



Has Physical Intimate Partner Violence Reduced Over Time in Bangladesh?

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Background

- VAW - a serious public health, human rights and developmental issue worldwide
- IPV - the most common type of VAW ranging from 16-66% world-wide (Devries et al., 2013)
- IPV in South Asian countries - as high as 42% (Devries et al., 2013)
- Physical and/or sexual IPV Bangladesh – 54% (BBS, 2016)

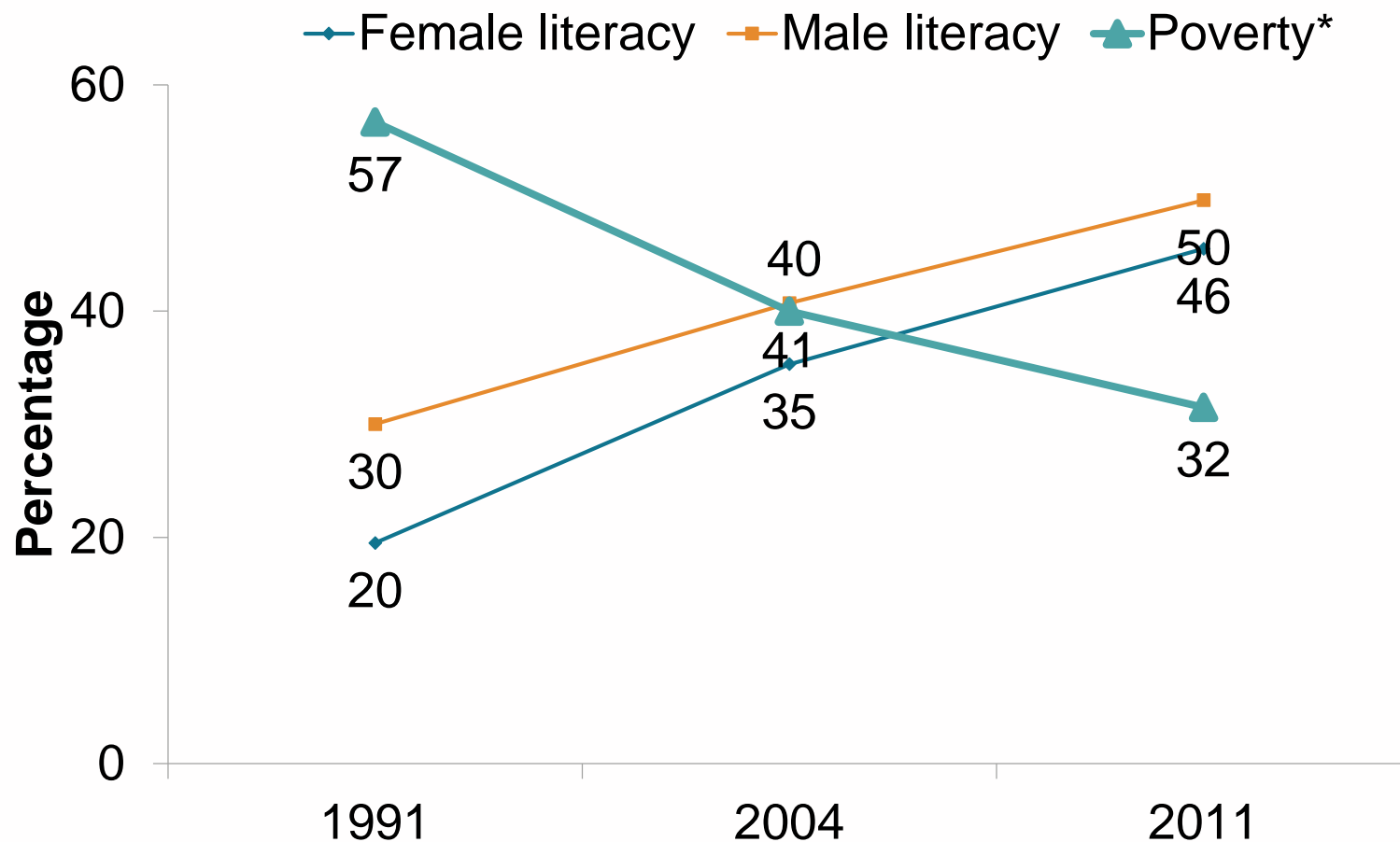




Background...

