

# **Profile and Impact of Domestic Violence to Women's Psychological Condition in Surakarta Residency**

**Winarsih Nur Ambarwati**

**School Of Nursing Health Science Faculty  
Universitas Muhammadiyah of Surakarta  
Central Java Indonesia**

**ambarwati76@gmail.com**

## **Abstract**

*Background : Women abuse occurs in all countries. Women who are abused by their partners suffer from depression, anxiety and PTSD (Post Trauma Syndrom Disorder). All domestic violence done by husband phisically or psychologically causes damage on woman's health. Woman who experiences domestic violence have physical and psychological problem. Those problems include willing of suicide, mental pressure, and physical problems such as dizzy, painful, limp, and vagina problems. This violence also influences woman reproduction, increasing sexual transmitted disease. Objective : The aimed of the research was to know profile and psychologic condition : depression, anxiety and PTSD women violence abuse. Methods : This research was Discriptive analitic. The design of this research Cross Sectional Study. The population is women abuse in Surakarta. The sampling method was purposive sampling. The instrument used were Depression Hamilton Scale, Anxiety Hamilton Scale and PTSD Scale. The analysis of variable used were statistic descriptive univariate test. Result : Profile Respondent show : age is mostly 31 to 40 years which is 51,4 %. Respondent education majority reaching 45,7%. Occupation is majority 37,1% jobless,. The religion is all of them Islam. the socio economy of people is 37,1% intemediate class. The results indicated all women victim Doemstic violencn suffering depression, anxiety and PTSD. Result Statistic test show that psychologic condition women abuse woman depression : low depressed 31,4%, medium depressed 68,6%.; women anxiety low anxiety : 42,9%, medium anxiety : 57,1%; Women PTSD : low PTSD 62,9%, medium PTSD 37,1%. Conclusion: Woman victim of domestic violence is proved significantly getting depression, anxiety and PTSD.*

**Key word** : *Anxiety, depression, domestic violence PTSD, women abuse*

## **Background**

Abuse to woman is a common phenomena all over the world. In 2002, *World Health Organization* (WHO), there were 1,6 million woman died because of domestic violence [1]. Based on WHO survey result, around 10% - 69% women report the abuse done by their partners, sexual violence exist around 6-59%. National Committe in Indonesia noted that there were 25.522 cases of violence to women which are handled by 215 institutions. The major cases are domestic violence which reach 76 percent of the amount [2]

All domestic violence done by husband phisically or psychologically causes injury on woman's health. According to research by Krug et al woman who experiences domestic violence have physical and psychological problem[3]. Those problems include suicidal tendencies, mental burden, and physical problems such as dizzy, painful, lamented, and vagina ache. This violence also influences woman's reproduction, increasing sexual transmitted disease including (*Human Immunodeficiency Viruses*) HIV.

Situations faced by the victim of Domestic Violence (hereafter DV) are very complex. According to Dharmono & Diatri the woman as the victim DV suffers psychological dilemma as her role as a wife and the mother of her children which at one side she wants to be free, but there is a economic dependency to the DV doer (husband) [4] [6]. Fear and hatred toward her husband's behavior is faced using her responsibility as a wife to serve her husband. This situation poses women on heavy psychological burden. DV victims often are trapped in incessant violence cycle, feeling helpless to be free and feeling difficult to ask for assistance. The psychological effects can be manifested ranging from mild to heavy, or mild to chronic, can happen directly or quite sometimes. The psychological impacts commonly ignored because they are subtle, or in their daily life women are easy to be mad, irritated, being silent, vague guilt, forgetful [5] [7] .

Based on that background, the researcher is interested to do research about Women's Profile and Impact of Domestic Violence to Women's Psychological Condition in Surakarta Residency. The researcher choses Surakarta as research location because it is based on the report of Surakarta Police office. Violence on woman based on gender in Surakarta has reached second most occurred crime in Central Java which increase anually. In 2008, the cases reached 64 cases data from Police Office of Surakarta.

### Objective of the Research

To Identify women's profile who become the victims of DV which include age, education, social economic, religion, Types of DV suffered by the victims. The impacts of DV to women namely Depression, Anxiety, PTSD (Post Trauma Syndrome Disorder. **Questions of the Research** How are the profiles of women suffering DV namely on their age, education, occupation, religion, and social-economy?. What are the types of DV suffered by women as victims?. How are their psychological condition namely on depression, anxiety, and PTSD?. **Method of the Research** The design of this research is Cross Sectional Study. The population is women suffering abuse in Surakarta. The sampling method is purposive sampling. The instruments used are Hamilton Depression Scale, Hamilton Anxiety Scale and PTSD Scale. **Research Instrument** The data collection instrument consists of two; 1) Instrument A consists of respondent's demographic data. It is to gain characteristic description of respondents such as age, education, occupation, religion, social economy, Jenis-Type of Violence 2) Instrument B consists of 3 questionnaire. It is to measure PTSD (*PTSD Scale*), anxiety(*Hamilton Anxiety Scale*) dan depression (*Hamilton Depression Scale*). They are used to know the psychological condition of woman as victim of DV. **Data Analysis Method** Univariate analysis is used to analyze the existing variables descriptively by counting frequent distribution and its proportion in order to know the characteristic of research subject. Univariate analysis consists of three analysis; 1) Characteristics of woman suffering DV which consists of age, education, occupation, religion, social economy. 2) Types of DV, 3) The women's psychological condition as victim of DV such as depression, anxiety, and PTSD

### Research Ethic

The researcher keeps ethic principles 1) Respecting human value and dignity, 2) Respecting privacy and secrecy of research subjects, and 3) Being fair and inclusive, 4) Considering loss and benefit.

### Research Result

The women's profile as the victim of DV

The women's profile in this research include: age, education, and occupation.

Tabel.1 Respondent distribution based on age, education, occupation, and religion In Surakarta (n1 = 35)

Respondent Characteristic	Result	
	n	%
<b>Age</b>		
20-30	10	28.6
31-40	18	51.4
41-50	6	17.1
>50	1	2.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Education</b>		
No school	1	2.9
Primary	7	20.0
Secondary	4	11.4
High	16	45.7
College	7	20.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Occupation</b>		
Jobless	13	37.1
Farmer/labor	6	17.1
Employee	10	28.6
Entrepreneur	5	14.3
Civil servant	1	2.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Religion</b>		
Islam	30	85.7
Christ	5	14.3
Chatolic	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Social economy</b>		
Low	13	37.1
Intermediate	17	48.6

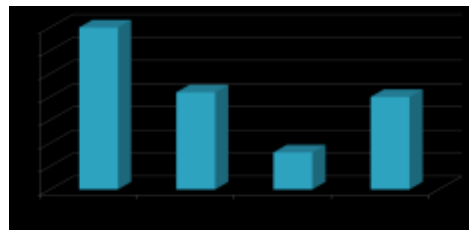
High	5	14.3
Total	35	100

Respondents age in the intervention group mostly 31 to 40 years old which is 51,4 %. Meanwhile, the control group the same average age is 45,7%. Respondent education in intervention group is mostly high school student reaching 45,7% and in control group, high school students are 51,4 %. Occupation in intervention group is 37,1% jobless, meanwhile in control group, 54,3 % are jobless. The religion in intervention and control group is Islam. In intervention group, the socio-economy of people is 37,1% middle class, meanwhile in control group, the 37,1% are high class. This condition is fit to Ely, Dulmus, Wodarski research, one of factors causing domestic violence is low socio-economic condition [8] .

## Types of DV

Types of DV suffered by the victims

Diagram1. Types of DV suffered by the victims



All the victims (35 women) suffered physical violence, 18 women suffered psychologically, 8 women suffered sexually, and 16 women suffered economically.

## Psychological Condition of Women as the Victim of DV

Psychological depression condition

Tabel 2. The depression of woman suffered domestic violence in Surakarta (n = 35)

		Depression scale						Total	
undepressed		low		Medium		High			
N	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
0	0,00	11	31,4	24	68,6	0	0,00	35	100

The result of the measurement of depression level showed that 31,4% women suffered mild depression and 68,6% women suffered medium depression.

Psychological anxiety condition

Tabel 3 The Anxiety of woman suffered domestic violence in Surakarta (n = 35)

		Anxiety scale						Total	
low		Medium		high					
n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
15	42,9	20	57,1	0	0,00	35	100		

The result of anxiety measurement showed that 42,9% women suffered mild anxiety and 57,1% women suffered medium anxiety.

