

CHAPTER IV: ANALYSIS OF DATA AND INTERPRETATION

In Indian patriarchal society, domestic violence against women is a common phenomenon. Women are the subject of mistreatment both within and outside home. In this context, an attempt has been made in the present study to find out the nature of domestic violence against women as well as the causes and extent of such violence in day-to-day life of the respondents. For the convenience of presentation, this chapter has been divided into three sections. Section I deals with the nature and extent of violence, Section II looks into the consequences of domestic violence and Section III deals with the causes of domestic violence and the role of the women organizations in this regard.

The whole study has been carried out on the basis of the following objectives

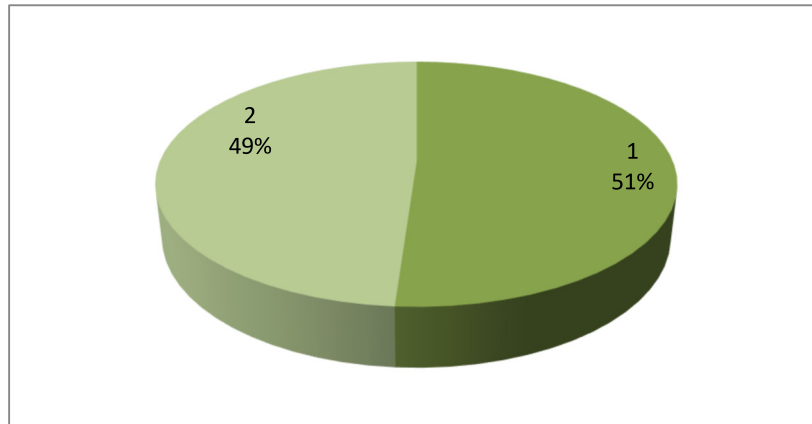
1. To find out the nature and causes of domestic violence.
2. To find out the role of Women's organisation for protection of women's rights and
3. To find out the state's response towards domestic violence.

Cooperation and conflicts are normal features of family life. However, presence of these features in the intimate relationships sometimes creates serious problem. As a natural feature, conflict often transcends its acceptable limit and takes the form of violence. As domestic violence has its roots in the notion that conflict among spouse is a natural phenomenon, respondents' views are sought about conflict. It means that to what extent do they consider it to be a natural phenomenon.

Table: 4.01
Distribution of Respondents' according to their Opinion on Conflict in Marital Relationship

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	92	51.11%
No	88	48.89%
Total	180	100%

Figure- 4.01: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Opinion on Conflict in Marital Relationship (in percent)



Note: 1= Yes, 2= No

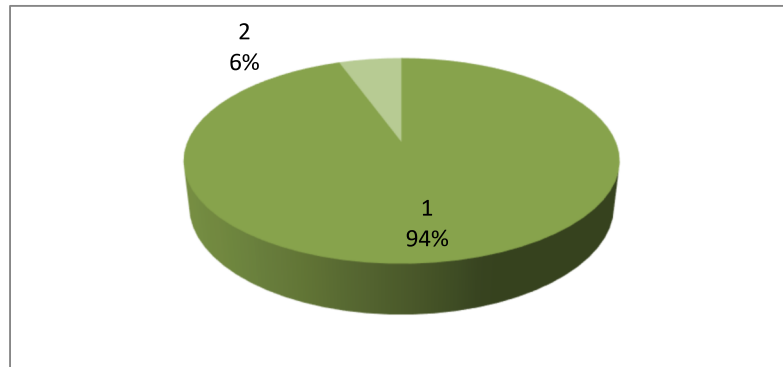
Data from the study reveal that (Table: 4.01) out of 180 respondents, more than half, i.e., 92 (51.11percent) considered conflict to be a general feature of marital relationship, while 88 (48.89percent) responded differently. Such a response suggests, to certain extent, the reason for rampant use of violence against women in the domestic front. Indian women are generally socialized to accept the domination of husband. Such compliance often crosses the normal limit and turns into regular incidents of domestic violence.

As conflict and difference between man and woman is accepted to be a natural feature of marital life, women were also asked to respond about the nature of argument and differences that generally occur between them.

**Table: 4.02
Distribution of Respondents' on the Basis of their Reply on Arguments with Husband**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	170	94.44%
No	10	5.56%
Total	180	100%

Figure- 4.02: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Opinion on Arguments with Husband



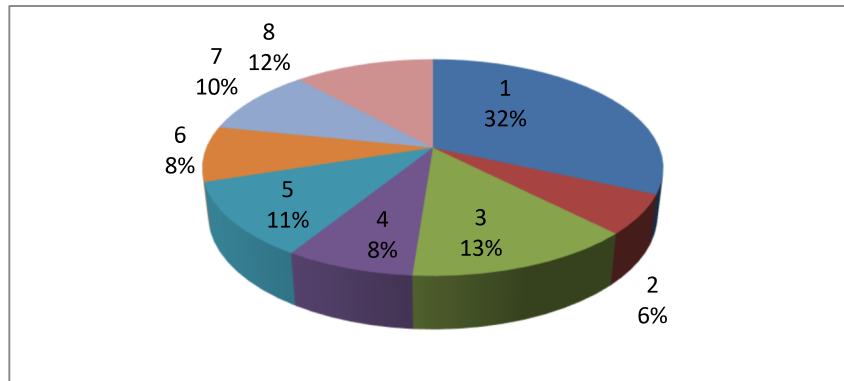
Note: 1= Yes, 2= No

As shown in the above (Table: 4.02) out of 180, majority of the 170 (94.4percent) respondents recorded incidents of argument with husband generally on issues like managing household expenditure, household work distribution, behavior of in-laws, children's career, habit of alcoholism, happiness of conjugal life and so on. In this context, it was found that (Table: 4.03) out of 170 respondents 54 (31.77percent) were found to have argued frequently over monetary matters, 23 (13.53percent) had differences over the relationship with the members of the extended family or in-laws

**Table: 4.03
Distribution of Respondents' on the basis of Opinion on Reasons of Arguments**

Reasons	No of Respondents	Percentage
Monetary matters	54	31.77%
Household work distribution	10	5.88%
Relationship with the members of the extended family or in-laws	23	13.53%
Prohibiting from meeting parents, friends and relatives	13	7.65%
Issues of sexuality	19	11.17%
Children's career	14	8.23%
Habit of alcoholism of the other spouse	17	10.00%
All such issues	20	11.77%
Total	170	100%

Figure- 4.03: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Opinion on Reasons of Arguments



Note: 1= Monetary matters, 2= Household work distribution, 3= Relationship with the members of the extended family or in-laws, 4= Prohibiting from meeting parents, friends and relatives, 5= Issues of sexuality, 6= Children's career, 7= Habit of alcoholism of the other spouse, 8= All such issues

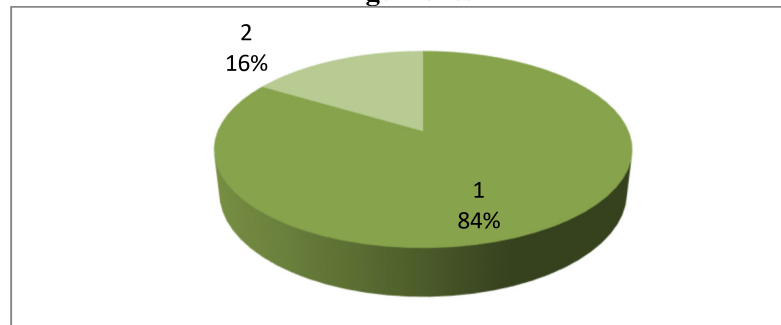
19 (11.17percent) argued on the issues of sexuality, while 17 (10percent) respondents were found to have frequent quarrel due to the habit of alcoholism of the other spouse. However, 14 (8.23percent), 13 (7.65percent) and 10 (5.88percent) respondents were found to have argued on the issues of children's career, prohibiting from meeting parents, friends and relatives and suspicion and household work distribution. However, 20 (11.77percent) respondents were found who had argued almost on all such issues.

As serious and frequent difference often results in use of physical force, women were asked if they had experienced similar situation at the climax of conflict.

