



Acceptance of Intimate Partner Violence across 49 low- and middle-income countries: A multi-level approach to prevention

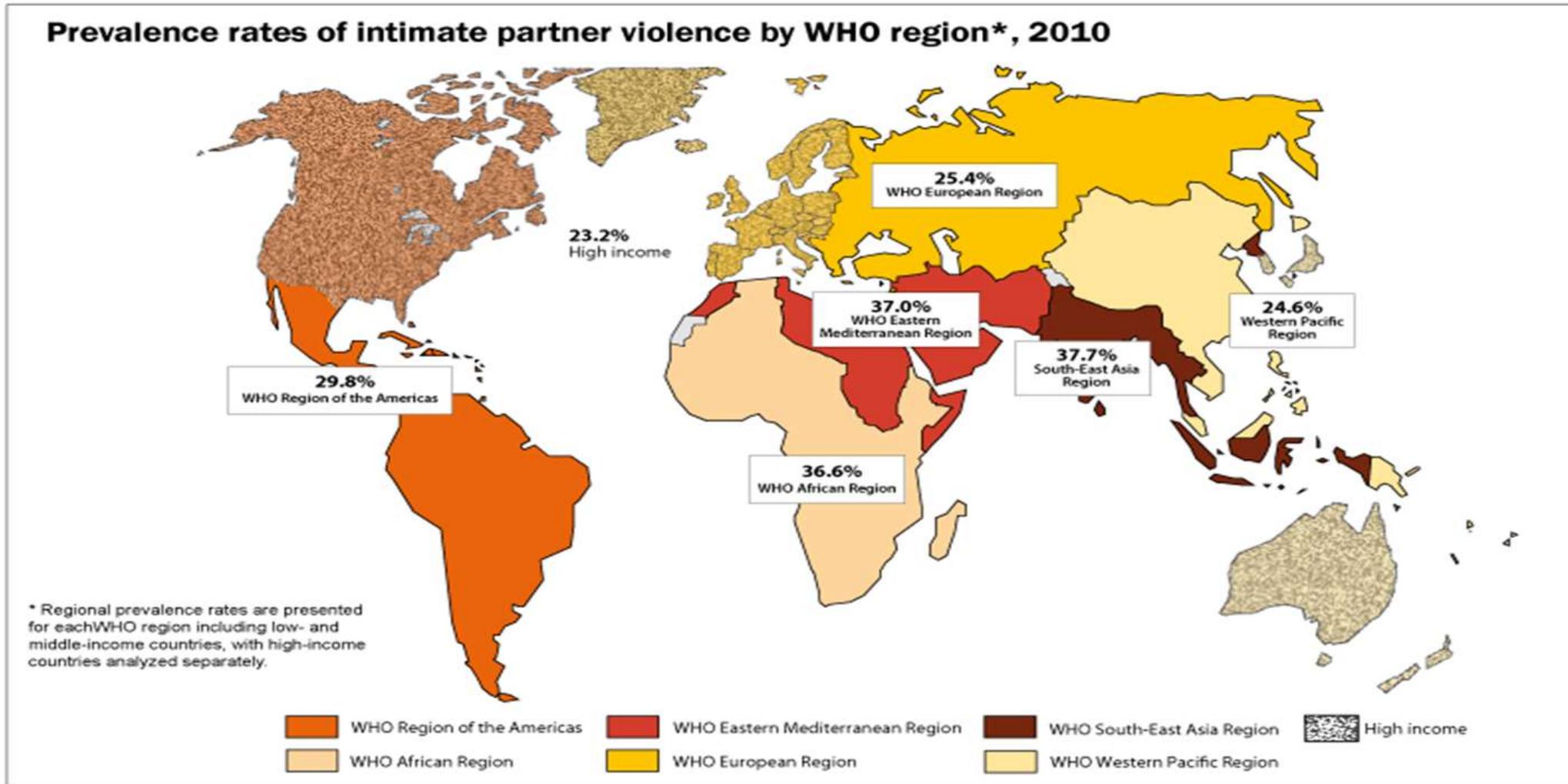
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30% globally have experienced physical &/or sexual violence by an intimate partner



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Data Source: *Global and regional estimates of violence against women*. WHO, 2013.

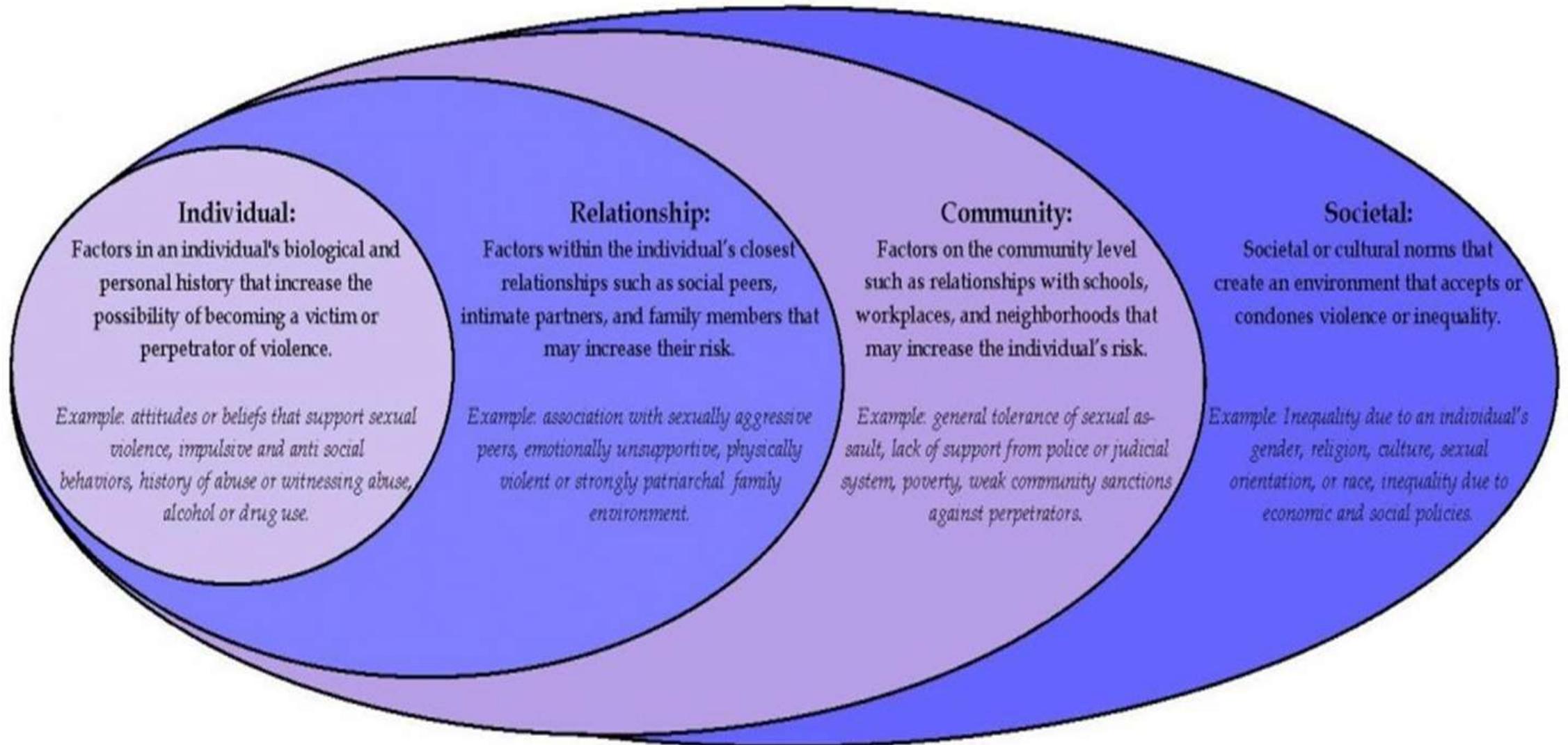
Identifying upstream factors: Key to prevention

