



South African MEDICAL
RESEARCH COUNCIL



BUILDING A HEALTHY NATION THROUGH RESEARCH

Non-partner rape perpetration: findings of the UN multi- country study on men and violence

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Rape perpetration in population-based research

- Understanding rape perpetration is critical for preventing rape, but there has been very little population-based research on the problem
- Non-partner rape is rarely separated from rape of partners
- Data is available from South Africa where 21% of men disclosed ever having raped

Risk factors for rape perpetration

Five groups of amenable risk factors:

- Adverse childhood exposures
 - attachment and personality disorders
 - social learning and delinquency
 - gender inequitable masculinities
 - substance abuse and firearms
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- Genetic factors may be important but are not amenable

Rape Perpetration: A Review
July 2012

Methods of Un Multi-country Study on Men and Violence

- 9 sites in 6 countries
- Multi-stage sample drawn from each
- Standardised methods and measures, i-pod touch administered
- 10 178 men aged 18-49 were interviewed (815–1812 per site)
- The proportion of enumerated and eligible men interviewed per site was mostly between 94.5% (rural Java, Indonesia) and 82.5% (China). It was lower only in urban Bangladesh (73.2%) and Sri Lanka (58.7%)

Non-Partner Rape Questions

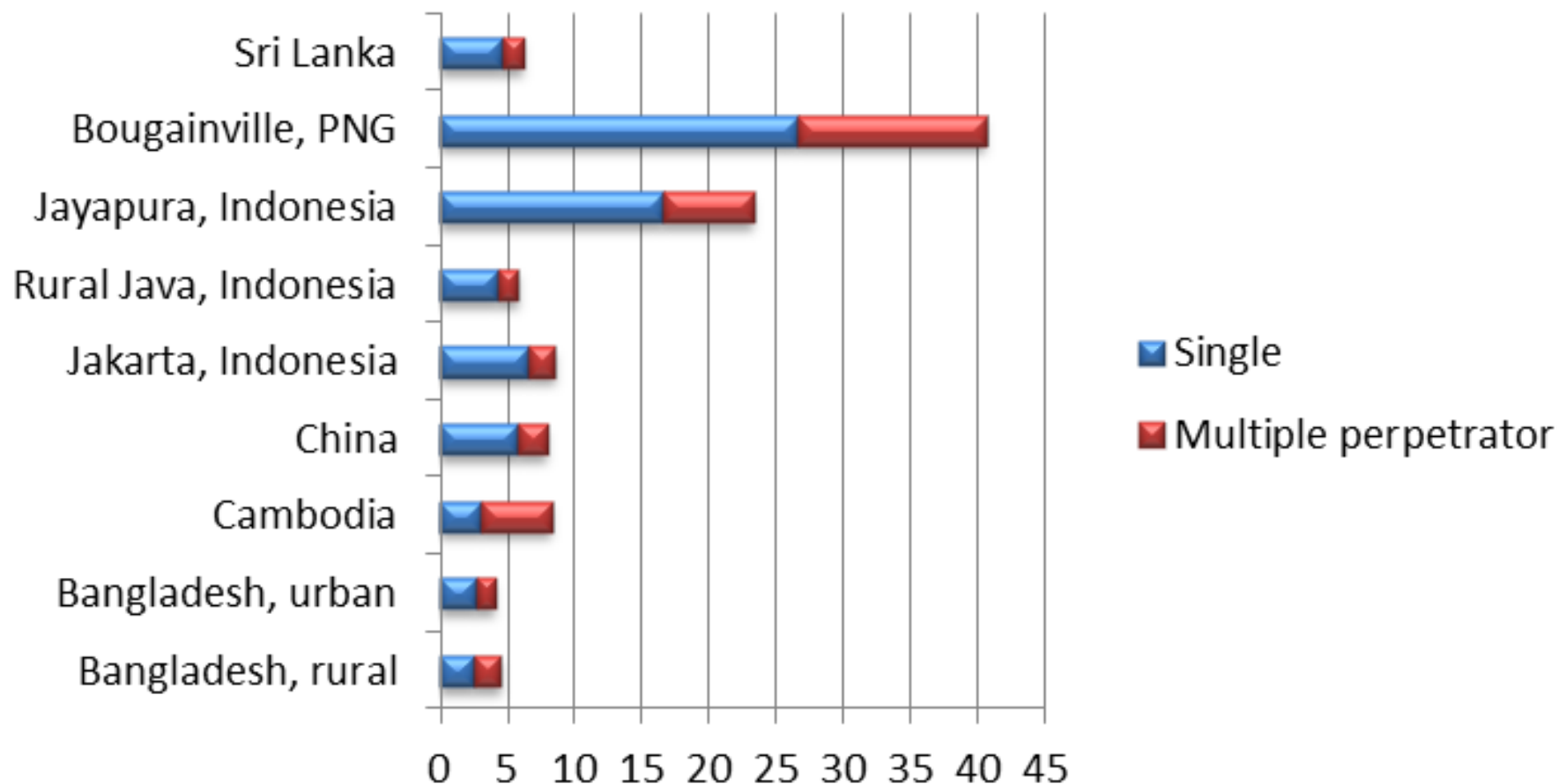
Have you ever forced a woman who was not your wife or girlfriend at the time to have sex with you?

