



**A STUDY OF STUMBLED ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITY WRF TO DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE ON MAHILA WORKERS OF UNORGANIZED SECTOR WITH
REFERENCE TO NORTHEAST AREAS OF MUMBAI CITY**

Sangeeta N. Pawar, Ph.D

Associate Professor in Commerce, Department of Commerce, University of Mumbai

Abstract

Domestic Violence is a human rights issue and a serious offence committed against women at large in many Indian houses. It is more rampant, persistent, severe and violent among rural as well as urban population. The severity is definitely high amongst the uneducated, poor, low middle, and even the middle class population perhaps the figure of domestic violence may tend to even be equal in case of educated working class of population. The domestic violence is serious deterrent to development. The Vienna Accord of 1994 and the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action (1995) have acknowledged this. The United Nations committee on Convention on Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW) in its General Recommendation No. XII (1989) has recommended that State parties should act to protect women against violence of any kind especially that occurring within the family. The Study on women workers provides information on their wage and working conditions, socio-economic background and life styles. Some are migrants which make them come to Mumbai city for livelihood because of their financial compulsions. Some women work as maid servants, some as construction laborers, some as vendors, sweepers, scavengers etc. They live in slums, in bad living conditions with no sanitation facilities, lack of water and health of these women is more vulnerable showing mortality rates, delivery deaths, ailments, prolonged diseases like Tuberculosis, asthma, skin diseases etc. The Research background is magnifying the details and findings through applied research. This is a problem solving and problem oriented research. It is

more like a action research carried out to find solution to the real life problems faced by the unorganized sectors mahila workers. The research appeals to the policy makers to initiate and design policies, strategies, take concrete and implementative actions and have accountability towards such distorting offences disturbing the physical and mental harassment of women. The aim of the study is to highlight the phenomenon of domestic violence which is widely prevalent but has remained invisible. Presently a woman is cruelly physically and mentally harassed by her husband and her in-laws or her husband's relatives, is an offence under section 498-A of the Indian Penal Code. The present paper is a dedicated attempt to identify and study more analytically the cases of domestic violence committed against the women workers in home based organizations prominently termed as self employed mahila workers. The Methodology manifested in the research study and the data collection is through primary and secondary source. For secondary data books, journals, periodicals, thesis, dissertations and government reports are used and the primary data is collected through Depth interview by Non-Disguised method. This method is adopted to make the respondent feel free and since the issue is more sensitive, there is full chance that the respondent will not want to speak or reveal the facts therefore to have more friendly approach this method is used. The study is a random sample survey of 50 mahila workers but surprising only 20 women were vocal, bold enough to lodge police complaint against their family members especially the husband. The study depicts the scenario of domestic violence prevailing amongst the mahila workers of unorganized sector or self employed women working in Bhaji Poli Kendra run by women entrepreneurs in North East Areas of Mumbai City with reference to Chembur, Govandi and Mankhurd residing women. The Findings are very but natural and abstract that every woman interviewed has been victim of domestic violence. 100% findings reveal that domestic violence in this study has proved correct and rampant rise is measured for more predominant reasons of poor economic conditions. The study implies to Accelerate the economic conditions of women, make them independent and earn their livelihood to establish their empowerment over their family members. The data interpreted in the study shows the mental disturbances and psychological issues of the women. Their strength and cope up strategies to tolerate injustice and harassment. The study implies to provide information of some schemes to women initiated by the government so has to make their economically strong, information of law and NGO who can be approached and contacted for conviction of the crime and in some cases consultation talks with family members to find solution to the problems.

