

COMMUNITY APPROACHES TO VIOLENCE PREVENTION: A UNESCO PERSPECTIVE

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Session Overview

As a follow-up to the UN World Report on Violence against Children, and within the framework of the World Programme for Human Rights Education and the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) organized an Experts Panel meeting with the aim of strengthening the integration of school violence prevention strategies into policy and practice. This meeting provided the opportunity for experts, policy makers and practitioners to share experiences and good practice from different regions and countries. Participants explored key issues and challenges raised by, and based upon, the UN World Report with regard to violence against children in schools and educational settings.

The meeting focused primary attention on the issues of corporal punishment and the negative effects on mental health; bullying; gang violence; and gender-based exclusion and violence. The Experts Meeting culminated in policy recommendations to be considered by the United Nations Secretary General, and General Assembly. This presenter, Sherry Allen, was one of 2 US representatives to attend this meeting. This session will present the findings of the meeting and provide the opportunity to discuss the implications for school and community practice.