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## FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO FAMILY VIOLENCE

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### ABSTRACT

Domestic violence is any form of violence or abuse that takes place inside the home, such as during a marriage or cohabitation. The terms "intimate partner violence" and "domestic violence" are frequently used interchangeably. When one spouse in an intimate relationship acts aggressively toward the other, this is known as intimate partner violence. It can occur in relationships between people of the same sex or heterosexuality, as well as between people who were previously partners or spouses. In its broadest sense, domestic violence includes aggression toward children, parents, and the elderly. There are many different kinds of domestic violence, including physical, verbal, emotional, financial, religious, sexual, or reproductive assault. It can take many forms, from subtle persuasion to marital rape and other violent physical assaults. Domestic homicides include stoning, bride burning, honor killing, and dowry murder. Domestic violence is one of the most underreported crimes in the world, affecting both men and women. The awareness, perception, description, and documentation of domestic abuse vary greatly from nation to nation. Because their experiences are perceived as out-of-control family conflicts, many people do not view themselves as either abusers or victims. There might be a pattern of maltreatment in harmful connections, with pressures rising and a demonstration of viciousness being finished, trailed by a time of compromise and harmony. Victims of domestic violence may remain imprisoned in situations that involve isolation, power, and control, a traumatic bond with the abuser, cultural acceptability, a lack of financial means, fear and shame, or protecting children. Abuse can lead to physical limitations, dysregulated aggressiveness, mental illness, chronic health issues, limited resources, and a lack of ability to form positive relationships. Significant mental health issues, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, may affect victims.



**KEYWORDS :** Domestic violence , verbal, emotional, financial, religious.

### INTRODUCTION

The issue of domestic violence is complex and has numerous underlying causes. In India, men are frequently thought to be the head of the household and have more power over women. Domestic violence can occur when men believe they have the right to rule and dominate their spouses because of this power imbalance. A lack of knowledge regarding women's rights and gender equality may result from a lack of education. Women may, as a result, be subjected to domestic violence and viewed as of lower value. Poverty can exacerbate domestic violence because of the stress that it can bring to families

from financial hardship. Women in low-income households may be particularly vulnerable to domestic violence because they may be financially dependent on their abusers. Alcohol and drug abuse may increase the likelihood of domestic violence in India. Liquor abuse can make individuals lose their restraints and act viciously. Victims are less likely to seek assistance when they are shamed for reporting domestic violence. In addition, a lot of victims may be reluctant to voice their concerns out of a sense of shame or humiliation. Domestic violence in India is influenced by these factors. A multidimensional approach that takes into account will be required to address this issue.

Recently, violence against women has emerged as an unmistakable topic of discussion in India. The issue has received a lot of attention from government officials and the media as a result of the persistently expanding patterns of violence against women. Domestic violence is an illustration of wrongdoing. This includes domestic violence or other forms of abuse committed by one person against another. In 2005, a national study on family and health found that the absolute lifetime prevalence of sexual violence among women aged 15 to 49 was 8.5% and that the prevalence of domestic violence was 33.55 percent. 65 percent of Indian men believe that women have the right to be beaten and should be subjected to violence in order to keep the family together. In India, the incidence of domestic violence was found to be lowest among Buddhist and Jain women, and to be highest among Muslim women. Domestic violence can take many forms, including physical, verbal, passionate, financial, and religious perspectives. The victims of domestic violence, which include stoning, woman of the hour consuming, honor killings, and settlement deaths worldwide, are overwhelmingly women, and women will typically experience progressively more severe forms of violence. India's parliament passed the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act in 2005 to protect women from abuse. Under Indian law, demonstrating domestic violence against women is illegal as well as a violation of human rights. Dissidents claim that the Domestic Violence Act of 2005 targets men, despite the fact that it has been used to indict cases of domestic violence. The Act could be used to indict women, according to the Delhi high court.

### OBJECTIVES

- ❖ To figure out how common domestic violence is among married women.
- ❖ To ascertain the factors that contribute to the widespread incidence of domestic violence.
- ❖ If a married woman was the victim of any kind of violence from her husband or other members of her family during their marriage, that would be considered domestic violence.

