



Violence Against Women: *Initiatives in the ESCWA Region*

**Expert Group Meeting on Indicators to
Measure Violence Against Women
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Beijing Platform of Action



Strategic objective D.2.

Study the causes and consequences of violence against women and the effectiveness of preventive measures

Action to be taken

Promote research, collect data and compile statistics, especially concerning domestic violence relating to the prevalence of different forms of violence against women, and encourage research into the causes, nature, seriousness and consequences of violence against women and the effectiveness of measures implemented to prevent and redress violence against women.

Contents

1- Initiatives in data collection on VAW

2- VAW issues and indicators in the Arab Region

3- Data collection constraints

4- Opportunities / Strategies

Initiatives in data collection on VAW

■ @ Regional Level

- ESCWA paper on Gender-Based Violence: Concept, Issues and Measurement in Workshop on Gender Statistics as a Tool for Policy Formulation and Analysis
- “G IS IN” Framework – 15 proposed indicators on VAW in IAEG Meeting on Gender and MDGs, Cairo, 10-11 October 2007.

■ @ National Level

- DHS modules on FGM and DV – Egypt, 2005
- DCMHS module on FGM – Yemen, 1997
- Domestic Violence Survey – Palestine, 2005
- Women and Men Report – Crime- Yemen, 2002
- MDGs - Honor Crimes – Jordan, 2004

G IS IN

MDGs	BPfA Areas of Concern for the Arab Countries	
	Priority I	Priority II
G1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger	<i>- Women and poverty</i>	<i>- Women and the economy</i>
G2: Achieve Universal Primary Education	<i>- Education and training of women</i>	
G3: Promote Gender Equity and Empower Women	<i>- Women in power and decision-making</i> <i>- <u>Violence against women</u></i>	<i>- Women and the media</i>
G4: Reduce child mortality		<i>- The girl-child</i>
G5: Improve Maternal Health		<i>- Women and health</i>
G6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases		
G7: Ensure environmental sustainability		
G8: Develop a global partnership for development		

Issues:

I- Female Genital Mutilation:

- i- Egypt Case**
- ii- Yemen Case**

II- Domestic Violence:

- i- Egypt Case**
- ii- Palestine Case**

III- Crime and Violence:

- i- Yemen Case**

FGM

Initiatives in data collection

- The practice of FGM has been a tradition in some Arab countries like Egypt, Sudan, Yemen...
- This operation negatively affects the lives of women, it causes:
 - Pain and Injuries
 - Complications during delivery
 - Psychological traumas
- Questions designed to assess the current prevalence of circumcision have been included in Egypt DHS and Yemen DCMHS questionnaires

FGM

Source & Target Population

Egypt

Yemen

Sources	EDHS 2005	DCMHS 1997
Target Population	Women Respondents and their Daughters <small>Slide 43</small>	Women

FGM Prevalence

Egypt

- virtually a universal practice
- 96% EMW circumcised
- Ranged btw 92% urban-98% rural
- <90% in:
 - o Urban Governorates 89%
 - o Frontier Governorates 72%
- 98% No education
- 92% Secondary/higher
- 93% working for cash
- 96% not working for cash
- 89% lowest – 87% highest wealth Q

Egypt Background Characteristic: Wealth quintile

Yemen

- 51% reported only hearing of this operation
- 23% circumcised after marriage
- 20% circumcised before marriage
- Most circumcisions are carried out:
 - o 68% by traditional midwife

Yemen Prevalence

- o 97% at home
- o 75% using shaving blades

Yemen Prevalence

FGM Indicators

Egypt

Yemen

-% EMW (15-49) circumcised by background characteristics (Age, urban rural residence, education, work status, wealth quintile)

-% girls (0-17) currently circumcised

-% girls (0-17) who are not yet circumcised but whose mothers intend them to be circumcised

-% expected to be circumcised by age 18 taking into account the current circumcision status and mother's intention by girl's current age, and mother's background characteristics

- % girls 0-17 reported by mothers being circumcised by age at circumcision, urban-rural

-% of female circumcision among married women

-% of female circumcision among non-married women

-% of circumcision carried out by type of peoples profession:

- midwife
- barber
- relative
- doctor

-% of circumcisions carried out by type of place:

- home
- hospital



Egypt

Yemen

-% women (15-49) who believe circumcision is required by religious perception

-% EMW (15-49) own attitude and perceptions about men's attitude toward the continuation of FGM by background

-characteristics

--% EMW (15-49) agree with FGM statements by background characteristics

--% EMW (15-49) informed on FGM during 6month period prior to the survey

-% women informed by type of sources and background characteristics

-% of circumcisions carried out by type of tool:

- shaving blades
- scissors

-% health complications by type of complication:

- bleeding
- pain
- septicemia
- fever

Domestic Violence Initiatives in Data Collection

- Domestic violence has been acknowledged as a worldwide violation of basic human rights as it creates:
 - Health burdens
 - Intergenerational effects
 - Demographic consequences

- Egypt included a special module on DV in its DHS, while Palestine conducted an independent survey.

