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Understanding the Dynamics of Domestic Violence Against Women: A Comprehensive Review

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ABSTRACT

Domestic violence against women has serious physical, psychological, and societal repercussions and is still a widespread and urgent problem throughout the world. In order to investigate the complex nature of domestic violence, including its causes, prevalence, risk factors, and effects, this study undertakes a detailed evaluation of the body of prior research. It looks at many theoretical approaches and intervention techniques used to deal with this complicated issue. The study also looks into how institutional reactions, societal attitudes, and cultural norms contribute to or diminish domestic violence. The study's findings aid in the creation of successful preventative and intervention initiatives meant to end domestic abuse of women.

KEYWORDS: Domestic Violence against women, counselling of victims, Dynamics

INTRODUCTION:

The terrible truth about domestic abuse is that it has no bounds. People of all ages, genders, ethnicities, and socioeconomic classes are impacted. The victims suffer physical pain, emotional distress, and the loss of their sense of self-worth. They are frequently silenced by fear, shame, or social conventions. Victims of abuse often suffer long-lasting consequences from perpetrators who take advantage of their positions of control in close relationships, often motivated by power dynamics or a false sense of entitlement.

Domestic violence has its roots in complex historical and social situations. Power disparities and conventional gender standards have created a climate that is conducive to abuse. Stereotypes and cultural expectations frequently contribute to the normalization of violence, which makes it difficult for victims to get the assistance they need. Furthermore, victims' susceptibility may be increased by economic inequality, making it more difficult for them to leave abusive situations because of their financial reliance. Physical abuse is one of the most common types of domestic violence; it leaves behind noticeable scars that are terrible reminders of the trauma experienced. But abuse doesn't just happen when someone hurts you physically. Abuse that is psychological or emotional can be just as harmful, leaving victims to struggle with long-lasting, invisible wounds. Abusers utilize manipulation, estrangement from social networks, and a decline in self-worth as tools to keep power and control over their victims.

The difficulty survivors have in getting assistance adds to the pernicious nature of domestic abuse. Victims are frequently prevented from seeking support by a lack of knowledge about available options, fear of reprisal, and social stigma. Communities and organizations must actively seek to provide safe places where victims feel empowered to share their stories without fear of criticism or retaliation because they understand how important it is to interrupt this pattern. A multifaceted strategy that includes supportive networks, educational programs, and legislation is needed to address domestic abuse. To protect victims and hold offenders responsible for their crimes, legal frameworks must be reinforced. Education is essential for destroying the cultural norms that support violence, promoting a culture that honors equality and mutual respect in interpersonal relationships.

Finally, the specter of domestic abuse looms large, obscuring the sanctity of lives and families. Recognizing the intricacy of this problem is the first step in solving it. Society may strive toward establishing an atmosphere where love, respect, and empathy predominate and the pernicious cycle of domestic violence is broken once and for all by raising awareness, speaking out against injustice, and pushing for change.

REVIEW OF LITRATURE:

1.socio legal study of domestic violence in India with special reference to wife battery

Singh, Ruchi Rani 2016

God lives where women are Honored. Women would have their proper position in a wealthy society. However, society is too disconnected from the ideal world.

India is a tradition-based country where patriarchal, patrilocal, and patrilineal families predominate. Women are typically associated with their father, brother, husband, or other family members' identities, leadership, and physical safety. Males are presumed to have the right to dominate women since women are always seen as being emotionally and physically weaker than males. As a result, women are constantly raped, killed, and beaten both outside and within homes. It is now being passed down from generation to generation as a legacy. The depressing fact that women are neither protected or secure anywhere is reflected in the startling statistics of the rising crime rate against them. According to a report issued by the National Crime Records Bureau, New Delhi (NCRB), there is a crime against women reported every three minutes, two rapes of women occur every hour, and a young married woman is killed by beating, burning, or driving herself to suicide every six hours. According to the 'U N Population Fund Report,' up to 70% of married Indian women between the ages of 15 and 49 have experienced beatings from their husbands, and almost two-thirds of married Indian women report having experienced domestic violence (attacks).

