1. To examine the impact of the program widely: below and disseminate the study findings prepare two manuscripts on the themes The specific objective of this project is to PROJECT OBJECTIVES 4th arm serves as the control group. education and gender socialization training. family planning counseling, financial literacy socialization education. Arm 3 receives the socialization, whereas arm 2 receives finan- ple receives a structured program on gender socialization, whereas arm 2 receives finan- The trial consists of 4 arms. In arm 1, the cou- cial domains of empowerment among young ciples, where the woman is 18-35 years old. Moreover, such an approach may foster long- term change toward an egalitarian relation- ship that is free not only of violence, but other displays of power dynamics and coer- cive behaviors such as controlling women’s resources and reproductive decision-making. However, rigorous studies evaluating the effectiveness of multi-sectoral gender trans- formative interventions targeting couples are missing from Africa.

Given these limitations, the University of Ibadan and ICRW are leveraging an ongoing cluster-randomized control trial in urban and peri-urban Ibadan, Nigeria for an in-depth examination of the program’s impact on violence and coercive behaviors. The cluster RCT is testing a multi-sectoral program that aims to create a culture of gender equality within the household by targeting critical domains of empowerment among young couples, where the woman is 18-35 years old. The trial consists of 4 arms. In arm 1, the couple receives a structured program on gender socialization, whereas arm 2 receives financial literacy education in addition to gender socialization education. Arm 3 receives the full package of Intervention, which includes family planning counseling, financial literacy education and gender socialization training. The 4th arm serves as the control group.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The specific objective of this project is to 2. To understand the mechanisms or pathways by which the program components influence levels of violence and coercive behaviors.

3. To document and disseminate the find- ings to advance global knowledge on what works to prevent violence.

PROJECT METHODS:

Study Site: The intervention was imple- mented in 49 enumeration areas in two peri-urban and two urban local government areas of Ibadan, Nigeria

Study Population: The intervention reached 1236 randomly selected couples, where the woman was aged 18-35 years old and the couple resided in the same household.

Data Collection: Baseline survey data col- lection ended in July 2018. The end-line data collection will commence in March 2019. 6 months post-intervention. The surveys include detailed information on socio-demo- graphic characteristics as well as measures of IPV, reproductive and sexual coercion, gender attitudes, household decision-making and time-use. In addition, new data in the form of in-depth interviews with couples will be collected in the intervention areas for a more nuanced understanding of the mech- anisms by which the program impacts out- comes of interest.

Data Analysis: The methodology for analy- sis will rely on the randomized control trial design of the intervention. To assess the impact of the program modalities on reduc- tion of violence and coercive behaviors, the project will rely on data collected at baseline and end-line and compare changes over time in the combined intervention arms as well as separately relative to the control arm, using difference-in-difference statisti- cal models. To understand the pathways by which the program impacts violence out- comes, both survey data and qualitative data will be utilized. The will implement structural equation statistical models to understand the different pathways, which will be supple- mented with thematic analysis of the qualita- tive data.

STUDY CONTRIBUTION:

This project is among the few programs that is simultaneously addressing structural and normative factors that stand in the way of women’s empowerment and risk of violence and is being rigorously evaluated. With the WBG/SGVRI funds the project will be able to examine and document the impact of the program and its components on reduction of IPV and coercive behaviors. If shown effi- cacious, there will be a scalable intervention that can reduce violence in Ibadan house- holds and beyond, into Nigerian and African society.

BACKGROUND

Sub-Saharan African women continue to experience IPV and other coercive behav- iors, including limited reproductive free- doms in their households. Women’s eco- nomic empowerment is often touted as the silver bullet for gender equity due to the the- orized linkages between women’s earnings and bargaining power, which can foster gen- der equality within the households. However, while the focus on economic empower- ment is critical, research suggests that these approaches are not enough to address the gender norms that underlie and perpetuate unequal relationships in multiple domains. Hence, a program that aims to prioritize empowerment, must include a gender trans- formation component that allows strategic inclusion of male partners in the program, so that men are able to experience and under- stand the relevance of shifts in gender rela- tions for themselves, their families and com- munities, rather than for the woman alone. Moreover, such an approach may foster long- term change toward an egalitarian relation- ship that is free not only of violence, but other displays of power dynamics and coer- cive behaviors such as controlling women’s resources and reproductive decision-making. However, rigorous studies evaluating the effectiveness of multi-sectoral gender trans- formative interventions targeting couples are missing from Africa.