- The objectives:
 - Make available crucial database
 - Provide data and indicators on types and forms of DV
 - Explore relation between domestic and political violence
 - Identify size and degree of problem
 - Identify the victim's and perpetrator's socio-demo charac.
 - Identify the means to counter it

Domestic Violence

Source & Target Population:

	Egypt	Palestine
Sources	EDHS 2005	PCBS 2005
Target Population	Only one women per HH	Survey conducted on 4 groups of people: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Women who are or have been married (15-24)- Unmarried women (18+)-Children (5-17)-Senior citizens (65+)

Domestic Violence Prevalence

Egypt

Palestine

-50% of EMW (15-49)

-1year prior to survey:

- **1/5 subjected to domestic violence**
- **7% often experienced physical violence**

- 20+ years women more likely to experience physical violence than 15-19 years

-Women working for cash were less likely to experience physical violence than for no cash

-45-49 yrs least subjected to violence in the year preceding the survey

- Wealth [Egypt Percentage who have experienced Physical violence ...](#)

-62% EMW exposed to psychological violence, 23% exposed to physical violence, and 11% exposed to sexual violence at least once by husband

-58% EMW with secondary education and more were exposed to psychological violence, 19% exposed to physical violence, and 9% exposed to sexual violence at least once by the husband

-66% EMW with secondary education and more were exposed to psychological violence, 28% exposed to physical violence, and 13% exposed to sexual violence at least once by the husband during the period preceding 2005.

-28% women agree that a husband should beat his wife in case she left the house without asking.

-11% of women agree that a husband should beat his wife in case she fails to prepare the food on time.

Egypt

Palestine

-Women's marital status was strongly related;

- 75% of divorced or separated
- 43% of widowed
- 47% of currently married women

-25% rural women

-19% urban women

-> 50% among less-educated women

-- < 40% secondary or higher education subjected to physical violence

-26% husbands had been exposed to psychological violence compared with 4% who stated that their husbands had been exposed to physical violence (stated by wives).

-25% NMW (18+) exposed to physical violence compared with 53% exposed to psychological violence at least once by one of the HH members

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-30% NMW (18+) were exposed to physical violence compared with 53% exposed to psychological violence at least once by one of the HH members during the period preceding 2005.

-Mother stated that 52% of their children have been exposed to violence

-6% of elderly people (65+) were exposed to physical Violence by one of the HH members

-17% of elderly people (65+) were exposed to Emotional abuse by one of the HH members

Forms of Physical violence

Egypt

- Pushed, shook, or threw something at women
- Slapped her or twisted her arm
- Punched her with fist or object
- Kicked or dragged her
- Tried to strangle or burn her
- Threatened her with a knife, gun, or weapon
- Attacked her with a knife, gun, or weapon

Palestine

- Throwing heavy objects at the women
- Twisting her arm or pulling her hair
- An attack resulting in wounds, scratches, injuries
- Pushing and shoving
- Attacked her with a knife or any sharp object
- Hitting with miscellaneous objects (belt or cane)
- A strike on the head resulting in a concussion
- Strangulation
- Burning
- Hold tightly in an annoying manner
- An attack resulting in a broken bone

Forms of Emotional

Egypt

- Said or did something to humiliate women
- Threatened harm to women herself /person close to her

Palestine

- Cussing and insulting
- Yelling and screaming
- Breaking or destroying personal objects
- Using hurtful phrases (ex: ugly or fat)
- Threatened harm to woman herself/ person close to her
- Saying things that bother the women and make her angry

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Forms of Sexual

Egypt

- Physically forced to have sex

Palestine

- Refusing to use contraceptives
- Physically forced to have sex
- Using forms of physical power to force sex
- Using threats to force sex
- Using threats to force other forms of sex

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Seeking assistance from

Reasons for not seeking assistance

-Male relatives:

- Father
 - Brother
 - Father-in-law
 - Other male relatives
- relative

-Female relatives:

- Mother
- Sister
- Mother-in-law
- Other Female

-Friend / neighbor

-Employer

-Religious leader

-Doctor / medical personnel

-Police

-Lawyer

-Center or institution for women

-Don't know who to go to

-No use

-Part of life

-Afraid of divorce/desertion

-Afraid of further beating

-Afraid of getting husband in trouble

-Embarrassed

-Did not want to disgrace family

-Not important

-Other

Justifications

Egypt

- Goes out without telling him
- Neglects the children
- Argues with him
- Refuses to have sex
With him
- Burns the food

Palestine

- Talk to him in a provocative manner
- Don't obey his orders
- Behaves in an unacceptable way when they are alone/ when they are with people
- Curses him or his family
- Says things that embarrass him in front of others
- Talks with other men in a manner that provokes him
- Didn't prepare meal on time
- Didn't do housework properly
- Leave home without asking
- Doesn't look after the children the way he wants



Child upbringing Issues

Person practiced Assault

-Household children upbringing is the responsibility and the business of their parents; no external party may ever intervene

-Children force parents to hit them sometimes

-Beating a child is allowed in certain circumstances in order to teach him/her

-Parents may use physical power against a child if such child does not follow their instructions

-A HH member

-A relative

-A neighbor

-A teacher

-A friend

-Boy or girl on the road

Risk Circumstances for Children

- Absent from school without an excuse or permission from anyone**
- Disappeared or was absent from home for many hours**
- Spent the night outside home without their consent**
- Disobey the teachers**
- Beaten by adults from the household**
- Beat boys or girls who are strangers, school colleagues, friends, brothers, or sisters**
- Beat one of the parents**
- Beat one of the teachers**
- Lied, cheated**
- Destroyed or ruined school or neighborhood property**
- Showed signs of reclusion due to sadness or depression (resulting from fear and worrying**

