

# **Domestic Violence among Ever Married Women related to Technological Access and Asset Holding in India: An Econometric Analysis of State Level Data**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Domestic violence is a pattern of behaviour that is used to control or gain power over partner. It harms women's right, families and society. Globally almost one in three women have experienced physical/sexual violence at least once in their life. National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) 2019-21 data analysis shows that emotional, physical and sexual violence is higher among 25-34 and 35-44 age group women in India. Bihar state has higher domestic violence among illiterate women in rural areas as compared to Kerala and Maharashtra. Those women have studied secondary school, the domestic violence reported higher in Maharashtra and Kerala state and vis a vis in Bihar state. All women of Hindu religion reported more domestic violence as compared to other religions. In urban areas of Maharashtra state, the violence reported among women is higher. The logit regression model shows that any type of domestic violence among women in three states is negatively reported to ownership of assets such as radio, television, refrigerator and car. It is also negatively co-related to female headed households and internet net use. The regression results show that domestic violence with ever married women can be reduced with asset ownership such as Television, Refrigerator, Radio, Car, female headed households. Therefore, more technical education among girls required for skills and employment. Government must transfer ownership of physical assets on women's name. More educated and employed women can take legal help to fight against the domestic violence. Such policies will certainly help women to protect their rights, live healthy and peaceful life in modern era.

**Keywords:** *Contraceptives, Communication, Gender.*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Domestic violence is considered one of the most common forms of gender-related violence, and various studies estimate that between 10 percent and 35 percent of women experience domestic violence at some point in their lives (Marianne Flury et al.

2010). Healthy women promote economic growth and development of any nation. But women are facing variety of issues at home and violence is often reported. Spousal or intimate partner violence is the most common form of domestic violence and is a preventable cause of morbidity and mortality in women (Katole A, Saoji A, Kumar M. 2023). Husband and wife expected to share common resources in house and live peaceful life along with other members of family. They must promote healthy lifestyle with equal opportunities to all irrespective of income, age, space and time. But there is difference in economic resources, time, preferences of people in each family. But not all couples understand it and ends with conflicts with each other and with family members. Such conflicts result into pushing physically, fighting and throw objects at each other. They have knowledge and understand the concept emotional and sexual violence. Initially, couples after marriage do not have fight with each other. But women at mid age often report the violence. But as time passes, women are given less importance in financial matters. They often cook food and do laborious activities. They feel that they have treated differently and not as family member. They start asking different questions to husbands and in laws. That is the main reason of physical abuse and fighting. But if women are the head of the household, then she does not report the violence against husband. As far as emotional violence is concerned then husband does not like that wife is spending more time with her friends or on mobile. Husband thinks it is negligence of children and his parents. Huband enquires the topic of discussion, and he does not like wife to go outside and spend time and money with friends. He is very cautious about her friends and time spent and places visited without permission. Most of the time, it results into humiliation and physical abuse of wife. The role of mother-in-law and father-in-law play significant role in healthy relationship of husband and wife. Unfortunately, relations with each other reach at worst stage. At the worst case the husband involved in shoving, restraining, slapping, kicks wife and show her knife or gun etc. They start fighting on any small issue if mistrust among them get develop. Every day, oral fighting becomes the routine activity. After interference of in-laws, they do not control themselves from fighting with each other. Husband throws any object and pulls her hair and hit wife with stick etc. Such issues can be solved with dialog but who will take initiatives that the issue. Most of the time, the woman does not ready for sexual activity, but husband uses physical force and indulge in sexual activity. Somewhere woman does not like sexual activities without mutual consent and likeness. Husband does not like that wife has any relationship with her friends especially male. The asset ownership such as refrigerator, television, radio internet connection certainly has more economic power. The women with ownership of different physical assets in

family do not report the violence. If woman is poor then she faces more physical, emotional and physical violence by partner in society. Acute violence by partner immediately deteriorates the health status of women. Women from lower socio-economic status and less educated often fail to complain anyone about husbands' behaviour. But husband takes advantage of such situation and overreact with less educated wife. In rural area, women those face violence can't think to go police station and file a case against husband or in-laws. But educated and with richer economic background, they complain against husband. The women those using modern contraceptive are reporting different types of violence to police and other members in society. The major objective of research paper is to find the state wise incidence of domestic violence in India. Few researchers have studied the violence with women in India. There is need to study the socio-economic and demographic factors related to violence among women. There is no study which will give regression analysis and policy to reduce violence with women in rural and urban area.

First part of research paper deals with data and methodology adopted for this research paper. The second part of paper deals with physical, emotional and sexual violence among women in Maharashtra, Bihar and Kerala. Second last section of research paper explains about regression results and last part deals with policy implication and conclusion.

