



**PREVALENCE OF DOMESTIC INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AMONG
SELECTED CEBUANO WOMEN AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THEIR
DEMOGRAPHICS**

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Abstract - Women often feel pressured to be married as one of the “toxic Filipino cultures” which includes not preparing them for realistic marital and familial problems that could arise, especially concerning domestic intimate partner violence. This research paper aims to determine the existence of a relationship between selected Cebuano women’s demographics and forms of domestic intimate partner violence (DIPV) from three (3) cities in Cebu: Cebu City, Mandaue City, and Lapu-Lapu City utilizing descriptive correlational survey design. Using Haj-Yahia's Questionnaire of Violence Against Women, ninety-nine (99) respondents gave consent to participate and answer the survey. The results found that the most prevalent form of abuse is physical abuse and the only demographic that has a relationship to the forms of abuse is selected Cebuano women’s educational attainment and its relation to sexual and economic abuse. These findings were analyzed with the use of descriptive statistics, frequency distribution, and chi-square. The implications of this study are significant to policymakers to show immediate action, future researchers to encourage them to research more on DIPV in the Philippines, and to other young women to be aware of DIPV.

Keywords: *domestic intimate partner violence, Descriptive Correlational.*

Introduction

The effects of violence against women on their physical, emotional, and reproductive health are not recent phenomena (Garca-Moreno et al., 2013). Recognizing that patterns of behavior that violate women's rights by preventing them from participating in society's activities and endangering their bodily and mental health constitute incidences of violence against women. Even though it will be very challenging to halt these tragedies and change the conditions that lead to them, changes must be made.

Any kind of abuse by a spouse or other intimate partner is typically referred to as domestic intimate partner violence (DIPV) (Campbell, 2002). The consequences of domestic intimate partner violence on health have been the subject of a great deal of research, reviews, and meta-analyses. The idea that DIPV victimization may negatively affect executive function, working



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memory, and processing speed is raised by the scant past research on the connection between DIPV victimization and cognitive impairment (Twamley et al., 2009). For instance, one research by Stein et al. (2002) found that female DIPV victims underwent vasoconstriction, working memory, and executive function tests and underwent lower performance compared to non-abused controls. Similarly, Seedat et al. (2005) found that female DIPV patients scored worse than controls in measures of cognitive inhibition and set shifting. The few studies that examined the link between DIPV victimization and cognitive performance only included female DIPV victims (Seedat et al., 2005; Stein et al., 2002; Twamley et al., 2009).

Additionally, each study that investigated how DIPV affected cognitive function was cross-sectional. In the Philippines, one in four (15%) women who have ever been married and are between the ages of 15 and 49 have ever experienced physical, sexual, or emotional abuse by their spouse or partner, according to the preliminary findings of the 2017 National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS). In addition, 20% of women claim that their current or past husband or boyfriend has emotionally abused them, 14% have physically abused them, and 5% have sexually abused them. Except for gender, age, marital status, the number of children, and employment, there is a high correlation between all forms of domestic violence and all demographic factors (Hazrati et al., 2020). However, evidence on the association between demographic traits and a particular kind of DIPV, particularly fracture patterns, is currently few (Loder, et al., 2020). People who have experienced DIPV victimization must deal with both the trauma of abuse and the questions, threats, and stigmatizing reactions that follow the revelation—intentional or not—of that victimization (Dutton, 1992).

Consequently, this research study aims to reveal statistics on the prevalence of DIPV in the three cities of Cebu (Cebu City, Mandaue City, and Lapu-Lapu City), and feasibly help policymakers and other professionals to create a more objective intervention to provide support to all survivors of abuse, and harassment.

