

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN VICTIMS AND IMPACT ON THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE IN TUMKURU DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

Domestic violence is one of the most pervasive human rights violations in the world, rooted in gender inequality, discrimination and harmful cultural and social norms. It is also increasingly recognized as a public health issue that adversely affects the health of women. It is estimated that approximately 35 per cent of women worldwide have experienced intimate partner physical and sexual violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime (WHO, 2013). The impact of violence leads Poor Quality of life among the women victims.

The current study examines the demographic profile of women Victims of violence, factors probable reasons for domestic violence, and impact on their Quality of Life. The universe for the study is Tumkuru, Karnataka. An exploratory and descriptive based research design was adopted. The samples are drawn from the registered cases of Ambika Swadhar Centre, Reception centre, CURDS, Tumkuru, Women A total of 50 victims' issues were addressed during the study period using The tools for the study are WHOQOL BRIEF scale, Self Structured Interview schedule, case study and observation through Focused Group Discussion. The study indicates that Violence against women, inequality and discrimination, poverty, injustice, insecurity (social and economical), lack of education , lack of awareness on social and Legal protection, lack of self confidence and lack of support from the family as well as civil society and forms of physical violence against women and impact on their Quality of Life of women victims.

Key Words: Domestic Violence, Rape, Women Victim, Social Work and Women Strategy

INTRODUCTION

Millions of women and girls around the world are assaulted, beaten, raped, mutilated or even murdered in what constitutes appalling violations of their human rights. We must fundamentally challenge the culture of discrimination that allows this violence to continue. UN Secretary - General Ban Ki-Moon.

The fear of violence including harassment is a permanent constraint on the mobility of women and limits their access to resources and basic activities. High social, health and economic costs to the individual and society are associated with violence against women. Violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into subordinate position” (United Nations: The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 1996, p.75).

Definitions of domestic violence can be broad or focused, amorphous or targeted. The reason that the definition of violence is important is because it shapes the response. For example, a community response, whether it be legal reform or the provision of support services, is shaped by a particular understanding of what constitutes domestic violence and whether it is to be conceptualized as an intra-family conflict, or a criminal violation of rights. The definition implied by the law is especially critical as it defines standards and thus impacts broader social perceptions of the problem. Elements of the definition that need to be considered then are the boundaries of the relationship between the perpetrator and the abused, the norms of acceptable behaviour, and the specific acts that constitutes violence. A frequent perception of domestic violence against women is that it is limited to physical harm perpetrated on adult women within a marital relationship. While this understanding may capture a large universe of the experience of women, it is predicated on the assumption that women primarily live in nuclear families. Across cultures, there are a variety of living arrangements ranging from joint families to nuclear. Families to single parent families. Moreover, women may be in an established relationship or in the process of separation or divorce. Violence is often not restricted to the current husband but may extend to boyfriends, former husbands, and other family members such as parents, siblings, and in-laws. A definition that acknowledges these multiple possibilities would lead to interventions that are more inclusive of the experiences of all women. (International Centre for Research on Women and the Centre for Development and Population Activities).

The issue of violence against women is now positioned as a priority on global human rights, health and development agendas. The elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls and of all harmful practices are now part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and included as specific targets (i.e. targets 5.2 and 5.3) in the Sustainable Development Goals, providing a strong mandate for moving forward. Many of the responses to date to violence against women have focused primarily on intervening with affected individuals after the violence has occurred. Such strategies are essential to mitigate the devastating mental, physical, social and economic effects for women experiencing violence, ensure justice and accountability, and prevent its recurrence. It is important to continue to improve these responses. At the same time, there is also an increasing need to address the broader factors that contribute to prevalence at a population level, and to implement programmes that prevent such violence from occurring in the first place.

Violence against women and girls is rooted in gender-based discrimination and social norms and gender stereotypes that perpetuate such violence. Given the devastating effect violence has on women, efforts have mainly focused on responses and services for survivors. However, the best way to end violence against women and girls is to prevent it from happening in the first place by addressing its root and structural causes.

Violence against women

In the last decade, the issue of violence against women has moved from the shadows to the foreground of commitments to attain sustainable development. Women's rights advocates have mobilized within and across countries and regions to secure significant changes in national, regional and international standards and policies addressing gender-based violence. Landmark achievements today include the;

1. Convention on the Elimination of Violence against Women (1993)
2. Dakar Platform for Action (1994)
3. Beijing Platform for Action (1995)
4. African Plan of Action to Accelerate the Implementation of the Dakar and Beijing Platforms
5. for Action for the Advancement of Women (1999)

6. UN Resolution 1325 on Women Peace and Security (2000); and
7. Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the Rights of Women in
8. Africa (2003).

Domestic violence in India

Domestic violence in India is endemic. Around 70% of women in India are victims of domestic violence, according to Renuka Chowdhury, former Union minister for Women and Child Development. Domestic violence was legally addressed in the 1980s when the 1983 Criminal Law Act introduced section 498A "Husband or relative of husband of a woman subjecting her to cruelty".

