

**IF YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW, NEEDS HELP, CALL ONE OF THESE NUMBERS:**



Ambulance/Hospital (Emergency): 911

Police (Emergency): 999

GBV (Gender-based violence) Helpline: 132 (free call)

Family Support Centre: 26999

Christian Care Centre Safe House: 7651223

Seif Ples Gender-based Violence Crisis and Referral Centre: 24677

Public Solicitor's Office Legal Assistance: 28406

RSIPF Protection: 23666



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For more information contact LLSI on Tel: +677 23697

## What is violence?

Violence is any use of force, or the threat of force, by a person or group that causes harm to another person. Violence is not only about causing physical injury. It also includes causing emotional or mental trauma.

### Violence can be:

**PHYSICAL:** punching, choking, hitting, pushing, beating someone, biting, kicking, shoving, throwing things, smashing things, strangling, burning, damaging property or threatening to do any of these things.

**EMOTIONAL:** not letting someone see their family or friends, stopping someone from working or studying, ignoring someone on purpose, bullying,

insulting, constantly putting someone down, harassment.

**VERBAL:** teasing someone, making threats, shouting, insults, swearing, name-calling.

**ECONOMIC:** depriving someone of money, restricting access to land and property, paying less than you should for work, one person controlling the family income so that their partner does not have access to money and has to ask for it.

**SEXUAL:** forcing someone to have sex, incest, threats of physical violence during sex, rape, sexual harassment, forced prostitution, forcing someone to have sex with someone else. This includes forcing a partner to have sex.



**CARDIM  
VAELENS**



**IUMI MAN SAVE  
STOPEM VAELENS**

# Violence in the Solomon Islands

Family violence and violence against women is a big problem around the world. In the Solomon Islands two out of three women report they have experienced physical violence or sexual violence from their partner. <sup>1</sup>

Our communities are the backbone of the Solomon Islands but we have seen a lot of violence. It hurts our families and friends in different ways.

Violence against women not only hurts women but has negative consequences for the whole community.

**Kastom is not an excuse for violence.**

1. SPC & MWYCA, 2009

## Consequences for men



- ✗ Their children are afraid of them.
- ✗ Loss of respect from their partner, children and other family members.
- ✗ Loss of respect in the community.
- ✗ Have partners who do not trust them and are afraid of them.
- ✗ Men don't have intimacy or positive sexual relations with their partner.
- ✗ Feel pressure to keep control and power in the home.
- ✗ Ashamed of their behaviour.
- ✗ Isolation and depression.

## Community consequences



- ✗ Reduced safety for women and children in the community.
- ✗ Women suffer low confidence, low self-esteem and depression.
- ✗ Increased health problems. Physical and psychological issues.
- ✗ Children grow up to believe violence is normal acceptable behaviour.
- ✗ Fear and mistrust and division between families.
- ✗ Reduced harmony and peace.
- ✗ Economic cost with decreased productivity and increased money spent at the clinic.

## Take action



It is everyone's responsibility to work together to build healthy, happy and safe communities for our families to prosper. Remaining silent allows the violence to continue so it is important to talk about these issues in a safe way.

### To end violence men can:

- 'Work on myself'. Start with ourselves.
- Learn to resolve conflict without violence.
- Be a role model for positive behaviour towards women and children.
- Take action as a neighbour or friend.
- Become a champion and take responsibility to educate others.