



Creating High Quality Respectful Hospital Care

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GLOBAL
SURGERY

« In much of the world,
the most dangerous thing
a woman can do is
become pregnant. »

—Nicholas Kristof for the New York Times

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/20/opinion/sunday/the-worlds-modern-day-lepers-women-with-fistulas.html>

Outline

- **Respectful maternity care**
- **Comprehensive obstetric care**
- **Maternal mental health support**
- **Solutions and approaches**



High Quality Respectful Hospital Care

**Improving the pregnancy
and childbirth experience**

**High quality
comprehensive
pregnancy care**

**Reduce maternal mortality
and morbidity**

**Respectful
maternity care**

**Maternal mental
health Support**

Respectful Maternity Care

Care that is organised for and provided to all women in a manner that maintains

- Dignity
- Privacy
- Confidentiality
- Informed choice
- Continuous support

Ensuring there is no harm and mistreatment



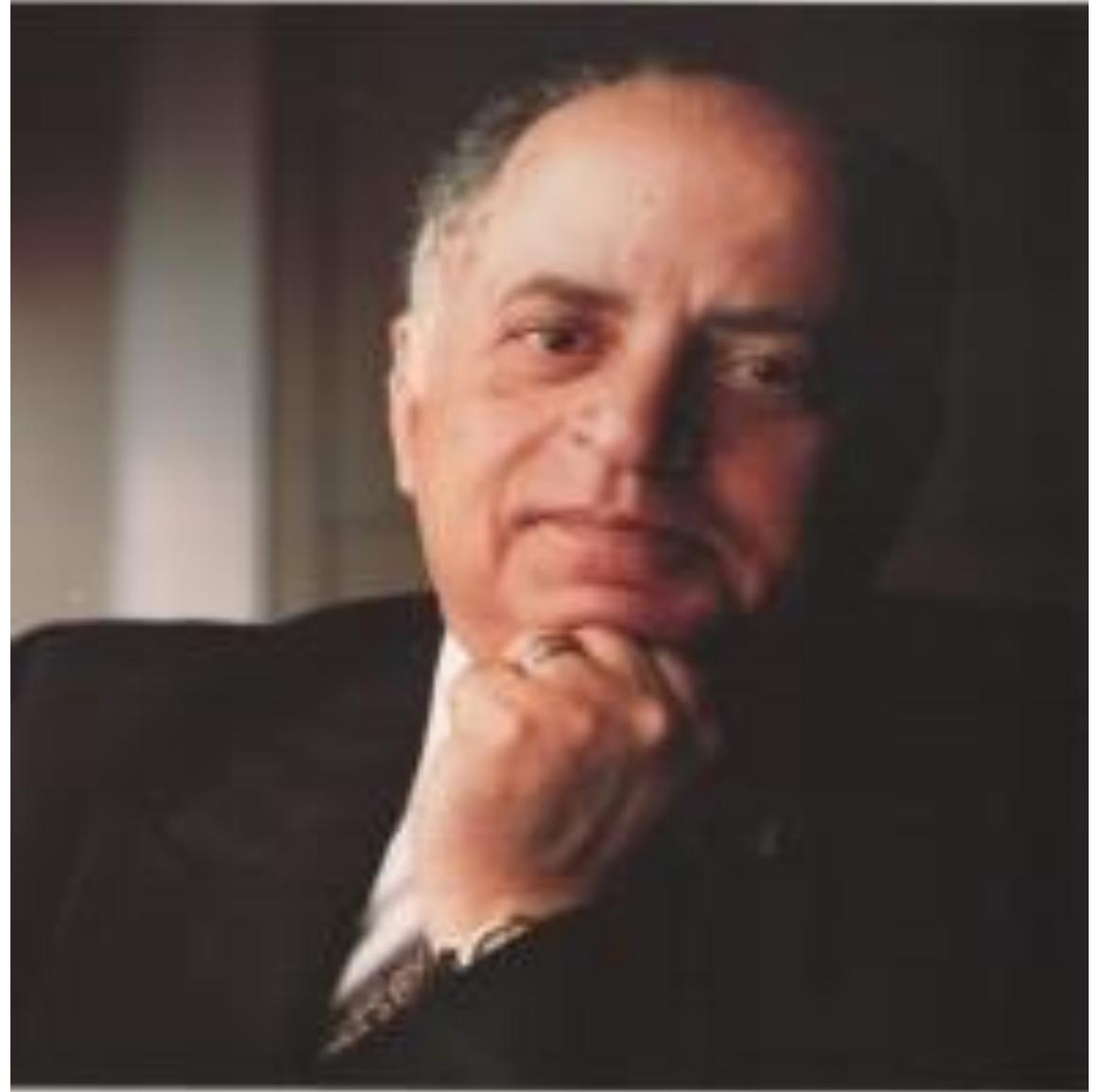
Forms of *disrespectful care

- **Verbal abuse**
- **Physical abuse**
- **Sexual abuse**
- **Refusing access to care**
- **Discrimination**
- **Failure to meet professional standards of care**
- **Failure to provide pain relief**
- **Neglect and abandonment**
- **Poor rapport between women and caregivers**

A background of red, vertically pleated curtains, slightly parted in the center to reveal the text.

**THERE IS
NO DEBATE**

‘Women are not dying because of diseases we cannot treat, they are dying because societies have yet to make the decision that their lives are worth saving.’





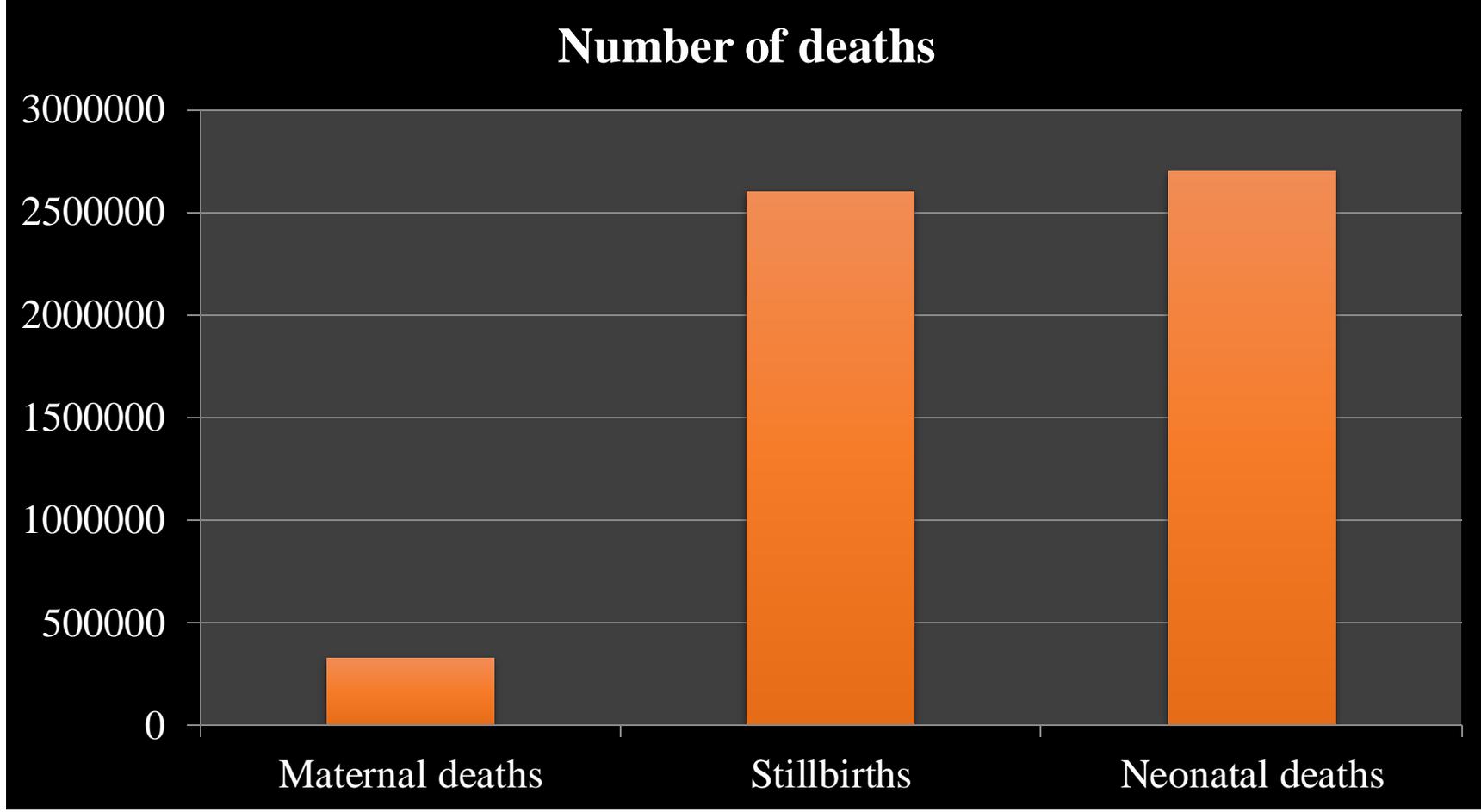
- **Which women in society experience disrespectful maternity care and abuse?**
- **What determines the relationship between a woman and her caregiver?**
- **Is there an association between abusive care and hospitals with tense and toxic work environments?**
- **Do the social determinants of healthcare also determine respectful maternity care**