## **2. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: A LITERATURE REVIEW**

The United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (1993) defines violence against women as "Any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life." Domestic violence is described as a pattern of violent acts by one partner against another in an intimate relationship such as marriage, dating, family, or cohabitation. Physical aggression or assault (hitting, kicking, biting, shoving, restraining, slapping, throwing objects), sexual and emotional abuse; controlling or domineering; are all examples of domestic violence. Sexual violence: includes compelled sexual intercourse, forceful viewing of pornography or other obscene picture or material, any sexual act intended to abuse, humiliate, or degrade, any act that violates dignity, and abusive sexual conduct. Emotional or Physiological abuse: Humiliating the victim, controlling what the victim can and cannot do, withholding information from the victim, deliberately doing something to make the victim feel diminished or embarrassed, isolating the victim from

friends and family, and denying the victim access to money or other basic resources are all examples of psychological or emotional abuse. Physical abuse: slapping, beating, arm-twisting, strangling, hitting, kicking all comes under physical violence (Shukla A. and Manoj Kumar Singh 2023). Domestic violence is a multifaceted phenomenon often defined as a pattern of coercion and control exercised by one person over another. It's vital to note that this type of violence doesn't solely involve physical contact and isn't restricted to isolated incidents. Instead, it encompasses various tactics, including threats, social isolation, intimidation, economic manipulation, and both sexual and psychological abuse, among others. Notably, some abusive tactics used by perpetrators can lead to psychological harm in addition to physical injury. Emotional abuse, though not always physically injurious, can inflict deep psychological wounds on victims (Mahadeva swamy M. and Sneha Nathawat, 2023). Domestic violence is a social problem that, although well-recognised, is still associated with uncertainty and taboos. Many women, in their intimate relationships or immediate social environment, experience psychological and/or physical violence, which becomes a serious health problem for them. Domestic violence is defined as the threat or exercise of physical, psychological, and/or emotional violence, i.e., any type of force against another person with the intent of inflicting harm or exercising power and control over them. The perpetrator belongs to the victim's "domestic environment": an intimate partner, husband, former intimate partner, family member, friend or acquaintance. Included among friends or acquaintances of the family, are those who maintain a friendly relationship to the victim and encounter her in a domestic setting. Whether or not the victim lives in the same household as the perpetrator is not crucial for the definition of domestic violence; the terms defined by the closeness of the relationship between perpetrator and abused victim. The two terms "domestic violence" and "violence in the immediate social environment" are used synonymously and focus on violence between adults. Violence by parents or parent-proxies against children (child abuse) is treated, both legally as well as in social science research, as an in-dependent problem and is not included in the definition of "domestic violence (Flury M. et.al 2010).

### 3. DATA

We have collected data from NFHS-5 survey Such NFHS was done in the period of 2019-21. Such data provides the violence related data of the women across India. Women were interviewed based on stratified sample method. We analysed violence related data into SPSS software. The STATA 2017 was used for analysis of data.

#### 4. METHODOLOGY

We have divided the emotional, physical and sexual violence among women as follows. We have utilised different parameters for three kinds of violence among women. The violence is refined at last as any kind of violence faced by women in her past life.

##### **Emotional Violence:**

Emotional violence related to response of partner to married women. It is defined as follows.

$$\sum_{t=1}^n EV = f((JTOM + ARU + DNPRMFF + TLRC + IKW + DNT)) \quad (1)$$

Where, EV= Emotional Violence, Partner jealous if respondent talks with other men (JTOM), Partner accuses respondent of unfaithfulness (ARU), Partner does not permit respondent to meet female friends (DNPRMFF), Partner tries to limit respondent's contact with family (TLRC), Partner insists on knowing where respondent is (IKW), Partner doesn't trust respondent with money (DNT).

##### **Physical Violence:**

The physical violence among women is categorised into two parts as lower severe physical violence where we have used four parameters.

$$\sum_{t=1}^n LSPV = f((PS/ST) + (ES) + (PF/HSH) + (AT/HP)) \quad (2)$$

Lower severe physical violence (LSPV) is related to Ever been pushed, shook or had something thrown by husband/partner (PS/ST), Ever been slapped by husband/partner (ES), Ever been punched with fist or hit by something harmful by husband/partner (PF/HSH), Ever had arm twisted or hair pulled by husband/partner (AT/HP).

$$\sum_{t=1}^n SPV = f((K/D) + (S/B) + (TWKG/OW)) \quad (3)$$

The Severe Physical Violence (SPV) among women is defined as ever been kicked or dragged by husband/partner (K/D), Ever been strangled or burnt by husband/partner (S/B), Ever been threatened with knife/gun or another weapon by husband/partner (TWKG/OW). We have combined Lower severe physical violence (LSPV) and Severe Physical Violence (SPV) as follows.

$$\sum_{t=1}^n PH = f((PS/ST) + (ES) + (PF/HSH) + (AT/HP) + (K/D) + (S/B) + (TWKG/OW)) \quad (4)$$

The physical violence among women is categorised as all parameters of severe and less severe physical violence.

### Sexual violence:

The sexual violence among the women is mainly comprises as three factors. They are defined as follows.

$$\sum_{t=1}^n SV = f(PF + OUSA + PFPSA) \quad (5)$$

Where SV means severe violence. It is defined as ever been physically forced into unwanted sex by husband/partner (PF), Ever been forced into other unwanted sexual acts by husband/partner (OUSA), Ever been physically forced to perform sexual acts respondent didn't want to (PFPSA). We further divided the different types of violence as women face any kind of violence in her past life.

$$\sum_{t=1}^n V = f(PV + SV + EV) \quad (6)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n V_t = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if, } x < 0 \\ 1 & \text{if, } x \geq 0 \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

Where V means violence among women by husband/partner. PV means the physical violence and SV means severe violence and EV means emotional violence. The x lies between 0 to 3 numbers. We converted x as 2 and 3 into 1 only. Any kind of violence is defined as 1 and it means violence reported by women against her partner in her past life and zero for no violence reported in her past life.

