MUSLIM WOMEN IN SOUTH ASIA AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE- A STATISTICAL MODELLING

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ABSTRACT

In this new era of modernization, people have become more civilized and improved their every sphere of life. Nowadays, women have become equally capable of men. But in this luminous side, there is also a shady side of our social life. That is the different types of violence that could happen with people, especially with the women. The most brutal, amongst them, is Intimate Partner Violence or IPV. In this type of violence, women are tortured by their intimate partners, viz. husband, boyfriend or live-in-partner. In consequence of such violence, women suffer from an unbearable mental and physical pain. At present, only a handful of brave women are seen to raise their voice against any such violence. In Muslim society, especially, the occurrence of IPV tends to be very large whereas the protest against this violence is minimal. Maximum number of Muslims lives in the South Asian countries as compared to the countries of other sub-continents. Therefore, in this paper, an attempt has been made to show the picture of the IPV situation among Muslim Women in South Asia.

KEYWORDS: *IPV, Muslim Women*

INTRODUCTION

In this modern society, people have become more civilized, changed their ways of thinking and have been passing their lives in a more comfortable way with the advancement of sophisticated technology as compared to the society prevailing a few decades back. But still, our society has not been so much advanced with regards to the issue of violence against women. Specially, the situation of Muslim women with respect to assaults by their male partners is at the deplorable stage. The main reason for such violence could be attributable to ill-education. Generally, it is seen that the Muslim women are not so much educated: sometimes this happens because of the conservative mindset of dominating family members in their family. Because they think that educating a girl in a school, college etc. is not good, some of them consider it to be a type of vice. According to them, women should only stay under 'Hijab' or veil and take care of their children and other family members. The family members, mainly the Men, usually set the boundaries for the activities of the Women in their family. In a few cases, it is observed that the dominating family members are quite open minded but for their reserved neighbours, they cannot give adequate liberty to their women member in the family. Some of the families are of severely unnatural in thinking about the education of women. They are of the opinion in their mind that if the women members are allowed to take education in a school or college, they might not obey their elders and could misuse the freedom given by their family members. But they forget that if a woman is educated in the right direction, they are bound to respect their elders and utilize the freedom given to them in a rightful manner.

There is a misconception, that wearing Hijab by Muslim women is a hindrance in taking education in a school or college. Muslim women can do everything and take education with their veil or Hijab. Islam does not support that Muslim women should remain uneducated. Rather, the education of women in Islam is strongly suggested. It is found that the maximum number of Muslims live in the region of South Asia. Therefore, the authors, in this paper, have made an effort to shed light on the position of Muslim women living in South Asian countries with respect to the violence against them by their husbands, boyfriends or other intimate partners.

Statistical Analysis: For performing the statistical analysis in this paper we have used the Cross Tabulation and the Multinomial logistic regression model.

Cross Tabulation: First we want to verify the relationship between two or more variables. We verify this through a statistical tool which is known as Cross Tabulation. Through Cross Tabulation we can get an idea about the dependency of the variables. In this tool, Chi-square statistics is used as a primary statistic for testing purpose.

Multinomial Logistic Regression Model: After cross tabulation analysis we have an idea about the variables which are the main covariates of the response. Here we have used the Multinomial logistic regression, Multinomial logistic regression is used to predict categorical placement in or the probability of category membership on a response based on multiple covariates. The covariates can be either dichotomous or continuous. One fairly simple way to arrive at the Multinomial logit model is to imagine, for k possible outcomes, running k-1 independent binary logistic regression models, in which one outcome is chosen as a "pivot" and then the other k-1 outcomes are separately regressed against the pivot outcome. This would proceed as follows if outcome k is chosen as the pivot,

$$\ln \frac{\Pr[Y_i = 1]}{\Pr[Y_i = k]} = \beta_1 X_i$$

$$\ln \frac{\Pr[Y_i = 2]}{\Pr[Y_i = k]} = \beta_2 X_i$$

$$\ln \frac{\Pr[Y_i = k-1]}{\Pr[Y_i = k]} = \beta_{k-1} X_i$$

Data: In this paper, we use NFHS-3 (National Family Health Survey-3) Women data set. NFHS-3 was conducted in all 29 states of India by the International Institute for Population Science (IIPS) and Macro International from December 2005 to August 2006. NFHS is known as DHS (Demographic Health Survey) in all other countries. NFHS 3 contains data sets as the name of "Women's questionnaire", "Men's questionnaire", "Household questionnaire" and many more. For this paper, we choose "Women's questionnaire". The respondents (that the women) which are taken in this questionnaire are about of age 15-49 years through India. For our analysis purpose, we take 18 covariates and 8 response variables.

From the questionnaire, we choose some response and covariates for our analysis. We choose those variables which define this situation properly.

