

THE OVERLAP OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN IN UGANDA

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Intersections Study

- *Understand the connection of intimate partner violence against women and violence against children in Uganda to inform new programming to promote healthy, non-violent, and just relationships in families*
- Funded by **SVRI** (co-PIs: C. Carlson & S. Namy, Raising Voices)
- **Qualitative:** Understand patterns of intersecting violence in families, as well as dynamics of positive, non-violent family relationships
- **Quantitative:** Overlap of and contributing factors for intimate partner violence and violence against children in Uganda



Background

- Non-fatal violence disproportionately affects women and children
 - 35% of women (WHO, 2013)
 - 50% of children (Hillis et al, 2016)
- IPV and violence against children occur in the same families—increasing the risk of negative consequences on children (Herrenkohl et al., 2008)
- Growing global emphasis on the intersection of IPV and violence against children (Guedes et al, 2016; *Know Violence Expert Working Group 2015-2016*)
- However, only very few studies on intersection--especially from the Global South (Fieggen et a., 2004; Ayinmode & Tunde-Ayinmode, 2009; Saile et al., 2014)

Quantitative Study Aims

- Aim 1: To determine the overlap of intimate partner violence against women (IPV) and violence against children using a probability sample of adolescent-caregiver dyads
- Aim 2: To identify common contributing factors for IPV and violence against children reported by adolescent-caregiver dyads, compared to families with no violence

