

A Typology of Violence

Mapping direct, cultural, and structural violence

Direct violence

Personal	Interpersonal	Community/Society
Suicide Drug Abuse Self-harming behavior	Gender-based violence: intimate partner violence, rape, sexual violence, forced marriage, etc. Child abuse & neglect Emotional & verbal abuse; coercion & threats of individuals Psychological abuse & manipulation Bullying and intimidation Murder or physical attack Isolation, exclusion & neglect	War & armed conflict Sexual violence in war & conflict Mob violence & communal violence Coercion & threats of groups Violent crime, gang violence, etc. Active shooter, terror attack, etc. Pogroms & genocide Torture Violence by law enforcement & other state sponsored violence

Cultural violence

Narratives that justify war or violence	Narratives that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amplify threats Create enemies; dehumanize targeted enemy Distort facts to build a case for war Stoke patriotism (to mobilize for war), and attack critics of war Diminish or conceal the suffering of victims of war Promote the lie that winning a war will be easy & will result in peace Distort language to obscure the reality of war (i.e. collateral damage, freedom fighters vs. terrorists, etc.) 	Narratives of cultural violence may be spread by: Media organizations Political leaders Think tanks & lobbyists Formal or non-formal educational curriculum Religious & cultural leaders
Narratives that promote injustice or inequality	Narratives that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rationalize systemic racism and inequality (i.e. blaming the poor/marginalized groups for their fate, etc.) Obscure the legacy of historic injustice Distort public perception of structures/policies that produce inequality Conceal the suffering of marginalized persons Reject the perspectives & contributions of minority groups Dehumanize, criminalize, or scapegoat minorities Create/reinforce gendered & racialized stereotypes; or stereotypes of any group Stoke nationalism or patriotism Promote exclusive group/national identity Communicate hate speech or religious intolerance 	Community leaders Cultural groups Social media influencers Schools/teachers & families Formal or informal associations Hate groups (and others that adopt the ideals & narratives of hate groups) Internet trolls Or just any regular individuals

Ideologies	Fundamentalism, extremism, and other ideologies that promote intolerance Nationalism, patriotism, & demagoguery White supremacy (or other types of ethnic supremacy) & cultural domination
Elements of culture	Education, movies/media, art, or events/holidays that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> glorify war (misrepresent the reality of war) conceal/obscure historic injustice and inequality exclude the perspectives & contributions of marginalized groups exclude or mis-represent the history of movements for peace & justice Monuments that celebrate war criminals, war 'heroes', or symbols of hate & injustice Discriminatory cultural norms (racism, sexism, ageism, etc.) Use of hateful or nationalistic symbols & images (i.e. confederate flags, etc.)

Structural violence

Outcomes of structural violence	Structural violence produces: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • War & state violence (and how they affect some populations, not others) • Economic inequality, poverty & income inequality • Lower life expectancy for some groups over others • Lower levels of educational attainment for some groups over others • Disproportionate representation of some groups in prison relative to others • Heightened risk of some groups over others to suffer from pollution, dangers produced by environmental destruction, or natural disasters • Unequal distribution of power, privilege, and opportunity • Unequal life chances for some groups over others
The operation of structures	Structures that produce outcomes listed above commonly share the following characteristics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unbalanced representation in structures & institutions (i.e. uneven gender balance; ethnic, cultural, religious & linguistic minorities not sufficiently represented) • Lack of transparency, accountability; corruption • Top-down/authoritarian decision-making mechanisms

Structures, policies & practices that produce war or violence	Structures, policies & practices that produce war & violence are those that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to militarization & military expansionism (i.e. high military spending, arms production, etc.) • Fuel the arms trade & arms proliferation • Militarize police • Permit heightened use of violence by police & security personnel • Protect military & police from criminal prosecution • Overfund police while neglecting community needs 	Produced by a range of actors, shown below. Government ministries & departments, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The office of the president/ prime minister • Congress or Parliament • Judiciary • Business and/or economy • Culture & media • Education • Health & social welfare • Foreign affairs and international development • Transport • Minority or indigenous affairs Military & police, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All branches of the military • Federal police departments • Local police & sheriff departments • Intelligence agencies • Immigration & customs enforcement officials Criminal justice system & prisons Education systems, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public primary & secondary schools • Private schools • Colleges & Universities International entities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN entities & agencies • International financial institutions (i.e. World Bank, etc.) • International aid industry Also: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political parties • Banks • Corporations & businesses • Nonprofits & philanthropic/ charity organizations • Community organizations • Networks & affiliations • Think tanks & research institutions
Structures, policies & practices that produce injustice or inequality	Structures, policies & practices that produce injustice or inequality are those that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote unequal distribution of education, healthcare, housing, and other social services; or obstruct access to such services • Limit the ability of some groups to build wealth or access income; producing widening inequality • Produce segregation • Deny access to basic human rights for immigrants, minorities, & marginalized groups • Place people, communities, or regions at greater environmental risk than others • Suppress the political influence of marginalized populations (i.e. voter suppression, election interference, etc.) • Deny access to (or pose barriers to access) goods & services to specific populations • Block or pose barriers for some populations to access credit or get loans • Exploit marginalized populations • Produce mass incarceration • Cause environmental destruction/pollution (disproportionately affecting some populations over others) • Replicate neo-colonial patterns & practices • Employ bias in the protection & conservation of artistic, cultural, & historic sites • Provide greater opportunities for privileged persons or create barriers to access opportunity for marginalized populations 	