



Domestic Violence Against Women: Reason For Stay

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Abstract

Domestic violence affects the lives of many women across the world. Violence against women has been clearly defined as a form of inequity in numerous documents. There are various risk factors for domestic violence present in the society but one of the main causes why domestic violence prevails and continues is the lack of alternatives among the victims. Women and children may be economically dependent on abusers. Elderly people and children may feel too powerless to escape. Language or cultural barriers may isolate victims from seeking help. Victims generally feel, it is better to suffer in silence than to be separated from loved ones. They keep hoping for improvement, but it is normally observed that, without help, violence gets worse. Victims may also feel helpless, guilty or worthless. They may feel ashamed of the poor quality of the relationship. Abusers may fear the consequences of seeking help, unaware that continuing as before may be even more dangerous. Family members may be unaware of the help that is available from the local agencies. They may also be unaware of their legal rights.

Material and method:- A community based study was conducted in Lucknow city. 300 women of 15-49 years age group residing in the community were selected by stratified random sampling. A pre design and pre-tested questionnaire was used to assess the effect of domestic violence on women's health.

Result:- Findings revealed that above fifty percent of the respondents were not staying in abusive relationships.

Conclusion:- Results safely concluded that there are many reasons which harassed women to stay in abusive conditions in which economic reasons are uppermost.

Key words- domestic violence, abusive relationship

Introduction

Violence against women is a serious problem concerning human rights violation. In the last two decades violence against women has emerged as the most burning issue throughout the globe (R.H. Waghmode et al. 2013). Violence against women is any act of gender-based violence which results in, physical, sexual or arbitrary deprivation of liberty in public or private life and violation of

human rights of women in violation of human rights of women in situations of armed conflicts (Saravanan, Sheela 2000).

Domestic violence against women some time called intimate partner violence has been common in all cultures probably in all times. According to Renuka Chaudhary Around 70% of women in India are victims of domestic violence. Violence against women is partly a result of gender relations that assumes men to be superior to

women. Given the subordinate status of women, much of gender violence is considered normal and enjoys social sanction. Manifestations of violence include physical aggression, such as blows of varying intensity, burns, attempted hanging, sexual abuse and rape, psychological violence through insults, humiliation, coercion, blackmail, economic or emotional threats, and control over speech and actions. In extreme, but not unknown cases, death is the result. These expressions of violence take place in a man woman relationship within the family, state and society (Saravanan, Sheela 2000).

Domestic violence can take place anywhere i.e. home, work place, road side, society, street and educational institutions etc (United nation 1996).

On an average, the police register one case of domestic violence every minute. 1 in every 4 women will be victim of domestic violence in their life time and on an average two women a week are killed by a current or former male partner (Australian Bureau of statistics 1996).

The domestic violence can be found in the society in the form of physical, sexual, psychological or emotional violence.

Domestic abuse includes:

- Physical violence - punching, kicking, biting, shoving, or injury with a weapon
- Sexual assault - rape or any forced sex act
- Threats - being told you will be harmed or killed
- Harassment - being followed or called repeatedly against your wishes
- Taking or damaging your property - includes stealing money or things, destroying things Owned by another, and hurting or killing pets.

Throughout history, violence against women has been a common feature of all known human societies (Davidson, 1977). In many countries and cultures around the world, women have traditionally been routinely subjected to unspeakable physical, sexual, and psychological cruelties and brutalities by men with whom they

should enjoy the closest trust in places considered the 'safest', that is, their homes (Ondicho, 1997; UNIFEM, 2012).

Today, domestic violence has been widely acknowledged as a universal social problem that permeates women's lives irrespective of their age, class, color or creed (UNICEF, 2000). Increased awareness arising from a growing worldwide women's rights movement has transformed domestic violence from being a hidden problem to an issue that receives increased attention from researchers, policymakers, media, health, legal and other social welfare practitioners (UNCHS, 2002).

