

# Baseline Survey on Domestic Violence and HIV/AIDS

Submitted by



CMS

to

**break  
through**

building human rights culture

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**Baseline Report ■ 2008**

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## Chapter 1: Introduction

### 1.1 Background

Breakthrough is an international human rights organization, which was established in 1999 to raise awareness about human rights using education and popular culture. Breakthrough works across five program areas; women's rights, sexuality, caste equality, religion & peace and racial & ethnic justice. Breakthrough, India is effectively operational in three states of India namely Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka.

Breakthrough's integrated strategy combines the mass media's potential to shape public dialogue with interpersonal reinforcement, skill building and social mobilization to influence knowledge, attitudes and social norms from a rights-based, gender sensitive perspective.

Through several campaigns using various media, Breakthrough brought the taboo issue of domestic violence into mainstream popular culture. It also promoted male responsibility or condom use to prevent the spread of HIV and brought into public attention the stigma and violence faced by Women Living with HIV/AIDS (WLHAs). Along with the media campaign, extensive grassroots level trainings/workshops have been regularly conducted since 2005 with trainers from NGOs, positive peoples network & youth from the universities, as well as marginalized communities.

Recently Breakthrough has launched a three-year campaign to see reduction in domestic violence and stigma & discrimination faced by Women Living with HIV/AIDS (WLHAs).

Using the twin strategy of media (TV, Print, Radio, Internet and Video van) and education (trainings/ workshops), Breakthrough plans to emphasize on the right to negotiate safer sex, right to residence, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence, Act 2005, women access to health and legal services, increased dialogue in the community, and participation of community members - especially men, in the fight against violence and stigma and discrimination faced by WLHAs. In order to have a continuous feedback for monitoring and to have a better impact of the campaign, Breakthrough invited CMS to submit a proposal.

## 1.2 Centre For Media Studies

In response to the invitation from Breakthrough towards developing a benchmark, monitoring the progress of the campaign, and evaluating the impact of the campaign - the Centre for Media Studies (CMS), a professional institution on social and communication research, submitted a proposal and was commissioned by Breakthrough as a research partner for the entire process.

For nearly 17 years CMS has been engaged in conducting several studies involving public policies and communication strategies mostly on issues to do with social development. Many of these studies include comprehensive analysis for designing mass media campaigns, and monitoring and impact evaluation of the communication initiatives. One of the thrust areas of CMS's concern has been public health, HIV/AIDS, Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) & family welfare and strategic use of communication media and public participation.

### Research Support for Breakthrough Campaign

The research has been conceptualized as a process which has three components of i) Baseline; ii) Monitoring; and an iii) End line. The indicators or 'markers' chosen for measuring the level of knowledge, the attitude that the audience have towards the issue and the practice will be measured at the baseline to create a benchmark, monitored at an interval after the launch of the campaign and finally will be evaluated at the end line to see the impact of the campaign as a whole.

For Baseline and End line an operation research design has been adopted to see how education as an intervention adds value to the mass media campaign taken up by Breakthrough. The design essentially will be comparing two sites exposed to various intensities and modalities of Breakthrough intervention activities.

For Concurrent Monitoring - in built monitoring through 'most significant change technique' and quantitative rapid assessment after each media bursts have been planned.

## 1.3 Baseline Study Objectives

The objectives of the baseline survey are as follows:

1. To benchmark the knowledge and awareness about domestic violence, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (PWDV Act), and HIV/AIDS.
2. To explore the current attitudes towards issues of gender, condom use and negotiation, inter-spousal communication, HIV/AIDS, and domestic violence and practices on the same.
3. To identify the source of information on these issues and
4. To understand the media habits of the target audience for future campaign plans.

## 1.4 Coverage

### i) States and District

The study was conducted in three implementation states of Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh. To assess the differential impact of both the strategies i.e. education and media, two districts were chosen for research study. The assumption is that both the mediums are reinforcing each other and making a greater impact than only using one medium. So, from all the states, one Breakthrough (BT) intervention district was chosen to be exposed to both the strategies (education and media), and one control (only mass media) district was chosen. The control district, which had similar media exposure levels like the BT intervention district, (Case District) was purposively selected for the study. The districts from each state were as follows:

	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh
Intervention district - Case	Dakshin Kanada	Aurangabad	Lucknow
Control District	Mandya	Nashik	Aligarh

### ii) Location

Both Urban and rural locations were visited during the survey for collecting data. District headquarters and nearby villages that come under the catchments area of the Breakthrough and its NGO partners in the intervention districts was considered for survey.

### iii) Respondents

As suggested in the Request For Proposal (RFP) the respondents in the survey comprised *men and women of reproductive age* (15-49 yrs) since they are the primary audience of the communication campaign. Married and unmarried men and women from the age group were contacted.

## 1.5 Sample Size and Distribution

For Baseline, CMS proposed to contact approximately 400 respondents per state among general population/community. This 400-sample size includes probable 5 percent non-response. (Given the sample size of 400 at state level the margin of error will be  $\pm 5$  at 95% confidence level and this has been arrived from the following formula and also include 5% non-response.) This sample size is statistically robust to provide an estimate at the state level.

$e = \{\text{sqrt.}(p \cdot q/n)\} \times Z$ , where, e = sampling error, p= probability of event, q= 1-p, n=sample size, Z=Z value for associated confidence level

So the total sample was **1200**.

A *purposive random sampling* procedure was adopted by CMS for selection of respondents from the community. Equal numbers of males and females of 15-49 years of age were to be contacted. For easy selection a proportion of 80:20 was fixed for married and unmarried respondents. The proportion for community vs. opinion leader was 95:5.

Further 10 sites from each district were to be visited to distribute the sample proportionately.

## **1.6 Research Tools**

The household schedule for the Survey was *pre-coded and close ended*. As per the requirement, the questionnaire also had some open-ended probes, which were coded later. It contained questions and probes on relevant indicators related to knowledge and awareness about Domestic Violence (DV), PWDV Act 2005, HIV/AIDS, exposure to any campaign to related issues and their media habits. The questionnaire was pretested by the team and modified further. This was administered among adult males and females from the community.

A manual was prepared for coding field schedules and the programming was done after the finalization of the schedule. Quantitative data was scrutinized and entered, validated and analyzed using standard statistical package viz. SPSS.

## **1.7 Field Operations and Team Movement**

For carrying out the study, qualified researchers and field supervisors having relevant experience of similar kind of study were recruited from the CMS research team. The fieldwork happened in two phases, first in Uttar Pradesh (UP) and Maharashtra and second in Karnataka. The team was oriented and briefed about the study.

Local investigators conversant with the local language were recruited from the state. Researchers visited both the districts and personally trained the local team in regional language for easy administration and data gathering, met the NGO partners also reviewed the fieldwork every day.

## **1.8 Organizing this report**

This report comprises seven chapters. This first chapter details out the research design and approach, the survey states and districts and the sample size and distribution.

**Chapter two** deals with the socio-demographic background of the respondents and their media habits.

**Chapter three** discusses knowledge related to domestic violence, the law protecting women against DV, the benefits under PWDV Act 2005, safe sex, and awareness about prevention of Parent to Child Transmission (PPTCT) and Integrated Counseling and Testing Centres (ICTC).

**Chapter four** brings out the attitude of the community members towards the issue of domestic violence, their perception about ‘what is acceptable and what is not’ in the society that they live in and their tolerance limit. This chapter also looks into the measurements of stigma related to HIV/AIDS in terms of shame, blame, enacted stigma, and fear of disclosure.

**Chapter five** discusses the actual practice of decision-making, condom use, inter-spousal communication, and the personal or community’s experience of domestic violence. Further the chapter tries to bring out the community network in which issues of domestic violence, safe sex, HIV/AIDS etc. are shared, discussed and retained.

**Chapter six** indicates the current and preferred source of information and the need for information in the area of domestic violence.

**Chapter seven** summarizes the over all findings of the study.

## Chapter 2: Respondent Profile and their Media Habits

### 2.1 Respondent Profile

The respondents for this particular study were of mainly three categories: I) Married men & women, II) Unmarried men & women and III) Opinion Leaders comprising of Pradhans, Panchayat Members, and teachers from both urban and rural locations of selected states and districts. A total of 1204 respondents were contacted for the survey.

Table 2.1: Number of Respondents contacted

	Karnataka (401)	Maharashtra (403)	Uttar Pradesh (400)	Total (1204)
Community Members	380	382	386	1148
Opinion Leaders	21	21	14	56
Total	401	403	400	1204

#### 2.1.1 Location wise distribution of respondents

Table 2.2: Location wise distribution

Location	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
Urban	201	245	209	655
Rural	200	158	191	549
Total	401	403	400	1204

In alignment with the proposed rural urban distribution 54 percent of the respondents were interviewed from urban locations while the rest were from rural locations.

#### 2.1.2 Demographic Characteristics

**Age & Sex composition:** The study contacted almost equal numbers of men and women for the interview. Respondents were equally distributed in the age groups. About 41percent of respondents covered for the study were from 21-30 years age.

Table 2.3: Demographic Characters (%)

Gender	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	401	403	400	1204
Male	50.1	49.9	50.5	50.2
Female	49.9	50.1	49.5	49.8
Age in years				
15-20	9.7	16.6	14.0	13.5
21-25	11.7	25.6	22.8	20.0
26-30	22.7	20.1	21.0	21.3
31-35	16.0	18.1	18.0	17.4
36-40	19.5	12.7	13.3	15.1
41-49	20.4	6.9	11.0	12.8

**Marital status and age at marriage:** Nearly 79 percent of the respondents were married while 18 percent were unmarried. Rest were either separated/divorced or widowed.

Table 2.4: Demographic Characters (in %)

Marital Status	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	401	403	400	1204
Married	79.8	79.4	80.5	79.9
Unmarried	19.0	18.4	19.3	18.9
Separated/ Divorcee	-	1.5	0.3	0.6
Widow/Widower	1.2	0.7	-	0.7

The baseline study revealed that a little more than one-fourth of the ever-married respondents got married before 18 years, which is the legal age of marriage. About 65 percent of ever married women in Maharashtra and 55 percent in Uttar Pradesh got married before 18. About 21 percent of male got married before 21 years of age.

Table 2.5: Demographic Characters (%)

Age at marriage	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	201	200	201	202	202	198	1204
> 18	1.8	26.7	6.7	64.9	0.6	55.2	26.2
18	2.5	15.2	5.0	19.6	4.3	17.6	10.7
19- 25	52.9	49.5	72.7	15.6	82.4	25.8	49.6
26-30	29.2	7.2	14.9	0.0	12.1	1.2	10.7
31 and above	13.5	1.2	0.6	0.0	0.6	0.0	2.7

**Level of education:** Among the respondents across the states while around one-fourth of them were educated up to secondary and 18 percent was upto middle level school, nearly 14 percent of them had never attended school. Among the women 18 percent were illiterate, while only 2.3 percent could read and write.

