Men's use of physical and sexual violence against women:
Initial findings from the International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES) and the South African Study of men, masculinities, rape & HIV

Rachel Jewkes, Gender & Health Research Unit, Medical Research Council
Sexual violence in global perspective

• Sexual violence globally is highly prevalent and hugely consequential in its impact, yet it remains one of the most under-researched areas

• Resources have predominantly focused on victims, with the consequence that there has been very little research on the men who perpetrate sexual violence

• Such work as has been done has focused on US college men, convicted rapists and more recently men in clinical samples

• Research with representative samples of community-based men on rape has been almost completely lacking
Without research on men...

- We lack data:
  - to fully understand the nature of the problem
  - to understand risk factors for raping
  - to develop programs and appropriate national strategies for prevention
Research on men & rape: multi-country perspectives

- In 2008 South Africa conducted a survey on men and masculinities, rape & HIV
- Setting: three districts in the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu Natal Provinces – spanning geographical areas: rural, urban and city
- Study design: cross-sectional; two stage random sample
- Cluster design: 222 enumeration areas, 20 households approached per ea, one man aged 18-49 years interviewed per household
- APDAs (Audio-enhanced Personal Digital Assistants) were used for the survey and a finger prick specimen of blood for HIV testing (in a lab using ELISA)
- We completed interviews in 215 of 220 eligible eas (97.7%) and in 1,738 of 2,298 (75.6%) of the enumerated and eligible households
IMAGES Study

• Part of Men & Gender Equity Policy Project, led by Promundo, Brazil & ICRW, USA
• Survey fieldwork planned for India, Brazil, Mexico, Chile, Croatia, Tanzania and Cambodia
• Instrument built on questionnaires used by Promundo in Brazil, the Nordic Institute of Women's and Gender Research (NIKK), Oslo and the South African survey,
India

• Methods similar to South Africa
• Multi-stage sample:
  – three districts (Central Delhi, East Delhi and South Delhi) were selected randomly
  – 15 urban wards were selected, with sampling using Probability Proportion to Size (PPS);
  – two Census Enumeration Blocks (CEB) were selected randomly per ward
  – A complete house listing was done in the selected CEB and using systematic random sampling, around 30 households were selected for interviewing eligible men
• In Vijayawada, 500 men were interviewed using the same procedure.
• Questionnaires were administered using APDAs
• Interviews were conducted in 54% of visited households
• Analysis presented for n=1363 men aged 18-49
Croatia

- Data is not strictly comparable
- It was a convenience sample of men, stratified by age with equal numbers of men aged 18-29, 30-44 and 45-60 (reflecting census)
- Interviewers were asked to find men who lived in Zagreb (urban area) and in 2 western counties of Croatia, in small towns and villages (rural area)
- Face to face interviews – using same questions
- We present here findings for men aged 18-44 years
Prevalence of rape reported by adult men

- South Africa
- India
- Croatia

- All rape
- SIPV
- Gang rape
Prevalence of physical & sexual intimate partner violence in ever partnered South African & Indian men (and all Croatians)

- South Africa
- India
- Croatia *

Physical IPV
- South Africa: 43%
- Croatia: 25%

Sexual IPV
- South Africa: 20%
- Croatia: 3%
- India: 38%
Distribution of victim numbers among men who have raped
Prevalence of rape of man or boy

South Africa: 3.0%
India: 0.5%
Croatia: 0.5%
Rape myths (Burke’s scale)

• When a woman is raped, she usually did something careless to put herself in that situation
• In some rape cases women actually want it to happen
• If a woman doesn’t physically fight back, you can’t really say it was rape
• In any rape case one would have to question whether the victim is promiscuous or has a bad reputation
Rape myth endorsement

- She caused it
- She wanted it
- Real victims fight back
- She may be promiscuous

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Myth</th>
<th>South Africa</th>
<th>India</th>
<th>Croatia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>She caused it</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She wanted it</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real victims fight back</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She may be promiscuous</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

South Africa, India, Croatia
Distribution of scores on gender equitable men scale by country
• Logistic regression models of associations between raping, childhood trauma, rape myths, partner violence, gender inequity and alcohol in 3 countries

  – South Africa – adjusted for age, race, education & stratum
  – India- adjusted for age, education & stratum
  – Croatia – adjusted for age & education
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>South Africa</th>
<th></th>
<th>India</th>
<th></th>
<th>Croatia</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>P value</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>P value</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>P value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childhood trauma scale</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
<td>1.03</td>
<td>0.34</td>
<td>0.98</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape myths</td>
<td>1.02</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>0.92</td>
<td>0.005</td>
<td>0.76</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol score</td>
<td>1.15</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>0.004</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>0.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender equitable men:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>low</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mid</td>
<td>0.72</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.95</td>
<td>0.81</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>0.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>high</td>
<td>0.47</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.61</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0.006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical IPV</td>
<td>3.19</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
<td>2.69</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
<td>1.63</td>
<td>0.12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Discussion

• In this paper we have shown substantial differences in prevalence and patterns of rape between countries
• South Africa does not necessarily have a higher prevalence of rape than India but there is much more rape outside the ‘private’ domain of the home
• Croatia has much less rape and has generally more gender equitable men, but they have still often been physically violent to partners
Implications for rape prevention

• Reducing trauma in childhood: challenge for the South African rape prevention agenda
• Building gender equity: promoting the construction of more gender equitable and less violent, ideals and practices of manhood are essential in reducing sexual violence
• Rape myths: seemed to be of importance in predicting rape or justifying rape in India and Croatia but not South Africa – their role in facilitating rape is quite unclear
• Reducing alcohol consumption: very relevant in South Africa and India
Conclusions

• This is a very preliminary analysis of data from three countries
• It highlights important differences in how rape is understood, prevented and the shape of responses between settings
• Highlights the importance of multi-country research in understanding sexual violence
Authors from IMAGES & the South African Study

• **IMAGES Principal Investigators**: Gary Barker, Meg Greene, ICRW, Washington

• **Croatia data**: Natasa Bijelic, C E S I - Centar za edukaciju, savjetovanje i istrazivanje, Zagreb, Croatia

• **India data**: Ravi Verma, Ajay Singh, Gary Barker, ICRW, Dehli

• **IMAGES Study**: the project overall and India site funded by the MacArthur Foundation, Ford Foundation, an anonymous donor, and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

• **South African study team**: Rachel Jewkes, Yandisa Sikweyiya, Robert Morrell, Kristin Dunkle

• **Funded by**: the UK Department For International Development (DFID), and grant was managed by their local partner Human Life Sciences Partnership (HLSP)