

Prevalence of, and factors associated with, married women's experiences of recent intimate partner violence and family-level violence in Afghanistan

R. Jewkes, A. Gibbs, M. Shafiq, F. Marofi, A.
Ratan, C. Mann, E. Chriwa, and Julienne
Corboz

**Women for Women International (WfWI)
Women's Empowerment Program in Afghanistan**

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**Factors associated with emotional
and physical IPV**

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Afghanistan – VAWG and IPV

- Deeply patriarchal society – combination of conservative Islamic and traditional cultural norms
- VAWG endemic
- AFDHS (2015)
 - Prevalence of ever IPV (physical, sexual or emotional) – 56%
 - Prevalence of past year IPV (physical, sexual or emotional) – 52%
 - Prevalence of ever physical violence 51%, sexual violence 6%, emotional violence 37%.

Afghanistan – IPV and associated factors

- Age and number of children
- Women being employed without cash earnings
- Living in rural areas
- Provincial variations (e.g. 6% in Badakhshan vs. 92% in Herat)
- Lower levels of education
- Early and forced marriage
- Having gender inequitable attitudes
- Family history of domestic violence

Women for Women International



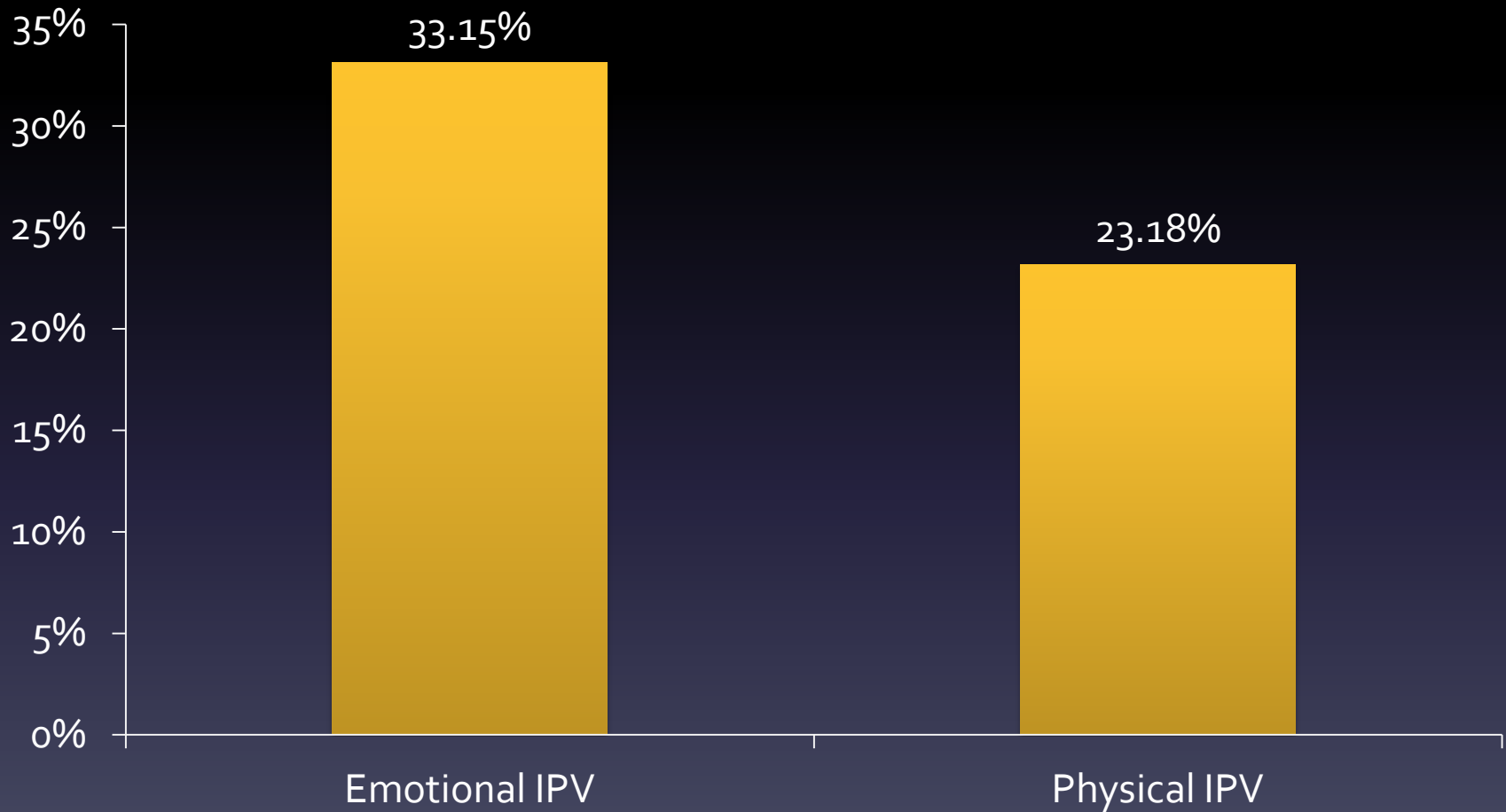
Methods

- Two arm, individually randomised control trial conducted in two provinces (Kabul and Nangarhar)
- Intervention group receive WfWI program, control group receive \$10 per survey
- Survey with women conducted at three evaluation waves
- Eligibility criteria: age (18-45), economic situation/unemployed, not having participated previously
- 935 currently married women recruited

Outcomes and measures

- Outcomes
 - Past year physical IPV
 - Past year emotional IPV
- Measures
 - Demographic (age, ethnic group, marital status, education)
 - Gender attitudes (individual gender attitudes, and perceptions of community gender attitudes)
 - Childhood trauma
 - Poverty (past month food insecurity, borrowing money in past month due to hunger, past month earnings and total savings)
