

# Appraisal of socio-economic and cultural impacts on domestic violence among households in Ekiti, Nigeria

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## Introduction

Despite the modern age, domestic violence (DV) remains an unbiased trans-strata crisis in Nigeria. The alarming recurrence in rural and urban areas has given rise to negative gender norms reinforcement, affecting the country on social, economic and political scales.

This study delivers a detailed assessment of the aforementioned situation in Ekiti, a prominent state located in the Southwestern region of Nigeria. This location was selected for its evaluable blend of differentiable rural and urban settlements. The main objectives of this study included an investigation of DV prevalence rates, causes, effects, influential factors and possible solutions in the selected area, Ekiti state.

## Theoretical Framework

Radical feminist theoretical perspectives were employed in this study. Radical feminism is one of the theories founded on the belief that society is based on patriarchal grounds, which creates the marginalization and discrimination of women (Teasley, 2020)<sup>1</sup>.

Radical feminists posit that the main source of women's oppression originates from social roles and institutional structures being constructed from male supremacy and patriarchy (Teasley, 2020). Unlike other feminist theories, radical feminism advocates for the complete elimination of patriarchy through the transformation of the entire structure of the society, with particular focus on the eradication of traditional gender roles.

## Methodology

This study adopted the quantitative research design. This design is considered appropriate because of the relatively large number of the population of the study. The study employed the use of quantitative research methods, in conjunction with the Krejcie and Morgan table model for effective data analysis.

The information needed for this research was sourced from both primary and secondary sources. The primary data were obtained directly from the respondents through reconnaissance survey and questionnaire administration which formed the core of the research work. 364 questionnaires were administered but 293 were complete and returned back making it 80% response rate. The

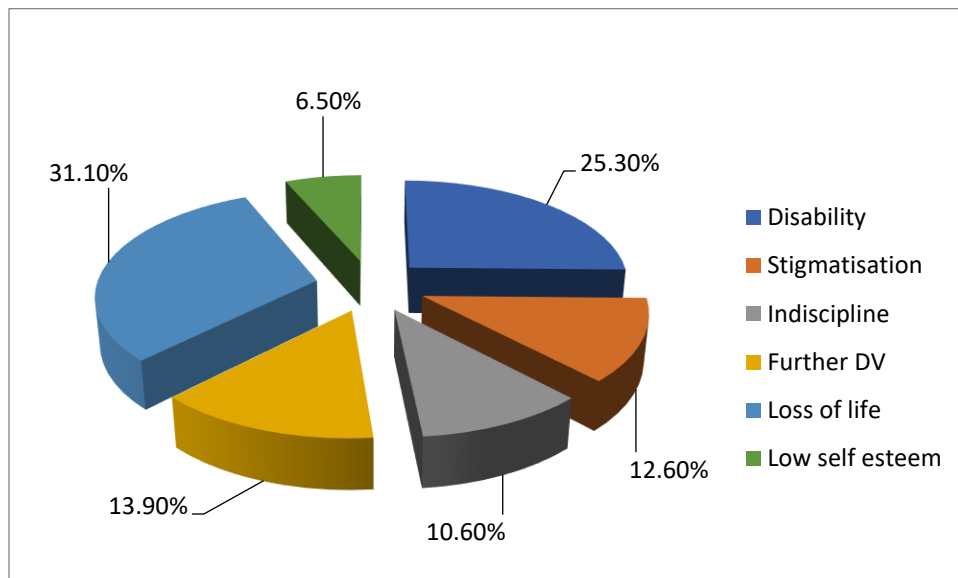
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<sup>1</sup> Teasley, D. (2020). Radical feminism: Definition, Theory & Criticism. Social Psychology. <https://study.com/academy/lesson/radical-feminism-definition-theory-criticism.html>.

secondary data were sourced from consulting published and unpublished article and reports in journals.

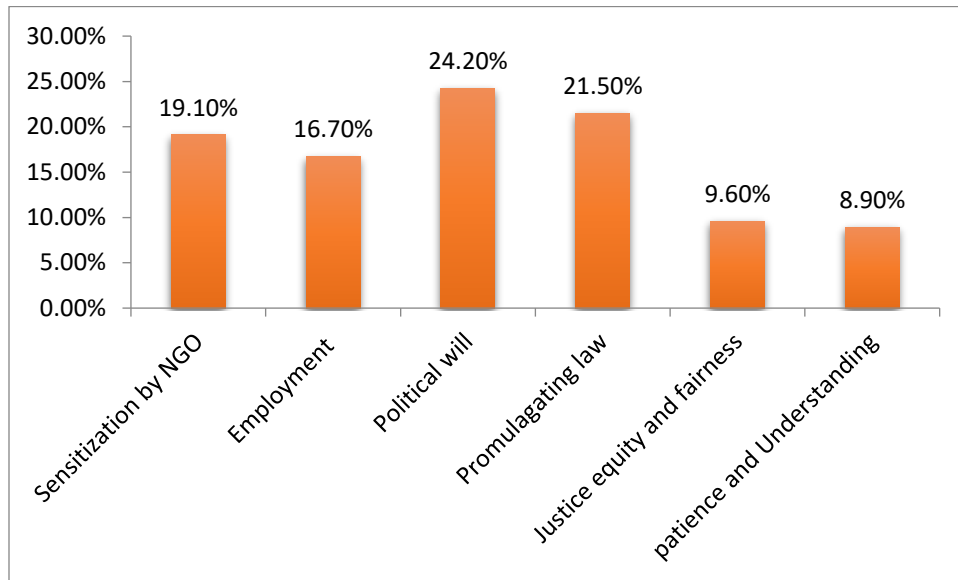
### Summary of Findings

- i. Topping the chart of the dominant domestic violence in the study area was physical abuse (30%) followed by sexual abuse (21.2%) while the lowest dominant was observed to be coercion and manipulation (8.9%)
- ii. The major causes of domestic violence were however found to be poverty with (29.7%) of the respondents followed by denying a partner sexual intercourse (23.2%) while the lowest was observed to be indiscipline (3.1%).
- iii. The effects of domestic violence are much felt in relation to loss of life (31.1%) followed by disability (25.3%) while its effects are less felt in respect of low self-esteem (6.5%).
- iv. The major factor associated with contribution to domestic violence in the study area was economic factor with cumulative average mean score of 3.5 followed by political factor with 3.4 and lastly social factor with 3.3. Invariably, all three significantly contributes to domestic violence as they are above average on the like scale.
- v. The most important solution to domestic violence in the study area is political will from the government side with (24.2%) followed by promulgation of stringent legislation against offenders of domestic violence with (21.5%) of the sampled population while engaging NGOs to sensitize residents will also be potent in curbing the menace of domestic violence in the study area.



**Figure 4.1:** Effect of Domestic Violence in the study Area

**Source:** Field survey, 2023



**Figure 4.2: Solutions to Domestic Violence**

Source: Field survey, 2023

### Conclusion

The research was conducted to examine the incidence of domestic violence in selected rural and urban areas in Ekiti State. After careful examination and analysis of the collected data from the research, it was concluded that the incidence of domestic violence is predominant in the study area with more of it occurring in the rural areas than urban areas owing to variation in political, social and economic related issues. There should be massive job creation and employment of the masses to ensure income generation and eradication of poverty which enhances domestic violence. Government and policy makers should put legislation in place to decisively deal with perpetrators of domestic violence in the urban and rural areas to serve as deterrent for other would-be offenders.