

Role of Masculinity, Men's Attitudes and Childhood Experience in Intimate Partner Violence : Findings from a Cross-Sectional Survey in Nepal and Vietnam

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The Context

- The global lifetime prevalence of intimate partner violence among ever-partnered women is 30% (CI-27.8 to 32.2)*
- In South-East Asia prevalence goes up to nearly 40%*
- In Nepal every one out of three women (33%)# and in Vietnam every second woman (58%)# reported experiencing intimate partner violence ever in lifetime

* WHO Estimates of Global and Regional Estimates of Violence against women, 2013

DHS, 2011 Nepal National Study on Violence (CSO 2010)

The Context (Contd...)

- Government in both the countries have demonstrated strong commitment to promote gender equity and eliminate violence against women
- Programs and interventions designed are majorly focused on women
- Less understood is role of masculinity and gender equality that affects men's behavior

Research Objective

The aim of this study is to understand the dimensions, nature and determinants of Nepali and Vietnamese men's attitudes towards Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

- Specific objectives are
 - Assess men's current behavior and attitude on wide range of issues as they relate to gender equality
 - Men's experience/witnessing inequality during childhood and its relationship with Intimate Partner Violence and their current behavior

Geographical Coverage

In Nepal study was carried out in three districts namely Dang, Gorkha and Saptari

In Vietnam study was carried out in two provinces namely Hung Yen and Can Tho

The selection of these districts/provinces was based on the sex ratio at birth to provide a balanced picture of men's attitude and behavior pertaining to masculinity

Geographical Coverage



Methodology

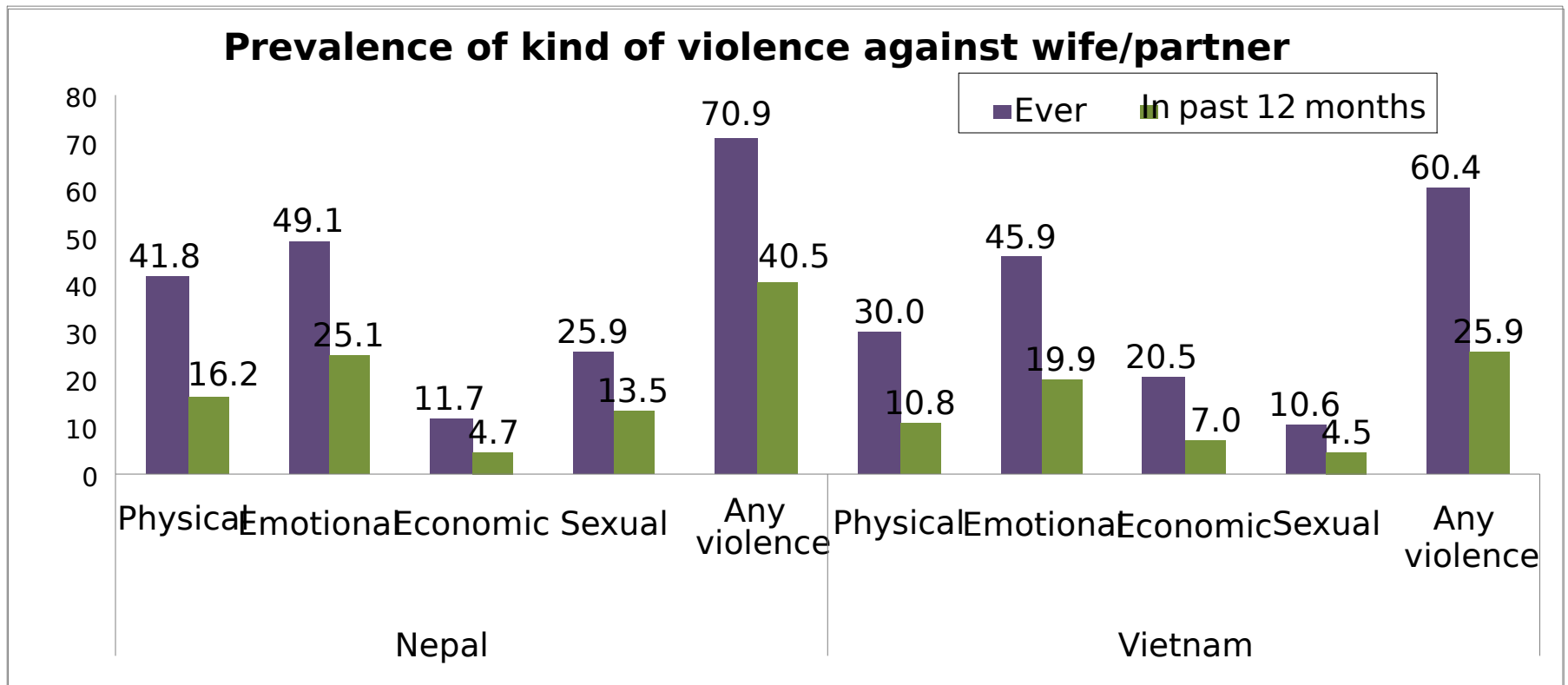
- **Sample Size:** A total of 1000 men in Nepal and 1500 men in Vietnam aged 18-49 years were interviewed in the study
- Sample was distributed in rural and urban areas in the ratio of 60:40
- Multistage cluster sampling approach was applied to select the samples in each country
- Face to face structured interview was conducted using tested International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES) tool.

