

ANALYSING THE VARIATIONS AND POTENTIAL DETERMINANTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACROSS ALL ZONES OF INDIA IN NFHS 5

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Introduction

- Gender based violence is an ongoing struggle for women of all ages with ghastly physical, mental, sexual, emotional, psychological and economic consequences
- At the same time, domestic violence and abuse, which is known to be happening in settings like cohabitation or marriage has always been a matter of concern for a majority of women due to its consistent prevalence in traditionally patriarchal countries like India.
- Therefore, for the Indian context, it's not particularly uncommon to use 'Gender based violence' & 'Domestic violence' synonymously.
- Historically, domestic violence is defined as 'the infliction or threat of acts of violence or abuse against another person living in the same household, especially a family member or intimate partner.
- Legally, the term refers to abusive behaviour in any personal relationship that allows one partner to intimidate, or to gain power & control over the other, often having thought to occur between married spouses or in other intimate relationships.
- Types – Physical, Mental, Emotional, Psychological, Sexual, Economic.

Domestic Violence in India

- In theory, men and women are considered as the two wheels of a chariot but the reality is far from this utopian ideal as the mistreatment women face within and outside home is manifested vividly.
- Gender-based violence questions have been incorporated into NFHS 3 since its beginning, offering a compelling story about the widespread problem of domestic abuse in India. These investigations signalled a sea change by illuminating the unexplored areas of domestic abuse and violence against intimate partners. Over subsequent surveys, particularly from NFHS 4 to NFHS 5, the data has unveiled a noteworthy national trend: a gradual reduction in reported incidents from 37.2% to 31.2% and further to 29.3%.
- A complicated riddle of regional dynamics and sociocultural elements at play is presented by the sharp increase in reported cases in some states despite the continuous reductions in others.
- While certain states have demonstrated consistent declines, others have starkly experienced an alarming increase in reported cases, presenting a complex puzzle of regional dynamics and socio-cultural factors questioned.

Context Setting from NFHS 3 & 4

- Evidence in the third and fourth round of NFHS showed that in India, domestic violence was most prevalent in women of 25-34 years, poorest, uneducated, and most in the respondents from Eastern region of the country who were married at a young age, multiparous and economically empowered.
- Emotional violence was more common than sexual violence but less than the physical form of violence, being experienced the most by the respondents. Also, the weighted prevalence was high among the respondents whose partners either had a controlling behaviour or were addicted to alcohol. Only southern region of the country depicted a relative increase in prevalence of violence in round 4 compared to round 3.
- State-wise, maximum prevalence was observed in Manipur (50%), while minimum prevalence was seen in Sikkim (1%) as per the NFHS Round 4. (3) It was also found that the prevalence for sexual violence was more among the respondents, whose partners had a controlling behaviour, or were consuming alcohol, and had increased in Southern region of the country.

Literature Review

- This study analyzes domestic violence data in India from 2001 to 2018, noting a rise in cases of "cruelty by husband or relatives," **especially in middle-income states, likely due to dowry pressures or threats from women's empowerment.** Suicides related to domestic violence are also higher in these states, highlighting the need to explore this connection. Reports of dowry deaths have decreased, possibly due to stricter legal requirements and fear of social stigma. **The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA) is rarely used, as police often prioritize physical evidence and view domestic violence as a private issue.** Legal outcomes are poor, with few trials completed and low conviction rates, discouraging women from reporting incidents. – Rakhi Dandona et al
- A review of domestic violence research in India highlights it as a significant public health issue, with 40% of women reporting lifetime experience of violence. The study underscores **inconsistencies in measuring DV prevalence due to varying research methods and recommends standardized, culturally sensitive instruments to assess different forms and severity of abuse.** Research gaps exist in specific populations such as older women, child brides, and those in non-marital relationships, as well as in geographically understudied areas like northern states and tribal villages. The review calls for more research in these areas and culturally tailored interventions to address domestic violence.

