

**CONTRIBUTORY INDICES AND KNOWLEDGE OF HEALTH
IMPLICATIONS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AMONG MARRIED
SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS IN IBADAN NORTH LOCAL
GOVERNMENT AREA**

ADIGUN JOSEPH OLUWASEYI, Ph.D

Department of Special Needs Education & Rehabilitation Sciences, Federal
University of Lafia, Nasarawa State
Email: adigunjoseph12@gmail.com

BAKARE, ALIMAT ADEKEMI (M. Sc.)

Department of Public Health, National Open University, Ibadan Study Centre

OLALADE ROSELINE OLAWUMI, Ph.D

Department of Home Economics, Kwara State University of Education

OLUOKUN ADEWUMI ESTHER (M. Ed)

Federal College of Education (Special), Oyo

&

ADEDEJI GRACE BOLA (M. Ed)

Department of Home Economics, Kwara State University of Education

Abstract

Introduction

The study investigated contributory indices and knowledge of health implications of domestic violence among married secondary school teachers in Ibadan North Local Government, Oyo State. Four hypotheses were postulated and tested with Chi-square at 0.05 alpha level. A descriptive research design of the survey type was adopted for the study. Multistage sampling technique was used to select a sample size of four hundred and sixty-six (466) married secondary school teachers in Ibadan North Local Government. Data was collected using self-designed validated structured questionnaire by three experts in the field of Health Education. A reliability co-efficient of $r = 0.69$ was obtained. The result of the findings revealed that family history and substance abuse were contributory indices of domestic violence. It was also revealed that the respondents were aware of physical injuries and psychological problems as health implications of domestic violence. Based on the findings of this study, it was concluded that, family history and substance abuse were significant contributory indices of and physical injuries and psychological problems were significant health implications of domestic violence. It was therefore recommended that, married couples should desist from domestic violence because a person that marries in a family with history of domestic violence is likely to abuse his/her spouse or be abused. Also, married couples are encouraged to say "NO" to domestic violence so as to avert psychological problems such as depression and anxiety disorders.

Keywords: *Domestic Violence, Family History, Physical Injuries, Psychological Problems.*

Introduction

Violence is a social disorder, physical destabilization and distortion of peace and order in interpersonal relationship and in society as it includes assault, injury, threats and damage to property (Chikobi & Ezumezu, 2018). Violence is showing physical force especially unlawful kind or emotional intensity to an individual (another person) (Jacquin, 2022). Domestic violence can affect anyone of any age, or gender whether it is physical or psychological and it is destructive for both the battered and the batterer (Jacquin, 2022). Benebo, Schumann and Vaezghasemi (2018) defined domestic or intimate partner violence as any behaviour carried out by an intimate partner that causes psychological, physical, or sexual harm. According to Web-MD (2017), domestic violence could be physical, verbal, emotional, economic, religious, reproductive and sexual.

Domestic violence by intimate partner functions as a means of enforcing conformity with the role of a woman within customary society. It does not matter if the woman is economically dependent or not; her position, like that of the children, is subordinate (Igbolekwu, Arusukwu, Joseph, Rasak, Asamu & Osueke, 2021). Several women are believed to have been subjected to physical, sexual and psychological violence carried out primarily by husbands and fathers (Ajayi & Airewele, 2018), while some girls are often forced into early marriages and are at risk of punishment if they attempt to escape from their husbands. More pathetic is the revelation of gross under-reporting and non-documentation of domestic violence due to cultural factors (Edegbe, Okani, Uzoigwe & Amagwu, 2020). A culture of silence reinforces the stigma attached to the victim rather than condemn the perpetrator of such crimes (Muhammad-Farooq, Saeed-Ali, Parpio, Lalani & Marjorie, 2017).

