

***Challenges and Lessons Learned in
Interviewing Men about Sexual Violence:
Lessons from the International Men and
Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES)***

**Gary Barker, Instituto Promundo
Juan Manuel Contreras, Brian Heilman,
Ajay Singh, Ravi Verma,
International Center for Research on Women**

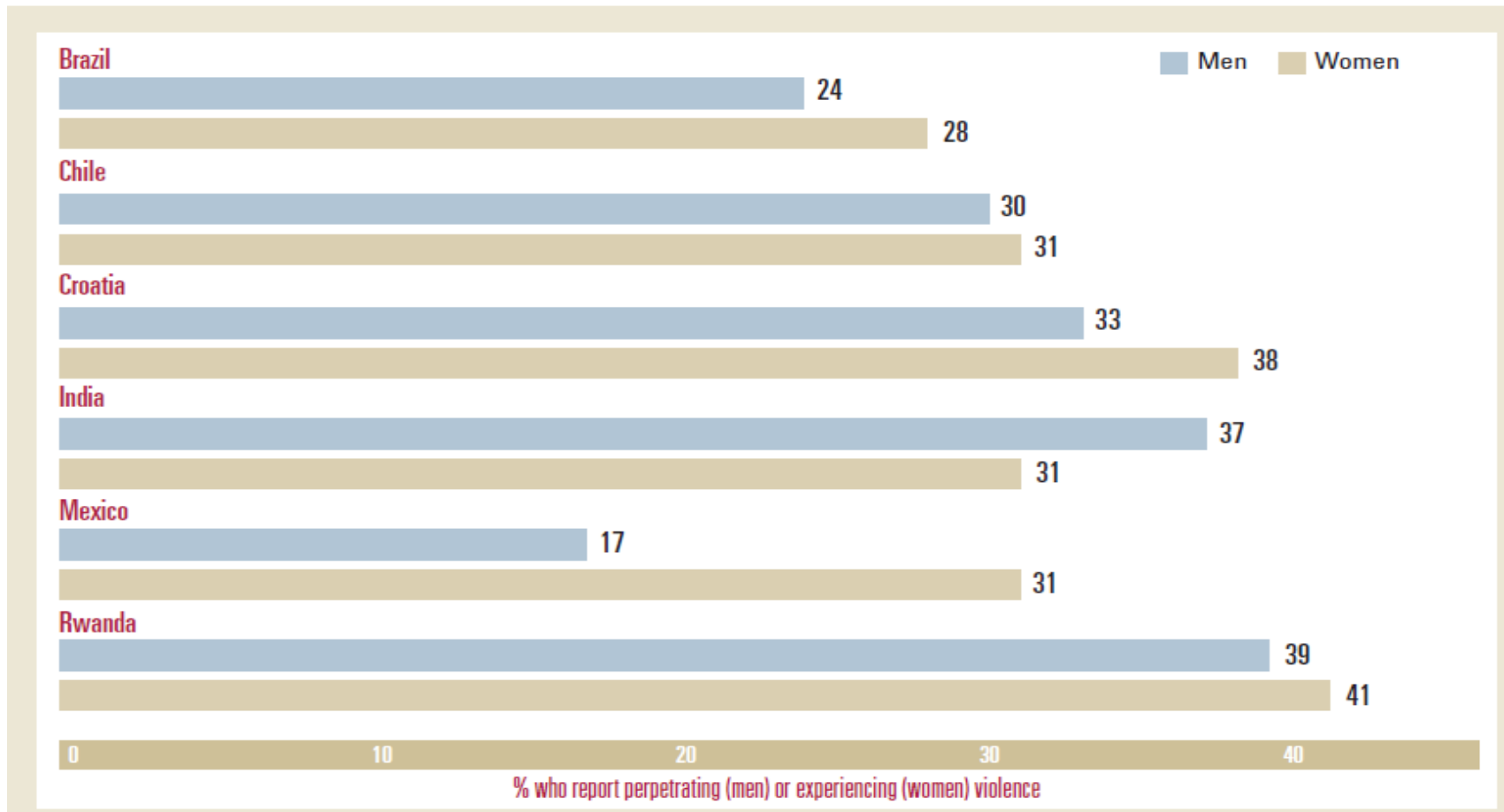
Questions to Orient the Workshop

- Are men “truthfully” reporting SV?
- What methods seem to work best to encourage truthful disclosure of SV?
- What lessons do the IMAGES results provide in terms of future SV research with men?
- Ethical considerations

