QUARTERLY MEDIA SURVEY
VIOLENCE AGAINST GIRLS AT SCHOOL

October to December 2009

ActionAid
January 2010
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Introduction
After the release of the first quarterly media survey summary on violence against girls at school (VAGS) in eighteen countries, we would like to share with you the second issue covering the period of October to December 2009. This media survey aims at compiling and reviewing cases of violence against girls as hindrances to their access, maintenance and achievement at school in a number of national media selected by ActionAid Country Offices.

Violence is defined as “any forms of abuse (physical, mental, psychological, verbal, emotional, direct, indirect, etc) against girls under 18, schooled or of school age. Violence may occur at home (household chores, corporal punishment, ill-treatment, rapes, genital mutilations and other traditional practices harmful to girls), at school (punishment, discrimination, physical and verbal abuse) as well as on the street.”

We also considered cases of early pregnancies, indecent exposure, sexual harassment, indecent assault, contracting HIV, early/forced marriages, abortion under duress, forced prostitution, forced labour, gender-based selection before birth as various forms of abuse.

In general, in the context of this work and from ActionAid’s standpoint any hindrance to girls’ access, maintenance and achievement at school may be deemed as cases of violence.

We are not in any way using this work as a means of tracking actual incidence of VAGS, but rather the focus is on the response of the media to VAGS.

The last quarterly report was widely distributed and shared with relevant stakeholders (educational stakeholders, NGO, media, etc.). The media survey was also shared with local newspapers. In Senegal the summary from July to September 2009 made the headlines of the national daily “Le Soleil” (15 000 copies).

The objective of the VAGS media survey is to improve media treatment of VAGS cases by privileging the analytical treatment rather than the sensational. So, we encourage all colleagues and partners to disseminate this summary as widely as possible, especially to the media participating or not to the survey.

The international agenda of this quarter focused on two events: World children’s day (November 20th) and the 16 days on violence against women and girls (November 25th to December 10th). A lot of activities were organized to increase visibility and appeal for the protection of young survivors. Unfortunately, the media coverage during this period was quite low.

Out of Hundred ninety five (195) articles listed in eighteen countries, only thirty two (32) are analytical articles.

Articles were compiled according to the same methodology as in the previous quarter (July to September).

We still have considerable difficulties in collecting articles in countries where newspapers are not available on-line. For countries where cases of VAGS are mostly covered in radios (Burundi, Rwanda), the project of a radio survey on VAGS is not yet a reality.

We received articles compiling a large number of VAGS in 2009 (Zimbabwe 106 cases and Liberia 553 cases). But for methodological reasons, and because there were no sociological details, we did not integrate theme

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1 Burundi, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe

2 Cf. Section “Focus on the best analytical articles of quarter”, Page 25. This section compiles the best analytical articles of quarter.
VAGS ARTICLES COMPILED from October to December 2009

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MONTH TOTAL | 106 | 39 | 45 | 195 |
Media survey: radio.

After the first VAGS media survey, we expressed the idea to lead the survey in radios. We are still looking for the best mean to collect cases of VAGS in a corpus of Burundian radios, which would enable us:

1. to identify a corpus of Burundian radios;
2. to forge relations of collaboration and information exchange between AA colleagues and journalists, presenters of the targeted radios;
3. To identify place of VAGS in radios: are there radio broadcasts on the VAGS? In what types of broadcasts radios covered VAGS?
4. To collect everyday cases of VAGS covered in radios (type of violence, number of occurrences, survivors profile, perpetrators, etc.)
5. To identify the angle of analysis of VAGS in radio programs (analysis, phenomenon of society sensational, canvasses, etc.)

VAGS MEDIA SURVEY CAMEROON

03 dailies: Cameroon Tribune, le Messager and Mutations.

OCTOBER
Two analytical cases of violence.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The cases listed were:
- a case of rape followed by death by constriction of the survivor in the district "Rail" at Ngaoundéré
- And a rape in the Market B of Dschang.

Survivors’ Profile
One of the survivors is fourteen (14) years old and the age of the second survivor was not specified.

Perpetrators’ Profile
The profile of perpetrators is not specified in articles. We can suppose that the perpetrators are adults.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
Both cases of VAGS are covered in News column. The articles contain are very long and tell in detail contexts and conditions of abuses. The vocabulary used is very raw.
The article of October 28th, 2009 of Cameroon Tribune analyzes consideration of the phenomenon of VAGS (rapes, incest) by the Cameroonian judicature. Indeed, during the annual meeting of the judicature, the theme of the Court action in front of the outbreak of the cases of rapes and incest on minor was the object of debates.

NOVEMBER
Four cases of violence compiled.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
Four cases of violence listed were:
- two cases of rape on minors to Deïdo and Wouri
- a kidnapping of a student at the University of mountains to Bagangté ·
- a death of a girl (fallen in a well) by negligence of her parents

Victims’ Profile
The survivors are under age girls 2-18. On average, they are 9. Three of the survivors are school girls: one in the Faculty of Medicine (University of Mountains) and two survivors at primary school.

Perpetrators' Profile
The majority of perpetrators are adults unrelated to the victims:
- A 40-year-old adult
- A disabled person. In both cases, they used strength and violence to deceive survivors.
- As regards the kidnapping of the medicine student, since November 16th, no information is given onto the kidnappers.
- Finally, the case of death of the two-year-old girl fallen in a well ask the question of the responsibility of survivor’s parents often absent of home and leaving their children without surveillance.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
No case is analyzed as a violation of the child’s rights or as impeding the victim’s achievement at school. Cases of VAGS are exclusively covered in news item. They are analyzed as a phenomenon of society, a perversion. The articles are very long and tell in detail contexts and conditions of abuses. The vocabulary used is very raw «he undressed me and scraped me. I fell on the ground and he lied down on me. He put his sex in my sex with his hand put on my mouth to suffocate my shouts. I had pain "(Rape on minor, he risks 20 years, Messenger).

DECEMBER
Two analytical articles were listed.

The first article deals with early marriages in the extreme north of Cameroon. The article summarizes a study led by the Association ALVF which addresses violence against girls and women with the support of the partners such as the Public Concern and the APEEFC (Association for the promotion of the children remote from their parents). The objective of this study is to collect information of early and forced marriages and their impact on girls’ education. This survey is in line with actions against early and forced marriages executed from 2000 to 2009. Data was collected in eleven villages of the North region of Cameroon to obtain reliable data of the phenomenon. The study demonstrates that the prevalence of early and forced marriages is very high in Logone and Chari (37.57 %) and in Diamaré (23.56 %).

The departments of Mayo-Kani (12.73 %), Mayo-Danay (9.55 %), of Mayo-Sava (8.91 %) and Mayo-Tsanaga seem less affected by the phenomenon. The scale and the relevance of early marriages are explained by sociological, cultural and religious factors. Indeed, the north of Cameroon is populated by social groups (Fulani, Arabs Choas and Kotoko) much anchored in the Islamic peulh or Arabian-Muslem culture. The patriarchal system is set up here as institution where father has all authority. And therefore, according to interests or historic relations between families, the father gives his young daughter in marriage without asking her opinion.

The second article presents the report of the Forum of exchange of the Association of the jurist women of Cameroon on violence against women and girls. The forum of female lawyers which met on the occasion of the anniversary of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discriminations against Women, recommended the publication of a new Family Code to address negative practices such as rape, excision, early marriages, marriages forced, etc.

OCTOBER
A single article was collected «In denunciation of female genital mutilation» in The Ethiopian Herald of October 14th, 2009. The article reveals that according to the World Health Organization **130 millions women and girls are survivors of sexual mutilations** and particularly in Africa (26 countries). The author explains that female genital mutilation (FGM) is practise in Ethiopia to **avoid sexuality before marriage and adultery**. In Ethiopia, age of excision varies from a region to another. In Amara (Afar), it is practised **before ten years**. While in Somalia, it is made **between seven and nine years** or **before marriage**. The article denounces FGM as being discrimination for not excised girls and exploiting women who are consequently reduced to sexual objects.

NOVEMBER
No case of abuse was covered by these dailies.

DECEMBER
A single case of violence was listed.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The violence listed is a rape in the region of Oromia east, at province Shoa (majority of Muslims).

Survivors’ profile
The survivor is three (3) years old.

Perpetrators’ profile
The perpetrator is a "reliable person": a survivor’s neighbour aged twenty (20) years old. He lured the victim.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
The VAGS case is covered in News item. The article is written in Amharic, the version which reached us is only a summary of the circumstances of rape.

01 daily: The Daily Observer.

OCTOBER
Sixteen (16) cases of violence were listed.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
As in the previous months, the cases of abuses listed were chiefly rapes (15 cases) and an infanticide. They took place in the following sectors:
- at Kololi in the KSMD (2 cases)
- at Nema Kunku (2 cases)
- at Jarra Sankuya
- in West of Kutu
- at Manja Kunda
- at Sukuta in the Kombo district (2 cases)
- at Kerr Cherno village (district of Niumi)
• at Sibanor village, in the west region (2 cases)
• at Banjul (2 cases)
• at Sibanor
• at Bundung.

Survivors' Profile
The recorded survivors are minors aged 2-18. On average, they are 14.62.

Perpetrators' Profile
Articles specify neither the relationship of the presumed perpetrator with the victim nor the age of the perpetrators in the articles listed. We infer that the perpetrators of sexual abuse are adults and unrelated to the victim. This assumption is substantiated by the fact these events of abuse occur outside the victims’ home.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
VAGS are covered exclusively in the “Court and Law” column. Thus, only their legal aspect is covered. The content of the article remains focused on a summary of facts, testimonies, pleas of the parties/judge and the sentence.

NOVEMBER
Five (5) cases of violence were listed.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The cases of violence are:
• three rapes on minors
• a rape attempt
• A case of incest
The violence took place in the following sectors: in the village of Sanyang, at Kokoli (KSMD region), at the village of Lamin (region West), at Kanifing and at Latrikunda German.

Survivors' Profile
Most of articles do not specify survivors’ age. Therefore, we cannot determine the abused victims’ age on average. Also, no article specifies whether victims are school children or not. We assume however that they are all of school age.
Only a single article specifies that the survivor is seven (7) years old and other one than survivor is a pupil to the Janet International School.

Perpetrators' Profile
Articles specify neither the relationship between presumed perpetrators and the survivors nor the age of the perpetrators in the articles listed.
A single article specifies the family relationships between presumed perpetrator and the survivor: the survivor’s father.
We infer that the perpetrators of sexual abuse are adults and unrelated to the victim. This assumption is substantiated by the fact these events of abuse occur outside the victims’ homes.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
VAGS are covered exclusively in the “Court and Law” column. Thus, only their legal aspect is covered. The content of the article remains focused on a summary of facts, testimonies, pleas of the parties/judge and the sentence.
A single analytical article was published in November. The titled article is "Stakeholders discuss child sex tourism". The sexual tourism is an issue in Gambia. The sexual tourists abuse sexually girls in exchange of presents or money. The article marks the will of stakeholders to take measures to fight against these practices and protect survivors.
DECEMBER
Ten (10) cases of violence were listed.

Typology and Sites of Abuses

The cases of violence were:

- eight (8) cases of rape
- one indecent assault
- one infanticide

The cases of violence were committed:
- in the village of Pirang (District of Kombo),
- in the region KSMD at Serrekunda, Kololi and Fajar,
- in Banjul on Tobbaco Road, at Brikama, at Palma Rima Beach (Kanifing) and at Ebo Town,
- and in the village of Jarra Sankwia (Region Lower River).

Two cases of rape took place in perpetrator’s room.

Survivors’ Profile
The registered survivors are minors aged 2-18. On average, they are 11.87 years. Six (6) survivors are school aged.

Perpetrators’ Profile
As for the reports of previous months, articles of Daily Observer do not specify profile of the perpetrators (age and profile). Only two perpetrators are:
- Survivor’s mother who killed her two-year-old girl.
- A “reliable person”: a neighbour who sexually abused the survivor.

As for the previous months, we infer that the others perpetrators of sexual abuse are adults and unrelated to the victim. This assumption is substantiated by the fact these events of abuse occur outside the victims’ homes.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
The Gambian newspaper of our corpus privileges the legal aspect in the treatment of VAGS. VAGS are covered exclusively in the “Court and Law” column. Thus, only their legal aspect is covered. The content of the article remains focused on a summary of facts, testimonies, pleas of the parties/judge and the sentence.

During six months of media survey, a single analytical article was published. Now, we think that analytical articles would allow having a wider idea of the scale of VAGS phenomenon and would arouse the action of multi-stakeholders (Government, NGO, Justice, parents, etc.) for the protection of the survivors.

VAGS MEDIA SURVEY GHANA


OCTOBER
Fourteen (14) cases of VAGS was listed by the selected dailies.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The cases of VAGS recorded violence are thirteen (13) rapes with one resulting in a pregnancy and a forced marriage.
Survivors’ Profile
The recorded survivors are aged 1-16. On average, the survivors are 7.88. Ten (10) of the survivors are school girls.

Perpetrators’ Profile
One account, fourteen (14) presumed perpetrators aged 19-65. On average, the perpetrators are 30.71 years.
- Eight presumed perpetrators are teachers and one case with complicity of survivor’s parents (forced marriage).
- Two presumed rapists are “reliable persons” working near survivors’ home (hairdresser and farmer).
We had already noticed in the previous reports that perpetrators are for the greater part persons known by the survivor.
- Four (4) perpetrators are unrelated to the survivor: all of such cases of abuse occurred on the street.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
The VAGS is covered in the whole of the newspapers of our corpus in the crime and punishment column. No case of violence is analyzed as a violation of children rights, or an obstacle for their school success.

NOVEMBER
Three cases (3) were reported.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
We count chiefly rapes committed in the following sectors: at Kumasi, at Agona Swedru and at Sokode-Lokoe (city of Ho). Two cases of rapes on three took place in the survivor’s school.

Survivors’ Profile
Survivors reported are aged 12-13 with an average of 12.5. All the survivors were school girls.

Perpetrators’ Profile
Presumed perpetrators are:
- Two reliable persons: a survivor’s classmate and a 59-year-old man living near survivor’ house. The profile of these presumed perpetrators confirms that majority of the rapes are committed by a person known by the survivor and having an authority on her.
- A 29-year-old unrelated person who used guile to entice the survivor. It is important to underline that the cases of rapes by an unrelated person are facilitated by traditions of our societies which want that youngest help adults when they are asked for. Indeed, it is under pretext of commissions that survivors are tricked by strangers.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
All the listed articles were reported under the news column.

DECEMBER
Eleven (11) VAGS cases and three (3) analytical articles listed.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The cases of VAGS are exclusively sexual violence:
- eight (8) cases of rapes of which one on a vulnerable person;
- an incest
- two (2) attempts rapes
The VAGS took place in the following sectors:
- in the city of Kumasi (region of Ashanti),
• in the popular city of Asamankese (3 cases),
• in the city Kade, city of the center of Ghana,
• in the city of Affao (border of Togo),
• in the city of Tamale (North region),
• in Accra,
• at Antoakrom,
• and at Tema (two cases).

Survivors' Profile
The recorded survivors are aged 9-18. On average, the survivors are 13.11. All the survivors are school girls.

Perpetrators' Profile
Presumed perpetrators are rather young aged 19-36. On average, they are 24.55 years.
• Two of the perpetrators are survivor's relatives: a step-father and an uncle,
• One of the sexual aggressors is the survivor's teacher,
• Three of presumed perpetrators are reliable persons who live in the neighbourhood (1 case) or who work near survivor’s home (butcher, weaver).
• Five (5) perpetrators are unrelated to the survivor. Let us note that 4/5 perpetrators are drivers.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
VAGS are covered exclusively in the “Court and Law” column. Thus, only their legal aspect is covered. However, three VAGS articles are published under analytical angle.

The first article is titled "Violence against women: the increasing pandemic year".

The second article appeared on December 18th under the title “Rapists and thieves harassing TAMASCO female students – Headmaster” in GNA agency (online), focus on scale of violence against girls at the primary school of Tamasco. School girls are victims of rapes and thefts on the road of the school.

Finally, an article entitled “Sexual abuses quick reforms in Senegal” presents innovations made in Senegal in addressing VAGS. The author suggests that Ghana should take example on Senegalese justice to reduce the number of cases of VAGS.


VAGS MEDIA SURVEY KENYA

03 Dailies: Standard, Daily Nation, and East Africa.

OCTOBER
Twenty five (25) VAGS cases listed.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The cases of abuse listed include:
• sixteen (16) cases of rapes among which on leading to pregnancy and one resulting into death,
• five (5) cases of incest,
• a kidnapping followed by pregnancy,
• a forced marriage with excision,
• an incitement to alcohol consumption,
• cases of sexual harassment at school
Survivors' Profile
The survivors are aged 4-18. On average, the survivors are 11.25 years old. Ten survivors were officially school girls.