Have you ever had sex with a woman or girl when she was too drunk or drugged to say whether she wanted it or not?

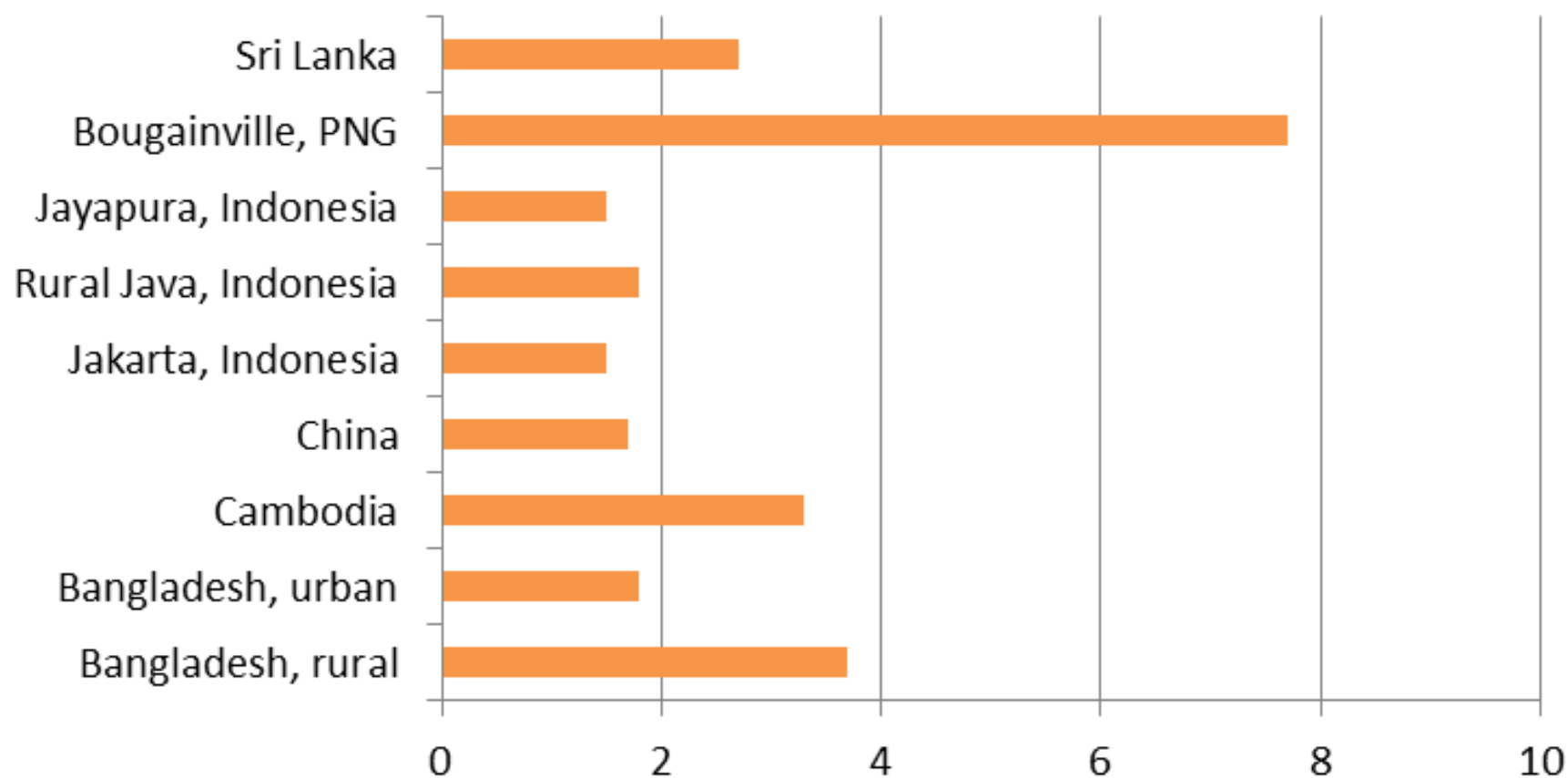
Have you and other men ever had sex with a woman at the same time when she didn't consent to sex or you forced her?

