

Stepping Stones and Creating Futures Intervention: Outcomes of a formative evaluation of a behavioural and structural pilot intervention for young people

Gender and Health Unit, MRC	Project Empower	HEARD, UKZN	University of Pretoria
Rachel Jewkes	Mpume Mbatha	Andy Gibbs	Milly Mushinga
Nwabisa Jama-Shai	Laura Washington	Alison Misselhorn	
Yandisa Sikweyiya		Samantha Willan	



Background: Informal Settlements

In South Africa 29.1% of the total estimated number of new HIV acquisitions are found in urban informal settlements, even though only 8.7% of South Africans older than 2 years live here (Rehle et al., 2007)

Gender, poverty, violence and HIV risk are tightly intertwined (Hunter, 2010)

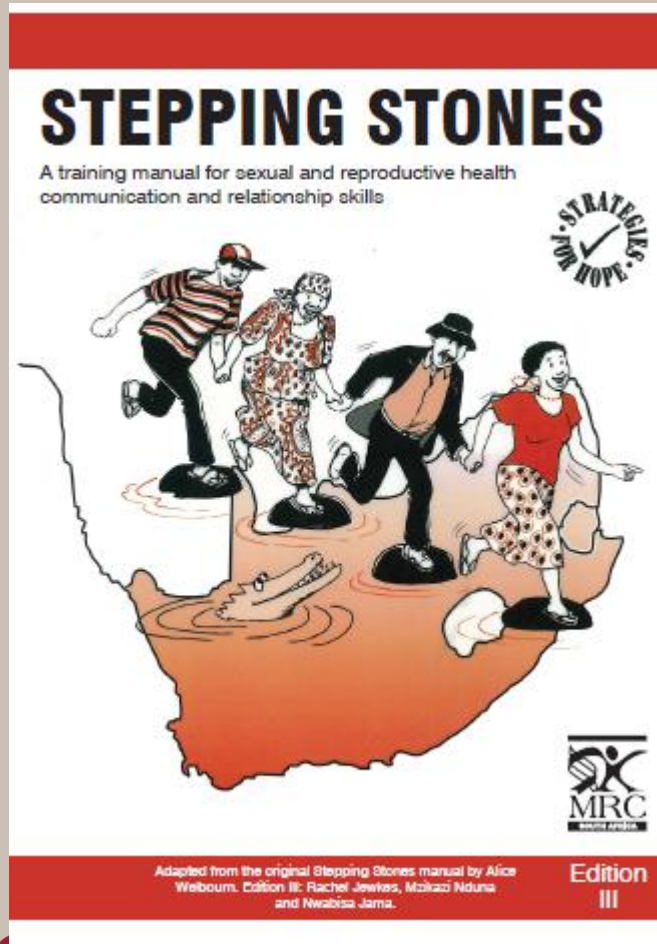
IPV and poverty

Men: argument made that in contexts of economic exclusion, unable to fulfill their 'hegemonic masculinity' use strategies such as violence to assert authority

Women: substantive evidence women's economic disempowerment overlaps and reinforces social disempowerment

IMAGE Project: microfinance and gender training saw reduction in IPV experienced by women

Stepping Stones and Creating Futures



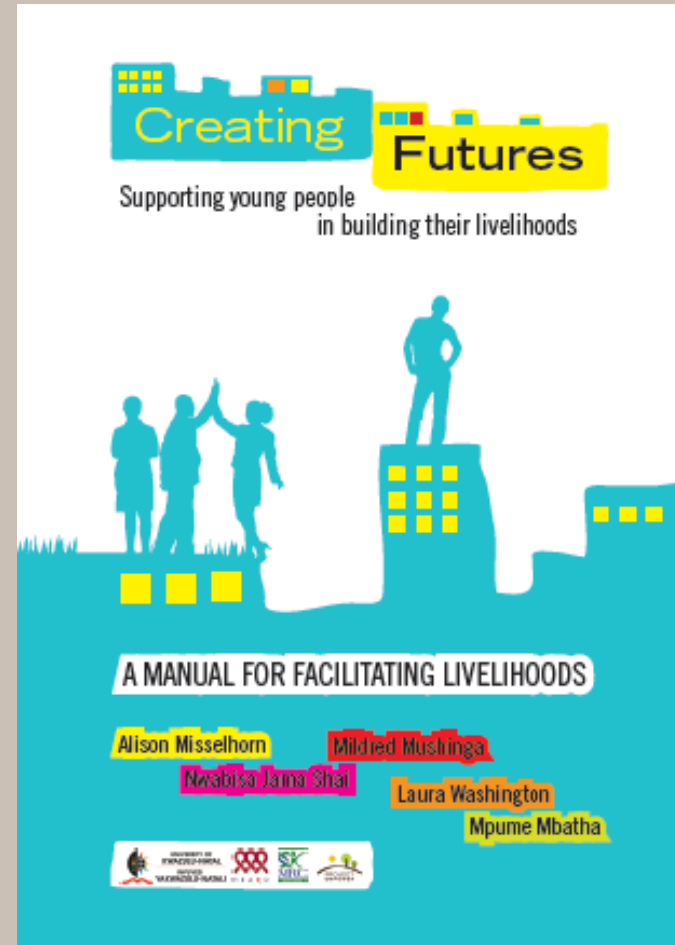
Sessions include:

- Communication
- Sex and love
- Conception and contraception
- HIV
- Gender violence
- Assertiveness training

Creating Futures

Sessions include:

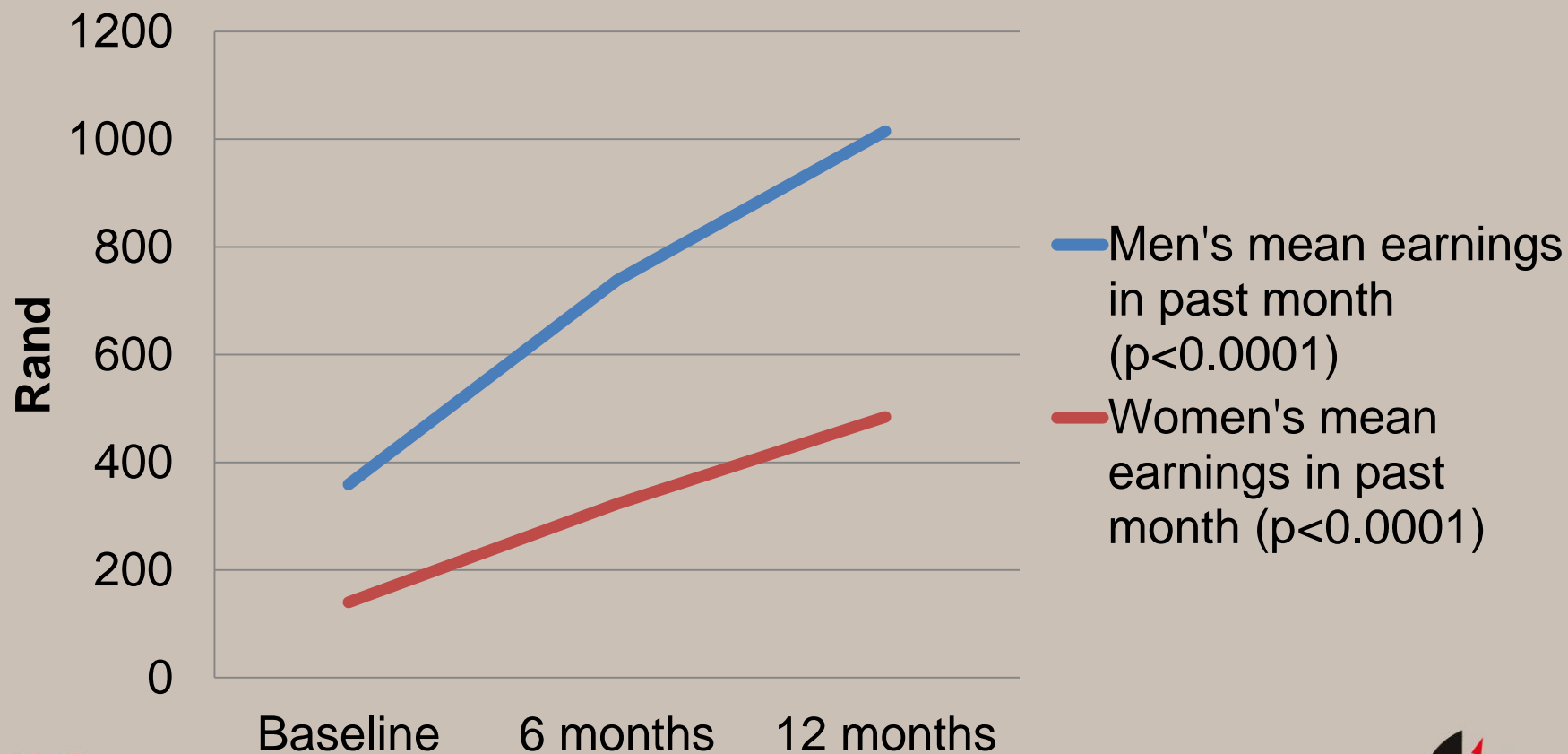
- Dreams and wishes
- Social resources
- Getting and keeping jobs
- Saving and coping with shocks



