

## Theoretical Frameworks

There are many proposed explanations for the link between boys' experiences of violence and future perpetration of IPV. Three of these explanations are listed below.

### Trauma Theory:

- Child maltreatment related to onset post-traumatic stress symptoms/disorder (PTSS/D).
- PTSS/D increases risk of internalizing (e.g. depression) and externalizing (e.g. aggression) symptoms.
- Unresolved trauma linked to dysregulation of anger and arousal, elevation of negative emotions, poor emotional regulation skills and interpretation of social interactions as more threatening (all risks factors IPV perpetration).

### Social Learning Theory:

- Attitudes and behaviours learned in family environment.
- Violence learned, normalized and legitimized.

### Attachment Theory:

- Violence disrupts secure attachment.
- Relationships come to be viewed as unpredictable/dangerous.
- Children develop hostile orientation toward others, which turn into violent behaviours in adulthood.