

Reporting Violence Against Women in ‘Daily Aman’ Newspaper in 2011

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Abstract

The study is intended to explore violence against women cases from the newspaper, as it is the medium which disseminate information to the masses. As the media has capacity and capability to influence on changing mindsets with variety of techniques and discourses. Its foremost objective is to find various types of violence occurred in the society, their relationships with the women victims and highlighting the ages in which they have been targeted the most for violence. The adopted methodology for conducting this research is content analysis of daily Aman for the year 2011 news stories related to violence against women. The study observed that murder, honor killing, sexual violence, physical violence and suicide are the most frequent violence against women, but the coverage of such news are limited and constitute on very shorter spaces. It is concluded if laws for preventing violence against women implemented with its true spirit then there will be chances to reduce or may eliminate this menace from the society.

Keywords: *Women, violence, patriarchy, reporting.*

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Introduction

The study is focusing on the significance of news media while reporting on levels of violence against women, because media works as an indicator which can bring changes and made progress towards social and cultural norms which can challenge the existing violence against women in the societies. The present research is aimed to develop the nature of reporting of violence on women by the Pakistani newspaper.

Gender based violence is very common in all over the world, in fact this human rights violation is sometimes socially accepted and tolerated. It affirms that there are inequalities, which exist between men and women, and compromises their health, increases security concern, reduce dignity and of course damage the self-esteem of an individual. Internationally at many forums and documentations of the United Nations, it is stated that violence against women is a hurdle in achieving equality in all segments of life; prospects of development and in maintaining peace. On this note, UN's Secretary General described this situation shameful and said that it is a violation of human rights which hinders women to enjoy freedom in all spheres of life (Johnson et al., 2008).

According to the UN Women, about 35 percent of women face physical and sexual violence in their lives at various stages. However, another figure unveiled that 70 percent of married women have to bear sexual/physical violence by their spouses in their life span (WHO, 2013). It is investigated that the victims of such violence are living under stress; depression and going through abortions. In addition, around 87,000 women were killed in 2017 and it is alarming to hear that around 50,000 women killed by their intimate partners/own family members (United Nations, 2018). It is estimated that about 137 women are being killed worldwide by their own family members in a day. Another frightful truth revealed that around 71 percent of girls and adult women were being trafficked for sexual exploitation (UNODC, 2016).

According to Thomson Reuters Foundation 2018 survey, Pakistan is the sixth most dangerous and unsafe country for women in the world. On the other hand, the rank dropped in seven years as in 2011 Pakistan ranked at three but still the condition of women is grave matter of concern. The survey unveiled top ten countries which are precarious for females to live in 2018 (Alansari, 2019); the

following countries are as follow: (1) India (2) Afghanistan (3) Syria (4) Somalia (5) Saudi Arabia (6) Pakistan (7) Democratic Republic of Congo (8) Yemen (9) Nigeria (10) The United States of America. The present condition measured on the following daunting key areas which are as mentioned: deteriorated Health conditions; discrimination in access to basic resources; cultural traditions; sexual violence; non-sexual violence; and massive human trafficking.

The incidence of violence against women has been increased by 33 percent from 2008 to 2014 in Pakistan (Hadi & Ullah, 2015). However, huge numbers of cases were found in Sindh which is accounted for 41 percent; then followed by Punjab to 39 percent; about 13 percent recorded at Khyber Pakhtunkhwa; and six percent at Balochistan. It is observed that this lower percentage in some provinces is not due to lower rate of domestic violence but majority of cases went under reported because of persistent cultural and judicial barriers. It is also investigated that usually the perpetrators are male counterparts including husband, father and brother; whereas, mother and in-laws involvement in doing domestic violence is also found. It is envisaged that the rate of domestic violence is much higher as compared to the reported cases (HRCP, 2014).

