

**EFFECTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON WOMEN IN EGOR LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT AREA OF EDO STATE STATE, NIGERIA.**

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**BEING A RESEARCH WORK WRITTEN AND SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT  
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**OCTOBER, 2024.**

## **CERTIFICATION**

This is to certify that this research work titled “EFFECTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON WOMEN IN EGOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF EDO STATE STATE.” was written by **OKUNDAYE OSARETIN ERICA** with matriculation number **SSC2209742** , under my supervision.

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**HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**

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**DATE**

## **DEDICATION**

This project is dedicated to God almighty Whom in his infinite mercies saw me through and made it possible to accomplish this programme.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

This project work is dedicated to God almighty who gave the grace to complete this programme. My profound gratitude goes to my project supervisor, Prof. Ochuko Iduemre for his germane assistance.

I want to express my profound gratitude, to all those who contributed directly and indirectly in making this work a huge success. especially I am indebted to my Parents

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## *ABSTRACT*

Studies have shown that globally, domestic violence accounts for nearly one quarter of all recorded crimes. Women have been subjected to various forms of violence ranging from rape, battering, trafficking and even murder. Although the degree differs from society to society, the occurrence has profound and destructive consequences including psychological, physical, emotional and social disorders. The fact that domestic violence prevails across all strata of the Nigerian society is no longer debatable. Despite the spirited efforts made by the world bodies such as the United Nations (e.g. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights) and Nigeria's constitutions to eliminate discrimination and violence against women, and promote the idea of freedom, equality and justice, the Nigerian woman is often violated and without apology. Getting justice for a woman who is abused at the family level is most times difficult and wrongly treated by the law, leaving the victim dejected, rejected and dehumanized. This paper discusses the reported incidence of domestic violence on women, its effect on victims and to an extent provided some recommendations that could help reduce this menace.

# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Gender-based violence has been experience of women worldwide which has affected their relationship in the homes, communities, and places of assignments (Amnesty International, 2018).

An increasing amount of research highlights the health burdens. Inter-generational effects, and demographic consequences of such violence (United Nations 2014). The world health organization defines such violence as "The international use of physical force or power, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either result in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, or psychological harm or Gender violence is a universal reality that had existed in all societies and human settlement regardless of class, income, culture or educational attainment. This paper focuses on domestic violence, a form of gender-based violence, which is defined here as any act of violence resulting in physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women, girls or men, including threats of such act, coercion, or arbitrary deprivation of liberty. Domestic violence is also known as domestic abuse, spousal abuse, battery, family violence and intimate partner violence (IPV). It is a pattern of abusive behaviours by one partner against another in an intimate relationship such as marriage, dating family or cohabitation.

Domestic violence, so defined, has many forms including physical aggression or assault (hitting, kicking, biting, shoving, restraining, slapping, throwing objects) or threats, sexual abuse otherwise known as neglect, and economic deprivation.

Domestic deprivation" (Krug et al 2020) Violence is not limited to obvious physical violence. It can mean enlargement, criminal coercion, kidnapping, unlawful imprisonment, trespassing and harassment (National Network to End Domestic Violence, 2018).

The US office and violence against women (OVM) 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", The definition adds that domestic violence "can happen to anyone regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, religion, or gender and can take many forms including physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional, economic and psychological abuse (office of violence against women, 2014 Be Women are crucial to the growth and development of any nation and the world at large. They constitute half of the world's population and are homemakers, custodians of social cultural and fundamental values of the society and permanent change is often best achieved through them, full community development is impossible without their understanding co-operation and effect management considering the importance of women as mothers, sometimes, bread winners, teachers and guardians, but they deserve respect, recognition and better treatment but the opposite is usually the case.

According to Davies (2015), women are enslaved in a circle of poverty and they suffer from neglect, discrimination and exploitation. They are also subjected to different violence by their male counterparts. In Nigeria, domestic violence is widely acknowledged to be a great concern not just from a human rights perspectives but also from an economic and health perspective. women are more at risk from this gender-based violence. There have been reports of husbands Killing or maiming their wives in the media. The statistics presented by this Day (2011) Newspaper are daunting. About 50% of women have this terrible situation as compared with their male counter parts (55%). Most of the women endure believing they have nowhere to go

and in any case believing for good reason that the law will not protect them. A staggering 97.2% of them are not prepared to report to the Nigerian police. Only one state of the federation (Lagos been one of them) have passed laws against insidious crime, while several bills against it languish in our male dominated National Assembly of the States that have passed it. The law is yet to be fully tested only recently in Lagos state, Titilayo Arowolo, a 27 year old mother of one gruesomely murdered by her husband. Arowolo was allegedly axed to death by her husband kolade, in their Isolo home in Lagos. Before that, the scandalous story of wife battering by one Nigerian Ambassador and a traditional ruler who engaged his wife in a public brawl made the rounds, thus bringing the issue of spousal abuse once again to the front burner.

Domestic violence that occurs in private within the family, including rape, acid attack and sexual abuse affect the physical and psychological wellbeing of women at home and in the society at large. Domestic violence against women therefore deserves to be researched upon so as to expose the existence of this discrimination against women and in the process provide possible solution to curb its prevalence.

## **1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

It is no longer an exaggeration that the rate of violence and crime against women (especially Nigerian Women) is on the increase as even the number of perpetrators of the violent act against women appears to be ever increasing on a daily basis. In almost every tribe, the status of women is very low and women are considered the property of men. Accordingly, a husband's right to discipline his wife is accepted. This tradition seems not to be effective in preventing domestic violence against women.

Many times, women are maltreated and considered inferior at home, workplace, schools and so on thereby making them suffer from beating, sexual assault, sexual harassment, denial of time of relaxation, denial of right to accumulate wealth even when women actually do most of the work. Physically, women emerge from these violent episodes evertrine with black eyes, bruises, rape and burns to internal injuries to the psyche may be just as disabling. litle wonder why Iloegbunam (2016), started that one of the ironies of history is the fact that despite the role women play both at home and in the society, they have witnessed violence as they are more likely to be themselves as adults, violent against women constitute a violation of the rights and fundamental freedoms of women and impairs or nullifiers their enjoyment of those rights and freedoms.

### **1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The objective of this study is to find out the effect of domestic violence on women in Egor local government area of Edo state. While the specific objectives are as follows:

1. To examine respondents perception of domestic violence
2. To identify the forms and the vulnerable group to face domestic violence
3. To find out the causes of domestic violence
4. To investigate the effect of domestic violence on women.

### **1.4 RESEARCH QUESTION**

The following research questions shall guide this study.

1. What are the perception of respondents on domestic violence

2. What are the forms and vulnerable group that faces domestic violence
3. What are the causes of domestic violence
4. What are the effect of domestic violence on women?

