

Gender-Based Violence in Public Life in Central African Republic

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Abstract

The issue of gender-based violence (GBV) has become in recent years a major scientific, political, social and family concern worldwide, and revelations have significantly increased in various Northern and Southern countries. Nowadays, GBV is perpetrated in different contexts of individuals' life in society. However, studies on violence have been dominated by domestic violence. Besides, the few studies stressing on violence that occurs in public spheres focus on violence in educational institutions. Using data from the survey on gender-based violence in CAR (EBVG -RCAR) conducted in 2011, as well as the assumption that the forms of appropriation and misappropriation of public spaces make them frameworks of vulnerability for acts of violence characterized by a gendered expression of social differences between men and women, this article aims at: i) assessing the levels of violence experienced by men and women in public spaces in RCA; ii) determining the differential variations in the practice of GBV in public areas; and deducing the profile of persons who have suffered gender-based violence in public spaces; iii) identifying factors likely to explain the practice of gender-based violence in public spaces.

Key Words: GBV, Public life, men, women, CAR

Introduction

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a relatively recent issue in social sciences. Even if it is not a new social phenomenon, the interest it arouses in social sciences is a fact that especially marks our epoch, and especially the last three decades (Jaspard, 2005; Nabila Hamza, 2006). Now, GBV has been listed in the modes of operation of societies for many years, and for one hand, are repeated from generations to generation through socialization mechanisms as evidenced by Bourdieu (1998) on male domination, and on other hand, in daily relations through the hierarchy of social relations between men and women (Mead, 1948). Given that men / women relations are mostly governed by an unequal power relationship where men have a dominant social role, women are most often the victims of such type of violence. In general, this phenomenon is explained by an obvious inequality between men and women, often evidenced by a perpetual challenge, leading to demonstrations of violence against women (Jaspard, 2005). Therefore, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) defines GBV as "any act of violence based on female gender, which causes or may cause injuries or physical or psychological suffering, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether in public or private life.

The interest of the topic can be seen in the profusion of data about it. Therefore, the available data from different demographic and health surveys (DHS) in Africa and those from the national surveys on violence against women carried out in France in 2000 (Enveff) tend more and more to identify its extent and forms, while, for many years, people were not sure to discuss the topic, just because it was taken as a private matter. Nowadays, data available shows that, GBV is perpetrated in various contexts of people's life in the society.

Spurred up by feminists, works from various researches of human and social sciences are now trying to include this type of phenomena within the scope of gender relations (Jaspard, 2005). This field of research emerges in a context in which the studies may be influenced by many prejudices. As highlighted by Jaspard (2005), in common sense, the term "violence against women» is sometimes defined as "domestic violence", sometimes as "sexual abuse". Therefore, several studies have investigated this phenomenon in domestic sphere, mainly by analyzing marital relations, firstly perceived as the framework to exercise male sexual impulses, since that couple is a privileged place for sex in African societies. Now, violence is a multifaceted issue, concerning both privacy, and social and public life. Therefore, such violence may take many forms (physical, sexual, psychological or economic), it may occur at home, in the streets, at school, at workplace and in refugees camps during conflicts and crises (Mimche and Tanang, 2013), as well as they are translated in different ways, from the most common plagues of domestic violence and sexual to the practice. In addition, the account of victims also shows the diversity of ways in which GBV cases are experienced. Publications from the Enveff survey showed that the risk of violence varies according to the context and lifestyles of people.

Studies on violence have mainly focused on domestic violence. Besides, the few studies addressing the violence that occurred in public spheres focused on school violence (Debardieux 1999; Ndour, 2006; Lanoue, Azoh, and Tshombe, 2009; Mimche and Tanang, 2013). Even if it is generally admitted that most cases of violence occur in family and home environment (Jaspard, 2005), acts of violence also occur in public spaces, as school and workplaces (Fortin, 2000). The analysis of GBV in public spaces may be justified by their particular situation as frameworks suitable for anonymity, where risks may therefore be more important. Because they are spaces for various and different actors, that is to say, places of congestion, and with several categories of social actors, they may be, more than others frameworks, suitable for the occurrence of acts of violence, anonymously. The vulnerability of public spaces results from differences in usages by social actors, as well as stakes that underlie these practices (economic, cultural, social, political, aesthetic, etc.).

As places exposed to a plural usage, and under different and sometimes antagonistic social activities, public places are possible areas for vulnerability, with differential risks for women and men to undergo acts against their will. Public spaces include streets, mass transportation, shops, markets, bars, nightclubs, sports clubs, administration buildings, churches, mosques, etc. Bearing this in mind this, public spaces are spaces of life as well as spaces of passage suitable for people mobility, that is to say, an intense social interactions framework. As indicated by Hossard and Jarvin (2005), while some persons stop at a public sphere just for a moment, others spend much time there, on a bench, in a corridor, in mass transportation, in shops, phone booths, bars, etc. Public spaces thus offer a range of images, messages, and uses of self-expression often suitable for polemological behaviors. Therefore, everything, or almost everything may be possible, and a real showdown may oppose individuals, as well as both individuals and public (Hossard and Jarvin, 2005). Forms of appropriation and misappropriation of public spaces therefore make them frameworks for vulnerability of acts of violence, leading to a gendered expression of social differences between women and men.

