

**CONTRIBUTORY FACTORS LEADING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: A CASE STUDY
OF MANGAYA VILLAGE IN THULAMELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE
DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA**

BY

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Dissertation for the Master Degree in Gender Studies

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2017

Declaration

I, Nemasisi Rofhiwa Ronald, student number: 11622648 declare that dissertation for Masters Degree in Gender Studies entitled, *'Contributory Factors Leading to Domestic Violence: A Case Study Of Mangaya Village In Thulamela Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province, South Africa'* Written and submitted by me to the University of Venda in fulfillment of the Masters Degree in Gender Studies is my original work. No part of this research has been submitted for any degree at this or any other institution and all the references contained therein have been acknowledged.

Student's signature.....

Date.....

Nemasisi R.R

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the almighty God; I greatly thank you for giving me the wisdom, strength and capability to complete this research. I thank you Lord for giving me the opportunity to start and complete in good health and strengths, guiding me up to date.

To my supervisor Prof. Thobejane T.D. Thank you for your constant encouragement, support, patience, motivation, expert guidance and the extra hours that you put in to make this Dissertation a success. I am proud to call you my supervisor as you were like a Father to me. Thank you for everything you have done for me.

To my Co-supervisor Dr. Mogorosi L.D. Thank you for your constant encouragement, support, patience, motivation, expert guidance and the extra hours that you put in to make this Dissertation a success.

I would like also to express my warm thankfulness to my wife Khuthadzo Nedzingahe for the consistent support, unconditional love and financial support throughout my life notably throughout the course of my Masters degree; you contributed a lot to where my Dissertation is today.

Special thanks to Mulisa Princess Mapfumo, for your overwhelming support, encouragement, motivation and advice that you gave me. Thank you for everything you have done for me. May God bless you.

To my best friends Dakalo Ndanduleni, Isani Novhe, Munyai Ndivhuwo and Nditsheni Tshikonelo I would like to thank you for the support and words of encouragement.

To Dr L.N Maqubela and Ms T.P Mulaudzi, I would like to thank you for your overwhelming support, encouragement and motivation.

Lastly, to my siblings (Avhatakali (my Twin), Shavhani, Thivhavhudzi, Dzivhuluwani, Mpho) and friends I thank you all for your financial support, advice, encouragement, motivation and emotional support.

Stay blessed all the time!

Dedication

I dedicate this research to my late parents Mr. Nnzudzeni John Nemasisi and Mrs. Modjadji Joyce Nemasisi; I wish you were still alive to see the fruits of the seed that you sowed in me.

I also dedicate this research to my two kids, Dakalo (son) and Rialivhuwa (daughter) Nemasisi; I wish you to grow and follow on your father's footsteps and achieve much more than what I your father has achieved.

Thank you!!!!!!

Abstract

• Domestic violence is a social problem experienced by people in various settings and social relationships. Factors such as cultural beliefs, patriarchal practices, economic background, socialization process, gender stereotypes are key drivers of domestic violence in our communities. Internationally, the problem is said to be a social ill that contributes to many social problems. Domestic violence takes place across all walks of life regardless of race, age, sexual orientation or gender. It takes place in urban areas and in rural areas all over the world. Domestic violence happens to people who are legally or traditionally married and amongst intimate partners. This study therefore explores the contributory factors leading to domestic violence. The study made use of qualitative research approach. Purposive sampling procedure was used to identify participants who were more willing to take part in the study. The study used Semi structured interviews to collect data. Thus, discourse analysis was used in the study to analyse data. The study was conducted at Mangaya village in Thulamela Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province in South Africa. The study findings revealed that unemployment is a challenge and contributory factor leading to domestic violence, most of women had suffered domestic violence for a long period of time, children are directly affected by domestic violence within families, most women sacrifice themselves in order to save their marriages and protect their children. The findings of the study indicate that there are various aspects that contribute to the problem of domestic violence. The study recommends that community and police should actively work together in helping the victims of domestic violence to overcome their irrational thinking that is combed by remaining in abusive situations.

Key Words: Abuse, Domestic Violence, Emotional abuse, Feminism, Psychological abuse

List of Acronyms

AIDS	-	Acquired Immune-Deficiency Syndrome
DV	-	Domestic Violence
DVA	-	Domestic Violence Act
HIV	-	Human Immune-Deficiency Virus
NCADV	-	National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
POWA	-	People Opposing Women Abuse
WHO		World Health Organization

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Chapter 1: Background of the Study

1.1 Introduction

This study explores on the contributory factors leading to domestic violence in Mangaya village in the Thulamela Local Municipality, Vhembe District Limpopo Province. This chapter presents the background of the study, problem statement, its significance, aim and objectives of the study. It includes statistics on the prevalence of domestic violence and how it is influenced by patriarchy, culture, and socialization and how unemployment, poverty, substance abuse and school dropout rates influence or can be influenced by domestic violence.

1.2. Background of the Study

Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive and threatening behaviours that may include physical, emotional, economic and sexual violence as well as intimidation, isolation and coercion. Domestic violence is intentional behaviour; its purpose is to establish and exert power and control over another person (Basinskaite, Berg and Blache, 2011).

Domestic violence is a social problem which is experienced by people in various settings and in social relationships around the world. Factors such as cultural beliefs, patriarchal practices, economic background, socialization process, gender stereotypes are key drivers of domestic violence in our communities. Internationally, the problem is said to be a social ill that contributes to many social problems (Abayomi, 2013). At the micro- level, the ultimate responsibility of elimination of violence rests on the victims, meaning that only the victims themselves can eliminate the cycle of violence. The macro-level indicates that the focus must be on the society that should be critically analyzed and why such serious problems still exist and how to correct it (WHO, 2010; 2013).

Sureka, Mathur and Anshu, (2016) noted that the problem of domestic violence affects people from all walks of life regardless of race, age, sexual orientation or gender. It

takes place in urban areas and in rural areas and in all countries, whether developed or underdeveloped. Domestic violence happens to people who are legally or traditionally married and between just a girlfriend and a boyfriend. It goes beyond marriage and could be just a matter of an argument and it affects people differently within the family setting.

In the United States of America the problem of domestic violence is prevalent. Rennison (2010) confirms that 4 million American women experience a serious assault committed by their partners, while American households or families experience severe physical violence of a degree that has the probability of inflicting injury or death upon the victims because of being stabbed, punched or gunned down.

According to the ACLU Women's Rights Project conducted in 2014; there is much controversy as to how much violence exists in the United States of America. This is because most of this type of violence takes place behind closed doors and it is difficult to identify. However it is clear that there is a problem with the issue of family violence as it is reported that almost 4% of American families experience severe physical violence of a degree that has the probability of inflicting death upon victims because of being stabbed, punched and gunned down.

The World Health Organization (2011) reported that the number of individuals in the world who have experienced domestic violence, whether sexual or physical violence or both by the intimate partner, ranged from 15% to 75%, with the majority being aged 14 years and upwards (World Health Organization Report, 2011). An Indian National Family Survey, conducted between 2013 and 2014 found that a substantial proportion of married women have been physically or sexually abused by their husbands in their lives. The survey further indicated that nationwide, 37.2% of the women experienced violence after marriage. Bihar is one of the cultural-capital of India and has been a Centre of learning. Since ancient history, it was found to be the most violent with the abuse rate against married women being as high as 39%. Strangely 63% of the incidents were reported from urban families rather than the state's most backward villages (Bettinger-Lopez, 2011)

Domestic violence in India is endemic and widespread, predominantly against women. Around 70% of women in India are victims of domestic violence. The National Crime Records Bureau of (2013) revealed that crimes against women are mostly committed in the country, and every 3 minutes a woman is raped, a dowry death occurs every 77 minutes, and one case of cruelty is committed by either the husband a relative of the victim. In Karala, one of the Indian states, 13% of incidents of domestic violence take place, and in Pradesh, 40% of incidents of violence are reported (Johnson, 2014)

Women's rights in the Middle East have always been controversial. In other places such as Iran and Saudi Arabia, discriminatory practices against women are not only present but in some cases required by law such as women being denied to drive cars by law in Saudi Arabia. For most of the people, it is a way of life that is expected of women. In these countries patriarchy dominates as women are subordinated to men and the roles of leadership even in the work place is for males. Islamic religion is one of a kind that these countries follow and focus must be on how the religion has addressed the situation. Under Islam, women are equal to men in theory but in practice they are not. They are deliberately excluded from participating in most community activities and society and are not allowed to be in public places (Ali, 2011)

A study conducted by Alhabdan (2015) indicated that Middle East countries have a high rate of domestic violence. It is estimated that 70-90 % of women in Pakistan have suffered some form of violence or abuse. Most victims have no legal recourse as the law enforcement authorities do not view domestic violence as a crime. About 97% of the victims suffered assault and none of the case was considered. Other violent acts include bride burning as a way of punishment in case the strict rules have not been followed (Alhabdan, 2015)

On the African continent, domestic violence is a major problem. For a long time, the African continent has been affected by domestic violence, some of which can be attributed to cultural practices. Patriarchy, socialization, culture and gender roles prescribed by the society are the main contributors of domestic violence (Bhasin, 2006). The process of paying money (lobola) to ask for the woman's hand in marriage entitles women to become subordinate to men. No matter what happens they just must hold on

to their marriages and this influences domestic violence (Muthegheki et al., 2012). This is because that is what culture and the socialization process expects the women to do.

Research shows that most of the domestic violence cases are caused by cultural beliefs that gave men more power to control their partners and when partners refuse to be controlled it results into fight and quarreling. (Payton, 2014) indicates that factors such as cultural beliefs, patriarchal practices, economic background, the socialization process, gender stereotypes are some of the factors that fuel the practice of domestic violence in our communities. Payton, (2014) further indicated that internationally the problem is a social ill that contributes towards many social problems.

Family violence is a serious problem that challenges society at every level. Violence itself has a devastating effect on its victims, physically, economically, spiritually, financially and emotionally. It threatens the stability of families and has a negative impact on all family members and the society (Richters, 2014). The situation of domestic violence in South Africa clearly indicates that policies applied are not effective enough in examining the problem of domestic violence.

This social ill does not always leave the traces of physical bruises but goes deeper to the emotional, psychological, social, physical and cognitive development of victims that are long lasting. Domestic violence takes place daily and in various forms, not just the beating. However not much can be done about violence as socialization and culture have already set the standards that individuals abide by out of their will. Violence takes place behind closed doors; that's a fact, but usually the police, community members, and children are directly affected by it. The problem exists all over the world and it's broad and differs from country to country and how it is perceived from culture to culture (WHO, 2015).

Patriarchy stresses the point that a man is a leader and a woman should always submit to him. At the same time, the emotions of a woman are suppressed, leading to emotional violence which then becomes an umbrella for other issues such as stress and other forms of violence that may result in divorce. Socialization expects a woman to always submit to the orders of the man, which is good only if it is not done at the

expense of the partner's emotional state. It is difficult to address the problem of domestic violence because the victims perceive it as acceptable cultural ways of living even when they are being abused (Runge, 2008).

According to People Opposing Women Abuse (POWA, 2013) every 6 women who die in Gauteng Province are killed by an intimate partner. Research conducted by the Institute of Security Studies in 2015 found that 90% of the women interviewed had experienced emotional abuse, while 90% had experienced physical abuse such as being pushed or shoved and slapped or hit. About 71% had experienced being forcefully kissed or touched, followed by forced sexual intercourse. About 58% experienced economic abuse such as forcefully giving their salaries to their husbands, while 42, 5% had experienced all forms of abuse. In 60% of all cases of abuse, the abusers were partners, lovers or spouses (Shivambu, 2015).

