



## Education's Role in the Elimination of Domestic Violence and Harassment against Women

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### ABSTRACTS

The rate of violence against women in India is skyrocketing and shattering all previous records. In the current scenario of the 21st century, the authors have tried to analyze the role of education in a context of violence and harassment of women at home. There are numerous national organizations working for the welfare of women, and the police and court have been called upon to offer protection and deliver justice for those who have been the victims of violence. Cultural attitudes have evolved as a result of public education, advocacy, the expansion of services, and legislative reform. In order to create this study, we carried out empirical research on 300 women from various institutions and levels of employment across the Bhopal city of Madhya Pradesh State. The results suggest that the education plays an important role in preventing harassment against women.

**Keywords:** Education, Gender Inequality, Violence, Women.

### INTRODUCTION

In spite of the progress made for the upliftment of women, there is a widespread perception that violence against women is on the increase. Violence against women and girls is a global epidemic that has been disguised, overlooked, and accepted for centuries. Child sexual abuse has remained an offensive subject. Rape has frequently been a source of shame for the victim rather than the perpetrator. Despite global projections that one in every three women would experience physical, sexual, or both assault from an intimate partner or sexual violence from someone other than a spouse over her lifetime. (Garcia, Zimmerman, Gehring and et al, 2015). According to the MoSPI Reports - India recorded 22.8 lakh crimes against women between 2016 to 2021, of which about 7 lakh, or 30 per cent, were under Section 498A of IPC. The statistics, which were published in the MoSPI's 'Women and Men in India 2022' study, reveals that cruelty by husbands and their family is the most commonly reported form of violence against women in India. According to the United Nations, one out of every three women throughout the world will be beaten, raped, or otherwise abused during her lifetime. Women's Development Fund, 2003, Domestic violence is the most common kind of violence against women, and it includes not only physical violence but also social violence and abuse inflicted by intimate partners (Shane & Ellsberg, 2002). The lifetime prevalence of physical abuse by an intimate partner has been estimated to be as high as 60% in some parts of the world (United Nations 2006). This is not only a violation of women's fundamental human rights, but it is also associated with greater vulnerability to a variety of health issues, including STD and HIV transmission, miscarriages, risky sexual activity, substance misuse, and violence.

An increasing number of women are being killed by their partners, though this rate varies considerably across the region. Some studies have also suggested an increase in rapes and sexual offences. Violence against women is identified as a barrier to achieving gender equality. Many women do not report incidents of violence because of shame, humiliation, or an expectation that agencies will be less than effective or responsive in treating their grievances. That, combined with ineptitudes at a technical level in seizing and recording reports of infringement, essentially means that the data that exist are not reliable indicators of the prevalence of women experiencing violence in a conjugal relationship. In 2022, the National Commission for Women received 30,900 reports of various crimes against women, 6,900 of which involved domestic abuse against women, according to statistics. In 2022, there were more rape, dowry harassment, and domestic violence reports than in 2021.

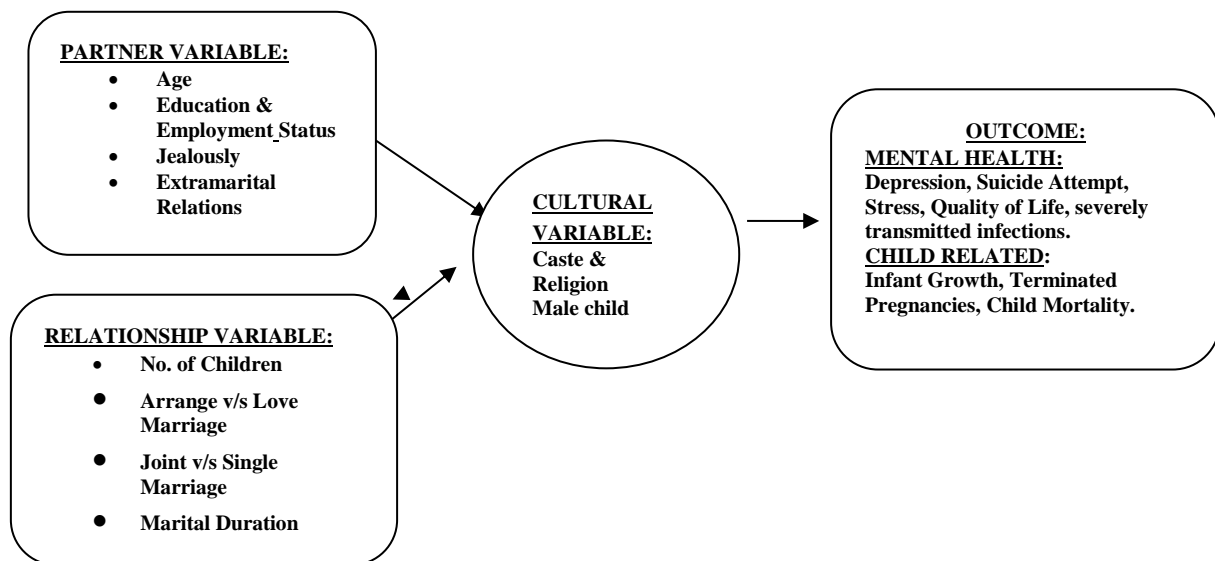
Education is regarded as a critical tool for women's empowerment. It alters their way of life, increases their probability of finding work, allows them to participate in public life, and raises their social standing. Even though much progress has been made in literacy and education, the general structure remains adverse to women. Gaining a sense of knowledge, expertise, and competence is a step towards empowerment. To do this, women and girls should be provided chances to develop and grow their abilities and resources by involving them in social and economic decision-making processes at all levels

