



ENGAGING MEN

TO REDUCE UNMET NEED FOR
FAMILY PLANNING IN BENIN

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PHOTO CREDIT: SARAH BURGESS, IRH



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



6-Year Project, started in Benin in 2012 after displacement from Mali

Partners

- IRH
- CARE
- Plan International

Goal

Reduce unmet need for family planning through social networks in intervention areas



METHODS

MARRIED WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE & MEN MARRIED TO WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE

Formative Research

(Participatory Learning Activities in 4 Villages: 11 Key Informant Interviews, 8 Focus Group Discussions)

In-Depth Interviews

(25 men/25 women in 12 villages)

Household Survey: Baseline & Endline

(1080 men/1080 women in 45 villages)

Monitoring, Learning & Evaluation

(Data from all the 6 communes of Couffo; 15 villages in each commune)

A group of people, including men and women, are gathered outdoors in a rural setting. Some are standing and talking, while others are sitting. The scene is overlaid with a green semi-transparent box containing white text. The background shows a dirt path, trees, and a fence.

WE WILL DISCUSS:

Defining unmet need:

including both women and men

Project research findings:

unmet need and gender norms

A gendered approach:

engaging men in intervention design,
implementation, and monitoring/evaluation

Conclusion

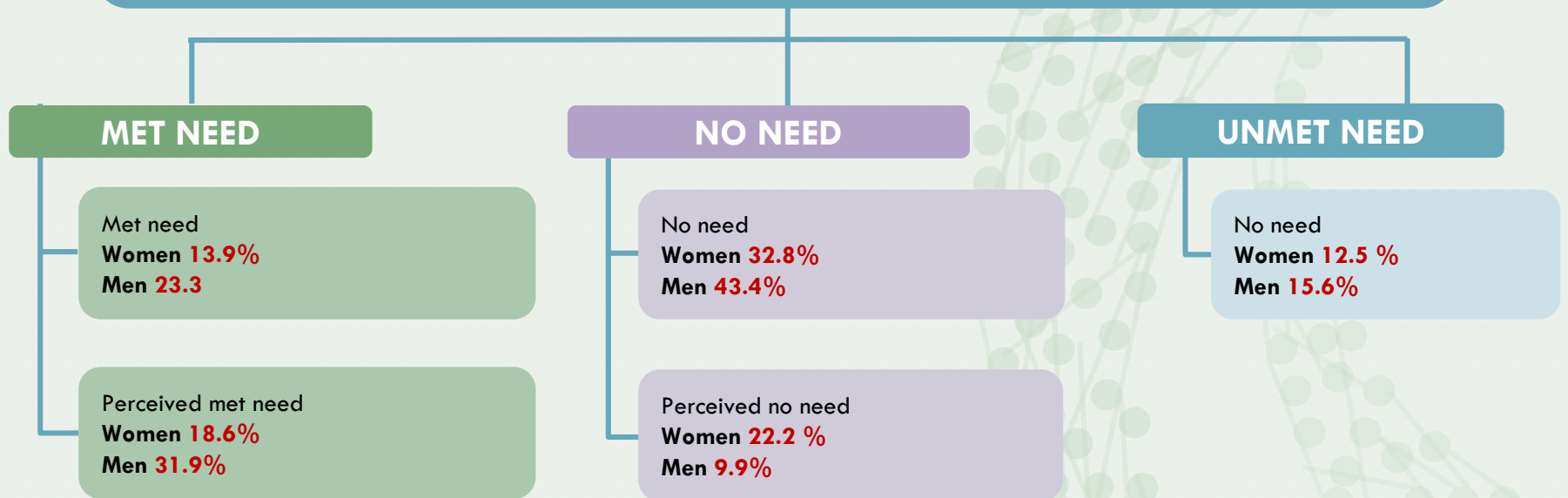
UNMET NEED DEFINED:

A person (man or woman) who...

- has sex
- is not pregnant (wife)
- wishes to avoid or delay pregnancy
- perceives that she is at risk of pregnancy
- is not using any family planning method (modern or traditional)



MARRIED WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE & MEN MARRIED TO WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE (AT BASELINE HOUSEHOLD SURVEY)



% for men sums up to more than 100%, and are higher than for women due to number of men in polygamous relationships