The National Crime Records Bureau reveal that a crime against a woman is committed every three minutes, a woman is raped every 29 minutes, a dowry death occurs every 77 minutes, and one case of cruelty committed by either the husband or relative of the husband occurs every nine minutes. This occurs despite the fact that women in India are legally protected from domestic abuse under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act.

Crime against Women in Karnataka during 2009 -2012

Crime Head	Total	Percent
Rape	2355	06.27
Kidnapping & Abduction	3567	09.5
Dowry Death	1097	02.92
Torture (Cruelty by Husband or relatives)	14022	37.34
Molestation	10316	27.47
Sexual Harassment (Insulting Modesty)	328	00.87
Importation of Girls	046	00.12
Sati Prevention Act	00	00
Immoral Traffic (P) Act	1257	03.35
Indecent Rep. of Women (P) Act	03	00.01
Dowry Prohibition Act	4559	12.14
Total	37550	100

Sources: GOK (2011) '(SCRB), Pp.145 & GOK (2012) '(SCRB),Pp.14

REVIEWS OF LITERATURE

Preethi Krishnan (2015) the practices and arrangements within a family can create grounds for violence. Although we agree that family processes are important, we think that these explanations downplay the structure of families (nuclear, extended) and thereby the ways in which gender relations are organized. In this paper, domestic violence is explored as an intra-family dynamic that extends beyond the intimate partner relationship and which seeps into court rulings of cases of such violence.

Kimberly M. Tatum (2015) The purpose of this paper is to examine domestic violence calls for service data in one Florida county for a two-year period from July 2004 through July 2006. Data for this study include information gathered on domestic violence calls for service during a two-year period ($n=3,200$). This secondary data were analyzed by logistic regression to determine statistically significant predictor variables. This study found that severity of crime, presence of children, presence of an injunction, and victim injury increased the likelihood of an arrest. Victim race, location of call, victim alcohol use, and length of relationship did not affect likelihood of arrest.

METHODOLOGY

Aim of study: This study investigates the Socio -Economic and demographic profile of victims, types of physical violence and Quality of life among women Victims of violence.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- ❖ To study Socio – Economic Status of women victims of violence
- ❖ To know the types of physical violence
- ❖ To explore the Quality of life of Women victims of Violence

Research Design: An exploratory and descriptive based research design was adopted to explore the study results. An exploratory and descriptive based research design was adopted. The samples are drawn from the registered cases of Ambika Swadhar Centre, Reception centre , CURDS , Tumkuru , A total of 50 victims' issues were addressed during the study period using The tools for the study are WHOQOL BRIEF scale, Self Structured Interview schedule , case study and observation through Focused Group Discussion.

Data Collection: The Researcher collected the primary data by interviewing the victims in Tumkuru at the time of counselling process in Family Counselling Centres, And journal, reports, and similar studies on violence.

Data Analysis and Interpretation: The data was tabulated and analysed with the help of simple arithmetic and percentage techniques and SPSS and statically test was used to obtain the results.

Table No: 01. Age Group of the Respondents

Sl. No	Particular	Frequency	Percentage
01	18-27	14	28
02	28-37	17	34
03	37-48	13	26
04	49 And above	06	12
Total		50	100

The table shows that age group of the Respondents. Majority of (34.00%) of the respondent's age between 28-37, (28%) of respondent's age between 18-27%, and (26.00%) of the respondent's age between 37-48 year of the age and only (12.00%) of the respondents age is 49 and above. From the above the table researcher came to know that minority of the respondents are 28 years to 37 years of the age.

Table No: 02. Marital status of the Respondents

Sl. No	Particular	Frequency	Percentage
01	Single, that is never Married	02	04
02	Married and living with Partner	07	14
03	Separated	38	76
04	Widow	03	06
05	Divorced	00	00
06	Others (specify)	00	00
Total		50	100

The Table shows that marital status of the Respondents. Majority of (76.00%) of the respondents are separated, (14.00%) of respondent's are single, that is never married, and (04.00%) of the respondents single, that never married. From the above table the researcher came to know that majority of the respondents are separated.

Table No: 03. Educational Background of the Respondents

Sl. No	Particular	Frequency	Percentage
01	Illiterate	12	24
02	Primary Education (01 st -07 th)	16	32
03	High School (08 th -10 th)	12	24
04	PUC/Diploma	02	04
05	Graduate and above	06	12
06	Others (Specify)	02	04
Total		50	100

Table no 03 shows the Educational background of the Respondents. Majority of (32.00%) of the respondent's has completed primary education, (24.00%) of respondent's has completed High school, and (24.00%) of the respondents were illiterate, (12.00%) of the respondent's has completed Graduate and only 04.00% of the respondents completed graduate and above. From the above table researcher came to know the majority of the respondents studied only Primary level of education (01st -07th).

Table No: 04. Religion of the Respondents.

Sl. No	Particular	Frequency	Percentage
01	Hindu	41	82
02	Muslim	09	18
03	Christian	00	00
04	No Religion	00	00
05	Other	00	00
Total		50	100

The above chart shows that Religion of the Respondents. Majority of (82.00%) of the respondents are Hindu, (18.00%) of respondent's are Muslim. From the above the researcher came to know that minority of the respondents are Hindu religions.

