

Recrudescence of Domestic Violence Cases and Psychosocial Experience of Communities in the Lubumbashi City in Democratic Republic of Congo (the)

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Abstract: *The purpose of this study is to examine the psychosocial determinants that affect the behavior of communities and particularly those of perpetrators and victims of violence (in its many forms) within Congolese society in general. The investigations were carried out in the city of Lubumbashi in the southeast of the Democratic Republic of Congo. The starting point was the resurgence of cases of domestic and family violence recorded more than ten years ago in this city. This situation is worrying and even affects public health issues (psychosocial experience of communities). To this end, clinical psychology is best suited to address these respondents and how to implement an intervention approach. The findings of this article are insightful and fundamental in that they consider strategies that fall under a psychoeducational approach.*

Keywords: marital violence, public psychological health, domestic violence, women's right, psychoeducation

1. Introduction

The UN, in its declaration on the elimination of violence against women (November 1993), gives the following definition: violence against women is any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women. This violence may include the threat of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether in public or private life. In its 2012 intervention policy on domestic violence, the Government of Quebec defines domestic violence as a series of repetitive acts that usually occur in an ascending order called "escalation of violence". It is characterized by a cycle with well-defined phases: rising tension, aggression, disempowerment, remission and reconciliation. Not all phases are present in this order, but they create a sense of fear, anger and a belief that the victim is responsible for the violence.

In view of the above, we worked as an expert in the Gender, Family and Child Division of the Province of Haut-Katanga in the DRC. We have witnessed an increase in cases of domestic violence that we have seen. These types of violence observed within families in Lubumbashi drew our attention as a psychological researcher. All in all, intimate partner violence causes serious physical, mental, sexual and reproductive health problems for women in the short and long term. It also affects their children and has high social and economic costs for women, their families and society. These forms of violence can lead to depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and other anxiety disorders, sleep disorders, eating disorders and suicide attempts. Children growing up in violent families may suffer from a range of behavioral and emotional disorders that may lead to their later involvement in violence or victimization. Intimate partner violence is also associated with higher rates of infant

and child morbidity and mortality (e.g., diarrheal disease and malnutrition). The socio-economic costs of intimate partner violence and sexual violence are enormous and reverberate throughout society. The multitude of cases of domestic violence observed and their magnitude in the city of Lubumbashi, causing conflicts that destabilize the conditions of family life and affect the mental health of the victims, led us to ask two main questions that will lead us throughout our research, namely:

What factors underlie domestic violence? What is the mental health status of the victims? Who are the family perpetrators? What are the consequences of family violence on the psychosocial experience of the communities?

1.1. Assumptions of the work

As hypotheses to these concerns we assume that the socio-cultural factors influence of the environment, the beliefs and archetypes...would favor family and conjugal violence. Consequently, this would affect the psychosocial experience of these communities and more particularly women and children. The latter would be traumatized, exposed to anxiety disorders, psychosis, aggressiveness, deterioration of their self-esteem, inferiority complex, etc. The objectives of this study are to determine the factors that underlie domestic violence in the city of Lubumbashi and to describe the consequences of this violence on the psychosocial life of the households. To achieve these objectives, we will use the observation method, the psychosocial survey and the descriptive method. The data collection will be done through interviews by questionnaire. The data processing, analysis and interpretation of the results will be done by means of percentage and phi correlation coefficient analysis.

Apart from the introduction and the conclusion, the present work will be subdivided in three parts, the first part concerns the conceptual and theoretical approaches related to family violence, the second part will be devoted to the methodological aspects, the third part will be the object of the results.

2. Theoretical Framework

2.1. Violence

To understand the concept of violence scientifically, it is important to determine its practical context and its evolutionary function. To this end, we distinguish two (2) origins. First, the adjective violent derived from the Latin vis which designates "force in action" and its plural vire which designates the physical forces and the resources to exercise them:

This one is an intense and often destructive force (the violence of the natural calamities (Cfr earthquake in Haiti, the Tsunami in Japan) the violence designates an excess, an excessive vigor of an action understood in the sense to act and to make force, to oblige, to constrain. The law seeks to define violence or more precisely violence as acts by which the aggressiveness and brutality of man is expressed, directed against his fellow men and causing them more or less serious injuries or trauma. The law uses the generic term of violence to designate the whole of the offences constituting an attack on the integrity of the people and their goods. For example, to repress, to dominate, to restrain, to insult, to slap, to assault, to attack, to harass or to use brutal force against someone and which evokes the abuse of force to counter a subject to do something or to submit him (Harrati S. et al., 2006, p.20).

