Forms of prevalence of domestic violence and their extent among rural women of Dantiwada taluka

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ABSTRACT

The study was made to assess the forms of prevalence of domestic violence and reasons which trigger the domestic violence against rural women, A representative sample of 120 married rural women was selected from Dantiwada Taluka. Forms of prevalence of domestic violence were studied as dependent variables. Personal, socio- economic and communicational variables were studied as independent variable. A pre-structured interview schedule was used for collecting data. Data were collected by personal interview technique statistical analysis was done by computing frequencies, percentages correlation of coefficient and rank. Major findings revealed that majority of rural women had low level of physical, verbal, emotional and financial violence. First ranked reason perceived by rural women for domestic violence was poverty.

KEY WORDS: Domestic violence, Prevalence, Forms, Extent

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omestic violence in many cases occurs within the privacy of the home. It is a crime that can remain hidden to the outside world and go unnoticed to all except the survivor. It is a global issue reaching across the national boundaries as well as socio-economic, cultural, racial and class distinctions. Domestic violence has long term negative consequences for survivors even after the abuse has ended. This can translate into lower health status, lower quality of life and higher utilization of health services (Compbell et al., 2002), In India, there is a common pervasive myth that domestic violence is a personal or a private matter between a husband and a wife, or a family matter and no one else should interfere. But fact is that it is a crime, and a crime is never a personal or a private matter (National Family Health Survey, 2006), Most frequently reported forms of violence against women were abusive language, beating, pulling by hairs, forced sex and threatening to divorce (Nair et al., 2000) According to domestic violence act 2005 there are five forms of violence which includes: physical, verbal, sexual, emotional, financial abuse.

Objectives:

To study the personal socio-economic and communicational profile of rural women of Dantiwada Taluka, to find out the forms of domestic violence among rural women and their extent, to study the reasons which triggers the domestic violence against women and to study the correlation between the socio-economic and communicational profile of rural women and forms of domestic violence among rural women.

This study was conducted in Dantiwada Taluka of Banaskantha district of Gujarat. A representative sample of 120 married rural women was selected, data were collected through personal interview technique. Forms of violence were operationally defined in the terms of physical, verbal, sexual, financial and emotional violence and measured in their different levels i.e., low, medium and high. A pre-structures but open ended interview schedule was developed and used for measurement of dependent and independent variables. Frequency and percentage were calculated to measure the independent variables i.e., personal, socio-economic and communicational characteristics as well as for dependent variables *i.e.*, "Forms of prevalence of domestic violence". Correlation coefficient ('r') values were computed to find out the association between dependent and independent variables.

Personal socio-economic and communicational characteristics of rural women:

Majority of rural women belonged to the young