



International Conference on Multidisciplinary Approaches in Arts, Social Sciences & Humanitie
Sri S. Ramasamy Naidu Memorial College, Sattur, Virudhunagar-Dist., Tamil Nadu

Date: 4 March 2022

ISBN : 978-93-91535-22-3

Domestic Violence against Men in India:A Perspective

Ms.Chanchal Khatri

Assist. Professor, Department of Law, J S University,

Shikohabad, Dist. Firozabad, India, chanchalkhatri700@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

In the absence of any systemic data, since there are many men who come forward to report the abuse of women, it is important to understand and evaluate the issue of abuse of men by women and the things related to it. With changing gender roles and power relations, the author predicts that this will increase in the future, which will have far-reaching effects on the larger society and the relationship between men and women. The paper attempts to understand the dynamics and factors that play or will play an important role in perpetuating violence against men by women. This paper is based on the authors' counseling sessions, interviews with male victims of violence, and other secondary sources.

KEYWORDS: Domestic violence, violence against men, gender, norm, values

INTRODUCTION:

Men report and suspect spousal violence privately, but do not report publicly. Abuse of men by women is not new, and the author predicts that it will increase with the change of power, economic independence, and control of the economy and resources. This change in power dynamics will also affect the relationship between men and women, where men fear losing power and women are excited about their position of empowerment. In this context, the establishment of "power" between men and women, husband and wife, and the family is essential for the greater good of society.

Because of the power imbalance, women have suffered for centuries. Will this gradual shift in power lead to a unified society in favor of the larger society, the country or take the opposite direction as violence against men and women.

The status, power, and status of women is changing. They are empowered and aware of their rights. These factors along with education, changing values and norms, and gender roles empower women to realize that they are not inferior to men even in areas that are stronger and more powerful than men. They are in a better position to understand this perceived difference in power. Much has been researched and reported on the abuse of women but not on the abuse of men.



VIOLENCE: MEN AND WOMEN

People are violent and aggressive. Women are no exception to it (Maguire, 2010;¹ Dobash & Dobash, 2004). Research in the field of domestic violence has shown that men and women commit violence in relationships at the same rate. In addition, men and women alike have equal opportunities to encourage violence against each other. The truth is surprisingly equal: About half of all domestic violence occurs when both partners abuse each other (Corry, Fiebert, & Pizzey, 2002).² Murray Straus reports that 25% occur only when men abuse women, while the other 25% occur. only women abuse men. A bibliographic study by Fiebert (2007)³ examined 209 studies (161 experimental studies, review/analysis of 201,500 samples) showing that physically violent women are, in fact, violent (Dobash & Dobash, 2004; Straus⁴ & Gelles, 1990; Morse, 1995; Moffitt, Robins, & Caspi, 2001)⁵ than men in their relationships with their spouses or male partners. Indeed, power relations, gender roles, norms, values, and the social and cultural environment affect and influence the expression of this behavior. Over the centuries, it has been explained in various myths, books and forms of discourse that women are inferior and men are superior. So men are strong, cruel, and oppressive, and women are in a position to be accepted as oppressed and silent and suffer all kinds of violence. These ideas are largely guided by gender roles and norms where women cannot be violent, aggressive, and oppressive because of their position in society. Power relations, gender roles, norms, and values are not static, and change over time. It is widely thought and believed that women are always the victims and men are always the perpetrators. There are many reasons behind this assumption that men are not victims. The idea that men can be victims of abuse and domestic violence is so unimaginable that many men do not even try to report the violence. Women's acceptance of violence against men is often seen as a threat to men, their superiority and masculinity.

STATISTICS, MEASURES, AND POWER OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN

Although there is no systematic study or record on domestic violence against men in India, it is generally estimated that out of 100 cases of domestic violence, about 40 cases involve violence against men.² There is little evidence available about the actual number of acts of violence against men and the trends in violence. There are various reasons for under-reporting, but foremost among them is our social system and values that are important to men, which prevent them from sharing and reporting domestic violence and abuse. Even when men report abuse and domestic violence, many people do not believe them. When men try to tell about their problems, abuse, struggle, and abuse in marriage and family, no one listens; instead, people laugh at them. Many men are ashamed to talk and share that they are beaten by their wives (Sarkar, Dsouza, &



International Conference on Multidisciplinary Approaches in Arts, Social Sciences & Humanitie
Sri S. Ramasamy Naidu Memorial College, Sattur, Virudhunagar-Dist., Tamil Nadu

Date: 4 March 2022

ISBN : 978-93-91535-22-3

ASH-2022

Dasgupta, 2007)⁶. One must understand that the dynamics of domestic violence and abuse between men and women are different, and the reasons, intentions, and motivations are often very different. There are various studies on the dynamics of violence against women, but less research on domestic violence and abuse by men.