Therefore, this contribution explores such forms of violence that occur in public areas, through the factors that may explain such acts against men and women. More specifically, it aims at: i) assessing the levels of violence experienced by men and women in public spaces in CAR; ii) determining the differential variations in the practice of GBV in public areas, and therefore deducing the profile of individuals who have experienced GBV in a public space; iii) identifying the factors likely to explain the practice of gender-based violence in public spaces. This article is made up of three parts: The first part deals with the problematic of GBV, by providing a conceptual and theoretical approach. The second part focuses on methodological aspects, by presenting hypothesis, conceptual aspects, data and methods of analysis. The last part deals with the main results.

p. 3I. Building of GBV in Public Places

I.1. Understanding GBV in a Survey: Definition and Categorization of Types of Violence

As a complex concept, GBV is a polysemic. Various sources define the forms of GBV, including sexual violence, sexual abuse, sexual harassment, child marriage or forced marriage, discrimination, denial of the right to education, to food, to freedom etc., forced prostitution, domestic violence, female genital mutilation, incest, etc. According to the Beijing Platform for Action, GBV consist on "physical, mental or social abuse, (including sexual violence) against somebody because of his/her membership or social, reproductive or cultural role".

This term includes acts resulting in the infliction of suffering or physical, mental or sexual harm, threats of such acts, coercion and other deprivations of freedom. It is therefore any action against the will of a person resulting from its biological affiliation or specific role as a sexual being.

Therefore, gender based violence may affect any one (women and men, girls and boys). Nevertheless, if women, men, boys and girls may be victims of gender-based violence, it is assumed that, because of their status of subordinated persons, women and girls are the primary victims. Their status of social, economic, and legal subordinated persons, in many contexts, restricts their ability to get help when violence occurs. Therefore, it stems from unequal power relations between men and women. Violence directed against women is due to the fact that they are women, or it disproportionately affects women. GBV lies on the persistence of power's imbalance between men and women. Women and girls are most widely affected because they are not only at higher risk and the main targets, but also because they are more vulnerable to their effects than men. Because of gender discrimination, and their lower socio-economic status, women have fewer options and fewer resources to avoid or escape abusive situations, and seek justice. The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women underlines that this phenomenon violates, weakens or cancels the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

However, we assume that GBV may include violence against men and boys whose behavior may be considered opposed to the norms imposed by a rigid conception of masculinity. Even if there are data on GBV against men and boys, they are very few. Then, gender -based violence includes, not only violence by men on women, but also violence between women, as well as violence between men , "The gendered nature of this types of violence is due to the fact that it is related to masculinity and femininity building, or to values assigned to sexual identities and orientations" (UNIFEM and UNFPA, 2008: 15). In this view, any violence results from social relationships, and is based on gender, insofar as this is constitutive of social relations. The analysis of gender-based violence then lies on the study of the distribution of cases of violence between men and women, on the understanding of social relations related to the said distribution, as well as ton he analysis of acts of violence related to masculinity and femininity building, sexual identities orientations (Gauthier, 2007). In this study, violence is experienced in interpersonal relationships, since that gender based social relations may lead to a specific form of violence to ensure the subordination of one or the other sex (Bozon, 200). The analysis therefore excludes any form of institutional and socializing violence, since education for example is based on acts of symbolic violence.

The different forms and types of violence may be recognized or not recognized, considered universal or specific to a culture. GBV includes several forms: verbal or psychological violence, physical violence, economic violence, sexual violence. In the survey at the basis for this study, violence in public life includes: i) acts of verbal or emotional abuse: insults or abuse at school, excessive scrutiny of a student going to school or coming from, scrutiny while coming from school or relationships at school by people other than parents or / spouse (s), contempt / depreciation / bashing / or slanders / mocking at school; ii) acts of physical violence at school : striking, slapping or any other forms of physical brutality, threat or attack with a weapon or armful object, dishonest taken of the bag, jewelry or other personal items , confinement in a room or brutal prohibition to go out, prohibition to return home; iii) acts of sexual violence: touching, exposition to pornography, rape or attempted to commit rape, requirement for sex for marks, reprisal for opposing sex advance, sex / nudity / body exhibition. Considering this categorization, it can be said that violence is not an isolated act. It includes continuum made of verbal, psychological, physical and sexual aggressions.

Therefore, while investigating on violence, we don't ask the respondents if they have experienced some acts of violence, we just evoke gestures, acts, facts, words, they may have suffered, perpetrated against their will. Acts of violence that have been identified generally refer to common situations in the daily public life of the respondents. In order to reduce the subjectivity of the respondents, violence is not defined at the beginning. In the questions asked, the words "violence" and "aggression" are not used, only the "facts" are mentioned and described as accurately as possible.

