



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. SVRI member requests**
- II. Sexual violence in the news**
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I. SVRI member requests: Join the LINEA Network

The Gender Violence and Health Centre at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine invites you to join the **LINEA Network**.

A new network of partners who are addressing the sexual exploitation and abuse of children, LINEA investigates norms and structural factors driving vulnerability. The network will focus on aspects of child sexual exploitation and abuse that do not involve organised crime, with an initial emphasis on the sexual exploitation of adolescent girls in low and middle income countries. There is no fee to participate in the network.

At this phase LINEA is seeking to connect with partners for two streams of engagement:

First, LINEA will host **regular webinars and provide a platform for sharing developments in the areas of social norms, structural drivers, and the sexual exploitation of children**. This will be an open forum for all groups and individuals who are engaging with, or interested in learning about, these issues. To join LINEA and receive information about webinars and other activities, please register at <http://eepurl.com/8JJFv> .

Second, LINEA will host annual meetings. **The focus of the inaugural meeting, to be held in London, UK, from 30th March – 1st April 2015, will be research addressing the sexual exploitation of children.** If you are conducting research on the phenomenon and dynamics of the sexual exploitation of children and are interested in sharing insights and exploring methodological and ethical challenges of conducting such research, please contact LINEA using the contact details listed below. A few examples of relevant research themes include:

- Vulnerable populations (for example, street adolescents, disabled adolescents, adolescent domestic workers)
- Settings of particular risk, such as locations with high concentrations of unaccompanied men (for example, mining areas, tourist destinations, truck routes, construction sites, mass sporting events)
- Social norms and structural factors contributing to the sexual exploitation of children (for example, societal tolerance, gender norms, poverty)

Please also feel free to contact Rebecca Meiksin at linea@lshtm.ac.uk with any questions or to share information about your work.

II. Sexual violence in the news

[Message of the Executive Director on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, UN Women](#): Every year, on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, we are reminded how every day, women and girls experience violence in their lives.

[Press release – South Africa launch of What Works to Prevent Violence against Women and Girls? 25 November 2014](#): A global research and innovation programme to help prevent violence against women and girls was launched in South Africa today by UK International Development Minister, Baroness Northover.

[Press release - European Commission joint statement on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, 25 November 2014](#): This year marks the entry into force of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention), which represents a very important instrument to effectively combat violence against women at national and European levels.

[UN General Assembly to adopt historic resolution on child, early and forced marriage, Girls Not Brides, 21 November 2014](#): Child marriage holds back 15 million girls a year, or about 41,000 a day, denying them fundamental rights and undermining their future. If there is no reduction in child marriage, 1.2 billion girls will marry as children by 2050 – equivalent to the entire population of India.

[With Mali in political turmoil, high FGM rates persist, Pass Blue, 20 November 2014](#): In the primarily Francophone and Anglophone region of West Africa, Mali is said to have one of the highest rates of female genital mutilation, with about 91 percent of girls and women having

undergone the circumcision — a rate that has not only stayed stubbornly high but may also be inching upward. Younger females are also being subject to the procedure — cutting of their genitalia — starting at infancy.

[The latest country to adopt a women, peace, and security policy may surprise you, Institute for Inclusive Security, 19 November 2014](#): As international troops end their decade-plus engagement in Afghanistan, the country's government has taken a decisive step toward lasting security for its people. Last month, 21 deputy ministers and agency heads approved a new national action plan (NAP) to engage both women and men in sustaining a peaceful transition.

III. Advocacy and awareness raising

[16 Days of Activism to End Violence against Women: Share your stories with the Guardian](#). AWID is working with partners Mama Cash and the Guardian to document what activists and organisations are doing to mark 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence. Are you running a campaign in line with 16 days of activism? Are you writing an article about gender based violence? Are you organising a social media campaign? Whatever action you are involved in, we want to know, upload your picture, video or text to the Guardian Witness App. Please note that you will need to register as a member of the Guardian community to contribute. You can also do this by using your existing Facebook or Google profile. [Source: AWID].

[We Will Speak Out Coalition 16 Days of Activism resources](#). The 'We Will Speak Out' International Coalition has produced its first resource specific to the 16 days of activism against gender based violence. The resource for prayer, reflection and action during the 16 days is available for use by individuals, churches and communities. [Source: WWSO].

