Interventions to prevent or reduce violence against women and girls: a systematic review of reviews

Matt Morton
Diana J. Arango
Svein Kiplesund
Floriza Gennari
Mary Ellsberg
Summarizing the Evidence-base

- Growing number of evaluations trying to measure the impact of interventions on VAWG
- GWI and the World Bank are undertaking the first **systematic review of reviews** on the impacts of interventions to prevent VAWG
- **The goal**: To present the best synthesis possible of the ‘state of the evidence’
Methodology: Inclusion Criteria

- Synthesis of evidence on evaluated interventions aimed at reducing the incidence or prevalence of violence against women and girls
- Systematic or Comprehensive
- Published between Jan. 2000 & April 30, 2013

Outcomes:
- Primary outcome: Measured change in the victimization or perpetration of violence against women and girls
- Secondary outcome: Measured change in attitudes and social norms that regulate the acceptability of VAWG

Types of violence: IPV, rape or sexual assault, child sexual abuse, harassment, HTP, Psychological/emotional abuse, Physical assault, Forced/early marriage, trafficking
299 Individual Impact Evaluations
Effects of Intervention

Reduction or Prevention of Violence

- Mixed w/negative
- Sig. negative
- Sig. positive
- Mixed W/null
- Null

Change in Attitudes

- Mixed w/negative
- Null
- Mixed w/null
- Sig. positive
Common factors in reducing or preventing VAWG

- Target both men and women
- Directed to whole communities.
- Combine multiple approaches as part of a single intervention.
- Have elements of training, community based mobilization or psychosocial support
- The dosage is high.
- Duration is between one and six months
Common factors in interventions to change attitudes on VAWG

- Target children or youth.
- Target both men and women, girls and boys.
- Directed to whole communities
- The evidence is overwhelming coming from North America.
- Training was the most effective intervention type
What we need

More rigorous evidence on all types of VAWG from the global south

More evaluations looking at VAWG in diverse populations.

Standardized data and indicators so we can continue to build the evidence on what works and what doesn’t in a more effective way.