

UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN AT EFFIDUAASE IN THE
KOFORIDUA MUNICIPALITY**

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**A THESIS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION,
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JULY, 2017

DECLARATION

I, Berlinda Afari Addobea, do hereby declare that this thesis, with the exception of quotations and references contained in published works which have all been identified and acknowledged, is entirely my own original research work, and it has not been submitted either in part or in whole for any other degree anywhere else.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined domestic violence against men at Effiduase in the Koforidua Municipality. The research design adopted for the study was a descriptive survey, and the instruments used were structured questionnaire and interview guide. A total population of twenty-five (25) participants of which twenty (20) were abused men and five (5) were female perpetrators were captured for the study. In obtaining the primary data, the structured questionnaire was personally administered to the entire participants in each house hold and interview was conducted in Twi and English. The secondary data were obtained through extensive review of written documents like published and unpublished books, research works, articles, newspapers, relevant journals and reports from DOVVSU. The study revealed that domestic violence against men exists in Effiduase in the Koforidua Municipality. Also, there was a general consensus among the participants that there is lack of help and support for the male victims by the government. Based upon these findings, it is recommended that churches in the communities need to schedule time to preach on marriage and its importance to its members so as to avert the occurrence of domestic violence and its related issues. More men should be encouraged to enroll in social work training in order to keep an eye on incidents which are difficult to be detected against men. In addition, professionals such as social workers, psychologists, and counselors should be part of court officials who assist the magistrate to elaborate on the type of abuse the victim might be going through.

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DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to most especially Bridget Opoku Darkoa and Bernard Opoku Odiyifo, and my entire family members.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents	Page
DECLARATION	ii
ABSTRACT	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iv
DEDICATION	v
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vi
LIST OF TABLES	x
LIST OF FIGURES	xi
LIST OF PICTURES	xii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xiii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background to the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	9
1.3 Purpose of the Study	10
1.4 Objectives of the Study	10
1.5 Research Questions	10
1.6 Significance of the Study	10
1.7 Justification of the Study	11
1.8 Delimitation of the Study	12
1.9 Operational Definitions of Terms	13

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	14
2.0 Introduction	14
2.1 Theoretical Framework on Domestic Violence	14
2.2 Social Learning Theory	15
2.3 Resource Theory	17
2.4 Social Situation/Stress and Coping Theory	19
2.5 Psychological Theories	19
2.6 Feminist Theory	20
2.7 Systems Theories	20
2.8 Conceptual Framework on Domestic Violence	21
2.9 General Perceptions on Domestic Violence	22
2.10 Magnitude of Domestic Violence against Men in Effiduase	27
2.11 Domestic Violence and Society, in relation to Male Victims.	28
2.12 Domestic Violence Definitions	29
2.13 Female Perpetrator	34
2.14 Male Victims	35
2.15 Types of Abuse Male Victims of Domestic Violence Suffer	37
2.16 Causes or Factors influencing Domestic Violence against Men	43
2.17 The Effects of Domestic Violence on Male Victims	49
2.18 The Role of Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU)	55
2.19 Conclusion	60

CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY	63
3.0 Overview	63
3.1 The Study Area/ Research Site	63
3.2 Research Design	66
3.3 Population	67
3.4 Sample and Sampling Technique	67
3.5 Purposive Sample Technique	68
3.6 Sampling Size	68
3.7 Research Instruments	69
3.8 Validity and Reliability of Instrument	70
3.9 Data Collection Procedure/Method	70
3.10 Ethical Consideration	72
3.11 Data Analysis	73
CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS	74
4.0 Introduction	74
4.1 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents	74
4.2 What Men think of the Concept Domestic Violence?	78
4.3 Forms/Types of Violence meted against Men	85
4.5 Factors contributing to Domestic Violence against Men	92
4.4 The effects of Domestic Violence on Men	98
4.5 Data Analysis on Interview Guide	102
4.6 Male Victims Interviewed	103
4.7 Characteristics of the Abused	114
4.8 Data on the Background of Female Spouse Participants	114
4.9 Female Perpetrators Interviewed	118

4.10 Characteristics of Perpetrators	129
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	131
5.0 Introduction	131
5.1 Summary of the Findings	131
5.2 What Types/Forms of Abuse are meted out to Men in Effiduase Community?	131
5.3 What are the Causes of Violence against Men in Effiduase Community?	132
5.4 What are the Effects/Consequences of Domestic Abuse on Married Men in Effiduase Community?	133
5.5 Recommendations	134
5.6 Conclusions	137
REFERENCES	140
APPENDIX A: QUESTIONNAIRE	149
APPENDIX B: THESIS INTERVIEW GUIDE	152
APPENDIX C: INFORMED CONSENT FORM	153

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
4.1: Gender of the Participants (N=20)	75
4.2: Age Ranges of Participants. (N=20)	75
4.3: Marital Status of Participants. (N=20)	76
4.4: Employment of Participants. (N=20)	76
4.5: Educational level of Participants. (N=20)	77
4.6: Religious Affiliation of Participants. (N=20)	77
4.7: What Men think of the concept of Domestic Violence	79
4.8: Forms/Types of Domestic Violence meted against Men	86
4.9: Factors contributing to Domestic Violence against Men	92
4: 10. The Effects of Domestic Violence on Men	98
4.11: Gender of the Female Participants (N=5)	114
4.12: Age Ranges of Female Participants. (N=5)	115
4.13: Marital Status of Female Participants. (N=5)	115
4.14: Employment of Female Participants. (N=5)	116
4.15: Educational level of Female Participants. (N=5)	116
4.16: Religious Affiliation of Female Participants. (N=5)	117

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
1: (Conceptual Framework). Author's construct, 2017	22
2: The map showing the location of Effiduase Community. Author's Construct, 2017.	65
3: Statistics from Questionnaire	80
4: Statistics from Questionnaire	87
5: Statistics from Questionnaire	93
6: Statistics from Questionnaire	99



LIST OF PICTURES

Picture		Page
One (1):	A perpetrator in the act of hitting her partner with an object.	38
Two (2):	A female partner hurling insults at her male partner	39
Three (3):	A perpetrator highly angry and about to slap the partner.	42



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

DV	:	Domestic Violence
DVAM	:	Domestic Violence Against Men
UNICEF	:	The United Nations Children’s Fund
WHO	:	World Health Organisation



CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

It is commonly believed that women are the typical victims of domestic violence, and that most perpetrators are men. To varying degrees, this view has shaped different stances on and responses to domestic violence as a social problem, in areas ranging from government policy to feminist groups campaigns. However in the world today, this focus on women as the victims of domestic violence has become minimal paving way to the attention of male victimization, especially in Ghana. Domestic violence against men is a term describing violence that is committed against men by the man's intimate partner. It is a rare finding. Even though there have been so much hues and cries about domestic violence against women across the globe, domestic violence against men is a reality. It occurs virtually in every society in varying degrees (Allen-Collinson, 2009). The problems in conducting studies that seek to describe violence in terms of gender are the amount of silence, fear and shame that result from abuse within families and relationships. This is why domestic violence against men remains largely unreported. Domestic violence has been a controversial topic for some time now and it is very difficult to be addressed, due to the many forms of the act such as slapping, beatings, and hitting one with objects.

The term "domestic violence" has many names such as domestic abuse, spousal abuse, battering, family violence, dating abuse, and intimate partner violence (IPV). It is seen as a pattern of behavior which involves the abuse by one partner against another in an intimate relationship such as marriage, cohabitation, dating or within the family setting (Adebayo, 2014). Domestic Violence has been a serious problem in most societies throughout history and is very common among intimate partners in

both developed and developing countries. In Ghana domestic violence is becoming a menace to society and affecting future husband and wives who are minors and teenagers in our homes. It has been seen in the past as a personal problem rather than a social problem. Earlier before the passage of the Domestic Violence Act, police departments viewed these disturbances as family squabbles and not as violence against an individual. Therefore, these disturbances were not treated with the same seriousness as an assault on a total stranger.

Today, domestic violence is viewed as a serious social problem and a crime. The debate is between those who perceive domestic violence only to battered women or battered men (Johnson, 2005). But it is common these days to hear the issues of domestic violence being reported in both print and electronic media. Since the passage of the Domestic Violence Act (1998), there have been several published cases in the media concerning domestic violence, which attest to the fact that laws are not the end to the problems confronting domestic violence against women and children, and men as well.

The draft Domestic Violence legislation prepared by the office of the Attorney General in 2002, meant to offer a holistic and effective legal framework for addressing domestic violence in Ghana; provide broad redress for cases of domestic violence, sanctions on perpetrators and protective remedies for victims; and to improve Ghana's compliance with its legal obligations under international human rights standards (Manuh, 2007). The Act among other things contains provisions criminalizing various acts of violence; physical, sexual (within or outside of marriage) and between a wide variety of individuals in a domestic relationship including family and non-family members such as house-helpers and people who do not physically live

together, economic and psychological abuse, intimidation and harassment (Manuh, 2007). The Act makes provision for protection orders, psychological and rehabilitative services for victims or perpetrators, and processes for promotion of reconciliation (Act 732, 2007).

The passage of the Act in 2007 has been lauded as an important first step towards addressing gender-based violence in Ghana (United Nations, 2008). In addition to that, efforts made by government and Non-Governmental Organizations, gender advocacy groups like Federation of International Women Lawyers (FIDA), the Gender Violence Survivors Support Network (GVSSN), Action Aid Ghana, Ark Foundation, Network for Women's Right in Ghana (NETRIGHT) among others through intervention measures such as, following up on reports of domestic violence, providing education on domestic violence, providing some support base for victims of domestic violence and counselling sessions to curb the menace. All these efforts serve to prevent the incidence of domestic violence in Ghana in several ways (The Ark Foundation, 2005; Manuh, 2007). However; efforts to eliminate domestic violence have been restrained by norms, attitudes and perceptions of societies and individuals, men and women alike, towards its eradication (Appiah & Cusack, 1999; Adjetey, 1999; Prah, 1999).

The World Health Organization (WHO, 2012) defined violence as the intentional use of physical force or power, threat or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, which either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development, or deprivation.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF, 2012) observed that violence against women and children continues to be a global epidemic that kills, tortures physically,

psychologically, sexually and economically. Men in this context were left out of the scene. Holt (2003) also observed that violence that takes place in the family could be in the form of domestic violence or several mutilations and that of the society could be rape, attacks or several harassments.

Violence may not only take place within a variety setting, but also through the involvement of a vast array of individuals victimized as well, and this may be an attack of physical, emotional, verbal, sexual or psychological. In addition to these various fashions, acts of domestic violence can be initiated on both partners; meaning both the male and female of a relationship can suffer domestic violence or abuse.

It seems generally that the total number of domestic violence cases which are reported and duly registered at the Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit of the Ghana Police Service (DOVVSU) in the Koforidua Municipality is woefully inadequate and short of the reality. It is common to hear or to see partners in the Effiduase community being involved in violence of physical aggression or assault. The violence has always been a mix of physical and coercive behaviours designed to manipulate and dominate another competent adults. This behaviour cuts across nations, cultures, religion, and class. In Ghana, spousal assaults keep on increasing day in and day out in news broadcasting, having the potential for causing death, disability, injury or harm. (Myjoyonline.com)

Laws on domestic violence vary from country to country. While it is generally outlawed in the Western World; this is not the case in many developing countries. The social acceptability of domestic violence also differs from country to country. For instance, in 2010, the United Arab Emirates' Supreme Court ruled that a man has the right to physically discipline his wife and children as long as he does not leave

physical marks. While in most developed countries domestic violence is considered unacceptable by most people, in many regions of the world, the views are different. For example, in Kenya, almost half of homicide cases in 2007 were related to domestic violence with men registering about 95% as the perpetrators (Kimani, 2007). Like other countries in sub-Saharan Africa, domestic violence is a problem in Ghana with men being the main perpetrators probably due to the structures of domination and exploitation often peddled through the concept of patriarchy (Ampofo, 1993). A 1998 survey on domestic violence among women in Ghana showed that one in three had been beaten, slapped or physically abused by a current or most recent partner (Appiah & Cusack, 1999).

Legislation on domestic violence has been independently adopted by countries with such legislation emphasizing on sexual offenses. Namibia adopted the Enactment of Combating of Rape Act No. 8 in 2008 and the Enactment of Combating of Domestic Violence Act No. 4 in 2003. Mauritius adopted the Protection from Domestic Violence Act in 1997 and amended the Act in 2004 and 2007. South Africa enacted the Domestic Violence Act 116 in 1998. Malawi enacted the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act in 2006 (Jejeebhoy & Bott, 2009). The Domestic Violence Act passed in 2007 (Act 732, 2007) in Ghana too deals with domestic violence and sexual offenses (Manuh, 2009).

Public efforts at addressing cases of abuse and domestic violence in Ghana came to the fore in 1997 following a nation-wide study on the prevalence, patterns and responses to gender violence undertaken by a partnership of NGOs under the leadership of the Gender Studies and Human Rights Documentation Centre (Coker-Appiah & Cusack 1999; Manuh, 2009). This in effect contributed to the establishment

of the Women and Juvenile Unit (WAJU, now Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit, DOVVSU) by the Police Administration in 1998 initially in Accra and Kumasi to respond to the increasing reports of abuse and violence against women and children (Manuh, 2009). By 2002, WAJU offices had been extended to all regions, but reported increases in violence, the sheer volume of cases, the attitudes of police personnel, inadequacies in the Criminal Code and family and societal pressures on complainants led to the push for more comprehensive legislation to deal with cases of domestic violence (Coker-Appiah & Cusack 1999; Adjetey, 1999; Prah, 1999).

In 2010, the National Coordinator of the Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit (DOVVSU) in Ghana reported that the outfit recorded about 109,784 cases of violence against women and children where almost 97% were caused by men (Ghana web, 2010). Domestic violence is however, a violation of fundamental human rights and an obstacle to achieving gender equality, especially in sub-Saharan Africa where patriarchy is dominant (ICRW, 2009). Besides human rights concerns, domestic violence also has health and psychosocial consequences that can negatively affect Ghana's chances of attaining the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (No; 1, 3 and 6) of eradicating violence among women, HIV/AIDS, hunger and poverty (Abama & Kwaja, 2009). The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action defines Violence against Women as "any act of gender based violence that results in or likely to result in physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty whether occurring in public or private life" (Abayomi, 2012). But violence against men was not considered on their platform.

There are authentic stories around the globe on men who have suffered domestic abuse in an intimate relationship. According to Robert (2012), the BBC reported that a men's group in Kenya named Maendeleo Ya Wanaume ("Progress for Men") announced an initiative to protest what is becoming a growing problem of female perpetrated domestic abuse in that country. The protest entailed their male partners. Statistics show that of those killed by an intimate partner about three quarters are female and about a quarter is male. According to "Daily Mail" of Britain, Theresa Rafacz pleaded guilty to manslaughter (killing her husband) and was jailed for two years after Belfast Crown Court was told how she 'lost control' when she came home from work to find her husband Piotr drunk while he was meant to be looking after their three-year-old son (Robert, 2012).

Another example of female brutality against men is the story tale of Eddie Kidd, a brain-damaged former motorbike stuntman, who revealed how he was severely battered constantly by his wife. He told "The Sun" on Sunday:

"she had started drinking heavily and would just not change. She would slap me in the face and punch me in the chest and arms strangle me and say horrible things. As a man, any man, to be beaten by your wife is desperately humiliating and, in a way, shameful. I ended up blaming myself - thinking she had taken too much - or, that it was my fault. I took on so much when I was riding. Then after all the stunts, all the fanfare, I am sat in a chair being beaten by my wife and there is nothing I can do."

Mrs. Kidd was arrested for domestic violence last December after her husband's family reported her to police days after the couple split up. She was jailed for five months for four assaults last month. (McKeown & Kidd, 2003) cited by (Abayome, 2012).

In Ghana, the highest ever domestic violence against men was recorded in 2010. History is being made, as more men are coming out to report cases of abuse by their spouses. (Ghana News Online) “Over 2,000 cases of abuse of men by their female partners were recorded last year, according to statistics on domestic violence released by the Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU) of the police.” “Public Relations Officer of DOVVSU, Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) Freeman Tettey, who disclosed this to the “Times” in Accra yesterday, said "the abuses against men included causing harm, physical assault and a few cases of the women abandoning their children in the care of the husbands."

“ASP Tettey said the men were physically attacked by the women with objects such as sticks, cutlasses and hot pressing irons for reasons among which jealousy was dominant.” "Although many/more men are now reporting assault cases to the unit, women are still by far the most victims of abuse. We recorded 2,017 abuse cases against men and 12,316 against women last year. “ASP Tettey said”. “In 2009, there were 2,568 reported cases of abuse against men as opposed to 14,428 against women.”

“He said most men did not retaliate in such attacks, and appealed to them to report to DOVVSU any kind of abuse against them.” The unit is not there for only women, but to seek justice for all in cases of violence against anyone”, ASP Tettey stressed. “A total of 2,807 men reported domestic abuse cases against their wives last year as against 3,143 the previous year. Similarly, about 13,465 women also reported domestic violence cases against their spouses last year as against 15,207 the previous year. Statistics for the first half of the year are still being compiled by the Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit (DOWSU) of the Ghana Police Service. The cases

reported by the men included denial of sex and food, use of abusive languages, assault among others. In total, the unit recorded 15,749 cases in 2015 as against 17, 778 recorded in 2014.” (Ghana News Online, 2010).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Whenever the concept of domestic violence is mentioned, men are perceived as the only perpetrators of such atrocities against women and children who constitute the most vulnerable in society. However, it is seemingly obvious that men are also victims of domestic violence in Ghana but for fear of being ridiculed, some men do not disclosed their situations. Over the past thirty years, the focus of research and public attention shifted from couples (or rather men) to women. This is most obvious in the area of domestic violence (DV) where public interest and concern has almost exclusively focused on women, leading to feminisation of domestic violence, and implying an invisibility of the male victim (Sarantakos, 1999)

Homes are supposed to be safe places for every mankind. ‘Safety in our home’ means happiness, comfort and security, a place to retreat from trek, but domestic violence translates these words into fear, shame, isolation and despair. Victims can feel trapped in their relationship at home. The abuser feeds off their power over their victim. No one wants to admit, especially men, that they feel safer walking on the streets at night rather than in their own home, but the home turned to be an unsafe place for them. The occurrence of domestic violence in our society is one of the most unseen destructive forces with no boundaries in relation to age, class, race, gender or geographical location.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study was to ascertain the domestic violence against men at Effiduase in the Koforidua Municipality.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

Specifically, the objectives of the study were to:

1. find out the perceptions of men on domestic violence.
2. determine the forms of domestic violence against married men in the Koforidua Municipality.
3. explore the causes of domestic violence against married men in the Koforidua Municipality.
4. examine the effects of domestic violence on married men in the Koforidua Municipality.

1.5 Research Questions

The following research questions guided the study:

1. What do men think of the concept domestic violence?
2. What forms of violence are meted out to married men in the Koforidua Municipality?
3. What are the causes of domestic violence against married men in the Koforidua Municipality?
4. What are the effects of domestic violence on married men in the Koforidua Municipality?

1.6 Significance of the Study

The study would create awareness among the New Juaben traditional authorities, priests, human rights activists, personnel of the Commission on Human Rights and

Administrative Justice (CHRAJ), Social Welfare and Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU) on the incidence of domestic violence in the municipality and its effects on men. The study among other things would guide policy makers on the need to enforce the Domestic Acts/Law (1998). It would also add to the existing body of literature because minimal research has been conducted which focus on female's gender violence. The study will help policy makers and practitioners to come up with policies and strategies to curb female violence. The study would further provide a platform for men to contribute positively in the fight against gender violence. Finally the study would motivate further research on men's abuse elsewhere in other areas in the country.

1.7 Justification of the Study

This study emanates from several observations made during my transfer from the suburb of Nsukwao to my present suburb (Effiduase) for the discharge of my official career as a teacher. I explored the nature of abuse perpetrated against men by women through specifically identifying the forms of abuse experienced, the causes of the abuse, the effects it has on men, the perceptions held by male victims of abuse and examined their responses to the abuse perpetrated by women at home. It is evident that domestic violence against men in Effiduase and in New Juaben Municipality in general is a real phenomenon (DOVVSU, Koforidua 2016). As such this study brings to the fore arguing that men are abused in various forms, both natural and unnatural. It further argues that the way men respond to abuse perpetrated against them is related to their held perceptions of the abuse as well as their religio-cultural values which inform the noted perceptions. A special contribution is therefore made by this study towards understanding the lived experiences of violence among men who are in abusive relationships.

The convenience of Effiduase to the researcher and the fact that it is located within the New Juaben Municipality which has recorded the highest number of domestic violence cases among assaults in 2010 (DVVSU, Koforidua 2016) makes it an ideal context for the study on domestic violence against men. This study employs both quantitative and qualitative (in-depth interviews) methods of inquiry. This has made possible the comprehension of experiences of male victims of domestic violence. The outcome of the research has theoretical significance as it shows that as women struggle for power against men in the home, men, on the other hand, devise mechanisms to deal with the perceived violence showing their resistance to cede power and authority endowed to them by culture.

The study presents another dimension of domestic violence that has received very little attention in Ghana thus far, that of male victims. For sociologists, the study on experiences of victimized men has great significance as it reflects on the interface between the agency in women as individuals or groups and the structure in the patriarchal culture. Finally, the study presents provocative insights on the domestic violence phenomenon and narrows the paucity of studies on domestic violence against men and their experiences in Ghanaian sociological literature.

1.8 Delimitation of the Study

Domestic violence is normally meted out to women, children as well as men in the Effiduase community, but this particular study is confined to men only. Also there are numerous districts in the Eastern Region of Ghana but this study is confined to Koforidua Municipality. The study focuses on men who have suffered abuse or violence from their wives in the Koforidua Municipality, and it was also limited to only men who were willing to participate in the study.

1.9 Operational Definitions of Terms

Domestic violence

Domestic violence is a problem within our society that has stretched worldwide. It has been defined in varied ways across academia and can be seen as the domination of power and control within close relationships. Different people have attempted to explain it time after time.

Violence is the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, mal development, or deprivation. Also an act carried out with the intention, or perceived intention, of causing physical injury or pain to another person.

Relationship Violence is the wilful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behaviour involving adults who are in an intimate dating relationship.

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV): Is an incident in which one partner physically, psychologically, or sexually abuses or threatens another partner inside the boundaries of a committed relationship.

Abuse: Physical or mental maltreatment often resulting in mental, emotional, sexual, or physical injury.

Abuser: One who abuses someone or something.

Perpetrator: A person who commits a crime or offense

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter examined literature on adult male victims of domestic violence in the New Juaben Municipality. The literature referred to in this chapter include books, journals and past researches in relation to male victims of domestic violence. The related literature was reviewed under the following sub- themes.

- Theoretical and Conceptual Framework.
- General Perceptions on Domestic Violence
- Domestic violence defined.
- The main types of abuse male victims of domestic violence suffer.
- Causes or factors influencing violence against men.
- The effects of domestic violence on male victims.
- The role of DOVVSU to victims.

2.1 Theoretical Framework on Domestic Violence

There has been an ongoing debate on which theory has explanatory power to indicate the causation of female violence against their male partners. In this study, the social learning theory, the resource theory, psychological theory, systems theory and feminist theory, were used to explain the causes of female violence.

The Social Learning Theory was developed by Albert Bandura in 1963. It integrates behavioral and cognitive theories of learning in order to provide a comprehensive model that could account for the wide range of learning experiences that occur in the real world (Bandura, 1963).

2.2 Social Learning Theory

The social learning theory stresses the nature versus nurture debate (Viano, 1992). It states that aggression and violence are learned behaviors that can be passed on from one generation to the next. These aggression and violence manifest within particular social contexts, such as households where alcohol and/or drug abuse is prevalent. Social learning theory put forward that violence is learned through observation; the basic premise of this view is that physical aggression between family members provides a likely model for the learning of aggressive behavior, as well as for the appropriateness of such behavior within the family (Bandura, 1973). Thus, intergenerational transmission of violence stems primarily from principles of modeling (Doumas, 1994).

This theory also proposes that a violent background may reinforce early signs of violent behavior not only by exposing individuals to violence, but by teaching approval for the use of violence (Gelles, 1972). As a result, children may grow up concluding that violence is sometimes a necessary and effective strategy for achieving behavioral change in family and intimate relationships (Simons, 1998). Reinforcement plays a role in learning but is not entirely responsible for learning.

Social learning theory according to Ackers (1988), accounts for individuals becoming prone to deviance just as it accounts for individuals conforming to society. It allows for an understanding for the changes in individual behaviour, and is influenced directly by the individual's history in learning situations of criminal behaviour. This theory serves as a maxim to explain the persistent incidence of domestic violence in the society due to the numerous interactions in the different settings and the perceptions each of these social groups have about gender violence and in

relationships. Women who are seen as subordinates to their male counterparts and seen to submit to the men are always at the threshold of suffering varied degrees of violent attacks in relations and shrouds some of these acts in secrecy due to society's perception to avoid a third party to mediate in issues of marital affairs. This and other supporting evidence discussed strengthen the consistency and stability of this theory when explaining violent behaviour in women.