The problem of violence exists everywhere but the difference lies in what are the contributory factors leading to its outbreak and how it is dealt with (Drost, 2015). Unemployment, poverty, low income level, substance abuse cannot be left out when discussing the issues contributing to domestic violence. The problem goes even deeper to the emotional state of the child, leading to the psychological impact that contributes to school drop outs. Furthermore, the victims of violence are manipulated to choose between marriage and coming out of the closet, which most women or victims are unable to do (Pereznieto, 2014)

Domestic violence is one of the common crimes that men, women and children are exposed to in their daily lives in South Africa but. The rate of domestic violence in the country continues to escalate despite concerted efforts by the Government to curb it. Although statistics on these crimes are unreliable due to the massive under-reporting of cases, Madzivhandila (2015) states that women on average are assaulted by their partners 35 times before going to the police. A study indicated that one of three women is either sexually or physically assaulted in her lifetime (WHO 2016). Amaya (2016) argues that underreporting is due to cultural norms and the need to preserve the age-long practice.

A community-based prevalence study conducted in three provinces of South Africa found that 26.8% of women in the Eastern Cape, 28.4% of women in Mpumalanga and 19.1% of women in the Northern Province (Limpopo) had been physically abused in their lifetime by a current or ex-partner (Crime Statistics SA 2015). This crime has no racial boundaries as supported by Edwards (2013) who notes that domestic violence occurs to anyone irrespective of race, socio-economical, educational, occupational, ethnical, age and religious lines.

According to People Opposing Women Abuse (POWA) every 6 women who die in Gauteng province are killed by an intimate partner. The research conducted by the Institute of Security Studies in (2014) found that 90% of women interviewed had experienced emotional abuse, while 90% had experienced physical abuse such as being pushed or shoved, slapped or hit. 71% had experienced being forcefully kissed or touched, followed by forced sexual intercourse. About 58% experienced economic abuse such as forcefully giving their salaries to their husbands, while 42, 5% had experienced all forms of abuse. 60% of all cases of abuse were committed by partners, lovers or spouses.

Furthermore, the victims of violence are manipulated to choose between marriage and coming out of the closet which most women or victims are unable to do (Institute of Security Studies, 2014). Manga Village, where the study was conducted, has two schools; a primary and a secondary, and there are four churches, five shebeens and one crèche.

1.3. Statement of the Problem

Domestic violence in the social context occurs in many ways. It can be perceived from an economical background, racial dimension and the historical background of patriarchy. In different cultures and socialization processes a man is a leader and the woman a subordinate. This indicates superiority, and a woman should always be the subordinate to the man. Historically, patriarchy has influenced domestic violence in a wider perspective as males' subordinate women and when women to attempt and break the cycle there tension and domestic violence. The historical and religious aspects of

declaring a man as subordinate to a woman also influences views and attitudes about domestic violence.

In South Africa, people perceive domestic violence differently as most people do not view it as a crime. Mangaya village, where the study was conducted has a low report rate of violence. Most of the assaulted men and women are not keen to report perpetrators as they are afraid of further discrimination, not being believed or being further abused. If victims report to the magistrate to seek for protection orders, they are either assaulted or suffer rejection as well as lack of support by fellow community members. This study therefore explores the contributory factors leading to domestic violence in order to prevent this scourge from recurring. The researcher observed that Mangaya village has a high rate of domestic violence cases which go unreported. Therefore, the study seeks to unravel the contributory factors leading to the outbreak of domestic violence.

1.4. Aim of the Study

This study was aimed at exploring the contributory factors leading to domestic violence at Mangaya village in the Thulamela Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province in South Africa.

1.5. Objectives of the Study

The following are the research objectives of the study:

- To explore the contributory factors leading to domestic violence in Mangaya village.
- To investigate how cultural practices influence domestic violence cases.
- To come up with recommendations on how domestic violence can be prevented from recurring.

1.6. Research Questions

The research questions are as follows:

- What are the contributory factors leading to domestic violence?
- Do cultural practices influence domestic violence?
- How can domestic violence be prevented from occurring?

1.7. Significance of the Study

The study will challenge existing cultural beliefs and practices which are oppressive to both men and women in various settings and that lead to the outbreak of domestic violence. The study will attempt to correct the imbalance in various settings, to empower men, women, and children to stand for themselves and to improve their economic status. When people are not too dependent, this would decrease the level of domestic violence because most conflicts are caused when a person is unable to handle pressure posed by those depending in him or her. The study will also challenge the existing policies and encourage people to be familiar with their rights and the relevant settings where they can seek help when necessary. The study will offer a new body of knowledge regarding domestic violence and help the government to come up with new policies regarding this scourge.

1.8. Theoretical framework

The theory used to analyse the findings is the intersectional theory because the discrimination in Pakistani society against women is not because of single oppression. Women face discrimination from more than one factor and intersectionality is useful to study gender, race, class and sexuality simultaneously. It also recognises Violence against women (VAW) and helps to analyse different interlocking oppressions. The multi systemic approach can be used under this theory as an oppression of one may be a privilege to another and thus intersectionality deals with questions of power relationships in groups Carastathis (2014) explains that women's experiences are the result of the intersection between multiple social categories and culture.

1.9 Definitions of Operational Terms

- **Domestic violence** is an act of imposing hurt on the physical, emotional, spiritual, economic wellbeing against a member of one immediate family (Taylor, 2014). In this study, domestic violence is any harmful act directed towards the victim.
- **A Victim** refers to a person who suffers from abuse or other phenomenon (Slabbert & Green, 2013); in this study a victim is anyone being affected by domestic violence.
- **Culture** refers to characteristics of a group of people, defined by everything ranging from, language, religion, cuisine, social habits, arts and music that changes from time to time and can be transferred from one generation to the other (Wood & Hughes 1984). In the study, culture refers to any cultural behavior that seems to promote domestic violence.
- **Socialization** refers to the life long process of inheriting and disseminating norms, customs and ideologies, through interaction, thus providing an individual with necessary skills and habits that are essential for participating within a society (Wood & Hughes 1984).
- **A Kangaroo court** is a traditional court comprised of village elders and the headman who are selected to solve issues brought forward by the community; it involves penalties and other cultural principles and values in solving the issues. It is also, referred to a mock court in which principles of law and justice are disregarded or prevented, it is a traditionally self-appointed tribunal disregarding legal principles or human rights (Bancroft, 2012). This study defines a Kangaroo court as community gathering wherein domestic violence cases are discussed.
- **Physical abuse** refers to an act of another party involving contact intended to cause feelings of physical suffering or bodily harm (Gharaibeh & Oweis, 2009). In this research, physical abuse is any act physical harm direct to the victim by the abuser.
- **Emotional abuse** refers to a form of abuse characterized by a person subjecting or exposing another to behavior that may result in psychological trauma

(Edwards & Haslett, 2013). This study defines emotional abuse as any emotional harm caused by the perpetrator towards the victim.

- **Violence** refers to notions of what is acceptable and unacceptable in terms of behaviour and what constitutes harm, are culturally influenced and constantly under review as values and social norms evolve (WHO, 2010). In this study, violence refers to any violence directed to the victim by the abuser.
- **Patriarchy** refers to the social system in which male is the primary authority figure central to social organization and the central roles of political leadership, moral authority and control over property and view males as leaders and woman as subordinates, it's a system of male domination over women and children (Makama, 2013). In this study patriarchy means the way in which men behave themselves towards women because of learned behaviour.

1.9 Chapter Summary

This Chapter has presented a general overview including the significance, problem, aim and objectives of the study. The next chapter discusses the relevant literature to the study.

Chapter 2: Literature Review

2.1. Introduction

The purpose of this chapter was to review the existing literature of other authors around the world regarding domestic violence.

Intimate Partner Violence, commonly known as Domestic Violence or Spousal Abuse, knows no geographical, ethnic or cultural boundaries. It affects men, women and children worldwide. Defined as “a pattern of abusive behavior in any intimate relationship that is directed towards a current or former spouse, boyfriend or girlfriend,” intimate partner violence can be physical, emotional, economic, or sexual in nature (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2012). Although women can be perpetrators of domestic violence and it is also found in same-sex partnerships, most commonly women are victims of male perpetrated domestic violence. Thus, this study will focus on domestic violence in its most common occurrence: male initiated abuse against women. A 2013 report from the World Health Organization (WHO) found that intimate partner violence affects 30% of women worldwide and is the most prevalent type of violence against women (WHO, 2013). Institutionalized social and cultural factors have and continue to keep women particularly vulnerable to male initiated violence. According to Chebogut & Ngeno (2010) these factors include: “unequal power relations in regards to socioeconomic forces and the family unit, fear of and control over female sexuality, belief in the inherent superiority of males and legislation and cultural sanctions that have traditionally denied women an independent legal and social status”

2.2. Contributory Factors Leading to Domestic Violence

The causes of domestic violence are all the contributing factors that lead to the outbreak of domestic violence, in this chapter, Lack of education, Poverty, Women’s Inferiority, Interference, Patriarchy, Male Dominance: alcohol and drug abuse, financial dependence, socialization, patriarchy and cultural practices will be discussed as the contributory factors that lead to domestic violence.

2.2.1 Lack of education

Domestic violence is more in rural areas than urban areas and that is because of low literacy rate in rural areas (Ogbonna, 2014). People of rural areas have no or less awareness about violence and they are having with a view that the violence is justified, but in urban area people are more aware as they are literate and that is why may have fewer chances of physical violence (Makama, 2013). Marium (2014) on other hand considered male education as a good indicator as educated male is more tolerant and cooperative and in the case of rural women if men are educated more than secondary level, then they are protected against domestic violence because they can stand against strong rural traditional norms against women.

2.2.2 Poverty

Poverty on another hand can possibly enhance women's vulnerability to violent situations and also stopped their ability to get rid of abusive situations and plays a vital role in creating, maintaining and enhancing violence against women but is not only poor women who face violence (WHO, 2013).

2.2.3 Women's Inferiority

Using domestic violence to regain masculinity is the men's stereotypical idea (Marium, 2014). In recent times, as well many educated people believe that women are made for house chores and are abusive towards women and hence gender inequality is difficult to handle (Shastri, 2014). Men are the bread earner and women being inferior are supposed to be at home to look after the household and children (Shastri, 2014) and if women receive higher education and have a better opportunity to contribute to family income, then they have fewer chances of being violated by men (Marium, 2014). If the only man works or both man and woman work then there are lower chances of violence, but if a woman is working and man does not work or both of them don't work then there are high chances of violence by an intimate partner (Abramsky.et al., 2011).

2.2.4 Male Dominance

Male dominance, control and power hierarchies are some factors of domestic violence. The masculine dominance; male power and control are taken as an honour in cultures and if a woman is getting stronger than male either in education or employment, he wanted to control her to stop or limit her growth and progress by using several forms of violent acts to maintain his supremacy (Thobejane, 2011). Domestic violence is a common issue where males are subjected to toughness or dominance and their role is based on rigidity (Deyessa et al., 2010). Mostly men are the initiators of the violence in relationships and according to some feminist theorists, violence in patriarchal society has a motive to make control over partner and for that multiple tactics are used for instance aggression is the weapon of male to show off his strength to female to exploit weakness of women (Thobejane, 2011).

2.2.5. Alcohol and Drug Abuse

Alcohol and drug abuse refer to a patterned use of a drug in which the user consumes the substance in amounts or with methods which are harmful to themselves or others. In this study alcohol and drug abuse is contributory factor leading to domestic violence.

As Per Wilson (2014), alcohol played a significant role in the instigation of violence at home. Wilson (2014) further indicated that most men abuse alcohol and later deny any memory of the attack or say that they lost control because of being drunk. Some partners believe them and hope they will change if they stop drinking. However, the most significant determinant of behaviour right after drinking is not the physiological effect of the alcohol itself but the expectations that individuals place on the drinking experience. And as the experiences of these women show, men drink to have more courage to be violent and provide an excuse for their abusive acts.

