

MAKING VIOLENCE PREVENTION URGENT



James A. Mercy, PhD

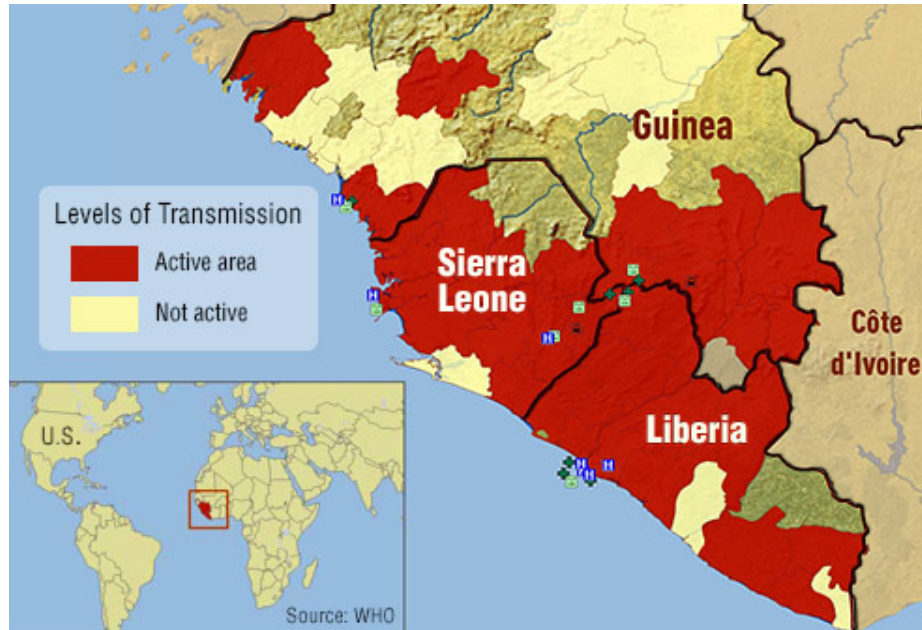
**Division of Violence Prevention
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**



IMAGINE IF...



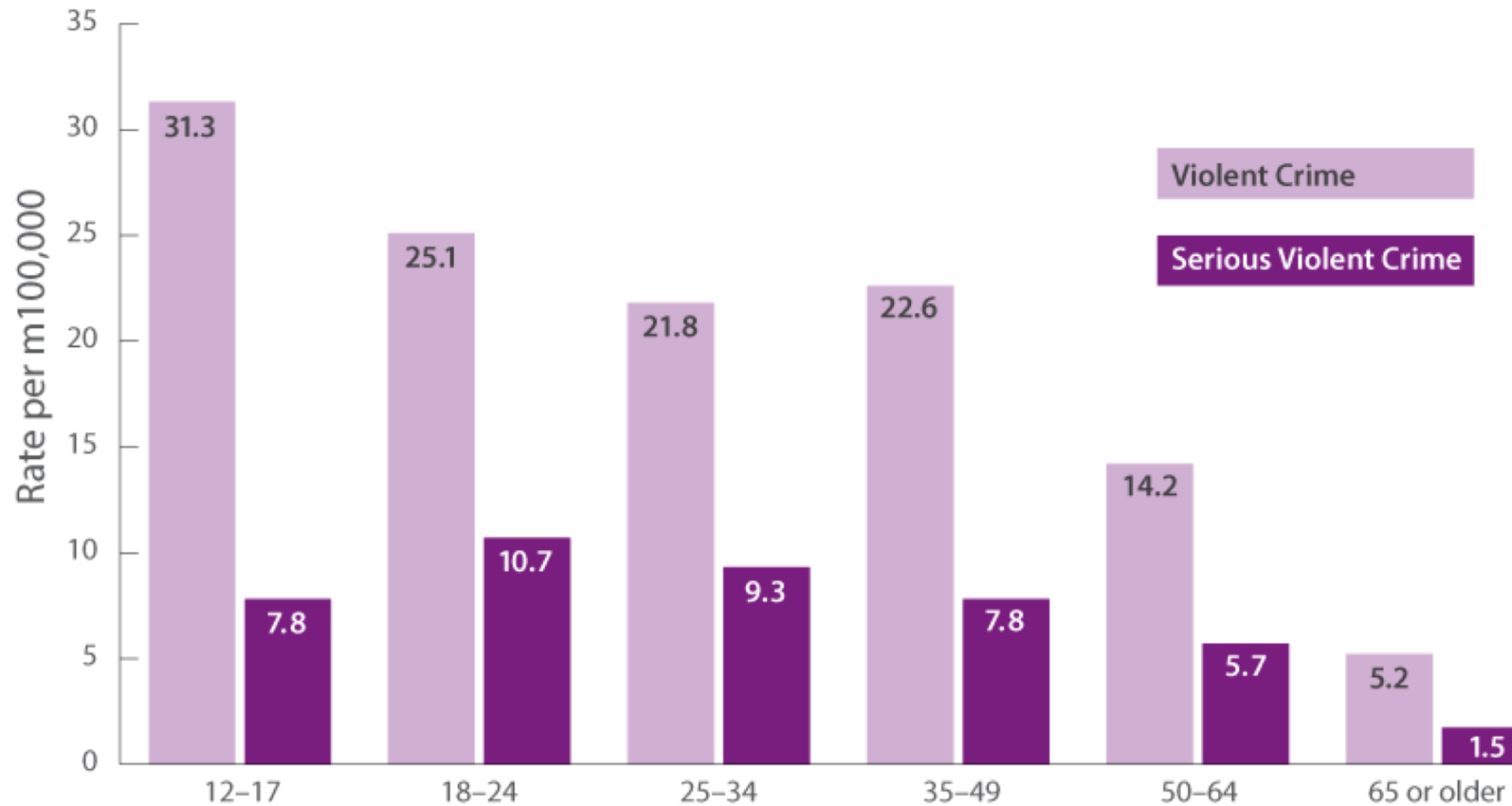
Ebola and Zika: Urgent Public Health Problems



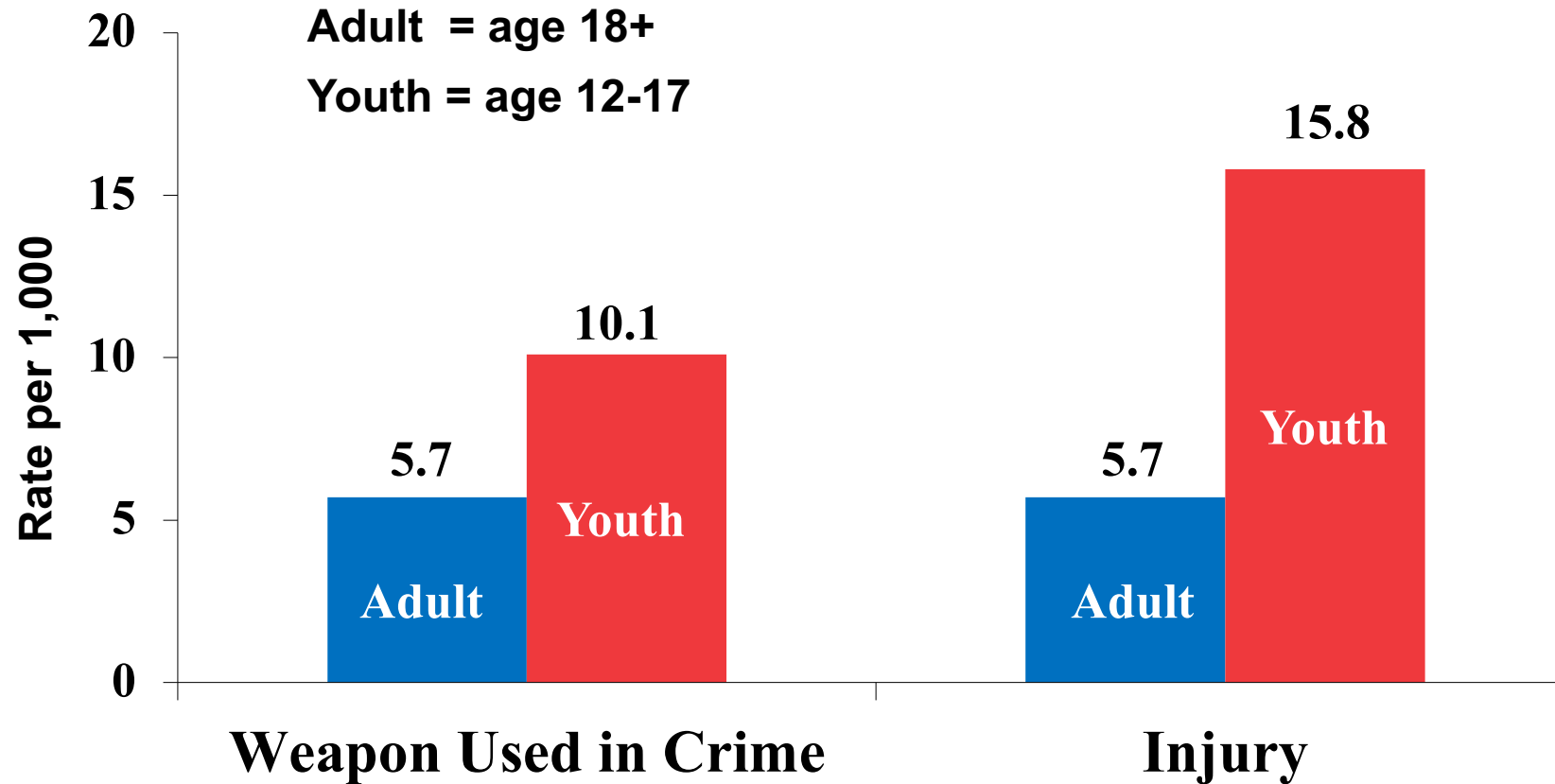
Focus on Children/Youth



Violent Victimization by Age, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2015



