“NO SAFE PLACE: A LIFETIME OF VIOLENCE FOR CONFLICT-AFFECTED WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SOUTH SUDAN”
Research questions

• What are the forms, trends and prevalence of different forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG) in South Sudan?

• What are the direct and indirect drivers of VAWG, and how are they influenced by the different conflicts that have taken place in South Sudan?
Methods

Population-based household survey:
- 2244 women
- 481 men

Qualitative research:
Participatory FGDs and In-depth Interviews with key stakeholders, survivors and community members.
Over 500 participants
Three Conflicts

Civil War

2013 Conflict

Intercommunal conflict
Experiences of attacks on village/community of residence

43% in Juba

53% in Rumbek

60% in Juba PoCs
Experiences of Displacement

- Juba: 36%
- Rumbek: 50%
- Juba PoCs: 100%

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Violence in the Community

Sexual assault against women by non-partners

More than 40% experienced non-partner SV more than once.

60% < 19 years old
Over 70% of rape suffered by women from Rumbek and Juba PoC sites was related to displacement or attacks on villages.
Sexual assault against men

Among male respondents, 6% in Rumbek and 9% in Juba reported that they had experienced non-partner sexual violence during their lifetime.
Violence in the home

Prevalence of physical/sexual violence by intimate partners

Lifetime Prevalence

60%  73%  54%

12 Month Prevalence

43%  63%  47%

Juba
n=458

Rumbeck
n=679

Juba PoCs
n=727

Violence in the home
It is common in our custom to beat a woman when she has made a mistake—not to the extent of killing her completely, but to discipline her.
Conflict increases the odds of intimate partner violence

Odds of ever experiencing IPV

1.8 Times
Displacement

2.0 Times
Attack on village or community

3.3 Times
Direct conflict experiences
Bride Price is a key driver of child marriage, abduction, and other forms of violence against women and girls.
“Women and girls are often beaten by brothers and uncles - anyone who benefits from the cows”
“We caught the man red-handed and handed him over to the police. To my surprise, the police said that he is innocent and released the man. The same day he got out, he attacked our tent and threatened us. He is still around and my children’s lives are at risk.”
“If you want to divorce from your family, you will pay back the dowry to your husband, and you collect the cows from your relatives who distributed them among themselves during your marriage time.”
Recommendations

Prioritise funding for specialised women’s and girls’ protection and empowerment programmes, including IPV, from the earliest stage of crisis.

Invest in specific programs addressing the unique needs of adolescent girls.
• Promote the integration of programmes addressing VAWG and community-level violence with long-term peacebuilding

• Support women’s groups and the women’s movement to build local capacity to improve the status of women
“We are tired of being raped. We met with the chiefs and raised our concerns. We have had no response yet.”
Thank You
#16Days

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