

Violence Within the Four Walls and Visible Truth

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ABSTRACT

Domestic violence is not a new phenomenon. Unfortunately, violence within families and households, especially directed toward women and children, has existed since the beginning of recorded history have often ignored or even supported this kind of violence. In fact, it was seen as justifiable punishment by an abuser to keep their women and children under control. We have seen many social and cultural changes throughout history. Women experience a range of health and social problems in association with domestic violence, including depression, anxiety, substance abuse and pregnancy complications. However, none of these features is specific enough to be useful as an indicator of violence. Therefore, doctors should routinely ask all women direct questions about abuse. This recommendation can be incorporated into guidelines, which should be implemented widely in the UK, to improve the care of women experiencing domestic violence. In parallel with this, the educational needs of general practitioners should be addressed. Domestic violence is a common problem that may affect more than a quarter of women. It is a complex area in which to undertake research.

Keywords: - Violence, Abuse, Justice Programme.

INTRODUCTION

“Domestic violence also called intimate partner. Violence “involves the physical, sexual, financial and emotional abuse of one person by another in order to intimidate, humiliate or frighten”. And thereby maintain power and control. The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence⁹ reports that 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have been the victims of violence from an intimate partner in their lifetime. We have seen many social and cultural changes throughout history. Is it possible that these advancements have left the pervasive problem of domestic violence.

I] History of Domestic Violence:

The Roman Empire

The ancient Roman are remembered for the Pax Romana (“Roman Peace”) a period approximately (27 B.C.E- 18 B.C.E). Unfortunately, history tends to glorify the period and ignore the harsh reality of life that many faced. According to the Roman Code laws as Father of family, the unquestioned head of his household. The power was supreme and absolute. They were allowed to sell their family member into slavery abuse them or kill them. Wives could beat if they offend their husband not only for adultery, but even for insufficiently modest clothing.

Common Myths and Misconceptions of domestic Violence

Despite the progress made in recent decades, domestic abuse is still a prevalent issue. One of the reasons for this is because of the Though more people are educating themselves, many people still dismiss this as an unimportant issue. Below we will address some of the most common misconceptions about domestic violence.

Myth #1: Women and Children Are Inferior to Men:

Though women have gained more rights than ever in recent decades, there are many cultures that still perpetuate the belief that women are inferior to men and should obey them. This, unfortunately, perpetuates the idea that wives should obey their husbands, even when they are being abused, or their lives are in danger.

The same beliefs hold for children as well. Many parents who abuse their children believe that children are their property and they can do whatever they like to them. Many children are victims of physical discipline due to these beliefs.

Myth #2: Domestic Abuse Is Just Physical Abuse:

When people hear the words “domestic abuse” or “domestic violence,” they tend to equate them only to physical abuse. However, there are many forms of domestic violence, and they are not all physical. Any acts that are used to threaten, harm, or control another are a form of abuse, intimate partner violence, or family violence. These acts include:

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Spiritual abuse
- Financial Abuse
- Stalking
- Harassment
- Reproductive abuse
- Psychological abuse

Myth #3: Intimate Partner Violence Only Occurs to Women:

Though women experience abuse far more than men do, this doesn't mean that men are exempt from intimate partner violence. However, the exact rate at which men experience domestic violence is difficult to determine. One reason for this is that many men do not report domestic violence as they are afraid of being perceived as weak. The few men who are brave enough to report their experiences are often shamed or ignored by society.

Myth #4: If It Were Really Bad, They Would Just Leave Home or Get a Divorce:

Domestic abusers do anything in their power to keep their spouses or children in control. That means they will take away their forms of communication or transportation so that it is harder for them to find support or leave home. Many victims want to leave but may not have any means to do so. Therefore, just because people do not leave domestic abuse situations or an abusive marriage does not mean that this situation is not bad. It may just mean that they physically cannot leave.

Myth #5: She Provoked Him:

This myth comes from the deeply rooted belief that men should use domestic violence to “discipline” their wives and children. Therefore, some people believe that if a wife has “acted out” or done something to anger the man, then she “deserved” to be beaten. However, wife beatings should never be justified. If a woman has angered a man, then the two should talk about it in a calm discussion, as seen in healthy relationships. Violence is never the fault of the victim.

Myth #6: Domestic Violence Is a Private Family Matter, Not A Social Issue:

When domestic violence goes unchecked by the law, society suffers as a result. Domestic violence situations result in high costs of hospital services, medication, court proceedings, and lawyer fees. Furthermore, many women in abusive marriages and relationships are discouraged from holding jobs or taking part in the economy. And all of this is nothing compared to the prevalent psychological toll that this has on women society-wide. Ignoring domestic violence and dismissing it as a family matter keeps hurting the economy and social progress of the country.

