Dear SVRI List Members

This SVRI Update contains a variety of sexual violence related research and resources. If you would like to have your sexual violence related resources included in the Update, please send your materials to svri@mrc.ac.za. For more information and resources on sexual violence and the Sexual Violence Research Initiative visit www.svri.org. Please note that the SVRI Updates are also available on our Facebook page.

Today’s SVRI Update includes the following:
[Summaries directly taken or adapted from source]

I. Journal articles
II. Online publications and resources
III. Projects and websites
IV. Research opportunities, grants and funding
V. News
VI. Events
VII. Vacancies

I. Journal articles

Please note, to obtain a full copy of a journal article you may write to the author given as the contact person by the respective publishing house to request a copy.

Characteristics of sexual abuse among individuals with serious mental illnesses. Kmett J.A, Eack S.M. J. Interpers. Violence, ePub, 2016: This study explores the prevalence rate and characterises the nature of sexual abuse among individuals with severe mental illnesses who were under psychiatric care in three different inpatient facilities. [Source: SafetyLit].

Labelling sexual victimization experiences: the role of sexism, rape myth acceptance, and tolerance for sexual harassment. LeMaire K.L, Oswald D.L, Russell B.L. Violence Vict. ePub, 2016: This study investigates whether attitudinal variables, such as benevolent and hostile sexism toward men and women, female rape myth acceptance, and tolerance of sexual harassment are related to women labelling their sexual assault experiences as rape. [Source: SafetyLit].

Rape myth consistency and gender differences in perceiving rape victims: A meta-analysis.
Hockett J.M, Smith S.J, Klausing C.D, Saucier D.A. Violence against women, (22) 2, 139-167, 2016: This meta-analysis examines the moderating influences of various rape victim, perpetrator, and crime characteristics’ rape myth consistency on gender differences in individuals’ perceptions of rape victims. [Source: Sage Journals].


Preliminary validation of the sex trafficking attitudes scale. Houston-Kolnik J. D, Todd N. R, Wilson M. Violence against women, ePub, 2016: This study presents the Sex Trafficking Attitudes Scale (STAS), assessing cognitive, behavioural, and affective attitudes toward the sex trafficking of women and girls. [Source: SafetyLit].

Embodied harms: Gender, shame, and technology-facilitated sexual violence. Henry N, Powell A. Violence Against Women, (21) 6, 758-779, 2015: This article explores the ways in which re-traditionalised gender hierarchies and inequalities are manifested in online contexts, and to conceptualize the cause and effects of technology-facilitated sexual violence as “embodied harms”. [Source: Sage Journals].

Statement and action agenda from the girls in emergencies collaborative. Robles O. Bruce J. Atkinson H.G, Buscher D, Scriven K, Bart K.K, French S. Annals of Global Health, 81(3), 331–332, 2015 (pdf): This article explores the work done by the Girls in Emergencies (GIE) collaborative— which is a group representing several major emergency response organizations in humanitarian settings. [Source: WUNRN].

II. Online publications and resources

Forced marriage from a gender perspective. European parliament, 2016 (pdf): This report provides an overview of the practice of forced marriage in the EU from a gender equality and women’s rights perspective. It also analyses the definitions of forced marriage and puts forward a definition from a gender perspective. [Source: WUNRN].

What does it take? Developing informed and effective tertiary responses to violence and abuse of women and girls with disabilities in Australia: State of knowledge paper. ANROWS Landscapes, Issue 3, 2015 (pdf): The aim of this paper is to establish the state of knowledge about tertiary responses to violence and abuse for women and girls with disabilities. [Source: SAMRC].

III. Projects and websites

PACTS- An innovative Primary care program Advancing Competency To Support family violence survivors: The PACTS open access online teaching and learning resource, concerning family violence, has been designed for use with primary health care students. The resource teaches the basic background on family violence (including scale and impact), as well as the skills needed to identify and respond to victims and survivors of family violence, and work in a
multi-disciplinary health care team in this context. [Source: SAMRC].

IV. Research opportunities, grants and funding

Funding opportunity: DREAMS innovative challenge. DREAMS is seeking to award and implement solutions that further its commitment to reduce HIV infections by infusing new thinking and high-impact approaches to meet the urgent, complex needs of adolescent girls and young women in the 10 DREAMS countries. Apply online by 28 March 2016. [Source: SAMRC].

Funding opportunity: Communities Addressing Childhood Trauma (ACT). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health announces the anticipated availability of funds for Fiscal Year 2016. ACT seeks to address unhealthy behaviours in minority youth and provide them with opportunities to learn coping skills and gain experiences that contribute to more positive lifestyles and enhance their capacity to make healthier life choices. Applications close: 18 April 2016. [Source: Friendsnrc].