**Table: 4.04
Distribution of Respondents' on the Basis of their Reply**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	142	83.53%
No	28	16.47%
Total	170	100%

Figure- 4.04: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Opinion on Reasons of Arguments



Note: 1= Yes, 2= No

As shown in the table (Table: 4.04) that out of 170 respondents, 142 (83.53percent) had suffered beating and throwing at the end of any conflict or difference with husband each time. However, in case of 28 (16.47percent) respondents, incident never turned so serious to acquire the form of physical violence.

I

Nature and Extent of Domestic Violence

As discussed, violence against women within the four walls of home is a common phenomenon. It is prevalent not only in our society but throughout the world. With time, the nature of violence is changing and so also the laws to deal with it. At one point of time, mental cruelty did not constitute a part of domestic violence. But today it is an important aspect of Prevention of Domestic Violence Act 2005. Marital Rape was not a punishable offence till the other day if the bride was not minor. But today, there is heated debate going on to criminalize marital rape. Thus, in this section an attempt is being made to understand the nature and extent of domestic violence inflicted on women. To understand the same, domestic violence is divided into four categories viz. i) physical violence, ii) psychological violence, iii) economic abuse and iv) sexual violence. To have an assessment about the nature of domestic violence, respondents were asked few questions.

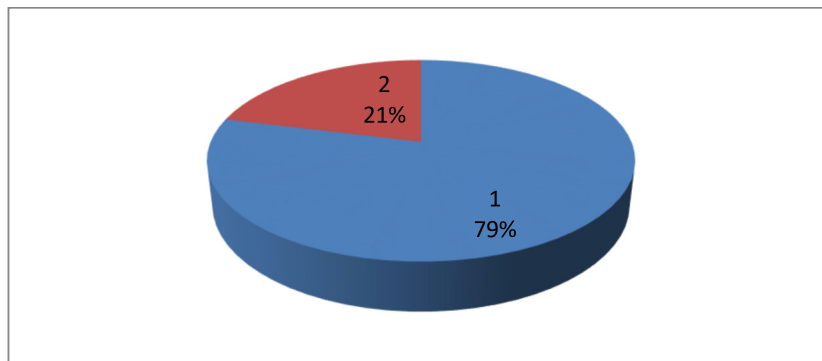
Physical Violence

Physical violence is the intentional use of physical force against women for causing injury, harm, disability or death. The most common and frequently used forms of physical violence against women are – (i) slaps, (ii) beating, (iii) pushing, (iv) kicking, (v) throwing objects and (vi) shoving or grabbing. As physical violence is the most common form of domestic violence that women face in our society, respondents were asked to narrate their experience about it. They were asked if their partner has ever used force on them for any reason.

Table: 4.05
Distribution of Respondents' on the basis of their Reply

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	142	78.89%
No	38	21.11%
Total	180	(100%)

Figure-4.05: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Experience of Physical violence (in percent)



Note: 1= Yes, 2= No

Data reveal that among the respondents who were victims (Table: 4.05), an overwhelming majority of 142 (78.89 percent) out of 180 were found to be physically abused in one form or other. Thus, it can be said that domestic violence in the form of

physical attack is a common feature for an overwhelming majority of women under the study.

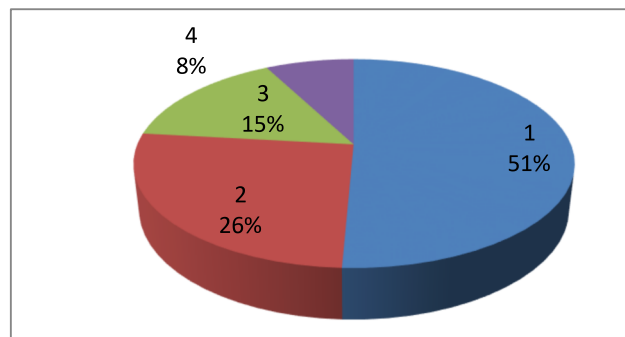
Nature

As already stated there are different forms of physical violence used by perpetrators against the victims like slapping, beating, pushing, kicking and throwing objects, beating with rod or cane and so on. The response of the respondents in this regard is showing in the following table.

Table: 4.06
Distribution of Respondents’ on the basis of their Experience of Physical Violence

Nature	No of Respondents	Percentage
Beating, slapping and kicking	72	50.70%
Pushing, shoving, grabbing in hair	37	26.05%
Threatened with knife, stick, rod and gun	22	15.49%
Damaging personnel property or valuable things	11	7.76%
Total	142	100%

Figure-4.06: Pie Chart showing Nature of Physical violence faced by Respondents’ (in percent)



Note: 1= beating, slapping and kicking, 2= pushing, shoving, grabbing in hair, 3= threatened with knife, stick, rod and gun, 4= damaging personnel property or valuable things

Regarding the nature of physical violence (Table: 4.06), it was found that out of 142 respondents 72 (50.70percent) were found to be victims of beating, slapping and kicking, 37(26.05percent) were victims of pushing, shoving, grabbing in hair, 22

(15.49 percent) were threatened with knife, stick, rod and gun, while 11 (7.76percent) reported physical violence in the form of damaging personnel property or valuable things. This shows that physical torture inflicted by either the husbands or in-laws take different forms and majority of the respondents were found to be victims of beating, slapping, pushing and kicking.

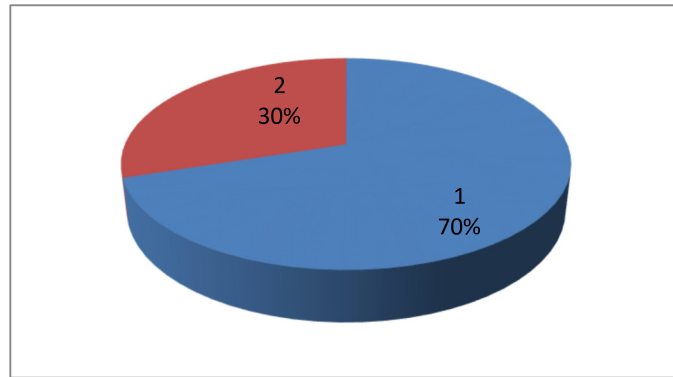
Psychological Violence

Psychological abuse against women is a common phenomenon in domestic violence. This kind of violence always placed women in a state of mind that would cause a person to suffer substantial emotional distress. The psychological violence is more unbearable in comparison to physical violence because the injuries arising out of physical violence may remain for the time being but the harmful effects of psychological violence last longer, sometimes lifelong. Thus, a question was posed to assess the prevalence and nature of psychological violence against women. Data reveal (Table: 4.07) that a majority of 70 percent (126 out of 180) had experienced mental strain in one form or the other due to domestic violence. This affirms that use of psychological torture is day-to-day affair against women in our society.

Table: 4.07
Distribution of Respondents' on the basis of their Reply

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	126	70%
No	54	30%
Total	180	100%

Figure-4.07: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Experience of Physiological violence (in percent)



Note: 1= Yes, 2= No

When enquired about the nature of psychological violence that is usually inflicted on women, different women responded differently. The types of violence the respondents referred to are broadly categorized as below.

