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SPOUSAL PERCEPTIONS OF MARITAL RIGHTS AND THEIR IMPACT ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN KANO METROPOLIS, NIGERIA

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Abstract: This study investigates the spouse's perception of fundamental marital rights and their contribution to domestic violence in Kano metropolis, Nigeria. The research examines key factors such as infidelity, financial stress, communication breakdown, substance abuse (from the male spouse's perspective), and control issues, emotional abuse, financial dependence, and resentment (from the female spouse's perspective) in relation to domestic violence. The study employs a quantitative research design, utilizing a multi-stage random sampling technique to select 40 households from each of 5 wards in 8 local government areas within Kano metropolis. A structured questionnaire using a three-point Likert scale was administered to 1,015 respondents (both male and female spouses) across the selected households. The analysis involved descriptive statistics, Pearson correlation, and multiple regression techniques to assess the relationship between the independent variables and domestic violence. The results indicate that infidelity is the most significant factor influencing domestic violence from the male perspective, while financial dependence and resentment are significant for females. However, the overall explanatory power of both models remains low, suggesting the need for further exploration of additional factors contributing to domestic violence. The study concludes that domestic violence is influenced by multiple factors, with infidelity and financial dependence playing prominent roles. Recommendations include financial empowerment programs for women, marital counseling, and comprehensive domestic violence prevention initiatives. These findings contribute to the understanding of gender-specific dynamics of domestic violence and provide a basis for developing targeted interventions in Kano metropolis.

Keywords: Domestic Violence, Marital Rights, Infidelity, Financial Dependence, Multi-Stage Random Sampling, Kano Metropolis

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

There are a lot of hue and cry on domestic violence (hereinafter referred to as DV) in Nigeria, the developing and even developed nations. It occurs in all settings, transcending socio-cultural and

demographic profiles. It is pervasive, insidious, carried out in private domains, mostly inflicted by family members. Domestic Violence continues over long period and limits avenues of escapes for victims.

Domestic violence also called Domestic Abuse or Intimate Partner Violence, refers to a pattern of behaviours that involves physical, emotional, sexual or financial violence as well as intimidations, threats and manipulations by a person against their intimate partner or family members.

It is a significant social issue, affecting individuals across various demographics. It includes physical, emotional, sexual and economic abuse. Key factors contributing to Domestic Violence in Nigeria include:

1) **Cultural Norms**: Traditional beliefs and societal norms often perpetuating gender inequality and justifying violence against women.
2) **Lack of Awareness (Ignorance)**: Many victims are unaware of their rights or the resources available to them.
3) **Legal Framework**: Although there are Laws like the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act (2019), enforcement is inconsistent and many cases go unreported due to fear or retaliation.
4) **Economic Dependence**: Financial dependency on abusers often makes it difficult for victims to free themselves from abusive situations.
5) **Support Services**: While there are many Non-Governmental Organisations and Support Services working to address the issues, they are mainly underfunded and handicapped.

WHAT ARE THE SALIENT PROCTORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (DV)?

A series of researches and studies have been carried out to excavate the causes of DV: Afifi AlMuhaideb, et al, 2011, Olorunsanye, Brumer, Laditka etc 2017, Unal, Koe, and Jaran, 2016 etc. postulate that domestic violence can happen to anyone regardless of gender, social class, etc. Thus, this study posed questions that focus on the salient reasons that brings about DV.

LACK OR POOR KNOWLEDGE ON MARITAL RIGHTS

Our societies take a lot of things for granted, there are a lot of assumptions particularly to fundamental rights of couples in marriage. Assumptions are so smokey that most often blind persons as to the issues that are focal, vital and indispensable causes to a phenomenon or value. Most brides and grooms hardly know and are not counselled on the basics and important rights of each other. Due to this poor knowledge, spouses enter relationships on emotions of 'love and feelings.' Failure to comprehend and abide by these fundamental marital right marks strong point to the main causes of Domestic Violence (DV). Since ignorance is a disease, and does not augur well for mutual growth and development, this study becomes very imperative. The followings are some characteristics of both victims and perpetrators exhibited as reported by some studies.

VICTIMS CHARACTERISTICS

Coutintio et al, Noved (2013) and Shuib et al (2013) reported that most victims have low level of education and low participation in income generating activities. In terms of age of the victims, older individuals are less likely to be victims (Caetano et al 2008, Khawaja et al 2008 and Shuib et al 2013).

