The Role of Education and the Protection of Children at Risk

Expert Consultation on Protecting Children from Bullying and Cyberbullying

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Context violence in schools

Grades 7th to 12th: Middle and High school (ages 13 to 18)

School system
- Outdated teaching methods
- School culture vs Youth culture
- Control based
- Male centered

Context of violence
- Human Rights Crisis
- Increase of Violence and Crime
- Corruption
- Increase of Poverty
Context violence in schools

School Attendance 3 to 20 years old - México 2015

Age (Years)
Only 3 out of 4 children age 13-18 attend school (75.8%)
School is protection
Is better to be in than to be out

- Violence in the transit to school
- Violence in the communities
- The violent context has penetrated schools
  - There’s drug dealing inside
  - Corruption among directive personnel
  - Presence of violent groups
Bullying: The Concept

- Considers only peer to peer violence
- Can become a stigma that contributes to criminalizing youth and students
- "Stop bullying" campaigns show little results
Comprehensive framework

• Transform the school environment
  ▪ Relationships
  ▪ Physical environment
  ▪ Learning

• An inclusive school
  ▪ Participation
  ▪ Gender
  ▪ Dialogue
Comprehensive framework

• De-naturalize violences
• Stop looking for the guilty ones: family vs teachers
• Start looking for solutions
• Effective programs that engage students, teachers and families
• Strengthen relationship between school and the community (include local businesses, and other stake holders)
Learning from experiences

• Open spaces for participation: Proposals, actions, leadership
• Change the rules of the game
• Presence of external: NGOs, Volunteers,
Learning from experiences

- Work closely with families: Make them part of the school community
- Personalize attention for at-risk students
- Change the logic of "awards" for a logic of inclusion: Everyone has possibilities and opportunities
School is protection

- School as a “safe space”
- School has the challenge to prepare for life
- A place to work around issues that affect students in society

_Invisible adolescents and absent public policies_
Thank you!

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