

A Critical Analysis of Review of Literature on Domestic Violence against Working Women

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ABSTRACT

In our society violence is prevalent everywhere, be it outside or inside the four walls of the home. Domestic Violence includes physical abuse, emotional, economic, verbal, and sexual abuse. The social stigma of public dishonor is the greatest cause for a woman to become trapped in this frightful environment. General observation reveals that a woman who is dependent financially on her partner or her family is more prone for violence, but it is not always true. Working women, who is equally contributing for her family as other counterpart, is also equally prone for domestic violence either from her spouse or family members.

Several studies have shown that working women in India is also caught up under the vicious circle of domestic violence. Many scholarly articles are available on these issues. Here in this paper an attempt is made by researchers to review different scholarly articles and understand why domestic violence against working women happens though she is financially empowered, also to examine its different forms and the factors which are making her endure. This article is based on critical analysis of literature review and secondary data.

Keywords-- Socio-Cultural Factors, Domestic Violence, Social Stigma

I. INTRODUCTION

Indian economy has undergone a substantial change over a period of time. Changing economic scenario has brought several changes in India in all economic, social, technological, cultural and political fronts. Globalization, liberalization and privatization have lead to increase in more employment opportunity for everyone. The role of women in India is changing from a skilled home maker to skilled workforce. She has acquired skills and capabilities and contributing equally to her family, society and nation at par with her male counterpart. Today she has made her mark in all the fields. The latest trend for India Inc is that it seems to be taking in larger women workforce as they bring their own perspective in the work and have emerged as better professionals in any situations.

Corporate India today seems to be leaving no stone unturned to attract them.

In 21st century, though the society is changing, moving towards growth and people are talking about gender equality, violence against women has not yet stopped. Violence against women in our society is more prevalent. Violence includes any sort of domestic, sexual, verbal, physical or psychological abuse. Domestic violence has become a social and public health problem today. The United Nations defines violence against women as "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life." Domestic violence as defined by Domestic violence act 2005, Section 3 of the Act as "any act, omission or commission or conduct of the respondent shall constitute domestic violence in case it:

1. 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
2. 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
3. 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
4. Otherwise injures or causes harm, whether physical or mental, to the aggrieved person."

II. NEED FOR THE STUDY

Empirical evidence shows that in a civilized society, not only in India, but also across the globe, crime against women is increasing. Crimes against women increased to 34 percent over the last four years to 2015, with cruelty by husbands and relatives being the most

widely reported crime, according to the latest data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). Study conducted by NCRB in the year 2015, data reveals that Maharashtra, west Bengal, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are the top five states where crime has increased. When it comes to domestic violence against women, it is an age old phenomenon. Women were considered weak and more vulnerable section for violence. Empirical evidence shows that even a working women (as per the dictionary definition, a women who is paid for her job or employment), is also a victim of domestic violence. As per the initial observation it seems that though women is economically empowered tend to bear violence may be due to her deep cultural roots, society values, family pressures, fear of consequences, lack of awareness of protection act etc.. Several scholarly studies have been carried out in this area. The main purpose of this article is to review different literatures and identify the causes for domestic violence against women, with specific reference to working women.

III. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SELECT STUDY

A study on “A Critical Analysis of Review of Literature on Domestic Violence against Working Women”, helps to review different literature on domestic violence. Several studies have been carried out in the area of domestic violence, but the researcher finds that very few studies are carried out in the area of economic stability and domestic violence against women. Empirical research helps to identify the relationship between domestic violence and other variables. So that it helps future researchers to carry out in-depth analysis to establish or check the relation. This review will also help to understand the causes, so that prevention measures can be thought of. Several measures can be initiated such as education for women, providing economic empowerment etc.

Objective: To review different literatures and to identify the causes for domestic violence against women, with specific reference to working women and to develop relation among different variables.

IV. METHODOLOGY / APPROACH

This article is purely based on review of literatures carried out in this area. It is an exploratory research which is conducted to explore deeply in to the area of domestic violence against working women. To carry out review of literature, Theoretical review method used, as this method helps to identify or focus on conceptual framework. It also helps to identify what theory exists and how they are interrelated with each other. Through the present study the researcher is building

different concepts based on the review and understanding the relationship between different variable. Funnel (general to specific) approach is used to present the review. For this particular study researcher has used five research papers.

V. LIMITATION OF STUDY

This literature review basically highlights different variable cause's domestic violence. Researcher has ignored the impact factor, due to time constraint.