Methods and Materials

This study used a quantitative descriptive correlational methodology to investigate the association between the demographics of Cebuano women and the frequency of domestic and intimate partner violence (DIPV). Correlational studies aim to illustrate static representations of the environment and establish the relationship between various variables and correlation (McBurney & White, 2009). The study's design is appropriate for the subject and how it relates to respondents' demographics since it asks for the collection of information on both the demographics of respondents and the sorts of abuse they have experienced

Moreover, the researchers chose Cebu to conduct the research study. According to the Philippine Statistics Authority (2022), 240,775 marriages were officially recorded in 2020, which is about 55.7% of the total 431,972 marriages that took place in 2019. According to this, there were 44.3 percent fewer marriages in 2020 than there were in 2019. In contrast, Central Visayas stated that just 18,882 marriages took place in 2020, or 52.6% of the 35,924 marriages that were legally registered in 2019. This indicates that compared to the number of registered marriages in

2019, there were 47.4% fewer marriages in the region in 2020. Additionally, according to police data, there has been an increase in cases of violence against women (VAW) in Cebu City and Cebu Province. A total of 568 occurrences of physical injuries and 47 cases of psychological abuse were reported to local police stations in 2014. By the end of 2015, there were 125 incidents of psychological abuse and 846 occurrences of physical assault. Thus, with the statistics provided by credible organizations, Cebu will be a good and convenient research environment for research along with the reason that all the researchers also reside in Cebu.

The respondents of this research are selected Cebuano women who were or are in a relationship, are residing in Cebu (specifically either in Cebu City, Mandaue City, or Lapu-Lapu City), aged 18 and above, have experienced DIPV – which will be strictly and confidentially be coordinated with Women and Children’s Protection Desk (WCPD) of each City, has experienced the abuse over the past 12 months or one year, and was living with the husband/partner during the abuse. The researchers conducted a survey using Haj-Yahia’s questionnaire on Violence against Women (1999) to a total of ninety-nine (99) respondents who gave their consent. In getting the respondents, the researchers went to the WCPD office in the 3 different cities and asked for assistance.

The researchers employed a census method in gathering the respondents. A census is a study of every component, be it individual or collective, within a population. It is referred to as a comprehensive enumeration, which is another word for a full count (Census and Sample, accessed in March 2023). These components were based on the respondents’ location, relationship status, age, experiences with DIPV, and period of experiencing the abuse. To be specific, the respondents should be or are in a relationship, are residing in Cebu, aged 18 and above, experienced DIPV, have experienced abuse over the past 12 months, and were living with the husband/partner during the abuse. The researchers cooperated with the Women and Children’s Protection Desk (WCPD) of each city. The researchers sent a permission letter to gather data about women who experienced DIPV and that fit the criteria. They then proceeded to contact all women who were listed, to which only ninety (99) of them responded.

Research Instruments

The questionnaire developed by Haj-Yahia in 1999 was used by the researchers. The Haj-Yahia questionnaire on violence against women contained 32 items and four factors: the first factor, which evaluated psychological abuse and included items 1 through 16, the second factor, which evaluated physical abuse and included items 17 through 27, the third factor, which evaluated sexual abuse and included items 28 through 30, and the fourth factor, which evaluated economic abuse and included items 31 and 32. The survey is set up as a binary scale, where 0 means never and 1 means at least once. The total scores for each abuse pattern were then calculated. The results will be interpreted using descriptive statistics, frequency, and Chi-square. According to the findings of the research project carried out by Ghorbani et al. (2022), the Haj Yahia Questionnaire, translated into Persian, measures a variety of features of wife abuse and is advised for use as a suitable instrument in survey research or to evaluate the effectiveness of wife abuse therapies.

The face validity, content validity, construct validity, internal consistency, and stability of the questionnaire were all evaluated. For confirmatory factor analysis, the weighted least squares mean, and variance corrections were utilized. Mplus version 8 software was used by Sotoodeh Ghorbani et al. (2022) for confirmatory factor analysis, while STATA version 14 was used for additional computations. All questionnaire items appeared to fall within an acceptable range based on the quantitative findings of face validity and content validity, thus they were all retained for the research. According to the CFA results, the model fit indices (TLI = 0.986, CFI = 0.987, RMSEA = 0.039, and SRMR = 0.057) were good.