Perpetrators' profile
The majority of articles give no information about the age of presumed perpetrators. A single article specifies that the perpetrator is an 82-year-old man.
The presumed perpetrators are:
- seven (7) related adults,
- ten (10) teachers whom one out from school for sexual harassments,
- Eight (8) unrelated persons

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
Both cases of abuse were found in the News column. They are analyzed as a societal phenomenon in The Standard Daily Nation and Premiers New.

NOVEMBER
Three (3) VAGS cases and for (4) analytical articles listed.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The cases of violence are rapes. The VAGS took place in Kiambu (2 cases) and in Homa Bay.

Survivors' Profile
The survivors are under-aged girls 7-13 with an average of 9.66 years. Three survivors are school girls.

Perpetrators' profile
One presumed perpetrator is accused of double rape of two minors (7 and 9 years). The profile of the perpetrators is not specified in articles. We infer that the perpetrators of sexual abuse are adults and unrelated to the victim. This assumption is substantiated by the fact these events of abuse occur outside victims' homes.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
Three cases of rapes are analyzed under the angle of a news item. During the World children’ day and the “sixteen days on violence against women and girls”, the Kenyan dailies are among the few which have published articles on the issue.

On November 20th, the newspaper Daily Nation published a titled article "Boy president out to end child deceives". The young president David Malingi denounces complexity of judicial procedures during the instruction of minors’ rapes. According to him, the justice should take adequate measures to reduce judicial procedures, and at the same time, traumatism and suffering of survivors of sexual abuses.

A second article deals with the legal angle of the issue of testimony in the trials of rape and sexual violence.

Finally two analytical articles published in the Standard (in November 25th) deals with the way in which violence against children (girls in particular) in schools, orphanages, and in the street become part of everyday life. The author of article (Much of violence against children remains unreported) denounces the fact that the majority of violence is not the object of legal proceedings.

The last article "MP best act to save battered nation" denounces as in the previous article, the impunity of violence’s perpetrators (rapes, sexual and domestic excisions, slaveries).
DECEMBER
One case of rape and an analytical article were listed.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
It is about incest case at Rongai.

Survivors’ Profile
The survivor is a 13 years old pupil.

Perpetrators’ Profile
The perpetrator is the survivor’s father. He took advantage of absence of her mother to abuse sexually the survivor. This case confirms the saying that perpetrators of VAGS are persons related to survivors.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
The case of violence is published under the angle of news item. A single article covered VAGS under analytical angle «Alarm has half of women with HIV abused ». According to the author, more half of the women and Kenyan girls living with the HIV are victims of physical violence.

02 Dailies: The Inquirer and the Heritage.

OCTOBER
Two (2) cases and an analytical article were compiled.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The cases of violence listed are a rape and a gang rape. The violence was committed in Margibi and in an unknown locality.

Survivors’ Profile
One of the survivors is a ten-month-old baby. The age of the second survivor was not identified.

Perpetrators’ profile
The perpetrators are:
- A 25-year-old disabled person who bought food to the survivor’ mother, then kidnapped the ten-month-old baby.
- A band of five not identified persons.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
The cases of violence are covered under news angle. An entitled article “More survivors of rape best seek emergency medical” reports the national campaign led by the NGO Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). Indeed, MSF implements a media campaign (on television, radio, newspapers, poster campaign.) during on month to encourage survivors of rapes to consult their service. In 2009, the mission of Médecins Sans Frontières in Monrovia saw 650 patients victims of rapes among whom 3/4 are under age 18. The majority of survivors have between 13-18 years.

NOVEMBER
We are expecting soft/hard copies of articles in order to conduct the media survey.
However, an editorial published in Inquirer “Saving the Children like how” reveals that a report of International NGO Save the Children denounces “business of orphanages” in Africa. Indeed, according to
DECEMBER
A single case and an analytical article listed.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The single case reported is a minor rape in Monrovia.

Survivors’ Profile
The survivor is a fourteen (14) years old pupil. She sold peanuts to buy her school stationeries.

Perpetrators’ profile
The perpetrator is an unrelated person. The article does not specify his status.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
The case of rape is covered under the analytical angle. The article puts in perspective traumatism of survivor (analyse by NGO Médecins Sans Frontières).
A second analytical article "Incidental Rape in the rise" deals with epidemic of rapes in Liberia. This article presents the report of the Mission of United Nations in the Liberia on rapes. According to this survey carried out in 2008, 66 % of girls between ten (10) and nineteen years old were victims of rape. The objective of this survey is to help the Liberian government to fight against rapes. In spite of national campaigns against VAGS, the phenomenon always continues to grow in Liberia.

VAGS MEDIA SURVEY MALAWI

02 Dailies: The Nation and the Daily Times.

OCTOBER
Twenty (20) cases were listed.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The cases are exclusively rapes and took place at the primary school of Njolome (16 cases), at Mangochi Primary School (2 cases), at the Primary school of Lulinda and in the village of Khwakhwa.

Survivors’ Profile
The survivors are pupils aged 4-18. Nineteen survivors are pupils in primary school.

