

Violence against young women: findings from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health

Overview

To describe associations between:

- forms of violence against young women
- women's socio-demographic characteristics
- health status and social support
- sexual and reproductive health

WHA questions about violence

- In the last twelve months have you experienced
 - Being pushed, grabbed, shoved, kicked or hit?
 - Being forced to take part in unwanted sexual activity?
- Have you ever had a violent relationship with a partner/spouse?

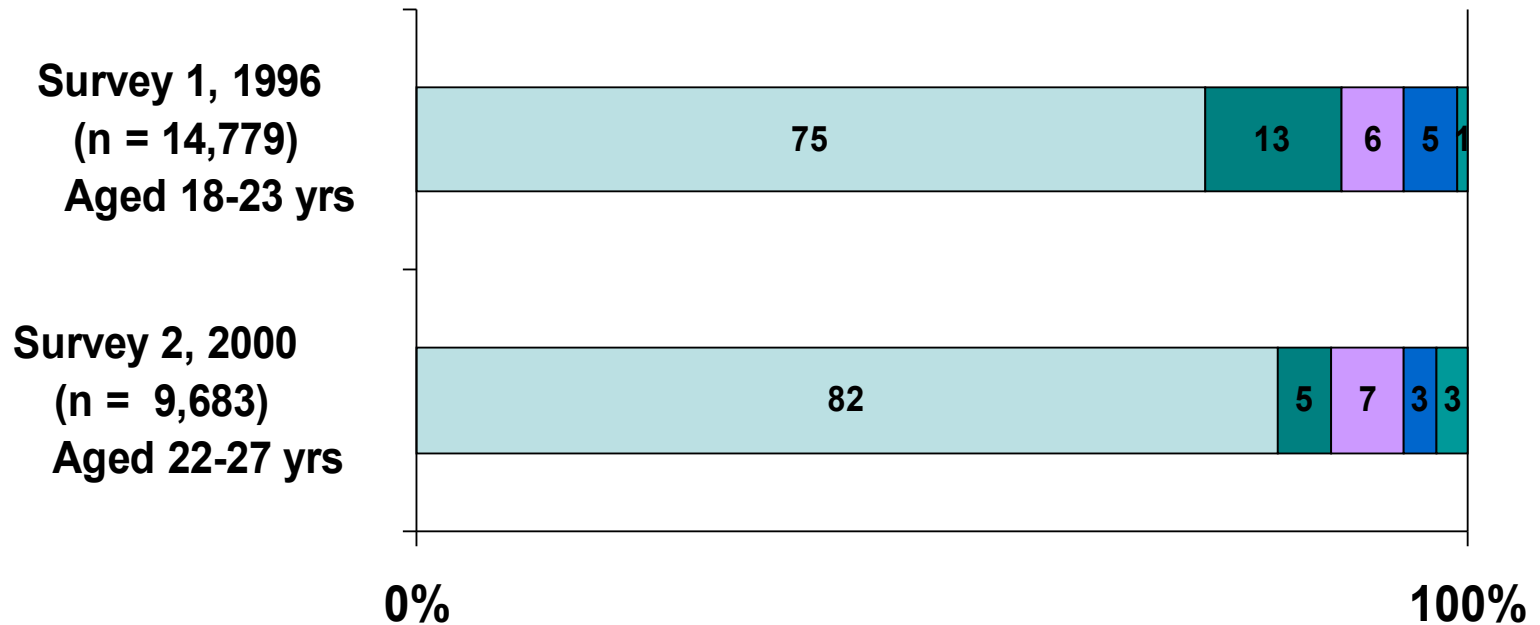
Our secondary analysis (Taft, Watson and Lee, 2002)

Mutually exclusive categories in surveys 1 & 2

1. No abuse
2. Recent (< 12 months) physical or sexual abuse but not by a partner
3. Ever experienced partner abuse
4. Partner violence and recent

