

# Violence against Women: A Case Study, Lucknow

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**Abstract:** Violence Against Women is a major issue in society. Females are facing different type of violence like Domestic Violence, Private and Public violence, Child Abuse and Sexual Abuse. The reason for this situation is gender discrimination that assumes men to be superior to women. We can see the gender issues and discrimination between men and women in every field, in family, at work place and society. This is not a present problem rather it has its deep roots inserted since few decades. Government has a lot of regularity authorities to protect women's rights but it is not enough to bring equality This paper is a short overview and analysis violence against violence.

**Keywords:** Violence Against Women, Private and Public violence.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### Violence:

“Behavior involving physical force intended to hurt, damage or kill someone or something”.

Violence is the use of physical force to injure people or property. Violence may causes physical pain to those who experience it directly, as well as emotional or witness it. Physical force unlawfully exercised towards property to causes damage or injury. In some jurisdictions, overt threats are considered also act of violence. “Violence is an extreme from of aggression, such as assault, rape or murder”. Violence has many causes, including frustration, and exposor to violent media, violence in the home or neighborhood and a tendency to see others people's action as hostile even when they are not certain situation also increase the risk of aggression, such as drinking, insult and other provocation, environmental factors like heat and overcrowding.

Like many others critical issues in the social sciences, the field is marked by controversy. There is an extensive literature on the “causes” of violence, although some criminologists and sociologists are that posing casual question is inappropriate and detracts from understanding the culture, emotional and visceral dynamic of the act. The ‘ some’ behavior might be judged violent in some circumstances but not other- such as physical contact between players on the sports field as opposed to strangers on the street. Violence might be casual and perpetrated by individuals or be highly structured politically organized. While violence is generally thought of as illitimate and illegal, by contrast with the legitimate force exercised by the state, the most destructive and extensive instances in recent history have been state organized and sectioned. States have organized violence both as a means of punishment but also of entertainment and glorification of its power- as with the Ancient Roman games. Further, violence is not only descriptive of a form of behavior, but is always normative in that it evoke a negative such that attempts to legitimate violence will use terms such as force, and defense, resistance and so forth. To call something “Violent” says ‘Back’ - (2004:223) “is often to give at least a prime facie why it is morally wrong”.

### What is the cause?

The ultimate causes of violence against women is always clear- a perpetrator who believe he has a right to abuse. He may also believe, or know, that he can get away with it- that no police will arrest him, that no justice system will hold him accountable. This is why an effective legislative and justice responses is the ‘foundation stone’ of preventing violence. If

we are to prevent violence against women, we need to interrogate how those permission or justification is transmitted, across the different 'layers' of society. And this is where the complexity comes in.

Volumes have been researched and written about the causes of violence against women since the Declaration, teasing out greater details on the factors contributing to violence against women in different environments. The 'ecological model' of public health-based analyses has gained traction in recent years to aid understanding of these complex and intersecting 'contributing factors', as embedded in the social practices and values of broader society.

Ecological model for understanding violence:-

- 1- Societal
- 2- Community
- 3- Relationship
- 4- Individual

While the causes of violence against women and girls have been examined from various theoretical perspectives, all have concluded that no single cause adequately accounts for violence against women- though unequal power between men and women remains the common thread. As the social Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences has noted: "no form of interpersonal violence against women is devoid of structural violence-as in all places, such abuse is underpinned by beliefs about the perpetrator's right to harm another, based on societal notions of gender and rights".

## 2. VIOLENCE, ABUSE AND TYPES

Violence and other forms of abuse are most commonly understood as a pattern of behavior intended to establish and maintain control over family, house hold members, partners, colleges, individuals or groups. While violent offenders are most often known their to victims (intimate or estranged partner and spouse, family members and relatives, peers and collagus) act of violence and abuse may be committed by strangers. Violence may occur only once, can involve various tactic of subtle manipulation or may occur frequently over a period of month or years. In any form. Violence and abuse profoundly affect individual health and well being. Violence and abuse are used to establish and maintain power control over another person an often reflect and imbalance of power between the victim and abuser.

There are nine type of Violence:

**Physical violence:** Physical Violence occur when someone use a part of their body or object to a person's action.

**Sexual Violence:** Sexual Violence occurs when a person is forced to take part in sexual activity unwillingly.

**Emotional Violence:** Emotional Violence occurs when someone says or does something to make feel stupid and worthless.

**Psychological Violence:** Psychological violence occurs when someone use threats individual fear is and to give control.

**Spiritual Violence:** Spiritual Violence occurs when someone use an individual's spiritual belief to manipulate, dominate or control that person.