Types and Forms of Violence for the Elderly

Physical Violence

- Tried to hurt you and inflict harm
- Twisted arm or pushed
- An attack resulting in wounds, scratches, injuries
- Beat on head resulting in coma
- Beat with a belt, stick or similar sharp object
- Breaking bones resulting from attack

Emotional Violence

- Make you feel unwanted
- Afraid of any of the HH members
- Cursing and Insulting
- Forcing to do something that aren't willing
- make you feel unwanted
- Isolate you from people or prevented you from mixing with them

Economic Abuse

- Take something that you own without your approval
- Destroyed or spoiled personal belongings

Medical Abuse

- HH members don't give you the medicine you cant take yourself

Domestic Violence Indicators

Egypt

EMW

-% who have experienced physical violence since age 15

-% reporting experienced various forms of violence in their relationship with their current/most recent husband by background characteristics of both spouses

Palestine

EMW

-% exposed to any violence by husband, at least once by wife/husband background characteristics, region, type of locality and type of violence

Egypt

EMW

-% who agree that a husband is justified in beating his wife, by selected background characteristics (Age, marital status, experience with physical violence, urban rural residence, education, work status, wealth quintile)

-% experienced physical or sexual violence in their relationship with their current/most recent husband within the past year who reported seeking assistance to prevent or stop violence, by assisting persons, according to frequency of violence

-% experienced violence within past year and did not seek assistance by main reason for not seeking assistance, according to frequency of violence

Palestine

EMW

-% Distribution of their opinion about beating of wife by husband if she did any behavior may be arousing him by region, locality, education attainment, labor force status, and behaviors

Egypt

All Women

-% who experienced physical violence 1 year prior to the survey, by background characteristics (Age, urban rural residence, education, work status, wealth quintile)

-% women reporting physical violence by perpetrator of the violence and current marital status

- % women experiencing physical violence during pregnancy, by background characteristics

Palestine

EMW

-% exposed to violence of husband by region, locality and types, frequency of violence, type and actions of violence

-% exposed to violence of husband by sought institution, taken measures for assistance and satisfaction of received assistance

-% exposed to violence of husband by region, locality, availability of services near the home and type of violence

Palestine

NMW

-% (18+) who lived with HH and exposed to any violence by a member of HH at least once by background characteristics, region, type of locality and type of violence

-% (18+) who lived with HH and exposed to violence by a member of HH by types and forms of violence and region/ locality for selected years

Palestine

Children

-% EMW who agree on violence against their children when they behave in unacceptable way

by gender of child, range of approving and region

-% EMW who agree on violence against their children when they behave in unacceptable way according to family perspective by gender of child, range of approving and type of locality

-% EMW who's children exposed to violence by region, type of locality and child age

-% EMW who's children exposed to violence by place of violence occurrence and by person practiced assault and by region

-% EMW and their opinion about child upbringing issues by region / locality

-Risk circumstances children exposed to by region and sex

Palestine

Elderly (65+)

-% exposed to any violence from members of HH by:

- region
- type of locality
- type of violence
- form of violence
- region

Men

-% men exposed to any violence by the wife at least once by

- background characteristics of husband
- background characteristics of wife
- region
- type of locality
- type of violence

Crime & Violence

Initiatives in Data Collection

- **Data for crime and violence in Yemen has been collected from the ministry of interior**
- **Data collected is classified in three groups:**
 - **Rape**
 - **Assault**
 - **Murder**
- **Data has been disaggregated by age and gender**

Crime & Violence

Prevalence

Yemen

Source	Ministry of interior, 2006
Prevalence	<p>Majority of violence against men occurs in the adult age</p> <p>A sizeable proportion of violence against women occur during childhood (0-14)</p> <p>Majority of those sentenced by law were men</p> <p>2% of sentenced for murder are women 1% of sentenced for robbery are women</p>

Crime & Violence Indicators

Yemen

Indicators	
	-% of crimes committed by women
	-% of crimes committed by men
	-% crimes committed by men by type of crime (rape, assault, murder)
	-% crimes committed by women by type of crime (rape, assault, murder)

Arab Proposed Indicators

“G IS IN” Framework

1. No. of women victims of violence per 1, 000 people (domestic, public, workplace)
2. Ratio of women to men in prison per 1,000 people
3. Prevalence of domestic violence by type and form
4. Types of spousal violence experienced by women and men
5. # Registered deaths among women and girls caused by domestic violence
6. Rate per 100,000 of sexual assault reported to the police
7. Number of annual human rights awareness activities which are related to the issue of domestic violence
8. Conviction rates for sexual assault and other violent crimes
9. Annual # of women and children using shelters
10. Capacity of available shelters for women and children
11. Ratio of expenditure by government to donors and NGOs on preventing , mitigating, and eliminating gender-based violence
12. Prevalence of FGM
13. Number of crimes of Honor
14. Rates of spousal homicide reported to police, by age of victim and marital status
15. % physically or otherwise abused/ sexually harassed female domestic workers³² of the total domestic workers

