

United Nations Study on Violence against Children

**Response to questionnaire received from the
Government of GRENADA**

QUESTIONNAIRE

I. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This part of the questionnaire aims to determine how your country's legal framework addresses violence against children, including prevention of violence, protection of children from violence, redress for victims of violence, penalties for perpetrators and reintegration and rehabilitation of victims.

International human rights instruments

1. Describe any developments with respect to violence against children which have resulted from your country's acceptance of international human rights instruments, including, for example, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its optional protocols, the Palermo Protocol or regional human rights instruments. Provide information on cases concerning violence against children in which your country's courts or tribunals have referred to international or regional human rights standards.

There have been a number of positive developments in the legislative, advocacy and social service arenas that have followed ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and other human rights instruments related to children and families. Grenada ratified the CRC in November 1990 and developments since then include:

(a) Legislative Responses

- Passage of the Adoption Act in 1994.
- Passage of the Child Protection Act in 1998.
- Passage of the Domestic Violence Act in 2001 (more a response to CEDAW, but includes provisions for protecting children).
- GNCRC initiated review of the Grenada legislation to determine its compatibility with the provisions of the CRC.
- Participation in the OECS Family Law and Domestic Violence Reform project which is reviewing the adequacy of family-related laws (including laws on violence against children) and the adequacy of the social service support systems in place to support the enforcement of these laws.

It must be noted here that the Criminal Code is the legislation covering most of the violence perpetrated against children. This Code has not been recently reviewed although it is widely recognised that there is a need for review. The Government has submitted a request to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for support in this area, along with a request for support in reforming its juvenile justice processes.

(b) Advocacy Responses

- Formation of the Grenada National Coalition on the Rights of the Child (GNCRC) in 1993. The GNCRC is registered non-profit organisation comprised of government and NGO organisations working on issues related to the welfare of children. Its primary focus has been in the arena of advocacy for children's rights and it has done significant advocacy work on the subject of violence against children.

(c) Social Service Responses

- Establishment of the Program for Adolescent Mothers – a program established through an initiative of the GNCRC and managed by GRENSAVE - one of the NGO's affiliated to the GNCRC.
- Establishment and reform of the Family Court system. Grenada established a formal Family Court in November 1994. This was suspended in 1995 by a new government that had just taken office on the grounds that there were insufficient cases to warrant the setting up of such a costly enterprise. A Family Life Issues Committee was appointed by Cabinet to review the Family Court Act 1994, among other things. In January 1996, it was decided that the concept of the Family Court would be incorporated into the existing court structure, with the establishment of a Family Division of the High Court. This Family Division sets aside one day per month for hearing family-related cases within the jurisdiction of the magistrate's court.
- Reorganisation of the Division of Social Services in 2004 and merger between the Ministry of Housing, Social Services, Housing and Community Development and the Gender and Family Affairs Division to form a Ministry of Social Development.
- The drafting of a Child Abuse Protocol to coordinate the inputs from the different agencies working on child abuse and to establish common procedures for all agencies and entities to follow. This Protocol has not yet been approved by stakeholders.
- Establishment of a Child Abuse hotline by the Ministry of Social Development.

There are no specific cases that one can point to where the country's courts or tribunals have referred to international or regional human rights standards. However, the members of the legal profession have been sensitised to these standards and there has been a significant movement in the quality of judgements against children with an increase in the use of Protection Orders and a decrease in the use of custodial sentencing.

Legal provisions on violence against children

2. Describe how forms of violence against children are addressed in your country's constitution, legislation and subsidiary legislation, and, where appropriate, customary law.

(a) Constitution

The Constitution addresses the question of violence against children through its protection of basic human rights. These provisions however are not specific to children but refer to all citizens of the State, which includes children.

(b) Legislation and Subsidiary Legislation

There are three (3) pieces of legislation that address the question of violence against children – The Criminal Code, the Domestic Violence Act and the Child Protection Act.

- The *Criminal Code* which provides for "a Code of Offences punishable on Summary Conviction and on Indictment", including assaults and similar offences.

- The *Domestic Violence Act* is specifically designed “to provide protection for victims of domestic violence and for matters connected therewith”¹. It defines domestic violence as “abusive conduct directed towards –

(a) a member of the person’s household; or

(b) a spouse, child, parent or dependant of the person or of the person’s spouse, whether or not living in the same household as the person.

and includes physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional or psychological abuse and financial abuse.”

It must be noted that the protection afforded under this act applies to domestic situations only.

- The *Child Protection Act* provides for:
 - A process for applying and issuing of Protection Orders for children in need of protection from physical harm, sexual molestation or exploitation, emotional harm, and mental emotional or developmental conditions that could seriously impair the child’s development; and
 - The placement of such children in children’s homes or other places of protection deemed appropriate by the court.

