

TRIPLE JEOPARDY: Protecting At-Risk Refugee Survivors of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

UNDERSTANDING SGBV AGAINST REFUGEE MEN AND BOYS

1. AIM

The module provides a general understanding of the nature of SGBV as it affects men and boys, outlining myths and providing an introduction to the scope of the issue globally. It also provides participants with insights into the root causes and contributing factors that expose refugee men and boys to SGBV, including forms and perpetrators.

2. USE

This module may be used as part of a half-, one- or two-day training (see *Model Agendas*). It should be used with participants who have a general understanding of sexual and gender-based violence.

TIME	METHODOLOGY	MATERIALS
1 hour, 30 minutes	PowerPoint Brainstorming Discussion Group work	Flip chart Markers Understanding SGBV Against Refugee Men and Boys PowerPoint Projector Case study handout Colored exercise cards

3. GENERAL BACKGROUND

- Research and programs have primarily focused on prevention and response to women and girl survivors of SGBV, neglecting to gather evidence on SGBV affecting men and boys.
- According to National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence in the U.S., at least 1 in 6 boys are sexually abused in childhood and 1 out of every 4 males will experience some form of sexual trauma in their lives.
- SGBV against men and boys has been reported in 59 conflict-affected countries. It is used as a weapon of war. A study on conflict-related violence against refugees and non-refugees in southern Sudan and northern Uganda found that witnessing or experiencing rape or sexual abuse of a man was reported by male Sudanese refugees (30%) and non-refugees (47%) and by female Sudanese refugees (40%) and non-refugees (35%).
- SGBV against males is hidden and underreported because of the shame, stigma, fear of retaliation by perpetrators, lack of acknowledgment and lack of response services.
- Most perpetrators of SGBV against men and boys are men, but women can be perpetrators as well.

Helpful **definitions** for this and other modules include:

- **Forced Displacement** (for this training): People forced to leave or flee their countries due to conflict, violence, persecution or human rights violations. According to UNHCR, 65.3 million people were displaced in 2015.
- **Vulnerability**: A person's diminished ability to mitigate exposure to risk (in this case, the risk of exposure to SGBV) due to internal, environmental or systemic causes and contributing factors.

- **Root Cause:** The fundamental reason for the occurrence of a problem (in this case, SGBV).
- **Contributing Factor:** Something that is partly responsible for a development or phenomenon.
- **Refugee Men:** Refugee males over the age of 18.
- **Refugee Boys:** Refugee males under the age of 18.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 27-32.

Apperley, Harry (2015) [Hidden Victims: A Call to Action on Sexual Violence Against Men in Conflict](#).

Black, M.C., Basile, K.C., Breiding, M.J., Smith, S.G., Walters, M.L., Merrick, M.T., Chen, J., and

Stevens, M.R. (2011) [The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey \(NISVS\): 2010](#)

[Summary Report](#). Christian, M., Safari, O., Ramazani, P., Burnham, G. and Glass, N. (2012) [Sexual and](#)

[Gender Based Violence against Men in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Effects on Survivors, their](#)

[Families and the Community](#). Dolan, Chris (2014) [Into the Mainstream: Addressing Sexual Violence](#)

[Against Men and Boys in Conflict](#). MaleSurvivor.org (2016) [Facts about Male Sexual Abuse](#). Nagai,

M., et al. (2008) [Violence against Refugees, Non-refugees and Host Populations in Southern Sudan](#)

[and Northern Uganda](#). Russell, Wynne (2007) [Sexual Violence against Men and Boys](#). United Nations

High Commissioner for Refugees (2012) [Working with Men and Boy of Sexual and Gender-based](#)

[Violence in Forced Migration](#). United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2016) [Global Trends:](#)

[Forced Displacement in 2015](#). United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2012) [Working with](#)

[Men and Boy Survivors of Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Forced Displacement](#). Zawati, Hilmi