From a psychological and criminological point of view, violence is considered either as a delinquency or as a constitutive element or aggravating circumstance (Harrati S. et al., 2006, pp.20-21). The legal approach to violence refers to the norm of the integrity of the person; and, therefore, is not an absolute but a relative value. It considers not only acts of aggression that actually harm physical integrity, but also those that cause psychological disturbance.

From the point of view of sociology also, sociology recognizes two (2) conceptions of violence:

- Firstly, violence is seen as anomie in a broader sense to characterize the situation where the normative system has lost some of its rigor and effectiveness.
- Secondly, violence is seen as a strategy in the sense that it is taken as a means of coordinating activities and maneuvers to achieve a goal. To repeat a way of doing or acting.

Causal links between violence and family

The family is the set of related persons living under the same roof and, especially, the father, the mother and the children. It is also the group of people linked by a relationship of kinship or alliance.

2.2. Forms of Violence

2.2.1. Domestic violence

Intra-family violence is a particular form of personal violence, which Welzer Lang (1992) describes as follows: "Domestic violence believes oneself authorized to use one's strength to impose one's desires and will. Domestic violence is most often the individualized form that the collective domination of men over women or adults over children takes in each home. Two elements emerge from this description, namely:

- 1) The use of force to impose one's wishes or will on other family members;
- 2) The fact that this power relationship is most often a reflection of a society where men dominate women, and where adults dominate children.

Violence between partners is characterized by a set of behaviors, acts, attitudes, of one of the partners or ex-partners, which aim at controlling and dominating the other.

They include verbal, physical, sexual or economic aggression, threats or constraints, repeated or likely to be repeated, affecting the integrity of the other person and even his or her socio-professional integration.

2.2.2. Domestic violence

Conflicts are ubiquitous in couples' relationships. Two people cannot always agree on all of the day-to-day activities they experience. Each partner is unique, comes from a different background, has different experiences and values. Therefore, the choices and desires of each person cannot always be in agreement. This leads to different reactions and behaviors. For most couples, the affirmation of each other is achieved with flexibility and compromise so that everyone is satisfied. Disagreements will thus be resolved with effective strategies. (Lafontaine et al., 2006).

Feminist movements define domestic violence by focusing on the forms of violence. In 1987, McLeod defined domestic violence as follows: a battered woman is one who is directly and regularly subjected to physical, psychological, economic, verbal, or sexual violence. According to the Quebec government (2012), violence includes psychological, verbal, physical, sexual, and economic abuse. Violence results from a desire to dominate another person, not from a loss of control. It can occur at any age in a marital, extramarital or romantic relationship.

According to the Government of Quebec (2012) we distinguish:

- Psychological violence: is characterized by the devaluation of the other. It takes the form of neglect, humiliation, blackmail or forced isolation. It affects the person's self-esteem.
- Verbal abuse: usually stems from emotional abuse and consists of nasty and degrading words.
- Physical violence: asserts more clearly the dominance of aggression. It consists of blows and wounds of all kinds up to homicide.
- Sexual violence: aims at the sexual integrity of the victim, to dominate the other in what it has of more intimate.

- Economic Violence: is characterized by the domination of the victim through the control of financial resources, thus taking away the power to decide on this matter, creating financial dependence.

2.3. Theories on Domestic Violence

Family violence concerns public health as much as the rights and duties of the human being that it destroys. It is the cause of numerous physical and psychological illnesses, of consultations, of hospitalizations, of high consumption of legal or illegal drugs and of repeated work stoppages. The family is the place where the law intervenes the least and where the most frequent violence against the weakest beings is observed, whether they are women, young children, the elderly or men. This often insidious violence develops in cycles that increase in intensity and frequency over time.

2.3.1. The expression of domestic violence

The intimacy of the family nucleus often constitutes the receptacle of violent impulses not expressed in social life, induced by antecedents, reactions against the social organization (working conditions, daily living conditions), conceptions of life as a couple (sharing of tasks), cultural conceptions of male/female relations, but also means used individually to support painful living conditions (alcohol, drugs). This intimacy constitutes a place of outlet at a distance from public opprobrium and the sanction of socially condemnable acts.

