

## **Survey Response Analysis of GBV against men in Ghana**

From this data, it appears that respondents reported various forms of violence, including emotional abuse, verbal abuse, physical abuse, and combinations of these forms. Some respondents also reported witnessing financial abuse alongside other types of violence. Additionally, there were instances where respondents indicated N/A, suggesting they did not witness any violence.

The data suggests that the responses of both the community and law enforcement to male GBV in Ghana are largely dismissive, with frequent instances of ridicule and a lack of reporting. These responses indicate a lack of acknowledgment, seriousness, or proper action taken in response to the reported cases of violence.

- Based on the data, the common forms of GBV reported against men in Ghana include:

- Emotional/Psychological Abuse
- Financial Abuse
- Physical Violence
- Verbal Abuse

These types of violence encompass a range of abusive behaviours, including emotional manipulation, insults, threats, intimidation, control over finances, and physical harm.

Based on the survey data, it appears that the community-based approaches for addressing gender-based violence (GBV) against men in Ghana include:

- Promoting education and awareness campaigns to challenge harmful gender stereotypes and promote gender equality.
- Providing safe spaces for men to share their experiences and access support.
- Involving community leaders and influential figures in raising awareness and promoting positive gender norms.
- Working with local healthcare providers and social services to provide specialised care and support for male survivors of GBV.

These approaches aim to create an environment where men feel safe to discuss their experiences, challenge harmful stereotypes, and receive appropriate support. By involving community leaders, healthcare providers, and social services, there is a collaborative effort to address GBV against men and promote gender equality.

However, the repetition of certain approaches in the data response may indicate their significance or the emphasis placed on them in the survey responses. This suggests that

promoting education and awareness campaigns, providing safe spaces, involving community leaders, and working with healthcare providers and social services are key strategies in addressing GBV against men in Ghana.

The impact of gender norms on gender-based violence (GBV) against men in Ghana can be significant and multifaceted. While GBV is often associated with violence against women, it is important to recognise that men can also be victims of GBV, and their experiences are influenced by societal gender norms. Here are some ways in which gender norms can contribute to GBV against men in Ghana:

- **Shame and emasculation:** Gender norms that associate masculinity with strength, dominance, and invulnerability can make men feel ashamed or emasculated if they experience violence. Men may hesitate to report or seek help due to fear of being perceived as weak or less masculine.
- **Control and violence escalation:** Gender norms that reinforce the idea that men should always be in control of their partners can lead to controlling behaviours that escalate into violence. When men feel their control is threatened, they may resort to abusive and violent actions as a means to regain control.
- **Provider expectations:** Cultural expectations that men should be the primary providers for their families can create frustration, anger, and violent behaviour if they are unable to fulfill this role. The pressure to meet financial obligations can lead to stress and tension within relationships, potentially contributing to violence.
- **Cultural norms around masculinity:** Societal norms around masculinity can promote beliefs that men should be entitled to sexual or physical dominance over their partners. These beliefs can manifest in violent behaviours when men feel a sense of entitlement and power over their partners.

It is important to address these harmful gender norms and promote healthy, non-violent masculinities. This involves challenging stereotypes, encouraging open conversations about gender roles and expectations, providing support services for male victims of GBV, and educating the community about the importance of consent, respect, and equality in relationships. It is also crucial to involve men in initiatives aimed at preventing and addressing GBV, fostering an inclusive and comprehensive approach to combating violence against all genders.

Based on the repetitive response from the survey, it appears that the respondents strongly emphasised three key aspects related to societal beliefs and gender-based violence (GBV) against men in Ghana. These aspects are:

- Reinforcing the idea that men should be strong and able to defend themselves: This belief suggests that men are expected to possess physical strength and the ability to protect themselves from harm. This expectation may contribute to the perception that men are less likely to be victims of GBV or that they should be able to handle such situations on their own.
- Perpetuating the belief that men should be dominant and in control: This belief promotes the notion that men should exert power and control in various aspects of life, including relationships and interactions. It implies that men should not be subjected to GBV and should maintain authority and dominance.
- Stigmatising male victims of gender-based violence as weak or unmanly: This response indicates that male victims of GBV may face societal stigma, being viewed as weak or unmanly for not conforming to traditional gender roles. This stigma can deter men from reporting or seeking help for the violence they experience.

