

IMPLEMENTING FEMINIST SURVEY METHODOLOGIES:
REFLECTIONS ON SURVEYING MEN ON SEXUAL AND
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND GENDER IN ACCRA,
GHANA

Joe Strong (he/him)

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THANKS TO...

Supervisors Prof Ernestina Coast, Dr Tiziana Leone; co-supervisor Prof Easmon Otupiri

Dr Rishita Nandagiri and Dr Laura Sochas

Dr Adriana Biney and RIPS

Act for Change, James Town, Accra

ESRC and LSE

You!

THE TEAM

Nii Lante Samual Lamptey

Nii Kwartei Richie Owoo

Nii Kwartelai Quartey


Joe Strong

STRUCTURE

1. Project Rationale
2. Outlining existing data
3. Applying feminist, queer, and decolonial theories to quantitative data
4. Design, implementation, and findings from this project
5. Reflections



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“Feminist quantitative methods require fidelity to the feminist principles of being ethical, collaborative and participatory, transformative, intersectional, accountable, and accessible and open.”

Leung et al 2019

PROJECT RATIONALE

- Existing studies are brilliant, boundary pushing projects with pregnant women seeking care
(Dr Rishita Nandagiri, Prof Ernestina Coast, Dr Tiziana Leone, Dr Malvern Chiweshe, Dr Jubulile Mavuso, Dr Emily Freeman // Ipas, Guttmacher, MSI Choices)
- The continued individualisation of care-seeking undermines progress. Power dynamics and systems remain under-interrogated
- Reflecting on the positionality of myself and the research team

THE PROJECT

- Multi-method project based in James Town, Accra: quantitative survey and qualitative in-depth interviews
- Aiming to explore, understand, and interrogate masculinities
- <https://www.masculinitiesproject.org/>

Open access

Protocol

BMJ Open Exploring the roles of men and masculinities in abortion and emergency contraception pathways, Ghana: a mobile phone-based mixed-methods study protocol

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DHS, PMA, GMHS

- Ghana Demographic Health Survey, Performance Monitoring for Action (PMA), Ghana Maternal Health Survey



2014 GHANA DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY
MAN'S QUESTIONNAIRE

H, GHANA

GHANA ST

DHS, PMA, GMHS

- Ghana Demographic Health Survey, Performance Monitoring for Action (PMA), Ghana Maternal Health Survey


IDENTIFICATION	
HOUSEHOLD HEAD	_____
AGE
SEX
EDUCATION
.....
.....
URBAN = 1; RURAL = 2)
NUMBER OF MARRIAGES	_____

DHS, PMA, GMHS

- Ghana Demographic Health Survey, Performance Monitoring for Action (PMA), Ghana Maternal Health Survey

2014 GHANA DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY
22 August 2014
MINISTRY OF HEALTH, GHANA
MAN'S QUESTIONNAIRE
GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE

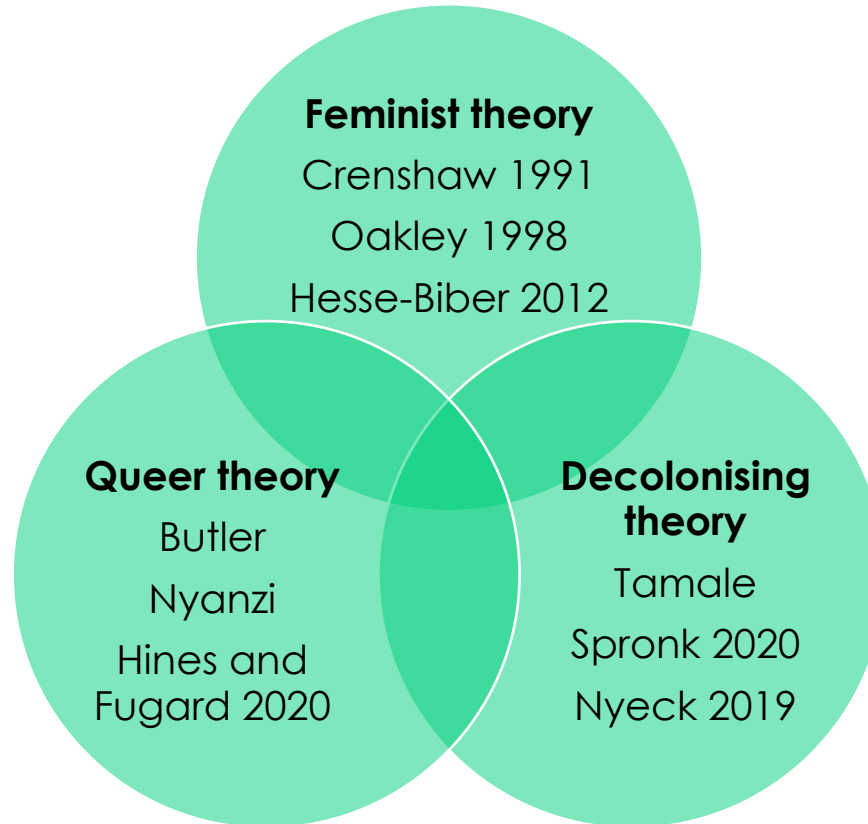
IDENTIFICATION								
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NAME OF HOUSEHOLD HEAD _____								
CLUSTER NUMBER								
STRUCTURE NUMBER								
HOUSEHOLD NUMBER								
REGION								
DISTRICT								
URBAN/RURAL (URBAN = 1; RURAL = 2)								
NAME AND LINE NUMBER OF MAN _____								