Have you and other men ever had sex with a woman at the same time when she was too drunk or drugged to stop you?

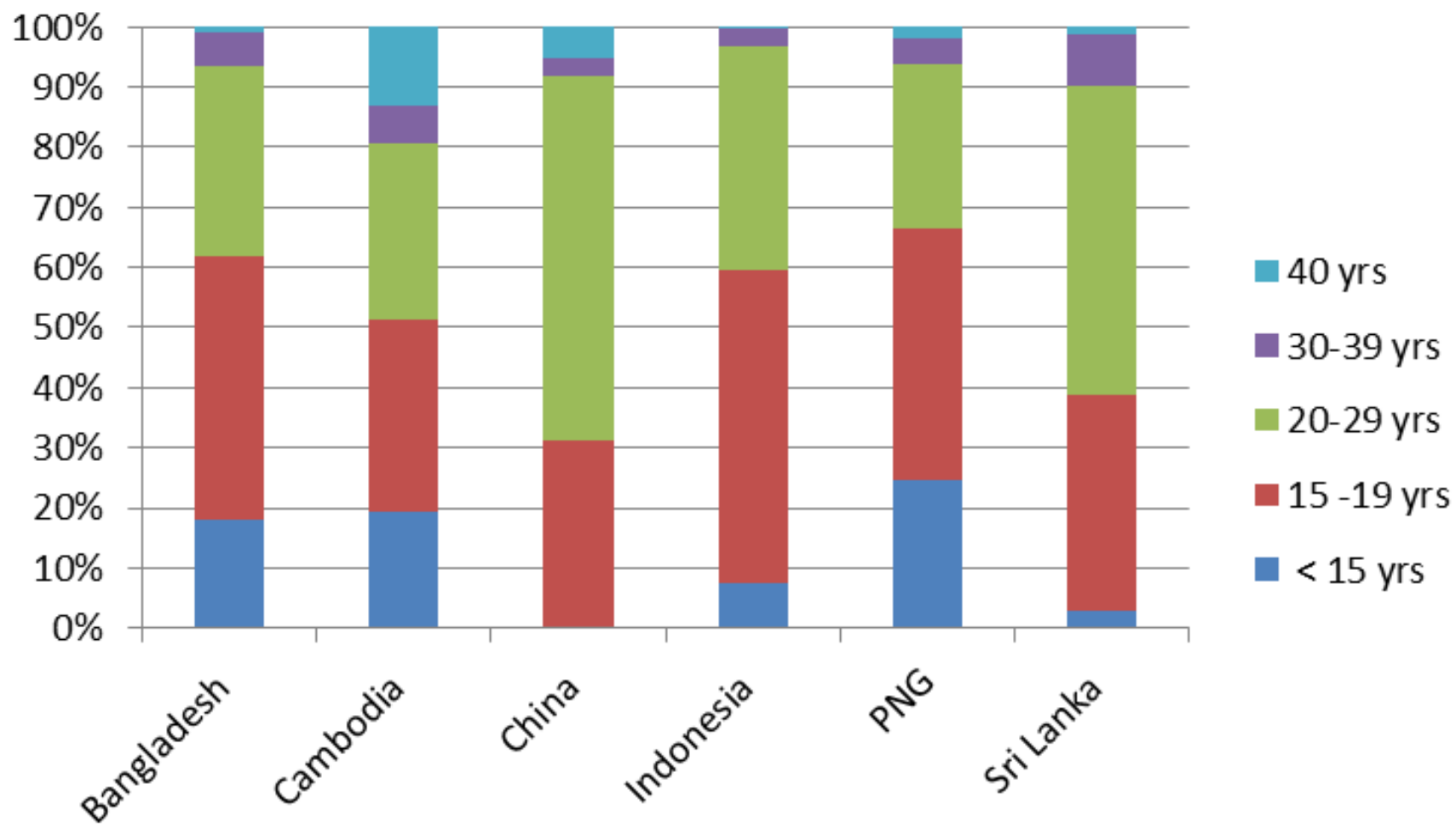