The United Nations (2019) defined intimate partner violence as a behaviour by an intimate partner or ex-partner that causes physical, sexual or psychological harm, including physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse and controlling behaviours. Domestic violence in Nigeria is increasingly becoming a pandemic threat to the well-being of women and has a profound health impact on both individual and the community (Solanke, 2018; Aderibigbe, 2019).

The menace of domestic violence among married couples is a very critical and widely reported issue across the globe as well as cut across different races. Psychologists in developing countries over the years had been deeply concerned with trying to study the different sources and factors as well as mitigate the impact of this on married couples' relationship and the psychological well-being of their families. Globally as many as 38% of all murders of women are committed by intimate partners. In addition to intimate partner violence, globally 6% of women reported having been sexually assaulted by someone other than a partner, although data for non-partner sexual violence are more limited. Intimate partner and sexual violence are mostly perpetrated by men against women (WHO, 2021). Over a quarter of women aged 15-49 years who have been in a relationship have been subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by their intimate partner at least once in their lifetime (since age 15) (WHO, 2021).

Domestic violence is prevalent among women and girls in Nigeria and it is synonymous to close partner violence, family violence, beating, domestic abuse or spousal abuse. More complicating is the reality that the social context of violence against women in Nigeria is related to traditional African patriarchal societies, which defines the gender power structure (Ajayi & Airewele, 2018).

Statement of Problem

Domestic Violence (DV) is a hidden global epidemic that occurs in all countries with detrimental effects on the well-being of victims. The physical, mental, sexual and reproductive health of millions of women and families is adversely affected by DV. It has dire social and economic consequences on communities and societies. Research shows that many survivors tend not to report abuse from their partners due to factors like, fear that the abuser will retaliate, desire to protect the family, financial dependence on the perpetrator, and fear of ending the marriage (Mshweshwe, 2018). Adjah and Agbemafla (2016) observed that many women suffer significant psychological abuse including threats, insults, and destruction of property, among others, as a result of domestic violence.

Some researchers have attributed domestic violence to a set of interlocking factors, such as patriarchy, cultural beliefs, community norms, unemployment and low levels of education (Jewkes & Morrell, 2018; Mshweshwe, 2018). Also, domestic violence is associated with the masculinity ideology, an endorsement of patriarchy related attitudes, beliefs, and behaviours assigned to men during the socialisation (Graaff & Heineken, 2017; Moolman, 2017).

The researchers also observed that the issue of domestic violence is at alarming rate in Oyo State. For instance, the report from Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Oyo State revealed that there were records of domestic violence cases in the State: 142 cases in 2019; 182 cases in 2020; 190 cases in 2021 and 101 cases in 2022. In the same vein, Oyo State Ministry of Justice recorded 155 cases in the 2021. Such of domestic violence cases reported by Oyo State Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Inclusion reported five hundred and eighty-six (586) cases on gender based violence. The report showed psychological/emotional abuse 22.86%, intimate partner violence 6.66%, physical assault 10.23% and denial of opportunity, resources and services 37.88%.

Based on the above statements and evidence-based reports, this study investigated contributory indices and knowledge of health implications of domestic violence among married Secondary School teachers in Ibadan North Local Government Area.

Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were tested in the study

1. Family history is not a significant contributory index of domestic violence among married Secondary School teachers in Ibadan North Local Government.
2. Substance abuse is not a significant contributory index of domestic violence among married Secondary School teachers in Ibadan North Local Government.
3. Physical injuries is not a significant health implication of domestic violence.
4. Psychological problems is not a significant health implication of domestic violence.