### Domestic Violence

1) The meaning of the word "violence" in the vocabulary refers to any physical force or injury to an individual or property. According to Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, violence is defined as the use of any physical force, such as a brutal treatment or method, penetration, shock ambush, quality energy movement shown or applied, acid attack, or dangerous activity or power. The word reference from the twentieth century used by Chambers depicts violence as excessive or unjustified use of power. The Oxford Dictionary defines violence as the use of physical force to cause harm, harm, or murder. According to the Encyclopedia of wrongdoing and Justice, violence is a broad term that refers to a wide range of compromising or real acts that result in property damage or destruction or person death. According to Black's Law Dictionary, "violence" refers to the irrational or absurd use of power, typically accompanied by ferocity, ferocity, or shock, unlawfully applied with the intention of inflicting harm.

2) The Concept of Domestic Violence Domestic violence—defined as any physical, sexual, or mental abuse of a woman by a person who is personally associated with her through marriage, a family connection, or acquaintanceship—is widespread and has its roots in the public's socio-social environment. Men and the people in question, as well as their sexual partners, have frequently been identified as the perpetrators of domestic violence. In this way, domestic violence is not so much an individual deviation from the norm as it is an establishment of family and public social standards.

One of the crimes committed against women that are connected to their disadvantage in society is domestic violence. Abusive behavior at home suggests brutality against ladies especially in wedding

homes. As a result, women's health, health-seeking behavior, and appropriation of a low family standard are seen as significant barriers to women's empowerment. In any case, an effort has been made to determine whether married women in India of conceptive age group ever advocate for spouse beating. In addition, the prevalence of physical and verbal abuse since the age of 15 and in the most recent year is used as a determining factor. The data from the National Family Health Survey II, which covered 90,303 married women from 1998 to 1999, were used in the study. There is a connection between domestic violence and foundational factors like education, age, conjugal term, place of habitation, rank, religion, sex of the family unit leader, way of life, women's work status, introduction to broad communications, and women's self-rule regarding basic leadership, opportunity for development, and access to cash. In order to comprehend the connection between women's self-governance and domestic violence, an independence record is constructed.

Domestic violence is a widespread problem that affects women of all ages, social classes, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Numerous factors affect the incidence of domestic violence in India. In a patriarchal society, men are viewed as superior to women; There is a lack of awareness and comprehension regarding gender equality and the rights of women, in addition to poverty, alcohol and drug abuse, and the stigma associated with reporting domestic violence. Social awareness campaigns to reduce the stigma associated with domestic abuse, education, economic empowerment of women, legal reforms, and legislative changes are all necessary to address this issue. Even with recent advancements, this pervasive and devastating problem still needs to be eradicated from Indian society.

### Types

#### Numerous forms of domestic violence include:

Physical abuse is the type of domestic violence that is seen and heard about the most. Examples of physical abuse include hitting, kicking, pushing, slapping, and other physical acts that hurt or injure the victim.

#### Emotional or psychological abuse:

Verbal abuse, threats, and other actions aimed at influencing or persuading the victim's emotions and behavior are all examples of this. This kind of abuse, which can be just as harmful as physical abuse, can cause long-term psychological harm. Sexual violence: Any inappropriate sexual behavior or contact, including rape, molestation, and other forms of sexual assault, fall under this category.

#### Economic Abuse:

The victim's finances can be controlled by preventing them from working, stealing from them, or denying them access to funds.

#### Stalking and Harassment:

Following, threatening, or harassing the victim in person or over other means, such as phone calls, texts, or social media, are examples of these behaviors. These are just a few of the various kinds of domestic violence that can occur in a relationship. Understanding that people of all sexes and sexual orientations can commit domestic abuse in a variety of ways is essential.