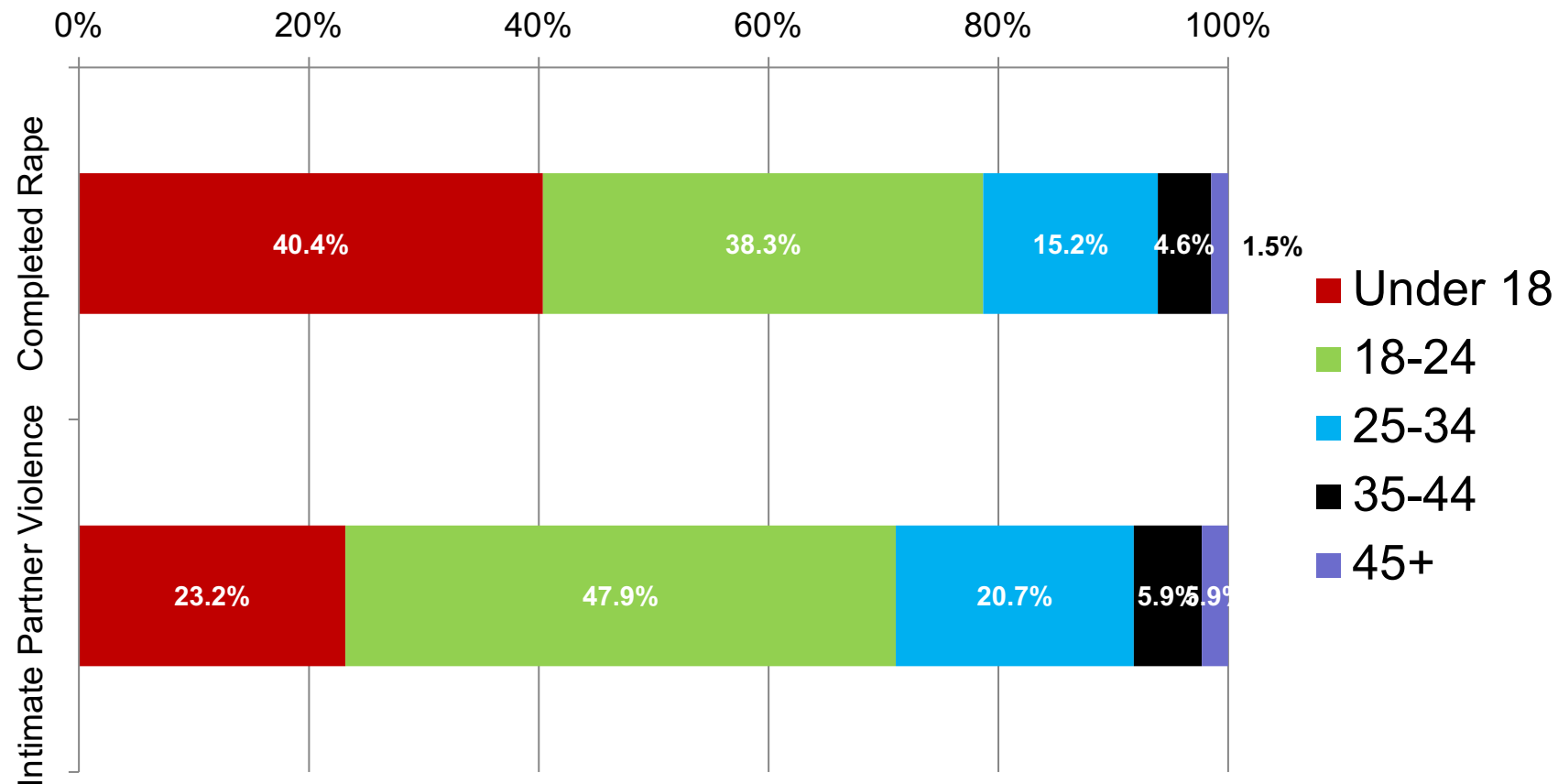
Children/Youth Experience More Serious Violence



Source: National Crime Victimization Survey, 2000



Age at Time of Women's First Victimization



Source: Brieding MJ, SG, Basile KC, Walters ML, Chen J, Merrick, MT. Prevalence and characteristics of sexual violence, stalking, and intimate partner violence victimization - National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey. MMWR; 2014 (SS08)::1-18.



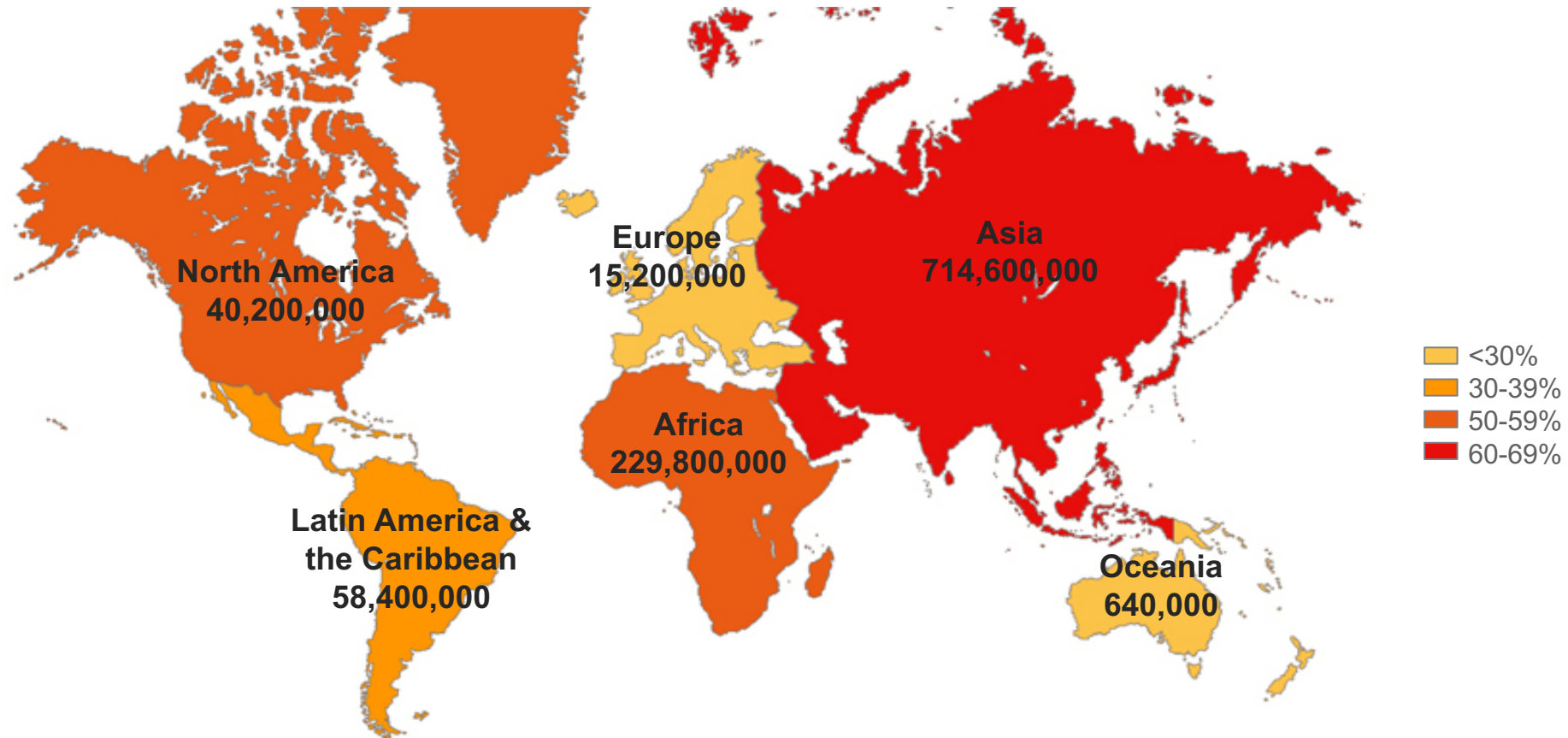
Recognize the Endemic Nature of Violence

Endemic – a disease or a condition, regularly found and very common among a particular group or in a particular area.



Minimum Numbers of Children < 18 Years Experiencing Past-Year Sexual, Severe Physical, or Emotional Violence, 2014

> 1 Billion Children



Source: Hillis S, Mercy JA, Amobi A, Kress H. Global prevalence of past-year violence against children: A systematic review and minimum estimates. *Pediatrics* 2016;137(3): e20154079



Child/Youth Homicide, United States, 2016

In 2016, almost 11,000 CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS, AND YOUNG ADULTS (< 35 Years of Age) DIED as a result of HOMICIDE

= 30 children and youth every day

= almost 2 Parkland size mass shootings every day

- ☐ Homicide is the 3rd leading cause of death among 1-34 year olds
- ☐ Homicide is the leading cause of death for African-Americans under 35 years of age.

National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence, 2013-14

❑ Child maltreatment

➤ 1 of 7 or **11.2 million** children (past year)

❑ Assault/Bullying/Teen Dating Violence

➤ 2 of 5 or **27.5 million** children (past year)

❑ Sexual victimization

➤ 1 of 20 or **3.7 million** children (past year)

❑ Witness violence

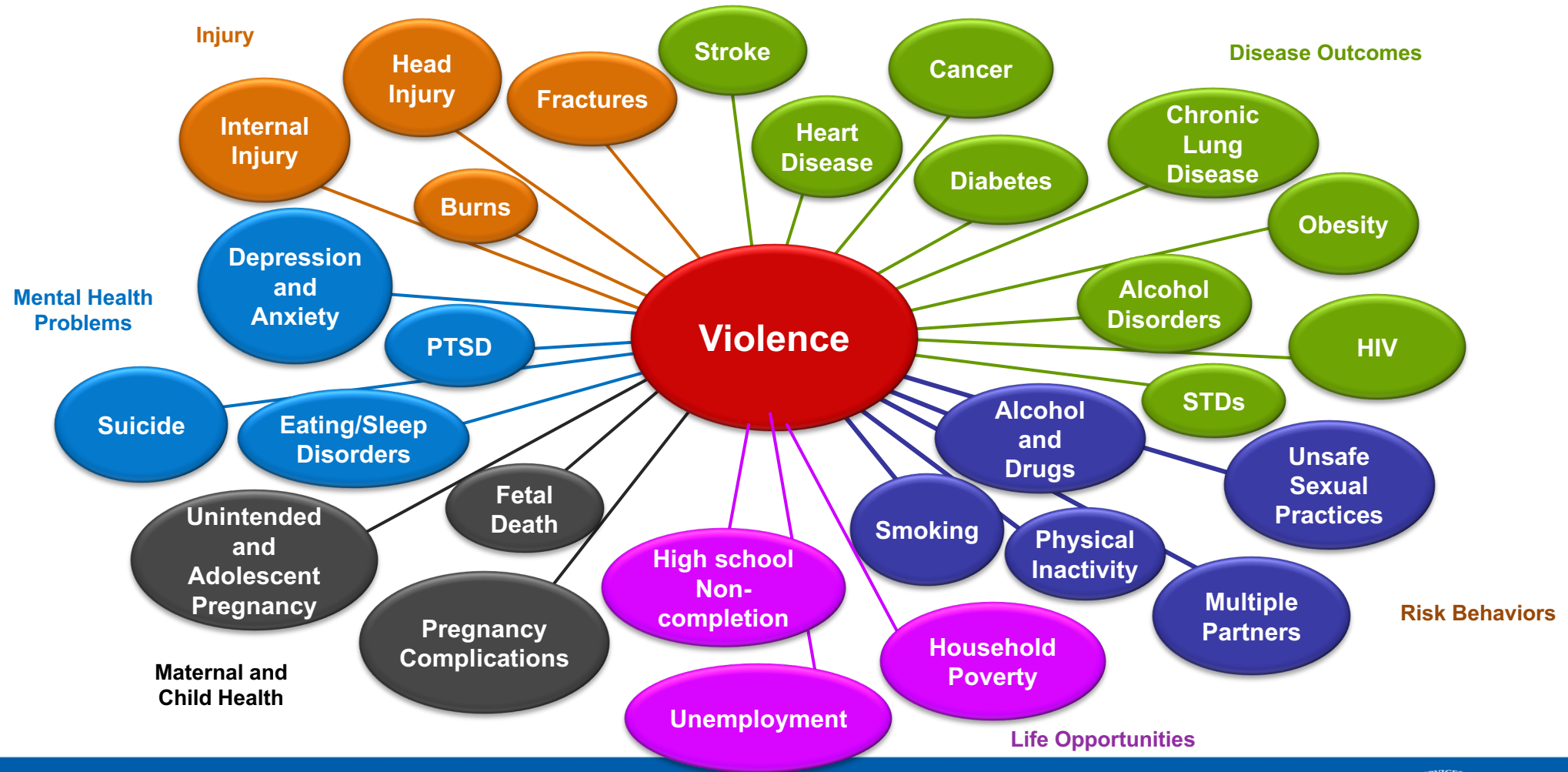
➤ 1 of 4 or **18.3 million** children (past year)



