

## Newsletter #2 – November 2021

The intersection of violence, abuse and mental health in low and middle-income countries needs more research attention.

*iVAMHN* was founded in 2019, with support from a King's College London (KCL) Official Development Assistance Research Partnership Seed Fund grant, a KCL Global Engagement Partnership Fund grant, and matched funding from the KCL school of Mental Health and Psychological Sciences. We are affiliated to the UKRI-funded [VAMHN](#) network.

Please share our newsletter with anyone who might be interested.

### Online learning: Watch our first online conference on YouTube!

Our first online conference was attended by over 200 delegates from around the world on **20<sup>th</sup> October 2021**. Focused on understanding and addressing the relationship between gender-based violence and mental ill-health, we enjoyed a brilliant keynote speech from Professor Angela Ofori-Atta, followed by guest speeches by Professor Parveen Ali, Professor Charity Akotia, Dr Samuel Adjorlolo and Dr Nayreen Daruwalla. Delegates joining live participated in Q&A and panel discussions and networking breakout rooms.

Did you miss it? Watch the full meeting on [YouTube](#)!



**Keynote speaker:** Prof. Angela Ofori-Atta  
Head of Departments of Psychiatry of Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital and University of Ghana Medical School.

**Guest speaker:** Prof. Parveen Ali  
University Of Sheffield  
Editor-in-Chief of the International Nursing Review, the official journal of the International Council of Nurses.

**Guest speaker:** Prof. Charity Akotia  
immediate past Dean of the School of Social Sciences, University of Ghana.  
Co-Chair of the Council of National and Regional Representatives of the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP).

**Guest speaker:** Dr. Samuel Adjorlolo  
Head, department of Mental health, School of Nursing, University of Ghana.

**Guest Speaker:** Dr. Nayreen Daruwalla  
Director—Program on Prevention of Violence against Women and Children at Society for Nutrition, Education and Health Action (SNEHA) Mumbai, India.

**OCT 20th Wednesday, 2021**  
9:00 -14:00 GMT  
Q&A session, panel discussion and facilitated networking

### iVAMHN at *Shameless!* Festival of activism against sexual violence 27/11/21

We are excited that iVAMHN will be hosting a seminar at the **27<sup>th</sup> November 2021** [Shameless!](#) Festival organised by Birkbeck University and Women of the World. We will be screening three sets of videos on the mental health of women who have experienced sexual violence in sub-Saharan Africa. For those in London, you can buy your ticket on a pay-what-you-can basis [here](#). You can follow discussions about the event via **#ShamelessFestival**

Due to sensitive subject matter, our seminar will not be streamed online. We are exploring how to share this important work with iVAMHN members outside London and will update you soon!

## **Survey: Relationships and Wellbeing during COVID-19**

We're interested in how people's relationships and wellbeing may have changed in different countries during the coronavirus pandemic. We're conducting a survey to understand this better. We'd be hugely grateful if you would **complete the short survey [here](#)** and **share it with your networks**.

Are you interested in working on the analysis? Email [Roxanne.1.Keynejad@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:Roxanne.1.Keynejad@kcl.ac.uk)

## **Social Media: We're on Twitter!**

We just joined Twitter. Follow us [here](#) – we promise to follow you back!

## **Open Access Paper: Research, education and capacity building priorities**

Our first iVAMHN research paper has been published in *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology*. Reporting the results of our survey on research, education and capacity building priorities for violence, abuse and mental health in LMICs, you can read it open access [here](#).

## **Journal Club: Cluster RCT of *Nguvu* intervention to reduce psychological distress and IPV in Congolese refugees living in Tanzania**

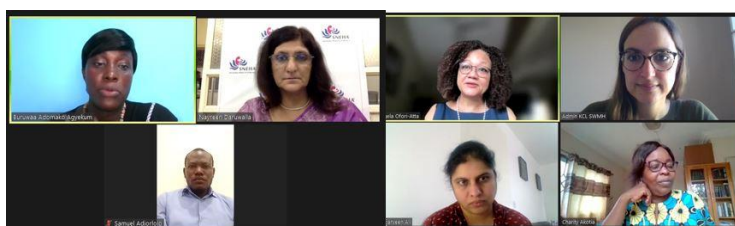
iVAMHN founder Roxanne Keynejad will be presenting Greene et al.'s 2021 [paper](#) to the King's Global Health Institute journal club on **8<sup>th</sup> December 2021** from 15:00 to 16:30 GMT, followed by a discussion with co-authors Dr Samuel Likindikoki and Dr M. Claire Greene. Email [roxanne.1.keynejad@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:roxanne.1.keynejad@kcl.ac.uk) if you'd like to attend.

## **Online resources: VAMHN webinars and newsletters**

Our parent network, VAMHN has a huge range of free webinar recordings on its [website](#), including expert discussions of violence, abuse and mental health, and recordings of its Early Career Researcher Lunchtime Seminar Series. The [Newsletter Archive](#) also provides a valuable summary of latest resources, developments, and opportunities in the field. You can join the network [here](#).

## **Open Call: Your ideas on research mentorship in LMICs**

TDR Global has an Open Call for ideas on how to embed research mentorship within LMIC universities, research institutes, and other organisations. Submit your ideas [here](#) by 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021, for the chance to win prizes and a place at the 2022 practical guide consensus meeting.



**Wishing you and all those close to you well, iVAMHN**