

Measuring gender attitudes in highly patriarchal settings: developing measures in Pakistan and Afghanistan



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A Global Programme To Prevent
Violence Against Women and Girls



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Standard measures of gender equity: e.g. full scale is 34 items, GEM scale (short version below as used in South Africa)

SECTION 2 ATTITUDES ABOUT RELATIONS BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN

For each of the following statements please say answer whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements:

201		STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
A	A woman's most important role is to take care of her home and cook for her family.	1	2	3	4
B	Men need sex more than women do.	1	2	3	4
C	There are times when a woman deserves to be beaten.	1	2	3	4
D	It is a woman's responsibility to avoid getting pregnant.	1	2	3	4
E	A woman should tolerate violence in order to keep her family together.	1	2	3	4
F	If someone insults a man, he should defend his reputation, with force if he has to.	1	2	3	4
G	To be a man, a person needs to be tough	1	2	3	4
H	A man should have the final say in decisions in his home	1	2	3	4

- ▶ Some culturally inappropriate questions which cannot be used e.g 16 items on sex and condoms
- ▶ Once these are removed the scale isn't great in Asia, the internal consistency is low, especially for men



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Need to think differently about gender attitudes in very patriarchal, conservative settings

▶ **Issues:**

- ▶ Constrained movement of women including barriers to social participation
- ▶ Limited space for women in household decision-making
- ▶ Acceptance of violence against women
- ▶ Some contestation over men's role as carers for women in the family



- ▶ Process of translation of these issues into questions which are appropriate for use with children and adults
- ▶ Core questions developed and used in Afghanistan and Pakistan, with some differences in extra questions
- ▶ Constraints :
 - ▶ space in questionnaire/ time in interviews



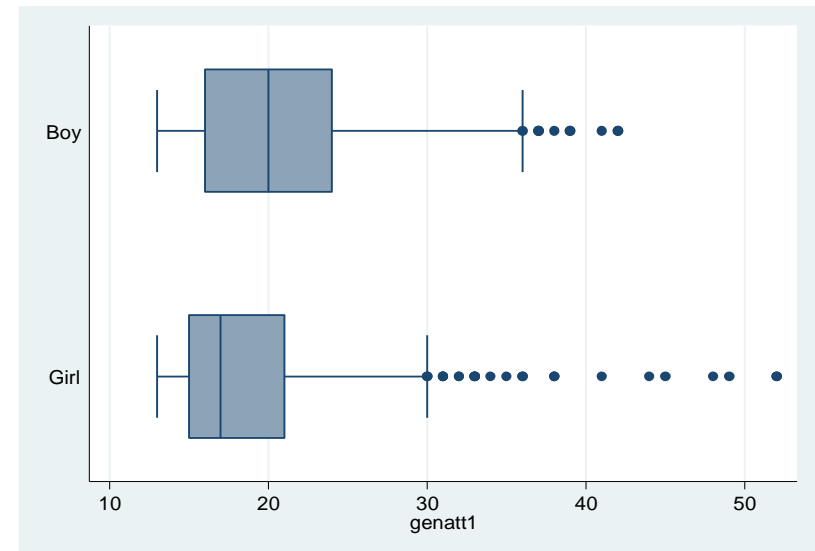
Core gender attitudes questions: Pakistan

GENDER ATTITUDES (GA) (Developed by Afghanistan team)					
Circle the number that describes how much you agree or disagree with each statement.		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
GA1	I think girls in our family should go to school	1	2	3	4
GA2	I think the husbands in your family should give permission to give their wives to go to the clinic	1	2	3	4
GA3	I think the husbands in the family should listen to their wives' opinion on schooling	1	2	3	4
GA4	I think the wives in the family should have a say in how money in their family is spent	1	2	3	4
GA5	I think the wives in the family should be able to ask a religious scholar about issues	1	2	3	4
GA6	I think the husbands in the family should respect the opinion of their wives on matters related to income generating work	1	2	3	4
GA7	I think a husband in the family should be kind and caring toward the women in his family	1	2	3	4
GA8	I think that the wives in our family should always obey their husbands	1	2	3	4
GA9	I think that if a wife in our family does something wrong her husband has the right to punish her	1	2	3	4

