

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Domestic violence is a complex and multi-dimensional phenomenon, and over the years, there have been several theoretical approaches that have attempted to explain this complexity, domestic violence is a total violation of human rights beyond geographical, cultural, religious, social, moral and economic conditions (Fulu, 2015). According to the United States Department of Justice Office on Violence against Women, the definition of domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain control over another intimate partner. Many types of abuse are included in the definition of domestic violence (Find Law, 2018).

The term violence refers to hurting to one's personhood, mental or physical integrity, dignity or freedom of movement. It includes any kind of physical, mental, social, religious and psychological oppression, coercion and cruelty against another being which inhibits human growth and limits human potential. It is an unfair power relation which is mainly due to the lower position of females in the society (Mishra, 2009).

According to the WHO data on domestic violence, 36.1% in Americas, 45.6 in Africa, 40.2% in South East Asia, 36.4% in Eastern Mediterranean, 27.2% in Europe, 27.9% in Western Pacific, and 32.7% in High Income region, women have experienced domestic violence (WHO, 2013).

Violence against women is universal problem, of violence from one country to another country. Among various forms of violence against women, domestic violence against women is a widespread problem in Nepal. Domestic violence has been found to be a serious problem in every country where the problem has been studied. Domestic violence is manifested as wife battering, neglect and physical abuse of the girl child, female infanticide, early marriage, dowry related violence, sexual abuse in the household, polygamy and the marital rape. The risk of violence in the home is common to women regardless of their social position, creed, color or culture. Violence in public arena is manifested in rape, sexual abuse and sexual harassment in

workplace, trafficking in women and girls, forced prostitution and traditional harmful practices such as Dewki, Badi, Jhuma and the witchcraft (FWLD, 2009).

According to Nepal Demographic and Health Survey (2011) one out of every two ever-married women aged 15 - 49 are victims of domestic violence in Nepal. Ever married women aged 15-49 years had experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence from their spouse. Among them rural women and illiterate women and currently married women were more victims of domestic violence (Tiwari, 2014).

Awareness, perception, definition and documentation of domestic violence differ widely from country to country. Domestic violence often happens in the context of forced or child marriage. In South Asia, nearly half of young women and in sub-Saharan Africa more than one third of young women are married by their 18th birthday (WHO, 2013).

Domestic Violence is defined in Nepal by the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs as any form of physical, mental, sexual, or economic harm, including acts of reprimand or emotional harm, perpetrated by one person on another with whom he or she has a family relationship (Ministry of Law and Justice, 2009).

The term DV is applied in Nepal instead of intimate partner violence (IPV) because women often live in extended families and other family members may be the perpetrators of violence. In Nepal, women typically relocate to their husband's homes after marriage and may become vulnerable to various forms of DV in the new household setting (Pun, 2016).

Researches indicate that even the home is not a safe place for women. Social relations of power place women in a subordinate position, giving many women few rights in the family, community and society in general. In addition, in the context of political conflict, women have often become the target of violence. Because women are made the objects of revenge, there has been an increase in sexual assault and sexual harassment. Thus, gender-based violence is a serious issue that requires comprehensive studies and paving way for the solution of this social problem. (Dumre, 2010)

Domestic violence against women continues to exist in Nepal in various forms since long ago. In spite of some efforts from the government and non-government levels, the programs have become largely ineffectual in reducing this serious crime. The

government's policies and programs do not seem to have addressed the problem to the extent to root it out. Various programs, including awareness rising, have not produced the expected outcomes for solving it. (Sapkota, 2013).

It is sad to mention that the act against DV has not been implemented adequately in the real world as violence is still persisting in our society. Wide ranging figures in different settings with various possible risk and protective factors highlight the need of continuous research approach on VAW in different cultures and circumstances (Sapkota, 2016).

Several literatures have shaded light on the DV affecting the various domains of women's life. Due to domestic violence, women are deprived from education, economic activity, health facilities, basic human rights etc. Even children are vulnerable due to this problem. Therefore, it is expected that the detail research on this area will help to find the root cause of the domestic violence against women. Thus, the importance of knowledge of the prevalence and its associated factors of violence has been emphasized. This study is believed to enlighten the impact of COVID-19 particular area.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Up to 50% women reported physical violence by their husbands or partners in South East Asian Region. Violence against women is being openly discussed only since the last 10 years in Nepal. Violence against women is not accepted as violence in Nepalese society, due to strong patriarchal society and limited freedom of expression of such social evils. Violence against women is less reported in Nepal. It is because of shame and guilt experienced by the families of victims and unsatisfactory response by police. Few women are courageous to take their cases to court, because of the social pressure they used to conceal such incidents (Khatri, 2013).

The research "Nepali Masculinities and Gender Based Violence" commissioned by United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and Men Engage Alliance Nepal: Violence against women in the lower and middle economic classes is endemic. Gender based violence, including sexual, is more prevalent in the lower economic classes. In the Kathmandu Valley 60% of the working class respondents and 67% in the Terai said they have been victims of sexual violence. In the Kathmandu Valley, 31% from the lower middle classes and 15% from the middle classes admitted to

having suffered such violence frequently. In Terai 30% of the lower middle class and 21% from the middle class backgrounds said they had experienced sexual violence (UNDP, May 2014).

According to the study: Causes of Violence against Women: A Qualitative Study at Bardiya District: Violence against women has evolved as a part of a system of gender relations which points out that men are superior to women. Root causes of the violence against women were low status of women in the community and women were considered as a commodity. Illiteracy and economic dependence over male were main factors of violence. Poor access in decision making, low power of women, early marriage, traditional beliefs, values, norms which were deeply rooted to violence against women. Mental torture, neglect and physical beating were the most common forms of violence. Marital rape and sexual harassment was also found in some cases. The perpetrators were husbands followed by in-laws. Violence against women occurred mostly at night during dinner. Use of alcohol, supremacy feeling of men, husbands' habit of listening to other family members, gambling, sexual dissatisfaction were the contributors for the violence against women. Unemployment status of the respondent's husband, extramarital affairs and son preference in family were also seen as the contributors to violence against women (Khatri, 2013).

The study done on Domestic violence and prenatal outcomes – a prospective cohort study from Nepal: It is concluded that domestic violence is common in Nepal. This is a potential risk factor for severe morbidity and mortality in newborns. Researcher found that the risk of having a preterm baby was higher for pregnant women who experienced both fear and violence (Pun, 2019).

Study on Intimate Partner Violence against Women in Nepal: An Analysis through Individual, Empowerment, Family and Societal Level Factors: Prevalence of emotional IPVAVW was 17.5%, physical IPVAVW 23.4% and sexual IPVAVW 14.7%. Overall the prevalence of IPVAVW in Nepal was 32.4% (Dalal, 2014).

Batta(2018) found that 60.0% of women witnessed domestic violence and 42.5% of women suffered from domestic violence. Majority of women 86.3% were abused by their husband only. Most of the women 35.3% complained of having physical violence only followed by 27.4% suffered from both physical and emotional violence. The common causes cited for domestic violence are substance abuse 96.1% and lack

of economic stability 84.3%. Slapping/kicking/chocking/punching 95.7% was the most common form of physical violence used. Hence, Domestic Violence was high in the slum.

In Nepal, domestic violence has been a problem for many years. A recent survey showed that half the women have experienced some form of it. Rights activists have reported an increase in cases of violence during the lockdown, as women and children have become insecure around the house. With an increase in women's workload during the lockdown, their vulnerability to gender-based violence has also increased. According to the WOREC, 176 reported domestic violence cases were recorded in 18 districts by May 9, among which 26 were rape cases. Also, reportedly, 114 people have committed suicide in Sudhuraschim Province in the past two months, compared to 475 suicide cases in the whole of the last fiscal year. Nepal Police say they have taken special precautions against crimes against women and children during the lockdown. (The Annapurna Express, 2020 June).

In the Nepali Times news online; the Rights activists have reported an increase in cases of violence against women and girls in Nepal in the 7 weeks of the COVID-19 lockdown, and they fear the crimes will increase if the stay-at-home order is extended beyond 7 May. Gender-based violence has become a shadow pandemic to COVID-19 (Sharma, 2020 May 5).

Nepal is a patriarchal country, where male has dominion over female from the existence of Nepal and female has been bearing it for years. Despite so many laws against violence, awareness program, empowerment of women it still persists in the country and female still are not courageous to fight and put a case against it due to the norms, values and cultures they hold. Domestic Violence has caused a lot of adverse effects physically, mentally, socially and economically on women and also caused morbidities and mortality of women. Moreover, there is a rise in cases of Domestic Violence during the lockdown all over the world and also many cases have been found as mentioned above in Nepal. The purpose of this study is to add to the growing body of knowledge in Pokhara-15 on impact of COVID-19 on domestic violence against women. This study is useful as part of the growing literature on this subject as the estimation of the prevalence of domestic violence in Nepal is hampered by the under-reporting of cases. Evidence found in this study can be accessed to assist in the future improvement of the provision of services. Explicitly, the present study seeks to

explore from the viewpoint of abused women their experiences living within an abusive relationship. In this context, the present study makes an effort for a comprehensive study of the problem, exposing the true condition of women in the lockdown period.

1.3 Research Questions

-) How COVID-19 has made an impact on Domestic Violence?
-) What are the different forms of Domestic Violence?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of this study is to explore the status of domestic violence against women in “Slum community” of Pokhara Metropolitan city, Ward. No.15, Kaski district during COVID-19 Pandemic. The specific objectives of the study are as follows:

-) To study the different forms of violence
-) To analyze the impact of COVID-19 on Domestic Violence

1.5 Significance of Study

This research study will be completed based on domestic violence against women from different perspectives. The study will be useful to the development activists, human rights activists and any other persons and organizations engaged in this field.. Besides, this study will be significant on the following area.

-) This study will help to map different types of violence faced by the women
-) This study will be helpful to find the impact of COVID-19 on domestic violence
-) It would be useful as a guideline for further researchers in the similar fields.
-) It will be helpful for the NGOs and INGOs to make an effective awareness programs.

1.6 Limitations of the Study

The analyses and conclusions derived in this study will be based on the primary data collected from “Slum community” of Pokhara Metropolitan city, Ward. No.15, Kaski

district. Since the study will be done in some women and in specific area, the outcomes may not be appropriate to generalize outside the study areas other many variables may impact the violence against women in the society.

1.7 Organization of the Study

This study was divided into five major chapters. The first chapter explains about background of the study, statement of the problem, research questions, objectives, significance and organization. The second chapter is about literature review with conceptual framework and the third chapter is about the methodology which is used to conduct this study. The fourth is demographic profile of the respondents and analysis of the findings/outcomes of the research. The fifth chapter is all about to drawing the summary, conclusion and recommendation of the study on the basis of objectives. The last part of thesis ends with the list of references and appendices.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

Review of literature is an integral part of a research undertaking to enrich the knowledge. Therefore, the literature review for the study was organized as given.

2.1 Theoretical Overview

Social Theories of Domestic Violence

This provides an important cipher when attempting to decode the phenomenon of domestic violence. As discussed below, the traditional patriarchal model of family structure, gender, socioeconomic factors and social structures have all been substantiated by research as having vital roles to play in understanding some of the causes of domestic violence (Montalto, 2016).

Since the late 1970s researchers and theorists have focused increased attention on the widespread problem of domestic violence in contemporary society. Different researchers have shown that domestic violence against women cuts across racial, ethnic, religious and socio-economic lines. In particular researches have sought to identify the factors associated with intimate violence in an effort to develop theories explaining the cause of violence (Jackson, 2008).

There are distinct theories of either family violence, women abuse, or other type of violence in conjugal relationship. Even so, no single theory can explain violence against women (Renzetti, 2011).

Two of the most often discussed theories on battered women are Lenore Walker's "The Cycle Theory of Violence" and "Psycho Social Theory of Learned of Helplessness." Lenore Walker was one of the first researchers to describe a dynamic process in abusive relationship that she called the "Cycle Theory of Violence". Walker described three phases in the cycle of violence (Walker 1979, 1984). These three distinct phases associated with a recurring battering cycle (i) the tension building stage accompanied with rising sense of danger; (2) the acute battering incident; and (3) loving contrition. The Theory of Learned helplessness suggests that victim give up the belief that they can escape from the batterer in order to develop

sophisticated coping strategies. Learned helplessness theory explains how they stop believing that their actions will have a predictable outcome. It is not that they cannot still use their skills to get away from the batterer, stop the abuse at times, or even to defend themselves, but rather, they cannot predict that what they do will have the desired outcome (Theories and causes of violence).

Other theories area: Survivor Theory, Traumatic Bonding Theory, Theory of Sub-cultures of Violence, Resource Theory, Exchange Theory, Social Learning Theory, Patriarchy Theory, Conflict Theory, Psychiatric/Psychopathological Theory, Psychological Theory, Physiological Theory and Multi-Factor Theories (Theories and causes of violence).

2.1.1 Concept of Domestic Violence

"Domestic Violence" means any form of physical, mental, sexual and economic harm perpetrated by person to a person with whom he/she has a family relationship and this word also includes any acts of reprimand or emotional harm" (Ministry of Law and justice, 2009).

Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women Proclaimed by General Assembly resolution 48/104 of 20 December 1993 in article 2 states; Violence against women shall be understood to encompass, but not be limited to, the following: (United Nations human Rights 20 December 1993).

- a) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation;
- b) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution;
- c) Physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the State, wherever it occurs.

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) defines domestic violence as "a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain

power and control over another intimate partner. Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person. This includes any behaviors that intimidate, manipulate, humiliate, isolate, frighten, terrorize, coerce, threaten, blame, hurt, injure, or wound someone" (Find Law, 2018).

Definitions of domestic violence recognize that victims can include anyone, regardless of socioeconomic background, education level, race, age, sexual orientation, religion, or gender. Domestic violence was formerly referred to as wife abuse. However, this term was abandoned when the definition of domestic violence was changed to reflect that wives are not the only ones who can fall victim to domestic violence. The definition of domestic violence now recognizes that victims can be: Spouses, Sexual/Dating/Intimate partners, Family members, Children and Cohabitants (Find Law, 2018).

According to Ministry of Law, 2066; the forms of violence can be classified as physical, mental, sexual, and economic harm (Ministry of Law, 2066).

The study on Global and regional estimates of violence against women: prevalence and health effects of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence, in which more than one in three women (35.6%) globally report having experienced physical and/or sexual partner violence, or sexual violence by a non-partner, the evidence is incontrovertible – violence against women is a public health problem of epidemic proportions. It pervades all corners of the globe, puts women's health at risk, limits their participation in society, and causes great human suffering (WHO, 2013).

Concept of Violence

Violence Prevention Alliance (VPA) addresses the problem of violence as defined in the World report on violence and health (WRVH), namely:

"The intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development, or deprivation." This typology distinguishes four modes in which violence may be inflicted: physical; sexual; and psychological attack and deprivation (WHO).

The Global status report on violence prevention 2014, which reflects data from 133 countries, is the first report of its kind to assess national efforts to address interpersonal violence, namely child maltreatment, youth violence, intimate partner and sexual violence, and elder abuse. Jointly published by WHO, the United Nations Development Program, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the report reviews the current status of violence prevention efforts in countries, and calls for a scaling up of violence prevention programs stronger legislation and enforcement of laws relevant for violence prevention; and enhanced services for victims of violence (WHO, 2014).

Violence against Women

The United Nations defines violence against women as any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life (WHO, 29 Nov 2017).

Gender-based violence (GBV) or violence against women and girls (VAWG), is a global pandemic that affects 1 in 3 women in their lifetime. The numbers are staggering: (The World Bank, Sept 2019).

This issue is not only devastating for survivors of violence and their families, but also entails significant social and economic costs. In some countries, violence against women is estimated to cost countries up to 3.7% of their GDP – more than double what most governments spend on education. Decreasing violence against women and girls requires a community-based, multi-pronged approach, and sustained engagement with multiple stakeholders. The most effective initiatives address underlying risk factors for violence, including social norms regarding gender roles and the acceptability of violence (The World Bank, 2019 Sept).

2.1.2 Feminist Theory

Advocates of Feminist Theory argue that domestic violence is systematic and structural mechanism of patriarchal control of women that is built on male superiority and female inferiority, sex stereo typed roles and expectations and economic, social and political predominance of men and dependency of women. Along with verbal, emotional, and economic abuse, violence is a means of maintaining male power in the

family when men feel their dominance is being threatened. Economic dependence of female on the male makes them unable to escape from the violent behavior of men. Men's superior physical strength may enable them to dominate women through violence (Theories and causes of violence).

2.2 Review of Previous Studies

Domestic Violence in Nepal

Nepal is a predominantly patriarchal society where societal values and norms are the factors influencing to domestic violence. Female counterpart is supposed to be subservient, submissive and subordinate to the male counterpart as this has been deeply rooted in the society. Women are supposed to greet their husbands physically as well psychologically whereas. This mentality of male always dominated to female. According to Gender-Based Violence, a study conducted in three districts by the Nepalese government, 55 percent of women reported that the husband beats wife in the accusation of unfaithfulness. Almost half of women (48 percent) reported that they had experienced violence at some time in their lives. Emotional violence (40.4 percent) was most commonly reported, followed by physical violence (26.8 percent), sexual violence (15.3 percent) and economic abuse/violence (eight percent). Social exclusion was less reported, but 11 percent of women were denied in accessing health services, and eight percent were restricted to visit the places of worship. A large percentage of women (61.3 percent) did not share their experiences of violence. Women who faced economic violence were more likely to share their experiences with someone than those faced sexual, emotional or physical violence. Dowry related abuse and death, marital rape and control over reproductive rights of women are some of the forms of domestic violence prevalent in the Nepalese communities (Break the Cycle).

Historically, violence against women and girls (VAW&G) has been predominant and a widespread in Nepali society but kept unreported. Data on the issue is hard to come by as there are very few studies done on the subject. The issue of violence against women (VAW) has loudly raised and tabled since last two decades. The reluctance in amending discriminatory laws or formulate new ones is also influenced by socialization process which continues to be reinforced by lawmakers giving excuses like "the social structure will breakdown", "infidelity will increase", "women cannot

handle economic matters", "giving women rights will create disharmony in society and families" (Joshi Kumar, 2008).

Global Scenario of Domestic Violence

In 1994, the United Nations commissions on Human rights appointed a special Reporter on violence Against Women to collect comprehensive data and to recommend measures at the national, regional and international levels to eliminate VAW. Similarly, in September 1995, at the United Nations Fourth world conference on women, in Beijing, elimination of violence against women was one of the primary unifying themes among women from countries all over the world. The Beijing declaration and Platform for Action adopted at this conference recognizes that violence against women is a violation of human rights and suggests strategies for eliminating it. Both these instruments encourage government and nongovernmental organizations to eliminate violence and to promote research on the nature and causes of VAW (WOREC, 2012).

Global estimates published by WHO indicate that about 1 in 3 (35%) of women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime. Globally, as many as 38% of murder of women are committed by a male intimate partner. Violence can negatively affect women's physical, mental, sexual, and reproductive health, and may increase the risk of acquiring HIV in some settings. Men are more likely to perpetrate violence if they have low education, a history of child maltreatment, exposure to domestic violence against their mothers, harmful use of alcohol, unequal gender norms including attitudes accepting of violence, and a sense of entitlement over women (WHO, 2017).

A study on Prevalence and health outcomes of domestic violence amongst clinical populations in Arab countries: a systematic review and meta-analysis in 2019: shows prevalence estimates of lifetime exposure to any type of violence which concludes Domestic violence is common amongst women seeking healthcare in Arab countries. Exposure to domestic violence is associated with several poor health outcomes (Croft, 2019).

A World Health Organization study reports domestic violence is widespread, and has serious implications for women's health. This study, for the first time, compares data gathered in developing, as well as developed countries. It finds violence operates

similarity in rich and poor countries alike. It concludes partner violence is the common form of violence in women's lives. It says domestic violence is far greater than assaults or rape by strangers, acquaintances or any other perpetrators. It is very common who are beaten to believe they deserve it. "Women in developing countries were, in general, more inclined that men had reasons that justified beating their wives. But, then, across all settings, developed and developing countries, we did find that women were abused, had more of these normative beliefs that men were justified to beat women, than the women who did not report abuse" (ICRtoP).

Another public health crisis to the toll of the new corona virus: Mounting data suggests that domestic abuse is acting like an opportunistic infection, flourishing in the conditions created by the pandemic. Now, with families in lockdown worldwide, hotlines were lighting up with abuse reports, leaving governments trying to address a crisis that experts say they should have seen coming. The United Nations called on Sunday for urgent action to combat the worldwide surge in domestic violence. "I urge all governments to put women's safety first as they respond to the pandemic," Secretary General AntónioGuterres wrote on Twitter (The New York Times, 2020).

The South Asian Scenario of Domestic Violence

A study done in Measuring Gender-based violence: Results of the Violence Against Women (VAW) Survey in Bangladesh reports that the results of VAW Survey 2011 identified that as many as 87% of currently married women have ever experienced any type of violence by current husband and 77% reported any type of violence faced during the past 12 months from the survey time. The higher percentage of any type of violence is predominantly contributed by psychological violence. Almost 90% of those who have ever violated by current husband has the past 12-month experience of violence which implies the persistence nature of violence by the husband. 65 percent of married women reported that they had experienced physical violence committed by their current husbands during their lifetime. About one-third of women who have ever violated by non-partner have the past 12-month experience also. More than four percent of women have ever experienced sexual violence by non-partner, and one percent of women experienced during the past 12 months (Hossen,2014 Sept).

In relation to Malaysia, cultural as well as religious beliefs play a significant role in molding its people. The study on exploring domestic violence experiences from the perspective of Abused Women in Malaysia: The results presented seem to add interesting knowledge to the existing literature, where battered Muslim women in Malaysia perceive their violence experiences as a motivation to surrender themselves to God and seek spiritual assistance as one of the impacts due to domestic violence problems. Further, the women's misapprehension of Islamic concepts such as disobedience and nusyuz (to the male partner) has made disclosing violence experiences difficult. Over and above this, the researcher found that the mechanisms of domestic violence resource provisions are worthy of investigation. The findings from this research demonstrate helpful and unhelpful provision of services identified by abused women, in particular relating to institutions in the nation. Prior to ending, this research proposes a number of recommendations for change in regards to formal supportive network resources, education on violence against women at the societal level, as well as the implication of the findings for the development of domestic violence social policy and practice in Malaysia (Ghani, 2014 May).

