



# Unveiling Consequences Of Domestic Violence Against Women: A Study In Sakhi One Stop Centre, Golaghat, Assam

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## ARTICLE INFO

## ABSTRACT

Violence Against Women is not a new phenomenon, covering a large scope worldwide. This sensitive issue shows unequal power relation between men and women globally where superiority hits the poor marginal weak category of each society, i.e., women and girls. Domestic Violence is one of those abusive behaviour in any relationship which often demonstrates power and control over intimate partner which can be occurred in different forms, like- physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, economic abuse, psychological abuse etc that can harm one's physical as well as mental well-being and its effects are life-shattering. This study discovers the multifaceted nature of domestic violence through a qualitative design, engaging a descriptive methodology to gather the experiences of survivors. In last few years, Assam has been troubling in the rise of domestic violence cases showing a variety in violences over women and girls. Here the researcher tried to find out the cause and consequences behind occurring Domestic Violence against women in Golaghat district by doing Case Studies with survivors in Sakhi One Stop Centre, Golaghat, Assam. The findings show unremitting nature of abuse, factors like- societal and cultural norms and its significant effects on survivors. Furthermore, the study also highlights the nuanced understanding of domestic violence and the barriers of women in seeking help.

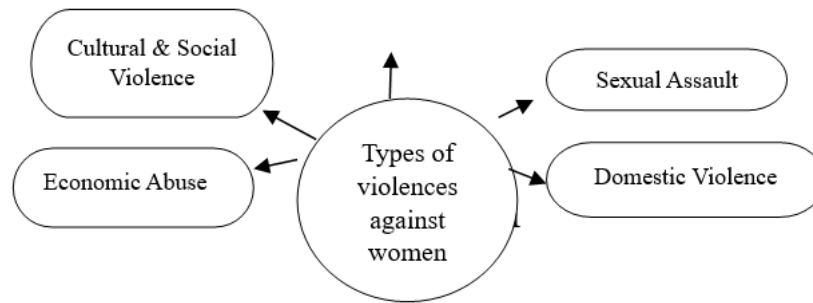
**Key words-** violence, power relations, crimes against women, one stop centre

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## Introduction:

“Violence against women means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.” (United Nation Human Rights, 1993) It is a very sensitive and strong issue about which people seldom talked about. Millions of women throughout the world live in deprivation of and attacks against their fundamental rights for no other reason than that they are women.

Violence against women and girls is the most pervasive human rights violence rooted in gender inequality and discrimination, unequal power relations and harmful social norms.



**Figure:1**

The nature of violence against women includes Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)- physical violence, sexual violence, psychological violence, economic abuse; Sexual Violence- rape, sexual harassment, molestation, sexual exploitation; Domestic Violence- child abuse, elder abuse, spousal abuse; Economic abuse- financial control, employment sabotage; and Cultural & Social Violence- honor killing, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) are some of the prevalent crimes. It has been estimated about 736 million women have been victimized either physically or sexually by intimate partner or non-partner sexual violence and the results can be observed in depression, anxiety, unplanned pregnancy, sexually transmitted disease, HIV and many other health related issues. (United Nation Women, 2023) In India, it is not a new phenomenon that most of the women have to face it once in her lifetime due to different mindset of people and as a result the status of women has always been categorized in the secondary position. (Saikia, 2019) These violences can happen to anyone regardless of class, caste and religion. Domestic Violence occurs in both opposite -sex and same sex relationship and can happen to intimate partners who are married, living together, dating or share a child. Approximately 20,737 cases of rape, 8093 cases of dowry death, 10950 cases of sexual harassment cases of India have been reported which was published by an article on *Journal of Criminological Theory*, 2007. (Nigam, 2016) Likewise, Assam has also been highlighted as a state with increasing number in violence against women. According to National Crime Records Bureau, the rate of crimes against women in Assam is higher than the average of the whole country particularly in Domestic Violence (DV), kidnapping and molestation (2016-19) along with 30% women reported spousal violence as according to National Family Health Survey-5 (2020, Dec). Seven districts, namely Jorhat, Sivasagar, Hailakandi, Dhubri, Barpeta, Bongaigaon and Hojai are categorized under highest crime rate districts as compared to other districts of Assam. (Chattopadhyay, 2021)