There are many factors which are responsible for the violence against women for instance patriarchal culture of Pakistan gives safer space to the perpetrators for committing such violence (Hadi & Ullah, 2015). It is observed that culture has extreme gender specific roles to perform; for women she strictly has to cook; raising children; family responsibilities and other domestic chores. If she deviates from the prescribed tasks then she has to face violent actions mostly from their husbands. And it all happens under the umbrella of logically fallacious beliefs of Islamic leaders in order to keep women at subordinate positions. Most of religious leaders have used *Quranic* text and presented it in a unbiased manner; as in the reference to context for supporting their arguments and it can be said that they are playing most significant role in validating the subservient position of women which sometimes leads to violence against women (Nasir, 2006).

In Pakistan, It is a dilemma that women rights and laws are available in constitution but unfortunately majority of women are not aware about their due rights in a way to avail such laws (Hadi & Ullah, 2015). In such circumstance,

women are living under isolation conditions and assume that they have to face such violations without having any other option to secure themselves. Lower level of education among women creates dependency on men in every single financial matter because they do not have skills to finance their own expenses and this situation dominates men which paves way for prevalence of the patriarchal culture in the society. As far as justice is concerned, so, we observed institutional barriers which are not allowing women to have easy access while getting justice, for instance police do not cooperate with women victims those who register FIRs of domestic violence, no provision of healthcare services for the victims; though it is costly to bear, and of course time taking judicial procedures (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, 2013). Such mentioned conditions discourage women to ask for justice, due to the reason they are more prey towards domestic violence.

In this current era, news media has power to shape public opinion, as reporters/journalists well understand that how they can portray individuals or events whether it is political; policy; or social justice (Carll, 2003). Now days, media has been emphasized in a way to play constructive role in preventing crimes and violence against women (Simons & Morgan, 2017). However, previous studies evaluated that the content related to violence has always been underrepresented. Whereas, there are multiple ways for demonstrating the social construction of men culture; i.e. gender based violence in the society by the media, but background of stories are always missed and just mention violence, incidence place, reason behind committing violence, offender relationship, and age, does it really working for the sake of women; or hiding patriarchal realities from public. This paper has one or two examples that media has tendency to support the survivors and provide them platform where victims can raise their voices against their culprits (Bullock, 2010). Many of researchers have chosen the topic 'violence against women' with many of research questions as time passed, to measure the level of violence whether it increased or decreased. Similarly, this research paper aims to explore the types of violence against women which are being reported in print media and more specifically news stories from 'Aman' daily newspaper). The study is further highlighting the most frequent violence against women in the society and also attempted to observed the places where the incidence of violence are common among women in Pakistan.

Literature Review

Media is preferentially dominant by its nature, as it is fundamentally different from other sectors while talk about prevention of violence against women like educational sectors or promising intervention by non-governmental organizations, or women's rights organization. Because media is present in fragment shapes, it includes large media institutions, and also ranged from individual journalism to citizen journalism where they are playing active role in collecting and disseminating news on priority basis through the social networking. It can be envisaged that if larger or smaller media networks release violence against women news publicized on earliest basis then it may prevent violence cases further.

To end violence against women, Australian Research Council (ARC) has started a project title: 'Violence Against Women: A Media Intervention' in collaboration with Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth) and Australia's National Research Organization for Women's Safety (ANROWS) have prepared a roadmap which includes: challenge the stereotype roles of gender; emphasis on positive and respectful relationship; promoting women decision making in private and public areas, and their independence. It is evaluated with evidence that news media has potential more space for violence related news, and the matter should be understood as a public matter rather private matters or shameful, and then it can be prevented (Sutherland, et al., 2017).

