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Abstract

This study reviews the relationship between experiencing violence in men's childhood and violent acts against women. 184 violated women who have gone to either Forensic Medicine or Judiciary Assembly or counseling centers and 288 women who went to none of these but were of similar age and marriage patterns were chosen. Violence and clarifying questionnaires on types of violence experienced in men's childhood, their closeness to their parents and intra-parents relations were used. Results presented an eminent relation between domestic violence and violence experienced in childhood.

Key Words: Violence against women, experiencing violence in childhood

Introduction

Although violence against women in all over the world has endangered women's spirits and has threatened their human rights, not only violent acts against them, amongst which domestic violence is the most frequent type, have not been decreased but also it is a hazardous factor that results in serious psychological problems in recent years.

Peedicayi L. et al. (2004) while examining 9978 pregnant women reported that 16% have been slapped on their faces, while others have even reported being kicked, being hit by a weapon, and being hurt by other ways with percentages of 10%, 9%, 5%, and 6% respectively.

Definition of Violence

Violence against women is any aggressive behavior that is rooted in a sexual basis and leads to either sexual or physical or mental harassments. (Arefi, 2003)

Current research is going to consider the relationship between the mentioned variables and the violence acts of men in their families due to its significant role that experiencing violence in men's childhood has on violence acts in their future life.

Theoretical Basics of the Research

Based on inter-generations transfer theory which is based on social learning theory, those who experience violence in their childhood or witness abuse of their mothers from their fathers will most probably abuse their future

wives or children. That is why domestic violence is transferred from one generation to another generation just like an inheritance. (Johnston, 1988)

Research Hypotheses

According to what was mentioned above, mental health of women is one of major factors of social and individual health. Threatening and reducing the level of women's mental health through the experience of childhood violence in their husbands which is resulted by violent acts by men against their wives addresses the necessity of performing this study.

The followings are the assumptions of this study:

1-Those women who have gone to court have experienced more violence than those who have not referred to authorities such as courts.

2-The rate of violence experienced in the childhood of partners of those who went to court differs from the violence level experienced by husbands of those women in the control group.

3-There exists a significant relation between the experienced level of violence in childhood and their violent acts against their wives.

Research Methodology

This research is of descriptive type that primarily deals with the comparison between groups and then is aimed to consider the relationship between childhood experience of violent acts and acts of various forms of violence against their spouses in Tehran.

Assessment Tools

1-Violence Assessment Questionnaire toward Women (Haj Yahia, 2002)

This questionnaire consists of 32 remarks and 4 factors. First factor or remarks 1 to 16 are used for assessing the psychological violence, where second factor or remarks 17 to 27 are for the assessment process of physical violence, and third factor or remarks 28 to 30 and fourth one or remarks 31 and 32 are used to assess sexual and economical violence respectively. Reliability coefficient or Crohn's alpha for these factors are 71%, 86%, 93%, and 92% respectively. This questionnaire's validity was checked by several university professors and Crohn's factor alpha or Final Internal Factor was evaluated as 95% for a sample set of 30 persons.

A-Clarifying Questionnaire about the Violence Experience in Spouse's Childhood

In this assessment, there are 8 questions which are 3-choices tests as Yes, No, and I don't know. This examines the state of violence experience in husbands and particularly the interactions of parents toward each other and their child. Crohn's Factor Alpha or Reliability coefficient for a sample set of 30 persons was evaluated as 82%.

Research Findings

Victims from the sample set were 9.2% under high-school diploma, 52.2% with high-school diploma, and 38.6% higher than school diploma. And among those from control set who didn't go to courts were 6.2% under the diploma, 42.2% having school diploma, and 51.8% higher than school diploma. 67.4% from the sample set were housewives and 30.4% were employed. From the control set, the percentage was 52.6% and 46.1% for housewives and employed ones respectively.

