

## **CAPTER IV**

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The present chapter discusses the results pertaining to the research study entitled “Domestic Violence and Women Empowerment in Low Income Communities in Coimbatore City” under the following heads:

- I. Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Households and the Respondents
- II. Marital Background of the Respondent
- III. Nature and frequency of Violence;
- IV. Causes and Victimization of Women under Domestic Violence
- V. Domestic Violence and Women Empowerment

#### **I. Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Households and the Respondents**

There is an increase in violence against females at all levels. It has no differentiation as rural or urban, educated or uneducated, rich or poor, and smaller categories or castes. It is vital to explore the socioeconomic context of women victims to regulate and ban violence against females. The socioeconomic research objective was to highlight the family history of victim's in selected urban slums in Coimbatore City, with regard to significant elements such as age structure, religion, society, occupational status, family size, number of dependents, etc. Surveillance of such a background would also explain one's social position, culture, attitudes, behaviour, and lifestyle's impact. Therefore, an effort was made to examine families' socio-demographic and economic characteristics to further develop social grouping's personality due to the inter-relationship that exists within the family. The factors considered for the present research are religion, community, family nature, family size, household age structure, education, occupation, income, and household resources to find out the extent to which these variables correlates with the occurrence of domestic violence within the family structure.

### 4.1.1 Religion

Women's behaviour pattern is determined to be affected by their belief system. The classification of families on the concept of religion was carried out to ascertain whether there was any effect of faith on the personality and magnitude of violence exerted on females' happiness in distinct cultures. The religion-wise classification of women respondents in Coimbatore is shown in table 4.1.1 and figure 4.1.1.

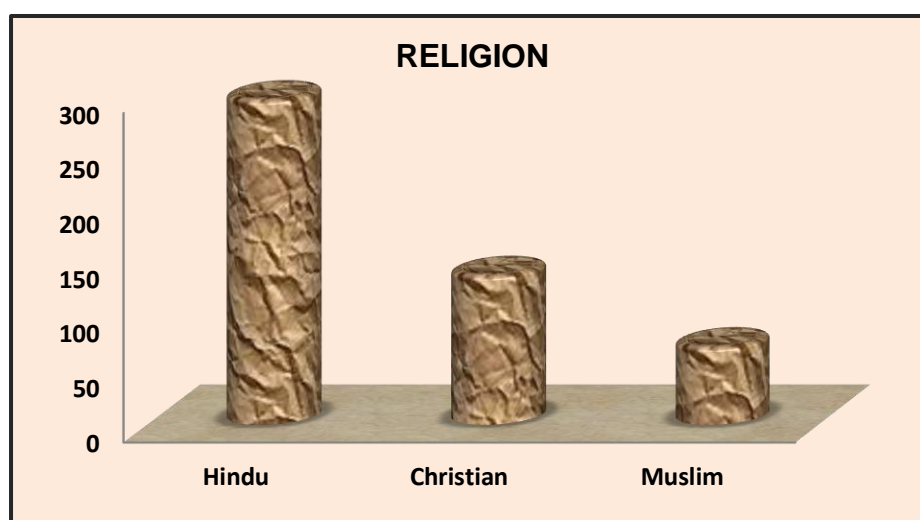
**TABLE NO - 4.1.1**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BY RELIGION**

Religion	Frequency	Percent
Hindu	295	59.0
Christian	135	27.0
Muslim	70	14.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The respondent household's religious structure indicated that the majority of families were Hindus (59 percent), followed by Christians (27 percent) and Muslims (14 percent), respectively. The Census Report (2011) has also reported the predominance of the Hindu religion in Coimbatore. Therefore, this finding cannot be interpreted to indicate a higher incidence of domestic violence among Hindu families.

**FIGURE NO - 4.1.1**



#### 4.1.2 Community

Religion and standard of living categorized the community. Individuals in a group may live in communities or similar to or intermingle with persons of other faiths. Most state trends work on a category or caste basis. The impact of caste in attitudinal modifications of different caste clusters on women's abuse is important in understanding domestic abuse. Table 4.1.2 describes four major categories of society, namely Backward Class (BC), Other Backward Class (OBC), Scheduled Caste (SC), and Scheduled Tribes (ST).

**TABLE NO - 4.1.2**

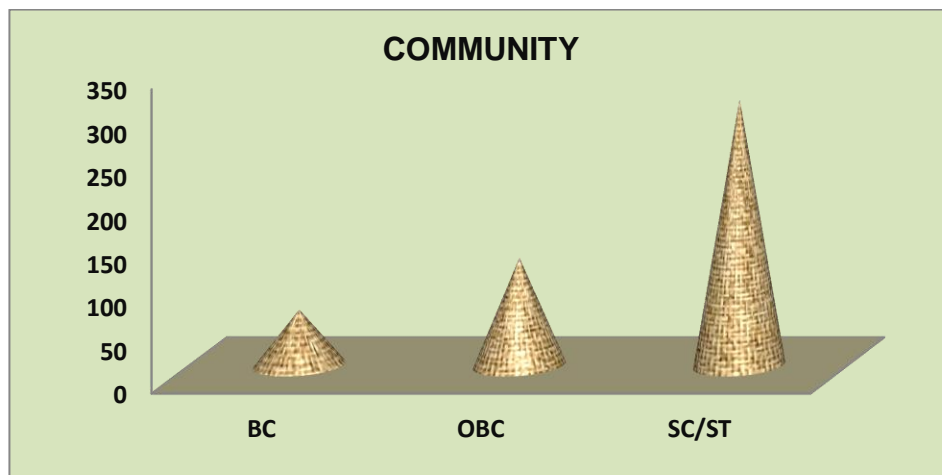
#### **DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON COMMUNITY**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
BC	65	13.0
OBC	125	25.0
SC/ST	306	61.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The respondent's community allocation showed that 61.2 percent of the respondents belonged to the SC/ ST category, followed by 25 percent from OBC and 13 percent from the BC category. Thus, women respondents belonging to the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes face a greater violence incidence than women belonging to other classes. Saibanna Shailaja (2015) also noted more violence among women belonging to other backward castes and scheduled castes.

**FIGURE NO - 4.1.2**



### 4.1.3 Type of the Family

The size of the household is a significant factor for understanding the phenomenon of domestic abuse. If there's a father, a mother, and two children, that's a nuclear family. If one of the parents stays alongside the nuclear family, it is an extended family. A family that accommodates other members and families is a joint family. Domestic violence is more common in joint and extended families, as women living in such families have to make adjustments with several members. The family's patriarchal system positions females in a subservient role. Therefore, the adjustment challenge alone is not created by an oversized variety of family members, but they also serve as instigators of violence against women. Table 4.1.3 and figure 4.1.3 shows the nature of the family in which the respondents are living.

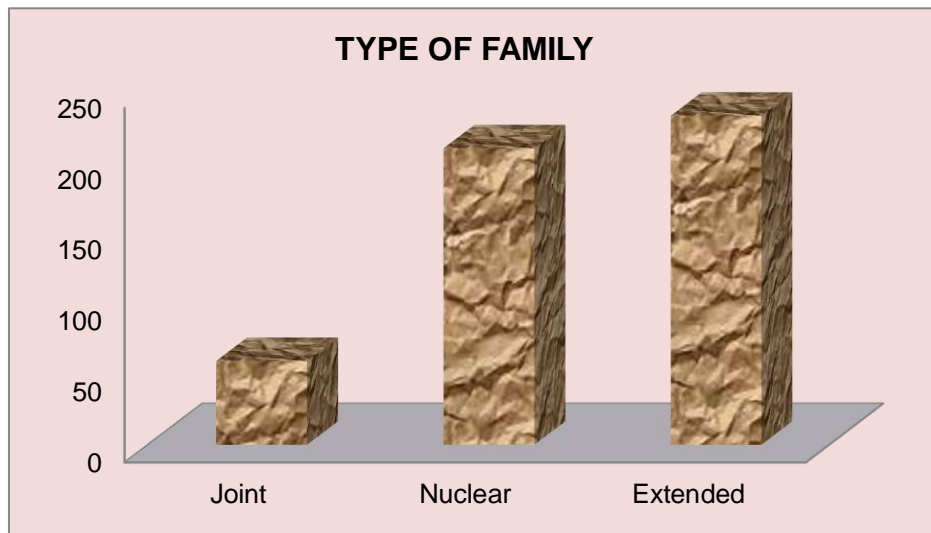
**TABLE NO - 4.1.3**  
**TYPE OF FAMILY**

<b>Family Type</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Joint	59	11.8
Nuclear	209	41.8
Extended	232	46.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

It is very clear from the table that out of 500 respondents majority (46.4 percent) of women were living in an Extended family comprised of husband and children and In-laws, while the other 41.8 percent were living in nuclear families and the remaining 11.8 percent in a joint family system. In short, the prevalence of extended families and nuclear families was found to be higher in urban slums of the Coimbatore City. The deterioration of social values and customs may be a probable reason for increased domestic violence in extended and nuclear families.

**FIGURE NO - 4.1.3**



#### **4.1.4 Family Size**

The respondent's household size is a significant factor that affects various elements of an individual life, such as education, the standard of living in health, opportunities in a lifetime, etc. Different studies have shown that the greater size of the family implies more mouths to feed. There is a need for more resources to meet fundamental requirements, and a lack of resources may escalate violence. Based on the size of family members, the study has categorized family into three groups. A small family comprises at least four members, i.e., husband, wife, and two kids, deemed a perfect family. A medium-sized family includes 5 to 7 members, and a large family over eight members. The size of the family of the sample respondents is presented in table 4.1.4 and figure 4.1.4

**TABLE NO - 4.1.4**

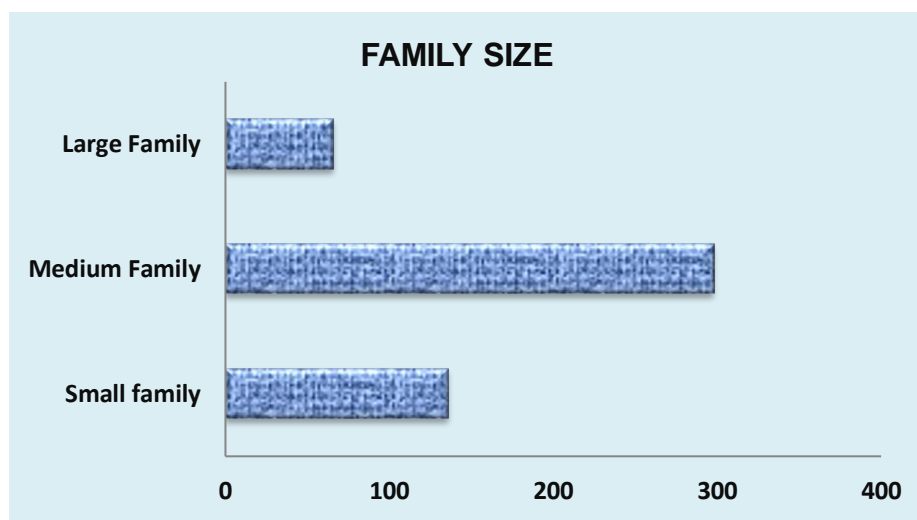
#### **FAMILY SIZE**

<b>Family Size</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Small family	136	27.2
Medium Family	298	59.6
Large Family	66	13.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The above table demonstrates that almost 59.6 percent of participants belonged to the medium family (up to 5 to 8 members). In comparison, 27.9 percent belonged to the tiny family (up to 5 members), and 13.2 percent belonged to big (up to 10 members) households. Most of the participants, therefore, belonged to the tiny and medium families. Violence was seen more among families with 5 to 8 members.

**FIGURE NO – 4.1.4**



#### 4.1.5 Age

The National Family Health Survey (NHFS-4) publicized that “every third woman, since the age of 15, has encountered domestic violence of multiple types in the nation”. In India, 27 percent of females have faced physical abuse since the age of 15. This physical violence experience among females is more prevalent in rural than in urban fields among women. The following table shows the age-wise distribution of respondents for urban areas covered by the study.

**TABLE NO - 4.1.5**

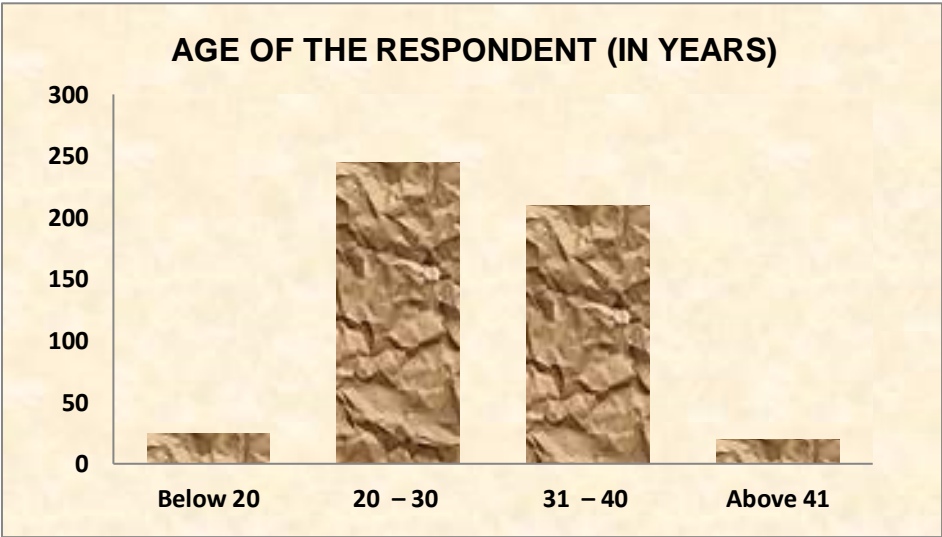
#### **DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON AGE**

<b>Age (in years)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Below 20	25	5.0
20 – 30	245	49.0
31 – 40	210	42.0
Above 41	20	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Out of 500 women who participated in the study, a majority of the respondents (49 percent) belonged to the age group of 20-30 years, the key time to establish a strong marital bond, followed by 42 percent in age category 31-40 years and 5 percent and 4 percent belonged to age groups below 20 years and above 40 years respectively. It is apparent from the above assessment that the prevalent violence was greater (49 percent) among participants who were under 30 years of age. NFHS-3 (2006) also reiterates that violence has occurred in 33.5 percent of all females aged 15 to 49. From the information, however, it is clear that females between the 20-40 age groups are at a greater danger of being subjected to domestic violence. Celine Sunny (2005) also reports that “women in the age group of 20-40 years are at a higher risk of domestic violence than women of other age groups”.

**FIGURE NO – 4.1.5**



**4.1.6 Marital Status**

It is commonly thought that an unusual occurrence involving only married women is domestic violence. However, any dependent person can be subjected to internal abuse, whether married, unmarried, divorced, separated, or widowed, by individuals on whom she depends. There are times where women who have not been able to get married and are thus tortured are tormented by sons and wives in the native family. As a result, data was collected on the respondent's marital status and the same is shown in Table 4.1.6 and Figure 4.1.6.

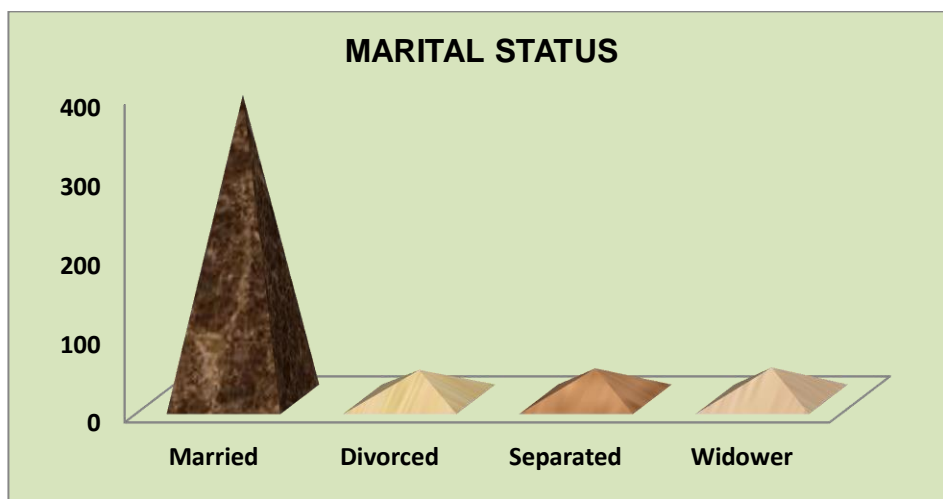
**TABLE NO - 4.1.6**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON MARITAL STATUS**

<b>Marital Status</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Married	384	76.8
Divorced	37	7.4
Separated	39	7.8
Widower	40	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

A very big majority (around 76.8 percent) of participants were recorded as married out of 500 surveyed. Approximately 7.8 percent of participants lived independently, 7.4 percent were divorced, and 8 percent widows. No case of unmarried women was reported. To conclude, domestic violence incidence was more intense among married women than in other categories of women.

**FIGURE NO – 4.1.6**



#### **4.1.7 Educational Status of the Husband**

It is not necessary to highlight the function of education as an agent of change. Education is a double-edged blade that can eliminate socioeconomic inequalities and enhance people's socioeconomic lifestyle. Education generates knowledge among individuals in distinct areas of life about their rights. Education helps to accept innovations and enhances reaction. The husband's academic status may point to different factors behind the violence that has been penetrated on females. Table 4.1.7 and Figure 4.1.7 presents the educational status of the husband.

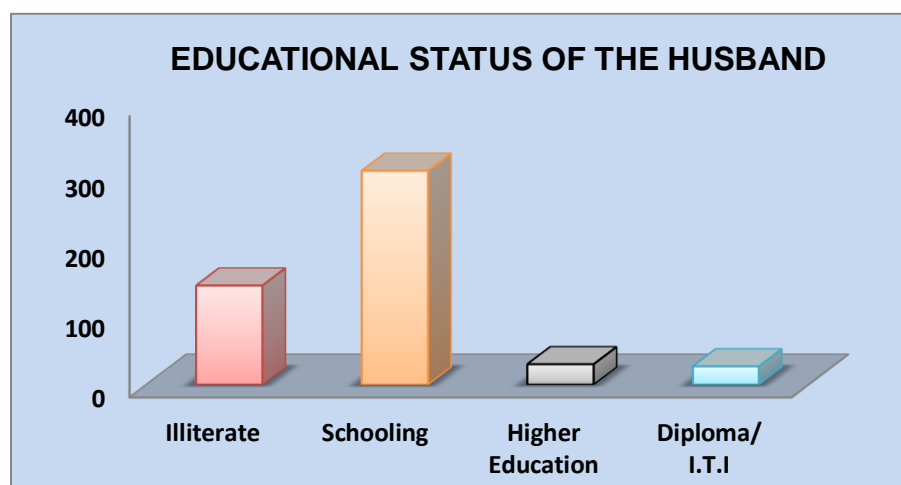
**TABLE NO - 4.1.7**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON EDUCATIONAL STATUS**  
**OF THE HUSBAND**

Education Level	Frequency	Percentage
Illiterate	141	28.2
Schooling	304	60.8
Higher Education	29	5.8
Diploma/ I.T.I	26	5.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

An assessment of the spouse literacy rate shows that approximately 28.2 percent of the population surveyed were illiterates, 60.8 percent had finished schooling, 5.8 percent had completed higher education, and the remaining 5.2 percent had finished diploma / ITI. To summarize, the victim's husband's academic level was quite low, with a majority (61 percent) completing school-level education and almost one-third being illiterate. This can lead to a swell in the incidence of internal violence to a big extent. Studies have also reported that those with poor education were also a greater perpetrator of domestic violence (Kramer et al., 2004; Radestad et al., 2004; Walton-Moss et al., 2005).

**FIGURE NO – 4.1.7**



#### 4.1.8 Educational Status of the respondent

Education plays an important role in every woman's life by increasing her confidence, imparting life skills, and equipping her to create her own

decisions. Greater the educational level, the greater the ability to resist injustice, exploitation, and torture. It is usually assumed that when the subject of violence is educated, the magnitude of domestic violence is lower. Table 4.1.8 and Figure 4.1.8 below shows the educational status of the participants surveyed.

