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Subject: Zimbabwe 2015 Couples Men mv836 and mv503

Posted by [DaniD](#) on Fri, 15 Feb 2019 21:53:14 GMT

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Hello!

First, thank you for this forum--it has been a lifesaver!

Second, I am wondering if someone can tell me if there is a protocol in terms of which sexual behavior variables are more reliable. I have found that for approx. 15% of the men in my sample of Zimbabwe couples (merged with HIV results) they report only one lifetime partner (mv836) but more than one lifetime union (mv503). It seems unlikely to me that men are coupling without having sex within those couples. Based on what I know about DHS questionnaires and sexual behavior research, it seems to make the most sense to trust the number of reported unions over the number of reported partners. Is this what DHS advises?

Thanks!

Dani

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