Given these limitations, the University of Ibadan and ICRW are leveraging an ongoing cluster-randomized control trial in urban and peri-urban Ibadan, Nigeria for an in-depth examination of the program’s impact on violence and coercive behaviors. The cluster RCT is testing a multi-sectoral program that aims to create a culture of gender equality within the household by targeting critical domains of empowerment among young couples, where the woman is 18-35 years old. The trial consists of 4 arms. In arm 1, the couple receives a structured program on gender socialization, whereas arm 2 receives financial literacy education in addition to gender socialization education. Arm 3 receives the full package of Intervention, which includes family planning counseling, financial literacy education and gender socialization training. The 4th arm serves as the control group.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The specific objective of this project is to 1. To examine the impact of the program components on the reduction of different forms of IPV (sexual, emotional and physi- cal) and coercive behaviors (sexual and reproductive).

2. To understand the mechanisms or pathways by which the program components influence levels of violence and coercive behaviors.

3. To document and disseminate the find- ings to advance global knowledge on what works to prevent violence.

PROJECT METHODS:

Study Site: The intervention was imple- mented in 49 enumeration areas in two peri-urban and two urban local government areas of Ibadan, Nigeria

Study Population: The intervention reached 1236 randomly selected couples, where the woman was aged 18-35 years old and the couple resided in the same household.

Data Collection: Baseline survey data col- lection ended in July 2018. The end-line data collection will commence in March 2019. 6 months post-intervention. The surveys include detailed information on socio-demo- graphic characteristics as well as measures of IPV, reproductive and sexual coercion, gender attitudes, household decision-making and time-use. In addition, new data in the form of in-depth interviews with couples will be collected in the intervention areas for a more nuanced understanding of the mech- anisms by which the program impacts out- comes of interest.

Data Analysis: The methodology for analy- sis will rely on the randomized control trial design of the intervention. To assess the impact of the program modalities on reduc- tion of violence and coercive behaviors, the project will rely on data collected at baseline and end-line and compare changes over time in the combined intervention arms as well as separately relative to the control arm, using difference-in-difference statisti- cal models. To understand the pathways by which the program impacts violence out- comes, both survey data and qualitative data will be utilized. The will implement structural equation statistical models to understand the different pathways, which will be supple- mented with thematic analysis of the qualita- tive data.

STUDY CONTRIBUTION:

This project is among the few programs that is simultaneously addressing structural and normative factors that stand in the way of women’s empowerment and risk of violence and is being rigorously evaluated. With the WBG/SGVRI funds the project will be able to examine and document the impact of the program and its components on reduction of IPV and coercive behaviors. If shown effi- cacious, there will be a scalable intervention that can reduce violence in Ibadan house- holds and beyond, into Nigerian and African society.

NIGERIA

Promoting Female Empowerment and Preventing Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) through a Multi-Sectoral Intervention Targeting Couples in Ibadan, Nigeria

RESEARCH TEAM: Ayodeji Adebayo, Neetu John

RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS: University of Ibadan; International Center for Research on Women (ICRW)

2. To understand the mechanisms or pathways by which the program components influence levels of violence and coercive behaviors.

3. To document and disseminate the findings to advance global knowledge on what works to prevent violence.

PROJECT METHODS:

Study Site: The intervention was implemented in 49 enumeration areas in two peri-urban and two urban local government areas of Ibadan, Nigeria

Study Population: The intervention reached 1236 randomly selected couples, where the woman was aged 18-35 years old and the couple resided in the same household.

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Data Analysis: The methodology for analysis will rely on the randomized control trial design of the intervention. To assess the impact of the program modalities on reduction of violence and coercive behaviors, the project will rely on data collected at baseline and end-line and compare changes over time in the combined intervention arms as well as separately relative to the control arm, using difference-in-difference statistical models. To understand the pathways by which the program impacts violence outcomes, both survey data and qualitative data will be utilized. The will implement structural equation statistical models to understand the different pathways, which will be supplemented with thematic analysis of the qualitative data.

STUDY CONTRIBUTION:

This project is among the few programs that is simultaneously addressing structural and normative factors that stand in the way of women’s empowerment and risk of violence and is being rigorously evaluated. With the WBG/SGVRI funds the project will be able to examine and document the impact of the program and its components on reduction of IPV and coercive behaviors. If shown efficacious, there will be a scalable intervention that can reduce violence in Ibadan households and beyond, into Nigerian and African society.