



To examine the causes related to Domestic Violence against married women

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Abstract: Domestic violence is the most universal form of violence against women. Domestic violence can occur in many forms and take many dimensions. It can be physical, sexual, social, psychological or economical. Domestic violence is also known as domestic abuse, spousal abuse, battering, family violence and intimate partner violence. There are many causative factors which lead to domestic violence which lead to a broken family. Violence also occurs due to their partner addiction to alcohol, gender role, masculinity, frustration due to economic difficulties, violence due to extra marital affairs and due to personality disorder and other factors as well. The objective of the study is to examine the causes related to domestic violence against married women. The main findings shows that while examining about the roots cause of increasing rate of crimes against women it is evident that there are numerable factors that fuel the growth of all these social evils which result in the overall degrading of the well being of the state and thus require serious attention by all concern in the society. But in this present study the roots cause of violence is alcoholism, gender roles, masculinity, personality disorder of their partner, extra marital affairs, trust issues and other factors. To conclude, domestic violence need to be demolish and should not exist anymore as it had affects many family as well as the society and country as a whole so there need to change men's general view of violence, issue policies for women protection, established awareness programmes for both women and men.

Keywords: Domestic violence, causative factors of violence

Introduction:

Domestic violence is the most universal form of violence against women. Domestic violence can occur in many forms and take many dimensions. It can be physical, sexual, social, psychological or economical. Domestic violence is also known as domestic abuse, spousal abuse, battering, family violence and intimate partner violence. Research from several parts of the world indicates that perpetrators of domestic violence are predominantly male and that the violence is usually perpetrated by the male on his female sexual partner. The term domestic violence is very wide in its amplitude and encompasses in its scope all types of violence or cruelty resorted to within the precincts of a home. Victims of domestic violence are women. Domestic violence against women is generally viewed as a result of gender inequality and unequal balance of power. Men who perpetrate violence against their partner generally demonstrated their authoritative power and position as the head of the family as well as to control their partner. In Meghalaya the instance of family discard and broken homes seem to be on the increase where most of the household are run by the single mother in which most of them had been separated from their partner and some of them are divorced this all happened because of their abusive partner.

Causes of Domestic Violence:

There are many causative factors which lead to domestic violence which lead to a broken family. Violence also occurs due to their partner addiction to alcohol, gender role, masculinity, frustration due to economic difficulties, violence due to extra marital affairs and due to personality disorder. Men use violence as a way of securing and maintaining of male dominance in the family. Another cause of domestic violence are a lot of variables like low socio economic background of the women, education of women, age at first

marriage, ethnic and religious categories, women's autonomy, work status of women and standard of living, marital conflict, maladjustment in marriage, frustration due to work pressure, trust issue. Domestic violence can also cause due to being young parents like having no knowledge on how to deal with the situation when the violence occurred, unemployment and self defence.

Review of Related Literature:

Oluremi Dorcas Fareo (2015) has conducted a study to look into cases of domestic violence against women in Nigeria like the types, causes, effects, and management and the result revealed that many women do not report the abuse as they are ashamed that their marriages are not working and for most women in Nigeria, divorce is not an option at all. So they suffer in silence. **Baruah Banashree (2015)** has conducted a study to find out the causes of domestic violence against women and to study the impact of domestic violence on the abused women, their children and their intra-family relations and the result revealed that victims from middle class families reported dowry, suspected love affairs before marriage, suspected extra-marital affairs and unemployment of husband as the major causes of domestic violence against women. In this present study alcoholism of husband was found to be the major cause of violence among rural victims and among the families from low income group. It can be concluded that it may be due to illiteracy, traditional mind-set of women and ignorance about the law among the women in India. **Jura Florence, Bukaliya Richard (2015)** has been conducted the study on the need to continue to promote, advertise and educate the community members about the reasons behind the problem and the result revealed that the Cycle of Violence was still valid in explaining a significant number of domestically violent behaviour in men, Poor communications skills The stereotypes that the culture has cultivated tends to get a significant support in explaining domestic violence, domestic violence has its roots in the upbringing of children through observation, stress and frustration from workplace, low socio-economic status of the participants was indicated as a cause of domestic violence in men. All participants in this study recognized that alcohol is a contributing factor in domestic violence cases in the sense that it can contribute to the severity of violence. **Jamir Wangshimenla, Warjri A.P et al (2014)** has conducted a study to find out the root cause of crimes and discrimination against women in East Khasi hills District of Meghalaya and the result the major reasons concerning crime against women is alcoholism which is very common in our society. It is a fact that once a person gets intoxicated, it encourages the individual to indulge in all sorts of misbehavior which often culminate into violence and crimes against women. **Sunny (2003)** has conducted a study on the major types of violence in term of causative factors for violence, nature, manifestation, frequency and consequences for victims and the result that violence occurs due to alcoholism, due to insufficient dowry, frustration due to economic difficulties, violence due to extra-marital affairs and due to personality disorder.

