



Position Statement on Intentional Violence



The Canadian Forensic Nurses Association defines intentional violence as the purposeful use of physical force, emotional or psychological threat and/or power against another on an individual, institutional and systemic level. This includes both actual, implied and threatened violence.

Intentional violence includes, but is not limited to, interpersonal, intimate partner, elder, child/youth abuse and sexualized violence across the lifespan. Intentional violence also includes the intersections of these forms of violence, specifically the growing areas of human trafficking and the recognition of transgenerational trauma.

As an association, we acknowledge that intentional violence disproportionately impacts certain groups of people including women, refugees and the 2SLGBTQIA+, Black and Indigenous communities of Canada. We reflectively encourage and aim to participate in respectful discourse with these communities as experts in strategic interventions, including “Nothing about us without us” (CWF, 2022).

We promote trauma and violence-informed patient-centred care as a way to support the communities and people affected by intentional violence. We do this through the lens of evidence-informed practice in forensic nursing within Canada. We aim to prevent and reduce trauma and the consequences of intentional violence at an individual, family, community and population level (CFNA, 2022).



References

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4. World Health Organization (2002). World report on violence and health. Retrieved from: <https://www.who.int/groups/violence-prevention-alliance/approach#:~:text=%22the%20intentional%20use%20of%20physical,%2C%20maldevelopment%2C%20or%20deprivation.%22>