



Domestic Violence with Perspective of India, China and USA

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Abstract : Domestic violence, an intricate and widespread social problem, impacts millions of individuals worldwide without regard for geographical, cultural, or economic boundaries. This research paper conducts a comparative examination of domestic violence across three distinct nations: India, China, and the United States. By scrutinizing these countries, each characterized by unique cultural, historical, and legal contexts, this study aims to illuminate the multifaceted factors influencing domestic violence, its repercussions, and the strategies implemented to combat it. The research explores the influence of cultural norms, gender roles, and societal expectations on the dynamics of domestic violence in each country. It also probes the role of legislation, law enforcement, and support systems in addressing domestic violence. Furthermore, the paper delves into the effects of economic disparities, educational attainment, and resource accessibility on the frequency and reporting of domestic violence incidents. Utilizing both qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, including surveys, interviews, and data analysis, this study furnishes a comprehensive overview of both the commonalities and distinctions in the experiences of domestic violence survivors and the societal responses within these respective countries. It evaluates the efficacy of legal frameworks, support services, and community awareness campaigns in tackling this pressing issue. The conclusions drawn from this research provide valuable insights for policymakers, advocates, and stakeholders within India, China, and the United States, as well as the global community at large. By comprehending the unique challenges and successes in addressing domestic violence in these nations, it becomes feasible to develop more effective strategies and interventions for reducing domestic violence and aiding survivors. Ultimately, this research enriches the global discourse on domestic violence and underscores the significance of a multifaceted approach to fostering safer and more equitable societies.

Index Terms - Domestic violence, gender roles, legislation, socioeconomic disparities.

I. INTRODUCTION

Domestic violence is an extensive societal concern encompassing a range of abusive behaviors that occur within intimate relationships and familial settings. This harmful phenomenon encompasses multiple forms, including physical, emotional, psychological, sexual, and economic abuse. Physical violence involves actions causing bodily harm or the threat thereof. Emotional and psychological abuse involve manipulation, control, and degradation, while sexual abuse includes non-consensual sexual acts or coercion. Economic abuse pertains to dominating financial resources, often resulting in the victim's economic dependence. [1]

Domestic violence transcends borders and demographics, constituting a global issue that affects individuals irrespective of geographical location, cultural background, or socioeconomic status. Its prevalence is significant, with countless individuals, primarily women, experiencing various forms of abuse. Yet, it's crucial to recognize that the full extent of domestic violence may remain concealed due to widespread stigma, fear, and lack of awareness surrounding the issue. [1]

Cultural factors play a pivotal role in shaping domestic violence. The values, norms, and gender roles ingrained within a culture can either perpetuate or challenge this affliction. Cultural influences determine the acceptability of abusive behavior, the likelihood of reporting, and the effectiveness of interventions. Thus, understanding how cultural norms and expectations impact domestic violence is of paramount importance in developing effective strategies for prevention and support. [1]

Domestic violence attitudes around the world

Percentage of teenage girls (15-19) who said husbands were justified in beating their wives (UN survey)

