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Ending violence against children

The Interplay of Childhood Sexual Violence, Gender Norms and Help-Seeking Behavior: Findings from the Kenya Violence Against Children Survey

Laura Chiang, Jessie Gleckel, Amy Fan, [Daniela Ligiero](#)

Sexual Violence Research Initiative Forum 2017

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



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**VIOLENCE
AGAINST
CHILDREN**



**End Violence
Against Children**
THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP



BD



CDC FOUNDATION

Helping CDC Do More, Faster

Together for Girls: Pillars of work



NATIONAL SURVEYS & DATA

Conduct national violence against children surveys (VACS)



COUNTRY-LED RESPONSE

Support national government-led multi-sectoral programs and policies



GLOBAL COMMS

Engage in advocacy and public awareness raising at the global level

Kenya Violence Against Children Survey:

- National household survey of 13-24 year old Kenyan females and males on prevalence, incidence, circumstances of violence in childhood
- Led by the Government of Kenya with technical support from UNICEF and CDC

Study questions

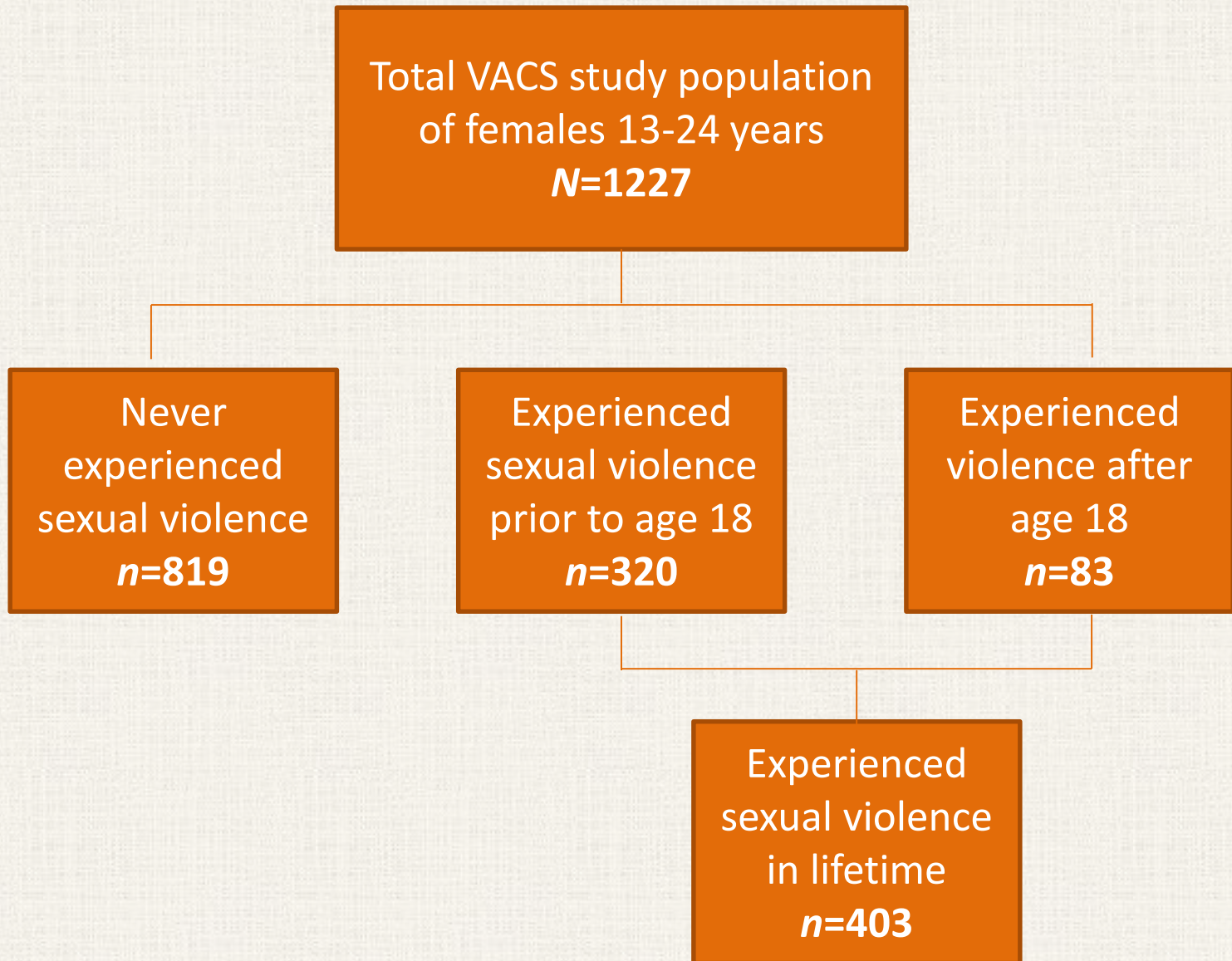
Using violence and gender norms data from the Kenya VACS, we sought to answer the following questions:

Are **Kenyan females who experienced childhood SV**:

1. More likely to endorse harmful norms than females who did not?
2. Are those who endorsed harmful gender norms less likely to seek help after an SV incident than those who did not?



Population for this study



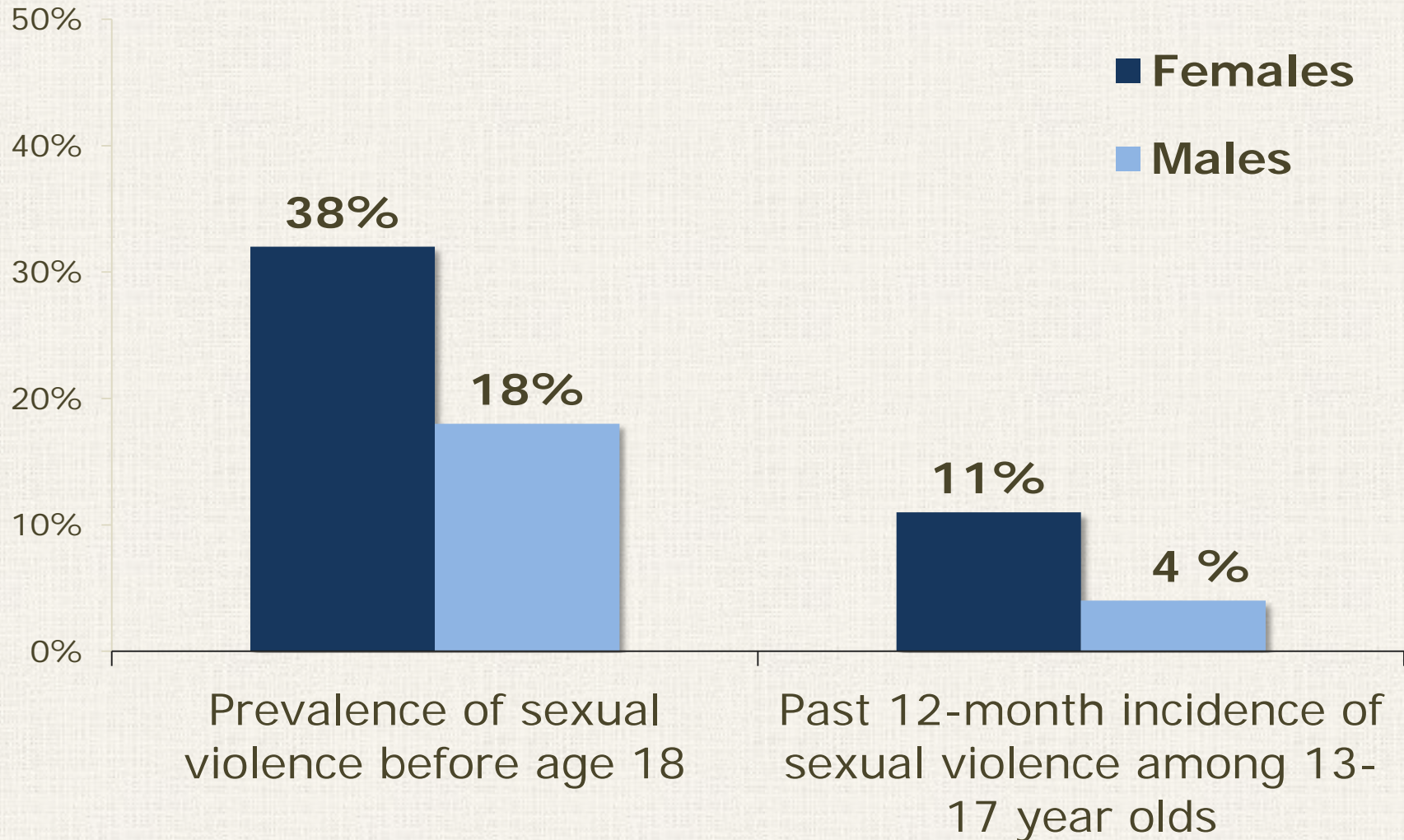


Analytic methods

Using an adapted GEMS scale from the VACS, a harmful gender norm score was calculated for each respondent from 0 (low endorsement) to 5 (high endorsement). The scale was used to analyze:

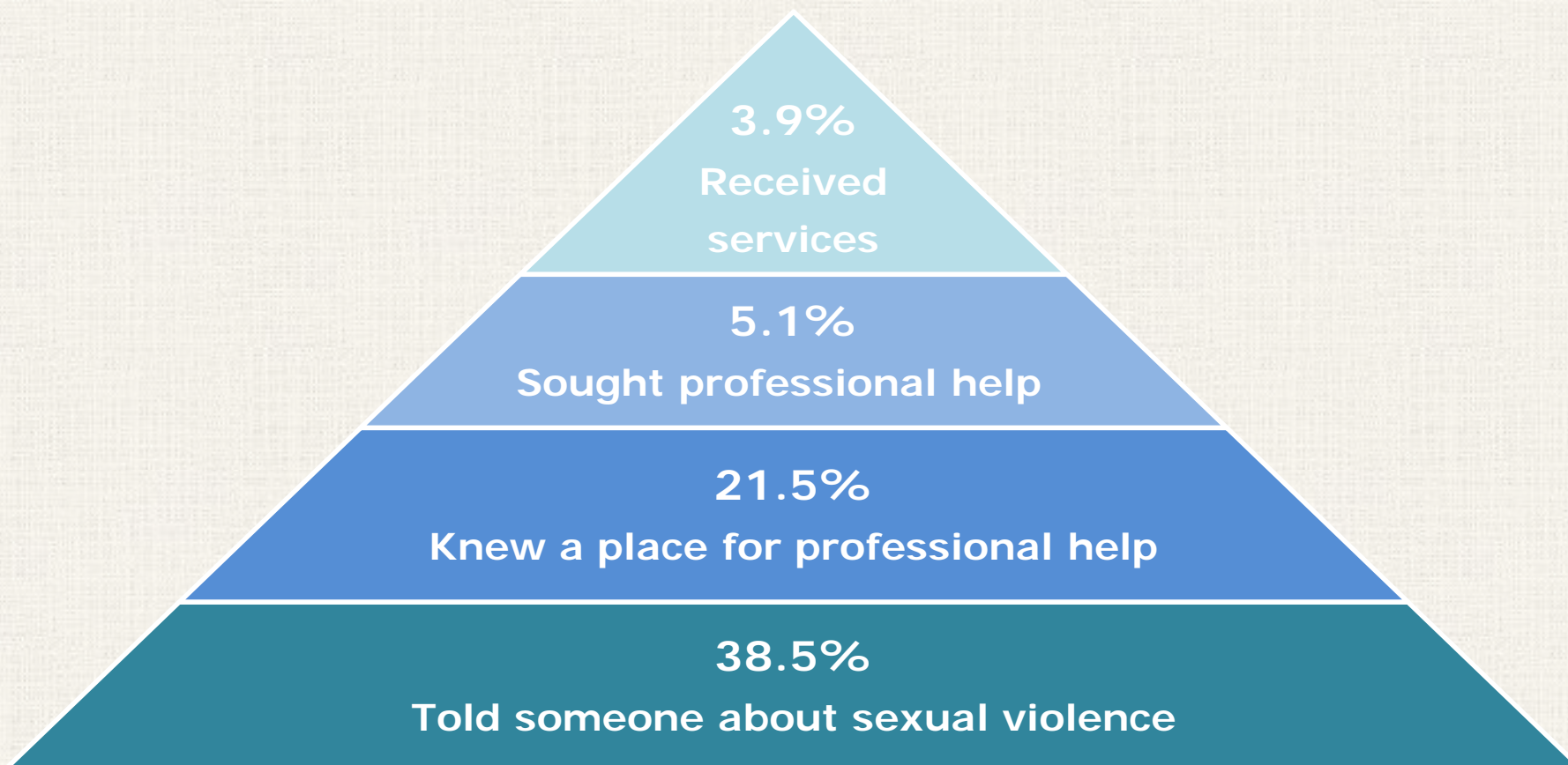
- 1. Relationship between experiences of SV and harmful gender norms: compared scores across three groups:**
 - One or more experiences of SV in childhood
 - One or more experience of SV after age 18, none in childhood
 - No experience of SV
 - *Used a regressed mean gender score for the comparison*
- 2. Relationship between harmful gender norms and help-seeking behaviors among those who have experienced SV**
 - Regress help-seeking behaviors on harmful gender norms score using logistic regression models

