

EFFECTIVENESS OF COMMUNITY-BASED INTERVENTION PROGRAMME ON ATTITUDE OF PREVENTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AMONG PEOPLE RESIDING IN SEMI-URBAN ZONE, CHENNAI

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ABSTRACT

The objective of the study was to determine the effectiveness of community-based education intervention on attitude on preventing domestic violence (DV) against women among the public, and to associate their selected background variables with the attitude on preventing domestic violence against women. 200 sample both men and women, residing in the selected semi-urban area of kundrathur were included.

Non-probability-purposive sampling technique was used. A structured questionnaire on attitude to prevent domestic violence against women was used.

After getting consent from the study participation, structured questionnaire on attitude to prevent domestic violence against women was given to assess the pre-test attitude on preventing domestic violence. They were asked to read then mark their responses in the columns. Then community based educational intervention was administered individually and separately for the male and female participants with the help of laptop (powerpoint presentations) in their homes. End of the session pamphlets was issued. After the intervention on 15th-day post-test was conducted with the same tool to determine the effectiveness of the intervention. Confidentiality was ensured throughout the study. Data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics.

After the implementation of community-based educational intervention programme, it was noticed that people there were positively changed in their attitude towards preventing domestic violence against women. Hence intervention was found to be effective.

KEYWORDS: *Effectiveness of Community, Domestic Violence, Educational Intervention*

INTRODUCTION

Abuse by one person against another in a domestic setting is considered to be domestic violence; it can be marriage or cohabitation. Also, it was termed intimate partner violence when committed by a spouse or partner in an intimate relationship against the other partner. Domestic violence takes a number of forms, including physical, verbal, emotional, economic, religious, reproductive and sexual abuse. ⁽¹⁾

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

USAID(1999) Stated that one out of every three women has experienced violence in an intimate relationship at some point of time in her life; it is observed all around the world. This is an average based on available national surveys across industrialized and developing countries. Statistical evidence on the actual prevalence of domestic violence in India is lacking. The few studies available indicate that physical abuse of Indian women was quite high, ranging from 22% to 60 %.⁽²⁾

At least 20% of married women between the ages of 15 and 49 years have experienced domestic violence at some point in their lives, domestic violence has not only serious consequences for the health and well-being of the individual women.⁽³⁾Victims may experience severe psychological problems such as post-traumatic stress disorder, according to WHO globally 38% of female homicides were committed by intimate partner. Dowry violence is most common in South Asia, especially in India. Percentages of women who have reported being physically abused by an intimate partner vary from 69%-10% depending on the country⁽⁴⁾.

The high prevalence of DV and its association with deleterious behaviors and poor health outcomes further speak to the need for multi-faceted, culturally tailored preventive strategies that target potential victims and perpetrators of violence. The recent Five Year Strategic Plan (2011–2016) released by the Ministry of Women and Child Development discusses a plan to pilot ‘one-stop crisis centers for women’ survivors of violence, which would include medical, legal, law enforcement, counseling, and shelter support for themselves and their children. The significant differences in women’s empowerment and DV experience by region and population within India (Kishor & Gupta, 2004) underscore the need to culturally- and regionally tailor the screening and support services provided at such centers.⁽⁵⁾

In many parts of the world, marriage is taken as granting men the right to have sexual relations with their wife and to use force and power to demand sex from the wife even if she does not want sex. Sexual coercion ranges from rape to different forms of pressure, force and fear that compel girls to have sex against their will. Studies such as those from India⁽⁶⁾

Domestic violence affects the productivity level of the victim negatively. Men and women lose interest in household activities. If they are employed they fail to work with full capabilities in the workplace. Children are found to concentrate less on studies. They drop out of school and do not get the education which otherwise they might have got if they were not tormented and thus the country loses a productive asset. Therefore, the nation’s productivity altogether gets affected because of domestic violence in homes.⁽⁷⁾Hence the investigators were indented to implement community-based intervention to create positive attitude on prevention of domestic violence among the public in a selected community area.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To determine the effectiveness of community -based education intervention on attitude on preventing domestic violence against women among the public.
2. To associate their selected background variables with the attitude on preventing domestic violence against women among the public.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A pre-experimental study was conducted on the effectiveness of community-based educational intervention programme on domestic violence against women in semi-urban community area. One group pre-test post-test design was adopted. Study samples consisted of 200 both men and women and residing in the selected area were included. A setting of the study was semi-urban area, of kundrathur.

