

Research Questions

This project seeks to establish an evidence base for how different macro-level empowerment factors such as women's labour force participation, women's participation in public life, family laws, female completion rate of secondary school, the existence of laws on violence against women and a country's social development and economic inequalities influence attitudes towards IPV across national and geographic settings.

The specific empirical questions that this project considered are as follows:

1. What is the prevalence and distribution of attitudes justifying domestic violence across the 49 low- and middle-income countries?
2. How do these attitudes vary within and between countries and geographic regions?
3. To what extent are variations in attitudes to domestic violence explained by country-level factors?
4. To what extent do economic empowerment, social development, and cultural differences explain variations in attitudes to domestic violence by country?
5. Do the existence and quality of domestic violence laws predict individual- and country-level variations in attitudes to domestic violence?

Method

Analyses of quantitative data entailed the use of general linear and hierarchical regression models. Bayesian Multilevel Modelling techniques were used to examine the association between attitudes to IPV and socio-economic and policy-related predictors at the individual/household and country-level. These two-level models were specified separately for women and men to examine how the independent influence of individual and population-level risk factors of IPV acceptance may differ by gender.

