

Domestic Violence against Men

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Abstract: *Male and Female, the two basic components of our human society, depend upon each other and each one of them constitutes about half of the population. So we find that man and woman have been established as the two wheels of a chariot. The aim of the study was to assess the domestic violence against men. This was a descriptive study of 30 married men living in urban area of Varanasi. The result of the study showed that, majority of men had mild and moderate domestic violence. The most prominent causes of domestic violence in men were dominant behaviour and attention seeking behaviour of wife. So there is a need to counselling of couple before and after marriage.*

Keywords: Men, Domestic violence, Assessment, Intimate partner violence, Marriage.

1. Introduction

Domestic violence against men deals with domestic violence experienced by men or boys in an intimate relationship such as marriage, cohabitation, dating, or within a family. Male victims of intimate partner violence have become a serious issue in the United States.

According to **Menard (2009)**, approximately 3.8 women and 1.3 men per 1,000 are victims of intimate partner violence each year. The Bureau of Justice Statistics (2007) noted that each year approximately 1,181 women and 329 men are victims of intimate partner homicides. Even though the numbers are not as high for men as for women, these victims cannot be ignored.

Domestic violence is more dangers than cancer, motor vehicle accidents, war and malaria. It cuts across boundaries of age, race, culture, wealth and geography (**Kaur, 2011**). No country or community is untouched by violence. Each year, more than 1.6 million people worldwide lose their lives to violence. For every one who dies as a result of violence, many more are injured and suffer from a range of physical, sexual, reproductive and mental health problems (**Linda and Etienne, 2002**).

According to **Lowenstein (2005)**, the past patriarchal society has led to the inequality of women's points of view about social problems such as domestic violence. Earlier, police departments viewed these disturbances as family squabbles and not as violence against an individual. Therefore, these disturbances were not treated with the same seriousness as an assault on a total stranger.

The victimization of men by their women partners is a serious social problem and it is largely ignored by the society. A part of America's social norm reveals that men are the stronger and more dominating gender who does not allow women to dominate. Consequently, male victims do not freely admit being victims of intimate partner violence at the hands of females (**Barber, 2008**).

The social power structure of America is argued to be supporting the culture of male domination. According to **Hines, Brown, and Dunning (2007)**, "this societal power structure is reflected in interpersonal relationships, and men

misuse the power they have in their relationships because they have been socialized to believe they have the right to control women, even though violent means,". This philosophy of thought has led to the difficulty of believing whether females were even capable of being perpetrators of intimate partner violence and whether females were acting in self-defence from their attackers (**Hines, Brown, & Dunning, 2007**).

Victims of domestic violence are often married men. Incidence of home based violence against men is high though it is unreported. Violence is unacceptable and no men deserve to be beaten, sexually abused or made to suffer emotionally. Our society has created an environment, where the society is tolerant of the abuser and is intolerant of the victim. However, domestic violence is a sensitive issue and therefore very little information is available. This study will try to determine and fulfill the gap leading to violence against men.

Generally speaking, domestic violence is regarded as family business, which does not require intervention of law. Hence many cases remain unreported and it will continues to remain behind closed doors as long as the society continues to regard domestic violence as normal, or to dismiss it as a private matter. Then men or women continue to suffer gross violations of human right within their homes.

The women assault against men due to many reasons such that to resolve the arguments, to respond to family crisis, to stop him bothering me, etc. So in this way there is a need for the study to confirm women as the perpetrator & the men as the victim.

Objectives of the Study

- To assess the magnitude and pattern of domestic violence in men.
- To identify the causes of domestic violence in men.

2. Methodology

Research Approach

The descriptive research is the utilization of accurate description of characteristic of individual situation.

Research Design

A non-experimental research design was used.

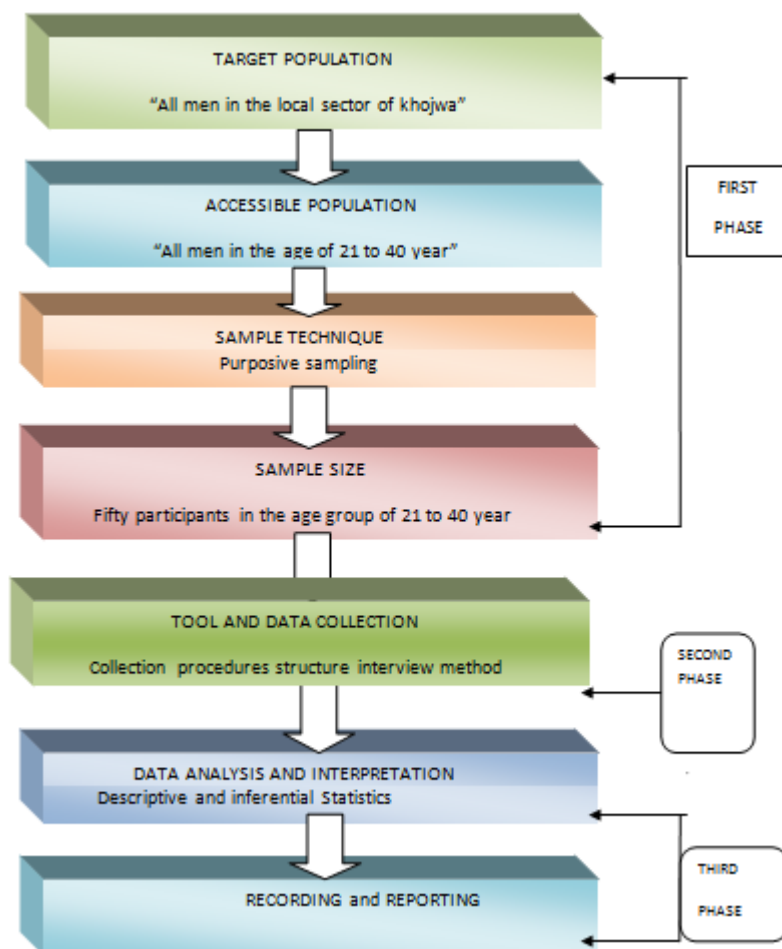


Figure 1: Schematic Representation of Research Design

Setting of the Study

This study was conducted in the locality khojwa, it is the urban locality and population approximately 2000-5000

Population

The population consist of men in the age group of 21 to 40 years from the locality khojwa.

Sample Technique

A purposive sampling technique was used to select the sample for the study on the basis of inclusive criteria.

Sample Size

In this study the sampling compromise of 50 men in the age group of 21 to 40 years.

Sample Selection Criteria

Inclusion criteria

Age between 21 to 40 years, who are ready to participate in the study.

Available at the time of data collection.

Understand and respond in Hindi.

Development and Description of the Tool

Structure interview schedule was used to assess domestic violence. The tool was prepared on the basis of the objective

of the study. The tools used in the study are: Demographic variables and questionnaire was developed to measure the attitude, values and feelings of men. It was five-point scale (strongly agree, agree, uncertain, disagree and strongly disagree). Written permission was obtained from the concerned authority before data collection and confidentiality of their responses and consent was obtained from each participant.

3. Observation and Results

Table 1: (a) frequency and percentage of distribution of sample according to demographic variables

Variable	MALE (N=30)	
	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Age		
1) 21-25	04	13.3
2) 26-30	06	20.0
3) 31-35	08	26.7
4) 36-40	12	40.0
Religion		
1) Hindu	26	86.7
2) Muslim	02	06.7
3) Sikh	01	03.3
4) Christian	01	03.3
Qualification of husband		
1) Illiterate	01	03.3
2) Primary school	00	00.0
3) High school	02	06.7
4) Intermediate	02	06.7
5) Graduate	09	30.0
6) Post graduate	14	46.7
7) Ph.D.	02	06.7
Qualification of wife		
1) Illiterate	03	10.0
2) Primary school	01	03.3
3) High school	06	20.0
4) Intermediate	04	13.3
5) Graduate	12	40.0
6) Post graduate	03	10.0
7) Ph.D.	01	03.3
Occupation of husband		
1) Unemployed	05	16.7
2) Farmer	03	10.0
3) Business	02	06.7
4) Private job	08	26.7
5) Govt. job	12	40.0
Occupation of wife		
1) House wife	20	66.7
2) Private job	04	13.3
3) Govt. job	06	20.0

Table no.1, Majority of the subjects 12(40%) were in the age group of 36-40 years, 26(86.7%) were Hindu and 2(0.67%) Muslim, qualification of men, 14(46.7%) were up to post-graduate, 9(30%) graduate, 2(6.7%) high school, intermediate and Ph.D., 1(3.3%) were illiterate. The Majority of occupation of men, 12(40%) were working in government job, 8(26.7%) in private job, qualification of women 12(40%) up to graduation, 6(20%) of high school, and 20(66.7%) occupation of women were housewife.

Table 1: (b) frequency and percentage of distribution of sample according to demographic variables

VARIABLE	MALE (N=30)	
	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Family income		
1) 1000-10000	10	33.3
2) 10000-20000	07	23.3
3) 20000-30000	11	36.7
4) 30000-40000	02	06.7
Type of family		
1) Nuclear	16	53.3
2) Joined	14	46.7

Domicile		
1) Rural	13	43.3
2) Urban	17	56.7
Duration of marriage (years)		
1) 1-5	19	63.3
2) 5-10	09	30.0
3) 10-15	01	03.3
4) 15-20	01	03.3
No. of children		
1) 1-2	20	66.7
2) 2-4	10	33.3
Mental illness in the family		
1) Yes	00	00.0
2) No	30	100

Table 1(b), 11(36.7%) of the subjects had family income Rs 20,000-30,000 per month. The vast majority of subjects hailed from nuclear families 16(53.3%) and followed by 14(46.7%) joined family. About ½ of the subjects had urban domicile 17(56.7%) the remaining subjects 13(43.3%) resided in rural areas. Majority 19(63.3%) of duration of marriage of men were 1-5 years. 20(66.7%) men has 1-2 children. There was no mental illness in the family.

