



Pan American
Health
Organization



World Health
Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE
Americas

1 in 3 women

WILL EXPERIENCE PARTNER VIOLENCE OR
SEXUAL VIOLENCE BY A NON-PARTNER
IN THEIR LIFETIME



VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: HEALTH IMPACT


Women exposed to intimate partner violence are →

Mental Health

TWICE 
as likely to experience depression

**ALMOST
TWICE** 
as likely to have alcohol use disorders

Sexual and Reproductive Health

16% 
more likely to have a low
birth-weight baby

1.5 TIMES 
more likely to acquire HIV and 1.5 times
more likely to contract syphilis infection,
chlamydia or gonorrhoea

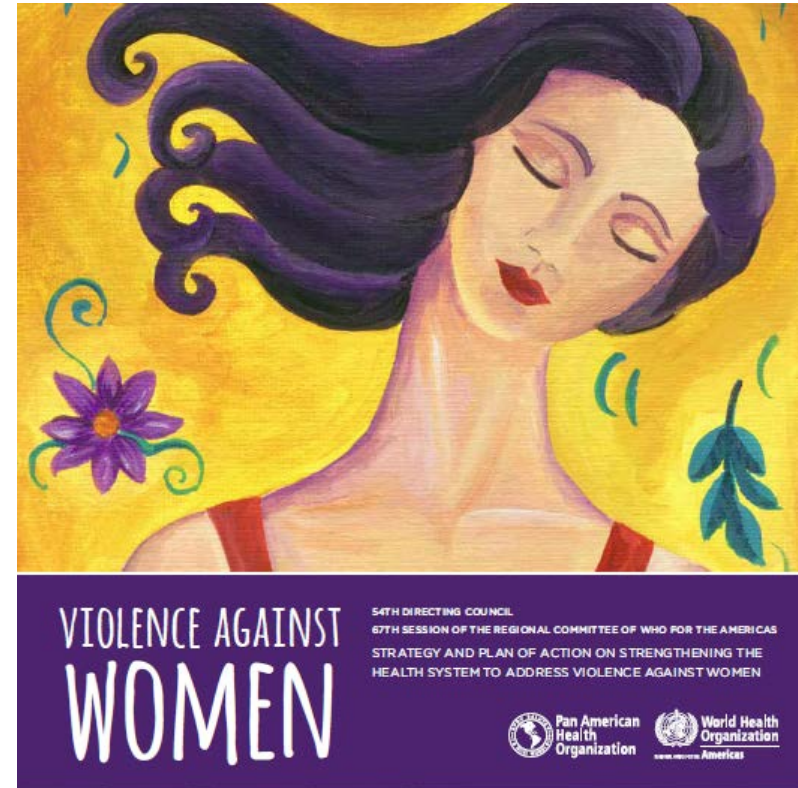
Death and Injury

42% 
of women who have experienced
physical or sexual violence at the
hands of a partner have
experienced injuries as a result

38% 
of all murders of women globally
were reported as being committed
by their intimate partners