This theory was relevant to the study since it attempted to explain the presence of integration transmission of violence. Children who grow up in a violent and abusive set up may learn violent/abusive behavior, imitate those behaviors and then repeat them in future relationships. In a nutshell, when applied to domestic violence, social learning theory states that we model behavior that we have been exposed to as children. Violence is learned, through role models provided by the family, either directly or indirectly, and reinforced in childhood and continued in adulthood as a coping response to stress or a method of conflict resolution (Bandura, 1973). The basis of this theory is that offenders are not born with the impulse to engage in violent acts; rather, offenders learn to engage in violent acts by observing others achieve goals by acting aggressively (Siegel, 2005). This process of learning violence is called behavior modeling and Siegel (2005) identifies three main sources in which offenders learn violent behavior:

Family interactions. Studies of family life show that aggressive children have parents who use similar tactics when dealing with others. For example, the children of wife batterers are more likely to use aggressive tactics themselves than children in the general population, especially if the victims (their mothers) suffer psychological distress from the abuse.

Environmental experiences. People who reside in areas where violence occurs daily are more likely to act violently than those who dwell in low-crime areas whose norms stress conventional behavior.

Mass media. Films and television shows commonly depict violence graphically. Moreover, violence is often portrayed as acceptable, especially for the heroes who never have to face legal consequences for their actions.

Although a mental or physical predisposition towards violence may be present, social learning theorists argue that environmental factors are the trigger for offenders to engage in violent acts (Siegel, 2005). In addition, social learning theorists have identified four factors that may trigger or contribute to violent behavior (Siegel, 2005, pp. 115-116):

1. An event that heightens arousal. For example, a person may frustrate or provoke another through physical assault or verbal abuse.
2. Aggressive skills. Learned aggressive responses picked up from observing others, either personally or through the media.
3. Expected outcomes. The belief that aggression will somehow be rewarded. Rewards can come in the form of reducing tension or anger, gaining some financial reward, building self-esteem, or gaining the praise of others.
4. Consistency of behavior with values. The belief, gained from observing others, that aggression is justified and appropriate, given the circumstances of the present situation.

2.3 Resource Theory

Resource theory is a kind of sociological investigation into why domestic violence occurs in society. Similar to the feminist theory, it is fundamentally based on the

notion of power but unlike the feminist theory, it is not gender perspective; nor does it focus on what gender-based roles are internalized during childhood years (Levinson, 1989). William Goode, a founding father of this theory (Loue, 2001; Bersani & Chen, 1988) argues that if a partner has a substantial amount of power within society, there is less need for that person to exert power within the home through the form of abuse. However, domestic violence abuse can occur and be perpetuated by someone who does not exert power with society, and as a consequence will exert power within the domestic setting.

As Levinson (1989) notes, it is usually the males within a partnership who strive for power in most circumstances, hence, making them the main perpetrators of domestic violence. This theory does not rely on gender difference and can be used to explain same-sex partner abuse directed towards men; therefore, unlike feminist theory, it is not hetero-sexist in nature and as such it is a more useful way of looking at domestic violence. Even this theory indicates a correlation between socio-economic status and abuse, Goode and colleagues needed to address the reasons for domestic violence occurring in higher socio-economic relationships.

To account for some of the discrepancies in the resource theory, Gelles, revising the theory in the 1970s believed that its perspective could be applied to a person whose power was inconsistent in their life-situation, and that it was not necessarily being exercised solely within the contexts of employment and personal wealth. For example, someone who may exert much power at work but little socially may perpetuate violence in the home as a means to establish more control in their lives. The theory posits that males are defined by their level of 'dominance' in relations. If career relations offer little chance for dominance, then it may be compensated for in

other situations, including family relations. Resource theory is sociological in nature and like the feminist perspective, addresses the causal issues of power when explaining domestic violence.

2.4 Social Situation/Stress and Coping Theory

Social situation/stress and coping theory explains why violence is used in some situations and not others. The theory proposes that abuse and violence occur because of two main factors. The first is structural stress and the lack of coping resources in a family. For instance, the association between low income and family violence indicates that an important factor in violence is inadequate financial resources. The second factor is the cultural norm concerning the use of force and violence. In contemporary American society, as well as many other societies, violence is normative (Straus, Gelles, & Steinmetz, 1980). Thus, individuals learn to use violence both expressively and instrumentally as a way to cope with a pileup of stressor events.

2.5 Psychological Theories

From a psychological perspective, which focuses on the individual, it posits that domestic violence is viewed as a medical problem, suggesting that abusive men have some sort of illness that causes them to behave violently towards their partners, such as excessive use of alcohol and drugs. This view inevitably reduced the men's accountability for their abusive behaviour, for he is not in full control of his emotions, and in need of medical intervention. Thus, it does not explain the cause(s) of the domestically violent behaviour in men. (Estel, 1994) Psychological theories do not account for all acts of domestic violence committed by men, but tell only part of the story. There are a large group of domestically violent men who do not show signs of violent behaviour in other social contexts such as workplace, and community events.

Hastie (2001) and McGregor (1990) research results reveal that domestic violence can occur in males with a normal state of mind or with no associations with addictive behaviours. This evidence suggest that the insignificant degree to which perpetrators of domestic violence show signs of a personality disorder questions the credibility of these theories.

2.6 Feminist Theory

According to Dutton (1995), the feminist theory partially came about in order to challenge limitations of psychological theories in that domestic violence is a rare event specific to males with a psychological disorder or addictive behaviours. The argument is that structural power differential between males and females and how these are played out at the level of intimate relationships where men abuse power to maintain control over women. According to this feminist model, beliefs and attitudes, structures and processes in society maintain and support abusive practices towards women. Feminist theory fails to account for the men who are not abusive at all in a relationship with their female partners. Women can be abusive within homosexual relationships (lesbian couples) which again challenge the feminist premise in terms of men behaving dominantly over women. Dutton (1995) argues that lesbians adopt the values of patriarchal culture and that a dominance-submissive relationship may exist whereby the functional male, the dominant member, is the abuser.

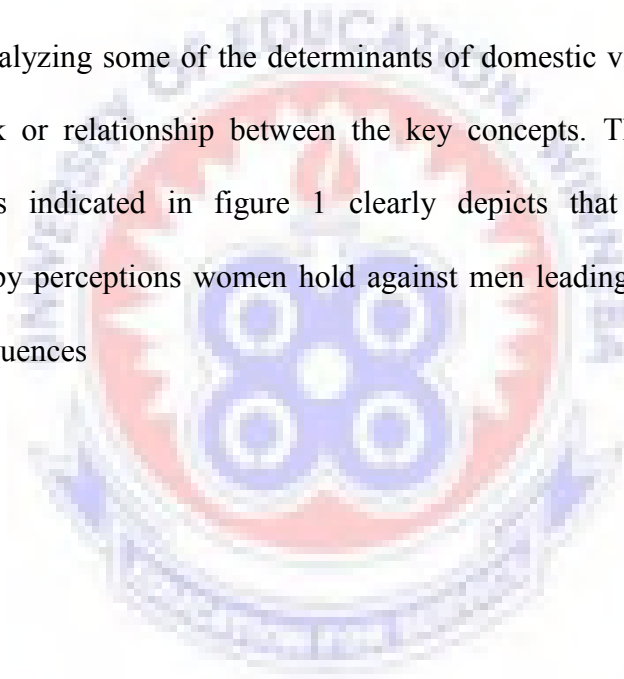
2.7 Systems Theories

Hastie (2001) claims that domestically violent behaviour is not due to one sole factor. Instead, this behaviour is caused by a number of factors including individual features and socialisation of violence within the community. According to the same author, socially acquired behaviours or individual instigators of domestic violence are not

sufficient on their own to generally account for abusive behaviour in men. Hastie (2001) also claims that this angle of explaining their behavior opposes simple cause and affects explanations suggesting that any number of variants within a system occur to create a single effect (Jura & Bukaliya, 2015).

2.8 Conceptual Framework on Domestic Violence

According to Miles and Huberman (1994), a conceptual framework explains, either graphically or in narrative form, the main things to be studied; namely, the key factors, constructs or variables and the relationship among them. This framework also focuses on analyzing some of the determinants of domestic violence and attempts to show the link or relationship between the key concepts. The author's conceptual framework as indicated in figure 1 clearly depicts that domestic violence is underpinned by perceptions women hold against men leading to the factors, causes, and its consequences



CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

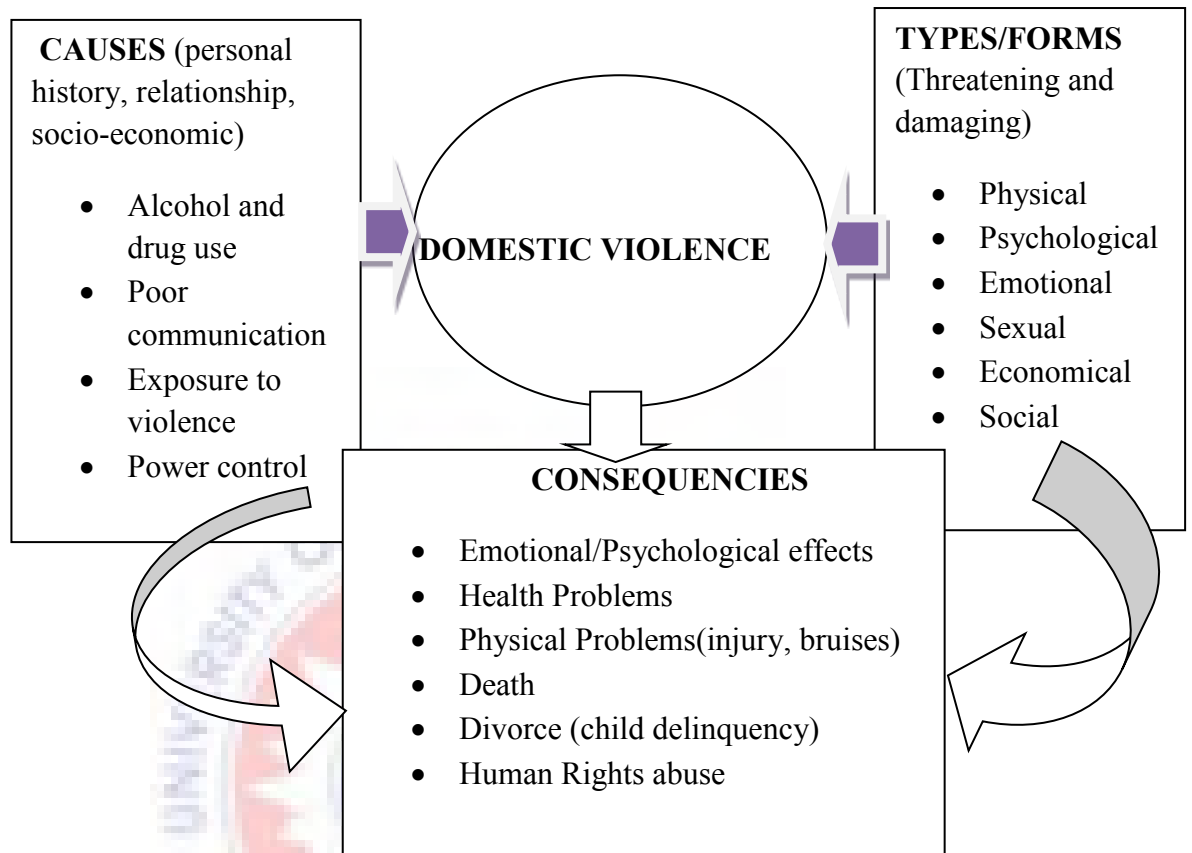


Figure 1: (Conceptual Framework). Author's construct, 2017

2.9 General Perceptions on Domestic Violence

To 'perceive' is to become conscious of something, when we perceive something we generally have an understanding or interpretation of it (Tehee & Esquede, 2007). Perceptions about violence provide important insights; they determine actions and the responses of women in abusive relationships (Cusack & Manuh, 2009). Perceptions are often made up of stereotypes; these stereotypes are standardized generalizations and are convenient in explaining why people behave in certain ways (Johnson, 2007). Social perceptions about discipline enjoin elders to ensure that young persons' behave appropriately. A similar responsibility is assigned men over women, and certain acts,

even though violent, are justified if they are used as means of discipline (Britwum & Cusack, 2009).

Religion, tradition, knowledge and myths are examples of the sources from which these generalizations arise. According to Boonzaier and De la Rey (2004), female submissiveness and male dominance are inscribed in many religions and often result in abuse. Each culture, religion and race has its own perceptions as to what constitutes acceptable behavior of its members in terms of domestic violence. These stereotypes form expectations, what people expect to occur based on their perceptions (Zweig & Burt, 2007). In a similar perspective, Ofei-Aboagye (1994) opines that wife beating and other forms of violence are considered normal and legitimate in most African societies, including Ghana. She further indicated that for instance, it is not uncommon to find Ghanaian women taking the blame, after they have been beaten to near-fatal point by their husbands. In a related study, she also pointed out that some cultural practices and traditional gender roles in Ghana render women unable to defend their rights even when they are physically and sexually abused (Ofei-Aboagye, 1994).

Bowman (2003) observed that the power imbalances present in traditional African marriages create a unique platform for marital violence. As a result, women are treated in a different manner than men (Schoeman & Ferreira, 2001; Tshesane, 2001). Men are taught during childhood to be aggressive while women are taught to be emotional and supportive. Women are taught to be emotionally and financially dependent on men and therefore abuse often occurs in societies where men have economic independence (Tshesane, 2001). The relationship between men and women are strained by beliefs that femininity involves being passive, submissive and dependent on others. These notions, according to Tshesane (2001) and Fedler and

Tanzer (2000) are taught in families, schools, media and magazines and link up with the physical and sexual abuse of women due to the portrayal of women as sex objects. In line with this perspective, past research has found socio-cultural variables such as wife's justification of violence and husband's controlling behaviour as influential to domestic and marital violence (Heilman, 2010).

Religious values such as commitment, forgiveness and sanctity of marriage are often identified when discussing perceptions of societies towards domestic violence (Little & Kantor, 2002). Religious values often reinforce violent behaviour due to the adherence to stereotypical gender roles which are stipulated and prescribed by religion. Patriarchal norms in religion affect the psychological, social and political empowerment of women and result in bestowing power on men and subordinating women. Christianity inherited early traditions of subordination and Christian women who are abused have feelings of guilt towards the abuser and draw on religion that forgiveness is a Christian virtue and should be exercised (Lentz, 1999; Van der Hoven, 2001). Van der Hoven (2001), states that religious beliefs of Christianity instruct women to love their husbands and that family is very important to God and according to the Bible. Women must make sacrifices for their family and the wife's needs are secondary to those of her husband. They also believe that the Christian women must keep her family together no matter the abuse and that she must keep praying for the violent man and that God can change him. However, a danger exists when scripture is used to rationalize abuse (Van der Hoven, 2001).

People perceive these expectations to be true by discovering compatible evidence consistent with their expectations. According to Johnson (2007), the inadequacy of stereotypes in successfully judging people's behaviour has been confirmed by Social

Psychological research since the 1930s. Moghaddam (1998) notes that ‘the evidence showed they tended to have fewer brushes with the law compared to national averages’ (p, 347).

The constructivists approach in Social Psychology suggests that what we perceive is ‘mental construction based on our cognitive strategies, our collection of past experiences, biases, motives, attention and so on’ (Schiffman, 1996. P.6) importantly, perceptions are necessarily contextual and contingent upon shifting power relationships. Berger’s (1972) *Ways of seeing* highlights that constructions of masculinities are perpetuated in society. Berger (1972) discusses ideas about unequal gender relations, pointing out that women are often perceived as ‘the surveyed’ as men are perceived as ‘the surveyor’. Berger continues to say that ‘Men look at women and Women watch themselves being looked at. This determines not only most relations between men and women but the relation of women themselves’. What Berger argues is that the discourse of unequal gender relations is significantly constructed on stereotypical perceptions of masculinity and femininity. Flood and Pease (2006, p. 26) emphasize that ‘both gender and culture can be seen as factors influencing attitudes, in that patterns of individual socialization, collective norms and interpersonal relations associated with each have a wide ranging influence on norms, values and beliefs’. Both perceptions and attitudes may be expected to influence behaviours.

Research by (Mugford, 1989) has outlined noticeable differences in the degree of understanding towards what is defined as domestic violence and what is not. Some people say that certain types of verbal abuse are accepted forms of behaviour within an intimate relationship (Esteal, 1994). It seems likely that such attitudes are

associated with a greater incidence of what others would call domestic violence. Researchers who have explored public perceptions in Australia in the last two decades have found that the majority population view men as the perpetrators of domestic violence (Ferrante, 1996). For example, in the late eighties, Edgar (1988) found that of his total participant population, 85 percent concurred in defining domestic violence as a serious issue. A number of studies have attempted to assess and subsequently speak to the perception of the seriousness of domestic violence between couples. For example, Mirrlees-Black (1994) conducted a British Crime Survey Self-completion questionnaire, given to possible victims in an attempt to identify what participants' class as domestic violence. The survey covered "physical assaults and frightening threats committed by current and former partners against men and women aged 16-59" (Mirrlees-Black, 1994, p.vii). Participants who answered 'not sure' knew they were victims of domestic violence, but were uncertain about the seriousness of the offence. Participants in the 'unsure' category meant that they were not clear whether they were in fact victims of domestic violence. From the survey, only 17% of incidents counted were considered to be crimes by their victims. Mirrlees-Black (1994) concluded that "many victims of domestic violence assault certainly seem to have particular difficulty accepting that assaults by partners constitute criminal behaviour" (p. 47). The reasons for this may be because the term 'crime' implies an action which should receive attention from the justice system, and therefore some form of punishment.

The domestic context may be notable here, as perpetrators may have the belief that an action of low force toward a person with whom they have a relationship with is different to a similar action toward a person with a more distant relationship. Victims of domestic violence can resist pursuing charges against their partners, and may fail to

see the incident as criminal. This raises a point in regard to the participants' perception of what constitutes criminal behaviour within domestically violent relationship. From these findings it could be difficult to determine whether participants view domestic violence acts as trivial or as constituting criminal act (Mirrlees-Black, 1994).

2.10 Magnitude of Domestic Violence against Men in Effiduase

Domestic violence against men in Effiduase manifests itself mainly in the form of physical and emotional abuse perpetrated by women within the domestic setting. Such violence is often viewed as a personal and private affair. While domestic violence against men in Effiduase has been widely identified as persistent and glaring social, legal, and health problem manifested in several ways and at several fronts, the magnitude of the problem is largely unknown. However, cases such as those of assaults on the data records of Koforidua DOVVSU where there have been many cases of men battered by their wives are vivid illustrations of how far domestic violence against men goes in the country. This has sparked a heated debate among women from the country, who have found themselves on the receiving end of a lot of criticism.

Many cases of violence against men however do not catch public attention because the concerned parties, usually the men, do not know what to do about it or are afraid to speak out. The few cases that capture media or public attention are often horrific in one way or another. When such cases are reported to the relevant authorities or raised in public, victims often face social stigma as well as possibilities of retaliation and other dilemmas. Cultural norms about the treatment of men by women as well as of women by men have varied greatly depending on geographic region and sub-region,

even area by area sometimes, and physically abusive behavior of partners against each other is regarded varyingly from being a crime to being a personal matter. (DOVVSU, Koforidua).

2.11 Domestic Violence and Society, in relation to Male Victims.

People are more likely to be killed, physically assaulted, hit or beat up, slapped, or spanked in their own homes by other family members than anywhere else, or by anyone else in our society. (Gellas, 1997)

If an abused man seeks help as a victim of domestic violence, the majority of society will see it as a laughable situation. Society chooses not to believe the man. This creates the feeling of guilt and shame for the male victim (Cose, 1995). The way in which society looks at gender images of men and women are passed down from generation to generation, this has had a severe negative affect on the reality of the existence of male victims of domestic violence in our society (Lucal, 1995 cited in Wiehe, 1998; Sewel & Sewel, 1996; Cook, 1997; McKeown & Kidd, 2003; Cleary, 2004). Female victims of domestic violence are increasingly treated by society with sympathy and support, while male victims are treated with disbelief (Cleary, 1997). Society's view on domestic violence has been reinforced by the media's coverage of the issues surrounding domestic violence, portraying females as the only victims and males as the abusers (McKeown & Kidd, 2003).

Sociologist Suzanne Steinmetz published an article entitled 'Battered Husband Syndrome' in 1978. The article was to highlight to society the fact that both men and women were victims of domestic violence. Steinmetz's article was the result of research she carried out on numerous investigations into domestic violence. Steinmetz stated that 'it was husband and not wife abuse that was the most

underreported form of family violence'. This claim was met with disbelief (Gelles, 1997).

Research carried out by McKeown & Kidd (2003) on male victims of domestic violence highlights that male victims face a society that is heavily influenced with the belief that 'women are the only victims and men are the only perpetrators of domestic violence'. This belief again being reinforced by public awareness campaigns continuously aimed at female victims denying the fact that domestic violence is a reality for male victims as well (Lehane, 2005).

Taking into account the large amount of empirical investigations conducted in the area of domestic violence; very few studies have examined male victims of intimate partner violence. Unfortunately, scholars in the field of criminal justice have been relatively silent on this subject, with most empirical research published from non-criminal justice scholarly journals about the criminal justice system. Graham-Kevan (2007) argued, "The scholarly neglect of this topic has limited our overall understanding of violence in intimate relationships," (p. 3). It is very difficult to get male victims of intimate partner violence to come forward due to the societal stigma that might be placed on them (Graham-Kevan, 2007). Male victims have a fear of the stigma. No man wants to be considered as weak. As a result, like many crimes of intimate partner violence that has women victims, men are as equally or even more silent about this crime. (International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences, (2010.)

2.12 Domestic Violence Definitions

Domestic violence is defined by *Domestic Violence Act (Zimbabwe) Chapter 5: 16* as any unlawful act, omission or behaviour which results in death or the direct infliction of physical, sexual or mental injury to any complainant by a respondent and includes

the following: physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional, verbal and psychological abuse, economic abuse, intimidation, harassment and stalking. A recent research carried by Austin and Sootsman-Eicher (2004) define domestic violence as a means of controlling or an attempt to control another to get one's own wishes fulfilled. Severe actions of domestic violence include violent actions that are likely to induce injury that is, beating, hitting, and use of weapons. For the purpose of this research, domestic violence refers to an act that is unlawful and results in negative consequences on the victim. (Jura & Bukaliya, 2015).

Definitions of domestic violence are culture specific. (Laing, 2002) posits that domestic violence is often used in an attempt to control another to get one's own wishes fulfilled. Tulloch (1993) suggests that this type of violence refers to abuse towards a married or de-facto, unmarried but living together for six months or more, partner which happens in the home. According to Dutton (1995) severe actions of domestic abuse include violent actions that are highly likely to induce injury including beating, hitting and use of weapons. The same author argues that the term “domestic” has been used to reduce spousal violence both in its seriousness and extent. The researcher acknowledges the seriousness and criminality of domestically violent behaviour. However, the study focuses domestic violence directed at adult men.

Domestic violence refers to violence between members of a household, usually spouses; an assault or other violent acts committed by one member of a household against another (Garner, 2004). Definitions of domestic violence are socially constructed, have developed over time, and reflect prevailing understandings, interests and power distributions (Muehlenhard & Kimes, 1999).

Walter (in Freeman, 1979) presents domestic violence as being a ‘destructive harm’ caused by the physical, sexual, emotional and economic abuse of one person on another. Domestic violence is as a pattern of abusive behaviours by one or both partners in an intimate relationship such as marriage, dating, family, friends or cohabitation (Miller, 2005).

(UNICEF Innocenti Digest no.6 June 2000) DV includes violence perpetrated by intimate partners and other family members, and manifested through physical abuse, sexual abuse, psychological abuse and economical abuse.

According to American Psychological Association (2001), DV is “an ongoing pattern of behavior, attitudes, and beliefs in which a partner in an intimate relationship attempts to maintain power and control over the other through the use of psychological, physical, and/or sexual coercion” (p. 3).

Kelly (1999) define domestic violence as the emotional, physical, sexual, psychological, or economic abuse of power which is control over others, which leaves individuals feeling scared and intimidated. Dutton (1995) goes further to suggest that for domestic violence to exist, it must involve unequal grounds of power between a couple where the victim is afraid of being hurt.

Domestic violence is however, a violation of fundamental human rights and an obstacle to achieving gender equality, especially in sub-Saharan Africa where patriarchy is dominant (ICRW, 2009). Domestic violence is an ongoing, debilitating experience of physical psychological and /or sexual abuse. The violence may not happen on a daily basis, but it remains as a hidden terrorising factor. (Cleary, 2004)

Domestic violence holds no boundaries in relation to class, race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic background or religion (Cleary, 2004).

