

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH FOR SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

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From Research to Practice:
Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research
Geneva Workshop 2012
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Clowning helps IVF patients become pregnant: study

January 14th, 2011 in Medicine & Health / Medical research

(PhysOrg.com) -- Infertility researchers in Israel have found a 15-minute encounter with a clown immediately after fertility pregnancy.

Dr. Shevach Friedler an infertility Center, in Zrifin, Israel, led a study clown on the pregnancy rate of wo

Dr. Friedler and colleagues tracked over a period of a year, treated half

Send in the clowns to boost IVF success?

Wed, Jan 12 2011

By Amy Norton

NEW YORK (Reuters Health) - Laughter may not be the best medicine, but it might help women who are trying to become pregnant through in-vitro fertilization (IVF), a small study suggests.

In a study of 219 women undergoing IVF, those who were entertained by a professional

Humour clowns linked to IVF success

Published: January 13, 2011 - 4:30PM

In a study of 219 women undergoing IVF published in Fertility and Sterility, an Israeli team led by Shevach Friedler found that the odds of success were greater among women who were entertained by a professional "medical clown" just after the embryos were transferred to their wombs.

Overall, 36 percent became pregnant, as compared to 20 percent of women who'd had a comedy-free recovery after the transfer procedure.

Friedler said he got the idea for the study after reading about the potential physiological impact of laughter as a "natural anti-stress mechanism."



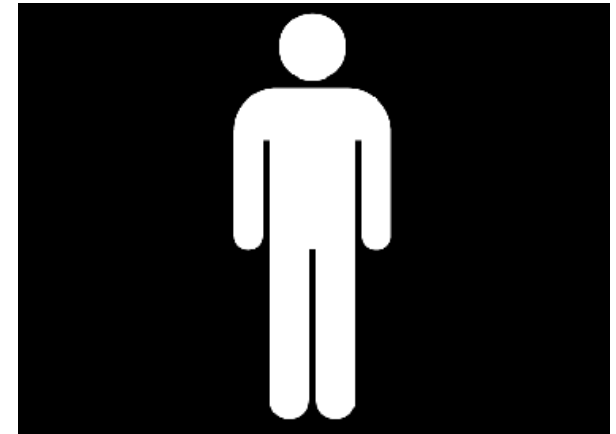
SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH FOR SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

TOPICS

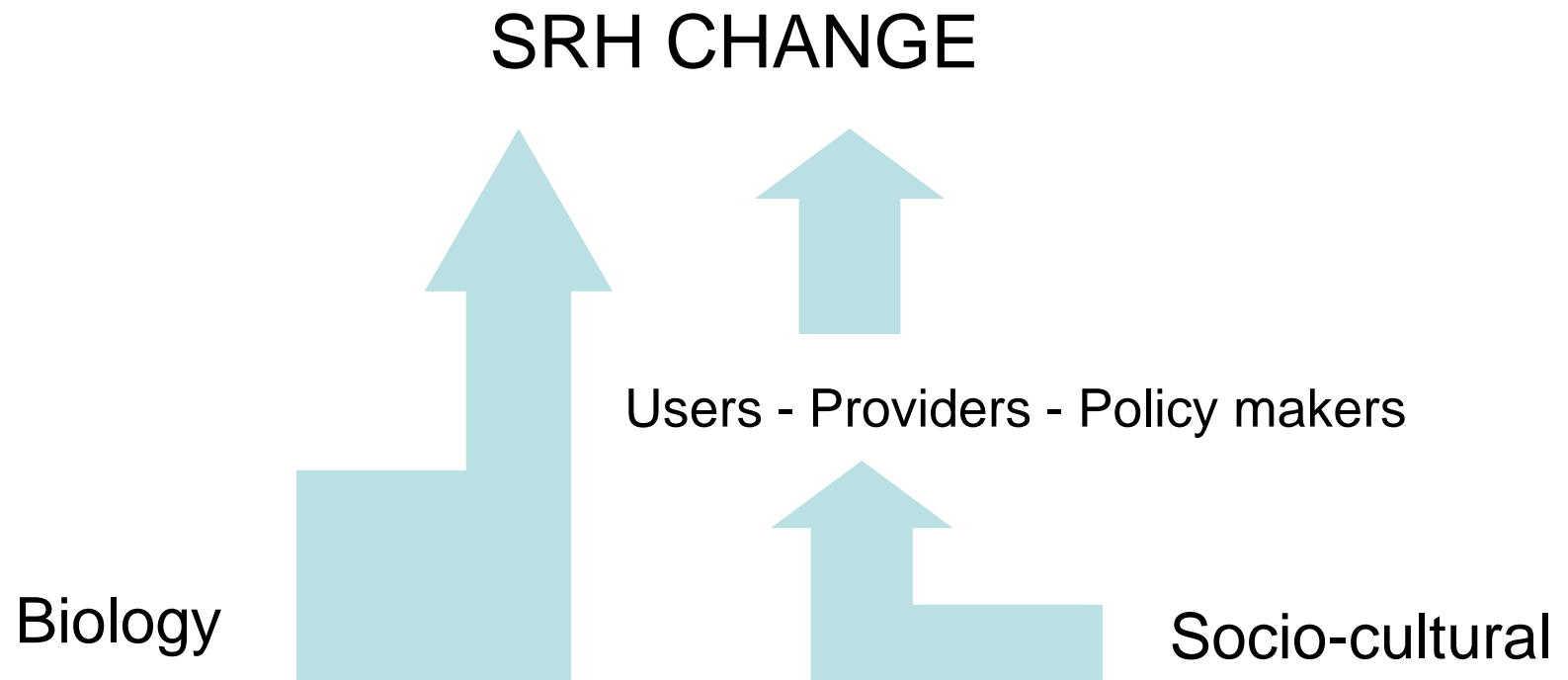
- 1 Introduction: definitions and objectives for SRH
- 2 Social science research contents: checklist
- 3 Analysis and interpretation: examples of ambivalence

