

Prevalence of Intimate Partners' Violence among Sarna and Tribal Christian Rural Married Couples of Palamu Division

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ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted on 200 cases and 100 married couples of Palamu Division selected by 2 x 2 x 2 stratified random sampling. The factors of stratification were religion (Sarna and Tribal Christian) x gender (Husband and Wife) and age (Age group 25-34 years and Age group 35-44 years) from Palamu Division. The main objectives were: (i) To assess the prevalence of intimate partner violence among married couples of Palamu Division. (ii) To examine the impact of religion, gender and age on intimate partner violence. The prevalence of intimate partner violence was measured by intimate partner violence prevalence scale. Statistical techniques such as percentage of scores and ANOVA were applied for analysis of data. The results revealed that the prevalence of intimate partner violence varied among sample groups, religion, gender and age had no impact on intimate partner violence.

Key Words: Intimate Partners' Violence, Religion, Gender and Age.

Introduction

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) is defined as any behavior within an intimate relationship (married, unmarried, and live-in) that causes physical, psychological, or sexual harm to those in that relationship. This definition encompasses physical, sexual, and psychological aggression/abuse or controlling behavior of any kind. Krug et al., (2002) defined Intimate Partner Violence as "any behavior within an intimate relationship that causes physical, psychological or sexual harm to those in the relationship, including acts of physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse and controlling behaviors". Intimate Partner Violence is defined as a pattern of coercive behaviors used by one partner to gain control and power over the other partner. It may include the use of physical and sexual violence, verbal and emotional abuse and stalking and economic abuse. Intimate Partner Violence is a learned behavior. Intimate Partners' Violence (IPV) may be perpetuated by men only, women only and by both.

Review of Literature

Gelles & Harrop (1989) conducted a study and comparing men's and women's responses to intimate partner violence shows that although both men and women suffer negative consequences of the violence, more women than men experienced psychological problems. "Women are more likely to suffer negative

consequences even when they reciprocate aggression, and the negative consequences were found to persist even when controlling for demographic factors, such as age and income, and for marital conflict. (Straus 1999; Tjaden & Thoennes 2000) indicated that intimate partner violence has different consequences for men as compared to women. Women are more afraid of men's violence than men are of women's and women are more likely to be injured by intimate partner violence.

Garcia- Moreno (2005) found that nearly 13%–61% of women experienced physical violence by a partner sometime in their lifetime. About 4%–49% experienced severe physical violence and 6%–59% experienced sexual violence.

Archer (2000) found that women were more likely to use physical aggression than men and to resort to violence more often than men. He reports that 83% of men who feared for their life because they were unilaterally terrorized by their female partner. From the terrorized men, 80% reported having their everyday activities disrupted (compared to 74% for terrorized women), 84% received medical care (the same rate as for terrorized women), and 62% sought psychological counseling (63% for women).

Several studies confirm that males are being abused by females. (Archer 2000; 2002) found that women were more likely to use physical aggression than men and to resort to violence more often than men.

Phelan et al. (2005) found in a study of men and women seeking emergency room care, 39% of the men received injury from their intimate partners'.

Hines, Brown & Dunning (2007) conducted a study and results showed that over 90% of male victims experienced controlling behaviors, and several men reported frustrating experiences with their spouse.

Methodology

Objectives

The objectives of the present research were as follows:

- To assess the prevalence of intimate partners' violence among married couples of Palamu Division.
- To examine the impact of religion, gender and age on intimate partners' violence.

Hypothesis

The following hypothesis were formulated for the research:

- The prevalence of intimate partners' violence will vary among sample of Palamu Division.
- Religion, age and gender of sample groups will have no impact on intimate partners' violence.

Sample

The sample consisted of 100 married couples residing in various rural areas of Palamu Division. They were selected by stratified random sampling. The factors of stratification were - 2 factors of religion (Sarna and Tribal Christian) X 2 factors of gender (Husband and Wife) and 2 factors of age (25-34 years and 35-44 years). Thus, there were 8 strata. From each stratum, 25 cases were selected randomly making a total of 200 cases and 100 married couples. The sample design is presented in Table - 1.

Table 1: Sample Design

Religion		Sarna		Tribal Christian		Total
Gender		Husband	Wife	Husband	Wife	
Age	25-34	25	25	25	25	100
	35-44	25	25	25	25	100
Total		50	50	50	50	200

Tools used in data collection

- Personal Data Questionnaire
- Intimate Partners' Violence Prevalence Scale

A brief description of the test materials are as follows:

Personal Data Questionnaire (PDQ)

The personal data questionnaire was prepared by the research scholar to elicit information on personal information, such as name, age, caste, religion, gender, marital status, education, etc.

Intimate Partners' Violence Prevalence Scale

Intimate Partners' Violence Prevalence Scale was developed by Jayaswal (2016). This scale consists of 50 questions with 3 response alternatives: always, sometimes and never. Each question reflects abusive behavior of the partner. Scores are 2, 1 and 0 for always, sometimes and never responses respectively. Thus range of scores is 0 – 100. Higher scores indicate higher prevalence of intimate partners' violence. The Cronbach's Alpha coefficient reliability was 0.89 and Guttman Split – Half coefficient was 0.83 of this test.