- Laws - Prevention of Oppression against Women and Children Act 2000. (Amended 2003), Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act 2010, Criminal Laws Relating to Physical and Sexual Violence, etc.
- Government multi-sectoral program provides services to survivors
- NGO programs deal with both prevention and response

Change in key indicators in Bangladesh



*1991, 2005, 2010

Source: Population and housing census; BIHES



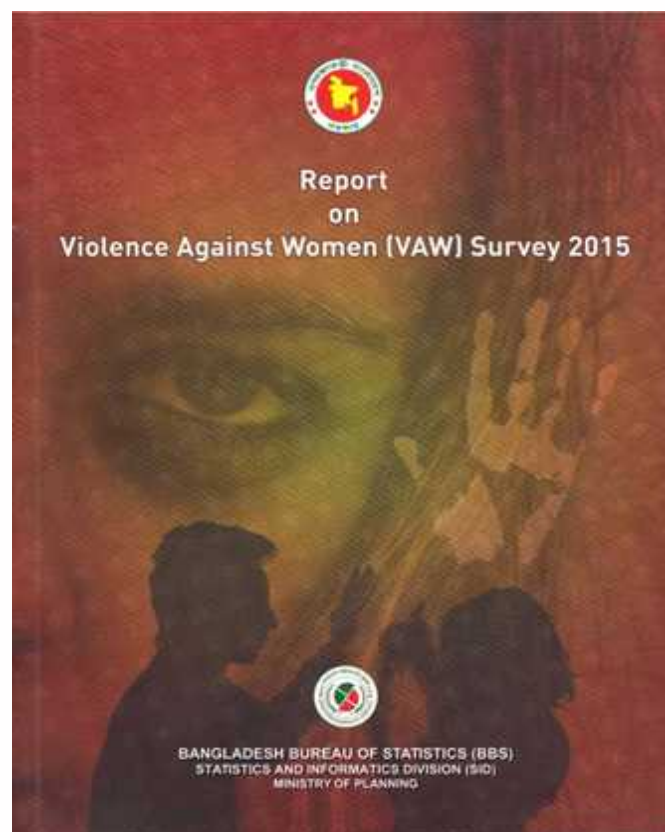
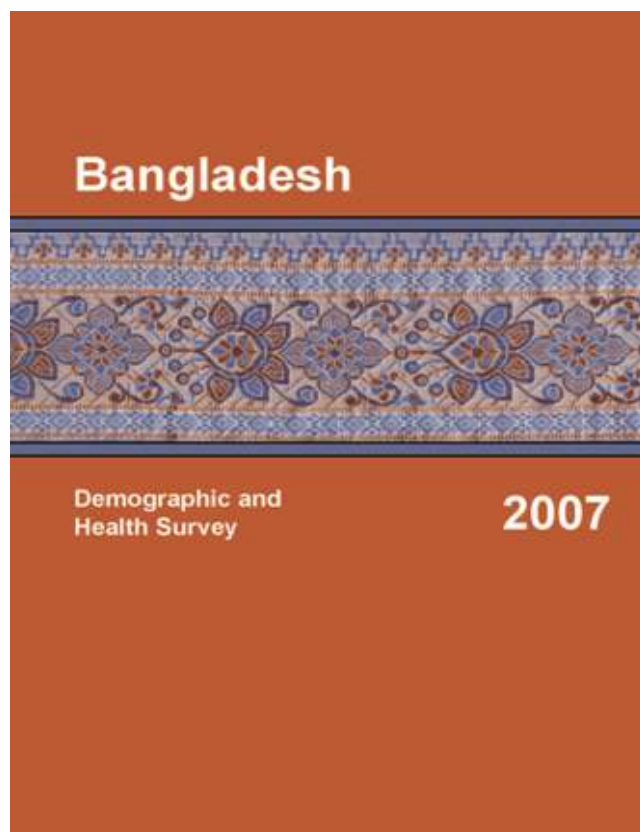


Objective

To assess trend in prevalence of physical IPV against women between 2007 and 2015

Methodology

Secondary analysis of the published results from two nationally representative surveys:



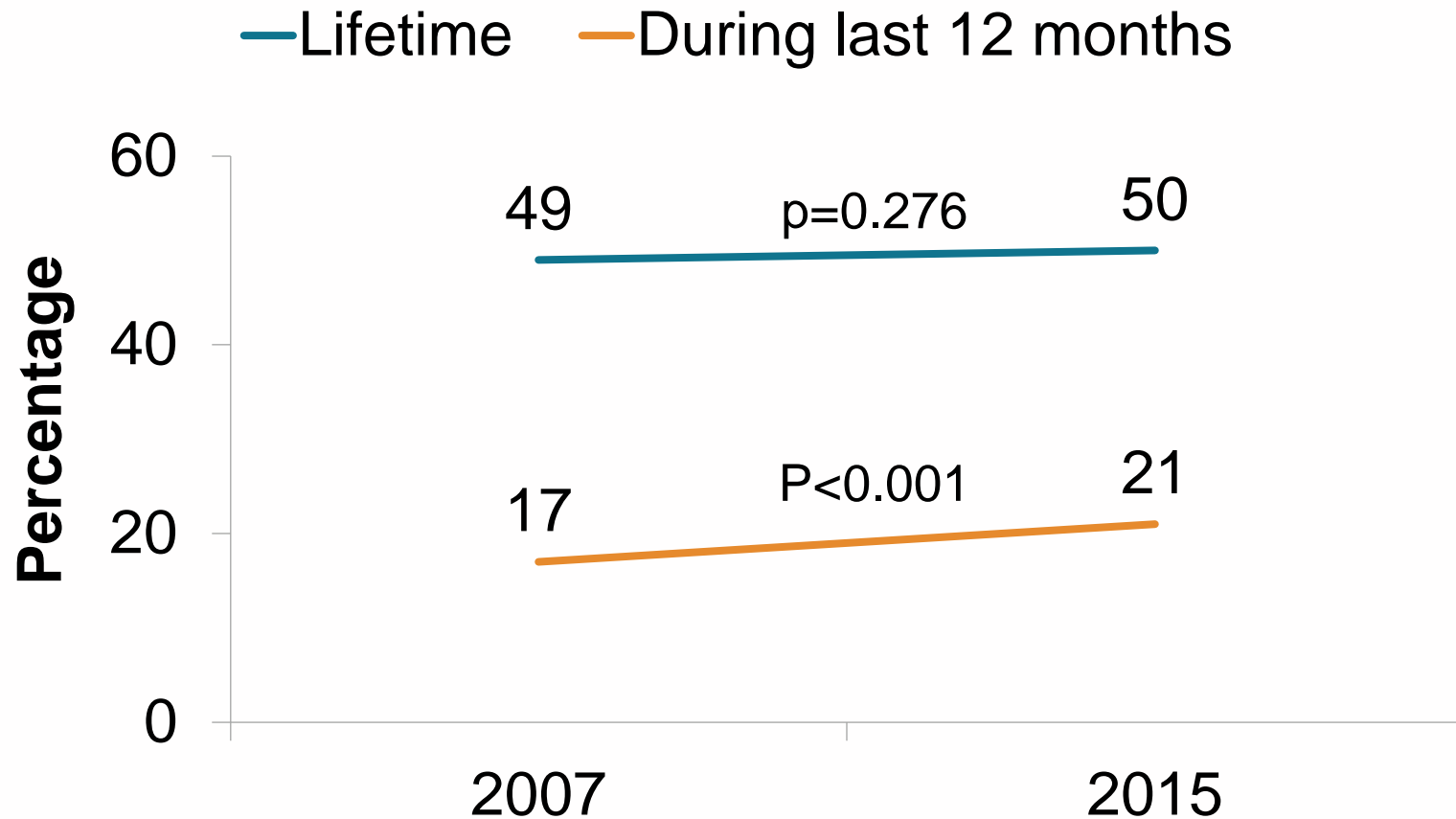
Comparison of two surveys

	BDHS 2007	NVAWS 2015
Type of survey	Includes VAW as a part of DHS	Fully dedicated VAW survey
Representativeness	Nationally representative	Nationally representative
Age range	15-49 y	15 or more
Sample size (female)	10,996	22,775
Number of ever married women	4,467	19,987

Analysis

Z-test was performed to test the difference in the rates of lifetimes and current physical violence between these two time points

Trend in physical IPV during over time





Discussion

- Prevalence of lifetime physical IPV has undergone any changes over the reference period
- Prevalence of this IPV during the last 12 months has slightly increased over this period
- Despite enormous effort from GOs, NGOs, donors and activists it seems that there is no good news for us in reducing physical IPV



Possible explanations

- The programmes are may not be effective much
- Laws are not being implemented properly, which could reduce IPV
- Some other factors may be contributing to escalation of IPV



Recommendations

- This demands further research into the causes of escalation of IPV
- More research is needed for identifying effective interventions
- Evidence-based Interventions need to be designed and implemented
- Proper implementation of law



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