

**Title:**

Attitude Toward Gender Roles and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG): Baseline Findings of RCT

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**Session Title:**

Invited Posters

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**Keywords:**

Gender Norms, Gender attitude and Youth Violence

**References:**

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### **Abstract Summary:**

Violence against women occurs due to societal Patriarchal gender norms. Gender attitudes and roles are usually learned in childhood. Literature have identified that young youth learn and accept masculine and feminine behaviors from their peers. This research recognizes the gender attitude among them to understand for the prevention of violence.

## Learning Activity:

LEARNING OBJECTIVES	EXPANDED CONTENT OUTLINE
Participants will learn the model of gender attitudes of boys and girls, which are likely to be influenced by factors in the ecological context of their lives.	Models and tables
Participants will learn how to measure the variables including socio-demographic factors and individual mental health (indicated by depressive symptoms), gender attitudes at home (expressed through the use of violence at home which we connect to masculinity of the father), and gender attitudes of peers and other schooling factors.	Participants will be able to listen and ask pertaining questions from the tables

## Abstract Text:

### Background

Violence against women is driven by gender norms that normalize and justify gender inequality and violence. Gender norms are substantially shaped during adolescence. Programs offered through schools offer an opportunity to influence gender attitudes toward gender equity if we understand these to be partly shaped by peers and the school environment.

### Purpose

We present an analysis of the baseline research conducted for a randomized controlled trial with 1,752 grade 6 boys and girls and their attitudes toward gender roles, VAWG and associated factors.

### Method

Interviews were conducted in 40 public schools in Hyderabad, with 25-65 children per school. Questions were asked about attitudes toward gender roles, peer-to-peer perpetration and victimization experiences, and family life, including father or in-law-to- mother violence and food security. Multiple regression models were built of factors associated with gender attitudes for boys and girls.

### Result

Our result have shown youth attitudes endorsing patriarchal gender beliefs were higher for boys, compared to girls. The multiple regression model showed that for boys, patriarchal gender attitudes were positively associated with hunger, depression, being promised already in marriage and being a victim and/or perpetrator of peer violence. For girls gender attitudes were associated with hunger, experiencing corporal punishment at home and being a perpetrator (for some, and victim) of peer violence.

### Conclusion

Youth patriarchal attitudes are closely related to their experience of violence at school and for girl's physical punishment at home and for boys being promised in early marriage. We suggest that these variables are indicators of gender norms among peers and in the family. The significance of peer norms is

that it provides the possibility that school based interventions which work with school peers have the potential to positively impact youth patriarchal gender attitudes and foster attitudes of gender equality and respect and potentially to decrease youth victimization and perpetration.