

## Obstetric Violence the Need to Promote Respectful Maternity Care in Low Income Settings

**Paulo Campos**<sup>1,2,3\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Full Professor of Gynaecology and Obstetrics at Agostinho Neto University, Angola

<sup>2</sup>Former Head of Department of Gynaecology and Obstetrics of Medical Faculty of Medicine of Agostinho Neto University, Angola

<sup>3</sup>Maternal and Child Hospital, Dr. Manuel Pedro Azancot de Menezes Consultant, Angola

**\*Corresponding Author:** Paulo Campos, Department of Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Faculty of Medicine of Agostinho Neto University- Hojy-Ya-Henda, Luanda, Angola.

**Received:** May 30, 2024; **Published:** June 06, 2024

### Introduction

In recent decades, obstetric violence in its multiple forms has been an important research topic. Throughout the world, people have witnessed violence during childbirth, especially in poorer countries where it is easier to find [1]. Garcia L. M. (2023) says that obstetric violence is anything that makes women feel pain during pregnancy, childbirth, or the puerperium. Thus, obstetric violence is considered an obstacle to quality maternal health care service utilization [2]. Premature labour, postpartum haemorrhage and other subsequent negative experiences and feelings that lead to a decreased desire to seek both facility-based childbirth and postnatal health care facility delivery are indirect contributors to maternal and neonatal morbidity. This amounts to a serious violation of fundamental liberties [3].

### Discussion

Research has shown that obstetric violence can be considered a progressive, chronic disease. This is having an impact on the increasing maternal mortality rates from preventable causes. After a bad hospital birth, women won't take another beating, even if it means their lives. Pablo., *et al.* (2024) said that rates of facility-based childbirth have gone up in many countries in the last few years [4]. But not enough attention has been paid to how well the health services for mothers are accepted and how good they are. Despite being a human rights violation, obstetric violence encompasses numerous forms of mistreatment against women giving birth in health care facilities. Violence during childbirth indirectly contributes to maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality [5]. In Luanda, the capital of Angola, we are implementing humanized birth at the Hospital Materno Infantil, Dr. Manuel Pedro Azancot de Menezes. This hospital recently opened with tertiary-level care and is modern and well-equipped. The goal is to find out if there is any obstetric violence during childbirth.

### Conclusion

There is emerging evidence that obstetric violence, regardless of the type of disrespect, is prevalent during facility-based childbirth in countries throughout the world and is a recognized barrier to achieving good maternal health outcomes. It is imperative that numerous efforts are made to promote respectful maternity care in low-income settings.

## Bibliography

1. Garcia LM. "Obstetric violence in the United States and other high-income countries: an integrative review". *Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters* 31.1 (2023): 2322194.
2. Mihret MS. "Obstetric violence and its associated factors among postnatal women in a Specialized Comprehensive Hospital, Amhara Region, Northwest Ethiopia". *BMC Research Notes* 12.1 (2019): 600.
3. Sanga NE and Joho AA. "Intrapartum violence during facility-based childbirth and its determinants: A cross-sectional study among postnatal women in Tanzania". *Women's Health (London, England)* 19 (2023): 17455057231189544.
4. Pablo MC., *et al.* "Respectful maternity care interventions to address women's mistreatment in childbirth: What has been done?" *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth* 24.1 (2024): 322.
5. Arachu Castro and Virginia Savage. "Obstetric violence as reproductive governance in the Dominican republic". *Medical Anthropology* 38.2 (2018): 123-136.

**Volume 13 Issue 7 July 2024**

**©All rights reserved by Paulo Campos.**