Type I: Using derogatory language, negative body language and indifference

Type II: Withdrawal of talking terms and treating the victim as outcaste

Type III: Ignoring in every aspect of family matter

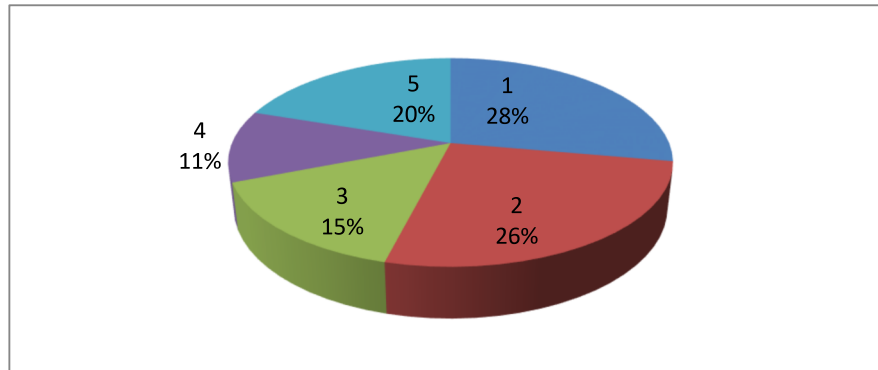
Type IV: Insult in presence of their children, relatives and outsiders

Type V: Others

**Table: 4.08
Distribution of Respondents' on the basis of their experience of Psychological Violence**

Psychological violence (Type)	No of Respondents	Percentage
I	35	27.78%
II	33	26.19%
III	19	15.07%
IV	14	11.11%
V	25	19.84%
Total	180	100%

Figure-4.08: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Nature of Psychological violence faced by Respondents (in percent)



Note: 1= Type I, 2= Type II, 3= Type III, 4= Type IV, 5= Type V

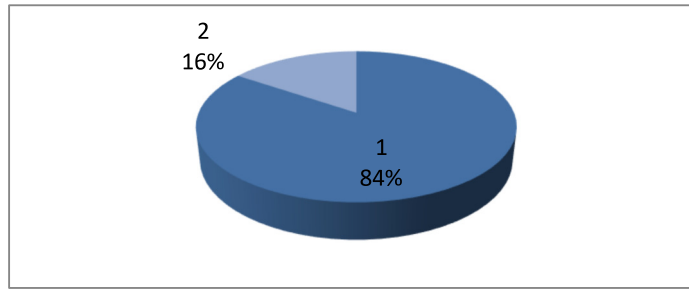
As shown above (Table: 4.08) that out of 126 respondents who had suffered psychological trauma at the domestic front, 35 (27.78 percent) were found to be victims of derogatory language, negative body language and indifference, while 33(26.19 percent) suffered due to the withdrawal of talking terms and isolation. 25 (19.84 percent) were victims of other types of psychological violence i.e. frequent blaming as an incompetent home maker, demeaning family background, criticizing for poor intelligence and threatening to desert. In case of 19 respondents (15.07 percent), they were reported to have faced indifference in family matters. Their voice was hardly heard in any familial decision and 14 (11.11 percent) were reported of repeated insult in presence of their children, relatives and outsiders.

Besides, a constant fear of being beaten up is also a grave type of mental torture. But women in our society have to face such a threat every now and then. Thus, it was pertinent to ask that how frequently women face fear of hurt physically.

**Table: 4.09
Distribution of Respondents' on the basis of their Reply**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	152	84.44%
No	28	15.55%
Total	180	100%

Figure-4.09: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Experience of Threatening to Hurt (In percent)



Note: 1= Yes, 2= No

Out of 180 respondents (Table: 4.09), a majority of 152 constituting 84.44 percent were found to be threatened physically, while only 28 did not respond. This shows that majority of women had to suffer mental strain from their intimate partners or from in-laws. It is also found that majority of women have to suffer the fear of physical violence every now and then. It sometimes turns women into serious mental patient and also turn them suicidal sometime.

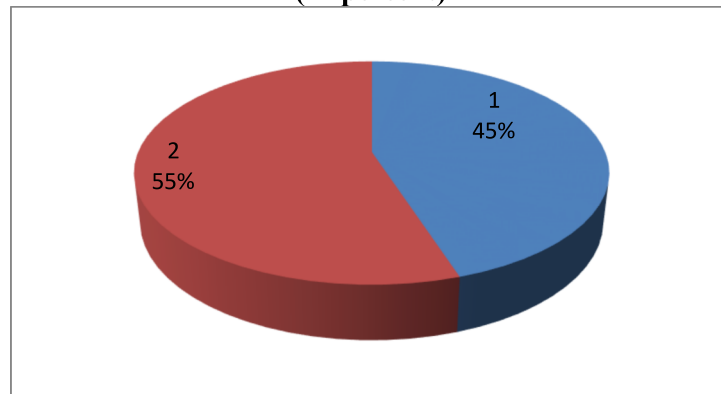
Economic Abuse

Economic abuse is another important form of domestic violence which does not have any apparent manifestation. Women generally have a subordinate position in the society due to their financial dependence and lack of access to resources. Subordination is still aggravated when their share or right over the resources of husband is denied. Thus, question was posed to understand the degree of economic suppression of women. As shown in the table (Table: 4.10) below that out of 180 respondents, 81 (45 per cent) were victims of economic abuse in one form or the other.

**Table: 4.10
Distribution of Respondents' on the Basis of their Experience of Economic Abuse**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	81	45.00%
No	99	55.00%
Total	180	100.00%

Figure-4.10: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Experience of Economic Violence (In percent)



Note: 1= Yes, 2= No

A number of types of economic pressure are inflicted on women. These are broadly classified as

Type I: Recovering full amount of the salary of employed women

Type II: Forcing to leave the existing job

Type III: Preventing from taking a job

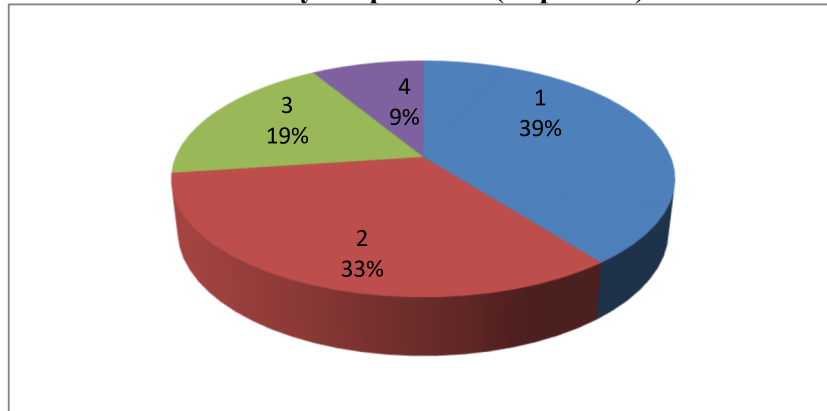
Type IV: Prohibiting from making personal purchases

As shown in the table (Table: 4.11) below that out of 81 respondents, 32 (39.50percent) reported that their entire salary was forcefully recovered every month by their husbands, 27(33.33percent) were being forced to leave their existing job, 15 (18.53percent) were not allowed to take any outdoor job for earning, while 7(8.64percent) were prohibited from making purchases of their choice. Thus it was found that a sizable number of women are being abused economically also in our family set up.

**Table: 4.11
Distribution of Respondents' according to the reasons behind their experience of Economic Violence**

Reasons of Economic violence (Type)	No of respondents	Total
I	32	39.50%
II	27	33.33%
III	15	18.53%
IV	7	8.64%
Total	81	100%

Figure-4.11: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Nature of Economic Violence Faced by Respondents (In percent)



Note: 1=I, 2=II, 3=III, 4=IV

Sexual violence

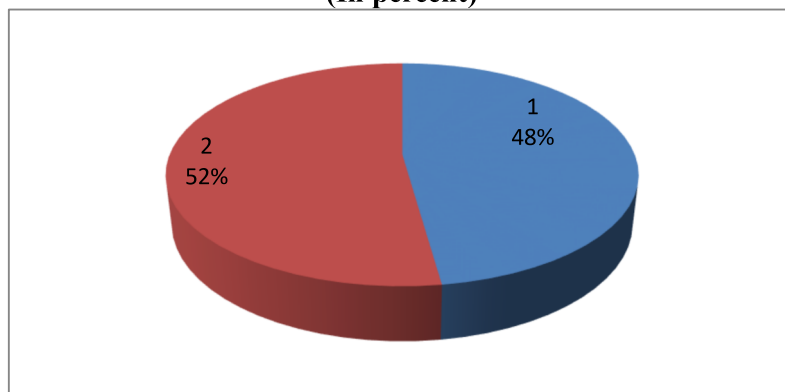
Sexual abuse is another kind of domestic violence. It is as dangerous as the other types of domestic violence. The effects of this kind of violence can range from minor to severe sexually transmitted diseases or HIV/AIDS. It also leads to the demeaning of the rights and dignity of a woman. At this backdrop, an attempt was made to understand the nature of sexual abuse that women have to suffer in a marital relationship.

As shown (Table: 4.12) below that out of 180 respondents, 86 (47.78percent) were found to be victims of sexual abuse in the form of forced sex, prevention from safe sex or using contraception and forceful compliance to intercourse.

