

Domestic Violence - A Sociological Review



Namrata Basini Mukhi

Doctoral Scholar,
Deptt .of Sociology,
Ravenshaw University,
Cuttack

Bikram K. Mishra

Reader,
Deptt .of Sociology,
Ravenshaw University,
Cuttack

Abstract

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. Violence includes physical aggression, sexual abuse, and psychological violence. 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. This is not a present problem rather it has its deep roots inserted since few decades. The government and voluntary organizations are making efforts towards ending violence against women which will be impossible if a common man is not supportive. So, following the review of the literature is a discussion section in which I examine the usefulness of qualitative research approaches in studying this topic. It is very difficult to review all the relevant studies since proper documentation of such studies is still to be ensured. Therefore available relevant studies, particularly case studies, seminar, have been reviewed. This literature review presents an introduction, definition to the factors associated with Domestic violence against women, its types, causes, consequences, policies and practices in society.

Keywords: Physical Aggression, Psychological Violence, Sexual Abuse, Economical Abuse, Harassment.

Introduction

Violations against women are increasing day by day in the local and global context. Violence against women is partly a result of gender relations that assumes men to be superior to women. Women have always been treated differently, whereas men have claimed all rights they have denied them 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. They have also been subject to socio-economic and cultural deprivations. In many countries, women are dehumanized, forcibly married, sold off and subject to all kinds of humiliation. These expressions of violence take place in a man - woman relationship within the family, state and society. Usually, domestic aggression towards women and girls, due to various reasons remain hidden.

Definition and Nature

Kar (1998) observes that the status of woman in a society indicates its level of civilization and progress. The Hindu women enjoyed a fairly high status in the beginning. But their status gradually declined in the medieval period. The paradoxical situation was such that she was sometimes considers as a Goddess and at other times merely as slave. During the Vedic period women occupied an exalted position and enjoyed a fair amount of personal freedom and equal rights with men. With the invasion of the country by the Muslims, the position of women declined further. And the status of women at the dawn of the British rule in India, reached the lowest level in the society. The wife's position in the household was in a sorry state. But after India gained Independence and with the spread of women's education in India and due to the impact of the West, the Indian women rose against the cruelties of the male. And lastly in spite of various laws like Hindu Marriage Act-1975, Legal dissolution of marriage, Marriage Laws Amendment Act-1976. Yet Indian women do not think in terms of legal termination of marriage, even though they are subjected to severe torture and all types of harassment. Aston (2013) says that women have been the most vulnerable and weaker section of the society and are always been looked down as a commodity which can be

used, re-used and abused. It is the momentous reality of the society that the women's dignity is always battered and has always been ill treated ever since the beginning of the civilization. Women are at times deprived of their rights, beliefs and existence. Women have always been dependent on men for their livelihood and restricted only to certain places, mainly involved in domestic work since ages but in current time of globalization, the sphere of women has broadened and women are now well educated, working in all spheres of life and demanding equal status to men. Despite this development, access to education and employment and awareness of their rights, women are still faced with humiliation, discrimination, cruelty and violence at every step inside their home as well as at their work place. They are often dominated by men in the society and thus violence against women has also increased. Violence against women in the domestic sphere is of grave magnitude. It occurs in both developed as well as developing countries. Earlier it was considered by the neighbours, community and even the government, as a private issue which remained inside the home, family but later on it was noticed that these thought to be private issues often turned into public tragedies. Women have become the most vulnerable ones to violence across the world. Violence has affected millions of women in the society across the world in socio-economic and educational classes irrespective of the culture and religion. Violence against women is increasing day by day due to the ignorance of the available rights of women and lack of awareness and education in many developing countries. Violence against women permeates the society at every level and setting. Murder, rape, intimidation, pornography, workplace harassment, incest, trafficking and forced prostitution are all part of a general belief that women are soft targets of violence and exploitation which have been deeply built in the roots of our so called patriarchal system of the society. Violence against women includes domestic abuses, rape, child marriages as well as female circumcision. All these are committed by the dominating class of men who violate the fundamental human rights of the women.

