

Nature and Impact of Domestic Violence against Women in Slum Community: A Study in Dhaka City

Mahidul Islam

Lecturer, Department of Social Work, Jagannath University

Shilpi Rani Dey

Lecturer, Department of Social Work, Jagannath University

Abstract: *In Bangladesh, domestic violence against women is not a problem of women only. It creates obstacles towards peace, happiness, advancement and development of family, society as well as the nation. This article mainly deals with the nature and impact of domestic violence against women in slum of Dhaka city. Data were collected using survey and case study methods. Findings show that most women of slum in Dhaka city are affected with domestic violence. Wives of illiterate and primary educated couples experienced more domestic violence than wives of secondary educated couples. Physical, mental, economical and sexual are the nature of domestic violence. Whereas wife beating, stop maintenance and pressure for dowry are the main forms of violence. The causes of domestic violence are dowry, marital conflict, extra-marital relationship, poverty, drug addiction, and so on. The bad impacts are social, physical, mental, economical and sexual; where negative impact on children, unwillingness to life, supporting and maintenance problem, family disorganization, marital conflict, physiological problem and physical trauma are most common. Besides these psychological depressions, conflict, low family bonding, possibility of separation and divorce in future are common. All of these have serious impact on their family and social life.*

Introduction

Women constitute almost half of the total population in Bangladesh. But they are the most vulnerable group in the country. Violence against women is often known as “gender-based” violence because it evolves in part from women’s subordinate status in society. Many cultures have beliefs, norms, social institutions that legitimize and therefore perpetuate violence against women (Rahman, 2007). Violence against women is not a myth but a reality. It is an injurious and destructive behavior, damages the victims’ physically, mentally and financially. Violence against women is not just an assault against an individual but against

women's personhood, mental or physical integrity or even freedom of movement on account of their gender. It is nothing but some total of abuses like- physical, economical, emotional, psychological and sexual (Islam & Sultana, 2004). It is clearly based on the unequal power relations between men and women that is constructed, reinforced and perpetuated by social institutions. It is put in place by men and ensures that they have power and control over women and children. Therefore, United Nations defines violence against women as- any act of gender based violence that result or is likely to result in physical, sexual, psychological harms or sufferings to women including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life (UN, 1994).

Violence against women includes- rape and sexual abuse, trafficking and prostitution, domestic violence, dowry-related deaths and psychological abuse (Islam & Sultana, 2004). Domestic violence is one of the most serious types of violence committed against women by men in our country (Begum, 2005). Bangladesh is a classic example of a male-dominated society in which an overwhelming majority of women have been groomed to submit their fate to their male counterparts. For decades, women have encouraged to seek their identity and protection from a male breadwinner, be it the father, husband or brother. In 2008, 24.96% and in 2009, 15.95% domestic violence happened against women (BNWLA, 2010). Domestic violence i.e. violence in the family is no longer a myth but a reality like an endemic phenomenon. It cuts across all socio-economic barriers though the kind and degree of violence may vary according to the socio-economic conditions of the family and the community (Islam, 2004). Not only women but also children are seriously affected physically, behaviorally and psychologically, and sometimes even their survival is at risk because of this kind of violence (Islam & Sultana, 2006).

Conceptual Framework

Domestic Violence

Gender discrimination in the form of harmful practice against women persists in Bangladesh on the ground of sex is deeply embedded in the country's age-old patriarchal laws, socio-cultural norms and practices. Profound power imbalances between men and women are some of the root causes of violence against women. The underlying objectives of the perpetrators of gender based violence are to control and dominate the weaker sex (BNWLA, 2010). Gender based violence in most cases is systematically directed at women. They have less power and status in most parts of the world due to the prevalence and history of patriarchal societies. Generally making women more vulnerable is an act of violence. Violence against women is a serious development challenge in Bangladesh. Socially accepted roles, values and behavior encourage male to dominate; and

female to submit and accept males' subordinate status. Domestic violence is a serious kind of pervasive violence against women.