Moreover, Wilson (2014) indicated that most men drink to have more courage to be violent and provide an excuse for their abusive acts. Men can deny any memory of the attack or say that they lost control. Some partners believe them and hope they will change if they stop drinking.

Alcohol is not fully responsible for domestic violence because individuals might have the problem of substance abuse, and yet not abusive and a person who does not drink, might be the one abusive.

2.2.6. Financial Dependence

Financial dependence refers to a situation wherein one person is totally depending on another financially. In this study, financial dependence will be discussed as one of the contributory factors leading to domestic violence as the provider may turn violence when under pressure from the ones depending on him or her financially.

Economic loss contributes to the problem of domestic violence in most families. Where the level of domestic violence is low, the economic state is still stable, but when economic difficulties begins to raise so does the level of domestic violence. According to Nichols, Mitchell and Lindner (2013), the loss of jobs and a difficult economic standard within the family can directly affect the individual with the responsibility of the family. The above-mentioned authors suggested that the behavioral patterns and attitudes of men in the family change radically because of stress and tend to act violently on their family members. The views of the mentioned above authors have been supported by other writers including Payne (2014) and Howard (2014) as they indicated that most abused individuals leave the abuser and return to them for financial support.

Finance is a major obstacle for leaving the abusive relationship. Women with a lower level of education completely depend on the husband, who controls all financial resources and spending hence women find it difficult to leave the relationship. Some abusers prevent their partners to work because they will no longer have control over them. Often, victims find themselves choosing between homelessness, living in impoverished and unsafe communities or returning to their abusive partners (Halket, 2014). In addition to being financially deprived by their husbands, women also reported that they never received any financial support from their original families (Anitha, 2016). Women find it hard to leave the abusive relationship because they are afraid of starting over on their own without their partner's help due to being unemployed.

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence stated that a significant proportion who return to the relationship attribute their inability to deal with their finances as a major contributing factor, which is often enhanced by the fact that the abuser has all of the economic and social control over the family finances, NCADV (2015).

In the studies conducted on depression, it was found that fathers who suffer financial loss become tenser, irritable, explosive, and become increasingly arbitrary and punitive in the discipline of their family members. Unemployed men are more dissatisfied with their lives, feel victimized and are more anxious, depressed and tend to be more hostile towards their family members. The incidents of neurosis, psychosis, and suicide are higher amongst such men. The study indicated that most men become addicted to substance abuse, which also increases the chances of domestic violence occurrences (WHO, 2015).

While economists have been studying the family as a unit for over thirty years, most models have focused on cooperative family units. Domestic violence is one of the most wide-spread violent crimes against humanity. It is one example of a family unit that is better explained as a non-cooperative. The non-cooperative model of domestic violence is a model that predicts that women's income and other financial support receive from outside the marriage (family welfare and divorce settlements) will decrease the level of violence in intact families because they increase the women's threat point. These have been challenged by so many theorists, who argue that domestic violence takes place in all walks of life and has no respect on the socio-economic status of an individual. Whether rich or poor, people experience domestic violence, therefore, the theory raised a lot of questions that need answers. Domestic violence increased the odds of domestic violence after the welfare reform, but not before (WHO, 2015).

Some authors have argued that the effects of domestic violence on employment may be mediated by the effect of abuse that has created mental health problems for the battered women. A mental health analysis of 18 studies on the effect of unemployment on domestic violence and mental health found that the victims of domestic violence had higher rates of several mental disorders, including depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder than did the non-victims (Trevillion, 2012).

Research with domestic violence survivors further suggests that psychological distress is associated with unemployment. Abused women with depression are more likely to be unemployed and men who are not employed are more likely to be depressed and abusive (McGee, 2015).

2.2.7 Socialisation

Socialization refers to how people learn the norms and beliefs of own societies. In this study socialization, will be discussed as one of the contributing factors leading to domestic violence

Vauqueline (2015) argues that this system tends to be studied than any form of segregation; more uniform certainly more enduring. However, muted its present appearance may be, sexual dominion obtains, nevertheless as perhaps the most pervasive ideology of our culture and provides its most fundamental concepts of power. Vauqueline (2015) maintains that patriarchy is sustained by both ideological and structural factors. The ideological support stems from a system of socialization as “natural”. Women are socialized into adopting complaint submissive and passive roles and accepting their essentially subordinated position. Structural constraints reinforced this order. Vauqueline identifies the family, the class system and the economic and educational systems as the main structural path ways/bulwarks of patriarchy as a source and root cause of domestic violence.

There can never be any doubt that men also suffer violence from females within the family system. It is difficult to have strong evidence of men being abused physically by their wives since most of the cases of domestic violence concerning men are not reported. Most men find it humiliating to report a case of being beaten by a wife. Culturally, a man does not cry. If he does, he is not man enough. The challenge is that such cases are too sensitive and mostly hidden and takes place behind closed doors but its consequences are visible (Human Rights Watch, 2013)

The statistics of men being abused, especially physically, is lower compared to that of women being abused by men. Usually the statistics of domestic violence is being underestimated. The reason is that domestic violence by its very nature takes place

behind closed doors and in the privacy of a home and is usually not reported. Even when incidents are reported they frequently go unrecorded or recorded in ways that do not separate domestic violence from common assault.

2.2.8 Patriarchy

Patriarchy is a social system in which males hold primary power and predominate in roles of political leadership, moral authority, social privilege and control of property. In the domain of the family, fathers or father-figures hold authority over women and children (Mapuranga, 2010). In this study, patriarchy will be analyzed as it influences domestic violence.

Mapuranga (2010) indicate that one thing that is certain is that if the lobola system exists as it is, women will never be free members of the society because men will not perceive them as such but as mere objects or the property that belongs to them. However, Holmes (2013) argues that women are being subordinated by men and they are stuck in such behavioral patterns. They believe that no one is completely powerless. He indicates that women themselves value the use of the system as they believe that it indicates appreciation, respect and security for the marriage and view it as a way of expressing love and commitment (Mapuranga, 2010))

Patriarchal system plays a vital role in understanding domestic violence in full, as it gives more authority to men and deny women, the ability to have the same dominance on women. Then this implies that if patriarchy is socially constructed then it means that violence is a social problem and it is vital to look at all the dimensions that contribute to it to discover the origin of the problem and then come up with the strategies of a wider range with the purpose of dealing and understanding domestic violence.

Battering is the outcome of a relationship based on dominance and inequality. Domestic violence has its roots in patriarchy and the sexist attitudes that women are objects to be controlled. According to Sultana (2011), the institution of patriarchy, a system of male dominance, conditions women psychologically to accept a secondary status by embracing a process of sex-role stereotyping. Therefore, violence against women can be explained by the different patterns of socialization coupled with the structural

relationship of power, domination and privilege existing between men and women. Furthermore, Chireshe (2012) stated that domestic violence against women, wife battering or beating is rooted in and are the logical conclusion of basic patriarchal assumptions about women's subordinate status. Patriarchy is the root cause of all violence against women. While patriarchy may not be the overarching cause of all abuse, it is an enormously significant factor, because in traditional patriarchy males have a disproportionate share of power. At its core, domestic violence is the abuse of male physical and often social/religious power. Abusive males are characteristically insecure and have a low sense of self- esteem.

2.2.8.1 Violence against women in African communities

The problem that South Africa is grappling with is the historical dispossession of the indigenous people of their land and the monopolization of the wealth by a few elites. The African majorities who have suffered during Apartheid rule and under land dispossession are still angry. This anger, in most cases, expresses itself in violence. This violence usually is meted out to those who are weaker. And most of these are women. Black women in these communities are therefore urged to exert some type of intellectual leadership. Many feminists in South Africa have lost contact with the yearnings and aspirations of the impoverished women. Within Black communities, there is a need for a strong Black feminist movement that provides the oppressed women with a vision. There is a need for a Black feminist movement that can rise up against the scourge of domestic violence, a movement of Black intellectuals which must aggressively push an anti-patriarchal agenda and the self-definition theme because speaking for oneself and crafting one 's own agenda is important for the empowerment of women .

2.2.9 Cultural Practices

Cultural practices refer to the patterns of social interactions, behaviors and in this study, cultural practices are all the patterns of social interactions, behaviors that influence domestic violence.

Culture is structures, institutions, and practices that reflect and uphold a social order; it defines certain social groups, values, expectations, meanings and patterns of behaviour as natural and good and others as unnatural, bad or good as gender is central to cultural life. According to Tembo (2013), it is a full range of learned human behavioral patterns. Culture is a powerful tool for survival, but it is a fragile phenomenon. It is constantly changing and easily lost because it exists only in our minds. Culture can be best linked with domestic violence in terms of three layers which are part of the learned behaviour patterns and perceptions and the layers are the body of culture, subculture and cultural universals. Most obvious is the body of cultural traditions that distinguish the specific society from the other. This refers to the shared traditions and beliefs that set each of the group apart from the other, starting from the language (Thembo, 2013)

The cultural practices such as bridal price (lobola) underpin the ideologies of women and men and deny women any decision-making power over their lives. These practices (lobola) perpetuate male dominance in sexual relations (Tembo, 2013). This implies that women are being purchased and it is culturally acceptable for them to be subordinated by men because they have been secured by their husbands through the lobola practice (Tembo, 2013)

A complex combination of ecological, climate and demographical changes probably intervened to produce a scarcity of women in some kin groups, which eventually gave a rise to the idea and practice of exchange. Although patriarchy was formally established as culture, women then became aware of the system and acted out. Just as the construction of gender differs across cultures, violence takes different cultural forms and differs from time to time and country to country because culture is dynamic. Therefore, it changes all the time. For example, the ten years of foot binding in China, female genital mutilation in Africa, female castration by physicians and other cultural but violent acts have taken place over the years and now most of them are no longer practiced because the times are changing so does culture (Tembo, 2013).

The second layer the sub-culture is complex; diverse societies which people have come from different parts of the world often retain their original cultural traditions. The shared cultural trait set them apart from the rest of the society. Members of the sub culture

share the common beliefs and attitudes in all things even if it is issue such as domestic violence (Unger, 2010).

The third layer consists of cultural universals. These are learned behaviors that are shared by all of humanity collectively. No matter where people live in the world they share this universal trait, including gender or age to classify people, classifying people based on marriages and descent relationships even having a concept of privacy. The list goes on and, on this implying, that there is no way of living that does not have the traits of violence or that indicate dominance of the other part than the other regardless of the place (Carter, 2013).

On the other hand, culture and society is not the same thing. It is just that the culture is within the society, but it is not the culture, while culture is the pattern of learned behaviour and perceptions. Societies are groups of interacting organisms. While human societies and culture are not the same they are inseparably connected because culture is created and transmitted to others in a society. It is because of culture that there are gender roles that define what women should do and what men should do (Carter, 2013).

Therefore, the culture of domestic violence can be traced back to ancient history and with the clear disguised pattern of culture domestic violence has been transmitted from one generation to the other. Culture is a phenomenon on its own but then is linked to domestic because culturally wife-beating is not prohibited, and it has a different meaning rather than abuse, as it is perceived today. The study in the kinship systems in tribal society's life provides a foundation of understanding early cultural definitions of gender. All early humans' societal life was organized through these systems. Incest taboo is a particularly significant human intervention in that it allows for exchange of women amongst men in different kin groups, which in turn facilitates trade and alliances eventually. However, it also contributes to the ascension of men into roles of social power. Some analysts suggest that the practice of exchanging women for money transforms them over time into tribal resources-commodities rather than self-determine individuals (Carter, 2013).