CORE REPRODUCTIVE & SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES ARE:

- 1 Improving antenatal, intrapartum, postpartum and newborn care
- 2 High-quality services for family planning (including infertility)
- 3 Eliminating unsafe abortions
- 4 Fighting STIs
- 5 Promoting sexual health



Human behavior



DEFINITION

Social science is the study of society and the manner in which people behave and influence the world around us



SOCIAL SCIENCE DISCIPLINES

Human geography

Political science

Law Cultural studies

Criminology Communication

Economics

Psychology

Sociology Linguistics

Development studies

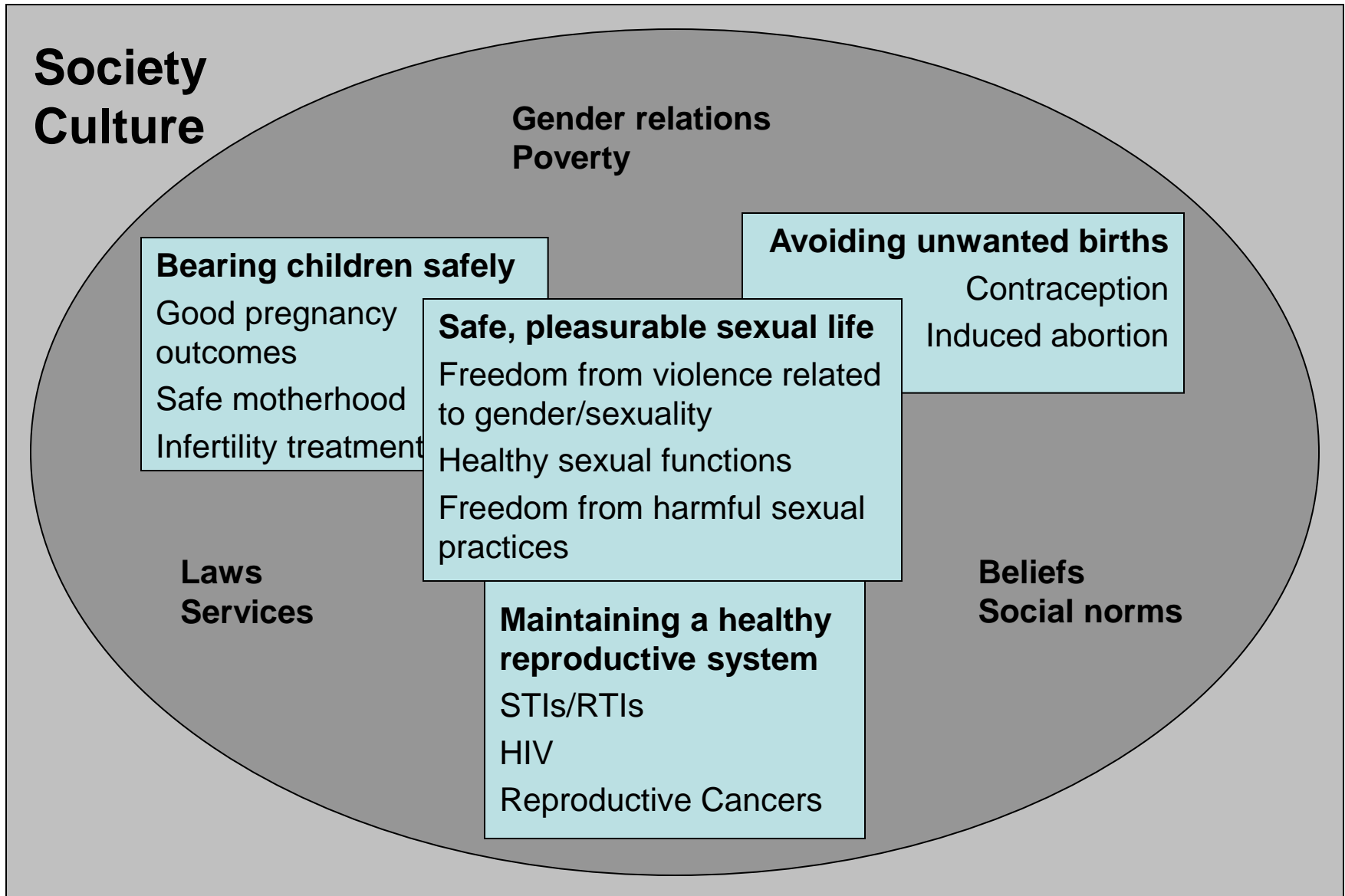
Anthropology

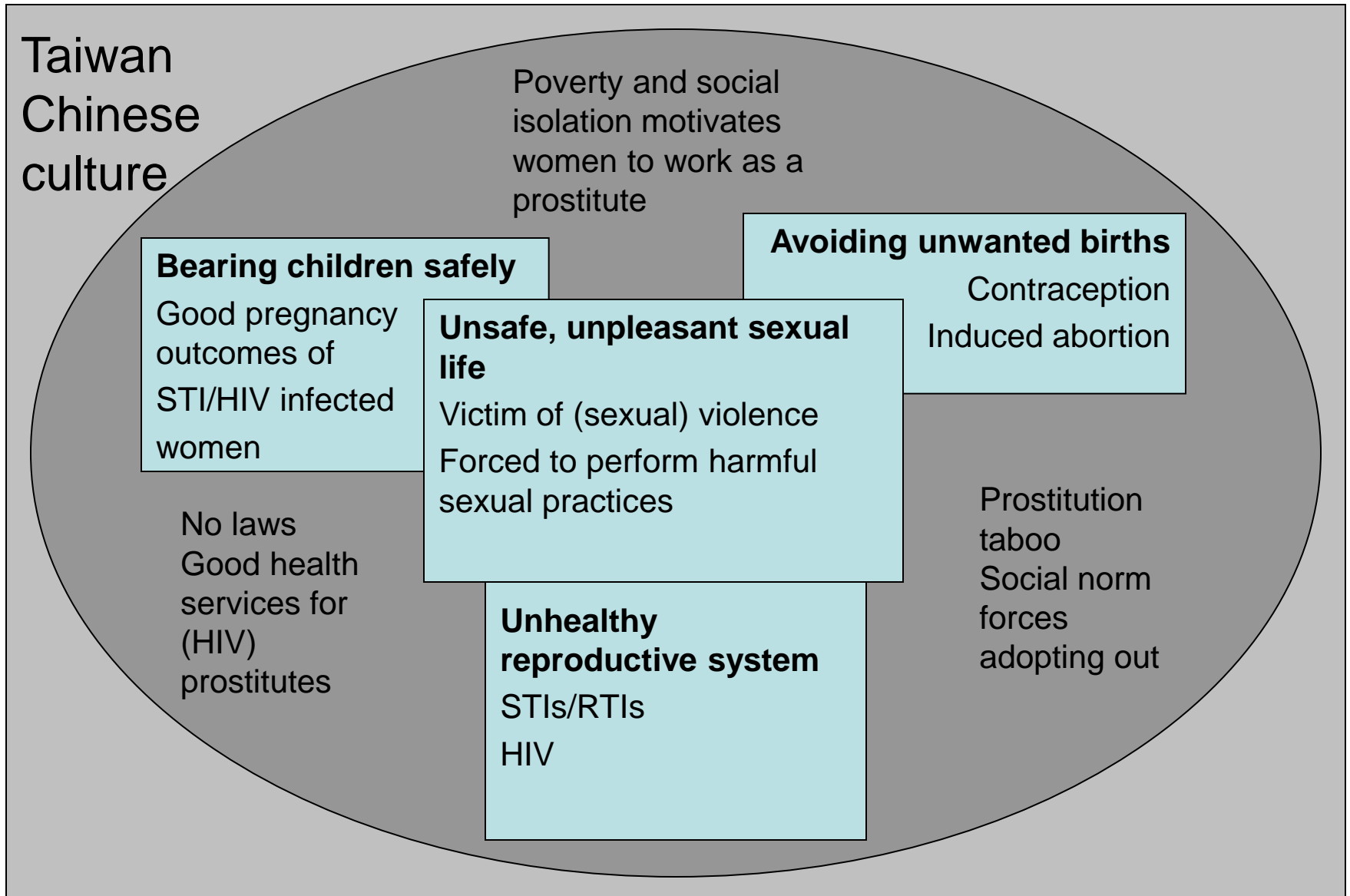
**SOCIAL SCIENCE
DISCIPLINES:**

**This is
a social science!
Try again.**

SOCIAL SCIENCE DISCIPLINES:

- 1 Anthropology
- 2 Communication
- 3 Criminology
- 4 Cultural studies
- 5 Development studies
- 6 Economics
- 7 Human geography
- 8 Linguistics
- 9 Law
- 10 Political science
- 11 Psychology
- 12 Sociology





OBJECTIVES OF SOCIAL SCIENCE FOR SRH RESEARCH

1 Identifying SRH problems: nature, magnitude, determinants and consequences of sexual and/or reproductive (ill) health

- sexual practices and meanings
- risk perception and negotiation
- beliefs and values about sexuality and reproduction
- biomedically defined versus self-perceived sexual and reproductive morbidity
- individual experience of SRH problems and solutions
- psychological, social, cultural and economic consequences
- socioeconomic and demographic characteristics

OBJECTIVES OF SOCIAL SCIENCE FOR SRH RESEARCH

2 Designing and evaluating culturally appropriate SRH campaigns

- drivers of behavior change in in a particular setting
- specific barriers for individuals and groups in adopting health behavior
- culturally acceptable methods for promoting change
- evaluating the process and outcomes of interventions