Attitudes justifying IPV are widely evidenced as one of the strongest predictors of:

- Perpetration of intimate partner violence
- Disclosure and help-seeking by women experiencing intimate partner violence
- Response of professionals to survivors (and perpetrators) of intimate partner violence

Most studies to date have focused on individual and/or household level attitudes to IPV

Social-Ecological Framework (Heise 1998,2011; Hagemann-White, 2010)





Key Research Questions

- 1. What is the prevalence and distribution of attitudes among women and men justifying domestic violence across LMICs?**
- 2. Do economic, social and political empowerment factors explain variations in women's and men's attitudes to IPV by countries?**
- 3. To what extent are variations in women's and men's attitudes explained by country- and individual-level factors?**



Attitudes and IPV prevention: Addressing research gaps

Gender differences in the pattern and distribution of attitudes justifying IPV across countries and **geographic regions**

Systemic economic, social and political empowerment predictors of **societal** attitudes to IPV alongside individual-level risk factors



Sample Description

Countries with **Demographic and Health Survey (DHS)** data on both women's and men's attitudes included on study

- **Level 2 (Country) N= 49**
 - Regions N=533
 - Clusters N=29, 240
- **Level 1 (Individuals) N = 1, 174, 894**
 - Women= 775, 024
 - Men= 399,084

Sample representative of 2.5 billion of world population

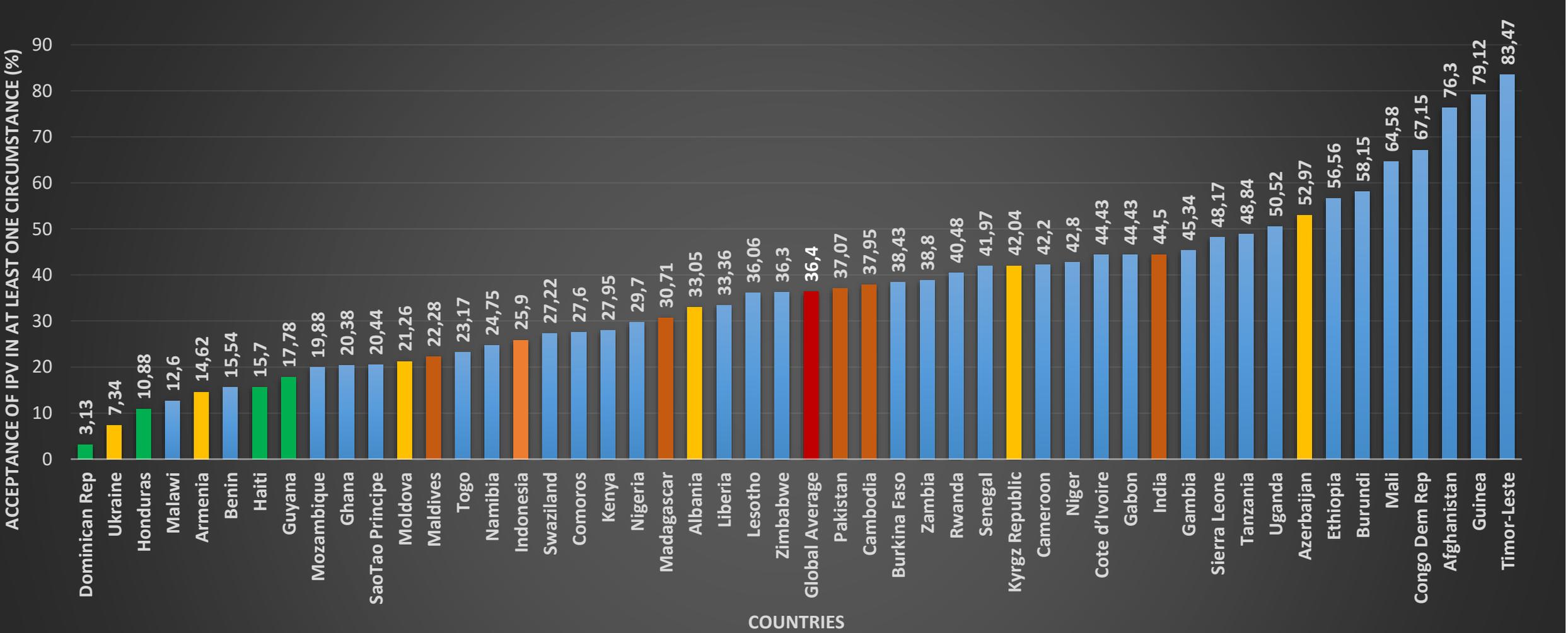
Measurement of IPV Attitudes

“Sometimes a husband/partner is annoyed or angered by things that his wife/partner does. In your opinion, is a husband/partner justified in hitting or beating his wife/partner in the following situations:

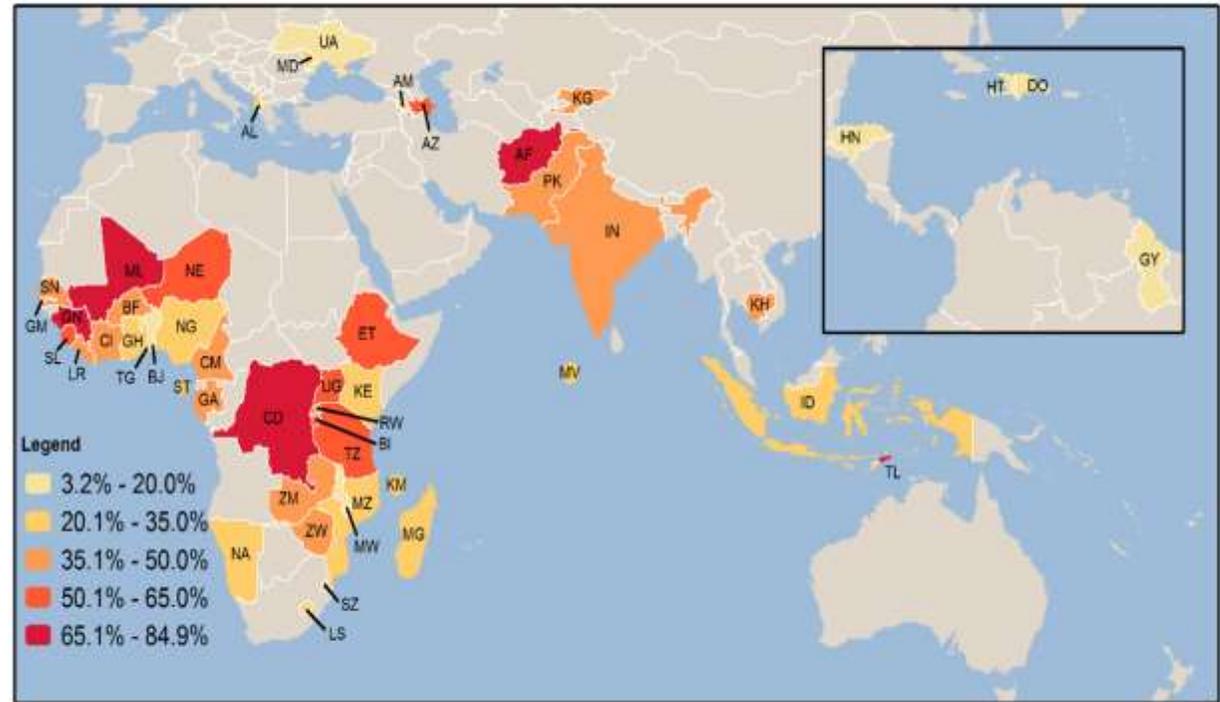
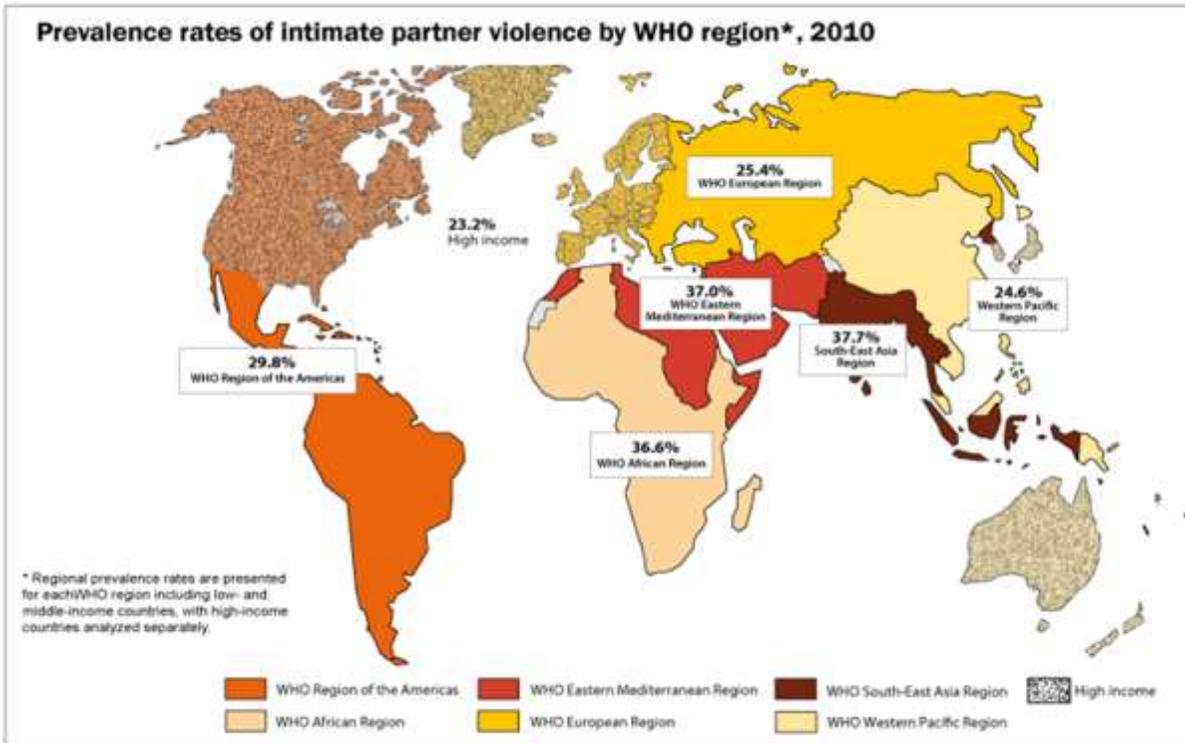
- If she goes out without telling him
- If she neglects the children
- If she argues with him
- If she refuses to have sex with him
- If she burns the food”

Outcome variables: Acceptance of IPV in any one situation
Attitudes to IPV scale ($\alpha=.89$)

IPV Acceptance across the 49 Low- and Middle-Income Countries (weighted)



