

The Analysis of Factors on Domestic Violence: The Case of Some Asian Countries

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Abstract

The main goal of our study examines the prevalence and determinants of domestic violence across various Asian nations. It highlights that domestic violence, both physical and sexual, is a pervasive issue affecting women in these regions, with significant variations observed between South and Southeast Asian countries. Key factors contributing to domestic violence include socio-economic status, educational levels, and cultural norms that often perpetuate gender inequalities. The study also notes the role of community and national interventions in mitigating domestic violence, emphasizing the need for comprehensive and culturally sensitive approaches to effectively address this issue.

Keywords: Violence, Domestic Violence, Resource Theory, Exchange Theory, The Patriarchal Theory, Modernization Theory

1. The Theoretical Framework Domestic Violence

The scholars studied domestic violence's many theories during the science period. Resource Theory was first espoused by Goode (in 1971) and suggests that the more resources a husband brings to a relationship, the more power he has, but the less likely he will resort to violence. When, however, a man's superior power is threatened by a wife's access to educational or job-related resources, he may resort to violence to re-establish himself as dominant.

Exchange Theory: Exchange theory suggests that domestic violence will be particularly high in societies where its benefits to perpetrators are high and particularly low in societies where the costs to perpetrators are low. In many societies costs of violence are low because of inadequate social controls placed on such behavior and because an emphasis on male aggressiveness encourages it.

The Patriarchal Theory: This theory submits that, throughout history, males have dominated society, and women were to be treated as men's possessions. Patriarchal norms protect men's ability to control their wives and justify their use of violence to do so.

Modernization Theory: Modernization frequently leads to a valuing of universalistic over particularistic norms and achievement over ascription. Hence, we expect women (and men) to be freed from traditional.

- Gender norms as a country modernizes.

- Economic Dependency Theory

- Economic dependency has frequently been associated with a decrease in women's access to educational, economic, and political resources.

The Literature Reviews

Anne L. Ganley, Ph.D. explained that Domestic violence is a pattern of assaultive and coercive behaviors, including physical, sexual, and psychological attacks, as well as economic coercion, that adults or adolescents use against their intimate partners.

Domestic violence is a problem of epidemic proportions with far-reaching consequences for individual victims, their children, and their communities. Domestic violence results in death, serious injury, and chronic medical and mental health issues for victims, their children, the perpetrators, and others.

The lethal outcome of domestic violence is tragically evident in media reports that describe a steady stream of homicides against victims, their children, family, or friends, those who are trying to protect them, innocent bystanders, and perpetrators.

Domestic violence presents unique challenges to the health care system and requires specialized responses from health care providers. Before providers are able to effectively and efficiently respond to patients experiencing domestic violence, they must first understand the nature and etiology of the problem as well as its

impact on victims, children, and the community as a whole.

Domestic violence has many names: wife abuse, marital assault, woman battery, spouse abuse, wife beating, conjugal violence, intimate violence, battering, partner abuse, for example. Sometimes these terms are used interchangeably to refer to the problem, while at other times a particular term is used to reflect a specific meaning (e.g., “woman abuse” to highlight the fact that most victims are women). In addition to these multiple terms, there are different behavioral and legal definitions for domestic violence.

Abdul Raffie Naik (2016) explained that Domestic violence is an offence and is one of the major causes for increase of crime index of the state. Domestic violence is destructive behavior in an intimate relationship where one person tries to dominate and control other in a dating or marital relationship or in cohabitation, which causes physical, psychological, or sexual harm to those in that relationship. He tries to explain the root causes of domestic violence which includes certain risk factors such as individual, relationship, community, societal, legal, and political factors. These factors are responsible for domestic violence and its consequences on the victim's psychological as well as physical health in day-to-day life. The paper also highlights the different forms of domestic violence such as physical, psychological, emotional, sexual, verbal, or economic.

Abdul Raffie Naik (2016) categorises risk factors under five headings as below:

1. Individual risk factors: includes low self-esteem, low income, low academic achievement, aggression or delinquent behavior as youth, heavy alcohol, and drug use, antisocial or borderline personality traits, unemployment, prior history of being physically or psychologically abusive, depression, anger and hostility, bad company, emotional dependence, and insecurity etc.

2. Relationship factors: includes economic stress, unhealthy family relationships and interactions, marital instability-divorces or separations, marital conflict-fights, dominance, and control of the relationship by partner over the other etc.

