



## **Experience of domestic violence among married women**

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### **Abstract**

Domestic violence is a global issue reaching across national boundaries as well as socio-economic, cultural, racial and class distinction. This problem is not widely dispersed geographically, but its incidence is also extensive, making it a typical and accepted behavior. Domestic violence is wide spread, deeply ingrained and has serious impacts on women's health and well-being. It is a pattern of coercive controls that one person exercises over another. Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, assault, battery, sexual assault and or other abusive behavior perpetrated by as intimate partner against another. This descriptive study deals with the family and marital life condition of the respondents, their experience of domestic violence, their mental health and impact of domestic violence on mental health of the respondents. The Sample size of the study consists of 100 respondents from the universe. Probability sampling method is used to select the respondents. The findings of the study are discussed in the full paper.

**Keywords:** domestic violence, married women and physical violence

### **Introduction**

Domestic violence is defined as consistently abusive behavior by one person against another involved in intimate relationship. Domestic violence isn't limited to physical abuse alone and incorporates sexual, emotional and mental abuse as well. It has controlled and completely suppressed the partners will and manipulate them. This is achieved by behavior than can be classified as frightening, intimidating, terrorizing, hurtful, and humiliating, blaming, injuring, wounding and so on

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Violence against women is often accompanied by emotionally abusive and controlling behavior, and thus is a part of a systematic pattern of dominance and control.

The researcher has interested in studying the problems belongs to domestic violence faced by women and gain knowledge about the prevalence of domestic violence.

### **Significance of the study**

Domestic violence is a burden on numerous sectors of the social system and quietly, yet dramatically, affects the development of a nation and battered cost nations fortunes in

terms of law enforcement, healthcare, lost labor, and general progress in development. These costs don't affect only present generation, what begins as an assault by one person on another reverberates through the family and the community and future. It is the most common form of violence against women. It affects women across the life span from sex selective abortion of female fetuses to forced suicide and abuse and is evident, to some degree, in every society in the world.

One in every four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime; 1.3 million women are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year. 73% of family violence victims are female. According to India's National Crime Records Bureau once in every five minutes an incident of domestic violence occurs in India. It is a serious and major social problem in India

This study tries to focus about domestic violence and its consequences among the married women, and how men treat their spouses and how women reacted to the violence.

K. Kavitha Maheswari and S.Nidharshana (2016) conducted a study on influence of domestic violence on mental health of the married women and revealed that there is significant difference between the victims and non-victims of domestic violence with regard to their mental health and in turn it is inferred that married women who undergo domestic violence perceive poor mental health.

### **Objectives of the study**

- To understand the demographic profile of respondents
- To understand the experience of domestic violence among the respondents
- To describe the physical and psychological effects due to domestic violence faced by the respondents

## Research Design

Burns and Grove (2003:195) define a research design as “a blue print for conducting a study with maximum control. Descriptive research design is used here to collect the information and facts about domestic violence faced by women in Trichy district. This study deals with the family and marital life condition of the respondents, their experience of domestic violence and their psychological impacts.

## Universe

Universe of the study consists of married self help group women and is conducted in Trichy district, Tamil Nadu. They constitute the universe of the study.

## Sample size

Sample size of the study consists of 100 respondents from the universe.

## Sampling technique

Probability sampling method is used to collect information. Under this method simple random sampling (lottery method) is used by the researcher.

## Tools used for data collection

Self prepared interview schedule was used for data collection.

## Major findings

### Findings on personal data

34% of respondents belonged to the age group of 31-35 years. 57% of respondents are home makers. 72% of respondents belong to Hindu religion. 51% of respondents spouse's working in private sectors. 54% of respondents' spouses belong to the age group of 36-45. 74% have the age difference of 1-5 years between them and their spouses. 73% of respondents underwent arranged marriage. 27% of respondents have 6-10 years of marital life. 52% of respondents have 2 children. Majority of the respondents having children below 15 years of age. 71% are from nuclear family.