Child Welfare Information Gateway, (2004) defines domestic violence as “a pattern of assaultive and/or coercive behaviors, including physical, sexual, and psychological attacks, as well as economic coercion, that adults or adolescents use against their intimate partners. Domestic Violence: violence between members of a household, usually spouses; an assault or other violent acts committed by one member of a household against another (Garner, 2004).

This includes abuse by parents against children, abuse by men toward women, abuse by women against men and abuse among siblings. The abusive behaviors can either be physical, psychological, emotional, economic, sexual or verbal. The definition given by Loseke (2005) shows various potentially abusive relationships.

A battered spouse or co-habitation is defined as an individual subjected to physical violence by a husband, wife, or co-habitant. (Martin L, 2006) Any act or behaviour that constitutes a threat or harm likely to result in physical, sexual, economic, emotional (verbal/psychological) abuse or a combination of these in a domestic relationship irrespective of a person’s gender (Domestic Violence Act, 2007).

The World Health Organization (WHO, 2012) defined domestic violence as the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, which either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development, or deprivation.

Smith (2001) posits that a relationship where domestic violence occurs includes all types of partners, whether they are heterosexual, gay, lesbian; living together, separated or dating. However, for purposes of the present study, focus will be on heterosexual couples who are either married or defacto. The rationale for exploring domestic violence within couples in such relationships, stems from evidence that different perceptions of the cause of domestic violence are widely divergent and begs the question of how intervention measures, if ever they are going to be instituted, will be effective given the general lack of causal factor consensus from researchers. (Jura & Bukaliya, 2015).

Domestic violence induces damaging effects including depression, low self-esteem, worthlessness, low self-efficacy and loss of opportunities for the victims and at the same time generates feeling of remorse and shame within the perpetrator. Such feelings could be either short lived, given timely or appropriate professional intervention or they could be a permanent feature of the spousal relationship with potentially dire consequences (Jura & Bukaliya, 2015). While this is the case this study will dwell on the types, causes, and the effects of domestic violence.

Besides human rights concerns, domestic violence also has health and psychosocial consequences that can negatively affect Ghana's chances of attaining the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (No;1, 3, and 6) of eradicating violence among women, HIV/AIDS, hunger and poverty (Abama & Kwaja, 2009). Battered women/man have a high incidence of stress and stress-related illnesses such as post-traumatic stress syndrome, panic attacks, depression, sleeping and eating disturbances, elevated blood pressure, alcoholism, drug abuse, and low self-esteem (UNICEF, 2008).

2.13 Female Perpetrator

The social power structure of America is argued to be supporting the culture of male domination. According to Hines, Brown and Dunning (2007), “this societal power structure is reflected in interpersonal relationships, and men misuse the power they have in their relationships because they have been socialized to believe they have the right to control women, even though violent means,”(p. 63). This philosophy of thought has led to the difficulty of believing whether females were even capable of being perpetrators of intimate partner violence and whether females were acting in self-defense from their attackers (Hines, Brown, & Dunning, 2007). Some researchers have found that female perpetrators have a history of experiencing violence by their male partners. Empirical evidences depict women as equally and sometimes even more violent than their male counterparts. However, the abusive pattern of females has only recently emerged from its cloak of secrecy (Babcock & Siard, 2003).

“People hit and abuse family members because they can. I in today’s society, as reflected in TV, movies, and feminist doctrine, women are openly given permission to hit men. For example, a woman slapping a man in the face is rarely, if ever, viewed as domestic violence” (2001, P: 133). However, women use violence against men to gain short term benefits, as opposed to men who use it to establish authority over a longer period. It has also been found out that women’s violence rarely succeed in changing men’s behavior. The most-common reasons the women in the Fiebert and Gonzales (1997) study gave for assaulting their male partners included: my partner was not sensitive to my needs, I wished to gain my partner’s attention, and my partner was not listening to me.

Several studies have found that male victims of intimate partner violence have steadily increased, although the numbers of victims are not always equal to women. According to Carney, Buttell and Dutton (2007), women offenders constitute the fastest growing segment of the criminal justice system in America. The National Institute of Justice also estimates that the increase in the incarceration rate for women is double that of men (Carney, Buttell, & Dutton, 2007; Ferraro & Moe, 2003; Mullings, Hartley & Marquart, 2004). Female perpetrators are now being arrested for the crime of intimate partner violence. According to Henning, Renauer and Holdford (2006), there has been a substantial increase in females being arrested for intimate partner violence. Women now account for a quarter of arrests for this crime (Henning, Renauer & Holdford, 2006). As a result, the criminal justice system has had to refocus on both women and men perpetrators of this crime. Society's ongoing debate on female use of aggression and possible gender favoritism within the criminal justice system has begun to be noted within the criminological research. (International Journal of Criminal Justice Science, 2010).

2.14 Male Victims

Violence against men is a phenomenon which has prevailed in our society for long, but has never gotten into limelight. This is due to the fact that many critics claim that violence shown by women is usually caused in retaliation or self-defense (Kurz, 1993; Pleck et al, 1980). According to Hall (2001a), a victim is a person who unjustly suffers harm and therefore deserves sympathy, attention, assistance and support. Hall (2001a) further states that the definition of victimhood is influenced by other factors such as the cultural perceptions of victims and the legal definition of victims. In our society, men face various kinds of violence by the hands of women ranging from physical abuse, to psychological, sexual and emotional torture. Taking into account

the large amount of empirical investigations conducted in the area of domestic violence, very few studies have examined male victims of intimate partner violence.

In African tradition, it is unheard of for a woman to batter the husband physically whether stronger than him or not. Most communities deem this a taboo for a woman to raise their hands on their husbands (Nahunja, 2012). Unfortunately, scholars in the field of criminal justice have been relatively silent on this subject, with most empirical research published from non-criminal justice scholarly journals about the criminal justice system. Graham-Kevan (2007) argued. “The scholarly neglect of this topic has limited our overall understanding of violence in intimate relationships,” (p. 3). It is very difficult to get male victims of intimate partner violence to come forward due to the societal stigma that might be placed on them (Graham-Kevan, 2007). Male victims have a fear of the stigma. No man wants to be considered as weak. As a result, like many crimes of intimate partner violence that has women victims, men are as equally or even more silent about this crime.

The victimization of men by their women partners is a serious social problem and it is largely ignored by the society. A part of America’s social norm reveals that men are the stronger and more dominating gender who does not allow women to dominate. Consequently, male victims do not freely admit being victims of intimate partner violence at the hands of females (Barber, 2008). As a result, these same male victims do not seek professional assistance (Barber, 2008). The informal social control has shaped the thinking of American society about who abuses whom within society; therefore, informal social control is highly influential in how society reacts to various situations within the family and the community as a whole.

2.15 Types of Abuse Male Victims of Domestic Violence Suffer

Violence and domestic abuse have been part of the societies of the world since the foundation of so-called civil society (Fee, Brown, & Lazarus, 2002). Empirical evidences depict women as equally and sometimes even more violent than their male counterparts. However, the abusive pattern of females has only recently emerged from its cloak of secrecy (Babcock & Siard, 2003).

Domestic violence takes many forms, including psychological, emotional, and sexual abuse. These types of abuse are less obvious than physical abuse, but that does not mean they are not damaging. The violence may be threatening, systematic and long term and can even be more harmful because they are so often overlooked even by the person being abused. These injuries are often accompanied by emotional and psychological repercussions on the victims. The forms of domestic violence discussed in this study include sexual abuse, physical violence, psychological and emotional abuse and economic abuse. O'Leary (1988) held the view that domestic violence was attributed to a number of factors, these being violence in the family of origin, stress, relationship dissatisfaction, alcohol abuse and aggressive personalities.

Physical Abuse: Is the pushing, punching twisting of limbs, choking, breaking of bones and damage to property (Cork Rape Crisis Centre, 2002). This form of abuse takes no particular pattern, and victims can be subjected to the abuse at any given place or time (Dobash & Dobash, 2000). Acts such as; slapping, beating, burning kicking, threats with object or weapon. Also includes traditional practices harmful to women and men. (UNICEF, 2000).

According to Cusack and Manuh (2009), physical violence can be perceived from five themes; cruel punishment, forced labour, beatings, assault with weapon and death. In

performing such acts of violence the perpetrators feel they have the right to inflict pain on victims because some abusers will blame the victim for the abuse or use jealousy as an excuse as to why the abuse happened. All these types of violence are ways the perpetrators control the victims' body and mind (Dwamena-Aboagye & Fiamanya, 2005). It should, however, not be underestimated that some men sometimes undergo such ordeals in the hands of their partners (Dwamena-Aboagye & Fiamanya, 2005).



Picture One (1): A perpetrator in the act of hitting her partner with an object.

Verbal Abuse:

The use of harsh and inappropriate words to degrade and dehumanise victims. (Jura & Bukaliya, 2015). According to Direnfeld (2013), verbal abuse refers to the use of language to cause distress, insecurities and to exploit the other party. The use of indecent and rude words as well as swearing to all kinds of things is the commonly cited form of abuse perpetrated by women against men.



Picture Two (2): A female partner hurling insults at her male partner

Sexual Abuse: Is the forcing of anyone against their will to have sex, or perform any sexual act. This also includes the demoralising of a person through sexual comments (Cork Rape Crisis Centre, 2002). It is very hard for a man to disclose this form of abuse (Cleary, 2004). Sexual abuse is one of the most intrusive forms of abuse, making it one of the hardest to disclose. In marriage context, forced sex may not be termed as rape because there is no perceived legal ramification for forced sex. Rape is hence viewed as an offence committed by a stranger, whereas rape by acquaintance is generally not defined as rape (Ellsberg & Heise, 2005).

It has also been found out that women's violence rarely succeed in changing men's behavior. Sexual aggression is any forms of behavior directed towards the goal of making another person engage in sexual contact against the target person's will. It involves verbal coercion, exploiting a person's incapacitated state, and threatening or

using physical force. Krahe, Waizenhofer and Moller (2003) found out that every 1 in 10 women use aggressive strategies to intimidate the male counterpart sexually, and try to obtain sexual contact against his will on at least one occasion. Studies indicate that violent behavior exhibited by women towards men is influenced by both, long term influences like childhood sexual abuse, and more immediate aspects of sexual interaction, such as perceived peer pressure, number of sexual partner (Corry, 1997).

Population Council (2008) also classifies sexual abuse to include, at least, rape, attempted rape, sexual exploitation. It involves any sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances or acts to traffic a person's sexuality, using coercion, threats of harm or physical force, by any person regardless of relationship to the survivor, in any setting, including but not limited to home and work. Thus, attacking the sexual parts of a partner's body, treating a partner as a sex object, threatening physical violence should a partner not comply with sexual demands constitute sexual abuse. It includes not only non-consensual sexual contact, such as rape and fondling (sexual assault), but also injuring a person's sexual parts and attempting to control a woman's sexuality and reproductive capacity or expression.

Sexual abuse is common in abusive relationships. Any situation in which one is forced to participate in unwanted, unsafe or degrading sexual activity is sexual abuse. Marital rape is a human rights violation and therefore, impermissible under International law, the African Charter, and the Constitution of Ghana. Rape, which is a sexual abuse, is the carnal knowledge of a female sixteen years and above without her consent (Criminal Code 1960, Section 98; Act 29). Section 97 amended by Act 458, Section 2(a) states that:

“whoever commits rape shall be guilty of a first degree felony and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not less than three (3) years and in addition to a fine not exceeding 500,000 cedis and in default of payment of a fine to a further term of imprisonment not exceeding the minimum imprisonment specified under this section”

Emotional/psychological Abuse: Is where a person is degraded or humiliated in private or public areas. This also includes putting a person down, making them feel bad, cutting off their freedom to friends and family (Cork Rape Crisis Centre, 2002). Also, a behavior that is intended to intimidate and persecute, and takes the form of threats of confinement to the home, isolation, verbal aggression and constant humiliation.

One other form of emotional/psychological abuse is passive control threatening which is to harm self, commit suicide if partner does not concede to demands or wants to leave the relationship. The aim of emotional or psychological abuse is to chip away at your feelings of self-worth and independence. If you are the victim of emotional abuse, you may feel that there is no way out of the relationship, or that without your abusive partner you have nothing. Emotional abuse includes verbal abuse such as yelling, name-calling, blaming, and shaming. Isolation, intimidation, and controlling behavior also fall under emotional abuse (Cusack & Manuh, 2009).

In this type of violence, the wounds inflicted upon the mind take much long time to heal though the body may mend soon afterwards. Each time the victim re-lives these moments, they start bleeding again. The broken spirit takes the longest time to mend; the damage to the personality may be the most difficult to overcome (Aboagye & Boadu, 1997).

Additionally, abusers who use emotional or psychological abuse often throw in threats of physical violence. You may think that physical abuse is far worse than emotional abuse, since physical violence can send you to the hospital and leave you with scars, but, the scars of emotional abuse are very real, and they run deep. In fact, emotional abuse can be just as damaging as physical abuse sometimes even more so. Furthermore, emotional abuse usually worsens over time, often escalating to physical battery (Dwamena-Aboagye & Fiamanya, 2005).



Picture Three (3): A perpetrator highly angry and about to slap the partner.

Economic Abuse: Is the controlling of all financial income, acts such as the denial of foods and physical needs and controlling access to employment. (UNICEF, 2000). More so, they withhold money from the victims and control the entire household bill and expenditure. The power and control theory explains this form of abuse when a partner in any relationship devices all means possible within reach to deprive the other access to finance, the choice of trade to engage in at the detriment of the less privileged form of abuse where it might occur (Britwum & Cusack, 2009).

Social Abuse: This refers to a situation where the perpetrator isolates the victim from friends, family and other relations, and also not attending social programs such as wedding, funerals etc.

2.16 Causes or Factors influencing Domestic Violence against Men

It can be noted that many societies focus only on men as perpetrators of violence towards women and do not believe or want to recognize that men can suffer from domestic violence in the same way as women. Steinmatz (1977) discussed the 'Battered Husband Syndrome' back in the late 1970's and still today it is a taboo subject amongst patriarchal societies. This lack of recognition for male victims of domestic violence means they have to cope without any help, support and guidance.

Nukunya (2003) posits that in many Ghanaian societies the conventional position is that women are never wholly independent. A woman must always be under the guardianship of a man, and when she marries, her original guardian hands over some or all of his responsibility for her to her husband. In light of this, men exercise much control and violence to their partners in a relationship. Nukunya (2003) also points out that wife-beating is quite a common form of punishing women in many societies in Ghana and may be applied in the event of her adultery, failure to cook for the husband on time and anything the man considers to merit such a treatment.

In many relationships today, many women are motivated by the actions of their spouses to also mete out punishment or violence to their partners. Some reasons that motivated women to hit men include threats to their children or loved ones, retaliations and punishment for some past behavior, anger, fury, attention seeking behavior, or stress and frustration (Archer, 2000). However, women use violence against men to gain short term benefits, as opposed to men who use it to establish

authority over a longer period. Although many believe that women become violent only for self-defense or retaliation, researches have revealed that majority of the women do not cite self-defense as the incentive for violent behavior against their male counterparts. Rather, anger, jealousy, efforts to gain dominance and control in the relationship, and confusion are some of the important causes of violent behavior by women.

Pagelow (1985) recognizes that women can be violent and create a fearful environment for their husbands but argues there is no sufficient evidence that this is a large syndrome as it is with women. The contemporary understanding of domestic violence against men is a man being subjected to an ongoing pattern of abusive behavior by an intimate partner; this is motivated by the desire to dominate, control or oppress man and cause fear.

Maintain Power and Control over a Partner

The primary motive for violence is to establish and maintain power and control over a partner. The violated partner may resist the attempts to control him. In turn, the abusive woman takes additional steps to regain control over her partner. Violence in intimate relationships is not typically an isolated incident. Abuse happens over time. Typically, if violence is allowed to continue, it becomes more frequent and more severe. Violence is always a choice. Whatever people's background or experience, they must take responsibility for their actions. No one has the right to violate someone else, and no one deserves violence. (Pagelow, 1985)

Self-defense

It has been proposed that violence inflicted on a husband or partner by their wife or girlfriend is only carried out in self-defense. For the majority of people in society it is

an implausible idea that a woman would hit a man for any other reason than in self-defense (Fontes, 1999). Using severe violence or even weapons can be justified with the argument that women have no other way of defending themselves from their male attacker. Previous studies of domestic violence (Gelles, 1974; Steinmetz, 1977; Straus, 1980; Straus, Gelles & Steinmetz, 1980), argued that because of this, women should remain the principal focus of intervention because men were found to use violence more often, were likely to do more damage due to size differences. It is also argued that women are economically trapped in a marriage and many women only use violence to defend themselves. Domestic violence against men is an indicator of women's capability to challenge men in the home and in society in general. Men who faced domestic violence situation are placed in a difficult situation and are robbed of confidence. They have to make the decision whether or not to stand up for them and confront the situation like a 'real man' in their traditional, stereotypical role or reject that role and allow them to become a victim of domestic violence and be rendered powerless, (Sniechowski & Sherven, 1995: P. 69-73).

Communication Skills as a factor of Domestic Violence

Ridley and Feldman (2000) investigated communication skills and the role they play in the framework of domestic violence. Communication skills determine the way information is received and sent between individuals in a relationship; a breakdown in communication can lead to aggressive behaviours from individuals.

There is a strong correlation between males who are poor communicators toward their partners and the frequency and severity of domestic violence. Verbal aggression and communication differences between males and females can result in ineffective problem-solving or failure to agree, and so can lead to domestic violence. Emotional

distance and difference in problem resolution abilities can lead to discord. If after conflict resolution, there is an absence of discussion, this may lead to more argument (Ridley & Feldman, 2000).

Poor communication is not the sole reason for domestic violence, but good communication skills which are essential in ongoing relationships, sometimes not handled proper brings violence. Good communication is free of abusing or trying to control the other. The need for control over another person leads to domestic violence. This is happening due to a change in communication style between individuals (Fall, Howard & Ford, 2004).

Both the male and female want to achieve their desires, and not achieving them creates conflict and tension, leading to aggressive communication. There is the possibility of domestic violence resulting from poor communication skills that fail to achieve mutual agreement or benefit. (Ridley & Feldman 2000, p.558).

Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

Excessive drinking by male partner can exacerbate financial difficulties, child care problems and infidelity. Strong links have been found between alcoholism and occurrence of intimate partner violence in many countries. Evidence suggest that alcohol use by male partners increases the occurrence and severity of domestic violence (Dienye, 2009: P.34)

Alcohol is thought to reduce inhibitions, cloud judgment, and impair ability to interpret social cues. However, biological links between alcohol and violence are complex. Research on the social anthropology of alcohol drinking suggests that connections between violence and drinking and drunkenness are socially learnt and

not universal. Some researchers have noted that alcohol may act as a cultural “time out” for antisocial behaviour. Thus, men are more likely to act violently when drunk because they do not feel they will be held accountable for their behavior and in response their partners respond out of anger.

In some settings, men have described using alcohol in a premeditated manner to enable them to beat their partner because they feel that this is socially expected of them. It seems likely that drugs that reduce inhibition, such as cocaine, will have similar relations to those of alcohol with intimate partner violence, but there has been little population-based research on this subject (Cook, 2009). Such men who take in alcohol and drugs may be physically present but they do not contribute to household income. In fact, such men are liability to their family because they might sell family property to fund alcohol and drug abuse. This immensely leads to violence against men by women (Adenyeri & Aderonke, 2012).

Emotional Terrorism

As with violence against women, domestic violence against men is by no means limited to simply physical assaults. Pizzey (1982, 1998) in her work with family violence, has long recognized that there are women involved in emotionally and/or physically violent relationships that express and enact disturbance beyond the expected (and acceptable) scope of distress. Such individuals, spurred on by deep feelings of vengefulness, vindictiveness, and animosity, behave in a manner that is singularly destructive; destructive to themselves as well as to some or all of the other family members, making an already bad family situation worse. These women have been described as ‘family terrorists’.” Such women often become even more violent as their partner tries to break away.

“The terrorist, and the terrorist’s actions, know no bounds. Intent only to achieve the goal the terrorist will take such measures as: stalking a spouse or ex-spouse, physically assaulting the spouse or the spouse’s new partners, telephoning all mutual friends and business associates of the spouse in an effort to ruin the spouse’s reputation, pressing fabricated criminal charges against the spouse (including alleged battery and child molestation), staging intentionally unsuccessful suicide attempts for the purpose of manipulation, snatching children from the spouse’s care and custody, vandalizing the spouse’s property, murdering the spouse and/or the children as an act of revenge.”

Suspicion of Infidelity

Infidelity contributes largely to violence against men. Some men allegedly cheat on the wives with their wives friends and even house girls, who makes wives bitter and when chance presents they are beaten with anger. Some men just run away from their responsibility like paying school fees for their children and upkeep having spent money elsewhere (Fowler, 2002).

Other causes of female violence to their intimate partners include when men do the following to their wives.

Call them name, insult them or put them down.

Prevent them from going to work or school.

Stop them from seeing family members or friends.

Try to control how they should spend money, where they should go or what they should wear.

Act jealous or possessive or constantly accuse them of being unfaithful.

Threaten with violence or a weapon.

Hit, kick, shove, slap, choke or otherwise hurt them, their children or their pets

Force them to have sex or engage in sexual acts against will

Blame them for his violent behavior or tells them that they deserve it (Mayo Clinic Staff, 2011).

2.17 The Effects of Domestic Violence on Male Victims

This refers to what men do experience after having received one form of violence or the other. For many victims of domestic violence the initial reaction to the abuse is one of shock and disbelief (Brady, 1993). But For male victims, one of the realities of domestic violence is that it remains hidden because of feelings of shame and guilt. Often, the only people to know about the abuse are the people who were directly involved that is to say, those who were present and witnessed it happening. The stigma of being in a violent relationship and the fear of going through even more negative consequences if others know about it lead, victims and perpetrators to conspire in keeping secret the violence in their relationship. (McKeown & Kidd, 2003).

Cook (1997) put forward the argument from his study on domestic violence that one of the main reasons for men not reporting the abuse and remaining within the relationship could be known as 'Internal Excuses'. In other words putting off reporting or leaving their abuser, because of the belief that, given time things will change.

Below are some of the effects that the male victims go through:

Denial of Fundamental Rights

Perhaps the most crucial consequence of violence against men is same as is the denial of fundamental human rights to women and girls (UNICEF, 2008). International human rights instruments such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), adopted in 1948, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), adopted in 1979, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), adopted in 1989, affirm the principles of fundamental

rights and freedoms of every human being. Both CEDAW and the CRC are guided by a broad concept of human rights that stretches beyond civil and political rights to the core issues of economic survival, health, and education that affect the quality of daily life for most women and children, and men as well. The two conventions call for the right to protection from gender-based abuse and neglect. The strength of these treaties rests on an international consensus, and the assumption that all practices that harm women and girls, and men no matter how deeply they are embedded in culture, must be eradicated. Legally binding under international law for governments that have ratified them, these treaties oblige governments not only to protect individuals from crimes of violence, but also to investigate violations when they occur and to bring the perpetrators to justice (UNICEF, 2008).

Pain, Loss and Betrayal: The most obvious response was physical pain, physical discomfort, ill health, inability to function properly (Lewis, 2001).

Physically Deformed: Male victims of intimate partner violence may experience broken limbs, stab wounds, teeth marks, deep scratches and lacerations, inappropriate comments, fear and intimidation, and emotion aggression (Barber, 2008). Consequently, these male victims may refuse physical examination by nurses, particularly female nurses or seek the support of health professionals and services (Barber, 2008).

Despair: This situation was compounded by the fact that there was no other option for them but to either leave or accept the situation as it was, at least up to the time when leaving would be possible. This sense of powerlessness often led to intense emotional pain and feelings about death. The methods the men used to avoid potentially violent situations included avoiding close contacts with the wife, remaining calm and passive,

locking themselves in a safe place, getting home late, staying at a friend's place but without divulging the reason, sleeping in the car, the bath tub, shed, garage or wherever they could find shelter. (Lewis, 2001)

Confusion: Several men reported confusion and uncertainty, and found they could not continue in their jobs. Their skills were so affected that they risked injury. But the belief that the abuse was their entire fault was also common. Many were led to believe that women were superior to men, so when the abuse started, they assumed they must have done something wrong. The woman would blame the man for all her feeling states and he would be manipulated into feeling guilty (Lewis, 2001). In such a situation, the women abstain from showing emotional support, an element which is at the heart of any relationship, to their male counterparts leaving them emotionally frustrated.

Economical Effect: Women exploit men financially for fulfilling their needs. Moreover, women often use manipulative tactics when it comes to achieving their economic needs since they dominated and are households makers. (Sana and Mohyuddin, 2012).