OBJECTIVES OF SOCIAL SCIENCE FOR SRH RESEARCH

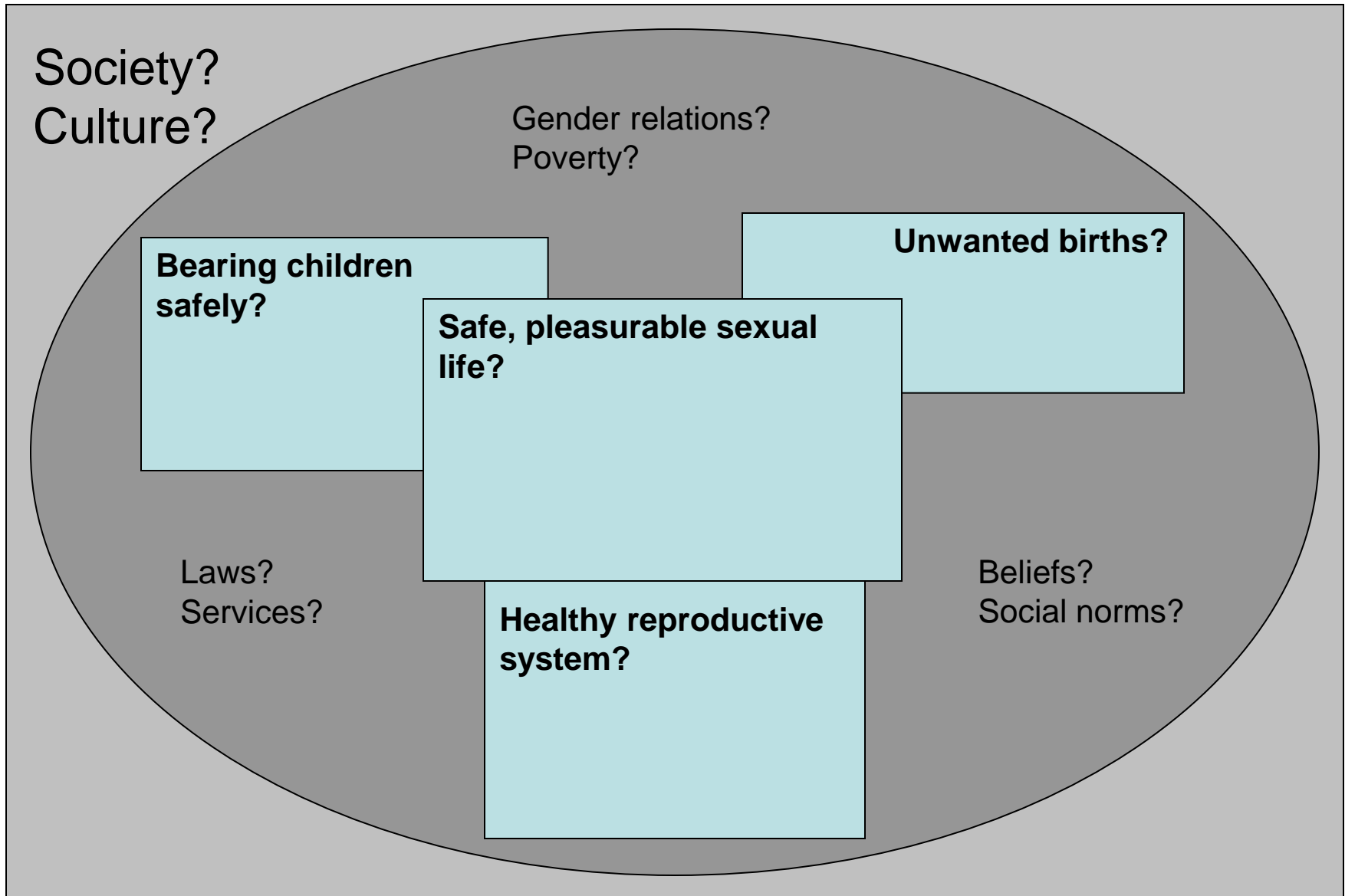
3 Preventative and curative SRH services

- decision-making and motivation concerning the use of prevention and treatment services
- accessibility and acceptability of services
- costs
- dynamics of use of services
- quality of care
- user and provider perspectives
- effectiveness of organization
- interaction of SRH issues

OBJECTIVES OF SOCIAL SCIENCE FOR SRH RESEARCH

4 SRH policies and socio-legal aspects

- effectiveness of different types of services
- value of integrating services
- policy barriers to implementing sexual and reproductive change
- institutional and leadership issues surrounding change



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RESEARCH DESIGN

Medical research

observation

experiment

sequential

observation

exploratory

Social science research

experiment

historical

action research

causal design

cross-sectional

longitudinal

case study

cohort design

descriptive

philosophical

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH CONTENTS

- 1 Develop research problem statement, theoretical framework, hypotheses
- 2 Select data-collection method and choose sample
- 3 Make research planning
- 4 Conduct data collection
- 5 Analyze data

Relevancy?

Research question clear&bounded?

Social distance?

Easier/better ways to do research?

Legitimate planning?

Statistical significance?

MARLOES' RESEARCH CHECKLIST

RESEARCH CHECKLIST

Defining the problem

1. What is the research need that has been identified?
2. What is the scale and nature of the need?
3. Is the research timely and relevant?
4. Have different stakeholder views been taken into account when framing the issues and questions to be addressed?
5. What is the relevance of the issue to the institute you're affiliated with?
6. Should the institute you're affiliated with prioritize this research?
7. Has a research question to meet the research need been clearly defined?