SOCIOCULTURAL & SYSTEMIC FACTORS OF UNMET NEED IN MEN



INDIVIDUAL

Lack of communication
Fear of side effects
Lack of concern



FRIENDS & FAMILY

Rumors of side effects
Stigma related to FP discussion & use
Gender Norms



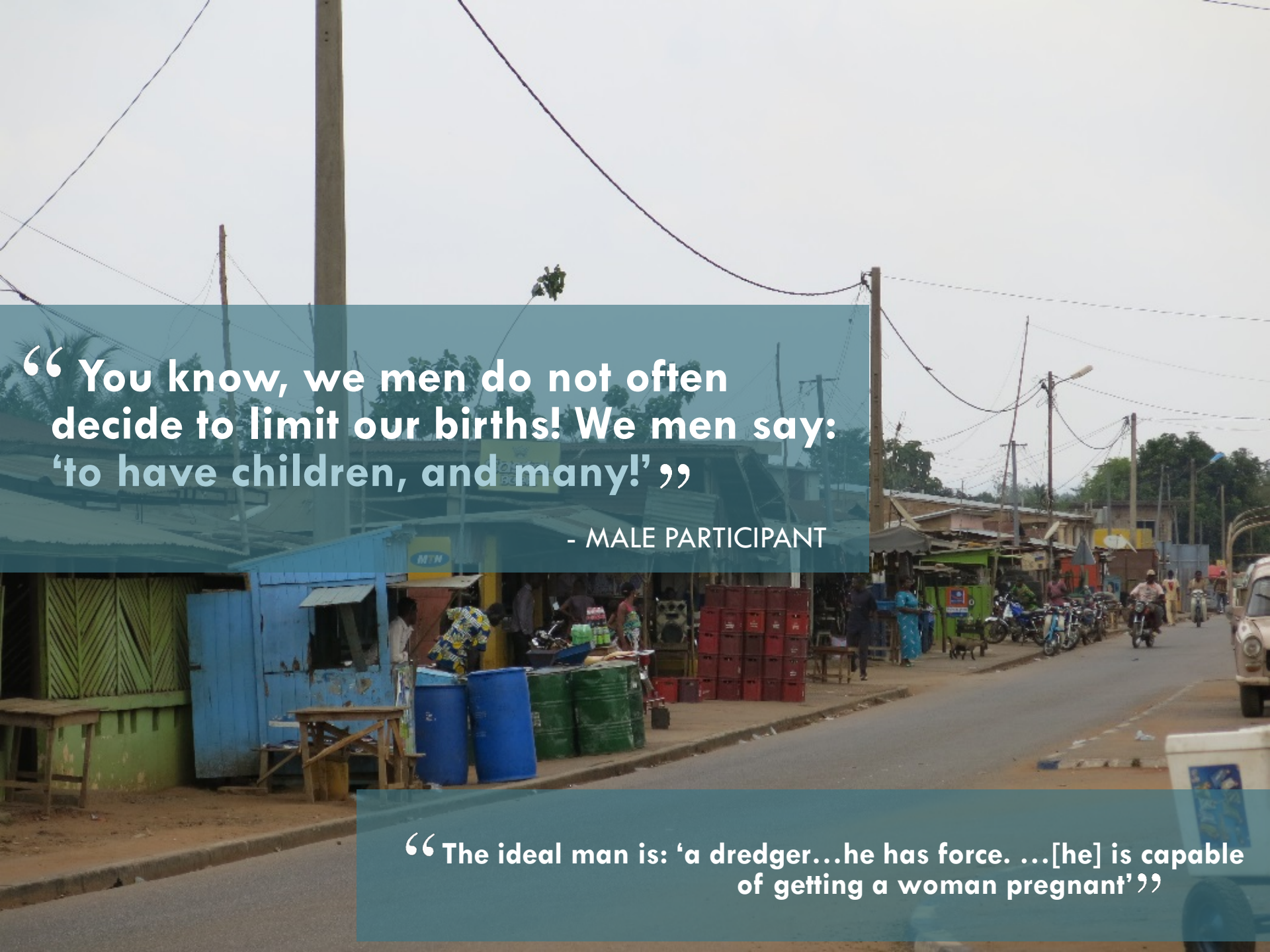
INSTITUTION / COMMUNITY

Less targeted and involved in FP
services and programs



Concordant attitudes towards male roles in fertility and FP (Baseline Survey)

Agreement (% who agreed)	Women	Men
COMMUNITY LEVEL		
Men who have many children are more respected than those who have few	57.7	67.7
INDIVIDUAL/WITHIN COUPLE		
Men should decide the number of children to have because they are responsible for providing for them	83.3	90.5
Within the household, men should have the last word in decision-making	96.7	96.9
Women must always obey their husbands	95.9	95.2

A street scene in a developing area. On the left, there are shops with blue and green walls. A man is standing near a blue wall. In the middle, there are stacks of red crates and blue and green barrels. On the right, there are more shops, utility poles, and a white car. The sky is overcast.

“ You know, we men do not often decide to limit our births! We men say: ‘to have children, and many!’ ”

- MALE PARTICIPANT

“ The ideal man is: ‘a dredger...he has force. ...[he] is capable of getting a woman pregnant’ ”



“God Himself said that the man is the head of the household and that women must submit and obey their husbands.”