Results and Discussion

The data presented here are the findings from surveys conducted among selected Cebuano women, namely the prevalence of abuse and some of its sociodemographic correlates

Table 1. Age And Its Relationship With Psychological Abuse

The contingency table shows the p-value is 0.9, indicating that there is no relationship between age and psychological abuse. The age of a woman's spouse or her risk of psychological abuse was not substantially correlated with age. The two non-physical forms of abuse—

Age	Psychological Abuse			
	Never	Mild	Moderate	Severe
18-24	2	2	5	6
25-54	13	11	20	34
55-64	1	0	2	2
65+	0	0	1	0

$\chi^2(9) = 4, p = .911$

psychological vulnerability and conduct that limits autonomy— were not significantly predicted by age. Younger women, together with older women experienced non-physical abuse at similar rates, showing that women are vulnerable to emotional abuse at all ages. It is necessary to conduct more research to comprehend these age-related impacts (Karakurt & Silver, 2013). The study's findings show that, despite a significant age-related drop in emotional abuse of women, gender was more significant in the path of psychological abuse.

There has been an assortment of past studies on intimate relationships, age, and gender. Additionally, there is a lack of comparative study research, particularly in these age groups. Due to the lack of relevant research and data, the outcome of the table's analysis does not support the association between age and psychological abuse.

Table 2. Age And Its Relationship With Physical Abuse

Age	Physical Abuse	
	Never	At least once
18-24	2	13
25-54	12	66
55-64	1	4
65+	0	1

$\chi^2 (3) = .31, p = .958$

The table shows that, as the p-value is 0.9 or 0.10, there is no relationship between age and physical abuse which means that any woman aged 18 and above has a chance of being physically abused in a romantic relationship. This result shows women in danger, especially in this correlation since physical abuse has been the most prevalent form of abuse from the gathered data.

Physical abuse was inversely correlated with age in a study by Mezey, Post, and Maxwell (2002) that examined various types of DIPV against women throughout their lives (n = 1,249). According to data on violence against women worldwide, more than 640 million women aged 15 and older are victims of abuse by their marriages. One in three women worldwide report having been physically abused, most frequently by a partner with whom they have an intimate connection. According to research by Pillemer and Finkelhor (1988), older women have also been the subject of verbal and physical attacks since turning 65. According to the National Crime Victimization Survey, 118,000 crimes involving intimate partners were committed against women over the age of 55 and older. Regardless of age, women are physically vulnerable and overpowered in a heterosexual relationship be they partner or non-partner. The results of these studies indicated that no matter how young or the reproductive age and old, women who are in intimate relationships can be a victim of physical abuse.

The Philippine National Police (PNP) reported acts of lasciviousness that decreased by 24.8%, from 2,085 cases in 2019 to 1,568 cases in 2020, while reports of physical abuse decreased by 30.1%, from 16,251 cases in 2019 to 11,357 cases in 2020, according to the report released by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA). The Inter-Agency Council on Violence Against Women and their Children (IACVAWC) Secretariat's information officer, Anna Laurene Del Rosario, highlighted that the low incidence of incidents does not imply a decline in VAW. It was more challenging for women to disclose abuse because of the lockdown constraints that kept them under their abusers' continual observation, she claimed.

Table 3. Age And Its Relationship With Sexual Abuse As Revealed In The Contingency Table

Age	Sexual Abuse	
	Never	At least once
18-24	7	8
25-54	55	23
55-64	5	0
65+	1	0

$\chi^2 (3) = 6.24, p = .101$

Women of all ages are vulnerable to domestic and sexual violence, and those of reproductive age are most vulnerable to nonfatal partner violence. Compared to one in twenty men (4.7% or 428,800), nearly one in five women (18% or 1.7 million) reported experiencing sexual violence.

In addition, sexual assault by a spouse was eight times more common in women than in males. Comparatively, 0.6% of males (53,000) and 5.1% of women (480,200) reported experiencing sexual assault at the hands of a partner. Sexual assault can take many different forms, including groping, distributing pornographic material, and rape. Anyone, regardless of gender or sexual orientation, young or old, a partner or a non-partner, can become a victim of sexual abuse (National Domestic and Family Violence Bench Book, 2022).