U.N. DEW (1993) says that violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women, which has led to domination over and discrimination against women by men and to the prevention of the full advancement of women. Violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared with men.

Behera (2009) narrates family is the foundation and of society women makes a home with her love, care, commitment and hard work. She toils throughout the day right from the dusk to dawn. Yet she becomes victim of violence in her very own family, which she builds with lots of dedication and devotion. That's the misery, that's the miracle-applicable to women from all socio-economic-cultural segments, be rich or poor, educated or illiterate, Hindu or Muslim or Christian, ruralite or urbanite, Manipuri or Marathi, just married or elderly. Domestic violence happens because society values women less than men. As a result, the abusers (usually the

husband) feel that they are entitled to impose their will on women by whatever means necessary, including violence.

Baxi (1994) observes that violence against women also known as gender-based violence, and is now widely recognized as a serious human rights abuse, and increasingly also as an important public health problem that concerns all sectors of society.

Hulme and Mosley (1996) explain that violence against women is a universal phenomenon that persists in all countries of the world, and the perpetrators of that violence are often well known to their victims. Domestic violence is violent victimization of women, within the boundaries of family; usually by men or his family members.

ShirinKudchedkar (1998) says that Collins Dictionary defines violence as: (1) "Behaviour which is meant to hurt or kill people;" (2) "a great deal of energy used in doing something usually because you are very angry;" (3) "words, actions or other forms of expression which are critical or destructive." The Oxford Dictionary defines violence as (1) "the quality of being violent;" (2) "violent conduct or treatment, outrage, injury;" 3(a) "the unlawful exercise of physical force;" 3(b) "intimidation by the exhibition of this." The Roget's Thesaurus adds few dimensions to the concept offered by the earlier two dictionaries. It indicates that the noun violence connotes vehemence, impetuosity, vigorousness, excess, destructiveness, vandalism, turbulence, turmoil, roughness, severity, brute force, brutality, savagery, mercilessness, exacerbation, and explosion. The adjective 'violent' is explained by the terms aggressive, charging, disorderly, intemperate, immoderate, anarchistic etc. Ahmad, Tabrez. et al, (2009) say that to understand the essence of the word domestic violence first of all we should know the meaning of the words domestic and violence separately. The word domestic means "within the realm or the territory of house". And the word violence means "action using physical force and intended to hurt or kill someone to cause damage". Thus the word domestic violence means "an action or physical force which is being used within the realm or territory of house to intended to hurt or cause damage any particular subject in the domestic household". In other words we can say that it is an unpleasant and destructive natural force against the family member by one another. Section 5 of Protection Of Women from Domestic Violence act, 2005, defines domestic violence as follow-"For the purposes of this Act, any act, omission or commission or conduct of the respondent shall constitute domestic violence in case it (a) Harms or injures or endangers the health, safety, life, limb or well-being, whether mental or physical, of the aggrieved person or tends to do so and includes causing physical abuse, sexual abuse, verbal and emotional abuse and economic abuse; or (b) harasses, harms, injures or endangers the aggrieved person with a view to coerce her or any other person related to her to meet any unlawful demand for any dowry or other property or valuable security; or (c) has the effect of threatening the aggrieved person or any person related to her by any conduct mentioned in clause (a) or clause (b); or (d) otherwise injures or causes harm, whether physical or

mental, to the aggrieved person". Since, it has already been stated that it is the violence which takes place within the realm or territory of house; it is palpable that the victims of such a violence will be the family members. That is why it is to be said that "domestic violence is an abuse which manifests itself when a spouse or a family member violates another physically or psychologically". Domestic Violence can take place between husband and wife, child and parent, people of same sex as well as the people of different sex. Overall it can be said to be a preliminary stage of a crime of power and abuse. It is not consensual but rather a pattern of behavior used by an individual to maintain coercive control over the other.