**TABLE NO - 4.1.8**

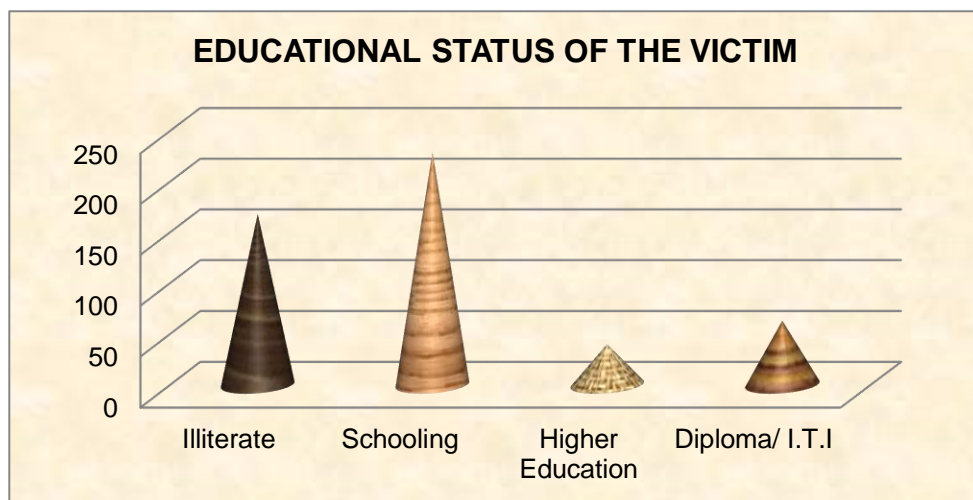
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON EDUCATIONAL STATUS**

Education	Frequency	Percentage
Illiterate	168	33.6
Schooling	229	45.8
Higher Education	40	8.0
Diploma/ I.T.I	63	12.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The research showed that 45.8 percent of participants had completed schooling, 12.6 percent had completed Diploma/ITI, 8 percent had completed higher education, and 33.6 percent were illiterate. Kawachi, et al. (2008) observed that “those with reduced educational levels are more prone to experience intimate partner violence”. Celine Sunny (2005) also observed that domestic violence occurred irrespective of the educational status, though violence was seen more in the less educated category. The present study's findings also demonstrate the earlier studies' results that though domestic violence was seen at all levels of education, it was more intense among low educated women.

**FIGURE NO – 4.1.8**



#### 4.1.9 Husband's Occupation

Occupation plays a crucial role in determining a household's socioeconomic status. It is an index of a household's living standard. Table 4.1.9 and Figure 4.1.9 provides the occupation-wise allocation of the respondent's spouse.

**TABLE NO - 4.1.9**

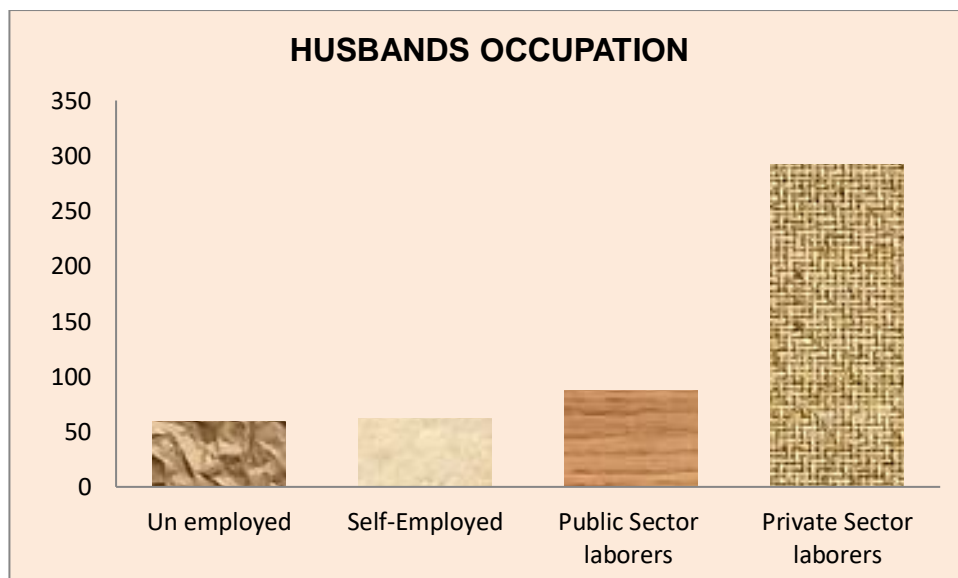
#### **DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON HUSBAND'S OCCUPATION**

Type of Employment	Frequency	Percentage
Un employed	59	11.8
Self-Employed	62	12.4
Public Sector laborers	87	17.4
Private Sector laborers	292	58.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Of the participants surveyed, 58.4 percent of husbands were employed in the private sector, 17.4 percent were employed in the government sector, 12.4 percent were self-employed, and the remaining 11.8 percent were unemployed. Thus, most husbands were employed in the private sector, which had a low and irregular income. Lack of job security would also have triggered domestic violence.

**FIGURE NO – 4.1.9**



#### 4.1.10 Victim's Employment Status

A major measure of their social status is the work experience of women. Jobs are critical to reducing poverty and advancing the status of women. Furthermore, it can also motivate and liberate women if it gives women an opportunity to improve their well-being and increase their skills. On the other hand, it can only increase a woman's monotony if it is motivated by poverty and is low-paying. In their families and culture, a long professional background gives greater prestige to females. Women who stay at home and are not interested in a paid job outside their homes are often widely considered to be at greater risk of violence than women who work outside their families in a paying position. Participants' job history data were collected and presented in Table 4.1.10 and Figure 4.1.10 and Figure 4.1.11 in order to examine the associations between the existence or absence of work and the degree of domestic abuse.

**TABLE NO - 4.1.10**

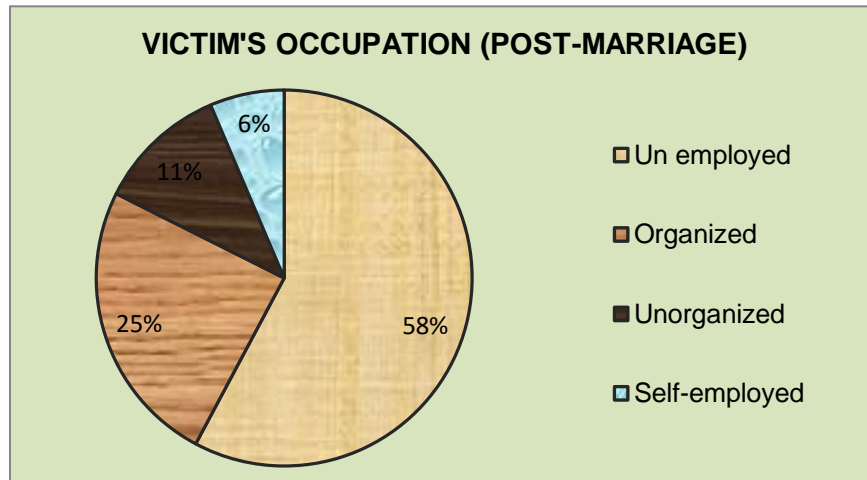
#### **DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON EMPLOYMENT STATUS**

<b>Employment Status</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Un employed	289	57.6
Organized	123	24.6
Unorganized	56	11.2
Self-employed	32	6.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

A majority (57.6 percent) were unemployed, followed by 24.6 percent were employed in the organized industry, followed by 11.2 percent in the unorganized sector, and 6.4 percent were in self-employment. Thus, irrespective of her employment status, women face hostility and violence. Panda and Agarwal (2005) opined a significant reduction in domestic violence among working women in Kerala. In contrast, Jejeebhoy (1998) observed that in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, there was no significant reduction in domestic violence associated with wage employment.

**FIGURE NO - 4.1.10**



**4.1.11 Reason for not working**

The major theoretical finding is that unemployed women have been exposed to a high risk of intimate partner abuse. Furthermore, despairing women with zero earnings are less likely, considering their violent disposition, to abandon their partner. A man with a violent predisposition, knowing this, has little reason to hide his true conduct. In the present analysis, the reasons for not taking up employment were asked of the victims of domestic violence and the findings are provided in Table 4.1.11.

**TABLE NO - 4.1.11**

**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON REASONS FOR NOT WORKING**

Reasons	Frequency	Percentage
Family constraint	114	22.8
Health Issues	58	11.6
Not allowed by Husband /In-laws	127	25.4
Not applicable	289	40.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Nearly 26 percent stated their family members (either husband/ in-laws) did not permit them to take up the job, followed by 23 percent for whom it was family constraints, and for 12 percent it was health issues. Thus, social stigma and cultural issues may have prevented victims from taking up employment. Earlier research also found that most women were not permitted to go to jobs after marriage because of India's cultural norms.

#### 4.1.12 Vocational training undergone

Due to their restricted education, women often lack the ability and expertise to contribute to their economic progress. Vocational training is a panacea to impart the required skill and ability to undertake jobs, which will enable them to be financially independent. Table 4.1.12 and Figure 4.1.12 depicts the percentage of respondents who had undergone vocational training.

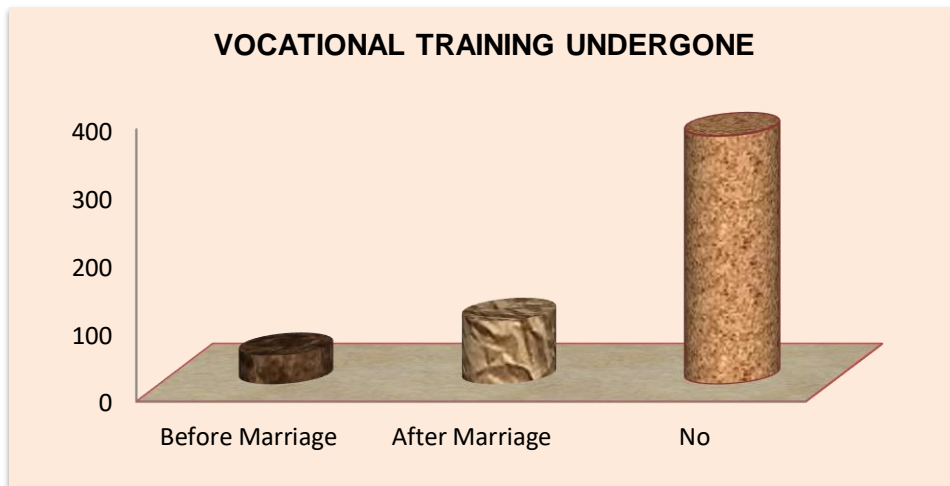
**TABLE NO - 4.1.12**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON VOCATIONAL**  
**TRAINING UNDERGONE**

	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Whether Undergone Training</b>		
Yes	93	18.6
No	407	81.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Type of Training</b>		
Tailoring	70	14.0
Cooking	43	8.6
Plantation	22	4.4
No training	365	73.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Source for Motivation</b>		
Self	10	2.0
Husband	13	2.6
Friends	62	12.4
NGO's	50	10.0
No training	365	73.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Only 19 percent of the participants acquired some formal training, and the remaining 81percent did not receive any training. The type of training undergone enlists the popularity of tailoring (14 percent), followed by cooking (8.6 percent) and plantation work (4.4 percent). The main motivator for women to undertake training was friends (12.4 percent), followed by NGOs' (10 percent), husband (2.6 percent), and self (2 percent). Thus, the role of the husband in encouraging women to take up such training was minimal. It was peer pressure, which made women undergo such a training programme.

**FIGURE NO – 4.1.12**



#### 4.1.13 Social Status of the Households

The social status of an individual or family, to a great extent, depends on the total earnings of the family, which decides the family's overall standard of living, access to education and health care facilities. However, it is difficult to get exact information on income as people do not reveal their true income. In spite of this constraint, information about the husband's income, victim's income, and family income have been recorded to examine the relationship between income levels and the extent of domestic violence. Family income here refers to the total income received by each member of the family from all possible sources. For comparison, the income levels have been classified into three categories, namely less than Rs. 10,000, between Rs. 10,001 to Rs. 20,000 and above Rs. 20,000. Table 4.1.13 gives the details of the monthly income of the husband.

**TABLE NO - 4.1.13**

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON HUSBAND'S INCOME**

<b>Income</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Below Rs.10,000	289	57.8
Rs.10,001- Rs.20,000	123	24.6
Above Rs.20,000	29	5.8
Unemployed	59	11.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The husband's monthly income investigation reveals that 57.8 percent of the respondents had a monthly income of below Rs.10,000 per month, followed by 24.6 percent earning between Rs.10,001 – Rs.20,000 per month, and 5.8 percent earning above Rs. 20,000 per month. About 12 percent of the respondents' husbands were unemployed and had no income. Thus, the incidence of violence was seen more among victims whose husbands had no earnings and/or low earnings.

#### **4.1.14 Income of the respondents**

The financial independence of working women is reflected in their individual earnings. The data gathered on the respondents' monthly income is summarized and displayed in table 4.1.14.

**TABLE NO - 4.1.14**

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON OWN INCOME**

<b>Income</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Below Rs.10,000	46	9.2
Rs.10,001- Rs.20,000	139	27.8
Above Rs.20,000	26	5.2
No Income	289	57.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The percentage of women who lacked income security was 57.8 percent. Most of those employed (27.8 percent) earned income between Rs.10,000 - 20,000. There was around nine percent who earned income below Rs.10,000. The percentage of participants who earned above Rs.20,000 was 5.2 percent. Lack of income and low earning may have forced victims to reconcile with their marital home even after facing violence. The result showed that as the wives' earning capability increases, the men perceived their status as family providers as redundant, which in turn escalates domestic violence (Ahmed 2008, White 2007).

#### **4.1.15 Total Family Income**

Table 4.1.15 presents the details of the total monthly earnings of the victim's households.

**TABLE NO - 4.1.15**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON FAMILY INCOME**

<b>Income</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Below Rs.10,000	228	45.6
Rs.10,001- Rs.20,000	160	32.0
Above Rs.20,000	112	22.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The investigation of the monthly income of the households reveals that a large number of families, i.e., 45.6 percent of the families, had a monthly income of below Rs.10,000 per month, followed by 32 percent earning Rs.10,001 – Rs.20,000 per month, and nearly 22.4 percent were earning above Rs.20,000 per month. Compared with the high-income group (above Rs.20,000) and middle-income group (Rs.10,000 to Rs.20,000), domestic violence incidence was higher among the low-income class. Domestic violence victims in the upper and middle strata often do not expose their victimisation because of the fear of social stigma and the over-anxiety of presenting a healthy image in front of families and friends or because the victims are prepared to suffer in silence.

#### **4.1.16 Housing Details:**

The form of house and the amenities available are a significant measure of a household's financial status. Slums have all types of buildings, including pucca, semi-pucca, kutcha, single storage, double storage, bathroom, kitchen, and kitchen, representing the average individual's financial situation residing in slum dwelling. Household distribution based on their housing conditions is shown in table 4.1.16.

**TABLE NO - 4.1.16**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESPONDENTS ON THE BASIS**  
**OF TYPE OF HOUSE**

<b>S.No</b>	<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Classification</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1	Type of House	Katchcha	64	12.8
		Semi-Pucca	299	59.8
		Pucca	137	27.4
2	Ownership of Dwelling	Own house	398	79.6
		Rented house	102	20.4

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

A Pucca house is built with cemented and concrete roofing in brick or stone, a semi-Pucca house with cement brick and filed roofing, and a kutchcha house made of roofed mud. The housing conditions analysis shows that 59.8 percent of respondents lived in semi-Pucca houses, while 12.8 percent lived in kutchcha houses and 27.4 percent in Pucca houses. Though domestic violence against women cut across all dwelling types, its intensity was seen more among families residing in semi-Pucca houses. A study undertaken by the Centre for Women's Studies and Development in Kerala (2005) reported that most respondents (59.4 percent) lived in semi-pucca houses. Details on the ownership of dwelling's property indicated that 79.6 percent of families lived in their own houses, and 20.4 percent lived in rented buildings. In short domestic violence was seen more among households living in their own house than rented houses signifying lack of ownership of a house was not a risk factor for domestic violence.

#### **4.1.17 Household Assets**

Possession of assets shows the standard of living a family enjoys and the chance of using them as insurance or shock hedge. The absence of revenue-generating assets causes poverty in India. Table 4.1.17 presents details on the different types of assets held by the participants.

**TABLE NO - 4.1.17**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESPONDENTS ON THE BASIS**  
**HOUSEHOLD ASSETS**

Assets	Percentage of Households Owning Assets	
	Own Fund	Government Fund
<b>Productive Assets</b>		
Land	19.4	-
Live stock	8.2	22.6
<b>Non-Productive Assets</b>		
Furniture	19	-
House Hold Equipments	30	62
Fridge& Washing Machine	21	-
Tailoring machine	10	11
Vehicles	81	-
Ornaments	10	11
Mobile/ Landline Phone	43	-
Laptop/ Computers	4	22

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Possession of productive assets such as land and the livestock was quite negligible among the surveyed households, with 19 percent reporting ownership of land and nearly 31 percent reporting possession of livestock, of which 23 percent were beneficiaries under the Government scheme and 8 percent through own funds. Insufficient livelihood may be the reason for low investment in productive assets. However, lack of income has not deterred the household from buying household equipment's (92 percent), Vehicles (81 percent), mobile/ landline (43 percent), tailoring machine (30 percent), laptop/ computer (26 percent), gold, silver (22 percent), refrigerator/ washing machine (21 percent) and furniture (19 percent). It is interesting to note that household equipment's, Laptop, tailoring machine, and gold and silver were acquired by 62 percent, 22 percent, 11 percent, and 11 percent, respectively, under government schemes. Thus, there was an increasing tendency toward conspicuous consumption among the surveyed victims.

#### **4.1.18 Savings of the Households**

Every household would like to save some portion of their income for future expenses or unforeseen expenses. However, their low income and rising living costs often prevent future savings by households. Failure to save can also be a cause of domestic violence. Therefore, an effort was made to analyze

household savings behaviour. Table 4.1.18 presents the savings behaviour of rural and urban slum households.

**TABLE NO - 4.1.18**  
**DETAILS OF SAVINGS BEHAVIOUR OF THE HOUSEHOLDS**

Savings Details	Frequency	Percentage
<b>No of household</b>		
Saving	191	38.2
No Saving	309	61.8
<b>Form of Saving</b>		
No Saving	321	64.2
Bank	131	26.2
Private	26	5.2
Self	22	4.4

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019–20.

Approximately 62 percent of the 500 families surveyed did not save, and the percentage of families reporting savings was 38 percent. The reasons for low savings may be low and irregular earnings of the households. A study undertaken by the Centre for Women's Studies and Development in Kerala (2005) have also reported the majority (61.7 percent) of the victims of domestic violence did not have savings. While most households (26.2 percent) preferred bank deposits, 5.2 percent preferred to save in private banks, and 4.4 percent chose to hold their savings as liquid cash. Preference for private banks may be due to higher returns offered by these institutions, while low savings may have motivated the households to hold liquid cash. Lack of savings to fall back during times of financial crisis among surveyed families may have led to domestic violence.

#### **4.2 Marital Background of the Respondents**

Women's exposure to domestic violence, among other variables, could be ascribed to their socioeconomic roles (Weaver et al., 2009), especially where they are comparatively disadvantaged in a patriarchal society (Barnett, 2000). Socioeconomic variables are interwoven with patriarchal culture, place females in a situation of subordination. Through this ideology, females are built as mothers and wives (homemakers), having assumed the obligation of rearing

children and housework. On the other side, men are built as fathers and husbands (breadwinners), who are accountable for the family's economic welfare. It has resulted in women's financial dependence on their husbands in the process (Anuja, 2014). Women's position within the family setting affects propensities for attacks, as argued by family violence academics. The factors considered in this section include age at marriage, type of marriage, duration of marriage, woman's independence and decision-making power, the difference in the socioeconomic status of partner households, satisfaction of in-laws with regard to Dowry, whether the spouse is the respondent's relative, variations in marriage age, differences in financial status, opinion sought for marriage, etc.

#### 4.2.1 Position in the Family

Friedrich Engels claims in the "Origins of the Family, Private Property and the State" that women's position in society has been determined by the evolving marriage structures determined by financial forces themselves. Table 4.2.1 provides the place within the family held by the females surveyed.

