

# Tanzania Violence Against Children 2009 Population Based Study

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# Outline of the Presentation

- ❑ Global problem of violence against children
- ❑ Why Tanzania?
- ❑ Objectives of the Tanzania Violence against Children Study
- ❑ Methods
- ❑ Results
- ❑ Conclusion



# The Global Burden of Violence against Children

- ❑ In 2002, WHO estimated that 150 million girls and 73 million boys had experienced some form of sexual violence prior to age 18
- ❑ 36-62 % of reported sexual assaults are committed against girls 15 or younger
- ❑ Only 10%-20% of child sexual abuse cases are reported to authorities
- ❑ Child survivors of sexual violence are at a significantly greater risk for negative health outcomes and sexual risk taking later in life



# The Choice of Tanzania for a National Study

- ❑ Little data available on the nature and magnitude of VAC in Tanzania
- ❑ Anecdotal evidence suggests a large and hidden epidemic
- ❑ Increasing evidence to suggest a link between child sexual violence and HIV
- ❑ Committed partners in the government and civil society



# **Objectives of the Tanzania Violence against Children Study**

- ❑ Estimate the nature and magnitude of violence experienced by children (under 18 years of age) in Tanzania**
- ❑ Identify the risk and protective factors of violence against children in Tanzania**
- ❑ Identify the health outcomes of violence against children in Tanzania**
- ❑ Estimate the service utilization of child survivors of violence in Tanzania**

# Defining Sexual Violence

## ❑ Sexual Touching

“...has anyone touched you in a sexual way against your will but did not try to force you to have sex? This includes being fondled, pinched, grabbed or touched inappropriately”

## ❑ Attempted Sex

“...has anyone tried to make you have sex against your will, but the sex did not happen. In other words, they did not succeed in making you have sex”

## ❑ Coerced Sex

“...has anyone pressured you to have sexual intercourse against your will and you had sex”

## ❑ Physically Forced Sex

“...has anyone physically forced you to have sexual intercourse against your will”

# Multi-Sectoral Approach

## ❑ Multi-Sectoral Task Force

- Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children
- Ministry of Labour, Youth, Women and Children
- Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
- Ministry of Home Affairs- Tanzania Police Force
- Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs
- Ministry of Education and Vocational Training
- Tanzania Commission for HIV and AIDS
- The Prime Minister's Office
- Tanzania Child Rights Forum

## ❑ UNICEF- Tanzania

## ❑ Muhimbili University

## ❑ CDC



# Methods



# Study Design

- ❑ **Retrospective Design**
- ❑ **13-24 year old Females and Males**
  - Zanzibar
  - Mainland
- ❑ **3-Stage Cluster Sample**
  - Random selection of clusters
  - Random selection of households
  - Random selection of respondents from eligible household members

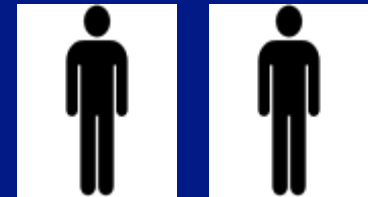
# Example of Two-stage Cluster Sample

Interview team visits cluster



Stage 1: Randomly select clusters throughout the country  
200 clusters selected

Stage 2: Randomly select households within a cluster  
36-52 households selected per cluster



Stage 3: Randomly select respondent for participation  
1 respondent selected per household

# Survey Design: Protect Respondents

- ❑ **WHO: Ethical and Safety Recommendations for Research on Domestic Violence Against Women**
- ❑ **Framing the Study in the Community**
- ❑ **3 Stage Consent/Assent Process**
- ❑ **Support services referral system including acute need**
  - If visibly upset during the interview
  - If experienced SV in the past 12 months
  - If requested counseling