 - Household relationships (husband cruelty, quarrelling with husband, experience of violence from other household members, including mother in law, father or sibling)
 - Health and wellbeing (past week depression – CED-D, PTSD – Harvard Trauma questionnaire, life satisfaction, overall health, past week suicidal ideation, disability – Washington group)

Prevalence of IPV



Associated factors

| | | No IPV | | Emotional IPV only | | Physical and emotional IPV | | | |
|------------------------|---------|--------|--------|--------------------|--------|----------------------------|--------|-------------|---------|
| | | N | %/mean | n (95%) | %/mean | n (95%) | %/mean | n (95%) | p-value |
| Ethnicity | Pashtun | 197 | 51.27 | 101 | 11.68 | 23 | 37.06 | 73 | <0.0001 |
| | Tajik | 488 | 71.52 | 349 | 10.25 | 50 | 18.24 | 89 | |
| | Hazara | 220 | 64.55 | 142 | 12.27 | 27 | 23.18 | 51 | |
| | Other | 14 | 35.71 | 5 | 42.86 | 6 | 21.43 | 3 | |
| Food insecurity | | | 4.73 | (4.52-4.94) | 6.2 | (5.69-6.71) | 6.6 | (6.20-7.00) | |

Associated factors

| | | No IPV | | | Emotional IPV only | | Physical and emotional IPV | | |
|---|-------|--------|--------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------|---------|
| | | N | %/mean | n (95%) | %/mean | n (95%) | %/mean | n (95%) | p-value |
| Ever attended a training session | (no) | 805 | 67.2 | 541 | 10.68 | 86 | 22.11 | 178 | 0.015 |
| | (yes) | 97 | 57.73 | 56 | 20.62 | 106 | 22.06 | 21 | |
| Attend women's savings group | (no) | 532 | 73.68 | 392 | 5.83 | 31 | 20.49 | 109 | <0.0001 |
| | (yes) | 387 | 52.97 | 205 | 19.38 | 75 | 27.65 | 107 | |
| Individual gender attitudes (>=less equitable) | | | 21.79 | (21.54-22.05) | 22.58 | (21.99-23.18) | 22.57 | (22.15-23.00) | |
| Perceived community gender attitudes (>=less equitable) | | | 21.46 | (21.22-21.70) | 22.91 | (22.36-23.45) | 23.44 | (23.00-23.89) | |
| Childhood Trauma (>=more) | | 1454 | 14.82 | (14.61-15.02) | 15.79 | (15.02-16.57) | 16.44 | (15.83-17.06) | |