2.3.2. Explanatory models of domestic violence

According to Rinfret-Raynor et al. (1996), the literature on the causes of domestic violence reveals a great diversity in the explanations given to it. Several theories have been developed by researchers from different perspectives: psychological, social and legal. Considering a wide range of explanatory factors for the phenomenon has shown several advantages. Rinfret-Raynor et al (1996) and Chamberland (2003) note the relevance of considering the combined influence of a set of factors, both environmental and personal, in order to better understand domestic violence.

The feminist model

Feminists were the first to speak out against violence against women and to highlight the social conditions that contribute to its emergence (Canadian Panel on Violence Against Women, 1993). In Canada, feminist groups' advocacy on behalf of women and children who have been victims of men's violence has helped to raise public awareness of the problem (Stewart, 2014). Feminist analysis focuses on society rather than individual cases (Dutton, 1996).

In this explanatory model, not only does men's violence against women result from gender inequality, but at a broader level, it serves to maintain men's domination over women. From this point of view, it represents an important instrument for perpetuating women's subordination.

Social learning model

From this perspective, domestic violence is seen as a behavior learned through imitation of patterns observed in childhood and in society at large. According to this theory, contact with violent role models, both in the home and in

popular culture, increases the risk that a child will become violent in relationships as an adult. There is evidence of intergenerational transmission of violent behavior that appears to provide empirical support for this model. However, it does not explain the fact that most boys exposed to violent patterns do not themselves become violent as adults (Stewart et al., 2014; Becker, 2008 and Kaufman and Zègler, 1993) report a lower likelihood of violence among adults who, while witnessing violence as children, enjoyed the love and support of at least one parent. These parents were in a loving adult relationship, acknowledged witnessing violence, and were committed to not being violent in their own relationships.

Explanation by personality traits and mental disorders

Psychology and psychiatry dominate the analysis of causes in an attempt to explain the phenomenon of domestic violence and remain the most popular, both in the literature and with the general public. The focus of this explanation is on the individual characteristics of the people involved.

Violence is explained by an abnormality in the victim, the abuser or both. The main determinants of violence are mental disorders, personality traits, psychological problems of the abuser, provocation and masochism of women, and abuse of alcohol and other psychotropic substances (Audet, 2002).

In addition, certain mental illnesses can lead to the presence of violent behaviour. It is now known that serious mental illness, in a way that is not yet well understood, can create a disruption of balance and lead the individual to commit acts of violence. A few characteristics increase the risk of violent behaviour in some people with mental illness: history of previous violence, non-compliance with medication and follow-up, substance abuse, acute psychotic symptomatology and brain damage. In the public mind, many people remain convinced that only mentally disturbed or truly psychotic individuals can engage in violent acts causing severe injury. On the other hand, the psychological approach looks specifically at how personality traits and psychological disorders of individuals can lead them to use violence. Several authors explain the behaviour of a violent person by the various personal characteristics they may have (Gelles, 1997). According to Debaré (1995), a person is violent not because of a particular circumstance, but rather because of particular internal dispositions. Several characteristics have been identified by researchers and clinicians to explain violence in men: low self-esteem, emotional dependence, a tendency to react aggressively following an accumulation of stress, a propensity for depression and suicide, poor impulse control, low frustration tolerance, fear of intimacy and abandonment, difficulties in expressing emotions, a tendency to deny and minimize violent behavior, childhood victimization, a rigid conception of sexual roles, and alcohol dependence (Audet, 2002).

3. Methodology

3.1. Methods and techniques

To carry out this study, we used three methods: descriptive, observational and clinical.

Research Methods

3.1.1. Descriptive method

According to J. P. Nkongolo Mukendi (1997), the descriptive method consists of describing the characteristics of a phenomenon in order to identify similarities and dissimilarities, and to establish connections in order to explain the phenomenon studied.

3.1.2. Clinical method

The clinical method assumes the presence of the subject, his or her contact with the psychologist, but also the freedom to organize the proposed material as the subject wishes. The techniques used are interviews, tests, evaluation scales, drawings, games, analysis of written texts, observation, and the collection of information that can be processed in different ways (content analysis, "psychopathological" analysis, analysis of enunciation, etc.) in order to bring out the salient elements concerning the individual or the phenomenon in question.