**Table: 4.12
Distribution of Respondents' on the basis of their experience of Sexual Violence**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	86	47.78%
No	94	52.22%
Total	180	100%

Figure-4.12: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Experience of Sexual Violence (In percent)



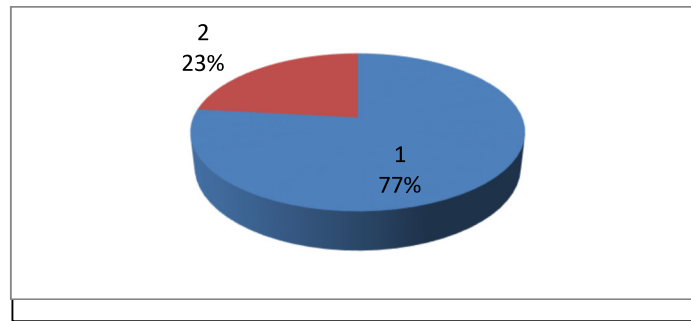
Note: 1= Yes, 2= No

In order to find out the influence of drug or alcohol in sexual abuse of women the respondents were asked to state the response. It was found that (Table: 4.13) 66 respondents (76.75 percent) were victims of sexual abuse while their husbands were under influence of drug or alcohol. Thus, alcoholism is an important factor that triggers sexual abuse of women.

**Table: 4.13
Distribution of Respondents' according to their experience of Sexual Violence**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	66	76.75%
No	20	23.25%
Total	86	100

Figure-4.13: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Experience of Sexual Violence under the Influence of Drug or Alcohol (In percent)



Note: 1= Yes, 2= No

Extent of violence

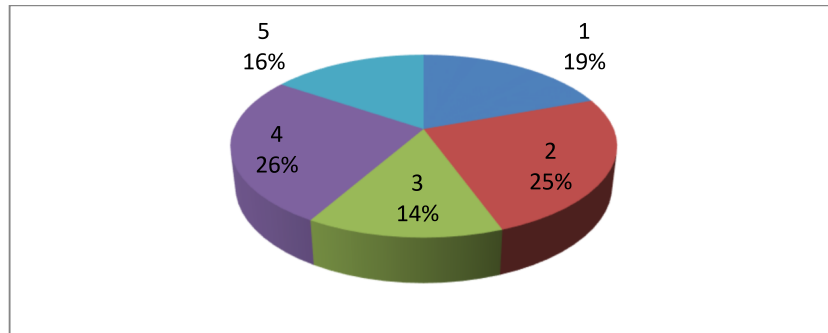
Violence against women assumes the form of a social problem when it is a repeated action in the family. Domestic violence is not typically a singular event rather; it is a repeated act of behaviour of the perpetrator who seeks power and control over his wife. Thus, question is asked about the extent of occurrence of domestic violence in their daily life.

Regarding the opinion about the extent of violence, it is (Table: 4.14) found that out of 180 respondents, 35 (19.44 percent) had to suffer violence daily, while 45(25.00 percent), 25(13.89percent) and 47 (26.11percent) were found to suffer violence once or twice in a week, fortnightly and monthly respectively. However 28 respondents (15.56percent) could not remember their frequency of violence. This shows that frequency of violence is not uniform in all cases, although it is a regular feature in the lives of majority of women.

**Table: 4.14
Distribution of Respondents' opinion regarding their Extent of Violence**

Extent of violence	No of Respondents	Percentage
Every day	35	19.44%
Once or twice a week	45	25.00%
Fortnight	25	13.89%
Once or twice in a month	47	26.11%
Can't remember	28	15.56%
Total	180	100

Figure-4.14: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Extent of Violence (percent)



Note: 1= Everyday, 2=Once or twice a week, 3= Fortnight, 4= Once or twice in a month, 5= can't remember

II

Consequences of Domestic Violence

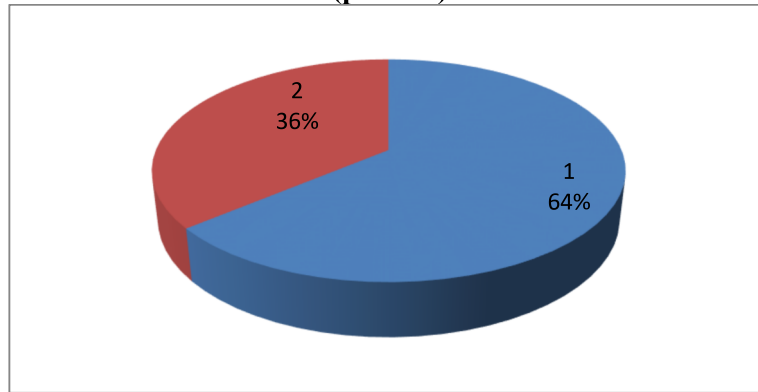
The victims demonstrate a wide range of effects from various kinds of domestic violence. The victims may suffer from severe and chronic mental and health problems. What is important to note is that the effects of domestic violence may not remain confined to the victims only. The repeated occurrence of domestic violence in a family has detrimental effects on the lives of the children, friends and other family members as well. An attempt is thus made in this section to study the impact of domestic violence against women.

When asked how many of women had suffered physical injury, a majority of 115 (63.89percent) were found to be physically injured by the assault of their husbands. (Table: 4.15)

Table: 4.15
Distribution of Respondents' according to the experience of Physical Injury

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	115	63.89%
No	65	36.11%
Total	180	100%

Figure-4.15: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Experience of Physically Injury (percent)



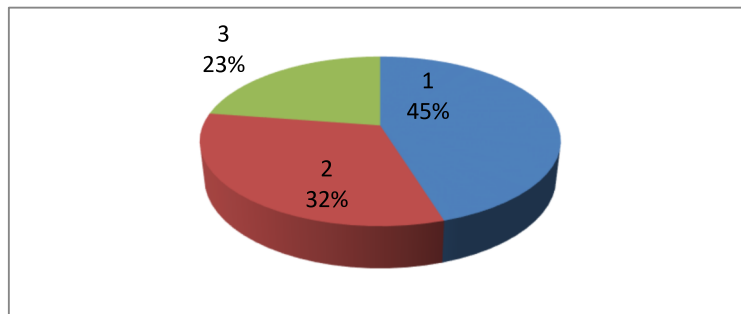
Note: 1= Yes, 2= No

As regards the seriousness of injury, out of 115 respondents who were physically injured, 52 (45.21percent) were seriously injured, 37 (32.18percent) and 26 (22.61percent) suffered moderate and minor injuries respectively. This shows that women in large number have to face physical trauma in their daily lives.

**Table No 4.16
Distribution of Respondents' on the their Seriousness of Injury**

Response	No of Respondents	Total
Serious	52	45.21%
Moderate	37	32.18%
Minor	26	22.61%
Total	115	100%

Figure-4.17: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Severity of Physically Injury



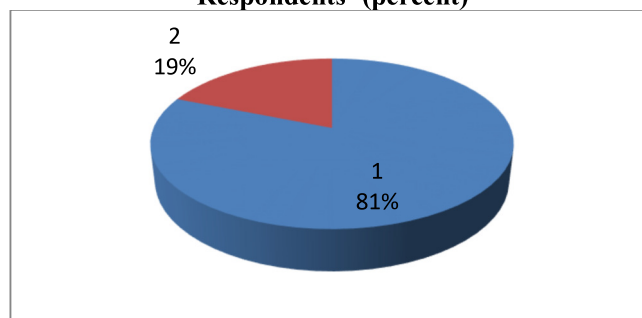
Note: 1= Serious, 2= Moderate, 3= Minor

Domestic violence affects women’s health in many ways. The effects of physical violence can range from minor scratches to fractured bones to chronic disabilities such as partial or total loss of hearing or vision and so on. In the worst cases, it may result in the death of the victims also. While the impact of physical abuse may be more ‘visible’, the effects of psychological abuses and injury are as detrimental as physical ones. It leaves the woman in a situation where she is often made to feel mentally destabilized and powerless. The victims are found in a high incidence of stress and stress-related illnesses such as panic attacks, depression, sleeplessness, loss of appetite, elevated blood pressure, alcoholism, drug abuse, low self-esteem, suicidal tendency and so on. In certain cases, psychological abuse may even result in suicide. As shown in the table (Table: 4.17) below that out of 180 respondents, a majority of 146 (81.11 percent) were found suffered from health or mental problems due to violence, while the rest 34 (18.89per cent) respondents reported that though they were living under abusive situation they had not any disorder and had no health or mental problems. The above analysis shows that women face various health and mental problems due to domestic violence.

