

Adjusting statistical methods to measure VAW to comply with the SDGs framework

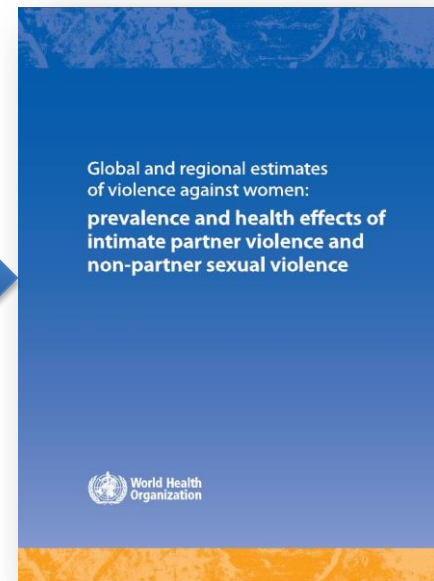
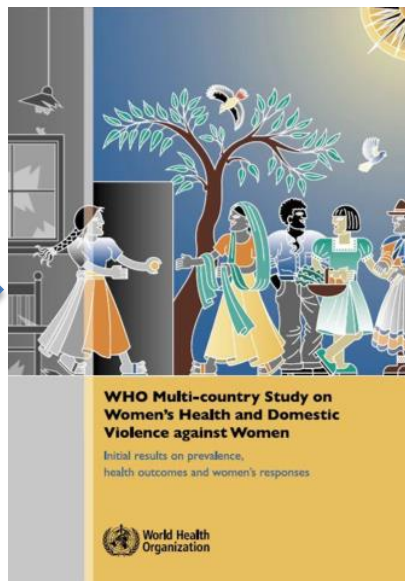
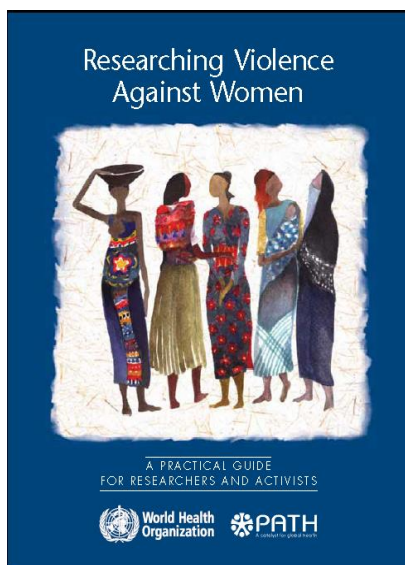
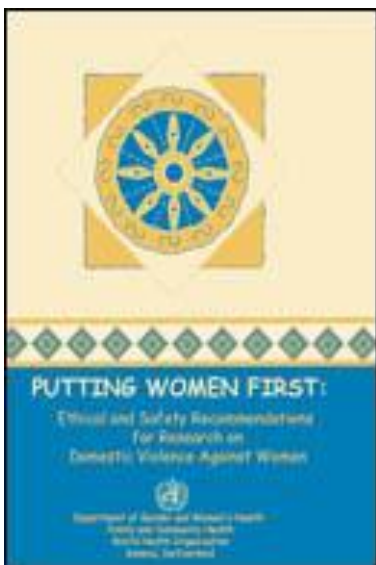
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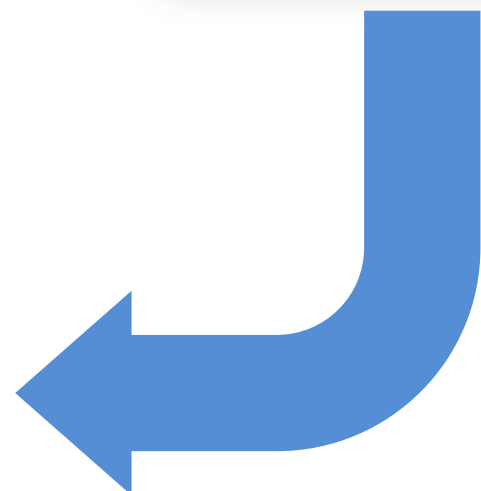