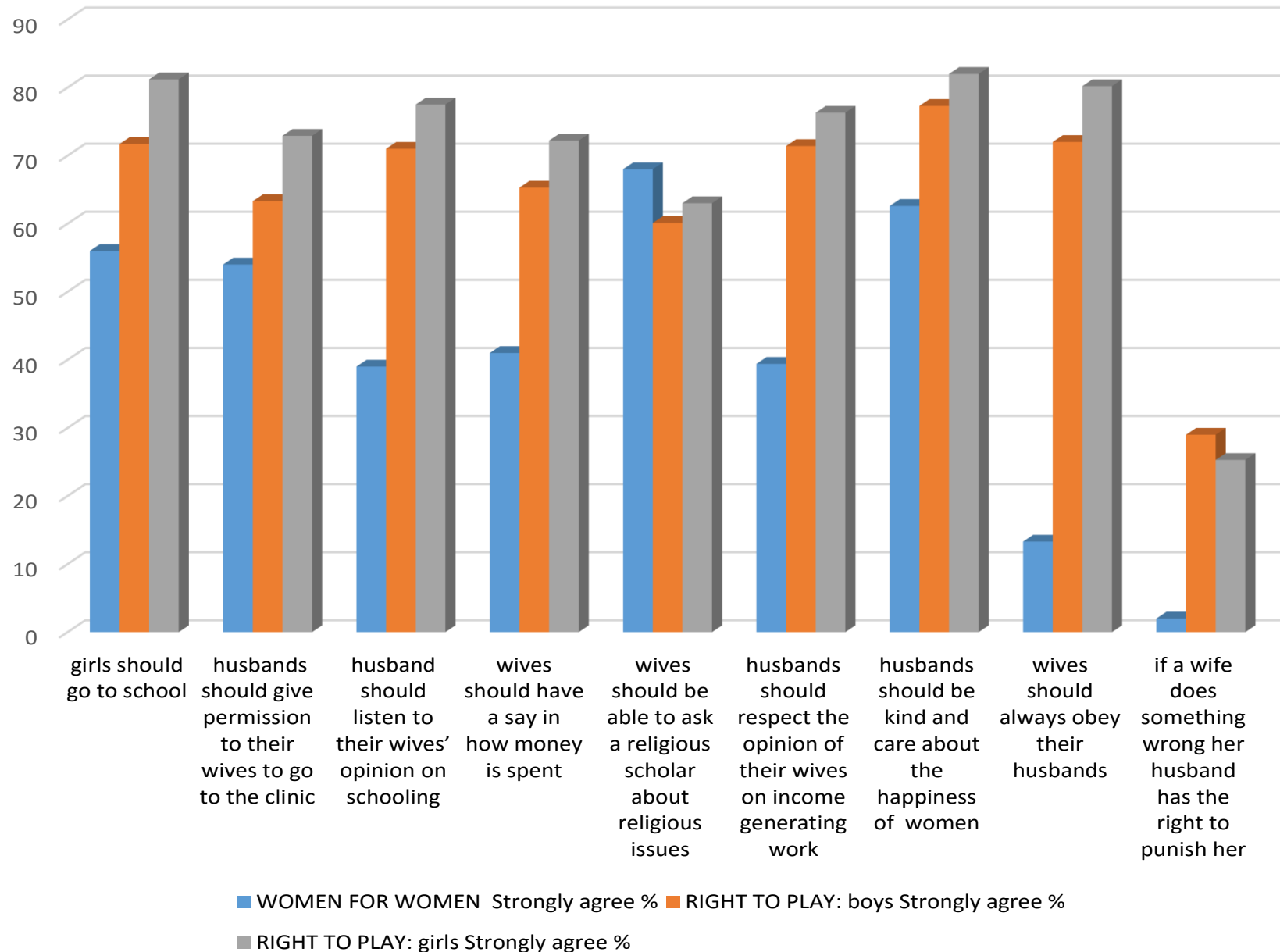
Women's participation: questions also used in Pakistan (822 boys & 930 girls, 6th grade)