### Violence against women in Maharashtra, Bihar and Kerala:

We have classified the sexual, emotional and physical based on the number of questions asked to women related to violence. We have categorised it based on parameter. The violence is classified as violence among women in Maharashtra, Bihar and Kerala.

**Table 1: Violence among women in Maharashtra, Bihar and Kerala (Percent)**

Type of violence	Area	Maharashtra	Bihar	Kerala
	U	6.15	4.51	0.61
Sexual	R	5.71	8.33	0.31
Emotional	U	8.15	3.99	1.10
	R	5.73	8.18	0.46
Physical	U	6.80	4.66	0.73
	R	5.76	8.15	0.41

Source: Compiled from NFHS 5 data

The table 1 shows that the sexual violence among women in rural Bihar is 8.33 percent. It is much higher as compared to women of other states. But in Maharashtra, the urban area has 6.15 percent sexual violence among women. In sexual violence, the husband uses the physical force for sexual activity. He is doing the unwanted sexual activity which respondent do not like. Lastly it is a force to perform sexual act which respondent did not want. The emotional violence is observed in rural Bihar is 8.18 per cent. But in Urban areas of Maharashtra, it is 8.15 percent. Emotional violence evolves when husband take objection to talk with another friend. It often accuses the wife as unfaithful. Husband does not permit wife to meet her friends. He limits the contacts with her family. He calls and gets continues information about where she is. Husband does not keep trust on wife related to money and spending. As far as Physical violence among women in rural Bihar is concerned then it is 8.15 percent. In Maharashtra, the physical violence among women of urban area is 6.80 per cent. The Kerala state has 7.69 percent of the physical violence observed among women. Physical violence mainly categorised as lower physical violence and severe physical violence. The lower physical violence is related to push shook soothing thrown towards wife. Husband slap to wife and harm to wife. In anger, husband twist arm or pull hair. The severe physical violence means the husband kick or drags to wife. He strangled or burnt wife with fire and threaten with knife or gun. Most of the time, education of women is important to handle the domestic violence issue. We have given the incidence of domestic violence and education of women in Maharashtra, Bihar and Kerala state.

**Table 2: Education and violence among women (Percent)**

Violence type	Education	Maharashtra		Bihar		Kerala	
		U	R	U	R	U	R
Sexual	Illiterate	11.24	19.27	31.82	81.64	0.00	0.00
	Primary	08.99	21.1	18.18	10.08	0.00	0.00
	Secondary	67.42	55.05	36.36	23.92	100.00	83.33
Emotional	Illiterate	13.33	16.53	42.55	57.91	0.00	0.00
	Primary	13.33	15.32	17.02	11.33	0.00	0.00
	Secondary	66.67	62.5	31.91	27.4	69.23	90.05
physical	Illiterate	09.38	20.07	37.7	59.19	0.00	0.00
	Primary	06.25	14.87	13.93	12.29	10.53	2.56
	Secondary	73.96	60.39	36.07	25.35	57.89	84.62

Source: Compiled from NFHS 5 data

Table 2 shows that the sexual violence among the illiterate women of Rural Bihar (81.94 per cent) is higher. Illiterate women do not know much about the nature of sexual violence and where to report it. They often think, doing a complaint against husband and in laws is not her job. But they often complaints to her relatives, mother and father only. Women with primary schooling have 21.1 percent sexual violence in rural Maharashtra. Maharashtra is highly industrialised and developed state, but such incidence of violence is not expected. Those women have secondary school of education from Kerala, they reported sexual violence. As far as emotional violence is concerned then 57.91 percent illiterate women from Bihar reported it. Women in Bihar understand very little as emotional violence. They treat it as a behaviour of the husband and adjust with partner. Those women have primary education; the emotional violence is 17.02 percent. The women those have secondary school education have reported 90.05 percent violence. Nearly 59.19 percent illiterate women in Bihar reported the physical violence. Around 14.87 per cent primary studied women from rural area of Bihar state reported physical violence. In Kerala, 84.62 percent secondary studied women reported the physical violence. Those women have higher education, they report physical, emotional and sexual violence. As the years of education increases among women, they report more violence as compared to less educated women. Women residing in rural settings are usually less likely to access higher education as majority drop out of primary schools and end up marrying without any employable skills. They become unemployed housewives and dependent on their husbands as they are not educated and empowered predisposing them to violence. This is contrary to women who reside in urban areas with wider access to higher education and opportunities; and therefore, less likely to experience domestic violence (Lasong, J. et.al. 2020). It was revealed that religious attitudes had a meaningful relationship with the reduction and duration of domestic violence against women. In other words, in cases with high levels of religious attitudes, the violence was reported at a lower level. Moreover, the most severe violence was observed against subjects with moderate religious attitudes. It is suggested that further studies should be conducted on the ways through which religious values can affect marital life (Ghodrati F, Yazdanpanahi Z, Akbarzadeh M. 2019).