(c) Customary Law

Customary law is not practiced in Grenada.

3. Provide details of any specific legislative provisions on:

- **Prevention of all forms of physical, sexual and mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, and sexual abuse;**

The *Child Protection Act* in Section 11 provides for the prevention of all forms of violence against children by authorising applications for protection orders for children in need of protection in circumstances where “there is substantial risk” that the child will suffer physical harm, sexual molestation, emotional harm.

The *Domestic Violence Act* provides for the prevention of all forms of violence against children in domestic situations. Section 3(1) provides for applications for Protection Orders “...whenever conduct amounting to domestic violence is alleged or likely to occur.”²

- **Protection of children from all forms of violence;**

The specific legislative provisions in the *Child Protection Act* and the *Domestic Violence Act* referred to in the previous section also serve to protect children from all forms of violence.

- **Redress, including compensation, for child victims of violence;**

There are no specific provisions for redress, including compensation for child victims of violence. This could be initiated through civil proceedings, but this

¹ Domestic Violence Act, No. 15 of 2001

² The Domestic Violence Act also provides protection from “financial abuse” defined as “a pattern of behavior of a kind, the purpose of which is to exercise coercive control over, or exploit or limit, a person’s access to financial resources so as to ensure financial dependence.”

would have to be initiated by the guardians of the child victim. There is no record of such action having been initiated in Grenada.

- **Penalties for perpetrators of violence against children;**

The penalties for perpetration of violence against children vary with the legislation under which the action is initiated:

- *Criminal Code*: The Criminal Code provides penalties for perpetrators of violence against children. These penalties vary with the nature of the crime, viz:
 - ✓ Section 81 (2) provides for imprisonment of six(6) months or a fine of two thousand dollars for aggravated assault of a child whose age does not exceed fourteen (14) years;
 - ✓ Section 178 provides for imprisonment of fifteen (15) years for "whoever unlawfully and carnally knows any female under thirteen years of age, whether with or without her consent..."
 - ✓ Section 179 provides for imprisonment of five (5) years for a similar crime if the age of the female is "... of or above thirteen years and under sixteen years of age..."
 - ✓ Section 183A and 183C provides for imprisonment for fifteen (15) years for incest with children under thirteen (13) years of age.
 - ✓ Section 235 provides for treatment of cases of infanticide as manslaughter;
 - ✓ Section 236 provides for imprisonment of two (2) years for the concealment of the body of a child.
- *Domestic Violence Act*: Section 5 of the Domestic Violence Act provides penalties for breach of Protection Orders issued under the Act. Such offences are punishable on summary conviction "... to a fine of \$20,000 and to imprisonment for 12 months."

- **Reintegration and rehabilitation of child victims of violence.**

The Domestic Violence Act and the Child Protection Act make explicit provisions for the reintegration and rehabilitation of child victims of violence.

- *Domestic Violence Act*: Section 22 of the Domestic Violence Act provides that "The Court may, on making an order under this Act, recommend any party to participate in counselling of such nature as the court specifies."
- *Child Protection Act*: This Act provides in Section 4 for the establishment of a Child Welfare Authority, whose functions include the provision of "counselling and other services" for children in need of care and protection. The Act in Section 35 (1) also mandates the Authority to "ensure that children in child care homes attend educational institutions in such manner as may be appropriate in each particular case." Section 35(2) contains a similar mandate for spiritual instructions.

4. Indicate whether any specific legislative provisions address all forms of violence including physical, sexual and psychological violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment and sexual exploitation against children which take place in:

- **The family/ home** – The Domestic Violence Act and the Child Protection Act.
- **Schools and pre-school care and education (both formal and non-formal, state and private)** – None; the general provisions of the Criminal Code apply.
- **Military schools** - None; the general provisions of the Criminal Code apply.
- **Institutions including care, residential, health and mental health** – The Child Protection Act, with specific reference to Children’s Homes.
- **The context of law and public order enforcement including in detention facilities or prisons** – The Criminal Code, through its provisions on penalties and restriction on use of “excessive force”.
- **The neighbourhood, street and the community, including in rural areas** – The Child Protection Act and the Criminal Code.
- **The workplace (informal and formal)** - None; the general provisions of the Criminal Code apply.
- **Sports and sporting facilities** – None; the general provisions of the Criminal Code apply.

5. Indicate if corporal punishment of children, in any setting, including in the family, is explicitly prohibited in your legal system. Provide details of any legal defences available to those who administer corporal punishment to children, including in the family. Provide information on penalties applicable to those who administer corporal punishment to children, including in the family.

Corporal punishment of children is allowed under both the Criminal Code and the Education Act.