Most of the violence occurs inside or outside the family mainly in two types- verbal and physical. The verbal violence could occur by doing humiliation, threatening, scolding, emotional & psychological abuse, neglecting, no talking etc., where physical violence includes slapping, kicking, beating, murder, rape, marital rape, molestation, forced sex, harassments, bride burning etc. However, violence against women has different forms, like- dowry related harassment, economic abuse, harassing women at workplace, child marriage, trafficking, domestic violence, sexual exploitation and many more.

“Violence is used as a weapon by patriarchy and gives a social sanction to men to control a women’s body and sexuality, mind, mobility, labour and economic independence” (Hazarika & Sharma, 2015) Often consuming alcohol, temporary anger and loss of control, problems in marital relationship, husband’s failure to fulfil family’s demand, superstitious believes, patriarchal dominance are some of the factors indulge domestic violence in most of the families. (Jain & Jain, 2015) (Nigam, 2016) (Hazarika & Sharma, 2015) A report by North East Network, 2015 showed that most of the violence happened with women without knowing the basic idea of what is violence. The report also exposed that 37% of women has been going through spousal violence or partner violence worldwide. The unequal power relations between husband and wife leads to arguments and due to social norms and believes, the hierarchical system of Indian society which gives more power to men displays their manliness by doing violence and harassment against women whom are categorized to be marginalized. (Vauquiline, 2015)

### **About Sakhi One Stop Centre:**

In 2015, Sakhi One Stop Centres (OSCs) are introduced by Nirbhaya Fund, under Mission Shakti, after the gang rape of a student girl in New Delhi, 2012 with the aim to assist women and provide emergency response and rescue services, police assistance, medical, legal, psychological as well as temporary shelter whenever they feel insecure or harassed. (Bureau, 2022) (Suresh N. , 2023) One Stop Centres are established in different time periods in different phases like 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20. According to the data provided by Lok Sabha, February 10, 2023, there are total 733 OSCs present and operational in all over India. The main motive of establishing One Stop Centre is to provide integrated support to the women affected by violence, both in private or public spheres under one roof and to provide basic facilities along with emergency response, legal, psychological, police, medical assistance as well. (Ministry of Women & Child Development, 2016) OSCs are working in hierarchical order, the National, State and District level. The Central Government has constituted a grievance redressal mechanism to address the problems of functioning in OSCs and register

complaints as well. One Stop Centres are united with a helpline number 181 through which cases can be referred to the particular centre for its best assistance. (Suresh D. , 2018) The present study tries to discuss the nuance of violence against women and how One Stop Centres deal with its clients and problems taking 5 Case studies from OSC, Golaghat District, Assam.

### Objective of the Study:

The main objectives of the paper are-

1. To identify and categorize different forms of Domestic Violence in Assam and their consequences.
2. To explore the role of Sakhi One Stop Centre combatting Domestic Violence.

### Significance of the Study:

Violence Against Women is considered as global health issue (Stephens & Eaton, 2020) as it threatens physical, mental, psychological as well as emotional well-being of women experienced Domestic Violence in her lifetime. The study is significant for several reasons- firstly, as the number of Domestic Violence cases are increasing despite of taking remarkable preventions along with awareness and policy programmes; secondly, more research is important in order to break the stereotypes in the minds of people about social classification and patriarchal mindset as well. Social beliefs and social norms are so much attached to the ordinary people of the society which spoil the socio-cultural set up of ideal society and leads to domestic violence and other anti-social activities. Thirdly, by communicating with the survivors, the researcher aimed to fulfil the knowledge gap about different forms of violence against women and its implications. Additionally, the researcher also wanted to cover a new scope that works for safeguarding the lives of women and girls under 18, i.e., Sakhi One Stop Centre, initiated by Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, to combat Domestic Violence by taking preventive measures. Lastly, the study also focuses on how power relations could be created through the process of behavioural and socialization process viewing through the lens of Feminist and Social Learning theory.