Objective of the study:

1. To examine the causes related to domestic violence against married women.

Research Question:

1. What are the main causes related to domestic violence against married women?

Research Methodology:

A purposive sampling method was used for the collection of data. A semi-structured interview method was used as a tool for the collection of the data in which a set of predetermined question was form in order to cover up the topic of the study.

Sample:

Ninety five respondents were selected as a sample for the study which was residing in different localities of East Khasi Hill District, Meghalaya.

Analysis and Interpretation of the Data:

The collected data were subjected to statistical analysis and it is analyzed using Percentage.

These are some of the factors which lead to the cause of domestic violence against married women.

They are:

1. Alcohol

Table 1.1: Is alcohol plays a major role which leads to the cause of domestic violence

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Drink everyday	2	2.1
Create a problem in the family like threaten or beat them up	3	3.16
Does not create a healthy environment in the family	9	9.48
None of the above	9	9.48
All of the above	72	75.78
Total	95	100

Table 1.1 indicate whether alcohol plays a major role where the data shows that majority 75.78% of the respondents responds that alcohol had play major role which lead to the cause of domestic violence which made them to face the entire problem which had been mention above.

2. Unemployment

Table 1.2: Causes of unemployment of the respondent partner

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Lack of employment opportunity	20	21.05
Lack of provision for occupational mobility	1	1.05
Always make an excuse to go for work	3	3.16
None of the above	71	74.74
Total	95	100

Table 1.2 indicate the causes of unemployment of the respondent partner. The data shows that majority 74.74% have no problem with unemployment followed by 21.05% they had lack of employment opportunity, 3.16% they always make an excuse to go to work, 1.05% they has a lack of provision for occupational mobility.

3. Financial problem

Table 1.3: Financial problem faced by the family of the respondents

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Limited money to meet the requirement in the family	35	36.85
Lack of financial management skills	7	7.37
Low saving rates	1	1.05
Unexpected decrease in income	1	1.05
Health and medical issues	1	1.05
None of the above	46	48.43
All of the above	4	4.2
Total	95	100

Table 1.3 indicate whether the respondents faced any kind of financial problem. The data shows that majority 48.43% of the respondents had no financial problem, 36.85% faced financial problem like limited money to meet the requirement of the family, 7.37% lack of financial management skills.

4. Masculinity

Table 1.4: Masculinity

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Dominate you	30	31.58
Think they are more powerful	18	18.95
Taking control of everything in the family in a negative way	9	9.48
Always challenge them in everything they do	2	2.1
None of the above	4	4.21
All of the above	32	33.68
Total	95	100

Table 1.4 indicate the masculinity where the data shows that majority 33.68% of the respondents husband shows their power of masculinity, 31.58% always dominate the respondents, 18.95% they always think that they are more powerful than them (respondents), 9.48% they take control of everything in the family in a negative way, 4.21% there is no power of masculinity in the respondents husbands, 2.1% they always challenges them in everything they do.

5. Gender roles

Table 1.5: A strong belief in gender role

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Not doing the household chores	2	2.1
Never look down on themselves	24	25.27
Treated them and other female family as inferior	4	4.21
Never communicate well in the family	2	2.1
Always expected that they should obey as per their command	35	36.85
Always make their own decision without consulting them	2	2.1
None of the above	4	4.21
All of the above	22	23.16
Total	95	100

Table 1.5 indicate the strong belief in gender roles where the data shows that majority 36.85% they always expected that they should obey as per their commands, 25.27% they never look down on themselves, 23.16% of the respondents partner had a strong belief in gender roles which had been mention in all of the above, 4.21% they treated them and other female family member as inferior, 4.21% of the respondents had no problem with this issues of gender roles, 2.1% they do not help with the household chores, 2.1% they never communicate well in the family, 2.1% they always made their own decision without consulting them.