### Findings related to family condition

24% of respondents felt that there is no conflict between them and their parents in law due to cohabitation and remaining respondents said conflicts are due to lack of unity, misunderstanding and dowry problems. Vast majority 94% of the respondents spouses are not alcoholics. 2% of respondents said that their partner's consume alcohol in front of their children. 57% of the respondents spouses taking decisions in their families. Vast majority 93% of respondents opined that their suggestions and decisions are accepted by their family members.

### Findings on domestic violence

Majority of the respondents 72% felt that they are dominated by their spouses. 70% of respondents expresses that their spouses are not giving respect to their emotions and feelings and their spouses getting angry when the respondents talk with some other persons, having jealous and suspicious thought towards the respondents. Reactions of the respondents spouses

towards respondents while interacting with other male persons are beating, scolding and suspecting them. 80% of the respondents felt that they are criticized by their spouses about their physical appearance and behaviour in front of others and 6% of the respondents spouses called the respondent using abasement names.

79% of respondents felt that children affected psychologically due to domestic violence. 76% opined that they are not experiencing domestic violence. 6% of respondents suffered by physical violence, 13% of respondents suffered by psychological violence, 1% of respondents suffered by sexual violence, 1% of respondents suffered by emotional violence. 4% of respondents suffered by physical violence when their partner consume liquor, 5% of respondents suffered by physical violence due to argument, 15% of respondents suffered by physical violence due to their spouses suspicious attitudes. 20% of the respondents spouses beat the respondents and their legs, hands and body are affected due to physical violence. 16% of respondents said that the physical violence experienced by them is increasing in their marital life. 1% of respondents felt that physical violence started in the very first day of marital life, 19% of respondents said physical violence started within one year after marriage, 4% of respondents said physical violence started 2-3 years after marriage.

### Findings on respondents' response to domestic violence

14% of the respondents maintain silence when they face physical violence and 5% of respondents opined that physical violence leads to take treatment in hospital in their marital life and 7% of respondents said that they are experiencing physical violence in marital life unlimitedly. 90% of respondents' spouses are not giving respect to the respondent parents. 95% of respondent spouses allowed respondent to speak with their parents. 61% of respondents' husband and parent in law demanded dowry for marriage and 24% of respondents' spouses or parent in law harassed the respondent for dowry. 7% of husband sexually harassed by their spouses and they experienced violence in sexual relationship and forced to have intercourse and also faced criticism by spouse during intercourse and they are scaring to have sexual intercourse with their husband and their spouses have extra marital relationship. 98% of spouses not having the problem of spouses comparison of them with other women. 38% of respondents felt that luxurious incur expenditure more than salary is the reason for arising domestic violence. 77% opined that domestic violence has psychological impact and 23% of respondents get suffered in their work life due to domestic violence. 77% of respondents don't get suffered in their work life due to domestic violence. 89% of respondents felt that they are able to bringing up the children. 69% of respondents said that domestic violence takes place of home.

## Conclusion

Through the research domestic violence affects the psychological and physical health of women. It is a socio-economic problem rather than a private issue imbedded in within a family. There are so many policies and laws implemented by the government to prevent domestic violence in India. But domestic violence evil can't be preventing completely in our country. It shows India still as a barbarian.

culture.

It is not only a women issue but also a problem that threatens the harmony within our family. This social evil affects the young children in such families to have wrong models, to become negative personality with behavioral problems.

Violence does not hurt only the person who has experienced it. Everyone stands to prevent domestic violence in our country.

- Awareness about women help line 1091
- Volunteer at a local domestic violence shelter or other organisation that helps survivors or works to prevent violence
- Raise children to respect others especially women. Teach children to treat others as they would like to be treated
- Get involved in programmes that teach young people to solve problems without violence
- Family is the basic and primary institution for every human being. So every member in the family should know the values, ethics moral behaviour, mannerism of the family and the parents should teach moral values and behave as a role model to their children.
- Proper marital counselling to deal with these kinds of problems along with the psychological support will be of greater use. The availability of such services should be ensured and help the victims to make use of those services.

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