Violence against women is a universal phenomenon but takes in different forms depending on different socio-cultural and religious context. It is to be understood as encompassing but not limiting to the following; a) physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation, and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation, b) physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at working places, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking of women and forced prostitution, and c) physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetuation or conducted by the state, wherever it occurs (Haque & Kabir, 2009). It also includes forced sterilization and abortion, coercive/forced use of contraceptives, female infanticide and parental sex selection.

Although violence against women is of various types in different cultures, the common types of violence committed are as follows:

Family violence or domestic violence: such violence committed by family members include: a) beating / physical abuse of married women by husbands and in laws, b) verbal abuse, mental torture / deprivation of food and others resources, c) incest: sexual relation with members having closest blood relations and hence forbidden socially- like father, uncle, brothers etc. 2. Sexual harassment / indecent assault, 3. Acid throwing; 4. Rape: forcible sexual relation by one or more males; 5. Kidnapping and abduction; 6. Trafficking and importation for immoral purposes; 7. Forced prostitution; 8. Murder (following rape or family quarrel) (Begum, 2005).

Domestic violence is any act of violence that results in or likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, that threats such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, occurring in a family by any members of the family. The preconditions of domestic violence are as- First: it is a relation among the parties, Second: the relation must be based on blood or marital status on family scopes, Third: it needs not to be committed within a specific locality or within the home. The low social and economic status of women can be both a cause and consequence of violence against women (Haque & Kabir, 2009).

Causes of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is undoubtedly the most prevalent form of violence against women in family. If domestic violence is seen broadly as any act of violence within the house- it includes differential treatment of girls, wife beating, and abuse torture of daughters-in-laws and negligence of widow in the family. Failure to perform the prescribed duties (male frustrations at his inability to provide for his family or the inability of a woman to run the house efficiently) by both men and women is a common cause of domestic violence. Physical and financial dependence of women, patriarchy, alcoholism, stress, socialization problem, poverty, insufficient support, lack of awareness and drawback in policy formulation are the causes of domestic violence against women (Islam & Shirin, 2004). Male dominated society, socio-cultural values, women dependency, gender inequality, dowry, early marriage are liable for domestic violence against women in Bangladesh. The cultural of physical punishment on wives by husbands is considered as patriarchal authority challenged. Some of the highest reported levels of domestic violence come from South Asia due to gender inequality and dependence of women on men, (Koenig & Others, 2003).

Domestic violence is one of the most serious types of violence committed against women by men in Bangladesh. Domestic violence rates in Bangladesh are the highest in the world (BNWLA, 2010). Rape, murder, acid throwing, forced prostitution, kidnapping, trafficking, dowry, sexual harassment, fatwa, humiliation by pornography and its commercial use etc. are increasing alarmingly in Bangladesh. In 2002, UN ranked Bangladesh as second in terms of violence against women (BNWLA, 2010). Bangladesh ranks fourth among the world's nations with respect to violence against women (The Daily Star, 14 August 2003). At a workshop organized by the Bangladeshi South-South Center stated that Bangladesh stands second in the world in terms of violence against women in different forms like women battering, wife beating, domestic and dowry-related violence, acid attack, rape, physical and verbal harassment, fatwa, sexual harassment in the workplace, trafficking and prostitution, polygamy and child abuse (The Independent, 12 June 2002). At present prevention of it has become a major challenge for the legislature. For eliminating gender discrimination and combating it, good practices in legislation have been developed in Bangladesh like many other countries of the world (BNWLA, 2010).

Table 1 shows the situation of violence against women of Bangladesh in 2008 and 2009. Respectively in 2008 and 2009, 4489 and 4061 torture for dowry, 119 and 100 acid throwing, 2874 and 2772 abduction, 3388 and 2900 rape, 65 and 73 death due to rape/hurt, 131 and 136 murder, 87 and 94 hurt/physical assault, 3026 and 2693 torture in other ways, 37855 and 36641 accused, 5195 and 4536 arrested accused, 2922 and 2711 abduction and; 1478 and 1423 rescued after abduction.

