

Domestic Violence Against Women: A Hidden Health and Social Problem in Bangladesh

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Abstrak

This study is aimed to investigate the prevalence and pattern of domestic violence against women and to identify the factors influencing the domestic violence. Cross sectional data from married women aged 15 years and above from rural and urban slum areas were collected for the quantitative analysis. The study also conducted qualitative analysis with finding obtained from selective focus group discussions. Findings from the study indicated that more than half of the women studied experienced domestic violence. The highest type of violence experienced by these women was psychological violence and the highest percentage in form of abuse was verbal abuse such as name calling, classified as bad girl/women, criticized, false allegation, trying to be murdered, undermining, and threaten to be divorced. Husbands were the highest percentage as abusers, and the highest reason to abuse was due to household matters i.e. did not work as instructed. The quantitative analysis revealed that age, socioeconomic condition, type of family, and marital satisfaction was significantly associated with domestic violence. This study suggested that media campaign is one way to educate the community about health and social consequences of domestic violence, and create awareness and prevent domestic violence on women.