**TABLE NO - 4.2.1**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON WOMEN'S POSITION IN**  
**THE FAMILY**

<b>Position in the family</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Daughter-in-law	229	45.8
Wife	249	49.8
Sister-in-law	9	1.8
Daughter	13	2.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The majority (50 percent) of the sample participants enjoyed the status of the wife. Of the remaining sample participants, 46 percent were daughters-in-law, 3 percent were daughters, and 2 percent were sisters-in-law. On marriage, a woman generally moves to her spouse's home, and the responsibilities for her security are passed to the husband and his family from the father or guardian. Thus, the incidence was seen more among wives and daughters-in-law and negligible among their family members.

#### 4.2.2 Age at Marriage

In India, as per the Marriage and Family Act, “the legal age for marriage is 18 for women and 21 for men”. The marital age has been highlighted by several earlier studies as a significant predictor for domestic abuse. Adjustment stress is greater when married young people are married, and inability to adapt also triggers family abuse. Women who are married at an early age are also more at risk of husbands and/or in-laws being raped. Table 4.2.2 and Figure 4.2.1 indicate the age of the respondents at the time of their marriage.

**TABLE NO - 4.2.2**

**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON AGE AT MARRIAGE**

<b>Age At Marriage(in years)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Below 18	97	19.4
18– 20	143	28.6
21– 25	219	43.8
Above 25	41	8.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Out of 500 participants surveyed, the bulk (43.8 percent) were married at 21-25 years of age, followed by 28.6 percent at 18-20 years, 19.4 percent below 18 years of age, and 8.2 percent above 25 years. The data analysis shows that the incidence of violence was seen more among women who were married at a younger age of 20 and below. Globally, females who marry in their teens are more likely than females who marry in their twenties and older to experience domestic abuse (Bachman et al., 2002). The data appear to suggest that in their marriage, women are susceptible to brutality pretty early. Thus, while still young, an overwhelming number of respondents had experienced domestic violence. Married at a young age (under 25 years), they are not prepared mentally, physically, and psychologically for the responsibilities that marriage brings in. Kishor and Kiersten Johnson (2004) opined that “the theoretical background is complicated and interconnected with many other factors, global and India-based research indicates that previous married females are at greater risk of violence than later married women”.

**FIGURE NO – 4.2.1**



### 4.2.3 Type of Marriage

The distinction between arranged marriages and love marriages is increasingly seen as a "false dichotomy" in the urban culture of modern India with events such as "self-arranged marriages" and free choice on the part of prospective spouses. But latest proof shows a decrease in kin control and an increase in the participation of a young woman in mate choice (Jejeebhoy and Halli, 2005) or at least the weddings arranged in India are being converted into a more consenting model (Banerjee, 1999). The general belief is that in love marriages, domestic violence is more common than in arranged marriages. Table 4.2.3 and Figure 4.2.2 provides respondent's classification based on marriage type.

**TABLE NO - 4.2.3**

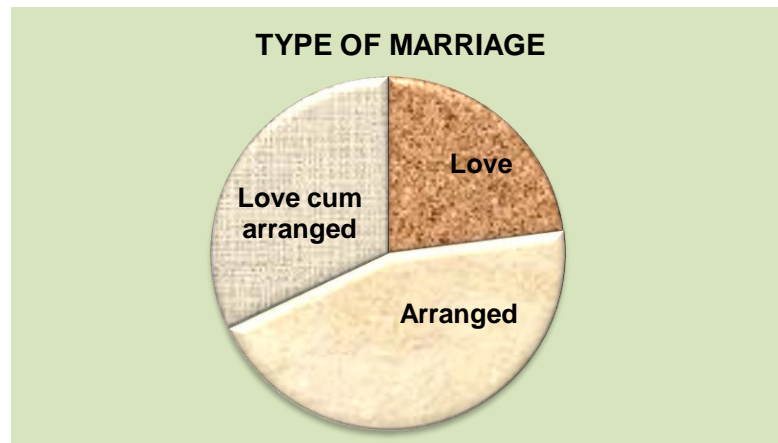
#### **DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON TYPE OF MARRIAGE**

Type of marriage	Frequency	Percentage
Love	115	23.0
Arranged	225	45.0
Love cum arranged	160	32.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Of the 500 victims who participated in the survey, 45 percent had arranged marriage, 23 percent had marriages per the respondent's own choices, and 32 percent had love cum arranged marriage. The observations go against the general conception in the society domestic violence was more prevalent in love marriages. Most domestic abuse instances have been discovered in arranged marriages rather than in marriages of love as per the study. Duggar and Pradhan (2014) have also recorded similar results in their research. Lamichhane and Dulal (2011), observed that “domestic violence among young married women in Nepal, nearly three-fourths (70.1 percent) of the women had arranged marriage”.

**FIGURE NO – 4.2.2**



#### 4.2.4 Opinion Sought for Marriage

In the social system, the marriage is solemnized without the approval of 'boy' or 'girl' in the earlier days. But in recent years, the consent is obtained before solemnizing the marriage. Table 4.2.4 outlines whether the victim's opinion was requested before marriage.

**TABLE NO - 4.2.4**

**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON OPINION SOUGHT FOR MARRIAGE**

Opinion Sought	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	429	85.8
No	71	14.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The majority of the respondents, 86 percent, agreed that their opinion was sought before marriage, and only 14 percent have stated otherwise. Mehta and Mehta (2007) have also reported that for the majority of women respondents, i.e., 74.1 percent, marriage was a choice of their families with their consent.

#### 4.2.5 Duration of Marriage

Marriage duration explains how tightly bound partners are and how hard the split will be for the partner who is not earned or the person who is less earned. Long years of marriage could also be the woman's learning experience to prevent environments that have led to previous violence. Table 4.2.5 and Figure 4.2.3 demonstrates the length of the victim's marriage relationship.

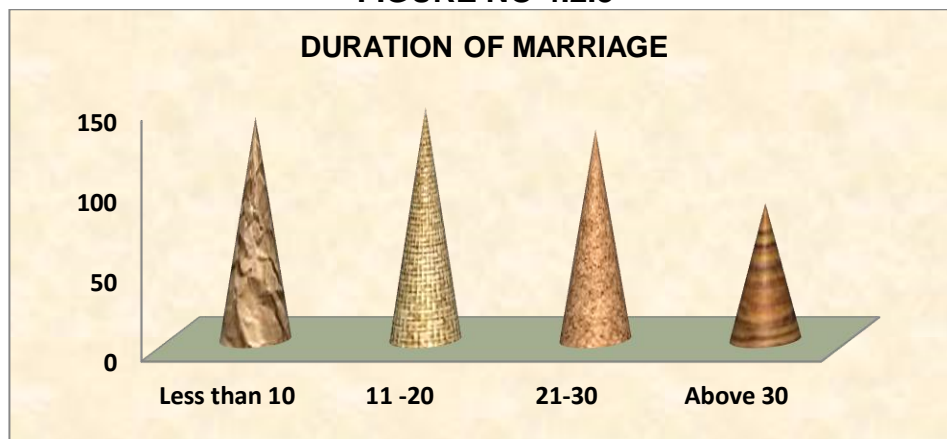
**TABLE NO - 4.2.5  
DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON DURATION OF MARRIAGE**

Duration of Marriage (in years)	Frequency	Percentage
Less than 10	139	27.8
11 -20	145	29
21-30	131	26.2
Above 30	85	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Analysis of respondent's marital period reveals that 29.9 percent of respondents lived with their spouses for 11-20 years, 28 percent for less than ten years, 26 percent for 21-30 years, 17 percent for over 30 years. It is evident that with the rise in marital life length, the danger of being exposed to domestic violence reduces. Thus, the incidence of violence decreased with an increase in the duration of the marriage.

**FIGURE NO 4.2.3**



#### 4.2.6 Spousal Age Differences

The age difference between husband and wife plays an important role in deciding their pattern of contact. The age difference between husband and wife also influences the likelihood of a woman witnessing abuse. The age difference between husband and wife for this research is divided into 0-5 years, 5 to 10 years, and 10 years or more, and the specifics are shown in Table 4.2.6 and Figure 4.2.4.

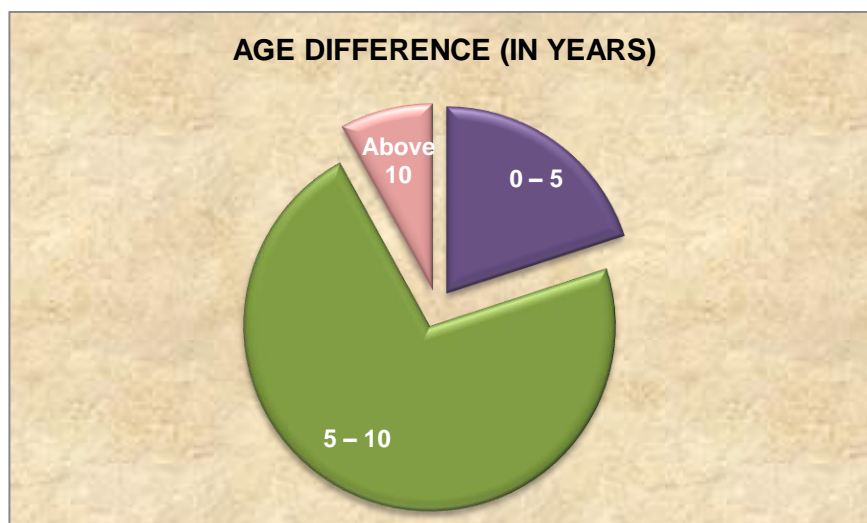
**TABLE NO - 4.2.6**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON AGE DIFFERENCE**  
**BETWEEN SPOUSES**

Age difference (in years)	Frequency	Percentage
0 – 5	100	20.0
5 – 10	360	72.0
Above 10	40	8.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The table shows that the bulk (72 percent) of the victims had an age difference of 5 -10 years, followed by 20 percent between 0 - 5 years, 8 percent more than ten years. In instances where intimate partner violence happens, the average age gap between males and females at marriage age was significant in some cases (Abramsky et al., 2011). The incidence of violence was lesser when the age difference was less than five and more than ten years in the current research.

**FIGURE NO – 4.2.4**



#### 4.2.7 Victim's relation to the Spouse

India's attitude to cousin marriage differs significantly from region to culture. It is acceptable and legal to marry a first cousin for Muslims, controlled by unmodified private law, but for Hindus, it may be illegal under the Hindu Marriage Act of 1955, although the particular scenario is more complicated. There are also communities in South India that practice consanguineous marriages. However, it is not the same as a kid who marries the community or region "outside" with whom the family has never had a marriage or genetic link. A general perception is that when spouses are related, the occurrence of domestic violence is less. Table 4.2.7 shows the details of the victim's relationship with their spouses.

**TABLE NO - 4.2.7**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON VICTIM'S RELATIONSHIP**  
**WITH THE SPOUSE**

<b>Nature of Relation</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Mother side	135	27.0
Father side	290	58.0
Outsider	75	15.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The majority of the participants (58 percent) had married the father side relative, whereas 27 percent had married their mother side relative, and 15 percent had opted for non-related partners. It was a common custom to conduct marriage between kinships; the current research also demonstrated the same. Furthermore, the results also proved incorrect that the incidence of abuse among associated spouses was lower; in reality, when spouses are related, intimate partner abuse was greater.

#### 4.2.8 Existence of dowry demands during marriage.

In many Indian communities there is a strong links between domestic violence and dowry, as a deeply rooted cultural practice. Even today, this practise remains in India, though it has been prohibited by legislation since 1961. These risks not only include physical and psychological abuse, but in some instances, it leads to discontent of the husband, death of the dowry, and

burning of the bride. Table 4.2.8 and Figure 4.2.5 provides information on requests for dowry during the marriage.

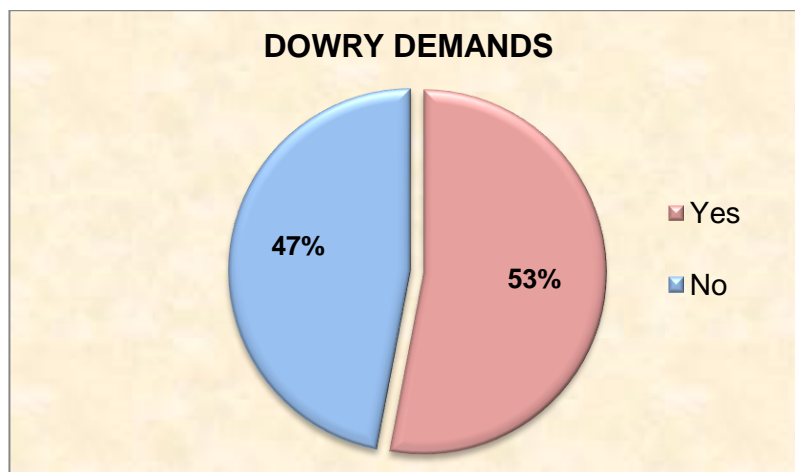
**TABLE NO - 4.2.8**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON EXISTENCE**  
**OF DOWRY DEMANDS DURING MARRIAGE**

Existence of Dowry Demands	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	265	53.0
No	235	47.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The research showed that 53 percent of the participants had provided dowry during their marriage. This showed that dowry acquired all the features of a market transaction, which was once a token for the sublime feelings of parents and friends of a bride in marriage. Around 47 percent of females, however, reported not giving any type of dowry. Thus, the demand for dowry among the surveyed victims was also a cause of violence.

**FIGURE NO – 4.2.5**



#### **4.2.9 Form of Dowry**

It is believed that the dowry system places a large economic strain on the family of the bride (Anderson, Siwan 2007). It is mainly in the form of a money payment or some kind of donations provided to the bridegroom's family along with the bride. According to Paras Diwan and Peeyushi Diwan (1997) "form of dowry involves money, jewellery, electrical equipment, furniture, bedding, crockery, utensils, and other household items that assist the

newlyweds set up their home”. Table 4.2.9 outlines the information on the form of dowry provided by the victim's family during the marriage.

**TABLE NO - 4.2.9**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON FORM OF DOWRY**

<b>Form of Dowry</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Gold	115	23.0
Cash	70	14.0
Property	15	3.0
Vessels	40	8.0
Vehicles	25	5.0
Not applicable	235	47.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The information provided in the table shows that 23 percent of the victims received gold as dowry, while 14 percent in the form of money, 8 percent in the form of vessels, 3 percent property, and 5 percent vehicles. It is interesting to note that 47 percent of the victims have stated that they have not given any form of dowry. Thus, gold and cash were preferred forms of dowry among the surveyed households.

#### **4.2.10 Level of Satisfaction in Receiving Dowry**

Table 4.2.10 establishes the satisfaction of the families of the victims on receiving dowry.

**TABLE NO - 4.2.10**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON LEVEL OF SATISFACTION WITH DOWRY RECEIVED**

<b>Level of Satisfaction</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	162	32.4
No	103	20.6
Not applicable	235	47.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The information shows that 32 percent of respondents reported that their spouse and in-laws were happy with the dowry they got, while 21 percent stated their spouse and in-laws were not happy with the dowry given. Thus, the

enhanced desire for more dowries occurred only for one-third of the victims, and this discontentment could be a prospective cause of domestic abuse.

#### 4.2.11 Dowry request after marriage

Often the demand for Dowry arises not only during the marriage but also after marriage to meet unexpected expenditures and /or due to other reasons such as investing in the business, buying or constructing a house, etc. Such demands may also be the cause of domestic violence. Table 4.2.11 and Figure 4.2.6 establishes the Dowry demanded after marriage by the husband's family.

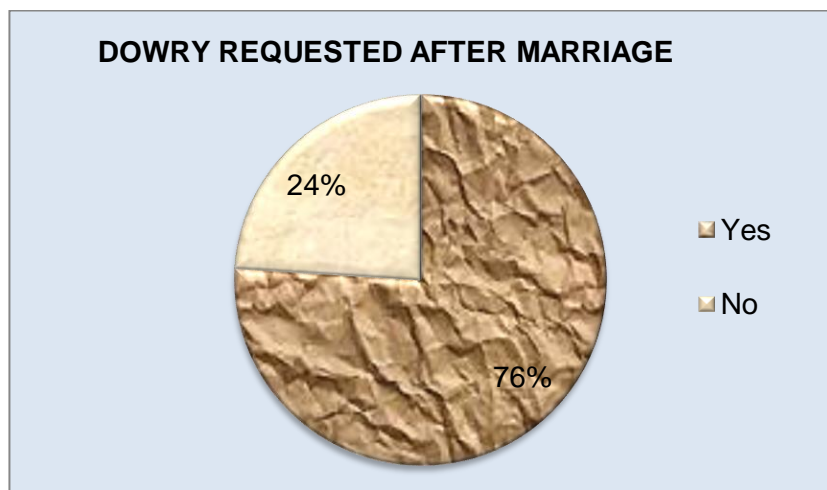
**TABLE NO - 4.2.11**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON DOWRY REQUESTED**  
**AFTER MARRIAGE**

Difference exists	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	380	76.0
No	120	24.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The majority (76 percent) of the respondents indicated that their spouse family requested dowry after marriage, while 24 percent reported no dowry demand after marriage. Hence the issue of dowry emerged to be a concern for domestic violence among the surveyed population.

**FIGURE NO – 4.2.6**



#### 4.2.12 Form of dowry requested after marriage

Dowry-related violence also happens when the groom or his family requests money from the bride's family, who are unable or unable to pay, even after marriage. Table 4.2.12 summarizes the form of Dowry requested by the spouse and in-laws after marriage.

**TABLE NO - 4.2.12**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON FORM**  
**OF DOWRY**

Form of Dowry	Frequency	Percentage
Gold	165	33.0
Cash	170	34.0
Property	30	6.0
Vessels	15	3.0
Not applicable	120	24.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The information provided in the table shows that the majority (34 percent) of the victims reported that their spouse/in-laws demanded cash dowry, and about 33 percent stated the demand was gold. Dowry's other forms asked by the husband's family after marriage were property (6 percent) and vessels (3 percent). Thus, the research discovers the gold and liquid assets were a significant type of dowry even after the marriage. Therefore, there were pressures on the women to bring dowry even after marriage, which caused domestic violence. Hossain (2016) also reported that “nearly 50 percent of the husbands create pressure on the wives to bring money from the natal home”.

#### 4.2.13 Difference in Socio-Economic Status of Partner Families

According to Schuler SR et al., (1996) “high socioeconomic status is generally found to offer a safeguard against the risk of violence against an intimate partner, although exceptions do exist”. The adjustment issue occurred in married life when the socioeconomic level of the partners differed. The victims were questioned in the research whether there were any variations in socioeconomic status between their partner's family and their own family, and the outcomes are shown in table 4.2.13.

**TABLE NO - 4.2.13**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON DIFFERENCES**  
**IN SOCIO ECONOMIC STATUS**

<b>Difference exists</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	176	35.2
No	324	64.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The majority (65 percent) of respondents indicated that their socioeconomic status did not differ, while 35.2 percent of victims reported that their status differed. Thus, family abuse was prevalent regardless of whether there was any distinction in their socioeconomic background. The difference in the socioeconomic status was not a concern for domestic violence in the surveyed population.

#### **4.2.14 Control over Family Affairs**

The system of authority came to be regarded as hierarchical; succession to be lineage and living arrangements to be patrilocal, marked by unequal energy gender relations running along the lines of gender in which the strong position of man and woman's subordination is recognized as a social norm. Table 4.2.14 outlines with whom the family control rests.

**TABLE NO - 4.2.14**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON FAMILY CONTROL**

<b>Family control</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Husband only	160	32.0
Wife only	70	14.0
Husband & Wife	200	40.0
In-law's	70	14.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The majority of the victims (40 percent) opined that the control over family matters rests with husband and wife, while 32 percent reported that the control rests with husbands, about 14 percent said control rests with self, and the remaining 14 percent said control rests with their in-laws. Despite their control over family affairs, the women had no respite from domestic abuse.

### 4.3 Nature and frequency of Domestic Violence

In this section, an attempt is made to investigate the prevalence of domestic violence, the rate of domestic violence, the perpetrator of domestic violence, the length of domestic violence, the types of domestic violence and the causes of domestic violence in the daily lives of respondents.

#### 4.3.1 Occurrence of domestic violence

While the problem of domestic violence has gained increasing attention in recent years, the debates on the scope and magnitude of the problem remain inconclusive. There are similar debates about the number of battered women. In India, a few isolated studies endorse the view that “domestic violence is universal in one form or the other and it transgresses the boundaries of caste, class, race, and religion”. Table 4.3.1 presents the details on the occurrence of domestic violence among the surveyed women.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.1**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON OCCURRENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

<b>Occurrence of domestic violence</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	500	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Almost all the respondents stated they faced domestic violence. The high percentage of post-marriage can be attributed to the fact that the study concentrated only on women who experienced domestic violence. Thus, women faced violence not only in their marital home but also in their maternal family.

