

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

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Domestic violence represents a serious abuse of power within family, trust or dependency relationships. It undermines the basic rights of people who because of the gender, age, disability or dependence, are most vulnerable to abuse. It is further defined as a serious social and criminal problem that can result in the death or disablement of victims. It can involve killing or physical and sexual assault. It also involves other forms of abusive behaviour, such as emotional abuse, financial deprivation and exploitation and neglect. Domestic violence often remains a hidden problem which has long lasting effects on its victims. United Nations' framework for national legislation on domestic violence states that all acts of gender-based-violence physical, psychological and abuse by family members against women in the family, ranging from single assault to aggravated physical battery, kidnapping, threats, intimidation, coercion, stalking, humiliating verbal use, forcible or unlawful entry, arson, destruction of property, sexual violence, marital rape, dowry or related violence, female genital mutilation violence related to exploitation through prostitution, violence against household workers and attempts to commit such acts shall be termed domestic violence. The problem of domestic violence in India stems from a cultural bias against women. Women who challenge their husband's right to control their behaviour or who ask for household money or step out of the house without permission may face violence. This process leads men to believe their notion of masculinity and manhood, which is reflected to the degree by which they control their wives.

Domestic violence is a problem that affects the lives of many women both in the urban and the rural areas. It is also an episode that has been found to recur throughout the life cycle of women and has extensive repercussions.

According to the most commonly used definitions, it may comprise “physical, emotional, sexual and economic abuse occurring in an adult relationship between intimate or formerly intimate partners with a pattern of controlling behaviour by the abusing partner”. Domestic violence takes many forms and occurs in all settings, within the household and is in almost all cases, perpetrated by men. Cultural and social norms that enhance patriarchal values are promoted in most societies including India and in the process they perpetuate inequality between men and women, and condone violence against women.

Violence against women takes many forms-physical, sexual, psychological and economic. These forms of violence are interrelated and affect women even from before birth till old age. Women who experience violence suffer a range of health problems and their ability to participate in public life is diminished. Violence against women harms families and communities across generations and reinforces other violence prevalent in society. Violence against women also impoverishes women, their families, communities and nations. Violence against women is not confined to a specific culture, region or country, or to a particular group of women within a society. The roots of violence against women lie in persistent discrimination against women.

Domestic violence is a widespread problem throughout the developed and developing world and makes serious impact on quality of human life and broader development. Violence against women is the manifestation of a historically unequal power relationship between men and women. It is a conditioned response and it is not natural or born of biological determinism. In the olden days violence against women was a result of the prevalent atmosphere of ignorance and feudalism. Today violence against women is an uncontrollable phenomenon, which is a direct result of the rapid urbanization,

industrialization and structural adjustment programmes which are changing the socio-economic scenario of our country. In this land 'where non-violence has been preached as a way of life for thousands of year and where women have been worshipped in the image of Durga, Saraswati and Lakshmi, it is shocked to observe the brutal reality of women's existence (Sharma 2000). So, the present study was conducted to understand the domestic violence against women and other issues related to domestic violence.

Within the last few decades, gradual improvements in women's status due to women's activism in various parts of the world has helped slowly to increase the visibility of domestic violence as a social problem. Despite this, violence against women within the family home, until very recently, has received little attention as either a social or a public health issue. The sensitivities and stigma associated with domestic violence, the perception that it is primarily a judicial and legal issue, and the lack of data on the dimensions of abuse, have hampered understanding and the development of appropriate interventions. Research to address these obstacles has begun to make a difference.

The broad aim of the proposed study is to investigate the causes, persons behind violence against women and its consequences. Main objectives of this study were as follows :

1. To know the Socio-Economic background of the respondents.
2. To find out the causes of domestic violence against women.
3. To study the forms of domestic violence.
4. To know the persons responsible for domestic violence against women in the family.
5. To know the suggestion for minimizing the domestic violence.