IV. Websites

[EVAWI Resource Library](#): This valuable Library offers a wide variety of training tools to assist professionals with the complex aspects involved in the investigation and prosecution of gender-based violence. We are delighted to announce our latest resource designed to advance this goal - one that has been years in the making. [Source: EVAWI].

V. Online publications/resources

[Challenging patriarchy: Unsettling men and masculinities Cornwall, A. and Edström, J. IDS Virtual Bulletin 5, 2014](#): Challenging Patriarchy presents contributions to the evolution of thinking on men and masculinities in Gender and Development, drawing on three IDS Bulletins published over a period of more than a decade. [Source: WUNRN].

[Documentary: In our care. Four Corners and Fairfax, 2014](#): In this investigation, reporter Nick McKenzie lifts the lid on a major scandal involving one of the country's biggest disability providers. How did a respected provider fail in its duty to the people it has sworn to protect and nurture? [Source: WUNRN].

Masculinities, conflict and peacebuilding: perspectives on men through a gender lens.

Wright H. Saferworld, 2014: This report examines existing INGO programmes that promote non-violent and gender equitable masculinities and poses key questions about how these can be further developed to challenge the gender norms which drive conflict and insecurity. [Source: WUNRN].

Interventions to prevent or reduce violence against women and girls: A systematic review of reviews. Arango D.J, Morton M, Gennari F et. al. Women's Voice and Agency Research Series, No.10, 2014

(pdf): This report builds on the body of violence against women and girls (VAWG) research while shifting focus to synthesising global evidence on potential solutions. [Source: GWI].

VI. 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.

The Lancet Series on Violence against women and girls. The Lancet, 2014: This series on violence against women and girls cover the evidence base for interventions, discuss the vital role of the health sector in care and prevention, show the need for men and women to be involved in effective programmes, provide practical lessons from experience in countries, and present a call for action with five key recommendations and indicators to track progress. See the advocacy version of the Global Call to Action on Violence against Women at <http://www.womankind.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/CalltoAction-5thNov2014.pdf> [Source: The Lancet].

Bidirectional links between HIV and intimate partner violence in pregnancy: implications for prevention of mother-to-child transmission. Hatcher A.M, Woollett N, Pallitto C.C et. al. Journal of the International AIDS Society, 17:19233, 2014

: This qualitative study in three Johannesburg antenatal clinics aims to understand the links between IPV and HIV-related health of pregnant women. [Source: University of the Witwatersrand].

Childhood sexual abuse and its association with adult physical and mental health: Results from a national cohort of young Australian women. Coles J, Lee A, Taft A et. al. J Interpers Violence, ePub, 2014

(pdf): This study demonstrates the importance of child sexual abuse in pain and poorer long-term mental and physical health. It emphasises how prior child sexual abuse may amplify pain and poorer long-term mental and physical health among women who are again exposed to violence in adulthood. [Source: Monash University].

Debunking three rape myths. Carr M, Thomas A.J, Atwood D, Muhar A, Jarvis K, Wewerka S.S. J. Forensic Nurs, 10: 217-225, 2014

: This study examines three rape myths purporting that sexual assault victims (1) immediately report the crime, (2) experience severe physical and/or anogenital injuries, and (3) forcefully resist their assailant. [Source: SafetyLit].

[Police officer schema of sexual assault reports: Real rape, ambiguous cases, and false reports. Venema R.M. J. *Interpers. Violence*, ePub, 2014](#): This study explores police officer understanding of the definition of sexual assault and characteristics that influence their perceptions and response. [Source: SafetyLit].

[Associations between youth homelessness, sexual offenses, sexual victimization, and sexual risk behaviours: A systematic literature review. Heerde J.A, Scholes-Balog K.E, Hemphill S.A. *Arch. Sex. Behav*, ePub, 2014](#): This systematic review collates, summarizes, and appraises published studies of youth investigating relationships between homelessness, perpetration of sexual offenses, experience of sexual victimization, and engagement in sexual risk behaviour. [Source: SafetyLit].

[Adult sexual experiences as a mediator between child abuse and current secretary immunoglobulin A levels. Waldron J.C, Scarpa A, Kim-Spoon J, Coe C.L. J. *Interpers. Violence*, ePub, 2014](#): This article investigates whether a history of child abuse is a predictor of adult immune status, with unwanted adult sexual experiences as a proximal mediator. [Source: SafetyLit].

