WHY DO SOME MEN USE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND HOW CAN WE PREVENT IT?

QUANTITATIVE FINDINGS FROM THE UNITED NATIONS MULTI-COUNTRY STUDY ON MEN AND VIOLENCE IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

PARTNERS FOR PREVENTION. A UNDP, UNFPA, UN WOMEN AND UNV REGIONAL JOINT PROGRAMME FOR GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
**THE STUDY**

**STUDY AIM:** To deepen the understanding of men’s use of violence against women in order to prevent it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRIES</th>
<th>SITES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEN AGED 18–49</th>
<th>WOMEN FOR VALIDATION</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10,178</td>
<td>3,106</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Largest cross-country comparable dataset on male perpetration of violence against women in Asia-Pacific.
WHERE DID WE CONDUCT THE STUDY?

- Matlab, Jakarta, Purworejo, Jayapura, Bougainville, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China (one site), Dhaka, Matlab

- Multi-stage representative sample

- Representative of men aged 18–49 year in selected sites

- Not nationally representative (except Cambodia)

- Does not represent the whole Asia-Pacific region
HOW DID WE CONDUCT THE STUDY?

Population-based quantitative household surveys

Men interviewed men, women interviewed women

Followed rigorous international ethical and safety standards for research on VAW

Standardized structured questionnaire on men’s use and experiences of violence, attitudes and practices, childhood, sexuality, and health

iPod Touch devices allowed men to answer questions about rape perpetration anonymously
HOW DID WE MEASURE MEN’S USE OF VIOLENCE?

**Physical Partner Violence Perpetration**
- slapped or threw something at partner
- pushed or shoved
- hit with fist
- kicked, dragged, beat, choked or burned
- threatened to use or used gun, knife or other weapon

**Non-Partner Rape Perpetration**
- forced her to have sexual intercourse against her will
- had sex with woman or girl when she was too drunk or drugged to say whether she wanted it or not
THE PROBLEM
Overall, 1 in 2 ever-partnered men reported perpetrating partner violence, but prevalence rates varied widely across sites.
THE PROBLEM: INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Patterns of partner violence also varied across sites.
THE PROBLEM: RAPE

PERCENTAGE OF MEN REPORTING PERPETRATION OF RAPE AGAINST A WOMAN OR GIRL, BY TYPE AND SITE

- Rape of a non-partner

- Indonesia: Rural - 4%, Urban - 9%
- Bangladesh: Rural - 4%, Urban - 6%
- Sri Lanka: National - 8%
- Indonesia: Rural - 6%, Urban - 23%
- Cambodia: National - 41%
- China: Urban/Rural - 8%
- Papua New Guinea: Bougainville - 41%
THE PROBLEM: RAPE

PERCENTAGE OF MEN REPORTING PERPETRATION OF RAPE AGAINST A WOMAN OR GIRL, BY TYPE AND SITE

- **RAPE OF A NON-PARTNER**
- **ANY RAPE OF A PARTNER OR NON-PARTNER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country/Area</th>
<th>Rape of a Non-Partner</th>
<th>Any Rape of a Partner or Non-Partner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh Urban</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh Rural</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka National</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia Rural</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia Urban</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia National</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Urban/Rural</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia Papua</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papua New Guinea Bougainville</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THE PROBLEM: RAPE**

Percentage of men reporting perpetration of rape against a woman or girl, by type and site.
Half of all men who had perpetrated rape did so for the first time when they were teenagers (younger than 20 years).
### Legal Consequences of Rape Perpetration

#### Percentage of Men Who Reported Perpetrating Rape but Reported That They Had Not Been Arrested or Jailed as a Consequence, by Site

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka National</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh Urban</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh Rural</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia Papua</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia Urban</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia Rural</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia Rural</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Urban/Rural</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia National</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papua New Guinea Bougainville</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Majority of men who admitted to perpetrating rape did not experience any legal consequences.
DRIVERS OF MEN’S USE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
WHY DO SOME MEN PERPETRATE RAPE?

MOTIVATIONS FOR RAPE, BY MEN WHO REPORTED EVER RAPEING ANY WOMAN OR GIRL, INCLUDING PARTNERS AND NON-PARTNERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Motivation</th>
<th>% of Men Reporting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Entitlement</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fun/Bored</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anger/Punishment</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The most commonly reported motivation for perpetrating rape across sites was related to men’s sense of sexual entitlement.
FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MEN’S PERPETRATION OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

FREQUENT QUARRELLING WITH PARTNER

TRANSACTIONAL SEX

CONTROLLING BEHAVIOUR

LOW GENDER-EQUITABLE ATTITUDES

2+ LIFETIME SEXUAL PARTNERS

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MEN’S PERPETRATION OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Practices stemming from gender inequality