In regards with condition of women, multiple researches have been done in which they have explored the violence faced by women and their existing reasons. There is one of study conducted by Kalra and Bhugra (2013) which explained that socio-cultural settings may vary from being manhood and womanhood, in fact masculine traits are being associated with the strong feelings of power whereas; feminine traits are being associated with incapability of protecting themselves due to the reason men are considered their protectors. As far as violence is concern so, it is also a matter of power and control, domination and at extreme it leads to humiliation. In such stance, perpetrators use various acts including abduction; threats, sexual abuse, rape, physical, mental and psychological violence. On the other hand, it is also a point of focus that how the gender relationships perceived in cultures and more importantly

after violence, how offenders and victims are viewed? So, it is found that rape is considered a socio-cultural configuration that happens among intimate partner violence and also in condition of male dominance, and having an ideology that males are tough whereas; in all such circumstances females are being labeled as weaker. It is a point of focus that society and culture itself responsible for all such mischievous acts and calling women weaker gender. In the end, it is also concluded by the author that significance of sex; sexual experience; dependency on the relationship with women; and use of porn content are the variables which encouraged males to do violence against women.

Azeem (2010) explored various facts and realities through the newspaper analysis that violence is usually committed by men and by their families. The collected data demonstrated that the rate of violence against women has been increased by 20 percent in Pakistan, majority of assaults are accounted for honor killing, and specifically the areas of Sindh and Islamabad are more susceptible. According to the compilation of daily news regarding violence against women, around 9,396 cases were reported in 2009; on the other hand reported cases were 7,802 in 2008. Brison (1998) stated her philosophical idea that violence occurs because it is prevalent in societies. As per Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) of the United States, one rape occurs in every six minutes on average however, it is projected by the researchers that such identified rate of rape is only of reported cases. It is also claimed by many of researchers that only 10 percent of rape cases are being reported. In addition, on average in every 15 seconds women are beaten within household economy. Such statistics and frequent sexual violence against women set a prejudice among masses that often practice of violence is considered natural within human living environment.

Now the data of violence against women gathered by the Aurat Foundation (AF), total 8548 crimes against women were witnessed in various provinces of Pakistan. Division of violence in regards to the provinces is as follows: Punjab (5722 cases); Sindh (1762 cases); NWFP (655 cases); Balochistan (237 cases); Islamabad (172 cases). The data had been collected from media news reports in which they highlighted the types of violence occurred in the year, 1384 girls murdered; 928 were raped; 683 commit suicide; 604 were the victims of honor killing and others (Aurat Foundation, 2010). In comparison with 2011, little decrease observed as 8539 women became the victim of violence, whereas 7516 cases reported in 2012 (Parveen, 2012). Besides the percentage decrease or

increase in violence rate, no radical intrusion seen even in the presence of commissions of crimes against women. The foundation has informed, media role is appreciated because the data or annual statistics usually collected from print and electronic media. But Aurat Foundation monitoring team stated that incidents news did not covered from all aspects for instance: it did not mention the marital status, age, weapon used while offence occurred, and reason behind the crime. In this regard, offenders plus victims should be probed from every single aspect of nature of violence. It is recommended that it founds lacking in some of news stories due to the reason it is requested by the media to verify the case with more details (Aurat Foundation, 2011).

Significance of the study

At present, women's rights violation is common in every part of the world. It can be observed from workplace (public places) to private spheres (households) in different forms of violence against women. In addition, it is also a heat debated issue around the globe by many of human rights' activists, feminists including various women's organizations. Further, the role of media is playing a key role in highlighting and exploring the news of violence across the globe for instance, here we can discuss two prominent cases: one of Mukhtaramai; who was gang raped in province of Punjab as two clans had conflicts, under the orders of rich tribal council; opponent clan teen aged girl being raped. At that time, villagers believed that she would commit suicide after being raped but she has survived, spoke up and knock the judicial doors in order to have justice. After court trial accusers were being sentenced to death. This type of incident has given courage to women to break their silence and this way Mukhtara elevated the confidence of other women victims that life does not end. Similarly, the case of Malala Yusufzai is very heartbroken, she was gunshot and attempted to be assassinated, but has survived fortunately. She is still an activist and supporter of women's and children's education, and working for girl's education in Pakistan and in other parts of the world as well. She was a native of Swat area, where female schools were exploded by extremist few years ago. Mukhtara and Malala are 'survivors of violence'; electronic and print media had created hike in rest of the world about the courageous efforts of such brave ladies. Here we observed that the media is a powerful tool, as it reaches to millions of people, can challenge the rigid gender roles and can persuade people to transform their mindsets for eradicating the disparities among men and women.

