



THE ASSESSMENT OF MASCULINITY AND VIOLENCE IN MARRIED MEN OF DHARWAD AND CHITRADURGA DISTRICT.

Forensic Science

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ABSTRACT

Violence in the interior of a house is widespread across principles, belief, civilisation etc. Despite this extensive occurrence, nevertheless, such violence is never customarily recognised and has remained unseen. This article boosts the adoption of a combined outline for understanding the origins of masculinity and violence against women in Dharwad and Chitradurga district. It is an approach to study gender-violence as a multilayered factor which focuses on what is really important when it comes to violence against women.

This article draws together the collected data on the aspect of the characteristic of masculinity and violence of married men in Dharwad and Chitradurga district. Here in this article, the researcher studied men who tend to have the "Trait Masculinity" in them as a traditional practice. Very few men were observed with the low level of trait masculinity.

The information sources are both primary as well as secondary. The data obtained have been evaluated using percentage, and relevant suggestions have been put forth based on the findings of the study.

KEYWORDS

Masculinity, Violence

Introduction:

Violence against women and girls includes physical, sexual, psychological, and economic abuse. It is often known as "gender-based" violence because it evolves in part from women's subordinate status in society. Many cultures have beliefs, norms, and social institutions that legitimise and therefore, perpetuate violence against women. The same acts that would be punished if directed at an employer, a neighbor or an acquaintance often go unchallenged when men direct them at women, especially within the family. Two of the most common forms of violence against women are abused by intimate male partners and coerced sex, whether it takes place in childhood, adolescence, or adulthood. Intimate partner abuse also known as domestic violence, wife-beating, and battering is almost always accompanied by psychological abuse and in one-quarter to one-half of cases by forced sex as well. The majority of women who are abused by their partners are abused many times. (Heise, Ellsberg & Gottemoeller, 1999). In fact, an atmosphere of terror often permeates abusive relationships.

The visibility of male-dominated criminal violence differs substantially from culture to culture. Accordingly, a perception of masculinity and male-dominated violence as monolithic categories is misleading (Kersten, 1996)

It would be revolting to all female sense of the innocence and sanctity of their sex, shocking to man's reverence for womanhood and faith in woman. (Ammons, 2001). For crimes of the scale of domestic violence, it may be unrealistic to expect legal institutions to efficiently control crimes that affect significant portions of the population. (Fagan, 1996). The most basic violation of human rights is abuse by the husband or in-laws and the fear that brute force decides the environment of women who are free from physical security inside four walls.

Meaning and definition:

Masculinity can be defined as assets which are conventionally qualified to men, as strength and audaciousness. They are traits traditionally thought or known to be suitable for men in contrast to women.

Masculinity is defined as critical appearances such as revealing leadership aptitudes, having self-reliance, willingness to take risks, holding a solid temperament, shielding their self-beliefs and rationality, dominant, self-reliant, competitive, assertive and aggressive. Most of the individualities of masculinity cited here are often connected to the culture of violence which is male-dominated.

Violence:

The association between masculinity and violence was initially made by Parsons who claimed that masculinity was internalized during adolescence which may explain why more boys have interactions with the criminal justice system than girls. Men, therefore, have more masculine status if they can demonstrate that they can protect themselves which results in higher self-esteem with other males and females (Krienert, 2003).

Violence has been analyzed from a number of perspectives such as psychoanalytical theory as in Freud's Oedipal drama, (LaFrance, 2004) According to Merriam-Webster dictionary violence is described as the use of physical force to injure, abuse, damage, or destroy.

Background:

Masculinity and violent attitudes toward partner are molded as the life-long course of violence against women, where the role of wife is likely to be passive and submissive. Indian women now are fetched towards modernisation and are more liberated, but there are various interferences made by men in worsening conditions for women, such as more violence and violent crime against women in marriage.

According to the 2016 National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) Report, the year 2016 has witnessed an increase in crime against women as paralleled to 2015, overall crimes against women increased from 3,29,243 in 2015 to 3,38,954 in 2016. Wherein Karnataka holds 19th rank based on crime rate in 2016. According to the Statistics given by NCRB, Karnataka Mid-Year Projected Female Population 2016+ (+Population Source: Registrar General of India estimated the population of 2016 based on 2001 Census) in Lakhs were 308.6 where its percentage state share to all India is 4.2%. Rank Based on Incidence of crime against women is 11% and Rate of Total Cognizable Crimes is 45.8% Crime per one lakh of population.

Karnataka has 0.8% of crime rate when it comes to Dowry Deaths (Sec.304B IPC), where 234 cases of incidence and 234 victims have been noted. It was also noted that 2 cases of causing miscarriage without women's consent (Sec. 313 IPC).

The widely held case under crimes against women was reported to be 'Cruelty by husband or his relatives (Sec.498 A)' in which Karnataka has 2556 number of incidence of crime, and 2567 number of victims and the Crime rate is 8.3%. In Karnataka total of 1698 number of incidences of cases listed under Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and 1698 were studied to be victims, and the crime rate is 5.5%. Cases under Section 376 IPC total 7 cases were reported in Karnataka where the

offender's relation to the victim of rape was reported to be a Live In Partner or Husband (Separated /Ex).