Perpetrators’ profile
We count in all four (4) perpetrators; three from the survivor’s school and one from survivor’s home.
- The teacher of Njolome Primary school is accused of sexual abuse on 16 standard 5 pupils;
- the headmaster of the Primary school of Mangochi raped two pupils
- the teacher of the Primary school of Lulinda raped a six-year-old pupil.
- The only violence committed in survivor’s house is committed by a 19 years old watchman who took advantage of the absence of his employers to abuse sexually their four-years-old daughter.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
Both cases of abuse were found in the News column. They are analyzed as a societal phenomenon. If articles condemn the recurrence of VAGS in schools, the authors of articles do not make any link to education, but as a simple phenomenon of society.
NOVEMBER
Three (3) VAGS cases and an analytical article were compiled.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The abuses are:
• a case of incest in the village of Nkula to Machinga
• a case of sexual attachments in the village of Chikondawanga
• a rape in Lilongwe primary school

Survivors’ Profile
The survivors are pupils aged 5-16 years old. On average, the survivors are of 11.3 years. The five years old survivor is a standard pupil 1 and two others survivors are in school aged.

Perpetrators’ profile
Presumed perpetrators are:
• thirty one years old half – brother,
• a school staff member (watchman): in this case presumed perpetrators abused the survivor twice.
• and an unrelated person

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
The cases of sexual violence are covered under news angle. However, the vocabulary is correct. Any article commemorating international “Fifteen for the elimination of the violence against women and girls” was published.

We have collected a single analytical article titled “247 Phalombe chorus girls forced into marriage “. Between January and September 2009, 247 girls aged 12-15 years old were forced into married according to the Assembly of the district of Phalombe. The article also reveals that in 2009, 186 girls of Phalombe left the school for unknown reasons.

DECEMBER
Two cases of VAGS were reported.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The cases are:
• A forced marriage in the suburb of Manchinjiri (Blantyre).
• a case of sexual harassments/touching

Survivors’ Profile
The survivors are a pupil aged 11 and 13 years old. One of the survivor is a standard 5 pupil.

Perpetrators’ profile
The perpetrators of the forced marriage are:
• The survivor’s parents: who married their daughter for 25 000 kwacha (173 USD).
• The survivor’s husband: a thirty one years old man who declares to the journalists that he “rescues his wife from poverty to take charge of his education “.

The perpetrator of sexual attentments is eighty four years old (84) years.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
The forced marriage is analyzed as an obstacle to maintenance and achievement at school of the young survivor. The article denounces tradition of “kutomela” in the ethnic group Sena (2, 7 % of Malawian population). This practice allows a man to marry little girls. The article reveals that the Parliament introduce an amendment in the Penal code, prohibiting the sexual relations between an adult and a minor of less than sixteen (16) years and allowing that the man can be prosecuted for rape.

The parents of the survivor were also pursued for collaboration in a forced marriage.
OCTOBER A DECEMBRE
After the first quarterly report compiling articles and cases of VAGS from July to September 2009, the colleagues of ActionAid from Mozambique undertook to participate to the media survey by collecting and by sending articles. 
For period from October to December, 2009, we have not yet received the list of newspapers. We are expecting titles and soft/hard copies of articles to conduct the media survey.

VAGS MEDIA SURVEY NIGERIA

03 Dailies: The Guardian, This Day, Vanguard.

OCTOBER
Four (4) cases were collected.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The cases of violence are:
- two cases of gang rapes in Kanam and in Naravi (in the zone of metropolis of Kaduna),
- a case of incest in a not specified village
- And a rape followed by HIV infection in Makurdi at 8 Yogbo Street.

Survivors’ Profile
The survivors are aged 3 -13. On average, they are 9 years.

Perpetrators’ profile
There are ten (10) presumed perpetrators of violence against girls whom six for the case of the gang rape of Naravi and of Kanam. The aggressors are aged 13-36 years old:
- Two persons related to the victim: father-in-law for the case of the incest and the half brother (helped by his friend) for the gang rape of Kanam.
- Perpetrators unrelated to the victim in 7/10 cases.
On average, the perpetrators are 31.5 years. We note as in the previous reports that the cases of gang rapes are perpetrated by young persons (13-19 years).

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
The cases of VAGS are analysed in News column. The case of the incest was analysed under the angle of protection of the girl’s survivor. Indeed, the article put emphasis on fact that the survivor was taken care by an orphanage thanks to the donation of Women Health and Action Research.

NOVEMBER
Two VAGS analytical articles were collected.
The World children’ day and sixteen days on violence against women and girls were the occasion to publish two articles on VAGS. If the first article presents only the objectives of this day, the second presents the report of the NGO Amnesty International denouncing sexual violence committed by army/Nigerian policemen.
DECEMBER
A single analytical article was published.
In the article “Group condemns violence against chorus girl child”, The NGO Ajegunle Community Project (ACP) condemns VAGS. The NGO called young victims of sexual violence (managed by the high school student Awori Ajeromi) to testify. The NGO broadcasted a documentary of one hour of victims of sexual violence testimonies.

VAGS MEDIA SURVEY RWANDA

Media survey: excepting for the modalities of the media survey
We are still waiting for articles for the media survey in Rwanda.

VAGS MEDIA SURVEY SENEGAL

05 dailies: Le Soleil, L’Observateur, Le Quotidien, Sud Quotidien and Walfadjri.

OCTOBER
Eighteen (18) cases were listed.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The listed abuses are:

- Thirteen (13) cases of rapes with four leading to the pregnancy of the survivors, one with a kidnapping and a rape on a vulnerable person,
- two cases of sexual attachments,
- an attempt rape
- a case of early pregnancy leading to infanticide,
- a suicide due to verbal violence

The cases of violence took place in the following sectors:

- The region of Dakar and its suburb: cases of violence were listed in in working-class/underprivileged neighbourhoods (Guediawaye, Bargny, Diameuguéne, and Rufisque). It is once again necessary to underline that Guediawaye’s suburb (Cité Gadaye, Jaxay and Golf Sud) and Bargny are very got by phenomenon of violence against girls.
- The department of Velingara: with a case at Diobé
- Two cases in Ziguinchor in the villages of Baghaga and Kandé
- And a case in Mbour

Survivors’ Profile
On average, the survivors are 11.93 years with an age bracket of 4- 20 years. Five (5) survivors are school girls: five in primary school and one in secondary school.

