

Measuring Gender-based violence: Results of the Violence Against Women (VAW) Survey in Bangladesh

Md. Alamgir Hossen*

September, 2014

ABSTRACT: *The constitution of Bangladesh guarantees equal rights for both men and women in all spheres of state and public life. It also declares that steps shall be taken to ensure participation of women in all spheres of national life. Bangladesh Government has been continuously adopting of the preemptive policies, legislations, strategies and taking national affirmative action plans and program for accelerating the implementation process in achieving the goal of holistic empowerment of women. Violence against women (VAW) is a global phenomenon that exists even beyond cultural, geographical, religious, social and economic context. Violence against women is widespread in terms of Physical, psychological, sexual and economic aspects. Despite the increased attention to the problem of VAW, there is still a substantial lack of information and data on the scope and extent of the incidence. Detailed data on women's experience of violence is needed in order to better understanding the phenomenon and developing targeted policies and measures to prevent and combat VAW. Bangladesh has become one of the pioneers through conducting the VAW Survey 2011. The results of VAW Survey 2011 identified that as many as 87% of currently married women have ever experienced any type of violence by current husband and 77% reported any type of violence faced during the past 12 months from the survey time. The higher percentage of any type of violence is predominantly contributed by psychological violence. Almost 90% of those who have ever violated by current husband has the past 12-month experience of violence which implies the persistence nature of violence by the husband. 65 percent of married women reported that they had experienced physical violence committed by their current husbands during their lifetime. About one-third of women who have ever violated by non-partner have the past 12-month experience also. More than four percent of women have ever experienced sexual violence by non-partner, and one percent of women experienced during the past 12 months. To maintain international comparability the standard questionnaire recommended by United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) was customized to fit with the socioeconomic context of Bangladesh. For this customization group consultation meetings were conducted with different stakeholders. Local female registrars among BBS's Sample Vital Registration System (SVRS) were recruited as interviewers as they are well trained on data collection and have rapport with the ultimate respondents. Stakeholders like UN agencies, civil society and INGO/NGOs working for VAW issue along with different government bodies were involved with the survey processes. The report on Violence Against Women survey recommended to conduct the survey to follow up the changes in the results at every two years. Consultation with the users, experts, policy makers, planners, researchers and NGOs should be expanded with special care for future episodes of the survey.*

* Md. Alamgir Hossen, Deputy Director, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), Statistics and Informatics Division (SID), Ministry of Planning, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Email: auny.du@gmail.com, alamgir.hossen@bbs.gov.bd. Worked as Supervising Officer in VAW 2011 Survey.

Background:

Gender disparity is considered as one of the dominant concerns of women globally, which is significantly associated with the Violence Against Women (VAW). To eliminate the discrimination from the society, the state should be the proactive initiator to hold the steering role with its strong commitments and interventions. The journey to ensure women empowerment in Bangladesh began since the independence in 1971 by ensuring the equal rights in the constitution. The Constitution of Bangladesh guarantees equal rights for both men and women in all spheres of *state* and *public* life. Even some of the articles in the Constitution are firmly patronizing towards women rights. According to Article 28 (1) states: The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. In addition the Article 28 (4) states: Nothing in this article shall prevent the State from making special provision in favour of women or children or for the advancement of any backward section of citizens. Article 10 further provides that steps shall be taken in ensure participation of women in all spheres of national life as a fundamental principle of state policy (Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, 1972). Bangladesh has also signed its commitments to the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1984 and endorsed Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) in 1995 to attain the objectives of safeguarding gender equality, legal rights and thus empowerment of women.

During the recent decades, the initiative to protect equal rights of women and non-discrimination has gained momentum and has been successful in mobilizing and synchronizing women to uphold their rights. Bangladesh Government has been proactively adopting in adoption of preemptive policies, legislations, strategies and taking national affirmative action plans and program for accelerating the implementation process in achieving the goal of holistic empowerment of women in Bangladesh (MoWCA, 2009). Notable actions have been taken by the government to protect women's legal rights and improve their social status. Those include enacting of *The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1980* which forbids anyone from giving or receiving dowry and *The Nari-O-Shishu Nirjatan Daman Ain, 2000 (Law on the Suppression of Violence against Women and Children, 2000)* for the first time expanded the definition of rape considerably and the sexual assault and sexual harassment have been made punishable offences; *Acid Crime Prevention Act, 2000* and *Acid control Act, 2000* to prevent from the acid violence. For preventing women from

violence, government has enacted *Family Violence Prevention and Protection Act, 2010* and *National Women policy, 2011* was adopted for the empowerment of women.