Edleson, J. L. et al, (2007) views that according to the Merriam-Webster dictionary definition, domestic violence is "the inflicting of physical injury by one family or household member on another; also: a repeated/habitual pattern of such behavior". Domestic violence, as the Office on Violence against Women of the

US Department of Justice (2009) defines it, is a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner. Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions. This includes any behaviors that intimidate, manipulate, humiliate, isolate, frighten, coerce, threaten, blame, hurt, injure, or wound someone.

Koodoruth (2014) says that domestic violence is also known as domestic abuse, spousal abuse, battering, family violence or intimate partner violence (IPV). Most definitions of domestic violence refer to a pattern of abusive behaviors by one partner against another in an intimate relationship such as marriage, dating, family, or cohabitation.

Stacy (1983) says the term "intimate partner violence" (IPV) is often used synonymously with domestic abuse/domestic violence. Family violence is a broader definition, often used to include child abuse, elder abuse, and other violent acts between family members. Wife abuse, wife beating, and battering are descriptive terms that have lost popularity recently for at least two reasons.

1. There is acknowledgment that many victims are not actually married to the abuser, but rather cohabiting or in other arrangements.
2. Abuse can take other forms than physical abuse. Other forms of abuse may be constantly occurring, while physical abuse happens occasionally.
3. Males as well as females are victims of domestic violence.
4. These other forms of abuse have the potential to lead to mental illness, self-harm, and even attempts at suicide.

Typology

Horner (2005) says that all forms of domestic abuse have one purpose: to gain and maintain control over the victim. Abusers use many tactics to exert power over their spouse or partner: dominance, humiliation, isolation, threats, intimidation, denial and blame. Ahmad, Tabrez. et al, (2009) observe that the violence that is said to be used need not be physical in nature. Violence against women can take up the

forms of female foeticide, selective abortion, dowry harassment, dowry deaths, physical abuse, mental violence, public trafficking and social humiliation. But generally It includes all kinds of threat of abuse of physical, sexual, verbal, emotional and economical nature that can harm or cause injury to the health, safety to life, limb or well being, either mental or physical of the aggrieved person.

Physical Violence

The word physical means "Something related to body rather than mind or relating to things that you can see hear or feel". Thus, physical violence is that violence or exercise of power which has harmed the body. It is the intentional use of physical force with the potential of causing bodily injury, harm, disability, or death.

The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 defines sexual abuse as-

"Any act or conduct which is of such a nature so as to cause bodily pain, harm, or danger to life, limb or health or compare the health or development of the aggrieved person and includes assault, criminal intimidation and criminal force". Physical acts such as hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, threatening to harm constitutes physical abuse.

Mental or Psychological Violence

Violence which affects the human mind is called emotional violence. It is the deliberate act of doing something to make the victim feel diminished or embarrassed or isolated. This type of abuse is the hardest to spot because the injury is not physical or immediately visible. People undergoing emotional abuse are often seen to suffer from depression which puts them at an increasing risk of suicide, eating disorders, drug and alcohol abuse.

Economical or Financial Abuse

Here, money is used as the means of having control over the partner. Thus we can say that "when the abuser has complete control of the victims money and other economic resources, is called economic abuse". For example, if a person is earning for the fulfillment of his or her necessities but he is not free to spend his or her money according to their interest, there is another person commanding the expenditures, it is called economic violence.

Sexual Violence or Sexual Abuse

Sexual violence is somewhat related to physical violence, because it also violates the body's certain organs. It is any assault or unwanted act of a sexual nature. "It can include anything from exhibitionism and exposures to pornography to unwanted sexual touching, to rape, to injuring or endangering the life or the victim". Section (3) clause (ii) of Protection of women from Domestic violence act deals with sexual abuse as such- Sexual abuse includes any conduct of a sexual nature that abuses humilities, degrades or otherwise violates the dignity of women". Now - a - days child are also found to victim of sexual abuse.

