Sonke CHANGE Trial
Can community mobilisation reduce men’s use of violence against women?

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Bill of Rights
under Constitution

16 Days Campaign of No Violence Against Women and Children

Domestic Violence Act
no. 118 of 1998

Sexual Offences Act of 2007

Children’s Act of 2005

Integrated Social Crime Strategy

Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act 7 of 2013

White paper on Safety and Security

Constitution

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

1995 1996

2005 2007

2011 2013

2016
Protest on National Strategic Plan to Prevent GBV
#TotalShutdown
NATIONAL SUMMIT AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE & FEMICIDE
1 – 2 NOVEMBER 2018

GBV Command Centre
Toll free: 0800 428 428

Workshop feeding into the design and drafting of the GBVF National Strategic Plan
16 – 17 May 2019
Programme
- Door-to-door, murals, community dialogues
- Workshops
- Community Action Teams for mobilisation
- Advocacy (hold government structures to account)
Sonke CHANGE Trial

Proposed Diepsloot Clusters
Feb 2016
People split into two groups at random and asked questions at baseline. The same questions are asked of the same people at endline. This group does not receive any special project. Lighter shade means the area has reduced men’s use of violence.
**Fig 1.** Sonke CHANGE Trial study design

Baseline data
(n=2,406)

Assignment

Phone calls / Texts

Follow-up visits
(n=310)

Follow-up visits
(n=308)

Phone calls / Texts

Home visits

Travel to other cities/provinces

Follow-up visits
(n=1,211)

Follow-up visits
(n=1,195)
Reduced adherence to harmful masculinity norms

Decreased Intimate Partner and Non-Partner Violence

One Man Can workshops & outreach

Enhanced critical consciousness

Self-efficacy to take action

Improved mental health

Better partner communication

Reduction in harmful alcohol

Comprehensive efficacy & action

Collective efficacy & action

ALFCE policies implemented (Enabling environment)

KEY

1. Intervention component
2. Hypothetical change
3. Measurable outcome
4. Potential interactions
5. Measure to be defined in formative research

Figure 1. Intervention Theory of Change
Reduced adherence to harmful masculinity norms

Decreased Intimate Partner and Non-Partner Violence

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KEY

1. Intervention component
2. Hypothesised change
3. Measurable outcome

Distal Outcome

Proximal Outcomes

Intervention Mechanisms

Intervention Components

Society

Community

Relationship

Individual

VAWG policies implemented (Enabling environment)

Collective efficacy & action

One Man Can workshops & outreach

Community Action Teams

Better social cohesion & trust

Community Action Teams

Local Advocacy

Collective efficacy & action

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Figure 1. Intervention Theory of Change
Socio-economics

- **2,406 men**
- **Age Median:** 27 years
  **IQR:** 23-32

- **Median monthly income:** R 500
- **Employed in past 3 months:** 49.7%
- **38.6% matric**
Housing & Migration

- **House**: 38.5%
- **Shack**: 45.8%
- **Single room**: 15.7%

**Household Size**
- **Median**: 3 people
- **IQR**: 2-5

**South African**
- **86.3%**
- **32.3%** from Gauteng

**Time Living in Diepsloot**
- **Median**: 7 years
- **IQR**: 4-12
Activities: 4250 | 8825
Workshops: 821 | 982
Reach: 14,878 people
1103 hours
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Activities</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mini Wkshp</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door-to-door</td>
<td>219</td>
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<tr>
<td>Street Int</td>
<td>162</td>
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<tr>
<td>GBV Talk</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital story</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>488</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Goal: 60% Reached at least once
Fig 3a. Saturation of all activities
But, workshops only reached a few

Fig 3b. Saturation of two-day workshops

Key. estimated proportion of men taking part

- 60-70%
- 50-59%
- 40-49%
- 30-40%
- 20-29%
- 10-19%
- 5-10%
Reach (survey data)

65% heard of Sonke

Half say they took part in a Sonke activity
Total number of CATS over the intervention = 61
COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM (CAT) MEMBERS

- repeated exposure to workshops
- critical self-reflection around gender
- transformations in attitudes and behaviours
- form social identities as 'gender activists'
- passion about intervention success

LED TO:
- peer education of their own accord
- engaging with family members, friends, acquaintances and community members
- encouraging peers to similarly change their behaviours
- intervention messages diffused in everyday settings

Increased awareness
Increased knowledge of rights (women)
Empowerment / confidence
Less quarrelling / emotional abuse in relationships
COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM (CAT) MEMBERS

Increased awareness
Increased knowledge of rights (women)
Empowerment / confidence
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“I am helping people because even myself I was drinking [too much] before but since I was here in this project of Sonke I now drink two beers or one beer, I just buy and stay at my house drinking, and I was shouting at my wife and kids, but now I… even my wife said now you have changed your life. I can be happy even now I can phone you unlike before I joined Sonke.” (CAT, male)
We hope to see that the intervention group gets better (or lower) and that the control stays the same.
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This difference is the intervention effect.
Violence against women (VAW) improved, but not due to the intervention.
The intervention made no difference with depression
Harsh Parenting stayed about the same everywhere
Transactional sex declined by the same everywhere
Intervention areas had worse reports of problem drinking
Why might problem drinking have worsened in intervention clusters?

- **Backlash**: men resisting potential shifts in the views of neighbours or their own relationships
- **Coping**: men using it as a coping strategy if intervention highlights difficult topics but does not have therapeutic strategies to deeply address them
- **Physical space**: Sonke CHANGE activities taking part in taverns
- **Recreation**: Possible increased social cohesiveness and alcohol is the only available recreation activity
Emotional Abuse
Financial Abuse
Phys/Sex IPV
Gang
Fight with Weapon
Rape of non-partner
Drug use
Transactional Sex
Used Sex Worker
Multiple Partners

0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%
"Aggressors"

"Smooth Operators"

"Nice enough guys"

15.15%

36.36%

48.48%
After the intervention: “Nice guys” had lower odds of severe IPV “Smooth operators” stayed same; “Aggressors” may have worsened
Why was the intervention unsuccessful at reducing men’s VAW?

- **Not enough intervention**: only a few men took part in workshops; maybe 18 months is too short?

- **Wrong intervention**: amidst high trauma and poverty, are workshops enough to change actions?

- **Study design problems**:
  - We assessed random men living in each cluster – what if spoke only to men who took part in intervention?
  - Men could have over-reported their use of violence at start, thinking it would help them gain benefits from the trial
Sonke CHANGE Trial

Proposed Diepsloot Clusters
Feb 2016
Number of Staff working on VAW in Diepsloot
Proportion of men reporting VAW
Acknowledgements

- Men taking part in this research
- Researchers
  - Tosin Akibu
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