

# Men's Health and IPV perpetration

*Providing psychosocial services to men and boys for the primary prevention of intimate partner violence*

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# Overview

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- **Sri Lanka:**

- Situated in South Asia and a middle income country
- After almost 30 years of civil war
- Gender-based violence (GBV) still poses a societal problem, and the hypothesis is that, due to cultural inhibitions, it is underreported
- 1/3 women will experience IPV in their lifetime, sexual violence including rape estimated at 14 %

- **Issue:**

- Previous research shows many factors associated with men's perpetration of IPV
- Engaging men and boys work for gender equality focuses on addressing harmful attitudes and behaviors as means of reducing IPV

- **Aim:** Use findings from the first large scale house hold survey of men's attitudes and behaviors related to IPV perpetration in Sri Lanka to explore men's psychosocial health needs as a primary prevention method to address IPV against women

# The UN multi-country study on men and violence in Asia and the Pacific – Partners for Prevention

## THE STUDY

**STUDY AIM:** to deepen the understanding of men's use of violence against women in order to prevent it

**6**

**COUNTRIES**

Bangladesh  
Cambodia  
China  
Indonesia  
Papua New Guinea  
Sri Lanka

**9**

**SITES**

**10,178**

**MEN AGED 18–49**

**3,106**

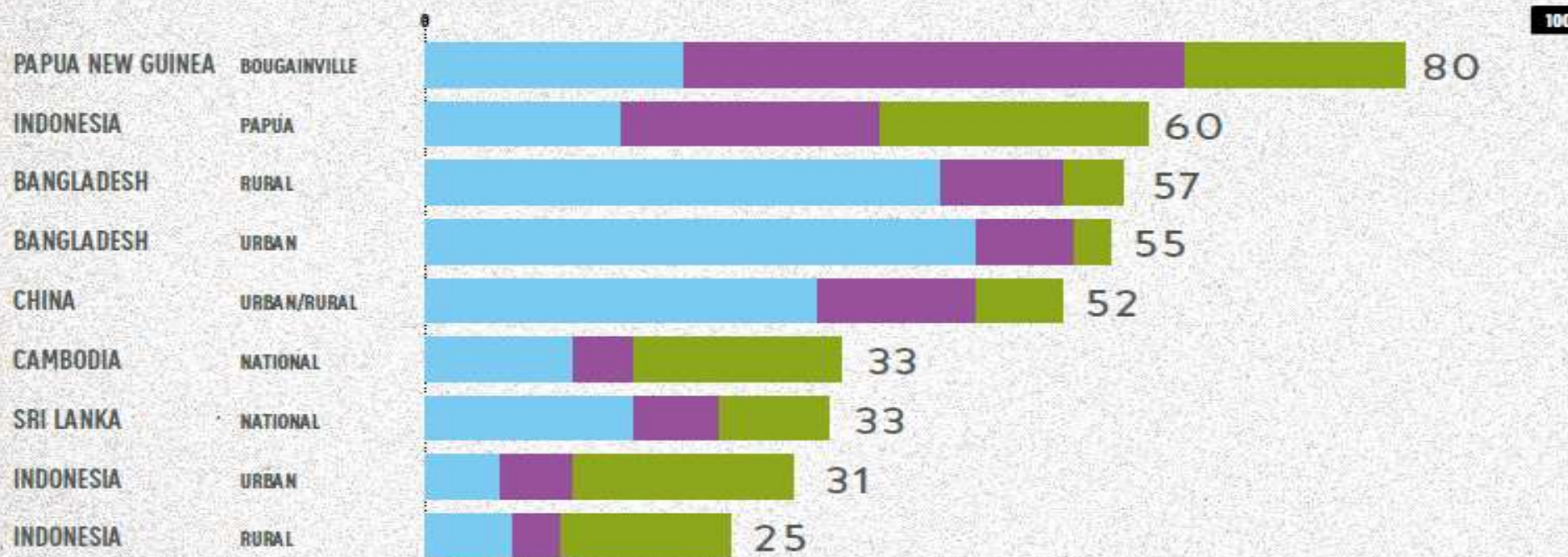
**WOMEN FOR  
VALIDATION**

**Largest cross-country  
comparable dataset on  
male perpetration of  
violence against women  
in Asia-Pacific**

# THE PROBLEM: INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

PERCENTAGE OF EVER-PARTNERED MEN REPORTING PERPETRATION OF PHYSICAL AND/OR SEXUAL INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE, BY SITE

● PHYSICAL VIOLENCE ONLY ● BOTH PHYSICAL AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE ● SEXUAL VIOLENCE ONLY



Patterns of partner violence also varied across sites

Source: UN Multi Country Study on Men and Violence (Partners for Prevention)