3. Community factors: includes poverty and associated factors, weak community sanctions against IPV (intimate partner violence), lack of institutions, relationships, and norms that shape a community's social interactions.

4. Societal factors: are traditional gender norms (e.g. women

should stay at home, not enter at workplace, and be submissive, men support the family and make decisions).

5. Legal and political factors: are lesser legal status of women either by written law or by practice, laws regarding divorce, child custody, maintenance and inheritance, low level of legal literacy among women, insensitive treatment of women and girls by police and judiciary, and political factors includes domestic violence not taken seriously, limited participation of women in organizing political parties, underrepresentation of women in police, media, politics etc.

Krug, E.; Dahlberg, L.L.; Mercy, J.A.; Zwi, A.B.; Lozano, R., eds. (2002) argued that Domestic violence refers to interpersonal violence which takes place in domestic settings, family relationships and intimate relationships. It is also known as family violence or spousal abuse. Anyone (men or women) can become a domestic violence offender or victim.

Domestic violence is destructive behavior in an intimate relationship where one person tries to dominate and control the other in a dating or marital relationship or in cohabitation, which causes physical, psychological, or sexual harm to those in that relationship. It includes acts of physical aggression like slapping, hitting, kicking, or beating, psychological abuse such as intimidation, constant belittling or humiliation, forces sexual intercourse or any other controlling behavior like isolating a person from family and friends, monitoring their movements and restricting access to information or assistance (Krug E. et. al. 2002).

Turmen T (2013), Domestic violence is spreading like communicable disease. It is a global problem and affects victim's life. Domestic violence is a major problem as it is violating victims as well as social rights/ norms. It can be prevented at local as well as national and international level. At the primary level education should be provided about the current problems and school-based programmes should be organized. Certain strategies have been formulated by WHO like periodical survey conduction, development protocol and guidelines and information material on domestic violence among others (Turman, 1998).

We summarized key elements and its meaning about domestic violence as below:

Key Element	Meaning
Conduct by adults or adolescents against their intimate partners in any form of relationship.	Domestic violence can occur in various types of intimate relationships, including those between current or former partners, whether they are heterosexual, gay, or lesbian.
A pattern of assaultive and coercive behaviors involving physical, sexual, psychological, and economic attacks.	Domestic violence involves a range of abusive behaviors that can be physical, sexual, psychological, or economic in nature.
A pattern of behaviors using various tactics, both harmful and non-criminal, occurring frequently.	The abuse consists of various tactics, both harmful and non-harmful, legal and illegal, which can occur frequently, even daily.

Physical attacks, controlling tactics, and terrorism causing fear and harm to victims and their children.	Perpetrators use a mix of violent, terrorizing, and controlling actions that cause fear and harm to the victims and their children, both physically and psychologically.
5. A pattern of purposeful behavior, directed at achieving compliance from or control over the victim.	The abusive behaviors are intentional and aimed at making the victim comply with or be controlled by the abuser.

Table. 01. The key elements and meaning of domestic violence.

The Comparisons About Gender-Based Violence in Asian Countries

With the support of the Spotlight Regional Program for Central Asia, funded by the European Union, an expert dialogue was organized to discuss the scope, consequences, and outcomes of the criminalization of domestic and partner violence.

Maciej Madalinski, Deputy Head of Mission of the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Kazakhstan (2023), Human rights and gender equality are the core of European Union's external action. It is a great honor to be with you here today, as every day your tireless work and your deep commitment bring us a step closer to the elimination of gender-based violence in Central Asia. We note the high level of cooperation between countries, representatives of various sectors involved in protecting women from violence, as well as the range of issues included in the scope of the regional program, ”.

- 1 in 3 women, worldwide, have experienced physical or sexual violence.

Violence by a husband or male intimate partner (physical, sexual or psychological) is the most widespread form of violence against women globally.

- 2 in 3 women report that they or a woman they know have ever experienced violence.

Most violence against women is intimate partner violence. In Southeast Asia 33 per cent of partnered women aged 15-49 will experience physical and/or sexual violence from a current or former husband or male partner at least once in their lifetime. 17 per cent of partnered women subjected to physical and/or sexual violence from a current or former partner in the past 12 months.

Most violence against women is intimate partner violence. In many countries across Asia and the Pacific, the proportion of women who report having experienced physical or sexual violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime is substantially higher than the global average of 27 per cent; at 35 per cent in India, 38 per cent in Timor Leste, and 50 percent and over in Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Bangladesh.