# Results

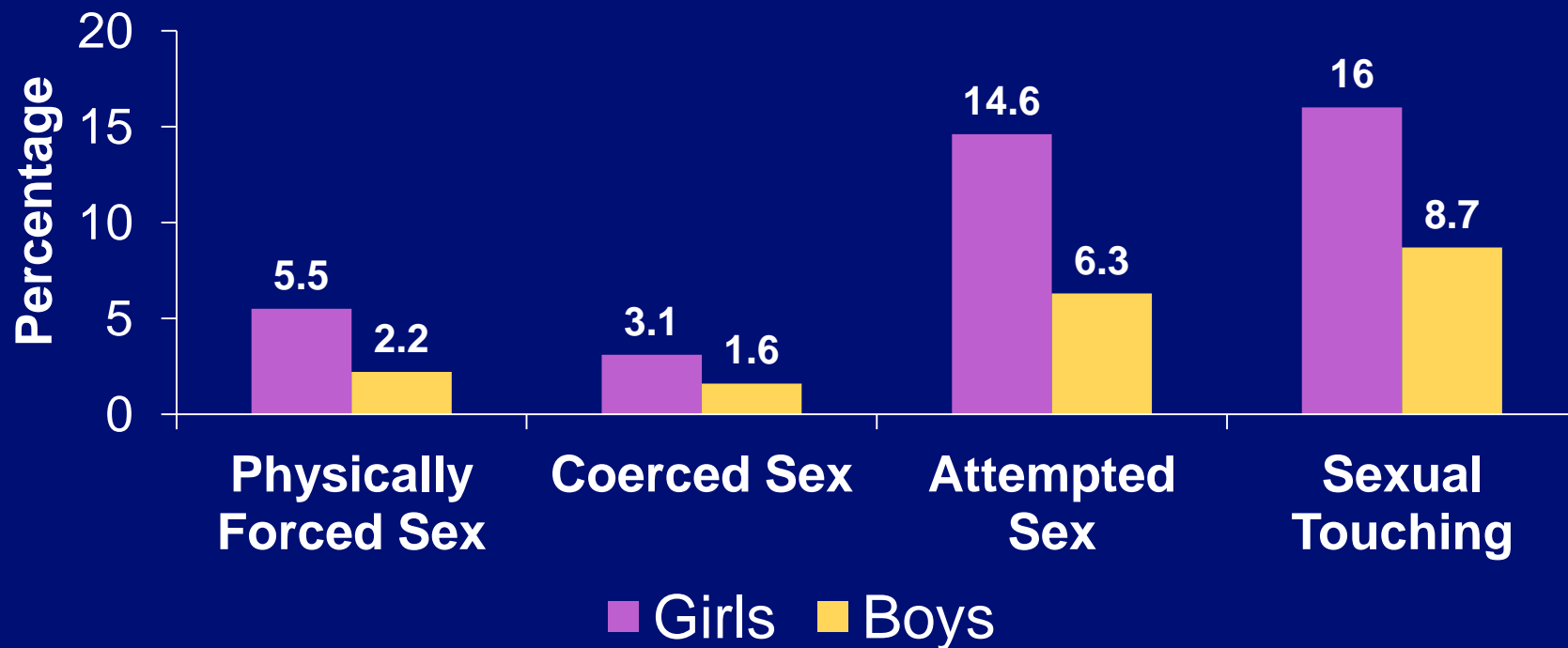
# The Final Sample

	Houses Visited	Completed Interviews
Mainland Tanzania Female	2104	908
Mainland Tanzania Male	2338	891
Zanzibar Female	2020	1060
Zanzibar Male	2231	880

