

Interconnections between IPV, FP, and gender norms: Evidence from multi-country DHS survey data

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Our purpose

- To explore the interconnections among intimate partner violence (IPV), gender norms, and FP behaviors
 - Through secondary analysis of existing FP datasets
 - Focus is on women as survivors, while recognizing that some women are perpetrators, if to a lesser degree

Our approach

Key questions

- What ideational (including social norms), behavioral, and structural factors are correlated with
 - (1) IPV experience and
 - (2) modern contraceptive use?
- Which factors are significant for both outcomes? Which are unique for each?
- What are the implications for SBC interventions?

Available datasets to explore key questions

- FP, IPV, and gender attitude, gender roles variables rarely included in a single dataset
- DHS is an exception (with caveats)
 - Gender norms are approximated by relying on *attitudes about wife beating*
 - Husbands/partners surveyed about wife-beating attitudes (not perpetration)
 - IPV-related questions only included in selected surveys
- Gender norms, when included in datasets, are typically based on attitudes so are rarely conceptualized in keeping with the social-norms approach to measurement.
- We rely on couple data
- Dependent variables — FP use and IPV — based on women's reports
- Independent variables are from both partners' responses.

Methods – Dataset Selection

- Utilized couples' datasets from DHS published since 2015
 - Included domestic violence module administered to female partner
 - For this presentation, focus on Nepal & Tanzania
 - Included mix of countries with high prevalence of reported modern contraceptive use and low prevalence
 - Role of covert use (where prevalent)
- Mali
 - Nigeria
 - **Nepal**
 - Pakistan
 - **Tanzania**
 - Zambia

Outcomes:
Experience of IPV / Use of
Modern Contraceptives /
Covert Use of Modern
Contraceptives

Ideational factors:

Knowledge of FP, where to obtain FP
Individual and community attitudes regarding
wife beating (other measures of gender norms
not available in the DHS)
Concordance of couples' fertility attitudes

Behavioral factors:

Agency (participation in decision-making)
Alcohol consumption of men (women not asked)
Early marriage (i.e., marriage prior to age 18)
Sex/childbirth prior to age 18
Experience of IPV / Use of Modern
Contraceptives

Structural factors:

Access to health facilities (distance, cost, time)
Educational attainment
Wealth quintile (measured at the individual level)

Methods - Analysis

1: Bivariate analysis of all ideational, behavioral, and structural variables in DHS women's and men's datasets to determine statistically significant correlations with IPV experience and/or modern contraceptive use.

—Couple-level analysis

2: Multivariate regression for all variables with statistically significant correlative relationship with either outcome

3: Latent class analysis using decision-making variables; did not converge beyond a two-class model; will explore further

Results

Prevalence of Outcome Indicators (percent)

	Mali	Nigeria	Nepal	Pakistan	Tanzania	Zambia
Modern contraceptive use	16.9	13.9	54.9	25.5	31.8	48.6
Exp. of any violence	44.8	32.2	19.6	31.36	36.3	36.9
Exp. of emotional violence	35.6	29.6	12.3	29.03	30.6	27.1
Exp. of severe violence	8.2	8.6	9.9	7.20	14.4	13.9
Exp. of sexual violence	9.8	7.5	7.8	4.46	12.2	13.3
Covert contraceptive use*	N/A	N/A	7.2	N/A	40.2	29.5

Data is among couples only.