The third category of victim characteristics comprised of those who have poor communication skills. Gangoli, Razak and Mecarry, 2006) Ludermir et al 2010 etc) postulate that poor and ineffective communication significantly increases the likelihood to become a victim of violence. Ineffective communication leads to confusion, disagreement and provocation (Khani, 2015).

PERPETRATOR CHARACTERISTICS

Globally, the most generally agreed perpetrator characteristics are hot-tempered attitude (aggravated by drinks) jealousy, psychopathology and low marital satisfaction to each other. Other features for perpetrators of domestic violence are those under the influence of alcohol and drug or marijuana abuses, while Smith, Green, Smithward (2008) observed that low material satisfaction was identified as a risk factor for Domestic Violence. Hoteling and Sugarman (1986), Stith et al (2004) discovered that behaviour of perpetrators are influenced/impacted by parental background earlier on. They assert that violent behaviours are due to the fact that they have been exposed to parental violence while growing up.

Level of education is also a determinant to perpetrators of domestic violence. A meta-analysis of perpetrator characteristic for D.V against women showed that younger, less educated and less affluent men were more likely to abuse their partners than were older, more educated, and more affluent men. (Stith, Smith, Penji & Ward, 2004) The pattern of this trend is consistent across education groups in which the higher the perpetrator's education the lower the prevalence of violent behaviour.

Sambo, M. N. et al (2020) observed that in other African Countries, wives beating is seen as a disciplinary measure for misbehavior. According to them "women, both married and unmarried are beaten and ill-treated, raped and even murdered by members of their families in Nigeria daily."

Prevalence of domestic violence vary in ranges from 41% in South South, 42% in the North, 29% in the South West and 78.8% in the South Eastern region. Women's physical, emotional and social well-being are significantly impacted by domestic violence experience. Most of them exhibit more physical injuries, signs and symptoms of ill health as well as more missed work days (Oluchi, D. C. et al 2020).

Conducting this research becomes necessary because the overall effects of domestic violence are incalculable due but not restricted only to impact on victims themselves, but also on their families, friends, colleagues, and communities. Every socio-economic class and age are affected by domestic violence which has its roots in societies that exhibit male and female power disparities in the context of familiar interactions. Community norms affect attitudes and actions connected to domestic abuse. Knowledge about attitudes and prevalence of DV amongst women in society, is insufficient to solve the issue, it is also insufficient to refute the assumption and ideas held by the communities.

Majority of spouses' partners especially husband attitude that bullied their wives are a very sad phenomenon. In most cases, reasons of the violent behavior include lack of harmony and understanding between partner, different family backgrounds, financial problems, extreme jealousy, mental disorders and lack of religion. A report by WHO 2013, Isganrova, 2017 and Khan, 2015, noted that domestic violence still persists at a significant level despite steps taken by governmental and enforcement agencies.

CATEGORIES OF VIOLENCE (ABUSES)

- Physical Violence: Could be by hitting, pushing, strangling, bashing and/or shaking.
- Emotional Violence: Could be by name calling, ridicules, mocking, intimidation and manipulations.
- Financial Abuse or Control: Could be by restricting access to funds, money and resources.

- Sexual Abuse: Could be by forced intimacy, coercion, misuse or denial of sex and romances.
- Psychological Abuses: Could be by blames, shifting gas lighting or criticism etc.

The United Nations World Conference on Human Rights (UNWCHR) of 1993 and the United Nations General Assembly's adoption of the declaration on the elimination of violence against women of the same year, placed violence against women at the forefront of human rights discourse; making domestic violence against women an increasingly recognized and discussed topic at national and international fora.

Sambo et al (2022) report that the prevalence of domestic violence against women and girls is high worldwide. They quoted a WHO Survey report that within the round of 10 –70 around the world, domestic violence is prevalent, justified and often condones in developing countries, this worsen during pregnancy with serious effect on pregnancy outcomes including increased risk of miscarriages, abortion, premature labour, foetal distress, low birth weight infants, and even infant death when compared to the industrialised countries where the prevalence is relatively lower. According to Robert, M. W. (2017), H. R. Ward (2020), Tran, T. D. et al 2016 and Izugbara C. O. et al (2020), reasons justifying domestic violence against women range from bad cooking, disrespect to in-laws, producing more girl children, and leaving home without informing the husband among others. The studies further stressed that about 60% of those that reported cases of domestic violence actually reported to their parents or a family member, and in about 70 to 75% of cases were counseled to remain mute and endure the battering. All these lead to a terrible consequence some to death, homelessness, drug abuse and suicidal attempts.

