Factors affecting on violence against married women in Palestine

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Abstract

The aim of the study is to examine, the relationship between the gender-based violence and the through some socio-geographical variables for married couples in Gaza - Palestine. By assessing the effect of age, education, working status and number of family on violence against married women in Gaza - Palestine. To achieve these issues the study develops a questionnaire-based survey was designed the analysis in empirical descriptive analysis. Which considers the gender based violence as dependent while the other variable as independent variables. The questionnaire was collected from (250) respondents by using google form. The result of the study showed that there is negative relationship between education and violence against married women in Gaza - Palestine. On the other, the analysis support hypothesis 2, on the other hand the result showed that no relationship between number of family and violence against married women in Gaza - Palestine. Therefore, this study makes a novel contribution by offering a detailed and deeper understanding of the effect of socio-economic and demographic variables on violence against married women in Gaza - Palestine. According to the result, the study recommended that future researches might investigate if there are other possible variables that may also effect on the violence against married women in Gaza - Palestine.

Keywords: GBV, violence, Socio- economic, demographic.

Introduction

Violence is generally an inherent phenomenon in the human nature, and the human history still records daily violence causes that committed against human beings against each other. Gender-based violence is one of the manifestations of violence between individuals in all societies as an ancient and modern phenomenon, where it characterizes multiple forms of behavior related to nature of environment social and political among the community where women live.

In 2014, global estimates published by the WHO indicated that about 1 in 3 (35%) women worldwide have experienced intimate partner, a family member, and non-partner violence in their lifetime. Furthermore, almost one-third (30%) of married women report that they have experienced some form of physical and/or sexual violence by their spouse in their lifetime. Moreover, about 38% of all murders women are killed by a spouse or by an intimate partner.

Furthermore, according to study conducted by the WHO in 2013 about the prevalence of gender-based violence in all countries of the world. The prevalence estimates range from 23.2% in high-income countries to 37% in the Eastern Mediterranean region, and 37.7% in the South-East Asia region. In addition to intimate partner violence, globally 7% of women report having been sexually assaulted by someone other than a partner, although data for this is limited due to the condition results from the global survey.

Background:

Many studies revealed a steady increase in the suffering of women and girls in the Gaza provinces from gender-based violence, where, according to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2011) about (51%) of Palestinian women were exposed to the gender- based violence, (62%) according to Al Ghwanma, and (63%) according to Muller and Ibrahim in 2011, 2014, and 2015 respectively.

On the other hand, the evaluated studies, which prepared within the building of the national strategic plan against the violence against the women (2011-2019) pointed that collecting quantitative data about violence against woman doesn't follow identified methodology, and there is a lack of consistence between all institutions in determining the extent of the phenomenon of gender-based violence in Palestine, as well as the effective interventions to control and reduce this phenomenon.

From another side, the Culture and Free Thought Association identified through its activities which aim to advocate woman rights in Gaza Strip, that there is tangible increase in different types of violence against woman which limited her daily life role despite all intervention by organizations work in woman rights, in addition to lack of identified tools of response to gender-based violence against women and girls.

Therefore, the association aims to prepare baseline study about gender-based violence and women's rights violations in order to develop measurement tools to identify gender-based violence reality in Gaza governorates and determine all types of violence against women and girls based on their gender.

Forms of GBV:

This study adopted the definition of the United Nations Population Fund (1998), for gender-based violence as a "Gender-based violence involves men and women, in which the female is usually the target, and is derived from unequal power relationships between men and women. Violence is directed specifically against a woman because she is a woman or affects women disproportionately. It includes, but is not limited to, physical, sexual, and psychological harm (Threat, torture, rape, deprivation of freedom within and outside the family). It also may include practices led by the country or political party.

