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RESEARCHING, IMPLEMENTING, AND FUNDING PROGRAMMES ENGAGING MEN AND BOYS IN GBV PREVENTION: ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

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ESA REGIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON GENDER TRANSFORMATIVE APPROACHES TO ENGAGING MEN AND BOYS IN
GBV PREVENTION AND RESPONSE IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS

June 28, 2022

Engaging men and boys in GBV prevention

- Efforts to engage men and boys in GBV prevention
 - *Evidence-generation*
 - *Community-based prevention programming*
 - *Policy*
- Few evaluated programmes
- Specific ethical issues relevant for engaging men and boys in GBV research and prevention programmes.



Ethical considerations

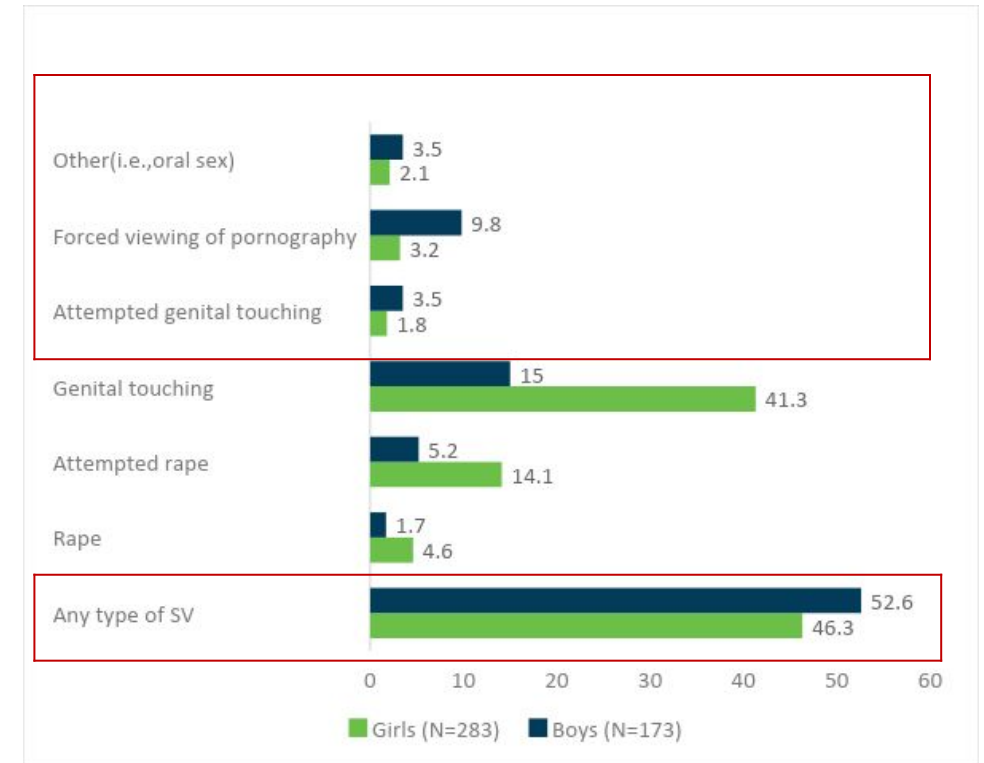
Need for gender-disaggregated data:

- Pinpointing GBV issues that are relevant for women and men, girls and boys.
- Well-targeted programs and policy design to address issues of disparities.

Evidence:

- Boys and young men are more susceptible to certain types of violence.
 - *E.g., forced viewing of pornography, emotional and physical violence*

Fig. 1: Proportion of children disclosing lifetime experience of sexual violence by type and gender



