

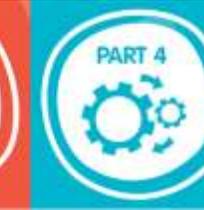
Sustained Effectiveness of the Communities Care Program to Change Social Norms about Gender-based Violence in Somalia and South Sudan

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Communities Care Toolkit

- UNICEF developed Communities Care as a GBV primary prevention and response intervention in humanitarian context
 - Focus on strengthening positive social norms that protect women and girls from violence
 - Emphasis placed on strengthening health, psychosocial, education, security and justice systems for the provision of community-based care and support
 - Guided community discussion groups
 - Members spread positive messages through collective community action
- Partnered with in-country NGO's (CISP in Somalia and Voices for Change in South Sudan) to implement Communities Care
- JHU partnered with CISP, Voices for Change and UNICEF to evaluate the implementation



Overall Program Strategy

Multi-sectoral:

- Health
- Psychosocial
- Education
- Police
- Justice
- Peacebuilding

Strengthening of formal & informal community-based multi-sectoral response services, through addressing social norms reflected by service providers and institutions

Community engagement & action for prevention using a social norms perspective

Reduced victimization & perpetration of GBV & greater access & use of survivor-centered multi-sectoral services

PART 1



PART 2



PART 3



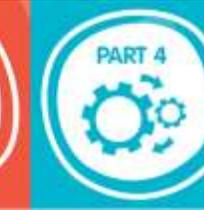
PART 4



Strengthening of formal & informal community-based multi-sectoral response services, addressing social norms reflected by service providers and institutions

Key activities:

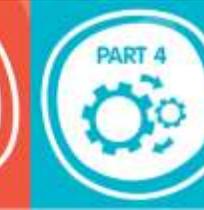
- Mapping multi-sector services to address gaps and bottlenecks
- Capacity development and mentoring of health, psychosocial, education, police, justice sectors to:
 - Ensure referral mechanisms are in place
 - Reinforce survivor-centered care
 - Address availability and access
 - Improve safety and security associated with reporting/disclosing GBV
 - Promote understanding of the benefits of care
 - Build the community's trust in service providers



Community
engagement &
action for
prevention using
a social norms
perspective

Key activities:

- Mapping of opinion leaders/networks to understand ways to transmit messages
- Guided community discussion groups about GBV with diverse stakeholders using the CC toolkit
- Discussion group members decide on collective public actions to prevent GBV
- Building in-country capacity to develop and mentor community discussion leaders to facilitate the discussion groups and implementation of the community actions



Design of Impact Evaluation

- Randomized community based trial in Somalia and South Sudan
 - Communities were randomized to CC intervention or control
- Longitudinal design (baseline, midline, endline) assessments
 - Adult women and men not participating in the discussion groups were randomly sampled in both intervention and control communities
- Added at fourth data point at 2 years after endline to examine the sustained effects of the program
 - Same community members that participated in original randomized trial



Impact Evaluation Main Outcomes

- Change in social norms and personal beliefs towards sexual violence and other forms of GBV
 - Social Norms and Beliefs about Gender Based Violence Scale
 - Protecting Family Honor and Preventing Stigma (5 items)
 - Husbands' Right to Use Violence with his Wife (4 items)
 - Response to Sexual Violence (6 items)
 - Confidence in service providers
 - Gender Equality (4 items) – secondary outcome

Perrin N, Marsh M, Clough A, Desgroppes A, Yope C, Abdi A, Kaburu F, Heitmann S, Yamashina M, Ross B, Read-Hamilton S, Turner R, Heise L, Glass N. Social norms and beliefs about gender based violence scale: a measure for use with gender based violence prevention programs in low-resource and humanitarian settings. *Conflict and Health* 2019; 13(6).



Main Outcome Findings - Somalia

- General community sample to examine the spread of the CC messages from the CC participants to the larger community
- Community members in the intervention district had a significantly greater improvement in social norms than residents in the control district
 - Protecting Family Honor (Effect Size=0.70)
 - Husbands' Right to Use Violence with his Wife (Effect Size=0.38)
 - Negative Response to Sexual Violence (Effect Size=0.28)
 - Confidence in Service Providers (Effect Size=0.67)

Glass N, Perrin N, Marsh M, Clough A, Desgropes A, Kaburu F, Ross B, Read-Hamilton S. Effectiveness of the Communities Care programme on change in social norms associated with gender-based violence (GBV) with residents in intervention compared with control districts in Mogadishu, Somalia. *BMJ Open* 2019



Testing effects at 4 years post baseline - Somalia

	Baseline	2 years	4 years
Intervention	163	143	155
Control	167	133	160

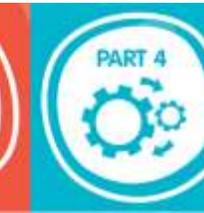
- 51.8% Female
- Age
 - 15-24 - 30.1%
 - 25-44 - 43.0%
 - 45+ - 26.9%



Sustained Effects for Positive Change in Personal Beliefs



	Effect Size 2 years	Effect Size 4 years
Response to Sexual Violence	0.28	0.35
Protecting Family Honor	0.70	0.53
Husbands' Right to Discipline Wife	0.38	0.51
Confidence in Service Providers	0.67	0.26





Those that heard CC messages had more positive change in personal beliefs at 4 years than those that did not hear CC messages