To meet out these objectives of the study we collected data from Bohar

village in district Rohtak in Haryana. We conducted door to door survey of those women who were married during the last 3 to 5 years. The total numbers of such women were 210 but we could contact only 200 women. The data were collected with the help of Interview schedule, informal discussion and case study method. The data analysis were divided in to five chapters namely i) Socio-Economic Background the Respondents ii) Causes of domestic violence against women iii) Forms of Domestic Violence against women iv) Person responsible for Domestic Violence v) How to minimize Domestic Violence by understanding the suggestions give by the respondents.

To sum up the data analysis we can say that the Socio-economic characteristics of respondents revealed that out of 200 respondents taken for the study, majority of the respondents (49 %) belonged to the age group between 21 to 25 years. Regarding age of marriage, majority of the respondents (47%) were got married between the age group of 19-21 years. While analyzing the type of the family, the majority of the respondents (54%) were belonged to joint family, while (46%) respondents belonged to nuclear family. The analysis of data revealed that majority of the respondents (36%) had up to four members in their family. Regarding educational level of the respondents, most of the respondents have studied upto matric (38%) or having lower literacy level, but 17 per cent respondents were highly educated.

Respondents' family was engaged in various occupations like Agriculture, Business, Labourer and Govt. Jobs. The present findings of the study revealed that majority of the respondents' family (45.5%) were engaged in agriculture. In this study, majority of the respondents (70%) were housewives, while only few 10 per cent respondent were engaged in services and 20.00 per cent respondent handled small business.

Analysis of data revealed that majority of the (38.5%) respondent's family were earning upto Rs. 10,000, followed by the respondents (31.5 %)

who were earning between 10001-30000/- per month. Regarding educational status, majority of the respondents (38 %) were matric, followed by the (31 %) respondents who were educated upto 10+2 level. Caste-wise analysis indicates that majority (47.5 %) respondents belonged to higher caste, while 32.5 per cent belonged to backward castes and 20 per cent were scheduled caste.

The housing condition of the respondents shows that majority of the respondents (46%) were living in Pucca Houses, while (44%) respondent were living in semi-pucca houses and (10%) respondents were living in Kuccha houses. It shows that majority of the respondents who had pucca or semi-pucca houses come from economically better families.

It was noted that (2.5%) respondents had no children, while 68.8 per cent respondents had 1-2 children and 29.0 per cent respondents had 2 to 3 number of children. So majority of the respondents had 1-2 children.

This study showed that most of the higher caste respondents had all modern assets such a L.P. Gas, TV/DVD, Cooler/AC, Freeze, Mobile Phones, Computer, Washing Machines and Car/Motorcycles. But in backward caste respondents, the situation was not the same as in higher caste, yet they were also having many modern facilities. The situation of the scheduled caste people regarding modern facilities was low. There backward caste and scheduled caste respondents had low facilities in comparison to higher caste respondents. The data further showed that higher caste respondents have knowledge about the age at marriage as compared to the backward caste and lower caste respondents. While analysis of data showed that respondents' knowledge of law and regulation about domestic violence, was very poor i.e. (28.5%) respondents had knowledge about these laws and regulations while a large majority (61.40%) of the respondents were aware about these laws. It is further revealed that higher caste respondents were having some awareness as compared to other backward and scheduled caste respondents. It was also noted that

majority of the respondents come to know about their rights from television/radio and newspapers. Regarding level of education and knowledge of the respondents, highly educated respondents were more aware as compared to low literate respondents. While analyzing relationship between caste and domestic violence, majority of the respondents of all castes face domestic violence. While respondents whose occupation is agriculture face more domestic violence as compared to the respondents who were engaged in business and government services. It was further revealed from the data that respondents belonged to joint family face more violence as compared to the respondents belonging to nuclear families. It was also found that respondents whose monthly income was higher face less violence as compared to lower income group respondents.

When we analyse the relationship between education and domestic violence, it was noted that the respondents whose educational qualification is higher face less domestic violence as compared to the lower educational group respondents. The study showed that relationship of family occupation and domestic violence, and observed that 45.5 per cent respondents had the occupation of agriculture out of them, majority, i.e. (87.91 %) face domestic violence. A similar study by David Levinson (1989) of preliterate and peasant societies of world, it was concluded that beating is the most common and frequent form of family violence.

