

## Epidemiology of Domestic Violence on women at Addagutta, Secunderabad, TS

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### Abstract

*Back Ground:* Domestic violence is one of the common evils of society and it is a worldwide phenomenon. It is more common in underdeveloped countries. Wide variations in domestic violence are observed in rural and urban slums. Present study to know in depth the reasons for DV. It is more common in the age group of 12 to 50 years.

*Objectives:* 1. To study various types of domestic violence. 2. To know the nature and periodicity of violence. 3. To understand the triggering points and underlying factors. 4. To compare the results of the study with regional and national statistics.

*Methodology:* The present study is a longitudinal study conducted in a slum area of Hyderabad, TS from April to September 2018. A pre-designed questionnaire was prepared and tested in a slum area and after necessary correction it was administered to women in the study area. 100 women included in the study after taking oral/written consent based on educational status. Demographic and socio-economic factors were included in addition to factors pertaining to domestic violence in designing format.

*Results:* Statistics on 100 women showed 90% of them were from nuclear family and only 10% from joint family lack of elders support was the preliminary cause, 35% did not have any educational qualifications, 60% of the women were depended on their spouses, 55% were unemployed, 60% of the women were harassed by their husband 20% by their father and remaining 10% by their sons, the type of assault was verbal abuse, paranoid behavior, suspicious nature. Frequency was daily in 75% of women, 5% weekly and the triggering factor being Dowry in 22%, Birth of a girl child in the family 14% and 64 % were suffering harassment from paranoid husbands. 90% of them had suffered from the social stigma of revealing to their close people and were silent sufferers.

**Keywords:** Domestic violence; Trigger points.

### Introduction

This study of Domestic violence on women of age groups from 12 to 50 years who were subjected

to cultural deprivation and low socioeconomic status. Lack of awareness of criminal laws, birth of a girl child, female infanticide, sexual harassment and paranoid alcoholic husbands abusing their wives was the main subject of study. Women who were subjected to violence of various types like not giving dowry, economic, political, social, family, partner, self-abuse, Interpersonal, suicidal behavior etc. were the preliminary factors taken into consideration while surveying was done.

Women in India is a personification of Goddess Lakshmi, having all the qualities of a good home

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maker, she is like the minister who manages the house hold responsibilities, a good mother nurturing her child, Satisfying her husband needs and is equivalent to mother earth in patience and tolerance.

“Karyeshu Dasi, Karaneshu mantra, Bhojyeshumatha, shayane shurambha, roopeshu lakshmi, kshamayadharitri.

Domestic Violence is an act of gender based violence that results in or is likely to result in the suffering to women with deprivation of liberty to public and private life. As per the NCRB data, the city of Hyderabad with DV (1,311 cases), stands only second to Delhi with 3,645 cases of DV.<sup>1</sup> Telangana has the highest number of DV cases (7,202) in south India and seventh in the whole country.<sup>2</sup> (Indian express dt. Nov. 14 2019) As per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS),<sup>3</sup> the prevalence of DV in India is 39.7%. As per WHO<sup>4</sup> Violence against women dt. 29/11/17, the DV all over the world is 35%. Domestic violence is in the mindset of the society that the women are physically and emotionally weaker than males and they economically depend on them.<sup>5</sup> (Ankur.k) Women suffering from violence have more chances of suffering physical, emotional and mental problems like anxiety, depression, PTS and suicide.<sup>6(2,3)</sup> Violence against women is a cycle of abuses that manifests itself in many forms throughout the different stages of their lives,<sup>7</sup> like physical harm, sexual harm and psychological harm.<sup>7</sup> In India women are considered as a weaker sex even now, not only from physical point of view but also from sociological aspects. Women always depend on Men right from their birth-During childhood on her father, After marriage on her husband and during her old age on her children. The national statistics utilizing conflict tactical scale (CTS) to measure the prevalence of lifetime physical, sexual DV is 40%<sup>8</sup> (Yoshikawa et. al. 2012). Study for high frequency of DV in India is deep rooted patriarchal roles<sup>9</sup> (Visaria 2000) Long standing cultural norms that propagate the view of women as subordinates throughout their lifespan<sup>10</sup> (Fernandez, 1997; Gundappa & Rathod, 2012) Even before the child is born, many families have a clear preference for the male child, care of the same while preferring sex selective abortions, female infanticide and abandonment of the girl child (Gundappa & Rathod, 2012). In reproductive years, mothers pregnant with or/ and who give birth to only female children may be more susceptible to DV<sup>11</sup> (Mahapatro, Gupta & Kundu, 2011). In addition DV is also linked tobacco use<sup>12</sup> (Ackerson, Kawachi, Barbeau & Subramanian, 2007). It is also linked to males with

higher frequency of depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and attempted suicides.<sup>13</sup> (Chandra, Satyanarayana & Carey, 2009; Shidhaye & Patel, 2010). There are studies to highlight the role of non-partner DV perpetrators living in nuclear and joint families<sup>14</sup> (Fernandez, 1997; Kaur & Garg, 2010, Raj et. al. 2011.

### *Social Causes of Crime Against Women*

Illiteracy, Low economic status, broken homes, physical dependency, Poor psychological environment, lack of proper moral education, unemployment, addiction to alcohol, drugs, tobacco and gutka.

### *Factors Precipitating Domestic Violence*

In general there is an acceptance of men superiority over the women.

Pregnancy and lack of sex leads to violence.

Sex selective abortions and female infanticide,

Low level of legal literacy in women.

There are 60 million female births missing according to the WHO records and 70% of the female murder victims are killed by the male partners as per the records. Women yield to various types of pressures due to social biasness, not only by Husband, their Father-in-law, Brother-in-law, they also ill-treated by mother-in-law and sister in law in context of the dowry and domestic works.

*Rates of Offence:* One crime committed against women in every 3 minutes, One molestation in every 15 minutes, one sexual harassment in every 53 minutes, one kidnapping/abduction in every 23 minutes, one rape case in every 29 minutes, four out of 10 women experience domestic violence at home, 45% of women have suffered at least one incidence of DV in their life .According to NCRB1 (National crime rate bureau) 6000 dowry deaths are recorded in India.

*Triggerring Factors:* The husband may be illiterate, paranoid, of low economic status addicted to alcohol sexual and emotional violence.

### **Materials and Methods**

*Type of study:* Our study is based on cross sectional observational study.

*Place of study:* Urban slum of addagutta ,East Marredpally in Telangana state.

*Duration of Study:* April 2018 to September 2018.

*Study population:* All the women in the catchment area of the slum in general and 100 women victims of age group 12-50 years who were subjected to domestic violence.

*Inclusion criteria:* All the 100 women victims who gave consent for the study.

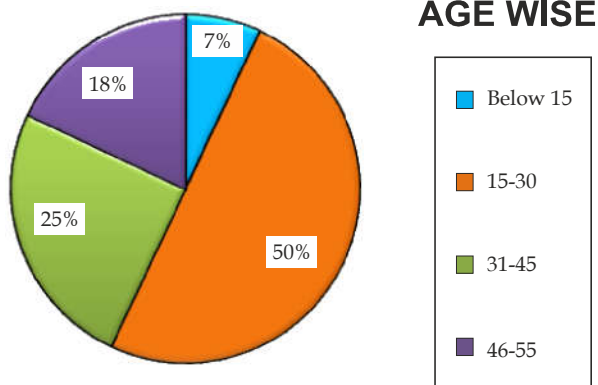
*Study tool:* A predesigned pretested and structured questionnaire.

**Result**

Statistics on 100 women showed 90% of them were from nuclear family and only 10% from joint family (Fig.4) lack of elders support was the preliminary cause, 35% did not have any educational qualifications, 60% of the women were depended on their spouses (Fig. 3), 55% were unemployed, 60% of the women were harassed by their husband 20% by their father and remaining 10% by their sons (Fig. 7), the type of assault was verbal abuse, paranoid 60% verbal abuse 39%, Assault 1% (Fig. 6). Frequency was weekly monthly 20% and daily 5% (Fig. 8) and the triggering factor being Dowry in 22%, Birth of a girl child in the family 14% and 64 % were suffering harassment from paranoid husbands (Fig. 11). 99% of them had suffered from the social stigma of revealing to their close people and were silent sufferers and 1% had psychiatric history (Fig. 11).

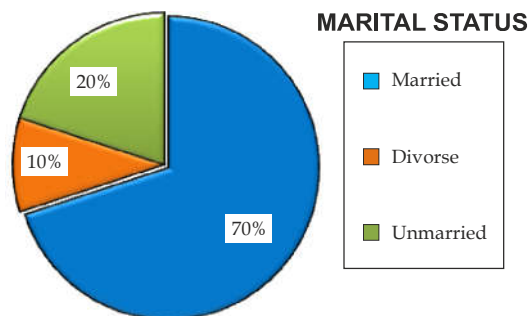
**Table 1:** Age Wise.

|          |     |
|----------|-----|
| Below 15 | 7%  |
| 15-30    | 50% |
| 31-45    | 25% |
| 46-55    | 18% |



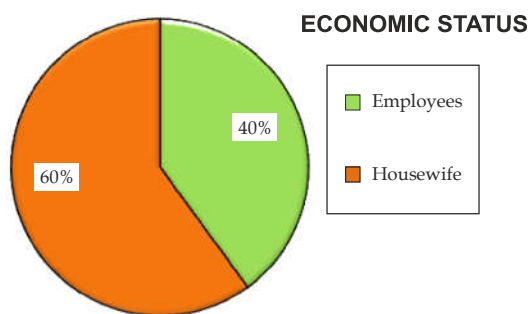
**Table 2:** Marital Status.

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Married   | 70% |
| Divorce   | 10% |
| Unmarried | 20% |



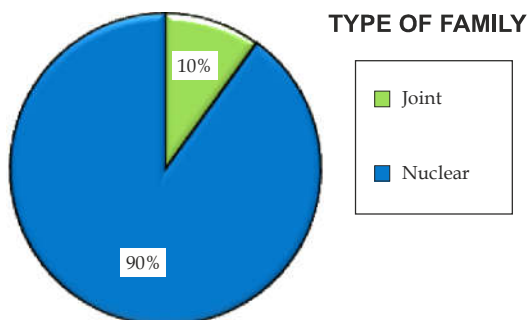
**Table 3:** Economic Status.

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Employees | 40% |
| Housewife | 60% |



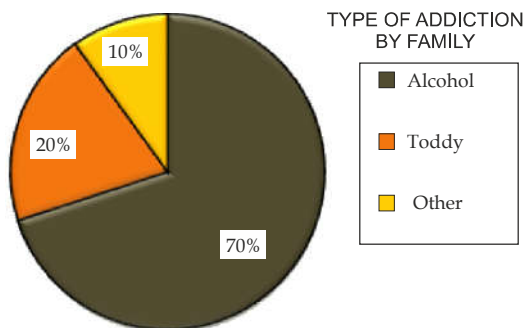
**Table 4:** Type of Family.

|         |     |
|---------|-----|
| Joint   | 10% |
| Nuclear | 90% |



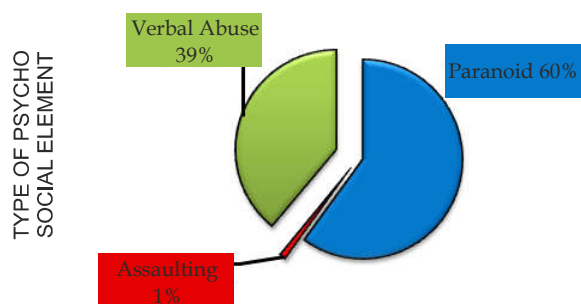
**Table 5:** Type of Addiction By Family.

|         |     |
|---------|-----|
| Alcohol | 70% |
| Toddy   | 20% |
| Other   | 10% |



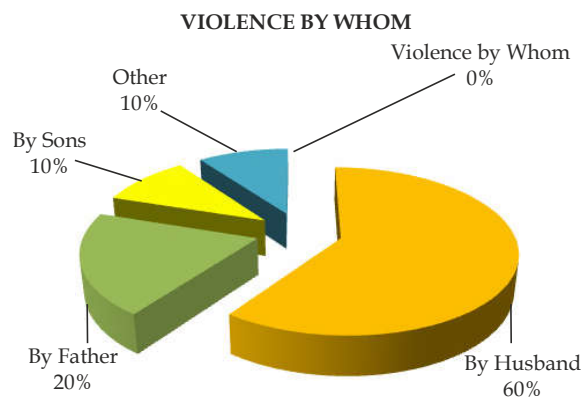
**Table 6:** Type of Psycho Social Element.

|              |     |
|--------------|-----|
| Paranoid     | 60% |
| Assaulting   | 1%  |
| Verbal Abuse | 39% |



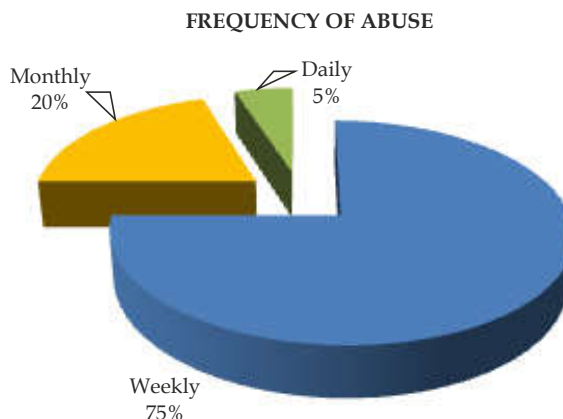
**Table 7:** Violence by Whom.

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| By Husband | 60% |
| By Father  | 20% |
| By Sons    | 10% |
| Other      | 10% |



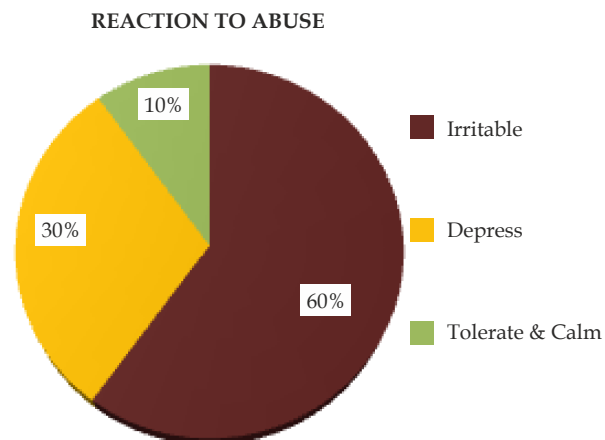
**Table 8:** Frequency of Abuse.

|         |     |
|---------|-----|
| Weekly  | 75% |
| Monthly | 20% |
| Daily   | 5%  |



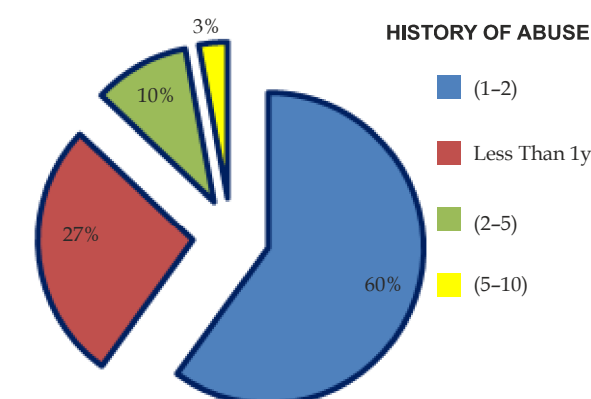
**Table 9:** Reaction to Abuse

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Irritable       | 60% |
| Depress         | 30% |
| Tolerate & Calm | 10% |



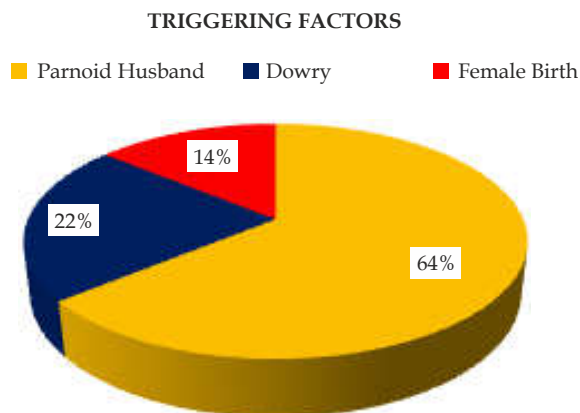
**Table 10:** History of Abuse.

|              |     |
|--------------|-----|
| (1-2)        | 60% |
| Less Than 1Y | 27% |
| (2-5)        | 10% |
| (5-10)       | 3%  |



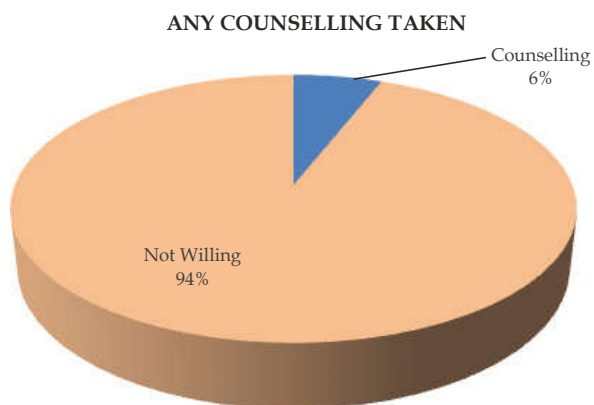
**Table 11:** Triggering Factors.

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Parnoid Husband | 64% |
| Dowry           | 22% |
| Female Birth    | 14% |



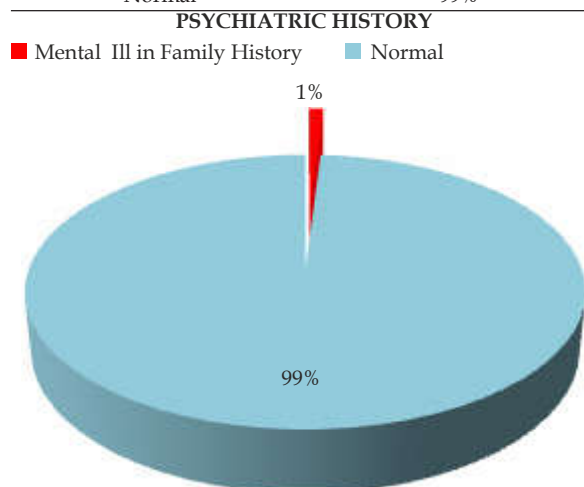
**Table 13:** Any Couselling Taken.

|             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| Couselling  | 6%  |
| Not Willing | 94% |



**Table 12:** Psychiatric History.

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Mental Ill In Family History | 1%  |
| Normal                       | 99% |



**Discussion**

Our study was compared, with the study of the planning commission Government of India research study of Nature, Incidence, extent and impact of domestic violence in states of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharastra by Yugantar Educational society<sup>7</sup> 2003 and also other studies mentioned accordingly.

*Prevalence of different forms of domastic violence in the form of:* Psychological abuse physical violence, Sexual abuse and Multiple forms of DV in various studies by (solmon etal 2009) 15 (sharma and vatsa 2011).<sup>16</sup> A Nadda<sup>20</sup> in 2018 Jismay George<sup>19</sup> et. al. in Puducherry, S.K. Dash<sup>21</sup> and Gayathri. M 23 was compared with our study (Tabal 3). In another study, the physical abuse was by husbands who were alcoholics (Stanley 2012).<sup>17</sup>

Types of Families in Domestic Voilence

| Family         | Our study | AP <sup>7</sup> | Chattis <sup>7</sup> | Gujarat <sup>7</sup> | MP <sup>7</sup> | MAHA <sup>7</sup> |
|----------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Nuclear Family | 90%       | 72%             | 8.8%                 | 56.8%                | 63.2%           | 52%               |
| Joint Family   | 10%       | 28%             | 43.2%                | 43.2%                | 36.8%           | 48%               |

Study indicates Nuclear families are susceptible for domestic violence.

Educational Status of Victims of DV

| Education      | Our study | AP <sup>7</sup> | Chattis <sup>7</sup> | Gujarat <sup>7</sup> | MAHA <sup>7</sup> | MP <sup>7</sup> | Harihar Study <sup>18</sup> | Sarkar Study <sup>22</sup> |
|----------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Illiterate     | 35 %      | 40%             | 13.2 %               | 10.8%                | 15.6%             | 58.4%           | 25%                         | 46.15%                     |
| Primary school | 35 %      | 14.8%           | 16.4%                | 13.2%                | 19.2%             | 14%             | 25.3 %                      | 10 %                       |
| Middle school  | 30 %      | 11.02%          | 14.4%                | 6.4%                 | 20 %              | 18.4%           | 14.3 %                      | 10 %                       |

Illiterate and uneducated women are susceptible for DV

Types of Abuses in Domestic Voilence

| Abuse                 | Our study | Solmon study <sup>15</sup> | Sharma Study <sup>16</sup> | Sk Dash Study <sup>21</sup> | Gayatri M Study <sup>23</sup> | Nadda A Study <sup>20</sup> |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Psychological         | 60%       | 22%                        | 22%                        | 34%                         | 46%                           | 27.2%                       |
| Physical              | 01%       | 29%                        | 22%                        | 50%                         | 26%                           | 26.9%                       |
| Sexual                | -         | 12%                        | 07%                        | -                           | 08%                           | 14.7%                       |
| Multiple forms/Verbal | 39%       | 41%                        | 30%                        | 42%                         | 20%                           | 10%                         |



Marital Status in Domestic Violence

| Abuse     | Our study | AP <sup>7</sup> | Chattis <sup>7</sup> | Gujarat <sup>7</sup> | MP <sup>7</sup> | MAHA <sup>7</sup> |
|-----------|-----------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Married   | 70%       | 92.4%           | 68.0%                | 84.8%                | 82.4%           | 82%               |
| Divorced  | 10%       | 26%             | 26%                  | 07.2%                | 07.2%           | 13%               |
| Widow     | -         | 06%             | 06%                  | 08%                  | 10.4%           | 6.4%              |
| Unmarried | 20%       | -               | -                    | -                    | -               | -                 |

The study of educational status of victims of domestic violence was conducted by Hari-saho Study<sup>18</sup> and sarkar study<sup>22</sup> which was compared with our study (Table 2).

As per Planning commission, government of India research study group. a study of nature, incidence extent and inputs of DV in women in states in AP, Chattisgur, Gujrat, MP and MAHA was done by Yugantar educational society Nagpur.<sup>7</sup> In the five states, 1250 women from rural and urban areas were selected, with 125 rural samples and 125 urban samples from five states, depicting their social and demographic back ground ,like marriage divorce, widowhood and unmarried which were studied(Table 4) and also the type of family like nuclear and joint families (Table 1). The following charts are the parameters depict the nature of domestic violence and this is compared with our study.

## Conclusion

The present study shows the magnitude of domestic violence in the urban slum Addagutta Secunderabad, there should be a change in the mindset of people in general and that of the spouse in particular. The women who were victims must be respected and empowered. Women of low socioeconomic status were silent suffers with paranoid behavior of their family members is an unveiled truth of the slum.

### Prevention of Domestic Violence

*Judiciary:* Measures dealing severely with alcoholics who perpetuate DV.

Special courts for DV with videography of victims.

Mobile courts to be set up for slums and rural areas for DV.

*Government:* Effective enforcement of existing laws towards females

Government should take help of NGO's with knowledge of law for legal aid of victims of DV.

*Police:* To treated DV as serious has any other crime.

Special train staff dealings with women's issues attached to all police stations, avoiding all other duty.

*NGO's:* Made to work actively and council victims of DV.

Women in distress due to DV should be given facilities give like short stay home for re habitations Children's with DV- should be educated given social and psychological upliftment.

*Health care support:* It is given recognizing DV as a public health issue.

Special care is given on priority for females of DV episodes, As DV as a great Impact on women's health, DV should be included in the teaching curriculum during study.

*Counselling:* Centers with qualified Counsellors should be started at rural and urban slums urgently Council to public is done by adopting DV as part of school and college curriculum thus changing mind set of males towards ladies. The list of NGO's and government organizations and councilors should be kept open to the public for utilizing Educating ladies about their rights, community screening and pamphlets distribution should be done.

There should be a team work by all the above in crisis intervention.

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