- Frequent quarrelling with partner
- Transactional sex
- Controlling behaviour
- Low gender-equitable attitudes
- 2+ lifetime sexual partners
FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MEN’S PERPETRATION OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

- Childhood sexual abuse
- Childhood physical abuse
- Childhood emotional abuse or neglect
- Witness abuse of mother
- Childhood sexual abuse

- Frequent quarrelling with partner
- Low gender-equitable attitudes
- Controlling behaviour
- 2+ lifetime sexual partners
- Transactional sex

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MEN’S PERPETRATION OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

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- Childhood physical abuse
- Childhood emotional abuse or neglect
- Low gender-equitable attitudes
- Controlling behaviour
- Frequent quarrelling with partner
- Transactional sex
- 2+ lifetime sexual partners

Cycle of violence
FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MEN'S PERPETRATION OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

- Current food insecurity
- No high school education
- Intimate partner violence
- Childhood sexual abuse
- Childhood physical abuse
- Childhood emotional abuse or neglect
- Alcohol abuse
- Depression
- Witness abuse of mother
- Childhood sexual abuse
- Controlling behaviour
- Low gender-equitable attitudes
- 2+ lifetime sexual partners
- Frequent quarrelling with partner
- Transactional sex
- Intimate partner violence
- Childhood physical abuse
FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MEN’S PERPETRATION OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

- Current food insecurity
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- Witness abuse of mother
- Childhood physical abuse
- Childhood emotional abuse or neglect
- Alcohol abuse
- Depression
- Low gender-equitable attitudes
- Controlling behaviour
- 2+ lifetime sexual partners
- Violence used as a way to reassert some level of power
FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MEN’S PERPETRATION OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

1. Frequent quarrelling with partner
2. Childhood emotional abuse or neglect
3. Childhood physical abuse
4. Childhood sexual abuse
5. Witness abuse of mother
6. Alcohol abuse
7. Depression
8. Low gender-equitable attitudes
9. Controlling behaviour
10. Gang involvement
11. Fights
12. 2+ lifetime sexual partners
13. Current food insecurity
14. No high school education
FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MEN’S PERPETRATION OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Ideals of manhood that justify and celebrate toughness, male sexual performance & dominance over women.
FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MEN’S PERPETRATION OF RAPE AGAINST A FEMALE NON-PARTNER

- Physical intimate partner violence
- Non-partner rape
- 2+ lifetime sexual partners
- Transactional sex
FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MEN'S PERPETRATION OF RAPE AGAINST A FEMALE NON-PARTNER

- Physical intimate partner violence
- Non-partner rape
- 2+ lifetime sexual partners
- Transactional sex
- Childhood emotional abuse or neglect
- Experienced homophobic abuse
- Sexual victimization
- Childhood sexual abuse
FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MEN’S PERPETRATION OF RAPE AGAINST A FEMALE NON-PARTNER
FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MEN’S PERPETRATION OF RAPE AGAINST A FEMALE NON-PARTNER

Factors associated with men’s perpetration of rape against a female non-partner include:

- **Current Food Insecurity**
- **Non-Partner Rape**
- **Physical Intimate Partner Violence**
- **Gang Involvement**
- **Fights**
- **2+ Lifetime Sexual Partners**
- **Transactional Sex**
- **Cardinal Sexual Abuse**
- **Childhood Sexual Abuse**
- **Childhood Emotional Abuse or Neglect**
- **Experienced Homophobic Abuse**
- **Sexual Victimization**
- **Depression**
- **Alcohol Abuse**
- **Current Drug Use**

These factors highlight the complex interplay of various conditions and experiences that may contribute to men’s perpetration of rape against a female non-partner.
CONCLUSIONS

Violence against women is pervasive, but not all men use violence.

Men’s use of violence against women starts earlier than previously thought.

Violence against women is fundamentally about gender inequality—most important factors are related to gender norms and relationship practices.

Men’s use of violence is related to ways of being a man that celebrate toughness, sexual performance and dominance over women.

Men’s experiences of violence, particularly as children, are strongly associated with their perpetration of violence against women.
VIOLENCE IS PREVENTABLE
VIOLENCE IS PREVENTABLE

Make violence against women unacceptable and address the subordination of women
  • community mobilization and engagement with cultural influencers

Address child abuse and promote healthy families
  • parenting programmes, comprehensive child protection systems

End impunity for men who use violence against women, particularly marital rape
  • criminalization of all forms of violence against women, access to justice

Promote non-violent and caring ways to be a man
  • sustained school-based or sports-based education programmes

Educate young people to understand consent, healthy sexuality and respectful relationships
  • sexual and reproductive health information and services
THANK YOU

PLEASE GO TO WWW.PARTNERS4PREVENTION.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO DOWNLOAD A FULL COPY OF THE REPORT

partners for prevention

Violence is preventable
UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women & UNV
Asia-Pacific regional joint programme
for gender-based violence prevention