

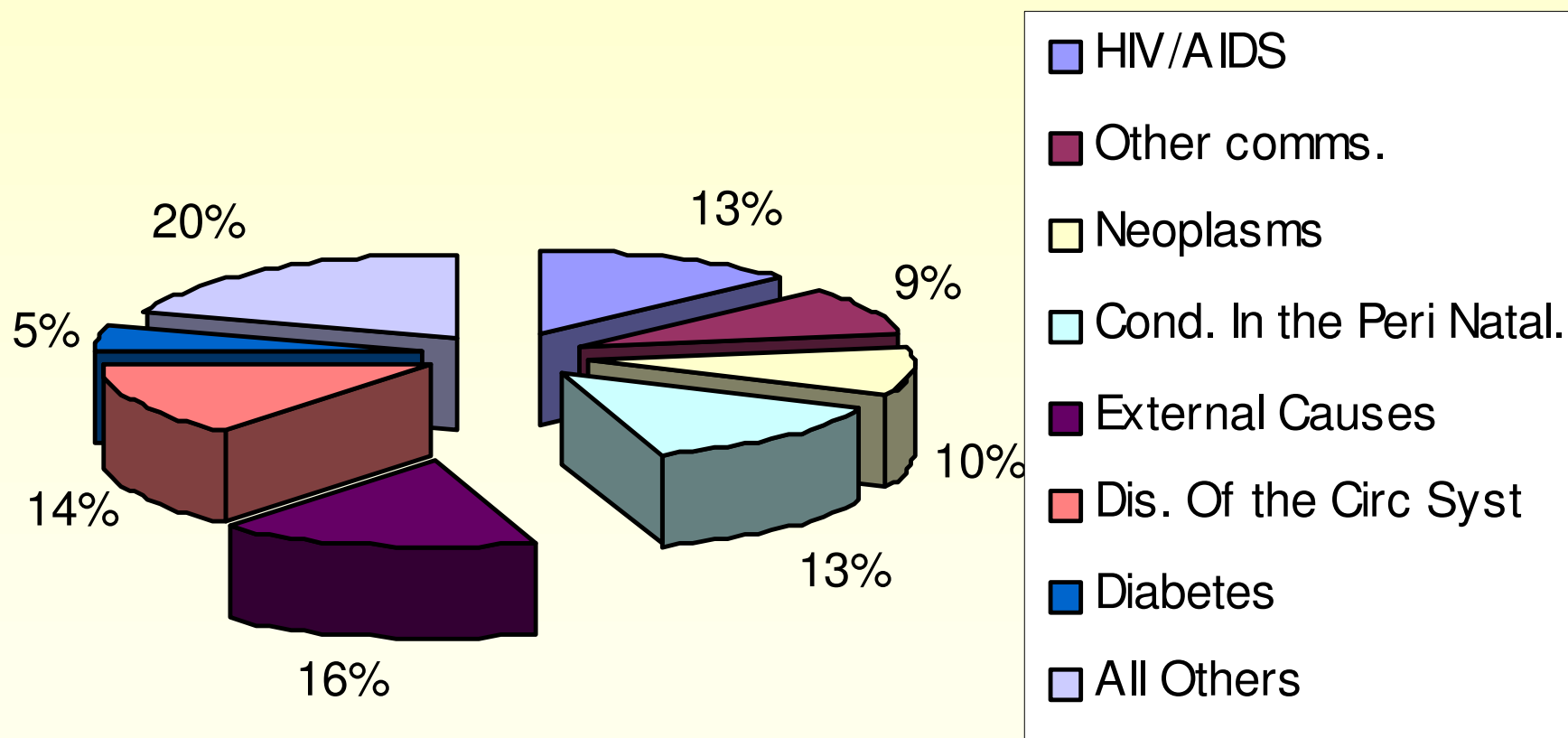
Interpersonal Violence in the Caribbean©