Mental Stressed: Men are victims of mental stresses caused by various factors ranging from economical to social depending upon their individual conditions. However, the root cause of this stress is always the female counterpart. Females tend to influence men by creating stressful environment within their houses which generates depression and anxiety amongst men and they give in to the wills of their female counterparts. Men are the chief income earner of the families and spend most of their time struggling and striving to make both ends meet. These stresses lessen their absorption capacities of household politics and unstable environment created by

females. This is one of the main reasons that they give up on arguing with their females. Women, in such situations, exploit men financially, as well as emotionally and physically abuse them for fulfilling their needs. Women generally use their words as a weapon against men by tormenting them in rude or emotional way. The torment does not end, but many a times, takes the more aggressive form of physical abuse (Sana & Mohyuddin 2012). Emotional/Psychological abuse remains concealed, male victims talk about being deeply depressed, isolated and even feeling suicidal (Cleary, 2004).

Shame and Worthless: A man that has been beaten by his wife or partner is most likely to be a psychologically broken man; the male being sexually abused by a female is usually a very vulnerable personality who feels absolute shame and worthlessness. (Thomas, 1993) If an abused man seeks help as a victim of domestic violence, the majority of society will see it as a laughable situation. Society chooses not to believe the man. This creates the feeling of guilt and shame for the male victim (Cose, 1995).

Fear and Psycho-somatic Symptoms: Men also reported symptoms such as tightness in the stomach, muscular pain, racing pulse, thought distortion, and panic attacks. Perpetual fear and being 'on guard' were experienced by most participants. Other commonly expressed reactions were feelings of lack of control and inadequacy and constant denigration of the man, which often caused him to accept his partner's view of him, and to lose self-esteem (Lewis, 2001).

Destruction of Self-esteem: Research carried out by McKeown and Kidd (2003) highlights a common trend throughout their research. They found that victims of domestic violence invariably experience powerlessness within the relationship. Wiehe

(1998) held the view that being the victim of domestic abuse is destructive to one's self-esteem and self-image.

Silence and Psychological Trauma: Men, due to their status of being tough and insensitive by nature; do not share such experiences with anyone due to the fear of being further abused or ridiculed (Barber, 2008). Hence they bear this violence in silence and go through a series of physical and psychological trauma which make their lives miserable. The psychological effect of violence on men is much more damaging than it is believed. Since men also face fears of not being believed, ridiculed, or worse being accused of being violent themselves leave them with no other option but to remain silent. This leads to a number of physiological and psychological problems in men which sometimes take the form of chronic illness.

The prevalence of this issue in society can be symbolized as an iceberg with the tip being the number of cases that are ever brought to light and the major bulk showing the huge number of cases that are never known but cause significant morbidity. The number of reported cases of domestic violence is only a percentage of its actual occurrence within our society (Wiehe, 1998).

Health Problems and Death: Assaults result in injuries ranging from bruises and fractures to chronic disabilities such as partial or total loss of hearing or vision, and burns may lead to disfigurement (UNICEF, 2008). In the worst cases, all of these examples of domestic violence can result in the death of the man – murdered by his current or ex-partner. Some men go to the extent of committing suicide. Suicide is the act of intentionally causing one's own death. According to Jones (1986) it is committed out of despair, which most often is a result depression or stress resulting from interpersonal conflicts etc. Violent relationships can ultimately lead to victims

dying from their injuries or committing suicide. Male victims are more likely to commit suicide than females (Davis, 2010).

Suicide: Suicide is the act of intentionally causing one's own death. According to Jones (1986), it is committed out of despair, which most often results in depression or stress resulting from interpersonal conflicts etc. It is unconventional and a taboo in a patriarchal set up for a woman to divorce her husband. Rather, the man should be the one to divorce his wife. A typical African traditional man would lose the sense of attachment to his cultural values when he is being abused by the wife and hence decided to take his life. In Goffman's phraseology 'face work', a form of human behavior in which people manage their identity by preventing loss of a face or by regaining it once it is lost, (Goffman, 1967).

Durkheim (1897) in Jones (1986) propounded various typologies of suicide and among them is what he termed egoistic suicide. Durkheim (1897) refers to this typology as resulting from individuation. That is a scenario where individuals perceive themselves as being out of social groups through defined values, traditions and norms. They therefore commit suicide as a result.

This explanation concurs with the assertion mentioned earlier in this study that there is a relationship between religio-cultural beliefs of victims and their perceptions of DV against men which then inform the coping strategies they adopt. An abused man can adopt suicide as a coping strategy due to loss of the qualities of a man stipulated by his culture or religion.

2.18 The Role of Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU)

Establishment and Legal Basis of WAJU/DOVVSU: DOVVSU was established in October 1998 as the Women and Juvenile Unit (WAJU) of the Ghana Police Service. Its creation was part of the government's fulfillment of international obligations, with the police administration also realising the need for a specialised unit to handle cases of abuse against women and children, following the improper handling of such cases at the "Traditional Police" station. The unit was renamed Domestic Violence and Victim Support unit of the Ghana police service. The establishment of the unit was backed with the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), The Beijing platform of action, and the Millennium Development Goals among others.

Vision and Mission Statement of the Unit: The unit has the vision to create an environment that provides timely and equitable response to victims of abuse. Its main mission is to prevent, protect, apprehend, and prosecute offenders of domestic violence and child abuse.

Role of DOVVSU:

The Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU) seek to protect the rights of the vulnerable against all forms of abuse. In its day-to-day activities, the unit provides advice on crime prevention to members of the public, and also handles offences involving juveniles.

Additionally, DOVVSU creates an effective database for detection, prevention, and prosecution of cases of domestic/gender-based violence, as well as child abuse.

The unit also collaborates with non-governmental organisations (NGO's) and civil societies such as Legal Aid, DSW, FIDA and WISE among others, in providing specialised needs for victims of domestic violence.

Free services to members of the public who are facing problems in the homes or families.

Protect the rights of the vulnerable against all forms of abuse be it physical, sexual, emotional/psychological, socio-economic, or harmful cultural practices.

Treat victims/complainants and their families with respect and courtesy.

Take statements in a professional manner; provide victims with information on their cases as well as details of the investigations.

Provide advice on crime prevention at homes, in schools, churches and markets.

The Unit also refers victims for medical services and specialised help to clinical psychologists, social workers from the Department of Social Welfare and counsellors attached to the Unit.

Operational Areas of DOVVSU: It has units in all the eleven police regions headed by a Regional Coordinator, and currently, has 86 desks and offices nationwide. The unit is aiming at getting DOVVSU opened in all police divisions and districts, as its activities are coordinated. (DV ACT 732, 2007).

Ghana recognises domestic violence as a violation of the human rights of its citizens. In response to the threat of domestic violence, the Domestic Violence Act (2007, Act 732) was enacted. The Act outlines modalities for handling domestic violence cases. In reporting domestic violence, a victim of domestic violence or any person with

information about domestic violence may file a complaint about domestic violence with the police. A member of the victims' family or the victims' friend may also file a complaint to the police on behalf of the victim where the victim is for any reason unable to file a complaint personally. Professionals such as social workers or probation officers, health care providers, members of security services, journalists and human rights activists shall also file a complaint about domestic violence where the intervention is in the interest of the victim. Finally, a deceased person's personal representative or a family member of the deceased's family or another person competent to represent the deceased may file a complaint where a person who could have been a complainant under the Act has died. (Domestic Violence Act, 2007 section 6). However, a child cannot by him/herself make a report to the police in a case of act of violence against him/her. A child is to be assisted by the aforementioned persons to make a report. (Kafui, 2012).

According to the Domestic Violence Act (2007 section 7 and 8) a police officer shall respond to a request by a person for assistance from domestic violence and shall offer the protection that the circumstances of the case or the person who made the report requires, even when the person reporting is not the victim of the domestic violence. When a police officer receives a complaint, the officer shall interview the parties and witnesses to the domestic violence including children, record the complaint in detail and provide the victim with an extract of the occurrence upon request in a language the victim understands. The police officer shall proceed to assist the victim to obtain medical treatment where necessary, as well as assist the victim to a place of safety as the circumstances of the case or as the victim requires where the victim expresses concern about safety. The police officer shall also protect the victim to enable the victim retrieve personal belongings where applicable, assist and advice the victim to

preserve evidence, and inform the victim of his or her rights and any services which may be available. (Kafui, 2012)

The UNICEF Supported Multi-Disciplinary Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) Draft (2012) in the general principles that underline the ethics of the various professionals that deal with abused children in Ghana prescribe child rights approach, multi-disciplinary approach, human rights approach, victim friendly approach and gender consideration issues which is equally applicable to adults. The overall objective of the protection standards is translated into action through the strategies of pre identification process, assessment of risk and/or injury, development of a referral mechanism, rescue of victims, protection of victims, prosecuting perpetrators, post rescue mechanisms and agreed roles and responsibilities of each of the stakeholders.

Putting into perspective all the above literature on procedures in handling cases of domestic or gender-based violence, a common theme in each has to do with respect for the rights of the victim through the use of approaches that serve the best interest of the victim. Relating same to this study however, a slight gap is identified in an aspect of Ghana's Domestic Violence Act, (2007). This gap has to do with the clause that prohibits a child from making a report to the police by him/herself. The reason being that, in cases where a child has been abused by the parent, guardian or relatives with that child not having knowledge of the fact that, other aforementioned professionals could assist him/her to make a report, such abuse might go unnoticed and without ever being reported with its negative consequences for the child.

In Ghana, two of the objectives for the establishment of the Domestic Violence Fund are towards the construction of receptive shelters for victims of domestic violence in the regions and districts by government and for training / capacity building of persons

connected with the provision of shelters, rehabilitation and reintegration respectively (Domestic Violence Act 2007, Section 29 and 30). However, Ghana's (2010) National Plan of Action for Orphans and Vulnerable Children, documents only one government owned shelter in Ghana located in Accra for the provision of shelter and rehabilitation services to child victims of abuse which has been operational since 2003. Similarly, Ghana's (2008) National Domestic Violence Policy and National Plan of Action indicated that currently, only few NGOs (two namely the Ark Foundation and WISE) are leading the way in the provision of shelter services to battered women. With these, the predicament of adult victims of domestic violence in need of shelter services in Ghana could be anyone's guess. When DOVVSU in partnership with other stakeholders such as the Department of Social Welfare, WISE and the Ark Foundation meet the practical needs (such as economic needs) of victims of domestic violence, the victims become empowered. When victims of violence are economically empowered, they are in a better position to resist acts of violence that result from economic related deprivation and dependency.

Counselling has been identified as key for speeding the recovery process that is often individualised and may last many years (Campbell & Self, 2004). There is need for counselling to deal with the psychosocial dimensions of violence on the part of victims. Counselling also prepares survivors for the justice system in cases involving legal processes. The need for counselling is not necessarily limited to the survivor: the family and/or partners also undergo trauma and may require support. Domestic Abuse Counselling and Educational Programs help to mitigate the effects of violence. According to the Minnesota House of Representatives Research Department (2007), if the court stays imposition or execution of a sentence for a domestic abuse offence and places the offender on probation, the court must order that the offender participate in

and successfully complete a domestic abuse counselling program or educational program as a condition of the stayed sentence.

The standards for domestic abuse counselling and educational programs must require offenders and abusing parties to attend a minimum of twenty-four (24) sessions or thirty-six (36) hours of programming, unless a probation officer has recommended fewer sessions. Said services must be provided in a group setting, unless the offender or abusing party would be inappropriate in such a setting. There must be separate sessions for male and female participants. The program must have a written policy that forbids program staff from offering or referring marriage or couples counselling until the offender or abusing party has completed the program and the staff reasonably believe that the violence, intimidation, and coercion has ceased and the victim feels safe to participate (Minnesota Research Department, 2007).

From the above going discussion, victims of violence must be offered legal, medical, economic, psychological support and medical referrals when necessary. Attention must be paid to involving communities and to creating support networks for domestic violence victims that include both police and health-care providers, along with counselling services (UNFPA, 2003).

2.19 Conclusion

This chapter has examined the limited literature available, in the area of male victims of domestic violence. It covers a wide range of issues and in doing so it sets out to provide the reader with an up to date review of issues arising for male victims in today's society and the importance of further studies into the area of male victims of domestic violence. The literature reviewed presents information on issues that are pertinent to this study. Embedded in the chapter are the theories that seek to explain

the causes or factors that are likely to trigger domestic violence which are; the social learning theory, and the resource theory and some other causes that have been discussed already. The literature also highlights on the types of violence suffered by men, and the effects thereof that have been emerged as a result of the study.

Domestic violence is a topic that very few discuss in relation to male victims of domestic violence. It is predominately discussed in terms of female victims, this has made it very difficult to research along with the fact there is very limited literature available on male victims because only women have been strongly recognized as victims of domestic violence. There appear to be several reasons for this. First, there is no universally accepted definition of what constitutes domestic violence against men. Second, there is concern that the acknowledgment that some women may be violent against their male partners will be used to defend male violence (Ganley, 1995).

Consequently, male victims do not freely admit being victims of intimate partner violence at the hands of females. As a result, these same male victims do not seek professional assistance (Barber, 2008). Many cases of violence against men however do not catch public attention because the concerned parties, usually the men, do not know what to do about it or are afraid to speak out. The few cases that capture media or public attention are often horrific in one way or another. When such cases are reported to the relevant authorities or raised in public, victims often face social stigma as well as possibilities of retaliation and other dilemmas. Cultural norms about the treatment of men by women as well as of women by men have varied greatly depending on geographic region and sub-region, even area by area sometimes, and

physically abusive behavior of partners against each other is regarded varyingly from being a crime to being a personal matter.



CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Overview

This chapter focuses on the description of the study area, research design, population, sample and sampling procedures, data collection method, data collection instruments and methods of data processing and analysis.

3.1 The Study Area/ Research Site

The study was carried out in Effiduase, a suburb of Koforidua in the New Juaben Municipality in the Eastern Region of the Republic of Ghana. Even though the smallest in the region in terms of size, it enjoys municipal status. It is about 86km north of Accra (the national capital). Koforidua has its surrounding suburb and villages of Ada, Effiduase, Akwadum, Asokore, Oyoko, Jumapo, Suhyen, Nsukwao, Two streams, Atekyem, Srodia, Adweso, Abugri, Kofikrom, Asikasu, Asuogya, Korle Nkwanta, Nyeredede Okper, Adom Ponsu Boampem, Densu Dam Site, Ketenkye, Old Estate, Agavenya and Asewde which are under the administration of the New Juaben Municipal Assembly (NJMA), (Statistical Services Department, 2010).

Koforidua is famously referred to as “Kof” town or K-dua, and is located in the cool valleys of Akuapem Mountains in the Eastern Region of Ghana. Koforidua town is the capital of Eastern Region and New Juaben Municipal. It serves as a commercial center for the region and was founded in 1875 by refugees from Ashanti. Koforidua is noted for its beautiful natural forest environment with many small waterfalls like the Boti Falls. The Ladies of Koforidua are known for their beauty and famously referred to as Koforidua Flowers (Super Ghana.com-2012). Koforidua has a land area of approximately 110sq/km and has good road network that connects it to Accra and

other districts. According to the population and housing census figures for the year 2010, Koforidua has a population of 87,315 which comprise 42,099 males and 45,216 females (Ghana Statistical Service, 2010).

But as it stands today, Koforidua has settlement of 127,334 people (Statistical Services Department 2010), good road network that connects it to Accra and other districts. The city is home to many businesses with the exception of heavy duty industries (K'dua DOVVSU, 2012).

Koforidua serves as an administrative, commercial and educational center of the municipality as well as the region. It has basic and second cycle educational institutions, a College of Education for teacher trainees, a nurse's training school, a polytechnic and a private university, which offer tertiary education programmes.

Other socio-economic activities in the municipality under the administration of the New Juaben Municipal Assembly (NJMA) apart from the public services are trading, agriculture, dressmaking, hairdressing, carpentry, masonry, and other services such as legal, medical and the hospitality services. The Municipality has a central hospital, which is a regional hospital, St Joseph's hospital, SDA hospital and public clinics at Effiduase, Adweso, Akwadum, Asokore, Oyoko and a number of private clinics.

THE MAP OF NEW JUABEN MUNICIPAL



Figure: 2: The map showing the location of Effiduase Community. Author's Construct, 2017.

3.2 Research Design

In order to achieve the aim and objectives of this study, a descriptive study was undertaken. According to Aggarwal (2008), descriptive research is devoted to the gathering of information about prevailing conditions for the purpose of description and interpretation. This type of research method is not simply amassing and tabulating facts but includes proper analyses, interpretation, comparisons, identification of trends and relationships. A descriptive study is done when the researcher wants to describe a phenomenon and to describe the characteristics of a population using quantitative data (Bless & Higson, 2000; Fouche & De Vos, 2005). Therefore, descriptive survey was adopted for the study to enable the researcher obtain information concerning the current status of the phenomena (domestic violence against men) to describe "what exists" with respect to variables or conditions in the situation.

Survey is a method that is commonly employed in sociological research in the form of interviews or questionnaires. This study employed questionnaires as prelude to in-depth data collection from individual participants and interview guide. This is because they are considered the appropriate instruments in this study to elicit information on respondents. For Denscombe (2009), these (questionnaires) are well suited for gaining information on a topic about which the researcher knows little. The questionnaires helped in the identification of abuse suffered by the respondents. They also assisted in generating statistical data that in turn are appropriate in the quantitative design partly adopted in this study. I administered the interview using the face to face mode, where I presented the questions orally to the ten respondents, five each to the male abused, and the female perpetrators. This assisted those participants who were not conversant with English and created familiarity between me and the respondents. I adopted the

description survey research design because the data collected gave several angles of meaning on the information obtained. Additionally, data collected from individuals' personal accounts provide an insight into life experiences that other research method cannot give. The use of this design was not without a challenge because the participants refused to answer questions that were too personal or difficult for them.

3.3 Population

According to Mouton (1996), population is the collection of objects, events or individuals having some common characteristics that the researcher is interested in studying. The population therefore refers to the total set from which the individuals or units are chosen and measured (Strydom, 2005). According to Best (2007), a population is any group of individuals who have one or more characteristics in common that are of interest to the researcher. The population may be all the individuals of a particular type or a more restricted part of that group. For the purpose of this study, Effiduase community, a suburb in Koforidua, in the New Juaben Municipality in the Eastern Region was used as the study population. The target population comprises all married men of 20 years and above who have suffered abuse. The estimated population is 300 men; the accessible population includes victims who have reported cases of spousal abuse at the Koforidua DOVVSU of the Ghana Police Service, CHRAJ, the Magistrate Court and the traditional council or the chief's palace. The target population is 100 men.

3.4 Sample and Sampling Technique

Sample, refers to a group chosen from a large population with the aim of yielding information about this population as a whole. It is a miniature picture of the entire group or aggregate from which it has been taken. It is a smaller representation of a larger whole. A good sample not only needs to be representative, it needs also to be

adequate or sufficient size to allow confidence in the stability of its characteristics (IJTBM, 2012). Sampling refers to the process by which a relatively small number of individuals or measures of individuals, objects or events is chosen and analysed in order to find out something about the entire population from which it was chosen. (IJTBM, 2012). According to Cornell (1960), Sampling is a technical and statistical problem of importance in most questionnaire investigations and in many other descriptive-survey studies.

3.5 Purposive Sample Technique

- I. It is judgmental sampling, selective sampling or non-probability sampling technique. In this sampling the researcher chooses the sample based on who he/she thinks would be appropriate for the study, or people are selected based on the particular purpose of the experiment. It starts with a purpose in mind and the sample is thus selected to include people of interest who are within the population to use for a particular study or research and excluded those who do not suit the purpose.
- II. The purposive sampling technique was adopted because it enabled me to select the most suitable candidates for the study. Also it was less time consuming; therefore the costs for carrying out the sampling project were greatly reduced. The results of purposeful sampling are usually accurate.

3.6 Sampling Size

The researcher purposively sampled twenty (20) married men who are on the records of Koforidua DOVVSU of the Ghana Police Service as victims of domestic violence. The purpose for this selection was based on the fact that the Effiduase community has registered cases of domestic violence in the Municipality. The total number of assault cases against men that was on the records of Koforidua DOVVSU from the period

2010 to 2016 summed up to 266 for the entire region, with 100 cases recorded for Koforidua municipality of which a total of twenty (20) abused men was selected together with five (5) of the female perpetrators in reference to Effiduase community and beyond.

3.7 Research Instruments

Structured questionnaire and interview guide were used to gather data. Questionnaire is a research instrument that consists of a series of questions and other prompts for the purpose of gathering information from respondents (en.wikipedia.org). A structured interview used was developed from standardized interview. It is standardized because the same questions are asked of all respondents. Corbetta (2003) states that structured interviews are interviews in which all respondents are asked the same questions with the same wording and in the same sequence. The researcher designed her own questionnaires and the structured interview made up of seven (7) items of background information on both questionnaires and the structured interview. Besides the background information, the questionnaires are in four sections. The section 'A' has six (6) items on what men think of the concept of domestic violence. The section 'B' has seven (7) items on the factors contributing to domestic violence against men. The section 'C' is made up of six (6) items on the forms/types of domestic violence meted against men. Last but not the least, the section 'D' has five (5) items on the effects of domestic violence on men. The structured interview has twelve (12) items in addition to the background information. Gray (2004) posit that "it would be ideal if questions can be read out in the same tone of voice so that the respondents would not be influenced by the tone of the interviewer" This type of interview introduces some rigidity to the interviewee (Corbetta, 2003). According to David and Sutton (2004), strength of structured interviews is "Prompting can be included with the questions and

if a question is inappropriate, data on why no response was made can be recorded.”

Furthermore, non-verbal cues, such as facial expressions, gestures can be recorded.

3.8 Validity and Reliability of Instrument

Reliability

Reliability is the consistency of measurement, or the degree to which an instrument measures the same way each time it is used under the same condition with the same subjects. In short, it is the repeatability of one's measurement. A measure is considered reliable if a person's score on the same test given twice is similar. It is important to remember that reliability is not measured, it is estimated. There are two ways that reliability is usually estimated: test/retest and internal consistency. The researcher used internal consistency method which involves only one administration of those instruments, thus; the questionnaires and the structured interviews after the use of Statistical Product and Services Solution

Validity

Validity is the strength of our conclusions, inferences or propositions. More formally, Cook and Campbell (1979) define it as the "best available approximation to the truth or falsity of a given inference, proposition or conclusion." To ensure face validity, Interview guide and questionnaires were given to my supervisor for scrutiny before pilot-testing on non-participants. Some non-participants were interviewed. The questionnaires and the interviews includes the background information of the respondents as well as their views, in relation to research objectives. The completed questionnaires were subjected to Cronbach's Alpha reliability analysis.

3.9 Data Collection Procedure/Method

Structured questionnaires and structure interview guides were used to collect data for this study. The structured questionnaires were personally administered to all

respondents in each household to collect demographic information, what men think of the concept of domestic violence, what causes/factors contribute to domestic violence against men, the types/forms of violence meted out to men, and the effects of domestic violence against men. After the questionnaires have been administered and collected, structured interviews were also conducted in English and Twi on schedule dates, time and places. The consent of the interviewee was sought to audio-tape the questions and responses. The researcher also took brief notes in the event of tape-recorder malfunction. Each respondent was taken through the interview schedule. Bryman (2001) explains that structured interview entails the administration of an interview schedule by an interviewer. The aim is for all interviewees to be given exactly the same context of questioning. This means that each respondent receives exactly the same interview stimulus as any other. The goal of this style of interview is to ensure that participants' responses can be aggregated.

Sources of Data

Two types of data were collected for the study – *primary* and *secondary* data. In the collection of primary data, key informant interviews, and questionnaires were used in the collection of primary data from the sampled population most of whom the researcher had first contact with at their premises of work and later in their homes. This allowed respondents to flexibly and informally talk about their experiences and freely express their views.

Secondary data were obtained through extensive review of written documents, which included but were not limited to published and unpublished books, research works and working papers, articles in newspapers and on the internet, and relevant journals on the subject matter, and reports from Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU, 2010-2016). The recording and presentation of data during in-depth

interviews was done on case basis in tandem with research objectives. Case presentation of data is grouping of information according to particular and specific cases. This helps in highlighting unique data gathered from specific cases. Post-fieldwork data analysis involved the reading and re-reading of the fieldwork data transcripts and relating them to reviewed literature and the theoretical framework. This was done through the systematic organization of the field notes derived from the case studies and from questionnaires into topics or themes identified from recurring data. Analysis of data was also done through counter checking secondary source material with data gathered using primary instruments.

3.10 Ethical Consideration

The researcher obtained a letter of introduction from the Head of Department of Social Studies of the University of Education, Winneba. This was presented to the DOVVSU unit of the Koforidua Police Service Command, CHRAJ, Social Welfare and New Juaben Traditional Council. This was to seek approval and consent to conduct the research. As domestic violence is an issue that is extremely personal and sensitive, it was quite clear that my research needed to be conducted with respect and sensitivity to those involved. Payne and Payne (2004) point out that ethical practice is not a switch that can be turned on or off when one feels like it, but that it 'lies at the very heart of research' beginning to end. It is the responsibility of the researcher to maintain moral conduct throughout the research. The researcher preserved anonymity and confidentiality for respondents. The informants were made aware of the research and its purpose. Consent was sought from the informants on getting involved in the study.

