

gender-related ways of helping the victim and struggling against bullying are mentioned in Canadian handbooks, leaflets.

Every child has the right to feel safe at home, at school and in the community according to UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. To stop the hurtful behavior of bullying adults need to support children who seek their help. They need to respond immediately and take preventative steps to stop the behavior from happening in future.

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THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: THE AUSTRIAN EXPERIENCE

Today, the practice and policy of combating violence is being refined in both economically developed and developing countries. Countries enact laws, implement state programs, and take special measures in order to counteract forms of violence that have until recently been considered commonplace for families or individuals. In this article, we suggest analyzing Austria's experience in overcoming this problem.

In November 1996, the Austrian National Assembly adopted the Act on Protection against Domestic Violence. The law entitles the victim to protection from the offender in his / her living environment and in the social environment, giving the police the authority to evict offenders and impose restraining orders. In Austria, intervention centers have been set up to provide free counseling, assistance and support to victims of domestic violence.

If the offender threatens or harms the person living in the same premises, the police have the right to evict the offender from the common dwelling and prevent him/her from returning there, even though he/she may be the owner of the flat or house. The offender must keep the keys to the police officer's room, if he wants to take away his belongings, then the victim must be warned about his arrival. During this period, the court is bound to make a decision. The temporary injunction is valid for 3 months (maximum). Only when the victim has filed for divorce can the ban be extended until the divorce. Not only can the abuser be banned from entering their premises, but they may not be allowed to appear near the house or other designated places. If the offender violates the order, the victim may file a fine for contempt of court.

One of the main features of the Domestic Violence Protection Act is that in the case of violence, the police must respond, regardless of the interests of the victim, who makes his or her own decision only on temporary injunction. This approach makes it clear that the state considers itself responsible for security in private life, that it is aware of the problematic situation of the victim being abused under the pressure of the abuser.

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WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. It includes physical violence, sexual violence, psychological violence, and emotional abuse. The frequency and severity of domestic violence can vary dramatically; however, the one constant component of domestic violence is one partner's consistent efforts to maintain power and control over the other.

Domestic violence is an epidemic affecting individuals in every community regardless of age, economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality. It is often accompanied by emotionally abusive and controlling behavior that is only a fraction of a systematic pattern of dominance and control. Domestic violence can result in physical injury, psychological trauma, and in severe cases, even death. The devastating physical, emotional, and psychological consequences of domestic violence can cross generations and last a lifetime.

Domestic violence does not always end when the victim escapes the abuser, tries to terminate the relationship, and/or seeks help. Often, it intensifies because the abuser feels a loss of control over the victim. Abusers frequently continue to stalk, harass, threaten, and try to control the victim after the victim escapes. In fact, the victim is often in the most danger directly following the escape of the relationship or when they seek help: 20 % of homicide victims with restraining orders are murdered within two days of obtaining the order; 33% are murdered within the first month.

Unfair blame is frequently put upon the victim of abuse because of assumptions that victims choose to stay in abusive relationships. The truth is, bringing an end to abuse is not a matter of the victim choosing to leave; it is