Who perpetrates different forms of violence against children? Age and sex specific estimates

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**Design**

- **Aim**
  - To get better information on age-specific prevalence and who the perpetrators are at different ages
  - What is the age-specific prevalence of physical, sexual and emotional violence and neglect against male and female children and adolescents, at each age from 0-19 years?
  - Who are the main perpetrators of each form of violence against male and female children and adolescents, at each age?
  - Where are there gaps in data on each form of violence by age group, sex, and geographical region?

- **Method**
  - Systematic review and secondary data analysis
  - Protocol: http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/PROSPERO/display_record.asp?ID=CRD42015024315
**Methods**

**Systematic Reviews**

**Secondary Analysis**

**Making projections**

- Data from 643 studies in 171 countries included
- Meta-regression models
  - Outcome=prevalence of each form of violence by age, sex and perpetrator
  - Adjusted for study design and quality characteristics, geographical region
- Weighted to reflect country population age structures
Violence from caregivers

- Mainly from MICS data
- Data gaps: below 2 years, above 14 years
- Prevalence:
  - Roughly 40-60% of boys and girls experiencing physical violence; 60-70% emotional violence
  - Physical high in boys and girls, declines over age
  - Emotional high in boys and girls, remains more constant over age
Violence from students

- Mainly from TIMSS, PIRLS,
- Data gaps: below 6 years, few estimates below 8 years
- Prevalence:
  - Up to 50% of boys and 40-50% of girls aged 8-11 experiencing physical violence; 70-80% emotional violence
  - Physical violence slightly more common in boys than girls;
  - Physical and emotional violence declines over age in boys and girls
• Violence from intimate partners
• Mainly from DHS, WHO, RHS
• Data gaps: below 15 years for girls, boys, all ages
• Prevalence:
  • Roughly 7-13% of all girls experience physical IPV; 2-5% sexual and 7-13% emotional
# Violence from other perpetrators

## Violence from teachers and authority figures against girls

- **Data from Uganda, Haiti, Kenya, Tanzania, and Norway**
- **Very high prevalence from 9 to 16 year olds**—ranges from about 20-90%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Perpetrator</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percent (95% CI)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>GSS</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>90.00 (71.41, 108.59)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>GSS</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>94.51 (89.82, 99.19)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>GSS</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>93.02 (89.62, 96.43)</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>GSS</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>94.13 (92.02, 96.24)</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Authority figures</td>
<td>VACS</td>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>11.10 (18.48, 25.85)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
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<td>VACS</td>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>35.39 (43.92, 55.08)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Authority figures</td>
<td>VACS</td>
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<td>91.41 (88.65, 94.17)</td>
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<td>16</td>
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<td>16.11 (18.17, 25.02)</td>
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<td>17</td>
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<td>VACS</td>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>90.70 (82.02, 99.38)</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>Haavet,2011</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>1.33 (0.30, 2.36)</td>
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<td>19</td>
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<td>VACS</td>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>6.64 (1.19, 12.08)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Authority figures</td>
<td>VACS</td>
<td>United Republic of Tanzania</td>
<td>17.42 (7.20, 27.65)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Weights are from random effects analysis
Conclusions

• Where we do have data, caregiver violence is most common, followed by violence from students, and intimate partners

➢ Programs need to focus on the home and school environments to reduce violence

• BUT—there are lots of data gaps
  • Few data on violence from teachers, but available data show it is common in some settings
  • Fewer data on younger children versus adolescents
  • Fewer data on sexual violence, especially in boys, for girls under 15, and from perpetrators other than intimate partners (peers, caregivers, strangers)

• And measures are not standardised across surveys
  • Caregiver versus self report
  • Fewer, more general questions in school based surveys

➢ We can’t effectively monitor progress towards the SDGs—need surveys which comprehensively ask about violence
Thank you!

For further information, contact: karen.devries@lshtm.ac.uk

For anyone interested, LSHTM is running a short course:

“Researching Gender-Based Violence: Methods and Meaning”

Who should apply:
Individuals who will conduct or commission research on gender based violence

Location:
Gender Violence & Health Centre, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (London, UK)

Dates:
12-16 February 2018

Details:
https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/courses/short-courses/gender-violence