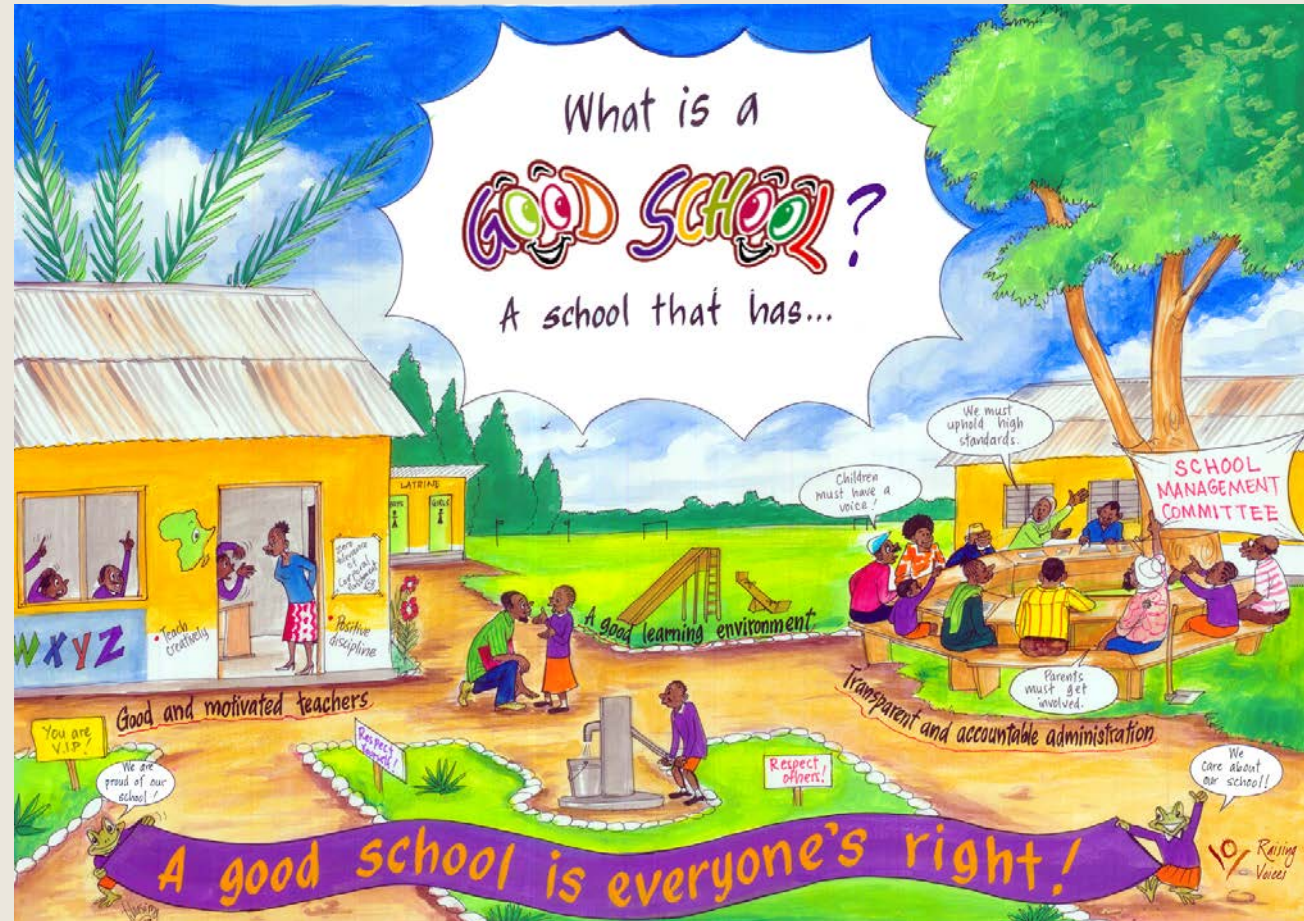


METHODS

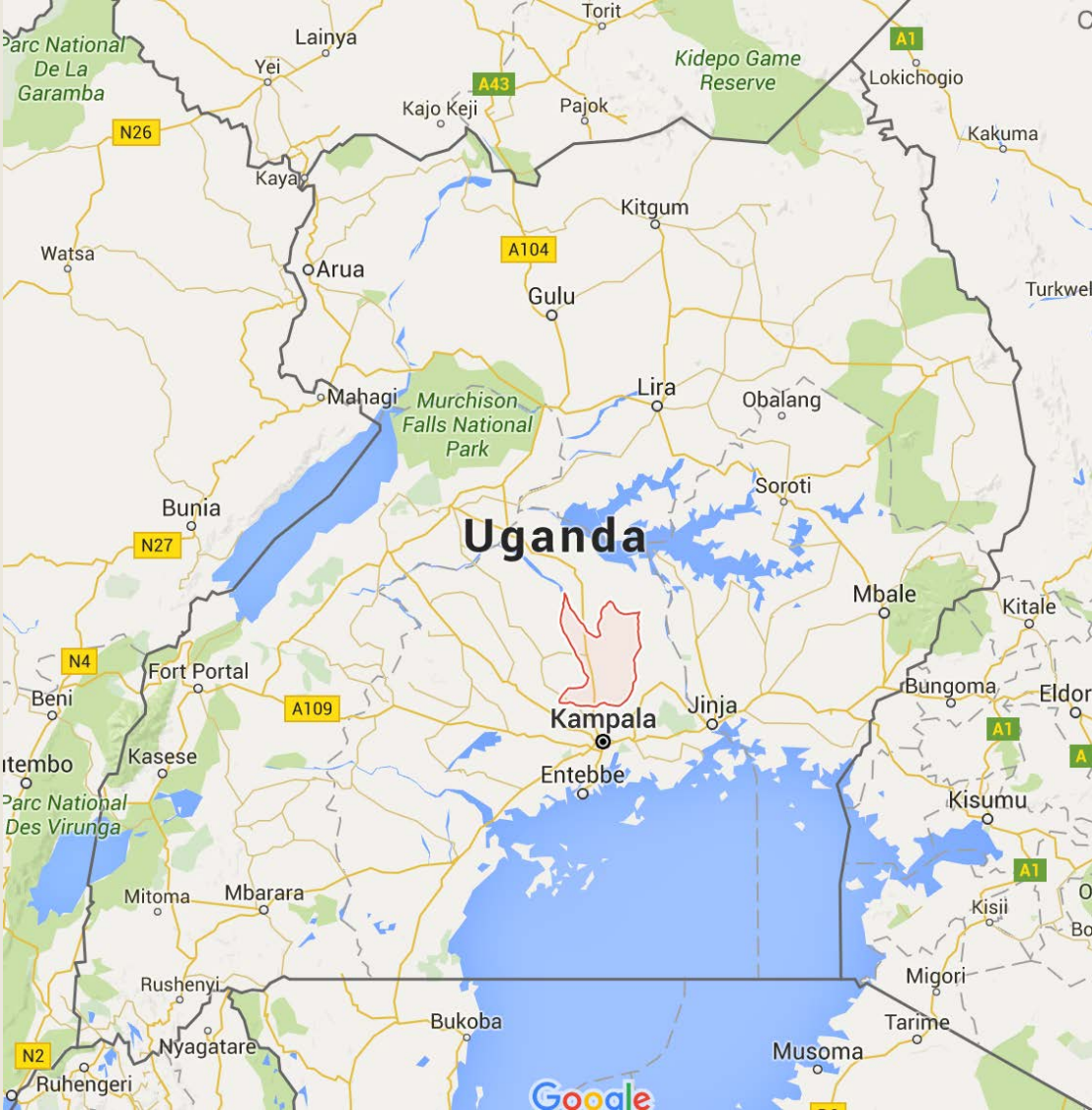
Data Source

- Secondary analysis of follow-up survey from the **Good Schools Study**:
 - Cluster RCT of the Good School Toolkit