Then, facts are alluded and described thank to Tactic Scale of Conflicts (TSC). TSC, a tool for assessing violence perpetrated by a third party, was developed in the USA by the sociologist Murray A. Straus (1979). It may easily be adapted to different situations and cultures. This approach, consisting on separately inquire of specific acts, has an advantage: it is not affected by the understanding of the concept violence. For example, we ask the respondent if he/she has been slapped, what may be easily understood by anyone, especially when the question is asked in the local language. This approach has another advantage: give to the respondent several occasions to report any kind of violence he/she would have experienced.

For each type of violence, questions were asked to women and men in order to measure the frequency over twelve months of interpersonal, verbal, psychological, physical and sexual violence suffered by women and men aged 12 years old and above in public spaces. Taking into account this dimension makes possible the examination of the specificities of violence occurred in public spaces, contrary to most common studies that most often focuses on domestic context.

I.2. Some Explanatory Approaches

Considering the above said, this study on GBV is developed around some theoretical approaches: socio-cultural approach, psychological approach demographic approach, institutional approach, as well as economic approach. Concerning socio-cultural approach, culturalist and constructivist based works have shown that acts of violence are part of the socio-cultural context and belong to a building and reproduction process of social male dominance. As Bourdieu notes, violence derives from male dominance by incorporating dominance in habits. Men may use violence and seek to reaffirm and strengthen their domination and gender order (Lisa M. Bates et al. 2007). Therefore, by socializing they receive patriarchal nature of society, where violence may be tolerated when produced against women because of their relation of subjection to men. According to the cultural approach, the use of violence depends on the standards set and interiorized values. Some cultural norms, such as prohibition to complain, to expose personal difficulties or talk about privacy, may also be obstacles ((UNFPA et al., 2008b).

From an economic point of view, studies have linked the vulnerability of women to their socio-economic conditions and the risk to suffer verbal, physical or sexual abuses. Therefore, women who are most likely to suffer gender-based violence are those in precarious economic situations. Some authors (Steinmetz 1974), link violence to stressful situations (unemployment, job dissatisfaction, alcoholism, poverty, etc.), that lead to conflicts in family or public spaces.

As far as demography concerns, some studies have shown that the risks of verbal, sexual and physical abuse are more important when the victims, particularly women, are young; and they claim their freedom of movement in public places in nighttime (Schitz, 2007). In addition, according to Schitz (2007), the fact that women are migrants may be a risk factor. It then shows that in France, women from non-Western countries are at greater risk of violence than those from Western ones. This may be linked to discriminatory practices based on racism.

At the institutional level, one of the factors that further the emergence and persistence of GBV appears at several levels: they are found in community attitudes towards GBV, burden of judicial procedures, the issue of moral integrity of the actors, the notorious lassitude of the implementation of the laws in this area, as well as lack of institutional order in some areas (UNFPA et al., 2008b).

II. Data and Methods

II.1. Source of Data and Variables of Interest

As in many countries suffering from socio-political crises, the need for data on GBV was becoming increasingly evident in CAR. Until then, only fragmentary data, and mostly on domestic violence produced by household surveys (particularly DHS, MICS), or data produced by institutions, were available. Very little was known on the situation of the global population and different vulnerable groups. Therefore, a survey of the general population was indispensable to assess the extent of the phenomenon. This is the reason of this study on GBV in CAR (VBG -RCA).

II.1.1. Sources of Data

The data analyzed here are from a sample survey in CAR from June to September 2011 in seven (Bangui, Lobaye Mambéré Kadéï, Ouaka, Ouham Pende, Bamingui- Bangoran Mbomou) out of the eleven divisions of the country. The sample design used is not probabilistic one.

For the said survey, the questionnaire included several modules, and this analysis is based on data from the module on abuses perpetrated in public places. To ensure geographic representation, the frame used is from the 2001 census mapping. Therefore, the survey was conducted on 1583 households of the 1640 planned. During the survey, data on gender-based violence were collected from individuals thank to individual questionnaire given to people aged 10 years and above in the household. The target population consists of women and men who were interviewed in the module GBV in public spheres. They are 3315, including 1051 men and 2264 women.

ii.1.2. Variables and Hypothesis of the Study

The dependent variable is "the occurrence of acts of GBV in an individual in public places during the last twelve months." Assuming that any physical or sexual abuse always follows psychological violence, these variable include three modalities:

- a) Did not suffer any act of GBV: refers to people who did not undergo any GBV in public sphere;
- b) Have only suffered psychological violence: refers to those who answered "Yes" to at least one of the following questions:
 - o Over the past 12 months, have you been insulted by someone/in a public space or in the street?
 - o Over the past 12 months, have you been followed with insistence by someone/ a group of persons on foot, motorcycle, bicycle or car in a public place or in the street?
 - o Over the past 12 months, were you despised, devalued, denigrated, calumniated by somebody /group of persons in public sphere as streets?
 - o Over the past 12 months, did anybody / group of people, showed up their sex / intimate parts of their bodies in a public sphere?
- c) Has suffered physical or sexual violence: refers to people who answered "Yes" to at least one of the following questions:
 - o Over the past 12 months, were you beaten, slapped, have you suffer any other kinds of physical abuse in a public place or street by someone/ group of people?
 - o Over the last 12 months, have you been threatened or attacked with a weapon or dangerous object (knife, stick, machete, tear gas, gun, arrow, spear ...), has anyone intend to kill you, choke you, bite you, stab you in a public place or in the street?
 - o Over the past 12 months, has anyone / group of people attempted / to grab your bag, your, phone or any other personal objects in a public place or in the street?
 - o Over the past 12 months, have you been shut up in a public place or brutally prevented from going out, in public place (bar, shop, market, playground, hairdressing salon, etc.) by any person, group of people.
 - o Over the past 12 months, have anyone, group of persons touched or stroked an intimate part of your body (breasts, buttocks, sex), has kissed you or attempted to kiss you against your will in a public place?
 - o Over the past 12 months, has someone / group of people attempted, failing or succeeding, to have sex with you against your will in a public place?
 - o Over the past 12 months, have you been forced to have sex against your will, for favors / services in a public place that is not your workplace?

The independent variables are: place of residence, residence status, religion, length of residence, age, sex, education, marital status, main occupation and age.

This study is based on a general hypothesis that people's context of residence and socio-demographic characteristics determine the occurrence of gender-based violence in public spaces in CAR.

II.3. Methods of Analysis

In order to measure the practice of GBV in public places in CAR, frequency tables are used. The analysis of the differential variation of the practice of GBV resort to the use of pivot tables with statistical " χ^2 ", since the variables are qualitative. The profile of victims of GBV in public areas in CAR was drawn by using the factorial analysis of multiple correspondences method (MCA). To determine the factors likely to explain the practice of GBV in public areas in CAR, the multinomial regression model with ordered variables is used. Indeed, the terms of the dependent variable are ordered as follows: did not suffer any violence, has suffered psychological GBV and has suffered physical / sexual GBV.

III. Gender and GBV experienced in Public Places in CAR

iii.1. Variation of Male and Female Experiences of GBV Occurring in Public Places

Table 1 shows the magnitude of gender-based violence experienced by women and men in public places over the last 12 months preceding the survey. The analysis shows that 35% of people did not experience any GBV in public areas. In other words, about 65 % of persons have experienced violence in the past 12 months.

These data show that the prevalence of GBV in public spaces is relatively high in CAR, since that about seven out of ten respondents reported having experienced a GBV during the referred period. Among the cases of violence suffered, the victims declare they have been more subject to physical or sexual violence (41.5 %) than to emotional one (23.4 %). We also note that, whatever the form of violence, men are more affected than women: 26.26% v 22.13% for psychological violence and 43.01% v 40.86 % for physical or sexual ones.

Table 1. Distribution (% Size) of People According to Their Status in the Violence by Gender

Status	Sex			
	Male	Female	Whole	
Has not suffer any violence	Size	323	838	1161
	Percentage	30.73	37.01	35.02
Has suffer only a psychological violence	Size	276	501	777
	Percentage	26.26	22.13	23.44
Has suffer a physical or sexual violence	Size	452	925	1377
	Percentage	43.01	40.86	41.54
Total	Size	1051	2264	3315
	Percentage	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Survey on GBV in CAR, 2011

III.2. Differential Variations in GBV and Profile of GBV Victims in Public Spaces

By scrutinizing the relation between violence and other variables with gender, it appears that the relation between violence and other independent variables remained significant in men (Table 2). Unlike in men, in women this relation is not significant when referred to place of residence, residence status and duration of residence. As for psychological violence, it is more prevalent in men, whatever their place of residence, religion, duration of residence, occupation, education level, marital status and age group. As for residence status, the prevalence of this form of violence is higher among men when referred to non-displaced persons (28% v 23%), and women when referred to internal displaced persons, or refugees (16% v 19%).

As for the prevalence of physical / sexual violence, it varies in men and women, according to some characteristics. we therefore notice that in rural areas, this form of violence is more intensified in women than in men (39.69 % against 37.80 %). we therefore notice that in rural areas, this form of violence is more intensified in women than in men (39.69 % against 37.80 %). We also note that women who have being in their place of residence for over 15 years, who have a paid job, with a level of education higher than primary school, are singles and those belonging to the age group 15-24 years suffer more physical or sexual violence than men in the same conditions. As shown in many previous studies, we find that most victims of physical and sexual abuse are young women.

besides, the analysis shows that among men, while physical or sexual abuses are more prevalent in urban area than in rural public spaces (47.85 % v 36.40 %), psychological violence affects more people living in urban areas than in urban ones (30.34% v 23.27%). likewise, internal displaced people and refugees are more victims of physical or sexual violence than non-displaced ones (56.76 % v 40.75 %) while the latter are more affected by psychological violence (27.91 %) than the first ones (16,22 %). Concerning the duration in the residence, the analysis also clearly shows that physical or sexual violence affects many more men who have spent less than 15 years in their place of residence (48.95 %) than those who have already spent at least 15 years (37.24 %). Unlike, the latter (30.33%) are more victims of psychological abuse than the first ones (22.48 %).