The clinical method comprises two levels: the first corresponds to the use of techniques (tests, scales, interviews) for collecting information in vivo (isolating it as little as possible from the "natural" situation in which it is collected and respecting the context of the problem), whereas the second level is defined by the in-depth and exhaustive study of the case (Lagache 1949: 18).

3.1.3. Observation method

In order to understand the reality of our problem, we approach observation as a method and as a technique. Observation, because of its predominant role in the apprehension of the phenomenon of conjugal violence, occupies a place of choice as a research method.

According to the orientation of our study, these three methods seemed relevant to us. Indeed, the descriptive method allowed us to observe and identify the contours of the studied phenomenon in order to explain it. Thanks to the clinical method, we established a personal, close and thorough contact with each participant and thanks to the observation technique, we were able to identify details not expressed by the subject under investigation.

3.1.4. Research Techniques

For data collection, we used a questionnaire interview. The interview is a technique for collecting oral information, a speech event that occurs in a social situation between an interviewer and a respondent.

For data processing, analysis and interpretation of the results, we used the percentage technique and statistical analysis by correlation coefficient.

1) The percentage

This technique allows us to group and categorize the collected reactions in order to identify the difference that results from these reactions.

2) Statistical analysis by correlation

When the researcher wants to show the existing relationship between two or more facts in the humanities or social

sciences, the correlation coefficient allows him to determine the degree of significance.

To this end, it is necessary to determine whether or not these behavioral characteristics influence each other and to determine the degree of this influence.

a) The chi-square test

The chi-square test is a test to measure the difference between one or more observed distributions of numbers (Gueguen, 2013:189). We chose the chi-squared test because it will be used to compare the frequencies of opinions expressed by the research participants.

The Chi-square test used met the formula below (Combes, 1999:77).

$$X^2 = \sum \frac{(fo - fe)^2}{fe}$$

Σ : sum

fo: observed frequencies,

fe: Theoretical frequencies or constructed numbers.

The degree of freedom we referred to is calculated according to the following formula: $dl = (l-1)(k-1)$

l: number of lines,

k: number of columns.

b) The correlation coefficient

When it does not qualify a numerical indicator (the "correlation coefficient") and is used "loosely," this term refers to a situation in which two random variables X and Y- or two statistical traits-are neither fully related ($Y = f(X)$) nor independent; the nature of the "linkage" between the two variables or traits is then random (in the mathematical sense of the word, which is not to say that it is "anything!"), and its strength can often be measured by an appropriate numerical coefficient. (Dress F., 2015).

Correlation coefficient phi

Also called the significance test of a coefficient, is a parametric test that compares the observed value of a correlation coefficient to zero (which therefore checks the "significance of a non-zero correlation).

It is applicable when there are two qualitative variables and is ideal for variables with two modalities, which was the case in our research.

It is calculated by the formula :

$$\phi = \frac{ad - bc}{\sqrt{(a+b)(a+c)(b+d)(c+d)}}$$

Where:

- a: number of the first modality of the first variable for the first modality of the second variable
- b: number of the second modality of the first variable for the first modality of the second variable
- c: number of the first modality of the first variable for the second modality of the second variable
- d: number of the second modality of the first variable for the second modality of the second variable.

3.2. The Lubumbashi City

Created in 1910 by King Leopold 2, the city of Lubumbashi has been through several events in the history of the Congo to date. Taking into account the socio-cultural aspect which is very influential in the context of the present study, we point out that the city of Lubumbashi is said to be cosmopolitan with regard to its growing population from all the provinces of the DRC. Located in the south of the country, this city is undergoing a rapid development of mentalities and transforms the behavior of individuals to the multiple parameters of globalization. On the other hand, it should be recalled that in this city there has been a strong increase in divorces and separations of couples for the last ten years, according to sources of urban services (2023). Two out of ten marriages are registered at the civil registry office, according to the family judge sitting at the court of peace in the commune of Kamalondo (2019). Several attempted divorces are registered in the different communes of Lubumbashi. The same source indicates that highly educated and civilized couples are twice as exposed to psychological and moral violence, unlike couples who do not have a higher level of education. Here we find more abandoned children, others are in care centers, and still others in extended families.