# Prevalence

## Type of Childhood Sexual Violence

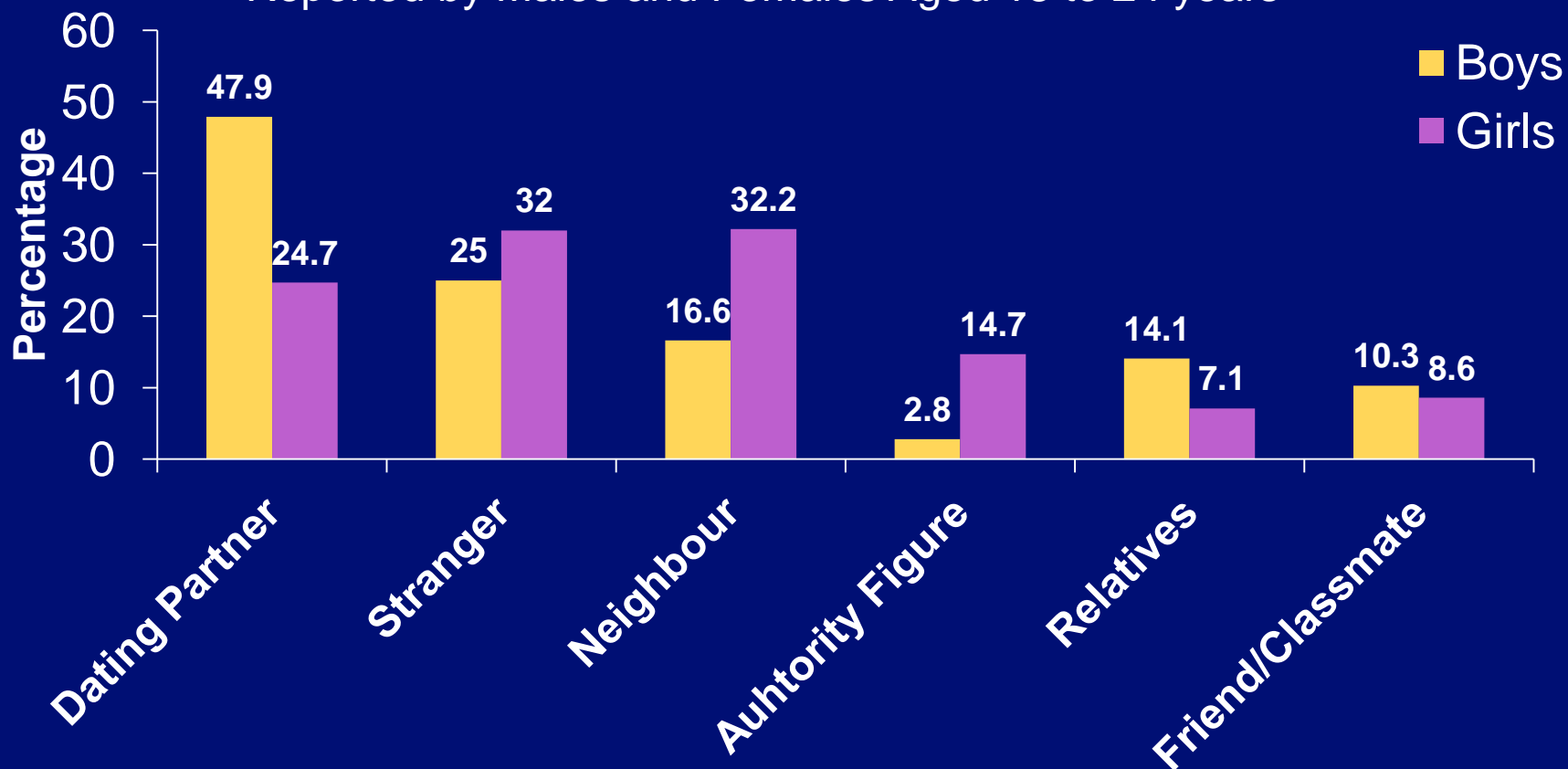
Reported by Males and Females Aged 13 to 24 Years



