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# Domestic Violence in Meghalaya and its Influence on Children's Education

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### **ABSTRACT**

The development of the nation in true sense can hardly be achieved without proper development and empowerment of women. However, domestic violence and women discrimination is seen in each and every society and it's the social and cultural norms which validates the status of women in a society. Therefore it is most essential in present context to know the prevalence of domestic violence on women. Although domestic violence occurs mostly in the home, it does not happen in isolation. There are also other members in the family, especially children who witness the traumatic event that goes in between their parents added emotional stress that harm the development of their brains and sensory growth have been narrated here in this paper as per the prevalence, types and causes of domestic violence. Further, it narrated how domestic violence affects on children's education w.r.t. admission, completion, failure, drop-out and continuation of primary education.

Keywords: Domestic violence, Children's education, Empowerment of women

### INTRODUCTION

Home is considered as the first school where children begin to learn from their parents and their family is the primary institution of the society. It has been found out that the children's difficulty in education may be due to many factors out of which Domestic Violence is one crucial factor which influence negatively much. Domestic violence is a worldwide social problem. It can take a number of forms, including physical, verbal, emotional, psychological, economic, sexual abuse which may lead to death. The causes of domestic violence against women are a mixture of various social, economic, cultural biological and legal factors that accounts for the rising violence against women. There are several variables interact each other at the level of family, community, society and culture and play dominant role in causing domestic violence. It affects not only women but also children who witnessed it. Many studies have shown that children who are exposed to violence in the home may suffer a range of severe and lasting effects. Children who grow up in a violent home are more likely to be victims in learning and develop limited social skills, exhibit violent, risky or delinquent behaviour, or suffer from depression or severe anxiety.

The researcher after going through the literature review found that, although researches had been done on domestic violence, very few researches had been done on the influence of domestic violence relation influence on children education. However, coming to Garo Hills region of Meghalaya the researcher found that no such kind of researches had been done. Therefore, based on the above facts and the research gap; the researcher had decided to take up the study to find out the problems of domestic violence and its influence on the education of children in the select districts of Garo Hills which may provide the basis for better future policy implementation and to check domestic violence in the region.

In this study domestic violence refers to violence against married women in connection with physical,

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sexual, psychological, emotional, verbal and economic violence.

This study married women refers to women who are victims of domestic violence and are married in the court, love, or according to the customary law as practiced by the community among tribals and non-tribals.

The affect on children's education in the study as a result of domestic violence is related to their: (a) admission, (b) completion of primary education, (c) failure (d) dropout and, (e) continuation.

The demographic factors in the present study include personal information such as: age, duration of marriage, type of marriage, family type, number of children, educational status, occupation and household income of married women who are victims of domestic violence in to different groups.

The study delimited to six districts of Garo, Khasi and Jaiantia Hills region who are victims of domestic violence. Further, from the total villages of each block of each districts and 10% of the villages under each block were selected randomly to collect data from the women who have been affected with domestic violence were taken as the sample of the study which comprised 314 villages out of 3137 total number of villages. To get 314 villages, the researcher used multistage random sampling technique.

Further, to get the total domestic violence victimized women for the study, the researcher approached the Superintendent of Police (SP) office, in each of the delimited districts and their Blocks, the Village heads, maharis and friends of the sampled villages. After getting the lists of victims of women who are married altogether comprised a sample of 1214 those who experienced domestic violence, but out of the total only 978 of women cooperated to share their views to the researcher to collect data, only those were taken for the sample of the study.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

The main objectives are to study, the prevalence, types and causes of domestic violence against married women in Garo Hills across (i) age, (ii) duration of marriage, (iii) type of marriage, (iv) family type, (v) number of children, (vi) educational status, (vii) occupation and (viii) household income. Secondly, to study the affect of domestic violence on children's education of married women in relation to: (a) admission, (b) completion of primary education, (c) failure, (d) drop-out

and, (e) continuation.

As per the objectives, the research questions are formulated around the prevalence, types, causes of domestic violence against married women and its affect on their children's education. Keeping in view the nature of this study, it was carried out with the qualitative approach with explorative method.

