

*Exploring Liberia's Post-Conflict Efforts
To Combat Sexual Gender-Based Violence*

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Liberia

- Two nearly consecutive civil wars between 1989-2003
- Over 75% of women and girls experienced some form of sexual gender-based violence (SGBV) during the wars
- Assertive and public actions to address SGBV

Study Overview

- Study objective
- Data collection
 - Individual interviews
 - Group Interviews
 - Review of documents/reports
 - Direct observations
- Participants
 - 9 key contributors
 - 32 group participants (3 group interviews)
- Thematic analysis

RQ 1: Have post-conflict SGBV initiatives in Liberia been successful in reducing SGBV since the end of the civil war? If so, how?

- Potential reasons for no reduction in SGBV
 - Inadequate implementation of programs, policies, and laws
 - Ineffective judicial system
 - Cultural and traditional norms
- Findings from documents and reports
 - Increase in SGBV from 2005 - 2013

RQ 2: Has Liberia been effective in providing support to survivors of conflict-related and post-conflict SGBV? If so, how?

- Important progress in providing support services for survivors
- Improvement needed to support survivors
 - Shortcomings of safe homes and One Stop centers
 - Lack of community support
 - Ineffective judicial system
- Findings from documents and reports
 - Half or more survivors receive medical care
 - Low arrest and conviction rate for perpetrators

RQ 3: Have adequate preventative measures been established to reduce or eliminate future instances of SGBV? If so, how?

- Suggestions to improve prevention efforts
 - Improved implementation of programs, policies, and laws to stop SGBV
 - Community awareness, education, and empowerment
 - Cultural shift
- Findings from documents and reports

Discussion of Findings

- SGBV reduction and prevention efforts
- Support for survivors
- Initiating change
- Liberia in the global context
- Significant progress

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