A SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN ABUJA MUNICIPAL AREA COUNCIL

BY

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Declaration

I declare that this thesis is entirely a result of my own research and innovation and it has neither in whole or part been presented for the award of any degree elsewhere. Also sources of information have been duly acknowledged.

Signature  Date: 11/06/08

OWONIBI OLA ELIZABETH

Certification

This thesis entitled **"A Sociological Analysis of Domestic Violence in Abuja Municipal Area Council"**, by Owonibi Ola Elizabeth meets the regulations governing the award of the degree of Masters of Science (M.Sc Sociology) of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, and is approved for its contribution to knowledge and literary presentation.

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Dedication

This work is dedicated to the God Almighty, for His special grace and guidance bestowed upon me. The, I am, that I am who made me what I am today. To Him be the glory.

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KASHIM IBB

Abstract

Domestic violence is a problem of multiple preportions. It's a product of social interaction. Domestic violence occurs at all levels of society. In view of the above, the study investigates through empirical research, using the interactionist and Marxist perspectives as theoretical guide, to examine the rate of domestic violence and its effects on families' members in Abuja Municipal Area Council.

The method adopted in carrying out the research ireludes a simple random sampling of households as well as both government and non governmental organizations. The sample size for this study was 25 households each from four (4) districts, of Garki 11. Wuse 1. Manama and Nyanya. In all a total of 400 respondents were selected. Questionna were administered as well as indepth interview among the teenage children.

Findings reveal that mean age of respondents who have experienced domestic violence is 32 years. Domestic violence increase with this age and drops as one get matured and become more elderly (41 years and above). This falls into a period when children are older and are accorded social respect and economic independence. The complex demands of middle age (21 41 years), especially as people combine familial and work roles lead to increase tension in homes. As families or couples graduate into adult life's (41 years and above), marriage either stabilizes or partners seek divorce or separation.

The study reveals that domestic violence in Abuja Municipality reflects abus behaviour that one person uses against the other. It can happen to any of the family members. Domestic violence occurs in most subcultures, among the rich and poor, the highly educated and the illiterate, the working and not working, the unemployed, the devout and the non-religious, the alcoholics and the abstainers, the ethnic minorities and majorities, the married and the singles. The study documents the detrimental effects of domestic violence, especially as it relates to victim's health status and social esteem. The findings also show that domestic violence occurs frequently among family members. This is because children and women are more victimized than any other family members in the sample.

It is evident from the data that domestic violence in Abuja Municipality deserves policy initiatives. Also, domestic violence should be criminalized wherein the perpetrators should be punished and victims compensated. It is suggested that domestic violence issue should not be regarded as a civil matter any longer. The promotion of the human rights, child rights, women's right and education for peaceful and meaningful living should be given legal support.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Declaration:..... i.

Certification:..... ii.

Dedication:..... iii.

Acknowledgements:..... iv.

Abstract:..... vi.

Table of Contents:..... vii.

List of Tables:..... xi.

List of Figures:..... xiv

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.0 Background of the Study:..... 1

1.1 Statement of Research Problem:..... 4

1.2 Research Questions:..... 8

1.3 Aims and Objectives of the Research..... 8

1.4 Significance of the Research..... 9

1.5 The Scope of the Research:..... 10

1.6 Conceptual Definition:..... 11

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL REVIEW

2.0 Introduction:..... 14

2.1 Defining Domestic Violence:..... 14

2.2 Characteristics of Perpetrators and Victims of Domestic Violence (Socialization and Childhood Experience):..... 19
2.3 Socio-Economic Characteristics of Perpetrators and Victims of Domestic Violence:..... 21
2.4 Incidence and Rate of Domestic Violence:..... 23
2.5 Patterns of Domestic Violence:..... 27
2.6 Types of Domestic Violence:..... 29
2.6.1 Abused Women:..... 29
2.6.2 Abused Men:..... 32
2.6.3 Abused Children:..... 34
2.6.4 Other Family Members Abused:..... 36
2.7 Correlates of Domestic Violence:..... 38
2.8 Effects of Domestic Violence:..... 41
2.8.1 Physical Effects:..... 41
2.8.2 Psychological Effects:..... 42
2.8.3 Social Effects:..... 43
2.8.4 Health Effects:..... 44
2.9 Theoretical Review:..... 45
2.9.1 Interactionist Perspective:..... 45
2.9.2 Interactionist Perspective and Domestic Violence:..... 46
2.9.3 Marxist Perspective:..... 49
2.9.4 Marxist Perspective and Domestic Violence:..... 50
2.9.5 Conclusion:..... 53
2.10 Hypotheses:..... 55

CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction:..... 56

3.1 Location of the Study:..... 56

3.2 Population, Sampling Technique and Sample Size:..... 57

3.3 Variables to be Studied:..... 58

3.4 Explanation of the Variables:..... 59

3.5 Method of Data Collection:..... 61

3.6 Method of Data Analysis:..... 63

3.7 Field Experiences and Problems:..... 63

CHAPTER FOUR: SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESPONDENTS

4.0 Introduction:..... 66

4.1 Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Respondents:..... 66

4.2 Economic Characteristic of Respondents..... 68

4.3 Family Characteristics of Respondents:..... 71

4.4 Conclusion:..... 75

CHAPTER FIVE: INCIDENCE, TYPES AND PATTERNS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

5.0 Introduction:..... 76

5.1 Incidence of Domestic Violence:..... 76

5.2 Types of Domestic Violence:..... 80

5.3 Patterns of Domestic Violence:..... 84

5.4 Discussion:..... 91

486222

CHAPTER SIX: EFFECTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

6.0 Introduction:..... 94

6.1 Common Effects of Domestic Violence of the Respondents:...94

CHAPTER SEVEN: CORRELATES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

7.0 Introduction:..... 107

7.1 Correlates of Domestic Violence among the Respondents:..... 108

7.2 Multiple Regression Analysis:..... 132

7.3 Discussion of Major Research Findings:..... 139

CHAPTER EIGHT: SUBSTANTIATION OF HYPOTHESES, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.0 Introduction:..... 146

8.1 Substantiation of Research Hypotheses:..... 146

8.2 Conclusion:..... 150

8.3 Recommendations:..... 152

REFERENCES:..... 156

APPENDIX I: Interview schedule:..... 159

APPENDIX II: Indepth Interview schedule:..... 165

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Age of the Respondents:..... 67

Table 2: Sex of the Respondents:..... 67

Table 3: Religion of the Respondents:..... 68

Table 4: Highest Educational Attainment of the Respondents:..... 69

Table 5: Occupational Status of the Respondents:..... 69

Table 6: Employment Status of the Respondents:..... 70

Table 7: Average Monthly Income of the Respondents:..... 71

Table 8: Marital Status of the Respondents:..... 72

Table 9: Types of Marriages of the Respondents:..... 72

Table 10: Number of Children of the Respondents:..... 73

Table 11: Relationship of the Respondents to Household Families:..... 73

Table 12: Number of Relatives Living within the Household of the Respondents:..... 74

Table 13: Socio-Economic Status of Respondents' Families:..... 74

Table 14: Wife Beating by Husband:..... 77

Table 15: Husband Beating by Wife:..... 78

Table 16: Child Beating by Parent/Guardian/Relative:..... 79

Table 17: Beating of other Relatives by the Respondents..... 80

Table 18: Types of Domestic Violence of the Respondents:..... 81

Table 19: Time of the Day of Domestic Violence of the Respondents:... 84

Table 20 Day(s) of the Week of Domestic Violence..... 85

Table 21 Location of Domestic Violence:..... 85

Table 22 Time of the Day of Violence and Victim of Domestic Violence:..... 86

Table 23 Day(s) of the Week of Violence and Victim of Domestic Violence:..... 87

Table 24 Location of Violence and Victim of Domestic Violence:... 88

Table 25 Types of Domestic Violence and Victims of Domestic Violence:.. 90

Table 26: Common Effects of Domestic Violence of Respondents:..... 94

Table 27: Effects of Domestic Violence on the Community:.....102

Table 28: Common Effects of Domestic Violence and Victim of Domestic Violence:..... 103

Table 29: Awareness of Effects of Domestic Violence and Victim of Domestic Violence:.....104

Table 30: Highest Educational Attainment and Awareness of Effects of Domestic Violence 106

Table 31: Age Group and Victim of Domestic Violence:..... 108

Table 32: Sex and Victim of Domestic Violence:..... 109

Table 33: Religion and Victim of Domestic Violence:..... 110

Table 34: Ethnicity and Victim of Domestic Violence:..... 111

Table 35: Marital Status and Victim of Domestic Violence:..... 112

Table 36: Types of Marriages and Victim of Domestic Violence:.....113

Table 37: Sex of Child and Victim of Domestic Violence:..... 114

Table 38: Highest Educational Attainment and Victim of Domestic Violence 115

Table 39: Employment Status and Victim of Domestic Violence:..... 116

Table 40: Number of Relative Living within the Household and Victim of Domestic Violence:..... 117

Table 41: Average Monthly Income and Victim of Domestic Violence: 118

Table 42: Occupational Status and Victim of Domestic Violence:..... 119

Table 43: Observing Parent Violence and Victim of Domestic Violence: 120

Table 44: Beaten as a Child and Victim of Domestic Violence:..... 121

Table 45: Socio-Economic Status and Victim of Domestic Violence:... 122

Table 46: Reasons for occurrence of Domestic Violence:..... 124

Table 47: Reasons of Victim of Domestic Violence 130

Table 48: Societal Attitude and Victim of Domestic Violence:..... 131

Table 49: Socio-Demographic Variables of Domestic Violence:..... 133

Table 59: Reasons for the Occurrence of Domestic Violence:..... 137

Table 51: Societal Attitude Variables of Domestic Violence:..... 139

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Distribution of Respondents Who Suffer most from the Effect of Domestic Violence:..... 99

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

> *Since family or kin relations form part of everyone's existence, family life encompasses virtually the whole range of emotional experience. Family relationships-between wife and husband, parents and children, brothers and sisters, or between distant relatives - can be warm and fulfilling. But they can equally well be full of the most pronounced tensions, driving people to despair or filling them with a deep sense of anxiety and guilt. The 'dark side' of family is extensive, and belies the rosy images of harmony that are often emphasized in the media Television. There are many aspects of the oppressive side of the family, including the conflicts and hostilities that lead to domestic violence, separation and divorce (Giddens,* 1997:59).

The home is often idealized as a place of security and happiness, a source of strength and comfort for the people in the society. The home can also be viewed as a dangerous place, due to domestic violence. The family is the most intimate group to which the majority of people belong, but its very closeness can also intensify the worst in human relations. Love may be corrupted to envious possession, and discipline to cruelty. Above all, the private focus of hopes and fears may foster dual standards of private and public behaviour.

Domestic violence is part of the experience of many members of the family. As a product of social interaction within the family, it tends to be inflicted on family members: husband, wife, child and other relatives, both young and old, and also the disabled (Robson, 1993). Domestic violence manifests itself in habitual disputes that occur within the family setting and cuts across the socio-

economic strata of the society. It is regarded as a global affair and a social phenomenon as well as a social problem to humanity (Walker, 1979; Henry and Ray, 1980; Surma and Abdu, 2004).

There is nothing new in these observations (of this social ill), but several factors make this an appropriate time for further survey of what has recently been given new emphasis as a social problem requiring remedies. In Nigeria, publicity relating to domestic violence together with a series of notorious cases of acid bath, abuses resulting in death of men, women and children, combine to arouse public concern.

Domestic violence has been with us since the inception of the marriage institution or the family institution in the society. Until the late nineteenth century, there were no laws in Nigeria prohibiting family members from physically or psychologically abusing each other, short of serious injury or murder[1]. Despite legal protection and war against domestic violence, such violent acts remain a problem in the society[2] (Giddens, 1997).

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1. As Stated in "Women Demand Protection Against Violence", by Chukwuma Effa in Guardian Newspaper 15th October, 2000 P.9.

2. As reported in "Women and Family", by Usia Anne in New-Nigerian Newspaper 5th August, 1998. p.17.

The general development of the women's movement has led to more insistent questioning of the inequality of partners in marriage and reasons for abuse in the family. The notion is that, one member has a right to inflict pain and suffering on the other if he/she fails to do what is expected of him/her. Such rights are still accepted in respect to children's discipline, but even these are increasingly becoming subject of questioning[3]. (Martin, 1979; Surma and Abdu, 2004;).

When reflecting on the problem of domestic interaction, it is important to know that the home seems to be the location of family violence for two reasons. First and obviously, it is here where the majority of family life and interaction take place. Secondly, the home is the "backstage" region of family behaviour (Gelles, 1974). Protected by the privacy of one's own walls, it is a place where the members could love and also fight out their own differences in private. Hence, no one or an outsider is ready to intervene in their private affairs, thus making a violent household to become an area of non-intervention by the societal policy. And this is very often unhelpful to the victims, the family members and to the society at large.

Therefore, there is a great need for a proper investigation on domestic violence, and this research is an attempt to make a contribution in this regard.

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3. See details in the "Women In Action 3 and 4, Legislating Against Domestic Violence". Fifth Latin American and Caribbean Feminist Meetings held at Puerto Richo Journal of 1515 International Women Information and Communication Service 1990.

1.1 Statement of the Research Problem

It has been observed by Robson (1993) that domestic violence is a product of social interaction, a social phenomenon that tends towards social problem in the Nigerian society and thus deserves a comprehensive analysis and discussion.

The problem of domestic violence has only come to limelight in the past few years, its progression toward public awareness paralleling the growth of the women's movement such as United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in 1946 and the Human Rights Universal Declaration, which was established fifty years ago and to, which Nigeria is a signatory. On September 3, 1991, Nigeria ratified the 1985 Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Violence Against Women and Family Members. Also, since the United Nations' declaration in Vienna 1993 and the Beijing Conference in China 1995, the Nigerian Government and Non-Governmental Organizations have embarked on a publicity campaign towards eliminating domestic violence in the society[4].

The Nigerian Government also has improved the lots of families in Nigeria. This, they have done through the Family Support Programme (FSP). The organization of Women in Nigeria (WIN), Women's Right Advancement and Protection Alternative, (WRAPA) Convention on the Elimination of All forms of discriminations Against Women (CEDAW) have also been making efforts

4. As reported in "Women and Family", by Ochekwu patience in New Nigerian Newspaper 19th August, 1998 p.19.

through enlightenment campaigns against domestic violence among Nigerian families.

Despite the efforts of Government and Non-governmental organizations to stop violence in the home, the fact remains that domestic violence is still a recurring phenomenon with consequences that are very dangerous to the victims, the family members and the society at large (Robson, 1993).

Domestic interaction with presence of violence as a social phenomenon has its own problems, such as physical injury and psychological trauma. Following the previous studies on the phenomenon, domestic violence causes physical, psychological, sociological and economic depression; and it has inflicted pains and agony on the family members directly or indirectly. Despite these problems, it is often the visible consequences of abuse involving physical injuries or deaths that make sensational news in the press, while subtle forms of abuse, which are no less harmful than the glaring ones are ignored. Unfortunately, many cases of domestic violence never get to the police as they are regarded as private affairs of the family (Kisekka, 1992). It is also possible that some victims consider it unsafe for them to report the incidence, as they may face further persecution. Hence, victims of domestic violence and people who know about it are less likely to report the perpetrators to formal authorities. All these could encourage the spread of domestic violence in the society.

Furthermore, there are situations whereby the victim reported the case, yet nothing is done to the perpetrator of the crime[5]. If and when justice is done, the

repercussion on the families usually results into another social problem such as broken homes, divorce or separation, and economic hardship. The children also suffer the consequences through child abuse and juvenile delinquency. For instance, most of the research findings indicate that juvenile delinquency was as a result of broken homes, which are direct consequences of domestic violence. (Dennis, 1992; Giddens, 1997). Sometimes, crimes committed can be linked up with children who suffer such set back and this can be called a secondary problem arising from domestic violence. It is therefore important to research into the area of domestic violence.

Many people are victims of domestic violence, abuse, assault and acid bath. The first incident of acid bath in Nigeria was recorded about 7 years ago in Port-Harcourt, when a wife was attacked with acid by her husband (Robson, 1993). Acid attack has since been on the increase and has been reported more frequently. For instance, a jealous 38 year old husband showered acid on his wife and a neighbour over marital misunderstandings in Ughelli in Bendel State (Robson, 1993). Also there was a report on the death of one Mrs. Ego Obadede from an acid bath by her husband in Lagos[6]. This has constituted a great social problem such that it should no longer be swept under the carpet thus requiring a systematic sociological concern.

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5. As stated in "War Against Domestic Violence" Chukwuma Effa in Thisday Newspaper 6th December, 1998 Vol.4, No.1334, p.5.

6. See Chukwuma Effa in "War Against Domestic Violence". Op. Cit., p.5.

Domestic violence in relation to family members has suffered silence for a long time, due to the nature of family ties and pattern of interaction within the society itself. The neglect of the sociologists, criminologists and psychologists of this social phenomenon can be traced to a number of factors. One, the social definition of the family as non-violent may need a review, especially to consider the socio-cultural pattern, the economic structure of the society and the knowledge of the effects of these on the society. Two, historically, violence in the family has not emerged as a social problem because no sizeable or influential pressure group in the population has defined it as a problem.

One of the most visible problems of domestic violence is its definition. The definition of violence is a contestable issue, because researchers and commentators on violence have not yet agreed on a specific definition of the concept of domestic violence. However, some argue that violence should be seen from the context of physical violence. Others argued that domestic violence should be defined not only in terms of physical violence, but should include, psychological and verbal violence. Thus, if physical violence is used as a standard for defining domestic violence, then, the victims of psychological and verbal violence would be ignored, whereas both forms of violence exist in abusive family, and thus cannot be separated despite the difficulty in documentation.

1.2 Research Questions

In spite of the above observations, very little has been done to address the problem systematically. It is therefore against this background that this study is set to examine the following questions.

i) What is the rate of occurrence of domestic violence in Abuja Municipal Area Council families?

ii) What are the socio-economic characteristics of victims and perpetrators of domestic violence?

iii) To what extent do cultural-beliefs influence the nature, extent and pattern of occurrence of domestic violence in Abuja Municipal Area Council.

iv) What is the pattern of domestic violence in Abuja Municipal Area Council, and who are the most vulnerable victims?

v) Does childhood experiences and socialization play a role in the occurrence of domestic violence?

vi) Does awareness of consequence of domestic violence reduce its occurrence in Abuja Municipal Area Council?

vii) What suggestion can be generated from this pattern, to curb the social ill of domestic violence in Abuja Municipality?

1.3 Aims and Objectives of the Research

The aim of this study is to contribute to the provision of scientific knowledge on domestic violence.

The specific objectives are as follows:

1. To find out the incidence and rate of domestic violence in Abuja Municipal Area Council.
2. To find out the characteristics of both the perpetrators and the victims of domestic violence.
3. To identify the patterns of domestic violence therein.
4. To assess the impact of domestic violence on the family as a socio-economic unit.
5. To examine the correlates of domestic violence and the effects on the society.
6. To suggest ways of reducing the incidence of the phenomenon.

1.4 Significance of the Research

1. This study would contribute to narrowing the wide gap in our knowledge of family interaction especially on domestic violence and its social correlates. It would ascertain the extent of the social problem among Nigerian families.

2. The research will reveal the rate, pattern and the effects of domestic violence on families in Abuja Municipal Area Council and the society at large. Specifically, it would allow the proper understanding of the sociological, psychological and even the physical impact of domestic violence on the victims.

3. The information so gathered will provide useful material to the society, the marriage counsellors and the social workers to pay required attention to teaching people the necessary knowledge of possible problems they may encounter in the family setting; and the skills necessary to solve them without violence.

4. There is a need to extend current research on problem solving or conflict resolution among family members. For instance, child abuse research has examined parent-child interaction extensively. It has however almost completely ignored other types of abuses or violence such as can occur between husbands and their wives or between relatives and either of the two spouses. Therefore, there is need for proper investigation and documentation on the interaction or behaviour of members of the family.

5. The study will also make the recommendations available to governmental and non-governmental organizations especially family and women affairs organizations.

1.5 The Scope of the Research

This research focuses on a sociological analysis of domestic violence in Abuja Municipal Area Council of the Federal Capital Territory of Nigeria. It analyses domestic violence as a social problem of interaction and examines its correlates and effects on the Nigerian families. The study evaluates the extent of domestic violence in Abuja Municipal and the characteristics of the perpetrators and the victims. To do this effectively, the researcher intend to get information

from members of the households, the police, courts, prisons and social-welfare offices as well as government and non-governmental organizations in Abuja. The sample covers the families or households residing in Garki 2, Wuse 1, Nyanya and Maitama.

In addition, the research considers the socio-economic factors that influence patterns and incidence of domestic violence in Abuja Municipal Area Council.

1.6 Conceptual Definition

Domestic Unit

Domestic unit can be referred to as "household or family". Thus, domestic unit in terms of family usually refers to a group of persons united by the ties of marriage, blood adoption, constituting a single household, and interacting with each other in their respective social positions as husband and wife, mother and father, son and daughter, brother and sister, etc. Sometimes, those who reside in the same household can be included in the family, such as divorcees, widows, in-laws and other relations.

Violence

Violence means the threat or actual use of physical force on somebody. Action or conduct characterized by this is dangerous and criminal. It results into suffering, pains, anguish and even death. It also includes the improper treatment or use of word, wrestling or perversion of meaning abuse, assault, sexual harassment and even rape. Violence is the unsanctioned use of force by a person or people against another/others.

486222

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Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is the violence within the household and thus can be regarded as results of interpersonal disputes among members of a household or family. Domestic violence manifests itself in habitual physical abuse, such as beating, slapping, punching, pushing and throwing object at one another. In psychological abuse, this can be regarded as mental abuse such as deprivation of liberty, sexual harassment and misrepresentation. Domestic violence could also manifest in verbal abuse, such as using abusive language, shouting and yelling. Therefore, domestic violence can be said to have occurred when any of the above has been inflicted upon any member of the family.

Abuse/Assault/Battery

Abuse

Abuse means to make wrong use of, or misuse or take advantage of a person by another person. That is, misuse of trust, love, privilege and authority. Also using offensive or coarse language to attack somebody.

Assault

Assault means attack which include verbal and physical. That is when any person threatens, strikes, touches or otherwise applies force of any kind to someone else, whether directly or indirectly, without the person's consent.

Battery

Battery is the unlawful hitting of someone. It is an act or behaviour that is likely to result into harm and suffering.

These concepts of abuse, assault and battery manifest in habitual use of force, or threat on a fellow human being; (physically, psychologically, sexually or verbally) and will therefore be used inter-changeably to denote domestic violence in this study.

Victim

Victim refers to any of the family member that bears the brunt of domestic violence.

Perpetrator

A perpetrator is the person or the offender that commits an abuse against another person, or the person that inflicts the pain or injury on another person during the course of domestic violence.

Child

The term child is used to mean an off-spring either a son or daughter of married coupled or of a family. In this study the word child is used to denote both the teenagers and the adults offspring, of that particular family.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter reviews related literature on domestic violence. With emphasis on factors that contribute to the occurrence of domestic violence in the society, the characteristics of the victims and perpetrators, the patterns and rate of domestic violence.

The chapter is divided into two broad sections: the first section reviews literatures that are relevant to the study, while the second section focuses on the various theoretical perspectives in considering the objectives and problems of the study. Two theories have been chosen, the Symbolic Interactionist and Marxist perspective.

2.1 Defining Domestic Violence

One of the major problems encountered in introducing effective and long lasting remedy for dealing with the issue of domestic violence is in defining actions which come within the concept. This is so, because for most family members, domestic violence is a daily problem that has been accepted as somewhat inevitable, and as a normal pattern of interaction within the family set-up. Also, the definition of domestic violence varies and is closely connected to the socio-cultural context in which it occurs, cutting across cultural and religious boundaries. Domestic violence is therefore defined in Article 2(a) of the United

Nations Draft Declaration on Elimination of violence against women during the 37th session in Vienna as:

"Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of both female and male children in the household, dowry related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women and non-spousal violence related to exploitation"[7].

Although there is no rigid definition for domestic violence, Moore (1979:8) defines abuse in the home as "deliberate severe, and repeated physical injury and psychological abuse of a life threatening nature". Saror in Robson (1993:71) defines spousal abuse as "criminal acts and misdemeanors inflicted by married partners on each other", and cited it as an example of domestic violence. Gelles (1974:25) explains domestic violence as "one individual hitting, striking, battering, assaulting, or throwing an object at another person". However, Egunjobi considers domestic violence, as "certain criminal acts committed between persons of opposite sex who live together in the same household[8]." On the contrary, criminal acts are committed not only by persons of opposite sex, but

7. See Baoba for Women's Human Rights, "Violence Against Women In Nigeria". Legal Literacy Leaflet, No.1, 1999.

8. Egunjobi Gbani "Woman and Family: Breaking the Cycle of Domestic Violence". The Guardian 26th June, 1999 p.16.

also by persons of the same sex, ages, dependants in the family. In broader terms, Walker (1979:15) defines domestic violence as "repeatedly subjecting one another to any forceful physical or psychological behaviour in order to coerce family member to do something without any concern for his/her rights".

The primary definition many researchers used was physical violence among family members that resulted to bodily injury. However, this definition disregards invisible/non physical injury such as psychological stress, economic hardship and verbal violence which subsequently produces all kinds of visible problems such as suicide, mental illness, death, home breaking and crimes in the society.

There are however no universally accepted definition of domestic violence. For the purpose of this study, a wider definition is adopted: that domestic violence exists when one family member inflicts injury, pain and suffering on another family member.

Against this background, one can assert that domestic violence goes beyond physical injury, and it could therefore be defined as interpersonal disputes which bring discomfort among family members. Such include abuse, assault and battery, this could be verbal, psychological, sexual or physical, whether occurring in public or private.

Robson (1993) and Essien[9] referred to articles 3 and 5 of the universal Declaration of Human Right, which guarantee the rights to life, liberty and security and condemns torture, cruelty, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Essein also referred to articles 2 and 5 of the African Charter on Human Rights, which express similar sentiments.

Also, Hemjirika[10] reported that the Nigerian Constitution makes it an offence for any person to be deprived of his or her personal liberty, he also said that it is an offence for someone to be compelled to perform an act by intimidation, or by threat of violence. Despite this provisions and recognitions of these articles, human rights abuses are rampant all over the world, especially within the family set up. Husband and wives do beat each other and many family members have been victims of domestic violence. However, in practical terms the law is not being applied to redress the issue of domestic violence in the society.

9. Essien, Christine, "Violence Against Women" A paper presented at Fida Kaduna, Rish's Awareness Seminar, at the British Council Hall Kaduna on 18th August, 1998.

10. Hemjirika, O.S. "Violence Against Women: Rape and Spouse Abuse; Thought of a Law Enforcement Officer". A paper presented at WIN Edo State Symposium on Rape and Spouse Abuse, Benin on 21st March, 1992.

Domestic violence is therefore any habitual dispute that takes place in the home between or among family members. It is generally accepted that in order for a family/a household to be classified as a violent home, the family members habitually go through the abusing/battering cycle. These acts of violence are spousal abuse, child abuse, elderly bashing and women battering as part of the overall picture of violence in the family.

The description of family violence covers a wide range of social phenomenon. It is clear that violent behaviour can take several forms such as assault, criminal damage, custodian interference, endangerment, intimidation, kidnapping, trespass, disorderly conduct, abusive language, reckless display of deadly weapon and dangerous objects. The methods of attack, the physical injuries and pains inflicted on the victims suggest a vast range of consequences (Martin, 1979). All of these indicate the complexity of the phenomenon and the difficulties in finding adequate explanation for its occurrence and methods for its effective prevention. For instance, the incidence of attack which may manifest itself in the form of pushing, kicking, punching, slapping, locking outside the home, forced intercourse, sexual harassment, stabbing, throwing boiling water or acid, and arson are the manifestations of domestic violence. Thus Whitehurst (1974) noted that family or close relation is part of human existence and this kind of interaction inhibits the fulfilling emotional experience of life. Therefore, conflicts, hostilities and violence could lead to separation and divorce. (Robson, 1993).

2.2 The Characteristics of Perpetrators and Victims of Domestic Violence (Socialization and Childhood Experience)

In determining the prevalence and pattern of domestic violence in the society, it is imperative to know the background characteristics shared by the members of violent families. The reason why both men and women, young and old, rich and poor perpetrate domestic violence.

Socialization process takes place within the family setting. The family more than any other institution, is the primary mechanism for teaching norms, values and techniques of violence (Roy, 1977). According to Gelles (1974), assault, child abuse, violent crimes, homicide and violence between family members definitely tend to indicate that violent individuals grew up in violent environment.

Given the experience of individuals who grew up in violent environment, it would be necessary to know the mechanisms that lead to their becoming violent adults. Many researchers of violence posit that the family serves as an agent of socialization in teaching, exposing and approving the use of violence. Roy (1977) asserted that every time a child is punished by violence, he is being taught that violence is a proper model of behaviour and that, it is rewarding. In the family therefore, the disposition to use violence is considered to be a learned behaviour and thus, the greater a child's exposure to violent experiences such as witnessing trials and frustration of married life the greater he/she tends to be violent. Such children have tendency to use violence as a form of social control later in life

(Gelles, 1974). Singer (1971), in his study on "Limitation and Modeling Behaviour in America" found that violence is a vicious circle. Children generally imitate the behaviour of their parents. Hence, violence is not an isolated phenomenon. Therefore, the family is seen as a training ground for violence whereby children who witness violence in their own families end up being abusive adults. Therefore violent responses are transmitted to children in the course of parent-child interaction in day-to-day family life.

The above analysis can be supported by Mudiare (1995) in her study on "Socio-economic correlates of Child Abuse among primary school children in Zaria. It was found that going by the societal norms of parent to child relationship in Nigeria and the need for the family to train up a child; thus, a family rocked with violence usually have adverse effects on the children both medically, psychologically and socially later in life.[11]

11. Mudiare, P. "Socio-Economic Correlates of Child Abuse Among Primary School Children in Zaria". Unpublished M.Sc. Thesis, A.B.U., Zaria, 1995.

2.3 The Socio-Economic Characteristics of Perpetrators and Victims of Domestic Violence

The feminists and the police believe that if the victims (family members) were economically independent, they would not remain in their abused relationships, especially women victims (Walker, 1979). However, money does not always prevent family members from being abused. It is only when the interaction between the socio-economic attributes and the psychological bonds is fully understood that the abuse family syndrome could be well comprehended.

Most societies of the world reinforce marriage or family life, despite the fact that some family members are more often depressed and emotionally unhealthy due to domestic violence. Yet, family members are encouraged to stay together for economic and social reasons even when they are assaulted. The resources theory also argues that, violence is used as a resource when other resources are lacking. Thus, a family member that has little prestige, money, and power suffers greater frustration and bitterness and resorts to more violence. Even those who have much money to spend are not left out of this domestic violence. Highest Educational attainment is another socio-economic characteristic of violent family. For instance, when the educational level of a person is low, the person is bound to have a low type of occupation. Similarly, when a wife has a higher educational attainment than the husband, this situation could make the husband uncomfortable and feel that his leadership position is undermined. Such a

husband might resort to violence in an attempt to uphold his family and maintain his authority in the home (Roy, 1977).

Unemployment and loss of employment could both lead to violence in the family. Lack of job satisfaction could lead to frustration. Insecurity and a sense of failure may encourage violence in the home. The unemployed husband is likely to lose his prestige, respect and authority in his house, as he would be unable to provide for the family. When this happens, husbands tend to try to maintain their superior positions through the use of violence. However, in the case of wives, unemployment makes them to be dependent which expose them to frequent assault and battering in the home (Gelles, 1974; Popenoe, 1989) while the children remain dependents.

Lack of low self-esteem appears to be other characteristics common among abused family members. For instance, economic dependency, childhood history of experiencing violence can decrease the self-esteem of victims and all the family members. The physical abuse itself, the humiliation and shame of being assaulted time and time again by some one who is intimate could create grave doubt about one's worth. In fact, the self-image of the abused person may drop to the point where he believes he is responsible for or deserves the abuse (Martin, 1979).

Fear is the constant companion of the victims of domestic violence. The victim is often immobilized emotionally and mentally by the knowledge that he may be assaulted at any time. Sometimes, violence occurs with no predictability

and any event may aggravate violence. Similarly, the fear of reprisal stops many victims from discussing the matter with people and from reporting to the police.

Social isolation is another common denominator among victims of domestic violence. Most times, victims have no place to run to due to lack of fund or no desire to go due to family ties. Victims frequently are withdrawn and avoid contact with people because of the nature of their problems and their reticence to discuss it. (Robson, 1993).

Examining the characteristics of perpetrators and victims of domestic violence in Nigeria, there seems to be similarities among the victims and the perpetrators. Most often their personalities are complementary, there is evidence of general violence by the family members, the perpetrators are likely to have grown up in violent homes, experienced economic deprivation, suffer from low self-esteem and social isolation. Their frustration and anger are sometimes directed violently toward their family members. This findings support work of Robson, 1993. The situation is one in which the victim is constantly exposed to the perpetrator and in fact under contract to the family ties.

2.4 Incidence and Rate of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is committed against family members in the households. The rates of acts of violence are very alarming in everyday life of the society. Domestic violence against family members exists in all regions of the world, classes and cultures. The United Nations Secretariat Division for the Advancement

of Women compiled available information on domestic violence in 36 countries in the mid-1980s as follows (Okoye, 1999).

In Austria in 1985, domestic violence against women (the wives) was cited as a contributing factor to the break down of the marriage in 59% of 1,500 divorce cases. Of these instances, 38% of working class wives called the police in response to battery, while only 13% of middle class women and 4% of upper class women did. In Columbia in 1982 and 1983, the Forensic Institute of Bogota found that of 11,170 cases of bodily injuries, one in five was due to domestic violence, and 94% of those hospitalized were battered women. India had 999 registered cases of dowry related deaths in 1985, 1,319 in 1986 and 11,786 in 1987, whereby women are murdered because their in-laws consider their dowry to be inadequate. Out of 1,532 Kuwaiti women asked if they had ever been assaulted, a third answered "Yes", while 80% responded that they knew of friends or relatives who had been victims of domestic violence. In Thailand, 25% of the malnourished children at a Bangkok rehabilitation centre treated during the first half of 1985 were from families where domestic violence was common. More than 50% of married women in a study of Bangkok's biggest slum and construction sites were beaten regularly by their husbands. In the United States of America in 1984, 2,928 people were murdered by their family members. Of female homicide victims alone, nearly a third died at the hands of husbands or partners. Husbands were responsible for 20% of women killed in 1984, while boy friends were the offenders in 10% of the cases. Thus, a woman is physically

abused by her intimate partner every 9 seconds[12]. In Israel, a woman/girl is murdered every 25 days. The estimated rate of domestic abuse of women is at least 20%, one out of five that is 200,000 men beat their wives in Israel each year. There are a total of 12 battered women's shelters in the country, and at any one time, they all accommodate up to 150 women, 250 children[13].

In Zambabwe, the assistant Inspector Zuenyik, stated that on the average, police in central Bulawayo dealt with 40 cases of domestic violence per month. This is to support his observation on the primacy of spousal abuse among murder cases[14].

In Ghana, the frequency of murder cases range from an average of one a week to one a month. In 1998 within four weeks, four women aged 45 and 50 were found dead. There have been more than twenty five murders of women between 1998 - 2000[15].

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12. Okoye Festus "Current Issues, Policies and Legislation on Domestic Violence: A Critique": A paper presented at National Workshop on Domestic Violence for Legal Advisers in the State Ministries of Women Affairs and Youth Development, organized by the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Youth Development on the 21 – 22nd October, 1999, at the National Centre for Women Development, Abuja.

13. For detail see Quarterly News letter October – December 2000 of Project Alert on "Violence Against Women, Breaking the Silence: Sharia and Women's Rights in Nigeria." Vol.2 Issue 4, Lagos, p.14.

14. Project Alert on "Violence Against Women" Vol.2 Issue 4, Ibid., p.18

15 Details in the Quarterly News Letter July – September, 2000 of Project Alert on "Violence Against Women, Breaking the Silence: Widowhood in Nigeria." Vol.2 Issue 3, Lagos, p.18

In Canada, about 8% of Canadian women and 7% of Canadian men report facing "some form of violence in their marriage or common-law relationship", between 1994 and 1999, about 38% of women felt they were in danger compared with 7% of men in violent relationship. "Thus female victims of domestic violence are more likely to fear for their lives than male victims of domestic violence, Reuters[16].

The Prime Minister of Japan says domestic violence is "an unforgivable and criminal act", and that police and government institutions are to report domestic violence more accurately, so as to provide more adequate protections for victims. In the year 2000 it was found that more than 14 percent of female respondents had received beatings from their male partners. That required medical attention[17].

In Jordan, an estimated 25 Jordanian women are murdered in honour killing each year, one-quarter of the country's murder rate[18].

In the Middle East and some Latin-American countries like Brazil, husbands could be exonerated from killing their wives on the defense of honour. The grounds would be that the women were unfaithful, disobedient or stubborn[19].

16. Ibid.p.19.

17. Ibid,p.19.

18 Project Alert on "violence Against Women", Vol.Issue 3, Op.cit, p. 19.

19. From http://www.Unifemi,Undp.org/compaign/violence/media fac.htm,21/12/03.

In Bangladesh, throwing acid to disfigure a woman's face is so common that it warrants its own section of the penal code[20].

In Nigeria, there are no proper written records of incidence of domestic violence. However, from recent news items we all know that such practice exists in our society. Essien[21] reported that, the Kaduna social welfare department has in its files over 200 cases of family violence in six months of the year 1998. This does not reflect all the cases reported, because quite a number are resolved informally and was not recorded.

2.5 patterns of Domestic Violence

Pattern is an established mode of behaviour held in common by members of a family that is the behaviour that is regarded as normative and can be imitated by others. Family violence takes on a very special character, which differentiates it from public occurrences of violence, because the home is a typical locale of the incidents, where by all family members are present. Thus, there is a need to examine the family characteristics that produce crisis and stress that often lead to pattern of family violence.

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20. Essien Christine "Violence Against Women", op.cit; p.2.

21. Ibid, p.3.

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Many family members share with perpetrators similar character traits and backgrounds; lack of tolerance for anxiety, accumulated excessive rage, inadequate impulse control, and early destructive interpersonal experiences that arouse overwhelming effects on one another. Thus a constellation of factors in dynamic interplay is required for violence to occur, which evolves in a sequence. This cycle appears to have four distinct phases that vary with time and intensity within the family set up (Walker, 1979).

Phase I: The intimacy of perpetrator and victim. For violence in the family to occur, the perpetrator and the victim first must be bound together by continuous emotional interaction in the immediate physical presence of one another. The intensity of the interaction depends on continuity in time and proximity in space. Social isolation occurs as the two exclude others from their emotional interaction, resentment develops, and thus they find themselves in an intolerable situation.

Phase II: The Tension Building Phase: This is described as one in which the tension begins to rise and the victim can sense that the perpetrator is becoming aggressive and more prone to react negatively to minor frustrations.

Phase III: The explosive or acute violent incident: In this phase the perpetrator and the victim, locked in continuous emotional interaction, experience escalating tension in their relationship, which they can neither endure give up except through the abuse of the pair. Escalating tension causes crisis, stress, discharge of aggression, where the availability of weapon is a highly significant factor for a

violent act. Then the perpetrator justifying this action, blaming the victim for precipitating his/her victimization.

Phase IV: The restoration phase. After the assault, the perpetrator may feel guilty and ashamed; perhaps, even apologize and promise that it will never happen again. Things become normal and rosy in the family, until the tension builds up again and the cycle of violence resumes.

2.6 Types of Domestic Violence

The term "domestic violence" covers a wide range of phenomenon. The violence can be directed at any member of the family. It can be the wife, the child(ren) or the man in the household, it can also involve the in-laws and some other members of the household. Thus of all the violence people are subjected to in the society, domestic violence is the most prevalent[22].

2.6.1 Abused Women (Wives)

Violence against women "cuts across social and economic situations and is deeply embedded in cultures around the world so much so that millions of women consider it a way of life", according to a news report from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The state of the World Population report 2000, examines the status of women and girls world wide and finds that gender inequality, discrimination and violence against women are pervasive round the

22. From http://endabuse.org/programs/display./php3? Docio=9916, 10 8/2003

world. At least one in every three women has been beaten, coerced into sex, or abused in some other ways most often by her husband, a male family member or someone she knows. And one woman in four has been abused during pregnancy. Thus, violence against women represents a type of behaviour rather than a single isolated incident.

Women abused involves both unarmed and armed attack, which can lead to serious injury or death. It is usually motivated by a desire to silence women or to control their behaviours. Those involved see it as a form of punishment and discipline for women. Many cases of wife-abuse have been linked to a wide range of accusations ranging from infidelity, rudeness, dishonesty, withholding of resources and threats of divorce. A new phenomenon to wife abuse is acid-bathing, when husbands attack wives with acid. Also when violence takes place in the kitchen, cooking utensil are used as weapons resulting in greater injury for women (Roy, 1977).

Part of women violence within the family are physical assault and battery, harmful cultural practices such as female genital mutilation known as circumcision, early marriages for girls and forced marriages, widowhood rites as part of practical demonstration of mourning by wives that lost their husbands, such as seclusion, dress code and rituals; sexual violence such as marital rape/forced intercourse, incest and sexual harassment. These are various types of violence against women in Nigeria[23].

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23. Project Alert on "Violence Against Women", Vol.2, Issue 4, op. cit.

Some cases of violence were reported by Project Alert on Violent against women. A 44 year old woman was allegedly hacked to death by her husband in Lagos. A 29 year old woman was found dead, dangling from a rope tied to her ceiling was said to have been killed by her husband in Lagos. Also a girl of 18 years old reportedly poisoned herself to death in protest against her forced marriage in Sabon-Fege area of Gusau in Zamfara State[24].

There was a case of nursing mother who was said to have been beheaded by her husband in her sleep in Abeokuta in Ogun State[25]. Also a man was reported to have beaten his pregnant wife to death[26]. There was a man who beat his wife for the refusal to take orders from him in Abuja[27].

All these abuses are indications that women violence is a common phenomenon in Nigerian society. . Indeed, there still exists on our statute books, provisions which allow for "reasonable chastisement" of a wife[28]. For instance, a man was reported to have killed his wife and escaped from police custody in Balanga, Gombe State.[29] Another type of violence is psychological, which occurs when perpetrators inflict painful injuries that will leave a little mark on the victims. Some wives were reported to have been locked outside the house, and some locked up in the toilet, during the act of domestic violence, thus violating their human rights (Martin, 1979).

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24. Ibid, P.5.
25. See detail in the Punch Newspaper 11th April, 2000, p.10.
26. See Vanguard Newspaper 19th May, 1990, p.5.
27. As reported in "News" by Harrison Akuwudike in Abuja Trust, 16th April, 2002, p.22.
28. Akanda Jadeshola "Basic Issue on Domestic Violence" A paper presented at a National Workshop, organized by the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Youth Development. Abuja on 21st – 22nd October, 1999.
29. As stated in the WRAPA News Letter January – March, 2001. "The Women's Rights Advancement and Protection Alternative" by Mr. Smith Musilum the Inspector General of Police, Vol.2, No.1, p.11.

Women also suffer from sexual violence. Roy (1977), noted that sexual relations are frequently considered part of wives duties to their husbands, which can lead to marital rape or forced inter-course between the spouses. In America (Walker, 1979) reported of a case of a wife that was forced to have sexual intercourse with a dog by her husband. After the dog would have finished with her then the husband would get on top of her for an intercourse.

Some scholars who conducted researches on battered women, (Gelles, 1974; Steinmetz, 1977; Martins, 1979) reported that abused women (wives) are taken to refugee camp to escape from domestic violence in America. This type of refugee camp does not exist for their abused counterparts in Nigeria. This makes abused wives to remain in their violent homes, hence the suffering continues until some of them die.

2.6.2 Abused Men (Husbands)

According to Steinmeitz, (1977). The subject matter 'Bring up Father' means abused husband in a family setting. The wife in this sense is justified in playing the dominant role and in assaulting her husband, since he may not have fulfilled his cultural prescribed roles. The abuse can take any form, from verbal to sexual or even physical abuse.

Kutash, et. al. (1978) say United States police indicate that violent crime by women is definitely increasing at a faster rate against men. However, the belief that women are less aggressive in nature, and "masked nature of female crime",

significantly, women have traditionally utilized poison more frequently to kill their husbands and their family members.

Roy, (1977) reported how a wife inflicted physical violence on her husband, a wealthy banker in New York. The judge noted that the husband wore constant scars and bruises. Once his wife shredded his ear with her teeth, another time injured his eyes so badly that doctor feared they might be lost. This type of physical violence on men (husbands) by wives is a rare case but not impossible in a violent home. Similarly, Egyptian wives were reported to have turned and murdered their husbands due to extra marital affairs[30]. Also current movies especially Nigerian Home videos seem to portray the right of a woman to slap her man, as a means of attaining fairness and justice. There was a report about a 24-year old man who killed his father in Abuja[31].

Husband abuse may not be common in domestic violence, at least in Nigeria because family members view the husband to be stronger than his wife and any other member of the family. Hence, his position as the leader of the house, especially when it comes to physical violence, the wife dare not raise her hand on him for the fear of the consequences. However, (Thomas et al; 2004), reported that today men suffer abuse from wives as a result of their in ability to fulfill social and financial obligations.

30. As stated in the "African News" in the Guardian 1st June, 1999 p.10.

31. As reported in "News" by Uwem Ume in Abuja Trust 16th April, 2002, p.22.

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Thus, there is a need to bring this type of domestic violence into the limelight.