Building epidemiological evidence on VAW



Global Health Observatory (GHO) data

Violence against women



Putting VAW on the global public health agenda

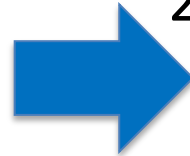
69th World Health Assembly, May 2016

The Ministries of Health of the 193 Member States of WHO, endorse the global plan of action on strengthening the health system's response to violence against women and girls and against children



Global plan of action: 4 strategic directions

1. Strengthen health system leadership and governance in addressing violence
2. Strengthen health service delivery and health workers' capacity to respond to violence
3. Strengthen programming to prevent violence
4. Improve data and evidence on violence



Strategic Direction 4: Strengthening evidence and data collection

- ✓ Strengthening routine reporting on VAW across all ages by integrating indicators in health information and surveillance systems
- ✓ Monitoring SDG 5.2 indicators on prevalence of VAW by establishing baselines and investing in population-based surveys
- ✓ Investing in research to develop, pilot, evaluate and scale up prevention and response interventions

SDGs that address VAW



Target 5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

- Indicator 5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age
- Indicator 5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence

Target 16.1: Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere

- Indicators on homicide; conflict-related deaths; physical, psychological and sexual violence; feelings of safety walking alone in living area

Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children

- Indicators on human trafficking and sexual violence by age 18

Main challenges for regional and global monitoring

1. Many countries still lack data on these indicators (e.g. countries in middle east, w. africa)
2. Data are not collected in a regular basis so assessment of trends is difficult (e.g. some countries only have data from old surveys)
3. Lack data on specific populations (e.g. older women, women with disabilities) or settings (e.g. humanitarian) or some forms of VAW (e.g. trafficking).
4. Limited capacity and resources in countries to collect these data (on a regular basis)
5. Different methodologies limit comparability of data (e.g. dedicated surveys vs modules or questions in surveys, different measures of violence, etc.)
6. Data needs to be collected carefully, with attention to safety and ethics
7. Data needs to be interpreted carefully. Even when adequate safety and ethical measures are taken, there will always be some women who will not disclose information on intimate partner violence. Therefore, estimates will likely be more conservative than the actual level of violence in the surveyed population.

Other challenges: Comparability

1. Different definitions of partnership
2. Exclusion or inclusion of never partnered women
3. Operational definitions of physical or sexual or psychological violence
4. How to measure and classify violence against girls 10-19 years old (child abuse? Partner violence?)
5. Lack of disaggregation between forms (physical, sexual, emotional)
6. Lack of disaggregation by the characteristics of the women

What is WHO doing to address some of the challenges? 4 main methodological updates

1. Updating the WHO Multi-country study questionnaire
2. Developing consensus on measures of psychological intimate partner violence
3. Developing measures of violence in older women
4. Strengthening methodologies and processes for producing estimates

1. Updating the WHO Multi-country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence

- More questions on non-partner sexual violence, including sexual coercion and harassment
- Improved measurement of social norms
- Improved measures of mental health
- Adding questions on reproductive coercion

2. Measuring psychological abuse

- ❑ Different domains and questions to measure emotional abuse and controlling behaviours and different thresholds used to measure psychological abuse
- ❑ First expert meeting in June to develop consensus on measurement, analysis and reporting of psychological violence: develop consensus on key domains and core vs context-specific measures of emotional/psychological IPV, and a common approach to analysing and reporting psychological abuse data and for defining prevalence of emotional/psychological IPV.
- ❑ Meeting made some progress:
 - Proposed a limited number of domains and recommended some revisions to improve existing instruments for prevalence surveys (i.e., WHO MC Study questionnaire and DHS module)
 - Identified issues for further consideration on reporting the prevalence of psychological IPV in context of SDGs

3. Improving measurement of violence in older women

- ❑ Systematic review and meta analysis of published prevalence data
- ❑ Review of qualitative data to identify forms and nature of violence against older women
- ❑ Convene an expert group to develop a module on violence against older women
- ❑ Pilot in a few countries

4. Strengthening methods for producing estimates: Violence against women Inter-Agency Working Group on Estimation and Data (VAWIAGED) & its Technical Advisory Group

- The main objective of the VAW-IAGED is to improve the collection, analysis and reporting of data and to produce and disseminate global, regional and country level UN estimates of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence.
- The main objective of the TAG is to provide expert guidance to VAW-IAGED on technical matters related to measuring and estimating two main forms of violence against women (intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence)