In the past 12 months alone, 28 per cent of women in Timor-Leste, 29 per cent of women in Vanuatu, 31 per cent of women in PNG and 23 per cent of women in Bangladesh experienced intimate partner violence. 6This is substantially above the global average of 13 per cent.

75 per cent of women have experienced sexual harassment.

In Asia and the Pacific, as many as 75 per cent of women have experienced sexual harassment.

Women are less likely to report sexual abuse as they fear retaliation, rejection, victim-blaming, and stigmatization.

Only 77 countries have legislation that explicitly criminalizes marital rape. In most cases of sexual violence, the perpetrator is not a stranger, but a partner, a family member, a friend or a neighbor. Ninety-one per cent of survivors in Thailand and 86 per cent of survivors in Vietnam stated that they knew their rapist prior to the incident. 20,000 women were killed by intimate partners or family members in Asia in 2017, alone. 20,000 women were killed by intimate partners or family members in Asia in 2017, alone. Although the percentage of women and girls intentionally killed by their intimate partners or family members is greatest in Africa, Asia has the largest number of women and girls killed overall.

In China, 38 per cent of women experienced psychological violence by their own partners. Statistics on sexual violence against women in the Western-Pacific Region, show some of the highest prevalence rates worldwide. In Nauru, over 43 percent of women fell victim to sexual violence in their lifetime, by a perpetrator who was not their current or former partner, while 28 percent of women in Vanuatu stated that their first sexual experience was forced. Women and girls make up 68 percent of trafficked persons in East Asia and the Pacific, women, and girls make up 68 percent of trafficked persons. About a half of the detected victims in the region are women. Many detected victims in East Asia and the Pacific continue to be trafficked for sexual exploitation, accounting for 64 percent of detected cases.

In Indonesia, 49 per cent of girls under 14 have undergone some form of female genital mutilation, although it is outlawed. 44 per cent of all child brides are from South Asia, globally 650 million girls and women alive today were married before the age of 18.

Violence against women in the Asia-Pacific region is also perpetrated through sexual and street harassment, menstruation stigmatization and lack of access to hygiene products, dowry-related violence, forced marriage, digital harassment and cyber violence, marital rape and lack of access to justice and survivor-centered support systems.

Mongolia: In 2017, for the first time in our country, the "Gender-Based Violence Prevalence Survey" was organized by the National Statistics Committee with the support of the United Nations Population Fund and the Swiss Development Agency. The study determined the form, prevalence, causes, and consequences of violence against Mongolian women, and compiled qualitative

and quantitative data to calculate the indicators and results of the Sustainable Development Goals, including the 5th Goal of Gender Equality.

A detailed analysis based on the data of the study conducted at the national level in accordance with internationally recognized methodology was presented at today's consultation meeting, and the consequences and impacts were discussed.

Ulaanbaatar, December 7, 2023 /MONCAME/. A high-level consultation meeting to discuss the "In-Depth Analysis of the Prevalence of Gender-Based Violence in Mongolia: Key Findings and Policy Implications" was held on the 7th of December 2024 .

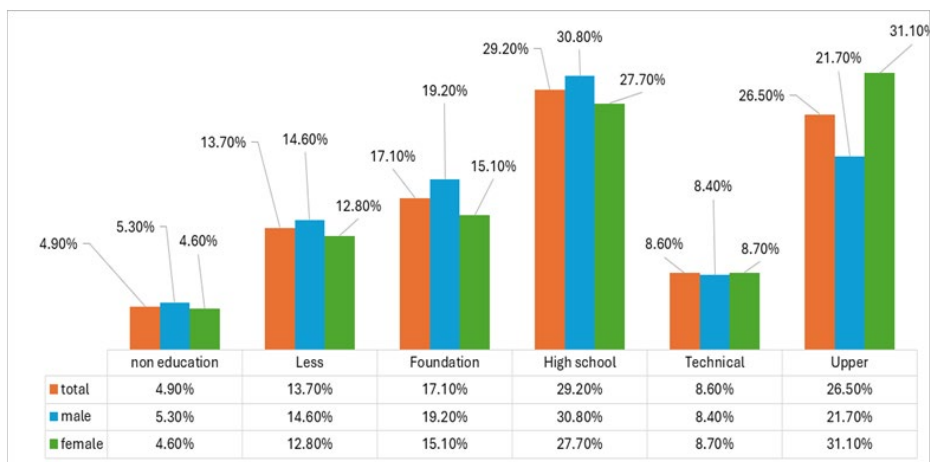
It has been 25 years since Mongolia joined the global movement, which raises awareness about the reality of gender-based violence and actively engages the public toward ending the discriminatory gender norms and stereotypes that underlie the violence.