2.6.3 Abused Children

Popenoe, (1989) noted that the problem of family violence and child abuse is a widespread phenomenon and much of it happens in the context of the family. This is as old as human history.

In fact, one thing that is universal is acts of violence against children. Violence against children manifests itself in various manners; physical injuries

The abused wife may strike out at a child, using the child as a scape-goat; or the assaulted husband or adult may beat a child as a form of revenge of what another family member has done to him/her in order to relieve tension. The consequences of abusive treatment go deeper than physical injury, it can seriously impair the child's proper development mentally and health-wise. In 1985, the society for the Prevention of Cruelty to children summarized many of the ways London children were battered; by bouts, crockery, pans, shovels, straps ropes thongs, hand brush, broom, cord belt, boiling water and electrical appliances. Thus, when these instruments are used on children, the effects of abuse range from mild to severe injuries (Henry and Ray, 1980; Dennis, 1992).

Roy (1977), the children division of the American Human Association estimate that over 10,000 children are severely abused every year in America, due to the human

philosophy of "spare the rod and spoil the child", which make parents and other family members especially adults to consider corporal punishment as a way of discipline and care for children. Thus, making parents and family members to frequently harm their children, which is regarded as child abuse in the home that needs to be corrected in the society. Also, children are abused sexually especially the female ones. Giddens (1997) reported children abuse enquiries held in Britain between early 1980s and mid-1990s estimated 70 - 80% cases of incest occurring in a family setting, these are father-daughter, or step father-daughter relationship.

In Nigeria, women organizations such as Family Support Programme (FSP) African Net work for the Prevention and Protection of Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN) and Child Trust are fighting for the rights of children and their protection, from violence. Child abuse is a common phenomenon in our society. For instance, a police corporal who shot his two year old daughter and killed her was reported by (Robson, 1993). Also a man in Bauchi State was reported to have mutilated the hands of his 13 year old sister[32]. There was a report of some teenagers about eight girls aged between 12 - 14 years, who were given to men for money by a 60 year old man, using them for Kiddies brothel in Kaduna[33].

32. As stated in "Man Mutilates Sister's Hands". Weekly Trust Magazine, 12th April, 2001, p.25.

33. As reported in "News" by Joe O. and Godwin I. in Weekly Trust, 18th June, 1999, p.3.

This situation could have arisen from neglect, or by economic situation of the parents, and hence given out children for prostitution. Robson (1993) reported of a girl aged 11 who was forced to have sex with a man of 40 years old by her mother because of money.

Despite the above incidence of child abuse, there are no proper documentations on the phenomenon in Nigeria, probably because of the problem of defining what constitutes child abuse and the legitimate rights of disciplining a child. Thus, the campaign against child abuse seems not be taken seriously by the family members especially parents and guardians. For instance, some children are still seen on the street and main roads hawking around, and being exposed to dangers of being run down by vehicles, kidnapped or sexually abused, especially the girls. Yet, the parents and society do not consider hawking as abuse on children[34] (Robson, 1993).

2.6.4 Other Family Members Abused

Since the 1960s, however, it has become increasingly clear that a great deal of violence occur within the domestic setting, regardless of family type. (Gelles, 1974; Roy, 1977; Schaefer, 1983). This remains true of Nigeria today.

Robson (1993) reported a case of domestic violence that happened in Ghana 1974. A brother-in-law slashed his sister's husband to death, because the

34. UNICEF, 2001 "Children and Women's Rights in Nigerian" UNICEF, Abuja, p.192.

deceased threatened his sister with a cutlass in his presence. Also Robson reported some people who were interviewed in Bauchi State, stated that wives live in fear of any conflict with their in-laws. For instance, a woman said she left for further studies, only to come back and find her own sister pregnant for her husband with no apology. That resulted in to separation of the couple. A man (widower) narrated how his sister - in-law came to pack away her late sister's property causing friction between the two families. Also a widow with children was left with nothing because her sister - in-law came and collected the property that belonged to her deceased brother. These incidents produce psychological effect on the family members.

Project Alert on violence against women reported some cases of domestic violence by the family members. A 29 years old woman, battered to death by her brother-in-law in Lagos. A lady (student) was thrown out of her father's house after his death, along with her mother by her father's brother and sisters and called her mother a witch. A man was reported to have beheaded his daughter's husband in Atan Ijebu, Ogun State[35]. Also there was a report that in-laws bathed widow and daughter with acid in Anambra state for not giving birth to a male child and seized her late husband's business from her[36]. Also United States police reported a Nigerian man who

35. Details in the "Features" by Efunnuga Wole in Sunday Tribune 3rd November, 2001, p.2.

36. As stated in "In-laws bath Widow, daughter with acid" by Onitisha Emmanuel in Punch 9th December, 2003, p.11.

killed his wife and his mother-in-law[37]. WRAPA reported that a woman loses three months pregnancy to in-law's beating[38]. Thus, domestic violence cuts across everybody in the family.

2.7 The Correlates of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is a multi-dimensional problem. The Sociologists and the Psychologists believe that the root causes of domestic violence lie deep within the society at large. The economic dependence of most family members, the cultural norms and values that pervade the institution and personal histories of victims and perpetrators seem to play a major part in stimulating most assaults and in keeping the family members trapped in a violent relationship in the home (Surma and Abdu, 2004).

The economy of the society contributes to violence that takes place in the household. Capitalism as a system of economic dependency has a way of enriching the rich class more and making the poor class to be poorer, thereby making families economically dependent, consequently, the lower class are unable to earn enough money to maintain a comfortable home. This could lead to frustration, stress and economic hardship/deprivation, that is then transferred from one member to another in form of violence sometimes to relieve their tensions.

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37. See details "Nigerian Kills Wife in U.S." by Obiagwu Kodilinye in the Guardian 10th August, 2002, Vol.19, No.8, 664.p.1.

38. For detail see WRAPA News Letter January-March, 2001. "The Women's Rights Advancement and Protection Alternative". Op.Cit. p.11.

There are cultured norms and values in many societies both western and African, which shows a general acceptance of public/private sphere dichotomy. This renders people's home and family life relatively immune from societal control.

According to Robson (1993) cultural attitudes such as respect for elders, and reticence about discussing sexual matter in some African societies complicate issues for the victims of domestic violence and the family members.

A history of violence in the family seems to be another factor that encourages domestic violence. The society legitimizes and approves violence between family members especially marital violence. In terms of marital violence, the society actually has rules and values, which encourage habitual disagreement between spouses. These values allow husband or wife to use such extreme measures that is harmful in correcting the wrongs among the family members. According to Stark and Mcevoy (1970) marital violence is accepted and approved, and even mandated in family interaction, because it is regarded instrumental in achieving some goals. Thus, evidence supporting the existence of the "marriage license as a hitting license" norms (Roy, 1977:221). Therefore, violence is transmitted from generation to generation through experience and observation of patterned domination and coercion in family life. Robson (1993) reported that women in Nigeria (WIN), Edo State branch stated that the reason why violence characterized family's life is due to cultural setting of the society. The culture of patriarchal society and patrilinear tradition, that calls for practice of monogamous and polygamous marriages, as well as nuclear and extended family can lead to

violence in the home which exposes family members to different levels of violence within the household.

Mass media culture is another approval of violence in the society. For instance, as is often displayed in the porno magazines, pornography films, television programmes, home video films, all portray and legitimize the use of sexual abuse, killing by the characters involved and all forms of violent acts in the family. This reflects both the existing high level of aggression and violence in the society and helps to perpetuate that pattern in the household.

The system of government is also part of the culture that promotes domestic violence. For instance, nations, states ultimately depend on at least the possibility of using physical force to uphold the law. Such as death penalty, police toughness and non-challant attitude of the police towards victims of domestic violence that leads to stigmatization of the family members in the society. Also the widespread practice of corporal punishment in schools (Roy, 1977). These examples of governmental violence provide powerful models for the behaviour of individual citizens, and even more general normative system that violence can and should be used to attain socially desirable means.

The criminal justice system also has the underlying tolerance of domestic violence as indicated in the policy and attitudes of the police, prosecutors and judges; toward victims of domestic violence and through the inefficient procedures, which render even the existing legal remedies inadequate in domestic

violence. Family life is still looked upon as a private affair and must continue as an entity in spite of the presence of violent conflict[39] (Robson, 1993; Surma and Abdu, 2004). In addition, the denial of compensation, even when injury results in permanent disability, when inflicted by any family member is another problem. Similarly, domestic violence is viewed as domestic disturbance and not as criminal acts, so the acts are mostly often not likely to be prosecuted.

2.8 The Effects of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence no doubt has serious repercussion on the victims (men, women, children) family in particular and the society in general. Such effects include physical, psychological, social and health.

2.8.1 The Physical Effects

Domestic violence has both minor and major physical effects on the victims. The physical impacts include injuries, which can be either temporary or permanent, such as bodily wounds with no scars, black eye twisting bones and partial loss of hearing or sight. The permanent injuries such as unwanted scars and physical disabilities; loss of eye, tooth, and hearing and damaged joints: scars from burns either resulting from fire, hot water or acid, which can lead to disfigurement. The injuries on pregnant women can lead to miscarriages,

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39. From http://www.ncadv.org/public policy/violence Against Women Act 2005-165.heml 7/1/2005.

premature delivery, endangering the life of the victim and the unborn child. And even these could result to death in extreme cases. In addition, imprisonment of perpetrators for murder resulting from physical violence is another effect of domestic violence[40] (Robson, 1993).

2.8.2 The Psychological Effects

Nasir[41] reported that psychological impact on the victim of domestic violence is even more debilitating than the physical effect. Victims have a significantly higher level of anxiety, depression, lack of confidence, and are generally unhappy. The traumatic syndrome of abused family members could lead to lack of self esteem, fear and terror, suffering and stress from a possible attack. Victims are subject to personality disorders and mental illness, which may impair the capacity of the victims to live a normal life with their families. Thus, to run a happy home and bring up the children properly, devoid of violence in adulthood may be difficult for the family. Also victims suffer humiliation, self blame, sexual problem, fear of sex, deprivation of sex and nightmares, which can lead to strange form of behaviours by the victims of domestic violence[42].

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40 As stated in "Feminine Poverty and Dependency syndrome: Cause and Effect in Women Human Rights Health Issue", by Abubakar Fati in Abuja. Times Weekly 10 – 15th May, 1999, p.12.

41. Nasir Jamila "The Impact of Domestic Violence On The Victim". A paper presented at National Workshop organized by the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Youth Development, Abuja 21st – 22nd October, 1999.

42. For detail see "Controlling Violence Against Women in Nigeria: Instructional Manual". Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Societal Development, Garki-Abuja, Nigeria, 1997.

2.8.3 The Social Effects

Domestic violence threatens marriages and the existence of family ties, which is a prevailing pattern of violence among family members in the society. The family close ties can be broken through divorce or separation of the couple, which makes family member suffer the strains and pains. Some family members in an attempt to run away from violent environment may come to other form of violence against the victims outside the home. Again, victims of domestic violence suffer all forms of disregard, disrespect, forced isolation or independence, and economic hardship[43].

Similarly, when one considers the known effects of separation/divorce from parent substitutes, it has been observed that children are often more seriously affected than their parents because of their dependency nature. Children suffer physically, psychologically and socially: for instance, sexual abuse, forced marriages and early marriages for girls that can lead to disability and health hazards; some girls take to prostitution for survival. The children also suffer destitution, homelessness and sleeping outside their homes, thereby committing all sorts of crime, juvenile delinquency and being exposed to violence outside. More so, children develop attitudes that persist through their lives, the likelihood of violence adulthood[44].

43. Details in the Quarterly News July – September, 2003 of Africa Legal AID "Women in Conflict situations" by Nana O. Lithur, Issn: 1384 – 282x, p.15.

44. UNICEF 2001, op. cit, 207.

2.8.4 The Health Effects

The medical complications of domestic violence can be severe, injurious and could lead to mental disorderliness. The victim of sexual abuse faces the risk of infections such as Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), unwanted pregnancy and risk of induced abortion[45]. Also female genital-mutilation that can result into disabilities, Vesico-vaginal Fistula (constantly dripping of urine (VVF) or Recto-Vaginal Fistula (constantly dripping of faces (RVF) which can make the victims outcast. The long term effects of domestic violence on the health of victims include sterility from the earlier infection, suicide and death which could be very devastating for the victims and the family members in the society.

Apart from the above, violence prevents victim from full participation in the family, in the community and in the wider society. The society is deprived of the benefit of its citizens positive input. The victims of domestic violence on the other hand are stifled and unable to reach their full potential. Thus violence is a hindrance to proper development and growth of the large society. Hence, domestic violence should be eradicated in the society.[46] (Kisekka, 1992; Robson ,1993).

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45. Details in the Quarterly publication of League of Democratic Women (LEADS) "Women Advocate on HIV/AIDS A Health or Development Concern for Women". September, 2004

46. Alabi L.D. "Violence Against Women and HIV/AIDS", A paper presented at the one day seminar organized by Kaduna Gender and Development Forum and held at Abautu for Development's Conference Room, Kaduna on Thursday the 25th of November, 2004.

2.9 Theoretical Review

The second part of this chapter presents the theoretical review. However two main perspectives relevant to the understanding of the research problem on domestic violence are reviewed: Interactionist perspective and Marxist perspective. Similarly, the two perspectives will be adopted as conceptual guide in undertaking a sociological analysis of domestic violence in the society.

2.9.1 The Interactionist Perspective

The foundations of interactionist model for the study of human action are laid out by George Herbert Mead in Mains and Meltzer (1972) and his followers at the University of Chicago, as early as 1928.

George Herbert Mead – is interested in observing the most minute forms of communication both verbal and non verbal ones: smiles frowns, nodding of one's head, postures and symbolic gestures. Ernest W. Burses in Mains and Meltzer (1972) defines the family as an arena of interacting personalities of individuals that stimulate the other. Also Charles Cooley in Schaefer (1983) focuses on human interactions within one – to – one situations and small groups such as family members. This is to understand how much individual behaviour is been influenced by larger context of a group or society. (Steinwietz, 1977; Haralambos, 1980; Schaefer, 1983). The interactionist perspective using the symbolic approach sees the family as a relatively closed system of interaction. It is especially fruitful in studying the processes of communication in both verbal and non-verbal ones, conflict decision-making, problem solving, and reaction to crisis. It tends to focus

upon the family members in given groups of family (Duvall,1957). Interactionism focuses on the process of interaction in a particular context. Since all actions are supposed to be meaningful, they can only be understood by discovering meanings, which actors assign to their activities. This perspective also views human beings as living in a world of meaningful objects. These objects may include material things, actions, other relationships and even symbolic gestures, which can be regarded as social interactions between individuals (Forgas, 1979). This is to understand how much individual behaviour is being influenced interactions of others in the society.

2.9.2 Interactionist Perspective and Domestic Violence

The actions or gestures may be perceived differently from the way the actor perceives his own action; this is known as self consciousness. Thus, during the interaction process, there are a number of ways in which conflicts could be explained, this occurs mostly in marital violence, child abuse and domestic violence in general. The denial or non-acknowledgement of this violence enables the continuation of the view that a family interaction or marriage relationship is essentially loving and caring, as viewed by the society. However, acceptance of violence means breaking down of family close interaction which can lead to death, injuries, crime, separation or divorce and psychological effects of domestic violence on the family members (Duvall, 1957; McCall and Simmons, 1978).

Looking at interactionist model and domestic violence in the society, what comes up is the general question of what factors determine how husbands, wives,

children and others interact with one another. What are the effects of varying interaction patterns on the general welfare of the family members as a whole?

Interactionism, using sociological perspective for explanation, views individuals as actors who make evaluations of actions, negotiate shared meaning with others to arrive at meaningful interaction, then observers label those behaviour either positively or negatively. This could help in understanding the controversy over meaning and data of family violence and what influences in the family permit or inhibit the occurrence of violence. It also determines how family violence becomes visible to outsiders and what they do about it, and what behaviour is labeled as violence in the family (Athens, 1980).

Similarly, home is seen as special institutions in the society, unusually prone to induced stress and violence, which make demands a highly diffused, and enduring commitment from its members and make it difficult to opt out for its members when violence occurs (Gelles, 1974). Laing (1976) viewed the family in terms of sets of interactions, whereby individuals form alliance, adopt various strategies and play one person against the other in a complex harmful and destructive manner, which individuals have no choice of whom they should interact with and who not to interact with in the family. Thus, the individual then carries the blue print of his family with him for life and thereby domestic violence is likely to be transmitted from one generation to the next. Furthermore, issues are raised which may not be necessarily resolved to everyone's satisfaction, hence, violence in the family. Therefore, domestic violence symbolises pattern of

interaction in the family in which the action of the perpetrator and the victim can only be understood in terms of relationship within the family and the meanings which develop from that context (Mains and Meltzer, 1972; McCall and Simmons, 1978). Also the interaction among individuals, groups can provoke violence. Children for example, learn violent behaviour from their experiences in homes where domestic violence is prevalent or when brought up in a conflict-ridden society (Abane 1997 in Thomas, 2004).

From the above analysis of the interactionism, important insights have developed about interaction patterns within the family set up. However, in spite of its contributions to knowledge of domestic violence, the interactionism has its own flaws, which cannot be over-looked. First, interactionism does not take into consideration a historical approach. Human beings do not operate in a vacuum, as their characteristics as well as the socio-economic, cultural and political environment, which determine their patterns of behaviours, are products of history. These give the very meaning to our daily routine and shaping our interpretations of situations, events and other people we encounter. Hence, domestic setting and its related problem of violence and its effects are all products of historical development in the society. Thus, domestic violence cannot be understood outside its specific historical context (McCall and Simmons, 1978).

Interactionist perspective ignores the significance of the system of economy in the society and it does not recognize the importance of material production in the society that influence and determine the patterns of interaction within the

family. Thus, due to these flaws of interactionism the approach needs a complementary theory to be able to capture all the intricate of domestic violence in the Nigerian society for this study.

2.9.3 Marxist Perspective

Marxism is a part of a wider theoretical model in sociology known as conflict theory. Marxism school of thoughts reject the argument of the other sociological schools as not basing their analyses on the historical, social, economic and material conditions of the society and therefore, inadequate to explain violence, crime and deviance in the society (Haralambos, 1980; Progress, 1982).

Marxian theory is based on the fact that in order to survive, man must produce food and material objects. In doing so, man enters into social relationships with other men for production. The forces of production and the social relationships of production form the economic base or infrastructure of society. The other aspects of society, known as the superstructure, are largely shaped by the infrastructure. Thus, the political, legal and educational, social institutions and the belief and value systems are primarily determined by economic factors. Hence a major change in the infrastructure will therefore produce a corresponding change in the superstructure. The Marxists maintained that with the possible exception of the societies of prehistory, all historical societies contain basic contradictions (Taylor et.al., 1975). These contradictions involve the exploitation of one social group by another, and this creates a fundamental conflict of interest of social groups since one gains at the expense of

another. For Marxist therefore, a social system containing such contradictions cannot survive unchanged (Thompson and Tunstall, 1971; Kutash *et. al.*, 1978; Haralambos, 1980; Tong, 1989). This is because the relationship of domination and subordination found in the infrastructure will also be found in social institutions of the society.

2.9.4 Marxist Perspective and Domestic Violence

From Marxist perspectives, understanding of the prevalence, pattern and characteristics of domestic violence and the problems associated with it cannot be understood outside the socio-economic structure and historical materialism of the society of man's life, that determine his pattern of interaction within the family cycle which could either be social behaviour or anti-social behaviour in the society. Hence, studying family members as a social group, the sociologists want to know who benefits, who suffers and who dominates at the expense of others. They also want to know why the society may help to maintain the privileges of some family members and keep others in a sub-servient position (Martin, 1979; Schaefer, 1983). Therefore, Marxism views the family as an institution which is usually a location of oppression of family members and this is closely related to the general structure of the society in which particular family institution exists. In order to understand domestic violence therefore, it is necessary to locate the family in its wider social setting. Thus, any society deserves its families Pattern and volume of its violence.

According to feminist Marxists, violence between family members is inevitable, given the exploitation of workers under capitalism by the owners of means of production. Benstone (1972) stated that, the family as an economic unit serves as a valuable stabilizing force for capitalism, because wages are not paid for its domestic labourers especially women; and family as labour reserves, that poses no challenge to the capitalist system (Rowbotham, 1973; Popenoe, 1989). Engles in Rowbotham (1973) notes that, crime, violence and disorderliness in man are forms of demoralization which lead to collapse of man's humanity and dignity; which emerge as a result of capitalism with unequal distribution of scarce resources (Rowbotham, 1973). These injustice and unequal relationship between capitalist and wage labourers affect the social structure of the society. In this case the socio-economic status of people reflects their material conditions and which affect their patterns of relations. Thus, whether proletarian (labourers) or bourgeoisie (capitalist), domestic violence can be understood not so much as the result of the intentional actions and close contact of individual, but as the product of political, social and economic traits associated with capitalism in the society.

Therefore, in order to understand the intricate nature of domestic violence, the historical materialism of the society should be evaluated, since all historical societies contain basic contradictions. This means the pattern and characteristics of a phenomenon will vary according to the forces and relations of production, as well as a nature of class formation that is at work at that particular time. Marxism regarded people and family members as both producer and the product of society.

They make society and themselves by their own actions. Thus economic factor, however, exert the primary influence and largely shape other aspects of society. This socio-economic system that is full of conflict, violence, inequality, instability and crime in the society. Hence, what is domestic violence and its related problems can be understood in that line [47]. This is because most researches findings indicated that the highest incidence of violence is associated with low income families for they suffer greater stress than high income families.

Similarly, the problem facing Nigerian family today is fundamentally the exploitative and oppressive character of the society, which could lead to domestic violence. This because the society considers the family organization as more of commitment for its members rather than societal organizations. Thus, the Nigerian society views violence in the home as a private affairs and as a source of failure on the part of members of the family, while the society fails to realize that, an unemployed or low wage earner cannot afford the basic necessities of living to keep a family devoid of violence. Also the economic situation of a family can make the members to be in disharmony, frustration, conflict, and this could lead to assault, violence and crime within the family. This could affect family relationships, leading to family break down. Even these strains and stresses are not spread evenly across the population; the effect depends on the social structure

47. Gyong J.E. "The Neglect of Violence of Common Crimes in Nigeria" Unpublished Ph.D Thesis, Department of Sociology, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, 1994.

of the family. This is why members of different classes are affected in different ways (Gelles, 1974; Martin, 1979; Popenoe, 1989; Robson, 1993).

In the capitalist society like Nigeria, family's form of existence depends on socio-economic background, which also determines the pattern of relations among its members positively or negatively. Thus, the relationship between the family members is a reflection of society. Copper (1972), views the family as an ideological conditioning device in an exploitative society. The social structures of family relationships socialize the young ones to accept their place in a stratified society. The family, therefore, is seen as an authoritarian unit dominated by the husband, adult and powerful in terms of monetary value in particular. Hence, the foundation is then laid for childhood experience and legitimacy of what he sees, what he becomes and his behaviours in life and that could be transmitted from one generation to another. Thus, domestic violence which is viewed as a form of discipline within the family authoritarian ideology is located in the capitalist world. Hence an exploitative society produces an exploitative society. This is because domestic violence as learned behaviour is a product of social interaction (Stark and Mcevoy, 1970; Haralambos, 1980; Tong, 1989; Thomas et.al., 2004; Surma and Abdu, 2004).

