

BREAK- ING THE CYCLE



Understanding and Addressing the Intersections
of Violence Against Women and Children



**Pan American
Health
Organization**



Regional Office of the
World Health Organization

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World Health Organization

OUTLINE OF THE PRESENTATION

1. How did we get here?
 - A historical recap
2. What do we mean?
 - Defining the intersections between violence against women (VAW) and violence against children (VAC)
3. How do we move forward?



1. HOW DID WE GET HERE?

1960s/1970s
Women's rights



1980s / 1990s
Violence against women



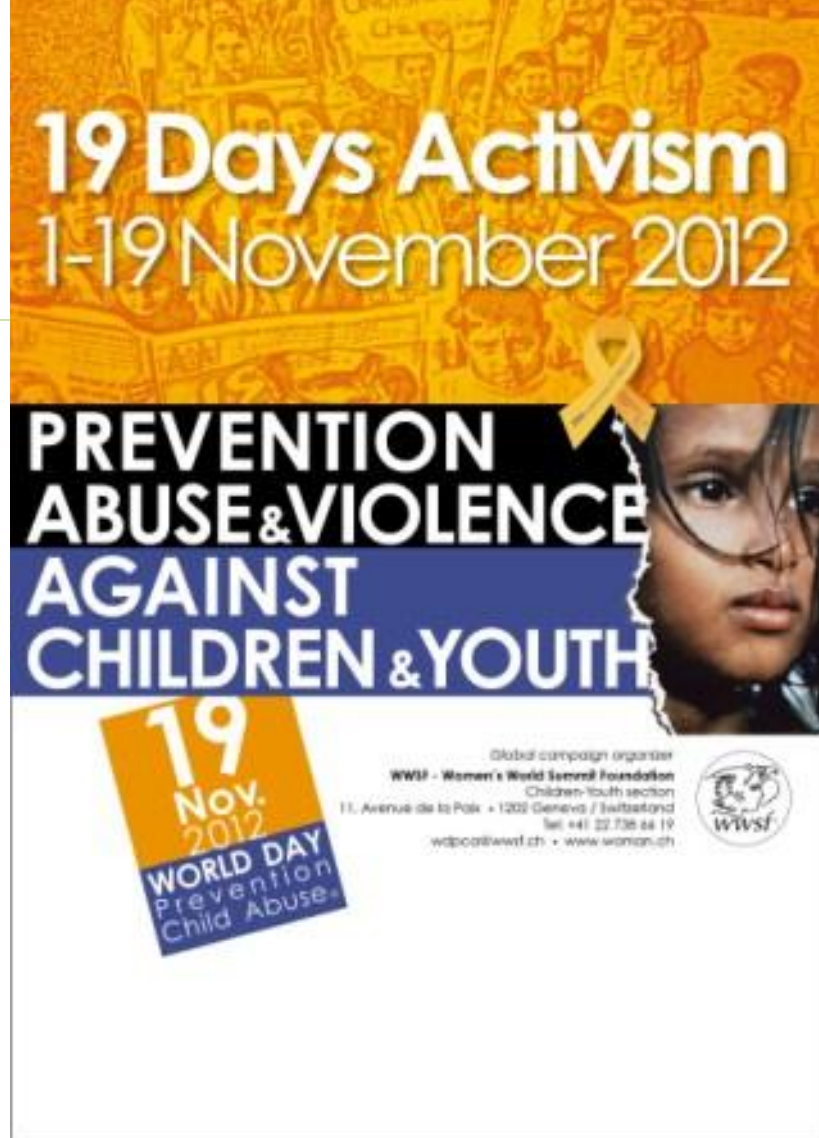
2003
Sexual Violence
Research Initiative



Growing awareness
of the intersections

WHY HAVE WE GROWN IN SEPARATE WAYS?



- New fields of knowledge that are drastically underfunded
- Separate advocacy, research, programmatic and policy efforts
- Competing agendas: Protecting children vs. protecting women
- Risk that focus on 'violence against children' will undermine violence against women agenda
- Limited understanding about intersections



19 Days Activism
1-19 November 2012

PREVENTION ABUSE & VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN & YOUTH

Global campaign organizer
WWF - Women's World Summit Foundation
Children-youth section
11, Avenue de la Paix • 1202 Geneva / Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 736 66 19
wfpcc@wwf.ch • www.women.ch



**From Peace in the Home to
Peace in the World:
Let's Challenge Militarism &
End Violence Against Women!**

**16
DAYS**

16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence Campaign
25th, November - 10th, December

2. WHAT DO WE MEAN BY “INTERSECTIONS”?

2.1 Shared risk factors

2.2 Co-occurrence

2.3 Intergenerational effects

2.4 Similar consequences

2.5 Violence against women starts early

2.6 Some prevention strategies may be effective for both VAW and VAC



2.1 What do we mean by intersections?

SHARED RISK FACTORS

SELECTED SHARED RISK FACTORS FOR PERPETRATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

INDIVIDUAL

- Witnessed or experienced violence as a child
- Young age
- Alcohol and drug use
- Personality disorder / antisocial behaviour

RELATIONSHIP

- Family breakdown / poor family functioning
- Male dominance in the family
- Marital conflict and instability
- Economic stress
- Poverty/destitution
- Number of children in the household

COMMUNITY

- Institutions that tolerate/fail to respond to violence
- Community tolerance of violence
- Lack of “social capital” or services for women, children, families
- Gender and social inequality in the community
- Community norms about privacy in the family
- Presence of armed conflict

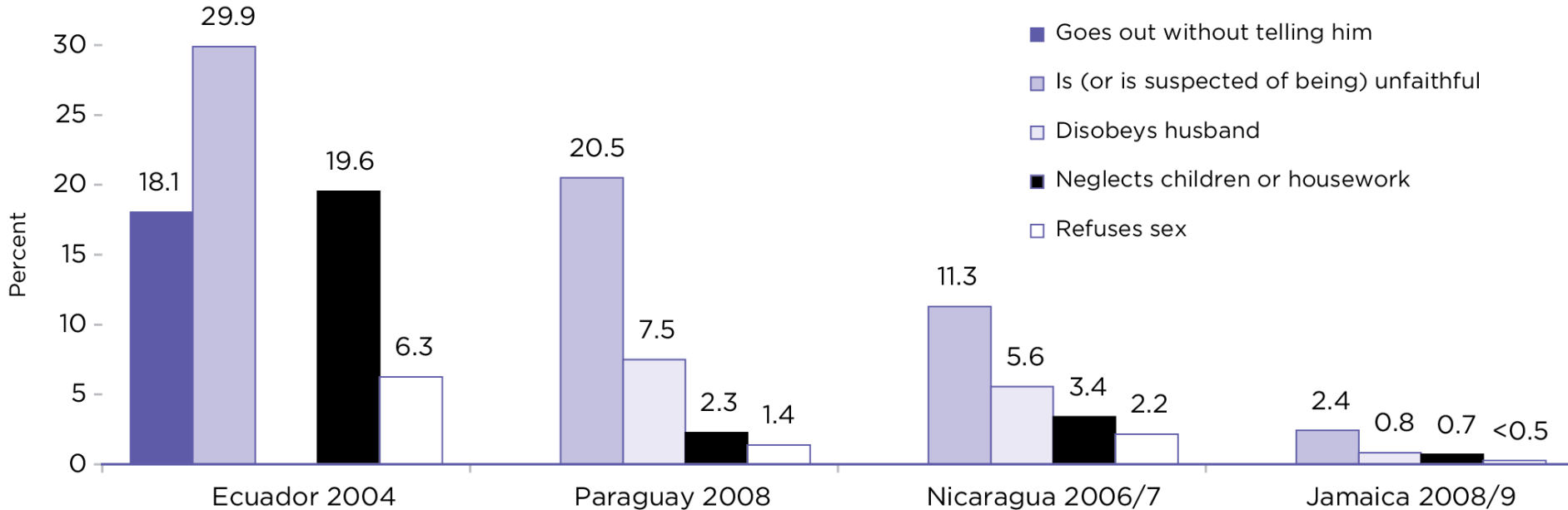
SOCIETAL

- Lack of adequate legislation
- Social norms that support the use of violence, including physical punishment of wives/children
- Social, economic, legal and political disempowerment of children and women

SHARED LOGIC OF BEATING WOMEN AND CHILDREN

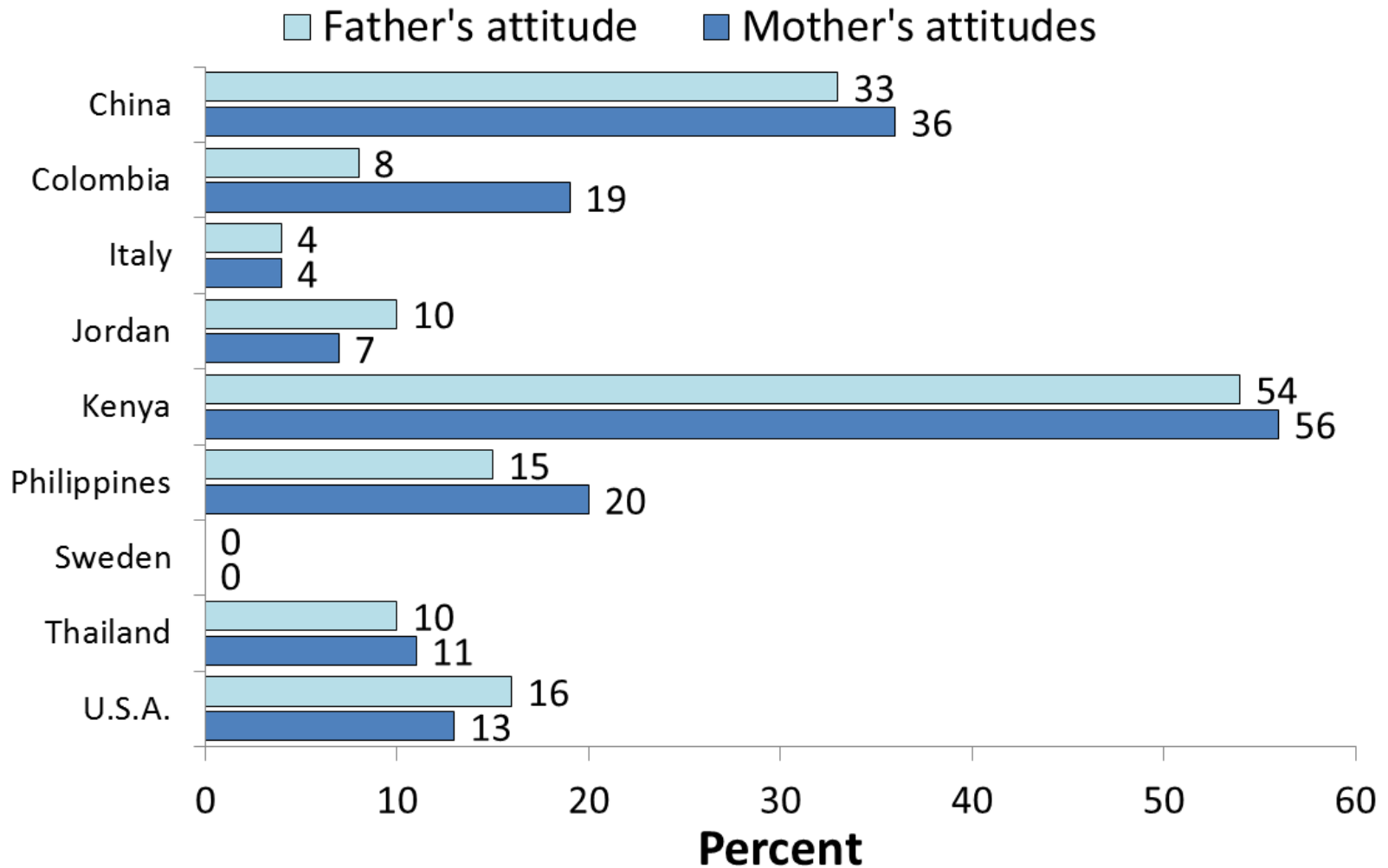
- *“If it is a great mistake, then the husband is justified in beating his wife. Why not? A cow will not be obedient without beatings.”* (husband in India)
- *“Every child needs punishment to grow. Yes I beat. The harder you beat the better he will learn what you teach.”* (female teacher in Uganda)

AGREEMENT THAT WIFE-BEATING IS JUSTIFIED, BY REASON, REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SURVEYS



PARENTS' ATTITUDES: NECESSITY OF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

(Source: Lansford et al. 2010)





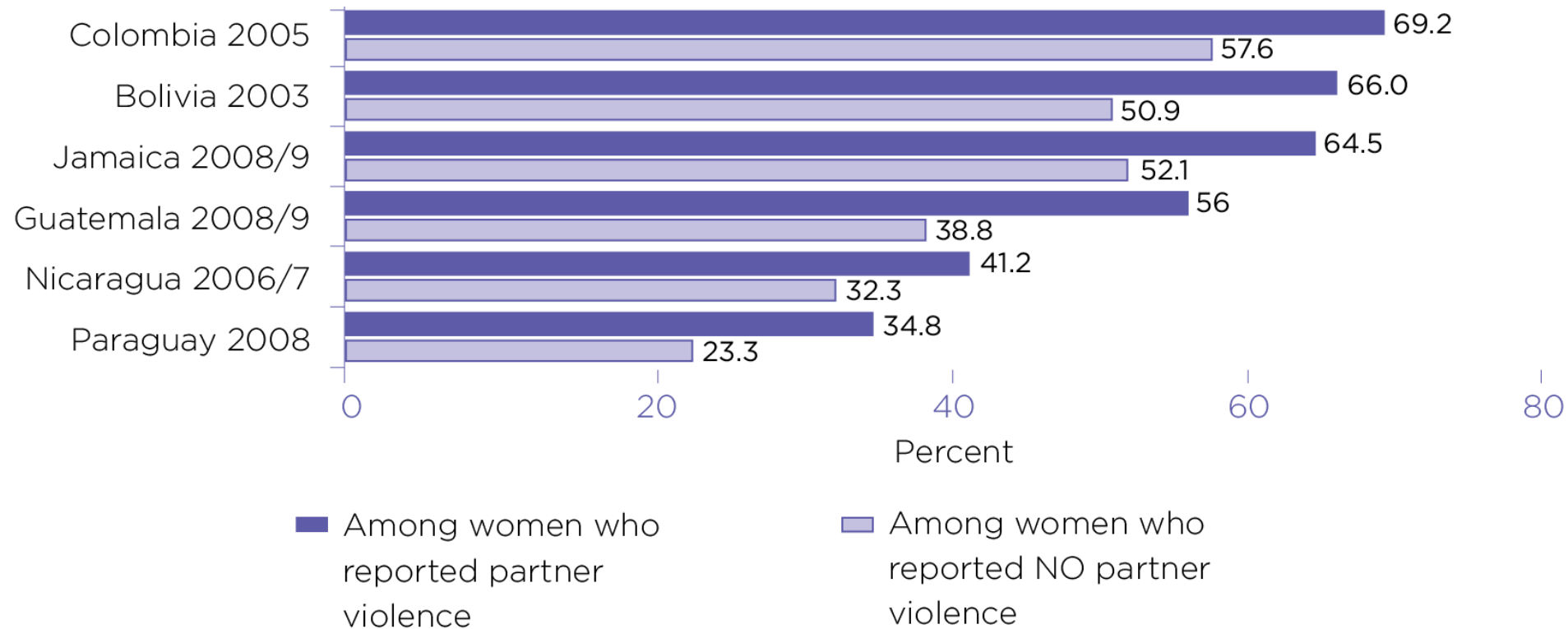
2.2 What do we mean by intersections?

CO-OCCURRENCE

INTERSECTIONS: CO-OCCURRENCE

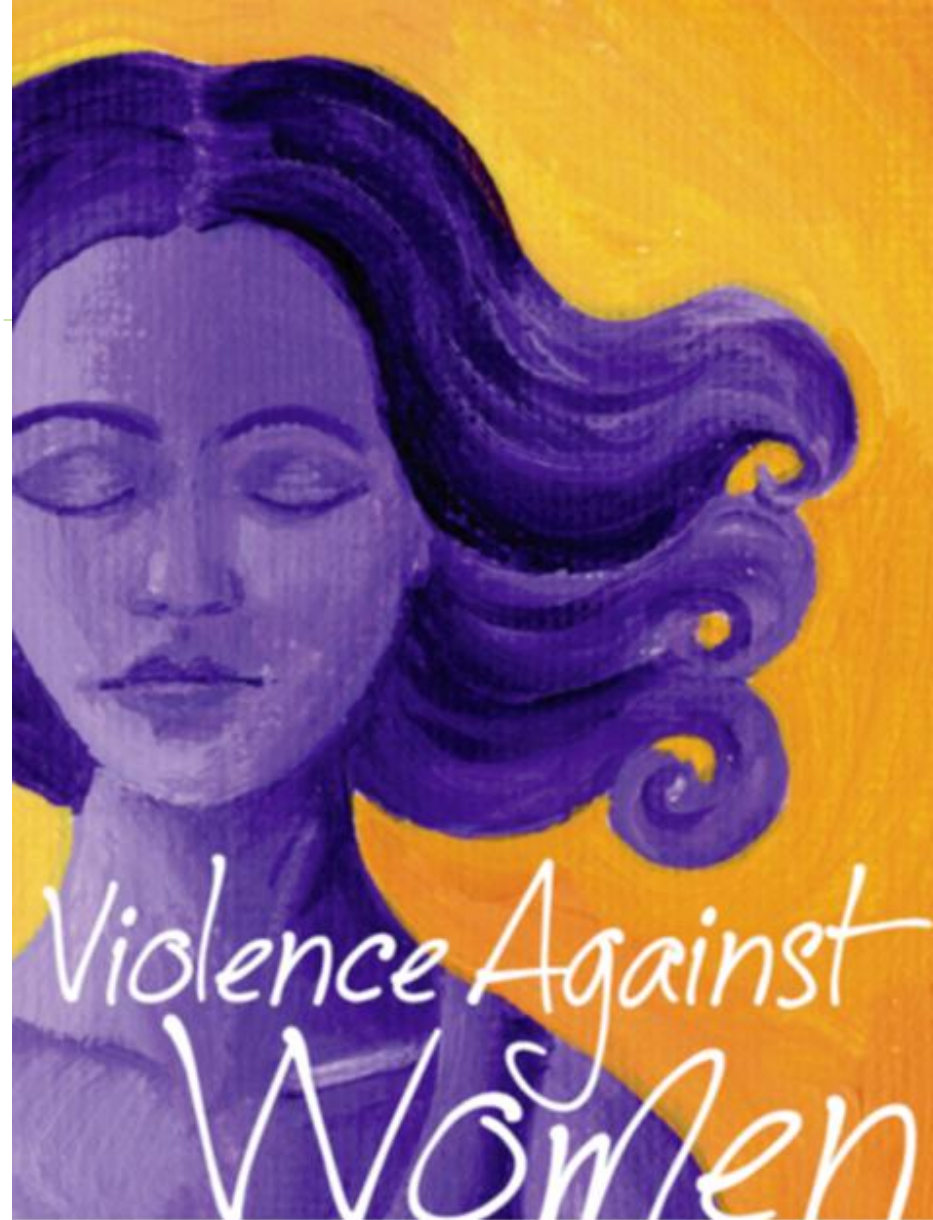
- Intimate partner violence and violence against children taking place during the same time period within a single family
- Limited data from low- and middle-income countries
- Challenges in measurement
- US & Europe:
 - CM and IPV present in 6% of general population
 - CM is present in 40% of families with IPV (Knickerbocker et al. 2007)
 - Co-occurrence may be higher when there is severe IPV (Smith Slep et al. 2005)

PHYSICAL PUNISHMENT OF CHILDREN, ACCORDING TO THE WOMAN'S EXPERIENCE OF PARTNER VIOLENCE



VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN:

A comparative analysis of population-based data from 12 countries



IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN:
A comparative analysis of population-based data from 12 countries



2.3 What do we mean by intersections?

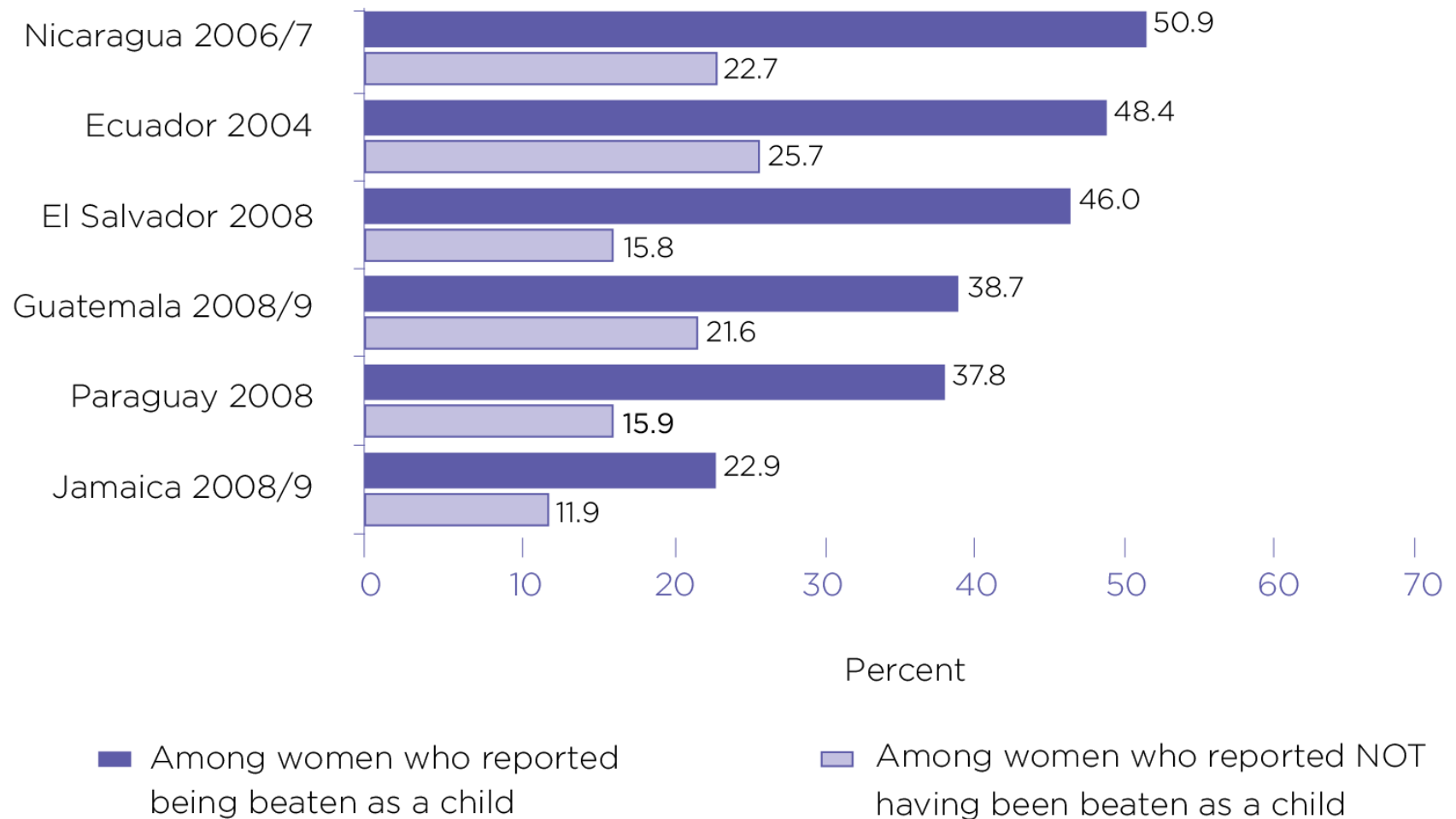
INTERGENERATIONAL EFFECTS

RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF KEY FACTORS IN MALE INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE PERPETRATION IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

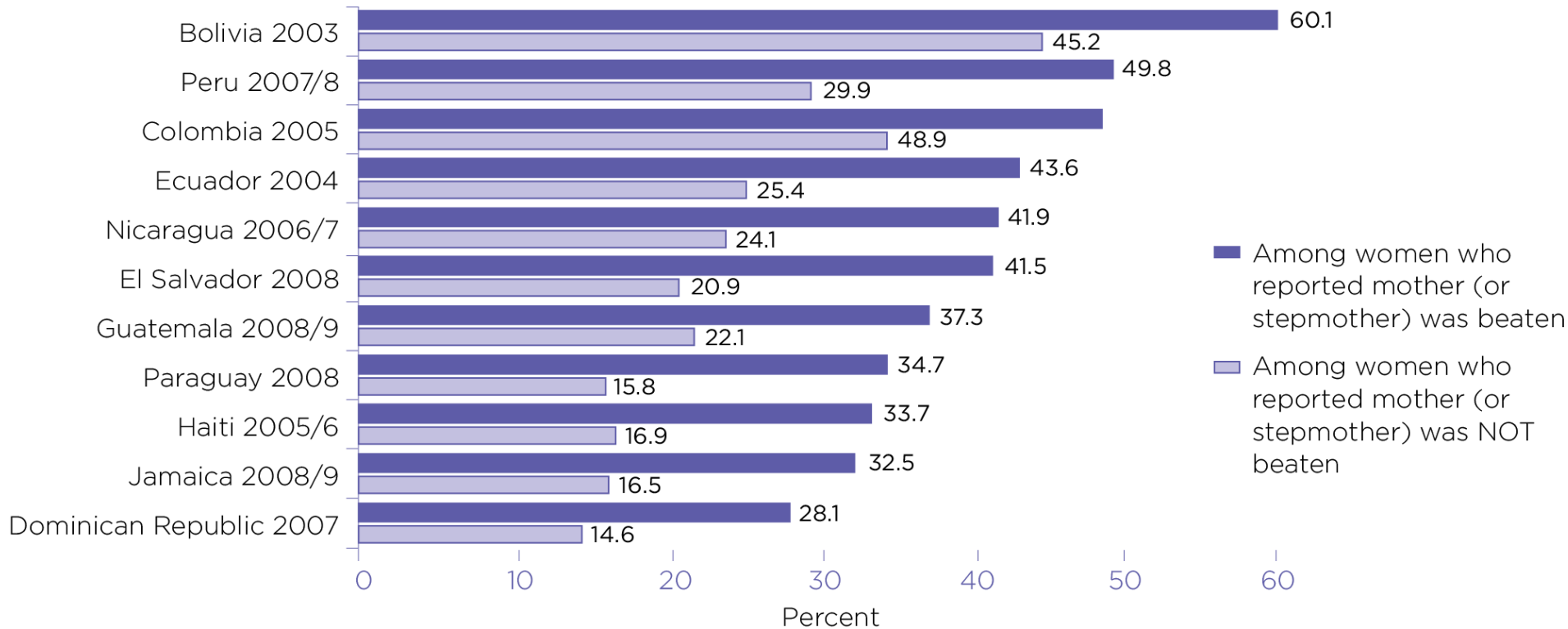


Source: Multi-Country Study on Men and Violence in Asia and the Pacific, 2013

PREVALENCE OF PARTNER VIOLENCE, ACCORDING TO WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF PHYSICAL ABUSE IN CHILDHOOD



PREVALENCE OF PARTNER VIOLENCE, ACCORDING TO WHETHER MOTHER (OR STEPMOTHER) WAS BEATEN





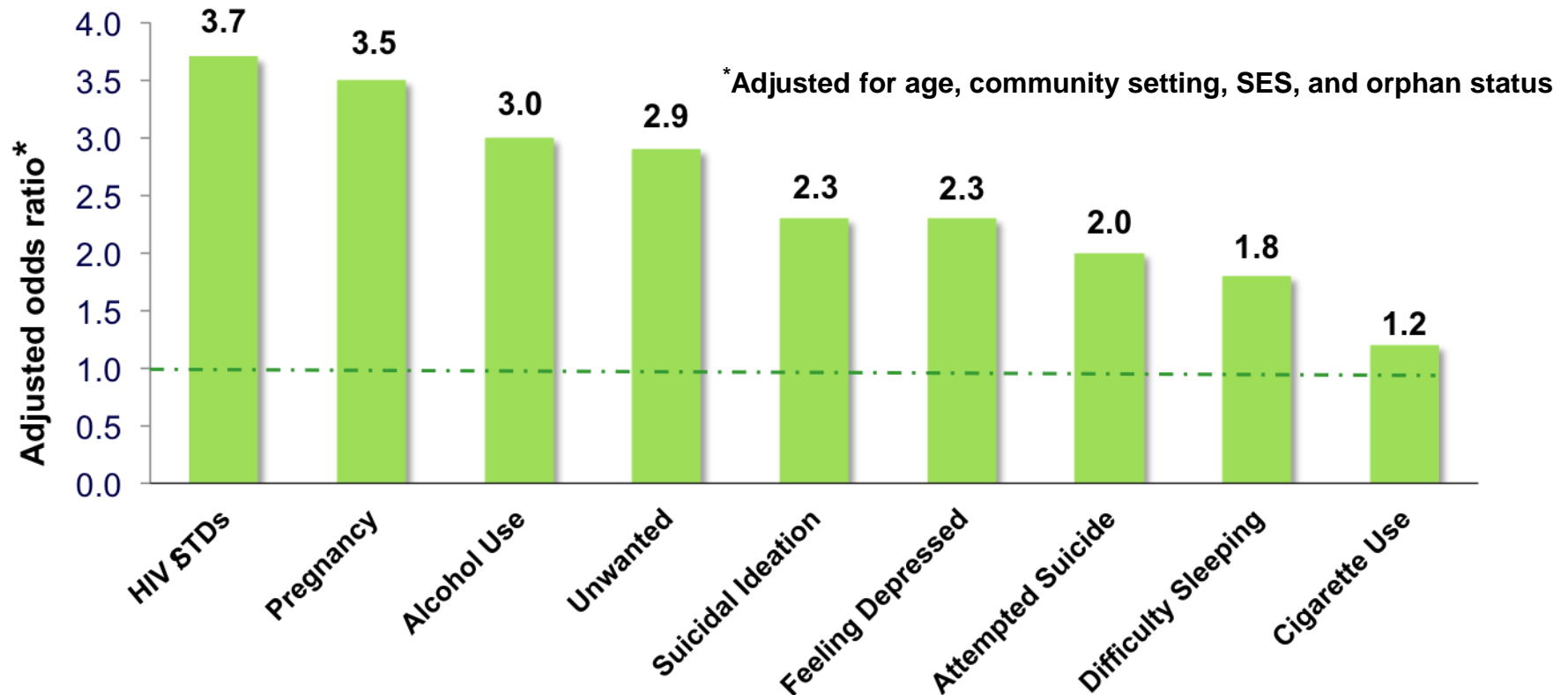
Globally, 133 – 275 million children witness violence at home each year



2.4 What do we mean by intersections?

SIMILAR CONSEQUENCES

ASSOCIATION BETWEEN CHILDHOOD SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND SELECTED HEALTH CONDITIONS, FEMALES 13–24 YEARS OLD, SWAZILAND, 2007



Source: Reza A, et al. Sexual violence and its health consequences for female children in Swaziland: a cluster survey study. *Lancet* 2009;373(9679):1966-72 .

HEALTH OUTCOMES ASSOCIATED WITH VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

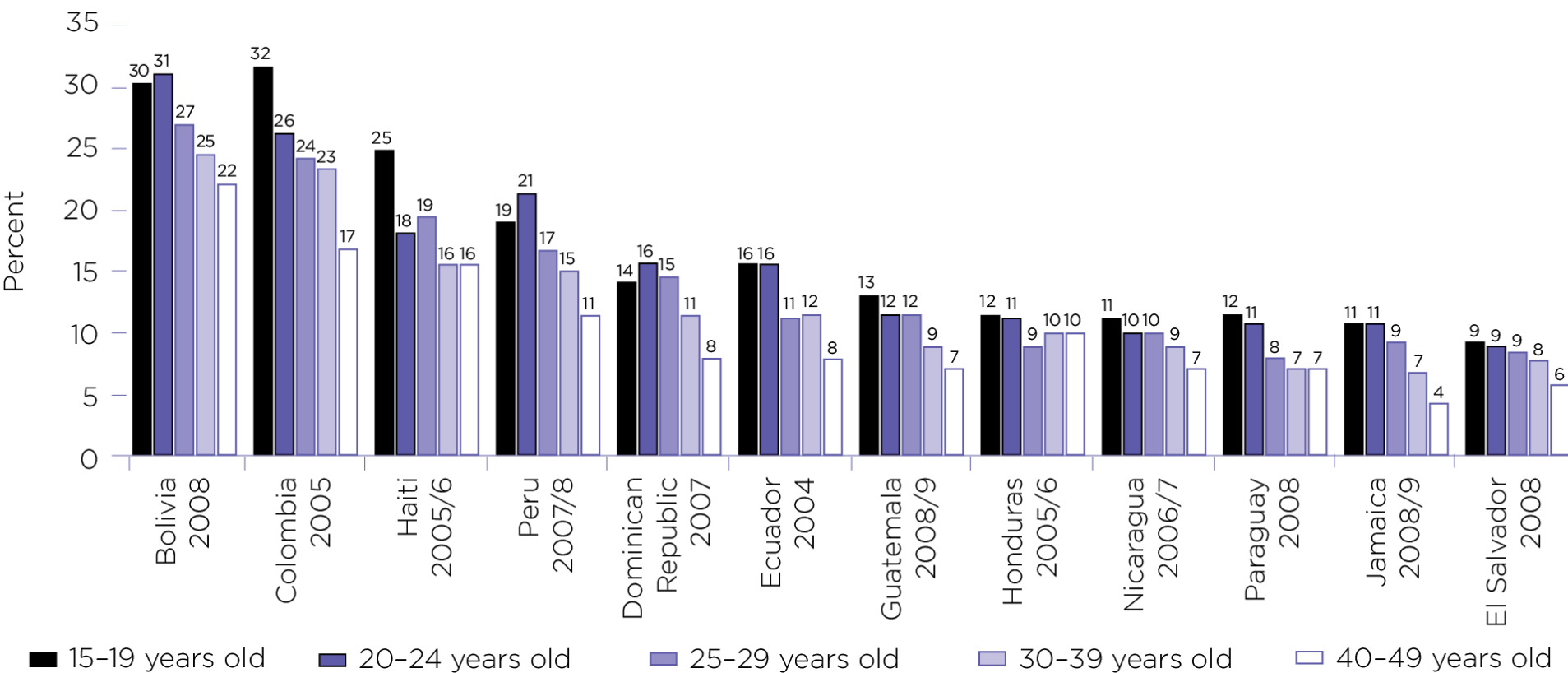
FATAL OUTCOMES	NON-FATAL OUTCOMES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Femicide • <u>Suicide</u> • <u>AIDS-related mortality</u> • Maternal mortality 	Physical	Sexual & Reproductive	Psychological & Behavioral
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fractures • Chronic pain syndromes • Fibromyalgia • Permanent disability • Gastro-intestinal disorders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Sexually-transmitted infections, including HIV</u> • <u>Unwanted pregnancy</u> • <u>Pregnancy complications</u> • Traumatic gynecologic fistula • Unsafe abortion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Depression and anxiety</u> • Eating and sleep disorders • <u>Drug and alcohol abuse</u> • Poor self-esteem • Post-traumatic stress disorder • <u>Self harm</u>




2.5 What do we mean by intersections?

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN STARTS EARLY

PREVALENCE OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, BY AGE



A photograph showing a group of men in South Africa. In the foreground, a man is seen from the back, wearing a blue bucket hat and holding a wooden club. Behind him, other men are visible, some holding clubs and a flag with a star. The flag has horizontal stripes of green, red, and white. The scene suggests a gathering or protest related to violence.

PERPETRATION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE STARTS EARLY

73% of men in South Africa who said they had raped a woman or girl, carried out their first assault before the age of 20

A photograph of three adolescent girls standing outdoors. The girl on the left is wearing a white t-shirt with a colorful graphic of a bird and a snake. The girl in the middle is wearing a grey t-shirt and has a small pink flower in her hair. The girl on the right is wearing a blue t-shirt. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. In the background, there are palm trees, a fence, and other people.

WHAT ABOUT ADOLESCENT GIRLS?

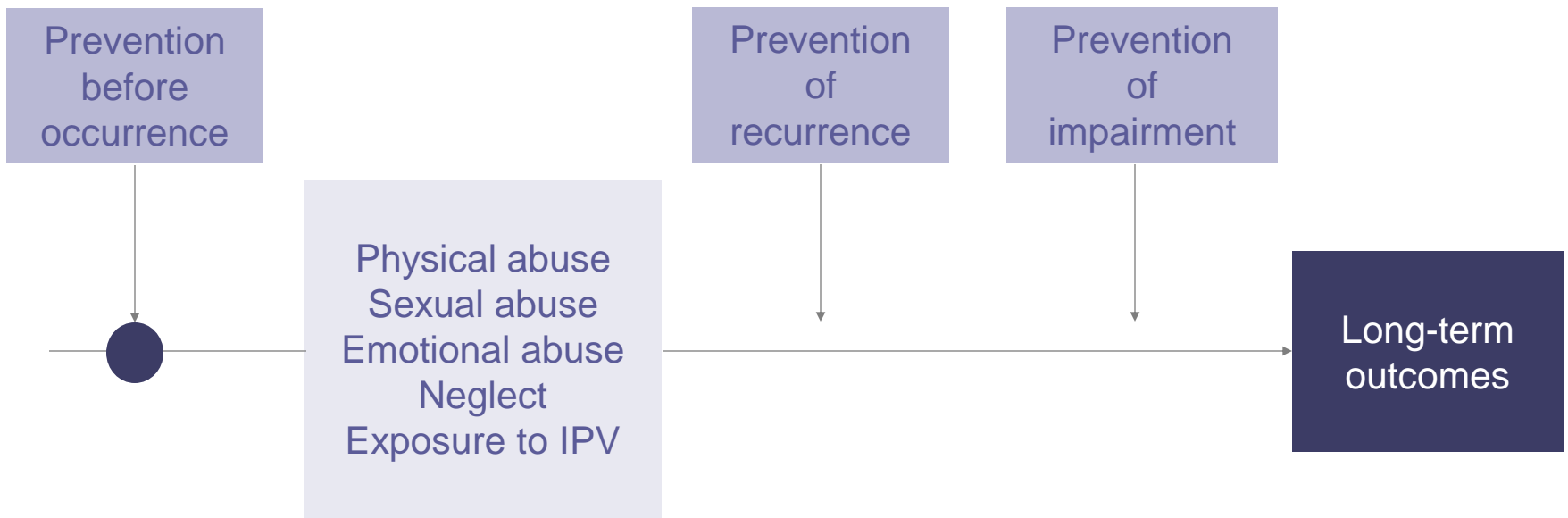
- UN definition of child = under 18
- Most studies on IPV define women as over 15
- Girls age 15-19 should be of concern to both VAC and VAW



3. How do we move forward?

INTEGRATING PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

PREVENTION POINTS



(Adapted from MacMillan et al., 2009)

PREVENTING VAW AND VAC REQUIRES A COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE OF CHANGE

Change laws and policies

Transform responses and capacities of whole institutions

Change social norms / socio-economic disparities

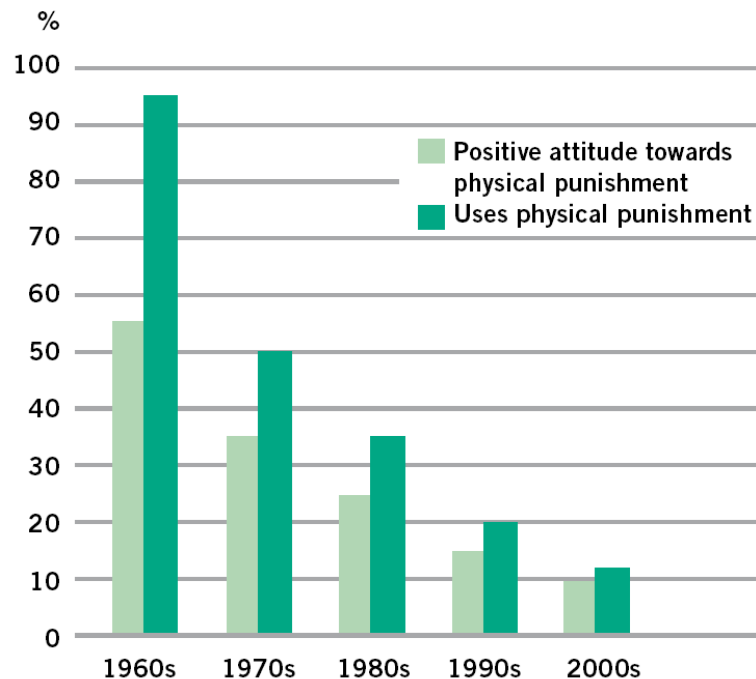
Educate providers, professionals and other key leaders

Strengthen the knowledge, attitudes, skills
and resources of individuals and families

WE CAN DO IT!

LAWS CAN PROMOTE CHANGES IN ATTITUDES, WHEN SUPPORTED BY ADDITIONAL EFFORTS

Change in physical punishment in Sweden



Source: Våld mot barn 2006–2007, The Swedish Child Welfare Foundation and Karlstad University

Banning corporate punishment in Sweden

- 1958 – Prohibited corporate punishment in schools
- 1970s – Media attention to high profile cases ‘gone too far’
- 1979 – Prohibited corporate punishment by parents
- Intensive media campaigns about law
- Mass distribution of pamphlets promoting nonviolent parenting

CHANGE SOCIAL NORMS / SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DISPARITIES

- Combined programing challenging violent 'discipline' of both children and women
- Combine microcredit efforts with participatory discussions on gender, power and discipline



DELIVER JOINT PREVENTION STRATEGIES

- Home visitation programs
 - Integrate discussion and skills building around child discipline
 - Assess for IPV, as well as child maltreatment
- Parent training programs
 - Integrate material on gender socialization and more equitable treatment of boys and girls
- Target children exposed to violence

