Sexual violence, female employment and social isolation across six conflict-affected countries

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SVRI Forum 2013, Bangkok, Thailand
October 16th 2013
Framing Questions

- Does labor market participation by women decrease their likelihood of experiencing Sexual Violence? (i.e. is a standard household bargaining model sufficient to understand this relationship?)

- Does social isolation affect the likelihood of Sexual Violence?
Theory

- Limited economics literature, mostly motivated by household bargaining models
  - IPV result of lower endowments of women
  - Kabeer 2008, Panda & Agarwal 2005

- Alternative perspectives
  - IPV result of male power, domination or reaction to threats to traditional forms of male domination (particularly SV)
  - Jewkes 2008, Silberschmidt 2001
Gendered Analysis: First Step

Women's Experience During & Post War

Vulnerabilities
- Endure Violence
- Displacement

Agency
- Commit Violence
- Political Action
- Build & Sustain Peace
Gendered Analysis:
Carol Cohn – Women & Wars (2012)

Women's Experience During & Post War

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IP Sexual Violence Across Six Conflict Affected Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>IP Sexual Violence within last year</th>
<th>IP Sexual Violence Ever Experienced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cote d'Ivoire</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>10.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRC</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>35.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>15.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Methodology

- Logit Regression Analysis
  - SV=1 if sexual violence ever experienced, 0 otherwise

- Independent variables:
  - Household characteristics
  - Social characteristics
  - Labor market characteristics
IP Sexual Violence and Female Employment

Adjusted Odds Ratio

- Côte d'Ivoire (0.71)
- Liberia 0.32
- DRC (1.07)
- Mozambique (1.07)
- Rwanda 1.35
- Zimbabwe (1.21)
IP Sexual Violence and Relative Male Economic Disempowerment

- Rwanda: 2.52
- Zimbabwe: 1.21
- Cote d'Ivoire: 0.71
- Liberia: 0.32
Likelihood of IP Sexual Violence with Partner Restricting Access to Family

Cote d'Ivoire
2.46

Rwanda
2.37

Mozambique
1.81

Zimbabwe
1.67

Liberia 2007 (0.97)
Likelihood of IP Sexual Violence with Partner Restricting Access to Girlfriends

- Côte d'Ivoire: 1.89
- Liberia 2007: 0.97
- Mozambique: 1.76
- Rwanda: (1.1)
- Zimbabwe: 2.15
Conclusion

- Failure of Intra-household bargaining models
- Complexity of female economic empowerment
  - What are the social conditions that move us from a situation of male backlash (+ coefficient) to a situation of female empowerment (- coefficient) with female employment?
- Relative male economic disempowerment
- Sexual violence constitutes different form of male domination
- Next step:
  - women’s control over assets
  - Interaction effects
  - Propensity Score Matching