Criminal Code:

(a) Use of Corporal Punishment

Section 54 of the Criminal Code provides for the use of “Justifiable Force” in the following circumstances, inter alia:

- Authority to execute the lawful sentence or order of a Court (Section 54(b));
- Authority to correct a child, servant or similar person for misconduct (Section 54(i)).

Section 55 sets general limits on the use of justifiable force and states that it should not be “in excess of the limits hereinafter prescribed”.

With respect to lawful sentences, Section 70 of the Criminal Code lists flogging and whipping as punishments that may be inflicted under the Code.

Specific references to children are made in Sections 74 and 75 which deal with punishment of “juvenile offenders’ i.e. children “...of or above the age of seven and under the age of sixteen years.” Such offenders “shall not be sentenced to flogging, but in lieu thereof he may be sentenced to be whipped.” This applies only to male

offenders as Section 75(2) provides that “no sentence of flogging or whipping shall be passed upon a female of any age...” and other penalties are prescribed.

(b) Legal Defences Available

Sections 65 to 69 of the Criminal Code provide legal defences for the “justifiable use of force.”

Education Act:

Section 53 of the Education Act provides detailed guidelines for the use of corporal punishment in schools, including provisions for administering corporal punishment to females and for guaranteeing the rights of parents who do not want corporal punishment administered to their children.

6. Provide information on whether the penal code permits corporal punishment and/or capital punishment as a sentence for crimes committed by under 18 year olds.

Refer to the answer for Question 5 above.

7. Provide details on whether bullying/hazing and sexual harassment are explicitly addressed by legislation.

There is no explicit reference to bullying/hazing or sexual harassment in the legislation.

8. Provide information on the way in which harmful or violent traditional practices, including but not limited to female genital mutilation, child marriage or honour crimes are addressed in your country.

These are not part of the cultural traditions in Grenada and are not explicitly addressed in the legislation. However, there are specific pieces of legislation which can be utilised in the event that some of these practices require a legislative response e.g. Child Marriages are unlawful under the Marriage Act which stipulates a minimum age of sixteen (16) for marriages; and female genital mutilation can be addressed under the provisions of the Criminal Code dealing with assault.

9. Provide information on the applicability of specific provisions to address all forms of violence against children to non-citizens and stateless children, including asylum seekers and displaced children. If specific provisions do not apply to such children, provide details of protection offered to them.

There are no specific provisions for violence against non-citizens, stateless children including asylum seekers and displaced children. The local law will be applied in all cases related to them.

10. Provide information on any difference in the definition of violence and the applicable legal framework according to:

a. The sex or sexual orientation of the victim and/or of the perpetrator;

The Criminal Code make distinctions in the legal framework applied for sexual-related forms of violence depending on the sex of the victim. Sections 177 to 183A of the Code applicable to “Rape and Similar Offences” specify that the

victims must be female. The Code is silent on cases involving male victims in these situations.

b. The age of the victim and /or of the perpetrator;

The Criminal Code provides for different penalties to be applied depending on the age of the victim, viz:

- Section 81 (2) provides for imprisonment of six(6) months or a fine of two thousand dollars for aggravated assault of a child whose age does not exceed fourteen years; and for imprisonment of three months or a fine of one thousand dollars for assault against any other person(s).
- Section 178 provides for imprisonment of fifteen years for "whoever unlawfully and carnally knows any female under thirteen years of age, whether with or without her consent..."
- Section 179 provides for imprisonment of five years for a similar crime if the age of the female is "... of or above thirteen years and under sixteen years of age..."
- Section 183A and 183C provides for imprisonment for fifteen years for incest with children under thirteen years of age.

c. The relationship between the victim and the perpetrator, including, but not limited to infanticide, sexual violence in marriage, incest and sexual abuse within the family, and physical chastisement.

There are no differences in the definition of violence or the applicable legal framework resulting from the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator.

11. Provide information on any recent comprehensive review of the legal framework to address violence against children.

There has been no targeted review of the legal framework to specifically address violence against children. However there are three recent initiatives in which some aspects of the law relating to violence against children will have been reviewed, viz:

- The process for the drafting and passage of the Domestic Violence Act included a review of some aspects of the legislation on violence against children.
- The GNCRC initiated a review of Grenada's laws related to children to assess their compatibility with the CRC provisions. That review also addressed some aspects of the laws related to violence against children.
- Grenada is participating in the OECS Family Law and Domestic Violence reform project, which is reviewing the Family law provisions in the OECS and supporting social structures. Its mandate includes a review of laws related to violence against children.

12. Provide information on any studies and surveys which have been undertaken to assess the impact of legal measures to address violence against children.

There have not been any studies to assess the impact of legal measures to address violence against children.

Courts tasked with addressing violence against children

13. Identify those parts of the court structure in your country tasked with addressing violence against children. Indicate if your family or juvenile courts have specific responsibility for this issue.

