Technology-facilitated Gender-based Violence

Technology-facilitated GBV - often referred to as cyber violence or online abuse - is an emerging global public health and human rights issue that affects the safety and well-being of individuals and negatively impacts communities. Technology-facilitated GBV includes behaviors such as stalking, bullying, sexual harassment, defamation, hate speech, exploitation, and gender trolling, which are carried out utilizing computer and mobile technology. Technology-facilitated GBV is violence that is motivated by the sexual or gender identity of the target or by underlying gender norms.

Our work on technology-facilitated GBV aims to shed light on the issue through rigorous research that ultimately creates actionable insights for policy and programming.

The Experience We Bring

ICRW’s approach to technology-facilitated GBV is rooted in our long history of work on gender and violence. We are able to make connections between technology-facilitated GBV, other forms of GBV, and other manifestations of gender inequalities. These connections are key to a full understanding of the drivers and patterns of technology-facilitated GBV and its impacts on the well-being of individuals, societies, and democracies.

Our work to date includes a comprehensive definition of and framework for technology-facilitated GBV, both of which were built upon formative research with key informants and those who have experienced the issue in Uganda and India. We have developed tools and measures to guide research across global settings and populations. We are one of the few organizations building the evidence-base to inform emerging programs and policies that seek to prevent and respond to the issue, and are leading the field in effectively measuring it.

What’s Next

We are looking for partners interested in helping us carry out more in-depth research and to look for the intersections of online and offline harassment, where technology-facilitated GBV can be interrupted. A range of stakeholders must collaborate to create and implement comprehensive strategies that successfully address technology-facilitated GBV and its impacts. We are looking for partners who can help us conduct in-depth research, synthesize existing evidence, and move the field forward toward actionable solutions.

If you would like to work with us or support our work, contact our team.

Learn More
https://www.icrw.org/issues/tech-gbv/

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Trusted Partner

ICRW’s deep expertise makes us a trusted partner among a wide variety of stakeholders - from donors to governments to other NGOS. We can:
• connect the dots between the seemingly disparate constellation of problematic online behaviors and recommend actionable solutions to address them;
• help international and multilateral organizations understand the importance of the issue and how it connects to and often frustrates efforts to address other priorities, such as economic empowerment and mental health;
• support program designers and tech companies as they create and adapt solutions to mitigate or eliminate technology-facilitated GBV; and
• assist human rights defenders and advocates in using evidence to push for common-sense regulation and justice.