According to the National Gender-based Violence Survey, one in every two Mongolian women has experienced violence perpetrated by an intimate partner at least once in their lives. Regrettably, at least one in every three survivors of physical and sexual violence believes that a man is justified in hitting his partner under certain circumstances. One in ten (10.7 per cent) of all women reported having experienced sexual abuse before they were 15 years old.

The most common perpetrators of violence and abuse were other family members (29.5 per cent). A 2021 study by the Communications Regulatory Commission and Mongolian Marketing Consulting Group reveals that 33% of children come across child sexual abuse materials online. Furthermore, according to the recent violence and harassment at work study (2021) conducted by the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia and the International Labor Organization, 10 per cent of women said they had experienced sexual harassment of some form at their workplace .

Goal 5: “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls “. Target 5.2: “Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation”. Indicator 5.2.1: Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age. Indicator 5.2.2: Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence in Sustainable development.

UN statistical indicator on violence against women - non-partner violence by type of violence, age group, perpetrator, and frequency:



Graph 01. UN statistical indicator on violence

We used our research work and the material of the 2017 gender sensitivity survey, which is the primary research work in our country, as a source.

Lack of access to education is a factor affecting domestic violence: Domestic violence is a negative social phenomenon that violates a number of fundamental rights of individuals protected by the Constitution, including freedom of inviolability, living in a healthy and safe environment, education, free expression of opinions, and the right to life.

The world recognizes that the most common violation of human rights is violence of any kind, the most serious of which is violence between people related to gender and family, and actively seeks

ways to combat it. Domestic violence is defined as whether or not the abuser lives in the same household as the victim, the spouse, other family members, cohabitants, guardians, supporters, persons under their care or protection, persons living with the same family, or those living separately. , is committed between closely related persons such as adopted children, birth and adoptive parents, brothers, sisters, and siblings.

In 2017, the Great Khural of Mongolia approved the revision of the Law on Combating Domestic Violence. According to this law, violence committed by divorced spouses, cohabitants, or those who have not lived together but have a family relationship, including children, is considered domestic violence, and can be prosecuted

under the Misdemeanor and Criminal Law.

The Vulnerability Identification Model is used to identify, protect, and assist affected citizens who are at risk of international violence, harassment, and exploitation, and to develop and implement interventions aimed at reducing the vulnerability of those citizens. Based on this model, we aim to develop the structural factors affecting women's exposure to domestic violence based on quantitative research.

To prevent any type of crime or violation, and to provide the necessary support to the victim, it is most important to determine the causes and factors of the crime or violation.

Domestic violence is common in many countries around the world, and its manifestations and methods vary. Although different countries face different causes of crime, the underlying causes remain the same worldwide, according to a study by the Austrian Human Rights Careers (HRC).

The study also said that "women are not considered to tolerate domestic violence, but only 1/4 of women worldwide report experiencing domestic violence." Also, in the study, factors affecting women's domestic violence include economic limitations and employment inequality; considered in relation to lack of access to education and other factors.

According to the victimology research report on domestic violence against children and women, "According to the results of the survey conducted among citizens, it is noteworthy that the fear of divorce is the highest (50 percent). Also, the indicators of lack of legal knowledge, fear of coming back, fear of threats and harassment, and fear of the formation of discordant family relationships account for 33-43 percent, which shows that the victim's behavior of not damaging his personal relationship is the highest.

Economic deprivation and employment inequality are factors that contribute to domestic violence: The National Statistics Committee of Mongolia and the World Bank conducted a study to determine the poverty level based on the results of the 2018 Household Socio-Economic Survey. Considering the results of the poverty calculation in the study, the poverty level of the population of Mongolia was 29.6 percent in 2016, 28.4 percent in 2018, 27.8 percent in 2020, and 27.1 percent in 2022, decreasing by 2.5 percent from the level of 2016 and 0.7 percent from the level of 2020. .

According to the survey, the poverty rate has decreased in both urban and rural areas since 2016, but the rate of decrease has been significantly slower in urban areas. In other words, the proportion of poor people living in urban areas has continuously increased to 64 percent in 2022 due to the increase in the proportion of the population in urban areas.