IMAGES: Sample Design and Methodology

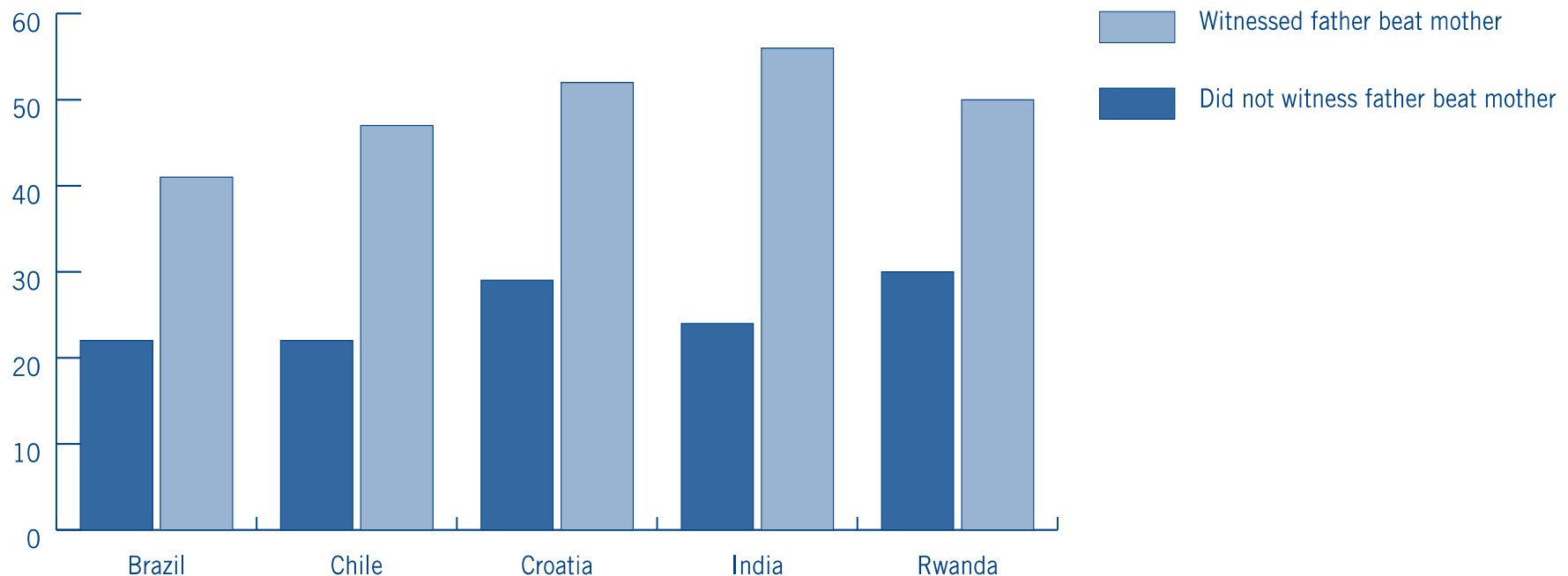
Data Collection Details	Brazil	Chile	Croatia	India	Mexico	Rwanda
Sample size, men	750	1192	1501	1534	1001	2301
Sample size, women	448	426	506	521	383	1311
Age group	18-59	18-59	18-59	18-59	18-59	18-59
Site(s)	<p>One major metropolitan area: Rio de Janeiro, with two neighborhoods: Maré (low income) (n=686 men, 408 women) and Vila Valquiere (middle income) (n= 64 men, 40 women)</p>	<p>Three metropolitan areas: Valparaíso (n=198 men), Concepción (n=197 men), Santiago (n=797 men, 426 women)</p>	<p>One metropolitan area and two rural areas: Zagreb (n=809 men, 264 women), and towns and villages in two counties in Eastern Croatia (n=692 men, 242 women)</p>	<p>Two metropolitan areas: Delhi (n=1037 men, 313 women) and Vijayawada (state of Tamil Nadu) (n=497 men, 208 women)</p>	<p>Three metropolitan areas: Monterrey (n=515 men, 172 women); Queretaro (n=222 men, 127 women); Jalapa (n=264 men, 84 women)</p>	<p>Nationally representative sample covering all provinces: Eastern province (25%), Kigali (11%), Northern province (19%), Southern province (25%), Western province (20%)</p>