 - Raising Voices & London School of Medicine and Tropical Hygiene
 - 2012-2014 in Luwero District
 - Demonstrated effectiveness in preventing corporal punishment in primary school

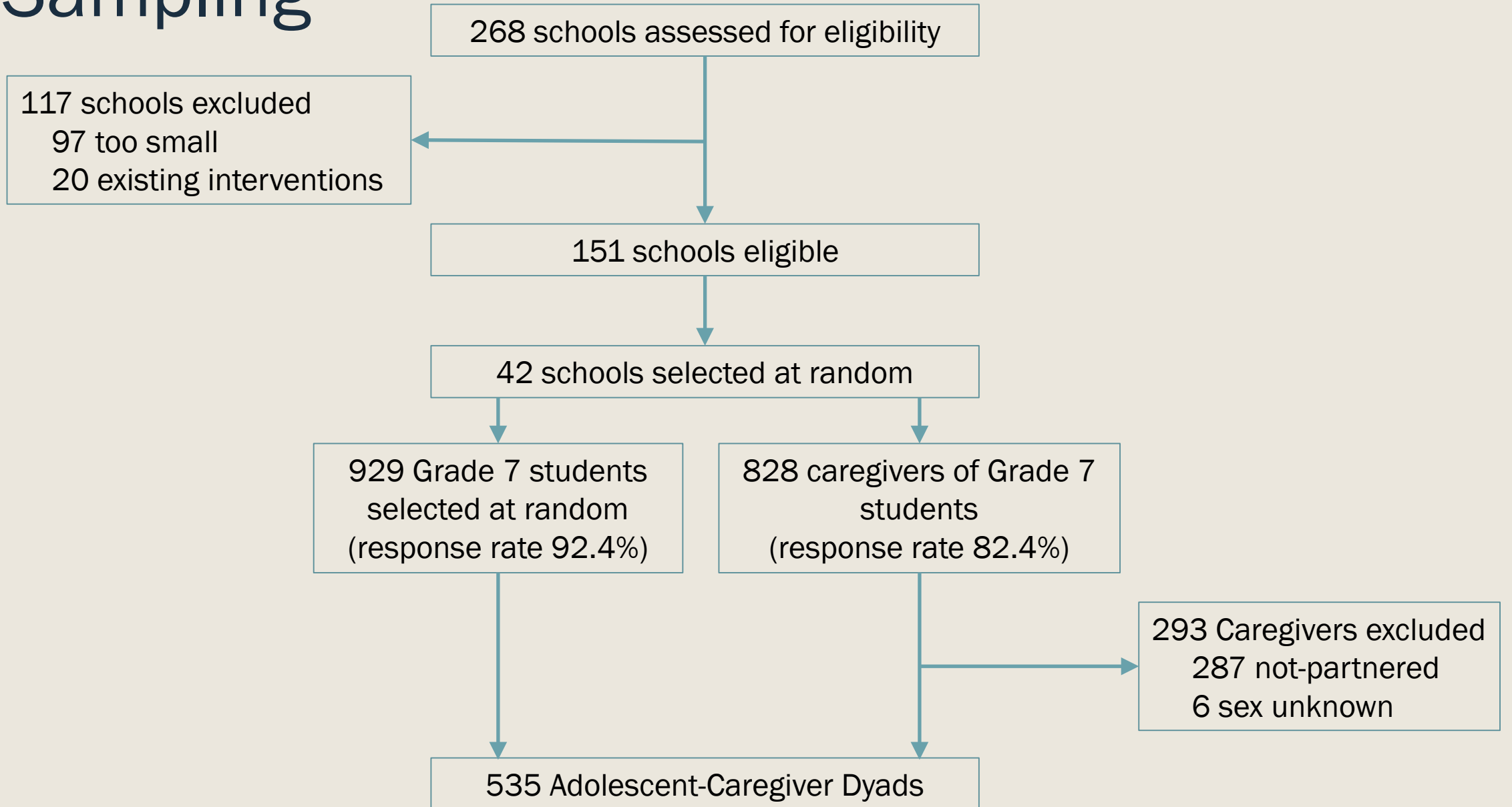
(Devries et al., 2015)