Theoretical framework

8. What steps have been taken to review the existing evidence? Has a literature review been undertaken? Is the review:
 - o a systematic review of the evidence?
 - o a scoping study?
 - o a rapid evidence assessment?
 - o an expert assessment of the field by multiple stakeholders?
9. Has an external expert appraisal of the review been considered?
10. What is the current state of the evidence to inform the research question, on the basis of the above?
11. What is the quality of the evidence underpinning the review?
 - a. This might include an assessment of:
 - o internal and external validity and reliability of the evidence base



RESEARCH CHECKLIST

4. Have different stakeholder views been taken into account when framing the issues and questions to be addressed by the research?

Stakeholders:

Beneficiaries

Central government

Ministry of health

Local governments

Financiers

Civil society organizations

Health governing boards

Professional organizations

Unions

- Impact on health policy and its changes for stakeholders
- Encouraging contribution by stakeholders

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Systematic review:

Identifies, appraises, selects and synthesizes all high quality research evidence relevant to the question

Scoping study: a preliminary study to define the scope of a research

REA: a review in response to specific clinical questions

Expert assessment: specialist evaluates evidence

RESEARCH CHECKLIST

14. Is the choice of the research method motivated, including a consideration of other methods?

Qualitative research: non-numerical data, broad, whole picture, exploratory

Quantitative research: measurable data, narrow, focused, conclusive

What people think? Ask them through interview or questionnaire

Unusual event? Detailed investigate through case study

A sampling frame exists, generalization is a prime consideration? Probability sampling

When doing in-depth research where representation is not the prime concern? Purposive sampling

RESEARCH CHECKLIST

19. Is the research paper the author's own work?

Plagiarism: all unacknowledged copying from others AND yourself

The Chinese government did not do enough in the first SARS outbreak in 2002 - in fact, they covered it up. **The country is grappling with a health system that has seen limited investment and millions of rural workers who have no access to health care at all. While China has spent \$1.5 billion for SARS prevention and control, it is clearly not enough.** (CNN 2011, Sars in China, china.sars.repeat.reut/index.html)

RESEARCH CHECKLIST

44. Has an assessment of any conflicts of interest been undertaken? e.g. who funded the research on which the evidence is based? Do they have a vested interest in the recommendations and findings?

A **conflict of interest (COI)** occurs when an individual or organization is involved in multiple interests, one of which could *possibly corrupt* the motivation for an act in the other

Tensions between your interests as researchers and your primary obligations as clinicians

Industry-funded drug trials

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Warning: fake data!

AMBIVALENCE EXAMPLE 1

Male			
	Applied	Admitted	Rate
Major A	900	450	50%
Major B	100	10	10%

Female			
	Applied	Admitted	Rate
Major A	100	80	80%
Major B	900	180	20%

Warning: fake data!

AMBIVALENCE EXAMPLE 1

Male			
	Applied	Admitted	Rate
Major A	900	450	50%
Major B	100	10	10%
Both	1000	460	46%

Female			
	Applied	Admitted	Rate
Major A	100	80	80%
Major B	900	180	20%
Both	1000	260	26%

AMBIVALENCE EXAMPLE 2

Correlation

A mutual relationship or connection between two or more things

Causation

The relationship between cause and effect



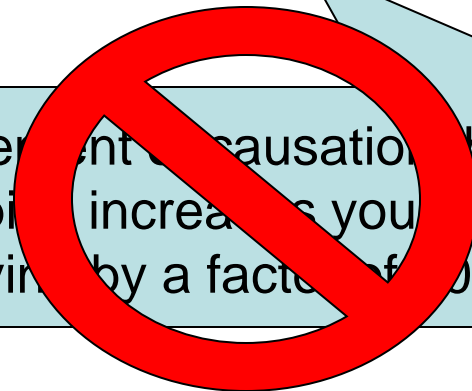
dreamstime.com

AMBIVALENCE EXAMPLE 2

In hospital	Died	Percentages
40	4	10%
At home	Died	
8000	20	0.25%

Statement of correlation:
chances of dying in a hospital
are 40 times larger than at
home