For this study, qualitative and categorical division was used for data analysis. The categorical divisions / criterion variables were taken to analyze the data on prevalence, types, causes of domestic violence and its influence on their children's education are:

a) Age: (15-24, 25-34, 35-44 and

45 years above)

b) Duration of marriage: (Below five and above

five years)

c) Types of Marriage: (Love, arranged and court

marriage)

d) Types of Family: (Nuclear and joint family) e) No of children (One to two, three and

above children)

f) Level of Education: (Illiterate, Elementary,

Secondary and Higher

education)

g) Occupation: (Govt. employee, Private

employee, Business, labour, vendor and

Housewife)

h) Household Income: (Below 50,000 and 50,001-

above per annum)

The tools of the study included i) Interview schedule for married women which comprised of personal data, self reaction profile, experience on type of violence, causes of violence, consequences of domestic violence and its affect on their children's education (Self developed and standardised), ii) Information schedule for women w.r.t their children's education (Self developed). All the two tools were self developed and one tool was standardized as per the statistical norms. The researchers visited selected villages along with some friends, village headman and somewhere along with the village women to collect the required information. For scale standardization to establish reliability, Pearson's correlation method was used. For data analysis percentages was used.

#### **Main Findings:**

The findings had been derived from the data on

prevalence, types, causes of domestic violence and affect on children's education across demographic characteristic such as women's age, duration of marriage, type of marriage, type of family, number of children, level of education, occupation and household income.

The highest percentage of women experiencing domestic violence was found among 35-44 years age group; more than 5 years duration of marriage; love marriage; nuclear family; more than three children; women with secondary education; housewives and family below Rs. 50,000 p.a. income group.

# Prevalence of Domestic violence among married women:

The data revealed that prevalence of domestic violence was found to be more among women from the age group of 35-44 years, 5 years and above marriage duration, had love marriage, belonging to nuclear family, having more number of children, having secondary educational status, housewives and having an income below Rs. 50,000 p.a. than other groups.

Women responded having knowledge about the prevalence of domestic violence in their region which is a major issue among rural women.

The reason for the occurrence of domestic violence was found to be highest in terms of alcohol consumption followed by financial problem and anger. Husbands were the main perpetrators of domestic violence followed by in-laws. Emotional violence was found to be more common followed by verbal violence. They also responded having experienced fight before marriage regarding planning and arrangement of marriage which supported by studies conducted by Babu *et al.*, (2016); Bhattacharjee *et al.* (2016) and Dixit *et al.* (2013).

The findings also showed that majority of women experienced domestic violence between 2 years and above after marriage. Women also experienced violence because their husband's age was more than their age which made them to experience domestic violence more. They also responded that there was an increase trend in domestic violence in their life supported by studies conducted by Afifi *et al.* (2011) and Jahromi *et al.* (2016).

Women also responded to have experienced domestic violence because of their younger age than their husbands; nuclear type of family; due to love marriage and for having more number of children. They also responded facing domestic violence because they were not able to have children.

The study also found women having experienced domestic violence after having lost a child from the family. Similarly, lower occupation; unemployment and dependence on husband's income and low educational status were some of the factors contributing to domestic violence against women.

The behaviour of the husband was also largely responsible for domestic violence against women. Women responded being scolded, beaten, abused and thrown at served food when their husbands were angry due to late preparation of food. Addiction was another factor for domestic violence against women. The most common addiction found in the study was alcohol followed by smoking. As a result some of the respondents said that they defended themselves by running away from the house; some hid somewhere until the situation calms down; some by fighting back; some by shouting and calling the neighbours; some by blocking; some by raising their voice; and some others defended themselves with bare hands supported the study conducted by Covell *et al.* (2009).

The help-seeking behaviour of women indicated that they sought help from their family members; from their close friends and from their neighbours. Women also reacted towards domestic violence by returning to their parent's house; by abusing their child. Further, they responded that their family members asked to stop violence. While some family members instigated the husband more to be violent some others responded that the family members just tolerated and asked the woman to adjust resemble with study conducted by Kusum *et al.* (1982).

As a consequence, majority of women were affected emotionally by which they thought of ending their life. They also responded that domestic violence had affected their relationship with children and it affected their interaction with family members.

# Types of Domestic Violence:

The data revealed that women from the age group of 35-44 years, 5 years and above marriage duration, had love marriage, belonging to nuclear family, having more number of children, having secondary educational status, housewives and having an income below Rs. 50,000 p.a. experienced physical, emotional, sexual, economic, psychological and verbal violence.