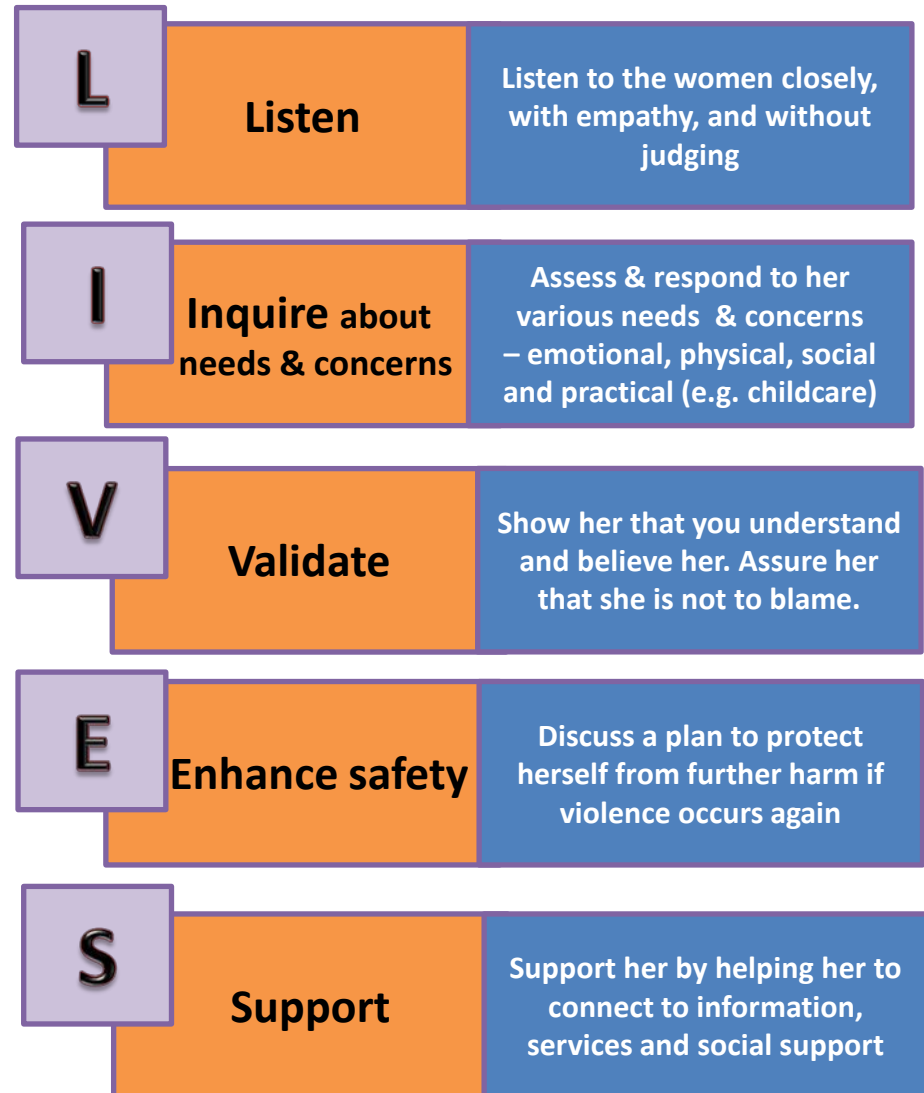
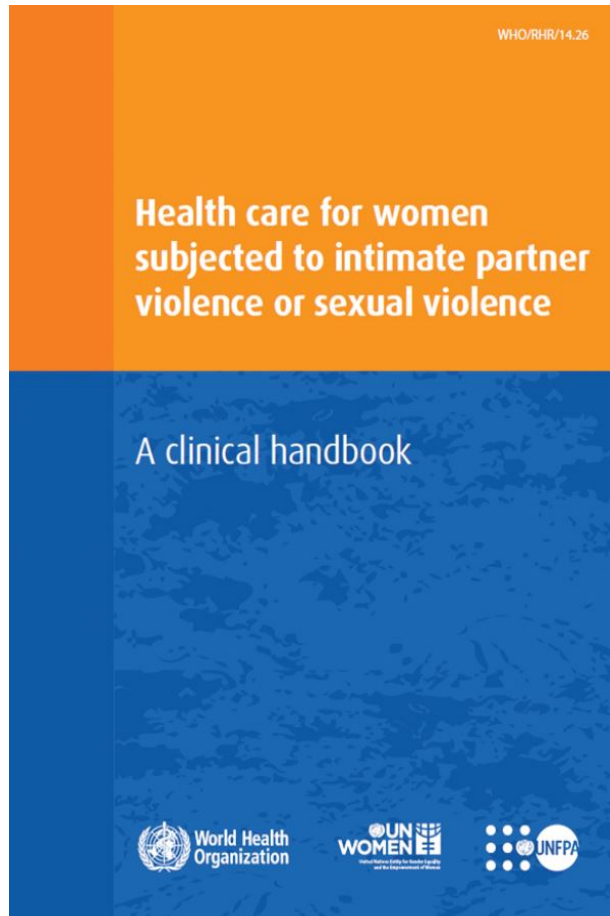
PAHO Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on Strengthening the Health System to Address Violence Against Women: Strategic Lines of Action

1. Strengthen the **availability and use of evidence** about violence against women
2. Strengthen **political and financial commitment to addressing violence against women within health systems**
3. Strengthen the **capacity of health systems to provide effective care and support** to women who have experienced violence
4. Strengthen the role of the health system in **preventing violence against women**



What can be done?

First line support for survivors of violence against women





“NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL,
COMMITTED CITIZENS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD; INDEED,
IT’S THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS”

Margaret Mead

www.paho.org/violence

