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"Awareness of Domestic violence of working women of urban and rural areas : A comparative study".

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INTRODUCTION

Abstract

Domestic violence also called "Domestic abuse and intimate violence " can be defined as a pattern of behavior in any relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner.

No nation is untouched by domestic violence, and it is well-known that domestic violence has serious impact on women's health and well-being. It can be assume multiple forms including physical, verbal, emotional, religious, reproductive or sexual violence. The present study aimed to assess the prevalence and characteristics of domestic violence and injuries owing to domestic violence among currently married working women who belong to urban and rural areas.

Key words: Domestic violence, working women, Urban and Rural areas.

INTRODUCTION:

Domestic violence is a serious threat for many women. Know the signs of an abusive relationship and how to leave a dangerous situation.

Your partner apologizes and says the hurtful behavior won't happen again — but you fear it will. At times you wonder whether you're imagining the abuse, yet the emotional or physical pain you feel is real. If this sounds familiar, you might be experiencing domestic violence.

Domestic violence — also called intimate partner violence — occurs between people in an intimate relationship. Domestic violence can take many forms, including emotional, sexual and physical abuse and threats of abuse. Abuse by a partner can happen to anyone, but domestic violence is most often directed toward women. Domestic violence can happen in heterosexual and same-sex relationships.

Abusive relationships always involve an imbalance of power and control. An abuser uses intimidating, hurtful words and behaviors to control a partner.

It might not be easy to identify domestic violence at first. While some relationships are clearly abusive from the outset, abuse often starts subtly and gets worse over time. You might be experiencing domestic violence if you're in a relationship with someone who:

- Calls you names, insults you or puts you down
- Prevents or discourages you from going to work or school or seeing family members or friends
- Tries to control how you spend money, where you go, what medicines you take or what you wear
- Acts jealous or possessive or constantly accuses you of being unfaithful
- Gets angry when drinking alcohol or using drugs
- Threatens you with violence or a weapon
- Hits, kicks, shoves, slaps, chokes or otherwise hurts you, your children or your pets
- Forces you to have sex or engage in sexual acts against your will
- Blames you for his or her violent behavior or tells you that you deserve it
- Threatens to tell friends, family, colleagues or community members your sexual orientation or gender identity
- Tells you that authorities won't help you because of your sexuality or gender identity
- Justifies abuse by questioning your sexuality or gender identity

Background of the Study:

Background of the Study Domestic violence affects women of all ages, races, religions, and incomes. However due to the “secrecy” of domestic violence, it is often a hidden social problem. The “invisibility” of the problem is largely attributed to the belief that it is a private family matter, which should not be made known to outsiders. The results indicated that one quarter to one half of women in the countries studied had been physically beaten by their partners (Heise, Pitanguy, & Germaine, 1994). It is estimated that one in every three women worldwide are victims of intimate partner violence (Heise, Ellsberg, & Gottemoeller, 1999; Heise & Garcia-Moreno, 2002; SeagerD, 2009). Domestic violence has a long history but it was only “uncovered” in the 1970s when the women’s movement highlighted the problems and demanded that it should be addressed.

Domestic violence:

Domestic Violence is any abusive act between family members, ex-spouses, intimate cohabitants, former intimate cohabitants, dating couples and former dating couples in which one party seeks to gain/maintain power and control over the other partner. Couples or former couples can be of the same or opposite sex.

Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person. This includes any behaviors that intimidate, manipulate, humiliate, isolate, frighten, terrorize, coerce, threaten, blame, hurt, injure, or wound someone.

Two Categories of Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence consists of “**Intimate Partner Violence**,” which includes current and former spouses, current and former dating couples with or without a child in common and dating couples. This type of violence can occur among heterosexual or same-sex couples and does not require sexual intimacy. IPV can vary in frequency and severity. It occurs on a continuum, ranging from one hit that may or may not impact the victim to chronic, severe battering.

Domestic Violence also includes “**Non-Intimate Partner Violence**,” which is violence between individuals who are not intimate partners, but have a familial relationship, such as, mother/adult son, or brother/sister.

Domestic violence not only affects those who are abused, but also has a substantial effect on family members, friends, co-workers, other witnesses, and the community at large. Children, who grow up witnessing domestic violence, are among those seriously affected by this crime. Frequent exposure to violence in the home not only predisposes children to numerous social and physical problems, but also teaches them that violence is a normal way of life – therefore, increasing their risk of becoming society’s next generation of victims and abusers.

Forms of domestic violence:

Domestic violence has many forms, including physical violence, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, economic violence. It can include physical attacks, such as hitting, pushing, punching, as well as threatening with a weapon, psychological abuse, or Forced sexual activity.