# Perpetration

## Perpetrators of Childhood Sexual Violence

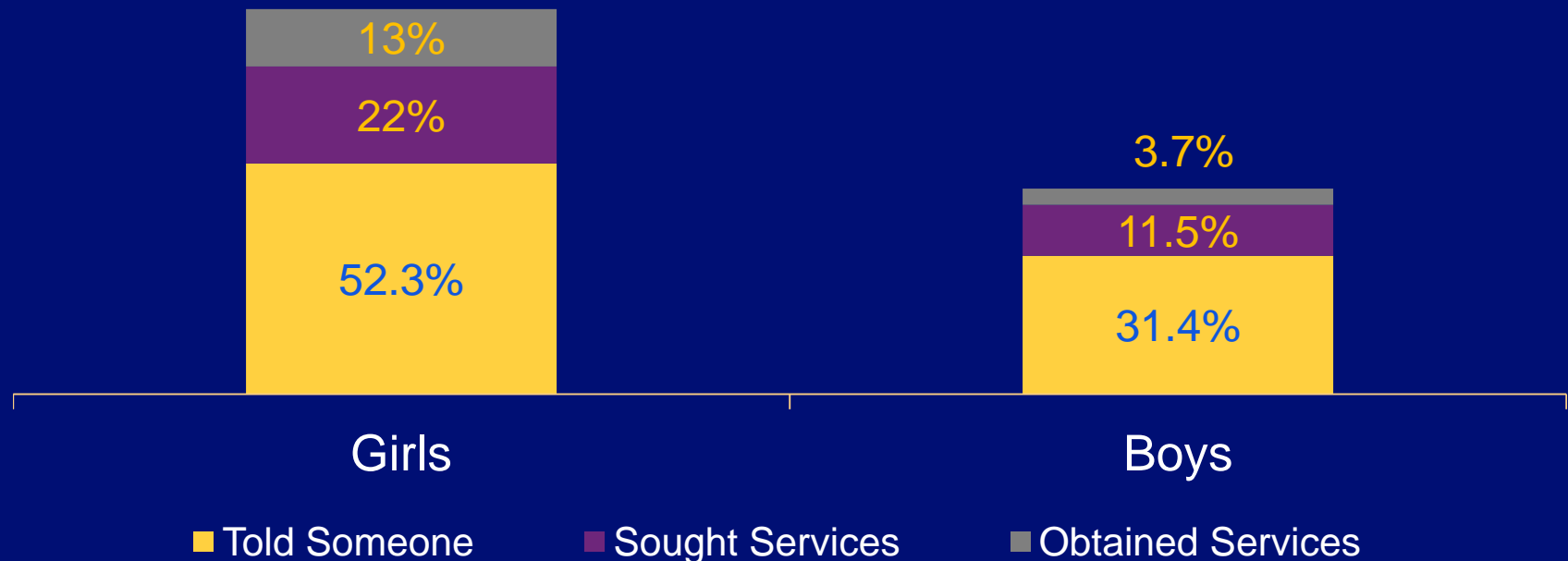
Reported by Males and Females Aged 13 to 24 years