2.9.5 Conclusion

It has been observed that interactionist and Marxist perspectives provide adequate empirical knowledge for the understanding of the domestic violence in the Nigeria society. For instance, interactionism focused its analysis on the

individual needs in the family that calls for interaction with one another, which could either be in a violent or non-violent way. And this is because domestic violence is seen as a product of social interaction within the family and the society at large.

Marxism on the other hand locates its own framework in the family members being oppressed, assaulted, abused due to socio-economic structures, which is the basis of a family's survival. The people are also a product of society; they are shaped by the social relationship and the system of thought that they create. Thus human society is a process of tension and conflict. Also the Marxist feminist beliefs that the institutions of patriarchy as practiced in most societies especially in Nigeria (system of domination) conditions family members psychologically to accept a secondary status. sex-role, stereotyping perpetuates and promotes domestic violence.

Similarly, according to Marxism, man's behaviour is determined by the economic infrastructure. Thus, exploitative society breeds exploitative family. However, interactionism views man's behaviour as a product of pattern of family socialization that was learned in social interaction that determines man's attitude in the family towards others and in the society at large. Therefore, the only way to reduce or curb occurrence of domestic violence in the society is to ensure a social change of interaction and redistribution of resources in the society.

Based on the above analysis, both interactionism and Marxist had done some works in their own respective perspectives to the understanding of the

research problem in this study. This is because their detailed explanation and application are found to be adequately relevant to the understanding of domestic violence and its related problems in Abuja Municipal Area Council.

2.10 Research Hypotheses

It is hypothesized that:

1. The socio-economically disadvantaged families are likely to be more vulnerable to domestic violence than their socio-economically advantaged counterparts.
2. The ignorance of the consequences of domestic violence is likely to affect the extent of its occurrence.
3. There is an association between childhood experiences and domestic violence.
4. Domestic violence is a product of social interaction, which mirrors the societal attitude towards the use of violence as problem solving mechanism.

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CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

Detailed description of the procedures that are used in collecting the research data are presented here. This includes the following: location of the study; population sampling technique and sample size; variables, explanation of the variables; method of data collection; method of data analysis; and the field problems.

3.1 Location of the Study

This research is conducted in Abuja Municipal Area Council in the Federal Capital Territory (F.C.T.) of Nigeria. The location is chosen because of the following reasons.

First and foremost, the political and administrative headquarters of Nigeria is located there. Due to this, the area council consists of people with different socio-economic, religious, and cultural background. It is a multi-ethnic society, and the major language of communication is English, while the family is largely nuclear in composition. It is indeed a heterogeneous society. The inhabitants are predominantly civil servants, business men/ women and farmers. Secondly, the researcher is fairly familiar with the location of study. And thirdly, due to the fact that the population of the area is relatively enlightened and urbane, it may not be difficult to collect the necessary information needed for this study.

These factors can therefore be considered adequate in selecting Abuja Municipal Area Council as it represents almost every aspect of Nigerian economic, political and social life.

3.2 Population, Sampling Technique, and Sample Size

The population of this study consists of family units or households, comprising husband, wife, child(ren) and sometimes relative(s) and any of them may be either perpetrator or victim of domestic violence.

A sample of the population was drawn from four districts in Abuja Municipal Area Council, namely: Garki 2, Wuse 1, Nyanya and Maitama. This is because it is not possible to cover every area of the study location and all the people in the area.

The procedure used was a combination of quota and simple random sampling methods. A quota of 25 households was drawn from each sampled district on the location of study as follows:

Garki 2	-	25 households
Wuse 1	-	25 households
Nyanya	-	25 households
Maitama	-	25 households

The number of the households that were investigated therefore is one hundred (100).

The needed sample sizes were arrived at, first, by listing all the streets, each of the selected areas, and assigning numbers to them. Every 4th house in a street become part of the sample.

The researcher selected the respondents from the members of the sampled households. In each household, respondents were four; the father, mother, and one each of the children and relatives. For children and relatives, those that are below 6 years old were exempted from participating in the survey because they may lack an understanding of domestic violence. Age differentiation was used to select the oldest child and the relative for inclusion as respondents. With four respondents per household, the total number of the people that was interviewed were four hundred (400).

This combination of quota and simple random sampling is aimed at ensuring impartial, fair and representative sample for the study.

3.3 Variables Studied

Variables are the attributes or characteristics of the phenomenon under study, which provided information about the research problem. It is their measurement that provided information for the achievement of the objectives.

The variables studied in this research were categorized into two major types. They are the independent and the dependent variables.

In this study, the independent variables are respondent's demographic and socio-economic attributes, such as age, sex, religion, ethnicity, marital status, type of marriage ,number of children, sex of children, highest

educational attainment, occupational status, average monthly income level. The dependent variable is related to the issue of domestic violence, such as the incidence, frequency, types and patterns of domestic violence; time of occurrence of domestic violence; locations of the incidence and impact of domestic violence.

3.4 Explanation of the Variables

Independent variables – Demographic attributes, Socio-economic attributes, Childhood experiences, awareness of effects. Dependent variable - domestic violence.

The independent variables were used to explain the dependent variable.

Socio-economic attributes of the respondents are measured by education, occupation and average monthly income, as well as family size and family type; that are associated with domestic violence. Also they were used to determine the position occupied by the respondent in the social-structure of the society..

Family size - the family size was determined by the number of children in a particular household. One - three children is considered to be small, 4 - 6 children average, while 7 and above, as large family.

Type of family - nuclear family; where one or both parents live with their children.

Extended family - a nuclear family consisting of biological children as well as relatives.

Polygamous families - are those which consist of a man and more than one wife and their children.

Childhood experiences - The respondent's upbringing or background within the family. This is to determine those who had experienced violence among the family members, either as a witness or as a victim during childhood days, and its relation with occurrence of domestic violence.

Awareness of consequences - the variable is employed in this research to imply those situations where the family members are not even aware that domestic violence has certain effect on the victim, perpetrator and the family members in general. For instance, many people are unaware that effect of domestic violence can lead to death, body injury, imprisonment and tensed atmosphere for the family members. But should the people be very much aware of the effects of domestic violence, the tendency to engage in domestic violence may be reduced or eliminated.

The dependent variable is the issue of domestic violence, which is being operationalized in the following ways; incidence, frequency, types, patterns, nature, times, locations and impact of the domestic violence.

Incidence - the number of occurrences of domestic violence

Frequency - how often is the incidence

Types - means the different forms of domestic violence, such as physical; beating, pushing; psychological; deprivation of liberty and rights, sexual harassment; verbal; abusive languages.

Patterns - the circumstances of domestic violence.

Nature - Seriousness of domestic violence

48622

Time - the period of violence, the occurrence whether morning, afternoon or evening and also day(s) of the week.

Locations - means the place of occurrence whether in the kitchen, bedroom, or outside the house.

Impact - the effects of the violence on the victims, perpetrators, family members and even the society at large.

3.5 Method of Data Collection

The survey method of data collection is employed for this research because of the larger population (family members) involved. Therefore, the method used is quantitative research.

In collecting data for this research work, both primary and secondary data were used. The primary source is questionnaire used as structured interview. These sources are regarded as instruments of data collection, and they are necessary because they allow a good rapport between the researcher and the respondents, this is to collect the necessary information for the study. The questionnaire was based on the objectives of the research, and the questions were a mixture of close-ended and open-ended ones. The questionnaire is in sections, section A is on respondent's general information and socio-economic attributes; Section B is childhood experiences with domestic violence; section C is based on information about the domestic violence (causes, types, patterns and frequency); section D is on awareness of domestic violence and its consequences and

respondent's attitudes towards the phenomenon. The questionnaire indicates the link between the variables under study and respondent's information.

The questionnaire was used as interview schedule. This was used to approach the issue of domestic violence. Also the respondents who are illiterate were interviewed and their responses were taken down. That is the researcher filled the questionnaire on the respondent's behalf.

The secondary information are textbooks, magazines, journals and newspapers technical reports on the issue of domestic violence. This documentary system calls for contextual analysis prepared to cover information on the phenomenon. Also, institutions such as the police, courts, prisons and social-welfare offices in the area of study were contacted, for records available on the phenomenon from the years 1996-2001, but no proper documentation.

The social welfare departments in hospitals and ministries are sources of useful information on domestic violence, that have been referred to them for counseling, and also to know the level of occurrence of domestic violence in Abuja Municipal Area Council.

For this research, the unit of responses on domestic violence are the family members, while the unit of analysis on domestic violence are the households, police, c ourts, p risons s ocial-welfare o ffices, g overnment a nd n on-governmental organizations.

The rationale for choosing these methods of data collection is to ensure comprehensive and effective data, for the achievement of objectives.

3.6 Method of Data Analysis

Data analysis is the interpretation of the research responses and findings obtained from the field, using qualitative methods of data analyses.

The raw data collected from both the primary and secondary sources were analysed, using statistical tools like percentages, frequencies table univariate analyses, chi-square for bivariate analyses, and multivariate regression analyses.

The data obtained from primary sources was analyzed using the computer statistical package for social sciences (SPSS). Where appropriate, tables including percentages, frequencies and cross-tabulation of variables were used. These are to measure correlations between socio-economic attributes of the people and proneness to domestic violence. Also, the chi-square (x^2) statistical method was used to determine the level of significance of relationship among variables. Also multiple regressions were used to determine the degree of association among the variables. This enables the researcher to know the impact of domestic violence on family members in Abuja Municipal Area Council.

3.7 Field Experiences and Problems

Generally, one major problem encountered in the field was attempts by some respondents to conceal some information. The attitude was informed by the fact that some people especially the family heads (husbands) were scared to talk to a total stranger about intimate and personal parts of their lives. They therefore tended to be cautious of the information they disclosed.

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The subject of domestic violence is a very sensitive and scaring issue, discussing them with a stranger tends to evoke feelings of shyness and shame, since it is purely a personal issue. Infact some respondents called it an intrusion upon their private life. This had implications for the study as some time was spent to convince the respondents on the purpose of the research which was purely academic and assuring them of anonymity and confidentiality.

There was a resistance to divulging information on domestic violence in most formal organizations selected/visited. This is because there is no proper documentation on the phenomenon specially by the police department, prison and the hospitals. Also some bureaucratic bottle necks in the process of gains access to the records of these formal organizations. For instance the police and prison, the researcher had to obtain permission from the State Commissioner of Police and Prison Comptroller of prison before gaining access to the facilities. This was not easy, but with much patience, the researcher over came the problem. However, there was no proper records from these facilities except WRAPA who offer legal aid, counseling and other services to the victims of domestic violence.

One of the problems encountered in the field was financial constraints on the part of the researcher.

Finally, despite all these problems, the researcher was able to scale through and the research was a huge success, and the report was documented with reasonable degree of certainty; the present domestic violence situation in the area of study.

CHAPTER FOUR

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESPONDENTS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter describes the socio-economic characteristics of all the respondents for this study. It discusses the relevance and response patterns of the independent and dependent variables of the study. The variables considered were age, sex, religion, highest educational attainment, occupational status, employment status, average monthly income, number of relatives living within the household and socio-economic status.

A total of 400 respondents, representing sampled families were involved in the study. This chapter is divided into three sub-sections for the purpose of presenting the main characteristics of the sample: socio-demographic, economic, and family characteristics.

4.1 Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

The socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents are presented in Tables 1-3 below.

Table 1: Age of the Respondents

Age	Frequency	Percentage (%)
20 years and Below	66	18.0
21– 30 years	104	26.0
31-40 years	150	36.0
41 years and above	80	20.0
Total	**400**	**100.0**

Table 1 above shows that majority of the respondents (36%) are of the middle age group of 31 - 40 years, while 26% of the respondents fall within the age group of 21 – 30 years. Also 20% of the respondents are 41 years or older while those of 20 years or younger constituted only 18%. We can conclude that 62% of the respondents which is the majority fall between the age of 21 and 40 years.

Table 2: Sex of the Respondents

Sex	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	222	56.0
Female	178	44.0
Total	**400**	**100.0**

From Table 2 above majority of the respondents are males (56%) while about (44%) are females. This distribution implies that both males are presented in the sampled under study.

Table 3: Religion of the Respondents

Religion	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Christianity	224	56.0
Islam	147	36.0
Traditional	29	8.0
Total	**400**	**100.0**

The data in Table 3 shows that the majority of the respondents are of Christian and Islamic faiths, while, few others, which is (8%) belongs to the traditional religion. The variation in religious affiliation is only a function of the area used for the study and shows that the sample cuts across religious boundaries.

4.2 Socio-Economic Characteristics of Respondents

The socio- economic characteristics of the respondents are presented in Tables 4-7 below.

Table 4 Highest Educational Attainment of Respondents

Educational Attainment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Secondary and Below	146	36.0
HND/NCE	155	39.0
University	99	25.0
Total	**400**	**100.0**

Table 4 above reveals that majority of the respondents are literate, with HND/NCE and University degree holders having the highest (64%) in the above Table. The area of study is dominated by civil servants and professionals. This shows that the area of study is an enlightened area which helped in collecting the necessary information for the study. It also indicates that domestic violence is likely to be rampant among them since they are very busy people. Little disagreement can trigger off domestic violence.

Table 5: Occupational Status of Respondents

Occupational Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Professional	71	18.0
Administrators	120	30.0
Business/Contractors	19	4.5
Clerical Workers/Artisans	105	26.5
Unemployed	85	21.0
Total	**400**	**100.0**

Table 5 shows that 30%, which constitutes the majority of the respondents are administrators (Public Administrators, Secretaries), while Clerical Workers/Artisans (typist, clerks, mechanics) constitutes 27%, which the and Professionals (lawyers, doctors, engineers)constitutes, only 18% of the population under study. These respondents are both public and private workers. The respondents are from different occupational background which creates the possibility of the generalization of the outcome of this study.

Table 6: Employment Status of the Respondents

Employment Status	**Frequency**	**Percentage (%)**
Employed	315	79.0
Unemployed	85	21.0
Total	**400**	**100.0**

Table 6 indicates that an overwhelming majority of the respondents (79%) are employed in different parastatals in private and public sectors of the economy. The unemployed category includes 20(5%) young graduates, 15(3%) full-time house wife, 5(1%) unskilled labourers and 25(6%) job seekers, 20(5%) children and the elderly.

Table 7: Average Monthly Income of the Respondents

Average monthly income (₦)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
15,000 and Below	90	28.6
15,001-25,000	85	27.0
25,001-35,000	75	23.8
35,001 and Above	65	20.6
Total	**315**	**100.0**

Table 7 above reveal that at the time of the survey, the majority of the respondents were income earners of varying degrees, ranging from below ₦15,000 to as high as ₦35,001 and above per month. Two reasons that could be responsible for this distribution of income among the respondents could be the fact that majority of the respondents are middle class workers as indicated in (Table 7 above). Secondly, the respondents with low income of ₦15,000 and below (29%) include respondents with low occupational status such as clerical workers, petty traders and daily labourers. While none category refers to unemployed respondents, such as children, students, young graduate unskilled labourers.

4.3 Family Characteristics of Respondents

The family characteristics of the respondents are presented in Table 8-13 below.

Table 8: Marital Status of the Respondents

Marital Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Single	90	22.0
Married	270	68.0
Separated, divorced or widowed	40	10.0
Total	**400**	**100.0**

Table 8 reveals that majority of the respondents were married (68%) at the time of the survey, "while single" represent about (22%) and others such as separated, divorce or widowed represent (10%) in the sample. The 22% of the respondents who are single are children and other relatives who live in the house. They are dependents.

Table 9: Type of Marriage of the Respondents

Type of Marriage	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Monogamy	206	76.3
Polygamy	64	23.7
Total	**270**	**100.0**

Finding reveal that 76% of the respondents are in monogamous type of marriage while about 24% are in the polygamous marriage.

Table 10: Number of Children of the Respondents

Number of Children	Frequency	Percentage (%)
None	106	26.0
1 – 3	154	39.0
4 and above	140	35.0
Total	**400**	**100.0**

Table 10 above shows the number of children in the respondents' families. The data reveal that majority of the respondents (74%) have at least one child with a significant proportion having four or more children.

Table 11: Relationship of the Respondents to Household Families

Respondent Relationship	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Husband	88	22.0
Wife	99	25.0
Child	94	23.0
Relative	119	30.0
Total	**400**	**100.0**

Table 11 indicates the respondent's relationship with the family in the household. The respondents were mostly relatives (30%), 25% were wives, 23% child(ren) while 22% were husbands. This shows the categories and the responsibility of individual living within the household.

Table 12: Number of Relatives Living within the Household of the Respondents

Number of Relatives	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1 – 3	75	63.0
4 and above	44	37.0
Total	**119**	**100.0**

From Table 12 above, it is clear that the majority of the respondents have at least one relative living with them. With 63% having 1-3 relatives living with them. This is a strain on their income which can easily fuel domestic violence. This is quite expected not only in the area of study, but also in Nigeria as a whole, because of traditional practices of extended family system in the society. However, the peculiar problem of accommodation being currently experienced by people in Abuja, the area of study could also be a reason for this level of live-in dependency.

Table 13: Socio-Economic Status of the Respondents

Family Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Lower Status	160	40.0
Middle Status	175	43.7
Upper Class	65	16.3
Total	**400**	**100.0**

Table 13 indicates that majority of the respondents 84% were either in the lower class or middle class cadre. Only 16% of the respondents stated to be in the

upper class. The variable used is the average monthly income of respondents in Table 7. Those who are in the lower cadre include the unemployed and respondents who earns ₦15,000.00 and below. Those who earns ₦15,001.00 – ₦35,000.00 are grouped with ₦35,001.00 and above on the average are grouped into the upper class.

4.3 Conclusion

The analysis above shows the distribution of socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the respondents associated with domestic violence looking at the following area; age, sex, educational attainment, occupational status, income level, employment status, types of marriage and family size. Therefore, subsequent analysis will attempt to examine how these independent socio-economic variables would influence the occurrence of domestic variables. Also attempt will be made to ascertain the socio-economic characteristics of the families that are more or less prone to domestic violence and the effects of domestic violence on the family members along the lines of these same characteristics.

CHAPTER FIVE

INCIDENCE, TYPES AND PATTERNS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

5.0 Introduction

This chapter describes the incidence, types and patterns of domestic violence among the respondents of the study. It highlights how common domestic violence is among family members and discusses the patterns of relationship between pertinent independent and dependent variables, using statistical techniques at both univariate and bivariate levels of analysis.

The chapter is divided into three major sections for the purpose of presentation and analysis. Section one looks at the incidence of domestic violence as measured by wife beating, husband beating, child beating, beating of other relatives, experience of beating as a child, and violence among respondents parents. Section two focuses on types of domestic violence such as physical, psychological and verbal violence. Section three looks at the patterns of domestic violence, i.e. incidence of violence by time of the day, day of the week, and location of violence and cross-correlation between types and patterns of domestic violence by victims of domestic violence.

5.1 Incidence of Domestic Violence

Incidence of domestic violence refers to occurrence of events such as disturbances, quarrelling and fighting among family members, which are likely to lead to

486922

harmful consequences. The consequence may include bodily injuries, damages, distress and minor/major or temporary/permanent disabilities on affected family members. The incidence of domestic violence among the respondents for this study are presented in Tables 14-17 below.

Table 14: Wife Beating By Husband

Wife Beating	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Frequently	33	37.0
Occasionally	50	57.0
Never	5	6.0
Total	**88**	**100.0**

Table 14 reveals that over half of the population sampled indicated that they beat their wives and that amounts to violence against wives. The 57% of the respondents beat their wives occasionally, while 37% beat their wives frequently, and 6% said that they never beat their wives. This study indicates that wife beating exists and that wives suffer acts of violence from their partners. Some wives stressed that often they are used as a punching bag to the satisfaction of the men and this makes them wonder whether these men are really their husbands. We can conclude that wife beating is a common phenomenon in the area of study.

Table 15: Husband Beating By Wife

Husband Beating	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Frequently	28	28.0
Occasionally	40	41.0
Never	31	31.0
Total	**99**	**100.0**

Table 15 reveals that about 41% of the respondents occasionally engaged in husband beating, 28% mentioned that it occurred frequently, while 31% have no record of violence against husband. From the findings, beat their husbands. Although, husbands are seen as the heads of the family and other family members are therefore sometimes not bold enough to confront them. Also, a violent family could never be devoid of husband beating as it may occur as a result of self defense by the wife or that the wife is naturally stronger than the husband.

Some male respondents said, "men suffer other forms of violence from their wives apart from beating. These include ignoring the husbands, shouting and throwing objects at them". Thus, it can be argued based on Table 15, that violence against husbands may be somewhat an under reported phenomenon of domestic violence in the society, but should not be overlooked.

Table 16: Child Beating By Parent/Guardian/Relative

Child Beating	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Frequently	128	41.8
Occasionally	90	29.4
Never	88	28.8
Total	**306**	**100.0**

Table 16 indicates that majority of the respondents (parents/guardians) beat their children: 42% frequently, 29% occasionally. However, 29% of the parents/guardians said they have never beaten their children. The argument put forward for such act by the respondents is that child beating is a form of discipline and not an abuse against children. The notion of "spare the rod and spoil the child" appears to be a popular belief among the parents that perpetrate child abuse. From the findings, other respondents believe beating of children is considered a private affair and the reason for doing so is best known to the parents/guardians who perpetrate the act. Parental violence against children includes beating and using objects such as shoes, curtain rods, belts and bicycle chain to hit the child(ren). Besides some children are perpetrators of violence against their fellow children, using of dangerous weapon against each other such as knife, stones, cutlass. On the whole, it shows that the level of violence against children within the family is rather high.

Table 17: Beating of Other Relatives By the Respondents

Beating of Relatives	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Frequently	40	34.0
Occasionally	68	57.0
Never	11	9.0
Total	**119**	**100.0**

Table 17 shows that majority of the respondents beat their other relatives that are living within their households such as brothers, mothers in-law, sisters in-law, etc. About 57% beat their other relatives occasionally, while 34.0% admitted they beat them frequently. However, 9% of the respondents said they have never beaten their relatives. It is significant to note that relatives like brothers and sisters of the immediate family and the in-laws are not exempted from domestic violence. Thus, domestic violence affects every member of the household. Similarly, some couple lived with in-laws or relations of theirs and the presence of others was a threat to their relationships. Sometimes the role of relatives on in-laws in breaking marriages is undisputed. Most often relations are mostly likely to leave their own homes and stay with their married relations in Abuja, given the fact that Abuja as cosmopolitan made of civil servant and private workers, job seekers, young graduate. Thus, fuelling domestic violence, because no household is immune from in-laws and relatives staying with the married couple.

5.2 Types of Domestic Violence

Types of domestic violence refer to a category of behaviour that constitutes violence among the family members.

The type of domestic violence observed in this study is presented in the Table 18 below.

Table 18: Types of Domestic Violence of the Respondents

Acts of Violence	Yes		No		Total	
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	%
i) Physical violence: (Perpetrated mostly by men)						
Pushing	322	80.5%	78	19.5%	400	100%
Throwing object	258	64.5%	142	35.5%	400	100%
Beating	262	65.5%	138	34.5%	400	100%
ii) Psychological Violence: (Perpetrated mostly by men)						
Neglected in bed	226	56.5%	174	43.5%	400	100%
Forceful sexual intercourse	192	48%	208	52%	400	100%
Deprivation of liberty/rights	288	72%	112	28%	400	100%
iii) Verbal Violence: (Perpetrated mostly by women)						
Shouting at in public	206	51.5%	194	48.5%	400	100%
Use of abusive language	368	92%	32	8%	400	100%
Calling of derogatory names	314	78.5%	86	21.5%	400	100%

Table 18 above reveals the types of violence and abusive acts that family members are exposed to within their households. It shows that a significant proportion (48 – 92%) of the respondents confirmed that they have been subjected

to these acts of violence. Thus there are varieties of violent attacks ranging from physical and psychological to verbal. These are the methods of violence used by family members against one another.

Verbal violence has the highest proportion (92%), which is the use of abusive language. The reason for this was revealed by the men who said that women are very insulting and have uncontrollable sharp mouths for nagging and that beating is the only way to curb such acts and to teach wives some lessons in submissiveness. However, some husbands are a bit evasive about the issue and some refused to talk about it while others said, "abuse is regarded as normal life of the households". This means that any of the family member could be a victim or perpetrator of this verbal violence.

Furthermore, it is observed from the table that the physical violence (pushing 81%, beating 65% and throwing object at 64%) is the next likely type of violence within the family. The acts of pushing have the highest incidence of violence in this category, mostly perpetrated by men. This is because the perpetrator requires the physical dominance over the victim. For instance, a woman was reported to have been pushed from upstairs by her brother in-law and the incident caused the woman three weeks in the hospital due to dislocation. Sometimes, pushing often leads to throwing of object at and beating among the violent families.

The least common mode of violence is psychological violence (deprivation of liberty and rights 72%, neglected in bed 57% and forceful sexual intercourse

48%),especially by the married respondents, and mostly perpetrated by men. Deprivation of liberty and rights have the highest rates of incidence (72%) and this is because the violence is probably not seen as producing any bodily harm or injury, but rather seen as a form of discipline within the family. Thus deprivation of liberty and rights of both adults and children; men and women within the family circle. Also the less frequent act of violence among the family members is the forceful sexual intercourse (48%). This type of violence is mostly common among the married couples only. The findings revealed that husbands more than wives are the perpetrators, while wives are more of victims than husbands. This is because husband forced themselves sexually on their wives sometimes or often. Then, this is followed closely by verbal and physical violence between husband and wife, which often lead to spousal violence or domestic violence.

During the interview, some wives recounted their experiences with their husbands and in-laws with tears. Some were very unhappy about the situation, while others could not even speak out in the presence of their husbands for fear of being abused again. The women revealed that they had suffered different forms of violence in their matrimonial homes, which some times make them (wives) not only victims but also perpetrators of domestic violence in the course of self defense. The children and relatives were not excluded in revealing their experiences on intra-family violence.

The data above is an indication that these days, some people are willing to speak out their experiences of domestic violence. There is evidence of general violence with family members being perpetrators as well as victims.

5.3 Patterns of Domestic Violence

Patterns of domestic violence refer to the observable regularities of violence in family life.

The observed patterns of domestic violence among the respondents for this study are presented in Tables 19-21 below.

Table 19: Time of Day of Domestic Violence of the Respondents

Time of Violence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Morning	60	15.0
Afternoon	54	13.5
Evening/night	268	67.0
Not Applicable	18	4.5
Total	**400**	**100.0**

Table 19shows that domestic violence is not limited to a particular time, it can happen any time of the day, though the evening/night period has the highest percentage (67%) of occurrence. In the study many respondents stated that after the working hours of the day, the closest persons on whom to vent frustration and stress on are the family members and that violence in the morning or afternoon typically results from conflict left over, from the previous evening or night.

Table 20: Day(s) of the Week of Domestic Violence of the Respondents

Weekday/Weekend	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Weekdays (Monday - Thursday)	209	52.5
Weekends (Friday - Sunday)	173	43.0
Not Applicable	18	4.5
Total	**400**	**100.0**

Table 20 shows that majority of the respondents' experienced domestic violence on weekdays rather than weekends. Some respondents reported that violence was an everyday occurrence and that they could not specify one or the other.

Table 21: Location of Domestic Violence of the Respondents

Location	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Kitchen	60	15.0
Bedroom	90	22.5
Living Room	104	26.0
Dinning Room	54	13.5
Outside the Compound	74	18.5
Not Applicable	18	4.5
Total	**400**	**100.0**

Table 21 reveals that acts of violence mostly take place within the household. Some respondents reported that violence could be extended from inside the house to a public place, such as outside the house or compound. It is important to note that some respondents especially women and children reported that they have been locked up in the toilet before, thus making every corner of the house a battleground. The implication of this is that violence is not restricted to a particular location; it could be anywhere within the household, but more in the living room (26%) and bedroom (22%) than in other locations.

Table 22: Time of the Day of Violence and Victim Domestic Violence

Time of the Day	Victims of Domestic Violence				
	Wife	**Husband**	**Child**	**Relative**	**Total (N)**
Morning	25%	16.5%	29.5%	29%	60
Afternoon	24.5%	16.5%	29.5%	29.5%	54
Evening/night	26.5%	17.5%	30%	26.5%	268
Not Applicable	-	-	-	-	18
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	**400**

x^2 value = 13.78, d.f = 6, alpha level = 0.5, critical value = 12.592,

N = 400.

Table 22 shows a time of the day of violence and victim of domestic violence. The children are the highest victim of domestic violence (30% evening/night, 30% afternoon, 30% morning) among the family members. The

finding reveals that sometimes, evening/night violence could involve arguments over food and money, complaints and accumulation of frustrations at work, which could easily be vented on children. The implication of this study is that violence could therefore grow out of conflicting time schedules and obligations that arise when family members are together in the evening or night time. Therefore, the relationship between the two variables indicate that time of the day exert a positive influence on the level of occurrence of violence in the family. Statistically there is a significant difference between time of the day and domestic violence. This is confirmed by the value of x^2 of 13.78 which is greater than critical value of 12.592. Thus, domestic violence can occur any time of the day.

Table 23: Days(s) of the Week of Violence and Victim Domestic Violence

Day of Week	**Victims of Domestic Violence**				
	Wife	**Husband**	**Child**	**Relative**	**Total (N)**
Weekdays (Monday - Thursday)	26.5%	16.5%	30.5%	26.5%	209
Weekends (Friday – Sunday)	24.5%	16.5%	30.5%	28.5%	173
Not Applicable	-	-	-	-	18
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	**400**

x^2 value = 12.97, d.f = 6, alpha level = 0.05, critical value = 12.592,

N = 400.

Table 23 shows the relationship between day of the week and victim of domestic violence which is not statistically significant. This is evident by the calculated x2 values of 12.97 which is greater than critical value of 12.592. This means that the week of violence is not really a major determinant of domestic violence among the family members. However, it is observed in the Table that the highest incidence is recorded during the weekdays i.e. Monday – Thursday. Besides, the table shows that the child is the highest victim of domestic violence (30.5% in both weekdays and weekends respectively), while the husband is the lowest victim of domestic violence (16.5%) among the family members. The data reveal that no member is exempted from domestic violence.

Table 24: Location of Violence and Victim of Domestic Violence

Location of Violence	**Victims of Domestic Violence**				
	Wife	**Husband**	**Child**	**Relative**	**Total (N)**
Kitchen	26%	15%	31%	28%	50
Bedroom	33.5%	25.5%	25.5%	15%	82
Living Room	27.5%	17.5%	35.5%	19.5%	145
Dining Room	20%	20%	25%	35%	40
Outside the compound	22%	15%	34%	29%	65
Not Applicable	-	-	-	-	18
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	**400**

x^2 value = 296.86, d.f = 15, alpha level = 0.05, critical value = 24.996, N = 400.

Table 24 data shows location of violence and victim of domestic violence. The table shows that the differences in the location of violence and victim of domestic violence are statistically significant. This is evident by the calculated x2 value of 296.86 which is greater than critical value of 24.996. The children (36%) have the highest incidence of family violence happening in the living room. Children are the most affected victims of domestic violence among the family members, irrespective of the location of violence, this is because children are often seen around almost everywhere within the household. More so, this is where family members mostly converge for interactions and other activities, in the process of which violence could occur.

Table 25: Types of Domestic Violence and Victims Domestic Violence

	Types of Violence	Responses Yes or No	Victims of Domestic Violence				
			Wife	Husband	Child	Relative	Total
			%	%	%	%	N
Physical violence	Pushing	Yes	16%	13%	26.5%	25%	322
		No	5%	8%	2%	4.5%	78
	Throwing object at	Yes	12%	5%	25%	22.5%	258
		No	10.5%	12.5%	4.5%	8.5%	142
	Beating	Yes	10.5%	5.5%	25.5%	24.5%	265
		No	8.5%	14.5%	3%	7.5%	135
Psychological violence	Neglected in Bed	Yes	33%	18.5%	-	-	206
		No	10%	11%	%	12.5%	194
	Forceful Sexual intercourse	Yes	28%	16%	1.5%	2.5%	192
		No	5%	11%	19.5%	16.5%	208
	Deprivation of Liberty/ Right	Yes	36%	7%	16.5%	12.5%	288
		No	3.5%	10%	7.5%	7%	112
Verbal Violence	Shouting at in public	Yes	11.5%	6.5%	18.5%	15%	206
		No	13%	17%	8.5%	10%	194
	Use of abusive language	Yes	21.5%	17.5%	27.5%	25.5%	368
		No	1.5%	3%	1.5%	2%	32
	Calling derogatory names	Yes	19%	15.5%	22.5%	21.5%	314
		No	4.5%	8.5%	3.5%	5%	86

Table 25 indicates the type of violent acts experienced by the family members as noted in the table. Verbal violence which is the use of abusive language is the most frequent act of violence committed by the family members, while forceful sexual intercourse is the least act of violence. The explanation for the high incidence of abusive language within the family could be due to the fact

that family life exposes the vulnerability of family members due to prolonged interaction, intimacy and emotional closeness thus, making verbal violence a weapon of attack on member's weaknesses. Also, the findings reveal that the majority of incidents of physical violence were caused by the victims' verbal behaviour, suggesting that verbal violence precipitate physical violence.

5.4 Discussion

What emerges from the analysis of the incidence, types and patterns of domestic violence is the fact that violence is used to teach and control within family setting. This means that each family member who employs violence in this manner believes that force is necessary and cannot be avoided (Robson, 1993). The analysis is also evident that striking a family member in this situation is not considered violent; it is normative and it is discipline. Thus there are countless incidents of family member misbehaving and another family member responding by using physical, psychological and verbal violence to punish one another for misconduct. The occurrence of violence can happen at anytime of the day such as morning, afternoon evening/night, on weekdays or weekends. Similarly, domestic violence is not limited to a particular location in the house, it could begin in one room and progress throughout the house and even outside the house as indicated by the respondents.

However, the findings that week days are characterized with high family violence contrasts with other studies on violent home. For instance,(Gelles, 1974) reported that violence took place predominantly on weekends. The explanation is

that the family members are likely to be home, free from work and that certain activities take place on the weekend where conflict is likely to flare up. This study on the other hand, reveals that weekdays have more occurrence of violence than weekends. Perhaps, this is because weekdays are more stressful for the family members and complaint of any sort may lead to domestic violence. Furthermore, the study findings reveal that living room is the most dangerous and is most prone to violence than other rooms such as bedroom, dining room and kitchen in the house. This might be due to the fact that living room is a setting for a wide range of family activities that involve every member of the family, which often becomes the focal point of family conflict. This is contrary to the report of Wolfgang that sees the bedroom as the deadliest room in the house (Roy, 1977).This findings could be as a result of area of study. Due to poverty and lack of suitable accommodation in Abuja Municipality, the family setting there is little or no difference between the sitting room and the bed room. Thus, many families uses one room apartment for kitchen, dinning sitting and bed room .This often leads to domestic violence in the area.

In conclusion, the analysis of violence among family members and the examination of incidence, types and patterns of domestic violence indicate that there are significant incidences of domestic violence in the society. This confirms the hypothesis that says that domestic violence is a product of social interaction which mirrors the general attitude towards the use of violence as a problem solving mechanism. Going by the study, violent acts on family members can best

be understood by examining the patterns of family interaction that permits domestic violence which supports the interactionist view on family interactions that generate domestic violence. Despite the fact that family violence is grossly under reported officially (Robson, 1993), the rate of its occurrence is quite high. Therefore, the study points out the need to address the issue of domestic violence for peaceful co-existence in the family and the society at large.

CHAPTER SIX

EFFECTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

6.0 Introduction

This chapter describes the effects of domestic violence found in this study. The chapter covers types of effect of domestic violence; those who suffer the effects of domestic violence; the effects of domestic violence on the community; and its awareness.

6.1 Common Effects of Domestic Violence of the Respondents

Table 26: Common Effects of Domestic Violence of the Respondents

Common Effects	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Injury	100	25.0
Emotional Disturbance	92	23.0
Economic Deprivation	80	20.0
Separation/Divorce	44	11.0
Crime	36	9.0
Discipline	24	6.0
Imprisonment	8	2.0
None	16	4.0
Total	**400**	**100.0**

As shown in Table 26 above, there is an indication that family members suffered from effects of domestic violence. Some effects are more gruesome and degrading than others, but all of them are not palatable experience.

Injury (Physical Effect): The effect of injury indicated by the respondents in this study is 25%, which ranges from minor to major physical injury. Many reported a pinch on the chick or arm, occasional black eye, loss of one tooth or more, hair pulling, slaps and punches to the face and head, kicking and punching all over the body, pushing and throwing across the room against objects, severe shaking, arms twisted or broken, broken necks and ribs. Some respondents even stated that they have both permanent and temporal scars as a result of injury sustained during domestic violence. Some few respondents reported bruises from thrown objects like cooking utensils, deadly weapons, knives and machetes. Specifically, some women indicated that their husbands beat them with canes and belts like children.

The right of a husband to beat or physically intimidate his wife is a deeply held conviction in many societies. Thus, the majority of men who stated that they do beat their mates felt that hitting a woman was acceptable and that such conduct does not constitute violence.

Emotional Disturbance (Psychological Effects): Twenty three percent (23%) of the respondents indicated that they suffer some psychological effects of domestic violence, such as shame, embarrassment, denial and further loss of self-esteem. Some respondents also admitted that they experience distress and

personality distortion from regular occurrence of domestic violence. Similarly, some women reported sexual abuse which made them lose interest in their love life. This ultimately may result in depression or at worst, mental illness. These types of effects on people may adversely affect the ability of family members to live a normal family life.

Economic Deprivation: Table 26 reveals that 20% of the respondents indicated that their family members frequently use economic deprivation as a coercive tool on them, sometimes resulting into denial of the basic necessities of life. Some women indicated that there was unfair use of money as a punitive tool within their families, thus, resulting into insufficient money for the house and for the children in the area of care giving. Some women stated that, because some family members feared being cut off from money for the basic running of the house they feel compelled to stay in the violent environment, take to prostitution, or commit all sorts of crime. Thus, brutality and economic deprivation go hand in hand in the society except that it differs from family to family. The most significant and interesting part of the study is that a family's socio-economic level does not protect its members from being abused.

Separation/Divorce: As indicated in the Table 26, about 11% of the respondents suffered separation or divorce. In the study, some respondents stated that when the violence was too much and there was nothing they could do, they had to leave the violent home for the safety of their lives. When that happened, they suffer isolation from their family members, especially the children. Some

women indicated that because their lives were at stake, they had to leave their kids with their husbands, but sometimes these kids would run back to their mother for food and protection. One respondent, a woman confessed that separation led to her first daughter getting pregnant as a teenager while fending for herself. Another woman separated from her husband, was not allowed to take along any of her five children and was denied access to them. Any time she wanted to visit them, it would result into another incidence of violence with the husband. However, the males respondents stated that women are so heartless to have moved out of their matrimonial homes leaving their husbands and the children to cater for themselves. Also, some men reported that they had to put an end to their marriages instead of always experiencing domestic violence in their homes. Therefore, this separation/divorce has resulted in broken homes, neglect of children, juvenile delinquency, prostitution and all sorts of deviant conduct in the society.

Crime: From the study 9% of the respondents indicated that crime of all sorts, such as pick-pocketing, theft, armed robbery, murder are part of the effects of domestic violence. A man stated that if domestic violence is left unchecked, there will be more criminals in the society and that could lead to uncertainties, anxiety and unsafe society. This phenomenon must be checked for the development of the society. A man stated that people who indulge in criminal acts are more often than not, from broken families. This is because they lack care and love, and that there is breakdown of people's moral fiber in the sense that they

have no guidance and go astray, especially children. Many researchers have stated that poor family relationships and violent family background are common among aggressive criminals in the society (Gelles, 1974; Martin, 1979).

Discipline: From Table 26 above (6%) of the respondents indicated that domestic violence has a positive effect on the family members. It is significant to know that some people believe that domestic violence is normal and that it inculcates discipline in the home. The study shows that most of the respondents that argued in that line are perpetrators of violent acts because they feel that they have achieved their aims, especially parent-child and husband-wife discipline. These perpetrators feel that the only way to get control over another human being is to scare them, hurt them or demean them.

Imprisonment: Two percent (2%) of the respondents indicated imprisonment for the perpetrators of domestic violence. That is, the acts of domestic violence led to imprisonment whereby the perpetrator was locked up, segregated, and isolated from mixing with other members of the family. For instance, a man was imprisoned for beating his mother in-law three years earlier and up till the time of the study, the family was still in disarray. In Kuje prison, a woman was imprisoned for killing her mate out of jealousy. This resulted in her children's waywardness and other problems for her family members.

None – The respondents of (4%) stated that they do not know any effect of domestic violence and that they have never experienced such violence in their homes. Some of the respondents have the notion that there are nothing like

domestic violence therefore no effects while some respondents were not ready to talk about the phenomenon.

Fig. 1: Pie Chart showing the distribution of respondents who Suffer most from the Effects of Domestic Violence

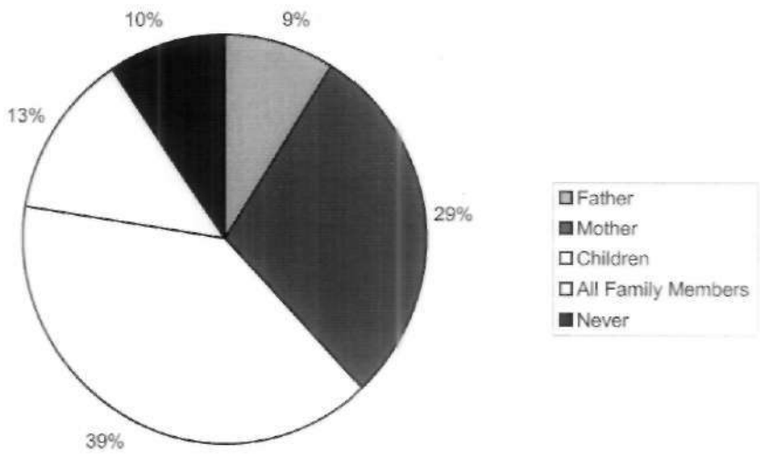


Fig:1 indicates that every member of the family is affected in one way or the other by domestic violence, but some suffer more than others.

Children: From the data above, children are the most affected (39%) perhaps because they are the most vulnerable group in a family. Children are at risk of physical attacks when trying to protect any of their family members especially, their mothers or fathers. For example a woman stated an instance where a man accidentally splashed some acid on his young daughter who was trying to protect her mother during spousal violence. Another woman stated that some children are terrified of their step-parents to the extent that they are

physically affected e.g. a boy of 8 years usually had eczema whenever his mother and her husband (step father) had a row, taking the strain physically. Similarly, some respondents reported that children that grow up in abusive families could have emotional and behavioural problems including being depressed and withdrawn or aggressive and bullying with violent tendencies. This could be as a result of being a witness to violence or even a victim of violence and they tend to imitate their parents' behaviour. That is, as babies and young children, they grew up in hostile surroundings where emotional and physical violence were 'normal' and at the same time, they learnt that the only sure way to get attention or approval is to be violent.

Furthermore, in the study respondents reported other effects of domestic violence on children. Since children, most of the time, found themselves in a helpless situation due to their nature (as dependents), they are vulnerable to sufferings such as neglect, abandonment and un-attended needs. And sometimes, the parents respond by using physical abuse to discipline the child's aggravating needs.

Again, respondents indicated additional collateral effects of domestic violence on children: poor school performance, sexual abuse, early pregnancy, prostitution, early and forced marriages of girls, juvenile delinquency and truancy. These effects give them a feeling of inadequacy, fear, anxiety, hostility and suspicion that follow them to adulthood.

Mother: The figure indicates that 29% of the respondent mothers/women were affected in some negative ways by the intra-family violence. Some respondents stated that they had experienced physical injuries ranging from slight to permanent disability like partial loss of hearing/sight, even acid attacks which result into permanent disfigurement. There was a woman who lost three months pregnancy after being flung against the wall by her husband. Some women reported that they live with a constant fear of attack in the place they should feel safest – (their own home).

Some respondents reported severe verbal harassment and criticism by the perpetrators. A woman from WRAPA Office stated that sometimes the family members use the weak spots of these women against them for their own purposes. The women suffered from brainwashing, threats, guilt, humiliation, low-self-esteem, psychological and emotional disturbances, depression and personality disorders.

Other respondents stated that women are vulnerable to the effects of domestic violence because they present a passive face and deny the terror of violence for fear of reprisals. A woman stated that the fear of stigma prevents women from admitting or reporting violent acts and this sometimes leads to their (women) being killed, or committing suicide. Thus, women/mothers suffer a lot from domestic violence, physically, psychologically, sexually, economically and from the burden of potential or actual separation/divorce.

16 AUG

Father: Nine percent (9%) of the respondents indicated that fathers are also victims of domestic violence. They suffer psychological disturbances, verbal assaults and embarrassment from their family members. Some respondents (men) reported that due to their economic situation, that is, lesser monetary power than their wives, they suffer frustration, insecurity and sense of failure to support and control their families. A few reported physical attacks, injuries, bruises, both minor and major from domestic violence. For example a man was reported to have spent two weeks in Garki hospital as a result of beating from his wife.

All Family Members: A proportion (13%) of respondents indicated that other family members such as relatives suffer the effects of domestic violence. When family violence ensues within household, all the family members are affected negatively in one-way or the other physically, psychologically, socially, economically or verbally.