Verbal Abuse

Verbal abuse is giving its meaning itself as such type of abuse which hurts somebody verbally or we can say that violence which is committed by the words either written or spoken is called verbal abuse. It is also called as revealing is a form of abusive behavior involving the use of language. "It is a form of

profanity in that it can occur with or without the use of expletives". The Protection of women from Domestic Violence act 2005 deals verbal and emotional abuse along with in section 3 clause (iii) of this act stated that "verbal and emotional abuse includes- insults, ridicule, humiliation, name calling and insults or ridicule specially with regard to not having a child or a male child; and repeated threats to cause physical pain to any person in whom the aggrieved person is interested.

Gundappa (2012) observes that Violence against women in India is of many types and from birth to death; women are prone to violence from men and society. Women throughout the world have been accorded lower status than men. In the 21st century even though women are educated and equally participating in employment with men, still the social conventions, traditions and restrictions controlling the life of women directly or indirectly. In the last two decades violence against women, (gender-based violence) has emerged as the most pressing and intractable social problem across regional, social and cultural boundaries. Violence against women is recognized as a serious human rights violation and a pervasive public health problem that concerns all sectors of society. Violence against women is not so much a question of sexuality as it is of political power, both patriarchal and other, ranging from domestic violence to the violence of state power, that often appropriate the existing patriarchal ideology to control women's minds, bodies, and psyches. Hence, it can be said that psychological illness of women or mental tensions of women are due to violence and exploitation of women in offices, families and in general the society. Aston (2013) says that often, it has been noticed that the husbands exert unreasonable force and dominance on their wives to suppress their voice and rights and take to method of violence. They beat - up their wives, abuse them, torture them physically, mentally and emotionally and violate all kinds of human rights and lower their dignity of a human being.

Causation

Dhir (2005) says family is considered as the first agency, which provides not only emotional and material support to its members but also serves as a basic source of personal satisfaction, socialization and social control. It works as a link between continuity and change and as an important source of stability and support. On the other side, due to patriarchy in our family system, the family does not give equal importance to all members, as role, power and status are strictly determined by age and gender. Although the family is a source of love, sympathy and support, it is also the source of inequality, exploitation and violence. Gandhiji opines that violence includes exploitation economic, social, and political of individual by individual or of nation-by nation and so on. Domestic violence includes all actions or behaviour of family members which causes either physical injury or emotional trauma or both to a woman. The expression of domestic violence can be seen in the form of wife battering, demand for more dowry, divorce, bride burning and conflicts in family life. The increased economic insecurity, unemployment and poverty in families may result in

alcoholism, lack of status and sense of belongingness and fulfillment of basic needs etc. Many affect women directly in the form of increased domestic violence. While science and technology are advancing economic and social problems are worsening. Subordination of women has led to violence under this head to rise. Incidence of domestic violence crosses all the barriers of class, income, rare, culture and religion and in a highly under reported crime. Domestic violence is one of the greatest obstacles to gender equality and securing for women their fundamental rights to equal protection under the law and the right to life and liberty. Sharma (1997) states that in India 25 percent of women experienced physical violence or sexual assault or both at the hands of a current or former partner and about 50 percent of women who are murdered are killed by a male intimate. This is a clear picture of male domination and this not only leads to physical consequences but also to the serious psychological consequence. Lili Pinteá-Reed (1998) observes domestic violence happens because society values women less than men. As a result, the abusers (usually the husband) feel that they are entitled to impose their will on women by whatever means necessary, including violence. Domestic violence continues to happen because, as a community, we remain silent. Pashasharifi and Eghlimia (2003) say in a study addressing the issue of drug abuse and its impact on domestic violence showed that in 63.6% of families whose fathers were drug addicts, both physical and psychological violence occurred. However, in 17.2% of these families, no violence was noted while in 18.2% and 1% of them either psychological or physical violence was evident, respectively. Given that batterers often engage in other types of violent and criminal behaviours, there is a great need for increased research in the criminal justice field as my search revealed no such estimative efforts. Saravanan (2000) Violence against women in the family occurs in developed and developing countries alike. It has long been considered a private matter by bystanders -- including neighbours, the community and government. But such private matters have a tendency to become public tragedies. Aston (2013) says that often such violence is a consequence of dowry related matters and frequent quarrels and fights due to petty reasons and ego problems. The United Nations has reported that in the United States, which is a developed nation, that a woman is beaten every eighteen minutes. In Pakistan, around 400 cases of domestic violence were reported in 1993 where almost half of the cases ended with the death of the wife.