Myth #7: Domestic Violence Only Occurs to Heterosexual Couples:

The classic example of domestic violence is a husband assaulting his wife. This may imply that other types of relationships are always healthy relationships. However, domestic violence can happen to anyone of any gender or sexual orientation. That means that abuse can happen in same-sex relationships, not just in heterosexual relationships. In fact, some research suggests that same-sex relationships experience a slightly higher rate of domestic violence than heterosexual relationships

Domestic violence against men:

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), intimate partner violence is among the major risks to women's health around the world. Men, too, can be victims of domestic

violence; like female victims, they tend to present initially with their injuries to a family physician or an emergency room. Domestic violence against men is thus a relevant issue for physicians of all specialties. The studies identified by the search yielded prevalence rates of 3.4% to 20.3% for domestic physical violence against men. Most of the affected men had been violent toward their partners themselves. 10.6–40% of them reported having been abused or maltreated as children. Alcohol abuse, jealousy, mental illness, physical impairment, and short relationship duration are all associated with a higher risk of being a victim of domestic violence. The reported consequences of violence include mostly minor physical injuries, impaired physical health, mental health problems such as anxiety or a disruptive disorder, and increased consumption of alcohol and/or illegal drugs.

Domestic violence against Women:

Sometimes domestic violence begins — or increases — during pregnancy. Domestic violence puts your health and the baby's health at risk. The danger continues after the baby is born.

Even if your child isn't abused, simply witnessing domestic violence can be harmful. Children who grow up in abusive homes are more likely to be abused and have behavioural problems than are other children. As adults, they're more likely to become abusers or think abuse is a normal part of relationships.

You might worry that telling the truth will further endanger you, your child or other family members — and that it might break up your family. But seeking help is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones.

Domestic Violence Cases in India

1] Mahesh was beaten and tortured by his wife daily in front of his son. His son's behaviour was also getting affected because of daily nuisance and violence in the home. The violence and fights were so intense and loud that even neighbours got to know about their condition and they also weren't unaware of what was happening in their home. But there was nothing he could do. One day when Mahesh's wife and son were not present at home, Mahesh hanged himself from the ceiling fan because he was done with the never-ending violence.

2] In case a woman is found to be sexually 'frigid' (a term used to denote 'inability' to reach orgasm or get aroused), there are reports of male partners/husbands inserting objects ranging from alcohol to perfume bottles inside the female partner's vagina, she informs.

Under Section 498A of IPC

'Marital Cruelty' to women is addressed in Section 498A. The sole section of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, that recognises domestic abuse against women as a crime is Section 498 (A). Section 498A was inserted with the intention of preventing cruelty against married women by her husband and in laws, and later adjustments to the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, and the Indian Evidence Act, 1972 were also made as a result of the same alteration. The most straightforward approach to harass is to include the husband's relatives in this provision, even if they are bedridden grandparents or relatives who have lived overseas for decades. Women's attempts to trap males with false claims have evolved into a weapon for them to exploit the legal system for financial benefit throughout time.

Under Section 3 of Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005

Domestic violence is defined by Section 3 of the Domestic Violence Act as any act, omission, action, or behaviour by the responder that:

1. threatens or endangers or injures the aggrieved person's health, safety, life, limb, or well-being, whether mental or physical, and includes physical abuse, sexual abuse, verbal and emotional abuse, and economic abuse; or

2. harasses, damages, injures, or puts the aggrieved person in risk in order to force her or any other person linked to her to comply with any unlawful demand for dowry or other valuable security; or
3. through any behaviour listed in clauses I or (ii), threatens the aggrieved person or any person linked to her; or (iii) otherwise injures or causes injury to the aggrieved person, whether physical or mental.

Where To Find help?

In an emergency, call 911 or your local emergency number or law enforcement agency. The following resources also can help:

A local court: A court can help you obtain a restraining order that legally mandates the abuser to stay away from you or face arrest

Someone you trust: Turn to a friend, loved one, neighbour, co-worker, or religious or spiritual adviser for support.

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800-799-SAFE (800-799-7233; toll-free): Call the hotline for crisis intervention and referrals to resources, such as women's shelters.

Your health care provider: A health care provider typically will treat injuries and can refer you to safe housing and other local resources.

A local women's shelter or crisis centre: Shelters and crisis centres typically provide 24-hour emergency shelter as well as advice on legal matters and advocacy and support services.

A counselling or mental health centre: Counselling and support groups for women in abusive relationships are available in most communities.



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