Funding opportunity: Early Head Start expansion and EHS - child care partnership grants. The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) announces the availability of approximately $135 million to be competitively awarded for the purpose of expanding access to high-quality, comprehensive services to low-income infants and toddlers and their families through Early Head Start-Child Care (EHS-CC) Partnerships, or through the expansion of Early Head Start services. Applications close: 1 July 2016. [Source: Friendsnrc].

V. News

Underreporting makes sexual violence at work difficult to address, NPR News, 23 February 2016: There are no recent, reliable statistics about sexual violence at work. The most recent data from the Bureau of Justice Statistics estimated there were more than 43,000 workplace rapes and sexual assaults a year. But anti-rape advocates say that vastly underreports the crimes, because many victims are afraid to or discouraged from coming forward.

El Salvador creates court for violent crimes against women amid surge in violence, International Business Times, 23 February 2016: A high number of crimes against women — including femicide, sexual assault and domestic abuse — in El Salvador has led the country to create a special court specifically to try the violent crimes, TeleSur TV reported.

Doctors push controversial strategy to fight female genital mutilation, Women’s eNews, 22 February 2016: Two doctors are advocating for a different approach to lower global rates of female genital cutting, still common in some regions although banned in numerous countries.

SRSG commends Indonesia for its strong commitment to ending violence against children, SRSG eNews, 19 February 2016: The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against children, Marta Santos Pais congratulated Indonesia for adopting a national strategy for the elimination of violence against children and a national action plan on child protection which together provide a comprehensive framework to prevent and respond to incidents of violence.
In India, schoolgirls look forward to self-defence classes, Women’s eNews, 15 February 2016: In response to growing national attention to the problem of rape in India, the government issued a directive encouraging all public and private schools to train female students in self-defence.

VI. Events

Webinar: Harmful gender norms - How can alliances be built between with queer (LGBTQI2S) movements to help prevent sexual and domestic violence more effectively?, 09 March 2016. This webinar will facilitate conversations about the necessity of engaging directly with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer, Intersex and 2 Spirit community members at the decision-making table to truly enhance prevention outcomes. It will further address how alignment with LGBTQI2S movements and identities is a necessary component of countering the harmful aspects of gender norms that lead to sexual and domestic violence. [Source: Prevent-Connect].

International AIDS Conference, 17-22 July 2016, Durban, South Africa. The International AIDS Conference is the premier gathering for those working in the field of HIV, as well as policy makers, persons living with HIV and other individuals committed to ending the pandemic. It is a chance to assess where we are, evaluate recent scientific developments and lessons learnt, and collectively chart a course forward

For more events visit: http://www.svri.org/calendar.htm

VII. Vacancies

Research Data Analyst/SAS Programmer / Children and Family Research Center, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign / Champaign, USA / Closing date: 26 February 2016. [Source: Cornell University].

Consultant for the WEstart Belgium project / WEStart / Brussles, Belgium / Closing date: 28 February 2016. [Source: AWID Jobs eNews].

Quantitative Research Assistant/Associate / Promundo-US / Washington DC, USA / Closing date: 01 March 2016. [Source: AWID Jobs eNews].

Communications Associate / New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project / New York, USA / Closing date: 08 March 2016. [Source: AWID Jobs eNews].

Director of the CARE Advocacy Office / University of California, Merced / Merced, USA / Closing date: 11 March 2016 (priority), Open until filled. [Source: Prevent-Connect].

VAW epidemiologist/Social Scientist / What works to prevent violence against Women & Girls / Gender & Health Research Unit, South African Medical Research Council / Pretoria, South Africa / Closing date: 11 March 2016. [Source: SAMRC].
Women’s Protection and Empowerment Coordinator / International Rescue Committee / Sierra Leone / Closing date: 15 March 2016. [Source: AWID jobs eNews].

Regional Protection Coordinator / International Rescue Committee / Belgrade, Serbia / Closing date: 20 March 2016 [Source: IRC].

Girl Networks Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Consultancy / Girl Effect / London, UK / Closing date: 22 March 2016. [Source: AWID jobs eNews].

Gender Justice Adviser / Oxfam Quebec / Amman, Jordan / Closing date: Open until filled. [Source: AWID jobs eNews].

Regional Protection Coordinator / International Rescue Committee / Serbia / Closing date: Open until filled. [Source: AWID jobs eNews].

Director, Marketing and Fund Development / Oxfam Canada / Ottawa, Canada / Closing date: Open until filled. [Source: AWID jobs eNews].

Sexual violence is a global issue that requires coordinated evidence-based responses.

The Sexual Violence Research Initiative is hosted by the Medical Research Council, South Africa. The SVRI aims to promote research on sexual violence and generate empirical data to ensure sexual violence is recognized as a priority public health problem. To learn more about the SVRI visit our website www.svri.org or contact us at svri@mrc.ac.za

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Please circulate these resources widely.