

Regional Expert Roundtable on Prevention of Violence in Schools in South Asia, 25-27 April 2016, Colombo

*SCHOOL-BASED VIOLENCE IN SOUTH ASIA: THE STATE OF
EVIDENCE*

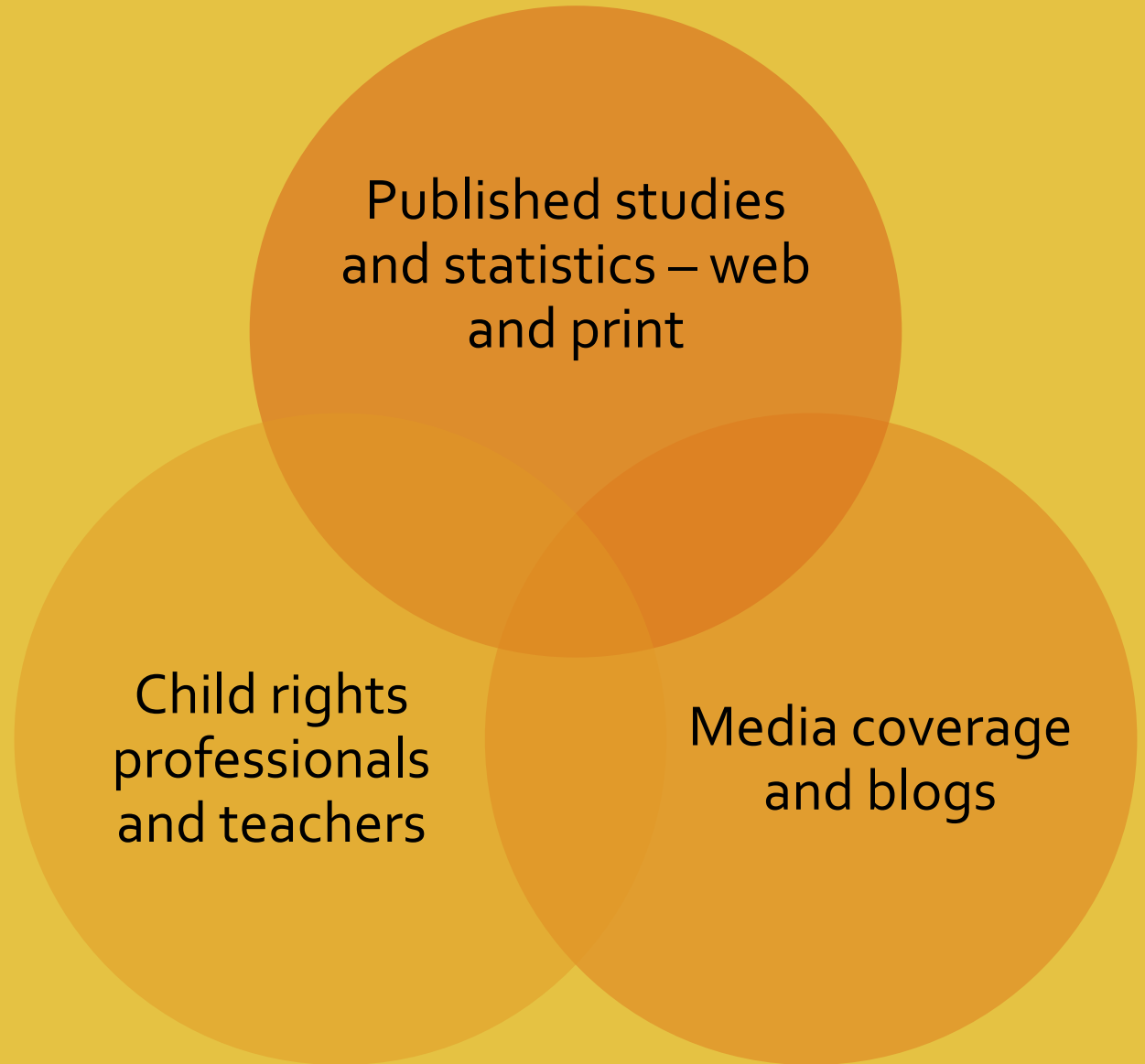
*HUMA KIDWAI
APRIL 25, 2016*



Background

- 516 million school-going children
- Safety and security in schools as relevant as it is in homes and communities
- Violence against children an extremely pervasive and complex set of factors impacting growth and learning
- Very little discussion on the subject in the region