## Service Seeking Behavior

### Child Survivors of Sexual Violence Who Told Someone, Sought Services and Obtained Them

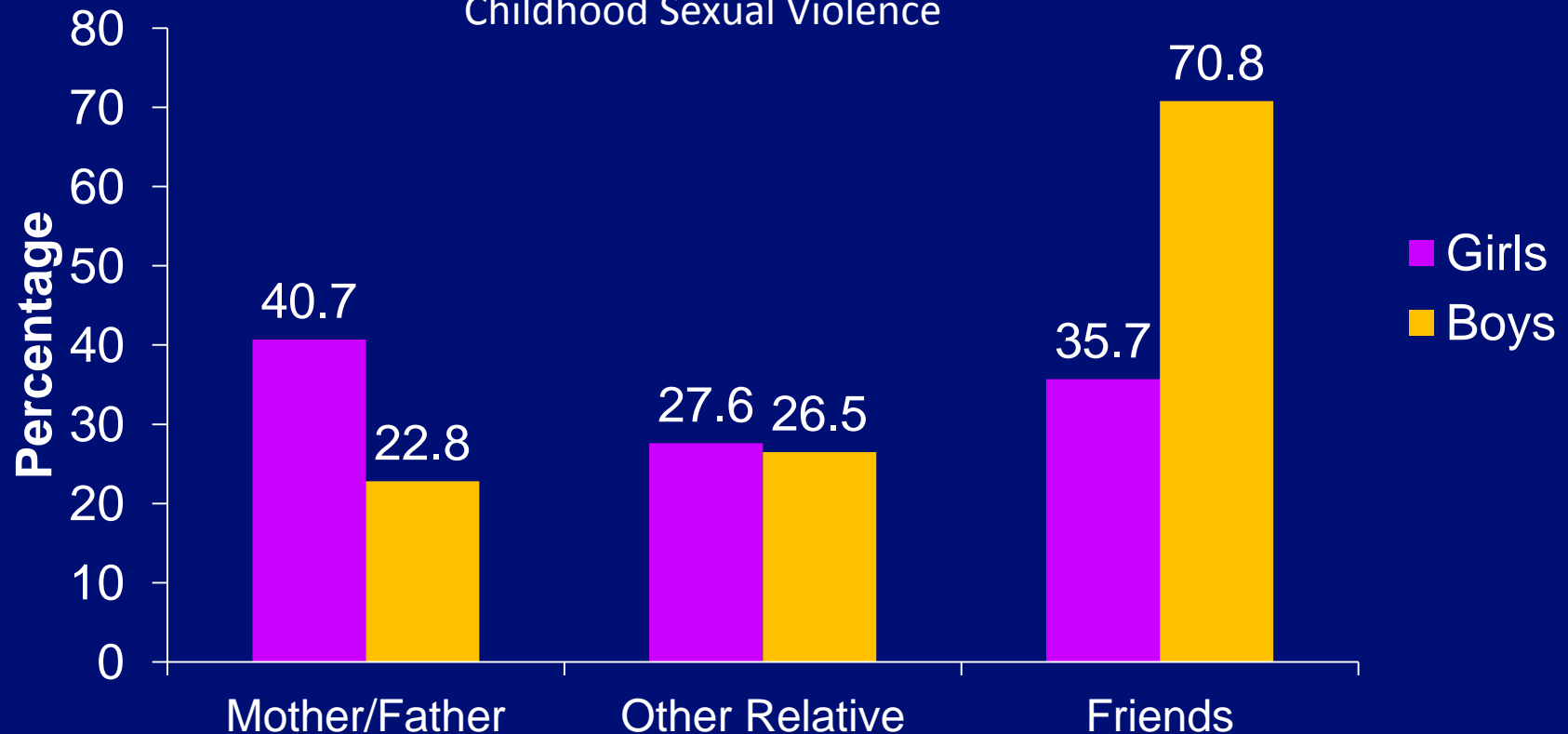
Reported by Males and Females Aged 13 to 24 Years