- MALE PARTICIPANT



Tékponon Jikuagou

INTERVENTION PACKAGE



INTERVENTION COMPONENTS

- 1 ENGAGE COMMUNITIES IN SOCIAL MAPPING



- 2 SUPPORT INFLUENTIAL GROUPS IN REFLECTIVE DIALOGUE



- 3 ENCOURAGE INFLUENTIAL INDIVIDUALS TO ACT



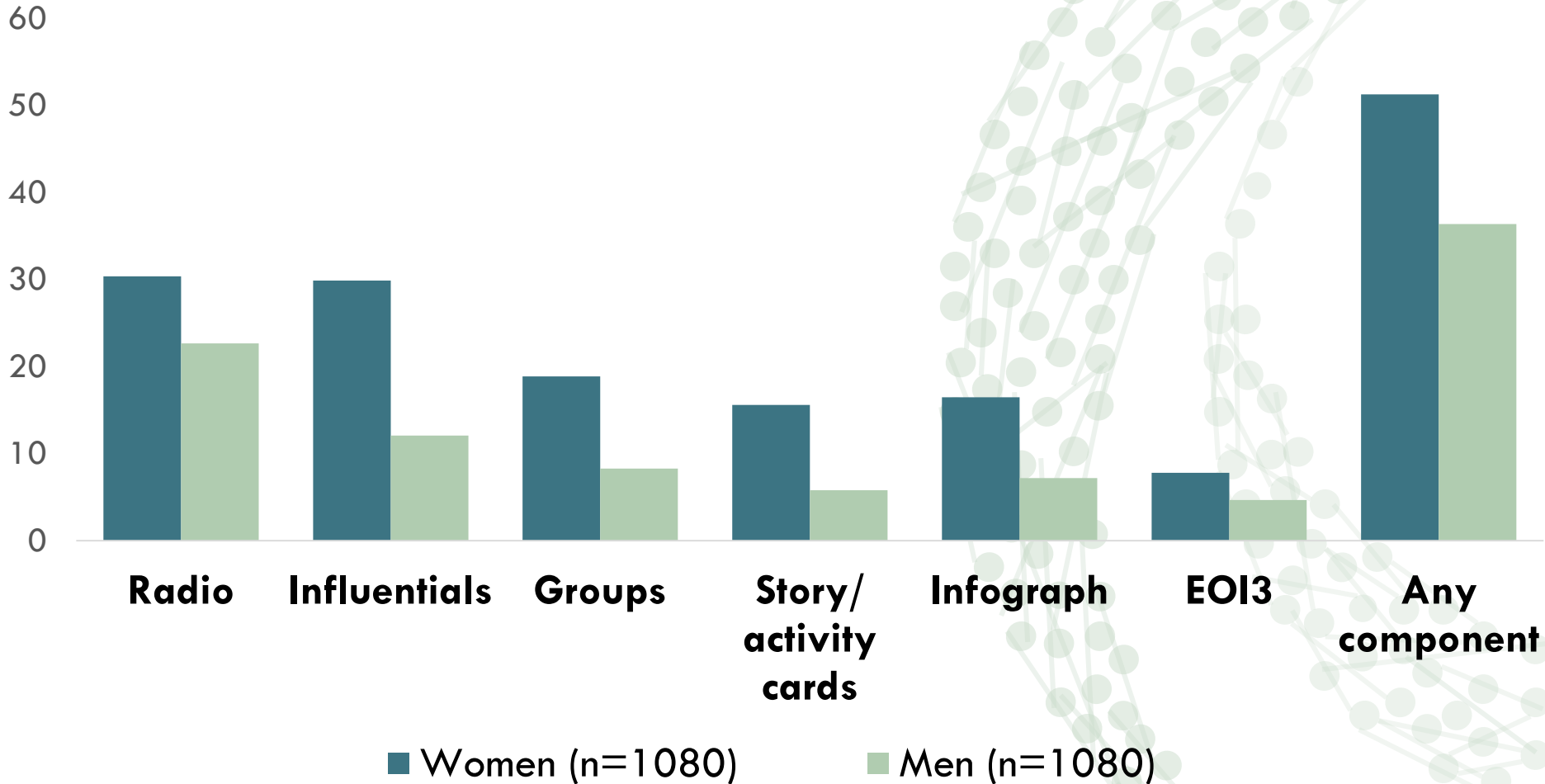
- 4 USE RADIO TO CREATE AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT



- 5 LINK FP PROVIDERS WITH INFLUENTIAL GROUPS



WHAT % OF MEN & WOMEN IN INTERVENTION GROUP WERE ENGAGED IN TJ ?



1

ENGAGE COMMUNITIES IN SOCIAL MAPPING

Participatory social mapping

with participation from men in 90 villages

Identification of men's groups and influential men in the community

Selection of 294 influential groups

(Women 62%, Men 16%, Mixed 22%)

297 Catalyzers

(Women 47%, Men 53%)

Selection of 459 influential individuals

(Women 52%, Men 48%)