The jurisdiction for handling matters related to violence against children varies with the legislation under which the matter is processed, viz:

- Criminal Code – High Court and Magistrate’s Court
- Child Protection Act – High Court
- Domestic Violence Act – Magistrate’s Court

There is no specific family or juvenile court. Family and juvenile days are held in the magistrate’s courts on two days per month.

It must be noted here that this is deemed inadequate by the members of the legal profession and the social workers, as the caseload is very heavy and is rarely completed within the allotted time. In addition, the atmosphere in the courts is neither child-friendly nor supportive of children who come to the court as victims of a crime.

Minimum age for sexual activity

14. Provide information on any legislatively defined minimum age required for valid consent to sexual activity. Is this age different for girls and boys? Is this age different in respect of heterosexual and homosexual activities?

The minimum defined age for sexual activity is sixteen years. The law refers to “females”, does not make any reference to males and does not make any distinction between homosexual and heterosexual activities.

15. Provide information on the minimum age of marriage for women and men.

The Marriage Act specifies that the minimum age of marriage is twenty one (21). Persons can be married at eighteen (18) years of age but have to obtain consent from a parent or legal guardian to do so.

Sexual exploitation of children

16. Provide information on legislation and other measures to prevent the commercial sexual exploitation of children, including through prostitution and other unlawful sexual activities. Provide details on means to ensure that child victims of such exploitation are not criminalized. Provide information on legislation or other measures to prohibit all forms of sale or trafficking in children, including by their parents.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: Section 188 of the Criminal Code contains provisions outlawing prostitution and other unlawful carnal connection, specifically for “females under twenty one years of age” (Section 188(a)) and females in general (Sections 188 (b), (c), (d)).

Child Victims Not Criminalized: There are no provisions in this regard.

Sale or Trafficking in Children: There are no specific provisions in the Criminal Code dealing with sale or trafficking of children. Section 185 deals with the stealing of

children under twelve years of age whether with or without his consent. This is punishable by ten (10) years imprisonment.

Pornography and harmful information

17. Provide information on legislation and other measures to prohibit the production, possession and dissemination of child pornography. In particular, please provide information on any controls on pornography produced and/or disseminated via the internet.

There is no specific legislation on production, possession and dissemination of child pornography.

18. Provide information on any legislation or guidelines to protect children from injurious information and material transmitted through the media, Internet, videos, electronic games, etc.

There is no legislation or guidelines to protect children from injurious information and material transmitted through the media, internet, videos, electronic games and the like.

Reporting obligations relating to violence against children

19. Provide information on legislation, regulations or administrative directives requiring reporting of all forms of violence against and abuse of children in all settings to appropriate bodies. If reporting legislation, regulations or administrative directives exist, please indicate whether all citizens are required to report, or whether the obligation falls on certain professional groups only. Provide details of any sanctions for non-reporting.

There is no legislation, regulations or administrative directives requiring reporting of all forms of violence against and abuse of children in all settings to appropriate bodies. Recommendations for the institution of mandatory reporting have been made but to date have not been implemented.

Complaints procedures

20. Provide information on any complaints procedures relating to all forms of violence against children perpetrated in:

- **The family/ home;**
- **Schools and pre-school care and education (both formal and non-formal, state and private);**
- **Military schools;**
- **Institutions, state and private, including care, residential, health and mental health;**
- **The context of law and public order enforcement including in detention facilities or prisons;**
- **The neighbourhood, street and the community, including in rural areas;**
- **The workplace (informal and formal);**
- **Sports and sporting facilities.**

There are no formal complaints procedures in place relating to all form of violence against children. A Child Abuse Protocol addressing this and other issues was drafted in January 2004 on an initiative from the GNCRC, but this has not yet been implemented. The current approach to handling complaints is summarised in the following table, viz:

PROCESS	INSTITUTIONS	RECORD-KEEPING	ACTION TAKEN	OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS	LEGAL CONSTRAINTS
Reporting	- Referrals by the Police or other interested party to Social Development or Child Welfare Authority - Direct request by client	- Based on officer's discretion. - Standard report form exists but is not used - CWA has standard intake form	- Referred to a specific case officer	- Weak documentation - No Register	
Processing	- Social Development - Child Welfare Authority	- None - CWA has referral form	- Interviews with client and current caregiver	- Weak Documentation - No Register - No place of safety to hold child, while case being processed	- Slow processing of Protection Orders. Cannot get Interim Protection orders
Assessment	Social Development	- No standard requirements or formats	- Recommend action to Chief Welfare Officer	- Weak documentation - Staff constraints in terms of numbers and in terms of skills	
Intervention	- Police - Child Welfare Authority - Children's Homes - NCH		- Legal action - Placement in institutional care, with relatives, or other form of refuge	- No care plans - No staff time for counseling - No support staff at CWA - Weak counseling skills	- Slow processing of Protection Orders. Officers rely on goodwill to avoid prosecution, when taking action. - Slow court process - Difficult to prove mental/emotional harm - Different police interpretations re admission of evidence
Monitoring	- Social Development - Child Welfare Authority	- None	- Visits to child	- Visits infrequent due to lack of procedures, and time constraints	
Closure/Followup	- Social Development	- None	- Verbal closure	- No requirements or procedures	