2.2.10 Cultural beliefs and domestic violence

Cultural beliefs play an important role for women who are operating within diverse cultural frameworks and experiencing domestic violence worldwide. Tembo (2013) argues that gender overrides cultural influences against woman and is a powerful risk for becoming a victim of violence. The levels of violence against women are shocking. Estimates of violence against women within the family context are more difficult to obtain due to conventional perceptions often held by the women themselves that violence within the family context is not considered violence and should not be discussed outside of the family. These perceptions reflect beliefs that are embedded within a cultural perspective (Taylor, 2016). The importance of culture and its influence on how male or female relationships are structured is well established. Cultural influences extend to domestic violence resulting in a wide range of experiences and a wide range of approaches that affect women's responses. Culture is significant since gender perceptions are culturally embedded. Literature on culture and the context of domestic violence has been limited until recently (Tembo, 2013).

Culture is defined as the belief systems and value orientations that influence customs, norms, practices and social institutions, including language and behaviour. Whilst these appear to be set, many social, economic, legal and political institutional responses that sustain domestic violence or maltreatment of women in various cultural groups have undergone changes that ultimately have decreased the incidence of domestic violence against women. There has been much global advocacy for changes in the economic, legal and political systems that oppress women. Often the assimilation of these changes is met with resistance within some communities as they are incompatible with the existing cultural framework. For example, laws may be introduced to grant protection orders for victims of domestic violence but the police officers' and judges' responses as well as the execution of these new laws may not necessarily reflect the introduced changes (Gelles, 2016).

The lack of consistency may reflect the disconnection between the changes proposed and the cultural beliefs held by the society in question. The women who are intended beneficiaries of these institutional changes often are disappointed when they attempt to

seek the protections and sanctions promised. The collective understandings of the behaviours that are associated with domestic violence and the driving forces underlying those behaviours reflect considerable variation across cultures (Taylor, 2016). The term “culture of violence” was used to describe the conflict that enveloped South African society in the struggle against apartheid. The pervasive nature of violence undermined the moral, interpersonal and social fabric. This culture of violence persists in a gendered fashion in present day South Africa with large numbers of women abused by men.

Theories of why violence occurs are many and various. Theories have attempted to explain violence through individual pathology, stress, frustration and blocked goals, socialization and learning theory, societal structures, feminist and non-feminist theories. Scholars attempt to explain family or interpersonal violence on two levels that include micro and macro levels. The micro level of analysis studies a social problem on an individual level, thus analyzing the behaviour of the individuals involved. The macro level of analysis views social problems in terms of the larger societal structures and organizations that affect violence (Gelles, 2016).

During the struggle for and against apartheid, social, political and structural violence dominated in South Africa. Other forms of violence such as family violence, interpersonal violence continued. The end of apartheid era and the advent of democracy did not result in a significant decrease of violence in South Africa. Criminal violence has increased, political and other forms of collective violence continue in some parts of the country. Very few people in South Africa have not been touched by some form of violence. Some are still suffering from the effect of stress because of such violence. In this sense, systemic violence (at the macro level) reproduces interpersonal violence (at the micro level) (Bickerstaff, 2010). The theme of dramatic increase in all types of crime, particularly violent crime, has dominated media headlines. In September 2009, the then Minister Nathi Mthethwa, announced that sexual crimes, including domestic violence had gone up substantially (Pretoria News, September 23, 2009). Many observers blamed the police and government for not doing enough to stem the increasing levels of crime and domestic strife. The wave of crime was blamed for making international investors hesitant to invest in the new South Africa. As already

suggested, the origins of interpersonal violence can often be related to the fact that all members of a social unit (family, organization, society) do not have equal access to the decision-making process within that unit. For example, men rate themselves as having more power than women and consequently work in the interests of sustaining male domination. In fact, some members of the unit take it upon themselves to decide for others, who can only accept or reject the decisions. The origin of family violence is therefore often to be found in the unequal distribution of power. Power refers to the ability to persuade people to do what one wants them to do within the power structure of the unit of analysis (Bickerstaff, 2010: 63).

2.3. Forms of Domestic Violence

Although there are cases of domestic violence which had been historically recorded, viewing family violence as a social issue and as a social problem is a rather new phenomenon. For most of the time that there has been violence between loved ones, it has literally and figuratively occurred behind closed doors. It gradually became both a social issue and a condition that captures the public attention and generates concern, controversy, and harmful to individual and societal well-being. Domestic violence in the home can become public knowledge. The fortress of doors of the private family did not swing open, they moved inch by inch over the decades (Gelles, 2016).

Not only does domestic violence affect the people who are victims but even those who are around them, including the children and the society. Domestic violence or violence itself is an expression of darkness that finds its outlet the form of alcohol, drugs, food, physical empowerment, verbal disparagement, emotional thrashing. “Sexual abuse, physical, emotional, psychological and incest are the most common types of domestic violence” (Gelles, 2016). This study explored more on the above-mentioned types of domestic violence to find ways on best they can be prevented from recurrence as they deprive victims’ fundamental freedoms in private or public life in peace time and during situations of conflicts.

2.3.1. Psychological violence

Psychological abuse refers to the involvement of trauma to the victim caused by verbal abuse, acts, threats of acts, or coercive tactics by the abuser. Perpetrators use psychological abuse to control, terrorize, and denigrate their victims. It frequently occurs prior to or concurrently with physical or sexual abuse. (Karakurt & Silver, 2013)

Psychological violence takes place behind closed doors, but usually the police, community members and children are directly affected by its challenges (Karakurt & Silver, 2013). Breiding, Chen, & Black allude to the fact that psychological abuse has an impact on the emotional, psychological, social, physical and cognitive development of victims that are long-lasting. Karakurt & Silver (2013) further notes that the phenomenon is broad and differs from country to country and how it is perceived from culture to culture and it takes place behind closed doors, but usually the police, community members; children are directly affected by its challenges. The above only means that people all over the world, perceive domestic violence differently. In this study, the researcher considers psychological abuse as one of the forms of domestic violence which is not seen by many as violence as it does not involve physical or visibility harm.

2.3.2. Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse refers to any situation in which force or threats is used to obtain participation in unwanted sexual activity coercing a person to engage in sexual activities against their will with which consensual sex has occurred in an act of violence and aggression. The World Health Organization, (2015) defines sexual abuse as any sexual act to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual remarks, and acts of traffic or otherwise directed against a person's sexuality using coercion by any person regardless of the relationship to the victim in any setting, including home and work place.

Violence against women makes women more vulnerable to HIV and STIs, as most abused women are unable to negotiate for safer practices, while their partners have affairs that put their partners at risk of contracting STIs. Sexual abuse can be in a form of being photographed in sexual positions against your wishes, being forced to have sex

with other people so that your partner can make money out of you (Bickerstaff, 2010). According to Bickerstaff (2010) sexual abuse is frequently a factor in domestic violence. It can range from the verbal abuse of a sexual nature to unwanted touching to rape. The study wanted to get the public views on sexual abuse as most men tend to believe that they have every right to demand sex every time they feel like having it and believe that their partners do not have to give consent regarding sex.

2.3.3. Marital rape

Marital rape is a form of domestic violence and sexual abuse. In marital rape, sex is forced on one spouse by the other, and that is violating the rights of one another. It is also known as spousal rape, is non-consensual sex in which the perpetrator is the victim's spouse. It is a form of partner rape; domestic violence and sexual abuse (WHO, 2015). World Health Organization further indicated that in many countries it rather remains legal or illegal, but it is widely tolerated and accepted as a husband's prerogative. Marital rape is legal in certain countries such as Australia, Denmark, England, Canada, Afghanistan and Zimbabwe (WHO 2015). One of the main causes of marital rape is bridal payment, as most men feel entitled to own their spouses as their properties after having paid bridal prices. This study explored on public views towards marital rape on whether they see it as violence or normal practice.

2.3.4. Economic abuse

Economic abuse is a form of abuse that occurs when one intimate partner has control over the partner's access to economic resources (Anderson, 2014). Economic abuse may involve preventing spouses from resources, acquisition, limiting the amount of resources to be used by the victims. Anderson, (2014) further mentioned that the motive behind economic abuse is to diminish victim's capacity to support his/herself, thus forcing them to depend on their perpetrators financially which includes preventing the victim from obtaining education, finding employment and acquiring assets, and to closely monitor how the victim spends her money, or spend it without the consent of the victim. This research study explored on the barriers faced by the victims of domestic

violence due to financial dependency on their relationships partners and creates awareness on the available options that may be taken by victims so they may be self-sufficient.

2.3.5. Physical abuse

Physical abuse refers to an act of another party involving contact intended to cause feelings of physical suffering or bodily harm Johnson (2014). Physical abuse is common in intimate relationships where men feel that they should show their masculinity by beating up their partners. Physical violence includes acts such as kicking, punching, choking, and threats with a weapon and the use of weapon such as knives and guns. The categories of severe physical violence also include rape and other forms of sexual assault. The most brutal form of physical violence is murder (Johnson, 2014). For Johnson (2014) domestic violence can take many forms, such as the physical, sexual, emotional or psychological.

The study explored public views on physical violence since Culture and Tradition justify domestic violence because the husband according to societal expectations, has the right to discipline his wife and that when a woman thinks that her husband is cheating on her, she is not allowed, per culture, to ask him about it and if she does that needs to be disciplined by beatings.

2.3.6. Emotional abuse

Emotional abuse refers to a form of abuse, characterized by a person subjecting or exposing another to behaviour that may result in psychological trauma (Bickerstaff, 2013). According to Bickerstaff (2010), a victim of domestic violence who is told each day how worthless she is may lose her sense of self-respect and their self-esteem decreases because people whom they thought loved them and appreciated them, swear at them and call them ugly names. In the end, they tend to believe that they are ugly and unlovable. These words make the innocent spouse believe they are the worst person in the world. Her partner often convinces her that the entire situation is

her fault. Emotional damage can last a lifetime long after even the physical injuries are healed.

This study explored on the public views on emotional abuse and creates awareness that emotional abuse may leave long-term emotional scars, which could be more damaging than scars caused by physical attacks since it is mostly taken less seriously than physical abuse

2.4 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.4.1 Feminist Theory

Feminism as a theory guided the study as its ideology catches the real meaning of the research questions and research problem. It is important to note that feminism is a social movement that has been subjected to many qualifications. The study employed the Black feminist theory and the African feminist theory mainly because the two theories include factors such as race, ethnicity, sexuality and culture in understanding the dilemma of Black African women. The study further asserted that although there are different branches of feminist theories, their central mandate is to emancipate men, women and children from oppressions.

From feminist understanding society is structured in an order that men maintain order and privileged position through domination of women (Kara, 2014). Therefore, the power imbalances inherent in the patriarchal society create and perpetuate male violence against women.

This study has chosen to employ Black Feminist Standpoint theory over the other theories because other theories do not meet the requirements of the research question and research problem (Kara, 2014).

Studies have shown that in the past few decades, and largely through feminist activities, the issue of domestic violence has been raised to the public consciousness as a serious social problem. The findings at the international level have been consistent with feminist propositions. Studies carried out in India, have shown that violence occurs within the patriarchal traditional family system (Kara, 2014). Studies carried out in China

acknowledged that the patriarchal family system and gender inequality within the family are largely responsible for the prevalence of domestic violence (Kara, 2014)

There has been a continuing debate regarding which theory offers a better explanation of the causes of domestic violence: psychopathologists and public learning theories, family theories, sociological theories, and cultural evolutionary theories and feminists' theories. Be it as the case may be, this study draws its theoretical framework fundamentally from feminist theory because its ideology catches the essence of the research questions that the study seeks to address.