Constraints

- No single tool to measure and track all dimensions of VAW
- lack of monitoring and follow up laws
- Low disclosure rates due to safety and confidentiality
- Under estimates of prevalence rates
- Lack of integrated information systems
- Weak capacity for inter-institutional cross-referencing
- Offender-based data
- Excludes victims who do not report or seek help
- Limited access to criminal records
- Lack of protocols for recording data

Opportunities/Strategies

■ @ National level

- Including VAW in Women and Men and national MDG reports
- Awareness raising on VAW
- Inclusion of special modules or conducting special surveys
- Integration of data methods and unified protocols to facilitate cross-referencing
- Identify areas in data systems for improvement

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- **@ Regional level**
 - **GSP in the Arab countries – revitalized**
 - **Arab GenInfo Database – “G IS IN”**
 - **Establishment of a Task Force on Gender Statistics and Indicators**
 - **Cooperation with other regional commissions, WB, and UN agencies**

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- The end..

Thank you..

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Annex

Egypt

Background Characteristic: Wealth quintile

Wealth quintile	% EMW (15-49) Circumcised	# EMW (15-49)
Lowest	97.8	3,565
Second	99.1	3,778
Middle	98.3	3,931
Fourth	97.1	4,137
Highest	87.3	4,063
Total	95.8	19,474

SECTION 8 FEMALE CIRCUMCISION

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES				SKIP
801	Now I would like to talk about the practice of female circumcision. Have you yourself been circumcised?	YES	1	NO	2	→ 803
802	How old were you when you were circumcised?	AGE IN COMPLETED YEARS	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	DON'T KNOW	98
803	CHECK 214 AND 217 AT LEAST ONE DAUGHTER AGE 0-17 YEARS <input type="checkbox"/> NO DAUGHTERS 0-17 YEARS <input type="checkbox"/>					→ 812
804	CHECK QUESTIONS 214 AND 217 AND IDENTIFY ALL OF THE WOMAN'S DAUGHTERS AGES 0-17 YEARS. ENTER THE NAME, AND LINE NUMBER FOR EACH DAUGHTER IN 805 BELOW BEGINNING WITH THE YOUNGEST DAUGHTER. USE AN ADDITIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE IF MORE THAN FOUR DAUGHTERS. Now I would like to ask you some questions about your daughters.					
805	CHECK 212: RECORD NAME(S) AND LINE NUMBER(S) FOR DAUGHTERS	<input type="text"/> LINE NO. (NAME)	<input type="text"/> LINE NO. (NAME)	<input type="text"/> LINE NO. (NAME)	<input type="text"/> LINE NO. (NAME)	
805a	CHECK 217:	AGE 15-17 YRS <input type="text"/> 0-14 YRS <input type="text"/> (GO TO <input type="text"/> 807)	AGE 15-17 YRS <input type="text"/> 0-14 YRS <input type="text"/> (GO TO <input type="text"/> 807)	AGE 15-17 YRS <input type="text"/> 0-14 YRS <input type="text"/> (GO TO <input type="text"/> 807)	AGE 15-17 YRS <input type="text"/> 0-14 YRS <input type="text"/> (GO TO <input type="text"/> 807)	
806	What is (NAME'S) marital statu	EVER MARRIED . 1 NEVER MARRIED/ SIGNED CONTRACT 2	EVER MARRIED . 1 NEVER MARRIED/ SIGNED CONTRACT 2	EVER MARRIED . 1 NEVER MARRIED/ SIGNED CONTRACT 2	EVER MARRIED . 1 NEVER MARRIED/ SIGNED CONTRACT 2	
807	Is (NAME) circumcised?	YES 1 NO 2 DK 8 (GO TO NEXT DAUGHTER OR TO 810)	YES 1 NO 2 DK 8 (GO TO NEXT DAUGHTER OR TO 810)	YES 1 NO 2 DK 8 (GO TO NEXT DAUGHTER OR TO 810)	YES 1 NO 2 DK 8 (GO TO 810)	
808	Who performed the circumcision to (NAME)?	DOCTOR ... 1 NURSE/ OTHER HLTH PRV. 2 DAYA 3 BARBER . 4 GHAGARIA 5 OTHER 6 (SPECIFY) DK 8	DOCTOR ... 1 NURSE/ OTHER HLTH PRV. 2 DAYA 3 BARBER . 4 GHAGARIA 5 OTHER 6 (SPECIFY) DK 8	DOCTOR ... 1 NURSE/ OTHER HLTH PRV. 2 DAYA 3 BARBER . 4 GHAGARIA 5 OTHER 6 (SPECIFY) DK 8	DOCTOR ... 1 NURSE/ OTHER HLTH PRV. 2 DAYA 3 BARBER . 4 GHAGARIA 5 OTHER 6 (SPECIFY) DK 8	
809	How old was (NAME) when she was circumcised?	AGE <input type="text"/> DK 98	AGE <input type="text"/> DK 98	AGE <input type="text"/> DK 98	AGE <input type="text"/> DK 98	39

Yemen Prevalence

Operations carried out by:

- 68% by a traditional midwife
- 19% by relatives
- 5% by a trained midwife
- 5% performed by barbers
- <1% by doctors