Method

The study was carried out with the use of descriptive research design of survey type. The study population comprised all married public teachers Secondary Schools in Ibadan North Local Government, Oyo State. The sample size for this study was four hundred and sixty-six (466). Multistage sampling technique was used for the sampling procedure. In the first stage, simple random sampling technique of fish bow without replacement was used to select twenty-one (21) public schools from forty-two (42) existing public secondary schools in Ibadan North Local Government. In the second stage, purposive sampling technique was used to select only married teachers. In third stage, convenient sampling technique was used to select the respondents. Self – designed validated structured questionnaire the three Experts from the field of Health Education was the instrument for data collection. The reliability of the instrument was carried out using test re-test method and the reliability coefficient of $r=0.69$ was obtained. The consent from each respondent before the administration of the questionnaire was sought through the consent form and the respondents were assured of safety, voluntary participation and confidentiality of their information. They were also assured that they are free to respond to questions that they are comfortable with and there was no penalty or consequence for withdrawing from filling the questionnaire. The researchers with the help of five trained research assistants administered 466 copies of questionnaire. The four postulated research hypotheses were tested at 0.05 alpha level with the use of inferential statistics of Chi-square.

Table 1: Sample Distribution per School

S/N	NAME OF SCHOOL	STAFF STRENGTH
		No of Married Teachers
1	Abadina College Junior School, University of Ibadan	20
2	Abadina College Senior School, University of Ibadan	21
3	Anglican Commercial Grammar School Junior, Oritamefa	17
4	Basorun Ojoo High School Basorun	30
5	Community Grammar School, Mokola	22
6	Community Secondary School, Sango	22
7	Ibadan Municipal Grammar School, Kube, Oje-Igosun	24
8	Ibadan Municipal Grammar School, Yemetu Opposite UCH	10
9	Ikolaba Grammar School II, Agodi	27
10	Ikolaba Grammar School II, Agodi	20
11	Ikolaba High School, G. R. A.	28
12	Immanuel College Senior, Samonda U. I.	16
13	Islamic Day Secondary School, Basorun	30
14	Islamic High School, Basorun	35
15	Methodist Junior Grammar School, Ojurin, Bodija	31
16	Methodist Secondary School FAVOS Bodija	20
17	Mount Olivet Grammar School, Bodija	21
18	Oba Akinbiyi High School II, Mokola	20
19	Oba Akinyele Memorial High School Senior, Anlugbua, Idi-Ape Basorun	24
20	St. Brigid's Secondary School, Mokola	9
21	St. Patricks Grammar School, Orita Basorun	19
	TOTAL	466

Results

Hypothesis 1: Family history is not a significant contributory index of domestic violence among married Secondary School teachers in Ibadan North Local Government

Table 2: Chi-square analysis showing family history as a contributory index of domestic violence among married Secondary School teachers in Ibadan North Local Government

S/N	ITEMS	SA	A	D	SD	Row total	Cal χ^2	Df	Crit Val.	Rem
1	A child who grew up in a violent home may repeat the same behaviour in adult life.	166 (35.6%)	246 (52.8%)	43 (9.2%)	11 (2.4%)	466	127.99	12	21.026	Ho Rejecte d
2	Domestic violence runs in the family	116 (24.9%)	214 (45.9%)	124 (26.6%)	12 (2.6%)	466				
3	Past family dysfunctioning plays a vital role in domestic violence	114 (24.5%)	278 (59.7%)	50 (10.7%)	24 (5.2%)	466				
4	A person that marries in a family with history of domestic violence is likely to be abused	114 (24.5%)	278 (59.7%)	50 (10.7%)	24 (5.2%)	466				
5	Adoption of poor family style/pattern may lead to domestic violence	112 (24.0%)	240 (51.5%)	81 (17.4%)	33 (7.1%)	466				
Column Total		622	1,256	348	104	2,330				

The findings from the analysis in the table 2 show the calculated χ^2 value of 127.99 against the table value of 21.026 at 0.05 alpha level with df 12. Since the calculated χ^2 value of 127.99 is greater than the table value of 21.026; therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected which means that the family history was a significant contributory index of domestic violence among married secondary school teachers in Ibadan North Local Government.

Hypothesis 2: Substance abuse is not a significant contributory index of domestic violence among married Secondary School teachers in Ibadan North Local Government.