As far as the promotion of African cultural and traditional values is concerned, the city of Lubumbashi hosts two functional Cultural Centers: the Halle de l'Etoile and the Alliance Franco-Congolaise. It is worth mentioning the remarkable contribution of the Museum of Lubumbashi and of two Youth Centers installed in the Communes of Katuba and Ruashi.

3.2.1. Administrative Divisions and Subdivisions

The city of Lubumbashi has forty-three (43) districts divided into seven communes as shown in the attached table.

From the point of view of density, it appears that young boys and girls are more numerous than adults (62.9 percent of youth versus 37.1 percent of adults). This leads us to conclude that the city of Lubumbashi is largely made up of a youth population. Among the youth themselves, the table reveals that boys have almost the same proportions as girls, i.e., 31.4 percent of boys versus 31.6 percent of girls.

The trend among adults shows that males also have almost the same proportion as females, 18.7 percent of males versus 18.3 percent of females. In relation to the total population, the communes rank as follows from most populated to least populated (Annual Report/Mairie de Lubumbashi, 2019):

- Kampemba: 921,561 inhabitants, or 30.9%;
- Annex: 552,421 inhabitants, or 18.5%;
- Lubumbashi: 456,575 inhabitants, or 15.3%;
- Katuba: 445,491 inhabitants, or 14.9%;
- Ruashi: 398,053 inhabitants, or 13.4%;
- Kenya: 153,890 or 5.2%;
- Kamalondo: 51,891 inhabitants, or 1.7%. 3.1.13. Tourist sites Source: Mairie de Lubumbashi, 2019 annual report.

3.3. Study Population and Sample

Our population is constituted of the different families of the

city of Lubumbashi. We took into account 60 families distributed in different communes of this city, the variables taken into consideration are the following: Age, sex, new education etc.

Table I: Population structure

Seniority	Low education		Average education		High education		Total	%
	M	F	M	F	M	F		
1 to 5 years	10	4	15	9	11	6	55	30,3
6 to 10 years old	7	3	14	8	9	7	48	26,5
11 to 15 years old	11	6	8	6	4	3	38	20,9
16 to 20 years old	12	10	6	4	5	3	40	22,0
Total	40	23	43	27	29	19	181	100
%	22,0	12,7	23,7	14,9	16,0	10,4	100	

This table shows that our population size is 181. It consists of married men and women. Their ages range from 18 to 55 years. The experience of marriage ranges from one year to 20 years. The levels of education are as follows:

- The low education category: level below D6
- The medium education category: level of state graduates
- The higher education category: graduate and bachelor level.

Table II: Structure of the sample

Seniority	Low instruction		Average education		High education		Total	%
	M	F	M	F	M	F		
1 to 5 years	1	3	6	2	2	1	15	50
6 to 10 years old	2	1	2	1	1	0	7	23,3
11 to 15 years old	1	1	1	0	1	0	4	13,3
16 to 20 years old	2	0	1	1	0	0	4	13,3
Total	6	5	10	4	4	1	30	100
%	20	16,6	33,3	13,3	13,3	3,3	100	

The data in this table show that our sample size is 30 respondents. Fifty percent of them have a marital experience ranging from 1 to 5 years, twenty percent of the respondents have a very low level of education, i.e., less than that of a State Graduate.

4. Search Results

4.1. Presentation and Analysis of Results

We must point out that our results are presented according to the objectives assigned in this study and taking into account the nature of the information collected.

Question asked: Have you ever experienced or seen domestic violence in your community?

Table III: Magnitude of spousal abuse cases

Opinions collected	Workforce/Gender		total	%
	H	F		
Yes	5	7	12	40
No	7	2	9	30
Neutral	8	1	9	30
Total	20	10	30	100
%	20	33,3	100	

The data contained in this table indicate that forty percent of the surveys recognize the existence of cases of violence in

their environment. Thirty percent of the latter do not recognize having been either victims or witnesses of family/domestic violence. Thirty percent of the respondents do not recognize that they have been victims or witnesses of domestic violence, while 30% do not answer this question. Considering that this one is a shameful question to which one cannot grant more explanations.

Questions: In your opinion, what are the abusive behaviors displayed by your spouse that you are experiencing?

Table IV: Forms of domestic violence

N°	Opinions collected	Workforce/Gender		Total	%
		H	F		
1	Insults and derogatory remarks	5	4	9	30
2	Blows and injuries	0	3	3	10
3	Moral punishment	12	3	15	50
4	Sexual assault	0	0	0	0
5	Other forms of violence	3	0	3	10
	Total	20	10	30	100
	%	66,6	33,3	100	

An examination of the data in this table shows that the forms of domestic violence experienced by our respondents are expressed as follows: 50% of the respondents experience domestic violence in the form of moral punishment, 30% experience it in the form of insults and denigrating remarks, while 10% of the sample experience it in the form of physical violence (assault and battery). Finally, 10% of the respondents mentioned the manifestation of domestic violence in other forms in their lives, while none of the respondents mentioned sexual violence.

Questions: Do you consider men to be more likely to be the perpetrators of domestic violence?

Table V: Actors of domestic violence according to the respondents

N°	Opinions collected	Workforce/Gender		Total	%
		H	F		
1	The man is the head of the household	13	4	17	56,6
2	The woman must be submissive	5	1	6	20
3	Parity must come first	0	2	2	6,6
4	Mutual respect must be the principle of application	2	3	5	16,6
	Total	20	10	30	100
	%	66,6	33,3	100	

When we analyze the information contained in the above table, we realize that more than 50% of the respondents (men and women) perceive the man as the head and superior of the household. While 6.6 percent of respondents expressed equality and parity between two spouses.

Question: What could be at the root of the violence within families in Lubumbashi?

Table VI: Factors that generate domestic violence in households in Lubumbashi

N°	Opinions collected	Workforce/Gender		Total	%
		H	F		
1	The precocity of marriage	5	2	7	23,3
2	The predominance of culture and tradition	13	4	17	56,6
3	The lack of intellectual education	0	3	3	10
4	Other factors	2	1	3	10
	Total	20	10	30	100
	%	66,6	33,3	100	

Based on the above table, we collected several factors that are at the root of marital and family violence from our respondents. The precocity of marriage is expressed by 23.3%, socio-cultural factors such as beliefs, tribe, environment are expressed by 56.6%.

Question asked: do you think violent behavior impacts the household lifestyle in your community?

Table VII: Consequences of domestic violence on the psychosocial experiences of households in Lubumbashi

N°	Opinions collected	Workforce/Gender		Total	%
		H	F		
1	Violence breeds trauma in children	2	6	8	26,6
2	Violence generates divorce and separation of couples	16	0	16	53,3
3	Violence sows psychosis and aggression in children	1	4	5	16,6
4	Other consequences	1	0	1	3,3
	Total	20	10	30	100
	%	66,6	33,3	100	

The following information emerges from the above table: 53.3 percent of respondents believe that the main consequence of domestic violence is the divorce or separation of the two spouses. While 26.6 percent believe that the violent behavior of parents mainly affects the mental health and psychosocial experience of children.

4.1.1. Influence of socio-cultural factors on domestic violence

N°	Opinions collected	Workforce/Gender		Total	%
		H	F		
1	Influence of religious beliefs	3	2	5	16,66
2	Tribal Effect and Retention of Traditional Values	5	2	7	23,3
3	The influence of modernity	12	6	18	60
	Total	20	10	30	100
	%	66,66	33,33	100	