Maternal Mortality

- **810 women die from pregnancy related conditions daily globally**
- **Majority of the deaths are avoidable**
- **94% of the deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries**
- **More than half of the deaths occur in sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia (66% of all deaths)**

<https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/maternal-mortality>

Estimated number of deaths globally (2015)



African mothers 50 times more likely to die after c-section than moms in rich countries, study says

By Katie Hunt and Colombus S. Mavhunga, CNN

Updated 7:30 PM EDT, Thu March 14, 2019

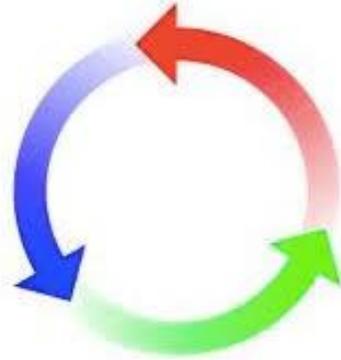


GETTY IMAGES

Why pregnant women die

Lessons from caesarean sections

- Lack of access
- Delayed access
- Shortage of specialists
- Shortage of equipment
- Shortage of resources
- Lack of multi-disciplinary care
- Poor infrastructure
- Poor pre-operative care
- Poor post-operative care
- Poor rehabilitation



- Stigma



Maternal Mental Health

- **Pregnancy is overwhelming for many women**
 - **Not every pregnancy is planned or wanted**
 - **Depression may cause suffering, disability and neglect to infants needs.**
- 

- **About 10 – 13% women who have experienced childbirth have had a mental health disorder.**
- **More women in developing countries experience depression, 15% during pregnancy, 20% after childbirth.**
- **Maternal mental health disorders are treatable by even by non-specialist providers.**

Maternal health

Determinants of health

- **Poverty**
- **Unequal access to education**
- **Food and water insecurity**
- **Discrimination against girls**

Causes of death

- **Obstetric haemorrhage**
- **Hypertension**
- **Infections**
- **Medical disorders**

The pregnancy and childbirth experience, and maternal mental health are often neglected because they are not a direct cause of maternal death.

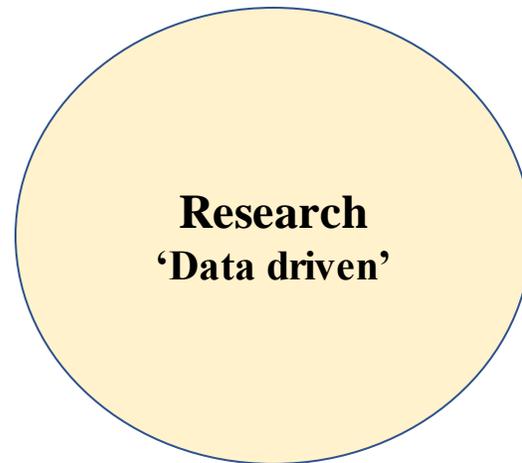
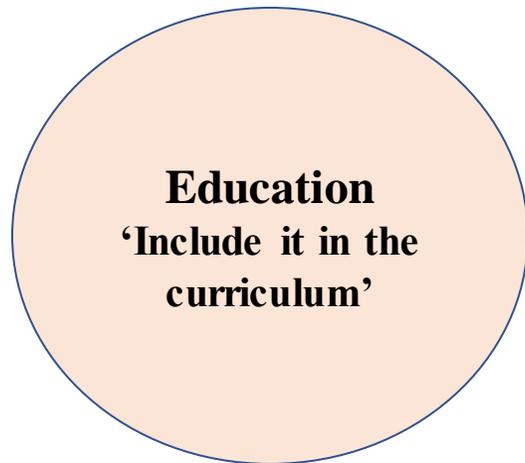
Drivers of poor maternal outcomes

- **Inequity: role of women in society**
- **Caregivers who experience disrespect and abuse in the workplace**
- **Unacceptable social norms**

Video



An implementation approach to RMC



Solutions for RMC

- **Restructuring clinical training for midwives and doctors**
- **Developing policies that promote RMC**
- **System level quality improvement**
- **Increase human resources**
- **Locally-appropriate guidelines**
- **Qualitative and quantitative research that seeks to measure extent and impact of abuse and barriers to RMC**

Strategies to improve maternity care

- **Prevent unwanted pregnancies**
- **Access to antenatal care**
- **Skilled care during childbirth**
- **Safe surgery**
- **Post-partum care**



**Implementation
approach:**

**Danger of missing
the mark.**

**RESPECTFUL
MATERNITY CARE:
THE UNIVERSAL
RIGHTS OF
CHILDBEARING
WOMEN**



**A human
rights
approach to
RMC**

FIGO Human Rights Charter

- 1. Life**
- 2. Health**
- 3. Privacy**
- 4. Confidentiality**
- 5. Autonomy and decision-making**
- 6. Information**
- 7. Non-discrimination**
- 8. Decide upon number and spacing of children**
- 9. Freedom from torture, inhumane and degrading treatment**
- 10. Benefit from scientific progress**

How do you enforce human rights?



If access to health care is considered a human right, who is considered human enough to have that right?

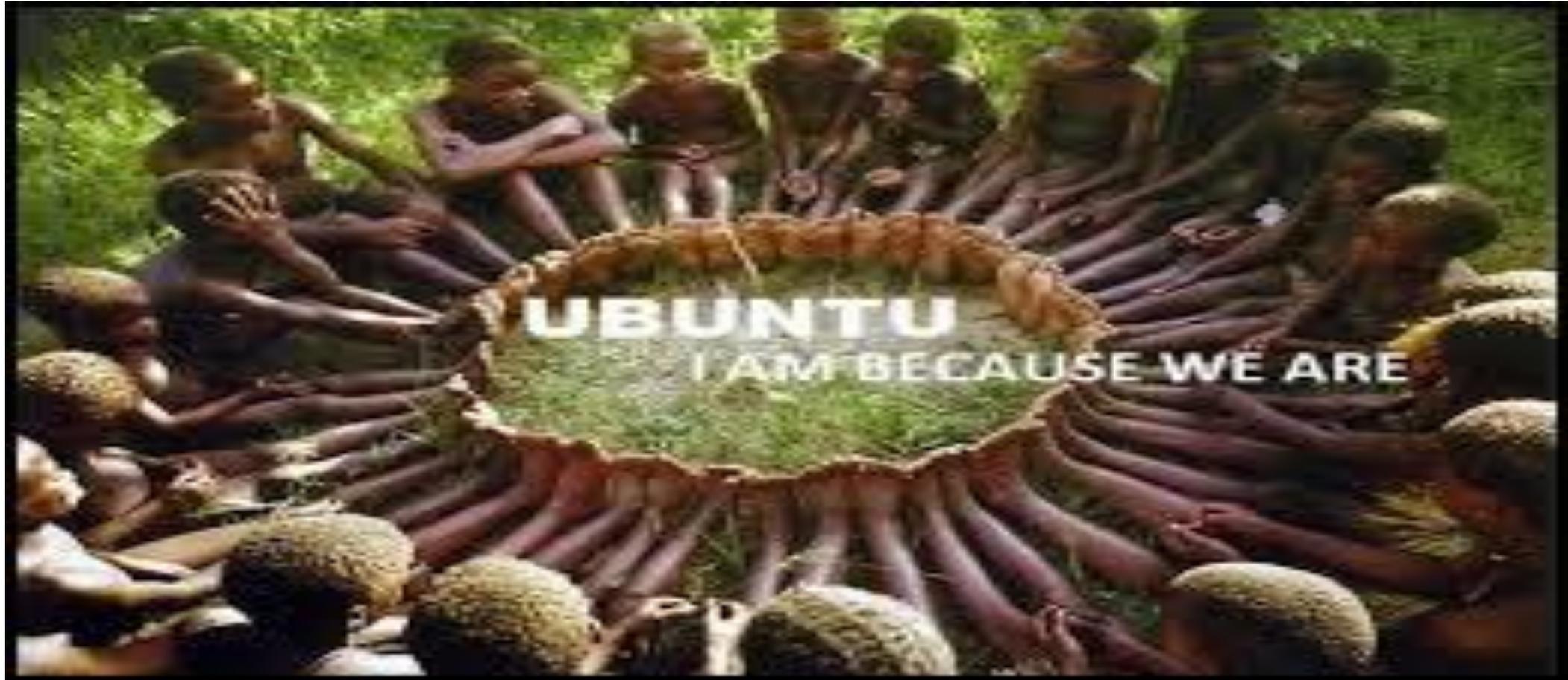
— *Paul Farmer* —

AZ QUOTES

A human behaviour approach to RMC



Understanding the barriers to RMC
Understanding culture and context
Understand the behaviour



The Ubuntu Philosophy

A universal bond that connects all humanity

Humanity

Sharing

Respect

Caring

Community

Trust



Social justice and equity

Advancing a positive childbirth experience is a cornerstone of health equity.

Address social systems rooted in

- Histories of oppression**
- Exploitation of women**
- Racial inequality**

Obstetric violence

- **An intersection between institutional violence and gender-based violence during pregnancy**
- **Overlooked**
- **Has been normalised**



Summary

- **Ensure effective communication and community engagement**
- **Provide care that is responsive to women's needs**
- **Create respectful and dignified environments for healthcare workers**
- **Create resources for sustainable behaviour change**
- **Address inequity and discrimination**
- **Violence should not be called disrespect**



‘Women merit special attention because of their distinctive contribution to society, a contribution that is under-recognised and undervalued - economically, socially, politically, and culturally.’

Lancet Commission on Women and Health