Make Visible the Cost of Inaction













Violence is Costly and Destructive



Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

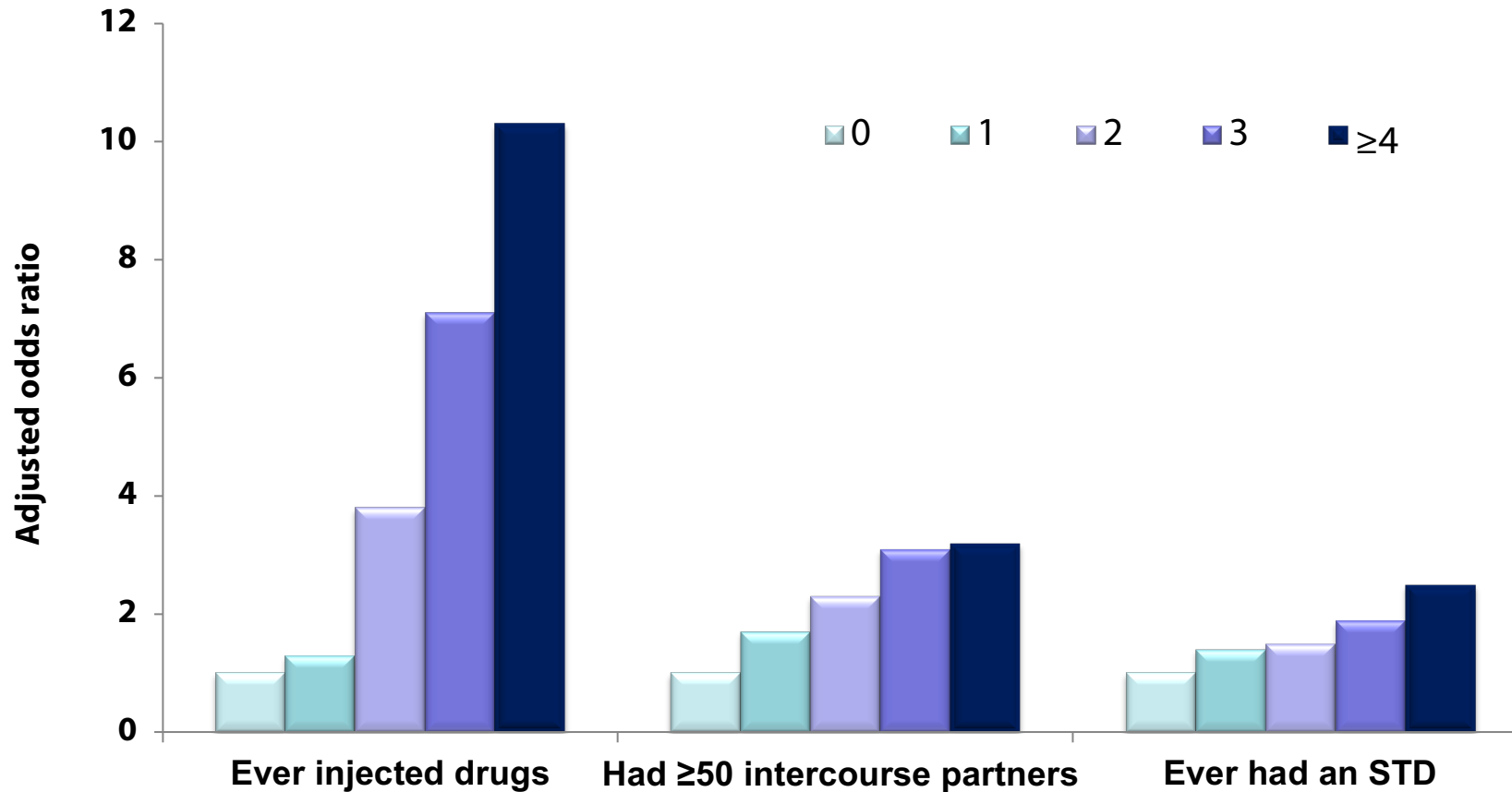
ACEs are experiences that may be traumatic to children and youth during the first 18 years of life such as experiencing violence or other types of emotionally disturbing exposures in their homes and communities.

Abuse	Neglect	Household Challenges	
 Physical	 Physical	 Mental Illness	 Incarcerated Relative
 Emotional	 Emotional	 Mother treated violently	 Substance Abuse
 Sexual		 Divorce	

ACES not included in the traditional measure:

- Bullying
- Teen dating violence
- Peer to peer violence
- Witness violence in community or school
- Homelessness
- Death of a parent

Adverse Childhood Experiences and HIV Risks

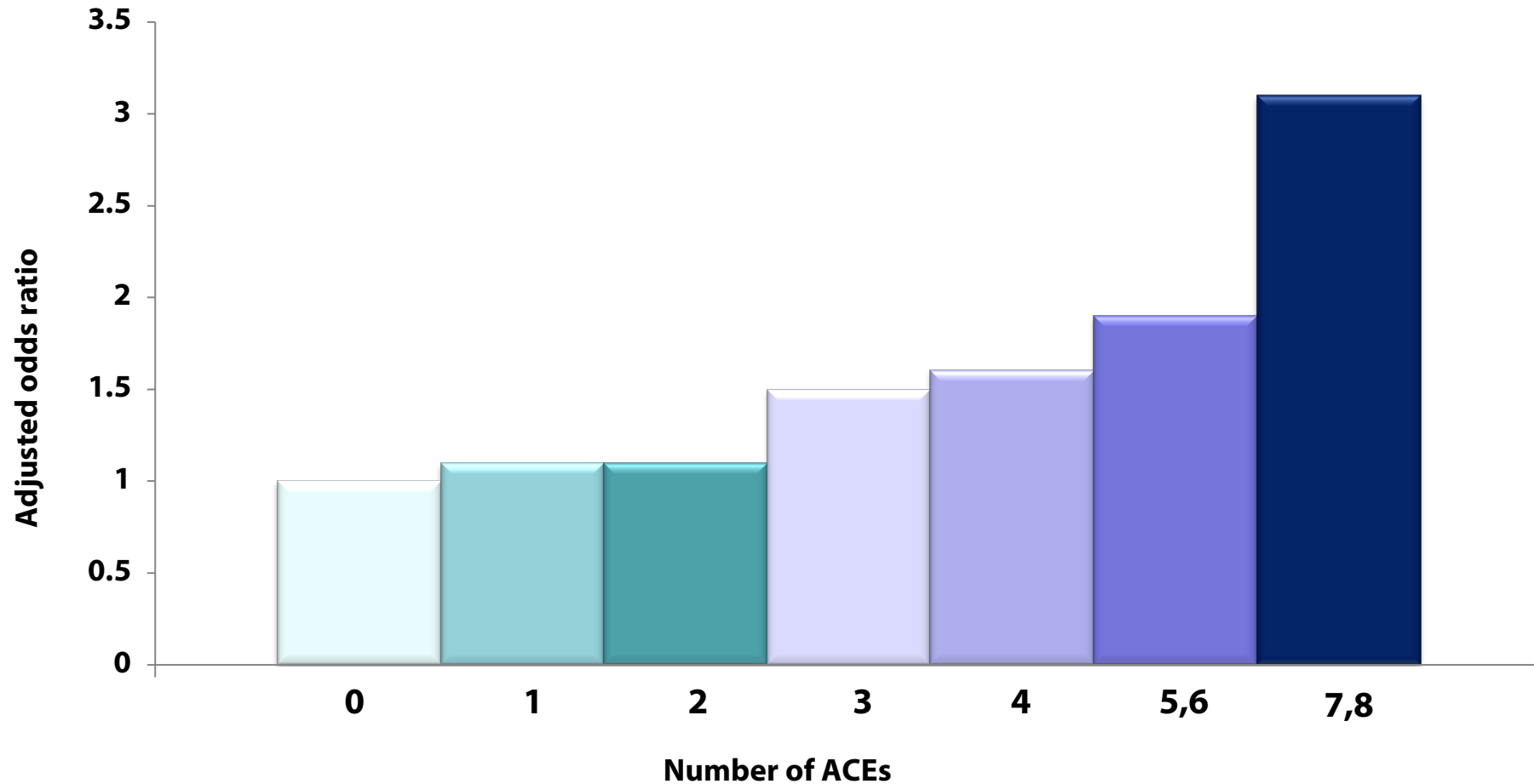


ACE, Adverse childhood experience

Source: Felitti, VJ et al. American Journal of Preventive Medicine 1998;14:245–258



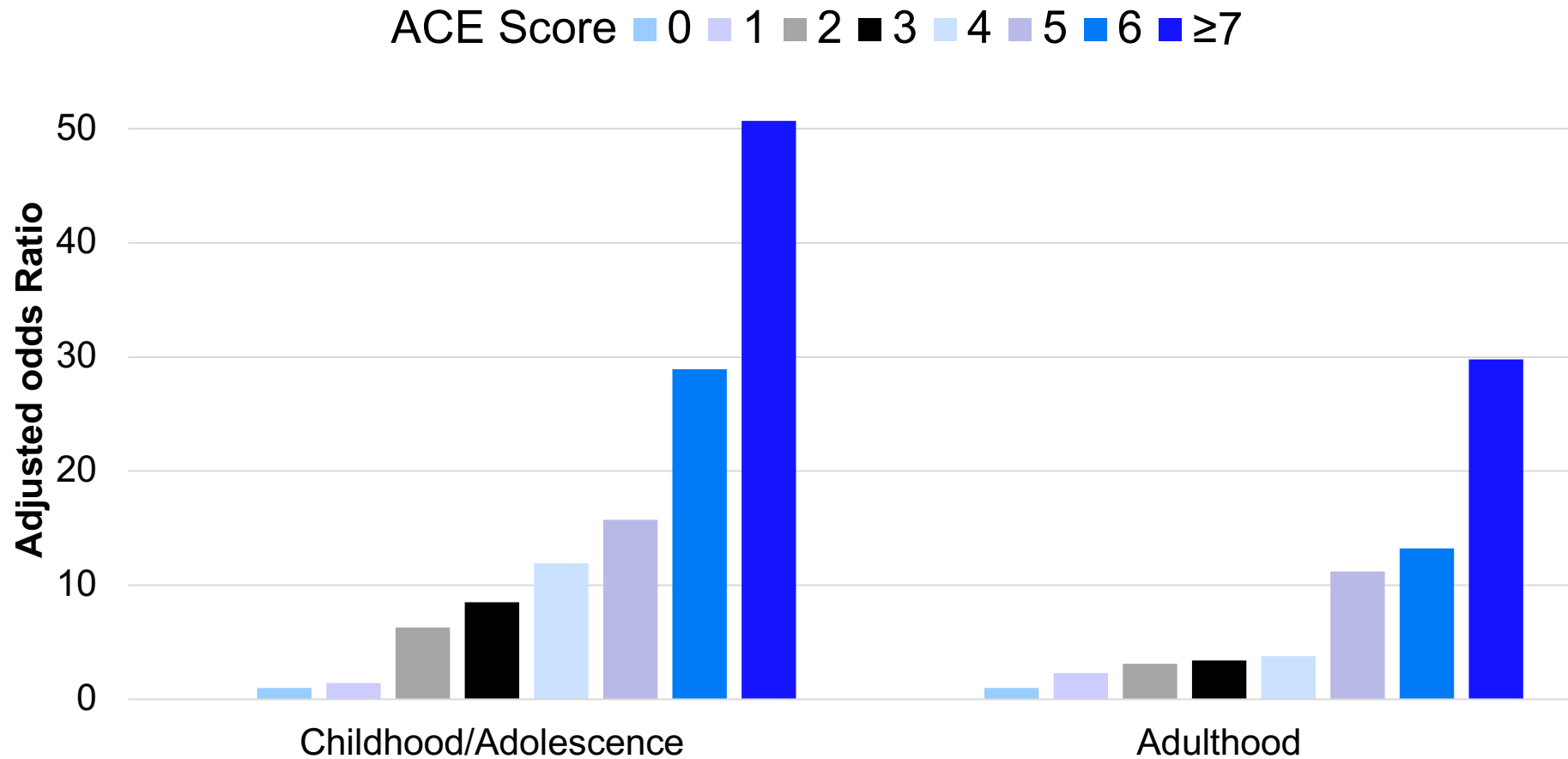
Adverse Childhood Experiences and Adult Cardiovascular Disease



ACE = Adverse childhood experience
Source: Dong, M et al. Circulation 2004;110:1761–1766.