### Limitation of the study:

For the primary section, the study is limited to only Sakhi One Stop Centre, Golaghat, Assam. The other Sakhi centres are not included in this regard due to time and resource constraints. Therefore, the study is not generalizable to the survivors of all other regions of Assam.

### Methodology:

The study is based on both primary and secondary data, primary data were collected from survivors of domestic violence assisted by Sakhi One Stop Centre, Golaghat, Assam and the secondary data were collected from books, journals, newspaper articles, online sources, Government reports etc. The researcher has directed Qualitative Research Design and used Descriptive Methodology.

Feminist theory and Social Learning theory were used to validate the study.

Feminist theory helped the researcher to make a deeper understanding about the root cause of domestic violence and its consequences. The feminist theory encounters social transformation to promote empowerment and make abolition of oppression especially Intimate Partner Violence (IPV). (Shah & Mufeed, 2023) Through the lens of the feminist theory, domestic violence in Indian society as well as in Assam has pervasively ingrained into patriarchal tradition and cultural norms. Some key points are like-

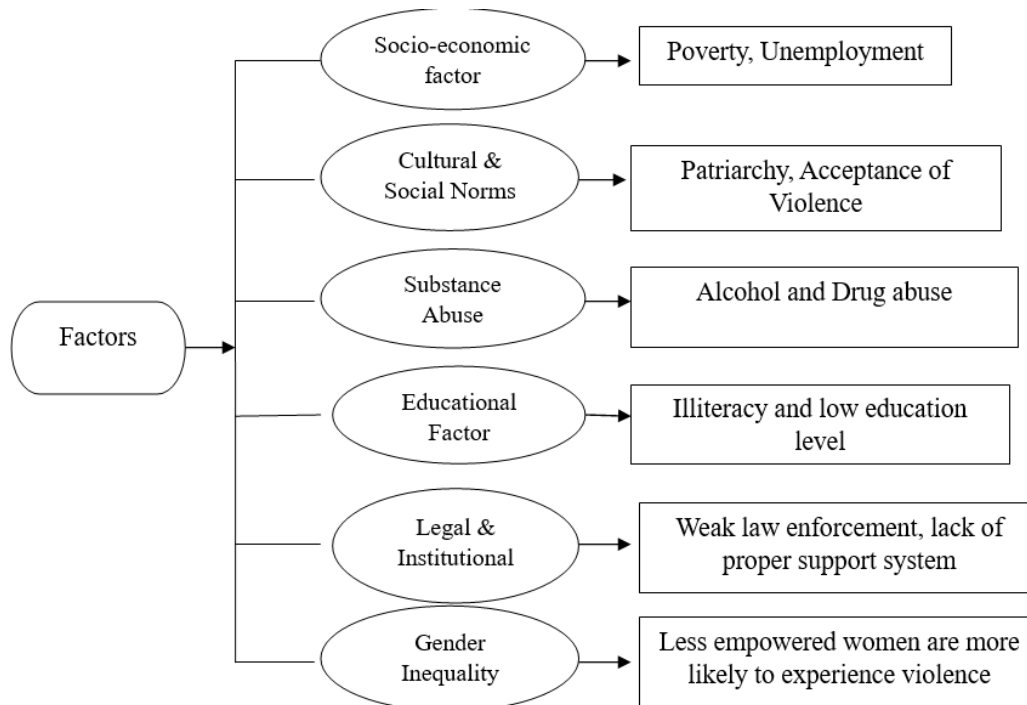
- **Patriarchal ideologies and power control-** This theory argues that patriarchal tradition in the minds of some Indian people nurtured the sense of violence in any form against women, especially the common one, that is domestic violence. (Smith, 2017) Norms and beliefs of our Indian society (some parts of India) are entitled with the belief that men are supposed to be the supreme character of the society having power and right to control women. This theory talks about the unethical power distribution between men and women. (Singh, et al., 2021)
- **Intersectionality:** This term was coined by Kimberlé Crenshaw in 1989. This concept created an outline to understand how inequality and oppression works intersectionally. Multiple identities, structural power are some of the key points of intersectionality. For example, multiple identities mean the colour of a woman's body stands for various identities that might create oppression like both racial and gender discrimination simultaneously. Then structural power signifies the nature of power that may create identities and experience for marginalized groups of people. (Cooper, 2015) (Women, 2020)