Associated factors

| | | No IPV | | Emotional IPV only | | Physical and emotional IPV | | | |
|--|--------------|--------|--------|--------------------|--------|----------------------------|--------|---------------|---------|
| | | N | %/mean | n (95%) | %/mean | n (95%) | %/mean | n (95%) | p-value |
| Only wife | | 855 | 67.13 | 574 | 11.23 | 96 | 21.64 | 185 | <0.0001 |
| More than one wife | | 63 | 34.92 | 22 | 15.87 | 10 | 49.21 | 31 | |
| Violence from other family member | | | | | | | | | <0.0001 |
| | (no) | 747 | 71.89 | 537 | 10.17 | 76 | 17.94 | 134 | |
| | (yes) | 172 | 34.88 | 60 | 17.44 | 30 | 47.67 | 82 | |
| Husband cruelty (>=more) | | | 9.88 | (9.74-9.84) | 9.92 | (9.80-10.03) | 10.94 | (10.77-10.03) | |
| Quarrelling (>=more) | | | 1.6 | (1.52-1.69) | 1.75 | (1.63-1.88) | 2.16 | (2.06-2.25) | |
| Violence from other family member | | | | | | | | | <0.0001 |
| | (no) | 747 | 71.89 | 537 | 10.17 | 76 | 17.94 | 134 | |
| | (yes) | 172 | 34.88 | 60 | 17.44 | 30 | 47.67 | 82 | |
| Depressive symptoms (>=more) | | | 12.49 | (11.83-13.15) | 15.76 | (14.04-17.49) | 20.51 | (19.00-22.01) | |
| PTSD symptoms mean (>=more) | | | 1.43 | (1.40-1.46) | 1.64 | (1.53-1.74) | 1.84 | (1.76-1.92) | |

Multinomial regression models – physical and emotional IPV

| | None | Emotional IPV only | | Physical and emotional IPV | |
|---|------|--------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------|
| | | RRR (95% CI) | p-value | RRR (95% CI) | p-value |
| Currently attend a women's savings group | | 7.97(4.02-15.79) | <0.0001 | 2.41(1.35-4.32) | 0.003 |
| Childhood Trauma (>=more) | | 1.03(0.95-1.11) | 0.548 | 1.11(1.02-1.20) | 0.011 |
| Food insecurity >=more | | 1.15(1.03-1.28) | 0.014 | 1.09(0.98-1.22) | 0.099 |
| Husband has more than one wife | | 4.82(1.81-12.83) | 0.002 | 2.27(0.79-6.54) | 0.128 |
| Husband cruelty (>=more) | | 1.29(0.79-2.11) | 0.309 | 5.54(3.69-8.33) | <0.0001 |
| Quarrelling (>=more) | | 1.32(0.96-1.80) | 0.084 | 1.76(1.33-2.33) | <0.0001 |
| Experience of other form of family violence | | 3.61(1.89-6.88) | <0.0001 | 3.24(1.72-6.05) | <0.0001 |
| Perceived community gender attitudes (>=less equitable) | | 1.13(1.01-1.25) | 0.028 | 1.14(1.03-1.26) | 0.012 |
| Disability severity (>=more) | | 1.03(0.84-1.25) | 0.781 | 1.30(1.10-1.55) | 0.003 |

Adjusted for age and cluster

Concluding remarks

- Individual gender attitudes not associated with IPV, although perceptions of community gender attitudes are associated
- Food insecurity linked to emotional IPV, but no other markers of poverty linked to IPV. Possibility that economic empowerment may not lead to reduction in IPV without transformations in gender relationships
- Women's involvement in savings groups may be a risk factor for IPV
- Experience of violence from other family members is linked to higher prevalence of emotional and physical IPV
- Importance of working with men and other household members on IPV prevention