3.11 Data Analysis

Data analysis is the process to analyse data, in order to detect pattern consistencies within the data, to structure data and to find meaning within the data (Bless & Higson-Smith, 2000, De Vos, 2005). The process of analysing data depends on the research questions, the research design and the nature of the data with the aim to understand the elements of the data by comparing the relationships between concepts, constructs and variables to observe the patterns in the information (Bless & Higson-Smith, 2000; Mouton, 2001). By using pragmatics approach, data were analysed through descriptive procedures in order to search for relationships in data. After completion of the data gathering process, time was spent in reading through all of them to check for consistency in the responses. All the responses were compiled for the creation of coding manual. The next step after the coding manual was the actual coding of the data into the computer and data entering using Statistical Product for Service Solution (SPSS), version 20. Statistical tools such as frequency distribution tables, percentages, and charts were used. The frequency tables were used to give the summary of the data for easy understanding and comparison. The interview data were clarified into themes with direct quotations from the participants.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.0 Introduction

The analysis of the results was done through the use of Statistical Product for Services Solution. The frequencies of the independent variables show the numbers and the percentages of how many of the 20 men answered the questionnaire asked in the secondary data. The dependent variables (those things asked for, which does not changed of its fact) are located on the rows of the tables and the independent variables (these are the responses that can be changed in the cause of obtaining information) are located on the columns of the tables. Additionally five (5) of the twenty (20) men were further interviewed, other five (5) female perpetrators did answer same interviewed guide

The quantitative and qualitative data from the field have been transcribed, edited, categorised and examined in relationship to the objectives of the study. The findings are presented under four broad sections in accordance with the specific objectives of the study. The first section deals with the demographic characteristics of the respondents. The second section deals with what men think of the concept of domestic violence. The third section deals with factors men perceive as causing domestic violence. The fourth section deals with the link between masculinity and behaviour.

4.1 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

This subsection summarizes the demographic characteristics of the respondents. They include gender, age, marital status, occupation and education of the respondents. The results are presented using tables, percentages and frequencies for a good visual display.

Data on the Background of Participants (male)

Table 4.1: Gender of the Participants (N=20)

Sex	Number	Percentage (%)
Male	20	100
Female	-	000
Total	20	100

Source; Field Data, 2017

The gender distribution of respondents shown on the table 4.1 above focused on only males, representing 100%. This indicates that all the participants selected were represented to respond to questionnaires in connection with the domestic violence they received in the privacy of their homes.

Table 4.2: Age Ranges of Participants. (N=20)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Gender: Males	20	100
<u>Age</u>		
20-29years	5	25
30-39years	9	45
40-49years	4	20
Above 50years	2	10
Total	20	100

Source; Field Data, 2017

In relation to age distribution on the table 4.2 above, 25% were between the ages of 20-29, 45% were between the ages of 30-39, 20% were between the ages of 40-49 and 10% were 50 years and above. This indicates that majority of the domestic victims' falls between the ages of 30-39years.

Table 4.3: Marital Status of Participants. (N=20)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Single	2	10
Married	14	70
Divorced	4	20
Total	20	100

Source; Field Data, 2017.

As part of the research, respondents were asked on the questionnaires to state their marital status as of the time the research was being conducted. The results indicate on the above table 4.3 that 10% were singles, 70% were married, while 20% were divorced. The reasons to the divorce were as a result of the violence in the home.

Table 4.4: Employment of Participants. (N=20)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Employed(Government)	16	80
Unemployed	1	5
Students	1	5
Self-employed	2	10
Total	20	100

Source; Field Data, 2017.

Furthermore, the study also looked at the level of employment of the respondents and the findings from the research show that majority of the men were gainfully employed in the government sector which constitute 80%, 5% unemployed, 5 % being a student and 10% self-employed. This indicates that most the married men were responsible to their dependents.

Table 4.5: Educational level of Participants. (N=20)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No formal education	-	00
Primary	1	5
Middle/JHS	1	5
Secondary	13	65
Tertiary	5	25
Total	20	100

Source; Field Data, 2017

Table 4.5 shows that 25% of the respondents' level of education was tertiary. Then majority of 65% had secondary school level of education, and primary and middle/JHS had equal of 5% each. No one had no formal education, but respondents had attained at least primary education. These criteria were important to ensure that the participants understood the questions and were in a position to articulate their responses. Moreover, their educational level shows how matured they have been able to managed domestic violence.

Table 4.6: Religious Affiliation of Participants. (N=20)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Christian	17	85
Moslem	1	5
Traditionalist	2	10
Total	20	100

Source: Field Data 2017.

Table 4.6 show the distribution of religious affiliation of the respondents. It is revealed that 85% were Christians, 05% were Moslems, and 10% were traditionalists, meaning they neither belong to the Christian nor Moslem religion. It could be seen from the data gathered that religious background of respondents formed part on the

bases upon which perceptions are held. This is in line with Boonzaier and De la Ray (2004) ascertaining that religious beliefs form the sources from which generalizations arise according to female submissiveness and male dominance as inscribed in many religions and often result in abuse. They hold the view that each religion has its own perceptions as to what constitute acceptable behaviour of its members in terms of domestic violence.

4.2 What Men think of the Concept Domestic Violence?

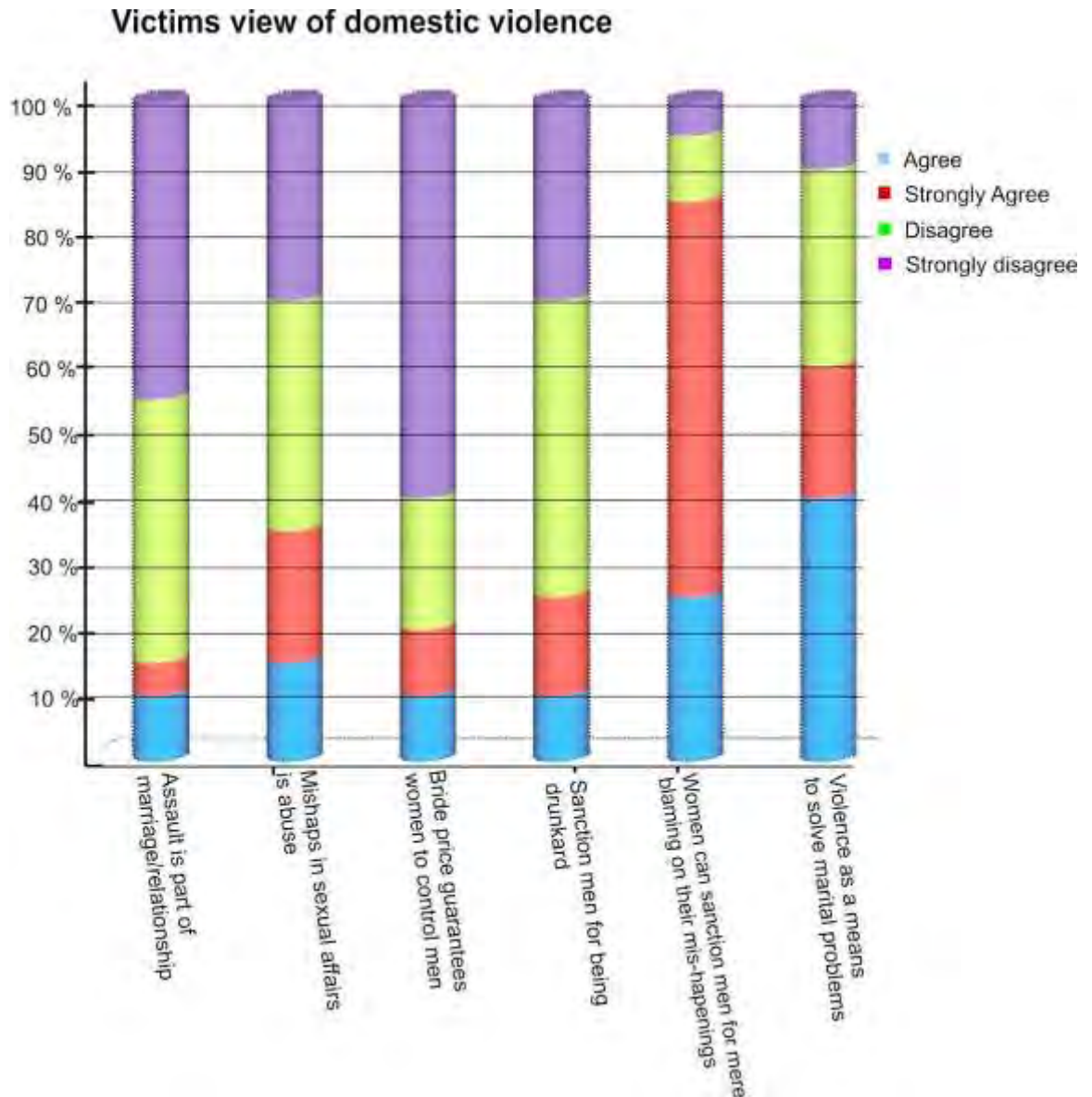
The Concept of Domestic Violence

How do the victims perceive violence by women? This section attends to how men view violence perpetrated by women in the home. It also examines their feelings as well as their general understanding of the phenomenon. It is pertinent to discuss the various perceptions noted before looking at how the men cope with the perceived violence because there is a relationship between the variables (perception and coping strategy). It is also important at this stage to highlight an assertion that the perceptions of DV perpetrated by women against them are a result of their religious and cultural values.

Table 4.7: What Men think of the concept of Domestic Violence

Statement	Strongly Disagree (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Total (%)
Assaulting a partner/ spouse in a relationship/ marriage is part and parcel of marriage.	9(45)	8(40)	2(10)	1(05)	20(100)
Sexual abuse in marriage/ relationship is part of the marriage.	6(30)	7(35)	3(15)	4(20)	20(100)
Payment of bride price guarantees women to control men in marriage.	12(60)	4(20)	2(10)	2(10)	20(100)
Women ought to sanction men for blaming their partners in any misfortune in relationship/marriage.	6(30)	9(45)	2(10)	3(15)	20(100)
Violence serves as a means to solve marital/ relationship problems.	2(10)	6(30)	8(40)	4(20)	20(100)
Women ought to sanction men for being drunkard in marriage/relationship	1(05)	2(10)	5(25)	12(60)	20(100)

Source: Field Data, 2017.



/Figure 3. Statistics from Questionnaire

Author's construct, 2017

From the Table 4.7, 10 % of the respondents agreed that assaulting a partner/spouse is part and parcel of marriage while 05 % strongly agreed. Also 40% of the respondents disagreed that assaulting a partner in a relationship/marriage is not part and parcel of the relationship/marriage, while 45% strongly disagreed to the statement. The finding from the study is in line with the 2011-2012 UN Women's report which indicated that over 40 percent of both men and women in Ghana think that it is sometimes acceptable for a man to beat his wife (UN, 2011). Familial discourses that regard women as subordinate to men have remained unchallenged in the Ghanaian society,

such that when women are physically assaulted or sexually abused within marital relationships by their husbands, it is not regarded as unusual (Manuh, 2007). Therefore men abused by their wives should also not be viewed as unusual.

In a similar view, Prah & Adomako (2009) stated that there is a general attitude that women and children are property under the guidance of men and adults, and socially structured inequalities of status, rights and power by gender and age, permeate all aspects of home and family life. Women are expected to show respect and deference to men, to obey them and accept their authority in decision-making, all the while being modest in their behaviour. They are also expected to show reticence in sexual matters to be chaste and accepting of male needs, desires and practices. The virtues of tolerance and obedience are extolled for women but not for men hence they are to be disciplined when they fall short of such virtues. Male superiority reinforced by cultural values is the context within which disciplining of women occurs and not men disciplining by their wives.

In furtherance to this, Ampofo and Prah (2009) posit that many societies in Ghana legitimize, or at least tolerate behaviour against women and children that would be punished, or at least considered punishable if directed at a male family member. They continued that both men and women in society perceive assault to be part of marriage and reinforced by a phraseology in Akan that “*ntokwa mpa aware mu da*” which means “*conflicts never eludes any marriage relationship*”. In view of this Akan proverb, some of the respondents do perceived violence in relationships as normal experiences.

Besides, the Table 4.7 presents findings on whether sexual abuse in marriage /relationship is part of the marriage. This was revealed by 20% of the respondents,

who strongly agreed that sexual abuse is part of marriage, while 15% agreed. Of the same statement asked, 35% disagree that sexual abuse form part of the marriage, and 30% strongly disagreed. This is in line with McMahon et al, (2011) who posit that certain behaviours commonly accepted as sexual violence in society include sexually degrading language, pornography, and harassment. They continue to state that issues of sexual acts in marriage are seen as sacred and need not to be subjected to other people's opinion or discussed in the open and therefore not seen as acts of violence.

Women who try to resist male domination are seen as challenging the authority of the man in a concept where it is said that a good wife should be the one that is domicile (CHRAJ, 2012). Consequently, a woman who refuses sex from the husband is considered stubborn. If the woman is not cooperating, the man can go in for another wife. Stout (1991) also sees that behaviours involving sexual acts in marriage are often normalized as part of culture and their connection to sexual violence is not widely recognized nor judged as harmful.

Table 4.7 again presents findings on whether the payment of bride price guarantees women the authority to control men in marriage. It is clear that 10 % of the respondents strongly agreed to that statement while equal 10% agreed and strongly agreed to the statement asked. This result is similar to the observation made by Prah and Ampofo (2009) that the payment of bride price guarantees men to have the exclusive sexual access to the wife, to control her sexually and to insist on her fidelity to him, as well as to receive domestic services from her. They continue to observe that the perception of women as inferior fuels much deeper disregard for them. The perception of women as property is also exacerbated and underscored by deeply entrenched unequal gender hierarchies in male superiority, attitudes about women's inferiority, and male rights over women (Prah & Ampofo, 2009).

In a related study, Bortei-Doku and Kuenyehia (1998) in Cusack and Manuh (2009) argue that social contracts between women and men, such as those involved in marriage, reinforce male control. They thus point out that some men view the payment of bride price as a transaction cost that transfer ownership of the woman to her husband and not ownership of the husband to the woman. They continue to posit that bride price/wealth transfers in customary marriage assist the conceptualization of wife-beating as acceptable because the practice appears to commodify women.

Whitehead (1984) in a related study also argues that bride wealth does not constitute a simple exchange of material items, but constitutes the transfer of 'ownership' of a woman from her kin to her husband and his kin, particularly in patrilineal systems. Ultimately whatever forms the bride wealth takes; women are the subjects in the transfer which tend to reinforce men's control over them. Since Ghanaian customary practice of marriage demand the man to pay the bride price on the women, women have no guarantee at all to control their husbands.

Furthermore, the finding on whether women can sanction men for being drunkards in relationship or marital sphere, 15 % of the respondents strongly agree to this while 10 % agree. This is in line with Carrington and Phillips (2006) in a related study that when men wield a form of power and authority in marriage it serves as a factor to contribute to domestic violence against women. They continued by positing that male privilege works both at an individual level and social levels, and reinforces male authority and control over women and sees that violence of men against women has its roots in inequalities between the genders.

Patriarchal traditions according to Carrington and Phillips (2006) encourage men to believe that controlling their partner through power and aggression is a justified

behaviour. Consequently, responsibility for the violence must lie with the male perpetrators of that violence, irrespective of any societal influences that one may draw on in order to understand the context of the behaviour. On the other hand, female perpetrators of violence have no justifiable behavior to sanction their husbands in any misconduct.

In a related study, Dobash, Dobash, Cavanagh and Lewis (2000) posit that there are belief systems in the society that preserve and maintain the inhumane impression that women are subservient and make it difficult for these women to get help. These include blaming the victim for the violence, putting the 'family' before the safety of women, tolerating the use of violence, preferring men's needs over women's needs and considering domestic violence a private matter.

Table 4.7 again shows that 45% disagreed that women should sanction/violate drunkards' husbands in their marriages, while 30% of the respondents strongly disagree. This notion confirms Blacklock (2001) who posits that men use violence and other abusive actions to support their sense of entitlement by punishing women for something done wrong (teaching her a lesson), forcing her to do something she does not want to do (for instance, to shut up), and stopping her from doing something she wishes to do (leaving the relationship).

But not in a reversed manner for women to have the sense of entitlement by punishing men for something done wrong. In furtherance, the response to whether women ought to sanction men for blaming their female partners in any misfortune in their relationship/marital or not, it was shown that 60% strongly agreed to the statement, while 25% agreed and 10% disagreed with 05% strongly disagreed.

The statement on whether violence serve as a means to solve marital/relationship problem or not, 20% of the respondents strongly agreed that, yes it does solve and 40% of the respondents agreed. Wood and Jewkes (1998) in a study view that violent practices are deployed by men against women in attempt to maintain a particular self-image and self-evaluation in the face of real or imagined threats to prove that they are “real” men and their women are under their control. In related study, Abrahams and Laubsher (1999) revealed that men use violence in instances where they perceive their position as ‘heads’ is being threatened. They further continued that participants unanimously agreed that men’s tendencies to override their authority in the home propelled them to use violence as a way of putting women in their places.

4.3 Forms/Types of Violence meted against Men

The research questions presented for this research was to determine the factors contributing to domestic violence against men forms/types of domestic violence meted against men, the causes, and the effects of domestic violence on men. But all these objectives became fruitful after the perception of what men think of the concept of domestic violence has been sought from the participants. The results related to the first question are presented in Table 4.8 on type of violence that men do experience in their relationship/marriage.

Table 4.8: Forms/Types of Domestic Violence meted against Men

Statement	Strongly Disagree (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Total (%)
Female spouse dehumanize their husbands with harsh words.	0(00)	1(05)	3(15)	16(80)	20(100)
Negative sexual comments by female partners intrusively abuse their husbands.	1(05)	1(05)	4(20)	14(70)	20(100)
Female spouses who control finances at home abuse their husbands economically.	1(05)	3(15)	2(10)	14(70)	20(100)
Abused men who isolate and confine themselves to other environments from home feel emotionally upset.	1(05)	2(10)	8(40)	9(45)	20(100)
Female perpetrators of violence prevent their spouses from seeing friends and family members	2(10)	4(20)	7(35)	7(35)	20(100)
Female spouse hit their partners with objects.	0(00)	2(10)	8(40)	8(50)	20(100)

Source: Field Data, 2017.

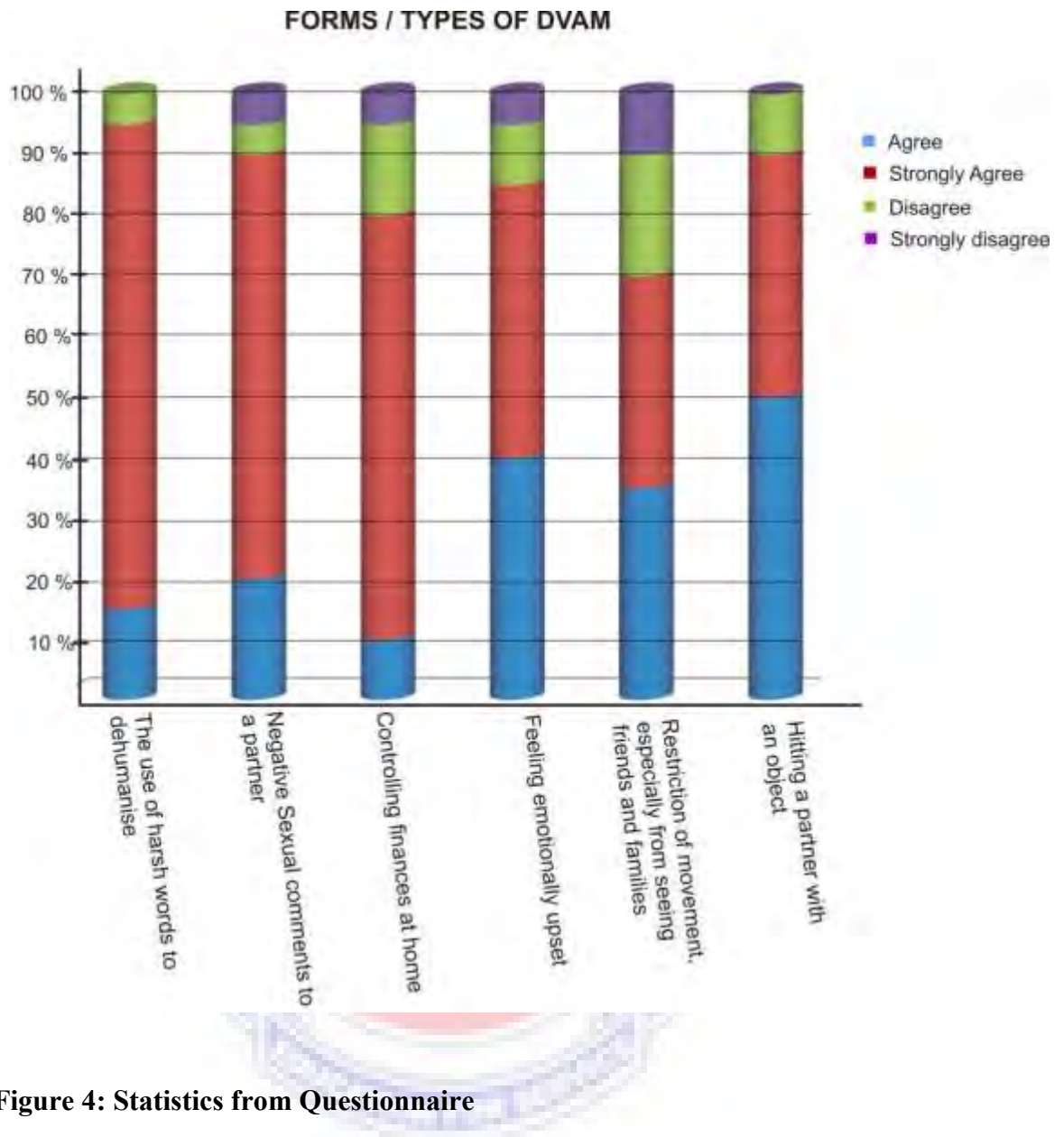


Figure 4: Statistics from Questionnaire

Author's construct, 2017

Table 4. 8 display the coalition analysis on the forms/types of domestic violence meted against men. Out of the total respondents on whether female spouse dehumanize their husbands with harsh words, 80% of the respondents strongly agreed, and 15% agreed. There is no one respondent who strongly disagreed to the statement asked, but 5% did disagree. The virtues of tolerance and obedience are extolled for women but not for men. The use of harsh and inappropriate words to dehumanize and degrade a victim, constitute a form of violence, (Jura & Ruckyiah,

2015). There is an indication that men are largely violated verbally. According to Direnfeld (2013), verbal abuse refers to the use of language to cause distress, insecurities and to exploit the other party. It is the commonly cited form of abuse perpetrated by women against men.

Mensah (2008), posits that it is a generally acceptable cultural, social and religious expectation that women demonstrate respect, obedience, submissiveness, and conformity, especially with regard to husband's wishes and commands. He further continued that another marked feature of womanhood in the society is women's submissiveness to their husbands. As signs of respect and obedience, women are not expected to talk back when their husbands are angry or talking, and they are not expected to argue with their husbands; in fact they are required to demonstrate unquestioned obedience to their husbands (Mensah, 2008).

Again, the result on the statement; negative sexual comments by female partner intrusively abuse their husband, is shown on the Table 4.8 that 70% of the total respondents strongly agreed, while 20% agreed. 5% disagreed and 5% strongly disagreed. The study is in line with the finding of Prah and Adomako (2009) who posit that women are expected to show respect and deference to men, to obey them and accept their authority in decision-making, all the while being modest in their behaviour.

They are also expected to show reticence in sexual matters to be chaste and accepting of male needs, desires and practices. They continue to assert that within marriage, women are responsible for the success of their marriages accomplished through hard work and submission to their husbands. Sexual abuse is one of the most intrusive forms of abuse, making it one of the hardest to disclose. It is very hard for a man to disclose this form

of abuse (Cleary, 2004); this includes demoralising a person through sexual comments. In marriage context, forced sex may not be termed as rape because there is no perceived legal ramification for forced sex. Rape is hence viewed as an offence committed by a stranger, whereas rape by acquaintance is generally not defined as rape (Ellsberg & Heise, 2005).

Population Council (2008) also classifies sexual abuse to include, at least, rape, attempted rape and sexual exploitation. It involves any sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances or acts to traffic a person's sexuality, using coercion, threats of harm or physical force, by any person regardless of relationship to the survivor, in any setting, including but not limited to home and work. Thus, attacking the sexual parts of a partner's body, treating a partner as a sex object, threatening physical violence should a partner not comply with sexual demands constitute sexual abuse. It includes not only non-consensual sexual contact, such as rape and fondling (sexual assault), but also injuring a person's sexual parts and attempting to control a woman's sexuality and reproductive capacity or expression.