FGM Prevalence

Yemen Prevalence

-97% of operations were carried out at home

-Circumcisions carried out using:
-75% using shaving blades
-20% using scissors

-Complications included:
-8% bleeding
-4% pain
-2% septicemia and fever

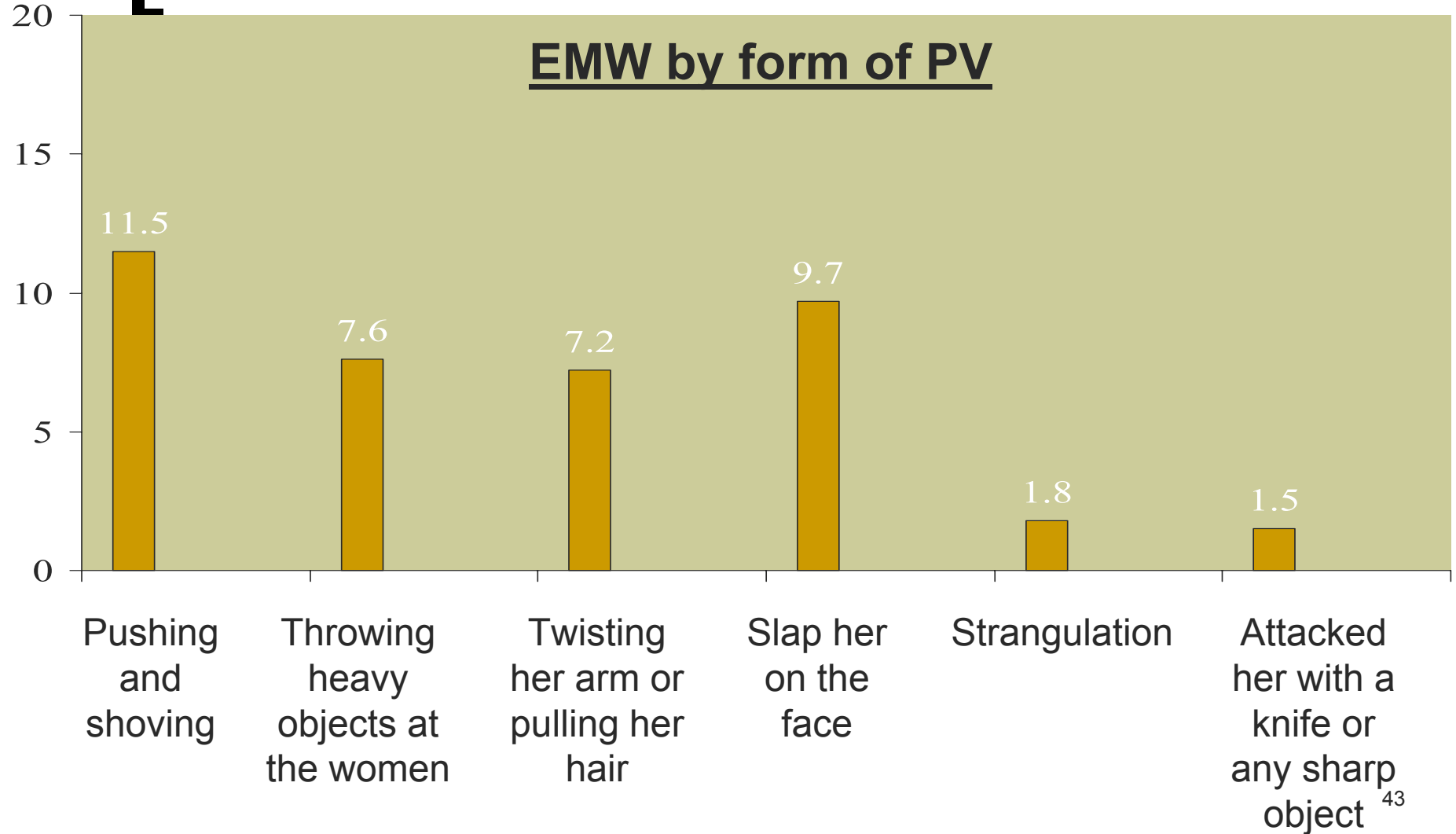
Egypt

Percentage who have experienced Physical violence since age 15: Wealth quintile

Wealth quintile	Ever	Often	Sometimes	# of women
Lowest	51.0	9.2	19.9	1,048
Second	52.8	8.1	20.7	1,018
Middle	47.5	7.8	16.2	1,129
Fourth	48.7	6.2	13.6	1,226
Highest	38.4	3.8	9.6	1,192
Total	47.4	6.9	15.7	5,613