Additionally, the Social Learning Theory coined by Albert Bandura in 1960s emphasized on people acquiring behaviours by observing and imitating others. This theory has been widely used to understand the core of domestic violence and learned behaviours. For a deeper understanding, few key points relevant to this model are given below-

- **Modeling Behaviour-** This is the learned behaviour of any individual or children by observing the behaviours of adults or peers. They basically execute the behaviours which they have learned from family members or elders. They might think that violence is the only way to resolve any conflict. (Li, Xiong , Liang, Zhang, & Tang, 2021)

- **Intergenerational Transmission:** This theory shows that domestic violence can be long term generation by generation. The child who grown up watching family violence continuously in his/her home environment, must have develop the violent behaviour and may continue the cycle of violence in the future life. (Li, Xiong , Liang, Zhang, & Tang, 2021)

### Factors Influencing Domestic Violence:



**Figure:2**

The above figure (Figure:2) displays a picture of various factors affecting domestic violence and its implications. Cultural, Economic, Legal and Political cause are regarded as the main influencer of Domestic Violence. The Cultural factors includes gender specification, belief in superiority of males, marriage custom(dowry); then Economic dependence of women over their men, limited access to money, limited access to education and employment; then Legally women get lesser status whether written or oral, low level of legal education of women; then Politically lesser knowledge and awareness about policy and programmes, violence not taken seriously, lesser participation in political activities etc. (UNICEF Office of Research-Innocenti, 2000) Moreover, temperamental attitude (anger) of the perpetrator, access use of alcohol and other drugs, witnessing parents' violence since childhood, patriarchal mindset of esteemed people of the society, victim's weakness (education, income, employment, maturity) all these are some of the factors that pamper Domestic Violence. (Aziz, Idris, Ishak, Wahid, & Abu Yazid, 2018) Men thought to have right over their wives and treats them as they want and misuse their power to control women. Alcohol distracts them from sound thinking and influence them to become abusive and violent towards their family members. Less social support is another reason for occurring Domestic Violence. People think arguments are usual in every household, therefore, they hesitated to interfere between husband-wife or household matters. But it has been noticed that a little interference could make a good cause to stop an argument or violence happening against women. (Kaur & Garg, Domestic Violence Against women: A Qualitative Study in a Rural Community, 2009) Moreover, Religious belief plays a significant role in developing any violence against women. Women are instructed to be always grateful to their husbands as they are like the authority for their entire life, so, they have to listen what their husbands talked about. Women whom are victim of violence feels insecure, neglected and dominant in their marital homes, so they have to accept all those happenings despite of knowing the negativity of it. (Lanchimba, Diaz-Sanchez, & Velasco, 2023)

From the primary observation, factors influencing the above cases are like consuming alcohol, religious belief, conservative mindset of people, unequal power relation between men and women, forced sex, less awareness about Government programmes for women, dependency on spouse, low education, low employment opportunity etc.

