






AMERICAN HUMANE  
*Protecting Children & Animals Since 1877*



**ChapinHall**  
at the University of Chicago




The Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) of Households:  
Cross-National Child Surveillance System to Address  
Disciplinary Practices

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Overview

- UNICEF: Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS)






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- MICS3 child discipline module






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  - Violent: Psychological, physical, and severe physical
  - Belief in need for physical punishment
  - Nonviolent
  - Item and subscale prevalences




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- Risk & Protective Factors
- Summary & Program Implications



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- 3 rounds completed & 4<sup>th</sup> round is ongoing






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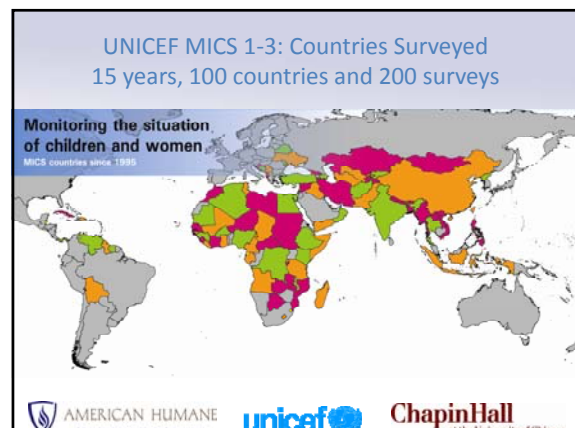
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- Optional module
- Child selected at random (2 through 14 years)
- Discipline by any/all caregivers






### UNICEF MICS3: Countries Analyzed (N = 162,127)

- Central & Eastern Europe
  - Albania, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Tajikistan, & Ukraine
- Latin America & The Caribbean
  - Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, & Trinidad and Tobago
- East Asia & The Pacific
  - Lao & Vietnam
- Middle East & North Africa
  - Algeria, Djibouti, Iraq, Syria, & Yemen
- West & Central Africa
  - Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Sierra Leone, & Togo




### Discipline subscales: Violent discipline subscales & Item prevalences

Subscale	MICS Items	Mean	SE
<b>Violent Discipline Subscales</b>			
<i>Psychological discipline</i>	Shouted, yelled at, or screamed at him/her		
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<i>Physical discipline</i>	Shook him/her		
	Spanked, hit or slapped him/her on the bottom with a bare hand		
	Hit him/her on the bottom or elsewhere on the body with something like a belt, hairbrush, stick or other hard object		
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<i>Physical discipline</i>	Shook him/her	.35	.01
	Spanked, hit or slapped him/her on the bottom with a bare hand	.27	.01
	Hit him/her on the bottom or elsewhere on the body with something like a belt, hairbrush, stick or other hard object	.04	.01
	Hit or slapped him/her on the hand, arm, or leg	.20	.01
<i>Severe physical discipline</i>	Hit or slapped him/her on the face, head or ears		
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<i>Severe physical discipline</i>	Hit or slapped him/her on the face, head or ears	.16	.01
	Beat him/her up with an implement (Hit over and over as hard as one could)	.04	.01

**Discipline item:  
Attitude about need for physical punishment**

	Mean	SE
Do you believe that in order to bring up (raise/educate) (target child) properly, you need to physically punish him/her?	.24	.01

**Discipline subscales:  
Discipline subscales & Subscale prevalences**

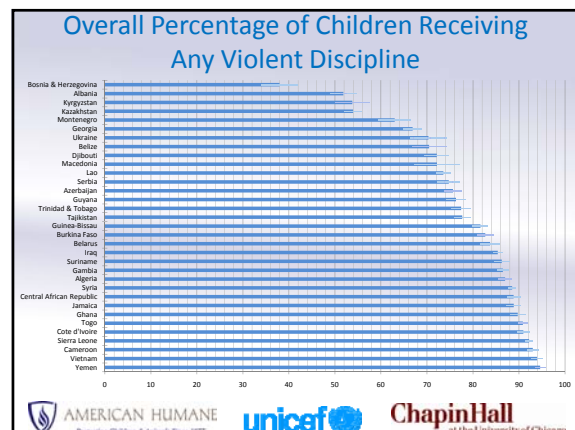
	Mean	SE
<b>VIOLENT:</b>		
Psychological ONLY	.27	.01
Physical ONLY	.02	.00
BOTH Psychological and Physical	.46	.01
Severe Physical	.17	.01
TOTAL who use ANY form of violent discipline	.76	.01
<b>NONVIOLENT:</b>		
ONLY use nonviolent	.20	.01
Use nonviolent (as well as violent)	.93	.01