### **1.5 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

This study is crucial and timely especially as statistics showing the rate of domestic violence globally has been on a steady increase. Among other things,

1. This study was meant to be an eye opener to the fact that domestic violence is prevalent in Nigeria and it's something that needed to be dealt with owing to its many negative impacts On victims of such violence.
2. The study was also meant to suggest solutions to the phenomena called domestic violence.
3. This study was also expected to add value to the existing body of knowledge for students, academician and researchers who may appreciate the problem of domestic abuse in Nigerian society and equally enhance the understanding of its consequences to the society.
4. Finally, it was hoped that the study would enable policy makers appropriate remedies to address the problems associated with domestic violence.

### **1.6 SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

This study is on the Effect of domestic violence on women. It will focus on Egor local government area of Edo state. It will examine form, causes and effects of domestic violence on Women.

## **1.7 OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS**

**Domestic Violence:** Domestic violence is a confrontation between family or household members that typically involves physical harm, sexual assault, or fear of physical harm.

**Wife battering:** Wife bearing refers to any abusive, violent, coercive, forceful, or threatening act or word inflicted by a member of the family or household on a woman in the society usually to establish power through fear and intimidation.

**Cohabitation:** Cohabitation is the state or condition of living together as husband and wife without been married.

**Socialization:** From the perspective of society, socialization refers to the process of fitting new individuals into an organized way of life and an established cultural tradition.

## CHAPTER TWO

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 Conceptualizing Domestic Violence

Domestic violence has been framed and understood exclusively to be a woman's issue. Domestic abuse not only affects women but also has devastating consequences for other populations and societal institutions. Men also can be victims of abuse; children are affected by exposure to this domestic violence, and formal institutions face enormous challenges responding to domestic violence in their communities. Gender-based violence is the fate of millions of women all over the world and these are affecting their productivity both in the homes, communities and places of work (Gberevbie, Osibanjo, Adeniji and Oludayo 2014) Domestic violence is the victimization

of a person with whom the abuser had or has had an intimate romantic, spousal relationship. It consist of a pattern of coercive behaviors used by a competent adult to establish and maintain power and control over another competent adult. This behavior which can alone or in combination, sporadically or continually include physical abuse, psychological/emotional abuse and emotional abuse (Gewirtz and Edleson, 2004). Adams also defines domestic violence as a pattern of behavior that includes physical, psychological, and/or emotional abuse toward an intimate partner Domestic violence is not confined to only spouses, but may also occur between partners, dating couples, and elders (Report on the SADC Media Training Workshop on Covering Violence Against Women:26). The Domestic violence act defines domestic violence as any unlawful act, omission or behavior that results in death, physical, sexual or mental injury to any complainat According to the above authorities, physical abuse refers to a behavior that involves the intentional use of force against the body of another person that risks physical injury, harm and/or pains. Physical abuse includes slapping, beating with fists or object, strangulation, burning, shoving, and threat with a knife. It can also include denying victims of medical care when needed, depriving the victim of sleep and other functions necessary to survive, inflicting physical injuries onto other targets, such as children and pets so as to cause psychological harm to victim.

There are two essential elements in every domestic violence situation: the victim and the abuser have been intimately involved at some point in time and the abuser consciously chooses to use violence and other abusive tactics to gain control over victims. United Nations Secretary

General's (2002). All forms of domestic violence have one purpose; and that is to gain and maintain control over victim. It happens among heterosexual couples and in same relationship. It occurs within all age range, ethnic backgrounds, and economic levels. While women are more commonly victimized, men are also abused especially verbally and emotionally, although sometimes even physically as well. An abuser's goal is to control victim, and he or she will frequently use money to do so.

## **2.2 FORMS AND PREVALENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

The United Nations Commissions Draft Declaration of 1992 on the status of women defines violence against women as: "any act of gender - based violence that results in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threat of such acts, as coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty whether occurring in public or private life" In Nigeria, women are subjected to multiple forms of violence in the home. This study will examine the most common forms such as wife battering, early forced marriage, sexual harassment/rape. female genital mutilation, widowhood and inheritance and finally human trafficking.

### **Wife Battering/Torture**

There is no systematic research on wife battering in Nigeria, but circumstantial evidence shows that it is real. Records indeed have it that violence within the family in Nigeria has reached alarming proportions. Reports of beating , torture, acid attacks and killing of women in the family or relationship are regular features in the media and documented reports.

The pages of most Nigerian newspapers are replete with instances of women who were beaten or hurt by their husbands. The Nigerian television authority (NTA) has interviewed many women victims, the National Orthopedic Hospital, Igbobi Lagos, as well as the Lagos University

Teaching Hospitals (LUTH), among others have reported such cases too. Public testimonies before the Civil Resources Development and Documentation Centre Tribunal in Enugu and Abuja since 1996 have revealed other alarming causes of wife battering in Nigeria.

According to public testimonies given before the National Tribunal in Abuja (Nwankwo, 2003) on wife battering and violence against women with code names of Mrs. "O" from Bayelsa state, Mrs. "S" from Kaduna state. Mrs. "M" who was beaten by her husband and denied access to her 3 year old child: Mrs. "K" whose daughter "went mental" after her parents 22 year old marriage crashed and Mrs. "E" from Lagos whose husband beat her because she frowned at him for having an affair with a neighbor are representation of instances too many to mention in Nigeria.

McDonnel, (2003) argues that Nigerians do not talk about domestic violence "because it seems to be an acceptable part of marriage". She found that 40 % of urban women in a research conducted in Lagos and Ibadan claimed that they have been victims of domestic violence. In a study conducted in Guma and Markurdi Local Government Area of Benue state, Nigeria shows that domestic violence is a common practice that seemed to be accepted by men as normal in order to keep the woman under control. Batterers fail to see this as an act worth bringing before the law. For instance, among the Efik of south-south geo-political zone of Nigeria, wife battering is celebrated as a sign of authority over women in marriage.

This reality contradicts the presumption that in this age of civilization, all forms of violence and abuses against women have no place in the scheme of things and that women have the fundamental human right to live in dignity and equality with men.

## **Early forced Marriage**

Early marriage is the act of giving out a female child for marriage at a very tender age, mostly when the girls knows nothing about her rights. In Nigeria and indeed some parts of Africa, early marriage comes in the form of child betrothal; this involves marrying out a girl child immediately after she is delivered. While force marriage on the other hand is simply marrying out a girl against her wish. It could also be referred to as induced marriage. In some cases, the girls are withdrawn from school or even denied access to education. There are cases in which parents have forced their grown daughters into marriages against their consent either due to cultural, social, economic, or political reasons Early marriage of girls is most common in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Official data on very early marriage under age (13) is limited, but studies indicate that in parts of East and West Africa, for example, marriage at age 7 or 8 is not uncommon. In some parts of Northern Nigeria, the average age of marriage is 11 years. The National Demographic Health Survey reported that in 26.5 % of couple, there is an age difference of several years between husband and wife. The difference in age contribute to a woman's powerlessness with respect to sexuality and reproductive health decision. In this situation of unequal power relations, resistance to husband's demand may lead to violence.