Key Results

Intimate Partner Violence

- Men were asked a series of questions to assess the prevalence of violence perpetrated by them against their intimate partners
- The questions covered
 - Acts of emotional violence
 - Economic violence
 - Physical violence
 - Sexual violence
- Responses on each was used to create a composite index for each type of violence

Intimate Partner Violence

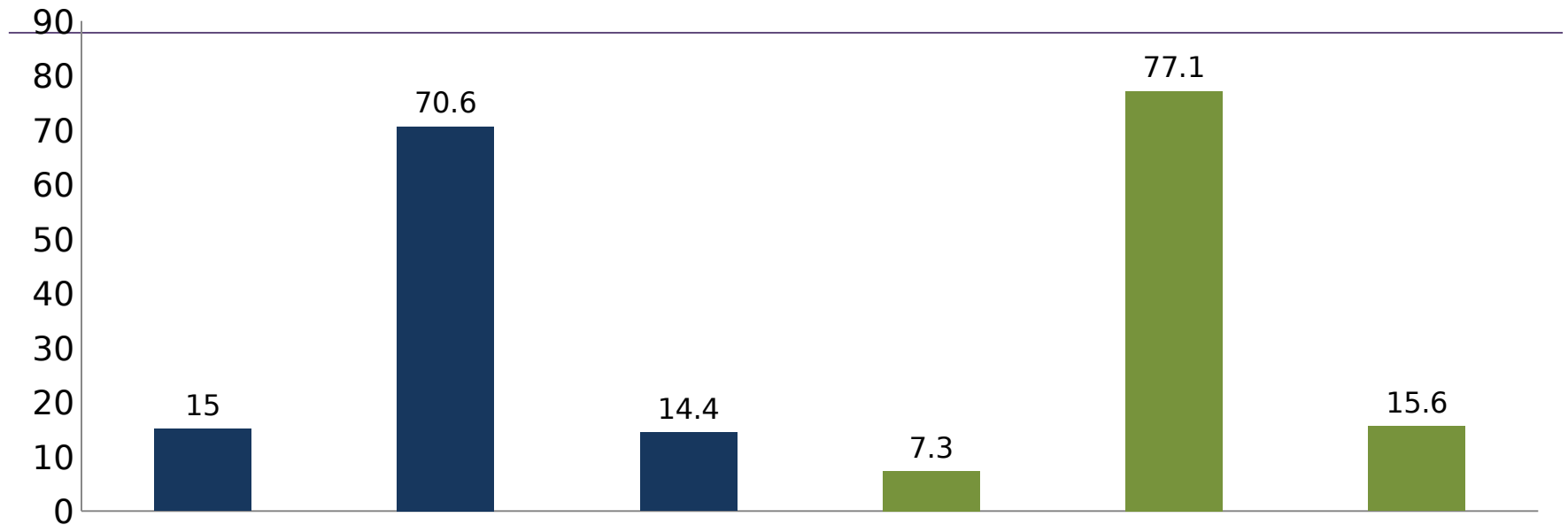


- Violence against women is prevalent in both the countries with most common form reported is emotional violence followed by physical sexual violence

