



Gender, Agriculture & Assets Project

Led by IFPRI

Developing Measures of Freedom of Movement for Gender Studies of Agricultural Value Chains

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April 3, 2019

Canberra, Australia

What is it?

- ▶ Freedom of movement: The ability to leave home by one's own will and return without repercussions for having done so.

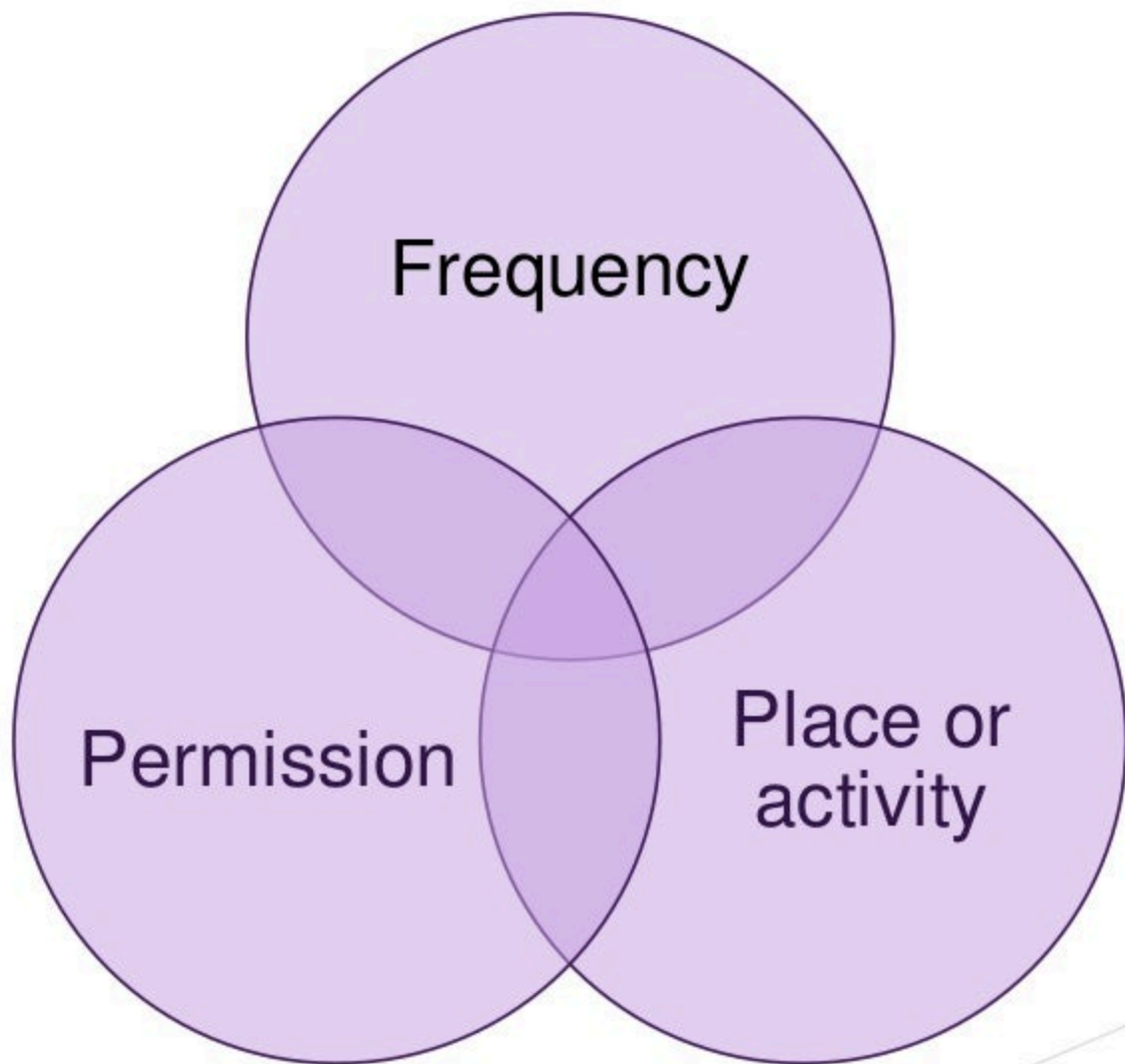
Why does it matter?

- ▶ Those who are limited in where or when they can source or sell goods may be disadvantaged.
- ▶ Important in the context of rural transformation as women attempt to transition from subsistence agriculture into more remunerative roles in agricultural value chains or seek non-agriculture business and employment opportunities.

Objectives

- ▶ Identify existing approaches for measuring freedom of movement in large multi-topic surveys
 - ▶ Consider whether these approaches would work for gendered studies of agricultural value chains
- ▶ Develop a conceptual framework that is useful for understanding freedom of movement
 - ▶ What barriers do women face? At what levels?
 - ▶ Source: qualitative research
- ▶ Propose survey-based approaches for measuring freedom of movement that can be piloted in future work

