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Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights



Migration, Livelihood and Gendered Violence: Triple case-study of young female migrants in Dhaka

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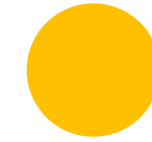
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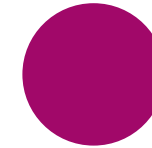




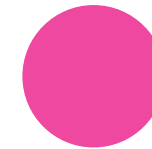
CONTENTS



Background



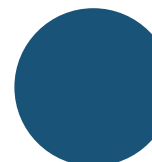
Objectives



Methodology



Findings



Conclusions



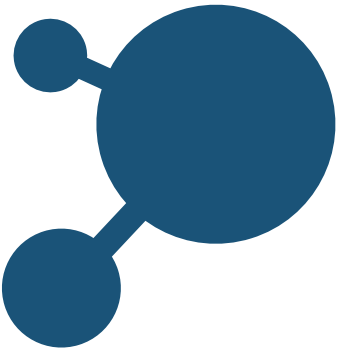
Background

- Increased Labour Force Participation
- Rural-Urban Migration
- Changed Social Networks
 - New Opportunities
 - Loss Old Protection Network

Impact of **Increasing Female Participation** on Potential GDP Growth

Female Labor Participation Rate

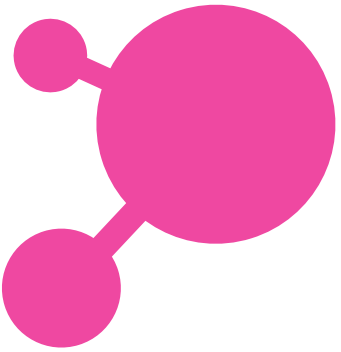




Objectives of Larger Project

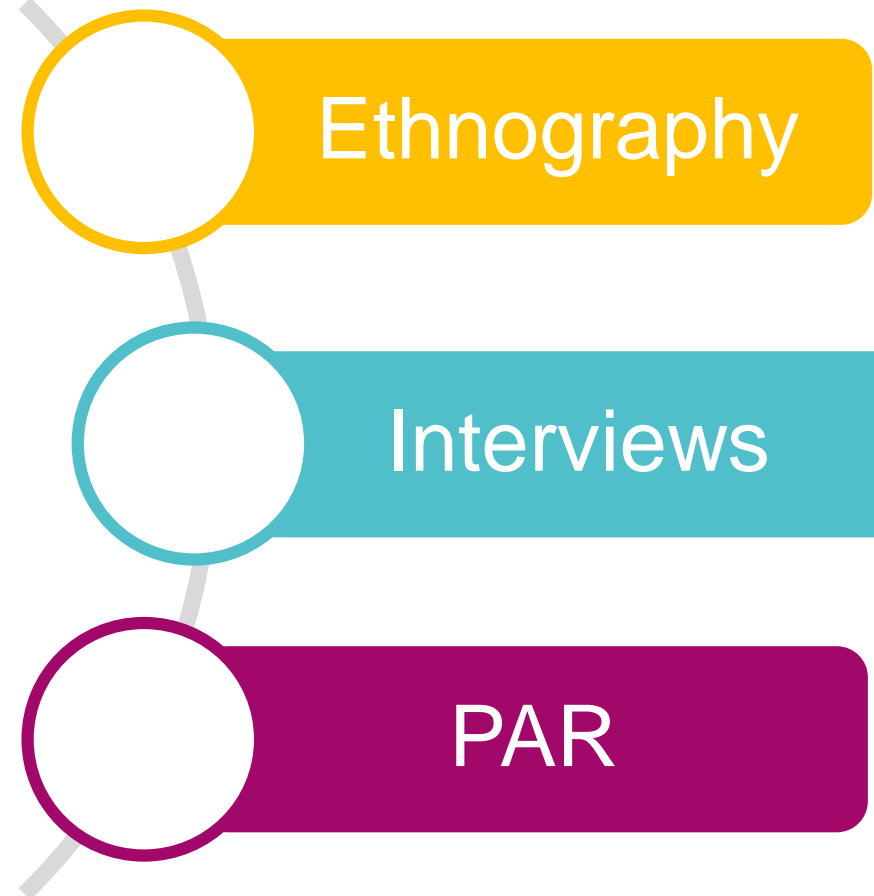
- How MIGRATION to Dhaka informs Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) amongst Young Female Migrants (YFMs).
- How different LABOUR Settings inform SRHR amongst Three groups of WORKING WOMEN:
 - i) Garment workers;
 - ii) Garo beauty parlour workers
 - iii) Hotel and residence based sex workers