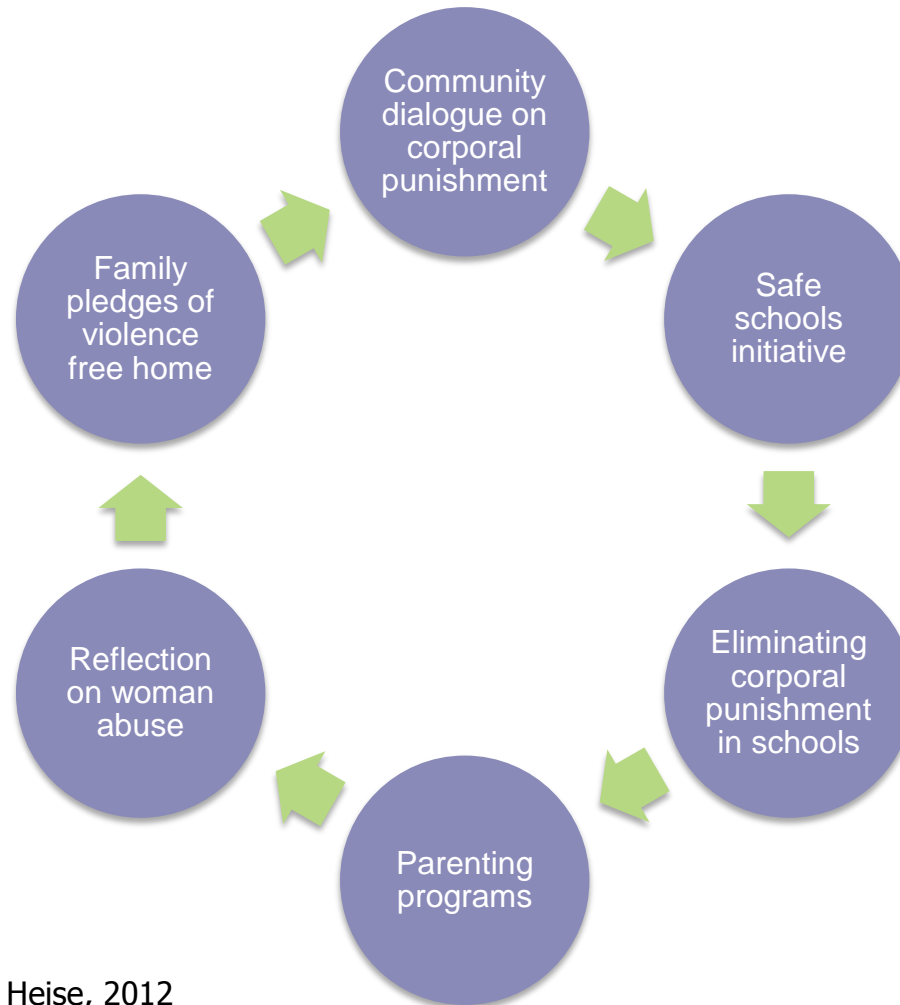


TRANSFORM RESPONSES AND CAPACITIES OF WHOLE INSTITUTIONS

- Post-rape care services:
 - Ensure services are age-appropriate
- Services for women survivors:
 - Inquire about children
 - Engage appropriate responses
- Services for children survivors:
 - Engage the mother
 - Screen and provide services when appropriate
- Ante-natal services as an entry point
- Schools and sexuality education



EXAMPLE OF A COMBINED IPV-CHILD DISCIPLINE INTERVENTION



HOW DO WE MOVE FORWARD?

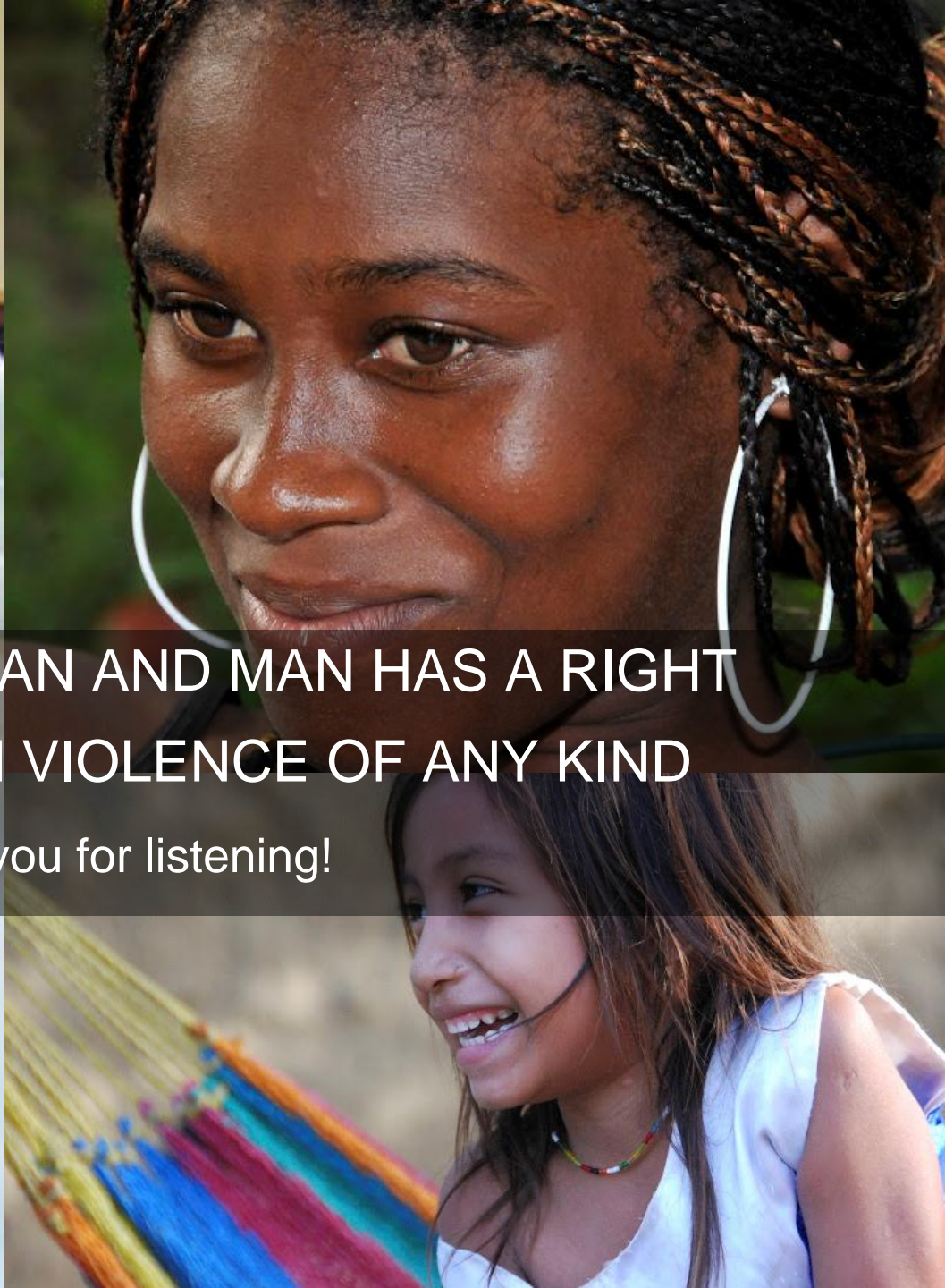
- Address social norms that deem violence against children or against women to be acceptable
- Focus prevention efforts on both violence against children and against women
- Target children exposed to violence directly or indirectly
- Promote an age-appropriate and multi-faceted response
- Close the gaps in research



WHAT ARE THE RISKS OF A COMBINED AGENDA?

- Not everything needs to be 'integrated'
- Will children's voices be heard?
- Will services be adequately tailored to the needs of children and adolescents?
- Will children's rights take precedence over women's safety?
- Will women be penalized when children are exposed to intimate partner violence?
- Will women's needs be overlooked?
- What about intersections with other forms of violence?





EVERY CHILD, WOMAN AND MAN HAS A RIGHT
TO BE FREE FROM VIOLENCE OF ANY KIND

Thank you for listening!