Consequences

Alhadini Dhir (2005) opines in families, domestic violence creates an unpredictable and frightening environment. Children learn to fear their fathers and worry about their mothers. Children growing up in violent homes learn that violence and aggression are acceptable ways of expressing emotion or resolving conflicts. These children are more likely to leave home and commit acts of violence in their own homes as adults. Nojumi and Akrami (2002) opine a relationship between physical violence and its deleterious consequences on the ability of

women to carry out their childcare activities. Specifically, they examined 406 women in labour and collected data, including their method of delivery, the length of their hospitalization during their pregnancy period, premature delivery and the general health status of their infant. Their findings revealed that being the victim of domestic violence, specifically, repeated exposure to physical violence perpetrated by their husbands, resulted in their longer hospitalization due to kidney infection, higher rates of premature births and under weight infants, and higher rates of unwanted pregnancy and nausea, compared to non-abused women. Saravanan (2000) 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. Radhika Coomaraswamy identifies different kinds of violence against women, in the United Nation's special report, 1995, on Violence Against Women; a) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation. b) Physical sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution. c) Physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the state, wherever it occurs. This definition added 'violence perpetrated or condoned by the State', to the definition by United Nations in 1993. Volpe (1996) says that 3.3 million Children witness domestic violence each year in the US. There has been an increase in acknowledgment that a child who is exposed to domestic abuse during their upbringing will suffer in their developmental and psychological welfare. Because of the awareness of domestic violence that some children have to face, it also generally impacts how the child develops emotionally, socially, behaviorally as well as cognitively. Some emotional and behavioral problems that can result due to domestic violence include increased aggressiveness, anxiety, and changes in how a child socializes with friends, family, and authorities. Depression, as well as self-esteem issues, can follow due to traumatic experiences. Problems with attitude and cognition in schools can start developing, along with a lack of skills such as problem-solving. Correlation has been found between the experience of abuse and neglect in childhood and perpetrating domestic violence and sexual abuse in adulthood. Additionally, in some cases the abuser will purposely

abuse the mother or father in front of the child to cause a ripple effect, hurting two victims simultaneously. It has been found that children who witness mother assault are more likely to exhibit symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Consequences to these children are likely to be more severe if their assaulted mother develops post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and does not seek treatment due to her difficulty in assisting her child with processing his or her own experience of witnessing the domestic violence. Volpe, J. (1996) also says that bruises, broken bones, head injuries, lacerations, and internal bleeding are some of the acute effects of a domestic violence incident that require medical attention and hospitalization. Some chronic health conditions that have been linked to victims of domestic violence are arthritis, irritable bowel syndrome, chronic pain, pelvic pain, ulcers, and migraines. Victims who are pregnant during a domestic violence relationship experience greater risk of miscarriage, pre-term labor, and injury to or death of the fetus. Among victims who are still living with their perpetrators high amounts of stress, fear, and anxiety are commonly reported. Depression is also common, as victims are made to feel guilty for 'provoking' the abuse and are frequently subjected to intense criticism. It is reported that 60% of victims meet the diagnostic criteria for depression, either during or after termination of the relationship, and have a greatly increased risk of suicidality. In addition to depression, victims of domestic violence also commonly experience long-term anxiety and panic, and are likely to meet the diagnostic criteria for Generalized Anxiety Disorder and Panic Disorder. The most commonly referenced psychological effect of domestic violence is Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). PTSD (as experienced by victims) is characterized by flashbacks, intrusive images, exaggerated startle response, nightmares, and avoidance of triggers that are associated with the abuse. These symptoms are generally experienced for a long span of time after the victim has left the dangerous situation. Many researchers state that PTSD is possibly the best diagnosis for those suffering from psychological effects of domestic violence, as it accounts for the variety of symptoms commonly experienced by victims of trauma. Once victims leave their perpetrator, they can be stunned with the reality of the extent to which the abuse has taken away their autonomy. Due to economic abuse and isolation, the victim usually has very little money of their own and few people on whom they can rely when seeking help. This has been shown to be one of the greatest obstacles facing victims of DV, and the strongest factor that can discourage them from leaving their perpetrators. In addition to lacking financial resources, victims of DV often lack specialized skills, education, and training that are necessary to find gainful employment, and also may have several children to support. In 2003, thirty-six major US cities cited DV as one of the primary causes of homelessness in their areas. It has also been reported that one out of every three homeless women are homeless due to having left a DV relationship. If a victim is able to secure rental housing, it is likely that her apartment complex will have "zero tolerance"