Table 4. Age And Its Relationship With Economical Abuse As Revealed In The Contingency Table

Age	Economical Abuse	
	Never	At least once
18-24	7	8
25-54	35	43
55-64	3	2
65+	1	0

$\chi^2 (3) = 1.60, p = .659$

The contingency table shows that age and economic abuse have no relationship as the p-value is 0.6 and thus, is greater with the alpha 0.05. The results showing no relationship means that any woman aged 18 and above has a chance of being abused economically in a romantic relationship.

Research done in Australia reported, 15.7% of women experience economic abuse, and men have only 7.1%. It is well known that DIPV is a gendered problem: according to Ansara et al. (2010), women account for most casualties and suffer from IPV's most severe effects. Univariate odds ratio revealed that women who have experienced financial abuse in the past and have lived in households in the second and lowest income quintiles are more likely than men to have done so

and if they are unemployed and not due to their age. Economic abuse also is more common in women who have experienced IPV and those who have action barriers because of ill health or incapacity (Cohen et al., 2005).

No definite proof of a difference in the prevalence of economic abuse by age was identified in adjusted analyses. In the entire study, the lifetime prevalence of economic abuse was 11.5%. Women were more likely than men to face economic abuse (15.7% vs. 7.1%), across all age categories (Kutin et al., 2017).

Table 5. Educational Attainment And Its Relationship With Psychological Abuse

Educational Attainment	Psychological Abuse			
	Never	Mild	Moderate	Severe
None	3	3	2	5
Pre-School	0	0	1	1
Elementary	3	4	6	9
Junior High School	5	4	6	15
Senior High School	0	2	2	4
College	5	0	11	8

$\chi^2 (15) = 13.64, p = .553$

The table shows that the p-value is 0.5 and thus, is greater than the alpha 0.05 means there is no relationship between educational attainment and psychological abuse. This means that no matter what the women's highest level of educational attainment is, they all have a high probability of being psychologically abused. Psychological abuse, or emotional abuse and neglect, has been theorized to cause antagonistic development consequences comparable to, or more serious than, those of other forms of abuse (Hart et al., 1996). The negative results of lack of education are unmistakable throughout a woman's life. An uneducated girl is less competent at making her own family planning decisions, and as we all know, education is fundamental to the development of both skills and aspirations. However, from the table above, it shows that from none to college they experienced psychological abuse, mild to severe. Based on the descriptive data on the Educational Attainment of the respondents (Table 2), from the 99 respondents, the highest educational women attained are junior high school (30%) and college (24%). Despite the percentage, they are still prone to psychological abuse. Women with impressively higher education than their partners have an increased risk of encountering both physical and psychological abuse (Kilden, 2014).

Halpern et al. (2016) find no affiliation between education and mental health once the selection is accounted for. Sociologist Heidi Fischer Bjelland says "Whenever power is unevenly allocated in a relationship the chance of physical and psychological abuse increases. And the abused partner is the one with the highest status". This means that no matter what the women's highest level of educational attainment is, they all have a high probability of being psychologically abused.

Table 6. Educational Attainment And Its Relationship With Physical Abuse

Educational Attainment	Physical Abuse	
	Never	At least once
None	2	11
Pre-School	0	2
Elementary	3	20
Junior High School	6	23
Senior High School	1	7
College	3	21

$\chi^2 (5) = 1.30, p = .935$

The results as seen in the table show that the p-value is 0.9 and thus, is greater than the alpha 0.05 which means there is no relationship between educational attainment and physical abuse. This means that no matter what the women's highest level of educational attainment is – whether they finished college or never once attended school, they all have a probability of being physically abused which is alarming, thus, policymakers, mental health practitioners, and other volunteers should be also aware of.