🌟 At a glance: Prevalence and Acceptance of IPV

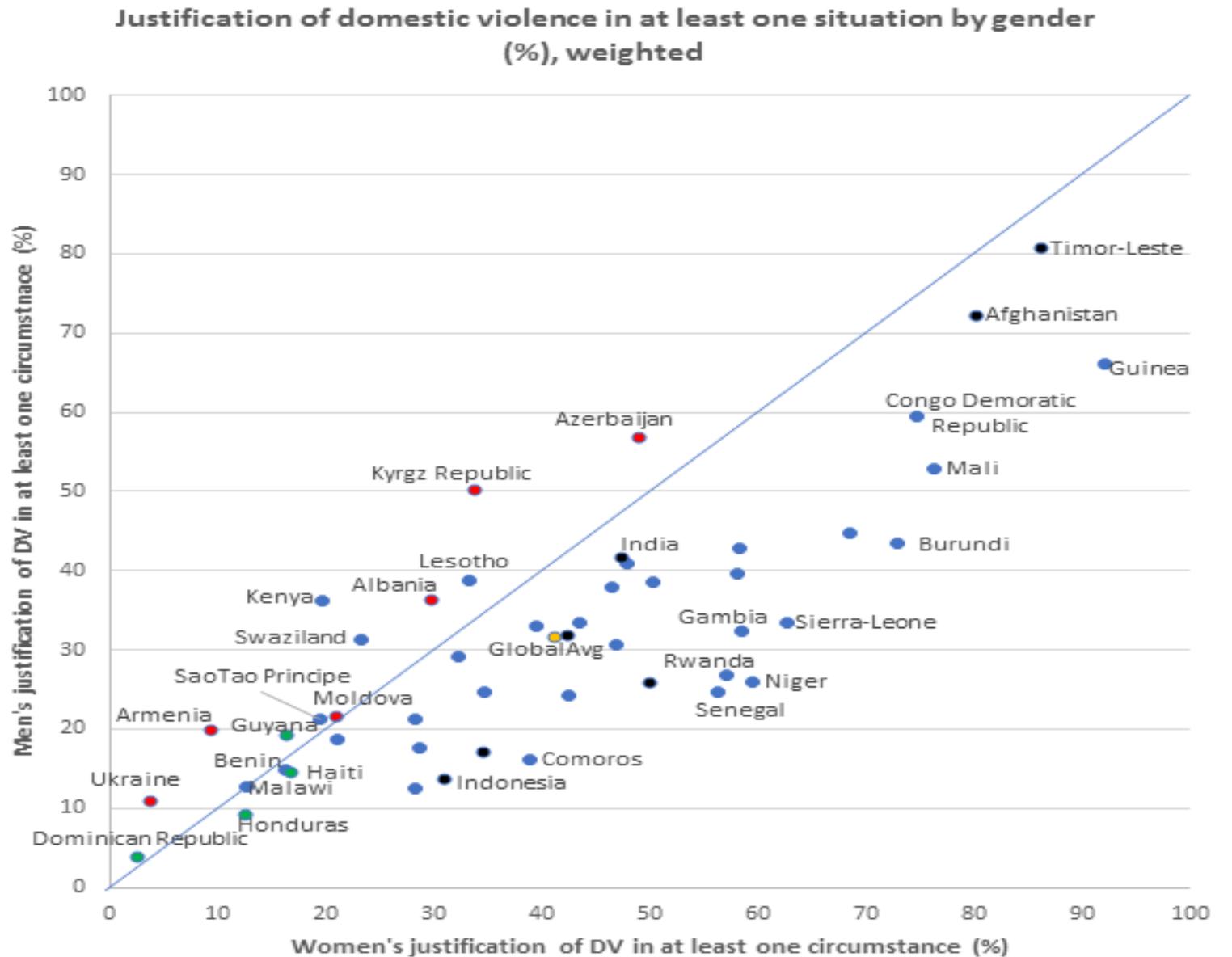


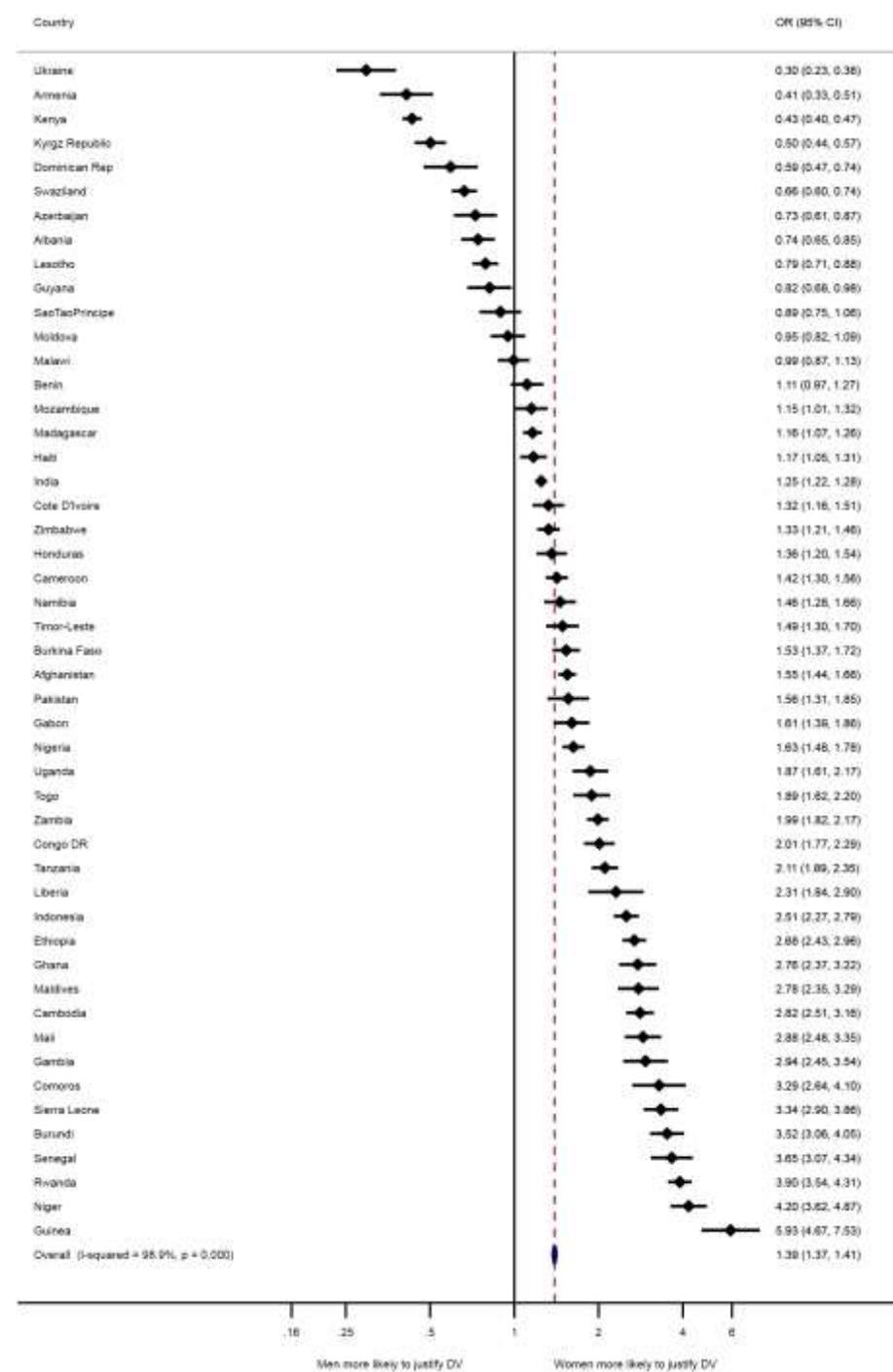
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Data Source: Global and regional estimates of violence against women. WHO, 2013.

