An Impact Study of
KNOW VIOLENCE IN CHILDHOOD: A GLOBAL LEARNING INITIATIVE

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About the Authors

This report was commissioned by the Know Violence in Childhood: A Global Learning Initiative in the final months of its operation from April-June 2018. It presents an impact study led by Dr Sarah Morton of Outcome Focus, and her team: Dr Katharine Aulton and Amy Grant from Outcome Focus, and Helen Berry a freelance researcher.

About Outcome Focus

Outcome Focus is a mission-led company based in Edinburgh. We work with organisations, projects and programmes to explore, map, analyse and assess the outcomes that matter to them, the people and populations they care about, and their funders.

We have created an innovative and easy to use software product, Outcome Navigator, which enables public service organisations and funders to make effective use of their data and information to learn, improve and tell the story about the difference they make.

We provide tools and techniques to bring together evidence, data and information to ensure that projects and programmes can meet their outcomes, are successful and adaptable, and demonstrate that success to funders, service-users and other stakeholders. In doing this, we help projects clarify and achieve their strategic objectives and strengthen strategic partnerships enabling them to become more successful and sustainable.

Acknowledgements

The research team would like to thank all of the interviewees and survey respondents who made this study possible.

www.outcomefocus.org
Foreword by Ramya Subrahmanian

Know Violence in Childhood: A Global Learning Initiative embarked on a rather ambitious and uncharted journey in 2014 to build a global network of academics, policy makers and practitioners who would independently review, assess and synthesise available quality evidence on the scale, scope and characteristics of childhood violence, and bring together the best available learning on effective strategies that can contribute to its prevention.

In 2018, we wrapped up our work after a significant effort on the part of over 120 academics, and several partners from around the world, including international organisations, who participated energetically in our effort, writing papers, attending meetings, commenting on drafts, and supporting all our efforts to engage as broadly as possible within our timebound lifespan.

An important aspect of our Initiative has been learning through open dialogue and conversations, including candid reflections about terminology, the state of available evidence, the gaps that as yet need to be bridged and the strengths and challenges of efforts around the world to end the scourge of violence. The goodwill towards our effort has been overwhelming. There is clearly a very significant momentum today to make a change for the better through investments in evidence-based policy-making, improved research and evaluation, and greater cross-sectoral coordination.

An important step in this learning process is also learning from the Initiative’s own strengths and challenges. We are very pleased to share the results of this study undertaken by Outcome Focus, who have conducted both extensive document review as well as interviews with a range of different stakeholders, both those associated with the Initiative, and end-users who responded to a survey sent to the wider network of actors who were interested in the Initiative’s work.

We hope this short report will be of value both for those associated with the Initiative to have an overview of some of the early impacts and effects of our work, and also for future endeavours that seek, as we did, to take stock of knowledge, and pause to review, reflect and regroup on important challenges of our times.

The Initiative represents a very small component of the overall work being undertaken around the world to end violence. Yet, through its independent and open engagement, it has also sought to create new spaces, new voices and new platforms for a conversation about childhood violence and its prevention, as well as about evidence, action and social change, more broadly. We hope that the lessons learned from our work will help build newer modalities and opportunities for continuing the global conversation.

Ramya Subrahmanian
Executive Director
Know Violence in Childhood: A Global Learning Initiative
Executive Summary

This report is an impact study of the work of Know Violence in Childhood: A Global Learning Initiative (KV) 2014-2018. The Initiative was established to bring together the most credible evidence on the scale and impacts of violence in childhood, and to identify global lessons on effective violence-prevention strategies. Its main contribution was a Global Report Ending Violence in Childhood which was launched in September 2017.

The impact study has been carried out by Outcome Focus, an independent agency, using an approach based on Contribution Analysis. The impact study has focused on two areas of work undertaken by the Know Violence Initiative: A. Developing the Knowledge Base, and B. Advocacy and Dissemination. Outcomes chains were developed for each of these areas which were used as frameworks for organising data collection, analysis and reporting on the impact of KV. The outcomes chains can be seen in the full report. This executive summary highlights key findings from each area of work, issues for reflection, and recommendations.

KV Outcome Area A: Developing the Knowledge Base

- KV commissioned and coordinated the evidence on violence in childhood (VIC). Having all of the information brought together in one place (in the form of The Global Report) was seen as highly valuable. Pulling together evidence on a global scale was a challenging task.
- KV has been successful in engaging experts across professional, sectoral and geographic boundaries, as well as with researchers in the Global South.
- The organisation and effort required to bring together experts across sectors, countries and areas to work on the evidence is impressive. Most stakeholders felt engaged and supported and they believed that what was achieved has been significant for the field.
- KV contributed to experts’ understanding of the nature and impact of violence in childhood. This was particularly strong around crossing disciplinary boundaries.
- It was more difficult to identify specific changes in behaviour, policy and practice in the short timescale since the KV report was launched (September 2017) and its work was completed (July 2018). However, there is evidence that the Report and other resources are beginning to be used by governments and advocacy groups internationally and in some countries, and stakeholders commented on the potential for more action using the outputs in the future.
- The high quality of KV’s Global Report is important to the development of the VIC agenda, and a shared narrative. There are early indications of a shift in perspective, and an ongoing network pursuing this agenda.

KV Outcome Area B: Advocacy and Dissemination

- Know Violence in Childhood had a range of ambitious advocacy plans at the outset. However, constraints of time and resources prevented these advocacy plans from being fully realised. The process of producing credible and globally representative outputs including engaging multiple stakeholders and researchers from the Global South, was itself time-consuming. Thus, planned communication and advocacy activities were therefore more limited than initially proposed.
• There has been engagement of key organisations from the start. There was influential reach within the field, but more engagement needed beyond the fields of child protection and violence-prevention. There was inadequate time for delivering learning events, dissemination and developing leader networks which were planned at the outset.

• The Global Report has been seen as a critical resource by many, and has been well received, highly reported on and highly cited. It is influential within the fields of child protection and violence-prevention, but there is more work to be done to obtain wider reach including in other sectors such as health and education.

• KV has contributed to understanding of the nature and impact of VIC amongst wider stakeholders, including the emergence of new terminology. However, many felt there was more that needed to be done to ensure that the work reached its potential impact of resulting in changes in policy and resource investment in violence-prevention around the world.

• Knowledge generated by KV is being used by policy colleagues in some settings and countries, and there is some emerging policy action. It is too early to see policy implementation more widely.

• KV has contributed to a more unified and coherent approach to tackling violence in childhood. It is too early to see a reduction of violence in childhood, but many saw potential for this in the future.

**Issues for Reflection**

1. Underestimating the challenge of creating a shared international resource: An enormous and impressive effort went into the creation of this international evidence base and involving key actors in a collaborative way. The complexity of delivering on a multi-partner collaboration led from the Global South emerged throughout the project.

2. Balancing evidence collation with communication and advocacy: The effort to pull together the evidence, including commissioning new work in the global south and engaging with experts internationally, meant that there was less time for communication and advocacy or for building a wider audience. However, many stakeholders see potential for advocacy work in the future.

3. Communication needs and challenges: It is a challenge to create a comprehensive and complex overview of the issues of violence in childhood, whilst also delivering ‘bite-sized’ messages for non-specialists.

4. The complexity of working on a global scale: The ambition of KV was impressive, but to challenge violence in childhood on this scale is complex and a long-term programme.

5. The need for local interpretation and action: The work of KV needs to be interpreted and acted upon locally in order to impact children’s lives.
Recommendations for Future Impact

1. Support local implementation of the strategies indicated in the Global Report.
2. Carry out further active dissemination of KV findings through communications, media, social media and events.
3. Continue global coordination and learning on VIC issues.
4. Continued engagement with donors to ensure funding is in place to move the agenda of violence-prevention forward.

Issues and recommendations are discussed more fully in the final section of the report.
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Background to Know Violence in Childhood: A Global Learning Initiative

Know Violence (KV) was established as a collective response by individuals from multilateral institutions, non-governmental organisations and funding agencies concerned about the global impact of violence in childhood and the lack of investment in effective violence prevention strategies. It was established to bring together credible evidence on the scale and impacts of violence experienced by children and the most effective prevention strategies available to end it. KV was launched in November 2014 with support from multiple funders, and is winding up at the end of July 2018.¹

The aim of KV was to provide sound evidence and effective communication to inform policy and programme strategies, which would help focus the attention of global, regional and national policy-makers on the issue of the scale and costs of violence in childhood, and the importance of investing in its prevention. The Initiative has synthesised evidence on effective violence-prevention strategies from around the world, and provided opportunities for countries learn from each other. A primary output has been the development of the Global Report which has been circulated to a wide range of academic, policy and practitioner groups. Underpinning this report are 44 academic papers that have been developed by the researchers involved in this Initiative.

KV was led by two Co-Chairs A K Shiva Kumar (based in New Delhi) and Baroness Vivien Stern (based in London) and supported by an Executive Director and a small Secretariat (based in New Delhi).