Methodology

- Multi-method
- Multinational researchers
- Considers SRHR as CONTEXTUALIZED and EMBEDDED in Daily Practices and Lived Experiences of YFMs
- Peer Researchers and Animators
- Participatory Action Research (PAR)



Definition of Gendered Based Violence (GBV)

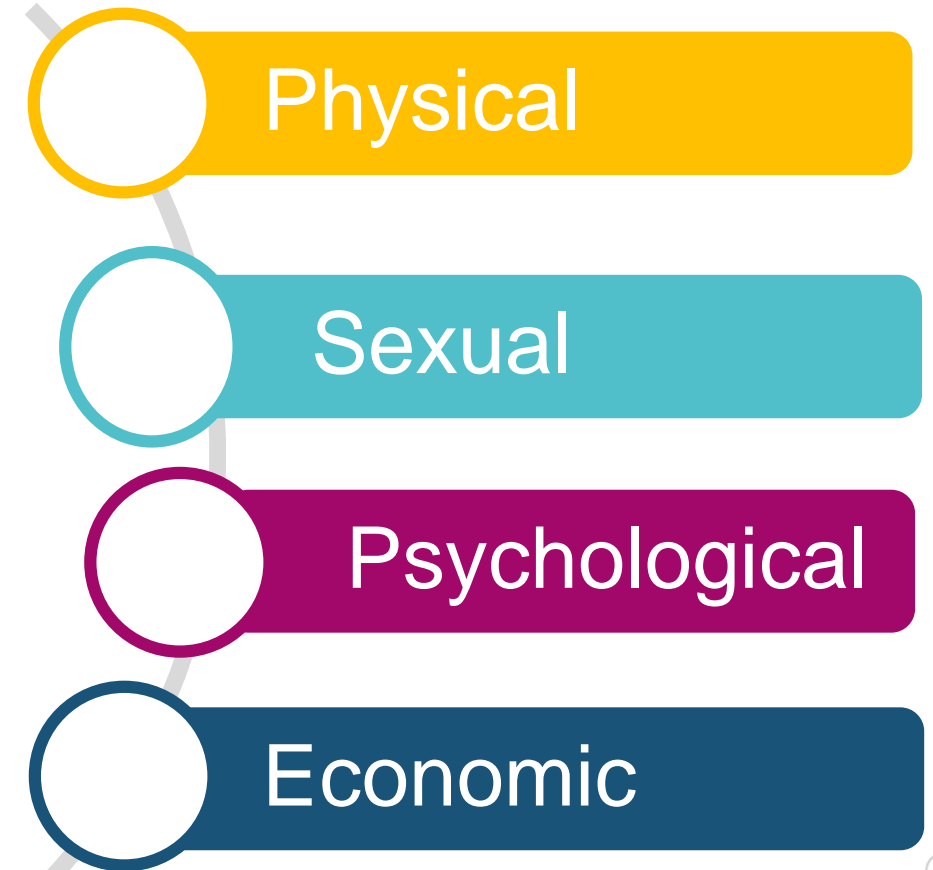
