

# near east ERSITY



## ARTS & SCIENCES DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

**Graduation Project** 

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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2001 Lefkosa

Dedicated to my family

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## **THANKS**

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**GAYE** 

### What Is Violence?

It is believed to be an Arabic word, which has been accepted by the Osmanli in the 15<sup>th</sup> century through perhaps religious scripts. After 18<sup>th</sup> century its use was more widespread but also the meaning enlarged to accommodate the cultural changes and especially the newfound European cultural relations and interest.

"Şiddet" which means "violence" is also used to mean: causing physical damage, apply force to the body and causing injury.

Should a person or persons, directly or indirectly, together or individually causes a person or persons to suffer physical or moral damage or brings harm to their possession or all that is representive and symbolic of their cultural and moral values in any degree at all is said to be applying violence. (1)

Violence reaches it highest peak when the individuals loose self-central and personality. It harms the assailant as well even though it's accepted as a natural human reaction. The degree and variety of manifestation varies from person to person.

## **Types Of Violence**

Psychological, physical, verbal and sexual are some of the most common types of violence.

### 1. Psychological Violence:

Use of psychological pressures and lack of demonstration of love, understanding and sympathy can be classified as psychological violence.

### 2. Physical Violence:

When one of the partners is subjected to beating, kicking, slapping or burning etc... is classified as physical violence.

#### 3. Verbal Violence:

Shouting, swearing and insulting is classified as verbal violence.

#### 4. Sexual Violence:

Forcing an unwilling partner to sexual intercourse is classified as sexual violence. This is usually accompanied by physical violence.

### What Is Family?

It is an establishment between a male and female guided by certain principals and understanding which enables them to secure the continuation of their species and pass on the family tradition and cultures from generation to generation which has physical, biological, economical and legal aspects. It also forms the foundation of attitude and behaviour of the future generation.

### What Is In Family Violence And Violence Of Women?

A psychological and physical pressure brought upon the members of the family, which threatens or harms their personality independence and character by another within the family is called in family violence.

The common factor in all the in family violence is that someone in our private lives always carries them out. These people could be the husband or the father and because they are so closely linked with the victims private lives that the assailants almost always get away with it without any legal punishment. Violence mostly directed to women does not seem to be condemned sufficiently even in the culturally developed countries.

For example 95 % of all those subjected to in family violence in France are women and in 51 % of these the assailants were their husbands. In Denmark 25 % of all divorce cases are due to in family violence and in U.K. 50 % of all women murder their husbands killed victims. In Canada this figure is 62 %. In Papua New Guinea 67 % of women in rural areas and 50 % in urban areas are subjected to in family violence. In Bangladesh, again their husbands kill 50 % of all women murder victims. (2)

There are various factors that affect the in family violence but the most common one is that in the past the assailant himself was subjected to direct or indirect violence. It is accepted generally that those who resent to violence generally come from violent families. (3)

Other factors are the use of alcohol and drugs, which causes people to resort to violence. It is also known that ones own environment and social circle is an effective factor. For example problems at work and social isolation has a negative effect on the individual. (3)

Cultural factor is an important one; especially where "man-dominated family" cultures exist women suffer more violence. However in cultures where men and women are equal, there is less violence.

In family violence against women is where women suffer physical, emotional, sexual and economic losses and pain within the family and sometimes open in the public and is based on sexuality. This violence could be in the form of beating, applying physical, psychological and sexual pressures, sexually abusing children or forced sexual intercourse with the partner. These could be because of traditional and cultural upbringing and understanding, arguments over dowry or virginity control, sexual jealousy and even murder.

Women subjected to "in house violence "are often seem to be accused of all that is wrong with the family, everything is their fault and they suffer violence day in day out because of this.

According to a research carried out in 1992 amongst the poor divorced women 53.42 % had blamed their husbands for violence against themselves and another 30.6 % blamed their for violence against the children as the reasons for their divorce. 84 % had said that they were slapped across their faces, 70 % punched, 43 % needed to be hospitalized and 55 % threatened with their lives.