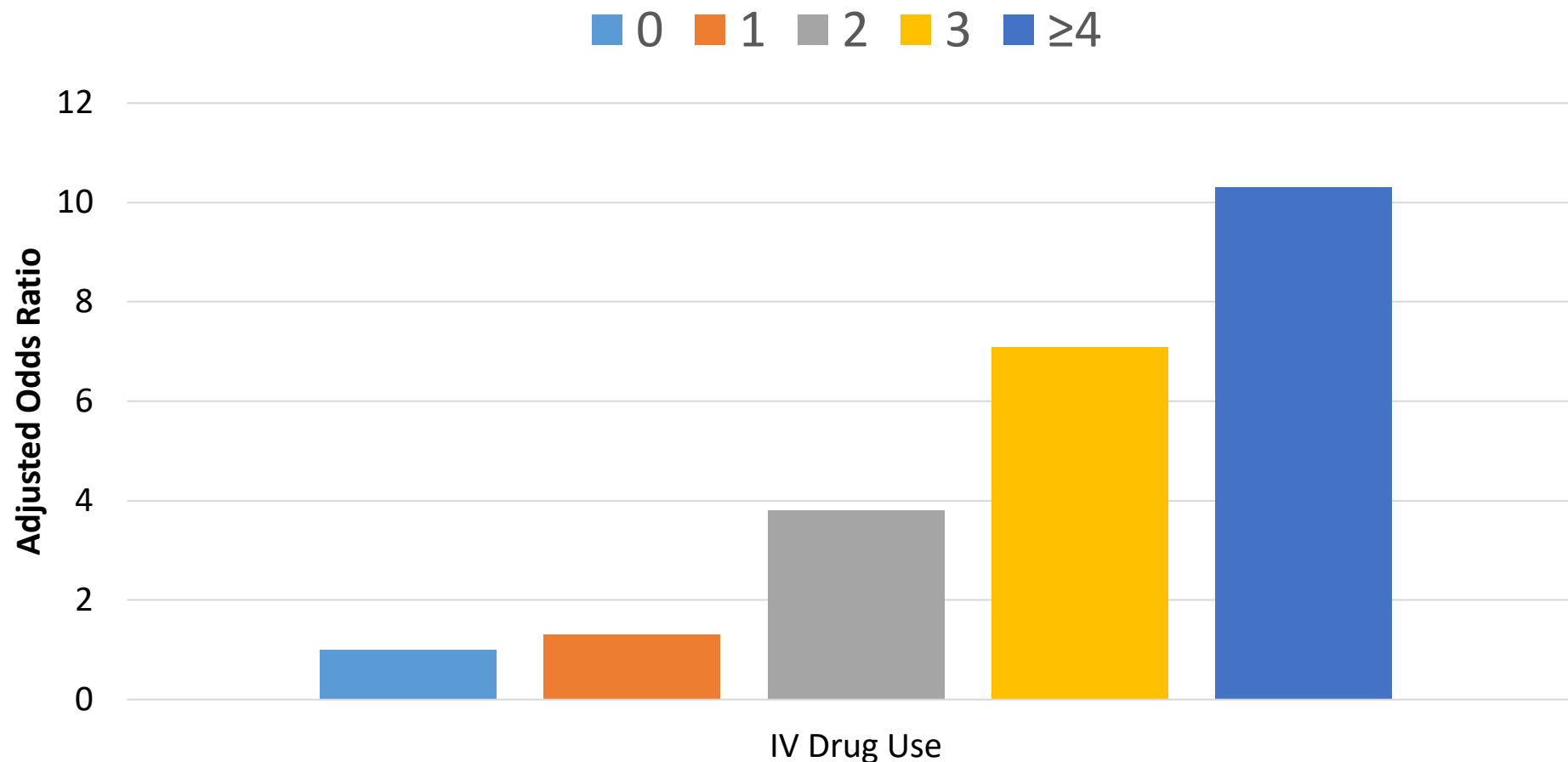
Deaths of Despair: Adverse Childhood Experiences and Suicide Attempts



Source: Dube, Shanta R., et al. "Childhood abuse, household dysfunction, and the risk of attempted suicide throughout the life span: findings from the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study." *Jama* 286.24 (2001): 3089-3096.



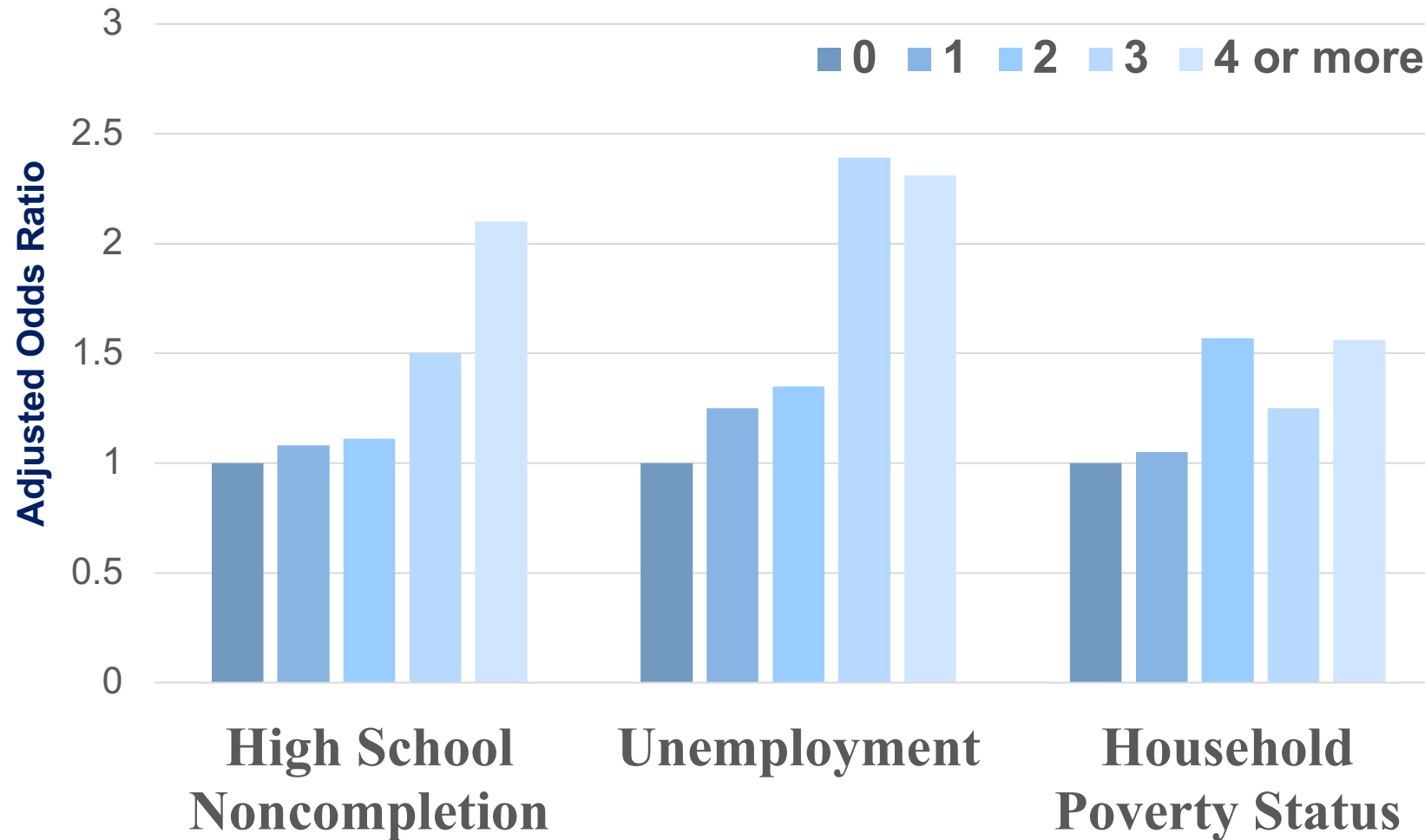
Deaths of Despair: Adverse Childhood Experiences and IV Drug Use



Source: Felitti, Vincent J., et al. "Relationship of childhood abuse and household dysfunction to many of the leading causes of death in adults: The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study." *American journal of preventive medicine* 14.4 (1998): 245-258.



