

A global cohort study to tackle violence against children

Violence Research Centre, University of Cambridge



A research initiative by academics at the Babes-Bolyai University (Romania), Health Services Academy (Pakistan), Hue University of Medicine and Pharmacy (Vietnam), Queensland University of Technology (Australia), University Stellenbosch (South Africa), University College London (UK), University of Cambridge (UK), University of Cape Town (South Africa), University of Ghana, University of Kelaniya (Sri Lanka), University of the Philippines, University of the West Indies (Jamaica)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> EBLS Symposium, 25 November 2019

Webb Library, Jesus College, Cambridge CB5 8BL

## Addressing Violence against Children in Eight Cities across the World

## Lessons Learned from the EBLS Foundational Study

In the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, the United Nations have called on the global community to end child abuse, exploitation and all forms of violence, and to promote children's mental health and well-being. The "Evidence for Better Lives" Study (EBLS) is our response to this challenge. Its vision is a global network of academics, stakeholders and policymakers that are committed to addressing violence against children.

Evidence for Better Lives comprises three lines of work: a ground-breaking birth cohort study in eight cities in middle-income countries, which will follow the development of 12,000 children from before they are born; an impact strategy aiming to strengthen evidence-based policies that can help to better address violence against children; a capacity building approach that promotes mutual learning across sites while supporting the development of early career academics.

The Symposium aims to bring together academics and stakeholders to discuss core findings from the foundational stage of EBLS and to examine implications for the wider global agenda of addressing violence against children. We will present conclusions based on a needs and resources assessment conducted in the eight study sites, as well as emerging results of the foundational study on exposure to violence and well-being of pregnant women and their unborn child. We will also examine the lessons learned from the current foundational research for the future main study.

This one-day Symposium at Jesus College, Cambridge, will include around 40 experts, stakeholders and academics from all study sites. It will comprise world-leading researchers on child development and violence against children, as well as representatives from international organisations that lead the global policy field of addressing violence against children.

## Acknowledgments

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 $\textit{WIFI} \ \textit{is available that does not require a login. Please click on \textit{Jesus College Guest and follow the steps.}$ 

8:30 - 9:00	Registration and Refreshments
9:00 - 9:30	Welcome (Dr David Good, Cambridge Global Challenges Group) Introduction of Participants
9:30-10:30	Panel 1. EBLS AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS MODERATOR: Prof Claire Hughes
9:30-9:45	The Evidence for Better Lives Study: An Introduction (Prof Pasco Fearon)
9:45-10:30	Panel Input and Discussion PANEL: Prof Frances Gardner, Prof Michael Dunne, Dr Alex Butchart
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break
11:00-12:30	Panel 2. BUILDING THE FOUNDATIONS  MODERATOR: Prof Susan Walker
11:00-11:30	The EBLS Foundational Study - Findings and Lessons Learned (Prof Manuel Eisner)
11:30-12:30	Panel Input and Discussion PANEL: Alessandra Guedes, Prof Asvini Fernando, Dr Sarah Skeen, Prof Adriana Baban
12:30-13:30	Lunch Break (Standing Lunch)
13:30-15:00	Panel 3. GENERATING POLICY IMPACT  MODERATOR: Prof Adriana Baban
13:30-13:50	Addressing Violence against Children: A Needs and Resources Assessment in Eight LMIC Cities - Findings and Recommendations (Dr Sara Valdebenito, Huyen Do)
13:50-15:00	Panel Input and Discussion  PANEL: Dr Kati Maternowska, Dr Bernadette Madrid, Prof Vo Van Thang, Dr Patricia  Akweongo
15:00-15:30	Coffee Break
15:30-17:00	Panel 4. ADVANCING KNOWLEDGE  MODERATOR: Dr Siham Sikander
15:30-15:50	What Questions for a New Generation of Cohort Studies - and How Does EBLS Address Them? (Dr Aja Murray)
15:50-16:45	Panel Input and Discussion  PANEL: Prof Marinus Van IJzendoorn, Prof David Farrington, Dr Diana Taut
16:45-17:30	FINAL SESSION & CLOSING REMARKS
	MODERATOR: Dr Sarah Skeen
16:45-17:10	How could EBLS Contribute to the Global Understanding of Child Development? Concluding Reflections (Prof Terrie Moffitt)
17:10-17:40	Discussion
17:40-18.00	Closing Remarks (Prof Manuel Eisner)
18:30	Drinks & Dinner