#### 4.3.2 Frequency of domestic violence

Violence against women is taking the shape of a social issue, since it is a family action that is replicated. Respondents were asked to indicate the level of abuse they were subjected to. Women alleging domestic abuse have been questioned whether it was frequently, often, rarely or seldom. The results are summarised in Table 4.3.2 and Figure 4.3.1.

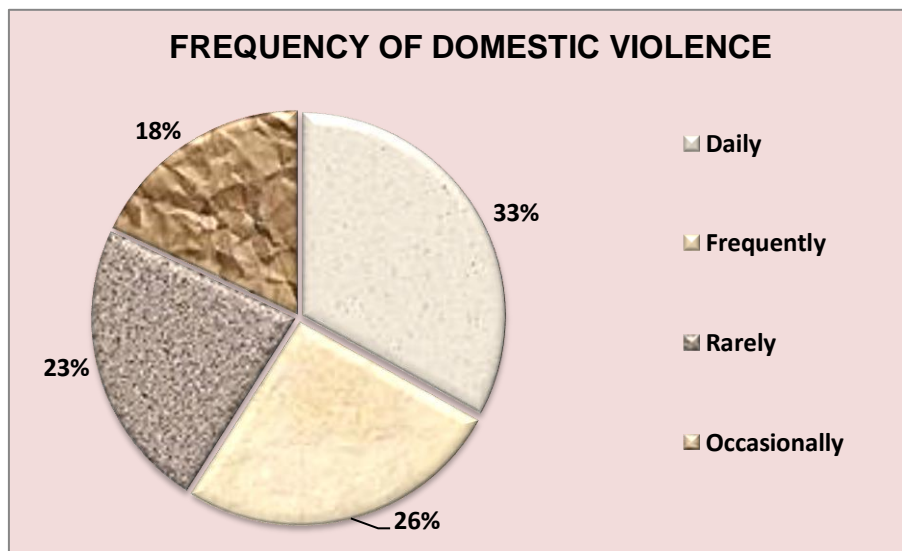
**TABLE NO - 4.3.2**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON FREQUENCY OF**  
**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Frequency of domestic violence	Frequency	Percentage
Daily	165	33.0
Frequently	130	26.0
Rarely	115	23.0
Occasionally	90	18.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The table above shows that the frequency of domestic violence was spread equitably across distinct types of occurrences. Out of 500 participants, 165 participants experience regular violence in their family, followed by 130 respondents experience frequent violence, 115 participants experience violence rarely, and 90 respondents experience violence occasionally. This shows that partner violence was often not an occurrence once-off, but a repeated pattern of abuse. Most of the respondents stated that domestic violence was a regular happening in their life. Earlier research (Dr. Manzoor Hussain and Rehana Bashir, 2017) opined that most participants who had experienced intimate partner violence indicated that violence happens every day.

**FIGURE NO – 4.3.1**



### 4.3.3 Frequency of Domestic Violence and Socio Demographic Characteristics

An attempt was made to examine whether there is any relationship between the frequency of violence and socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents. The null hypothesis tested was:

**Ho:** There was no significant association between the frequency of domestic violence after marriage and socio-demographic characteristics.

**Ha:** There was a significant association between the frequency of domestic violence after marriage and socio-demographic characteristics.

The results are presented in table 4.3.3.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.3**  
**ASSOCIATION BETWEEN FREQUENCY OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SOCIO DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS**

S.No	Variables	Calculated value	P-value
1	Religion	1.699	.428
2	Community	5.667	.129
3	Family Type	18.166	<b>.000*</b>
4	Family Size	20.225	<b>.000*</b>
5	Number of Children	12.815	<b>.002*</b>
6	Age of respondent	7.837	.050
7	Age at Marriage	17.926	<b>.036**</b>
8	Type of Marriage	5.495	.064
9	Age difference between husband and wife	11.278	<b>.004*</b>
10	Education of respondent	6.130	.105
11	Husband's Education	.379	.945
12	Occupation of respondent	12.264	<b>.007**</b>
13	Husband's Occupation	.341	.952
14	Household Income	15.044	<b>.020**</b>

\*Significant at 1 percent level, \*\*Significant at 5 percent level

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

The chi-square test results reveal that family type, family size, number of children, age at marriage, age differences between husband and wife, occupation of the victim, and household income were significantly associated with violence frequency. Rasha Abdel Hameed Ali and Rania Ahmed Redwan (2017) also found a statistical difference between education, working status, marital status, age difference, age of the husband, and domestic violence status. Frequency of violence was found to spiral in an extended family, medium-sized family, younger age of marriage, higher age differences,

unemployed victims, and low income families. Pal (2017) has identified that violence was more among families belonging to low per capita income and higher spousal age difference. Saffari et al. (2017) opined that large family size and lower socioeconomic status increased domestic violence risk.

#### 4.3.4 Vocational Training Programme and Frequency of Violence

In theory, the participation of women victims of domestic violence may decrease the frequency of domestic violence if such participation enhances new income-generating activities and increases income, which in turn, by improving the household's living standard and also by improving women's position in the household, would reduce tension between a couple. However, some aspects of women empowerment, such as strengthened autonomy, increased mobility, and more negotiation power vis-à-vis husbands, may be perceived by husbands as a challenge to cultural norms based on men's authority (Kabeer 1999). If this is the case, participation in training may raise tension between a wife and a husband and may increase the frequency of domestic violence. Which effect is dominant is, therefore, an empirical question. An attempt was made to examine whether there was any association between the respondents' vocational training status and domestic violence frequency. The null hypothesis framed was:

H<sub>0</sub>: There was no association between vocational training status of respondents and the frequency of domestic violence.

H<sub>a</sub>: There was an association between vocational training status of respondents and the frequency of domestic violence.

The estimated chi-square value is presented in table 4.3.4

**TABLE NO – 4.3.4**  
**ASSOCIATION BETWEEN VOCATIONAL TRAINING WITH FREQUENCY OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Variables	Chi-square Value	Degrees of Freedom	Level of Significance
Frequency of Domestic Violence	21.555	3	.000

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

The result presented in the table indicates that the frequency of violence was closely associated with respondents' vocational training status at a one

percent level. The frequency of violence was seen more among the females who did not attend any training. Haneef et al. (2014) also found that “SHG's programme's training modules raised women's and men's awareness of the negative consequences of domestic abuse”.

#### **4.3.5 Discriminant Analysis**

Various studies have shown that there is a correlation between the likelihood of female domestic violence and socio-demographic and cultural factors, such as lower household income, illiteracy, lack of a child, age at marriage, number of living children, employment status of women, dowry, failure to fulfil their duties and responsibilities, economic stress and hierarchical gender relationship. Levinson (1989) observed that “the status inconsistency theory states that wife-beating may be high in an environment where men’s traditional power in the family is challenged, while women’s power has increased”. Sanjai et al., .2013 shown “a strong relationship between husband alcohol consumption and domestic violence”. Panda (2004) lists “the potential causes or triggers of violence as dowry, spousal infidelity, typical gender roles, and expectations about women's appropriate conduct”. “Dowry-related violence has been considered a global phenomenon that crosses all kinds of borders and continues to grow in India” (Singh, 2005).

Therefore, an attempt was made by discriminant analysis to shed light on the relationship between socio-demographic and cultural influences and the incidence of domestic violence. Age, education, number of children, husband's education, wife's occupation, husband's occupation, and the age difference between husband and wife, alcohol abuse, and dowry were the various socio-demographic and cultural variables. The occurrence of violence was measured in terms of frequency of violence, which classified women victims into two groups, namely those experiencing low-intensity violence (Group I) and those experiencing high-intensity violence (Group II). Efforts were made to analyze how these different socio-demographic and cultural factors help in better explaining the frequency of experiencing domestic violence.

Table 4.3.5 shows the group means of each socio-demographic and cultural factors and Wilks’ lambda and their level of significance.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.5**  
**GROUP MEAN, WILKS' LAMBDA AND LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Groups	High Intensity of Violence	Low Intensity of violence	All	Wilks' Lambda	Significance
Women's Age	3.52	1.45	2.67	0.241	0.000*
Women's Education	1.98	1.05	1.6	0.249	0.000*
Number of Children	3.56	1.44	2.69	0.184	0.000*
Husband's Education	2.51	2.8	2.63	0.984	0.005*
Wife's Occupation	1.61	1.77	1.68	0.981	0.002*
Husband's Occupation	1.98	1.02	1.58	0.081	0.000*
Age Difference	1.96	1.02	1.58	0.119	0.000*
Alcohol Addiction	1.54	1.7	1.6	0.981	0.002*
Dowry	1.95	1.03	1.57	0.164	0.000*

**Source:** Estimation based on field study, 2019-20.

Review of the significance of the individual variables reveals that on a univariate basis, variables, namely, age, education of the respondents, number of children, husband's education, wife's occupation, husband's occupation, the age difference between husband and wife, alcohol addiction and dowry display significant differences between group means. Based on the above group means, the standardized canonical discriminant function was estimated as follows:

$$Z = -.680A + .362E + .955NOC - .202HE + .026WO + .713HC + .386AD + .237AL + .431D$$

$$\text{Eigenvalue} = 34.227$$

$$\text{Canonical Correlation} = 0.986$$

$$\text{Wilks' Lambda} = 0.028$$

$$\text{Chi square value} = 1757.749^*$$

(\* significant at one percent level)

In the above function, the variables education of the respondents, number of children, wife's occupation, husband's occupation, age difference between husband and wife, alcohol addiction and dowry had positive sign indicating that these variables had higher discriminating power between groups. In short, these variables differentiate victims of high-intensity domestic violence from victims of low-intensity domestic violence. The remaining variable

age and husband's occupation had a negative sign implying that it acted as a suppressor variable. The Wilks' lambda and chi-square value indicated that the function was significant at one percent level. The canonical correlation associated with the discriminant function was 0.986, implying that nearly 98 percent of the dependent variable's variation was accounted for by the model.

The relative importance of each variable in discriminating between the groups was assessed in terms of their factor loadings and is shown in table 4.3.6.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.6**  
**POTENCY INDICES OF THE PREDICTORS**

S.No	Variables	Factor Loading	Percentage of variation	Rank
1	Women's Age	0.303	9.21	5
2	Women's education	0.297	8.83	6
3	Number of Children	0.360	12.94	4
4	Husband's Education	-0.022	0.05	9
5	Wife's Occupation	-0.024	0.06	7
6	Husband's Occupation	0.577	33.33	1
7	Age Difference	0.465	21.63	2
8	Alcohol Addiction	-0.024	0.06	8
9	Dowry	0.386	14.88	3

**Source:** Estimation based on field Survey, 2019-20.

While evaluating the variables based on their factor loading, any factor is considered substantive discriminators if the factor loadings are equal to or greater than  $\pm 0.30$ . Evaluating the factor loadings based on the above criterion, the variables that distinguish women facing high intensity of violence from women facing the low intensity of violence were husband's occupation, the age difference between husband and wife, dowry, number of children, victim's age, and victim's education. While husband's occupation accounted for nearly 33 percent of the variation in the intensity of domestic violence against women, the extent of variation explained by the age difference between husband and wife, dowry, number of children, victim's age, and education of women were 22 percent, 15 percent, 13 percent, and 9 percent respectively. The results indicate a significant relationship between socio-demographic and cultural factors and the intensity of domestic violence. The intensity of violence was found to be more when the husband is unemployed/ under-employed, age

differences exist, the prevalence of dowry issue, a larger number of children, age group of 31 to 40 years, and illiterate women. Various studies also support the above findings. Florinda Golu (2014) found the husband's occupational status as a significant predictor of domestic violence. In instances where intimate partner violence happens, the average age gap between males and females at marriage age was significant in some cases (Abramsky et al., 2011). Pal.J. et al. (2017) and Ali and Radwan (2017) found that violence was higher among women with a higher spousal age difference. Rao (1997), INCLLEN (2000), and Hossain A (2016) found that dowry harassment was seen as the major precipitating factor of domestic violence. Saffari et al. (2017) found that the lower number of children lowered domestic violence risk. Celine Sunny (2005) also reports that “women in the age group of 20-40 years are at a higher risk of domestic violence than women of other age groups”. Kabir et al. (2017) found that women with no education have suffered more from domestic violence. Domestic violence was more rampant among households with unemployed husbands, higher spousal age differences, dowry issues, more children, among women in the age group of 20 -40 years, and women with less education.

The validity of the above discriminant function was evaluated at group centroid (group means), and the results are shown in Table 4.3.7.

**TABLE NO – 4.3.7**  
**CLASSIFICATION OF SAMPLE CASES**

Variable	Predicted	High intensity of violence	Low intensity of violence	Total
	Actual			
High frequency of violence	1	99.5	0.5	100
Low frequency of violence	2	0.7	99.3	100

**a.99.4 percent of original grouped cases correctly classified**

**Source:** Estimation based on field Survey, 2019-20.

The classification accuracy percentage of the discriminant function for the sample respondents was 99.4 percent. Thus, the discriminant function was quite efficient in classifying the respondents based on their incidence of violence as the high and low intensity of domestic violence.

#### 4.3.6 Perpetrator of domestic violence

The family is often compared to a refuge where love, protection, security, and shelter are sought by individuals. The facts, however, indicates that it is also a place that endangers lives and causes violence against women of some kind. In the domestic domain, violence is typically carried out by men who are in positions of confidence and control. Descriptions of the perpetrators of abuse in the lives of the respondents are presented in Table 4.3.4 and Figure 4.3.2.

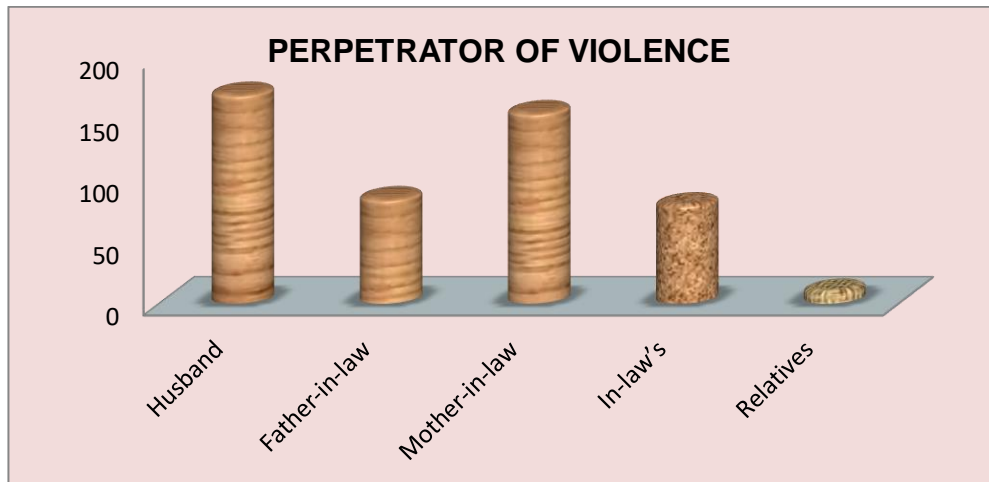
**TABLE NO - 4.3.8**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON PERPETRATOR OF**  
**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

<b>Perpetrator</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Husband	170	34.0
Father-in-law/ Father	85	17.0
Mother-in-law/ Mother	155	31.0
In-law's/ Siblings	80	16.0
Relatives	10	2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The main perpetrators were husband (34), followed by mother-in-law (31 percent), father-in-law (17 percent), husbands' siblings (16 percent), and relatives (2 percent). In most cases, domestic abuse is violence committed against women by men. In the current research, however, women (the mother-in-law) played an important role in the perpetuation of violence against women. The husband was at the top, followed by mother-in-law, father-in-law, husband's family, own brothers, mother, and father, if ranking is done based on instigating the abuse. Dugar and Pradhan (2014) found that “the husband and the victim's mother-in-law played a decisive role in the planning and executing of violence against the victim in most cases”.Manzoor Hussain and Rehana Bashir (2017) also observed that “the major perpetrator of domestic violence after marriage was husband and in-laws”.

**FIGURE NO – 4.3.2**



#### 4.3.7 Duration of domestic violence

“Worldwide, more than one-third of women experience physical and sexual harassment, with a lifetime prevalence of violence ranging from 10 percent to 69 percent from various population studies”, according to the WHO (2016). The respondents were asked to state how long they had been affected by domestic violence. The purpose of gathering this data was to understand how long the participants lived with the abusive situation and the results were shown in table 4.3.9.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.9  
DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON DURATION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Duration (in years)	Frequency	Percentage
Less than 5	106	21.2
5 – 10	118	23.6
10 – 20	127	25.4
More than 20	149	29.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

A careful perusal of the above table shows that most respondents (about 30 percent) were facing domestic violence for more than 20 years. About 25 percent were experiencing the problem for the last 10 to 20 years. The suffering period ranged between 5 to 10 years for 24 percent of the respondents and less than five years for about 21 percent. A study report submitted to the Planning Commission (2003) has also reported that 35 percent of the victims face domestic violence for more than five years.

### 4.3.8 Forms of domestic violence

Either in the form of physical, psychological or economic assault, family violence exists. Each type of domestic violence has been dealt with separately, to provide a better understanding.

#### Physical abuse

In this research, sexual assault or violence is characterised as any action taken against a woman by the perpetrator to cause her physical harm. Hitting / slapping, punching / beating, burning / kicking / pulling, throwing objects / beating things, attacking with arms, sexual harassment, or assault are the most popular and widely used types of physical violence against women in India. The respondents were assessed on the extent of these forms of physical violence, and the results are summarised in table 4.3.10.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.10**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON FREQUENCY OF**  
**PHYSICAL ABUSE**

Types of Physical Abuse	Daily	Often	Occasi- onally	Not Often	Not at all	Total
Hitting/ Slapping	169 (33.8)	175 (35.0)	92 (18.4)	26 (5.2)	38 (7.6)	500 (100)
Punching/ Beating	131 (26.2)	248 (49.6)	51 (10.2)	27 (5.4)	43 (8.6)	500 (100)
Burning/ Kicking/ Pushing	169 (33.8)	103 (20.6)	59 (11.8)	78 (15.6)	91 (18.2)	500 (100)
Throwing Objects/ Beating with Objects	91 (18.2)	72 (14.4)	188 (37.6)	54 (10.8)	95 (19.0)	500 (100)
Assault with weapon	11 (2.2)	51 (10.2)	112 (22.4)	131 (26.2)	195 (39.0)	500 (100)
Coercing Partner into substance abuse	12 (2.4)	56 (11.2)	113 (22.6)	129 (25.8)	190 (38.0)	500 (100)
Pinning against the wall or bed	5 (1.0)	100 (20.0)	80 (16.0)	160 (32.0)	155 (31.0)	500 (100)
Locking a women out of the house or in the house	10 (2.0)	112 (22.4)	81 (16.2)	142 (28.4)	155 (31.0)	500 (100)
Sleep and food deprivation or Forced feeding	18 (3.6)	50 (10.0)	112 (22.4)	190 (38.0)	130 (26.0)	500 (100)
Sexual abuse	223 (44.6)	147 (29.4)	68 (13.6)	30 (6.0)	32 (3.0)	500 (100)

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Physical ill-treatment was assessed by a set of various indicators against which the frequency codes are marked. Among these indicators, the most commonly used methods of physical abuse were sexual abuse (97

percent), hitting/ slapping (92 percent), punching/ beating (91percent), burning/ kicking/ pushing (82 percent), and throwing objects / hitting with objects (81 percent). These forms of violence were reported daily to once in a while basis by the surveyed victims. The frequency of sexual abuse varied from a low of 3 percent to a high of 45 percent. Similarly, the frequency of Burning/ Kicking/ Pushing varied from a low of 18 percent to a high of 34 percent, Hitting/ Slapping from 8 to 34 percent, and Punching/ Beating from 9 to 26 percent. The other forms of physical abuse like an assault with a weapon, coercing a partner into substance abuse, pinning against the wall or bed, locking women out of the house or in the house, and sleep and food deprivation or forced feeding were reported occasionally by 16 to 22 percent of the victims, and 22 to 28 percent have reported it was not often. Thus, physical violence was primarily in sexual abuse, hitting, slapping, pressing, beating, and kicking in the study area.