Men's reports of use of IPV and women's reports of victimization



Strongest single factor associated with IPV use: childhood witnessing

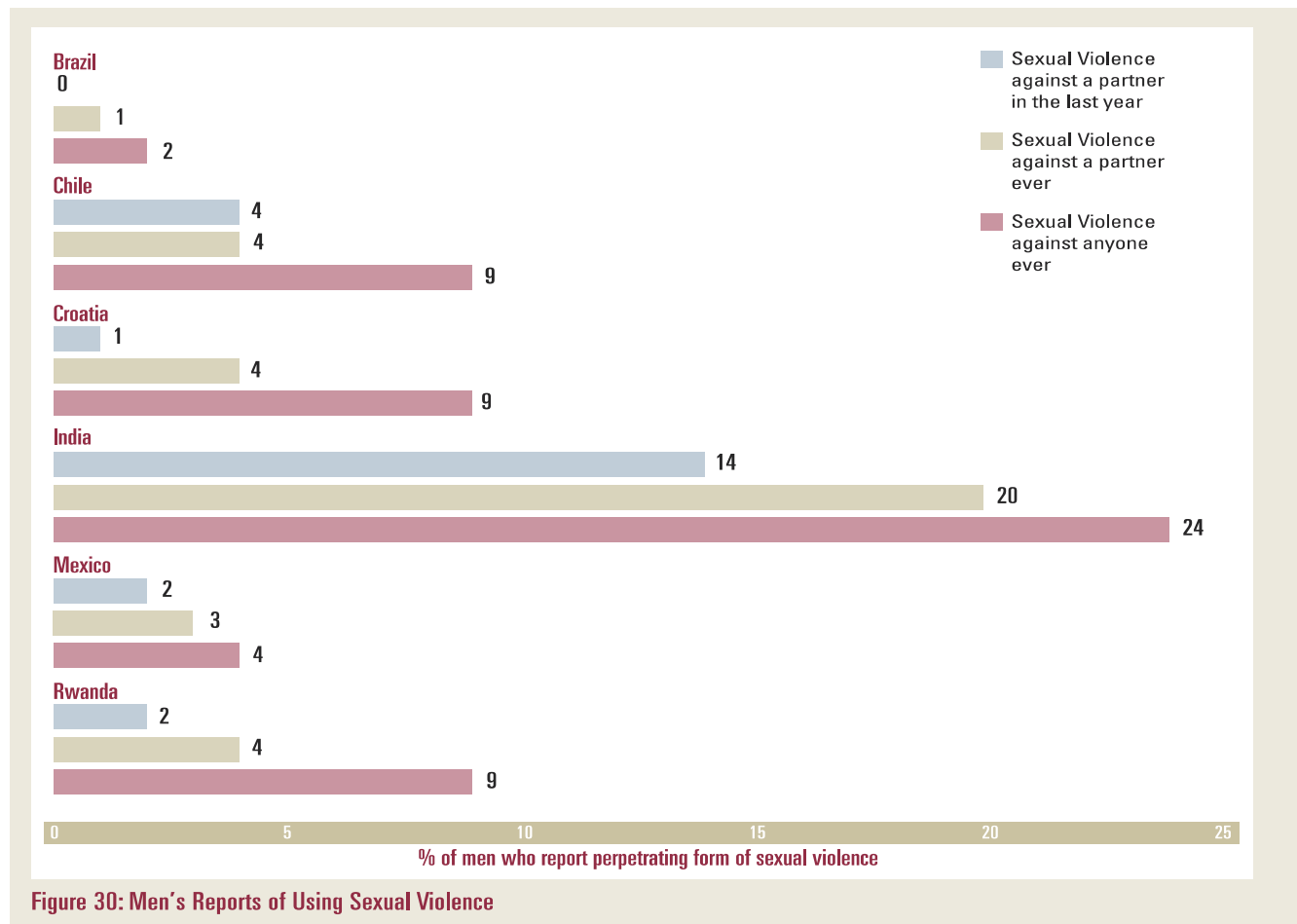
Figure 2 Links between witnessing and ever perpetrating IPV



Multivariate analysis of men's reports of IPV

- ❑ For IPV in last year, *work-related stress and education* were most significant factors in multi-variate analysis
- ❑ *Most consistent variable related to IPV ever use was having witnessed violence in the home* of origin (significant even accounting for other IVs in 4 of 5 countries)
- ❑ *Binge drinking and GEM Scale* score were significant in 3/5 countries (with ever use)

Men's use of Sexual Violence

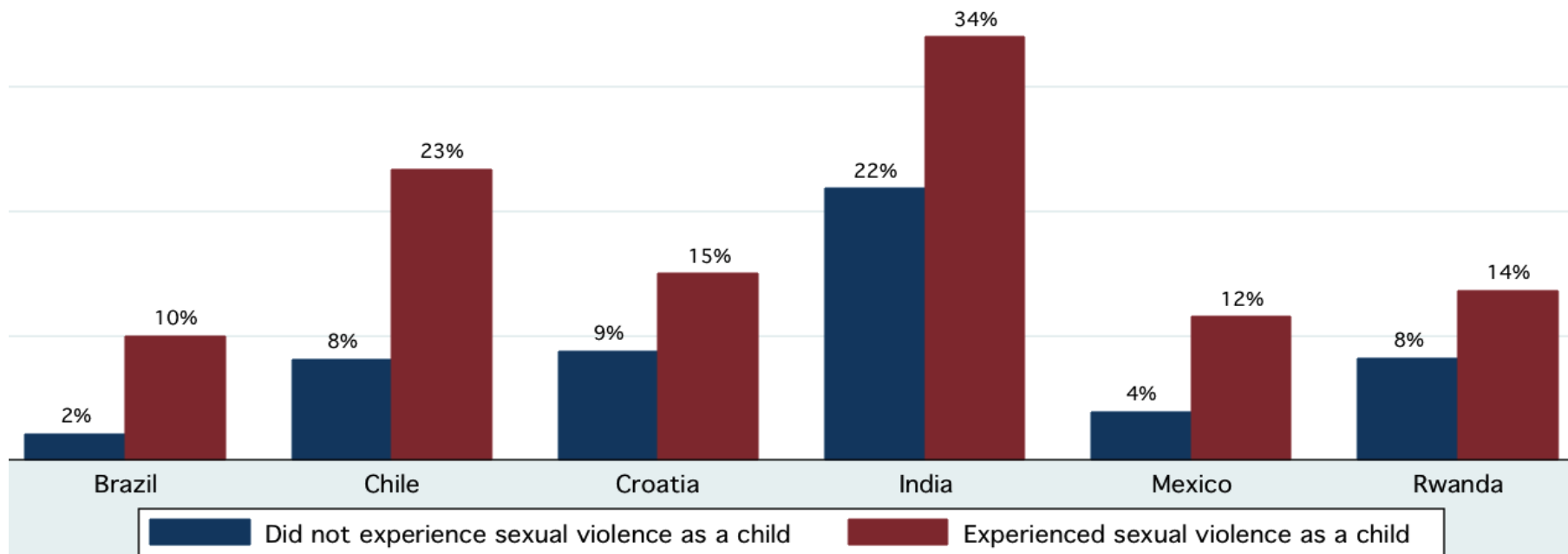


How do these compare to other SV studies? (SV ever use/experience)