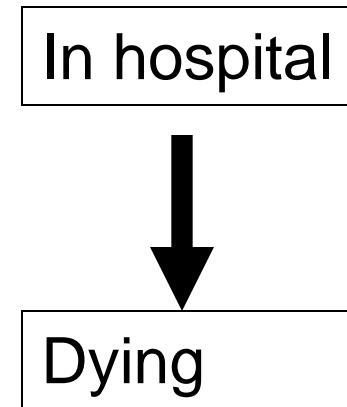
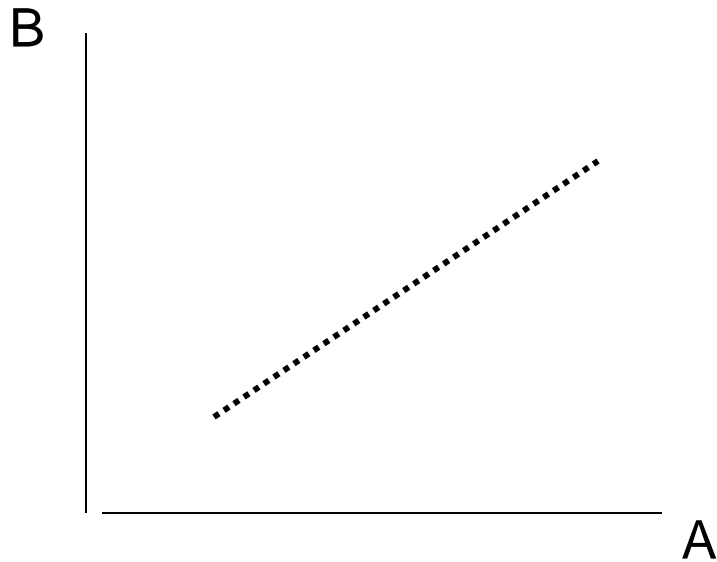
Statement of causation: being in a
hospital increases your probability
of dying by a factor of 40.



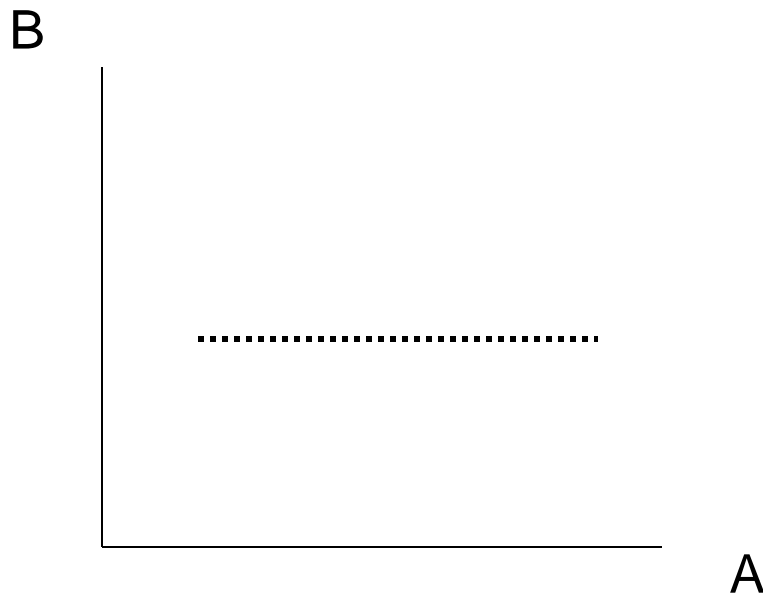
AMBIVALENCE EXAMPLE 2

	In hospital	Died	Percentages
Sick	36	4	11.1%
Healthy	4	0	0%
	At home	Died	
Sick	40	20	50%
Healthy	7960	20 (accidents)	0.25%

