

A STUDY ON FORMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST MARRIED WOMEN IN PRAKASAM DISTRICT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

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Abstract

Violence against women takes many forms and could consist of varying degrees of harassment and intimidation, of physical and mental abuse, of extreme or less than extreme injury. It could be the long term consequence of brutalization. It could be perpetuated in individual instances or take place in custodial settings with in familial limits or other public institutional environment such as employment agencies, the police and also the state. State violence is exhibited in various repressive measures or even though interventions in the name of development and modernization.

Key words: Abuses, Brutalization, Harassment etc.

The forms of violence commonly found are slapping, tearing hair, pushing and pulling, kicking, litting with an object, attempting to strugulate and threatening. Form of psychological abuse were also bound to exist for instance, verbal abuse, sarcastic remarks in the presence of outsiders, imposing severe restrictions on freedom of movement, totally, ignoring the wife in decision- making process, making frequent complaints against her to her parents, friends, neighbors, and kin much to the embarrassment of the wife. Rape and sexual abuse is another frusta form of violence. It is commonly believed that women if married are safe in our society. But if the monster prevails in her family itself it would be rather very difficult for her to escape. Rape or sexual abuse can be committed by the relatives, family friends on helpless women. Demanding giving and accepting dowry is illegal in India. The practice, however, still prevails in many sections of the society. The issue of dowry is probably the most common sources of domestic violence in India, where the husband along with his parents and relatives tortures his wife for money. Incidents of murder or attempted murder for dowry related reasons are regular items in the country's daily news papers. Women are also victim of mental or psychological torture. Using abusive words by family members in front of other causes mental illness among women because it is generally accepted that women are soft then men in this aspect. A close co-relation between domestic violence and suicide has been established based studies in India. Bangladesh and Sri Lanka suicide is likely 12 times as likely to have been attempted by a woman who has been abused than by one with whom they live (Philippa Venning, 2010).

Sampling Method

The study is taken up in Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh, where the Domestic Violence Act implemented. The sample of 250 respondents are selected randomly by using simple random sample method. The responses of two and fifty married women are used to understand the respondents' perceptions towards nature and prevalence of domestic violence.

Physical Violence

Physical violence was assessed in terms of behaviours like hit, kick, and beat, slap, threatening by using weapon, and forced sex. Domestic violence in the form of physical attack was a common feature for an overwhelming majority of the victims under study. However, the majority of victims undergo physical violence. Physical violence was again probed at three levels i.e., the first (most common), second and third modes. The frequencies at which these modes occurred were also analyzed.

Table-1: Distribution of sample respondents by type of physical violence

Sl. No.	Type of physical violence	Yes	No	Total N=250
1	Beating	92.8	7.2	100.0
2	Slapping	84.4	15.6	100.0
3	Pushing/Kicking	97.6	2.4	100.0
4	Throwing objects	92.0	8.0	100.0
5	Repeated quarrel	89.6	10.4	100.0
Average percentage		91.3	8.7	100.0

Beating was rated as the first mode (most common) of physical violence suffered by 92.8 per cent of the victims are being beating and 84.4 per cent of the victims had to succumb to slapping (second common), The wrath of husbands had to be suffered by 97.6 per cent each of the wives in the form of pushing and kicking respectively. Among the rest, 92.0 per cent throwing objects, and 89.6 per cent of the respondents had faced repeated quarrel.

Informal discussions with the victims further revealed that a good number of these women had to face the attacks not only of one form but rather of different forms simultaneously.

On the whole, the majority respondents revealed that 91.3 per cent are experienced the physical violence by their husband. A negligible number are not face any physical violence.

With regard to the frequency of various manifestations of the first mode by the victims, the data showed that beating as the first mode was experienced daily, frequently and occasionally.

The figures above indicated the magnitude and intensity of the violence that women suffer in silence at home. These are not mere statistics for a data bank but should turn to be an eye opener to the society on domestic violence and prompt steps to be taken minimize this phenomenon.