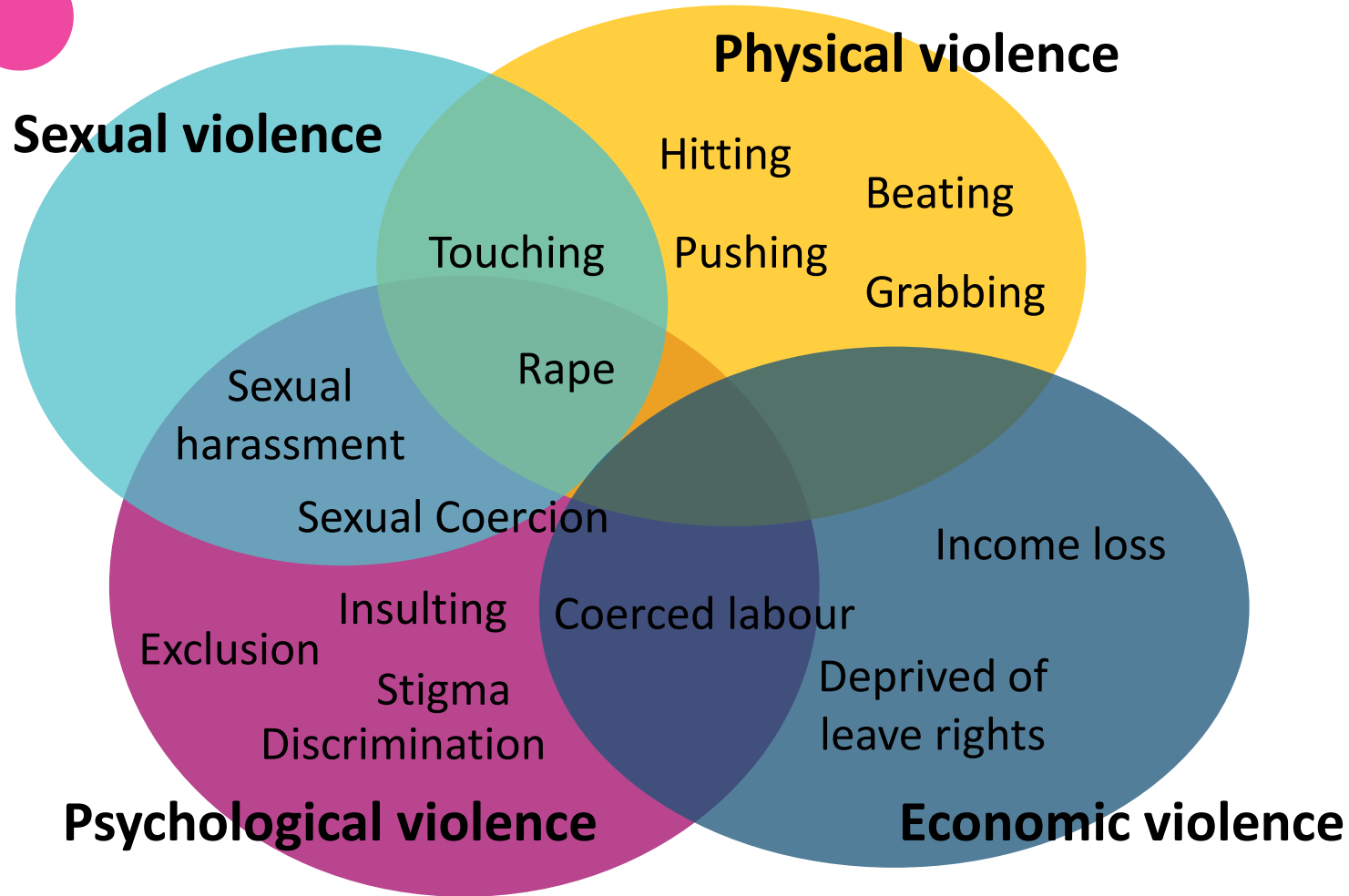
GBV captures **violence** resulting from “**normative role expectations** associated with each gender, along with the **unequal power relationships** between the two genders, **within the context of a specific society.**” (Bloom 2008, p14).