A study conducted on 2008 in India, produced four major findings, one of which stated that women who have completed more education than their husbands will be more likely to report DIPV and found independent effects of a woman's education and her husband's education on the likelihood that she would report DIPV. Although their husbands' education still accounted for around 40% of the woman's educational benefits, the effects were more obvious for the woman's education. According to the findings, women who have more education than their spouses are more likely to experience violence, supporting comparable findings from underdeveloped nations (Burazeri et al., 2005). Previous studies found no relationship between IPV and the disparity in spousal educational attainment (Panda et al., 2005). There is no evidence to support the notion that physical abuse and educational attainment are causally associated. In other words, a person's likelihood of physically abusing someone does not necessarily decrease with their level of knowledge. According to a more thorough analysis of these incidence rates, instead, the relationship is nonlinear, with incidence rates increasing as education levels rise. (Hornung et al., 2016).

Table 7. Educational Attainment And Its Relationship With Sexual Abuse

Educational Attainment	Sexual Abuse	
	Never	At least once
None	10	3
Pre-School	0	2
Elementary	17	4
Junior High School	21	6
Senior High School	5	7
College	15	9

$\chi^2 (5) = 11.80, p = .038$

The table shows that there is a relationship between sexual abuse and education levels among selected Cebuano women. This also shows the difference between women who have survived sexual abuse and those who have not experienced sexual abuse in each level of highest educational attainment. Correlating their educational attainment and sexual abuse means that the amount of education they had is a factor.

Only two women (100%) who had finished preschool had experienced sexual abuse whereas 58.33% of Cebuano women who had finished senior high school had experienced sexual abuse. According to the United Nations Children Fund, 17.1% of respondents—13 to 18-year-olds have endured sexual abuse as children with most of the cases committed during dates, at work, in the community, and in school (Dela Peña, 2022).

In a rural context, factors such as social norms, globalization, poverty, the vulnerability of children (Derasin et. al., alcohol or drug abuse, and poor parental care contributed to sexual violence against women and children which hinders them from seeking help (Abeid, 2014). When it comes to grade- school students, it begins with the children's lack of knowledge and unawareness. Murnen and Smolak's (2000)'s study, most female students concluded that the victim of sexual harassment would be frightened or unknowing of how the victim would react—showing that “total harassment was negatively related to self-esteem in girls, but not boys” because most of the male students concluded that the victim would be flattered with the attention being given to them.

The discussion of their study states that even though sexual harassment was uncommon to the grade schoolers, most of them had experienced some form of sexual harassment as perceived by the grade schoolers. The female students, even though the gender of the perpetrator was not asked, understood the question to mean “Has a boy done this to you?”

Research done in Ghana about Sexual Harassment against Female Students in Senior High Schools (2022) had shown results of “the respondents’ first and third most frequently reported types of sexual harassment are verbal sexual harassment (someone has been rating or commenting on your attractiveness or appearance in public and someone has been asking you for a sexual relationship, respectively), while the second most frequently reported type is non-verbal (“someone looked sexually at you that made you feel uncomfortable”) and that out of all of the 720 female respondents, majority of them (70.7%) felt uncomfortable and ashamed, 25.1% of them felt embarrassed and abused, and 4.2% of them were affected by causing personal harm to themselves. The results also implicated that these sexual harassments are not reported due to the feeling of guilt and stigma even if most of them have significant knowledge of sexual harassment and violence and how it affects other women. (Dooda, et al., 2022).

Sexual assault on college campuses often has low response rates. Women and gender non-conforming students have the highest rates of being sexually assaulted by the students at Columbia University and Barnard College in New York City, with incapacitation due to alcohol and drug use, and verbal coercion being the most frequent method. In this study by Mellins et al. (2017), although US federal agencies have urged universities to have “campus climate surveys”, many have shown low response rates from men resulting in a potential bias that withholds the purpose of the survey as detailed information is needed to identify the significance of the prevalence of campus sexual assault. The lack of response from the schools leads to underreporting which results in the prevalence of sexual assault in college campuses.

Education and education are important in preventing sexual abuse. By adopting and upholding preventative policies and procedures in educational environments, they may strengthen student support for recognizing and reporting abuse and promote students' safety. Another

essential element in preventing sexual assault is student education. According to research, school-based preventive programs are an effective means of preventing abuse. People are less likely to become victims when they learn about sexual abuse from loving adults while they are young (Finkelhor & Dziuba-Leatherman, 1995).

