

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ITS PREVENTION: AN ANALYSIS

SUMITA DEBNATH

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

HOJAI GIRLS' COLLEGE, HOJAI, ASSAM

Abstract:

Though men and women jointly shape social organisation like a family, but the violence arises among them very often that disturb the social order and social stability. Domestic violence occurs in many cultures and countries. There has not been any time that domestic violence did not exist. Generally men are privileged to display violence against women. The depth of the imbalance of power in between men and women is revealed in a stake way by the reality of domestic violence. The Female counterpart of our society has been deprived of very bright from the very beginning of our society. More than a quarter of women may be affected by domestic violence according to India's latest National Family Health Survey-III, which interviewed 1.25 lakh women in 28 states during 2005 to 2006, 40% of women reported being beaten by their husband at some point of time.

Keynotes: Violence, Cultures, Counterpart, Imbalance, Organization, Domestic

Introduction:

Rights are very essential for the fullest development of human beings. In the context of women it is often found that they are being neglected and suppressed by various means. Violation of women's rights has become a world-wide phenomenon. Almost all the countries of the world have not been free from this crime. Even in the developed and advanced countries also the rights and dignities of women are violated and ignored. Domestic violence is another offensive activity that happens in our society where both men and women have to suffer from a lot of abuse though the percentage of women remains high. In most of the countries women become the victim of domestic violence maximum time.

Objectives:

1. To study the various types of Domestic Violence.
2. To study the prevention measures.
3. To stop Domestic Violence.

Methodology:

The present study is based on a descriptive method of research. The study is mainly based on secondary sources of data collected from the relevant books, journals, periodical records, magazines, newspapers. A few websites have also been visited and resources have been used in the study.

Meaning of violence:

The meaning of violence is the use of physical force so as to injure, abuse, destroy, or damage someone or someone's property. Violence is aggression, generally physical aggression that causes harm.

Meaning of domestic violence:

Domestic violence means a violent or aggressive behaviour that occurs within family, typically involving the violent abuse of a spouse or partner. The recent meaning of Domestic violence is any incident of threatening behavior, abuse, violence, or force (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality. Thus Domestic Violence, which is also called domestic abuse or family violence, is violence or other abuse which happens in a domestic relationship like cohabitation or marriage.

Domestic Violence is also used as a synonym for close partner violence committed by one of the people in an intimate relationship against another person. Domestic Violence can occur in either heterosexual or same –sex relationships or sometime between former’s spouses or partners.

In its broadest meaning, Domestic Violence also involves like violence against parents, elderly people, children and women.

Domestic violence is also called intimate partner violence that can be defined as a process of behaviour in any relationship that is used to maintain power and control over an intimate partner. The patterns of violence are emotional, economic, psychological, physical, sexual and emotional.

Domestic violence and abuse:

Domestic abuse can arise to anyone of any race, religion, region, orientation, gender or age. Domestic violence affects all people of various socio-economic backgrounds and education levels. Domestic violence and abuse can happen to anyone at anytime without any discrimination. So, when people think of domestic abuse, they focus on domestic violence. But domestic abuse means any attempt by one individual to dominate and control the other. Domestic violence and abuse arises with the target of gain and total control over another intimate one. An abuser uses fear, shame, threatening, guilt, intimidation to wear others down and keep them under their thumb.

Domestic violence and abuse happens within all age ranges with the same or different ethnic background, and also economic levels. It is seen that while women are mostly victimised, men also experience abuse which are verbal or emotional. But, everybody knows that such kind of abusive behaviour and activities are never acceptable whether it occurs from men, women, teenagers or elder ones.

Definition of Domestic Violence:

According to the United States, Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women, the definition of domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain control over another intimate partner. Domestic violence is a very shocking common instance over the world, with an estimated 10 million people in the US alone affected annually. Around one in four women and one in nine men becomes victims of domestic violence though most of the time the numbers remain under-reported.

Batters do coercive behaviours against their victims. Some of the abusive behaviours used by batters cause physical injuries, while other techniques cause emotional injuries. Batters use different abusive behaviours at different times. While this behaviour is cannot result in Physical injuries The employee emotionally abusive behaviour even a single incident of physical violence or the threat of such violence may become sufficient to permanently established power and control on a partner and this power in Dam reinforced and strengthened by physical abusive and coercive behaviour Domestic violence is a serious matter that is often remain closed or unreported partly because victims are unknown of the various kinds of domestic violence.

Physical abuse:

Physical abuse and torture are the most recognisable form of domestic violence physical abuse means use of force against the victim causing injury which may be due to slapping shooting stabbing talking for forcing someone to use offensive materials except the injury against the victim may be minor or major it does not mean that the injury would be aur may be major one for few times for example if someone slaps other or it may be very minor injury without causing any major harm that don't require any e visit to hospital

Typical forms of abuse among others include grabbing, pushing, slapping, burning, biting, stabbing, hitting. Some other kinds of physical abuse includes locking a victim out of the house with holding help, where the victim is sick or injured while holding physical needs such as sleep, food, refusing to release necessities such as medicines.

Form of physical abuse is intimate relationships and it is estimated that nearly 1.5 million women experience rape with in their relationships every year.