Data presented in Table 2 shows different kinds of violence against women happened in 2008 and 2009. In 2008, 24.96% and in 2009, 11.64% violence was domestic in nature and against these 15.95% and 23.17% cases were filed respectively. It also shows 12.21% and 5.72% dowry related violence was happened in 2008 and 2009. So the situation of domestic violence against women in Bangladesh can be realized.

Table 1: The situation of violence against women in Bangladesh

Violence against Women	Year 2008	Year 2009
Torture for Dowry	4489	4061
Acid Throwing	119	100
Abduction	2874	2772
Rape	3388	2900
Death due to Rape/Hurt	65	73
Murder	131	136
Hurt/Physical Assault	87	94
Torture in Other Ways	3026	2693
Total no. of Accused	37855	36641
Total no. of Arrested Accused	5195	4536
Number of Abduction	2922	2711
Rescued after Abduction	1478	1423

Source: BNWLA, 2010

Table 2: Different kinds of violence against women in 2008 & 2009

Nature of Violence	2008				2009			
	Total No.	%	Case filed No.	%	Total No.	%	Case filed No.	%
Rape	291	14.16	65	23.04	260	11.91	111	33.84
Acid burn	84	4.08	9	3.19	43	1.97	9	2.74
Public violence	724	35.23	84	29.78	1099	50.36	79	24.08
Trafficking	144	7.01	17	6.02	410	18.79	18	5.48
Domestic violence	513	24.96	45	15.95	254	11.64	76	23.17
Dowry related violence	251	12.21	50	17.73	125	5.72	25	7.62
Sexual harassment	48	2.33	12	4.25	51	2.33	10	3.04
Total	2055	100.0	282	100.0	2182	100.0	328	100.0

* Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage

Source: BNWLA, 2010

Table 3 shows that 6.43% domestic violence is committed by husbands where 17.77% cases are filed. Besides this, torture by relatives (6.04%), murder by

relatives (34.11%), in-laws (1.75%) and relatives (11.50%); suicide due to polygamy (0.19%), forced to commit suicide (2.33%), suicide (37.62%) are incidental features of domestic violence in 2008 . But compare to occurrence filing case is not satisfactory.

In the constitution of Bangladesh article 9, 27, 28(2), 28(4), 65(3), and the Child Marriage Restraint Act of 1929; the Muslim Family Laws Ordinance of 1961; the Muslim Marriage and Divorce Registration Act of 1974 and 1975; the Dowry Prohibition Act of 1980 and 1989 (amended); the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act 2000 and 2003 (amended) have been enacted to combat harmful social practices and violence against women in Bangladesh. In reality the gender based and domestic violence against women is going on. It has a growing trend. The nature and impact of it is changing day by day.

Table 3: Distribution of incidental feature of domestic violence in 2008

Domestic Violence in 2008	Total incident		Case filed	
	No.	%	No.	%
Torture by husbands	33	6.43	8	17.77
Torture by relatives	31	6.04	3	6.66
Murder by relatives	175	34.11	25	55.55
Murder by in-laws	9	1.75	2	4.44
Murder by relatives	59	11.50	5	11.11
Suicide due to polygamy	1	0.19	-	
Forced to commit suicide	12	2.33	2	4.44
Suicide	193	37.62	-	
Total	513	100	47	100

Source: Nine National Dailies, BNWLA, 2010

The status of women in Bangladesh is generally observed as inferior position compare to men, primary instrument of sex, pleasure, procreation, caretaker of family members at home and barrier of male heirs (Noman, 1983). Approximately one third residents of Dhaka are slum dwellers. The slum dwellers have increased by 12 times from 1974 to 1995 while the number of slum clusters grew 4 times in last 15 years. Dhaka’s slums accommodating 37.4 % of the city population (The Daily Star, 2006). The residents of slums of Dhaka City are subjected to numerous social, psychological, community, health and financial problems. Poverty culture in slum is most crucial and severe (Samad, 2008). Renowned socio-anthropologist Oscar Lewis (1961) has stated that culture of poverty is something occurs particularly in class stratified and is a design for living within the constraints of poverty, passed down from generation to generation, thereby achieving stability and persistence. The people in the culture of poverty have a strong feeling of marginality, of helplessness, of dependency, of not belonging.