Gender Equitable Attitude

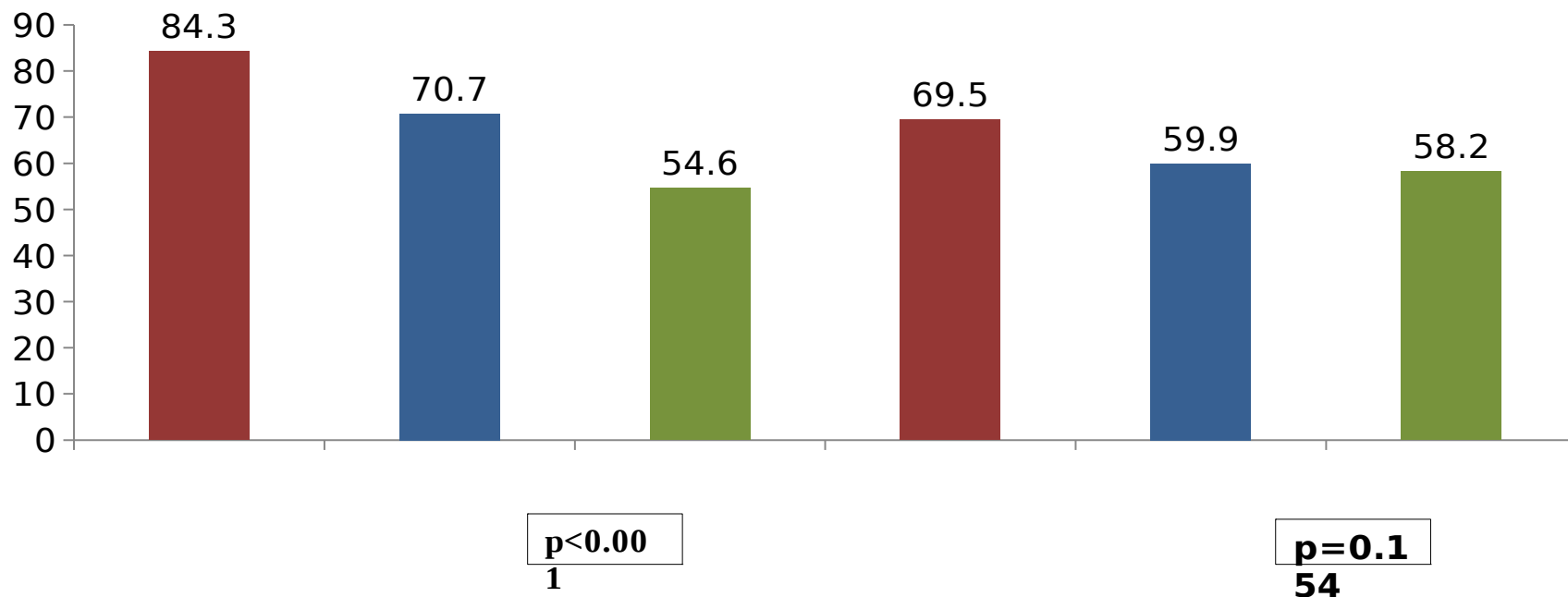
- Men's attitude towards gender norms was assessed using an adapted version of the Gender Equitable Men (GEM) Scale having 24 statements
- In Nepal and Vietnam 15 and 17 statements, respectively were selected, out of the 24 statements using factor analysis and after assessing reliability test (Cronbach Alpha score was 0.79 and 0.81 in Nepal and Vietnam, respectively)
- Finally, a composite index was created

Gender Attitude of Men



- Majority of men in both the countries had moderately equitable attitudes
- The proportion of men with 'Low' and 'Moderate' equity were almost same at 84% in Vietnam and 86% in Nepal

GEMs Attitude and Intimate Partner Violence



Perpetration of violence is higher among men who have low equitable attitudes. In Nepal the difference is significant while in Vietnam difference is not statistically significant