Non-probability-purposive sampling technique was followed in selecting the study participants. They were pretested with a structured questionnaire on attitude to prevent domestic violence against women. This was designed by the researcher and validated by experts in the field of psychology, sociology, Nursing, and medicine. Few modifications were suggested and it was rectified.

The tool consists of two sections, sectionA: respondents background variables (age, education, marital status, type of family, occupation, no of children, duration of married life). Section B: consisted of 15 items, it was rated by 4 point likert scale, strongly agree (4 points), agree (3 points), disagree (2 points) and strongly dis agree (1 point) total score was 60. Internal consistency of the questionnaire was done by administering the tool to 20 samples and it was tested with Cronbach's alpha, the yield value was 0.72. The index of reliability confirmed that the instrument was reliable for the study.

METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION & ANALYSIS

Each sample was visited at home. Samples were requested to give their willingness in written consent for the study participation after that questionnaire was given to assess the pre-test attitude on preventing domestic violence, they were asked to read then mark their responses in the columns. Then community-based educational intervention was administered individually. For the male and female participants, the sessions were conducted separately by the male and female researchers with the help of laptop (powerpoint presentations) in their homes. For each person the session, took around 45 minutes. End of the session discussions was encouraged. End of the session pamphlets was issued. After the intervention on the 15th day post-test was conducted with the same tool to determine the effectiveness of the intervention. Confidentiality was ensured throughout the study. Data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Table 1 showed that in regard to the age of participants most of them were in the age of 20-40 years. 82% of them were literate. Family type showed 55% of them were living in the joint family pattern. 38% of the participants were semi-skilled workers and 35% of them were homemakers by occupation. 44% of the people were belong to the upper lower class and only 2% were upper-class status.

To determine the effectiveness of community-based education intervention on attitude on preventing domestic violence against women among the public.

Figure 1; showed that with regard to the attitude of people during pre-test, only 18 % of them had neutral attitude & 82% of people had a negative attitude and none of them had a positive attitude towards preventing domestic violence against women. During post-test none of them expressed negative attitude. 24% of them developed a neutral attitude and 76% of them developed a positive attitude towards preventing domestic violence against women.

Table 1: Table- 1: Frequency and Percentage Distribution of Background Variables.

N = 200

S. No	Variables	Frequency	%
1.	Age	90	45
	20-40	78	39
	41-60	32	16
	61-80		
2.	Gender	100	50
	Female	100	50
	male		
3.	Education	164	82
	Literate	36	18
	illiterate		
4.	Family type	109	55
	Joint family	91	45
	Nuclear family		
5.	Occupation	70	35
	Home maker	18	9
	Self-employment	31	16
	Skilled worker	76	38
	Semiskilled worker	5	2
	professional		
6.	Socio economic status	4	2
	Upper class	20	10
	Upper middle	60	30
	Lower middle	88	44
	Upper lower	28	14
	lower		

Table 2: Mean Value of Attitude Score of public on the prevention of domestic violence against women N = 200

	Mean	SD	Mean Diff.	t-Value& p Value
Pre -test	32.17	11.12		t= 17.172
Post-test	61.74	8.26	-29.57	p= 0.001***