Unacceptably high percentage of females and males experience sexual violence before age 18

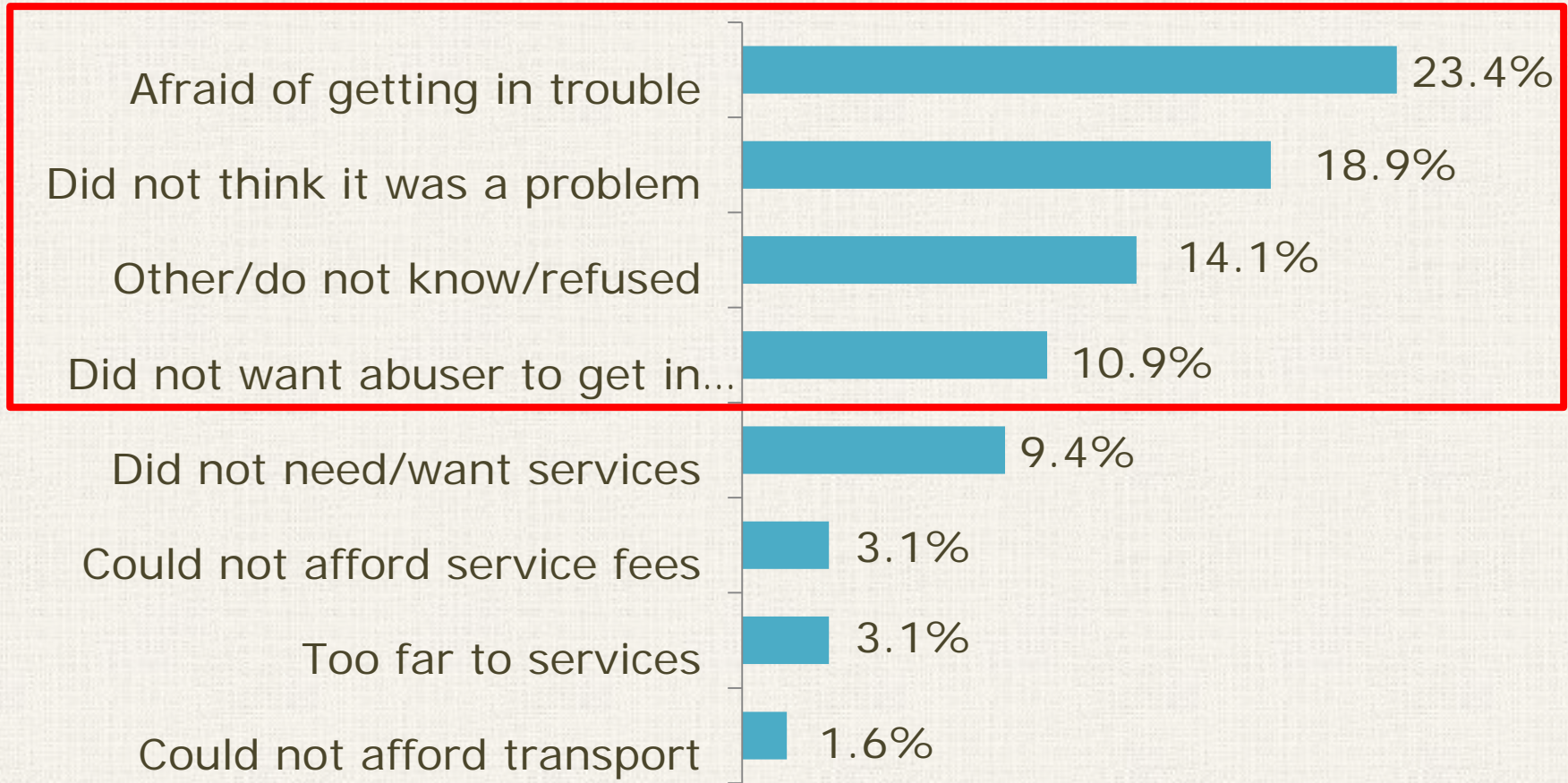




Disclosure and service usage by females who experienced childhood sexual violence in Kenya



Reasons for not seeking services for sexual violence, reported by Kenyan females



Reasons survivors did not disclose, or did not seek services

- Fear (did not want self/abuser to get in trouble)
- Stigma (embarrassment for self/family)
- High tolerance for violence (did not think it was a problem)
- Structural barriers were less sited (awareness, cost, transportation)



Photo credit: © UNICEF/HIVA2014-00047/Marion

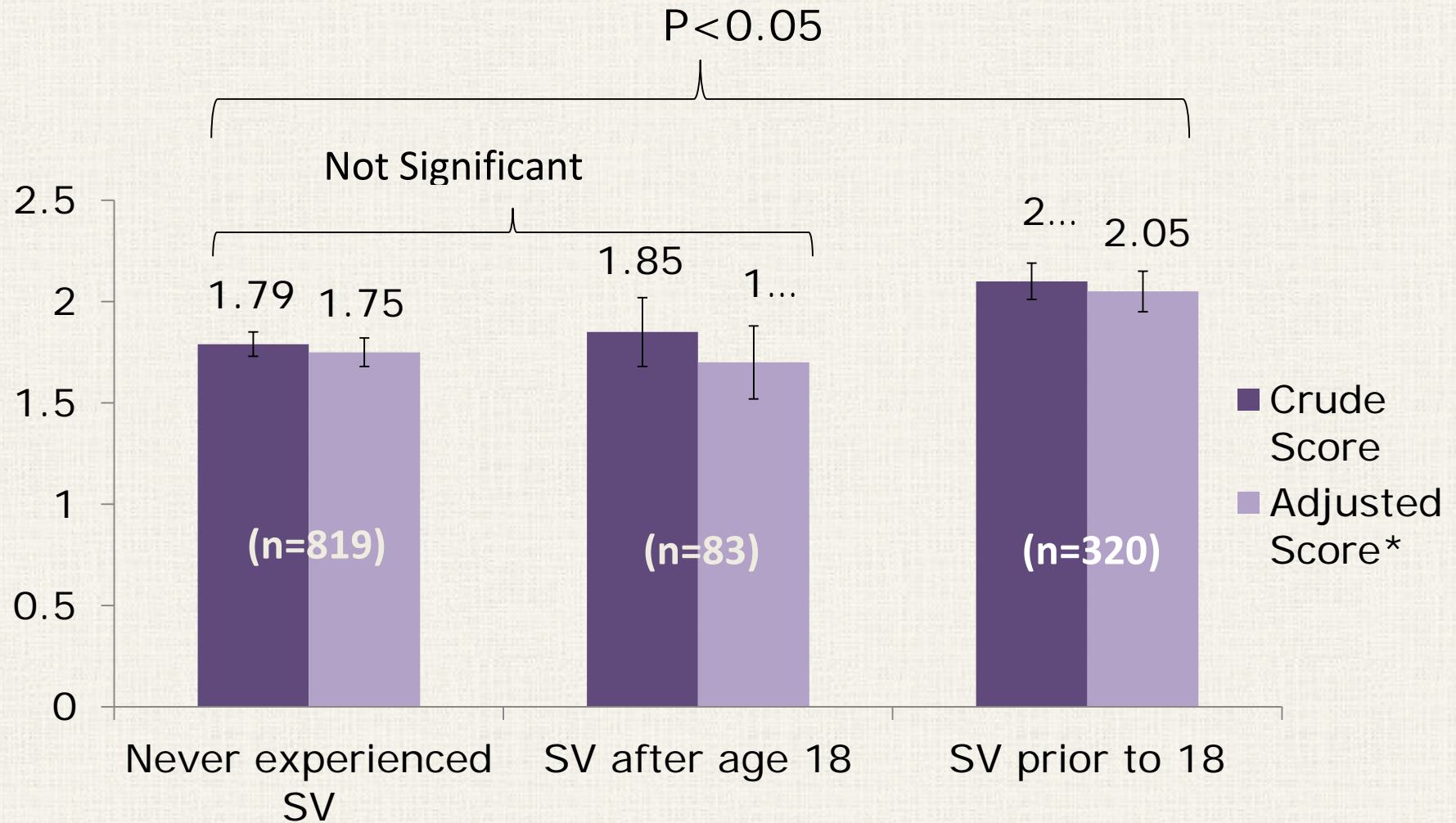


Majority of respondents endorsed 1 or more harmful gender norm

| Gender Score | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------------|-----------|------------|
| 0 | 74 | 18.4 |
| 1 | 94 | 23.4 |
| 2 | 78 | 19.4 |
| 3 | 68 | 16.9 |
| 4 | 56 | 13.9 |
| 5 | 27 | 6.7 |
| Missing | 6 | 1.2 |
| Total | 403 | 100 |

A red bracket highlights the percentage values for scores 1 through 5, which are 23.4, 19.4, 16.9, 13.9, and 6.7 respectively. A red arrow points from the text "80%" to this bracketed group, indicating that the cumulative percentage of respondents endorsing 1 or more harmful gender norms is 80%.