### Discussion:

Violence Against Women deep-rooted in gender inequality nurtured by the behaviour and socialization process of human being shows great deprivation and discrimination against fundamental rights of people. At



different stages, the violence could be seen in the lifecycle of women from prenatal to the old age. For example, prenatal sex discrimination in prenatal period; female infanticide in infancy; child marriage, abuse, trafficking etc in childhood period; rape, sexual harassment, abduction etc. in the adolescent period; domestic violence, marital rape, homicide, molestation, dowry related issues in the youth and adulthood; old abuse, threatening, lack of proper care, psychosocial harassment etc are in the old age, all these are visible during the lifespan of a woman. (ICRW, 2004)

In India, the status of women has always been changing due to the course of time. Society always plays a significant role in shaping the nuance of its strata by giving women to act differently in each character. In Ancient India, women got equal status to men both in house and outside family, but in Mediaeval India, the position of women decline due to the advent of many foreigners and starting of different social customs as well. Many socio ill-practices were followed up by the Hindu societies like- sati practice, dowry, child marriage, polygamy, restriction on widow remarriage, devadasi tradition etc. which eventually degrades the identity and status of women in Indian society that helps in fostering crimes against women and girl child. (Kalaiyarasi, 2015)

The projection of women in the minds of Indian people set like a well cultured moral women who should sacrifice her dreams or herself rather than have desires to achieve more. In this regard, gender is a socially constructed theory where sex is a biological difference between male and female. Gender based violence initially results in the marginalization of women in any public or private spheres of life. (Kaushik, Vihan, & Vidyapith, 2015) Different types of violence against women in India and Assam are like-

**Sexual abuse of children:** This is one of the most terrible as well as silent and invisible kind of harassment that any children can face during their infancy to adolescent period when they were unaware about what is molestation or sexual harassment. This can happen inside or outside the family, known to unknown, often by father, stepfather, brother, friend, uncle, or any male character they are in touch with. (UNICEF Office of Research- Innocenti, 2000)

**Sexual harassment at workplace:** It is the most disturbing form of violence against any women which creates hostile situation to anyone working outside. The harassment would come from the employer, employee, co-worker etc. and the Employer is responsible for everything happen under his/her supervision and he/she is responsible in safeguarding the woman at workplace. It is the violation of human rights as well as it degrades the participation of women in workplace. The Government of India has enacted Sexual Harassment of women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 to provide security to women in workplace. (Rathore & Mishra, 2020)

**Dowry:** It is a practice of some Indian societies where the father or family members of a daughter have to transfer or give some durable goods, cash or property to the groom, but the cost and quantity of giving dowry is vary from person to person. Many cases of dowry related issues are registered and its consequences are harder to any woman like domestic violence, dowry death, suicide, widow burning etc. (Kalaiyarasi, 2015) However, Government of India launched Dowry Prohibition Act in 1961. It prohibits and says dowry demands are illegal in India.

**Child Marriage:** It is one of the most sensitive and burning issues of India. Despite of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, it has been observed that Child marriage was prevalent in most of the Indian societies and continues to the present days in some parts of India. Despite of physical and mental maturity, girls had to marry to that person selected by their parents as per socio-religious practice and beliefs. (Lal, 2013)

**Female Infanticide and Foeticide:** this is a kind of threaten to human race and it is extremely destructive nature of violence that shows the brutal manifestation of biasness about patriarchal societies. (Naidu, 2011)

**Sexual exploitation and Rape in intimate relationship:** Sexual harassment and rape is not considered as crime in many countries and at the same time forced sex as rape, as society has given the right to a married man that he can do anything to his wife. This trauma leads to psychological damage of married women. (Bhat & Ullman, 2016)

**Psychological and Emotional abuse:** Psychological and emotional torture is harder than physical violence. Psychological damage leads to self-harm or depression. Researches shows that survivor living under psychological abuse often face emotional torture and terror stays in their mind. (UNICEF Office of Research-Innocenti, 2000)

The traditional patriarchal system of Indian society believed men are the supreme character of the society where women have to face socio-economic as well as political degradation inside or outside their family. In this point of view illiteracy hit the stuck of people's mind which leads to several social ill practices like purdah, child marriage, restriction of widow remarriage, sati, devadasi tradition, witch hunting and many more. (Kaushik, Vihan, & Vidyapith, 2015)