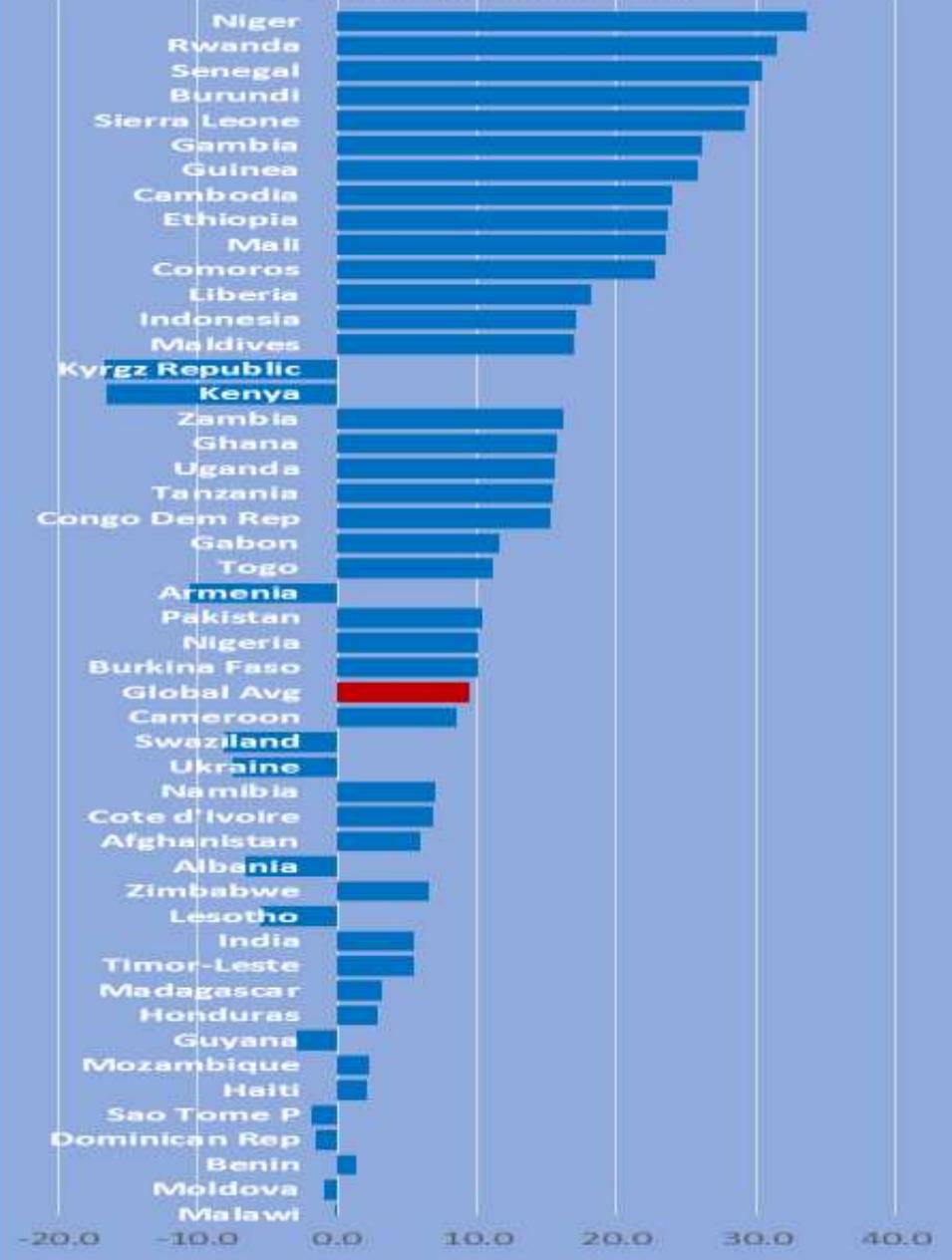


Country-level IPV Acceptance by Gender





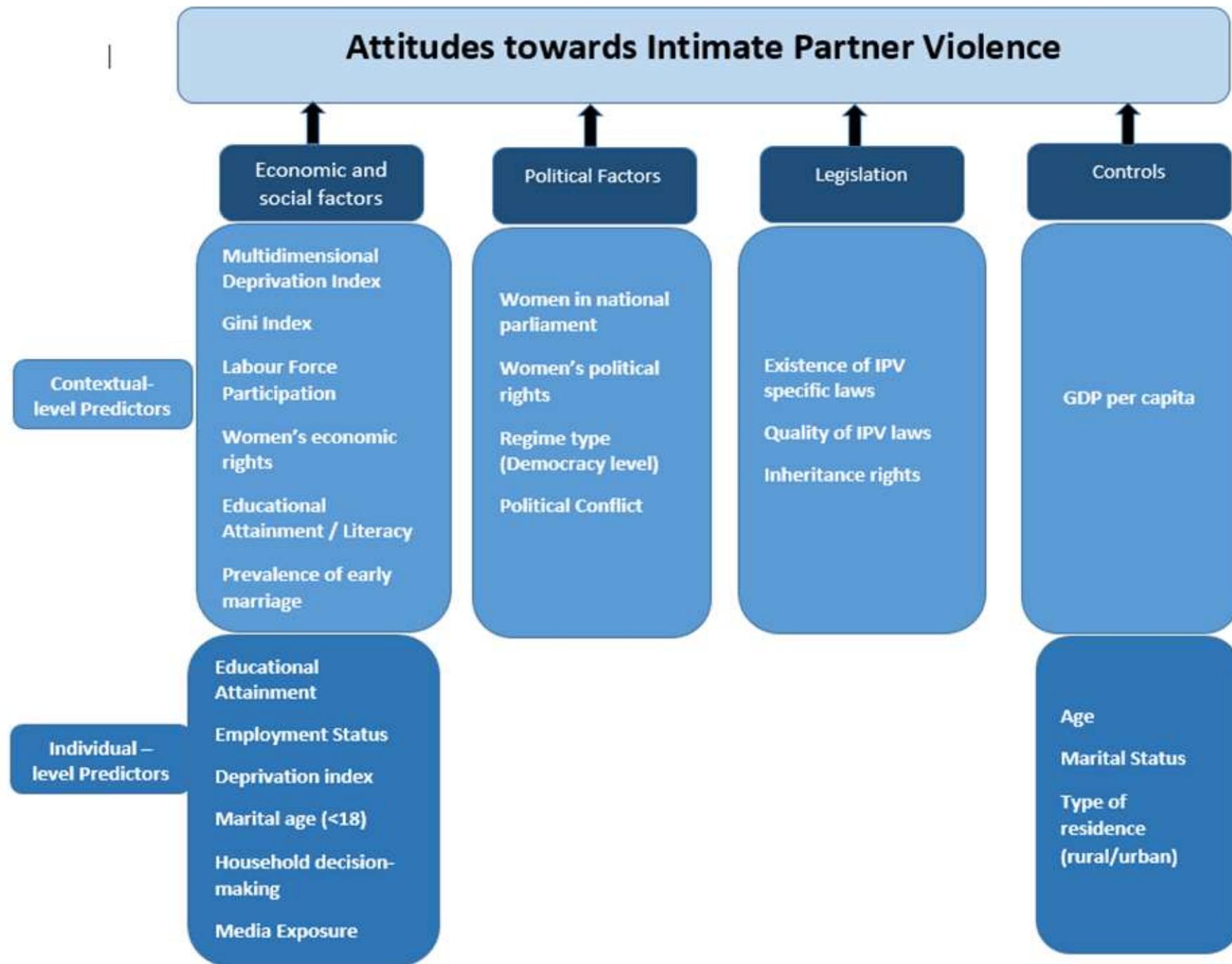
Larger proportion of women justified IPV in most countries