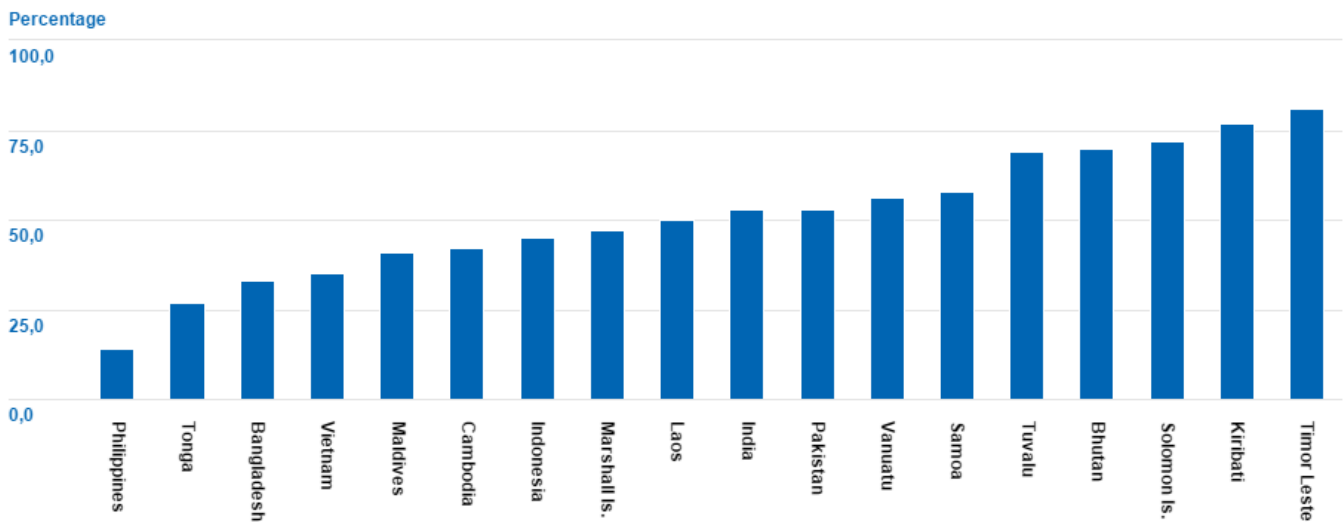


Fig 1. Domestic Violence in World

This research delves into the heart of domestic violence, exploring its various facets and the factors contributing to its persistence. By doing so, it aims to shed light on this global issue, raising awareness of its complexity and urgency. In the following sections, we will conduct a comparative analysis of domestic violence in three diverse countries: India, China, and the United States. These nations, each distinct in terms of culture, legal frameworks, and socioeconomic contexts, will be examined to uncover insights and generate valuable knowledge that can contribute to the worldwide discourse on domestic violence. Ultimately, this research seeks to inform and inspire effective policies and practices, both within the nations studied and on a broader international scale. [1]

Background and Significance of the Study:

The study's background highlights the context within which domestic violence operates, emphasizing the historical and sociocultural factors contributing to its persistence. Despite various movements and legal reforms bringing domestic violence to the forefront of public awareness in the 21st century, comprehensive challenges remain in addressing it.

The significance of this study lies in its examination of domestic violence in three diverse countries: India, China, and the United States. These countries represent unique cultural, legal, and socioeconomic contexts, enabling a comparative analysis that can unveil distinctive insights. By exploring the causes, consequences, and interventions associated with domestic violence in these regions, this study aims to contribute valuable knowledge to the global discussion on domestic violence, informing policies and practices both within and beyond these specific nations. [2]

Research Objectives:

The research objectives outline the specific goals of this study, including:

- Analyzing the impact of cultural norms and gender roles on domestic violence in India, China, and the USA.
- Examining the effectiveness of legal frameworks in addressing domestic violence in these three countries.
- Investigating the socioeconomic factors contributing to domestic violence and victims' access to resources.
- Assessing the physical and psychological consequences of domestic violence on victims.
- Evaluating the interventions and support systems in place for domestic violence victims in India, China, and the USA.
- Providing a comparative analysis of domestic violence across these three countries, identifying similarities and differences.

These research objectives lay the foundation for a comprehensive investigation into domestic violence within the specified cultural, legal, and social contexts, allowing for a deeper understanding of this critical issue and its global implications.

II. CULTURAL CONTEXT IN GLOBAL CONTEXT

The "Cultural Context" is a crucial element of the research paper, exploring how cultural norms and gender roles impact the dynamics of domestic violence in the selected countries: India, China, and the USA. This section delves into the distinct cultural

landscapes of each nation and investigates the significant role that cultural norms and gender roles play in shaping attitudes, behaviors, and responses related to domestic violence. [3]

2.1 Cultural Norms and Gender Roles in India:

Cultural norms and gender roles in India have deep roots in its history, traditions, and social structures. Historically, patriarchy has been a dominant cultural norm, with men holding positions of authority in both the family and society. This has given rise to traditional gender roles that prescribe women's submission and obedience to male family members.

