



**POPULATION
COUNCIL**

Ideas. Evidence. Impact.

EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE AND ASSOCIATION WITH HIV RISK AMONG YOUNG KENYAN WOMEN IN THE CONTEXT OF THE DREAMS INITIATIVE

Sanyukta Mathur, DrPH MHS
smathur@popcouncil.org

IGWG Child Marriage and IPV
March 6, 2017

Generating evidence around DREAMS

- 3 cross-cutting themes for implementation science research (10 studies across 7 countries)



Assessing effectiveness of community-based **girl-centered programming**



Identifying and reaching **male partners** of adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) in HIV services



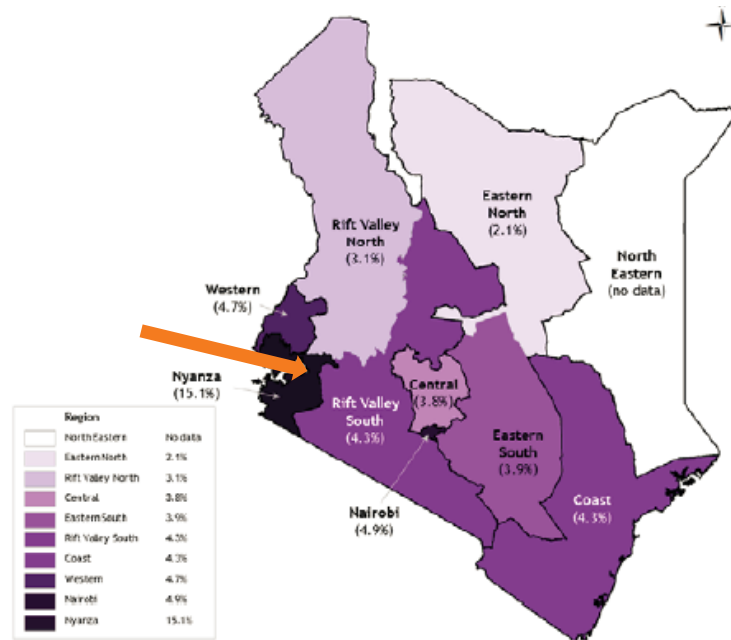
Introducing **oral PrEP** among adolescent girls and young women

Effectiveness of community-based, girl-centered programming in Kenya

- Do programs identify and recruit most at-risk AGYW?
- Do programs reduce HIV-related risk among AGYW?
- How do program encourage engagement in DREAMS program?
- Is there fidelity to program design?
- What are the costs per beneficiary?

Study sites: urban & peri-urban site, Kisumu county, Nyanza province

HIV prevalence among adults and adolescents aged 15–64 years by region, KAIS 2012



There were wide geographical variations in HIV prevalence in Kenya with Nyanza region being disproportionately affected.

Kisumu County

- Median age at 1st sex: 16.2 yrs
- Median age at 1st marriage: 19.1 yrs
- Median age at 1st birth: 19.4 yrs



Kenya AGYW study

DREAMS Intervention Activities June 2016–September 2017

Phase 1
data collection
Oct 2016
–Feb 2017

Interim
data collection
Jun 2017

Phase 2
data collection
Oct–Dec 2017

Surveys

- **DREAMS Girls (n=914)**
- Non-DREAMS Girls

In-depth interviews with AGYW DREAMS girls (n=12 anticipated) and IP staff (n=6 anticipated)

Direct observations of program activities

Direct observations of program activities

In-depth interviews with IP staff

Costing work (cost per person reached)

Follow-up survey with cohort of DREAMS Girls (n=914)