Measuring intimate partner homicide: Data issues

Type of data

Data issues

Police

National

Mortality

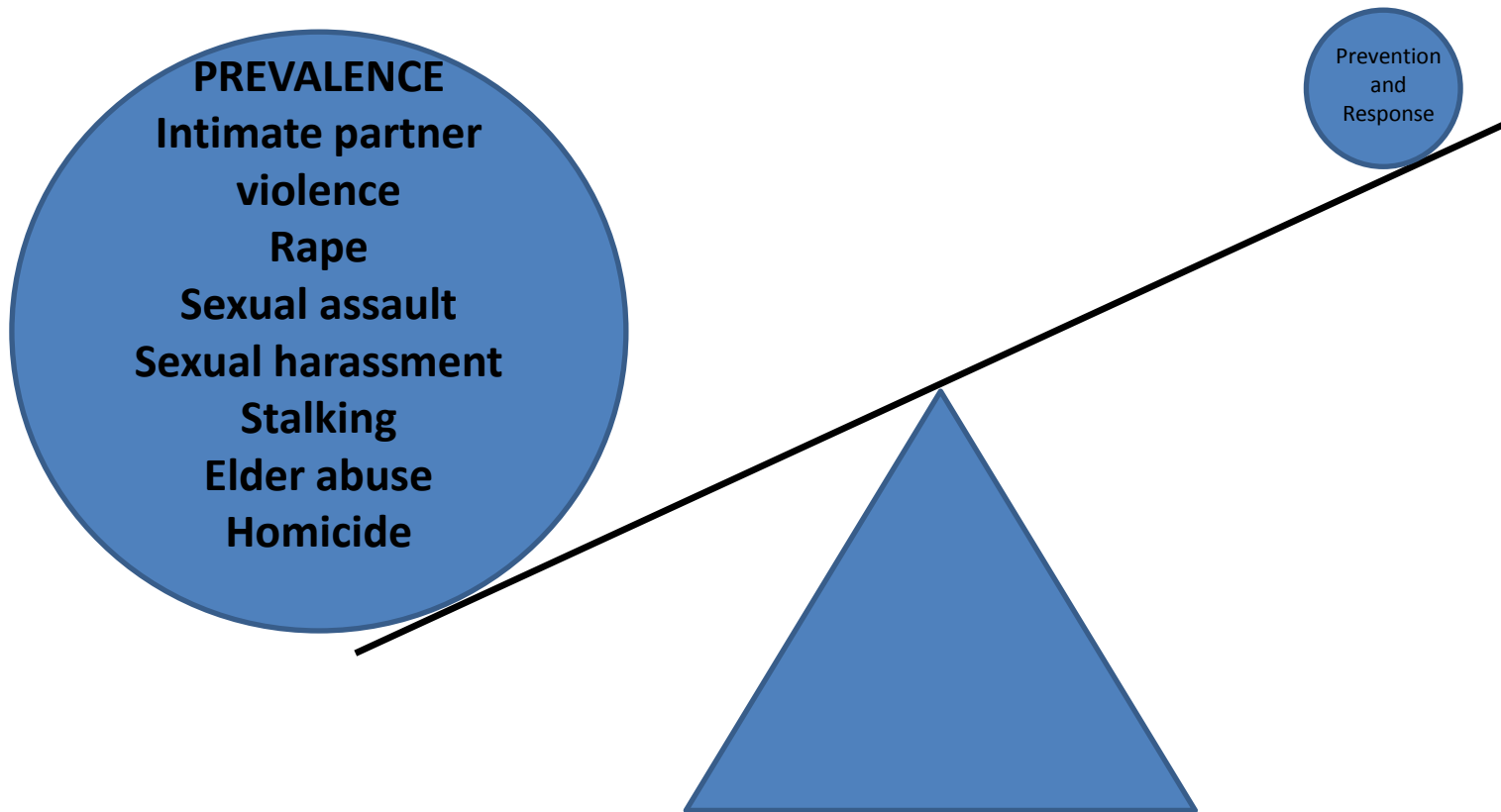
Courts

Prisons

Missing data on the
victim-offender
relationship

- Normally only conducted with current prisoners
- Issues of access

Measuring problems and solutions: getting the balance right



Measuring problems and solutions: getting the balance right