Even-though raising the levels of community awareness about the problem, a very small research consideration has been paid to the subject of domestic violence normally and the issue of why battered women stay in abusive relationships in exacting There are many reason why women do not prefer to leave an abusive relation and choose to continue living in the vicious relationship are multifaceted and may depend upon a variety of dynamics involved such as conservative gender roles, economic apprehensions, distress related to her own self and her children's wellbeing and life safety. Women's decision to continue living with their abusers or to leave them is affected by a numerous of complex and consistent psychosocial, economic, and cultural factors. So that There is an urgent need to separate these factors and listed their influence on the decisions of abusive women to stay or leave abusive relationships.

Methods and Material –

1- Objectives

The aim of the present study to assess the reason of staying for which battered women continue in abusive condition.

2- Study design and study subjects-

The present study was carried out during September 2013- June 2014 in the Lucknow city. The study was a cross sectional study and the multi stages stage cluster sampling technique was adopted to study "domestic violence against women and their health status": A case study in

Lucknow city. The district of Lucknow was divided in to 110 wards. These wards were sub divided into mohalls. Five wards were selected out of which finally five mohalla were selected by using random table no. A pre-structured and pre-designed interview schedule was used for the collection of data. A depth interview of the respondent was taken for collecting information by using interview-schedule.

The study population for this study was women residing in lucknow district, reproductive aged group 15 to 49 years. These women were selected because they are most to be expected to experience of Domestic violence. One woman per house household was selected for the individual Interview according to the Kish method.

Sample size of the respondent

Sampling size was calculated based on the following formula:

$$N = \frac{Z^2 p (100-p)}{E^2}$$

Whereby;

N = Estimated minimum sample size required

Z = Level of confidence (1.96 for 95% confidence level)

p = Expected proportion of intimate partner violence in the population was 27.

This figure was obtained from a pilot study on intimate partner violence occurring in their homes

against women at Lucknow. The assumption was based on the fact, that the characteristics of the women at field area.

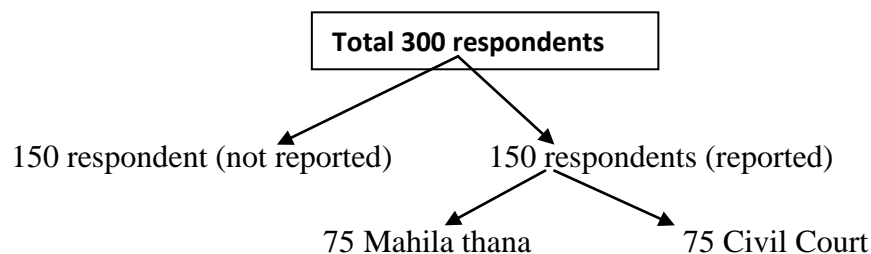
e = maximum of error will be 5%

$$n = \frac{1.96 \times 1.96 \times 27 (100-27)}{5 \times 5}$$

$$= 302 \text{ (in round figure it is =300)}$$

The above formula gave a minimum sample size of 300 people consequently 5% of the minimum sample size had missing and other unexpected problems during data collection. During data collection 300 respondents were interviewed. The present study has been conducted in the lucknow city. Total 300 respondents were selected from the population, among which 150 respondent were selected from the 5 ward of the Lucknow city that was yahiyaganj, masakganj, wajeerganj, Maulviganj and Rakabganj who have not been reported them-self neither police station nor any other women organization. Left 150 respondent were sub- divided in two groups in which 75 respondent have been selected from Mahila police thana hajrat ganj lucknow and remaining 75 respondent were selected from the civil court kachehri kaiserbag, lucknow.

The following table shows the entire picture of the sampling design of the study.

