State of Domestic Violence Against Ever Married Women In Nepal

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ABSTRACT

This study entitled “State of Domestic Violence Against Ever Married Women In Nepal” was carried out on secondary data of Nepal Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS), 2016. This study tried to identify outline of domestic violence against of ever married Women in Nepal. It has looked into the domestic violence such as physical, emotional, sexual and any kinds, of age 15-49 years of ever married women with respect to different socio-economic and demographic variables. The finding let out that physical violence increases sharply with age, from 17.7 per cent among women age 15-24 to 24.8 per cent among age 30 and above. About 36 per cent of women have experienced physical violence on other caste & ethnicity followed by Dalit (31.7%), Janajaties (20.4%) and Brahmin & Chhetri (12.2%). This study has assessed that experience of emotional violence is higher in middle class family in rural areas. Finding revealed that there is strong relation between experience of domestic violence and education level. Higher educated women were less exploited from any kinds of domestic violence in comparison to women with low level of education.

Key Words: Domestic Violence, Ever Married Women, Physical, Emotional and Sexual Violence.

Background of the Study

Domestic violence is any kind of behavior, the purpose of which is to acquire the power and control over a partner, spouse, girlfriend and boyfriend or intimate family member. It happens in all types of families and relationships. Individuals of any class, religion, culture, marital status, age and sex can be victims of domestic violence. Both men and Women can be abused but most of victims are Women.

Domestic violence is a kind of gender-based violence. It is defined by Ministry of Law and Justice, Nepal (2009) as any form of physical, mental, sexual, or economic harm perpetrated by one person on another with whom he or she has a family relationship, including acts of reprimand or emotional harm. Domestic violence has negative health effects for victims, especially to the reproductive health of Women and physical, mental and
emotional health of their children.

**Statement of the Problem.**

Domestic violence against Women is a vital social problem in Nepal. Economic, cultural, and religious factors build up male dominance and female subservience. In general, men inherit and control over property with the attendant responsibility to support their family. Women’s dependence is strengthened in the law, religion and cultural norms. Moreover, poverty, unemployment and alcohol abuse provide the opportunities for violence inherent in the dependency relationship.

Nepal is a primarily patriarchal society, where social values and norms particularly effect attitudes and responsibilities, occasionally leading to the domestic violence. Well established societal customs, like where women are compel to greet their husbands and in-laws after get-up and eating from husbands dishes after they are done eating, are part of the elements that indirectly put up to male dominated psychology. This frame of mind of male domination through such customs frequently leads to domestic violence.

Several population based studies in Nepal have showed domestic violence against women as a reason for insecurity, poor health and inadequate social mobilization among Women. Generally, domestic violence occurs between people in an intimate relationship. It can take many forms, including emotional, sexual and physical abuse and threats. Men are also abused by partners, but domestic violence is mostly directed toward women. It can happen in heterosexual or bisexual relationships. Commonly, domestic violence was mostly connected with physical violence. Words such as wife abuse, wife beating, and wife battering were used, but have declined due to efforts to include unmarried partners, abuse other than physical, female perpetrators, and bisexual relationships.

**Objectives of the Study**

The general objective of the study is to identify outline of domestic violence against ever married women in Nepal. The specific objectives are the followings:

- To examine the various forms of domestic violence such as physical, emotional, sexual and any kinds, experienced by ever married Women of age 15-49 years and
- To estimate the prevalence of domestic violence against ever married
women and its association with different socio-economic and demographic variables.

Significance of the Study

The outcomes of this study will remarkably contribute to the various issues relating to domestic violence against Women. Particularly, it will be possible to analytical understand, with an aim of reducing, the various causes and consequences of domestic violence. In addition, the study would be analytic for the victims of domestic violence, health personnel, and the law and policy makers in attempts to control the crime. Further, the stakeholders and other interest groups would be able to develop reduction and intervention strategies that would help the victims, punish criminal and assist harmonious living in families.

Limitation of the Study

This study is carried out by using data files of Nepal Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS), 2016. It covers only ever married Women of age 15-49 years who have experienced domestic violence of any forms and can't be generalized to other age groups of Women.

Literature Review

The United Nations (1993), defines violence against Women as "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life."

The history of violence against women is closely related to the historical view of women as property and a gender role of subservience. Explanations of patriarchy and an overall world system or status quo in which gender inequalities exist and are perpetuated are cited to explain the scope and history of violence against women. The UN Declaration on the Elimination of violence against Women (1993) states, "violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women, which have led to domination over and discrimination against women by men and to the prevention of the full advancement of women, and that violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared with men" (UN, 1993).

According to the UN (2006), "there is no Region of the world, no country and no culture in which women's freedom from violence has been secured." Several forms of violence are more prevalent in certain parts of
the world, often in developing countries. For example, dowry violence and bride burning is associated with India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal. Acid throwing is also associated with these countries, as well as in Southeast Asia, including Cambodia. Honor killing is associated with the Middle East and South Asia. Female genital mutilation is found mostly in Africa, and to a lesser extent in the Middle East and some other parts of Asia. Marriage by abduction is found in Ethiopia, Central Asia and the Caucasus. Abuse related to payment of bride price (such as violence, trafficking and forced marriage) is linked to parts of Sub-Saharan Africa and Oceania.

Global estimates published by WHO (2013), indicate that about 1 in 3 (35%) of Women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime. Most of this violence is intimate partner violence. Worldwide, almost one third (30%) of women who have been in a relationship report that they have experienced some form of physical or sexual violence by their intimate partner in their lifetime.

According to the National Crime Records Bureau of India (2012), reported incidents of crime against Women increased 6.4 percent during 2012, and a crime against a woman is committed every three minutes. In 2012, there were 244,270 reported incidents of crime against women, while in 2011, there were 228,650 reported incidents. Of the women living in India, 7.5 percent live in West Bengal where 12.7 percent of the Total reported crime against women occurs. Andhra Pradesh is home to 7.3 percent of India’s female population and accounts for 11.5 percent of the Total reported crimes against women.

In 2013, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) conducted violence Against Women Survey 2011, according to survey 87 percent of currently married Women have ever experienced any type of violence by current husband and 77 percent reported any type of violence in the past 12 months. Amongst different types of violence reported, psychological violence was most common, followed by physical violence. Almost 90 percent of those who have ever violated by current husband have the past 12 month experience of violence, which implies the persistent nature of spousal violence. Moreover, the survey results among women ever married more than once indicate that 66 percent of them experienced violence by current as well as previous husbands.

According to a study carried out in 2009 by Human Rights Watch, it is estimated that between 20 and 30 percent of women in Pakistan have suffered some form of abuse. An estimated 5000 women are killed per year from domestic violence, with thousands of others maimed or disabled.
Women have reported attacks ranging from physical to psychological and sexual abuse from intimate partners. In 1998 of 1974 reported murders the majority of victims were killed by either family member. A survey carried out by the Thomson Reuters Foundation ranked Pakistan as the third most dangerous country in the world for women, after Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of Congo; it is followed by India and Somalia. The majority of victims of violence have no legal recourse. Law enforcement authorities do not view domestic violence as a crime and usually refuse to register any cases brought to them. Given the very few Women's shelters in the country, victims have limited ability to escape from violent situations.

Nepal is a predominantly patriarchal society where societal values and norms hugely influence attitudes and responsibilities, sometimes leading to domestic violence. Deeply rooted societal customs, like where women are obligated to greet their husbands and in-laws after waking up and eating from husbands plates after they are done eating, are part of the factors that indirectly contributes to male dominated psychology. This mentality of male domination through such customs often leads to domestic violence (Break the Cycle, 2014).

A research done in 2000 by a non government organization SAATHI revealed that 66 percent of the women in the country endure verbal abuse, 33 percent emotional abuse, and in all cases 77 percent of the perpetrators were the family members. Fifty eight percent of women who suffered domestic violence confirmed daily abuse. In a situation analysis conducted by SAATHI in 1997 on violence against women in Nepal revealed that 93 percent were exposed to mental and emotional torture, 82 percent were beaten, 30 percent were raped, 28 percent were forced into prostitution, and 64 percent reported polygamy.

According to Nepal Demographic Health Survey (NDHS), 2011, 22 percent of Women age 15-49 have experienced physical violence at least once since age 15, and 9 percent experienced physical violence within the 12 months prior to the survey. Similarly, 12 percent of women age 15-49 report having experienced sexual violence at least once in their lifetime. Overall, one-third of ever-married Women age 15-49 report ever having experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence from their spouse, and 17 percent report having experienced one or more of these forms of violence in the past 12 months. Among ever-married women who had experienced spousal violence (physical or sexual) in the past 12 months, more than two in five reported experiencing physical injuries. It is not common for women in Nepal to seek assistance from any source for violence they have experienced. Nearly
two in three women have never told anyone about the violence they have experienced (MOH et al., 2012).

Women’s Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC) Nepal, recorded 793 cases of domestic violence, 200 cases of social violence, 256 cases of rape, 42 cases of attempt to rape, 163 cases of murder and 22 cases of attempt to murder, 32 cases of trafficking and 55 cases of sexual violence. It is not common for women to seek assistance from any source for violence they have experienced; 77 percent have never sought help and 64 percent have never told anyone. Beyond such direct forms of violence, women experience violence when trafficked into forced labor or prostitution. Between 5,000 and 12,000 girls and women aged 10 to 20 years of age are trafficked every year, 75 percent of whom are below 18 years of age and the majority of whom are sold into forced prostitution (WOREC, 2014).

Research Methodology

Nature and Source of Data

This study is based on secondary data which was obtained from the data files of Nepal Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS), 2016. The 2016 NDHS was carried out by New ERA, a local research firm having wide experience in conducting such surveys in the past, under the aegis of Ministry of Health of Nepal. Data collection took place from 19 June 2016 to 31 January 2017. Funding for the survey was provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The survey used the sample of 12,862 women age 15-49 in 11,040 surveyed households and 4,063 men age 15-49 in half of the surveyed households were interviewed. This represents a response rate of 98 percent of women and 96 percent of men. The 2016 NDHS provides reliable estimates at the national level, for urban and rural areas, 3 ecological zones, 5 development Regions, and 7 provinces.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines on the ethical collection of information on domestic violence, only one eligible woman per household was randomly selected for the module. In total, 4,444 women completed the module. Only three women eligible for the domestic violence module could not be successfully interviewed with the module because privacy could not be obtained or for other reasons (MOH et al., 2017). This study is only based on the ever married women who responded domestic violence module. So the final sample size is 3,562.

Unit of Analysis

This study is based on the analysis of domestic violence against women in Nepal. In addition, information was collected in the survey from
ever-married women about physical violence committed by anyone since they were age 15 by asking if anyone had hit, slapped, kicked, or done something else to hurt them physically. Women were also asked about experience of sexual violence committed by anyone by asking if at any time in their life, as a child or as an adult, they were forced by threats or in any other way to have sexual intercourse or to perform any other sexual acts they did not want to do. Women who had ever been pregnant were asked about their experience of physical violence committed by anyone during any pregnancy.

The 2016 NDHS asked Women about other forms of emotional violence in the household, specifically whether or not they were being denied adequate food, or care when ill, pressured to have an abortion, threatened with divorce by husband or in-laws, asked to go for a forced divorce, abused for not bearing a son, or abused for using a family planning method.

Data Analysis
Domestic violence was measured based on different questions related to physical violence (push, shake, or throw something; slap or twist arm; punch with a fist or something that could hurt; kick or drag; try to strangle or burn; and threaten or attack with a knife, gun, or other weapon); emotional violence (humiliate in front of others; threaten her or someone close to her with harm; and insulted her or made her feel bad about herself) and sexual violence (forced and threat of sexual intercourse and act).

Potentially confounding socio-demographic and economic factors were also generated as explanatory variables to be included in the adjusted models such as maternal age (15-24, 25-29, ≥30 years), respondent education (none, primary, secondary, higher), and respondent employment status; household headship, caste/ethnicity (Brahmin/Chhetri, Janajati, Dalit, Others), wealth status defined as per DHS report (poorest, poorer, middle, richer, richest), and place of residence (urban and rural).

To explore the associations between domestic violence with other socio-demographic confounders, separate logistic regression models were used. To see the association between Women’s status and domestic violence, the effects of the potential confounders was adjusted in the final model. The potential confounders (such as age of Women, family size, caste /ethnicity, place of residence, wealth quintile, employment and education) were controlled in the models. The analysis was performed in SPSS 24 version.

Background Characteristics of Respondents
Socio-demographic Characteristics of the Victim Women
This deals with information of socio-demographic characteristics of
women who have ever experienced by physical, emotional, sexual and any kinds of domestic violence. In the 2016 NDHS, information obtained from ever-married women on their experience of violence committed by the current husband for currently married women and by the most recent husband for formerly married women.

Furthermore, information was obtained from currently married women about physical, sexual and emotional violence committed by their current and former partner as hitting, slapped, kicked, or done something else to hurt them physically, pressured to have an abortion, threatened with divorce, abused for not bearing a son or abused for using a family planning method.

**Experience of Physical violence**

Table 1, indicates that the women who have experienced of physical violence by socio-demographic characteristics. Women’s experience of physical violence increases sharply with age, from 17.7 percent among Women age 15-24 to 24.8 percent among Women age 30 and above. Similarly, Women with five or more children experienced physical violence more often (23.4%) than Women with less than five children (21.8%). More than 28 percent of Women have experienced physical violence that have three or more number of living children than Women have two living children (22.1%) and have only one living children (16.6%).

More than 36 percent of Women have experienced physical violence in Others caste/ethnicity followed by Dalit (31.7%), Janajati (20.4%) and Brahmin/Chhetri (12.2%).

The percentage of Women have experienced physical violence higher (25.1%) that their husband and other family member control on health decision as compared to herself (22.9%) and both husband and wife (19.5%).

Table 1, shows that about 24.6 percent of Women have experienced physical violence in the household where female have the headship as compared to those household where male have the headship (21.7%). Similarly, more than 23 percent of Women have experienced physical violence that neither have ownership on land nor house followed by who either have land or house (18. 4%) and who have both land and house (17%).

More about 23 percent of Women have experienced of physical violence those who have resided in rural areas and those who have resided in urban areas were about 21 percent. Experience of physical violence is more common among middle class family (28.5%) followed by poorest (21.4%) and richest (14.8%). Similarly, currently working Women have experienced physical violence higher (23.3%) as compared to not working Women (21.8%).
The experienced of physical violence declines with the increases of education level. About 31% of Women with no education have experienced physical violence, compared with primary (24.5%), secondary (14.3%) and higher education (9.9%).

Similarly, experience of physical violence is more common among Women whose husband consumed alcohol (32.5%) as compared to those whose husband not consumed alcohol (14.9%).

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents by Experience of Physical, Emotional, Sexual and Any Kinds of violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Socio-demographic Characteristics</th>
<th>Physical violence (%)</th>
<th>Emotional violence (%)</th>
<th>Sexual violence (%)</th>
<th>Any Kinds of violence (%)</th>
<th>Number of Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age of Women</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>24.9</td>
<td>671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-49</td>
<td>24.8</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>28.6</td>
<td>2,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Family Size</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 5</td>
<td>21.8</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td>1,570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 or More</td>
<td>23.4</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>1,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Caste/Ethnicity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brahmin/Chhetri</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>1,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janajati</td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>24.1</td>
<td>1,274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalit</td>
<td>31.7</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>35.5</td>
<td>479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others*</td>
<td>36.3</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>39.3</td>
<td>734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Decision Maker</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oneself</td>
<td>22.9</td>
<td>14.1</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>26.2</td>
<td>835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Husband and Wife</td>
<td>19.5</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>22.8</td>
<td>1,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huband and Other Family Member</td>
<td>25.1</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td>1,508</td>
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<td><strong>Headship of the Household</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>25.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>24.6</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>28.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Living Children</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>--------------------------</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up to 1 Children</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>1,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Children</td>
<td>22.1</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>26.0</td>
<td>1,091</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 and More Children</td>
<td>28.1</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>31.8</td>
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<th>Ownership on Land and House</th>
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<tr>
<td>Neither Land nor House</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>27.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Either House or Land</td>
<td>18.4</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>22.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both House and Land</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>20.2</td>
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<td>Urban</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>25.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>23.9</td>
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<td>Poorest</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>24.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poorer</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>28.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>28.5</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>32.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richer</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>26.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richest</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>19.1</td>
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<tr>
<th>Currently Working</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>No</td>
<td>21.8</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>24.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>23.3</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>27.1</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alcoholic Habit of husband</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>32.5</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>36.9</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Educational Level</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Education</td>
<td>31.0</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>34.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>28.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>18.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Higher</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>12.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td><strong>22.7</strong></td>
<td><strong>12.3</strong></td>
<td><strong>7.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>26.3</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: NDHS 2016 Data Files.*
Experience of Emotional Violence
Table 1 shows that the Women who have experienced of emotional violence by socio-demographic characteristics. Women’s experience of emotional violence increases with age, from 9.5 percent among Women age 15-24 to 13.5 percent among Women age 30 and above. Similarly, Women with less than five children experience emotional violence (12.6%) than Women with five or more children (12%). About 13.5 percent of Women have experienced emotional violence that have three or more number of living children than Women have two living children (13.2 %) and have only one living children (9.8%).

More than 17 percent of Women have experienced emotional violence in marginalized caste/ethnicity Dalit followed by Others (14.9%), Janajati (12.4%) and Brahmin/Chhetri (8.1%). The percentage of Women have experienced emotional violence higher (14.2%) that their husband and other family member control on health decision as compared to herself (14.1%) and both husband and wife (8.7%).

Table 1 reveals that about 14.2 percent of Women have experienced emotional violence in the household where female have the headship as compared to those household where male have the headship (11.4%). Similarly, more than 12 percent of Women have experienced emotional violence that neither have land nor house followed by who have both land and house (11.5%) and who either have land or house (11.4%).

About 13 percent of Women have experienced of emotional violence those who have resided in rural areas and those who have resided in urban areas were about 11 percent. Experience of emotional violence is higher among middle class family (14.7%) followed by poorest (13%), poorer (11.9%), richer (11.8%) and richest (9.9%).

Similarly, currently working Women have experienced emotional violence higher (13.6%) as compared to not working Women (10.2%).

The experience of emotional violence is declines with the level of education. About 15 percent of Women with no education have experienced emotional violence, compared with primary (13.5%), secondary (8.6%) and higher education (9%).

Likewise, experience of emotional violence is higher among Women

*Note: Others caste/ethnicity includes other Terai caste, Muslim, Unidentified caste/ethnicity.
whose husband consumed alcohol (18.5%) as compared to those whose husband not consumed alcohol (7.4%).

**Experience of Sexual violence**

Table 1 provides the Women who were experienced of sexual violence by socio-demographic characteristics. Women’s experience of sexual violence decreases with age, from 7.3 percent among Women age 15-24 to 6.9 percent among Women age 30 and above. Similarly, Women with less than five children experience sexual violence more (7.9%) than Women with five or more children (6.4%). About 7.6 percent of Women have experienced sexual violence that have three or more number of living children followed by Women have two living children (6.9%) and have only one living children (6.5%).

Nine percent of Women have experienced sexual violence in Others caste/ethnicity followed by marginalized caste Dalit (8.7%), Janajati (6.5%) and Brahmin/Chhetri (5.6%). The percentage of Women have experienced sexual violence higher (8.9%) that take health decision by herself as compared to husband and other family member (7.7%) and both husband and wife (5%).

Table 1 shows that about 7.9 percent of Women have experienced sexual violence in the household where female have the headship as compared to those household where male have the headship (6.6%). Similarly, about 7.2 percent of Women have experienced sexual violence that neither have ownership on land nor house followed by who have both land and house (6.5%) and who either have land or house (6.2%).

About 7.1 percent of Women have experienced of sexual violence those who have resided in urban areas as compared to those who have resided in rural areas were 7 percent. Experience of sexual violence is more among poorest and richer family (7.4%) followed by middle class (7.2%) and richest family (6.3%). Similarly, currently working Women have experienced sexual violence higher (7.7%) as compared to not working Women (6%).

The experience of sexual violence is decline with the level of education. About 9.5 percent of Women with primary education have experienced sexual violence, compared with no education (8%), secondary (5.3%) and higher education (3.7%).

Similarly, experience of sexual violence is more among Women whose husband consumed alcohol (11.1%) as compared to those whose husband not consumed alcohol (3.8%).

**Experience of Any Kinds of Violence**
Table 1 shows that the Women who have experienced any kinds of violence by socio-demographic characteristics. Women’s experience of any kinds of violence increases with age, from 21.5 percent among Women age 15-24 to 28.6 percent among Women age 30 and above. Similarly, Women with five or more children have experienced any kinds of violence more often (26.5%) than Women with less than five children (21.8%).

More about 31 percent of Women have experienced any kinds of violence that have three or more number of living children than Women have two living children (26%) and have only one living children (19.6%). Similarly, 39.3 percent of Women have experienced any kinds of violence in Others caste/ethnicity followed by Dalit (35.5%), Janajati (24.1%) and Brahmin/Chhetri (15.8%).

Table 1 indicates that the percentage of Women have experienced any kinds of violence higher (29.1%) that their husband and other family member control on health decision as compared to herself (26.2%) and both husband and wife (22.8%). Likewise, about 28.8 percent of Women have experienced any kinds of violence in the household where female have the headship as compared to those household where male have the headship (25%). The percentage of Women have experienced any kinds of violence higher (27.3%) that who neither have ownership on land nor house followed by who either have land or house (22.1%) and who have both land and house (20.2%).

More about 27 percent of Women have experienced any kinds of violence those who have resided in rural areas and those who have resided in urban areas were about 25 percent. Experience of any kinds of violence is more common among middle class (32.1%) followed by poorer (28.5%) and richest (19.1%). Similarly, currently working Women have experienced any kinds of violence higher (27.1%) as compared to not working Women (24.9%).

Experience of any kinds of violence declines with the increases of education level. More than 34 percent of Women with no education have experienced any kinds of violence, compared with primary (28.6%), secondary (18.4%) and higher education (12.7%).

Similarly, experience of any kinds of violence is more common among Women whose husband consumed alcohol (36.9%) as compared to those Women whose husband not consumed alcohol (17.8%).

**Discussion on Findings**

**Experience of Physical Violence**

Women’s experience of physical violence increases sharply with age, from
17.7 percent among Women age 15-24 to 24.8 percent among Women age 30 and above. Similarly, Women with five or more children experienced physical violence more often (23.4%) than Women with less than five children (21.8%).

More than 28 percent of Women have experienced physical violence that have three or more number of living children than Women have two living children (22.1%) and have only one living children (16.6%).

More about 36 percent of Women have experienced physical violence in Others caste/ethnicity followed by Dalit (31.7%), Janajati (20.4%) and Brahmin/Chhetri (12.2%).

The percentage of Women have experienced physical violence higher (25.1%) that their husband and other family member control on health decision as compared to herself (22.9%) and both husband and wife (19.5%).

About 24.6 percent of Women have experienced physical violence in the household where female have the headship as compared to those household where male have the headship (21.7%). Similarly, more than 23 percent of Women have experienced of physical violence that neither have ownership on land nor house followed by who either have land or house (18.4%) and who have both land and house (17%).

More than 23 percent of Women have experienced of physical violence those who have resided in rural areas and those who have resided in urban areas were about 21 percent.

Experience of physical violence is more common among middle class family (28.5%) followed by poorest (21.4%) and richest (14.8%). Similarly, currently working Women have experienced physical violence higher (23.3%) as compared to not working Women (21.8%).

The experience of physical violence declines with the increases of education level. About 31 percent of Women with no education have experienced physical violence, compared with primary (24.5%), secondary (14.3%) and higher education (9.9%). Similarly, experience of physical violence is more common among Women whose husband consumed alcohol (32.5%) as compared to those whose husband do not consumed alcohol (14.9%).

**Experience of Emotional Violence**

Women’s experience of emotional violence increases with age, from 9.5 percent among Women age 15-24 to 13.5 percent among Women age 30 and above. Similarly, Women with less than five children experience
emotional violence (12.6%) than Women with five or more children (12%).

About 13.5 percent of Women have experienced emotional violence that have three or more number of living children than Women have two living children (13.2 %) and have only one living children (9.8%).

More than 17 percent of Women have experienced emotional violence in marginalized caste/ethnicity Dalit followed by Others (14.9%), Janajati (12.4%) and Brahmin/Chhetri (8.1%).

The percentage of Women have experienced emotional violence higher (14.2%) that their husband and other family member control on health decision as compared to herself (14.1%) and both husband and wife (8.7%).

About 14.2 percent of Women have experienced emotional violence in the household where female have the headship as compared to those household where male have the headship (11.4%). Similarly, more than 12 percent of Women have experienced emotional violence that neither have land nor house followed by who have both land and house (11.5%) and who either have land or house (11.4%).

More about 13 percent of Women have experienced of emotional violence those who have resided in rural areas and those who have resided in urban areas were about 11 percent.

Experience of emotional violence is higher in middle class (14.7%) followed by poorest (13%) and richest (9.9%). Similarly, currently working Women have experienced emotional violence higher (13.6%) as compared to not working Women (10.2%).

About 15 percent of Women with no education have experienced emotional violence, compared with primary (13.5%), secondary (8.6%) and higher education (9%). Likewise, experience of emotional violence is higher among Women whose husband consumed alcohol (18.5%) as compared to those whose husband do not consumed alcohol (7.4%).

**Experience of Sexual Violence**

Women’s experience of sexual violence decreases with age, from 7.3 percent among Women age 15-24 to 6.9 percent among Women age 30 years and above. Similarly, Women with less than five children experience sexual violence more (7.9%) than Women with five or more children (6.4%).

About 7.6 percent of Women have experienced sexual violence that have three or more number of living children followed by Women have two living children (6.9%) and have only one living children (6.5%).
More about 9 percent of Women have experienced sexual violence in Others caste/ethnicity followed by Dalit (8.7%), Janajati (6.5%) and Brahmin/Chhetri (5.6%). The percentage of Women have experienced sexual violence is found higher (8.9%) that take health decision by herself as compared to husband and other family member (7.7%) and both husband and wife (5%).

About 7.9 percent of Women have experienced sexual violence in the household where female have the headship as compared to those household where male have the headship (6.6%). Similarly, 7.2 percent of Women have experienced sexual violence that neither have ownership on land nor house followed by who have both land and house (6.5%) and who either have land or house (6.2%).

About 7.1 percent of Women have experienced of sexual violence those who have resided in urban areas as compared to those who have resided in rural areas were 7 percent only.

Experience of sexual violence is more among poorest and richer family (7.4%) followed by middle class (7.2%) and richest family (6.3%). Similarly, currently working Women have experienced sexual violence higher (7.7%) as compared to not working Women (6%).

About 9.5 percent of Women with primary education have experienced sexual violence, compared with no education (8%), secondary (5.3%) and higher education (3.7%). Similarly, experience of sexual violence is more among Women whose husband consumed alcohol (11.1%) as compared to those whose husband do not consumed alcohol (3.8%).

**Experience of Any Kinds of Violence**

Women’s experience of any kinds of violence increases with age, from 21.5 percent among Women age 15-24 to 28.6 percent among Women age 30 and above. Similarly, Women with five or more children have experienced any kinds of violence more often (26.5%) than Women with less than five children (21.8%).

More about 31 percent of Women have experienced any kinds of violence that have three or more number of living children than Women have two living children (26%) and have only one living children (19.6%).

About 39.3 percent of Women have experienced any kinds of violence in Others caste/ethnicity followed by Dalit (35.5%), Janajati (24.1%) and Brahmin/Chhetri (15.8%).
The percentage of Women have experienced any kinds of violence higher (29.1%) that their husband and other family member control on health decision as compared to herself (26.2%) and both husband and wife (22.8%).

About 28.8 percent of Women have experienced any kinds of violence in the household where female have the headship as compared to those household where male have the headship (25%). The percentage of Women have experienced any kinds of violence higher (27.3%) that who neither have ownership on land nor house followed by who either have land or house (22.1%) and who have both land and house (20.2%).

More about 27 percent of Women have experienced any kinds of violence those who have resided in rural areas and those who have resided in urban areas were about 25 percent.

Experience of any kinds of violence is found more among middle class (32.1%) followed by poorer (28.5%) and richest (19.1%). Similarly, currently working Women have experienced any kinds of violence higher (27.1%) as compared to not working Women (24.9%).

More than 34 percent of Women with no education have experienced any kinds of violence, compared with primary (28.6%), secondary (18.4%) and higher education (12.7%). Similarly, experience of any kinds of violence is more common among Women whose husband consumed alcohol (36.9%) as compared to those Women whose husband not consumed alcohol (17.8%).

**Conclusion**
The study showed that many Nepalese ever-married Women were suffered from domestic violence committed by their current and previous husband. The study additionally concluded that higher age of Women were more likely to hurt from any kinds of domestic violence than lower ages of Women.

Similarly, Women belong to marginalized caste Dalit and Janajati; resided in rural areas; not have ownership on land or house; involved in income generating activities; have headship of households and have less than five children were more likely to suffered from physical, emotional, sexual and any kinds of domestic violence.

Women’s whose husband consumed alcohol were more likely to hurt from any forms of domestic violence with compare to those Women whose husband did not consume alcohol.

There is strong relationship between experience of domestic violence and
level of education. Women who have higher education were less likely to hurt from any forms of domestic violence with compared to Women having low level of education.

REFERENCES