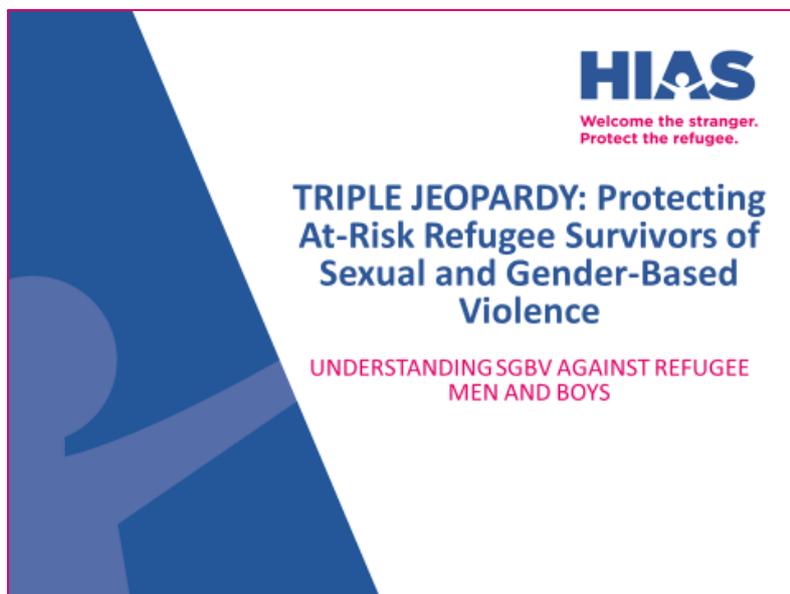
M. (2007) [Impunity or Immunity: Wartime Male Rape and Sexual Torture as a Crime against](#)

[Humanity](#).

4. SLIDES

This section provides you background and resources, where appropriate, for each PowerPoint slide in the module. It also gives you instructions to facilitate group discussions and exercises.

SLIDE 1: COVER



SLIDE 2: OBJECTIVES

Objectives



By the end of the session, participants will understand

- The **dynamics** and **scope** of SGBV against men and boys
- **Root causes** and **contributing factors** that increase the vulnerability of refugee men and boys to SGBV
- The **forms** and **perpetrators** of SGBV against refugee men and boys during migration

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | **HIAS** 2

Background

- Read through the three objectives of the module.
- Explain that the module consists of three subsections that serve as an introduction to the subject of SGBV against men and boys, and shedding light on
 - What we know about SGBV affecting men and boys.
 - The dynamics of SGBV against men and boys and the circumstances under which SGBV occurs.
 - Demystifying myths and misconceptions about SGBV against men and boys and the scope of the phenomenon.
 - Causes and contributing factors that make male refugees particularly vulnerable to SGBV.
 - Perpetrators and types of SGBV experienced by male refugees based on findings of the *Triple Jeopardy* report.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 27-32.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2012) [Working with Men and Boy Survivors of Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Forced Displacement](#).

SLIDE 3: QUOTE FROM A MALE SURVIVOR

Quote from a Male Survivor

'I was too embarrassed to tell [the police]. The police might have thought that I was gay and I am not, and what would they say? You know, I am a man. How can I explain that some men held me down and raped me? How come I could not protect myself and I am a man!'

Male SGBV Survivor, Johannesburg, South Africa, 20 February 2014.

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 3

Group Activity (5 minutes)

- Present the slide and ask a participant to read the quote out loud.
- Explain that this quote is from David, a refugee who fled the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and now lives in Johannesburg.
- Ask participants to describe the main challenges that David expresses in living and in sharing his SGBV experience.
- Explain that there is a great gap in knowledge surrounding SGBV against men and boys.
- It is still a common misconception that men cannot be raped since they can fend for themselves.
- SGBV against men is a direct attack on their gender identity and culturally expected gender roles.
- In many societies where male gender roles are rigid, people (survivors, family and community members) tend to question the male survivor's gender, considering him to be feminized because of sexual penetration by other men.
- Where social norms and taboos on sexual orientation marginalize same-sex relations, sexualized attacks against men serve not only to diminish their masculinity, but can be interpreted by the survivor, perpetrators and the wider community to be an expression of the survivor's sexual orientation (even if the survivor is not gay or bisexual).

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 27-32.

Christian, M., Safari, O., Ramazani, P., Burnham, G. and Glass, N. (2012) [Sexual and Gender Based Violence against Men in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Effects on Survivors, their Families and the Community](#). United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2012) [Working with Men and Boy of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Forced Migration](#).