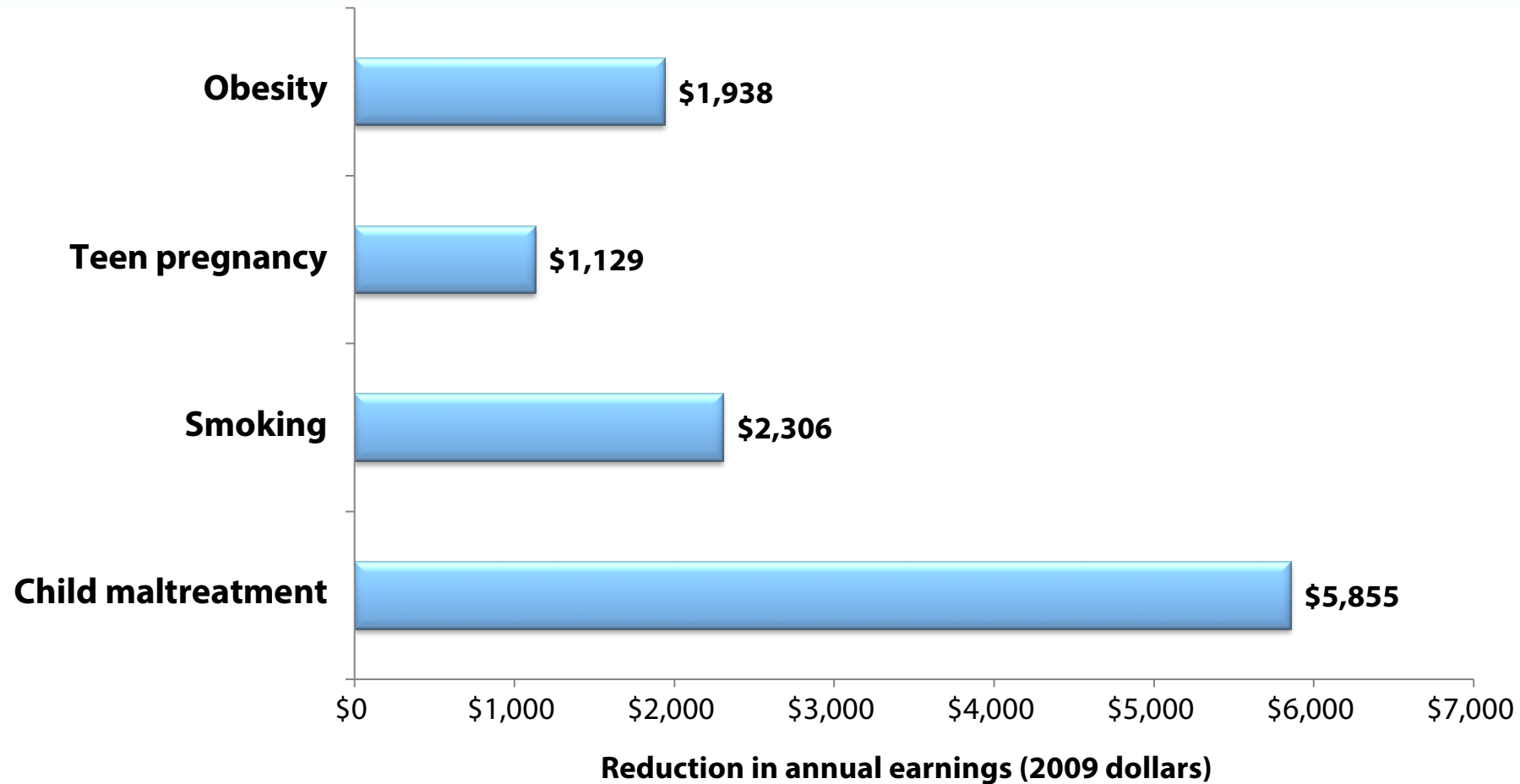
Adverse Childhood Experiences and Life Opportunity



Source: Metzler et. al, Adverse Childhood Experiences & Life Opportunities: Time to Shift the Narrative. Children and Youth Services Review 2016.



Violence Against Children Reduces Future Productivity



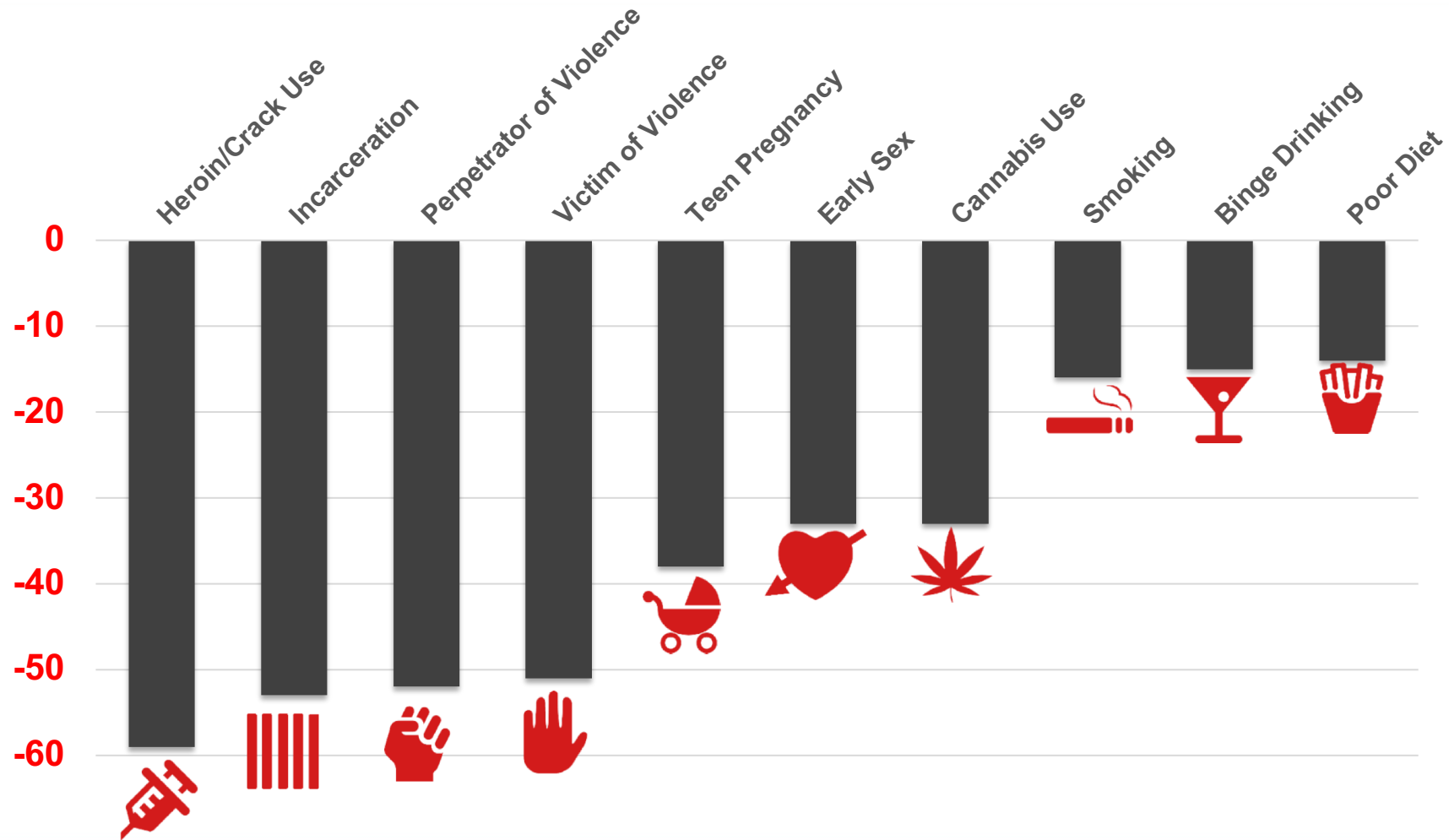
Source: Fang X, et al. The economic burden of child maltreatment in the United States. In Press, Child Abuse and Neglect, 2011



Association Between ACEs and Mental Health from the World Mental Health Survey in 21 Countries

- ❑ Childhood adversity is strongly associated with all classes of mental health disorders at all life course stages across low, middle, and high-income countries
- ❑ Childhood adversities are powerful predictors of the onset and persistence of suicidal behaviors
- ❑ Eradication of adverse childhood experiences would reduce the burden of mental disorder in adults by 30%

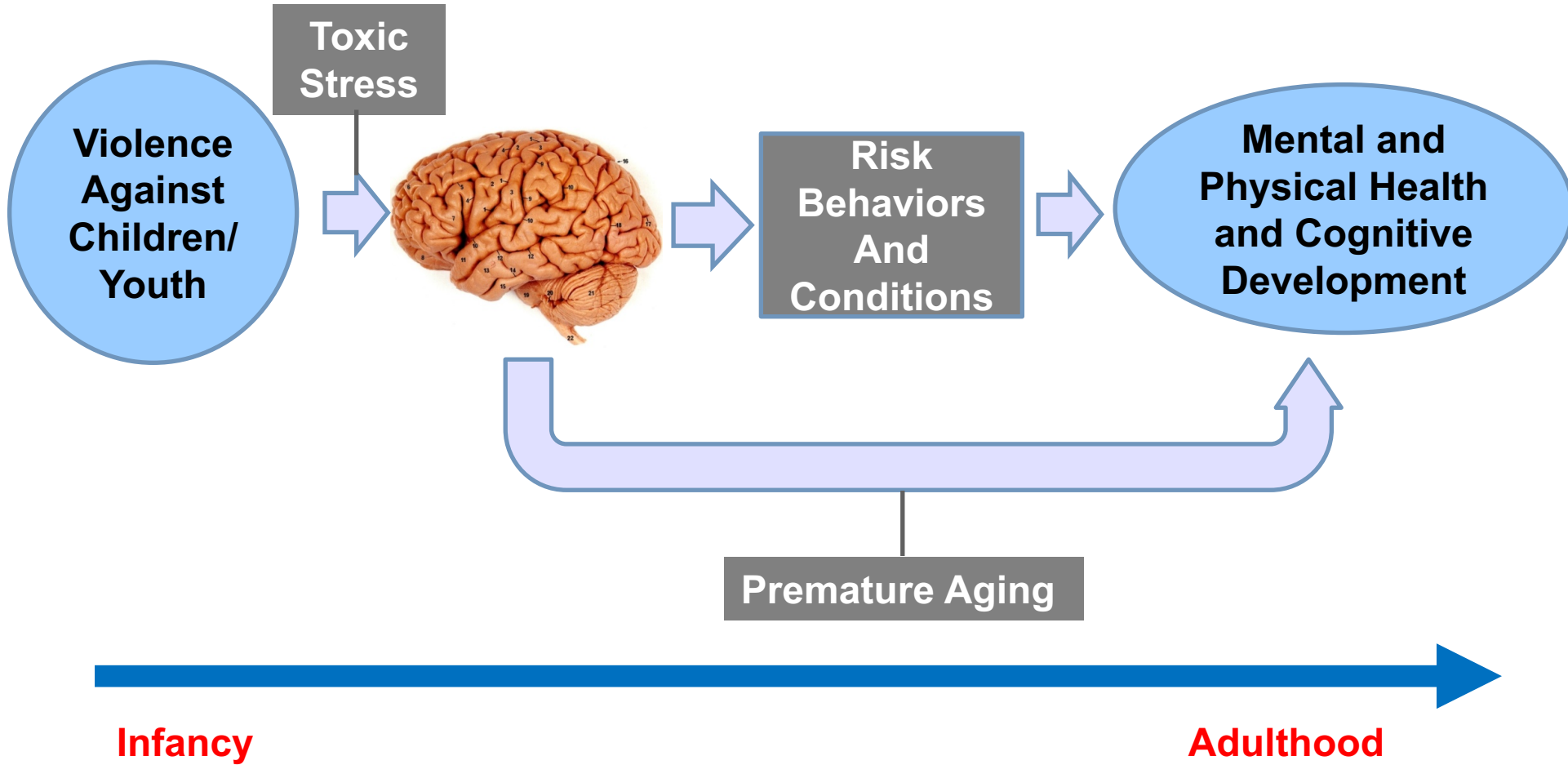
Fraction of Health and Social Problems Attributable to Exposure to Childhood Violence and Adversity, United Kingdom, 2013



