

# VISUALIZE GENDER EQUALITY



*Visualize Gender Equality - Viz5 - is an effort to help realize UN Sustainable Development Goal 5: achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.*

## **Theme #1: VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS**

### **ABOUT THE THEME:**

The UN describes violence against women and girls (VAWG) as: “one of the most widespread, persistent, and devastating human rights violations in our world today. It remains largely unreported due to the impunity, silence, stigma, and shame surrounding it.”<sup>1</sup>

In general terms, it manifests itself in physical, sexual, and psychological forms, encompassing:

- intimate partner violence (battering, psychological abuse, marital rape, femicide);
- sexual violence and harassment (rape, forced sexual acts, unwanted sexual advances, child sexual abuse, forced marriage, street harassment, stalking, cyber-harassment);

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<sup>1</sup> Source: <https://www.un.org/en/events/endviolenceday/>

- human trafficking (slavery, sexual exploitation);
- female genital mutilation; and
- child marriage.

To further clarify, the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women issued by the UN General Assembly in 1993, defines violence against women as “any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.”

While gender-based violence can happen to anyone, anywhere, some women and girls are particularly vulnerable - for instance, young girls and older women, women who identify as lesbian, bisexual, transgender or intersex, migrants and refugees, indigenous women and ethnic minorities, women and girls living with HIV and disabilities, and those living through humanitarian crises.

Violence against women continues to be an obstacle to achieving equality and peace, as well as to the fulfillment of women and girls’ human rights. All in all, the promise of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - to leave no one behind - cannot be achieved without putting an end to violence against women and girls.<sup>2</sup>

## ABOUT THE DATA

The Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) Program exists to advance the global understanding of health and population trends in developing countries.

“The DHS Program STATcompiler allows users to make custom tables based on thousands of demographic and health indicators across more than 90 countries.”<sup>3</sup>

The DHS Program aims to improve the collection, analysis, and dissemination of population, health, and nutrition data to enhance national and international policy-making.

This week’s #MakeoverMonday data was taken from a survey of men and women in African, Asian, and South American countries, exploring the attitudes and perceived justifications given for committing acts of violence against women. The data also explores different

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<sup>2</sup> Source: <https://www.un.org/en/events/endviolenceday/>

<sup>3</sup> Source: <https://www.statcompiler.com/en/>

sociodemographic groups that the respondents belong to, including: Education Level, Marital status, Employment, and Age group.

Based on a representative sample of each country, the data reveals dramatic insights into some of the attitudes and assumptions that prevent progress in the global campaign to end violence against women and girls.

As you will see from the data, access to education appears to be the biggest game-changer when it comes to awareness that violence against women and girls can never be justified.

It is, therefore, critical that the countries where these views are widespread, prioritize public awareness campaigns, and access to education for women and girls, to communicate that violence against women and girls is never acceptable or justifiable.

## ABOUT VIZ5

The ultimate goal of Viz5 is to create a space where data advocacy and insights meet impact. This work seeks to ignite a data advocacy effort with the power to not only raise awareness of extreme gender inequality, but also catalyze global action to end it.

Viz5 is led by Operation Fistula, with #MakeoverMonday and Tableau Foundation operating as critical partners.

OPERATION  
**FISTULA**

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F O U N D A T I O N



Viz5 will mobilize the power of the #MakeoverMonday and Tableau communities, to visualize 12 data sets, over 12 months. These data sets will feature 12 themes, curated to present different areas of gender inequality. Collectively, these data sets and visualizations will begin to tell the story of where and how gender inequality is at its most extreme.

The visualizations that are produced during Viz5 will serve as advocacy tools, awareness-raising artifacts, and data-driven insight drivers for anyone working to end the injustice of gender inequality.