

Methodological Issues in Research on IPV

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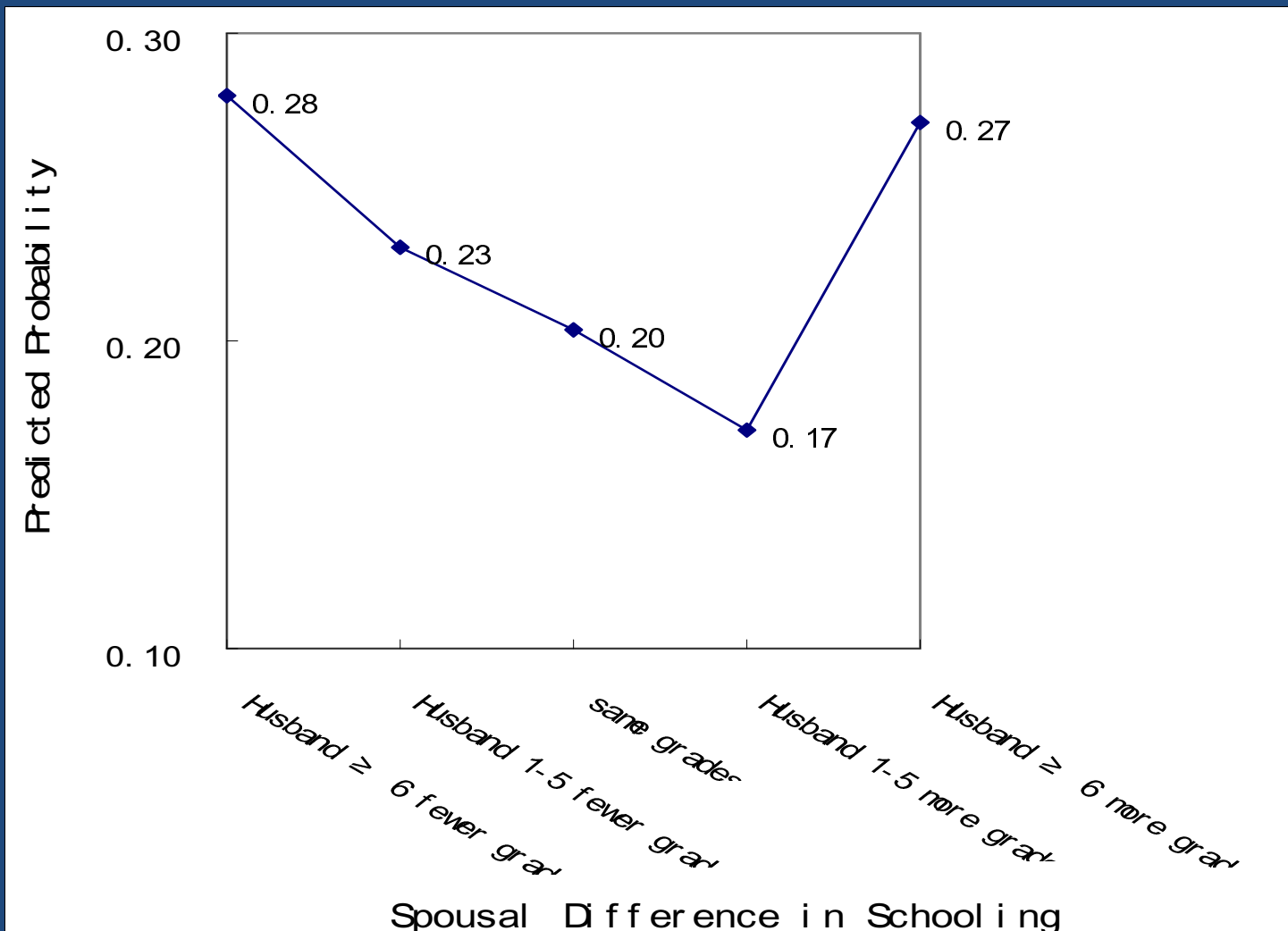
Outline

- 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))