A study conducted by Panda (2014) in Kerala found that “out of 179 women, 122 women reported physical abuse of three or more times”. Sen (1998) found that “in general, women suffered extreme physical abuse and for long durations”.

Factor analysis was done to examine the underlying dimension among the various indicators of physical abuse. The frequency of physical violence was given a maximum score of 4 if the occurrence was daily and zero if the occurrence was not at all. Cronbach’s alpha was computed to check the consistency of various indicators and was estimated to be 0.751, which was greater than 0.7, indicating the indicators' reliability. To determine the appropriateness of applying factor analysis, the KMO and Bartlett's test measures were computed, and the results are presented in table 4.3.11.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.11**

**KMO AND BARTLETT'S TEST MEASURES (PHYSICAL ABUSE)**

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		0.816
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	3881.101
	df	45
	Sig.	.000

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

The KMO statistics were 0.815, signifying higher than acceptable adequacy of sampling. A value close to one indicates the patterns of correlation as relatively compact. Bartlett's test of sphericity was also significant at a 1 percent level, providing evidence of a relationship between the variables to apply factor analysis.

Table 4.3.12 below enlists the Eigenvalues, their relative explanatory powers, and the factor loadings for ten components identified within the data set.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.12**  
**FACTOR LOADINGS FOR THE PHYSICAL ABUSE**

Indicators of Physical Violence	COMPONENTS		
	1	2	3
Hitting/ Slapping	0.940		
Punching/ Beating	0.893		
Burning/ Kicking/ Pushing	0.912		
Throwing objects/ Beating with objects	0.921		
Assault with weapons	0.892		
Coercing Partner into substance abuse		.833	
Pinning against the wall or bed		.876	
Locking a women out of the house or inside the house		.821	
Sleep and food deprivation or forced feeding		.887	
Sexual abuse			.992
<b>Total</b>	4.245	2.883	1.020
<b>Percentage of Variance</b>	42.447	28.825	10.205
<b>Cumulative Percentage</b>	42.447	71.273	81.477

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

**Extraction method:** principal component analysis.

**Rotation method:** varimax with Kaiser Normalization. <sup>A</sup>

a. Rotation converged in 3 iterations.

The Eigenvalues greater than one alone was considered for inclusion in the analysis. The above results indicate that the Eigenvalue for the first three factors alone was greater than one, indicating that these factors alone were

appropriate for inclusion in the analysis. These factors, taken together, accounted for 82 percent of the variance. For the sample respondents, factor 1 had significant loadings on five dimensions, namely hitting/ slapping, punching/ beating, burning/ kicking/ pushing, throwing objects/ beating with objects, and assault with weapons, together constituting physical harm and explains nearly 43 percent of the variance. Factor 2 has significant loadings on four dimension, namely variables coercing a partner into substance, pinning against the wall or bed, locking women out of the house or inside the house, and sleep and food deprivation or forced feeding, together constituting physical torture and explains nearly 29 percent of the variance. Factor 3 has significant loadings on one dimension, namely sexual abuse, including forced sex, and explains 10 percent of the variance. Thus, the major form of physical violence the surveyed victims faced was physical harm, physical torture, and forced sex. NFHS-3 Report also highlights that “37 percent of married women have faced some form of physical or sexual violence from their spouses”. The incidence of such violence was more among women in the poorest households (49 percent) than in the wealthier families (18 percent).

### **Psychological / Emotional Abuse**

Psychological / emotional violence involves verbal abuse and relentless criticism of more subtle acts such as coercion, deception, and inability to be happy at all times. Aggression, denial, and minimization include three general patterns of abusive behaviour. It also requires behaviour that would cause a rational individual substantial emotional distress. Psychologists believe that emotional or psychological violence is more serious than physical abuse because injuries of physical violence can recover within a period of time, whereas emotional abuse has a detrimental effect that is longer lasting, even life-long. The respondents were asked to state the nature of the psychological violence being used against them by the perpetrators. Different options (as mentioned in table 4.3.8) were provided and multiple options were given. The results are presented in table 4.3.13.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.13**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON FREQUENCY OF**  
**PSYCHOLOGICAL/ EMOTIONAL ABUSE**

<b>Types of Physical Abuse</b>	<b>Daily</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Not Often</b>	<b>Not at all</b>	<b>Total</b>
Name Calling	175 (35.0)	107 (21.4)	113 (22.6)	57 (11.4)	48 (9.6)	500 (100)
Insulting in the presence of family members & Children's	183 (36.6)	129 (25.8)	57 (11.4)	59 (11.8)	72 (14.4)	500 (100)
Blaming for everything or Compelling to feel guilty	58 (11.6)	138 (27.6)	177 (35.4)	62 (12.4)	65 (13.0)	500 (100)
Extreme jealousy	128 (25.6)	260 (52.0)	48 (9.6)	16 (3.2)	48 (9.6)	500 (100)
Treating as a Servant	171 (34.2)	105 (21.0)	56 (11.2)	72 (14.4)	96 (19.2)	500 (100)
Keeping out from parents, Relations and friends	103 (20.6)	81 (16.2)	174 (34.8)	46 (9.2)	96 (19.2)	500 (100)
Suspecting extra marital relationships	75 (15.0)	156 (31.2)	97 (19.4)	92 (18.4)	80 (16.0)	500 (100)
Demeaning family Background	160 (32.0)	200 (40.0)	91 (18.2)	14 (2.8)	35 (7.0)	500 (100)
Threat of Divorce	214 (42.8)	161 (32.2)	73 (14.6)	32 (6.4)	20 (4.0)	500 (100)
Threaten to commit Suicide	136 (27.2)	147 (29.4)	77 (15.4)	77 (15.4)	63 (12.6)	500 (100)
Making to feel isolated	50 (10.6)	190 (38.0)	90 (18.0)	95 (19.6)	75 (15.6)	500 (100)
Verbal threats to use Physical force	320 (64.0)	95 (19.0)	25 (5.0)	20 (4.0)	40 (8.0)	500 (100)
Not allowing to make decision	28 (5.6)	124 (24.8)	219 (43.8)	73 (14.6)	56 (11.2)	500 (100)
Inappropriately controlling the person's activities	70 (14.0)	160 (32.0)	195 (39.0)	35 (7.0)	40 (8.0)	500 (100)
Recalling a person's past mistakes	140 (28.0)	290 (58.0)	30 (6.0)	10 (2.0)	30 (6.0)	500 (100)
Expressing negative expectations	56 (11.2)	72 (14.4)	210 (42.0)	66 (13.2)	96 (19.2)	500 (100)
Yelling/ Lying/ Withholding important information	160 (32.0)	106 (21.2)	126 (25.2)	60 (12.0)	48 (9.6)	500 (100)
Unreasonably ordering around	40 (8.0)	128 (25.6)	242 (48.4)	58 (11.6)	32 (6.4)	500 (100)

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Figures within parentheses indicate row percentage.

Out of 500 respondents surveyed, 96 percent of the victims have stated that their spouses threatened to divorce them, and for 43 percent of the victims, it was a daily feature, and for 32 percent, their spouses used this threat often. For 94 percent of the victims, their husbands used to emotionally harass them by recalling the victim's past mistake, and this form of harassment was often for 58 percent of the victims. Similarly, 94 percent of the victims stated that their husbands ordered them about unreasonably, which was an occasional affair for 48 percent. About 93 percent of the victims stated their spouses used to demean their family background, and this form of abuse was often practiced by 40 percent of the spouses. About 92 percent of the victims have stated that spouses used to verbally threaten them to use physical force, and this threat was a daily occurrence for 64 percent of the victims. Similarly, 92 percent of the respondents have reported that their spouses used to control their activities inappropriately. Nearly 90 percent of the victims reported that their spouses used to emotionally abuse them by calling names, being extremely jealous, and yelling/ lying/ withholding important information.

The other forms of emotional abuses which surveyed victims faced were compelling them to feel guilty (87 percent), threatening to commit suicide (87 percent), suspecting extramarital relationship (84 percent), making them feel isolated (84 percent), treating them as a servant(81 percent), isolating them from parents, relations, and friends (81 percent) and expressing negative expectations(81 percent). Thus, the surveyed domestic abuse victims were subject to severe emotional stress and lived in constant fear. In a study sponsored by the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India in Kerala (2005), it was reported that “excluding a minor percentage of 2.9 percent, all others (women victims) had suffered a mental strain of one form or the other”. The most common mode of psychological torture was demeaning them, followed by threatening and abandoning. Community-based studies suggested that psychological abuse ranged from 23 percent to 72 percent (Jejeebhoy, 1998; Visaria, 2000; Duvvury et al., 2002)

Factor analysis was done to examine the underlying dimension among the various indicators of psychological/emotional abuse. The frequency of psychological violence was given a maximum score of 4 if the occurrence was daily and zero if the occurrence was not at all. Cronbach's alpha was computed to check the consistency of various indicators and was estimated to be 0.918, which was greater than 0.7, indicating the indicators' reliability. To determine the appropriateness of applying factor analysis, the KMO and Bartlett's test measures were computed, and the results are presented in table 4.3.14.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.14**  
**KMO AND BARTLETT'S TEST MEASURES (PSYCHOLOGICAL/**  
**EMOTIONAL ABUSE)**

<b>KMO and Bartlett's Test</b>		
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		0.877
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	15439.082
	df	153
	Sig.	0.000

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

The KMO statistics were 0.877, signifying higher than acceptable adequacy of sampling. A value close to one indicates the patterns of correlation as relatively compact. Bartlett's test of sphericity was also found to be significant at 1 percent level providing evidence of the presence of a relationship between the variables to apply factor analysis. Table 4.3.15 enlists the Eigen values, their relative explanatory powers, and the factor loadings for 18 components identified within the data set.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.15**  
**FACTOR LOADINGS FOR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL/ EMOTIONAL ABUSE**

FACTORS	COMPONENTS		
	1	2	3
Name Calling	.967		
Insulting in the presence of family members & Children's	.957		
Blaming for everything or Compelling to feel guilty	.935		
Extreme jealousy	.913		
Treating as a Servant	.954		
Keeping out from parents, Relations and friends	.946		
Suspecting extra marital relationships	.939		
Demeaning family Background			.958
Threat of Divorce		.948	
Threat to commit Suicide			.970
Making to feel isolated		.930	
Verbal threats to use Physical force		.930	
Not allowing to make decision			.974
Inappropriately controlling the person's activities		.959	
Recalling a person's past mistakes		.919	
Expressing negative expectations			.956
Yelling/ Lying/ Withholding important information	.942		
Unreasonably ordering around	.911		
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.465</b>	<b>4.186</b>	<b>3.624</b>
<b>Percentage of Variance</b>	<b>47.025</b>	<b>23.254</b>	<b>20.136</b>
<b>Cumulative Percentage</b>	<b>47.025</b>	<b>70.279</b>	<b>90.415</b>

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

**Extraction method:** principal component analysis.

**Rotation method:** varimax with Kaiser Normalization. <sup>A</sup>

a. Rotation converged in 3 iterations.

The result indicates that the Eigenvalue for the first three factors alone was greater than one, indicating that these factors alone were appropriate for inclusion in the analysis. These factors, taken together, accounted for 90 percent of the variance. Factor 1 had significant loadings on nine dimensions, namely name-calling, insulting in the presence of family members and children, blaming for everything or compelling to feel guilty, extreme jealousy, treating as a servant, keeping out from parents, relatives, and friends, suspecting extra

marital relationship, demeaning family background, yelling/ lying/ withholding important information and unreasonably ordering around, together constituting humiliation/ shame to undermine self-esteem and explains nearly 47 percent of the variance. Factor 2 has significant loadings on five dimensions, namely the threat of divorce, making to feel isolated, verbal threats to use physical force, inappropriately controlling the person's activities, and recalling the victim's past mistakes, constituting mental torture and explains nearly 23 percent of the variance. Factor 3 has significant loadings on four dimensions: demeaning family background, threat to commit suicide, not allowing making the decision, and expressing negative expectations constituting blaming behaviour and explains 20 percent of the variance.

Thus, the major tactics used by the perpetrators of domestic violence was resorting to humiliation, mental torture, and blaming behaviour, all of which undermined the self-esteem of the victims and created more insecurity in them. Panda (2004) also reported that “443 women, about one-half (218 women) had experienced at least one of the psychological abuses like an insult, demeaning behaviour, threatening some whom the wife cares about, frightening the victim, abandoning them, etc”. Choudhary et al. (2014), in their study, reported that 44 percent of the respondents face mental violence from their husbands. *Vachhani et al. (2017)*, analysing each form of violence, discloses that about 83 percent were psychological violence victims. About 54 percent of the victims had experienced physical violence; about 32 percent were victims of economic abuse and 24 percent were victims of sexual violence. Thus, psychological violence was the most prevalent form of violence affecting women's mental health in India.

#### **b. Economic Abuse**

Economic abuse is a form of abuse where the husband has power over their wife's access to financial resources, diminishing the latter's capacity to support themselves and forces them to depend on their husband financially. Fawole (2008) stated that “economic violence experienced included limited access to funds and credit; controlling access to health care, employment,

education, including agricultural resources; excluding from financial decision making; and discriminatory traditional laws on inheritance, property rights, and use of communal land”.

Traditionally, Indian women were restricted to four-family walls performing household tasks. Women find it hard to have any control over their life without having any private source of income. Those who have their source of income, whether they do wage labour or through any work, too, are not free to spend their cash as they please. Consequently, the same destiny faces both categories of women: those with no job and those who have employment. The respondents were asked to state the frequency of each financial abuse used against them by the perpetrators and were given multiple options. The results are presented in table 4.3.16.

The most common complaint made by 97 percent of the respondents regarding economic exploitation was that their husbands did not have money for needs, and 46 percent of the victims indicated that this was a regular occurrence. Approximately 95 percent of respondents thought they were being threatened and continually compelled to carry cash from their patriarchal families and often forced to sign financial papers. Another 94 percent of the victims indicated that their partner influences their choice of jobs. About 94 percent of respondents have reported taking loans in the victims' names and not allowing them to operate bank accounts. For 93 percent of the victims, another form of abuse used by their husbands was to sell or pawn their jewellery without their permission, steal and damage the personal possessions of the victim, and threaten the victim at the workplace. Around 86 percent of respondents indicated that their husbands had recovered the full amount of salary from them each month. Other cases of economic harassment identified by the victim were abuse of attorney power (81 percent), preventing them from attending work (87 percent), preventing them from taking a job (69 percent), pressuring them to leave the job (67 percent) and banning them from making purchases of their preference (65 percent).

**TABLE NO - 4.3.16**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON FREQUENCY OF**  
**ECONOMIC ABUSE**

<b>Types of Economic Abuse</b>	<b>Daily</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Not Often</b>	<b>Not at all</b>	<b>Total</b>
Prevent from attending work	5 (1.0)	54 (11.6)	153 (30.6)	171 (34.2)	117 (23.4)	500 (100)
Forcing you to sign financial document	150 (30.0)	150 (30.0)	130 (26.0)	45 (9.0)	25 (5.0)	500 (100)
Controlling the choice of occupation	170 (34.0)	170 (34.0)	105 (21.0)	25 (5.0)	30 (6.0)	500 (100)
Misuse of power of attorney	33 (6.6)	66 (13.2)	251 (50.2)	55 (11.0)	95 (19.0)	500 (100)
Not allowing to assess bank accounts or other incomes	210 (42.0)	130 (26.0)	95 (19.0)	35 (7.0)	30 (6.0)	500 (100)
Taking loan in the name of the victim	250 (50.0)	170 (34.0)	105 (21.0)	25 (5.0)	30 (6.0)	500 (100)
Preventing from taking a job	5 (1.0)	96 (19.2)	80 (16.0)	162 (32.4)	157 (31.4)	500 (100)
Forcing to leave the job	3 (0.6)	58 (11.6)	102 (20.4)	155 (31.0)	182 (36.4)	500 (100)
Recovering full amount of Salary	55 (11.0)	195 (39.0)	90 (18.0)	90 (18.0)	70 (14.0)	500 (100)
Stealing or destroying the victim's personal belongings	330 (66.0)	90 (18.0)	25 (5.0)	20 (4.0)	35 (7.0)	500 (100)
Not providing money for necessities	230 (46.0)	156 (31.2)	69 (13.8)	30 (6.0)	15 (3.0)	500 (100)
Pressurising you for bringing money from your parents	150 (30.0)	285 (57.0)	30 (6.0)	10 (2.0)	15 (5.0)	500 (100)
Selling or pawning your jewellery or any other values without your consent	330 (66.0)	90 (18.0)	25 (5.0)	20 (4.0)	35 (7.0)	500 (100)
Prohibiting you from making Purchases of your choice	5 (1.0)	66 (13.2)	117 (23.4)	137 (27.4)	175 (35.0)	500 (100)
Harassing victim at work	77 (15.4)	163 (32.6)	190 (38.0)	35 (7.0)	35 (7.0)	500 (100)

**Sources:** Data based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Figures within parentheses indicate row percentage.

Thus, the data shows that a large number of women are economically exploited in the study field. It appears that respondents were subjected to certain forms of violence either very regularly or regularly in maximum cases. These findings are similar to Savita's (2015) results that while 16.66 percent of

respondents faced snatching of money, 29.16 percent of respondents were not given money for their needs.

Factor analysis was done to examine the underlying dimension among the various indicators of economic abuse. The frequency of financial abuse was given a maximum score of 4 if the occurrence was daily and zero if the occurrence was not at all. Cronbach's alpha was computed to check the consistency of various indicators and was estimated to be 0.858, which was greater than 0.7, indicating the indicators' reliability. To determine the appropriateness of applying factor analysis, the KMO and Bartlett's test measures were computed, and the results are presented in table 4.3.17.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.17**  
**KMO AND BARTLETT'S TEST MEASURES**

<b>KMO and Bartlett's Test</b>		
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.875
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	10188.745
	df	105
	Sig.	.000

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

The KMO statistics were 0.875, signifying higher than acceptable adequacy of sampling. A value close to one indicates the patterns of correlation as relatively compact. Bartlett's test of sphericity was also found to be significant at 1 percent level providing evidence of the presence of a relationship between the variables to apply factor analysis.

Table 4.3.18 below enlists the Eigenvalues, their relative explanatory powers, and the factor loadings for 15 components identified within the data set. The Eigenvalues greater than one alone was considered for inclusion in the analysis. The results presented in table 4.3.18 show the first three factors alone were greater than one, indicating that these factors alone were appropriate for inclusion in the analysis. The factors taken are accounted for 81 percent of the variance.

For the sample respondents, factor 1 had significant loadings on ten dimensions, namely preventing from attending work, preventing from taking a job, forcing to leave the job, controlling the choice of occupation ( constituting

employment-related abuse), forcing the victim to sign financial documents, misuse of power of attorney, not allowing to assess bank accounts or other incomes, recovering the full amount of salary, stealing or destroying the victim's personal belongings (constituting coercive and controlling behaviour), taking a loan in the name of the victim (constituting coerced debt) and explains nearly 61 percent of the variance.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.18**  
**FACTOR LOADINGS FOR THE ECONOMIC FORMS OF**  
**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

FACTORS	COMPONENTS		
	1	2	3
Prevent from attending work	.938		
Not allowing to work	.932		
Controlling the choice of occupation	.869		
Misuse of power of attorney/ Forcing you to sign financial document	.898		
Not allowing to assess bank accounts or other incomes	.945		
Taking loan in the name of the victim	.939		
Preventing from taking a job	.913		
Forcing to leave the job	.898		
Recovering full amount of Salary	.907		
Stealing or destroying the victim's personal belongings	.881		
Not providing money for necessities		.709	
Pressurising you for bringing money from your parents		.850	
Selling or pawning your jewellery or any other values without your consent		.854	
Prohibiting you from making Purchases of your choice			.716
Harassing victim at work			.855
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.113</b>	<b>1.714</b>	<b>1.279</b>
<b>Percentage of Variance</b>	<b>60.754</b>	<b>11.427</b>	<b>8.526</b>
<b>Cumulative Percentage</b>	<b>60.754</b>	<b>72.181</b>	<b>80.707</b>

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

**Extraction method:** principal component analysis.

**Rotation method:** varimax with Kaiser Normalization. <sup>A</sup>

a. Rotation converged in 4 iterations.