Randall, Coast, Leone 2011

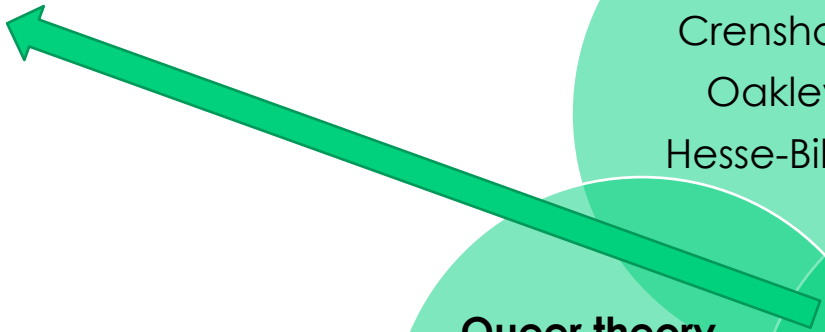
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THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK



THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

DESTABILISING



Feminist theory

Crenshaw 1991

Oakley 1998

Hesse-Biber 2012

Queer theory

Butler

Nyanzi

Hines and
Fugard 2020

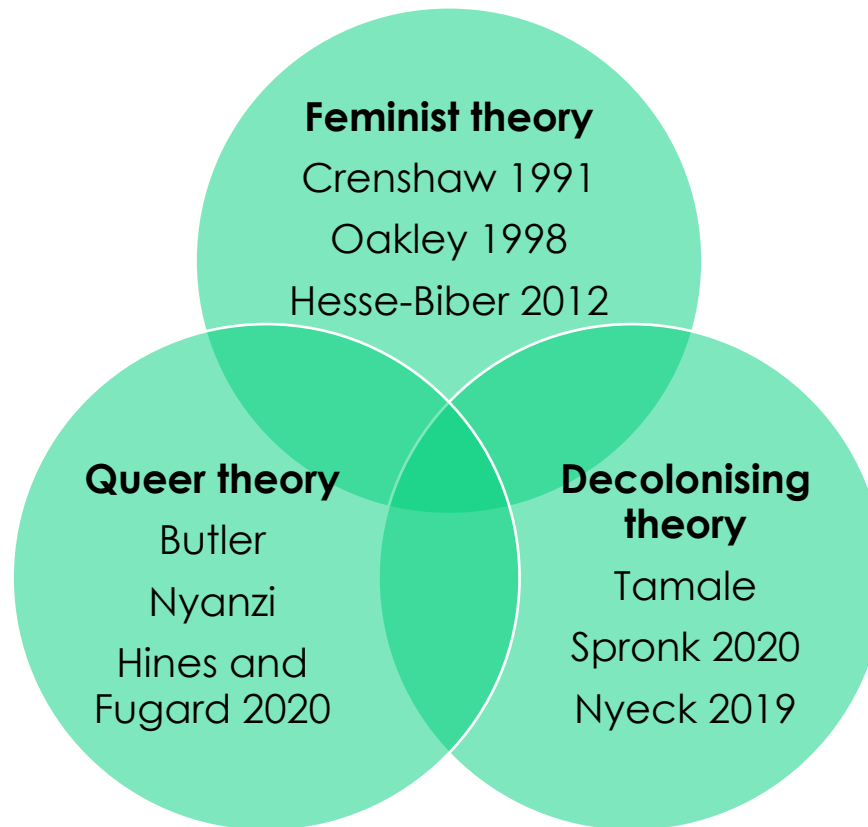
Decolonising theory

Tamale

Spronk 2020

Nyeck 2019

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK



Foucault 1991

Connell 1995;
2005

Nandagiri
forthcoming
2021

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DESIGNING THE SURVEY

- Collaboratively discussing constructs and relations

5.9. Would you support the following to obtain an abortion if they wanted one?

Wife
Second wife / girlfriend
Girlfriend
Sister
Sister-in-law
Daughter
Other female relative
Female friend
School girl
Sex worker
Female colleague

Yes	No	Don't know	It Depends

DESIGNING THE SURVEY

- Collaboratively discussing constructs and relations

3.7. Would you be happy if [insert relationship] becomes pregnant now?

Instruction: Repeat question 3.7. for all the relationships that the person says that they are in. In your answers, make sure you note which relationship you are talking about.