VI. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

A review of literature reveals that domestic violence is not new phenomenon. It is an age old phenomenon. Domestic violence occurs across the world, in various cultures and affects people across society, irrespective of economic status. Study on examining the assault against women found that "women are as physically aggressive or more aggressive than men in their relationships with their spouses or male partners". However, studies have shown that women are more likely to be injured. Archer's meta-analysis found that women suffer 65% of domestic violence injuries. A Canadian study showed that 7% of women and 6% of men were abused by their current or former partners, but female victims of domestic violence were more than twice as likely to be injured as male victims, three times more likely to fear for their life, twice as likely to be stalked, and twice as likely to experience more than ten incidents of violence.

Domestic Violence in Global Scenario

As per the review of report of WHO on “Global and Regional Estimates of violence against women” (WHO) reveals that:

- Overall 35% of women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime.
- Most of this violence is intimate partner violence. Worldwide, almost one third (30%) of women who have been in a relationship report that they have experienced some form of physical and/or sexual violence by their intimate partner in their lifetime.
- Globally, as many as 38% of murders of women are committed by a male intimate partner.
- Globally, 7% of women have been sexually assaulted by men other than their partners.
- Violence can negatively affect women's physical, mental, sexual, and reproductive health.

- Men are more likely to perpetrate violence if they have low education, a history of child maltreatment, exposure to domestic violence against their mothers, harmful use of alcohol, unequal gender norms including attitudes accepting of violence, and a sense of entitlement over women.
- Women are more likely to experience intimate partner violence if they have low education, exposure to mothers being abused by a partner, abuse during childhood, and attitudes accepting violence, male privilege, and women's subordinate status.
- There is evidence that advocacy and empowerment counseling interventions, as well as home visitation are promising in preventing or reducing intimate partner violence against women.
- Situations of conflict, post conflict and displacement may exacerbate existing violence, such as by intimate partners, as well as and non-partner sexual violence, and may also lead to new forms of violence against women.

(Source: Report developed by WHO, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the South African Medical Research Council)

From the above reports we can say that violence against women is pervasive globally, irrespective of culture, community, class, race etc..Violence against women is not small; it is common public health problem, which calls for immediate attention.

VII. REVIEWS ON DIFFERENT SCHOLARLY ARTICLES

1: A Study of Domestic Violence in Working Women by Hina Kausar, Shruti P

Indian Journal of Forensic and Community Medicine, January – March 2016; 3(4):43-46

This particular research article aims to study the domestic violence against working women. Researcher has conducted institutional based cross sectional observational study in Chalmeda Anand Rao Institute of Medical Sciences and hospital for a period of one year. All professionals and working class women including doctors, nurses, and administrative staff sweepers were included. The data was collected in a predesigned and pretested Performa. Interviewer conducted interview alone with the respondents. Findings reveals that most of the women faces violence in the form of psychological and physical (slapping, fit blow, beating with stick). In many cases husband will be the perpetrators and then it will be mother in law. It was found that in 60% of these cases husband was found intoxicated. Several reasons were identified as

per the study such as, arguing back, unemployment of perpetrator, insufficient dowry, not having male child, refusing for sex. This study found that there was statistically significant difference of the association between type of work and domestic violence. Domestic violence was more among sweepers 26.33% followed by administrative staff 10.66%. It was lowest 2(66.6%) in doctors, reason for this might be their higher education and job. This indicates that higher education of women may play an important role in prevention of domestic violence. In this study Domestic violence was more 24.54% in the lower class and low in the upper class 6.66%. As socioeconomic status decreases domestic violence increases

2: Domestic Violence in India: An Empirical Analysis by Harihar Sahoo and Manas Ranjan Pradhan

Researcher has used multi stage sampling method. He has used bivariate analysis to examine the variation of domestic violence by background characteristics. Logistic regression is carried out to predict the domestic violence with the selected independent variables. This study reveals that lifestyle of men such as smoking, alcoholism and drugs promote men to commit domestic violence (Leonard, 1992; McKenry et al., 1995; Rao, 1997 and Bhatt, 1998), some are of the view that masculinity and domestic violence are closely interlinked (Duvvury and Nayak, 2003 and Hamberger et al., 1997). Again, persons with lower socialization and responsibility are found to be the enhancers of the problem (Barnett and Hamberger, 1992). Another study among Uttar Pradesh men by Gerstein (2000) is of the view that low educational level and poverty are important reasons for domestic violence. Further, marriage at a younger age makes women vulnerable to domestic violence (Mishra, 2000; Hindin, 2002 and Rao, 1997). Besides this, the role of inter spousal relationship, sex of the children, ownership of property, dowry, working status, autonomy, religion and caste of the person can't be ignored (Sahu, 2003; Swain, 2002 and Jejeebhoy, 1998). The analysis shows that the women belonging to low socio-economic status are more likely to agree with each of the different reasons justifying wife-beating. Again domestic violence is more among lower autonomy and women belonging to low socio-economic status.