# Methods

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- Data source: Study conducted by Care International Sri Lanka in collaboration with Partners for Prevention to understand men's knowledge, practices and social attitudes towards gender and gender based violence in Sri Lanka\*
- In the districts of Colombo, Hambantota, Nuwara Eliya and Batticaloa.
- Cross-sectional household survey with randomly selected 1658 men and 653 women aged 18-49 years
- Questionnaires drew on a number of validated tools from previous studies

\*<http://www.engagingmen.net/resource/broadening-gender-why-masculinities-matter-sri-lanka>

# Data analysis

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- Secondary analysis of ever partnered men's responses
- Univariate and multivariate analysis (controlling for age, education and income) to explore associations of men's health and prior experiences of violence and other factors to the perpetration of IPV.

# RESULTS

# Demographic information (N=1252 ever partnered-men )

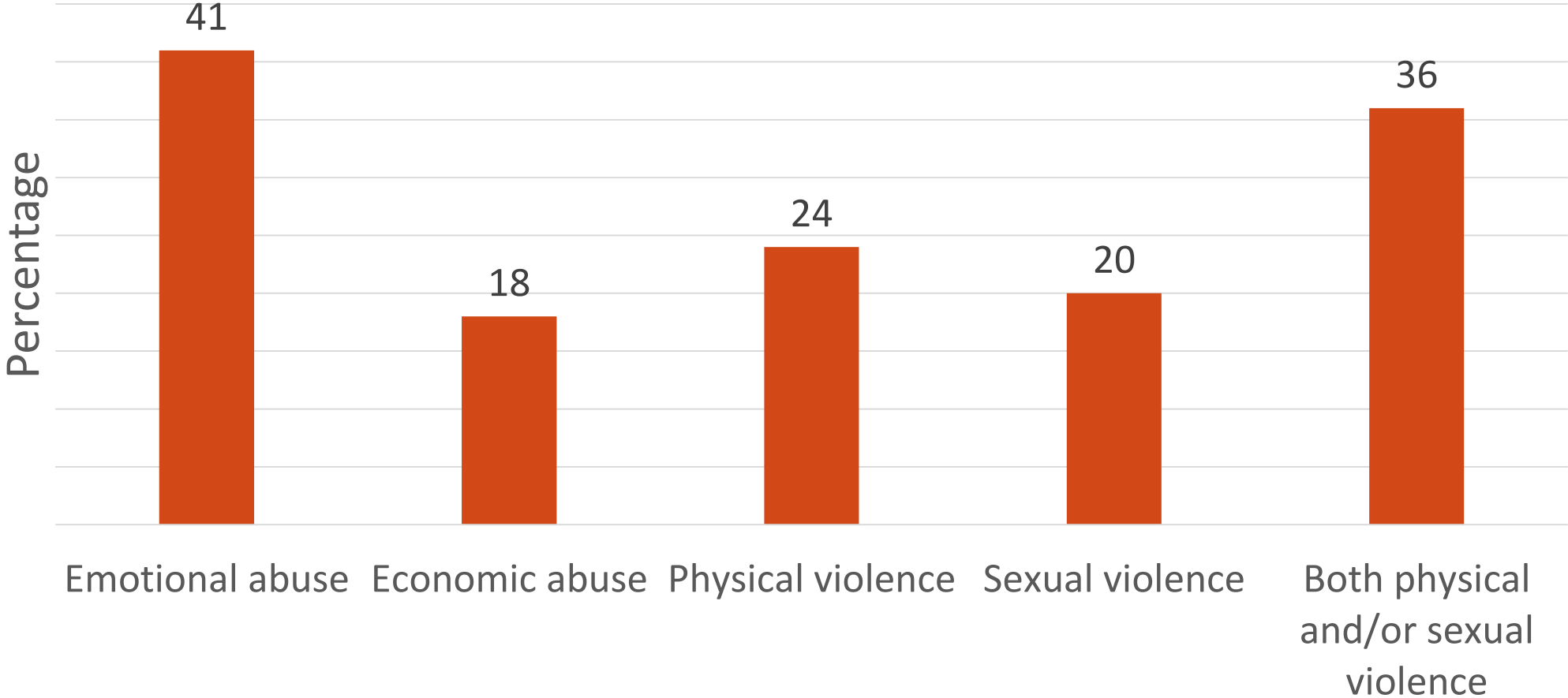
		%
<b>Age</b>	=/<24	21.6
	25-34	36.7
	35-44	28.4
	45<	13.3
<b>Education</b>	None	1.3
	Primary	9.7
	Secondary	79.1
	Higher	9.9
<b>Income</b>	<10000	33.3
	10001-20000	40.9
	20001-50000	22.7
	50000+	3.1