Literature Review

- The study by Sayantani Manna et al on prevalence of intimate partner violence among Indian women and their determinants: a cross-sectional study from national family health survey – 5, reveals a notable increase in physical violence, **particularly among less empowered women. Higher education, increased income, and empowerment reduce the likelihood of experiencing intimate partner violence (IPV).** Factors such as belonging to Scheduled Castes, lower education levels, and lower socioeconomic status significantly elevate IPV risk among young women. **Alcohol consumption by husbands amplifies this risk, indicating a complex interplay with women's empowerment.** Surprisingly, working women with higher education exhibit higher IPV exposure, suggesting underlying gender biases and societal pressures. Addressing these issues requires interventions to enhance economic empowerment and challenge entrenched social norms, advocating for broader societal changes alongside individual empowerment efforts.
- The study reports a decrease in all forms of intimate partner violence (IPV) from NFHS round 3 to round 4, with a significant reduction in sexual IPV. However, 7% of women still reported sexual IPV. IPV was more prevalent among the poorest and uneducated respondents, and urban areas showed higher incidence compared to rural areas. **Economic empowerment increased the likelihood of IPV rather than reducing it.** Improvements in education, societal status, gender equality, awareness, community norms, and enforcement of the PWDVA contributed to the decline. Sexual IPV remains underreported, significantly impacting physical and mental health. **Economic stressors and urban living pressures exacerbate IPV, with a "male backlash" against women's economic independence leading to increased violence. The cyclical nature of family violence perpetuates across generations.**

Gaps In the Study

- The major gaps of pursuing a study from NFHS 5 data is its inconsistency due to its multi-phased data collection process across different region and time period.
- The questionnaire doesn't directly assess the severity of violence of all the different types of violence. A notorious issue like domestic violence is always underreported due to lack of trust on authorities and the risk of exacerbated rate of violence on vocally asking for help.
- Cultural factors also prevent women from being transparent about sensitive topics, affecting responses and indirectly skewing data. There is no standardized way of measuring violence and studying them.
- Researchers just rely upon the information provided through the responses with a mere hope for it to be authentic and true by all means. A relatively controversial area like violence is often not openly talked about or accepted because of shame and fear and thus the number of responses from sample decreased and, hence affecting the analysis.

Research Question

Which states and union territories in each zone of India have experienced an increase in domestic violence between NFHS-4 and NFHS-5 and how do the potential determinants correlate with the increase in domestic violence in these states and union territories?

Objectives

- i) To determine which states and union territories in each zone of India have experienced a significant increase in domestic violence rates between NFHS-4 (2015-16) and NFHS-5 (2019-21).**
- ii) To identify and quantify potential determinants of domestic violence in the selected states and union territories in NFHS 5.**
- iii) To assess the relationship between the identified determinants and the increase in domestic violence rates in the selected states and union territories.**
- iv) To compare the influence of various determinants on domestic violence across different zones of India, highlighting any regional differences.**

Methodology

Duration of Study

The duration of the study was 3 months.

Design of Study

The study undergone for this research is an analytical study as the data used here is secondary in nature as extracted from NFHS 5 which was collected in 2017-19 followed by 2020-21 and the observations were recorded and analysed.

Study Population

Ever married Indian women from 18-49 years of age who were alive, cohabiting with their husband at the time of study and faced gender-based violence of any kind in their household were the study population. The responses of the spouses were also studied as some of the questions have been considered as independent variables to understand the correlation between perspective of men and women on domestic violence and understand their household practices.

Overview of data

The study involved a systematic pattern of selection of states/UT of interest based on the findings from the difference in percentage of gender-based violence faced by the women in NFHS 4 and NFHS 5. The data sets were retrieved from the survey dataset files from Demographic and Health Survey available upon approval of synopsis of the research topic.

State Selection

Selection of Sates/UT for comparison

All the states and union territories of different zones of India were compared based on the difference in the gender-based violence faced by the ever-married women from 18-49 years of age who were alive and living with their husband at the time of the study. **Although almost all the states showed a decrease in domestic violence faced from the fourth round of NFHS 4 to 5 but interestingly, in every zone (except eastern zone) there was atleast one state or union territory with an increase in gender-based violence.** Therefore, a state with the highest increase in gender-based violence from each zone were selected for the study. Northern zone had a union territory (Ladakh) with the most increase among all the northern states. The Eastern zone showed a decrease in all the states for gender-based violence, hence the state with the least amount of decrease in domestic violence (Jharkhand) was selected. The states from rest of the zones.