Table: 4.17
Distribution of Respondents’ according to their experience of Psychological Injury

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	146	81.11%
No	34	18.89%
Total	180	100%

Figure-4.17: Pie Chart showing Psychological Impact of Domestic Violence on Respondents’ (percent)



Note: 1= Yes, 2= No

The consequence of psychological abuse was broadly categorized into certain types, such as

Type I: Mental Stress

Type II: Anxiety

Type III: Depression

Type IV: Insomnia

Type V: Thought of suicidal

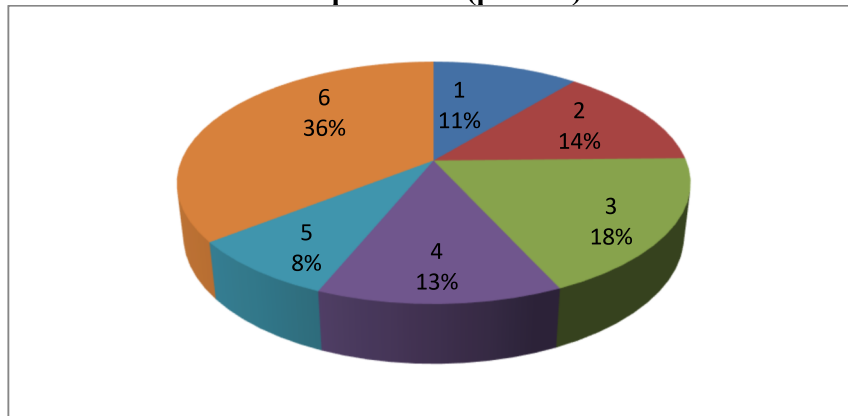
Type VI: Any other

Table: 4.18

Distribution of Respondents' according to the types of Psychological Abuse

Impact of violence (Type)	No of Respondents	Percentage
I	16	10.99 %
II	20	13.69%
III	27	18.49%
IV	19	13.01%
V	12	8.21%
VI	52	35.61%
Total	146	100%

Figure-4.18: Pie Chart showing Impact of Psychological Violence on the Respondents' (percent)



Note: 1= Type I, 2= Type II, 3= Type III, 4= Type IV, 5= Type V, 6= Type VI

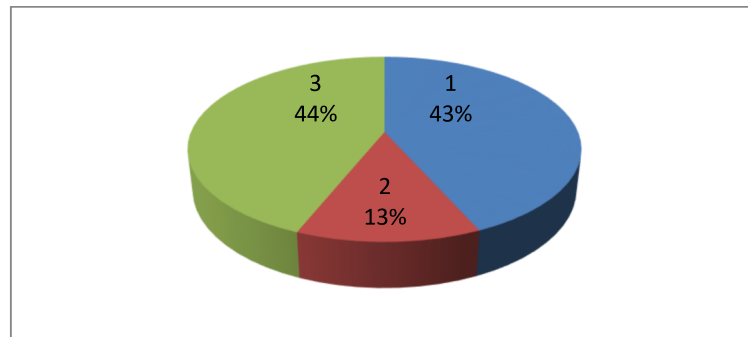
Regarding the impact of violence, it was found (Table: 4.18) that manifestation of domestic violence was explicit in numerous forms. The table shows that out of 146 respondents who had developed mental and health problems, 16 (10.99 percent) reported to have suffered from various kinds of mental stress, 27 (18.49percent) were under depression, 20 (13.69percent) had anxiety, while 19 (13.01percent) and 52 (35.61percent) respondents were suffering from insomnia and other problems like chronic headache, high blood pressure, alcoholism, drug abuse and low self-esteem respectively. 12 (8.21percent) respondents also reported to have developed suicidal tendency. Thus, the consequence of domestic violence is often extremely tragic. It not only affects the physical health of the victims but also often leave them psychologically prostrate without any urge to live. A woman is killed inside after experiencing sustained abuse at the family front.

What is still more tragic is that it not only affects the mental and physical health of the victim, it also has very serious impact on the children of the family which witnesses regular domestic violence. The repeated occurrence of domestic violence in a family has detrimental effects on the lives of the children. Data reveal that (Table: 4.19) out of 180 respondents, 78 (43.33percent) reported that violence had moderately affected the lives of their children, 23 (12.78percent) reported to have witnessed serious consequence of domestic violence on the lives of children. 79 (43.89percent) respondents did not register any serious concern about the affect of violence on the lives of children.

Table: 4.19
Distribution of Respondents' opinion regarding Impact of violence on Children

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Moderately affected	78	43.33%
Badly affected	23	12.78%
Not affected	79	43.89%
Total	180	100%

Figure-4.19: Pie Chart showing Impact of Domestic Violence on Children of Respondents' (percent)



Note: 1= Moderately affected, 2= Badly affected, 3= Not affected

About the type of effect that children had suffered, different respondents gave different response.

Type I: Behavioural and psychological problems

Type II: Poor school performance

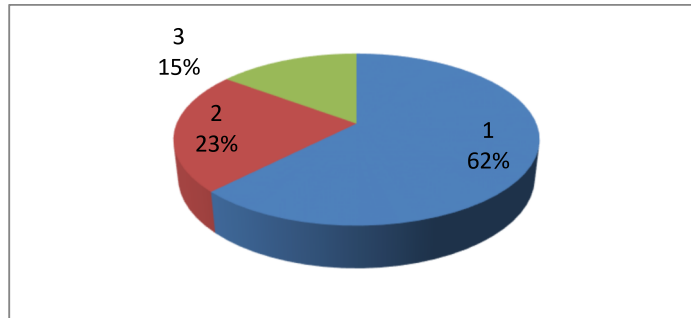
Type III: Can't say anything exactly

As shown (Table: 4.20) below that out of 101 respondents who had registered the evil affect of domestic violence on the lives of women, 63 (62.37percent) reported that their children had developed behavioural and psychological problems like anxiety, disobedience, aggression (particularly among males), oppositional behaviour, self-blame, isolation from peers, self-harming conduct, depression and other psychosomatic symptoms, while 23 (22.77percent) reported decline in the concentration of children and eventual low performance in school. 15 (14.86percent) respondents reported to have witnessed the evil effect of domestic violence on children but could not specify it.

Table: 4.20
Distribution of Respondents' on the basis of their Reply on Type of Effect that Children had Suffered

Reasons (Type)	No of Respondents	Percentage
I	63	62.37%
II	23	22.77%
III	15	14.86%
Total	101	100%

Figure-4.20: Pie Chart showing Nature of Impact of Violence on Children of Respondents' (percent)



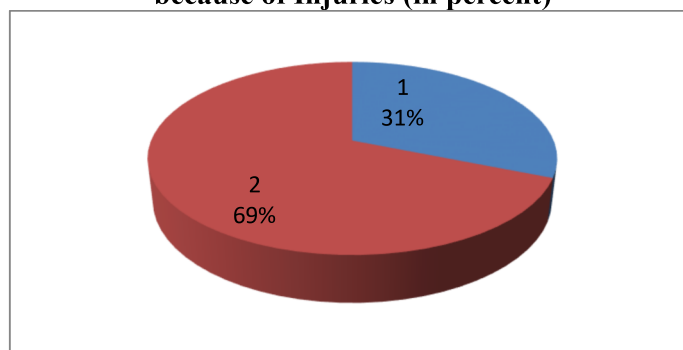
Note: 1=I, 2=II, 3=III

As already stated violence had an adverse effect on women's health. Sometimes they had to visit doctor for severe injuries caused by their partners. Thus, question was posed to know whether respondents visited doctor or hospital due to any kind of injuries. Out of 180 respondents, 56 constituting 31.11 percent visited doctor or hospital because of injuries caused by their partners. (Table: 4.21)

Table No 4.21
Distribution of Respondents' on the basis of their Reply on Visited to Doctor or Hospital because of Injuries