Methodology:

Descriptive methods was conducted in this study which includes theoretical analysis, such as (literature review, statistics, publications, articles, and evidence), quantitative data collection by utilizing (questionnaire, and forms)

The aim of the study:

The study aims to provide quantitative baseline about gender-based violence reality in Gaza governorates, and this can be achieved through analyze the social environment for the gender-based violence and women rights violations, identify practices related to gender-based violence that is committed against women and girls. In addition, to provide quantitative baseline about Perceptions of Gender-Based Violence through some socio-geographical variables for married couples in GAZA in Palestine. and this can be achieved through analyze the social environment for the gender-based violence and women rights violations, identify practices related to gender- based violence that is committed against women. In addition, to identify community issues that prevent changing poor social norms and lead to violence against women, and the role of community leaders to intervene and reduce gender based violence.

Research Objectives:

The study aims to provide quantitative baseline about gender-based violence reality in Gaza, Palestine, and this can be achieved through:

•   Analyze the social environment for the gender-based violence and women married rights violations through knowledge, point of views, awareness, understanding and the practices of the society approach in all its aspects.

•   Identify practices related to gender-based violence that is committed against women married.

• Examine the factors affecting on the violence against women in Gaza Palestine.

Literature Review:

Many studies discussed the GBV, such as (Heise, Ellsberg& Gottmoeller, 2002) study which provides an over overview of the extent and nature of gender-based violence and its health consequences, particularly on sexual and reproductive health, whereas the study of (Russo & Pirlott, 2006) triangulates quantitative and qualitative research methods with women in the reproductive age group being the target group. The study noted that 95% of the respondents experienced physical violence, 31% rape by a stranger, 92% spousal rape and 65% forced marriages. Socio-cultural, religious, economic and policy implementation factors underlie a culture of silence that prevails among the victims of GBV. The study recommends economic empowerment of women and information, education, counselling pertaining to the negative effects of GBV to both males and females. There is need for education about grievance procedures and scaling up of policy enforcement in order to curb the gruesome effects of GBV. While the study of (Dunklem Jewkes, Brown, Gray, McIntryre, and Harlow, 2004) mentioned that, the Women with violent or controlling male partners are at increased risk of HIV infection. We postulate that abusive men are more likely to have HIV and impose risky sexual practices on partners. Research on connections between social constructions of masculinity, intimate partner violence, male dominance in relationships, and HIV risk behaviors in men, as well as effective interventions, are urgently needed. On the other hand, few of studies discussed the methods to face the GBV. Such as, the study of (Coker, Smith, ,Thompson, , McKeown, , Bethea & Davis, 2002)) that discussed the ways to face the abused women depending on Social support that may reduce the impact of abuse on mental health,. the study examined the associations between intimate partner violence (IPV) which "defined as sexual, physical, or psychological abuse" and mental health outcomes and to assess the protective role of abuse disclosure and support on mental health among abused women, the study concluded that Healthcare providers can be instrumental in identifying IPV and helping women develop skills, resources, and support networks to address IPV. Physicians, family, or friends may provide needed social support.

Conceptual Framework:

This study adopted the definition of the United Nations Population Fund (1998), for gender-based violence as a "Gender-based violence involves men and women, in which the female is usually the target, and is derived from unequal power relationships between men and women. Violence is directed specifically against a woman because she is a woman or affects women disproportionately. It includes, but is not limited to, physical, sexual, and psychological harm (Threat, torture, rape, deprivation of freedom within and outside the family). It also may include practices led by the country or political party. Gender-based violence comprise of seven types as follow:

• **Rape**: physically forced or otherwise coerced penetration – even if slight – of the vulva or anus, using a penis, other body parts or an object. Aiming to harm her physically and mentally induced by his desire to control not by his sexual desire, like (family rape, stranger rape, husband rape and anal sex).
• **Sexual Assault**: Any sexual behavior against female body, without full penetration with the victim, without her consent or approval, like rape attempts, unwanted kissing, touching the victim body, circumcision and sexual Innuendo through facial expressions, words or signs.
• **Physical Assault**: Any aggression against the female body causing her physical and psychological harm, for example (beating, pushing, tossing hurtful things against her, cutting hair, twist her arm, assault with sharp objects, burning or ironing, strangulation or strangulation attempts, slapping).
• **Forced Marriage**: Marriage under the legal age (18 years), marriage against her will or marriage without the complete freedom to decide.
• **Denial of resources, opportunities or services**: A number of practices a man is a capable to fulfill, such as the (rejecting family planning methods, banning the female from eating and drinking, treatment and education, legitimate pregnancy, work, home and basic needs, family visits and socialize with others,

inheritance and legitimate rights, as well as the demand of frequent reproduction, disposition of their properties and financial assets, forcing them to abortion as well as to prevent them from participating in family management.