In-depth interviews with AGYW, and IPs

DREAMS monitoring data

AGYW survey components

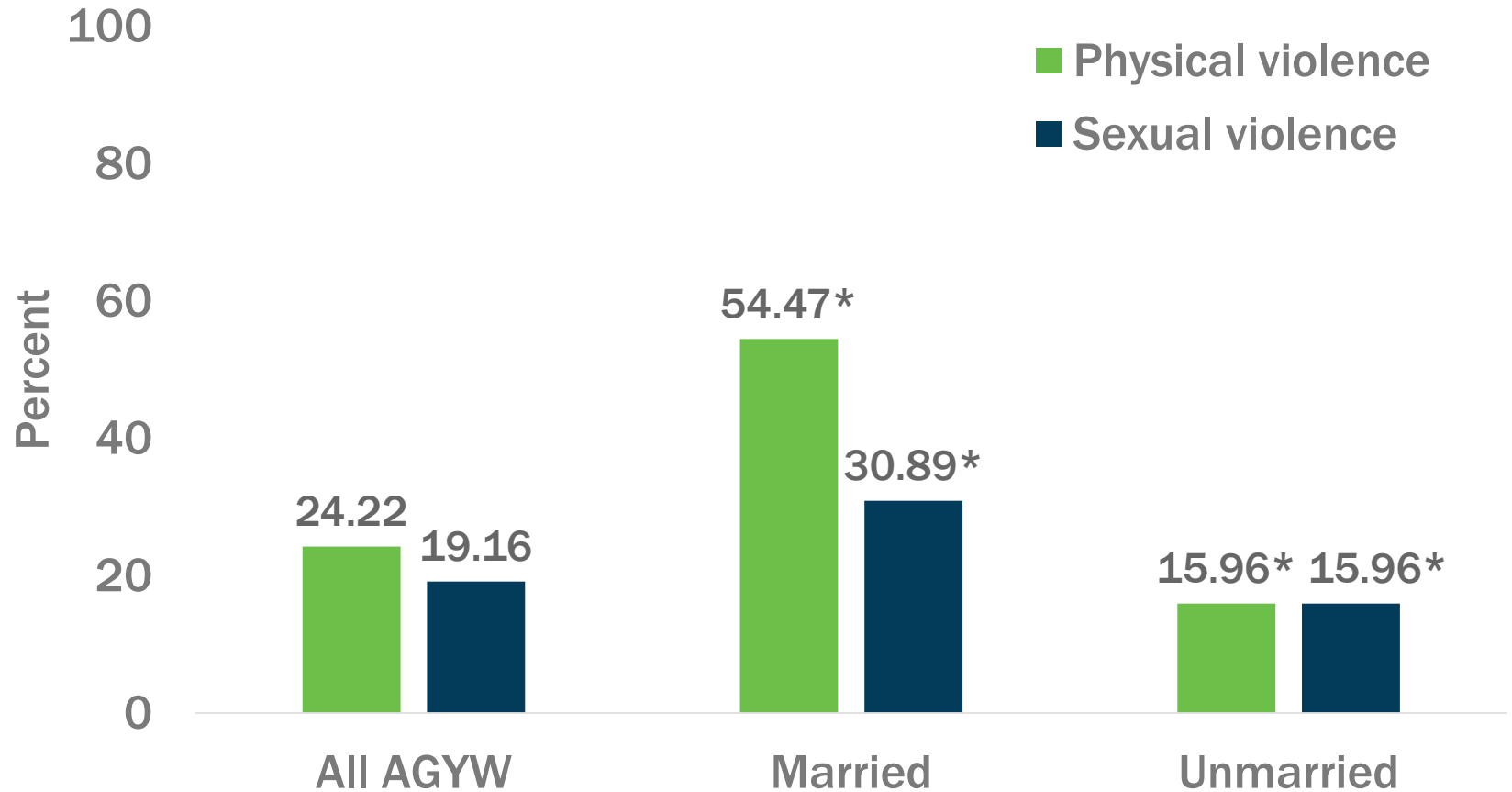
- Socio-demographic factors
- HIV knowledge & risk perceptions
- Sexual behaviors (incl. transactional sex)
- Partner and relationship characteristics
- **Experiences with sexual and physical violence**
- Socio-cultural factors
 - HIV-related stigma & discrimination
 - Gender norms
 - Fertility desires & intentions
 - Access to economic resources
- Social support and connectedness
- DREAMS program exposure

Questions on experience of violence

- *Adapted questions from WHO Violence Against Women Survey (used in the Global What Works to Prevent VAWG? Programme)*
- *Sample questions:*
 - In the last 12 months how many times has a current or previous boyfriend or partner slapped you or thrown something at you which could hurt you?
 - In the last 12 months how many times has a current or previous boyfriend or partner physically...
 - forced you to have sex when you did not want to?
 - ever used threats or intimidation to get you to have sex when you did not want to?