To study the nature and causes of domestic violence in Tertiary Level Hospital in Central India; cross sectional study using a pre designed pre tested semi structured questionnaire was carried out and the data were analyzed using MS excel. Most common type of domestic violence faced is physical (80%) followed by mental (8%), social (8%) and sexual (4%). Monetary issues (26%) and alcoholism (22%) are the two most important causes of domestic violence, other causes being extra marital affair (6%), Family conflicts (6%) and dowry (6%). 64% victims were either illiterate or primary pass; 34% were skilled workers; 56% victims had their per capita income between ` 980 and 2935; 76% had their modified Kuppuswami score between 5-10. 56% victims face domestic violence daily. Monetary problems, alcoholism, illiteracy, extramarital affairs and dowry are the major causes of domestic violence. The victims most commonly face physical violence by their partners daily. There is an urgent need of more and more domestic violence counseling centers throughout the country (Dixit, 2013).

Pakistan ranks as the sixth most dangerous country in the world for women, with cases of sexual crimes and domestic violence recording a rapid rise. Activists blame society's patriarchal attitudes for the problem(DAWN, 2020 April 15).

Domestic Violence against Women in Nepal

Sapkota (2016) in his study; A Community based cross sectional study was conducted among 355 married women of reproductive age group of Kusheshwor, Sindhuli, Nepal, he used questionnaire adapted from the World Health Organization for face-to-face interviews. Descriptive and multivariate analysis were performed in order to assess the magnitude of domestic violence and to identify its associated factors respectively. In his study he found, self-reported lifetime prevalence of physical violence was 29.6 % and past year prevalence was 15.2 %, while corresponding figures for sexual violence were 6.8 and 2.3 %, and for psychological violence were 31.0 and 18.3 %. Lifetime domestic violence was 38.6 % while in past 12 months, prevalence was 23.1 %. Furthermore, 12.4 % of women were experiencing all forms of violence concurrently. Women with controlling husband and having poor mental health were found to be at higher risk of domestic violence.

Semahegn (2015) found out that the lifetime prevalence of domestic violence against women by husband or intimate partner among 10 studies ranged from 20 to 78 %. The lifetime domestic physical violence by husband or intimate partner against women ranged from 31 to 76.5 %. The life time domestic sexual violence against women by husband or intimate partner ranged from 19.2 to 59 %. The mean life time prevalence of domestic emotional violence was 51.7 %. Significant number of women experienced violence during their pregnancy period. Domestic violence against women significantly associated with alcohol consumption, chat chewing, family history of violence, occupation, religion, educational status, residence and decision-making power.

Neupane (2019) found that domestic violence is deeply rooted in society and majority of the cases are related with beating and battering. Drinking alcohol, drug addiction, patriarchy, child marriage and polygamy are the major causes of domestic violence in the study area. Physical torture is common to the victims. Most of the domestic violence starts with disputes on simple matter which ends with violence. He/she/ the study emphasized on the educating people from the basic level and raising their awareness.

A Study on Domestic Violence against Women of Brahmin Community: A case study at Gitanagar VDC, Chitwan district concluded the highest numbers of the respondents do not have the knowledge regarding DVAW ???. Highest number of them had negative attitude towards DVAW. Practice regarding DVAW was high in some case such as child marriage, dowry practice, verbal assault. Due to the lack of higher education and awareness they had information gap they were still being victim of physical and psychological abuse directly and indirectly or knowingly unknowingly. But most of them were not easily interested to disclose their views. The data from the field survey showed that majority of the respondents 76.92 percentages were forced to have child marriage which created DVAW and affected women's health status. Most of the respondents were jobless so depend upon agriculture and household works. Half of the respondents had more than two children. Majority of them were forced to bear son and victimized. Majority 74.03% of the women were victim of verbal assault and 56.36% of them were forced for dowry practice due to social stigma and pressure (Adhikari, 2015).

Impact of COVID-19 On Domestic Violence

UN news (2020 April 5) said that during COVID-19 pandemic many countries reported an increase in domestic violence and intimate partner violence.

The Annapurna Express (2020 June 7) reported that according to the WHO, with the onset of the pandemic, violence against women had been steadily rose in China, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Similarly, the number of victims of domestic violence had increased dramatically in India, Pakistan, Italy, France, Germany, Brazil, and Australia. In Jingzhou city of China, the number of reported domestic violence cases tripled in February 2020 compared to February 2019, with among 90 percent cases related to the lockdown.

Johnson (2020 April 12) reported, "With all efforts focused on containing the corona virus, a second epidemic is flourishing - domestic violence".

In Province of China (Hubei), domestic violence reported to police was more than tripled compared to the previous year, jumping from 47 cases in February 2019 to 162 cases in February 2020 (Snapes, 2020 April 10).

The Economic Times (2020 April 8) stated that the Child line India helpline received more than 92,000 calls between 20–31 March in the start of India's lockdown, asking for protection from abuse and violence.

Subedi (2020 April 28) finds that in Kathmandu, the capital city and so-called city of dreams had the highest recorded incident of GBV with 12 cases while Kanchanpur stood in the first place with recorded death incidents at the headcount of 3 and the highest count of rape or attempted rape was 8 in Kailali.. Other incidents were physical assaults- slapping, kicking, beating; forceful sexual intercourse; emotional abuse such as insults, belittling, constant humiliation, intimidation, isolating from others, death threats, murders and acid attack.

Reliefweb (2020) reported that rape and cases of domestic violence had increased during lockdown. According to Nepal Police, in the last 33 days (until April 25), at least 120 girls and women had reported rape cases, 197 people have committed suicide, and 129 other cases of domestic violence were reported.