Women's Participation (WP) (Developed by Afghanistan team)					
Circle the number that describes how much you agree or disagree with each statement.		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
WP1	I think women should be able to participate in Weddings	1	2	3	4
WP2	Neighborhood events	1	2	3	4
WP3	Skills training (e.g. computer skills, embroidery)	1	2	3	4
WP4	Income generating activities	1	2	3	4

	Cronbach's alpha (internal consistency)
PAKISTAN	
Personal views (girls)	0.78
Personal views (boys)	0.73



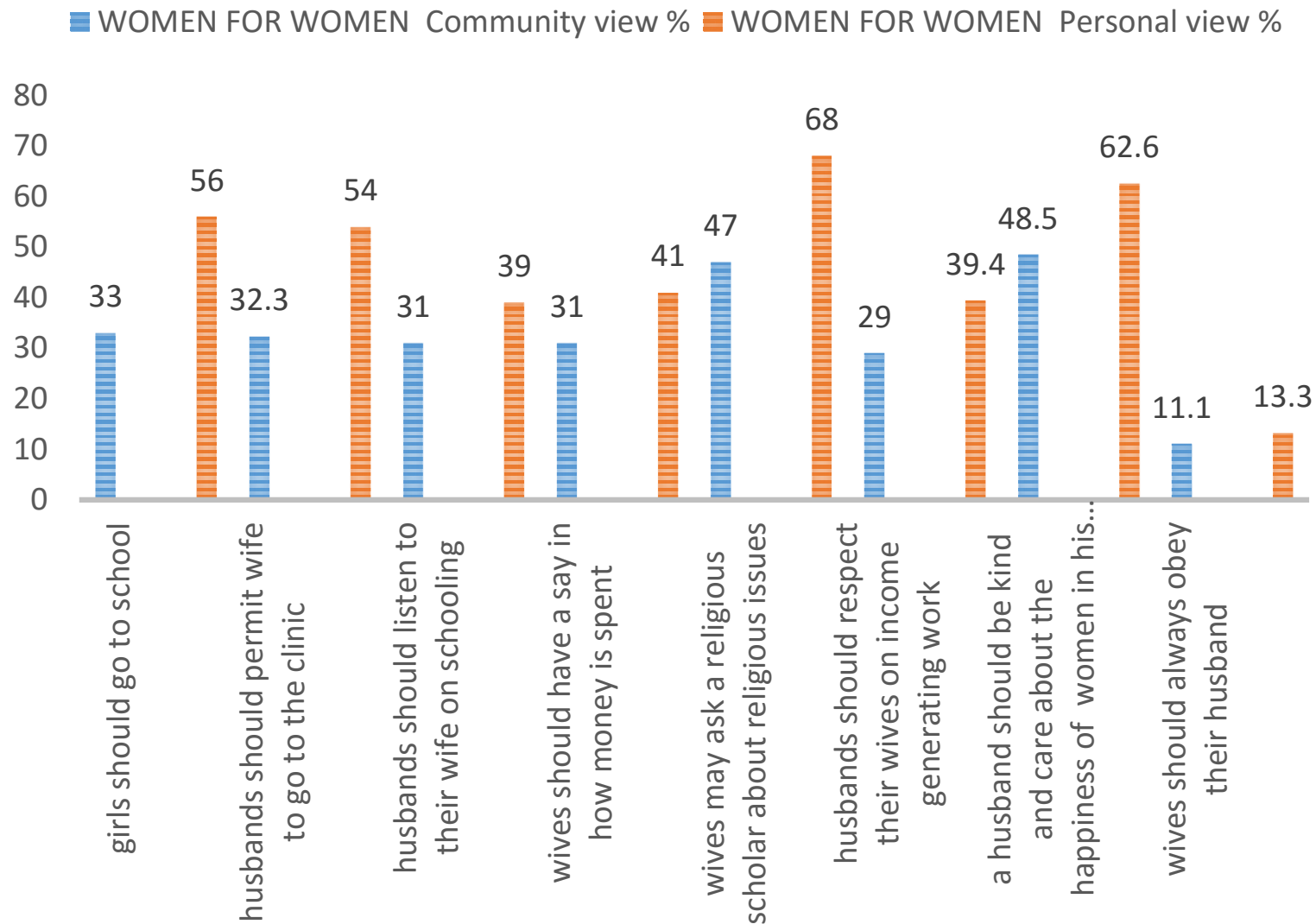
Gender attitudes comparing Afghanistan and Pakistan