Whatever the gender and kind of violence, Catholic and Protestant Christians suffer more violence in public spaces than Muslims and members of other religions.

In both men and women, the prevalence of physical or sexual violence decreased with age, most affected men are those aged 10-14 years; (54.17 %) while most affected women are those aged years 15-24 (50.27 %). On the contrary, in both men and women, the prevalence of psychological violence increases with age, with a pick of 28.39% in men aged 25-34, and 25.66 % in women aged 35 and above.

Regardless of gender, the prevalence of physical or sexual violence increases with the level of education, with greater differences in women. While the trend of psychological violence is identical among women, this form of violence seems to affect most illiterate men than educated ones.

In both men and women, married people undergo less physical or sexual violence. Men involved in unmarried union most suffer this kind of violence, followed by bachelors; this is the case for single women, followed by women involved in unmarried union. On the contrary, married men and women are most affected by psychological violence than single ones.

As for the main occupation, farmers are the least affected by physical or sexual violence in public spaces, in both men and women. In females, salaried employees, and, to a lesser extent, craftswomen most suffer from physical or sexual violence in public places, while in males s craftsmen, followed by salaried employees, do so. On the contrary, in both males and females, the farmers most suffer psychological violence.

Graph 1 shows the profile of the victims of violence in public spaces from the factorial analysis of multiple correspondences. It appears therefore that people who experience psychological violence live in rural areas. They are artisans or manual workers, Protestants, Muslims or others. There are non-displaced persons, and aged 25 - 34 years. Besides, the victims of physical / sexual violence live in urban areas. They are Catholic believers, and aged 10 - 24 years. They are educated.

iii.3. Attempt of Identification of Factors Likely to Explain GVB in Public Areas in CAR

The results show that six variables have a significant net effect on the occurrence of violence in public places (Table 3). These are variables that can be considered explanatory factors of GBV in public areas in CAR. They include; gender, residence status, duration of residence, educational level, marital status and age.

III.3.1. Gender

The probability that somebody do not suffer any act of violence decreased by 3 % when this is a male. Compared to women, the risk of undergoing psychological violence and physical / sexual violence by men decreases by 0.3 % and 0.2 % respectively. The difference is higher for psychological violence. Considering these findings, women are more victims than men, because in society, they were still considered the weaker gender. We also note that gender remains significant from M0 to M5 model. This significant effect disappears when introduced the level of education and marital status; gender indirectly determines the occurrence of violence through the level of education and marital status. At Community level, the collective imagination that considers women as inferior to men is a factor of persistence of violence against women. The acceptance by women themselves of their inferiority to men reinforces this situation, especially since women are very often granted less financial capital (income and main occupation) and cultural one (awareness of their rights, education, and literacy). Even if all cases of violence are not related to gender social relations, we often note that the profiles of victims show they may be defined as a series of behaviors leading to physical, sexual or psychological harm, that involves the dimension of social relations between men and women, power inequalities between males and females, and which particularly affect girls. As Bourdieu states (2002), GBV is legitimized by a relationship of domination that puts it in a biological nature, which is itself a naturalized construction. Indeed, reports agree that in societies where women have low status and where practices such as infanticide, female genital mutilation and killings for honor exist, girls are more exposed to sexual violence. Gender based social relations and gender identities are key issues. For N'Dour (2006), GBV involves multiple dimensions: economic (case of transactional sex), socio-cultural (taboo on sexual education and inequalities between women and men); and health (low use of condoms and contraception resulting in contagion by sexually transmitted diseases, HIV - AIDS and unwanted pregnancies), that articulate with two other dimensions, a dimension of "abuse of authority" regarding the violence perpetrated by teachers on students.

III.3.2. The Status of Residence

Internal displaced persons are 217 % more at risk to be victims of GBV in a public place than non-displaced ones. The risk of being a victim of psychological violence and physical / sexual one decreased by 1% and 0.7% when concerning IDP persons or refugees, compared to Non- displaced persons. In other words, violence is more recurrent for non-displaced victims. The impact of residency status on GBV in public places remains significant at the 1% M0 model M8 model, suggesting therefore its direct influence on this practice.

III.3.3. Duration of Residence

Compared to people who have lived at least 15 years in a region, those who have lived more than 15 years are respectively at a lower risk of 6 %, 0.4 % and 1% to no undergo a GBV, to undergo only a psychological violence, and to undergo physical / sexual violence. When someone has been long in a place, he/she controls everything that surrounds him/her and knows how to behave with situations that happen, whether unpleasant or not. Besides, we note that the influence of duration of residence on GBV in public places goes through the level of education and the main occupation of the person.

III.3.4. Level of Education

Compared to people with primary education, those without any education, as well as those with secondary education and above have an additional risk of 0.3% and 0.4% respectively to undergo a psychological violence.

As for physical GBV in public areas, compared to people with primary education, those without any education have a lower risk of 0.2% to suffer it, and those of secondary education and above have an additional risk of 0, 2% to be victims.

