

ANNEX TWO

Vignette One (45 minutes)

Will include the following two social norms

- **Physical Violence**
- **Wives asked to keep silent so as not to prolong fight**

I'm going to tell you a story about Yogaraja (age 28) and Shanthi (25) who are a married couple. Let's pretend they are from [insert name of estate FGD is being conducted on]. I don't want you to think about a real Shanti and Yogaraja who live here. We could have chosen other names, but for now let's stick to those. Yoga's parents live with them.

[**Note to facilitator** - You might want to ask some introductory questions, like: can you describe me their house? Do they have children? How many do you think they have? Maybe have fun with the questions like: what do you think is Yoga's favourite food?]

Every day Shanthi picks up her son from the daycare after work, heads home and prepares dinner for the family. On this particular day she was buying groceries but could not find rice and had to go to another shop to buy it. Because of this she misses her usual bus and has to wait for the next one. As a result, she gets late to go home. Yoga had already returned home and was waiting for her for an hour.

- Now what do you think Yoga's response would be? (If they say it depends, then ask what would the majority of husbands who live on this estate say?)

[**Note to facilitator:** If they don't mention violence, then bring up the following situation of violence. If they bring up violence, then go straight to questions below]. Yogaraja was angry that Shanthi was not home and even their neighbours did not know where she was. As she comes home, in his anger, he hits her even before she could explain why she was late.

- What would most wives like Shanthi do in this situation?
- Yoga's parents who live with them, also witness this incident. What do you think Yoga's mother would expect him to do? What do you think Yoga's father would expect him to do?
- Is there any other way Yogaraja could have responded?

- Is this response better or worse than the beating?
- For whom is it better or worse? Why?
- How many people in your community would choose this way instead if they could?
- Can they choose this way if they wanted to? Why or why not?

Now let's get back to the story. Remember? Yoga was angry, and began to beat Shanti. Now, Shanthi pleads with her husband not to beat her and tries to explain that she was late because she missed the bus as she had to go elsewhere to buy groceries.

- Would most wives like Shanthi try to explain themselves in this situation?
- Would most husbands like Yogaraja who live on this estate listen to her explanation?
- What do you think Shanthi's in-laws would tell her to do in this situation?

Let's continue with our story. As Shanthi is pleading with her husband, he gets even more angry, because he feels she is talking back at him, and he beats her again, this time bruising her quite badly on the face. The next day, her son falls ill as well and Shanthi takes the child to the clinic. While she is waiting her turn at the clinic, a close friend of hers who is also waiting in line, asks Shanthi why her face was bruised.

- How do you think most wives like Shanthi would have explained the bruise on her face to a close friend? Why she would explain in that way?
- If it was an acquaintance instead of a close friend, would she have given the same explanation? If not, what would she have said? Why would she explain it that way?
- What do you think her close friend would have said to her in this situation?
- What would her acquaintance have said to her in this situation?

After Shanthi finally sees the doctor, he also notices the bruise and asks her what happened.

- How do you think most wives like Shanthi would have explained the bruise on her face to an EMA?

- What advice would the EMA give her?
 - Would you say that most EMAs on your estate would give the same advice?
 - Has it always been the case? Or has this situation been changing? Please explain
- Is there any other way Shanthi could have responded to Yogarajah in this situation?
 - Do you think there are others in your community who share the same opinion as you?
 - How easy or difficult would it be for a woman like Shanthi to do this in your own community? Please explain.

Vignette Two (45 minutes)

Will include the following two social norms:

- **Scolding/Verbal punishment**
- **Wives have to accept the husband's point of view without question**

Yogaraja and Shanthi now have 2 children: an 8-year-old daughter and a 4-year-old son. Of late, the parents have been struggling with money for school books and uniforms for their daughter. They have both been arguing a lot about this, which often results in Yogarajah being aggressive, telling Shanthi to keep quiet or threatening her. One day Yogarajah is really looking forward to relaxing by going out for a drink with his friends. Shanthi gets upset about this because she feels he is going to waste money when they are already struggling to keep their daughter in school.

- What would most wives like Shanthi do in this situation?

[Note to facilitator: First listen to people's responses. Then say]: Shanthi took the decision to ask him not to go out.

- How would most husbands like Yogaraja who live on this estate, react in this situation?
- Is there anyone else who would act differently in the community?
 - Is this response better or worse than what was explained above?
 - For whom is it better or worse? Why?
 - How many people in your community would choose this way instead if they could?
 - Can they choose this way if they wanted to? Why or why not?

Yoga scolds Shanthi and says it is not her place to decide what he does, and then he goes out to meet his friends. The next day when Shanthi is at work, she talks to her close friend about this, as she is still upset.

- What do you think her friend would have said to her in this situation?

Imagine another family like this – where the husband is Kumar and the wife is Kavita. These are not names of actual people. Now imagine a scenario when Kavitha asks Kumar to discuss how they spend money as a family. Kumar listens to her point of view, and they decide together to spend the money on school books for their daughter. Since Kumar had already told his friends that he would join them for a drink, he sent one of them a message saying he was unable to join them. The next day when he meets his friends and they ask him why he did not turn up, he explained that he and his wife had decided to try and save some money.

- When he tells his friends, what would most of Kumar's friends think of him?
- How do you think Yoga's friends reactions make him feel?
- In this community, is it possible for most men like Kumar to be open about the decision he made with his wife in front of his friends? If no, why not? If yes or no – has this changed in the last few years? If yes, what has brought about this change? Please explain.
- Do you think there are many people who would support Kumar's decision in your community?

Kavitha is happy with this decision they have made together and when she goes to work she talks to her friends about what happened. She also speaks positively about Kumar, saying that he is a supportive and understanding husband.

- How would Kavitha's friends react if Kavitha talks about her husband in a positive way with her friends?

Thanks so much – I have a few final questions.

CLOSING: Thank you for your time and help. These are all the questions I have for now. Do you have anything you would like to add? Do you have any questions for me?