Table 3: Chi-square analysis showing substance abuse as a contributory index of domestic violence among married Secondary School teachers in Ibadan North Local Government

S/N	ITEMS	SA	A	D	SD	Row total	Cal χ^2	Df	Crit Val.	Rem
6	Alcohol intoxication could induce domestic violence	175 (37.6%)	237 (50.9%)	35 (7.5%)	19 (4.1%)	466	142.52	12	21.026	Ho Rejecte d
7	Domestic violence is common among marijuana users	127 (27.3%)	245 (52.6%)	78 (16.7%)	16 (3.4%)	466				
8	Cocaine and heroines users tend to become violent at home	128 (27.5%)	258 (55.4%)	52 (11.2%)	28 (6.0%)	466				
9	Excessive intake of illicit substance could result to domestic violence	139 (29.8%)	243 (52.1%)	72 (15.5%)	12 (2.6%)	466				
10	Substance abuse could trigger verbal aggressiveness and annoyance thereby resulting to domestic violence	165 (35.4%)	234 (50.2%)	51 (10.9%)	16 (3.4%)	466				
Column Total		734	1,217	288	91	2,330				

The findings from the analysis in the table 3 show the calculated χ^2 value of 142.52 against the table value of 21.026 at 0.05 alpha level with df 12. Since the calculated χ^2 value of 142.52 is greater than the table value of 21.026; therefore the null hypothesis was rejected which means that the substance abuse was a significant contributory index of domestic violence among married secondary school teachers in Ibadan North Local Government.

Hypothesis 3: Physical injuries is not a significant health implication of domestic violence.

Table 4: Chi-square analysis showing physical injuries as a significant health implication of domestic violence.

S/N	ITEMS	SA	A	D	SD	Row total	Cal χ^2	Df	Crit Val.	Rem
11	Domestic violence could lead to bruises and cuts	194 (41.6%)	234 (50.2%)	31 (6.7%)	7 (1.5%)	466	133.69	12	21.026	Ho Rejecte d
12	Body pain could result from domestic violence	170 (36.5%)	208 (44.6%)	72 (15.5%)	16 (3.4%)	466				
13	Physical abuse against pregnant women leads to maternal morbidity and mortality	170 (36.5%)	220 (47.2%)	54 (11.6%)	22 (4.7%)	466				
14	Sprain and fracture may result from domestic violence	180 (38.6%)	184 (39.5%)	72 (15.5%)	30 (6.4%)	466				
15	A mild blow or use of hard object on the head of the victims can lead to brain injuries and cognitive impairment.	182 (39.1%)	205 (44.0%)	52 (11.2%)	27 (5.8%)	466				
Column Total		896	1,051	281	102	2,330				

The findings from the analysis in the table 4 show the calculated χ^2 value of 133.69 against the table value of 21.026 at 0.05 alpha level with df 12. Since the calculated χ^2 value of 133.69 is greater than the table value of 21.026; therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected which means that the physical injuries were significant health implication of domestic violence.

Hypothesis 4: Psychological problems is not a significant health implication of domestic violence.

Table 5: Chi-square analysis showing psychological problems as a significant health implication of domestic violence.

S/N	ITEMS	SA	A	D	SD	Row total	Cal χ^2	Df	Crit Val.	Rem
16	Domestic violence could lead to depression	217 (46.6%)	187 (40.1%)	46 (9.9%)	16 (3.4%)	466	139.19	12	21.026	Ho Rejecte d
17	Post-traumatic stress is associated with domestic violence	165 (35.4%)	219 (47.0%)	68 (14.6%)	14 (3.0%)	466				
18	Victims of domestic violence tend to experience low self esteem	151 (32.4%)	235 (50.4%)	57 (12.2%)	23 (4.9%)	466				
19	Suicidal attempt is common among victims of domestic violence	126 (27.0%)	226 (48.5%)	82 (17.6%)	32 (6.9%)	466				
20	Domestic violence could lead to anxiety disorder	161 (34.5%)	228 (48.9%)	47 (10.1%)	30 (6.4%)	466				
Column Total		820	1,095	300	115	2,330				

The findings from the analysis in the table 5 show the calculated χ^2 value of 139.19 against the table value of 21.026 at 0.05 alpha level with df 12. Since the calculated χ^2 value of 139.19 is greater than the table value of 21.026; therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected which means that the psychological problems were significant health implication of domestic violence.

