporal punishment
- Verbal abuse
- Bullying
- Physical violence
- Sexual violence and harassment

In Asia-Pacific, girls are more likely to face social exclusion, sexual, and psychological violence while boys are more likely to experience corporal punishment, bullying, and other forms of physical violence. Violence experienced by transgender students is poorly discussed and documented.

Why is it a problem?

- Learning outcomes: It can impact school participation, achievement, and continuation, particularly for girls.
- Health impacts: Violence in schools, as in any setting, can have impacts on physical, mental, and sexual health.
- Intergenerational violence: Boys who witness or experience violence are more likely to use it in their relationships as adults.

What can you do about it?

- Encourage protection policies in schools
- Promote gender equality and non-violence in curriculum and teaching practice
- Engage youth in creating solutions
- Strengthen links between schools, homes, and services

If you have witnessed or experienced SRGBV, seek help from someone you trust.

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