SLIDE 4: SGBV AGAINST MEN

SGBV Against Men

- Men and boys face many forms of SGBV consisting of physical, emotional and sexual violence at a higher rate than is often presumed
- The majority of perpetrators of SGBV against men are other men, but women can be perpetrators as well
- SGBV against men is used as weapon of war, which means more cases of SGBV are likely to appear among refugees, soldiers and ex-combatants
- Greater exposure to SGBV is reported among men with disabilities, prisoners or detainees
- SGBV against males is hidden, underreported due to shame, stigma, fear of retaliation by perpetrators, lack of acknowledgment and response services
- Women often struggle to process or effectively respond when they learn of SGBV against male family members

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 4

Background

- Explain that since majority of SGBV survivors are women and girls and because of taboos and stigmatization, research and measures of prevention and response to SGBV affecting men and boys are limited.
- Evidence gathered, however, demonstrates a higher prevalence of SGBV affects men and boys than is commonly recognized and in both conflict and non-conflict zones.
- See the statistical data presented in the General Background to this module.
- Refugee survivors and service providers state that sexual assault on men during conflict is used as a weapon of war by victors to demonstrate their power by de-masculinizing their enemies.
- SGBV against men in times of peace is more prevalent against men with disabilities who are marginalized and vulnerable to SGBV; perpetrators may be caregivers, family members or strangers.
- In non-conflict zones, SGBV against men is more prevalent among prisoners and detainees where power struggles, lack of sexual outlets and confinement lead to sexual abuse.
- Men are often extremely reluctant to report instances of SGBV due to stigma and fear of retaliation. Those who do often do so only after experiencing extremely severe physical consequences of SGBV.
- Many wives and mothers of male survivors have never previously understood that men and boys can be affected by SGBV. Few have the tools they need to respond in a way that effectively responds to their male family members' experiences.
- Women family members need support to assist their male family members who have survived SGBV.

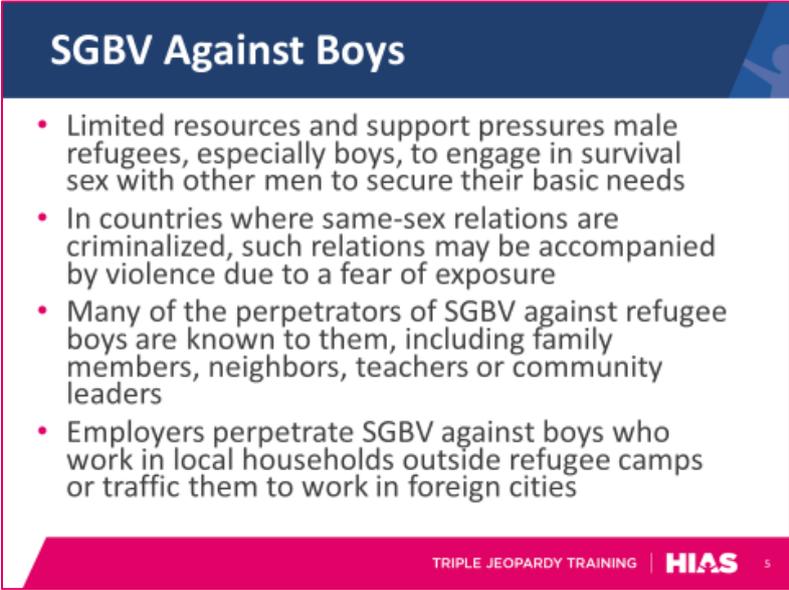
Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 27-32.

Black, M.C., Basile, K.C., Breiding, M.J., Smith, S.G., Walters, M.L., Merrick, M.T., Chen, J., and Stevens, M.R. (2011) [The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey \(NISVS\): 2010 Summary Report](#). Christian, M., Safari, O., Ramazani, P., Burnham, G. and Glass, N. (2012) [Sexual and Gender Based Violence against Men in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Effects on Survivors, their Families and the Community](#). Dolan, Chris (2014) [Into the Mainstream: Addressing Sexual Violence against Men and Boys in Conflict](#). MaleSurvivor.org (2016) [Facts about Male Sexual Abuse](#). Nagai, M.,

et al. (2008) [Violence against Refugees, Non-refugees and Host Populations in Southern Sudan and Northern Uganda](#).

