



UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL'S STUDY ON VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

3. STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS

The Study makes recommendations for each of the five settings on which it focuses. It also includes some over-arching recommendations:

1. In every country, a national strategy, policy or plan of action on violence against children, with realistic and time-bound targets, and integrated into national planning processes, should be developed and coordinated by an agency that can bring multiple sectors together.
2. Laws and policies to prohibit all forms of violence against children in all settings. No person below 18 years of age should be subjected to the death penalty or a sentence of life imprisonment without possibility of release.
3. Prioritising prevention of violence against children by addressing its underlying causes.
4. Actions to change attitudes that condone, accept and promote any form of violence against children, including stereotypical gender roles and discrimination, acceptance of corporal punishment, and harmful traditional practices.
5. Ongoing training and education for those who work with children to equip them to prevent, detect, and respond to violence against children.
6. Access to child-sensitive, affordable, high quality health and social services and independent legal assistance for children and families who have experienced violence.
7. Active engagement with children and respect for their views in all aspects of prevention, response and monitoring of violence against them.
8. Safe, confidential, accessible and well-publicized channels for children, their representatives and others to report violence.
9. Improved accountability for those who perpetrate violence against children.
10. Policies and programmes should be designed and implemented from a gender perspective – taking into account the different risks facing girls and boys in respect of violence.
11. Improved data collection and information systems to identify children at risk, inform policy and programming and track progress.
12. Ratification and implementation of all relevant international treaties and obligations.



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The Study also makes specific recommendations for implementation and follow-up:

- At the national level, for example, the establishment of someone to represent children at the highest levels – a children's ombudsman or children's rights commissioner – is called for.
- At international level, the Study recommends the appointment of a Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children to act as a high-profile advocate to promote prevention and elimination of all violence against children, maintain the regional and international cooperation mobilized by the Study, and ensure follow-up on the recommendations.