The following are 5 Case Studies of survivors from different backgrounds assisted by Sakhi One Stop Centre, Golaghat, Assam-

**Case Study 1: Spousal Violence**

A lady around 40 years old seek help from One Stop Centre, Golaghat, as she was a victim of Domestic Violence. Her husband was 50 years old and a regular drunker. He was a small vegetable vendor. They had a little girl child. According to the lady, he does forced sex with her and it doesn't matter for him whether their child awake or asleep and often uses slang words while scolding her and beat her on a regular basis. She was not only victimized physically but also driven by mental and psychological sufferings. OSC provided her temporary shelter for 7 days along with counselling and other legal, medical and police assistance. After mental stabilization, now she works as a housemaker, live with her girl independently without confronting disturbance from her husband.

**Case Study 2: Family Violence**

A woman from Sivasagar district have faced Domestic or family violence since her marriage. The case was registered in One Stop Centre, Golaghat as she was married to a man of Golaghat district. She was differently abled. Her husband in in-laws humiliates her and he used to beat her with hand and stick. Her husband married to other women and threw her out from his house. After tolerating for years, she finally raised her voice and seek help from OSC. She became very weak both mentally and physically. The centre provided her psycho-counselling, after that she was connected to District Legal Service Authority (DLSA), Golaghat. The DLSA provided her compensation under a government scheme. By the suggestion taken from DLSA, she was kept in Swadher Greh for regaining her mental stability. Swadher Greh is a shelter home where vocational training were provided to the survivors. After 2-3 months she was connected to her parents. Now she ran a XEROX machine in her own shop at Sivasagar District.

**Case Study 3: Domestic Violence**

4 girls of Golaghat District from LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer) community were rescued by OSC, Golaghat, with the help of police assistance as their parents filed case against them due to their same sex love-stories were way unacceptable for them. They were kept in OSC for 5 days and during that period they had given counselling by the Case Workers and make a communication with their parents. 2 girls were returned with their parents, another 2 girls were connected to one of the NGOs in Guwahati, 'Samannay' as they were totally abandoned by their family members and now, they flew to Bangalore and work there self-reliantly without any hesitation.

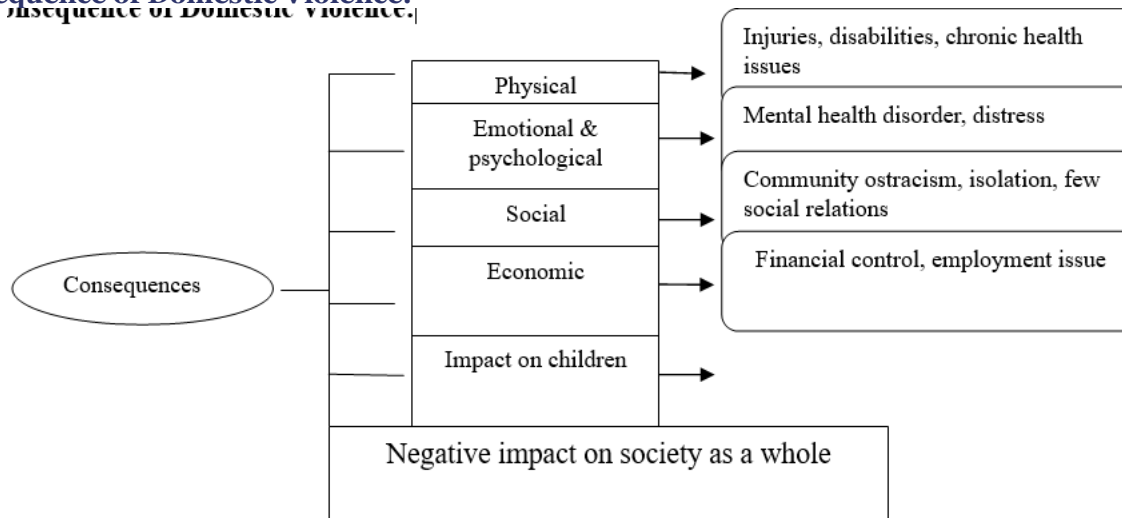
**Case Study 4: POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences)**