# Disclosure of to Support Networks

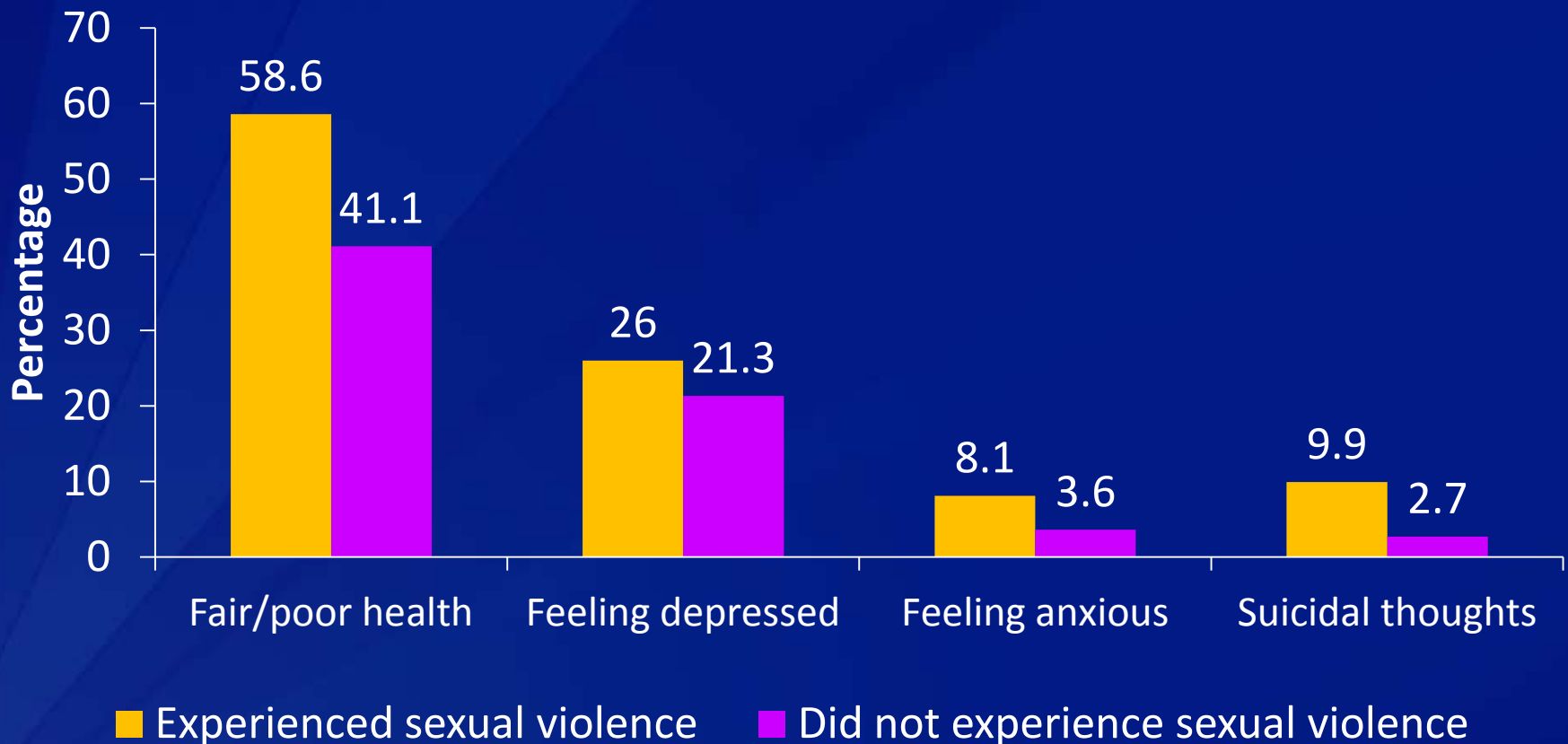
## Disclosure of Childhood Sexual Violence- Reported by 13-24 Year Olds Who Experienced Childhood Sexual Violence