**Table 3: Violence among women as per religious background (Percent)**

Type of violence	Religion	Maharashtra		Bihar		Kerala	
		U	R	U	R	U	R
Sexual	Hindu	70.79	87.16	77.27	89.94	66.67	66.67
	Muslim	21.35	03.67	22.73	09.43	33.33	33.33
	Buddhist	07.87	09.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	No religion	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.63	0.00	0.00
Emotional	Hindu	73.35	87.9	82.98	89.55	38.46	40.22
	Muslim	13.33	3.23	17.02	10.45	38.46	40.44
	Christian	0.00	0.43	0.00	0.00	23.08	20.33
	Sikh	12.5	08.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Physical	Hindu	63.54	88.71	79.51	90.11	66.67	51.28
	Muslim	23.96	3.05	20.49	9.76	33.33	17.95
	Christian	0.00	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.77
	Sikh	0.00	8.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Buddhist	12.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	No religion	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.00	0.00

Source: Compiled from NFHS 5 data

Religious beliefs are an integral part of many people's lives and identities, while religious mediators often serve as a first point of reference for victimized parties to turn to, with both positive and negative impacts. It is currently unclear to what extent religious sensibilities are being addressed in DVA services, or how best to engage with religious beliefs and faith-based resources effectively (Romina Istratii et.al 2024). Table 3 shows that the sexual violence among women of Hindu religion in rural area (89.94 per cent) of Bihar is higher. Already number of Hindu women are more in terms of number, therefore, incidence of sexual violence could be higher. Among Muslim women, it is higher in Urban and Rural area of Kerala state. Emotional violence is higher among women of Hindu women (89.55 per cent) in Rural area of Bihar. At rural area, report of emotional violence is difficult. The police stations are located far away from villages. Among women of Muslim religion is higher in 40.22 per cent in women of rural part of Kerala. As far as physical violence is concerned then women in rural

area of Bihar have reported (90.11 per cent) it more. Among women of Muslim religion in the urban area of Kerala reported (33.33 percent) more physical violence. It is important to understand the economic background of the women because they are reporting the different type of violence.

**Table 4: Economic background and violence among women (Percent)**

Violence type	Wealth status	Maharashtra		Bihar		Kerala	
		U	R	U	R	U	R
Sexual	Poorest	6.18	27.57	4.55	54.09	0.00	0.00
	Poorer	8.43	20.18	31.82	32.08	0.00	16.67
	Middle	21.91	29.36	22.73	8.81	33.33	16.67
	Richer	34.27	20.18	36.36	3.77	66.67	33.33
Physical	Richest	29.21	2.75	4.55	1.26	0.00	33.33
	Poorest	4.17	18.64	9.02	50.57	0.00	2.56
	Poorer	7.29	25.45	21.31	29.15	5.26	7.69
	Middle	20.83	30.82	27.05	12.67	26.32	33.33
Emotional	Richer	39.58	20.97	28.69	6.34	31.58	41.03
	Richest	28.13	4.12	13.93	1.27	38.84	15.38
	Poorest	10.76	17.14	12.77	51.13	0.00	5.20
	Poorer	3.33	21.37	17.02	30.23	0.00	10.11
	Middle	23.33	33.47	31.91	10.17	7.69	20.27
	Richer	26.87	22.98	31.91	7.34	23.08	30.76
	Richest	36.87	4.44	6.38	1.13	35	69.23

Source: Compiled from NFHS 5 data

The poverty has a positive effect only on physical violence, not on sexual violence. Further, all regions have an important role on physical violence, while only less developed regions have a dominant impact on sexual violence. Also, the findings show that the intimate partners' bad habits make women more vulnerable to violence (Eralp A, Gokmen S. 2023). The poorest women of rural Bihar (54.09 percent) have more sexual violence according to table 4. The poverty added with number of reasons such as low rewards for labour, less time utilisation for labour activities. The poorer women of Bihar state have more (32.08 percent) sexual violence. Women do not report such violence from time-to-time period. The 33.33 percent richest women have reported the sexual violence in the past. The physical violence reported by half women in rural area of Bihar. Husband kick and pull the hairs, beat with stick are the complaints of the

women. They can't complain to police but live under hardship within family. Among richest category, the 38.84 percent women of urban Kerala reported it. In emotional violence category, the 51.13 percent women from rural Bihar reported such violence. The Richest women (69.23 percent) from rural Kerala state reported such violence. Those women are rich have maximum resources within household. They easily complain to police and relatives. Richness certainly helps them to express the issue, but poor women cannot do it. The male-centric socio-cultural norms and practices have endowed men with privilege, power, and an opportunity to exploit women. This lowers the status of women, and the power-play help to produce and sustain inequality. The power-play exposes women to violence and manifests itself as one of the worst expressions used by men (Dahal, P., Joshi, S.K. and Swahnberg, K. 2022). All the married women must use modern contraceptives methods to prevent the birth of unwanted children. Both husband and wife have good communication and understanding then they can use modern contraceptives. We have categorised the use of contraceptives and type of violence faced by the women.

**Table 5: Method of contraceptives and violence among women (Percent)**

Types of violence	Contraceptive type	Maharashtra		Bihar		Kerala	
		U	R	U	R	U	R
Sexual	Traditional	02.42	0.92	10.64	07.55	0.00	33.33
	Modern	80.65	86.24	61.7	58.49	33.33	66.67
Physical	Traditional	02.08	01.43	15.57	14.32	26.32	02.56
	Modern	76.04	79.57	59.02	56.53	42.11	84.62
Emotional	Traditional	03.33	02.42	10.64	13.36	07.69	05.89
	Modern	76.67	80.65	61.7	59.32	76.92	85.45

