



WhatWorks

TO PREVENT VIOLENCE

A Global Programme to Prevent  
Violence Against Women and Girls



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# Men talking about perpetrating non-partner sexual violence in South Sudan

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The Global  
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Defending dignity.  
Fighting poverty.



**“NO SAFE PLACE:  
A LIFETIME OF VIOLENCE FOR  
CONFLICT-AFFECTED WOMEN  
AND GIRLS IN SOUTH SUDAN”**



**What Works**  
TO PREVENT VIOLENCE  
Violence Against Women and Girls  
in Conflict and Humanitarian Crisis



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**Care**

# Objective



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To examine the prevalence, circumstances and characteristics of non-partner sexual violence against women and girls from the male perspective in South Sudan

# Methods

## Population-based household survey:

2244 women

481 men

## Qualitative research:

Participatory FGDs and In-depth Interviews with key stakeholders, survivors and community members.  
Over 500 participants



# SOUTH SUDAN



Undetermined boundary  
Abyei region

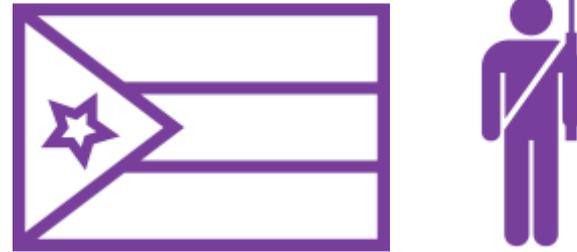


100 km

OCHA

# Three Conflicts

- Civil War 1983-2005



- Crisis 2013 - 2017



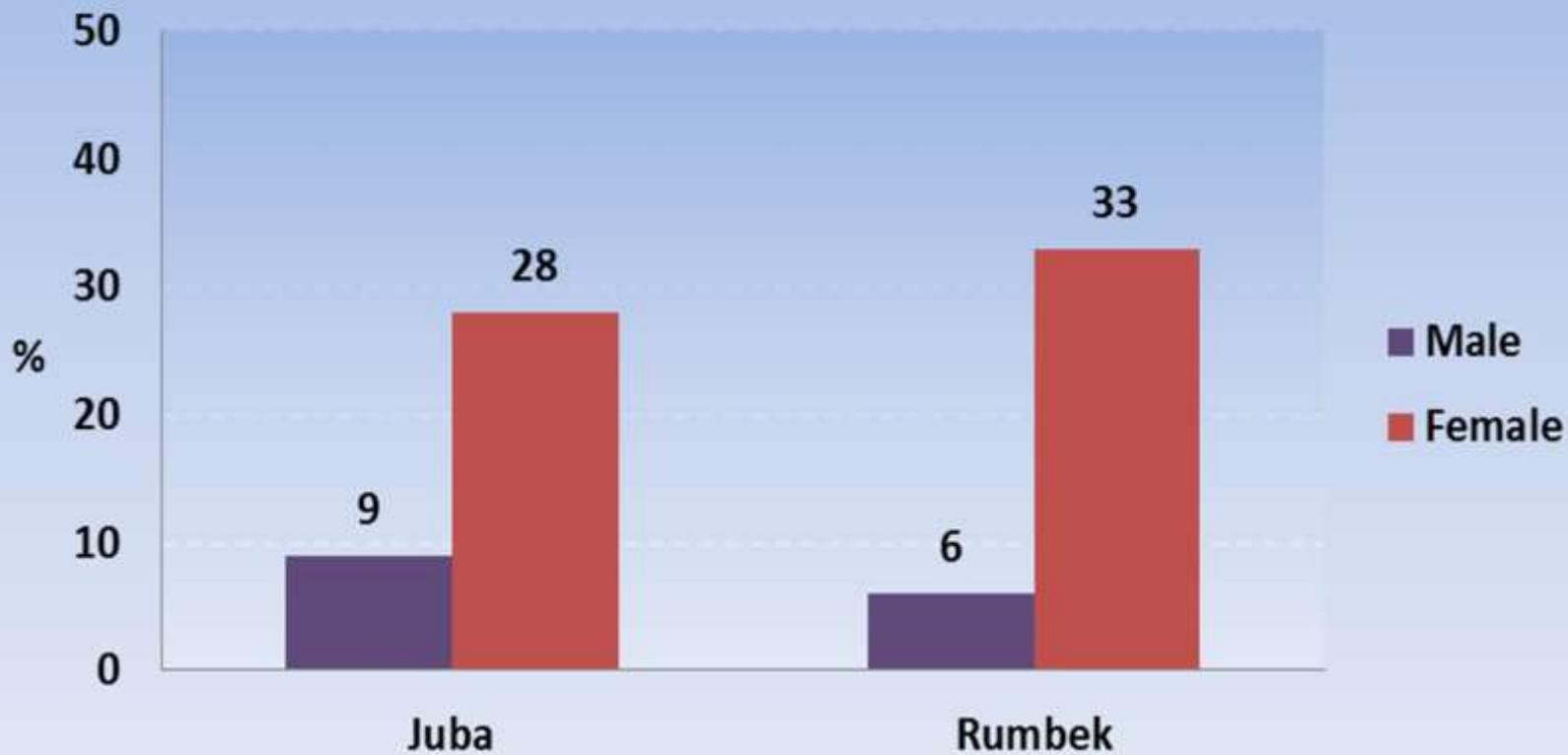
- Intercommunal attacks



# Defining non-partner sexual violence (NPSV)

- Rape and attempted rape.
- Touched sexually or something sexual that the person did not want to.
- Forced to undress or stripped off the clothing.
- Not included: sexual harassment and transactional sex.