Perpetrators’ profile
In all, there are eighteen (18) presumed perpetrators aged 15-70 years, on average they are 31.66 years.

- Two perpetrators of abuse related to the victim: an uncle and a father,
Nine (9) perpetrators are "reliable persons": it is about three families’ friends, three co-
tenants and three persons working near survivor’s home (laundry worker, hairdresser, traditional quack),

Seven (7) perpetrators are unrelated to the survivor: all of such cases of abuse occurred outside.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
As for July, August and September, VAGS cases are covered in Society, News Stories, and News columns. They are often analyzed as a societal phenomenon (corruption of mores). The vocabulary remains very raw and do not take into account the traumatism of the survivor.

NOVEMBER
Four (4) cases of violence and four (4) VAGS analytical articles were listed.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The compiled cases of violence are three (3) cases of infanticide and a case of incest.
Infanticides were committed in the district of Tanaff (Region of Sedhai), in the district of Ndiop (Region of Thiès) and in the region of Kolda. As in our previous analyses, the prevalence of VAGS is very high in South of Senegal (Kolda, Sédhiou). The case of incest took place in Mbour in the district of Kaw (district of the serere ethnic group).

Survivors’ Profile
The survivors are two babies and girls aged 11-12 years old.

Perpetrators’ profile
Presumed perpetrators of abuse are related to the victim:

- Three survivor’ mothers (infanticide). In the case of the infanticide of Sédhiou, the mother strangled her 12-year-old daughter whom she accused of witchcraft. The infanticide is a phenomenon spread in Senegal. The perpetrators are generally minors of working class/under-

privileged category who had child out of wedlock. The case of infanticide of children presenting a handicap or ‘witch-children’ is not well known in Senegal.

- A survivor’s perpetrator: the author took advantage of the absence of the family to abuse the survivor.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
November is marked by “cour d’assise”\(^1\). This judicial event is widely covered by newspapers of our corpus to the detriment of the treatment of VAGS cases (rapes, forced marriages, etc.). The important decline of the number of cases of VAGS in November could not be interpreted as a decline of violence, but, rather as a decline of the media coverage. The few cases of VAGS which we compiled are covered in the news columns under the angle of phenomenon society. Four analytical articles were published.

The first article “Fighting against the FGM, the protection of the rights of the girls” informs activities of the members of the association CESIRI. The association CESIRI began a training course on negative impacts of female genital mutilations (FGM). Ten intermediaries and twenty women leaders of the suburbs of the region of Tambacounda are going to do a training course during four months. The objective is to eradicate FGM in this region.

A second titled article "Violence against girls and women: statistics alert" analyze the increase of VAGS in the department of Linguere (Region of Louga). The girls of this department undergo early marriages, rapes

\(^1\) In Senegal, Assize Court is a criminal court with original limited jurisdiction to hear cases involving defendants accused of major felonies or indictable offences and one of the few to be decided by jury trial.
and the domestic exploitation. The article denounces VAGS which have "detrimental consequences in girls’ education”.

The third article reveals that the SONATEL Foundation (national company of telephony) and USAID signed a convention for granting 2475 scholarships to 825 school girls from under-privileged families from the regions of Diourbel, Fatick, Kafrnine, Kaolack, Kolda, and Tambacounda.

Finally a last article presents the success of the campaign against FGM and early marriages led to Kounghuel (region of Kaffrine). The originality of this campaign is that it did not stigmatize perpetrators (mutilators) but the consequences of excision. This campaign convinced 180 rural communities of this department to give up the practice. A delegation of twelve Ugandan members of parliament and NGO actors went to Kounghuel to be inspired by the Senegalese experience in fighting female genital cutting.

DECEMBER
Nine (9) cases and two VAGS analytical articles were listed.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The 9 cases include:
- two (2) cases of incest at Linkéring (Velingara) and Guédiawaye’s suburb,
- four (4) cases of rapes which one leading to the pregnancy of the survivor and one rape on a vulnerable person at Podor, Thiadiaye, Dakar (two cases).
- a gang rape on a vulnerable person in the district of Boucotte in the department of Ziguinchor.
- an infanticide in the district of Hann Plage (Region of Dakar),
- A forced marriage in Velingara

As we noticed in the previous months, the region of Dakar and the South of Senegal (Velingara, Ziguinchor, and Kolda) has a very high VAGS prevalence rate. The majority of cases listed in our media survey are committed in these regions. The case of Dakar can be explained by the number of persons living in very small space in town and in the suburbs. This, as well as poverty can be a contributing factor which leads to cases of sexual abuse. The violence against girls can also be illustrated by the need for the men to express their masculinity while overwhelmed by poverty and unemployment.

In the South, this phenomenon is explained by the anchoring in secular traditions: male authority (father, uncle, brother, husband), early marriage, myth of the virginity, etc.

Survivors’ Profile
On average, the survivors are 10.66 years with an age bracket of 0 to 18 years. Two (2) of the survivors are officially schooled (Standard 2 and Junior High School). The survivor of forced marriage is a pupil in junior high school (class 4e). Two survivors are vulnerable persons: a 10-year-old deaf-mute and a mentally handicapped under age girl (gang rape).