A study conducted by the Save Family Foundation (Sarkar et al., 2007), which looked at 1,650 men between the ages of 15 and 49 years old, selected by random sampling using a system derived from the WHO multi-country survey on husbands' health and domestic violence. , reports that economic violence (32.8%) is the most common, followed by emotional violence (22.2%), physical violence (25.2%), and sexual violence (17.7%). Research shows that the likelihood of violence increases significantly during marriage, especially if it is more than 7 years old. It also shows that husbands who experience some violence during their first year of marriage continue to experience the same throughout their lives. It's not something that just goes away. Research shows that domestic violence is a public health problem with far-reaching health consequences, such as mental illness and stress disorders that should be addressed. Research also shows that domestic violence is perpetrated in all socio-economic categories (see Table 1). Research reports that a large number of domestically abused husbands were well educated and earning good money.

Men endure and stay in abusive and violent relationships for many reasons. Some of the reasons that "make men endure domestic violence and abuse" are the belief and hope that things will get better, the fear of losing respect and position in society, protection, and love for their children and family. Many abused men feel that they have to make their marriages work. They fear that if things fall apart they will be blamed. Many abused men also believe that it is their fault and feel that they deserve the treatment they are receiving. Another reason is the increasing economic and other dependence on women. Data from the Ministry of Labor and Employment for 2001-2005 report that the number of women who find work is higher than that of men. The report (Sarkar et al., 2007) also shows that the number of employed men has decreased by 14 lakh, from 228.4 lakh in 2001 to 214.4 lakh in 2005. In cases where the abused man is psychologically, emotionally, or financially dependent on the woman, the idea of leaving the relationship creates a feeling of stress and anxiety.

Violence against men is not considered serious because of its different manifestations. In most cases of violence against men, women use more psychological, verbal, and emotional violence³ and abuse and are less involved in physical abuse. The impact of violence against men is less visible and less likely to be felt by others. A large number of men are hypersensitive to emotional and psychological abuse. In some cases, humiliating a man emotionally in front of



*International Conference on Multidisciplinary Approaches in Arts, Social Sciences & Humanitie
Sri S. Ramasamy Naidu Memorial College, Sattur, Virudhunagar-Dist., Tamil Nadu*

Date: 4 March 2022

ISBN : 978-93-91535-22-3

others can be more damaging than physical abuse. Mental and emotional abuse can be an area where women tend to be more violent than men. However, what harms a man mentally and emotionally in some cases may be very different from what harms a woman. For some men, being called a coward, powerless, or failure can have a very different psychological effect than it would have on a woman. Unkind and cruel words hurt in different ways and last in different ways. In many cases, men are more affected by emotional abuse than physical abuse.

VIOLENCE BY MEN AGAINST WOMEN: NATURE AND FORM

Many men have reported that when they get home, their wives often start complaining, complaining and cursing. Many men report that women withhold sex for no reason, as men in India generally do not enjoy sex outside of marriage. It was also reported by many men that sex is a tool for negotiating with women. Many men reported that they were afraid of their wives and in-laws. Many men are threatened by their in-laws to do as their wives say. This study also shows that most of the women who are involved in the abuse of men are scared. They insult men, and even insult their elderly parents. Women find fault and abuse in different ways. These mistakes are related to work, attitude, daily work, and sex life, as not all men are able to satisfy the needs of a wife after a certain age or have some physical problem. In particular, physical disability in the bedroom occurs as a result of teasing the wife. This verbal abuse leads to mental abuse. In general, society considers that women cannot verbally or mentally abuse or abuse men. In some cases, it is also found and reported that if things do not go well or the husband does not follow what his wife wants, his family and in-laws start threatening to charge him with false charges such as dowry (498a) or the Domestic Violence Act.