The present study showed that majority (79.5%) of the respondents agree that annual income and domestic violence are related to each other. A similar study conducted in Uttar Pradesh found that poverty is important reason for domestic violence but all income groups face the domestic violence. Regarding the relationship between type of house and domestic violence, it can be concluded that respondents having kuccha houses faces more domestic violence as compared to respondents having semi-pucca or pucca houses may

be because of poor economic conditions.

Regarding causes behind domestic violence, majority of the respondents face violence due to domestic work, while patriarchy, dowry, use of alcohol and unemployment and poverty were other reasons. When we asked our respondents whether child marriage is a violence against woman, majority (58.50%) of the respondents said yes, while a significant number of them (41.50%) says no that child marriage is an offence. It is noteworthy that we are living in 21<sup>st</sup> century but still a large number of respondents have trading type of thinking about child marriage.

Regarding female foeticide, majority, (56 %) of the respondents were of the view that this is a type of violence against women, while a significantly number of them (44%) did not think so. It was also found that out of 93 respondents who have gone to a doctor for sex determination test, majority (52.69%) went to the doctor with their own will, while (47.31%) respondents went to doctor for sex determination test in pressure of family members. It is interesting to note that higher caste respondents were more in favour of sex determination test as compared to backward and lower caste group. Analysing the importance of girl and boy child in the family, majority (43.5%) were in favour of male child, while a significant number of them (24 %) like girl child. It was also found in the present study that in lower age group respondents, the main cause of domestic violence is dowry, while in upper age group respondents face domestic violence due to domestic works. While analyzing the reasons between joint and nuclear type family, it was found that in both type of family, the main reason for domestic violence is patriarchy. When we analysed caste of the respondents and their views about the causes behind domestic violence, domestic work was found to be the main reason for domestic violence as told by the respondents in all caste group. Subjugation of women is another part of domestic violence, regarding this majority of the

respondents were of the view that women against women is the main source of women subjugation.

When we analysed the relationship between level of education and causes behind domestic violence, it was found that all respondents of all educational group face domestic violence due to domestic violence. While few of them face violence due to unemployment and poverty, patriarchy, dowry and use of alcohol. While in all income group, domestic work is the main cause of domestic violence, except in higher income group, where main cause of domestic violence is patriarchy. When we analysed the view of married women with their attitude towards domestic violence, majority of the respondents said that they face domestic violence for not cooking well. When we analysed the husband's behaviour towards their wives majority of the respondents (51.5%) said that their husband's attitude is favourable to them, while a significant number of them (48.5%) said their attitude is unfavourable for them.

On analyzing reasons for tolerating domestic violence by the respondents, majority (38%) said that fear of parental family members is the main reasons, followed by the respondents (27%) who said that fear of publicity is the main reason for tolerance of domestic violence. It was also found that majority of the respondents (48%) said that the violence against them is since from their birth, while 27.5 per cent women face violence after their marriage.

Economic dependency is the other reason for domestic violence, in this regard, a large majority (94.5%) respondents said that economic dependency is the main reason of domestic violence. When we asked our respondents that reservation in education help women for reducing the violence, majority (51.5%) of the respondents were not in favour of this statement, while a noteworthy number of them (48.5%) were of view that it can help women in reducing domestic violence. It is also noted that majority of the respondents