Aims and scope of KV

KV developed from preliminary discussions amongst a group of around 80 experts, senior practitioners and funders from a variety of fields including human development, children’s and women’s rights, public health and violence prevention, convened over three international meetings held over 2012-2013. At the final meeting in July 2013, a statement of intent was developed by this broader group:

“As the organizers of the Initiative, we believe that stopping violence against boys and girls is an important step in more equitable, stable and peaceful societies. Towards this end a multidisciplinary global group of experts will be convened from relevant fields including public health, economics, child protection, gender-based violence, education, early childhood development, justice, urban planning and neuroscience. Between 2014 and 2016, the Initiative shall examine evidence-based knowledge generated by researchers from around the world, draw conclusions about

¹ Oak Foundation; the IKEA Foundation; the NOVO Foundation; Bernard Van Leer Foundation; the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; the American Jewish World Service; The UBS Foundation; UNICEF; and an anonymous donor (Global Report 2017).
what policies and approaches have proved most effective and advance recommendations to actually stop violence against boys and girls.”

Background Note: A Global Learning Initiative... (August 2013); p.3

KV aimed to encourage evidence-based policy, investment and practice changes. It targeted children and young people under 18 years of age, adopting the World Health Organisation’s (WHO) 1996 working definition of violence:

“the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either results in injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development or deprivation”

The primary focus was on interpersonal violence rather than self-directed or collective violence. The final Global Report takes a holistic approach to “the intersections between violence, poverty and human development” (KV Donor Report, 2017). The framing of the issue of violence from a human development perspective, and the philosophical stance taken by KV at the outset, is also helpfully captured in an early Steering Committee report:

“KV was initiated to ensure that leading academics across disciplines could review and put their weight behind evidence that could then be used to support efforts to end violence in childhood. The idea was also to ensure that the issues of violence experienced by children are framed in ways that could bring together the broadest coalition of actors across sectors to understand and endorse the centrality of ending violence to achievement of broader human development goals. This also requires enabling a shift away from ‘law and order’ based perspectives towards a ‘human development and capabilities’ based perspective on violence prevention”.

Steering Committee Report (November 2015)

Context – drivers and opportunities to tackle violence in childhood

The initial drivers for KV were succinctly summarised in the KV Original Advocacy Strategy (January 2015) as follows:

- Existing evidence supports the argument that, in order to end violence, societies must start with prevention.
- Children are disproportionately affected by violence; early exposure to violence increases susceptibility to health and social problems and can cascade into a self-perpetuating cycle of violence perpetration in relationships, schools and communities.
- There are significant gaps in knowledge about violence in childhood, and the available information is often fragmented across specific sectors and diverse forms of violence.
• The majority of the evidence, particularly regarding effective prevention strategies, has been generated in a small number of advanced economies.
• There is little internationally comparable data on violence in childhood, and much is thought to be never reported.
• The growing body of research that exists has yet to be translated into effective policy and institutional responses, in part because it has not been communicated in ways that are useful to policy-makers and practitioners.

At its inception in 2013, there were a number of global political developments that provided a timely opportunity for a global focus on the issue of violence in childhood. These included the increasing knowledge that was emerging on the issue and political momentum for change, specifically:

• Advances in neuroscience relative to understanding the impact of violence on the developing brain.
• WHO violence prevention evidence review (2010) which was being supplemented by a global status report (in development at that time).
• The UN Secretary General’s 2006 study on Violence against Children.
• 21 countries in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean accessing support from the ‘Together for Girls’ global public-private partnership to conduct surveys on prevalence of violence in childhood;
• Recommendation of the panel on the post-2015 Development Agenda that elimination of violence in childhood is an indicator of progress toward ensuring stable and peaceful societies.

Adapted from Background Note: A Global learning Initiative...; p.3-4
Advocacy Strategy, Global Social Mobilisation SA

Resources and activities

KV had a Steering Committee; with three members: the two Co-Chairs, and a Member-Secretary. Meetings were conducted virtually. Five eminent researchers from institutions around the world were invited to lead three Learning Groups. Global associates from different regions were involved to ensure that there were connections fostered for meetings in their regions.

A Secretariat in New Delhi provided coordination of a global team. This comprised of a lead, a programme coordinator, a communications manager, and a senior research analyst. Consultants were brought in to support the process including a Strategic Advocacy Adviser, an Advocacy Coordinator, a Senior Research Adviser and an Editor.

The complete list of final outputs, all published on the KV website (www.knowviolenceinchildhood.org) included:
Methods used in this study

This impact study was conducted using an approach developed by Outcome Focus, building on Contribution Analysis (Mayne 2011) and the Research Contribution Framework (RCF; Morton, 2015). The approach is particularly suited to complex multi-stakeholder impact studies and focuses on the ‘contribution’ that research can make to policy and practice, rather than following direct attribution models. The approach creates a framework that focuses on the roles of research users and examines both processes and outcomes. This gets around some of the common problems in assessing impact: it provides a method of linking...
research and knowledge exchange to wider outcomes whilst acknowledging and including contextual factors that help or hinder research impact.

Following this approach, two outcome maps were drafted based on the documentation provided by KV and in consultation with key stakeholders. One focused on ‘building the evidence base’, the second on ‘dissemination and advocacy’. In line with the Outcome Focus method the following approach was taken:

1. Review of documentation provided by KV to assess the extent to which it provides evidence that fitted the outcome maps.
2. Collection of further data to fill missing gaps and test the theory of change.
3. Analysis of data from these different sources to tell the contribution story of the Know Violence Initiative.

Data was collected through documents, interviews and a survey (see Appendix A). A topic guide was used across all data collection methods. Limitations of the approach are also discussed in Appendix A. Findings across the different methods have been synthesised against the outcome maps in this report.

Risks and assumptions for the Initiative were generated using the background documentation and in consultation with the KV Secretariat. These informed the topic guide and were tested during interviews and in the survey. The risks and assumptions can be found in Appendix B.

Documentary Analysis

Documents were provided by the KV Secretariat and included outputs, reports to funders, planning matrices and meeting notes. A full list of these is provided in Appendix A. These were analysed to help understand the programme, and to identify key activities and outputs.

Reflective Log

One of two Global Co-Chairs and the Executive Director completed a ‘reflective log’ to capture their perspectives on the Initiative.

Interviews

Thirteen semi-structured interviews were carried out with stakeholders who had been engaged in the Know Violence Initiative as experts between 2014 and 2017. Interviewees were typically engaged insiders working to end violence in childhood, in academic/research, senior practitioner or advocacy/influencing roles (and sometimes in blended roles and with multiple interests). As would be expected, interviewees’ contributions were influenced by: sector and professional background; the geographic reach of their awareness; and the parts of the Initiative in which they were engaged; as well as their expectations of a learning initiative.

Of the thirteen interviewees, six were in predominantly academic and research roles, and one an advocacy and communications specialist, others held advocacy roles. The sample included people working across the world in national, regional and international contexts, including within NGOs, public services, universities and international institutions.
referencing of quotes varies throughout the report due to the differing permissions given by interviewees.

Survey
A survey was devised following the topic guide and sent by Outcome Focus to 2718 people from the Know Violence mailing list. 2419 email addresses were valid. Outcome Focus received 59 survey responses from a range of sectors relevant to KV such as research, policy, media and donors/funding bodies.

The survey responses were analysed using the tools in Survey Monkey. Qualitative responses were aligned with the outcome maps.

Impact of Know Violence in Childhood: A Global Learning Initiative

Report structure
The rest of this report sets out the findings of the impact study. It does this under two main outcome maps, one looking at developing the knowledge base, the other on advocacy and dissemination.

An outcome map is presented for each of these areas, and data is analysed against each level of outcomes.

Finally, some overall reflections and recommendations are set out applying to the work as a whole.
(A) Developing the Knowledge Base

Outcome Map

Activities/outputs
- Commission and coordinate the evidence on VAC
- We review existing literature on VAC, write synthesis and peer review
- We commission key academics to share their knowledge on VAC
- We disseminate findings via a global report and X papers in academic journals

Engagement/Reach
- Experts from across professional, sectoral and geographic boundaries
- Researchers

Awareness/Reactions
- Global Report recognised as critical resource for the development agenda
- Stakeholders feel they can work together and collaborate in new ways
- Stakeholders feel they are supported to carry out work on VAC
- Know Violence are a credible organisation
- This is an exciting opportunity

Knowledge, Attitude and Skills
- Understand the need for and challenges of creating a robust global resource
- Understand different perspectives and approaches to VAC
- A network of people can work together to end VAC
- Better understanding of gaps in research, particularly for LMIC

Practice and Behaviour Change
- Government and advocates have access to a credible resource for driving change
- Key influencers have an evidence base to advocate for prevention
- Researchers get funding for more research to address gaps

Final Outcomes
- There is a new shared narrative on the causes and consequences of VAC
- Research underpins change in reducing VAC
- The Global Report is recognised as a critical resource for the development agenda
- A network of researchers pursue the research agenda on VAC especially in LMIC
Activities/Outputs (A)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities/Outputs</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commission and coordinate the evidence on VAC. Review existing literature on VAC, write synthesis and peer review. Commission key academics to share their knowledge on VAC. Disseminate findings via a global report and 44 papers in academic journals.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Findings</strong></td>
<td>Having all of the information brought together in one place was seen as highly valuable. The global scale of activities and outputs created by KV proved a challenge within itself.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The evidence for this section has been drawn from a number of sources including:

- Internal monitoring reports
- Advocacy strategies
- KV Steering Committee reports
- A reflective impact log supplied by the KV Executive Director
- Documents publicly available from the KV website including newsletters
- Interview and survey data

**Bringing knowledge and evidence from across the globe together**

As a learning Initiative, a key outcome of KV was felt to be a bringing together of the evidence in one place, to achieve coherence and overview. The simple value of having all of the information brought together in one place was consistently stated and felt to be highly valuable ‘in and of itself’.