According to the data of the police organization, in 2023, 35,574 crimes were registered nationwide, 1,415 crimes committed due to domestic violence were registered, which decreased by 314 cases

or 18.2 percent from the same period of the previous year. 51.0 percent of this type of crime was registered in Ulaanbaatar city and 49.0 percent in the local area. However, in 2023, 126 cases of domestic violence under Article 11.7 of the Criminal Code were registered, which is an increase of 28 cases or 28.6 percent from the previous year.

Out of 1,459 victims of domestic violence, 1,282 or 87.9 percent are women, and 170 or 11.7 percent are children. 611 or 47.6 percent of the women victims are unemployed.

Based on this, there is a high incidence of domestic violence crimes and crimes caused by domestic violence among poor households without specific jobs.

As defined by the International Classification of Education (ISCED), education consists of pre-planned and systematic activities aimed at satisfying human learning needs. Educational activities are organized, and continuous communication is aimed at imparting knowledge.

According to the General Law on Education, the purpose of education is to create equal opportunities for everyone to get quality education, to learn and work throughout their lives, and to cultivate citizens with morals and good character. based on advanced scientific trends; be stable, coherent and flexible; equal access, non-discrimination and openness; ensuring public and public participation and joint responsibility; promote lifelong learning; compliance with the national hierarchy of qualifications; freedom from politics or conflicts of interest; It will be aimed at preserving human rights, freedom, statehood, history, cultural traditions and values, democratic and humanitarian values.

According to the results of the 2020 Population and Housing Census of the National Statistics Committee, 64.9 percent of the total population, 60.2 percent of the female population, and 69.9 percent of the male population have less than secondary education.

According to the police, 1029 or 77.1 percent of the 1334 people investigated for domestic violence crimes in 2023 have less than secondary education. According to this, the "lower" the level of education of an individual, the higher the probability of committing violence and experiencing violence.

Other Factors That Make Women Vulnerable To Domestic Violence Include: In some types of crimes, especially domestic violence crimes, the victim's roots and local customs cannot be denied the importance of crime victimology.

Also, scientists believe that "religion preaches obedience and modesty to people on the one hand, and simple modesty on the other hand, but this affects the use of force and violence in some cases." becoming one of the problems.

Although there are no statistics on crimes related to religion, according to law enforcement agencies, this does not mean that

it is not related to it. It cannot be denied that there is no domestic violence research in our country, which is hidden among ethnic

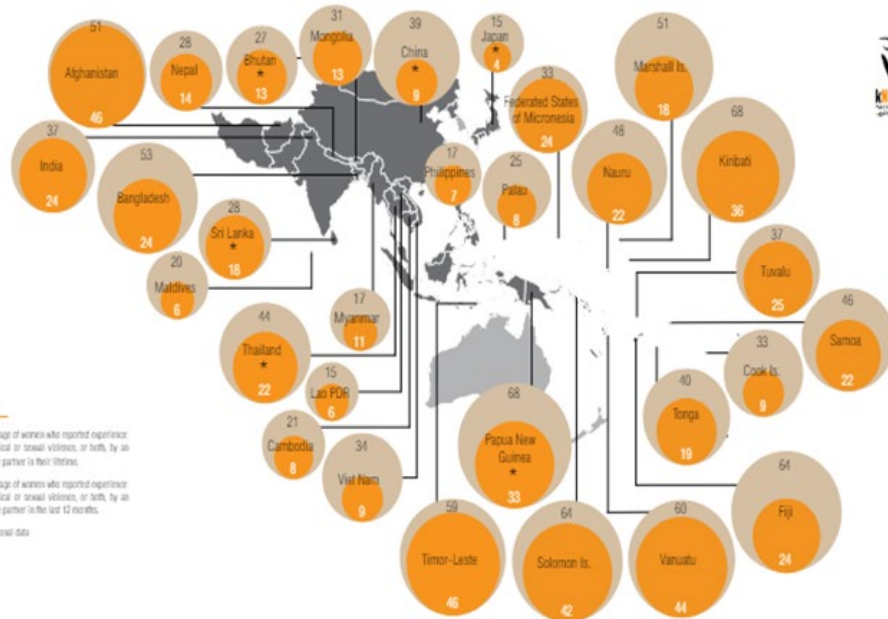
minorities. It should be noted that these people often lack social protection, including protection from criminals as below:

Indicator	Physical				Severe sexual				Moderate sexual			
	Lifetime		Current		Lifetime		Current		Lifetime		Current	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	984	100.0	272	100.0	234	100.0	34	100.0	789	100.0	135	100.0
Age groups (years)												
15-19	89	15.9	61	41.6	7	10.6	4	42.1	57	12.3	27	29.1
20-24	89	15.5	18	9.9	17	14.2	3	8.3	61	17.2	12	17.8
25-29	178	19.4	49	14.7	35	13.9	4	4.1	149	18.6	18	12.1
30-34	161	14.2	39	8.9	42	18.2	5	14.0	143	15.9	25	14.7
35-39	122	8.9	28	8.3	37	13.7	4	9.4	112	10.6	18	9.9
40-44	127	9.1	33	7.9	29	7.7	4	5.5	99	10.6	21	11.8
45-49	72	6.0	17	3.1	20	6.5	2	3.3	53	6.0	4	1.3
50-54	74	4.9	14	1.7	17	5.5	4	5.6	56	3.7	6	1.2
55-59	45	3.8	8	3.0	17	4.4	3	5.7	36	2.7	1	0.1
60-64	27	2.3	5	1.1	13	5.3	1	2.1	23	2.4	3	1.9
Relationship to the perpetrator												
Parent	139	17.8	35	18.6	4	3.4	3	22.7	2	0.2	1	0.8
Parent-in-law	16	1.2	7	2.7	1	0.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Sibling (brother or sister)	184	19.8	50	19.7	3	0.7	2	3.1	2	0.1	2	0.6
Other family member	129	14.5	38	12.1	10	4.9	0	0.0	22	3.3	3	0.7
Someone at work	58	5.9	13	7.9	10	3.4	2	8.9	69	8.1	14	11.9
Friend/acquaintance	217	17.6	47	10.1	118	45.5	12	32.8	365	49.4	58	45.3
Recent acquaintance	25	1.5	12	2.7	20	4.5	9	11.1	67	7.4	31	19.3
Complete stranger	124	9.4	28	8.0	61	26.7	8	19.2	182	27.0	28	18.4
Teacher	33	3.0	11	4.3	3	3.5	1	20.0	5	0.5	1	0.0
Doctor/health staff	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	5	0.5	2	1.1
Religious leader	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.3	0	0.0
Brother/sister-in-law	51	2.2	19	3.3	5	2.5	1	6.3	0	0.0	0	0.0
step-father	26	2.5	7	2.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	7	0.5	2	0.5
step-brother/sister	5	0.4	0	0.0	2	1.3	0	0.0	2	0.1	0	0.0
Other	60	4.2	37	8.1	10	3.0	2	1.6	29	2.6	4	1.5
Frequency												
One	526	48.3	161	59.2	157	68.7	15	49.2	495	67.9	64	49.9
Few	323	37.3	77	29.1	54	21.8	11	16.6	244	27.4	58	40.9
Many	135	14.4	34	11.8	23	9.5	8	34.2	50	4.6	13	9.2

Image 01. Protection from criminals

UN statistical indicator on violence against women - Partner violence by age group, partnership status and frequency:

Indicator	Physical and sexual violence				Physical violence in last 12 months (current)		Economic violence in last 12 months (current)		
	Lifetime		Current		Number	%	Number	%	
	Number	%	Number	%					
Total	2175	100.0	829	100.0	788	100.0	744	100.0	
Age groups (years)									
15-19		7	1.3	6	2.8	6	3.0	7	1.0
20-24		81	7.7	51	14.6	49	15.1	49	15.7
25-29		300	17.5	161	21.7	147	20.8	134	23.5
30-34		364	16.5	181	20.0	174	19.9	144	18.5
35-39		384	14.6	150	12.5	147	13.1	136	12.9
40-44		372	15.5	132	13.4	124	13.0	106	11.9
45-49		249	10.3	64	7.4	61	7.7	69	7.8
50-54		214	7.9	51	4.6	49	4.6	53	4.7
55-59		139	6.2	24	2.0	22	1.9	36	3.1
60-64		65	2.5	9	0.9	9	1.0	10	0.9
Partnership status									
Currently married		1604	68.3	612	68.8	583	68.3	530	63.7
Currently living with man, not married		226	11.0	105	12.3	99	12.4	89	16.0
Current regular partner, living apart		32	2.9	16	3.7	14	3.5	20	5.8
Formerly married, divorced/separated		131	5.8	41	4.7	40	4.9	36	4.4
Former cohabitating, separated		61	4.6	31	5.4	29	5.5	41	6.1
Formerly married/cohabitating, widowed		88	4.2	11	.5	11	.6	8	.4
Formerly dating		33	3.3	13	4.6	12	4.9	20	3.6
Frequency									
One		354	17.1	180	22.1				
Few		844	37.2	424	50.6				
Many		977	45.7	225	27.3				



WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCE INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE, 2000 – 2017
UNFPA Asia and the Pacific Region



Sustainable development goal indicators – Percentage of women who have experienced violence in previous 12 months, ages 15–49 and 15–64, by type of violence, aimags and capital city, location, age groups

Indicator	Sustainable development goal 5.2.1						Sustainable development goal 5.2.2	
	Sexual		Ever partnered Physical and/or sexual		Psychological		Non-partner sexual violence	
	15–49	15–64	15–49	15–64	15–49	15–64	15–49	15–64
National average	3.6	3.0	14.7	12.7	25.5	22.4	3.1	2.6
Urban	3.7	3.0	14.8	12.7	26.0	22.8	3.6	3.0
Rural	3.3	2.8	14.5	12.6	24.6	21.8	1.9	1.8
Location								
Capital city	3.7	3.0	15.1	12.9	26.9	23.6	3.5	2.9
Aimags centre	3.7	3.3	13.9	12.1	23.6	20.9	3.7	3.2
Soum centre	3.6	2.9	15.4	12.7	27.1	23.3	2.0	2.0
Rural	3.1	2.7	13.8	12.5	22.7	20.7	1.9	1.7
Western region	4.3	3.6	13.4	12.1	21.1	19.0	2.9	2.6
Bayan-Ulgii	8.6	6.9	15.7	13.6	23.5	20.5	0.9	1.5
Govii-Altai	3.2	2.6	11.1	11.3	22.9	20.3	5.6	4.5
Zavkhan	1.9	1.5	12.3	10.1	20.4	18.0	2.9	2.4
Uvs	2.1	2.4	11.2	11.2	16.6	16.3	3.7	3.3
Khovd	4.5	3.8	15.5	13.3	22.4	19.8	2.8	2.2
Khangai region	3.2	2.8	14.5	12.8	25.8	22.8	2.3	2.0
Arkhangai	3.7	2.9	14.6	12.4	28.0	23.9	1.6	1.2
Bayankhongor	1.1	2.1	9.5	9.1	20.4	18.6	1.9	1.6
Bulgan	3.7	2.9	13.0	11.2	20.3	18.3	2.9	2.5
Orkhon	5.4	4.6	12.6	11.3	20.5	18.9	1.7	1.5
Uvurkhangai	3.6	3.3	22.3	19.4	30.9	27.1	1.9	1.9
Khovsgul	1.7	1.4	13.0	11.7	30.0	26.5	3.5	2.9
Central region	3.4	2.7	14.9	12.5	22.8	20.0	2.5	2.4
Govisumber	1.1	.9	13.3	12.3	24.1	23.3	3.9	3.3
Darkhan-Uul	4.7	3.8	15.3	12.4	18.9	16.8	3.3	2.6
Dornogovi	2.0	1.6	9.1	7.6	18.0	15.3	2.5	2.5
Dundgovi	.7	.6	18.3	15.3	27.9	24.5	2.6	2.6
Umnugovi	4.5	3.9	16.6	15.3	25.8	23.5	2.9	2.4
Selenge	2.3	1.8	10.7	9.1	20.3	18.4	1.1	1.4
Tuv	5.0	4.1	20.6	16.4	28.6	23.8	2.6	2.8
Eastern region	3.1	2.6	14.0	12.1	28.1	25.2	3.3	3.0
Dornod	2.8	2.1	18.2	14.7	26.1	23.0	6.9	5.4
Sukhbaatar	3.8	3.5	13.3	11.6	23.5	21.8	1.7	1.7
Khentii	2.8	2.3	10.4	9.6	34.5	30.3	1.0	1.6
Ulaanbaatar	3.7	3.0	15.1	12.9	26.9	23.6	3.5	2.9
Age group (years)								
15–19	0.4	0.4	8.0	8.0	13.7	13.7	7.7	7.7
20–24	2.7	2.7	16.4	16.4	24.7	24.7	3.5	3.5
25–29	3.7	3.7	17.4	17.4	27.3	27.3	2.0	2.0
30–34	3.9	3.8	17.7	17.7	31.6	31.6	2.6	2.6
35–39	3.8	3.8	12.7	12.7	25.8	25.8	2.3	2.3
40–44	4.7	4.7	14.8	14.8	24.9	24.9	2.7	2.7
45–49	1.1	1.1	9.5	9.5	20.4	20.4	0.5	0.5
50–54		0.7		6.6		14.7		0.6
55–59		0.7		3.6		9.0		0.4
60–64		0.0		2.7		4.2		1.1