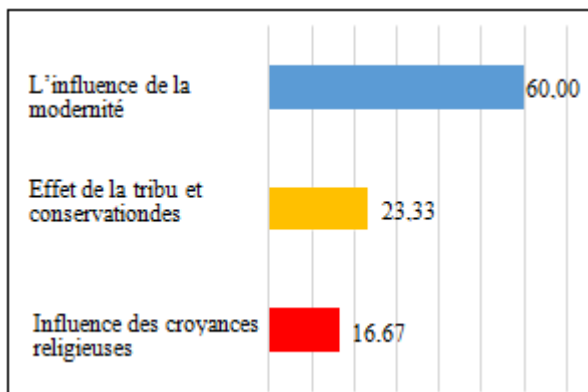


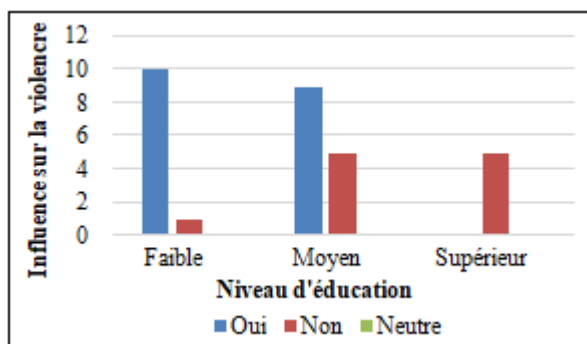
Chart 1: Influence of socio-cultural factors on domestic violence

We conclude that of all these factors, globalization or modernity explains or promotes more violent behavior in the households surveyed.

4.1.2. Relationship between education and domestic violence

N°	Opinions collected	Enrollment/Education			Total	%
		Low	Medium	Superior		
1	Yes	10	9	0	19	36,3
2	No	1	5	5	11	36,6
3	Neutral	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	11	14	5	30	100
	%	36,6	46,6	16,6	100	

We decide that education determines anti-violence behavior between spouses. That is, the more educated one is, the less exposed one is to physical and verbal violence.



Graph 2: Education and domestic violence

4.1.3. Influence of the living environment on violent behavior among respondents

N°	Opinions collected	Workforce/Environment		Total	%
		Low	Medium		
1	Strong violence	18	3	21	70
2	Average violence	4	1	5	16,6
3	Low violence	0	4	4	13,3
	Total	22	8	30	100
	%	36,6	46,6	100	

Statistical test: correlation coefficient

Decision: We conclude that more than 70% of the children who live in a high-ambient environment are more likely to behave violently than those who live in a low-ambient environment.

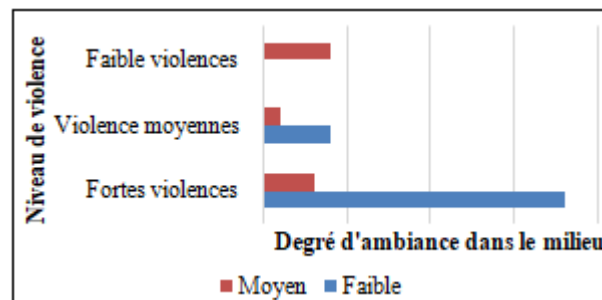


Chart 3: Degree of environmental ambience and level of spousal abuse

4.14. Knowledge of the existence of domestic violence by the households surveyed according to the forms of violence

N°	Opinions collected	Workforce	Total	%
1	Physical and corporal violence	19	19	63,3
2	Verbal abuse	6	6	20
3	Psychological and moral violence	5	5	16,6
4	Other forms	0	0	0
	Total	30	30	

Statistical test: correlation coefficient

Decision: we realize that more than sixty percent of the respondents have an approximate knowledge of the forms of corporal and/or physical violence. While less than 30% of the respondents know about moral and psychological violence.

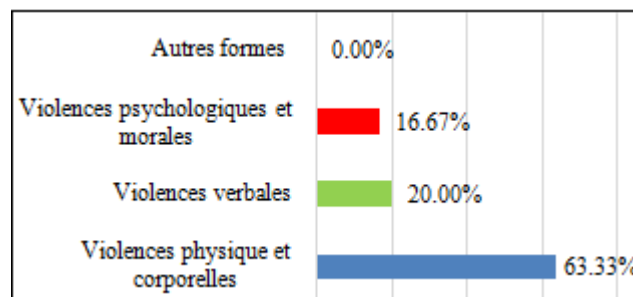


Chart 4: Knowledge of domestic violence

4.2. Interpretation of Results

The data collected in the field are as diverse as they are plausible. First, the first category of data, is the one that allowed us to determine the forms of violence that are most required in the families that made up our sample. In this respect, it turns out that verbal violence comes in first position. This was expressed by more than 50% of the respondents, the majority of whom were women. The latter consider that these forms of violence make them more victims and generate negative feelings towards their spouse. As for physical violence, i.e., battery, assault, etc., it is more common among less educated couples. As a motivating factor, these forms of aggression are premeditated and are accompanied by associative effects such as: the consumption of drugs, native alcohol and other alcoholic drinks. In addition, there are cultural and social factors, which have been collected throughout this study. The former illustrate the predominance of the culture or traditional values that consecrate the husband as the head of the household. Even though this is advocated in the Congolese family code (Droit

Civil, 2019). We found that there is a kind of extrapolation that implies the status of the man in the household and modifies the collective perception of communities.

