



“The Concept Of Domestic Violence Under Indian Perspective :- An Analytical Study”

Name of the Author(s):

Smt. Archana Tyagi

Advocate

Allahabad High Court

Introduction

Domestic Violence (likewise called intimate partner Violence, Domestic Abuse, dating Violence, spousal manhandle, and intimate Partner Abuse) is any type of abuse that happens in a hetero or gay sentimental connection between grown-ups or young people.

Intimate partner Violence is a noteworthy general medical issue, because of its influencing in excess of 2 million women and 800,000 men and bringing about vagrancy, damage, or demise of victims, billions of dollars in health care costs, and lost work efficiency.

Intimate Partner Abuse has been and in some courses keeps on being supported in all social orders through lawful authorizing of the oppression of ladies and absence of lawful securities for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) casualties.

While Domestic Abuse strikes couples all races, religions, social financial status, and sexual orientations, risk factors for men or women becoming victims or abusers include poverty, lack of a high school education, witnessing family violence as a child, and attitudes of male domination and substance abuse, particularly liquor mishandle.

Cautioning signs for individuals to consider if they suspect they are the victim of intimate partner violence include feeling demeaned, assaulted, or excessively controlled by their partner.

Cautioning signs companions, relatives, and associates can search for in the event that they ponder whether the individual they care about is the casualty of Domestic Abuse incorporate numerous injuries the victim tries to explain, low self-esteem, a change in their personality, fear of conflicts, passive-aggressive behavior, blaming him- or herself for the problems in their relationship, isolation from others, or stress-related physical symptoms.

Wellbeing experts shockingly screen for suggest accomplice mishandle in around 20% of the patients seen. Domestic Violence is most adequately surveyed when the expert makes inquiries that call for more than a "yes" or "no" answer and don't specifically ask about Domestic Abuse, at least earlier during any assessment interview.

Domestic abuse is dealt with by setting up and keeping up the wellbeing of the casualty, giving suitable legitimate outcomes to the batterer, tending to the enthusiastic effect on the casualty and the issues of the abuser, especially on the off chance that one of the issues incorporates liquor or other substance manhandle.

The forecast of Domestic Violence at home can be very negative on the off chance that it goes on untreated, in that the enthusiastic and physical consequences of continued abuse can be extreme and even end in murder. Treatment and upgrading social backings to the casualty can enhance anticipation.

Counteractive action of Domestic Violence at includes giving financial chance, guides, good examples, sorted out network programs for youth and families, a school situation that advances aversion of harshness in any relationship, and grown-up relatives who are sustaining and who give predictable, organized help.

Types of domestic abuse include physical, verbal (also called emotional, mental, or psychological abuse), sexual, economic/financial, and spiritual abuse. Stalking and cyber-stalking are also forms of intimate partner abuse.

EFFECTS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE

Effects on the victim

- Death, illness, injury and disability — domestic and family violence is the leading cause of death, illness and disability for women aged under 45
- Emotional and psychological trauma — the devastating impact on an individual's physical, mental and emotional health including depression, shame, anger and suicide
- Homelessness — nearly one-third of people in NSW seeking help from homelessness services say domestic and family violence is an issue
- Use of alcohol and other drugs to deal with the pain
- Physical health injuries and problems, which may not get medically treated

Effects on the family

- Creates fear and can destroy family environments and lead to the break-up of families
- Frequent moving to avoid the abuser
- Regular household conflict
- Child protection or police involvement
- Effects on the community
- Children growing up without learning about positive and respectful relationships
- Abusers going to prison
- Higher rates of alcohol and other drug use, and mental health problems
- Domestic and family violence is estimated to cost the NSW economy more than \$4.5 billion each year

Effects on children

Of those women who experience violence, more than 50% have children in their care. Children and young people don't have to see the violence to be affected by it. Studies show that living with domestic violence can cause physical and emotional harm to children and young people in the following ways:

- ongoing anxiety and depression
- emotional distress
- find it hard to manage stress
- low self-esteem
- self-harm
- be aggressive towards friends and school mates
- feel guilt or blame themselves for the violence
- have trouble forming positive relationships and so on.

Intention to implementation:

Domestic violence has been occurring for centuries. Although we have policies and laws that prohibit this type of violence, it continues to occur at an alarming rate. We are highlighting the three main perspectives where we really fail to prevent Crimes like Domestic Violence against women.

1. Policy perspective:- Some offences are covered by specific domestic or family violence laws, while other offences are covered by the relevant crimes legislation. The specific state and territory laws currently are:

- *Domestic Violence and Protection Orders Act 2008 (ACT)*
- *Domestic and Family Violence Act 2007 (NT)*
- *Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007 (NSW)*
- *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012 (Qld)*
- *Intervention Orders (Prevention of Abuse) Act 2009 (SA)*
- *Family Violence Act 2004 (Tas.)*
- *Family Violence Protection Act 2008 (Vic.)*
- *Restraining Orders Act 1997 (WA)*

There are also a number of federal offences within the *Commonwealth Criminal Code Act 1995* which could potentially give rise to a protection order in the context of domestic violence. There are various preventive measures and legislative acts which contribute towards protection of Women. But are we really experiencing this protection? Is the statistics of this crime dropping down?