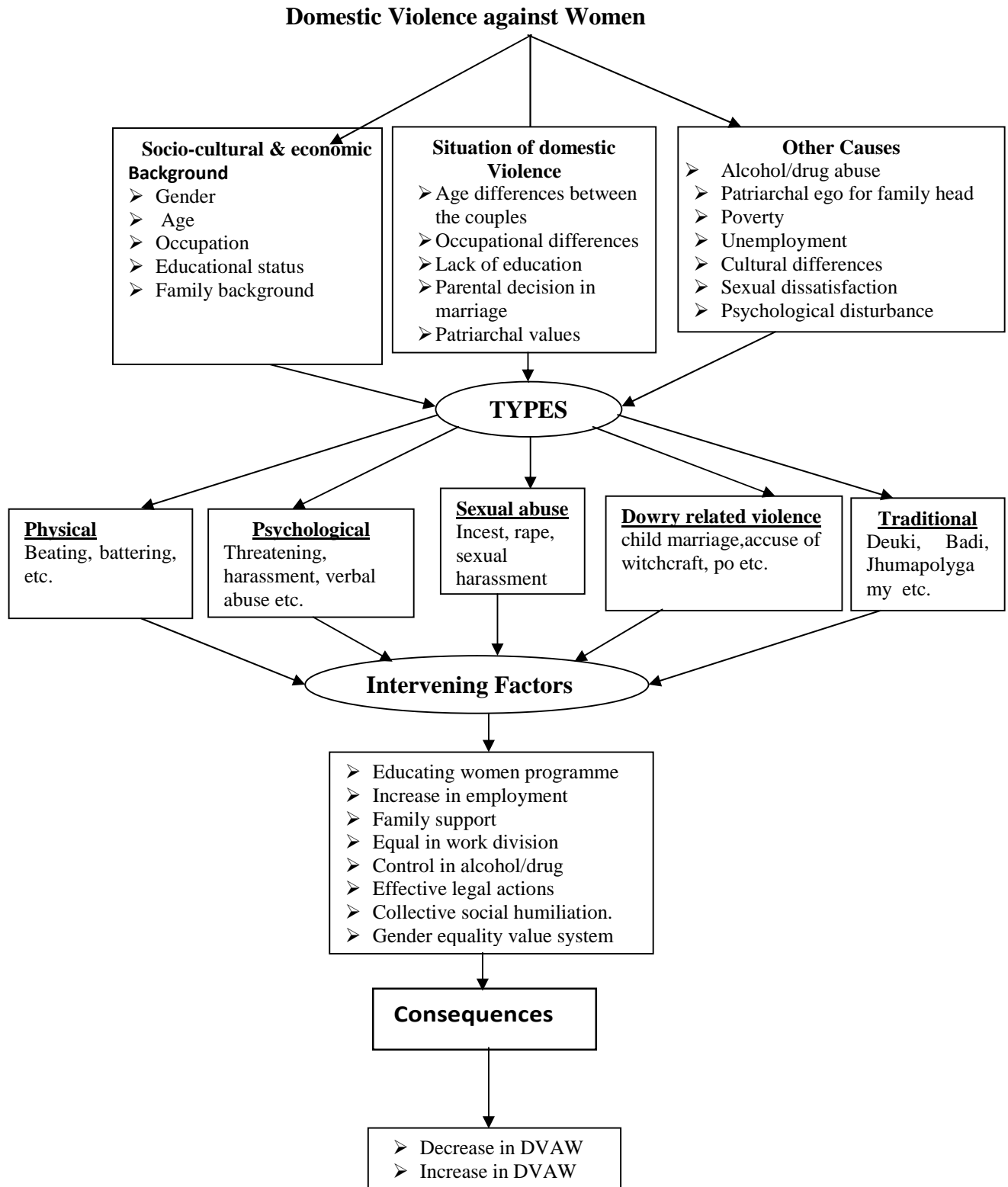
In a study, Domestic violence reports on the rise as COVID-19 keeps people at home; A UCLA-led research team had found an increase in the incidence of domestic violence reports in two cities, Los Angeles and Indianapolis, since stay-at-home restrictions were implemented in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was found that both cities had a statistically significant increase in domestic violence calls for service after stay-at-home policies (Brantingham, 2020 May).

Brantingham (2020) said, "Shelter-in-place rules, by mandating more time at home, are very likely to increase the volume of domestic or intimate partner violence, which thrives behind closed doors."

Thus, from the above literature review, it is clear that there exist a Domestic Violence from decades and decades since the start of the humanity, moreover studies have proved that women are more vulnerable group to be the victim. On the contrary, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, mandatory lockdown have brought the victim and perpetrator very close for longer period of time due to which the above study done by Brantingham states that there is very likely to increase Domestic Violence or intimate partner violence in massive succeeding behind the doors. Here, the author signals to us that there is a gap in the study because he uses the word "very likely to

increase DV” so this study focuses to study the impact of COVID-19 on domestic violence.

2.3 Conceptual Framework



CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research methodology refers to the various sequential steps adopted by researcher in studying a problem with certain objective. A well-designed methodology is used for the successful dissertation writing to achieve its objectives, scope and nature of the subject matter. The methodology of this study was as follows.

3.1 The Study Area

The study was undertaken in Ward no. 15, Pokhara Municipality of Kaski district. This area was chosen purposively for the study. The rationale of the selection of study area can be justified under the following grounds.

-) It helped to find out the status of violence against women of the study area during lockdown period due to COVID-19
-) Very little efforts and studies conducted about domestic violence in slum areas was insightful and further pathway to the subsequent researchers.

3.2 Research Design

The nature of the study was both qualitative and quantitative research method. Descriptive research design was used that dealt with the complex & sensitive subject matter under study.

3.3 Universe and Sample Size

As the sample population, all the married women are the universe of this study of Pokhara 15, Shiva Shakti tole slum community. Every household with young married women is the unit of the project. There are total of 207 households with 1244 population. The total population of male is 597, female is 645 and child is 746. The married women population is 248. Within this married women population, only 40 married women (18-45 years) are chosen purposively for sample size of the study.

3.4 Data Collection Technique

) Interview using semi-structured questionnaire

3.5 Justification of the Methodology

In this study, to support the objectives, I had organized face to face interview. Interviews were conducted by using semi-structured questionnaires and they are added in appendix.

3.6 Ethical Considerations

Initial approval for my data collection was taken from the ward-15 office. Then, I took permission from the local authorities of that Shiva Shakti Tole. Finally, when time to collect the actual data, respondents were explained the purpose behind the collection of data and verbal consent was taken. The respondents were told, the respondent's privacy would be maintained and well consideration of their respect, dignity and prestige. During the time of interview, the language and the activities which could hurt them were not used. During my period of research, I followed the rules of ethics of research honestly.

3.7 Method of Data Analysis

Data analysis is one of the main parts of the research. On the basis of their feature, the data are grouped and classified. If the data are in (qualitative) numerical form, they are directly presented in the form of table and if the data are in qualitative form, then they are provided numerical values. They unnecessary collected data are removed. The process of cleaning, transforming, arriving at conclusions and supporting the decision-making process is called data analysis. In this study as the part of the data analysis, data are presented in the form of the tables and according to the characteristics of the data, every table are analyzed. The computer system such as SPSS, Micro-soft and Excel are used for finalizing the data.

CHAPTER FOUR

SOCIO DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS

4.1 General Information of the Respondents

The study area is located in Pokhara-15, geographically. The cast/ ethnicity such as Brahmin, Kshetri, Janajati, Dalit live in this area. Within this community, there are 207 household with 1244 population. The total population of male is 597 and female is 645. The married women population is 248. Within this married women population, only 40 married women chosen as sample size for the study. The age of the chosen population is 18-45 years old.

4.2 Age Structure of Respondents

Age structure is important part for the social understanding because it can give the idea to study accordingly. The age of respondents varies from 18 to 42 so problem can be different according to age. So, they are categorized in to 4 groups in interval of 6 years gap because this gap is suitable to understand social phenomena and to obtain their past experiences. The age structure is given below.

Table 4.1 : Age Structure of Respondents

Age of respondents	Number of Respondents	Percentage
18-24 years	15	38%
25-30 year	12	30%
31-36 years	9	22%
36-42 years	4	10%
Total	40	100%

Source: FieldSurvey, 2020

Table 4.1 reveals the age of the respondents of this study. The age group 18-24 is higher with 15 respondents 38%, the age 25-30 are 12 respondents (30%), the age 31-36 are 9 (22%), the age 36-42 are 4 (10%). The average age group is in age 25-30

years comparing among them. All the respondents are victims of domestic violence. They have experienced the bitter experience of their life.

4.3 The Types of Family of Respondents

All the respondents came from different family background. It is important to know their family structure so that it can help to study to make it easier to understand.