An adolescent girl with a much older spouse is much less able to participate in decisions about when to have children, to be able to negotiate the use of birth control and less able to protect herself from HIV/AIDS, exploitation and maltreatment.

Early/force marriage limits educational and other opportunities for girls and often lead to early childbearing and increased health risk. Girls under 13 years of age are five times more likely to die than women in their twenties. They are also higher to obstetric fistula, which can result from prolonged and obstructed labour. In a study by Utulu (2000) to determine the total direct and

indirect effect of traditional practices on the educational development of the girl-child, she found that the highest direct effect was as a result of forced marriage when compared to other forms of practices with a correlation co-efficient of 0. 1.

### **Sexual Harassment/Rape**

Rape and sexual assault is another form of violence against women. This is done through direct violence and forceful sexual intercourse by a male counterpart. This practice also occurs among married couples. Rape is the sexual violation of both girls and women against their will or consent. Section 357 of the criminal code (2004) defines rape thus any person who has unlawful carnal knowledge of a woman or girl without her consent, if the consent is obtained by force or by means of threat or intimidation of any kind or by fear of harm or by means of false and fraudulent representation as to the nature of the act, or in the case of a married, by personating her husband, is guilty of an offence called rape".

Rape denies the fundamental right of women and girls to private and family life guaranteed in section 37 of the 1999 constitution. Sex should be an intimate act of love between two people but for many, the joy and healing power of sex are non-existent especially when there is crisis.

Forced sex initiation and sexual abuse of children are common throughout the world . Cross sectional studies show that 40 % of women in New Zealand reported that their first sexual intercourse was forced.

A review of studies in 20 countries found that prevalence of sexual abuse of girls range from to 36percent. Most abusers are men known to the victims. Studies show that physical abuse occurs in approximately 4 and 15 percent of pregnancies in the United States, Canada, Sweden, the

United Kingdom, South Africa, and Nicaragua. In Nigeria, between 12-25percent of women have been force by an intimate of ex-partner to have sex at some point in time in their lives (Watt and Zimmerman, 2002). The reality of the situation is that rape and other forms of sexual violence are used as vweapons of warfare and this is clearly seen in the testimonies presented by the rape survivors of the Odi Crisis of Bayelsa state, 1999, at the national women court workshop on rape and other sexual offences in Abuja, Nigeria on November 2", 2002. The majority of the cases of rape go unreported because of the social stigma it creates and the burden of proof. For instance, to ground a conviction of rape, the testimony of the victim must corroborate. Indeed a person cannot be convicted of any of the sexual offences upon the uncorroborated evidence of one witness. Thus, section 179(5) of the evidence Act states thus: "

It is not the rule of law that an accused person in charge of rape cannot be convicted on uncorroborated evidence of the prosecutrix. The proper direction is that it is not safe to convict on the uncorroborated evidence of the prosecutrix. The court may after paying due attention to he warning. Nevertheless convict the accused person if it is satisfied with the truth of her evidence. The analysis could be very frustrating and many times criminal rapist get away with the offence they apparently committed on technical grounds due to lack of corroboration and for the victims they become double jeopardized and traumatized.

### **Female genital mutilation**

This is a broad term applied to a range of practices involving the removal of all or parts of the clitoris and other external genitalia. In its most severe form, it is known as "infubilation" in which both the clitoris and the labia are removed and the two side of the vulva are sown together leaving only a small opening to allow urine and menstruation period to pass. The mutilation is

usually carried out in three stages; for instance, a) the removal of the clitoris alone (hood); b) the removal of the clitoris and the labia (minora) c) the whole removal of the clitoris (labia minora and labia majora), and also the stitching together of the vulva opening to its barest minimum.

Usually, these mutilation are executed with blunt and non-sterile instrument in very unhygienic

Circumstances

The mythical reason behind the harmful practice are that it prevents promiscuity in women, controls female sexuality as well as preserve the virginity of young girls until marriage. However, studies have shown that there is no truth in these myths, but rather a gross violation of human rights to dignity of person as contained in section 34 of the 1999 constitution. According to NahidToubia, there is no definite study that has been conducted on the prevalence female genital mutilation (FGM) in Africa and the Middle East. They maintained that based on Hosken's report of 1992, there are estimated figures of 79.97 percent (80 million) of mutilated females in the world. Today, Hosken maintained that there are more than 114 million women who have undergone some form of female genital mutilation in the world.

Asen cited cases of the overwhelming incidence of this practice in Nigeria, one of which is the highest in the world. Out of 130 million circumcised women in the world, a great percentage are Nigerians. The medical implication of this are far reaching e.g., severe pain, shock, hemorrhage, tetanus, retention ulceration of the genital region and injury to adjacent tissue. This is not only a violence against woman but also denial of right to integrity and mental torture.

### **Widowhood and Inheritance**

This form of violence against women is noted in societies which have little regard for the role and place of the woman particularly when the husband dies. Here she is deprived of all family

property immediately her husband dies. In some societies, she is expected to mourn her husband through acts that inflicts physical and psychological violence and torture. For example, violent shaving of her hair, making her drink the water used to bath the corpse of her deceased husband or sleep with the corpse alone in a locked room over-night; all in an attempt to prove her innocence

In support of this, Kemdirim reported that; "Among the Ibo of Eastern Nigeria, women are subjected to the performance of some dehumanizing rites upon the death of their husbands. In some places the woman affected is not allowed to bath, comb her hair, change her dress or even leave her compound for a period ranging from twenty to forty days"

In some cases, a levirate form of marriage is practiced on the widow i.e. practice whereby the widow is married out to the deceased husband's brother, often the widow's opinion or consent is not sought on this; it is given to her as a condition for remaining in the family and for receiving assistance from the family; this is a violation of human right, especially her choice and consent to marriage. Unfortunately, the Nigerian constitution did not contain any specific provision for the protection of widows from these abysmal treatment which constitutes a serious violation of women's right.

There is yet another dimension of inheritance which puts woman at a disadvantage, that is, the exclusion of women from inheriting their parent's properties along with the male children. This practice exists among the Tiv, Idoma, Etulo, Igala of Benue state, some parts of Delta, Edo states and Northern Nigeria. Among the Yoruba of western Nigeria, a woman is treated as a chattel or part of a man's immovable property and also cannot inherit him at death. This in effect

has implication on economic, emotional and psychological wellbeing of the women who are most helpless and indeed vulnerable.

### **Human Trafficking**

Human trafficking is another form of violence which have affected mostly women. Globally, human trafficking is among the fastest growing criminal activity. Most women involved are taken into forced prostitution. This commercial sex trafficking is induced by force, fraud or coercion. Most women involved here are those who have not attained the age of 18. In most cases, such girls are subjected to involuntary servitude, debt bondage or slavery.

Most of the young people sold into child labour are girls. According to Statistics from the UN government, about 800,000 900,000 people are trafficked across borders every year in the world for forced labour, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation and prostitution. It is record that between March 1999 and April 2002, 126 women trafficked out of the country were deported from different countries. These en suffer emotional and physical abuses, they also suffer from the risk of contracting abortions such as HIV/AIDS which is common and alarming among commercial sex workers.

This acts violate violates the constitutional guarantee of rights of personal liberty, right to peaceful assembly and association, freedom of movement as is contained in section 35, 40 and 41 of the 1991 constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

## **2.3 EFFECTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

### **Effects on Children**

There has been an increase in acknowledgment that a child who is exposed to domestic abuse during his upbringing will suffer in his development and psychological welfare (Dodd, 2009). Some emotional and behavioral problems that can result due to domestic violence include increased aggressiveness, anxiety and changes in how a child socializes with friends, family and authorities. Problems with attitude and cognition in schools can start developing along with a lack of skill such as problem-solving. Correlation has been found between the experience of abuse and neglect in childhood and perpetrating domestic violence and sexual abuse in adulthood (Sadeler, 2014)

Additionally, in some cases, the abuser will purposely abuse the mother in front of the child to cause a ripple effect, hurting two victims simultaneously. It has been found that children who witness mother assault are more likely to exhibit symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) (Lehman, Zatz)

### **Physical Effect**

Bruises, broken bones, head injuries, lacerations and internal bleeding are some of the acute effects of a domestic violence incident that requires medical attention and hospitalization (Jones, 2013) Some chronic health conditions that have been linked to victims of domestic violence are arthritis, irritable bowel syndrome (Berrios, 2013) Victims who are pregnant during a domestic violence relationship experience greater risk of miscarriage, pre-term labour, and injury to or death of the fetus (Jones, 2013)

## **Psychological Effect**

Among victims who are still living with their perpetrators, high amounts of stress, fear and anxiety are commonly reported. Depression is also common as victims are made to feel guilty for 'provoking' the abuse and are frequently subjected to intense criticism. It is reported that 60% of victims meet the diagnostic criteria for depression, either during or after termination of the relationship, and have a greatly increased risk of suicidality (Banet, 2011). The most commonly referenced psychological effect of domestic violence is Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

According to Vitanza, Vogal, and Marshall (2012) PTSD (as experienced by victims) is characterized by flashbacks, intrusive images, exaggerated startle response, nightmares, and avoidance of triggers that are associated with the abuse. These symptoms are generally experienced for a long span of time after the victim has left the dangerous situation.

Many researchers state that PDST is possibly the best diagnosis for those suffering from psychological effect of domestic violence, as it accounts for variety of symptoms commonly experienced by victims of trauma.

## **Financial Effect**

Once victims leave their perpetrators, they can be stunned with the reality of the extent to which the abuse has taken away their autonomy. Due to economic abuse and isolation, the victims usually have very little money of their own and few people on whom they can rely when seeking help. This has been shown to be one of the greatest obstacle facing victims of domestic violence, and the strongest fact that can discourage them from leaving their perpetrators (Stop Violence against Women, 2010).

In addition to lacking financial resources, victims of domestic violence often lack specialized skills, education, and training that are necessary to find gainful employment, and also may have several children to support

1) **Long-term Effect:** Domestic violence can trigger many different responses in victims, all of which are very relevant for a professional working with a victim. Major consequences of domestic violence victimization include psychological/mental issues and chronic physical health problems

## **2.4 TYPES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

The types of domestic violence actions perpetrated by abuserS may include physical, sexual, verbal, emotional and psychological tactics: threats and intimidation, economic co-ercion and entitlement behaviours (H.Lienbragg, 2003: 17)

These types of domestic violence are listed and explained below:

1. Physical violence
2. Verbal/emotional violence
3. Sexual violence
4. Stalking
5. Cyber stalking
6. Economic or financial violence
7. Spiritual violence

**1. Physical violence:** This is the use of physical force against a way that ends up injuring the person, or puts the person at risk of being injured. Physical abuse covers all physical attempts from physical restraint to murder, when someone talks of domestic violence, they are often referring to physical abuse of a spouse or intimate partner. Physical assault or physical battering is a crime empowered to protect you from physical attack (American Academy of experts in traumatic stress, 2014).

Physical abuse include pushing, throwing, Kicking, slapping, grabbing, hitting, punching, biting, holding, restraining, confinement, breaking bones, assault with a given weapon such as knife or gun, burning, murder (American Academy of experts in traumatic stress, 2014).

**2. Verbal/emotional violence:** Verbal or non-verbal abuse of a spouse or intimate partner may include mental, psychological or emotional abuse, it can be verbal or non-verbal, verbal or non-verbal abuse of a spouse or intimate partner consist of a more subtle action of behavior than physical abuse while the physical abuse might seem worse, the scars of verbal and emotional abuse can be much more emotionally damaging than physical abuse. Verbal or non-verbal abuse of a spouse or intimate partner may include; threatening or intimidating to gain compliance, destruction of the victims personal property possessions or threats to do so. Violence to an object Such as a wall or piece of furniture or pet, in the presence of the intended victim as a way of installing fear or further violence yelling and screaming, name calling, constant harassment, embarrassing, making fun of, or mocking the victim, either alone within the household in public, or in front of family or friends. Criticizing or diminishing the victims accomplishments or goals and trusting the victims, decision making, telling the victim that they are worthless or their own without the abuser, excessive checking upon the victim to make sure they are at home or where

they said they would be saying hurtful things under the influence of drugs or alcohol, and using the substance as an excuse to say hurtful things, blaming the victim for the abuser's acts or feelings, making the victim feel that there is no way out of the relationship, making the victim remain on the premises after a fight, or learning them somewhere else after a fight just to "teach them a lesson". (American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress, 2014).

**3. Sexual Violence:** Sexual violence includes, sexual assault, forcing someone to participate in unwanted unsafe or degrading sexual activity, sexual harassment, ridiculing another person to try and limit their sexuality or reproductive choices. Sexual exploitation such as forcing someone to take part in a pornographic film making. Sexual violence is often linked to physical violence, they may occur together or the sexual abuse may occur after the physical abuse (American Academy of experts in traumatic stress, 2014).

**4. Stalking:** This is the harassment or threatening of another person, especially in a way that haunts the person physically or emotionally in a repetitive and devious manner. Stalking of an intimate partner can take place during the relationship with intense monitoring of partner's activities or stalking can take place after a partner or spouse has left the relationship. The stalker may be trying to get their partner back, or they may wish to harm their partner as a punishment for their departure regardless of the fine details, the victim fears for their safety. Stalking can take place at or near the victim's home, near or in their internet.

Stalking can be on the phone, in person online, stalkers may never show their face or they may be everywhere in person.