Workplace Domestic violence policies are falling short, according to new research. While the intent to handle the issues exists in many organisations, it appears that currently policies are too broad, and so they aren't working effectively. A recent study conducted by the Australian HR Institute (AHRI) found that only 14 per cent of respondents reported their organisation provides training tailored to domestic violence related issues. Another area where organisations are falling behind is in providing training for managers in recognising the signs and symptoms of domestic violence in employees. Only 18 per cent of respondents had received training in this area.

2. Implementation Perspective :- The performance of policy implementation can be categorised into three dimensions such as;

- output, outcome, and ultimate outcome of policy;
- impact of policy; and
- Measurement whether the policy leads to the development of country/society as a whole.

Brinkerhoff and Hoff state that successful policy outcomes depend not only upon designing good policies but upon managing their implementation. Somewhere the implementation of the designed policies is failing and therefore there is no effectiveness of these policies in reducing Crime rate. This multi-country research report examines the problem of implementation gaps – government failures to fulfill their legislative obligations to address and prevent violence against women and girls. It presents a comparative analysis of shortfalls between government commitments as laid out in laws and the realities for survivors of violence as they try to access services and justice. Drawing also on positive examples, lessons are shared about what can be done to improve the implementation of laws, and how civil society organizations can more effectively hold governments to account, so that laws can have a greater impact on ending violence against women and girls.

3. Socio-Cultural Perspective:- “Society and culture are, together, the sea of people and institutions all around us that we sometimes call our ‘community.’ In a wider sense, our whole country is one big community”. The reason our society should be concerned about domestic violence is because “domestic violence because it is prevalent in every community and affects all people regardless of age, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality”. In order initiate social change surrounding the reoccurrence of domestic violence, more research needs to done to discover the underlying influences on whether domestic violence is accepted or rejected by members of our communities. Community expectations, the laws and policies have put most of the responsibility on the

victims to escape the violence or stand up to it. Without victim action, there is no intervention planned and the abuse is not addressed. Therefore, as a society we continue to allow perpetrators of abuse to continue the cycle of violence.

Statistical Research

Collectively, the reviewed studies provide information on the DV experienced by young and middle-aged women in traditional heterosexual marriages from both urban and rural environments, joint and nuclear families, across Indian states. Among the studies specifying age limits, the vast majority evaluated DV experienced by women age 15–50 i.e. 88%, with only 11% of studies surveying DV suffered by women above age 50 and 1% evaluating DV experienced by young adolescents (before 15). Only one study assessed DV experienced by women in HIV discordant. No studies surveyed DV in non-traditional relationships, such as same-sex relationships or live-in relationships. Less than one-third (29% or 40/137) collected data differentiating DV experienced by women in joint versus nuclear families. 37% evaluated domestic abuse suffered by women living in urban settings, 18% in rural, and the remainder 44% in both rural and urban environments. Only one examined DV experienced by women residing in tribes. 23% and 3% utilised a nationally representative and sub-nationally representative study population, respectively. Southern Indian states were by far the most surveyed in the literature and Northern Indian states the least.

Prevalence of Domestic Violence in India

The reviewed studies demonstrate that DV occurs among Indian women with high frequency but there is substantial variation in the reported prevalence estimates across all forms of DV. The median and range of lifetime estimates of psychological abuse was 22% , physical abuse was 29% , sexual abuse was 12%, and multiple forms of DV was 41%. The outliers at the upper extremes were contributed by a study of in low-income slum communities with high prevalence of substance abuse and a second study conducted in a tertiary care centre where surveys were self-administered and thus participants may have felt increased comfort in reporting DV. The median and range of past-year estimates of psychological abuse was 22% (11–48%), physical abuse was 22%, sexual abuse was 7%, and multiple forms of DV was 30% . The outlier of 90% for physical abuse was contributed by a study of women whose husbands were alcoholics in treatment. As expected, higher DV prevalence was noted when multiple forms of DV were assessed. Of all forms of DV, physical abuse was measured most frequently, with psychological abuse, sexual abuse, and control or neglect receiving substantially less attention.

Conclusion

The past 10 years have been an incredible period of growth in DV research in India and South Asia. Comprehensively, the reviewed literature estimates that 4 in 10 Indian women report experiencing DV in their lifetime and 3 in 10 report experiencing DV in the past year. The high prevalence of DV and its association with deleterious behaviours and poor health outcomes further speak to the need for multi-faceted, culturally tailored preventive strategies that target potential victims and perpetrators of violence. The recent Five Year Strategic Plan (2011–2016) released by the Ministry of Women and Child Development discusses a plan to pilot ‘one-stop crisis centres for women’ survivors of violence, which would include medical, legal, law enforcement, counselling, and shelter support for themselves and their children. The significant differences in women’s empowerment and DV experience by region and population within India underscore the need to culturally- and regionally tailor the screening and support services provided at such centres. For example, in resource-limited states where sexual forms of DV predominate, priority should be given to the allocation of health-care providers to evaluate, document, and treat associated injuries and/or transmitted diseases. In settings where financial control and neglect are common, legal, financial, and educational empowerment may need to be given precedence.