There are many types of abuse which are as follows:

- Physical Abuse/violence:
- Sexual Abuse/violence
- Emotional and verbal Abuse/violence
- Economic Abuse/violence
- Deprivation of Rights:

Causes of domestic violence:

- Men’s agreement with sexist, patriarchal, and sexually hostile attitudes
- Violence-supportive social norms regarding gender and sexuality
- Male-dominated power relations in relationships and families
- Sexist and violence-supportive contexts and cultures
- Lack of domestic violence resources
- Violence in the community
- Childhood experience of intimate partner violence (especially among boys)
- Low socioeconomic status, poverty, and unemployment
- Lack of social connections and social capital
- Personality characteristics
- Alcohol and substance abuse
- Separation and other situational factors
- Female genital mutilation:
- Acid attacks.
- Killing in the name of family honor.
- Early marriages

Significance of the study:

This is a qualitative study of the experiences of domestic Violence against women in rural and urban areas are influenced by attitudes and values. These social attitudes and values in the country cause many to consider men as naturally superior to women and makes it a man’s right and responsibility to control the behavior of women. In a rather surprising way the very structures which are supposed to seek and protect the right of women contribute to domestic violence indirectly. The study is thereof geared towards this area to have a comprehensive view of domestic violence on women.

Violence of any form enviably must be adequately addressed well if we are committed to ensuring violence free society.

The study would be very significant in the sense that it will enlighten actors, gender activist in the bid to implementing and strengthening the domestic violence act. Again the study will bring to the knowledge of males who take the law into their own hands and inflict violence acts on women to be careful of the repercussion of their actions on the life of their partners.

Statement of the problem:

The study has been stated as **“Awareness of Domestic Violence of working women of Urban and Rural areas : A comparative study.”**

Objective of the Study:

1. To make comparison of awareness of physical violence of working women belongs to urban and rural areas.
2. To make comparison of awareness of emotional and psychological violence of working women belongs to urban and rural areas.
3. To make comparison of awareness of economical violence of working women belongs to urban and rural areas.

Hypothesis of the study:

1. There is no significant difference between awareness of physical violence of working women belongs to urban and rural areas.
2. There is no significant difference between awareness of emotional and psychological violence of working women belongs to urban and rural areas.
3. There is no significant difference between awareness of economical violence of working women belongs to urban and rural areas.

Delimitation of the study:

The present study is delimited to following:

1. The present study is delimited to urban and rural areas (Morta,Ghaziabad} area only.
2. This study is delimited to domestic violence with the describes areas.
3. This study is on age group [18-60] married working women of urban and rural area.
4. This study is on working women.

Review of literature

Keeping in view the stated purposes the researcher has made an attempt to survey the related literature in the field.

Sen Rukmin (2010) conducted a study “Women’s Subjectivities of suffering and legal Rhetoric on Domestic Violence”. The main objectives of the study were: (i) How violence has been understood by the women’s movement in India; (ii) An analysis of some legal documents that understand primarily physical violence; (iii) An exploration on the protection of women from domestic violence Act, 2005, which through legal makes a formal provision on translating suffering.

Choudhary (2011) in a study of rural Haryana, explored how women’s ownership of land and economic independence can help reduce (Violence against women). Women highlighted three important factors which have the potential to contain, reduce or eliminate violence: property, education and employment. However, these factors have complex linkages with VAW. Although they have the potential to facilitate more equitable relationships, the economic empowerment of women (through employment and earnings) challenges the ideology of men as “bread-earners” and can lead to further violence.

Research Methodology

It explains the development process used for the study, sources of data tapped, the channels prepared or adopted and utilized and the nature of data collected and its validity and reliability formed.

Following are the various aspect of research design which have been used in the present study

1. Method of study
- 2 Population of the study
3. Sample of the study
4. Procedure for sampling
5. Data gathering instruments
6. Description of tool used in the study
7. Statistical techniques used in the study

The present study consisted of 80 educated women for sample. The study sample selected by purposive sampling. The final sample included 80 educated women (40 joint families and 40 nuclear families).

Name of the Tool:

Domestic violence against women scale by Dr. Himanshi & Dr. Janki D. Moorjani.

Description of the tool used in the study:

This tool was developed by Dr. Himanshi & Dr. D. Moorjani (Agra) in the year 2008. It is published by National Psychological Corporation, Agra.

Statistical Techniques used:

In the present study the investigator has used the most appropriate statistical techniques available in the treatment of data. The mean and standard deviation of the scores on the variable were computed. Then “t” test was used to study the families in respect to DV.

Data analysis and interpretation

The present study title as Awareness of Domestic violence of working women's of urban and rural areas: A comparative study. The purpose of study was to see the difference in domestic violence between the working women of both area's. The chapter has been devoted to the analysis and interpretation of the result based on the data collected on the proposed variables.