State wise Gender-Based Violence Trend from NFHS 4 to NFHS 5											
North	NFHS 4	NFHS 5	Diff	South	NFHS 4	NFHS 5	Diff	West	NFHS 4	NFHS 5	Diff
Chandigarh	22.5	9.7	12.8	Andhra	43.4	30	13.4	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	30	16.8	13.2
Delhi	26.8	22.6	4.2	Karnataka	20.6	44.4	-23.8	Goa	12.9	8	4.9
Haryana	32	18	14	Kerala	14	9.9	4.1	Gujarat	20.2	14	6.2
Himanchal Pradesh	5.9	8.3	-2.4	Puducherry	34.6	30.5	4.1	Maharashtra	21.3	25.2	-3.9
J&K	9.4	9.6	-0.2	TN	40.7	38.1	2.6				
Ladakh	8.5	18.1	-9.6	Telangana	42.9	36.9	6				
Punjab	20.5	11.6	8.9								
Rajasthan	25.2	24.3	0.9								
Northeast	NFHS 4	NFHS 5	Diff	East	NFHS 4	NFHS 5	Diff	Central	NFHS 4	NFHS 5	Diff
Assam	24.5	32	-7.5	Bihar	43.7	40	3.7	Chhattisgarh	36.8	20.2	16.6
Arunachal Pradesh	31	24.8	6.2	Jharkhand	34	31.5	2.5	Madhya Pradesh	33	28.1	4.9
Manipur	53	39.6	13.4	Odisha	35.2	30.6	4.6	Uttarakhand	12.7	15.1	-2.4
Meghalaya	28.8	16	12.8	West Bengal	33.1	27	6.1	Uttar Pradesh	36.7	34.8	1.9
Mizoram	17	10.9	6.1								
Nagaland	13.1	6.4	6.7								
Tripura	28.1	20.7	7.4					Diff* =Difference			

Sample Size

Sample Size

The sample size was the number of respondents from the selected states/union territory which was a total of **23,404** for all the 6 states/UT desired for the study. The number of female and male respondents of 18–49 years of age for Assam, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, Ladakh and Karnataka were **3088, 2001, 3181, 808, 158 and 2466** respectively.



Independent Variables

Demographic Determinants

Age group
Age gap
Education
Education gap
Religion
Wealth
Place of residence
Caste

Potential Determinants

Perception on Gender Based Violence (Men And Women)
Decision making (women)
Economic liberty (women)
Familial history of violence
Alcohol consumption pattern of men and comparison with spouse's response
Sexual Independence
Income Gap

Dependent Variable

The dependent variable for this study was taken from the questionnaire of NFHS 5 stating whether the respondent has faced physical or sexual form of violence (being pushed, shook, had something thrown at them by partner, slapped, punched, kicked, dragged, strangled, threatened with weapon, physically forced to have unwanted sex by partner). The responses to all the questions were classified to Yes and No based for ease in analysis. Further, the questions were given weightage as per the intensity of the degree of violence and the final classification was on four broad categories, namely, no violence, low, moderate, high violence.

Demographic Variable

	Assam	Uttarakhand	Maharashtra	Jharkhand	Karnataka	Ladakh
Sample size (n)	3088	808	3181	2001	2466	158
Age group- Men						
<25	5.43	2.64	3.4	6.16	0.86	2.59
25-39	46.24	53.97	49	50.78	45.08	61.87
40-54	48.23	43.39	47.61	43.06	54.06	35.54
Age group- Women						
<25	18.61	11.98	15.84	19.44	14.48	4.68
25-39	59.97	61.46	58.8	55.14	60.32	68.21
40-49	21.82	26.56	25.37	25.42	25.19	27.41
Age Gap						
<3	19.34	33.16	19.7	25.53	12.47	54.98
3--5	34.46	36.95	35.98	44.12	28.82	32.82
6 and above	46.2	29.88	44.3	30.34	58.71	12.21
Education Level - Men						
No education	19.69	8.34	7.36	21.09	17.17	12.73
Primary	14.26	4.2	8.53	6.35	9.16	0.54
Secondary	22.84	25.55	17.98	22.02	20.93	11.61
Higher secondary	35.32	40.75	44	35.57	38.73	45.98
Higher secondary & above	7.9	21.17	22.13	14.97	14.01	29.15
Education Level - Women						
No education	20.62	20.2	12.51	36.46	21.73	27.34
Primary	10.85	2.74	7.98	5.02	6.55	0
Secondary	24.16	26.84	22.07	19.61	20.32	20.34
Higher Secondary	38.49	29.83	40.94	29	40.55	37.45
Higher secondary & above	5.88	20.4	16.5	9.9	10.85	14.87

