

Rethinking Safety at Home: Understanding the Complexities and Implications of Domestic Violence against Women during Lockdown and Beyond

*Razdha Parveen

Abstract

Domestic violence is a phenomenon which refers to all forms of violence perpetrated in the domestic sphere by one family member against another, which is perpetrated in the form of stalking, physical, sexual, and emotional violence. Domestic violence has been known to worsen in situations of social, economic, and financial distress such as that experienced during the COVID19 induced lockdown. Domestic Violence against women, a prevalent form of gender-based violence is well recognised as a public health menace which has cascaded like a viral disease among millions of households when more than half of the world has been under one or the other forms of lockdown during the pandemic. Domestic violence creates many negative impressions on the lives of victims in terms of emotional, social and economical aspects. This review paper focuses on domestic violence and highlights how it multiplies the pain of victims during lockdown period as well as after COVID-19. In addition, it boosts negative health outcomes of women who are already in the caged of global pandemic.

Key Words: Domestic violence, Health, Women, Lockdown, Complexities, Rethinking.

Introduction

Several researches indicated that the context of extreme events such as, war, conflict, disaster and pandemic emergencies, there is an increase in the prevalence of intimate partner violence or domestic violence. One of the latest extreme events being faced globally is the COVID 19 health emergency which has crossed international boundaries and constitutes a pandemic and has infected millions of people across the world. Lockdown have forced people to spend more time at home during government imposed quarantine measures (Pentaraki & Speake, 2020). Home is a place where everybody feels comfortable and safe but for some people it is not true. They face a regime of terror and violence where they should feel relaxed and loved. This category includes women

*Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh: 202002.