Table 2: Domestic violence in men

Domestic violence	Frequency	Percentage
Present	11	36.7%
Absent	19	63.3%

Table No. 2, showed that 11(36.7%) domestic violence present in men and 19(63.3%) Domestic violence absent in men.

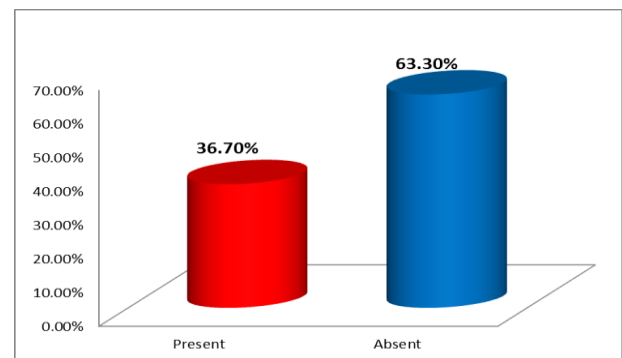


Figure 2: Domestic violence in men

Table 3: Severity of Domestic violence N=30

Domestic violence	Frequency	Percentage
Mild	07	23.3%
Moderate	04	13.3%
Severe	00	00.0%

Table no 3, showed that 07(23.3%) mild domestic violence, 04(13.3%) moderate domestic violence and there was no severe domestic violence present in men.

Table 4: Prevalence of domestic violence N=30

Domestic Violence	Frequency	Percentage
Emotional	11	36.7 %
Economical	09	30.0 %
Sexual	06	20.0 %
Physical	00	00.0 %

Table 4 showed that emotional domestic violence 11(36.7%), economical domestic violence 09(30 %) , and sexual domestic violence 06(20 %) present in men.

Table 5: Causes of domestic violence in men N=11

	<i>Causes</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1	Dominant behaviour of wife	9	81.8
2	Attention seeking behaviour	8	72.7
3	Always right attitude	8	72.7
4	Self-defence behaviour	6	54.5
7	Complain about Physical illness	5	45.5
8	Suspicious behaviour	4	36.4
9	Not fulfilment of sexual need by the husband	4	36.4
10	Higher incomes than men	3	27.3
11	Husband Unemployed	3	27.3
12	Economic problems (Poverty)	3	27.3
13	Husband not good looking	3	27.3

Table No 5: show that causes of domestic violence in men 9 (81.8%) were in dominant behaviour of wife. 8 (72.7%) Attention seeking behaviour of wife, 8 (72.7%) always right attitudes of wife, 6(54.5%) Self-defence behaviour, 5(45.5%) Complain about physical illness, 4(36.4%) suspicious behaviour found in female, 4(36.4%) not fulfilment of sexual need by the husband, 3(27.3%) Female have higher income than men, 3(27.3%) husband unemployed, 3(27.3%) economic problems (poverty) and 3(27.3%) husband not good looking are presented.

4. Discussion

The present inquiry was a modest attempt to study the frequency, severity and causes of Domestic violence in men; this study is comparable to Canada general social science survey on victimisation and national violence against women survey. By Canada general social science survey on victimization indicate that the most male victims were between 25 and 35 years of age where as in our study most male victims are under 36-40 years of age. A report by Kieran (2000) indicates that weak economic position of male victims to higher incidence of domestic violence where as in our study the government jobbed husbands have higher incidence of domestic violence.

According to national violence against women survey, 84.8% men from white American Christian race experience violence among U.S population where as in our study 86.7% hindu have higher incidence of domestic violence in men. According to national violence against women survey 31.9% men in high school and equivalent education experience violence among U.S population where as in our study post-graduation men having 46.7% have higher incidence of domestic violence.

5. Conclusion

After the detailed analysis the study leads to the following conclusion:

Married men reported Domestic violence. Married men are subjected to more emotional violence by wife. The causes of domestic violence were in dominant behaviour of wife,

Attention seeking behaviour of wife, always right attitudes of wife, self-defence behaviour, always complain about physical illness and suspicious behaviour found in female.

6. Recommendation

On the basis of the finding of the study, it is recommended that:-

- 1) A similar study may be replicated in large scale.
- 2) Studies may be conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of the information booklet regarding the domestic violence against men.
- 3) A similar may be repeated on large sample covering all the population in the states.
- 4) A similar can be conducted on domestic violence in men in other population.

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