Response Variables

- Spouse ever threatened her with harm. (D103B)

- Spouse ever pushed shook or throw something. (D105A)

- Spouse ever slapped. (D105B)

- Spouse ever punched with a fist or something harmful. (D105C)

- Spouse ever kicked or dragged. (D105D)

- Spouse ever tried to strangle or burn. (D105E)

- Spouse ever threatened or attacked with a knife or other weapons. (D105F)

- Spouse ever twisted her arm or pull her hair. (D105J)

  Each response has five categories they are:

- "NO"

- "Often during last 12 months"

- "Some times during last 12 months"

- "Not is last 12 months"

- "Yes but currently a widow"

When the respondents were asked these eight questions they have to choose their answer among these five categories.

And the covariates are:

- Current age-Respondent. (V012)

- Type of place of residence-Respondent. (V025)

- Highest education level-Respondent. (V106)

- Has radio. (V120)

- Has television. (V121)

- Sex of household head. (V151)

- Wealth index. (V190).

- Total children ever born. (V201)

- Current marital status. (V501)

- Number of other wives. (V505)

- Marital duration (grouped) [excludes: married gauna not perf. (V513)

- Partner's education level. (V701)

- Respondent's occupation. (V716)

- Partners age. (V730)

- Times partner gets drunk. (D114)

- Did her father ever beat her mother.(D121)

- Have ever told anyone else about violence. (D128)

18. Age at first marriage [include: married gauna]. (S310C)

Cross Tabulation Result

Table 1

Covariates	Responses							
	D103B	**D105A**	**D105B**	**D105C**	**D105D**	**D105E**	**D105F**	**D105J**
V012	I	S	I	I	I	I	I	I
V025	I	I	I	S	I	I	I	I
V106	I	S	S	S	S	I	I	S
V120	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
V121	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
V151	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
V190	I	S	S	S	S	I	I	S
V201	I	I	S	S	S	S	S	I
V501	Const.	Const.	Const.	Const.	Const.	Const.	Const.	Const.
V505	S	I	I	I	I	S	I	I
V513	I	I	S	I	I	I	I	I
V701	I	S	I	I	S	I	I	I
V716	I	I	I	I	S	S	I	I
V730	I	I	I	S	I	S	S	I
D114	I	S	S	S	S	I	I	S
D121	I	I	I	I	I	I	S	I
D128	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
S310C	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I

Here in the case of Multinomial logistic regression, we use the covariates which are significant for any response. We don't use the covariates which are insignificant for all the respondents. We have the result is as follows.

Response Variable: D103B

Table 2

Often During the Last 12 Months	Some Times During Last 12 Months	Not in Last 12 Months	Yes but Currently a Widow
V701, V716, S310C		**V190**	**No covariates are found to be significant**

Response Variable: D105A

Table 3

Often During the Last 12 Months	Some Times During Last 12 Months	Not in Last 12 Months	Yes but Currently a Widow
V201, D128	**V190**	**V106, V701, V730, D114**	**No covariates are found to be significant**

Response Variable: D105B

Table 4

Often During the Last 12 Months	Some Times During Last 12 Months	Not in Last 12 Months	Yes but Currently a Widow
V505, V513, D128	V106, V505, D114	V106	No covariates are found to be significant

Response Variable: D105C

Table 5

Often During the Last 12 Months	Some Times During Last 12 Months	Not in Last 12 Months	Yes but Currently a Widow
V025, V513, D128	V106, D128	D128	No covariates are found to be significant

Response Variable: D105D

Table 6

Often During the Last 12 Months	Some Times During Last 12 Months	Not in Last 12 Months	Yes but Currently a Widow
V106, V730, D128	V106, V730, D128	V106, V701, V730, D128	No covariates are found to be significant

Response Variable: D105E

Table 7

Often During the Last 12 Months	Some Times During Last 12 Months	Not in Last 12 Months	Yes but Currently a Widow
No covariates are found to be significant	No covariates are found to be significant	V730	No covariates are found to be significant

Response Variable: D105F

Table 8

Often During the Last 12 Months	Some Times During Last 12 Months	Not in Last 12 Months	Yes but Currently a Widow
No covariates are found to be significant	No covariates are found to be significant	No covariates are found to be significant	No covariates are found to be significant

Response Variable: D105J

Table 9

Often During the Last 12 Months	Some Times During Last 12 Months	Not in Last 12 Months	Yes but Currently a Widow
D128, S310C	V025, V190, D128, S310C	V012, V513, D114, D128	No covariates are found to be significant

CONCLUSIONS

From the above results of cross-tabulation we found that covariate V501 (Current marital status) is constant for all the respondents. Though the covariate has six options it considers the only option "married". So it is constant for all the respondents. And also covariates V120, V121, V151, and S310C are insignificant for all the respondents. That means we can say that these four covariates have no significant role in occurring the IPV. And from the cross tabulation result, we

can see that covariates V106, V190, V201, D114, and D128 are significant for more than four respondents. So it is clear that these five covariates are the most important factors for occurring IPV among Muslim Women.

In the case of Multinomial logistic regression we can see which covariates are significant for which categories for each response. For an example if we take response D103B we can see that covariates V701, V716, S310C are significant for the category "Often during last 12 months" and covariate V190 is significant for the category "Not in the last 12 months". That means when the respondents asked the question "Spouse ever threatened her with harm" then the covariates V701, V716, S310C are significant for the option "Not in last 12 months".

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