

VAWG in DRC and the potential for faith-based interventions

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Quantitative: baseline household survey

- 769 respondents, 15 communities, Ituri Province, DRC

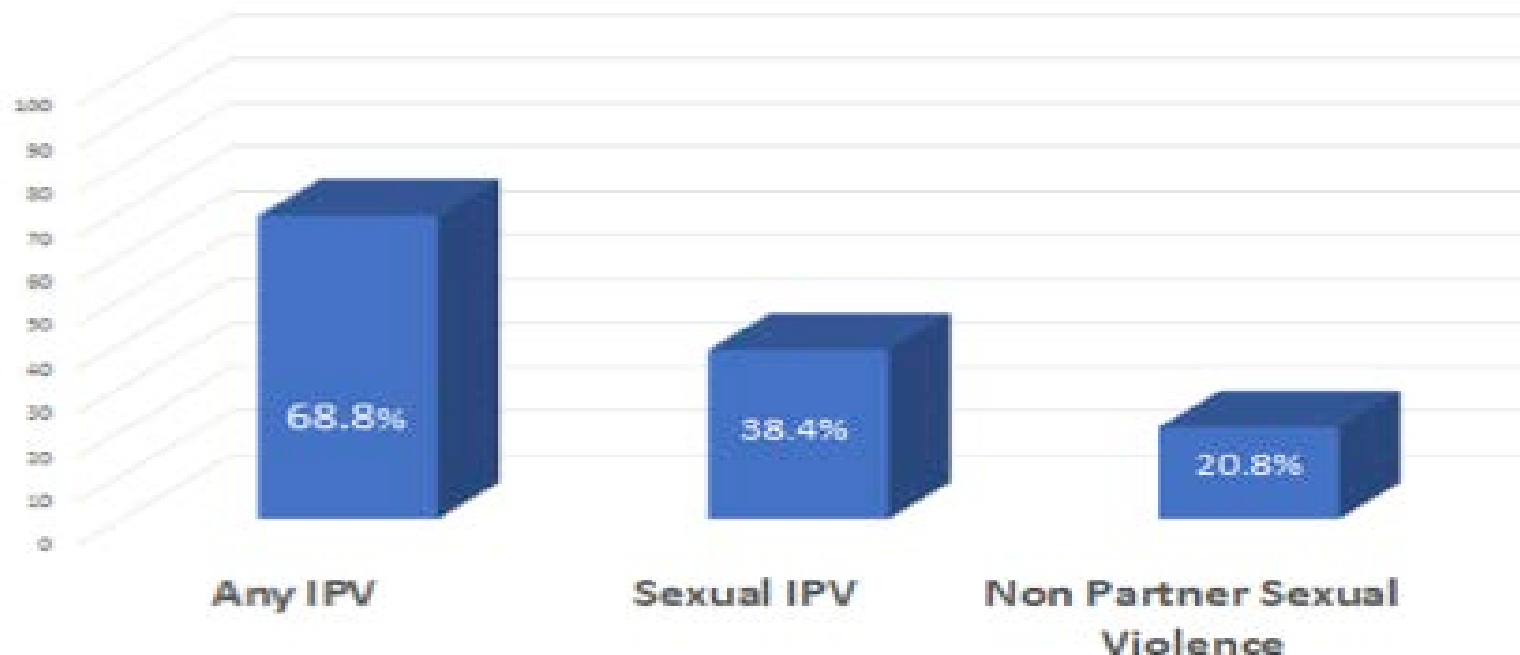


- administered by sex-matched enumerators, using tablets loaded with the FormAgent Android app
- sensitive questions on experience/perpetration of violence were self-administered by participants.



Findings: IPV in conflict-affected communities

Women's experiences of violence in the last 12 Months



- NPSV: 20.8% in past year (DHS 2014: 16%)
- 86.6% of perpetrators of NPSV were known, 6% were armed groups
- 68.2% Male IPV perpetration (any) in past 12 months
- 31.3% male perpetration sexual IPV in past 12 months



Reach and influence of faith groups

- 95% of respondents identified with a religion (Christian 76.6%, Muslim 14.0%)
- 83.4% described their faith as '(very) important' in their lives
- Most women (57.8%) and 42.2% of men did not belong to any other community group
- Faith leaders were the only social referent whose opinion people felt significantly motivated to comply with (*in comparison to partner, friends, parents, family, community leaders*).



Factors associated with women's experience of physical or sexual IPV in past 12 months

	Odds ratio	95% confidence intervals		p value
<i>Household income contribution:</i> unemployed/no income	1.00			
less than half of income	0.42	0.10	1.78	0.237
about half	1.34	0.45	4.03	0.596
more than half of income	1.66	0.41	6.69	0.479
all/nearly all	0.38	0.15	0.96	0.04
<i>Partner's alcohol drinking: never</i>	1.00			
occasionally	0.88	0.37	2.09	0.765
more often	3.56	1.63	7.79	0.001
<i>Engagement in religion:</i> no religion/does not attend	1.00			
attends services only	0.36	0.14	0.91	0.032
participates actively or leads	0.32	0.15	0.73	0.006
Witnessed abuse of mother as a child	2.77	1.26	6.11	0.012
Married	0.25	0.12	0.51	<0.0001
Believes a woman can refuse sex when she doesn't want it	0.36	0.15	0.84	0.018



Factors associated with women agreeing with a woman's right to refuse sex

	Odds ratio	95% confidence intervals		p value
<i>Engagement in religion:</i> no religion/does not attend	1.00			
attends services only	1.86	0.77	4.49	0.167
participates actively or leads	4.46	2.24	8.87	<0.0001
<i>No. of daily meals: one</i>	1.00			
Two	0.47	0.22	1.03	0.059
Three	0.35	0.14	0.88	0.026
<i>Education: none</i>	1.00			
incomplete primary	0.74	0.37	1.48	0.394
completed primary	2.44	1.04	5.73	0.04
incomplete secondary	1.37	0.56	3.37	0.494
completed secondary	2.64	1.06	6.60	0.037
higher than secondary	5.61	1.06	29.76	0.043



Gender attitudes and faith texts

- 89.9% of men and 81.7% of women agreed with the statement that 'men are superior to women'
- 51.0% of men and 42.6% of women agreed that there are times when a woman deserves to be beaten.
- Across the sample, harmful beliefs were consistently stronger when phrased as a scriptural (ie religious) principle.
 - 76.1% of men and 67.2% of women agreed with the statement that 'a man is entitled to sex even when his partner doesn't feel like it'.
 - 81.8% of men and 74.9% of women agreed with the statement that 'a married woman has no right or control of her body *according to the Bible/ Qur'an*'.



Informing interventions



"(A session that went well) is definitely the one that I did last Friday at the mosque. We had an awareness campaign there, and we used a Quran verse that is closely related to the one in Genesis that says God created us all equal. We spoke about that last Friday. And on Sunday, our theme was gender equality." – Iman.

"When I heard the teaching, first of all I felt that it is a good teaching ... What touched me is that when you are a father in a family you must not let anger control you; and don't have a habit of beating people physically. Also, you should not react in a way that can harm somebody physically. Well, I saw that it can be a good thing helping people to live in peace in marriage. " – Community member.



www.tearfund.org/sexualviolence
www.whatworks.co.za