and through education. Simply put, advancement is considerably quicker and more far-reaching in governments and businesses that encourage gender equality (Ghosh,2022). Legally married women seemed to have a lesser risk of domestic violence than those in common-law marriages, but otherwise the incidence of domestic violence was consistent regardless of ethnicity, geography (urban or rural), and employment status. It is observed that wherever there is evidence of gender inequality and male hostility, violence against women will increase, and the health of women is likely to be negatively affected.

Based on a study, better-educated women outperformed less-educated women on a composite index that measures access to and control over resources and their role in economic decision-making. Educated women appear to be less likely to be victims of domestic abuse. Sen (1999, 12) discovered that educated women were better able to deal with violent husbands: "Access to secondary stages of education may play an important beneficial role in enhancing women's ability to exercise control in their lives... through a combination of literacy and numeracy skills, and enhanced self-esteem." Similar results were obtained in rural Bangladesh (Schuler et al. 1996).

## PROPOSED RESEARCH MODEL:

The figure indicates the domestic violence & harassment against women in India.



## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design – Exploratory Research

Sample Size- 300

Sampling Technique – Convenience Random Sampling

Sampling Area- Bhopal Distt.

Data Collection – Primary And Secondary data

Objective – To find the role of education in preventing harassment against women at work place and at home

Hypothesis - H0 Education is not effective in preventing harassment against women

H1 Education is effective in preventing harassment against women

H0 -Educated men don't indulge in women harassment and domestic violence

H1 -Educated men indulge in women harassment and domestic violence

Hypothesis – Education is not effective in preventing harassment against women

Level of education (women)	Harassment at work place	Harassment at home (domestic violence)	Total
Illiterate	74(ab)	87(AB)	158
Literate	49(aB)	42(ac)	91
Highly educated	35(Ab)	16(Ac)	51
Total	158	142	300

Expected values are as follows

Level of education (women)	Harassment at work place	Harassment at home	Total
Illiterate	80.6(ab)	77.3(AB)	158
Literate	42.3(aB)	40.6(ac)	83
Highly educated	25(Ab)	24(Ac)	49
Total	154	146	300

Calculation of Chi Square

Group	Observed frequency	Expected frequency	$(F_o - F_e)$	$(F_o - F_e)^2$	$\chi^2 = \sum \left[ \frac{(F_o - F_e)^2}{F_e} \right]$
(ab)	71	80.6	-9.6	92.16	1.14
(aB)	41	42.3	-1.3	1.69	0.039
(Ab)	36	25	11	121	4.84
(AB)	87	77.3	9.7	94.09	1.21
(ac)	42	40.6	1.4	1.96	0.048
(Ac)	13	24	-11	121	5.04

$$\chi^2 = \sum \left[ \frac{(F_o - F_e)^2}{F_e} \right]$$

$$= 12.31$$

Degree of freedom  $df = (R-1)(C-1) = (3-1)(2-1) = 2$

$$\alpha = 0.05$$

$$df = 2$$

Critical tabled value = 5.991

Test statistic, 12.31, exceeds critical value

Null hypothesis is rejected

Education is effective in preventing harassment against women.