Table 8. Educational Attainment And Its Relationship With Economical Abuse

Educational Attainment	Economical Abuse	
	Never	At least once
None	4	9
Pre-School	0	2
Elementary	10	12
Junior High School	20	10
Senior High School	6	2
College	5	18

$\chi^2 (5) = 16.23, p = .006$

The average age of the respondents, as shown in Table 8, is 35.69 years (range = 18 to 64, SD = 11.08). 15% of them are aged 18 to 24, 78% of them are aged 25-54, 5% of them are aged 55 to 64, and only 1% of them are aged 65 and above. The results have shown that the most frequent victims of DIPV are women aged 25-54 particularly women in their 50s or women in their prime age.

Table 9. Occupational Status And Its Relationship With Psychological Abuse

Occupational Status	Psychological Abuse			
	Never	Mild	Moderate	Severe
Unemployed	12	8	21	21
Employed	4	5	7	21

$\chi^2 (3) = 5.75, p = .125$

The table shows that no relationship between psychological abuse and selected Cebuano women's occupational status which means that these women, had they been employed or not had nothing to do with their experiencing psychologically abused. A study in 2007 states, "Domestic violence increased the odds of unemployment after welfare reform, but not before; domestic violence did not affect welfare use during any period." In other words, domestic violence directly affects unemployment not because of psychological distress simultaneously; psychological distress relates to the status of just unemployment if they already have a domestic violence history. The p-value of psychological abuse is rejected at 0.12. It shows up that cumulative domestic violence features a long-term erosive effect on mental health, but this impact on mental health did not account for the relationship between domestic violence and unemployment as anticipated, hence other components must be important to clarify this effect (Lindhorst et al., 2007).

A study by Rodriguez et al., (2001) on family violence showed results that states, “unemployed respondents are not at greater risk of family violence than employed employees’ respondents, after alcohol misuse, income, education, age, and other factors are controlled for.” In fact, according to their results employed individuals are at higher risk of. When it comes to women, other studies showed findings of employed women being at higher risk of intimate partner violence. Domineering men prevent women from working and, at the same time physically abuse them (Villarreal, 2007), also a testament that women can often experience more than one form of abuse from the same partner since men who possessed controlling behavior have higher chances of being physically and sexually violent (Antai, 2011).

Table 10. Occupational Status And Its Relationship With Physical Abuse

Occupational Status	Physical Abuse	
	Never	At least once
Unemployed	12	49
Employed	3	35

$\chi^2 (1) = 2.53, p = .112$

The table shows that there is no relationship between Occupational and Physical abuse as the p-value is 0.1. The women’s occupational status has nothing to do with physical abuse. There may be other factors affecting it and resulting in such abuse. Helping to strike a balance between work and family is one approach to improve life satisfaction, as life satisfaction is significantly impacted by work-family balance. Status mismatches that favor women (status reversal). typically, do not correlate significantly with physical violence (Kaukinen, 2014).

Human interactions are frequently viewed by economists in terms of costs and benefits. Partnerships may offer financial advantages, including potential profits from sharing resources and consumption as well as other intangibles, but they may also cost money if the partnership is having financial difficulties (Canque et. al.,2020) . If the expenses outweigh the gains, partnerships dissolve. Similar conclusions can be drawn about physical violence. If the costs are less than the hoped-for benefits, some people could exploit others. And other people could put up with some abuse if they believe that the costs of doing so are less than the alternative costs of quitting the relationship.

Research by Jonathan Wadsworth and colleagues hypothesized that partnership expenses and benefits are impacted by unemployment. When unemployment is low, people are more likely to obtain and hold jobs, which increases the potential revenue advantages of a partnership. The likelihood of losing a job increases with high unemployment, which reduces the benefits of a partnership over and beyond any additional stress that a higher likelihood of job loss may bring. However, the results of the said study showed that there is no proof to back up the idea that physical violence rises in conjunction with general unemployment.

No matter the ethnicity, socioeconomic status, religion, degree of education, or sexual orientation of the partners, physical violence can occur in every relationship. Abuse can happen in a marital relationship, a cohabiting partnership, or a dating relationship between unmarried individuals. Additionally, regardless of her employment level, women are still susceptible to physical abuse.

