

ELIMINATING
VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN
AND CHILDREN
IN THE **ASEAN**
REGION



Eliminating Violence Against Women and Children in the ASEAN Region

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I. What is violence against women and children?

Violence happens when another person harms our bodies, emotions, and development on purpose.

This can be done by physical force, mentally damaging words and actions, sexual acts, neglect or negligent behavior, and others.

Hi I'm Chit!

Hi, I'm Lily.

We're here
to remind
you that...



VIOLENCE IS NOT OKAY!

Anyone can treat us violently. Not only strangers may violate or abuse us, even loved ones and fellow children. We must not let this happen.



FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

- **PHYSICAL VIOLENCE** – Hurting the body. For example: hitting, kicking, choking, burning, pulling someone's hair, spanking, shaking and others.
- **MENTAL VIOLENCE** – Psychological and emotional maltreatment or neglect. For example: verbal abuse or using words to hurt or control others; making others feel unworthy and unloved; violation of privacy and destroying someone's trust by not keeping secrets, scaring, terrorizing, and threatening; exploiting and corrupting, despising and rejecting; isolating, ignoring and favoritism; denying emotional needs; neglecting mental health, medical, and educational needs; exposure to violence at home; locking someone up; bullying, including cyber bullying; and forced and/or child marriage.
- **SEXUAL VIOLENCE** – Inappropriate touch or behavior towards someone for sexual purposes. This is usually done forcefully, with threat, or deceit. For example: touching of private parts, forcing someone to touch them, having sex with a child, rape or coercing someone to have sexual intercourse, showing pictures of other people who have no or little clothes on, telling "dirty" stories or jokes



ADDITIONAL FORM OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

- **NEGLECT** – Not being shown love or care; not being provided with basic needs such as food, shelter, clothing, and medical care; not being allowed to play and/or study; abandonment or being left to fend for oneself



ADDITIONAL FORM OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

- **ECONOMIC VIOLENCE** – Violence done by groups towards individuals. This includes acts such as denial of funds, refusal to contribute financially, denial of food and basic needs, and controlling access to health care and work or employment

II. When and where does violence against women and children occur?

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

- Can happen at any stage of life



- Can happen anywhere, such as in school, home, workplace, public space, and even cyber space



- Can happen because of an unfair view on people based on where they came from, their gender, ethnic background, skin color, religion, language, or economic status



- Can happen because of accepted traditional practices

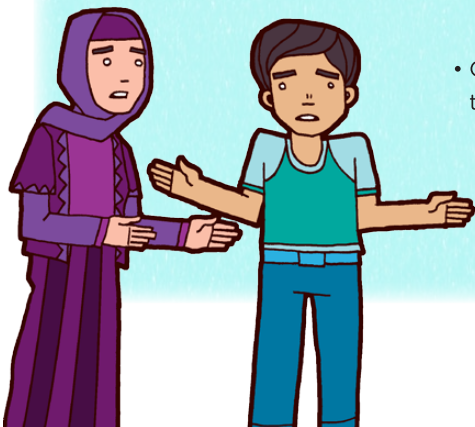


Like child brides—girls married off to adults.



Do you know that there are people who treat another person badly just because she is a girl? And sometimes, people say hurtful words to boys who like other boys.

Yeah. One time, in my hometown, I saw people making fun of a kid just because he is from another tribe and dresses differently. It's sad.



III. Who needs special protection?

Women and children in risky and vulnerable situations need more help.

PEOPLE WHO NEED SPECIAL PROTECTION INCLUDE



- Those who experience violence at home



- Women and children living with HIV/AIDS



- Sexually exploited women and children



- Women and children with disabilities



- Women and children in conflict with the law



- Victims of cyber pornography and prostitution



- Women and children in disaster zones



- Trafficked women and children



- Women and children in armed conflict



- Women and children on the move



- Women and children in refugee camps



- Women and children belonging to ethnic/indigenous groups



- Stateless children and women



- Migrant women and children



- Women and children in early marriage



• Physically abused women and children



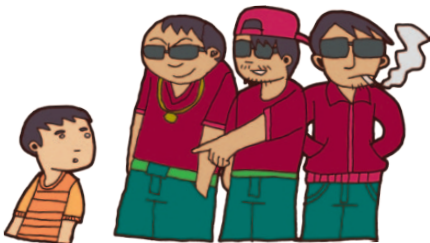
• Bullied women and children



• Women and children experiencing discrimination in mass and social media

OTHER CHILDREN WHO NEED SPECIAL ATTENTION:

1. Children in Gangs

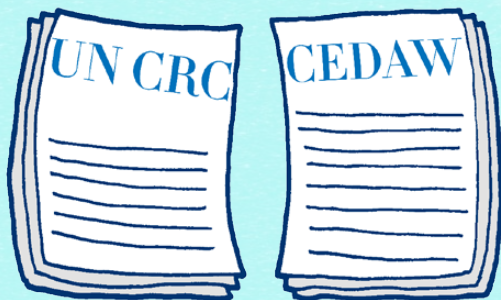


2. Children who are exposed to substance abuse such as

- drug addiction
- alcoholism
- cigarette use



IV. International treaties to protect women and children from violence



In order to make sure that children are safe and get what they need to grow and develop, 195 out of 196 countries signed The United Nations **Convention on the Rights of the Child (UN CRC)**.

This is a document which says that children should not be hurt in any way. It lists down all the things that children need. By signing the UN CRC, nations agree that governments, parents, and other members of society are

responsible in making sure that children get what they deserve, because they are **just as important as adults**.

In the same way, 189 nations also signed the **Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)**. Signatories of CEDAW pledge to make sure that women in their countries are respected, protected from harm, and that their rights are fulfilled.



RIGHT TO

FOOD

PLAY

SHELTER

STUDY

"Rights" are something that every person has or is able to do. Everyone has many rights such as right to food, shelter, right to play, right to study, and, for adults, right to work, and right to protection from any kind of exploitation.

These and many other rights are connected to each other and all are important.

RIGHT TO

WORK

**EXPLOITATION
PROTECTION**

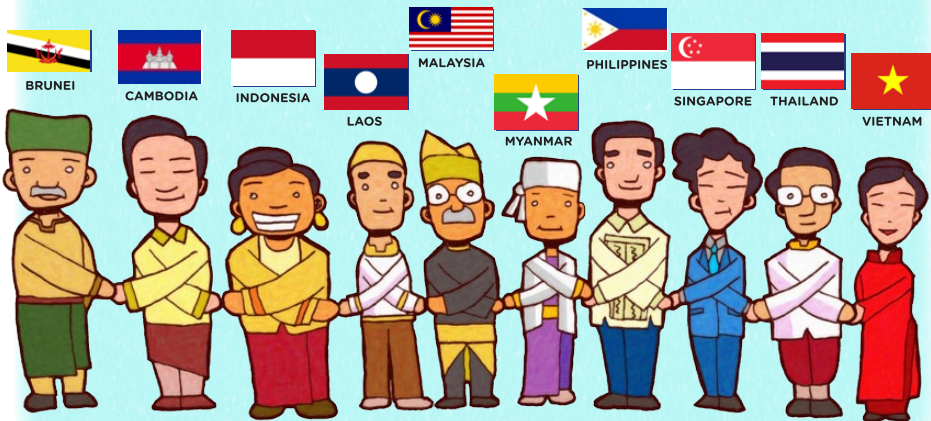


V.
ASEAN
measures
for protection
of women
and
children



Your country is a “Member State” of the **Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)** if you are from Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, or Vietnam.

Member States of ASEAN promise to be friends and cooperate for peace, security, freedom, and prosperity in Southeast Asia.



Declaration Against Trafficking in Persons Particularly Women and Children (2004)

Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in the ASEAN Region (2004)

Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers (2007)

ASEAN Charter (2007)

Ha Noi Declaration on the Enhancement of Welfare and Development of ASEAN Women and Children (2010)

Bali Declaration on the Enhancement of the Role and Participation of the Persons with Disabilities in ASEAN Community (2011)

ASEAN Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2011-2020)

ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (2012)

ASEAN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Elimination of Violence Against Children (2013)



One of ASEAN's main goals is to make sure that the rights of women and children are **respected, protected, and fulfilled**. All Member States have signed both UNCRC and CEDAW and have signed declarations that emphasize respecting women and children's rights and protecting women and children from all forms of violence and abuse everywhere.



