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Protection of Women against Domestic Violence: A Study of Working Women in Udaipur District

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Abstract:

This Research paper is an attempt to assess Domestic Violence against women. The objective of this research paper was to study the domestic violence against working women in Udaipur district. Primary data were collected through questionnaire based on four point response scale. 50 married working women of 20-40 age group was selected for study to know their relationship with their partners. The total of the points revealed the extent of abused environment in women's domestic life. While assessing the domestic violence against women, the responses of respondents have been analyzed to discern the extent to which they are abused by their partners. The research revealed that many women are the victims of domestic abuse. There are different forms of abuse, and not everyone experiences all of them. Domestic Violence can be described as when one adult in a relationship misuses power to control another. It is the establishment of control and fear in a relationship through violence and other forms of abuse. The violence may involve physical abuse, sexual assault and threats. Sometimes it's more subtle, like making someone feel worthless, not letting them have any money, or not allowing them to leave the home. Social isolation and emotional abuse can have long-lasting effects as well as physical violence.

Key words: Domestic Violence, Social isolation, emotional abuse, misuses power

1. Introduction

Domestic Violence can be described as when one adult in a relationship misuses power to control another. It is the establishment of control and fear in a relationship through violence and other forms of abuse. The violence may involve physical abuse, sexual assault and threats. Sometimes it's more subtle, like making someone feel worthless, not letting them have any money, or not allowing them to leave the home. Social isolation and emotional abuse can have long-lasting effects as well as physical violence.

Domestic Violence isn't just hitting, or fighting, or an occasional argument. It's an abuse of power. The abuser tortures and controls the victim by calculated threats, intimidation, and physical violence. Although both men and women can be abused, in most cases, the victims are women. Children in homes where there is domestic violence are also abused or neglected. Although the woman is usually the primary target, violence is sometimes directed toward children, and sometimes toward family members and friends. Many women in India are the victims of domestic abuse. Domestic violence can take many forms and variations and can happen once in a while for all at the same time. Domestic violence can be Psychological Abuse, Social Abuse, Financial Abuse, Physical Assault or Sexual Assault. Violence can be criminal and includes physical assault or injury (hitting, beating, shoving, etc.).

Acts of physical violence by the husband against his wife include: pushing, shaking, throwing something at her, slapping, arm twisting, hair pulling, punching, kicking, dragging, beating, trying to choke or burn her on purpose, and threatening her or attacking her with a weapon. Acts of emotional violence by the husband against the wife include: saying or doing something to humiliate her in front of others, threatening to hurt or harm her or someone close to her, or insulting her or making her feel bad about her.

2. Research Methodology

- Objective
The objective of this research paper is to study the domestic violence against working women in Udaipur district.
- Locale of study
The study was conducted in Udaipur district of Rajasthan.

3. Method of Data Collection

A questionnaire was designed to decide if working women are living in an abusive situation. The questionnaire was carrying questions based on 4-point response scale ranging from “Frequently”, “Sometimes”, “Rarely”, to “Never”. Each possible answer had assigned points to it. The totaling of the points helped in scoring abused index.

4. Rating Points

Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
3	2	1	0

Table 1

5. Abuse Index

0 – 14	Non-abusive relationship
15 - 36	Moderately Abusive
37 – 93	Seriously Abusive
94 or Above	Dangerously Abusive

Table 2

6. The Sample

The sample size of 100 women employees was selected randomly from Udaipur city. But out of which only 67 employees answered properly. So for our study, we considered only 50 respondents.

7. Demographic profile of sample

Sample size for study	50
Gender	Female
Marital status	Married
Age group	20-40
Profile	Working

Table 3

8. Findings

The extent of abusive situation among respondents in their domestic life has been concluded in the figure no.1

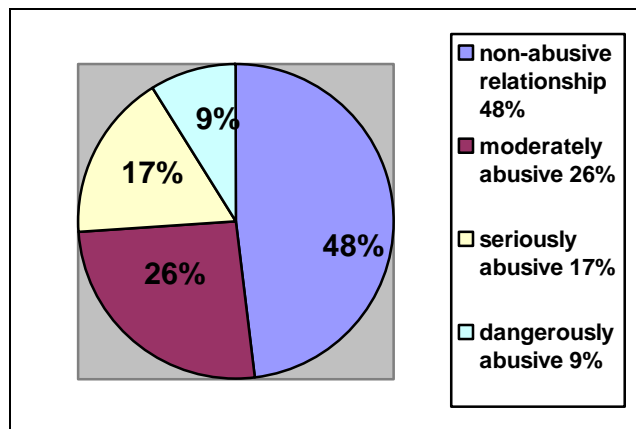


Figure 1

Figure no. 1 shows that 48% respondents live in a non-abusive situation. They scored in 0-14 points. 26% respondents have experienced some level of violence and scored 15-36 points. The seriously abusive category includes those respondents who scored 37-93 points. Lastly, there are 9% women who faces dangerously abusive environment.

9. Conclusion

- 48% women scored 0 – 14. They live in a Non-abusive relationship. The sorts of strains they experience are not unusual, and their partners deal with them non-violently.

- The score of 26% women was 15 – 36. They definitely live in a home where they have experienced some violence at least once in a while. It may be that this is a relationship where the violence is just beginning, or perhaps for some reason, it has stopped at this level of severity. But in a new relationship, there is good reason to expect it will eventually escalate into more serious forms and may occur more frequently.
- In serious abusive situation 17% women scored 37 – 93. They are in a seriously abusive situation that can, under outside pressures, or with the strain of a family emergency, move into the dangerously severe range. In a seriously abusive situation, serious injury is quite probable if it has not already occurred. Much of this abuse is assault, pure and simple, by a violent person. If this is their score-range, they may want to consider finding counseling or some kind of support group for themselves, or consider sorting things out after going to a shelter. Their partner may get help from counseling or a support group for those who are abusive to others, if he/she admits to the abuse and is willing to seek help. Couple counseling is not helpful when there has been abuse in the relationship.
- Only 9% women scored 94 – 108 and they need to consider even more seriously the option of leaving the relationship, at least temporarily. Counseling and support groups are available in most areas through battered women's shelters to help women get out of such an abusive relationship, since it is often hard to do without support.

10. References

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