Preventing Armed Violence, Promoting Health and Development: A Medical and Moral Imperative

IPPNW 19th World Congress, Basel, Switzerland
Kidist Bartolomeos MPH

Violence Prevention, Health and Development:
A WHO Perspective
Robert Mtonga MD
Zambian Healthworkers for Social Responsibility
EXAMPLES FROM ZAMBIA

COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS WITH GBD-ICE AND WHO/MONASH
## 11 COMMON CAUSES OF MORTALITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>ADM</th>
<th>DISC</th>
<th>DEATH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Accidents caused by fires</td>
<td>778</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Motor vehicle accidents</td>
<td>993</td>
<td>916</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Intestinal obstruction of hernia</td>
<td>733</td>
<td>669</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Infections of skin &amp; subcutaneous tissue</td>
<td>1787</td>
<td>1736</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Benign &amp; neoplasm of Unspecified nature</td>
<td>563</td>
<td>523</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Malignant of prostate</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Injury undetermined whether accident or purposely inflicted</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>1960</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Homicide and injury purposely inflicted by other persons</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Congenital anomalies</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Spinal Bifida</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Disease of musculokeletal deformities</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sub total**                                                              | **8,225** | **7,736** | **489**

Other diseases                                                            | 11,467 | 5,357 | 373

**Grand total**                                                           | **19,692** | **13,093** | **862**
LESSONS LEARNED

1. OPPORTUNITIES

• Expanding networks
• New resources-financial, academic, publications
• Taking PH to violence and Violence to PH
• Improved visibility
• New impetus

2. CHALLENGES

• Time, human, financial resources
• Mandate Issues
• Sustainability?
Jans Fromow Guerra MD
Medicos Mexicanos para la Prevencion de las Guerra Nuclear

Disarm Now!
UN DPI, Mexico City

Latin American Student Congress El Salvador
Preventing Armed Violence, Promoting Health and Development: The case of Mexico

Jans Fromow-Guerra
IPPNW-Mexico
Gráfica 6
TASA DE DESOCUPACIÓN AL SEGUNDO TRIMESTRE DE 2009
(Porcentaje de la PEA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fuente: INEGI.
EL NORTE, "CALIENTE"
La zona de influencia del cártel de Juárez y de Sinaloa son los sitios donde mayores enfrentamientos se registran en las calles.

CON UN TOTAL DE 843 EJECUTADOS, DICIEMBRE DE 2009 ES AL MAS MAS VIOLENTO EN CINCO AÑOS

Ejecutados por estado en 2009

NOTA: Oaxaca (85), Baja California Sur (85), San Luis Potosí (65), Campeche (3) y Tlaxcala (4) registraron menos de 10 ejecuciones y Yucatán no tuvo ninguna.

AUMENTO DESMESURADO
En cinco años la cifra de asesinatos a manos del crimen organizado se quintuplicó en el país, lo que habla de una violencia fuera de control.

Fuentes: Recurso EL UNIVERSAL
95% USA ORIGIN
Gráfica 8. Número de detenidos
Por presuntos vínculos con el narcotráfico
Comparison of Drug Addicts in Mexico vs USA. Total number

Comparison of Drug Addicts in Mexico vs USA. Percentage of the population
Colombia Produces
Mexico Distribution
US Consumption
Merida Initiative
1.4 Billion Support
Congress authorized 352 million Dolars
armas bajo control

EL MUNDO ESTÁ MIRANDO

control arms
Nidia Rodriguez MD
Ecuador

MEDICAL VOICES AGAINST VIOLENCE:

Your Story
Medical Voices Against Violence – Get involved!
Aiming for Prevention
Ogebe Onazi MD, Homsuk Swomen MD
Society of Nigerian Doctors for the Welfare of Mankind

Bringing Peace to the People FM Radio Nigeria
‘Bringing Peace to the People’
Radio Program.
Jos, Nigeria

Ogebe Onazi MBBS
Homsuk E. Swomen MBBS
Medical student members of Society of Nigerian Doctors for the Welfare of Mankind (IPPNW /Nigeria), launched a radio series “Bringing Peace to the People” on Silverbird Rhythm FM 93.7 radio, Jos, Nigeria.

It was designed to educate about and inspire people to work for peace in Nigeria, and to support IPPNW’s global Aiming for Prevention campaign, a public health approach to violence prevention.
Why radio?
Radio is the predominant source of news and information for the African public.