Perpetrators’ profile
Presumed perpetrators are:
- five (5) perpetrators of abuse related to the survivor: a father, about two uncles (incest and forced marriage), a mother (infanticide) and a cousin (rape) of the survivor. 5/10 violence is the fact of relatives persons.
- Two (2) perpetrators are "reliable persons: a family’s friend and a neighbour.
- Three (3) perpetrators are unrelated to the survivor. The violence occurred outside the survivor’ home (in an abandoned house and in public convenience).

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
Nine (9) cases of VAGS are covered in Society, News Stories, and News columns. The vocabulary remains very raw: "the mechanic rubbed his sex in that of a 4-year-old kid ", " The father alleviated on his 13-year-old..."
daughter. Two Guineans raped a dumb... These few titles show canvasser treatment of VAGS in the selected newspapers.

In all eleven compiled articles, only two covered under analytical angle. The first article titled “Forced into marriage of Oumou Diallo: Sous prefet, President du conseil rural, associations des droits de l’Homme mobilisent...” This article is the consequence of the publication of forced marriage of the young Oumou Diallo in L’Observateur. The journalist analyzes this case under the angle of violation of girls rights and an obstacle to her maintenance and success at school. The members of the committee for girls’ education (SCOFI) had visited the survivor’s uncle.

A second article covered “Recrudescence du grand banditisme a Grand Yoff” (a district of Dakar). In the previous issue we have reported the scale of sexual attacks in Dakar and particularly in the district of Grand Yoff. Sexual attack is a very big issue in the municipality of Grand-Yoff with a population of 400 000 persons. A caravan of the Centre of infantile and family guidance (Cegid) crossed the municipality during ten days to sensitize the population on girls' protection against sexual violence.

03 dailies: Premier News, Awareness Times ad For Di People.

OCTOBER
Three (3) cases listed.

Typology and Sites of Abuses
The cases are:

- a rape in Freetown
- a attempt rape in Welungton
- A physically violence (survivor stabbed by her classmate) in Sumaila Town School in Freetown.

Survivors Profile
The article does not specify their profile.

Perpetrators’ profile
The article does not specify their profile.

Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse
The cases of VAGS are covered in the Local News columns. Two other articles deal with subject of sexual violence on women and girls in Sierra Leone. One of these articles reveals that during 2008, 1235 girls were victims of sexual violence in Sierra Leone.

NOVEMBER
Two articles on the VAGS were published on the occasion of the international day for the elimination of the violence against women and girls.

The first article titled « Taking action to prevent sexual and gender based violence » analyses under VAGS angle. The article reveals the study of the mission of the NGO Médecins Sans Frontières in Sierra Leone. According to this report, the majority of rapes' girls are young. For MSF, “the civil war came to end, but the new war in Sierra Leone is rape, particularly rape of teenagers and children”.

The second titled article “IRC wages war against violence against women in Sierra Leone” informs about the campaign of the NGO IRC (International Rescue Committee) during sixteen days for elimination of violence
against women and girls. The campaign has for slogan "we can end violence against girls and women ". According to statistics of IRC, on 800 survivors of rapes consulted by their services, 80 % are aged less than 15 years.

**DECEMBER**

We are expecting soft/hard copies of articles in order to be able to conduct the media survey.

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**VAGS MEDIA SURVEY TANZANIA**

03 dailies: The Guardian, Daily News et This Day.

**OCTOBER**

Three VAGS analytical articles were published.

All these articles denounce epidemic of rapes in the Great Lakes Region and particularly in schools. According to the article titled" Test DNA to down who impregnate schoolgirls pine ", the number of girls who falls pregnant after rapes is alarming in the Region of Mbeya (220 pupils between January and June 2009). To eradicate this phenomenon and take care of young mothers, construction of six residences for girls is planned in the rural district of Mbeya. The cost is estimated about 75 millions schillings with a contribution of two millions Tanzanian President. This last one moreover validated a bill on the tests DNA in case of rapes gang rape followed by pregnancy.

**NOVEMBER**

Two cases were listed.

**Typology and Sites of Abuses**

The cases are chiefly sexual violence:
- a minor rape at Tabora (Dar es Salaam),
- a gang rape at Kisebe (Dar es Salaam)

**Survivors Profile**

The survivors are eleven girls aged **6-16 years old**. Ten survivors are pupils tat the primary school of Mashajoa (Dar es Salaam).

**Perpetrators’ profile**

The presumed perpetrators are:
- a related to the survivor: a survivor’s neighbour,
- A Congolese musician and his three sons (gang rape). They raped ten pupils of primary school of Mashajoa. Let us note that a teacher was charged to helped presumed perpetrators to deceive survivors.

**Pattern of Treatment of Cases of Abuse**

Cases of VAGS are covered in the Local News columns. The case of pupils victims of gang rape is covered under the double angle of news item and obstacle for girls’ success.

**DECEMBER**

No article was listed.
VAGS MEDIA SURVEY UGANDA


OCTOBER to DECEMBER
We are expecting soft/hard copies of articles in order to be able to conduct the media survey.

VAGS MEDIA SURVEY ZAMBIA

Dailies: expecting newspapers titles from colleagues.

OCTOBER to DECEMBER
We are expecting soft/hard copies of articles in order to be able to conduct the media survey.

VAGS MEDIA SURVEY ZIMBABWE

03 dailies: The Herald, the Standard, et The Chronicle.

OCTOBER
The article reveals that 106 of 366 girls of the primary school of Bulawayo were victims of sexual violence during 2009. Fifteen (15) are infected by HIV. This violence was committed as much by related persons as unrelated persons. The author indicates that closure of refugees’ camps increased the insecurity in this village.

