

## **“Does Our Culture Promote Abuse?” Bridewealth and Domestic Violence in Ghana**

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Most of what is known on the relationship between bridewealth and domestic violence is in the realm of reproduction. However, there are other aspects of a woman's life. This study investigates the differential effect of bridewealth on approval of domestic violence in two domains of a woman's life (reproduction and woman's personal economic activity). Setting up an experiment in “real life” to examine the different levels of bridewealth status (no bridewealth paid, some bridewealth paid and full bridewealth paid) of a woman and its effect on domestic violence against her was going to be very difficult. Therefore the “vignette experimental method” is used to investigate this relationship. The presentation will first describe the randomisation procedure across nine villages in a “controlled experimental” setting. Basic descriptive analyses are used to describe the characteristics the experimental groups as well as the general linear model and multiple linear regression to compare the groups. A methodology widely used by psychologists in controlled laboratory experiments is adapted into population research.