India's caste system, a prevailing cultural element, also contributes to reinforcing social hierarchies and gender inequalities. Cultural norms often uphold concepts like "family honor," which can exert pressure on victims to keep silent about domestic violence to avoid bringing shame upon their families. [3]

Religious beliefs and practices can influence cultural norms, with various religious traditions impacting gender expectations differently. For example, certain interpretations of Hinduism may perpetuate traditional gender roles, while others emphasize equality and mutual respect between partners.

Understanding these cultural norms is pivotal in addressing domestic violence in India. Interventions must take into account the influence of these norms on victims' willingness to report abuse, their access to support services, and the effectiveness of legal protections. [3]

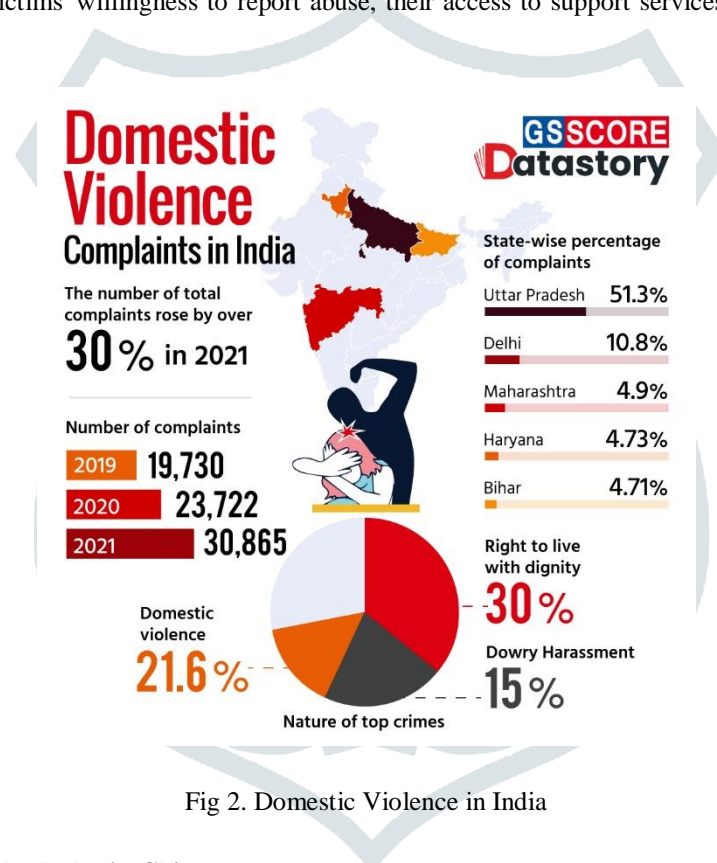


Fig 2. Domestic Violence in India

2.2 Cultural Norms and Gender Roles in China:

China's cultural context is intricate and multifaceted, blending traditional values with modernization. Confucianism, a central philosophy in Chinese culture, has historically emphasized hierarchical family structures and prescribed distinct gender roles. Men have been assigned roles as family providers and decision-makers, while women were often expected to prioritize their roles as wives and mothers. [4]

In recent decades, urbanization and economic development have brought about changes in gender roles and expectations. Women are increasingly participating in the workforce and demanding more equal partnerships within their families. However, these changes are not uniform across all regions and social groups.

China's cultural context presents both challenges and opportunities in addressing domestic violence. Traditional norms can perpetuate abusive behaviors, but evolving gender dynamics offer a potential pathway for change. [4]

2.3 Cultural Norms and Gender Roles in the USA:

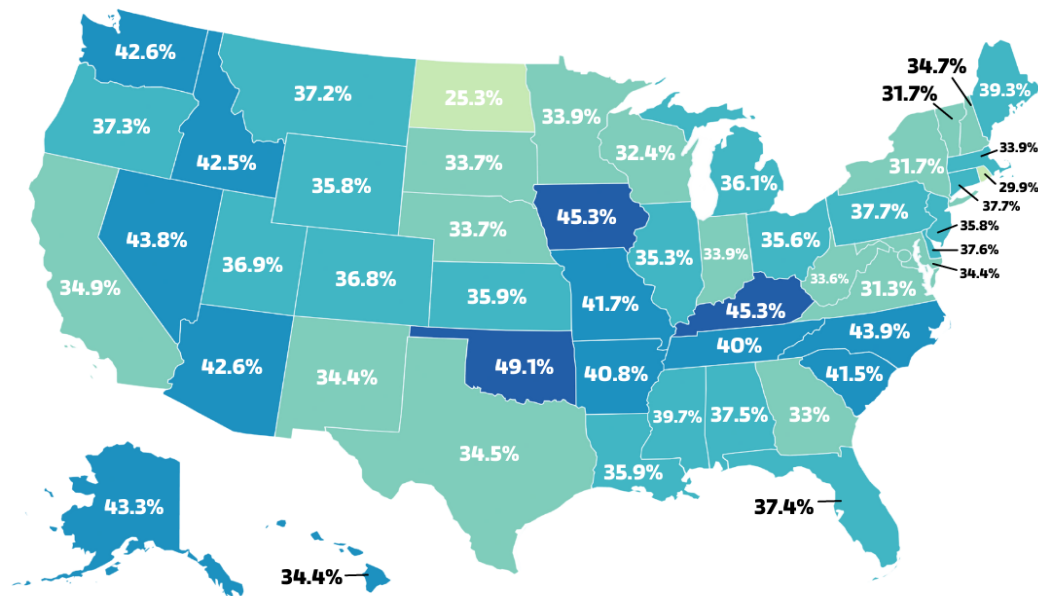
In the USA, cultural norms and gender roles have undergone significant evolution over time. Historically, traditional gender roles dictated that men were the primary breadwinners, while women were responsible for caregiving and homemaking. Nevertheless, the women's rights movement and changing social attitudes have led to more equitable gender roles. [4]

The cultural context in the USA is diverse, with various cultural groups and backgrounds shaping attitudes and expectations related to domestic violence. Different communities may have distinct norms and beliefs that impact the experience of domestic violence.

Understanding the cultural context in the USA is essential for effectively addressing domestic violence. It helps identify how cultural diversity and evolving gender norms influence the acceptability of abuse, reporting behaviors, and the efficacy of interventions. [4]

Domestic Violence Against Women By State

(Percentage of women that experience domestic violence in their lifetime as of 2021)



Source: worldpopulationreview



Fig 3. Domestic Violence in USA

2.4 The Intersection of Culture and Domestic Violence:

The final aspect of this section underscores the central role of culture in shaping domestic violence dynamics and responses. Cultural norms influence the acceptability of domestic violence, the reporting of incidents, and the effectiveness of interventions and support systems in all three countries. Recognizing this intersection is critical for tailoring strategies for prevention and support that are culturally sensitive and appropriate. It provides valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities presented by cultural factors in addressing domestic violence. [5]

III. GLOBAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This portion of the research paper delves into the legal aspects pertaining to domestic violence in the selected countries, namely India, China, and the USA. It scrutinizes the legal frameworks, including domestic violence laws, and the mechanisms in place for enforcement aimed at addressing this critical issue. Additionally, it evaluates the practical application of these laws, accentuating the strengths and weaknesses of each country's legal approach in combatting domestic violence. [5]

3.1 Domestic Violence Legislation in India:

In India, the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act was enacted in 2005. This civil law offers protection and remedies to domestic violence victims, encompassing various forms of abuse such as physical, emotional, sexual, and economic. It enables victims to secure protection orders, residence orders, and financial relief. The law establishes a hierarchy of authorities responsible for addressing domestic violence cases.

The implementation of this law in India encounters several challenges, including a lack of awareness, societal stigma, and differing commitment levels among law enforcement agencies. Moreover, issues like protracted legal proceedings and the absence of specialized domestic violence courts can impede effective enforcement. This section may also explore the roles of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and community initiatives in assisting victims and complementing the legal framework. [6]

3.2 Domestic Violence Legislation in China:

China lacks a single comprehensive domestic violence law, but it has made progress in recent years to address the issue. In 2016, China enacted its first law specifically addressing domestic violence, known as the Anti-Domestic Violence Law. This law defines domestic violence, empowers law enforcement to issue restraining orders, and grants victims the right to seek protection through the courts. It also underscores the importance of prevention, awareness, and support services.

The enforcement of domestic violence laws in China is influenced by factors like the urban-rural divide, disparities in legal knowledge, and cultural norms. There may be variations in how the law is applied across different regions of the country. Furthermore, societal attitudes, such as the notion of "family privacy," can sometimes pose challenges to effective enforcement. [6]

3.3 Domestic Violence Legislation in the USA:

The United States features a complex legal landscape for addressing domestic violence, involving a combination of federal, state, and tribal laws. Key federal legislation includes the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), which provides funding and guidelines for addressing domestic violence, and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), which supports shelters and services for victims.

At the state level, laws related to domestic violence exhibit significant variations. This section may delve into the disparities in legal definitions, the availability of protection orders, and the role of law enforcement agencies. The USA also has mechanisms in place to address domestic violence on tribal lands, acknowledging the distinct jurisdictional issues faced by Native American communities.

The enforcement of domestic violence laws in the USA may be influenced by factors such as the availability of resources, coordination among various agencies, and training for law enforcement officers. The section can also discuss the role of advocacy groups and shelters in supporting victims and influencing policy. [6]

3.4 Law Enforcement and Implementation:

This segment of the section scrutinizes the practical enforcement and implementation of domestic violence laws in each country. It examines the responsiveness of law enforcement agencies, the effectiveness of legal mechanisms, and any challenges that hinder the proper execution of these laws. It may discuss issues such as the reporting and investigation of domestic violence cases, the issuance of protection orders, and the prosecution of offenders.

The section should also consider the role of law enforcement training programs, public awareness campaigns, and the collaboration between law enforcement agencies, legal professionals, and social services. It evaluates the level of coordination and cooperation among these stakeholders in addressing domestic violence cases. Additionally, the section may highlight successful enforcement strategies and areas in need of improvement, emphasizing the practical realities of implementing domestic violence laws in each country.

IV. SOCIOECONOMIC FACTORS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

This section of the research paper delves into the pivotal role that socioeconomic factors play in the prevalence and experience of domestic violence in India, China, and the USA. It encompasses various aspects, including economic disparities within these countries and the accessibility of resources and educational opportunities for individuals, particularly victims of domestic violence. [7]

4.1 Economic Disparities in India:

Economic disparities in India are marked by striking contrasts in wealth and living conditions, encompassing both extreme poverty and immense affluence. In many cases, these disparities intersect with other factors, such as caste and gender.

For victims of domestic violence in India, economic disparities can exacerbate their vulnerabilities. Poverty and financial dependency on abusive partners can hinder their ability to escape abusive relationships or access legal assistance. Economic factors often influence decisions to report abuse and seek help. This section explores the challenges faced by victims in

economically disadvantaged situations and examines the role of government initiatives, support programs, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in addressing economic disparities as part of a comprehensive strategy to combat domestic violence. [8]

4.2 Economic Disparities in China:

Economic disparities in China are primarily influenced by the urban-rural divide and inequalities in income, education, and healthcare access. Rapid urbanization and economic growth have contributed to significant income disparities between urban and rural areas, impacting the quality of life and resource accessibility for individuals in various regions of the country.