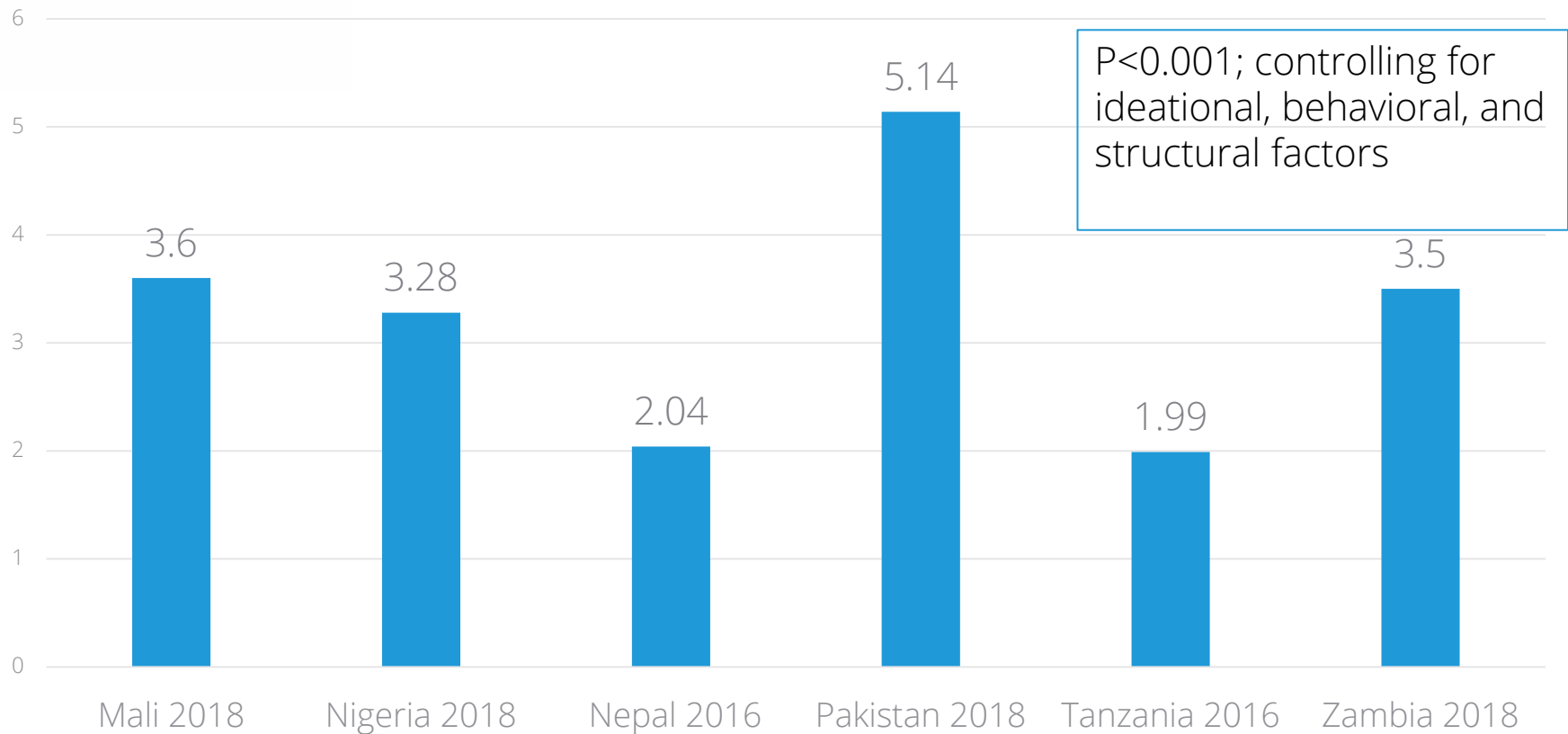
Covert use not calculated in Pakistan, Nigeria, and Mali due to low rate of overall contraceptive use.

* Covert use calculated as a percentage of all women who reported modern contraceptive use.

Modern Contraceptive Use	Mali	Nigeria	Nepal	Pakistan	Tanzania	Zambia
Prevalence	16.90	13.94	54.87	25.46	31.78	48.65
Ideational	Adjusted Odds Ratio					
Women: decision index score			1.19***		6.60***	3.27***
Men: decision index score (re women's involvement)			1.11*			
Women: attitude justifying beating		0.93*				
Men: attitude justifying beating						
Community mean beating justification (women)		0.88*				0.90**
Community mean beating justification (men)			1.32*		0.79*	
Behavioral	Adjusted Odds Ratio					
Marriage before 18						1.18*
Sex before 18						
First birth before 18	1.97***	1.25*	1.63***	2.11***		1.21*
Women experienced violence (any form)	1.62***	1.35***		1.23*		
Men drink alcohol			1.29*		1.41*	0.79**
Men recall FP messages			1.24*		1.59**	1.17*
Structural	Adjusted Odds Ratio					
Access to health facility a problem	0.56***			0.78*		
Women's age group	1.11*	1.08**	1.60***	1.24***		0.90***
Women's educational attainment	1.30***	1.23***		1.09**		
Men's educational attainment		1.11***				
Household wealth index	1.30***	1.09*		1.16**		1.12***
Living in an urban setting						
Men currently employed	2.72**	2.70*	1.60**			1.59**