Rape perpetration prevalence



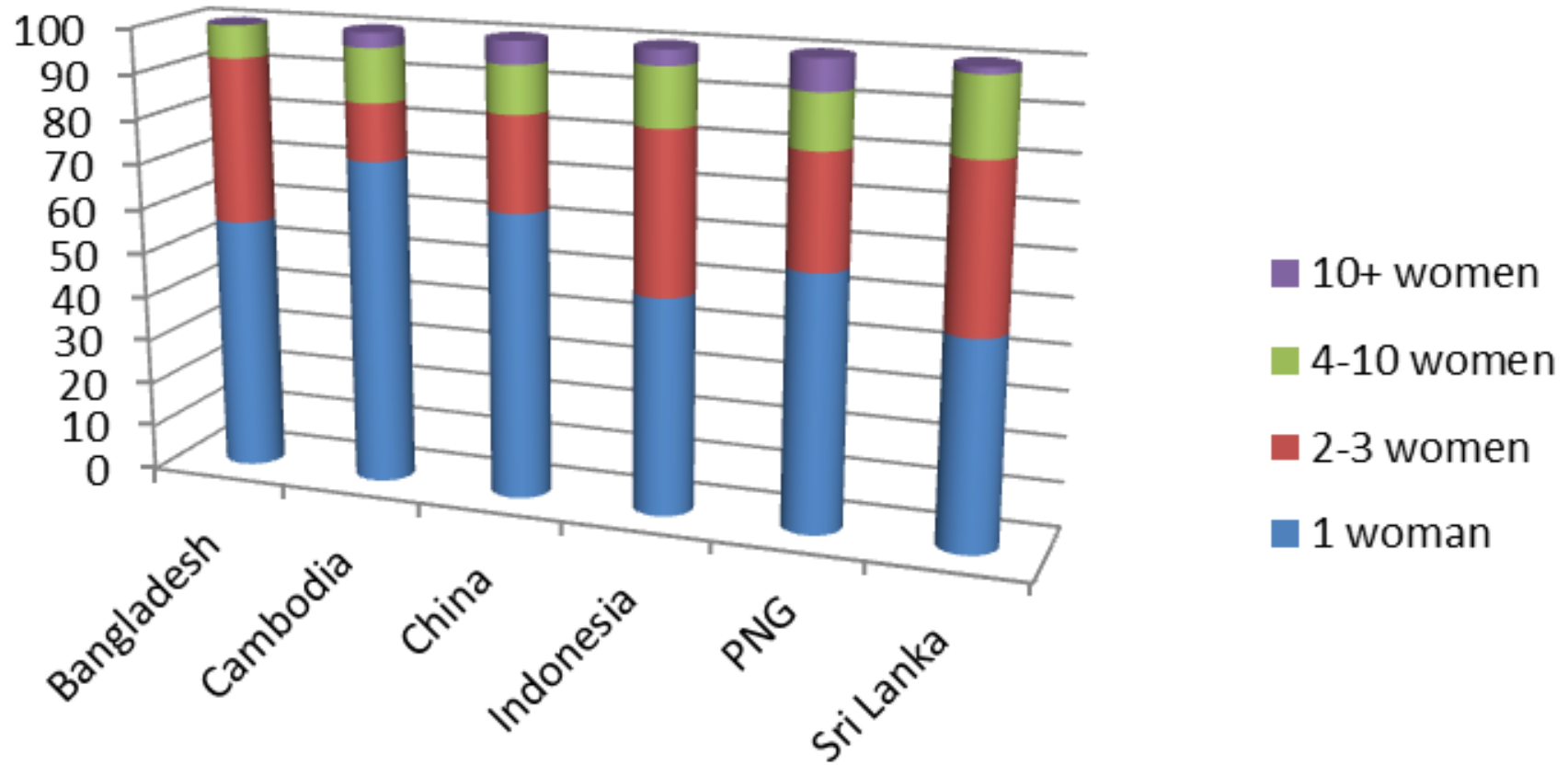
Prevalence of perpetration of rape of men



