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THE RELATIONSHIP OF FAMILY FACTOR ON THE ABUSE PATTERN OF RUNAWAY WOMEN IN KARACHI, PAKISTAN

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ABSTRACT

This article examines “the relationship of family factors on the abuse pattern of runaway women” which forced the women to join the Bilquis Edhi shelter house at Nagan Chowrangi Karachi. Typically, the sheltered women faced various issues like family pressure, personal choice, fear, personality disorders and issues, and some other family related issues. However, the factors included in this study were; Demographic characteristics, Family factor, Social factor, Psychological factor, Physical factor, Emotional factor, Verbal factor. The universe of the study was Bilquees Edhi shelter house Karachi and the calculated sample size was 200. For the distribution and allocation of the sample size convenience sampling technique was applied in this study. Questionnaire was used as a tool for the data collection. Thematic analysis was done after the collection of actual data from the field. The major finding showed that the respondent's women were forced to join shelter house due to family problems such as less parental support, family pressure, in-laws' pressure, fear, divorce, separation of parents, dispute among the in-law's family, property and economic problems, husband's addiction and threat of life. There should be equal participation of women in their life decisions and they should also have certain parental & in-laws support for her better living.

INTRODUCTION

The United Nations defines the term violence against women as any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women including threats of such act,

coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty whether occurring in public or private life (WHO, 2010). Any demonstration or danger of sex-based brutality that outcomes or is probably going to bring about, physical, sexual or mental damage or enduring to ladies, including intimidation or subjective hardship of freedom, regardless of whether happening openly or in private life. This incorporates physical, sexual and mental brutality like beating, consuming and corrosive tossing, sexual maltreatment including assault and interbreeding by relatives, female genital mutilation, female feticide and child murder, and psychological mistreatment like compulsion and oppressive language. (Aurat Foundation, 2014).

One of the most significant issue in Pakistan is violence against women which restricts women from passing a pleasing life. An increasing trend had been shown in the records and media report about violence against the women. From January to December 2020, 2297 cases of violence against women had been registered across the country. Main classification of violence against women retrieved through the monitoring of the sampled newspapers are; Murder, Abduction/ Kidnapping, Rape/ Gang Rape, 'Honour' Killing, Suicide and Miscellaneous (Domestic, Dowry, Acid, Inheritance, Child and Forced Marriage). The highest number of cases reported violence against women in Punjab were 57%, from Sindh 27%, from KP 8%, from G-B 6% and 2% cases were reported in Balochistan (Aurat Foundation, 2020).

In order to pass their days of life these runaway girls may commit crimes e.g., robbery, beggary, prostitution and become members of deception and prostitution teams (Jacob et al., 2004). The family factors which the researcher has observed are; family type, family income, family education and role of decision making in the family as well as the treatment behavior of family with girls. The domestic factors of this problem comprise the tyrannical behavior, dispute and disagreements with the parents, mother and brother, physical punishments, forced marriages, cold affection, divorce and separation, parent's digressed behaviors and detention of the parents. The social factors are included as the group migration, uncertainty in the living conditions, and deterring economic situation of the family. Preferring to the runaway alternative to the hard conditions of family is demandingly accompanied with various contemptible affairs such as prostitution, beggary, addictive drug selling, taking refuge to the corruption bands and meeting their expectations (Kermani & Rajabzadeh, 2011). The other part is the abused women in which the researcher has focused on those women who were, physically, sexually, economically, psychologically, verbally and emotionally abused in families. Abuse is any utilization of mental, physical or sexual power, real or compromising, in a close connection. Close connections mean an accomplice in current time or previous mate, and a buddy or dating accomplice. Viciousness is utilized to scare, embarrass or alarm casualties, or to cause them to feel frail. Maltreatment against ladies happens in groups of all financial, instructive and social foundations and is found in both country and metropolitan settings.