Bazza (2010) highlights that under the 1999 Nigerian Constitution, chapter IV titled "Fundamental Right", the Constitution provides from Section 33 – 43 eleven fundamental rights of Nigerians. These rights are thus: i) Section 33 – Right to life ii) Section 34 – Right to Dignity of human person iii) Section 35 – Right to Personal liberty iv) Section 36 – Right to fair hearing

v) Section 37 – Right to private and family life

vi) Section 38 – Right to freedom of thought, consciences and religion vii) Section 39 – Right to freedom of expression and the press viii) Section 40 – Right to peaceful assembly

ix) Section 41 – Right to freedom of movement

x) Section 42 – Right to freedom from discrimination xi) Section 43 – Right to acquire immovable property anywhere in Nigeria.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The research is approached within a theoretical framework of Resource and Relative Resource Theories. The frameworks provide knowledge as well as understanding regarding relation and violence problems. For this study, a Gendered Resource Theory is used to underpin the main issues.

Resource and Relative Resource Theories are conceptual frameworks that are used to understand social dynamics, relationships and power structures. According to Foa and Foa, (1974).

RESOURCE THEORY

1) Explains social exchange and interaction in terms of resources.
2) Defines resources as anything valued or desired such as: love, status, information, money, goods and services.
3) Proposes that people seek to acquire and maintain resources through social interaction.

4) Suggests that resources exchange and distribution influence social relationships and power dynamics.

Relative Resource Theory according to Vanyperven and Bunnk (1990):

1) Builds upon Resource Theory, focusing on the relative value at resources.
2) Introduces the concept of 'resource ratios' which compare the resources one has to those others possess.
3) Argues that people evaluate their resources relative to others, leading to feelings of satisfaction or social comparison.
4) Suggests that relative resource disparities can impact social relationships, motivation and well-being.

The two theories help understand how resources shape social interactions, relationships and power dynamics, providing insights into human behavior and social structure.

SPOUSE

The term spouse means a partner to a person in marriage or long term committed relationship, recognizing the union legally, socially or emotionally. A spouse in this research refers to a husband or wife. The term encompasses:

- ✦ Legal marriage partners
- ✦ Common-Law partners
- ✦ Domestic partners
- ✦ Long term committed partners

By spouse, the study refers to a multiple partner in a polygamous relationship or multiple married couples. The concept acknowledges commitment, support and partnership between individuals in a dedicated and legally/socially accepted union.

FUNDAMENTAL MARITAL RIGHTS

Marital Rights refer to the basic rights and expectations that are inherent to a marital relationship.

These rights are essential to building a healthy fulfilling and legally recognized union. Some of the fundamental rights include: a) Love and affection

b) Companionship
c) Intimacy and physical relationship
d) Emotional support
e) Financial support and shared resources
f) Mutual respect, trust and understanding
g) Communication and conflict resolution
h) Shared responsibilities and decision-making
i) Legal rights and benefits (e.g. inheritance, health insurance)
j) Fidelity and commitment

Though these rights are intrinsic, they vary from culture, legal system and personal relationship.

AIMS OF THE RESEARCH

The research is set to assess the perceptions of married couples on fundamental marital rights of each other. The essence is to buttress the real reasons that provoke domestic violence behaviours.

The popular saying/adage that 'ignorance is a disease serves well here to drive home why loving spouses' engage in a naughty, at times animalistic behaviours called Domestic Violence (DA) or Domestic Abuse.

Furthermore, the study highlights to Government Agencies, Non-Governmental Agencies, Health Centres, Rehabilitation Centres, Researchers Institutions, Counseling Centres, Parent and Individuals the salient causes that trigger domestic violence behaviours.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

1. To investigate the relationship between infidelity, financial stress, communication breakdown, and substance abuse and domestic violence from the perspective of male spouses.
2. To examine the influence of control issues, emotional abuse, financial dependence, and resentment on domestic violence from the perspective of female spouses.
3. To identify key marital rights perceived by both spouses as contributors to domestic violence.
4. To compare the significant factors contributing to domestic violence across genders.
5. To provide recommendations for addressing the root causes of domestic violence based on the spouse's perception of marital rights.