One 11-year-old little girl from tea garden area OF Golaghat district was rescued and taken to One Stop Centre with the help of Golaghat police as she was raped by her neighbour grandfather and made her pregnant of 6 months. The Case was under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 and was transferred to District Legal Service Authority, Golaghat. The perpetrator was sent to jail of Bokakhat under Golaghat District. She was counselled by the Counsellor of Sakhi One Stop Centre and with the help of the centre, she got compensation of rupees 3 lakhs, and presently she is in Child Care Centre, Golaghat.

**Case Study 5: Forced Sex**

A 40-year-old lady living with her 2 kids in a rent house, her husband lives in Goa for working purpose. She was forcefully raped by the house owner. She got pregnant, at first the perpetrator affirmed her to give the child his name but as time went on, he denied and threw them out of his house. She knocked the door of One Stop Centre, Golaghat, in order to get security and help. The centre act as a mediator to make a communication between her family and her husband. After settling down her physical issues, she worked as a housemaker as her husband denied to take her back, later she went to her parental home.

## Consequence of Domestic Violence:



**Figure:3**

The above figure (figure:3) showing different consequences that might occur due to domestic violence. Violence may happen for a short period of time, but can have a profound and far-reaching consequence on women, children and society as well. Its results not only seen in physical damage but also in psychological as well as motor development of children witnessing violence since childhood. A brief about the consequences of domestic violence is given below-

- **Effects on children-** The effect of Domestic Violence could be seen in the behavioural pattern of the children as they are the primary witness of the whole incidents happen Infront of them very often. The abusive behaviour of their father developed serious behavioural problem of their child. It initially degrades their socialization process. (Bhandari & Hughes, 2017) They might be the target of direct or indirect physical or mental violence while protecting other family members, especially their mother. They often experience behavioural as well as psychological disturbance including self-harm, isolation, depression, running-away, sleep disturbance, anxiety, academic challenges, relationship issues etc. (Health, 2017) Researches witnessed that children having Domestic Violence in their homes has more facing psycho-social as well as emotional problems in their day-to-day life. (Sternberg, et al., 1993)
- **Effects on Older person-** The impact of Domestic Violence can be seen in the abuse and negligence of elderly people. It has been noticed that older men and women are victimized due to their dependence on others. It shows the control of power of supreme over weaker person due to their age.
- **On women's health-** Domestic violence has severe and complex bearings on women's physical as well as mental health. A number of unplanned pregnancies and its termination can be noticed as a result of women experiencing Domestic Violence. Researches shows that women experiencing Domestic Violence during pregnancy may also face poor weight gain, anaemia, infections, pre-term labour, poor mental health, low baby birth, postnatal problems etc. (Astbury, et al., 2000) A strong mental health is the great supporter of a good health. But a long run violence causes serious physical injuries like reproductive issues and cervical cancer. Researches also reveals that emotional damage are higher than physical harm. (Alejo, 2014) (Bramhankar & Reshmi, 2021)

### Findings:

From the above Case Studies, the researcher had categorized five different types of violences(crimes) occurred against women and girl child are as follows-

- Marital Rape and Spousal Violence
- Family Violence
- Violence against LGBTQ community (not accepting their ideology)
- Molestation and Rape (POCSO)
- Forced Sex