Along with this feeling of powerlessness is a widespread feeling of inferiority of personal unworthiness which is true of the slum dwellers (Lewis, 1961). The dominant concept of 'Culture of Poverty' described by Oscar Lewis may not be fully applicable in the slums in Dhaka but many of its characteristics like- lack of effective participation in the major institutions, absence of savings and a chronic shortage of cash, a low level of literacy and education, lack of political consciousness, a low level of organization, strong feeling of marginality etc. are very present among the slum dwellers in the city. A unique social structure in slum appears to be responsible for creating a kind of depressed circumstances' under which the slum dwellers are forced to live (www.abebbooks.fr/servlet/SearchResults).

Charles A Valentine (1968) has emphasized on situational constraints and ways in which the behavior of the poor adapts to them has been prominent. The cultural explanation is based on transmission of values, beliefs and behavioral pattern and situational explanation is based both on such social condition or interaction patterns and on such factors or financial constraints (Valentine, 1968).

This era is the era of globalization; and advanced science and technology. At present the nature and impact of domestic violence are also diverting from physical torture to mental or psychological and others. Domestic violence against women is a social problem. This study has attempted to know the socio-economic condition, nature, causes and impact of domestic violence against women in slum of Dhaka city.

Limitations

In conducting this study some limitations were observed. Most of the respondents were illiterate and not aware about different forms and nature of domestic violence against them. They have as usual attitude regarding different kinds of domestic violence committed on them by their husbands. For this reason, in some cases the actual facts were not revealed. Besides this small sample size, financial and time constraints, not to gather information from their husbands are also the limitation of this study. In future in conducting such kind of study these limitations need to overcome.

Objectives

The main objective of this study was to know the nature and impact of domestic violence against women by husbands in slum community. On the basis of the main objectives the study has concentrated its attention on the following specific objectives were as-

- To know the socio-economic conditions of the women in slum.
- To know the nature and causes of domestic violence against women in slum.
- To find out the impact of domestic violence on women's life in slum.

Methodology of the Study

This study is both quantitative and qualitative. It has been conducted through social survey and case study method. Both primary and secondary data have been used. Purposively Rayer Bazer Bashti of Dhaka city has been selected as study area for some particular reasons, such as- convenient location, same nature of the households, having good idea about the population which helps to determine the sample size, time constraint and minimizing research cost. There were 87 (eighty seven) households in this bashti. Purposively 61(sixty one) women as sample and 5(five) women as case have been selected from 87 households. In this study Rayer Bazer Basti has been termed as slum, all the married women besides widow of Rayer Bazer Basti at the age of 14 to 40 years has been termed as women as well as population. An interview schedule with close and open ended questions has been used to collect data from the women. The statistical methods have been applied to present the quantitative data. Every respondent of this study is the unit of analysis. Besides this, case study has been adopted as qualitative method for in-depth case study of five women to get better results.

Findings

This study has been conducted to know the nature and impact of domestic violence against women in Rayer Bazer Bashti of Dhaka city.

Findings of the Social Survey

It is found that most of the women’s income is 500 Tk. to 1500 Tk. which is very poor amount. Among the women 65.58 % have no monthly income but 34.42% have. On the other hand, 90.16% of their husbands have monthly income; among them 41.96% earn 2500 Tk. to 4500 Tk.

Table 4: Income of the wives and husbands

Monthly income in (BDT)	Wife		Husband	
	No.	%	No.	%
No income	40	65.57	6	9.85
500-2500	13	21.31	13	21.31
2500-4500	5	8.19	26	42.62
4500-6500	0	-	8	13.11
6500-7800	3	4.91	8	13.11
Total	61	100	61	100

Table 4 shows the monthly income of women and their husbands. Most of the women have no income where their husbands have. Moreover it also indicates the poor economic condition of most of the women and their husbands.

