

Childhood Sexual Violence and Low Education Attainment Among 18-24 year-olds in Uganda

Findings from the National Violence Against Children Survey (2018)

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Introduction

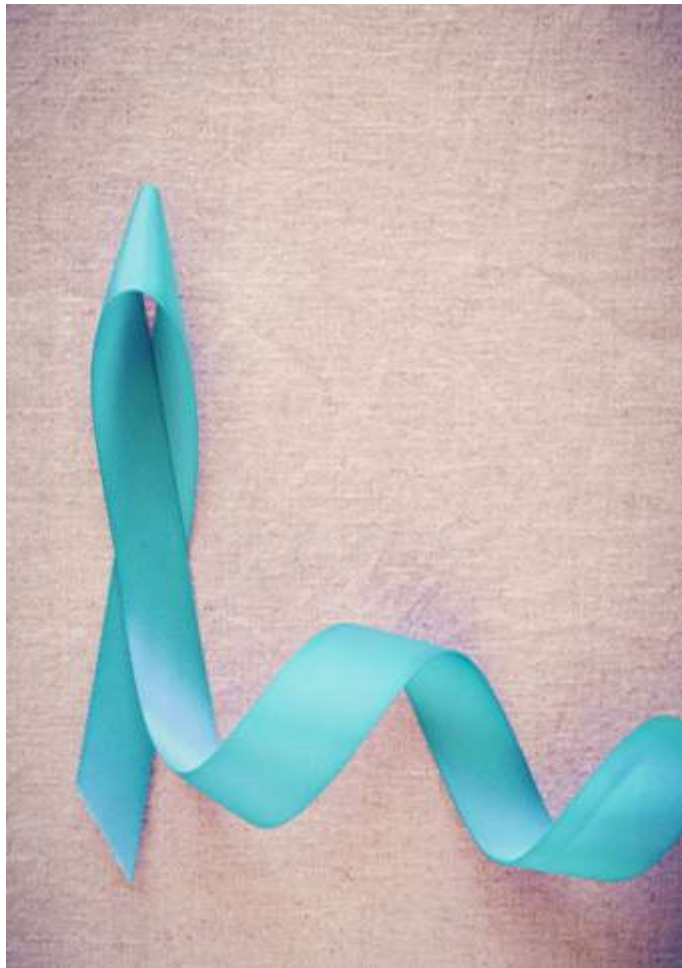
- Examination of the association between sexual violence and low education attainment is a grey area (Molstad et. al 2021). Information from low income countries like Uganda is scanty.
- This study sought to understand the association between sexual violence exposure and low educational attainment for girls and boys.

Background



- ❑ Education is a powerful tool to change the world, a way to attain self actualization and overcoming poverty(Awan et al., 2011).
- ❑ The world has not yet realized 100% enrollment and completion of elementary education.

Background



- ❑ Sexual violence is a key global epidemic (Ligiero et al., 2019).
- ❑ 4 in 10 girls suffer from sexual violence before the age of 15 in Africa (End Violence Against Children, 2021).
- ❑ 1 in 3 girls (35%) and 1 in 6 boys (17%) had experienced childhood sexual violence in Uganda (MGLSD, 2018).

Background



□ SV has several physiological and traumatic notions of self by the survivor (Lewis et al., 2016; Schnittker, 2022).

□ At times, it combines other forms of violence which amplifies its effects (Ligiero et al., 2019).

Methodology

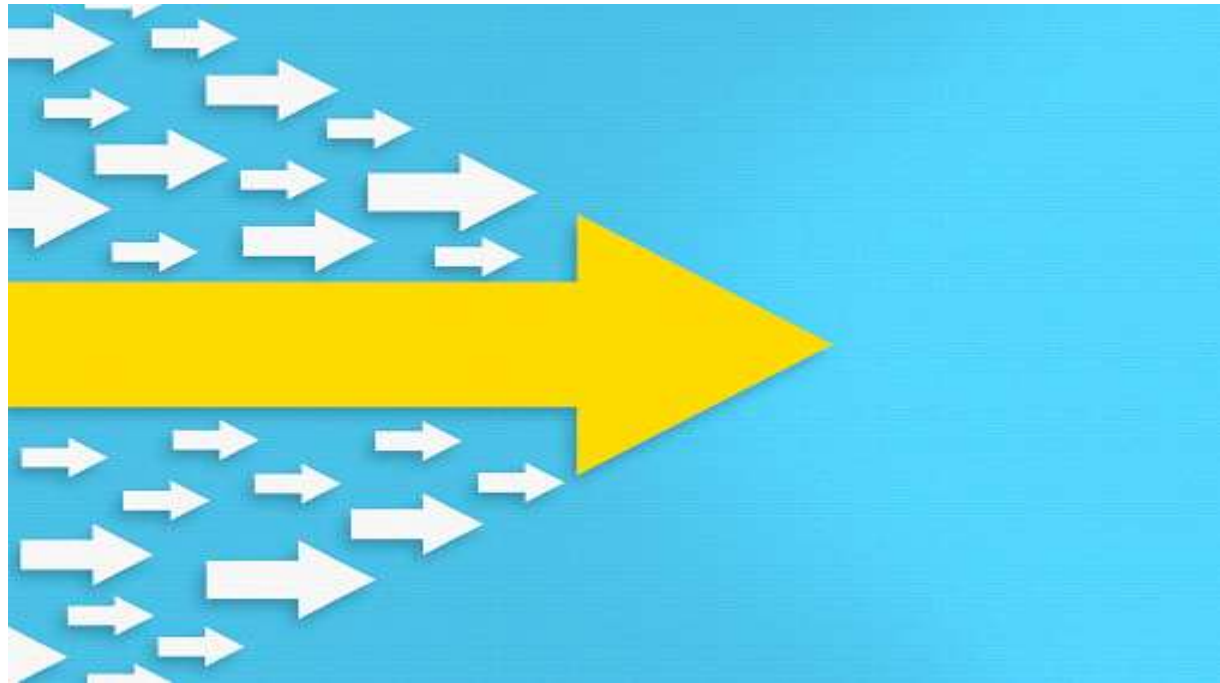
- ❑ Secondary analysis of data from the Uganda National Violence against children survey(2018)
- ❑ We focused on the older respondents (18 to 24yrs)
- ❑ Used trauma theory which highlights that individuals face upsetting events which may have lasting effects on their lives (Turner, 2018).
- ❑ Multi-level adjusted logistic regression to generates odds ratios and associated p-values.