21. Indicate whether children or persons acting on their behalf can access these procedures. Indicate whether legal aid is available to facilitate submission of complaints, and the circumstances in which legal aid will be available.

- (a) Children, or persons acting on their behalf, can make reports to any of the agencies involved.
- (b) There is no formal legal aid provided by the Government to facilitate submission of complaints. There is an independent Legal Aid and Counselling Clinic (LACC) operated by a non-governmental organisation, which will provide such services to persons in need.

22. Describe steps which have been taken to raise awareness of possibilities to submit complaints about violence against children.

A number of steps have been taken to raise awareness of possibilities to submit complaints including:

- Annual observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month in April of every year since 1998. This activity is coordinated by the GNCRC and includes high profile media, community and school activities aimed at raising awareness of child abuse and the options available in responding to it.
- Media spots by the Ministry of Social Development encouraging persons to report cases of child abuse and promoting the use of the Child Abuse Hotline to do so.

23. Provide information on any special procedural or evidentiary rules which may apply in proceedings with respect to violence against children.

Evidentiary rules are not child specific and the general rules applicable are those provided under the Evidence Act. The only exception is for cases under the Domestic Violence Act, which, in Section 18, provides for "Special Measures in case of vulnerable witnesses" and gives the court the prerogative to "... take such measures as it considers necessary to safeguard the integrity of the evidence being given by the witness." In this light, the measures that can be used include recording of the evidence by video camera or similar means and permitting cross examination by video link or with the use of screens.

24. Provide information on the usual outcome of complaints of violence against children (e.g. compensation, punishment of perpetrators, perpetrator rehabilitation, family therapy).

The outcomes of complaints of violence against children can take many forms, viz:

- *Charges Not Been Laid* – This is a common occurrence, where the family of the children are persuaded to drop charges either by out of court settlements; or where the family does not follow-up on pressing charges because it lacks the resources to do so; or where the family agrees to drop the charges as a result of some form of persuasion.
- *Compensation* – Compensation to children or their families is rare.
- *Punishment of Perpetrators* – While there have been some instances of punishment of perpetrators, this is more the exception than the rule. This is particularly applicable to the High Court, where the criminal proceedings are heard. The defence lawyers take a very intimidating approach to questioning the child victim, who more often than not, gives in to the pressure and is declared an unfit witness, resulting in the case being dismissed or the perpetrator not being punished.
- *Perpetrator Rehabilitation* – There are no examples of this outcome having taken place in recent times.
- *Family Therapy* - This is done to a limited extent by the Legal Aid and Counselling Clinic and the Child Welfare Authority. However, neither agency has the resources to consistently provide these services at the level required.

25. Provide information on the usual outcome of legal proceedings in which children and juveniles are found guilty of perpetrating violence (e.g. imprisonment, corporal punishment, community service, perpetrator rehabilitation, family therapy).

The usual outcome of legal proceedings where children and juveniles are found guilty of perpetrating violence varies according to the crime and the age of the child. Common outcomes include a reprimand, an order to pay compensation to the aggrieved party, family therapy, and community service. The systems to support the latter two sentences are very weak and they cannot be applied as frequently as needed.

The Criminal Code provides for the establishment of an Industrial School to be used in such instances and the Government has declared its intention to establish a juvenile facility to which such perpetrators can be sent.

Imprisonment is also used, but is reserved for repeat offenders.

II. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND RESOURCES TO ADDRESS VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

The aim of this section is to establish if your country has an institution coordinating multi-sectoral activities concerning violence against children, which include prevention, protection, redress, reintegration and rehabilitation.

26. Are there any Governmental authorities, structures and mechanisms, including at federal, state/provincial, municipal and local level which are currently responsible for addressing violence against children?

If YES, identify these authorities, structures and mechanisms and describe how coordination is ensured.

(a) Governmental Agencies

There are a number of governmental agencies responsible for addressing violence against children. These include the Ministry of Social Development and the Child Welfare Authority. The roles of these agencies have already been detailed in answer to question 20 and will not be repeated here.

(b) Coordination

There are no formal structures and mechanisms to ensure coordination between these agencies. This has been recognised by all the key stakeholders and a Child Abuse Protocol addressing this and other issues was drafted in January 2004 on an initiative from the GNCRC. The Protocol has not yet been implemented, with the result that the uncoordinated approach still prevails.