This is in line with McMahon et al, (2011) who posit that certain behaviours commonly accepted as sexual violence in society include sexually degrading language, pornography, and harassment. They continue to state that issues of sexual acts in marriage are seen as sacred and need not to be subjected to other people's opinion or discussed in the open and therefore not seen as acts of violence. Women who try to resist male domination are seen as challenging the authority of the man in a concept where it is said that a good wife should be the one that is domicile (CHRAJ, 2012). Sexual abuse is common in abusive relationships. Any situation in which one is forced to participate in unwanted, unsafe or degrading sexual activity is sexual abuse. Marital rape is a human rights violation and therefore, impermissible under International law, the African Charter, and the Constitution of Ghana. Rape, which is a sexual abuse, is the carnal

knowledge of a female of sixteen years and above without her consent (Criminal Code 1960, Section 98; Act 29). Section 97 amended by Act 458, Section 2(a) states that:

“whoever commits rape shall be guilty of a first degree felony and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not less than three (3) years and in addition to a fine not exceeding 500,000 cedis and in default of payment of a fine to a further term of imprisonment not exceeding the minimum imprisonment specified under this section”

More so, on the finding on Table 4.8 on the statement asked whether female spouse who control finances at home abuse their husband economically, it was revealed that a total of 70% strongly agreed, with 10% agreed. Fifteen (15%) of the respondents disagreed while 5% strongly disagreed. The power and control theory explains this form of abuse when a partner in any relationship devices all means possible within reach to deprive the other access to finance, the choice of trade to engage in at the detriment of the less privileged form of abuse where it might occur (Britwum & Cusack, 2009).

Furthermore, the finding on whether abused men who isolate and confined themselves to other environments from home feel emotionally upset, majority of the respondents 45% strongly agreed to the statement and 40% agreed. Then again, 10% disagreed and 05% strongly disagreed. The finding is in favour that men who isolate and confined themselves to different environments are emotionally disturbed.

This also includes putting a person down, making them feel bad, cutting off their freedom to friends and family (Cork Rape Crisis Centre, 2002). Also, a behaviour that is intended to intimidate and persecute, and takes the form of threats of confinement to the home, isolation, verbal aggression and constant humiliation. In this type of violence, the wounds inflicted upon the mind take much long time to heal though the body may mend soon afterwards. Each time the victim re-lives these moments, they

start bleeding again. The broken spirit takes the longest time to mend; the damage to the personality may be the most difficult to overcome (Aboagye & Boadu, 1997).

Additionally, abusers who use emotional or psychological abuse often throw in threats of physical violence. You may think that physical abuse is far worse than emotional abuse, since physical violence can send you to the hospital and leave you with scars. But, the scars of emotional abuse are very real, and they run deep. In fact, emotional abuse can be just as damaging as physical abuse sometimes even more so. Furthermore, emotional abuse usually worsens over time, often escalating to physical battery (Dwamena-Aboagye & Fiamanya, 2005).

The aim of emotional or psychological abuse is to chip away at your feelings of self-worth and independence. If you are the victim of emotional abuse, you may feel that there is no way out of the relationship, or that without your abusive partner you have nothing. Emotional abuse includes verbal abuse such as yelling, name-calling, blaming, and shaming. Isolation, intimidation, and controlling behavior also fall under emotional abuse (Cusack & Manuh, 2009).

The Table 4.8 again is on the statement whether female perpetrators of violence prevents their spouses from seeing friends and family members, 45% majority of the respondents strongly agreed to the statement that female perpetrators of violence do such thing, with 35% supporting in an agreed manner. Twenty (20%) showed a disagreed opinion while 10% strongly disagreed. This result is in confirms IJRHSS (2015) findings on social abuse of individual refers to a situation where the perpetrator isolates the victim from friends, family and other relations, and also not attending social programs such as wedding, funerals etc. (International Journal of Research in Humanities and Social Studies, 2015).

The last but not the least on Table 4.8 sought about whether female spouse hit their partners with objects. Majority of 50% of the respondents agreed with the statement, while 40% strongly agreed to that, with 10% disagreeing and no respondent strongly disagreed.

4.5 Factors contributing to Domestic Violence against Men

The second research question presented was to examine factors men perceive as contributing to domestic violence against them. The results related to this question are presented in Table 4.9

Table 4.9: Factors contributing to Domestic Violence against Men

Statement	Strongly Disagree (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Total (%)
Women abuse their husbands because they want to show of power by women.	8(40)	9(45)	1(05)	2(10)	20(100)
Men who take alcohol and drugs cause partners to be violent to them.	1(05)	3(15)	6(30)	10(50)	20(100)
Women who assault their husbands had dominant and aggressive parents who also engaged in domestic violence.	0(00)	2(10)	4(20)	14(70)	20(100)
Poverty in marriage or in relationship makes women to abuse their husbands.	6(30)	9(45)	2(10)	3(15)	20(100)
Women's violence against their partners in marriage/relationship is for self- defense.	1(05)	1(05)	9(45)	9(45)	20(100)

Source: Field data, 2017

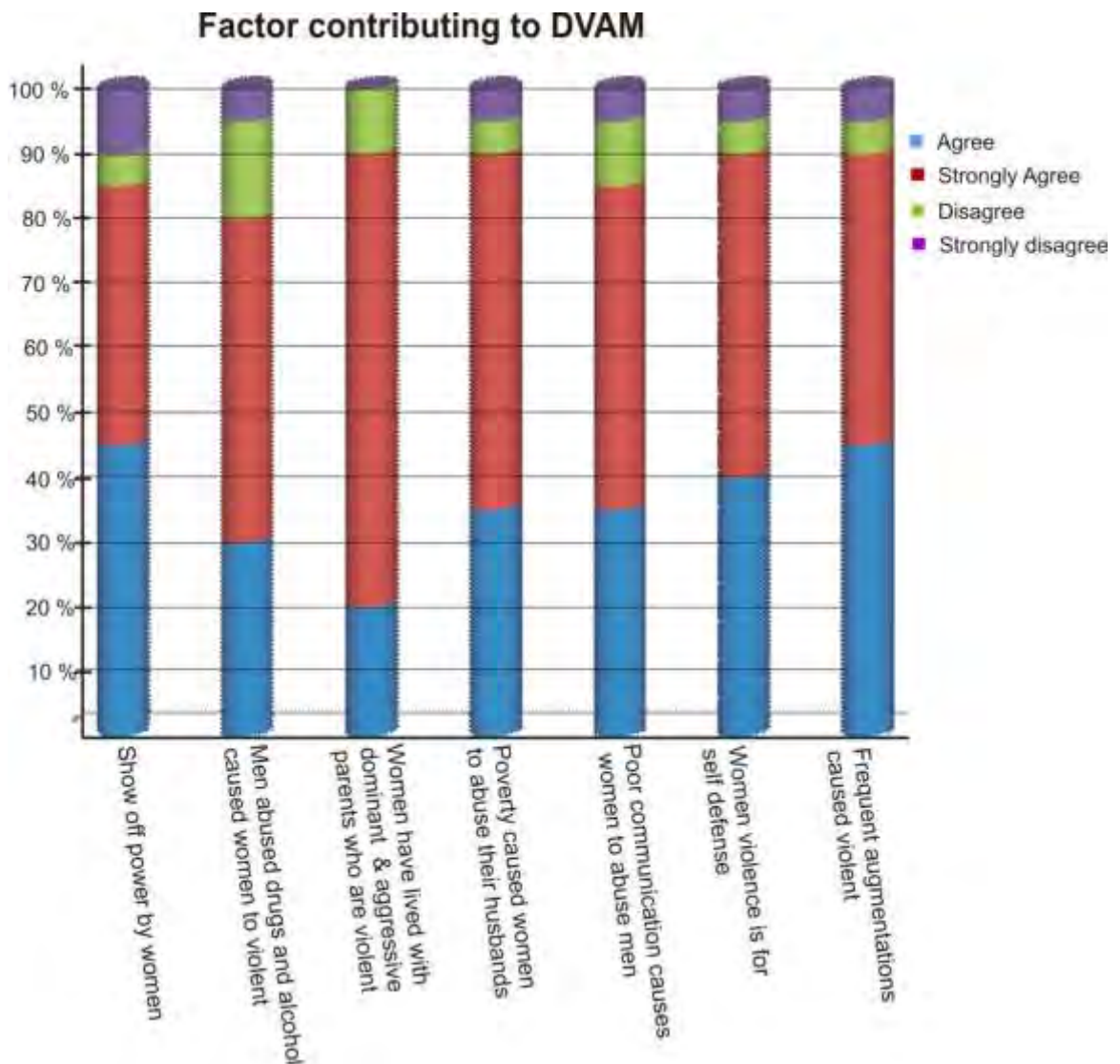


Figure 5: Statistics from Questionnaire

Author's construct, 2017

Out of the 20 respondents, 45% agree that women show off their power and control men in marriage or relationship, while 40% strongly agreed. Out of the total respondents, 05% disagreed that women show off power by being violence to their husband, 10% strongly disagreed. This shows that women by nature are as well violence as men are perceived to be always violent. Show off power is one of the main factors contributing to domestic violence against men. In relation to this, Weber's conceptualization of power in society as cited in Boss et al (1993) confirms the acceptance of mens super-ordinate powers in marriage and in society by women in

Ghana. For Weber, the social benefit of power will result from the institutionalization and legitimation of the power that some actors hold over others; in a manner that majority of the members within the larger social system are motivated to act in ways that contribute to order and stability rather than disruption and instability.

From the Table 4.9 again, the result on the use of alcohol and drugs as a cause of domestic violence shows that 30% agreed while 50% strongly disagreed. The result is in line with Mitchell (2003) who postulates that alcohol and drugs do not necessarily cause abuse as it is believed, but it serves as an excuse for men to blame alcohol or drug use as causing abusive reactions. In a related study, Gonzalez (2006), Gelles and Cornell (2007) further see that although the connection between alcohol consumption and drug use and domestic violence remains somewhat contentious, there is a notable shift and growing recognition that alcohol is not a direct cause of domestic violence.

The results also revealed that 15% of the respondents disagreed and 05% strongly disagreed. In fact, what is worthy of note is that, this result was opposed by the notion of Gelles and Cornell (1990) which states that virtually every study of aggression in families shows that alcohol consumption is a strong correlate of violence. Kaufman (2001; 1) in a related study also see alcohol and drug use believed to be contributing to domestic violence.

Table 4.9, again, shows the result of the respondents on women who assault their husbands also had dominant and aggressive parents, who engaged in domestic violence. Majority of 70% respondents strongly agreed to the opinion that female perpetrators had lived with dominant and aggressive parents before, while 20% agreed in confirmation. However, 10% disagreed to the statement asked and nothing was recorded under strongly disagreed. The result is clearly confirmed by the social

learning theory of Bandura (1973), which put forward that violence is learned through observation; the basic premise of this view is that physical aggression between family members provides a likely model for the learning of aggressive behavior, as well as for the appropriateness of such behavior within the family (Bandura, 1973). Thus, intergenerational transmission of violence stems primarily from principles of modeling (Doumas et al., 1994: 49).

These findings are in line with Arriaga and Foshee (2004) who found out that when individuals have experience with violent parents who were violent toward one another, there is an increased likelihood of perpetrating violence to their partners in the future. They continue to say that the concept of witnessing parental abuse and causing intimate partner violence later is a trend found throughout violence literature. Lackey (2003) also confirms the findings by saying that not only witnessing parental violence as a child is important to later perpetrating violence, but also those adolescents more frequently exposed are likely to assault their partners. The result is also in line with the findings of the national violence survey conducted by Straus, Gelles and Steinmetz (1980). The survey observed that men who had witnessed wife assault in their families of origin had rates of battering three times greater than those who did not and vice versa. It also states that males and females who were subjected to physical punishment as children also had higher rates of marital violence as adults.

Again, the finding is in line with a study conducted in United Kingdom by Cuning et al (1998) that established that violence in one's family of origin was associated to acceptance of interpersonal violence. Mihalic et al. (1997) also holds the same view which is also supported by the current finding. They hold the view that if the family of origin handles stress and frustrations with anger and aggression, the child who has grown up in such an environment is at greater risk of exhibiting those same

behaviours, witnessed and experienced as an adult. Furthermore, the finding is not different from a research conducted by Chandler and Kruger (2005) who found out that males who were exposed to violence in their families of origin are more likely to become perpetrators of domestic violence than males who were not exposed to domestic violence during childhood. This clearly depicts that respondents really accepted that there is a correlation between exposure to physical violence and domestic violence.

Besides the above, the Table 4.9 again shows the result of the respondents on women becoming abusive to their husbands due to poverty in their marriage as a result the inability of husband not supportive. Fifty-five (55%) strongly agreed and 35% agreed to that, while 05% disagreed and strongly disagreed equally. This is similar to the notion of Fedler and Tanzer (2000) that economic and social factors such as low wages, unemployment, lack of economic resources and inadequate housing augment women's vulnerability and contribute to domestic violence.

Again, the study is confirmed by the argument made by Anderson (1997) and Gelles (1993) that patriarchy system which feminists believe to be a major cause of domestic violence is one variable in a complex constellation of causes which among others are poverty, unemployment, socio-economic status, and cohabiting status. Anderson (1997) proposed that a woman's employment status has critical symbolic importance as it signifies a challenge to the culturally prescribed norm of male dominance and female dependence. He continued to say that where a man lacks this sign of dominance, violence may be the ultimate means of reinstating his authority over his wife. Another result from the Table 4.9 depicts the responses on whether poor communication in marriage or relationship can lead to domestic violence. Fifty (50%) strongly agreed, and 35% agreed, while 10% disagreed and 05% strongly disagreed.

This is in line with Ridley and Feldman (2000) who posits that there is a strong correlation between males who are poor communicators toward their partners and the frequency and severity of domestic violence. They continue to point out that emotional distance and difference in problem resolution abilities can lead to discord. In a related study, Fall, Howard and Ford (2004) see that good communication is free of abusing or trying to control the other. They continued that the need for control over another person in a relationship leads to domestic violence and this occurs due to change in communication style between individuals and results in the possibility of violence when mutual agreement or benefit is not reached by both partners.

Additionally, the Table 4.9 again reveals the responses on whether frequent argumentations are recipes for female perpetrators to become violent. Majority of the respondents of 50% strongly agreed that frequent argumentations contribute to violence, and 40% agreed, while 05% disagreed and strongly dis agreed equally.

This study is in line with what Ridley and Feldman 2000 says “verbal aggression and communication differences between males and females can result in ineffective problem-solving or failure to agree, and so can lead to domestic violence. Emotional distance and difference in problem resolution abilities can lead to discord. If after conflict resolution “there is an absence of discussion, this may lead to more argument” (Ridley & Feldman, 2000, p.558).

The findings on Table 4.9 again asked whether women’s violence against their partners in marriage/relationship is for self-defense or not, the response shows that 45% strongly agreed and agreed, and out of the total responses only 05% disagreed and strongly disagreed proportionate. The finding of this study is in support of the argument made by (Fontes, 1999:40) who opines that violence inflicted on a husband

or partner by their wife or girlfriend is only carried out in self-defense. For the majority of people in society it is an implausible idea that a woman would hit a man for any other reason than in self-defense (Fontes, 1999:40). Using severe violence or even weapons can be justified with the argument that women have no other way of defending themselves from their male attacker. Previous studies of domestic violence (Gelles, 1974; Steinmetz, 1977; Straus, 1980; Straus, Gelles & Steinmetz, 1980), argued that because of this, women should remain the principal focus of intervention because men were found to use violence more often, were likely to do more damage due to size differences. It is also argued that women are economically trapped in a marriage and many women only use violence to defend them.

4.4 The effects of Domestic Violence on Men

The third research question presented was to examine effects of domestic violence on men. The results relating to this question are presented in Table 4.10.

Table 4: 10. The Effects of Domestic Violence on Men

Statement	Strongly Disagree (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Total (%)
Men who are victims of violence from their partners/spouses are put into perpetual fear.	1(05)	2(10)	8(40)	9(45)	20(100)
Society's disbelieving the abused of men by their partners makes them to become homeless.	1(05)	1(05)	11(55)	7(35)	20(100)
Strong men become harder and stronger when he is abused by the partner/spouse in marriage/relationship	6(30)	5(25)	4(20)	5(25)	20(100)
Violence meted to men in marriage/relationship makes them to be ridiculed by the society and lose respect.	0(00)	1(05)	7(35)	12(60)	20(100)
Men who receive violence refuse to be physically examined by female nurses.	1(05)	1(05)	10(50)	8(40)	20(100)

Source: Field Data, 2017.

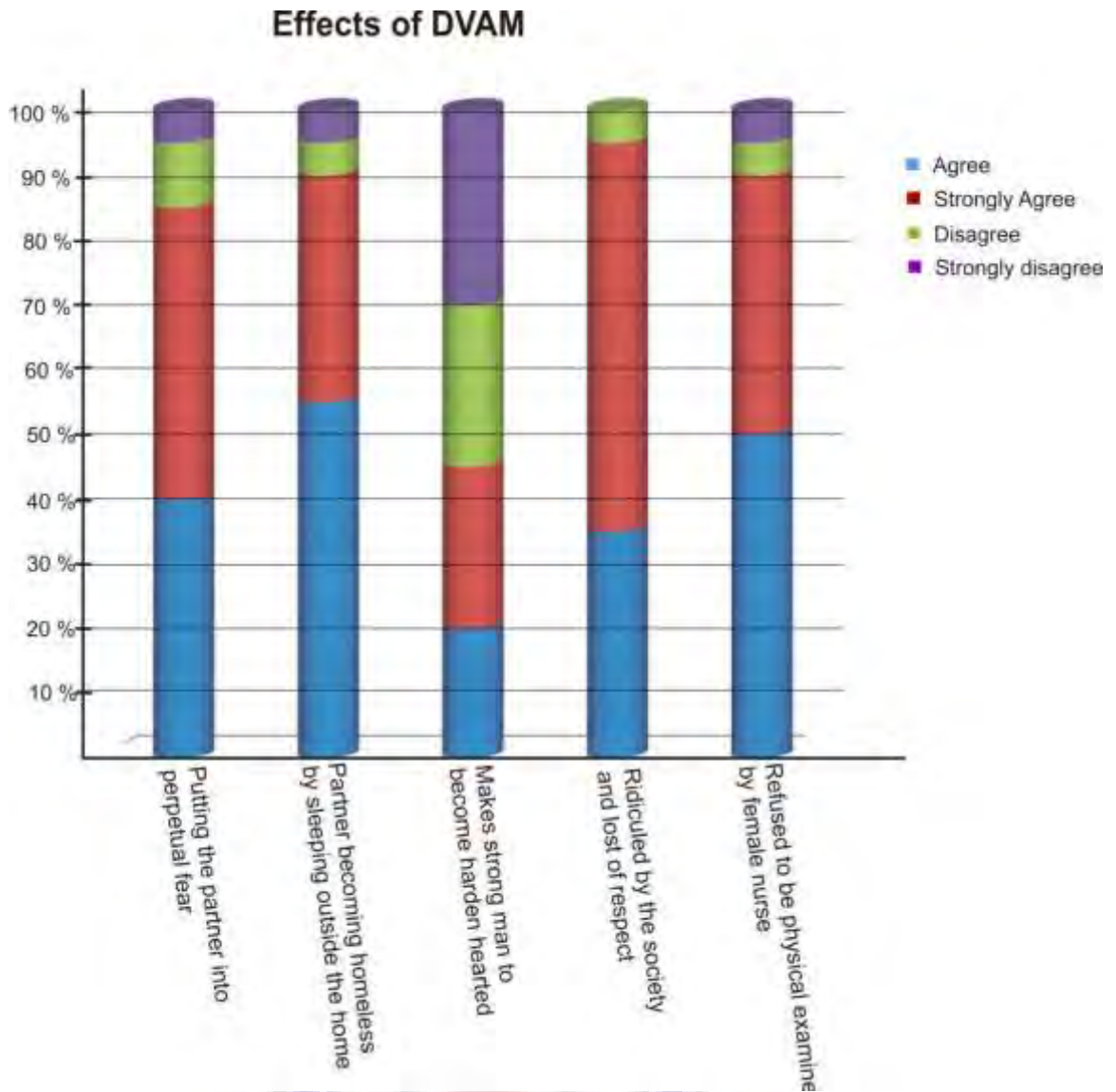


Figure 6: Statistics from Questionnaire

Author's construct, 2017

From the results above, 45% of the total respondents strongly agreed that men who are victims of violence from their partners/spouses are put into perpetual fear, while 40% agreed. Ten (10%) disagreed on the same statement, with only 5% of the respondent strongly disagreed. This finding is in line with a study by Lewis (2011) who posits that men go symptoms such as tightness in the stomach, muscular pain, racing pulse, thought distortion, and panic attacks. Perpetual fear and being 'on guard' were experienced by most participants of his study. Other commonly expressed reactions were feelings of lack of control and inadequacy and constant denigration of

the man, which often caused him to accept his partner's view of him, and to lose self-esteem.

Table 4.10 shows the finding on society's disbelieving the abused of men by their spouses/partners, makes men to become homeless. Thus feels uncomfortable staying home. Leaving the marital home is one of the noted strategies employed by the respondents. After a series of incidences of verbal, emotional and psychological abuse 55% of the total respondents agreed that men become homeless when no one believes them of being abused, while 35% strongly agreed. A total of equal 05% disagreed and strongly disagreed to the statement asked.

The study is confirmed by the argument made by Thomas, 1993:138 that a man who has been beaten by his wife or partner is most likely to be a psychologically broken man and being usually a very vulnerable personality who feels absolute shame and worthlessness. If an abused man seeks help as a victim of domestic violence, the majority of society will see it as a laughable situation. Society chooses not to believe the man. This creates the feeling of guilt and shame for the male victim (Cose, 1995). The prevalence of this issue in society can be symbolized as an iceberg with the tip being the number of cases that are ever brought to light and the major bulk showing the huge number of cases that are never known but cause significant morbidity. The number of reported cases of domestic violence is only a percentage of its actual occurrence within our society (Wiehe, 1998).

This situation was compounded by the fact that there was no other option for them but to either leave or accept the situation as it was, at least up to the time when leaving would be possible. This sense of powerlessness often led to intense emotional pain and feelings about death. The methods the men used to avoid potentially violent

situations included avoiding close contacts with the wife, remaining calm and passive, locking themselves in a safe place, getting home late, staying at a friend's place but without divulging the reason, sleeping in the car, the bath tub, shed, garage or wherever they could find shelter. (Lewis, 2001)

Table 4.10 again present findings on strong men becoming harder and stronger when he is abused by the partner/spouse in marriage/relationship. Of the statement asked, 25% of the respondents strongly agreed with 20% agreed, while 25% disagreed and 30% disagreed. This shows that men do not become harder to resist violation from their spouses but rather, are put into total confusion and uncertainty. This then affect men on their job to the extent of risking injury and believe that the abuse was due to their fault. Cleary (2004) is of the view that emotional/psychological abuse remains concealed, male victims talk about being deeply depressed, isolated and even feeling suicidal. (Cleary, 2004)

Additionally, the Table 4.10 again reveals the responses on violence meted to men in marriages/relationship that makes them to be ridiculed by the society and lose respect in the long run. Majority of 60% respondents strongly agreed to the statement, with 35% agreeing. More so only 05% responded to disagreement and with no records to strongly disagree. Research carried out by McKeown and Kidd (2003) highlights a common trend throughout their research. They found that victims of domestic violence invariably experience powerlessness within the relationship. Wiehe (1998) held the view that being the victim of domestic abuse is destructive to one's self-esteem and self-image. Men, due to their status of being tough and insensitive by nature; do not share such experiences with anyone due to the fear of being further abused or ridiculed (Barber, 2008). Hence they bear this violence in silence and go through a series of physical and psychological trauma which make their lives

miserable. Nevertheless, Table 4.10 again reveals on the responses that men who do receive violence refuse to be physically examined by female nurses. Forty (40%) strongly agreed to the statement asked, with the majority of 50% agreed. Equal of 05% responded on strongly disagreed and disagreed. This is similar to the notion of Barber (2008) who said that male victims of intimate partner violence may experience broken limbs, stab wounds, teeth marks, deep scratches and lacerations, inappropriate comments, fear and intimidation, and emotion aggression (Barber, 2008). Consequently, these male victims may refuse physical examination by nurses, particularly female nurses or seek the support of health professionals and services

4.5 Data Analysis on Interview Guide

The study specifically draws data from an interview of five (5) women, and five (5) men, of which were selected for further in-depth study from the total respondents of twenty (20) men who did answer the questionnaires. The data presented here focus on the socio-economic profile of the ten (10) respondents of five (5) each of male victims and female perpetrators selected for intensive study, their lived experiences in connection with domestic violence, the strategies they adopted in dealing with their experiences and their perceptions of abuse. The motives of those women who perpetrate violence on men are also presented here, drawn from five (5) women who agreed to participate in the study. All views represented here were elicited through interviews with the researcher as the facilitator, focusing on the three main objectives stated for the study. Interview results are presented here in direct quotations as responded by respondents. The items for discussion were proposed orally in local language (Twi) and in English language.