SLIDE 5: DYNAMICS OF SGBV AGAINST BOYS



SGBV Against Boys

- Limited resources and support pressures male refugees, especially boys, to engage in survival sex with other men to secure their basic needs
- In countries where same-sex relations are criminalized, such relations may be accompanied by violence due to a fear of exposure
- Many of the perpetrators of SGBV against refugee boys are known to them, including family members, neighbors, teachers or community leaders
- Employers perpetrate SGBV against boys who work in local households outside refugee camps or traffic them to work in foreign cities

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 5

Background

- Migrant youth often find themselves in situations of extreme poverty after losing all their assets and social support networks
- Pressured to resort to survival sex, refugee boys serve other men for money, accommodation and nutrition, exposing themselves to sexual violence, sex trafficking and sexual slavery, all without necessarily identifying as gay or bisexual.
- In many countries where homosexuality is criminalized, same-sex relations are often conducted in an environment of fear and, at times, such relationships are accompanied by threats, extortion and violence because the men using male sexual services fear exposure.
- Many of the caregivers of refugee boys interviewed during the HIAS baseline survey reported SGBV against their boys by family members, neighbors and fellow refugees.
- During the HIAS baseline-survey, cases of sexual abuse were reported against refugee boys who were sent outside the refugee camps in Eastern Chad to serve as household help in local hosting community homes; some Somali boys who were reported to be trafficked into Nairobi for labor purposes experienced sexual abuse, as well.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 27-32.

SLIDE 6: TYPES OF SGBV AGAINST MEN AND BOYS

Types of SGBV against Men and Boys

Sexual Violence	Gender-Based Violence
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rape and gang rape (including being forced to rape others)• Insertion of objects into body orifices• Genital torture/castration• Sexual humiliation• Forced nudity• Sexual slavery• Sexual trafficking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Killing of men and boys• Forced army or militia conscription• Forced marriage• Forced circumcision• Domestic violence – physical and emotional

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 6

Background

- Before presenting the slide, ask participants to brainstorm the types of SGBV affecting men and boys.
- Present the slide.
- It distinguishes between sexual violence targeting men and boys because of their gender and other forms of gender-based violence.
- Explain that in conflict zones, many men and boys are kidnapped for lengthy periods of time to serve as sexual slaves and servants for warlords and militia who force them to take on “feminized roles.”
- Tensions around gender roles in the country of asylum and men’s inability to fulfill those roles and provide for their families often leads to domestic violence which can be perpetrated by both husbands and wives.
- Intersectionality often becomes apparent when the male SGBV survivors are older or have disabilities and again find it hard to fulfill their gender roles.
- During forced migration, older refugees and refugees with disabilities are at times neglected or even abandoned due to the challenges of flight and survival by younger family members.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 27-32.

Christian, M., Safari, O., Ramazani, P., Burnham, G. and Glass, N. (2012) [Sexual and Gender Based Violence against Men in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Effects on Survivors, their Families and the Community](#). HelpAge International (2002) [Encouraging Agencies to Pay Attention to the Needs, Knowledge and Experience of Older People](#). Lewis, Dustin (2009) [Unrecognized Victims: Sexual Violence against Men in Conflict Settings under International Law](#). Nagai, M., et al. (2008) [Violence against Refugees, Non-refugees and Host Populations in Southern Sudan and Northern Uganda](#). Sivakumaran, Sandesh (2007) [Sexual Violence against Men in Armed Conflict](#). Women’s Refugee Commission (2015) [I See That It Is Possible: Gender-Based Violence Disability Toolkit. Tool #8: Applying the Guiding Principles when Working with Survivors of Disabilities](#).

SLIDE 7: MYTH OR FACT?

Myth or Fact?

Explain if the following statements are myth or fact

1. Sexual abuse of men and boys is carried out by homosexual men
2. Males who were sexually abused by males will become gay
3. Men and boys can experience erections or ejaculation/orgasm during rape without their willing participation
4. Women can be perpetrators of sexual and gender-based violence against males

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 7

Materials

Colored exercise cards (printed with True/False/I Don't Know)

Group Activity (20 minutes)

- Provide each participant with colored exercise cards showing all three responses.
- Read out the first statement and ask participants to raise the card which best describes their thoughts about the statement.
- Choose a participant whose answer reflects the majority of cards raised and ask the person to explain that choice.
- To provide a more robust answer, use the explanations provided in the Background section below.
- Open the floor for a two-minute discussion for each statement.
- Repeat the exercise for statements 2-4.

