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Prevalence and Nature of Domestic Violence against Women in Balochistan

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Abstract

Violence against women is an alarming issue in Balochistan, and women from all socioeconomic backgrounds are susceptible to domestic Violence in varying steps. It is contended that patriarchal descriptions of gender roles might strengthen the adopted inferiority of women. Therefore, it might not be a mere fluke that many women in Balochistan rationalize Domestic Violence for numerous motives. The present study aims to check out socioeconomic factors contributing to domestic Violence against women, and the research attempts to investigate the factors responsible for Domestic Violence against Women in Balochistan. The objectives of this study are: To Identify socioeconomic factors associated with Domestic Violence against Women. To know the attitudinal acceptance of women towards Domestic Violence. The findings illustrate that low socioeconomic status and attitudinal acceptance of women toward domestic Violence led to Domestic Violence against Women. Data shows that 34% of the respondents believed that the reason behind Domestic Violence is arguing with Husbands. Only 8 percent of the respondents favoured going out of home without telling the reason behind the Domestic Violence against them. The issue may be overcome by strengthening the implementation of existing laws, providing comprehensive support services and promoting gender equality and women's empowerment.

Keywords: Domestic Violence, Women, Balochistan, Pakistan

Introduction

The World Health Organization (WHO, 2013) has identified domestic violence as a major public health concern worldwide. The prevalence of domestic violence is increasing, and it has significant physical, mental, and social consequences. The majority of incidents reported by women globally, which is 35%, can be categorized as intimate partner violence, including physical or sexual violence. (Organization, 2013). Based on a systematic review, domestic violence rates are particularly high among Asian households, particularly in India where 41.61% of respondents reported experiencing intimate, physical, and/or sexual violence at some point in their lifetime.." (SHARMA, 2020)

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Domestic Violence against women is an alarming social problem in Pakistan. Moreover, women from all financial gatherings are powerless against domestic Violence in fluctuating notches. It is contended that the patriarchal meaning of gender roles might build up the assimilated mediocrity of women. Along these lines, it might not be a simple occurrence that countless women in Pakistan legitimize Violence against women for different motives (Qaisrani, Liaquat, & Khokhar, 2016).

Due to the dominatingly patriarchic culture in Balochistan, gender inequality mostly comes from cultural values building up traditionally male roles as top of the family, responsible for funds, and chief. Despite legitimate and strict legacy regulations, cultural principles support the hardship of women from acquired property (Amjad & Rasul, 2021). A review in light of a metropolitan example from Pakistan announced that a 58percent of the females faced actual Violence, like once in their life, 55 percent faced sexual Violence, and around 84 percent experienced mental maltreatment. A public family review in Pakistan on domestic Violence detailed that 33 percent of 23,430 women had encountered some actual Violence. Even though Violence against women is the most unavoidable and perceived general medical problem, it is kept a mystery privileged by the home's dividers. Many investigations have been done in developed nations to more readily get the issue's degree, nature, dangers, and impacts.

Even with the variety in sociocultural settings, experimental examinations are also required in agricultural nations. Pakistani broad agent context-oriented information on Violence against women is exceptionally uncommon. In this way, the primary point of the review is to recognize the predominance and corresponding Violence against women because of broadly delegated information. (Demographic Health Survey, wave 2012-13).

In the name of "honour", a father and brother murdered two sisters on May 26, 2020, after a video surfaced on social media allegedly showing them kissing a man. Additionally, on June 14, 2020, Bibi Hajira was murdered by her husband and brother-in-law in Muslim Bagh, a small town in Baluchistan. Another woman named Bibi Arifa was killed by her husband in Chaman, Dobandi on June 18, 2020. From January 1, 2020, to present, there have been approximately 23 women and five men who were murdered in various cases of honour killing and domestic violence (Naseer K.A,2020).

A recent report by the Aurat Foundation has revealed that Balochistan has witnessed a significant number of incidents of violence against women. Specifically, in the areas of Quetta, Sibi, Turbat, and Gwadar, there were 33 such incidents reported in 2020. The report also showed that a total of 2,297 incidents were reported across 25 different areas in the region, including violations of basic human rights, murders, and incidents of harassment towards women. Out of the 47

incidents of violence against women reported in Balochistan, 29 were from Quetta, 13 from Sibi, three from Turbat, and two from Gwadar. Shockingly, 16 women were killed, and seven were assaulted in the area throughout 2020. Furthermore, the report stated that one woman committed suicide, two were killed in the name of honor, and 13 were abducted. In the last two months, Balochistan has witnessed five reported incidents in which 10 individuals were killed in the name of honor. These figures highlight the concerning prevalence of violence against women in Balochistan." (Dawn, March 8, 2021)

Scope of Research

The present study aims to check out socioeconomic factors contributing to domestic Violence against Women, and the research attempts to investigate the factors responsible for Domestic Violence against Women in Balochistan.

Objective of Research

- To identify socioeconomic factors associated with Domestic Violence against Women.
- To know the attitudinal acceptance of women towards Domestic Violence.