• **Psychological/emotional abuse**: Any words that harm the female dignity, or behavior intended to intimidate and persecute or destroy the confidence, it has many forms such as the threats of physical or sexual violence, threats, intimidation, humiliation, insulting, cursing, locked in the house, control, destruction of cherished things, yelling, ignorance, mistrust, the prevention of communication).

• **Political Violence**: Its behavior posed by the man, the security establishment or the occupier towards female limiting the freedom of expression of opinion, freedom of movement and travel, and the right to elect and run for office, and participation of political activities, or belonging to organizations or political parties, or to be exposed to arrest or house arrest in the background of her political ideas.

Problem Statement:

The aim of the study define socio-economic and demographic factors, which decide the violence against the women in Gaza, Palestine society

This topic has been studied in a variety of studies, but these studies have typically not incorporated different socio-economic and demographic variables into their study. In this report, we have attempted to explore in some depth the relationship between the ages, education. Family income, gender, place and belief with the violence against the women in Palestine society.

The analysis is scheduled into five sections. The first introduction is presented in the Paragraph. The literature review is given in the second part. We spoke about methodology, data sources and variables in the third section. In the fourth part, the results of the estimate are presented. In the last segment, we presented some final remarks.

Research Question:

"What is the perception of Gender-Based Violence for married couples in Gaza-Palestine?

- Does the (gender-based violence) vary by (age) after controlling the effect of other Independent variable?
- How strong if the effect of (working status) on (gender based violence) after controlling the effect of the other independent variable?
- How strong if the effect of (Education) on (gender based violence) after controlling the effect of the other independent variable?
- How strong if the effect of (Number of family) on (gender based violence) after controlling the effect of the other independent variable?

Hypotheses:

H_1: As age increase, the violence against married women will increase in Gaza-Palestine.

H_2: As level of education increases, gender-based violence will decrease in Gaza-Palestine.

H_3: the level of violence against the unemployed women higher than the working people in Gaza-Palestine.

H_4: As social class increase, the violence against married women will decrease in Gaza-Palestine.

H_5: As no. of family increase, the violence against married women will increase in Gaza-Palestine.

Methodology:

Descriptive methods was conducted in this study, which includes theoretical analysis, such as (literature review, statistics, publications, articles, and evidence), quantitative data collection by utilizing (questionnaire, and forms), Where the methodology and the procedures implies the following:

• Study Population: The study targeted at women who aged (18-65 years).

• The study sample: The study sample was (250) from married women in Gaza-Palestine

We will using bivariate and multivariate regression to test the following hypotheses: in all tests, we should set the probability of making a

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type 1 error at .05 and use two-tailed tests of significant.

The main independent variables for this study include the gender (Male=1, Female=2) , age (less than25=1,25-34=2, 35-44=3, 45-54=4, 55 – above=5), working status (working=1, not working=2), , Social Class (Low=1, Mid=2, High=3), education (No/informal school=1, primary education-less = 2, secondary School=3, University education=4,) Number of family, (less than4=1, 4-10=2, 10-above=3).

Statistical Analysis:

Table1: Summary of Bivariate Relationship:

ID variable Predictor Variable	B	Beta (B*)	sig	R square	t
Age	.665	.049	.441	.002	0.771
Educational level	-3.065	-.234	0.000	.055	-3.784
Working Status	5.684	.154	.015	.024	2.444
Social status	-3.689	-.154	.0015	.024	-2.439
Number of family	1.145	.046	.468	.002	.727

Bivariate Analysis:

Age According to the finding of the statistical analysis, the attachment No1 show that there is no significant relationship between age and violence against married women (Beta= .049 , t= 0.771 , Sig=.441) which is mean that the age no effect on violence against married women. **However the data are not consistent with the research hypothesis1.**

Education: the table 1 above indicate that the **education** explain approximately 6% of the variance in violence against married women. The unstandardized regression coefficient B, indicates that for each 1 year increase in **education**, scores in **women** increase by (-3.065) unit. The t-test for the unstandardized regression coefficient (t=-3.784, p=0.000) indicate that **education** has a statistically significant effect on violence against married women. However, the data are consistent with the research hypothesis, which state **as education** increase, violence against married women will decrease. The observes relationship indicates that **education** has inverse Effect on violence against married women. The standardized regression coefficient, -.234, indicates that for 1 standard deviation increase in **education**, violence against married women decrease by -.234 standard deviations, thus, **education** a weak negative linear effect on violence against married women. **However, the**

data are consistent with the research hypothesis2.

Working Status: the table 1 above indicate that the **working status** explain approximately 2% of the variance in violence against married women. The unstandardized regression coefficient B, indicates that for the unemployment women on average, score 5.684 units higher on violence against married women than working women. The t-test for the data are consistent with the research hypothesis3 . that the **unemployment women higher on violence against married women than working women.**

Social Status: the table 1 above indicate that the **social status** explain approximately 2% of the variance in violence against married women. The unstandardized regression coefficient B, indicates that for each 1 year increase in **social status**, scores in **women** increase by (-3.689) unit. The t-test for the unstandardized regression coefficient (t=--2.439, p=.015) indicate that **social status** has a statistically significant effect on violence against married women. However, the data are consistent with the research hypothesis, which state **as social status** increase, violence against married women will decrease. The observes relationship indicates that **social status** has inverse Effect on violence against married women. The standardized regression coefficient, -.154, indicates that for 1

standard deviation increase in **social status**, violence against married women decrease by -.154 standard deviations, thus, **social status** a weak negative linear effect on violence against married women. **However, the data are consistent with the research hypothesis4.**

Number of family: According to the finding of the statistical analysis, the table No1 shows that there is <u>no significant</u> relationship between number of family and violence against married women <u>(Beta= .046 , t= .727   , Sig=.468)</u> which is mean that the number of family no effect on woman violence against married women. **However, the data are not consistent with the research hypothesis5.**

An examination of the bivariate correlations and the Multicollinearity:

Table2:

Correlations

		AGE	EDUCATION	WORKING STATUS	SOCIAL STATUS	NUMBER OF FAMILY
Age	Pearson Correlation	1				
education	Pearson Correlation	-.397**	1			
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000				
Working Status	Pearson Correlation	.088	-.410**	1		
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.166	.000			
Social Status	Pearson Correlation	.019	.305**	-.276**	1	
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.765	.000	.000		
Number of Family	Pearson Correlation	.255**	-.149*	.186**	-.019	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.018	.003	.772	

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Table3:

Model		Collinearity Statistics	
		Tolerance	VIF
1	(Constant)		
	AGE	.775	1.290

EDUCATON	.652	1.533
WORK STATUS	.784	1.276
Social status	.858	1.166
Number of family	.906	1.103

Table2&3 indicates that the correlation among independent variables: education and working status are the two independent variables with the negative medium correlation (r= -.441) and the second highest I.V correlation are between Age and education with the negative medium correlation (r=-0.397) The bivariate correlation, tolerance statistics, and VIFs do not indicate potential problems with multicollinearity. Therefore, we can say that From the correlation matrix there is no multicollinearity Problem, which is, mean that we can apply multi regression.