ANOVAs Table-2
Type of Physical Violence vs. Age

Physical violence	Age	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Beating	Between Groups	.550	2	.275	4.209	.016
	Within Groups	16.154	247	.065		
	Total	16.704	249			
Slapping	Between Groups	.490	2	.245	1.865	.157
	Within Groups	32.426	247	.131		
	Total	32.916	249			
Pushing	Between Groups	.137	2	.069	2.964	.053
	Within Groups	5.719	247	.023		
	Total	5.856	249			
Throwing Objects	Between Groups	.268	2	.134	1.827	.163
	Within Groups	18.132	247	.073		
	Total	18.400	249			
Repeated Quarrels	Between Groups	.860	2	.430	4.733	.010
	Within Groups	22.436	247	.091		
	Total	23.296	249			

The responses of respondents by age wise regarding awareness of various social issues and legislations implemented. The descriptive table 5.16 displays the sample size, mean, standard deviation, F value and P value. The study shows the results of the ANOVA test that there is a significant difference between reporting of

their violence by age wise and slapping ($P=0.157$), throwing objects ($P=163$), The results show that there is no significant difference of physical violence reported among the age wise categories of respondents

Beating ($P=0.016$), pushing ($P=0.053$), repeated quarrel ($P=0.010$) at 0.05 levels. The results show that there is a significant difference of physical violence reported among the age wise categories of respondents.

Verbal abuse

The problems faced by the respondents in the form of verbal abuse, it is impact on mind that could be lead to frustration and impaired on health. Other forms of violence suffer from multiple diseases. Hence, they are not in the position to say precisely from which ailment they are suffering. The ailment most frequently observed among the victims tends to be chronic and are often degenerative, rather than acute.

Table-3: Distribution of sample respondents by type of Verbal Violence

Sl. No.	Verbal Violence	Yes	No	Total N=250
1	Demeaning family background	96.4	3.6	100.0
2	Blaming for everything that goes wrong in the family	93.6	6.4	100.0
3	Blaming for improper house-keeping	90.4	9.6	100.0
4	Insulting in the presence of children and relatives	90.4	9.6	100.0
5	Using insulting and/or ugly language	92.8	7.2	100.0
6	Frequently charging on small and negligible matters	93.6	6.4	100.0
Total Average Percentage		92.9	7.1	100.0

The table 3 indicates that among the respondents Demeaning family background 96.4 per cent, Blaming for everything that goes wrong in the family 93.6 per cent, Blaming for improper house-keeping 90.4 per cent, Insulting in the presence of children and relatives 90.4 per cent, Using insulting and/or ugly language 92.8 per cent and Frequently charging on small and negligible matters 93.6 per cent are respectively faced verbal abuses by their husband and other family members.

On the whole, 92.9 per cent of the respondents facing verbal abuses due to dowry related problems. 7.1 per cent respondents are not facing any verbal abuses. Many studies revealed that vulnerability prone on women by their husband and family members.

ANOVAs table -4

Distribution of sample respondents' verbal abuses by their caste

Verbal Violence		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Demeaning family background	Between Groups	.097	3	.032	.931	.426
	Within Groups	8.579	246	.035		
	Total	8.676	249			
Blaming for everything that goes wrong in the family.	Between Groups	.268	3	.089	1.496	.216
	Within Groups	14.708	246	.060		
	Total	14.976	249			
Blaming for improper house-keeping	Between Groups	.151	3	.050	.574	.632
	Within	21.54	246	.088		

	Groups	5				
	Total	21.69 6	249			
Insulting in the presence of children and relatives	Between Groups	.301	3	.100	1.15 3	.328
	Within Groups	21.39 5	246	.087		
	Total	21.69 6	249			
Using insulting and/or ugly language	Between Groups	.466	3	.155	2.35 4	.073
	Within Groups	16.23 8	246	.066		
	Total	16.70 4	249			
Frequently charging on small and negligible matters	Between Groups	.121	3	.040	.668	.573
	Within Groups	14.85 5	246	.060		
	Total	14.97 6	249			

The descriptive table 4 shows the sample size, mean, standard deviation, F value and P value. The study displays the results of the ANOVA test that there is no significant difference between caste wise and Demeaning family background ($P=0.426$), Blaming for everything that goes wrong in the family ($P=0.216$), Using insulting and/or ugly language ($P=0.073$), Blaming for improper house-keeping ($P=0.632$) and Insulting in the presence of children and relatives ($P=0.328$) are no different views on verbal abuses by caste.