Current Survey-Based Approaches

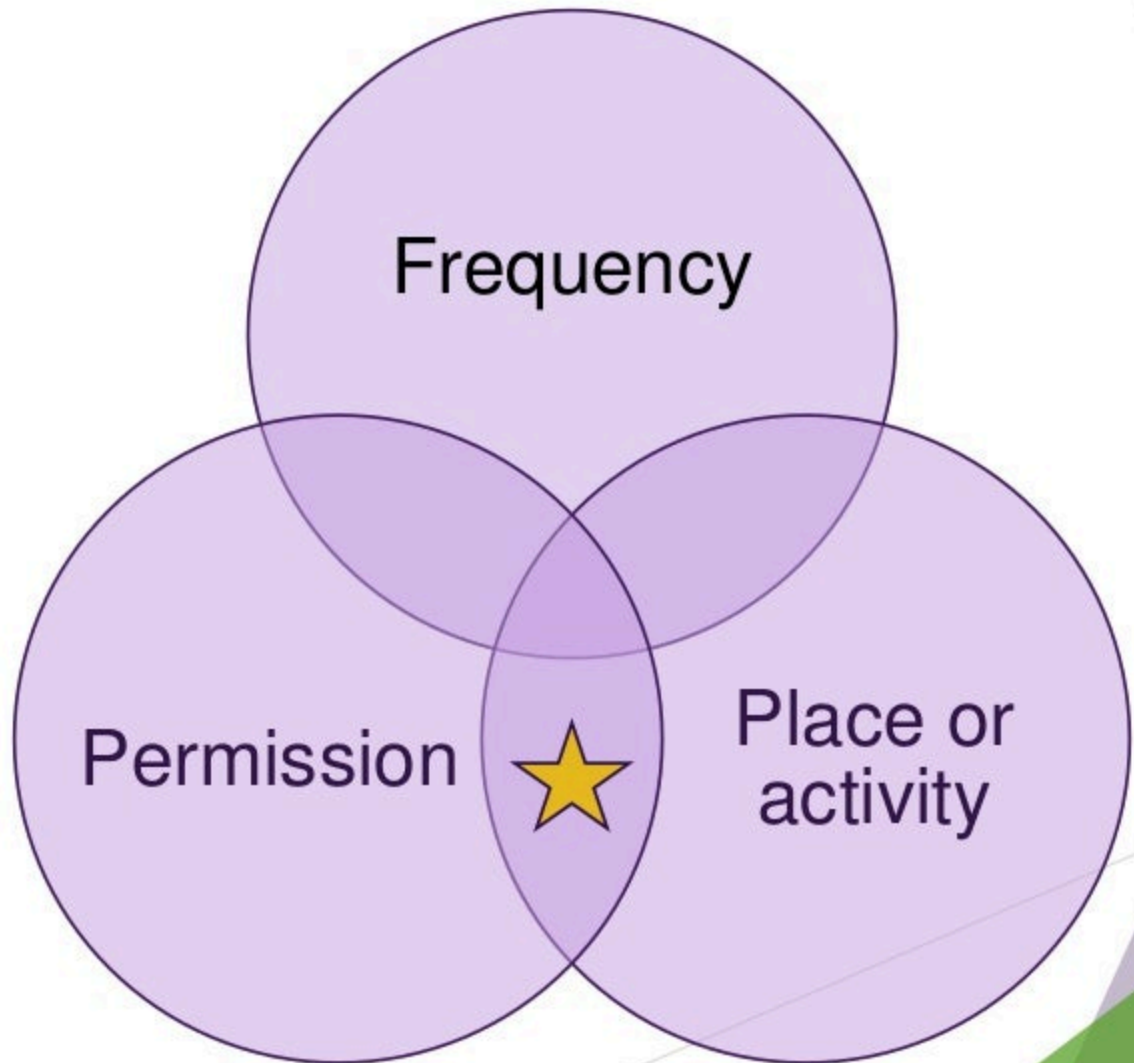


Demographic and Health Surveys

Are you permitted to go...?

- ...on your own
- ...accompanied
- ...not at all

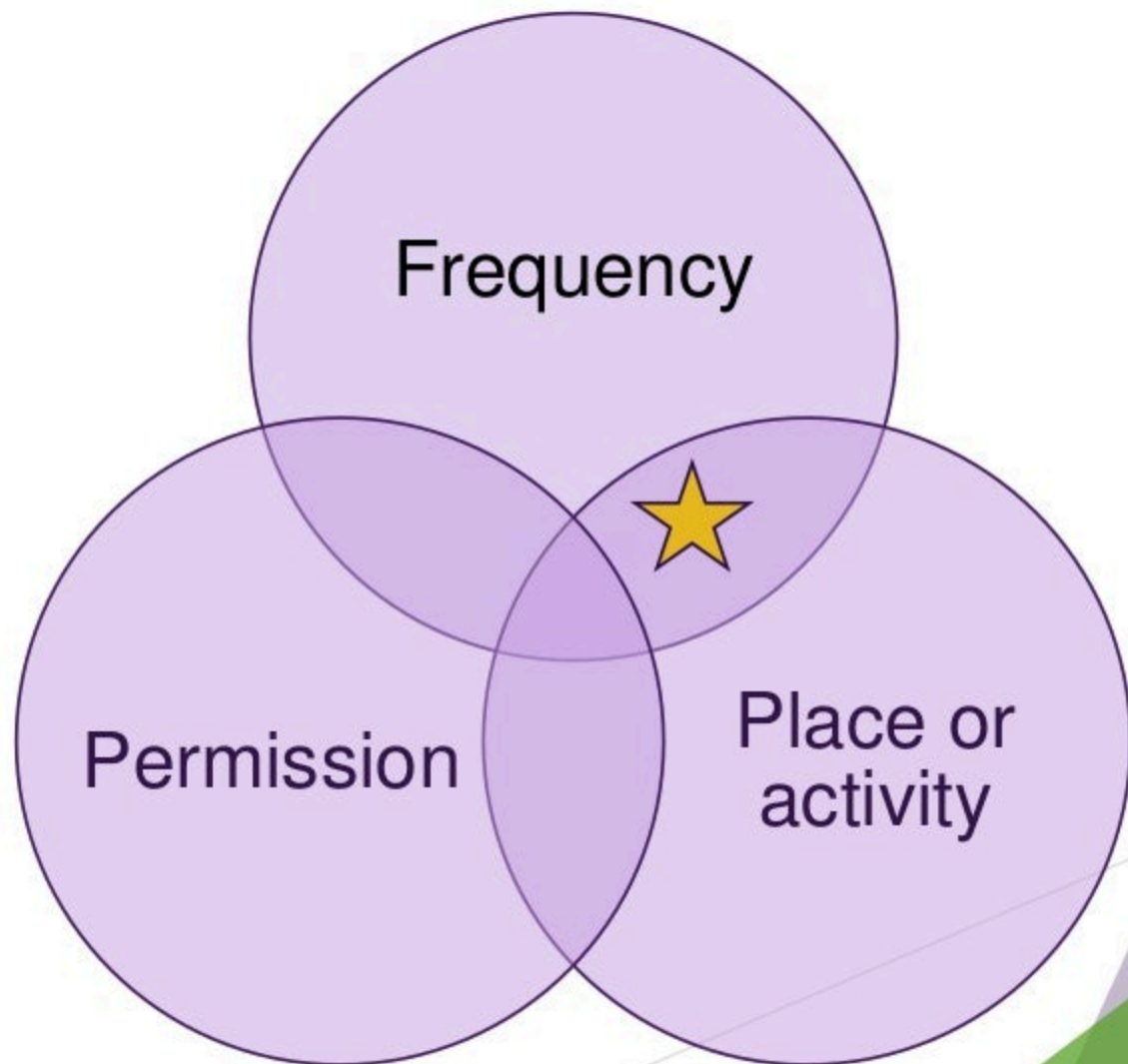
- Market
- Local health center
- Community center
- Homes of friends/neighbors
- Shrine/mosque/temple/church
- Just outside house/compound



Project-level Women's
Empowerment in Agriculture
Index- Malapit et al., 2019

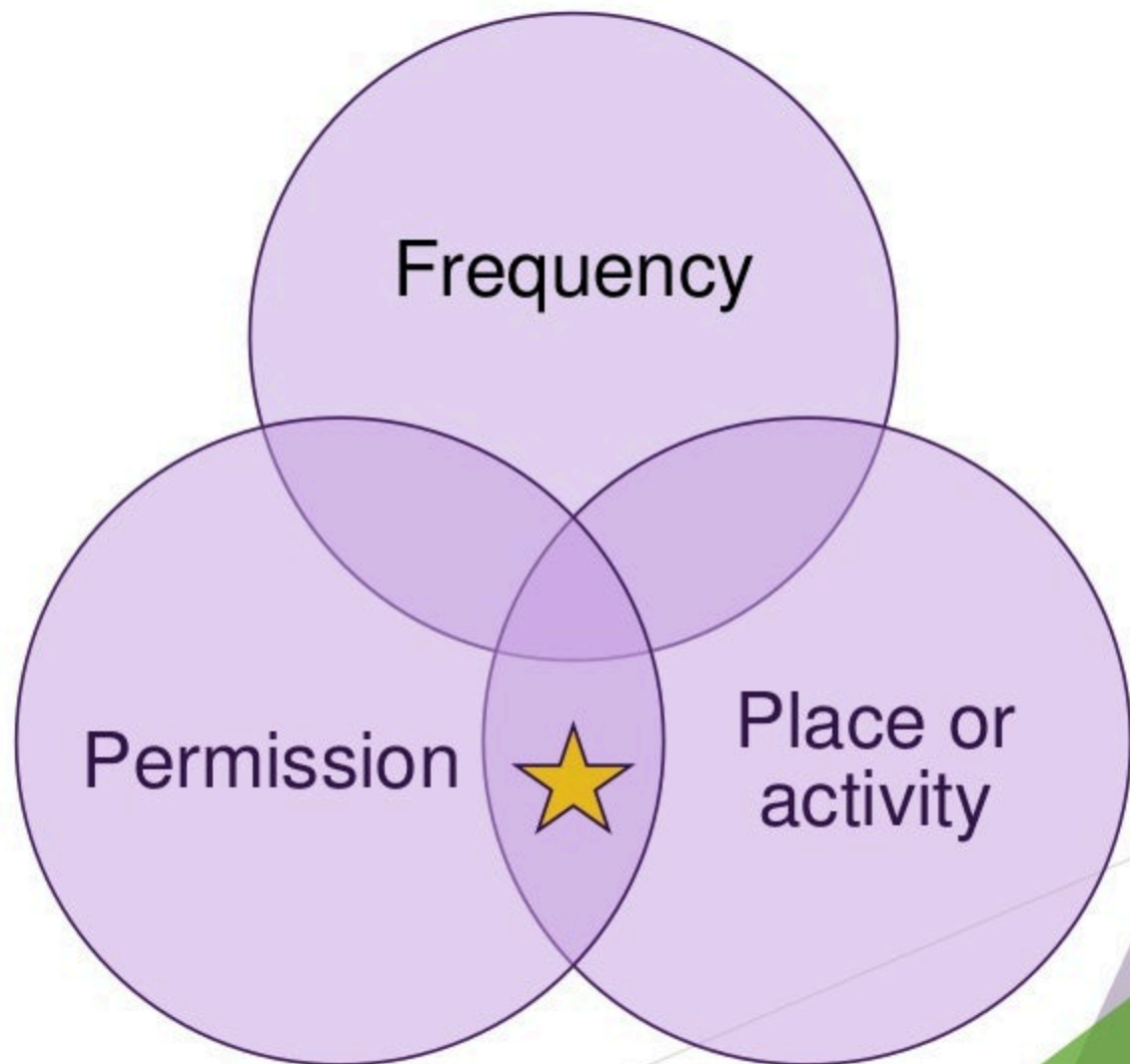
How frequently do you go to...?