Stalkers may employ a number of threatening tactics, repeated phone calls, sometimes with hang-ups. following tracking possibly even with a global positioning device), finding the person

through public records, online searching or paid investigators, watching with hidden cameras, suddenly showing up where the victims, at home, school or work, sending unwanted packages card gifts or letters monitoring the victims phone calls or computer use, contacting the victim's friends, family, co-workers, or neighbors to find out about the victim's garbage, threatening to hurt the victim or their family, friends or pets. Damaging the victim's home, car or other property. Stalking is unpredictable and should always be considered dangerous. If someone is tracking you, contacting you when you do not wish to have contact, attempting to control you then seek help immediately (American Academy of experts in traumatic stress, 2014).

**5. Cyber stalking:** This is the use of the telecommunication technologies such as the internet or email to stalk another person. Cyber stalking may be an additional form of stalking, or it may be the only method the abuser employs, cyber stalking is deliberate, persistent and personal. Cyber stalking falls in a grey area of law enforcement. Enforcement of most state and federal stalking laws that requires that the victim be directly threatened with an act of violence. Very few law enforcement agencies can act if the threat is only implied (American Academy of experts in traumatic stress, 2014)

**6.Spiritual Violence:** Using the spousal or intimate partner's religious or spiritual beliefs to manipulate them preventing the partner from practicing their religious or spiritual beliefs lonling the other person's religious or spiritual beliefs. (American Academy of experts in traumatic stress, 2014).

**7 Economic or Financial Violence:** Withholding economic resources such as money or credit cards, stealing from or defrauding a partner of money or assets, exploiting the intimate partner's resources for resources for personal gain, withholding physical resources such as food clothes,

necessary medications, or shelter from a partner preventing the spouse or intimate partner power from working or choosing an occupation (American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress, 2014)

## **2.5 CAUSES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

There has been some misconceptions of the victims of domestic violence and this has led to the creation of a stereotypical behavior and myths about these victims. These misconceptions lead to stigmatization of the victims by the people in their lives. These people could be social workers, family members, friends, doctors, etc. Some common myths about victims of domestic violence are

1. Only poor uneducated women are victims of domestic violence
2. Victims provoke and deserve the violence they experience
3. Victims of domestic violence move from one basic relationship to another.
4. Victims of domestic violence suffer from low self-esteem and psychological disorders
5. Victims of domestic violence are weak and always want help (H. Lien Bragg 2013)

One single factor cannot be pinpointed as the major account for the violence incurred on individuals by their intimate partner. Several complicated and intertwined institutionalized social and cultural factors have kept victims, especially women, particularly vulnerable to the violence directed at them. All of these are results of historically unequal power relations between women and men (Digest 2010)

Factors that contributed to these unequal power relations include; socio- economic forces, the family institution where power relations are enforced, fear of and control over female sexuality belief in the inherent superiority of males and legislation and cultural sanctums that have traditionally denied women and children an independent legal and social status.

Lack of economic resources also underpins women's vulnerability to Violence and their difficulty in extricating themselves from a violent relationship. The connection between violence and lack of economic resources is circular on one hand, the fear or threat of violence keeps women from seeking for jobs, or better still, forces them to accept low paid, home-based exploitative labour, and in the other hand, without economic independence, women have no power to escape from an abusive relationship. (Digest 2010, Domestic Violence against women and girls:8)in some countries, the reverse is the case i.e. women's increasing economic activity and interdependence is viewed as a threat which leads to increased male violence. Studies have linked a rise in violence to the destabilization of economic patterns in society. Macro-economic policies such as structural adjustment programmes, globalization and the growing inequalities they have created have been linked to increasing levels of violence in several regions including Latin America, Africa and Asia. (Digest 2010).

Cultural ideologies both in developed and developing countries provide legitimacy for violence against women in certain circumstances. The physical punishment of wives has been particularly sanctioned under the notion of entitlement and ownership of women (Digest 2010). The concept of worship in turn, legitimizes control over women's sexuality which in many law codes has been deemed essential to ensure patrilineal inheritance (Digest 2010)

Experiences during childhood, such as witnessing domestic violence and experiencing physical and sexual abuse, have been identified as factors that put children at risk. Violence may be learnt as a means of resolving conflict and asserting manhood by children who have witnessed such patterns of conflict resolution. (Digest 2010).

Excessive consumption of Alcohol and other drugs has also been noted as a factor in provoking aggressive and violent male behavior towards women and children (Digest 2010)

A survey of domestic violence in MOSCON revealed that half of the cases of physical violence are associated with husbands excessive alcohol consumption (Digest 2010)

The isolation of women in their families and communities is known to contribute to increased violence. Particularly if those women have little access to family or local organizations (Digest 2010)

Lack of legal protection particularly within the sanctity of the home, is a strong factor in perpetuating violence against women. Until recently, the public/private distinction that has ruled most legal systems has been a major obstacle to women's rights. Increasingly, However states are seen as responsible for protecting the rights of women even in connection with offences committed within the home (Digest 2010)

Investigations by human rights watch have found that in cases of domestic violence law enforcement officials frequently reinforce the batterers attempt to control and demean their victims, Even though several countries now have law that condemn domestic violence, when committed against a woman in an intimate relationship, these attacks are more often tolerated as norm than prosecuted as laws. In many places. those who commit domestic violence are

prosecuted less vigorously and punished more leniently than perpetrators of similarly violent crimes against strangers (Digest 2010)

Some people believe domestic violence occurs because the victim provokes the abuser to violent action, while others believe the abuser simply has a problem managing anger. In fact, the roots of domestic violence can be attributed to a variety of cultural, social economic and psychological factors. As a learned behavior, domestic violence is modeled by individuals, institutions, and society, which may influence the perspectives of children and adults regarding its acceptability.

Abusive and violent behaviors can be learned through: (H. Lien Bragg 2013) Childhood observations of domestic violence, One's experience of victimization, Exposure to community, school or peer group violence. Living in a culture of violence (e.g., violent movies or video games, community norms, and cultural beliefs (H. Lien Bragg 2013:18)

## **2.6 FACTORS THAT PERPETUATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

### **Cultural**

1. Gender specific socialization
2. Cultural definition of appropriate sex roles
3. Expectations of roles within relationships
4. Beliefs in the inherent superiority of males
5. Value that give men propriety rights over women and girls
6. Notion of the family as a private sphere and under male control

7. Customs of marriage (bride price/downing)

8. Acceptability of violence as a means to resolve conflicts

### **Economic**

Women's economic dependence on men

Limited access to cash and credit

Discriminatory laws regarding inheritance, property rights, use of communal lands

and maintenance after divorce or widowhood

Limited access to education and training for women

### **Legal**

Less legal status for women either by written law and or by practice

Laws regarding divorce, child custody maintenance and inheritance

Legal definitions of rape and domestic abuse

Laws levels literacy among women

Insensitive treatment of women and girls by police and judiciary

### **Political**

Under representation of women in power, politics, the media and in the legal and medical professions Domestic violence not taken seriously Notions of family being private Beyond

control of the state Risk of challenge to status quo/religious laws Limited organization of women as a political force Limited participation of women in an organized political system

## **2.7 CONSEQUENCES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

**1. Denial of fundamental rights:** This is one of the most crucial consequences of domestic violence. International human rights instruments such as the universal declaration of human rights (UDHR), adopted in 1948, the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW), adopted in 1979, and the convention on the rights of the child (CRC), adopted in 1989, affirm the principles of fundamental rights and freedom of every human being. Both CEDAW and the CRC are guided by a broad concept of human rights that stretches beyond civil and political rights to the care issues, of economic survival, health and education that affect the quality of daily life for most women and children. The two conventions call for the right to protection from gender based abuse and neglect.

