

# Methodological Issues in Research on IPV

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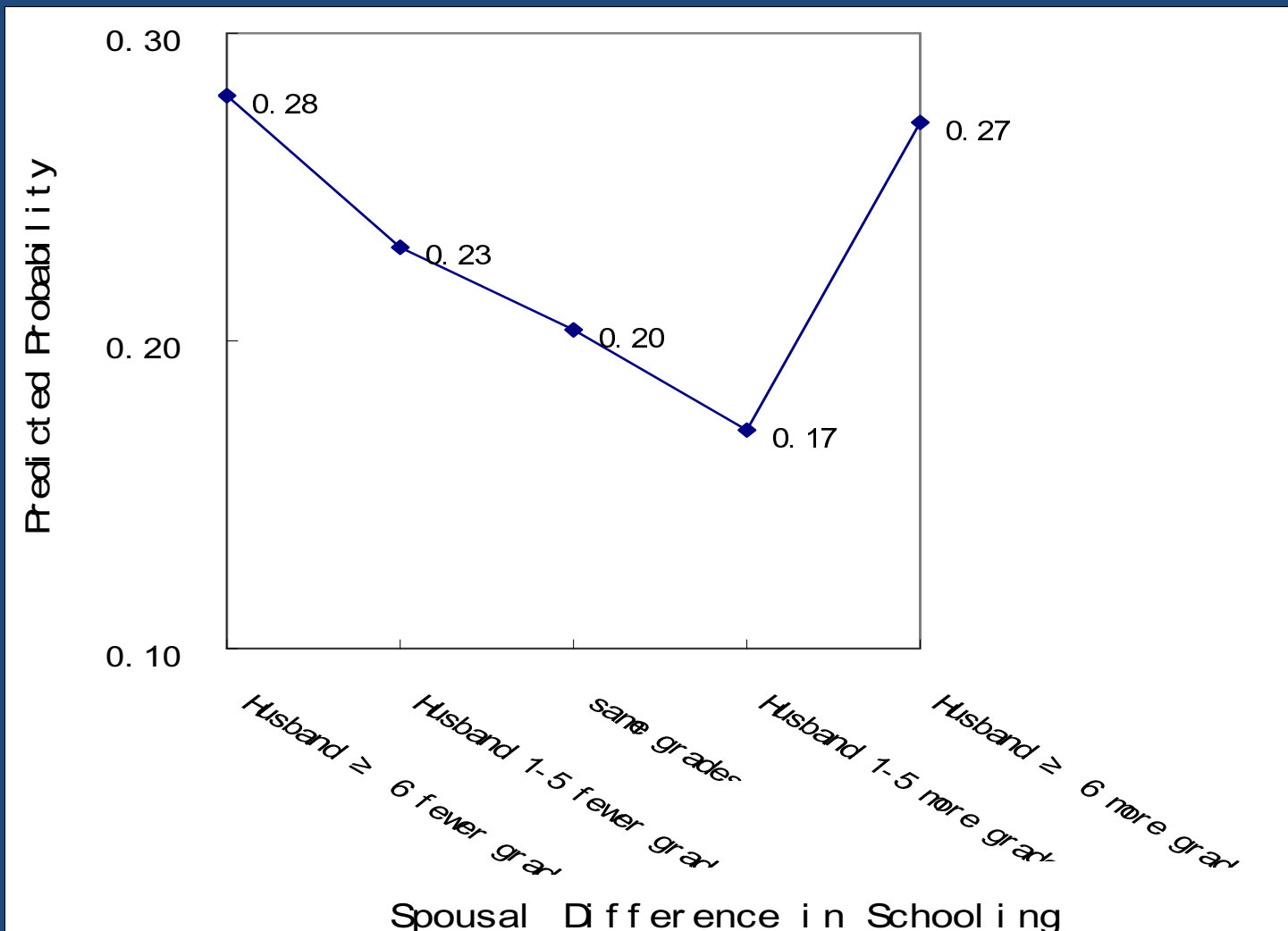
# Outline

- Own work on IPV and FGC/M
- Reliability of women's reports of IPV
- Response effects to attitudinal questions on IPV against women
- Onset and duration of IPV
- Timing of IPV around other life course events
- Measuring correlated types of violence

## Adjusted Odds of Maternal Intent and Decision to Circumcise Daughters and Choice of Providers, Minya Egypt

	FGC Intended	Cut (>9yrs)	Doctor
Residence urban (rural)	0.27 ***	0.84	2.80 ***
Father's education (none)			
Primary	1.15	1.16	1.14
Preparatory	0.38 *	1.09	2.02 +
Secondary	0.37 **	1.10	2.70 *
More than secondary	0.33 *	0.83	9.26 ***
Mother is circumcised (no)	3.41	13.11 ***	
Mother's education (none)			
Primary	↓ 0.44 **	↓ 0.67 *	1.08
Preparatory	0.34 *	0.43 +	0.52
Secondary	0.44 *	0.20 ***	2.39
More than secondary	↓ 0.14 ***	↓ 0.06 ***	4.00
(n)	(1554)	(2162)	(1633)

# Predicted probabilities of experiencing MINOR physical violence by spousal differences of schooling for the “average” Egyptian woman of reproductive age