Table 4.2:Types of Family of Respondents

SN	Family Type	Count	Percentage
1	Nuclear	15	37.5%
2	Joint	25	62.5%
Total		40	100

Source: FieldSurvey, 2020

The above table no. 4.2 table shows that nuclear type of family are less than the joint family. There is always chance to have domestic violence in joint family in any form. But it is not that Nuclear family has no violence. There is always chance of violation when there are some black hearts people live together. The caste/ethnicity of the study sites were- 50% Dalits, 20% Janajati, 22% Chhetri and 8% Brahmin.

4.4 Education Level of the Respondents

Education is the main key of the development of everything. If a person has education, spouse or family member can't exploit someone. Education has the power to fight and protest with other mentally and psychologically too. It can give the better understanding power of the human rights and women rights. Education level of the respondents has been displayed in the table below.

Table 4.3 : Education Level of Respondents

Level of Education	Frequency	Percentage
Illiterate	1	2.5%
Literate	4	10%
Primary	17	42.5%
Secondary	16	40%
PCL	2	5%
Total	40	100%

Source: FieldSurvey, 2020

The table no. 4.3 clearly shows that the education level of respondents, illiterate respondents were 2.5%, literate (10%), primary (42.5%), secondary (40%) and proficiency level (5%). Here, we can see illiterate women also, we can be submissive with their spouse and chance to dominant by other family members also.

4.5 Major Income Source of Family of Respondents

The income source of respondents varies from one to another. As we saw their income source, we couldn't see directly unless they do wages. Their Jobs are varies heavily. They are dependent upon employee. It is not fix the job for tomorrow what they are doing today. Mostly, we saw respondents do their daily labor work, some of them do seasonal farm work, and some do in cattle farms. It is very less number that some are working as a job. All the respondents wherever, whatever they are doing jobs, they are doing the lower level of work in terms of salary.

Table 4.4 : Income Source of Respondents

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
Agriculture	7	18%
Job	2	5%
Wage labor	30	75%
Business	1	2.5%
Total	40	100%

Source: FieldSurvey, 2020

Above table no. 4.4 clearly shows that occupations of the respondents are varies. The majority of the respondents are depending on labor wages with 75%, then 18% of the respondents depend on Agriculture. Some of them, they have taken land in rent a land to grow vegetation which they can sell the products in the market but majority of this number they do work in someone farms The 5% of the respondents do lower label of Jobs in schools, company, organizations etc., I found a respondent who has started small grosser business. Here we can see, as seasonal jobs are not fixed, there is employment problem heavily.

CHAPTER FIVE

THE DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION

5.1 The Fueling/Causes Factors to the Domestic Violence

The fueling factors play vital roles in domestic violence. There are many other fueling factors behind the domestic violence also. But study specifies on these points. When, I was in the field, majority of other population also commented on these problems verbally too. Such as alcohol, gambling, remarriage, expectation of preferable child, poverty etc. The fueling/causes of domestic violence factors which faced by the respondents are given below.

Table 5.1: The Main Fueling/Causes Factors to the Domestic Violence

S.N.	Fueling/Causes Factors	Respondents	Percentage
1	Alcohol	12	30%
2	Gambling	8	20%
3	Remarriage	7	18%
4	Preferable child	2	5%
5	Poverty	11	27%
Total		40	100%

Source: FieldSurvey, 2020

Table 5.1 shows that the most fueling factor of domestic violence is alcohol. 30% of the respondents told that the reason of conflict is alcohol. When a person over drink, he/she can loss their consciousness, during that time, they can harm to their spouse without any reason too. When it appears frequently, it can really destroy the family environment. 20% of the respondents reported that gambling is another fueling factor to the domestic violence. When a person is addicted on it, he/she can lose their all the property When spouse try to protest, there can be conflict leads to violence. 18% of the respondents said that their main cause of violence is remarriage. As table shows, this is another major problem. 5% of the respondents told that their major cause of violence is preference of child birth (son). It is another big problem which is not in

human hand. 27% of the respondents reported that their main cause of violence is poverty. They said, market price is climbing higher everyday but income is very limited, sometime they do not get Job also. But daily home expenses are also rising day by day which threatening to incomesources. These all indicators shows that causes of domestic violence are vary from one to another.

5.2 The Main Forms for Domestic Violence

There cannot match the form of domestic violence among all the victims. It is natural that different people have different mind and thoughts, need and desire so obviously form of violence also in the different forms with different people. As study found the form of violence during interview, it is given as it is below.

Table 5.2: The Main Forms for Domestic Violence

Forms of DV	Frequency	Percentage
Physical	17	42%
Sexual	8	20%
Emotional	3	8%
Psychological	7	17.5%
Others	5	12.5%
Total	40	100%

Source: FieldSurvey, 2020

Table 5.2 shows, 42% of respondents have experienced of physical violence. 20% of the respondents have experienced of sexual violence. 8% of the respondents have experienced emotional violence, 17.5% have psychological, 12.5% have experienced of others violence such as dirty words, blaming of course, keeping relationship with other men etc... As study shows, there are different forms of domestic violence among respondents. So, it is proof that domestic violence is not in only single form.

5.3 The Possibility ofResults/Consequences of Domestic Violence

When, there arises a small conflict between two people, if someone is wise and resolves the issue on time that cannot destroy anything rather can give more attention to future. Here, as study found the consequences of the domestic violence in the field,

that is very scary of every beautiful family. There are some results of the domestic violence which we found, they are given below.

Table 5.3: Possibility of Result/Consequences Of Domestic Violence

Consequences	Frequency	Percentage
Mental health issue	11	27.5%
Divorce	12	30%
Destruction of family	9	22.5%
Destruction of life	8	20%

Source: FieldSurvey, 2020

As above table 5.3 shows, the consequences of domestic violence are vary from one another. Though, respondents have not faced these issues but at the end of domestic violence are any of mentioned. As questions were asked them, their answers are different like 27.5% told that the consequences of domestic violence is mental health issues (mad), 30% reported divorce, 22.5% said family destruction and 20% said, destruction of life. However, all the respondents said that consequences of domestic violence are not happy movement at all. It will destroy beautiful family life which may destroy for their life time too.

5.4 ThePerpetrator of Domestic Violence

The perpetrator of each domestic violence issue can be varying from one to another. Of course, a woman can be in someone target without letting her know. It is not necessary that only husbands are the perpetrator always. So, as study found the domestic violence perpetrator in this context are given in table below.

Table5.4: The Perpetrator of Domestic Violence

S.N.	Perpetrator	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Husband	31	77.5%
2.	Father in law	2	5%
3.	Mother in law	4	10%
4.	Family members	3	7.5%
Total		40	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2020

The main perpetrator is husband. As above table 5.4 shows that respondents reported that 77.5% are victim from their own husband. Of course women can fall in to violence by own nearest one. There is another believe in our societies that husband is next to God. In the beginning stage of domestic violence, women do not protest. When situation goes worse, only some women protest and speak against their husband as a result situation may have been reached in out of control. Similarly, 5% of respondents reported that they were victim from their own father in law. Yes, it is chance to be happening as we are reading and getting news through TV and social media. 10% of the respondents reported that mother in law are their perpetrator. In our societies, majority of mother in laws always dominant to their daughter in law. 7.5% respondents reported that they have experienced domestic violence from their other family members. It is chance to be in trap of domestic violence from other family members of home like sister-in-laws and brother-in-laws. As study shows, women are in risk of violence from their other family members too.

5.5 TheCoping Strategy of Victims with the Situation

The coping part is natural for every life. It is free gift for everyone. How they take and use it, it is varying from one to another. If, someone is facing any problem, naturally try to release from that very unhappy movement. Here, women are also trying to cope their domestic violence to correct it. We can see their coping strategy from the problem in the table below.