Based on the survey responses, it appears that male survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) in Ghana are experiencing various negative effects. The most common effects mentioned in the responses include:

- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and other anxiety disorders: Many male survivors reported experiencing symptoms of PTSD and anxiety disorders as a result of the GBV they have endured. These may include intrusive memories, nightmares, flashbacks, hyper-vigilance, and a general sense of fear and anxiety.
- Depression and suicidal thoughts: A significant number of male survivors expressed feelings of depression and reported having suicidal thoughts. GBV can have a profound impact on one's mental health, leading to a sense of hopelessness and despair.
- Substance abuse and addiction: Some respondents mentioned turning to substance abuse as a way to cope with the emotional pain and trauma associated with GBV. This self-destructive behaviour can exacerbate existing mental health issues and create additional challenges for recovery.
- Difficulty in maintaining healthy relationships and trust issues: Male survivors often face challenges in establishing and maintaining healthy relationships. The experience of GBV can lead to trust issues, making it difficult for survivors to form deep connections with others.

- **Social isolation and stigma:** The responses indicate that male survivors of GBV may experience social isolation due to the stigma attached to being a victim of such violence. Society's perception and lack of understanding about male victimisation can contribute to survivors feeling marginalised and excluded.

It's important to note that these are general trends based on the responses collected in the survey. Each individual's experience and response to GBV may vary, and it's crucial to consider the unique circumstances and needs of each survivor when addressing these issues.

Based on the survey responses regarding the legal response to gender-based violence (GBV) against men in Ghana, there are indications that the legal response is perceived as inadequate and unclear. Here are some observations based on the data:

- **Inadequate:** Several respondents expressed dissatisfaction with the legal response to GBV against men, suggesting that it falls short of their expectations. This may imply that existing laws and policies are perceived as insufficient in addressing GBV and providing justice for male survivors.
- **Unclear:** The data indicates that there is a lack of clarity surrounding the legal response to GBV against men in Ghana. This could suggest that survivors are uncertain about their rights, the available legal options, or how to navigate the legal system to seek justice.
- **N/A:** Some responses indicate that respondents may have considered the legal response as not applicable or not relevant to their situation. This might be due to a lack of awareness or understanding of available legal protections for male survivors of GBV.
- It would be valuable to further explore and analyse these findings, considering additional factors such as the specific legal frameworks, policies, and implementation mechanisms in place in Ghana. This can help identify gaps and inform efforts to improve the legal response to GBV against men in the country.

Based on the survey responses, it appears that women can play a significant role in supporting male survivors of gender-based violence in Ghana. Here is an analysis of the various points mentioned:

- **Emotional support and validation:** Women can provide emotional support and validation to male survivors, which is crucial for their healing and recovery. This suggests that women can create safe spaces and offer empathy and understanding to men who have experienced gender-based violence.
- **Advocacy for policies and programs:** Women can advocate for policies and programs that specifically address and support male survivors of gender-based

violence. This indicates the need for women to raise awareness about the issue and push for initiatives that provide necessary resources, services, and legal protection for male survivors.

- Education and challenging stereotypes: Women can educate themselves and others about gender-based violence against men and work to challenge harmful gender stereotypes. This highlights the importance of spreading awareness and debunking societal misconceptions that may perpetuate the idea that men cannot be victims of violence.
- Promoting gender equality and addressing power imbalances: Women can contribute to promoting gender equality and addressing power imbalances that contribute to gender-based violence against both men and women. This suggests that women can work towards creating a more equitable society where violence, regardless of the gender of the survivor, is not tolerated.

Analysing these responses, it is evident that women can serve as allies and advocates in addressing gender-based violence against men in Ghana. By providing emotional support, advocating for policy changes, challenging stereotypes, and promoting gender equality, women can help create a more inclusive and supportive environment for male survivors. This analysis emphasises the importance of collaborative efforts to combat gender-based violence and ensure the well-being of all individuals, regardless of their gender.

Based on the responses collected in the survey, it appears that stigma and shame are significant factors influencing the issue of gender-based violence against men in Ghana. Many participants mentioned stigma and shame as barriers that prevent men from seeking help or reporting instances of violence. This could be due to societal expectations and stereotypes that perceive men as strong and invulnerable, making it difficult for them to admit or disclose their experiences of violence.

- Fear of retaliation is another prominent theme that emerged from the responses. Men may fear retaliation or further harm if they speak out about the violence they have experienced. This fear could stem from concerns about their personal safety, potential damage to their reputation, or the belief that authorities may not take their claims seriously.
- Lack of awareness of available resources was frequently mentioned as a barrier. This suggests that men may not be aware of support services, helplines, or organisations that can assist them in dealing with gender-based violence. The limited knowledge of available resources hinders their ability to seek help or find avenues for support.

- Another significant factor highlighted by the respondents is the lack of trust in authorities. This lack of trust may stem from a perception that authorities might not take men's experiences of violence seriously or provide the necessary support and protection. It could also indicate a general skepticism about the effectiveness of the justice system in addressing gender-based violence against men.

Overall, the data collected in your survey points to several key challenges faced by men in Ghana regarding gender-based violence. Stigma, shame, fear of retaliation, lack of awareness of available resources, and distrust in authorities all contribute to a complex web of barriers that prevent men from addressing and seeking help for their experiences of violence. Addressing these barriers requires efforts to raise awareness, challenge societal norms and stereotypes, improve access to support services, and build trust in authorities among male survivors of gender-based violence in Ghana.

Based on the responses collected in your survey, it suggests that there may be an economic impact on gender-based violence (GBV) against men in Ghana. The recurring theme is that men with lower incomes may be more vulnerable to GBV, while men with higher incomes may have more resources to report such incidents.

- The data implies that economic factors play a role in exacerbating the vulnerability of men to GBV. Men with lower incomes may face additional challenges and disadvantages that make them more susceptible to violence. These challenges could include limited access to resources, reduced social support, and increased dependence on potentially abusive situations or individuals.
- On the other hand, men with higher incomes may have greater financial resources, which can provide them with more options and opportunities to address or report instances of GBV. They may have better access to legal representation, counselling services, or support networks, enabling them to seek assistance and take action against the violence they experience.
- This economic disparity highlights the need to address the structural and systemic issues that contribute to gender-based violence against men in Ghana. Efforts should focus on creating economic opportunities, reducing income inequality, and ensuring that individuals from all socioeconomic backgrounds have equal access to resources and support systems.
- It's important to note that while these findings suggest a relationship between economic status and GBV against men, they do not imply that only men with lower incomes experience violence or that men with higher incomes are completely protected from GBV.

Based on the survey responses, it suggests that there may be a political impact on gender-based violence (GBV) against men in Ghana. The data highlights two main points:

- **Government's Response:** The responses indicate that the government's response to GBV can affect how seriously men's experiences of violence are taken. This suggests that the effectiveness and efficiency of government initiatives, policies, and support services in addressing GBV may influence the level of attention and support provided to men who experience violence. It is crucial for the government to prioritise GBV as a serious issue affecting both men and women and ensure that appropriate measures are in place to support male survivors.
- **Political Climate and Attitudes:** The data also suggests that the political climate may influence attitudes towards men who experience GBV. This implies that prevailing societal beliefs, cultural norms, and political discourse can shape the perceptions and responses towards male survivors. It is important to foster an environment where gender stereotypes and biases are challenged, and all survivors are treated with empathy, respect, and understanding, regardless of their gender.

The findings indicate that addressing GBV against men in Ghana requires a comprehensive approach that involves the government, policymakers, and society as a whole. Efforts should focus on raising awareness, implementing inclusive policies and support systems, and promoting a culture of gender equality and non-violence. Additionally, engaging with key stakeholders, including government agencies, civil society organisations, and community leaders, can help drive positive change and ensure that the needs of male survivors are acknowledged and addressed.

Based on the survey responses, it suggests that there are social impacts on gender-based violence (GBV) against men in Ghana. The data highlights two main points:

- **Traditional Gender Roles:** The responses indicate that traditional gender roles may discourage men from reporting GBV. In many societies, there are expectations and stereotypes surrounding masculinity, which may discourage men from seeking help or reporting incidents of violence. Men may fear being stigmatised, judged, or seen as weak if they come forward as survivors of GBV. Challenging these traditional gender norms and promoting a more inclusive understanding of masculinity is important to create an environment where men feel safe and supported to speak out against violence.

- **Social Stigmas:** The data also suggests that social stigmas surrounding men who experience GBV may make it difficult for them to seek help. There may be negative attitudes, biases, and misconceptions in society regarding men's experiences of violence, which can create barriers for male survivors to access support services and resources. Addressing these stigmas and raising awareness about the prevalence of GBV against men is crucial to ensure that survivors feel validated, supported, and able to access the assistance they need.

The findings indicate that addressing GBV against men in Ghana requires a multi-faceted approach that tackles both individual and societal levels. Efforts should focus on promoting gender equality, challenging harmful gender norms, and fostering a culture of empathy and support for all survivors. Public awareness campaigns, education programs, and community engagement initiatives can help challenge social stigmas, encourage reporting, and ensure that support services are accessible and inclusive for male survivors of GBV. Additionally, collaborations between government agencies, civil society organisations, and local communities can help create a supportive environment where survivors feel safe and empowered to come forward and seek help.

