


# The impact of the COVID-19 lockdowns on physical domestic violence: Evidence from Peru

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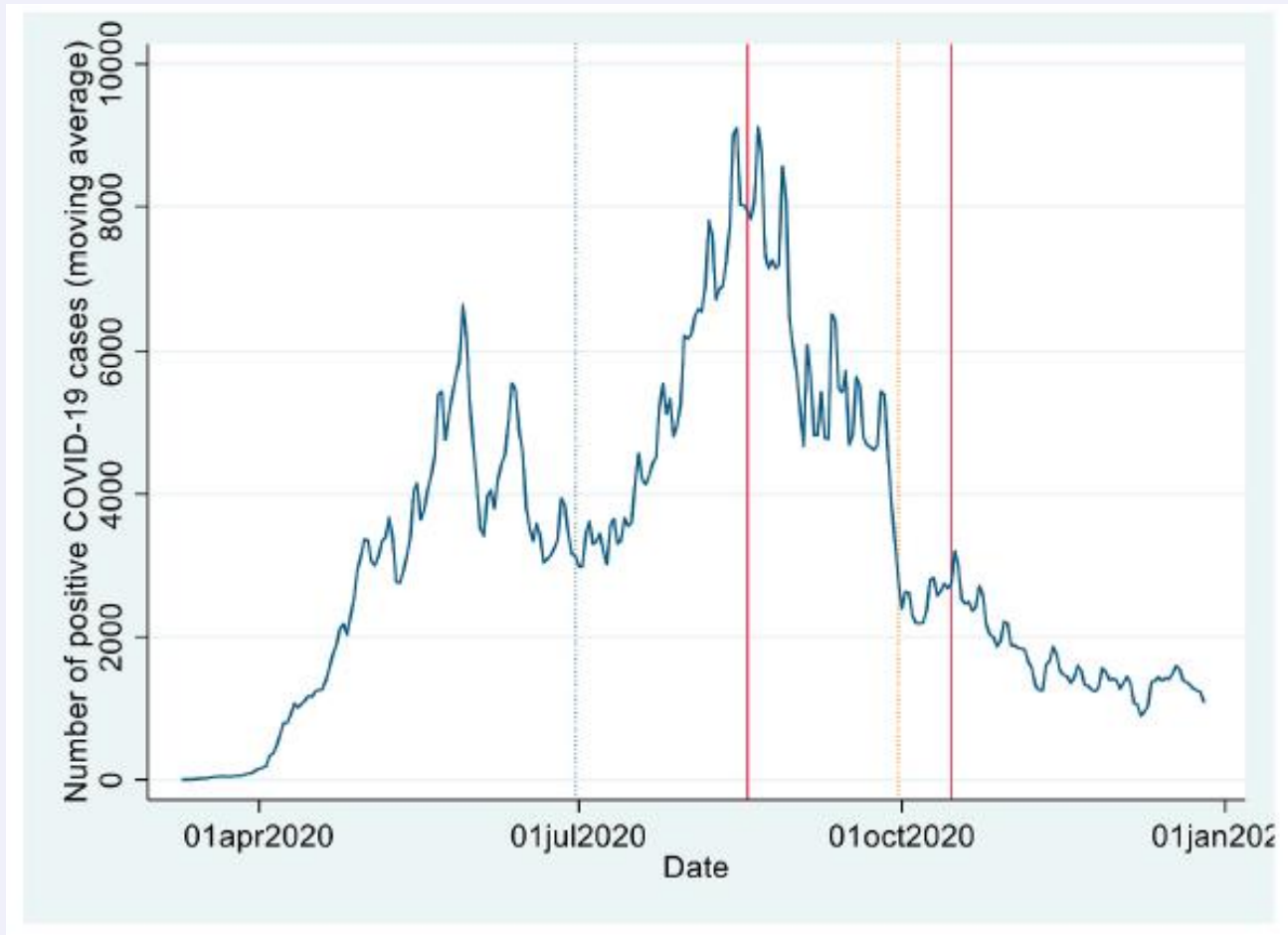