Studies have pointed to high rates of illiteracy, the importance of oral tradition, and the costs of other media (e.g., print, television, and internet) as contributing to a reliance on radio.

Nigeria radio is largely state-controlled, there is a need to develop community radio stations and worthwhile broadcast content.

Everyone has – or has access to – a radio receiver!!!!!!!
"Bringing Peace to the People" is one of the first attempts to use radio in Nigeria for these more beneficial ends:

- Community development
- Education
- Violence prevention
Jos is a city in Nigeria's middle belt and is the administrative capital of Plateau State.

In recent years (2001, 2004, 2008 and 2010) it has suffered violent ethno religious & political clashes where many Nigerians have been injured and killed.
Pictures of the jos crisis
Pictures of the Jos crisis, effects of small arms & light weapons
Pictures of the jos crisis, internal displacement.
The first spate of violence in 2010 started on 17 January. At least 200 people were killed.

Hundreds of people died in fresh clashes in March 2010. The state police command said that there were 326 deaths and 313 arrests. **Guns** were fired by the perpetrators.
Target audience

- Youths
- Religious leaders
- Government officials
- General public
Program on peace hosted by doctors and medical students because of all the Jos violence!!!!?

- Yes!!
- In view of the recurrent crises!! We had to come in & voice our concern to the public.
- We now went to the media!!
Independent radio station??

- Yes!! Free from the influence of the government, or politicians! Strictly an independent radio station!
- We contacted ray power fm & silver bird rhythm fm. All successful fm stations in Jos with a wide coverage!!
- the independent radio station agreed it was a good idea and provided a forum for us to reach out to youths in the Jos area and the programs were popular and interesting
Radio Program Development

We drew on projects of IPPNW as well as other evidence-based research on the impact of armed violence. Program topics included:

1. One Bullet Stories
2. Small Arms Violence and Health
3. Youth, Violence and Health

We invited health professional guests such as physicians to speak to the target youth listeners.
Program sessions

Mainly divided into 2, and aired alternatively 2 weekly.

A. a live phone in interactive session where we discussed topics previously mentioned

B. an education session where topics were also discussed and listeners asked to send comments and messages.
Sights
Music? Peace music? Popular music?

- We mixed peace music & popular music during sessions.
- The standing policy of the radio station demands that all programs should have music interludes.
- The popular music was aimed at drawing the attention of listeners, then the peace songs to drive the message home immediately after sessions.
We received comments and contributions from individuals and groups including:

- *I love your program, a big well done, keep it up.*

- *The message was passed – good examples of peoples stories when discussing one bullet stories. From action group on adolescent health*
Meeting sessions
We surveyed 40 randomly selected youths from 8 areas in Jos.

- 84% surveyed recommended the program.
- 75% believed that the radio is a means of reducing violent conflicts.
- 75% are frequent listeners of radio
- 63% do not agree to possession of guns, 18% believe in the possession of guns for self defense, while 19% are not sure.
Conclusions

- Independent radio seems to be a useful tool to educate youths on the need for nonviolent forms of conflict resolution.

- Civil society should encourage and support more independent radio programs such as “Bringing Peace to the People.”

- We need more rigorous data on injuries and deaths from armed violence in Nigeria, and more data on factors that may prevent violence.
Conclusions!!

- *Small Investment – Big Impact –*
- We are seeking donations to support this program
- For more information on this & funding please contact;
  - homesuk.swomen@yahoo.com
  - ogebe.o@gmail.com
  - ippnwnigeriastudents@gmail.com
  - mvalenti@ippnw.org – 1–617–440–1733 x 203

forward to your contributions in any way to achieve the intent of this great program.
Sights
Chudamani Giri
Nepal Physicians for Social Responsibility
Armed Violence: Reflections from Nepal

CHUDAMANI GIRI
Physicians for Social Responsibility
NEPAL
Small Arms and Light Weapons
Nepal: A Glimpse

- **Geographical Location**
  Landlocked South Asian country between China and India

- **Federal Republic**
  Doctor:Population Ratio 1:15000

- **National Average Per Capita Income**
  USD$440
Nepal: A Glimpse

- Literacy: 64%

- Peace Zone Nepal: concept enunciated about 35 years ago
Decade Long Conflict: A Glimpse

- **Starting:** 6, ending
- **Death:** 15000
- **Internal Displacement:** No exact data
- **Led by Maoist Rebellions**
Causes

- Price of Neglect: failure to address the disparity between haves and have nots
- Poverty
- Unemployment
Arms Smuggling During Conflict

- Wide demand of arms by warring parties
- Chance of cross border smuggling of arms
- Distribution of arms to Village security forces
Post Conflict Status

War gave voice to voiceless

BUT

Easy access to small arms and light weapons
Post Conflict Status

- More than 100 armed militia groups exist in Nepal
- New stories of distrust
Post Conflict Health Effects

- Domestic Violence
- Injury Related Hospital Visits
- Violation of Human Rights
- HIV/AIDS
IPPNW Activities

- One Bullet Stories
- Public Health Advocacy
- Educational conferences and seminars
- Publications
Say No to War

Doctor, IPPNW member, and Human JUSTICE?