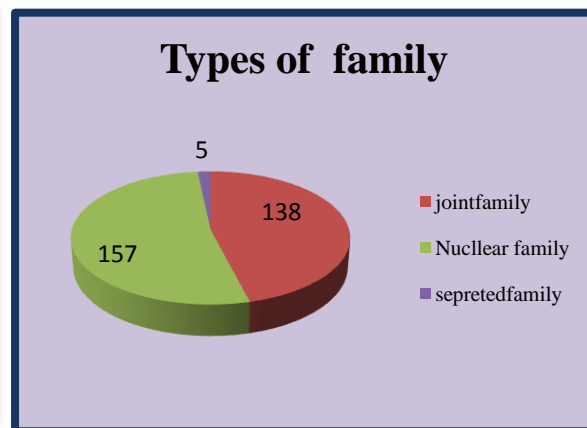
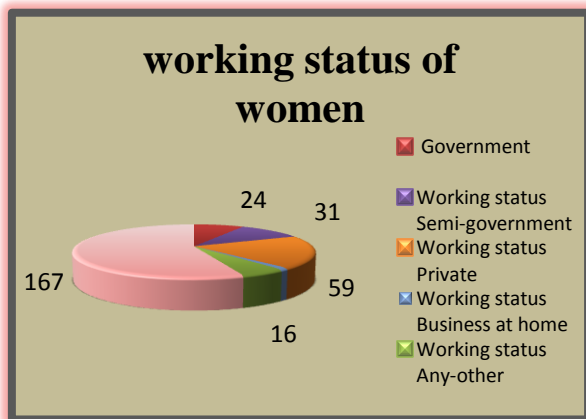
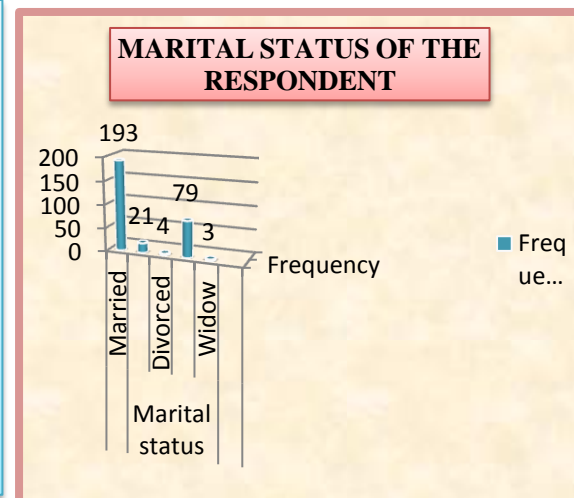
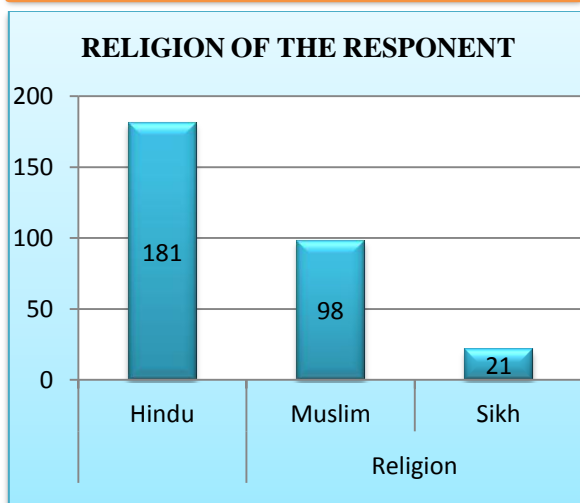
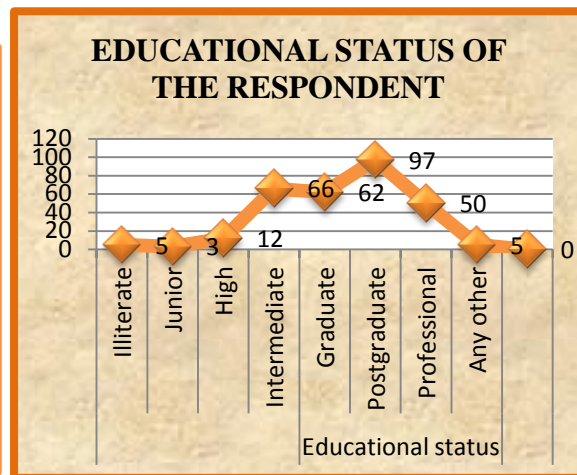
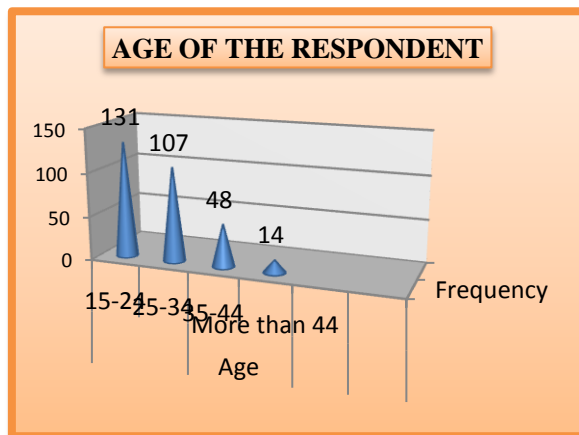