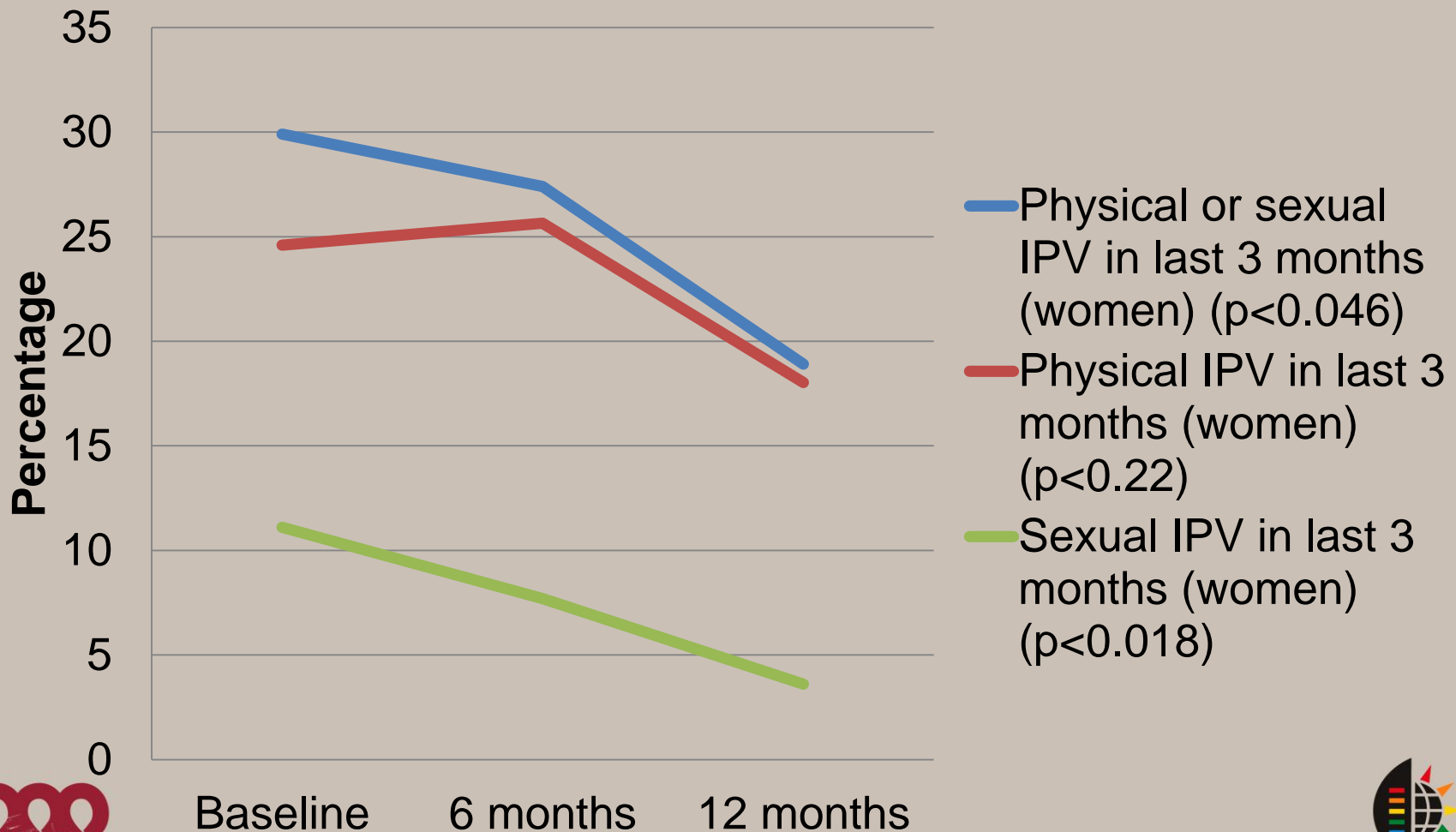
	Male (n=110) %	Female (n=122) %
Age group: <20	20	31.2
 20-24	66.4	48.4
 25-29	13.6	18.9
 >30	0	1.6
Matric.	45.4	23.6
Child or fathered	36.4	66.7
Worked or earned past 12 months	65.2	36.1
Earnings in past month	R359	R140
IPV (sexual or physical – 3 months)	25	29.9
IPV sexual – 3 months	15.5	11.1
IPV physical – 3 months	16.8	24.6
Rape non-partner – 3 months	4.5	

