



What Works
TO PREVENT VIOLENCE

LATEST EVIDENCE FROM WHAT WORKS

Photo: Anisa Sabiri for The Guardian

Work, savings and women’s experiences of intimate partner violence (IPV) - lessons from female garment workers in Bangladesh

workers and the wider community may hold more promise for reducing IPV. Read the full peer review journal article [here](#)



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In patriarchal contexts, women in paid work often report higher levels of IPV, yet literature on this is limited. This What Works study examined the magnitude of different types of IPV amongst female garment workers in Dhaka, Bangladesh. It shows that while a female worker’s ability to access cash ‘in an emergency’ was protective of IPV, having savings beyond a threshold increased the likelihood of IPV. This implies that income and savings alone may not be enough to prevent female workers experiencing IPV. In addition, women who reported their husband was more controlling of them, used drugs and/or alcohol, were more likely to experience IPV. Interventions that combine gender empowerment training for workers in the context of better factory working conditions alongside working with male managers, husbands of factory

Understanding intersections of disability and violence against women and girls – learning from married women in three districts of Terai, Nepal

This What Works paper examines baseline data from a randomised controlled trial (RCT) with 1,800 women aged 18-49. Results show that disability status is associated with increased vulnerability to IPV and in-law violence, and that the strength of the association increases with the severity of impairment. The findings suggest that IPV programming should be more accessible and inclusive of women living with disabilities, and account for the different types of IPV experiences among women with different levels of impairment. Read the full peer review journal article [here](#)



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LATEST EVIDENCE

SPOTLIGHT ON

Childhood trauma and poverty are associated with depressive symptoms among young men in South Africa



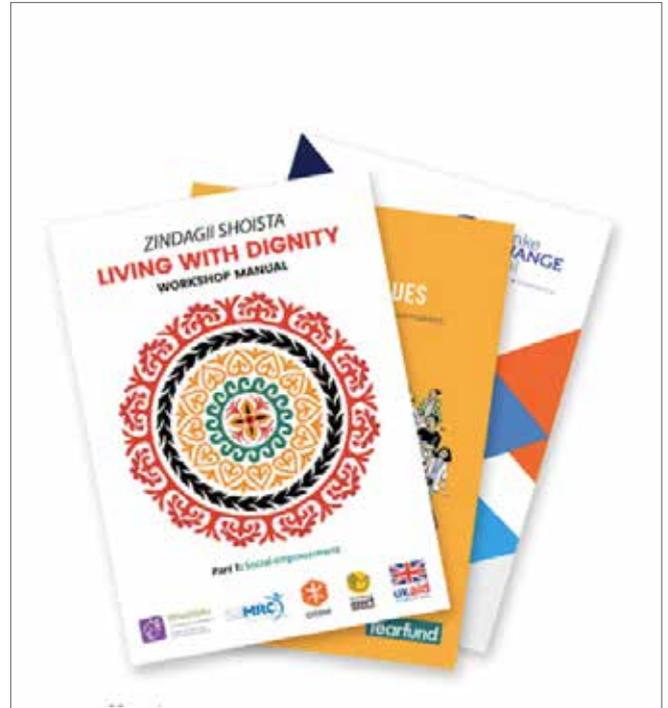
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Although research has shown that depressive disorders contribute to health declines among young men, little is known about how poverty and childhood trauma shapes depressive symptoms in young adulthood. This What Works study conducted amongst 2,427 young men aged 18-30 in peri-urban South Africa revealed that household poverty is associated with children's experience of abuse and, in turn, depressive symptoms as young adults. Structural interventions for food security, employment, and parenting may help to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty, trauma, and violence in peri-urban settings. Read the full peer review journal article [here](#)

Associations between poverty, mental health, substance use, gender inequality, and IPV amongst young women and men in urban informal settlements in South Africa

