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Subject: Re: Women Empowerment Index

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 24 May 2018 21:27:07 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Specialist, Kerry MacQuarrie:

I would recommend NOT combining these into a single "women's empowerment index" for conceptual and measurement reasons. I would recommend two separate measures.

1. The treatment of the decision-making component (v743a-v743f variables) makes a lot of sense. I would keep this as is and label it "decision-making".

2. I would combine the v744a-v744e variables into a separate "attitudes toward wife beating" measure. Two options that come to mind for creating this measure are (1) create a dichotomous variable and take acceptance of wife beating in ANY scenario (any v744 variable ==0 or ==8) as 0 and rejection of wife beating in ALL scenarios (i.e. v744a==0 & v744b==0 & v744c==0 & v744d==0 & v744e==0 ) as 1; or (2) create an additive index which sums the number of scenarios in which wife beating is accepted (==0 or ==8). In the first option, a higher value--1--indicates less acceptance of wife beating and goes in the same direction as the decision-making measure. In the second option, a higher value indicates more acceptance of wife beating and goes in the opposite direction of the decision-making measure. The first option is more common and I prefer it, but this is the analyst's choice.

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