2

SUPPORT INFLUENTIAL GROUPS IN REFLECTIVE DIALOGUE

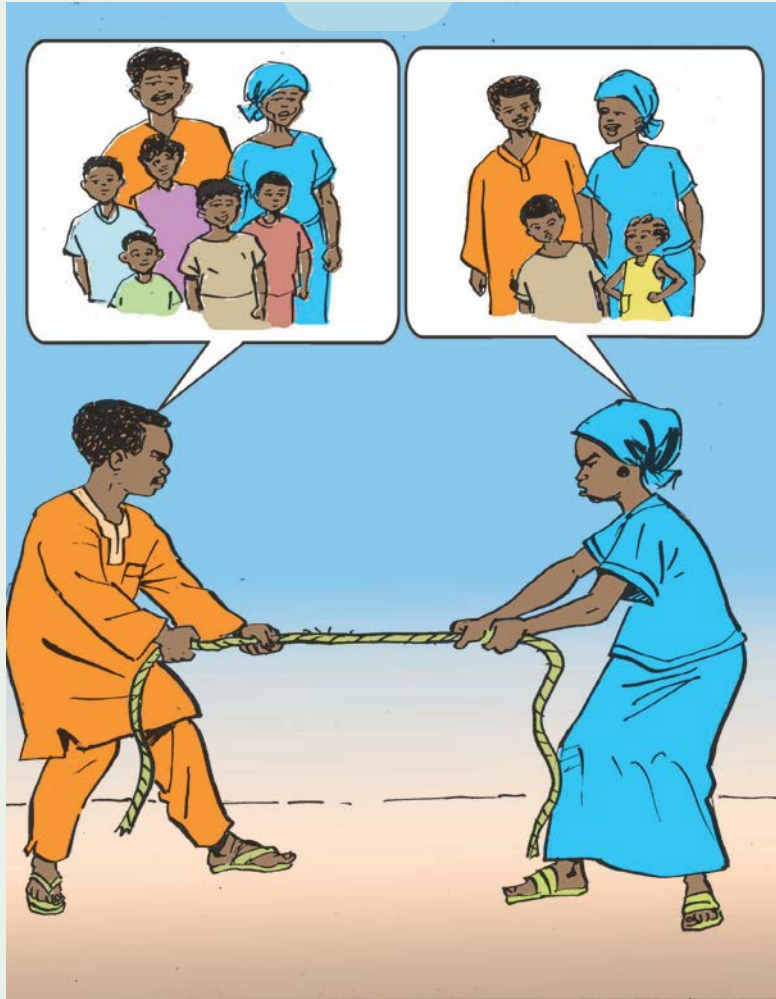
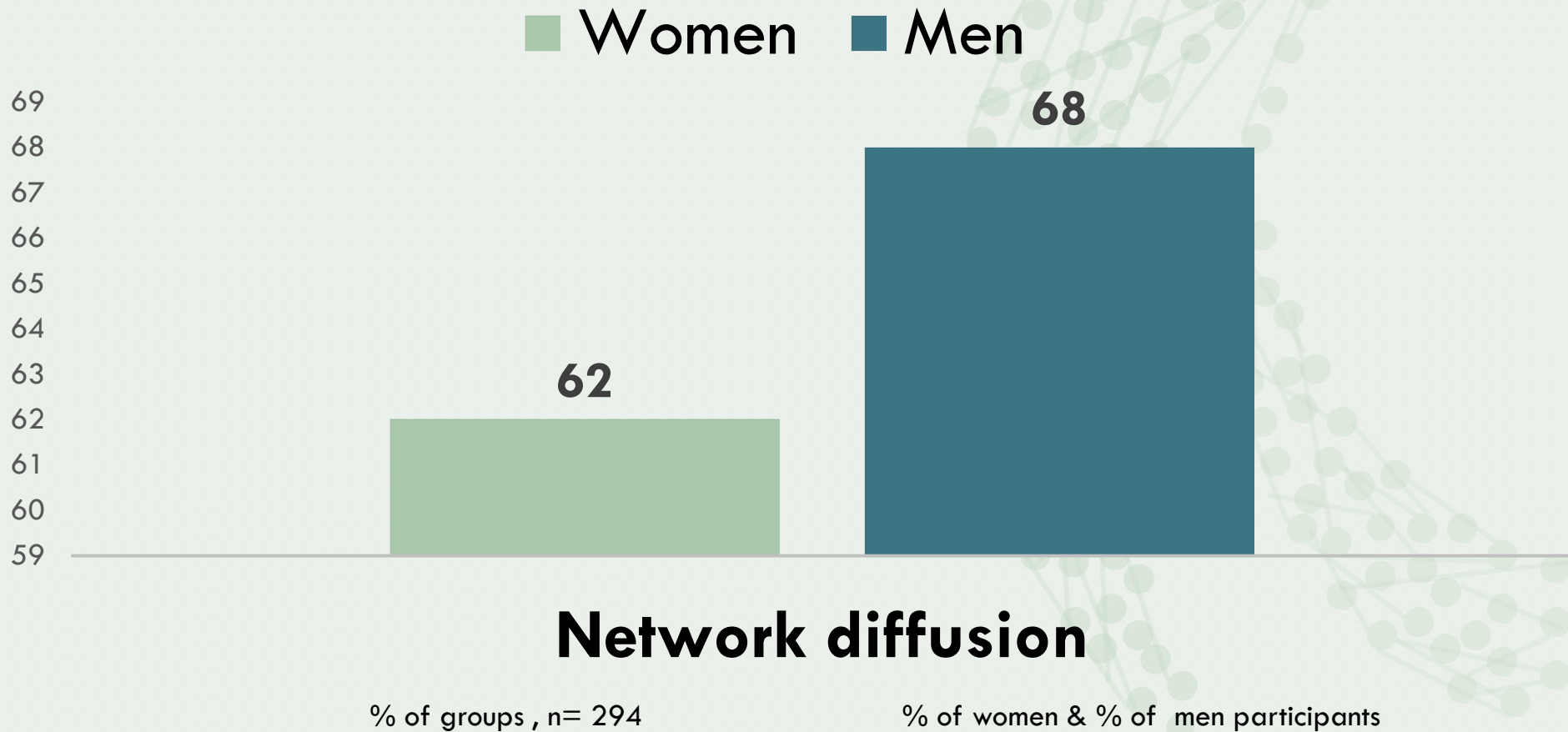


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THROUGH STORIES AND ACTIVITIES DRAWING ON REAL SITUATIONS INSPIRED BY FORMATIVE RESEARCH RESULTS