In some cases women rebel against this situation but most seem to suffer silently far the rest of their lives, as they see no other alternatives.

### Method

Sample: This study was planned to protect in five different region of Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. It includes; Lefkosa, Girne, Magosa, Guzelyurt and Karpaz.

Materials: This research include two steps, in the first step of the study, "key person interview form" was applied to key peoples. In second step, we think to apply, a semi –structures question form for the collection of quantitative information.

Application: The first step of this study is a qualitative research. The qualitative research methods are especially effective and fast in the studies of groups that are difficult to have access. It includes the methods which try to thoroughly understand the perceptions attitudes and interpretations instead of measuring up the amount, frequency the opinions, views, values, behaviours about domestic violence and related occupation groups and people. These are;

- Advocate
- Doctor
- Nurse
- Psycholog
- Psychiatrist

- Teacher
- Police
- Social Worker
- Ambulance Driver
- Pharmacist
- Witnessing Neighbors

Interview was done at least two persons in every group by using "key person interview form.

## **Aims Of The First Step Are:**

- 1) Collection data about domestic violence.
- 2) To provide information for second step question form
- 3) To provide foundation of second steps.

### REPORT OF THE CENTER OF ISKELE

This report has been prepared by direct consultations with fifteen individuals namely: a doctor, an ambulance driver, three housewives, three witnessing neighbours, two police officers, two teachers, two chemists and a social worker.

# General Definition Of The Violence Against Women In The Family

Violence within a family is generally described as oppression by one of the partners to the other. The victim usually happens to be the woman where she is subjected to various physical abuse, verbal abuse and sexual abuse. Even though the assailant is generally the husband on occasion it could be the children terrorizing the parents.

# The Prevalence Of Domestic Violence In The Turkish Republic Of Northern Cyprus

It is fairly widespread in Iskele, however variations occur from district to district. It is clear that the problem is a lot greater and more wide spread than it appears, as the families prefer to keep such matters secret.

## **Types Of Violence**

In Iskele district 'verbal violence' is more common however physical and psychological violence also exists. Physical violence victims are generally subjected to punches, slaps or kicks. Other objects like bricks and sticks are rarely used in violence. Women who are subjected to sexual violence by their husbands would never bring out to open such matters.

### **Territories Where Domestic Violence Occurs**

It is known that violence is more widespread amongst the poor and where the social standards are low as in rural areas. Places like Turnalar, Ergazi, Ardahan, and Yarkoy where immigrants with low economical and social backgrounds make up most of the population are the worst offenders.

### Age Group

There is not a particular age group who are subjected to violence. Both victim and assailant could be of any age. However it is more common amongst the younger couples and some amongst the middle-aged especially between the ages of 25-45.

### **Levels Of Education**

Primary and secondary graduates seem to suffer more from in-family violence. This may be due to lack of ability to express oneself properly in line with their education. An other reason is thought to be economic dependence to the other partner, which forces the women to submit to any violence.

The assailants also do not have a high standard of education. Links have been made between the education levels and family violence but some have observed that education in family violence is irrelative. In other words, we have two schools of thought here. Therefore it would not be right to generalize the matters, however one cannot deny the influence of ignorance and culture upon this matter.

## **Family Relations**

Family violence undeniably exists in Iskele district but observations several that this is mostly amongst the immigrants. Specially those through various reasons, but mainly economic reasons have left Turkey and have settled in Turkish Republic Of Northern Cyprus seem to practice violence more often.

This is due to a different kind of culture, understanding, tradition and education they have been subjected to. I.e.: it is in their culture, it is their way of life and it is what is expected of them in given circumstances. In these families there is often lack of love, respect, peace or serenity which forces women to give all their attention to the children only and not to their husband.

Yet again she may be forced by family pressures to serve the husband equally and share her attention unwillingly.

The women is subjected to her husband in all aspects of life and can only show attention to her own parents if and when her husband allows her to do so.