4.6 Male Victims Interviewed

Sub question one (1) was stated as follow: For how long have you been in your marital relationship?

Case 1, Mr. Sefa (not real name) “has married for nine (9) years and still in the same marriage.”

Case 2, Mr. Omari (not real name) “has married for thirteen (13) years but divorced now.”

Case 3, Mr. Sarpong (not real name) “has married for eleven (11) years with three kids with my wife.”

Case 4, Mr. Adjei (not real name) “has married for about seven (7) years but now divorced with two kids.”

Case 5, Mr. Fritz (not real name) “We have been married for eight (8) years with one kid (boy) of seven years with no other child elsewhere.”

From the analysis above, it is revealed that all the respondents are married men and that none of the marriages has lasted beyond fifteen (15) years. All the respondents have been married for above six (6) years to thirteen years, and the relationship of the victims and the domestic violence depicts that the victims have endured for long in violence by their spouses.

Sub question two (2) was stated as follow: What work do you do?

Case 1, Mr. Sefa (not real name) works with a private school in the Effiduase community.

Case 2, Mr. Omari (not real name) “I am an electrician and a repairer of electrical gadgets.”

Case 3, Mr. Sarpong (not real name) “is working in a pharmaceutical shop as counter attendant.”

Case 4, Mr. Adjei (not real name) “I am a barber and mobile money transfer operator, opposite to the Effiduase Police Station.”

Case 5, Mr. Fritz (not real name) “I am a graphic designer, and have a printing shop at the Roman Junction.”

The findings on the work the respondents do show that all the respondents are gainfully employed as private worker and self-employed worker. None has been gainfully employed by the government but majority of three (3) respondents representing 60% are self-employed with two (2) respondents representing 40% are working with the private sector. The nature of the work of the victims depicts that, most of the victims do not get home early in order to spend quality time with their spouses.

Sub question three (3) was stated as follow: What work does your partner do?

Case 1, Mr. Sefa (not real name) “my wife works with the New Juaben Municipal Assembly as revenue collector.”

Case 2, Mr. Omari (not real name) “my wife is a petty trader, she sells in a shop owned by her.”

Case 3, Mr. Sarpong (not real name) “my is a professional teacher, she teaches in a public basic school in Koforidua here”

Case 4, Mr. Adjei (not real name) “my wife is a professional hair dresser with apprentices of three.”

Case 5, Mr. Fritz (not real name), “my wife works at the Regional Hospital, Koforidua.”

The study show that majority of three (3) out of the five (5) of the respondents’ partners/spouses, representing 60% are gainfully self-employed. Two (2) of the respondents’ partners/spouses, which represent 40% are employed by the government.

Sub question four (4) was stated as follow: What is your religious faith?

Case 1, Mr. Sefa (not real name) “I go to church.” This means he belong to the Christian faith. But he denounces the name of his church.

Case 2, Mr. Omari (not real name) “I worship with the Presbyterian Church in this community.” This supposes he is a Christian.

Case 3, Mr. Sarpong (not real name) “I am a Christian, I fellowship with the Christ Apostolic Church.”

Case 4, Mr. Adjei (not real name) “I do not attend any church and I am not a moslem or a traditional worshipper too.”

Case 5, Mr. Fritz (not real name) “I am a member of the Later Day Saint Church in the community.”

The analysis on the religious faith of the respondents reveals that all of the five (5) respondents, representing 100% were Christians, with no one (1) belonging to the Islamic or Traditional faith.

Sub question five (5) was stated as follow: What about your partner?

Case 1, Mr. Sefa (not real name) “She does not fellowship in the same church with me, but sometimes goes with me to my church.”

Case 2, Mr. Omari (not real name) “My wife fellowship with the Apostolic Revelation Church.”

Case 3, Mr. Sarpong (not real name) “She attend the same church with me.

Case 4, Mr. Adjei (not real name) “My wife is a Methodist Member, and fellowship with the Effiduase Assembly.”

Case 5, Mr. Fritz (not real name) “My wife fellowship with the Christ Apostolic Church. Her church is directly opposite to my church, near the Effiduase Police Station.”

The respondents responses on the religious faith of their partners/spouses show that; two (2) of the respondents wives, which represents 40% do fellowship in the same church with their husbands, while three (3) out of the five (5) respondents, represents 60% reveal that their partners/spouses fellowship in different churches other than their husbands churches. This reveals that most of the victims’ wives who do not attend same church with their husbands are not religiously stand to be passive and submissive to their husband’s authorities.

Sub question six (6) was stated as follow: Have you heard of domestic violence before?

Case 1, Mr. Sefa (not real name) “Yes I have heard about it, and have even seen it happening before.”

Case 2, Mr. Omari (not real name) “Yes I have heard about it.”

Case 3, Mr. Sarpong (not real name) “Yes I have heard about it, and do exist among people always.”

Case 4, Mr. Adjei (not real name) “I have heard about, it has happened to me before.”

Case 5, Mr. Fritz (not real name) “Yes I am aware of domestic violence existence.”

From the above analysis on whether respondents have heard of domestic violence before, it was revealed that all the five (5) which represent (100%) respondents have heard about it, with one of the respondents confessing that “it has happened to me before.” Though these men are victims on the records of DOVVSU, I needed a confirmation by the victims themselves, so the question above was asked.

Sub question seven (7) was stated as follow: What is domestic violence about?

Case 1, Mr. Sefa (not real name) “I see domestic violence as a shock. That is to say, when someone does something bad or say something bad to you when you least expected.”

Case 2, Mr. Omari (not real name) “Domestic violence is like someone showing domination of power on another person.”

Case 3, Mr. Sarpong (not real name) “Domestic violence is when one exercises his/her muscles strength on another with physical pains and emotional disturbance.”

Case 4, Mr. Adjei (not real name) “To me domestic violence is when ones right is infringed upon by denying him/her of all or any of his/her right.”

Case 5, Mr. Fritz (not real name) “Domestic violence means doing something bad to a love one for the one to go through some degree of pains.”

The study shows that all the five (5), representing (100%) respondents have an idea of what domestic violence mean. They all have been able to give a gest of what domestic violence means. This is so clear that they have been victims of domestic violence.

Sub question eight (8) was stated as follow: Have you ever been abused by your partner before?

Case 1, Mr. Sefa (not real name) “Hmmm, yes I have been abused by my partner. At first I felt that domestic violence against men is not a reality. Being a victim has challenged my leadership as a man at home, and has made me to have a change of perception about domestic violence.”

Case 2, Mr. Omari (not real name) “I have been abused by my partner before, not just once, but quite often. There was a time my partner and I was struggling, and mistakenly stepped on some sharp object that wounded me.”

Case 3, Mr. Sarpong (not real name) “Yes I have been abused before. My wife disliked to see me going out with some friends, especially when they visit me at home. She claimed that my friends encouraged me to be cheating on him.”

Case 4, Mr. Adjei (not real name) “Yes I have been abused before. For me the main problem that I used to face at home is that, each time that there are some expenses to be bear and I decide on what to do and how to go about doing it, she would tell me to my face that I missed manage finances. She would kept complaining and insulting me with different names because she was not impressed of whatever I do for her.”

Case 5, Mr. Fritz (not real name) “I have been through some form of violence before. At any least provocation, she would hit me with any object she finds around. She

always subjected me to emotional, physical and verbal abuse. I shall consider divorce when she does not change for the better.”

There is a clear indication from the above analysis that all the five (5) respondents which represent a total of (100%), have been through some form of abuse and are still experiencing it in grief. But despite that all the respondents are going through some form of abuse, they all have maintained their marriages, except one who made a statement that; “I am looking forward to see what becomes of the New Year (2017). If it still happens like in the past, then I will divorce on strong grounds against her.” The above responses attest that the victims have been abused before.

Sub question nine (9) was stated as follow: Who do initiate the violence in your relationship?

Case 1, Mr. Sefa (not real name) “We both do initiate violence at home unaware, but most times it does come from my wife. Sometimes we quarrel over little things done wrongly by our children, which escalate into violence.

Case 2, Mr. Omari (not real name) “I can say that it has been initiated by both because we do not understand each other sometimes.”

Case 3, Mr. Sarpong (not real name) “It’s always start by my wife. She would deliberately accuse me of promiscuous behavior. She would force me to have sexual intercourse with her on several occasions, because she merely suspects me. I would at times give in on most occasions but against my wish.”

Case 4, Mr. Adjei (not real name) “I think it starts by me because I used to complain on finances, yet I drink liquor. All the financial committed has been a burden on me, and each time I complained, she would tell me to look for a decent work and should also stop drinking to be able to foot all bills and expenses.

Case 5, Mr. Fritz (not real name) “There has been squabbles between my wife and I over issues including insufficient income in the home. For me I cannot categorically say it has been initiated by anyone of us, but it comes spontaneously.”

The study on who does initiate the violence in their relationship was revealed that some of the violence do happens spontaneously, without knowing who actually started it, while it is sometimes start by either the male or the female partner.

Sub question ten (10) was stated as follow: What form of abuse have you been subjected to before?

Case 1, Mr. Sefa (not real name) “My wife can speak and enact disturbances beyond expectation on little things, which do stressed me emotionally and leave me on depression at all times.”

Case 2, Mr. Omari (not real name) “The abuse I have been through has been associated with injuries. Even as am speaking now with you here, I am suffering from a broken tooth. I have been abused for long and I am thinking about what to do this time.”

Case 3, Mr. Sarpong (not real name) “My partner frequently hits me with any object she would fine around when her anger escalates in arguments. Her behavior affected the quality of life for me as well as the kids at home.”

Case 4, Mr. Adjei (not real name) “I am always put into perpetual fear upon her rudeness. She uses words as weapon to torment me, making me depressed.”

Case 5, Mr. Fritz (not real name) “I am psychologically broken and feels vulnerable with her abnormal behaviours she put up when am not economically sound.”

It is revealed from the above study on the form of abuse that the respondents are

subjected to that, there is clear evidence of prevalence of one form or other form of violence meted to partners in their respective homes.

Sub question eleven (11) was stated as follow: Which type/form of the abuse affected you the most?

Case 1, Mr. Sefa (not real name) “Even though, all abuse types are hurting, the emotional form do affected me most of the time.”

Case 2, Mr. Omari (not real name) “Like I told you before, am seriously suffering from a broken tooth and other minor injuries as a result of the abuse situations I do face at home.”

Case 3, Mr. Sarpong (not real name) “I have been affected with bodily pains, because she likes hitting me, bitten or scratched me with her devilish nails.”

Case 4, Mr. Adjei (not real name) “Her endless shouting, calling me all sort of names, and insulting, paralysed my ego and breaks my defense system. This makes me fear her the most.”

Case 5, Mr. Fritz (not real name) “She kept making demands and would want to spend all I earned on luxuries and abuse me because we were getting deeper into debt. In fact as I speak now, I am in financial deprivation.”

The views of all the total respondents on the above interview present a clear image that the male partners are most affected with one type of abuse from the other in their various homes, which include; physical, emotional, psychological, economical, and social.

Sub question twelve (12) was stated as follow: What did you do after the abuse?

Case 1, Mr. Sefa (not real name) “I do move away from the vicinity of the scene in order to deal with the humiliation I have received from my partner, until last year when my younger brother visited me and had the opportunity to witness the kind of abuse that I have been receiving. My brother, who felt that my wife was unnecessarily aggressive and domineering, made a report on the situation to the Effiduase Police. I later on followed him to the station, and was referred to the hospital for physical examination. I was treated, given the medical report, and counselled on adjusting my work schedule to avoid further occurrences.

Case 2, Mr. Omari (not real name) “I do sometimes accept the blame for the acts of violence and feel as though I have done something wrong to have caused my partner to abuse me. When I accept blames and remained quiet, she would not stop, but rather becomes more powerful and misbehaved the more towards me. There had been previous episodes of disagreements with her in which she had physically abused me. I made several complaints to her parents until I became fed up with her conducts and made an unofficial report to one of my friends whom were a community policeman. He helped made a report of this present episode to the police and was asked to obtain a medical report from a physician. I refused divulging the cause of the disagreements. Physical examination revealed scratches on the neck, bruises on the head, and superficial burns on the right calf which was painted with gentian violet. A diagnosis of husband abuse was made. I was treated and given the medical report for the police.”

Case 3, Mr. Sarpong (not real name) “All the violence acts meted to me are done behind closed doors, so I have never felt to report it to anyone before because of my socio economic status in the community. One day, in one of the incidence, she runs

out of her devilish behavior to make a complaint to the police that I have laid my hands on her and then stepped on her lower abdomen, which was found to be untrue. Later investigation proved that she was rather hurting me both physically and emotionally. A medical form was given me to be taken to the hospital for physical examination, was treated and discharged.”

Case 4, Mr. Adjei (not real name) “I was said to be a problem drinker and was in the habit of beating my wife when I am drunk. I sustained these injuries on my body when my wife reacted in self-defense and reported the incidence to the police. A diagnosis of domestic violence was made after I have been physically examined and was treated of my wounds; I was then referred to the psychiatrists for further management.”

Case 5, Mr. Fritz (not real name) “I find it hard to see myself as a victim of domestic violence and feel shy too, because of that I find it hard to seek for help from anyone. I believe ‘help’ is gender based; only women and children are helped, but I released that I needed help at the long run, so I master courage to go to the police station to make official complaint about my situation. I had the thought that this will be a laughable something but was rescue.”

It was revealed from the above study on what the victims do after the abuse, that almost all the five (5) respondents, representing (100%) felt reluctant to make official complain, until someone comes to their aid. Two (2) out of the total of five (5) respondents, representing (40%) boldly made official report at the Effiduase Police Station, while the remaining of the majority of three (3) of the respondents, representing (60%) could not make the reports by themselves but through the help of a relative or a neighbour.

4.7 Characteristics of the Abused

The victims characteristic were also viewed as contributing factors towards domestic violence. The research found out that the victims of domestic violence at times feel that they have failed to fulfill their roles, thus being a husband and father therefore deserve to be abused by their partners. Financial and emotional dependence was also highlighted as the characteristic of victims which later cause domestic violence in spousal relationship. A significant percentage of the participants argued that the roles have shifted; some of the perpetrators are the ones who take care of their families thus financially, socially and even emotionally. The vows made on the wedding days have left wounds on women because they remember and keep the vows to them “till death do us part” has increased cases of domestic violence. This found support from the victims and perpetrators of domestic violence.

4.8 Data on the Background of Female Spouse Participants

Table 4.11: Gender of the Female Participants (N=5)

Sex	Number	Percentage (%)
Male	-	000
Female	5	100
Total	5	100

Source; Field Data, 2017

The gender distribution of respondents shown on the table 4.11 above focused on only five wives as female respondents on female perpetrators of domestic violence against men, representing 100%. This indicates the willingness of the perpetrators on domestic violence abuse to come out and respond to questionnaires in connection with the domestic violence they have meted in the privacy of their homes.

Table 4.12: Age Ranges of Female Participants. (N=5)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage (%)
<i>Gender: Females</i>	20	100
<i>Age</i>		
20-29years	0	00
30-39years	2	40
40-49years	2	40
Above 50years	1	20
Total	5	100

Source: Field Data, 2017.

In relation to age distribution on the table above, there were no respondents between the ages of 20-29, 40% were between the ages of 30-39, 40% were between the ages of 40-49 and 20% were 50 years and above. This shows that the perpetrators are matured adults in their marriages.

Table 4.13: Marital Status of Female Participants. (N=5)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Single	0	000
Married	5	100
Divorced	0	000
Total	5	100

Source: Field Data, 2017.

As part of the research, the female respondents were asked on the interview to mention their marital status as of the time the research was being conducted. The results indicated on the above that no one was single; all the five (5) respondents representing 100% were married.

Table 4.14: Employment of Female Participants. (N=5)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Employed(Government)	1	20
Private	1	20
Unemployed	1	20
Students	0	00
Self-employed	2	40
Total	5	100

Source: Field Data, 2017.

Furthermore, the study also looked at the level of employment of the female respondents and the findings from the research shows that majority 40% of the perpetrators are self-employed, with one (1) respondent gainfully employed in the government sector which constitute 20%, 20% unemployed, 20% being working with the private sector and no one was a student. The above information revealed that, the perpetrators are working careers supporting their husbands at home.

Table 4.15: Educational level of Female Participants. (N=5)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Non- formal education	-	00
Primary	-	00
Middle/JHS	2	40
Secondary	3	60
Tertiary	0	00
Total	5	100

Source: Field Data, 2017.

Table 4.15 shows that some respondents' highest level of education was secondary, which represents 60% majority. Followed by Middle/JHS level of education which is represented by 40%, and there were no respondents on Primary level of education. Also, no one had non- formal education, but respondents had attained at least JHS

education. These criteria were important to ensure that the participants understood the questions and were in a position to articulate their responses. Also their educational level depicts that they do understand their own actions they took against their partners.

Table 4.16: Religious Affiliation of Female Participants. (N=5)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Christian	4	80
Moslem	-	00
Traditionalist	1	20
Total	5	100

Source: Field Data 2017.

Table 4.16 shows the distribution of religious affiliation of the respondents. It is revealed that 80% were Christians; no one was a Moslems, and 20% of one (1) person is a traditionalist, meaning she neither belongs to the Christian nor Moslem religion. It could be seen from the data gathered that religious background of respondents formed part on the bases upon which perceptions are held. Almost all the perpetrators are Christians, but do not abide by their religious principles of submissiveness. This is in line with (Lentz, 1999; Van der Hoven, 2001) ascertaining that religious beliefs form the sources from which generalizations arise according to female submissiveness and male dominance as inscribed in many religions and often result in abuse. They hold the view that each religion has its own perceptions as to what constitute acceptable behaviour of its members in terms of domestic violence. Gadzekpo (1999; 121) in Cusack and Manuh, (2009) in a study opines that in Islam for instance, the Qur'an says women are under men and must be submissive to men. She continued to say that girls in Muslim communities are pressured to marry when they reach the age of

puberty due to the notion that they will lead immoral lives and this makes them to marry men not of their own choice and such marriages is prone to violence.

4.9 Female Perpetrators Interviewed

A total of five (5) female perpetrators were interviewed to ascertain the true reasons of their actions against their partners. Among these respondents, only one of them had her husband among the men who were interviewed earlier above.

Sub question one (1) was stated as follow: For how long have you been in your marital relationship?

Case 1, Mrs. Fritz (not real name) “I have been married for eight (8) years with one kid (boy) of seven years with no other child elsewhere.”

Case 2, Elsie (not real name) “I have been in my marriage for almost ten (10) years now with three (3) children.”

Case 3, Yaa Asamoah (not real name) “I have been married for six (6) years.”

Case 4, Biamah (not real name) “I am in my seventh (7) year of marriage.”

Case 5, Naana (not real name) “I have been married for seven (7) years with two children.

The above analysis on the perpetrators’ number of years in their marriages shows that, all their marriages are above five (5) years to ten (10) years. One (1) of the respondents has the highest number of ten (10) years in her marriage, followed by one (1) respondent for eight (8) years, two (2) of the respondents for seven (7) years, and last but not the least, one has been in her relationship for six (6) years.

Sub question two (2) was stated as follow: What work do you do?

Case 1, Mrs. Fritz (not real name) “I am a health worker at the Koforidua Regional Hospital.”

Case 2, Elsie (not real name) “I work at the Tigo office as a customer attendents.”

Case 3, Yaa Asamoah (not real name) “I used to work as a cook in one of the private Basic schools, but I fell sick for some weeks and I have been replaced, so am jobless now.”

Case 4, Biamah (not real name) “I sells food stuffs in a small kiosk in front of our house,”

Case 5, Naana (not real name) “I am a self-employed seamstress with some apprentices.”

The findings on the work the respondents do, show that one (1) out of all the five of the respondents, representing (10%) is gainfully employed as government worker, with equal one (1) representing (10%) working with the private sector, while two (2) of the respondents, representing (40%) are self-employed workers. Only one (1) of the respondent, which represents (10%), has no job doing presently. Most the perpetrators are gainfully employed, but their attitudes towards domestic violence are negative in the home.

Sub question three (3) was stated as follow: What work does your partner do?

Case 1, Mrs. Fritz (not real name) “He is a graphic designer and have a printing shop at the Roman Junction.”

Case 2, Elsie (not real name) “My husband works with the Public Works Department (PWD) as a driver.”

Case 3, Yaa Asamoah (not real name) “My husband is a land surveyor at the Town and Planning Department.”

Case 4, Biamah (not real name) “My husband is a mechanics at the Cocoa Marketing Board’s work.”

Case 5, Naana (not real name) “He is the assistant manager at the Metro Transport Office at Effiduase High ways.”

The analysis above shows that all the five (5) of the respondents’ partners/spouses representing (100%) are gainfully employed by the government in the public sector.

Sub question four (4) was stated as follow: What is your religious faith?

Case 1, Mrs. Fritz (not real name) “I fellowship with the Christ Apostolic Church, which is directly opposite to the Later Day Saint Church, near the Effiduase Police Station.”

Case 2, Elsie (not real name) “I attend church with Church of Christ at Effiduase Assembly.”

Case 3, Yaa Asamoah (not real name) “I am a member of the Salvation Army Church at Asokore, near Effiduase.”

Case 4, Biamah (not real name) “I worship with the Light House Chapel at Effiduase here, directly opposite to the Post Office.”

Case 5, Naana (not real name) “I am a Catholic member at the Saint Theresa’s Parish, Effiduase.”

The analysis on the religious faith of the respondents reveals that all of the five (5) of the respondents, representing (100%) were Christians, but fellowshipping in different churches. There was no one (1) belonging to the Islamic or Traditional faith. This

revealed that though, perpetrators are all Christians, they are not guided by their Christian principles of submissiveness.

Sub question five (5) was stated as follow: What about your partner?

Case 1, Mrs. Fritz (not real name) “He is a member of the Later Day Saint Church in the community.”

Case 2, Elsie (not real name) “My husband is also a member of the Church of Christ at Effiduase Assembly with me.”

Case 3, Yaa Asamoah (not real name) “He fellowship together with me at the Salvation Army Church, at Asokore near Ffiduase.

Case 4, Biamah (not real name) “He is also a Light House Chapel member, we are all in the same church, but not so regular due to his work schedules.”

Case 5, Naana (not real name) “We use to fellowship together at the Saint Theresa’s Catholic Church but he has stopped about three years ago.”

It is revealed from the above study on what religion the respondent’s partners belong, that majority of the three (3) of the respondent’s partner’s, representing (60%) fellowship together with their wives, while one (1) of the partner, representing (10%) has stopped attending church while one (1) partner, representing (10%) attends different church other than the wife’s church. This then shows that the victims’ wives are Christian, but not bothered by their religious faith of respect to their husbands.

Sub question six (6) was stated as follow: Have you heard of domestic violence before?

Case 1, Mrs. Fritz (not real name) “I have heard about it.”

Case 2, Elsie (not real name) “Yes I have heard about it before.”

Case 3, Yaa Asamoah (not real name) “Yes I have heard it before.”

Case 4, Biamah (not real name), she gave a smile and responded “yes I have.”

Case 5, Naana (not real name) “Yes I have heard and know about it.”

From the above analysis on whether respondents have heard of domestic violence before, it was reveal that all the respondents representing (100%) have heard about domestic violence, with one of the respondents giving a smile in the attempt to answer the question ask.

Sub question seven (7) was stated as follows: What is domestic violence about?

Case 1, Mrs. Fritz (not real name), “It means hurting someone by treating him/her badly.”

Case 2, Elsie (not real name), “It is an expression of anger on a love one that has done something wrong to the partner.”

Case 3, Yaa Asamoah (not real name), “It is a stretch of anger on family member(s) that leaves some pains to the one involved.”

Case 4, Biamah (not real name), “Hurting someone without any reasonable basis.”

Case 5, Naana (not real name), “Reacting hastily on an issue at home by wounding someone.”

The study shows that all the five (5) the respondents, representing (100%) have an idea of what domestic violence means. They all have been able to give a concept of what domestic violence means. This is an indication that they might be conscious of the violence acts that go on in their respective families.”

Sub question eight (8) was stated as follows: Have you ever been abused by your partner before?

Case 1, Mrs. Fritz (not real name) “I have experienced some form of abuse from the hands of my husband. He often uses harsh and inappropriate words on me each time I offended him or when he looks forward for something to be done, and I am not able to do it within the time frame.

Case 2, Elsie (not real name) “My uncle’s wife one day hit me with pestle, after I mistakenly poured out leftover soup eaten and left by one of her children. This has left a big scar at the left on my forehead. My mother died when I was young, and that made my uncle to bring me to his home, so I grew up under the care of his cruel wife who has always been treating me badly in the presence of our neighbours.”