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Use nonviolent (as well as violent)	.93	.01
NONE: Use neither violent nor nonviolent discipline methods	.04	.01



## Risk & Protective Factors

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- LOW SES & LACK OF RESOURCES
  - Family wealth
  - Family & Primary caregiver education
  - Number of household members
- CHILD CHARACTERISTICS
  - Child gender
  - Child age
- ATTITUDES ABOUT VIOLENCE
  - Belief in need for physical discipline
  - Maternal attitudes towards domestic violence
- CAREGIVER BEHAVIORS
  - Children's & non-children's books
  - Educational & play activities
  - Non-adult care

## Low SES & Lack of Resources

- Family Wealth
- Family Education
- Number of Household Members

## Family Wealth

- Definition
  - Wealthiest 40 percent & Poorest 60 percent
  - Relative not absolute wealth is measured

## Family Wealth

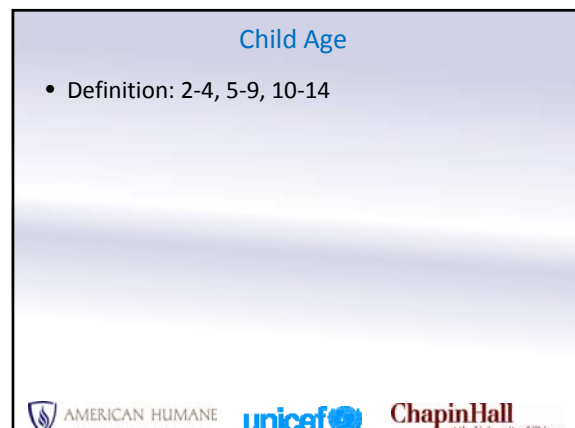
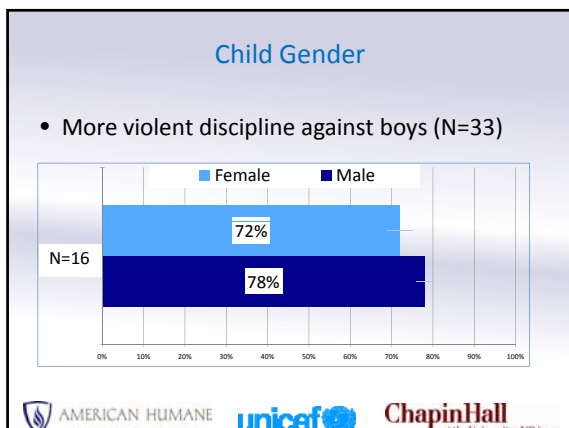
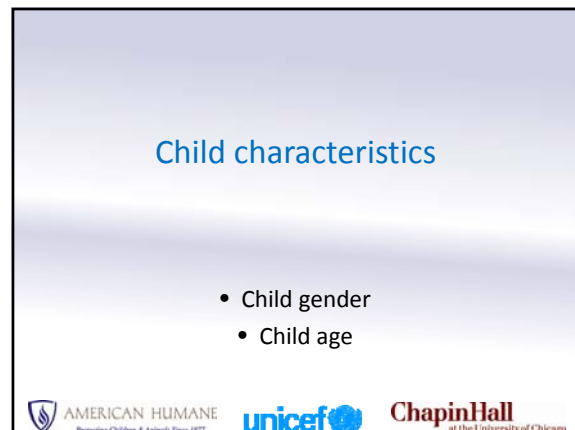
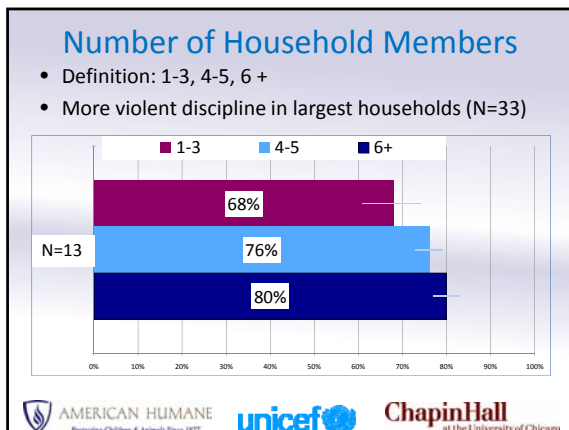
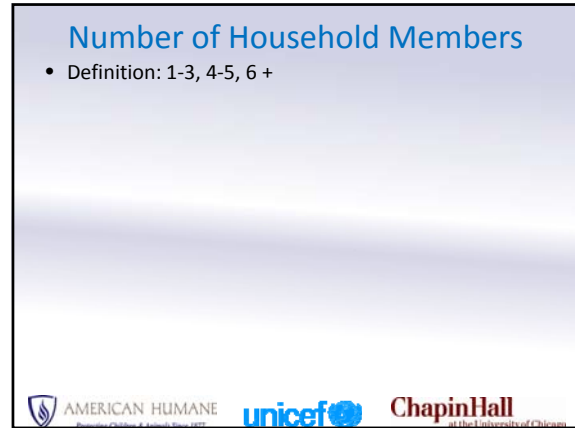
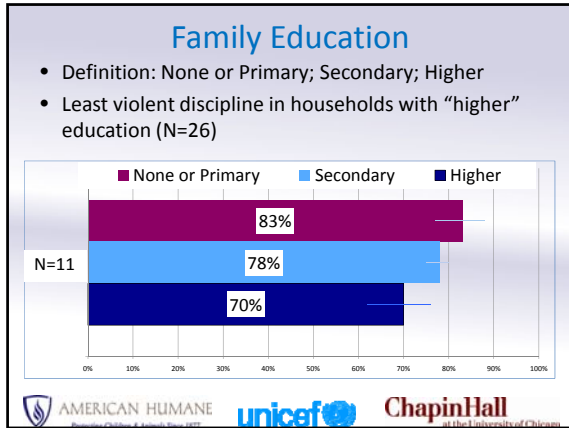
- Definition
  - Wealthiest 40 percent & Poorest 60 percent
  - Relative not absolute wealth is measured
- More violent discipline in poorest 60% (N=30 countries)