WHY WOULD YOU NOT REPORT MALE VIOLENCE

The word man chooses sex, shows strength, is associated with male behavior, appearance, and emotional control (it is generally believed that men are less emotional than women, although there is no scientific evidence available). It is a common belief and opinion that separates a man from a woman in terms of expressing their emotions. It would be shameful for men to disclose their suffering in a male-dominated society, as it may be considered 'feminine behavior.' If a married man discloses his suffering to his friend or family, he is afraid of loneliness. and he has a fear of loss of sovereignty and divorce from his wife or his wife's domineering behavior. It also has bad effects on his family and children and responsibility towards them. Because of this, men start living with depression and cannot reveal their feelings to anyone. The lack of a strong support system (counseling services, institutional support, helpline, family support, etc.) is another factor.



HEALTH OUTCOMES RELATED TO MEN'S VIOLENCE

If we consider that men face violence in all its forms and women are more powerful in comparison, it is important to understand and focus on the effects of such actions on individual life and behavior. There may be different manifestations in the life of each person such as physical, mental, social, and economic. If given enough care, it can lead to long-term habits of alcoholism, increased homosexuality, depression, frustration, suicide, and the like.

DYNAMICS RELATED TO MEN'S VIOLENCE

The word violence is often used to describe the mind. It is basically related to power dynamics: Male violence is basically a translation of power analysis: "Who has the most power?" who. For example, if a man earns less than a woman and his wife starts to analyze the situation and feels stronger and stronger, the man becomes insecure and can become a victim of violence afterwards. This is true even at work: if the workplace is led by active women, strong in society, physical fitness, mental strength, and mental strength.

There are no absolute principles for understanding the emotional differences between men and women and the dynamics of violence. However, there are principles that provide an explanation for individual situations. Norm-break theory by DeRidder and Tripathi (1992) is one of the principles that can be used to examine violent reactions and underlying factors. Norm-breaking theory looks at the cycle of conflict-dynamics and predicts whether it will follow a cycle of escalation or decline.⁷ The triggering factor is considered norm-breaking. It is in this context that the theory of norm-violation can be used to understand that a certain action on the part of a man/woman can be seen as violent and lead to a violent response (retaliatory or tit-for-tat) from the partner. .

CONCLUSION:

Society and its power relations, norms, and values are changing. Men have started sharing the grief, abuse, and abuse of their wives/spouses. It is time to recognize their problem as a social and public health problem and develop appropriate strategies and interventions. They are still stronger than women. They need help in crisis and family violence: Especially partner violence is a problem. Male victims of violence can be saved/helped by appropriate interventions such as recognizing violence against men by women as a public health issue; helpline for male victims of violence; and education, awareness, and law enforcement.

REFERENCES:

1. Maguire, J. (2010). Are Women More Violent Than Men? Massachusetts News. Retrieved from http://www.fatherhoodcoalition.org/cpf/inthenews/MassNews_990802women_violent.htm
2. Corry, C. E., Fiebert, M. S., & Pizzey, E. (2002). Controlling domestic violence against



*International Conference on Multidisciplinary Approaches in Arts, Social Sciences & Humanitie
Sri S. Ramasamy Naidu Memorial College, Sattur, Virudhunagar-Dist., Tamil Nadu*

Date: 4 March 2022

ISBN : 978-93-91535-22-3

ASH-2022

men. Retrieved from http://www.mensrights.com.au/Family_Violence_Statistics-Child_Abuse_Australia/Family_Violence_Statistics_Newspaper_Canada_15MAY06.pdf

3. Fiebert, M. S. (2007). References examining assaults by women on their spouses or male partners: An annotated bibliography. Retrieved from <http://www.csulb.edu/~mfiebert/assault.htm>
4. Dobash, R. P., & Dobash, R. E. (2004). Women's violence to men in intimate relationships: Working on a puzzle. *British Journal of Criminology*, 44(3), 324–349. doi: 10.1093/bjc/azh026
5. Mentor Research Institute. (2007). About domestic violence against men. Retrieved from <http://www.oregoncounseling.org/Handouts/DomesticViolenceMen.htm>.
Moffitt, T. E., Robins, R. W., & Caspi, A. (2001). A couples analysis of partner abuse with implications for abuse-prevention policy. *Criminology and Public Policy*, 1, 5–36.
6. Sarkar, S., Dsouza, R., & Dasgupta, A. (2007). Domestic violence against men—a study report by Save Family Foundation. New Delhi, India: Save Family Foundation. Retrieved from www.savefamily.org
7. DeRidder, R. R. & Tripathi, R. C. (1992). Norm violation and intergroup relations. Oxford, UK: Clarendon Press.