Luwero District



Sampling



Data Collection and Outcome Measures

- All measures translated into Luganda and pilot tested
- Surveys conducted face-to-face by trained, local researchers

	Adolescent Report	Caregiver Report
Violence against children	Ever experienced emotional, sexual, physical violence from <u>any</u> caregiver (ICAST)	Ever perpetrated emotional or physical violence against <u>specific</u> adolescent in study (ICAST)
Intimate partner violence against women		Ever experienced (women) or perpetrated (men) emotional, physical, sexual violence from current intimate partner (WHO VAW Questionnaire)

Covariates and Measures

	Adolescent Report	Caregiver Report
Age	Years	Years
Sex	Girl, Boy	Man, Woman
Education	P7 students	Primary vs. Secondary or more
Socioeconomic status		Index
Religious affiliation		Christian or Muslim
Physical disability	Any impairment vs. no impairment (Washington Group Short Set)	
Household size		Number of persons in household
Alcohol use frequency		0 days, 1-2 days, 3-5 days, 6-9 days, 10-19 days, 20-29 days, all 30 days
Mental distress	Strengths and Difficulties (alpha = .82)	Self-report Questionnaire (alpha = .92)
Relationship/family status	Lives with biological parent (Y/N)	Lives with current partner (Y/N)
Relationship duration		Years with current partner
Relationship quality	Family connectedness (alpha = .72)	Intimate partner emotional attachment (Relationship Structure Q; alpha = .90)
Attitudes on violence		Attitudes against violence against children (alpha = .82)



Data Analysis

- Descriptive statistics
 - *Mean and standard deviation (continuous variables)*
 - *Count and proportion (categorical variables)*
 - *Median and range (ordinal variables)*
- Bivariate analyses
 - *Chi-square, ANOVA, and Kruskal-Wallis for non-parametric test*
- Multinomial logistic regression (male and female caregivers)
 - *Controlled for intra-class (school) correlation*
- Missing data were imputed
- Analysis conducted with SPSS and Mplus 7.4

Adolescent Sample

Adolescent Reported Covariates	
Age, mean (SD)	14.02 (1.2)
Sex	
Boy	43.93%
Girl	56.07%
Mental distress (SDQ), mean (SD) (range 0-40)	14.61 (5.14)
Physical Disability	
No impairment	79.63%
Some or severe impairment	20.37%
Lives with at least one biological parent	71.23%
Family connectedness, mean (SD) (range 0-12)	7.2 (2.14)