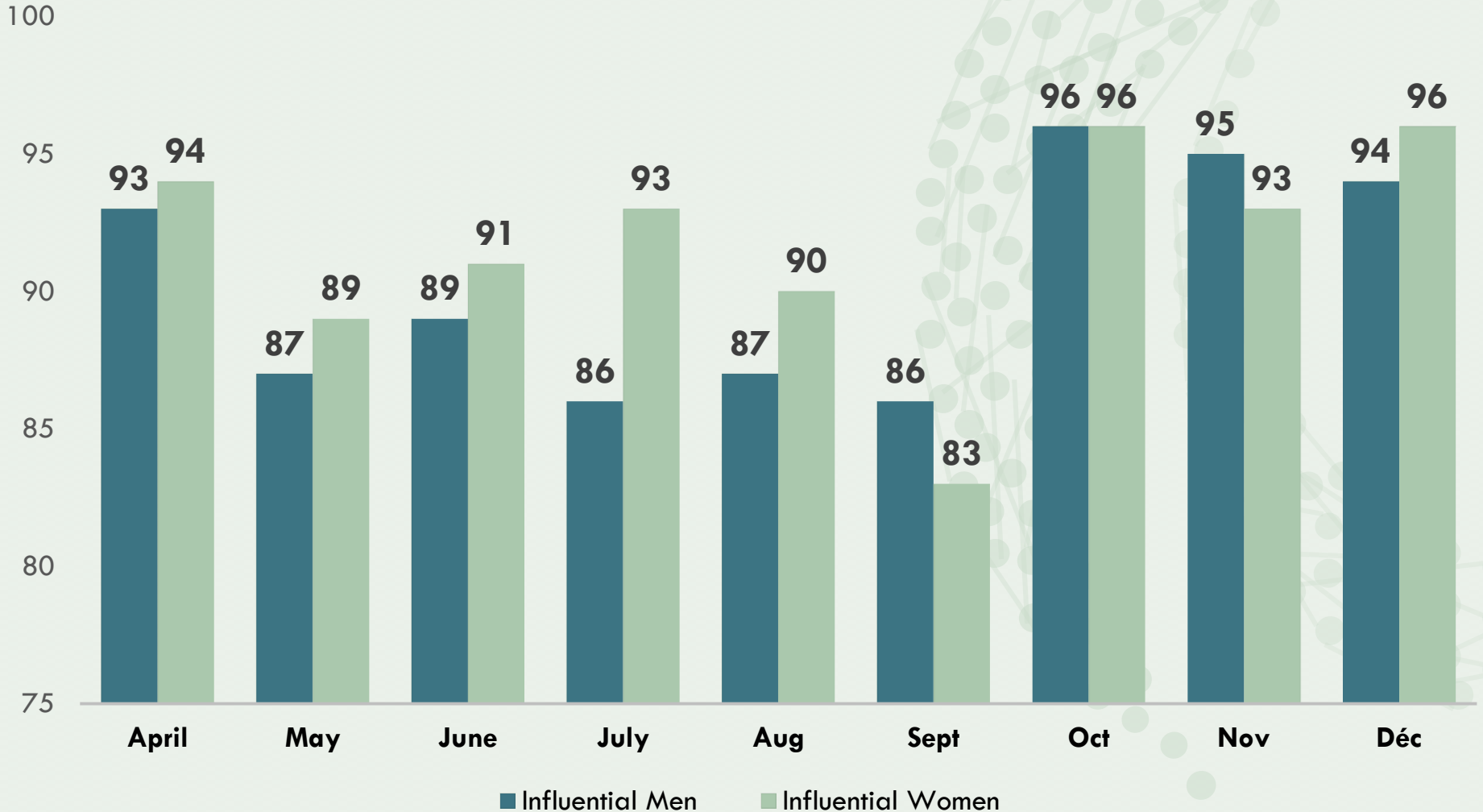
COMPARISON OF DIFFUSION AMONG FEMALE AND MALE GROUP MEMBERS



3

ENCOURAGE INFLUENTIAL INDIVIDUALS TO ACT

% INFLUENTIALS WHO CONDUCT ACTIVITIES AFTER ORIENTATION



4

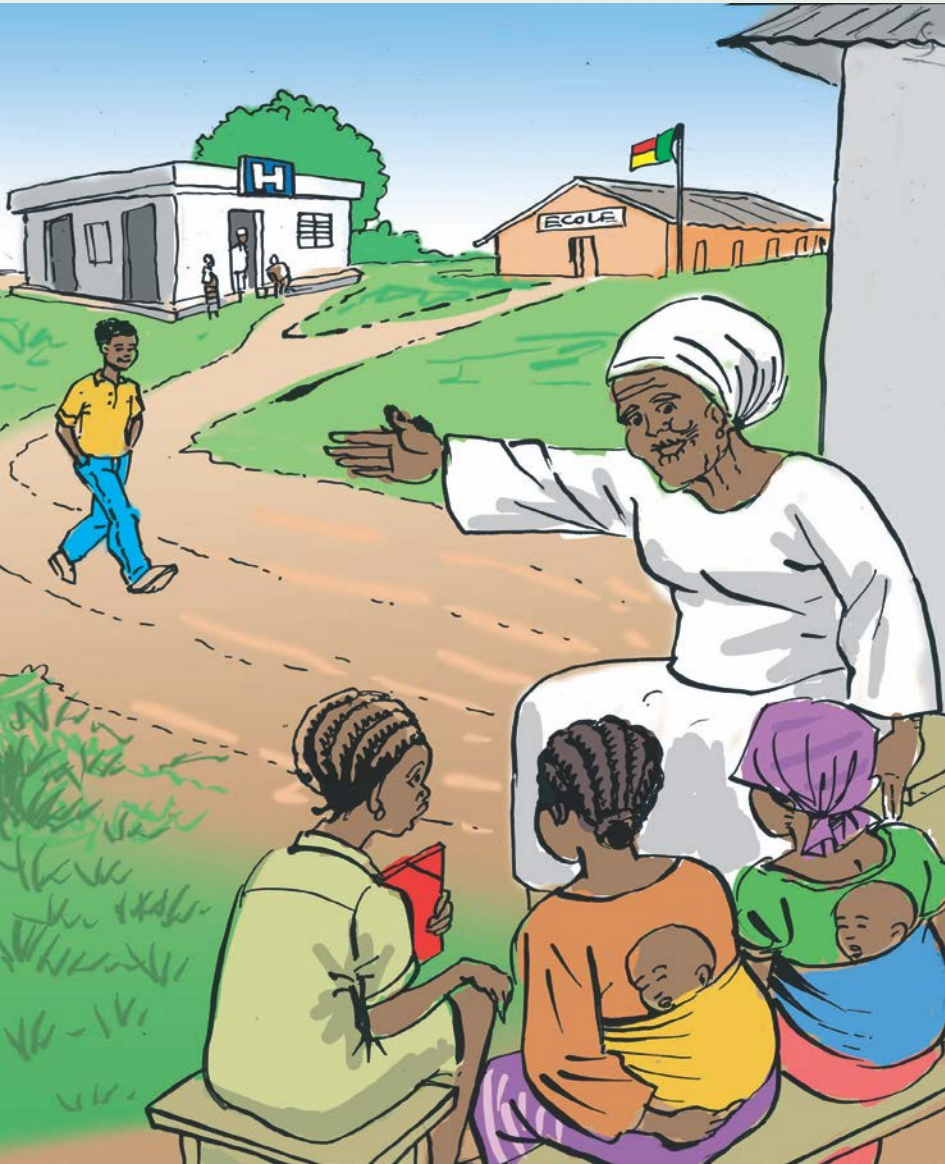
USE RADIO TO CREATE AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT



Men (n=2160), Women (n=2160)

5

LINK FP PROVIDERS WITH INFLUENTIAL GROUPS

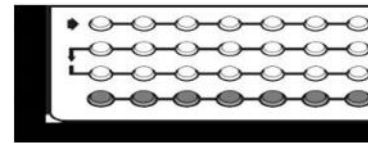


EACH ONE INVITES 3 CAMPAIGN (EOI3)

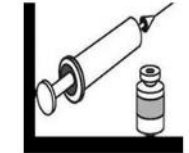
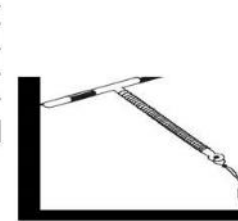


Nous discutons de la planification familiale ensemble. Nous sommes allés au centre de santé pour obtenir une méthode sûre et efficace afin d'avoir le nombre d'enfants que nous voulons au moment voulu. Nous sommes satisfaits de notre décision.

VOUS ETES INVITE(E) AU CENTRE DE SANTE POUR AVOIR PLUS D'INFORMATIONS SUR LA PF



Pilule



Pilule injectable

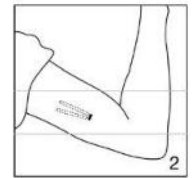


Collier

DIU




Préservatif



Jadelle





“In general, men don’t come. It’s rare to see them. Sometimes you’ll have a couple. Otherwise, it’s women.”

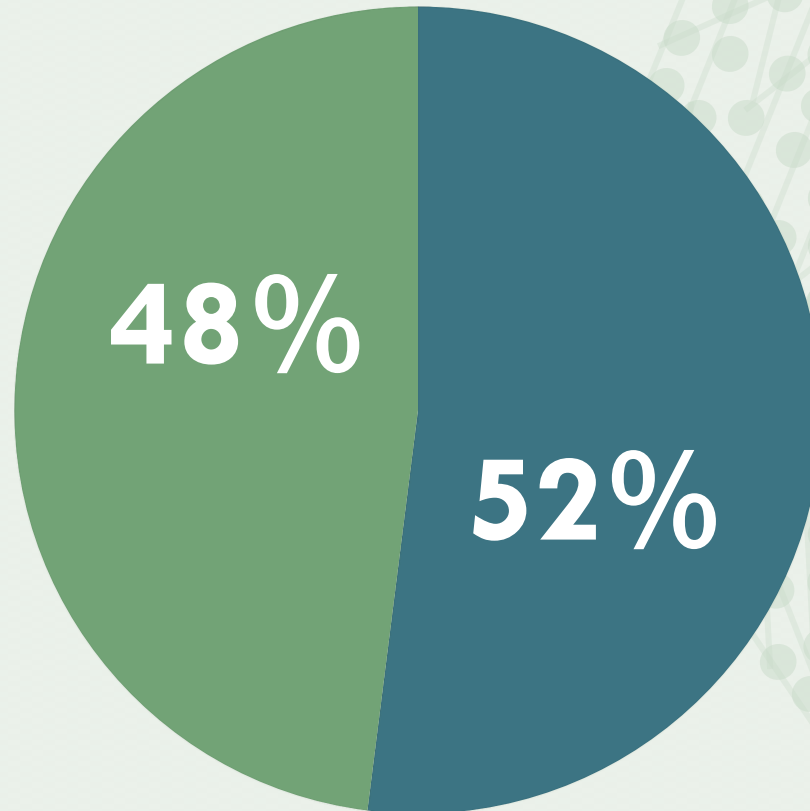
- FP PROVIDER

“ One man loved the advice provided by [Tékponon Jikuagou] and he talked to another man about it...the latter came to see me...so I could explain more to him. When I finished talking, he asked for three ‘Each One Invites 3’ cards so that he could invite friends and his wife ”


- MALE GROUP LEADER

% EO13 CARDS DISTRIBUTED BY GROUP LEADERS

■ Women ■ Men



TESTIMONY: CHANGES IN COUPLE COMMUNICATION



“Before, I didn’t understand, but now I deeply understand and see that for us to be happy, we need to speak about this subject...”