<b>Current relationship status</b>	%
Currently married to a woman	69.7
Living with woman, not married	0.5
Girlfriend, not living together	13.3
Not married/ no relationship	16.5

<b>Occupation</b>	%
Professional: doctor, nurse, teacher	5.8
White collar: secretary, office work	8.2
Blue collar: factory work, waiter	21.2
Trading/business	15.7
Manual labour	10.9
Farmer/ fishing	17.1
Security: police, army etc	2.7
Driver/taxi	7.7
Never worked/ student	10.2



# Prevalence of lifetime perpetration of IPV amongst ever-partnered men



# Men's experiences

Men's experiences	Number	%
Childhood physical abuse	480	38.3
Childhood sexual abuse	347	27.7
Childhood emotional abuse	553	44.2
Very high depression (measured by CES-D scale)	72	5.8
Ever experience of Homophobic violence	48	3.8
Ever experience of sexual violence by another man	42	3.4
Having witnessed abuse of own mother	367	29.3
Alcohol abuse/problem drinking	114	10.7
High Work stress	207	16.5
Unemployment stress	15	1.2
Poor self-rated health/not seeking health care recent past	134	10.7

# Men's experiences of child abuse and associations with IPV

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	Percentage	Physical sexual and IPV perpetration	
		aOR	CI
Childhood physical abuse	38.3	2.02	1.32-3.10
Childhood sexual abuse	27.7	1.65	1.08-2.52
Childhood emotional abuse	44.2	2.02	1.38-2.96

# Factors associated with IPV perpetration (unadjusted)

	Physical IPV		Sexual IPV		Emotional violence		Any IPV	
	OR	CI	OR	CI	OR	CI	OR	CI
<b>Witnessing abuse of mother</b>	2.8*	2.1-3.7	1.8*	1.3-2.5	2.1*	1.6-2.7	2.4*	1.9-3.2
<b>Alcohol abuse</b>	2.5*	1.6-3.8	3.3*	2.1-5.1	2.9*	1.9-4.3	2.8*	1.8-4.3
<b>Ever experienced sexual violence by another man</b>	1.5	0.8-2.9	2.9*	1.6-5.9	2.8*	1.5-5.4	2.9*	1.4-5.9
<b>Ever experienced Homophobic violence</b>	1.9*	1.1-3.6	2.6*	1.4-4.9	2.5*	1.3-4.6	2.6*	1.3-5.0
<b>Very High Depression</b>	3.3*	1.9-5.4	1.6	0.8-2.9	3.3*	1.9-5.5	2.9*	1.7-5.1
<b>Work stress</b>	1.6*	1.1-2.2	1.3	0.9-1.9	1.4	0.9-1.9	1.3	0.9-1.8
<b>Low Health care seeking</b>	1.9*	1.4-2.9	2.1*	1.5-3.1	1.3	0.8-2.0	1.6*	1.1-2.3