- ▶ Including 100 Afghan women interview for pilot
- ▶ Afghan women are more conservative than children in Pakistan
- ▶ In Afghanistan: Lower levels of agreement that wives should obey their husbands
- ▶ Also on right of husbands to punish wives



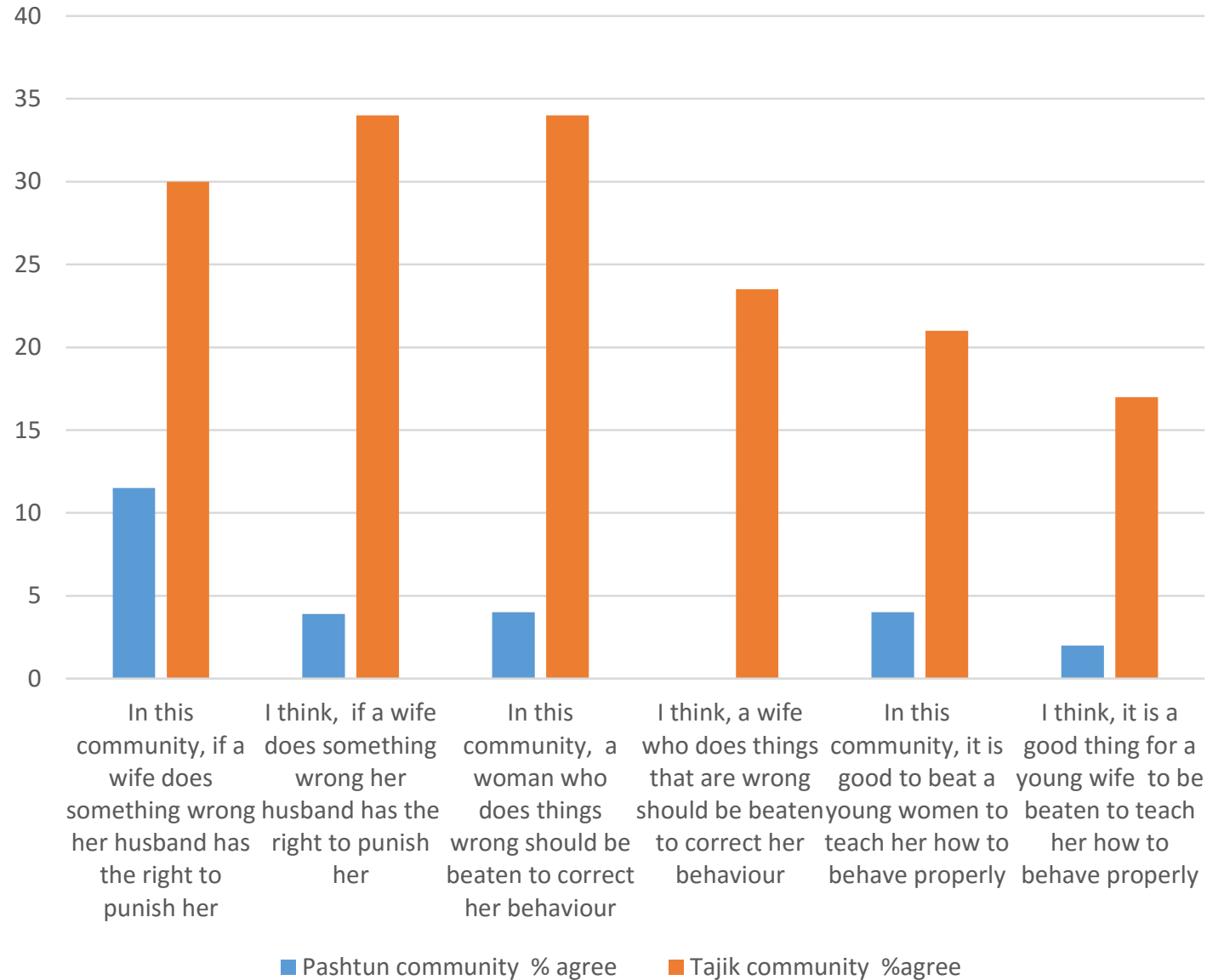
SOCIAL NORMS AND PERSONAL VIEWS: AFGHANISTAN