The strength of these treaties rest on an international consensus, and the assumption that all practices that harm women and girls, no matters how deeply that are embedded in culture must be eradicated. Legally binding under international law for governments that have ratified them, these treaties oblige governments not only to protect women from crimes of violence but also to investigate violations when they occur and to bring the perpetrators to justice. (Domestic Violence on women and girls, digest 2010:8)

**2. Undermining of human developmental goals:** There is a growing recognition that countries cannot reach their full potential as long as women's potential to participate fully in their society is denied. Data on the social, economic and health cost of violence leave no doubt that violence against women undermines progress towards human and economic development (Digest 2010)

**3. Health consequences:** Domestic violence against women leads to far reaching physical and psychological consequences, some with total outcomes, while physical injury represents only a part of the negative health impacts on women it is among the more visible forms of violence (Digest 2010).

**4 Impact on children:** Children who have witnessed domestic violence or have themselves been abused, exhibit health and behavior problems including problems with their weight, their eating and their sleep, they may have difficulty at school and find it hard to develop close and positive friendship. They may try to run away or even display suicidal tendencies. Witnessing and experiencing violence as a child can also result in internalizing violence as a form of conflict resolution. Girls who witness their mother being abused may be more likely to accept violence as the norm in a marriage than those who come from non-violent homes, while many children from violent homes do not grow up to be violent, those who have witnessed violence in childhood are more likely to become adults who engage in violent behavior both inside and outside the home (Digest 2010)

## **2.8 THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC COST OF VIOLENCE**

Direct costs value of goods and services used Medical, police, criminal justice system, In treating or preventing violence/NM monetary costs pain and suffering

|Economics multiplier effect macro economic,/housing, social services

Increased morbidity, increasing mortality via homicide and suicide, abuse of alcohol and drugs, depressive disorders Decreased labour market participation, reduced labour market, inter generational productivity productivity on impacts Social multiplier effects: impacts Interpersonal relations and quality of life Source: Buvinic et Al, 2010

## **2.9 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

Several theories have emerged in trying to give an explanation to the prevalence of Domestic Violence. This research will examine some of these theories by stating their major postulation

### **A. SOCIAL LEARNING MODEL OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

The social learning theory provides a broad analyses to examine individuals within the larger social context in which he/she is situated (Barnett & La Violette, 1993). The theory is of the view that experiencing violence in the family of origin contributes to one's risk of committing wife abuse during adulthood (Cunningham, Jaffe, Baker, Malla, Mazaheri& Poisson, 1998). Thus the theory argues that people m0 del behavior that they were exposed to as children. By the same token., they state that violence is learned through role models provided by the family either Haotly or indirectly and reinforced and childhood and continued in adulthood as a coning response to stress or a method of conflict resolution (Mihalic, 1997)

### **B. SYSTEM MODEL OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Male violence can also be linked to the systems theory as it holds that an initial maladaptive behavior most often results from the interaction of learning the different response pattern. Serovich & Craft (2005) rd. are of the notion that individuals learn behavior by watching and imitating actions experienced in the home environment. Within this model, the family is viewed as a dynamic organization of interdependent components that continually interact with one another

### **C. SUBCULTURE MODEL OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

This theory of violence is one of the most popular and controversial explanations for violence among blacks. According to Wolfgang and Ferracuti in (Oliver, 1994), the disproportional rates of criminal violence among blacks are a product of their commitment to sub-cultural values and norms that condone violence as an acceptable means of resolving interpersonal conflicts (Oliver, 1994). This theory also contends that members of the sub-culture of violence develop favorable attitudes towards the use of violence through the processes of differential learning, association and identification.

### **D. RADICAL FEMINISM AND MALE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

The radical feminist thought of purported by Loseke, Gelles & Cavanaugh (2005) acknowledges that patriarchy enables men to dominate and control women (Loseke, Gelles & Cavanaugh, 2005). By the same token, within a patriarchal social order, men maintain a privilege position through their domination of women and their monopoly of social institutions (Cunningham et al, 1998). It is therefore not a misplacement to argue that this permits men to benefit from their power over women in every way, from ego satisfaction to economic and domestic exploitation, sexual domination and political power.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **METHODOLOGY.**

This chapter is concerned with the description of the method used in this study. Thus includes the research design, population of study, sampling and methods of data collection and analysis.

#### **3.1 Research Design**

The survey design was adopted in order to collect information from women in Egor local government area of Edo state. it will make use of quantitative and qualitative, methods of data collection which involves the use of a structural questionnaire and indept interview.

#### **3.3 Population Of Study**

The population of study consists of all married women in Egor local government. This will assist the researcher in getting the social cultural view of women that may have been exposed to domestic violence. This is because they constitute the principal respondents of the study

#### **3.4 SAMPLE SIZE**

A total number of one hundred (100) respondents were used-for the study, and this constitute married women from selected wards in Egor local government area of Edo state.

#### **3.5 Sampling Technique**

In selecting the respondents, a multy stage sampling techniques was used for the study. Its advantages lies in its ability to ensure that the units of a study population are well represented and it simplifies a research fieldwork involving a very large population. To obtain qualitative data purposive sampling was used to select four interviewers form each wards.

### **3.6 Instrument of data collection**

Questionnaire and indept interview was employed as instrument of data collection from married women in Egor local government area of Edo state. The questionire contains two sections. Section A of the questionnaire contains items designed to give personal information about the respondents while section B death with issues relating to the topic under investigation while the indept interview was used with a carefully selected group of interviews.

### **3.7 Validity and reliability of instruments**

The research questionnaire was subjected to content validity to ascertain whether questions in the questionnaire and interview schedule were adequate to address what they intended to address in the research. This was done by the supervisors to verify and ascertain the validity of the measuring instruments. To achieve reliability of he questionnaire by way of internal consistency the cronbach alpha techniques was used to assess the internal consistency of the questionnaire items.

### **3.8 Method of data collection**

The study adopted both primary and secondary method of data collection. Primary method involve the use of questionnaire and indept interview. While secondary source involve information from the internet and journal.