(57.5%) said that women sarpanch not fulfil their own duties, while a considerable number (42.5%) of the respondents said that woman sarpanch fulfil their own duties. While majority of the respondents (72.60%) said that husbands of women sarpanches play a major role in decisions of panchayats. The reason behind that was lack of awareness about work, while a considerable number of them told that male superiority is the main reason behind this. When we analyse forms of violence as told by the respondents, majority of the respondents, i.e. 36 per cent faced emotional and intellectual type of violence followed by the 24 per cent respondents who face social and economic type of violence. The study revealed that many women face physical violence, in the present study it was found that majority of the respondents, i.e. 44.15 per cent face beating with slapping and punching, followed by the 23.25 per cent respondents who were hit with objects. It was also found that out of 200, 37 respondents face verbal type of violence, out of them majority, i.e. 54.05 per cent face taunts from the family followed by abuses from their family members. While out of 200, 48 respondents face social/economic type of violence, out of them, the majority, i.e. 33.33 per cent face violence in front of family members and others followed by the 29.16 per cent respondents were not given any financial help for any important work. While few respondents were treated badly for self-esteem, their money was snatched. The study revealed that out of 200, 72 respondents face emotional and intellectual type of violence, out of them, majority i.e. 31.94 per cent respondents faced filthy way talking, followed by the 27.77 per cent respondents were not taken into consideration in any decision making process, and 23.62 per cent respondents were deprived of care and sympathy. Regarding frequency of violence among respondents, majority, i.e. 27.5 per cent of the respondents face violence one or twice in a year, while 21.5 per cent respondents mostly face violence and 24 per cent respondents face violence once in a week or once in two week. It was also found that majority i.e. 33.5 per cent respondents remained passive at the

time of violence followed by the 26.5 per cent respondents who got angry and react by returning answers, while few respondents start weeping and call their parents.

It was also found that majority of the respondents, i.e. 33.5 per cent discuss with their friends regarding violence, they face followed by the 22.5 per cent respondents who discussed with their parents and in-laws, while few respondents discuss with their husbands and neighbours. When we analyse the reaction of husbands after beating their wives, majority i.e. 55 per cent husband never felt guilty, while a considerable number of them i.e. 39 per cent sometimes felt guilty. Only few husbands felt guilty. Regarding advise extended by informal sources, majority i.e. 32 per cent of the respondents received advise to compromise, while a large number of them i.e. 28 per cent received advise for run away to their own parents house and a sizeable number of respondents i.e. 26 per cent received no interest of others in their own matters. It was also observed that in the present study that majority of all caste groupS face emotional violence. It was also found that respondents who were in service face verbal type of violence, while the respondents who were engaged in domestic works face emotional/intellectual type of violence and respondents who indulged in small business face physical type of violence. Regarding age, lower age group respondents face emotional violence while upper age group respondents face verbal, abusive type of domestic violence. Regarding educational status, lower educational group respondents face emotional violence, while higher educational group respondents face verbal and physical type of violence. It was universal truth that most of the women are not taken into consideration in decision making process. The present study also shows that a large majority, i.e. 84 per cent were not taken into consideration in decision making process. Only 32 per cent respondents were taken into consideration in decision making process, out of them, majority i.e. 34.37 per cent discussed about their children related matter, 25 per cent for domestic

equipments, 21.88 for going in their parents house and 18.75 per cent considered for their own money. Regarding decision of marriage, majority, i.e. 52.5 per cent respondents said that their parents took decision of their marriage, while 39 per cent respondents said that their father and brothers took decision, few respondents 6 per cent said that their mothers have decided their marriage and only few 2.5 per cent respondents took self-decision of their marriage.

When we analyse the relationship between head of the family and domestic violence, majority of the respondents, told that both families headed by male and female members face emotional violence followed by social-economic, physical and verbal violence. After analyzing the relationship between head of the family and domestic violence, it was found the respondents whose family headed by female were most sufferer as compared to the families headed by male members. It was also observed that in all caste group, the family was headed by father in law. The present study shows that a large majority of the respondents held responsible for their mother-in-law for domestic violence followed by their husbands. Regarding relationship between mother-in-law's level of education and domestic violence, majority (57.50 per cent) of the respondents were of the view that level of education effect domestic violence, while a considerable number of them (42.50 per cent) were not in favoured of this view. While, majority (58.5 per cent) of the respondents said that they were victims of their mother-in-law. Regarding relationship between husband's level of education and domestic violence, majority (56 per cent) of the respondents were of the view that level of education effect domestic violence, while a considerable number of them (44 per cent) were not favoured this view. It was also found that a large majority i.e. 92.5 per cent respondents were of the view that domestic violence minimize with the duration of marriage age.