According to the annual report by Global Media Monitoring Project 2015, focus of media on women related news stories are only 10 percent, further observed that just 20 percent of women experts and spokesperson interviewed and mere 4 percent of content deemed to be challenging towards gender stereotyping. Still it can be assumed that the process is complex because one side, it is believed media is powerful and on the other hand the coverage related to women related stories found very limited. Anyhow, still print and electronic media have capacity to work for breaking gender stereotype roles and to change the orthodox beliefs from societies. It is also a reality that if cases reports and victims take firm stands against culprits, brings them to court trials for getting justice. It can be assumed that this way the rate of violence could be reduced and warn perpetrators to not commit such acts of violence against women. Due to the reason, this topic has been chosen to identify the cases of violence against women news and from one of leading newspapers 'Aman' which is an Urdu medium newspaper and widely readable in the economy to create a debate and explore ways how to end violence against women.

Research Questions

- 1.** First, the study will investigate the type of violence against women reporting in the newspaper.
- 2.** Secondly, it will measure the space occupying by the news stories of violence against women in the newspaper.
- 3.** Thirdly, the research will highlight the factors behind violence against women.

Objectives of the study

1. To examine the reported cases of violence against women in the newspaper for one year.
2. To observed the most prevailing violence rate against women in the Pakistani societies.
3. To explore the most affected strata or class of the society from violence related activities.
4. To find out the perpetrators relationship with the victims of violence.

5. To find the ages of women victims who have been targeted for violence.

Theoretical Framework

In available literatures there are multiple frameworks have been proposed by many of scholars as per their researches or observations of socio-cultural studies. But none of single phenomenon or theory can be generalized that why violence against women has been practiced in the society around the globe. In such scenario, many of approaches have been selected for this research paper to develop an understanding about women abuse which is supposed to be multi-factorial. One of the most used frameworks is nested ecological framework of Bronfenbrenner which explains that individual's humans interactions and existing social environment shaped the behavior of persons in the society. This model has developed five levels which included: 'Individual' behavior which is based on biological and personal factors; 'microsystem' level interactions involves family and workplace situations; 'mesosystem' level emphasizing that child development not only influence by the family but also from social environment; 'exosystem' level gives idea of having more than one social settings which influence children's development indirectly; and 'macrosystem' defines the larger cultural context which influenced individual to behave within specific behaviors.

The theoretical perspectives of VAN DIJK (1988) that it extends the role of mass communication in terms of formulating multi-theory ideologies through expressions and discourse. He briefed, theoretical framework into three basic concepts including cognition, society and discourse; which could have many directions of understanding towards particular issues in fact multilevel influences on individual or group of individuals. Media has capability to view or shape any type of subject, writing or speech as per social function, group interests, legitimate and justify social actions in a neutral manner. If this theory apply on violence against women news stories then definitely it would have positive impacts on women lives and society as a whole.

Research Methodology

The research paper is based on content analysis, as it determines the theme about the violence against women from newspaper. This specific technique has been used to accomplish the research and to systematically evaluate the text (qualitative data); and transform into quantitative form. Holsti (1967) proposed, “*Content analysis is a systematic technique which identifies the characteristics of messages*” (Holsti, 1967 cited in Gottschalk et al., 1969). This method adopted by the researches that are often used to analyze the existing texts (Drisko & Maschi, 2016). This paper has gathered quantitative statistical gender based violence and how women portrayed in violence news stories in the newspaper. The data has found evidence that in Pakistan different type of violence occurs against women, and most common observed violence is domestic violence. Findings have demonstrated that how frequently media report the news stories related to violence against women. Such sexist stereotypes of male identity are associated with the violence, power and control, dominancy; whereas women are being presented as victims, subjugate, inferior etc.

