

Key Strengths, Risk & Protective Factors, and Connected Forms of Violence

KEY STRENGTH	Norms Relating to Gender and Power	Employment Stability & Economic Opportunity	Community Connectedness	Positive School Climate & School Connectedness	Parent-Child Connectedness	Healthy Social and Emotional Development
Related Protective Factors	Societal Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of women in power within a community 	Individual level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stable employment 	Community Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community support/connectedness Collective efficacy Positive social capital Community capacity Coordination of resources and services among community agencies 	Relationship Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connection/commitment to school Connection to a caring adult Association with pro-social peers 	Relationship Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family support/connectedness Nurturing/ responsive parenting Frequent shared activities w/ parents Ability to discuss problems with parents 	Relationship Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills in solving problems non-violently Empathy Social-emotional competence Community Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to mental health and substance abuse services
Related Risk Factors	Societal Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harmful norms around masculinity and femininity Cultural norms that support aggression toward others Media violence 	Societal Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Societal income inequality Community Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diminished economic opportunities/ high unemployment rates Neighborhood poverty High alcohol outlet density Relationship Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic stress 	Community Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community violence Weak community ties Poor neighborhood support and cohesion Relationship Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social isolation/ lack of social support Family conflict 	Societal Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Absence of policies to address violence (framed by CDC as weak health, educational, & social policies/ laws) Relationship Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gang involvement Community Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Absence of deterrence in schools Individual Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low educational achievement 	Relationship Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor parent-child relationships 	Individual Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of non-violent problem-solving skills Poor behavioral control/ impulsiveness Psychological/ mental health problems History of violent victimization Witnessing violence Substance use
Connected Forms of Violence*†	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Maltreatment Teen Dating Violence Intimate Partner Violence Sexual Violence Youth Violence Bullying Suicide Elder Maltreatment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Maltreatment Intimate Partner Violence Sexual Violence Youth Violence Bullying Suicide Elder Maltreatment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Maltreatment Teen Dating Violence Intimate Partner Violence Sexual Violence Youth Violence Bullying Suicide Elder Maltreatment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Maltreatment Teen Dating Violence Intimate Partner Violence Sexual Violence Youth Violence Bullying Suicide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Maltreatment Teen Dating Violence Intimate Partner Violence Sexual Violence Youth Violence Bullying Suicide Elder Maltreatment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Maltreatment Teen Dating Violence Intimate Partner Violence Sexual Violence Youth Violence Bullying Suicide Elder Maltreatment

*The row titled **Connected forms of Violence** indicates which forms of violence have evidence to link them to at least one of the risk or protective factors listed in the same column, but not necessarily more than one. It should not be interpreted to mean that there is evidence linking all the risk and protective factors in a given column to all the forms of violence listed. However, the more risk and protective factors under a given key strength that a program can demonstrably impact, the higher the likelihood that each of the forms of violence listed will also be affected.

† We consider **Teen Dating Violence (TDV)** and **Bullying** as sub-forms of **IPV** and **YV**, respectively. CDC's brief **Connecting the Dots: An Overview of the Links Among Multiple Forms of Violence** lists them separately, and also lists **Elder Maltreatment** separately because research typically investigates on only one form at a time. As of the time of this writing, **Elder Maltreatment** is not currently one of NC's officially prioritized violence outcomes, but we believe that improving the Key Strengths is an approach to violence prevention that provides protection across the life course. Several strategies highlighted on this site address the 10 risk and protective factors shown in *Connecting the Dots* to be connected to both **Elder Maltreatment** and other forms of violence.