Potential Determinants

Perceptions on GV	Assam		Uttarakhand		Maharashtra		Jharkhand		Karnataka		Ladakh	
Is a husband justified in hitting or beating his wife in the following situations?	Men %	Women %	Men %	Women %	Men %	Women %	Men %	Women %	Men %	Women %	Men %	Women %
If she goes out without telling him?	8.9	10.2	3.15	8	9	18	8	12	34	36	43	22
If she neglects the children?	14	14.8	2.4	13	15	29	7.8	11	47	55	32	29
If she argues with him?	14	14.7	3.61	12	13	22	11	12	37	38	29	26
If she refuses to have sex with him?	6.3	7.13	1.2	9	5	13	5.8	6.1	25	24	33	16
If she doesn't cook food properly (burns food)?	4.4	8.72	1.53	9	8	18	4.8	9	29	27	30	7.5
n	3088	3088	808	808	3181	3181	2001	2001	2466	2466	158	158

Independent Variable

Weightage		Assam	Uttarakhand	Maharashtra	Jharkhand	Karnataka	Ladakh
0.04	Have you ever been pushed, shook or had something thrown by husband/partner?	N = 2603	N = 680	N = 2569	N= 2768	N=1956	N=135
	No	88.01	93	90	88	80	97
	Yes	11.99	7	10	12	20	3.3
0.12	Have you ever been slapped by husband/partner?						
	No	71.99	88	79	72	63	93
	Yes	28.01	12	21	28	37	7.1

Univariate analysis without weightage (1*0.04 + 3*0.12 + 3*0.2)

Domestic violence	Assam	Uttarakhand	Maharashtra	Jharkhand	Karnataka	Ladakh
No violence	68.14	85	76	69	57	83
Low	23.09	11	17	23	26	14
Moderate	7.08	3	6	5.6	12	1.6
High	1.69	0	1	3.2	5.6	1.1

Univariate Analysis with weightage

Analysis

- Data analysis was performed in STATA v17.0 for this study. The weighted questions of domestic violence were clustered together as yes and no responses and were analysed among the demographic and social variables and expressed in number and percentage. Distribution of frequencies among all the categories were presented with p value < 0.05 .
- Univariate analysis was performed, and the variables were incorporated with significant p value to bivariate logistic regression model.
- Additionally, trends were identified which were not significant statistically. Potential but not statistically significant variables were also identified along with those with a statistically protective effect. A variable is said to be a 'trend' when the results are almost significant, and it provides an opportunity to recognise the variables that nearly contribute to the outcome but aren't in the range of being statistically significant.
- A 'significant protective effect' in a study means that a statistically significant finding for a particular factor reduces the likelihood or risk of a negative outcome. A variable can be said to be potential but not statistically significant when there is an indication of some trend or association, but it has not been to a degree which meets the criteria to be significant statistically.

Results and Findings

Non-Significant Factors

- 1. Age Gap and Residential Background:** Age gap and residential background do not impact domestic violence across the studied states/UTs.
- 2. Alcohol Consumption Frequency:** Shows an inconsistent relationship with domestic violence. Though not statistically significant across all states, historical evidence suggests a connection between alcohol and domestic violence, warranting further study.
- 3. Wealth Status:** Generally, does not impact domestic violence, except in Karnataka, where higher income groups also face significant violence.
- 4. Residence Type:** Shows no significant association with domestic violence across all states.
- 5. Economic Liberty and Decision-Making Power:** Not significant contributors to domestic violence across the studied states.
- 6. Sexual Independence:** Shows inconclusive results but indicates potential trends in domestic violence.
- 7. Income Gap Analysis:** Shows inconsistent results across states with no clear pattern.