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY RESEARCH DESIGN

This study adopts a **quantitative research design** aimed at examining the perceptions of domestic violence and its contributing factors from both male and female spouses in Kano Metropolis. Structured questionnaires will be utilized to collect data from a sample of households across various wards within selected local governments. The gathered data will then be analyzed statistically to uncover relationships between the identified factors and domestic violence.

METHODOLOGY

1. **Population and Sample Size** o The target population consists of households in Kano Metropolis, focusing on male and female spouses.

o A sample of **40 households from each ward** was selected, leading to a total of **200 households per local government** (40 households x 5 wards). o Across **8 local governments**, the total sample size is **1,600 households** (200 households x 8 local governments).

2. **Sampling Technique**

A **multistage random sampling** technique was employed:

o **Stage 1:** Randomly select **8 local governments** from the Kano Metropolis. o **Stage 2:** Within each selected local government, randomly select **5 wards**. o **Stage 3:** From each ward, randomly select **40 households** to complete the sample size for that local government.

3. **Data Collection**

Data was collected through structured questionnaires administered to the respondents in the selected households. The questionnaires included sections on demographic information, perceptions of domestic violence, and factors contributing to domestic violence.

INSTRUMENTS

The study adopted two self-designed questionnaires titled "**WIFE'S FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE (WIFEQ) AND HUSBANDS' FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE (HUFEQ*)***.

They are set on a 3 Likert-type scale viz:

3 – Very Effective (VE)
2 – Effective (E)

1 – Not Effective (NE)

The questionnaires are divided into three (A, B, C). A comprising demographic date of respondent such as age, educational qualifications, years in marriage etc. B containing the main items covering and eliciting perception on basic fundamental rights and C demanding to elicit responses on any perception not captured by B above.

The two instruments are critically assessed and scrutinized by Psychologists and Counsellors. Their content validities are established beyond doubt. An internal reliability is established using Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient at 0.75. It gives $r = 0.1 \geq 0.75$.

METHOD FOR DATA COLLECTION

An oral discussion was conducted with a few amongst the selected sample to elicit views on the issues of domestic violence in our society. Most if not all, of the responses are positive and so reinforced the need for administering a structured questionnaire. Therefore, the two instruments mentioned above were administered simultaneously, filled batteries were collected immediately and subjected to analysis.

METHODS OF DATA ANALYSIS

A descriptive and inferential statistics are used to analyse the generated responses. Analysis of Various (ANOVA) is used to examine the difference within and between the mean scored. The two hypotheses are tested at 0.05 level of significance.

4. **Data Analysis**

The data collected is analyzed using statistical software (e.g., SPSS or R). Descriptive statistics, correlation analysis, and regression analysis was utilized to interpret the findings and establish relationships between variables.

Table of Multistage Random Sampling

Stage	**Description**	**Sample Size**
Stage 1	Selected 8 local governments from Kano Metropolis	8 Local Governments
Stage 2	Selected 5 wards from each selected local government	40 Wards (5 x 8)
Stage 3	Selected 40 households from each selected ward	200 Households (40 x 5) per LG
Total Sample Size		**1,600 Households**

Table 4.0

Model 1 : Male

$DV_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 INF_t + \beta_2 FIS_t + \beta_3 CBD_t + \beta_4 SBA_t + \mu$

Where:

DV_t is domestic violence

INF_t is infidelity

FIS_t is Financial Stress

CBD_t is Communication Break down

SBA_t is Substance Abuse

β_0 is constant and β_1 to β_4 are the regression slopes μ is the stochastic term

on a priori ground, $\beta 1$ to $\beta 4 > 0$

Model 2 : Female

$DV_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 CTI + \beta_2 EMA_t + \beta_3 FID_t + \beta_4 RES_t + \mu$

CTI_t is Control Issue

EMA_t is Emotional Abuse

FID_t is Financial Dependence RES_t is Resentment

β_0 is constant and β_1 to β_4 are the regression slopes μ is the stochastic term

on a priori ground, $\beta 1$ to $\beta 4 > 0$

Descriptive Statistics

Variable	Obs	Mean Std. Dev.	Min	Max
DV	1,015	2.71667 .367807	1.6	3
INF	1,015	2.738709 .516448	1	5
FIS	1,015	2.723478 .5584123	1	5
DBA	1,015	2.704177 .3937722	1	5
SBA	1,015	2.697527 .5493623	1	5
CTI	1,015	2.679566 .5205512	1	5
EMA	1,015	2.665576 .5086677	1	5
FID	1,015	2.694818 .4931037	1	5
RES	1,015	2.702768 .5713266	1	5