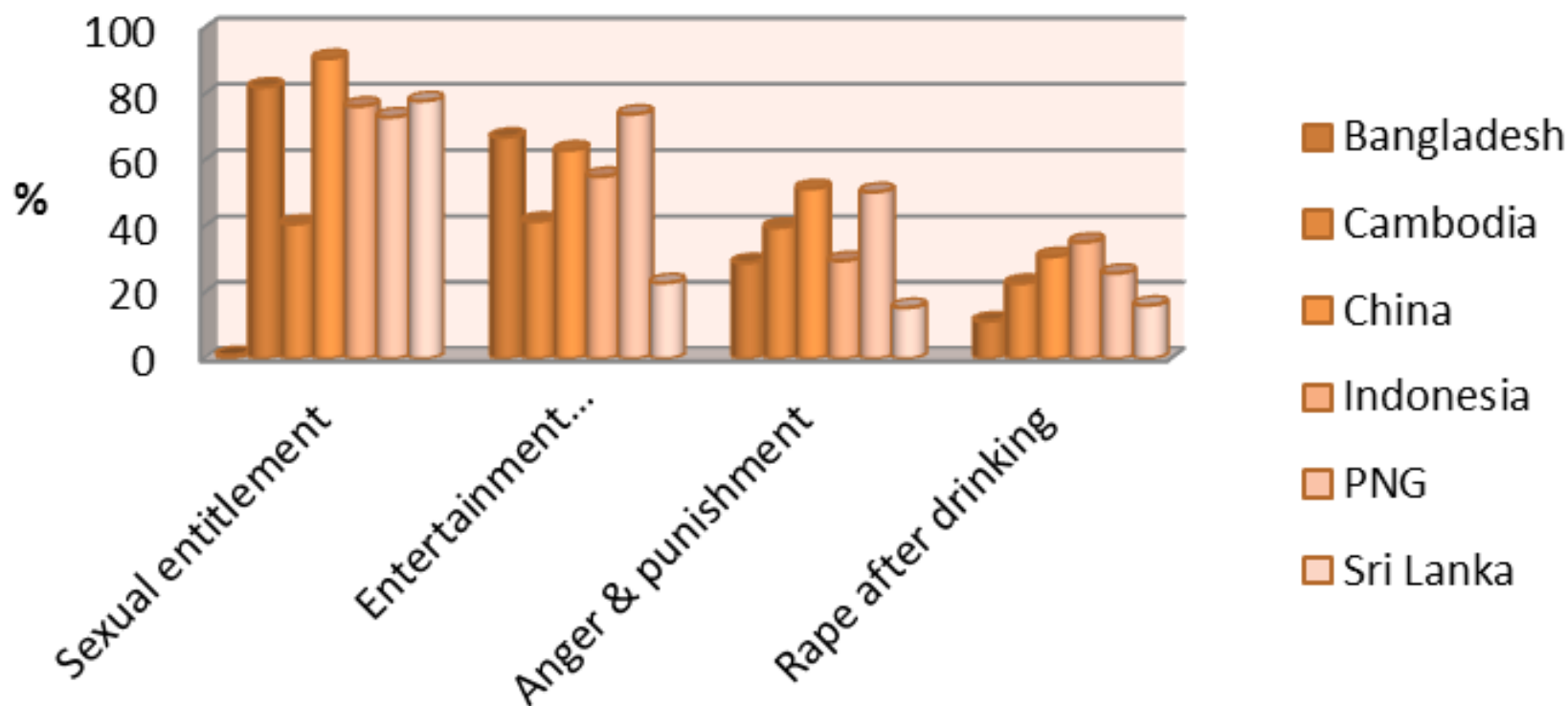
Age of first rape among men who raped a non-partner