Emotional abuse:

Emotional abuse is the destruction of the victim's self respect and self-worth which is caused by persistent insult, humiliation or criticism. Emotional abuse may be expressed as a direct threat, like physical harming to someone or indirect harm or threats to hurt their loved and closed ones. Abusers are also seen to harm themselves in the manipulation of their victims. When a person is given that his request and needs are constantly ignored, it reflects that he is emotionally abused again, when an abuser repeatedly attacks the self-worth and esteem of a person or degrades them, it is called emotional abuse. Emotional abuse is experienced by both men and women in their relationship. A study found that 43% of women and 41% of men suffer from emotional abuse. Another study found that 41% of women and 32% of women reported excessive aggression in their relationships of personal matters.

Financial abuse:

Economic abuse arises when a person influences control over the other person's access to economic resources, which hampers the victim's capacity to support his family expenses. It is also known as financial abuse or violence, which involves unauthorised use of a person's property, pension book, money or other valuable things. The key distinction between economic abuse and financial abuse is that economic abuse includes the control of someone's present or future earnings by preventing them from obtaining education and a job. Financial abuse involves a perpetrator use of money which limits and controls their partner's current and future actions and their freedom of choice. Applying for credit cards, obtaining loans for opening accounts in their victims names without their knowledge or permission, forcing the victim to take out loans or forcing the victim to sign financial documents, are some examples of financial abuse or financial violence.

Seniors may also have their signatures forged or even have joint signatory abuse access to their accounts.

Isolation:

Isolation is also a unique form of domestic abuse where the abuser control over his victim by keeping them aloof from family, friends or colleagues to stay away from any kind of family help, advice or assistance. Sometimes it is seen that the person who is facing abuse may avoid family touch or friends surroundings and other acquaintances so that they can not notice the injuries that he gets in his relationship.

Stalking:

Stalking is an extreme case of emotional and physiological abuse. Stalking is mostly faced by women. Stalking is the unwanted pursuit of another person. This may typically lead the person to receiving threats of physical harm or death to themselves, family members or some loved ones. Stalking may originate during a relationship or after the breakup in a relationship. It includes watching, following the victim from a distance, spying or appearing at a person's home or workplace, reading their mails, breaking or throwing something into the victims home, collecting information, making phone calls and leaving written messages, etc. The abuser gives pressure into the workings of the victim. This form of abuse can be very harmful to the victims resulting in brainstorming due to anxiety, tension, anger, depression or eating disorder.

Sexual Abuse:

Some of the most brutal form of domestic violence arises in the many variations of sexual abuse. Sexual abuse happens when a person is forced to do sexual acts against their wishes or constant. Sexual abuse also occurs when the victims are harassed and degraded during intimate times or body autonomy is threatened by a partner by many. Rape is the recognisable form of sexual abuse.

The various form of sexual abuse are insisting a partner to dress up according to a preferred choice, sharing nude photos without consent, unwelcomed sexual photography, demanding sexual intercourse when partner is suffering from physical illness or tired, forcing a partner to see pornographic content.

Spiritual violence:

Spiritual or religious violence occurs when someone uses an individual's religion and spiritual faith and believes to manipulate, dominate and control their partner.

Cultural Violence:

Culture Violence occurs when an individual is harmed by practises that are part of their culture, custom or religion.

Psychological violence:

Psychological violence occurs when someone uses threats to gain control over him or her. Psychological harassment is also psychological violence.

Verbal abuse:

Verbal abuse occurs when a partner or any person uses slang words or any trash words, whether spoken or written, to cause harm or make them feel inferior to any individual or closed ones.

Neglect:

Neglect occurs when someone has the responsibility to provide assistance or care for an intimate person or partner but he does not do this.

Cyberstalking:

Cyberstalking refers to online action of revenge or repeated emailing that inflicts substantial emotional distress on the recipient.

Dating violence:

Dating violence has been defined by the Violence Against Women Act, which says that according to the relationship between the abuser and victim, dating violence is committed by a person in a social, romantic or intimate relationship with the victim. Some of the characteristics of such is determined by the length of the relationship, interaction frequency between the partners and the kind of relationship.

Suggestions for removal of Domestic Violence:

1. Motivate and inspire men and women to know about their rights and duties and a dignified life.
2. Empowerment amongst women has become the most essential act to fulfil their day to day needs. It will develop the trend of self respect and also self dependence amongst women.
3. Improve the level of education by which they can know about legal provisions to save themselves from abusement.
4. Family counselling centres and NGOs will become active to protect and Secure the rights of the men and women.
5. It is the moral duty of a society to make awareness among women to fight against domestic violence.

Conclusion:

Domestic violence is one of the most horrible kinds of abuse suffered by women in our society today. The statistics show that 85% of domestic violence victims are females. Only 15% of them are men. Domestic violence can happen to anyone, no matter the caste, creed, religion or standing in society of the victim. If the issue of domestic violence is not dealt with in a manner which is sufficient, then this type of abuse may continue among all classes of society with no

ending. In order for us as a society to eradicate horrendous types of abuse, we need to stand together and make together laws which will protect the victims of this abuse.

All forms of intimate partner violence are preventable. Programmes that teach young people healthy relation skills such as communication, effectively managing activities, problem solving manners can prevent violence. These skills can stop domestic violence in dating relationships before it occurs.

References:

<https://au.reachout.com/articles/domestic-violence-and-what-you-can-do-about-it>

<https://centerforfamilyjustice.org/faq/domestic-violence/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domestic_violence

<https://facs-web.squiz.cloud/domestic-violence/about/types-of-abuse-in-dv>

<https://www.britannica.com>

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/adult-health/in-depth/domestic-violence/art-20048397>

https://www.medicinenet.com/domestic_violence/article.htm

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/medicine-and-dentistry/domestic-violence>

