

A study to assess the knowledge and attitude among males regarding domestic violence in selected urban area of Agartala with a view to develop health educational pamphlet

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ABSTRACT

Domestic violence is a significant public health and social issue that affects individuals and family relationships across societies. Although considerable research has focused on violence against women, violence experienced by men within family settings has received comparatively less attention. Lifestyle factors such as substance use, stress, communication patterns, and social behaviors may influence the occurrence and intensity of family conflicts and violence. The present study aims to assess the knowledge and attitude regarding domestic violence among married males in selected urban area of Agartala with a view to develop health educational pamphlet. The study adopts a quantitative approach using descriptive survey design with purposive sampling technique. Married males aged 21 years & above residing in selected urban area of Agartala constitute the study population. Sample size of 100 participants are selected using a convenience sampling technique based on Cochran's formula for an infinite population.

Data are collected using structured knowledge questionnaires that include demographic variables and 5 point Likert scale. An educational intervention in the form of a pamphlet has been provided to participants. Collected data was analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

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INTRODUCTION

Family violence is a widespread & serious problem that causes significant and detrimental impacts on individuals, families and communities across all facets of society. Domestic and family violence includes a range of abuse, including economic, physical, sexual, emotional, and psychological toward children, adults and elders. Intimate partner violence includes stalking, sexual and physical violence and psychological aggression by a current or former partner.

Family violence is considered to be any form of abuse, mistreatment or neglect that a child or adult experiences from a family member or from someone with whom they have an intimate relationship. Family violence affects everyone, either directly or indirectly.

The problem of violence and its prevention is a central issue in the modern age. Moreover, understanding the causes of violence and developing effective strategies to counter it as well as strengthening resilience in the community has become a significant need of governments, communities and individuals. The family is the most critical institution in our society. MEN can also experience violence and abuse in their relationships.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Review can be searched under following sections

- Review related to violence in family
- Review related to control of violence in family

Review Related to Violence in Family

1. **Cintya Lanchimba, Juan Pablo Diaz-Sanchez (2023)** " Exploring factors influencing domestic violence : a comprehensive study on intrafamily dynamics " . 2403 Ecuadorian participants answered , 50.5% females and 49.5% males . Positive mood emerges as a mitigating factor, displaying a negative correlation with violence. Conversely, depression positively correlates with violence, indicating an elevated propensity for conflict. Increased health consciousness is linked with diminished violence, while engagement with social media demonstrates a moderating influence. Reduction in the time allocated to household chores corresponds with lower violence levels. Household density, exhibits a positive association with violence.

2. **I. Manizia, Ragini Mishra (2022)** " Young adult's attitude towards domestic violence" total number of 240 male and female young adults were selected through Population Proportion sampling method from the three colleges of G.B Pant University of Agriculture & Technology. Significant association was found between attitude of young adults towards domestic violence and selected independent variable i.e age, gender, college and family income.

3. **Verena Kolbe, Andreas Buttner (2020)** " Domestic Violence Against Men -

Prevalence and Risk Factors” This review is based on publications retrieved by a comprehensive, selective search in the Pub Med database and with the Google Scholar search service, as well as on a retrospective analysis of data on the injured persons, the aggressors, and the nature of the violence that was experienced and the injuries that were sustained. 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.

4. Jagbir Singh Malik, Anuradha Nadda (2019) “ A cross-sectional study of genderbased violence against men in the rural area of Haryana, India” conducted a study among 1000 married males of age group 21-49 years using multistage random sampling. Out of 1000, males 51.5% experienced violence at the hands of their wives atleast once in their lifetime and 10.5% in the last 12 months. The most common spousal violence was emotional (51.6%) followed by physical violence(6%). Only in one-tenth cases, physical assaults were severe.

Review Related to Control of Violence in Family

5. Mark Hayter, Amande Lee et al (2023) “ Experiences of domestic violence prevention interventions and gender equality promotion work: a qualitative study of Nirdhar Groups in rural India.” Community based interventions to facilitate sustained change at local levels has been implemented in 37 villages by the Halo Medical Foundation (NGO working in Maharashtra). Participants from 12 villages from the project area participated in qualitative focus group discussions. Nirdhar Groups used local interventions to address priorities such as safe and equal access to education and healthcare. They offered education to address financial oppression and used community pressure and

‘Responsible Couples’ as mechanisms for change, to instill ‘ fairness, gender equality, kind and compassionate community values’ and a variety of techniques to reduce domestic violence .

6. C.Cheung (2022) “ Preventing violence through participation in community building in youth”. This study analyzes two-wave panel survey data on 1710 Chinese youths in HongKong according to empowerment theory. The results thus imply the value of inviting youth to participate in community service to prevent their violent perpetration. The invitation can target youth who are female or residing in poor housing.

METHODOLOGY Research Approach

A research approach is the procedure selected by the researcher to collect, analyze and interpret data. A quantative approach will be used in this study. **Quantative approach** is concerned with the assessment of level of violence among males in the family by using the validated structured questionnaire.

Research Design

The research design is the master plan specifying the methods and procedures for collecting and analyzing the needed information in a research study. On the basis of objectives descriptive design was adopted for the study.

Research setting

Setting is the physical location and condition in which data collection takes place in a study. This study will be conducted in selected areas of Tripura.

Sampling Technique – Sampling Technique is the process of studying the population by gathering information and analyzing that data. According to sampling criteria, clients who meet the inclusion criteria will be selected through **Convenience Sampling Technique**.

Sample size – 100 married males.

Description of tools – Tool consists of three sections Section A – Demographic data to assess the age, religion, husband & wife education, husband & wife occupation, marriage duration, types of family, family income per month, number of children.

Section B – Structured knowledge questionnaire to assess the knowledge of married males.

Section C – 5 Point Likert Scale to assess the attitude regarding domestic violence.

Data collection technique – After obtaining the informed consent from the sample, data was collected from married males.

Descriptive Statistics

Table:- 1. Frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variablesN=100

Sl. No.	Demographic Variable	Frequency	Percentage	
1.	Age	21-29 Years	12	12%
		30-39 Years	17	17%
		40-49 Years	39	39%
		50-59 Years	22	22%
		Above 60 Years	10	10%
2.	Religion	Hindu	79	79%
		Muslims	16	16%

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		Christian	5	5%
		Others	0	0%
3.	Husband's education	No formal education	2	2%
		Primary school	10	10%
		Secondary education	39	39%
		Higher secondary education	20	20%
		Graduate	20	20%
		Postgraduate & above	9	9%
4.	Wife's education	No formal education	5	5%
		Primary school	20	20%
		Secondary education	28	28%
		Higher secondary education	39	39%
		Graduate	8	8%
		Postgraduate & above	0	0%
5.	Husband's occupation	Unemployed	0	0%
		Government employee	30	30%
		Private employee	25	25%
		Self employed	16	16%
		Daily wage earner	29	29%
6.	Wife's occupation	Unemployed	44	44%
		Government employee	5	5%
		Private employee	8	8%
		Self employed	8	8%
		Daily wage earner	35	35%
7.	Marriage duration	Less than 5 years	13	13%
		More than 5 years	87	87%
8.	Types of family	Nuclear family	80	80%
		Joint family	20	20%
9.	Family income per month	≤ Rs 10,702	0	0%
		Rs 10,703 to Rs 31,977	63	63%
		Rs 31,978 to Rs 53,360	25	25%
		Rs 53,361 to Rs 80,109	10	10%
		Rs 80,110 to Rs 1,06,849	2	2%
		≥ Rs1,06,850	0	0%
10.	Number of children	One	75	75%
		Two	20	23%
		More than two	5	5%

The data presented in Table 1 describe the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents included in the study (N = 100). The majority of the participants were in the 40–49 years age group (39%), followed by 50–59 years (22%) and 30–39 years (17%). Most respondents belonged to the Hindu religion (79%), while 16% were Muslims. Regarding education, nearly half of the husbands were secondary education (39%), and most wives had higher secondary education (39%), indicating a moderate educational background among the participants. In terms of occupation, the majority of husbands were govt. employee (30%), while nearly half of the wives were unemployed (44%). More than half of

the respondents had been married for more than five years (87%) and most lived in nuclear families (80%). The majority of families had a monthly income between Rs10703 and ₹31,978 (63%), and most respondents had one children, indicating relatively small family size. The study participants were predominantly middle-aged Hindu married males, mostly graduates, self-employed, living in nuclear families with moderate monthly income and small family size. These demographic characteristics provide context for analyzing the level of domestic violence and the impact of lifestyle interventions in the study population.

Table:- 2 Frequency and percentage distribution according to level of knowledge regarding domestic violence N=100

Level of Knowledge	Number of males	Percentage
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Inadequate(<50% of score)	41	41%
Moderate (50-75% of score)	53	53%
Adequate (>75% of score)	6	6%
Total	100	100%

Table – 2 depicts the level of knowledge in males regarding domestic violence. Majority of males 53% had moderate knowledge and 41% had inadequate knowledge & only 6% had adequate knowledge.

Table:-3 Frequency and percentage distribution of males according to level of attitude regarding domestic violence

Level of attitude	Number of males	Percentage
Unfavourable attitude (<50% of score)	5	5%
Neutral attitude (50-75% of score)	75	75%
Favourable attitude (>75% of score)	20	20%
Total	100	100%

Table -3 depicts the level of attitude in males regarding domestic violence. Majority of males 75% had neutral attitude and 20% had favourable attitude & only 5% had unfavourable attitude.

Conclusion

Domestic violence remains a major social and health concern affecting individuals, families, and communities worldwide. While most research and policy discussions focus on violence against women, men may also experience different forms of violence within the family, including physical, emotional, psychological, and coercive abuse. However, the experiences of male victims often remain underreported due to social stigma and lack of awareness. Lifestyle factors such as smoking, alcohol consumption, poor communication, stress, and lack of healthy coping mechanisms may contribute to conflicts within families and increase the likelihood of violence. The findings of this study are expected to contribute to a better understanding of domestic violence and the role of lifestyle factors in influencing family relationships. The results may help develop effective educational and preventive strategies aimed at promoting healthy lifestyles, improving communication within families and reducing domestic violence in the community.

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