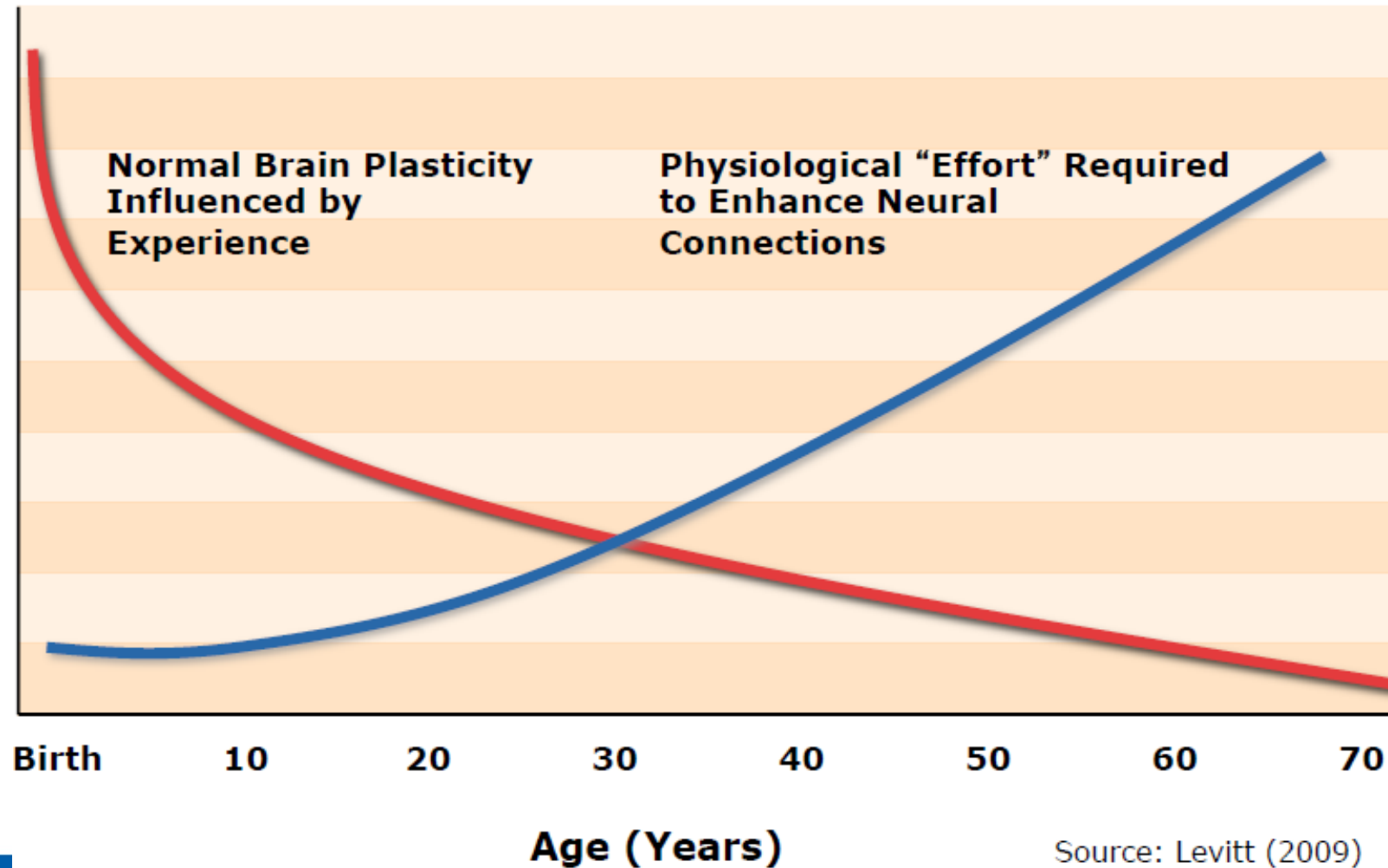
Source: Bellis MA, Hughes K, Leckenby N, Perkins C, Lowey H, National household survey of adverse childhood experiences & their relationship with resilience to health-harming behaviors in England. BMC Medicine 2014, 12:72



Violence Damages Body Via Impact on the Brain



The Ability to Change Brains Declines Over Time

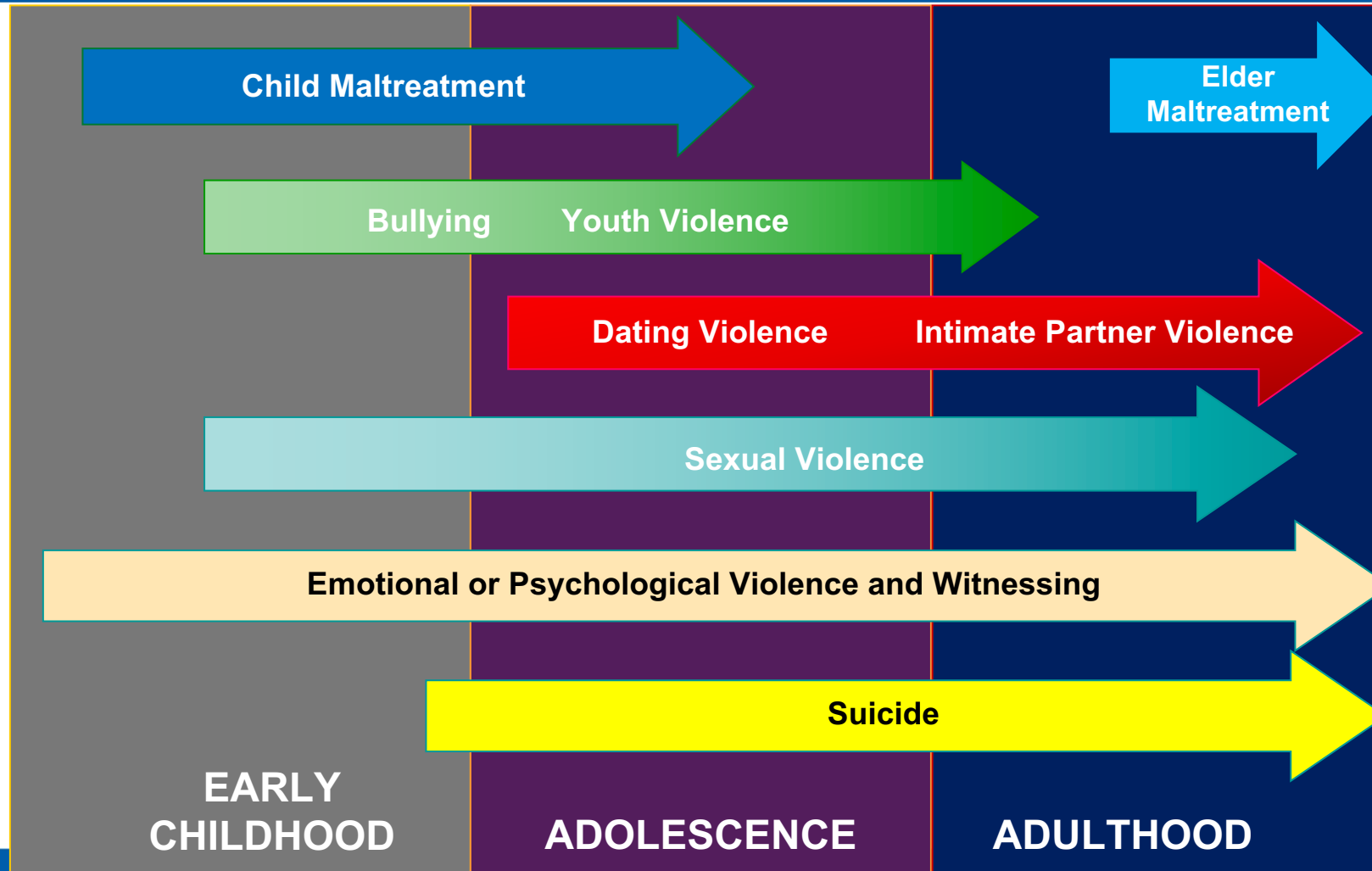


Source: Levitt (2009)

Breakdown the Silos by Acting on the Cross- Cutting Nature of Violence



Violence Across the Lifespan



Relationship Level Risk Factors Shared Among Different Forms of Violence



	CM	TDV	IPV	SV	YV	Bullying	Suicide	Elder Abuse
Social isolation	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Poor parent-child relationships	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Family conflict	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Economic stress	X		X		X		X	X
Association w/ delinquent peers		X	X	X	X	X		
Gang involvement		X	X	X	X			

NOTE: CM (Child Maltreatment), TDV (Teen Dating Violence), IPV (Intimate Partner Violence), SV (Sexual Violence), YV (Youth Violence)

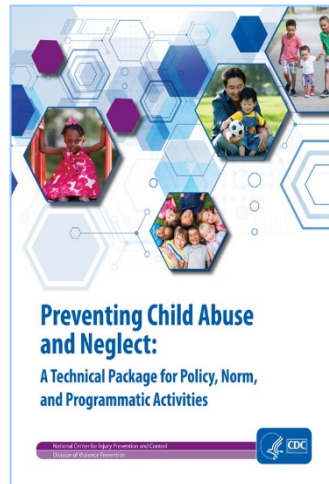
Source: Wilkins, N., Tsao, B., Hertz, M., Davis, R., Kleven, J. (2014). Connecting the Dots: An Overview of the Links Among Multiple Forms of Violence. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Oakland, CA: Prevention Institute.



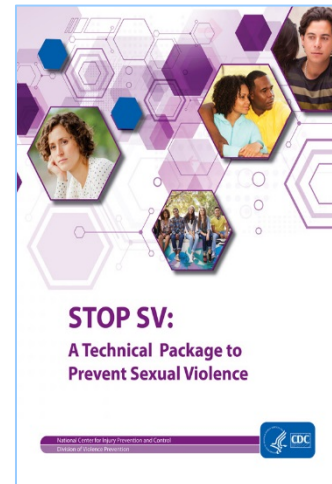
Violence is Preventable: We Need to Take Action Now



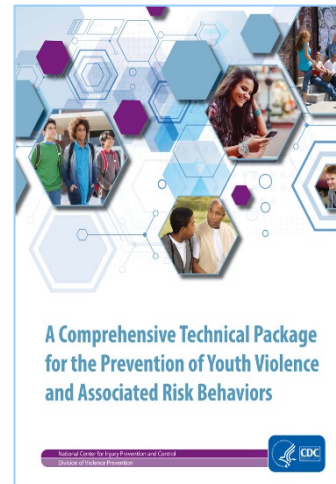
Helping States and Communities Take Advantage of the Best Available Evidence