Table 27: Effects of Domestic Violence on the Community

Effects	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Disturbances	116	29.0
Isolation/Disrespect	101	25.5
Emulation by others	74	18.5
Physical injury	40	10.0
Mental and Emotional Stress/frustration	50	12.5
Others	19	4.5
Total	**400**	**100.0**

Table 27 above reveals that the communities living around the violent families are not left out of its effects, which ranges from personal level or individual to community level. Thus, the community members could also be regarded as part of victims of domestic violence because the members suffer one effect or the other. It is significant to know that the effects could influence some of the community members to be either victims or perpetrators of domestic violence; by emulating the behaviour of the violent families in the environment. On the other hand, in the process of settling domestic violence, some neighbours end up maimed for life or suffer life long health handicaps.

Table 28: Common Effect of Domestic Violence and Victim of Domestic Violence

Common Effects of Domestic Violence	Victims of Domestic Violence				Total N
	Wife	Husband	Child	Relative	
Injury	36%	10%	30%	24%	100
Emotional Disturbance	31%	20%	24%	25%	92
Economic Deprivation	25%	12.5%	30%	32.5%	80
Separation/Divorce	20.5%	13.5%	47.5%	18.5%	44
Crime	22.5%	16.5%	38.5%	22.5%	36
Imprisonment	29%	22%	33%	16%	8
Discipline	37.5%	12.5%	37.5%	12.5%	30
None	18.5%	37.5%	12.5%	31.5%	10
Total	**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	**400**

x^2 value = 29.1, Critical value = 32.671, Alpha level = 0.05,
d.f = 21, N = 400.

Table 28 shows the correlation between effects of domestic violence and victim of domestic. The Table shows that the children (48%) have the highest rate of effect of violence among the family members where separation/divorce occurs. The lowest rate of effect of domestic violence recorded among the husbands (10%) which include injury (25%) imprisonment of family members is (2%). The latter is because members want to run away from stigmatization, hence they do not report domestic violence to the police for proper prosecution and judgment. Besides, there is the belief that domestic violence is a form of discipline within the family. The Table also shows effects of domestic violence and victim of family violence is statistically insignificant. This is confirmed by the value of calculated x^2 of 29.1 which is less than the critical value of 32.671. This means that the effects has negative impacts on the occurrence of domestic violence, study revealed that the effects of domestic violence does not stop the family members from being victims of this phenomenon.

Table 29: Awareness of Effect of Domestic Violence and Victim of Domestic Violence

Awareness of Effect Yes or No	**Wife**		**Husband**		**Child**		**Relative**		**Total**	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
	23%	5%	14%	4%	19%	7%	21%	6%	312	88
Total	**99**		**88**		**94**		**119**		**400**	

x^2 value = 1.43, Critical value = 7.815, Alpha level = 0.05

d.f = 3, N = 400.

The data above shows that the effect of victimization is recorded among the wives (23%) of the respondent that affirmed to the "awareness" of effects of domestic violence. However the least effect is among the husbands (4%) of those who reported "unawareness" of the effects of domestic violence.

Also the Table shows that the observed relationship between awareness of effects of domestic violence and victimization is statistically insignificant. This is evident by the value of calculated x^2 of 1.43 which is less than the critical value of 7.815.The pattern of association is therefore a negative one; this means that awareness of effects of domestic violence has an inverse influence on the occurrence of domestic violence. The study reveals that in spite of the respondents' awareness of the effects of domestic violence, family members are still victimized. The reason could be that the family members have taken violence as normal. Thus, the effect does not deter them from perpetrating violence on one another.

Therefore, unawareness of effects of domestic violence is not a significant factor of occurrence of domestic violence; rather the awareness of effects of domestic violence is a contributory factor to the prevalence of domestic violence in the society.

Table 30: Highest Educational Attainment and Awareness of Effects of Domestic Violence

Educational Attainment	Awareness of Effects of Domestic Violence		
	Yes	No	Total (N)
Secondary and Below	61.5%	38.5%	146
HND/NCE	82.5%	17.5%	155
University	88.5%	11.5%	99
Total (N)	**312**	**88**	**400**

x^2 value = 36.43, Critical value = 5.991, Alpha level = 0.05, d.f = 2, N = 400.

Table 30 shows the highest educational attainment and awareness of effects of domestic violence among the respondents of this study. The Table shows that there is a significant difference between the variables. This is evident by the values of calculated x^2 of 36.43 which is greater than critical values of 5.991. This is because highest rates of awareness of effects of domestic violence are among the respondents who have attained University Education. However, the lower rates of unawareness of effects of domestic violence are recorded among respondents who have attained primary and secondary education. This means that higher educational attainment has a positive impact on the level of awareness of effects of domestic violence; the higher the educational attainment the higher the level of awareness of effects of domestic violence and vice versa. Thus, it can be inferred that educational attainment is likely to be a crucial factor in determining the level of awareness of the effects of domestic violence and its occurrence in the society.

CHAPTER SEVEN

THE CORRELATES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

7.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the correlates of domestic violence by focusing on the factors that brought about the occurrence of domestic violence. In examining the correlates of domestic violence, multivariate and multiple regression analysis are used to measure the level of significance, the pattern of relationship and the degree of association between independent and dependent variables. The chapter is divided into three sections for the purpose of presentation of analysis.

The first section examines the correlates of domestic violence, that is, the relationships among victims of domestic violence: (wife, husband, child and other relatives) with other social variables: age, sex, religion, ethnicity, marital status, type of marriage, sex of child, highest educational attainment, employment status, number of relatives living within the household, average monthly income, occupational status, observing parents violence, beaten as child, socio-economic status, reason for occurrence of domestic violence and societal attitude.

The third section is based on multivariate analysis; multiple regression analysis where a dependent variable is predicted from two or more independent variables: Such as socio-demographic variables, correlation variables and societal attitude to domestic violence.

7.1 The Correlates Of Domestic Violence Among the Respondents

This study are presented in Table 31-48 below.

Table 31: Age Group and Victim of Domestic Violence

Age group (years)	Victims of Domestic Violence				Total	Total (N)
		Wife	Husband	Child	Relative	
20 years and Below	Young age	15.5%	13%	30.5%	41%	66
21 – 30 years	Middle age	25.5%	15.5%	25%	34%	104
31 – 40 years	Middle age	26.5%	16%	15.5%	42%	150
41years and above	Old adult	24.5%	15.5%	30.5%	29.5%	80
Total (N)		**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	**400**

x^2 value = 7.69, Critical value = 12.592, Alpha level = 0.05,

d.f = 6, 0.14, N = 400.

Table 31 Relatives about (42.%) have the highest rates of victimization than other family members and this is among the age group of 31 – 40 years. However the lowest rate of victimization was recorded among the husbands (13%) at age group below 20 years old. The explanation of the findings could be due to the fact that most respondents of age group between 31 – 40 years are regarded as middle adult, who are either newly married couples trying to cope with marital life or singles that stay in the family house.

The Table shows that the relationship between age group and victims of domestic violence is not statistically significant. This is evident by the values of calculated x^2 7.69 which is less than the critical value of 12.592. On the other

hand the table indicates that irrespective of the age family member can still be victimized by another family member. Thus age group is not a significantly contributory factor to the occurrence of domestic violence.

Table 32: Sex and Victim of Domestic Violence

Sex	Victims of Domestic Violence				Total (N)
	Wife	Husband	Child	Relative	
Male	-	30%	39%	31%	222
Female	38%	-	33%	29%	178
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	**400**

x^2 value = 22.22, Critical value = 9.488, Alpha level = 0.050, d.f = 4, N = 400.

Table 32 indicates that children suffered the highest rate of domestic violence (39%) from the male respondents. This is because any of the family member whether male or female can inflict violence on the children while the relatives are the least victims of domestic violence (29%) from the female category. It is observed from the table that sex has a direct influence on the occurrence of domestic violence; this is because the relationship between sex and victims of domestic violence is statistically significant. This is evident by the values of calculated x^2 of 22.22 which is greater than the critical values of 9.488.

The study reveals that males in the family are more aggressive and physically stronger than any other family member. However, it is also observed that male perpetrators could also become victims within the atmosphere of

violence. Either by females or males in the family. Thus, both sexes are not exempted from domestic violence.

Table 33: Religion and Victim of Domestic Violence

Religion	Victims of Domestic Violence				Total (N)
	Wife	Husband	Child	Relative	
Christianity	26.5%	19.5%	29%	25%	224
Islam	20.5%	13.5%	36.5%	29.5%	147
Others	24%	16.5%	29%	30.5%	29
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	**400**

x^2 value = 12.01, Critical value = 12.592, Alpha level = 0.05, d.f = 6, N = 400.

Table 33 shows that among the Islam faith children have the highest rates of victimization (37%). This could be due to the fact that, child abuse such as child hawking and child begging (Alamajiranci) are common among the poor in Islamic faith. Bearing in mind that majority of the respondents are from lower class in the society vis-à-vis their average monthly income. Table shows that between religious affiliation of the respondents and victims of domestic violence is statistically insignificant. This implies that there is a negative relationship between the two variables; this is evident by the calculated x^2 values of 12.01 which is greater than critical values of 12.592. This means that there is no great difference in religious affiliation. The difference in terms of percentages could be a function of the area of study. Besides it is observed from the study that religion

teaches discipline to an erring person, thus there is a much greater likelihood of violence occurring within the family. The study reveals that is because violence is accepted by the general public as a way of making an erring person 'listen to reason'. Therefore, religious affiliation does not exempt people from domestic violence. However, religion is not significantly a contributory factor to the occurrence of domestic violence.

Table 34: Ethnicity and Victim of Domestic Violence

Ethnicity	Victims of Domestic Violence				Total (N)
	Wife	Husband	Child	Relative	
Hausa	22.5%	9.5%	38%	30%	104
Yoruba	25%	11.5%	32.5%	31%	120
Igbo	23%	15.5%	30%	31.5%	101
Others	31%	34.5%	20%	14.5%	75
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	400

x^2 value = 15.04, Critical value = 16.919, Alpha level = 0.05,

d.f = 9, N = 400.

Table 34 shows that child victimization exist among different tribes with Hausa having the highest rate of child victimization closely followed by Yoruba and then Igbo. Although the Table indicates that the differences between ethnicity and victims of domestic violence is not statistically significant. This is confirmed by the values of x^2 of 15.04 which is greater than critical values of 16.919. This means that ethnicity has no direct influence on the occurrence of domestic

violence, and it is not significantly a contributory factor to the incidence of domestic violence. However it is observed that all the ethnic groups believed in the disciplining of an erring person, most especially family members, and this could lead to a rather high occurrence of domestic violence. Therefore, domestic violence cuts across all the ethnic groups within the society.

Table 35: Marital Status and Victim of Domestic Violence

Marital Status	**Victims of Domestic Violence**				**Total (N)**
	Wife	**Husband**	**Child**	**Relative**	
Single	-	-	32%	68%	90
Married	29.5%	22.5%	27.5%	20.5%	270
Separated, divorced or widowed	31.5%	18.5%	35.5%	14.5%	40
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	**400**

x^2 value = 68.6, Critical value = 12.592, Alpha level = 0.05, d.f = 6, N = 400.

Table 35 shows that the relative (68%) has the highest rate of victimization which is found among the single category than it is among the married or separated and others respondents (i.e. divorced or widowed). The single who are unemployed or job seekers always want to express themselves as much as possible, which may provoke the bread winner in the house. Unnecessary argument may not go down well, which can fuel domestic violence. This finding supports the opinion that family interaction could inhibit violence among the family members. However, the observed difference between the marital status and

victim of domestic violence is statistically significant. This is evident by the calculated x^2 values of 68.6 which is greater than critical values of 12.592. This means that marital status has a direct influence on the occurrence of domestic violence, and it could be a possible factor to the occurrence of domestic violence. It is observed from the table that all the marital statuses are involved in perpetrating domestic violence and none of the family member is exempted from being a victim. Also the findings revealed that in the society the family is empowered to discipline its members. Hence, domestic violence is rather a common phenomenon in the society.

Table 36: Types of Marriages and Victim of Domestic Violence

Types of Marriages	Victims of Domestic Violence		
	Wife	**Husband**	**Total (N)**
Monogamy	44%	32%	206
Polygamy	14%	10%	64
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**270**

x^2 value = 42.91, Critical value = 3.841, Alpha level= 0.05, d.f = 1, N = 270

Table 36 shows that monogamous families accounted for the highest rate of domestic violence among wives with (44%) than polygamous families. This finding could be as a result of study areas that do not permit polygamous living due to limited accommodation and high cost of living. The Table shows that the relationship between types of marriages and victims of domestic violence are statistically significant. This is evident by the calculated x^2 value of 42.91 which is

greater than critical value of 3.841. This is because there is a direct influence between the two variables. This means that type of marriage is a probable factor to the occurrence of domestic violence. It could be argued that domestic violence is rather common among the monogamous families. However the table shows that marital unions have a significant proportion of domestic violence.

Table 37: Sex of Child and Victim of Domestic Violence

Sex of Child	Victims of Domestic Violence			
	Wife	**Husband**	**Relative**	**Total (N)**
Male	7%	3%	5%	40
Female	12%	9%	7%	72
Both	23%	16%	18%	148
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**119**	**260**

x^2 value = 16.68, Critical value = 9.488, Alpha level = 0.05, d.f = 4, N = 260.

Table 37 shows that the wives suffered the highest rate of domestic violence (23%) and this is among the respondents who have both male and female children. However, the lowest rate of victimization is among the husbands (3%), these are the respondents who have male children. Also the table indicates the differences between sex of child and victims of domestic violence that is statistically significant. This is evident by the value of calculated x^2 of 16.68 which is greater than critical value of 9.488 This means that there is a direct

impact of both variables on each other, thus the sex of a child is a possible factor to the occurrence of domestic violence. Nevertheless, no matter the sex of a child domestic violence is rather a common phenomenon in the family.

Table 38: Highest Educational Attainment and Victim of Domestic Violence

Educational Attainment	Victims of Domestic Violence				Total (N)
	Wife	Husband	Child	Relative	
Secondary and Below	26.5%	15%	36%	22.5%	146
HND/NCE	35%	23%	16.5%	25.5%	155
University	28.5%	25.5%	14.5%	31.5%	99
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	**400**

x^2 value = 14.05, Critical value = 12.592, Alpha level = 0.05, d.f = 6, N = 400.

Table 38 shows that statistically there is a significant relationship between highest educational attainment and victims of domestic violence. This is evident by the value of calculated x^2 of 14.05 which is greater than critical values of 12.592. This suggests that the highest educational attainment has a direct impact on the occurrence of domestic violence. Furthermore the analysis shows that the highest rates of victimization (36%) are found among the children of respondents who had below secondary education. However the lowest rates of victimization are (15%) among the children of the respondents with university education. It is also observed that no matter the level of educational attainment in life, domestic violence exists among family members. Thus, educational attainment is a

significant factor that is likely to increase the incidence of domestic violence in the society.

Table 39: Employment Status and Victim of Domestic Violence

Employment Status	Victims of Domestic Violence				Total (N)
	Wife	Husband	Child	Relative	
Employed	33%	24%	15%	28%	315
Unemployed	34%	28%	18%	20%	85
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	**400**

x^2 value = 13.33, Critical value = 7.815, Alpha level = 0.05, d.f = 3, N = 400.

The Table 39 shows that the unemployed status has the highest rate of victimization of wives (34%), while the lowest rate of victimization is among the children with (15%), these are the employed respondents. This could be as a result of stress frustration and lack of financial resources caused by unemployment. The table shows that the relationship between the employment status and the victim of domestic violence is statistically significant. This is evident by the values of calculated x^2 of 13.33 which is greater than critical value of 7.815.This indicates that employment status has a direct influence on the occurrence of domestic violence. This is to infer that unemployment status is likely to increase the occurrence of domestic violence in the family. However, the employed individuals are not exempted from being victims of domestic violence in the society.

Table 40: Number of Relative Living within the Household and Victim of Domestic Violence

Number of Relatives	Victim of Domestic Violence			
	Wife	**Husband**	**Child**	**Total (N)**
1 – 3	48%	32%	20%	271
4 and above	40%	37%	23%	61
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**94**	**332**

x^2 value = 98.45, Critical value = 7.815, Alpha level = 0.05, d.f = 3, N = 119.

The data above show that the respondents with 1 - 3 relatives living within the households recorded the highest rates of victimization among the relatives, about (48%). However, the lowest rates of victimization were recorded by the children which is (20%), and this is among the respondents with 1 - 3 relatives living within the household.

The Table reveals that the relationship between the number of relatives living within the household and victim of domestic violence is statistically significant. This is shown by the value of x^2 of 98.45 which is greater than critical value of 7.815. This means that the number of relations living in the household has a positive influence on victims of domestic violence.

It is observed from the study that a large number of dependents can create financial, emotional and psychological burdens for the family, and this could lead to violence directed towards any of the family member. Thus, the number of

relatives living within the household is a possible contributory factor to the occurrence of domestic violence in the society.

Table 41: Average Monthly Income and Victim of Domestic Violence

Average Monthly Income	Victims of Domestic Violence				Total (N)
	Wife	Husband	Child	Relative	
15,000 Below	32.5%	25%	18.5%	24%	90
15,001 - 25,000	29.5%	25.5%	16.5%	28.5%	85
25,001 – 35,000	26.5%	22.5%	25%	25%	75
35,001 and above	26%	18%	27%	29%	65
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	**315**

x^2 value = 26.67, Critical value = 16.919, Alpha level = 0.05, d.f = 9, N = 395.

The data above indicate that wives victimization (33%) is higher among the respondents who earned below ₦15,000 average monthly incomes. On the other hand, the lowest rate of victimization is among the husbands (18%) who earned between ₦35,001 and above monthly income.

Analysing the differences between an average monthly income and victim of domestic violence shows that there is a direct influence between the two variables. This indicates a significant relationship between average monthly income and victims of domestic violence. This is confirmed by the value of calculated x^2 of 26.67 which is greater than the critical value of 16.919. This means that an average monthly income has a positive impact on the level of

victimization of the family members and the occurrence of domestic violence. The study reveals that the lower income families are more likely to encounter stressful events, financial crisis and family violence more because they have the fewest resources to cope with than the higher income families. Thus, average monthly income is likely to be a determining factor to the occurrence of domestic violence in the society.

Table 42: Occupational Status and Victim of Domestic Violence

Occupational Status	Victims of Domestic Violence				Total (N)
	Wife	Husband	Child	Relative	
Professionals/Technical	28.5%	13%	25.5%	33%	71
Administrators/Managerial	23.5%	18.5%	29%	29%	120
Business/Contractors	29.5%	19.5%	24.5%	26.5%	19
Clerical Workers/Artisans	26%	21%	32.5%	20.5%	105
Unemployed	26%	19.5%	25%	29.5%	85
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	**400**

x^2 value = 12.92, Critical value = 21.026, Alpha level = 0.05,

d.f = 12, N = 400.

The Table above indicates that the highest rates of victimization were among the relatives (33%) while the lowest rates are recorded among the husbands (13%) of the professional/technical category. This could be explained that the family members see the in-laws and other relatives as a burden to their immediate family life. Hence, violence against other relatives living within the household.

However the table shows that irrespective of your occupational status, any of the family members can be victimized. Table 42 shows that the relationship between occupational status and victim of domestic violence is not statistically significant. This is evident by the value of calculated x^2 of 12.92 which is less than critical value of 21.026. This reveals that occupational status has no direct influence on domestic violence and its victims. Hence, occupational status is not a contributory factor to the occurrence of domestic violence in the society.

Table 43: Observing Parent Violence and Victim of Domestic Violence

Parent Violence	**Victim of Domestic Violence**			
	Wife	**Husband**	**Relative**	**Total (N)**
Frequently	36.5%	31%	32.5%	96
Occasionally	35.5%	30.5%	34%	128
Never	34.5%	31%	35%	82
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**119**	**306**

x^2 value = 33.92, Critical value = 9.488, Alpha level = 0.05,

d.f = 4, N = 306.

The Table above shows that victimization occurs more with wives than children (37%) where the parental violence is most frequent. This is because the study shows that observing parental violence has a direct impact on the incidence of domestic violence and victimization. This means that the respondents that had

witnessed violence among their parents either frequently or occasionally have the highest proportion of domestic violence. Therefore, it can be inferred that observing parental violence while growing up is likely to affect the level of occurrence of domestic violence later in life. The Table shows that the relationship between observing parent violence and victims of domestic violence is statistically significant. This is evident by the calculated x^2 value of 15.16 which is greater than critical value of 12.592. Although the data revealed that there is no appreciable difference between those who had witnessed parental violence and those who had never witnessed parental violence before. This is because there is also a rather higher level of violence victimization among those respondents who said "never" to parental violence. This makes domestic violence rather common and is a generational phenomenon in the society.

Table 44: Beaten as a Child and Victim of Domestic Violence.

Beaten as a Child	**Victims of Domestic Violence**				
	Wife	**Husband**	**Child**	**Relative**	**Total (N)**
Frequently	32.5%	16.5%	30.5%	20.5%	123
Occasionally	20.5%	17.5%	30.5%	31.5%	263
Never	25%	13.5%	31.5%	30%	14
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	**400**

x^2 value = 82.66, Critical value = 12.592, Alpha level = 0.05,

d.f = 6, N = 400.

The data show that wife victimization is predominant (33%) among the respondents who were frequently beaten as a child than other family members who were beaten "occasionally" or "never". The observed relationship between being beaten as a child and victimization of domestic violence is statistically significant. This is evident by the values of calculated x^2 of 82.66 which is greater than critical values of 12.592. The pattern of association is therefore a strong positive one, meaning that the test support the relationship between violence received as a child and violence committed as an adult. It is also observed from the study findings that the basic training for violence consists of a learning situation that takes place where observation and experience with violence lead to domestic violence (see Table 43). Similarly, child victimization and socialization reflect the adulthood level of violence in the family. Thus, it is inferred that childhood experience determines the occurrence of domestic violence in the society.

Table 45: Socio-Economic Status and Victim of Domestic Violence

Socio-Economic Status	**Victims of Domestic Violence**				
	Wife	**Husband**	**Child**	**Relative**	**Total (N)**
Lower Status	24%	19%	32%	25%	140
Working Status	24.5%	18.5%	29.5%	27.5%	138
Middle/Upper /Status	22%	18	28.5%	31.5%	122
Total (N)	**99**	**88**	**94**	**119**	**400**

x^2 value = 13.69, Critical value = 12.592, Alpha level = 0.05,

d.f = 06, N = 400.

The data in Table 45 shows that child victimization (32%) is higher among the lower socio-economic families than among other socio-economic status of the study. The logical inferences that have been drawn from the table conform to the expected pattern. This is because those who are economically less privilege have higher chances of domestic violence occurrence with high rate of victimization due to fewer monetary and material resources to pursue their daily lives than their counterparts who are economically buoyant and have less occurrence of domestic violence with less victimization. The table indicates that the relationship between the socio-economic status of members of the family and victims of domestic violence is statistically significant. This is shown by the values of calculated x^2 of 13.69 which is greater than critical value of 12.592. This means that there is a direct impact of socio-economic status on domestic violence, and its victims. This socio-economic status is likely to determine the occurrence of domestic violence in the society.

