



Justice, Peace and Dignity



The *SASA! Faith* Approach

1 in 3 women

experience **physical or sexual** violence in their lifetime,
most often at the hands of an **intimate partner**, and often
combined with **economic and emotional** violence.

HITTING BEATING **SLAPPING** BURNING PUNCHING RAPE **FORCEDSEX**
SHOUTING **THREATS** ISOLATION INTIMIDATION INFIDELITY SEXUAL
ASSAULT CONTROLLING BEHAVIOR **TAKING MONEY** EXCLUDING
FROM FINANCIAL DECISIONS PREVENTING INCOME EARNING
ABANDONMENT



The Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) said, “The best of you is the **best to his wives**, and I am the best of you to my wives.”

— Al-Tirmidhi hadith 4269, alt. Vol. 1, Book 46, hadith 3895

“Husbands, **love your wives** and do not be harsh with them.”

— Holy Bible, Colossians 3:19

WHY?

Because **SILENCE** has suggested it's permissible and should be tolerated.

If we put our **faith** into **action**,
we can break the silence,
bringing an end to the consequences of
violence against women.

Violence against women is both **cause** and **consequence** of **HIV**.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), AIDS is the leading cause of death among women of reproductive age in developing countries.

Violence against women **hurts** the **FAITH COMMUNITY.**



Injuries/sickness

Depression

Lack of
participation

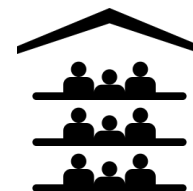
Death



Lost family income
(property damage,
hospital bills, etc.)

Poor role modeling for
children

Family breakages/
separation



Absence of women from
church/mosque

Poor reputation of
faith community when
violence known

Burden on religious
leaders handling disputes

Why does **violence against women** happen?

It happens because some men use
power over women
and the rest of us stay silent.

POWER

can be used **positively** or **negatively**.

Using **power over** another person is an **injustice**.

In our community, some men often use power over women. This creates fear and violence.

We can **use our collective power positively** to stop violence against women.

Religious leaders, as the voices of faith, have the power to guide their communities to **justice, peace and dignity.**

"Indeed, Allah orders justice and good conduct and giving to relatives and forbids immorality and bad conduct and oppression. He admonishes you that perhaps you will be reminded."

— Holy Quran, Surah 16: An-Nahal 90

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace."

— Holy Bible, Colossians 3:15

SASA! Faith

is a tool that supports religious leaders in engaging **everyone** in a journey of change.

Everyone =

Religious leaders, elders, female and male faith community members, youth groups, faith-based service providers, religious media, and more



All who participate in faith-based activities led by many different members of the religious community



To encourage reflection and open discussion, build awareness and understanding, create systems of support, and join together to take action

SASA! Faith
is about living the values of

JUSTICE,
PEACE and
DIGNITY.

Living the values of
JUSTICE, PEACE and DIGNITY.

JUSTICE

Our faith calls on us to act justly with others, and to work for justice in our religious community.

In ***SASA! Faith***, the value of justice is seen in the belief that all people have equal worth and value, no matter who they are—Christian or Muslim, rich or poor, educated or not, female or male, all ethnicities, etc.

Living the values of
JUSTICE, PEACE and DIGNITY.

PEACE

Our faith calls on us to live in peace with one another.

In **SASA! Faith**, the value of peace is seen in the belief that all people should live in safety and free of fear. Living with violence or the threat of violence robs a person of peace.

Living the values of
JUSTICE, PEACE and DIGNITY.

DIGNITY

Our faith calls on us to recognize each person's inherent dignity. Each person is born with "fitrah" in Islam, or as a "Child of God" in Christianity; therefore, we are each called to treat each other in a way that recognizes each person's innate dignity.

SASA! Faith shares this value, and recognizes that, when violence is present, people cannot live with dignity. Balancing power between women and men helps us to restore each person's honor, respect and dignity.

What is the opportunity for **RELIGIOUS LEADERS?**

Leading **real** change.

Leading **respectful** change.

Leading **supported** change.

Being **models of** change.

What is the **opportunity** for **religious leaders**?

Leading **real** change

SASA! Faith supports **religious leaders** in understanding where to **START**, and how to carry their communities through a gradual journey of change that will have a **lasting affect on people's lives**.

Example: Religious leaders learn about *SASA! Faith* and help build its network.

What is the **opportunity** for **religious leaders**?

Leading **respectful** change

SASA! Faith helps **religious leaders** become **AWARE** of not blaming and shaming men who are using violence, nor women who are living with violence, HIV or AIDS. Instead, SASA! Faith provides tools for actively engaging both women and men in **understanding the benefits of change for all**.

Example: Religious leaders give sermons, homilies or talks, or lead prayer groups on violence against women and HIV.

What is the **opportunity** for **religious leaders**?

Leading **supported** change

SASA! Faith helps **religious leaders** strengthen their faith communities' power to **SUPPORT** each other through change.

Example: Religious leaders include discussions of violence and HIV in premarital counseling, and support couples to live without violence.

What is the **opportunity** for **religious leaders**?

Being **models of** change

SASA! Faith helps **religious leaders** use their words and **ACTIONS** to be **models of change** for **their communities**.

Example: Religious leaders work with the faith community to create rules on nonviolence in the church or mosque.

SASA! Faith can work!

SASA! is a **community mobilization approach** used in over 25 countries that has proven to prevent violence against women.

SASA! Faith is an **adaption of the original *SASA! Activist Kit***, based on the teachings of the Holy Bible and the Holy Quran, and rooted in the work of well-known theologians and scholars of both major religions.

SASA! Faith isn't a **project of an organization with another mission in mind**. It is **for faith communities**, and it is designed to be used and adapted based on our faith community's particular reality.





With ***SASA! Faith***, you can engage others in better living the values of our faith.

SASA! Faith starts with you.