Source: Compiled from NFHS 5 data

Table five shows the method of contraceptives and violence among women in different states. Table 5 shows that the use of traditional contraceptives is higher among women those reported sexual violence in rural parts of (33.33 per cent) Kerala. The modern contraceptives are used by (86.24 per cent) women of rural area of Maharashtra. As far as the physical violence is concerned then the use of traditional contraceptives is more in urban parts of Kerala. Such couples do not learn about the use of modern contraceptives. They rely more on the traditional contraceptives. The use of modern

contraceptives as far as physical violence is concerned then it is 84.62 per cent in Kerala. The emotional violence as far as traditional contraceptives are concerned then it is higher in (13.36 per cent) women of rural parts of Bihar. Still women in Bihar are using more traditional contraceptives. It is still surprising that the use of modern contraceptive is higher among women (85.45 per cent) in rural parts of Bihar. Women who experienced physical IPV in their current relationship had lower odds of using contraception. Condom use was lower among women who experienced past physical IPV in their current relationship, while withdrawal use was higher. Women who experienced physical IPV used condoms less consistently (Kusunoki Y, Barber JS, Gatny HH, Melendez R. 2016). Physical violence was significant positively associated with recent contraceptive use among married or cohabiting women. Additionally, recent contraceptive utilisation was associated with younger women, wealthier households, more educated women and exposure to various communication media, less barriers to accessing permission from the partner and less distances travelled to health care services. (Muluneh, M.D., Francis, L., Agho, K. *et al.* 2023). We find the association of women's age and violence among women. It is explained the table 6.

**Table 6: Age of women and violence among women (Percent)**

Type of violence	Age group	Maharashtra		Bihar		Kerala	
		U	R	U	R	U	R
Sexual	15-24	06.74	10.09	18.03	13.84	0.00	16.67
	25-34	43.82	40.37	40.16	44.03	33.33	50.23
	35-44	39.89	36.7	35.25	35.22	33.33	33.33
	45-49	09.55	12.84	06.56	06.92	33.33	0.00
Physical	15-24	10.09	08.06	18.18	14.12	0.00	20.45
	25-34	40.37	45.97	50.12	44.35	46.15	20.23
	35-44	36.7	35.08	27.27	31.92	46.15	45.34
	45-49	12.84	10.89	04.55	09.6	07.69	15.23
emotional	15-24	06.25	08.78	14.89	14.07	0.00	0.00
	25-34	47.92	43.91	40.43	39.67	36.84	20.51
	35-44	32.29	34.05	36.17	35.74	47.37	48.72
	45-49	13.54	13.26	08.51	10.52	15.79	20.51

Source: Compiled from NFHS 5 data

After marriage, couples do not fight physically or emotionally. But after some time, they try to adjust with each other's behaviours. But if adjustment fails then they start

complaining about work, children, in laws, relatives etc. Sexual violence among 15-24 age group women is 18.03 per cent among urban area of Bihar as per table 6. In 25-34 age group, it is 50.23 percent in rural area of Kerala. As the age increases, the sexual violence is reported by the women. In 35-44 age group, the sexual violence is 39.89 percent in urban parts of Maharashtra. In 45-49 age group, the sexual violence is 12.84 percent rural parts of Maharashtra. As far as physical violence is concerned then 15-24 age group, 20.45 % women has reported violence in rural part of Kerala. In 25-34 age group, half of women from urban area of Bihar reported the physical violence. It is surprising that half of the married women reported such violence. But it is the reality that husband pulls hairs, beat with stick and kick the women. In 35-44 age group, 46.15 percent women of urban Kerala reported physical violence. In 45-49 age group, 15.23 percent women of rural Kerala reported physical violence. We can observe that as age increases, the physical violence declines. Due to more age, couples could not manage physically fight. As far as emotional violence is concerned then in 15-24 age group, 14.89 percent in urban area of Bihar. In 25-34 age group, 47.92 percent urban Maharashtra had emotional violence. In 35-44 age group, 48.72 percent women from rural Kerala have reported emotional violence. As age increases, they skip to physical violence but continue with emotional violence such as not allow to talk friends, not allow to visit mother and father etc. In 45-49 age group, 20.51 percent women reported emotional violence, but they are from rural Kerala. The IPV is commonly experienced by older women but that their age and life transitions mean that they may experience abuse differently to younger women. They also face unique barriers to accessing help, such as disability and dependence on their partners (Neha Pathak, Rageshri Dhairyawan, Shema Tariq 2019). Head of household play important role in distribution of assets, care and emotional health. If the woman is head of household, then she manages house carefully and she does not allow any person to suffer from any kind of illness, violence and harm. But male headed household, there may have chance that wife may suffer from different type of violence.

**Table 7: Head of household and violence with women (Percent)**

Type of violence	Head of house	Maharashtra		Bihar		Kerala	
		U	R	U	R	U	R
Sexual	Male Head	89.23	96.33	95.45	96.23	100.00	100.00
	Female head	10.67	03.67	4.55	03.77	0.00	0.00

emotional	Male Head	96.67	93.55	89.36	96.89	100.00	95.00
	Female head	03.33	06.45	10.64	03.11	0.00	5.00
Physical	Male Head	92.71	94.98	95.68	97.21	94.74	87.18
	Female head	07.29	05.02	04.92	02.79	05.26	12.82

Source: Compiled from NFHS 5 data

Male or female headed household make difference in violence. The male and female headed households have same sexual violence among women in Kerala. According to table 7, the female headed households have (10.67 percent) more physical violence in urban area of Maharashtra. All male headed households in urban parts of Kerala, the women have reported violence. In Bihar state, the 10.64 per cent female reported violence but they are male headed households. As far as physical violence is concerned then rural part of Bihar state (97.21 per cent) has more violence among women, but they are male headed households. It means male headed households have more violence with ever married women. The 12.82 per cent female headed households have reported more violence. The female headed households have lower different types of violence. Working women who are earning cash and having access to mobile phones perpetrate more physical violence. Education shows a gradient on such violence perpetration, indicating that only after achieving a certain level of education, chances of violence get reduced (Chattpadhyay A. et.al 2023). Access to knowledge through newspapers, internet play important role and women come to know their rights number of cases etc. We took information of cooking items related items and women violence. The results are reported as follows.