- MALE PARTICIPANT

TESTIMONY: CHANGES IN COUPLE COMMUNICATION



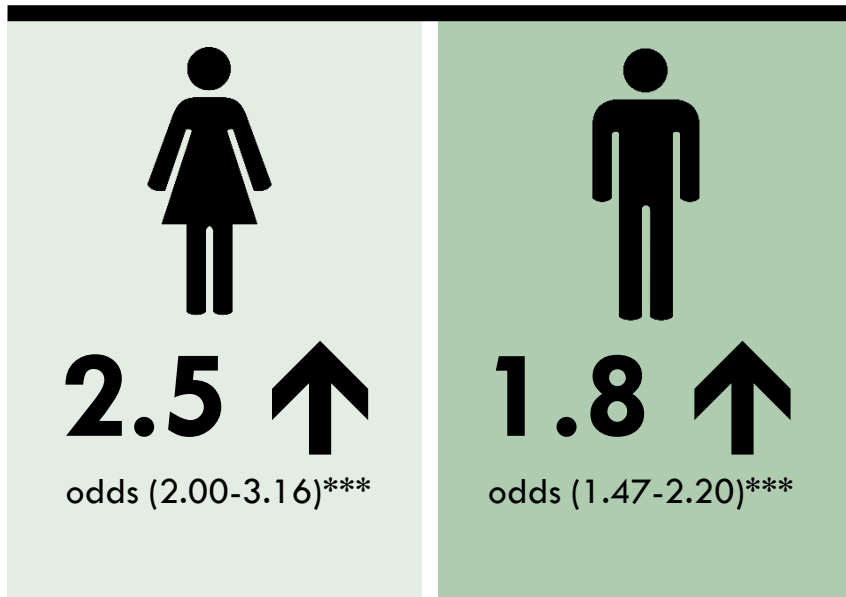
“...before, our husbands did not know that they could communicate with us, but they are doing it now.”

- FEMALE PARTICIPANT

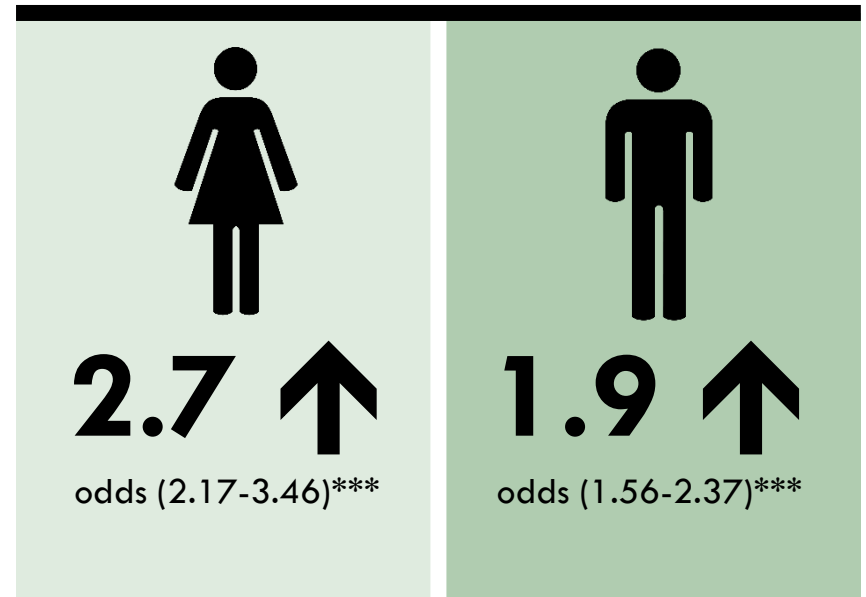


EXPOSURE TO TJ PACKAGE AND COUPLE DYNAMICS

TALKS TO PARTNER ABOUT WHICH METHOD TO USE



TALKS TO PARTNER ABOUT HOW TO OBTAIN A METHOD



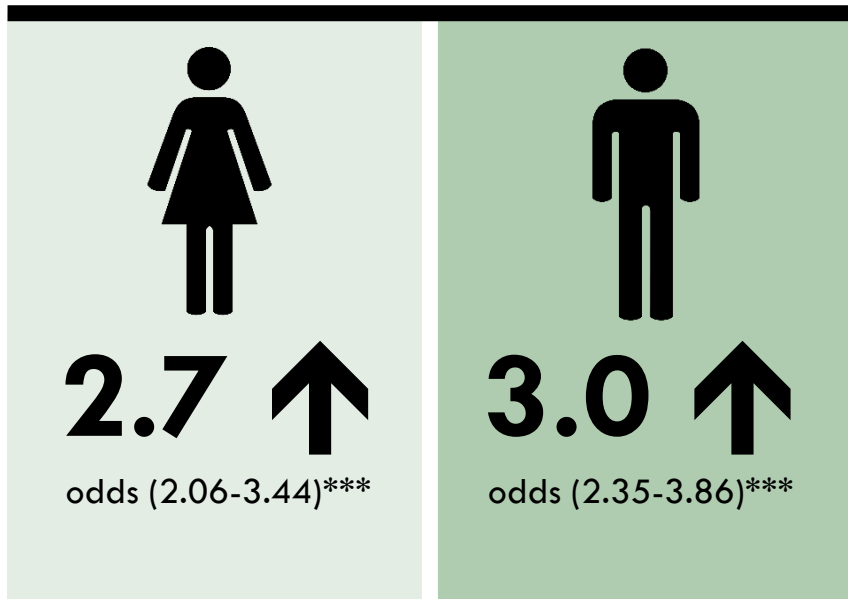
Adjusted for age, education, religion, number of children, number of co-wives