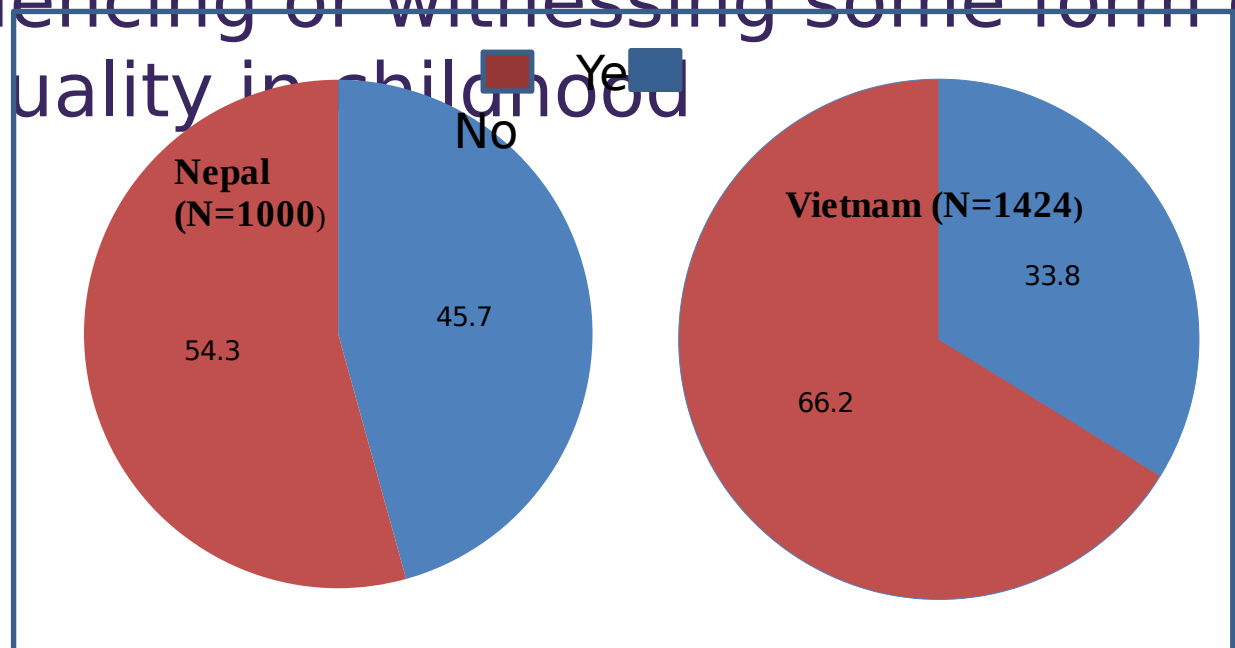
Childhood Experience of Gender Inequality

Early childhood experiences of gender inequality have been found in many studies to shape people's views and behaviors in their later life

