

Part V

SOCIAL DISRUPTIONS

1. Tensions among people and groups of people continue to lead to violence and armed conflict throughout the world. The great number of children actively involved in hostilities and the use of violence against them is of the highest concern and needs to be addressed on a permanent basis at both the national and international levels. Factors explaining disruptive behaviour and crime are complex and ingrained in a diversity of dimensions. Discrimination is one of the factors that, in many instances, can lead to destructive aggression. Hunger for power and control can also cause the breakdown of order and generate social disintegration. Organized crime, bribery and corruption are abusive forms of appropriation of the dignities and belongings of the people.
2. Violence against children, women, the elderly and the disabled has been increasingly recognized as a criminal act. Yet it persists. Prostitution, for example, is globally on the rise. Electronic communication has emerged as a key ally of organized crime networks for the trafficking of drugs, arms, child pornography and persons.