Young women and violence status: adjusted %

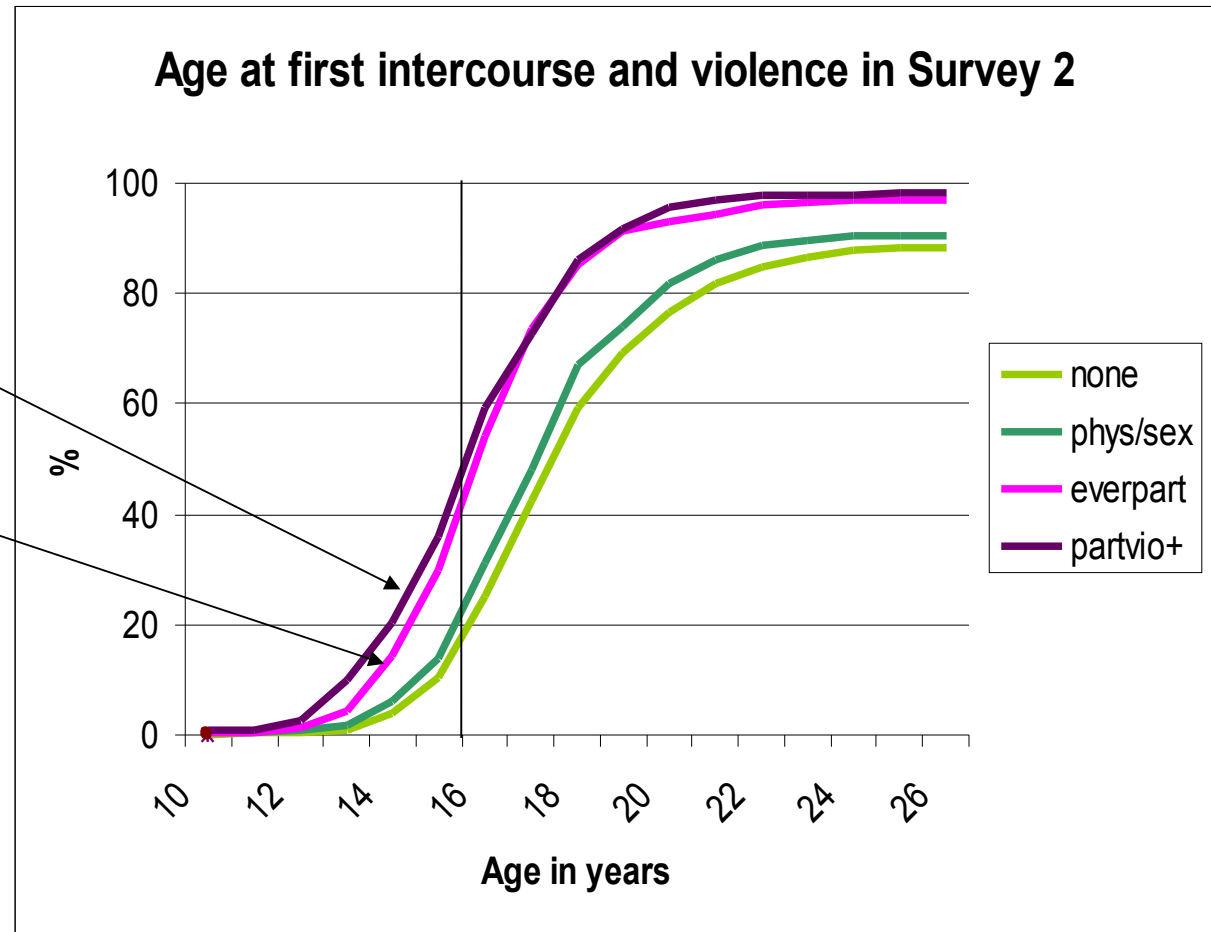
no abuse recent, not partner ever partner abuse partner + recent violence missing



Age at first intercourse and violence

Odds = 3.1

Odds = 2.6

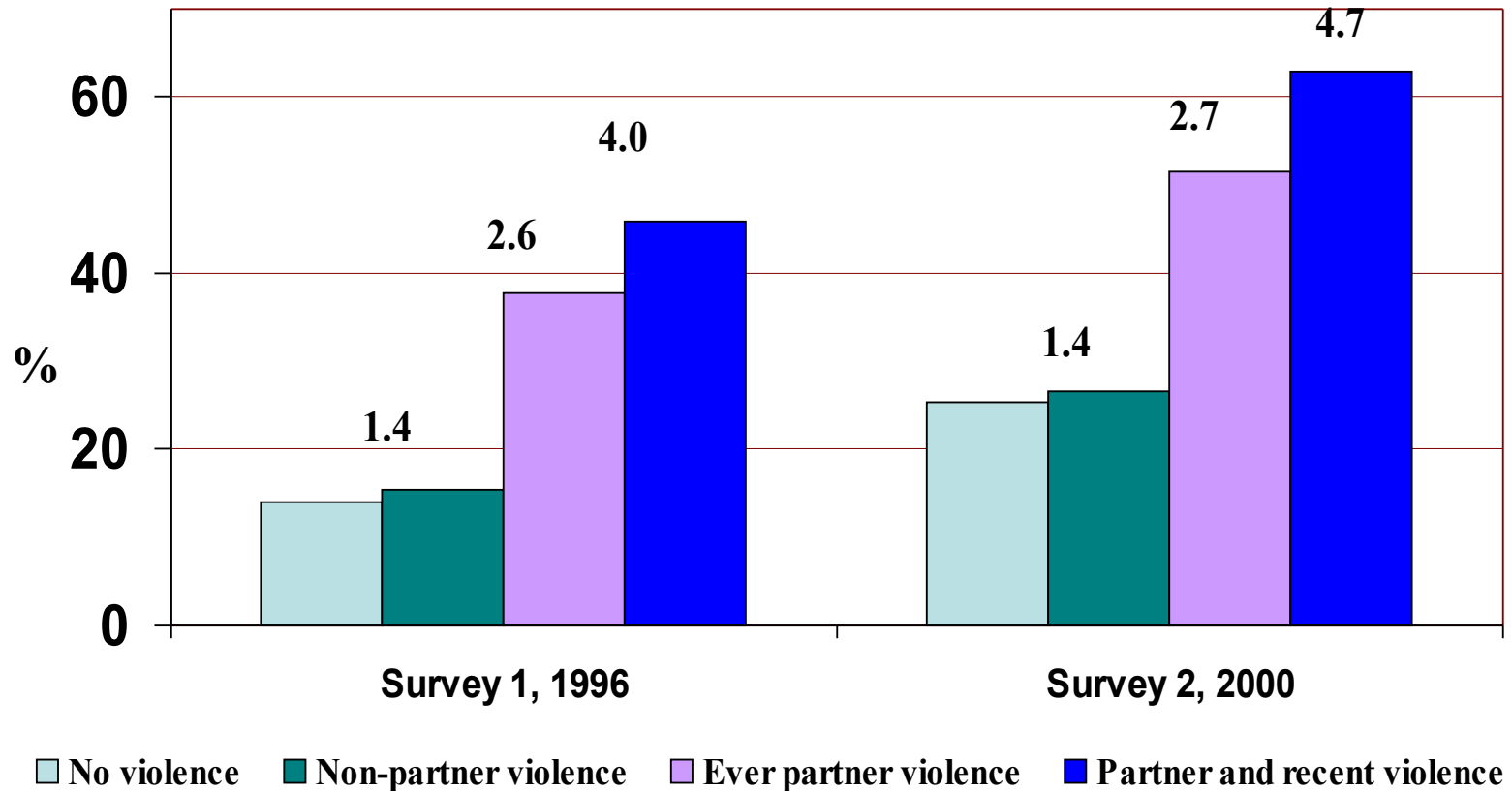


Survey 4 16.8% women reported Childhood Sexual Abuse

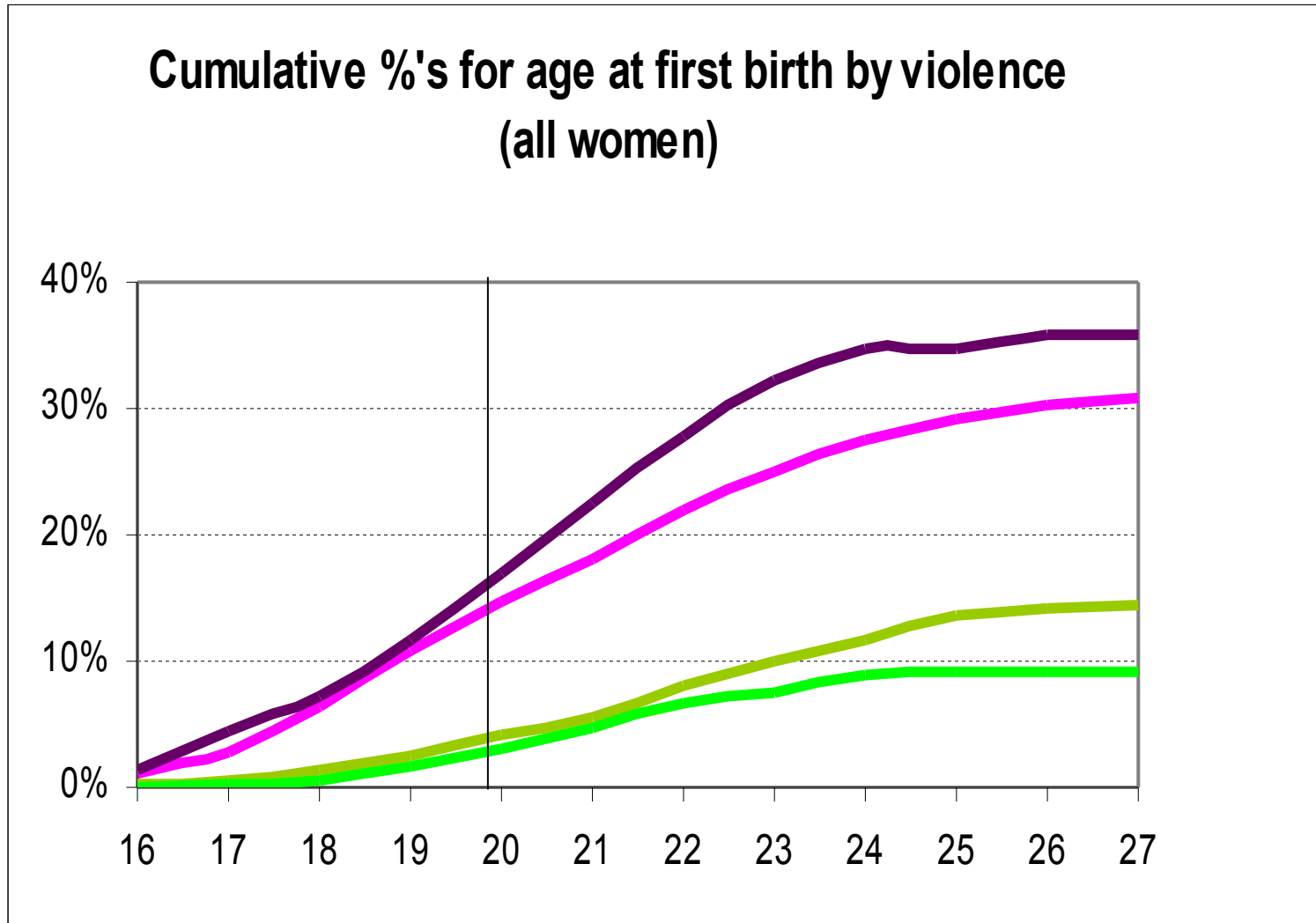
Which young Australian women are most associated with violence?

- Poorly educated
- Unemployed or disabled
- In a de facto relationship, separated or divorced
- Living in a remote community
- With low levels of social support

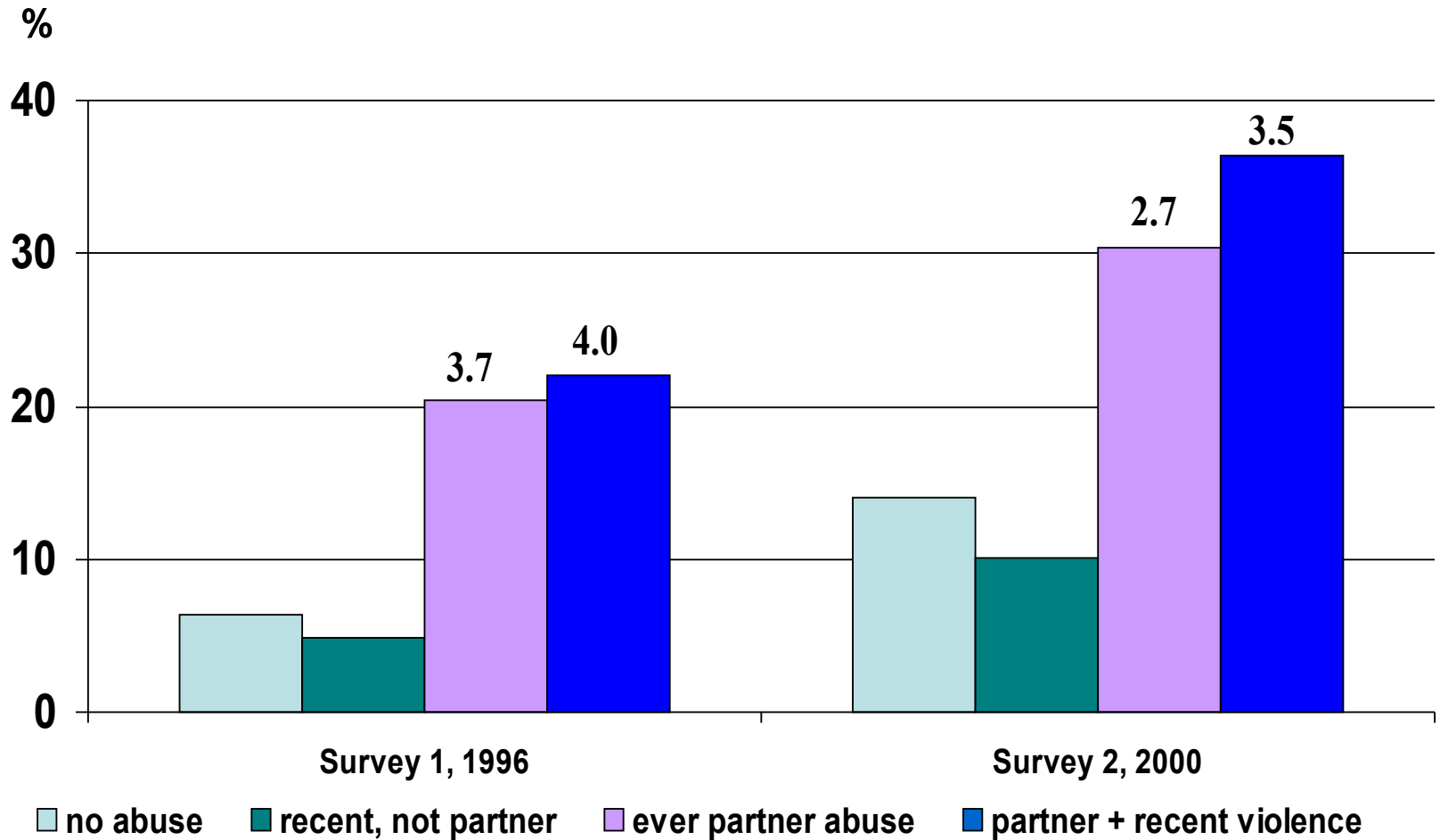
Young women, violence and pregnancy, adjusted ORs



Age at first birth and violence



Young women, violence and live births



Young women, violence and pregnancy outcomes, adj ORs

	1996 OR	2000 OR
No violence	1.0	1.0
Non-partner	Miscarriage 2.0	Not Significant
	TOP 2.4	
	Both 3.3	
	Birth & loss NS	
Ever partner	Loss only NS	Term birth and loss 1.9
	Birth & misc 1.7	Prem & loss 2.4
	Birth, misc & TOP 2.4	Stillbirth+/- birth/loss 2.6
Partner and	Miscarriage	Term birth & loss

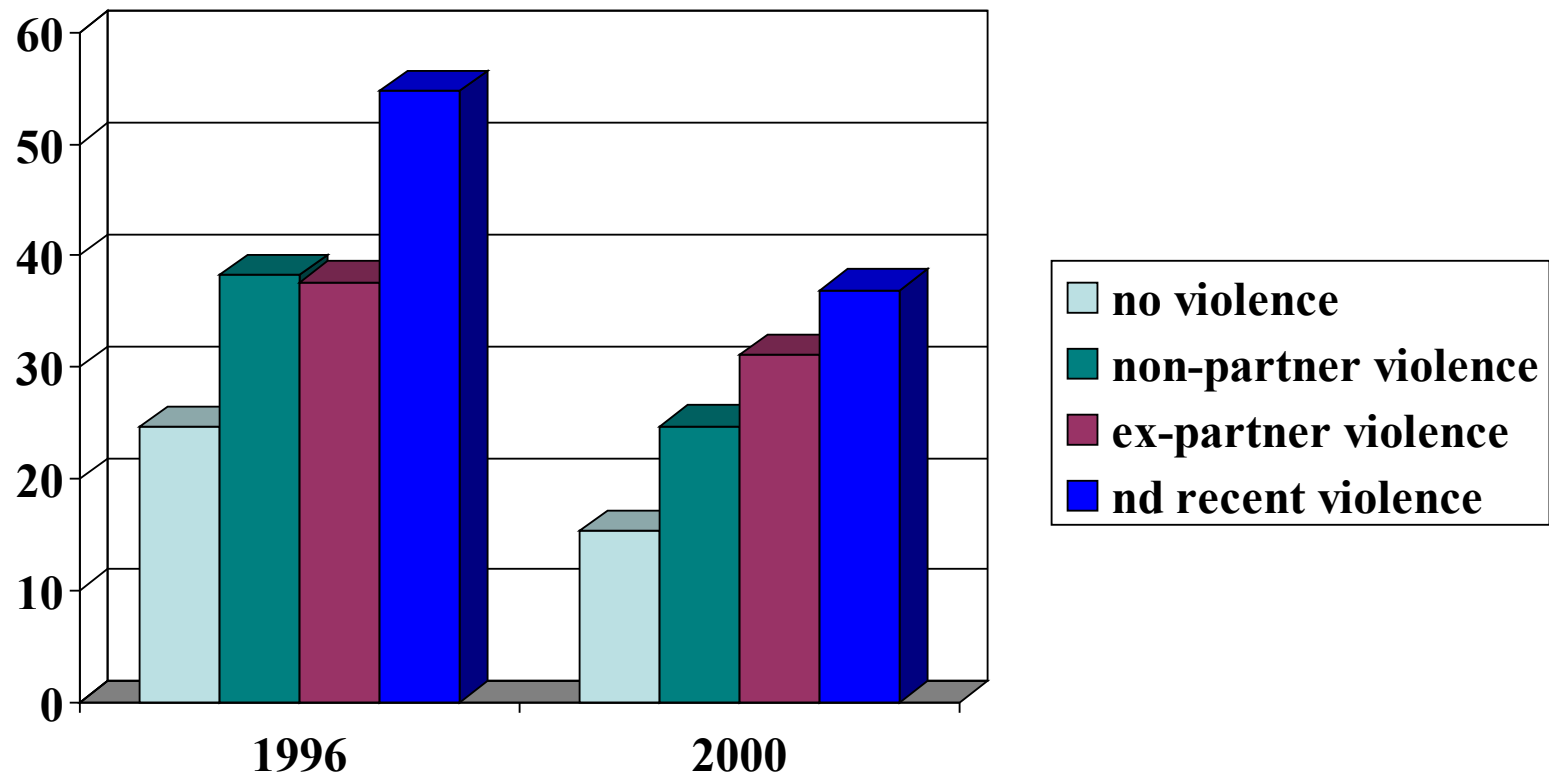
Association with depression and specific groups

	Odds
No TOP	1.00
TOP first 1996	1.37
TOP first in 2000	1.52
No births	1.00
One birth	1.20
Two or more births	1.44
No violence	1.00
Partner violence 1996, 1996+2000	2.31
Partner violence 2000	2.45
Other phys/sexual violence 1996	1.83
Other phys/sexual violence 2000	2.10

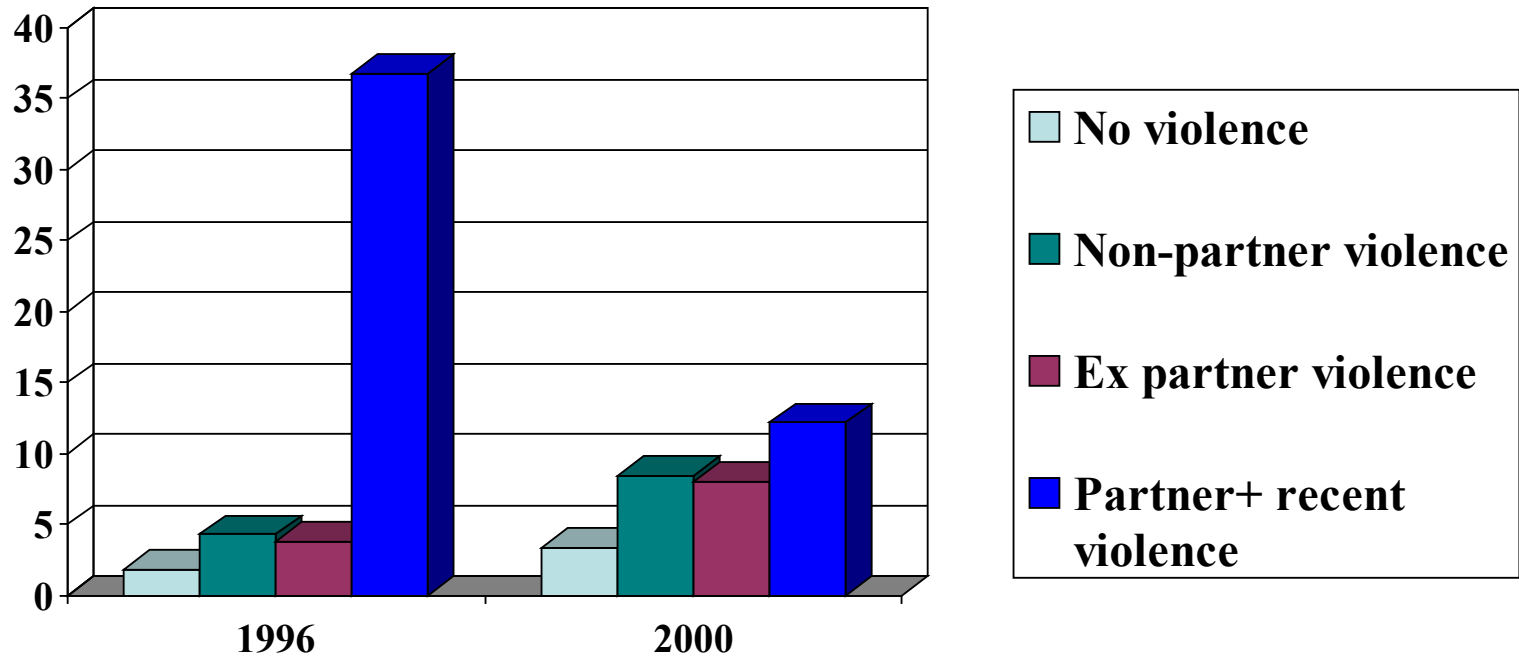
Association with depression and specific groups

	Odds	Adjusted Odds
No TOP	1.00	1.00
TOP first 1996	1.37	1.04
TOP first in 2000	1.52	1.22
No births	1.00	1.00
One birth	1.20	1.04
Two or more births	1.44	1.26
No violence	1.00	1.00
Partner violence 1996, 1996+2000	2.31	2.06
Partner violence 2000	2.45	2.12
Other phys/sexual violence 1996	1.83	1.77
Other phys/sexual violence 2000	2.10	2.00

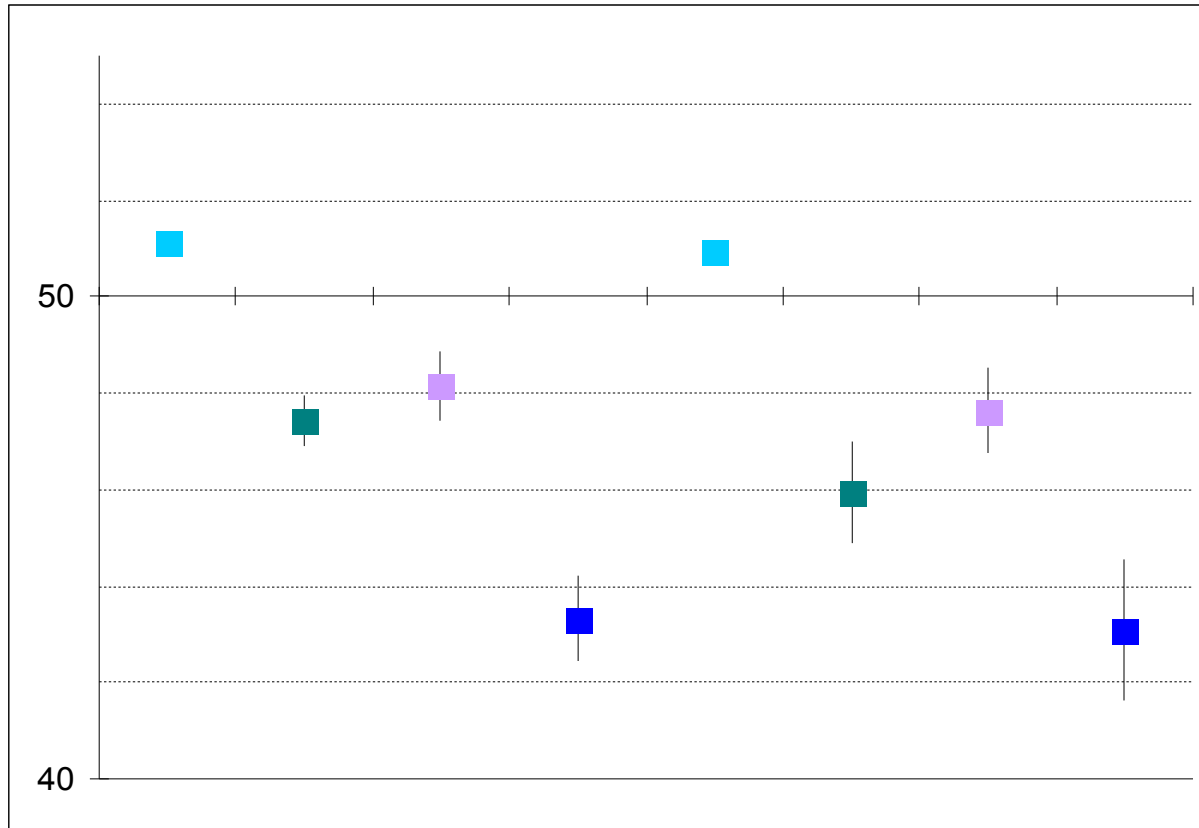
VAW and % eating disorders



Violence against women and % high risk drinking



Violence against women and depression (SF-36 mental health scores)



Survey 1, 1996

Survey 2, 2000

no abuse recent, not partner ever partner abuse partner + recent violence

The value of social support

- Compared with those with good social support and no abuse
 - In 1996, those with none or little
 - OR=1.6 as likely to report Non PV and Ex PV
 - OR=2.7 as likely to report partner and recent violence
 - In 2000
 - OR=2.6 as likely to report Non PV
 - OR=1.9 as likely to report Ex PV
 - OR=5.5 as likely to report partner and recent violence
- Women whose violence had decreased between 1996 and 2000 reported better social support

What improves for women whose levels of violence reduces?

- Their mental health
- Increased social support
- Less eating disorders
- Reduced smoking and drinking and drug-taking
- Reduction in some STDs
- Desire for more education
- Increased use of health services

women's
health
australia



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