Background

Expand on participants' responses to each of the statements.

- Sexual abuse of men and boys is carried out by homosexual men.
 - **MYTH.** Men and boys are at risk of sexual and gender-based violence, just as women and girls are. Men and boys are targeted both for sexual purposes and for purposes of domination and de-masculinization. Given the existing gendered socialization that sees males in a dominant sex-role as aggressive and strong, many people tend to believe that men can fight off or resist their attackers. The problem is compounded because few incidents of SGBV against men and boys are reported or become known, which is then interpreted to mean that men are not or cannot be raped.
- Males who were sexually abused by males will become gay.
 - **MYTH.** SGBV does not reflect on the sexual orientation of survivors or perpetrators. Nevertheless, survivors' perceptions of their own gender identity and, at times, sexual orientation may be affected, depending on existing social perceptions of sexual acts between men in each society. In some more traditional societies where same-sex relations between men are criminalized and where ignorance about the

diversity of sexuality prevails, a man who has been forcibly penetrated by another man may be considered to be a woman, a gay person or a bisexual person.

- Men and boys can experience erection or ejaculation/orgasm during rape without their willing participation.
 - **FACT.** Due to biological characteristics, a boy or a man can experience an erection and sexual arousal and even ejaculation during abusive sexual contact without being a willing participant or enjoying it.
- Women can be perpetrators of sexual and gender-based violence against males.
 - **FACT.** Women can perpetrate SGBV against men. This especially occurs when men and boys experience multiple marginalization as refugees, people with disabilities or older people. During HIAS' baseline research, a few incidents were described, such as one in which a local woman hosting a young refugee and providing him with accommodation and safety abused her power and sexually abused him. Another example was the case of an older refugee SGBV survivor who could not fulfill his gender role as provider for the household and was psychologically and physically abused by his spouses.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 27-32.

Christian, M., Safari, O., Ramazani, P., Burnham, G. and Glass, N. (2012) [Sexual and Gender Based Violence against Men in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Effects on Survivors, their Families and the Community](#). HelpAge International (2002) [Encouraging Agencies to Pay Attention to the Needs, Knowledge and Experience of Older People](#). MaleSurvivor.org (2016) [Facts about Male Sexual Abuse](#).

SLIDE 8: STIGMA AND MARGINALIZATION

Stigma and Marginalization

- Societal myths, gender-related stigma and misconceived assumptions about men and boys make it hard for them disclose SGBV and seek help
- These misperceptions add to the lack of knowledge and lack of appropriate response and outreach to male survivors of SGBV
 - This affects service organizations and family members, including wives and mothers of male survivors
- Survivors experience a sense of betrayal and lack of compassion

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 8

Background

- Ask participants how the myths addressed in the discussion of the previous slide may lead to stigmatization and marginalization.
- Present the slide and go over any points left out in the participant discussion.
- Explain that misconceptions and lack of transparency, justice and understanding of the dynamics of SGBV against men can lead to stigmatization, rejection and lack of compassion for male SGBV survivors and their families.
- These same dynamics result in a lack of programs for SGBV prevention and response to support male survivors and their reintegration into the family and community.
- Lack of knowledge of the scope of the problem among service providers and family members limits the level of support and assistance to male survivors.
- Dispelling myths about SGBV experienced by men is an important way to address the issue and will permit more male survivors to disclose their experiences, help family members support them, and build the capacity of service providers respond to their needs.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 27-32.

Chapleau, Kristine M., Debra L. Oswald, and Brenda L. Russell (2008) [Male Rape Myths: The Role of Gender, Violence, and Sexism](#). Christian, M., Safari, O., Ramazani, P., Burnham, G. and Glass, N. (2012). [Sexual and Gender Based Violence against Men in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Effects on Survivors, their Families and the Community](#). Davies, M., Gilston, J., and Paul Rogers (2012) [Examining the Relationship between Male Rape Myth Acceptance, Female Rape Myth Acceptance, Victim Blame, Homophobia, Gender Roles, and Ambivalent Sexism](#). Lewis, Dustin (2009) [Unrecognized Victims: Sexual Violence against Men in Conflict Settings under International Law](#). Sivakumaran, Sandesh (2007) [Sexual Violence against Men in Armed Conflict](#).

