

# Gender, Violence and AIDS



# Past Perspective

- Male perpetrators
- Women victims
- Programs oriented towards empowering women
- Risk increasing violence

# Definition

Any act of gender-based violence that results in or is likely to result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty occurring in public or private life.

UN Declaration on the elimination of violence against women, 1993

# Prevalance GBV

- Lack of standardized definitions
- Lack of indicators
- Difficult to measure – sensitive issue
- DHS has now incorporated questions on domestic violence and women's empowerment

# Prevalence GBV: 30 countries

- Estimates between 8 and 70%

Population reports, Series L, No. 11, 1999.

# Prevalence domestic violence: women in 9 DCs, DHS 2004

- Zambia 48%
- Columbia 44%
- Peru 42%
- Egypt 34%
- Nicaragua 30%
- Haiti 29%
- Dominican Republic 22%
- Cambodia 18%
- India 19%

# Sexual violence – HIV risks?

Country	% sexual violence	HIV prevalence
Columbia	11	0.6
Haiti	17	3.8
Nicaragua	10	0.2
Dominican Republic	6	1.1
Cambodia	3	2

# Domestic violence NL 2006

- 10% of dutch population
- 16% of women, 7% of men
- 4% in the past five years
- 16% of girl (<16) sexual abuse
- (compare Australia: 33% of girls, 16% of boys)

Source: Factsheet Transact September 2006

# Young people at risk

- In Zimbabwe 30% of 549 secondary school students sexually abused. Half were boys abused by women (focus 1998)
- In Kenya 17% of unmarried boys (15-19) had been paid for sex with money or gifts (Kenyan DHS, 1998)

# Risk factors

- Beliefs about masculinity
- Peer pressure
- Divorce
- Older women – younger men
- Alcohol use
- Living in an urban setting
- Having a family history of violence
- Bride price

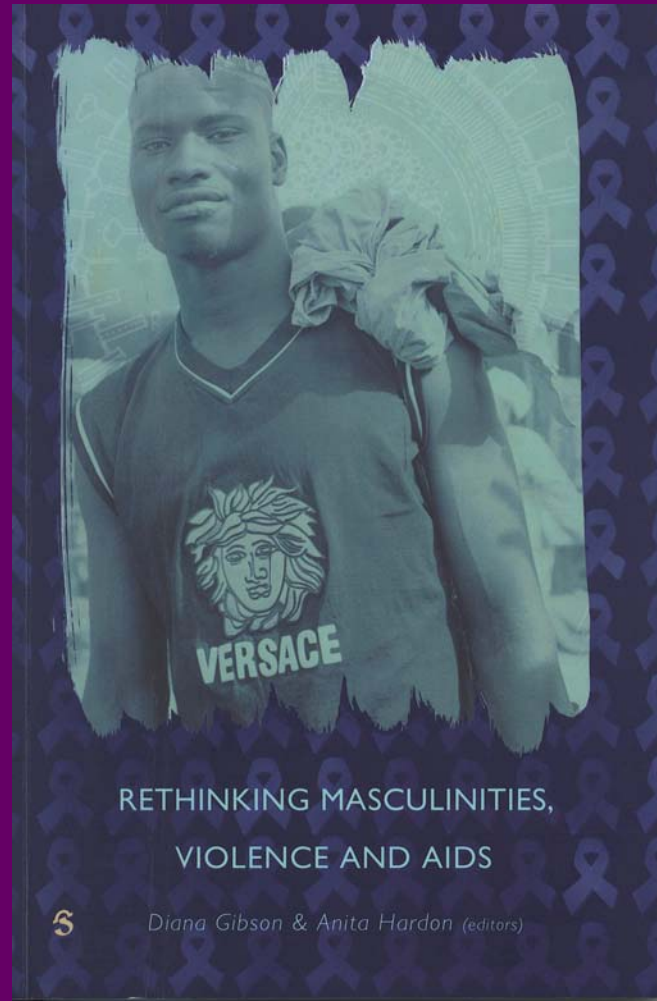
# Domestic violence associated with

- Higher fertility - unwanted pregnancy
- Higher rates unmet need
- Higher rates of STIs
- Delays in use of ANC
- Higher child mortality

# New views on GBV

- A continuum of violent acts
- Relational
- Involving multiple gendered identities
- Contextualized in everyday life
- Historically contingent

# Qualitative studies:



# Capetown township

“ I hit her sometimes, but she will not listen, talks back, she looks for it...She takes me for soft if not... other men also...”

“ you want to stay alive, you must fight, be strong, hit first..”

# Men's views

“Many of the men here say I am a moffie because I stay at home and never get involved in violence. They respect skollies, gangsters with guns and knives or churchmen, but I just want to stay out of the street and run like hell”

# Violence against women Cape town flats (N=90 and N=40)

- 18% and 9% sexually assaulted outside
- 8% and 5% sexually assaulted at home
- 19% and 5% attacked with a weapon outside
- 30% and 20% attacked with a weapon at home

# Women complacent?

Women blame themselves, being at the wrong place at the wrong time. They expect men to protect them in dangerous space.

