

Domestic Violence against Women in Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu

J. Manju suresh
Research scholar
Bharathiar university

Abstract

Women are worshipped and honored as Goddesses of Lexmi, Saraswati, Parvati and Durga in our nation on one hand, but on the other hand, they are considered as an object of contempt and ridicule of contempt and ridicule, a commodity for barter, an expendable asset and a playing for mere sexual enjoyment. Domestic violence against women is the most pervasive human rights violation in the world today. The word 'domestic' origins from the latin word means 'house' and violence against women shall be understood to encompass, but not limited to physical, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household dowry related violence, marital rape and other traditional practices harmful women

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INTRODUCTION

Women are worshipped and honored as Goddesses of Lexmi, Saraswati, Parvati and Durga in our nation on one hand, but on the other hand, they are considered as an object of contempt and ridicule of contempt and ridicule, a commodity for barter, an expendable asset and a playing for mere sexual enjoyment. Domestic violence against women is the most pervasive human rights violation in the world today. The word 'domestic' origins from the latin word means 'house' and violence against women shall be understood to encompass, but not limited to physical, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household dowry related violence, marital rape and other traditional practices harmful women.

According to the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, 'Violence against women means any act of gender based violence that result in, or is likely to result in, Physical, Sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation

of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life. Thus domestic violence connotes when such harsh, in human and atrocious acts of violence is being committed to a woman at home i.e. by the persons to whom she is related to marriage, consanguinity, adoption and with whom she is living in a home or we can say that behind the closed doors. In other words, it can be defined as the maltreatment by one person to the woman living in the same home. It is a major social problem largely prevalent in our society. It involves a situation where a strong and powerful person in a home takes advantage of his position and becomes violent towards the weaker one. It distorts the development of each member at home and also their closed relatives.

Forms of Domestic Violence

The various forms of domestic violence are:

Physical forms violence

The forms of Physical violence include slapping, kicking, tearing hair,

pushing and hitting with an object, beating with sticks or iron rod, knives, utensils, blades, bashing their heads against the walls attempting to strangulate and threatening.

Psychological forms of violence

Forms of psychological abuse were also found 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 processes, making frequent complaints against her to her parents, friends, neighbors, and kin much to embarrassment of the wife. Non-verbal threats may include gestures, facial expressions, and body postures.

Sexual forms of violence

There are many different terms to refer to sexual assault committed by a person in a relationship with the victim, including: intimate partner sexual violence, intimate partner rape, marital rape, and spousal rape. No matter what term is used or how the relationship is defined, it is never okay to engage in sexual activity without someone's consent. The term "sexual violence" is an all-encompassing, non-legal term that refers to crimes like sexual assault, rape, and sexual abuse.

Economic forms of violence

Having money and being able to make decisions about it, is one means of being independent. If someone is controlling your money, keeping you financially dependent, or making you ask for money unreasonably, then this is a form of violence.

Social forms of violence

Social violence occurs in relationships that often include other forms of violence. If someone is insulting you or teasing you in front of other people,

leaving you isolated from family and friends, controlling what you do and where you go, then they are being violent and you may need to take some action.

Spiritual forms of violence

This type of violence involves a situation where you are not allowed to have your own opinions about religion, cultural beliefs, and values, or your spirituality is manipulated to keep you feeling powerless.

Causes of Domestic Violence

Many of the factors responsible for the causes of domestic violence. They are cultural, economic, legal, and lack of education. Let me discuss them one by one under the following heads.

Cultural

Religious and historical tradition in the past have sanctioned the chastising and beating of women. The male members control family wealth; as such it places decision making authority in male hands, leading to its dominance. Traditional norms in those societies also allow the killing of female infant and wives suspected of defiling the honor of the family. Excessive consumption of alcohol has been noted as a factor in provoking aggressive and violent male violence towards women. An analysis by the Government of Tamilnadu states that a major fundamental cause of violence against women is the opinion that married women are the property of their husbands.

within this cultural context, suspicious of infidelity, alcoholism, antagonism over dowries, a couple's infertility and instigation by man's relatives can lead to episodes of violence against women.

Economic

Another important factor is that contributes to the violence against women. If the women have no income she

should depends upon the husband and their family for fulfill her basic needs. The threat and fear of violence keeps women from seeking employment or compels them to accept low-paid exploitative labor. And on the other hand, without economic independence, women have no power to escape from an abusive relationship.

Legal

Improper and inadequate laws and legal status of women is the primary cause for domestic violence. In India laws relating to divorce, child custody, maintenance and inheritance are always in favor of men, ignoring women's rights. This has further led to violence on the women. The law enforcement agencies are also less sensitive towards women and their problems and always tend to guard the male counterpart. In many places it is seen that the perpetrators who commit violence are less prosecuted and punished leniently. This finally trends to break the will power of women and they submit themselves before the male society. The last nail which is driven in to the coffin of all women is that they are less educated than their male counter-part.

Lack of education

Illiterate and lack of education is one of the reasons for cause of domestic violence. Uneducated women always depend on the family members or partner. So easily she abused by family members.

Media

Most of the Medias and Films portrait women as a sex object. This is also one of the major causes for violence against women.

Irresponsibility of Police department

Lethargic activity of police is also another reason for the raise in violence against women. If they took proper action at right time most of the incidents may not

be happen. Even there are some policemen who are asking bribe for taking action against the violence maker.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Domestic violence against woman has been rising with each year. The incidents of domestic violence are higher among the lower Socio-Economic Classes (SECs). There are various instances of an inebriated husband beating up the wife often leading to severe injuries. There is much violence against women in India because of the male dominated society here. In the recent years, there has been an alarming rise in atrocities against women in India. Every 26 minutes a women is molested. Every 34 minutes a rape takes place, every 42 minutes a sexual harassment incident occurs. Every 43 minutes a woman is kidnapped. And every 93 minutes a woman is burnt to death over dowry.

Fear of violence is a cause of women's lack of participation in activities beyond the home, as well as inside within the home women and girls may subject to physical, and sexual abuse as punishment or as culturally justified assaults. These acts shape their attitude to life, and their expectations of themselves.

According to the WHO, 35 % of women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or Sexual or non-partner sexual violence (WHO 2013). According to the National Crime records Bureau of India, reported incidents of crime against women increased 6.4% during 2012, and a crime against a woman is committed every three minutes, In 2012, there were 244,270 reported incidents of crime against women, while in 2011 there were 228,650 reported incidents. A study tells 65% of Indian men believe women should tolerate violence in order to keep the family together, and women sometimes deserve to be beaten.

Gender based violence is a global public health concern deserving attention from researchers and policy makers. This present study is an attempt to understand the practice of domestic violence in kanyakumari district of Tamilnadu

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

To study the various forms of violence against women

To find out the factors responsible for violence

To assess their knowledge and attitude towards legislation, policies and services intending to protect women against domestic violence.

RESEARCH DESIGN

Descriptive research design is adopted to carry out the empirical investigation based on the data analysis and discussion in order to fulfill the objectives.

Universe

The universe of the study comprised all the women coming under the age group of 19 to 58 years and residing in kanyakumari district of tamil nadu

Sampling

The study is covers whole nine blocks of kanyakumari district. There are Melpuram, Munchirai, Killiyoor, thuckalay, rajakkamangalam, Thovalai, agastheeswaram and thiruvattar block. Here the researcher used proportionate random sampling method.

Size of the sampling

200 women are selected of the kanyakumari district for this study in various places selection of the respondents The respondents are selected from the voter list through systematic random sampling technique.

Tools for data collection

The pre-tested interview schedule was used and, the researcher approached the sample respondents in their places and collected necessary data. The data used for this research was purely data collected by the researcher.

DATA ANALYSIS

The data was collected with the help of interview schedules and statistical techniques like percentage analysis method was administrated and it is expressed in the table as required to fulfill the need.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Majority of the women come under the age group of 35 to 42 years(39%)

Most of the respondents have membership in SHG(92%)61% of the respondents said that they have no role in decision making of their family

Most of the respondents are having experience in physical violence (48%), that is slapped, threw things, push, hit with fist, kick, beat, and burned, breaking things and pulled hair. In these, threw things is in first place (52%) and slapped is in second place (22%), and beat is in third place (18%), 8 percent of the respondents are having experience in other forms of physical violence.

In my study 41 percent of women are affecting by emotional and psychological forms of violence include abusive words, Insulted, treated as slave. Most of them have experience in abusive words(78%), 16% of the women said that they have experience in insulted by their husbands, remaining women have experience in treated as slave by husband and their family.

8 Percent of women have experience in sexual forms of violence, it include 67 percent of women are having

experience in sexual intercourse without consent and 12 percent of the respondents are having experience in forced sex by their husbands.

53% of the respondents are believing partner's alcohol consumption is cause of domestic violence. 23% of the respondent's partner have extra vagrant behavior, 14% of the respondent's partner have irresponsible of their family, and 10% of the partners are having gambling behavior.

A higher proportion of women suggested as the prime factor that provisions of education for women will make them to recognize their rights and also demand the same (46 percent), the second important suggestion is that government should prevent violations of women's human rights (33 percent), creating awareness about women's human rights among women and providing freedom to women to have their rights are also suggested in 21 percent of respondents.

RECOMMENDATION

Education is essential not only for women but also family members and society as a whole to understand and recognize the importance of human rights of women.

The government should frame more effective laws, implement and protect rights of women.

Women should raise their voice against violation of human rights and report to the concerned.

Government should conduct awareness generation programs and publicity campaigns on various law relating to women including dowry prohibition act, Domestic violence and how to get benefits to affected women.

High school and Higher secondary school syllabus must have domestic violence and its effects.

CONCLUSION

All women's protection acts is here in sleeping mode. Lack of education about domestic violence and women's acts is major reason for cause of domestic violence in here. In kanyakumari district mostly women have education, but they have no awareness about gender based violence and how to solve this problem. Encouraging women in reporting violations to the concerned higher government authority are suggested by respondents for the elimination of violations of human rights of women. The only reason is, they are uneducated on Constitutional and Human rights Provisions drafted for all citizens of the Holy Nation.

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