🔥 Prevalence of IPV acceptance: Key Points

- IPV acceptance more widespread in Sub-Saharan Africa and South and South-East Asia compared with Central Europe and LAC
- Gender differences in IPV acceptance in at least one scenario was statistically significant in 45 of the 49 countries
- In 36 of the 49 countries a larger proportion of women had violence accepting attitudes compared to men
- Gender differences were statistically significant across geographical regions with a larger proportion of women justifying violence in South (East) Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa and the LAC.





Meta-database: Sources and construction

ECONOMIC FACTORS

- Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (Bristol Measure)
- UNDP
- IMF World Economic Database
- ILO Key Indicators of the Labour Market (KILM) 7th Edition
- Cingranelli-Richards Human Rights Database (CIRI)

SOCIAL FACTORS

- UNESCO UIS
- UNICEF Global database
- Gender Statistics database
- DHS

POLITICAL FACTORS

- Inter-Parliamentary Union
- Women Stats Database
- Women Business and the Law
- Unified Democracy Score
- Centre for Systemic Peace
- Armed Conflict Location and Event Data
- Quality of Governance data

- DHS

Table 3. National-level economic, social and political predictors of women's and men's acceptance of domestic violence: Multiple linear regression.

	Women		Men	
	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4
Multidimensional deprivation score	.202* (.019 .386)	-.072 (-.290 .146)	-.008 (-.113 .098)	-.085 (-.227 .058)
Inequality Index (Gini)	-.013 (-.029 .003)	-.009 (-.023 .005)	-.008 (-.017 .001)	-.007 (-.016 .002)
Women's economic rights	-.351* (-.657 -.048)	-.335** (-.597 -.074)	-.177* (-.352 -.002)	-.173* (-.344 -.001)
Existence and quality of DV law	.042 (-.041 .124)	.016 (-.056 .088)	.021 (-.026 .068)	.013 (-.034 .061)
Democracy Score	-.147 (-.602 .308)	-.275 (-.671 .122)	-.262* (-.0523 -.001)	-.298* (-.558 -.038)
Women's political rights	-.645 (-1.390 .099)	-.406 (-1.058 .246)	-.169 (-.596 .258)	-.102 (-.529 .325)
Seats held by women in national parliament	.028* (.007 .048)	.025** (.009 .194)	.007 (-.005 .018)	.006 (-.006 .018)
Political conflict	.069 (-.025 .190)	.101** (.008 .043)	.073* (.011 .134)	.078* (.017 .139)
Female literacy rates	-	-1.760*** (-2.727 -.793)	-	-.495 (-1.129 .139)
BIC used by Stata	99.199	88.113	50.277	50.920
Adjusted R squared	.456	.600	.385	.411

NOTE: The Attitudes to DV scale is the outcome variable; The unstandardised beta coefficients and the 95% CI are presented.

***p < .001

** p < .01

*p < .05;

Based on significance and model fit female primary, secondary and tertiary education, and female labour force participation were not included in final model.

🔥 Acceptance of IPV: Multivariate Regression

	Women		Men	
	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4
Country Multidimensional Deprivation Score	.202* [.019 .386]	-.072 [-.290 .146]	-.008 [-.113 .098]	-.085 [-.227 .058]
Women's economic rights	-.351* [-.657 -.048]	-.335** [-.597 -.074]	-.177* [-.352 -.002]	-.173* [-.344 -.001]
Quality of IPV law	.042 [-.041 .124]	.016 [-.056 .088]	.021 [-.026 -.068]	.013 [-.034 .061]
Democracy Score	-.147 [-.602 .308]	-.275 [-.671 .122]	-.262* [-.0523 -.001]	-.298* [-.558 -.038]
Parliamentary seats(women)	.028* [.007 .048]	.101** [.009 .194]	.007 [-.005 .018]	.006 [-.006 .018]
Conflict area	.069** [.025 .190]	.025** [.008 .043]	.073* [.011 .134]	.078* [.017 .139]
National Female Literacy rates	-	-1.760*** [-2.727 -.793]	-	-.495 [-1.129 .139]
BIC used by Stata	99.199	88.113	50.277	50.920