DESIGNING THE SURVEY

- Thinking through translations

I am now going to ask you some questions about emergency contraception.

4.1. Have you heard of emergency contraception?

Yes

No

(Go to 4.2.)

Don't know

(Go to 4.2.)

4.1.2. Can you tell me what emergency contraceptive is used for?

4.2. Emergency contraception is commonly used within 72 hours of having sexual intercourse, in order to avoid pregnancy. Have you heard of that?

Yes

No

(Go to 4.5.)

Don't know

(Go to 4.5.)

DESIGNING THE SURVEY

- Allowing space and feedback

5.6. Ani Ghana mla gmeo gbε kεha musujiemo

- Yes
- No x
- Don't know

5.6.1. Obaanye ni okεε mi nōni mla kεo ye he?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know x but I think it's murder

If yes, can you describe that law to me:

5.7. Ani owa moko efite musu dan?

- Yes
- No x (Go to 5.8.)
- Don't know (Go to 5.8.)

5.8. Ebaa gōo onaa keji ashimashi ya fite musu

I won't be happy if without my permission. (Related it to a story to one girl he dated before) It did not even work well so she became sick. I was in good terms with her father and her father knew we were dating but he did not tell me about this and whenever I call her and ask to come and see her, she tells me she has travelled. The dad grew hatred for me. Her mum also started misbehaving towards me. But when I asked her later, she refused but started crying and told me everything that she tried aborting without my knowledge but did not work well so was taken away to a hospital until she became fine. She could have given me a very big problem so I quitted right on the spot.

Instruction: Repeat 5.8. for all the relationships they say they are in. In your answers, make sure to note which person you are writing about.

5.9. Ani obaa wa mei nemei ateng moko afite musu keje eetao [would you support the following]

	Yes	No	Don't know	It Depends
Wife				x if may cause harm to mum or baby
Second wife / girlfriend				x
Girlfriend		x I would mostly use emergency contraceptive		
Sister		x		
Sister-in-law		x		
Daughter		x		
Other female relative		x		
Female friend		x		
School girl		x she must be taught from school		
Sex worker		x		
Female colleague		x		

DESIGNING THE SURVEY

- Allowing space and feedback

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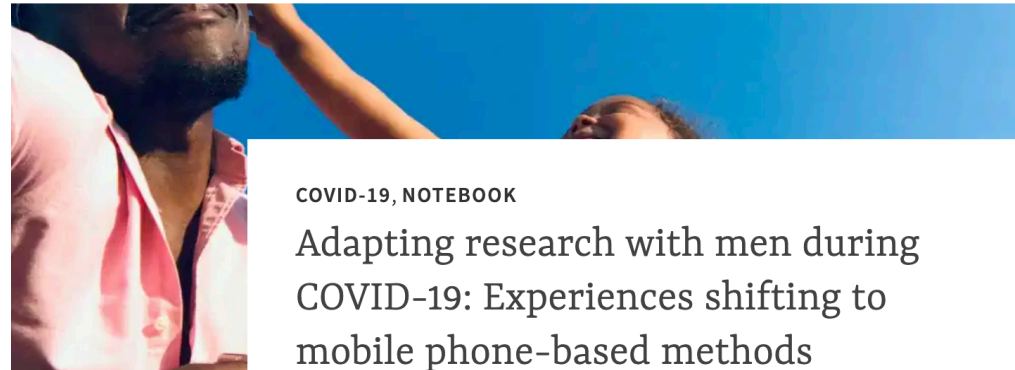
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Sex worker		x		
Female colleague		x		

IMPLEMENTING THE SURVEY

- Mobile-phone technology
- Use of laptops for note taking
- Acknowledging the researcher-respondent relationship



COVID-19, NOTEBOOK

Adapting research with men during COVID-19: Experiences shifting to mobile phone-based methods

August 21, 2020
socmediaeditor

By Joe Strong, Samuel Nii Lante Lamptey, Richard Nii Kwartei Owoo, and Nii Kwartelai Quartey



Our current issue

THE SURVEY

- a) Relationships
- b) Attitudes and relationality
- c) Attitudes and abortion
- d) Feedback loops

a) Relationships

b) Attitudes and relationality

c) Attitudes and abortion

d) Feedback loops

RELATIONSHIPS

Multiple categories of relationships: “like husband and wife”, married, courting, “side chick”, baby mama, girlfriend.

