Welcome to the
Inaugural National Research Conference on Violence against Women and their Children

ANROWS Research to Policy and Practice
State of knowledge on the co-occurrence, intersection & differences between forms of, & responses to, violence against women & their children

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ANROWS

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Rape & Domestic Violence Services
Co-occurrence and re-victimisation
What is covered?

- Characteristics of co-occurrence and re-victimisation
- Impacts of co-occurrence and re-victimisation
- Limitations of existing research.
Limitations of the research

• Lack of longitudinal studies.
• Focuses on non-representative sub-populations.
• Bias:
  • Incomplete reporting.
  • Survey design.
• Lack of comparability across studies.
• Definitional inconsistency.
• Instruments that presume victim/perpetrator symmetry.
Re-victimisation

- A history of violence including both sexual and domestic violence over the life course
- Varied estimates: e.g., CSA → DV 25-40% of sample.
1,668,400 women reported having experienced child abuse

1,479,900 women reported having experienced cohabiting partner violence

Figure L: Number of women who experienced child abuse, cohabiting partner violence or both over their lifetime
Key findings on re-victimisation

- CSA → DV and/or sexual assault – strong relationship
- Severity of abuse in childhood affect extent of relationship
- Significant mental health consequences – sub-clinical to severe
- Difficulties in service provision
Co-occurrence (IPSV)

• Intimate partner sexual violence (IPSV)
• Huge range in estimates of prevalence, based on different populations and definitions
  • Sexual coercion – 24-62% of women
  • Sexual assault – 1.7% - 46% of women
• Cultural and conceptual difficulties in assessing prevalence:
  • 5.2% who experienced sexual coercion said it was assault (n = 1060, college students)
Since the age of 15:

More women were sexually assaulted by a boyfriend or date than by a male cohabiting partner.

Women were equally likely to have been sexually assaulted by a cohabiting partner as by a stranger.
Since the age of 15:

1.8 million women experienced physical violence by a male intimate partner.

0.9 million women experienced sexual violence by a male intimate partner.

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Continuum of violence

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IPSV

Physical force

Threat

Manipulation

Social/relational pressure

Consented vs wanted

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What does IPSV look like?

- High risk
- [rarer (?) middle]
- Emotional coercion

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Protective and risk factors

- **Risk factors:**
  - Alcohol use as precursor, situational factor or consequence
  - Previous victimisation

- **Protective factors:**
  - Appropriate response to previous victimisation
  - Self sufficiency and self-mastery

- **Consequences:**
  - Mental health
  - Sexual health
Differential patterns of victimisation

• High risk groups vs differential patterns
• Intersections
• Paper looks at a wide range of populations
• Variation in:
  • Prevalence
  • Intersections with risk factors
  • Characteristics of violent episodes
  • Impacts
  • Capacity to access support
Conclusion

Sexual violence

Domestic violence

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