Inclusion criteria

1. Women between the ages of (15 yrs and 49) with an intimate partner and those who have had an intimate partner.
2. Those agreeable to take part, only consider as a study subjects.
3. Separated, widow not married and living relationship between 15 to years,

Result

Figure I-IV showing age, educational level, religion and marital status of the subjects.



The figure presented here show that out of total 300 women victim of domestic violence, 181 women were Hindu, and majority of women (97 women) were professionally educated. 107 women out of 300 respondents were between the age group of 15-24 years, and majority of respondent

were married. Data show that majority of respondent were not working where as 44.3% respondent were working in various sector. A majority of respondent belonged to joint family in the study area where as no. of few respondent belonged to separated family.

Table no.1- Information related to reason for staying in abusive relationship

At present stay in abusive relationship		Frequency	Percentage
No		167	55.7
Yes		133	44.3
Total		300	100.0
Reason for stay in abusive relationship			
		Frequency	Percentage
Didn't want to leave children		10	3.3
Sanctity of marriage		23	7.7
Didn't want to bring same on family		23	7.7
Could not support children		7	2.3
loved him		22	7.3
Didn't want to be single		7	2.3
Family said to stay		1	.3
Forgive him		22	7.3
Thought he would changed		9	3.0
Now where to go		7	2.3
Violence normal not serious		2	.7
Not live in abusive relationship		167	55.7
Total		300	100.0

The data presented in the above table no-1 reported that 44.3% respondent was staying in abusive relationship. At present time where-as 55.7% respondent reported that they did not live in abusive relationship. The data presented in the above table reveal that 3.3% respondent did not want to leave children and 7.7% respondent stated that due to sanctity of marriage they continue to stay in abusive relationship. About 7.7% respondent reported that they did not want to bring same on family and

2.3% respondent reported that their husband could not support children so that they stay in abusive relationship. About 7.3% respondent told that they were loved their children and 2.3% respondent stated that they did not want to be single was the compulsion for staying in abusive relationship. Family said to stay in abusive relationship by about .3% and about 7.3% respondent reported that they forgive their husband and decided to stay in abusive relationship.

Table 2: Relationship between educational status and reasons to stay in abusive Relationship.

One-Sample Test						
	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
					Lower	Upper
Reason for stay in abusive relation ship	19.004	299	.000	5.263	4.71	5.81
Educational status	77.572	299	.000	6.290	6.13	6.45

To test the hypothesis, t test is used and the value of t test is 77.572 and 19.004 for the both variables and the p value is .000 which is less than table value of p=.05, so null hypothesis can be rejected and alternate hypothesis is accepted, that

is there is a significant difference between educational status and reasons to stay in abusive relationship. The study finds out the significant difference between educational status and reasons to stay in abusive relationship.

Table 3: Relationship between economical status and reasons to stay in abusive Relationship

One-Sample Test						
	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
					Lower	Upper
Reason of stay in abusive relation ship	19.004	113	.000	5.263	4.71	5.81
Economic level	49.403	299	.000	2.143	2.06	2.23

To test the hypothesis, t test is used and the value of t test is 49.403 and 19.004 for the both variables and the p value is .000 which is less than table value of $p=.05$, so null hypothesis can be

rejected and alternate hypothesis is accepted, that is there is a significant difference between Economic level and reasons to stay in abusive relationship.

