LEVEL Overall structures in the social order

(Macro)

LEVEL Social norms and practices that regulate daily life (Meso)

LEVEL :

Day to day interactions in the immediate environment (Micro)

LEVEL Individual life history

(Ontogenetic)

FACTORS

Devaluing women

 Gender inequality, unequal power relations between women and men and the subordination of women

Masculinity

Normative heterosexual masculinity

Media violence

 Glorification of violence and sexualisation of women and girls

Impunity

Weak or limited laws against violence

Children's status

 Lack of respect for children's and especially girl's rights

FACTORS

Entitlement

 Male entitlement to sex and services from women

Failed sanctions

 Failure of criminal justice system to respond, poor implementation of law resulting in no sanctions for perpetrators

Discrimination

 Discrimination against women and girls in society e.g. workplace and education

'Honour' codes

 Enforcement of 'honour' and shame around violence against women

Poverty pockets

 High concentrations of poverty, discrimination and social exclusion resulting in very low access to material resources, education and regular employment

FACTORS

Peer approval

 Peer-groups support, valorise and reinforce VAWG

Stereotypes

 Rigid constructions of what is 'normal' for a man/boy/woman/girl

Myths

 Persistent stereotypes and misunderstandings about VAWG

Rewards

Real or perceived rewards for violence

Opportunity

Conditions that facilitate perpetration of VAWG

Family stress

 When pressures such as unemployment, social isolation and other stressors come together

Obedience code

 Different expectations of daughters

FACTORS

Masculine Self

Hostile towards
women and approving
of violence against
women, need to prove
self as 'real man'

Emotional and cognitive deficits

 Lack of empathy and respect for women and girls

Growing up in families unable to provide basic care

Depersonalised sex

 Sexual socialisation oriented to power and control

Stimulus abuse

 Abuse of pornography, alcohol and drugs

Early trauma

 Early exposure to violence in the home or abuse of trust

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Interventions needed at a structural level to:

- Achieve formal and substantive gender equality
- Promote alternative models of masculinity
- Regulate violence in the media
- Regulate the sexualisation of women and girls in the media
- Strengthen laws against violence
- Promote children's/girl's rights

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Interventions at a societal level needed to:

- Challenge the idea of male entitlement
- Improve implementation of laws and increase conviction rates of /sanctions on perpetrators
- Eliminate discrimination against women and girls
- Challenge codes of 'honour' and shame
- Improve access to resources for socially excluded and disadvantaged communities

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Interventions needed in the immediate environment needed to:

- Challenge peer support for violence
- Establish active peer disapproval of VAWG
- Transform gender stereotypes through education and public awareness
- Challenge myths about VAWG
- Ensure all schools and workplaces have effective policies, sanctions and redress for all forms of violence against women and girls
- Improve access to resources, education and support for families living in poverty, especially women and children
- Re-value daughters

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Interventions needed at a personal and family level to

- Promote alternative secure masculine identities that do not devalue women
- Expand perceptions of women and children, especially where they are seen/treated as property
- Increase family support and parenting programmes which address gender
- Promote sexual ethics and ethics of care through education
- Enable young men to critically assess pornography
- Ensure drug and alcohol abuse services are informed by understandings of VAWG
- Ensure that mental health care informed by understandings of VAWG
- Ensure support for children who have been abused

Factors contributing to violence against women and girls (adapted from 'Factors at play in the perpetration of violence against women, violence against children and sexual orientation violence', developed by Hagemann-White et al in 2010)