Psychological PTSD condition

Tabel 4 The PTSD of woman suffered from domestic violence in Surakarta (n = 35)

		PTSD scale						Total	
low		medium		high					
n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
22	62,9	13	37,1	0	0,0	35	100		

The result of PTSD measurement showed that 62,9% women suffered mild PTSD and 37,1% women suffered medium PTSD.

## Discussion

The women's profile as DV victims

Age of Respondents

Most of the ages of women becoming the victim of domestic violence are around 25-40 years old. This statistic is in accordance to Women National Board [2]. The supporting research is from Avdibegović & Sinanović that proved the age of women as the victim of DV is around 26-35 years old [9]. Women of 25-35 years of age are apt to experience violence from their husband because of marriage problem, spouse's conflict, economical pressure, and weak and dependant personality.

Education

The result of this research showed that The average education of the women becoming victim of domestic violence are Senior High School (SMA), This statistic is in accordance to Women National Board. The supporting research comes from Avdibegović & Sinanović reported that majority of women's education who become the victim of domestic violence are Senior High School [9].

The result of this research showed that the degree of education of the respondents is on the elementary and junior school. Women's quality of living in Indonesia is at the lowest rank in ASEAN. This can be seen from their quality of education. In fact, there is low involvement of women in higher education, which is less than 5%. This could occur because women do not have the same opportunity in education as men, so that women have less opportunity in getting better job and adequate salary [6].

Kimmel said that Gender inequality in education holds central role in domestic violence. Gender inequality in education causes women not to have their rights [10]. Further, Hakimi, et.al. added that the low degree of education and the low women's status cause women to be prone to violence. Another factor is the experience of undergone DV from their mother or mother-in-law can increase violence risk from the husband [4].

Occupation

The results of this research are in accordance to Women Council that the majority of domestic violence victims were housewives or jobless [2]. Another supporting research is from Avdibegović & Sinanović who confirmed most of domestic violence victims are housewives. In Indonesia society's culture there a common believe that the main duty of a wife is as a housewife, taking care the children and serving the husband [9]. While men is the head of the family and have duty to fulfil daily stipend. This condition causes women to be economically dependent and do not have bargaining position so they are apt to undergo violence

Furthermore, Poerwandari stated that if women have economic independent, they will have more control of themselves and are easier to make decision with their own free will [11]. Women who do not have economic access will be far more difficult to release from violence-prone relation. Economic independency can indirectly be a collateral to be free from violence. Poerwandari added that few women, though they have higher education and good job, will still experience ordeal and feel difficult to let go from violence-prone relation. This can be seen that half of the respondents have jobless husband and a working wife. In additional Poerwandari stated that women who were born or raised in this kind of society emphasize the importance of traditional women's role such as submission to husband and dependancy toward men [11].

In the society in Surakarta, women are ought to do these traditional roles. The women have the caress and deligent traits, causing all the the house keeping duties to become their responsibility. Cosequently, many women have to do hard times in doing their duties. If they are working, they are also ought to carry out their duties as wive and mother. If they fail to do so, they are considered breaking the common norm and deserve to receive harsh treatment. The form of discrimination in the form of duty in society that there is a believe for "women-prone" duty and is considered lower than "men-prone duty".

Religion

Partial comprehension of religious belief in Koran initiate a concept of male domination over female and in return, put women in their male's obligation. Another problem is sometimes is the ideal of Matrimony Institution as a estranged institution, that sometimes be used to become reason to pose women in dependant and vulnerable only to keep their marriage move on and to have self-sacrifice [4]. Incorrect religious interpretation is such as *Nusyuz*, that the husband can beat his wife on the basis of educating her or she does not want to serve his sexual need, so he has the right to beat her and she is condemned by the angels.

Social-Economic

On of the main factors to ignite violence is poverty, though it does not mean that DV is mainly happened to the poor. Other relative factors are unemployment, urbanization which causes allowance gap, less social support, lack

of opportunity for women in job. This economical realities force women to accept harsh treatment from anybody and the one they cling to [4].

