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The present study is an attempt to bring out complex set of events & interactions so as to understand the intricacies of the problem of domestic violence in holistic manner. The lived experience helps to capture varying responses of the women throughout their marriage from emergence of violence till she approaches formal sources for redressal of her problem and various socio- cultural realities, influencing these responses. The study also brings out challenges faced by women during an effort to resolve the conflict. This will help in understanding the issue of domestic violence and comprehensive formulation of policies and programmes addressing the needs of women facing domestic violence.

The present study clearly brings out the fact that women across all age group (20-45years) were facing domestic in marriage by their husband. Education level and occupational status have little to do in providing violence free life to a woman .All the women were subjected to physical assault with varying degree and frequency. More than half of the women's narration brings out misery of facing 'forced sex' by their husband in the marriage and even after separation. Few of the women had to face physical coercion and psychological penalisation whenever they refused to have sex. Economic abuse is also a form coercion inflicted with a view to exert control and power and curtail their economic freedom.

Women were often subjected to emotional and verbal abuse. These women had to face regular taunts & abuse, and constant and long intimidation to bring dowry.

Psychological coercion meted out to the women can be enumerated -intimidation to terminate pregnancy, constant threatening to kill or grave assault, regular threatening to throw out of the house if failed to follow the command. More than half of the woman sited multiple chief causes of long drawn contention at various occasion during their life time. The women's perception of chief cause of violence were- financial stress, alcohol and gambling, suspicion, failure to perform household duties and live- up the expectation of husband, deception in marriage and preference for male child. Initial first year of marriage or more, many women did not confide their problem with their parents at all.

Parents were usually the first one to be told among various social networks by the women about her sorrow and misery. Most often women were asked to maintain silence and encouraged to work hard in their relationship as they believed 'preserving marriage' was the goal of any marriage than anything else. In few instances, neighbour became medium for change in the outlook of the women and their natal family towards the problem. Many women made their mind to seek help from formal sources when they were thrown out of the house or were deceitfully left and subsequently all the reconciliation effort failed. Apart from these situational events, women approached to formal sources when they faced grave assault or fear of death in future and violence started affecting children. A few women approached to these formal networks when the matter became public. Long year of violence affected every sphere of women's life be it in the private domain or in the public domain. Domestic violence has badly affected the health of the women physically and psychologically.