**EXERCISE - DEFINITION OF ABUSE**

*This exercise has been adapted to the Myanmar context.*

**Time:** 30 mins

**Material:** Scenario cards, ball string

**Objective:** Understand different types of abuse, and how these different types of abuse are viewed in a community.

**Scenario cards**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Shouting at a child for going the toilet behind the latrines because the child is scared of being locked in the toilet | Children working on a construction site for less money than the others | Not sending girls to school | Beating a child with a stick |
| Children carrying large jerry cans of water from the water point to home | Tying up a mentally disabled child as a form of control | Leaving a child unsupervised | Forcing an elderly person to beg for money in the streets |
| Threatening to beat your wife when she displeases you | Giving the disabled child dirty water when the rest of the family are drinking clean water | Expecting sexual favours | Making child stand on a bench as punishment |
| Discriminating a person who suffers from a chronic disease such as TB or HIV by humiliating him/her in front of everyone in a water point | Telling your wife she cannot leave the home without you and limiting who she can see (not letting her see certain friends/family) | Abandoning a child for marriage | Sexually abusing a child |
| Asking for sexual favours from a person with disabilities in exchange of assistance to go to the latrines that are too high for him/her | Stealing personal belongings from a person who suffers from a chronic disease | Hitting, kicking, or choking your wife | Telling a person with disability he/she should not leave the house |

**Instructions**

* Using a ball of string, create two large circles on the floor: “abuse” / ”not abuse”.
* Give each participant a piece of paper and ask them to read out the statement one by one.
* Once they read out the statement they should decide if it is an abuse or not.
* If they choose to classify it as an abuse, ask participants to define which type of abuse it is (physical, emotional, sexual, abuse, exploitation and neglect).
* Our aim is not to correct the participants but understand their views.

Where participants don’t understand the differences, explain the definitions below in simple terms. Give examples where the participants don’t understand.

**Definitions** (*Please describe these in non-technical terms)*

* **Physical abuse**: It involves the use of violent physical force to cause actual or likely physical injury or suffering (e.g. hitting, shaking, burning, female genital mutilation, torture.)
* **Emotional/psychological abuse:** It includes humiliating and degrading treatment such as constant criticism, persistent shaming, solitary confinement and isolation.
* **Neglect:** Deliberately, or through carelessness or negligence, failing to provide for, or secure for a person, their rights to physical safety and development. Neglect is sometimes considered a ‘passive’ form of abuse in that it relates to the failure to carry out some key aspect of the care and protection of children, older persons, persons with disabilities.
* **Sexual abuse:** It includes all forms of sexual violence including incest, early and forced marriage, rape, involvement in pornography, and sexual slavery. Sexual abuse may also include indecent touching or exposure, using sexually explicit language towards a person. It also includes sexual exploitation – using a position of power to illicit sexual favors in exchange for goods, services, or resources that should be provided for free/without any exchange of materials or goods.