**Table 8: Violence and Access to knowledge and cooking equipment's (Percent)**

Type of violence	Mass media and cooking fuel	Maharashtra		Bihar		Kerala	
		U	R	U	R	U	R
Emotional	Read newspaper	53.33	36.69	29.79	11.58	92.31	75.11
	Listen radio	10.00	22.98	02.13	5.08	30.77	35.21
	Watch television	83.33	79.44	57.45	36.44	92.31	80.56
	Electric cooking	6.67	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	Gas cooking	86.67	63.31	68.09	24.58	84.62	55.17
	Wood kerocene	6.67	34.68	17.02	47.18	15.38	45.43
	Mobile for payment	10.90	8.47	6.38	4.52	23.08	5.67
	Use internet	13.13	10.89	19.15	8.76	53.85	40.78
Sexual	Read newspaper	49.44	33.03	40.91	10.06	100.00	50.34
	Listen radio	10.10	20.18	4.55	4.40	33.33	50.78
	Watch television	85.39	75.23	54.55	30.19	100.00	83.33
	Electric cooking	02.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Gas cooking	87.64	53.21	81.82	20.13	66.67	50.00
	Wood kerosene	10.11	44.95	09.09	54.19	33.33	50.90
	Mobile for payment	13.46	05.5	18.18	4.40	0.00	16.67
	Use internet	27.53	09.17	36.36	6.29	33.33	50.45
Physical	Read newspaper	56.25	31.34	27.87	11.41	78.95	69.23
	Listen radio	17.17	17.56	6.56	4.44	26.32	33.33
	Watch television	87.5	81.18	68.85	37.9	94.74	82.05
	Electric cooking	01.04	0.54	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Gas cooking	94.7	61.83	77.08	26.36	66.67	50.34
	Wood kerosene	04.17	36.38	11.48	44.99	33.33	50.45
	Mobile for payment	16.67	5.73	5.74	3.30	0.00	16.67
	Use internet	31.25	10.39	19.67	08.24	33.33	50.45

Source: Compiled from NFHS 5 data

Those women read newspaper everyday have reported emotional violence. It is 75.11 % among women from rural parts of Kerala. The table 8 shows that the 35.21 % women listen radio in rural Kerala, but they have emotional violence. Nearly 92.31 per cent women of urban area are watching television but faced emotional violence. In urban area of Maharashtra, 86.67 % women had LPG gas for cooking but faced emotional violence. It is difficult to explain this point at this level. Maximum households have LPG gas in kitchen. Around 46.18 per cent women from Bihar use wood and Kerosene but faced emotional violence. In Kerala, women in urban area,

23.08 percent use mobile for payment. Nearly 53.85 per cent women in urban area use internet. Use of internet certainly helps to get the information of outside world. Women with internet process the maximum information and improve standard of living. In urban area of Kerala, all women read newspaper regularly. In the rural area, 50.34 percent women listen radio. Listening radio is a good habit to get current affairs and listen to music. It improves the quality of life. All women in Kerala watch television but reported sexual violence. Perhaps women would be watching only serials and movies which will not empower them. In Maharashtra, 87.64 per cent women in urban area have LPG gas connection but they reported sexual violence. The LPG gas connectivity and sexual violence is difficult to explain at this point. Around 54.19 percent women in rural part of Bihar use wood/Kerosene but faced emotional violence. Around 50.45 percent women of rural area of Kerala use internet but faced emotional violence. Around 78.95 percent female of urban Kerala read newspaper but faced physical violence. Women must resist for physical violence, but they are not doing it. From rural Kerala, 33.33 percent women listen radio but faced the physical violence. The 94.74 percent women of rural Kerala watch television but faced physical violence. The 94.7 percent women of urban Maharashtra use gas for cooking but faced physical violence. Half of women of rural Kerala use wood/kerosene but faced physical violence. Still, they are using the traditional type of fuel for cooking which is also sign of backwardness. Therefore, the physical violence could be higher. Nearly 16.67 percent female of rural and urban Maharashtra use mobile for payment but face the physical violence. Half of the women of rural Kerala use internet but reported physical violence.