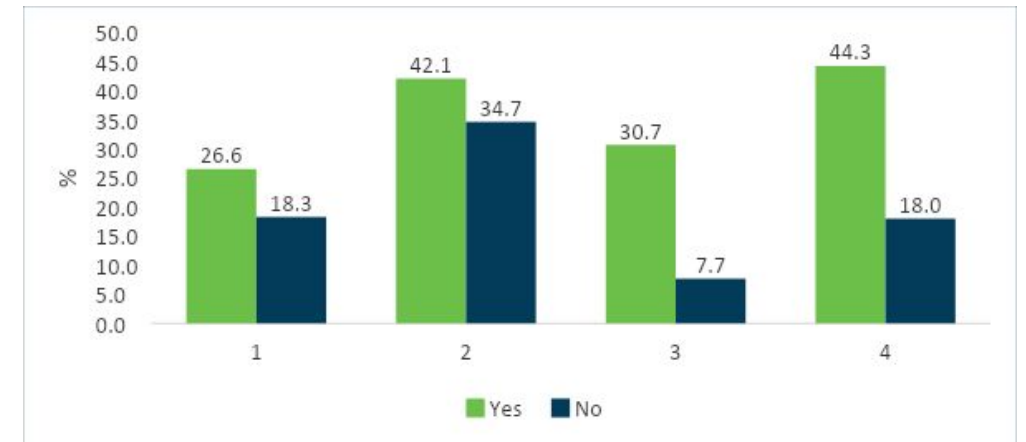
Source: Undie, C. C., & Mak'anyengo, M. (2022). *If we Ask, Will they Tell? (and Then, What?): Screening for Sexual Violence against Children in Kenya*. *Child Abuse Review*, 31(1), 11-26.

Ethical considerations

How are men/boys affected?

- Underreporting
- Specific health, psychosocial, legal, and safety needs
- Negative coping mechanisms, e.g., violence

Prevalence of physical or sexual violence perpetration by those who experienced sexual abuse or physical violence prior to age 18 among 18-24 year olds – Uganda VACS, 2015



Source: Uganda Violence Against Children Survey (VACS), 2015

Ethical considerations

Where to ask?

- Which setting(s)?
- What level of privacy exists in the space?
- What's the confidentiality culture like in the setting?

How to ask?

- Terminology?
- Questioning style (explanations, reminders, refusal opportunities, options for response styles, etc.)?
- Communication aids?

Ethical Considerations

Limited perpetrator interventions:

- Most perpetrators of sexual abuse against children/boys are young (peers).

But,

- Perpetrators' programmes are limited mainly due to:
 - higher risk
 - additional resources come at the expense of survivors
 - stigma
- Child and adult perpetrators need some sort of intervention.

Perpetrators of most recent incidents of sexual abuse, among 13-17 year olds who experienced sexual abuse in the past 12 months, Uganda VACS 2015

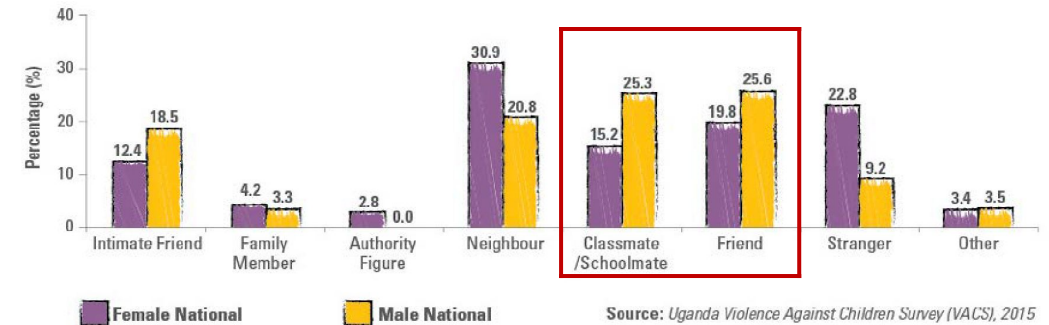


Table 2. Proportion of perpetrator types cited by children disclosing lifetime experience of sexual violence by gender

Type of perpetrator cited*	Girls N = 131		Boys N = 91	
Fellow student	91	69.5%	23	25.3%
Neighbour	52	39.7%	16	17.6%
Relative	18	13.7%	6	6.6%
Stranger	17	13.0%	5	5.5%
Friend	2	1.5%	10	11.0%
Other	5	3.8%	3	3.3%
Unknown	2	1.5%	0	0.0%

*Multiple responses allowed.

Source: Undie, C. C., & Mak'anyengo, M. (2022). If we Ask, Will they Tell? (and Then, What?): Screening for Sexual Violence against Children in Kenya. *Child Abuse Review*, 31(1), 11-26.

In a nutshell...

- There are additional ethical considerations in researching, implementing, or funding programmes engaging men and boys in GBV prevention in humanitarian settings.
- Data disaggregation is extremely important.
- There is a need for a holistic approach to addressing the violence perpetrated on boys/men.

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