Caregiver Sample

Caregivers Reported Covariates	
Age, mean (SD)	40.87 (10.81)
Sex	
Women	61.87%
Men	38.13%
Attended secondary school or higher	20.93%
Religious affiliation	
Christian	79.21%
Muslim	20.79%
Socioeconomic status, mean (SD)	-0.03 (0.27)
Mental distress (SRQ), mean (SD) (range 0-20)	5.71 (4.1)
Alcohol use frequency, median (min-max)	0 (0-6)
Lives with current partner	90.65%
Relationship years, median (min-max)	17 (0-50)
Intimate partner emotional attachment, mean (SD) (range 0-27)	25.64 (5.54)
Attitudes against VAC, mean (SD) (range 0-18)	14.37 (2.93)

RESULTS

Dyad Groups and Reports of Violence

Neither IPV or VAC	IPV 'Only'	VAC 'Only'	IPV and VAC
25.61% n=137	12.34% n=66	29.35% n=157	33.71% n=175

~ 75% report IPV and/or VAC

Dyads reporting any IPV were more likely to report any CM ($\chi^2=20.0$, $df=1$, $p<.001$).

IPV = Intimate partner violence against women
VAC = Violence against children

Multinomial Logistic Regression-Female Caregivers

	Odd-ratio (Confidence Interval)	IPV and VAC	VAC 'Only'	IPV 'Only'
Female Caregiver Reports				
Age (years)		0.97 (0.92-1.02)	1.04 (0.99-1.09)	1.01 (0.93-1.08)
Education (primary or no vs. some secondary or higher)		0.23 (0.10-0.56)***	0.47 (0.18-1.23)	0.14 (0.02-1.11)¥
Religious affiliation ^a		1.19 (0.53-2.69)	0.91 (0.38-2.19)	0.99 (0.34-2.85)
Socioeconomic status		0.14 (0.03-0.69)*	0.07 (0.01-0.44)**	0.25 (0.02-2.83)
Mental distress (SRQ)		1.08 (1.00-1.16)¥	0.96 (0.87-1.06)	1.04 (0.94-1.17)
Alcohol use		3.28 (0.91-11.89)¥	2.60 (0.95-7.07)¥	2.02 (0.32-12.82)
Intimate partner living status		1.44 (0.41-5.03)	1.26 (0.40-3.97)	3.35 (0.41-27.04)
Intimate partner relationship length (years)		1.04 (0.99-1.10)	1.00 (0.95-1.06)	1.03 (0.97-1.1)
Intimate partner emotional attachment		0.89 (0.84-0.94)***	0.98 (0.92-1.05)	0.91 (0.86-0.97)**
Attitudes against VAC		0.91 (0.80-1.03)	0.89 (0.78-1.03)	0.93 (0.78-1.11)
Adolescent Reports				
Age (years)		0.95 (0.70-1.30)	1.02 (0.74-1.40)	0.84 (0.59-1.20)
Sex of child (girls vs. boys)		1.65 (0.97-2.80)¥	2.06 (1.11-3.83)*	0.93 (0.43-2.01)
Mental distress (SDQ)		0.99 (0.93-1.05)	1.04 (0.98-1.10)	1.03 (0.95-1.11)
Physical disability		1.31 (0.21-8.04)	0.78 (0.14-4.43)	1.9 (0.22-16.13)
Lives with biological mother (vs. no bio parents)		1.16 (0.48-2.81)	1.15 (0.42-3.15)	1.35 (0.39-4.68)
Lives with biological father (vs. no bio parents)		1.38 (0.18-10.69)	2.26 (0.54-9.46)	3.07 (0.19-50.94)
Lives with both bio parents (vs. no bio parents)		0.81 (0.26-2.53)	0.69 (0.23-2.06)	0.40 (0.09-1.69)
Family connectedness		1.02 (0.86-1.21)	0.98 (0.84-1.14)	1.05 (0.86-1.28)

^a Muslim affiliation compared to Christian/Catholic (ref); ¥ p<0.10; * p<0.05; ** p<0.01; *** p<0.001 IPV=Intimate partner violence VAC=Violence against children

