Tanzania Violence Against Children 2009 Population Based Study

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Outline of the Presentation

- Global problem of violence against children
- Why Tanzania?
- Objectives of the Tanzania Violence against Children Study
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusion
The Global Burden of Violence against Children

- In 2002, WHO estimated that 150 million girls and 73 million boys had experienced some form of sexual violence prior to age 18.
- 36-62% of reported sexual assaults are committed against girls 15 or younger.
- Only 10%-20% of child sexual abuse cases are reported to authorities.
- Child survivors of sexual violence are at a significantly greater risk for negative health outcomes and sexual risk taking later in life.
The Choice of Tanzania for a National Study

- Little data available on the nature and magnitude of VAC in Tanzania
- Anecdotal evidence suggests a large and hidden epidemic
- Increasing evidence to suggest a link between child sexual violence and HIV
- Committed partners in the government and civil society
Objectives of the Tanzania Violence against Children Study

- Estimate the nature and magnitude of violence experienced by children (under 18 years of age) in Tanzania
- Identify the risk and protective factors of violence against children in Tanzania
- Identify the health outcomes of violence against children in Tanzania
- Estimate the service utilization of child survivors of violence in Tanzania
Defining Sexual Violence

- **Sexual Touching**
  “...has anyone touched you in a sexual way against your will but did not try to force you to have sex? This includes being fondled, pinched, grabbed or touched inappropriately”

- **Attempted Sex**
  “...has anyone tried to make you have sex against your will, but the sex did not happen. In other words, they did not succeed in making you have sex”

- **Coerced Sex**
  “...has anyone pressured you to have sexual intercourse against your will and you had sex”

- **Physically Forced Sex**
  “...has anyone physically forced you to have sexual intercourse against your will”
Multi-Sectoral Approach

- **Multi-Sectoral Task Force**
  - Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children
  - Ministry of Labour, Youth, Women and Children
  - Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
  - Ministry of Home Affairs - Tanzania Police Force
  - Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs
  - Ministry of Education and Vocational Training
  - Tanzania Commission for HIV and AIDS
  - The Prime Minister’s Office
  - Tanzania Child Rights Forum

- **UNICEF - Tanzania**
- **Muhimbili University**
- **CDC**
Methods
Study Design

- Retrospective Design
- 13-24 year old Females and Males
  - Zanzibar
  - Mainland

- 3-Stage Cluster Sample
  - Random selection of clusters
  - Random selection of households
  - Random selection of respondents from eligible household members
Example of Two-stage Cluster Sample

Stage 1: Randomly select clusters throughout the country
200 clusters selected

Stage 2: Randomly select households within a cluster
36-52 households selected per cluster

Interview team visits cluster

Stage 3: Randomly select respondent for participation
1 respondent selected per household
Survey Design: Protect Respondents

- WHO: Ethical and Safety Recommendations for Research on Domestic Violence Against Women
- Framing the Study in the Community
- 3 Stage Consent/Assent Process
- Support services referral system including acute need
  - If visibly upset during the interview
  - If experienced SV in the past 12 months
  - If requested counseling
Results
## The Final Sample

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Houses Visited</th>
<th>Completed Interviews</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mainland Tanzania Female</td>
<td>2104</td>
<td>908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainland Tanzania Male</td>
<td>2338</td>
<td>891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zanzibar Female</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zanzibar Male</td>
<td>2231</td>
<td>880</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prevalence

Type of Childhood Sexual Violence
Reported by Males and Females Aged 13 to 24 Years

- **Physically Forced Sex**
  - Girls: 5.5%
  - Boys: 2.2%

- **Coerced Sex**
  - Girls: 3.1%
  - Boys: 1.6%

- **Attempted Sex**
  - Girls: 14.6%
  - Boys: 6.3%

- **Sexual Touching**
  - Girls: 16%
  - Boys: 8.7%
Perpetration

Perpetrators of Childhood Sexual Violence
Reported by Males and Females Aged 13 to 24 years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dating Partner</td>
<td>47.9</td>
<td>24.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stranger</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbour</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td>32.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authority Figure</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>14.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relatives</td>
<td>14.1</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friend/Classmate</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Service Seeking Behavior

Child Survivors of Sexual Violence Who Told Someone, Sought Services and Obtained Them
Reported by Males and Females Aged 13 to 24 Years

Girls
- Told Someone: 52.3%
- Sought Services: 22%
- Obtained Services: 13%

Boys
- Told Someone: 31.4%
- Sought Services: 11.5%
- Obtained Services: 3.7%
Disclosure of to Support Networks

Disclosure of Childhood Sexual Violence -
Reported by 13-24 Year Olds Who Experienced Childhood Sexual Violence

- Mother/Father: Girls 40.7%, Boys 22.8%
- Other Relative: Girls 27.6%, Boys 26.5%
- Friends: Girls 35.7%, Boys 70.8%
Health Outcomes of Sexual Violence: Females

Current health status of females who experienced childhood sexual violence
Reported by females aged 13-24 years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Outcome</th>
<th>Experienced sexual violence</th>
<th>Did not experience sexual violence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fair/poor health</td>
<td>58.6</td>
<td>41.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feeling depressed</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>21.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feeling anxious</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicidal thoughts</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Experienced sexual violence
- Did not experience sexual violence
Sexual Risk Taking: Condom Use

None or Infrequent Self-Reported Condom Use in the Previous 12 Months by Experiences of Childhood Sexual

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None or Infrequent Self-Reported Condom Use in the Previous 12 Months by Experiences of Childhood Sexual</td>
<td>Experienced Childhood Sexual Violence</td>
<td>Did not Experience Childhood Sexual Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experienced Childhood Sexual Violence</td>
<td>46.1</td>
<td>56.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did not Experience Childhood Sexual Violence</td>
<td>24.4</td>
<td>30.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sexual Risk Taking: Multiple Partners

Multiple Sex Partners in the Previous 12 Months

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Experienced Childhood Sexual Violence</th>
<th>Did not Experience Childhood Sexual Violence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>36.1</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>61.2</td>
<td>31.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusion
Conclusions from the 2009 Tanzania VAC Study

- The government of Tanzania and stakeholders have bravely decided to address the problem of VAC head-on.
- Sexual violence against children in Tanzania is an epidemic.
- Sexual violence against children in Tanzania is linked to negative health outcomes and sexual risk-taking behaviors.
- Few children in Tanzania who have experienced sexual violence are receiving professional help.
- The government of Tanzania has developed a national strategy to address violence against children.
Acknowledgments

- Tanzania VACS Multi-Sectoral Task Force
- UNICEF-Tanzania
- Muhimbili University
- Together for Girls
- CDC Tanzania
- The interviewers and field supervisors and the data entry team
- All of the other amazing institutions and individuals that contributed to the success of this study
The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.