# VAW and “Development”

- Certain aspects of “development” may facilitate perpetration of VAW
- VAW against women and gender equality closely linked BUT
- Investments in women may have competing (short-term) effects on indicators of violence
- Important to monitor an array of indicators of VAW over an extended period of time

# Current work on IPV

- Methodological work on reliability of reports of IPV and attitudes about IPV against women
  - CIs, survey experiment of DHS questions on attitudes about IPV in rural Bangladesh (NIH)
  - CIs of DHS version of CTS2 in rural Egypt (NSF)
- Four-year follow-up of marriage cohort in rural Bangladesh to assess effects of women's empowerment on risk of IPV (NIH)

# “Reliability” of reported IPV

- Less research outside U.S. / Europe on reliability of women’s reports of IPV
  - Ethics of collecting data from husbands
- Reliability may vary by placement of question, type of IPV about which question asked, and various attributes of respondents
- Low reliability biases estimates of impact toward the null

## Ever Experience of Wife Beating (%) as Reported by the Wife and her Husband, Assiut and Souhag, Egypt, 1995 – 1997 (n = 943 Couples)

Variables	Ever beaten wife, unadjusted (a)	Ever beaten, wife adjusted (b)
Variables		
Spousal report of wife beating		
Wife Yes (c)	37.4	45.2
Husband Yes	33.8	33.8
Spousal Agreement/Disagreement		
Wife No, Husband No (d)	46.8	46.8
Wife No, Husband Yes	15.8	8.1
Wife Yes, Husband No	19.4	19.4
Wife Yes, Husband Yes	18.0	25.8
Kappa	0.23	0.43
<i>p</i>	***	***

Notes. Kappa = 1.00 is perfect agreement. Kappa = 0.00 is perfect disagreement. (a) % of wives reporting “yes” to ever experience of beating in 1995/6. (b) % of wives reporting “yes” to ever experience of wife beating in 1995/6 and of husband reporting “yes” in 1997 to wife beating in the prior year for wives reporting “never” in 1995/6. (c) % of all wives reporting “yes” to ever experience of wife-beating. (d) % of all couples in which wife reported “no” and husband reported “no.”

## Reliability (cont)

- Develop retest shortform to estimate reliability of women's responses to questions about IPV?
- Test-retest format avoids problems of asking spouse about IPV & addresses many questions:
  - Does women's "disclosure" increase with time?
  - Does reliability vary by type of IPV?
  - Does reliability vary with age, duration of marriage, level of schooling?
- Estimates of reliability could permit researchers to account for "unreliability" in impact analyses

## Standardized Coefficients from OLS Regressions of Survey-Design Variables on Log(%) of Women Responding “Yes” to Attitudinal Question about DV against Women, N = 67 DHS 1995 - 2007

Survey-Design Variables	Model 1 Beta	Model 2 Beta
Preamble variation (ref: no)	0.26*	0.26†
Question variation (ref: no)		
Wording for violence only	-0.33*	-0.29†
Wording for attitude only	-0.01	0.10
Wording for V and A	-0.14	-0.19
Item variation (ref: 0)		
1	-0.19*	-0.09
2+	-0.09	-0.04
New items added (ref: no)	0.29*	0.19†

Note: Model 1 adjusts for sample, GDP per capita, Gini, GDI, % urban. Model 2 adjusts also for region and year of survey

† $p \leq 0.10$ , \* $p \leq 0.05$ , \*\* $p \leq 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p \leq 0.001$

# Lifetime and past-year IPV

- Current questions focused on establishing lifetime risk and past-year risk of IPV
  - Provides useful evidence for policy
- Beyond lifetime and prior-year prevalences, useful analytically and programmatically to understand time of onset and last exposure to IPV

# Timing of first of IPV

- Identify subgroup(s) for screening, counseling
- Multivariate models to estimate factors associated with the “hazard of first IPV”
  - Is first pregnancy a major risk factor? (e.g., should there be targeted screening for first-time moms)
  - Is early contraceptive use a major risk factor?
  - Is gender of the first child a major risk factor?

# Timing of last IPV

- If woman did not experience IPV in last 12 mo, but experienced it *ever*, when did it last occur?
  - Differentiate subgroups of women for whom IPV is discrete (first years of marriage) vs continuous
  - Estimate factors associated with IPV ending (e.g., indigenous recourse, woman's access to specific services, impact of interventions)
  - Establish to what extent women recover physically and emotionally from an end to IPV

# Time of IPV around life course events

- Analytic interest to establish timing of IPV around other major life course events (that may be reciprocally causal)
  - Birth of a specific child; timing of contraceptive uptake/discontinuation
- DHS has 5-year contraceptive calendars & lifetime fertility calendars, but we cannot easily link specific IPV events to specific events in these calendars
- Can IPV calendar be developed?

# Measuring correlated exposures

- Researchers must “control” for exposure to violence in childhood in impact analyses
- Exposure to violence in childhood an important determinant of IPV
- To what extent should IPV surveys measure women’s exposure to violence before age 15?
- Can key questions be added (witnessing parental violence, exposure to corporal punishment / neglect (e.g., denied food))