Scope of the Problem

Group Brainstorming

- How many cases of SGBV against refugee men and boys have you come across during the course of your work in the last 12 months?
- How many cases of SGBV against men have you encountered or heard about during your professional or private life?

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 9

Group Brainstorming (20 minutes)

- Inform the participants that the group will brainstorm the numbers of cases of male refugee survivors they have come across or heard of from different sources around their area or region, but that they should not discuss any details relating to these cases.
- Record the responses on a flip chart and ask participants what they think the numbers mean.
- In situations in which there are few or no known cases, draw upon the issues in Background, below, to explain the why there may be fewer cases of male SGBV survivors reported or documented.

Background

Fewer reported cases of SGBV affecting men and boys may be due to

- Lack of data collection among service providers from male survivors because of the belief that men are rarely vulnerable to SGBV.
- Stigma and shame among men and boy survivors because of social norms attached to masculinity.
- Lack of knowledge among service providers about SGBV against men and boys.
- No proactive identification or referral chains for male SGBV survivors.
- No available SGBV response for male survivors.
- Refugee men may be further impeded in their ability to disclose SGBV and seek help because of their status as foreign nationals, their lack of documentation or income, and the sometimes difficult relations between foreigners and locals in countries of asylum (xenophobia).
- Sexual violence against men is recognized as a major and increasing problem, but it continues to be unacknowledged and underreported, and is rarely documented.
- There are also very few funders focused on supporting programs specifically addressing SGBV against men and boys.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 27-32.

Dolan, Chris (2014) [Into the Mainstream: Addressing Sexual Violence against Men and Boys in Conflict](#). Office of the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (2013) [Report of Workshop on Sexual Violence against Men and Boys in Conflict Situations](#). Russell, Wynne (2007) [Sexual Violence against Men and Boys](#).

SLIDE 10: POWER AND VULNERABILITY DURING DISPLACEMENT

Power and Vulnerability During Displacement

- **Power** – ability, skill or capacity to make decisions and take action
- When one has less power, fewer choices are available

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 10

Background

- People are forced to flee from their home countries for various reasons, including war, political unrest, conflict, human rights violations, lack of access to basic services and other forms of individual or group persecution or fear of persecution.
- The cycle of displacement includes several phases: Prior to Flight – Flight – Displacement – Repatriation/Resettlement – Reintegration. Not all refugees necessarily go through all the phases of displacement.
- Displacement creates more risks and vulnerability due to a breakdown in community, family and institutional protection mechanisms, and the reduced capacity of people to protect themselves.
- People are more at risk of violations during the first three phases of displacement since there are major protection gaps during displacement and upon arrival.
- Vulnerability to SGBV varies depending on a refugee's ability to access information, resources and services which allow him or her to make informed decisions and have the power to act independently.
- This vulnerability is increased for male refugees if the conflict in country of asylum is violent and if there is widespread detention.
- In addition, the vulnerability of men and boys is increased by social and cultural stigma, an extension of power and dominance intended to enforce a gendered hierarchy or by marginalization based on age and other factors, including situations of impunity.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 27-32.

Dolan, Chris (2014) [Into the Mainstream: Addressing Sexual Violence against Men and Boys in Conflict](#). Lewis, Dustin (2009) [Unrecognized Victims: Sexual Violence against Men in Conflict Settings Under International Law](#). Meger, Sara (2016) [Rape Loot Pillage: The Political Economy of Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict](#). Singh, Eghdami & Singh (2014) [The Concept of Social Vulnerability: A Review from Disasters Perspectives](#). Sivakumaran, Sandesh (2007) [Sexual Violence against Men in Armed Conflict](#).