Multinomial Logistic Regression-Male Caregivers

	Odd-ratio (Confidence Interval)	IPV and VAC	VAC 'Only'	IPV 'Only'
Male Caregiver Reports				
Age (years)		0.96(0.92-1.00)*	0.95(0.91-1.00)*	1.01(0.95-1.07)
Education (primary or no vs. some secondary or higher)		1.04(0.31-3.44)	1.32(0.41-4.22)	0.88(0.26-2.95)
Religious affiliation ^a		1.65(0.60-4.55)	1.41(0.54-3.68)	4.13(0.96-17.71)¥
Socioeconomic status		1.86(0.28-12.53)	4.2(0.62-28.42)	11.21 (0.49-254.99)
Mental distress (SRQ)		1.09(0.95-1.25)	1.03(0.89-1.19)	1 (0.83-1.21)
Alcohol use		1.44(1.06-1.96)*	1.15(0.86-1.54)	1.3 (0.74-2.27)
Intimate partner living status		8.17(1.50-44.45)*	4.92(0.77-31.41)¥	3.02 (0.25-36.21)
Intimate partner relationship length (years)		1.02(0.96-1.09)	1.01(0.96-1.06)	0.93 (0.87-1.00)*
Intimate partner emotional attachment		0.79(0.69-0.90)***	0.98(0.88-1.09)	0.83 (0.69-0.99)*
Attitudes against VAC		0.86(0.72-1.02)¥	0.9(0.78-1.03)	0.97 (0.73-1.28)
Adolescent Reports				
Age (years)		1.54 (1.07-2.21)*	0.94(0.70-1.27)	1.42(0.86-2.36)
Sex of child (girls vs. boys)		1.97 (0.88-4.38)¥	0.63(0.25-1.57)	0.48(0.05-4.58)
Mental distress (SDQ)		0.94 (0.81-1.08)	0.98(0.94-1.03)	0.97(0.86-1.09)
Physical disability		0.39 (0.06-2.50)	0.54(0.10-2.96)	0.80(0.05-12.23)
Lives with biological mother (vs. no bio parents)		0.65 (0.20-2.18)	0.82(0.30-2.26)	4.65(0.29-74.25)
Lives with biological father (vs. no bio parents)		3.37 (0.73-15.56)	1.41(0.40-4.95)	1.16(0.07-19.31)
Lives with both bio parents (vs. no bio parents)		1.23 (0.33-4.54)	1.63(0.6-4.42)	0.79(0.07-9.42)
Family connectedness		0.99 (0.79-1.24)	0.94 (0.73-1.22)	0.62 (0.38-1.00)*

^a Muslim affiliation compared to Christian/Catholic (ref); ¥ p<0.10; * p<0.05; ** p<0.01; *** p<0.001 IPV=Intimate partner violence VAC=Violence against children

DISCUSSION

Key Takeaways

- Overlap rates of 33% (probability samples from high-income countries (HICs) range from 6-14%) (Appel & Holden, 1998; Margolin et al., 2003)
- Intimate partner violence associated with increased risk for violence against children—similar to studies from HICs (Herrenkohl et al., 2008)
- Potential profile of dyads with both intimate partner violence and violence against children:
 - *Female caregivers with less education, fewer economic resources, less attachment to intimate partners, more mental distress*, and more frequent alcohol use**
 - *Male caregivers with younger age, living with intimate partner, more frequent alcohol use, less attachment to intimate partners, and more attitudes condoning VAC**
 - *Older adolescents and girls* at increased risk of exposure to violence*

**Approaching statistical significance*

Limitations

- Given the focus of the survey on experiences of violence in school:
 - *School-attending sample*
 - *Measure focused on violence in schools; VAC likely under-reported*
 - *No measures of caregivers' experiences of VAC in childhood*
- Recall periods for IPV and VAC
- Cross sectional data, unable to determine causal relationships

Implications for Future Research

- Need to examine overlap and relationship between additional forms of violence (i.e. sexual violence, economic violence)
- Understand potential overlap of violence against other family members (i.e. siblings, grandparents)
- More research which can measure the “co-occurrence” of IPV and VAC
- Intervention studies on either IPV and VAC should consider adding assessments to also evaluate the impact on violence against other family members.