NOVEMBER to DECEMBER
We are expecting soft/hard copies of articles in order to be able to conduct the media survey.
THROUGH THE MEDIA …

REPORT OF ACTIONAID: under-privileged districts of Dakar and region of Kolda hell for girls (translated from the original in French)

SENEGAL 22 December 2009 - The report of ActionAid on violence against girls at school (VAGS) confirms again the importance of this phenomenon in under-privileged districts of Dakar, but also in rural areas of the natural region of Casamance (Kolda, Velingara).

Articles of five dailies (Le Soleil the Observer, Sud Quotidien and Wal Fadjri) are compiled and analyzed in a report of the NGO ActionAid concerning VAGS. These articles are compiled from July to October, 2009. 167 cases of violence were listed out of which 47 in Senegalese newspapers, as it is learnt us.

In July, these newspapers published 15 cases with 11 cases of rapes of which one led to the survivor pregnancy and two cases of gang rape. We also noted two cases of incest with one with pregnancy and kidnapping. A case of indecent assault with physical violence and another case of forced marriage were listed. The gang rapes have for survivors “the twins of Grand Yoff District” who had undergone assaults from four adults.

Last August, ActionAid listed 16 cases of violence covered in five newspapers. It is one case more than in July. On 11 cases of rapes, two resulted in pregnancies whereas three case of incest led to pregnancies.

In September, the number of cases does not move 16, but this time, on 13 cases of rape only one caused a pregnancy. A single vulnerable person was raped and another dead.

A shape of “virilism/masculinity”
The cases of incest are three. The profile of perpetrators shows that these individuals are often related to survivors: they "live or work near the survivor (cotenant, neighbour, grocer, male nurse, boyfriend, etc.). The violence is current in “cotenant houses” in the popular districts. But, also, in houses containing businesses (grocer’s shop, tailor, joiner) " .At Dakar, violence is more frequent in the suburb, working- class or under-privileged districts (Bargny, Thiaroye, Malika, Bambilor, Guédiawaye, Rufisque, Big Dakar, Guéle Tapée, Ouakam, Yeumbeul, Cambéréne, Yoff, Colobane, Pikine, Him, Cite Arafat and Cite Gadaye), indicates the report. These under privileged zones “are characterized by a low level of income and a strong crowding. The children are often left with them even while the mothers work outside of the district or take charge of the home”, warns the report. And to add: "this crowding can wake temptations which could facilitate cases of sexual abuse.

Poverty is also an explanatory factor: “Violence against girls could be a shape of virilism of the men to mitigate the poverty, the unemployment and the feeling of not to be able to prove their " male domination."

There is a very high prevalence in the region of Kolda notes the report

As for media coverage of VAGS under news items, the report tells "they are often analyzed under the angle of a phenomenon of society (perversion) with an often very raw tone. The tittles are generally very long and familiar ".

Translated from and article by Malick CISS
www.lesoleil.sn
DNA tests to pin down men who impregnate schoolgirls

ABDULWAKIL SAIBOKO, Mbeya, 31st October 2009

PRESIDENT Jakaya Kikwete has said that the number of school pregnancies in Mbeya Region each year is alarming. He said that the anomaly calls for serious measures, including DNA tests to identify the men responsible for the social vice and take legal measures against them.

The president said this on Friday evening after receiving the region's development report, which was read before him by Regional Commissioner, John Mwakipesile. The report indicated that some 365 pupils and students fell pregnant last year.

From January to June, this year, 226 students have already been put in the family way. Mr Mwakipesile said that the big challenge faced by the regional government, was the difficulties involved in finding the men responsible as parents usually sided with their daughters in hiding the names of the culprits.

He added that at times a girl could name up to three men as being responsible for her pregnancy - a factor that has also frustrated government efforts to bring culprits to book. He added that in most cases, men have fled and disappeared after impregnating schoolgirls.

The president ordered that in cases where three men were mentioned, they should be picked up and subjected to DNA testing. If all the three men are exonerated by the test, the pregnant girl should be forced to name more suspected men.

Meanwhile, the president has launched the construction of six hostel blocks girls at Isuto Secondary School in Mbeya Rural District, saying that the structures could help in reducing problems facing girls, including cases of pregnancies.

The Mbeya Rural District Commissioner, Mr Leonidas Gama, said that the buildings are estimated to cost more than 75m/- upon completion. Several stakeholders have promised to contribute all the 144 beds and mattresses needed by the 144 students. The president contributed two million shillings.

Source  http://www.dailynews.co.tz/home/?n=4943&cat=home
## VAGS FROM JULY TO DECEMBER 2009

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1 The violence not considered is not integrated into our media survey. We make just reference to the national statistics revealed in articles as information.
CONCLUSION

The table above summarizes cases of violence listed in our corpus of 39 newspapers from July to 31 December 2009. Three hundred and twenty two (322) cases of violence were published in these newspapers. The majority of cases was listed during school holidays in September (85 cases) and in October (104 cases). Cases of rape during warm season are called "rape of season ". Sexual violence is very frequent in this period because girls are left with themselves, without surveillance of their parents and school supervision.

In December we see the lowest number of cases of violence (35 cases). This decline of VAGS cases can not be interpreted as decline of VAGS cases but decline of coverage. This decline in the media coverage can be due to the end of year, which in newspapers is often dedicated to retrospectives.

Concerning the cases not compiled in our media survey, they are related to summary of cases of violence committed in 2009, but the articles do not specify survivors’ profile and perpetrators’ profile. However we published these statistics data because they enable us to understand the scale of violence against girls.

Since, July 2009, 4292 cases of violence took place in the 18 countries involved in the media survey. Most the times, these cases of violence are rapes committed on pupils and are compiled by governments, NGO (Médecins Sans Frontières, Amnesty International, etc.), the local administrations, Justice and by United Nations.

Further informations, Please contact

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