Psychological Abuses

Women reported that they experienced psychological violence in a combination of different forms. Demeaning, which was the first mode of psychological violence experienced by victims daily and frequently.

Table -5: Distribution of sample respondents by type of psychological violence

Sl. No.	Psychological Violence	Yes	No	Total N=250
1	Treatment as a servant in family	98.4	1.6	100.0
2	No freedom to express views on family matters	89.6	10.4	100.0
3	Giving birth to a girl child repeatedly	93.6	6.4	100.0
4	Threat of divorce	86.4	13.6	100.0
5	Suspecting extra – marital relations	91.2	8.8	100.0
6	Prohibiting to meet with parents, friends and relatives	92.4	7.6	100.0
7	Neglecting Health	85.2	14.8	100.0
8	Treat to commit suicide	88.8	11.2	100.0
Average Percentage		90.7	9.3	100.0

The table 5.19 and figure 5.6 reveal that 98.4 per cent of the respondents faces treatment as a servant in family, 89.6 per cent no freedom to express views on family matters, 93.6 per cent giving birth to a girl child repeatedly. 86.4 per cent threat of divorce, whereas 91.2 per cent Suspecting extra – marital relations, 92.4 per cent prohibiting to meet with parents, friends and relative, 85.2 per cent neglecting health, and 88.8 per cent treat to commit suicide by their husbands respectively.

Suspecting one's character was perceived as a most derogatory form of domestic violence against women and large majority of women perceived this as the most dangerous act of the perpetrators of domestic violence.

On the whole, 90.7 per cent of the respondents are facing psychological abuses by their husband and family members daily and frequently. It can be observed that 9.3 per cent of the respondents are not facing any psychological abuses.

ANOVAs table –6
Distribution of sample respondents' Psychological abuses by their Religion

ANOVA						
Psychological Violence		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Threat of divorce.	Between Groups	1.752	2	.876	7.831	.001
	Within Groups	27.624	247	.112		
	Total	29.376	249			
Suspecting extra – marital relations	Between Groups	.069	2	.035	.427	.653
	Within Groups	19.995	247	.081		
	Total	20.064	249			
Prohibiting to meet with parents, friends and relatives.	Between Groups	.388	2	.194	2.795	.063
	Within Groups	17.168	247	.070		
	Total	17.556	249			
Neglecting health	Between Groups	.821	2	.411	3.303	.038
	Within Groups	30.703	247	.124		
	Total	31.524	249			
Threat to commit suicide	Between Groups	.473	2	.237	2.397	.093
	Within Groups	24.391	247	.099		
	Total	24.864	249			
Frequently charging on small and negligible matters	Between Groups	.006	2	.003	.054	.948
	Within Groups	14.970	247	.061		
	Total	14.976	249			
No freedom to express views on family matters	Between Groups	.068	2	.034	.363	.696
	Within Groups	23.228	247	.094		
	Total	23.296	249			
Giving birth to a girl child repeatedly	Between Groups	.115	2	.058	.957	.386
	Within Groups	14.861	247	.060		
	Total	14.976	249			

The women respondents' experiences of psychological abuses in the study area as shown in table. As regards to table domestic violence experienced in the form psychological abuses. The descriptive table 5.20 displays the sample size, mean, standard deviation, F value and P value. The study shows the results of the ANOVA test that there is no significant difference by religion and Suspecting extra – marital relations (P=0.653), Prohibiting to meet with parents, friends and relatives. (P=0.063) and Neglecting health (P=0.427), Threat to commit suicide (P=0.093), Frequently charging on small and negligible matters (P=948), Giving birth

to a girl child repeatedly($P=0.386$). There is no significant difference association between the educated and non-educated respondents by facing psychological abuses at 0.05 levels.