III.3.5. Marital Status

Compared to unmarried couples, the risk of suffering psychological GBV in public areas increased 0.05 %, 0.1 %, and 0.3% respectively in singles/bachelors, married persons and separated ones. As for physical GBV in open spaces, the risk of suffering is less than 0.02% for single and more important, 0.03% and 0.05 % respectively, for married persons and separated ones compared to unmarried couples. This greater vulnerability of separated persons can be explained by the fact that, in African society, the status of a person is based on his/her marital status. Indeed, separated persons, especially women, generally defenseless, are more likely to suffer a GBV in public areas.

III.3.6. Age

Compared to persons aged 15-24, those of other age-groups have a risk of suffering any type of GBV in a public space. More specifically, youth aged 10-14 years are more exposed to violence because of juvenile delinquency.

Conclusion

The issue of gender-based violence remains a concern nowadays for both international community and the countries that have ratified a number of international legal instruments and have implemented policies and strategies to deal with the scourge affecting many citizens, males and females' life. It therefore shows the violation of fundamental human rights, despite adoption and ratification by several countries, including RCA, of a number of legal instruments on human rights such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women. At the global level, studies have shown that gender-based violence impacts on the victim's life, at both domestic level and social and psychological ones. In CAR, armed conflicts that have rocked the country over the years have created an atmosphere suitable for violence in some parts of the country. Many cases are regularly underlined by the media, civil society and development partners. Therefore, the elimination of gender-based violence remains one of the most important challenges for CAR. Now, available data on the phenomenon are too fragmented, and are generally from administrative sources (police, courts, health services, NGOs, civil societies among others). In order to guide prevention policies, it was important to have scientific data on GBV practices taking into account the social changes experienced by the Central African society, and in particular, those related to gender relations.

In order to better understand the foundations of the phenomenon, this study has identified the risk factors at various levels: i) individual level, ii) community level, and iii) society level that seem to be associated with higher rates of GBV and are closely interrelated. At first sight, it appears that individual characteristics of the respondents show differences of risks to suffer a case of violence.

At the descriptive level, it appears that, whatever the types of violence, men are always more exposed than women. By controlling the relationship between violence and other gender-based variables, it appears that violence remains significant at 1 % with all other variables in men. On the contrary, in women, it is not significant referred to the place of residence, the status of the residence, as well as the duration of residence. The profile of victims of psychological violence and physical violence in public spaces has been identified.

At the explanatory level, residence status, length of residence, educational level, marital status as well as age influence the difference between men and women in the occurrence of violence in public spaces. In sum, this study shows the importance of engaging a thorough reflection on the prevention of gender-based violence in general, given their variety and diversity in women's and men's experiences.

Table 2. : Proportion of Persons Who Have Suffered a BGV in Public Area per Sex Depending of Independent Variables