> “The idea of corralling the evidence into a coherent synthesis has been achieved. We were aware of a reluctance to act in many places. We were not set up to dismantle that reluctance.”

Stakeholder-Academic

Documentary sources revealed the initial, detailed work undertaken by KV to review existing evidence and identify gaps in research including over 3,000 published papers and reports. This led to the development of a comprehensive annotated bibliography.

**Large scale of activities undertaken**

Interviewees recollected their involvement in various activities within KV, such as: conversations during inception; the advisory team; in country workshops, regional meetings and networks; contributing to papers; analysis; reviewing documents; dissemination; and launch events. The scale of the challenge of enabling these conversations at a global level was apparent.
A network of academics was developed, bringing together experts from across professional, sectoral and geographic boundaries, many of whom participated in one of three Learning Groups. These groups were established across the three themes shown in the table below.

The groups were led by five expert academics who served as Learning Group chairs, who commissioned expert papers. An additional group of papers were commissioned by the Secretariat, covering cross-cutting or regional themes. In total, the Initiative engaged over 120 authors who prepared 44 background papers. The Initiative used available and secondary data and used new techniques “to deepen and expand the available evidence in new directions” with commissioned papers focusing on systematic reviews “as a means to validate the quality of information and use the best available and most credible research.” (KV Donor Report, December 2017).

Learning Group papers were commissioned and meetings were held as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Group</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Papers commissioned</th>
<th>Meetings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homes and families</td>
<td>London</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>London</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communities and public spaces</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition, the KV Secretariat met in New Delhi and commissioned 15 papers. Additionally, the KV secretariat and Learning Group Co-Chairs along with a few external experts met as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Meetings held</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge, UK</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Delhi</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge, USA</td>
<td>2015, 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Five Regional Roundtable events also took place during 2015/16, bringing together researchers involved in the Initiative with policy and practitioner representatives in a range of locations including:

- Latin America
- Central Asia
- South Asia
- East Asia
- East Asia follow-up event which led to the launch of a regional research network with a focus on this topic area
- In Italy, a sector-specific roundtable held on Social Protection, in partnership with the UNICEF Office of Research - Innocenti
A Twitter Chat was also organised in December 2016 on the theme of *Child Online Safety: Threats and Opportunities in the New Global Agenda*. It brought together expert moderators on online violence from around the world. The Initiative was also granted “Safety Partner” status by Twitter.

**Engagement and Reach (A)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engagement and Reach</th>
<th>Experts from across professional, sectoral and geographic boundaries Researchers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Findings</strong></td>
<td>KV was successful in engaging experts across professional, sectoral and geographic boundaries. The Initiative made specific successful efforts to engage with researchers in the Global South.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Engaging people across professional, sectoral and geographic boundaries**

Survey and interview responses suggest that KV was successful in engaging experts from across professional, sectoral and geographic boundaries. Of the 59 survey respondents, 31% worked in research, 22% policy, 12% donor/funding bodies, 12% campaigning/advocacy and 18% stating ‘other’ which included working with the UN/UNICEF and also a mixture of the above. One respondent stated:

“There is now a global network of researchers and academics and practitioners that did not exist before. It will be important to maintain them.”

Respondent who attended a learning group meeting.

Documentary analysis also revealed that those leading and steering KV aimed to ensure a range of perspectives were reflected in their work:

“Ensuring global perspectives are reflected in our final analysis and its presentation is important. Much of the evidence that is considered to be of high quality emerges from a small handful of institutions and universities. Broadening the engagement to voices from other parts of the world is important to ensure that our framing and language is inclusive and representative of diverse realities and perspectives whilst building common ground”.

Steering Committee Report (November 2015)

**Engaging researchers from the Global South**
Some interviewees also perceived that KV had a strong intention to make linkages with researchers in the Global South and this was a valued aspect of the Initiative for them. One interviewee suggested that the mix of diverse perspectives encouraged critical thinking.

“*You do get people who question the received wisdom. And you do…*it’s quite important to have at the table people from countries where there is no money for instance. *And then you have a different view about solutions, if you know that you start from poverty. There are assumptions that come from a very small part of the western world, that get questioned. It helps because research people can get very narrow...certain ways of doing things, and certain assumptions are made about what’s right and wrong. And I think we did reasonably well at not keeping in those tramlines.*”

Co-chair, KV (UK)

This was reflected among the survey respondents where there was a wide spread of engagement with researchers from different regions, as can be seen in the following graph:

![Graph showing regional engagement](image)

Although this perspective was not shared by all interviewees, with some continuing to have concerns over low and middle income countries (LMIC) representation, a number of interviewees noted the global reach of the Initiative. The value of regional networks and meetings was also discussed.

“*You know the papers came from all across the world with people in different sections of the world who were authorities in the field, so it allowed us to really have a global document.*”

Learning Group Co-chair

“*My network was very much of researchers in the Global North and KV facilitated to some degree linking up with researchers in Vietnam and Zambia. That was exciting.*”
Awareness/Reactions (A)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awareness/Reactions</th>
<th>Experts and researchers feel supported to carry out work on VAC. Work together and collaborate in new ways. Know Violence are seen as a credible organisation they can work with. This is an exciting opportunity.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Findings</td>
<td>The organisation and effort required, to bring together experts across sectors, countries and areas, to work on the evidence are impressive. Most stakeholders felt engaged and supported and that what was achieved has been significant for the field.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interviews with stakeholders suggested that KV was strong in engaging those inside the field, academics, senior practitioners and advocates who were already engaged in related work, in the process of developing the knowledge base. The multi-disciplinary reach of the Initiative was also noted, as an exceptional quality.

“It has reached the right kind of people, in that sense we’ll have to see how much of this is really picked up in subsequent years. [...] Only time will tell but my sense is that it is a very good Initiative.”

Regional Director, International Center for Research on Women

“...in that sense we reached out to a broader group of economists, social scientists and statisticians at one level. We also reached out to people working in prison reforms and law... and this was mostly in Central Asia where that is a big issue.”

Co-Chair, KV

The researchers involved in KV arrived with clear motivations: aligned work areas and interests; belief in evidence-based practices; an interest in drawing in researchers in the Global South; and commonly shared perceptions of the data and evidence gap in the field. A need for greater unity across what may be perceived as a complex and fragmented field, as well as a relatively new field, was frequently discussed. A number of interviewees referred to the need to consolidate the field. This relates to a perception that the field has developed organically and disparately and may often be dominated by preoccupation with specific issues, such as child trafficking or sexual exploitation, without perhaps an overarching narrative.

“I was quite excited as I thought it had the potential to generate interesting work and conversations.”

Learning Group Chair
“You know working in this field we always felt there is a dearth of data especially on the magnitude and forms of violence that children experience and what is the response mechanism. [...] there’s no evidence of how best somebody is responding to them.”

Regional Director, International Center for Research on Women

“We looked at the landscape actually and there’s nowhere you can see this piece of work, where an analysis has been done actually of what we know about violence.”

Associate Director, International Development Agency

Interviewees were in general positive about their own involvement and the learning group model that was used. One interviewee described how KV sought international representation within the Learning Groups, “so that we could get into the data from all the different countries and the aspects of everything”. Those engaged in Learning Groups gave accounts of their positive experiences and some interviewees in academic or data roles felt that they were able to make new connections. One interviewee drew particular attention to the collegiate atmosphere within her group, in relation to “we were critical of each other’s work and at the same time in a really positive way, so that our work became stronger”.

One of the Learning Groups started later than the other two and was also disadvantaged by having only one Chair, with others having two Co-Chairs. This was felt to limit involvement and discussion. Although interviewees appeared content with the themes of ‘homes and families’, ‘schools’ and ‘communities’, some suggested that cross-working would also have been most beneficial given the conceptual and practical links (there was ‘insufficient gain’ between the groups).