The analysis and interpretation of data has been under taking in respect of hypothesis that have been formulated in the study,thus,this chapter presents the analysis ,interpretation and discussion of result ,hypothesis wise.

1. Hypothesis: - one States, “ There is no significance difference between the working women of Urban and rural areas regarding physical violence.

This hypothesis has been tested by applying “t” test of significance.

The following table shows result on account of testing this hypothesis.

Table -1

Table showing significance of difference of mean between urban and rural areas working women on physical violence area of domestic violence.

S.No.	Group of working women	No. Of women	Mean (X)	S.D ()	“t” value	Level of significance
1.	Rural areas women	40	33.12	12.76	0.28	Not significance at both areas
2.	Urban areas women	40	34.37	11.59		

Not significant at both area's

Calculates “t” value = 0.28

1.01 level = 2.64

Table value at

0.05 level = 1.99

Degree of freedom

$$N_1 + N_2 - 2$$

$$40 + 40 - 2 = 78$$

The above results illustrates that the calculated “t” value 0.28 is less than table value at both level .Hence the null hypothesis is accepted odd significance. It means that both the areas i.e. urban areas’ women and rural areas women are similar on the physical violence area of domestic violence.

Discussion: It means both group of women belonging to urban and rural areas do not differ significantly on domestic violence in physical abuse area of domestic violence. Observed difference in the mean score of both area 's is not real. It is due to sampling error, and some other unavailable circumstances.

2. The Hypothesis: - “There is no significant difference between the working women of urban and rural areas bon psychological violence area of domestic violence.

The hypothesis has been tested by applying “t” test of significance.

The following table shows result on account of testing this hypothesis.

Table -2

Table showing significance of difference of mean between urban and rural working women on psychological violence area of domestic violence.

S.No.	Group of working women	No. Of women	Mean (X)	S.D ()	“t” value	Level of significance
1.	Rural areas women	40	42.52	13.29	0.10	Not significance at both areas
2.	Urban areas women	40	42.02	13.32		

Not significant at both areas

Calculates “t” value = 0.10

$$1.01 \text{ level} = 2.64$$

Table value at

$$0.05 \text{ level} = 1.99$$

Degree of freedom

$$N_1 + N_2 - 2$$

$$40 + 40 - 2 = 78$$

The above results illustrates that the calculated “t” value 0.28 is less than table value at both level .Hence the null hypothesis is accepted odd significance. It means that both the areas i.e.urban areas’ women and rural areas women are similar on the physical violence area of domestic violence.

Discussion: It means both group of women belonging to urban and rural areas do not differ significantly on domestic violence in physical abuse area of domestic violence. Observed difference in the mean score of both groups is not real. It is due to sampling error, and some other unavailable circumstances.

3. The Hypothesis: - Three states, “There is no significant difference between the working women of urban and rural areas on economic violence area of domestic violence.

The hypothesis has been tested by applying “t” test of significance.

The following table shows result on account of testing this hypothesis.

Table -3

Table showing significance of difference of mean between urban and rural areas working women on economic violence area of domestic violence.

S.No.	Group of working women	No. Of women	Mean	S.D (σ)	“t” value	Level of significance
1.	Rural areas women	40	5.59	7.16	11.47	significance at both areas
2.	Urban areas women	40	21.65	8.45		

Significant at both areas

Calculates “t” value = 11.47

1.01 level = 2.64

Table value at

0.05 level = 1.99

Degree of freedom

$N_1 + N_2 - 2$

$40 + 40 - 2 = 78$

The above results illustrates that the calculated “t” value 11.47 is greater than table value at both level .Hence the null hypothesis is rejected at both level of significance. It means that both the areas i.e.urban and rural working women and urban areas women are differ on the economic violence area of domestic

violence. Urban areas working women are more aware to economic violence than rural areas working' women.

Discussion : It means both areas of women belonging to urban and rural areas working women are differ significantly on domestic violence in economic abuse area of domestic violence. Observed difference in the mean score of both groups is not real. It is due to sampling error ,and some other unavailable circumstances.

Findings

Main purpose of all scientific inquiries is to draw conclusions emerged from the findings that have been enlisted after the validation of hypothesis which were formulated and tested to achieve the objectives of the study. This chapter presents the findings and suggestions arrived by the researcher after the completion of the research. The findings are presented according to the objectives; and the suggestions are presented area specific.

Summary of findings

1. Urban area working women and rural working women are similar in their awareness of physical violence.
2. Urban area working women and rural working women are similar in their awareness of psychological violence.
3. Urban area working women are more aware then rural working women are in their awareness of economical violence.

On the basis of these findings we can say that:

The research though examined the effects of domestic violence on women; a relevant concern was to find out the reason for the increasing domestic violence in the state which shows positive development in literacy, health etc. The study also addresses a paradoxical situation in the state. Even though little percent of women were not aware of physical violence. Almost rural working women were so control by their families' conservative thinking. This explains a traditional outlook of the society of women not allowed to work. This will bring the financial power also in the hands of men which will pull her status down. According to the testing of hypothesis, it was found that there exists a significant difference economical violence but no significant difference between physical, psychological.