Global research suggests that poverty is a driver of IPV; however detailed analysis from this study suggests that this relationship is not linear, either for women's experience or men's perpetration of IPV. This What Works study highlights how IPV is shaped by specific forms of poverty intersecting with gender inequalities. It uses data from a cluster RCT of the Stepping Stones and Creating Futures intervention in urban informal settlements in Durban, South Africa, with 1,357 young people aged 18-30. For young men, indicators of economic provision in relationships, such as attempting to provide financially (through work or stealing), were associated with higher IPV perpetration. The study suggests that men who are slightly better off economically than their peers, but living in contexts of poverty, may develop a sense of sexual entitlement that makes them more likely to perpetrate violence. For women, food insecurity was associated with IPV experience. Results support growing evidence that interventions to reduce IPV need to reduce household poverty and food insecurity, combined with gender transformative interventions. They should also address poor mental health and substance misuse, as well as increasing educational attainment as a long-term intervention to reduce IPV. Read the full peer review journal article [here](#)

Evidence-based curricula to prevent violence against women and girls



Credit: <https://www.whatworks.co.za/>

Since 2015 the What Works to Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls Programme has developed, adapted, and implemented 15 evidence-based VAWG prevention interventions across Africa and Asia. Most of these intervention curricula are now available on-line. Access the curricula [here](#)

October 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal | The fourth What Works capacity development workshop



Photo: Rebecca Ladbury

SPOTLIGHT ON

October 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal | The fourth What Works capacity development workshop

"Overall, a great capacity building opportunity throughout the entire programme. Huge thanks for this!"

"We learnt many things from participants from different countries sharing similar issues, which can be utilised in our future planning and strategies."

These are the voices of some of the nearly 70 partners and technical advisers who attended the fourth and final What Works Capacity Development workshop in Kathmandu, Nepal on 28 October 2018. All What Works partners came together for the culmination of the capacity development workshops - a final face-to-face opportunity for implementers, researchers and technical staff to share learning and develop skills and networks across the programme and beyond. The day focused on: consolidating and reflecting on learning to date; enhancing fundraising skills; strengthening innovative and high impact research uptake skills; and supporting south-to-south learning. It was a very powerful day and we wish to thank every single person who contributed to making it a success.

October 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal | The fourth What Works Annual Scientific Meeting

For the past four years, the What Works Global programme has united researchers, practitioners and policy makers annually to share and learn from evidence-based research and implementation efforts across Africa and Asia to understand what drives violence against women and girls, and what works to prevent it. This year marked the fourth and final three-day Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) - an agenda which began to answer critical questions about what works, for whom and where? Each day was marked by a mix of scientific presentations, expert panel discussions and summaries of emerging evidence, lessons learned and key messages. One of the key take-aways from the ASM was that prevention of VAWG is possible. Looking ahead, the next 6-9 months will be critical particularly for allowing space for in-depth analysis of the results as well as synthesising learning across projects, countries and thematic areas. Final products will be amplified through various channels including the newsletter, website, Twitter and others.

Keep up to date here: www.whatworks.co.za



Photo: Rebecca Ladbury

November 2018 | 16 Days of Activism to end violence against women and girls



Interactive presentation held by Right To Play, Pakistan at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Photo: Rebecca Ladbury

What Works supported UNiTE's 16 Days of Activism global advocacy theme, which this year was #HearMeToo, and held a series of activities and events across the campaign - all amplified through the What Works platforms. Researchers and implementers from the What Works programme gathered for a series of events in London from 3-6th December 2018. The events showcased the latest evaluation results from What Works, including exciting findings from Pakistan, Afghanistan, DRC and Dadaab, Kenya. Participants included a wide range of VAWG practitioners and academics from INGO's, civil society and academia. An event in Washington DC was hosted on 6th December by the Global Women's Institute and What Works and featured talks by researchers and implementers of prevention programmes in Rwanda, Tajikistan, Zambia and Nepal. The 16 days of activism was also marked by several in-country dissemination highlights including, in Ghana, where research findings were shared from the WW global (COMBAT) and costing component's studies with an audience of national and international NGOs, Ghanaian ministries and members of the academic community.

SPOTLIGHT ON

In Pakistan, the Right to Play and Aga Khan University teams shared the intervention and evaluations results of their school-based study in Islamabad with the in-country DFID office, associated staff and key stakeholders, highlighting how the latest evidence can contribute to creating safe safes for children to learn in Pakistan. In Tajikistan, the “Zindagii Shoista” study unveiled its evaluation findings at a dissemination event in Dushanbe attended by Tajik national and local government representatives, the German Embassy, NGO’s and study partners.