Physical violence included in the form of pulling hair, ear and any other part of the body; pushing and backing

into a corner; slapping; grabbing of clothing; kicking; throwing objects at the victim; punching; hitting with objects on the body or head causing pain and bruises; spitting; twisting of arm; using or showing a knife that cut you; and attempt to burn or burn with cigarette causing burn injury.

Emotional violence included in the form of humiliation; use of degrading jokes; denying permission to participate in social activities, family events and even to interact with other men; not allowing to visit parental home; not showing love and affection; refusing to acknowledge as a wife; forced to perform household duties; making the victim feel responsible for the violence and telling the wife others are better in performing duties. However, women from the age group of 25-34 years and women having elementary educational status indicated the highest percentage in responding that they were prevented from sleeping. The findings have been similar with studies conducted by Singh *et al.* (2008); Hossain (2016) and Ravali *et al.* (2018).

Sexual violence included in the form of demanding intimacy; unwanted kissing, touching without consent; violent sexual activity; forceful performance of unhealthy sexual acts; controlling decisions about pregnancy; rape/attempted rape; showing sexually explicit material; and making unwanted sexual comments. But women from the age group of 25-34 years responded the highest percentage of sexual violence in the form of refusal to use safe sex practices; beating sexual parts of the body and allegation of affairs a partner imagines to be having. These findings supported with studies conducted by Kamau (2016); Sinha *et al.* (2012) and Chhabra (2018).

Economic violence included in the form of preventing from having a job; controlling financial expenditure and access to financial information such as, taking away money without permission, demanding an account of every purchases, expects permission for all purchases; not allowing to take financial decisions and access to family finances; made to ask money from others; preventing the victim from obtaining education and job training; making the victim entirely dependent on food, clothing, shelter, personal hygiene products and medication; destroy personal belongings; humiliation for earning less money or for not being the 'bread winner'; denying necessities to the children/ making the victim pay for the necessities of your children; and selling your property without your consent. The findings were supported by the studies conducted by Chata et al. (2014); Ravali and Shoba (2018).

But women from the age group of 25-34 years reported the highest percentage of economic violence with regard to factors like, checking of bank accounts/ forbidding from maintaining a personal bank account. Women who were illiterate responded the highest percentage of economic violence with regard to factors like, humiliation for earning less money or for not being the 'bread winner' and denying necessities to the children/ making the victim pay for the necessities of your children. Further, women who had elementary education responded the highest percentage of economic violence with regard to factors like, preventing the victim from obtaining education and job training and selling your property without your consent.

Psychological violence included in the form of threat to hurt the victim and her children; insistence on knowing where the person is at all times; threat to divorce; making the victim feel bad about herself; isolation from family and friends; regularly telling to leave the house; making the victim feel at fault at all times; locking out of the house; threat to use a weapon; driving at unsafe speeds to intimidate; and threat to harm the pets. But women from the age group of 25-34 years indicated the highest percentage in experiencing psychological violence with regard to the factors like, controlling of behaviour.

Verbal violence included in the form of degrading in front of friends and family by harsh criticism for anything she does; making to feel one is not important; calling funny names and putting down; yelling and cursing for minor problems; blaming for family and sibling problems and anything that goes wrong; telling hurtful jokes despite request to stop; forcing what to do and wear; spreading rumours; and insulting of ideas, behaviour and beliefs. But women from the age group of 25-34 years reported the highest percentage of verbal violence with regard to factors like, giving orders to do things.

#### Causes of Domestic Violence:

The data revealed that women from the age group of 35-44 years, 5 years and above marriage duration, had love marriage, belonging to nuclear family, having more number of children, having secondary educational status, housewives and having an income below Rs. 50,000 p.a. experienced domestic violence due sociocultural causes, psychological causes, economic causes, legal causes and natal causes.

Socio-cultural causes of domestic violence against

women include consumption of alcohol; gambling; extramarital affair; instigating in-laws; not attending household duties; lack of male child (among non-tribals); demand for dowry (among non-tribals); husband wanting to enjoy more with friends; women dependence on men for living; women being submissive to men; women not regarded as an important member of the family; culture favouring men and matrilineal family structure. But, women from the age group of 25-34 years experienced domestic violence with regard to difference in social status. Further, women who had elementary education indicated the highest percentage in not being regarded as an important member of the family.