The present study has been conducted in order to understand the relation of family factors on the abuse pattern of runaway women in Karachi. But

accordingly, it needs to be concentrated that runaway of women in Pakistan from their homes to the shelter houses is a rapid and untouchable issue for some decades. And it is also closely observed that the violent behavior of the society against the women is also increasing very fast in the modernizing world though the mass awareness campaigns are on the commencement in this regard yet the phenomenon is increasing. Indeed, the researcher in this regard studied the women who took shelter in Edhi Shelter house of Karachi in order to check the hypothetical statements which the researcher gained deep insight through observing the society. Being terrorized by domestic abuse and finding herself on the doorstep of a shelter for other abused women without support and resources, it stands to reason that loneliness is a silent feature of the abused women's experience. Loneliness is a painful experience that is commonly not embraced and which has consequences that are detrimental to one's emotional, physical and spiritual well-being.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Azam, et.al. (2013) found that women sought peace in Dar-ul-Aman getting away with the regular brutality of their spouses or gang. Approximately 80% women suffer from physical, sexual, and mental brutality in their wedded or family life in Pakistan. The stories of the parental families and in-laws' families were shared by the respondents by uttering that how they passed their lives. As their mental health suffered in in-laws more than their parental house and also, they uttered the stories of the early age marriages. Idress (2012) explored that the condition of runaway girls not changed so far. The runaway girls are not permitted to participate actively in family decision-making process. Cultural and social norms interrupts in the conditions of those families in which they belong. Almost all runaway girls have singled out the role of their low educational attainment, bettering of the family, affairs before marriage and gender discrimination within a family is the heinous brutality. As a result of this brutality, runaway girls have an urge to live in healthy and safe environment. The aftereffects of this study uncovered that young ladies with a past filled with disrespect also, physical misuse are inclined to mental issues prompting fleeing from their homes. This question is altogether connected with parental enslavement. High levels of extroversion, emotionality and unsettling influences of social aptitudes might achieve more social harm for these young ladies (Toubaei, et.al, 2012). Kermani, & Rajabzadeh (2011) found that the family factors of this issue include the oppressive behavior, dispute and disagreements with the parents, mother and brother, physical punishments, mandatory marriage, cold affection, divorce, divorce and separation, parent's deviated behaviors and imprisonment of the parents. The characteristics of adolescents and family factors are significant predictors of adolescents' runaway. Results showed that young people who reported drinking alcohol or being Asian, Hispanic and American Indian were more likely to experience numerous runaway episodes. These findings that young people who experience numerous high-risk behaviors, such as alcohol use, truancy, parental neglect and mistrust run away more frequently (Thompson, J. S & Pillai, K, V, 2006). The Global Fund for Women (2006) the main reasons and motives for running away can be summarized as: Reasons for running away from house are early and forced marriages, domestic violence, illiteracy and the women's and girls' unawareness of their rights (legal and

sharia) and others. Humphreys & Thiara (2003) found that an immediate connection between ladies' encounters of aggressive behavior at home and uplifted rates of melancholy, injury side effects, and self-hurt. Aggressive behavior at home is one of numerous issues, as well as an issue that requires tending to as an essential concern. Ladies enduring abusive behavior at home are reliably over-spoke to in the emotional wellness administration client populace, it is vital that these issues are direly tended to. Women living in a provincial nonfarm living arrangement reported the most noteworthy exploitation of serious physical misuse Partner viciousness is a vital open wellbeing issue in provincial and urban ranges. Markers of misuse in provincial populaces vary from those in urban territories. Sex seems to be a solid impact modifier for both serious physical and psychological mistreatments. Ladies who live outside of towns however not on ranches reported more physical misuse than other ladies (Murty, et.al. 2003). Meth (2001) aimed to bring two aspects of gendered marginalization. First to examine women suffered from domestic violence and second those who lived in insure homes and experiencing domestic violence. Simons & Whitbeck (1991) founded that the poor women who runaway were involved in criminal activities, substance misuse and immoral activities which society considered them deviant behaviors. Hussain, et.al. (2020) found that the domestic violence against the women in Gilgit Baltistan is alarming and it is also significantly correlated with the mental situation of the women. The dominant risk factors were poverty, the influence of in-laws, and second marriage behind domestic violence.

Objectives

The main objectives of the study are outlined below:

1. To explore the family factors involved on the abuse pattern of runaway women
2. To find out relationship between family factors and abuse pattern
3. To provide effective solution for eradication of the issue

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present research is studied through quantitative approach and type of study was explanatory in nature. However, this has been studied on the principle of social survey research. The universe for the present study was selected Bilquess Edhi women shelter house and the target population was those women who were present at the moment in the shelter house. Hence, the researcher got the list of total women who were present or have taken shelter in the Bilquess Edhi women shelter house. The researcher then used Roasoft sample size calculator and got the sample of 200 out of total population which was 1700. The researcher then used convenience sampling technique for the data collection. And the tool for the data collection was a questionnaire containing 35 questions of open-ended, close-ended and matrix questions. After the data collection, the data were analyzed statistically through the test of chi square test of independent.