27. Is there a lead Government authority tasked with responsibility for addressing violence against children?

If YES, provide details.

There is no authority that has the express legal authority for addressing violence against children. Leadership on such issues has been assumed by the Ministry of Social Development which uses as appropriate, the Child Protection Act, the Domestic Violence Act, or the Criminal Code as the legal basis for their actions.

The Child Protection Act also established the Child Welfare Authority and gave it the legal authority to oversee the protection of children in child care and foster homes. However, the stated intention of the Act was "to provide for the protection of children generally and for matters connected therewith". In this context, the draft Child Abuse protocol concludes that "... the Act, when read in its entirety intended to give the Child Welfare Authority the role of a full-blown Child Protection agency with all the associated powers to protect vulnerable children, including the power to remove children from abusive homes."³

The Protocol is there based "... on the premise that the Child Welfare Authority is the primary agency for fulfilling Grenada's child protection mandate. This Agency secures the right to exercise any and all of the Child Protection powers contemplated in the Child Protection Act including the authority to receive and investigate reports of child abuse; remove children to a place of safety; place and supervise children in foster homes and child care homes; provide counselling and other relevant child protection interventions."⁴

³ National Child Abuse Protocol (Draft), pg. 9

⁴ Ibid, pg. 9- 10

28. Are specific financial and/or human resources allocated by your country to address violence generally?

If YES, indicate the extent of these allocations.

The Government does not provide specific resources to address violence in general.

29. Does your country allocate specific financial and/or human resources to activities to address violence against children?

If YES, provide details.

The Government does not provide specific resources to address violence against children as a specific issue. However, it provides financial support to the lead agencies involved in addressing violence against children by financing the operations of the Child Welfare Authority and the Ministry of Social Development and providing annual subventions to the GNCRC, NCH Action for Children and the LACC, which assist in meeting their annual operating costs.

Only data for 2004 was readily available due to the damage caused to files and documentation by hurricane Ivan. The allocations made for 2004 period were:

AGENCY	2004 ALLOCATIONS (EC\$)
Ministry of Social Development⁵	339,356
Child Welfare Authority	170,000
GNCRC	38,000
LACC	50,000
NCH Action for Children	30,000

30. Do international or bilateral donors provide resources to your country for activities to address violence against children?

If YES, indicate the extent of these resources and the way in which they are used.

Grenada has received support from the UNICEF Caribbean Area Office which has financed a number of initiatives that address violence against children through the GNCRC. These include the annual observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month in April, public education materials and activities, as well as the development of the Child Abuse Protocol.

The funds received in the 2000 – 2003 period include:

ACTIVITY	FUNDS (US\$)
2000	5,315
2001	2,000
2002	13,345
2003	14,396

⁵ Social Services Division, excluding Grants and Contributions

31. Does your country provide any assistance to other countries' efforts to respond to the problem of violence against children?

If YES, provide details.

Grenada is part of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and participates in OECS activities and programming, including the sharing of experiences on relevant issues. Grenada is a participant in the ongoing OECS Family Law and Domestic Violence reform process and has shared its experiences on violence against children as part of this process.

32. If your country has a national human rights institution, such as a human rights commission or ombudsman, or a child-specific human rights institution, does it have any role or competence in the area of violence against children, including receiving complaints?

If YES, provide details.

Grenada does not have a human rights commission or an ombudsman or a child-specific human rights institution. It does have a national human rights institution – The Grenada Human Rights Organisation. That organisation does not play any role in the area of violence against children, nether does it have the competence to do so.

33. Are there any particular parliamentary structures (for example special committees) to address violence against children?

If YES, provide details.

There are no permanent parliamentary structures set up to address violence against children. There is the precedence of a special Cabinet Committee having been set up to review specific aspects of the social services delivery system in the aftermath of a specific case of violence against children.

34. Have there been any recent parliamentary initiatives to address violence against children?

If YES, please give details.

There have not been any recent parliamentary initiatives to address violence against children.

III. ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

The aim of this section is to elicit information on civil society activities relating to violence against children.

35. Describe significant civil society initiatives addressing violence against children in your country, including the types of institutions involved (such as academic institutions, professional associations, women's associations, student associations, community-based groups, faith-based groups, child and youth-led groups, trade unions, employer's organizations, national non-governmental organizations, international non-governmental organizations) and the major activities engaged in (including advocacy, awareness raising, research, prevention, rehabilitation and treatment of children harmed by violence, provision of services, provision of resources).

