THE PREVALENCE AND FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN ATTENDING ANTENATAL CLINICS IN LUSAKA URBAN CLINICS IN ZAMBIA

M D Mwiinga Mtonga* Correspondence: Chainama Hospital and College of Health Sciences, Lusaka 10101, Zambia

10.1136/ip.2010.029215.71

Summary Domestic violence among pregnant women has many faces in Lusaka, Zambia. Domestic violence among respondents was associated with contraction of sexually transmitted infections, loss of pregnancy, bleeding in pregnancy, psychological trauma, divorce and social disharmony.

In this study 385 pregnant women were randomly selected and entered into the study.

Method A Cross-sectional Descriptive Study of 385 pregnant women attending six randomly selected Antenatal Clinics in Lusaka. A scheduled questionnaire, supplemented with two focus group discussions was used.

Epi Info and Multivariate analysis was done on the data thus sampled.

Results 169 (44%) had a history of domestic violence, 92 (23.9%) had experienced domestic violence in the current pregnancy.

Beatings 116 (68.6%), verbal assault at 55 (32.7%), Non-consensual 18 (10.7%) were forms used.

The main perpetrators male intimate partner/husbands.

115 (40.5%) of the victims belonged to Liberal Protestant Christian Denominations, 338 (87.8%) were married and 229 (59.5%) lived in high density areas.

139 (36.4%) believed that a man was justified beating his wife/intimate partner, 101 (26.3%) of the respondents believed that a woman was not justified in negotiating sex with her partner.

Women whose husbands abused alcohol were 37 times more likely to beaten than those that did not.

Traditional beliefs made domestic violence acceptable.

Discussions and Conclusions Domestic Violence among pregnancy women was common and many factors such as age, educational background, traditional beliefs, socio-economical
background, church denomination and previous history of domestic violence in their lives.
The prevalence and factors contributing to domestic violence among pregnant women attending antenatal clinics in Lusaka urban clinics in Zambia

M D Mwiinga Mtonga

*Inj Prev* 2010 16: A19-A20
doi: 10.1136/ip.2010.029215.71

Updated information and services can be found at:
[http://injuryprevention.bmj.com/content/16/Suppl_1/A19.5](http://injuryprevention.bmj.com/content/16/Suppl_1/A19.5)

**Email alerting service**

Receive free email alerts when new articles cite this article. Sign up in the box at the top right corner of the online article.

**Topic Collections**

Articles on similar topics can be found in the following collections

- Abuse (child, partner, elder) (80)
- Violence (98)
- Violence against women (98)

**Notes**

To request permissions go to:
[http://group.bmj.com/group/rights-licensing/permissions](http://group.bmj.com/group/rights-licensing/permissions)

To order reprints go to:
[http://journals.bmj.com/cgi/reprintform](http://journals.bmj.com/cgi/reprintform)

To subscribe to BMJ go to:
[http://group.bmj.com/subscribe/](http://group.bmj.com/subscribe/)