6. Low socio economic background

Table 1.6: Low socio economic background of the respondents

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Their low academic qualification	2	2.1
Unemployed	16	16.86
Coming from low socio economic background	20	21.05
Low standard of living	2	2.1
None of the above	53	55.79
All of the above	2	2.1
Total	95	100

Table 1.6 indicate whether low socio economic background of the respondents where the data shows that majority 55.79% of the respondents had no problem with the issue of low socio economic background, 21.05% of the respondents are coming from low socio economic background, 16.86% of the respondents are unemployed, 2.1% of the respondents achieved low academic qualification, 2.1% of the respondents have a low standard of living, 2.1% of the respondents was being abuse because they lack of all of the above which had been mention.

7. Trust issues

Table 1.7: Trust issues between the respondents and their partners

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Negative thought	51	53.69
Unwillingness to open up	8	8.42
Avoiding commitment	3	3.16
Assuming of hurting them (partner)	8	8.42
Isolating themselves from the respondents	3	3.16
None of the above	18	18.94
All of the above	4	4.21
Total	95	100

Table 1.7 indicates the trust issue of the respondent and their partner where the data shows that majority 53.69% they always had a negative thought toward them, 18.94% they had no problem with trust issues, 8.42% they are unwillingness to open up about themselves, 8.42% they always assumed them that they are trying to hurt them, 4.21% of the respondents had to suffered because of trust issue which is all of the above, 3.16% they always avoid commitment, 3.16% they always isolate themselves from the respondents.

8. Marital conflict

Table 1.8: Marital conflict between the respondents and their partner

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Being avoided by the husband	15	15.79
Poor communication skills	10	10.53
Volatility	5	5.27
Hostility	22	23.16
Detachment	14	14.74
None of the above	21	22.1
All of the above	8	8.41
Total	95	100

Table 1.8 indicates marital conflict between the respondents and their partner where the data shows that majority 23.16% they always hostile towards the respondents, 22.1% they had no problem with the issue of marital conflict, 15.79% are being avoided by their husband, 14.74% they are detachable towards the respondents, 10.53% there always poor communication with their partner, 8.41% they had a problem which had been mention in all of the above, 5.27% they had an unpredictable behaviour.

9. Maladjustment in marriage

Table 1.9: Maladjustment in marriage

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Lack of communication	12	12.63
Lack of affection	9	9.47
Lack of agreement	5	5.27
Inability to react successful to their demand	43	45.27
None of the above	9	9.47
All of the above	17	17.89
Total	95	100

Table 1.9 indicates maladjustment in marriage of the respondents where the data shows that majority 45.27% inability to react successfully to their demands, 17.89% of the respondents had to suffered which had mention in all of the above, 12.63% there always a lack of communication, 9.47% there always a lack of affection towards the respondents, 9.47% there is an adjustment in their marriage of the respondents, 5.27% there always a lack of agreement from the side of their partner.

10. Extra marital affair

Table 1.10: Extra marital affair of their partner

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Unfaithful/cheating	30	31.58
Change their attitude towards them	12	12.64
Increasingly unreachable to communicate with their partner	2	2.1
None of the above	41	43.16
All of the above	10	10.52
Total	95	100

Table 1.10 indicates extra marital affair where the data shows that majority 43.16% there partner had no extra marital affair, 31.58% they are unfaithful or cheated on them, 12.64% change their attitude towards them, 10.52% had to face all of the above which are their partner cheated or being unfaithful to them, change their attitude toward by showing no more affection toward the respondents, unreachable to communicate with them, 2.1% increasingly unreachable to communicate with their partner.

11. Work pressure

Table 1.11: Work pressure of the respondents' husband

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Job insecurity	18	18.95
Fear of his work situation	6	6.32
Reduced motivation	2	2.1
Strained co-worker relation	6	6.32
None of the above	62	65.26
All of the above	1	1.05
Total	95	100

Table 1.11 indicates the work pressure of the respondent's husband where the data shows that majority 65.26% there is no problem with their husband working situation, 18.95% they always had feeling of job insecurity, 6.32% fear of their work situation, 6.32% strained co-worker relation, 2.1% they always had no motivation to work, 1.05% all of the above.