From economic factor, men are considered as the backbone of family and accepted commonly to have more power than women. Men are customary and be at willing to treat his wife. This approved justification through marriage, men are the head of the family and therefore have the right and obligation to educate and implement whatever is truthful in any ways, including through violence. It is seen as a form of care to his wife [12].

From social perspective, "Social relation between men and women in Indonesian culture is affected by religion, race, ethnicity, class and gender which pose women lower than men and considered insignificant which brings women shackled by many rules disadvantaging women themselves. This boundary can be limitation of social space, position and behavior allegation. Violence is done because there is a common social believe that women are crossing over the limit made in social role. Their social roles seemingly give rise to allegation to conduct harsh treatment to them and are considered they deserve it [11].

### **Types of Violence Suffered by DV Victims**

All respondents suffer physical violence, besides other violence such as economical, psychological and sexual violence. Most common form of violence are physical violence, commonly victims suffer more than one type of violence.

In Islam any form of violence are not told and unaccepted. Islamic teaching advises husbands to live with their wife well and do not hurt them, do not violate their rights and do not use their power to hurt their wife. This is depicted in Q.S Al-Nisa (4):19 *"O ye who believe! Ye are forbidden to inherit women against their will. Nor should ye treat them with harshness, that ye may take away part of the dower ye have given them, -except where they have been guilty of open lewdness; on the contrary live with them on a footing of kindness and equity. If ye take a dislike to them it may be that ye dislike a thing, and God brings about through it a great deal of good"*. This verse emphasizes to treat wife in a good way not only to hurt her feeling, but only resist herself not to do things that husband detests. The right for husband to beat his wife in Islam should be wholly understood, as depicted in Q.S Al-nisa (4):34 : *(...As to those women on whose part ye fear disloyalty and ill-conduct, admonish them (first), (Next), refuse to share their beds, (And last) beat them (lightly)...*). This verse depicts *dalalah`ibarah*, that husband can beat his wife who is *nusyuz* after doing it twice. The word *daraba* is found 58 times in 28 surah. In those verses the word *daraba* is meant to "propose example", "educate", "put together", "beat" from these meanings, all the *tafsir* interpret the word *daraba* in An Nisa:34 as "to educate" or "to give lesson". Therefore, physical harsh done by husband is unrighteous. Economical violence is also unacceptable in Islam. Islamic norm is indicated in husband obligation to pay for marriage dowry and giving daily stipend, clothes and home [10]..

### **Psychological Condition of Women Suffering DV**

Result of study show The Biggest psychological disorder is mild depression. This finding is accordance to Avdibegović's & Sinanović's research which found that women as the victim DV are significantly depressed, anxious and having PTSD [9]. Another research supporting this is by Krug, et.al. that women as victim of DV can experience psychological disorder namely depression, anxiety and PTSD [3]. Furthermore, Barnett added that most psychological faced by women as the victim of DV is depression [11]. This research is similar to Bancroft's & Ascione's that stated that there is a significant relation between women suffering DV with PTSD [9]. The result of the research by Jones, Hughes & Unerstallerrer that stated women as the victim of DV experienced PTSD. This research showed that the victim of DV underwent psychological problem, caused by complex psychological conflict [12].

The situation that is faced by DV is very complex, such as status psychological conflict as wife and mother of her children, at one side she wants to freed herself but there is economic dependency on the doer (husband), feeling affraid and hateful toward husband's action is faced with the responsibility as wife in serving her husband, protecting her children and keeping the whole family sake. Victim of DV is often trapped in long violence cycle, she has no power to save herself, and also gets difficulties to get assistance. By having the huge number of domestic violence victim, it is needed to develop signification programs for the victim and the doer.

## **Conclusion and Suggestion**

### **10.1. Conclusion**

The result of the research shows that age, low education, insufficient social-economic factors can be seen in women who become the victims of domestic violence. Domestic violence has terrible impact on women

particularly on her and her own family. Islamic teaching is highly respect the position of women and is against all kinds of violence to them.

#### 10.2. Suggestion

For the woman of domestic violence victim and the doer of domestic violence, to help the settlement process of victim, planning, and then preventing DV and paying attention on the factors that can trigger DV. It is needed an attempt to decrease the risk on woman such as paying attention on marriage age, improving women's education, involvement of religion figures, gender bias socialization on every sectors.

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