NEWS

What Works interventions and research have been reported upon and amplified through influential media outlets. This section highlights some of those that have been published this quarter.

December 2018: The Telegraph

“Now I feel safe”: UK funded project reduces domestic violence by 50 percent in rural Ghana

Project: Using Community-based Action Teams (COMBAT) to Prevent Violence against Women and Girls, Ghana

Read the full article on The Telegraph here



December 2018: Feminist India 5 feminist economists who change the way we see the world

Project: Economic and Social Costs of Violence Programme

Read the full article here

NEWS

October 2018: The Guardian

'It's a miracle': the scheme ending abuse against women in Tajikistan

Project: Zindagi Shoista, Tajikistan



Read the full article on The Guardian here

October 2018: The Guardian

'I'm more valued than before': women in Tajikistan get a new lease of life – in pictures

Project: Zindagi Shoista, Tajikistan

Read the full article on The Guardian here

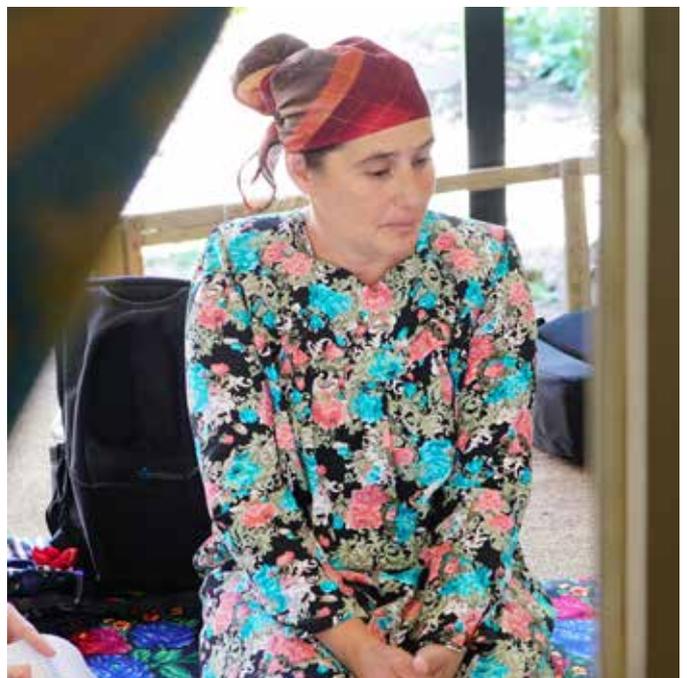


Photo: Anisa Sabiri for The Guardian

UPCOMING EVENTS

What Works grantees and partners will be sharing findings at the following events:

11-22 March 2019 | CSW63 (2019) – Commission on the Status of Women: New York, USA

The sixty-third session of the [Commission on the Status of Women](#) will focus on social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

3-6 June 2019 | Women Deliver: Vancouver, Canada

The Women Deliver 2019 Conference is the world's largest conference on gender equality, attended by more than 6,000 world leaders, influencers, advocates, academics, activists, and journalists. The theme of this year's conference is power, and how it can driver – or hinder – progress and change. Registration for the Women Deliver 2019 Conference is now open. Details [here](#)

11-14 June 2019 | SA AIDS: Durban, South Africa

The 9th SA AIDS Conference will host over 3000 scientists, academics, policy makers and practitioners to discuss how to end the HIV epidemic. Conference themes include scaling up effective interventions, social drivers of the epidemic, and social justice, relationships and power. Details [here](#)

21-24 October 2019 | SVRI Forum: Cape Town, South Africa – Abstract submissions open until 25 January 2019

SVRI Forum is the world's key research conference on violence against women and other forms of violence driven by gender inequality in low and middle-income countries. It is attended by researchers, practitioners, NGOs, activists and policy makers – and is a critical space to share work and influence discussions in the sector. Submissions for abstracts are open now until 25 January 2019. Find out more [here](#)



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