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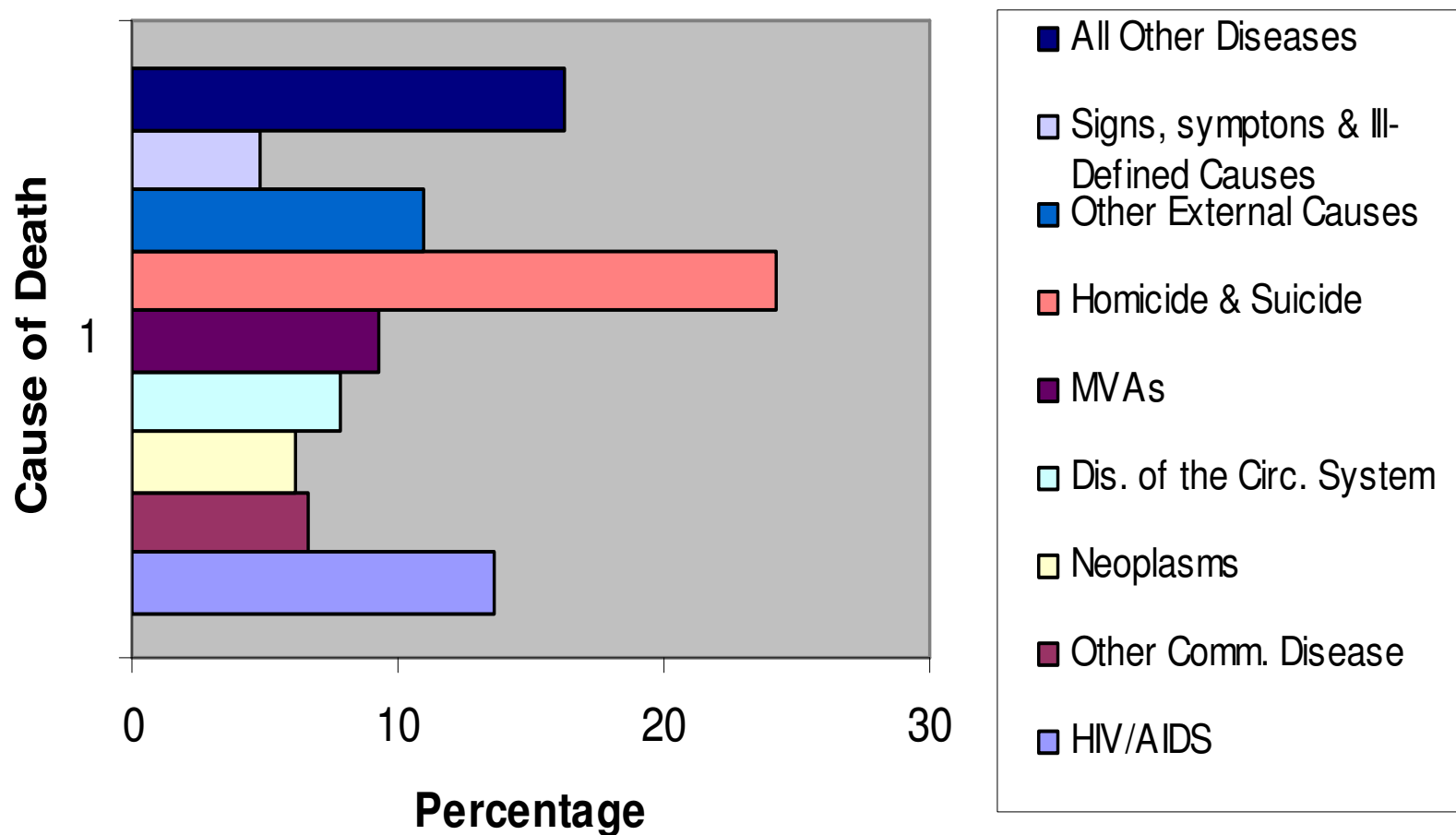
- © Some of the material for this paper has been drawn from a study on *Migration, Family Structures and Morbidity from External Causes*.
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Principal Investigators:- Elsie Le Franc, M. Samms-Vaughan, D. Brown,
I. Hambleton, & H. Fox.

Years of Potential Life Lost - CAREC Member Countries - % Contribution. 2000 (b)



** Source: Holder 2004 – Computed from the database held at the Caribbean Epidemiology Centre. Pan American Health Organisation. Trinidad & Tobago

Mortality Profile for 15-24 yr. olds. CAREC Member Countries, % Distribution of Deaths by Cause, 2000



Sources: Holder and Brandon [1995]; Holder [2004] - Computed from data base held at the Caribbean Epidemiology Centre- PAHO. Trinidad and Tobago