Table 1) measured T for measuring different kinds of violence in the violated cases who applied to the court and the violated cases who did not apply to

	Group	No.	Average	df	t	significance level (P)
Psychological Violence	Applier to the Court	184	38.95	410	19.79	.000
	Not applied to the Court	228	24.21			
Physical Violence	Applied to the court	184		410	17.39	.000
	Not Applied to the Court	228				
Sexual Violence	Applied to the Court	184		410	10.16	.000
	Not applied to the Court	228				
Economical Violence	Applied to the court	184		410	14.36	.000
	Not applied to the court	228				

(P<1%)

In order to compare the violence in women who have been subject to the violence and have applied to the court and those who have not, T- test was used for the dependent groups. As it can be seen, the measured T in psychological, physical, sexual and economical violence is equal to (17.79), (17.39), (10.16), and (14.36) respectively. These measures are statistically at the significance level of 1%. The amount of psychological, physical, sexual, and economic violence in the women who have applied to the court is more than that of the women who have not applied to the court.

Table 2) Measured T for comparing the amount of violence in the spouse's childhood in the women subjected to violence those who applied to the court and those who did not

	group	number	average	df	t	Significance level (p)
The experience of violence in the spouse's childhood	The women applied to the court	184	6.35	410	10.82	0.000
	The women not applied to the court	228	4.52			

($p < 1\%$)

The measured T is the amount of violence experience in the spouse's childhood equal to (10.82) which is at the 1% of significance statistically. The spouse of the women who applied to the court had experienced more violence than the spouse of the women who have not.

Table 3) the measured correlation between the kinds of violence and the amount of violence experience in the spouse's childhood

	Spouse's childhood
Psychological violence ^c	0/51*
Physical violence	0/44*
Sexual violence	0/34*
Economical violence	0/42*

($P < 1\%$)

The amount of measured correlation is the correlation among the amount of violence in the spouse's childhood, and psychological violence, physical, sexual, and economic equal to (0.51), (0.44), (0.34), and (0.42) which are at the 1% level of significance. The higher the spouse's childhood violence is, the higher is the number of different kinds of violence.

Discussion on the Results

In the first hypothesis, it was forecast that women who have gone to court were violated more than those who have not gone to courts. Findings have shown that husbands' violence acts against their wives in sample set are much more than against the ones in the women in control set. All tests in both the sample and control sets illustrated that women are violated by their spouses;

Ahmad et al. (2009) presented that most of these violated women need medical care and outpatient treatment.

In the second hypothesis, it was presumed that the level of violence experienced by the husbands of those referring to the court differs from the level that husbands of those in the control set had experienced. Research findings indicated that the rate of violence the spouses of those who have referred to court had tolerated is higher than those from the control set. Numerous researches demonstrate that having a paternal history of domestic violence either as a witness or as a victim highly dispose their sons to commit violence against their future wives. This is why it must be taken into consideration that the act of violence against women is a cultural and upbringing phenomenon which is rooted in families. And it is likely that the husband thinks these acts are actually his rights as he had witnessed violence to their mother by their father several times.

In the third hypothesis, it was predicted that there exists a significant relationship between the experience of violence in childhood and their violence acts against their wives. Numerous researches concerning the relationship between the violation of wives rights by their husbands and their husbands' childhood experiences of violence have demonstrated that men from their childhood in their families and struggles and contentions between their parents not only are subject to treatment abuse but also they learn that violence can be utilized in order to reach their goals. American Psychological Association (1996) announced that 3.5 million children are encountering domestic violence toward their mothers annually.

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Այս հետազոտումն ուսումնասիրում է հարաբերություններն այն տղամարդկանց հետ, որոնք ունեցել են դաժան մանկություն և դաժան վերաբերմունք են ցույց տվել կանանց: Ընտրվել են 184 դաժանության զոհ գնացած կանայք, որոնք դիմել են դատաքննչական բաժանմունք, ընտանեկան հարցերով զբաղվող դատարաններ կամ խորհրդակցության կենտրոններ, և 288 կանայք, որոնք չեն դիմել նմանատիպ քայլերի, սակայն եղել են նույն տարիքի և ունեցել են հավասար ամուսնության տևողություն: Դաժանության աստիճանը ցույց տվող հարցաթերթիկները արտահայտում էին տղամարդկանց դաժան մանկությունը, վերջինիս կապված լինելը իրենց ծնողների և ինքնին ծնողների միջև փոխհարաբերությունները: Արդյունքում բարձր ցուցանիշ կազմում ընտանեկան դաժանության ենթարկվածները և դաժան մանկություն ունեցողները: