

WOMEN AS VICTIMS OR PERPETRATORS OF VIOLENCE: AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Partners: Professor Oludayo Tade (Senior Research Fellow, College for Social Sciences and Humanities, University Alliance Ruhr and University of Ibadan) and Professor Christine Morgenstern, Ruhr University Bochum, Germany

Venue: College for Social Sciences and Humanities, Institute for Advanced Study, University Alliance Ruhr

Date: 9-10 July 2026

CALL FOR PAPERS

Globally, women are often presented primarily as victims of gender-based violence, whether in the home, the workplace or institutions, or in the context of conflicts, wars, and banditry/terrorism, among others. Scholars and international organisations have revealed much about women as victims, while scant attention is paid to the flip side – women as perpetrators of violence. Considering both dimensions enable us to take into account the social context of perpetrating violence and becoming a victim of violence. Data shows that violence against women mostly occurs in intimate partnerships, in conflict settings, during rape, and in institutions (World Health Organisation, 2025)¹. One other neglected area in scholarship is how experiences of violence, either as victims or perpetrators, vary across different contexts around the globe.

For this workshop, researchers and practitioners are invited to submit abstracts for presentations that provide research and findings on women as victims or perpetrators of violence. Contributions from the Global North and Global South are welcome, with particular attention to insights from Germany and Nigeria and, by extension, other African contexts. The workshop aims to gain a better understanding of how women experience or shape the nature of violence and victims in different cultural, social and economic contexts.

The focus is on papers that examine and illuminate the following issues and topics:

- the intersections of gender, culture and violence;
- the complex experiences of women as victims on the one hand, and perpetrators on the other hand;
- agency, context and legal issues in the handling and treatment of women as victims and perpetrators of violence;

¹ World Health Organization (2025). Violence against women prevalence estimates, 2023: global, regional and national prevalence estimates for intimate partner violence against women and non-partner sexual violence against women. World Health Organization. <https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/383559>. License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO

- resistance, resilience, coping and recovery issues including the many manifestations of violence.

Interested scholars should submit an abstract of 250 to 300 words articulating the problem, the gap and the methods used including the key arguments / findings to oludayo.tade@college-uaruhr.de and christine.morgenstern@ruhr-uni-bochum.de by 15 May 2026. Notification of acceptance will be sent by the end of May. Accepted authors are expected to submit draft papers two weeks before the workshop.