Number of women ever raped



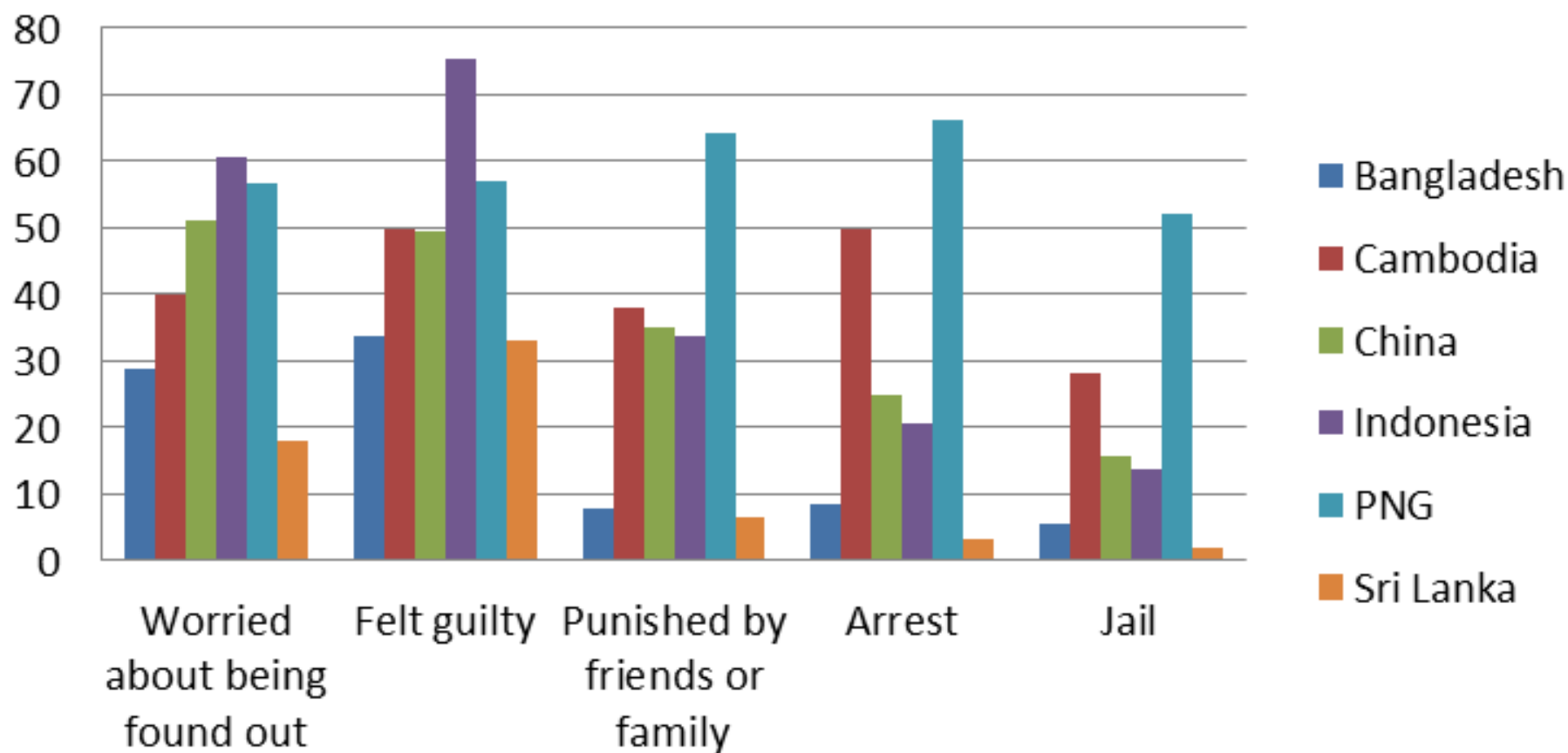
Reasons for the last rape of a woman non-partner



