

Gender-Based Violence: Research and Programs



At RTI International, we recognize that women play a critical role in promoting stability and democracy, contributing to a vibrant market economy, and addressing health and education challenges around the world. Through rigorous research and evidence-based programs, we help communities in the United States and other countries combat the problem of gender-based violence (GBV) as a critical step toward realizing the full potential of women as leaders and agents for positive change.

RTI conducts rigorous research and designs and implements evidence-based programs to help countries leverage the tremendous potential of women as advocates and leaders for health, education, and economic growth in their communities. We work to successfully shift the social climate to sustain improvements in prevention of and response to violence against women and children.

Our expertise spans the health sciences and international development sectors. We have 50 years of multidisciplinary experience leading projects across the United States and the developing world that bring together funding agencies, governments, private-sector companies, and civil society organizations to achieve lasting impact.

Our capabilities and experience enable RTI to develop uniquely comprehensive and culturally appropriate approaches to applied research and program development and implementation.

GBV Experience and Expertise

- Sexual and reproductive rights
- Sexual assault and violence
- Intimate partner violence
- Teen dating violence
- Child maltreatment
- Honor killing
- Human trafficking
- Substance abuse and other behaviors that increase GBV risk
- Intersection of HIV, substance abuse, and GBV
- Gender-based interventions



Rigorous Research and Program Evaluation

RTI has decades of experience conducting collaborative research to inform policy and practice. We pioneered the use of survey methods and technologies that are proven to improve the accuracy and reliability of surveys on sensitive topics such as sexual violence and behaviors that correlate with increased risk for victimization.

Our research focuses on men, women, and couples. We have led studies of numerous at-risk populations, including minorities, sex workers, alcohol and drug users, military spouses, adolescents, college students, dropouts, and incarcerated populations.

Technical Program Support and Capacity Building

RTI has led and supported projects with a focus on gender-based violence in Africa, Latin America, Asia, and the Middle East. We collaborate closely with governments and nongovernment organizations to build local capacity, transfer tools and methods, and ensure programs and results are sustainable. We also have experience developing public-private partnerships that can extend limited government resources and further ensure lasting impact.

We take a multisectoral approach, bringing together experts and resources in public health, education, justice, and governance to develop comprehensive programs that are appropriate to the local context.

We develop innovative GBV prevention programs across settings—home, workplace, schools, health centers—and provide expert advice to shape policies and action.

Selected Clients

RTI has led projects with a focus on GBV for

- U.S. Agency for International Development
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- U.S. National Institutes of Health
- U.S. National Institute of Justice
- U.S. Department of Defense
- World Health Organization
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Global Experts on Gender-Based Violence

RTI experts lead studies and programs related to gender-based violence on behalf of U.S. and international government agencies as well as private foundations. They are frequently called to serve as consultants and advisors for national and international studies, and on scientific and government advisory boards, including the World Health Organization's advisory panel on gender and rights.

More Information

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