	No N=168	Yes N=144	p-value
Response to Sexual Violence	3.29	3.45	.014
Protecting Family Honor	2.56	2.99	<.001
Gender Equality	2.31	2.76	<.001
Husbands' Right to Discipline Wife	2.70	3.09	<.001

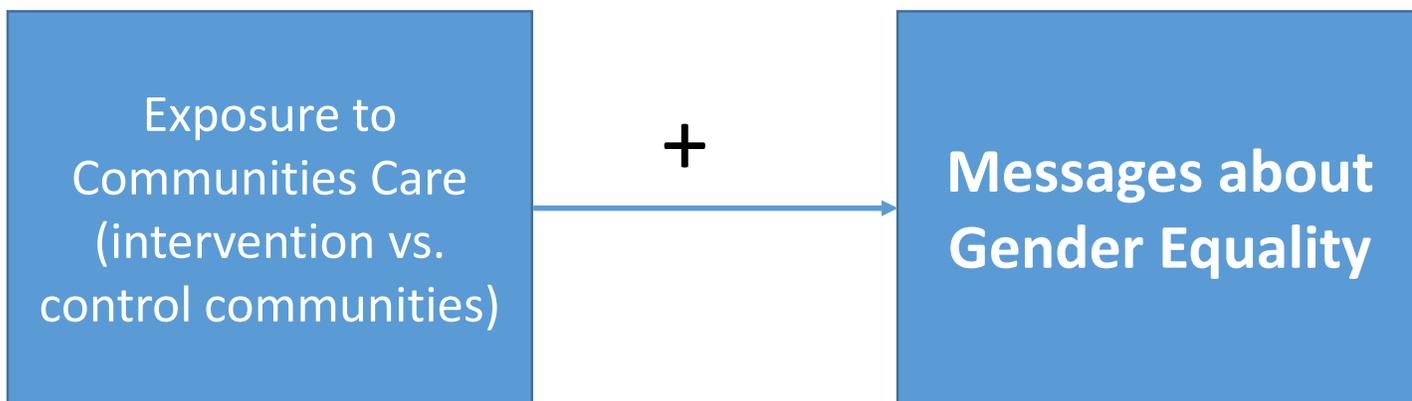


Those that heard CC messages had more positive change in social norms at 4 years than those that did not hear CC messages

	No N=168	Yes N=144	p-value
Response to Sexual Violence	1.98	2.12	.025
Protecting Family Honor	2.84	2.67	.019
Gender Equality	2.60	2.81	.002
Husbands' Right to Discipline Wife	2.26	2.18	.285
Confidence in Providers	3.06	3.12	.108



Intervention and Control Communities Heard Different CC Messages



Intervention communities heard more messages about

- Husband sharing chores, $p=.012$
- Giving equal opportunities for boys and girls, $p=.010$
- Women have right to be educated, $p=.028$

Those who heard messages about gender equality had a more positive change in personal beliefs and social norms



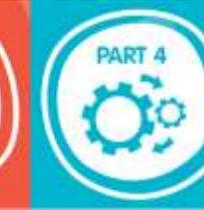
Personal Beliefs, all $p < .001$

Social Norms, all $p < .03$

- Response to Sexual Violence
- Protecting Family Honor
- Gender Equality
- Husbands' Right to Discipline Wife

4-Year Post Baseline – South Sudan

- Due to the escalating conflict nearly 2/3 of the community were displaced from Yei
- Not able to conduct endline because of security concerns
- CC radio messages continued despite the conflict
- Collected data at 4 years post baseline from a random sample of people currently in Yei to examine the spread of the messages
 - N=678 (60.9% female)
 - 27.8% 15-24 years
 - 44.5% 25-44 years
 - 27.6% 45+ years



CC messages were widespread in South Sudan

In the last year	
Attended an event or meeting about GBV	39.4%
Had someone talk to them about GBV	46.9%
Heard messages about GBV	72.6%
Change in attitudes about GBV in the last year	
Got worse	22.2%
Stayed the same	38.7%
Changed for the better	39.2%

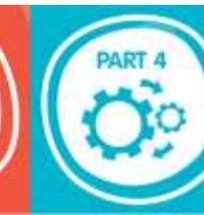


CC messages heard	
Importance of sending girls to school	95.3%
Harmful consequences of early marriage before the age of 18	91.1%
Woman/girls should not be blamed if they are raped	85.6%
Girls should not feel shame if they are raped, she should not keep it quiet	85.2%
Woman/girls should seek services if they are raped	86.2%
Services available for woman/girls who experience sexual violence	82.7%
Woman should be treated equally as men	87.2%
Men should not beat their wives	86.2%
Children should not be beaten for their mistakes	60.6%
It is better to discuss disagreements in the home than to use violence	78.9%
Men and women should make household decisions together	81.5%



Those who participated in a discussion about GBV had a more positive change in beliefs than those who had not participated

	No N=343	Yes N=311	p-value
Protect Family Honor	2.80	3.00	<.001
Negative Response to Sexual Violence	2.99	3.12	<.001
Gender Equality	3.09	3.31	<.001
Husband Rights to Discipline Wife	2.92	3.06	<.001



Summary

- 2 years after full implementation of Communities Care, the program continued to have a positive effect on changing social norms and personal beliefs that sustain GBV
- Messages continued to spread from people who participated in the Communities Care discussion groups to the general community
- There is some decline in the community's confidence in service providers which may signify that continued booster sessions with service providers are needed
- Despite increasing conflict and displacement in South Sudan, Communities Care messages continued to spread with those hearing the messages having more positive personal beliefs