Interventions like One Stop Crisis Centres are operating at regional level for women victims of violence receive medical treatment, police assistance, legal support and rehabilitation service as well as establishment of National Trauma Counselling Centre is an applauding intervention by the government. Awareness raising programs and advocacy are being conducted with specific focus on engaging males in prevention of violence against women and changing stereotype mind set in the society.

The pro-women policies, strategies and measures of the Government undertaken in the last decades have positively influenced to empower women and to bring them in the main stream of development. The contribution of women in employment is encouraging as about 16.8 million of females are engaged in different economic sectors. The percentage of female in industry and agriculture sector are higher than male which is admirable (BBS, 2014). The women share in full time worker in Permanent Economic establishment estimated about 48% while female workers are more than 40% of total person engaged in all permanent economic establishments (BBS, 2014). The government policies also helped in reduction of poverty also. The Head Count Ratio (HCR) of incidence of poverty observed significantly less for female-headed households than that of male-headed households. As per the upper poverty line, the HCR of incidence of poverty by sex of head of household is 26.6 percent for the female-headed households whereas it is 32.1 percent for male-headed ones (BBS, 2011).

Positive indicators of women's development in Bangladesh are reflected in enduring gender parity in school enrolment and decrease in dropout rates. There has been significant progress in education areas. The adjusted net enrolment rate in primary education for girls are 87.8 percent and dropout rate at primary school cycle (Grade I-V) is 12.2% (BBS, 2012). Gender parity index in primary level enrolment is 1.02. Special emphasis has been given to girl child's education. Government intervention for stipend for girls, free education up to primary level have resulted in increased enrolment of girls and decreasing dropout rates.

Women are holding an increasing share in public life and decision making also. 20% of seats held by women in current national parliament. Women's share of government ministerial positions 8.16% among 49 ministers. The position of prime minister and leader of opposition in the parliament is hold by women during the last two decades. The speaker of the parliament is a woman in the current parliament underway from the last parliament. Under

the *Local Government Act, 1997* three seats have been reserved for direct election of women. *The Representation of People's Order, 2008* provided for two elected Vice-Chairman for Upazila Parishad (Sub-district Council), one of which must be a woman. In addition, about 19% of managerial positions are held by women, which is highly encouraging. All these statistics reveal that Bangladesh is marching ahead with the appropriate mindset and progress on all socioeconomic fronts including women's empowerment is palpable.

Violence Against Women

Violence against women (VAW) is a global phenomenon that exists even beyond cultural, geographical, religious, social and economic context. Violence against women is widespread in terms of Physical, psychological, sexual and economic aspects. Physical violence comprises a range of physically violent acts including hits, slaps, kicks, beatings, burns and use of a weapon. Psychological violence takes account of constant disparagement or scorn, the enforcement of strict isolation and embarrassing behavior. Sexual coercion and abuse contains sexual harassment, unwanted sexual touching, coerced sex and forced pregnancy. Besides, some other certain types of violence, associated to traditional or customary practices, which are confined to specific communities or geographical area. For instance, wife inheritance in Southern Africa, female genital mutilation in among others East and West Africa, and dowry murders on the Indian sub-continent. Between 15% and 71% of women who have ever lived with a man report experiencing some form of physical or sexual violence committed by their intimate partners has been signified from different studies conducted worldwide. However, the extent to which women experience domestic violence remains largely hidden and undocumented. There are many reasons behind this fact. It is evident from different surveys that the huge majority of abused women never seek help from the police or other law enforcing agencies for help. In addition to that available data on violence from formal sources are likely to severely underestimate the factual magnitude of the problem. However, as violence is commonly perpetrated by a woman's partner, often in her home, it is often considered as a 'private issue'— and thus not a matter to discuss, research or action (UNECE, 2010).