Keywords: Domestic violence, mahila workers, self employed, Harassment, Abuse



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Introduction

Woman a victim of domestic violence and the occurrence of domestic violence in the society is a issue that stumbles the existence of women, her freedom, her chastity, her dignity and her survival and most prominently the empowerment. Women are subject to domestic violence committed by her husband, his relatives and her in-laws. She is abused by the person with whom she is in relationship, living together in the same house and is related to him by marriage. The family members living together either as joint family is also a part of her living. Even the women like a sister, mother, widow, single unmarried women are coming under the issue of domestic violence meted on her by her father, brother, uncle or any other relative as the abuser of the woman. Domestic violence includes abuse, threat, physical, sexual, verbal, emotional or economic harassment. Harassment by way of unlawful dowry demands to the woman or her relatives would also be covered. Domestic violence committed on women can be as grave as harming or injuring her or endangering her health, safety, life, and body organ like limb, eye physically and also including physical abuse, sexual abuse, verbal abuse, emotional abuse or economic abuse. Any unlawful demand from her like dowry or any other property or valuable security if not fulfilled by her amounting to domestic violence. Gender insecurity has reached a critical stage. Crimes against women have been increasing at an alarming rate. The Hindustan Times reported on 24th August that according to data from Mumbai Police, crimes against women in Mumbai have more than doubled from 2012 to 2013. Cases registered have gone up from 753 to 1723, rape cases have increased from 112 to 224, molestation cases have moved up from 215 to 635 and kidnapping cases have also increased from 90 to 149. Women are harassed, raped and injured by goons, vagabonds, habitual offenders, politicians, police and army officers. They are not even safe inside four walls of their homes. Domestic violence is also on the rise, as are the figures for atrocities such as marital rape and dowry deaths.

Domestic violence

1. Physical Abuse causing bodily pain, harm, or danger to life, limb or health or impair the health or development of the women including assault, criminal intimidation and criminal force

2. Sexual abuse includes conduct of a sexual nature that abuses, humiliates, degrades and violates the dignity of woman
3. Verbal and emotional abuse like insults, ridicule, humiliation, threats
4. Economic abuse like deprivation of all or any economic or financial resources of which the woman is entitled under any law or custom like stridhan, property from her parents , alienation of assets whether movable or immovable, valuables, shares, securities, bonds etc.

Statement of Problem

Women is subject to all kinds of injustice and discrimination may it be in the family or workplace. Her role is doubted, her potentials are untapped, and her position is underestimated in larger cases. There are several studies projecting the plight, agony, pain, sufferings, discriminations meted out, eve- teasing, rape cases, molestations, assaults and criminal offences degrading her chastity and dignity. A women is dejected, neglected and is vulnerable to all kinds of problems. The patriarchy system, the social system has always excluded women from the mainstream. A woman is marginalized on economic, social basis. A woman with no educational background, no economic support and social negligence is extensively exposed to domestic violence at family front. The researcher has attempted to project the problems and cases of domestic violence meted on mahila workers who are self employed.

Scope of the study

The scope of research does relate to the same volume of domestic violence meted on women of all categories but most precisely and particularly on the illiterate women.

Objectives of Study

1. To Study the cases of domestic violence by identifying the factors deterrent to women silence despite the frequent occurrence of domestic violence
2. To study the reasons of domestic violence meted out on women by their families

Research Methodology

The Research methodology adopted is Primary data analysis

Research Design

The Research methodology is purely based on in-depth interview method and observations. Non-disguised questionnaire is used and the women are interviewed to get the real information. The researcher has used this method as the matter of domestic violence is serious, delicate as well as sensitive and to make the women feel free to give information it was needed to bring them in ease and slowly probe them to get the right information. 100 percent exploratory and descriptive study with observations and discussions with women is used to collecting data therefore the research paper becomes more applied research paper. Only primary source of data collection is mechanized in the study.

Hypothesis

H1- There is significant difference between the domestic violence meted out on illiterate women and literate women

Research Methodology

In the present study, an attempt is made by the researcher to

Sample Size

50 women were selected as the sample size for the survey but only 20 women came forward to talk freely and communicate their problems to the researcher. Convenient sampling method is used to come to the desired results.

Limitations of the Study

The study is not very general. The study has a narrower approach because more women did not come forward to narrate their cases of domestic violence meted on them due to fear of threat, more injustice that can be imposed on them.

Scope of the Study

The study has wider scope because if the whole universe as the sample is used for study including women from all backgrounds, education and employment, a more comprehensive conclusion can be achieved and the study will apparently help the society to determine the exact volume of development and empowerment enjoyed and atrocities and harassments suffered by women. Politically and economically the benefits are enjoyed by few womens from upper class

and a tragic life comes gifted to some women by birth irrespective of caste, creed and religion. Therefore there is huge scope to study the challenges and issues of women from different angles.

