

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS



AMONG WOMEN AGED BETWEEN 15 AND 44, ACTS OF VIOLENCE CAUSE MORE DEATH AND DISABILITY THAN CANCER, MALARIA, TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS AND WAR COMBINED.



+ 70%

UP TO 70 PER CENT OF WOMEN WILL EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE DURING THEIR LIVES



THE MOST COMMON FORM OF VIOLENCE IS PHYSICAL VIOLENCE INFLICTED BY AN INTIMATE PARTNER, INCLUDING BATTERING, FORCED SEXUAL INTERCOURSE OR ANY OTHER FORM OF ABUSE.



1 IN 5

WOMEN WORLDWIDE WILL BE A VICTIM OF RAPE OR ATTEMPTED RAPE DURING HER LIFE.



1 IN 4

WOMEN EXPERIENCE PHYSICAL AND/OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE DURING PREGNANCY WHICH INCREASES THE LIKELIHOOD OF HAVING A MISCARRIAGE, STILLBIRTH AND ABORTION.

500.000 WOMEN WERE RAPED

IN THE 1994 RWANDAN GENOCIDE, AND 60,000 IN THE WAR IN CROATIA AND BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA. IN SIERRA LEONE, UP TO 64,000 WOMEN SUFFERED WAR-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE FROM 1991 TO 2001. WOMEN BODIES HAVE BECOME PART OF THE BATTLEFIELD FOR THOSE WHO USE TERROR AS A WAR STRATEGY; WOMEN ARE RAPED, KIDNAPPED, HUMILIATED AND SUBJECTED TO FORCED PREGNANCY, ABUSE AND SEX SLAVERY.

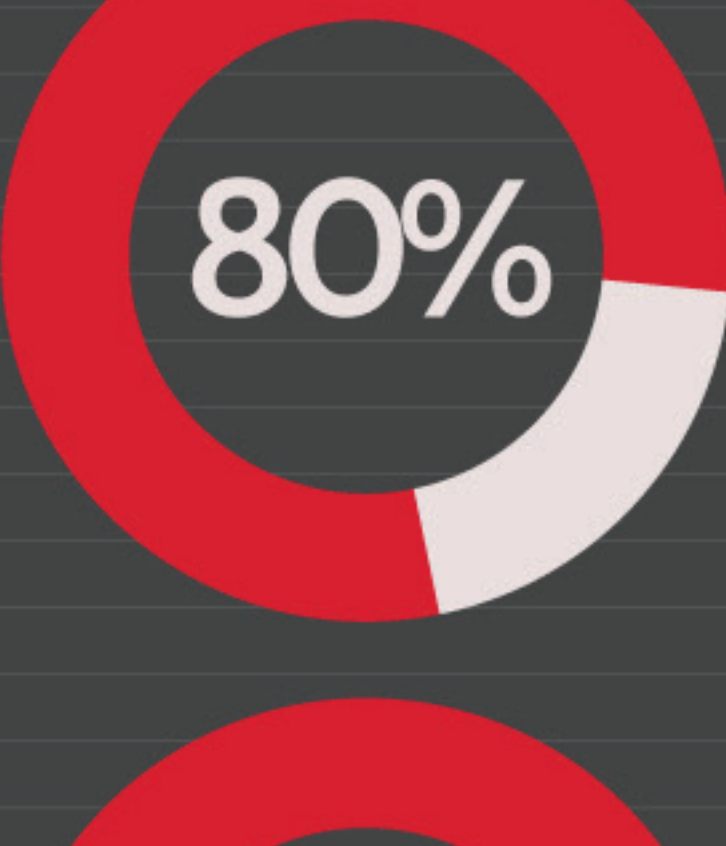


3 MILLION GIRLS ARE AT RISK OF UNDERGOING FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION EVERY YEAR.

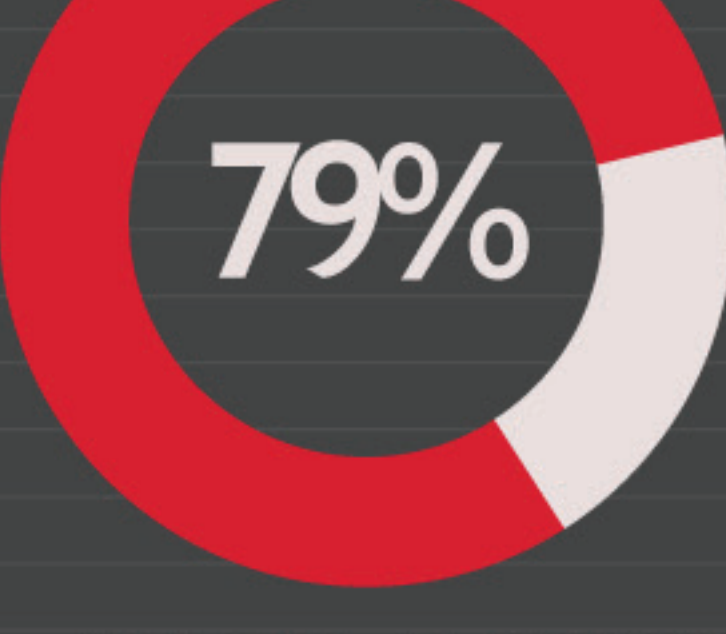


60 MILLION GIRLS WORLDWIDE ARE FORCED TO GET MARRIED BEFORE THEY ARE 18.

YOUNG WOMEN ARE PARTICULARLY **VULNERABLE TO FORCED SEX AND ARE AT GREATER RISK OF BECOMING INFECTED WITH HIV/AIDS.**



80% OF PEOPLE TRAFFICKED ANNUALLY ARE WOMEN



79% ARE TRAFFICKED FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

AN ESTIMATED 600,000 TO 800,000 WOMEN, MEN AND CHILDREN ARE TRAFFICKED ACROSS INTERNATIONAL BORDERS EVERY YEAR; GIRLS AND WOMEN COMPRISE 80 PER CENT OF THIS GROUP. THEY ARE TRAFFICKED FOR FORCED SEXUAL WORK, NON-REGULATED DOMESTIC WORK OR WORK IN FACTORIES WHERE THEY ARE EXPLOITED.



"Our call is simple: zero tolerance for violence against women and girls. There can be no compromise on women's rights. We must break the circle of violence against women, including in the workplace and ensure women can join a union without fear of intimidation. As individuals, unions, organisations and countries we must ensure that laws are in place to protect and respect women and that these laws are enforceable."



VERONICA FERNANDEZ MENDEZ
HEAD OF UNI EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

THEY ARE JUST NOT FIGURES, THEY ARE LIVES. LET'S STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS. LET'S BREAK THE CIRCLE.



www.breakingthecircle.org