Knowledge, Attitude and Skills (A)

| Knowledge, Attitudes and Skills | Understand the nature and impact of violence in childhood and children’s rights to be free from it. Understand why violence takes place, its implications for children’s outcomes, strategies for prevention and how they can be implemented. The benefits of prevention-based approaches and information to implement. |
| Findings | Across the survey and interviews researchers and many of those engaged in developing the evidence base reported that KV had contributed to their understanding of the nature and impact of violence in childhood. This was particularly strong around crossing disciplinary boundaries. |

31% of people who participated in the survey identified themselves as researchers. From this group, 67% agreed/strongly agreed that KV contributed to their understanding of the nature
and impact of violence in childhood. Only 6% disagreed and the remaining neither agreed nor disagreed.

Many researchers and experts interviewed also commented on how working together to build the knowledge base had helped develop their understanding of the nature and extent of violence in childhood. This included bringing together viewpoints they had not necessarily encountered before.

“They got a broad range of people they brought together. One of the fascinating things was actually to bring people who were from the non-traditional child protection sector, bringing people who would look at things from a macro-view and not this little project silo view that we sometimes ...you know that child protection actually is full of issues and full of little projects, so it brought something new.”

Associate Director, International Development Agency

“When this discussion began we felt there is a need to consolidate the information and knowledge so far so that it becomes a viable platform for taking it forward.”

Regional Director, International Center for Research on Women

Although these narrative changes were not evident in all interviewee accounts, a number made reference to looking at violence at a ‘macro’ level and considering more fluidly the different environments that a child moves through, so that violence is understood as ‘complex and overlapping’ (an ‘interconnected spectrum’). One interviewee spoke of thinking about violence in a broader, structural context rather than looking at individual choices.
within families. Another researcher referred to the breadth of researchers and approaches involved, which led to new types of understanding of the topic.

“So I think what they [KV], what they did for me personally was they helped reinforce this narrative I was formulating with these countries, these governments and the KV Initiative did it on a much bigger scale with a lot more scholars, so you could sort of match applied research with conceptual and academic research and come out with the same thing, that was a fantastic thing. And I think that narrative has now entered into the way we’re thinking about violence.”

Data and Evidence Lead, Global Partnership to End Violence in childhood

Several respondents commented on KV furthering the dialogue around violence in childhood being no longer regarded as solely linked to child protection, moving from the “old fashioned approach”. Instead it is now seen as a cross-sectoral issue:

“The Initiative and report and related panels and events have infiltrated new spaces - economics for example, gender etc”.

Survey Respondent, International Development Agency

A respondent added to the idea of an integrated knowledge base, stating the improved understanding of the interconnection between personal and institutional violence.

**Developing new measures – a composite Violence in Childhood (VIC) Index**

KV was unique in filling the gaps in knowledge identified by using statistical techniques to estimate country-levels of violence in childhood in the form of a new VIC Index. These were adapted from methods used for estimating maternal mortality and child survival (KV Donor Report, 2017). This has led to the ability to conduct cross-county and cross-region comparisons, allowing the development of new associations:

“We have constructed a composite VIC index for 168 countries and have used this to show the close macro-associations to show that:

(i) VIC is universal – it is not associated with per capita incomes of countries in any predictable way; (ii) countries that invest in human development are able to lower VIC; (iii) VIC is lower in countries that respect child rights, rule of law, and practice good governance”.

KV Donor Report (December 2017)

**Practice and Behaviour Change (A)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Practice and Behaviour Change</strong></th>
<th>Government and advocates have access to a credible resource for driving change. Key influencers have an evidence base to advocate for prevention. Researchers get funding for more research to address gaps.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Findings</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It was more difficult to identify specific changes in behaviour, policy and practice in the short timescale since the KV work was completed. However, there is evidence that the resource is beginning to be used by governments and advocacy groups internationally and in some countries, and that there is potential for more action based on the evidence in the future.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A majority of 83% of survey respondents agreed that KV had contributed to advocating for the prevention of violence against children, with only 4% disagreeing. There were comments made about the use of the Global Report’s contribution to advocacy work being a strength;

“The global report 2017 provides key messages that can be used in advocacy for violence prevention notably the returns on investments across the health, education and social services sectors.”

Respondent working in policy in Eastern and Southern Africa

“The evidence is clear, and the materials are compelling. This is an excellent body of evidence that can be used by all stakeholders.”

Respondent who attended Learning Group

One survey respondent commented that the report had moved the approach to action forward:

“Perhaps we would still be thinking violence can be solved with a single pronged strategy and there would be no connection with other disciplines.”

Respondent working in policy in Latin America

Some specific examples where a KV report has been used as a resource to drive change mentioned were:

- Together for Girls used a paper produced by KV to engage with the Spotlight Initiative, specifically to encourage thinking around the intersection between violence against children (VAC) and violence against women (VAW).
- Providing a focus for NGOs and think-tanks to come together in South Africa for government lobbying.
- Engaging community-based action groups in India.
- Initiating political debate in Jamaica regarding corporal punishment.
- Providing the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights in India with ready material to support their advocacy work.

“Here in South Africa with our partners and network of researchers and practitioners there has been real engagement with the products and the work and real interest in collectively using them to lobby and advocate within South Africa because we have an active network of practitioners,”
researcher that interact and try to lobby government in particular ways. This is a hugely valuable resource and there have already been initiatives that we have run in collaboration with others to take this to government and make sure it is utilised”.

Learning Group Chair

Securing funding for more research to address gaps

Through the interviews one case came to light in India where the International Center for Research on Women ‘leveraged’ KV to raise funds for a deeper dive in two states, Haryana and Jharkhand, looking at response mechanisms in preventing or mitigating violence in childhood.

Integrated research base has potential to encourage an integrated policy response

One interviewee touched on the need to lift child protection out of its silo, within government policy-making or within large-scale organisations, such that it is mainstreamed within larger policy-areas. This may be a key point in shaping advocacy efforts.

“When I’m having a conversation with policy makers, analysis of evidence presented in the Report makes it is much easier for me to say...if you want to end bullying in schools you need to take a broader perspective; bring in health professionals; bring in the education sector; bring in chid protection and take the discussion to the level of a nation’s overall human development. So it is not about creating a separate department or a ministry of child protection. The idea is [that] ending violence should be embedded in what every sector affecting the lives of children does. And so from the health budget you keep a small proportion to look at violence prevention. Similarly violence prevention should be embedded in what education does. And so from the education budget, you keep a small proportion to end violence in schools.”

Co-chair, KV (India)

Final Outcomes (A)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final Outcomes</th>
<th>There is a new shared narrative on the causes and consequences of VAC. Research underpins change in reducing VAC. The Global Report is recognised as a critical resource for the development agenda. A network of researchers pursue the research agenda on VAC especially in LMIC.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Findings</td>
<td>The high quality of the Global Report is important to the development of the VIC agenda, and a shared narrative. There are early indications of a shift in perspective, and an ongoing network pursuing this agenda.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The importance of a high-quality, shared knowledge products

The key contribution of KV in relation to the knowledge base may be the drawing together of available and current data and evidence in high quality knowledge products, which were highly valued by most interviewees. This was felt to be a significant and perhaps necessary stage in the development of the field.

Seventeen survey respondents felt that the evidence base was really important to moving the field forward:

“We have some key facts and figures easily accessible and a compelling narrative about violence in childhood which resonates beyond the child protection sector”

Global, INGO

“[Without KV] There would be less solid, reliable academic information available on the problem of VAC.”

Campaigning and Advocacy Worker – Global South

When asked what would be different if KV had not taken place, several respondents commented on shared and accessible narrative:

“We would have been scrabbling round to figure out the narrative”

Policy, South Asia

“There would be a lack of shared understanding across the globe”

Campaigning and Advocacy, South Asia

Shift in perspective on the topic of violence in childhood

There was a shift in a number of perspectives during the course of the Initiative. The early aim to be guided by a holistic human development focus was evident, together with the development of a new perspective of violence in childhood, once the connections had been made between violence in childhood and violence against women.