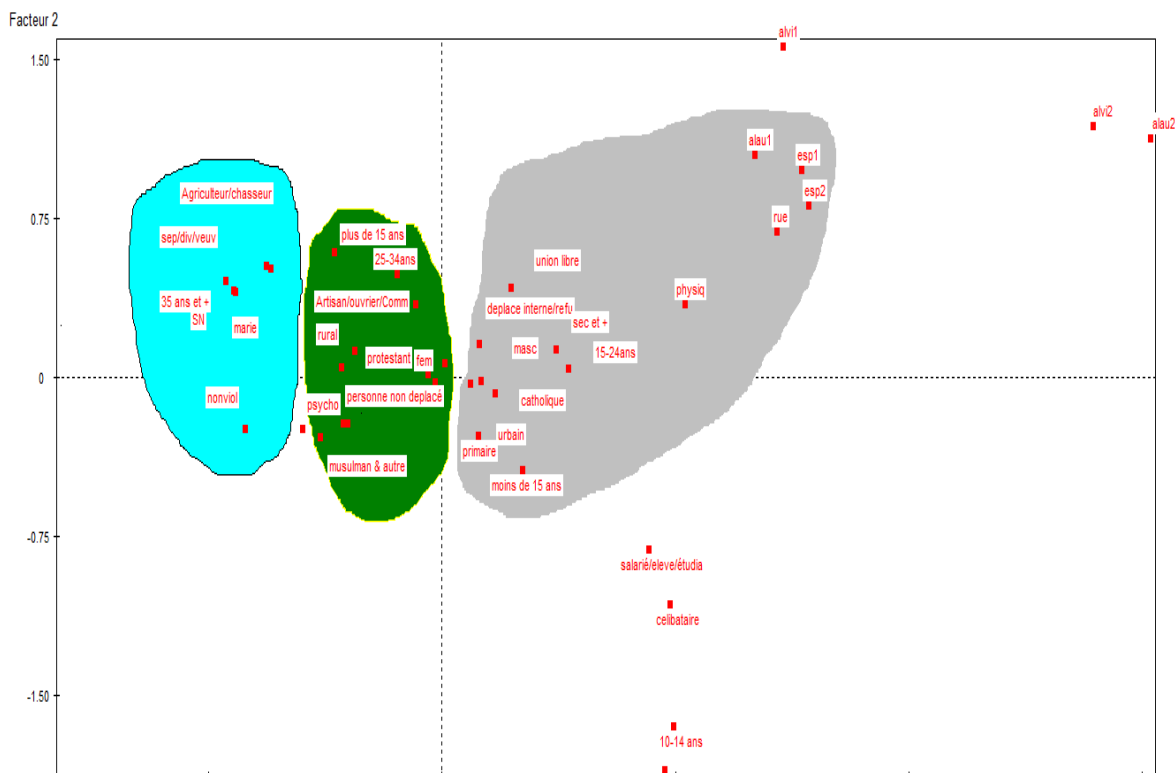
	Men									women							
	violence	none		psychological		physical/sexual		total		none		psychological		physical/sexual		total	
place of residence	urban	175.00	28.88	141.00	23.27	290.00	47.85	606.00	100.00	528.00	36.57	316.00	21.88	600.00	41.55	1.44	100.00
	Rural	148.00	33.26	135.00	30.34	162.00	36.40	445.00	100.00	310.00	37.80	185.00	22.56	325.00	39.63	820.00	100.00
	whole	323.00	30.73	276.00	26.26	452.00	43.01	100.00	100.00	838.00	37.01	501.00	22.13	925.00	40.86	2.26	100.00
	Pr Chi-square	0.00									0.67						
status of residence	non-displaced person	283.00	31.34	252.00	27.91	368.00	40.75	903.00	100.00	725.00	37.14	442.00	22.64	785.00	40.22	1.95	100.00
	internal displaced/refugee	40.00	27.03	24.00	16.22	84.00	56.76	148.00	100.00	113.00	36.22	59.00	18.91	140.00	44.87	312.00	100.00
	whole	323.00	30.73	276.00	26.26	452.00	43.01	100.00	100.00	838.00	37.01	501.00	22.13	925.00	40.86	2.26	100.00
	Pr Chi square	0.00									0.20						
Religion	Catholic	89.00	28.08	94.00	29.65	134.00	42.27	317.00	100.00	227.00	33.78	156.00	23.21	289.00	43.01	672.00	100.00
	Protestant	181.00	30.17	156.00	26.00	263.00	43.83	600.00	100.00	455.00	36.11	288.00	22.86	517.00	41.03	1.26	100.00
	Muslim & others	53.00	39.55	26.00	19.40	55.00	41.04	134.00	100.00	156.00	46.99	57.00	17.17	119.00	35.84	332.00	100.00
	whole	323.00	30.73	276.00	26.26	452.00	43.01	100.00	100.00	838.00	37.01	501.00	22.13	925.00	40.86	2.26	100.00
Pr Chi-square	0.08									0.00							
residence	less than 15 years old	150.00	28.57	118.00	22.48	257.00	48.95	525.00	100.00	502.00	36.80	304.00	22.29	558.00	40.91	1.36	100.00
	15 years old and more	169.00	32.44	158.00	30.33	194.00	37.24	521.00	100.00	332.00	37.26	195.00	21.89	364.00	40.85	891.00	100.00
	whole	319.00	30.50	276.00	26.39	451.00	43.12	100.00	100.00	834.00	36.98	499.00	22.13	922.00	40.89	2.26	100.00
	Pr Chi-square	0.00									0.97						

Source: Survey on Gender Base in RCA, 2011.

Table 2 (Continuation): Proportion of Persons Who Have Suffered a GBV in a Public Area per Sex Depending on other Independent Variables