# Health Outcomes of Sexual Violence: Females

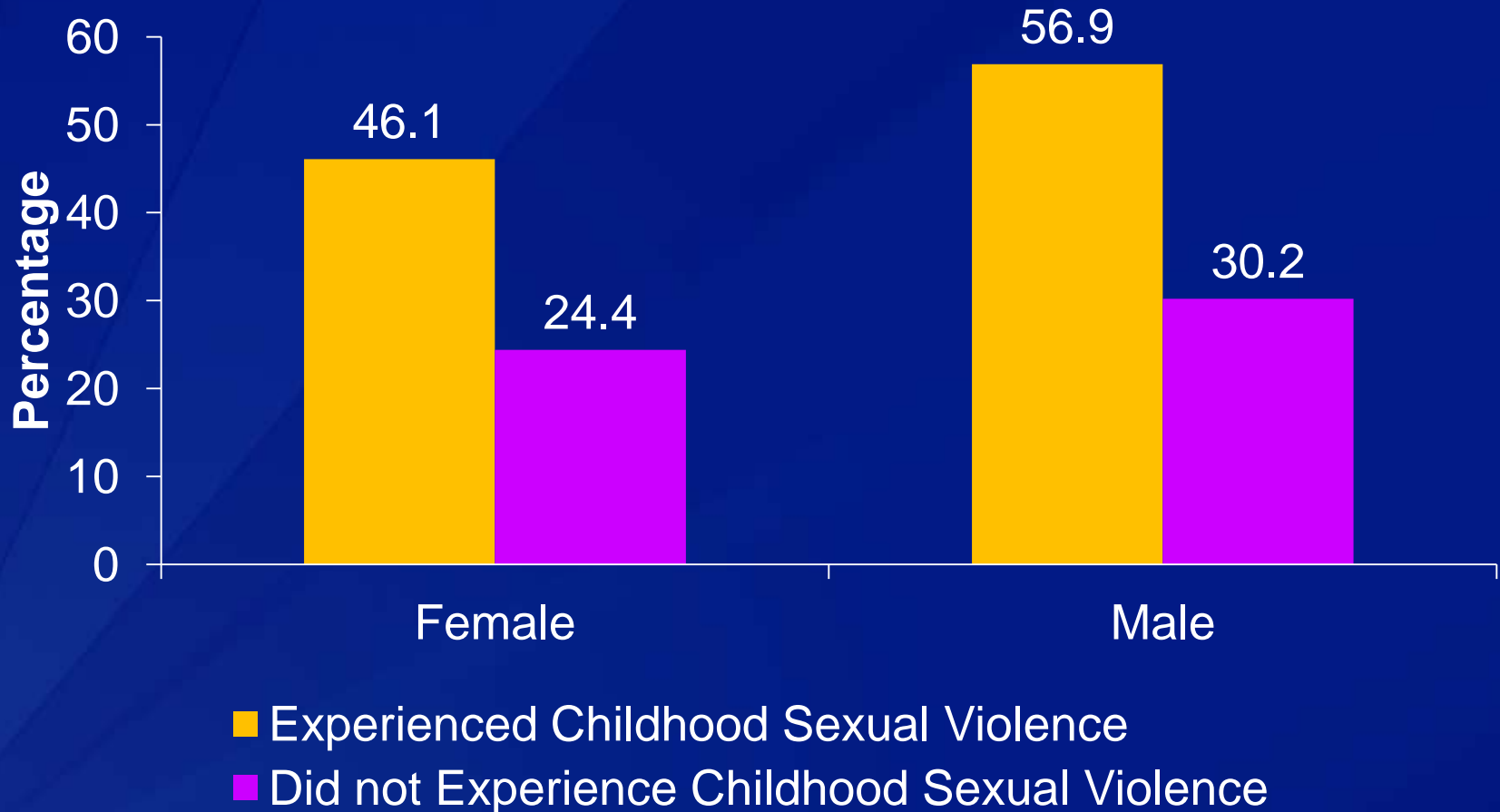
## Current health status of females who experienced childhood sexual violence

