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Subject: Adding questions on TIP

Posted by [adjapovicscholl](#) on Fri, 11 Apr 2014 20:01:28 GMT

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I would like to propose inclusion of a few questions related to human trafficking that could easily fit and complement the existing GBV module. A few resources such as the "Trafficking in women: The health of women in post-trafficking services in Europe who were trafficked into prostitution or sexually abused as domestic labourers". The author Cathy Zimmerman would probably need to be informed and asked for permission if these questions are to be included into DHS.

The resource refers to numerous studies that suggest that exposure to violence both before and during trafficking is common. Most of the questions are aimed to collect information about this type of GBV in a retrospective way.

To learn about pre-departure abuse, women were asked: "Before you left home did any of the following people ever physically hurt you when you were a child or an adult?" Women were then read a list of individuals that included: "mother"; "father"; "other family member"; "husband"; "boyfriend"; "acquaintance"; and "stranger". Perpetrators were then noted. (I feel this information is already being collected using the existing GBV questionnaire). To learn about abuse before age 15, women were asked: "Before you were 15 years old, did any of the following people ever make you, or persuade you to do something sexual when you didn't want to?" As part of the investigation into pre-departure risk and its potential implications for women's return, women were also asked "Did your parents or any family member know the traffickers or introduce you to the traffickers?"

To learn about physical violence during the trafficking situation, or at the destination location, women were asked whether anyone had ever hit, kicked or otherwise physically hurt them while they were in the trafficking situation. Women were asked two consecutive questions to explore sexual abuse. Women were first asked: "While you were in the trafficking situation, did anyone physically force you to have sex or do something sexual when you didn't want to?" They were then asked "Did you ever have sex with someone or perform some sexual act because you were afraid something bad would happen?" Women were asked about threats of harm to themselves and family members. The findings from the previous study suggest that another defining feature of the trafficking experience is the loss of freedom, and thus women were asked: "Were you free to do what you wanted or go where you wanted? Would you say "never", "occasionally", "often" or "always"?"

I think some or all of the questions above could fit well within the GBV module and would increase our knowledge about this type of hard to measure phenomenon without negatively affecting our development objectives and programming.