12. Religious dispute

Table 1.12: Religious dispute between the respondents and their partner

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Both don't belong in the same religion	25	26.32
Does not respect their religion	5	5.27
Does not appreciate with what they are doing related their religion	1	1.05
Does not allow their children to follow their religion	20	21.05
Always force them to follow their religion	1	1.05
None of the above	33	34.74
All of the above	10	10.52
Total	95	100

Table 1.12 indicate the differences in religion where the data shows that majority 34.74% of the respondents belong in the same religion, 26.32% both do not belong in the same religion, 21.05% they does not allow their children to follow the religion of the respondents, 10.52% of the respondents had problem with all of the above, 5.27% they does not respect the religion of the respondents, 1.05% does not appreciate with what they are doing related to their religion, 1.05% they always force them to follow their religion.

13. Personality disorder

Table 1.13: Personality disorder of the respondent partner

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Being judgemental	10	10.53
Being possessive	12	12.64
Controlling	26	27.38
Changing their mood constantly	3	3.16
None of the above	9	9.48
All of the above	35	36.81
Total	95	100

Table 1.13 indicate personality disorder of the respondent partner where the data shows that majority 36.81% there is a mental imbalance of the respondents partner which cause to domestic violence which had been mention in all of the above, 27.38% are being controlled by their partner, 12.64% are being possessive, 10.53% are being judgemental, 9.48% of the respondent partner do not have a mental imbalance in them, 3.16% they always change their mood constantly.

14. Actions of the respondent's partner

Table 1.14: Actions of the respondent's partner

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Intimidation	1	1.05
Coercion	4	4.21
Harassment	7	7.37
Isolating them from their family/friends	5	5.27
Yelling at them continuously	60	63.15
None of the above	5	5.27
All of the above	13	13.68
Total	95	100

Table 1.14 indicates the actions of the respondent partner where the data shows that majority 63.15% their partner yelling at them continuously even for a small mistake, 13.68% of the respondents had experienced all of the above, 7.37% their partner always harassed them, 5.27% of the respondents had not experienced which had been mention above, 5.27% they always isolate them from their friends, family, 4.21% they always coercion towards the respondents, 1.05% they always intimidate the respondents.

15. Young parents

Table 1.15: Being a young parents of the respondents

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Lack of knowledge on parenting	10	10.53
Lack of power to speak up	5	5.27
Lack of knowledge on how to deal when the violence occurred	10	10.53
	13	13.68
None of the above	46	48.42
All of the above	11	11.57
Total	95	100

Table 1.15 indicate being a young parent of the respondents where the data collected shows that majority 48.42% had no issue with being a young parent, 13.68% lack of source of income, 11.57% they had problem with all of the above, 10.53% they had lack of knowledge on parenting, 10.53% they had lack of knowledge on how to deal with the situation, 5.27% they had lack of power to speak up.

16. Self defence

Table 1.16: Self defence of the respondents

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Showing their attitude toward their partner	6	6.32
Physically fight back	15	15.79
Replied back	24	25.27
Seek help from their neighbour/friends/family when the violence occurred	4	4.21
None of the above	13	13.68
All of the above	33	34.73
Total	95	100

Table 1.16 indicate self defence of the respondents where the data shows that majority 34.68% of the respondents had choose all of the above in order to defend themselves, 25.27% of the respondents replied back, 15.79% they physically fought back, 13.68% they do not defend themselves but instead they just kept quiet, 6.32% they show their attitude toward their partners, 4.21% they seek help from their neighbour/friends/family when the violence occurred.

17. Conflict with the in-laws

Table 1.17: Conflict with the in-laws

No. of Items	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
They always have high expectation from them	3	3.16
They are not satisfied with whatever they do	2	2.1
Always blame them for the action of their partner	3	3.16
Always on the side of their husband when any situation happen in the family	8	8.42
Never support them financially, emotionally and physically	6	6.32
None of the above	66	69.47
All of the above	7	7.37
Total	95	100

Table 1.17 indicate the conflict with the in-laws where the data shows that majority 69.47% of the respondents had no conflict with the in laws, 8.42% their in-laws are always on the side of their husband when any situation happened in the family, 7.37% of the respondents had a conflict with their in laws which had mention in all of the above, 6.32% they never support the respondents financially, emotionally and physically, 3.16% they always have high expectation from the respondents, 3.16% always blame the respondents for the action of their husband, 2.1% they are not satisfied with whatever the respondents do.