	Men									women							
	violence	none		Psychologica l		Physical/sexua l		Total		none		Psychologica l		Physical/sexua l		Total	
main occupation	Agriculture	144.00	35.91	118.00	29.43	139.00	34.66	401.00	100.00	359.00	41.36	221.00	25.46	288.00	33.18	868.00	100.00
	craftsmen/women	42.00	27.81	36.00	23.84	73.00	48.34	151.00	100.00	268.00	37.48	150.00	20.98	297.00	41.54	715.00	100.00
	salaried employee	137.00	27.45	122.00	24.45	240.00	48.10	499.00	100.00	211.00	30.98	130.00	19.09	340.00	49.93	681.00	100.00
	Whole	323.00	30.73	276.00	26.26	452.00	43.01	1.05	100.00	838.00	37.01	501.00	22.13	925.00	40.86	2.26	100.00
	Pr Chi-square	0.00									0.00						
Level of Education	SN	52.00	40.31	38.00	29.46	39.00	30.23	129.00	100.00	327.00	48.52	133.00	19.73	214.00	31.75	674.00	100.00
	Primary	164.00	30.83	129.00	24.25	239.00	44.92	532.00	100.00	353.00	33.68	247.00	23.57	448.00	42.75	1.05	100.00
	secondary and more	107.00	27.44	109.00	27.95	174.00	44.62	390.00	100.00	158.00	29.15	121.00	22.32	263.00	48.52	542.00	100.00
	Whole	323.00	30.73	276.00	26.26	452.00	43.01	1.05	100.00	838.00	37.01	501.00	22.13	925.00	40.86	2.26	100.00
	Pr Chi-square	0.00									0.00						
marital status	single/bachelor	72.00	26.67	66.00	24.44	132.00	48.89	270.00	100.00	148.00	30.39	93.00	19.10	246.00	50.51	487.00	100.00
	Married	134.00	38.62	106.00	30.55	107.00	30.84	347.00	100.00	317.00	45.03	177.00	25.14	210.00	29.83	704.00	100.00
	unmarried couple	85.00	25.84	79.00	24.01	165.00	50.15	329.00	100.00	230.00	31.55	156.00	21.40	343.00	47.05	729.00	100.00
	sep./div./wi.	23.00	35.94	16.00	25.00	25.00	39.06	64.00	100.00	122.00	46.74	58.00	22.22	81.00	31.03	261.00	100.00
	Whole	314.00	31.09	267.00	26.44	429.00	42.48	1.01	100.00	817.00	37.46	484.00	22.19	880.00	40.35	2.18	100.00
Pr Chi-square	0.00									0.00							
age group	10-14 years	40.00	23.81	37.00	22.02	91.00	54.17	168.00	100.00	115.00	31.86	71.00	19.67	175.00	48.48	361.00	100.00
	15-24 years	67.00	26.17	67.00	26.17	122.00	47.66	256.00	100.00	219.00	29.20	154.00	20.53	377.00	50.27	750.00	100.00
	25-34 years	60.00	25.42	67.00	28.39	109.00	46.19	236.00	100.00	207.00	38.05	119.00	21.88	218.00	40.07	544.00	100.00
	35 and more	156.00	39.90	105.00	26.85	130.00	33.25	391.00	100.00	297.00	48.85	156.00	25.66	155.00	25.49	608.00	100.00
	Whole	323.00	30.73	276.00	26.26	452.00	43.01	1.05	100.00	838.00	37.03	500.00	22.09	925.00	40.87	2.26	100.00
Pr Chi-square	0.00									0.00							

Source: survey on Gender Base in CAR, 2011



Graphic 1: First Factorial Design Analysis of Multiple Correspondences

Table 3: Results of Step by Step Model Multinomial Regression

variables	M0	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M8	M9	EM0	EM1	EM2
SEX	***	***	***	***	***	**	Ns	Ns	**				
Male	1.18***	1.20***	1.20***	1.06***	1.06***	0.98**	0.90ns	0.94ns	0.99**		-0.03	-0.003	-0.002
Female	Ref	Ref	Ref	ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	ref		ref	ref	ref
Residence area		***	***	***	***	Ns	Ns	Ns	ns				
Urban	Ref	Ref	ref	ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	ref		ref	ref	ref
Rural		0.85***	0.84***	0.79***	0.75***	0.89ns	0.96 ns	0.94 ns	0.89 ns		-0.01	-0.0001	-0.001
Residence status			***	***	***	***	***	***	***				
non-displaced person	Ref		ref	ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	ref		ref	ref	ref
internal displaced/refugee			1.27***	1.06***	1.11***	1.13***	1.13***	1.17***	1.17***		-0.08	-0.01	-0.007
residence duration				***	**	Ns	Ns	**	***				
at least 15 years	Ref			ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	ref		ref	ref	ref
more than 15				0.78***	0.78**	0.92ns	0.93ns	1.03**	1.13***		-0.06	-0.004	-0.01
Religion					**	**	**	Ns	*				
catholic					0.91 ns	0.89ns	0.89ns	0.89ns	0.90 ns		-0.01	0.0002	-0.004
Protestant	Ref				Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	ref		ref	ref	ref
Muslim and others					0.56***	0.51***	0.58***	0.88ns	0.65**		0.04	-0.001	-0.0008
main occupation						***	***	**	ns				
Agriculture						Ref	Ref	ref	ref		ref	ref	ref
Craft						1.24***	1.13***	1.01***	0.95ns		-0.03	0.002	0.001
salaried employee						1.53***	1.34***	0.91ns	0.84 ns		-0.003	-0.02	-0.003
Level of education							**	**	**				
None							0.54***	0.60***	0.62***		0.09	0.003	-0.002
Primary	Ref						Ref	ref	ref		ref	ref	ref
secondary and more							0.91ns	0.97**	0.97**		0.07	0.004	0.002
marital status								**	**				
single/bachelor								0.91**	0.78 ns		0.02	0.0005	-0.0002
married								0.48***	0.56***		0.05	0.001	0.003
unmarried person								ref	ref		ref	ref	ref
sep/div/wi								0.45***	0.58**		0.13	0.0003	0.0005
age									**				
10-14 years									0.69 ns		0.02		0.001
15-24 years	Ref								ref		ref	ref	ref
25-34 years									0.66**		0.05		0.002
more than 35 years									0.42***		0.16		0.0002

Source: Survey on GBV in CAR, 2011.

Notes : * = significatif of 1 %, ** = significatif of 5 %, *** = significatif of 10 %, ns=non significatif.

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