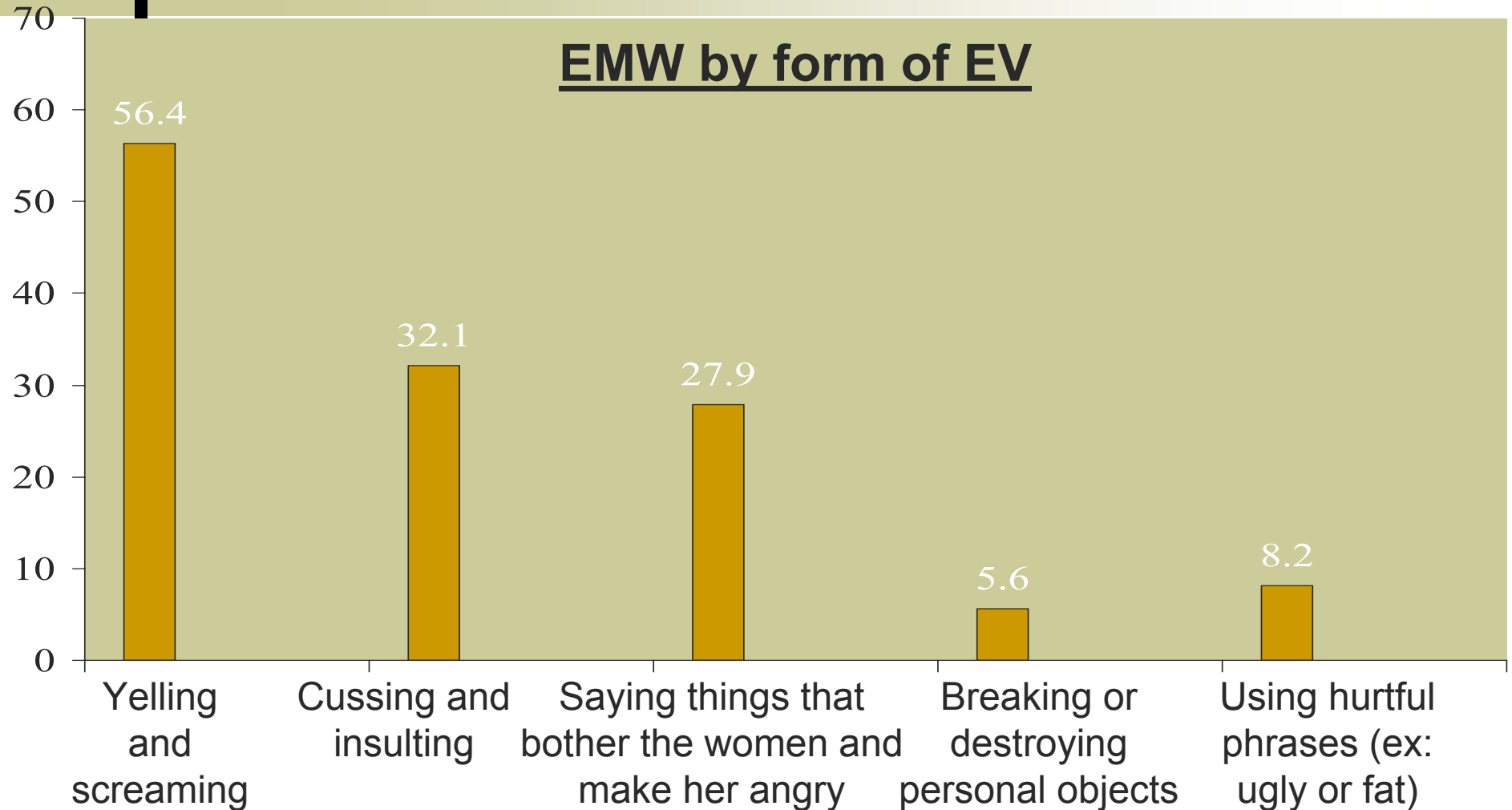
Palestine
Prevalence

EMW by form of PV



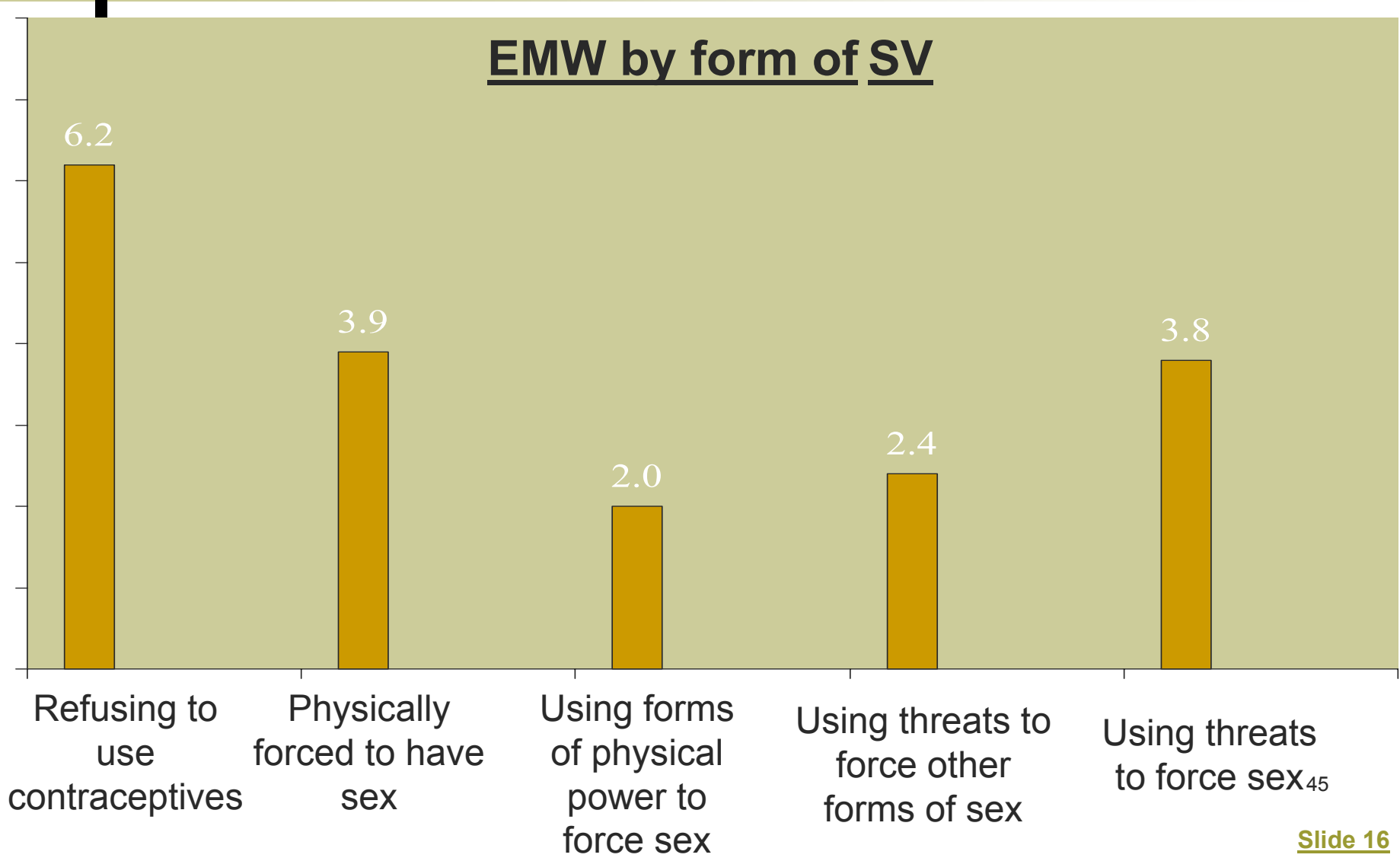
Palestine
Prevalence

EMW by form of EV



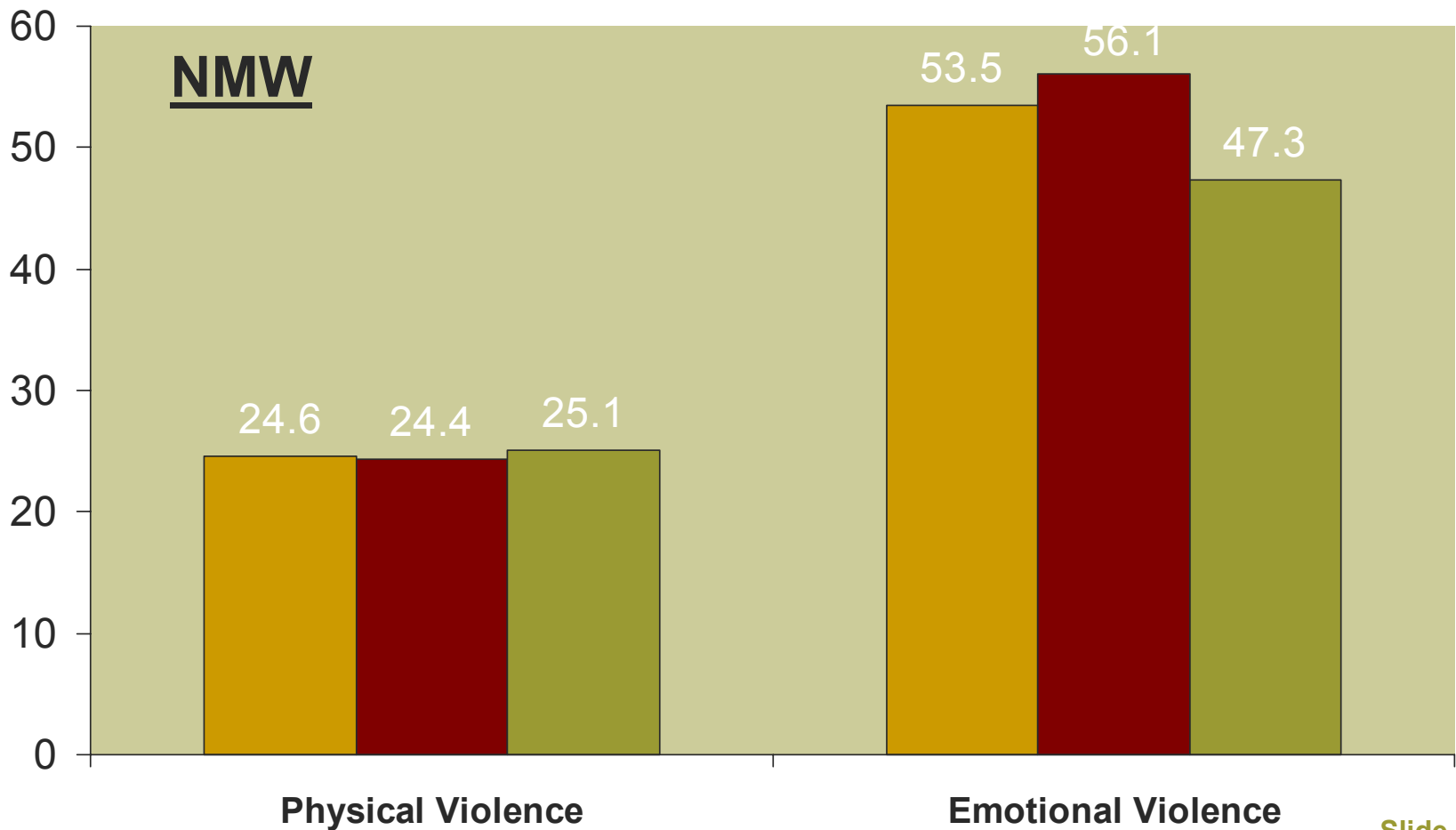
Palestine
Prevalence

EMW by form of SV



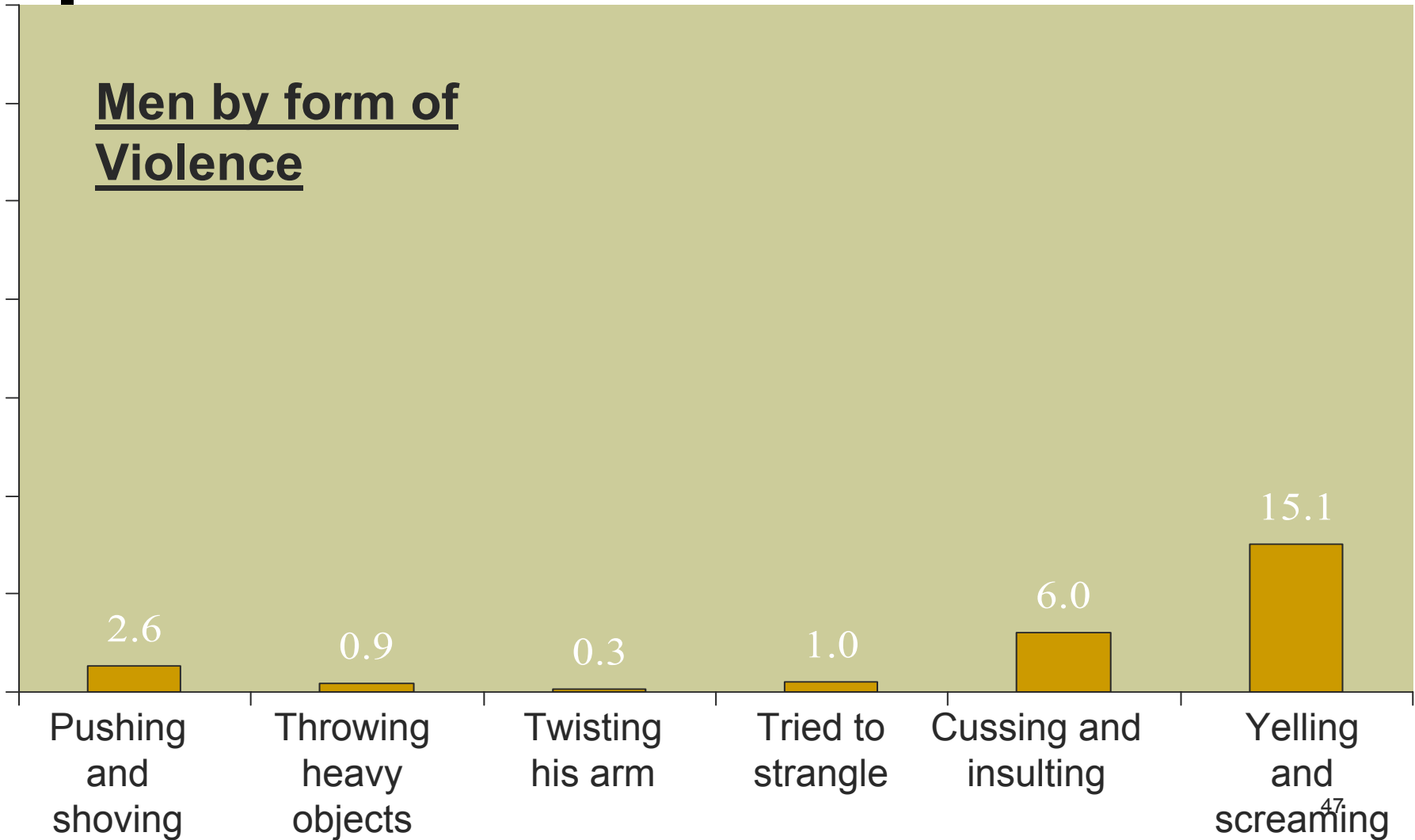
Palestine Prevalence

■ Palestine ■ West Bank ■ Gaza Strip



Palestine
Prevalence

Men by form of
Violence



Yemen Prevalence

Age group	Rape		Assault		Murder	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
0-14	26	0.0	13.0	1.0	30.0	16.0
15-60	74	0.0	87.0	99.0	70.0	84.0

[Sources]

- Picture from Women's aid: www.womensaid.org.uk
- Beijing Platform:
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/violence.htm#object2>
- Palestinian Domestic Violence Survey (December, 2005- January, 2006)
- Egypt Demographic and Health Survey 2005
- Women and Men in Yemen, A Statistical Portrait, ESCWA 2002