The educational qualification of the women is not satisfactory compare to their husbands. Most of them are illiterate (70.5%). Respectively 22.95% and 6.55% have completed primary and secondary level. On the other hand, 36.06% husbands of them are illiterate, 40.99% and 22.95% have completed primary and secondary level respectively.

The available statistics shows that (Table 5) most of the women are illiterate compare to their husbands. But the difference is not so significant. Above all the educational status is so poor. It is found that 78.69% women have registered their marriage and 22.32 % haven't. At the time of marriage 75.40% husbands claimed and received dowry and only 24.6% have not.

Table 5: Educational qualification of the women and husbands

Educational qualification	Wife		Husband	
	No.	%	No.	%
Illiterate	43	70.5	22	36.06
Primary	14	22.95	25	40.99
Secondary	4	6.55	14	22.95
Higher secondary	0	-	0	0
Total	61	100	61	100

Table 6: Marriage registration and dowry receive during marriage

Marriage Registration	No. (N=61)	%	Dowry	No. (N=61)	%
Yes	48	78.69	Yes	46	75.40
No	13	21.32	No	15	24.6
Total	61	100.0	Total	61	100.0

It is found that most of the women are aware about marriage registration (Table 6). It is also found that the dowry is highly practiced in slum. During marriage cash money (78.26%), ornaments (78.26%), furniture (58.69%), land property/house (34.78%) and domestic animals (2.17%) are the nature of dowry (Table 7).

Obviously, cash money and ornaments (gold/silver) are the most common nature of dowry which is being practiced in slum.

It is also fund 39.3% women have good understanding, where 34.4% and 26.2% have moderate and bad understanding respectively with their husbands. Economic insolvency (37.5%), dowry demand (31.2%), suspicion or doubt (12.5%) and others (31.2%) are the factors behind unhappy conjugal life of the

women. It is found that most women (73.78%) are victims of domestic violence by their husbands & only 26.22% are not (Table 8).

Table 7: Distribution of nature of dowry

Nature of Dowry	Frequency (N=46)	Percentage
Cash Money	36	78.26
Ornaments (Gold/Silver)	36	78.26
Furniture	27	58.69
Land Property/House	16	34.78
Domestic Animal	1	2.17
Total	106*	

*Multiple answers

Table 8: Distribution of violence against women

Tortured	Number (N=61)	%
Yes	45	73.78%
No	16	26.22%
Total	61	100.0%

Most of the women are tortured by their husbands and the nature of torture are physical (71.12%), mental (42.22%), economical (24.45%), and sexual (4.44%).

Most of the women are physically tortured by their husbands. The nature of physical torture includes- beating by hands (68.75%), beating by objects (25%) and other materials such as- with heated instruments, stones, husbandry etc. (6.25%). Similarly, 42.22% women are mentally tortured where verbal abuse (52.63%), threat to divorce (31.57%), negligence (21.05%), mental pressure (10.52) and others (21.05%) are common. Furthermore, economical torture includes- supporting and maintenance problem (72.72%), pressure for dowry (63.63%) and others 18.18% (Table 9).

Table 9: Nature of domestic violence

Nature of torture	Frequency (N=45)	%
Physical	32	71.12%
Mental	19	42.22%
Economical	11	24.45%
Sexual	2	4.44%
Total	64*	-

*Multiple answers

Table 10 shows that the beating by hands (68.75%), verbal abuse (52.63%), supporting and maintenance problem (72.72%) and pressure for dowry (63.63%) are severe forms of physical, mental and economical violence against women in slum.