Multinomial regression model of factors associated with non-partner rape perpetration against female non-partners (N=9209)		Single perpetrator			Multiple perpetrator		
		RRR	95%CI		RRR	95%CI	
Social characteristics	No high school				1.42	1.06	1.92
	Current food insecurity				1.42	1.09	1.85
	Ever married or cohabited	1.49	1.08	2.07			
Victimisation history	Childhood sexual abuse	1.66	1.31	2.09	1.74	1.32	2.28
	Childhood physical abuse	1.30	1.05	1.62			
	Emotional abuse/neglect	1.80	1.26	2.55	2.27	1.46	3.55
	Homophobic abuse/ violence				2.85	1.71	4.73
Psychological factors & substance	Alcohol problems	1.70	1.38	2.08	1.46	1.08	1.98
	Empathy scale	0.85	0.78	0.92	0.81	0.72	0.92
Relations with other women	Physical IPV perpetration	1.71	1.35	2.17	2.01	1.50	2.70
	No. sexual partners 2-3 v. 0 or 1	4.05	3.11	5.28	2.13	1.53	2.96
	No. sexual partners 4+ v. 0 or 1	6.05	4.50	8.15	4.11	2.92	5.78
	Had sex with a sex worker	2.58	2.07	3.21	4.67	3.37	6.47
Violence & anti-social behaviour	Fought with weapons	1.76	1.38	2.24	1.69	1.24	2.32
	Involvement in gangs				2.38	1.68	3.38
	Drug use in the past year				1.78	1.20	2.64

Random effects logistic regression model: perpetration of rape of a man		Odds Ratio	95% CIs	
Social characteristics	Current food insecurity	1.63	1.21	2.21
Victimisation history	Was raped or coerced by a man	3.50	2.43	5.04
	Any homophobic abuse or violence	5.45	3.76	7.88
Relations with other women	Number of sexual partners 2-3	1.95	1.37	2.77
	Number of sexual partners 4+	1.76	1.19	2.61
	Ever sex with a sex worker or transactional sex	2.82	2.01	3.96
Violence & anti-social behaviour	Involvement in gangs	1.58	1.10	2.27
	Drug use in the past year	2.46	1.74	3.50

Consequences ever experienced after any act of rape perpetration



Conclusions

- Non-partner rape perpetration has an appreciably high prevalence among men in the general population from teenage years
- Sexual entitlement is the most common immediate motive
- Complex intervention strategies are required
- Prevention requires challenging practices that are deeply rooted in cultural ideals of masculinity and gender hierarchy
- Childhood antecedents also need to be addressed
- Research into effective interventions and how to develop effective national-level prevention programmes is urgently needed.

Acknowledgements

- The study was developed by Partners for Prevention, a United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United National Population Fund (UNFPA), UN Women and United National Volunteers (UNV) regional joint programme for gender-based violence prevention in Asia and the Pacific, in collaboration with the Medical Research Council of South Africa and the country research teams.