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Intimate Partner Violence During Pregnancy: The Current State of Evidence



ZOOM WEBINAR

Wednesday 28 FEB 2024

4.00 - 5.00pm

Intimate partner violence affects women and children across the world and pregnancy is unfortunately no exception. In this lecture I will start by summarizing existing evidence on the prevalence on intimate partner violence during pregnancy globally, discuss the key risk and protective factors for it and its health consequences for both the mother and the child. The core of the lecture though will be to examine and expand existing theories on intimate partner violence to explain why intimate partner violence occurs specifically during pregnancy and how pregnancy is impacting the mechanisms of intimate partner violence. To illustrate this, I will utilize qualitative data I collected in Germany myself as well as existing evidence from the literature. As intimate partner violence often starts long before pregnancy and continues afterwards, I will consider its influences on prior violence and violence afterwards to discuss women's decision making process and the impact pregnancy or having a newborn child in the home have on it. The lecture will end by looking forward, with a consideration of the existing interventions for the prevention and response to intimate partner violence during pregnancy. I will conclude with important gaps in research and the implications for practice and policy.

Heidi Stöckl is a professor of Public Health Evaluation in the Medical Faculty at the Ludwig-Maximilians University, Germany and a honorary professor of Social Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK. Her main research interests are the prevalence, health effects and risk and protective factors of intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence and intimate partner homicide. Her work focuses in particular on violence during pregnancy and against older women. She is currently conducting a longitudinal study on violence against women in Tanzania. For her PhD she has conducted the first survey on intimate partner violence during pregnancy in a maternity ward in Germany. She serves as a Leadership Council member of the Sexual Violence Research initiative.

Places are limited. Please reserve yours on Eventbrite: Heidi Stockl

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