However, psychological violence, such as masochistic and sado-masochistic reactions, is not known by more than 90 percent of the respondents. The low level of education is the reason for this ignorance.

In the same vein, we can add the influence of our society in terms of access to education. This means that men are much more privileged in higher level education than women.

Our investigations reveal that, in the households surveyed, one woman in five has a formal job. This social inequality generated by society itself means that women are less and less privileged in decision-making within households. This makes women victims not only of moral, verbal or physical violence, but also of psychological, social and economic violence.

In addition, we must emphasize the fact that early access to marriage, i.e., under 18 years of age by the young girl, results in her ignorance of her rights vis-à-vis the husband. The initiation practices formerly advocated in most Congolese tribes mitigate this immaturity to some extent and allow the young woman to play her role within the family.

All in all, religious beliefs, archetypes, habits, and other forms of traditional African values are important issues that explain the resurgence of violence within African families.

To this effect, the consequences are multiple. First of all, the woman exposed to violent practices, sometimes direct and indirect, develops behavioral disorders and even those related to the personality. I quote: anxiety, monotony, strangeness, sexophobia, aggressiveness, anger, etc.

The children in the surveys are victims of violence between parents. To illustrate this, 3 out of 5 women are fully responsible for the education or supervision of their children.

At this point, it is possible to deduce the cause and effect relationship between the woman's mental and emotional state and her regular contact with children.

Other consequences, we noted the infidelity between two spouses which generates imbalance or ill-being in the family. This imbalance involves other victims of conjugal violence such as: parents, brothers and sisters of both spouses, etc.

4.3. Discussion of Results

When analyzing the explanatory models of domestic violence developed by Rinfet et al (1986), we realize that, to eradicate the phenomenon of domestic violence of which women and children are the majority victims, it is necessary to proceed through the promotion of the feminist culture. This is what Stewart (2014) makes in the search for a totalitarian identity.

In addition, psycho-education is a more favorable approach, which can stimulate the woman's own effort to shape a bond of contact with her environment. This approach significantly and positively modifies the psychosocial experience of the communities from the moment when the culture goes hand in hand with the personality. To this effect, we join the thought of DEBARE (1995) who according to him, the endogenous determinants to the individual are more explanatory and favourable. They allow, according to the author, to consider these violent practices, not as particular to the one who poses it, but rather as issues of a system or a society.

4.4. Contribution of the Study

Thus, our research contributes, on the one hand, to the resolution of the phenomena of conjugal violence as a psycho-educational approach that engages our society in general and more particularly the school. The latter should make the learner question the knowledge acquired through the mutualization of cultural and traditional values. For it is said that nature is stronger.

The second contribution emanates from the first, it evokes the thought of MWENZE WA KYUNGU ERIC (2017) in the search for the contribution of common identity values. This is only possible if researchers and agents of change manage to inculturate the modern values of globalization in the evolving context of Congolese mentalities in general and more particularly the psychosocial life of Loushois families in particular.

5. Conclusion and Propositions

Our study focused on the increase in cases of domestic violence and the psychosocial experience of the population in Lubumbashi. The initial observation was that for more than 20 years, this province of the Democratic Republic of Congo has experienced a very rapid growth in terms of population density, which affects the behavior of spouses, generating multiple forms of violence and raising concerns.

As a question, we looked for the factors at the base of this phenomenon as well as the consequences which result from it. The objective of this study was to determine the most common forms of violence in Lubumbashi, including their etiology and consequences. The methodological approach consisted of rigorous observation of the psychosocial experiences of the respondents (30 households) and the objective description of the facts. Interviews facilitated obtaining information on the phenomenon under study. Correlation analysis and percentage analysis were used to process and interpret the results of our study.

All in all, we have managed to determine that women and children are the main victims of conjugal violence (verbal and psychological) in the homes. This affects their internal life style (aggression, maladjustment, resilience and other character disorders). The remediation consists in the development of a psycho-educational approach.

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