Table 5.5: The Coping Strategy of Victims with the Situation

Coping Strategy	Frequency	Percentage
Sharing with nearest relatives	8	20%
Blaming to their fate	12	30%
Accepting as it is	7	17.5%
Protesting	1	2.5%
Taking revenge	1	2.5%
Planning to remarriage	11	27.5%
Total	40	100%

Source: Filed Survey, 2020

The coping strategy can be different with individual for same problem. Table 5.5 shows, respondents have applied different strategy to cope with the domestic violence. 20% of the respondents applied sharing with nearest relative strategy to cope with their problem. Similarly, 30% of the respondents applied blaming to their fate, 17.5% respondents accepted as it is, 2.5% respondents applied protesting to the perpetrator and live with dignity, 2.5% of the respondents applied taking revenge strategy which can be harmful both. 27.5% respondents applied planning to remarriage strategy. They want to divorce, leave whatever the life and live with new life. There are many ways which victims can chose the best they think and see happy life ahead.

5.6 Impact of COVID-19 on Domestic Violence

The whole world was impacted by Covid-19. There was impact of covid-19 everywhere, every sector and field which made sick to running system. First few weeks of the lockdown were good and happy time in the family but as lockdown took longer period of time, it went quite unhappy for some family because scarcity of supply started to shortage, no work and more than needful leisure time which affected to other areas too. As research tells us, there is impact of covid-19 on domestic violence too, it is given below.

Table 5.6: Impact of Covid-19 on Domestic Violence

Impacts on D.V	Frequency	Percentage
Economically	21	52.5%
Family environment	7	17.5%
Physically	6	15%
Sexually	4	10%
Psychologically	2	5%
Total	40	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Table 5.6 shows, Covid-19 impacted on domestic violence. Table shows, Covid-19 impacted on economically to the every house. People used to get work to survive but because of Covid-19, everything was shutdown which collapses the income source of family. As the scarcity of basic needs increases everyday at home, slowly started to arise conflict which led to quarrel condition in the family. As table shows, 52.5% domestic violence was happened because of poor economy. 17% respondents reported that because of Covid-19, domestic violence took place which made gloomy family environment. 15% of the respondents told that they used to face the domestic violence before also but after Covid-19, slowly, they started to get frequently. 10% of the respondents reported that they faced the sexual violence from own husband. 5% of the respondents reported that they faced the psychological violence from the family and own husband. It shows there was domestic violence before also but it increases slowly as lockdown expanded periodically.

5.7 The Impact of Domestic Violence during Covid-19 on Children

The impact of Covid-19 on children through domestic violence is important to study. When, there is conflict between father and mother, always children are the victim of their parent's argument and misunderstandings. This study has found children right violence through domestic violence. Study was asked to the victim, the most on sing of children which is affecting by domestic violence. The table clearly shows the indicators of children violence below.

Table 5.7: Impact of Domestic Violence during Covid-19 on Children

Type of impact on children	Frequency	Percentage
Fear on children	9	22.5%
Less speaking	2	5%
Less feeding	3	7.5%
Not interested on study	16	40%
Not sleeping well	6	15%
Afraid from elder people	4	10%
Total	40	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Table 5.7 clearly shows that 22.5% children affected by domestic violence as a result they get fear because of seeing their parents arguments and conflicts. 5% of the respondents told that their children are speaking less than before. 40% of the respondents reported that their children are not interested on their study. 15% of the respondents told that their children are not sleeping well. 10% of the respondents are reported that their children have fear of elder people. These signs and symptoms clearly show that children are also affected by domestic violence because they see the conflicts at home. Some children can cope with the situation to move forward. But some children are sensitive. This study tells that parents need to give priority to their little children what they do.

5.8 Impact of Domestic Violence During Covid-19 on Economy

The impact of domestic violence during Covid-19 is not only in one area but touched inrelate other areas also. It was a fearful period. Whatever saving was in people hands, after some days of lockdown, started to less and then less and then zero balance. There was no chance to meet one another; all the business and factories were closed. People were not ready to hire any wages labors (outsiders). Those who were surviving with their daily wages income, these people were most affected by the Covid-19. When, there were conflicts at home, these families couldn't make one decision to manage home. The house leader (husband) used the remaining

saving money for his personal purpose mainly in drinking. Though, there was lockdown but within the community, still there were homemade liquor supply. At the same time, income source was collapsed. They were running in credits in the glossary stores. Husband used to come at home with very bad drinking smell where children and wife were with no money and no food. Husband used to violent his wife with very shameful among children. If, there wouldn't be conflicts at home, at least they would manage their economic even in credit. Study asked to the respondents during interview to choose only one thing where they faced the problem financially. The impact of domestic violence during Covid-19 on economy has displayed in the table below.

Table 5.8: Impact of Domestic Violence during Covid-19 on Economy

Impact on Economy	Frequency	Percentage
Running in credits	18	45%
No money to manage basic home needs	16	40%
Unorganized economy of home	6	15%
Total	40	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Table 5.8 reveals that 45% respondents were running in credits in glossary stores and other home suppliers. 40% of the respondents had no money to manage their very basic home needs. 15% of the respondents were faced the unorganized economy of home because husband is in his way and wife and the children were in their own way. They had taken loan from many peoples and credits in the glossary stores. It raves that Impact of domestic violence during Covid-19 on economy was severely active.

5.9 Measure of Domestic Violence during COVID-19

It is hard to measure the domestic violence like other things we do but still we can take measure with some indicators. The respondents had given their answer during interview that we can find the level of physical, psychological, economical, sexual, emotional, family happiness etc...so that we can measure the level of domestic violence. The table reveals the measurement below.

Table5.9: Measurement of the Domestic Violence During Covid-19

Measurement of Domestic Violence	Indicators	Frequency	Percentage
Physical	Blue spot, blood on skin, broken bones	12	30%
Economical	Loans, credits, no income	11	27.5%
Psychological	Forgetting, love to stay alone, headache	1	2.5%
Sexual	Non desirable, forceful, un natural sexual relationship	2	5%
Family environment	Lose of happiness, disunity at home	14	35%
Total		40	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Table 5.9 reveals that 30% of the respondents were physically violated. 27.5% respondents were emotionally, 2.5% of them psychologically, 5% sexually violated with forceful and un natural sexual relationship, 35% of the responded reported that theirhappy family environment changed in to unhappy family environment.

5.10 The Comparison on Domestic Violence Before and During COVID -19

There was domestic violence in the societies since years of ago but form of violation can be changed or added some more. This study is comparing between before and during of Covid-19 domestic violence. The respondents have answered some related questions on it. All the respondents reported that they were facing more domestic violence during Covid-19 because when everything was shutdown, family members had only stay home forcefully. All the family members had leisure time. They had no other works to be involved in it. As respondents told, First few days were good and happy time but as time pass by and lockdown was added periodically, all the home basic needs were in scarcity. The supply of goods was stopped, then automatically, thee was theory of struggle to live. As everything was running out, most of the

husband used to be busy in drinking and playing cards. On the other hand, women used to talk more in unnecessary things, backbiting against others mainly talking negative against own family members with neighbors. This habit went quite long time later on it became the routine to them. These are the small and unnecessary matters/talking became issues at home which led to domestic violence because married and daughter-in-law groups are the dominant group by other family members. They cannot protest easily unless they can't control the situation.