The results show that there is a significant difference association in between Threat of divorce. ($P=0.001$) and Neglecting health($P=0.038$). There is a statically significant association between the abuses experienced by religion wise respondents at 0.05 level.

Economic Violence:

Economic abuse of a woman is yet another form of violence. Such a violence is the result of dependency. Dependency framework has been used in three ways to explain domestic violence against women. In the first approach, economic dependency is treated as a cause of wife abuse, whereas in the second approach it is treated as a condition forcing a woman to assume the role of the victim and in the third approach partial non-dependency also results into economic abuse of a woman.

Women's access to resources is largely determined by their relationships to men through marriage. This dependency of women is fully exploited by the men and they control the women.

Table -7: Distribution of sample respondents by type of economic violence

Sl. No.	Economic Violence	Yes	No	Total N=250
1	Pressurizing you for bringing money from your parents	77.2	22.8	100.0
2	Forcing you to leave the existing job	28.4	71.6	100.0
3	Preventing you from taking a job	32.0	68.0	100.0
4	Prohibiting you from making purchases of your choice	84.8	15.2	100.0
5	Recovering full amount of your salary, leaving nothing with you for personal expenditure	66.8	33.2	100.0
Total Average Percentage		57.8	42.2	100.0

As regards economic violence 77.2 per cent of the respondents were Pressured to bringing money from their parents, 28.4 per cent forcing to leave the existing job, 32.0 per cent preventing from taking a job, 84.8 per cent prohibiting from making purchases of their choice, 66.8 per cent recovering full amount of salary and leaving nothing with for personal expenditure.

On the whole, 57.8 per cent of the respondents are not accessible to the financial matters and they are facing economically constrains by their husbands.

ANOVAs table – 8

Distribution of sample respondents' Economic violence by their Place of residence

ANOVA						
Economic Violence		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Pressurizing you for bringing money from your parents	Between Groups	1.031	1	1.031	5.949	.015
	Within Groups	42.973	248	.173		
	Total	44.004	249			
Forcing you to leave the existing job	Between Groups	1.272	1	1.272	6.366	.012
	Within	49.564	248	.200		

	Groups					
	Total	50.836	249			
Preventing you from taking a job	Between Groups	.055	1	.055	.249	.618
	Within Groups	54.345	248	.219		
	Total	54.400	249			
Prohibiting you from making purchases of your choice	Between Groups	.178	1	.178	1.378	.242
	Within Groups	32.046	248	.129		
	Total	32.224	249			
Recovering full amount of your salary, leaving nothing with you for personal expenditure	Between Groups	.620	1	.620	2.805	.095
	Within Groups	54.824	248	.221		
	Total	55.444	249			

The Responses of women by education wise regarding economic violence. The descriptive table 5.22 displays the sample size, mean, standard deviation, F value and P value. The study shows the results of the ANOVA test that there is no significant difference between responses of rural and urban area and Pressurizing you for bringing money from your parents ($P=0.015$), Forcing to leave the existing job ($P=0.012$). The results show that there are a significant difference responses about rural and urban area wise and economic abuses of women respondents. The economic constraints are similar to rural and urban. Preventing from taking a job ($P=0.618$), Prohibiting you from making purchases of their choice ($P=0.242$), Recovering full amount of salary and leaving nothing with for personal expenditure ($P=0.095$) at 0.05 levels. The results show that there are no significant difference responses about rural and urban wise and economic abuses of women respondents. The economic constraints are similar to rural and urban area.

Conclusion:

It is revealed that regarding the causes behind domestic violence, majority of the respondents face violence due to domestic work, while patriarchy, dowry, use of alcohol and unemployment were other reasons. When we analyse the husband's behaviour towards their wives when they are harassed by his family members, majority of the respondents said that their husband's attitude is unfavourable to them, while a significant number of them said their attitude is also favourable for them.

On analyzing the types of domestic violence face by the respondents are physical, psychological, economic and sexual violence. The majority of the cases filed under domestic violence through police followed by women domestic cell. The cases settled that majority are not satisfied due to unfavourable attitude towards their spouse.

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