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	56	31.11%
No	124	68.89%
Total	180	100%

Figure-4.21: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Visited to Doctor or Hospital because of Injuries (in percent)



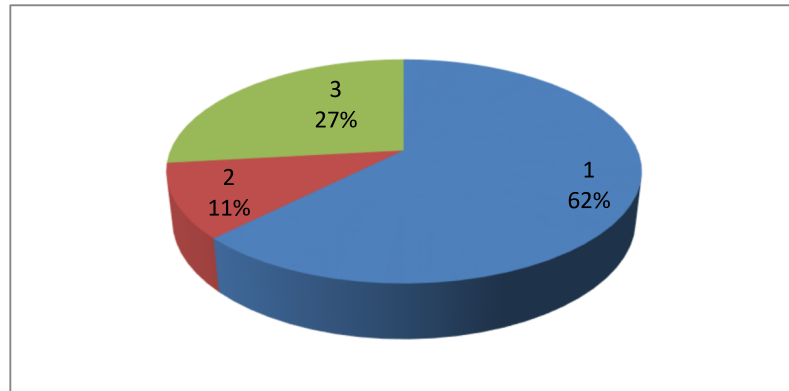
Note: 1= Yes, 2= No

As regards the concerned reason, it was found that out of 56 respondents who had visited doctor, 35 (62.50percent) were physically injured, 6 (10.71 percent) suffered from emotional distress and 15 (26.78percent) visited because of both of physical and emotional problem. (Table No 4.22) This shows that women had to face fatal consequences for sustained domestic violence. A very small number of women had the opportunity to visit doctor or hospital; otherwise many women could not get proper medication facility due to various reasons.

**Table: 4.22
Distribution of Respondents' on the basis of their Reply on Reasons for Visited to Doctor or Hospital because of Injuries**

Reasons	No of respondents	Percentage
Physical injury	35	62.50%
Emotional problem	6	10.71%
Both of the above	15	26.78%
Total	56	100%

Figure-4.22: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Reasons to Visit a Doctor (in percent)



Note: 1= Physical Injury, 2= Emotional problem, 3= both of the above

III

Causes of Domestic Violence

The causes of domestic violence ranges from the minor to major, as just anything can serve as an excuse to severely beat up a woman. Therefore, an attempt has been made in this section to identify the causes of domestic violence against women.

Type I: Extra marital affairs

Type II: Use of Alcohol & Drug

Type III: Absence of economic independence among women

Type IV: Dowry

Type V: Patriarchal social outlook

Type VI: Any other

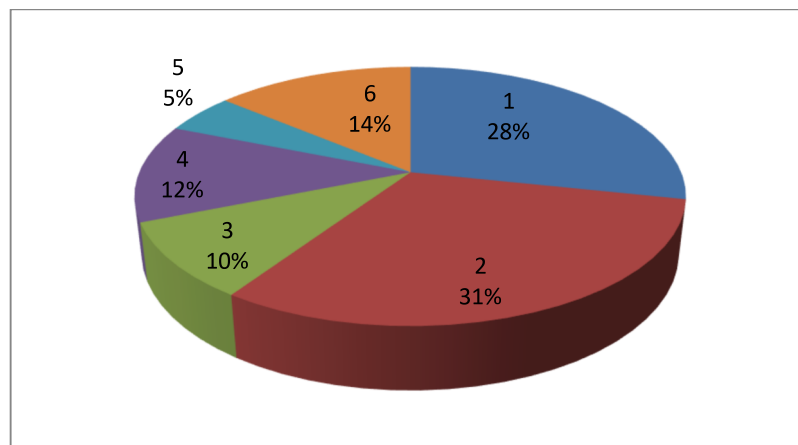
Regarding the causes of domestic violence (Table: 4.23), it was found that out of 180 respondents 56(31.11percent) had faced violence due to extra marital affair of the husbands, 51(28.33 percent) reported to have faced violence due to the alcoholic nature of the husband, 25(13.89 percent) respondents were victimized due to marital maladjustment, problem at the work place of husband, difference in the social status of the partners, property dispute, mental disorders and children related issues. Again 22 (12.22percent), 17(9.45percent) and 9 (5percent) were found to be victims of violence because of dowry, absence of economic independence and patriarchal social

outlook respectively. So, it may be said that nature and causes of violence vary significantly in case of women. However, it is the physical violence of various types that are often inflicted on women.

Table: 4.23
Distribution of Respondents' according to the Causes of Domestic Violence

Causes (Types)	No of Respondents	Percentage
I	51	28.33%
II	56	31.11%
III	17	9.45%
IV	22	12.22%
V	9	5.00%
VI	25	13.89%
Total	180	100%

Figure-4.23: Pie Chart showing Causes of Domestic Violence (in percent)



Note: 1= Type I, 2= Type II, 3= Type III, 4= Type IV, 5= Type V, 6= Type VI

Role of Women Organisation

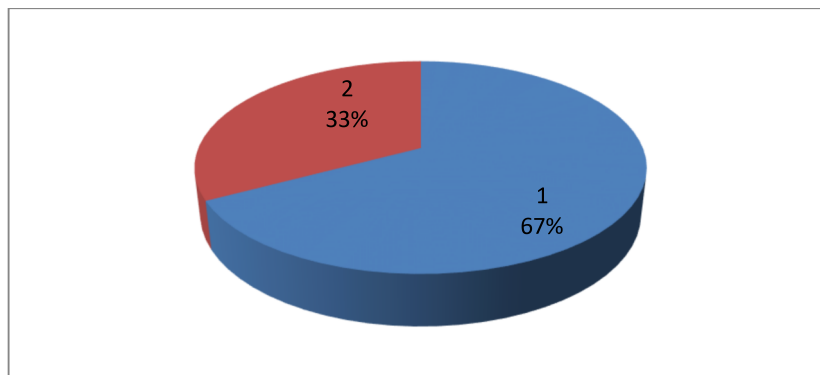
Now a day it has been widely felt that although friends and relatives could help to solve the problems associated with domestic violence to some extent, professional

help to the victims in this regard was indispensable. Therefore, an attempt has been made to understand the role of government and non-governmental agencies to solve the problem in the concern district. To have an assessment about the role of women organisations respondents were asked few questions. They were asked if they tried to take action against their husbands by seeking help from police, court order, counselling, support groups, shelter, family, friends or other outside help. It was found that out of 180 respondents, 121 (67.22 percent) had got support from the women’s organizations and could solve the problem mutually without dragging it to the court, 59 respondents (32.78percent) took help from the police, court and counseling centers. (Table: 4.24)

Table: 4.24
Distribution of Respondents’ on the basis of their Reply regarding Taking help from Outside

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Women Organisations	121	67.22%
Others	59	32.77%
Total	180	100%

Figure-4.24: Pie Chart showing Taking Help from Outside by the Respondents’ (in percent)



Note: 1=Women organisations, 2= Others

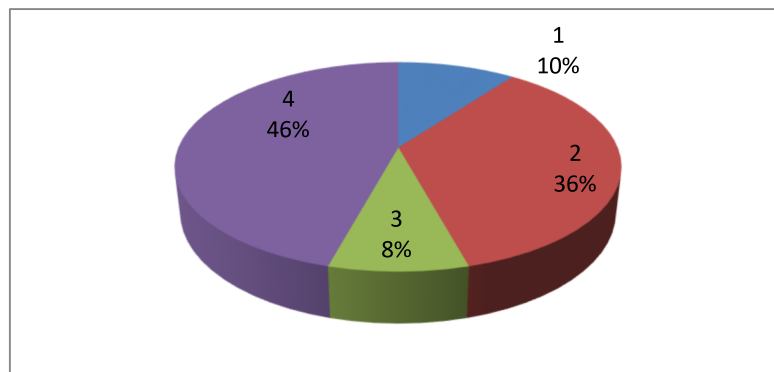
As regards the type of help sought, (Table: 4.25), data reveal that out of 59 respondents, 27 (45.76percent) had approached the family counseling centers (FCCs), 21 (35.59 percent) had approached the court to get remedy, 6 (10.16 percent) had

reported to the nearest Police station for help, while 5 (8.47percent) were given financial /job related suggestions by women’s organisation working for the welfare of women at district level.