National-level predictors of IPV acceptance

Women

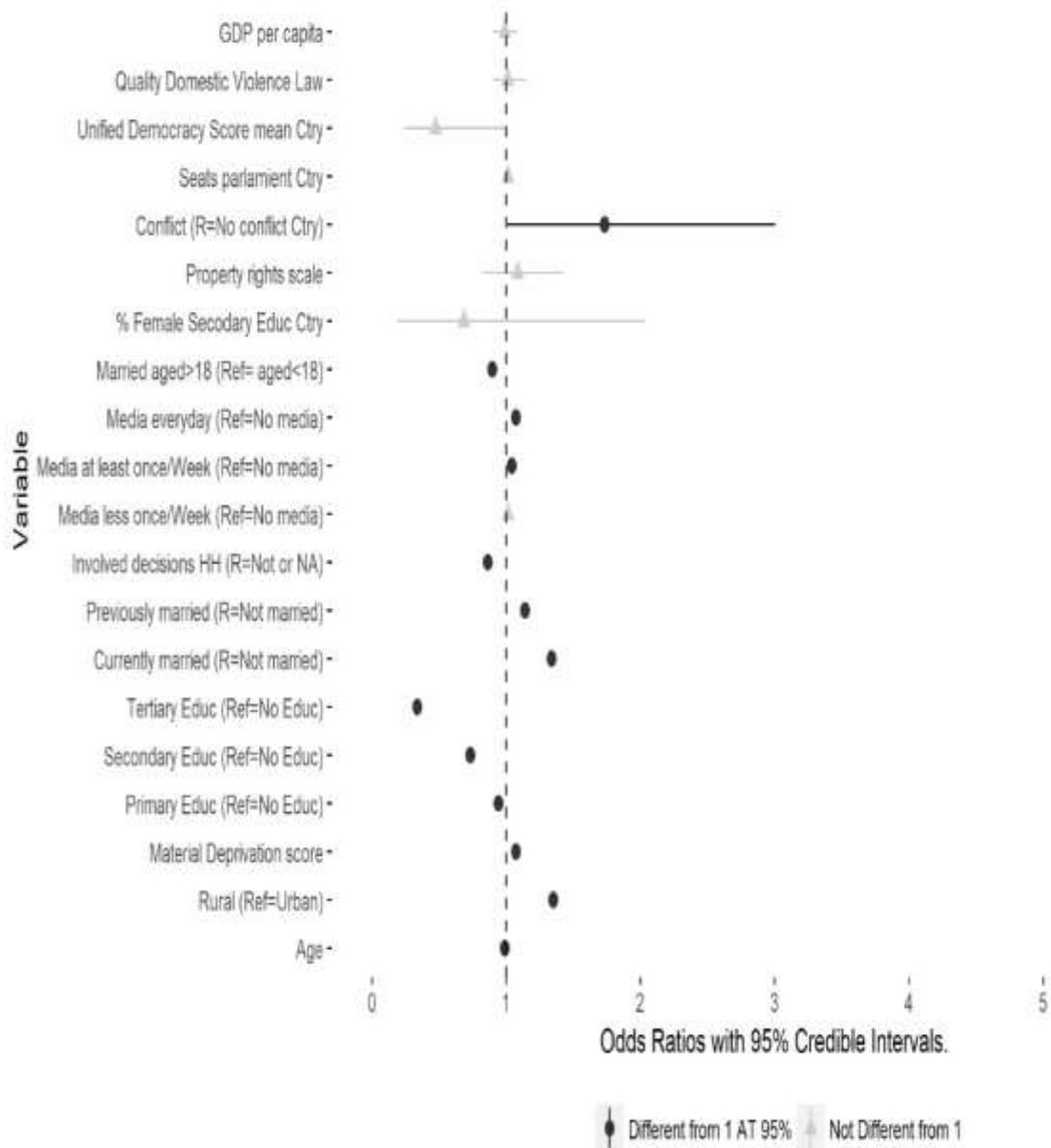
- Multidimensional deprivation (+)
- National female literacy rates (+)
- Women's economic rights (+)
- *Seats in national parliament (-)*
- Political Conflict in the past 5 years (+)

Men

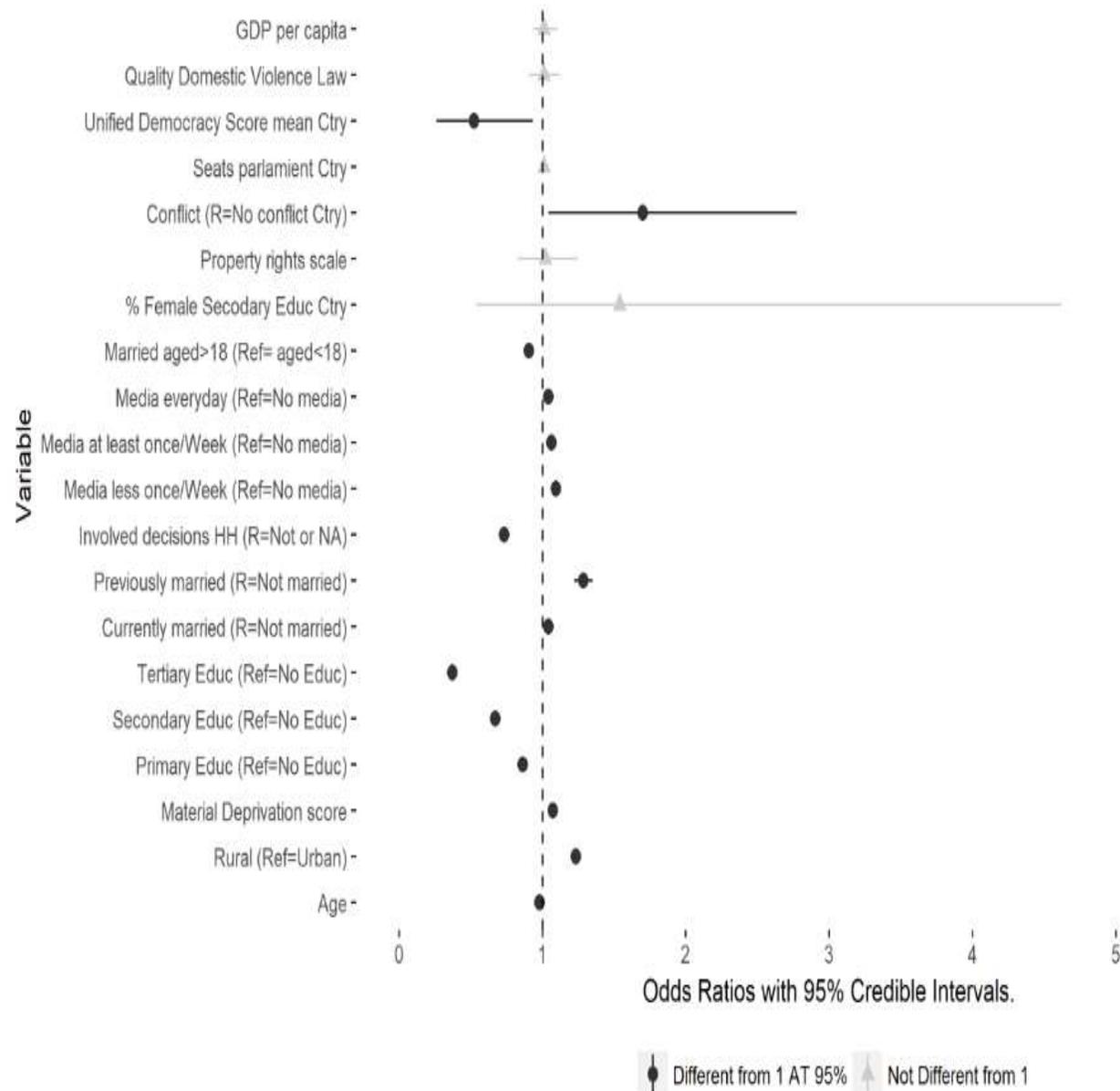
- Country's democracy levels (-)
- Political Conflict in the past 5 years (+)

Hierarchical models of ever-justifying IPV

Binary Model (Acceptance v Not Acceptance). Females. Hierarchical Models.