Significant Factors

- 1. Age of Women:** The likelihood of domestic violence increases with the woman's age, except in Assam and Maharashtra.
- 2. Religious Association:** Domestic violence is more prevalent in states where religion has a significant association with the issue.
- 3. Perception of Gender-Based Violence:** A critical variable with significant associations noted, especially among women across multiple states.
- 4. Parental Violence History:** A significant predictor of domestic violence for women, aligning with findings by Rakhi Dandona et al. that highlight the influence of witnessing domestic violence in childhood on future abuse.
- 5. Education as a Protective Factor:** Serves as a protective factor against gender-based violence, though empowered women may still face violence due to patriarchal societal norms.

Results and Findings

<i>Independent Variables against DV</i>	Assam	Uttarakhand	Maharashtra	Jharkhand	Karnataka	Ladakh
Age group - Men	■	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓
Age group - Women	◆	✓	✓	◆	◆	◆
Age gap	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Education - Men	■	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓
Education - Women	◆ ●	✓	✗	✓	◆	✗
Education gap	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
Religion	✓	✓	◆	✗	✗	◆
Wealth	◆	✗	✗	✗	✓	◆
Residence	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Caste	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Perception of violence - Men	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Perception of violence - Women	✓	■	✓	✓	✓	✗
Decision making power - Men	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Decision making power - Women	◆	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Economic liberty	✗	◆	✗	✗	✗	✗
History of violence- Women	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
History of violence- Men	■	✗	◆	✗	✗	✗
Alcohol consumption pattern - Men	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Frequency of consumption - Men	✗	✗	◆	✗	✗	✗
How often husband drinks	◆ ■	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
Sexual Independence						
Income Gap						
Legend						
Statistically Significant Association	✓					
Indicates trend but not statistically significant	◆					
Potential but not statistically significant	■					
No statistical significance	✗					
Significant protective effect	●					

Common Findings and Difference

- i) Age gap and residential background has no effect on domestic violence across all the 6 states/UT under study.
- ii) Alcohol consumption frequency has an inconsistent response rate upon comparison with men and women. Even though the result for association with domestic violence is not statistically significant for all the states, it should be studied in depth since there is historical proof between the two said variables.
- iii) Age group of women suffering from domestic violence has a consistent increase in odds with increase in age group except for Assam and Maharashtra.
- iv) Domestic violence faced by women is prevalent in states where religion has a significant association with domestic violence.
- v) Perception of gender-based violence in men and women is a critical variable as it has a significant association, especially for women across multiple states.
- vi) History of violence in parents was another variable which was statistically significant for all the states among women.
- vii) Education played a protective role in cases with gender-based violence.

Common Findings and Differences

- i) Other castes in some regions show reduced odds of occurrence of domestic violence in relation to SC and ST.
- ii) Wealth status has no statistical significance across all the states/UT except Karnataka.
- iii) Residence type showed no significant association in all the states.
- iv) Economic liberty and decision making were also not significantly contributing towards domestic violence for all states.
- v) The potential determinants were majorly demographic for Uttarakhand which were statistically associated while for the other states the reasons were relatively more towards the determinants chosen beyond the demographics.
- vi) Bivariate analysis on sexual independence did not give out considerable results for logistics regression but bivariate analysis showed that women who got pregnant at the time they wanted to face some degree of violence across all the states.
- vii) Bivariate analysis on income gap showed inconsistent results for different states with no pattern of increase or decrease of violence with differences in income.

Discussion

- According to a study on 18 years of surveillance on domestic violence in India by Rakhi Dandona et al, it has been revealed that there is usually an increase in number of cases of domestic violence in middle income states and the popular reason of it being dowry and issues in women empowerment. **The findings from this study have been in alignment with the statement as almost all the states take for the study belong to the category except Karnataka.**
- In agreement with a study conducted by Ameeta Kalokhe, Carlos del Rio, et al on a decade long quantitative study on domestic violence, there is a dire need of recording the evidence on reaching out or reporting for crimes against the crimes faced by women in a **standardized manner** to understand the causes of domestic violence in such states.
- In accordance with the same study it was highlighted that, **the northern states remain understudied in this area and the findings for domestic violence showed maximum increase in the northern states with 2 more states** (Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir) with increase in cases of domestic violence from NFHS 4 to 5 but Ladakh was the subject for study in this paper because of the highest degree of increase.
- A study conducted by Priyanka Garg, Milan Das, Lajya Devi Goyal & Madhur Verma on trends and correlates of intimate partner violence experienced by Indian women have been similar in regard to the area of sexual violence as it's a very sparsely touched upon matter even know it is of great importance. **Though the study revealed and over all decrease in the sexual violence in the country level but much information wasn't available on individual states.**