Table: 4.25
Distribution of Respondents’ on the basis of their Reply on the Type of Help Sought

Type of help extended	No of Respondents	Percentage
Police	6	10.16%
Court	21	35.59%
Financial/ job	5	8.47%
Counseling	27	45.76%
Total	59	100%

Figure-4.25: Pie Chart showing Type of Help Taking from Outside by the Respondents’ (in percent)



Note: 1= Police, 2=Court, 3= Financial/job, 4= Counseling

About the reason of compromise with their husbands, different respondents gave different response.

Type I: Protecting family reputation or prestige

Type II: Children’s interests

Type III: Fear of desertion or loss of shelter

Type IV: Hope to see a better future

Type V: Any other

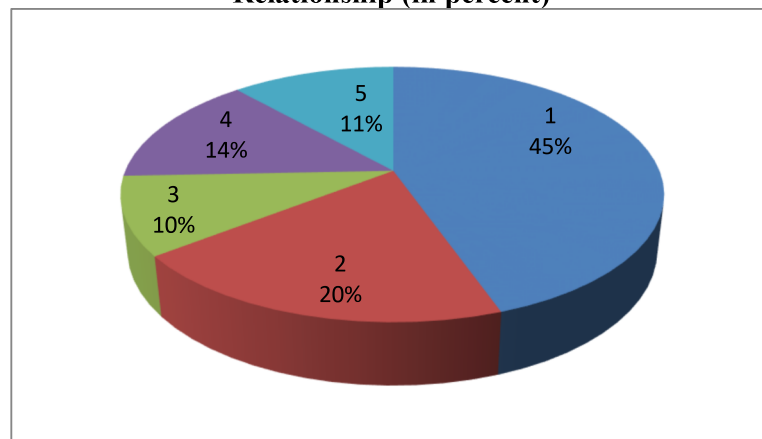
As shown (Table: 4.26) below, out of 121 respondents who resorted to it, 54 (44.62 percent) were found to have compromised only to protect their family reputation or prestige, 24 (19.83percent) compromised for the sake of children, 17 (14.07percent) compromised with the hope that things would change for better in future, 12

(9.91percent) compromised as they had no other shelter, while the rest 14 (11.57percent) cited different reasons for compromising with the situations i.e. lack of economic security, social stigma, destiny and so on. The response of the majority of the respondents who had compromised with their husbands for sake of family reputation or prestige was disappointing as it reaffirmed the stronghold of patriarchy in our society. Even the legal remedial measures could not be adopted as women were hesitant to do so under the pressure of patriarchy.

Table No 4.26
Distribution of Respondents' according to their reasons for Compromise

Reasons for Compromise (Type)	No of Respondents	Percentage
I	54	44.62%
II	24	19.83%
III	12	9.91%
IV	17	14.07%
V	14	11.57%
Total	121	100%

Figure-4.26: Pie Chart showing Respondents' Reasons for Living in Abusive Relationship (in percent)



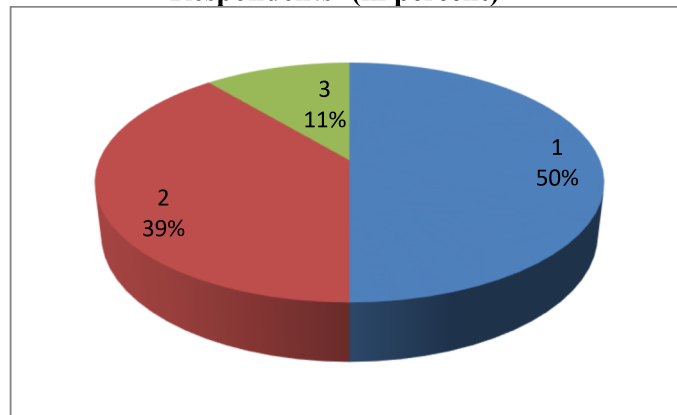
Note: 1= Type I, 2= Type II, 3= Type III, 4= Type IV, 5= Type V

Regarding the effectiveness of the services provided by various organizations (Table: 4.27), out of 180 respondents, 90(50percent) expressed satisfaction with the services. Their response was positive as they believed that this kind of help was fruitful to them. 70 (38.89percent) respondents had given somewhat a satisfactory response as they believed that organizations were not spending adequate time with the victims and their families to solve their problems. The rest 20(11.11percent) were dissatisfied as according to them these organizations failed to bring any change in the life of women.

Table: 4.27
Distribution of Respondents' on the basis of their Reply on Effectiveness of Services provided to them

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Good	90	50.00%
Satisfactory	70	38.89%
Unsatisfactory	20	11.11%
Total	180	100%

Figure-4.27: Pie Chart showing Effectiveness of Services provided to Respondents' (in percent)



Note: 1= Good, 2=Satisfactory, 3= Unsatisfactory

Thus, it may be said that although women organizations are playing an important role in solving the cases of domestic violence and providing support to the victims, they are required to play a still greater role so that the incidences of such violence may be reduced drastically in the society.

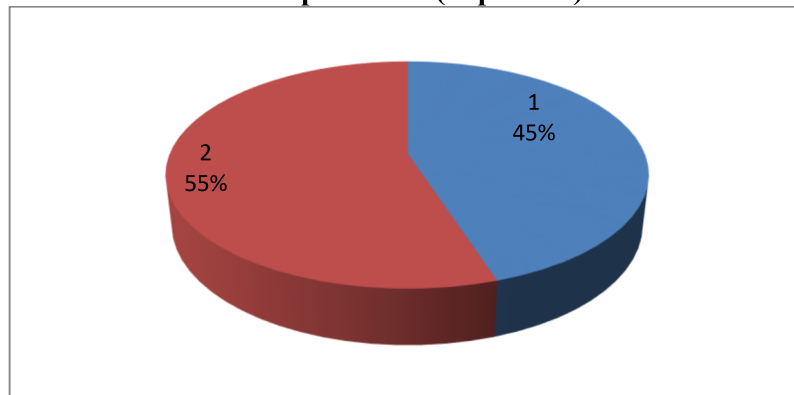
State's response towards Domestic Violence

In regard to the question of whether government is doing enough to prevent domestic violence, it was found that out of 20 respondents, 11 (55 per cent) opined that Government is not doing enough to prevent or deal with domestic violence, while 9 (45 percent) were satisfied with the work done by the Government. (Table No 4.28)

Table: 4.28
Distribution of Respondents' on the basis of their Reply on Effectiveness of Government Services provided to them

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	9	45.00%
No	11	55.00%
Total	20	100

Figure-4.28: Pie Chart showing Effectiveness of Government Services provided to Respondents' (in percent)



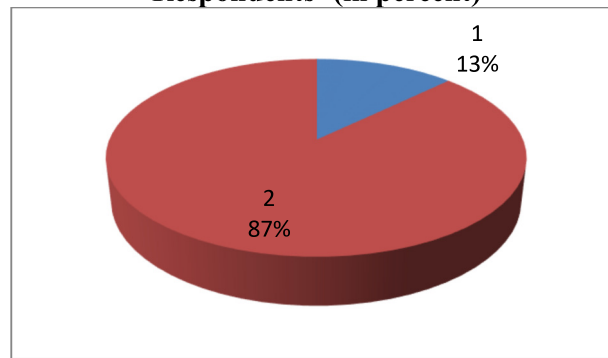
Note: 1= Yes, 2=No

Awareness of various protective measures is an important factor to deal with domestic violence. To know about the awareness of the respondents about various legal provisions some questions was posed. It was found that an over whelming majority of 157 (87.22percent) out of 180 were unaware of Domestic Violence Act, while only 23(12.78percent) respondents were found aware. (Table No 4.29)

Table No 4.29
Distribution of Respondents' on the basis of their Reply regarding Awareness of Government Laws

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	23	12.77%
No	157	87.22%
Total	180	100%

Figure-4.29: Pie Chart showing Awareness of Government Laws of the Respondents' (in percent)



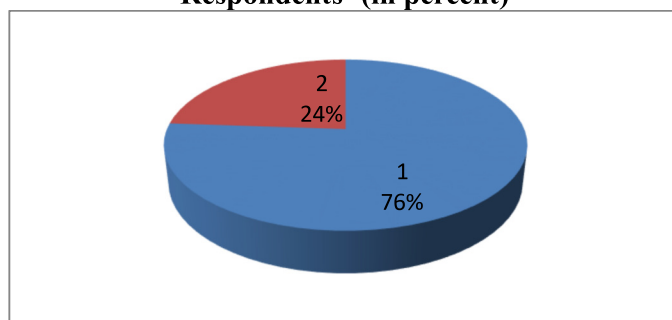
Note: 1= Yes, 2=No

As regards the awareness of section 498A of IPC (Tale No 4.30), it was found that majority of 137 (76.11percent) out of 180 respondents were found to be unaware, while only 43(23.88 percent) were found to be aware. This shows that there is need to improve the services of the government. More importantly, mere formulation of the laws cannot wipeout the problem. Proper implementation of the laws and social awareness about the availability of various provisions of the law are equally important.