Factor 2 has significant loadings on three dimensions, namely not providing money for necessities, pressurising self for bringing money from parents, selling or pawning jewellery, or any other valuables without consent, constituting financial abuse and explains nearly 11 percent of the variance. Factor 3 has significant loadings on two dimensions, namely prohibiting self from making purchases of own choice (financial abuse) and harassing the victim at work (constituting employment-related abuse) and explains 9 percent of the variance. Thus for the surveyed victims, economic abuse was characterised by employment-related abuse, coercive and controlling behaviour, and financial abuse.

#### **4.3.9 Relationship between Forms of Abuse and Selected Socioeconomic Variables**

An attempt was made to examine the relationship between various forms of violence with socioeconomic variables. The socioeconomic variables considered were religion, community, age of the respondent, educational status, occupation, type of family, number of children, income of the respondents, age at marriage, age differences, and type of marriage. It is hypothesized that differences occur within the selected forms of domestic violence based on the above socioeconomic characteristics. One-way ANOVA was carried out to test the following hypothesis:

Ho: There is no association between forms of violence and the selected socioeconomic variables.

Ha: There is an association between forms of violence and the selected socioeconomic variables.

The results are discussed below.

#### **Religion**

Table 4.3.19 shows the results of the ANOVA applied between religion and forms of violence.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.19**  
**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELIGION AND FORMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

FORMS OF VIOLENCE	RELIGION			ANOVA	
	Hindu	Christian	Muslim	F – value	P - value
Physical	20.29	20.44	19.09	1.071	.343
Emotional	43.89	45.49	43.83	.632	.532
Economical	33.19	33.42	33.57	.060	.942

**Source:** Estimation based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

From the estimated F value, it was noted that physical, emotional, and economic abuse does not vary considerably between the victim's religion as the p-value was higher than 0.05. Thus, the differences among various religious groups were not conspicuous. From this, one can infer that, regardless of the religious group, wife battering happens in all types of religion.

### **Community**

Table 4.3.20 shows the results of the ANOVA applied between the victim's community and forms of violence.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.20**  
**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN COMMUNITY AND FORMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

FORMS OF VIOLENCE	COMMUNITY			ANOVA	
	BC	OBC	SC/ST	F – value	P - value
Physical	20.62	19.17	20.46	1.850	.158
Psychological/ Emotional	45.52	47.00	43.05	3.609	.028**
Economical	31.65	35.45	32.79	4.760	.009***

**Source:** Estimation based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Note: \*\*\* significant at 1percent level, \*\* significant at 5 percent level

Results reveal that physical abuse does not vary considerably between the community as the P-value was higher than 0.05. However, there was a substantial difference in psychological/ emotional and economic violence between the community groups. The emotional violence and economic violence scores were maximum for Other Backward community (47.00 and 35.45 respectively) compared to other communities. Babu, B.V., and Kar, S.K (2009) also reported that women belonging to backward castes reported a higher prevalence of psychological violence.

### Age of the respondents

Table 4.3.21 shows the results of the ANOVA applied between age of the victims and forms of violence.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.21**  
**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AGE OF THE RESPONDENTS AND FORMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

FORMS OF VIOLENCE	AGE				ANOVA	
	Below 20	20 – 30	30 – 40	Above 40	F – value	P - value
Physical	21.32	19.70	20.11	24.85	.339	.797
Psychological/ Emotional	47.52	42.70	45.5	47.65	21.35	.000***
Economical	37.00	32.49	33.74	34.15	.959	.415

**Source:** Estimation based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Note: \*\*\* significant at 1percent level.

It is noted that physical and economic abuse does not vary considerably between the victims' age group as the significance value was higher than 0.05. From this, one can infer that, regardless of age group, wife battering happens. However, there was a substantial distinction in psychological violence between the distinct age groups of the victims. Kaur and Kar (2009) have reported a significant association of age with psychological violence. The psychological abuse score was higher in the age groups of above 40 years (47.65) and below 20 years (47.52) and lower (42.70) in the age group of 20-30 years. Thus, the younger and older participants experienced more emotional/psychological abuse than middle age groups. These findings are contrary to the results reported by Babu, B.V., and Kar, S.K (2009) that women in the age group of 20–29 years and above 29 years have reported a higher incidence of violence than women aged less than 20 years.

### Education of the spouse

Table 4.3.22 relates the educational status of the spouse with the forms of violence.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.22**  
**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EDUCATION OF THE SPOUSE**  
**AND FORMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

FORMS OF VIOLENCE	EDUCATION				ANOVA	
	Illiterate	Schooling	Higher education	Diploma/I.T.I	F – value	P – value
Physical	20.02	19.85	20.52	24.19	3.467	.016**
Psychological/ Emotional	43.41	44.54	40.00	51.42	3.301	.020**
Economical	33.82	33.55	27.97	33.62	3.359	.019**

**Source:** Estimation based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Note: \*\* significant at 5 percent level.

The table shows that there was a significant difference at the five percent level between spouse educational background and physical, emotional, and economic abuse. Murthy et al. (2004) also reported that “husband's education significantly influences domestic violence”. The score of all forms of violence was lowest when the husband had completed higher education. The maximum score varied for various forms of violence across the different educational levels, with physical and psychological/ emotional violence scores being maximum for husbands who have completed Diploma/I.T.I (24.19), while the economic abuse score was maximum for illiterate (33.82). To sum up, improvement in educational status did bring down the level of domestic violence. Panda (2004) also asserts that the husband’s educational status was inversely related to physical and psychological abuse.

#### **Education of the respondents**

Table 4.3.23 relates the educational status of the victims with the forms of violence.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.23**  
**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EDUCATION OF THE RESPONDENTS AND**  
**FORMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

FORMS OF VIOLENCE	EDUCATION				ANOVA	
	Illiterate	Schooling	Higher education	Diploma/I.T.I	F – value	P – value
Physical	16.62	23.17	9.25	25.59	154.405	.000***
Psychological/ Emotional	33.96	51.42	20.80	61.05	358.101	.000***
Economic	33.36	32.78	33.38	35.03	.945	.419

**Source:** Estimation based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Note: \*\*\* significant at 1percent level.

Results show that there was a significant difference at one percent level between respondent's educational background and forms of emotional abuse and victim's physical abuse, though economic abuse parse was found to be independent of the victim's educational status. The intensity of physical and psychological/emotional violence was found to be lowest for women with higher degrees (9.25 and 20.80 respectively) and highest for women diploma holders (25.59 and 61.05 respectively). It is interesting to note that illiterate women were less prone to domestic violence than women who had formal education. Lack of awareness or the acceptance of violence as a way of life may be the reason why illiterate women reported less physical and emotional abuse.

### Occupation of the spouse

Table 4.3.24 relates the occupational status of the spouse with the forms of violence.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.24**  
**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OCCUPATION OF THE SPOUSE AND FORMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

FORMS OF VIOLENCE	OCCUPATION				ANOVA	
	Unemployed	Self-employed	Organized Sector	Unorganised Sector	F – value	P - value
Physical	19.10	21.55	22.53	19.37	6.569	.000***
Psychological/ Emotional	44.02	45.10	47.84	43.16	2.500	.059
Economical	34.22	32.32	34.59	33.31	1.083	.356

**Source:** Estimation based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Note: \*\*\* significant at 1 percent level.

Concerning the occupation of the spouse and the forms of violence, while statistical differences were seen in physical abuse (p-value <0.05), it was insignificant (p value>0.05) for both emotional and economic abuse. Women faced emotional and economic abuse irrespective of whether the spouse was employed or not. In physical abuse, women experienced lesser violence (Score= 19.10) when the spouse was unemployed. Still, the intensity of violence increased when the spouse moved from less skilled and less secured jobs ( unorganised sector) to more secure jobs (organised sector).

### Occupation of the respondents

Table 4.3.25 relates the occupational status of the respondents with the forms of violence.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.25**  
**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OCCUPATION OF THE RESPONDENTS AND FORMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

FORMS OF VIOLENCE	OCCUPATION				ANOVA	
	Unemployed	Self-employed	Organized Sector	Unorganised Sector	F – value	P - value
Physical	19.93	19.03	20.53	21.20	.991	.397
Psychological/ Emotional	44.60	45.41	44.14	42.63	.369	.775
Economical	33.54	33.41	33.94	30.64	1.739	.158

**Source:** Estimation based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The table shows no significant difference between the respondent's occupation and the forms of domestic abuse. Irrespective of whether the women were employed or unemployed, she was subject to all forms of violence. The analysis of the scores for different types of violence reveals that employed women have reported higher violence intensity than unemployed women for all violence categories. Krishna, S et al. (2010) have also reported that employed women were more likely to experience violence than unemployed women.

### Type of Family

Table 4.3.26 examines the relationship between the type of family and the occurrence of different types of violence.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.26**  
**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TYPE OF THE FAMILY AND FORMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

FORMS OF VIOLENCE	TYPE OF A FAMILY			ANOVA	
	Joint	Nuclear	Extended	F – value	P - value
Physical	20.31	19.71	20.23	.844	.431
Psychological/ Emotional	43.41	41.81	46.81	7.049	.001***
Economic	33.70	31.89	34.49	4.323	.014**

**Source:** Estimation based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Note: \*\*\* significant at 1percent level.

A conflict between husband and wife arises only when one of them cannot meet the other and family members' expectations. These expectations

not only come from themselves but other members of the family. The findings show that the family type caused variations in psychological/ emotional and economic abuse intensity. Thus, victims from the joint family system and extended family system experienced more psychological/ emotional, and economic violence than nuclear families. However, physical violence was found to be insignificant, implying that the intensity of abuse was the same across all family types.

To sum up, psychological/ emotional and economical abuse was more intense in a joint and extended family than the nuclear family. Despite the presence of elderly members in the family, there was no abatement in the risk of domestic violence in joint and extended families. Jawahar et al. (2016) observed that abuse was more in nuclear families. TanerAkar et al. (2010) have observed that “as the number of people who reside in the house increases, the risk of a woman being exposed to violence increases”.

### **Type of Marriage**

Table 4.3.27 shows the relationship between the type of marriage and the forms of violence.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.27**  
**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TYPE OF MARRIAGE AND FORMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

<b>FORMS OF VIOLENCE</b>	<b>TYPE OF MARRIAGE</b>			<b>ANOVA</b>	
	<b>Love</b>	<b>Arranged</b>	<b>Love cum Arranged</b>	<b>F – value</b>	<b>P - value</b>
Physical	19.69	20.08	20.60	.656	.519
Psychological/ Emotional	45.06	44.14	44.03	.205	.815
Economical	34.34	33.03	32.96	.897	.408

**Source:** Estimation based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Note: \*\*\* significant at 1percent level.

Regarding the type of marriage and the forms of violence, statistical differences were not seen in physical, emotional, and economical abuse since the p-value for all forms of violence was greater than 0.05. A closer look at the score reveals the risk of psychological/ emotional abuse was marginally higher among women with love marriage. In contrast, physical abuse was seen more

among women with mixed marriages. Mahapotra et al. (2013) observed that “the percentage of women who faced domestic violence was two times higher among the women with an arranged marriage and three times higher among the women with mixed marriage, respectively, than among women with love marriages”.

### Age at Marriage

Table 4.3.28 shows the relationship between age at marriage and the forms of violence.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.28**  
**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AGE AT MARRIAGE AND FORMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

FORMS OF VIOLENCE	AGE AT MARRIAGE				ANOVA	
	Below 18	18 - 20	21 - 25	Above 25	F – value	P - value
Physical	20.18	20.24	20.55	17.73	2.070	.103
Psychological/ Emotional	32.04	34.74	32.59	33.31	1.163	.323
Economic	43.97	45.18	44.61	40.59	2.637	.049**

**Source:** Estimation based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Note: \*\* significant at 1percent level.

The ANOVA results show no significant differences between age at marriage and physical and psychological/ emotional forms of violence. Kalavathi (2014) also observed no significant difference in age at marriage regarding the psychological and physical factors causing violence. However, there was statistical significance at a 5 percent level between age at marriage and economic abuse. The risk of financial abuse was higher when the age at marriage was 18 -20 years (45.18), and the least when the age of marriage exceeded 25 years (40.59).

### Age difference between spouses

Table 4.3.29 shows the relationship between age differences between spouses and the forms of violence.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.29**  
**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AGE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SPOUSE AND**  
**FORMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

FORMS OF VIOLENCE	AGE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SPOUSES			ANOVA	
	0 – 5	5 – 10	Above 10	F – value	P - value
Physical	39.83	38.76	39.50	.335	.715
Psychological/ Emotional	64.05	67.09	68.50	3.10	.046**
Economic	34.30	32.48	33.00	.252	.778

**Source:** Estimation based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Note: \*\* significant at 5 percent level.

Concerning the influence of the age difference of the victims with their spouses and the forms of violence, statistical differences were seen in psychological /emotional abuse (p-value < 0.05), and no statistical differences was seen in both physical and economic abuse since the p-value for physical and financial violence was greater than 0.05. The risk of psychological/emotional violence was found to increase with an increase in age difference.

#### **Income of the household**

The association between forms of domestic violence and household income was examined in the table 4.3.30 by using the data collected from the victims.

**TABLE NO - 4.3.30**  
**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INCOME OF THE HOUSEHOLD AND FORMS**  
**OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

FORMS OF VIOLENCE	INCOME			ANOVA	
	Below 20000	20000 – 30000	30000 – 40000	F – value	P - value
Physical	19.89	20.64	20.01	.633	.531
Psychological/ Emotional	43.62	45.36	44.25	.705	.495
Economic	33.63	32.53	33.75	.798	.451

**Source:** Estimation based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Note: \*\* significant at 5 percent level.

The result shows that the forms of domestic violence were not associated with household income. These findings are contrary to the findings

of the research report conducted by Eldin Fahmy et al. (2013) that people living in financially insecure households are more likely to report domestic violence.

The data figures showed that the occurrence of domestic abuse was higher among households earning above Rs. 30,000 when compared to the families earning less than Rs. 20,000. This does not mean that only high-income groups are prone to domestic violence; rather, it may be because among the low income strata, many cases of family abuse go unreported either due to the victim's ignorance or because the victims are willing to suffer silently.

#### **4.4.1 Causes of Domestic Violence**

Theoretically speaking, domestic violence against women is quite embedded in and contributes to women's low status despite the constitutional and human rights guaranteed to them in most of the countries in the world. One of the most apparent causes of domestic violence is the inferior or subordinate status of women legitimised by the patriarchy's framework. In terms of patriarchal culture and values, women are so socialised that they remain passive witnesses of their beating and battering by husbands rather than resisting the act. A single cause is not the product of the occurrence of domestic abuse. Practically seen, the most common causes of domestic violence have been identified as the unfulfilled demand for dowry, arguments over monetary matter, unbridled consumption of alcohol by husband, wife's employment, suspicion over wife's behaviour, disputes over children, denial of wife to have sex with husband, marital rape or forced sex by husband, husband's extramarital relationship, wife's inability to bear a male child, her negligence towards in-law, etc. In most cases, the financial constraints, inferior social status, and women's insecurity keep them quiet about the violence committed on them by their husbands and in-laws. In general, women's inability to carry out gender roles and responsibilities at home leads to violence.

The respondents covered by the study were asked to rate the various causes for domestic violence on a five-point scale varying from strongly agree to strongly disagree. The scales start with five to strongly agree and end with a minimum of 1 for strongly disagree. Factor analysis was used to identify the underlying dimensions among the factors which cause domestic violence. To

determine the reliability of applying factor analysis, the Cronbach's alpha test was applied, and the results are shown in table 4.4.1.

**TABLE NO - 4.4.1**  
**CRONBACH'S RELIABILITY TEST FOR CAUSES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

S.No	Causes	Cronbach's Alpha
1	Economic Cause	0.710
2	Marital Cause	0.717
3	Psychological Cause	0.988
4	Cultural Cause	0.745

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

Cronbach's Alpha reliability statistics helps to evaluate whether the number of individual items contains the same characteristics to explain the constructs' features. In the study, the Cronbach's alpha value for economic cause, marital cause, psychological cause, and cultural cause were 0.710, 0.717, 0.988, and 0.745, respectively, greater than 0.7 indicating the internal consistency of the constructs. Hence, the instrument used in this study had a high reliability value. Factor analysis was done to determine the underlying dimensions of the constructs.

To determine the appropriateness of applying factor analysis, the KMO and Bartlett's test measures were computed, and the results are presented in table 4.4.2. Bartlett's test of sphericity and the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin measure of sampling adequacy can be used to determine the matrix's factorability as a whole.

**TABLE NO - 4.4.2**  
**KMO AND BARTLETT'S TEST MEASURES**

Test Measures	All
<b>Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure</b>	.839
<b>Bartlett's Test of Sphericity</b>	
(i) Approx. Chi-Square	19477.324
(ii) Degrees of freedom	435
(iii) Significance	.000

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

It is suggested that if Bartlett's test of sphericity is significant, and if the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin measure is greater than 0.6, then factorability is assumed. The KMO statistics for the respondents were 0.839, signifying higher than

acceptable adequacy of sampling. Bartlett's test of sphericity was also significant at a 1 percent level providing evidence of the presence of a relationship between the variables to apply factor analysis. Table 4.4.3 below enlists the Eigen values, their relative explanatory powers, and the factor loadings for 30 components identified within the data set.

**TABLE NO - 4.4.3**  
**FACTOR LOADINGS FOR THE CAUSES FOR VIOLENCE**

Causes	Components					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Economic Cause</b>						
Dowry						.830
Lack of permanent job for husband		.911				
Difference in Social and Economic Status		.842				
Women's economic dependence on men				.878		
Limited access to cash and credit				.802		
Limited access to employment in formal and informal sectors				.872		
<b>Marital Causes</b>						
Love affairs before marriage		.805				
Extra marital relationship		.944				
Resistance for abnormal sexual behaviour of the husband			.746			
Husband's Alcoholism			.741			
No child bearing capability or Giving birth to girl child			.846			
Sexual difficulties			.756			
<b>Psychological Causes</b>						
Job stress of husband	.954					
Ego	.976					
Mental distress	.928					
Possessiveness of husband	.975					
Dressing fashionable	.953					
Not doing house work properly	.947					
High tone during dialogue	.967					
Free and Social nature	.923					
Close relations with friends	.958					
Disrespectful behavior with	.956					

Causes	Components					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
elders in the family						
<b>Cultural Causes</b>						
Gender-specific socialization						.751
Cultural definitions of appropriate sex roles		.897				
Expectations of roles within relationships			.802			
Belief in the inherent superiority of males			.700			
Notion of the family as the private sphere and under male control					.746	
Customs of marriage (bride price / dowry)					.792	
Acceptability of violence as a means to resolve conflict					.766	
<b>Total</b>	9.359	5.743	3.783	2.649	1.336	1.023
<b>percent of Variance</b>	31.195	19.143	12.610	8.829	4.452	3.411
<b>Cumulative percent</b>	31.195	50.338	62.948	71.777	76.229	79.641

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

**Extraction Method:** Principal Component Analysis.

**Rotation Method:** Varimax with Kaiser Normalization.

**a. Rotation converged in 5 iterations.**

Factor 1 has significance in ten dimensions, namely husband's job tension, ego, mental distress, husband's possessiveness, trendy dressing, not doing proper housework, high tone during dialogue, free and social existence, near relationships with mates, disrespectful conduct with family elders that together constitute psychological triggers. These constructs explain 31 percent of the variance. Dutton et al., (1994) have found "a high occurrence of psychopath and personality disorders, or post-traumatic stress syndrome, among men who attack their wives". In several cases, the wife faces her husband's anger if she fails to perform household tasks, and she was sometimes abused for inflexibility in taking sufficient care of her children and, in particular, her parents-in-law (Rani and Bonu, 2009).

Factor 2 has significant loading on five dimensions, namely lack of permanent job for the husband, the difference in social and economic status (**economic causes**), love affair before marriage, extramarital relationship(**marital reasons**), and cultural definitions of appropriate sex roles (**cultural causes**) and explains nearly 20 percent of the variance. Sanjay et al. (2013) also found monetary issues, alcoholism, extramarital affair, family conflicts, and dowry were the most common causes of domestic violence.

