Dear SVRI 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 Forum 2017 call for abstracts closes in 5 days!

The SVRI Forum 2017 to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from the 18th to the 21st of September 2017 will provide a platform for showcasing research and innovation in the field, enabling participants to learn about new and tested interventions on how to end sexual violence, intimate partner violence and child abuse and maltreatment. Abstract submission deadline: 1 February 2017.

The call for abstracts is available in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

II. Announcement: SVRI Forum 2017 – Abstract submission guidelines

The SVRI Forum 2017 Organising Committee has been receiving emails from SVRI members and
colleagues whom experience technical challenges in uploading abstracts. The Organising Committee compiled instructions on how to upload an abstract:

1. Click on the hyperlink submit abstracts
2. Click on register
3. Once you have clicked on register create your own username and password and complete all your relevant contact information
4. Once all information has been completed click on submit
5. Go back into the link: www.mrcevents.co.za using your username and password
6. Click on submit abstracts
7. Click on SVRI Forum 2017
8. All abstract form information must be completed in order for you to attach your abstract document
9. To load you abstract click on browse
10. Select the document you want to load (document must be saved as MS word 97 – 2003)
11. Click on open to load your document
12. Click on save to complete your submission
13. Once your submission is complete you will immediately receive a confirmation email (see example below)

SVRI Forum 2017 Abstract Submission

Dear Name of author
Thank you for submitting your abstract: Title of your abstract
You've indicated that you would like to make a Oral/Poster/ Special session submission for the track: Name of track
If you would like to register for the conference, SVRI Forum 2017 please click here

Please take note that your submission will not be complete if you have not received this notification

III. 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.

Preventing intimate partner violence: Towards a framework for supporting effective community mobilisation. Mannell J, Dadswell A. Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology. 2017: This article proposes a framework for situating community mobilisation for intimate partner violence prevention in its surrounding symbolic, material and relational contexts. [Source: UCL Institute for Global Health].


Sexual violence in the college population: a systematic review of disclosure and campus resources and services. Halstead V, Williams J.R, Gonzalez-Guarda R. J. Clin. Nurs. ePub, 2017: This study synthesizes research examining college student sexual violence disclosure and campus sexual violence resources and services. [Source: Safetylit].
Interventions to prevent child marriage among young people in low- and middle-income countries: A systematic review of the published and gray literature. Kalamar A.M, Lee-Rife S, Hindin M.J. Journal of Adolescent Health. 59(3), S16-S21, 2016: Child marriage, defined as marriage before the age of 18 years, is a human rights violation that can have lasting adverse educational and economic impacts. This review identifies high-quality interventions and evaluations to decease child marriage in low- and middle-income countries. [Source: Science Direct].


What is the potential for interventions designed to prevent violence against women to reduce children’s exposure to violence? Findings from the SASA! study, Kampala, Uganda. Kyegombe N, Abramsky T, Devries K.M, Michau L, Nakuti J, Starmann E, Musuya T, Heise L, Watts C. Child Abuse & Neglect. 50, 128-140, 2015: This article explores the extent to which SASA!, an intervention to prevent violence against women, impacted children’s exposure to violence. [Source: Science Direct].

IV. Online publications and resources

The multi-country study on the drivers of violence affecting children. A cross country snapshot of findings. Maternowska M.C, Potts A, Fry D. 2016: This paper analyses how institutional, community, interpersonal and individual factors interact to affect violence in children’s lives. [Source: UNICEF-IRC].

Briefing paper: 10 things to know about how to influence policy with research. Tilley H, Shaxson L, Rea J, Ball L, Young L. Overseas Development Institute. 2017: This briefing paper discusses ways to influence policy with research findings. [Source: ODI].

Gender and security in Africa. Okech A. African Women’s Development Fund. Primer 2. 2016: This paper highlights the continuum of violence and insecurity experienced by African women from peacetime to conflict situations, and the efforts of the indigenous African women’s movement to counter the phenomenon of violence against women. [Source: WUNRN].

V. Research opportunities, grants and funding

Funding opportunity: Seed Awards in Humanities and Social Science: Seed Awards help researchers develop compelling and innovative ideas that may go on to form part of larger grant applications. The current funding round is on the theme of sexuality and health. Application deadline: 16 March 2017. [Source: Wellcome Trust].

Call for Papers: Women and Extreme Violence: The journal of Violence and Gender is seeking high quality research on the topic of “women and extreme violence” to publish in the winter issue of 2017. This issue seeks to analyse if several recent high profile criminal cases involving women are anecdotal, or more indicative of a new, emerging pattern of violence by female offenders. Submission deadline: 31 May 2017. [Source: Violence and Gender].

Funding opportunity: Collaborative Awards in Humanities and Social Science: Collaborative Awards
promote the development of new ideas and bring disciplines together to speed the pace of discovery. This scheme funds teams who are tackling major health-related questions in the humanities and social sciences that require a collaborative approach. Full applications deadline for July 2017 round: 19 September 2017. [Source: Wellcome Trust].

VI. Advocacy and awareness raising

Blog post: Grassroot Soccer South Africa - Speak up! Young South African women share stories of identity, gender and violence, 25 January 2017: In March 2016, Amy Hill (StoryCenter’s Silence Speaks Director) and Jenn Warren (Grassroot Soccer South Africa’s Strategic Communications Manager) facilitated a digital storytelling workshop for young female leaders - from the organisation, Grassroot Soccer South Africa, in Khayelitsha, Cape Town - to share stories around sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender norms, intimate partner and gender-based violence. Read their blog here.

Interview with Dr. Luke S. Bearup: Protection and reintegration of survivors of trafficking and sexual violence: This interview reflects upon current debates related to protection for victims of sexual exploitation and human trafficking. It is argued that the emerging emphasis upon reintegration reflects an expanded conception of justice. This emphasis has emerged as social work practitioners and the clients they serve have sought to reconcile human rights, humanitarian ideals and reintegration guidelines with local realities, cultural norms and social arrangements. [Source: Si Consulting].

VII. News

Trump's global gag a devastating blow for women’s rights, IPS News, 25 January 2017: The global gag rule blocks US federal international funding for non-governmental organisations that provide abortion counselling or referrals, advocate to decriminalise abortion or expand abortion services – even though the US does not fund these services itself.

What’s next in the fight against child trafficking, Forbes, 18 January 2017: Human trafficking was explicitly mentioned in three of the world's Sustainable Development Goals, for instance, adding it prominently to the global agenda.

Killings, rapes in South Sudan continued 'unabated' after July 2016 violence, UN News, 16 January 2017: Hundreds of people were killed in South Sudan during an outbreak of violence last July and more than 200 people were raped, according to a United Nations report released today which emphasizes the need for accountability and justice for those human rights violations.

VIII. Events

International seminar: Sexual and reproductive health of women, 28 June 2017, Asunción, Paraguay (Spanish): This seminar brings together researchers, policy makers, activists and service providers to share recent research findings and to discuss issues relating to sexual and reproductive health of women. The call for papers is open and closes on 30 January 2017. [Source: CEPEP].

International seminar: Studies on partner violence, 26 July 2017, Asunción, Paraguay (Spanish): Discussions and area of debate for this seminar include but not limited to: Aspects and processes of partner violence that have consequences on the health of women; individual, dyadic and social factors that operate in partner violence, mechanisms through which partner violence affects sexual
and reproductive health and health service needs for women with partner violence. Call for abstracts closes: 1 January 2017. [Source: CEPEP].

Global Evidence Summit, 13-16 September 2017, Cape Town, South Africa: This event aims to advance the use of reliable research evidence in addressing some of the world’s most serious health and social challenges. Call for abstracts closes: 1 March 2017. [Source: SAMRC].

IX. Vacancies

Senior Lawyer / Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa / South Africa / Closing date: 31 January 2017. [Source: AWID Jobs eNews].


Vice President for Advocacy and Communications / Promundo-US / Washington D.C, USA / Closing date: 3 February 2017. [Source: Promundo-US].

Internal Communications and Office Management Intern / WILPF / Geneva, Switzerland / Closing date: 5 February 2017. [Source: AWID Jobs eNews].

Program Officer / CARE / Maungdaw,Rakhine, Myanmar / Closing date: 6 February 2017. [Source: AWID Jobs eNews].


Senior Human Rights Counsel / Center for Reproductive Rights / New York or Washington DC, USA / Closing date: Open until filled. [Source: AWID Jobs eNews].

Senior Director, Talent and Organizational Development / Center for Reproductive Rights / New York, USA / 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 increase awareness and promote research on sexual violence and its linkages to other forms of violence to influence policy and practice, particularly in low and middle income countries. To learn more about the SVRI visit our website www.svri.org or contact us at svri@mrc.ac.za

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