Source: Author's Computation using Stata !4.1

Table 4.1 presents the descriptive statistics for the study's variables, including Domestic Violence (DV) and its contributing factors. Based on 1,015 observations, the mean value for DV is 2.72 with a standard deviation of 0.37, indicating moderate agreement among respondents about the prevalence of domestic violence, with little variation in responses. Infidelity (INF) has a mean of 2.74 and a higher standard deviation of 0.52, showing that it is considered a key factor, but perceptions vary widely. Financial stress (FIS) also has a mean of 2.72 and a standard deviation of 0.56, reflecting its significance with moderate variability in responses. Communication breakdown (CBD) and substance abuse (SBA) have means of 2.70 and 2.70, with standard deviations of 0.39 and 0.55 respectively, showing that they are seen as influential factors, though responses to these variables exhibit some variation.

For the female respondents, control issues (CTI) and emotional abuse (EMA) have means of 2.68 and 2.67, with standard deviations around 0.52 and 0.51, suggesting that these factors are moderately associated with domestic violence. Financial dependence (FID) and resentment (RES) have means of 2.69 and 2.70, with standard deviations of 0.49 and 0.57, indicating that financial dependence and resentment are perceived as significant factors, though resentment shows slightly more variability in responses. Overall, the means around 2.7 suggest a moderate level of agreement on the factors contributing to domestic violence, with some differences in how strongly these factors are perceived across the sample.

Pearson Correlation Analysis

	DV	INF	FIS	C BD	SBA	CTI	EMA	FID	RES
DV	1.0000								
INF	0.2557	1.0000							
FIS	-0.0739	0.0299	1.0000						
DBA	-0.0043	0.0053	0.0346	1.0000					
SBA	-0.0790	-0.0779	0.0345	0.0185	1.0000				
CTI	-0.0488	0.0466	-0.0863	0.0282	0.0490	1.0000			
EMA	-0.0451	-0.0843	0.0407	0.0282	0.0036	0.0073	1.0000		
FID	-0.0710	0.0556	-0.0802	0.0301	0.0363	0.0945	0.0518	1.0000	
RES	-0.1112	-0.0043	-0.0255	-0.0186	-0.0148	0.0948	0.1473	0.0291	1.0000

Source: Author's Computation using Stata !4.2

Table 4.2 presents the Pearson correlation coefficients, showing the relationships between Domestic Violence (DV) and the independent variables. A positive correlation suggests that as one variable increases, the other tends to increase, while a negative correlation indicates that as one variable increases, the other decreases.

Domestic Violence (DV) has a moderate positive correlation with Infidelity (INF) (0.2557), indicating that as infidelity increases, there is a moderate increase in domestic violence. Financial Stress (FIS) shows a weak negative correlation with DV (-0.0739), suggesting a slight inverse relationship, meaning financial stress is associated with a slight decrease in domestic violence. Communication Breakdown (CBD) has an almost neutral correlation with DV (0.0043), implying no significant relationship between these two variables.

Substance Abuse (SBA) has a weak negative correlation with DV (-0.0790), indicating that substance abuse might slightly decrease domestic violence, though the relationship is weak. For the variables from the female perspective, Control Issues (CTI) shows a weak negative correlation with DV (-0.0488), meaning control issues have a minimal inverse relationship with domestic violence. Emotional Abuse (EMA) is also weakly negatively correlated with DV (0.0451), as is Financial Dependence (FID) (-0.0710), both suggesting a small reduction in domestic violence as these factors increase. Resentment (RES) has the strongest negative correlation with DV (-0.1112), indicating that resentment has a somewhat more noticeable inverse effect on domestic violence.

Overall, the table shows that infidelity has the strongest positive association with domestic violence, while resentment shows the most significant negative correlation. Other factors exhibit weak relationships with domestic violence, either positive or negative.