Table 2.6: Demographic Characters (%)

Level of education	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	401	403	400	1204
Illiterate	4.0	10.2	27.5	13.9
Read Only	0.2	1.0	0.5	0.6
Read & Write both	1.7	0.0	6.8	2.8
Primary	21.9	13.9	14.0	16.6
Middle	22.4	16.4	15.5	18.1
Secondary	26.7	28.8	18.8	24.5
Senior Secondary	13.2	19.6	8.8	13.9
Graduate	9.0	8.4	7.3	8.2
Post graduate +	0.7	1.7	1.8	1.4

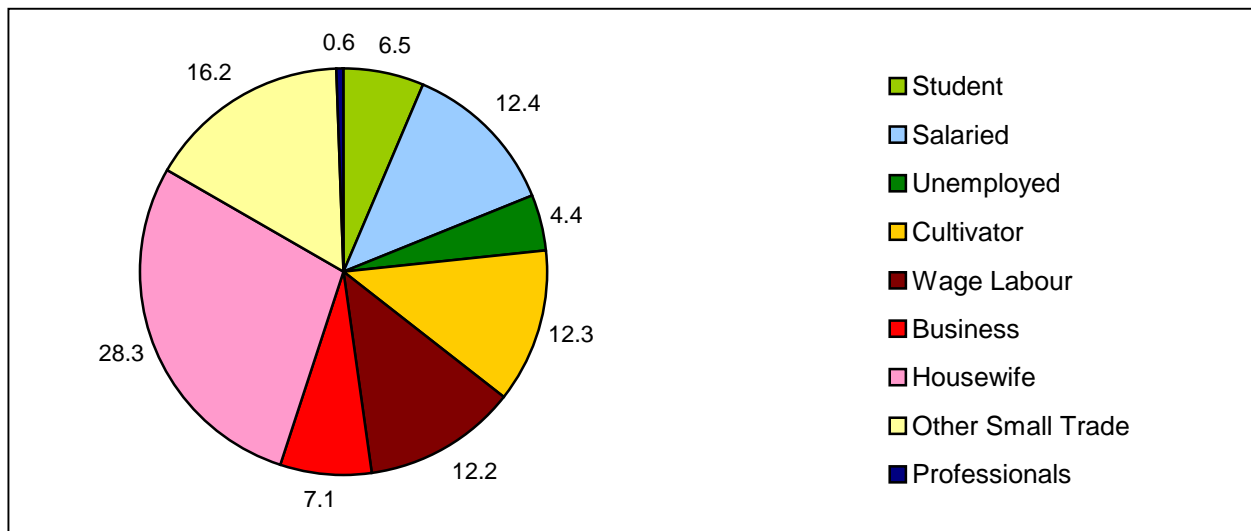
**Occupation:** Among the respondents, 28 percent were homemakers, 16 percent were engaged in small trade, while 12 percent each were salaried workers, cultivators and wage labourers.

Among women - 57 percent were homemakers, while 18 percent were occupied in small trade or in their own farm.

### Female Occupation

- Housewives - 57%
- Small trade - 13%
- Student - 7%
- Salaried job - 6%
- Unemployed - 7%
- Own Farm - 5%

Graph 2.1: Occupation of Community Members (%)



## 2.2 Media Habits

### Ownership of Assets

A little less than 50 percent of respondents across the states possessed radio while about 83 percent possessed television sets. While Karnataka had maximum households with cable connection, Uttar Pradesh had 53 percent households without cable connections.

Table 2.7: Ownership of Assets (%)

	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	401	403	400	1204
Radio/Transistor	63.6	34.0	54.3	50.6
TV with Cable Connection	76.1	43.9	30.3	50.1
TV without cable connection	11.7	34.0	53.3	33.0

### 2.2.1 Radio

▪ Frequency, Intensity and Day part listenership

The CMS study revealed that only 38 percent of the respondents listen to radio every day.

However, more than half of the respondents out of the total do not listen to the radio at all.

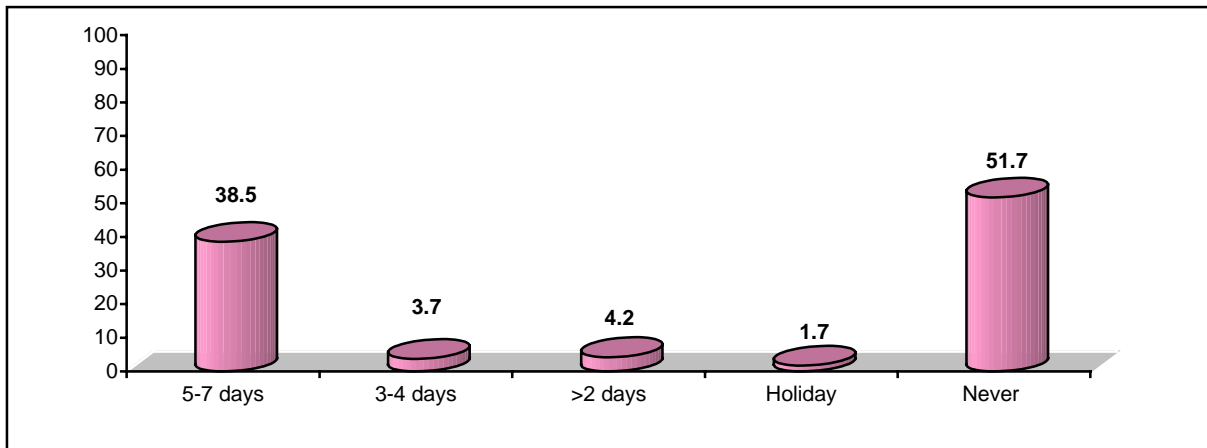
From among those who listen to the radio almost 39 percent of the respondents listen for

less than an hour per day, followed by 38 percent who listen for 1-2 hours in a day.

**RADIO BRIEF**

- Listen everyday -38%
- Never listen -52%
- Preferred time: Early morning -48%
- Preferred Stations- FM -37%, VB - 27%
- Preferred Programmes- Film Songs, News and Current Affairs

Graph 2.2: Listenership Frequency – Radio (%)



Early morning (6-8 am) radio listenership is more (48 percent), followed by late evening (7-9 pm) listenership (28 percent). There was a little variation of time slots amongst male and female listeners. While 30 percent of women prefer listening to radio during the mid morning slots (8 am to 12 noon), one-third of males listen to the radio during 7 to 9 pm.

▪ Preferred Radio Station

Among the radio listeners, listenership of the FM was higher than Vividh Bharti and All India Radio (AIR). Listenership of other FM stations i.e. Radio Mirchi and Big FM was also found to be high in the states.

Table 2.8: Radio Station listened to (%)

Radio Stations	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	251	123	207	581
AIR	18.3	26.0	15.9	19.1
Vividh Bharati	20.7	60.2	14.5	26.9
FM	41.8	17.1	43.0	37.0
Lucknow	1.2	0.8		0.7
Aurangabad	0.4			0.2
Jalgaon		9.8		2.1
Radio Mirchi	24.7	20.3	9.2	18.2
Radio city		0.8	22.2	8.1
Big FM	22.3		14.0	14.6
Mysore FM	12.7			5.5
S FM	4.8			2.1
Mangalore FM	20.3			8.8

Source: Field Survey

▪ **Programs listened**

Film songs followed by the News and Current Affairs programs came out to be the most heard in the radio. Music was next in the preference list. About 11 percent also listens to public service messages (PSM).

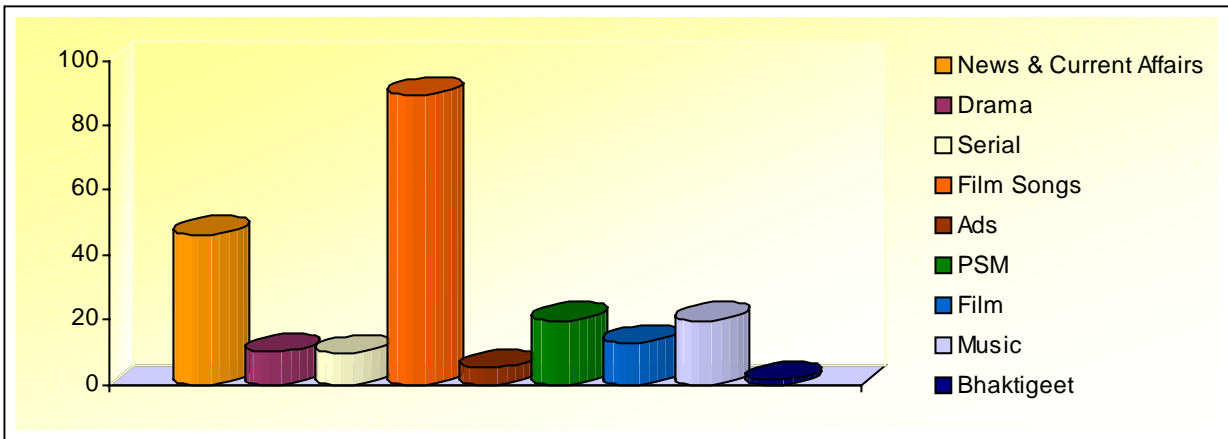
Table 2.9: Programs listened to (%)

Programmes	Karnataka	Maharashtra	UP	Total
N	251	123	207	581
News & Current Affairs	69.7	78.9	62.3	69.0
Drama	6.4	5.7	1.9	4.6
Serial	4.8	4.1	3.9	4.3
Film Songs	89.2	69.1	45.4	69.4
Advertisements	4.0	4.9	1.9	3.4
Public Service Messages	13.1	11.4	9.7	11.5
Film	11.6	5.7	2.4	7.1
Sports	7.6	12.2	1.0	6.2
Music	21.1	7.3	42.5	25.8
Devotional Songs	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.5

Source: Field Survey

Among women, as the graph highlights - listenership to film songs is very high. About 20 percent reported to be listening to Public Service Messages (PSM) also.

Graph 2.3: Programs watched by women (%)



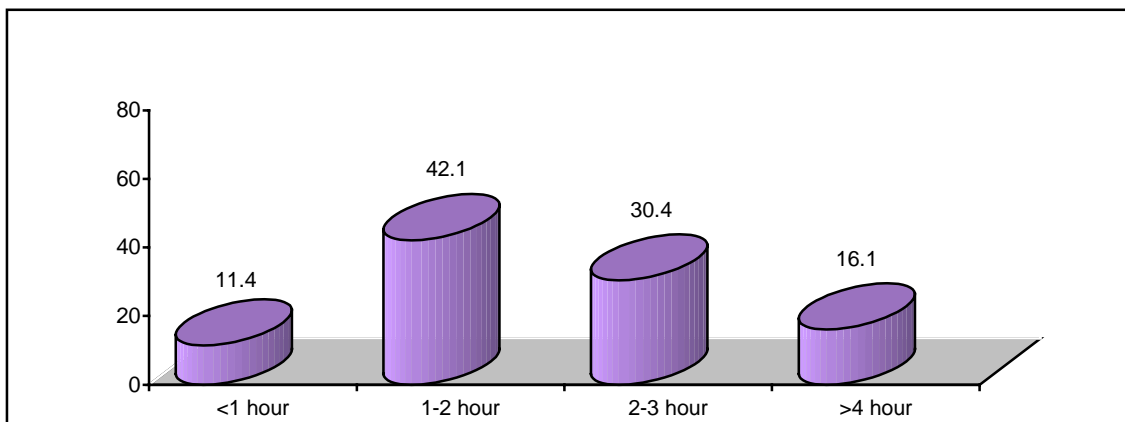
### 2.2.2 Television

#### Frequency, Intensity and Day part Television viewership

Two-third of the respondents watch television every day. Only 18 percent of respondents reported that they do not watch TV at all. 1-2 hours of regular viewing every day was noticed among 42 percent of the respondents, followed by 30 percent of respondents who reported watching TV for 2-3 hours per day.

About 58 percent of viewers preferred to watch television in the evening (7-9 pm), followed by 34 percent who prefer watching at night during 9-11pm. While the afternoon slot of 12-4 pm was preferred by 35 percent of women, men preferred watching TV in the night.

Graph 2.4: Television Viewer ship Intensity (%)



▪ **Preferred Channel in Television**

DD National came out to be the most popular channel across the States. While Udaya TV and ETV Kanada were popular in Karnataka, DD national had higher viewership in Maharashtra and UP.

Table 2.10: Preferred Television Channels (Top three in each state) (%)

TV Channels	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	359	317	314	990
Udaya TV	75.2			27.3
E TV Kanada	42.6			15.2
DD- 9/TV 9	32.9			11.9
DD-1		53.6	60.5	41.5
E TV Marathi		14.5		4.6
Star Plus		22.4	10.5	12.6
Zee TV			12.4	9.5

Source: Field Survey

▪ **Programs Watched**

Films followed by news and current affairs programs came out to be the most watched on Television. Serials, Film Songs, and Sports were next in the line of preference. The most preferred programme amongst men came out to be news and current affairs (81 percent) while women preferred watching serials (85 percent) films (65 percent) and film songs (27 percent).