### **3.9 Method of Data Analysis**

The quantitative data was analysed using the statistical software SPSS version 25. The data were presented in the form of frequency tables, cross tabulation and percentages. The qualitative data was transcribed thematically and analysed using content analysis.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### DATA PRESENTATION

This chapter is divided into two sections; section A deals with the socio-economic characteristics of respondents while section B dealt with the analysis of research questions.

#### SECTION A

#### 4.1 DATA ON SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

**TABLE : AGES OF RESPONDENTS**

<b>AGE GROUP OF RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
18-23		19	19
24-29		21	21
30-35		26	26
35 YEARS AND ABOVE		34	34
TOTAL		100	100

**SOURCE :FIELD SURVEY 2025**

On the ages of the respondents, the result shows that respondents within ages 30-35 years consists of 26% duly followed by respondents within ages 35 years and above with 34% and 21% constitute respondents within ages 24-29 years; 19% represent the respondents within ages 18-23 years respectively

**Table 2: Marital status of respondents**

<b>Marital status of respondents</b>	<b>RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
Single		17	17
Married		71	71
Divorced		12	12
Total		100	100

**Source:** Field survey, 2025

On the marital status of the respondents, the table show that most of the respondents were married as this assertion was made by 71% of the entire respondent duly followed by the respondents that are single with 17% and 12o represent the respondents that are divorced.

Table 3: Family structure of Respondents

Family Structure of respondents	RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Monogamy		81	81
Polygamy		71	17
Others		02	02
Total		100	100

Source: field survey, 2025

In examining the family structure of the respondents, the table above revealed that most of the respondents had family structure that are monogamous with 81% of the entire respondents affirming this, duly followed by 17% of the respondents claiming polygamy as their family structure. Only 02% the entire respondents claimed others as their family structure without disclosing it.

Table 4: Educational level of respondents

Educational qualification of respondent	Response	Frequency	Percentage
	No formal education	06	06
	Primary education	37	21
	Tertiary education	21	19
	Secondary education	54	54
	1		
	Total	100	100

Source: field survey 2025

On the educational level of the respondent, the results revealed that most of the respondent had more than secondary education with 54% affirming this, followed by the respondents who asserted that they had primary education with 21%. The respondents with secondary education

possesses 199% of the entire respondent interviewed for the study, finally those without formal education had 0.6% of the total respondents.

**Table 5: Religious affiliation of respondent**

Religion of respondents	Christianity	Frequency	Percentage
Response	Muslim	74	26
	Traditionalist	16	10
	Christianity	10	64
	Total	100	100

Source: field survey 2025

In examining the religious affiliation of the respondents, the result shows that 74% of the entire respondents claimed to be Christian followed by the Muslim with 16% and the African religious worshipper constitute just 10% of the entire respondents respectively.

**Table 6: occupation of respondents**

Respondent's Occupation	Response	Frequency	Percentage
	House wife	22	22
	Trader	27	27
	Civil servants	31	6
	Students	14	4
	Others	10	100
	Total	Frequency	Percentage

Source: Field survey, 25

The above table shows the occupation of the respondents, the result revealed that 22% of the entire respondents are housewives while 27% claimed to be traders. The respondents who are civil servants had 31% of the entire respondent while the students 6%. Those whose occupation were anonymous had 14% respectively.

**Table 7: Respondents income**

Respondents income	Response	Frequency	Percentage
	less than N15,000	07	07
	N16,000-N25,000	22	22
	26,000-35000	25	25
	Above 36000	45	45
	Total	100	100

*Source: Field survey, 2025*

The table above shows the respondents income, the result shows that most of the respondents earn above 36,000 monthly. As this assertion was made by 45% of the entire respondents, duly followed by 25% asserting that they earn between 26,000 - 35,000 while 22 said they earn between 16, 000 - 25, 000 and the least are those that earn below 15,000

#### **4.2 SECTION B: ANALYSIS OF RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

This section deals with the analysis of the research questions used in this study

#### **RESEARCH QUESTION ONE**

*To Examine Respondent's Perception On Domestic Violence*

**Table 8: Knowledge of Domestic violence**

Do you know what domestic violence is	Response	Frequency	Percentage
	Yes	100	100
	No	0	0
	Total	100	100

Source: Field survey,2025

It is obvious from the table that the respondents know what domestic violence is, as all of the interviewed respondents affirm this with a 100% confirmation to the issue raised.

**Table 9: Domestic violence experience**

<b>Have you experienced domestic violence</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
	Yes	34	34
	No	30	30
	Indifferent	36	100
	Total	100	100

Source: Field survey, 2025

In examining if the respondents have ever experienced domestic violence, the result shows that 36% of the respondents claimed indifferent, while 34% of the entire respondents were affirmative of their respondents. The least of the respondent are those who were in total disagreement and they constitute just 30% of the respondents

**Table 10: Frequency of violated experience**

<b>How often do you experience domestic violence</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
	Rarely	20	28.61
	Frequent	40	57.1
	Others	10	143
	Total	70	100

Source: field survey32

In examining the frequency of domestic violence, the questions "how often do you experience domestic violence" was asked and from the response of the respondents, it shows that majority of the respondents experience domestic violence frequently followed by those who claimed that they are rarely experienced the gruesome acts with 57.19% and 28.6% respectively while the respondents who claimed others as a fact had 14.3% respectively

### **Research Question Two**

To identify the forms and the vulnerable group to face domestic violence

<b>What form of domestic violence have you been exposed to as an individual</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
	Physical violence	49	49
	Sexual violence	18	18
	Emotional violence	23	23
	Total	100	100

Source: Field Work

The result shows that 49% of the respondents asserted that they have been exposed to Physical violence while 18% of the exposed to is sexual violence the respondents that claimed emotional violence consists 23% of the respondents, while 10% of the entire respondents choose others as their reasons were made personal or undisclosed.

**Table 12: Perpetrator of the act**

<b>Who is more likely to perpetuate domestic violence</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
	Husband	67	67
	Boyfriend	23	23
	Others	10	10
	Total	100	100

**Source: Field survey, 2025**

### **Research Questions Three**

In examining who is more likely to perpetuate the act of domestic violence, the study revealed that 67% of the entire respondent claimed that the husband of the house is more likely to commit the act in the home, while 23% of the respondents opined that the boyfriend are the ones in the position of perpetuating the act of domestic violence in the house. However the least among the group are the respondents that decides to discrete with their opinion as they constitute 10% of the entire respondents.