Reported by females aged 13-24 years



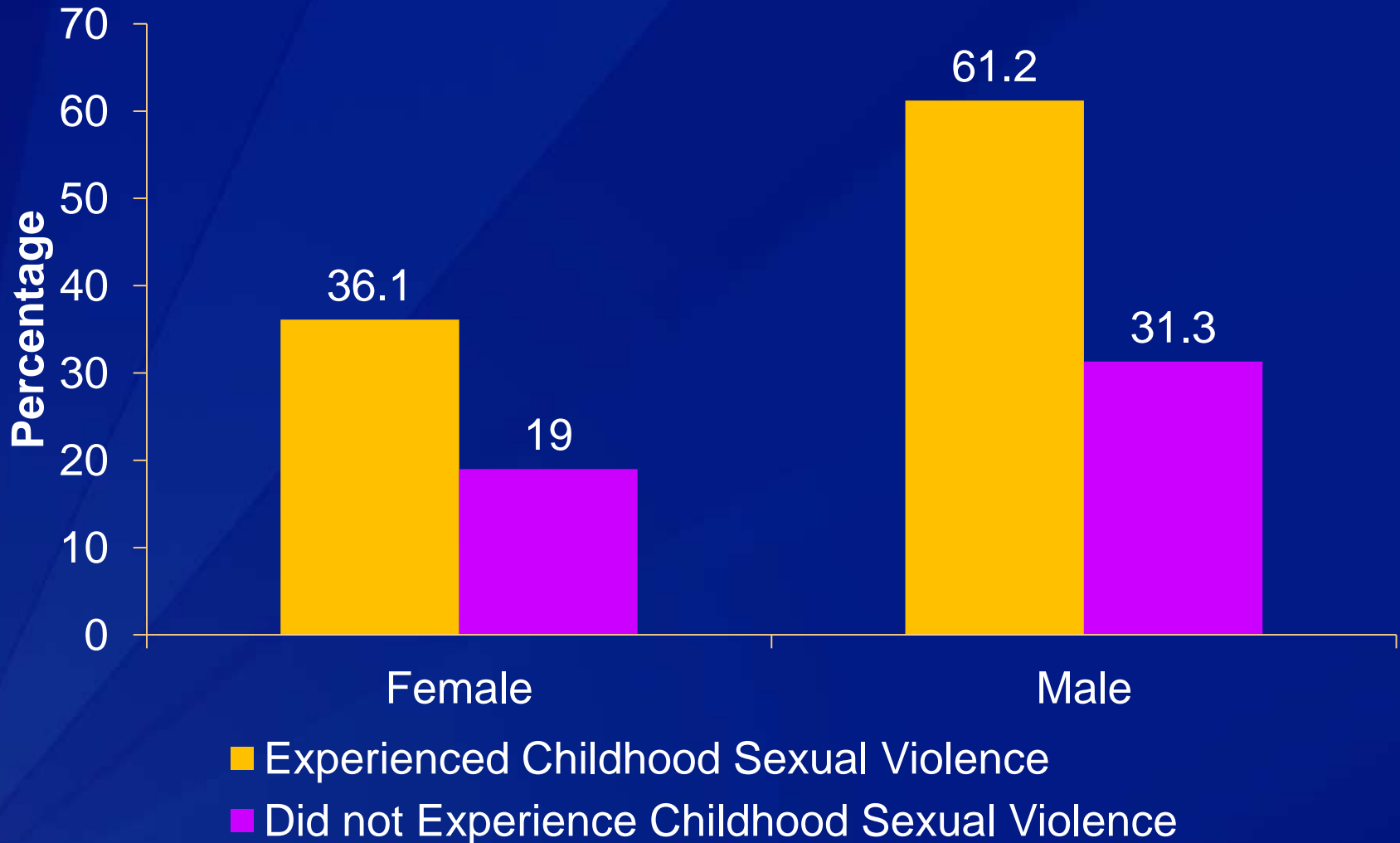
# Sexual Risk Taking : Condom Use

**None or Infrequent Self-Reported Condom Use in the Previous 12 Months by Experiences of Childhood Sexual**



# Sexual Risk Taking: Multiple Partners

## Multiple Sex Partners in the Previous 12 Months





**Conclusion**

## **Conclusions from the 2009 Tanzania VAC Study**

- ❑ The government of Tanzania and stakeholders have bravely decided to address the problem of VAC head-on**
- ❑ Sexual violence against children in Tanzania is an epidemic**
- ❑ Sexual violence against children in Tanzania is linked to negative health outcomes and sexual risk taking behaviors**
- ❑ Few children in Tanzania who have experienced sexual violence are receiving professional help**
- ❑ The government of Tanzania has developed a national strategy to address violence against children**

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