High-prevalence Settings for Violence Against Women

What are high-prevalence settings?

33%

Women who are afraid of people in their own homes, informal settlements in Mumbai (1). Informal settlements have high

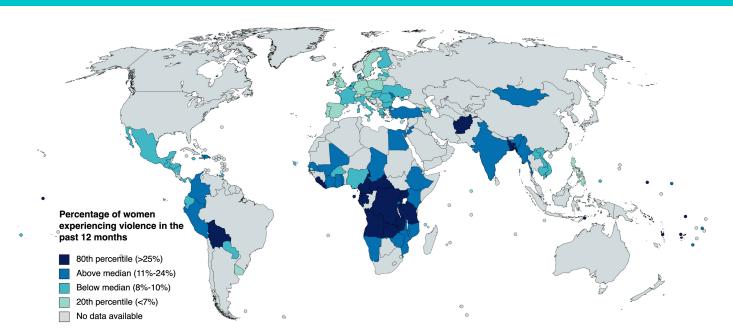
prevalence rates of VAWG.

Psychological/verbal abuse among Indigenous Quechua women in Peru (2). Indigenous communities have high prevalence rates of VAWG.

72.8%

Men in Bangladesh who believe that there are times a woman deserves to be beaten (3). This is an example of a context where violence is widely accepted.

Past-year physical/sexual violence against women in Papua New Guinea (4). The Pacific region has high prevalence rates of VAWG.



High prevalence rates appear to be driven by contextual factors like women's income inequality and education, gendered cultural norms, exposure to other forms of violence, and racial or class-based discrimination.



All forms of VAW are harmful to women's health and wellbeing, with potential impacts including severe mental disorder, physical injury, chronic pain, sexually transmitted infections, and death. Effectively reducing these harms is a human rights obligation and essential for governments to meet their commitments under the Sustainable Development Goals.

Better understandings of VAWG prevention in high-prevalence settings are urgently needed to address the needs of women experiencing the highest risk of violence globally.

The EVE Project Objectives and Design Components (5)



Phase 1: Developing ethical guidelines

Co-create ethical guidelines for violence prevention research and intervention in collaboration with highprevalence communities



Phase 2: Developing theories of change

Establish the causal mechanisms for how community participation prevents VAWG in highprevalence settings



Phase 3: Outcome measurement

Develop, validate and feasibility-test new tools for assessing VAWG prevalence in highprevalence settings



Phase 4: Participatory community-led intervention development

Co-create an intervention in collaboration with highprevalence communities

Evidence suggests that communities experiencing a high prevalence of VAWG play an important role in potential solutions. Even in the highestprevalence settings, social norms of VAWG are contested, negotiable and changeable.

Countries with a high prevalence of **VAWG** are often characterised by structural factors including women's income inequality and education, gendered cultural norms and practices, exposure to other forms of violence, and racial or class-based discrimination. One of the aims of the EVE Project is to develop better understandings of these characteristics and how they perpetuate VAWG in certain settings.

For more information, visit https://www.ucl.ac.uk/global-health/research/z-research/eve-project-evidence-violence-prevention-extreme





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