### **Medical Treatment**

The victims of family violence very rarely report the event and often do not seek medical treatment for their injuries. This is due to fear that it may make matters worse and may even end up in divorce.

Medical treatment is only bought when the injuries are very severe and even then some other excuses are offered for these injuries. The same people would never consider applying for psychological treatment, as it would not occur to them that this had anything to do with psychology.

Immensely fearing their husbands the victim wives often seek help from their immediate families hoping to resolve the problems by their own peacemissions.

Fear of gossip in small communities like Turkish Republic Of Northern Cyprus and fear of her husband and social pressures together with lack of financial independence prevents the women from seeking professional and medical help.

### **Divorce Relations**

The percentages of violence-linked divorces are low in Turkish Republic Of Northern Cyprus. This is due to the reasons mentioned earlier, i.e.: - financial dependence, lack of job prospects, ignorance and fear, which causes women to submit to all in silence. They have nowhere to turn and nowhere to go once they are divorced. They do not even seek legal aid or advice.

# Legal Aspect Of Domestic Violence In The Turkish Republic Of Northern Cyprus.

The Turkish Republic Of Northern Cyprus laws seem to be insufficient and inadequate to protect women.

Even when the police is involved, there is very littler they can do within the existing laws. The women who are subjected to violence are not sufficiently protected by the laws. The penalty for an assailant is only 500,000 TL. According to the 1980 laws or one-year imprisonment, which up to today has never been put into practice.

The victims are advised to apply to the police for protection as soon as possible. Then see a doctor and if necessary a lawyer for legal advice.

Attention is also drawn to the fact that there is a lack of homes and institutes to accommodate women in such circumstances and also lack of consultation centers where the victims could apply in privacy.

#### Media

The residents of Iskele are of the opinion that the entry media (visual or written) do not discourage in family violence and on the contrary may even encourage it.

### Researcher View

Those who participated in this research in Iskele district did not find it difficult to define family violence. They have managed to answer all questions comfortably. However they choose to give short answers rather than being drawn into prolonged discussions even thought the questions gave and opportunity to do so.

Because of the fact that Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is only a small country and that the subject of in family violence is a taboo the participants were rather reluctant to be part of this research. Furthermore it was established that the offenders were mainly the immigrants from Turkey.

Family violence is more widespread amongst the 25-45 years old and also amongst the less educated like primary and secondary school graduates. However two schools of thoughts exist regarding the assailant in family violence. According to one school, education level is inversely proportional to the violence level. The other school however does not accept any link between the two i.e. education level and violence.

It was also established that victims of violence do not generally seek any help unless they are seriously injured which hospitalize them. They do not seek psychological or any other help with the fear of gossip. The locals of Iskele do not have sufficient knowledge of the laws governing matrimonial matters and especially in family violence. They were advice to seek help first from the police and then doctor and lawyer if necessary. The lack of care centers for such victims of violence together with the lack of "Advice Bureaus" was emphasized by almost all the participants.

They were also have the opinion that the media with little attention paid to this subject was doing harm rather than good and perhaps even help to increase the violence cases.

## APPENDIX

## ANAHTAR KİŞİ GÖRÜŞME FORMU

Görüşme yapılan k	işi formu	
1-) Görüşmenin ya	pıldığı merkez	
2-) Görüşmeyi yapa	an kişi	•••••
3-) Görüşme yapıla	n kişi	
4-) Görüşme yapıla	n kişinin mesleği	
Görüşülen kişi ile i	lgili bilgiler:	
5-) Cinsiyet:	(1) Erkek	(2) Kadın
6-) Yaşı:		
7-) Eğitim gördüğü	yıl sayısı:	•••••
	•	
9-) Çocuk sayısı:	•••••	
10-) Geçen hafta iç	inde gördüğü aile içi şidde	ete maruz kalan kişi
sayısı:	•••••	
11-) Geçen ay içind	le gördüğü aile içi şiddete	maruz kalan kişi
sayısı:	•••••	
12-) Geçen yıl içine	de gördüğü aile içi şiddete	maruz kalan kişi
sayısı:	······	•••••
13-) Şimdiye kadar	gördüğü aile içi şiddete n	naruz kalan kişi
637/161.		



