

# The consequences of violence towards children

UNCRC, article 19: every child has the right, under international law, to be free from *all* forms of violence.

## //////////////////// The Scale of the Problem

**53,000**<sup>1</sup>

**Child murders each year globally**

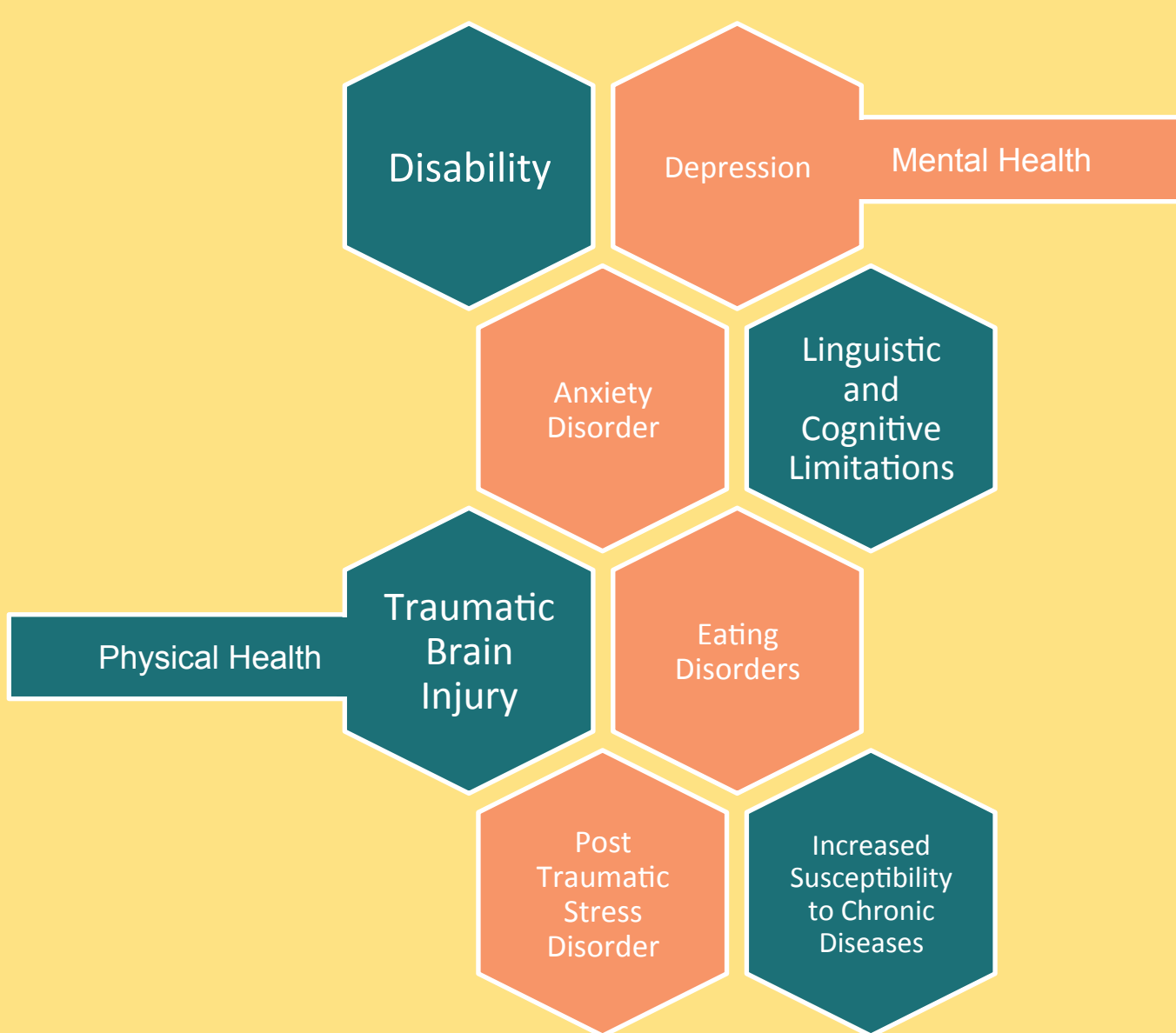
**150  
-2,400**<sup>2</sup>

**Cases of violence per murder**

### EU ANNUAL SNAPSHOT<sup>3</sup>

- 55 million suffer psychological abuse
- 44 million suffer physical abuse
- 18 million suffer sexual abuse
- 850 deaths associated with childhood violence

## //////////////////// Potential Risks to Health



## //////////////////// Socio-economic and behavioral consequences

**\$7 trillion**<sup>4</sup>

**GLOBAL ECONOMIC LOSS FROM VIOLENCE TOWARDS CHILDREN\***

\* Including health care costs, judicial costs, social services and a reduced productivity.

**55%**<sup>5</sup>

**MORE LIKELY TO EXPERIENCE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**

**25%**<sup>6</sup>

**MORE LIKELY TO BECOME A TEENAGE PARENT**

These are just some of the consequences which can result from violence towards children. While recovery is possible, governments and non-governmental agencies must immediately make available the financial resources necessary to implement effective preventative strategies.

Special measures are needed to protect the most vulnerable children: ethnic minorities, the LGBT community, the disabled, unaccompanied children, those in alternative care systems, those in the juvenile justice system.

Violence towards children can be perpetrated by children as well as adults. Victims of bullying are 9 times more likely to consider suicide than their non-bullied peers. More than 1/2 of children involved in bullying are both victims and perpetrators.<sup>7</sup>

Sources: 1) WHO: [http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/violence/activities/child\\_maltreatment/en/](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/activities/child_maltreatment/en/) 2) European Report on Preventing Child Maltreatment (2013) WHO 3) Violence towards children in the EU: Current Situation (2014) European Parliamentary Research Service 4) The costs and economic impact of violence against children (2014) Child Fund Alliance 5) Understanding child maltreatment and juvenile delinquency: the research, Wisdom 6) <http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/childmaltreatment/consequences.html> 7) Tackling violence in schools: a global perspective (2012) UNICEF