Discussion

The findings of the study revealed that family history was a significant contributory index of domestic violence among married secondary school teachers in Ibadan North Local Government. This result aligned with the findings of Adam (2018) who reported that family history was the bedrock upon which domestic violence among most married couple's stands. It also corroborates the report of Nurul, Syazliana, Maisarah, Normilia and Zaidatul (2018) who affirmed that violent behaviour exhibited by the perpetrators had a link with their past experiences of being victims of abuse themselves, especially during the tender years of their childhood. They further submitted that the children who have been exposed to domestic violence, witnessed or observed violence act either committed by his/her own parents or by the neighbour or any strangers may transmit the same at adulthood. Ikekwuibe and Okoror (2021) equally asserted that history of violence amongst parents of the partner is another cause of domestic violence among married couples.

The result further revealed that substance abuse was a significant contributory index of domestic violence among married secondary school teachers in Ibadan North Local Government. The result of this finding is in line with the report of Galbicsek (2020) who established that 40% of the domestic violence reported was orchestrated by alcoholic related factor because intoxication increases the degree of violence in the perpetrators compared to non-intoxicating perpetrators. Watt, Guidera, Hobkirk, Skinner and Meade (2017) equally affirmed that substance abuse (alcohol, heroin and methamphetamine) triggers verbal aggressiveness and annoyance which could lead to physical assaults and even death of the victims.

The result also revealed that physical injury was a significant health implication of domestic violence among married secondary school teachers in Ibadan North Local Government. The result of this finding is in line with the findings of Crossman, Hadesty and Raffaelli (2016) who revealed that physical abuse due to hit on the head or falling causes traumatic brain injury thereby impaired the cognitive reasoning of the victims. Donovan, Spracklen, Schweizer, Ryckmacn and Saftlas (2016) equally confirmed that pregnant women who were hit during domestic violence suffer depression in the postnatal period than women who did not experience domestic violence and perinatal death.

The study revealed that psychological problem was a significant health implication of domestic violence among married secondary school teachers in Ibadan North Local Government. The result of this finding corroborates the assertion of Izugba, Obiyan, Degfie and Bahatti (2020) who opined that anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress were negative mental health consequences linking with domestic violence on the victims. Heise, Pallitto, Garcia-Moreno and Clark (2019) equally identified low self-esteem, post-traumatic stress, suicidal attempt and anxiety disorder as psychological problems that could result from domestic violence.

Conclusion

Based on the findings from the analysis of the tested hypotheses, it was concluded that:

1. Family history was a significant contributory index of domestic violence among married Secondary School teachers in Ibadan North Local Government.
2. Substance abuse was a significant contributory index of domestic violence among married Secondary School teachers in Ibadan North Local Government.

3. Physical injuries was a significant health implication of domestic violence.
4. Psychological problems was a significant health implication of domestic violence.

Recommendations

In view of the findings in this study, the following recommendations were made:

1. Married couples are encouraged to desist from domestic violence because a person that marries in a family with history of domestic violence is likely to abuse his/her spouse or be abused.
2. Married couples are encouraged to desist from substance abuse as this may cause aggressive and destructive behaviour leading to domestic violence.
3. Married couple should desist from any form of domestic violence so as to prevent physical injuries such as fracture, cut, brain injuries and body pains among others as it may affect the physical well-being of the victim.
4. Married couples are advised to desist from domestic violence so as to avert psychological problems such as depression and post-traumatic stress.

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