P-values: * p<.05; ** p<.01; *** p<.001

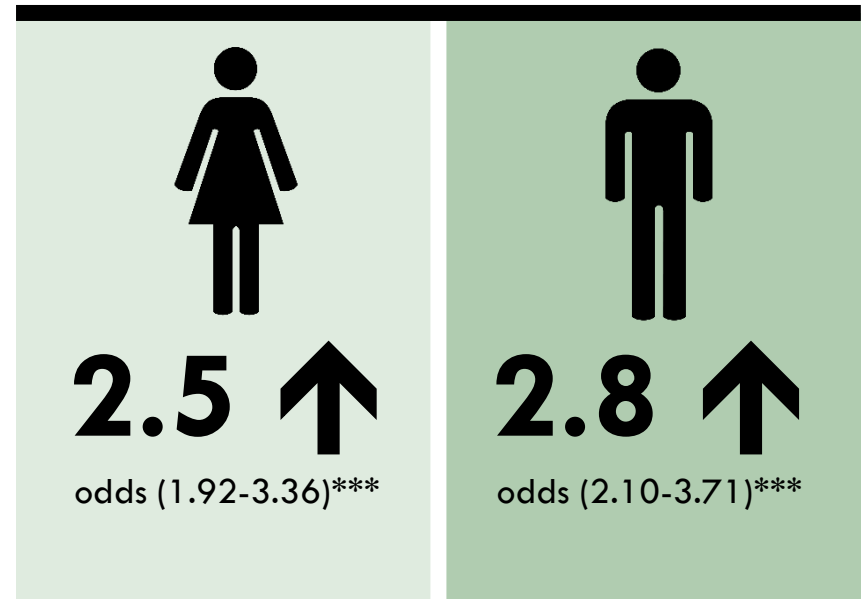


EXPOSURE TO TJ PACKAGE AND TAKING STEPS TO OBTAIN A METHOD

ASKS A HEALTH WORKER



VISITS HEALTH FACILITY TO OBTAIN A METHOD



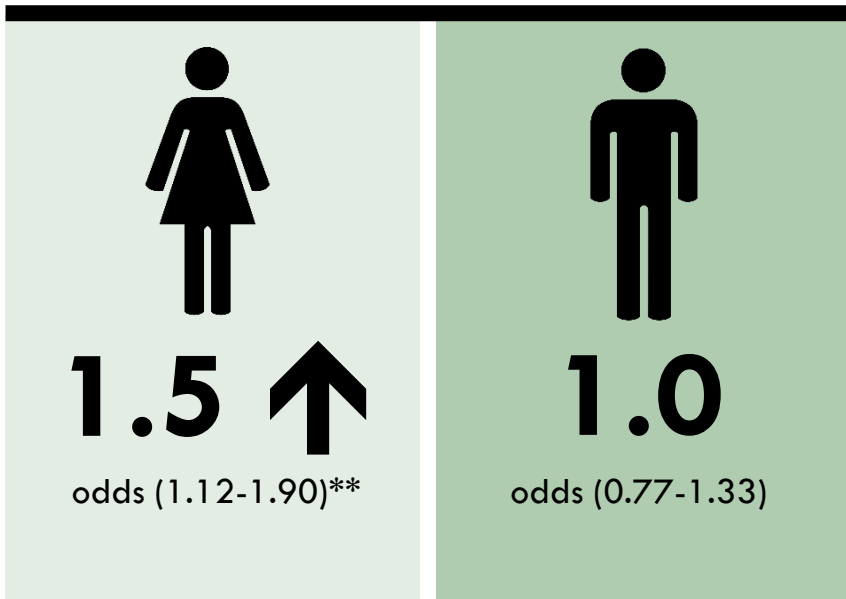
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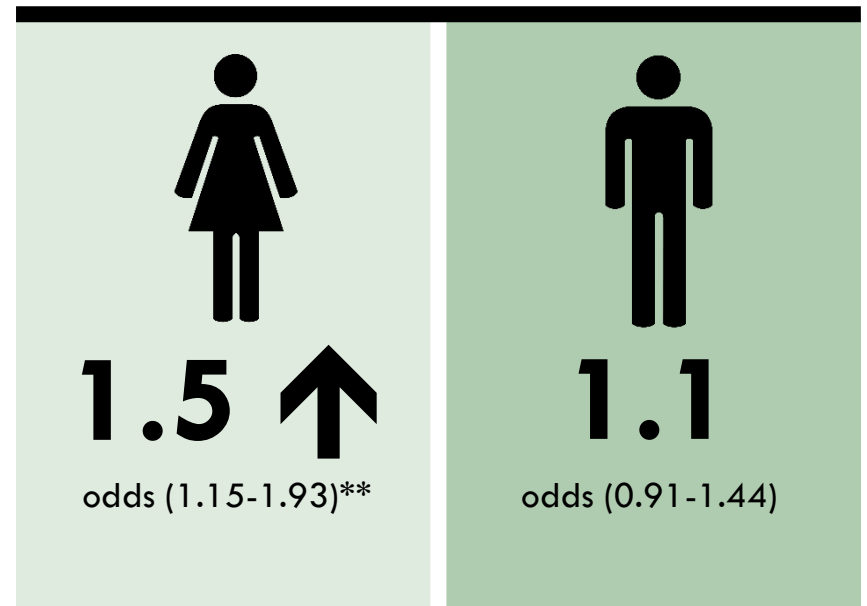


EXPOSURE TO TJ PACKAGE AND FP USE

USES A METHOD



ACTUAL MET NEED



Adjusted for age, education, religion, number of children, number of co-wives

P-values: * p<.05; ** p<.01; *** p<.001



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