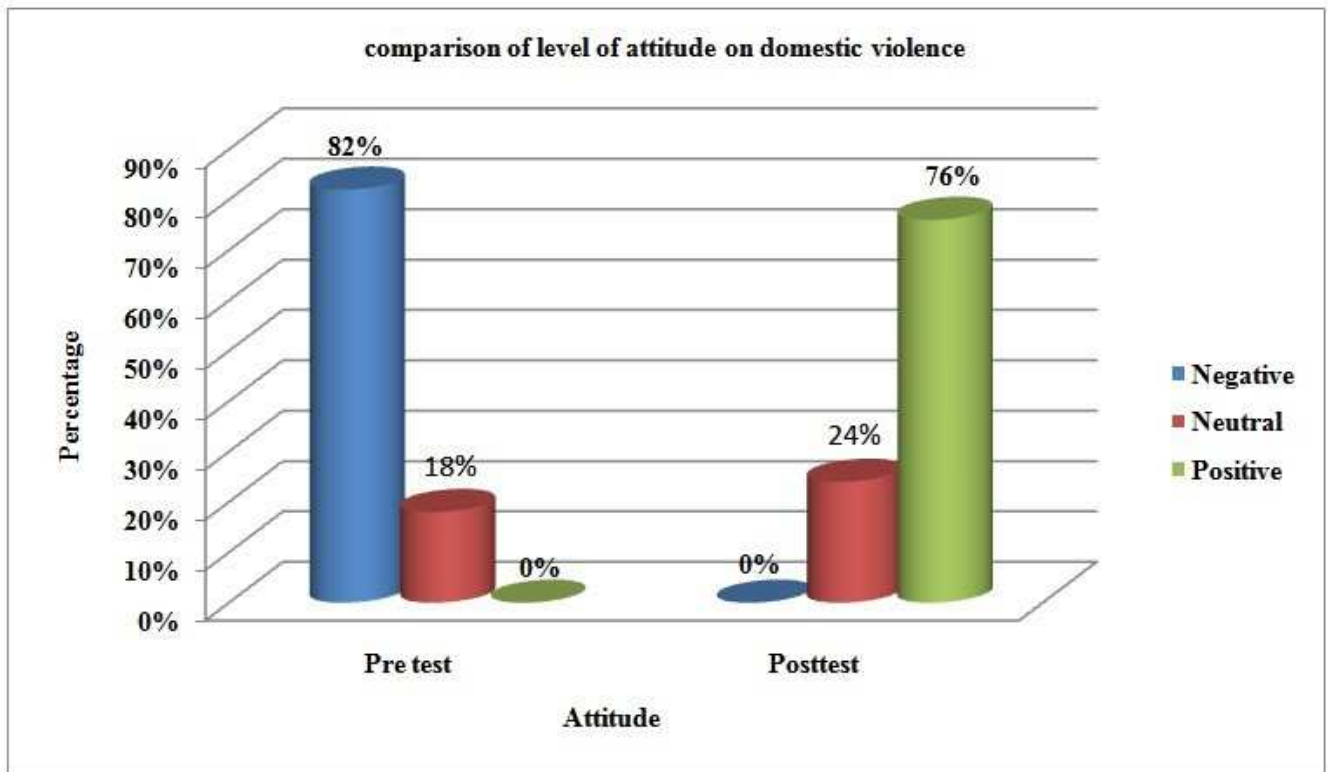


Figure 1: Comparison of the Level of Attitude on Domestic Violence against Women Among the public during Pre-Test and Post-Test

Table 2 showed that attitude among people on the prevention of domestic violence against women was significantly improved from 32.17 pre-tests mean score to 61.74 of post-test mean score. Which was highly significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

After the implementation of community-based educational intervention programme, it was noticed that people positively changed their attitude towards preventing domestic violence against women. Hence intervention was found to be effective, it was supported by the similar study conducted by Abama, E&kwaja in Nigeria, (2009) they concluded that in their study the educational awareness programme was significantly changed the general public opinion on domestic violence.

Associate their selected background variables with their attitude on preventing domestic violence against women among the general public.

It was found that there was a significant association between pre-test attitude of people regarding the prevention of domestic violence against women with their selected background variable like economic status & educational status at $p <$ level. This was supported by the Antai et al (2008). This clearly explicated that middle class economic status and good educational level were better influenced their attitude towards prevention of domestic violence against women.

CONCLUSIONS

Domestic violence against women was a social issue that traverse religion, education, and geography and any intervention to combat domestic violence must address the basic root cause of the issue and resolving its impact. The health

department should take initiation to create awareness through workshops and IEC packages. The government also should make the law stringent against people who indulge in violence against women in any sort.

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