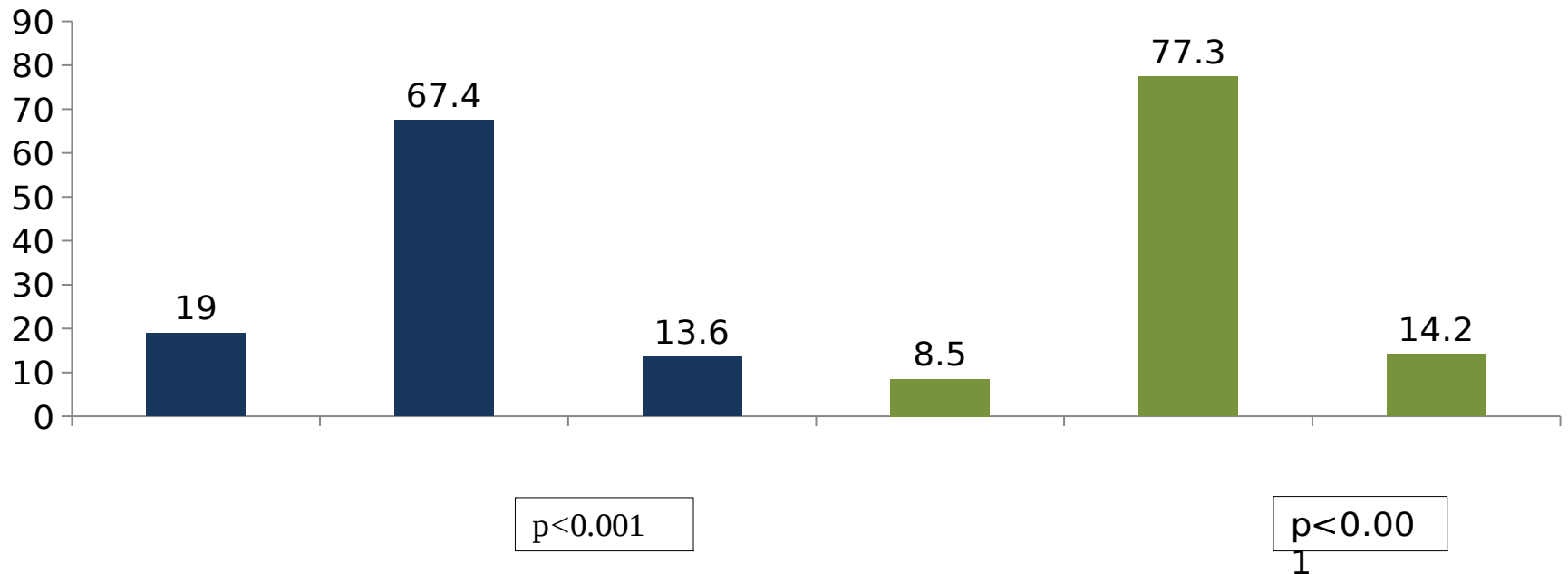
Men's experience of gender inequality during childhood		
Statements	Nepal (n=1000)	Vietnam (n=1425)
Before I reached 18:	Yes	Yes
I saw my sisters/female cousins getting less freedom than myself and my brothers	42.3	41.1
I was told that daughters were a liability to the family	16.5	17.6
I saw the hardship my parents/relatives went through to pay dowry	19.6	39.9
I saw my parents demanding dowry on my brother's marriage	14.1	38.2
I saw my sister/female cousin being ill-treated or abandoned on being unable to produce a	4.7	5.6

Childhood Experience of Gender Inequality

- The above five statements were combined to create a binary index to measure gender inequality in childhood
- In both countries, more than half of the men reported experiencing or witnessing some form of gender inequality in childhood

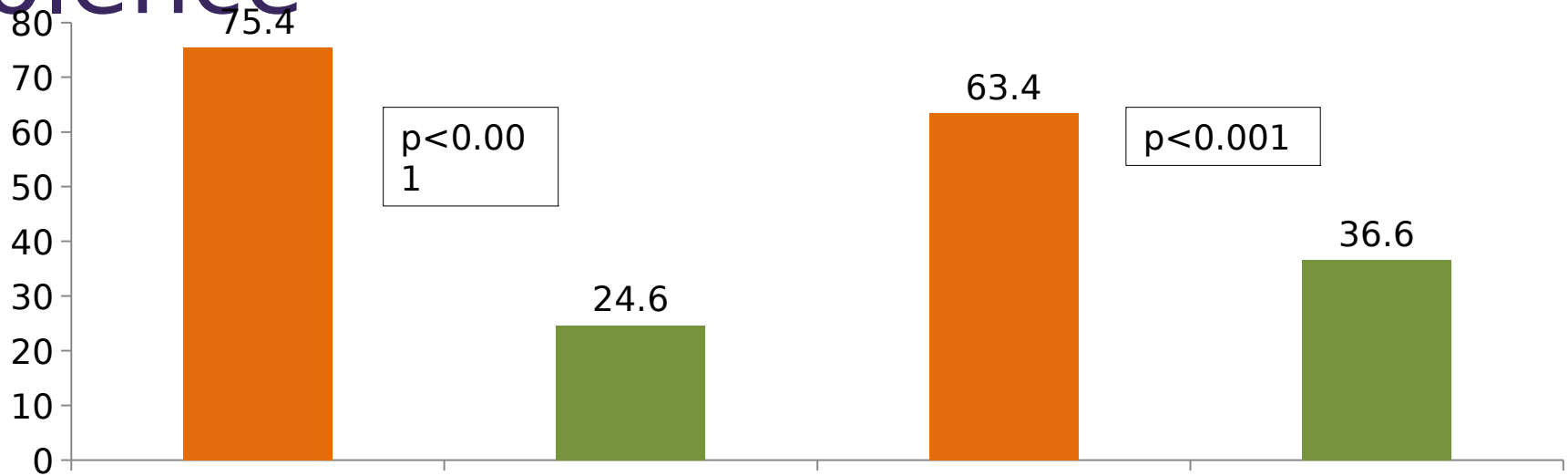


Childhood Experiences of Gender Inequality and GEMs Attitude



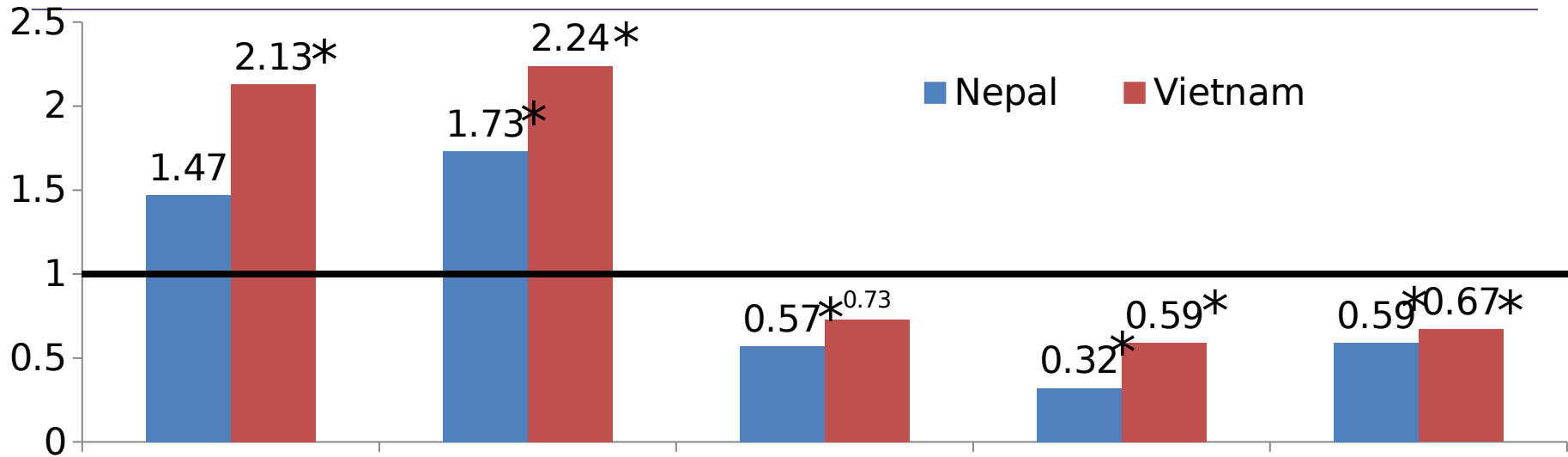
In Nepal, 19 percent men among those who have experienced gender inequity have low equitable attitude whereas in case of Vietnam it was only 8.5 percent

Childhood Experiences of Gender Inequality and Intimate Partner Violence



In both countries, there is a strong association among those who have experienced childhood gender inequality and perpetration of violence

Regression Model for Intimate Partner Violence



- GEMs Attitude, Experience of gender inequality in childhood and age were significantly associated with IPV

Model was controlled for socio-demographic and other socio-economic characteristics

Conclusion

- Violence against intimate partner is common in both the countries
- Hypothesis, that men's experience/witnessing gender inequality during childhood shapes the current behavior and attitudes holds true
- Gender Equitable Attitude and experience/witnessing gender inequality during childhood are strongly associated with Intimate Partner Violence
- These findings reinforce the relations established by IMAGES study conducted in other

The way forward.....

- To prevent violence, interventions with men need to begin at early ages when their notions of masculinity are being formed
- Comprehensive programs that engage men and boys to transform their gender related attitudes are critical strategies.

THANK
YOU