Binary Model (Acceptance v Not Acceptance). Males. Hierarchical Models.



Individual-level risk factors for IPV acceptance

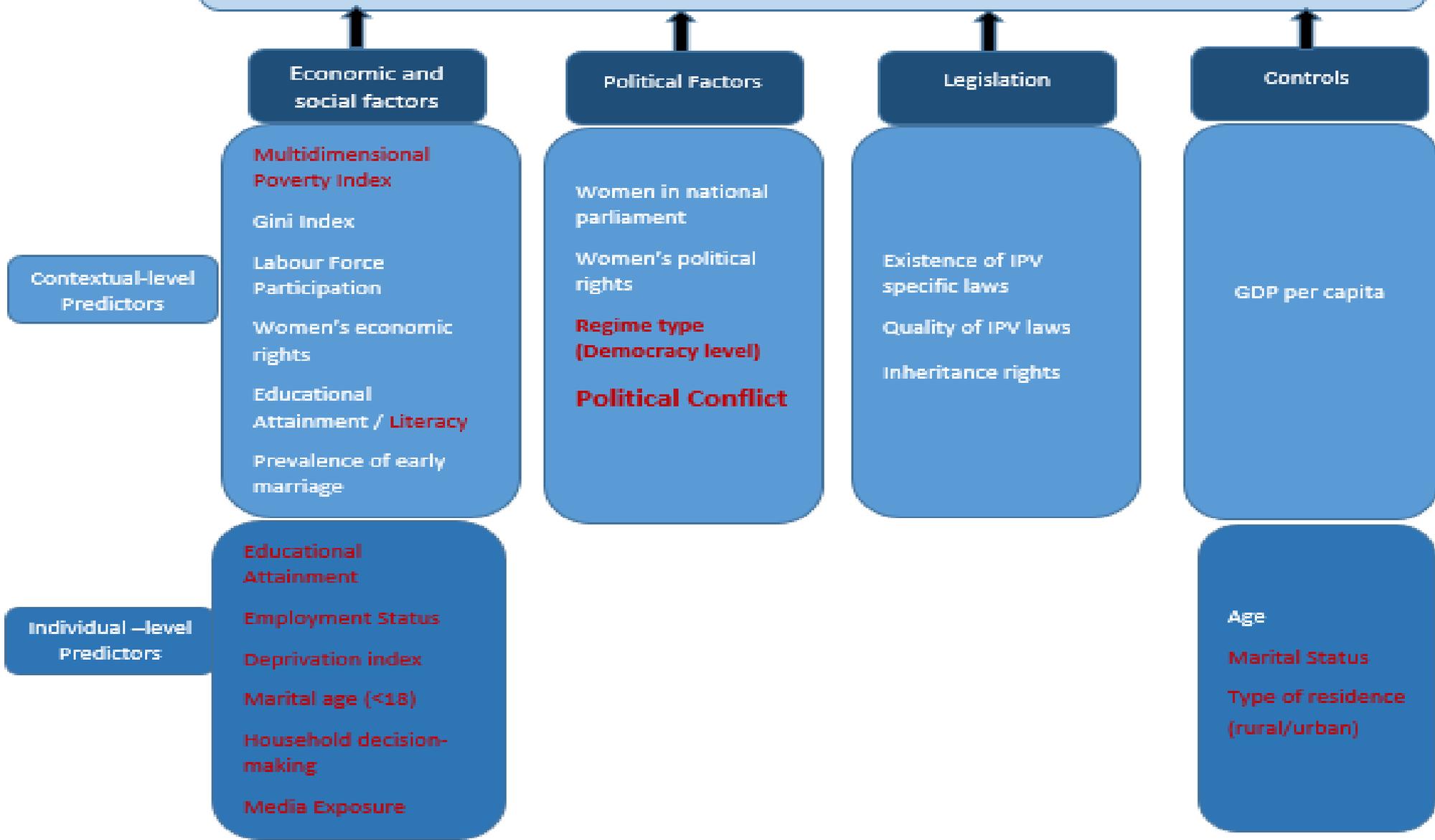
Women

- Multidimensional deprivation
- No education
- Marital Age <18
- Not involved in household decision-making
- **Media Exposure**
- Rural residence

Men

- Multidimensional deprivation
- No education
- Marital Age <18
- Partner not involved in household decision-making
- **Media Exposure**
- Rural residence

Attitudes towards Intimate Partner Violence



STRENGTHS

- The largest population-based study across geographical regions
- Gendered analyses of IPV attitudes
- Drew on diverse metadata on conducting robust quality checks
- Development of a harmonised international meta-database

LIMITATIONS

- Cross-sectional data so cannot establish causality
- Constrained by availability and quality of meta-data
- Limitations of existing IPV attitudinal data and measurement

Key messages for prevention research and policy

- Multi-level (socio-ecological) and multi-sectoral approach to IPV primary
- Systemic social, economic and political empowerment indicators do not appear to have a consistent direct influence of the societal acceptance of IPV and discriminatory gender norms
- Political conflict was the strongest population-level predictor for IPV acceptance
- Complex relationship between legislation and IPV acceptance that warrants further research
- Gender norms might have an even stronger influence at the neighbourhood-level and warrants further research



Next Steps...

Do neighbourhoods matter? Country- cluster- and individual effects on attitudes towards intimate partner violence in low- and middle-income countries

- ❖ Spatial Analyses and mapping of neighbourhoods and regions to identify 'hotspots'
- ❖ Cluster-level social, economic and political predictors of IPV acceptance
- ❖ Pathway analyses of IPV legislation and attitudes to IPV

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Merci beaucoup
Merci beaucoup
الواجب
ي الله على

ありがとうございます

Спасибо

Thank you

Mahalo

ARRIGATO

Tak

Vielen Dank

inmuchas gracias!

Salamat

धन्यवाद

GRACIAS

ευχαριστία