“The understanding of the interconnection between personal and institutional violence would be weak [without KV]”

Researcher, Central and Eastern Europe

“I hope it will be one of the gamechangers in the story of violence as a societal issue. It will highlight the issue through its data and strong narrative. It will bring together people across geography and sector (as it has started doing) and underpin a discussion about what we count and measure in society”

Executive Director, May 2018
### Advocacy and Dissemination

#### Outcome Map

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities/Outputs</th>
<th>Engagement/Reach</th>
<th>Awareness/Reactions</th>
<th>Knowledge, Attitude and Skills</th>
<th>Practice and Behaviour Change</th>
<th>Final Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Present the evidence on impact and prevention in Global Report /22 papers</td>
<td>Experts from across professional, sectoral and geographic boundaries</td>
<td>The Global Report is recognised as a critical resource for the development agenda</td>
<td>Understand the nature and impact of violence in childhood and children's rights to be free from it</td>
<td>National Government have funded violence prevention strategies including targets and monitoring</td>
<td>Overall levels of violence against children are reduced in all settings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop a comprehensive communications and advocacy plan</td>
<td>Key Influencers, the End Violence campaign, policy-makers and practitioners</td>
<td>Violence against children is a problem that can be tackled</td>
<td>Understand why violence takes place, its implications for children's outcomes, strategies for prevention and how they can be implemented</td>
<td>Key Influencers lend voice and weight to advocate for prevention</td>
<td>Children experience wellbeing, freedom from fear, improved quality of life and improved intergenerational outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hold dissemination events, international meetings and roundtables</td>
<td>Media</td>
<td>Research is a valuable resource that can help me do my job</td>
<td>The benefits of prevention-based approaches and information to implement</td>
<td>Policy-makers implement effective violence prevention policies</td>
<td>SDG's 3, 4, 5, and 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host learning groups and develop a network of opinion leaders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A network of opinion leaders and investors forum continue supporting violence prevention work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Activities/outputs (B)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities/outputs</th>
<th>Present the evidence on impact and prevention in Global Report /44 papers. Develop a comprehensive communications and advocacy plan. Hold dissemination events, international meetings and roundtables.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Findings</td>
<td>There was a large scale of activities planned for advocacy and dissemination. Achieving the delivery of the Global Report and related papers was successful. Due to time constraints, other planned communication and advocacy activities were more limited than intended.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An initial Advocacy Strategy was developed by Global Social Mobilisation SA which outlined: a reframing of the issue of violence prevention, away from an episodic to a more systemic framing; together with the need to broaden the focus of the international development community from collective violence, to interpersonal violence; and linking this to work on sustainable development goals (SGDs). The plan was developed in three parts:

1. Focus on developing the reputation of KV and raising political awareness.
2. Targeted outreach to priority audiences.
3. Focus on the launch and dissemination of the main report and associated research.

**Large scale of activities undertaken**

Examples of high-level advocacy work undertaken throughout the life of KV include:

- Convening a panel on Childhood Violence, Fragile Societies at the World Bank’s flagship global event, The Fragility Forum, Washington D.C.
- An interactive roundtable with researchers at the International Centre for Research on Women, Washington D.C.
- A presentation to the Roundtable on Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) relating to VAC in South Asia in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- A workshop organised at the UN Habitat III conference in Quito, Ecuador.
- A presentation of emerging findings at the Cross-Regional Round Table on the Prevention and Elimination of VAC convened by the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General and hosted by the Council of the Baltic Sea States in Stockholm, Sweden.

The communications plan for KV during the lifespan of the Initiative included developing an active website, with blogs and updates as new papers were produced, together with links to Facebook and Twitter accounts. A comprehensive mailing list was developed by the Initiative, of approximately 2800 individuals and organisations. Regular newsletters were sent to this mailing group with links to outputs and workshop reports, as relevant.

In addition, in advance of the Report’s launch, outreach was made to close partners of Know Violence and their communication teams, in particular. The Report was presented to them in advance of the launch, to provide a special preview and enable these partners to support the
communications outreach for the Report. These organisations also received embargoed
copies of the Report, to support their communications work.

The Global Report was published on-line on September 26th, 2017 with related media work
being co-ordinated with major global media outlets. A media report developed after the
release of the Global Report reported that there had been 89 media engagements during
September and October, most of which focused on the findings from the Global Report. The
news coverage was global, with engagements in Europe, America, the Middle East and Africa.
Following the release, articles relating to the Initiative were in the Guardian, the Financial
Times health section and Reuters. The Lancet also endorsed the Global Report, signifying the
shift from regarding the issue as a child protection concern, to a broader health and
development issue.

Several meetings were organised relating to the launch of the Global Report. Prior to the
launch two high profile preview events took place in London and New York in July 2017,
reaching a combined total of 80 participants from International NGOs, researchers and policy
advisors. At this time, one-to-one meetings also took place with organisations including:

- DFID
- Save the Children International
- Plan International
- Young Lives at Oxford University
- UNFPA
- Big Win Philanthropy
- Every Woman Every Child
- World Childhood Foundation

A Steering Committee report (August 2017) highlights the reciprocal nature of these
meetings: “Many of these discussions were focused on ways to use the Know Violence
evidence to support these organisations’ own efforts in this area, as well as to identify ways
they could support our dissemination and advocacy efforts.”

After the virtual release of the Global Report on September 26th, 2017, a formal launch took
place the following day at a Symposium organised by Save the Children International on
‘Ending Violence against Children- Evidence and Mobilising for Action’ in partnership with
Georgetown University, Washington DC.

Further events took place in September 2017, including:

- ‘Achieving the SDGs for children: Collective Action and Innovative Solutions’ in
  partnership with the World Childhood Foundation, chaired by Her Majesty, Queen
  Silvia of Sweden at the United Nations HQ in New York.
- ‘Ending Violence in Childhood: A learning event’ organised in partnership with the
  International Centre for Research on Women, in Washington DC.
- ‘From data to action: Breaking the cycle of violence for girls’ in partnership with
  Together for Girls and the Canadian Embassy to the USA on the occasion of the
  International day of the Girl, October 2017, Washington DC. The event was also
attended by Sophie Trudeau, the First Lady of Canada.

In addition, meetings were held with the Ambassadors to the UN of Sweden, UK and Canada, and an Assistant Secretary General of the UN, as well as with the American Academy of Paediatrics, World Bank, USAID, and many other actors, to disseminate the report in tailored meetings.

Limited timescale led to some proposed activities not taking place

However, as early as July 2016, the notes of the Steering Committee report reveal that although advocacy was one of the main objectives of the Initiative, the limited time that would be available after the report launch required those involved to consider longer term options for taking the work forward: “The Sustainable Development Goals remain the overarching umbrella within which the Initiative’s work can be promoted, given that it articulates several targets relating to ending violence and promoting child well-being. Reaching national governments will be possible only through our strategic partners over the next few years.”

A number of advocacy and dissemination activities that were originally planned for the Initiative did not take place, due to time and capacity constraints. In addition, there were delays due to co-ordinating with UNICEF who were also releasing a report on violence in 2017. Whilst there were some initial discussions and steps taken towards undertaking some of the following activities, these outputs were not completed:

- Establishing a network of opinion leaders and an investors forum;
- Establishing a framework for the involvement of young people in advocating for prevention strategies and holding policy-makers accountable;
- Tracking the interventions of key influencers in advocating for violence prevention strategies;
- Representation of the violence prevention agenda in the media;
- Developing understanding of policymakers regarding the benefits of a prevention-based approach and understanding of effective violence prevention strategies.

Engagement and Reach (B)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engagement and Reach</th>
<th>Experts from across professional, sectoral and geographic boundaries. Key influencers, the End Violence campaign, policy-makers and practitioners. Media.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Findings</td>
<td>There has been engagement of key organisations from the start. There was influential reach within the field, but more engagement needed beyond the field. There was a lack of time for developing learning and opinion leader networks.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regular engagement with key stakeholders

Documentary analysis reveals that as the launch of the Global Report was delayed, the time available for advocacy was further reduced, leading to the development of a revised and
more targeted approach to advocacy. This involved working closely with 15 key strategic advocacy partners who commented on the development of the Global Report and participated in pre-launch events. These 15 partners were drawn from international development NGOs, regional organisations, and research networks and universities who were selected based on their strategic role in influencing both child protection focussed organisations as well as those from outside the sector.

In addition, high profile individuals were engaged in the Initiative including: Nobel Laureate Professor Amartya Sen and the Queen of Sweden, both of whom provided endorsements for the KV Report. Marta Santos Pais, UN Secretary-General’s Special Representative on Violence against Children; and Dr Lincoln Chen President of the China Medical Board were also respectively, Member, and Chair of the Know Violence Steering Committee.

Influential reach within in the field, but more engagement needed beyond the field

Across academics, senior practitioners and advocates there was a general sense that KV has been highly influential within the field. A number of interviewees used language such as ‘like-minded people’, ‘usual suspects’ or ‘expert group’ to describe those involved. Most felt than the next steps should include fostering emerging awareness amongst policy-makers and national governments of the important work done by KV. A specific gap in engagement identified was the large ministries of health and education. One interviewee also suggested that KV did not have the skills for dissemination and advocacy and this should be taken up by other agencies.

“I think they did bring all of the credible players together, but then these are not people who are politicians, their expertise is not in policy-making or how to work with governments and that’s perhaps not a strength of the report.”

Expert Advisor

Awareness of KV work across different geographies may be widely varying. Some interviewees felt that awareness in their countries was very low, and consequently felt most keenly the need to widen awareness, including having advocates on the ground who will work with the material. Interviewees identified that further work could have been done in Latin, Central and South America, Africa and to some extent Asia, in reaching and engaging partners or ‘spokespeople’ on the ground who are key to advocacy in-country.