2.4.2 Intersectional theory

Kimberle Crenshaw, African-American legal theorist used intersectionality for the first time while discussing the unique position of black women in anti-discrimination law and arguing that the experiences of black women have both race and class and, in this way, challenged the universal gendered experience (Monk, 2011 and Edna, 2012). Intersectionality is a method, rooted in black feminism and critical race theory and an analytical tool that can move according to time, disciplines, issues and boundaries of gender and economic justice (Edna, 2012).

Crenshaw believed that the basic concern of intersectionality is to investigate that how women of colour are subjected to gender discrimination and race discrimination at the same time, traditionally these forms of discrimination were viewed as separate (Monk, 2011). Edna (2012) also mentioned that intersectionality theorizes that inequality is a mutual constitution of different systems of oppressions i.e. gender, race and class and if focus to analyse these will be on one single oppression, then that will be inadequate and the reason behind this insufficiency is that these social problems simultaneously experienced. This theory is compatible with this research because for many years in South Africa people especially women and children are said to be disadvantaged and vulnerable to economic, social, civil and political discrimination and mostly one form of discrimination is entangled with another form (Edna, 2012).

2.4.3 Intersectionality and domestic violence

Monk (2011) observed that intersectionality has an ambiguity and somewhat confusing, but it offers comprehensive tools for domestic violence. Domestic violence can specifically be analysed with intersectionality in the same context, it executed (Monk, 2011). In South Africa degree of domestic violence is different and depends on classes and rural/urban areas because rural areas have strong patriarchal structures than urban areas and women of upper and middle class has more control over their lives because of their efforts in education and employment and thus have a lower percentage of violence (Ballantine, et al., 2017). For this study, this approach is relevant as intersectionality provides scholars with a comprehensive analysis of gender and feminism and recognizes feminist efforts and racism efforts that are woven together against discrimination, violence and social justice (Ballantine, et al., 2017).

Crenshaw incorporates two components of domestic violence, namely battering and rape in mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics, and Violence against Women (2014). These two components of domestic violence are relevant to many African countries, including South Africa, as an estimate is given in a report that 99% of housewives and 77% of working women in South Africa are battered by their husbands and report also added that parents, in-laws and sons are also involved in battering women in the country (Devon, et al., 2013). Rape cases also resulted in an escalation of domestic Violence in the country as most of the cases of rape are not reported because of the sentiments of disgrace and if reported then they might not be taken seriously as a result of lack of evidence to support the victim's testimony.

The framework of intersectionality was further elaborated in 1991 as intersecting vulnerabilities of women in the socially disadvantaged economy in: "Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics, and Violence against Women" (Devon, et al., 2013). The intersectional theory is encompassed to international level and a wide range of experiences and power structures of different genders, ethnicities and sexual orientations that have an ability to analyze conflicting trajectories of equality (Devon, et al., 2013). Critics of intersectionality believe that there is no position of intersectionality and ability to illustrate larger picture (Devon, et al., 2013, pp). On contrary, researchers

around the world have found that when intersectionality theory is applied to social building and political change, it emphasizes commonalities and create solidarity among different political groups and that helps in the mutual acknowledgement of oppressive structures and the struggles linked to those oppressions (ibid, 2013, pp).

Researchers also added that study through the lens of intersectionality helps in creating connections around different experiences of discrimination, marginalization and privilege by revealing the issues between different groups and also the perspective of both victims and privileged because individual can be identified with different social groups and at the same time are vulnerable to both discrimination and privilege and thus intersectionality facilitate cross-study (Devon, et al., 2013). This feature of intersectionality will help to analyse the people of South Africa especially in Mangaya village in a sense if they are also facing discrimination in one social group and being privileged in another as they face multiple layers of discrimination and it was explored during interviews.

Monk (2011) also identified that intersectional theory also recognised that woman may experience gender and race discrimination simultaneously but Monk (2011) argued that they together will not be equal to the real intersectional experience and it is important to determinate the interaction of social divisions responsible for such intersection. Leslie McCall's understanding about intersectionality begins when she acknowledged the complexity of intersectionality for heuristic attempts to grasp inequality in social groups from within and across (Carastathis, 2014). The aim of introducing intersectionality was not only to understand the power of social relationship but also to explore the hidden dynamics (Devon, et al., 2013, p. 311). Thus, the theory is helpful in finding hidden circumstances of oppression because of domestic violence in Mangaya village. Intersectionality has a perspective that social categories are not static and historically grounded which is constantly constructed, deconstructed and reconstructed (Hankivsky, et al., 2009). In this way, it can be said that intersectionality is a work in progress and one can endeavour with those issues which were not explored before and in social science research it can make development (Devon et al., 2013).

Domestic violence is a form of gender discrimination in Pakistan (Iqbal, et al., 2012, p. 17) and hence can be analysed with intersectionality. Religious or caste-based discrimination is also included in this research as Pakistan has Sunnis in an overwhelming majority and Shia Muslims in the minority (Malik, 2002). Marriage between Shia and Sunni is also a part of Pakistani society and sometimes results in gender-based discrimination and intersectionality can also be applied to it. Hankivsky, et al., (2009) believed that more accurate and useful information can produce with intersectionality, and those are not harmful and can be a source of empowerment of individual or community.

2.4.4 Domestic Violence Act

The first piece of legislation to specifically address domestic violence in South Africa was the Prevention of Family Violence Act (PFVA)(no 133 of 1993). However, soon after the PFVA were introduced aspects of its provisions were questioned by attorneys who thought men's right to a fair hearing was being violated by the PFVA. Others countered that the departure from the *audi alteram partem* rule was justified by the victim's urgent need for protection from harm. After soliciting the opinion of the Department of Justice as well as the Family Advocate, the South African Law Commission (SALC) established in February 1996 a project committee comprising a number of feminist lawyers and experts in the area of domestic violence to review the legislation (Meintjes, 2003). It is the purpose of this Act to afford the victims of domestic violence the maximum protection from domestic abuse that the law can provide; and to introduce measures which seek to ensure that the relevant organs of state give full effect to the provisions of this Act, and thereby to convey that the State is committed to the elimination of domestic violence. (Preamble to the Domestic Violence Act No 116 of 1998)

2.5 Conclusion

The chapter reviewed the literature on the contributory factors leading to domestic violence. A theoretical and conceptual framework on the contributory factors leading to

domestic violence was given. A global, regional and South Africa overview of domestic violence was also given.

The literature has reviewed that there are a several contributory factors leading to the outbreak of domestic violence such as lack of education, poverty, women's inferiority, male domination, alcohol and drug abuse, financial dependency, socialization, patriarchy, cultural beliefs and practices. The next chapter reflected on the methodology used to examine the contributory factors leading to the outbreak of domestic violence at Mangaya village.

Chapter 3: Research Methodology

3.1. Introduction

This chapter outlines the research methodology that was used in conducting the study. Research methodology refers to the methods, techniques and procedures that are applied in the process of implementing the research design (Jackson, 2011). In this chapter, the following aspects are discussed: nature of the study, research design, study population and location, sampling procedure, data collection method, data analysis, ethical considerations and limitations of the study.

3.2. Nature of the Study

There are two research approaches that are used to conduct the study. Research can either be qualitative, quantitative or both in nature. The current study made use of qualitative research approach. Qualitative research refers to the use of words in collecting data (De Vos et al, 2013). Qualitative research method combined with feminist standpoint theory of the study was utilized in this research mainly because there was a need for in-depth understanding of a social phenomenon. A qualitative research seeks to gain first hand holistic understanding of a phenomenon, using flexible methods such as interviews and discussions (Jackson, 2011). It is aimed at gaining the subject's experience of a certain phenomenon.

3.3. Research Design

This section details research design of the study. According to Creswell (2013) this approach seeks to understand a given research problem or topic from the perspective of the local population it involves, and it provides information about the human side of an issue. To achieve the purpose of the study feminist methodological approach was employed. Creswell (2013) explains that qualitative research can be employed when one is exploring new ways of looking at a more familiar topic as feminist proponents propose. Therefore, the feminist research approach allowed the researcher to produce data that is holistic, contextual and descriptive in detail. Feminist standpoint

recommends qualitative methodological approach which allows the researcher to understand how participants understand, interpret and experience a phenomenon by focusing on the participants' views and perspectives of their everyday experiences.

3.3.1. Study Population

De Vos et al (2013) defines population as a set of individuals, subjects, events or elements or objects that possess or meet the same criteria for inclusion in the study. Population refers to the entire population of the study, and in this research, the population represents all men and women at Mangaya village. When we conduct research, often, we use a sample to learn about the larger population from which the sample has been drawn (Leedy and Ormrod, 2010). The reason for using a sample is that it is not always possible to get information from the entire population. In addition, it entails the group of people that the researcher seeks to research upon. The study population was Mangaya community members of which 5 women and 5 men between the ages of 20 to 65 were sampled to make up the number of 10 study participants.

3.3.2. Study Location

The study was conducted at Mangaya Village, where Vhavenda speaking people reside. It is 12 kilometers away from Tshilamba Town in the Thulamela Municipality. The village is said to be traditional, as most rules are created or established by the tribal authority and most of the cases that take place within the village are usually solved by the civil society, the kangaroo court and if that does not work they are transferred to the family courts to handle the matter especially, regarding physical family disturbances/violence.

3.4. Sampling Procedure

Purposive sampling, which is a form of non-probability sampling (Bryman, 2016), is used in this research. Purposive sampling can give detailed and in-depth information about the problem. Purposive sampling helps to sample in a manner that provides the best to the research questions (Bryman, 2016) and it can be said that the samples

chosen for this researched can be analysed by contrasting to find the factors, their differences and similarities from class to class and measuring disparity in intensity of domestic violence.

Purposive sampling procedure was used to identify participants who were more willing to take part in the study. Feminists concur that the essence of research is to locate the 'knower' in the production of knowledge. Purposive sampling is based on the decision of the researcher. The aim of this kind of sampling is to get an approximate representation of the possible target population.

3.5. Data Collection Methods and Instruments

The qualitative approach utilizes interviews with each participant to create a natural atmosphere which elicits more information. Thus, semi-structured, in-depth interviews with the victims of domestic violence were employed in this study. Qualitative interviewing is a flexible process and conducting it as a way of semi-structured interviews in Mangaya Village includes a list of questions that can cover the research questions and it also gives space to the interviewee to answer the questions (Bryman & Bell, 2015). Almost all questions were asked with similar wordings with all interviewees. One on one interviews were used as instrument to ensure participants' privacy. Further, the method enabled the researcher to follow up interesting issues that emerged during the interviews and the participants were able to give a clear picture. The interviews were conducted by arrangement or with informed consent; privacy and confidentiality were assured, in a non-condemning atmosphere. Since the research was confined to people who speak *Tshivenda*, the researcher conducted interviews in *Tshivenda* and data were translated in English for analysis.

3.6. Data Analysis

The most common approach used for the analysis of qualitative data is thematic analysis and that can be an iterative process to develop categories by coding and constant comparison between and within different cases (Bryman, 2016). It also helps to find similarities and differences between the discussions of interviews (ibid)

Data analysis is the process of systematically searching and arranging the interview transcript, field notes and other materials that transcript the communication that takes place between the participants and the researcher, to increase the researchers understanding of respondents and to enable the researcher to present what has been discovered on the study (Monette, 2011). Data analysis is the process of giving meaning to the data that has been collected by the researcher.

3.7. Ethical Considerations

Ethics in research are guidelines that regulate acceptable behaviors between the researcher and the participants Monette (2011) states that ethical enables the researcher to be more conscious during the interaction with the participants and to avoid errors that hinder the research process.