3: Domestic against women working in an Institute by Prashant, Shastry, etc.

This study uses cross sectional observation study was conducted in a hospital by for faculty, nurses, working class, class 3 and class 4 employees. Domestic violence was found in class 4 employees more, different from of violence as per this study including above reasons were economic abuse, emotional violence, social relations, suspected extra marital affairs etc were identified. Husband was the perpetrator, intoxication was found as

one of the reason. Higher education and domestic violence association was identified in this study.

From Study 1, 2 and Study 3 it is hypothesized that

H1: Husband is perpetrator for domestic violence against women

H2: Domestic violence is moderated by the type of work women performs

H3: There is a significant relationship between socio economic class of family and domestic violence.

H4: There is a relationship between lifestyle of men and domestic violence.

4: Do changes in spousal employment status lead to domestic violence? Insights from a prospective study in Bangalore, India. By Krishnan S, Rocca CH, Hubbard AE, Subbiah K, Edmeades J, Padian NS.

This particular study was conducted in Bangalore, India to check out the spousal employment status and domestic violence. In 2005-2006, 744 married women, aged 16-25, residing in low-income communities in Bangalore, India were enrolled in the study. Data were collected at enrollment, 12 and 24 months. Multivariable logistic regression models were used to examine the prospective association between women's employment status, their perceptions of their husband's employment stability, and domestic violence. Women who were unemployed at one visit and began employment by the next visit had 80% higher odds of violence, as compared to women who maintained their unemployed status. Similarly, women whose husbands had stable employment at one visit and newly had difficulty with employment had 1.7 times the odds of violence, as compared to women whose husbands maintained their stable employment. This study reveals that even husbands employment stability has got relation with domestic violence..

5: Socio-demographic factors associated with domestic violence in urban slums, Mumbai, Maharashtra, India by Shahina Begum, Balaiah Donta, Saritha Nair, and C.P. Prakasam, Indian J Med Res. 2015 Jun; 141(6): 783–788.

This study examines the prevalence and determinants of domestic violence among women in urban

slums of Mumbai, India. Community based cross sectional survey was carried out using cluster random sampling method; Bivariate and Multivariate analysis is used to analyze the data. The findings of this study showed that domestic violence was prevalent in urban slums. Factors like early marriage, working status, justified wife beating and husband's use of alcohol were significantly associated with domestic violence. Working women were more likely to experience violence than women who were not working.

From study 3 & 4 it is hypothesized that:

H5: Education of woman mediates domestic violence.

H6: Woman's employment status and domestic violence is related with each other

H7: Husband's employment stability moderates domestic violence.