**Cultural Violence:** Cultural violence occur, when an individual is harmed as a result of practices that are part of her or his culture, religion or tradition.

**Verbal Abuse:** Verbal Abuse occurs when someone uses language, whether spoken or written, to cause harm to an individual.

**Financial Abuse:** Financial Abuse occurs when someone control an individual's financial resources without the person's consent of misuses those resources.

**Neglect:** Neglect occurs when someone has the responsibility to provide care and assistance for an individual but does not.

### 3. PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SPHERE

**Private Violence:** Son preferences is embed in Indian cultur hence women experience intense societal and families pressure to produce a son. Failure to do so often carries the threat of violence or abandonment (ICRW:1). The family is a sacred institution deriving sanction from religion, tradition, myths and legends. While religion is open to interpretation it is also used as justification to control women under the guise of ‘honor’ ‘purity’. A joint or undivided family consists of persons lineally descended from a ancestor, joint in estate, food and worship.

Violence against women in the private space is mental or physical. Mental abuse takes the form of withholding children, food, water and medication from a mother, shunning, belittling, and degrading a women in the presence of other family members of others family members, or alone.

Physical violence takes the form of wife- battering ; female gentile mutilation; honor killing (88.9% is perpetrated by family members, according to the Indian National Commission for Women); forced marriage; child marriage; child abuse; child sex abuse; kicking and beating women and children with rifle butts, sticks, stones, hands, fists, elbows and shoulders. Guns, knives and sharp objects threaten and kill women. Other crimes against women include sexual harassment; enforced sterilization; pregnancy; prostitution; pornography, and sexually abusive trolling on the internet. Female feticide, infanticide. Newborns are smothered, poisoned, drowned, force-fed grain husks to choke them to death, buried alive, or abandoned to elements.

The anty-dowry laws in India were enacted in 1961 but both parties to the dowry, the families of husband and wife are criminalized. Scholar have found a direct correlation between the practices of dowry, and the harassment, maltreatment, poor mental health, and homicide of young women in India. The National Crime Records Bureau reported that 8233 women were killed in 2012 in dowry-related violence, or nearly one per hour. The incidence of dowry death grew by nearly 3% over the previous five years, and torture at the hands of a husband or family increased by 5.4% with 99135 cases reported by survivors in 2011. There is little that is spontaneous or random about dowry death. Women who survive it do not report the crime for fear of reprisal.

This complicit us pattern of abuse by women and men in the patrilocal unit thrives in secrecy, ignorance, denial, shame and stigma. The consequences are the widening of the gender gap which is at 940 women for every 1000 men nationally which translates into a total of 34874111 ( thirty four hundred and seventy four thousands, one hundred and eleven) missing women. UP’s sex ratio of 908 translates 9.1 million women. The child sex ratio is 914 girls to a thousands boys.

Violence against women is cultivated and normalized in their sphere and is directly transposed into the public sphere.

**Public Violence:** Women have entered the public space as never before in ever increasing numbers. Violence in the public sphere takes the form of sexual harassment; groping; leering (or mental ,masturbation) verbal and physical abuse in the street and workplace; a talking; criminality around trafficking, abduction, kidnapping, organ removal, infant sex changes of unwanted girls; misogynist killings such as multination, murder, rape and battery which escalates into murder.

Under-theorized forms of public violence include denied or limited access to emergency aid such as clean water, dry food, rations or shelter compared to higher caste neighbors; withholding and reduced state services leading to increase stress and workload for women; the absence of legislation to protect women from abuse and discrimination; the absences of a guarantee of equal opportunities for women and men in the workplace; discrimination against girls access to health and education, food clothing; and the exclusion of female from participating in decision-making.

Consciously or not the goal of violence is to discipline women; to contest their access to the public domain; to challenge or subvert their determination to speak for themselves; and to preserve male dominance.

### 4. HOW THE WOMEN SUFFER FOR VIOLENCE

More than a third of all women worldwide – 35.6%- experience physical or sexual violence in their lifetime, usually from a male partner, according to the first comprehensive study of its kind from the World Health Organization (WHO).

The report reveals the shocking extent of attacks on women from the men with whom they share their lives, with 30% of women being attacked by partners. It also finds that a large proportion of murders of women-38%- are carried out by intimate partners.

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“These findings send a powerful message that a violence against women is a global health problem of epidemic proportions”, said Dr. Margaret Chan, director general of the WHO. “we also see that the world’s health system can and must do more for women who experience violence”.

The highest levels of violence against women are in Africa, where nearly half of all women -45.6%- suffer physical or sexual violence. In low –and middle-income Europe, the proportion is 27.2%. yet wealthier nations are not necessarily always safer for women – in high income countries (32.7%) experience violence at some stage in their life.

Of the women who suffer violence, 42% sustain injuries, which can bring them to the attention of violence in the home to be detected and for the women to be offered help.

**309,546**

### Crime against women reported in 2013

118,866 - Domestic Violence

70,739 - Molestation

51,881 - Kidnapping

33,707 - Rape

34, 353 - Other

The highest ratio of domestic violence among these five causes. Which is a big and major problem with women.

### Women honored for fighting domestic violence:

#### *A female story that had got domestic violence by her husband:*

One she would cower in front of her drunkard who beat her up everyday. When she tried to leave him, she faced worse: abuse from the all- powerful Khaps in her Saharanpur village. But today around 20 year later, says Nirmla Kumari, 40, “I am not afraid of Khaps anymore. Now, are afraid they of me”.

On Wednesday, NGO Breakthrough recognized Nirmala Kumari, Shadab Jahan, Saroj Sharma and seven other NGOs and individuals who have helped women fight domestic violence by participating in their Bell Bajao campaign at a program in Hotel Meadows Inn in the state capital. For some women who were honored, the journey has been a personal one.

Nirmala. A dalit woman who was married at the age of 14 has a network of 1,500 women fighting domestic violence in western UP where Khaps are extremely powerful and social mores rigid. Liberation was not easy for Nirmala , she tolerated abuse for several years before deciding to walk out in the marriage. “Initially I thought my husband will improve with time, specially after my son was born. But then I had two daughters and my family started starving me”, recalls a teary-eyed Nirmala. After eight years of marriage life, she left her husband, completed graduation and set up NGO anchal Gramin Vikas and Samajik Sansthan to help others like her. Shadab Jahan of Saharanpur was a graduate fluent in English, when she was married off to an uneducated unemployed drunkard. Shadab had to work with an NGO to make ends meet but her husband would constantly accuse her of having illicit relation with co-workers.

“ I field for a separation three years ago. This was a big step in an orthodox Muslim family but I did not want my sons to suffer. Now, I m living in Roorkee and working for women’s upliftment through NGO, Astitva” she says.

Saroj Sharma to suffered everyday for fight years before deciding to change her life and that of another woman like her in 2005

## 5. CONCLUSION

Within the research and literature around violence against violence it seems that all roads evenly led to the readjust structural power imbalances to alleviate the greater privileges men have. However the lack of clear and definite conclusions about which aspects of this power and how it drives perpetrators of violence indicates that more research is needed into the broad, societal levels factors that underlie violence against women. Observations around the persistence’s of gender hierarchies that accord men greater status despite extensive social changes must be understood.

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The goals of prevention, reduction and elimination of intimate partner and sexual violence are currently being approached with a focus on achieving gender equality but more research needed to understand exactly what this means and how it can best be implemented at the societal level. Incorporating sociological perspective that enhance our understanding of which aspect of inequality have the most impact on violence against women will be beneficial for informing the policy around this important area of work.

Organizational change could incorporate policies and work practices that acknowledge the impact of gender difference and attitudes towards that differences in order to change traditional norms around general social rules.

At the service provision level, recognizing and acknowledging the impact entrenched unequally based on gender and other intersecting disadvantage have is important in order to move forward.

| Type Of Violence                                       | Cases Registered on crimes against Women during the years |        |        |        |        | Percentage Variation in 2010 over 2009 |
|--|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|
|  | 2006  | 2007   | 2008   | 2009   | 2010   |  |
| Rape   | 19348   | 20737  | 21467  | 21397  | 22172  | 3.6                                    |
| Kidnapping and Abduction                               | 17414   | 20416  | 22939  | 25741  | 29795  | 15.7                                   |
| Dowry Death  | 7618  | 8093   | 8172   | 8383   | 8391   | 0.1                                    |
| Torture  | 63128   | 75930  | 81344  | 89546  | 94041  | 5                                      |
| Molestation  | 36617   | 38734  | 40413  | 38711  | 40613  | 4                                      |
| Sexual Harassment                                      | 9956  | 10950  | 12214  | 11009  | 9961   | -9.5                                   |
| Immoral Traffic(Prevention) Act 1956                   | 4541  | 3568   | 2659   | 2474   | 2499   | 1                                      |
| Indecent Representation of Women Prohibition Act, 1986 | 1562  | 1200   | 1025   | 845    | 895    | 5.9                                    |
| Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961                            | 4504  | 5623   | 5555   | 5650   | 5182   | -8.3                                   |
| <b>Total</b>   | 164765  | 185312 | 195856 | 203804 | 213585 | 4.8                                    |

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