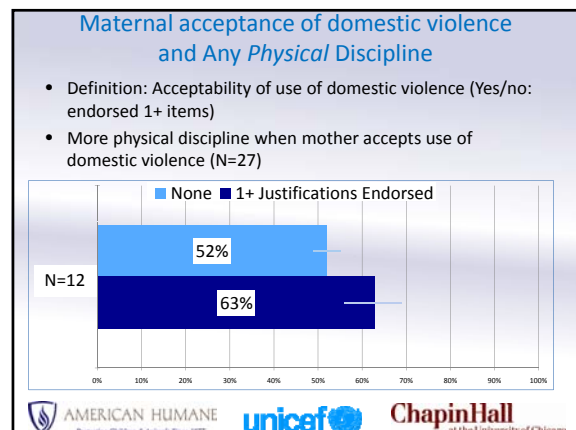
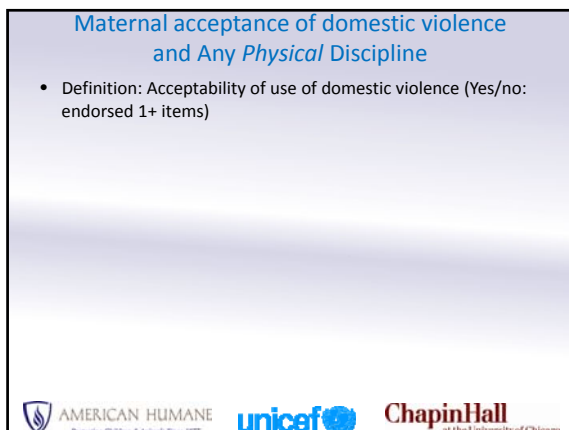
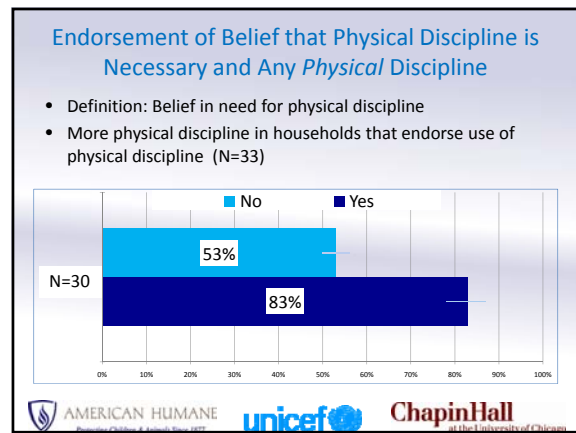
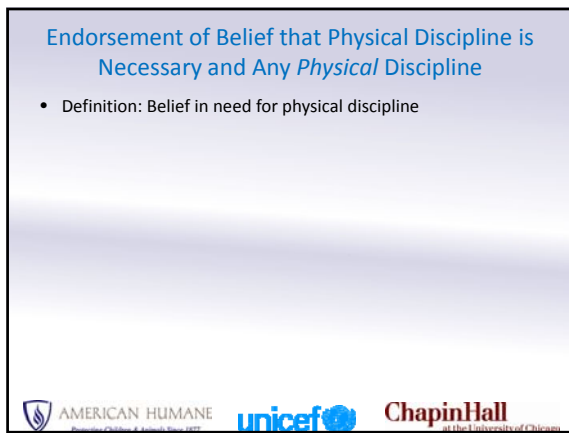
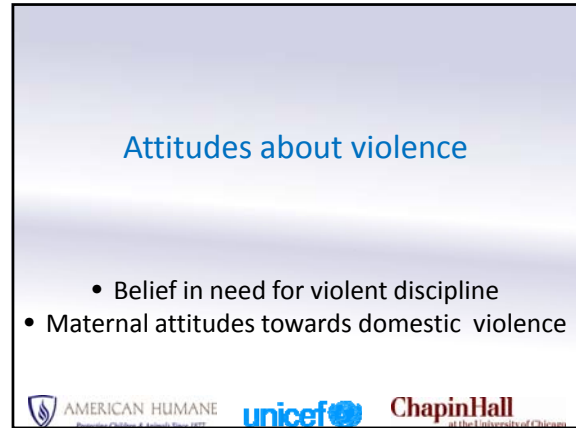
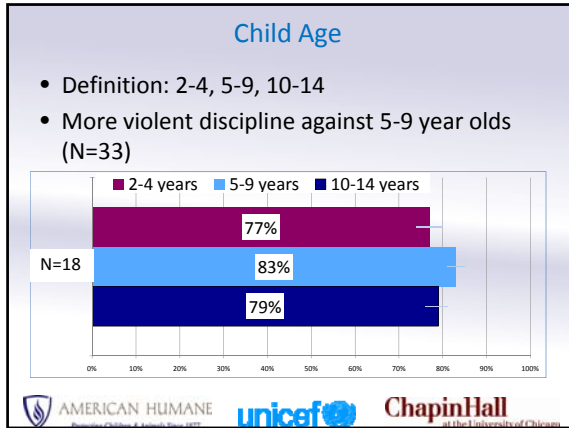
Group	Percentage of Countries with Violent Discipline
Wealthiest 40%	70%
Poorest 60%	77%