Table 11. Occupational Status And Its Relationship With Sexual Abuse As Revealed In The Contingency Table

Occupational Status	Sexual Abuse	
	Never	At least once
Unemployed	44	17
Employed	24	14

$\chi^2 (1) = .88, p = .349$

The relationship

Physical abuse as the p-value is 0.3. Domestic abuse may eventually lower women's socioeconomic position, although it has little immediate impact on their employment situation. Other ways are significant to this kind of abuse, it was found that women who had experienced verbal abuse by their husbands or partners, drug use by their partners, and infidelity by their spouse, were more likely to encounter sexual violence. (Alkan et al., 2021). According to the church, love is selfless, accepting, kind, patient, faithful, honest, and compassionate. God intended for this kind of love to permeate all aspects of marriage and partnership, including a couple's intimate relationships. Sadly, what we find when we examine sexually abusive couples is rather different. We witness the corruption of sex by individuals who will stop at nothing to satisfy their selfish cravings. Sex is often marred by dominance and manipulation in far too many couples, rather than being a picture of loving closeness and mutuality. The term "marital and domestic sexual abuse" is wide and can refer to a variety of horrific and exploitative behaviors. The worst abuses take place when sex is desired, compelled, or forcedly performed, such as during rape or other coercive sex activities. Other abusive behaviors include sneaking objects or pornographic material into sexual encounters, engaging in inappropriate sexual behavior, or spying or peeping.

table shows that there is no between Occupational and

Table 12. Occupational Status And Its Relationship With Economical Abuse

Occupational Status	Economical Abuse	
	Never	At least once
Unemployed	25	36
Employed	22	16

$\chi^2 (1) = 2.69, p = .101$

The contingency table shows that there is no relationship between economic abuse and Occupational abuse as the p-value is 0.1 which means these selected women's occupational status had nothing to do with them experiencing economic abuse. Married women gain status through their occupations, and their economic activities may raise their family status (Smits et al., 2016). Emotional abuse is linked to women's employment and greater incomes than their partners. These results are consistent with the hypothesis that in contrast to their spouses, males who lack access to money resources will reassert their authority by employing a range of emotional abuse techniques (Kaukinen, 2014).

The table above shows that the unemployed have a higher number in terms of experiencing economic abuse. The amount that the loss of the jobless person's prior income will impact the

family's income and whether the unemployed person is actively looking for work, however, it may have an impact on the level of stress related to unemployment (Morokqff & Gilliland, 1993).

According to the research, working women were less likely to experience economic violence (Alkan, et al., 2021). It is also acknowledged that the woman's financial situation, including her contribution to the family's income, the nature of her business, and debts, can influence how she experiences IPV (Ranganathan et al., 2019). Research also investigates the mistreatment of women who work for a living, such as surveillance, harassment at work, and limiting women's access to transportation, to name a few (Camilleri et al., 2015).

Working women were less likely to experience economic violence than jobless women. Although it was found that women were less likely to face violence when they were actively working and that employed women were less likely to be exposed to violence than jobless women, it was shown that this aspect was not a factor in reducing violence against women. (Alkan et al., 2021). In conclusion, regardless of if a woman is employed or unemployed, they still experience Economic abuse as some studies find near-zero effects of total unemployment on domestic violence (Aizer, 2010) and Employment was negatively correlated with economic abuse (Stylianou, 2018).

Conclusion

Violence against women remains a pervasive issue worldwide, rooted in historical power imbalances and male dominance, and continues to manifest in various forms, including physical, psychological, sexual, and economic abuse. This research, focusing on Cebuano women, highlights that physical abuse is the most prevalent form of Domestic Intimate Partner Violence (DIPV), followed closely by psychological abuse. While many women endure multiple forms of abuse, the study found no significant correlation between demographics such as educational attainment and experiences of physical abuse. This underscores the fact that violence against women cuts across all societal boundaries, and addressing this issue requires both awareness and systemic change to dismantle the culture of silence surrounding it.

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