Contents

	Foreword	is
	Preface	X
	Contributors	xii
	Acknowledgements	xvi
	Introduction	xix
Chapter 1.	Violence – a global public health problem	1
	Background	3
	The visible and the invisible	3
	A preventable problem	3
	What can a public health approach contribute?	3
	Defining violence	5
	Intentionality	5
	Typology of violence	6
	Types of violence	6
	The nature of violent acts	6
	Measuring violence and its impact	7
	Types of data	7
	Sources of data	8
	Problems with collecting data	8
	An overview of current knowledge	9
	Estimates of mortality	9
	Estimates of non-fatal violence	11
	The costs of violence	11
	Examining the roots of violence: an ecological model	12
	Multiple levels	1.2
	Complex linkages	13
	How can violence be prevented?	1.5
	Types of prevention	15
	Multifaceted responses	16
	Documenting effective responses	16
	Balancing public health action	16
	Addressing cultural norms	16
	Actions against violence at all levels	16
	Problems for national decision-makers	1.7
	Conclusion	19
	References	19

Chapter 2.	Youth violence	23
	Background	2.5
	The extent of the problem	2.5
	Youth homicide rates	2.5
	Trends in youth homicides	26
	Non-fatal violence	27
	Risk behaviours for youth violence	29
	The dynamics of youth violence	30
	How does youth violence begin?	30
	Situational factors	3 1
	What are the risk factors for youth violence?	32
	Individual factors	32
	Relationship factors	33
	Community factors	34
	Societal factors	36
	What can be done to prevent youth violence?	38
	Individual approaches	38
	Relationship approaches	41
	Community-based efforts	43
	Societal approaches	45
	Recommendations	47
	Establishing data collection systems	47
	More scientific research	47
	Developing prevention strategies	48
	Disseminating knowledge	48
	Conclusion	49
	References	49
Chapter 3.	Child abuse and neglect by parents and other caregivers	57
	Background	59
	How are child abuse and neglect defined?	59
	Cultural issues	59
	Types of abuse	59
	The extent of the problem	60
	Fatal abuse	60
	Non-fatal abuse	60
	What are the risk factors for child abuse and neglect?	65
	Factors increasing a child's vulnerability	66
	Caregiver and family characteristics	66
	Community factors	68
	Societal factors	68
	The consequences of child abuse	69
	Health burden	69
	Financial burden	70
	What can be done to prevent child abuse and neglect?	70
	Family support approaches	70

	Health service approaches	7.2
	Therapeutic approaches	73
	Legal and related remedies	74
	Community-based efforts	75
	Societal approaches	76
	Recommendations	78
	Better assessment and monitoring	78
	Better response systems	78
	Policy development	78
	Better data	78
	More research	80
	Documentation of effective responses	80
	Improved training and education for professionals	80
	Conclusion	80
	References	81
Chapter 4.	Violence by intimate partners	87
	Background	89
	The extent of the problem	89
	Measuring partner violence	91
	Partner violence and murder	93
	Traditional notions of male honour	93
	The dynamics of partner violence	93
	How do women respond to abuse?	95
	What are the risk factors for intimate partner violence?	96
	Individual factors	97
	Relationship factors	99
	Community factors	99
	Societal factors	100
	The consequences of intimate partner violence	100
	Impact on health	100
	Economic impact of violence	102
	Impact on children	103
	What can be done to prevent intimate partner violence?	103
	Support for victims	104
	Legal remedies and judicial reforms	104
	Treatment for abusers	106
	Health service interventions	106
	Community-based efforts	107
	Principles of good practice	109
	Action at all levels	110
	Women's involvement	111
	Changing institutional cultures	111
	A multisectoral approach	111
	Recommendations	111
	Research on intimate partner violence	112
	Strengthening informal sources of support	112

	Making common cause with other social programmes	112
	Investing in primary prevention	113
	Conclusion	113
	References	113
Chapter 5.	Abuse of the elderly	123
	Background	125
	How is elder abuse defined?	126
	Traditional societies	127
	The extent of the problem	129
	Domestic settings	129
	Institutional settings	129
	What are the risk factors for elder abuse?	130
	Individual factors	130
	Relationship factors	131
	Community and societal factors	131
	The consequences of elder abuse	132
	Domestic settings	132
	Institutions	133
	What can be done to prevent elder abuse?	134
	Responses at national level	134
	Local responses	136
	Recommendations	141
	Greater knowledge	141
	Stronger laws	142
	More effective prevention strategies	142
	Conclusion	143
	References	143
Chapter 6.	Sexual violence	147
	Background	149
	How is sexual violence defined?	149
	Forms and contexts of sexual violence	149
	The extent of the problem	150
	Sources of data	150
	Estimates of sexual violence	150
	Sexual violence in schools, health care settings, armed conflicts	
	and refugee settings	155
	"Customary" forms of sexual violence	156
	What are the risk factors for sexual violence?	157
	Factors increasing women's vulnerability	157
	Factors increasing men's risk of committing rape	159
	Peer and family factors	160
	Community factors	161
	Societal factors	161

	The consequences of sexual violence	162
	Pregnancy and gynaecological complications	162
	Sexually transmitted diseases	163
	Mental health	163
	Suicidal behaviour	163
	Social ostracization	163
	What can be done to prevent sexual violence?	165
	Individual approaches	165
	Developmental approaches	166
	Health care responses	166
	Community-based efforts	168
	Legal and policy responses	169
	Actions to prevent other forms of sexual violence	170
	Recommendations	172
	More research	172
	Determining effective responses	173
	Greater attention to primary prevention	173
	Addressing sexual abuse within the health sector	173
	Conclusion	174
	References	174
Chapter 7.	Self-directed violence	183
	Background	185
	How is suicide defined?	185
	The extent of the problem	186
	Fatal suicidal behaviour	186
	Non-fatal suicidal behaviour and ideation	189
	What are the risk factors for suicidal behaviour?	191
	Psychiatric factors	192
	Biological and medical markers	193
	Life events as precipitating factors	194
	Social and environmental factors	196
	What can be done to prevent suicides?	199
	Treatment approaches	199
	Behavioural approaches	199
	Relationship approaches	200
	Community-based efforts	201
	Societal approaches	202
	Intervention after a suicide	203
	Policy responses	204
	Recommendations	204
	Better data	204
	Further research	205
	Better psychiatric treatment	205
	Environmental changes	205
	Strengthening community-based efforts	206
	Conclusion	206
	References	206

Chapter 8.	Collective violence	213
	Background	215
	How is collective violence defined?	215
	Forms of collective violence	2.1.5
	Data on collective violence	217
	Sources of data	217
	Problems with data collection	217
	The extent of the problem	217
	Casualties of conflicts	218
	The nature of conflicts	218
	What are the risk factors for collective violence?	220
	Political and economic factors	220
	Societal and community factors	221
	Demographic factors	227
	Technological factors	222
	The consequences of collective violence	222
	Impact on health	222
	Impact on specific populations	225
	Demographic impact	225
	Socioeconomic impact	226
	What can be done to prevent collective violence?	228
	Reducing the potential for violent conflicts	228
	Responses to violent conflicts	229
	Documentation, research and dissemination of information	232
	Recommendations	233
	Information and understanding	234
	Preventing violent conflicts	234
	Peacekeeping	236
	Health sector responses	236
	Humanitarian responses	236
	Conclusion	236
	References	237
Chapter 9.	The way forward: recommendations for action	241
	Background	243
	Responding to violence: what is known so far?	243
	Major lessons to date	243
	Why should the health sector be involved?	245
	Assigning responsibilities and priorities	246
	Recommendations	246
	Conclusion	254
	References	2.54
	Statistical annex	255
	Resources	325
	Index	331