Conclusion

- In conclusion, the study underscores the necessity of addressing the deeply ingrained societal attitudes and mindsets that perpetuate gender-based violence.
- While legislation is essential for providing a legal framework for protection and justice, changing behaviour and attitudes is equally crucial. Behaviour change communication (BCC) emerges as a key strategy, offering a way to transform harmful perceptions and foster positive, respectful interactions.
- Additionally, comprehensive interventions must support the immediate needs of domestic violence survivors and address the long-term impacts on children who witness such violence.
- By providing education and support to these children and offering targeted counselling to men exposed to domestic violence in their youth, we can disrupt the cycle of violence and promote healthy, non-violent relationships.
- Ultimately, the goal is to create a society where violence is neither a learned behaviour nor an acceptable response, leading to sustained and meaningful change through a combination of legislative action and robust efforts holistically across the nation.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Ladakh

Age Group Sensitization: Implementing targeted awareness programs for different age groups, addressing the specific needs and challenges faced by men and women in various age brackets would break stereotypical thinking of the population.

Education Initiatives: Promoting educational campaigns for men to raise awareness about the consequences of domestic violence and the importance of gender equality.

Perception of Violence: Developing community-based interventions to challenge and change harmful perceptions of violence among men.

Uttarakhand

Age Group Sensitization: Similar to Ladakh, implementing age-specific awareness and support programs.

Women's Education: Enhancing educational opportunities and support for women to empower them and reduce vulnerability to domestic violence.

Education Gap: Addressing educational disparities within couples through joint educational workshops and counselling.

Interventions based on religion: Working with religious leaders to promote messages against domestic violence in supporting community networks.

Alcohol Consumption Monitoring: Implementing stricter regulations and provide support for families dealing with frequent alcohol consumption by the spouse.

Assam

Religion-Based Awareness: Engaging religious leaders in spreading awareness about the detrimental effects of domestic violence.

Perception of Violence: Conducting community dialogues to shift the cultural perception of violence among both men and women.

Alcohol Consumption Monitoring: Implementing stricter regulations and provide support for families dealing with frequent alcohol consumption by the spouse.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Jharkhand

Women's Education: Focusing on educational empowerment for women to reduce their susceptibility to domestic violence.

Caste-Specific Programs: Implementing caste-sensitive interventions that address domestic violence within different caste communities.

Perception of Violence: Launching campaigns to change perceptions of violence, particularly among women.

Support for Women with History of Violence: Encouraging systems for women with a history of violence, ensuring access to necessary resources.

Maharashtra

Age Group Sensitization for Women: Developing targeted programs for women in different age groups to address their specific needs and vulnerabilities.

Men's Education: Promoting education for men about the consequences of domestic violence and the importance of respectful relationships.

Perception of Violence: Engage both men and women in workshops and seminars to change perceptions of violence.

Karnataka

Perception of Violence: Conducting community workshops to alter harmful perceptions of violence among women.

Support for Women with History of Violence: Enhancing support services for women with a history of violence, ensuring they have access to legal, psychological, and social support.