Meanwhile, the universe of this study has been selected from front, inside and back pages news of the ‘Daily Aman’ newspaper from January 2011 to December 2011 about the coverage of violence against women. This newspaper has massive readers and it aims to accompany with active and investigative journalism while promoting the young and enthusiast journalists who have serious concern about bringing positive changes in the society and country. The discussion part of the paper taken assistance from previous studies and researches to signify the intensity of violence in Pakistan. The paper has wisely selected the categories on three basic ideas: first according to the designed objectives, second which are understandable and third systematically manageable. Keeping in view about such ideas, the categories are developed as they may sufficiently meet with the objectives of the study, included:

1. Honor killing: the term often used for the murder of female, who has brought shame and dishonor to the family, and damage their prestige.
2. Sexual violence: this type of violence involved forced, undesired physical/sexual behavior or can say sexual act with non-consensual basis with the other person.

3. Physical violence: it is an intentional act which causes injury, trauma, disability or any physical harm to a person; it can further lead to sexual abuse.
4. Murder: unlawful killing of a person with having some malice aforethought in mind.
5. Acid throwing: it is an extreme form of violence, in which corrosive substance thrown at a person usually on women and girls to scar survivors permanently.
6. Suicide: a person, intentionally own self responsible for death.
7. Rape: it is a sexual assault, where one person forces woman/girl to have sex.
8. Burning cases: woman burned alive usually with gasoline stove by her in laws.
9. Trafficking: it is a practice to enslave people by illegal means to exploit them, however; girls/women trafficking usually observed for sexual exploitations.

Findings and Discussion

Table 1: Total number of violence against women news coverage of 'Daily Aman Newspaper' of 2011.

| Violence against women | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Total Cases |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| <i>Karo Kari</i> | 11 | 07 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 07 | 03 | 07 | 03 | 06 | 07 | 81 |
| Sexual violence | 07 | 05 | 05 | 08 | 04 | 03 | 03 | 01 | 02 | 03 | - | 02 | 43 |
| Physical violence | 03 | 02 | 02 | 02 | 02 | 01 | 01 | 02 | 02 | 03 | - | 02 | 22 |
| Murder | 05 | 16 | 18 | 15 | 23 | 14 | 20 | 14 | 16 | 20 | 06 | 05 | 172 |
| Acid throwing | 01 | - | - | - | 03 | - | 02 | - | 01 | - | 01 | 01 | 09 |
| Suicide | 03 | - | 02 | 01 | 01 | 05 | 03 | 03 | - | 01 | - | - | 19 |
| Kidnapping/Rape | - | - | - | - | - | 02 | 01 | 02 | 01 | 01 | 01 | 01 | 09 |
| Burning | 02 | 01 | - | - | - | 02 | - | - | 02 | - | 02 | - | 09 |
| Trafficking | - | 03 | 02 | 02 | 01 | 01 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 09 |
| Total cases of violence | 32 | 34 | 35 | 35 | 42 | 37 | 37 | 25 | 31 | 31 | 16 | 18 | 373 |

Source: Compiled by the author.

During the content analysis on theme 'violence against women' in Daily Aman newspaper, the study has explored various types of violence which include *karokari* (honor killing), sexual violence, physical violence, murder, acid throwing, suicide, kidnapping/rape, burning and trafficking are the most cruel acts which bring women under fearful condition and lead to think of life failures. According to worldwide figures, Pakistan is considered the 6th most dangerous country for women due to the rising violence against women. The activists and feminists are blaming male dominant structures of the society, as endemic types of violence in the urban and rural areas are increasing at alarming rate. In backward societies female domestic violence is suppose to be a private family issue and reluctant to resolve such issues. It is believed that women have to bear all this discriminatory behaviors on daily basis because of misuse of social and cultural values.

The notion behind conducting this type of research is to measure the space covered by news story by the newspaper regarding violence against women. On average the ranges of width observed from 1.1 inches to 3.6 inches and length ranges from 1.6 inches to 3.5 inches. The findings are quite disappointing that the coverage of violence against women has very shorter spaces as compared to the stories related to the political events, entertainments, educational events, opinion sections; however, violence is a social evil and needs to be covered from every single aspect associated with it. After keen observation and coverage of 1-year news from newspaper related to violence against women, the places where most of incidence taken place are identified such as: Sindh (Hyderabad, Sukkur, Khairpur, Ghotki including: least and underdeveloped areas of Karachi); some areas of Punjab have alarming situation (including: Lahore, Rawalpindi, Vehari, Chakwal, Kasur); and Peshawar has also reported cases of violence against women. Moreover, ages of girls/women victims are ranging according to the particular violence for instance sexual harassment including rape usually observed between 16 to 25 years; murder cases reported between 20 to 40 years; *Karo-Kari* ranging between 17 to 40 years and other violence ranges are varying and can be occurred at any of life span. It is very dreadful that usually the offenders are relatives and most of violence committed by their husband, fathers and brothers however in-laws ratio is also significant.

According to the observed readings in above table Murder counts are (172), *Karo-kari* (81), sexual violence (43), physical violence (22) and suicide (19) are

the top occurring violence against women in Pakistan. However, UNODC (2019) report confirms that Asia is the largest continent in the world in terms of population, where majority of women and girls have been killed or murdered by their intimate partners and other family members. As per report findings, all such killings are intentional homicides where about 20,000 female were killed and further at greatest risk of being murdered. It is also revealed that number of deaths of women and girls were amounted at 87, 000 in 2017 in all over the world. In addition, the situation is so pathetic that around 137 women/girls are being killed every day intentionally however, 82 murders out of total 137 were killed by their caretakers and people to whom they trust the most. Whereas, AL Kellermann & JA Mercy (1992) study denied the results of current study as it stated that male victims of homicides were more as compared to the female victims. The researcher had taken 215,273 homicide cases in the United States out of which 77 percent were males and 23 were female. However, female killers were found by their intimate partners similar as of previous research, in contrast to men, they were being killed by strangers, non-intimate acquaintances, and usually killed with a gun, knives, or by other means. Further added, the ratio of murder among women in Pakistan is at highest trajectory among all other violence.

Table 2: Varying degree of violence against women Chart in Pakistan.

| Types of crime | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Abduction/Kidnapping | 1784 | 1987 | 2236 | 2089 | 1607 |
| Murder | 1422 | 1384 | 1436 | 1575 | 1745 |
| Domestic Violence | 281 | 608 | 486 | 610 | 989 |
| Suicide | 599 | 683 | 633 | 758 | 575 |
| Honor Killing | 475 | 604 | 557 | 705 | 432 |
| Rape/Gang Rape | 778 | 928 | 928 | 827 | 822 |
| Sexual Assault | 172 | 274 | 74 | 110 | 58 |
| Acid Throwing | 29 | 53 | 32 | 44 | 83 |
| Burning | 61 | 50 | 38 | 29 | 71 |
| Miscellaneous | 1970 | 1977 | 1580 | 1792 | 1134 |
| Total | 7571 | 8548 | 8000 | 8539 | 7516 |

Source: Tabassum (2016)

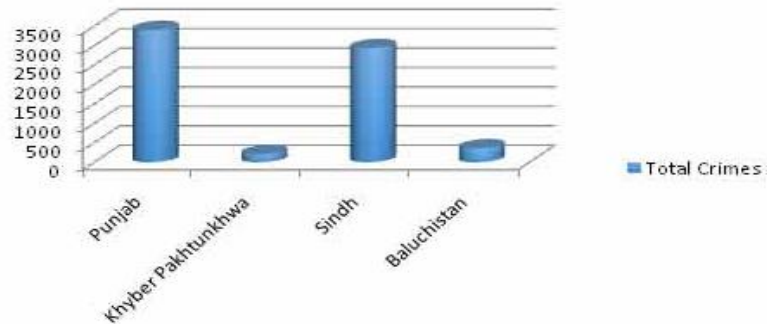
According to the compiled data of this paper, *Karo Kariis* the second most prominent violence against women, in this regard, feminists estimated there are