Case study analysis with reference to the Domestic Violence Incidents Reported by Self employed Mahila workers residing in Chembur, Govandi and Mankhurd, working in Govandi and Chembur Mahila Bhaji Poli Kendra's

Table 1

Num ber of Wom an	Name of the Wom an	A ge	Educati on	Numb er of Child ren Boy/G irl	Residi ng area	Religion/ Caste	Abus er	Type of Domesti c violence	Police Compl aint lodged	Assista nce receiv ed
1	Shanta	40	illiterate	1 Boy and 3 daught ers	Govan di	Scheduled caste	Husb and	Physical , Mental and economi c	No	No
2	Meena	35	8 th Std	3 daught ers	Govan di	Hindu	Husb and	Physical Mental and economi c	No	No
3	Sarika	32	S.S.C	1 daught er	Govan di	Hindu	Husb and in- laws	Physical Mental and economi c	No	No
4	Surekha	38	8 th Std	4 daught ers	Govan di	Scheduled caste	Husb and in- laws	Physical Mental and economi c	No	No

5	Asha	25	S.S.C	2 daughters	Govandi	Scheduled caste	Husband and in-laws	Physical and Mental and economic	No	No
6	Padma	37	5 th Std	3 daughters	Govandi	Scheduled caste	Husband and in-laws	Physical and Mental and economic	No	No
7	Ketki	36	S.S.C	1 son, 1 daughter	Govandi	Hindu	Husband and	Economic violence	No	No
8	Sweta	28	8 th Std	3 daughters	Govandi	Scheduled caste	Husband and	Physical and Mental and economic	No	No
9	Mugdha	36	7 th Std	2 daughters	Govandi	Hindu	In-Laws	Physical violence - Humiliation, accusation	No	No
10	Priyanka	37	9 th Std	2 sons	Govandi	Hindu	Husband and	Physical violence	No	No
11	Heena	20	5 th Std	2 daughters	Mankhurd	Muslim	Husband and	Physical, economic and Sexual violence	Yes	No

12	Sana	24	7 th std	2 sons	Mankhurd	Muslim	Husband	Physical, economic and Sexual violence	Yes	No
13	Rabiya	35	7 th std	2 sons, 1 daughter	Mankhurd	Muslim	Husband	Physical, economic and Sexual violence	Yes	No
14	Maniben	40	illiterate	1 daughter	Mankhurd	Hindu	Husband	Physical Mental and economic	No	No
15	Farha	40	8 th std	3 sons	Mankhurd	Muslim	Husband	Physical Mental and economic	No	No
16	Shabnum	27	7 th std	1 daughter	Mankhurd	Muslim	Husband	Physical Mental and economic	No	No
17	Rupali	34	S.S.C	2 sons	Chembur	Scheduled caste	Husband	Physical Mental and economic	No	No
18	Sunita	38	S.S.C failed	3 daughters	Chembur	Scheduled caste	Husband and in-laws	Physical Mental and economic	No	No

19	Varsha	30	S.S.C	1 son	Chembur	Scheduled caste	Husband	Physical and economic	No	No
20	Sujata	29	9th Std	3 daughters	Chembur	Hindu	Husband and in-laws	Physical and economic	No	No

Source- Self Complied through survey

Findings and Interpretation of Data

The researcher has studied two Mahila Kendras mainly the Lijjat papad centre of Govandi and the mahila bhaji poli centre of chembur. The women in the age group of 20 to 40 are selected for the study purpose. Twenty women were interviewed and through questionnaire method responses were collected by the researcher. 10 women from Govandi, six women from Mankhurd and four from Chembur residence were selected. All women are slum dwellers. These women work as home based workers in case of Lijjat papad branch of Govandi where they roll papad at home and bring back to the branch for which they are given vanai charges and few women from chembur Mahila Kendra work in the Chembur Mahila Poli Bhaji Kendra where they prepare chapattis, bhakaris, puran poli's, lunch, dinner food varieties and other food items and do the selling too. The caste plays an important role in understanding the domestic violence meted out on the women and therefore through convenient sampling method it was quite easy to pick up women of Hindu, Muslim religion and of Scheduled caste. It was seen that the education level amongst six women ie 25% and more were S,S.C passed and yet were victims of domestic violence. In the case of Education Hindu and scheduled caste category women had education up to S.S.C but Muslim women were not possessing education upto tenth standard. Almost 100 percent women faced some or the other type of domestic violence daily in physical, mental and economic form but in three cases in the Muslim category of women they were subject to sexual violence too. 100 percent domestic violence cases are committed on women by their husbands

