

## Social and psychological Impact on the children of the parents with domestic violence

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### Abstract

Physical abuse affects a lot of kids who are exposed to domestic violence. Long-term overall health issues are more likely to affect children who suffer from this condition or who actually are abused. Children will be much more likely to commit crimes in their future relations if they observe conflict amongst their parents. The present study aims to identify the psychological and social impact on children with parents of domestic violence and to find the association with social and psychological aspects with demographic characteristics. A quantitative approach and descriptive survey was used for the study. 100 children were selected from 12-17 years of age through convenience sampling. Participants were contacted and scheduled by an interviewer. A questionnaire was prepared and executed. Written consent was taken from the mothers before the study. Mothers were debriefed before the execution of the study. An inclusion and exclusion criteria was set before the study. The results showed that maximum children faced anxiety and post traumatic stress as a psychological impact and feeling of isolation along with the other social impacts. The study concluded that It is important to note that family violence and child neglect are social problems that reflect the degree of development of the society, in addition to being purely medical issues. Despite certain advancements in the nation's law protects children's rights, society has to take regulation and adherence seriously.

**Keywords:** *domestic violence, social, psychological, impact.*

### INTRODUCTION

Physical abuse affects a lot of kids who are exposed to domestic violence. Long-term overall health issues are more likely to affect children who suffer from this condition or who actually are abused. Children will be much more likely to commit crimes in their future relations if they observe conflict amongst their parents(1). Children who are constantly

exposed to one parent's maltreatment at the hands of another are prone to stay on strain. The very next time a verbal or physical abuse occurs in their household, these kids will be waiting with baited breath.(2) Violence produces problems and has an impact on a child's behaviour, emotional and intellectual development, and personality on all levels. The outcomes of domestic violence on kids as

spectators or victims of conflict are one of the unpleasant elements of family life.(3) Given that there have been many different incidents that span both child molestation and domestic violence, it is unclear if domestic violence is a traumatic incident. At least one family member must be the victim of domestic abuse, and another must be the perpetrator, for there to be any emotionally or physically abuse.(4)

Childhood maltreatment and violence are frequently risk factors for the development of serious personality disorders and mental health problems in adults. A youngster who witnessed violence in the home may grow to suffer a "inferiority complex." He or she is prone to antisocial conduct, violence, and fantasy. Anger can be aimed both at others and at oneself at the very same time. In addition, recent literature indicates that children exposed to family violence may experience problems in multiple domains of functioning and may meet criteria for multiple disorders in addition to PTSD(5)

Kids of this age could be aggressive, have trouble establishing friends, or obey regulations. They may experience recollections to the violence and experience dread, worry, guilt, humiliation, sadness, poor self-esteem, or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Kids who are unable to focus and concentrate on activities might suffer from hyperactivity disorder with attention deficit (6)

#### Aim

1. To identify the psychological impact on children with parents of domestic violence
2. To identify the social impacts on children with parents of domestic violence
3. To find the association with social and psychological aspects with demographic characteristics

## Methodology

A quantitative approach and descriptive survey was used for the study. 100 children were selected from 12-17 years of age through convenience sampling. Participants were contacted and scheduled by an interviewer. A questionnaire was prepared and executed. Written consent was taken from the mothers before the study. Mothers were debriefed before the execution of the study. An inclusion and exclusion criteria was set before the study . child with 12 to 17 years of age, mothers having no domestic violence since 6 months and lived separately with the children and those who are willing to participate in the study were included.

## Results

### Section I: Child characteristics

**Table 1: Characteristics of the child**

**N=100**

<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Frequency</i>
<b>Religion</b>		
<b>Hindu</b>	62	62%
<b>Muslim</b>	32	32%
<b>Others</b>	6	6%
<b>Status of siblings</b>		
<b>1</b>	29	29%
<b>2</b>	31	31%
<b>3</b>	30	30%
<b>More than 3</b>	10	10%
<b>Father taking alcohol</b>		
<b>Yes</b>	82	82%
<b>No</b>	18	18%
<b>Mother Physically abused</b>		
<b>Yes</b>	86	86%
<b>No</b>	14	14%
<b>Mother Sexually abused</b>		
<b>Yes</b>	12	12%
<b>No</b>	88	88%
<b>Incidence of Violence</b>		
	72	72%

<b>Daily</b>	13	13%
<b>Weekly</b>	15	15%
<b>Monthly</b>		
<b>Any time mother hospitalised due to violence</b>	26	26%
<b>Yes</b>	74	74%
<b>No</b>		
<b>Any helped</b>	13	13%
<b>sought</b>	87	87%
<b>Yes</b>		
<b>No</b>		

The data showed that 62% were hindu 32% were muslim and 6% belongs to other religion. 29% child have 1 sibling, 31% have 2 siblings, 30% have 3 siblings 10% have more than 3 siblings. 82% stated that father taking alcohol and 18% said no. 86% of child said that their mothers was physically abused and 14% said no. 12% said that their mothers were sexually abused whereas 88% didn't face this problem. 72% reported the daily incidence of domestic violence, 13% reported weekly violence and 15% reported monthly violence. In case of 26% children the mother was hospitalised after the violence whereas 74% this was not the case. 13% reported that they tried to seek help whereas 87% never asked help.