There is a myth in Indian societies that a married women cannot be raped (Hazarika & Sharma, 2015) but actually rapped by doing forceful intercourse without her concern. This shows a kind of marital rape that might happen to a woman during her married life. The other case showing betraying a differently abled woman by her husband, doing marital affaire, harassment, physical and mental abuse. The next one is a case of 2 couples from LGBTQ community, they were neglected and victimized as they fall in love with the same gendered person which is not socially approved by a group of people. Due to conservative mindset, Indian society and its people do not accept this nature as a normal one. The other 2 cases were on molestation and rape of a minor girl and forced sex with a single mother. In settling those cases, Sakhi One Stop Centre had

played a very significant role from diagnosing to resolving the problem. The Case Workers and Counsellor help them in all possible way to get rid of their problem, like- they facilitate emergency response with medical assistance, police assistance, legal service, primary and psycho- counselling, providing mental support as well as temporary shelter to the survivors.

The study partially fulfilled the objectives that the researcher has followed to carry out the study. The researcher has used Feminist and Social Learning theory for a better understanding of the concept of domestic violence against women in India and Assam as well. The result has encounter five different types of violence from Sakhi One Stop Centre, Golaghat, Assam and the victims were both women and girl. The study reveals that more than 400 cases were registered in Sakhi One Stop Centre, Golaghat, Assam since its inception. The study also highlights a number of risk factors of family violence and its implications as well as consequences of atrocities against women as a whole.

Moreover, the study underscores some preventive measures taken by Central Government to combat Domestic Violence, i.e., the Central Government had introduced Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act,2005. It gives a proper definition of Physical, emotional, sexual, verbal and economic abuse. This act is a civil law that aimed to protect women from future violence. The findings also addressed the role of OSCs in this regard that it plays a significant role in protecting women from domestic violence as well as guarding their lives by providing legal and police facilitation services. Moreover, primary and psycho-counselling helps the survivors to get a new life think different beyond previous chaos. This will help them to build self-motivation and make self-dependent as well. The Social Workers, Health Personnels, Policy-makers, Government and non-Government organizations working for women also play an important role to protect women and girls. But, despite of 733 One Stop Centres is running in all over India, yet it fails to provide effective assistance and support to the survivors due to lack of awareness, heavy workload less salary, delay in releasing funds, nothing about staff's well being mentioned in the Standard Operational Procedures of One Stop Centre prepared by Ministry. The topic of violence against women can transform into a public issue with the help of Social Science Educators. Their awareness and influence can directly contribute to the development of law and regulations and increase supporters for the victims of Domestic Violence. The media must play an important role in raising awareness about Gender Based Violence among girls and women in both rural and urban sectors. This will help the victims to upgrade their willingness to disclose the violence occurs against them. Moreover, the role of Public Health Personnel can also play an important role in addressing the issue of Domestic Violence by creating awareness campaigns, upgrade local community networks. Other research underscores coordination among various government and non-government departments working on women, improving existing database, information circulation to the agencies working on violence against women, recruiting more trained staffs, public as well as youth awareness are some of the ways which can improve the condition of women's life and reduce violence against them. The Researchers also give emphasis on the roles of Social Workers to understand the nature of problems and to take preventive measures to make equal status of women and to stop gender inequality in the country as well. They must take responsibilities to settle down domestic violence cases and positive response to the needs of the survivors.

### Conclusion:

Home is thought to be the safest place for anyone without any security. But what will happen if people of their own house become hostile and one have to escape in order to safeguarding self. This is what violence occurs in any household and its results may be tangible or intangible with an unbearable worst situation happen with women and child. The paper tried to explore challenges and discrimination against women as survivor of Domestic Violence. Violence Against Women and Girls in India shows weakness in policy programmes, fundamental rights, especially right to life and dignity. Dominant social norms indicate the unequal power relation between men and women in the society. People failed in safeguarding women and girls inside or outside the family. By addressing this issue, we require a multifaceted approach to make people aware about such hostility and also to provide appropriate solution and preventive measures to discontinue these harmful activities from the society. We the people of our country must play a crucial role to foster the culture of equality. Only through a collective work, people of each society can live their life freely without the feeling of fear and destruction.

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