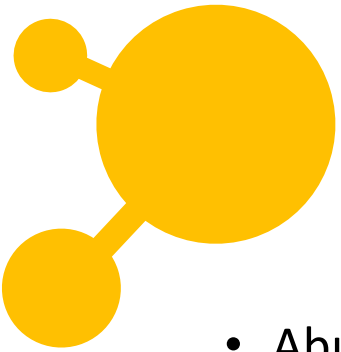
GBV is **Structural** as well as **Functional**





Interlinkages of GBV



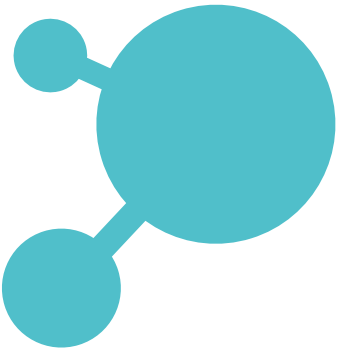


Physical Violence

- Abused, beaten, raped or killed by clients/police/mastans/partners
- Denied lawful justice
- Pushing, pulling of ears, slapping on the face, grabbing in neck.
- Forced to carry household tasks for employer, denied private space, denied (healthy-) food

Public as well as domestic

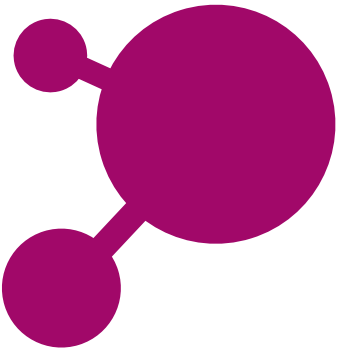




Sexual Violence

- Sexual misconduct and adultery in some home based parlours;
- Silence regarding sexual harassment in the garment due to normative sexuality norms;
- FSW often raped, hijacked and assaulted on the way home.

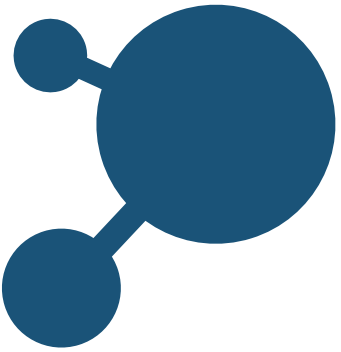




Psychological Violence

- Yelling, verbal insult, name-calling and blackmailing and threat of being fired damages self-esteem in particular amongst GW
- Racist and sexualized comments make Garos feel insecure
- Dress and Behaviour Codes for “Working Girls”
- “Burdens of Belonging” (Religious/Ethnic Group)
 - Pressure of Kinship Networks, i.e.
 - (Financial) obligations to husbands, children, parents”





Economic Violence

- Mastans and police often confiscate sex workers income/possessions (like mobiles, etc.) or demand free sex services
- Legal economic justice denied (such as paid maternal leave and benefits in the case of garment workers)
- Beauty parlour women often denied income during (maternal) leave and very limited or no paid holidays (in particular in smaller beauty parlours)
- Underpayment /no pay for overwork /extra activities