Psychological causes of domestic violence experienced by women include suspicion of affair with other men; proving superiority; argumentative nature of the husband; frustration; negative attitude of the husband; possessiveness; criticisms to their husbands whenever some mistakes were made and stress in professional life. However, women from the age group of 25-34 years experienced domestic violence due to egoistic nature of the husband; husband's inability to control anger and jealousy. Further, women who were illiterate, experienced domestic violence with regard due to frustration; husband's inability to control anger and possessiveness respectively. The findings wer equal with the findings of studies conducted by Jawarkar *et al.* (2016) and Sapkota *et al.* (2016).

Economic causes of domestic violence experienced by women include financial problems; disagreement with regard to family economic management; property issues; husband wanting to sell everything what belongs to his wife; husband's unemployment; poverty and refusal to bring money from parent's house. But women from the age group of 25-34 years experienced domestic violence due to husband's belief that women should earn too; job dissatisfaction and husband's economic dependence on parents respectively and supported the studies conducted by Sunny (2003) and Swain (2014).

Legal causes of domestic violence experienced by women include lack of awareness; lack of enforcement of prevailing laws to protect women; loose law and order; low conviction rate; lack of public safety for women; lack of free legal aid/legal services; cases of domestic violence being compromised between families; cases of violence not taken seriously by the village headman or Mahari Association; lack of sensitization among the masses and lack of support mechanism for the victims.

Natal causes of domestic violence experienced by women include infertility in female; lack of sexual interest; violence due to miscarriages; resistance for abnormal sexual behaviour of the husband and repeated birth of a girl child (among non-tribals). But, illiterate women experienced domestic violence due to lack of sexual interest; resistance for abnormal sexual behaviour of the husband.

# Domestic Violence and affect on children's education:

The data revealed that women from the age group of 35-44 years, 5 years and above marriage duration, had love marriage, belonging to nuclear family, having more number of children, housewives and having an income below Rs. 50,000 p.a. responded that their children having more academic, social and psychological problems.

The academic problems of children from the findings of the study include problems related to admission; continuation of education; regularity in school; interest in studies; completion of primary education; school dropout; failure in examination; repetition in the same class; concentration in studies; lack of study habit; interest in extra-curricular activities; their provision of the required teaching and learning materials to children; their children complaining about insufficient books, notebooks and other materials; their children facing harassment at school; provision of private tuition; achievement of more marks in the school examinations; acquisition of scholarship and trophies; teachers complaining about their children's nonfunctional behaviour at school; their children being active at home; their children feeling free to discuss anything with their parents; completion of home task regularly; their children showing interest in discussing their academic matter with their parents; their children happy about their academic performance; home not congenial for children's education; all the negative factors affecting children's education due to family disturbance supported by the studies of Kanchiputu et al. (2016); Saini et al. (2015) and Yusuf (2017).

The social problems of children from the findings of the study include problems related to withdrawal from friends and usual activities; fear of social life; remaining alone in school and at home; staying away from home; children feeling isolated from others; parents' support their children's education financially; aggressive behaviour; distracted behaviour; disobedient behaviour; reluctance to eat; revengeful behaviour; indulging in fights with friends in school and at home; social maladjustment; participation in different social gatherings; tolerance of the criticism of others; all the negative social factors affecting children due to domestic violence at home supported the studies conducted by Mahapatra *et al.* (2012).

The psychological problems of children from the findings of the study include problems related to low self-esteem; poor self image; pessimism; low self-confidence; depression in school and at home; feeling of anger in school and at home; worry or anxiety in school and at home; violent outburst in school and at home; all the negative psychological factors affecting children due to domestic violence at home.

# **Educational Implications:**

The study revealed that some women who are suffering with domestic violence had no knowledge about how to protect them from such victimization. Hence, a massive awareness movement need to be carried out involving the community, religious leaders, women's organisations, village headman Associations and NGOs, at all levels is necessary to counter the present trend of domestic violence against women. Women should be made aware that domestic violence is a problem and it is a violation of their basic human rights. Besides, awareness programmes there should be involvement of strategies to prevent domestic violence by seeking legal remedies and help rebuild her with recuperative services for sustainable livelihood. Many women are also unable to escape domestic violence because they are unaware of available services and agencies working in this area. Therefore, disseminating information w.r.t. various services available is necessary.