Major Findings of The Research

The major findings of the research show that majority of the respondents i.e., 24% were 37 to 40 years old, whereas cumulatively 33.5% were older than the 40 years and others 23% were cumulatively less than 36 years old. Majority of the respondents' i.e., 58.5% were those who could read and write means that they were educated while the rest were uneducated. Majority of the respondents' i.e., 58.5% were married, 23.5% of respondents were divorced and 18.0% of respondents were window. And 10.5% of respondents did not have any children. 45.5% of respondents had 1-3 children while 36.0% of respondents had 4-6 children and 8.0% of respondents had 7-9 children. Besides, majority of the respondents' i.e., 44.5% were Urdu speaking.

Furthermore, the data shows that majority of the respondents' i.e., 80.0% were Muslim. Majority belonged to joint family system which were 65% from the total respondents. And majority of the respondents' i.e., 55.0% family monthly income was 10,000-65,000, 24.5% of respondents' family monthly was 65,001-1, 20,000 while others rest of the respondents had higher than mentioned monthly family income. 34.0% of respondents' fathers were matriculated, 20.5% of respondents' fathers were intermediate pass and 26.0% of respondents' fathers were having higher education or some other type of education like Madrassa etc. and 8.0% of the respondents' fathers were doctors. 5.5% of respondents' fathers were engineers while 23.0% respondents' fathers were factory workers. 6.5% of respondents' fathers were Pilates while 6.0% of respondents' fathers were lawyers, 24.5% of respondents were businessmen and 26.5% of respondents' fathers were having other different kinds of job.

While 23.0% of Respondents' mothers were primary pass. 5% of Respondents' husbands were primary pass. 10.0% of respondents' husbands were secondary pass, 41.0% of respondents' husbands were matriculated, 18.5% of respondents' husbands were intermediate pass and 22.0% of respondents' husbands were having higher education or some other type of education like Madrassa etc. and 26.5% respondents' husbands were factory workers and others profession included like doctors, engineers, lawyers, Pilates, businessman etc.

Moreover, 4.0% of respondents' age at the time of marriage was 12-13 years. 11.5% of respondents' age at the time of marriage was 14-15 years, while 28.0% of respondents' age at the time of marriage was 16-17 years and others time of marriage was more than 17 years old. 12.0% of respondents' marriage was done through wanni, while 26.0% of respondents' marriage was done through watta satta and 62.0% respondents' marriage was done through normal marriage as family consented. Majority of the respondents' i.e., 55.0% families gave much focus to their traditional culture and 45.0% of respondents' families did not give any focus towards their traditional culture. Majority of the respondents' i.e., 44.0% families followed their religious way of life a lot, while 30.5% of respondents' families did not follow their religious way of life and 25.5% of respondents' families followed their religious life in an extent.

Majority of the respondents' i.e., 55.5% families all decisions were made by male members, while 24.0% of respondents' family's decisions were made collectively by male and female. 31.5% of respondents' husbands were drug addicted, while 43.0% respondents' husbands were not drug. Majority of the respondents' i.e., 70.0% were highly victimized to economic abuse, 74.5% were highly victimized to emotional abuse, 75.0% were highly victimized to psychological abuse, 79.0% were highly victimized of Physical abuse, and 86.5% level of verbal abuse was very high.

21.5% of respondents' were abused by their husbands. 14.0% of respondents' were abused by those with whom they had a long-time relationship, while 9.5% of respondents' were abused by their boyfriends and majority of the respondents' i.e., 55.0% were abused by their family members. Majority of the respondents' i.e., 50.0% were abused by male. 20.5% of respondents' were abuse by female and 29.5% of respondents' were abused by both male and female. Majority of the respondents' i.e., 40.0% still have communication with their abusers, while 35.5% of respondents' do not have communication with their abusers and 24.5% of respondents still sometimes communicate with their abusers. while 22.5% of respondents were under the victimization of abuse for 5-6 years and others were victims of abuse less than 5 years and even more than 6 years. 29.0% of respondents were victimization of abuse without informing others for 1-2 years and others for longer time. And only 13.7% of respondents' informed Edhi center about their abuse. 20.6% of respondents informed their children that they were being abused while 15.3% of respondents informed their parents that they were being abused and 6.1% of respondents informed their friends that they were being abused. 15.3% of respondents informed their sisters that they were being abused and 39.0% of respondents informed their mothers that they were being abused.

CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

Table No.1 indicates that relationship exist between number of children and economic abuse. Because the value of chi-square is greater than its critical value with the level of significance 0.05 and the degree of freedom 3. So, it means that the alternate hypothesis is accepted and null hypothesis is rejected. Thus, it is proved that significant relationship exists between the number of children and economic abuse. The value of Co-efficient of variance which is 0.19 indicates the strength of the relationship is weak between the number of children and the economic abuse. Thus, the researcher observed that poverty changes the behavior of the male and become abusive when the matter becomes in the grip of economic reasons in the houses. This provides a chance to partners to irritate their spouses.

Table No. 1 Contingency Table Is Showing Relationship Between Number of Children & Economic Abuse

Economic abuse	Number of children				Total
	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	

High	12(16.6)	77(71.9)	57(56.9)	12(12.6)	158
Moderate/Low	9(4.41)	14(19.1)	15(15.1)	4(3.36)	42
Total	21	91	72	16	200
Pearson's chi-square = 7.93, Coefficient of Variance = 0.19					

Table No.2 depicts that relationship does not exist between husband's drug addiction & physical abuse. Because the value of chi-square is lesser than its critical value with the level of significance 0.05 and the degree of freedom 1. So, it means that the alternate hypothesis is rejected and null hypothesis is accepted. Thus, it is proved that significant relationship does exist between the number of children and economic abuse. The value of Co-efficient of variance which is 0.17 indicates the strength of the relationship is weak between the husband's drug addiction and physical abuse. Thus, it became in the close observation of the researcher that mostly male partners use drug and physically abuse their wives for petty matters.

Table No. 2 Contingency Table Is Showing Relationship Between Husband's Drug Addiction & Physical Abuse

Physical abuse	Husband's drug addiction		Total
	Yes	No/Sometimes	
High	110(104.0)	48(53.7)	158
Moderate	13(19.1)	16(9.86)	29
Low	9(8.58)	4(4.42)	13
Total	132	68	200
Pearson's chi-square = 6.78, Coefficient of variance = 0.070			

Table No. 3 displays that no relation has been found between religious practices & verbal abuse. Because the value of chi-square is lesser than its critical value with degree of freedom 2 and level of significance is 0.05. Thus, null hypothesis is accepted and alternate hypothesis is rejected. Hence, relationship does not exist between the religious practices and verbal abuse. The researcher did not find any relationship between religious practices of either spouses and verbal abuse. The religious practices like prayer, wearing abaya, reciting Quran, fasting etc were not the main factors of the verbal abuse of the spouses in the family.

Table No. 3 Contingency Table Is Showing Relationship Between Religious Practices & Verbal Abuse

Verbal abuse	Religious Practices			Total
	Yes	No	Sometimes	
High	76(76.1)	51(52.8)	46(44.1)	173
Moderate/Low	12(11.9)	10(8.32)	5(6.88)	27
Total	88	61	51	200
Pearson's chi-square = 1.04				

Table 4 shows that there is no relation between marital status & Emotional abuse. As the calculated value of chi-square is less than its table value with degree of freedom 2 and level of significance is 0.05 so null hypothesis is accepted and alternate hypothesis is rejected, therefore relationship does not exist between the marital status and emotional abuse. The marital statuses like being married, widow or divorce were not the reasons of emotional abuse in the family.

Table No. 4 Contingency Table Is Showing Relationship Between Marital Status & Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse	Marital Status			Total
	Married	Divorce	Widow	
High	89(87.2)	33(35.0)	27(26.8)	149
Moderat/Low	28(29.8)	14(12.0)	9(9.18)	51
Total	117	47	36	200
Pearson's chi-square = 0.611				

Table 5 shows that there is no relation between husband's qualification & economic abuse. As the calculated value of chi-square is higher than its table value with degree of freedom 4 and level of significance is 0.05 so null hypothesis is rejected and alternate hypothesis is accepted, therefore relationship exists between the husband's qualification and economic abuse. Co-efficient of variance i.e., 0.21 shows the husband's qualification and the economic abuse have week relationship. Husband's qualification and economic abuse was noticed largely by the researcher that those husbands who were less educated found more abusive economically to their spouses.