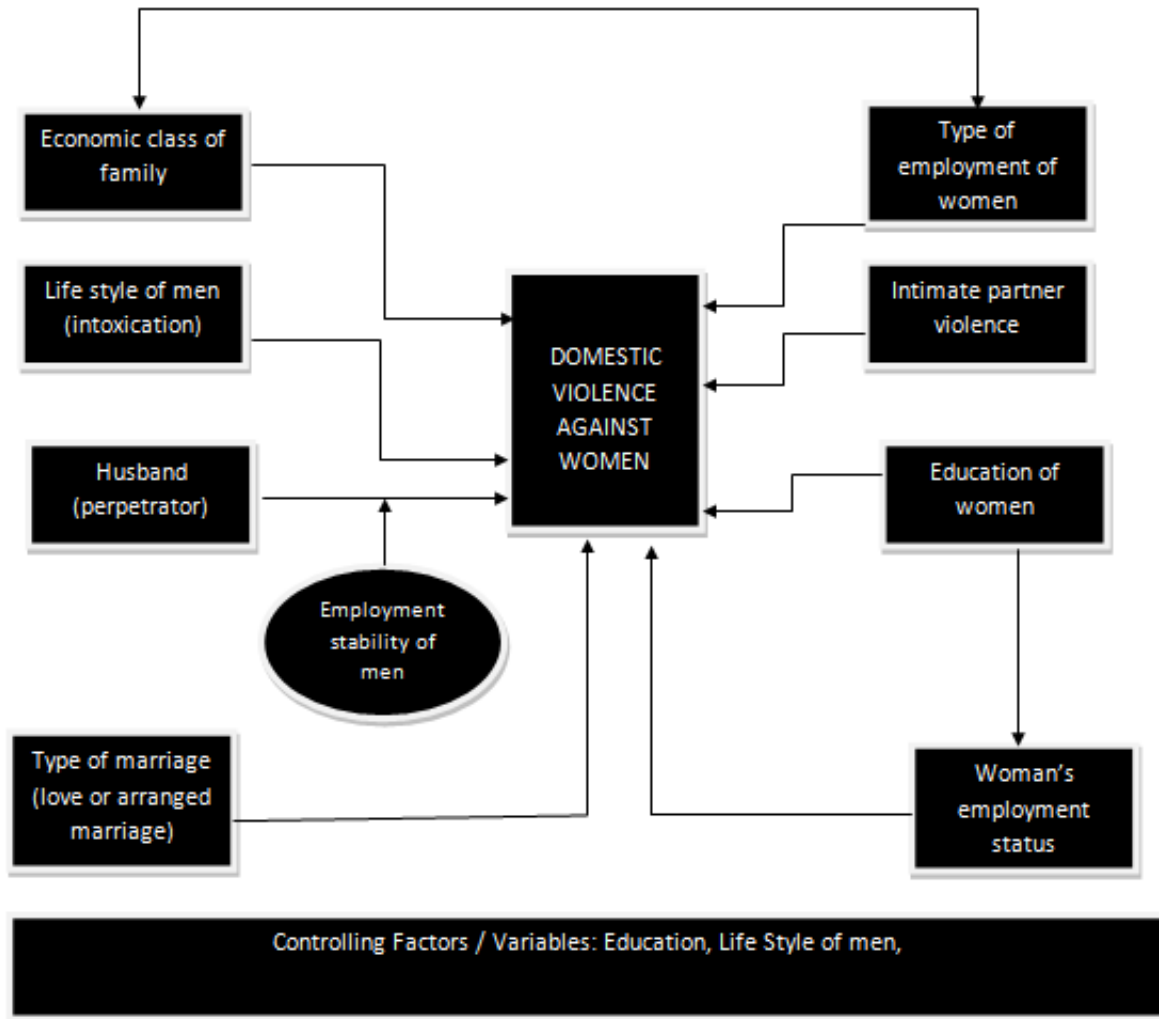
H8: There is a significant relation between type of marriage (i.e. love marriage or arranged marriage) and domestic violence.

H9: Intimate partner relation moderates domestic violence.

H10: There is a relationship between age of marriage and domestic violence.

VIII. RELATIONSHIP MODEL BASED ON REVIEW

Based on review of literature, researcher has developed the relationship model between domestic violence and other independent variables. Domestic violence is depended on so many other variables or factors. Education acts as a mediating variable, as education increases women employment status increases and this factor has an impact on domestic violence. Men's employment stability moderates domestic violence. Education acts as a controlling factor, if an attempt is made to increase education among women, it will help to prevent violence. Life style of men such as intoxication etc can also be controlled.



IX. DISCUSSIONS AND SCOPE FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

From the literature review, we can find that domestic violence against women is not a new phenomenon. Irrespective of society, culture, race, social status it is rooted everywhere. The form of violence may vary from physical violence to psychological, economical and emotional violence. It was also found that husband is perpetrator in majority of cases. Lifestyle of husband such as smoking, alcoholism do affects violence. Previous literature also gives an idea about linkage between economic status and domestic violence. Contrast to this, domestic violence cases have been found irrespective of social classes, may be the cases reported are less. Type of marriage i.e. love or arranged marriage has also to some extent has affected domestic violence. But it was not clear from the available review done by the researcher to prove it. Thus it also necessitates the scope for carrying out

research to check the relations between type of marriage and violence. Available statistics as per the WHO also reveals that violence among intimate partner is increasing. Violence among intimate partner can also become a researchable topic.

From the literature review we can analyze that economic empowerment of women has got both the impact. In few cases women's economic stability has positively affected violence, but there is another face for this. Employed women may face high risk of violence as her economic power reduces her dependency on men and it may lead enhancing her power in household and relationship, thus she may be more vulnerable. Similarly employment stability of husband is also moderating the domestic violence.

X. CONCLUSION

The forgoing study reveals that domestic violence is pervasive across the globe and the culture. Violence undermines the socio economic development of the nation and women in specific. Studies have revealed several factors are associated with violence against women. More surprisingly economic empowerment of women has also not helping to curtail domestic violence completely. There is a need to address on gender equality and education to women, to make her more empowered. Economic empowerment of women and employment stability of men , intimate partner violence , which is a growing trend in a society, need to reviewed to deeply understand the underlying variables.

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