Table 46: Reasons for Occurrence of Domestic Violence

Reasons for Occurrence of Domestic Violence	Yes or No	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Argument over money	Yes	345	87.0
	No	55	13.0
Disputes over relatives/in-laws	Yes	324	81.0
	No	76	19.0
Disputes over discipline of children	Yes	299	75.0
	No	101	25.0
Disobedience	Yes	280	70.0
	No	120	30.0
Leadership role between husband/wife	Yes	249	63.0
	No	151	37.0
Jealousy/fear of partner's infidelity	Yes	247	62.0
	No	153	38.0
Too many dependents	Yes	216	54.0
	No	184	46.0
Arguments over drinking habits/drugs	Yes	211	53.0
	No	189	47.0
Forceful sexual intercourse	Yes	177	45.0
	No	223	55.0
Partner's unemployment	Yes	176	44.0
	No	224	56.0
Disputes over sex of children	Yes	132	33.0
	No	268	67.0

The above data indicate that ten factors were investigated as possible agents for the eruption of violence in the households.

Arguments Over Money: About (87%) of the respondents identified this factor as the most important cause of domestic violence. This indicates that abuse and assault could have occurred due to the economic situation of the family members. Some respondents indicated that lack of adequate money to cater for the family needs was the basis of many arguments resulting in violence. A woman

reported that children school fees always leads to domestic violence. Some female respondents (wives) claimed that they were given insufficient food allowance that could not provide sufficient food not to talk of decent meals for the family and any complaints about it often lead to some physical acts of violence. Also some wives claimed that husbands controlled all the earned income by keeping tight reins on the budget, especially among the better-to-do families.

Disputes Over Relatives/In-laws: Eighty one percent (81%) of the respondents indicated that relative' and in-laws' interference in marriages is real in the society and occurrences rather high. Some respondents, both male and female, and even children, complained about their in-laws, most especially where some relatives lived with couples, that the relations run the affairs of their home for them especially the mother in-laws. Some wives, however admitted that their husbands threaten to throw them out of their homes if they refused to comply with their mother/sister in-laws' directives. Even where in-laws are not in residence with the couples, there are usually traditional demands and responsibilities that must be met often times, at the detriment of one's spouse or children.

Disputes Over Discipline of Children: More than half of the respondents (75%) argued that discipline of children often leads to conflicts especially among the parents. Most of them indicated that their partners resent parental responsibilities, especially over disciplining of children. Often, when any of the parents punishes one of the children, the other parent may feel that the partner does not love the child. Some wives indicated that women always receive blame

for any act of disobedience and truancy by the children from husbands, parents, in-laws and relations. This often leads to domestic violence.

Disobedience: A large proportion of the respondents 70% admitted that disobedience is one of the strong reasons that lead to domestic violence. The findings reveal that family members that are perceived as disobedient are stubborn or heady people and thus physically or psychologically abused. Sometimes, disobedience may be conceived as refusal to respect the elders of the household, using abusive language against the husbands, in-laws especially from wives and children are often seen as insultive to manhood. Also not preparing the husband's food in time, failure to care for children at home, starving husband/wife sexually and keeping late night outside, refusal to respect the household members – outbursts at elders' husband and disrespect for one's in-laws. These behaviours were regarded as disobedience that need to be corrected, also these behaviours were perceived as irresponsible and insultive to the family and there is a need to correct the erring person. Hence the correction or discipline can lead to physical or psychological abuse. All the respondents admitted that these abusive acts have affected them negatively.

Leadership Role between Husband and Wife: A large proportion of respondents (63%) admitted that asserting authority in the house could lead to domestic violence, especially on the part of wives. Some wives said that the effects of such abusive conduct on family members ranged from dehumanizing and be-littling, to violation of their human rights and liberty. Thus, this factor is

very significant in determining the level of occurrences of domestic violence in the households.

Jealousy/Fear of Partner's Infidelity: Most respondents (62%), especially the married partners, admitted that a feeling of jealousy is a significant factor in domestic violence. Most respondents cited the case of sexual problem such as unsatisfactory sexual intimacy, denial, and excessive demands for sex, frigidity and possible impotency, as factors that could lead to arguments in the bedroom and which may result in both psychological and physical violence. In such cases, some husbands usually doubted their own virility and questioned their wives fidelity or vice versa. A woman indicated that some of the husbands even questioned the paternity of one or more of the children. Also some husbands may restrict their wives' movement; this constitutes a kind of human rights violation. Many family members threaten their partners with divorce, and this becomes imminent especially when the partner's infidelity has been questioned or confirmed, which could lead to domestic violence.

Dependence/Dependants: More than half of the respondents (54%) stated that sharing of scarce resources among family members, especially extended ones could create serious problems in the households. A woman said "I have 5 grown up men living with me (brother in-laws) and I have just one daughter for my husband, so to eat is a problem in the house and I'm a full house wife. This sometimes leads to physical violence among us. Therefore, too many dependents in a household, could lead to domestic violence.

Argument over Drinking Habit/Drugs: Over half of the respondents (53%) indicated that presence of alcohol and drug act as catalysts to domestic violence. Some women indicated that their husbands beat them when drunk, usually leading to serious injuries, including sexual assaults and harassments. A new bride was reported to have ran away and abandoned her home, forty days (40) after her wedding due to excessive alcohol consumption and sexual assault by her husband in Garki - Abuja. Very often, drinking of alcohol was used by men and sometimes, even women, as a prelude or excuse for perpetuating violence against their family members.

Others reported that some family members were inclined to beat other members of the family due to alcoholic and drug influence, while some wives take advantage of their husbands' drunken state to attack and beat them in revenge for their husbands' previous acts of violence against them. Therefore, the use of drug or alcohol could cause family members a lot of psychological and physical problems.

Forceful Sexual Intercourse: More than one-fifth of the respondents (45%), identified forceful sexual intercourse as a significant factor capable of causing violence in the home. Though the respondents were not willing to freely expose such incidents or talk about their sexual life because they consider it private. However, some wives identified husbands' act of brutality, unemotional sexual intimacy, infidelity and adultery as causes of domestic violence. This act against wives alienates and makes them feel worthless. This makes the wives

withdraw both physically and emotionally from any sexual activities with their husbands. Some husbands even complained that their wives denied them sex in order to drive home a point, and this kind of behaviour by women is never taken kindly by husbands. This often leads to forced sexual intercourse, with some violent struggles involving severe beating and injuries on both sides.

Partner's Unemployment: Some respondents about (44%) admitted that unemployment of married partners is a precipitant to violence. This could be a source of additional stress and frustration, for insufficient resources for upkeep of the family and high level of dependents in the family. A man says: "the unemployed persons in the household do not command respect and have to live at the mercy of the employed persons for survival". This often leads to frequent occurrence of domestic violence.

Disputes Over Sex of Children: Thirty-three percent (33%) of the respondents claimed that most people, especially husbands, preferred male children to female, while some preferred female children to male, all these depend on the culture of the husbands or individuals. Thus, the failure of the wife to meet up with her husband's or family's requirement to have a male/female child as desired may lead to domestic violence and sometimes result in separation or divorce of the family.

Table 47: Reason of Victim of Domestic Violence

Reasons for Occurrence of Domestic Violence		Victims of Domestic Violence				
		Wife	Husband	Child	Relative	Total (N)
Argument over money	Yes	30%	21.5%	16%	19%	345
	No	2.5%	3%	5%	3%	55
Disputes over relatives/in-laws	Yes	25%	17%	19.5%	20%	324
	No	2.5%	3.5%	8.5%	4%	76
Disputes over discipline of children	Yes	4.4%	14.5%	20%	15.5%	299
	No	2.5%	6%	12%	5%	101
Disobedience	Yes	21.5%	9%	26%	13.5%	280
	No	6.5%	11.5%	3.5%	8.5%	120
Leadership role between husband/wife	Yes	24.5%	15%	12.5%	10.5%	249
	No	8.5%	5%	13.5%	10.5%	151
Jealousy/fear of partner's infidelity	Yes	20.5%	16.6%	13.5%	11%	247
	No	6%	8.5%	14.5%	9.5%	153
Too many dependants	Yes	17.5%	13%	9%	14.5%	216
	No	10%	12.5%	15%	8.5%	184
Arguments over drinking habits/drugs	Yes	18%	11%	14%	9.5%	211
	No	9.5%	12%	14.5%	11.5%	189
Forceful sexual intercourse	Yes	29%	9%	2%	4.5%	177
	No	9%	14.5%	16.5%	15.5%	223
Partner's unemployment	Yes	14.5%	9.5%	11%	9%	176
	No	10.5%	13.5%	17.5%	14.5%	224
Disputes over sex of children	Yes	12.5%	9.5%	7%	4%	132
	No	14.5%	16.5%	18.5%	17.5%	268

Table 47, indicate reasons for occurrence of domestic violence experienced by family members, as victims of domestic violence. The Table shows that an argument over money is the most frequent factor that leads to domestic violence where the highest rates of victimization was among wives (30%). However, the least victimization was recorded among the children (2%) who indicated forced sexual intercourse as a factor of domestic violence. The research reveals that arguments over money are a common phenomenon in a violent family. The reason is that most of the respondents were civil servants who are monthly income

earners and due to the economic conditions of the families, where insufficient or reckless spending of money could trigger the incidence of domestic violence at the slightest provocation. On the other hand, children are the least victims of forced sexual intercourse. This may be due to the fact that most people are not too willing to disclose their sexual life especially children. This is because some are scared of its repercussion.

Table 48: Societal Attitude and Victim of Domestic Violence

Societal Attitude	**Victims of Domestic Violence**					
	Yes or No	**Wife**	**Husband**	**Child**	**Relative**	**Total (N)**
Right to beat family members	Yes	21.5%	16.5%	24.5%	18%	321
	No	4.5%	3%	7%	5%	79
The use of violence to solve misunder-standing	Yes	11.5%	14.5%	7%	12.5%	183
	No	13.5%	12.5%	15%	13.5%	217
Domestic violence viewed as private affairs	Yes	16.5%	17.5%	12.5%	15%	247
	No	9.5%	10.5%	9.5%	9%	153
Viewing Domestic Violence as Problem	Yes	22%	14.5%	15%	18.5%	280
	No	7%	10%	5.5%	7.5%	120
The use of Corporal punishment in homes	Yes	17.5%	19.5%	14%	17.5%	274
	No	7.5%	9%	6.5%	8.5%	126
Should violence be reported to police	Yes	11.5%	5%	6.5%	8.5%	125
	No	19.5%	15.5%	16.5%	17%	275
Should perpetrators be punished by law	Yes	24.5%	12.5%	17.5%	20%	297
	No	6%	8.5%	4%	7%	103

The Table shows the societal attitude and victim of domestic violence among the family members. This indicates a pattern of societal attitude towards the issue of domestic violence, and its victims. The Table shows that there are significant proportions of societal attitudes that influence the occurrence of domestic violence. It is observed that the right to beat a family member is a popular belief among the respondents 321 about (81%). This is because the respondents felt that the use of physical force and corporal punishment were necessary to control an erring family members. Similarly, it is believed that any victim of family violence should not report the matter to the police; rather, the matter should be settled by elders' relatives or within the family circle. The data gives evidence that the society actually has some attitudes, which make domestic violence a common phenomenon. Thus, domestic violence as a product of social interaction has its positive influence on the prevalence of violence in the family. In fact, to a considerable extent, it can be inferred that the societal attitudes permit and sometimes encourage domestic violence in the society.

7.2 Multiple Regression Analysis

In order to reaffirm the conclusion in the previous section, an empirical functional relationship is established to determine the nature and degree of linear correlation that exist between correlates of domestic violence, using a regression model. Here domestic violence as a dependent variable, while correlates like Age, Sex, Number of Children, Highest educational attainment, Occupational Status, Average income level, Employment status, Relative living within the household,

and Socio-economic status as independent variables. This is to identify the factor that plays more crucial roles in the determination of occurrence of domestic violence of the study. This is presented in Table 49-51 below.

Table 49: Socio-demographic Variables of Domestic Violence

Socio-demographic variable	Beta	Significant Level	P-Value	Percentage Contributions
Age	-0.03093	0.5374	P>0.05	0.1%
Sex	-0.01457	0.7714	P>0.05	0.2%
Religion	-0.09611	0.0459	P<0.05	9.0%
Ethnicity	-0.04650	0.3536	P>0.05	0.2%
Marital Status	0.10322	0.0391	P<0.05	10.4%
Type of Marriage	-0.07918	0.1139	P>0.05	0.6%
Sex of Children	0.07634	0.1274	P>0.05	0.6%
Number of Children	0.09053	0.0705	P>0.05	0.8%
Highest Educational Attainment	0.01225	0.0146	P<0.05	14.2.%
Occupational Status	0.07918	0.0139	P>0.05	6.2%
Present Employment Status	-0.04691	0.3494	P>0.05	0.2%
Type of Employment	0.11639	0.0199	P<0.05	13.1%
Average Monthly Income	0.15698	0.0016	P<0.05	24%
Relative Living within Household	0.03711	0.4592	P>0.05	0.2%
Socio-Economic Status	0.15260	0.0024	P<0.05	20.2%

Significant level = 0.05, R2 = 77%, N = 400

P>0.05 = P-value is greater than 0.05, there is insignificant relationship between two variables (>).

P<0.05 = P- value is less than or equal to 0.05 there is a significant relationship between two variables (< or =).

R^2 = measure the predictive efficiency of independent variable.

Table 49 above shows the multiple regression correlation between socio-demographic variables and domestic violence. The Table indicates the degree of

variation in occurrence of domestic violence that could be explained by the joint effects of the fifteen independent variables which $R^2 = 77\%$. Similarly, the table shows that there exist between the variables both significant and insignificant relationships. Therefore, in order to determine the relative impact of these independent variables on dependent variables, the average monthly income 24% is the most important contributor in predicting and determining the level of occurrence of domestic violence among the study population. This shows that occurrence of domestic violence is higher with low average monthly income earners than with high average monthly income earners. The social factor that could be explained for this finding is that most respondents are civil servants who are income earners. It is observed that the families that are under the greatest stress and frustration of family life are those who are deprived financially. In addition, certain families suffer greater violence due to lack of resources to deal with and cope with these stresses. Besides, violence occurs in families' at all socio-economic level. It is most common in families occupying positions at the bottom of the socio-economic scale; these are the families with lower average income earners. Moreso, the area of study is urbane, and a working environment therefore stress from working hours could contribute to occurrence of domestic violence.

However, the age is negative (0.1%) and is the lowest contributor in predicting the occurrence of domestic violence. This means that age does not have any effect, but only an inverse relationship on the level of occurrence of domestic

violence. This could be explained that age does not exempt any of the family members from domestic violence irrespective of age, victimization is possible in a violent atmosphere.

Table 50: Reason for the occurrence of Domestic Violence

Correlate Variables	Beta	Significant Level	P-Value	Percentage Contributions
Observing Parents Violence	0.22362	0.0000	P<0.05	12.1%
Beaten as a Child	0.40065	0.0000	P<0.05	16.1%
Argument over Money	0.22869	0.0000	P<0.05	13%
Forceful Sexual Intercourse	0.15114	0.0056	P>0.05	2%
Dispute over Relatives /In-Laws	0.18568	0.0002	P<0.05	8.6%
Too Many Dependent	0.05345	0.2862	P>0.05	4%
Partner's Unemployment	0.00087	0.2245	P>0.05	7%
Dispute Over Discipline of Children	0.10322	0.0391	P<0.05	12%
Drinking Habit of Alcohol and Drugs	0.18568	0.0003	P<0.05	6%
Jealousy and Fears of Partner's Infidelity	0.18577	0.0002	P<0.05	8.5%
Leadership Role Between Wife/ Husband	0.0563	0.2607	P>0.05	3.2%
Dispute over Sex of Children	0.06902	0.1683	P>0.05	1.3%
Disobedience	0.09611	0.0054	P>0.05	6.2%

Significant level = 0.05 R^2 = 71% N = 400

P>0.05 = P-value is greater than 0.05, there is insignificant relationship between two variables (>).

$P<0.05$ = P- value is lesser than or equal to 0.05, there is a significant relationship between two variables (< or =).

R^2 = Measure the predictive efficiency of independent variable.

Table 50 indicates multiple regression correlation of the reason for the occurrence and domestic violence. This shows the degree of difference in occurrence of domestic violence that could be explained by the joint effects of twelve independent variables which R^2 value is 71%. The table shows that beaten as a child (16%) is the major determinant of occurrence of domestic violence among the respondents of this study. However, dispute over sex of children (1%) is the lowest contributor in determining and predicting the occurrence of domestic violence among the variables.

The probable social factors for these findings are that most respondent indicated child victimization within the family. This is because some respondents had been victims of child beating, while some had witnessed violence among their family members, thus childhood violence is rather common among the study population (See Table 43, 44, and 50). This also means that childhood victimization and socialization makes most children to emulate violent behaviour in adulthood. This means that child violence is a significant contributory factor to the occurrence of domestic violence of the study. . The study earlier reveals that the married couple with both sexes of children indicated the highest level of domestic violence (See Table 3.7).

Therefore, from the above analysis, it can be inferred that in the future using these twelve independent variables will still have the same effects on the occurrence of domestic violence in the society.

Table 51: Societal Attitude Variables of Domestic Violence

Societal Attitude	Beta	Significant Level	P-Value	Percentage Contributions
Right to beat a family member	1.8592	0.0002	P<0.05	57%
Use of Corporal Punishment at Home	0.12163	0.0149	P>0.05	14.8%
Use of Force to Settle Quarrel at Home	0.12205	0.0146	P<0.05	15.6%
Viewing Domestic Violence as Private Affair	- 0.07634	0.01274	P>0.05	5.8%
Viewing Domestic Violence as Problem	0.03364	0.5023	P>0.05	1.1%
Should Domestic violence be reported to the police	0.05637	0.2607	P>0.05	3.2%
Should perpetrators be punished by the law	0.01614	0.3140	P>0.05	2.5%

Significant level = 0.05 R^2 = 40% N = 400

P>0.05 = P-value is greater than 0.05 there is insignificant relationship between two variables (>).

P<0.05 = P- value is lesser than or equal to 0.05, there is a significant relationship between two variables (< or =).

R^2 = measure the predictive efficiency of independent variable, .

Table 51 indicates the multiple regression correlation between domestic violence and societal attitude. The Table shows the different contribution of seven independent variables on domestic violence, which indicate both significant and insignificant relationships among the variables. Similarly the Table shows the degree of variation in the occurrence of domestic violence which is $R^2 = 40\%$, using the above variables. The Table shows that the right to beat a family member is the major determinant of domestic violence with (57%) contribution. This means that the right to beat another family member within the household have a direct influence on the occurrence of domestic violence, perhaps because people believe in disciplining family members to uphold the ties of family life, but sometimes this discipline can be done in a violent manner that often leads to dangerous living and yet it is not regarded as an act of domestic violence. On the other hand, viewing domestic violence as a problem within the household is the lowest contributor (1%) in predicting factor of occurrence of domestic violence. This could be as a result of family members and the society as a whole not recognizing violence in the family and considering it as no problem within the household and the society at large. The study reveals that a family member who had been beaten should never report the matter to the police, for settlement of dispute because it is seen as a family affair. Thus, it can be concluded that, using these seven independent variables in Table 57 in predicting the occurrence of domestic violence shows that there is a significant proportion of the phenomenon in the society.

7.3 Discussion of Major Research Findings

The examination of domestic violence begins in this section with an overview of incidence of domestic violence between family members in Abuja Municipal Area Council.

The characteristics of both perpetrators and the victims as shown by the study are: the two groups of respondents were basically similar except for sex; they came from violent background where they were either victims or witnesses to parental violence; they are related by marriage and in spite of violence the family members stay together; the two groups do not differ in age, ethnicity, marital status, religion, education, occupation, income and family size; both groups are involved in perpetrating domestic violence in Abuja Municipal.

The study revealed that the incidence, type and patterns of domestic violence are multi-dimensional. This is because the acts of violence among the family members; usually occur within the privacy of the home. It is where the majority of the family live and family interaction take place; thus the family predominates in acts of violence ranging from verbal to beating, torture or even death. The pattern of violence among the family members usually occurs in the living room during the week days at the evening/night time, (see Tables 19, 20, 21) when it is difficult for the victim to escape. This is because the neighbours and the society are not ready to accommodate victims of domestic violence. More so, the society believes that there is nothing like domestic violence; it is just the

486222

discipline of a family member which is normal, and so it is a private affair that needs no interference from an outsider.

The major effects of domestic violence on the family members could be looked at from various angles: physical, psychological, economic and social effects. It is also quite obvious from the various indices of domestic violence that are used that when violence is committed against family members, there are negative effects on the victim family members and the community as a whole such effects are observable in bodily injury (both major and minor ones), scars and disabilities, depression, constant fear, separation or divorce, isolation, economic deprivations, prostitution, crime, sickness and death. (See Table 26).

It is also observed from the study that despite the high level of awareness of effects of domestic violence by the respondents, especially those who have attained university education, the occurrence of family violence is rather high. The implication of the findings is that awareness of effects of domestic violence does not curb nor reduce its occurrence by family members against one another in the households. This is contrary to the popular belief in Kisekka (1992), that lack of awareness effects of domestic violence leads to its high occurrence in the society. This study also shows that children are the most affected of all the victims (See figure 1). This might be probably due to the nature of children as dependants. The findings also reveal that about 45% of the assaults on the family members, especially on the women, were accompanied by similar physical assaults on at least one child in the household. The remaining 55% were situations in

which the children were not assaulted, but witnessed the attacks on their parents. Thus, making the children emulate such acts of violence later in life as adults. This is to confirm the interactionist perspective that says individuals learn and emulate his/her family interactive mechanism. The findings revealed that the communities living around the violent homes were not left untouched by the negative effects. For instance, a man said "whenever my neighbour is drunk no sleep for that night because he will definitely fight his family members". A woman said "I was injured (arm twisted) while separating a fight between husband and wife last week". Therefore evidence revealed that domestic violence has a negative impact on the victims, perpetrators, family members and the society at large.

The study reveals the factors that are attributed to the incidence of domestic violence. There are both significant and insignificant relationships between domestic violence and its correlates that determine the pattern and level of occurrence of domestic violence among the study population. This implies that some relationships are perfect, very high, high, low or very low depending on the magnitude of the coefficient. Similarly, the association shows both direct and inverse relationships.

The analysis of the socio-demographic attributes and domestic violence show that there is a high positive association between the two variables. The study also shows that the average monthly income is the highest contributor,

which plays a major role in the determination of occurrence of domestic violence. This might be due to the income level of literacy among the respondents who are mainly civil servant within the study area.