### Causes

Domestic violence can occur for a variety of reasons in India. The most common reasons for domestic violence are as follows:

**Patriarchal society:** Men are habitually viewed as the top of the family in India's male centric culture, which gives men more influence and command over ladies. Domestic violence can occur when men believe they have the right to rule and dominate their spouses because of this power imbalance. Poverty can exacerbate domestic violence because of the stress that it can bring to families from financial

hardship. Women in low-income households may be particularly vulnerable to domestic violence because they may be financially dependent on their abusers.

**Alcohol and Substance misuse:** Alcohol and drug abuse may increase the likelihood of domestic violence in India. Liquor abuse can make individuals lose their restraints and act viciously.

**Social shame:** Victims are less likely to seek assistance when they are shamed for reporting domestic violence. In addition, a lot of victims may be reluctant to voice their concerns out of a sense of shame or humiliation. These are just a few of the many factors that contribute to domestic violence in India. To address this issue, a comprehensive strategy that focuses on the root causes of the problem will be required. This might entail making people aware of gender equality and the rights of women, encouraging women to become economically independent, providing victims of domestic violence with support and resources, and upholding laws that protect women's rights.

### **Domestic Violence Only Affects Women?**

Domestic violence can happen to women. Domestic violence can also affect children, LGBTQ+ individuals, and men, though women are more likely to be the victims. It is essential to comprehend that domestic violence can affect anyone, regardless of gender, age, or sexual orientation. In point of fact, men who are the victims of domestic violence may find it particularly challenging to seek assistance because there is frequently a social stigma associated with men being victims of abuse. Members of the LGBTQ+ community may also be more likely to suffer from domestic violence as a result of the prejudice and discrimination they face in society. It is essential to keep in mind that all family members, regardless of gender, are affected by domestic violence, which violates human rights. Anyone who has been the victim of domestic abuse should seek support and assistance to ensure their safety and well-being.

It is essential to keep in mind that domestic violence is a serious crime and that self-help can be a useful tool in dealing with its effects, despite the fact that seeking professional assistance is essential for safeguarding your safety and well-being. Some examples of self-help strategies include practicing self-care, establishing boundaries, and developing coping mechanisms to deal with the emotional and psychological effects of domestic violence. This could include things like counseling, support groups, exercise, and meditation. However, it is essential to recognize that self-help strategies may not be sufficient to address the underlying causes of domestic violence or ensure your physical safety on their own. An advocate, therapist, or law enforcement official can provide additional support and resources. resources that can help you rebuild your life after getting away from a violent situation. Remember that there are people and organizations available to assist you; You won't be alone.

### **Domestic Violence ?**

A person in the victim's domestic circle commits domestic violence. This includes current and former partners, members of one's immediate family, as well as other relatives and friends. When the perpetrator and the victim have a close relationship, the term "domestic violence" is used. They typically have different levels of power. The perpetrator is the victim's sole provider. Abuse in the home can take the form of physical, sexual, or mental harm. Abuse or violence committed in a domestic setting, such as a marriage or cohabitation, is considered domestic violence. Intimate partner violence, which can occur in heterosexual or same-sex relationships as well as between former spouses or partners, is frequently referred to as domestic violence. Intimate partner violence is committed by one person in an intimate relationship against the other person. Domestic violence encompasses violence against children, parents, or the elderly in its broadest sense. It can occur in a variety of ways, including physical, verbal, emotional, economic, religious, reproductive, and sexual abuse. It can also take the form of marital rape, which can be subtle and coercive, or violent physical abuse like choking, beating, female genital mutilation, and acid throwing that leaves a scar or kills the victim. Among domestic murders are bride burning, honor killing, dowry killing, and stoning.'

### **Causes Of Domestic Violence**

**Historical Factors:** The inherent evil of patriarchy and the superiority complex, which have ruled men for centuries, can be traced back to historical factors.

**Religious Factors:** An unpretentious type of control on ladies, while possibly not immediate and glaring, reflects in the strict purifications. Domestic violence against women is also encouraged by this.

**Cultural Factors:** The desire for a male child is one of the cultural factors that contribute to domestic violence. Domestic violence against women is the result of this obsession caused by a lack of awareness and the inherent superiority of men. The causes or motivations behind domestic violence may vary, and this is not an exhaustive list of the factors.