Table 10: The description of different kinds of domestic violence

Nature of torture	Description	No.	%
Physical	Beating by hand	22	68.75
	Beating with object	8	25.0
	Others	2	6.25
Total		32*(n=32)	100
Mental	Verbal abuse	10	52.63
	Mental pressure	2	10.52
	Negligence	4	21.05
	Stop speaking	4	21.05
	Others	4	21.05
Total		24*(n=19)	
Economical	Supporting & maintenance problem	8	72.72
	Pressure for dowry	7	63.63
	Others	2	18.18
Total		17*(n=11)	
Sexual	Forceful intercourse	2	4.37
Total		2	
Grand Total		75*(N=45)	

*Multiple answers

It is found that dowry demand (22.22%), extra marital relationship of husband (15.56%), family feud (15.55%), marital conflict/inconsistency (11.11%), financial insolvency (6.67%), drug addiction of husbands (6.67%) and unknown reasons (22.22%) are the causes of domestic violence (Table 11).

Table 11: Distributions of causes of domestic violence

Causes of Torture	No. (N=45)	%
Dowry Demand	10	22.22
Extra marital relationship of husband	7	15.56
Family feud	7	15.55
Marital inconsistency/conflict	5	11.11
Financial insolvency	3	6.67
Drug addiction of husbands	3	6.67
Without any rational reason	10	22.22
Total	45	100.0

It shows that dowry demand and without any rational reasons are the main causes of domestic violence. The impact of domestic violence are psychological/mental (73.91%), physical (65.21%) and economical (13.04%).

It is found that domestic violence against women has extended from physical to psychological, social, economic and sexual forms. The physical impact includes- physical trauma (31.48%), sickness (22.22%), and others (mental/psychological) (14.81%); psychological/mental impact includes- unwillingness to life (38.23%), stress and frustration (32.35%), inferiority (5.88%), suicidal tendency (2.94%), and low self esteem (20.58%); economical impact includes- supporting and maintenance problem (41.66%), insecurity (33.33%), and others (25%); sexual impact includes- unwillingness to life (50%) and psychological problem (50%); and social impact includes- low status in family (21.31%), low status in society (9.83%), impact on children (42.62%), empowerment problem (18.03%), and others (not to participation in family and social life) 8.19% (Table 12).

Table 12: Distribution of the impact of domestic violence

Nature of impact	Description	No.	%
Physical	Physical trauma	17	31.48
	Sickness	12	22.22
	Others (Mental/psychological)	8	14.81
Total		54* (N=45)	
Psychological or mental	Unwillingness to life	13	38.23
	Stress & frustration	11	32.35
	Inferiority	2	5.88
	Suicidal tendency	1	2.94
	Low self esteem	7	20.58
Total		34*(N=45)	
Economical	Supporting & maintenance problem	5	41.66
	Insecurity	4	33.33
	Others	3	25.0
Total		12*(N=45)	
Sexual	Unwillingness to life	2	50.0
	Physiological problem	2	50.0
Total		4*(N=45)	
Social	Low status in family	13	21.31
	Low status in society	6	9.83
	Impact on children	26	42.62
	Empowerment problem	11	18.03
	Others	5	8.19
Total		61*(N=45)	
Grand Total		165*(N=45)	

*Multiple answers

Due to torture 57.78% women's children are greatly affected. The nature of impact includes-unwillingness to go school (57.69%), avoid to fathers (46.15%), fear (26.92%), feeding problem (23.07%), sickness (7.69%) and others (15.38%).

Table 13: Distribution of the impact on children

Impact on children of the women	Number	%
Yes	26	57.78
No	19	42.22
Total	45	100.0

Table 14: Percentage distributions regarding impact on children

Nature of impact on children of the women	Number (N=26)	(%)
Unwillingness to go school	15	57.69
Avoid fathers	12	46.15
Fear to fathers	7	26.92
Maintenance problem	6	23.07
Sickness	2	7.69
Others	4	15.38
Total	45*	

*Multiple answers

It is revealed that 32.78% women have empowerment at all times, 32.78% for sometimes and 34.42% for never. It indicates the low empowerment of women in slum. Most of them (34.42%) never get the opportunity to make any decision regarding their family life. Most of the women (64.55%) never take any remedial measures against torture on them. Only 35.55% take remedial measures and the nature includes- mutuality (75.00%), salish (%) and others (6.89%). The factors contributing behind not taking remedial measures are as- future of the children (41.37%), fear to lose social status (34.48%), thinking no benefits (17.34%), possibility of further torture (10%), due to fear of husbands (10%), fear of divorce (13.79%). It has found that only 4.55% tortured women have got legal supports.