Methodology

- ❑ **Sexual Violence was measured by** ; sexual exploitation, unwanted sexual touches, attempted forced sex, physically forced and pressured sex.
- ❑ **Low education attainment** was measured in terms of being out of school and having the highest level of education completed as primary and below.
- ❑ **Other key variables were;** age, sex, relationship with biological mother, marital status and work status.

Results



Demographics

Characteristic	Sex n (column %)		Overall
	Male	Female	
	1218 (43.5)	1631 (56.5)	2849 (100)
Age in years (groups)			
18-20	588 (48.2)	816 (50.03)	1404 (49.28)
21-24	630 (51.72)	815 (49.97)	1445 (50.72)
Marital status			
Married/ living with a partner	493 (40.48)	1262 (77.38)	1755 (61.60)
Never married/Single	725 (59.52)	369 (22.69)	1094 (38.40)

SV, low education attainment by age and sex

Forms of Sexual Violence	<u>Low education attainment by Age in years and Sex of respondent</u>							
	18-20				21-24			
	Male (n=588)	p-value	Female (n=816)	p-value	Male (n=630)	p-value	Female (n=815)	p-value
Sexual Exploitation								
No	47.72	0.073	60.69		56.45		55.28	
Yes	84.29		54.11	0.647	35.47	0.2019	60.96	0.5812
Unwanted Sexual touches								
No	42.28		58.57		55.9		54.06	
Yes	44.93	0.687	41.72	0.0702	43.75	0.0459	55.89	0.7465

SV, low education attainment by age and sex

Forms of Sexual Violence	Low education attainment by Age in years and Sex of respondent							
	18-20				21-24			
	Male (n=588)	p-value	Female (n=816)	p-value	Male (n=630)	p-value	Female (n=815)	p-value
Attempted Forced Sex								
No	42.06		58.92		52.63		56.32	
Yes	44.33	0.758	36.18	0.002*	57.94	0.3807	50.31	0.4010
Physically forced sex								
No	41.4		51.53		54.33		53.58	
Yes	72.41	0.019	56.94	0.576	36.76	0.0753	60.27	0.3783
Pressured Sex								
No	42.05		51.47		54.54		53.85	
Yes	52.74	0.342	62.43	0.419	38.8	0.0805	64.16	

Associated factors (1)

Characteristic	Unadjusted		Adjusted	
	OR (95% CI)	p-value	OR (95% CI)	p-value
Sex				
Male	1.00			
Female	1.24 (0.92,1.67)	0.165	1.24(0.899,1.72)	0.187
Age				
18-20	1.00			
21-24	1.27(0.99,1.63)	0.059	1.01(0.76,1.35)	0.927
Sexual Exploitation				
No	1.00			
Yes	1.07(0.59,1.95)	0.820	0.94(0.52,1.72)	0.859

Associated factors (2)

Characteristic	Unadjusted		Adjusted	
	OR (95% CI)	p-value	OR (95% CI)	p-value
Unwanted sexual touches				
No				
Yes	0.79(0.58,1.09)	0.167	0.87(0.60,1.26)	0.476
Attempted forced Sex				
No				
Yes	0.74(0.54,1.04)	0.081	0.70(0.49,1.00)	0.056
Physically forced Sex				
No				
Yes	1.33(0.87,2.03)	0.183	1.06(0.64,1.76)	0.814
Pressured Sex				
No				
Yes	1.26(0.77,2.05)	0.351	1.23(0.68,2.25)	0.487

Discussion

- ❑ Sexual violence has a negative effect on educational attainment among most survivors.

- ❑ The different forms of sexual violence associate differently with low education attainment.
 - **sexual exploitation and un wanted sexual touches are not ideal predictors for low education attainment.**

 - **physically forced sex is a precarious predictor for low education attainment for both male and female.**

Discussion

- ❑ Some forms of sexual violence feature as a key predictor for one sex and not the other.
 - Attempted forced sex affects males while pressured sex affects females.
 - Low education attainment was more prominent among females than the males.
- ❑ The different forms of sexual violence are more pronounced in one age category than the other.
 - The younger category of (18-20 years) people experienced physically forced sex and pressured sex compared to the 21-24-year-olds.
 - Males are more vulnerable when younger while females are more vulnerable when older.



Implications



- Focus on the younger people to improve education attainment at later ages.
- Investments to enhance education outcomes should also include programs to address sexual violence because it could potentially affect education completion.
- Integrated but also specific programs to respond and prevent the different forms of sexual violence are needed to improve education attainment.
- The prevention programs should be initiated as soon as possible to ensure the early protection of all children.
- More research is needed to incorporate the issue of the grades attained especially in income countries.



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