

Married Men Perception and Forms of Domestic Violence Against Men in Ibadan, Nigeria

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Abstract

Addressing domestic abuse is crucial in combating domestic violence against males. This includes violence by family members or intimate partners, often in contexts like marriage or cohabitation. Feminist perspectives typically focus on violence against women, portraying men as offenders. However, men can also be victims. This paper examines perceptions and forms of domestic violence against men in Ibadan, Nigeria. A descriptive mixed-method study was conducted in five Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Ibadan, Nigeria. The study involved 600 married men aged 18 and above, selected through a 5-stage sampling technique. Additionally, 20 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with community gatekeepers (traditional and community leaders) were conducted. Qualitative analysis was performed using transcribed interviews and Nvivo 10 software, while quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. Results were presented in frequency tables, with some variables cross-tabulated. Respondents ranged from 23 to 64 years, with a mean age of 45.07 years. Most (78.2%) had only one marriage, 85% were the main income providers, and 47.7% had secondary education. The study revealed that 38.5% of respondents had a negative perception of domestic violence against men. Forms of domestic violence included denial of sex (80.2%), physical assaults (84.5%), excessive possessiveness and jealousy from wives (66.3%). Qualitative participants also mentioned physical assaults like hitting, thuggery, and hooliganism as forms of violence men face from their wives. The study suggests many men do not report domestic violence due to negative perceptions. Promoting awareness campaigns and educational programs is necessary to challenge stereotypes about masculinity and encourage open communication about experiences of violence.

Keywords: Domestic Violence, Intimate Partners, Marriage, Men.

Introduction

Domestic abuse against males does exist despite the numerous screams and cries about it that have been heard all across the world. Almost every society experiences it, albeit to varied degrees. The amount of silence, fear, and shame that comes from abuse within families and relationships makes it difficult to conduct studies that attempt to characterize violence in terms of gender. This is the reason that most domestic abuse against men goes undetected. Another explanation for the contradictory findings [1] has been suggested as gender variations in reporting assault. Domestic

violence is violence that intimate partners and other family members perpetrate, and that is manifested through physical abuse, sexual abuse, psychological abuse, economic abuse, and acts of omission [2]. The bond between the abuser and victim makes a significant difference. In addition to physical abuse, domestic violence also includes verbal, emotional, psychological, and sexual abuse. In this area, violence against men is frequently not taken seriously, is underreported, and lacks official legal status. Regrettably, this is mostly a product of societal views and perceptions regarding the genders of the victim and the

offender [3]. Men are typically seen as the violent ones, but even if this may be true for some of them, it avoids the seriousness that should be addressed to male victims of violence. In comparison to other countries, India has the highest prevalence of violence against men [4]. It is because men are viewed as abusers and women as their helpless, unfortunate, and innocent victims that the construction of domestic violence as a "gendered, heterosexual phenomenon that is predominantly physical in nature" hinders the acceptance of men as victims of domestic violence [5].

In current society, hegemonic masculinities can transcend gender boundaries and, if not carefully controlled or combated, might incite violence [6]. Husband battering, also known as intimate partner violence (IPV), or what is often referred to as domestic violence with a focus on men, is one of the newer socioeconomic concerns in Nigeria today. According to Oti, Paul, and Duru [7], the matter has gained national attention, especially given how frequently the media publishes spousal killings and other violent crimes. It is now worthwhile to investigate the increasing prevalence and incidence of this problem and the systematic loss of family values. According to Adebayo [8], battered males may be found in all age groups, educational levels, and socioeconomic classes. Domestic violence against men makes them worried and unhappy, which can lead to substance addiction and unprotected sex, to name a few adverse effects. The prevalence of intimate partner violence has been documented by numerous studies [9], with it being noted to be a universal problem across national borders and with literature frequently being restricted to the subject of male perpetrators and female victimisation [10].

It has become essential to consider this issue's increasing prevalence and incidence and the systematic loss of family values over time. Thobejane et al. [6] revealed that although domestic violence by women against males is

not a recent occurrence in our society, it is rarely discussed. Male domestic abuse victims are reluctant to accept their situation for fear of being mocked by society, their peers, and law enforcement personnel. Men can experience domestic abuse as well. According to the writings of Deinye [11], Namadi [12], and Adebayo [8], domestic violence against males in Nigeria is no longer an uncommon occurrence but a reality with rising rates of prevalence. However, according to a recent study, 51.5% of males experienced violence at the hands of their wives/intimate partners at least once in their lifetime and 10.5% in the last 12 months [13]. Moreso, in the past few years, violence against males has gained attention as a result of certain horrifying and heinous murders of husbands by women that have been published in the media; as a result, the data from this study will be used to evaluate societal and legal concerns related to violence against men and preventative actions to minimise that violence. This paper, therefore, presents the perception and drivers of domestic violence against married men in Ibadan, Nigeria.

Methodology

Study Design

A mixed study method was used for the analysis of the phenomenon of domestic abuse against men in all the five Local Government Areas (LGAs) in the Ibadan metropolis, namely Ibadan-North, Ibadan South-East, Ibadan South-West, Ibadan North-East, and Ibadan North-West.

Study Area

The study will be carried out in Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria.

Study Population

The study population comprised married men and community gatekeepers (traditional and community leaders) between 18 years and above.

Inclusion Criteria

1. Men living in Ibadan who were married or in cohabitation (aged 18 years and above)
2. Eligible men residing within the study area at the time of study, and were available in the house during the time of study.

Exclusion Criteria

1. Men who were not married or in cohabitation
2. Men who were not available in the house during the time of study.

Sample Size

The sample size n was determined using Leslie Fischer's formula;

$$n = \frac{Z^2pq}{d^2}$$

Where n = minimum sample size

P (Prevalence) = 11% (*Prevalence and correlates of intimate partner violence among men in a rural community of Oyo State, South-West Nigeria [14]*)

$$q = 1 - P (1 - 0.11) = 0.89$$

$$Z = \text{confidence limit (95\%)} = 1.96$$

$$d = \text{level of precision (5\%)} = 0.05$$

$$\begin{aligned} n &= \frac{(1.96)^2 \times 0.12 \times 0.89}{(0.05)^2} = \frac{3.842 \times 11 \times 0.89}{0.0025} \\ &= \frac{3.3761}{0.0025} \\ &= 150 \end{aligned}$$

The sample size was increased to 600 to generalise findings and to account for no response.

Sampling Technique

For the quantitative study, six hundred consenting respondents were used, and the following five-stage sampling technique was adopted in selecting the respondents.

Stage 1: One out of five LGAs in the Ibadan metropolis was randomly selected by balloting, and Ibadan North was chosen.

Stage 2: The twelve wards in the selected LGA were stratified into rural and urban wards.

Stage 3: Four out of twelve wards in Ibadan North were randomly selected for this study (two each in rural and urban strata).

Stage 4: Three communities were randomly selected from each ward.

Stage 5: Respondents were chosen from every other household until the required respondents were obtained.

For the qualitative study, one Focus Group Discussion (FGD) was conducted in all the 20 selected wards, and the number of participants in each FGD was six. The FGD discussants were selected using a non-probability sampling technique involving purposive sampling. This implies that the FGD discussants were chosen because of their position as either community and/or traditional leaders in their community.

Method for Data Collection

Both quantitative (semi-structured questionnaire) and qualitative (Focus Group Discussion) methods were used for data collection.

The Questionnaire

An interviewer-administered questionnaire was used to obtain the necessary information from the respondents. The researcher developed the questionnaire based on a literature review and the information obtained from focus group discussions and input from the project supervisor. The questionnaire was used to collect information on the socio-demographic data of the respondents, perceptions of domestic violence against men, drivers (predisposing causes) of domestic violence against men, and forms of domestic violence against men. The questionnaire consisted of both open and close-ended questions and was administered by the researcher.

Focus Group Discussion

The researcher also created an FGD to gather data to alter the questions in the quantitative (questionnaire) data collection tool. The FGD guide that was utilised for the discussion's main

questions focused on the forms of domestic violence that are perpetrated against men

Data Collection Process

The Electronic Data Capture (EDC) device was used to collect quantitative data for this study. The system chosen for EDC consisted of three characteristics: first, an observation-management system that allowed field staff to record para data from each contact attempt (e.g. survey code, date, time, interviewer ID) and to track progress. Second, the EDC system also allowed research assistants (RAs) to use an electronic device (e.g., table, smartphone) to administer the instrument and record responses. The data management system allowed RAs to transfer data from the field to a server remotely.

Six research assistants were recruited and trained to assist the researcher in collecting data for the study. Before the start of data collection, training was provided to the hired research assistants to ensure they were adequately familiar with the instruments. This included role plays and practical sessions to strengthen their capacity. Coordination, logistics, and standardisation of survey methods were the key objectives of the training. The training content included familiarisation with the instruments, determination of their understanding of study instruments, and interview techniques. In addition, they were trained in facilitation techniques, note-taking, use of the digital recorder, use of the EDC system, and transcription and observation techniques. The objectives and significance of the study, the sampling procedure, and how to obtain respondents' informed consent were also covered in the course. The pre-testing of the questionnaires involved the research assistants, giving them the chance to practice conducting interviews.

Validity and Reliability of the Instruments

The questionnaire was pre-tested among a population in Akinyele's local government area

similar to the sample population to allow the researcher to make any necessary corrections and determine how reliable and consistent the questions were. The dependability of the instrument was evaluated using Cronbach's Alpha Model method. As a result, the coefficient reliability was assessed using SPSS computer software, and the result showing a correlation coefficient greater than 0.05 was deemed reliable. This involved giving the questionnaire to 10% of the research population once.

Data Management and Analysis

All the data collected through the audio recordings was transcribed verbatim. Transcripts were checked regularly to ensure their completeness. The analysis was done by reading through the transcribed interviews. NVIVO 10 software was then analysed. The completed questionnaires, on the other hand, were serially numbered for control and recall purposes. Every day, the accuracy and completeness of the data obtained were verified. Once the data was exported from the web platform, it was analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS). Descriptive and inferential statistics were used for analysis. Results were presented in frequency tables, and some variables were cross-tabulated.

Ethical Consideration

Ethical approval was obtained from the Oyo State Ethical Review Committee at the Ministry of Health, Oyo State. Oral informed consent was obtained from all the quantitative respondents before administering the questionnaire, while written consent was obtained from the qualitative participants. The participants were informed that their participation was optional and that abstaining from it had no adverse effects. Privacy and confidentiality were ensured as serial numbers, not the names of the respondents, were used. The respondents were assured that their

responses would be kept confidential as the questionnaire would be stored in a place where only the research team had access.

Results

Socio-demographic Variables

The socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents are shown in Table 1 below. The respondents ranged from 23-64 years, with a mean age of 45.07±11.34 years. The majority

(79.8%) of the respondents practised monogamous marriage, 78.2% have had only one marriage, 85% provided the main source of income in the family, and 36.7% were within the ranges of 34-44 years. Most (47.7%) of the respondents had secondary education (figure 1). Most (47.2%) respondents were artisans, as shown in Figure 2. Several (61.2%) respondents were Muslims (figure 3). The majority (95.3%) of the respondents are Yoruba, as shown in Figure 4.

Table 1. Respondents' Socio-demographic Variables (n= 600)

Age (years)		
23-33	86	14.3
34-44	220	36.7
45-55	203	33.8
56 and above	91	15.2
Religion		
Christian	228	38
Islam	367	61.2
Traditional	5	0.8
Ethnicity		
Yoruba	572	95.3
Igbo	27	4.5
Hausa	1	0.2
Type of marriage		
Monogamous	479	79.8
Polygamous	121	20.2
If polygamous, the number of wives		
1	1	0.2
2	86	14.3
3	24	4.0
4	9	1.5
6	1	0.2
Age of first marriage		
12-22	76	12.7
23-33	452	75.3
34 and above	72	12

Years of Marriage		
1-11	216	36.0
12-22	212	35.3
23 and above	172	28.7
Number of Children		
0-2	211	35.2
3-5	330	55.0
6 and above	59	9.8
Average Monthly Income (#)		
Less than 35,000	135	22.5
35000 and above	460	76.7
Number of marriages		
1	469	78.2
2	94	15.7
3	28	4.7
4	8	1.3
5	1	0.2
Description of how they came to marry their current or most recent wife		
Chose each other	577	96.2
Marriage was arranged	23	3.8
Provides the main source of income in your home		
Self	510	85.0
Partner	10	1.7
Both	80	13.3

Mean Age 45.07+11.34

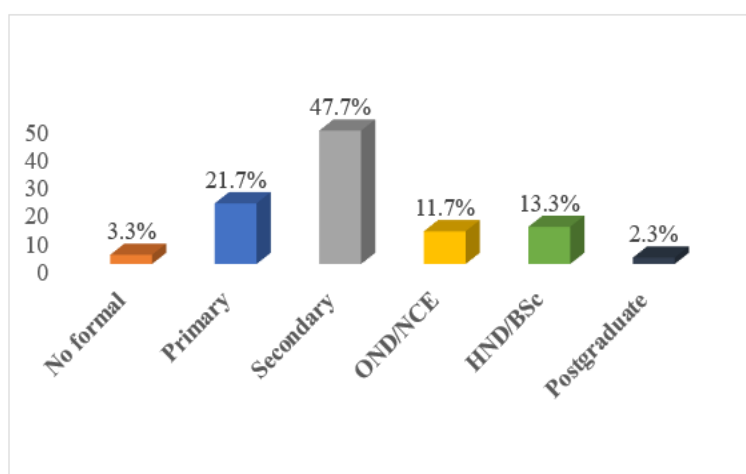


Figure 1. Respondents' Level of Education

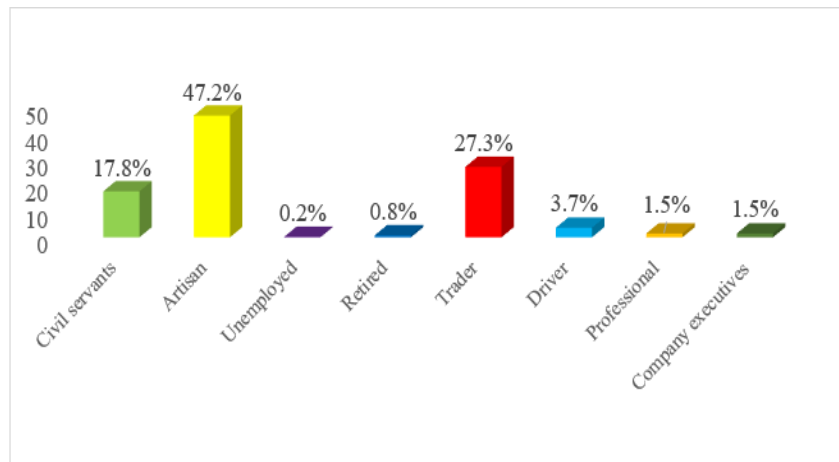


Figure 2. Respondents' Occupation

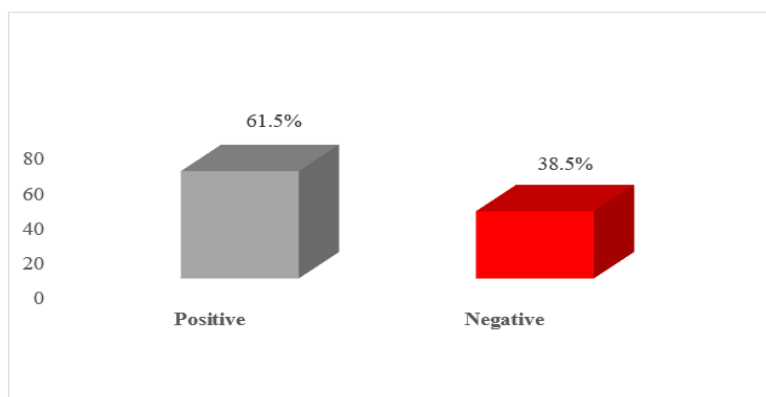


Figure 3. Respondents' Perception of Domestic Violence against Men

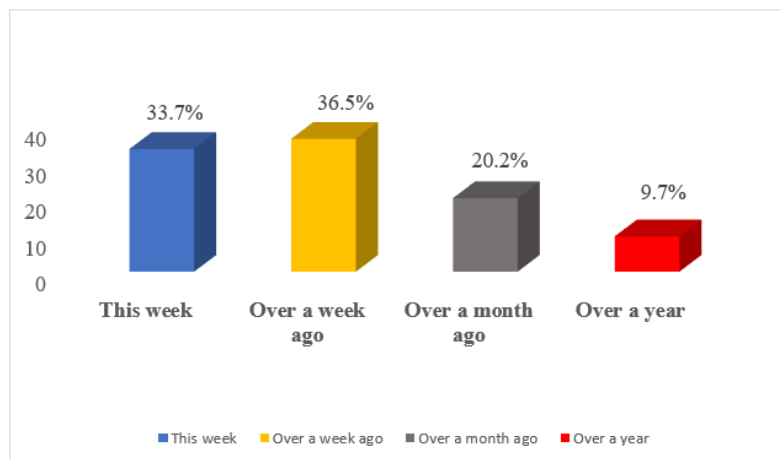


Figure 4. The Last Time Respondents had Sex with their Wives

Perceptions of Domestic Violence Perpetrated Against Men

The findings revealed that 38.5% of respondents had a negative perception of domestic violence against men. Most respondents disagreed with justifying certain

behaviours: 95.2% disagreed with locking a man out for coming home late, 90% agreed that a woman should not prevent a man's access to his children over financial issues, and 92.3% opposed public embarrassment of a husband. Additionally, 27% supported denying a man sex

if suspected of infidelity, 6.3% did not consider restricting a man from leaving the house as abuse, 3.8% condoned physical violence if

infidelity is suspected, and 86.7% viewed preventing a man from making financial decisions as abusive.

Table 2. Respondents' Perceptions of Domestic Violence against Men

Statements	Agreed (%)	Undecided (%)	Disagreed (%)
It is not a big deal for a woman to belittle and humiliate her husband when they are alone together	109 (18.2)	7 (1.2)	484 (80.7)
A woman should deny a man sex if he is not performing his financial responsibilities	121 (20.2)	23 (3.8)	456 (76.0)
A woman can restrict a man from seeing his friends and family if she does not like them	110 (18.3)	24 (4.0)	466 (77.7)
It is not a bad thing if a woman locks a man outside if he comes back home late	21 (3.5)	8 (1.3)	571 (95.2)
A woman should deny a man sex if she is suspicious that the man is unfaithful	162 (27.0)	16 (2.7)	422 (70.3)
It is not abuse when a woman forbids a man to leave the house, takes away car keys, or locks a man up when she does not want him to go out	38 (6.3)	36 (6.0)	526 (87.7)
It is not abuse when a woman prevents a man from making decisions about family finances	45 (7.5)	35 (5.8)	520 (86.7)
A woman can beat a man if she suspects that he is cheating on her	23 (3.8)	5 (0.8)	572 (95.3)
A woman can visit her husband's workplace to shout at him or embarrass him if he is not performing his financial responsibility at home	35 (5.8)	11 (1.8)	554 (92.3)
A woman should prevent a man's access to his children if he is not financing their education.	49 (8.2)	11 (1.8)	540 (90.0)

Drivers (Predisposing Causes) of Domestic Violence Against Men

Table 3 reveals the drivers of domestic violence against men among the respondents. Several (67.5%) of the respondents said their wives don't complain that the money they are given is small, 77.7% reported giving not more than 2000 Naira for daily household upkeep, 99.0% provide more in household feeding,

35.7% reported that their wife aware they have a girlfriend, 26.6% ever slept in girlfriend's house, and 15.2% reported that wife ever complain about their waywardness. Few (6.2%) of the respondents reported not having time to spend with their wives at home, 3.8% have no time to spend with children at home, 44.7% reported that their wives don't visit them at work, and 6.0% reported arguing with wife always.

Table 3. Drivers of Domestic Violence against Men among the Respondents

Drivers of domestic violence	Frequency	%
Amount given for daily household upkeep		
≤ 2000 naira	466	77.7
> 2000 naira	134	22.3
Wife never complains that the money is small.		

Yes	195	32.5
No	405	67.5
If yes, make efforts to increase the money.		
Yes	106	17.7
No	89	14.8
Gives more in household feeding		
Myself	594	99.0
My wife	5	0.8
My family	1	0.2
Gives more in children's finances		
Myself	591	98.5
My wife	8	1.3
My family	1	0.2
Think wife has more money than they do		
Yes	114	19.0
No	486	81.0
Wife's occupation		
Civil Servants	50	8.3
Unemployed	8	1.3
Artisan	146	24.3
Retired	4	0.7
Trader	364	60.7
Professional	24	4.0
Event Planner	4	0.7
Number of girlfriends		
None	401	66.8
One	106	17.7
More than one	93	15.5
The wife is aware they have a girlfriend.		
Yes	71	35.7
No	128	64.3
Girlfriend ever visited you at home.		
Yes	33	16.6
No	166	83.4
I never slept in my girlfriend's house.		
Yes	53	26.6
No	146	73.4
Wife ever complains about their waywardness.		
Yes	91	15.2
No	509	84.8
If 'Yes', changed after the complaint		
Yes	38	41.8
No	53	58.2
Have time to spend with your wife at home.		

Yes	563	93.8
No	37	6.2
Have time to spend with children at home.		
Yes	577	96.2
No	23	3.8
Wives visit at work.		
Yes	332	55.3
No	268	44.7
If 'No', why?		
No reason to visit	54	20.6
Busy at work	135	51.5
Nature of work	18	6.9
Long Distance	30	11.5
I don't allow her	16	6.1
Others (Fear of being snatched by another man, she is not hospitable, to avoid being jealous, stay in the same location)	9	3.4
Frequency of arguments with wife		
Always	36	6.0
Occasionally	259	43.2
Rarely	305	50.8
Frequency of beating wife		
Never	513	85.5
Frequently	57	9.5
Occasionally	30	5.0
Ways they think they are cheating on their wives		
Money	75	12.5
Sex	42	7.0
Time	39	6.5
None	420	70.0
Extra marital affair	24	4.0
Ways they think their wife is cheating on them		
Money	36	6.0
Sex	44	7.3
Time	15	2.5
None	492	82.0
Food	11	1.8
Extramarital affair	2	0.3

Forms of Domestic Violence that are Perpetrated Against Men

Table 4 shows the forms of domestic violence that are perpetrated against men among the respondents. The majority (80.2%)

of the respondents had never experienced denial of sex or making unwanted sexual demands, 84.5% had never experienced physical assaults, and 66.3% had never experienced their wives being excessively

possessive and displaying acts of jealousy. Furthermore, 81.5% said they had never experienced harassment by way of constant accusations of being unfaithful, 93.5% said they had never experienced threats to hurt or kill them from their wives, 85.8% said they had never experienced being belittled or called names, 91.8% had never experienced public humiliation and 91.3% had never experienced deliberate prevention from going to work, e.g., seizure of car keys from their wives.

The focus group discussion showed that many of the participants mentioned that physical assault like hitting the husband, exhibiting an act of thuggery, and being a hooligan are types of violence some men face from their wives. Few added that although this is bad behaviour on the part of the woman, they said the fault is majorly from the man because he must have overlooked the behaviour during courtship, thinking the woman would change.

Emotional Violence: Many of the participants reported that the significant emotional violence perpetrated against men by their wives are acts of stubbornness, not being submissive, disrespect, not being trustworthy, and being promiscuous. They added that a woman who does not listen to the instructions given by the husband or who deliberately does things the husband does not like, such as not cooking on time, getting home late, having extramarital affairs, and so on, is putting the husband in emotional torment. One of the participants specifically said;

"Part of violence against men by women that pains the men too much, firstly, when a woman has a man friend outside if the man gets to know, he will never be happy with the woman forever. Secondly, she should know that a particular time is when her husband eats, she should delay his food, it causes; it will even make the man go out because a man is like a goat; it is where the goat sees food to eat that he is enjoying there, that is it, where he is being chased with a stick, he will run away, I see these two as important. When the woman does not

know what the husband, because some women know what her husband wants, the family will think she has given a charm to the husband; she knows that once her husband used clothes like one or two, before he comes back, she would have, before the husband comes back, she would have washed the two clothes, how won't the husband be happy with such a woman but the one that sees that "won't you give the clothes to your children to wash it," the man will not be happy with her"

Sexual Assault/Sexual Denial: Almost all the participants mentioned that the most common violence perpetrated against men by their wives is sexual assault/sexual denial. They reported that it had become the habit of some women to use sex as discipline for their husbands whenever they felt like the husband did not do their bidding, maybe due to financial constraints or misunderstanding.

Intimidation: Some participants mentioned that some women are fond of locking up their husbands' clothes, denying the husband to leave the house, or seizing his car keys because of some argument or misunderstanding. They said these are acts of intimidation, and it's part of violence perpetrated against men, which should be stopped. A participant said;

"Part of the violence that women perpetrate against men is when they don't give their husband peace at home, the husband can drop money for food, and she will lock up the man's clothes, saying he will not go out or she should take the key of his car or she should go to where her husband is working, she will go there to be shouting, she will be abusing the husband with different words, that is part of violence from the women in our society."

Nonchalant Attitude toward Various Matters of the Home: some of the participants mentioned that domestic violence against men is attributed to a perceived lack of care for home responsibilities such as childcare, cooking, and attending to the husband. Also, disregarding their husband's instructions and pursuing their intentions irrespective of their husband's

opinions is a form of violence against men. A participant said;

“The number one thing is that when you talk to them (women), they never listen to you. “I will do what’s in my mind”; that’s how they operate. You asked them not to do what they eventually do so that the home will be turbulent. You hear them say, “Beat me! Try it! If you touch me, you’ll see! I’ll do this I’ll do that.”

So, that’s how it is with them (women). Apart from that, another form of domestic violence perpetrated against men (this is one of the worst) is when you tell them, “Pack your clothes away from the sitting room; don’t put them there,” that is the very place they will leave the clothes. They will not listen to what you say but act according to it.

Table 4. Forms of Domestic Violence among the Respondents

Statements	Ever experience (%)	Currently experiencing (%)	Never experience (%)
Physical assault (Hitting, throwing objects, shoving, kicking, slapping, etc.)	84 (14.0)	9 (1.5)	507 (84.5)
Excessively possessive act of jealousy	170 (28.3)	32 (5.3)	398 (66.3)
Harassment by way of constant accusations of being unfaithful	87 (14.5)	24 (4.0)	489 (81.5)
Threats to hurt or kill you	34 (5.7)	5 (0.8)	561 (93.5)
Act of belittling/ names calling	76 (12.7)	9 (1.5)	515 (85.8)
Public humiliation	46 (7.7)	3 (0.5)	551 (91.8)
Deliberate prevention from going to work e.g seizure of car keys	45 (7.5)	7 (1.2)	548 (91.3)
Fabrication of false stories with a view to damaging reputation	37 (6.2)	7 (1.2)	556 (92.7)
Denial of sex or making unwanted sexual demands	99 (16.5)	20 (3.3)	481 (80.2)
Destruction of properties	24 (4.0)	2 (0.3)	574 (95.7)
Keeping you away from your family/friends	20 (3.3)	5 (0.8)	575 (95.8)
Poor nutrition and starvation	78 (13.0)	5 (0.8)	517 (86.2)

Discussion

This study found that most respondents viewed domestic violence against men positively. Domestic violence includes sexual, psychological, emotional, and verbal abuse, along with severe actions like slapping, pouring hot water, and even life-threatening acts, as Gathogo [15] described. Thobejane [16] also highlighted that physical violence by a partner to control behaviour constitutes domestic

violence. Alarmingly, some respondents believed it was acceptable for a woman to use physical violence if infidelity is suspected. The majority of respondents disagreed with the idea that it is acceptable for a woman to lock a man out for returning home late. They also agreed that a woman's access to her children should not be restricted due to financial issues, indicating that financial instability should not affect parental rights. This contrasts with Esmail

Hassan et al. [17], where most respondents showed low support for gender equity, with only 8.6% expressing medium support and a significant number of men showing low support for gender equity. Most participants in this study reported taking on greater financial responsibility for household and children's expenses, challenging the idea that financial strain on the husband is a major factor in domestic violence, as suggested by Dienye [18]. While Dienye proposed that financial pressures might lead a wife to violence if the husband fails to provide, especially affecting children's education, our findings show that respondents are highly responsible financially, presenting a different narrative.

Furthermore, this study found that 3.8% of men felt they lacked sufficient time with their children, potentially leading to partner frustration and resentment. This reflects Adeyeri's [20] findings on domestic violence triggered by a husband's neglect, exemplified by Theresa Rafacz's case. Domestic abuse can involve physical, verbal, emotional, and financial aggression [21], rooted in power dynamics and dominance [22]. Evidence from the study shows that 9.5% of men frequently physically assault their wives, 32.5% of wives are dissatisfied with their financial allowances, and 14.8% of men try to increase allowances, illustrating the power imbalances that align with feminist theories [23]. Qualitative analysis revealed that participants reported physical assaults by wives, including hitting and thuggery. Some believed this behaviour stemmed from men ignoring warning signs during courtship. Kubai [24] and Rennison [25] found men are often victims of physical violence, including flogging, slapping, and kicking [26], with cases also involving throwing objects and severe injuries [27][28]. The most common abuse was slapping (98.3%), while the least common was being beaten with a weapon (3.3%). Only about 10% of cases involved severe physical assaults [29].

Furthermore, many of the participants in this study reported that the major emotional violence perpetrated against men by their wives are acts of stubbornness, not being submissive, disrespect, not being trustworthy, and being promiscuous. They added that a woman who does not listen to the instructions given by the husband or who deliberately does things the husband does not like, such as not cooking on time, getting home late, having extramarital affairs, and so on, is putting the husband in emotional torment. According to De Sousa [28], psychological and/or emotional abuse against men encompasses criticism being reported against men (85%), (29.7%) were insulted publicly or in front of someone, and 3.5% were threatened or hurt. It can also be in the form of mental abuse, such as constant threats to the husband and his family. However, Karimi [26], reported that emotional violence perpetrated to men by their intimate partners includes public ridicule and insults.

Participants reported that sexual assault or denial was the most common form of violence by wives against men, often used as punishment for perceived faults. Men also face assumptions that they should always want sex, depriving them of platonic affection important for their well-being [29]. Quantitative analysis showed violence types experienced include property destruction (0.3%), threats (0.8%), false allegations (1.2%), sex denial (3.3%), poor nutrition (0.8%), and isolation (0.8%). These findings align with another study reporting similar forms of violence [30]. Mihalic and Elliott [31] noted that male victims may also experience possessive jealousy, verbal abuse, threats, property destruction, and other forms of harassment.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this study showed that many of the respondents had a negative perception of domestic violence perpetrated against men, which may be associated with the reason many men do not report the cases. It is, therefore,

necessary to promote awareness campaigns and educational programs aimed at challenging stereotypes about masculinity and encouraging open communication about emotions and experiences of violence. This study also showed that the forms of domestic violence that are perpetrated against men reported in this study were denial of sex or making unwanted sexual demands, physical assaults, and wives being excessively possessive and displaying acts of jealousy. The government needs to create a safe and supportive environment for men to report incidents of violence without fear of stigma or judgment.

Conflict of Interest

The author declared no conflict of interest.

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