Factor 3 had significant loading for six dimensions, namely the husband's alcoholism, resistance to abnormal sexual behaviour of the husband, no childbearing capability or giving birth to the girl child, sexual difficulties (**marital causes**), expectations of roles within relationships, and belief in the inherent superiority of males (**cultural causes**), and explains about 13 percent of the variance. Sanjai et al. (2013) also found that the three most common reasons for domestic violence include: monetary reason, alcohol, and an extramarital affair. Jawarkar AK et al. (2016) also found the most common cause of domestic violence was found to be an argument over money (42.85 percent) and influence under alcohol (33.54 percent). The Report on Domestic Violence submitted to the Planning Commission, also demonstrates the prospective causes of domestic violence as failure to pay for the husband's dowry, extramarital relationships, and alcoholism.

Three dimensions of Factor 4 were substantially economics issues, namely women's economic reliance on men, limited access to cash and credit, and limited access to jobs in the formal and informal sectors, explaining around 9 percent of the variance. A widespread finding was that impoverished socio-economic conditions contribute to family violence (Valladares et al., 2005).

Factor 5 had a substantial burden on the definition of family as a private domain and under male influence, marriage practises (bride price/ dowry), and the acceptability of violence as a means of resolving disputes that constitute cultural triggers, explaining about 5 percent of the variance. Sitawa R.Kimuna et al. (2012) also observed that “gender role conditioning and cultural norms contribute to domestic violence”. Flowers, Ronald B (1994) also found socially

structured inequalities and cultural norms and attitudes surroundings violence, abuse, and family relations as causes for family abuse.

Factor 6 had significant loading for two dimensions: dowry (**economic cause**) and gender-specific socialization (**cultural reason**) and explains about 4 percent of the variance. Panda (2004) lists the potential causes or triggers of violence as dowry, spousal infidelity, typical gender roles, and expectations about women's appropriate conduct. Dowry-related abuse has been considered a global phenomenon that crosses all kinds of borders and continues to grow in India (Singh, 2005). RashaAbdElhamed Ali and Rania Ahmed Radwan (2017) also found that money was the most frequent cause of fights between the abused women and her husband.

To sum up, domestic violence against women in India is a manifestation of gender disparity within the family system, cultural values, patriarchal social norms, superstition, weak law and order, and the extremely low value of women's lives. According to Preeti (2003) "poverty, alcoholism, unemployment, and frustration may also cause violent behavior". In the present study, psychological frustrations, poverty and unemployment, marital issues, and cultural attitudes and beliefs emerged as the major domestic violence triggers.

#### **4.4.2 Reaction to Domestic Violence**

Every action of violence results in an immediate reaction on the part of the victims. Earlier surveys of victims' responses to violence revealed an elevated incidence of suffocating fear, alarming bullying, shame and degradation, humiliation, and isolation. Physical injury, lack of basic needs, mental depression, emotional breakdown, and the idea of suicide were the various terms in which the cost of violence has been calculated. Victims were asked to express their views on different statements on their reactions to domestic violence on a 5-point scale with the highest score of five if they agreed with the statement altogether and a minimum value of one if they disagreed strongly with the idea. Factor analysis was used to identify the underlying dimension among the various constructs on the victim's domestic violence reaction. To determine the reliability of applying factor analysis, Cronbach's alpha test was used and presented in table 4.4.4.

**TABLE NO - 4.4.4**  
**CRONBACH'S RELIABILITY TEST**

<b>Reliability Statistics</b>	
Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.919	15

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

The Cronbach's alpha value for women respondents was 0.919, respectively, which was greater than 0.7, indicating the constructs' reliability. Factor analysis was done to determine the underlying dimensions of the constructs.

To determine the appropriateness of applying factor analysis, the KMO and Bartlett's test measures were computed, and the results are presented in table 4.4.5.

**TABLE NO - 4.4.5**  
**KMO AND BARTLETT'S TEST MEASURES**

<b>KMO and Bartlett's Test</b>		
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.903
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	13577.911
	df	105
	Sig.	.000

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

The KMO statistics for the respondents were 0.903, signifying higher than acceptable adequacy of sampling. A value close to one indicates the patterns of correlation as relatively compact. Bartlett's test of sphericity was also significant at a one percent level, providing evidence of a relationship between the variables to apply factor analysis.

Table 4.4.6 lists the Eigenvalues of their comparative descriptive powers and the factor loads identified in the data set for 14 components. For inclusion in the analysis, the Eigenvalues greater than one alone were considered.

**TABLE NO - 4.4.6**  
**FACTOR LOADINGS FOR THE REACTIONS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Reactions of Domestic Violence	Components			
	1	2	3	4
Physically Bruised	.963			
Mental depression	.967			
Drug and Alcohol dependence			.849	
Changes in attitude and appearance		.896		
Even thought of ending your life				.954
Ever tried to break up	.972			
Loss of potential	.931			
Revenge	.935			
Nobody cares	.947			
Humiliation/ Shame	.915			
powerlessness	.952			
Repeated Self-injury	.967			
Family customs violated/deviated	.978			
Belief in God decrease/increase	.970			
<b>Total</b>	10.037	1.185	1.151	1.043
<b>percent of Variance</b>	66.915	7.898	7.676	6.954
<b>Cumulative percent</b>	66.915	74.812	82.488	89.442

**Source:** Estimation based on field survey, 2019-20.

Results suggest that for all participants, the first four factors alone were greater than one, suggesting that these factors alone were appropriate for integration into the evaluation. Taken together, these variables accounted for 89 percent of the variance. Factor 1 has substantial loadings for victims on eleven dimensions, namely, physically battered, mental distress, even attempted to break up, loss of opportunity, vengeance, no one cares, humiliation / shame, powerlessness, frequent self-injury, violated / deviated family practises, and reduced / increased confidence in God, all of which constitute mental trauma. Almost 67 percent of the variance is clarified by these dimensions. Factor 2 has considerable loading on one dimension namely changes in attitude and appearance (emotional upheaval), and explains about 8 percent of the variance. Factor 3 has substantial loading on one dimension, namely drug and alcohol dependency (behavioural alteration), Element 3 has

substantial loading and defines 8 percent of the variance. In one dimension, Factor 4 has significant loadings on one dimension namely, thought of ending our lives (suicidal tendency), and explains 7 percent of the variance.

To sum up, domestic violence's reactions were mostly mental trauma, emotional upheaval, behavioural alterations, and suicidal tendencies. Beaulaurier et al., 2005 have stated that “psychological violence puts a woman down to the point where she losses her self-confidence”. Petersen et al., (2004) stated that “physical violence diminishes self-esteem and self-worth”. Choudhary et al. (2014), in their study, opined that 44 percent of the respondents face mental depression as a consequence of domestic violence.

#### 4.4.3 Victimization of Women under Domestic violence

Women's interpersonal victimization has a significant impact on their ability to cope and may lead to psychological trauma symptoms such as disassociation, self-harm, and social withdrawal. Table 4.4.7 outlines how victimization has influenced the victim's relationship with their spouses, kids, family members, social relationships, access to fundamental requirements, and work-life.

**TABLE NO - 4.4.7  
EFFECT OF VICTIMIZATION**

<b>Effect of Victimization</b>	<b>Number stating</b>	<b>Percentage to Total Sample</b>
Relationship with husband	437	87.4
Relationship with children	412	82.4
Infertility/ Sexual dysfunction	431	86.2
Procurement of basic needs	439	87.8
Education of the children	399	79.8
Interaction between family members	379	75.8
Relation with neighbours	129	25.8
Relation with friends	102	20.4
Relation with other residents in the area	166	33.2
Behaviour of general society towards you	312	62.4
Relationship with Work-life& colleagues	298	59.6

**Source:** Based on field survey, 2019-20.

For 88 percent of the victims, victimization has affected their access to basic needs. The majority (87.4 percent) reported that there was an

uncomfortable relationship with their husband. Victimization has also affected the victims' relationship with children (82 percent) in terms of direct effects from the experience of witnessing abuse and indirect effects from parenting that is compromised by abuse. Up to 80 percent of the victims stated domestic violence had affected the education of their children. Similarly, 86 percent of the victim's victimizations have resulted in infertility/ sexual dysfunction. Interactions with family members were an issue for 76 percent of the surveyed victims of domestic violence. Domestic violence has affected the victim's social interaction with neighbours, friends, and others living in the area for nearly 79.4 percent of the victims. For 62 percent of the victim, attitude of the society towards them has changed due to domestic violence. Domestic violence affected workplace relationships with colleagues for 60 percent of the victims.

To sum up, domestic violence has created a feeling among the victims that their family members and society had ostracized them. Researchers have discovered proof in a series of research that an abused woman experienced housing discrimination, suggesting that partner abuse may be viewed as dangerous tenants (Barata and Stewart, 2010). These stigmatizing behaviours and attitudes are capable of strengthening a feeling of devaluation and decreased personality.

#### **4.4.4 Immediate Response to Domestic Violence**

Every act of violence leads to the instant response of the victim. The reaction of the victims appears to be self-driven rather than driven against the perpetrators, most of the time. Domestic violence survivors take various steps to overcome their attackers, such as returning home to their parents, fighting back, using violent languages, etc., depending on their level of education, family history, lifestyle, and the availability or unavailability of alternatives. An effort was made in this segment to detect the immediate response of the victims surveyed to domestic abuse. The respondents were asked to rate the selected alternatives according to their priorities (by ranking). The responses were converted into a numerical score by using the Garrets ranking technique. The results are presented in Table 4.4.8.

**TABLE NO - 4.4.8**  
**GARRETS RANKING FOR RESPONDENTS REACTION TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

S.No	Items	Score	Rank
1	Go to parent house	47.20	4
2	Use abusive words	53.47	2
3	Beat children or hurting themselves	43.89	5
4	Neglect the household chores	48.03	3
5	Fight back	55.39	1

**Source:** Calculated figures based on the data compiled from Field survey, 2019-20.

There may be a passive or aggressive way to react to abuse. Results presented in the table 4.4.8 demonstrates the primary response to domestic violence was to "fight back", which had a maximum score of 55.39, followed by "use of abusive words" (53.47), "neglect household works" (48.03), "going to parent house"( 47.20), and "beating children or hurting themselves"(43.89). Thus, it is evident from the table that victims no longer remain passive to domestic violence and fight back against the abusers. This is contrary to the findings reported in earlier studies that very few women fighting back seek to control or cause fear in their partners (Kevin et al., 2001) and are even less successful (Dasgupta, 1999). Savita (2015) also observed that most of the respondents (33.5 percent) remained passive after violation to avoid a further increase in violence.

#### **4.4.5 Staying away from Husbands**

When violence becomes unbearable, women often stay away from their husbands to recuperate their physical and mental health. Table 4.4.9 presents details on whether the respondents had sought to stay away from their husbands, staying outside of their home and duration of stay.

**TABLE NO - 4.4.9**  
**ASYLUM AND DURATION OF STAYING AWAY FROM HUSBAND**

Particulars	Frequency	Percentage
Staying away from husband		
Yes	320	64.0
No	180	36.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Place of Asylum		
Friends home	45	9.0
Parents home	230	46.0
Relatives home	45	9.0
Not applicable	180	36.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Duration of Stay		
One or two days	135	27.0
One or two weeks	105	21.0
Months	80	16.0
Not Applicable	180	36.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source:** Based on field survey, 2019-20.

More than half of the respondents (64 percent) stated that they had left their house and stayed away from their husbands due to the violence initiated by their partners. The remaining 36 percent continued their stay with the perpetrators of violence. Lack of alternative asylum may have prevented these victims from leaving their abusers.

The majority of the respondents (46 percent) had sought refuge with their parents, and only a negligible proportion (9 percent) stayed with relatives, and 9 percent sought help from friends. Thus, the important source of support for women exposed to domestic violence was parents. Panda (2004) also observed that “natal family and neighbours are the two possible sources of support considered important for a woman's ability to negotiate conflict in marriage”. Thus, the primary source of asylum for the victims in the study was parents.

The duration of staying away from their spouses among respondents varied from one day to months. About 27 percent of the victims reported that they stayed away from their husbands for one or two days, followed by 21 percent for one or two weeks and 16 percent for months. Thus, the majority of the victims stayed only for one or two days away from their husbands. The

need to take care of their off-springs and lack of alternative asylum may have prompted the victims to stay in an abusive relationship.

#### 4.4.6 Denial of Basic needs

Denying basic needs, such as food, clothes, shelter, etc., is the most important consequence of domestic violence. By restricting their access to food, lodging, etc., criminal offenders appear to abuse the victim. No matter if the victim or the perpetrator is the primary economic provider, or if both contribute, through denying them, the perpetrator may try to maintain power. Table 4.4.10 offers details on the rejection of the basic criteria and the extent of such rejection.

**TABLE NO - 4.4.10**  
**FREQUENCY OF DENIAL OF BASIC NEEDS**

Form of Denial	Frequency	Percentage
One meal	71	16.2
Two meals	78	19.6
One day	82	15.6
Two days	65	14.6
More than 2days	52	13.4
Not Applicable	103	20.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

The majority of the respondents (79.4 percent) confirmed that they had been denied their basic needs due to domestic violence. The biggest type of denial was 'denial of food'. The study indicates that two meals a day were skipped or denied for 20 percent of the respondents. Approximately 16 percent stated they were denied one meal a day, and another 16 percent were denied a day's meal. About 15 percent of the participants indicate that they were denied food for two days, and it was more than two days for 13 percent of the victims. To sum up, a common feature among the victims of domestic violence in Coimbatore was the denial of basic needs in the form of food, and the intensity varied from one meal to more than two days.

#### 4.4.7 Initiative to Solve Domestic Violence

Bowker (1983) claimed that three types of approaches were used by women to eradicate abuse, "(i) private tactics, (ii) use of casual sources of

assistance, and (iii) official sources of assistance”. In the event of inability to handle the violence, the survivor can first use informal sources of assistance before contacting formal sources of assistance. It is noted that, instead of asking them to intervene, the survivor seeks help from informal sources, such as family members, in-laws, neighbours, co-workers, etc., for the main purpose of sharing their experiences with them and seeking guidance to deal with abusive circumstances. However, it is expected that few victims of abuse will seek assistance from official organisations. It is in this context that the victims were questioned, "Have you ever sought outside assistance (official agencies) to avoid abuse of you by your spouse or parents-in-law?" and the type of assistance sought.

**TABLE NO - 4.4.11**  
**INITIATIVE TO SOLVE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Particulars	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Attempt to Solve Domestic Violence</b>		
Yes	375	75.0
No	125	25.0
<b>Total</b>	500	100.0
<b>Type of Assistance</b>		
Formal	161	32.2
Informal	214	42.8
Not applicable	125	25.0
<b>Total</b>	500	100.0

**Source:** Based on field survey, 2019-20.

Around 75 percent of the respondents have stated that efforts were made to find a solution to the domestic violence problem. About 32 percent have approached formal sources to solve their problems, and 43 percent have approached informal sources to solve their problems. Thus, around 50 percent of the respondents have chosen informal sources to solve or deal with the situation. Mouzon and Makkai (2004) found that “79 percent of the battered women first sought help from loved ones (informal support) and only a small percent from formal sources”.

#### **4.4.8 Help from informal sources**

The table below displays informal sources whose assistance the respondents sought in order to overcome the abusive situation and the informal source's advice.

**TABLE NO - 4.4.12**  
**INFORMAL SOURCE**

Particulars	Number	Percentage
<b>Informal source</b>		
Parents	98	19.6
Friends	75	15.0
Relatives	44	8.8
Not applicable	286	57.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Advice from informal source</b>		
Patch up	121	24.2
Break off	55	11.0
Report to formal source	38	7.6
Not applicable	286	57.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source:** Based on field survey, 2019-20.

From the above table, it is clear that 98 respondents approached parents to request their assistance in dealing with abusive circumstances, which is generally interpreted as implying that an abused woman should first approach parents and care givers for assistance. Similarly, 15 percent of the victims have contacted their friends to find their advice to address the abusive situation. The main explanation for this is that friends can be talked to more openly and in depth than parents, guardians, and relatives, and only about nine percent of them sought family support.

The majority of the victims (24 percent) were urged to make up with their perpetrators by the informal community members. These informal groups, in other words, wanted the victims to remain in the family. They urged them to come to terms with the situation in order to save their marriage and their children's future. In comparison, about 11 percent of respondents were also advised to break off the marital partnership and about 8 percent were advised to report the issue to formal authorities.

#### **4.4.9 Help from formal sources**

The victims are more likely to seek intervention from formal agencies as the severity of physical violence increases (Gelles, 1976). The abuse victims will seek assistance and advice from formal sources when the situation goes beyond their control. But not all victims of domestic violence will seek the legal

authorities to intervene. Table 4.4.13 indicates the formal outlets the respondents pursued to assist in handling the abusive situation and the type of assistance offered by them.

**TABLE NO - 4.4.13**  
**FORMAL SOURCE**

Particulars	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Formal source</b>		
Police	96	19.2
Legal Advisor/ Court	31	6.2
Social Organization	23	4.6
Local Panchyat	11	2.2
Not applicable	339	67.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Forms of Assistance rendered</b>		
Physical Protection	37	7.4
Moral Support	53	10.6
Counselling	71	14.2
Not applicable	339	67.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source:** Based on field survey, 2019-20.

Approximately 161 victims of violence (19 percent) were contacted by the police, and 6 percent reported the matter to legal advisers. Only 5 percent had sought help from women's welfare social organisations, and 2 percent had taken their cases to Local Panchyat. Thus, instead of the N.G.O.'s and the local panchayat, most of the respondents took the assistance of police and legal advisers to resolve the conflicts.

Out of 161 victims, physical protection was given to 37 victims (7.4 percent) who reported their cases to formal sources. While 11 percent received emotional assistance, and 14 percent received therapy and moral and social assistance from women's NGOs working for women's rights at the local level. Findings of Gelles (1976) also stated that "contention that the greater the incidence of physical violence, the more likely the victim would seek help from formal agencies".

#### **4.4.10 Reasons for staying in an Abusive Relationship**

Victims who, even after the intervention of informal and formal organisations, were unable to achieve relief from oppressive conditions in their

marital family were asked the reasons for their continuity in the abusive relationship. Alternatives were provided to record their responses (as indicated in table 4.4.14) and they were asked to select the main reasons for compelling them to live in an abusive situation. Table 4.4.14 summarises the findings.

**TABLE NO - 4.4.14**  
**REASON FOR STAYING IN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP**

<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
For Children's	102	20.4
Parents Force	81	16.2
No place to go	113	22.6
Family Reputation	97	19.4
Acceptance	86	17.2
Lack of Independence	21	4.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Data analysis indicates that out of 500 victims, a majority (23 percent) indicated that they did not have an alternative place to go and were forced to live in an abusive relationship. For the sake of their children, about 20 percent of the victims were unable to leave their marital home. Others were obligated to live in abusive relationship to maintain the integrity of their parental family (19 percent), and it was an accepted way of life for 17 percent. For 16 percent, that was their parents compulsion. Therefore, no other place to go and for the sake of children were the key reasons for the victims surveyed for remaining in an abusive relationship. To Parikh and Anjenaya (2013), 54 percent of the women stayed in a violent relationship for their children's sake. Panda (2004) had stated "the common cause to be normal behaviour in a marital relationship (44 percent), lack of alternative means of support (40 percent), concern for children (29 percent), and family honour (28 percent)".

#### 4.5 Women Empowerment

Abuse against women is one of the endemic human rights abuses. The degree to which empowering women can mitigate domestic violence is less discussed in the Indian scenario. There is a need to consider the degree to which domestic violence undermines the capacity of women to become empowered, considering the high prevalence of domestic violence in India. It is difficult to quantify female empowerment since the concept itself is often poorly defined. According to Malhotra A and Schuler S, (2005) “the main underlying dimensions that characterise the empowerment of women in relation to decisions, control, and power”. According to Gurumurthy A, 1998 “women’s empowerment is conceptualized as a function of women’s access to and control over resources, which enable their decision making on employment, income, household assets and expenditure, fertility, sexuality, and freedom of movement (physical mobility) and their control over the material and intangible resources such as information and time; their position within the household vis-à-vis other household members”.

For analysing the relationship between domestic violence and women empowerment, a Women Empowerment Index (WEI) was constructed as an average of standardized physical autonomy score, family decision making score, domestic consultation score, social score, and political score. Twenty-four variables covering the relationship between domestic violence and physical autonomy, family decision making, domestic consultation, social and economic involvement were identified and selected from the literature survey (presented in the table 3 in Chapter – III Research Methodology).