Our project

SECTION 3 – RELATIONSHIPS

I am going to ask you some questions about your relationships. Please remember that everything you say is confidential and you do not have to answer if you do not want to.

3.1. Are you currently in a relationship?

- Yes
- No (Go to 3.3.)
- Don't know

3.1.1. Can you describe that relationship to me?



DHS

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
401	Are you currently married or living together with a woman as if married?	YES, CURRENTLY MARRIED 1 YES, LIVING WITH A WOMAN 2 NO, NOT IN UNION 3	→ 404 → 402
402	Have you ever been married or lived together with a woman as if married?	YES, FORMERLY MARRIED 1 YES, LIVED WITH A WOMAN 2 NO 3	→ 413
403	What is your marital status now: are you widowed, divorced, or separated?	WIDOWED 1 DIVORCED 2 SEPARATED 3	→ 410
404	Is your (wife/partner) living with you now or is she staying elsewhere?	LIVING WITH HIM 1 STAYING ELSEWHERE 2	
405	Do you have other wives or do you live with other women as if married?	YES (MORE THAN ONE) 1 NO (ONLY ONE) 2	→ 407
406	Altogether, how many wives or live-in partners do you have?	TOTAL NUMBER OF WIVES AND LIVE-IN PARTNERS ... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	

RELATIONSHIPS

Research Note: “Child's mother: starts explaining about wife and girlfriend. Feels there's a difference between wife and child's mother. A wife is one whom you have married whereas a child's mother is the one who is not living with you but has a child with you.”



a) Relationships

b) Attitudes and relationality

c) Attitudes and abortion

d) Feedback loops

ATTITUDES AND RELATIONALITY

R1: 1. [girlfriend] once I am responsible. 2. ["side chick"] she has to decide. 3. "side chick" I am happy once she wants to give birth

R2: Yes because I want to marry her [first girlfriend]. I won't be happy but I will accept [second girlfriend]

R3: No. It will disturb me. I'm not working and it will bring stress on myself and my parents

3.7. Would you be happy if [insert relationship] becomes pregnant now?

Instruction: Repeat question 3.7. for all the relationships that the person says that they are in. In your answers, make sure you note which relationship you are talking about.

ATTITUDES AND RELATIONABILITY

	yes	no	don't know	it depends	notes
wife				X	if she is not ready then I will
second wife / partner	X				
girlfriend	X				if I have a wife
sister				X	I will first ask her husband
sister-in-law		X			
daughter	X				if she gets a good husband but if not no
other female relative		X			
female friend		X			
school girl		X			
sex worker		X			
female colleague		X			

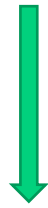
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ATTITUDES AND ABORTION

Would you ever support
[partner] have an abortion?

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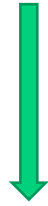


yes/no

OPEN

ATTITUDES AND ABORTION

Would you ever support
[partner] have an abortion?



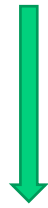
R: I hate it so I won't be happy. My house we don't do abortion.

R: yes with my permission, no if done without my permission

R: no - I will end the relationship as soon as she does that

ATTITUDES AND ABORTION

Would you ever support
[partner] have an abortion?



OPEN



Have you ever
supported someone
have an abortion?



Would you support
the following?

ATTITUDES AND ABORTION

Would you ever support
[partner] have an abortion?



OPEN



Have you ever
supported someone
have an abortion?

Would you support
the following?

ATTITUDES AND ABORTION

614	<p>In your opinion, is a husband justified in hitting or beating his wife in the following situations:</p> <p>a) If she goes out without telling him?</p> <p>b) If she neglects the children?</p> <p>c) If she argues with him?</p> <p>d) If she refuses to have sex with him?</p> <p>e) If she burns the food?</p>	<table> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>YES</th> <th>NO</th> <th>DK</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>GOES OUT</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NEGL. CHILDREN ...</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ARGUES</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>REFUSES SEX</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BURNS FOOD</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		YES	NO	DK	GOES OUT	1	2	8	NEGL. CHILDREN ...	1	2	8	ARGUES	1	2	8	REFUSES SEX	1	2	8	BURNS FOOD	1	2	8	
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- a) Relationships
- b) Attitudes and relationality
- c) Attitudes and abortion
- d) Feedback loops**

FEEDBACK LOOPS

- Tone, silence, notes, adapting questions

7.7. Do you have difficulty performing sexual intercourse?

No – no difficulty

Yes – some difficulty

Yes – a lot of difficulty

Cannot do at all

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REFLECTIONS

- Large surveys are really important, but assumptions and theories must be made explicit and central in our approach
- Destabilising categories and using our theoretical framework took us closer to the messy realities of masculinities and sexualities
- Co-production can be an important future for quantitative data collection



The primary function of data are to represent our realities and complexities. We are not here to fit the data.

THANK YOU!