**Hypothesis- Educated men don't indulge in women harassment and domestic violence**

Level of education (men)	Harassment at work place by men	Harassment at home (domestic violence)	Total
Illiterate	03(ab)	94(AB)	97
Literate	72(aB)	27(ac)	99
Highly educated	92(Ab)	12(Ac)	104
Total	167	133	300

Expected values are as follows

Level of education (men)	Harassment at work place	Harassment at home	Total
Illiterate	53.3(ab)	43.7(AB)	97
Literate	64.7(aB)	53.3(ac)	113
Highly educated	50(Ab)	40(Ac)	90
Total	168	132	300

**Calculation of Chi Square**

Group	Observed frequency	Expected frequency	$(F_o - F_e)$	$(F_o - F_e)^2$	$\chi^2 = \sum \left[ \frac{(F_o - F_e)^2}{F_e} \right]$
(ab)	03	53.3	-50.3	2530.09	47.46
(aB)	85	64.7	20.3	412.09	6.3
(Ab)	92	62	30	900	14.51
(AB)	94	43.7	50.3	2530.09	57.89
(ac)	33	53.3	-20.3	412.09	7.73
(Ac)	21	51	-30	900	17.64

$$\chi^2 = \sum \left[ \frac{(F_o - F_e)^2}{F_e} \right]$$

$$= 151.53$$

$$\text{Degree of freedom } df = (R-1)(C-1) = (3-1)(2-1) = 2$$

$$\alpha = 0.05$$

$$df = 2$$

$$\text{Critical tabled value} = 5.991$$

Test statistic, 151.53, exceeds critical value

Null hypothesis is rejected

Educated men indulge in harassment and domestic violence against women

**FINDINGS:**

Education is beneficial in preventing sexual harassment of women. Educated women are less likely to be harassed since they rely less on men for their livelihood and other needs. The second issue is that dependent women are more susceptible because males know that if they are subjected to violence at home, they will never leave. A well-educated woman is aware of the rights and powers assigned to her by the government. Men's urge to commit violence against women has also been reduced by the availability of social media.

Educated men indulge in harassment and domestic violence against women; instead of education, men are seen indulging in violence against women. It is reported that violence and physical harassment have increased since the new law on live-in relationships was introduced by the government. The Law allows unmarried couples to live together. This has given them the right to stay together as husband and wife but without the responsibilities of a family, which has violated the rules of civil societies. It's seen and observed that only educated men indulge in such relationships and violence.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

(a) The development of supporting mechanisms to encourage women to speak out publicly about the incidence of violence. On the very first day of any kind of teasing, there must be a protest so that it does not become a nuisance.

(b) A systematic method for acquiring and analysis of statistical data.

(c) Women's organizations should create plans to educate legislators and support sensible reforms.

(d) The provision of practical support such as shelters, crisis lines, counselling, and special units at police stations for victims of abuse. Since this meeting, much has changed in the region. marked by an almost exclusive attention to gender-based violence by both State machinery for women and women's organizations. This attention was very focused on domestic violence and, to a lesser extent, on sexual violence.

(e) There is a need to create legal awareness among women. It can be achieved by print media, advertisements, door-to-door campaigns, and by organizing camps in rural areas.

(f) Education has a humble impact on men's elimination of sexual harassment and domestic violence, as even highly educated men engage in sexual harassment at work. Men's upbringing is at fault for women's exploitation and illicit activity. On the other side, education has played an essential role in women's well-being because it teaches them about legal procedures and enables them to protest any sort of violence.

- (g) More rigorous rules are needed to limit the occurrence of violence against women.
- (h) There are many challenges faced by women at work, like gender discrimination, a lack of flexible timing, the problem of overtime, an unsafe environment, and an excess of pressure.
- (i) There is a need to inculcate ethics, ethos, and value education in men, as it is imperative to develop a spiritual outlook towards women.
- (j) Only the government has the capacity to influence education and other reforms. We need more political will and effective action.
- (k) Cooperation between crisis centers and police in the treatment of victims of domestic and sexual violence There must be a campaign intended to foster and strengthen institutional links between the police, crisis centres, and national women's organizations. The major weakness identified was the absence of monitoring and follow-up activity because of resource restraints.

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## CONCLUSION:

It is clear that violence against women is rampant in India. This is because women in the country are highly vulnerable due to widespread poverty and a lack of education, low health status, a high fertility rate, and a high maternal death rate. A social mentality regarding women also contributes to violence against women. Women are subjected to violence both within and outside the house. The government and non-governmental organizations are working to eliminate or reduce violence against women. The government is currently enacting related legislation, issuing orders, and initiating various women's assistance initiatives. The education of girls is the first step towards a more peaceful society with fewer occurrences of violence. Men's and boys' campaigns to raise awareness and improve attitudes about gender inequity are equally successful tactics. As individuals and responsible citizens, we must raise awareness and report any acts of violence against women in our communities.

There is substantial proof that exposure to education might result in changes in intellectual capacity, which is essential for women's ability to question, reflect on, and act on the conditions of their lives, as well as gain access to knowledge, information, and new ideas that will assist them in doing so. Education appears to be strengthening women's ability to interact with society as a whole, particularly government authorities and various service providers.

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