Conclusion

We concluded our study that:

Domestic violence remains a pervasive issue across Southeast Asia, with 33 percent of partnered women aged 15–49 experiencing physical and/or sexual violence from a current or former partner at least once in their lifetime. Recent statistics show that 17 percent of these women faced such violence within the past year. Intimate partner violence (IPV) is particularly prevalent, with rates in many Asian and Pacific countries exceeding the global average of 27 percent; notably, 35 percent in India, 38 percent in Timor-Leste, and over 50 percent in Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Bangladesh. In the past year alone, IPV rates have been alarmingly high in Timor-Leste (28 percent), Vanuatu (29 percent), Papua New Guinea (31 percent), and Bangladesh (23 percent), far surpassing the global average of 13 percent.

Sexual harassment is also widespread, affecting up to 75 percent of women in Asia and the Pacific. Fear of retaliation, rejection, victim-blaming, and stigmatization often deter women from reporting sexual abuse. Despite the existence of legislation in 77 countries that criminalizes marital rape, many perpetrators are known to the survivors, as evidenced by 91 percent of survivors in Thailand and 86 percent in Vietnam knowing their assailant. Tragically, in 2017 alone, 20,000 women were killed by intimate partners or family members in Asia.

In China, 38 percent of women have faced psychological violence

from their partners. The Western-Pacific region records some of the highest rates of sexual violence globally, with 43 percent of women in Nauru and 28 percent in Vanuatu experiencing forced sexual encounters. Trafficking remains a severe issue, with women and girls comprising 68 percent of trafficked persons in East Asia and the Pacific, primarily for sexual exploitation.

Indonesia reports that 49 percent of girls under 14 have undergone female genital mutilation despite its illegality. Additionally, South Asia is home to 44 percent of all child brides, contributing to the 650 million women and girls globally who were married before 18. Violence against women in the Asia-Pacific region is exacerbated by various forms, including street harassment, menstruation stigmatization, dowry-related violence, forced marriage, digital harassment, cyber violence, and limited access to justice and support systems. In Mongolia, the 2017 Gender-Based Violence Prevalence Survey, supported by the UN and the Swiss Development Agency, provided critical data to inform gender equality efforts and the Sustainable Development Goals.

References

1. Socio-economic and Cultural Factors: A study by De Silva (2019) emphasizes that socio-economic conditions, cultural norms, and societal expectations play crucial roles in the prevalence of domestic violence in Asian countries. Lower socio-economic status, lower educational attainment, and traditional gender roles that condone male dominance are

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- significant contributors to domestic violence in these regions (BioMed Central).
2. Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Prevalence: Research conducted in Malaysia highlights that intimate partner violence is prevalent with a wide range between 4.94% and 35.9%. The study by Shuib et al. (2013) identified lower education, substance abuse, controlling behaviors by husbands, and lack of social support as key factors associated with IPV (BioMed Central).
 3. Health and Psychological Impact: According to a systematic review by Ellsberg et al. (2008), domestic violence significantly impacts women's physical and mental health. The WHO multi-country study, which included Asian countries, found that women experiencing IPV suffer from various health issues, including stress-related disorders and reproductive health problems (BioMed Central).
 4. Legislative Measures and Challenges: A legislative overview by Bagshaw (2008) examines the domestic violence laws in South Asian countries like India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. The study discusses how these laws are implemented and the cultural and systemic challenges that hinder their effectiveness (BioMed Central).
 5. Community and Institutional Interventions: Xu, Kerley, and Sirisunyaluck (2011) explored the role of community and institutional interventions in urban Thailand. Their study underscores the importance of community awareness programs and institutional support systems in mitigating domestic violence (BioMed Central).
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Food Notes

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