It is found that 73.78% husbands having monthly income from nil to 4500TK torture their wives. Among them 22.22% and 37.77% earn respectively 500Tk-2500Tk and 2500Tk – 4500Tk in per month. On the other hand, 77.78% women have no income are tortured by their husbands. As domestic violence against women is less among the handsome amount earning couples and more in less earning couples of the slum. So it indicates that there is a relationship between income and torture.

Table 15: Relationship between income and torture of couples

Monthly income	Husband torture wife			Wife torture husband		
	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total
No income	4 (8.89)	2(12.5)	6 (9.85)	35 (77.78)	5 (31.25)	40(65.57)
500-2500	10 (22.22)	3 (18.75)	13 (21.31)	8 (17.78)	5 (31.25)	13 (21.31)
2500-4500	17 (37.77)	9 (56.25)	26 (42.62)	2 (4.44)	3 (18.75)	5(8.19%)
4500-6500	7 (15.56)	1 (6.25)	8 (13.11)	-	-	-
6500-8500	7 (15.56)	1 (6.25)	8 (13.11)	-	3 (18.75)	3 (4.91)
Total	45 (100.0)	16 (100.0)	61 (100.0)	45 (100.0)	16 (100.0)	61 (100.0)

*Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage

Table 16: Relationship between educational and torture of the couples

Education	Husband torture wife			Wife torture husband		
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Illiterate	17 (37.78)	5 (31.25)	22 (36.06)	33 (73.33)	10 (62.5)	43 (70.50)
Primary	20 (44.44)	5 (31.25)	25 (40.99)	8 (17.78)	6(37.5)	14(22.95)
Secondary	8 (17.78)	6 (37.5)	14 (22.95)	4 (8.89)	-	4(6.55)
Total	45 (100.0)	16 (100.0)	61 (100.0)	45 (100.0)	16 (100.0)	61 (100.0)

*Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage

It shows that most of the illiterate (37.78%) and primary educated (44.44%) husbands torture their wife. And illiterate (73.33%) and primary educated (17.78%) women are tortured by their husbands. Domestic violence is less in secondary level comparing to the illiterate and primary educated couples. So it indicates that domestic violence is less in cases of more educational level of the couples and more in cases of less educational level of the couples of slum.

Findings of the Case Study Method

The findings of case study are more or less similar with the findings of the social survey method. The socio-economic condition of the tortured women is lower and middle class. They have either no income or poor and moderate. The educational status of them is illiterate, primary and secondary. The factors behind domestic violence against them are failure to fulfill the dowry demand, financial insolvency, marital conflict and extra marital relationship, living in nuclear family, low social status and poor relationship with neighbors. They are tortured physically (beating by hands and with sticks, pots, objects etc.), mentally (verbal abuse to women in the name of parents and relatives, negligence, stop speaking), economically (pressure for dowry, not to provide or irregularity in providing maintenance cost) and sexually (unusual sexual behavior, forceful sexual relationship).The impact of domestic violence are more or less similar with the

findings of social survey method. In this aspect, psychological depression, conflict, low family bonds, possibility of separation and divorce in future are the new findings.