- ▶ Considerable difference between perceived community views (social norms) and personal views
- ▶ Social norms generally more conservative than personal views



Attitudes among women in two Afghan communities

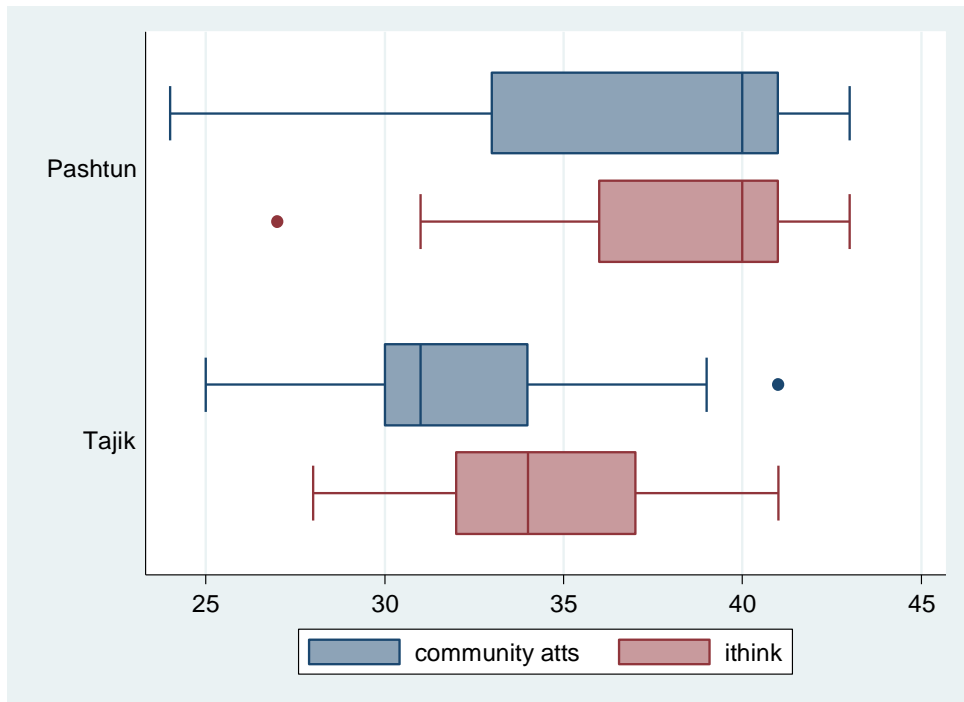


- ▶ All interviews done in Kabul province but in Tajik and Pashtun communities
- ▶ Shown here are expanded VAWG questions
- ▶ Very substantial variation in perceived social norms around VAWG by ethnicity