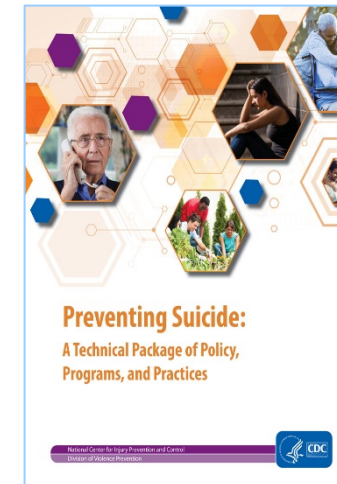
2016



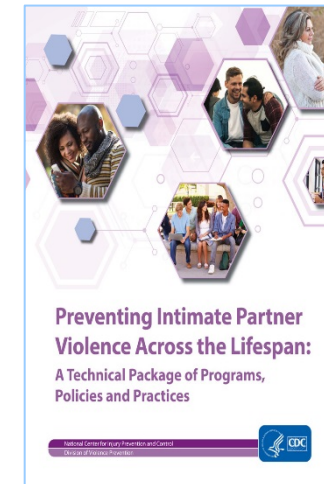
2016



2016

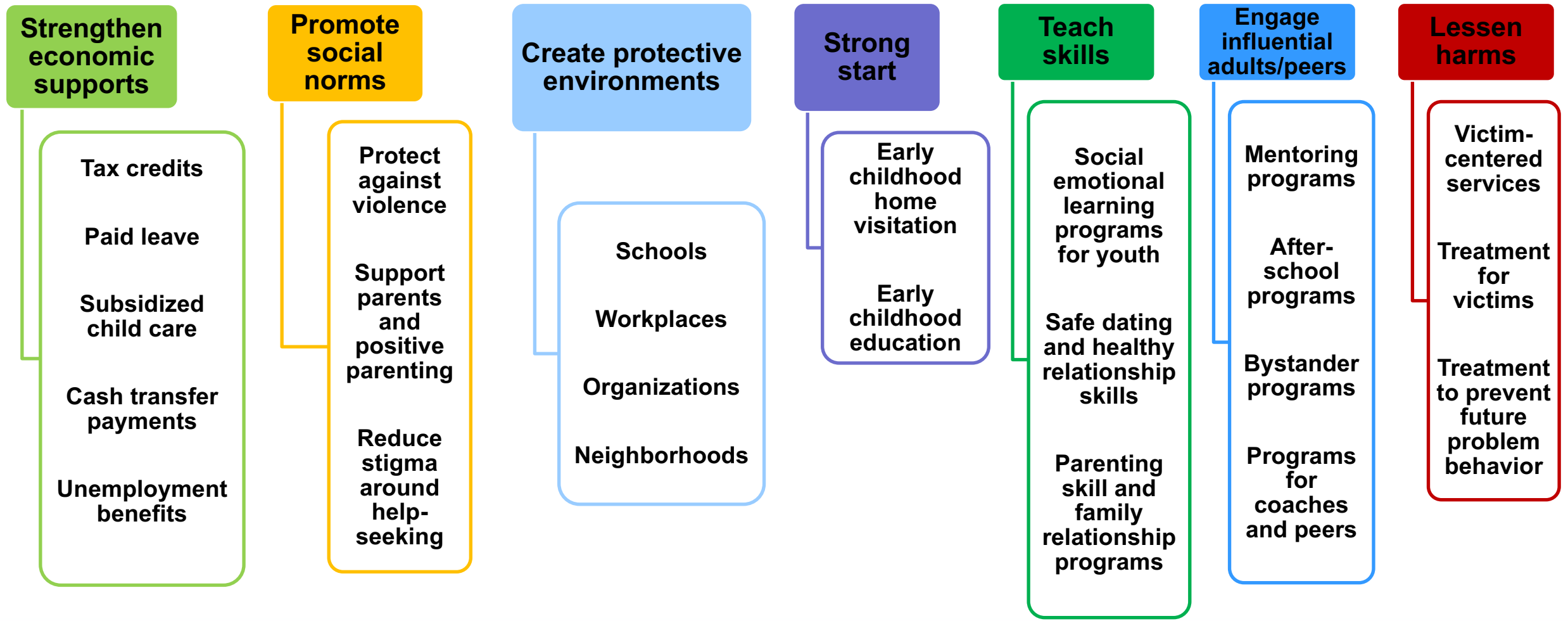


2017

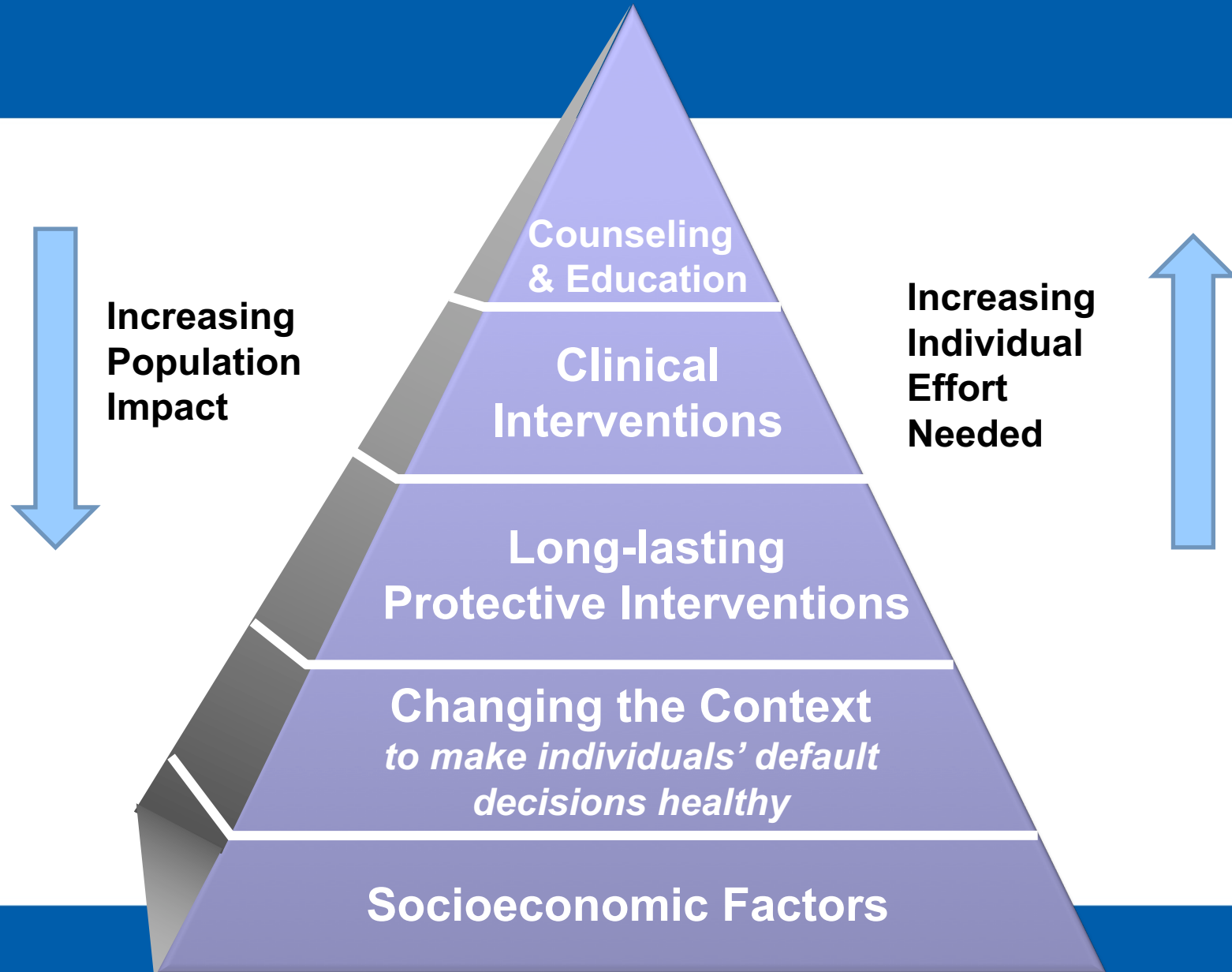


2017

Strategies to Prevent Violence Against Children and Youth



The Health Impact Pyramid



Need Greater Capacity and Infrastructure to Scale Up Violence Prevention



Moving from Innovation to Action

- ☐ **Creating a Workforce**
- ☐ **Synthesis and Translation: Making Violence Prevention Innovations Broadly and Easily Accessible**
- ☐ **Prevention Support: Successful Implementation Requires Training, Monitoring, Technical Assistance, and Coaching**
- ☐ **Prevention Delivery: Creating Organizations that can Carry Out and Sustain Effective Programs, Policies, and Practices**



Implementing Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) - THE DREAM

IF YOU BUILD IT.....



THEY WILL COME

Source: Mark Chaffin



Implementing EBP—THE REALITY

IF YOU BUILD IT.....



THEY WON'T KNOW

Source: Mark Chaffin



Implementing EBP—THE REALITY

IF YOU BUILD IT.....



**THEY MAY
LIKE THE
ONE THEY
BUILT
BETTER
(even if it
doesn't work)**

Source: Mark Chaffin



Implementing EBP—THE REALITY

IF YOU BUILD IT.....



**THEY WILL TRY
TO COME, BUT
THE MAP YOU
SENT WASN'T
WRITTEN IN
THEIR
LANGUAGE**

Source: Mark Chaffin



Implementing EBP—THE REALITY

IF YOU BUILD IT.....



**THEY MAY
WANT TO
COME, BUT
CAN'T AFFORD
ADMISSION**

Source: Mark Chaffin



Reduce the Gap Between Science/Data and Action





Application of Predictive Analytics to Big Data

Sentinel Events Preceding Youth Firearm Violence An Investigation of Administrative Data in Delaware

Steven A. Sumner, Matthew J. Maenner, Christina M. Socias et. al.

Youth who commit firearm violence have preceding patterns of life events that markedly differ from youth not involved in firearm violence. This information is readily available from administrative data, demonstrating the potential of data sharing across city and state institutions to focus prevention strategies on those at greatest risk.

Move Globally



The Sustainable Development Goals



Target 5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres

Target 5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation



Target 16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates

Target 16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children

Completed, In Progress, and Repeat Violence Against Children Surveys (VACS)

● Completed

Botswana*
Cambodia
El Salvador*
Haití
Honduras*
Kenya (2010)
Laos*
Malawi
Nigeria
Rwanda*
Swaziland
Tanzania
Uganda*
Zambia
Zimbabwe (2011)