Some of the reasons of domestic violence expressed by women include consumption of alcohol, gambling, out of marriage relationship suspicion, financial problems, demand for dowry, instigating in-laws, property issues, conflict over roles and responsibility, jealousy, childlessness and anger. Therefore, the use of alcohol being the prime reason for domestic violence that needs to be regulated properly by the authorities. Pre-marital and post-marital counselling should be given to minimize out of marriage relationship suspicion. Strict implementation of laws regarding dowry should be made for reducing the occurrence of domestic violence. Gender equality must be taught at school level so that there is no conflict over roles and responsibility in their future married life. There is a need to prioritize and integrated health services

relating to infertility into existing reproductive health strategies to reduce the burden of infertile individuals. Finally, counselling with regard to control of one's emotions should be given to married couples by social institutions and organizations working for family welfare.

The present study revealed that women experienced domestic violence because of the type of family. Among the women experiencing domestic violence more women were from the nuclear type of family compared to those from the joint type of family. They also responded to have faced domestic violence due to love marriage and customary marriage. Further, they also experienced domestic violence due to more number of children in the family; some because they did not have children; and some others due to lose of child in their family out of which some are girl child and some are boy child both in matrilineal and patrilineal family practice. There were also women who suffered domestic violence because of their lower occupation, joblessness, low income and low educational status. Hence, more family counselling centres with professionally qualified counsellors should be started at the rural areas focusing more on domestic violence victims. The Government and the NGOs should introduce specialized education and outreach to rural women who may not have access to help centres. The male and female should be brought up in a similar manner in the family only then the attitude of men will change towards women in future. Awareness programs through village self help groups should be conducted for improving the socio-economic condition of women through income generation programmes. Greater economic opportunities for women, awareness increasing activities and skill training, would ensure self-esteem and status of women within households; improve spousal relationship to reduce domestic violence. Thus, the organizations have to reach out to affected women directly with legal aid, family intervention, and economic programs providing and income-generating opportunities.

As a result of the violence some women ran away from the house; some hid somewhere until the situation calms down; some by fighting back; some by shouting and calling the neighbours; some by blocking; some by raising their voice; and some others defended themselves with bare hands. Therefore, women should be made aware of Women's Commission; offices of the Women's Commission should be opened at the district and lower levels; women volunteers should be encouraged to register their names in these offices; they should be organised as

groups for taking up development programmes. Facilities like short stay homes for women in distress should be provided and emphasis should be laid on vocational training to rehabilitate them. These shelters should give women an alternative place to live until they are able to either return to their families or obtain some other form of housing.

Women experienced physical violence in the form of pulling hair, ear and any other part of the body, pushing and backing into a corner, slapping, grabbing of clothing, kicking, throwing objects at the victim, punching, hitting with objects on the body or head causing pain and bruises, spitting, twisting of arm, using or showing a knife and attempt to burn or burn with cigarette causing burn injury. Hence, there should be a comprehensive law that is deterrent to the occurrence of domestic violence. Those organizations dealing with the issue of domestic violence should adopt measures to address physical violence.

Emotional violence also harms a person although there may not be visible signs of physical injury. The effects of emotional abuse are just as detrimental as the effects of physical abuse. As per the findings of the study, women experienced emotional violence in the form of humiliation, use of degrading jokes, denying permission to participate in social activities, family events and even to interact with other men, not allowing to visit parental home, not showing love and affection, refusing to acknowledge as a wife, forced to perform household duties, making the victim feel responsible for the violence, prevent sleeping and telling the wife others are better in performing duties. Hence, to combat emotional violence prevention programmes should be developed to help vulnerable women facing emotional violence through counselling bureau. Relationship counsellors should recognise the seriousness of emotional violence and must prevent its escalation. They should pay special attention to controlling, isolating behaviours of male partners as precursors to emotional abuse. An emphasis should be placed on couples' ability to maintain healthy and stable relationship.

Women experienced sexual violence in the form of demanding intimacy, unwanted kissing, touching without consent, violent sexual activity, forceful performance of unhealthy sexual acts, refusal to use safe sex practices, controlling decisions about pregnancy, beating sexual parts of the body, rape/attempted rape, showing sexually explicit material, allegation of affairs a partner imagines to be having and making unwanted sexual comments.