Data sources for the background report



Types and count of publications/ documentation referenced in the report

Type of publication	Approximate count of all reviewed pieces	No. of pieces reviewed and referenced in the report
Published reports and statistics by international NGOs	Up to 90	69
Published reports and statistics by country-level NGOs	Up to 25	15
Published reports and statistics by government agencies	Up to 20	17
Peer reviewed academic papers and researches	100 – 120	38
Newspaper articles and individual blogs	180 – 200	44

*In general,
research on
child abuse in
South Asia is
limited*

- The claim is widely acknowledged in literature
- Also evidenced from poor availability of sustained research over time
- Few large international and national studies dominate most published discussions
- Last large scale national assessment of child abuse in India happened almost a decade ago
- Additionally, there is a lack of consistently maintained and updated datasets on relevant indicators of violence against children

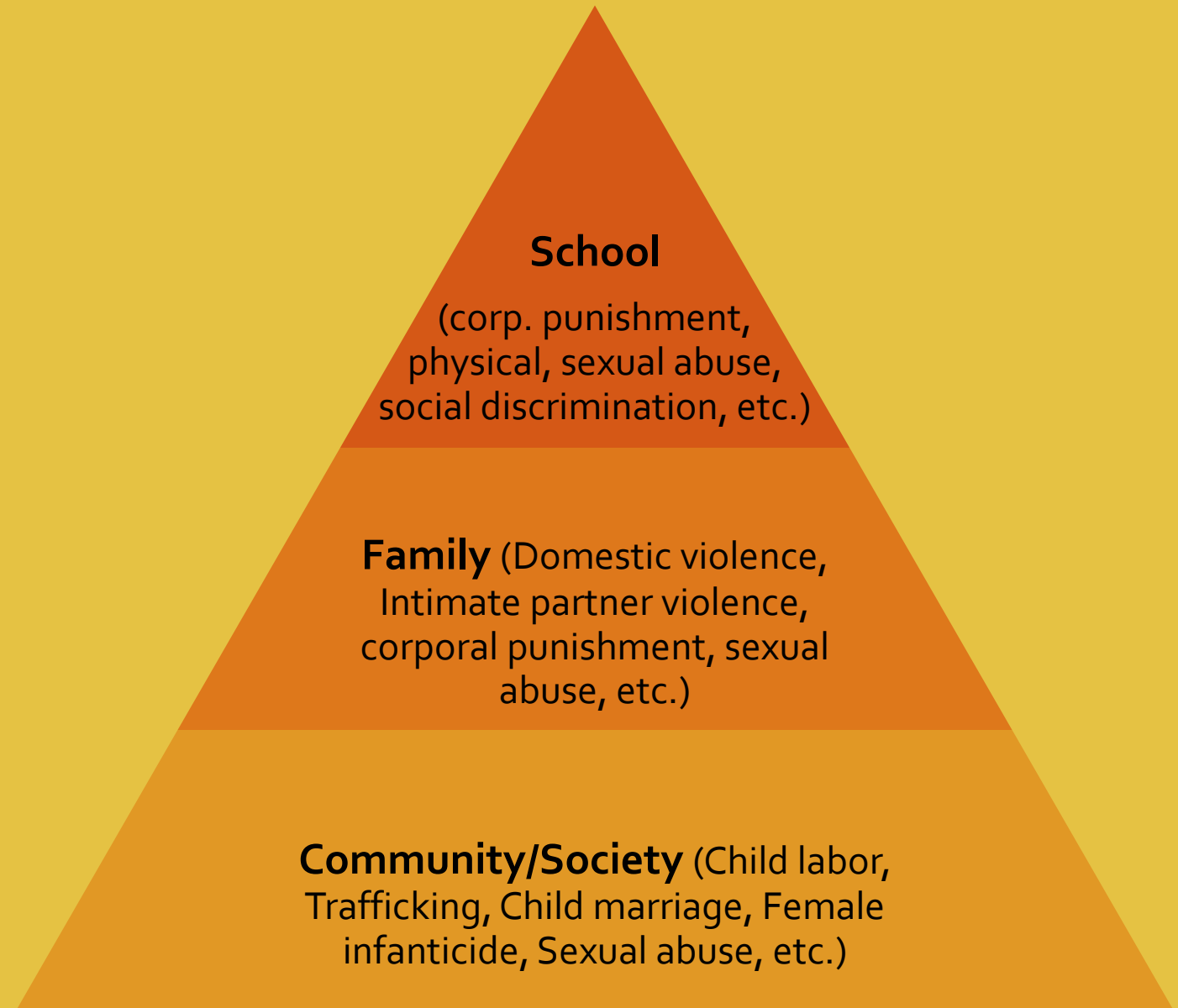
*Lack of
primary data
in recent
publications*