Results: Livelihoods

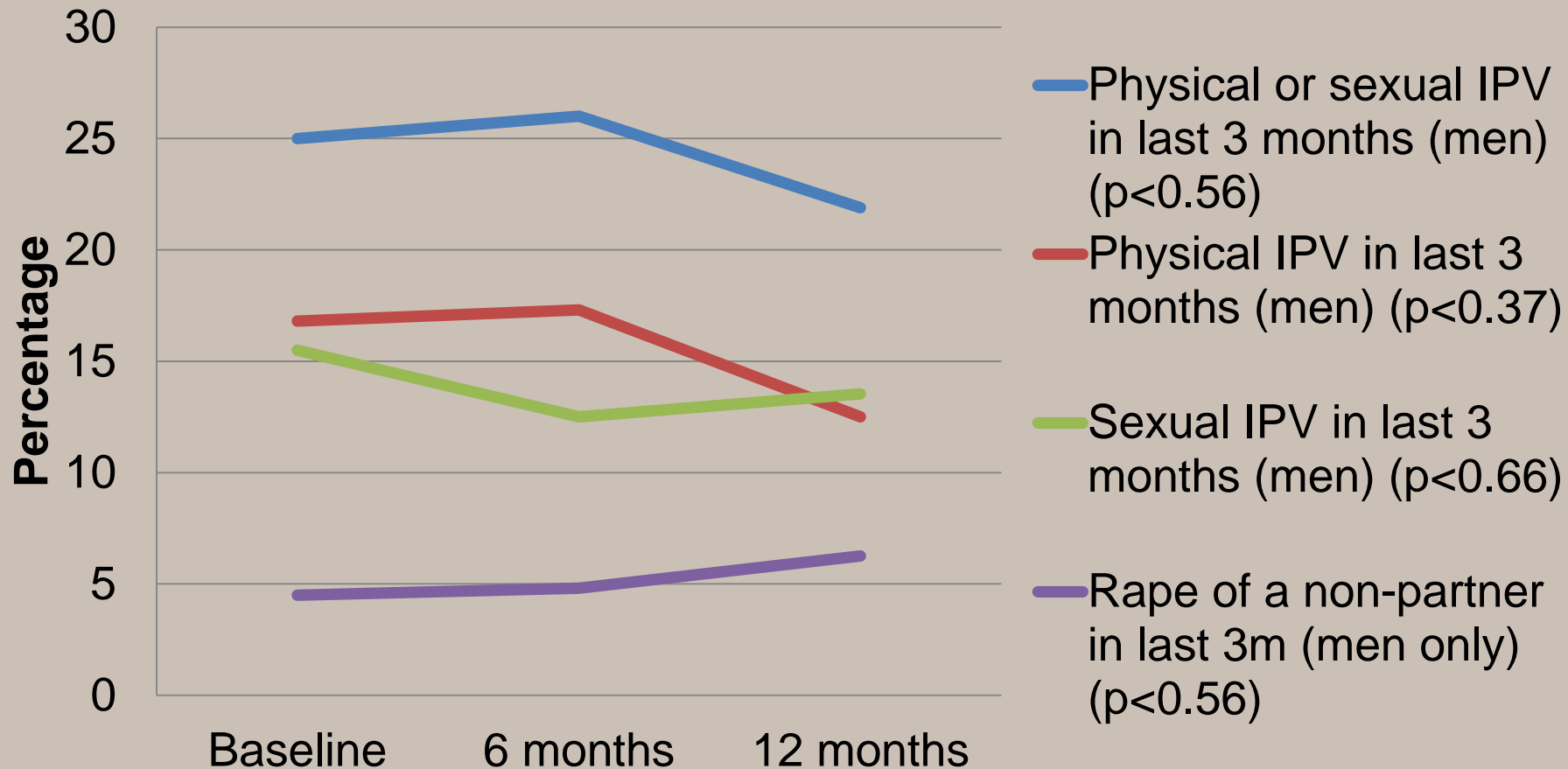
Mean earnings in past month



Women's experience of IPV in past 3 months



Men's Perpetration of IPV or Rape of Non-Partner in Past 3 months



Limitations

- Quasi-experimental – ITS design
- Small sample size (232)
- One year follow up
- Looking for promise



Summary

As with the IMAGE project, Stepping Stones/Creating Futures seems to show promise that building young women's economic power and gender power can reduce experiences of violence

Still need more research on understanding the impact of gender transformative and economic empowerment interventions on men

Thanks

Stepping Stones available from:

www.mrc.ac.za/gender/stepping.htm

Creating Futures available from:

www.heard.org.za/gender/creating-futures-stepping-stones

Facilitators and participants

Funded by:

