

# Interesting and Noteworthy Findings From MICS Analyses

Implications For The Cross Cultural Study Of Parenting And Child Development

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## Data

The findings below are drawn from studies using the *Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys* (MICS) conducted by UNICEF. Data include more than 200,000 families from a diverse sample of approximately 60 Low and Middle Income (LMICS) around the world.

### Countries in MICS

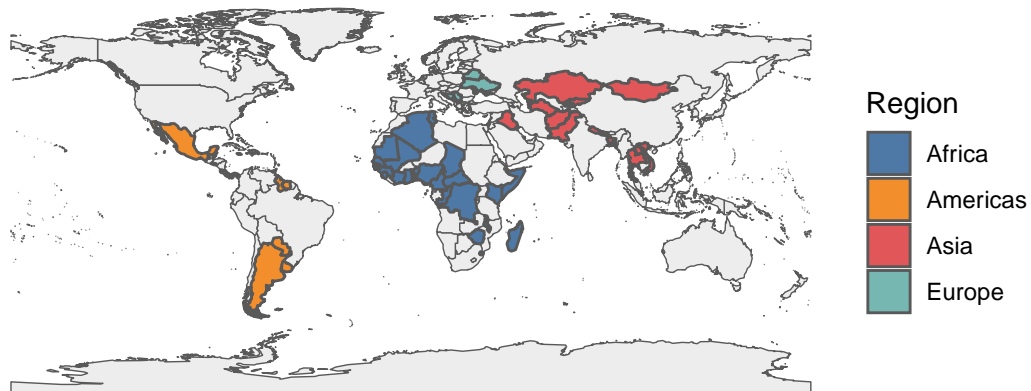


Figure 1: Countries in MICS

## **Spanking Hurts Children**

Spanking is associated with decreased child socio-emotional development & with increased child aggression.

## **Insults Contribute to Harm**

Name-calling & psychological aggression may have effects that are as harmful as those of physical punishment.

## **Physical and Psychological Punishment Slow Child Development**

Harsh punishment is consistently associated with decreased child socio-emotional development & with more child aggression.

## **Eliminating Spanking Reduces Abuse**

Simulations with MICS data suggest that eliminating the use of physical punishment would be met with a large reduction in the amount of physical child abuse.

## **Use Positive Discipline!**

Positive discipline—in the form of verbal reasoning—is generally associated with improved child well-being across MICS countries.

Positive discipline benefits children

## **References**

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