Review of reviews; Media coverage; Review of media coverage; International reports covering large data sets but often missing data from all South Asian countries

Review of studies led by public health and medical professionals; Reviews and “state of the children” reports by NGOs

Studies based on primary data

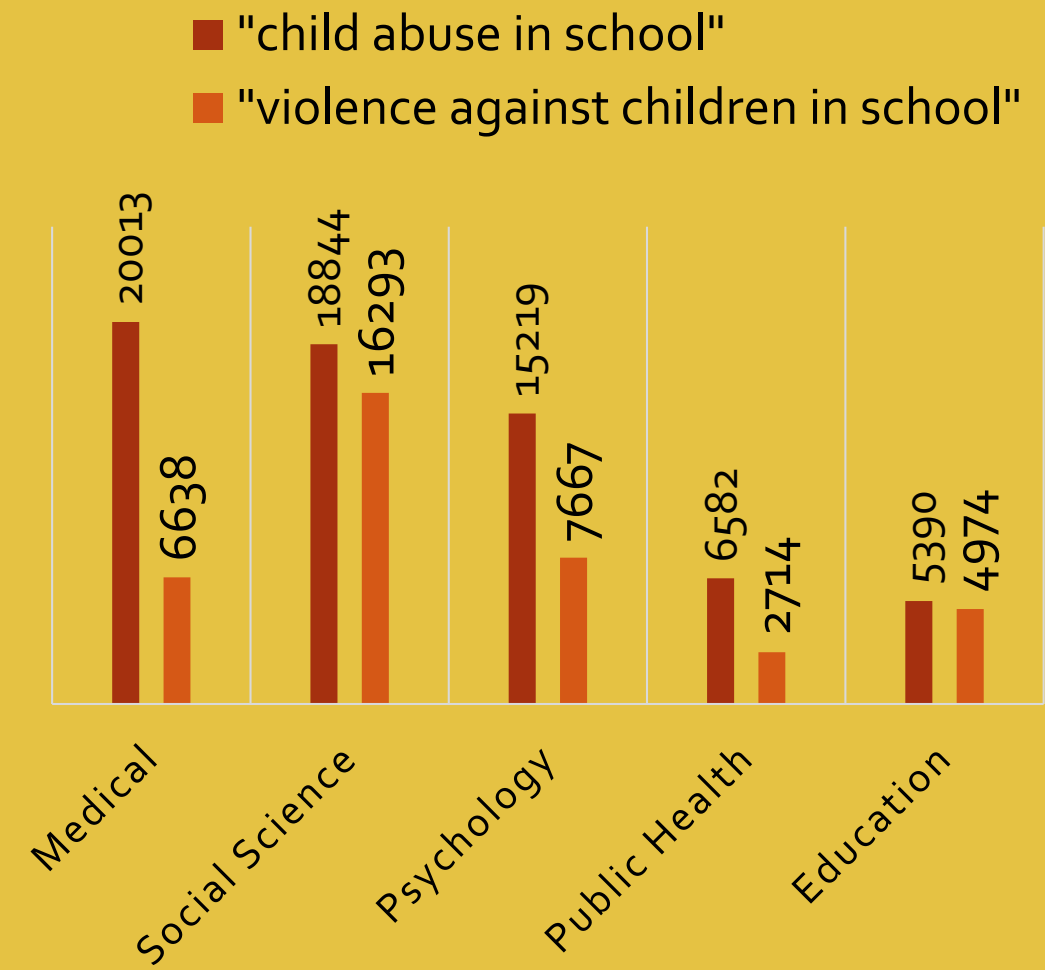
*The focus on
schools as
locations of
child abuse
and violence is
both recent and
scarce*



Academic literature on child abuse tends to come mostly from medical and psychology journals

- Lack of focus on child abuse in South Asia as an educational concern
- Most reviewed pieces of literature on child abuse in the region do not address schools as potentially risky settings
- The role of education journals in covering issues of school-based violence not very significant

Search results for peer-reviewed publications globally, by discipline, 2005-2015, on Springer Link, Dec 25, 2015



Search results for peer-reviewed publications for India, by discipline, 2005-2015, on Springer Link, Dec 25, 2015



*Relatively
small role of
the government
in contributing
to national
evidence on
child abuse*

- INGOs and media tend to provide majority of current and accessible data
- Civil society tends to play a larger role
- Local NGOs publish their own small-scale studies and disseminate findings from large scale assessments conducted by international organizations
- This observation is more evident in some countries than others

THANK YOU
