



Domestic Violence in India

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Abstract:

This paper is focus gender-based violence-including rape domestic violence, mutilation, murder, and sexual abuse is a profound health problem for women across the globe. Although gender violence is a significant cause of female mortality, it is almost never seen as a public health issue. Recent world bank estimates of the global burden of disease indicate that in established market economies gender-based victimization is responsible for one out of every five healthy days of life lost to women of reproductive age. On a per capita basis, the health burden imposed by rape and domestic violence in the industrial and developing world is roughly equivalent, but because the total disease burden is so much greater in the developing world, the percentage attributable to gender-based victimization is smaller.

Female -focused violence also represents a hidden obstacle to economic and social development. Domestic violence refers in violence against women not only in matrimonial homes but also in live-in-relationship. In addition, the paper discuss the management of this threat against women as well as examines the role to be played by the social workers, professionals and other voluntary organizations in providing intervention to the affected individuals. In conclusion recommendations were made to eradicate this menace from the society.

"Women are the only exploited group in history to have been idealized into powerlessness". Karl Marx.

KEYWORDS: Domestic violence, family, social workers, voluntary organizations.

INTRODUCTION:

Domestic violence in India includes any form of violence suffered by a person from a biological relative, but typically is the violence suffered by a woman by male members of her family or relatives. Domestic



violence (also named domestic abuse or family violence) is violence or other abuse by one person against another in a domestic setting, such as in marriage or cohabitation. It may be termed intimate relationship against the other spouse or partner, and can take place in heterosexual or same-sex relationships, or between former spouses or partners. Domestic violence can also involve violence against children, parents, or the elderly. It takes a number of forms, including physical, verbal, emotional, economic, religious and sexual abuse. Globally, the victims of domestic violence are overwhelmingly women. Domestic violence is not physical violence alone. Domestic violence is any behavior the purpose of which is to gain power and control over a spouse, partner, girl/boyfriend or intimate family member. Domestic violence, or intimate partner violence (IPV) as it is sometimes called, is a worldwide problem.

The first known use of the term domestic violence in a modern context, meaning violence in the home, was in an address to the Parliament of the United Kingdom by Jack Ashley in 1973. The term previously referred primarily to civil unrest, violence from within a country as opposed to violence perpetrated by a foreign power. Traditionally, domestic violence was mostly associated with physical violence.

In Australia, domestic violence refers to occurrences of violence in domestic settings between people in intimate relationships. The term can be altered by each state's legislation and can broaden the spectrum of domestic violence, such as in Victoria, where family like relationships and witnessing any type of violence in the family is defined as a family violence incident.

Domestic violence is currently defined in India by the Protection of women from Domestic violence Act, of 2005. According to section 3 of the Act, "any act, omission or commission or conduct of the respondent shall constitute domestic violence in case it.

(1). Harms or injures or endangers the health, safety, life, limb or well-being, whether mental or physical, of the aggrieved person or tends to do so and includes causing physical abuse, sexual abuse, verbal and emotional abuse and economic abuse; or

(2). Harasses, harms, injures or endangers the aggrieved person with a view to coerce her or any other person related to her to meet any unlawful demand for any dowry or other property or valuable security; or

(3). Otherwise injures or causes harm, whether physical or mental, to the aggrieved person."

Jammu and Kashmir, which has its own laws, has enacted in 2010 the Jammu and Kashmir Protection of women from Domestic Violence Act, 2010.

Forms of Domestic violence:

When the general public thinks about domestic violence, they usually think in terms of physical assault that results in visible injuries to the victim. This is only one type of abuse. Not all domestic violence is equivalent. Differences in frequency, severity, purpose, and outcome are all significant. Domestic violence can take many forms, including physical aggression or assault (hitting, kicking, biting, shoving, slapping, throwing objects, beating up, etc.)

(1). Physical:

Physical abuse is that involving contact intended to cause fear, pain, injury, other physical suffering or bodily harm. In the context of coercive control, physical abuse is control the victim. Physical violence can be the culmination of other abusive behavior such as threats, intimidation, and restriction of victim self-determination through isolation, manipulation and other limitations of personal freedom.

(2). Economic:

Financial abuse is a form of abuse when one intimate partner has control over the other partner's access to economic resources. Marital assets are used as a means of control. Economic abuse may involve preventing a spouse from resource acquisition, limiting what the victim may use, or by otherwise exploiting economic resources of the victim. Forcing or pressuring a family member to sign documents, to sell things, or to change a will are forms of economic abuse. A victim may be put on an allowance, allowing close monitoring of money is spent, preventing spending without perpetrator consent, leading to the accumulation of debt or depletion of the victim's savings.

(3). Emotional:

Emotional abuse is a pattern of behavior that threatens, intimidates or systematically undermines self-worth. Emotional abuse includes minimizing threats, public humiliation, criticism, constant personal devaluation repeated stonewalling and gas lighting. Stalking is a common form of psychological intimidation. Victims tend to feel their partner has nearly total control over them.



(4). Psychotically:

Among victims who are still living with their perpetrators high amounts of stress, fear, and anxiety are commonly reported. Depression is also common, as victims are made to feel guilty for 'provoking' the abuse and are frequently subjected to intense criticism. It is reported that 60% of victims meet the diagnostic criteria for depression, either during or after termination of relationship, and have a greatly increased risk of suicide. Those who are battered either emotionally or physically often are also depressed because of a feeling of worthlessness.

Management:

Management of domestic violence may take place through medical services, law enforcement, counseling and other forms of prevention and intervention. Participants in domestic violence may require medical treatment, such as examination by a family physician, other primary care provider or emergency room physicians. Counseling is another means of managing the effects of domestic violence. For the victim of abuse, counseling may include an assessment of the presence, extent and types of abuse. A lethality assessment is a tool that can assist in determining the best course of treatment for a client.

Prevention:

There exist several strategies that are being used to attempt to prevent or reduce DV. It is important to assess the effectiveness of a strategy that is being implemented. Reforming the legislation in order to ensure that domestic violence falls under the scope of the law is important. Marriage laws are also important," They (women) should also be able to enter freely into a marriage or to leave it, to obtain financial credit, and to own and administer property.

According to the centers for disease control and Prevention, "A key strategy in preventing domestic violence is the promotion of respectful, nonviolent relationships through individual, community and violence are also effective.

Conclusion :

Domestic violence is a major public health problem in that it affects millions of people and often results in physical and emotional injuries and even deaths. Media reporting of celebrities' domestic abuse victimization demonstrates that even the most accomplished individuals can be involved in this problem.



Although there is no specific cause for domestic violence, women at the highest risk for being the victim of domestic violence includes those with male partners who abuse drugs (specially alcohol) are unemployed or underemployed, affected by poverty, have not graduated from high school, and are or have been in a romantic relationship with the victim. A mind- set that gives men power over women puts individuals at risk for becoming involved in an abusive relationship, either as a perpetrator or as a victim.

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