The Health Burden

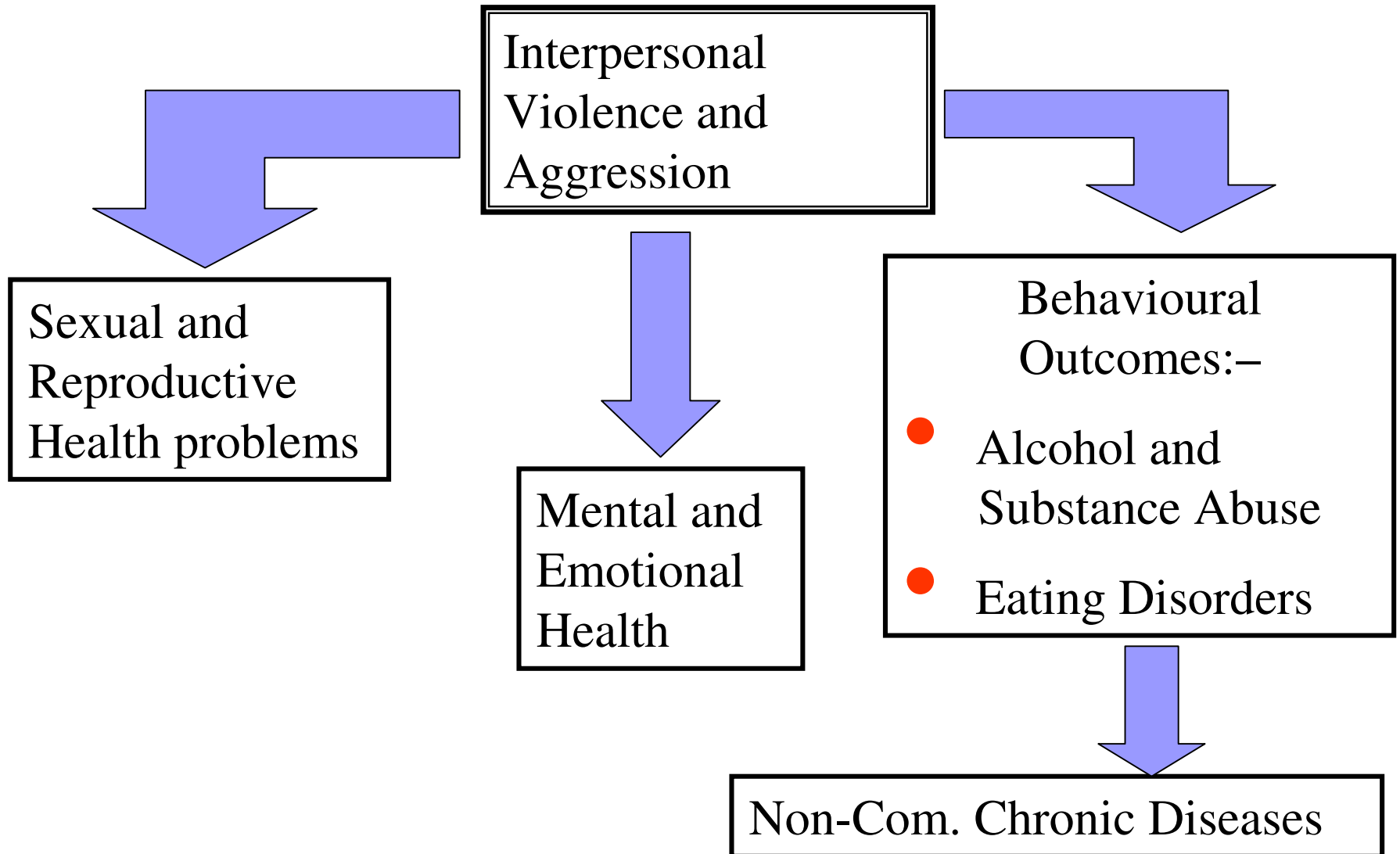


Table 1: Level of physical or sexual abuse on participants -aged 16-30 yrs - stratified by country and sex of victim. [N= 3,352]