● In Progress

Colombia
Cote d'Ivoire
Guatemala
Lesotho
Moldova
Mozambique
Namibia

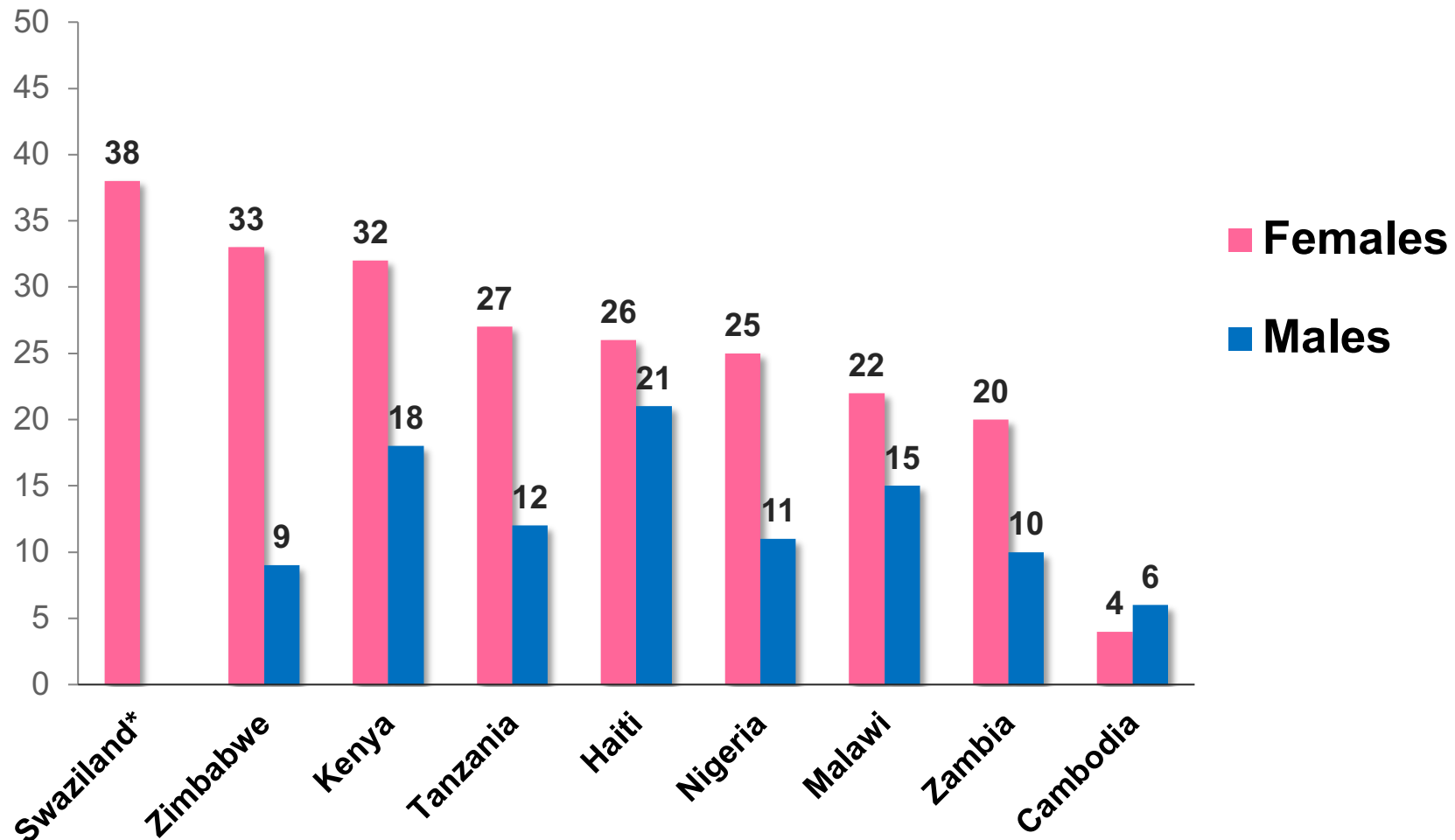
● Repeating

Kenya (2018)
Zimbabwe* (2017)

*Countries have completed data collection. Reports are in development



Prevalence of Sexual Violence Prior to Age 18 Reported by Females and Males 18-24 Years of Age in Nine VACS Country Sites

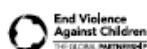


* Only girls interviewed in Swaziland



INSPIRE

Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children



INSPIRE: SEVEN STRATEGIES FOR ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

INSPIRE is a technical package. The seven strategies are based on the best available evidence.

Implementation and enforcement of laws



Norms and values



Safe environments



Parent and caregiver support



Income and economic strengthening



Response and support services



Education and life skills



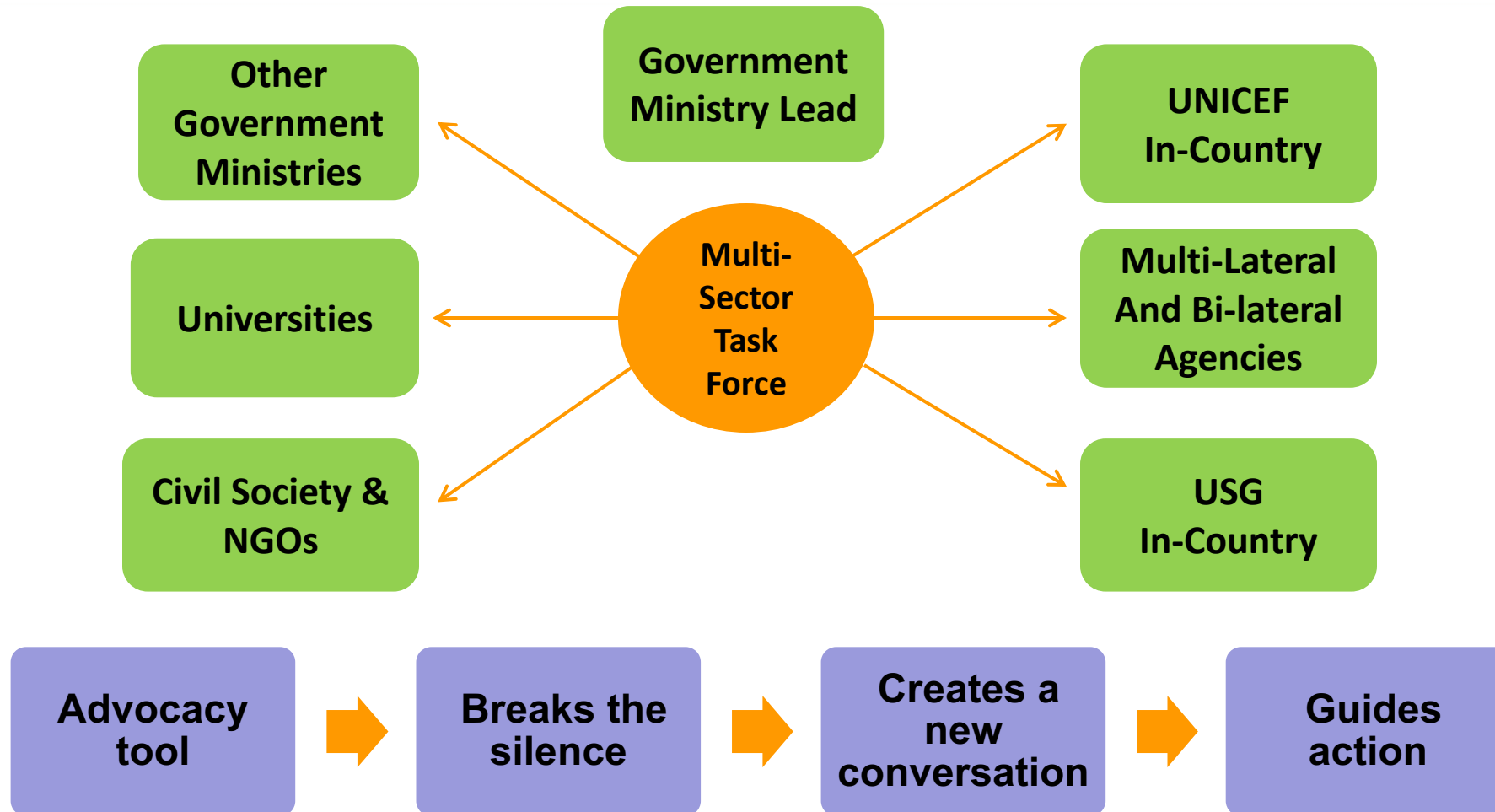
To learn more visit:

Website: www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/inspire

Facebook: www.facebook.com/whoviolenenceprevention

Twitter: twitter.com/WHOviolenceews

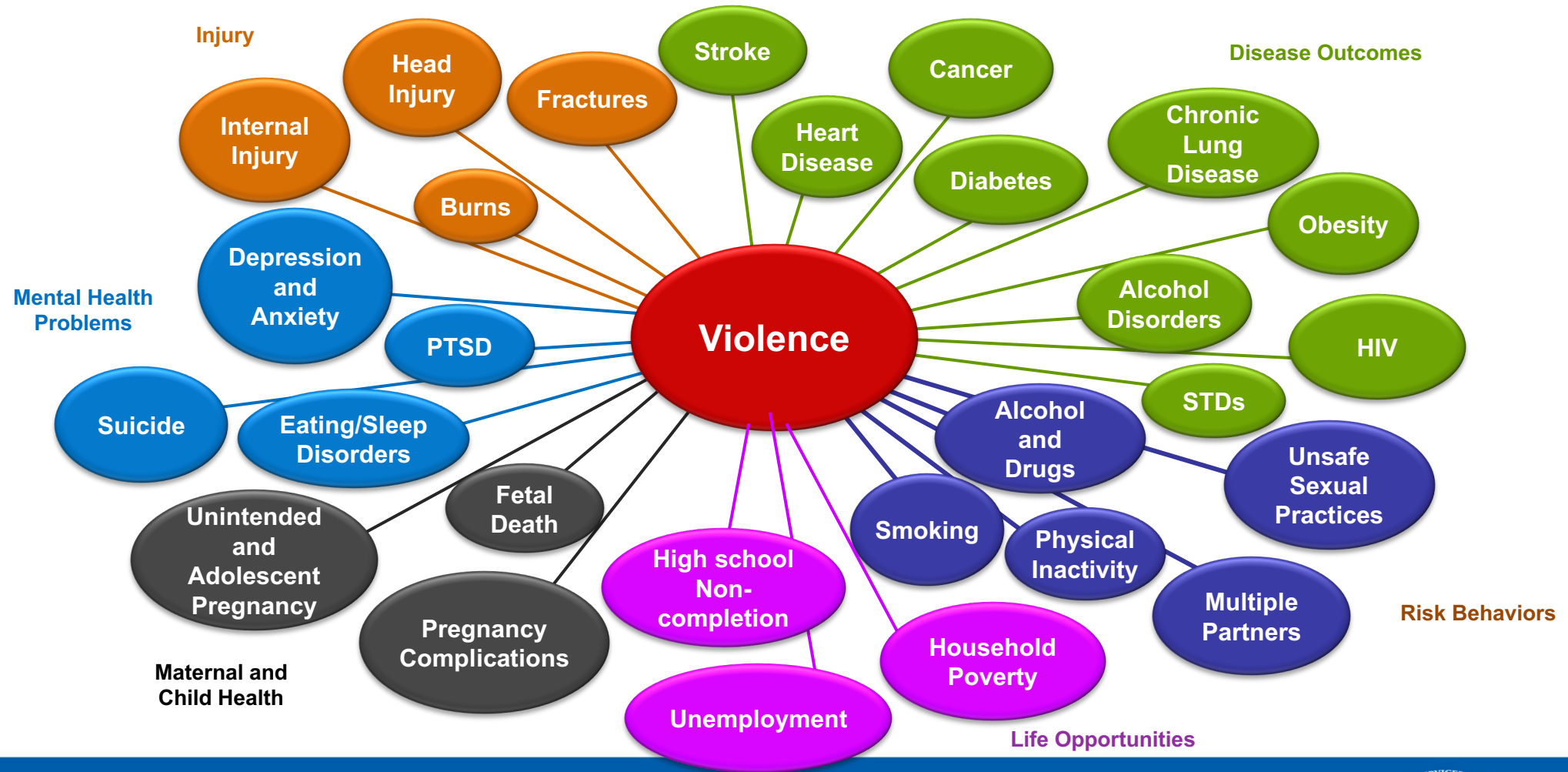
VACS Catalyzes Action



Communicate that Violence Prevention is Strategic



Violence is Costly and Destructive



The Strategic Importance of Preventing Violence Against Children

- ❑ **Big Public Health and Social Problem**
 - Influences many different health and social outcomes
 - Human and Economic costs are substantial
- ❑ **Viable Prevention Programs and Policies Exist**
- ❑ **Scientifically Grounded**
- ❑ **Politically Feasible**



**“One of the most powerful ways
to change the world
is to make it better for kids.”**

**Jack P. Shonkoff
National Scientific Council for the Developing Child**



For more information

**Visit CDC's National Center for
Injury Prevention and Control web site:**

www.cdc.gov/ncipc



Disclaimer

The findings and conclusions of this presentation have not been formally disseminated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy.

