

What are the believes, spiritual, subcultural, religious, traditional, and family structure of perpetrators of domestic violence? A question for further studies

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Domestic violence is considered as a health problem in the world and spouse abuse is one type of domestic violence including physical, emotional, sexual violence as well as neglect of wife. Beating is the clear indicator of physical violence, ignoring the needs and humiliating are examples of emotional violence, forced sexual relationship, inappropriate sexual relationship, and unreasonable sexual relationships are examples of sexual violence, and depriving the wife of her basic needs is a type of domestic violence that is common among women who are victims of violence (1). The prevalence of violence against spouse is so widespread in different countries that can be seen almost in all developed and developing countries with different rates (2). According to the study conducted in London, one woman out of each five women (2,3) and 29% of referring women to healthcare centers in Canada and one fifth of referring people to psychiatric emergency are victims of violence (4). Violence against women is high in developing countries. According to a study

conducted in Chile, one out of each four women (5) and one woman from every three women (6) are victims of violence; the same case is observed in Turkey (7) and Taiwan (8) meaning that violence prevalence is considerable in these countries. There have also been numerous studies in Iran about this issue. In one study, the spouse abuse rate was obtained to be 31% in Babol (9), 55% in student population (10), 82% in ordinary Tehran population (11,12), and 58% in some provinces of Iran, such as Sari (7,13). Facts and figures indicate a significant prevalence of domestic violence, in particular spouse abuse, in Iran.

The role of some demographic variables in violence against spouse has been addressed in some studies. These variables include higher violence against wife among addicted men (10), unemployed men (11), men with pregnant wives (10), and men with low education degree (12). According to the study conducted by Rasoolian, Habib, and Bolahri, low education level and unemployment are risky factors in committing violence against spouse;

furthermore, women living in cities experience a higher level of domestic violence compared to women who live in villages (14,15). The underlying point here includes personality traits, mental status, and ethnical and cultural characteristics of perpetrators of violence. In this regard, it should be investigated that who the perpetrators of domestic violence are, what their characteristics are, which Iranian ethnics and cultures include domestic violence, and in particular to violence against wife, what spiritual, subcultural, religious, traditional, and family structures and belief perpetrators promote it. It is recommended that further studies address these issues with a different approach in terms of spiritual and religious aspects among different layers of society.

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