[Risk factors for mental disorders in women survivors of human trafficking: A historical cohort study. Abas M, Ostrovski N.V, Prince M et. al. *BMC Psychiatry*, 13:204, 2013](#) (pdf): This article assesses a consecutive sample of ethnic Moldovan women survivors of human trafficking assisted on return to Moldova using a diagnostic instrument to measure mental disorder. [Source: WUNRN].

[Validation of the UCLA child post traumatic stress disorder-reaction index in Zambia. Murray L.K, Bass J, Chomba E et. al. *International Journal of Mental Health Systems* 2011, 5:24, 2011](#): This paper presents results from a validation study of a trauma-focused mental health assessment tool - the UCLA Post-traumatic Stress Disorder - Reaction Index (PTSD-RI) in Zambia. [Source: SAMRC].

VII. Events

[Violence against women and sexual and reproductive rights in the Americas: Progress and persistent challenges, 2 December 2014, Washington, D.C., USA](#). This roundtable discussion is being organised by Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), the Permanent Observer Mission of France to the OAS and the Pan American Health Organization and will focus on violence and sexual and reproductive rights in the Americas. [Source: Development Connections].

[Global launch: Violence against women and girls resource guide, 3 December 2014, Washington, D.C., USA](#). The World Bank Group, Inter-American Development Bank, and Global Women's Institute at George Washington University invite you to the global launch of a new resource guide for development practitioners on preventing and responding to violence against women and girls across a range of development sectors. RSVP to: sjacksonhan@worldbank.org. [Source: World Bank].

[3rd Pan African Conference on Parenting, 21 - 22 April 2015, TBC, Uganda.](#) The meeting will bring together experts, representatives of national, regional and international organizations, government officials and partners committed to strengthening families to exchange ideas and hence inform policy and practice on parenting skilfully in Africa. Abstract submissions close: 30 November 2014. [Source: Parenting in Africa Network].

[Evidence and practice in an age of inequality, 4-5 June 2014, Melbourne, Australia.](#) This conference will provide a forum that supports greater collaboration between researchers and practitioners in international development from across Australia and the region. Deadline for abstract submissions: 26 January 2015. [Source: AWID].

[5th Conference of the International Society for Child Indicators, 2 – 4 September 2015, Cape Town, South Africa.](#) This conference will gather researchers, practitioners, policy makers and child advocates from across the world for three days to share and discuss the latest child indicator research and implications for policy and interventions. The closing date for submission of abstracts: 31 March 2015. [Source: Makerere University].

[SVRI Forum 2015, 14 – 17 September, Stellenbosch, South Africa.](#) The SVRI is pleased to announce the Call for Abstracts to participate at the SVRI Forum 2015! This important event will bring together colleagues from around the world, under the theme of innovation and intersections, to present paper and poster presentations, special sessions and workshops. Submit your abstract by **30 April 2015!** See the SVRI Conference Flyer online at: <http://www.svri.org/SVRIForum2015Flyer.pdf>. Website: <http://www.svri.org/forum2015/>

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

VIII. Vacancies

[Global Co-Coordinator & Networks Manager](#) / MenEngage / Washington D.C., USA / Closing date: December 21, 2014. [Source: MenEngage Connect].

[Project Director, Violence against Women and Girls \(VAWG\)](#) / International Rescue Committee / New York, USA / Closing date: December 24, 2014. [Source: IRC].

[Senior Technical Advisor for Reproductive Health](#) / International Rescue Committee / New York, USA / Closing date: December 24, 2014. [Source: IRC].

[Emergency Response Team/Women's Protection & Empowerment Unit Coordinator](#) / International Rescue Committee / New York, USA / Closing date: December 24, 2014. [Source: IRC].

[Women Human Rights Defenders – Program Coordinator](#) / AWID / Work location is open / Closing date: December 14, 2014. [Source: AWID Resource-Net Jobs].

[Real Choices, Real Lives Cohort Intern - Plan UK - Public Engagement - Advocacy, Campaigns and Research](#) / Plan / London, UK / Closing date: December 2, 2014. [Source: AWID Resource-Net Jobs].

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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