

Important!

A report, police investigation and court proceedings cause considerable inconvenience and additional difficulties for the perpetrators. Perpetrators of violence must know that they will be held accountable for their actions. The police are there around the clock, the fastest way is to **call 110**.



If you yourself are threatened or attacked:

→ PREPARE YOURSELF!

Prepare yourself for possible threatening situations: Act out situations for yourself and in conversation with others. **Be clear about the personal risk** you are prepared to take. It is better to alert the police immediately (tel. 110) and call for help than to be unable to decide whether to intervene or not and do nothing at all.



→ STAY CALM!

Avoid panic and hectic and, if possible, **do not make any hasty movements** that could provoke reflexive reactions. Staying calm usually also has a **calming effect on others involved!**

→ GET ACTIVE!

It is important **not to let fear paralyze you**.

Doing a small thing is better than thinking about big heroic deeds. If you witness violence, show that you are ready to intervene **according to your possibilities**.

A single step, a short speech, any action changes the situation and can encourage others to intervene.



→ LEAVE THE VICTIM ROLE ASSIGNED TO YOU!

If you are attacked, **do not act submissively**. Be clear about your priorities and show clearly what you want. **Take the initiative** to shape the situation in your favour.



→ KEEP CONTACT TO THE ATTACKER!

Initiate **eye contact** and try to establish or **maintain communication**.

→ TALK AND LISTEN!



Communicate the obvious aspects, **speak calmly, loudly and clearly**. **Listen** to what the other person is saying. You can deduce your next steps from what they have told.



→ DON'T THREATEN OR INSULT!

Do not voice disparaging remarks about the attacker. Do not try to intimidate or threaten. **Criticize the conduct**, but do not personally devalue.

→ GET HELP!

Do not address an anonymous crowd, but **individual persons**. This applies to both victims and bystanders. They are more likely to **help if someone else makes the first move** or if they are approached personally.



→ AVOID PHYSICAL CONTACT!

If you come to someone's aid, **avoid touching the attacker** if possible, unless you and your helpers are in a majority so that you can hold someone reassuringly. Physical contact is usually a boundary violation that can lead to further violence. If necessary, **prefer making direct contact with the victim**.

You would like to help, but are afraid of making yourself liable to prosecution ...



If you have to actively help a person who is being attacked, you have to actively help a person who is being attacked by your physical act of defence, you are basically acting out of **self-defence/emergency assistance** and are **not liable** to prosecution in the sense of StGB § 32 (self-defence).

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Gefördert durch das

Ministerium für Kinder, Familie, Flüchtlinge und Integration des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen



JUGEND
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Beratung für jugendliche und junge Erwachsene

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Qualität für Menschen

DON'T LOOK AWAY

IN THE CASE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

(INFORMATION IN ENGLISH)



www.schaunichtweg.info

CIVIL COURAGE + PUBLIC

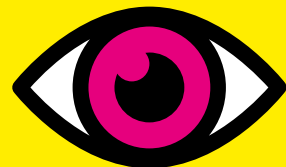
two indispensable partners
for a solidary society

„It takes a village to raise a child“
(African proverb)

The campaign „I DON'T LOOK AWAY“ exemplifies the idea that every member of society, depending on the situation and according to his or her possibilities, can play a part in protecting children and young people from danger and helping all fellow human beings in emergency situations.

Citizens and business people publicly declare their readiness to provide help and clearly show the flag:

„I don't look away! -
I take responsibility and show civil
courage with my assistance.“



What we can do against violence in everyday life

Violence can occur every day in multiple forms and in different places. Many people react insecurely and look or listen away for various reasons. This can encourage and reinforce a willingness to use violence as well as a tolerance of violence.

In dealing with violence, there are many findings that show how acts of violence can be stopped. They also demonstrate how we can act to prevent violence from occurring in the first place.

- It is always right to call the emergency **number of the police (tel. 110)** and report crimes to the local police station.
- Use your **personal skills** and **do not endanger yourself**. Every situation is different and depends on the perpetrator, victim, other parties involved and, of course, the location.
- Do not use weapons to defend yourself, such as knives. All the evidence so far indicates that the signals you send with them can reinforce or legitimize the anger and violence of the attackers. Also, you can never be sure that your weapon will not suddenly be turned against you.
- Alternatively, there are **signalling devices** such as whistles or small alarm devices. You can use them to **attract attention and publicity** and stop the perpetrators for an initial moment of shock. Perpetrators often shy away from their plans if they have to fear that they will be recognized.

What we can do!

Many children and adolescents have difficulties to communicate immediately in an understandable way, especially in exceptional situations (e.g. under shock).

Some also fear that adults do not listen to them properly and do not take their fears or problems seriously.

- ➔ Therefore, be sure to **take** children and adolescents seeking help **seriously**.
- ➔ **Listen to them** and try to clearly structure and organize the situation for yourself.
- ➔ Then **notify the necessary help** (e.g. police 110, fire department 112).

— — — — — **take seriously – listen – notify help** — — — — —

In public transport:

When somebody is harassed, assaulted or injured on public transportation, passengers are often shocked or intimidated. They don't know how to act.

Here's what you can do, however:

- You can **ask other passengers to join you** in loudly drawing attention to the situation. It is important to address as many passengers as possible **directly** and to **take them into accountability**, the stronger is the effect on the attackers! As a rule, more and more people join in. This makes the situation unmanageable and risky for the perpetrators. Most likely, they will try to move away from the scene.
- You can also **ask the driver to call the police**. You are obliged to do this.
- If you cannot make direct contact, **shout loudly**: „Tell the driver to call the police!“ Depending on the facts and the situation, you can also **ask to lock the doors** so that the perpetrators cannot leave until the police arrives.



In pedestrian areas:

- **Do not let yourself be provoked** in violent situations! Violence often arises because one word causes another.
- **Do not address the attacker using the German word „du“**. Other passers-by could easily suspect a purely private conflict.
- Take over the direction, **address others present directly and personally**: „Hello, you there in the green coat, please help me, call the police immediately!“ If the person you are talking to reacts accordingly, the knot is usually broken and the so-called snowball effect occurs. Now you can **also activate other passers-by**.

During brawls:

- If children, teens, or adults are fighting each other, **call attention to yourself and the situation** and **establish publicity** from a safe distance. **Call the police** or ask someone to get help or call the police.
- Perpetrators are afraid of being recognized and held accountable. So **address them directly** if you have heard a **name** or **name clear recognition features**: „You with the bald forehead, we know you, stop it ... we've already called the police...“
- Many children and young people, when confronted, claim „it was just fun“. They quickly become thoughtful if you can **name the violence** that preceded it: „I can see the bleeding wound, the black eye, the torn pants, etc., that's not fun! I call that assault...“ By **speaking clearly**, you are on the offensive and **take responsibility in the situation**.