	Barbados		Jamaica		Trinidad		Age change	Gender difference of victim ¹	Country difference ¹
	Women	men	Women	Men	Women	Men			
Physical abuse									
By strangers	6.3	13.4	11.3	19.8	6.8	15.3	0.002	<0.001	0.01
By acquaintance	9.8	10.7	17.5	13.1	9.9	14.8	0.02	0.55	0.01
In relationships	50.0	44.7	45.3	40.4	45.2	47.7	<0.001	0.19	0.13
Sexual abuse									
By strangers	3.9	0.2	4.2	2.3	2.2	1.2	0.25	<0.001	0.04
By acquaintance	6.0	0.6	10.8	3.3	4.0	1.8	0.02	<0.001	<0.001
In relationships	52.8	39.6	72.6	57.2	51.6	52.5	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Any physical abuse									
<i>Any physical abuse</i>	<i>57.3</i>	<i>55.9</i>	<i>58.3</i>	<i>54.0</i>	<i>52.5</i>	<i>61.4</i>	<i><0.001</i>	<i>0.43</i>	<i>0.94</i>
Any sexual abuse									
<i>Any sexual abuse</i>	<i>57.2</i>	<i>40.2</i>	<i>76.0</i>	<i>58.4</i>	<i>53.5</i>	<i>53.5</i>	<i><0.001</i>	<i><0.001</i>	<i><0.001</i>
Any abuse									
<i>Any abuse</i>	<i>72.1</i>	<i>63.1</i>	<i>83.1</i>	<i>72.5</i>	<i>65.1</i>	<i>71.2</i>	<i>0.03</i>	<i>0.01</i>	<i><0.001</i>

Table 2: Prevalence of IPV in Relationships: Participants as *Perpetrators*

	B'bados		Jamaica		Trinidad		Age	Gender	C'ntry
	F	M	F	M	F	M			
Participant as perpetrator									
Psychological aggression	75	77	77	70	77	71	0.04	0.04	0.63
Physical violence	54	49	52	40	48	45	<0.001	<0.001	0.15
Sexual coercion	47	42	68	60	50	53	<0.001	0.10	<0.001



Attitudes to violence

Among Peers:

For ruining the homework paper:

- n *“I’d clean (severely beat) them up”* [9-10 yr old male];
- n *“Boy, I would hold her braids and bust it for her!”*
[11-13 yr old female]
- n *“Kick him until he vomits”* [11-13 year old male]
- n *Jook (stick) her in her vagina”* [6-8 yr. old male]
- n *“I would take a cutlass and chop up her neck and throw her body somewhere”* [6-7 year old girl]



Attitudes to violence

Among Peers:

From possibly accidental pushing in the school yard

- n *“I’d kick them; “I’d get very, very mad”; “Why you push me? I’m going to beat you up!” “Break one another teeth or head” “Send her in the drain and knock her head”; [Group of 6-8 yr old males]*
- n *“Hit with a piece of wire”; “take out their ears”; “stab them up”; “would make the other person’s head flat, flat like a frying pan”; (Group of 9-10 yr old males]*
- n *“Choke up one another”; “burst one another head”; Take a stick and knock him down” [Group of 6-8 yr old females.]*



Never been hit at home = 15%

[N= 403]

Never been hit by a teacher = 14% ,

Punishment Strategies: Parents

For stealing: *“Burn their hands”; “Beating till beating cannot finish”*

For being rude: *“Take out two teeth”*

For fighting: *“I will break his arm!”*

For coming in late and being rude: *“I drive a punch in his face and he not making that mistake again!”*

From a Jamaican Study [Samms-Vaughan et al, under review]:

- 97% Experienced verbal aggression or physical violence at *home*;
- 87% Experienced verbal aggression or physical violence at *school*




Traditional Framework: Usefulness?

- n Deviant? or “normal” social discourse and dialogue?
- n “Deserving” behaviours?
- n Focus on individual attitudes or institutional support structures?

**Table 3: Victimization by Non-partners.
Possible Social Determinants:
Multiple Regression for three countries**

Item	Importance	χ^2	P-Value
Negative Parenting	1	17.4	0.002
HH Stability Index	2	8.4	0.004
Negative Social Network Support	3	8.0	0.02
Self-Esteem	4	8.2	0.004
Positive Social Network Support	5	4.5	0.03
Aggression	6	4.2	0.04



**Table 4: Victimization by Partners;
Possible Social Determinants. Multiple
Regression Analysis for the 3 Countries**

Item	Importance	χ^2	P-value
Age	1	27.0	<0.001
Negative support	2	10.8	0.001
Education	3	12.7	0.01
Behaviour Strengths (Conflict Tactics Scale)	4	3.4	0.06



Conclusions

More focus on social institutional structures and arrangements that encourage these forms of social dialogue.

Male battery needs to be recognised and understood.

Preventive approaches may need to be **gender differentiated**.

Preventive efforts may also need to be differentiated according to the social context of the perpetration.