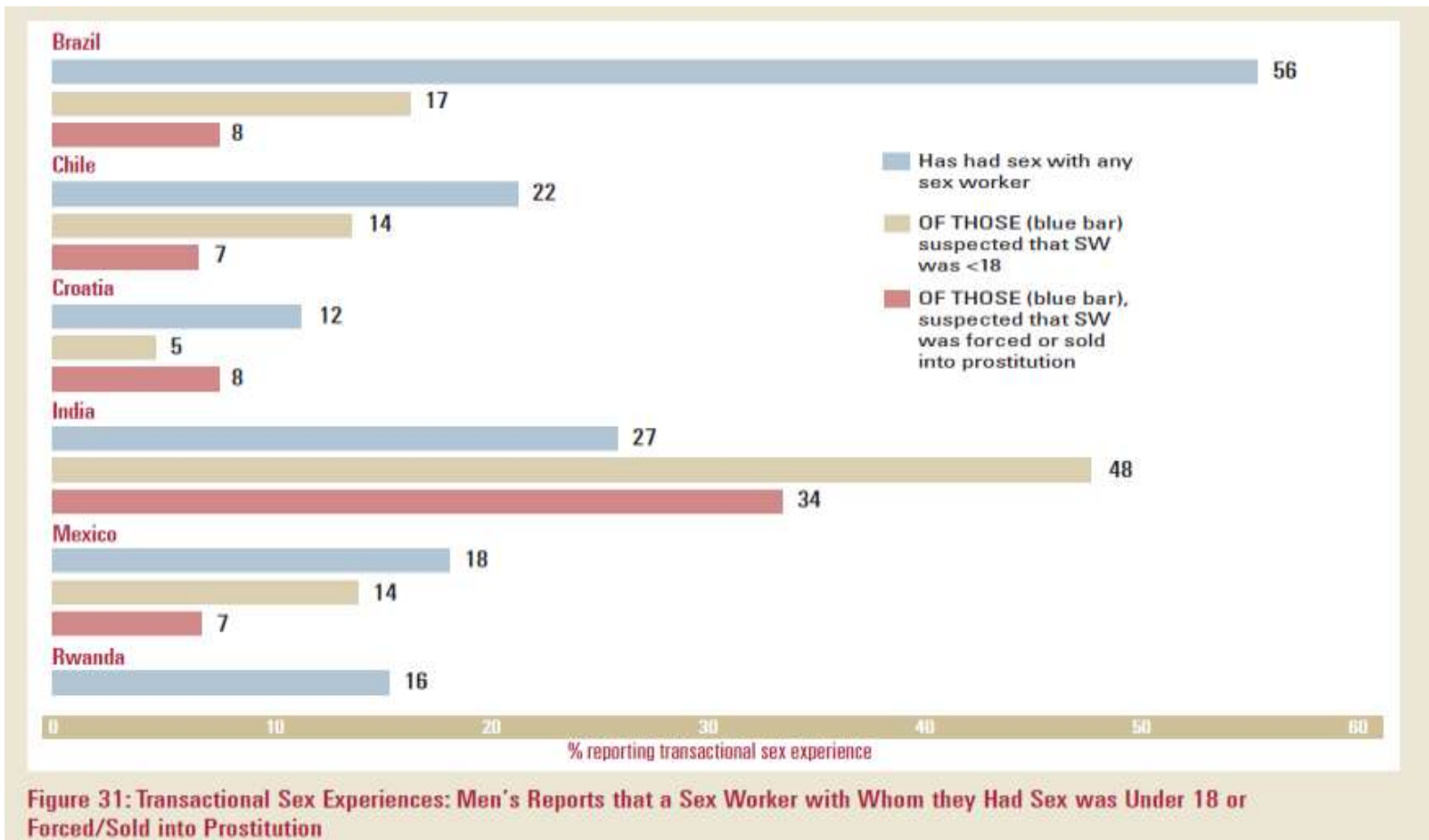
- Croatia-IMAGES (men) 9% - WHO VAW (women – Belgrade) 6%
- Brazil – IMAGES (men) 2% - WHO VAW (women – Sao Paulo) 10%
- India – IMAGES (men) 24% - DHS (women – nat'l) 10%
- Chile – IMAGES (men) 9% - Nat'l survey (women) 15.6%
- Rwanda – IMAGES (men) 9% – DHS (women) 12.9%