Table4: Summary of Effects from Multiple Linear Regression

Predictor Variables	b	B*	t	P
Age	-.297	-.022	-.307	.759
Education	-2.490	-.190	-2.449	.015
Working status	1.837	.050	.707	.480
Social Status	-1.948	-.082	-1.210	.227
No. of Family	.210	.008	.129	.898

a.   Dependent Variable: GBV

According to the table4: finding of the multi regression statistical analysis, in the table No4 show that for each one year increase **in education**, the expected value of violence against married women decrease -2.490 units, after controlling for the effects of the additional independent variables. The t-test for the partial regression coefficient (t=-2.449. p=.015) indicates that the relationship between level of education and violence against married women is statistically significant. For each standard deviation increase in level of education, the violence against married women decreases -.190 after effects of all other independent variables in the regression model. There is a weak negative linear relationship between level of education and violence against married women. After controlling for the effect of additional independent variables.

On the other hand, the result in table 4# shows that there is no significant relationship between age, working status, social status and no. of family and violence against married women , Age(Beta= -.022 , t= -.307 , Sig=.759), working status (Beta= .050, t= .707, Sig=.480), Social

Status(Beta= -.082, t= -1.210, Sig=..227), NO of family (Beta= .008 , t= .129 , Sig=.898).

However, the data in table 4: are not consistent with the H_1, H_3, H_4, H_5. But it consistent with the research hypothesis2.

Discussion:

A study conduct a survey about " factors affecting violence against married women" in Gaza - Palestine, the study selected assize of 250, to find any relationship between socio-economic and demographic variables and the violence against married women such as age, education, work status, social status and number of family.

The result of the study shows that the bivariate and multivariate analysis provides consistent support for hypothesis 2 that as frequency of education increase, the violence against married women in Gaza decreases. Frequency of education was considered to have the strongest on violence against married women in the multiple linear regression analysis. After controlling the other I.V variables. On the other hand, the result of bivariate not support Hypothesis1 & 5 while the multi regression not support hypothesis 1,3,4 and 5 and it's failed to explain the variability of the violence against married women in Gaza - Palestine. The model is fit and only 3.6% of the model was explained.

Conclusion:

The result of the study showed that there is negative relationship between education and violence against married women in Gaza - Palestine. On the other, the analysis support hypothesis 2, on the other hand the result showed that no relationship between number of family and violence against married women in Gaza-Palestine. Therefore, this study makes a novel contribution by offering a detailed and deeper understanding of the effect of socio-economic and demographic variables on violence against married women in Gaza - Palestine.

In addition to that, The study conclude that the bivariate analysis support hypothesis 2, 3, 4 which is indicates that there is relationship between education, work status and social status and violence against married women, while not support hypothesis 1 and 5 which indicates that no relationship between age, number of family and violence against married women.

On the other hand when we compare the p-value in multiregression analysis the study conclude that the result support only hypotheses 2.

According to the result, the study recommended that future researches might investigate if there are other possible variables that may also effect on the violence against married women in Gaza-Palestine.

Recommendations

Recommendations from the workshop with CFTA partners:

- Conducting workshops about sub-topics of the study to transform them into working mechanisms.
- Correct concepts and trends about gender-based violence among males.
- Supporting small business for violence victims.
- Develop an effective plan to monitor all forms of gender-based violence against women.
- Keep working with the effective associations which work against based-gender violence against women after completed their projects.
- Develop the Palestinian law to ensure the women's rights by setting strict laws for all violent forms.
- Unifying the judicial system to guarantee the rights of abused women.
- Take (CEDAW) convention as references for all research studies.
- Promote sexual culture in educational curriculum.
- Create gender-based ambassadors through awareness programs for enabling men to defend women.
- Promote the cooperation between reconciliation committees and law representatives to reduce gender-based violence.
- Adding a subject of family culture in the educational curriculum for the first secondary class.

- Pay attention to the role of political parties about based-gender violence problems, in order to activate their role to prevent it.
- Conduct awareness programs about the women's rights and other programs about the most applicable and suitable educational methods.
- Work to raise the community awareness about the violence issues.
- Conduct awareness campaigns about women's rights which mentioned in the Palestinian legislations and laws, and activate the rule of law.
- Implement the related researches through companies and associations of women.

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