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| Title | **Rutabikangwa and Nyirakamana: A Story About Domestic Violence** |
| Objective | •Recognise and define forms of domestic violence  •Understand the consequences of gender-based violence |
| Target audience | Mixed groups of men and women |
| Group size | 12 |
| Estimated time | 60 minutes |
| Materials | None |
| Printouts/downloadable resources | * [Story about Rutabikangwa and Nyirakamana](https://www.threemountains.academy/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/A-story-Rutabikangwa-and-Nyirakamana.docx) * [Group questions handout](https://www.threemountains.academy/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Group-questions-Rutabikangwa-and-Nyirakamana.docx) |
| Source | [MIGEPROF gender-based violence training module](http://www.migeprof.gov.rw/fileadmin/_migrated/content_uploads/GBV_Training_MODULE_English_Version.pdf),  [*Raising Voices*](http://raisingvoices.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/downloads/Innovation/Creating_Methodologies/RethinkingDomesticViolenceTrainingGuide/Section_2.pdf) |

**1. Steps:**

Introduction (15 minutes)

* Ask the group to sit in a circle.
* Read the story about Rutabikangwa and Nyirakamana to the group. Clearly explain before you begin that this is an imaginary story.

Whole group work (15 minutes)

* Facilitate a group discussion on the following questions:
* What are the short-term consequences for Nyirakamana living in this kind of relationship?
* What are the long-term consequences for Nyirakamana?
* How might this treatment make Nyirakamana feel about herself?
* How might it make her feel about her husband and their relationship?
* How did it affect Nyirakamana’s relationship with other people in the community (i.e. friends and neighbours)?
* Can you identify the four types of gender-based violence in this story?

Small group work (10 minutes)

Divide the group in half.

* Ask the first group to think about the consequences of gender-based violence on the family’s children.
* Ask the second group to think about the consequences of gender-based violence on Rutabikangwa.

Give each group either the questions handout about Rutabikangwa or the children.

Whole group work (20 minutes)

* Ask each group to report back on the findings of their discussion.
* Conclude the session by discussing the following questions with the whole group:

We have looked at an imaginary story today, but:

* Does domestic violence really happen in our communities?
* Do you see it happening in your own neighbourhood?
* Why do people keep quiet about it?

**3. Key message**:

Gender-based violence often happens within families. Many survivors of gender-based violence are too ashamed to talk about it, and many friends and neighbours either don’t notice or don’t feel it’s appropriate to ask. This exercise looks at an imaginary story which helps participants understand the consequences of gender-based violence for survivors, children and perpetrators.

**4. Notes for facilitators:**

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| Make sure that all participants can hear you clearly when you read the story. It is a good idea to read the story twice, in case anyone missed something. You can also give participants a printed copy of the story.  There are four types of domestic violence presented in this story:  **Physical**: Rutabikangwa beats Nyirakamana and makes her sleep outside.  **Emotional**: Rutabikangwa makes Nyirakamana feel unworthy of the dowry he bestowed on her parents and uses this to manipulate her behaviour.  **Sexual**: Rutabikangwa forces Nyirakamana to have sex when she doesn’t want to.  **Economic**: Rutabikangwa takes the money that Nyirakamana has earned and spends it on himself.  The consequences of gender-based violence are numerous. Participants might come up with a long list of consequences, such as depression, suicide, arrest, etc. or they might be quite general about the consequences. At the end of the session, make sure that you direct the discussion towards their own communities. |