



# MÉTHOD'ARTS

PREVENTING VIOLENCE THROUGH ART



## DOCUMENTARY



# DOCUMENTARY

A documentary is an educational film or audio, which tells a story based on reality, as opposed to fiction. It is based on an issue or an opinion on a subject, may present a personality or a significant event, or as in this case, an issue in our society such as violence.

It enables participants to combine knowledge of informative text with production techniques, with the aim of informing, denouncing, investigating or introducing to a target audience” not showing.

A good documentary must raise questions. Both entertainment and a mode of expression, it requires learning the codes of cinema or radio to create and tell. The images and sounds can be descriptive, poetic, excerpts from archives or interviews, but they must all have a clear intention. Documentary work therefore requires organizational and editorial skills, as well as a good dose of ingenuity and creativity.

# THE DOCUMENTARY VIOLENCE PREVENTION WORKSHOP

Talking about violence with the participants through the making of a documentary allows them to be involved in a creation by following precise technical steps, while exploring the subject in depth.



## Human resources

### ***Two journalist hosts***



- Mastery of the theme of violence
- Excellent knowledge of the "do no harm" approach to reporting
- Consistent with the organization's values
- Caring and empathetic
- Experienced in training
- Serious and with good references
- Two journalists or documentary filmmakers animators

### ***A co-facilitator***



- Member of the organizing association
- In charge of violence awareness and logistics
- Excellent command of the theme of violence, ethics and "do no harm".
- Able to welcome participants and moderate discussions.

## Course of the workshop



Participants: 15 people, from 15 years old.



Duration: 1 to 2 months.



Inclusivity: Written materials should be considered if participants are hearing impaired.



## The preparation

1

### Identification of animators for the workshop :

- Contact local media and journalism training centres
- Invite journalists or documentary filmmakers to a presentation and discussion to share their views on the activity and gender-based violence.
- Select journalists via a panel from the organization following this meeting.



*This stage can sometimes take several months.*

2

### Organization of an awareness-raising session

Organize basic training for journalists on three key concepts: violence, equality and power, if journalists are not already trained on these issues.

3

### Planning the workshop

- Discuss the workshop program and plan activities in detail (location, duration, materials, division of tasks, etc.)
  - Decide collectively on how to close the workshop: place, date, guests, and method of feedback
- 🕒 3 to 4 sessions

4

### Identifying a venue for the workshop

- An indoor space
- A safe place for the expression of experiences, opinions and emotions
- Must allow the projection of videos and audio listening with a video projector and a good sound system
- Accessible to all persons with reduced mobility



*The room and equipment must be identified and acquired by the association organising the workshop, on the advice of the artist, in order to ensure the quality of the equipment. If the workshop takes place with pupils, a space can be envisaged within the school.*

5

### Organization of a violence awareness workshop for teachers

*If the workshop takes place in a school setting*

Raise awareness of the approach among the teaching staff and provide them with information on how to refer victims.

6

### Recruitment of participants

Via local associations, WhatsApp groups, posters, or the school system depending on the target group pre-identified by the project.

Be careful if the workshop is to take place in schools, give enough time to get an agreement of the teacher, then of the staff in charge (guidance counsellor, education counsellor, teachers...).

7

### Organization of an information session for parents

*If the workshop is held with teenagers*

Get the parents' consent to ensure the teenagers' presence at the workshop.



## Course of the workshop

1

### Introduction

- Introduction of the facilitators and participants
- Introduction to the theme of the workshop
- Presentation of examples of final works. Invite students to draw inspiration from them, analyse them
- Share modalities (time, place, contact persons in case of absence, final feedback)
- Formulation of expectations and concerns by the participants
- Creation of working groups

🕒 1 session



*Participants should leave this first meeting with the feeling that they have found a safe place with caring people.*

2

### Presentation of key concepts

- Introduction to the concepts of equality, power and (gender-based) violence
- Raising awareness of the lexicon of violence
- Creating an environment for dialogue

🕒 1 session

3

### Ethics in journalism

- Explanation of the rules of journalism ethics
- Introduction to rules of anonymity, confidentiality and consent
- Introduction to the "do no harm" approach: how to approach and interview your interlocutors
- Introduction to resource persons, explanation of the difference between primary and secondary sources