3.7.1. Voluntary Subject Participation

It refers to the fact that experimental participation must be upon the participants will and no one should be forced to participate, no matter what the circumstances (Babbie & Mouton, 2012). The researcher informed the participants about the content and the aim of the study as well as the advantages and disadvantages of taking part so that respondent may engage willingly.

3.7.2. Informed Consent

It is very important to obtain the necessary permission from the respondents after they are thoroughly and truthfully informed about the purpose of the study and the investigation. This implies that as a researcher there is no right to impose questions on the participants without their willingness and clear understanding of what they are doing and what they need to expect and not expect (Terre Blanche et al, 2006).

3.7.3. Confidentiality

The participant's privacy should always be respected, meaning that they should be informed that the identity of the respondents will be protected and if the issues that are

being discussed are too sensitive to be heard by the group of people then the researcher might give the respondent the chance to discuss it in private as anonymous. Confidentiality is an ethical requirement in most research, that the information provided by participants particularly sensitive and personal, should be protected and made unavailable to anyone other than the researcher (Bless et al, 2006).

The researcher ensured confidentiality by informing the respondents that the information provided will not be published and the real names will be changed into codes or figures so that the respondents remain protected.

3.7.4. Protection from Harm

Domestic violence is a sensitive issue that can trigger previous traumatic experiences or events of participants. Welman (2005) indicates that domestic violence is a sensitive issue therefore the researcher should not the participants to any physical, emotional or psychological harm always.

3.8. Limitations of the Study

Limitations of the study are short-comings or obstacles that might be encountered in the study. In the case of this study, the researcher may encounter some limitations because the study is very sensitive and most of the victims of domestic violence do not want to come out and share their experiences/stories. Therefore, it is very likely to find reluctant respondents who are not willing to give their stories even if the researcher has been referred to them by other people (Creswell, 2013).

Since the researcher resides in the same area where the study was conducted, this may increase chances of being rejected by the respondents; withdrawal of participants also maybe a problem. Gaining entry to the appropriate organizations dealing with domestic violence or sensitive issues may also be a challenge. In addition, some of the policies applied in the appropriate centres with reliable information may completely hinder the researcher from accessing information.

3.9 Conclusion

This chapter has reflected on the methodology that has been used to explore the contributory Factors Leading to Domestic Violence: A Case Study of Mangaya Village in Thulamela Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province, South Africa. Research instruments which include an interview schedule for the respondents, informed consent and interview guide for the key informants were discussed. The next chapter presented and discussed research findings.

Chapter 4: Data Analysis

4.1. Introduction

This chapter presents the analysis of the study. The chapter provides an overview of the findings obtained through the interview that was conducted during the study, including the challenges and the ways of dealing with the problem. This chapter includes the most “behind doors” stories of domestic violence from the respondents as they narrate their views and experiences. Domestic violence affects people regardless of race, ethnicity, class, sexual and gender identity, religious affiliation because the people experience and view domestic violence in culturally specific ways. The researcher wanted to find out their perceptions of what they perceive as contributory factors leading to the abuse.

4.2. Background of the Respondents

The study included both women and men between the ages of 20-65 years who are residing in Mangaya village. It included both employed and the unemployed people and various occupational levels. Their marital status ranged from single, married, to divorce. The participants use various methods to solve disputes as a traditional group. All the respondents that were interviewed were from Mangaya village which is a rural area. The study was conducted to gain insight on the situation of domestic violence in the rural perspective, and the best way to do that was to get the respondents who live in the village as it would bring out how domestic violence is viewed in the traditional villages of the Vhavenda group. Indeed, domestic violence occurs everywhere. However, the focus of the study was more on what respondents perceive as contributory factors leading to the outbreak of domestic violence in rural area rather than in the urban areas.

4.3 Demographic Profile of Respondents

Table: 1. Age of the Respondents

<u>Age</u>	<u>Number of People</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
20-30	04	40%
31-40	02	20%

41-50	03	30%
51-65	01	10%

The table above shows that the majority 40% of the respondents were people between the age of 20-30 years, 30% from the age 31-40, whereas 20% were people from the age of 41-50 and 10% were people from the age of 51-65. This means that people who are more open about domestic violence are younger people.

Table: 2. Gender

GENDER	NUMBER OF PEOPLE	PERCENTAGE
MALES	05	50%
FEMALES	05	50%

Table 2 above illustrates that the respondents were women and men and made up 50%-50% percentage. In Mangaya village both men and women who were sampled were able to share their views and experiences about domestic violence and what they perceive as contributory factors leading to the outbreak of the violence.

Table: 3. Occupational Level

Occupation	Number of people	Percentage
Working	03	30%
Unemployed	05	50%
Self-employed	02	20%

Table 3 above indicates that majority (50%) of respondents are unemployed, amongst the total population, few (30%) of the respondents were working. The other 20% of respondents were found to be self-employed, surviving by selling food and snacks at the schools around Mangaya Village. This indicates that unemployment is a contributory

factor to the increasing incidents of domestic violence as the village is faced with a high rate of unemployment among men and women.

The findings indicate that respondents include both working and non-working. This shows that domestic violence affects all people regardless of their socio-economic status, whether rich or poor. Unfortunately, those who are not working are more likely to stay in abusive relationships because they depend on their partners for survival because of the existing problem of the high rate of unemployment in Mangaya Village they believe they do not have any choice. According to Platt (2016), unemployed men are more dissatisfied with their lives, feel victimized and are more anxious, depressed and tend to be more hostile towards their family members and the incidents of neurosis, psychosis, and suicide are higher amongst such men. The study indicated that most of the people become addicted to substance abuse, which also increases the chances of domestic violence occurrences.

Table 4: Marital Status

Marital Status	Number of people	Percentage
Married	04	40%
Divorced	04	40%
SINGLE	02	20 %

The table above shows that 40% of the respondents are married, (40%) of the respondents were divorced, (20%) of participants, were not officially or traditionally married, but were also being affected by domestic violence. (40%) of the respondents indicated that they are traditionally or legally married and are staying with their families, including their children and husbands. Few (5%) of them are experiencing domestic violence at the hands of a boyfriend, meaning that there is no marriage involved. Furthermore, a few (40%) of the respondents have children out of wedlock and these are the people who experience the challenges of domestic violence both from their ex-lovers and from their own families.

4.4 Contributory factors leading to domestic violence

4.4.1 Lack of education

Majority 80% of the respondents indicated that they perceive lack of education as one of the contributory factors leading to the outbreak of domestic violence as most people are not educated within families especially men tend to be violence when they are failing to secure employments that pays them better than their female partners tend to become violent and use their masculine power to enforce decisions that are beneficial to themselves.

Only 30% of the respondents indicated that they do not see lack of education as a contributory factor leading to domestic violence as they said that some people who are not educated are very understanding and supportive towards their educated partners and that they are able to live well with their families and also support educated family members in their visions.

4.4.2 Poverty

Majority 60% of the respondents indicated that they see poverty as one of the contributory factors leading to the outburst of domestic violence as most people within families especially men tend to be violence when they are failing to provide for their families, participant number 1 mentioned that her son is not feeling well and needs proper treatment but because of poverty they cannot afford it and need extra financial support from their employer and her partner is always angry at her whenever she asks for assistance from him.

“I am worried about my child, especially elder one who is not well. His operation is a must and I am unable to arrange money and whenever I try to talk to the father he is always bitter and angry which only makes the situation worse than helping”.

Few 40% of the respondents indicated that they do not see poverty as a contributory factor leading to domestic violence as they said that some people are able to cope well with their families while being poor.

4.4.3 Women's Inferiority

The majority (60%) of the respondents indicated that women's inferiority contributes to the outbreak of domestic violence as the socialization process, patriarchy and stereotypes of gender influenced the inferiority of women and creates a platform of domestic violence that usually not viewed as a crime culturally.

The data collected reveals that, majority of respondents indicated that culture plays a vital role on the issue of domestic violence as the process of socialization is influenced by culture and men have more power that make it difficult for them to accept to share power equally with women. The respondents further indicated that the phenomenon domestic violence existed even in the olden days. However, it was not perceived as violence but cultural practices that channel individuals within the family setting to conform to the cultural values and norms.

It was culturally accepted for a woman to be beaten by the husband and it was not an issue to be discussed outside the family setting and even the victims believed that they were being beaten as a way of being corrected and it was used as a way of expressing their love and communicating to the family.

Katz (2015) supported the above information by saying; "*Qui aime bien chatie bien*" meaning the one who loves well punishes well. Few (40%) of the respondents indicated that to them it was not a problem being beaten. They accepted it as a way of living and the family members did not care about the issue of being beaten.

4.4.4 Interference

All participants 100% indicated that interference of outsiders and family members, including in-laws was also intimated by interviewees. The women explained that due to the interference of people they have to face several issues including verbal and physical violence. A participant specifically mentioned about her in-laws and family members' interference that resulted in a violent attitude of her husband with her;

"When they all are together they back bite me in front of my husband and then he got angrier with me".

One more participant mentioned that her husband used to listen his friends a lot who misrepresented him and for that her husband abused her;

“In past, he used to listen to his friends who misguided him, and he then asked me for money and for that he used bad language”.

It was obvious from the interviews that interference is mostly negative and biased and executed against women and it is one of the contributory factors leading to domestic violence.

4.4.5 Patriarchy

A 60 years old participant revealed that she was living in a joint family and her marriage was arranged and she experienced extreme violence from her in-laws and husband both.

“I spent a long era of my married life in that abuse both from husband and in-laws. They give me emotional stress. First mother in-law and father-in-law both used to beat me on small issues and then my husband also did the same and that continued until my children grew up. I never understood the reason for their extreme behaviour, but what I think is that they wanted to show their power and tried to enforce me every time. They felt the pride by doing violence on me”.

Male dominance because of exchange marriage was also observed during an interview where participant disclosed that she had exchanged marriage and she experienced violence for that reason and her husband tried to dominate just to show his father who married the sister of her husband. She also added that men want to show their power by imposing restrictions in various ways;

“My marriage was an exchanged marriage. My husband’s sister is my father’s second wife. Whenever my step mother has some problem in my father’s house, my husband also tortures me as revenge. Not fully but up to some extent, they are restricted because men want to show their power by restricting us”.

Hiding bad habits like extra marital affair was also disclosed during an interview. One woman from the participants mentioned that her husband is interested in women outside and whenever she asked him about those he used violence against me just to show his power and dominance;

He used to fight with me from the start of our marriage. He can do it on any issue. If something happens with in-laws or kids he started fighting with me. If I make any minor mistake he starts fighting or if he wants to do something wrong and I tried to stop him then he fights too. He is interested in woman outside and if I want to stop him, he starts fighting or even beat me. He is involved in woman outside and just because of hiding that he uses this attitude. With any other little issue, he fights with me just to divert my attention from his affairs. He argues with and beat me, so I could not ask any question about his faults.

A form of male dominance by showing his power was specified by another participant. She informed that her husband abuses her just to pour out his frustration, which he had at his workplace;

At home, my husband beats me almost every week just to pour his frustration and that becomes his hobby now. As I said my husband pour his frustration as I am the only one who is under his control.

Women are believed to be the weakest group and their vulnerability makes them the target to shift the burden of frustration and need. They accept the notion that they are the one who must face all odds from their husbands and the thought strongly capture their mind and make them helpless.

4.4.6 Socialization

The majority (80%) of the respondents indicated that the socialization process planted a seed of masculine and feminine traits. Both men and women in various settings can be victims and perpetrators of domestic violence. Men are perceived as strong, aggressive, and independent, their masculinity characteristics prevents them to express their feelings and to report domestic violence, even when they are being abused. Culturally

men are not expected to cry and when they do their manhood is questioned. Women are however perceived as weak, dependent and soft in nature that in turns makes them to remain victims of domestic violence because of their vulnerability.