SLIDE 11: ROOT CAUSES

Root Causes

SGBV against men & boy refugees is caused by

1. The need by some men to dominate others
2. Its use as a weapon of war, to reduce resistance and destroy the enemy community's social fabric
3. The multiple marginalization of some males (refugees, older people, youth, people with disabilities) causing a collapse in social protection and a search for economic survival

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 11

Background

- **Root Cause:** The fundamental reason for the occurrence of a problem.
- The fundamental root cause of SGBV against men and boy refugees is imbalance of power related to age, gender and legal status in relationships, households, communities and in relation to government and humanitarian agencies.
- This imbalance provides more power to nationals than refugees, to local and armed men more than unarmed, refugee or migrant men, and to adult men and women more than boys.
- There is a general bias among humanitarian agencies toward assisting women and girls, often neglecting the needs of men, especially male survivors of SGBV.
- SGBV against men and boys acts as a means through which perpetrators intend to place males in a subordinate position to other men (emasculate) and challenge their identity as men. SGBV is also used as a weapon of war, manifesting in not only the subjugation of the defeated men considered to be enemies, but their entire communities, as well.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 27-32.

Apperley, Harry (2015) [Hidden Victims: A Call to Action on Sexual Violence Against Men in Conflict](#).

Bastick, M., Grimm, K. and Kunz, R. (2007) [Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict: Global Overview and Implications for the Security Sector](#).

Christian, M., Safari, O., Ramazani, P., Burnham, G. & Glass, N. (2012) [Sexual and Gender Based Violence against Men in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Effects on Survivors, their Families and the Community](#).

Dolan, Chris (2014) [Into the Mainstream: Addressing Sexual Violence against Men and Boys in Conflict](#).

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2012) [Working with Men and Boy Survivors of Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Forced Displacement](#).

SLIDE 12: CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

Contributing Factors

Factors that contribute to SGBV against men and boy refugees include

- Violent conflict and instability in the country of origin or asylum
- Entrenched xenophobia and discrimination
- Ineffective legal systems and lack of protective laws on SGBV against men and boys
- Lack of humanitarian assistance and attention to men and boys as survivors of SGBV
- Challenges to gender roles during forced migration
- Poverty and lack of employment
- Criminalization of same-sex acts

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 12

Background

- Contributing factors that are partly responsible for the vulnerability of refugee men and boys to SGBV include factors like: armed conflict; political instability; lack of effective law enforcement or legal systems acknowledging sexual abuse of men and boys; limited SGBV prevention and response services for male survivors by humanitarian actors; entrenched xenophobia and discrimination; domestic tensions related to the inability of men to provide for their families and fulfill their gender roles; poverty and lack of income-generating opportunities.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 27-32.

Apperley, Harry (2015) [Hidden Victims: A Call to Action on Sexual Violence Against Men in Conflict](#).

Carpenter, R. Charli (2006) [Recognizing Gender-Based Violence against Civilian Men and Boys in](#)

[Conflict Situations](#). Russell, Wynne (2007) [Sexual Violence against Men and Boys](#). United Nations

High Commissioner for Refugees (2012) [Working with Men and Boy Survivors of Sexual and Gender](#)

[Based Violence in Forced Displacement](#). Zawati, Hilmi M. (2007) [Impunity or Immunity: Wartime](#)

[Male Rape and Sexual Torture as a Crime against Humanity](#).

SLIDE 13: FORCED DISPLACEMENT AND SGBV RISK FOR BOYS

Forced Displacement and SGBV Risks for Boys

- Unaccompanied minors are often without social network support and may form dependent relations that are risky
- Forced migration may change hierarchical roles within the family, leading boys to seek their own ways of adaptation in the new country of asylum or resettlement
- Lack of social and financial support and adult protection may lead to engagement in survival sex or the risk of being trafficked

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 13

Background

- Unaccompanied minors may be at increased risk of SGBV because of the lack of adequate care and protection.
- They may look for protection from unknown adults, and, having no other alternatives to secure their basic survival needs, may fall into situations of dependency that are abusive.
- Children of refugee parents (especially those coming from rural areas seeking protection in urban environments) may not have the resources to fully support them. This leads to a break in family hierarchies in which young boys seek new role models, develop an independent life and often look down at their parents as sources of authority.
- Loss of financial resources and exposure to acute poverty may lead refugee boys to engage in survival sex and fall into sex trafficking.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 27-32.

Bastick, M., Grimm, K. and Kunz, R. (2007) [Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict: Global Overview and Implications for the Security Sector](#). United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2012) [Working with Men and Boy Survivors of Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Forced Displacement](#).

SLIDE 14: FOUR CASE STUDIES

Four Case Studies

Group Activity

1. At which phase of the forced migration cycle did the person experience SGBV?
2. What kind of SGBV did he experience?
3. Who were the perpetrators?
4. What were the root causes and contributing factors that enabled the acts of SGBV?
5. Who assisted the survivors?