There are two major civil society organisations that address violence against children, viz:

- *The GNCRC* - The GNCRC is registered non-profit organisation comprised of government and NGO organisations working on issues related to the welfare of children. Its prime focus has been in the arena of awareness-raising and advocacy for children's rights and it has done significant work on the subject of violence against children. Activities have included:
 - The designation of the month of April of each year as "Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month", starting in 1998. During that month, high profile activities are held through the state aimed at highlighting the problem of child abuse and advocating for efforts to combat it.
 - The publication and dissemination of a Child Abuse Handbook in 1999, and a revision of the handbook in 2003. That Handbook provides general information on Child Abuse as well as guidelines for handling cases that one may come in contact with.
 - Educational sessions at school and community level on child abuse.
 - Media programs/discussions on child abuse in newspapers, radio and television.
 - Airing of radio jingles on the "Prevention of Child Abuse" on four (4) radio stations.
- *NCH Action for Children* - is a non-governmental organisation whose prime focus is to provide foster homes for children in need of protection. It is the only foster care agency in Grenada and operates in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development and the Child Welfare Authority. It is also very active in the area of awareness-raising and advocacy for children's rights in general and on the subject of violence against children, in particular.

36. Describe the support provided by your Government for these activities and the efforts made to coordinate civil society and government initiatives.

(a) Support

The support that Government has provided to the GNCRC and NCH Action for Children has already been detailed in the answer to Q. 29.

(b) Coordination

There are no formal structures in place for coordination between civil society and government initiatives, and the limited coordination that takes place is purely voluntary in nature. An effort was initiated with the drafting of the Child Abuse Protocol in January 2004 on an initiative from the GNCRC. The Protocol has not yet been implemented, with the result that the uncoordinated approach still prevails.

37. Describe the role played by the media in addressing violence against children.

The media does not play any structured or proactive role in addressing violence against children. In fact, the media is sometimes accused of sensationalising incidents of violence against children and displaying insensitivity in their reporting.

Notwithstanding this, they have cooperated with the relevant agencies whenever they have been asked to do so, by running specific programmes, printing articles and the like, upon request.

IV. CHILDREN AS ACTORS IN ADDRESSING VIOLENCE

This section is designed to extract information on children's activities to address violence.

38. Provide information on the involvement and consultation of children in designing activities, and in implementation and monitoring of programmes and policies to address violence against them. Provide details, including ages and other details of the children involved.

The involvement of children in designing activities and in implementing and monitoring programs and policies to address violence against them has been done primarily by the GNCRC through its outreach programming in schools and through its Youth Arm.

This Youth Arm is made up of children between the ages of eleven and eighteen who are mentored by an assigned GNCRC member, and who are encouraged to participate in the activities and programming of the GNCRC.

A highlight of their involvement in decision-making was their participation in the GNCRC submission to the National Constitutional Review Committee. They participated in meetings of the GNCRC sub-Committee that prepared the submission and the final presentation to the Constitutional Review Committee on October 16, 2003, on inclusion of children's rights within the national constitution, was made by three (3) of their members.

39. Describe the involvement, if any, of children in designing special procedural or evidentiary rules applying in court proceedings with respect to hearings concerning violence against children. Provide details including ages and other details of the children involved.

There are no instances of children having been involved in designing special procedural or evidentiary rules to apply in court proceedings with respect to hearings concerning violence against children.

40. Describe the amount and type of resources made available to support children's participation in activities to address violence against children.

There is no specific budget to support children's participation in activities to address violence against children. The activities of the GNCRC Youth Arm are financed out of the GNCRC general budget and form part of the modus operandi of the GNCRC.

V. POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES TO ADDRESS VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

A comprehensive policy for dealing with violence against children is one that addresses multiple forms of violence against children, that works across the different settings in which violence occurs, and which includes components for prevention, protection, victim medical, psychological, legal and social assistance, victim rehabilitation and reintegration, and perpetrator interventions. Such policy is distinguished from specific programmes that address selected sub-types of violence against children or its effects in specific populations and settings.

41. Does your Government have a comprehensive policy concerning violence against children?

If YES, provide details and describe any gender-specific provisions included in the policy.

The Government of Grenada does not have a comprehensive, written policy concerning violence against children. Officials at various levels have made public pronouncements indicating Government's support for actions that would deter violence against children, but these have not been translated into a formal written policy.

42. Does your Government deliver, or provide direct support for delivery by other agencies, of specific programmes aimed at preventing and responding to violence against children?

If YES, please provide available summary reports, or URLs, of these programmes, and indicate, using the table below, which settings and types of violence are addressed by these programmes:

	Physical	Sexual	Psychologica l	Neglect
Family/Home	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC
Schools	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC
Institutions	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC
Neighbourhood/ Community	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC	CWA/MSD/ NCH/GNCRC
Workplace				
Law enforcement				
Other				

The roles of the Child Welfare Authority (CWA), the Ministry of Social Development (MSD), the NCH Action for Children and the Grenada Coalition for the Rights of the Child (GNCRC) as well as summaries of their programming have been discussed in preceding sections of this document.