- Urban center
- Market
- Local health center/hospital
- Visit family/relatives
- Visit friends/neighbors
- Public gathering/community meeting/training for NGO or program



Are you permitted to go...
...on your own?

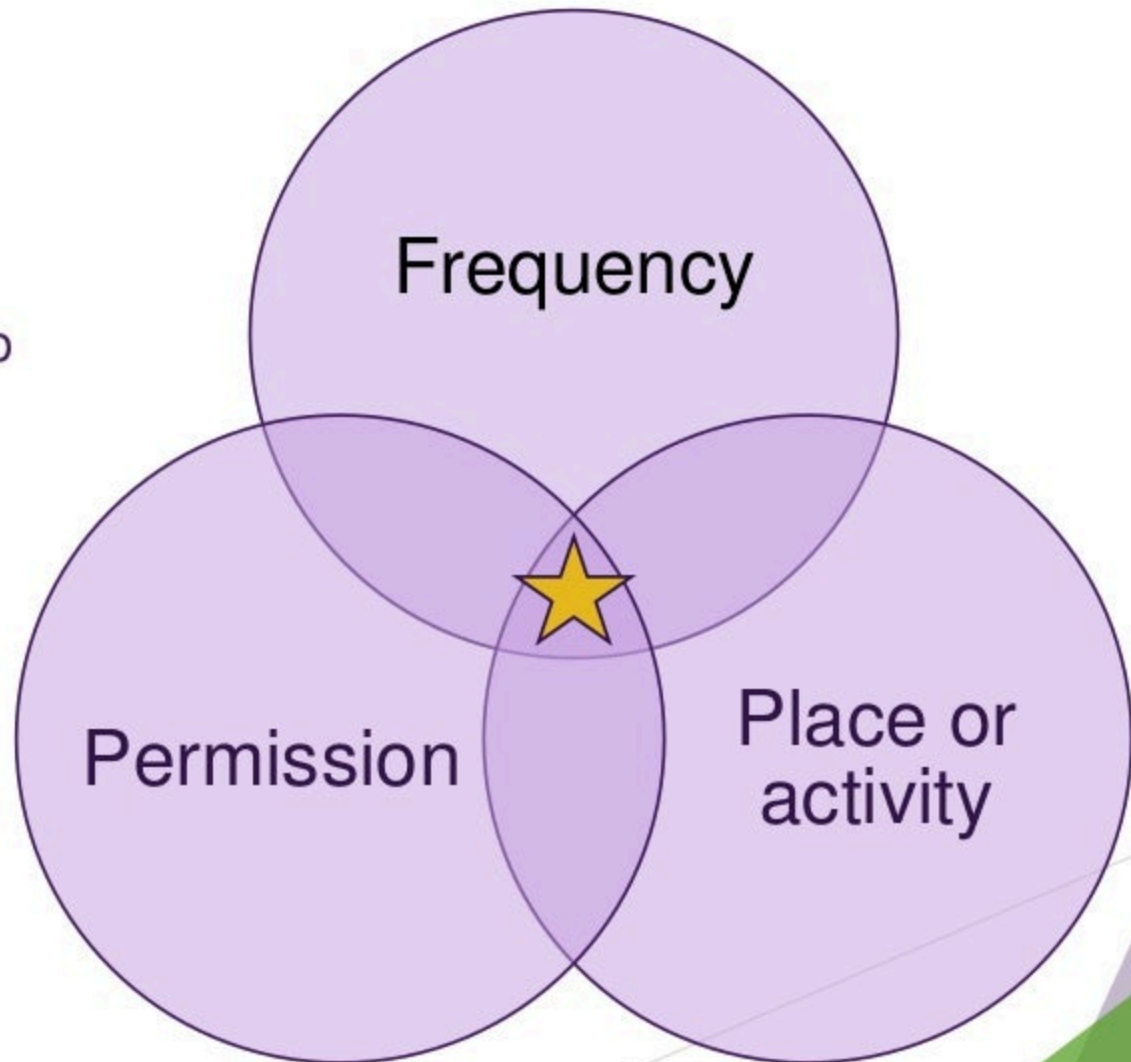
- Just outside house/compound
- Local market to buy things
- Local health center/doctor
- In the neighborhood for recreation
- Home of relative/friends in neighborhood



Have you gone to...in the last year?

If yes, do you ask permission to go there?

- Meeting or gathering in the village
- Her father's home
- Home of relative/friend outside the village
- Market or shopping for clothes or other necessities
- Hospital/health center/clinic

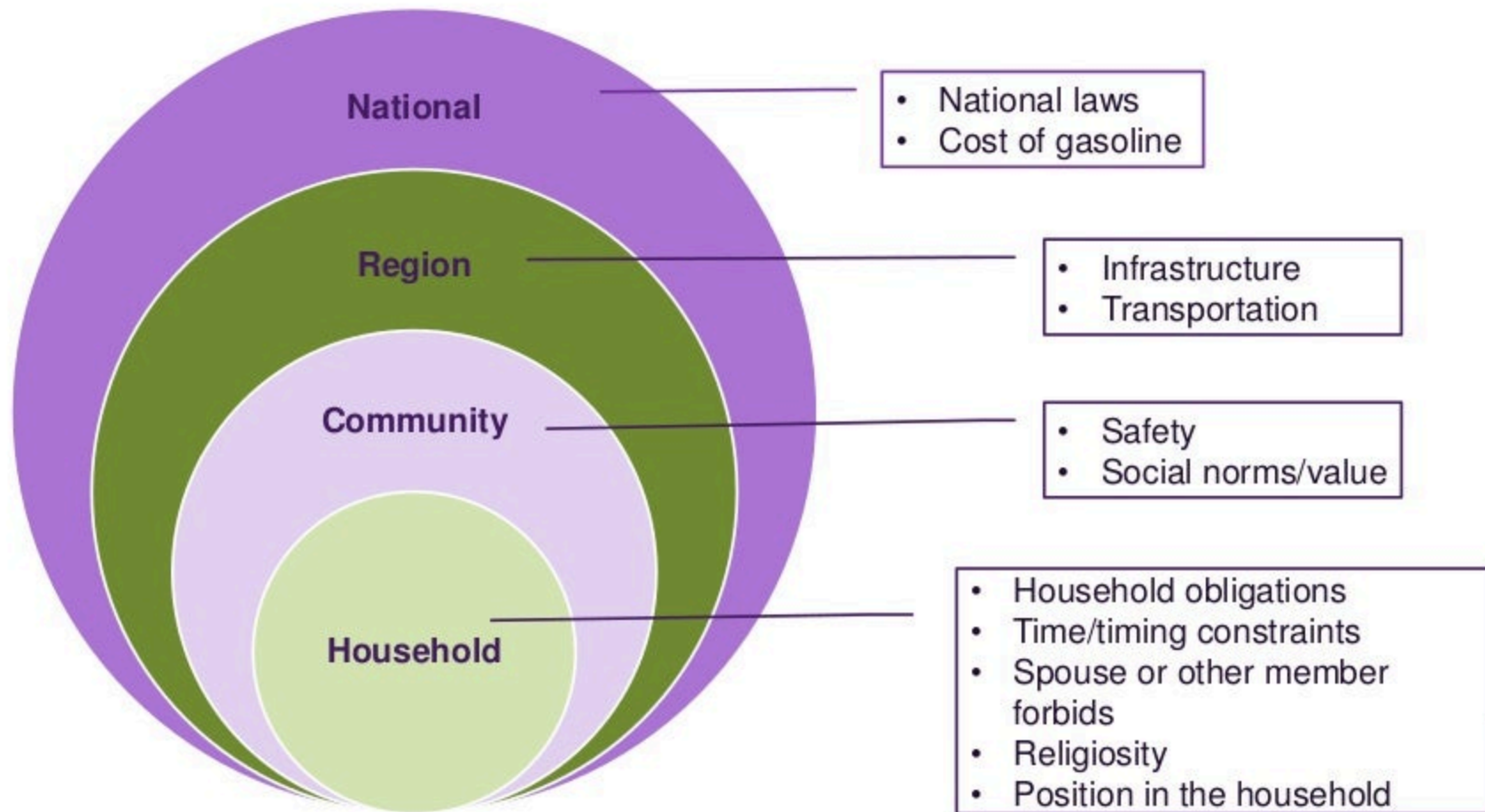


Conclusions from review of survey-based approaches

- ▶ Mainly address women's reproductive and social roles—not aspects of economic production
 - ▶ Even questions about “markets” focused on buying for home consumption
- ▶ Mostly focus on barriers at the household level

- ▶ Existing approaches for freedom of movement are not well-suited for agricultural value chains

Ecological model for identifying restrictions on freedom of movement



Input/ Supply
location

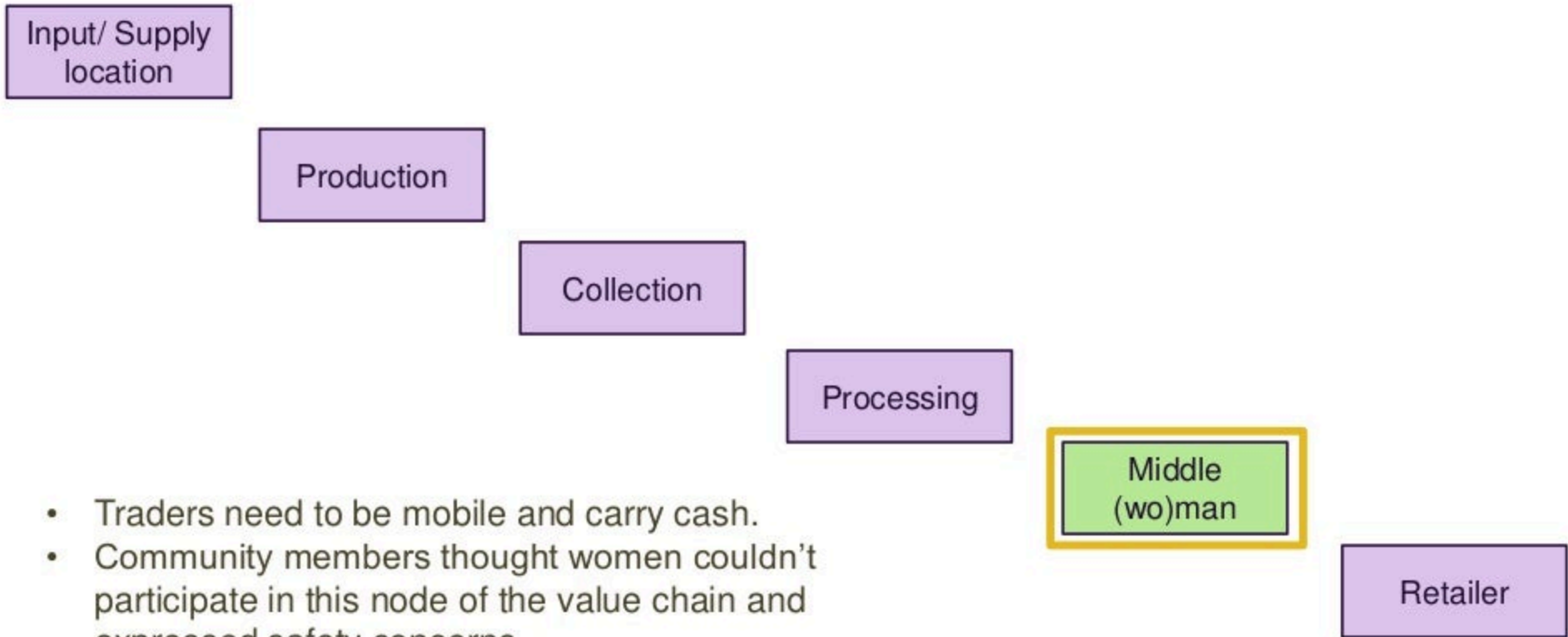
Production

Collection

Processing

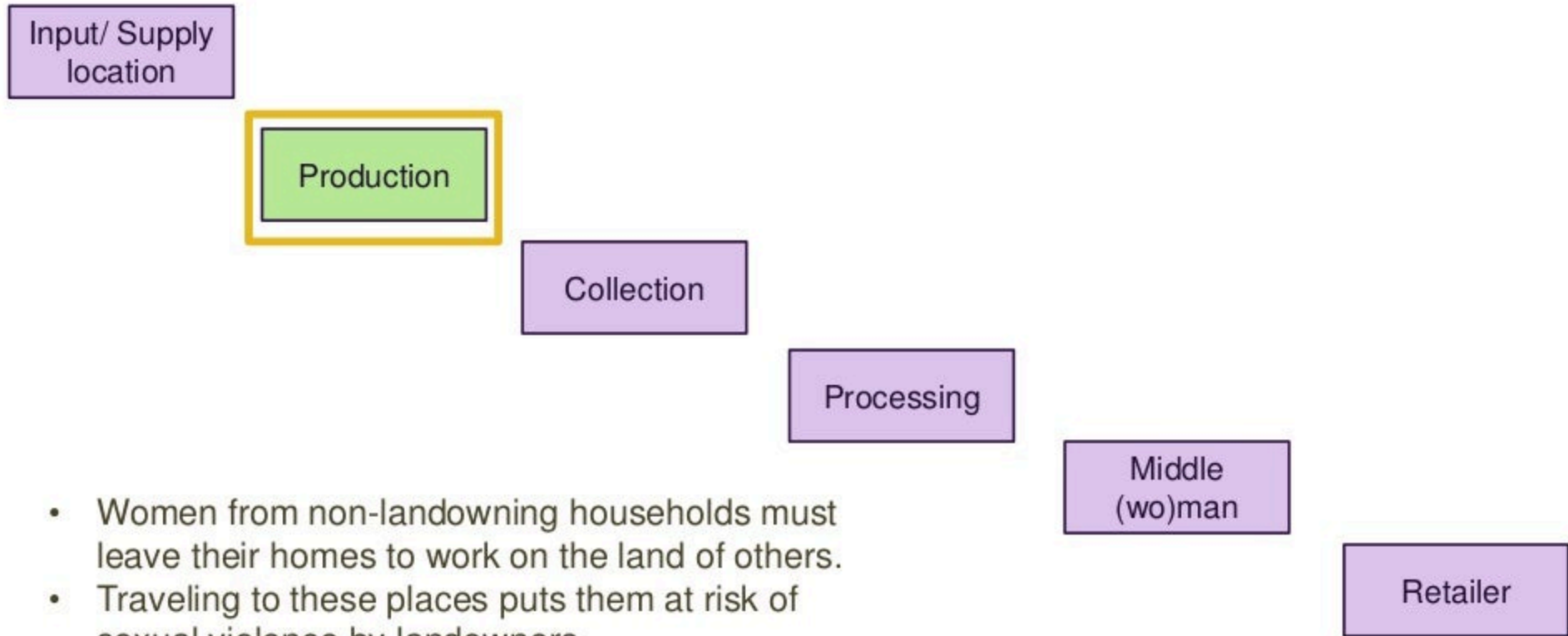
Middle
(wo)man

Retailer



- Traders need to be mobile and carry cash.
- Community members thought women couldn't participate in this node of the value chain and expressed safety concerns.
- Lack of financial services locally was especially a problem for women who were additionally burdened by safety when accessing financial institutions.

Bangladesh, Rubin et al., 2018



- Women from non-landowning households must leave their homes to work on the land of others.
- Traveling to these places puts them at risk of sexual violence by landowners.
- Combination of agricultural transformation and not owning land is particularly burdensome to women.

Pakistan, Mumtaz & Salway, 2009

What are Possible Alternatives?

Survey questions about experiences and barriers

		During the past 12 months, how often do you generally go to [PLACE]?	Were you ever prevented from going to [PLACE] when you wanted to?	If you wanted to go to [PLACE], but couldn't, why not? USE G6.03. RESPONSE CODES. LIST ALL CODES APPLICABLE. DO NOT READ RESPON OPTONS ALOUD. LISTEN TO RESPONDENT AND SELECT APPROPRIATE CODE.	Does your spouse/partner object to you going alone to [PLACE],?	Do these objections prevent you from going alone to [PLACE]?
PLACE		G6.01.	G6.02.	G6.03.	WOMAN ONLY G6.04.	WOMAN ONLY G6.05
A	A place where you or a household member sells milk	EVERYDAY.....1 EVERY WEEK AT LEAST ONCE.....2 EVERY 2 WEEKS AT LEAST ONCE.....3 EVERY MONTH AT LEAST ONCE.....4 LESS THAN ONCE A MONTH.....5 NEVER.....6 NOT APPLICABLE.....98	YES.....1 NO.....2 → G6.04.		YES.....1 NO.....2 → PLACE B	YES.....1 NO.....2

G6.03. RESPONSE CODES	
1	TRANSPORTATION TOO EXPENSIVE
2	I DID NOT HAVE THE PROPER DRESS/CREDENTIALS
3	NOT ENOUGH TIME
4	I THOUGHT IT WAS UNSAFE
5	OTHERS TOLD ME IT WAS UNSAFE
6	FORBIDDEN TO GO BY SPOUSE/PARTNER
7	FORBIDDEN TO GO BY THE FAMILY OF MY SPOUSE/PARTNER
8	FORBIDDEN TO GO BY OWN FAMILY MEMBER
9	FORBIDDEN TO GO BY AN AUTHORITY
10	(DO NOT READ ALOUD) SOCIETAL NORM
11	OTHER, SPECIFY: _____

Vignettes to compare social norms

- ▶ Examples from consequences of bridewealth non-payment in Ghana (Horne, Dodoo, and Dodoo, 2013)
- ▶ Compare relative strength of social norms as binding factors that limit women's mobility.
- ▶ Structure
 - ▶ All respondents presented with a story that presents a problem
 - ▶ Randomly assigned to how the character responds—each with a different social norm violation
 - ▶ Random assignment allows one to test the relative strength of the sanction for violating the norm
- ▶ In-depth contextual knowledge and related hypotheses are necessary to construct good vignettes.
 - ▶ Hypothesis generating qualitative work
- ▶ Benefits
 - ▶ Easier to discuss stories about others, rather than hypothetical scenarios about own life
 - ▶ Less courtesy bias

Everyone is told the following story:

Immaculate sells milk from a shop near her home. She and her husband Rodger have three children. Her husband works the night shift as a watchman. Immaculate's income from her milk business is also an important part of the family income. Immaculate determines that if she is to make more profit from her sales, she needs to be able to purchase it at a lower price. She asks around and determines that the best place to source milk is at a dairy located well outside the city and that she needs to go before dawn each morning. To purchase milk at a lower price, Immaculate decides to.....

Respondent is randomly assigned to one of the following:

- ▶ Source milk herself by taking a bus to the dairy. She thinks that the children are old enough to get themselves ready for school and don't need their mother's help.
- ▶ Source milk herself by taking a bus to the dairy. Meanwhile her niece agrees to help get the children off to school each morning. The kids make it to school clean and well fed each morning under the care of her niece.
- ▶ Hire her nephew who has a motorbike to take her to the dairy each morning. She prefers not to send him alone, because he doesn't know much about the milk business. She thinks that the children are old enough to get themselves ready for school and don't need their mother's help.
- ▶ Hire a man that she doesn't know well but lives nearby to take her to the dairy each morning. She prefers not to send him alone, because he doesn't know much about the milk business. She thinks that the children are old enough to get themselves ready for school and don't need their mother's help.

Judgement of how solution was addressed:

Q: Do you think Immaculate's decision was a good one?

Likert: Very good.....Not very good

Q: How do you think people in Immaculate's community would react when they find out that she is going to the dairy on her own each morning?

Story escalates:

After one week of Immaculate sourcing milk from the dairy, Rodger heard some neighbors talking negatively about Immaculate's early morning trips to the dairy. Rodger told Immaculate to stop sourcing milk from the dairy.

Q: Was Rodger justified in tell Immaculate to stop sourcing milk from the diary?

Likert: Very justified.....Not justified

Story escalates further:

Immaculate disagreed with Rodger, because sourcing milk from the diary had increased her profits. She continued to source milk from the dairy, because she could go and return before Rodger returned from his watchman job. One day, upon his return from work and learned that Immaculate had gone to the dairy, Rodger decided to punish Immaculate by beating her.