Major findings from A National Crime Victimization Survey Report showed that although women were significantly less likely to become victims of violent crime, they were more vulnerable to particular types of perpetrators. Whereas men were more likely to be victimised by acquaintances or strangers; women were just as likely to be victimised by intimates, such as husbands or boyfriends, as they were to be victimised by acquaintances or strangers. The rate of violence committed by intimates was nearly ten times greater for females than for males. (Bachman, 1994)

Research Methodology:

Sample Size and Type:

The total sample chosen from Dharwad and Chitradurga district was 50 each as a representation of the total population of men in Dharwad and Chitradurga district. The sample included only men in the study as the focus of the research was to understand the rate of masculinity existent in men that encourages them to execute violence against women.

Sampling Technique:

The sample was chosen using the Simple Random Sampling Technique.

Area of the Study:

Dharwad and Chitradurga District has been observed to have higher rates of violence against women in marriages based on the earlier pilot study conducted by the researcher, therefore, Dharwad and Chitradurga district were chosen as the study area for this particular article.

Methods of Data Collection:

The nature of the study was briefly described for those participants who volunteered. They were also informed that the data collected would only be used for research purpose. A pilot study conducted on men in Dharwad and Chitradurga district was made aiming for the clarity and adequacy of the questionnaire.

The data was collected using a questionnaire designed by the researcher specifically for assessing the rate of masculinity in married men. The questionnaire is framed on a five-point Likert Scale options ranging from 1= Agree, 2= Partially Agree, 3=Partially Disagree, 4= Disagree. The questionnaire was validated on the basis of the pilot study conducted.

Objective

To study the level of masculinity and violence in married men of Dharwad and Chitradurga district.

Results and Discussion:

Level of Masculinity	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
High	23	46.0	46.0
Average	18	36.0	36.0
Low	9	18.0	18.0
Total	50	100.0	100.0

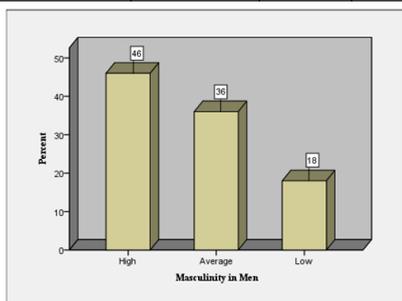


Figure1: Masculinity of Married Men in Dharwad District.

The above frequency table and the bar graph (Figure1) show the Masculinity level in married men of Dharwad district. It is clear from the bar graph that the percentage of Masculinity level in married men of Dharwad district is high i.e. 46.0% and only 18.0% men fall on the low level of masculinity. Whereas the remaining 36.0% men are showing average trait masculinity.

Level of Masculinity	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
High	13	26.0	26.0
Average	35	70.0	70.0
Low	2	4.0	4.0
Total	50	100.0	100.0

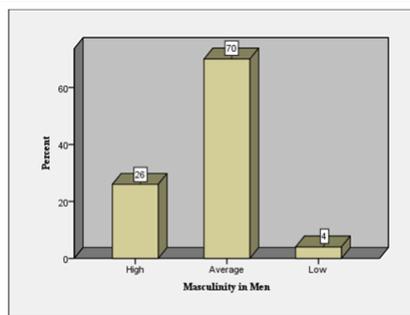


Figure2: Masculinity of Married Men in Chitradurga District.

The above frequency table and the bar graph (Figure2) show the Masculinity level in married men of Chitradurga district. It is clear from the bar graph that large group of married men in Chitradurga district fall on the average level of Masculinity, i.e. 70.0% and only 4.0% men fall on the low level of masculinity. Whereas the remaining 26.0% men are showing high trait masculinity.

Therefore we can say that there is very less number of married men who are having low masculinity level. Moreover, married men in Dharwad district are having a high rate of trait masculinity when compared with Chitradurga district. Married men in Chitradurga district appear to be having an average level of masculinity to the highest percentage when compared to Dharwad district married men. It can be stated that very less percentage of married men of Chitradurga district display a low level of masculinity when compared to Dharwad District. Hence it can be noted that the married men who fall on the average level are not less in both Districts, but also they are not displaying a low level of masculinity.

Thus it can be believed that qualities of Masculinity i.e., supremacy, superiority, violent actions, greed, competitiveness, forcefulness, assertiveness, sexual appetite, less control over emotions leading to violent behavior, low practicality, impulsiveness, passion, confidence, independence, and so on are traditionally associated with men. And almost all married men of Dharwad and Chitradurga district tend to be having Masculine characteristic which can be further assumed to be having violent behavior towards their spouses.

Conclusion and Suggestions

Understanding the leading cause of gender violence will help in framing the deterrence programs and interferences with offenders.

- The most common cause of women being the victims of violence is because of the cultural, traditional beliefs that men are to be dominating in a household and women being submissive.
- It becomes essential to understand the consequences and determine the basis of violence against women.
- The end of violence against women can flourish only when good men volunteer in the fight to end violence.
- Boys need to be educated about gender violence since from their schooling. Moreover, they have to treat girls equally.
- Women who are being victimized need to speak up for their fundamental rights and stand in hand with other women.

Men are to be educated about their Masculinity in a real positive manner. To when they need to understand the difference and control over emotions. Because most of the masculinity characteristics lead to crossing the boundary between practicality and impulse. Thus controlling their impulse becomes essential.

Violent behaviour is not triggered by a single aspect as there are numerous influences which tend to strengthen trait masculinity. Hence there is a need to further study the factors that cause violent behaviour in men.

It is also noted that even societal factors lead its way to masculinity and violence. Hence that can be educated for further study.

Change can only be possible when not only women but also the men need to offer their good help in putting an end to gender violence. Moreover, also the features of Masculinity in men should be outlined in a positive sense by men to end violence against women.

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