Model 1 (Male) Result estimation: Multiple Regression Analysis

Source	SS	df	MS		Number of obs =	1,015
					F(4, 1010) =	20.53
Model	10.316384	4	2.579096	Prob > F	=	0.0000
Residual	126.859572	1,010	.125603537	R-squared	=	0.0752
Total	137.175956	1,014	135282008	Adj R-squared	=	0.0715
				Root MSE	. =	.35441
dv	Coef.	Std. Err.	T	P>t	[95% Conf.	Interval]
inf	.1806798	.0216281	8.35	0.000	.1382387	.2231208
fis	-.0523223	.0199648	-2.62	0.009	-.0914996	-.0131451
dba	-.0017756	.0282858	-0.06	0.950	-.0572813	.0537301
sba	-.0377838	.0203381	-1.86	0.063	-.0776935	.002126
_cons	2.471064	.1227081	20.14	0.000	2.230271	2.711856

Source: Author's Computation using Stata !4.3

The multiple regression analysis results for Model 1 are presented, examining the relationship between domestic violence (DV) and four independent variables: infidelity (INF), financial stress (FIS), communication breakdown (CBD), and substance abuse (SBA). The overall model is significant, with an F-statistic of 20.53 and a p-value of 0.0000, indicating that the model explains a significant portion of the variance in domestic violence. However, the R-squared value of 0.0752 suggests that the model explains only about 7.52% of the variability in DV, which is relatively low. The adjusted R-squared, which accounts for the number of predictors in the model, is 0.0715. The Root Mean Squared Error (Root MSE) is 0.35441, indicating the average distance that the observed values fall from the regression line.

Infidelity (INF) has a positive and significant effect on domestic violence, with a coefficient of 0.1807 and a p-value of 0.000. This indicates that as infidelity increases, domestic violence increases by 0.18 units on average, holding other factors constant. Also, Financial stress (FIS) has a negative and significant effect on domestic violence, with a coefficient of -0.0523 and a pvalue of 0.009. This suggests that higher financial stress is associated with a slight decrease in domestic violence by about 0.05 units. Similarly, Communication breakdown (CBD) shows a negligible and non-significant effect on domestic violence, with a coefficient of -0.0018 and a pvalue of 0.950, indicating no meaningful relationship between these variables. So also, Substance abuse (SBA) has a negative effect on domestic violence, with a coefficient of -0.0378, but it is marginally insignificant with a p-value of 0.063, suggesting that substance abuse might reduce domestic violence, though the effect is not strongly supported statistically.

The constant term (_cons) is significant, with a coefficient of 2.4711, indicating the average level of domestic violence when all other variables are held at zero. This baseline value is statistically significant with a p-value of 0.000. In summary, infidelity is the most significant positive predictor of domestic violence, while financial stress slightly reduces domestic violence. Communication breakdown and substance abuse do not show strong or significant effects in this model.

Model 2 Result estimation: Multiple Regression Analysis

Source	SS	DF	MS	Number of obs	=	= 1,015
				F(4, 1010)	=	4.81
Model	2.56457067	4	.641142669	Prob > F	=	0.0008
Residual	134.611385	1,010	.1332786	R-squared	=	0.0187
Total	137.175956	1,014	.135282008	Adj R-squared	=	0.0148
				Root MSE	=	.36507
DV	Coef.	Std. Err.	T	P>t	[95% Conf.	Interval]
CTI	-.0232755	.0222197	-1.05	0.295	-.0668775	.0203265
EMA	-.019129	.0228149	-0.84	0.402	-.063899	.025641
FID	-.0473952	.0233872	-2.03	0.043	-.0932884	-.0015021
RES	-.065889	.0203814	-3.23	0.001	-.1058837	-.0258943
_cons	3.135832	.108217	28.98	0.000	2.923476	3.348188

Source: Author's Computation using Stata !4.4

The multiple regression analysis results for Model 2, focusing on female respondents, examine the relationship between domestic violence (DV) and four independent variables: control issues (CTI), emotional abuse (EMA), financial dependence (FID), and resentment (RES). The overall model is significant, with an F-statistic of 4.81 and a p-value of 0.0008, indicating that the model explains a statistically significant portion of the variance in domestic violence. However, the Rsquared value of 0.0187 suggests that the model explains only about 1.87% of the variability in domestic violence, which is quite low. The adjusted R-squared, which adjusts for the number of predictors, is also low at 0.0148, indicating a very small proportion of the variance explained by the independent variables. The Root Mean Squared Error (Root MSE) is 0.36507, which reflects the average error between the observed and predicted values of domestic violence.