Msuya (2017) points out that culture that the individuals grow up in affects their beliefs, values, behaviours, and how people deal with problems. The culture, ethnic group, religion and economic background all contribute to forming a complicated set of influence, constrains, and resources.

Few (20%) of the respondents indicated that personality traits do not make men abusive and women weaker. The respondents indicated that it is about the gender roles that have been socially constructed that makes women to be perceived as weak and men perceived as strong. However, the respondents agree that the cultural practices such as patriarchy play a role in making men superior to women. However, masculinity has nothing to do with it, as men also get abused by women and do not report because of the cultural expectations of men being strong and not exposing their weaknesses.

Culturally, because of the gender stereotype of masculinity that a man is not supposed to cry, he must be strong and aggressive. This implies that even when a male individual is experiencing violence or abuse in various settings, he is unable to express this feeling. This in turn contributes a lot to the fact that most cases of men are not reported as culturally their manhood are questioned and men who try to look for help are stigmatized (Kaufman, 2012).

4.4.7 Financial Dependency

The data collected reveals that majority (60%) of the respondents indicated that in a case where a person is not working and has no means of survival, it is difficult to make informed decisions due to the pressure of how to survive after wards. The following is what other women had to say during the interview:

“We are forced to stay in abusive relationships for the sake of our children. We were groomed to stay at home and focus on the house-hold and our men will always provide for us and when things are bad we think of what

our children will eat. Besides we will be outcasts if we go back home, some of us have no homes to go back to..."

Although some of the victims of domestic violence indicated that they are working and can manage to look after themselves and their children, still they found themselves in the same situation. The (40%) of respondents argued that even when both partners are financially independent domestic violence still prevails. One respondent indicated that: *"he will beat me for not giving him the ATM card to go out and drink with friends"*. This statement indicates clearly that there are other women/men who are abused even if they are financially independent and continue to stay in such relationships.

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (2015), a significant proportion of women/victims who return to the relationships that are abusive attribute their inability to deal with their finances as a major contributing factor which is often enhanced by the fact that the abuser often has all the economic and social standing and complete control over the family finances. Most people do not understand why the victims stay or return in abusive relationships.

Most victims of domestic violence are likely to experience a decline in living standards and security of life for themselves and their children, if they were to leave their partner. As a result, all the combined factors, many survivors of domestic violence who summon the courage to leave abusive partners eventually return for financial reasons (Daly & Wade, 2016).

Economic loss contributes to the problem of domestic violence in most families. Where the level of domestic violence is low, the economic state is still stable, but when economic difficulties begins to raise so does the level of domestic violence. Kaufman (2012) the loss of jobs and a difficult economic standard within the family can directly affect the individual with the responsibility of the family. The above-mentioned authors suggested that the behavioral patterns and attitudes of men in the family change radically because of stress and tend to act violently on their family members. The views of the mentioned above authors have been supported by other writers including (Msuya,

2017). They indicated that most abused individuals leave the abuser and return to them for financial support.

Finance is a major obstacle for leaving the abusive relationship. Women with a lower level of education completely depend on the husband, who controls all financial resources and spending hence women find it difficult to leave the relationship. Some abusers prevent their partners to work because they will no longer have control over them. Often, victims find themselves choosing between homelessness, living in impoverished and unsafe communities or returning to their abusive partners (Daly & Wade, 2016). In addition to being financially deprived by their husbands, women also reported that they never received any financial support from their original families (Mhongo, & Budlender, 2013). Women find it hard to leave the abusive relationship because they are afraid of starting over on their own without their partner's help due to being unemployed.

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence stated that a significant proportion who return to the relationship attribute their inability to deal with their finances as a major contributing factor, which is often enhanced by the fact that the abuser has all of the economic and social control over the family finances, NCADV (2015).

In the studies conducted on depression, it was found that fathers who suffer financial loss become tenser, irritable, explosive, and become increasingly arbitrary and punitive in the discipline of their family members. Unemployed men are more dissatisfied with their lives, feel victimized and are more anxious, depressed and tend to be more hostile towards their family members. The incidents of neurosis, psychosis, and suicide are higher amongst such men. The study indicated that most men become addicted to substance abuse, which also increases the chances of domestic violence occurrences (Platt, et al., 2016).

While economists have been studying the family as a unit for over thirty years, most models have focused on cooperative family units. Domestic violence is one of the most wide-spread violent crimes against humanity. It is one example of a family unit that is better explained as a non-cooperative. The non-cooperative model of domestic violence

is a model that predicts that women's income and other financial support receive from outside the marriage (family welfare and divorce settlements) will decrease the level of violence in intact families because they increase the women's threat point. These have been challenged by so many theorists, who argue that domestic violence takes place in all walks of life and has no respect on the socio-economic status of an individual. Whether rich or poor, people experience domestic violence, therefore, the theory raised a lot of questions that need answers. Domestic violence increased the odds of domestic violence after the welfare reform, but not before (Adebayo, 2014).

Some authors have argued that the effects of domestic violence on employment may be mediated by the effect of abuse that has created mental health problems for the battered women. A mental health analysis of 18 studies on the effect of unemployment on domestic violence and mental health found that the victims of domestic violence had higher rates of several mental disorders, including depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder than did the non-victims (Delara, 2016).

Research on domestic violence further suggests that psychological distress is associated with unemployment. Abused women with depression are more likely to be unemployed and men who are not employed are more likely to be depressed and abusive (Platt, et al., 2016).

4.4.8 Alcohol and Drug Abuse

The majority (70%) of respondents indicated that alcohol and drug abuse influence the issue of domestic violence in various settings. Few (30%) of the respondents indicated that alcohol is not fully responsible for domestic violence because individuals might have the problem of substance abuse, and yet not abusive and a person who does not drink, might be the one abusive.

A participant indicated the use of alcohol by her husband in their poverty and for that he used the insane approach of stealing things from home or abducting money earned by her by showing his power. Once her husband stole the things of the landlord for his alcohol addiction and she had to pay the compensation otherwise she had to leave the place.

“He sold out things from home just for his alcohol addiction. In front of children beat me. But he was not violent every time”.

According to Adebayo (2014) alcohol played a significant role in the instigation of violence at home. Delara (2016) further indicated that most men abuse alcohol and later deny any memory of the attack or say that they lost control. Some partners believe them and hope they will change if they stop drinking. However, the most significant determinant of behaviour right after drinking is not the physiological effect of the alcohol itself but the expectations that individuals place on the drinking experience. And as the experiences of these women show, men drink to have more courage to be violent and also provide an excuse for their abusive acts.

Adebayo (2014) furthermore indicated that most men drink to have more courage to be violent and also provide an excuse for their abusive acts. Men can deny any memory of the attack or say that they lost control. Some partners believe them and hope they will change if they stop drinking.

4.4.9 Male Dominance

The data from the respondents indicated various pointers leading to the outburst of domestic violence. The majority (70%) indicated that domestic violence between spouses comes because of forceful sex because of male dominance over women. Data further reveal that male partners usually do not feel like they must ask permission for intercourse from their partners. As a result, they end up forcing their partners force them into it. Because of this reason, spouses become aggressive. Respondents indicated that even if they are not ready to have sex on that day, they could not refuse the partner sex. The 30% of respondents said that, domestic violence is triggered by so many things including maintenance of the children, and unemployment. Drugs and alcohol abuse within the families may also increase the chances of outbursts of domestic violence.

4.3.10 Cultural practice

Majority of respondents indicated that a cultural practice influences the issue of domestic violence in various settings. More than half (60%) of the respondents indicated that cultural practices such as the issue of bridal price which is paid as exchange for women to be married by the husbands. One of the respondents indicated the following:

“He will beat me badly and tell me I bought you and you will do anything I instruct you to do. He keeps on telling me that he can do anything he wants with me, because he has every right because he paid money to have me. He said to me; when I talk you listen and do as I say with no questions asked because I am the head of this family”.

The above quotation shows that cultural practices such as bridal prices turn women into objects rather than individuals with the same quality and value within the family, while feeling inferior and being treated as objects that do not have a say over their lives.

Igbokwe, Ukwuma, Onugwu, (2013) indicated that, as in all areas of our lives, our cultural identities are present in domestic violence situations; that may be focused on the abuser, the abused or an individual who needs help regarding the problem. Although the elements of abuse are universal, a person’s culture influences the way an individual deals/handle the situation. Culture and traditions provide the strength of families and individuals.

Although culture can strengthen the family, cultural influences may also create obstacles when working with parties in a domestic violence situation, understanding a person’s culture and belief system can be helpful in successfully working with that person.

Culturally, in most African cultures such as Zulu and Venda, during bridals showers women are taught to be always submissive to their husbands and to abide by the rules and boundaries set by the husbands and the socially constructed norms that are expected of women. The standards are set so high for women and are expected to comply because culture expects them to. Few (40%) of the respondents indicated that it

does not matter what happens within the family. Below is what one of the respondents said:

“I was so bruised, and I packed and went back home and in the morning they drove me back to the same person who almost killed me and they said to me, a woman should have a strong heart to overcome situations no matter how complicated it is. It is part of being a woman you need to be strong and embrace the chance of having a husband and most importantly do not shame us by coming back home, being beaten it’s a husband’s way of protecting his legacy and creating boundaries”

Domestic violence affects people regardless of race, ethnicity, class, sexual and gender identity, religious affiliation, age, immigration status and ability. Because victims of domestic violence may experience the abuse in culturally specific ways, services providers should consider the cultural background and the unique issues faced by the victim and their children to tailor services to meet their needs (Igbokwe, Ukwuma, & Onugwu. 2013).

4.5 Challenges Faced by the Respondents

The respondents indicated various challenges which they face daily. Most of the individuals who are victims of domestic violence had experienced the problem of domestic violence over a long period of time and were physically, emotionally, financially, sexually violated and neglected by their loved ones and left alone to suffer with the children. The respondents indicated that it is very unlikely for the family members to support involving the police in domestic violence issues. It was indicated by the respondents that the families prefer solving the matter on their own without involving the police and most women have been abused for a long period of time because of the fear of going beyond the family values. Regardless of how many times the issue had been solved, the problem still existed. The abuser felt guilty immediately and apologized later then repeated the same thing repeatedly.

The respondents indicated that one of the challenges is the fact that they are caught in between unpleasant choices; the first one is to report the case at the police and lose

their marriage for good and the second one is to die in silence, save the marriage and continue to be abused. Most women and men admitted that the reason they were silent about the issue is because they were trying to keep and protect their marriages. Victims of domestic violence suffer greatly and face challenges daily only because they are inferior to their partners. Also, the issue of domestic violence can be triggered by anything ranging from demand for sex and just simple family discussions. The other challenge that the respondents indicated is the fact that they are labeled by the community and stigmatized, as if they deserve it. The respondents indicated that the police even asked them why they do not leave the abusers if they do not want to be abused. In other, words these are some attitudes that some people have on the victims of domestic violence rather than trying to help them out.

4.6 The Picture of Hardship

The respondents indicated that there comes a lot of hardship across much hardship in their daily lives. There are so many things that these individuals go through that are not known to the public as they have always been hidden. They indicated that domestic violence involves several issues that includes the children and other family members. They reported that rape is another challenge that victims of domestic violence come across within their families, and it is a very difficult issue to discuss with the police or any other people as they know that the complaint is a spouse to the accused. Furthermore, culturally, families believe that sex is a basic right for the men and whenever he demands it, he should get it, whether the other partner approves or not, and that makes it impossible for these women to come out with the issue. Furthermore, it was indicated that families of the abused believe that they may have done something to be treated in that manner. Usually credit is given to the other partner rather than the person who is suffering. For that reason, most women remain being abused and violated until some lose their lives without getting out as the pressure, does not only come from the oppressor but also from their own families.