Section II: Psychological impact on children with parents of domestic violence

**Table no.2 Number of cases pf different psychological impacts among children**

**N=100**

<b>Diagnosis</b>	<b>Number of Cases</b>	<b>%age</b>
PTSD	23	23%
Depression	28	28%
Anxiety	35	35%
Other	14	14%
Total	100	

The above table reflects that 23% of the children suffered with PTSD, 28% suffered from Depression, maximum children 35% suffered with Anxiety and rest 14% suffered from other various kind of psychological

problems. Because of this, it is likely that these children's major psychological dysfunction is caused more by seeing or personally experiencing abuse.

Section III: Social impact on children with parents of domestic violence

**Table no.3 Number of cases of different social impacts among children**

**N=100**

<b>Social Impacts</b>	<b>Number of Cases</b>	<b>%age</b>
Isolation	40	40%
Bullying	13	13%
Use of drugs	17	17%
Feeling of anger	23	23%
Others	7	7%
Total	100	

The above table reflects that 40% of the children suffered with isolation 13% suffered from bullying, 17% start taking drugs and 23% suffered from feeling of anger and 7% face other problems.

Section IV: Association of the child characteristics with social and psychological impacts of domestic violence

**Table IV: Association of the child characteristics with social and psychological impacts of domestic violence**

**N=100**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>P value Social Impact</b>	<b>P Value Psychological impact</b>
<b>Religion</b>			
<b>Hindu</b>	62%	0.944	0.623
<b>Muslim</b>	32%		
<b>Others</b>	6%		
<b>Status of siblings</b>			
<b>1</b>	29%	0.83	0.733
	31%		

<b>2</b>	30%		
<b>3</b>	10%		
<b>More than 3</b>			
<b>Father taking alcohol</b>	82%	0.04	0.03
<b>Yes</b>	18%		
<b>No</b>			
<b>Mother Physically abused</b>	86%	0.02	0.021
<b>Yes</b>	14%		
<b>No</b>			
<b>Mother Sexually abused</b>	12%	0.83	0.86
<b>Yes</b>	88%		
<b>No</b>			
<b>Incidence of Violence</b>	72%	0.045	0.032
<b>Daily</b>	13%		
<b>Weekly</b>	15%		
<b>Monthly</b>			
<b>Any time mother hospitalised due to violence</b>	26%	0.44	0.002
<b>Yes</b>	74%		
<b>No</b>			
<b>Any helped sought</b>	13%	0.872	0.977
<b>Yes</b>	87%		
<b>No</b>			

Level of significance 0.05

The data shows that father taking alcohol. Mother abused physically, incidence of violence, and hospitalisation of mother are significantly associated with the social and psychological impact. Others don't have any association.

### Discussion

The study showed that given the potential for associated significant and persistent mental illnesses in these individuals, and the fact that these children were on abusive relationship, the results showed that children suffered from

social and psychological impacts.. The children and their parents' accounts of the abusive relationship supported very high levels of direct due to severe abuse in terms of occurrence and intensity. The majority of moms thought that the amount of anguish experienced by their kids was really significant. The kids and their mother also agreed that the kids were frequently present during severe physical and verbal abuse of their mothers, and that the offender's behaviour was unaffected by the children's presence. The psychological impact shows more anxiety and social impact shows more of isolation among children. Kathryn et al supported the results in the study where significant increase in anxiety has been seen in the children(7) Khattoon et al also reported the children exposed to cross domestic violence have a high incidence of anxiety, and children living in shelter homes have a considerably greater rate of anxiety than children in the broader society.(8) Gregory et al reported that Children from risky communities or those who had just gone through a distressing incident felt more alone. The number of kids in the household was correlated positively with isolation.(9)

### Conclusion

According to the study's findings, domestic violence has a negative impact on a child's psychological and social health. Childhood experiences with violence have an immediate effect. It may also have long term effects that frequently last throughout one's whole life. It may aid in the development of certain familial ties and particular life circumstances. According to the findings, socio and psychological adaptation is lower in groups with a high degree of domestic violence. Members with poor socio psychological adaptation avoid issues more frequently and experience higher levels of worry. It is important to note that family violence and child neglect are social problems that reflect the degree of development of the society, in

addition to being purely medical issues. Despite certain advancements in the nation's law protects children's rights, society has to take regulation and adherence seriously.

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