Did you know that:

- To **respect** a right means to refrain from interfering with the enjoyment of that right.
- To **protect** a right means to prevent other parties from interfering with the enjoyment of that right.
- To **fulfill** a right means to take active steps to put in place laws, policies, institutions, and procedures, and to allocate resources to enable people to enjoy their rights.

VI. The ASEAN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and the Elimination of Violence Against Children

The ASEAN prepares declarations to show that Member States are serious about completing a specific action together.

One of these declarations is the ASEAN Declaration on the **Elimination of Violence Against Women and the Elimination of Violence Against Children (ASEAN Declaration on EVAW and EVAC)**.

This was signed by all parties on the 9th of October 2013.

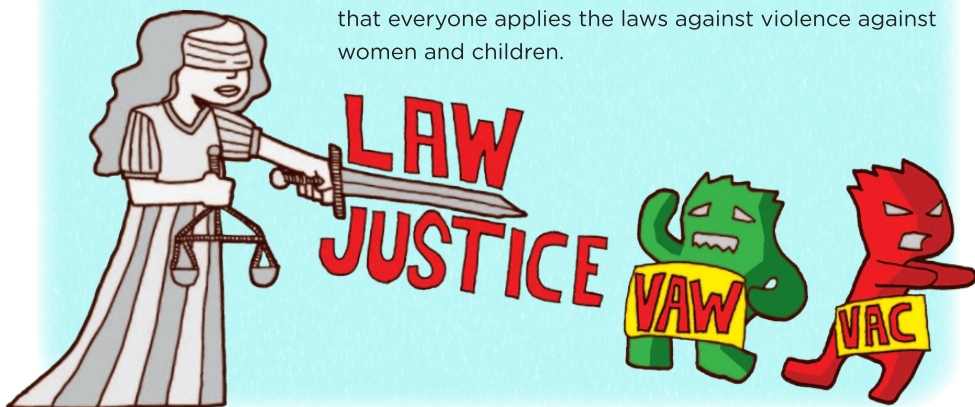


THE ASEAN MEMBER STATES PROMISE TO:

1. The ASEAN Member States promise to strengthen or change laws that will
 - End violence against women and children
 - Make sure that victims/survivors get help and are protected from experiencing more violence
 - Make victims/survivors feel accepted in their communities.

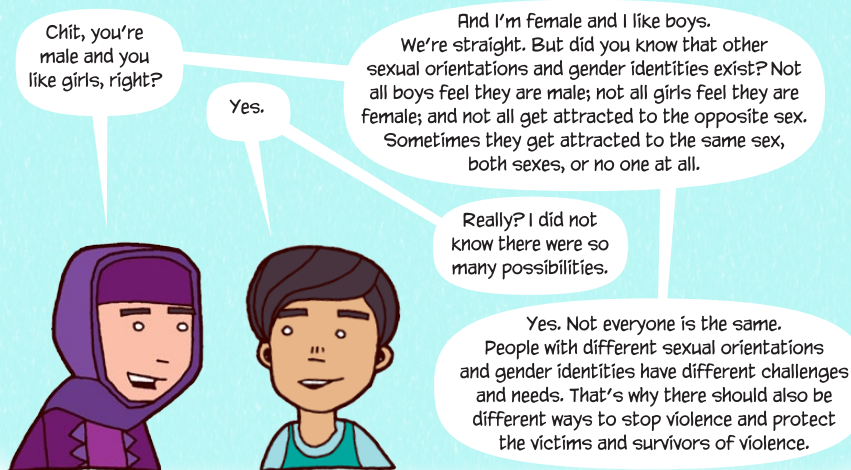


2. The ASEAN Member States promise to make plans, create programs, and prepare a budget to make sure that everyone applies the laws against violence against women and children.



3. The ASEAN Member States promise to do everything they can and involve everyone to end violence against women and children and to promote the rights of women and children. This is called a **holistic multidisciplinary approach**.

In making plans and actions, the Member States should craft specific approaches for women and children taking into account their age and **sexual orientation, gender identity and expression (SOGIE)**.



Examples of SOGIE:

Lesbian – girls who like girls

Gays – boys who like boys

Bisexual – people who like both girls and boys

Transgender – either a girl who feels and believes she is male or a boy who feels and believes that he is female. Unlike **transsexuals**, they do not desire surgery or hormones to change their sex.