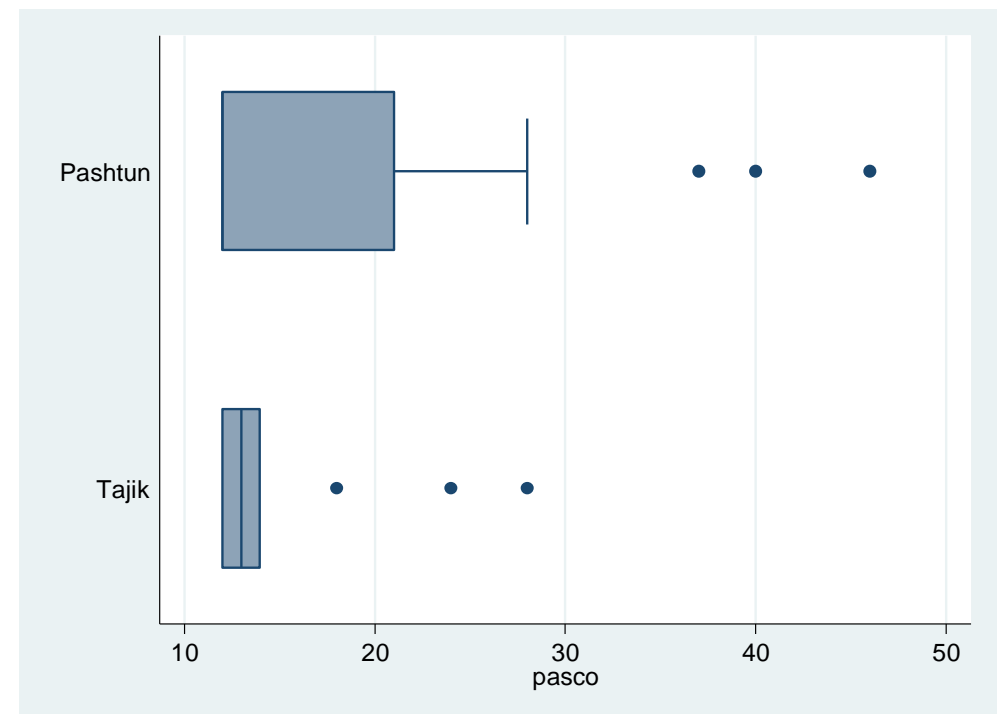


Afghanistan: gender attitudes, ethnicity and VAWG - reported attitudes quite different from violence prevalence

Personal and community gender attitudes by ethnic group (high=more gender equitable)



Emotional and physical IPV in past 12 months by ethnic group



Multivariable logistic regression models of factors associated with peer violence victimisation and perpetration in/by girls and boys in 6th grade in Pakistan

	PERPETRATION						VICTIMISATION									
	GIRLS			BOYS			GIRLS			BOYS						
	High violence perpetration	Low or no violence perpetration	p value	High violence perpetration	Low or no violence perpetration	p value	High violence perpetration	Low or no violence perpetration	p value	High violence perpetration	Low or no violence perpetration	p value				
Patriarchal gender attitudes scale (scores)	10.2	9.05	0.001	10.6	9.36	0.005	9.88	8.64	<0.0001	10.32	8.8	0.022				
Multi-variable logistic regression (other variables not shown)	odds ratio	95% Confidence Interval		P value	odds ratio	95% Confidence Interval		P value	odds ratio	95% Confidence Interval		P value				
Patriarchal gender attitudes scale	1.10	1.05	1.15	<0.0001	1.08	1.02	1.14	0.004	1.15	1.07	1.22	<0.0001	1.13	1.03	1.24	0.01

Conclusions

- ▶ New scales are fairly effective in Afghanistan and Pakistan and have quite good statistical properties
- ▶ Variations are as might be expected overall
- ▶ The relationship between individually held gender attitudes and social norms in Afghanistan is complex as ethnicity is much more important as a predictor of experience of IPV than attitudes or norms
- ▶ In Pakistan, personal gender attitudes are important as a factor associated with peer violence perpetration and victimisation for girls and boys
- ▶ This analysis is work in progress, especially as the main Afghan data is yet to be collected

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