\* Statistically significant

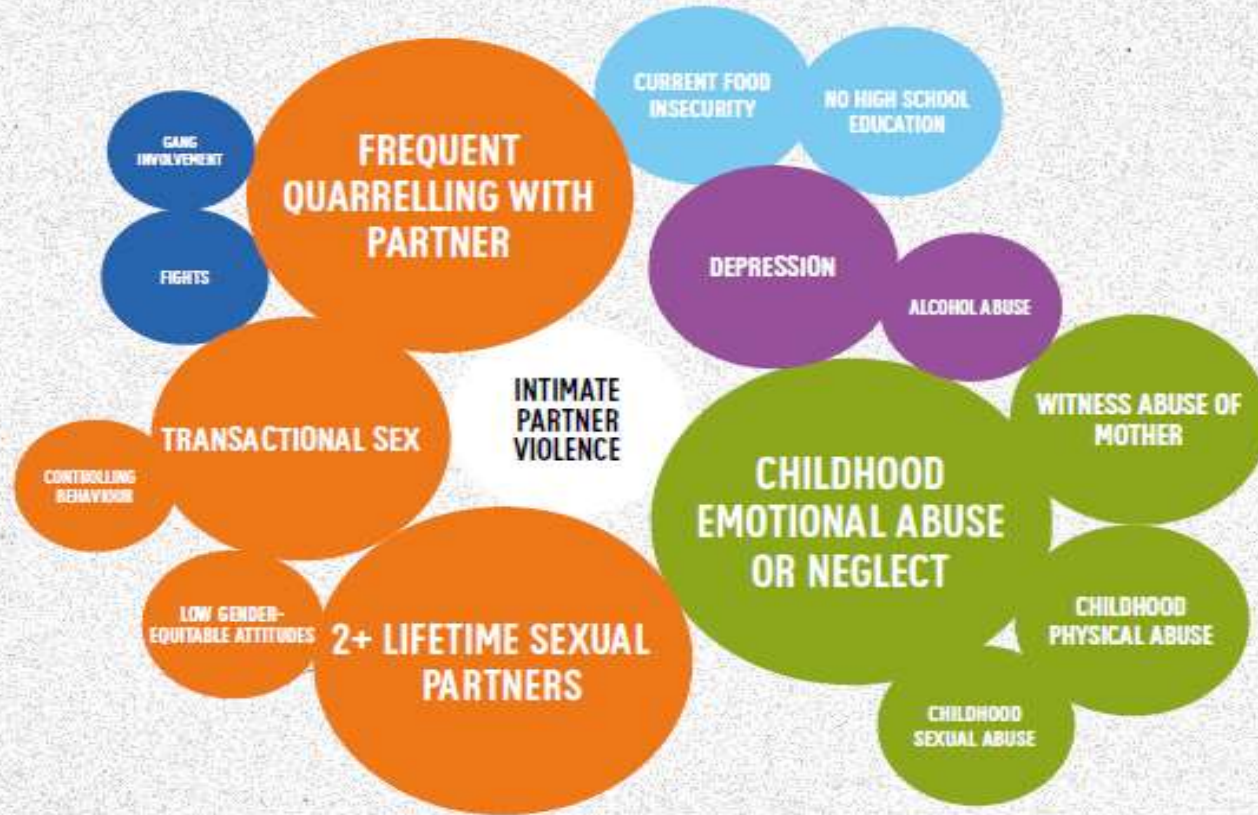
# Risk factors for IPV perpetration (adjusted for age, education and income )

	Physical IPV		Sexual IPV		Emotional violence		Any IPV	
	aOR	CI	aOR	CI	aOR	CI	aOR	CI
Witnessing abuse of mother	2.8*	1.9-4.0	1.3	0.9-1.9	1.8*	1.3-2.4	2.1*	1.5-2.9
Alcohol abuse	1.9*	1.2-3.2	3.2*	2.0-5.2	2.2*	1.4-3.6	2.2*	1.3-3.5
Ever experienced Homophobic violence	1.2	0.6-2.6	2.4*	1.2-4.8	1.7	0.9-3.6	1.9	0.9-4.3
Ever experienced sexual violence from a man	1.2	0.6-2.7	2.4*	1.1-5.1	2.8*	1.3-6.1	2.9	1.2-6.9
Very High Depression	2.5*	1.4-4.6	0.9	0.5-1.9	2.9*	1.6-5.5	2.8*	1.4-5.5
Work stress	1.4	0.9-2.2	1.2	0.7-1.9	1.2	0.8-1.9	1.1	0.7-1.7
Low health seeking	1.4	0.9-2.3	1.3	0.8-2.2	1.5	0.9-2.4	1.2	0.7-1.9

\* Statistically significant

# FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MEN'S

# PERPETRATION OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE



Source: UN Multi Country Study on Men and Violence (Partners for Prevention)

# Men's health needs and service utilization

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- **Indication of mental health issues**

- Very high depression – 7.8%
- Work stress – 16.5%
- Suicidal thoughts (have you ever thought of ending your life?)- 7.8%

- **Indication of lack of service utilization**

- When did you last have an HIV test? None 95.5%

- At a univariate level, men's lack of health services use showed a significant association with physical or sexual violence perpetration

# Conclusions and Implications

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- Strong co-relationships between men's prior experiences of abuse and perpetration of IPV
- Unexplored complex intersections and interactions of various factors that increase risk of IPV perpetration
- Indication of unmet need for men's mental health services
- Need to explore conceptual frameworks (ecological/public health) that can examine root causes of IPV perpetration



# Recommendations

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- More research around risk factors and association with perpetration of IPV required
- Engaging and working with men to address IPV needs to move beyond engagement in areas of SRH/FP
- Creating accessible services and removing barriers to men's utilization of psychosocial services
- Primary prevention measures aimed at addressing individual, family and societal level determinants of IPV

# Acknowledgements

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- **Care International Sri Lanka** for sharing the data set and all related material
- **Partners for Prevention** for creating an important data base for the region and sharing it for the benefit of exploring these important aspects of GBV/Gender Equality/IPV