and only three cases reported domestic violence by in-laws and husband. The cases where domestic violence was reported through in-laws was due to giving birth to female child and the in-laws dying desire to have a male child. 90 percent cases women had husband who are unemployed, alcoholic, drug addicts and demanded the women hard earned money for their leisure. 10 percent women husbands were rickshaw drivers driving rented rickshaws, Private company hamal's, construction site workers or class four workers. Almost 90 percent women have not made any police complaint. The women not talking about their personal problems and lodging complaint in police station is because of fear and them insist that if they do so they will be subject to too many atrocities, violence, dejection and even threat to life. Many prefer to remain silent because they are threatened at the cost of life of their children and livelihood. 90 percent women live in traumatic situation and are psychological affected. A fear phobia has been developed in their psyche. Work is largely affected due to domestic violence. More than 90% have developed health disorders and serious illness due to mental and physical torture and lack of healthy nutritional food. The study reveals that women who are illiterate or less educated are vulnerable and more subject to violence and remain quiet whereas women who are educated are bold because of economic Independence, knowledge of law family support and therefore if domestic violence is meted out on educated women by husband or in-laws, they rebel out and fight for their rights. At the same time through the survey it was found that amongst the less literate and illiterate women too, these women have entrepreneurial skills, potentials to give their best but are stumbled due to family problems, non cooperation, dominant family members and most important factor negating the status of woman in family and society is domestic violence.

Consequences of the Domestic violence suffered by the Women

1. Fear Psychosis that she and her children are at risk of repetition of Domestic violence
2. Depression and attempting to commit suicide
3. Attempts of Husband to strangulate to death resulting in physical injury, mental ill health
4. The women let out their anger on the children by beating the children
5. Children are forced not to attend school and help in household chores

6. Addiction like chewing tobacco, pan, gutka, bidi etc
7. Psychiatric problem, sleeplessness
8. Medical and health problems
9. Gynecological problems
10. Nervous break down
11. Absentmindedness
12. Gradual Speech retardedness

Magnitude and Implication of the Research paper

The research paper attempts to touch on the most sensitive issue. The researcher has tried to reach to women and know their problems. A Several visits to the women, led to an affection and intimacy with the researcher through which the grave side of their pain, agony, torture and humiliation came in limelight. The researcher infused faith in the women and encouraged them to rise up for their rights and fight back against the physical, mental violence meted on them. The Offenders are the family members and husbands who make the women suffer silently. Through a few months psychological support, advice and consultation only 10 percent came forward to lodge complaint against husbands and family members and were ready to desert, estrange, cut off with their husband and family. 90 percent believe that women is object and is subject to negation, dejection and harassment because the Indian Patriarchy system and the orthodoxy of the society is not giving women any importance. The “manu”, religions, caste system is in dignifying the role of women and therefore a women is trained to remain quite.

Conclusion

It is indeed a serious exercise to make the women realize their importance in society. Especially illiterate women are groomed with a mentality that women are have no place and importance in this society. The society at large, community and their family have no obligation, sympathy, love, and respect for them. The research paper ends with a very serious connotation that women have to broaden their thinking level, became bold to assert their rights and fight against any type of injustice may it be at family level or society level. The remedy is to get educated, become economically independent and socially aware about their rights. A meaningful turn can come to

their lives if assertive approach, enterprising skills and vociferous mentality is developed in women so that they can bring the spirit of independency and freedom in the life of their young daughters and nurture them with broad minded sight. The paper is thoroughly based on researchers own observations and experiments so there are no references used to fabricate the written literature. It is tailor made and self designed data.