🕒 1 to 2 sessions



*Organizations are advised to obtain prior agreement from several resource persons to participate in the documentaries. It is not advisable to encourage participants to interview survivors of gender-based violence in order not to harm them.*

4

### Technical training

- Introduction to the equipment available
- Introduction to editing software
- Sharing tips for shooting and sound

🕒 1 to 2 sessions

5

### Filming on your own

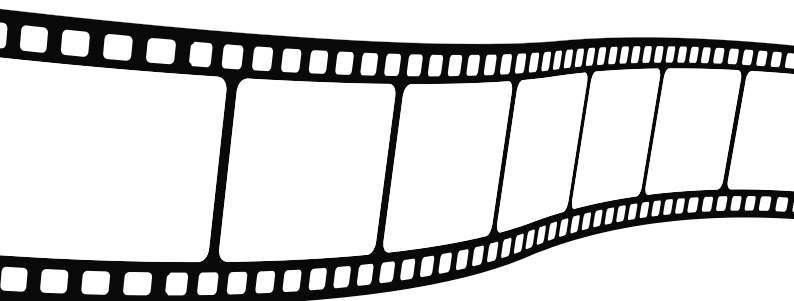
- Participants define the topic, choose an angle/issue, research, write a script, prepare a storyboard, select their resource persons, prepare their interviews and start shooting
- Validation of the resource persons by facilitators
- Validation of the interview questions by facilitators
- Independent editing

1 month

*Plan for 3-4 days of availability so that participants can ask for support.*

## Submission of final work

- The final productions are given to facilitators on a USB key
- Comments and advice are given and participants are given a week to make corrections
- The facilitators meet to determine the 3 best documentaries based on:
  - The issue raised, its clarity and the response provided by the documentary
  - The quality of the interviews
  - The use of appropriate vocabulary
  - The quality of the production (does it serve its subject well?)



### After the workshop

#### Organization of a closing event

The closing event is an opportunity to screen the winning documentaries and to present the project, the workshop and its objectives to a large audience. At this event, the participants are invited to share their experiences in creating their documentary.

If several artistic activities have been carried out within the same community, a common performance can be envisaged to highlight the work of the participants: reading of texts, presentation of paintings, etc.

This step has proved to be fundamental for the valorization of the work of the members of the workshop and also to widen the impact of the project. It is also an opportunity to pass on information about violence and the helplines for victims.



*In order to reach a maximum number of people, good communication of the event should be considered by the organization.*



### Evaluation

A quick test is carried out during the first session of the workshop and during the last session on the themes related to violence to check that the participants have acquired the right knowledge. The last session is also an opportunity to collect the participants' opinions on the workshop as a whole.



## Materials needed



Good quality cameras or phones



An audio recorder



Paper / pencil



A classroom



A video projector and a computer



Depending on the context: budget for transportation of participants for the shooting of the documentary





## Resources for further informations

- Impe, A.-M. (2019). Reporting on violence against women and girls: a handbook for journalists. UNESCO.
- Youtube Creators. (2018, Sept 11). Total Beginner's Guide to Video Editing [Video]. Youtube.

*For more resources,  
scan this QR code.*





*Founded in 1993, Médecins du Monde Switzerland is a medical association of solidarity active in several countries around the world, including Switzerland. In 2022, MdM Switzerland undertook experience capitalization work on violence prevention workshops through art implemented since 2016 in Benin, Cameroon and Mexico. Similar Method'art sheets on photography, theatre, puppetry, writing/slam, and painting are available at:*

<https://medecinsdumonde.ch/news/atelier-prevenir-la-violence-a-travers-art>

For more information on Médecins du Monde.  
[www.medecinsdumonde.ch](http://www.medecinsdumonde.ch)

**FEDERATION  
VAUDOISE  
COOPERATION**



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## **Thanks to :**

- Ambe Macmillan, Freelance Journalist
- Prof Henry Z. MULUH, Associate Professor of Journalism, University of Bamenda, Cameroon
- Adoration, Brandy, Noella, Norah and Chris workshop participants who shared their experience with us
- The Médecins du Monde Switzerland team in Cameroon, especially Singeh Helen Jokem

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