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# Data

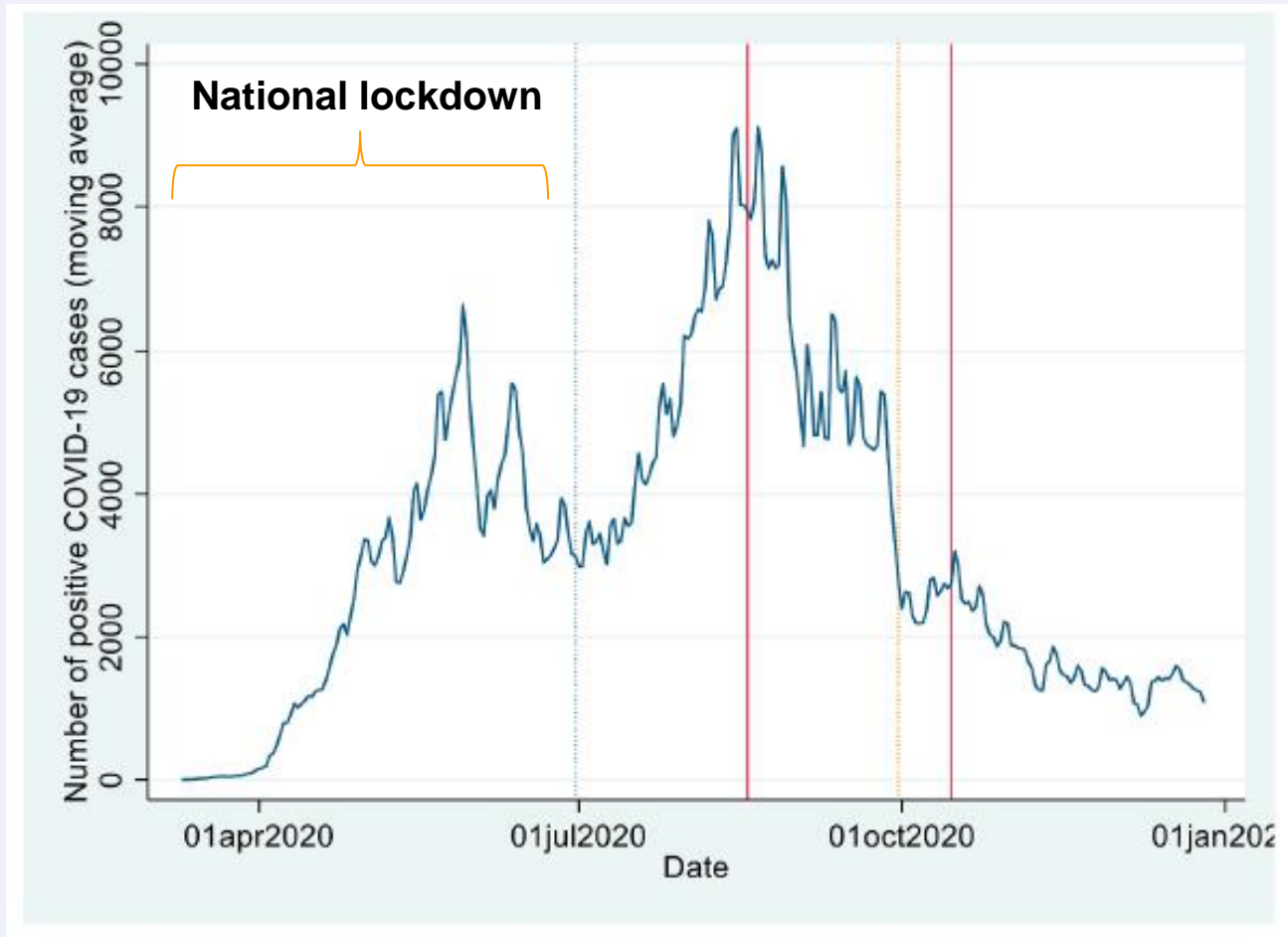
- ❑ We measure the % of young people experiencing an **increase in physical domestic violence** (from any family member) **during lockdowns** in Peru
- ❑ Data was collected during a **phone survey** conducted between August and October 2020.
- ❑ We use a sample of 1,841 males and females aged 19-26 from the **Young Lives** longitudinal study.
  - ❑ *Our sample is not self-selected based on whether they report violence or seek medical attention (helpline data, police dispatch data, clinical assessments)*
- ❑ **Young Lives** follows two cohorts of children born in 1994-5 and in 2000-2001 over a period of 20 years (five in person survey rounds and 2020 phone survey).
- ❑ We have **baseline information on domestic violence** collected in the last in-person survey round in 2016 (Round 5) through a self-administered questionnaire.
- ❑ We use an indirect approach to measuring increases in violence - **List Randomization**.
- ❑ Attrition rate of the phone survey ~ 6% for those with a phone (based on 2019 tracking); ~ 10% were not found/contacted during the 2019 tracking.

# Evolution of COVID-19 positive cases and length of lockdowns in Peru



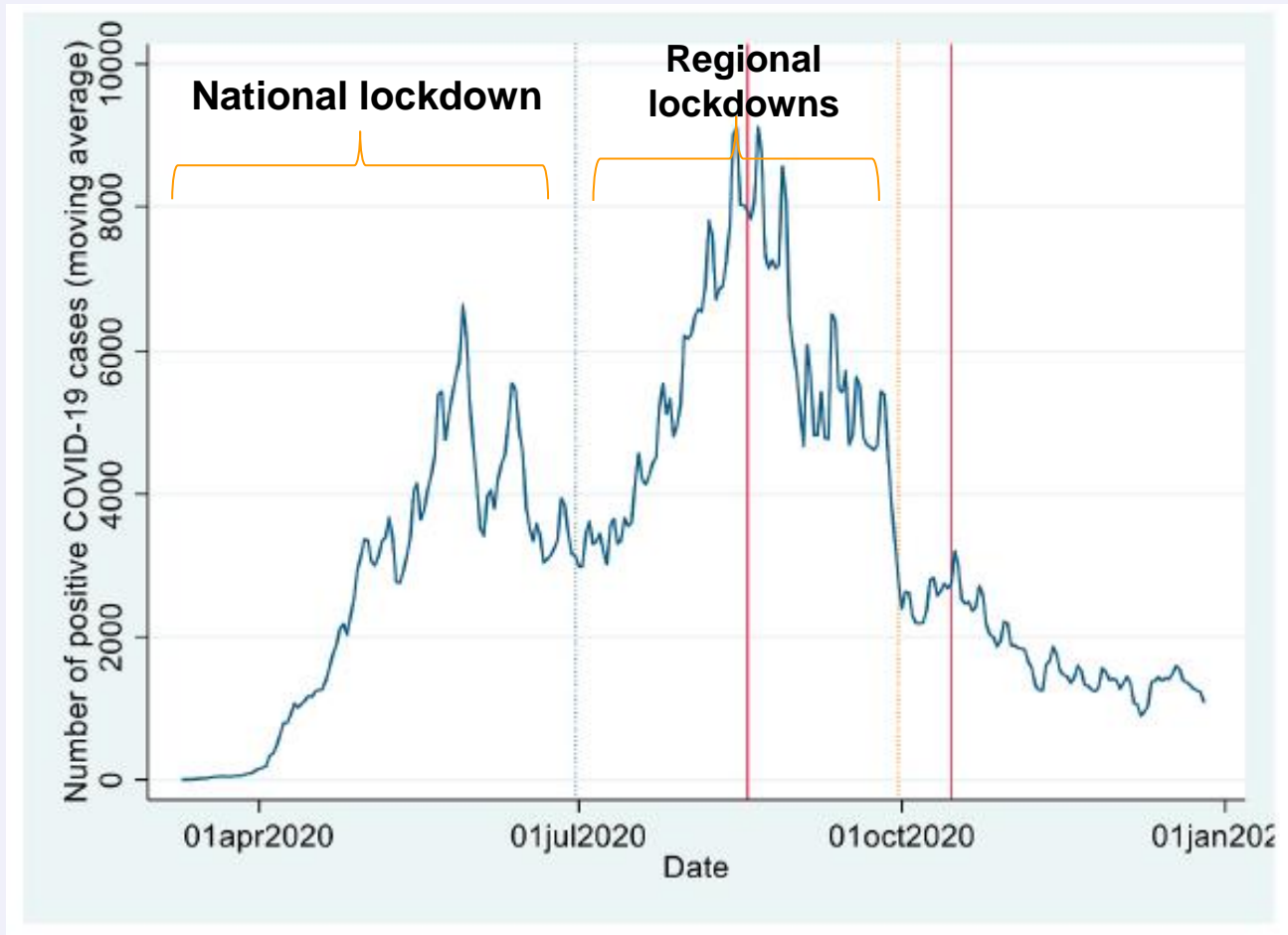
*Note: The number of cases is a daily moving average of the last 5 days. The blue dotted line marks the end of the national lockdown, whereas the orange dotted line the end of the local lockdowns. The red solid lines represent the period during which the Young Lives list experiment took place. Source: Government of Peru.*

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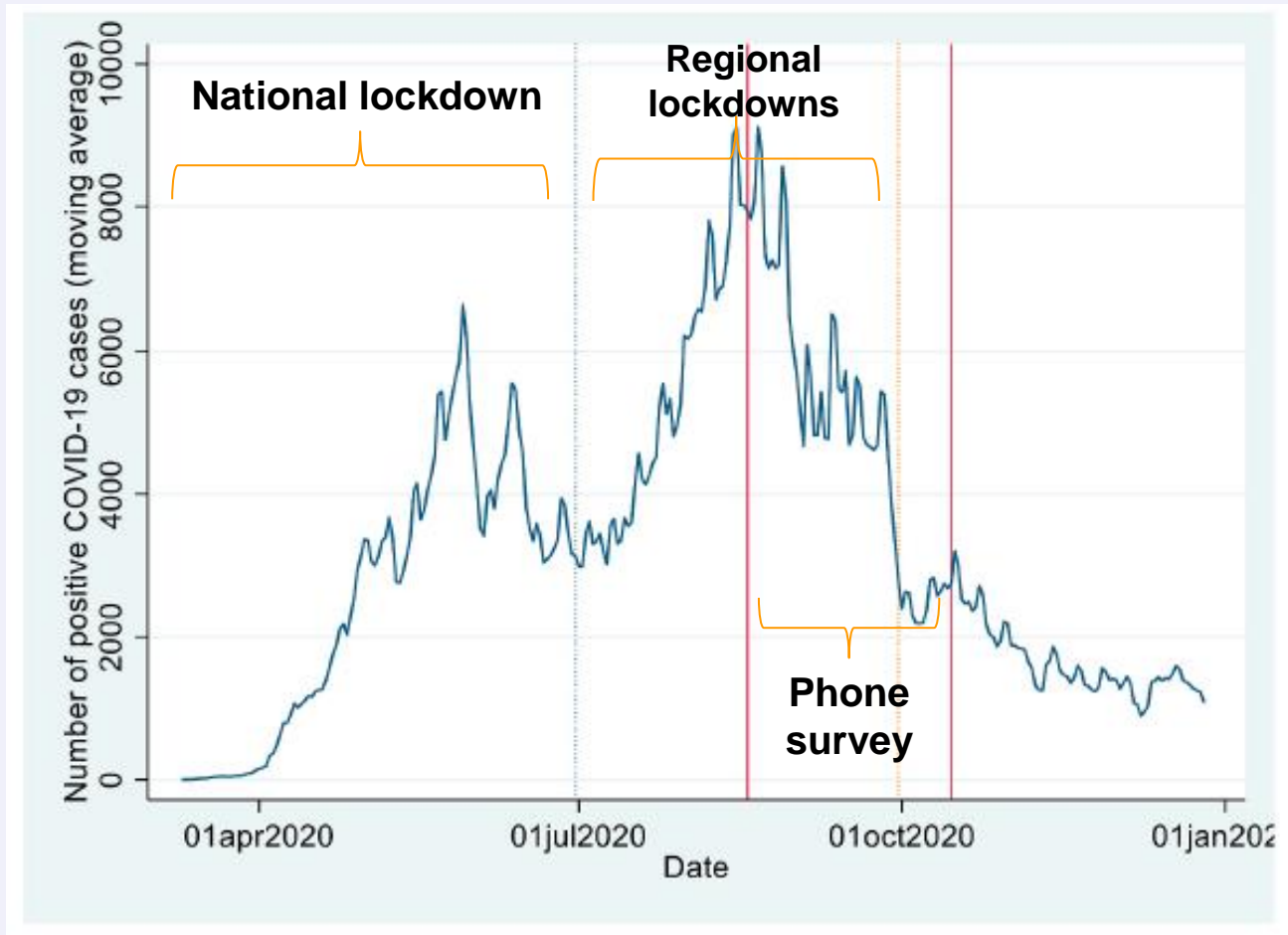
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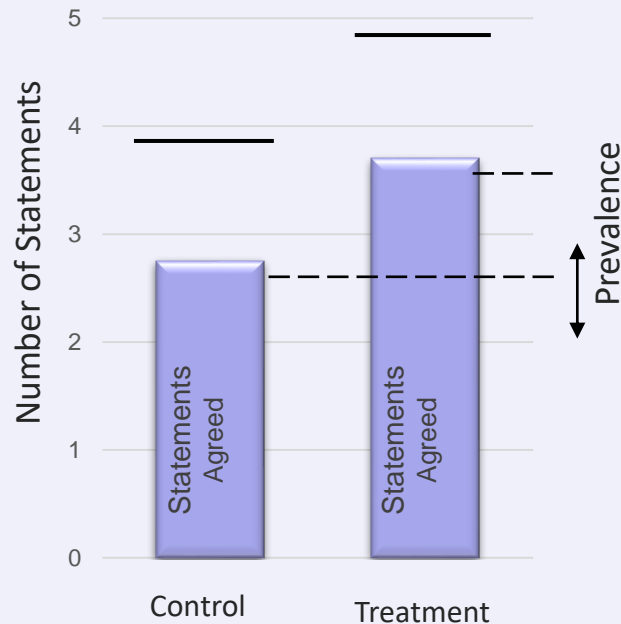
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# Methodology: List randomization experiment



**Control Group** asked how many of **4** statements they agree with

**Treatment Group** asked how many of **4+1** statements they agree with

Additional statement: *I was physically hurt more often by someone in my household during the lockdown*

## Double list design

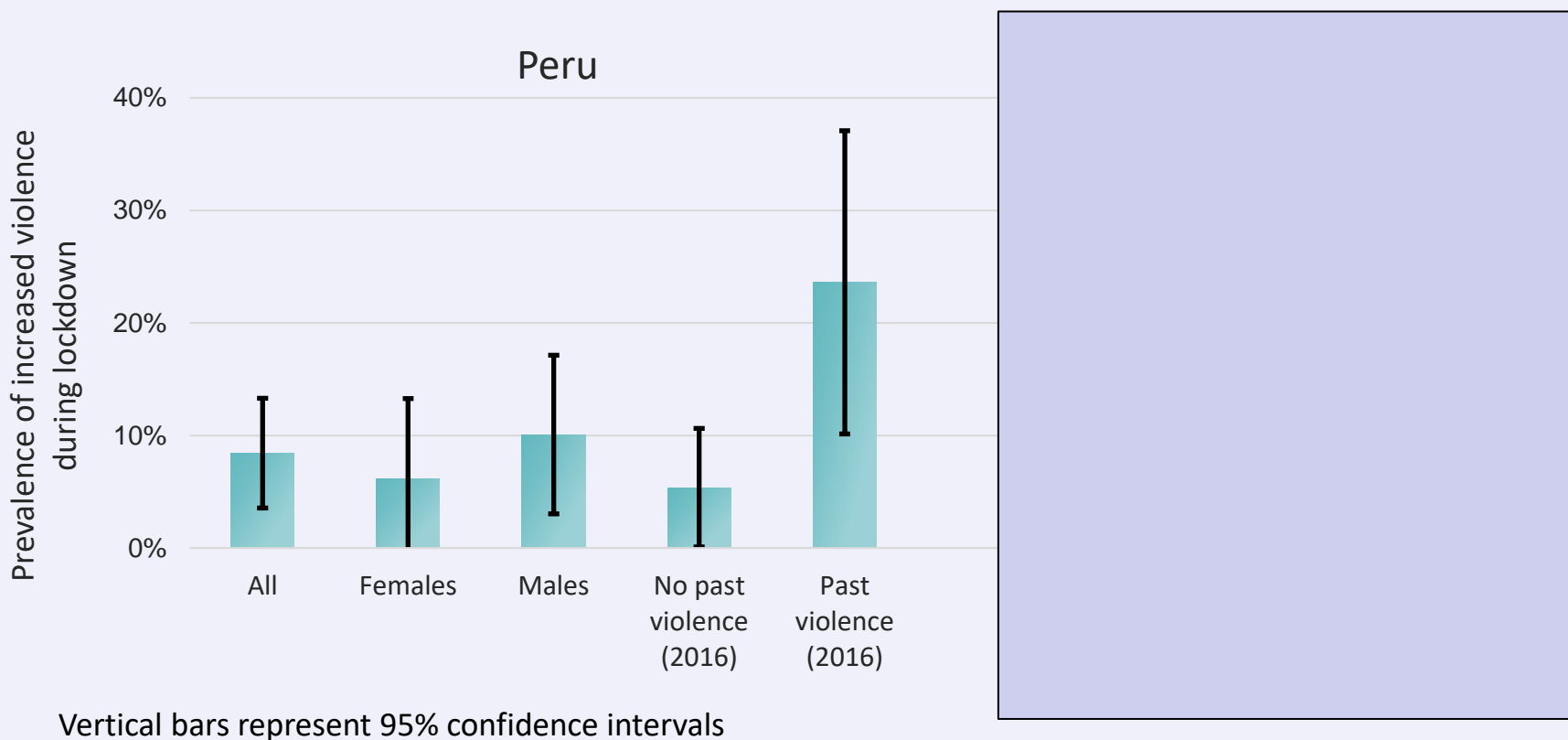
Treatment and Control groups are reversed for a second list experiment (more precise estimates)

### Examples of control statements

- During the lockdown, I started drinking more alcohol than usual.
- During the lockdown, I was able to spend more free time than previously doing exercise
- I felt much closer to my family during the lockdown than I did before.
- During the lockdown, there were more arguments in our household than there were before.

# Results

Previous data shows the level of physical violence in 2016 was 14.9% overall  
20.3% for young women and 9.6% for young men



Note: All estimates are derived from a two-stage approach adapted from Imai (2011) and Blair and Imai (2012), and include controls for; age, gender, household wealth (2016), rural/urban, lockdown duration, attitudes to women, and employment loss in the household. In Peru, additional controls for conditional cash transfer recipient and past violence



# Summary and Conclusions

## Key Findings

- ❑ The proportion of the sample who experienced an increase in physical violence during the lockdown was **8.3% in Peru**
- ❑ The probability of increased physical violence during lockdown is **significantly higher for those who experienced past violence (23.6%)** relative to those who did not (5.4%)
- ❑ Although the *level* of violence for women in Peru was more than double that of men in 2016, **neither gender is significantly more likely to experience an *increase* during lockdown**

## Conclusions

- ❑ This is the first study into domestic violence using a list randomization experiment as part of a phone survey.
- ❑ Provides a viable, pragmatic and cost-effective method to gain insight into sensitive topics during the global pandemic (not only violence).
- ❑ Very recent evidence shows that list experiment gives roughly the same estimate of violence as direct measures (Aguero and Frisancho, 2021).
- ❑ Limitation is that it must be only one question, and quite broad, needs careful design.
- ❑ The trust established with the YL participants, and the concrete recall period may have contributed to the success of the experiment

# Thank you

## Find out more

Porter, C., Favara, M., Sánchez, A., & Scott, D. (2021). The impact of COVID-19 lockdowns on physical domestic violence: Evidence from a list randomization experiment. *SSM-population health*, 14, 100792.