### **Research Three**

To find out the causes of domestic violence

**Table 13: Victim of domestic violence**

<b>Do you think that you are responsible for being abused</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
	Yes	20	20
	No	74	74
	Indifferent	06	06
	Total	100	100

**Source: Field survey, 2025**

The table above shows who is responsible in the victimization of the victim, From the table, the result shows that 74% of the entire respondents says no to the question, 20% of the respondents affirmed that they were responsible only 06% of the respondents claimed indifferent to the issue

**Table 14: What are the causes of domestic violence?**

<b>what triggered the male aggression on you</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
	Jealousy	18	22.5
	Stress	34	42.5
	Male ego	16	20
	Others	12	15
	Total	80	100

*Source: Field survey, 2025*

In examining the causes of domestic violence, the study looks at what trigger the male aggression and from the result gotten, it shows that stress was one of the major causes of domestic violence as this assertion was made by 42.5% of the entire respondents, followed by jealousy with 22.5% male ego and other reason had 20% and 15% respectively

#### **RESEARCH QUESTION FOUR**

##### **What are the impacts of domestic violence on women**

**Table 15: Injuries and domestic violence**

<b>Have you sustained injuries as a result of domestic violence</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
	Yes	32	82
	No	16	16
	Indifferent	02	02
	Total	100	100

*Source: Field survey, 2025*

In examining if the respondents have sustained injuries as a result of domestic violence, the table shows that 82% of the respondents claimed yes as they have had various form of injuries. 16% of the entire respondents says no and only 02% of the respondents were indifferent.

**Table 16: Types of injuries sustained**

<b>What types of injury did you sustain</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
	Cut	21	25.0
	Eye injury	23	27.4
	Sprains	06	7.1
	Burns	12	14.3
	Dislocation	18	21.4
	Others	04	4.8
	Total	84	100

*Source: Field survey, 2025*

In examining the types of injuries sustained the table shows that 25% of the respondents had sustained cut, while 27.4% sustained eye injuries and their who had sprain were 7.1% and 14.3% had burns as the injuries sustained. The respondents that had dislocation possess 21.4% of the entire respondents and only 4.8% stated injuries that were classified under others.

**Table 17: Impact of the violence**

<b>in what way would you say domestic violence has affected you</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
	Depression	81	25.0
	Low self esteem	71	27.4
	Avoiding family	02	19.4
	Exposed to STD	100	26.2
	Others		2.4
	Total		100

*Source: field survey2025*

The above table shows the aftermath impact of the violence on the women, as the result shows that 27.4% of the respondents opined that they now experience low self-esteem while 26.2% of the respondents claimed they are now exposed to sexually transmitted diseases. 25% of the respondents said they experienced depression and 19% said they are now avoiding their families. Only 2.4% of the respondents' injurious effects were classified as others.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 5.1: SUMMARY OF FINDING

This research study was designed to find out the Effect of domestic violence on women in Egor local government area of Edo state.

1. An overwhelming 100% of the respondent had knowledge of the issue raised, while 34% claimed to have experienced domestic violence.
2. 67% of the total respondent claimed that husbands are more likely to commit the act, while 23% claimed that boyfriends are in the position of perpetuating such act. The remaining 10% decided to be discrete.
3. 42.5% claimed that stress was the major cause of domestic violence, 22.5% claims jealousy. 20% claims male ego, while 15% claimed it is triggered by other reasons.

#### 5.2 CONCLUSION

Based on the findings emanating from this research, it has been discovered that domestic violence is barbaric, harsh and brutish and therefore dangerous to health and collective growth and development of individual.

The Effect of women's mistreatment affects as all, as well as the entire community. The effects of violence at times may involve the victims inability to function in daily life or loss her self confidence. Battering may lead to feeling of shame embarrassment and humiliation, particularly

When beating leaves marks, which in turn may lead to further isolation from friends and family and owing to the fact that we live in a society where men are seen as super ordinate to women, These women would rather suffer in silence rather than move out.

Additionally, the rise in reported cases of domestic violence is quite alarming and usually unchecked in this part of the world, therefore, any initiatives made in order to prevent violence are even more significant for both women and society

### **5.3 RECOMMENDATION**

In view of the conclusion drawn from the findings of the study the following recommendations are hereby proffered.

1. Government should try as much as possible to comply with the recommendation of world health organization (WHO) for prevention of domestic violence which include compliance with legal agreement and the development of laws and other mechanism aimed at protecting human rights. Punishment given to grievously offending husbands should be publicized so that it can serve as deterrence to others.
2. There should be public enlightenment programme through the mass media on the negative effects of domestic violence against women especially wife battery
3. Religious leaders should vigorously teach against marital violence in their places of workship
4. Domestic violence is a product of their subordination of women and to that extent attempt should be made on encouraging gender equality

Finally, the importance of this research cannot be underrated. There is a clear need for national Surveys on domestic violence that will enable the country have a policy statement to address domestic violence in its various manifestations.

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# QUESTIONNAIRE

## APPENDIX

Department of Sociology and  
Anthropology  
Faculty of social sciences  
University of Benin

Dear Respondents,

I am a student of the above named department. I am conducting a study on the effect of domestic violence on women in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. This study is purely an academic exercise and all information given will be treated with utmost confidentiality. Please kindly respond to the items below by ticking (V) to that which you agree with.

Thank you

### SECTION A: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

1. Age group: 18 - 25( ) 24- 29 ( ) 30 - 35 ( ) 36 and above )
2. Marital status: Married ( ) Divorced ( ) cohabiting ( ) never married ( )
3. Family structure: Monogamy ( ) polygamy ( ) others ( )
4. Educational qualification: No education ( ) primary education ( ) secondary education ( ) Tertiary education ( )
5. Religious affiliation: Christian ( ) Muslim ( ) Traditionalist ( )
6. Occupation: House wife ( ) trader ( ) civil servant ( ) student ( ) others ( )
7. Income: less than N15,000 ( ) N16,000( ) N26,000 ( ) N35,000 above ( ) N36,000( )

### SECTION B

8. Do you know what domestic violence is? Yes ( ) No( ) Maybe ( )
9. If yes, have you experienced domestic violence? Yes ( ) No( ) Indifferent ( )
10. If yes. how often do you experience domestic violence? Rarely ( ) frequently: ( ) others ( )
- 11, What form of domestic violence have you been exposed to as an individual? Physical violence ( ) sexual violence ( ) emotional violence( ) others ( )
12. Who is more likely to perpetuate domestic violence? Husband ( ) boy friend ( ) others( )

13. Do you think that you are responsible for being abused? Yes ( ) No ( ) indifferent ( )
14. If no; what do you think trigger male aggression? Jealously ( ) Stress ( ) male ego ( ) others ( )
15. Have you sustained injuries as a result of domestic violence? Yes ( ) No ( ) No response ( )
16. If yes, what type of Injury? Cut ( ) eye injuries ( ) sprains ( ) burns ( ) dislocation ( ) others ( )
17. In what way would you say domestic violence has affected you? Depression  
( ) low self-confidence ( ) avoiding family ( ) exposed to STD
18. Have you reported or seek helping the time you experienced domestic violence.  
Yes ( ) No ( ) no response ( )
19. If yes, to whom did you report to? Family members ( ) close friends ( ) religious leaders ( )  
police ( ) employer ( )
20. Do you think the issue of domestic violence needs to be looked at by authorities? Yes ( ) No  
( ) indifferent ( )