**Table 9: Violence and physical asset holding with households (Percent)**

Type of violence	Physical assets	Maharashtra		Bihar		Kerala	
		U	R	U	R	U	R
Sexual	Electricity	95.51	94.5	90.91	96.86	100	100
	Radio	5.06	4.59	4.55	0.63	0.00	16.67
	Television	88.2	66.66	54.55	23.27	100.00	100.00
	Refrigerator	47.19	26.61	27.27	5.03	33.33	66.67
	Bicycle	39.89	36.7	68.18	69.18	33.33	16.67
	Scooter	56.74	42.2	31.82	19.5	0.00	83.33
	Car	2.25	1.83	0.81	0.63	0.00	16.67

Physical	Electricity	98.96	95.34	95.08	95.94	100.00	100.00
	Radio	06.25	05.02	02.46	01.90	21.05	10.28
	Television	93.75	74.37	60.66	29.4	94.74	79.49
	Refrigerator	45.83	25.27	24.59	05.2	57.89	64.10
	Bicycle	37.5	34.77	57.38	70.22	31.58	20.51
	Scooter	60.42	48.92	35.25	25.35	68.42	69.23
	Car	02.08	1.79	2.46	0.51	31.58	15.38
Emotional	Electricity	100.00	94.50	93.62	94.63	100.00	100.00
	Radio	03.33	04.59	02.13	01.98	23.08	15.21
	Television	90.23	66.06	59.57	27.97	84.62	80.43
	Refrigerator	40.56	26.61	17.02	05.65	92.31	70.18
	Bicycle	33.33	36.7	61.7	72.88	23.08	15.70
	Scooter	50.23	42.2	23.4	27.68	76.92	75.21
	Car	0.00	01.83	0.00	00.85	23.08	30.32

Source: Compiled from NFHS 5 data

All women have electricity in home but reported sexual violence, In Kerala, 16.67 percent women of rural area have radio at home but reported sexual violence as per table 9. All women of urban and rural area reported sexual violence, but they have television at home. Television at home certainly have access to different types of information. The 66.67 percent women of rural Kerala have reported that they have refrigerator at home. Refrigerator at home helps families to keep food fresh. It may improve their health status. Total 69.18 % women of rural Bihar have bicycle at home, but they reported sexual violence. Around 83.83 percent women in rural Kerala have Scooter at home but they reported sexual violence. Scooter at home helps for mobility but women reported the sexual violence. In Kerala state, 16.67 percent women have car, but they reported sexual violence. Car ownership shows that the household is rich with physical assets. All women have reported physical violence, but they have electricity at home. Nearly 21.05 percent women of urban area of Kerala have reported physical violence. Around 93.75 per cent women of urban Maharashtra have television at home but reported physical violence. Around 64.10 percent women of rural Kerala have reported physical violence, but they have refrigerator at home. Around 57.38 percent women of urban Bihar have bicycle at home but reported the physical violence. It is difficult to explain such relation at this point. Around 69.23 percent female from rural area reported violence but they have scooter at home. Ownership of scooter is

useful for exercise, to take rounds and go to market, visit relatives etc. Around 31.58 percent women of urban area of Kerala have car but they reported physical violence. All women reported emotional violence of rural and urban area have electricity at home. Around 23.06 percent women of urban area have radio but reported emotional violence. We can say that 90.23 percent women of Maharashtra from urban area reported the emotional violence but have television at home. Having television at home, husband does not give freedom to women to watch channels of her choice. Around 92.31 percent women of urban Kerala have fridge at home but reported emotional violence. It is difficult to explain such situation at this point. Around 72.88 percent women of rural Bihar have bicycle, but they reported physical violence. We can further say that around 76.92 percent women of urban area have scooter but reported emotional violence. Around 30.32 percent women had car in rural Kerala, but they reported emotional violence. Asset holding and violence with women has certainly positive relationship, but it differs from state to state and asset to asset.

### **Logit regression model:**

We have used the logit regression (Greene William 2003) due to qualitative nature of dependent variable. The dependent variable categorised as zero and one. Where zero means no violence with women and one means women reported any kind of violence in past period.

$$\text{Logit } (Pi) = 1/(1+\exp(-pi)) \quad (8)$$

$$\ln(pi/(1-pi)) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_k X_k + \varepsilon \quad (9)$$

Where x is independent variable. The beta parameter is commonly estimated through maximum likelihood estimation (MLE). All the iterations produce the log likelihood function. The result of logit model is explained in the following table.

**Table 10: The domestic violence related to socio-economic factors of ever married women**

Variables	B	S.E.	Wald	Exp(B)
<b>Age group</b>				
15-24	-0.089**	.043	4.249	.915
25-34	0.263*	.034	58.628	1.301
35-44	0.163*	.034	23.137	1.177
<b>Education of women</b>				
Illiterate	0.596*	.051	136.634	1.815

Primary	0.483*	.052	86.172	1.621
Secondary	0.343*	.044	61.072	1.409
<b>Religion</b>				
Hindu	0.333*	.035	92.197	1.396
Muslim	0.259*	.044	34.438	1.296
<b>Household head</b>				
Female head	-0.164*	.042	15.581	.849
<b>Physical assets</b>				
Radio	-0.148**	.048	9.457	.862
Television	-0.105*	.028	13.914	.900
Refrigerator	-0.240*	.028	75.591	.787
Bicycle	0.062**	.020	9.198	1.064
Car	-0.240*	.047	26.647	.786
<b>Wealth quantile</b>				
Poorest	0.275*	.030	82.746	1.317
Richest	-0.368*	.039	88.007	.692
<b>Mass media and mobile phone access</b>				
Read newspaper	0.067**	.028	5.604	1.069
Listen radio	0.170*	.032	28.264	1.185
Watch television	0.092**	.027	12.031	1.096
Use internet	-0.124*	.029	18.741	.883
<b>Fuel for cooking</b>				
Wood and kerosene	-0.095**	.045	4.365	.910
Gas cooking	0.160**	.046	12.102	1.173
<b>Use of contraceptives</b>				
Traditional	0.096**	.036	7.303	1.101
Modern	0.255*	.024	113.619	1.290

