

This report provides an initial analysis of the extent of perceived and enacted HIV/AIDS-related stigma in four different societies. Evidence of stigmatization in all research sites is abundant, ranging from subtle actions to the most extreme degradation, rejection and abandonment. Women with HIV and pregnant women assumed to be HIV positive are repeatedly subjected to the most extensive forms of stigma. The report illustrates how the causes and impact of stigma are mutually reinforcing and highly complex within any given context. Unless efforts to reduce stigma are made integral to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support programmes, it will remain one of the most significant barriers to curbing the global HIV pandemic.

# Stigma, HIV/AIDS and prevention of mother-to-child transmission

## A pilot study in Zambia, India, Ukraine and Burkina Faso



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