Why measure discriminatory social institutions?

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What we can observe:
- Gender gaps in employment outcomes

What existing indicators tell us:
- Lower participation rate
- Gender pay gap
- Segregation and segmentation

What can discriminatory social institutions tell us?
- Lack of decision-making power and lower status in the family
- Violence against women
- Restricted access to public space
- Restricted entitlements and access to resources
What are discriminatory social institutions?

- Formal and informal laws, social norms and practices that shape or restrict the decisions, choices and behaviours of groups, communities and individuals.

- Discriminatory social institutions **impact negatively** on women and girls by restricting their access to opportunities, resources and power.

- Framework of social institutions makes visible the **underlying power relations** at the heart of gender inequality

- Discriminatory social institutions **can be measured** to inform the design of policies and allocation of donor resources.
SIGI: 5 areas of discrimination

Social Institutions

- Family Code
  - Early marriage
  - Polygamy
  - Parental authority
  - Inheritance

- Physical Integrity
  - Violence against women
  - Female genital mutilation

- Son Preference
  - Missing women

- Civil Liberties
  - Freedom of movement
  - Freedom of dress

- Ownership Rights
  - Access to land
  - Access to bank loans
  - Access to property

Updated SIGI with revised framework to be launched in 2012
What can SIGI tell us?

- Average maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 births)
- Level corrected for differences in income/capita

Level of discrimination, SIGI Physical Integrity sub-index quartiles:

- Low: 210, 222
- Moderate: 245, 360
- High: 448, 541
- Very High: 868, 675
SIGI India pilot

• To develop a country-appropriate tool for monitoring discriminatory social institutions, making comparisons across states, and informing effective policy interventions.

• Reflects current gender equality discussions:
  • Skewed sex ratios stemming from son preference is a growing crisis
  • Women’s lack of autonomy in the household is associated with poor economic outcomes and higher infant and child mortality rates
  • Women’s restricted access to property and assets has implications for their economic security
  • Restrictions on women’s mobility and access to public space limits participation in economic, social and political life
More information:
www.oecd.org/dev/gender

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