Recommendation

Domestic violence against women is a social phenomenon covering and affecting the family and social life. The consequences of it are social, physical, economical, psychological/mental and sexual as well. The following are the recommendations to mitigate the impact of such kind of violence against women:

- Formation and mobilization of social capital (mutual trust, social awareness, participation, communication, co-operation, social integration, social responsibility, family bonds, integration, norms and values, social cohesion etc.) in slum.
- Take a comprehensive awareness raising program at family level with active participation of wife, husband and other members.
- Women should be encouraged to form organized groups in slum community so that they can find ways and means to combat gender based violence in an effective ways.
- Family counseling and guidance club can be formed at slum to provide family counseling and education
- Cultural unit can be formed and ensure regular activities (jatra, drama, song and other performing arts with social movements) in slum which can play role to eliminate superstition, ill thinking, bad practices and dominating male culture.
- Mass media (radio, television, paper and other print materials etc.) can play a significant role in this regard.
- Voluntary teams consisting with local development workers can be incorporated to communicate and motivate slum people with the social campaign program against domestic violence.
- Effective measures should be taken to overcome attitudes, customs and practices that perpetuate violence against women, the government should introduce education and public information programs to help eliminate prejudices.
- Economic empowerment of slum women through creating employment opportunity and involving income-generating activities.
- Women in slum areas should be inspired to form groups with their leadership, to find ways and means to combat domestic violence in an effective way in slum.
- Ensure proper socialization at the family and societal level from the very beginning of the life.

Conclusion

Domestic violence against slum women of Dhaka city hampers the conjugal and marital, individual, family and social life of them. It seriously impacts the growth and development of children of the tortured women. Many types of domestic violence occur in domestic setting by the counterparts seriously impact the personal, family and social life of slum women. The physical, social, mental, economical and sexual impact and consequences are quite grave. It has both short and long term impact on their life. In this aspect the Government, NGOs and voluntary organizations should launch programs, undertake interventions, policy and plan regarding slum community. Slum constitutes one third of the population of Dhaka city where half of them are women. Empowerment, social awareness and campaign, educational programs can be launched at a wide range in the slum community to prevent domestic violence against women.

Reference

- Begum, Hamida Akhtar (2005). Combating domestic violence through changing knowledge and attitude of male: An experimental study in three villages of Bangladesh. *Empowerment*, 12, 54-56,70,71). Dhaka: Women for Women.
- BNWLA (Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association). (2010). *Violence against women in Bangladesh 2008-2009*. Dhaka: BNWLA.
- Haque, S. T. M. & Kabir, S. L. (2009). Domestic violence: an issue of human security in Bangladesh. *Empowerment*, 16, 96-98,114. Dhaka: Women for Women.
- Islam, H., & Sultana, S. (2004). Growing trend of domestic violence against women: A socio-economic scenario in Bangladesh. *The Journal of Social Development*, 16 (1), 1-8. Dhaka University: ISWR.
- Islam, N. & Sultana, N. (2006). The status of women in Bangladesh: Is the situation really encouraging. *Research Journal of Social Sciences*. 1(1). Dhaka: INSInet Publication.
- Koenig, M. A., Ahmed, S. & Mozumder, A.B.M. *et al.* (2003). Women status and domestic violence in rural Bangladesh: Individual and community effects. *Demography* 40 (2). Bangladesh: Dhaka.
- Lewis, Oscar (1961). Culture of poverty. In Moynihan, D. P. (1969). *On understanding poverty perspectives from the social sciences*, 179-187. New York: Basic Books.
- Noman, Ayesha. (1983). *Status of women and fertility in Bangladesh*. Dhaka: the University Press.

- Rahman, H. (2007). Forms, causes and impacts of violence against women in rural Bangladesh. *The Journal of Social Studies*. No.116, 1-13. Dhaka: Centre for Social Studies.
- Samad, M. & Faruque, C. Jo. (2008). The Dhaka slum dweller: A case of poverty versus resiliency. *The Journal of Social Development*, 20 (1), 11-15. Dhaka University: ISWR.
- The Daily Star report. (2001, August 14). Bangladesh: Dhaka.
- The Daily Independent report. (2002, June 12). Bangladesh: Dhaka
- UN (United Nations). (1994). *General recommendations, the committee on the elimination of discrimination against women*. UN report, (No.21, 13 Session). New York: UN.
- Valentine, C. A. (1968). *Culture of poverty: Critique & counter-proposals*. Chicago: Univesity Press of Chicago.