Therefore, it has to be noted that no single agency of government can address the problem of sexual violence alone. Portfolios across all levels of government, including education, health, justice, and crime prevention, as well as the non-government agencies and community stakeholders, each have a significant contribution to play. It is also important that prevention should begin with addressing the cultural values and norms that support and tolerate sexual violence. Further, there is a need to address how to improve the quality and quantity of effective education programmes addressing young people's attitudes and behaviours in relation to sexual violence through Personal, Social and Health Education and Sex and Relationships Education in their early life. In this regard MSW department along with education department of NEHU need to initiate some action for the youngsters which may help in future.

Women experienced economic violence in the form of preventing from having a job, controlling financial expenditure and access to financial information such as, taking away money without permission, demanding an account of every purchases, expects permission for all purchases, not allowing to take financial decisions and access to family finances, checking of bank accounts/ forbidding from maintaining a personal bank account, made to ask money from others, preventing the victim from obtaining education and job training, making the victim entirely dependent on food, clothing, shelter, personal hygiene products and medication, destroy personal belongings, humiliation for earning less money or for not being the 'bread winner', denying necessities to the children/making the victim pay for the necessities of your children and selling your property without your consent. Therefore, in order to reduce the risk of domestic violence there is a need to improve women's access to and control of income and assets recognizing her equal right to the family home and matrimonial property. This would lead to strengthening the economic and social status of women, providing income opportunities and improved respect for women in the family.

Women experienced psychological violence in the form of threat to hurt the victim and her children, insistence on knowing where the person is at all times, threat to divorce, making the victim feel bad about herself, isolation from family and friends, regularly telling to leave the house, making the victim feel at fault at all times, locking out of the house, threat to use a weapon driving at unsafe speeds to intimidate and threat to harm the

pets and controlling of behaviour. Hence, there is a need for psychological care and support services for the victims of psychological violence. The Government and the organizations should pay special attention to mental health services, such as therapeutic counselling, support groups, and family therapy. These are crucial in rebuilding and sustaining the well-being of the woman and her family.

Women experienced verbal violence in the form of degrading in front of friends and family by harsh criticism for anything she does, making to feel one is not important, calling funny names and putting down, yelling and cursing for minor problems, blaming for family and sibling problems and anything that goes wrong, giving orders to do things, telling hurtful jokes despite request to stop, forcing what to do and wear, spreading rumours and insulting of ideas, behaviour and beliefs. Hence, there is a need for promoting healthy relationships, and raising awareness of unhealthy relationships and the unacceptability of violence in relationships, which is a positive step toward equipping partners for modern-day life.

The findings revealed several causes of domestic violence such as suspicion of affair with other men, proving superiority, argumentative nature of the husband, frustration, negative attitude of the husband, egoistic nature of the husband, husband's inability to control anger, jealousy, possessiveness, and criticisms to their husbands whenever some mistakes were made and stress in professional life. Women experienced domestic violence due to financial problems, disagreement with regard to family economic management, property issues, belief that women should earn too, husband wanting to sell everything what belongs to his wife, job dissatisfaction, husband's unemployment, poverty, refusal to bring money from parent's house and husband's economic dependence on parents. Women experienced domestic violence due to lack of awareness, lack of enforcement of prevailing laws to protect women, loose law and order, low conviction rate, lack of public safety for women, lack of free legal aid/legal services, cases of domestic violence being compromised between families, cases of violence not taken seriously by the village headman or Mahari Association, lack of sensitization among the masses and lack of support mechanism for the victims. Women experienced domestic violence due to infertility in female, lack of sexual interest, violence due to miscarriages, resistance for abnormal sexual behaviour of the husband and repeated birth of a girl child. Hence, more and more awareness campaigns should be held to spread the causes, implications and where to seek help when caught in the domestic violence cycle. Women need to be empowered through education, employment opportunities, legal literacy, and right to inheritance. In addition, education and information on domestic violence should be provided for them. More education in different ways and prepare social and legal supports for women who suffer domestic violence. Some factors responsible for domestic violence can be prevented by socio-economic development like female literacy, employment, and by adapting gender equitable policies.

