

Handout 9: Gender Based Violence

Gender-based violence is violence perpetrated against a person without her or his consent based on her or his gender role, responsibilities, expectations, privileges and limitations.

Gender-based violence includes the word **gender** because victims of interpersonal violence are targeted because of their **gender** or roles in society.

Most acts of GBV are directed against women because they are female and have unequal **power** in relationships with men and low status in general in the world. This lack of power and status make women vulnerable to acts of violence.

“Lack of equal access and control of material resources, assistance benefits, and equal participation of women in the decision-making processes are key factors that should be addressed in all programs whether specifically targeting gender-based violence or responding to the emergency, recovery, or developing needs of the population.”

-UNHCR Guidelines for Prevention and Response, July 2002