



Sociological explanation of factors affecting family violence with the grounded theory approach

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Abstract

Aim: The purpose of this research was to explain the sociological factors affecting family violence with a grounded theory approach.

Methods: The current research method has studied the factors and consequences of violence against women in the family with a qualitative approach and using grounded theory. In order to collect information and select the participants, the purposeful sampling method was used and with the progress of the study, the sampling of desirable cases was done until reaching the theoretical saturation with 21 women who have been subjected to violence who have referred to the social emergency center of Nahavand city, a semi-structured interview. The finding was carried out. After analyzing and reviewing the content of the interviews, 202 primary concepts were open-coded and 20 major categories and finally one central or core category were extracted in the axial coding. **Results:** The results of this research show that factors such as husband's addiction, personality problems and disorders, forced and early marriage, patriarchal attitude in the family, lack of family support, lack of socialization and social education, and unfavorable economic conditions are among the major and effective factors in increasing and the occurrence of violence against women in the family are considerable. **Conclusion:** According to the results and findings obtained from this qualitative research, holding workshops, life skills sessions and pre-marital counseling to increase the awareness and recognition of couples and dealing with each other, especially early in life, in order to deal with and reduce the phenomenon of violence. It is suggested against women.

Keywords: violence, married women, family violence, qualitative study, grounded theory.

Introduction

Domestic violence against women is one of the most significant social harms in all societies, especially in Iranian society, where the problem and its extent vary across different social groups and communities, and the number of victims of this social issue is increasing every day. A glance at the incident pages of newspapers and social media platforms reveals the prevalence of this phenomenon in families. Family violence is a problem that is related to and affected by many social harms and deviations and, at the same time, is the root and origin of many individual and societal damages. Therefore, examining this issue and providing scientific and practical solutions to address and reduce it is one of the priorities and fundamental necessities of society.

Given the difficulty in obtaining accurate statistics on the prevalence and spread of domestic violence within the country, and the societal culture that often views violence against women as a private matter, encouraging victimized women to remain silent and not bring the issue into the public sphere; also, official sources are reluctant to disclose official statistics in the area of violence and do not announce related figures; therefore, the examination and analysis of the issue of violence and its individual, familial, and societal consequences are of fundamental importance. Consequently, considering the importance of ensuring the physical, emotional, and psychological security of family members and its impact on the stability, durability, and health of the family, and consequently the society, it is essential to qualitatively recognize and examine the factors influencing violence against women and its consequences. This is crucial to identify the causes and contexts of this phenomenon from the perspective of women subjected to violence and through participatory observation and review of various sources and documents. This approach can prevent the irreversible damages and consequences of violence and provide necessary solutions and recommendations to reduce and prevent the harm of violence in the family.

Method

The current research method has studied the factors and consequences of violence against women in the family with a qualitative approach and using grounded theory. In order to collect information and select the participants, the purposeful sampling method was used and with the progress of the study, the sampling of desirable cases was done until reaching the theoretical saturation with 21 women who have been subjected to violence who have referred to the social emergency center of Nahavand city, a semi-structured interview. The finding was carried out. After analyzing and reviewing the content of the interviews, 202 primary concepts were open-coded and 20 major categories and finally one central or core category were extracted in the axial coding.

Results

The results of this research show that factors such as husband's addiction, personality problems and disorders, forced and early marriage, patriarchal attitude in the family, lack of family support, lack of socialization and social education, and unfavorable economic conditions are among the major and effective factors in increasing and the occurrence of violence against women in the family are considerable.

Conclusion

Based on the findings of this qualitative research, the following suggestions and strategies are proposed to combat and reduce the phenomenon of violence against women:

1. Organizing life skills workshops and pre-marital counseling sessions to increase awareness and understanding among couples, especially in the early stages of their life together.
2. Establishing and creating safe houses and centers for women affected by violence.
3. Empowering women, particularly those at risk of violence, both within and outside the family, through education and employment.
4. Developing and enacting strict supervisory and protective laws by governmental and civil institutions regarding domestic violence.
5. Creating self-employment and entrepreneurship spaces to assist women in gaining more economic independence and support.
6. Increasing and encouraging family, social, legal, economic, and occupational support for women who have experienced violence.
7. Enhancing the cultural and societal attitudes towards the personal status of women.
8. Increasing awareness and providing necessary and practical education to families regarding their children's marriage and highlighting the adverse consequences of forced and imposed marriages.
9. Reforming and addressing legal gaps in dealing with domestic violence and enhancing the enforcement of laws.
10. Changing cultural beliefs and attitudes about respecting women's rights, marital relationships, and mutual respect in the family through mass media and educational and cultural institutions.
11. Emphasizing the responsibility of the health system and improving the empowerment training of staff and physicians to assist victims and women at risk of violence.
12. Promoting the culture of using telephone counseling lines, social work services, and family counseling to reduce domestic violence.

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