Table 2.11: Programs Watched (%)

TV Channels	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	359	317	314	990
News & Current Affairs	79.1	71.6	42.7	65.2
Drama	0.8	5.7	3.2	3.1
Serial	55.2	69.4	64.6	62.7
Film Songs	41.2	14.5	14.0	24.0
Advertisements	5.0	3.8	6.1	4.9
Public Service Messages	3.1	3.2	4.5	3.5
Film	69.9	59.3	67.5	65.8
Sports	13.4	14.5	5.4	11.2
Music	10.6	0.9	2.2	4.8

Source: Field Survey

### 2.2.3 Newspapers & Magazine

#### ▪ Frequency and Intensity of Newspaper Readership

About 42 percent of the respondents reported reading newspapers and magazines everyday, while 45 percent of the respondents across the States reported about not reading newspapers or magazines at all. Out of 82 percent of literate female respondents, only 43 percent informed about reading any newspaper or magazine. Among the readers, 89 percent of the respondents spend less than one hour per day in reading.

#### ▪ Readership Pattern

CMS study revealed that in all the three states the respondents preferred to read Hindi and regional newspapers. The preference for reading English newspapers was almost negligible.

Table 2.12: Preferred newspapers in the States (Top two) (%)

Newspapers	Karnataka	Maharashtra	UP	Total
N	314	203	141	658
Udayavani	47.1			22.4
Vijay Karnataka	41.7			19.9
Lokmat		69.0		21.3
Sakal		23.2		7.1
Dainik Jagran			49.6	10.9
Amar Ujala			46.8	10.5

Source: Field survey

Front Page followed by metro city came out to be the most preferred section to read in the newspapers. Sports and national sections were the next in the line of preference.

## **Chapter-3 Knowledge on Domestic violence, PWDV Act 2005 and HIV/AIDS**

### **3.1 Domestic Violence**

Domestic Violence (DV) can be described as ‘misuse of power to control another in adult relationship’. It is the establishment of control and fear in a relationship through violence and other forms of abuse. Domestic Violence isn't just hitting, or fighting, or an occasional argument. The abuser tortures and controls the victim by calculated threats, intimidation, and physical violence. Although both men and women can be abused, in most cases, the victims are women. Children in homes where there is domestic violence are also abused or neglected. Although the woman is usually the primary target, violence is sometimes directed toward children, and sometimes toward family members and friends. The violence may involve physical abuse, sexual assault and threats.

Domestic violence can take many forms and variations and can happen once in a while or all at the same time. Domestic violence can be psychological abuse, social abuse, financial abuse, physical assault and sexual assault. For instance physical assault or injury can be hitting, beating, shoving, etc. and sexual abuse can be forced sexual activity, or stalking etc.

#### **3.1.1 Heard about Domestic Violence (DV)**

Among the respondents, 90 percent informed that they have heard about domestic violence (DV) with more men (93) found to be aware than the women (87).

#### **3.1.2 What is considered as DV?**

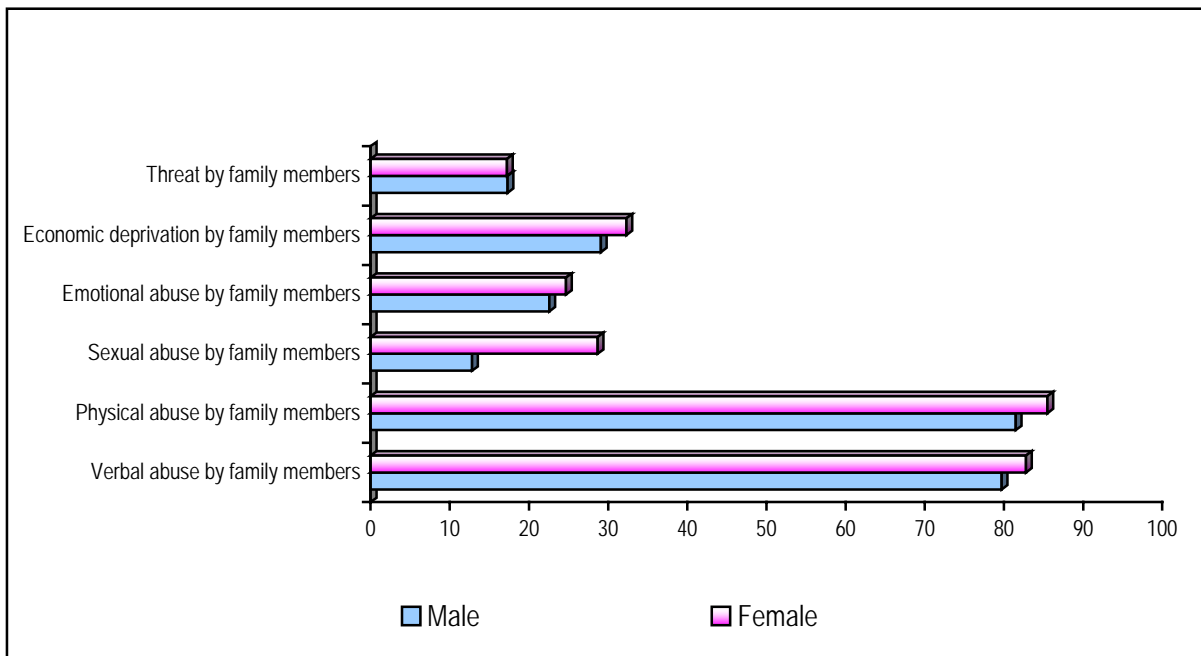
While 45 percent of the respondents could spontaneously define DV as abuse of any kind by family members, another 31 percent could define DV only after being probed ‘on violence by whom’. About 24 percent however, could not complete the definition in spite of repeated probing on ‘by whom’. It was noticed that in Maharashtra and UP while 63 percent and 59 percent of women could define domestic violence, 32 percent and 35 percent of men could not do so even after being repeatedly probed.

Table 3.1: Awareness about Domestic Violence (%)

Understanding of DV	Karnataka		Maharashtra		UP		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	201	188	182	147	178	188	1084
Spontaneous	42.8	52.7	15.9	63.3	37.6	59	44.7
Totally aware after probing	38.3	22.3	52.2	34	27	12.2	30.9
Partially aware after probing	18.9	25	31.9	2.7	35.4	28.7	24.4

People perceive DV differently. While more than 80 percent of respondents (who could define DV spontaneously or after probing) believe that verbal or physical abuse by the family members is the core concept of DV, sexual abuse and economic deprivation was perceived to be important by about 30 percent of the women.

Graph 3.1: Domestic violence defined; by sex (%)



### 3.1.3 What can a woman do when faced with DV?

Majority of the respondents felt that a woman when faced with domestic violence will seek help from her parents family followed by lodging a complaint or an FIR. While a little more than half of them felt that the women would make her husband understand, about 40 percent said the women would protest against the violence. One fourth of the respondents still believe that the woman will adjust to the situation, while about 17 percent felt that they would remain silent.

Table 3.2: What can a woman do when faced with domestic violence? (%)

Options	Male	Female	Kar	Mah	UP	Total
N=	561	523	<b>389</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>1084</b>
Seek help from natal family members	56	68.8	55.8	69.6	62.3	62.2
Lodge an F.I.R/inform police	57.8	56.6	53.5	65.0	54.1	57.2
Make husband understand	44	62.9	38.8	61.4	60.9	53.1
Protest	49.2	29.8	47.6	36.2	35.0	39.9
Seek help from Marital family members	33.3	46.5	30.1	48.9	41.5	39.7
Adjust to the situation	21.7	33.7	40.9	19.1	20.8	27.5
Inform community/ neighbors	25.1	16.6	27.2	14.9	19.9	21.0
Go to court/ lawyer	15.2	21.0	10.3	11.6	32.0	18.0
Remain silent	18.9	16.8	27.0	11.6	13.9	17.9
Seek help from friends	9.3	14.1	21.6	10.6	1.9	11.6
Can commit suicide	9.3	5.2	2.3	4.9	14.8	7.3
DIR (Domestic Incident Report)	3	0.4	0.3	0.3	4.6	1.8
Can leave her husband/divorce	2.1	0.6	0.3	1.2	2.7	1.4
Can file a case against dowry demands	0.5	0.6	0.3		1.4	0.6
Can lodge a complain with Women's Commission	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.9	0.5	0.6
Get separated from husband and bring up her kids by working	0.2	1		0.3	1.4	0.6
Can trouble the family members by taking legal action	0.4	0.2			0.8	0.3
Can leave in laws place and go back to natal house	0.2	0.4			0.8	0.3
Can marry someone else	0.4			0.3	0.3	0.2
Can consult a Women's Group		0.4	0.5			0.2
Can shoot/ kill her husband	0.2				0.3	0.1

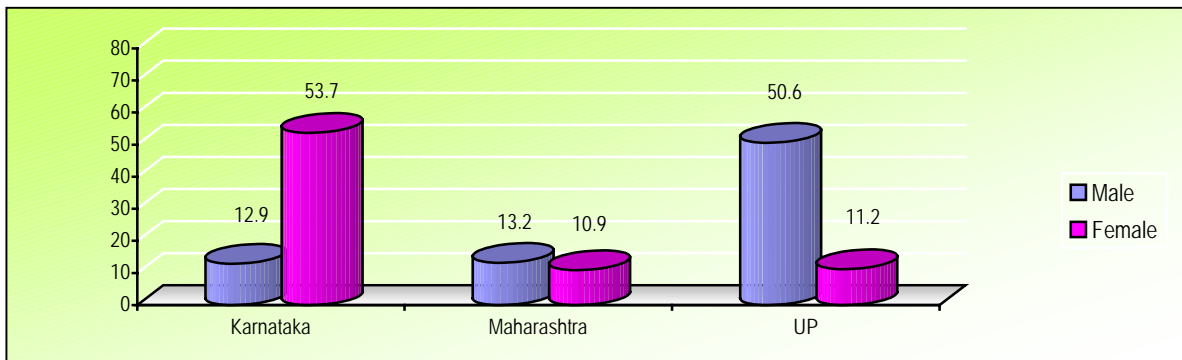
A sex wise analysis of the response interestingly shows that more women than men are thinking in terms of seeking help from family members (marital and natal), or are thinking of making their husbands understand and adjust to the situation or thinking of going to a lawyer.

While on the other hand more men than women among the respondents thought that women would protest and inform community members or would remain silent when faced with domestic violence.

### 3.1.4 Act dealing with Domestic Violence

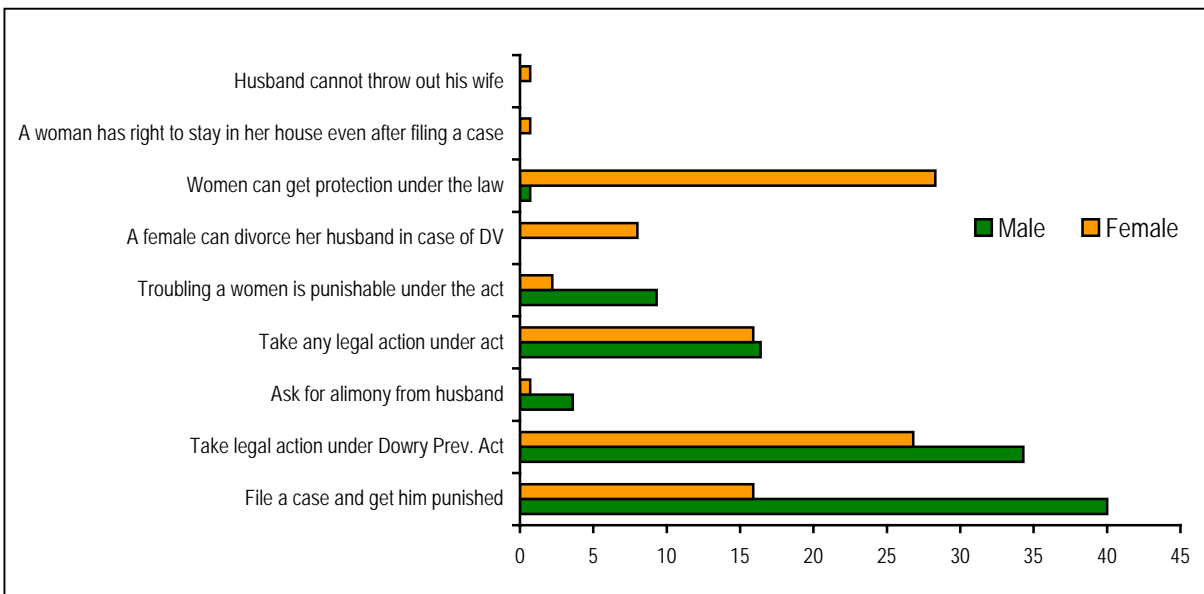
Around 25 percent of the respondents informed that they know about some law, which deals with domestic violence. State wide difference was noticed among men and women. The overall awareness was comparatively low in Maharashtra.

Graph 3.2: Any law on domestic violence (%)



It is interesting to note the difference of perception on the law in men and women. Both men and women consider **Dowry Prevention Act** as an act that protects against Domestic Violence. While a little more than one-third men felt that filing a case against the abuser is the benefit that the Law provides, women felt that the law provides ‘protection to women’. The state wise data shows that among those who claimed to know about the Act that deals with domestic violence about 38.6 percent women from Karnataka knew.

Graph 3.3: What does the law do? (%)



The state wise difference of understanding of men and women is visible from the table next page.

Table 3.3: What do the law offer? (%)

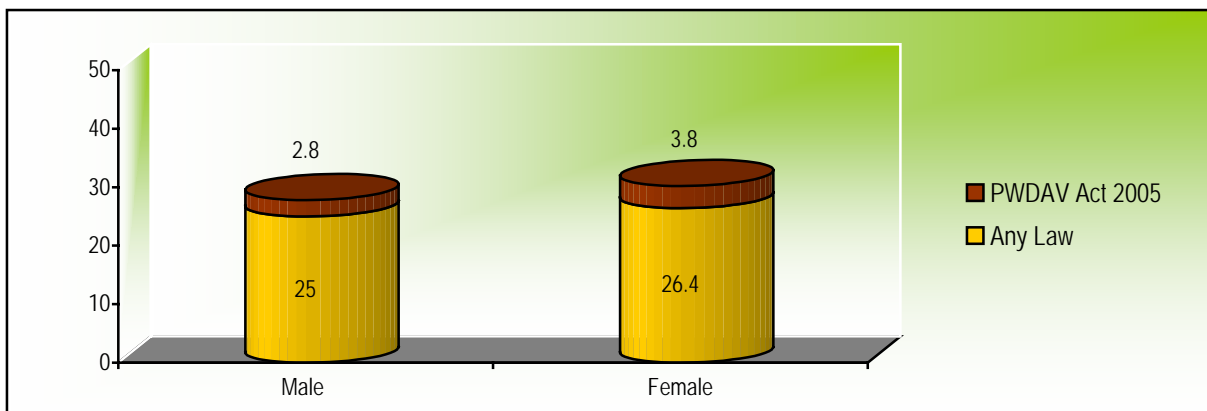
Understanding of DV laws	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N =	26	101	24	16	90	21	278
File a case against her husband and get him punished	19.2	5.0	70.8	43.8	37.8	47.6	28.1
Take legal action under Dowry prevention Act	26.9	29.7	8.3	12.5	43.3	23.8	30.6
Ask for alimony from husband		1.0	12.5		2.2		2.2
Take any legal action under Act	7.7	9.9	8.3	37.5	21.1	28.6	16.2
Troubling a women is punishable under the act, it is an offence	38.5	2.0		6.3	3.3		5.8
A female can divorce her husband in case of DV		10.9					4.0
She can complaint in the Panchayat		2.0					0.7
A woman has right to stay in her house even after filing a case		1.0					0.4
Husband cannot throw out his wife		1.0					0.4
Women can get protection under the law	3.8	38.6					14.4

▪ **Protection of women from Domestic Violence Act (2005) & its benefits**

The passing of the Domestic Violence Act (PVDV Act 2005) is an important marker in the history of the women's movement in India. This enactment sets free the movement from the depression that has long inundated it, of attributing all categories of violence suffered by women within their families to 'dowry' and widening the scope of the term 'domestic violence'.<sup>1</sup>

As mentioned in the earlier section although 25 percent of the respondents knew of 'some law' to deal with domestic violence **only 3.3 percent** of the respondents over various locations reported to have heard about PVDV Act 2005. While **9 percent of females** from Karnataka are aware of this act none of the UP women have heard about it.

Graph 3.4: Any law and PVDV Act 2005 (%)



<sup>1</sup> [http://www.combatlaw.org/information.php?issue\\_id=25&article\\_id=633](http://www.combatlaw.org/information.php?issue_id=25&article_id=633)

Around 76 percent of the respondents who had heard about the PWDV Act 2005, associated the Act to ‘providing protection to the survivor’. While 35 percent felt that the act ensures both ‘monetary compensation and custody of children’ about one –fourth felt that it also provides ‘right to residence’.

Table 3.4: Benefits under the PWDV Act 2005 (in absolute numbers)

Benefits of PWDVA 2005	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	24	13	3	40
Provides protection to the survivor	15	9	3	27
Provides right to residence	3	5	2	10
Monetary compensation	7	5	2	14
Mothers can keep her children with her	11	2	0	13
Interim/Ex-parte order	1	1	1	3
Gives the chance of securing legal justice	7	2	2	11
Ensures equal property right to both		1		1
Protection under dowry case	1			1

Further among the total respondents of the survey about 93 percent knew that throwing a woman out of her house is a legal offence. While there is almost no gap in the level of awareness among men and women of UP, women in Maharashtra were least aware.

Table 3.5: Awareness on Legal Issues (%)

	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	201	200	201	202	202	198	1204
Throwing a woman out of her house is a legal offence	91.5	97	98.5	74.3	97.5	97	92.6
Woman can access legal service to ensure maintenance or custody	61.2	88	97.5	69.3	74.8	97	81.2

Further around 81 percent respondents felt that a woman can access legal services to ensure maintenance or custody.

## 3.2 Knowledge about Safe sex and HIV/AIDS related services

### 3.2.1 Methods adopted for safe sex

Although 63 percent of the respondents promptly referred to ‘condom use’ as a means for ‘safer sex’ only 10 percent could correctly identify ‘consistency in the use’ to be important for safer sex. State wise differences can be noticed. In Maharashtra and UP consistent condom use was less known among female respondents. It is important to note that having one partner is the other method reported by UP males and Karnataka females in terms of having safer sex, and it was highest among the methods reported by the respondent category. These findings are in spite of so much of ongoing campaign on prevention of STD and HIV/AIDS.

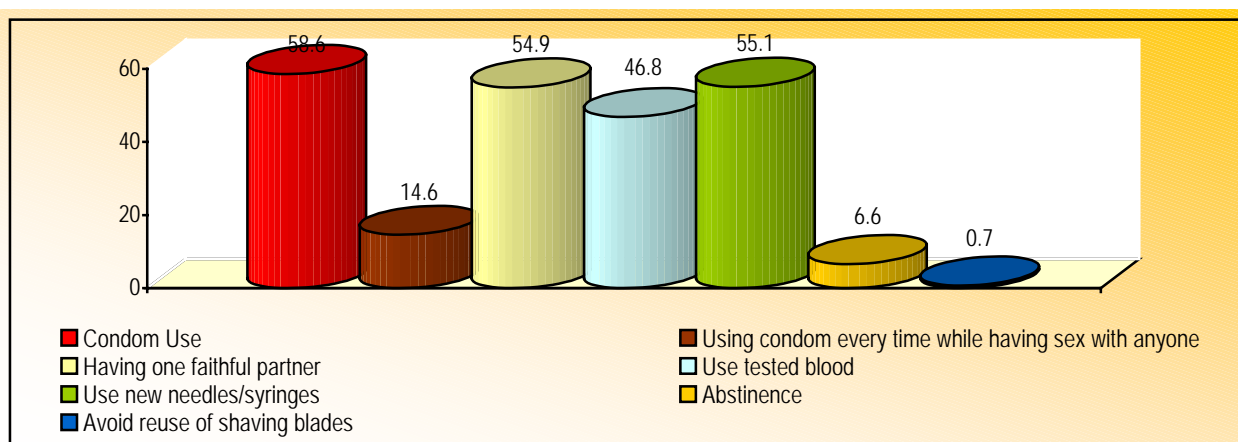
Table 3.6: Awareness on safe sex (%)

Methods for safer sex	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	201	200	201	202	202	198	1204
Condom Use	88.1	44.5	81.6	38.1	60.9	67.2	63.4
Consistent Condom Use	13.9	21.0	4.0	1.5	18.3	1.5	10.0
Having one partner	49.3	64.5	34.8	17.3	62.4	33.8	43.7

### 3.2.2 Methods to prevent HIV/AIDS

When asked about their knowledge about prevention of HIV/AIDS, more than half of our sample respondents talked about condom use, not reusing used needles/syringes and having one faithful partner.

Graph 3.5: Methods to prevent HIV/AIDS (%)



On an average the awareness level of men was higher than that of women. State wise differences can be seen in the table given below.

Table 3.7: Methods to prevent HIV/AIDS (%)

Prevention of HIV/AIDS	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	201	200	201	202	202	198	1204
Condom Use	92.0	51.0	78.6	32.7	38.6	59.1	58.6
Using condom every time while having sex with anyone	12.4	20.5	4.0	3.5	44.1	3.0	14.6
Having one faithful partner	53.2	56.0	51.7	42.6	72.3	53.5	54.9
Do not use non tested blood	44.8	75.5	31.3	19.3	60.4	49.5	46.8
Do not reuse used needles/syringes	67.7	74.0	30.3	33.2	67.3	58.1	55.1
Abstinence	4.0	11.5	9.0	1.0	3.5	11.1	6.6
Avoid reuse of shaving blades		1.0	1.5		1.5	.5	0.7

### 3.2.3 ICTC and PPTCT

Under NACP-III, the Voluntary Counseling and Testing Centres (VCTC) and facilities are remodeled as a hub or 'Integrated Counselling and Testing Centre' (ICTC) to provide services to all clients under one roof. An ICTC is a place where a person is counselled and tested for HIV, of one's own free will or as advised by a medical provider.

An important component under the AIDS control programme is Parent-to-child transmission (PPTCT) of HIV, or perinatal transmission. PPTCT of HIV can occur during pregnancy, at the time of delivery or through breastfeeding.

Less than 50 percent of the sample knows about ICTC. In Karnataka, the awareness level is the lowest. UP reveals quite high level of knowledge on ICTC.

Only little more than half of the total sample was aware about PPTCT. Awareness among women was noticed to be higher than the men in every location.

Table 3.8: Heard of ICTC & PPTCT (%)

	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	196	191	178	105	182	137	989
Heard about ICTC	8.9	46.1	60	50.5	64.3	64.2	49.5
Heard about PPTCT	28.1	69.3	45.5	69.5	57.1	62.8	52.7

Further the respondents were asked about the availability of the services of ICTC and PPTCT. More than 75 percent of the respondents knew that these services are available in the hospitals.

Table 3.9: Availability of Health Services (%)

Availability of services in	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	64	125	118	80	130	96	613
Primary Health Centre	3.1	40.8	5.9	7.5	13.1	2.1	13.9
Community Health Centre	26.6	0.8	25.4	0	8.5	0	9.6
Hospital	68.8	85.6	66.9	86.3	70.8	87.5	77.5

## Chapter-4 Attitude on Domestic violence and HIV/AIDS

There has been increasing concern across the world about violence against women, especially within the home, which usually goes unreported. This global concern arises because this is not only an issue of human rights violations, but it also creates health burdens with intergenerational and demographic consequences.

In an attempt to understand the current attitude of the respondents about issues related to women's vulnerability in terms of domestic violence, the reasons and actions acceptable to community and the self, as well as HIV - a battery of attitudinal statements were administered. For every attitudinal statement certain circumstances were read out to the respondents for them to agree or disagree. This to an extent would facilitate the campaigners to mould their campaign to influence particular attitudes.

### 4.1 Women's Vulnerability

#### 4.1.1 A wife can refuse to have sex with her husband

The respondents agreed to the fact that given certain circumstances a wife can refuse to have sex with her husband. Husbands with STD, and having sex with other women were situations where more than 80 percent respondents felt that refusing is justified. However it was interesting to note that 44 percent of the respondents approved of a wife's refusal to have sex in case the husband is unwilling to use a condom. While across the states more women than men agreed to the situation, the percentage was considerably low in the case of male respondents from Karnataka.

Table 4.1: Situations where a wife can refuse to have sex with her husband (%)

A wife can refuse to have sex with her husband (YES)	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
	201	200	201	202	202	198	1204
When she knows her husband has sexually transmitted diseases	94.0	83.5	95.5	71.3	89.6	88.4	87.0
When her husband has sex with other women	87.6	73.5	84.1	72.3	91.6	89.9	83.1
If she is not in a mood	69.2	82.5	87.1	81.7	85.1	88.9	82.4
If she is tired	58.2	82.5	89.1	80.7	86.1	85.9	80.4
If he is unwilling to use a condom	21.4	52.5	49.3	51.0	32.7	59.6	44.4

#### 4.1.2 If a woman refuses sex the husband can

Nearly 43 percent of respondents stated that the husband could go and have sex with other women if a wife refuses sex. Only 35 percent stated forced sex as a consequence. On an average more women than men stated such consequences.

Table 4.2: If a Woman refuses Sex the husband can (%)

	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
(YES) N	201	200	201	202	202	198	1204
Stop providing financial support	31.3	34.5	6.0	43.5	7.9	49.5	28.7
Use force and have sex with her	44.8	29.0	28.9	48.5	18.3	38.9	34.7
Go and have sex with other women	64.2	30.0	21.9	63.4	34.2	43.4	42.9

#### 4.1.3 A husband can beat/slap his wife

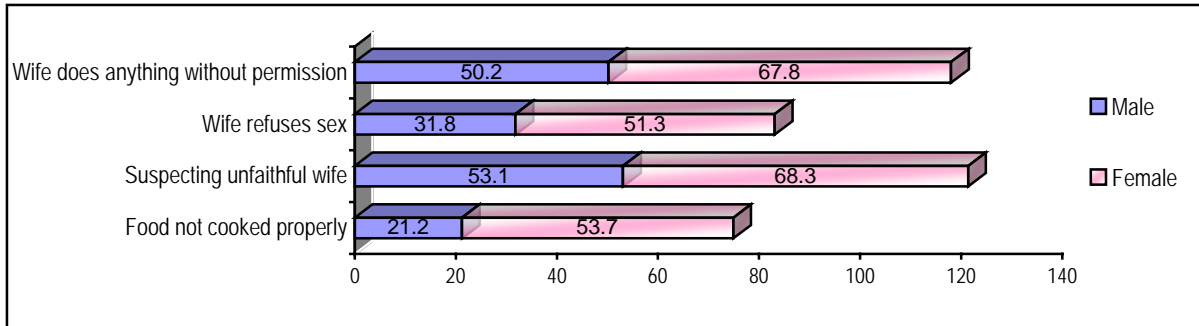
Domestic violence, particularly wife beating or physical ill treatment is a very common phenomenon in many Indian homes. There could be varied trivial reasons given to justify wife beating such as not cooking good food or doing things without his prior permission.

Table 4.3: Situations where a Husband can beat his Wife (%)

A husband can beat/slap his wife		Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
		M	F	M	F	M	F	
N		201	200	201	202	202	198	1204
If she doesn't cook food properly	Yes	15.9	21.0	15.9	72.8	31.7	67.2	37.4
	No	84.1	79.0	84.1	27.2	66.8	32.3	62.3
If he suspects her of being unfaithful	Yes	81.1	37.5	27.4	88.1	51.0	79.3	60.7
	No	17.4	62.5	72.6	11.9	47.5	20.2	38.7
If she refuses to have sex with him	Yes	59.2	27.0	17.9	71.3	18.3	55.6	41.5
	No	40.3	72.0	82.1	27.7	79.2	43.4	57.5
If she does anything without taking his permission	Yes	56.2	40.5	26.9	82.7	67.3	80.3	59.0
	No	42.3	58.5	72.6	16.3	32.2	19.2	40.2

Nearly 60 percent of the respondents agreed that a husband could beat his wife in case he suspects her of being unfaithful or does anything without his prior permission. On the other hand on an average 60 percent felt that refusing sex or not cooking good food cannot be reasons for wife beating. There was a difference noticed especially in the case of Maharashtra and Karnataka, where males and females expressed extremely opposite views in situations regarding refusal to have sex or suspicions of being unfaithful.

Graph 4.1: Husband can beat his wife (%)



## 4.2 Domestic Violence

In male dominated households the acts of violence by the head of the family against any member is considered his authority and perceived as disciplinary measure. The society looks down upon a woman if she goes out to complain against any violence within the house. So, often cases of domestic violence either go unreported, as women are either embarrassed or are ashamed to talk about it. The study tends to bring out the attitude of the community towards the issue of DV and also the preparedness of the society to provide support to the woman who is facing violence.

### 4.2.1 If a husband abuses his wife

The respondents approved the intervention of family members in case of violence. In case of Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh more than one-third of females and males felt that it should be nobody else's business and none should intervene between the issues of husband and wife.

Interestingly, 86 percent of respondents from across the states were of the opinion that women should take legal action against domestic violence and should not remain silent. There were few who felt that in case the husband beats his wife, she should keep silent.

Table 4.4: Domestic Violence (%)

If the husband abuses his wife	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	201	200	201	202	202	198	1204
The community should intervene	94.5	58.5	90.5	94.6	65.8	88.9	82.1
The wife should take legal action	90.5	72.0	82.6	91.6	80.7	98.5	86.0
Other male family members should intervene	90.0	64.0	97.4	99.0	84.7	83.8	86.5
Other family members should intervene	92.0	52.0	97.5	97.0	80.2	92.4	85.2

It is nobody's business	8.5	41.0	10.5	7.9	36.8	10.6	19.2
The wife should remain silent	12.4	16.5	23.9	6.4	28.2	7.1	15.8

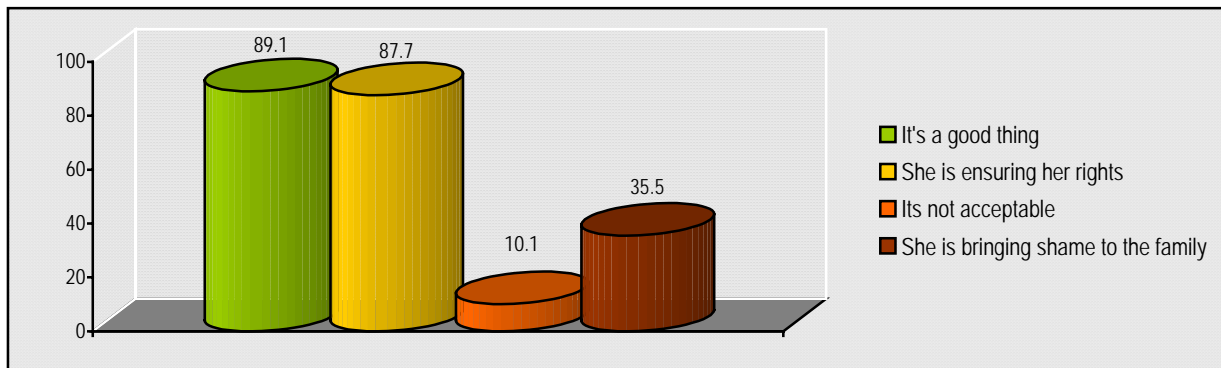
#### 4.2.2 Women facing DV taking legal action or seeking help

Majority of the respondents reported that it would be a good thing if a woman who is a victim of domestic violence takes legal action. In contrast 41 percent of them were also of the opinion that, her act of taking legal action will in a way bring shame to the family.

Table 4.5: Woman taking legal action against husband in case of domestic violence (%)

	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	201	200	201	202	202	198	1204
It's a good thing	91.0	87.5	86.1	91.6	68.3	96.5	86.8
She is ensuring her rights	96.0	93.0	95.0	84.7	79.2	80.3	88.0
Its not acceptable	9.5	13.5	17.4	8.9	13.9	3.5	11.1
She is bringing shame to the family	46.8	23.0	42.3	25.7	78.7	28.8	40.9

Graph 4.2: In case of DV seeking help from others outside the house



A similar response came when they were asked to respond to the situation where a victim of domestic violence seeks help from others outside her house. In regards to opinions by male and female respondents there wasn't much difference.

#### 4.2.3 Women can seek legal support only when

Majority of the respondents felt that it is essential that a woman is economically independent to raise her voice against her husband and seek legal actions. Except for Karnataka more women in UP and Maharashtra felt the same. Community support and support from the natal family was felt to be equally important.

Table 4.6: Woman taking legal action against husband in case of domestic violence (%)

	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	201	200	201	202	202	198	1204
The woman is ensured of community support	95.5	83.5	10.0	52.5	70.8	69.7	63.3
The woman is ensured of support from her marital family	63.7	66.0	10.4	49.5	67.3	52.0	51.5
The woman is ensured of support from her natal family	87.1	73.0	14.4	53.5	69.3	77.8	62.5
The woman is economically independent	84.1	75.5	23.9	57.4	74.8	83.3	66.5

### 4.3 Attitude Towards HIV Positive Women

*"Due to stigma and HIV/AIDS related discrimination, the rights of women living with HIV/AIDS are violated, simply because they are known, or presumed, to have HIV/AIDS. The fear of such discrimination discourages women from disclosing their status or seeking testing or treatment".*

*(ICW Vision Paper-4) HIV Positive women and Human Rights*

The stigma faced by an HIV positive person especially that of an HIV positive woman is a real phenomenon in many people's lives that affects their physical, psychological, social and economical well-being. This stigma and discrimination (S&D) has accompanied the AIDS epidemic from the start. Fear of and actual experience with stigma and discrimination reduce an individual's

willingness to practice prevention, seek HIV testing, disclose his or her HIV status to others, ask for (or give) care and support, and begin and adhere to treatment.

The CMS study endeavored to gauge people's attitude towards a positive woman. The study tried to look into four factors that become instrumental in determining people's behaviour towards HIV positive people, i.e. associated shame, blame, enacted stigma and fear of disclosure. The statements were administered only to those who knew about HIV/AIDS.

#### 4.3.1 Shame and Blame

As per the study findings, while one-fifth of the respondents were of the opinion that a woman herself should be blamed of her positive status, more than a quarter of them felt that she should be ashamed of her status. Nearly one-third of the respondents felt that the partner can be blamed, while majority did not see any point in blaming her family for her positive status. Wide male-female gap was seen in the case of female respondents from Maharashtra and UP. It is interesting to note that shame is high among males in Karnataka, and blame on partners are high among women in Maharashtra and UP.

Table 4.7: Blame and Shame (%)

	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	196	191	178	105	182	137	989
She is to blame	14.3	7.3	12.9	21.0	51.1	9.5	19.5
Her partner is to blame	24.0	12.6	10.7	60.0	47.8	55.5	32.0
The family is to blame	6.1	6.3	0.6	7.6	2.7	2.2	4.1
It is the result of the sins	31.6	12.6	15.7	17.1	19.2	7.3	17.9
She should be ashamed of her status	48.0	17.3	24.2	24.8	28.6	17.5	27.5

### 4.3.2 Fear of spread

The spread of HIV/AIDS is often accelerated by social norms and taboos, which limit one's access to information and increase vulnerability. The CMS study revealed that although low, the misconceptions and fear related to spread still exist.

Table 4.8: Fear of spread (%)

	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	196	191	178	105	182	137	989
She should be kept away from her children	12.8	11.0	11.2	12.4	4.9	5.8	9.7
Her things should be kept separated	19.9	14.1	11.2	17.1	6.6	5.1	12.4

### 4.3.3 Enacted Stigma or discrimination

As any other study related to HIV/AIDS stigma and discrimination this study also brought out that a majority of the respondents had a positive attitude towards the rights of a positive women and wanted to treat her normally in the society. Although very low, more women than men however felt that she should be ostracized from the community, thrown out of the house and that she cannot spend money on her treatment.

Graph 4.3: Rights of HIV Positive Women

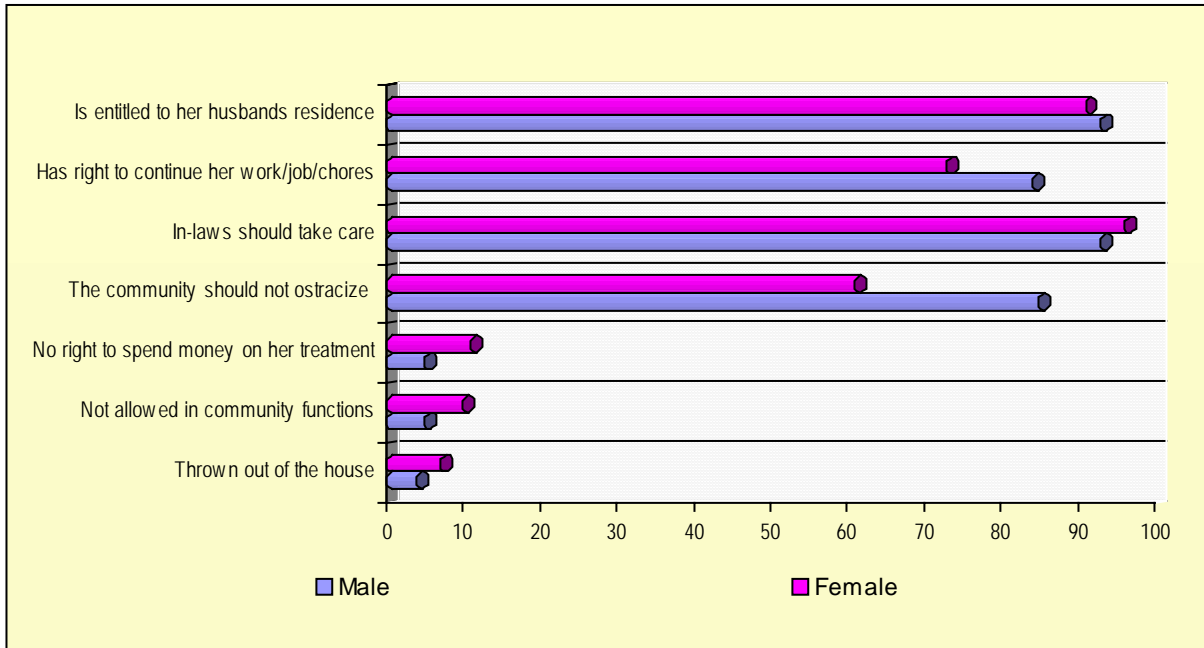


Table 4.9: Stigma & discrimination (%)

	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	196	191	178	105	182	137	989
She should be thrown out of the house	4.6	9.4	5.1	6.7	2.7	5.1	5.6
She should be entitled to her husbands residence	89.8	89.5	93.8	90.5	96.7	93.4	92.3
She should not be allowed to attend community functions	6.1	5.8	5.6	12.4	3.3	13.1	7.1
The community should not ostracize her	79.6	58.6	89.3	61.0	87.4	65.0	74.7
She should be taken care of by her in-laws	85.2	96.9	96.6	97.1	98.4	92.7	94.2
She has no right to spend money on her treatment	9.7	9.4	1.7	16.2	3.3	10.2	7.8
She has the right to continue her work/job/chores	62.2	51.8	93.3	79.0	97.3	97.1	78.9

#### 4.3.4 Disclosure

Due to stigma and HIV/AIDS-related discrimination, the rights of women living with HIV/AIDS are violated, simply because they are known, or presumed, to have HIV/AIDS. The fear of such discrimination discourages women from disclosing their status or seeking testing or treatment.

Table 4.10: Disclosure of HIV Positive Status (%)

	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	196	191	178	105	182	137	989
Disclosing the status if a member of family is positive	13.8	14.1	61.2	75.2	74.2	51.8	45.3

Less than half of the respondents stated that in case a member of their own family gets infected with HIV they would disclose the status. Further, without any prompting a few of them stated that 'it is a disease and unless we disclose the status, we will not be able to avail any treatment'. Few others expressed their fear of being discriminated by the community, which develops after disclosure.

## Chapter-5: Practice

### 5.1 Decision Making

Any level of women's involvement in decision-making may have different empowerment outcomes. In an attempt to understand the decision making dynamics among the selected respondents of our study, a battery of questions were administered related to who makes 'big decisions' (decisions to buy, sell household item or land etc.); routine household decisions surrounding day-to-day activities in the household; the children's education or marriage; decisions to visit family and friends; decisions on family planning methods to be adopted and number of children to have; and decisions to take a sick family member to a health institution.

As per the information gathered, husbands or both partners decide on purchase of property or major household items, children's education or marriage and visiting the wife's relative. The wife's individual decision in any of these matters is almost negligible.

While majority agreed that the decision on whether to have sex, adopting family planning methods and number of children to have were taken by both partners, it was interesting to note that women have more say in the case of utilizing the money earned or owned by them than their male counterparts. However a woman can hardly decide on her own to visit her family or her relatives. The husband or both partners take this decision together in most cases.

Table 5.1: Decision Making in case of Married Respondents (%)

		Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N		320	320	322	962
Purchasing major household items	Husband	21.9	30.9	40.7	31.2
	Wife	5.3	0.3	3.7	3.1
	Both	48.8	21.3	18.9	29.6
Visit to wife's family or relatives	Husband	33.4	31.9	47.8	37.7
	Wife	15.9	4.4	10.9	10.4
	Both	44.4	36.6	21.1	34.0
Using the money earned by the wife	Husband	13.1	19.4	16.1	16.2
	Wife	62.5	31.6	42.2	45.4
	Both	23.1	40.0	29.5	30.9
Children's education	Husband	12.2	19.4	25.5	19.0
	Wife	6.6	1.6	5.6	4.6
	Both	78.1	67.8	56.2	67.4
Children's marriage	Husband	8.1	10.3	19.3	12.6
	Wife	4.7	0.6	2.2	2.4
	Both	60.9	42.5	54.7	52.7

In the case of making a decision on obtaining health care for the wife a variation has been noticed in the responses from the states. While 'both' partners in Maharashtra and Karnataka take a decision on obtaining health care for both the wife and husband, in Uttar Pradesh it is the husband who takes the decision for obtaining health care for the wife. It is interesting to note that except for obtaining health care for the husband and deciding the number of children they want to have, there is a stark gap in the decisions taken by husband or wife alone.

Table 5.2: Decision Making in case of Married Respondents (%)

		Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
	N	320	320	322	962
Whether to have sex	Husband	10.3	14.1	25.2	16.5
	Wife	2.2	0.9	3.4	2.2
	Both	86.9	82.8	71.1	80.2
Decision about having the number of children	Husband	7.2	10.3	10.6	9.4
	Wife	5.9	1.9	7.1	5.0
	Both	83.1	73.4	81.4	79.3
Adopting family planning methods	Husband	12.8	12.5	11.8	12.4
	Wife	3.1	3.1	7.1	4.5
	Both	75.0	67.8	75.2	72.7
Whether to use condom	Husband	22.8	20.9	39.8	27.9
	Wife	1.6	0.6	3.7	2.0
	Both	55.9	46.3	29.5	43.9
Obtaining healthcare for the wife	Husband	36.9	40.6	74.5	50.7
	Wife	23.4	1.3	7.8	10.8
	Both	37.8	42.8	15.8	32.1
Obtaining healthcare for the husband	Husband	40.6	15.0	30.7	28.8
	Wife	21.9	21.3	42.9	28.7
	Both	35.6	49.7	22.7	36.0

There wasn't much difference noticed in the responses from married or unmarried respondents. They felt that except for using the money owned by the mother, all other decisions are taken by both the parents.

Table 5.3: Decision Making in case of unmarried Respondents (%)

		Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
	N	81	83	78	242
Purchasing major household items	Father	29.6	27.7	24.4	27.3
	Mother	13.6	3.6	9.0	8.7
	Both Parents	29.6	41.0	41.0	37.2
Visit to wife's family or relatives	Father	28.4	28.9	24.4	27.3
	Mother	22.2	12.0	15.4	16.5
	Both Parents	30.9	42.2	35.9	36.4

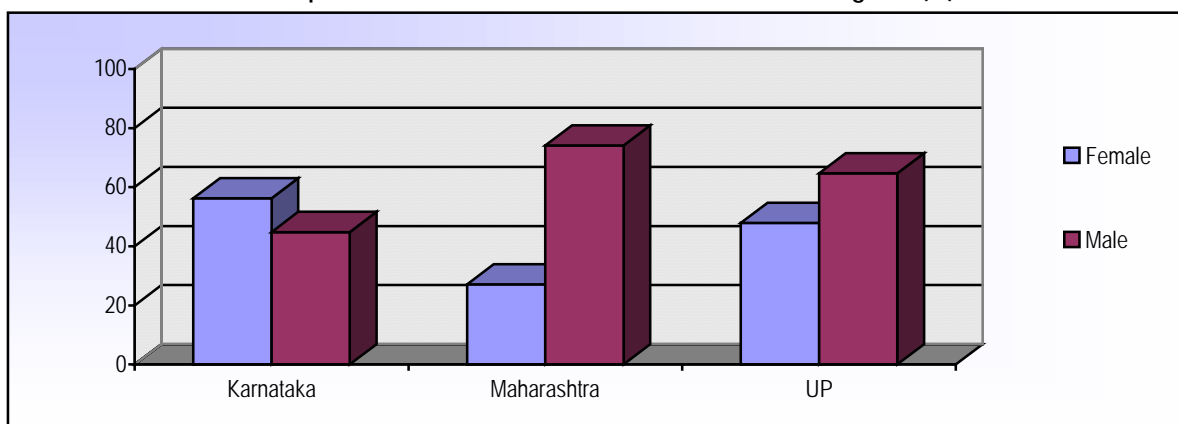
		Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N		81	83	78	242
Using the money earned by the wife	Father	13.6	14.5	12.8	13.6
	Mother	38.3	25.3	32.1	31.8
	Both Parents	14.8	36.1	24.4	25.2
Children's education	Father	28.4	16.9	17.9	21.1
	Mother	13.6	9.6	11.5	11.6
	Both Parents	16.9	51.8	39.7	46.3
Children's marriage	Father	23.5	6.0	15.4	14.9
	Mother	6.2	3.6	6.4	5.4
	Both Parents	32.1	50.6	41.0	41.3

## 5.2 Discussion on Condom Use

Among unmarried, widowed and separated **men** only **5 percent** reported to be having a sexual partner and all of them reported that their partner did ask them to use a condom before having sex. The unmarried women did not report of having sexual partners.

Among the married respondents less than half of the female respondents reported about ever asking their husbands to use condoms before having sex. Nearly 60 percent of male respondents informed that their wives had asked them to use a condom before having sex.

Graph 5.1: Wife asked to use condom before having sex (%)



## 5.3 Inter Spousal Communications

The study brought out that a majority of our respondents expressed their willingness or disinclination in having sex.

Table 5.4: Inter Spousal Communications (%)

	Karnataka		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
N	160	160	161	159	164	158	962
Tell your spouse to have sex	99.4	85.6	98.1	50.6	93.3	74.1	83.7
Tell your spouse do not want to have sex	89.4	91.3	86.3	74.7	84.8	88.6	85.8

In case of ‘not being able to say’ about one’s willingness to have sex, ‘embarrassment’ was the main reason cited by women, while the men ‘never ever felt the necessity’ to say so.