Implications for Practice

- Interdependent and potentially protective nature of family relationships—opportunity for integrated prevention programming
- Cross-cutting potential to addressing specific risk factors (alcohol use, poverty, education)
- Screening for additional forms of violence in VAC and VAW response programs
- Address gendered forms of violence in integrated programming.



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APPENDIX



ICAST – International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

Screening tool

Items

Insulted you, or called you rude or hurtful names?

Accused you of witchcraft?

Locked you out or made you stay outside?

Not given you food?

Twisted your arm or any other body part?

slapped you, pushed you or thrown something at you?

Punched you, kicked you, or hit you with a closed fist?

Hit you with an object, such as a stick or a cane, or whipped you?

Cut you with a sharp object or burnt you?

WHO Violence against Women Questionnaire

Items

Done things to scare or intimidate you or threatened to hurt someone you care about?

Slapped, pushed, or shoved you?

Hit you with a fist or object that could hurt you, kicked, dragged, or beat you up?

Choked, burnt you, or used a knife, panga, gun or other weapon against you?

Did you ever have sex with them when you did not want to, because you were afraid of what they might do?

Did they ever force you to have sex with them when you did not want to?

Socioeconomic Status Index Questions

Items

Do you own or rent a property, live somewhere without paying, or does your employer pay for your accommodation?

How many children aged 17 years and younger sleep in the same sleeping area with you?

Thinking about your house where you live now, what is the main material of the floor? (Earth, sand, dung or Ceramic, cement, carpet.)

Does your household own electricity?

Does your household own a radio?

Does your household own a television?

Does any member of your household own a watch?

Does any member of your household own a mobile phone?

Does any member of your household own a motorcycle?

Physical disability questions

Items	Responses
Do you have difficulty seeing, even if wearing glasses?	No-no difficulty.....0
Do you have difficulty hearing, even if using a hearing aid?	Yes-some difficulty.....1
Do you have difficulty walking or climbing steps?	Yes-a lot of difficulty.....2
Do you have difficulty remembering or concentrating?	Cannot do at all.....3
Do you have difficulty with self-care, such as washing all over or dressing?	

Family connectedness

Items	Responses
I feel like my parents/caregivers care about me	All the time01
I feel safe at home”;	Most of the time02
I belong at home”;	Sometimes.....03
I like to spend time at home	Never04

Relationship Structure Questionnaire

Items	Responses
It helps to turn to this person in times of need.	All the time.....1
I usually discuss my problems and concerns with this person.	Often.....2
I talk things over with this person.	Sometimes.....3
I find it easy to depend on this person.	Never.....4
I don't feel comfortable opening up to this person.	
I prefer not to show this person how I feel deep down.	
I often worry that this person doesn't really care for me.	
I'm afraid that this person may abandon me.	
I worry that this person won't care about me as much as I care about him or her.	

Attitudes against VAC

Items	Responses
Parents must be in control of children at all times.	Strongly agree.....01 Agree.....02
Sometimes parents must hit children to make them listen.	Disagree.....03 Strongly disagree.....04
Children who misbehave should be physically disciplined.	
Children should often fear their parents.	
Sometimes physically disciplining children is the only way to make them respect you.	
Sometimes parents must hit children to make them learn.	

Overlap in violence, by type

		Violence against Children			
		Emotional	Physical	Any	None
Intimate partner violence against women	Emotional	5.79% (n=31)	4.86% (n=26)	8.04% (n=43)	4.30% (n=23)
	Physical	16.26% (n=87)*	16.07% (n=86)*	23.74% (n=127)*	8.79% (n=47)*
	Sexual	14.02% (n=75)*	12.15% (n=65)*	19.25% (n=103)	4.49% (n=24)
	Any	22.24% (n=119)*	21.68% (n=116)*	33.71% (n=175)*	12.34% (n=66)
	None	14.95% (n=80)*	21.68% (n=116)*	29.35% (n=157)	25.61% (n=137)

* $p < .05$