

Percentage of women who are survivors of violence and become successful business women (C02)(F18)

Survey Report

February 2018

Introduction

As part of the process of understanding the violence that Zardozi clients face, senior programme managers were interested to know what percentage of clients have suffered violence in their lives and whether this violence affects their ability to succeed as business women.

Survey Methodology

The questionnaire for the survey was developed by programme staff in Kabul Main Office at the end of 2017. Programme staff then discussed the questionnaire with volunteers (Kadar) and practised implementation with them. Kadar were used to do the survey rather than staff as Kadar come from the communities and discussing violence is not something that clients are comfortable to do with outsiders. Clients were selected for inclusion in the survey through a computer generated random selection of the women registered to the various Community Business Centres and therefore listed on the Client Master ID List held in Kabul. In total 349 women were surveyed in the four Zardozi operational areas. Kadar completed the questionnaires through individual interviews with clients in their house during the last two months of 2017.

The questionnaires were sent to Kabul and data entry was done by M&E and programme staff in Kabul main office. Data analyzing and report writing was completed by Kabul M&E.

Results

Table 1 Details of surveyed women suffering from violence and achieving 'employed' business status

Variable	HRO	JRO	KRO	MRO	Total	Percentage (over all)
Total number of women surveyed	97	93	55	104	349	
Number of women somehow suffered from violence	89	81	48	99	317	91%
Number of women suffered from violence and become successful business women	70	56	31	73	230	73%
Percentage of trained women who are survivors of violence and have become successful business women	72%	60%	56%	70%		66%

Under this survey respondents were asked about different type of violence, any respondent who was affected by any type of violence was counted as having been affected by violence (see Tables 1 and 2).

Table 2 Details of violence reported by surveyed women

Types of violence	Herat	Jalalabad	Kabul	Mazar	Total
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Harassment when outside the house					
Verbal abuse	36%	17%	33%	47%	34%
Following or touching	9%	2%	2%	11%	7%
Nuisance phone calls	0%	0%	0%	8%	2%
Domestic Abuse					
Verbal abuse - shaming in front of others	65%	59%	55%	55%	59%
Verbal abuse - shouting and threats	67%	78%	75%	68%	72%
Physical violence	48%	45%	47%	54%	49%
Physical violence resulting in significant injury	24%	17%	35%	28%	24%
Taking money or jewellery by force	46%	10%	27%	16%	25%

Clients reporting being affected by violence were cross checked with the database to find their recent business status. According to the Zardozi M&E Indicator Manual, 'employed' clients are those earning at least Afs 1,000 per month. 317 out of 349 women (91%) reported suffering one form of violence or another and 230 women out of these 317 women (73%) were listed as 'employed' in the Zardozi database according to the Zardozi criteria.

Conclusion

91% is a high percentage of women to be reporting some form of violence in their lives. However, the survey includes harassment as a form of violence and a report from Afghan Analysts Network in April 2017 refers to a 2015 survey which indicated that up to 91% of women reported having suffered harassment at least once in public spaces. Other data from this Zardozi survey such as 49% of women reporting physical violence and 24% of cases where the violence caused significant injury, point to a high percentage of women being traumatized from within their own families.

Anecdotal evidence that was gathered with the data indicated that women were traumatized by experiences of violence. In describing the physical violence they suffered a typical statement was

".. it was the most painful and worst thing that happened to me and I will never forget it ..". One woman reported that she was the victim of an attempted abduction as she walked down the pavement and only the prompt intervention of a passerby saved her.

Overall it is clear that although women who defy family opposition to leave their houses to conduct a small business, risk harassment and worse in public places, nevertheless they are most at risk in their own homes. Although this was a small survey, indications are that women suffering violence are still able to become successful business women. The number of women not reporting any violence in their lives was too small to enable them to be used as a comparison to women suffering violence. As a result it was not possible to understand whether there is any difference in business success between the two groups. Future surveys will be structured differently in order to bring out more information on the consequences of violence for clients.