Based on the survey responses regarding Challenges and Support for Male GBV Survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) in Ghana, several key themes emerge:

- **Stigma, shame, and cultural beliefs:** The survey highlights that male GBV survivors in Ghana may not seek help or speak out about their experiences due to stigma, shame, and cultural beliefs surrounding masculinity. These societal attitudes can create barriers for survivors to come forward and seek support.
- **Specialised care and support:** Respondents emphasise the importance of service providers offering specialised care and support that meets the unique needs of male GBV survivors. This indicates a recognition that men may require tailored approaches to address their experiences and promote their healing and recovery.
- **Challenging harmful stereotypes:** The survey indicates the need to promote positive gender norms and challenge harmful stereotypes that devalue individuals based on their gender. By doing so, it becomes possible to create an environment that encourages male GBV survivors to seek help without fear of judgment or further stigmatisation.
- **Promoting a culture of respect and non-violence:** Participants suggest increasing awareness of gender-based violence to promote a culture of respect and non-violence. This highlights the importance of education and



awareness campaigns to address the root causes of GBV and create a safer society for everyone.

In summary, the responses in your survey shed light on the challenges faced by male GBV survivors in Ghana, such as stigma and cultural beliefs, while also highlighting the need for specialised support services, the promotion of positive gender norms, and increased awareness of GBV to foster a culture of respect and non-violence. These findings suggest potential areas for intervention and the development of strategies to address GBV against men in Ghana effectively.

Based on the repeated survey responses regarding legal and policy reforms for GBV against Men in Ghana, it appears that there are several key themes related to gender-based violence against men in Ghana:

- **Promotion of positive gender norms:** Many respondents mentioned the importance of promoting positive gender norms and challenging harmful gender stereotypes. This suggests that addressing societal expectations and perceptions of masculinity and femininity is crucial in addressing gender-based violence against men.
- **Equal access to justice:** Several responses emphasised the need to change laws and policies to ensure that male survivors of gender-based violence receive fair treatment and support. This suggests that there may be concerns about the current legal framework and its effectiveness in addressing violence against men.
- **Specialised services and support:** The mention of specialised services and support, such as mental health care and support groups, indicates a recognition of the unique needs and challenges faced by male survivors of gender-based violence. This suggests that there is a desire for tailored support systems to address the specific needs of male survivors.
- **Inclusion in national and local programs:** Some responses highlight the importance of including male survivors of gender-based violence in national and local programs. This indicates a need for comprehensive approaches that encompass all survivors, regardless of gender, and ensure their access to support and resources.

Overall, these responses suggest that there is a growing awareness of gender-based violence against men in Ghana and a need for legal and policy reforms, as well as specialised support services, to address this issue effectively. It is important to consider these perspectives and recommendations when formulating strategies and interventions to prevent and respond to gender-based violence against men in Ghana.

Based on the survey responses, there are several key themes related to harmful beliefs and attitudes about masculinity in the context of gender-based violence against men in Ghana:

- **Societal expectations and stereotypes:** The most frequent response points to societal expectations and stereotypes as contributing factors to gender-based violence against men. This suggests that traditional beliefs about masculinity, such as the expectation of being strong, dominant, and unemotional, may perpetuate violence or discourage male survivors from seeking help.
- **Lack of education and support:** Another recurring theme is the lack of education and support. This indicates that there may be limited awareness and understanding of gender-based violence against men, both within society and among support systems. This lack of education and support may hinder efforts to address and prevent violence against men.
- **Stigmatisation:** Stigmatisation is mentioned multiple times as a challenge related to gender-based violence against men. This implies that male survivors may face social judgment, shame, or discrimination when they disclose their experiences or seek assistance. Stigmatisation can create barriers to reporting incidents, accessing support services, and receiving appropriate care.
- **Reporting challenges:** Some responses highlight the challenges associated with reporting gender-based violence against men. This suggests that there may be systemic obstacles or societal attitudes that discourage or hinder male survivors from coming forward and reporting incidents of violence.

Overall, the data suggests that harmful beliefs and attitudes about masculinity, coupled with societal expectations, stereotypes, and stigmatisation, contribute to the perpetuation of gender-based violence against men in Ghana. Additionally, the lack of education, support, and reporting challenges further compound the issue. It is important to address these factors through targeted awareness campaigns, educational initiatives, and supportive services to create an environment where male survivors feel safe to seek help and where harmful gender norms can be challenged and transformed.