Economic factors in China can affect domestic violence dynamics in various ways. Victims with limited economic resources may encounter challenges when seeking help or attempting to leave abusive relationships. This section may also explore how urbanization has brought about changes in gender roles and economic independence for some women, influencing domestic violence dynamics in urban settings. [9]

4.3 Economic Disparities in the USA:

In the United States, economic disparities manifest through income inequality, racial inequalities, and disparities in access to education and healthcare. Economic disparities can intersect with other social determinants, such as race, creating unique challenges for victims of domestic violence.

Economic factors can influence victims' ability to access support services and legal aid. For example, individuals with lower incomes may have limited resources to leave abusive partners or secure legal representation. This section may examine the role of shelters, social services, and governmental programs in addressing economic disparities as part of domestic violence prevention and intervention efforts. [10]

4.3 Access to Resources and Education:

Access to resources and education is a critical aspect of addressing domestic violence in all three countries. This section evaluates the availability of resources, such as shelters, crisis hotlines, counseling services, and legal aid. It also explores how access to education, including awareness and prevention programs, can empower individuals to recognize and respond to domestic violence.

In India, for instance, the section may discuss the contributions of NGOs and government programs in providing support to victims, as well as initiatives to raise awareness and educate the public about domestic violence. In China, it can examine how education campaigns and community-based services are employed to address the issue. In the USA, it can discuss the availability of domestic violence hotlines, shelters, and educational programs in schools and communities.

This section also considers how access to resources and education may be influenced by socioeconomic factors, such as income, geographic location, and cultural norms. It analyzes the effectiveness of these resources in assisting domestic violence victims and highlights any gaps or challenges in ensuring equitable access for all. Additionally, it explores the potential of education and awareness programs in preventing domestic violence and promoting healthy relationships. [10]

V. CONCLUSION

The in-depth exploration of domestic violence in India, China, and the USA, as presented in this research paper, reveals a complex interplay of cultural, legal, socioeconomic, and educational factors that shape the dynamics of this pervasive issue. By comparing and contrasting these three diverse countries, we gain valuable insights into the global problem of domestic violence, providing a foundation for more effective strategies and interventions. Through this research, we have observed that cultural norms and gender roles exert a profound influence on the occurrence of domestic violence. In India, deeply ingrained patriarchal structures and traditional expectations can perpetuate abuse. In China, the tension between Confucian values and modernization affects how domestic violence is experienced and addressed. In the USA, evolving gender roles and cultural diversity play a pivotal role in shaping responses to domestic violence. Legal frameworks and their enforcement also significantly impact the response to domestic violence. In India, the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act has been a significant step, but challenges in implementation persist. China's Anti-Domestic Violence Law is relatively recent, and its effectiveness is influenced by cultural and regional factors. In the USA, the complex interplay of federal and state laws, along with tribal jurisdictions, underscores the necessity of a coordinated response.

Socioeconomic factors, such as economic disparities and access to resources and education, further complicate the experiences of domestic violence victims. Poverty, lack of financial independence, and limited access to support services can trap victims in abusive relationships. Recognizing and addressing these disparities are critical components of an effective response to domestic violence. In conclusion, this research underscores the global significance of domestic violence and the need for a multifaceted approach. Cultural norms, legal frameworks, and socioeconomic conditions must all be considered in the development of comprehensive strategies for prevention, intervention, and support. The experiences and challenges faced by domestic violence victims in India, China, and the USA offer important lessons for policymakers, service providers, and advocates worldwide. As we move forward in the fight against domestic violence, it is imperative to promote awareness, challenge harmful cultural norms, strengthen legal protections, address economic disparities, and improve access to resources and education. This research contributes

to a broader global conversation on domestic violence, emphasizing the urgency of continued efforts to create safer, more equitable societies for all. Ultimately, it is our collective responsibility to work toward a world where domestic violence is no longer tolerated, and where victims find the support and justice they deserve..

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