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This Research Summary presents the findings of a case study conducted by Grace Osewe and sponsored by the Population Council's HIV/AIDS operations research Horizons Project. The study reviewed the social and political factors that led to government approval and commercial introduction of the female condom in Zimbabwe. Using a literature review and interviews with representatives of women's organizations and other nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), government, and donors, the case study examined not only the government's pathbreaking decision to approve and promote the device but also the critically important research and advocacy efforts that led to widescale public support for it.

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