Based on the responses provided, the data highlights several key factors related to the impact of harmful masculinity on gender-based violence against men in Ghana:

- **Lack of awareness and education:** The lack of awareness and education about gender-based violence against men is mentioned multiple times.

This indicates that there may be limited knowledge and understanding about the issue, which can contribute to the perpetuation of violence and hinder efforts to address it effectively.

- **Toxic masculinity:** Toxic masculinity is consistently mentioned as a factor contributing to gender-based violence. This refers to the adherence to harmful stereotypes and behaviours associated with masculinity, such as aggression, dominance, and the suppression of emotions. Toxic masculinity can create an environment where violence is normalised and can lead to abusive behaviours.
- **Lack of support and resources:** The data underscores the lack of support and resources available for male survivors of gender-based violence. This suggests that there may be limited services, such as counselling, helplines, or safe spaces, specifically tailored to support men who have experienced violence. The absence of support and resources can further isolate and marginalise male survivors.
- **Underreporting and stigmatisation:** Underreporting and stigmatisation are mentioned together as challenges in addressing gender-based violence against men. This indicates that male survivors may face social stigma, shame, or disbelief when disclosing their experiences. This, coupled with the fear of not being taken seriously or being perceived as weak, can discourage men from reporting incidents of violence.
- **Emotional suppression and mental health:** The survey responses highlight the impact of emotional suppression and its association with mental health. This suggests that societal expectations for men to suppress their emotions can lead to psychological distress and hinder their ability to seek help or express their experiences of violence.
- **Violent behaviours and dominance:** The presence of violent behaviours and dominance is mentioned as contributing factors to gender-based violence against men. This implies that power imbalances, aggressive behaviours, and a sense of entitlement may contribute to the perpetration of violence by some individuals.

Overall, the data reveals that harmful masculinity, including toxic masculine norms and behaviours, combined with the lack of awareness, education, support, and resources, contribute to gender-based violence against men in Ghana. To address this issue, efforts should focus on raising awareness, challenging harmful gender norms, providing tailored support services, promoting emotional well-being, and combating stigmatisation to create a more inclusive and supportive environment for male survivors.

Based on the responses collected in your survey regarding the missing services for male survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) in Ghana, we can analyse the following key points:

- Mental health services specifically tailored to the needs of male survivors of GBV: This indicates a recognition of the psychological impact that GBV can have on male survivors. It highlights the importance of providing mental health support that is sensitive to their unique experiences and challenges.
- Support groups and peer networks for male survivors to connect with others who have experienced similar forms of violence: The need for support groups and peer networks emphasises the importance of creating safe spaces where male survivors can share their experiences, receive emotional support, and learn from others who have gone through similar situations.
- Legal support and advocacy services to help male survivors seek justice and navigate the legal system: This suggests that male survivors may face obstacles in accessing justice and navigating the legal system. Providing legal support and advocacy services can empower them to seek justice and hold perpetrators accountable for their actions.
- Awareness raising programs to educate communities about the prevalence of GBV against men and the unique challenges that male survivors face: This indicates a need to increase awareness about GBV against men and address the misconceptions and stigma surrounding this issue. By educating communities, it becomes possible to foster understanding and support for male survivors while challenging harmful gender stereotypes.

Overall, these responses reflect the need for a comprehensive and inclusive approach to addressing GBV in Ghana. They highlight the importance of recognising male survivors, addressing their specific needs, and creating a supportive environment that encourages them to come forward, seek help, and access the necessary services. By implementing the suggested interventions, Ghana can take significant steps towards addressing GBV against men and promoting gender equality.

## **Suggested Solutions based on survey**

Based on the survey responses you , it appears that the most commonly mentioned solution to gender-based violence (GBV) against men in Ghana is awareness and education. This suggests that respondents believe that increasing awareness and educating the public about GBV against men can help address the issue.

- The inclusion of "Law Resources and Advocacy" as a solution also suggests that respondents recognise the importance of legal measures and advocacy efforts to address GBV against men. This may involve strengthening existing laws, creating new laws or policies, and providing resources for legal assistance to survivors of GBV.
- The mention of "Emotional Support" indicates that some respondents believe that providing emotional support to male survivors of GBV is crucial. This can involve creating safe spaces for survivors to share their experiences, offering counselling services, and promoting mental health support.
- Overall, the responses suggest that raising awareness, improving education, strengthening legal measures, and providing emotional support are seen as important strategies for addressing gender-based violence against men in Ghana. It is important to note that a comprehensive approach that involves multiple stakeholders, including government agencies, civil society organisations, and the community, is typically required to effectively combat GBV.