2. Gender violence a study on domestic violence against women in major cities of Gujarat

Sharma, Arundhati. 2021

The prevalence of violence against women is rising quickly on a global scale. The United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women defines violence against women as "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or expected to result in, physical, sexual, or emotional harm or suffering to women." However, different countries may have varying definitions of this term. Women are particularly vulnerable to this kind of assault due to their gender. A series of abusive acts directed towards women and young girls is referred to as violence against women. These acts can take many different forms, from the sex-selective abortion of girls to the assault of elderly women. In addition, it covers acts of honor killing, acid throwing, dowry murders, female genital mutilation, and typical forms of violence seen throughout the world, such as domestic violence and rape. Even while the 21st century brought about a great deal of change and saw the passage of numerous legislations aimed at improving the lot of women, the newfound chances vanished like thin ice in the face of subtly disguised instances of male chauvinism. The government has enacted numerous laws aimed at safeguarding women's rights, yet not much has changed. They continue to be viewed as inferior citizens. They face numerous chances in life, as well as acts of aggression, discrimination, and humiliation of all types. An attempt has been made to examine the type, scope, and trends of violence against married women and men as well as girl children in the current chapters. In addition to the introduction and conclusion, there are five chapters in the study.

3. Misuse of Domestic Violence Act A Critical Analysis in Indian Scenario

Dolly Raj Bahadur 2023

To protect women from all forms of violence, nations, including India, have ratified the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination. India adopted numerous human rights from these treaties for their constitution, including the freedom of expression, the right to life, the right to equality, the right to marriage, the prohibition against sex-based discrimination by the state, etc. The main issue facing the globe now that has an impact on a woman's human rights is violence. It affects women's mental health as well. Fresh line One of the major categories of violence is domestic violence. Intimate partner violence and domestic abuse are other names for domestic violence. It refers to a style of behaviour designed to acquire or hold onto power and control in any kind of relationship. It encompasses physical, sexual, financial, and domestic abuse. The NCW has reported that since lockdown, there has been an increase in domestic violence cases. Women are the victims and males are the abusers in the majority of cases of domestic violence. Despite the numerous rules and protections against domestic abuse that the Indian government and Constitution have bestowed upon women, this violence still occurs. Thus, the researcher hopes to investigate the idea of domestic violence against Indian women, the various forms of domestic abuse that Indian women experience, and the effects of domestic abuse on the health of victims.

4. Critical analysis of national and international laws in relation to intimate partner violence A human rights perspective

Ambily, P. 2018 May

The word "violence" describes a range of views on what constitutes inappropriate behaviour. The act's newline nature implies that the superior over the inferior is the one who inflicts it. Fresh line Gender, then, is a key component of the research. According to the report, women experience gender-based discrimination in a variety of spheres of life and the home setting is no different. Gender inequality is manifested in numerous forms, one of which is domestic violence. According to national and international data, intimate partner violence (IPV) is the most prevalent type of domestic abuse. IPV and to assess critically the legal system in India that safeguards women against IPV. In order to analyse the legislative structure in India that protects women against IPV, research takes a human rights-based approach to comprehending the lower status of women based on gender inequality.

OBJECTIVE:

Raise awareness: To promote early intervention and assistance, educate communities on the incidence, effects, and warning signs of domestic abuse.

Offer assistance services: Provide and keep available hotlines, counseling, legal aid, and shelters for victims of domestic abuse.

To enhance laws and regulations, push for and implement laws that safeguard victims, hold offenders responsible, and stop domestic abuse.

UNIVERSE SAMPLING AND SAMPLING METHOD:

The universe comprise all survey components that suitable for illusion in the research study. Total 100 person of Vadodara city were taken as a sample. The universe consist of hundred respondents. The data was diving on basis of opinion of persons on the domestic violence. The researcher would consider of a questionnaire schedule containing close ended questions. The tool was prepared by the researcher by the research based on the objective of the study. The purposeful sampling method was used to select a particular unit for the present study.

METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION:

Questionnaire is the tool for the present study.

FINDINGS:

Based on the results of this study, the majority of participants—78.5%, or 84 respondents—belong to the 20–30 age range. Furthermore, 84.9% of the sample (n = 90) reported having been the victim of financial, emotional, sexual, or physical abuse. In addition, 81% (n=85) of respondents said that anyone can become a victim of domestic abuse, regardless of gender. Furthermore, 86.7% of respondents (n=91) think that domestic violence is not limited to physical acts, and 83% of respondents (n=91) regard all behaviours listed above as instances of domestic violence. Furthermore, 73.3% (n=77) of respondents said that verbal abuse, possessiveness, jealousy, and a need for continuous touch are warning signs of possible domestic violence.

In addition, 58.1% (n=61) of respondents said that domestic abuse can happen in same-sex relationships, and 47.6% (n=50) said it happens quite frequently. Furthermore, 61.8% (n=63) of those surveyed said they would help someone they knew who they believed was a victim of domestic abuse. But just 55.9% (n=57) of respondents think that victims are seldom coerced into getting assistance. Furthermore, 76.2% (n=77) agree that domestic violence increases over time, and 72.3% (n=73) think anyone can experience it, regardless of socioeconomic background.