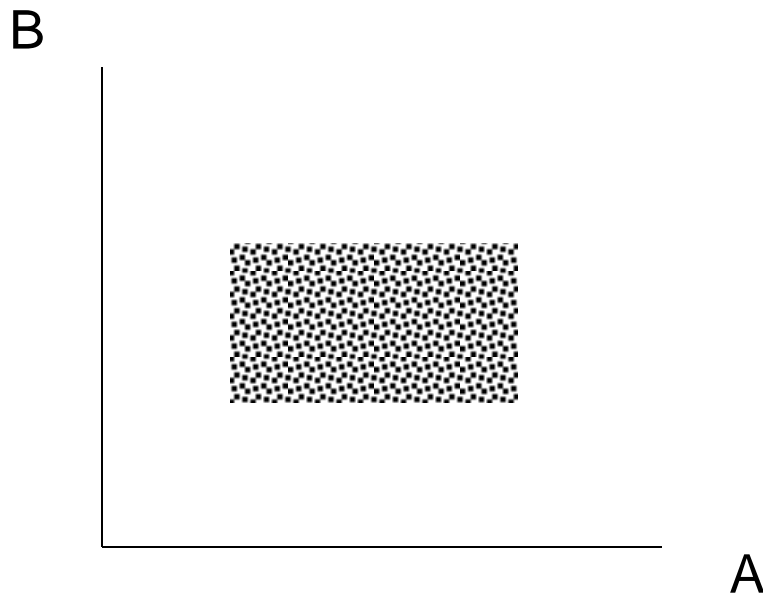
AMBIVALENCE EXAMPLE 2



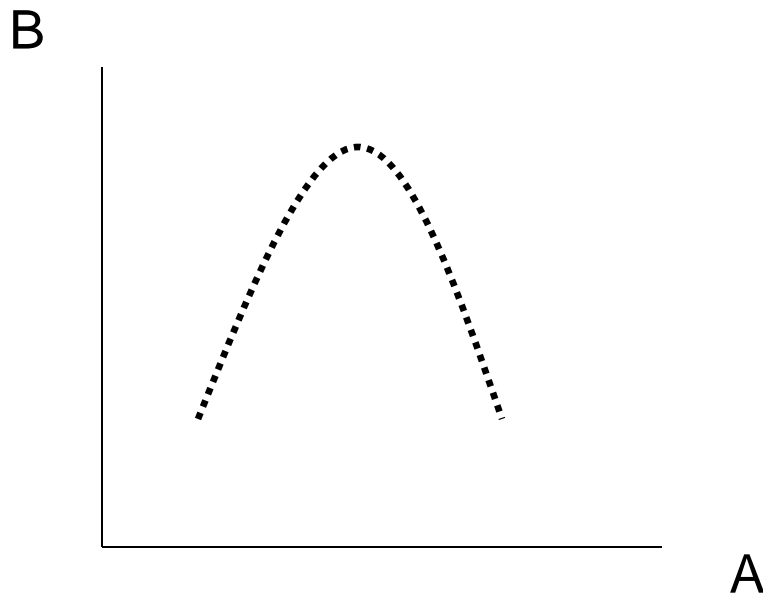
AMBIVALENCE EXAMPLE 2



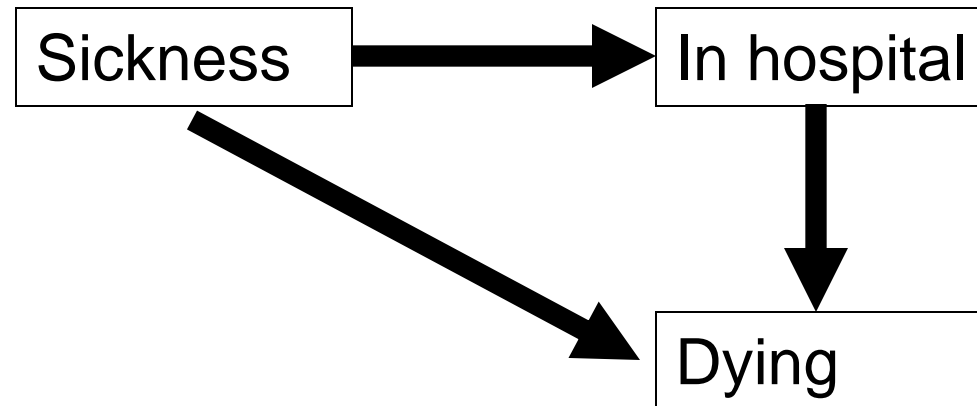
AMBIVALENCE EXAMPLE 2



AMBIVALENCE EXAMPLE 2



AMBIVALENCE EXAMPLE 2



SOURCES & FURTHER READING

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