## Prevalence non-partner sexual violence ever in South Sudan by site and sex

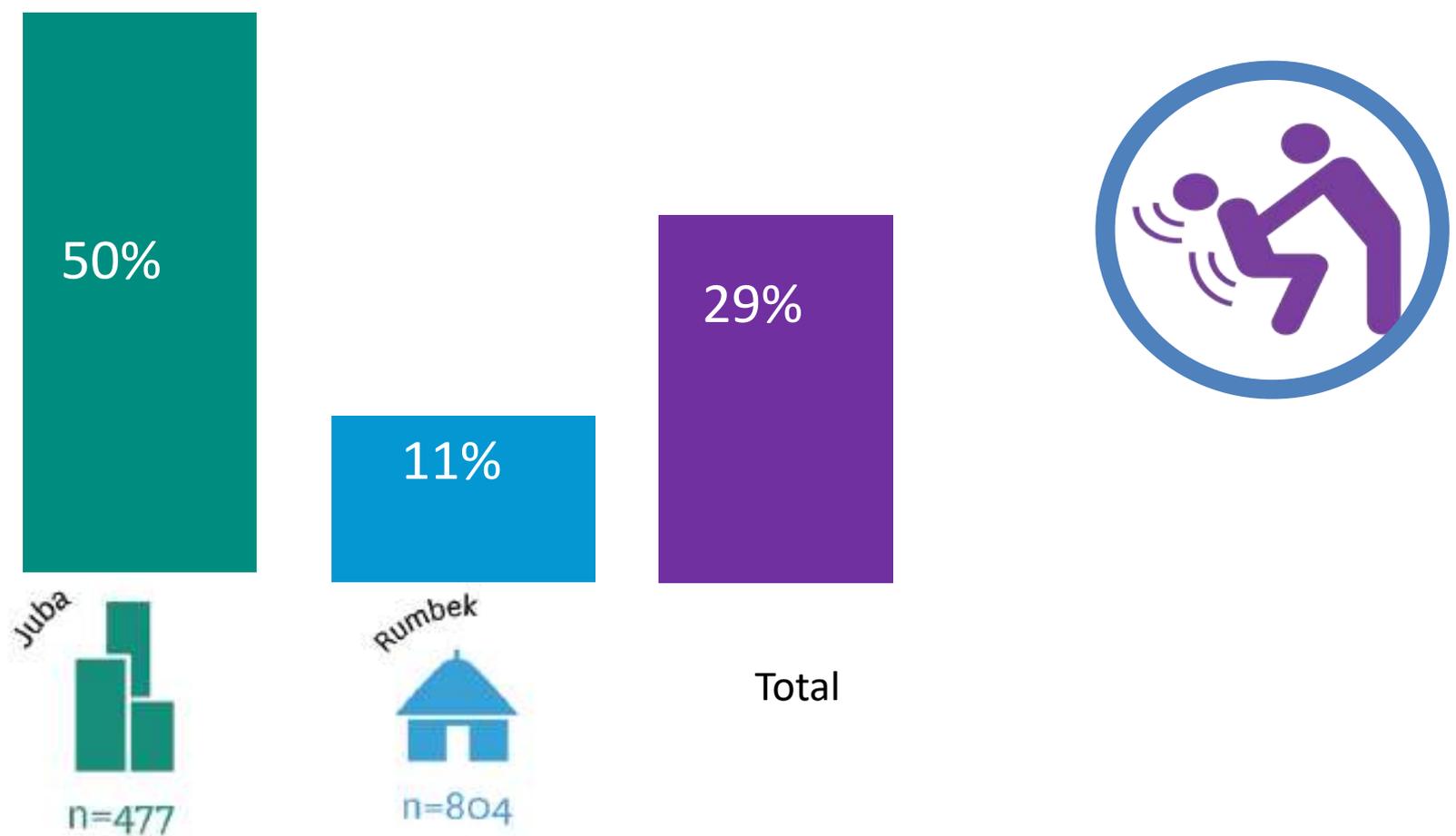


# Men victims of NPSV

- 1% raped (compared to 6% of women in Juba and 17% in Rumbek).
- 1 out of 3 men associated the abuse with conflict.
- Perpetrators armed actors (15%), family members (15%), members of other tribes (10%), friends (10%).
- 40% disclosed the situation. Male family member.

# Perpetration of non-partner sexual violence

## Sexual assault against women by non-partners



# Perpetration of non-partner sexual violence

- Rape 14% in Juba and 7% in Rumbek.
- 93% of cases the victim was a woman.
- More than 40% perpetrated before 20 years old. 7% under 15 years old.
- 30% did it with someone.
- 60% more than once.

# Reasons

- In Juba: wanted to have sex (88%), for having fun (45%), being bored (23%).
- In Rumbek: because other men were doing it (83%), wanted to have sex (73%), because the victim was the enemy (67%), being bored (43%).
- In Rumbek, 55% said perpetration was associated by the inter-communal conflict.
- Almost half of total men blamed women for being raped.

# Perpetration of non-partner sexual violence

*The rape cases are common among the young men. The girls are raped by their boyfriends or even somebody they didn't know.*

- Men in Juba County

*It is not rape for me; it's an agreement because the woman could have screamed for help from the community.*

- Young Men in Juba County

*Women are also raped by men whenever the women induce them with their dresses.*