Table No 4.30
Distribution of Respondents' on the basis of their Reply regarding Awareness of Government Laws

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	43	23.88%
No	137	76.11%
Total	180	100%

Figure-4.31: Pie Chart showing Awareness of Government Laws of the Respondents' (in percent)



Note: 1= Yes, 2=No

It is the responsibility of the Government to eradicate all kinds of violence in our society and to provide essential services to the victims as well. Therefore, a question was posed to know about the kind of government available to the people in Nalbari district. Data revealed (Table No 3.31) that there were only two counseling centers in the district which are generally named to be the family counseling centres.

**Table No 4.31
Distribution of Respondents' on the basis of their Reply on Services are Provided by the Government**

Services	No
Shelter homes	NA
FCCs	2
Any other	NA

The above analysis shows that there is also no Rehabilitation Center or shelter home, free legal aid services and medical services for the victims of domestic violence in Nalbari district. As a result, women feel insecure to take action against the perpetrators of violence as it is these people who provide those shelters. On the whole, the attitude of government towards solving the problem does not reflect a bright picture. In spite of various efforts people are still unaware of various legal provisions available for the protection of women. In respect of eliminating domestic violence in our society, the laws have failed to achieve its objective. Thus, it may be said that

government's initiative is mostly confined to the making of laws and only little is done to prevent the frequent occurrence of domestic violence in our society.

Above analysis shows that a large number of women in our society witness domestic violence in everyday life, although the nature and extent of violence vary from one to another. Among the 180 respondents of the study, an overwhelming majority of 142 (78.89 percent) were found to be physically abused in one form or other. In case of nature of physical violence it was found that out of 142 respondents who suffered physical torture, 72 (50.70percent) were found to be victims of beating, slapping and kicking, 37(26.05percent) were victims of pushing, shoving, grabbing in hair and holding with rope, 22 (15.49 percent) were threatened with knife, stick, rod and gun and 11 (7.76percent) reported physical violence in the form of damaging personnel property or valuable things. This shows that physical torture inflicted by either the husbands or in- laws take different forms and majority of the respondents were found to be victims of beating, slapping, pushing and kicking. As regards the nature and extent of psychological violence, a majority of 70 percent (126 out of 180) had experienced mental strain in one form or the other due to domestic violence. In case of nature of psychological violence out of 126 respondents, 35 (27.78 percent) were found to be victims of derogatory language, negative body language and indifference, while 33(26.19 percent) experienced psychological violence due to the withdrawal of talking terms and treating the victim as outcaste. 25 (19.84 percent) were victims of other types of psychological violence i.e. blaming for improper house-keeping, demeaning family background, criticizing for lack of or less intelligence, by giving threats of committing suicide by their husbands. In cases of 19 respondents (15.07 percent), they were ignored in every aspect of family matters and 14 (11.11 percent) were reported of repeated insult in presence of their children, relatives and outsiders. This shows that majority of women had to suffer mental strain from their intimate partners or from in-laws. It is also noted that severe psychological stress and living under terror and the mental torture of violence led to self-destructive behavior and to family discord and suicide in certain cases. The mental depression associated with domestic violence may go relatively unnoticed when compared to the physical violence. Nevertheless, it is as dangerous, if not more. As regards the nature of economic abuse it was found that out of 180 respondents, 81 (45 per cent) were victims of economic abuse in one form or the other. In fact, a sizable number of

women were being abused economically. In case of nature of sexual abuse it was found that out of 180 respondents, 86 (47.78percent) were found to be victims of sexual abuse in the form of forced sex, preventing from safe sex or using contraception and forced rape. Regarding the opinion about the extent of violence it was found that out of 180 respondents, 35 (19.44 percent) had to suffer violence daily, while 45(25percent), 25(13.89percent) and 47 (26.11percent) were found to suffer violence once or twice in a week, fortnightly and monthly respectively. This affirms that although violence is common, its frequency differs from one case to another.

Regarding the causes of domestic violence, it was found that out of 180 respondents 56(31.11percent) had faced violence due to extra marital affair of the husbands, 51(28.33 percent) due to the alcoholic nature of the husband, 25(13.89 percent) due to marital maladjustment, husband's problem at work place or outside world, difference in the social status of the partners, property dispute, mental disorders and children related issues. Again 22 (12.22percent), 17(9.45percent) and 9 (5percent) were found to be victims of violence because of dowry, absence of economic independence and patriarchal social outlook respectively. So, it may be said that though the nature and causes of violence vary, it persists almost in all cases. Out of 180 respondents, 121 (67.22 percent) had got support from the women's organizations and could solve the problem mutually without dragging it to the court, 59 respondents (32.78percent) took help from the police, court and counseling centers. As regards the type of help sought it was found that out of 59 respondents, 27 (45.76percent) had approached the family counseling centers (FCCs), 21 (35.59 percent) had approached the court to get remedy, 6 (10.16 percent) had reported to the nearest Police station for help, while 5 (8.47percent) were given financial /job related suggestions by women's organisation working for the welfare of women at district level. As regards the reasons for mutual compromise, out of 121 respondents who resorted to it, 54 (44.62 percent) were found to have compromised only to protect their family reputation or prestige, 24 (19.83percent) compromised for the sake of children, 17 (14.07percent) compromised with the hope that things would change for better in future, 12 (9.91percent) compromised as they had no other place to go, while the rest 14 (11.57percent) cited different reasons for compromising with the situations. The response of the majority of the respondents who had compromised with their husbands for sake of family reputation or prestige was disappointing as it reaffirmed

the stronghold of patriarchy in our society. Regarding the effectiveness of the services provided by various organizations/NGOs, out of 180 respondents 90(50percent) expressed satisfaction with the services. Their response was positive as they believed that this kind of help was fruitful to them. 70 (38.89percent) respondents had given somewhat a satisfactory response as they believed that organizations were not spending adequate time with the victims and their families to solve their problems. While the rest 20(11.11percent) were dissatisfied, according to them these organizations failed to bring any change in the lives of women. Thus it may be said that although women organizations are playing an important role in solving the cases of domestic violence and providing support to the victims, they are required to play a still greater role so that the incidences of such violence may also be reduced in the society. It was found that out of 20 respondents who were the members of the women organizations, 11 (55 per cent) opined that the government's intervention was not enough to deal with the menace of domestic violence, 9 respondents (45 percent) expressed satisfaction with the work done by the government. In case of legal awareness of the respondents, it was found that an overwhelming majority of 157 (87.22percent) out of 180 were unaware of Domestic Violence Act, while only 23(12.78percent) respondents were found aware. Again in case of 489A of Indian Penal Code, a majority of 137 (76.11percent) out of 180 respondents were found to be unaware, while a considerable number i.e., 43 respondents (23.88 percent) were found to be aware. As regards the availability of services in the district it was found that only two counseling centers are available to the victims of domestic violence while no other services were provided by the government. As a result, women feel insecure to take action against the perpetrators of violence.

On the whole, the attitude of the government towards solving the problem does not reflect a bright picture. In spite of various efforts people are still unaware of various legal provisions available for the protection of women. In respect of eliminating domestic violence in our society, the laws have, to a great extent, failed to achieve its objective. The government's initiative remained mostly confined to the making of laws. Thus, a holistic approach is required with the cooperation of both the government and the civil society to combat the evil of domestic violence in India.