Queers – those who cannot be strictly identified as girl or boy and do not care about labels and gender groupings

Intersex – someone whose body cannot be classified as solely male or female

Asexual – someone who does not experience sexual attraction

To know more, visit: <https://kidsvoice.org/download/?t=resources&id=131>

4. The ASEAN Member States promise to improve ways to implement, monitor and report on the CEDAW and UNCRC and respond and keep track of the recommendations of international bodies such as the United Nations on how to end violence against women and children.



5. The ASEAN Member States promise to teach police officers, policy makers, social workers, health personnel, and other members of the community how to protect women and children from violence and how to help the victims/survivors.



6. The ASEAN Member States promise to support studies and researches about different forms of violence against women and children. Through these, they will know how to end violence and how to give better protection to victims/survivors.



7. The ASEAN Member States, through their social welfare services departments, promise to work with one another to improve their ability to help women and children victims/survivors of violence and their families. The Member States will form a group in the ASEAN so that they can share information and skills.

8. The ASEAN Member States promise to collaborate with other groups and institutions around the world, in Southeast Asia, in each country, in provinces, in cities, and in villages in order to end violence against women and children and help victims/survivors.

The ASEAN Member States will work with:

- ASEAN Dialogue Partners
- UN Agencies
- civil society
- community-based organizations
- schools
- charitable people
- private companies



VII. Who will Implement?

The ASEAN has two bodies or groups that can help promote and put into action The ASEAN Declaration on ERAW and EVAC. These are the ASEAN Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) and ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR).



ASEAN Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)

The ACWC is a part of ASEAN that focuses on women and children's rights. Each Member State has two ACWC Representatives. One representative is for women, and the other is for children.

ASEAN assigned ACWC to take the lead in promoting the ASEAN Declaration on ERAW and EVAC. It will also review the performance of the Member States in its promises.

ACWC encourages children to share their views in the different consultation processes in ASEAN.

The ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR)

Aside from the ACWC, the ASEAN also has the AICHR to promote and protect the rights of everyone in ASEAN. Each Member State has one AICHR Representative



VIII. How can children participate in eliminating violence against women and children in ASEAN?



ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD)

The AMMSWD is composed of the leaders of each Member State's Ministry/Department of Social Welfare and Development. The AMMSWD happens every three years. It is supported by the Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (SOMSWD), which is another gathering of top government officials also working on social welfare.



ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY)

The AMMY is composed of the leaders of the Ministry/Department of Youth Affairs of each Member State. It happens once every two years. It is supported by high-ranking government officials who belong to the Senior Officials Meeting on Youth (SOMY).

The ASEAN Children's Forum (ACF)

The ACF allows children to share their thoughts and concerns in the ASEAN every two years. Children from different Member States are invited to attend the forum to discuss the issues they face. The ACF also allows children to share their suggestions on how to solve these issues.



XI. Why should children participate?

Children like us are very important members of the ASEAN community. We must be able to participate in ASEAN, especially if we are talking about violence against children. Our governments should listen to our concerns regarding our rights.

If we have a hard time talking to our government leaders, we could talk to ASEAN. Then, ASEAN would talk to our government leaders.

By participating in ASEAN, we could also learn more about experiences of children living in other countries and cultures. This allows us, children, to work together to build a better community.

Fellow child rights advocate, we hope that you will join us in encouraging friends in your country to participate in the ASEAN processes to make sure that women and children no longer experience violence.

***Yes, Let's end
violence against
women and
children now!***





CHILD RIGHTS COALITION (CRC) ASIA

Is a network of child rights and human rights organizations currently working in eight countries in Southeast Asia. The Coalition has a special commitment and interest in ensuring the effective implementation of the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)** in the region and in promoting children's right to participation in matters that affect them.

www.crcasia.org



PLAN INTERNATIONAL

Founded 77 years ago, Plan is one of the oldest and largest children's development organizations in the world. We work in 51 developing countries across Africa, Asia, and the Americas to promote child rights and lift millions of children out of poverty. Plan is independent, with no religious, political, or governmental affiliations.

www.plan-international.org/asia



SAVE THE CHILDREN

Save the Children works in over 120 countries. We save children's lives. We fight for their rights. We help them fulfill their potential.

www.savethechildren.org.ph