Table No. 5 Contingency Table Is Showing Relationship Between Husband's Qualification & Economic Abuse

Economic abuse	Husband's qualification					Total
	Primary	Secondary	Matric	Intermediate	Other	
High	12(11.9)	8(14.0)	60(57.4)	27(25.9)	33(30.8)	140
Moderate/Low	5(5.10)	12(6.00)	22(24.6)	10(11.1)	11(13.2)	60
Total	17	20	82	37	44	200
Pearson's chi-square = 9.65, Coefficient of variance = 0.21						

Table 6 shows that there is no relation between male decision making & psychological abuse. As the calculated value of chi-square is less than its table value with degree of freedom 2 and level of significance is 0.05 so null hypothesis is accepted and alternate hypothesis is rejected, therefore relationship does not exist between the male decision making in family and psychological abuse. Male decision making in Pakistani society is not a reason to psychologically abuse their spouses in the families.

Table No. 6 Contingency Table Is Showing Relationship Between Male Decision Making & Psychological Abuse.

Psychological abuse	Male decision making			Total
	Yes	No	Some extent	
High	85(83.3)	37(36.0)	28(30.8)	150
Moderate/Low	26(27.8)	11(12.0)	13(10.3)	50
Total	111	48	41	200
Pearson's Chi-square = 1.24				

Thus, the researchers would love to utter that there is a strong relationship between the families and abuse pattern of runaway women from their home. And it is a deep rooted and a serious issue which existed across the country from very early decades but unfortunately never understood this relation until now. However, the women abuse speeded up and globed through over all the society and shelter homes are in rush on the daily basis as well as the communication era pushed the phenomenon forward as well. Thus, it is

closely observed that there is a strong relationship between the family factors like; family size, family income, number of children, family decisions, family members' education, marital statuses, family structure and family religious and cultural practices with the abuse of women as; physical abuse, verbal abuse, emotional abuse, psychological abuse and economical abuse. These factors pushed the victims into loneliness and compelled the women entering into shelter houses and streets where every victim is finding a shed to live in free and safe environment and got rid of dangerous consequences on their lives as well as their children.

Recommendations

On the basis of the conducted thesis study, the following suggestion and recommendations are posited for the protection of women rights and provide them their rights which given are by Islam and Islamic republic of Pakistan. Based on the responsibility of each class, the suggested recommendations are classified into various classes.

Government and Government Machinery

- ❖ Government should establish a special court which should only work for the protection of women and provide them justice.
- ❖ State should survey all laws which are identified with the insurance of lady's rights in Pakistan and find quick ways to authorize this law carefully.
- ❖ State ought to follow the global conventions and enactments which are made for the assurance of basic liberties.
- ❖ State must provide equal opportunities to women in every walk of life all over the country.

Civil Society Organizations

- ❖ Services conveying are the essential duty of state and state machinery; anyway, the hole that stays between administrations conveying system and beneficiaries should be distinguished and filled by the common society associations.
- ❖ The issue of infringement of lady's rights is mind boggling in nature and requires coordinated methodology; thusly, all areas of common society should pool their asset and endeavors for the exceptional outcomes.

Media

- ❖ Media should not show any kind of dramas or films which show the male dominancy. We already live in a male dominated society thus media should not encourage this philosophy.
- ❖ Media should give legitimate time in featuring the issues of ladies from all angles.
- ❖ Media ought to teach masses for the preventive measure in regards to the destruction of brutality against ladies, for example, masses to be sharpened about the lady's rights which are given by Islam and Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

General Masses

- ❖ General masses should discourage those activities which are against rights of women.
- ❖ General masses should recognize the status and rights of women that are prearranged by Islam and Islamic republic of Pakistan.

Parents

- ❖ Parents should not do any kind of discrimination on the basis of gender.
- ❖ Parents should give authority to their female children for decision making in family matters because they better understand the family matters.
- ❖ Parents should provide equal opportunities for getting education because Allah said In Holly Quran “It is mandatory for every man and woman to get education.

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