**Dowry:** Dowry is a type of cultural and social factor. However, due to the prevalence of cases of domestic violence brought on by the illegal demand for dowry, it becomes essential to separate mention of it. This was also realized by Parliament because the Domestic Violence Act added dowry-related domestic violence as a separate category to the list of abuses that can lead to domestic violence.

A systematic approach to instilling fear and subservience in a person in a domestic setting like a household is known as domestic violence. This violence may be motivated by a desire to maintain one person's power structure over another or to instill or coerce another person for self-gratification. In India, the term "domestic violence" typically refers to harm done to a person by their biological relatives, but it specifically refers to harm done to women by their male relatives.

### Domestic Violence against women?

Harming or injuring a woman in a domestic relationship is considered domestic violence under the Domestic Violence Act. Physical, sexual, verbal, emotional, and financial abuse are all included in its scope. The Domestic Violence Act defines abuse to include both actual and threatened abuse. The Domestic Violence Act's definition also applies to harassment of the woman or her relatives caused by illegal dowry demands. The primary target of the Domestic Violence Act is the protection of wives or female live-in partners against domestic violence by their husbands or male live-in partners, including his relatives. Segment 2(a) of the Aggressive behavior at home Act(1) characterizes "wronged individual" as any lady who is, or has been, in a homegrown relationship with the culprit and who charges to have been exposed to any demonstration of aggressive behavior at home. Not only does the Domestic Violence Act apply to women who are or have been in a relationship with the abuser, but it also applies to women who have shared a home and are related to one another through consanguinity, marriage, a relationship of marriage, adoption, or both, such as mothers, sisters, or widows.

### Types of Domestic Violence against women

Domestic violence against women can take many forms, including physical, sexual, emotional, verbal, and financial violence.

**Physical abuse:** The most visible form of domestic violence against women is physical abuse. The Domestic Violence Act defines the term as "any act that causes bodily pain or danger to the victim's life, limb, health, or development." Physical abuse includes assault, criminal force, and criminal intimidation.

**Sexual abuse:** Coercion of sexual or reproductive activity is the nature of sexual abuse of women. In most cases, sexual abuse should include marital rape. However, unless the wife is under the age of 15, marital rape is still illegal. Sexual abuse is defined as any form of sexual abuse that "abuses, humiliates, degrades, or otherwise violates the dignity of a woman," as stated in the Domestic Violence Act.

**Verbal and emotional abuse:** During domestic violence against women, remarks and threats made by domestic partners are considered verbal abuse. From a human rights perspective, verbal abuse is a very common form of domestic violence that leads to emotional abuse. A woman's sense of self-worth is eroded when verbal and emotional abuse are combined. This leads to psychological abuse.

**Economic abuse:** The government has taken a remarkable step by including economic abuse in the Domestic Violence Act's categories of abuses. A common definition of economic abuse is the practice of preventing the victim and her children from making use of financial assets or resources, or of threatening to do so.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, domestic violence is a prevalent issue in India that affects families and individuals of all socioeconomic levels. Cultural norms, financial strain, and gender inequality are just a few of the many underlying causes of domestic violence. Understanding that abuse can happen to anyone and that domestic violence does not just affect women is essential. Victims of domestic violence must be able to recognize the warning signs and seek professional assistance in order to ensure their own safety and well-being. Domestic violence survivors in India have access to a variety of resources, including the police, the National Commission for Women, and domestic violence hotlines. By contacting these organizations for support and assistance, victims can obtain the resources and tools they require. The resources and tools that victims need to leave dangerous relationships and start over are among the complicated and multifaceted factors that contribute to domestic violence. Self-help methods can be useful for dealing with the effects of abuse, but professional help is often needed to address the underlying issues that cause abuse and protect victims' safety and well-being. By working together to raise public awareness of domestic violence and provide assistance to victims, we can all contribute to the creation of a society that is both safer and more equitable.

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