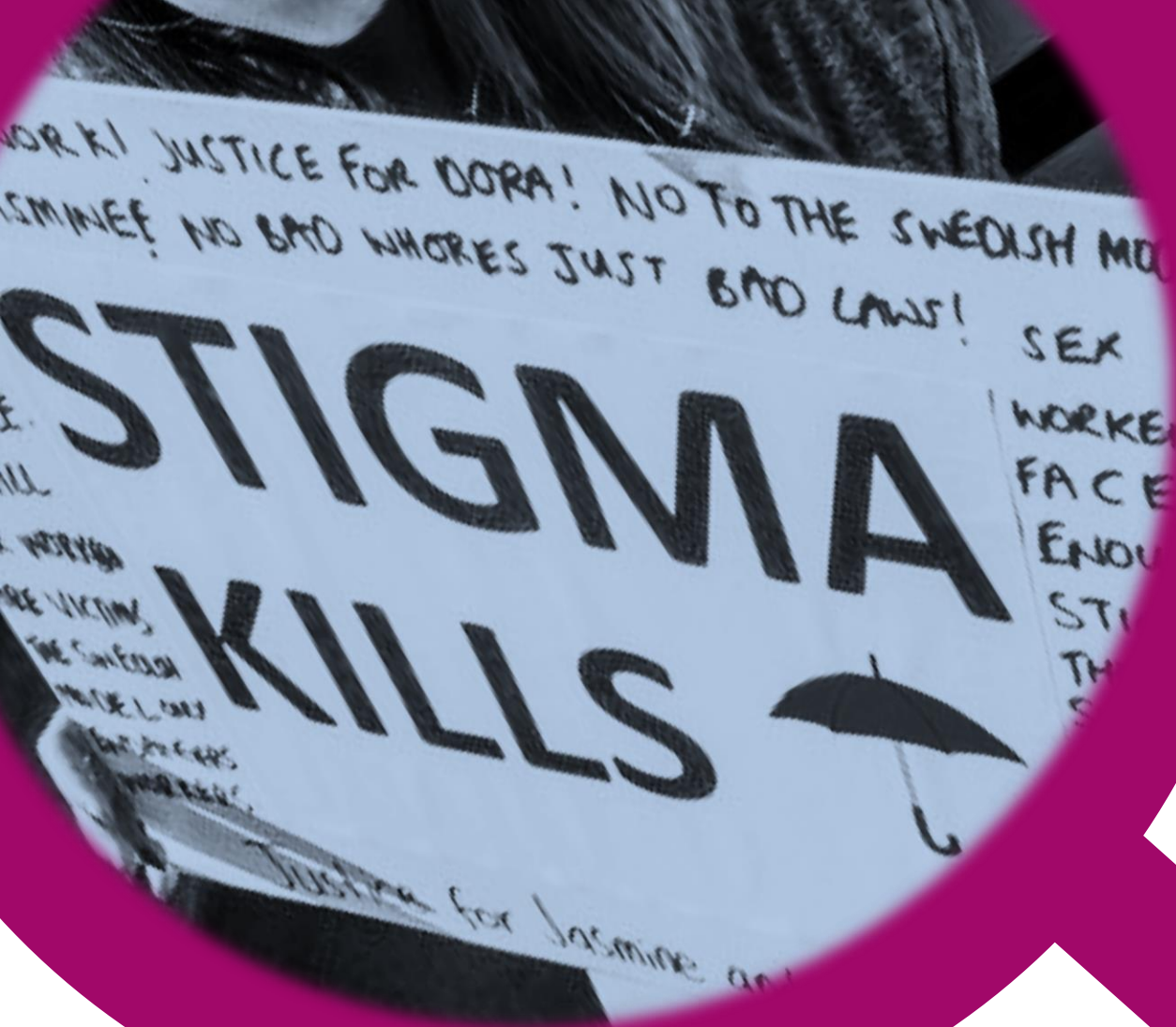




Ethnicity & GBV

- Work as service providers not managers in Bengali owned beauty parlours
- Discrimination in promotions
- Fear of sexual harassment at public places due to minority identity
- Pay higher house rent
- No special holidays/gifts etc. for Christian holidays

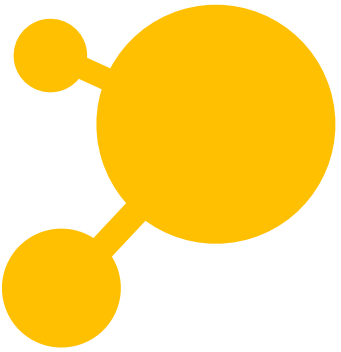




Stigma & GBV

- Work Stigma: “Bad girl/women syndrome”
- Construction of sexuality norms
- Stigma justifies structural violence
- Hide SRH problems





Conclusions

- GBV is structural for all three groups of women, i.e. rooted in unequal gender/class/ethnic /age/economic based power relations in various patriarchal public/private institutions (such as streets, workplaces and households)
- GBV is functional/organic, i.e. manifests itself in specific ways amongst different groups of young working women in Dhaka.
- Contextual (i.e. Gender, Ethnic, Migration, Poverty perspectives) needs to be addressed in policy and interventions from basic human rights perspective.





QUESTIONS *AND ANSWERS*