Majority of the men reported that there has been no such occasion for them to say that they do not want to have sex. While 52 percent of married women respondents never felt like saying so, about 17 percent felt that they have no say in this because it is their ‘husbands wish’.

Across the states only 45 percent of the women respondents reported to have asked their husband to use a condom before having sex. The lowest response came from Maharashtra.

Table 5.5: Communication on using condom – Women (%)

	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	146	118	140	404
I asked my husband to use Condom before having sex	56.2	27.1	47.9	44.8
<b>REASONS for not asking</b>				
N	64	86	73	223
Never ever used it	56.3	23.3	39.7	38.1
He doesn't have information on condom	7.8	15.1	37	20.2
Have been sterilized/copper T	11	29.1	2.7	15.3
He himself uses, no need to say		23.3	5.5	10.8
I feel shy/embarrassed	4.7	2.3	6.8	4.5
I don't like condom	4.7	4.7	2.7	4.0
I believe in my husband	12.5			3.6
Our religion does not permit use of condom			4.1	1.3
Now we want a kid		2.3		0.9
We don't use it so it not necessary for us	1.6			0.4
DK/CS	1.6		1.4	0.9

Among the women who had never asked their husbands to use a condom, they cited several reasons. While about one third of women said that they have never ever used a condom, one-fifth informed that their husbands do not have any information about condoms. There was a ‘believe my husband’ mode among 12 percent of women in Karnataka. The understanding that they ‘don’t need condom’ once they are sterilized reconfirms the prevailing concept of ‘condom only a contraceptive’.

In contrast, about 61 percent of men informed that their wife had asked them to use a condom before having sex. The highest percentage was seen in Maharashtra and lowest in Karnataka.

Table 5.6: Communication on using condom – Men (%)

Men:	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	143	139	139	421
Wife asked me to use Condom before having sex	44.8	74.1	64.7	61.0
<b>REASONS for not asking</b>				
N	79	36	49	164
Never ever have used condom	32.9	30.6	32.7	32.3
She believes in me	12.7	11.1	36.7	19.5
She doesn't have information on condom	8.9	22.2	4.1	10.4
Have already been sterilized	6.3	13.9	12.2	9.8
I use it myself	3.8	11.1	12.2	7.9
She does not like me using condom	16.5			7.9
She feels embarrassed to say so	15.2			7.3
Earlier condom was not used much	2.5	5.6	2.0	3.0
We do not have sex during her menstruation so never used	1.3		4.1	1.8
DKCS		5.6		1.2

The reasons cited by men were quite similar to those of the women. About one third of those whose wife had never asked them to use condom said that since they have never used a condom there is no question of asking. The 'believes in me' factor among men was more and prevalent in every state.

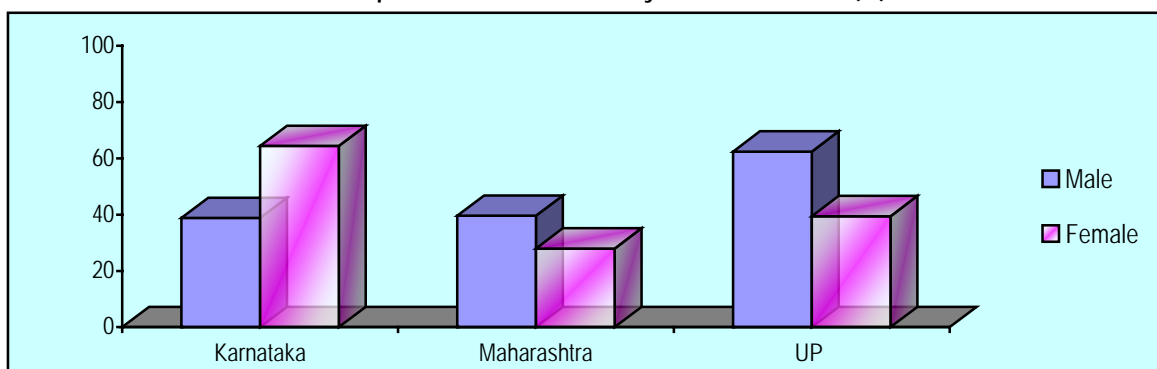
## 5.4 Experience of Domestic Violence

Less than half of the respondents who reported to know what Domestic violence spontaneously or when aided, reported that they had come across the incidence of woman facing domestic violence.

Table 5.7: Came across any incidence of DV (%)

Came across any incidence of DV	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	389	329	366	1084
Yes	51.2	34.3	50.5	45.8
No	48.8	65.7	49.5	54.2

Graph 5.2: Came across any incidence of DV (%)



#### 5.4.1 Action Taken

Of them who had come across any incidence of domestic violence against women nearly 65 percent across the states reported to have taken some action. The action was mainly counseling, speaking to both partners, and speaking to the aggressor and survivor individually.

Those who did not take any action were either not willing to interfere in others' matters or were scared of getting involved in the legality of the issues. State wise variation was noticed.

Table 5.8: Reason for not taking action (%)

	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	81	23	71	175
Don't want to interfere in other's matters	79.0			36.6
Do not want to get into any legal action		47.8	50.7	26.9
There are many people in the village, I need not go	9.9	13.0	12.7	11.4
They settle among themselves	6.2	21.7	11.3	10.3
If we intervene it will come upon us	4.9	8.7	15.5	9.7
Women do not understand in spite of repeated efforts		13.0	9.9	5.7

#### 5.4.2 Community's intervention

Around 53 percent of those who came across an incidence of domestic violence reported that even the community has taken action to stop domestic violence against women in the community.

Table 5.9: Community's intervention (%)

	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	94	53	115	262
The Pradhans counsels them	12.8	56.6	81.7	51.9
Counseled both of them	70.2	1.9	1.7	26.3
First advises them, if they do not understand then punishes	5.3	32.1	8.7	12.2

Take legal action	11.7	7.5	7.0	8.8
Do not take any action				
We have a dispute settlement center in our village	1.1	1.9		0.4

Some of them also reported that community members especially the village Pradhan counseled both the woman and the aggressor. In a few cases some punitive action was also taken where the situation didn't change after the counseling.

The reasons cited for a community's inaction against stopping domestic violence were many. They felt that now-a days nobody listens to the community and neither does anyone want to interfere into anybody else's problem.

Further, the respondents felt that the men in the community mainly took action followed by the Community leaders against domestic violence. It was noticed that women in Uttar Pradesh were more proactive on this issue.

Table 5.10: Who took action in the community? (%)

	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	94	53	115	262
Men	8.5	67.9	93.0	57.6
Women	11.7	45.3	57.4	38.5
Community leaders	88.3	47.2	17.4	48.9
Self Help Groups		1.9	1.7	1.1
Neighbour			0.9	0.4

### 5.4.3 What will the woman do if she herself faces domestic violence?

Quite similar to the findings in the earlier part of the report, majority of the women respondents felt that if faced with domestic violence they will seek help from their natal family, make her husband understand and seek help from marital family. A little less than one third felt that they would adjust. Less than 30 percent felt either they will protest or would lodge an FIR while 21 percent would prefer to remain silent.

Table 5.11: What would you do if faced with DV? (Only women answering) (%)

	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	200	202	198	600
Seek help from natal family members	52.5	84.2	65.7	67.5
Make husband understand	56.0	66.3	74.2	65.5
Seek help from Marital natal family members	39.0	56.4	49	48.2
Adjust to the situation	43.0	19.8	32.8	31.8
Protest against my husband	54.5	12.4	19.2	28.7
Lodge an F.I.R	22.5	42.1	19.2	28
Remain silent	36.0	10.4	20.2	22.2

Go to the police	14	30.2	10.6	18.3
Go to court lawyer	8	11.9	28.8	16.2
Seek help from friends	17.5	14.9	1	11.2
Inform community neighbors	9.5	10.9	10.6	10.3
Nothing		1	6.1	2.3
Take help of Protection officer	2	0.5	0.5	1
Lodge DIR	1.5		0.5	0.7
Will get separated from husband and start earning		1	1	0.7
Will talk to people I know			2	0.7
Will go away to natal house			2	0.7
Will commit suicide		0.5	0.5	0.3
Seek help from women groups	0.5			0.2
I will beat him up	0.5			0.2
Will inform the religious leaders	0.5			0.2

State wise variations in possible actions were noticed. While majority of the women in Karnataka preferred counseling their husbands to protesting and seeking help from their natal family or to adjust to the situation, women in Maharashtra would prefer to take help from their natal family, than to make their husband understand or seek help from their marital family. Majority of women in UP however said that they would make their husbands understand. 40 percent of the women in Maharashtra said that they would lodge an FIR which was almost double the number, than the women who preferred this action in UP and Karnataka.

Further a comparison of the above findings with the response of female respondents earlier in this report on 'what can a woman do when faced with DV' brings out that the options are quite similar if not more.

Table 5.11a: Perception Vs Practice (%)

	What can a woman do?	What will you do?
N	523	600
Adjust to the situation	33.7	31.8
Can commit suicide	5.2	0.3
Can consult a Women's Group	0.4	0.2
Can file a case against dowry demands	0.6	-
Can leave her husband/divorce	0.6	-
Can leave in laws place and go back to natal house	0.4	0.7
Can lodge a complain with Women's Commission	0.8	-
Can trouble the family members by taking legal action	0.2	-
DIR (Domestic Incident Report)	0.4	0.7
Get separated from husband and bring up her kids by working	1.0	0.7
Go to court/ lawyer	21.0	16.2
Inform community/ neighbors	16.6	10.3
Lodge an F.I.R/inform police	56.6	46.3
Make husband understand	62.9	65.5

Protest	29.8	28.7
Remain silent	16.8	22.2
Seek help from friends	14.1	11.2
Seek help from Marital natal family members	46.5	48.2
Seek help from natal family members	68.8	67.5
I will beat him up	-	0.2
Will talk to people I know	-	0.7
Will inform the religious leaders	-	0.2
Take help of Protection officer	-	1
Nothing	-	2.3

## 5.5 Ever discussed the issues of Domestic Violence, rights of Positive people

While right to residence and domestic violence were discussed among family members and community, the discussions on safer sex, rights of positive people and stigma and discrimination were limited to friends, peers and spouse. Safer sex and domestic violence were discussed among more than one third of the respondents.

Table 5.12: Issue Discussed

Issue	% Discussed N=1204	Discussed with	Discussed What
Domestic Violence	32	Family members and Community	Not right to fight, Why it happens
Rights of +ve people	6	Community, peers	+ve people have right to lead a respectful life & treatment, One should not hate +ve people
Rights to residence	13	Family, Community	None can throw a woman out of her residence it is her legal right.
Safer sex	37	Spouse, peers	Mostly related to prevention of HIV-abstinence, condom use, one partner, etc.
S&D against +ve	7	Relatives & community	Should not stigmatize as this is not a contagious disease

Table 5.13: State wise: Issue Discussed (%)

Issues	Sex	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
<b>N</b>		<b>401</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>1204</b>
Domestic Violence	Male	42.8	9.5	44.1	32.1
	Female	37.5	27.2	29.8	31.5
Rights of +ve people	Male	1.5	5.5	14.4	7.1
	Female	7.5	2.5	6.1	5.3
Rights to residence	Male	10.9	5.0	29.2	15.1
	Female	16.0	4.0	13.1	11.0
Safer sex	Male	77.6	24.9	50.0	50.8
	Female	33.5	14.9	19.7	22.7
S& D against +ve	Male	2.0	8.5	12.9	7.8
	Female	10.5	1.5	7.1	6.3

## **Chapter-6 Information Sources, Exposure to Campaign and Need for Information**

### **6.1 Exposure to Communication on HIV/AIDS, Domestic Violence and Women's Rights (WR)**

The National Communication campaign on HIV/AIDS has been going on for more than two decades and there have been state specific campaigns running parallelly. The communication on Domestic violence is a very recent one and is not national in terms of coverage. In order to understand the exposure of the respondents to any such campaigns and also the source of information on these issues and information gaps on the same, - a few questions were asked.