policies for crime; these policies can cause them to face eviction even if they are the victim (not the perpetrator) of violence. While the number of shelters and community resources available to DV victims has grown tremendously, these agencies often have few employees and hundreds of victims seeking assistance which causes many victims to remain without the assistance they need. Domestic violence can trigger many different responses in victims, all of which are very relevant for any professional working with a victim. Major consequences of domestic violence victimization include psychological/mental health issues and chronic physical health problems. A victim's overwhelming lack of resources can lead to homelessness and poverty.

Strategies to Cope with Violence

Jasrotia (2012) says the Constitution of India conferred equal rights on Women and men with a view to abolish gender discrimination. A number of laws were also implemented for exalating the status of Women and liberating them from oppressive social customs while protecting their rights. Prominent of these laws are, the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and the subsequent amendments of 1984 and 1986, the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986. Besides these Acts there are other Legislations as well like, the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act of 1956, the Immoral Traffic Prevention Act of 1956 amended in 1986, the National Commission for Women Act of 1990, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, Protection of Women against Sexual Harassment at Work Place Act, 2007 etc. Despite these social and legal measures Women are still subjected to severe hardships of numerous forms viz., physical assault, criminal assault, rape, domestic violence, prostitution, economic deprivation, and mental subjugation.

Nanda (2005) says despite many laws violence against women is on the high at all domains – private and public. In Indian context, According to the National Crime Records Bureau, of 155,553 crimes committed against women in 2005 - 68,810 were domestic violence cases (44%). According to the National Family Health Survey 2007, one third of women in the age of 15-49 have experienced physical abuse. According to NCRB report one crime is committed to woman in every three minutes. In Odisha context the most alarming violence: Declining Sex Ratio (953 in 2001 to 934 in 2011 census). Orissa is placed 11th in the list of the States ranked as per crimes against women as per NCRB report 2005. According to the report of NFHS -3, around 20% of women in Orissa have reportedly been assaulted by their husbands. As per SCW data during 2009, out of 2481 VAW cases dowry related violence constitutes 749 (30%). The United Nations Declaration on Violence against Women states - "Violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women, and that violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared with men".

Agnihotri, et al (2006) also opine NGOs, along with legislative measures, have proven helpful in improving quality of life and preventing violence-related injuries among women. The health sector also plays an important role as part of multi-sector efforts in early detection and prevention of cases of domestic violence. Psychiatrists are in a unique position for early identification of such patients as well as intervention. Bowker, (1983) says that women who have received help and support from family and friends report it as being very important in allowing them to leave their abusers. These friends and family members can also provide safe places for women and children to stay, store belongings, and are available to assist abused women in rebuilding their lives after leaving an abuser. Women who do not have that support face even greater obstacles than those who do.

Conclusion

Despite having so many enactments and legislations at the international and regional level which deal with women, the oppressed and poor conditions of women have not been improved and they are still facing all types of atrocities, violence and abuses. To improve the status of the women in the society, prevent the violence against women and protect them is the need of the hour.