The questionnaire was validated against Domestic Violence Scale prepared by Lakra (2014). Scores of both scales were correlated with each other and the correlation coefficient was found out to be $r = 0.77$, which is highly significant at 0.01 level.

Results and Discussion

Prevalence of Intimate Partners' Violence among Married Couples of Palamu Division

In order to measure the prevalence of intimate partners' violence among married couples of Palamu division, intimate partners' violence prevalence scale was administered. On the basis of obtained scores, three levels of prevalence of intimate partners' violence were categorized- low, moderate and high. Percentage of married couples are presented in Table 2 and Figure 1.

Table 2 Prevalence of Intimate Partners' Violence among Rural Married Couples of Palamu Division

Sample	Low Prevalence of IPV		Moderate Prevalence of IPV		High Prevalence of IPV	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Total	146	73.00	49	24.50	5	2.50

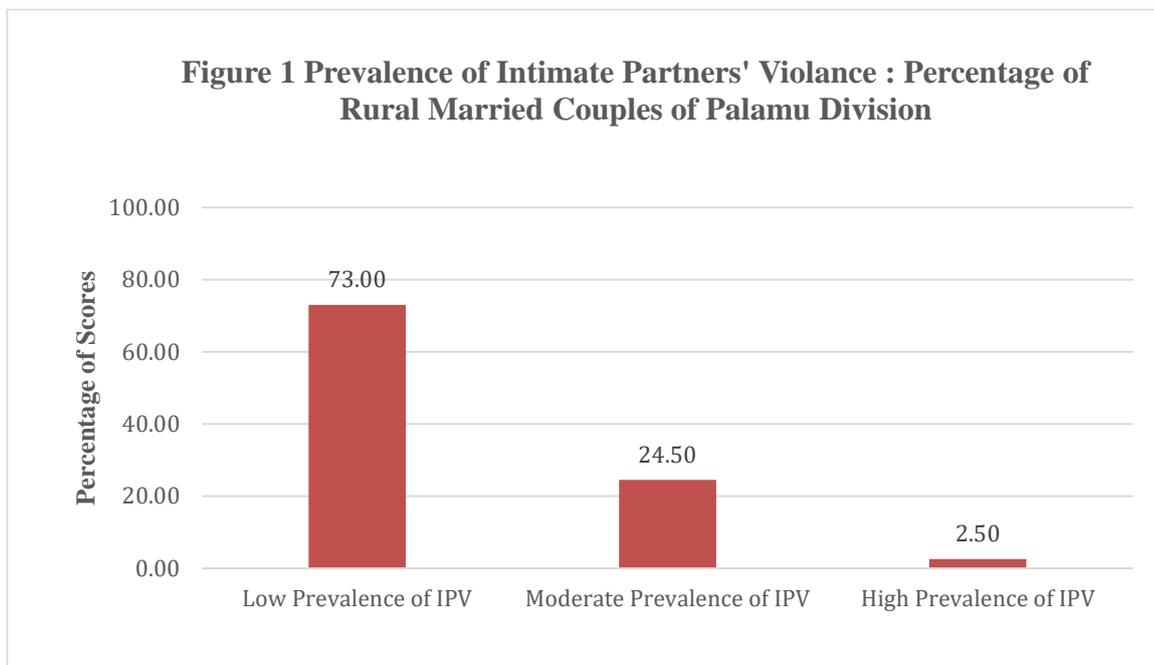


Table 2 and Figure 1 show that

- 73.00% married couples had low prevalence of intimate partners' violence.
- 24.50% married couples had moderate prevalence of intimate partners' violence.
- 2.50% married couples had high prevalence of intimate partners' violence.

Impact of Religion, Gender and Age on Intimate Partners' Violence among the Married Couples of Palamu Division

In order to find out the impact of religion, gender and age of the married couples on intimate partners' violence, analysis of variance was used. The F values are presented in Table 3. The results revealed that:

- The F value showing the impact of religion on intimate partners' violence was 2.519. This was not statistically significant. This indicates that religion had no significant impact on intimate partners' violence.
- The F value showing the impact of gender on intimate partners' violence was 0.009. This was not statistically significant. This indicates that gender had no significant impact on intimate partners' violence.

Table 3 F. Values Showing the Impact of Religion, Gender and Age of the Married Couples on Intimate Partners' Violence

Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Level of Significance
Religion	602.045	1	602.045	2.519	NS
Gender	2.205	1	2.205	0.009	NS
Age	231.125	1	231.125	0.967	NS
Religion x Gender	515.205	1	515.205	2.156	NS
Religion x Age	4598.405	1	4598.405	19.242	0.01
Gender x Age	0.005	1	0.005	0	NS
Religion x Gender x Age	567.845	1	567.845	2.376	NS
Error	45883.04	192	238.974		
Total	166881	200			
Corrected Total	52399.88	199			

Note: NS- Not Significant

- The F value showing the impact of age on intimate partners' violence was 0.967. This was not statistically significant. This indicates that age had no significant impact on intimate partners' violence.

Conclusion

The first objective of the study was to assess the prevalence of intimate partners' violence among rural married couples of Palamu division. The major result revealed that most of the married couples had low prevalence of intimate partners' violence and a few married couples had high prevalence of intimate partners' violence. The second objective of the study was to examine the impact of religion, gender and age on Intimate Partners' Violence. The result revealed that religion, gender and age of married couples had not significant impact on intimate partners' violence.

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