Another interviewee suggested that if the advocacy component had run alongside the research component, more impact might have been achieved. Testimony elsewhere suggests that this may have been because of the lack of evidence found in the initial stages of KV (in particular a lack of information about the Global South), and the perceived need for a firm evidence base prior to communication. Interviewees showed different expectations of what a learning initiative could reasonably achieve. They accepted and praised the Global Report and the lack of progress in advocacy and dissemination were unrelated to the qualities of the report itself.

“I think there could have been more advocacy, dissemination and translation work done as the initiative was developing. I’m not a believer in
waiting until the report is ready – that could have started earlier, there was consensus amongst those involved. If it had started earlier perhaps we would have been further on in terms of advocacy work.”

Learning Group Chair

“I don’t think that’s the fault of the report. I think that’s a combination of things. Number one – we are a small circle of people relatively compared to health or education, because it’s a relatively new field and a much younger field ... I don’t think we’ve quite figured out the way to disseminate the information.”

Data and Evidence Lead, Global Partnership to End Violence in Childhood

Awareness/Reactions (B)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awareness/Reactions</th>
<th>The Global Report is recognised as a critical resource for the development agenda. Violence against children is a problem that can be tackled. Research is a valuable resource that can help me do my job.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Findings</td>
<td>The Global Report was seen as a critical resource by many, and has been well received, highly reported on and highly cited. It is influential within the field, but there is more work to be done to obtain wider reach.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Global Report is recognised as a critical resource for the development agenda

The Global Report was felt to be a critical resource by many, and it was respected in the field:

“All the future efforts on preventing violence will one time or the other continue to refer to this work”

Regional Director, International Center for Research on Women

The Global Report has been well-received and widely cited. Its credibility relates to the key academics and researchers who were involved. One interviewee in particular drew attention to the independent nature of the report and its credibility with the academy and civil society groups. As described above, a particularly highly valued characteristic of the Global Report was that it synthesised and presented together the current evidence. The Violence in Childhood Index enabled associations to be made across countries, providing valuable macro-analysis.

“You cannot talk about violence now at the global level in the development community, to talk about evidence, without – this is the reference point.”

Associate Director, International Development Agency

“There can’t be any doubt about KV changing awareness amongst people who have had access to the reports and papers.”

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Stakeholder-Researcher

“I think we have struck a fine balance – between using evidence provided by the government and evidence generated by scholars who have assessed projects on the ground to synthesize learnings in terms of what is working and what is not. And I think to that extent it has been a contribution.”

Co-Chair, KV (India)

“..it was well received in the coverage and the press work and so on. The people there…. the American gatherings and UN gatherings were all enthusiastic.”

Co-chair, KV (UK)

There is still a need for further advocacy and dissemination

The need for further advocacy and dissemination emerged as a key theme during interviews, extending the reach of the material far beyond the inner circle of engaged stakeholders. The need to ‘popularise’ or ‘transform’ the Report into advocacy material was frequently raised, including identifying the salient learning points to advance in different settings:

“Apart from dissemination, when you talk now about policies and influencing, thought leaders or policy-makers that means advocacy within countries, it’s not a global advocacy you can’t do that because there are different contexts.”

Global Associate, KV

“There’s a couple of audiences. There’s the usual suspects, the same people who always work on these issues, who know this stuff and I think for them, it’s a little like ‘yeah, we know this stuff’. But I think one of the things they did well was really trying to connect some dots and have everything in one place which was good and helpful. They did a really good job of connecting the kind of VAC and VAW worlds and bringing a gender lens to the work. I think that that’s fair and that’s good.”

Together for Girls

Lack of connection to parallel initiatives

Despite the fact that interviewees felt the Global Report and associated papers to be of high quality, some concerns were expressed related to connectivity with other parallel initiatives. It was felt that greater alignment of messaging would have been helpful. Issues of fragmentation within the field and ownership issues were identified as potential barriers to impact.

“This is not supposed to be primary research. It was to gather all evidence on what works with regards to prevention and intervention of violence in childhood, and I think it did a very good job. The work that was planned to be done by KV in a sense was also
done by other big international organisations like WHO and UNICEF. So I felt that the original idea got splintered by different groups who were also part of the concept.”

Global Associate, KV

Knowledge, Attitude and Skills (B)

| Knowledge, Attitudes and Skills | Understand the nature and impact of violence in childhood and children’s rights to be free from it. Understand why violence takes place, its implications for children’s outcomes, and strategies for prevention and how they can be implemented. The benefits of prevention-based approaches and information to implement. |
| Findings | There was general agreement that KV had contributed to understanding of the nature and impact of violence in childhood amongst wider stakeholders, including the emergence of new terminology. However many felt there was more that needed to be done to ensure that the work reached its potential impact. |

Of the 58 survey respondents, 77% agreed that KV had contributed to their understanding of the nature and impact of violence in childhood, with respondents stating;

“KV has advanced the field like no other effort”

Respondent from an International Organisation

“KV is scholarly and rigorous and has the credibility of a non-institutionally aligned piece of work. So, it is already having unique impact and can have even more in the future, but it needs to be kept ‘alive’ somehow.”

Respondent from an International Organisation

“It is huge for the field that we have this enormous and rigorous body of knowledge.”

Respondent working in Research

New terminology emerges (‘violence in childhood’), and new connections (VAC and VAW)

The interviews revealed that in the course of the initiative a strong case was made for a change in language to ‘violence in childhood’ (VIC) rather than ‘violence against children’ (VAC). The rationale for this is echoed in a funder report “making the argument that apart from being a victim of violence as a child, witnessing violence at home or elsewhere has its negative impacts as well” (Donor report). The connection between the fields of violence against women and violence in childhood emerged as a very strong theme through interviews. The Violence in Childhood Index included indicators of VAC and violence against women (VAW), reflecting this understanding. The Global Report “might be an important contribution to changing the language and vocabulary”.

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“And again the discourse has been mixed [with confusion between] violence against children versus violence in childhood, [Prior to KV] ... that kind of framing [of violence in childhood] did not exist, in the literature, nor in the programme, nor in the policy responses.”

Regional Director, International Center for Research on Women

**Developing an integrated knowledge base on violence prevention**

Progression in thinking about the issue of violence was also linked to interventions or solutions, including prevention-based approaches. Although some interviewees felt that, as experts in the field, engaged stakeholders had moved on their thinking more minimally, others identified significant changes. One felt that because like-minded people had been involved, less learning had occurred in relation to problem definition but more in relation to solutions or responses. Wider thinking was evident about the drivers of violence and primary prevention.

“I think it’s contributed in an enormous way to prevention like we no longer do prevention just in silos. We realised, especially and you see that reflected in INSPIRE\(^3\) that you have to have multiple strategies happening at one time. It’s not enough just to focus on the home but you have to focus on the home and the school and the initiative was really good in pulling that out.”

Data and Evidence Lead, Global Partnership to End Violence in Childhood

“But what is important is to change the drivers in such a way that in the first place itself there is no violence, you know children don’t have to experience living in a situation, live in a family, live in a community which supports or endorses violence.”

Regional Director, International Center for Research on Women

**Practice and Behaviour Change (B)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Practice and Behaviour Change</strong></th>
<th>National Government have funded violence prevention strategies including targets and monitoring. Key influencers lend voice and weight to advocate for prevention. Policy-makers implement effective violence prevention policies.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Findings</strong></td>
<td>Knowledge generated by the initiative is being used by policy colleagues in some settings and countries, and there is some emerging policy action. It is too early to see policy implementation more widely, and it may be too complex to track the contribution of the report to subsequent policy action on a global scale.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^3\) The WHO framework for ending violence against children
Impact within the development community

Current data as well as solutions from the Global Report may be influencing the policies and work of organisations within the development field. For example, interview data suggests:

- further ‘sensitisation’ to child protection organisations and the need for ‘conscious policy’ on violence prevention.
- influence on INSPIRE, the Global Partnership, and major donors such as the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the UK’s Department for International Development (DFID) and Canada.
- positive reception among international agencies and development funders.
- child protection areas within larger agencies had been boosted by KV, in ‘recognition and visibility’.

“We would use the material in our programming work and our media work, and we would direct people to the material, at the national level and at the global level.”

Associate Director, International Development Agency

Whilst it was not possible to comment on specific outcomes for some agencies there was a sense that the Report may have ‘hit the nerve’, agitating the issue within the development community.

“What I found by and large was that most others including some UN agencies, some international NGOs, and also some key development funders like DFID and SIDA and others were very eager and welcoming, DFID in particular, like I had four different officers within DFID [who] were seeing this as ‘thank you for bringing all this stuff together in one place, it helps us understand the connection better between some of these issues’. And I had some explicit conversations with some at DFID, SIDA and others about their use of the report to inform some of their own planning internally. And it seems to me, that is exactly what we wanted to try and accomplish. I think we probably wanted to do more of it than we did - with more governments and more places. But that’s the kind of thing I think that we were hoping to accomplish”.