Table No: 05. Types of Income of the Respondents.

Sl.No	Particular	Frequency	Percentage
01	Monthly	147	73.5
02	Weekly	53	26.5
03	Daily	00	00
04	Others (Specify)	00	00
Total		200	100

Table shows that type of income of the Respondents. Majority of (73.05%) of the respondents were getting monthly income (26.05%) of respondents were getting weekly. From the above table researcher came to know that majority of the respondents were getting monthly income.

Table No: 06. Area Background of the Respondents

SL.No	Particular	Frequency	Percentage
01	Rural Area	26	52
02	Urban Area	18	36
03	Semi Urban	02	04
04	Slum	04	08
05	Others	00	00
Total		50	100

The table shows that the background (area) of the Respondents. Majority of (52.00%) of the respondents are from Rural Area, (36.00%) of respondent's are from Urban Area, and (08.00%) of the respondents are from Slum and only (4.00%) of the respondents from semi urban.

Table No: 07. Type of Violence Experienced by the Respondents

Tumkur District								
Marital Status	Domestic Violence		Physical Violence		Emotional Violence		Sexual Violence	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Single	02	100.0	02	100.0	00	00.0	02	100.0
Married	06	85.7	07	100.0	05	71.4	05	71.4
Separated	26	68.4	32	84.2	31	81.6	30	78.9
Widow	02	66.7	03	100.0	02	66.7	02	66.7
Total	36	72.0	44	88.0	38	76.0	39	78.0

Table shows that types of violence of the Respondents. Majority of the respondents are separated for various reason and faced domestic, physical, emotional and sexual violence.

Nature of Physical Violence Experienced by the Respondents

Forcibly beating, punching, plucking hair, punching, using physical objects and burning with cigarettes.

Causes of Physical Violence Experienced by the Respondents

- ✓ Misunderstanding between you and your Husband
- ✓ Mother in law or father in law's power
- ✓ Extra marital Affair
- ✓ Sexual Satisfaction
- ✓ Forcibly Marriage
- ✓ Property Dispute
- ✓ Alcohol
- ✓ Dowry Dispute
- ✓ Female Feticide
- ✓ Financial Dispute
- ✓ Doubt
- ✓ Effect of Neighbors
- ✓ Domination
- ✓ Discrimination

Table No: 08. Impact of Quality of Life of Women Victims

		Region
		Tumkuru
Very Poor	Count	02
	% within Quality of Life Pre	25.0%
Poor	Count	41
	% within Quality of Life Pre	25.3%
Neither Poor nor Good	Count	07
	% within Quality of Life Pre	23.3%
Total	Count	50
	% within Quality of Life Pre	25.0%

The above table shows the impact on QOL of the respondents. The results show majority of the respondents (25.03) said that they have poor quality of life.

MAJOR FINDINGS

- ❖ Regarding age group, Majority of Respondents belongs to age Group (27-38years)
- ❖ Marital status Majority of the Respondents were Separated
- ❖ Regarding Educational Qualification, Majority of Respondents found with Educational Qualification up to Primary.
- ❖ Majority of Respondents belongs to Hindu Religion
- ❖ Majority of the Respondents are from Nuclear Family.
- ❖ Majority of the Respondents lives in pucca Houses.
- ❖ Majority of the Respondents were getting Monthly Income.
- ❖ Majority of the Respondents were from Rural Area.
- ❖ Majority of the Respondents strongly agreed that they Faced Violence.
- ❖ Majority of the Respondents faced various forms of Physical Violence.
- ❖ From the Cross Tabulation Researcher came to know that, Majority of the Respondents were separated from Husbands and Family for various Reasons.
- ❖ Majority of the respondents faced physical violence and forms of Physical violence that is , forcibly beating , Punching, Plucking hair , Punching, using things .
- ❖ The above table shows the Impact on QOL of the Respondents. The results show Majority of the Respondents (25.3) said that they have poor quality of life.

SUGGESTIONS

- ❖ Victimized women are always perceived, considered and treated as a social issue, this attitude has to be changed and consider this as a health and psychological issue, the prevalence rate of the incidence, and health issues identified and treated.
- ❖ Counseling as an aspect is considered to be an important component in some countries. Victimized women severely need counseling should be insisted compulsorily and make this service available at all NGOs, so that the incidents and numbers of family breakdowns may be reduced.
- ❖ Family orientation programme should be given with the help of Government.

CONCLUSION

Violence against women can have a myriad of devastating consequences on women's short and long term wellbeing. Along with the immediate Physical and Emotional impact of Violence, women's overall quality of life can be adversely affected over an entire. To improve the quality of life of women victim need to expand existing and emerging innovations and research to foster systemic change, such as better understanding the connections between homelessness and domestic violence. Another example is community mobilization, which works toward lessening the stigma surrounding domestic violence and making it a concern for entire communities, not just individual families. The social work intervention is essential to prevent violence against women with the help of global frame work and strategies.

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