Despite the increased attention to the problem of violence against women, there is still a substantial lack of information and data on the scope and extent of the incident. Detailed data on women's experiences of violence is needed in order to better understanding the phenomenon and developing targeted policies and measures to prevent and combat violence against women (UNICRI, 2014). Research on violence against women has exploded in the

past 20 years, particularly in the areas of intimate partner violence and sexual assault. Despite this spate of research, many gaps exist in our understanding of violence against women (U.S. Department of Justice, 2000).

General assembly of the United Nations called upon the United Nation Statistical Division (UNSD) to request the UN member countries to establish system for data collection and analysis for a set of respective national VAW outcome indicators and other methodological standards by 2015. In this regards and conducting the VAW Survey 2011 Bangladesh has become one of the pioneers through the meticulous efforts of Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) under the monitoring of Statistical and Informatics Division (SID) with the financial and technical support provided by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Objective of the paper

The objectives of the paper are as follows:

- To analyze the result of the VAW Survey 2011;
- To assess Indicators produced, disseminated and used and rationale linked to those;
- To assess the challenges and lessons learnt by BBS in collecting data on VAW 2011;
- To assess the role of BBS and other national stakeholders (Women's machineries, researchers) involved in the survey;
- To identify the Challenges faced in analyzing the data.

Methodology of the paper

The paper was constructed by following both the qualitative and quantitative study. Quantitative study was conducted by analyzing the data set of VAW 2011 survey. Qualitative study was followed by in-depth study of secondary sources, especially literature review. The literature explored for the paper includes different government and non-government reports, web sites, published official Statistics, newspapers etc. Qualitative analysis was done with the help of Stata 12 IC version.

BANGLADESH VAW SURVEY 2011

Goal of the Survey

The main objective of the survey was to generate official national statistics on the prevalence of violence against women and to observe the overall situation including the forms of violence along with their magnitude in Bangladesh. The nationally representative survey ensured the baseline source for future research and will be useful source for planning

comprehensive integrated program that combat all forms of violence against women in Bangladesh.

Indicators produced, disseminated & used and rationale linked to those

For measuring violence against women, a set of indicators used as recommended by UNSD. The indicators as follows:

- Total and age specific rate of women subjected to physical violence in the last 12 months by severity of violence, relationship to the perpetrator and frequency;
- Total and age specific rate of women subjected to physical violence during lifetime by severity of violence, relationship to the perpetrator and frequency;
- Total and age specific rate of women subjected to sexual violence in the last 12 months by severity of violence, relationship to the perpetrator and frequency;
- Total and age specific rate of women subjected to sexual violence during lifetime by severity of violence, relationship to the perpetrator and frequency;
- Total and age specific rate of ever-married women subjected to sexual and/or physical violence by current or former partner and non-partner in the last 12 months by frequency;
- Total and age specific rate of ever-married women subjected to sexual and/or physical violence by current or former partner and non-partner during lifetime by frequency;
- Total and age specific rate of women subjected to psychological violence in the past 12 months by the partner;
- Total and age specific rate of women subjected to economic violence in the past 12 months by the intimate partner;

A detail list of indicators has been demonstrated in the *Appendix*.

Result of VAW Survey 2011

Overall pattern

The result of VAW Survey 2011 identified that as many as 87% of currently married women have ever experienced any type of violence by current husband and 77% reported any type of violence faced during the past 12 months from the survey time. The higher percentage of any type of violence is predominantly contributed by psychological violence. Almost 90% of those who have ever violated by current husband has the past 12-month experience of violence which implies the persistence nature of violence by the spouse. Besides, the survey

results among women ever married more than once indicate that 66% of them experienced violence by current as well as previous husbands while 98% have ever been violated by either current or previous husbands (BBS, 2013).

Physical Violence by Partners

Sixty-five percent of married women reported that they have experienced physical violence committed by their current husbands during their lifetime. About half of married women experienced such violence in the past 12 months which implies that the recent incidence is also high. The report also claims that prevalence of physical violence seems to be comparatively higher in rural Bangladesh than urban. Women of age group 20-39 found to be most exposed group to spousal physical violence in the past 12 months. More than 50% of women received medical treatment consequences of physical violence. About one third of women did not seek for medical attention in fear of their husbands or not permitted by their husband. Fear of stigma also hindered to seek for medical treatment due to domestic violence as almost 9% of women cited ‘social prestige’ as reason for not having sought for medical treatment.