States				
Bihar	0.414*	.044	87.566	1.513
Maharashtra	0.091**	.043	4.365	1.095
Kerala	-0.718*	.126	32.555	.488
<b>Constant</b>	<b>-2.145*</b>	<b>.082</b>	<b>687.110</b>	<b>.117</b>
2 Log likelihood = 61475.749	Cox & Snell R Square =0.039	Nagelkerke R Square =0.058	Wald =13859.771	

@\*significant at 1 percent \*\* significant at 5 percent

At the initial stage, after arranged marriage both husband and wife do not know each other's behaviour. Over the period, they understand each other's behaviour. There are always discussions about different subjects such as work allocation in house, income, assets, fertility, relatives with in-laws. According to table 10, the violence among women is positively co-related to age of 25-34 and 35-44 age. Violence is negatively co-related to 15-24 age group. Therefore, married women in 15-24 age group, there is no domestic violence, and the relationship is positive and statistically significant. But as the age of the couple increases, they fight on issues such as fertility, money, childcare and in laws care. Somewhere couples failed to achieve all, and they feel previous life before marriage was much better. They start talking with their old friends over phone and try to meet each other. They spend time and money which is a major cause of physical fights. There is need to make balance between family, work, relatives and society. Violence is positively co-related to Illiterate, primary and secondary studied women. Violence is positively co-related to women of Hindu and Muslim religion. But rural poor women from Hindu and Muslim community do not have advantage but face domestic violence. Women after marriage undergo different stages of life. They do not have same desire for sex after marriage and children. But not all husbands understand the transformation in their life. The lower education does not have advantage to understand domestic violence issue and take necessary action. Violence is negatively co-related to female headed households. But if woman is head of household, then she has right to decide about work, house, purchase of commodities, care of members. She can take risk and provide resources to all members of family. Less discrimination could be possible among members and within family. The radio, television, fridge and car holding have negative co-relation with violence. But the holding bicycle is positively co-related to violence among women. Those women read

newspaper, watch television or listen radio have more knowledge of society. They easily identify the issues with behaviour of husband. Those women use internet have access to maximum information. They easily read what is domestic violence and what are the behaviours of husband. They easily read stories on internet related to domestic violence. They easily make complaints and get relief. The poorest households have positive violence among women. It is positively co-related and statistically significant. Poor households have very fewer physical assets and money. They do not provide resources to equal development of all members. Women often given very less priority. The richest households have negative co-relation with the violence among women. Those women listen radio, read newspaper, watch television have high incidence of violence. But those use internet have high incidence of violence. Those households use wood and kerosene have negative violence among women but those use gas for cooking have high incidence of violence. The traditional and modern contraceptives are positively co-related to violence among women. The violence among women is positively co-related to Bihar and Maharashtra state but is negatively co-related to Kerala state. In Kerala state, all socio-economic indicators are much better for women as compared to Maharashtra and Bihar. Women with higher education easily use domestic resources for development of self and children. The use of social and community resources helps women to use it for betterment. They do not depend much on husband for various economical needs. Husband has secondary role in society. But it is inversely related in Bihar state.

## **5. POLICY IMPLICATION AND CONCLUSION**

In India, intimate partner violence is widely observed as domestic violence. Most of rich and poor women's cases regularly reported through mass media. Couples have many complaints with each other. Husband behaviour is related to emotional violence such as not allowed to meet friends, her family members, do not keep trust related to money and spending of money. Such issues are reported higher in Bihar state. The physical violence is also observed among couple in Bihar state. Physical violence comprises as push and slap wife, twist arm and pull hairs. The husband kick wife and threaten with knife or gun. The sexual violence is higher among women of Bihar state. It is lower among women of Kerala. Sexual violence defined as husband uses the physical force for sexual activity which wife do not like. It is unwanted sexual activity. There is need to increase the awareness of violence among males. There is need to increase the ownership of assets with women. There is need to promote women as a head of households. The women manage household activities much better and understand the issues as compared to men. The women must hold the ownership of the

assets such as radio, television, refrigerator etc. It is because the poor women have more violence as compared to rich women. Reading newspaper, listen radio, watch television is important. The use of internet must be improved among poorer women. The modern contraceptives use must increase in rural area. The violence is positively co-related to the Bihar and Maharashtra state. Couples those have issues with each other's behaviour must consult with psychologist. Role of government is important in terms of violence related cases, law and order in society. Government should have strict rules and regulations towards partners with any kind of violence. Role of NGO's is important those working on women's violence issue. NGO's must work on women empowerment through different kinds of skills training such as tailoring, starts ups for small business, beauty parlours, home based work, online work etc., It will help women to get some sort of income. Every adolescent girl must be empowered through health and education. Role of parents is very important in terms of education and skills provision to girl child. Girls must be aware about how the police and law department is working to solve the different women related issues in society. More girls must be provided jobs in police and courts. Couples must get guidance related to different kinds of violence from elderly people in society. There is need to understand the behavioural transformation of couples after the marriage, becoming parents. The relatives and senior people must provide good guidance and support in society. Those husbands do not follow advise of senior citizens, parents, in laws, relatives. The police must punish them and put them in jail. Such instances will certainly create examples of law-and-order situation in society. It will help women to live happy and peaceful life. It will also help to improve health and their own development. Such efforts will also help to develop society and achieve development goals for country.

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