Respondent characteristics	Percent (n=914)
Age (Mean age: 18.9 years)	
15–19 years	51.86
20–24 years	48.14
Sexually active	
No	38.18
Yes	61.82
Current marital status	
Married	18.82
Not married	81.18
Currently in school	
No	41.79
Yes	58.21
Currently employed	
No	43.44
Yes	56.56

Experience of IPV in last 12 months (n=574)



*p < 0.05

HIV testing, status, & risk perception

		Percent
HIV test in last 12 months		
	No	9.85
	Yes	90.15
HIV status at last test		
	HIV positive	3.29
	HIV negative	87.19
	DK/No response	9.53
HIV+ status by marital status*		
	Married	8.72
	Unmarried	2.02
Likelihood of HIV exposure (n=914)		
	Very likely or somewhat likely	20.40
	Unlikely or not at all	79.60
Likelihood of HIV exposure by marital status		
	Married	25.58
	Unmarried	19.18

*p < 0.05

STI symptoms

		Percent (n=565)
Experience of STI symptoms in last 6 months		
	No	76.28
	Yes	23.72
STI symptoms by marital status*		
	Married	39.58
	Unmarried	25.24
STI symptoms by exp. of sexual violence*		
	No	20.86
	Yes	37.36
STI symptoms by exp. of physical violence*		
	No	21.27
	Yes	21.75

*p < 0.05

Sexual IPV & Association with HIV Risk

- AGYW who experienced sexual IPV more likely to perceive themselves at higher risk for HIV
 - OR_{adj} : 2.44 [1.54-3.84]
- AGYW who experienced sexual IPV had increased odds of an STI symptom
 - OR_{adj} : 2.23 [1.34-3.69]