The present study revealed the academic problem of children as a result of witnessing domestic violence at home. This include problem of admission, continuation of education, regularity in school, interest in studies, completion of primary education, school drop-out, failure in examination, repetition in the same class, concentration in studies, lack of study habit, interest in extra-curricular activities, their provision of the required teaching and learning materials to children, their children complaining about insufficient books, notebooks and other materials, their children facing harassment at school, provision of private tuition, achievement of more marks in the school examinations, acquisition of scholarship and trophies, teachers complaining about their children's non-functional behaviour at school, their children being active at home, their children feeling free to discuss anything with their parents, completion of home task regularly, their children showing interest in discussing their academic matter with their parents, their children happy about their academic performance and home not congenial for children's education. Hence, there is a need to adopt a holistic, childcentred approach in dealing with students at school particularly to children exposed to domestic violence. If teachers are aware of issues in students' home lives, they will be better informed to provide support to meet the individual needs of students regarding their learning, and social and emotional development. The school staffs needs to be able to confidently ask students if anything is wrong at home and take appropriate action. In terms of educational attainment, additional learning support, perhaps in a one-to-one or small group context, could help improve the educational outcomes of students. Teachers can play an essential role in helping children heal from traumatic experiences and in creating a safe school environment for learning. School-based programs should be evaluated and corporal punishment banned in

schools, since witnessing violence as a child has major implications in future.

The social problems with children include withdrawal from friends and usual activities, fear of social life, remaining alone in school and at home, staying away from home, children feeling isolated from others, parents' support their children's education financially, aggressive behaviour, distracted behaviour, disobedient behaviour, reluctance to eat, revengeful behaviour, indulging in fights with friends in school and at home, social maladjustment, participation in different social gatherings, tolerance the criticism of others, all the negative social factors affecting children due to domestic violence at home. Hence, there a need to provide children counselling from professionals at their school, often school counsellors. This may be carried out by play therapy, peer support groups, anger management classes and safety programs to teach kids how to overcome from their problems. Providing the child a safe environment that does not include violence in any form after a child has witnessed domestic violence. Further by finding ways to discipline children that do not involve hitting, name-calling, yelling, or any form of verbally aggressive behaviour.

- The psychological problems of children include low self-esteem, poor self image, pessimism, low self-confidence, depression in school and at home, feeling of anger in school and at home, worry or anxiety in school and at home, violent outburst in school and at home, all the negative psychological factors affecting children due to domestic violence at home. Hence, in order to assist children in overcoming the psychological problems the school, during Parents Teachers Association meetings, the school counsellor should be given enlightenment talks to parents on the need to live peaceful at homes for their wards to have enabling environment to develop his/her potentials maximally. The students should be encouraged by school counsellors to come for counselling especially those students from violence ridden family, so that the counsellor can help them to overcome the psychological problems they are passing through for that it will not have negative impact on their academic performance. The school counsellors should train the students on the skill they can use to mediate between their parents for peaceful co-existence and living happily. Andhra Pradesh model of

- village counsellor for multipurpose work should be initiated in the region. This was launched by the Government of Andhra Pradesh on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2019 where there would be a woman police and women and child welfare assistant in each Secretariat who would take care of women protection and counselling. Boarding school needs to be expanded to keep away children from the influence of domestic violence.
- Courts may develop policies and protocols to improve the capacity to identify and account for domestic violence and its impact on children's education and barred parents in order to arrive a parenting arrangement. It also take multiple approach to custody evaluations of domestic violence. Custody evaluator should be trained to handle such children in right way.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development and education department may have to work in close cooperation with each other to minimise domestic violence for the sake of children's future.
- It is necessary to adopt peace life or bond of good behaviour which may help parents and child to maintain a right way life. There is also need to promote, advertise and educate the community members about reasons behind the domestic violence. Government may continue campaign deliberately in culture specific.
- It may need to include yoga education in schools at where parents may participate along with children. Professionals like social workers, psychologists, counsellors may be part of educational activities in schools to help children coming from domestic violence home.
- Medical departments may play role to minimise sexual violence which is one of the major cause for domestic violence.
- More informal/non formal educational training may organize in different locality for women who suffer domestic violence.

#### **Conclusion:**

The study focussed on domestic violence among married women and its affect on children's education. Based on the findings and the issues raised in the course of the study may open eyes of the society and law makers to stop or to minimise this social evils.

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