Table 4: Relationship between marital status and reasons to stay in abusive relationship

One-Sample Test						
	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
					Lower	Upper
Marital status	24.869	299	.000	1.927	1.77	2.08
Reason of stay in abusive relation ship	19.004	299	.000	5.263	2.71	3.81

To test the hypothesis, t test is used and the value of t test is 24.869 and 19.004 for the both variables and the p value is .000 which is less than table value of $p=.05$, so null hypothesis can be rejected and alternate hypothesis is accepted, that is there is a significant difference between marital status and reasons to stay in abusive relationship. The result of the current study was found that a significant difference between marital status and reasons to stay in abusive relationship.

Discussion

The result of the present study show that significant relation was found between the educational, economical, marital status of women and reason to stay in abusive relationship. As we know that well educated women are swift and just in their decision-making. They can more confidently handle the fate of themselves and their kids. On the contrary illiterate or less educated women are dependent on their in-laws for the same. So they are bounded to stay in their abusive relationship. Gerstein (2000) is revealed that low

educational level and poverty are important reasons for domestic violence. On the other hand NFHS-III report indicated that the educational level and occupational status of women victims disclosed that women who had no education and those highly educated were more prone to domestic violence as compared with those who were moderately educated.

A study conducted by Bomstein (2006) points out that it is important to realize that links between economic dependency and abuse are bi-directional. High economic dependency may lead some women to tolerate physical abuse, but repeated abuse may lead to economic dependence. Women in violent relationships who do work may have trouble concentrating, be harassed at work by an abusive partner, and have low self-efficacy due to abuse. The women who are economically independent are not dependent on their in-laws for their livelihood easily comes out of any abusive relationship. More ever the study finds out the significant difference between economic level and reasons to stay in abusive

relationship. A contrast result was also observed by the *The Hindu*, Oct 29, 2009 said that a survey based study "Working women have more domestic violence in India". Women aged between 16-25 years in Bangluru, found out that those women who become employed during that time had on 80% higher chance of being abused by their husband than women who remained unemployed. It is also found that women whose husband difficulty finding or peeping a job were more than twice as likely to experience domestic violence during that period Of inflicts violence on respondents.

As we all know that in our society it is common understanding that after marriage, therefore she left with no alternatives but to stay in the abusive relationship. Choudry (1996) also observed that in some communities, women face dishonor and rejection if they leave their partners, even if they do so as a result of domestic violence. Ngeno and Ondicho (2010) Reported those Women are also socialized to accept, tolerate, and even rationalize the violence in the name of culture. Deeply entrenched cultural beliefs, feelings of guilt and embarrassment often discourage women from coming out to speak about their experiences publicly, complain or even to seek redress. Many cases of domestic violence are therefore unreported and unpunished. Once married, women leave their natal home and begin their new life as part of their husband's family (Puri, 1999). "This residential pattern is another factor that contributes to the violence and dowry murders because often the woman's kin do not reside close to her, as a result, the abused woman cannot leave her marital home and retreat to the safety of her natal home. Even if she does manage to return to her parents' home, her husband or his family often comes to retrieve her, claiming the violence will stop, which usually does not" (Johnson and Johnson, 2001).

Conclusion

Economic dependence has been found to be the central reason. Without the ability to sustain themselves economically, women are forced to stay in

abusive relationships and are not able to be free from violence. Due to deep-rooted values and culture, women do not prefer to adopt the option of separation or divorce. They also fear the consequences of reporting violence and declare an unwillingness to subject themselves to the shame of being identified as battered women. Lack of information about alternatives also forces women to suffer silently within the four walls of their homes (fact sheet 2005). Women with a history of domestic violence and multiple encounters with the legal system often feel police officers are unsympathetic or lack empathy (Stalans & Finn, 2006).

They believe this is especially true if the woman is one who has failed to follow through with prosecution previously. Female domestic violence victims perceive that the police do not view domestic violence as they would other crimes, with a perpetrator and a victim. Notwithstanding these suppositions, professionals in the legal system know that battered women do have an interest in participating in the legal process, and obtaining a satisfying outcome. Abused female victims want to be free from harm from their intimate male abusers.

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