## Anahtar Kişi Görüşme Soru Formu

"Tüm KKTC çapında aile içi şiddete maruz kalanların özelliklerini tanımak için araştırma yapılıyor. Ben de bu amaçla sizinle görüşmeye geldim. Size aile şiddete maruz kalan kişiler hakkında bazı sorular sormak istiyorum. Sorulara tamamen kendi deneyimleriniz ışığında yanıt veriniz".

- 1. Aile içi şiddeti birkaç cümle ile tanımlarmısınız?Aile içinde kadına yönelik şiddeti tanımlarmısınız?
- 2. Sizce toplumuzda aile içi şiddet yaygın bir problem mi?
- 3. Aile içi şiddete maruz kalan kişilerle ne sıklıkta karşılaşıyorsunuz?
- 4. Genelde çevrenizdeki kadınlar ne tür şiddete maruz kalıyor?
- 5. Çevrenizde erkeğe yönelik şiddet uygulanıyor mu?

6. Sözel şiddete kadınlar ne sıklıkta maruz kalıyorlar?
7. Aile içinde kadınların sıkça fiziksel şiddete maruz kaldıklarını düşünüyor musunuz? Bir cisimle veya aletle dövüldükleri oluyor mu?
8. Aile içinde kadınların sıkça cinsel şiddete maruz kaldıklarını düşünüyormusunuz?
9. Aile içinde kadına karşı şiddet bölgenizde daha çok nerelerde görülmektedir?
10.Sizin karşılaştığınız aile içinde şiddete maruz kalan kadınlar Daha çok hangi yaş grubu içerisindedir?
11. Aile içinde şiddete maruz kalan kadınların eğitim düzeyleri nedir?

- 12. Aile içinde şiddet uygulayan kişiler daha çok hangi yaş grubu içerisindedir?
- 13. Aile içinde şiddet uygulayan kişilerin eğitim düzeyleri nedir?
- 14. Sizce kadına karşı şiddetin yaşandığı aileler bulunduğunuz bölgenin yerlileri mi?
- 15. Sizce Kıbrıs dışından gelenler arasında aile içinde kadına karşı şiddet var mı? Daha çok hangi ülkelerden gelenler arasında var? Sizce bunların özel nedenleri var mı?
- 16. Eşleri tarafından şiddete maruz kalan kadınların ev ortamını nasıl Değerlendiriyorsunuz? Eşlerine ve çocuklarına bakıyorlar mı? Kendi anne babalarıyla ilgileniyorlar mı?

17.Şiddete maruz kalan kadınlar tedavi olmak için girişimleri oluyor mu? Psikolojik tedaviye baş vuruyorlar mı? Daha çok nerelere başvuruyorlar?Tedavi girişimleri olmuyorsa neden başvurmuyorlar?

18. Eşleri tarafından şiddete maruz kalan kadınlar arasında boşanma oranı nasıl? Sizce bunun özel nedenleri var mı?

19.Kadına yönelik yasalar K.K.T.C'de yeterli mi? Polis görevini yapabiliyor mu? Şiddete maruz kalan kadınlar şiddet uygulayıcıdan yeterince korunabiliyor mu?

20. Aile içinde şiddete maruz kalan kadınların herhangi bir hukuki yardım almak için girişimleri oluyor mu? Eğer yardım talep etmiyorlarsa bunun nedeni sizce nedir?

21. Sizce şiddet uygulayana verilen ceza K.K.T.C'de yeterli mi?

22. Sizce şiddete maruz kalan kadınların başvurmaları gereken yer neresidir?

23.K.K.T.C'DE şiddete maruz kalan kadınların sığınacağı bir kuruluş Var mı?

24. Sizce medya aile içi şiddete yeterince yer veriyor mu?