Q: Was Rodger justified to punish Immaculate for going to the diary by beating her?

Likert: Very justified.....Not justified

Conclusions

- ▶ Existing approaches for freedom of movement are not well-suited for agricultural value chains
- ▶ We propose a model that can help us frame the factors that limit women's freedom of movement.
- ▶ We gave two examples of approaches that can be integrated into surveys.
 - ▶ First: Identifies barriers that respondent has experienced
 - ▶ Second: Vignettes help us understand which social norms limit mobility
- ▶ Come talk if you are interesting in piloting any of these approaches!

We would like to acknowledge all CGIAR Research Programs and Centers for supporting the participation of their gender scientists to the *Seeds of Change* conference.



RESEARCH
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Institutions,
and Markets



Collaborative
Platform for
Gender Research



Photo: Neil Palmer/IWMI



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Global Affairs
Canada

Affaires mondiales
Canada



Irish Aid

Government of Ireland
Rialtas na hÉireann



Government of the Netherlands



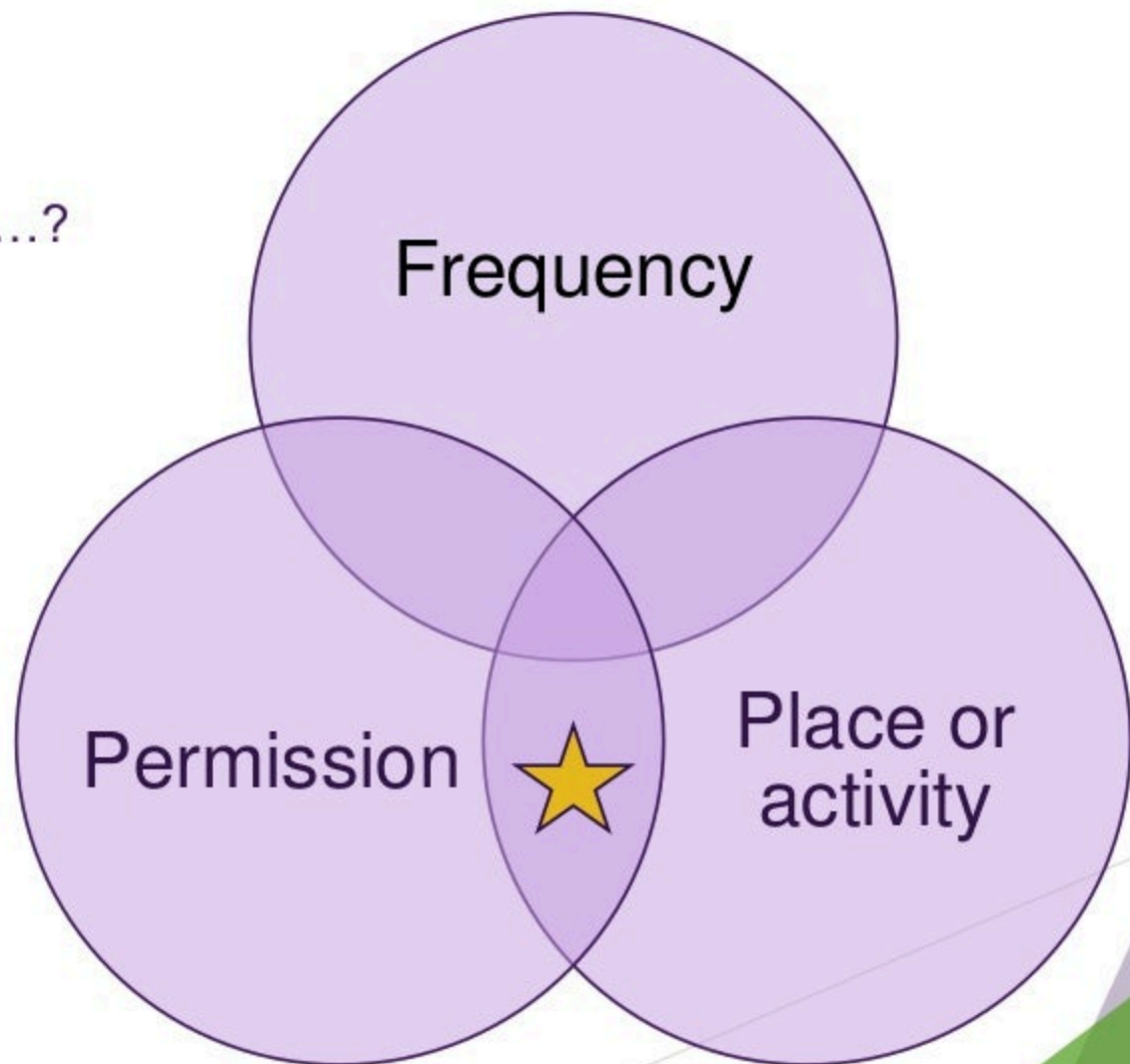
USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Extra slides

Bloom et al. 2001

Able to leave home without the company of another adult to go to...?

- Market
- Take a child to the doctor
- Doctor for own healthcare
- Visit natal kin



Gender Inequalities Index- Ferrant,
2010

Can leave home to...?
...with no restrictions
...sometimes
...never

- Travel
- Join a club or association
- Shopping/market without a male guardian
- See family and friends