Its just 'how men are'.

# Men have to protect women

“ I stay away from certain places after dark, mostly I stay at home. If I have to go out, my brother goes with me to look after me. (a young woman).”

“ A man has to go with me... I will not go alone”

# Assaults at home....

“ My husband get paid on Fridays, and when he is drunk he beats me.”

“ I was late with his food. He said I did not care of the children. It is how it is for women..”

“I had sex with him against my will, but it was not rape. He is my man and love me a lot. I gave birth to his children”

# Assaults at home

“He first hit me with the fists, later he stabbed me. Here they always stab you. Its a male thing. They shoot each other and stab each other, but we women, they beat us first and they stab us, sometimes with the bottle”

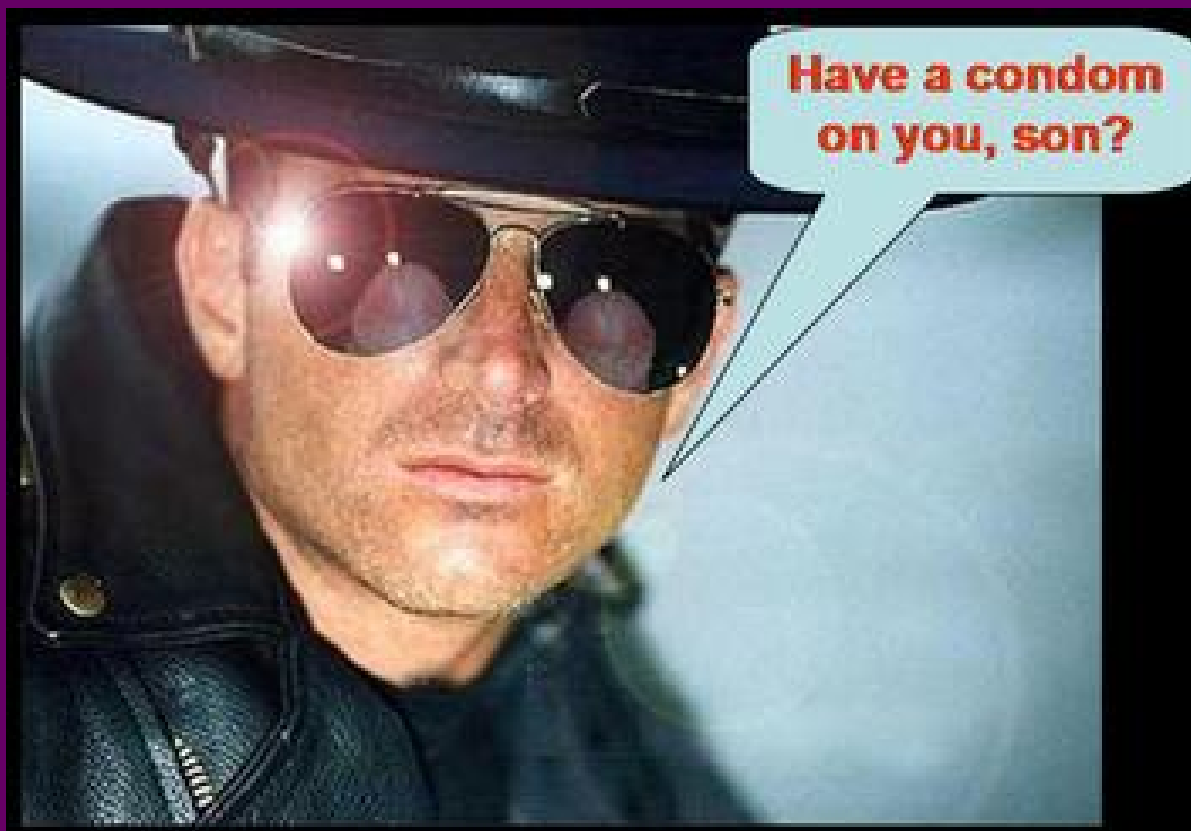
“My boyfriend hit me because he was afraid some other guy would take me away from him. My friend told me that he hit me because he loves me”

# Young men and HIV risks

- abstinence impossible
- fertility is proof of manhood
- belittled by peers if they use condoms
- condoms unnecessary in steady relations
- A women who carries condoms is promiscuous

# Gender, HIV and young men

- Create a positive sense of identity and belonging
- Acknowledge multiple needs of young men
- Identify pathways to change..
- Reinforce non-violent and equitable discourses
- Promote positive role models
- Promote positive engagement as fathers
- Prevention messages in rites of passage







Congres SOA-HIV-AIDS 2006

Anita Hardon, 04-12-2006





Congres SOA-HIV-AIDS 2006

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# Key entry points

- Mainstream youth organizations, including sports and church clubs
- Community mobilization
- Mass media
- Invest in research

# Pathways to change...