around one thousand honor killing every year in the country. It is also a bitter reality of traditional societies like Pakistan that convictions and penalties are rare, though laws exist to bring justice in the society. It is because of many of loopholes as legal heirs of the victim who are already involved in such criminal acts of honor crime pardon the opponent party before the court (Ijaz, 2019). Moreover, Helba et al., (2014) evaluated few other findings such as average age of honour victims worldwide is about 23, around 93 percent of women were being targeted on the name of honour, and a shocking reality is that more than half of the victims are the daughters and sisters of the perpetrators and sometimes wives and girlfriends. In addition, the researcher has successfully found the average ages of victims i.e. usually 17 and 36; about 2/3rd honour killing are planned through family collaboration. Moreover, this study conducted in Europe and North America, it is identified that honour killing origins are linked with the family in Europe (72 percent) and North America (49 percent) and elaborated the reason behind killings is that such women were being too modernized, further highlighted that 43 percent honour killings of women in Muslim countries is because of the same reason, whereas this violence does not condoned by the Islamic code of conduct.

Records of Aman newspaper labelling sexual violence prevalence on number three in Pakistan, a news of 'The Express Tribune' (2017) stated that 93 percent of Pakistani women face sexual violence at public place in their lifetime. It is also mentioned that only 10 percent of cases are being reported, however majority of cases reported from Punjab and Sindh and very fewer from Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The reason behind less reported cases of violence would be associated with the existing customs, feudal rules and norms which are being considered normal practice against women. World Health Organization (WHO) describes the range of sexual violence from verbal harassment to forced penetration. It can have many forms such as rape by strangers or acquaintances; sexual advances without consent; sexual slavery usually observed in armed conflicts; sexual abuse of children; and of course there are customary forms of sexual violence i.e. forced marriage or no security of women inheritance. Now the report of violence cases is one of the biggest problem because of many logical reasons including shame associated; insufficient support system; risk of being retaliated by the perpetrator; or fear of being isolated. It also discussed the factors that how this crime committed as few of culprits apprehended in few of cases and investigated; extracted information:

they have gang membership; illegal use of alcohol; anti-social personalities; had history of physical and sexual abuse in childhood; limited education; having more than one partner; and acceptability of violence that beating a wife or girlfriend is not a crime. The WHO analysed that it has terrible effects on mental and physical health and never lasting effects on women survivors of sexual abuse.

Table 3: Provincial Data of Total Crimes Against Women 2017



Source: Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI)

Similarly, the study conducted in Tanzania found that violence against women observed at significant rate where about 31 percent of rural women are being abused sexually whereas in urban areas at 23 percent. Another study supports the results, which has been conducted in northern part of Tanzania with adopted methodology of 12-month prevalence survey where physical and sexual both violence observed at 26 percent and 21 percent respectively (WHO, 2005). In such circumstances, WHO recommends adequate health services for violence survivors' and introduce to provide non-stigmatizing support in order to save their confidence and push such women to ask for justice without shame attached to it. However, previous studies of Sub-Saharan Africa including Sahn (2003) and Negussie et al., (2010) concluded that the country has very limited access towards women victims of violence because of poverty and low level of literacy. Jewkes (2002) study confirms that women educational attainments can be protective with regards of domestic violence and other forms of violence as well.