Sexual Violence by partners

More than one-third (36.5%) of women experienced sexual violence perpetrated by their current husbands in their lifetime. The recent prevalence is also high as one-fourth of married women reported such violence experienced during past 12 months. Among the married women age group of 20-34 seems to be more vulnerable to spousal sexual violence compared to other age groups. For all type of sexual violence, the prevalence in rural areas seems higher than in urban. Sexual coercion as a result of physical force or in fear of consequence is the most common sexual violence perpetrated by current husband. As many as 26% of women were ever forced to have sex with husband while over 10% of women experienced more than twice in the past 12 months, including 4% who experienced more than 6 times. Similarly as many as 30% of women ever had sex with their husbands because they were afraid of what the husbands might do if they refuse to have sex.

Psychological Violence by Partners

Psychological violence against married women is extremely common and persistently practiced by their husbands in Bangladesh, as over 80% have ever experienced it in their life time with 72% in the past 12 months. The prevalence seems slightly higher in rural areas than urban. Insulting is the most commonly reported act as 27% of women ever experienced and

over 18% experienced more than twice in the past 12 months. This is followed by humiliation in front of other and verbal threatening, both of which were ever experienced by 16% of the women.

Economic Violence by Partners

About half of ever married women have ever experienced economic violence while one third experienced in the past 12 months. The prevalence seems a little bit higher in rural areas than urban. Older women seem to be less likely to have experienced such violence. About one third of women (33.7%) have paid dowry for the current marriage.

Association of violence with age difference from current husband

It has been observed from an analysis that among the women experienced different types of violence has an association with the age difference from the current husband. The result shows that the women who are older than the current husbands and living in same household have lowest probability of experiencing any type of violence. It also shows that women living in same household with the husbands older than 5 to 19 years are seems to be less vulnerable compared to husbands older than 0 to 4 years and 20 to 29.

Violence Against Women by non-partners

About one-third of women who have ever violated by non-partner have the past 12-month experience. This indicates that non-partner violence is not a rare incident in Bangladesh. In addition, when it comes to the recent incidence of non-partner violence, younger age group (below age 29 years old) seems to be more vulnerable.

Physical violence by non-partners

About 8% of women reported the recent incidence of non-partner physical violence in the past 12 months while almost one quarter women (23.8%) reported their life-time experience of such violence. Further analysis of non-partner violence by type of perpetrator indicates that parents, step-parents, and parents-in-law combined represent the most commonly-cited perpetrator of physical violence, followed by other family members, including sisters/brothers-in-law.

Sexual violence by non-partners

More than four percent of women have ever experienced sexual violence by non-partner, and one percent of women experienced during the past 12 months. More than 40% of women on average and 50% of urban respondents indicated that they had first forced sex while they

were at the age of 14 and below. Three quarter of the respondent women (77.8%) indicated that they had first forced sex at age 19 and below.

Perception about violence

The respondent women stated that married women are likely to become victim of physical violence while about just over 20% of women pointed out the vulnerability of unmarried, separated and divorced women to physical violence. In case of sexual violence, unmarried women are perceived as the top victim, cited by 54% of rural women and 62% of urban women. In terms of opinions as regard to where is the place occurring sexual violence, husband's house still marks the top most commonly cited site, but the percentage of women who mentioned about it (54%) is much lower than physical violence case (88%). Similar trend is observed as the case of Psychological violence, with married women being most cited as likely victim.

Abuse in Childhood by non-partners

About four percent of the women reported that they had experienced physical torture during their childhood, while three percent of the women had experienced sexual harassment/teasing. The prevalence is higher among rural than urban women.

Female family members' experience of sexual harassment/teasing in the past one year

About two percent of women respondents mentioned that their female family members had experienced sexual harassment of teasing in the past one year. Prevalence seemed to be slightly higher in urban than rural areas. Out of those who had experienced, 28% were respondents' daughters, 20% were the respondents themselves, and 19% were their sisters.

Challenges faced by BBS in Questionnaire Development and Data Collection

This is the first time that Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) has conducted the VAW survey. BBS had few gender sensitive survey experiences earlier. As a result the following challenges had faced by BBS during questionnaire development and data collection for the survey:

- *Customization of UNSD standard questionnaire to fit with the socioeconomic context of Bangladesh:* To maintain international comparability the standard questionnaire recommended by UNSD was customized to fit with the socioeconomic context of Bangladesh. Sensitive words were avoided like dowry, rape or violence in the

questionnaire. For this customization group consultation meetings were conducted with different stakeholders.