Main Finding and Discussion:

The main findings shows that while examining about the roots cause of increasing rate of crimes against women it is evident that there are numerable factors that fuel the growth of all these social evils which result in the overall degrading of the well being of the state and thus require serious attention by all concern in the society. Violence occurs due to alcoholism, due to gender role, masculinity, frustration due to economic difficulties, violence due to extra marital affairs and due to personality disorder. Men use violence as a way of securing and maintaining of male dominance in the family. Whether in matrilineal or patriarchal society, women are being considered to hold a low status in the family, society and in a country as a whole

in which they are always being discriminated or look down by men especially when they are financially dependent on them.

The study found that though Meghalaya unemployment rate fluctuated substantially during this generation but still people are willing to take up any job or work to support the family so in this case there is no problem with unemployment. The power of masculinity had play vital roles in the life of a man in which they felt that they had the authority over everything in the family as well as in the life of their wives by taking control and dominate them. On the basis of strong belief in gender roles, this study found out that majority of the respondents' partner always expected that they should obey as per their commands, controlling them, always made a decision on their own without consulting their wife. This shows that gender inequality still exist in which men shows their power of superiority whereas women are inferior and expected them to be under their control.

The social background of the victims of domestic violence revealed that women belonging to families living below poverty line and lower class run higher risk of being a victim of domestic violence. Related with the issues of trust, it was found that majority of the respondents' partner always had a negative thought toward them by accusing them that they had an affair with other men beside them, always questioning about their where about, what are they doing the whole day, with whom they are sitting, talking or going in case they had to go somewhere. Related with maladjustment in marriage of the respondents, this study found out that majority of the respondents find it difficult to react successfully to their demands like preparing meals at the right time, do not know how to cook delicious foods, not listening to them properly when they are talking, when the respondents kept on nagging their partner to stop their bad habits. Some of the respondent's partner is unfaithful or cheated on them; they even change their attitude toward them by not showing any affection toward them, not spend quality time, and started to increasingly unreachable to communicate or to know their whereabouts of the partner. Poor communication skills were as well can be the root cause of domestically violent behaviour in spousal relationship.

Young parents may lack the experience and skills needed to effectively manage the conflict and problem in their relationship leading to misunderstanding and potential, lack of communication skills like do not have the power to speak up and do not know on how to maintain the family which leads to the escalation of violence. With regard to the conflict with the in-laws this present study found out that majority of the respondents had no conflict with the in laws since most of the respondents are Khasi so in our society which is a matrilineal system actually there are no partiality between both the parties. Whenever the violence occurred in the family of the respondents the in-laws were always on the side of the respondents and they will always blame their son that it was his fault of misbehaving towards his wife and the whole family.

Conclusion and Suggestion:

Violence in the home is one of those uncomfortable subjects that have to be debated in the public domain that this is not a private matter anymore as it is a societal issue about which every thinking person ought to be concern. It affects not just the women who are subjected to the violence, but also the children as well who faces it, when the children see this odd behaviour every time at home their little minds are just scared and developing in slow and sometimes, or it generally happens that when they grew young they also perform the role as his father. Domestic violence seems to have increased beyond imagination. Domestic violence tends to be passed down the generation that the children who have experienced violence are more likely to be violent towards their wives and children in adult life which in another specific term we called the "Cycle of Violence". Though women today have proved themselves in almost every field of life affirming that they are no less than men, the reports of violence against them are much larger in number than against men. The possible reasons are many and are diversified over the length and breadth of the society, states and country as a whole. To conclude this present study suggests that in order to demolish domestic violence there is a need to change our traditional social system and ensure their social and economic rights as well. Actually, to remove domestic violence from the society different steps should be taken by the government as well as the people of the country. It also suggest that there should be a change men's general view of violence, issue policies for women protection, established awareness programmes for both women and men.

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