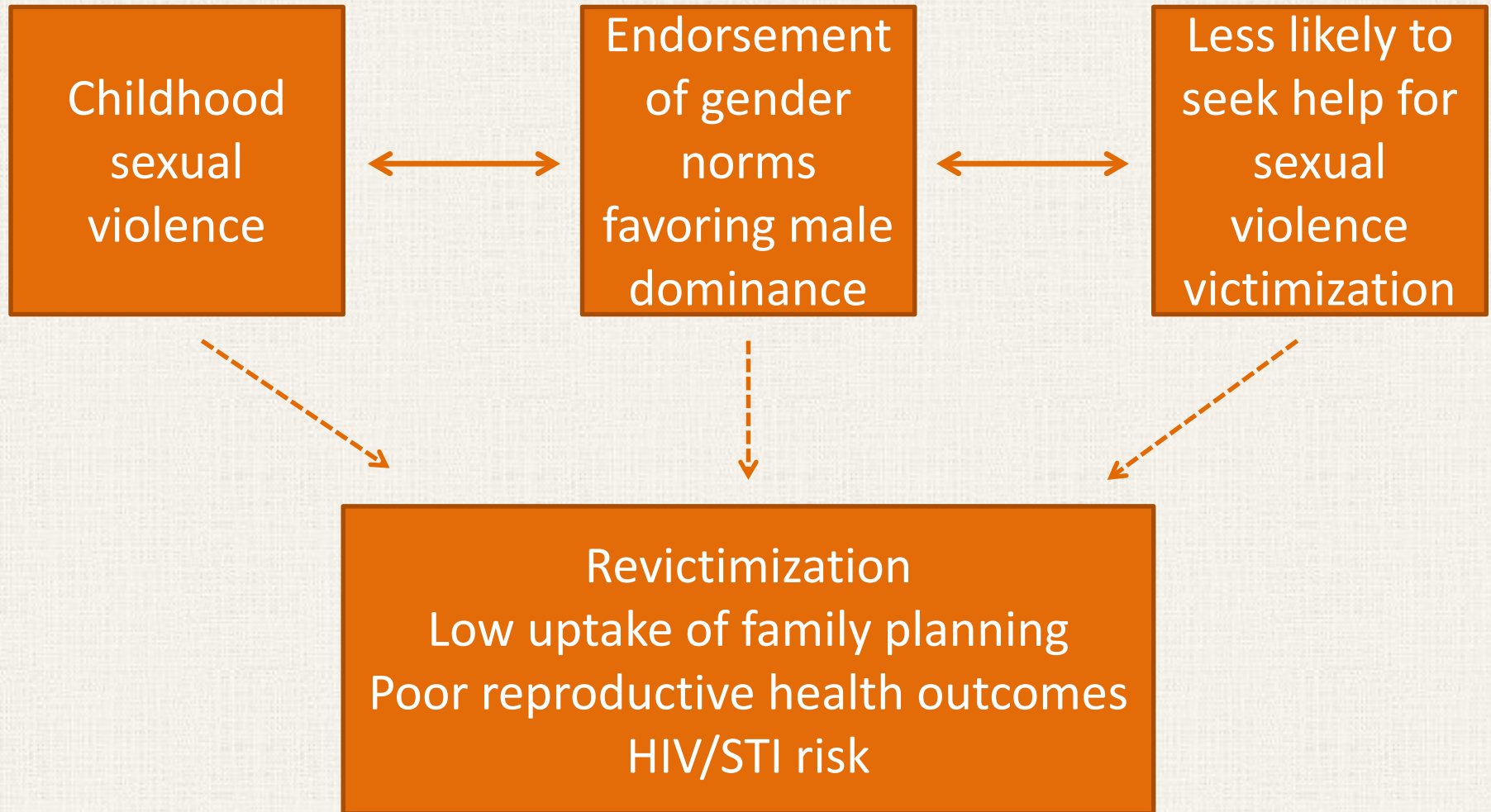
Gender scores by females' experiences of sexual violence



Association between harmful gender norms and help-seeking behaviors

| Help-seeking behaviors | Prevalence (%) | Adjusted Odds Ratios (95% CI) | P value |
|--|----------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| Told someone about the incident every time (n=150) | 38.5 | 0.86 (0.75, 0.98) | 0.03 |
| Know of a place to go for professional services (n=84) | 21.5 | 0.78 (0.66, 0.93) | 0.007 |
| Tried to seek professional services (n=20) | 5.1 | 0.70 (0.50, 0.98) | 0.04 |
| Received professional services successfully (n=15) | 3.9 | 0.49 (0.30, 0.81) | 0.005 |
| Tried to receive professional services for most recent incident (n=13) | 3.3 | 0.49 (0.29, 0.83) | 0.008 |

Implications of the Findings



Recommendations: evidence based action

Addressing harmful gender norms, including:

- INSPIRE
- Raising Voices
- Coaching Men into Boys
- Families Matter

Support reporting, help-seeking:

- Every Hour Matters campaign for post-rape care
- Technology based programs (e.g. phone apps connect victims with services)
- Establish child- and adolescent-friendly reporting





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Thank you!

Please contact the study co-authors for more information:
Laura Chiang at lchiang@cdc.gov
Daniela Ligiero at Daniela@togetherforgirls.org
Jessie Gleckel at ilm3@cdc.gov