43. Does your Government monitor the impact of these policies and programmes directed towards violence against children? If YES, describe the monitoring systems and provide a URL or other reference where the system and outcomes are described in greater details.

There is no systematic monitoring of the impact of these policies and programs.

44. Does your Government participate in any internationally coordinated activities concerning violence against children? If YES, please provide details.

Grenada participates in the observance of the month of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

VI. DATA COLLECTION, ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH

This section aims to provide an overview of information systems and information about violence against children that may be used to inform, plan and monitor policy, legal and programmatic interventions concerning violence against children.

45. Over the past five years, has there been any victimization, epidemiological or other population-based surveys of any forms of violence against children in your country?

If YES, provide details or references, or attach.

There has not been any victimization, epidemiological or other population-based surveys of any forms of violence against children in Grenada over the past five years.

46. Have there been any small-scale or representative interview studies with parents and children on violent victimisation of children?

If so, please give details.

There has not been any small-scale or representative interview studies with parents and children on violent victimisation of children.

47. Over the past five years, has your Government conducted or commissioned any scientific research projects on the problem of violence against children?

If YES, indicate the subject of this research and where the findings of these projects may be consulted in more detail.

The Government has not conducted or commissioned any scientific research projects on the problem of violence against children over the past five years.

48. Have studies or surveys been undertaken into the impact of legal measures to address violence against children?

If YES, provide details or references, or attach.

There have not been any studies or surveys undertaken into the impact of legal measures to address violence against children.

49. Does your Government have a system for formal inquiries into all child deaths in which it is known or suspected that violence may have played any part?

Child deaths in which it is known or suspected that violence may have played a part is treated in the same manner as other suspected acts of violence. The police will launch a formal investigation, and will file charges if the information unearthed is sufficient to support a criminal charge.

50. Are regular (e.g. annual) reports published describing the statistical profile of the known or suspected violent deaths investigated by the system?

No reports are published describing the statistical profile of the known or suspected violent deaths investigated by the system.

51.If reports on the national profile of known and suspected violent deaths are published by your Government, indicate how the data is broken down for the purpose of reporting (check all that apply):

Sex	
Age	
Ethnicity	
Manner of death (homicide, suicide, undetermined)	
External causes of death (firearm, strangulation, etc.)	
Geographical location of incident (address)	
Scene of occurrence (home, school, etc.)	
Time and date of incident	
Victim-perpetrator relationship	
Other:	

No reports are published.

52.Provide the total number of reported cases of violence against children in 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003.

There were 413 cases of violence against children recorded by the Ministry of Social Development for the period 2001 – 2003. The documentation containing the detailed analysis of the data was destroyed by hurricane Ivan and the analysis is only available for 2002 – see table.

TYPE OF ABUSE	2002
Sexual	32
Physical	22
Verbal/Psychological	8
Abandon/Neglect	57
Incest	3
TOTAL	122

Source: Ministry of Social Development

53.Provide the total number of convictions and reported cases for the various categories of crimes of violence recorded against children in 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003.

The data was not available.

VII. AWARENESS, ADVOCACY AND TRAINING

This section is aimed at gathering information on any awareness-raising, advocacy and training activities relating to violence against children which may have been conducted by your Government.

54. Over the last five years has your Government conducted or commissioned any campaigns for raising awareness of and preventing violence against children?

If YES, please describe any recent campaigns, including the settings and types of violence that were the subjects of the campaigns and the target audience (general public, caregivers, teachers, etc.).

The Government has not been involved in conducting or commissioning any campaigns for raising awareness of and preventing violence against children. The work in this area has been led by the Grenada National Coalition on the Rights of the Child as detailed above.

55. How were the campaign messages and information disseminated (check all that apply)?

Print media	✓
Radio	✓
Television	✓
Theatre	✓
Schools	✓
Others	

56. Over the last five years, has your Government provided, commissioned or sponsored training programmes in the area of violence against children?

If YES, indicate which of the following areas were addressed by the last such training programmes and which provider groups received training (check all that apply).

	Prevention	Protection	Redress	Rehabilitation	Penalties
Medical Professionals (including paediatricians, nurses, psychiatrists and dentists)					
Public health practitioners					
Social workers and Psychologists	✓	✓		✓	
Teachers and other educators					
Court officials (including judges)					
Police					
Prison officers					
Juvenile offenders personnel Institution personnel Parents/guardians	✓	✓		✓	
Other (please specify)					

Please provide details.

The Child Welfare Authority has conducted training workshops targeted at social workers and caregivers in institutions on the subjects of child protection and rehabilitation.