

Understanding the everyday lives and experiences of intimate partner violence (IPV) of women participating in a microfinance programme in North West Tanzania

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Social science within the trial



- ❁ How and why the intervention does/does not impact on change
 - to understand women's life histories and every day lives
 - experiences of microfinance and group dynamics (intervention acts at group level)
 - context for IPV
 - attitudes and experiences of IPV

- ❁ Understanding broader concepts and how they link to IPV
 - uncertainty
 - hope
 - power



Methods



- KIIs with stakeholders (12)
- IDIs with participants, intervention (24), and control (12)
- FGDs with participants, intervention (12) and control (6)
- Photovoices (18)

Longitudinal

- Follow up with participants after session 10 and one year post intervention



Preliminary findings



MAISHA

Pre-intervention IDIs

– Everyday lives and IPV

– Hope

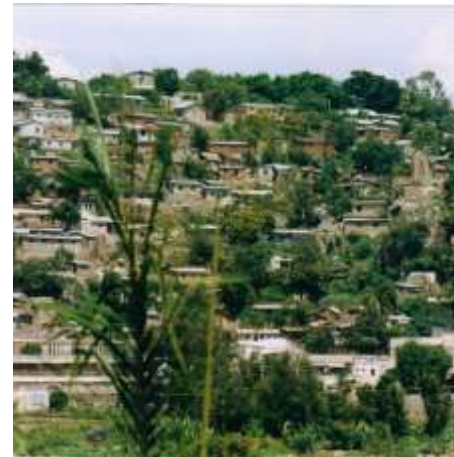


Context of Study



MAISHA

- 🌸 Rapidly growing city
- 🌸 Development alongside extreme poverty
- 🌸 Mixed ethnicity and religion
- 🌸 Petty businesses (especially for women)
- 🌸 Microfinance/credit and saving schemes
- 🌸 High levels of IPV
 - tightly packed neighbourhoods



Everyday lives



MAISHA

- Life histories
 - unstable childhood
 - migration
 - early marriage
 - desire but lack of education
- Uncertainty/insecurity
 - partnerships
 - income generation
 - health and education provision



BRAC microfinance



MAISHA

- ❁ Small loans
- ❁ Group repayment
- ❁ Used for setting up/maintaining petty business
- ❁ ? Male control/interference



Experiences of IPV



- ✿ Either reported experiencing or witnessing IPV

*“There is one day he came back, I was pregnant,
he beat me”*

(IDI 24th March 2015)



Narratives on IPV



- Predominantly economic
 - male power especially in access to resources
 - cultural traditions denying women access to resources especially to leave abusive relationships
 - economic hardship within the family or amongst partners creating tension between partners





“Others follow what their parents did ‘my father used to do this to my mother therefore I can also do the same to you ’”
(FGD 20th March 2015)

- Discourses of masculinity and power
 - men learn violence from their families or parents
 - women do not report violence out of fear of partner reaction
 - concern about child support if partner jailed
 - cultural proscriptions of speaking out about relationship issues

“My sister was beaten by her husband and she went back home for a solution, she was told that women never win, your suppose to be humble to your husband and persevere even when he beats you”
(FGD 20th March 2015)



Narratives on impacts of IPV



- ❁ Low self esteem
 - ❁ Feeling suicidal
 - ❁ Unable to work
 - ❁ Unable to socialise with friends or relatives
- shame and worry of how they are perceived in the community



Exploring “Hope”



MAISHA

“the perceived capability to derive pathways to desired goals, and motivate oneself via agency thinking to use those pathways’

(Snyder 2002)

- 12 item cognitive “Hope” scale administered in baseline survey (agency, pathways and ‘distracters’) (Snyder 1996)
- Qualitative questions adapted from Hope scale
 - In your everyday life what do you worry about?
 - What goals do you have in life?
 - What difficult and unexpected situations do you experience in life (Including any report of GBV)?
 - What problems do you regularly face in your daily life (that are not unexpected)?
 - How do you endeavor to get things that are important to you?
 - Overall, do you think that there is hope for a better future?



Concerns/Worries/ Experiences



MAISHA

- ❁ Illness
 - HIV
- ❁ Violence
- ❁ Infidelity
- ❁ Lack of resources
- ❁ Theft
- ❁ Accidents
- ❁ Terrorism

- ❁ General anxiety



Agency



- Pursuing goals
 - bartering
 - income generation
 - educating children
 - joining BRAC
 - leaving a partner
 - praying
- But lack of narratives on
 - past experiences prepare for future
 - success in life/meeting goals



Pathways



- ❁ Few opportunities to solve problems
- ❁ Some success in achieving things that are important
 - especially in children's education
- ❁ Despite uncertainty constantly for ways to solve a problem
 - pragmatism



Hope for future

- Some lack of hope for future
 - dreams and wishes
- Future “hope” focuses on
 - children - education
 - success in business (utilising microfinance)
 - God’s intervention important but not primary
- How will the intervention impact on agency and pathways and hope for the future

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