- *Incorporating the stakeholders' demands from different points of views:* Incorporating all the demands from different stakeholders were a big challenge for as some suggestions were given to put some leading questions which has been minimized by group discussion.
- *Recruitment of gender sensitized interviewers with required qualifications:* As a sensitive survey recruitment of interviewers were challenge for BBS. But it has been overcome from existing set up of BBS. Local female registrars among BBS's Sample Vital Registration System (SVRS) were recruited as interviewers as they are well trained on sensitive data collection and have rapport with the targeted respondents. It helped the respondents to be more spontaneous to disclose the facts which they might hide for social stigma or due to protect the privacy.
- *Gender sensitization of the field force involved in the survey:* At the training sessions, issues regarding female, gender and violence against women have been discussed in depth. Some sensitive issues were discussed in a friendly and open atmosphere so that interviewers become more comfortable in talking about these issues. The interviewers were also trained and sensitized regarding the sense of respondents that make them feel reluctant to discuss those issues.
- *Rapport building with the respondent:* As the interviewers are local inhabitants and have a good relationship with the respondents as they frequently visit the households for SVRS data collection, the challenge of rapport building regarding VAW was easier for them. At the beginning of the study it has been expected that violence against women is a too sensitive topic to be explored in survey such as this, and that women will not disclose their experiences of violence to the interviewers. But during the interview many women found very spontaneous to disclose or share their experiences with a manner that they could get relieved from a stone imposed on their chest.
- *Getting the respondents alone for the interview:* As the survey were taken at the household level it was great challenge to get the respondents alone. The interviewer had to be cautious to get them alone. An instruction was given to the interviewer not to start asking questions until the respondent was alone and had given consent. Also a

strict instruction was given to the interviewers not to disclose any information to others.

- *Unwanted presence of family members while interviewing:* Unwanted presence of family members was a big challenge for conducting interview of the respondents as they might influence the respondents to hide the facts. The interviewers were well trained and guided to stop the interview if any family member present. Sometimes a single interview required multiple visits to avoid the unwanted family members. Thus confidential, secret and comfortable environment was ensured.
- *Ensuring confidentiality of the personal information:* All the collected data has been coded and any personally identifiable information has been handled with care. The interviewer has been strongly motivated to keep the information confidential.
- *Renaming the Survey:* The survey used the safer name of ‘Survey about Women’s Status’ instead of ‘Violence Against Women Survey’, it was instructed to name in the questionnaire to avoid risk in data collection.

Lessons Learnt By BBS in VAW 2011

The following experiences and lessons learnt by BBS:

- Conducting such a sensitive survey without having enough relevant experience. BBS has gained a lot of operational and conceptual knowledge to conduct gender sensitive surveys like VAW.
- Handling and coordinating with the stakeholders was worthy lessons for BBS by steering the whole survey process.
- BBS has first time introduced ICR technology in a standalone survey though the technology has been used earlier in Population Census 2011. But processing of long questionnaire having lots of qualitative questions and incorporating them with ICR technology was a remarkable lesson for BBS.

The Role of BBS and Other National Stakeholders

Violence Against Woman Survey 2011 was conducted with a convergence approach steered by Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics. Different stakeholders working with women rights and legal protection has been involved with the survey activities starting from survey tools

development to data dissemination. Stakeholders like UN agencies, civil society and INGO/NGOs working for VAW issue along with different government bodies (e. g. representatives of Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, ICDDR,B and local leading NGOs like BRAC, Naripakkho etc.) were involved with the survey processes. For sensitizing the personnel involved with the survey academics and activists working in this era were incorporated in the master trainer pool. Different stakeholders had been involved at the local level training sessions for the interviewers like District Women Affairs Officers etc.

Challenges faced in analyzing the data

To save time and avoid redundancy and inaccuracies, the survey questionnaire was developed in Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR) format in bi-color with structured placement format so that the trained interviewers commit minimum distortion. Before capturing the data questionnaires were edited manually. As data have been captured by using ICR technology, all data and images of the questionnaire are electronically available for future references. Consequences of the initiative, the responses of such a complex and sensitive issue could be handled with minimum mistakes. Despite manual editing of the questionnaire, substantial misread information was found in the scanned results which were further checked and corrected through frequency runs and screen editing. Relational database was prepared in Microsoft Access and tabulations were prepared by using FoxPro and SPSS. Pre-scanning, editing and cleaning for untidiness were easier and inconsistencies were removed in the shortest time to make the report to be published within shortest possible time.

Recommendations

- Some of the questions seem to be leading questions and may differ the degree of meaning from the UN standard questionnaire. Some questions incorporated by considering the context need to be revised with proper wording.
- Customization of the questionnaire by sensitizing with gender issues as few of the contextual violence might occur even beyond the gender vulnerability. Those should be revisited for fine tuning.

- In VAW 2011 survey it is observed that a big chunk of the violence are incorporated by considering the local context. If a separate result with violence attributable to local context is generated side by side with all variables, it can be help the policy makers for policy making with evidence based guidelines. It will also help to properly compare the result with other countries.
- By generating composite index for each type of violence, a ranking can be ensured with using rational weighting of each episode of the violence.
- Categorizing the violence by severity in the questionnaire will be helpful for further analyze of the data.
- Conducting follow up VAW survey regularly is needed to get the substantial changes against different approaches and efforts.
- Expanding the consultation with stakeholders with special care for future episodes of the survey.
- Sharing the global experiences is highly important to improve the quality of the future episodes of VAW survey.

Conclusion

Violence Against Women Survey 2011 was the first nationally representative survey in Bangladesh. From the survey it is now officially evident that women are enduring enormous physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence every day. The statistics concludes that combating the violence from the society immediate action plan should be taken to make the society safe for the women by considering the context. For the success in eliminating the violence against women involvement of men and youth is essential. Bangladesh has signed many international treaties and conventions, and enacted different national laws and policies in favor of establishing women's rights. The government introduced the Domestic Violence Act in 2010 with the aim to ensure women's rights.

The report on Violence Against Women survey recommended to conduct the survey to follow up the changes in the results at every two years. Consultation with the users, experts, policy makers, planners, researchers and NGOs should be expanded with special care for future episodes of the survey. Lesson learnt from each phase of survey may be documented and be reflected in the next phase of the survey for improvement.

References:

- BBS. (2011). *Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2010*. Dhaka: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.
- BBS. (2012). *Report on Sample Vital Registration System 2010*. Dhaka: BBS.
- BBS. (2013). *Violence Against Women Survey 2011*. Dhaka, Bangladesh: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS).
- BBS. (2014). *Labour Force Survey 2013*. Dhaka: BBS.
- BBS. (2014). *Provisional Report on Economic Census 2013*. Dhaka: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.
- Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs. (1972, November 04). *The Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh*. Retrieved from Laws of Bangladesh: http://bdlaws.minlaw.gov.bd/sections_detail.php?id=367§ions_id=24576
- MoWCA. (2009). *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women Bangladesh*. Dhaka: Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, GoB.
- U.S. Department of Justice. (2000, November). *Full Report of the Prevalence, Incidence, and Consequences of Violence Against Women*. Retrieved July 23, 2014, from National Criminal Justice Reference Service: <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/183781.pdf>
- UNECE. (2010, March 2). *Interviewer's manual: Violence against Women survey using the UNECE VAW Module*. Retrieved July 23, 2014, from United Nations Economic Commission for Europe: <http://www1.unece.org/stat/platform/download/attachments/24117336/VAW+module+Interviewer%27s+Manual+%282+March+2011%29.doc?version=1>
- UNICRI. (2014). *Violence against Women Survey*. Retrieved 2014, from United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute: Violence against Women Survey

Appendix: Key Indicators, Findings and Household Characteristics in Bangladesh VAW 2011

Indicators	Current husband	Previous husband	Non-partner
1. Psychological Violence	81.6	73.2	NA
2. Economic violence	53.2	48.6	NA
3. Sexual violence	36.5	32.2	4.4
4. Physical violence	64.6	58.9	23.8
5. Physical &/or Sexual violence	67.2	61.3	25.1
6. Dowry during marriage	33.7	24.0	NA
7. Dowry after marriage	12.6	17.7	NA
8. Dower (Denmohor) payment Status (Muslims only)			NA
-Paid	19.8	17.7	
-Not paid	40.5	41.0	
-Paid in part	18.8	9.8	
-Requested for waive	11.9	13.7	
-Don't know	9.0	17.8	
9. Throwing acid	0.2	0.7	NA
10. Can't vote according to own choice	19.1	19.9	NA
11. Impact of physical violence	47.5	54.8	NA
12. Treatment received for violence	51.8	51.3	NA
13. Reasons for not taking treatment			NA
-Afraid of husband	17.3	22.6	
-Husband didn't allow	15.2	8.9	
-Not necessary	51.6	41.0	
-Afraid of other family member	3.4	2.9	
-Afraid of social prestige	8.6	6.0	
-Other	4.0	18.6	
14. Category of impact on physical & mental health			NA
-Attempted to suicide	7.1	12.9	
-Drug addicted	0.2	1.9	
-Abortion	1.1	1.4	
15. Legal actions taken against physical violence	2.4	8.9	
16. Reasons for not taking legal actions			
-In fear of husband	8.1	14.5	
-Husband has right to torture wife	6.7	6.4	
-Husband didn't allow	2.7	1.6	
-Was not necessary	40.1	27.7	
-In fear of members of the household	2.8	2.9	
-Thinking future of children	20.9	12.1	
-Thinking of family or own defame	16.5	12.2	
-Others	2.2	1.3	
-Not reported	-	21.3	
12% respondents experienced second marriage/widow/separation/divorce.			
17. Violence during childhood	NA	NA	
-Physical torture			3.9
-Mental torture			0.9
-Teasing			2.5
-Intimate physical touch without consent			1.2
-Other			0.2

18. First forced sex by age group	NA	NA	
05-09			1.7
10-14			41.8
15-19			34.3
20-24			9.9
25-29			4.9
30-34			4.1
35-39			2.3
40+			0.9
19. First forced sex by distance of source of drinking water facilities (200 meter)	NA	NA	
-Within household			41.3
-Outside household			58.7
20. First forced sex by distance of Toilet facilities (100 meter)	NA	NA	
-Within household			35.8
-Outside household			64.2
21. Age-specific violence (Any type)	87.1	77.5	25.1
-Highest Age group	20-24	55-59	20-24
22. Perception about violence by place of occurrence	Physical violence	Psychological violence	Sexual violence
-Parent's house	21.0	22.6	15.6
-Working place	16.2	25.5	28.9
-Solitary place/Public place/Traveling site	12.8	8.7	43.5
-Coaching Centre	4.9	4.6	10.3
-Station Bus, Launch and train)	7.2	5.6	9.9
-Husband's house	87.7	85.8	54.4
-Market	5.3	5.3	8.6
-Educational Institution	13.4	12.1	12.4
-Hospital/Nursing home/Health centre	5.8	6.8	12.1
-Transport/Road	14.2	11.3	16.4
-Other	0.7	0.6	1.3
23. Perception about violence by marital status	Physical violence	Psychological violence	Sexual violence
-Unmarried	22.3	25.8	56.1
-Married	78.4	68.4	47.0
-Separated	21.3	34.8	28.9
-Divorced	22.5	36.8	29.8
-Others	3.3	1.2	1.8
	Rural	Urban	Total
24. Total sample household	6,300	6,300	12,600
25. Total population (in million)			
-Men 73.60			
-Women 73.42			147.0
26. Sex ratio			100.1
27. Total Household size			4.6
28. Ownership of land (in percentage)			
-Men 80.9			
-Women 19.1			62.1

Rural	Urban	Total	Rural
28. Ownership of House (in percentage) -Men 85.8 -Women 14.2			82.2
29. Having Dish connection (in percentage of h/h)	16.8	51.7	25.9
29. Having Television/Radio (in percentage of h/h)	35.7	66.3	43.7
31. Having Mobile phones (in percentage of h/h)	76.9	86.2	79.3
32. Having Computer (in percentage of h/h)	2.5	6.5	3.6
33. Can read & write (in percent)		56.8	
34. Times married (percent of women respondent) -Once 86.3 -Twice 3.7 -Thrice 0.2			