Literature Review

Prevailing intercession lineups have zeroed in on forestalling domestic Violence by modifying miniature-level influences. Mentalities and ways of behaving that add to brutal reactions or through full-scale level reactions, for example, changing Cultural, economic and political circumstances. It is noticed that the formerly shaped perspectives of males underwrite fundamentally they are submitting Violence against women. Meanwhile, males accept that such activities are unquestioned. Studies illustrate that economic difficulty, traditional family values, convictions in traditional female characters, and views of ethnic segregation can keep Vietnamese-American women from getting into formal, emotionally supportive networks while confronting domestic maltreatment. It has been proposed that violence-counteraction missions should zero in on evolving mentalities (Roelofs, 2020).

Violence has been declared a criminal act in many societies worldwide. While women in developed nations benefit from universal laws protecting their safety and well-being, they still lack legitimacy (MacKinnon, 2007b). In certain cases, even when laws are established, internal forces create obstacles for the state and women's communities (MacKinnon, 2007a).

Violence against women is pretty much as old as humankind. Since the separation and biases against women have been noticed fundamentally as a piece of humanity's set of experiences, the need to safeguard women is additionally being acknowledged by all ages. Endemic pestilence damage, harms and abuses women destructing them substantially, intellectually, physically and monetarily. There is no limitation on beginning, civilization, class, training, pay, age or other attributes. Subsequently, women face numerous types of Violence. It is a sociocultural quandary that might influence the existence of casualties, even to death. Killing and additionally attacking physically is likewise named Violence. An oppressive approach to talking, annoying and calling names is a kind of Violence. Economic hardship, double-dealing and social prohibition are additional kinds of Violence (Abeya, Afework, & Yalew, 2012).

Domestic Violence against women is a not kidding break of common freedoms and a significant general medical problem worldwide. It is frequently utilized conversely with domestic Violence, cosy accomplice violence, and spousal Violence. (United Nations, 1993) depicts Violence against women as any demonstration of gender-based Violence in physical, sexual, or mental mischief/enduring to women. In addition to the fact that Violence against women violates fundamental basic freedoms, however may likewise bring about physical and emotional wellness issues (Hill, 2020).

Domestic Violence against women is one of the unavoidable common liberties infringements, refuting women's uniformity, security, nobility, self-esteem, and entitlement to appreciate basic opportunities. It happens in all social orders paying little mind to nationalities, social and economic foundations, societies, religions, and geological lines. Overall, 33 per cent of the number of inhabitants in women internationally face common freedoms infringement because of some domestic part. Although it is a worldwide issue, its pervasiveness shifts considerably. According to Gender Inequality Index (GII), Pakistan ranks 147th out of 188 nations. GII estimates the deficiency of human improvement brought about by gender inequality. Gender inequality is estimated by three variables: conceptive well-being, strengthening, and work market cooperation. The GII worth of the greatest-positioned nations lately is under 0.1, while the most minimally positioned nations, by and large, have a score above 0.7 (Ghafoor & Haider, 2018).

Previous studies stand out to the intricacies of considerate Vietnamese women's mentalities regards domestic Violence. A few research studies have detailed those convictions and mentalities comprising gender equity essentially affect perspectives. Much research investigated the male culprits' impression of accomplice violence as well as friendly originations forced upon the culprits uncovered that 47 and 68 percent of men were distinguished as existing and

previous culprits of personal accomplice violence, individually (Muchembled, 2012).

Another study found that a 71percent of the women in Balochistan had experienced physical or emotional abuse from their husbands or other family members in 2019. Data reported that in 2020 more than 85.2 percent of women in Balochistan had experienced at least one form of domestic Violence during their lifetime. The forms of domestic Violence against women in Balochistan include physical, emotional, Sexual Violence, and economic Violence. Traditional patriarchal attitudes and social norms that condone Violence against women are major factors contributing to domestic Violence in Balochistan. The tribal system in Balochistan also influences the nature of Domestic Violence against women, as tribal codes often prioritize the interests of the tribe over the individual (Baloch et al. (2020)

Research Methodology

The research methodology for studying the prevalence and nature of domestic Violence against women in Balochistan involves a qualitative research plan; the universe of the study was Quetta city. Selecting a representative sample from the population of interest through was through snow-ball sampling techniques sampling size for the present study were 50 respondents. Data were collected through validated and culturally appropriate methods such as surveys and interviews and analysis through Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS)

Analyses and Interpretations

Socio-demographic characteristics of participants at baseline (N=50)

Socio-Demographic Variables	Baseline Characteristics	N	percent
Age	18-24	7	14.0
	25-31	13	26.0
	32-38	16	33.0
	39-45	10	20.0
	52-58	2	4.4
	59 and above	2	4.4
	Total	50	100 percent
Education	Illiterate	37	74.0
	Primary School	9	18.0
	Middle School	4	8.0
		50	100
Marital Status	Single	6	12.0
	Married	44	88.0
		50	100percent

Table 1 presents information on the age, educational background, and marital status of the respondents. According to the data, the largest group of respondents (32%) fell within the age range of 25-31 years, while 26% were aged 18-24 years. Additionally, 20% of the respondents were in the age group of 39-45 years, 16% were aged 32-38 years, and only 6% were aged 52-58 years.

In terms of educational background, the majority of respondents (74%) were illiterate, while 18% had completed primary education. Only 4% of respondents had completed middle education.

Regarding marital status, the data indicated that 88% of respondents were married, while only 12% were unmarried.

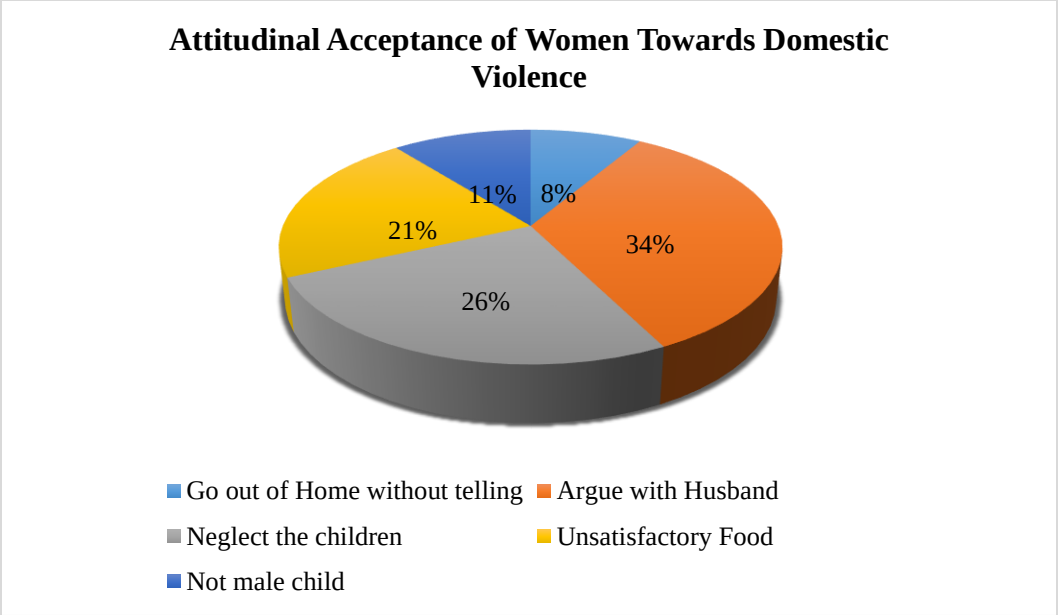


Figure 2 shows data regarding the attitudinal acceptance of women towards Domestic Violence. Data shows that the majority (34 percent) of the respondents believed that the reason behind domestic Violence against women is arguing with husbands. In comparison, 26 percent of the respondents said that neglecting children is the prime reason for domestic Violence against women. Data further shows that 21 percent of the respondents were in favour of the idea that unsatisfactory food is the reason behind domestic Violence against women, whereas 11 percent of the respondents think that having no male children is the cause of domestic Violence against women. Only 8 percent of the respondents favoured the idea that going out of the home without telling is the reason behind domestic Violence against women.

Conclusion

The research concludes that specific elements are answerable for Domestic Violence against women in Balochistan. The extensive Domestic Violence against women domestically and freely is an outcome of the man-centric culture communicating male prevalence as misuse and limitation on women. Diverse variables like education, poverty, and family influence are additionally consolidated. Association of Findings demonstrate that lower-class women are resilient to abuse because they are less aware of their basic rights. A social variable considered poverty level should be constrained by giving more open doors to domestic Violence. Domestic Violence has become less acceptable among educated youths, which is a positive finding, but much work needs to be done. Education has a significant impact. In order to influence both parties' perspectives in the future, it will be particularly vital to implement specialized interventions emphasizing education. Male and female towards domestic Violence.

Recommendations

1. Strengthening the implementation of existing laws: It is essential to ensure that the laws and policies related to domestic Violence against women are effectively enforced. This requires building the capacity of law enforcement agencies, including the police, judiciary, and prosecutors, to investigate and prosecute domestic violence cases. It also involves raising awareness among the general public about women's rights and the legal provisions available to protect them.

2. Providing comprehensive support services: Survivors of Domestic Violence require access to various medical, legal, and counselling services. It is crucial to establish and strengthen support services, such as crisis hotlines, shelters, and rehabilitation centers, to help survivors recover from the trauma of domestic Violence and rebuild their lives.

3. Promoting gender equality and women's empowerment: Addressing the root causes of domestic Violence requires addressing gender inequality and promoting women's empowerment. This includes increasing women's access to education and economic opportunities, challenging traditional gender roles and patriarchal attitudes, and involving men and boys in efforts to prevent and address domestic Violence.

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