Consequently, the high association between domestic violence and average monthly income links up with the socio-economic status of family, that supported the assertion that socio-economic disadvantaged families are less educated and have the highest incidence of domestic violence in the society. This is because low average monthly income, low educational attainment, and low occupational status are functions of frustration or otherwise, arising from ability or inability to provide adequately for the family. However, the socio-economic advantaged families are more educated and have less occurrence of domestic violence. This confirms the research hypothesis I. Thus, supporting the findings of (Gelles, 1974; Roy, 1977) in American society who posit that "social family structure determines the level of occurrence of family violence either high or low rate. Therefore, the increase or decrease in domestic violence may occur due to the socio-economic condition of the family in the society". This also supports the Marxian perspective that economic determines the patterns of family social relations.

Examining the association between domestic violence and the factors that are attributed to the occurrence of domestic violence, revealed that being beaten, as a child is the major determinant and the highest contributory factor of the incidence of domestic violence among the study population. There is evidence that being beaten as a child has a positive significant relationship on the occurrence of domestic violence in the society. This is because child victimization and violence between family members definitely tend to indicate that violent individuals grew up in violent families and were frequent victims of family violence as children. This finding supports the research hypothesis II that stated that there is an association between childhood experiences and domestic violence. This is because the study supports the relationship between violence received as a child, observing parental violence and witnessing family violence and the level of violence committed as an adult. Consequently the literatures on child abuse present strong evidence that abusive parents were raised in an abused environments. Thus, the family serves as a background for teaching violent behaviour, which often call for high occurrence of domestic violence in the society (Gelles, and Claire, 1985).

The study findings also revealed that the examination of domestic violence and societal attitudes on the incidence of domestic violence confirm that there is a high positive association between domestic violence and societal attitudes (see Table 48). This is because the societal attitude permits and allows some certain level of occurrence of family violence. Evidence revealed that the right to beat a

family member is a major determinant, and the highest contributor of the occurrence of domestic violence among the respondents. This finding confirms the assertion that domestic violence is a product of social interaction, which mirrors the societal attitude towards the use of violence as the problem solving mechanism. This supports the hypothesis IV use of force and beating. This means that the impact of corporal punishment in the house in the name of disciplining a family member indicates that many of the mechanisms of family violence are accepted and even transferred from one generation to another generation. Thus, the use of violence to settle problem in the homes by the respondents was approved, justified and seen as normal in the home. Thus, evidence revealed that being a victim of domestic violence can lead to approval of use of violence among family members. This demonstrates a rather high occurrence of domestic violence in the society (Robson, 1993).

This study shows that there is a great deal of violence against the children within the household than any other family members in Abuja Municipal Area Council. Reason is that they are the most affected and vulnerable victims of domestic violence. (see Figure 1).This means in beating children, parents, guardians and adults in the homes believe that they are instilling discipline, much

of the same idea lies behind the beating of wives who are regarded recalcitrant like erring children. The study shows that women are the second most vulnerable victims of domestic violence due to their position as wives, mothers and the properties of men, who are heads of families. Nevertheless, other family members such as sister in-laws, mother in-laws, aunties, uncles and other relatives including the husbands are not exempted from being victims of domestic violence in this study. Thus, the study shows that the prevalence of domestic violence is rather not neglible in Abuja Municipal Area Council.

In conclusion, the study finding provides some clues to how much domestic violence is prevalent in the society. There are evidences that violence between family members consists of different factors producing different victims, which occur in some families on a patterned and frequent basis. There are different types of violence occurring in households with different meanings attached to the incidence by family members. The study demonstrates that no one factor in isolation creates and nurtures family violence. Other several factors such as socio-economic level of the family, average monthly income, beaten as a child, highest educational attainment, age, sex, religion, observing parental violence, sex of children, dependency level, awareness of effects of domestic violence, societal attitude and other factors, occur together in combination to make it prevalent. The level of associations between these independent and the dependent variables show both significant and insignificant relationships. Therefore, domestic violence has no simple solution but several to reduce its occurrence in the society.

CHAPTER EIGHT

SUBSTANTIATION OF HYPOTHESES, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.0 Introduction

This chapter contains the following: substantiation of research hypotheses, conclusion and recommendations on how to curb domestic violence in the society.

8.1 Substantiation of Research Hypotheses.

Hypothesis I: "The socio – economically disadvantaged families are more likely to be vulnerable to domestic violence than their socio – economically advantaged counter parts".

The study has shown that domestic violence is part of the dependency cycle that family members find themselves in a trap from which they cannot escape because of their economic situation in the society. The study pointed out that over 65% of the respondents are victims of domestic violence due to poor economic condition which were manifested in low average monthly income (see Table 41). High rate of unemployment (see Table 39) family dependency such as relatives and in – laws living within the household (see Table 40). These factors have created tension in people, which made them subject to anger at the slightest provocation, thus, making argument over money (87%) and disputes over

relatives/or in–laws (81%) causes of domestic violence. This is because the power over money is important in a family where wealth is a central factors in decision making by the family members.

Further more, study indicates that the relationship between socio – economic status of members of family and victims of domestic violence is statistically significant (see Table 45). Thus, from the above analysis it can be inferred that socio – economic status is likely to determine the occurrence of domestic violence in the society. Therefore the hypothesis is confirmed. This support the work of (Gells, 1974) which says that families that encounter the most stress have the fewest resources to cope with, due to less education, less occupational status and less average monthly income. This is a function of frustration arising from inability to provide adequately for the family. Although violence occurs in families at all levels, it is most common in families occupying positions at the bottom of the socio-economic scale. This supports the Marxian assertion that economic is a determining factors of pattern of social relations among the family members positively or negatively.

Hypothesis II: "The ignorance of the consequences of domestic violence is likely to affect the extent of its occurrence". The study reveals that the respondents were not ignorance of the consequences of domestic violence. The respondents

were asked to indicate whether or not they are presently aware of cases and effects of domestic violence. Seventy - eight percent (78%) of the sample answered in the affirmative. Thus in spite of the respondents awareness of the effects of domestic violence families are still victimized, beating of the family members (70%) (see Table 29). The reason could be that family members have taken violence as normal life, therefore witnessing and partaking in the effects does not deter families from perpetrating violence on one another. This supports the study of (Robson 1993), which asserted that the cultural values of the society makes the families to believe that domestic violence is alright normal life. The study shows that there is no significant difference, thus, the hypothesis is nullified. This is contrary to the study of (Kisekka, 1992) that says unawareness of effects of domestic violence contributes to its occurrences in the families.

Hypothesis III: "There is an association between childhood experiences and domestic violence". The study reveals that there are some factors that permit the occurrence of domestic violence in the families, such as beaten as a child (95%), observing parental violence (81%), disciplining of children (81%) (see Table 44). These contribute to high occurrence of domestic violence. Therefore the role models for violence presented to an individual in his childhood provide a learning situation where the use of rationale and approved of violence are

learned. There is evidence that child abuse, victimization as a child and witnessing violence family members, definitely tend to indicate that violent individuals grew up in violent families and were frequent victims of familiar violence as children and the level of violence committed as an adult. Consequently, the literatures on child abuse present strong evidence that abused parents were raised in the same style that they re – created in the pattern of rearing their own children (Gells and Claire 1985; Roy, 1977). Thus, the family serves as agent of socialization and basic training for violent behaviour, which often lead to high occurrence of domestic violence in Abuja Municipal Area council. Therefore the hypothesis is confirmed. The findings support the interactionist perspective that asserted that domestic violence is a product of social interaction, which is learned from the family. Thus, making domestic violence a vicious cycle in the society, transferring from one generation to another.

Hypothesis IV: "Domestic violence is a product of social interaction, which mirrors the general societal attitudes towards the use of violence as a problem solving mechanism". This hypothesis is explained by examining the factors (attitudes) in the society and in the family that lead to violence and whether or not an individual learns to use violence in these situations (see Table 40). The study reveals that some societal attitudes have a positive influence on the occurrence of

domestic violence. The right to beat family members is a popular belief among the respondents (81%). Evidence revealed that the use of physical force and corporal punishments were necessary to control an erring family member. This finding confirms the assertion that domestic violence is a product of social interaction by the interactionist perspective. Thus, the impact of disciplining a family member shows that some of the mechanisms of family violence are tolerated and even passed on from generation to generation. Similarly, the study reveals that abuse and violence in the house by the respondents was approved, justified and seen as normal behaviour within the family. Thus, the hypothesis is confirmed. This shows that viewing violence as private affairs and alright behaviours demonstrate a rather high occurrence of domestic violence in the society, which is supported by studies of (Robson, 1993; Thomas et al 2004).

8.2 Conclusion

This research has been an exploratory study of domestic violence; the subject is based on interviews with 400 non-randomly selected families in Abuja Municipal Area Council.

The strength of this research are: First, this is a unique study, because the areas of domestic violence have long remained unexplored, under studied and unresearched aspect of the family life in Nigeria. Although, the sampling method precludes much generalization, the study was able to gain an insight into the dynamics of domestic violence by concentrating efforts on interviewing every

member of the families in the study population. The expectation was that there was the likelihood of violence among the family members. The subjects are husbands, wives, children and other relatives of the family and thus their perspectives and biases are reflected in much of what was reported about the meaning of violence. The study findings revealed that the incidence of domestic violence is common in this society; thus, the incidence data in no way can be generalized to any other population in the society. This is because the data reported in this study are to some extent consistent with other researches on violence and violence between family members.

Furthermore, violence in families cuts across ethnic, sex, racial, religion and socio-economic levels. However, it is most common in families occupying positions at the bottom of the socio-economic scale due to their socio-economic status. The bulk of family violence consequence were towards children in the family hence, transmitting violence from generation to generations, this suggest that family interaction patterns are transmitted to succeeding generations. This is because childhood experiences of respondents reveal that abusing parents were often abused children. This pattern supports the theoretical framework of symbolic interactionist that violence is learned during the interactive process in the family. This is due to cultural beliefs of "spare the rod and spoil the child" which is the major hindrance to the elimination of domestic violence in the society in spite of their victimization still many of these family members are stuck living in fear, scared to stay, scared to live and terrified by their circumstances.

The extent of domestic violence and the intensity of the trauma caused by family violence indicate that violence between family members is a social problem of major proportions. Then taking into account the figures on the extent of family violence given in other studies; (Kisekka, 1992; Robson, 1993; UNICEF Nigeria, 2001; Thomas *et al.*, 2004), this is to estimate that violence is indeed common in Nigerian families. Domestic violence is ripping apart the fabrics of the society, culture and family ties, yet its one of the Nigerian society's worst kept or hidden secrets. Thus, this problem mandates concentrated effort on the part of this research to proffer some preventing measure on domestic violence in the society.

8.3 Recommendations

To effectively address the problem of domestic violence in Abuja Municipality a multi-dimensional approach needs to be adopted most especially in recognition of the inter-related web nature of its causes. Therefore, this section proffers some suggestions with a view of eliminating the problem of domestic violence in the society.

- Since awareness of domestic violence does not deter the families from perpetrating domestic violence. There should be another way to stop this ill phenomenon in the society. It is recommended that the perpetrators of the domestic violence should be punished accordingly and the victims should be compensated. The courts of law should take more drastic measures against the perpetrators,

whether, husband, wife, child or relative in this way justice can prevail.

- Economic considerations and employment in particular will give enabling effective responses to domestic violence by both men and women. This is because greater economic employment offers protection, independent income that will enable the optimal response to domestic violence and it will meet their material needs, which is the route out of violence environment. This economic and employment will mitigate against the inability of the family members to leave an abusive relationship which is characterized by the non – availability of economic resources.
- Cultural norms and some societal attitudes that influence the occurrence of domestic violence should be discouraged, such, as corporal punishment on children both at home and schools. Also, the authority given to family members to discipline another family member up to the extent of injurious level should be questioned and checked. The cultural norm make it difficult for family members, especially, women to act independently in establishing themselves because they are regarded as men properties (patriarchal system), thus, women should be allowed to express themselves in their own employment and financial arrangement. The children should be

corrected in a mild way. Thus, it will reduce the occurrence of domestic violence in the family.

- The study shows that those who have less education have less occupational status and less average monthly income that enhance domestic violence. Therefore, there is a need for more acquisition of education. This is because education is a resolution of violence among the respondents. It will enhance the mental ability and skills to gain access to better employment and for financial improvement. Thereby, developing a greater capacity to deal with domestic violence. The acquisition of formal skills will increased self – confidence and self – esteem, these to some extent will have a positive impact upon victim's resistance to violence in the home. This may be worthwhile developing a strategy for curbing domestic violence in the society.
- There should be effective reporting system of resolution of physical violence. This could be done by establishing good social contacts, be they informal (family, neighbours) or formal (social groups, women groups, community organizations). These social networks when organized will help victims of domestic violence, in many ways such as, emotional support, envisioning relationships without violence, making possible and valuing life after marriage, obtaining legal advice, accommodation and sometimes employment, as well as food,

clothing and training. The intervention of family members and neighbours sometimes at the time violence is very important in reducing the level of occurrence of domestic violence. Therefore collective resistance to domestic violence for enhancing personal control will go along way to reduce the occurrences of domestic violence in Abuja Municipality.

In conclusion therefore, in order for the vicious cycle of violence to be broken, society needs to recognize its obligation to find solutions, to offer help, and protection for all the victims who actively seek it. To equally provide guidance and assistance to the people who need to explore non-violent modes for the expression of conflicts, so that domestic violence as an obstacle to the achievement of objectives of equality development and wellbeing of family and society at large will be stopped and be eradicated in the Abuja Municipality.

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APPENDIX I

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

TOPIC: A SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF DOMESTIC INTERACTION
PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY

The aim of this study is to find out information about domestic interaction among the family members of this household. It is purely an academic endeavour and therefore any information provided will be taken in strictest confidence.

A. SECTION A: GENERAL INFORMATION/SOCIO-ECONOMIC ATTRIBUTES

1. Age (Years): 6 – 10 ( ) 26 – 30 ( )
   11 – 15 ( ) 31 – 35 ( )
   16 – 20 ( ) 36 - 40 ( )
   21 – 25 ( ) 41 and above ( )

2. Sex: Male ( ) Female ( )

3. Religion: Christianity ( ) Islam ( ) Traditionalist ( )
   Others ( ) None ( )

4. Ethnicity/Tribe_____

5. Marital Status: Single ( ) Married ( )
   Separated ( ) Divorced ( ) Widowed ( )

6. Type of Marriage: Monogamy ( ) Polygamy ( )

7. What is your relationship with this household: Wife ( ) Husband ( )
   Child ( ) Relative ( )

8. Number/Sex of Children: None ( ) Male ( ) Female ( )

9. Highest Educational Attainment:
   None ( ) Secondary ( )
   Quranic School ( ) HND/NCE ( )
   Primary School ( ) University Degree ( )
   Vocational School ( ) Others ( )

10. What is your occupation/Trained Skill_____
11. Present Employment Status: Employed ( ) Unemployed ( )
12. If presently employed, type of employment:
    High/Middle level Civil Servant/Private Sector ( )
    Professionals ( )

Administrators ( )
Business/Contractors ( )
Clerical Civil Servant/Private Sector ( )
Artisans ( )
Petty Traders ( )
Daily paid worker/labourers ( )
Others (Specify) ( )

13. What is your average monthly income? State in Naira (₦)
None ( )
15,000 and Below ( )
15,001 - 25,000 ( )
25,001 - 35,000 ( )
35,001 and Above ( )

14. How long have you worked in your adult life?
Less than 1 year ( )
1 - 2 years ( )
3 – 4 years ( )
Over 5 years ( )

15. i) Are there relatives living with you?
Yes ( ) No ( )

ii) If Yes how many _____

16. In your own opinion what is the socio-economic status or level of your family?
Upper Class ( ) Middle Class ( ) Working Class ( )
Lower Class ( )

SECTION B: CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES

17. Did you grow up in an environment where domestic servants were used in the household? Yes ( ) No ( )

18. Did you ever participate in domestic activities like cooking, washing and cleaning of the house or the surrounding? Yes ( ) No ( )

19. In growing up did you ever observe your parents physically fighting each other?
Frequently ( ) Occasionally ( ) Never ( )

20. i) Were you ever beaten as a child?
Frequently ( ) Occasionally ( ) Never ( )
ii) By who? Father ( ) Mother( ) Brother ( )
Sister ( ) Others ( )

21. In your childhood days, how would you assess the extent of beaten in your home?
High ( ) Moderate ( ) Low ( ) None ( )

SECTION C: INFORMATION ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: (CAUSES, TYPES, PATTERNS, FREQUENCY)

22. How do you express affection to your wife/husband?
Through petting ( ) Through gifts ( )
Praising everything well-done ( ) Others_____

23. How do you express affection to your child(ren)?
Through petting ( ) Through gifts ( )
Praising everything well-done ( ) Others_____

24. How do you express affection to your relatives?
Through petting ( ) Through gifts ( )
Praising everything well-done ( ) Others_____

25. Whenever your husband/wife offends you, what do you do?
Shout on ( ) Walk out ( ) Throw object at ( )
Beat ( ) Silence ( ) Others (Specify) ( )

26. Whenever your child(ren) offends you, what do you do?
Shout on ( ) Walk out ( ) Throw object at ( )
Beat ( ) Silence ( ) Others (Specify) ( )

27. Whenever your relative(s) offends you, what do you do?
Shout on ( ) Walk out ( ) Throw object at ( )
Beat ( ) Silence ( ) Others (Specify) ( )

28. Do your family members engage in physical fighting?
Frequently ( ) Occasionally ( ) Never ( )

29. Do you ever beat your wife/husband?
Frequently ( ) Occasionally ( ) Never ( )

30. Do you ever beat your child(ren)?
Frequently ( ) Occasionally ( ) Never ( )

31. Do you ever beat your relatives living with you?
Frequently ( ) Occasionally ( ) Never ( )

32. i) Did you ever run away from the home to avoid beating?
Yes ( ) No ( )

33. ii) If Yes beating by who?_____

34. i) In your opinion, does a family member have the right to beat another family member, if he or she feels the member has misbehaved?
Yes ( ) No ( )

ii) If Yes indicate the type of offence that deserves beating

_____

_____

35. Which of the following causes of quarrels apply in your household (tick as many as applicable).

Argument over money	Yes	( )	No	( )
Forced Sexual Intercourse	Yes	( )	No	( )
Dispute over relative/In-law	Yes	( )	No	( )
Too many dependents	Yes	( )	No	( )
Dispute over sex of children	Yes	( )	No	( )
Dispute over discipline of children	Yes	( )	No	( )
Argument over drinking habit/Alcohol/ other drugs	Yes	( )	No	( )
Jealously and Fear of Partner's Infidelity	Yes	( )	No	( )
Leadership Role between wife/husband	Yes	( )	No	( )
Disobedience	Yes	( )	No	( )

Others (specify)_____

36. Does your quarrel manifest in:

i) Physical violence:

Pushing	Yes	( )	No	( )
Beating	Yes	( )	No	( )
Throwing object at	Yes	( )	No	( )

Others (specify)_____

ii) Psychological violence:

Neglected in Bed	Yes	( )	No	( )
Forceful sexual intercourse	Yes	( )	No	( )
Deprivation of Liberty/right	Yes	( )	No	( )

Others (specify)_____

iii) Verbal violence:

Shouting at in the public	Yes	( )	No	( )
Use of abusive language	Yes	( )	No	( )
Calling of derogatory names	Yes	( )	No	( )

Others (specify)_____

37. Where does beating in which you are involved normally happen?

Kitchen	( )
Bedroom	( )
Living room	( )
Dinning room	( )

Outside the Compound ( )
None ( )
Others (specify)_____

38. At what time does the fight in which you are involved usually occur?
Morning ( ) Afternoon ( ) Evening ( ) None ( )
Others (specify)_____

39. On which day(s) of the week do you usually get involved in fights?
Weekdays ( ) Weekends ( ) None ( )

i) To whom do you report if you have been beaten by your wife/husband/child/relative?

Neighbours ( ) Co-workers ( ) Friends ( ) Relatives ( )
Relatives ( ) Elders ( ) Social-welfare officer ( ) Police ( )
None of the above ( )

ii) Give reason(s) for your action _____
_____

SECTION D: AWARENESS OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF DOMESTIC FIGHTS AND RESPONDENT'S ATTITUDES

40. i) Are you aware of the effects of physical fight in the household?
Yes ( ) No ( )

ii) If Yes mention what you consider as the effects/results.

a) _____ b) _____
c) _____ d) _____

41. i) Who suffers the consequences/effects of quarrel most in your family?
_____
_____

ii) Give reason for your answer _____
_____

42. Indicate your views whether or not corporal punishment for family members is sometimes necessary to keep order in the home?
_____
_____

APPENDIX II

INDEPTH INTERVIEW SCHEDULE
A SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF DOMESTIC INTERACTION (CHILDREN)

A. GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESPONDENTS

1. What is your age?
2. Sex?
3. What is your religious affiliation?
4. What is your tribe?
5. What is your highest educational attainment?

B. PARENTAL BACKGROUND

6. What is your parent/guardian's occupation?
7. After school hours what do you do?
8. How often do your parent/guardian satisfied your needs?

C. INFORMATION ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

9. Have you ever gone through any of these abuses before (beating, sexual? abuse, neglect, punishment, maltreatment, starvation and verbal abuse)?

i. If yes by who?

ii. How often?

10. What was your offence?
11. What was the result of the abuse?
12. Have you ever abused any of your family members?

i. If yes, who?

13. Have you ever witnessed other children being abused?

43. To what extent do you consider the use of force/fight/arguments to be proper as a problem-solving technique for family members within the home?

_____

_____

44. i) Rate your present family life under one of the options below?
Comfortable ( ) Fairly comfortable ( ) Uncomfortable ( )

ii) Give reasons for your answer _____

_____

45. Do you agree that beating in the home is a form of family problem?
Agree ( ) Disagree ( )

46. Do you think that fighting/beating in the home should remain an issue of:
Private affairs ( ) Public affairs ( )

47. In your view whom do you think should be involved in settling domestic

Disputes: Friends ( ) In-laws ( ) Relatives ( )
Elders ( ) Social-welfare Officer ( ) Police ( )
Others (specify) _____

48. In your own opinion should physical fighting in the family be reported to the police or not?

_____

_____

49. i) Should domestic violence perpetrator(s) be punished by the Law?
Yes ( ) No ( )

ii) Give reason for your answer _____

_____

50. In your opinion suggest the effect of fighting/beating of family members on the community in which the family lives. _____

_____

51. What do you think can be done to curb the problem of physical fighting in the family?

a) _____
b) _____
c) _____

_____

i. If yes what kind of abuse?

ii. By who?

14. Have you ever witnessed your parent/guardian fighting each other?

i. If yes how often?

15. Who among your family members are you emotionally attached to?

16. Who among your family members do you fear most?

17. Whom do you seek advice from whenever you have a problem?

18. What can be done to help reduce/curb domestic violence (beaten, sexual abuse, neglect, punishment, maltreatment, starvation and verbal abuse) within the family and the society at large (Abuja municipal Area Council)?