



Post-conflict Health Care: Women's lives after conflict

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Outline Post-Conflict

- Definition of post-conflict
- Assumptions
- Applying it to women's health
- Case studies

Definitions

- Health
- Maternal Health
- Reproductive Health
- Mental Health

Countries & Conflicts

- Rwanda: 1990-1994
- Sri Lanka: 1987-2009
- Somalia: 1978-1993



Rwanda Population

- Hutus Majority
- Tutsi minority
- Twa less than 1%

Rwanda's Conflict

- 1990 Rwandan Patriotic Front (Tutsi refugee Rebel group) invading to defeat Hutu government
- Hutu Power: Tutsi wanted to enslave Hutu
- Tutsi displaced many Hutu in the North
- Many Tutsi were killed in the South
- 1994 assassination of the Hutu-government leader started Genocide

Rwanda Genocide

- Ethnic tensions
- Lasted for about 100 days
- Estimated deaths range from 500,000 to 1,000,000
- Organized by government
- Print and radio media used to plan and promote genocide

Rwanda: Maternal Health Post-Conflict

- Lower-income women
 - Women headed households
 - Increase in poverty
 - Economic instability
- Decrease in Health infrastructures
- Decrease in Health specialist
- Government interventions
 - *Mutuelles*

Rwanda: Reproductive Health Post-Conflict

- Refugees and internally displaced populations.
- Aid organizations
- Sexual violence

Rwanda: Mental Health Post-Conflict

- PTSD and Stress disorders
 - Direct and indirect incidents
- High need for professionals
 - Studies done 14 years after the conflict

Similarities

- Maternal Health
 - Poverty
- Reproductive Health
 - Cultural practices
 - Sexual Violence
- Mental Health
 - Experiences of war

Conclusions

- Education
- Empowerment
- Change in gender roles
- Government intervention
- International intervention
 - Prevent conflicts



Questions?

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