- Men in Juba

# Perpetration of non-partner sexual violence

*During the crisis rape was too much. Women, girls, children and even old women were raped by men.*

- Men in Juba

*Women are sexually abused, killed, tortured and raped by young men in...inter-communal clashes among communities. It is difficult to control because those who did it were gun men.*

- Male Key Informant in Rumbek

# Increased risk of perpetration of NPSV if...

**Regular partner but not living together**

**OR 8.7 (3.4 - 22.5) \*\*\***

**Polygamy relationship**

**OR 5.1 (2.7 - 9.5) \*\*\***

**Victim NPSV**

**OR 3.1 (1.5 - 6.1) \*\*\***

**Seriously injured during conflict**

**OR 2.5 (1.0 - 6.4) \*\***

**Attitude: “women should tolerate violence to keep family together”**

**OR 1.6 (0.9 - 2.8) \***

# Conclusions

- Men and boys are willing to report experiences of violence, both as victims and perpetrators.
- While rates of SVAMB are high, women and girls bear a much larger share of violence based on gender across South Sudan.
- Men involved in patriarchal norms and practices since early ages independently of their socio-economic background that result in NPSV.
- Reasons:
  - Masculinity identity: “natural/biological” need combined with the “right” to commit sexual acts against women.
  - War strategy.
- Need to address patriarchal norms that perpetuate violence against women and the consequences for men of experience conflict and NPSV.



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