Senior Advocacy Advisor, KV
Knowledge generated by the initiative starts to be used by policy colleagues in some settings and countries

When asked whether KV had contributed to policymakers starting to implement effective violence prevention policies, 33% of survey respondents agreed/strongly agreed, 4% disagreed and the majority (62%) neither agreed nor disagreed. This suggests it is perhaps too early to comment on the contribution KV has made to policymakers. Half of those working in policy roles agreed/strongly agreed that KV had contributed to policymakers’ actions; although some commented that the survey question was premature and that policymakers were still, “digesting news of what the situation is”.

“I work in policy and I am already making reference to the Global Report 2017 in developing key policy actions for strengthening government leadership on coordinating prevention of violence in childhood.”

Respondent working in policy in Eastern and Southern Africa

Specific cases of action emerged through the interviews:

- In South Africa active networks of researchers and senior practitioners have been engaged with the work and in using the products to lobby government. South Africa is working with the Global Partnership as a pathfinding country.
- In India, it was felt that KV has “provided some tangible platforms for resources and regional discussions” (Co-Chair, KV). The National Commission on Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), government and media have been part of the discussion. NCPCR has circulated 180 copies of the report to officials engaged in child protection work across the country. It was also felt that in India the initiative was succeeding in reaching community-based action groups. Remaining plans include presenting the Global Report to public universities in four different states of the country.
- Global Partnership to End Violence in Childhood is undertaking deeper work in Tanzania, Philippines and Mexico, and KV information will be supporting work with governments.
- Links with the International Paediatric Association led to a joint position paper on addressing violence in childhood, a version of which has also been published in The Lancet in May 2018.
- Links with the Partnership for Maternal and Newborn Child Health has led to collaboration in producing an evidence brief on ‘Ending Violence in Early Childhood’.

A particularly strong account of impact was identified in Jamaica, where political, media and public interest focused on the issue of banning corporal punishment of children at home. One interviewee described a cascade of media and public interest in the issue following the publication of the Global Report alongside a local UNICEF publication, and the reinvigoration of the issue at political level where previously it had been stalled. It is currently expected that the Prime Minister will take the issue to Parliament. It is notable that in this example
extensive material was to some extent telescoped into one key message which has been highly influential.

“Oh they definitely engaged with the material, wow, even the Prime Minister was engaged.”

“A lot of the focus in Jamaica was on corporal punishment, so I think we moved that agenda ahead in terms of addressing the damaging effects of corporal punishment on children in the public space.”

“I think Know Violence for policy-makers specifically in Jamaica, it has allowed governments the information that they need to highlight violence in childhood as an important national and international issue, because one of the things that the project showed was that violence in childhood is not a LMIC problem, yes we might have higher rates but it’s a problem that occurs all across the world and we would be missing lots of children if we only focused on LMIC.”

Learning Group Co-chair

Final Outcomes (B)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final Outcomes</th>
<th>Overall levels of violence in childhood are reduced in all settings. Children experience wellbeing, freedom from fear, improved quality of life and improved intergenerational outcomes. SDGs 3, 4, 5, and 16. A network of opinion leaders and investors forum continue supporting violence prevention work.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Findings</td>
<td>KV has contributed to a more unified and coherent approach to tackling violence in childhood. It is too early to see a reduction of violence in childhood, but many saw potential for this in the future.</td>
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</table>

Too early to articulate the extent to which KV has reduced violence in childhood

Understandably, since the Global Report was published in late 2017, most interviewees felt it would be impossible or too early at this stage to see any contribution to changes in children’s lives, although many felt and hoped that there was still potential. The need for further dissemination and advocacy dominated many of the interviews, however regional networks and the Global Partnership were felt to be key to moving forward.

“I do think it’s had a substantial impact on the way we understand violence and therefore a substantial impact on the way that we are conceptualising prevention and also implementing prevention – now the actual result of changing children’s lives I suspect yes, I’m an optimist, I suspect yes it has in that sense, but it would be extremely difficult to read out you know whether it’s contributing or attributing change.”

Data and Evidence Lead, Global Partnership
A more unified and coherent focus to violence in childhood among academics and advocates

The contribution of KV at the level of engaged academics, senior practitioners and advocates may be significant, with a number of accounts stressing changes in thinking and language, ‘lifting’ child protection to enable a much wider view of children’s lives, emphasis on prevention and aspirations for greater coherence or unity in the field. Such coherence or unity would enable the field to present itself outwardly in a clearer way.

“I would like to think it has generated some sort of unity…. I would like to think it can serve as a rallying document, a resource that can generate some sort of critical consensus and momentum around tackling VAC.”

Learning Group Chair

“So I think it gave everyone.... it got everyone out of a bit of a narrow hole really, and into a picture that they could identify with, that was comfortable, and which would mean that the way the money was spent and the work that they did was more likely to be successful.”

Co-Chair, KV (UK)

Survey respondents also commented on the more unified approach; that KV had improved the dialogue around the issue and brought together connections between different types of violence.

“The field is making big leaps forward in raising awareness of VAC and KV has made a big contribution here.”

Researcher, Eastern and Southern Africa

Taking the Agenda Forward

This report illustrates the huge achievement of KV in getting large numbers of researchers and experts working together to build a global vision of the causes and consequences of violence in childhood, as well as effective strategies for prevention. The aims of the work were ambitious and have been partly achieved. In this section, reflections on some of the challenges and issues in this kind of work are presented, before looking at recommendations for taking the work forward.

Issues for Reflection

The issues presented below reflect many of the common issues in getting evidence into action (Oliver et al 2014), and in working on a global scale on a large international issue with local variation.
1. Underestimating the challenge of creating a shared international knowledge resource

The work and effort required in the coordination and negotiation of working together across academic disciplines and geographical space, as well as ensuring that there was good representation of research from the Global South was enormous. The initial ambition for the project to achieve this, as well as an advocacy strategy, and involving children and young people was too large for the scale and timescale of the initiative. There is wide recognition of the importance of the global report and associated publications, and the connections made during its development that should stand it in good stead for future impact. If similar work were undertaken in the future, then more funding and time to support the process of dissemination and advocacy would be sensible to make it a more realistic task.

2. Balancing evidence collation with communication and advocacy

Linking to the point above, the effort to create a globally relevant and comprehensive resource meant that communication and advocacy strategies received less attention during the time of the initiative. Research on knowledge mobilisation would suggest that it is more impactful to communicate and advocate at the same time as conducting research, rather than waiting until the end (Morton 2015b). Indeed this has been seen in other impact studies in this field (Morton and Casey 2017). In this case, the communication and advocacy strategies received less attention whilst the massive effort of collating the evidence was underway. Whilst generating the evidence base involved many experts who had advocacy roles internationally, there was less emphasis on building an audience for the final report as the work was underway.

3. Communication needs and challenges

Many respondents in this study recommended the need for more communication of the findings (see below). However, there is a fundamental challenge inherent in this work. Many call for ‘bite-sized’ chunks of information and for the Global Report to be broken down into sections with specific messages for particular audiences, (although it is unclear if all interviewees were fully aware of the publications and reports that are available). However, part of the value of the work is bringing together of evidence about different aspects of the issue and creating a more holistic approach to prevention and solutions. It is difficult to see how to reconcile providing such an evidence base with producing small chunks of digestible information.

4. The complexity of working on a global scale

The ambition of KV was impressive, but to challenge violence in childhood on this scale is complex and a long-term programme. The evidence in this study suggests that the Global Report is a critical resource in taking this work forward, but it may never be possible to fully understand whether and how the work contributes to the reduction of violence in childhood in any specific context or country, unless through the lens of very specific policy changes.

5. The need for local interpretation and action

Following from the point above, the work of KV needs to be interpreted and acted upon locally in order to positively impact children’s lives. Many people commented on the desire
for local discussion, learning about how implementation occurs in different settings, looking at policy mechanisms nationally, and testing the evidence in different contrasting settings. The need for an implementation phase is clear, and further developed below.
Recommendations for Future impact

Interviewees and survey respondents were asked for their recommendations to ensure the future impact of the outputs of Know Violence: A Global Learning Initiative. The following is a summary of the main suggestions.

1. Support local implementation

In order for KV to have a significant impact, there is a need for support for stakeholders to implementation locally. This can be achieved through engagement with associated initiatives such as the Global Partnership to end VAC, INSPIRE and Together for Girls. The international experts should continue to pursue and promote these frameworks and their implementation at a local level. It is important for the Global Partnership’s role in engaging with the KV findings to be articulated clearly.

2. Active dissemination through communications, media, social media and events

A significant number of people involved in this impact study recommended the need to continue effective dissemination in a range of formats which are accessible at local, regional and national level, in addition to the available briefs, and their translated versions. These recommendations included a greater presence and outreach at global events, using social media to its full capacity and the need for regional think tanks with action plans. It is important to ensure impactful dissemination within the coming years while there is momentum behind the initiative.

3. Continue global coordination and learning

It is important to continue global coordination through networks which have been established as a result of KV. Actively continuing the coordination efforts can be achieved through linking the work of KV to the Sustainable Development Goals and using their targets in goals 3, 4, 5 and 16 as a platform for advocacy while ‘violence is on the agenda’. It is crucial to continue speaking in the same voice from a shared platform.

4. Continued engagement with donors

KV should continue to engage with donors who are focused on the issue of violence in childhood. It is important to continue this engagement in order to secure funding at the local level and support implementation of violence prevention policies. Continued engagement ensures donors are made aware of the costs of not addressing and preventing violence in childhood.
References


Appendices
Appendix A: Methods

Documents
Documents provided by KV were analysed to understand activities and outputs, to help shape
the outcomes chain and to provide evidence of potential impacts (checked against other
sources).

The following documents were analysed:

GLI Background Note August 19
Advocacy Strategy FINAL
August 10 2017 KV Stg Committee
Fifth Steering Committee Agenda Papers July 2016
Fourth Steering Committee Agenda Papers 061115
IKEA Final Report – Draft Dec 2017
KV Advocacy Plan FINAL
KV Draft M&E Framework
KV Draft Theory of Change- Simplified
KV draft ToC Narrative 27.7.15
KV Outputs
KV website
Report to Steering Committee Nov 2017

Interviews
Thirteen semi-structured interviews were carried out with stakeholders who were engaged in
Know Violence activity between 2014 and 2017. Interviewees were identified, and contact
initiated, by the Executive Director of KV. Interviews were conducted by Outcome Focus by
telephone or Skype during June 2018. The information sent to participants and the consent
form they signed is available in below. Interviews lasted for between 30 and 40 minutes and
the schedule used is provided below, however it should be noted that the selection of
questions from the schedule guide varied according to the interviewee’s role. The schedule
was piloted in the first two interviews and then revised.

Each interviewee agreed how they would like to be attributed given that many of their roles
would make them identifiable. The following table shows the type and spread of interviewees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interviewee</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Geography</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expert Advisor</td>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholder</td>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Together for Girls</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
<td>Global</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Survey was administered on-line using Survey Monkey. The survey was emailed 2419 people from the Know Violence mailing list and received 59 responses.

Limitations

It is agreed across the research evaluation literature that case studies are the most appropriate method for assessing research impact (Boaz, 2009). The Outcome Focus approach takes a case study approach and acknowledges the limitation of generalisability and sampling (Grant et al., 2000) that come with that method.

It is important to recognise the possible effects of social desirability bias in the interview and questionnaire responses (Fischer and Katz, 2000). Because of participants’ involvement with and investment in the work, and the norm that research should be useful to policy and practice, it is possible that their responses tended to overestimate the impact of the study. For this reason all claims have been scrutinised to ensure that data about them comes from more than one source and has been reflected on by the team for social desirability bias.

Additionally the research team faced time challenges. This report was commissioned, researched and completed over a time period of eight weeks. The survey was open for two weeks, and all interviews had to be completed within a two-week window. Despite these challenges the research team believe that the data collected is robust enough for a study of this kind, and that the volume of data collected allowed for an assessment of the impact to date of the work.
Topic Guide

Outcome Focus May 2018

Topic Guide for Know Violence work

Who the person is and what they are working on, where etc. sector, country/ies, role. Particular challenges in addressing VAC in your role.

1) Activities
   • Questions about the quality of the activities and what stakeholders were engaged in

2) Engagement
   • How effective engagement was for the person
   • How effective were Know Violence in engaging the right people

3) Reactions
   • To what extent was the Global Report (and 22 papers) recognised as a critical resource?
   • Has it changed awareness of the problem of VAC? Does it have the potential to do that in the future?

4) Knowledge and skills
   • To what extent has Know Violence contributed to stakeholders:
     i. Understand the nature and impact of violence in childhood and children’s rights to be free from it
     ii. Understand why violence takes place, its implications for children’s outcomes, strategies for prevention and how they can be implemented
     iii. Understand the benefits of prevention-based approaches and information to implement
     iv. Young people have a voice in advocating for prevention of violence in childhood
   • Opinions on the challenges to getting this understanding
   • Potential for future contributions

5) Behaviour and practice
   • Do people think Know Violence has contributed to:
     i. National Government having funded violence prevention strategies including targets and monitoring
     ii. Key influencers advocating for prevention
     iii. Policy-makers implementing effective violence prevention policies
     iv. Young people holding governments to account
   • Has anything else changed as a result of Know Violence work?

6) Final Outcome
   • To what extent do you think Know Violence has or might contribute to reducing violence in childhood?

7) Other
   • Without the Know Violence work, what would be different in your opinion?
Survey Questions

Know Violence Impact Survey

As you will be aware the Know Violence Initiative has collated evidence on violence prevention in childhood and has been communicating these findings in order to help regional, national and global policy-makers focus attention on this issue and take effective action.

Outcome Focus is carrying out an impact study on the work Know Violence have done during 2014-2017 and would value your views.

We would greatly appreciate if you could fill out the survey below which should take no longer than 10-15 minutes.

Thank you for participating

1. Which of the following most closely describes the sector you work within?
   - [ ] Donor / Funding organisation
   - [ ] Media
   - [ ] Policy
   - [ ] Campaigning / Advocacy
   - [ ] Research
   - [ ] Other (please specify)

2. Which region(s) does your work contribute to?
   - [ ] West and Central Africa
   - [ ] Eastern and Southern Africa
   - [ ] Middle East and North Africa
   - [ ] South Asia
   - [ ] East Asia and the Pacific
   - [ ] Central and Eastern Europe
   - [ ] Latin America
   - [ ] Industrialised countries
   - [ ] Global
3. To what extent did you engage with the Know Violence Initiative?

☐ I read the Global Report
☐ I read academic papers
☐ I attended the learning group
☐ I was an advisor
☐ Other (please specify)

Please state how far you agree with the following statements:

4. The Know Violence team engaged and informed you on the initiative

☐ Strongly agree
☐ Agree
☐ Neither agree nor disagree
☐ Disagree
☐ Strongly disagree

Comments?

5. The Know Violence Initiative has contributed to your understanding of the nature and impact of violence in childhood

☐ Strongly agree
☐ Agree
☐ Neither agree nor disagree
☐ Disagree
☐ Strongly disagree

Comments?
6. The Know Violence Initiative has contributed to your understanding of strategies for violence prevention and how they can be implemented

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Comments?

7. The Know Violence Initiative has enabled a new network to develop, across sectorial and geographical boundaries

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Comments?

8. The Know Violence Initiative has contributed to advocating for the prevention of violence against children

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Comments?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9. The Know Violence Initiative has contributed to policy-makers starting to implement effective violence prevention policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Strongly agree</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Agree</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Neither agree nor disagree</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Disagree</td>
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<td>- Strongly disagree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comments?</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. The Know Violence Initiative has the potential to contribute to reducing violence in childhood</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Strongly agree</td>
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<td>- Agree</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Neither agree nor disagree</td>
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<td>- Disagree</td>
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<td>- Strongly disagree</td>
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<td>Comments?</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. The Know Violence Initiative has contributed to a new shared narrative on how to reduce violence in childhood</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Strongly agree</td>
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<td>- Agree</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Neither agree nor disagree</td>
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<td>- Disagree</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Strongly disagree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comments?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
12. The Know Violence Initiative has changed awareness amongst key stakeholders of the problem of violence in childhood

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Comments?

Know Violence Impact Survey

This section requires you to provide some additional information regarding your engagement with the Know Violence Initiative

13. What more do you think needs to happen in order to develop key stakeholder’s understandings about strategies for violence prevention?

14. In your opinion, if the Know Violence Initiative had not taken place, what would be different?

15. If there is one thing that could be done to embed the learning from the Know Violence Initiative, what do you think it should be?

16. Are there any specific ways you will take learning from the Know Violence Initiative forward in your work?

17. Additional comments

Thank you for responding. If you have any questions or additional comments, or would like any further information about the survey or the impact study, please contact info@outcomefocus.org
Appendix B – Risks and Assumptions

- Evidence is necessary for well-planned and resourced and implemented policies, programmes and services
- People value research as a resource
- People think their tacit knowledge is more important than research
- The media is open to the agenda
- Know Violence is well known and trusted
- The evidence is credible, and usable and well communicated
- Engagement strategies are effective
- People have the time and prioritise attending and capacity
- Other issues are seen as more important
- An international platform helps countries to see what is being done elsewhere and compare how well they are doing.
- Young people participate
- Countries don’t have enough resources to tackle the issue
- People don’t like talking about violence
- People are ashamed by their own experience or what’s happening in their country
- People see it as too big a problem to tackle
- Violence is normal and necessary