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SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN'S REPORTS OF TECH-FACILITATED IPV FROM THE FEDISA MODIKOLOGO STUDY

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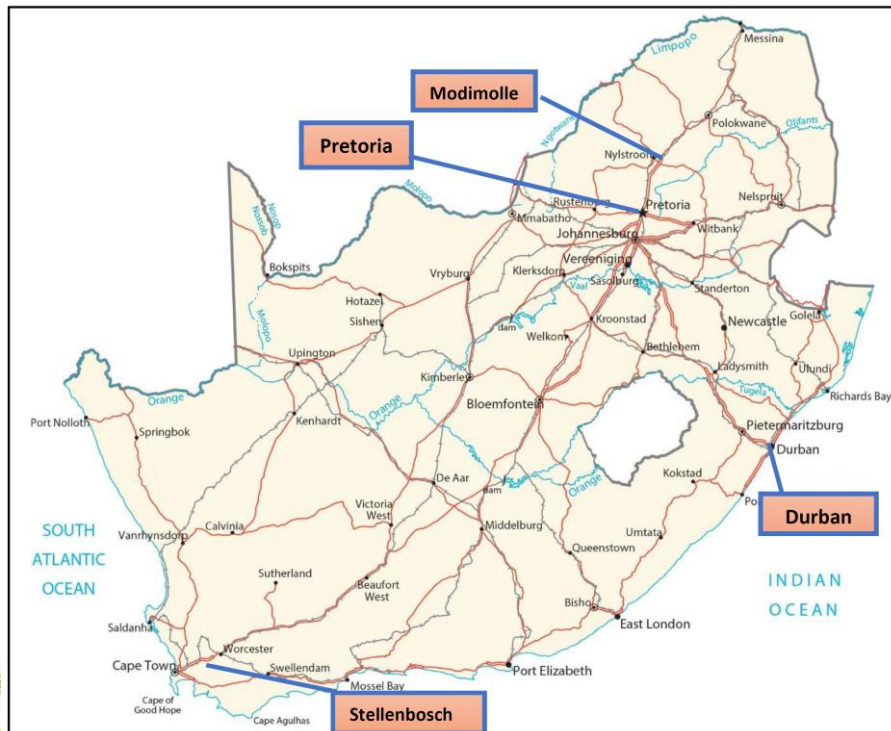
Background

- *Technology-facilitated GBV is action by one or more people that harms others based on their sexual or gender identity or by enforcing harmful gender norms. This action is carried out using the internet or mobile technology and includes stalking, bullying, sexual harassment, defamation, hate speech and exploitation. (ICRW, 2018)*
- Although TFGBV is prevalent, it has not been studied in great detail, nor do we understand the impacts of it.
- The FEDISA Modikologo study presents us with an opportunity to explore this under-researched area




Fediša Modikologo Study Methods

- **Cohort study**, with planned recruitment of n=12 000
- **Non-probability sample** of women experiencing severe IPV
- Recruited through services or chain-referral with coupons
- Data are from the first **n=1482** interviews conducted



- **Four study sites:** Modimolle(Limpopo), Stellenbosch (Western Cape), Durban(KZN) and Pretoria(Gauteng).




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Access to mobile phone and Social Media Accounts



Access to Social Media Accounts

- 82% have social media accounts
- 70 % use Facebook and WhatsApp
- 49% experienced past year social media-facilitated IPV
- 23 % were humiliated online by their partner
- 31 % were contacted on social media by their partner pretending to be another man
“Even now I have so many different account invites pending. I suspect it is him” 81204.
- 29% had their social media hacked by a partner

Porn & Filming

- 33% experienced porn & filming-related IPV in the past year
- 19% reported being forced to watch & enact porn against their wishes,
- 10% were forced to make a sex video

“He takes the videos of us having sex then he threatens me that if I leave him he will show his friends the videos.” 51274

- 20% had sexual photographs demanded of them by their partner
- 18% were sent unwanted sexual photographs or videos





Phone checking, tracking and controlling behaviour

- 92% said their partner checked or tracked their phone
- 68.5 % of partners asked for a pin drop
- 12% had a tracking app put on the phone

“he always buys airtime or data for both of us in order for him to know where am, i going to check that I am at the place I claim I went to” 30104

Phone tracking/checking and IPV Risk:

	No phone checking	Phone checking	p-value
Experienced Sexual IPV in past yr			<0.001
no	63.8%	29.3%	
yes	36.2%	70.7%	
Paranoid jealousy (score, high=more paranoid)	55.4	70.7	<0.001
Partner controlling behaviour (score, high=more controlling)	16.9	27.4	<0.001

Conclusion

- Tech-facilitated IPV, including phone monitoring, social media abuse, and pornography-related coercion, is highly prevalent among South African women
- This is an emerging dimension of men's range of violence against women
- The findings highlight the urgent need for more research to deepen our understanding of this emerging problem, and interventions that address both technological abuse and the broader context of intimate partner violence.



Acknowledgements

- This work was funded by Wellcome Trust.
- Our thanks go to the women participants who have shared their life stories with us and all the community members and organisations that support our work.



The South African Medical Research Council

recognizes the catastrophic and persisting consequences of colonialism and apartheid, including land dispossession and the intentional imposition of educational and health inequities.

Acknowledging the SAMRC's historical role and silence during apartheid, we commit our capacities and resources to the continued promotion of justice and dignity in health research in South Africa.



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