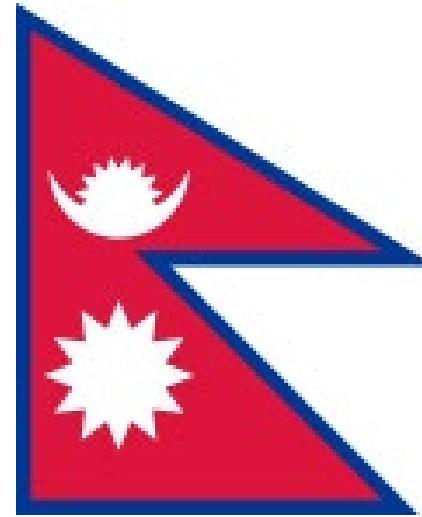
Experience of Any Violence	Mali	Nigeria	Nepal	Pakistan	Tanzania	Zambia
Prevalence	44.80	32.20	19.61	31.36	36.32	36.91
Ideational	Adjusted Odds Ratio					
Women's decision index score	1.43***	1.09*	1.14*			1.21***
Men's decision index score (re: women's involvement)		1.17***				
Women's attitude justifying beating	1.11***	1.12***		1.10**	1.14**	1.12***
Men's attitude justifying beating					1.25***	
Community mean beating justification (women)	1.17**				1.14*	1.11*
Community mean beating justification (men)	1.35***					
Behavioral	Adjusted Odds Ratio					
Marriage before 18						
Sex before 18	1.32*				1.69***	1.23*
First birth before 18					0.69*	
Women use contraceptives	1.58***	1.31***				
Men drink alcohol	3.60***	3.28***	2.04***	5.14***	1.99***	3.50***
Structural	Adjusted Odds Ratio					
Access to health facility a problem		1.35***		1.62***		
Women's age group	1.07*		0.92*			1.05*
Women's educational attainment			0.85***			
Men's educational attainment			0.83***			
Household wealth index		0.87***		1.12***		
Living in an urban area						
Men currently employed						

Adjusted Odds Ratios of Experience of Any Violence if Male Partner Consumes Alcohol (DHS data)



Nepal

- Woman's role in decision-making (reported by either partner) positively associated with contraceptive use.
- Community justification of violence (men's responses) positively associated with FP use.
- Attitudes justifying wife-beating not associated with women experiencing violence
 - Individual or community level
- Men's alcohol consumption resulted in strong, positive association with contraceptive use and experience of violence.
 - No measures of women's consumption



Tanzania

- Women's decision-making index strongly and positively associated with contraceptive use
- Attitudes justifying violence (women, men, community) positively associated with women experiencing any violence, emotional violence.
- Men's alcohol use strongly associated with women experiencing any violence, severe violence, and/or sexual violence.
- High rate of covert use (40.2% of users or 12.4% of sample)
- High rate of experience of severe, sexual violence (14.4% , 12.2% ; data not shown)



Conclusions & Implications

Key Findings

Contraceptive use

- Women's decision-making very highly and positively associated with contraceptive use in Tanzania, and, less strongly, in Nepal.
- Community attitudes justifying violence (+ association in Nepal, - association in Tanzania)
- Educational attainment and wealth generally positively associated
- Men's alcohol consumption positively associated in Nepal, Tanzania



Key Findings

Experience of violence

- Women's attitudes justifying wife-beating positively associated with experience of any violence and emotional violence (all countries *except* Nepal); less consistently associated with sexual and severe violence.
- Men's individual attitudes justifying wife-beating positively associated with violence only in Tanzania
 - Community support attitudes: + associations in Mali for emotional and any violence



Key Findings

Experience of violence

- Educational attainment protective in Nepal
- Men's alcohol use strongly and positively associated with violence experience in all countries studied
 - Further exploration needed, including women's alcohol consumption



Implications

- Measurement of attitudes/norms
 - Gender attitudes underexplored
 - Gender norms, or contextually appropriate behavior, practices, actions for men and women, often rely on measures of attitude, beliefs
 - A social norms approach would add depth
 - Important to examine across social ecological levels
 - Would be enriched through phenomenological inquiry
- Measurement of agency
 - Develop finer measures, preferably associated with outcomes of interest
- Relevance of attitudes/norms in behavior change
 - Evidence suggests that addressing ideational factors alone is insufficient
- Implications for SBC practice
 - Explore addressing women's attitudes about wife-beating in programming; men's attitudes in countries (where significant)
 - Alcohol consumption should be addressed, considering contextual factors, consumption by women, as well as men



Questions?

Suggestions?

Thoughts?

Thank You

For more information, please contact:

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