Additionally, 58% (n=58) of respondents said they thought it would be easy for a victim to leave an abusive relationship, but 76% pointed out that there were a number of obstacles, including a lack of support, fear of reprisals, and financial reliance. Furthermore, 95% (n=95) of respondents concur that domestic abuse can have an impact on children. Furthermore, 71.4% (n=70) of respondents favor giving victims a secure place to stay, listening to them without passing judgment, and pressuring them to leave right away.

In addition, 70.8% (n=70) of respondents said that keeping abusers responsible and giving victims access to services, support, and education about healthy relationships was important. Additionally, 81.4% (n=79) of respondents think that someone can change their conduct, and 78.9% (n=75) believe that kids are mature enough to comprehend conversations regarding domestic abuse. Furthermore, 70.8% (n=68) of respondents strongly agree that religion or cultural ideas prolong domestic violence, whereas 78.9% (n=75) of respondents accept that substance addiction contributes to it.

Furthermore, 71.1% (n=69) of respondents think domestic violence prevents women from pursuing careers or further education, and 83.2% (n=79) concur that it can happen to older individuals. Furthermore, 58.3% (n=56) of those surveyed said they thought it was simple for victims to get support services. The aforementioned results emphasize the intricate comprehension and attitudes regarding domestic abuse, underscoring the necessity of all-encompassing assistance programs and instruction to successfully tackle it.

CONCLUSION:

The bulk of responders are in the 20–30 age range, suggesting a sizable demographic focus for awareness and intervention programs. The majority of respondents acknowledge that there are many different types of abuse, such as financial, emotional, sexual, and physical abuse, indicating that domestic violence is widely understood. Everyone agrees that domestic abuse affects people of both genders and is not limited to physical abuse. There are telltale signs of possible domestic violence, like verbal abuse, possessiveness, and jealousy. It is acknowledged that domestic violence happens frequently and can arise in a variety of partnerships, including dating and same-sex relationships. Even though the problem is acknowledged, a lot of respondents think that obstacles including financial reliance and fear of reprisals prevent victims from leaving abusive relationships. It is known that domestic violence affects children, demonstrating awareness of its broader effects. It is acknowledged that victims need support, which includes holding abusers accountable, educating them about healthy relationships, and giving services. There is a degree of optimism regarding the potential for offenders to alter their behaviour, suggesting receptiveness to treatment and intervention initiative. It is often known that abusive relationships exhibit behavioural patterns that have a negative influence on one's mental and physical health. There are recognized cultural variations in how domestic abuse is viewed and dealt with. Some responders continue to have victim-blaming attitudes even if they are aware of the complexity of the situation. It is known that domestic violence occurs in a variety of settings, such as long-distance relationships, pregnancies, and older adulthood. It is acknowledged that certain factors, like substance misuse and cultural or religious views, might contribute to domestic violence. Although it is believed that victims must have access to support services, there is some doubt over how simple it will be to do so. The study concludes that respondents had a wide comprehension of domestic abuse and its complexity. It emphasizes how crucial it is to provide victims with supportive environments, overcome obstacles to getting treatment, and design customized interventions aimed at certain populations. Moreover, ongoing education and awareness campaigns are required to refute victim-blaming ideologies and guarantee that domestic violence victims have access to support services.

SUGGESTIONS:

Targeted Education Campaigns: To raise awareness and knowledge of domestic abuse, develop educational programs aimed at particular demographic groups, such as young adults in the 20–30 age range.

Early Intervention Programs: Put in place initiatives to spot warning signs and encourage positive relationship dynamics in order to identify and address potentially abusive relationships early on.

Comprehensive Support Services: Remove obstacles like financial reliance and fear of reprisals to improve support services for victims. Offer resources for independent living, secure housing, and legal support.

Community Outreach: Initiate conversations about domestic violence in local communities, stressing the need of standing behind victims and bringing perpetrators accountable. Encourage collaborations with local leaders and groups to provide access to resources and raise awareness. Cultural Sensitivity: Create methods for addressing domestic abuse that are sensitive to other cultural perspectives and customs, while also opposing destructive conventions that support violence.

preventive Programs: To encourage positive relationship practices and stop domestic violence in the future, implement preventive programs aimed at children and youth.

Training for Professionals: Educate professionals working in a range of sectors (such as social services, law enforcement, and healthcare) on how to see the warning signs of domestic abuse, react correctly, and help victims.

Further Investigations: To learn more about the changing dynamics of domestic violence and how it intersects with racial, gender, sexual, and socioeconomic variables, undertake more research.

Communities may work toward safer surroundings, victim assistance, and ultimately a decrease in the incidence and effects of domestic violence by putting these recommendations into practice.

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