Physical violence has wider range which includes physical assaults; battery or it is also a matter of power and control, where men are always powerful due to patriarchal nature of society and women are usually controlled by men due to their subservient position. It can further move to severe conditions for instance injuries or lead to death. So, newspaper data collection has ranked the physical violence on fourth as per its prevalence in the country. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) report informed that in America about 10 million women are victims of physical violence; in every single minute at least 20 women being violated in the United States; and around 76 percent women experienced physical violence by their intimate. Physical violence does not bound to certain age, socio-economic background, ethnicity, cast, race religion or nationality, it exists everywhere in the society. Most commonly, physical violence described as a tool to oppress weaker person (women) in a relationship. Meanwhile study conducted in Jordan by Al-Matalka (2014) focused on very crucial points of women's lives, with many of demographic factors which includes the female age of marriage and husband's age here it was observed that early marriage (15-24) ages women are being abused the most by their husbands. Due to early marriage, it was also identified in the sample that the couple were less educated and had passed twelfth class or below, few of them had diplomas certificates only. The research also highlighted that females whose husbands abused them were unemployed or worked on daily wages (irregular). It can also be elaborated that due to miserable conditions men frustrated and expressed their anger to the most tender gender (women). Whereas, another point explored in the study, women who married forcefully were being abused more as compared to females who were in love before marriage. In the end, it is concluded by the researcher that still there are so many hidden and unknown violence against women are prevailing. However, author also discussed that women do not like to share their violence experiences because of fear of retaliation by the perpetrator and associated social stigma. Most prominent suggestion from the study is that domestic violence awareness must be given at schools, colleges and universities level.

Meanwhile, the violence discussed above are the most occurring violence against women, whereas suicide, acid throwing, kidnapping, burning are also serious concerns of women in Pakistan. Bhatti (2019) explained that women who commit suicide are commonly under depressed condition, as it was highlighted by the leading psychiatrists that men, women and teenagers are

committing suicide every year; and the problem mainly associated with depression and anxiety which is 4-5 times doubled in Pakistan as compared to other countries of the world. Similarly, acid throwing on women is also one of cheapest and easiest way to violence, it is a deliberate action against women and the perpetrator usually target the head; face; intended to disfigure a woman, or sometimes lead to blindness. Pakistan Today (2019) mentioned that in 2016/17 there were total 71 acid throwing cases; whereas in 2018/19 total 62 cases were observed. It further mentioned, after such significant numbers of cases the ratio is showing downward trend as compared to the past years. It is because of the bill 'Acid and Burn crime Bill, 2018' passed by the government of Pakistan in which the offender is liable to pay five Lakh (rupees) and maximum 7-year of imprisonment. Other than that a victim will be given full medical services at free of cost (National Assembly Bill, 2018). Whereas; UNODC (2013) report unveiled the girls and women are mainly trafficked to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) for work as dancers and later subjected to sexual exploitation. It was also disclosed that minor girls are being kidnapped and then trafficked under fraudulent documentation that certified them as adult. Pakistan Today (2019) covered a story on human trafficking in Pakistan, it informed that 20, 000 cases were reported in 2018 under Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) in which 92 percent of cases are of women. It was also emphasized that it does not only happen in poverty stricken areas but also from cities i.e. Karachi, Lahore and Faisalabad. In this regard, many of laws have been passed but implementation still bleak due to the reason incidence of kidnapping/trafficking are increasing in the country.

Conclusions

The findings demonstrate that the news regarding violence against women covered by the newspapers have very limited stories and given lesser importance; however majority of murders are result of extreme domestic violence in households. Unfortunately, the violence perpetrators are usually the relatives and in-laws who considered male protectors of women. It signifies that females' victims are not only from slums or lower strata but also from posh areas of the country. The life spans of 16 to 40 years age of women have observed to face various types of violence, which are normally acceptable by the society. Though, the national and international women's rights organizations are continuously working to end all forms of violence worldwide. In this regard,

many of women protection legislations have been passed but due to its non-implementation the percentage of violence against women do not even reduced or eliminated so far. Many of times laws are biased and exist with loopholes, because of the reason offenders manage to absolve from prosecutions. In most of societies women victims do not receive aid and support, due to the reason violence incidence prevented publically and the reported cases ratio is negligible from the incidence occurred in reality.

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