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 14

Materials

Flip chart and markers, case study handout

Background

- These four case studies are taken from interviews with refugees with disabilities conducted during the research phase of the *Triple Jeopardy* report.
- The exercise enables participants to: understand the nature of SGBV specific to refugees with disabilities; identify root causes and contributing factors; recognize types, perpetrators and consequences of SGBV; and understand how to help refugees with disabilities who experience SGBV access support and assistance.

Group Activity (60 minutes)

- Divide participants into four groups and distribute one case study per group.
- Each group member should read the case study (5 minutes).
- Group members should write out answers to the 5 questions indicated on the slide (15 minutes).
- Ask a volunteer from each group to summarize the story of the case, and another to present the group's answers to all the participants, allowing a few minutes for questions (7 minutes per group, total about 30 minutes)

Possible Answers

Case Study 1 – Bol

Phases of migration cycle: In the country of asylum.

SGBV: Psychological violence - Mockery for having to do women's chores and being "half a man;" Economic violence – Bol wants to control financial resources of his wife; potential forced marriage of Bol's underage daughter.

Perpetrators: Bol, male neighbors, Bol's mother-in-law.

Root causes: The abuse of power by others due to Bol's inability to fulfill gender roles. Bol's own frustration at not being able to "act like a man" leads him to also abuse his own power over his wife. Discrimination in livelihood opportunities on the basis of disability.

Contributing factors:

- Perceptions of NGO staff relating to Bol's capacity to engage in livelihoods, and perhaps a lack of reasonable accommodations to address barriers.
- Emotional distress resulting from changing gender roles brought about by displacement.
- Poverty, leading to potential violation of his daughter's rights.

Supporter: Bol's wife, who earns income to support the family.

Comment: At times, survivors of SGBV may also be perpetrators of SGBV and other forms of violence. In this case, the man who feels he has lost his gender-related power wants to reassert it by demanding control by force over his wife and daughter.

Case Study 2 – Joseph and his mother Angelique

Phases of migration cycle: In country of asylum.

SGBV: Physical violence – Rape.

Perpetrators: Fellow refugee boy.

Root causes: Unequal power relations based on age and physical power.

Contributing factors:

- Lack of protection and privacy due to poverty, and perhaps legal status.
- Lack of inclusion within protective livelihood systems or income-generating activities.
- Collapse of family hierarchies, support systems and clear limitations on behavior, something which may have affected the perpetrator.

Supporters: The church that offered accommodation; social worker.

Case Study 3 – Desire

Phase of migration cycle: In the home country.

SGBV: Forced to witness the rape of his wife and forcibly commit sexual acts with his daughter.

Perpetrators: Rebels.

Root causes: Power imbalance between warring parties and between armed rebels and civilians.

Contributing factors:

- Generalized violence and a lack of law and order.
- Use of SGBV against women and men as a weapon of war.

Supporters: Pastor and self-help support group for male survivors.

Case Study 4 – Safari

Phase of migration cycle: In country of origin.

SGBV: Rape of Safari, Psychological violence – gang rape of his wife; physical assault of Safari; abduction of Safari.

Perpetrator: Men who are possibly soldiers or government militia.

Root causes: Abuse of power, impunity, unequal power relations between armed militia or military and civilians, and unequal power relations between men and women.

Contributing factors:

- Generalized violence and lack of law and order and of safety and protection.

Supporters: Police who identified him and referred him to hospital; hospitals and doctors who treated him; his wife who supported him along the way; the International NGO providing his family with financial assistance.

SLIDE 12: SUMMARY

Summary

- Like SGBV against women and girls, SGBV against men and boys targets a survivor's gender
- SGBV against men and boys leads to stigmatization and social exclusion that affects survivors, families and communities
- SGBV against men and boys is common, although rarely reported due to fear of disclosure and lack of understanding
- Power differentials between adults and children make boys vulnerable to SGBV
- Male refugees experience SGBV in all phases of migration
- Lack of family protection and poverty make refugee boys vulnerable to abuse
- Outreach to survivors, family members, community and service providers can increase identification of and support for refugee male survivors

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Background

- Present the summary points.
- Ask participants for any questions or requests for clarification.