Case 3, Yaa Asamoah (not real name) “Yes I have experienced abuse of violence before at my childhood stage, even up to adolescence. It is something that I have witnessed happening at home between my parents.

Case 4, Biamah (not real name) “I used to be beaten by my parents when I do something wrong, with the least provocation. Also, during my childhood days, whenever I played with friends and someone hit or beat me, my father would encourage me to go and do likewise to the fellow.

Case 5, Naana (not real name) I have witnessed it before, my brothers used to beat me up when we were growing. I followed three boys and one other boy after me, with

whom our age difference is much close. Besides, my husband behaves same as my brothers used to do to me when we were growing together. This is because he thinks I am bad luck to him.

There is a clear indication from the above analysis that almost all the respondents have been through some form of abuse during their childhood under the care of their parents or guardians. One (1) of the respondents, representing (10%) says that the husband used to be abusive towards her. But despite that all the respondents have gone through some form of abuse, they all have maintained their marriages. This study is in confirmation of the social learning theory propounded by Bandura, (1973).

The social learning theory stresses the nature versus nurture debate (Viano, 1992:8). It states that aggression and violence are learned behaviors that can be passed on from one generation to the next. This aggression and violence manifests within particular social contexts, such as households where alcohol and/or drug abuse is prevalent. Social learning theory put forward that violence is learned through observation; the basic premise of this view is that physical aggression between family members provides a likely model for the learning of aggressive behavior, as well as for the appropriateness of such behavior within the family (Bandura, 1973). Thus, intergenerational transmission of violence stems primarily from principles of modeling (Doumas et al., 1994: 49).

This theory also proposes that a violent background may reinforce early signs of violent behavior not only by exposing individuals to violence, but by teaching approval for the use of violence (Gelles, 1972). As a result, children may grow up concluding that violence is sometimes a necessary and effective strategy for achieving

behavioral change in family and intimate relationships (Simons et al., 1998). Reinforcement plays a role in learning but is not entirely responsible for learning.

This theory was relevant to the study since it attempted to explain the presence of integration transmission of violence. Children who grow up in a violent and abusive set up may learn violent/abusive behavior, imitate those behaviors and then repeat them in future relationships. In a nutshell, when applied to domestic violence, social learning theory states that we model behavior that we have been exposed to as children. Violence is learned, through role models provided by the family, either directly or indirectly, and reinforced in childhood and continued in adulthood as a coping response to stress or a method of conflict resolution (Bandura, 1973).

Sub question nine (9) was stated as follow: Who do initiate the violence in your relationship?

Case 1, Mrs. Fritz (not real name) “It has been happening spontaneously between my husband and I. There are always quarrels in our marriage over little things at home for some years now. Due to these constant squabbles I have been always ready to face and defend myself from any of his actions.”

Case 2, Elsie (not real name) “I must admit that it has always been me who used to start a conflict at home leading to violence. He is the quiet type, and would sometime not listen to me, even when am telling him what had happen at home in his absence.

Case 3, Yaa Asamoah (not real name) “I cannot tell who start violence at home. We both have been arguing out some issues which need to be solved, but would always come home late being drunk, making him to behave as if he care not. I do lose my temper each time I see him in that condition.”

Case 4, Biamah (not real name) “It sometimes starts by me or by my partner. We both are initiators, because we all do not accept that some of our actions hurt each other.

Case 5, Naana (not real name) “I have been having quarrels with my partner each time he blames me to be a bad luck person in his life. He upsets me with his constant behavior. The study on who does initiate the violence in their relationship was revealed that some of the violence does happen spontaneously, without knowing who actually started it, it is sometimes start by my partner or by me. One of the respondents representing (10%) clearly admits that she has been an initiator of violence in their home due to her husband quietness.

Sub question ten (10) was stated as follow: What form of abuse have you been subjected to before?

Case 1, Mrs. Fritz (not real name) “I have been feeling deprived economically when he is not financially sound. For some years now he has been shirking his responsibilities, making it difficult for me to keep up the home.

Case 2, Elsie (not real name) “My partner is the quiet type of person who would not have time to communicate with me to know what bothers me. This kind of his behaviour troubles me emotionally, because I am also socially friendly to people around me.

Case 3, Yaa Asamoah (not real name) “I could recollect clearly how my parents used to fight openly before our neighbours, and would threaten my mother to pack and leave his house without considering ‘we’ his children. There are flashbacks of some of these scenes of violence which I did experience throughout my childhood to the adolescence stage which has traumatized me psychologically.

Case 4, Biamah (not real name) “I used to be beaten by my parents during my childhood days at the least provocation, and my dad would encourage me to retaliate whenever any of my friends beat me up during playing time. This has left me scars and marks over my body parts.

Case 5, Naana (not real name) “I have been going through abuse in the hands of my brothers and in my marriage as I speak with you now. The one that affects me the most is when my partner would prevent me from associating with my friends. He treats me like he possesses power over my freedom, am so confused.”

It is revealed from the above study on the form of abuse that the respondents are subjected to that, there is clear evidence of prevalence of one form or other form of violence meted to partners in their respective childhood homes through to their marital homes, and this has been the major cause of them behaving violently in their relationships. .

Sub question eleven (11) was stated as follow: Which type/form of the abuse affected you the most?

Case 1, Mrs. Fritz (not real name) “Even though I am a health worker, I am just an attendant in the wards who runs errands. My salary is very meager, but my husband continued to shirk his responsibilities at home which make me handicapped financially. We squabbled all the time over financial commitments.

Case 2, Elsie (not real name) “I remember how my uncle’s wife used to maltreat me and gave me a mark at the left corner of my forehead, which I always felt bad when I do talk about it.

Case 3, Yaa Asamoah (not real name) “My parents got divorce due to the frequent violence that used to happen at home. Due to this, my father came for me from my

mother after I became of age to stay with him and his new wife. I then became jealous of my father's wife and hated my father, though staying with them I used to resist my step mother when she instructed to do something.

Case 4, Biamah (not real name) "I do fear to be canning, but my parents would not spare me with it, because I used to be troublesome, my parents would beat and leave me with physical pains."

Case 5, Naana (not real name) "I am so sure that the kind of violence I had from my brothers and the fighting experience with my childhood friends has now made me so radical to my family members."

The views of the five (5) respondents on the above interview present a clear image that the female perpetrators, who were once abused in their various childhood homes and their marital, were most affected with one type of abuse from the other in their various homes, which include; physical, emotional, psychological, economical, and social.

Sub question twelve (12) was stated as follows: What did you do after the abuse?

Case 1, Mrs. Fritz (not real name) "Personally I have not reported my husband to anyone. I rather strive hard on him for our economic support in the home. He preferred to be pressurized before he attends to his responsibilities so I have also resorted to pressure him."

Case 2, Elsie (not real name) "I have once informed my in-laws about my partner's quietness towards me at home, and how he frowned, upon seeing friends with me. But it never yields any fruit. He is still quiet towards me, which am not bothered again."

Case 3, Yaa Asamoah (not real name) “I have been reporting to my husband’s elder brother who lives together with us in this community, about my partner’s constants drunkenness and the rowdy behaviour he puts up at home. He would not stop, and am trying to tell our pastor about it, perhaps he would pay heed for better.”

Case 4, Biamah (not real name) “We have both been causing violence at home, but none of us have done anything about it yet since I do not know who to confined in.

Case 5, Naana (not real name) “I have reported him more than once to our Rev. Father for prayers, because I usually see his behavior as abnormal and bewitching. I once visited the hospital after sustaining bruises on the hand and face in one of the fighting incidence. This was one of the situations that compelled me to complain to our Rev. Father, and was advised to resolve to those issues that have been culminating in fights.”

It was revealed from the above study that, one (1) of the respondents, representing (20%) admitted to have resorted to pressure the husband, since that is the only option she could do to achieve what she needed. Also, two (2) of the respondents, representing (40%) had complained to her in- laws about the behaviour of the husband, but was not paid hid to the situation, and two (2) others, representing (40%) have also complained to their Rev. Ministers to resolve their issues faced at home.

4.10 Characteristics of Perpetrators

There are certain characteristic trends that are showed by female perpetrators which the study have analysed with a view to better understand the motivation behind the violent and abusive behaviour females exhibit in private. A number of these characteristics have been examined and their explanatory power rated according to research results that have been carried out. Mental illness, power and control factors

over victims, poor communication skills, lack of self-control over aggressive behavioural patterns, denial and other excuses put forth to rationalize domestically abusive behaviour. With regard to mental illness, Austin and Scootsman-Eicher (2000) report that domestic violence only happens at home in private. The detections of physical abuse, such as bruises and cuts, are usually inflicted in places on the victims' body that are normally hidden by clothing. A mentally ill person with violent tendencies may act violently, regardless of the area of infliction. Moreover, if a person were suffering a condition of mental illness, due to their violent tendencies being uncontrollable and inconsistent, such behaviour would not happen just behind closed doors of the home. On the other hand, perpetrators of domestic violence intend to hit in certain places.

Power and control issues meaning women who satisfy their need for power through having an impact on, or control over their partner. Tillet (1999) states that to be effective, communication should involve the motivation to communicate, effective disclosure, clear precise messages, assertiveness, clarity of thought and language, empathy and effective listening. Perpetrators of domestic violence communicate aggressively towards their partners in the form of yelling, criticizing, and manipulating. According to Tillet's (1999) definition these forms of aggression are not effective ways of communicating. Perpetrators also tend to deny or minimize their abusive behaviour. Reasons put forward include feelings of shame of what they did, that the perpetrator cannot recall all the details due to being in an uncontrollable state of rage when the domestic violence occurred.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter provides a summary of the findings of the study; the types, causes and consequences of domestic violence against men in Effiduase. It also presents the recommendations and the conclusion of the study. The implications of the findings on the objectives are also discussed in details. Some of the recommendations were derived from the responses of the respondents.

5.1 Summary of the Findings

The sample size for the research were; twenty (20) responses on the questionnaire from the male abuse, and five (5) responses on interview guide from the female perpetrators, all amounting to a total of twenty (25) respondents. This handful of respondents was chosen due to unwillingness of some victims as well as the perpetrators to avail them of information to be obtained.

5.2 What Types/Forms of Abuse are meted out to Men in Effiduase Community?

The study reveals from the data that the married men in the Effiduase community go through a number of forms of abuse, but the main forms are physical; which includes slapping, beating, threats with object or weapon. Also emotional/ psychological includes; putting a person's spirit down, making them feel bad and intimidated. Sexual abuse involves sexual exploitation on the part of their partners; thus using sex to achieve a demand, and treating a partner as a sex object. Economic abuse includes; controlling access to employment, denial of food and controlling the entire household bill and expenditure. Verbal abuse involves the use of harsh and in appropriate words

to degrade and humanize individuals. Last but not the least is social abuse. This includes; isolating victim from friends, families, and other relations.

5.3 What are the Causes of Violence against Men in Effiduase Community?

Every respondent was passionate in declaring that finance and alcoholism were the main cause of DVAM in Effiduase. Whenever men are financially broken and also indulge in alcoholism, they fail to sufficiently provide their families with the basic need; their roles are taken up by women. Men who over indulge themselves in alcoholism abscond their family obligations and on the contrary they are taken up by women in violence to control home. Another major cause of violence in their marriages emanate from the fact that, their female partners had once lived in an abused environment of violence during their childhood days.

Some women in Effiduase are very entrepreneurial in small businesses and very hardworking to the extent that they do not entirely rely on men to provide them with all support, they are somewhat well up. More so some of the women are educated, ranging from the basic to at least SHS level and therefore know their rights and how to defend themselves in case of being abused. Education has enlightened them not to be slaves of men especially those who do not provide to support their families.

The findings of this study had offered sufficient evidence showing that women's aggression against their partner is a hard and indisputable reality, and that it is not different from men's violence against their female partners. There are obviously many factors contributing to this, but the most ones were; exposure to violence, power control over a partner, poor communication, and suspicion. These days because there has been shift in the perception of men and the prejudice against them in the public domain, women are now in a position of being able to exploit that power to the detriment of men. A woman can abuse a man with impunity, since she knows he will

have little, if any, recourse in the legal system, and that in the event of a breakdown in the relationship, she will have custody of the children and can use them as a weapon against her partner.

5.4 What are the Effects/Consequences of Domestic Abuse on Married Men in Effiduase Community?

All the participants agreed that men are extremely reluctant to ask for help for various reasons but mostly centered on masculinity and male pride. Male victims do not want to be seen as weak and unmanly. These actions and beliefs that men are not victims have been instilled in society therefore societal stereotypes have developed to only view men as abusers, not the abused. The oppression of male victims makes it hard for them to speak out and get help. Some male victims find it hard to comprehend that they are victims so choose to deny they are being beaten and abused. They make excuses for the violence because they claim they still love her, in this respect 'sometimes men are their own worst enemy'. Others are worried that if they seek help they may be charged as the perpetrator rather than victim.

Even though male and female victims share similar experiences, men have the added stigma of society to overcome so they do not always feel comfortable with female focused policies to deal with their experience of domestic violence. Therefore the participant concludes that the system does not work because there is not a system for it to work in men's' case. After establishing and completing the interviews, the general consensus amongst the participants was that there is a lack of help and support available to male victims of female perpetrated domestic violence, particularly because of the inherent social structures and attitudes within society and the lack of recognition of male victims amongst authorities. This supports the assumption that male victims of domestic violence rarely report cases of violence therefore providing

validity to the supporting literature and research into this area. Respondents were of the idea that the government hasn't done enough for male victims, stating that government deny and turn a 'blind eye' to the abused male. This can be described as institutional sexism with government ignoring the family figures that explicitly show men to be victims.

Another term used by a participant to describe government actions was 'lip service' as they listen and sympathize but never actually aid male victims through funding or awareness. The police try to be fair and equal when addressing domestic disputes but, regardless, they tend to discriminate against men due to innate societal stereotypes. The findings suggest that the police, for instance, feel comfortable in delivering a service they know which is a female centered service so in reality no matter how hard authorities try they will always tend to favor the female victim.

5.5 Recommendations

5.5.1 To the Male Victims

Male victims must be prepared to speak out their situations. I recommend also that, the male victims should be listened to and cared for in terms of abuse as done to the female abuse. Men are traditionally thought to be physically stronger than women, they might be less likely to talk about or report incidents of domestic violence in their heterosexual relationships due to embarrassment or fear of ridicule. They might also worry that the significance of the abuse will be minimized because they are men. Men should start by telling someone about the abuse, whether it's a friend, relative, health care provider or other close contact. At first, it might be difficult due to the male ego, but in the end, it is likely to bring about relief and the much-needed support.

5.5.2 To the Female Perpetrators

The perpetrators of domestic violence in this case women are to refrain from domestic violence. There is the need to think of something else which will make their husbands happier than abusing them all the time. For example, women are encouraged to form income generating projects so that their minds become heavily occupied rather than thinking of domestic violence as the last resort.

5.5.3 To the Communities

The research recommends that the victims form support groups in their communities to assist the domestically abused men so that they cope with the challenges of domestic violence which have some negative ramifications if not dealt with professionally. The community should now understand that domestic violence is not a one man problem; instead the community should react when it discovers that there is some form of violence occurring in surrounding homes. It is essential that more community based services are made available throughout the country. The community is supposed to report the cases of domestic violence to responsible authorities and law enforcers so that it can be easily collected and to be dealt with. The study also recommends that the churches in the communities be given time to preach gospel on marriage, the importance of marriages and how it is viewed by the bible as the majority of community people believe that there is a supreme being up there who controls our lives.

5.5.4 To the University

There was limited related literature on male victims of domestic violence in the university's library. When I looked for books on domestic violence against men in the university library none were present, but there was a lot of material available dealing with the issues surrounding female victims of domestic violence. In today's society

there is an urgent need for the provision of information to be more gender neutral in all universities in this country. Lastly, students of Social Studies Department should be encouraged to do a similar study to be replicated in large scale covering all male population, throughout the country in order to ascertain more information on the causes, types, and the effects of violence against men in the domestic setting.

5.5.5 To the Government

More and more awareness campaigns should be held to spread the causes, implications and where to seek help when caught in the domestic violence cycle. Furthermore, the government and civil society organizations should organize and provide adult literacy programs to teach both men and women and to provide them with family life education. A project design on gender issues should be developed to offer services such as information, education and communication programs. The organizations should develop behavioural change communication materials such as posters, and flyers, sensitization workshops and seminars and the effective use of the media to drum the message home to the people in the communities.

Stiffer penalties on domestically violent perpetrators should be enforced, thus the government need to intervene to reduce the occurrence or rate of domestic violence as can be deduced from the police statistics on figures that domestic violence is on increase annually. Possibly the government should consider working with different church leaders so that the two dimensions speak the same language on domestic violence, with major focus on causes and implications of domestic violence on the perpetrator, victims, juveniles and the community at large. In social work training too, there is the need for a gender-neutral emphasis to be put on the area of domestic violence in relation to victims and perpetrators. More men should also be encouraged

to enroll in social work training, in order to keep an eye on incidents, which are difficult, and even harder to be detected against men.

In addition, it is essential that newly trained social workers should be made more aware, and learn to be more open minded to the fact that men and women are victims of domestic violence. The research recommends that professionals like social workers, psychologists, counsellors, be part of court officials who assist the magistrate to elaborate on the type of abuse the victims might be going through. Finally, the government should organise series of workshops to disseminate the findings and recommendations at workshops for the various DOVVSU offices throughout the country. By so doing, the practicality of the study will be realised.

5.6 Conclusions

Battered husbands cut across all ages, educational levels, and socioeconomic classes. Male victims of domestic violence deserve the same recognition, sympathy, support, and services as do female victims. Domestic violence mostly leaves the victim depressed and anxious irrespective of gender. There may be a resort to alcohol abuse or drugs or can even trigger suicide attempts. Domestic violence is a complicated crime in which the offender targets those intimately closest to them and a crime in which the victim is oftentimes unwilling to report to law enforcement. Domestic violence offenders differ from other violent offenders in that they target those persons most intimate with them. In many cases, the domestic violence abuser may be normal by all public appearances, but within the confines of their own residence, seek to physically and psychologically terrorize and control others

The study concludes that men are also victims of violence at different social levels. Most of the time, they are neglected or even accused of being violent, rather than

being the subject of violence. This can be attributed to the fact that women in our society have an edge over men as they are mostly viewed as innocent and dignified. But many a times, they exploit this edge to their advantage and commit various horrendous acts of violence against men which are not limited to physical acts alone, but also include sexual, psychological, and emotional abuse. It is therefore suggested that violence should be treated as a gender problem, rather than a female or male problem. If domestic violence is to be effectively addressed, it is important to meet an important need which is the need for appropriate education on domestic violence related issues. Ghana's effort to eradicate domestic violence in the National Domestic Violence Policy and National Plan of Action (2008) calls for collaboration from the State through Parliament, Ministries, Departments and Agencies as well as Civil Society Organisations including NGOs, Professional Associations, Faith Based Organisations, and Traditional Authorities and Local Communities and Development Partners to play assigned key roles to ensure the successful implementation of the DV Act. The Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs (MOWAC) is charged with the responsibility of overall coordination of the DV Act. Under MOWAC, the Department of Women, Department of Children and the Domestic Violence Secretariat are tasked to actively engage in sensitisation and education programmes on domestic violence as well as conduct research on domestic violence related issues in Ghana. Also in this section, a summary of the major findings of the study were given and conclusions drawn from it. The section went further to give recommendations that will help all stakeholders especially the government to enhance its practice methodologies in order to effectively address reported cases of domestic violence in Ghana.

Generally, the researcher has observed that it is not always easy to determine in the early stages of a relationship if one person will become abusive. Domestic violence intensifies over time. Abusers may often seem wonderful and perfect initially, but gradually become more aggressive and controlling as the relationship continues. Abuse may begin with behaviors that may easily be dismissed or downplayed such as name-calling, threats, possessiveness, or distrust. Abusers may apologize profusely for their actions or try to convince the person they are abusing that they do these things out of love or care. However, violence and control always intensify over time with an abuser, despite the apologies. What may start as something that was first believed to be harmless (e.g., wanting the victim to spend all their time only with them because they love them so much) escalates into extreme control and abuse (e.g., threatening to kill or hurt the victim or others if they speak to family, friends, etc.). The researcher is of the opinion that, this thesis is not only an academic exercise given that it is an applied research.

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APPENDIX A

UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES

QUESTIONNAIRE

The research examines female domestic violence against men in Effiduase Koforidua in the New Juaben Municipality. I would be grateful if you could answer these questions for me in order to achieve this objective. Your responses would be treated confidential. Please tick () appropriately

Background Information

1. **Gender:** Male()Female()
2. **Age:** Below 20years() 20-29years () 30-39years () 40-49years () Above 50years
3. **Marital Status:**
Single ()
Married ()
Divorced ()
4. **Employment:**
Employed (Government) ()
Employed (Private) ()
Self Employed ()
Unemployed ()
Student ()
5. **Educational level:**
No formal education ()
Primary school ()
Middle/JSS ()
Secondary ()
Tertiary ()
6. **Religious Affiliation**
Christian () Moslem () Traditionalist ()

WHAT MEN THINK OF THE CONCEPT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The questions below are about what men think of the concept of domestic violence.

Indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with each statement by ticking () appropriately.

	Statement	Strongly Disagree (SD)	Disagree (D)	Agree (A)	Strongly Agree (SA)
1	Assaulting a partner/spouse in a relationship/marriage is part and parcel of marriage.				
2	Sexual abuse in marriage/relationship is part of the marriage				
3	Payment of bride price guarantees women to control men in marriage				
4	Women ought to sanction men for being drunkard in marriage/relationship				
5	Women ought to sanction men for blaming them (partners) in any misfortune in their relationship/marital life				
6	Violence serves as a means to solve marital/relationship problems				

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN

	Statement	Strongly Disagree (SD)	Disagree (D)	Agree (A)	Strongly Agree (SA)
7	Women abuse their husbands because they want to show off power.				
8	Men who take alcohol and drugs cause partners to be violent to them.				
9	Women who assault their husbands had dominant and aggressive parents who also engaged in domestic violence.				
10	Poverty in a relationship makes women to abuse their husband.				
11	Poor communication in a marriage/relationship causes women to abuse men.				
12	Women's violence against their partners in marriage/relationship is for self-defense.				
13	Frequent argumentations are recipes for female partners to be violent.				

FORMS/TYPES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE METED AGAINST MEN

	Statement	Strongly Disagree (SD)	Disagree (D)	Agree (A)	Strongly Agree (SA)
14	Female spouse dehumanize their husbands with harsh words.				
15	Negative sexual comments by female partners intrusively abuse their husbands.				
16	Female spouses who control finances at home abuse their husbands economically.				
17	Abused men who isolate and confine themselves to other environments from home feel emotionally upset.				
18	Female perpetrators of violence prevent their spouses from seeing friends and family members.				

THE EFFECTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON MEN

	Statement	Strongly Disagree (SD)	Disagree (D)	Agree (A)	Strongly Agree (SA)
19	Men who are victims of violence from their partners/spouses are put into perpetual fear.				
20	Society's disbelieving the abused of men by their partners makes them to become homeless.				
21	strong men become harder and stronger when he is abused by the partner/spouse in marriage/relationship				
22	Violence meted to men in marriage/relationship makes them to be ridiculed by the society and lose respect.				
23	Men who receive violence refuse to be physically examined by female nurses.				

APPENDIX B

UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES

THESIS INTERVIEW GUIDE

The research examines female domestic violence against men in Effiduase Koforidua in the New Juaben Municipality. I would be grateful if you could answer these questions for me in order to achieve this objective. Your responses would be treated confidential.

1. For how long have you been in your marital relationship?
2. What work do you do?
3. What about your partner?
4. What is your religious faith?
5. What about your partner?
6. Have you heard of domestic violence before?
7. What is domestic violence about?
8. Have you ever been abused by your partner?
9. Who do initiate the violence in your relationship?
10. What form of abuse have you been subjected to before?
11. Which type of the abuse affected you the most?
12. What did you do after the abuse?

APPENDIX C

INFORMED CONSENT FORM

1. **Research Topic:** Domestic Violence against Men: A Case Study at Effiduase in the Koforidua Municipality.
2. **Purpose of the Research:** This research is in partial fulfillment of the Master of Philosophy Degree in Social Studies.
3. **Benefits:** The findings of the study will be used as an advocacy tool for programme implementers and other stakeholders in the area of domestic violence to enable them provide the resources needed for designing appropriate programmes to advance the welfare of victims of domestic violence. This research will also contribute to knowledge in the social sciences.
4. **Anonymity and Confidentiality:** The names of all participants of this study will be treated with anonymity.
5. **Termination of Participation:** You have the freedom to at any given time withdraw from participating in this study if you so desire.
6. **Endorsement:**

I have read and clearly understood this consent form and willingly agree to participate in this research.

Date

Participant's Pseudo name

Signature

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