Control issues (CTI) have a negative but non-significant effect on domestic violence, with a coefficient of -0.0233 and a p-value of 0.295. This indicates that control issues are not significantly associated with domestic violence in this model. Similarly, Emotional abuse (EMA) also has a negative and non-significant effect on domestic violence, with a coefficient of -0.0191 and a p-value of 0.402, suggesting that emotional abuse is not significantly related to domestic violence in this context. In the same vein, Financial dependence (FID) has a negative and significant effect on domestic violence, with a coefficient of -0.0474 and a p-value of 0.043. This means that as financial dependence increases, domestic violence decreases slightly by 0.047 units, holding other factors constant. Lastly, Resentment (RES) has a more pronounced negative and significant effect on domestic violence, with a coefficient of -0.0659 and a p-value of 0.001. This implies that as resentment increases, domestic violence decreases by approximately 0.066 units, making it the most impactful variable in the model.

The constant (_cons) is highly significant, with a coefficient of 3.1358 and a p-value of 0.000, indicating the baseline level of domestic violence when all the independent variables are held at zero. In summary, financial dependence and resentment are both significant predictors of domestic violence, with resentment

showing the strongest negative effect. Control issues and emotional abuse, however, do not have significant impacts on domestic violence in this model. The overall explanatory power of the model is quite limited, as reflected in the low R-squared values.

CONCLUSION

The study aimed to explore the key factors contributing to domestic violence from both male and female perspectives, focusing on infidelity, financial stress, communication breakdown, substance abuse, control issues, emotional abuse, financial dependence, and resentment. The results indicate that while some factors significantly influence domestic violence, others show a limited or non-significant relationship. Specifically, for male respondents, infidelity was the most significant positive predictor of domestic violence, whereas financial stress, communication breakdown, and substance abuse had weaker or non-significant effects. For female respondents, financial dependence and resentment were the significant predictors, both showing a negative relationship with domestic violence. This suggests that as resentment and financial dependence increase, domestic violence decreases. However, control issues and emotional abuse did not significantly contribute to domestic violence.

Despite the significance of some factors, the overall explanatory power of both models was low, indicating that other variables not included in this study may play a crucial role in explaining domestic violence. The findings reflect that domestic violence is a multifaceted issue that cannot be attributed to a single cause, and different factors may contribute depending on the gender of the respondents.

Generally, this research has excavated that spouses' perception of each other's fundamental right vary from cultures, social and personal factors. It is able to verify and establish that:

1) Cultural background plays tremendous roles on individual right, which influences and shapes how spouses perceive each other.
2) Open communication about right and expectation leads to a better understanding and respect for each other's' fundamental rights.
3) Knowledge of legal rights can influence how spouses perceive and advocate for each other's rights. For instance, awareness of rights regarding property, employment and personal safety often lead to more equitable partnership.
4) Power dynamics at times can affect perception of rights. Power imbalance is when one spouse feels his/her rights are prioritize over the others can determine perception.
5) Effectiveness or strategies in settling/handling conflict can reflect their perception of each other's rights. Couples who view/respect each other's rights are more likely to resolve disputes amicably.

Furthermore, spouses who actively support each other's rights tend to have a healthier relationship and are more likely to advocate for each other in various context.

Finally, personal experience can shape how spouses view and respect each other's rights.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **Addressing Infidelity and Financial Stress**: Since infidelity and financial stress were significant predictors of domestic violence among male respondents, programs aimed at promoting marital fidelity and financial stability could help mitigate these issues. Financial counseling and relationship therapy should be encouraged.

2. **Support for Financially Dependent Partners**: The significant negative relationship between financial dependence and domestic violence for females highlights the importance of economic empowerment for women. Financial support programs and initiatives aimed at fostering financial independence should be expanded to help reduce domestic violence.
3. **Managing Resentment and Emotional Conflict**: Since resentment plays a significant role in reducing domestic violence, emotional support programs, including counseling and conflict resolution workshops, could help couples manage emotional issues in healthier ways. Addressing unresolved feelings of resentment could lower the likelihood of domestic violence.
4. **Holistic Domestic Violence Prevention Programs**: Given the multifaceted nature of domestic violence, prevention programs should not focus solely on individual factors. A comprehensive approach that includes psychological counseling, financial education, and relationship management can better address the root causes of domestic violence.
5. **Further Research**: Since the study explained only a small portion of the variance in domestic violence, future research should include additional variables such as cultural norms, childhood experiences, and personality traits that may better explain the complex nature of domestic violence. Moreover, longitudinal studies are recommended to capture changes in these dynamics over time.

By addressing these key factors, both policymakers and support organizations can develop targeted interventions to reduce domestic violence and improve the well-being of individuals in marital relationships.

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