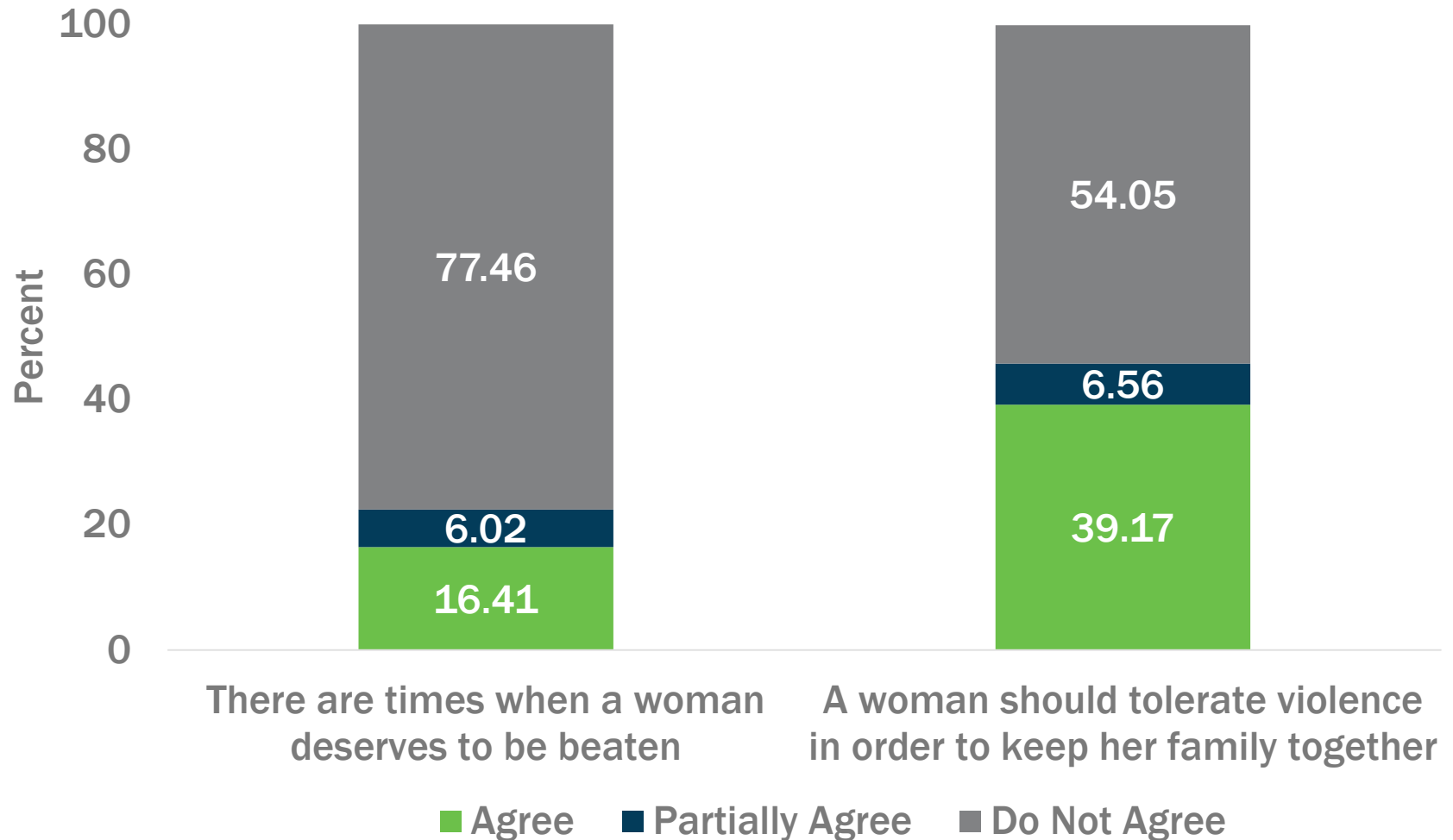
Controlling for socio-demographic characteristics (incl. age, marital status, schooling)

Sought post-violence care services

		Percent
Sought services, counselling or other help for violence treatment, support and/or prevention in the past year		(n=911)
	No	85.51
	Yes	14.49
Sought post-violence care services by marital status		
	Married	18.02
	Unmarried	13.67
Sought help after experiencing sexual violence		(n=574)
	No	98.08
	Yes	1.92
Sought help after sexual violence by marital status*		
	Married	4.88
	Unmarried	1.11

*p < 0.05

Norms around IPV (n=914)



Social support

		Percent
Safe place to meet with other girls in community?		(n=913)
	No	35.38%
	Yes	64.62%
An adult woman in the community you can usually go to with problems?		(n=914)
	No	39.50%
	Yes	60.50%

Early implications...

- Experience of sexual and physical violence is high among married AGYW
- Experience of sexual violence from intimate partner is associated with increased HIV risk
- Low rates of GBV care seeking services
 - Quality and accessibility of services for AGYW?
- Screening for physical & sexual violence and provision of post-violence care is critical
 - need for system-wide integration—esp. within HIV prevention programs & ANC settings
- Innovative approaches might be needed to tap into social norms that don't support GBV & girls' existing social support networks to prevent GBV and link to care

Acknowledgements

- Funder: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Research Team: Nanlesta Pilgrim, Jerry Okal, Nrupa Jani, James Matheka, and Julie Pulerwitz + research assistants
- Implementing Partner Team: APHIA plus/PATH

© 2017 The Population Council. All rights reserved.

**Use of these materials is permitted only for noncommercial purposes.
The following full source citation must be included:**

Sanyukta Mathur. 2017. "Experience of violence and association with HIV risk among young Kenyan women in the context of the DREAMS Initiative," PowerPoint slides. Washington, DC: Population Council.

This presentation may contain materials owned by others. User is responsible for obtaining permissions for use from third parties as needed.