#### **6.1.1 Individuals**

When enquired about the visit by someone to educate the family about HIV, Domestic violence around 30 percent of respondents reported so and the response to women's rights was comparatively less. The reporting was very low on DV and WR in Maharashtra. However it was surprising to note that in spite of several interventions for raising awareness on HIV/AIDS the interpersonal communication on HIV/AIDS was found equally low in Maharashtra.

**Table 6.1: Someone in the last one year came to speak about HIV, DV and WR (%)**

	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	401	403	400	1204
HIV AIDS	37.2	12.4	40.8	30.1
Domestic Violence	27.2	3.0	52.8	27.6
Women's Rights	24.2	1.0	25.5	16.9

**Table 6.2: Individuals who gave information (%)**

Individuals	HIV/AIDS	Domestic violence	Women's Rights
N	362	332	203
Doctor	48.9	0.0	0.0
ANM	11.0	3.3	4.9
Village Health Workers	14.6	9.0	13.8
NGO Workers	9.9	4.8	7.4
Anganwadi worker	4.7	2.4	8.9
Friends	31.8	20.5	12.8
Spouse	3.0	3.3	1.0
Family members	15.7	50.3	36.9
Community leaders	7.7	13.6	16.7
Peer Educators	3.0	2.7	1.5
Community	1.9	10.8	10.3
Women's Group	0.3	0.0	0.0

Self	0.0	0.0	11.3
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Of those community respondents who reported about the visit - they informed that doctors, friends, family members, village health workers and ANM visited them to educate them about HIV/AIDS. The family members, friends, community leaders and community members played an important role in discussing about DV. Further on women's rights family members and village level workers came out to be the important source of information.

### 6.1.2 Other sources

Besides individuals, the respondents informed that they got the information about all the three issues from various other sources. Television, Radio and Newspaper came out to be the most important sources for all the three issues. Hoardings, posters and wall paintings were important sources for disseminating information on HIV/AIDS.

Table 6.3: Other sources (%)

Other sources	HIV/AIDS	Domestic violence	Women's Rights
N	1204	1204	1204
Television	71.4	44.2	32.6
Radio	40.1	21.0	17.9
Newspaper	34.9	25.7	20.8
Hoardings/Posters/Wall writings	15.0	1.7	1.8
Video Vans,	0.1		
Street plays	1.7	0.1	
Books	0.4		

### 6.1.3 Preferred/believed/trusted Source

For most of the respondents, the Television and Radio are the most trusted source of information for any of the issues discussed. Doctors were also a preferred source mainly for HIV/AIDS.

Table 6.4: Preferred source gender wise

Domestic Violence		HIV/AIDS		Women's Rights	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
TV- 55%,	TV- 63%,	TV- 79%,	TV -72%,	TV- 47%	TV - 61%
Radio-32%,	Radio-21%	Radio-50%,	Doctor-38%	Radio- 30%	Newspaper -23%
Newspaper- 26%	Newspaper-25%	Newspaper-32%		Newspaper-24%	Radio- 18%

**Table 6.5: Top Three Preferred Source State wise (% descending order)**

Sources	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
HIV/AIDS	TV- 79 %, Newspaper-40% Radio-39%, Doctor-39%	TV- 82% Radio-46% Doctor-31%	TV- 65 % Radio-38% Doctor-17%	TV- 75 % Radio-36% Doctor-32%
Domestic Violence	TV- 69 % Radio- 36 Newspaper-34%	TV- 73% Radio-32% Newspaper-30%	TV- 34 % Family Member-29% Newspaper-13%	TV- 59 % Radio-27% Newspaper-26%
Women's Rights	TV- 61 % Newspaper-34% Radio-32%	TV- 71% Radio-30% Newspaper-27%	TV-30% Radio-9% Newspaper-9%	TV- 54 % Radio-24% Newspaper-23%

#### 6.1.4 Information collected

On HIV/AIDS 20 percent of respondents could not recall the information collected. Among them who could recall, less than one-fourth of the respondents talked about the spread and prevention of HIV.

On domestic violence, the information that they reported to have gathered are more moral statements and news of events than actual messages. This reinforces the need for communication on Domestic Violence and the PWDV Act 2005.

**Table 6.6: Information Gathered on Domestic Violence (in%)**

	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Total
N	<b>401</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>1204</b>
It is not good thing to fight/quarrel	29.7	3.5	21.8	18.3
It is wrong to fight among spouse	15.0	5.7	19.0	13.2
Legal action can be taken if woman is troubled	2.7	20.3	18.8	14.0
Settle it within four walls	1.0	0.5	3.3	1.6
Ruins family		2.5	5.0	2.5
Wife killed husband		0.7	1.5	0.7
After getting beaten up women lodged FIR	1.5		0.5	0.7
Discusses what comprise DV	5.0	0.5	8.0	4.5
One should respect his wife	0.5	0.2	3.3	1.3
That quarrels root from financial crisis	1.0	1.2	4.0	2.1
It is illegal to take or ask for dowry	20.4			6.8

While on Women's Rights around 58 percent could not recall any information that they have collected, about 25 percent said that they know about 'men and women having equal rights'. Uttar Pradesh was comparatively more aware than Karnataka and Maharashtra.

## 6.2 Information Need

In spite of nationwide intensive communication campaigns on HIV/AIDS the need of information on spread, prevention, treatment and stigma and discrimination never end. The study also highlighted the same.

The information needs on Domestic violence was varied. However they could be clubbed under the following:

### Domestic Violence

- What is Domestic violence, Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and its benefits?
- Who should one ask for help?
- How can one stop DV?
- Why domestic violence happens?

### Women's Right

- Rights of women
- Women lose or benefits from HR?
- Right to property- within marriage and outside

## Chapter-7 Summary Findings

### 7.0 Background of the study

Breakthrough plans to launch a three-year campaign aiming towards reduction in domestic violence and stigma & discrimination faced by Women Living with HIV/AIDS (WLHAs).

Using the twin strategy of media (TV, Print, Radio, Internet and Video van) and education (trainings/workshops), Breakthrough plans to emphasize on the right to negotiate for safer sex, right to residence, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence, Act 2005, women's access to health and legal services, increased dialogue in the community, and participation of community members, especially men against violence and stigma and discrimination faced by WLHAs.

Before the launch, CMS conducted a baseline study towards creating a benchmark on relevant indicators of knowledge, attitude and practice indicators on domestic violence, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (PWDV Act), and HIV/AIDS, gender, condom use and negotiation that the campaign is going to influence. Further the study identified the current and preferred source of information on these issues and the media habits of the primary audience of the campaign for developing a communication strategy.

The salient findings from the study are as follows:

### 7.1 Domestic Violence, PWDV Act 2005: Knowledge, attitude, practices

Understanding of domestic violence was limited to dowry related violence and verbal or physical abuse by family members. The concept of sexual abuse and economic deprivation is low. The knowledge of any law, which dealt with domestic violence, was also around the Dowry Prevention Act. Variations by state and gender were noticed on the perception of benefits that these Acts offer.

- Among the respondents, 90% informed that they have heard about domestic violence (DV) with more men (93) found to be aware than women (87).
- While 45 % of the respondents could spontaneously define DV as abuse of any kind by family members, another 31% could define DV only after being probed.

- More than 80% respondents (who could define DV spontaneously or after probing) believe that verbal or physical abuse by the family members is the core concept of DV. Sexual abuse and economic deprivation was considered as forms of domestic violence by about 30 % of the women.
- Majority of the respondents felt that a woman when faced with domestic violence will seek help from her parents family followed by lodging a complaint or an FIR, making her husband understand, protest against the violence. About 25% felt that woman will adjust to the situation or would remain silent (17%). More women than men were found to think in terms of seeking help, making their husbands understand and adjust to the situation.

### **Knowledge about Act dealing with Domestic Violence**

- Around 25 % of the respondents informed that they know about some law, which deals with domestic violence. Both men and women consider Dowry Prevention Act as an act that protects against domestic violence.
- It is interesting to note the difference of perception on the law in men and women. While a little more than one-third of men felt that filing a case against the abuser is the benefit that the law provides, women felt that the law provides ‘protection to women’.

### **Knowledge about PWDV Act (2005) & its benefits**

- Only 3.3% of the respondents over various locations reported to have heard about PWDV Act 2005. While 9 percent of females from Karnataka are aware of this Act none of the UP women have heard about it.
- The study highlighted the lack of clarity about the benefits under the PWDV Act 2005. Although respondents identified that under the law one can take legal action against the abuser the knowledge on ‘Right to safe shelter’ was almost nil.
- About 93 percent of the total respondents knew that throwing a woman out of her house is a legal offence. Further around 81 percent respondents felt that a woman can access legal services to ensure maintenance or custody.

### **Attitude towards Domestic Violence**

- In terms of attitude, more than 60% have mentioned that a husband can beat his wife in case he suspects her of being unfaithful or does anything without his permission.
- In regards to women taking action against domestic violence, more than 80% have mentioned that she should take legal action. It is a good thing, while about 41% believe that her taking action will bring shame of the family.

- Around 80% have mentioned that the community, family members should intervene if the husband abuses his wife while the rest said it is nobody's business and the wife should remain silent.
- When female respondents were asked what they will do in case they are abused, more than 65% have mentioned that they will seek help from the natal family or will make the husband understand, and 48% will seek help from the marital family etc.
- 60% have mentioned the need for economic independence and support of the natal and marital family for her taking any decision regarding the same.
- The community is still embarrassed to talk openly about domestic violence. Although they reported of discussing of domestic violence, very few actually intervened into 'others affairs'. The action was mainly counseling, speaking to both partners, or speaking to the aggressor and survivor individually.

### **7.2 Safe sex, Condom negotiation and inter spousal communication**

- Although 63 % of the respondents promptly referred to 'condom use' as a means for 'safer sex' only 10% percent could correctly identify 'consistency in the use' to be important for safer sex. More men than women were aware on this.
- Among the married respondents less than 50% female respondents reported asking their husbands to use a condom before having sex. Nearly 60% of males informed that their wives had asked them to use condoms. This shows an existence of inter-spousal communication on safer sex.
- In terms of attitude, 80% respondents have agreed that a wife can refuse to have sex with her husband in case of an STI or infidelity or exhaustion or not being in the mood, but least in the case of being unwilling to use a condom.
- Approximately 50% have mentioned that they discuss condom use. Rest who didn't, cited that they never used it. Some of them mentioned that their partners have no information on it, and males especially have mentioned that their wives believe in them.
- The understanding that they 'don't need condom' once they are sterilized reconfirms the prevailing concept of 'condom is only a contraceptive'.

### **7.3 ICTC and PPTCT**

- While less than 50 percent of the sample knows about ICTC, only little more than half of the total sample was aware about PPTCT. Awareness among women was noticed to be higher than the men in every location.
- Shame & blame around HIV status still exists and wide male-female gap in attitude was seen in case of respondents.

#### 7.4 Source and need for information

- Reporting about any source of information on women's rights or DV was low. However it was surprising to note that in spite of several interventions for raising awareness around HIV/AIDS - interpersonal communication was found to be low in Maharashtra.
- Television, radio and newspapers came out to be the most important sources for all the three issues. Hoardings, posters and wall paintings were important sources for disseminating information on HIV/AIDS. For most of the respondents, the television and the radio are the most trusted source of information for any of the issues discussed. Doctors were also preferred source mainly for HIV/AIDS.
- Recall of information was very low and those on domestic violence were more moral statements and news of events, than actual messages. This reinforces the need for communication on domestic violence and the PWDV Act 2005.
- In spite of a nationwide intensive communication campaign on HIV/AIDS, there is a sustained need for information on spread, prevention, treatment and stigma and discrimination. The study also highlighted the same.
- On issues of domestic violence respondents wanted to know about the issue, the act and its benefits per se. The findings brought out that people wanted to know 'how can one intervene or stop domestic violence. The need for information on women's rights issue was similar to that of domestic violence.

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