Regarding relationship between duration of respondents' marriage and frequency of domestic violence, it was found that out of total 185 married respondents who thought their duration of marriage has impact on domestic violence, out of them, 23.78 per cent respondents' duration of marriage was 1-2 years, majority, i.e. 54.54 per cent have medium level of domestic violence, while out of 46.49 per cent respondents, whose duration of marriage is between 3-4 years, and out of 29.73 per cent respondents' whose duration of marriage is above 5 years, majority, i.e. 48.83 and 47.47 face medium type of violence. So it is evident that majority of the respondents in all groups of marriage duration, face medium type of domestic violence. It was also analysed that majority of the respondents of all income group held responsible their mother-in-law for domestic violence. Regarding suggestions of the respondents, majority of the respondents, i.e. 44.5 per cent said that domestic violence minimized in our society with the help of advertisement related to female foeticide and dowry related Bell Bajao Act, 2005 show on T.V. channels. While majority of the respondents said that women would not be equal to man in our society. Most of our respondents said that by using of our rights, respectful behaviour toward women, be lessing own wrong habits, by remaining passive, avoiding violence before children, relative and other family members may be helpful is reducing violence against women.

Hence, it is clear that violence against women is endemic in India. The reason behind violence against women in our country is because of poor quality of life indicated by rampant poverty, lack of education, high mortality, rate poor health status, high fertility rate and high maternal mortality rate. Also contributing to the violence against women is societal mindset about women that has not changed much. Violence is perpetrated on women both inside and outside her home.

## **SUGGESTIONS**

1. The government and voluntary organizations are making efforts towards ending or minimizing violence against women. The efforts of the government are in the shape of enacting relevant legislations, issuing orders and launching various women welfare schemes. But their implementation remains tardy, at the lower level government functionaries are not gender sensitive. Laws pertaining to protection of women rights and prevention of domestic violence should be made more strict and enforced without any loopholes.
2. The voluntary organizations are taking both preventive as well as reactionary measures. But efforts of the voluntary organizations suffer from paucity of funds and infrastructure.
3. Education of the girl child is the first step towards a better society with fewer incidents of violence.
4. Campaigns aimed at men and women to increase awareness and change attitudes about gender inequality are also effective tools.
5. As individuals and responsible citizens, we need to spread awareness and report any act of violence against women around us.
6. It was said that woman is an enemy of woman. So to minimize the domestic violence, woman should consider that
7. According to the expert's opinion alcoholism plays a crucial role in perpetrating violence against women as it has an influence on almost all other attributes. Therefore efforts must be taken to address alcoholism. In many cases those who involve in violence against women are under the influence of alcohol, sale of liquor should be banned within or around the residential areas.

## **SUGGESTIONS OF THE INVESTIGATOR**

1. The mother-in-law should consider her daughter-in-law as her daughter and daughter-in-law should also consider her mother-in-law as her mother. So that the incidence of violence should be eradicated or reduced in the family.
2. The husband should think about her wife that no body should harass his wife without any reason in the family. He should think that her wife left her home for him and it is his duty to look after her. If her wife is harassed or violated without any reason, he should resolve the matter in the family.
3. The role of father-in-laws in the family is also important. If her wife is taunting and violating his sister-in-law. He should be able to tell her wife that that kind of violence should not be happened in the family in the future.
4. The main reason of domestic violence in the present study is domestic works. So every family member should understand his/her duty of household work according to their capability. So that a burden of all domestic work not lies on the shoulder of women.
5. The use of alcohol and late arrival at home by husbands are another reasons for domestic violence. The husbands should leave the use of alcohol and try to reach at home in time. This may help in eradicating the domestic violence a lot.
6. The parents of both families should have harmonious relationship. If anything is going wrong, they can sit and resolve the matter.
7. The interference of other relatives or neighbourers should be minimized in the family matters.

So, it was recommended that more educational campaigns against domestic violence be undertaken. Women empowerment is most welcome step as this might ensure reduction in domestic violence.