NAME: Dadet Binan Blessing

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**TOPIC: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND ITS EFFECTS ON THE SOCIETY**

Domestic violence still occurs in this modern time it is such a shame in the society, what is domestic violence? Domesticviolence (also named domesticabuse or familyviolence) is [violence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Violence) or other [abuse](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abuse) in a domestic setting, such as in [marriage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marriage) or [cohabitation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cohabitation). Domestic violence is often used as a [synonym](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Synonym) for [intimate partner violence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intimate_partner_violence), which is committed by a [spouse](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spouse) or partner in an [intimate relationship](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intimate_relationship) against the other spouse or partner, and can take place in [heterosexual](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heterosexuality) or [same-sex](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domestic_violence_in_same-sex_relationships) relationships, or between former spouses or partners.

Domestic violence is a burden on numerous sectors of the social system and quietly, yet dramatically, affects the development of a nation… batterers cost nations fortunes in terms of law enforcement, health care, lost labor and general progress in development. These costs do not only affect the present generation; what begins as an assault by one person on another, reverberates through the family and the community into the future.

Domestic violence is a global issue reaching across national boundaries as well as socio-economic, cultural, racial and class distinctions. This problem is not only widely dispersed geographically, but its incidence is also extensive, making it a typical and accepted behavior. Domestic violence is wide spread, deeply ingrained and has serious impacts on women's health and well-being. Its continued existence is morally indefensible. Its cost to individuals, to health systems and to society is enormous. Yet no other major problem of public health has been so widely ignored and so little understood.

Domestic violence against women is an age old phenomenon. Women were always considered weak, vulnerable and in a position to be exploited. Violence has long been accepted as something that happens to women. Cultural mores, religious practices, economic and political conditions may set the precedence for initiating and perpetuating domestic violence, but ultimately committing an act of violence is a choice that the individual makes out of a range of options. Although one cannot underestimate the importance of macro system-level forces (such as cultural and social norms) in the etiology of gender-based violence within any country, including India, individual-level variables (such as observing violence between one's parents while growing up, absent or rejecting father, delinquent peer associations) also play important roles in the development of such violence. The gender imbalance in domestic violence is partly related to differences in physical strength and size. Moreover, women are socialized into their gender roles in different societies throughout the world. In societies with a patriarchal power structure and with rigid gender roles, women are often poorly equipped to protect themselves if their partners become violent. However, much of the disparity relates to how men-dependence and fearfulness amount to a cultural disarmament. Husbands who batter wives typically feel that they are exercising a right, maintaining good order in the family and punishing their wives' delinquency - especially the wives' failure to keep their proper place.

Let’s look at the effects of this barbaric act on the victim and society below :

**Effects on the victim**

Death, illness, injury and disability — domestic and family violence is the leading cause of death, illness and disability for women aged under 45

* Emotional and psychological trauma – the devastating impact on an individual’s physical, mental and emotional health including depression, shame, anger and suicide.
* Homelessness – nearly one third of people seeking help from homelessness services say domestic and family violence is an issue
* Use of alcohol and other drugs to deal with the pain
* Physical health injuries and problems, which may not get medically treated.

 **Effects on society**

Domestic violence is never an isolated issue that only affects families. Children who witness violence committed against one of their parents are at a higher risk to develop behavioral problems in the future. There are approximately around 3.3 million children in the United States who were exposed to violence, and these children are likely to have higher levels of hostility, anger, anxiety, and mental health instability. So, imagine this huge number of children growing up and starting their own families. Domestic abuse is a [learned behavior](https://www.loveisrespect.org/is-this-abuse/why-people-abuse/). Male children who have witnessed their mothers being abused by their fathers are at much more risk to grow up and do the same thing to their partners. Some may have recovered from witnessing the abuse while others are bound to continue the cycle of abuse within their own families. Generation upon generation, domestic violence causes the family unit to crumble over time. But more than dismantling the basic family unit of society domestic violence wreaks havoc on communities and entire societies. The cost of domestic violence to society is phenomenal. Below are the effects of such violence on society.

 In conclusion, Domestic violence is a complicated matter. Some people would tell their friends who are victims of such abuse to leave their abusers, but most victims cannot bring themselves to leave their attackers because they have developed an emotional attachment to them. Moreover, threats and assaults often escalate after the victim of domestic violence leaves the abuser. Leaving may not solve the problem, and in some situations, it can be the most dangerous thing that anyone can do. The victim is not only dealing with physical abuse in domestic violence but also psychological conditioning. It is, therefore, important to [seek the right help](https://www.thehotline.org/help/help-for-friends-and-family/) from the right people.