That’s what we are advocating for !!!

Let's make peaceful voices be heard

Say No to War and Violence
THANK YOU
Aiming for Prevention
Chris Bem MD

Medact
challenging barriers to health
War and Violence: the human consequences

Chris Bem
Surgeon, Bradford, England
Andrew Winnington MD
IPPNW New Zealand
Dr. Andrew Winnington
IPPNW (New Zealand)
Papua New Guinea

- Ranked 148 of 182 countries.
  Human Development Report 2009

- Chronically affected by armed violence with the potential to destabilise peace and security in the Pacific region.
  Small Arm Survey 2006
Papua New Guinea 2009

• Level of armed crime in Port Moresby makes it one of the most dangerous cities in the world.

• SALW feature prominently in ethnic and tribal conflict in the Highland provinces.

• SALW proliferate in post-conflict Bougainville.

Papua New Guinea
Tribal Warfare
Southern Highlands Province firearms are more likely to be used in homicide...

... than a similar gun in Ecuador, Jamaica, Colombia or South Africa.
Direct health consequences of tribal gun violence

• Increased mortality and morbidity.

• Financial burden of gunshot wounds on health services.
Mean duration in surgical ward for treatment of injuries
(Mendi Hospital 1999-2007, $n = 1103$)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Injury Type</th>
<th>Mean Duration</th>
<th>n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Fire burn</td>
<td>23.3 days</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Gunshot wound</td>
<td>14.5 days</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Amputation</td>
<td>13.4 days</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Human bite</td>
<td>12.8 days</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Axe</td>
<td>11.3 days</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Fracture</td>
<td>10.8 days</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Bush knife</td>
<td>9.9 days</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Knife</td>
<td>8 days</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Arrow</td>
<td>7 days</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Spear</td>
<td>6.4 days</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Motor vehicle crash</td>
<td>6.2 days</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mendi
Southern Highlands Provincial Capital
Pop. 17,119 (Census 2000)
Disruption to hospital services

• 9 month cessation of services.

• Several years after re-opening to reach pre-conflict capacity.
Total admissions per month
Mendi Hospital 2000-2007

Tribal conflict
12/01 – 9/02
Indirect health consequences of tribal gun violence

55,000
“missed” outpatient episodes of care

10,400
“missed” inpatient admissions
Indirect health consequences of tribal gun violence

260 preventable medical deaths
(untreated fatality rate – hospital case fatality rate)

100 combatants killed in fighting around Mendi
Bougainville Revolutionary War 1990-1998
Panguna copper mine, Bougainville
Containment

1900 SALW
(completed July 2003)
Destruction (to begin 2004)
Destruction (to begin 2004)

Returned to population
Mean monthly admissions for weapon injuries Buka Hospital 1993-2008

- PNG invasion: n = 15, 4.13
- 3rd Cease-fire: n = 30, 0.33
- Disarmament: n = 4, 0.0
- Post-disarmament: n = 40, 0.575
Measuring armed violence

- Peace process and weapon containerisation reduced rates of weapon injuries in Bougainville.

- Currently more surgical admissions for weapon injuries than prior to disarmament.
Average monthly admissions for weapon injuries at PNG hospitals 2000-2008
Measuring armed violence in Papua New Guinea

- Peace processes lower the rates of intentional weapon injury compared to settings where tribal violence is poorly controlled (e.g. in the Southern Highlands Province).
Aiming for Prevention action-oriented research

• Measures immediate effects of armed violence (deaths and injuries) and the indirect effects (*e.g.* public health consequences).

• Measurability is central to the UN PoA and *Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development.*
Aiming for Prevention workshop

- Ongoing collaboration with UNDP measuring the success of post-conflict disarmament process in Bougainville.

- Outline the method for action-oriented research.
Thank you
Dr. Sebastian Taylor

The Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development: What it Means to IPPNW
Bernard Lown MD
IPPNW Co-founder