The statements' measurement was on five-point Likert scales, with the highest score of five being given to 'Strongly Agreed' responses and the lowest score of one given to 'Strongly Disagreed' statements. For each statement, the standardized indices were worked out by using the formula:

$$Z_i = \frac{X_i - \text{Min } X_i}{\text{Max } X_i - \text{Min } X_i}$$

Where  $Z_i$  is the standardized indices of each statement,  $X_i$  is the actual score assigned to each statement by the victims,  $\text{Min } X_i$  the minimum score

assigned to the statement, and  $\text{Max}(X_i)$  is the maximum score assigned to the statement. Each statement's score was summed to arrive at an overall score for each indicator, which was averaged to arrive at the Women Empowerment Index (WEI). The results are shown in table 4.5.2.

**TABLE NO - 4.5.2**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS ON THE BASIS OF**  
**EMPOWERMENT SCORE**

<b>S.No</b>	<b>Level of Empowerment</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1	Not Empowered	50	10.0
2	Partially Empowered	123	24.6
3	Empowered	306	61.2
4	Fully Empowered	21	4.2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Estimation Based on Field Survey, 2019-20.

Victims were classified into four groups based on the score obtained by each one, namely 'not empowered', 'partially empowered', 'empowered', and 'fully empowered'. The evidence given in Table 4.5.2 indicates that the majority (61.2 percent) of respondents belongs to the 'empowered' category, 25 percent belong to the 'partially empowered' category, 10 percent belong to the 'not empowered' category, and 4.2 percent belong to the 'completely empowered' category. Thus, although nearly two-thirds of women victims were strengthened in terms of equality, decision-making, family engagement, social engagement, and economic freedom, they were not free from domestic violence. In other words, the risk of domestic violence has not been minimised by the liberation of women. Tuladhar et al., (2013) point out that “empowerment does not necessarily decrease the odds that a woman experienced violence”.

### **Women Empowerment and Frequency of Violence**

M. Akilova and Y. M. Marti (2014) found that “the women who have decision making power in the household matters and income-related issues are less likely to suffer from family violence” and Ferdous, et al., (2017) also reported the same in a study carried out in Pakistan. The lifetime incidence of

family violence was very high among women with low empowerment levels in Nepal” (Sevoyan and Agadjanian, 2010). However, Kabir and Khan (2019) revealed that “un-empowered women are less likely to experience violence than empowered women”. Hence, an attempt was made to examine whether there was any association between women's empowerment and violence frequency by using chi-square analysis. The null hypothesis framed was:

H<sub>0</sub>: There is no association between the frequency of violence and women empowerment index.

H<sub>a</sub>: There is an association between the frequency of violence and women empowerment index.

The calculated value of chi-squared was 16.409, significant at 5 percent level ( $p = 0.012$ ), implying a substantial association between the frequency of violence and the empowerment index. The findings are in tune with the results reported by Kabir and Khan (2019) that “empowered women are more at the risk of domestic violence than less empowered women”.

### **Domestic violence - women empowerment model**

Women empowerment has been a significant and stimulating issue for many decades. “Empowering women and girls with more choices and more freedoms is crucial to achieving a better future for all” (Sen, 2016). “Theoretically, violence is a human rights issue, and human rights are fundamental to values of dignity, equality, non-discrimination and non-interference, and these cut across gender, social, cultural, political, class, religious and geographical issues” (Uzuegbunam, 2016). A woman's empowerment is highly dependent on the negotiating power women enjoy in their household. We mean the degree to which women enjoy personal autonomy, engagement in the decision-making process, consultation in domestic matters, and want social and economic empowerment by bargaining power.

The link between violence and women empowerment against women is a complex one. In contrast, Panda and Agarwal (2005) opine that “when women gain employment or access to the property, they face a lower incidence of violence”. Kwagala (2010) found a “higher incidence or no difference”. Kaye

et al. (2005) stated that “while both education and employment might enable women to challenge traditional male dominance, it may also set a stage for greater marital tension and conflict, leading to domestic violence”. Krishnan et al. (2010) reported that “women aged 16-25 years in Bangalore revealed although having a job may enhance women's empowerment and financial stability; they face an increased risk of domestic violence”. Rahman et al. (2011) found that “the likelihood of all forms of IPV increased with women's participation in household decision-making in Bangladesh”.

These contradictory findings on the relationship between women's empowerment and domestic violence suggest that it is important to analyse the relationship between these two factors more closely. It is important to explain why these results contradict the relationship between women's empowerment and domestic violence in an environment where gender roles are shifting rapidly and family violence rates are high, and to build a strong context for the preparation of both women's empowerment initiatives and anti-violence initiatives. The relationship between the facets of women's empowerment and domestic violence is important to consider prior to designing the model.

### **Personal autonomy and domestic violence**

Violence seriously inhibits women's ability to enjoy gender equality. Women who experience more freedom within households are less prone to domestic violence than women who lack freedom. However, women who strive for more autonomy due to economic empowerment programs can thereby be regarded as provocative because they challenge underlying social norms and, consequently, be the target of violence to sustain their subordination (Rocca et al., 2009). To test the interrelationship between personal autonomy and domestic violence, the following hypothesis was framed:

H<sub>1</sub>: There is a significant (positive/ negative) association between personal autonomy and frequency of violence mediated through the women empowerment index.

### **Decision-making and Domestic violence**

Recent studies suggest that women's ability to make decisions that affect themselves and their families is an adequate way of measuring

empowerment (Malhotra and Mather, 1997). This definition of empowerment focuses on a shift of power from the powerful to the relatively powerless. Therefore, in the current study, empowerment is measured with specific decision-making variables, which indicate how often women make decisions in the household. When more decision-making responsibilities are delegated to their wives, husbands might feel less inclined to perform domestic violence acts. There is also an observed change in women when they go through empowerment programs, as they learn to stand up for themselves (Naved, 1994). Previous studies theorized that power shifts induce conflict at the family level because husbands feel their power is being eroded (Carlson, 1984). Empowering women might result in insecurity among husbands and consequently increase rates of domestic abuse. However, it is only when the power shift is nascent that husbands feel threatened; therefore, the negative effect of empowering women is likely to be transitional. To have a better insight into this relationship, the following hypothesis was framed:

H<sub>2</sub>: There is a significant (positive/negative) association between decision-making and frequency of violence mediated through the women empowerment index.

### **Economic empowerment and Domestic violence**

Economic empowerment, or the financial standing of women, is often considered a means to protect women against abuse, signalling sufficient autonomy to leave abusive situations or prevent misuse (Farmer, A and Tiefenthaler, 1997). However, such increased empowerment may increase the risk of violence in a setting in which women's financial autonomy may be seen to challenge male dominance. For instance, in rural Bangladesh, women's economic avenues contributed to decreasing domestic violence by reducing household poverty and reduced women's financial dependence on men. Haneef et al. (2014) observed that "the program's education and training components raised women's and men's awareness of domestic violence's negative aspects". However, other studies showed women empowerment could be a risk aspect for domestic abuse. For instance, in Bangladesh, a micro-finance programme contributed to the increased incidence of domestic violence

among participants because of household conflict over control of women's income (Rahman 1999). To know more about this relation, the following hypothesis was formulated:

H<sub>3</sub>: There is a significant (positive/negative) association between economic empowerment and frequency of violence mediated through the women empowerment index.

### **Social Empowerment and Domestic violence**

Both qualitative and quantitative data suggest that various social norms and beliefs can contribute to domestic violence. Theoretically, women who enjoy social standing in the family are less prone to domestic violence than women with low social standing (Vyas& Watts, 2009). However, the risk is higher in culturally conservative settings, where gender norms are rigid, and rates and acceptance of violence are high. To examine the relationship between social empowerment and domestic violence, the following hypothesis was framed:

H<sub>4</sub>: There is a significant (positive/ negative) association between social empowerment and frequency of violence mediated through the women empowerment index.

Since the dimensions of women empowerment were based on the Likert scale, the researcher attempted to compute the reliability of the same with the help of Cronbach's alpha, and the estimated values are presented in table 4.5.3

**TABLE NO - 4.5.3**  
**RELIABILITY STATISTICS**

<b>Cronbach's alpha</b>			
<b>Personal Autonomy</b>	<b>Decision Making</b>	<b>Social Empowerment</b>	<b>Economic Empowerment</b>
0.701	0.921	0.721	0.735

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

Cronbach's alpha concerning personal autonomy, decision making, social empowerment, and economic empowerment was greater than 0.7, indicating the internal consistency in the scale used for measuring women empowerment. The variable frequency of violence was arrived at by asking the

victims to tick on the options: daily, often, occasionally, and rarely, which were assigned a score of 4, 3, 2, and 1, respectively. The women empowerment index was arrived at by standardizing 23 statements on personal autonomy, decision making, social empowerment, and economic empowerment and arriving at the composite index score.

The interrelationship between dimensions of women empowerment, women empowerment index, and frequency of violence was examined by applying the Structural Equation Model (SEM). Towards this, initially, a default model was drawn. The model depicted was a conceptual model, not representing a specific structural equation modeling to be tested. It was based on preliminary work conducted by the researcher to reflect the available variables in the study.

**FIGURE NO - 4.5.1**  
**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT MODEL**  
**(DEFAULT MODEL)**

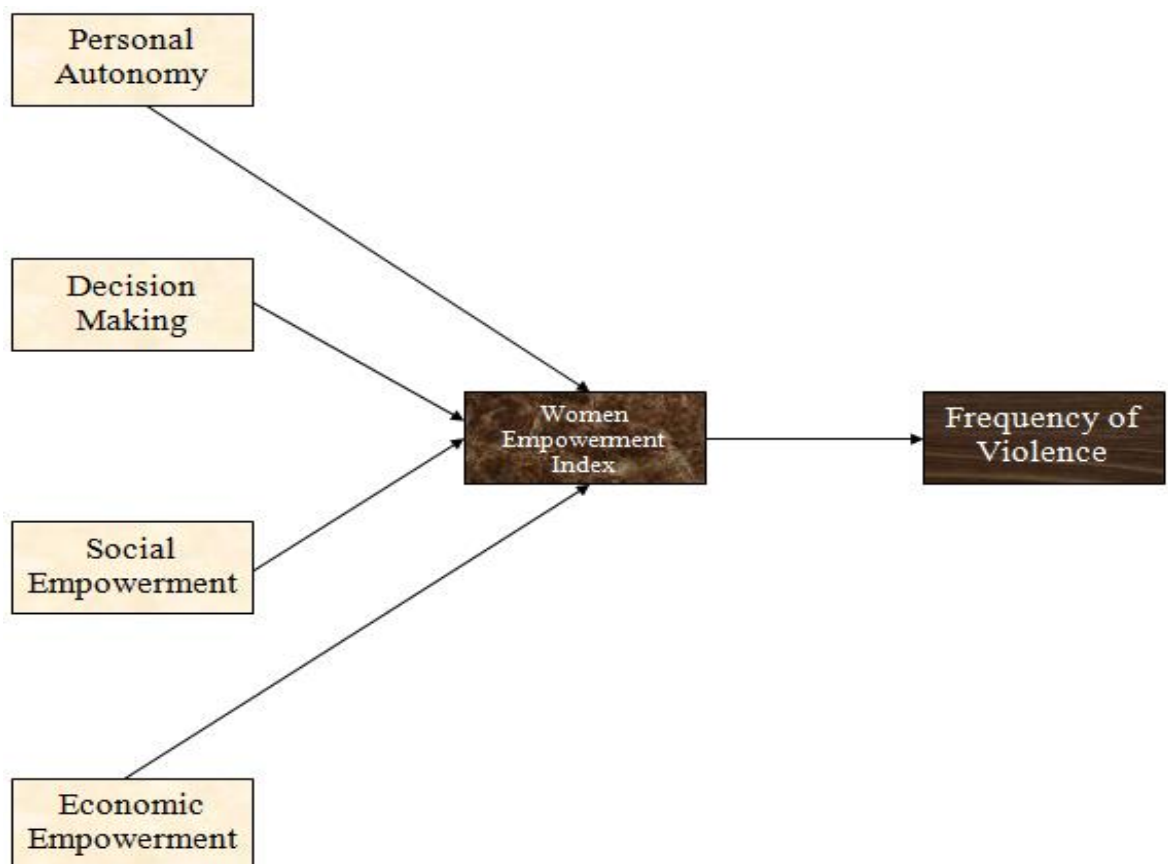


Table 4.5.4 enlists summary value of various measures used in evaluating the model fitness.

**TABLE NO - 4.5.4**  
**MODEL FIT SUMMARY OF STRUCTURAL EQUATION MODEL**

Fit Indices	Results	Suggested values
Chi square in AMOS(CMIN)	0.490 (p = 0.975)	≤ 5.00 ( Hair et al., 1998)
Comparative Fit index (CFI)	.999	>0.90 (Hu and Bentler, 1999)
Goodness of Fit Index (GFI)	.999	>0.90 ( Hair et al. 2006)
Adjusted Goodness of Fit Index (AGFI)	.989	> 0.90 (Daire et al., 2008)
Normated Fit Index ( NFI)	.997	≥0.90 (Hu and Bentler, 1999)
Incremental Fit Index (IFI)	.998	Approaches 1
Root mean square error of approximation (RMSEA)	.000	< 0.08 ( Hair et al., 2006)

Note:\*Computed through Amos output

**Source:** Estimation based on Field survey, 2019-20.

Table 4.5.4 the model result computed through Amos demonstrated that CMIN was achieved with the probability level of 0.975, which was greater than 0.05, which indicates a perfect fit of the model. In other words, it explained that the ideal fit of the domestic violence and women empowerment model. Goodness of Fit Index (GFI) value (0.999) and Adjusted Goodness of Fit Index (AGFI) value (0.989) was greater than 0.9 represents a good fit. The calculated Normated Fit Index (NFI) value (0.997) and Comparative Fit Index (CFI) value (0.999) indicates that it was a perfect fit and also the Root Mean square Residuals (RMR) and Root Mean Square Error of Approximation (RMSEA) value was 0.000 which was less than 0.08 which indicate a perfect fit. Thus, the Goodness of fit indices support the model fit, and these indices indicate the acceptability of the structural model. Figure 4.5.2 exhibited the standardized solution for the variables under domestic violence – women Empowerment Model. Structural equation modeling was computed from the perspective of the respondents.

**FIGURE NO - 4.5.2**  
**STANDARDISED SOLUTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – WOMEN**  
**EMPOWERMENT MODEL**

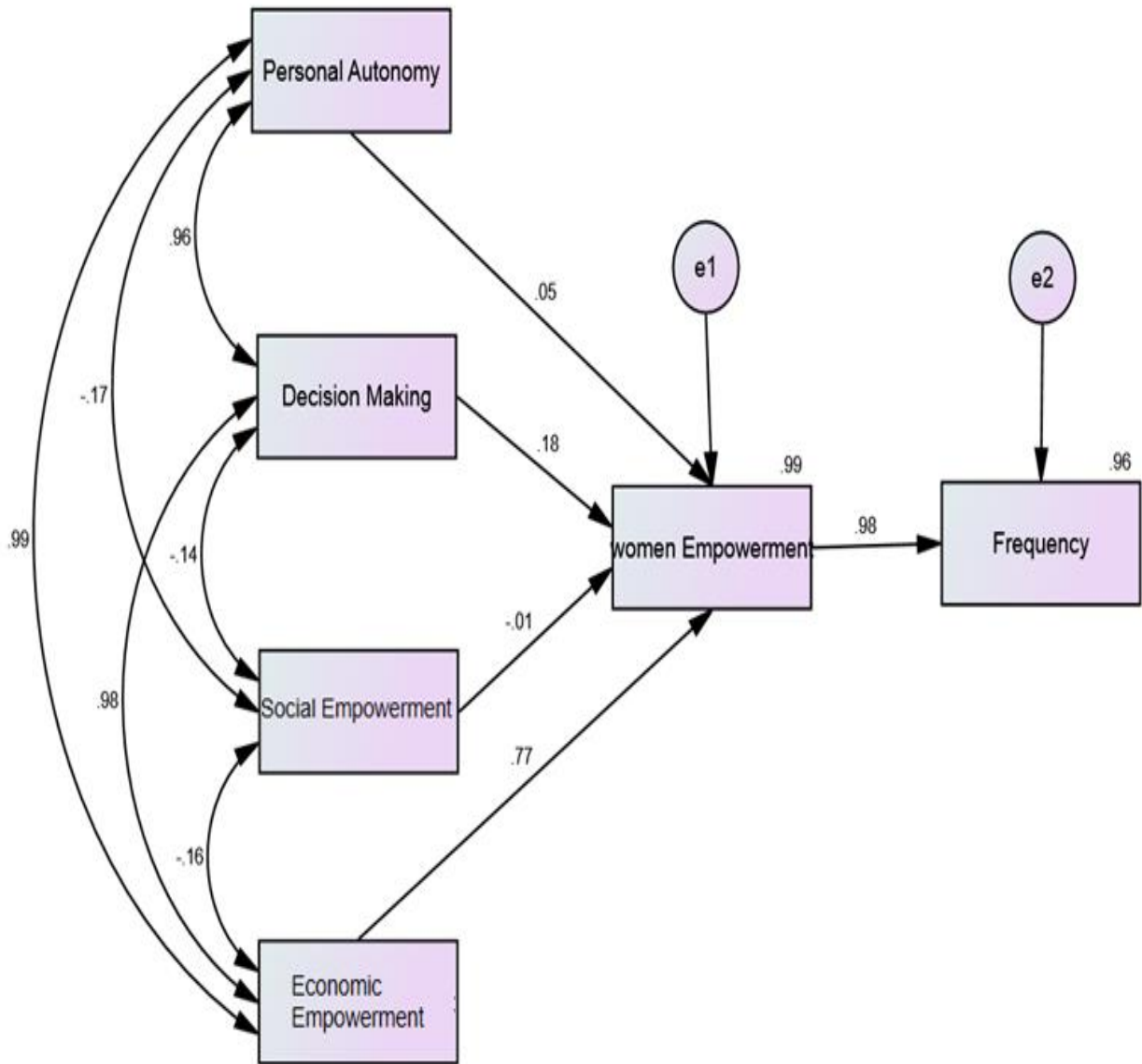


Table 4.5.5 exhibits path coefficients in the extracted model. The table enlists the relationship between variables and standardized coefficient with 'p' values. Along with these, whether the concerned hypotheses could be accepted or rejected is also provided.

**TABLE NO - 4.5.5**  
**PATH COEFFICIENTS IN EXTRACTED MODEL**

Path Coefficients			Estimate	Standardized Estimate	S.E.	C.R.	P	Hypothesis
Women empowerment index	<---	Personal autonomy	.049	.049	.023	2.149	.032	Accepted
Women empowerment index	<---	Decision making	.180	.178	.017	10.384	.000	Accepted
Women empowerment index	<---	Social empowerment	-.013	-.009	.006	-2.249	.024	Accepted
Women empowerment index	<---	Economic empowerment	.772	.771	.028	27.842	.000	Accepted
Frequency of violence	<---	Women empowerment index	.988	.981	.009	114.204	.000	Accepted

**Source:** Estimated from Field survey, 2019-20.

From the standardized values for the variables, it was evident that the exogenous variable physical autonomy (0.049,  $p=.032$ ), decision-making (0.180,  $p=0.000$ ), social empowerment (-0.013,  $p=0.024$ ) and economic empowerment (0.772,  $p=0.000$ ) had significant impact on women empowerment index, which in turn significantly influenced frequency of violence (0.988,  $p=0.000$ ). From this, it could be concluded that all dimensions of women empowerment, like personal autonomy, decision-making, social empowerment, and economic empowerment, significantly impacted domestic violence frequency mediated through the women empowerment index. Thus, an increase in women's empowerment caused a significant increase in the frequency of domestic violence. The above is in line with the findings reported by Sanawar, S.B. et al. (2019) that more empowered women were more vulnerable to physical violence than less-empowered women. Similarly, as reported earlier, many studies (Kocacik et al. 2007; Wandera, Ntozi, and Kwagala, 2010) have reported increased violence with an increase in women empowerment. Thus, in low income communities in urban Coimbatore, women's empowerment was a risk factor for domestic violence. This may be

attributed to the fact in low income communities where domestic violence happens all the time, domestic violence is seen as a normal way of life, and there is nothing wrong to violate anyone physically.

Further, self-determined women stand for their rights and take part in the decision process, which is seen as a threat to the traditional male dominance in households. In such cases, partners use violence as a way to leverage their authority within the family. In a society where a dominant male role in the home is still a social norm, empowering women may increase domestic violence.