N=12 countries

## Family Education

- Definition: None or Primary; Secondary; Higher







## Caregiver behaviors

- Children's & non-children's books
  - Educational & play activities
    - Non-adult care

## Children's & Non-children's Books

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- Mixed results with Any violent discipline
- Less Severe violent discipline in households with more books (N= 10)

Books	Percentage
0	19%
1-10	19%
11+	10%

## Educational & play activities

- Definition (Under 5):
  - Educational activities + Play + Toys
  - 3-8, 9-15, 16+

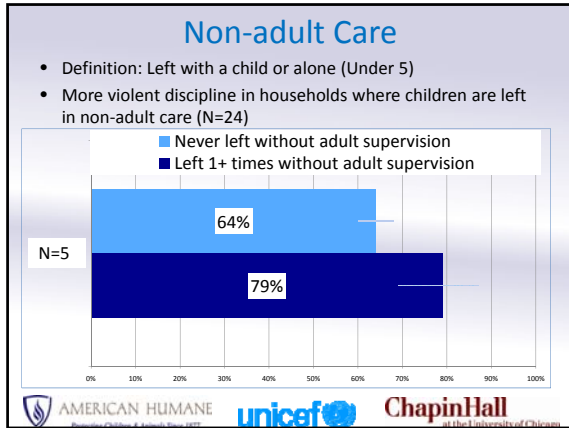
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  - 3-8, 9-15, 16+
- Less violent discipline with caregivers who engage in more activities (N=20)

Activity Level	Percentage
3-8 (Bottom Third)	77%
9-15 (Middle Third)	72%
16+ (Top Third)	61%

## Non-adult Care

- Definition: Left with a child or alone (Under 5)



### Summary & Program implications

- Widespread use of violent discipline

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- Need to combat simultaneously against all forms of violent discipline (Physical and psychological)
- A lack of knowledge of alternative parenting methods?
- Planning for future prevention approaches

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