The research found out the help seeking behavior of the respondents, and their awareness about the existing services for their protection. Though the Domestic Violence Act of 2005 is a boon to the women in India, only 33% of them had heard about it. Those who have heard about it also were not sure about how it helps them. It was found that the services that are advertised through television had the major reach to the women population.

Though women choose to suffer in silence, they have opinions about what should have been the scenario. 94.8% of the respondents feel that husband does not have any right to beat up his wife, and 95% of the respondents feel that law has every right to interfere in the violence occurring at home. 99% of the respondents were of the view that it was the right of women to fight against atrocities against them by men. The review says that it is the responsibility of the society to tell them how to get this done.

Suggestions:

Domestic violence always has a negative effect on the victim. They undergo emotional, psychological and physical changes. Domestic violence has major impacts on the victims, families, society and its functioning. In order to put a stop to all these, there are various things which should be followed;

- **Awareness:** One of the major step to stop domestic violence is to make the apartment owners association aware about the negative drawbacks and harms of domestic violence. ***Set the rules against the practice of domestic violence and impose stringent punishments on the attacker.*** Gather more information and educate people about the detrimental effects of domestic violence. It is really not advisable that we ignore such things and instead raise a voice against it.
- **Need for stringent laws:** It is very important that the law against domestic violence has to be imposed stringently. Domestic violence was recognized as a grave criminal offense in 1983 by introducing the section ***498-A in the Indian penal code.*** This act helps in the elimination of domestic violence among family members.
- **Empowered Non-government organizations:** In order to curb domestic violence among people in apartments, individuals can also seek the help of non-government organizations. These organizations will make people aware about the consequences and get justice to the victim.
- **Seek police help:** In case of severe violence, individuals can seek legal help from the police and put an end to domestic violence. ***The police plays an important role in curbing domestic violence issues.*** Special courses on how to handle domestic violence issues are provided to the police. It is very important for them to take domestic violence as a serious health issue which can cause serious damage to families.
- **Be aware of the domestic violence facts:** In an apartment it is very important that the owner's association should make it mandatory for the residents to learn all the facts of domestic violence. They should never ignore any person who is a victim of domestic violence; instead they should alert all the authorities.
- **Encourage and not threaten:** Maximum number of individuals back off when they witness any kind of domestic violence. This happens due to the fear of being harmed or assets being damaged. People mostly turn a blind eye towards it and keep mum about such incidents. In such cases it is very important to organize a meeting and encourage people to come up with the solutions.
- **Counseling:** It is very important for every apartment to have a counselor who can council the individuals in terms of danger. Doing this will further make people courageous and come forward if they are a victim or if they witness any such incident.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY:

The study is about domestic violence and its effects on women; but it covers several areas such as changing status of women, the causes and nature and domestic violence, its implications on several areas, stress and domestic violence, the coping methods used by victims, awareness of victims about rules and regulations, their help seeking behavior etc. The study will prove helpful to law enforcing officials to make necessary changes in the existing policies in order to bring down domestic violence. The suggestions can be taken into consideration by nongovernment organizations, counselors, activists, health care institutions, police, media etc. Even though the respondents of the study are from Ghaziabad district only, the findings and suggestions can be used for all over the state, owing to the similar nature of our state.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH:

Scope of further study is immense and diverse in the area of domestic violence, as it is still a spreading menace of our society. Each and every factors studied in this research can be a standalone topic of research, as each factor contains several possibilities for further research. There are huge possibilities for further research in allied topic such as the effects of domestic violence on children. During the course of the study, it was also found out that some women and their families are taking advantage of the present scenario after the Domestic Violence Act 2005. They put men in distress coming out with Manipulated cases. An attempt can also be made to study about the misuse of the act, and its effects on men.

CONCLUSION

Domestic violence against women is an age old phenomena. Women were always considered weak, vulnerable and in a position to be exploited. A life cycle approach is useful to examine the situation of domestic violence against women. Due to several economic and social factors, the incidence of domestic violence against women is increasing in many societies. The nature and extent of domestic violence vary depending upon the socio-Cultural setup and value system. The research studies and surveys conducted by individuals generally produce higher estimates of violence than official records. However, they are also assumed to underestimate the actual extent of domestic violence against women. For a variety of reasons, women may fail to report violence that takes place in the family. The domestic violence is mainly reported in form of emotional violence; however, nature and Frequency of domestic violence vary depending upon the socio-cultural Variables. The main reasons of domestic violence are related to economic spheres; however, other social factors also influence the nature and frequency of domestic violence.

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