Sexual violence linked to childhood sexual victimization

Links between experiencing sexual violence as child and perpetrating it later



Paying for sex: *More common among men with inequitable attitudes, report work stress, are unsatisfied in current relationship*



About the Methodology

- India: PDA
- Chile, Brazil, Mexico: Interviewer administered paper questionnaire with option of self-administration on questions about sexual violence
- Rwanda: Interviewed administered
- Croatia and BH: Self-administered

Rwanda

- High awareness of new SV law leads to resistance by men to talk about (plus context of SV during the conflict/genocide)
- Common approach in qualitative and quantitative is to affirm that it happens everywhere then move to questions about individual use
- Gradual opening up of men in qualitative discussions; talking about SV that other men carry out
- Lesson: move from the general (wider community) to personal experiences
- Responses suggest some underreporting of SV by men (when compared to other studies in Rwanda)

Croatia

- About 10% refusal rate on SV questions (by men and women)
- High level of literacy permitted self-administered questionnaire
- Perception by researchers that SA was better approach than interviewer administered
- In pre-testing, compared IA to SA; both men and women preferred SA

India

- Highest rates of SV of all countries in study (included use of PDA)
- PDA contributed to lower refusal rates but rates of men's reports of SV about the same as previous studies ICRW-India had carried out with men/women
- Reflections: men forcing wives to have sex; considered "men's right" – may explain higher rates (no resistance to reporting something that is not considered wrong)
- High confidence in the data: SV and IPV rates consistent with other studies in India (even higher)

Brazil

- Low income respondents responded to SV questions like any others (immediately); middle class paused but answered
- Although SA offered for SV questions, only 5-6 men opted for it
- Low reports of SV are consistent with other research (except a study Promundo carried out with men arrested for IPV in which 24% women reported experiencing and only 5% partners of same women reporting using)
- Household survey in same community as IMAGES among young women ages 15-24, 2% reported experiencing SV

Mexico

- Issue complicated by having women interviewers (of men)
- High refusal rate (context of urban violence associated with fear of opening doors to strangers)
- “Survey fatigue” – respondents asking why the researchers wanted so much information, questions of whether asking such a long questionnaire is coercive
- Even with women interviews, 4% of men reported SV (higher than rate reported in Brazil)

Chile

- Relatively low refusal rate
- Although questionnaire offered self-administered, not requested in practice
- Believes PDA probably better for lowering refusal rates but IA probably did not lead to lower reporting of SV
- Found high fear of anonymity among respondents

Bosnia and Herzegovina (just completed)

- Extremely high refusal rates on SV questions (about 50% - had to carry out nearly 5000 interviews to get 2500)
- Men reported feeling pre-judged in questions about sexual violence (in the context of a country with more than 20,000 cases of SV during the war)
- Gendered responses to asking about SV: women reticent, men became angry
- Results still forthcoming but able to ask women and men

Overall Reflections

- Need for adequate time for pre-testing (and qualitative research to accompany)
- Context of post-conflict, urban violence must be taken into account
- Frequent complaints about length of questionnaire but in the end able to get responses
- Research/poll fatigue in some settings (“you always gather data, what do you do with it?”)
- At the same time, long questionnaire leads to “ease of responding” to sensitive topics
- High confidence in IPV data (w exception of Mexico), medium-high in the SV reports by men
- Providing list of services for women was well-received; limited spaces/options for men (what might we provide in future studies?)