References

1. Agnihotri, A.K. MD, Agnihotri M., MD, Jeebun N., MD & Purwar B., MD (2006): Torture volume 16, Domestic violence against women– an international concern, November 1.
2. Ahmad, Tabrez, Poorva Khandekar, Kundan Kumar Ojha, Ipsita Mohanty, Priyanka Biswas (2009). 'Domestic Violence in India: Will Law Alone Change the Situation?', University of Petroleum and Energy Studies (UPES) - College of Legal Studies, KIIT Law School, KIIT University, KIIT Law School, KIIT University and KIIT Law School, KIIT University. SSRN.
3. Ambaraya. Gundappa, (2012) Research Scholar, Indian Streams Research Journal/Vol.2, Issue. IV/May; 12pp.1-4 Department of Women's Studies, Gulbarga University, GULBARGA: 585 106 Karnataka.
4. Aston, Joshua N. (2013) 'Women, Violence and Gender Justice: A Human Rights Perspective', Gujarat National Law University, Gujarat, SSRN.
5. Baxi, upendra (1994), Inhuman Wrongs and Human Rights: Unconventional Essays. HarAnand Publications, New Delhi.
6. Behera, Soumya surati (2009) Domestic violence-Need for legal awareness, Dominant Publisher and distributors, 199/5, C.B. Marg, Moujpur, Delhi – 110053.
7. Bowker, L.H. (1983) Beating wife beating. Lexington, MA: Lexington Books.
8. Dhir, Alhadini (2005): Orissa review, June.
9. Edleson, J. L., Ellerton, A. L., Seagren, E. A., Kirchberg, S. L., Schmidt, S. O., & Ambrose, A. T. (2007). Assessing child exposure to domestic violence. Children and Youth Services Review, 29, 961–971.
10. Hulme, D. and Mosley, P. (1996) Finance Against Poverty, Routledge, London.

ISSN No. : 2394-0344

11. Ibrahim Koodoruth (2014). Advances in the Analysis of Domestic Violence - An Outline of the Debate on the Etiology of Domestic Violence, The international journal of social sciences, Vol. – 26, No.1.
12. Jasrotia, Anu (2012) Asian Journal of Multidimensional Research Vol.1 Issue 1, June, ISSN 2278-4853.
13. Kar, P. K. (1998) Indian society, Kalyani Publisher, New Delhi-110002, page no.236– 245.
14. LiliPintea-Reed (1998) FEMINISTA Magazine.
15. Nanda, Aradhana (2005) paper Presentation Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act.
16. 16. Nojumi, M., & Akrami, Z. (2002) Physical violence during pregnancy and its motherhood and infantile consequence. Payesh Journal (5), 47–52 [in Farsi].
17. Office of Violence Against Women (2009), 'The Fact Sheets About the Office on Violence against Women Focus Areas', 1, <http://www.usdoj.gov>. Last visited on 2ndFebruary,2009

Remarking : Vol-2 * Issue-1*June-2015

18. Pashasharifi, H. P., and Eghlimia M. (2003). The phenomenon of violence and fathers' addiction. Unpublished Master's thesis, University of ShahidBeheshti, Center for family research. [In Farsi].
19. Saravanan, Sheela (2000): Violence against Women in India. Institute of Social Studies Trust, 2000. P. 1.
20. Sharma, Bela Rani (1997) 'Women: Marriage, Family Violence and Divorce', Mangal Deep Publications, JajPur
21. ShirinKudchedkar (1998), Sabiha Al-Issa (Eds.), Violence Against Women: Women Against Violence, Pencraft International, Delhi, p.13.
22. Stacy, W. and Shupe, A. (1983) The Family Secret. Boston, MA. Beacon Press.
23. The U.N. Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women 1993, Art.1.
24. Volpe, J. (1996). Effects of Domestic Violence on Children and Adolescents: An Overview. American Academy of Experts in Trauma Stress, Inc