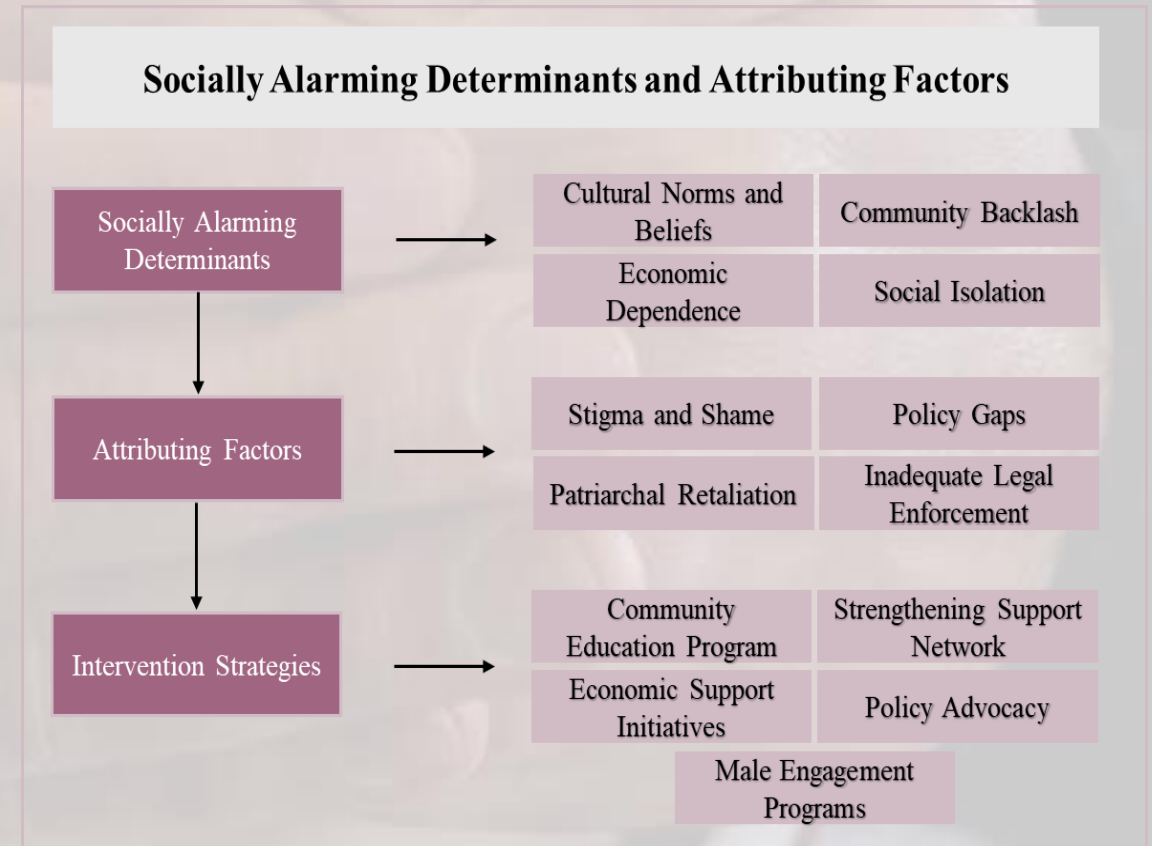
These recommendations address the specific determinants of domestic violence in each state, as a recommendation to eliminating domestic violence through education, support, and community engagement.

Recommendation

- Recognizing that the heart of the problem is within the mindset of our communities, it's clear that we need to go beyond laws and regulations
- By fostering open dialogue and providing support resources, BCC initiatives can create a supportive environment that encourages victims to seek help and discourages perpetrators from committing violence, ultimately leading to a reduction in domestic violence incidents.
- Urgent need for interventions that address not only the immediate safety and well-being of domestic violence survivors but also the long-term psychological and behavioural impacts on children who witness such violence and initiatives that aim to continue supporting women who are trying to escape the vicious cycle of violence
- Additionally, it is crucial to provide targeted support and counselling for men who have been exposed to domestic violence as children, addressing the deep-set issues that may contribute to their violent behaviours. By tackling these intergenerational patterns, responsible citizens can work towards creating a society where violence is no longer a learned or acceptable behaviour, fostering healthier, more respectful relationships.

Socially Alarming Determinants and Attributing Factors

Women also who are on the road to empowerment after leaving hostile environment need support and encouragement. When women leave abusive environments empowered through economic independence, social support, or legal resources, they often face new challenges in a society still dominated by traditional gender roles. Despite their empowerment, many encounter heightened gender-based violence due to several socially alarming determinants and attributing factors.



A black and white photograph of a human hand, palm facing forward, with fingers slightly spread. The hand is positioned centrally against a dark, blurred background. The lighting highlights the texture of the skin and the lines on the palm. Overlaid on the center of the palm is the text "Thank You" in a white, elegant, cursive script font.

Thank You