It was found that the other major problem that these victims come across is the issue of incest within the families. Few (10%) of the respondents indicated that working far from

home and living their children with fathers, stepfathers or siblings is a major problem and these children are at risk of sexual abuse. Indeed, some victims were open enough to admit that their children are sexually abused by their next of kin and they also admitted that the children do not report to them as they believe that they would not be believed. Usually children who are aware of what is happening try to alert their mothers, but they agree that they were in denial for a very long period.

A few months back the media broadcast many stories relating to incest, where fathers are raping their own biological children. If a blood father can do that, then the uncle and the step fathers are worse. Although some family members are aware that this is happening within their families, they keep quiet to save their marriages. It was indicated that cases of this kind are reported and the people who opened the cases are divorced and still blamed for not keeping it in the house behind closed doors.

4.7 Conclusion

The discussions from study confirm that people have different views on domestic violence, and their views are much influence about their experiences and the kind of challenges that they face within their families and community. It is vital that women and children are helped of their situations as they are failing to do that alone. The elements in the analytic frame-work were followed when discussing the research findings revealed that the lives of domestic violence survivors presented a life of sorrow and misery for men, women and children, combined with physical abuse divorce, and sexual abuse, of these men, children and women within the families. Indeed, the stories of domestic violence have been heard. Now each part of the world needs to stand up and fight against domestic violence in all its forms. Clearly cultural practices and other socio-economic limitations contribute to the problem of domestic violence and the study revealed that the high rate of unemployment at Mangaya Village that also increases the prevalence of such incidents.

This research study leads to the conclusion that certain factors are responsible for the outbreak of domestic violence. There is no such escalation of factors as compared to the literature. The widespread of violence domestically and publicly is because of the

patriarchal society still transmitting male dominance in the form of abuse and restriction on women. Other factors like education, poverty, the influence of family etc. are also incorporated. This research will be helpful for future researchers in a sense that it provides some specific factors that contribute to the outburst of domestic violence in rural and urban areas. It can help researchers to update educational reforms that can also create awareness within society.

Chapter 5: Study Findings, Recommendations and Conclusions

5.1. Introduction

In the last chapter the findings of the study are discussed and interpreted. The major research findings will also be presented. The chapter will also include the limitations of the study, and recommendations and implications of the findings.

5.2. Overview of the Study

The study is about the attitudes, experiences, the psychological, feminist perspective; the chapter is focused on the public views on the contributory factors leading to domestic violence at Mangaya Village. The study focused mainly on women and men and it is significant as it stresses the experiences of ordinary individuals from their own point of view rather than from the researcher's point of view. The focus of this research is on the contributory factors leading of domestic violence. A sample of 10 respondents was drawn from a population of Mangaya Village.

Respondents were women and men who were to be open about domestic violence. It was not possible to get more people who were willing to open up about their attitudes on the contributory factors towards domestic violence. This was because of the sensitiveness of domestic violence as a subject most of the people find it difficult to be open when talking about domestic violence.

The researcher used unstructured face to face interviews to gather data from the respondents. She chose interviews because they provide access to what is inside the person's head, makes it possible to measure what a person likes and dislikes (values and preferences) and what the person thinks and believes (attitudes and beliefs) (Cohen & Manion, 2011).

5.3. Overview of the Findings

The study explored the cultural implications and the untold stories of domestic violence survivors. It explored the experiences of women who were and still victims of domestic violence. The study further explored the writings of other authors regarding domestic

violence around the world. It also included the cultural factors and gender dimensions that influence domestic violence.

- The findings revealed that unemployment is a challenge and contributory factor to domestic violence.
- The study revealed that most of women had suffered domestic violence for a long period of time.
- The findings also showed that children are directly affected by domestic violence within families.
- The results further showed that most women sacrifice themselves in order to save their marriages and protect their children.
- It was shown that the reporting of domestic violence led divorce in most families.
- The findings revealed that more than half (65%) were willing and compromise and preserve their dignity and protect their children.
- The study also revealed that most cases are reported and cancelled before they were heard.
- The study revealed that more than half (60%) of the respondents had tried to resolve the issue(s) between their families but it did not stop the recurrence of domestic violence.
- The study revealed that less than (30%) of the respondents wanted to go back to their husbands even if they were promised safety.

5.4. Coping Strategies of Domestic Violence Victims

The study indicated that most respondents relied on their families to solve their issues and thus the support of the family and the efforts of keeping them together meant a lot to them. Furthermore, the respondents indicated that there was support from the police in monitoring the situation within their families. However, they also used the assistance

of victim empowerment programs as a means of dealing with the issue. These empowerment programmes include the counseling sessions and the programmes that are essential in helping the women to stand up against domestic violence with the support of other victims who survived violence within their families.

5.5. Implications of the Study.

The study did not come up with an immediate solution to the social problem of domestic violence that was being investigated. Instead it explored on the issues which contribute and influence the existence of the problem of domestic Violence and by scrutinizing the roots of the problem, it becomes easier to lay a foundation for solutions. However, the findings may have social applications in dealing with the problem on the future and it can deepen the understanding of domestic violence on varying dimensions that are included in the study.

The study critically analyzed the writings of the feminist scholars and other theories on domestic violence, including the psychological perspective on domestic violence, gender dimensions, the myths that hinder the understanding of domestic violence and the cultural implications of domestic violence. The study may be influential to the relevant people or stake-holders that can gain in-depth information about the problem and generate solutions that will help in addressing the problem.

5.6. Recommendations of the Study

The recommendations are intended for stakeholders who are influential strategizing. This includes the consumers of this research, including policy formulators and the professions. The researcher also recommends that the community and the police should actively work together in helping the victims of domestic violence to overcome their irrational thinking that is combed by remaining in abusive situations. Furthermore the 16 days of activism against women and children should be stressed even more in communities and more programmes that guard against the spread of domestic violence should be started and that men should be included as well. Communities should look out for the rights of victims. Indeed, victims have a choice on whether to report the cases or not but unfortunately the choices made are risky. The researcher recommends

that the government should create policies that are stricter to protect vulnerable group such as men, women and children who are victims of domestic violence. The government should allocate more funds to assist different professionals such as police officers, social workers and victim empowerment centres to fight abuse.

The study indicated that respondents find it difficult to report cases and not withdraw them because of stigmatization they suffer from family members and community. Therefore, legislations can be made on the prevention of case withdrawals by victims and the neighbors reporting on behalf of others who are suffering and not turning a blind eye to domestic violence. The researcher also recommends that the laws governing domestic violence should be adjusted to protect children and the society.

5.6.1. Policy Makers

The policy makers should review the acts that deal with domestic violence. Furthermore, new legislation should be enacted that will enhance the protection of these victims without having to fight with their lives, which leave some of them dead and leave their children alone because of silence. The issue of domestic violence needs serious recognition as many individuals are dying and children are suffering due to the violence, school drop outs and other societal ills, including street children.

5.6.2 The Professionals

The social workers should also form part of the solution by intervening in solving the issue of domestic violence. These issues leave children with difficulties that need to be attended to by professionals such as social workers. Children who witnesses domestic violence grow up under oppression. As a result, this contributes to the problem of school 'drop-outs' and children running away from their homes. Although most women do not reveal it, it is true that there are many hidden, incest cases. This cannot be uprooted by research but can be discovered and social workers and youth workers can intervene by rendering programmes and counseling and food parcels for the children, if necessary and that the Social workers and youth workers can help in changing the mindset of the people towards domestic violence.

5.7 Conclusion

The findings of the study indicate that there are various aspects that contribute to the problem of domestic violence. The cultural practices such as lobola, patriarchy and the socialization process perpetuate the myth that men are superior to women, and if they do not conform to their needs, they will be violated. Not a day goes by without a report on the news that a child has been raped or killed by a member of the family. Today, many people may not see the importance of playing a role in fighting the increasing number of domestic violence incidents. The community should also not turn a blind eye. Furthermore, more organizations focusing on victim empowerment can also assist in fighting this social ill. Domestic violence affects everyone, whether directly or indirectly and we all have a role to play in curbing it.

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Appendix A: Consent Letter

I am Nemasisi Rofhiwa Ronald, a Master of Gender Studies student at the University of Venda. I am undertaking a study titled *'Contributory Factors Leading To Domestic Violence: A Case Study Of Mangaya Village In Thulamela Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province, South Africa'*The main aim of this study is to explore on the contributory factors leading to Domestic Violence amongst Mangaya community members.

I request your participation in my study as one of the respondents to my research questions. Please note that your participation in this study is voluntarily and that it will not cause any harm as whatever information you may provide will remain strictly confidential between you and me. I pledge that I shall ensure anonymity where required and as agreed between us with the use code names.

You are free to withdraw from this study at any time of your choice without any negative consequences to you.

Researcher

Respondent

.....

.....

Nemasisi R.R (Mr.)

Appendix B: Questionnaire

Section A

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF THE PARTICIPANTS

INSTRUCTIONS: please answer all questions and explain your answers on the provided spaces. There is no right and wrong answer feel free to express your views and feelings

1. (Please tick or put a cross in the boxes below)

1. Age

20-30

31-40

41-50

51-65

2. GENDER

Male

Female

3. OCCUPATIONAL LEVEL

Working

Unemployed

Self-employed

4. Marital status

Single

Married

Divorced

Widowed

4. Qualifications

Degree

Diploma

Certificate

Grade 12

Other

Section B

1. FACTORS LEADING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

1.1 What is your understanding of domestic violence how and where have you acquired knowledge about domestic violence?

1.2. What do you think are the contributory factors leading to domestic violence?

1.3. Do you know of any type of domestic violence? Explain your answer

1.5. Do you know of any policies of domestic violence? Yes/ No if yes explain and if no explain'

1.6. Have you ever been a victim of domestic violence?

Yes

No

Explain your answer

1.7. If yes, what do you think were the cause that incident?

1.8. How often did the incident take place?

2. CULTURAL PRACTICES INFLUENCE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

2.1. What are your views of culture regarding domestic violence?

2.2. Do you believe that masculinity gives men leverage /power to be physically abusive?

YES

NO

Explain your answer

2.3. How do cultural practices contribute to the increasing incidents of domestic violence?

2.4. Do you believe that financial dependency on one gender influences denial about domestic violence?

Yes

No

Explain your answer.

2.5. Does bridal price lobola influence women being viewed as objects?

3. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION

3.17. What do can be done to reduce the high rate of domestic violence in your community?

Appendix C: Ethical Clearance Certificate

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

NAME OF RESEARCHER/INVESTIGATOR:
Mr RR Nemasisi

Student No:
11622648

PROJECT TITLE: Contributory factors leading to domestic violence: A case study of Mangaya Village in Thulamela Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province, South Africa.

PROJECT NO: SHSS/17/GYS/11/0709

SUPERVISORS/ CO-RESEARCHERS/ CO-INVESTIGATORS

NAME	INSTITUTION & DEPARTMENT	ROLE
Prof TD Thobejane	University of Venda	Supervisor
Dr LD Mogorosi	University of Venda	Co-Supervisor
Mr RR Nemasisi	University of Venda	Investigator – Student

ISSUED BY:
UNIVERSITY OF VENDA, RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

Date Considered: September 2017

Decision by Ethical Clearance Committee Granted

Signature of Chairperson of the Committee:

Name of the Chairperson of the Committee: Prof. G.E. Ekosse



UNIVERSITY OF VENDA DIRECTOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION 2017 -09- 13 Private Bag X5050 Thohoyandou 0950



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