The respondents reported during interview that domestic violence has increased during Covid-19 than before. They reported that their husband is drinking almost whole day but before Covid-19, he used to go to work. At least while he used to be at work, he wouldn't get chance to drink. One of the major factors of domestic violence is drinking liquor. Husband never listens to their wife or children while he is drinking. When they think, they have some tension; they drink and then do the physical violation to wife. Other family members of home are using the rude and dominant words, giving psychological threatening with relating to past some issues.

The respondents answered regarding increasing/decreasing domestic violence during Covid-19 which has shown in the table below.

Table 5.10: Increment of Domestic Violence during Pandemic

SN	Domestic Violence	Count	Percentage
1.	Increased	40	100%
2.	Decreased	-	-

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Table 5.10 clearly shows that 100% respondents reported that domestic violence was increased during Covid-19 than before though there are may be other factors too which are not seen.

CHAPTER SIX

SUMMARY, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

6.1 Summary

To summarize, the study has marked a historical importance in digging out ground reality at the time of pandemic. COVID-19 has been the grave challenge to all the people, country and medical science irrespective of their expertise and economic prosperity. Nepal also was not an exception to bear the global threat. It has dwindled the entire economy, health, education, trade and mobility of the human beings. Almost half a year's lockdown imposed by the government of Nepal has adversely impacted upon the mental, social, economic and physical wellbeing.

The study has clearly portrayed the status of domestic violence against the women living in slum area. As this study has confined to the female respondents of slum area in ward no. 15 of Pokhara, it has become more practicable and down to earth. Because, the findings also have proved that the women had to have very miserable and worsening life due to Covid-19 pandemics. They were dominated by their spouse and family members. Consequently, they were humiliated, dishonored in manifold ways. The severity of domestic violence was increased during the period. Sometimes the women had to face hand to mouth problem, psychological threat and sexual violence. The children also underwent to bear psychological torture such as to create fears, reluctant to study and showing mischievous behaviors.

6.2 Major Findings of the Study

-) 62% of the respondents were from joint family and 38% were from nuclear family
-) The average age of the respondents was 25 years
-) Only 2.5% of the respondents were illiterate and rest of others had finished primary education (42.5%), secondary education (40%) and proficiency level (5%)
-) 65% of the respondents were found to have been engaged in labor wage for living
-) 100% respondents know about the domestic violence and about 77.5% of respondents reported that violence took more often.

- J 72.5% of the victims reported that they have suffered from the physical violence they had were deep wounds and blue spot in their body.
- J The 100% of the respondents reported they had psychological effect and resulted in mental problems as depression, stress, memory loss etc.
- J The 92.5% of the respondents said reasons for domestic violence was alcoholic addiction of partner.
- J 85% of the respondents reported that dispute was because of the false accusation.
- J 77.5% of the respondents reported that violence was perpetuated by her own husband
- J The study revealed that women right violation occurred frequently about 85%
- J The domestic violence had occurred having more free time (97.5%), use of excessive alcohol (90%), living all family member together (52.5%), weak economic status (52.5%), preference to male child born (30%).
- J About 22.5% respondents reported that fears were created on children because of the domestic violence.
- J 100% of the respondents told that there was much increase of domestic violence during COVID-19 than before.

6.3 Conclusion

The 100 percent respondents were found to be experienced about domestic violence at some points. Though the severity and types of the violence varied from one to another, the respondents were compelled to endure domestic violence. Being a patriarchal society, the women were more vulnerable compared to male and they were ill-treated and discriminated. The female is supposed to be subservient and submissive to their spouse and family without any decision-making capacity and heavily relied on the spouse.

The leisure and unproductive time during the lockdown, people were enticed in merry-making, gambling and drinking alcohol. The consequence of losing job contributed in persisting hunger, traumatic disorder, negative thought and hopelessness. The husband was the major problem creator against wife and children. The frequently alcoholic mood and excessive time spent in the house by the husband – resulted over monitoring upon wife, sexual exploitation, blame and accusation.

To conclude, the pandemic was the immediate factor to fueling the violence against women. Since the time of lockdown and consequences were not predictable, it was so pitiful and alarming especially to women. The social media and the negative news and the scenario of the worldwide effect of COVID – 19 were also the leading cause in instigating violence against women.

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APPENDIX-I

RESEARCH TOOL (Semi-Structured Questionnaire)

Code No.:

Date of data collection:

Objectives: This data collecting format is structured for the purpose of collecting data for the search to be done on “Impact of Lockdown on Domestic Violence against Women due to COVID-19 Pandemic(A study of Pokhara Municipality, Kaski)”. The obtained information will be used for the study purpose only and it will be kept confidential with anonymity.

Instruction:After obtaining the verbal consent from the study subjects, all the respondents are requested to answer the following questions.

The data will be collected from detail interview with the help of semi-structured questionnaire.

The questionnaire contains three sections:

SECTION I: Questions related to survey site identification

SECTION II: Questions related to socio-demographic data

SECTION III: Questions related to domestic violence experience and history

APPENDIX-II

Research Tools/Questionnaire

A. Individual Interview Schedule

Section I: Survey site Identification

Name of Place:..... Ward No of respondents:.....

Survey No of respondents:..... Date of interview:.....

Section II: Socio-demographic data:

-) Type of family:
-) Average age of the respondent:
-) Average age of husband:
-) Caste/ethnicity:
-) Source of family income:
-) Type of marriage:
-) No. of children:
-) Educational level of respondent:
-) Educational level of spouse:
-) Occupation of respondents:
-) Occupation of spouse:
-) Marriage age of respondents:
-) Marriage age of spouse:

Section III: Domestic Violence Experience and History

1. Have you heard or known about domestic violence against women in your neighbourhood and yourself?
2. Have you experienced domestic violence in your lifetime?
3. How often have you experienced domestic violence?
4. What form did this DV take?
5. Have you had any problems/ consequences? (Include fear, low self-esteem/ self-worth, physical, mental, reproductive, chronic health problems etc.)
6. What might be the causes? (Probes: poverty, alcohol, peer or family pressure, polygamy, dowry, extra marital affairs, gambling etc.)

7. With whom the dispute occurred mostly?
8. What might be the reasons for dispute?
9. Who was the perpetrator? (e.g. husband, any family members)
10. Did you suffer from any stigma/ criticism from other family or community members?
11. How do you cope with this situation? (talking with friends/relatives, accepting as your fate, living separately etc)
12. What was the experience of violence during lockdown period due to COVID_19?
13. How domestic violence affected the lives of victims during pandemic?
14. What were the impacts of domestic violence during COVID-19 on Children?
15. Was domestic violence during pandemic increased or decreased?



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मिति २०७७/०४/२९

च.नं. २८८

जो जससँग सम्बन्धित छ ।

विषय अनुमती प्रदान गरीएको सम्बन्धमा ।

प्रस्तुत विषयमा यस पोखरा महानगरपालिका वडा नं १५ मा बस्ने भिम बहादुर खत्रीको माग निवेदन अनुसार निज पृथ्वीनारायण व्याम्पसमा अध्ययनरत रहेका विद्यार्थी भएकोले आफ्नो अध्ययन को सिलसिलामा पोखरा १५ अन्तर्गत रहेको शिवशक्ती टोलमा घरेलु हिंसाको कोविड १९ असर को अनुसन्धानको लागि अनुमती प्रदान गरीएको व्यहोरा सिफारिसको साथ अनुरोध गरीन्छ ।

प्रकाश पौडेल

वडा अध्यक्ष

प्रकाश पौडेल
वडा अध्यक्ष