

**EFFECT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY OF FAMILIES IN SHAGAMU OGUN STATE, NIGERIA**

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**ABSTRACT**

*Abstract: This study investigates the prevalence and influence of ongoing domestic violence on the socio-economic sustainability of families in Shagamu, Ogun State. With three primary research objectives, the research examines the effects of physical, psychological, and social violence on family stability. Utilizing a survey research design and quantitative data collection methods, 60 questionnaires were administered to families in Shagamu, Ogun State. Results indicate a significant impact of physical violence ( $B = .795$ ,  $t=9.990$ ,  $P < 0.05$ ), psychological violence ( $B = .733$ ,  $t=8.205$ ,  $P < 0.05$ ), and social violence ( $B = .821$ ,  $t=10.935$ ,  $P < 0.05$ ) on the socio-economic sustainability of families. The findings underpin the profound consequences of domestic violence, including economic instability and social disruption. Addressing these issues requires comprehensive interventions targeting the root causes of violence, economic support for affected families, and increased access to education and resources. This study contributes to understanding the complex dynamics of domestic violence and highlights the importance of promoting sustainable socio-economic development by addressing violence within families and communities.*

**Keywords: Domestic Violence, Socio-Economic Sustainability, Family Dynamics, Intimate Partner Violence, Gender-Based Violence, Shagamu, Ogun State, Nigeria.**

**Introduction**

Domestic violence has emerged as one of the most persistent problem. The United Nations estimated that more than one million cases of intimate partner abuse are reported each year and that between 20-50% of people worldwide experience physical violence at the hands of intimate partners or family members (Babalola, 2020). Hardly can one see a country where there is no phenomenon of domestic violence such as; hitting, slapping, throwing objects, pushing, sexual assault or deprivation, financial deprivation, avoiding and beating of one's intimate partner; which may eventually result in physical mutilation, psychological problems or sudden death of the victims. Recently, there's U.S. Office of Violence against Women (OVW) (2017), defined domestic violence as a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that one's partner uses to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner. Socio-economic status measures a combination of education, income, occupation and other characteristics like age, gender, marriage type,

length of marriage, social class, tribe, childbearing, barrenness etc. It is a great factor to be considered in investigating satisfaction in marriage and understanding the triggers of violence in a couple's life, especially during this period of economic recession in Nigeria (Clarion, 2021). When viewed through a social class lens, privilege, power, and control are emphasized. However, the socioeconomic sustainability of families has been under attack due to different domestic violence that goes on in people's homes.

Globally, attention is shifted more to violence against the wives or female partners. Still, it is now becoming clearer that both genders may engage in abusive or violent behavior against each other. According to a Vanguard Newspaper report on 25th August 2016, in Nigeria, several cases of wives hurting husbands verbally, sexually and physically are common in our environs; cases of this nature are rarely reported by men in Nigeria rather they endure it (Cohen & Marrion, 2020). The same newspaper reported a recent Public Opinion poll conducted by NOIPolls Limited in partnership with Project Alert on domestic violence; the results showed an increase in domestic violence across Nigeria in recent times as reported by about 8 in 10 (78 per cent) respondents. The poll showed that domestic violence has been heightened by the economic hardship in Nigeria (Duvvury, Callan, Carney, and Raghavendra, 2017). The poll measured the opinion of Nigerians on the increase in domestic violence in Nigeria and the results showed that 78 per cent of Nigerians nationwide stated that there is an increase in domestic violence in Nigeria, and this view was evenly shared across gender, geo-political zones and age-groups. The need to ascertain this assertion of equal spousal violence among genders in Nigeria arises as the economic sustainability of families is being threatened.

Domestic violence is a global issue reaching across national boundaries as well as socio-economic, cultural, racial and class distinctions. This problem is not only widely spread geographically, but its incidence is also extensive, making it a typical and accepted behaviour. Domestic violence is widespread, deeply rooted and has serious impacts on women, men and children's health and well-being. Its continued existence is morally indefensible (Ayodele & Ogundele, 2020). Its cost to individuals, to health systems and society is enormous. Yet no other major problem of public health has been so widely ignored and so little understood. Recent global figures indicate that 35% of women worldwide have experienced either domestic violence or partner sexual violence in their lifetime (UNICEF and USAID, 2016). According to global a report by the UN in 2019, Victims of domestic violence experience some trauma physically such as injuries, sexual or psychological harm, harmful controlling behaviors, and chronic health conditions like arthritis, chronic pain, pelvic pain, ulcer and migraine. Violence against spouses has incalculable costs to present and future generations and it undermines human development (UNICEF and USAID, 2016).

In a study carried out by Obi and Ozumba (2017), on the factors associated with domestic violence, in South East, Nigeria, 70% of respondents reported abuse in their family with 92% of the victims being female partners and the remaining 8% being male. The common forms of abuse reported were shouting at a partner (93%), slapping or pushing (77%) and punching and kicking (40%). It is however disturbing to note that many women do not know if they have been abused or not (Babalola, 2020). This could be due to the acceptance of some abusive behavior as 'normal'. Oyediran and Isugo (2019). Domestic violence remains a pressing issue in Nigeria, affecting women across socioeconomic backgrounds hence, this study aims to explore the prevalence and impact of domestic violence on the socio-economic sustainability of families in Shagamu, Ogun State, Nigeria.”

### **Statement of the Problem**

Domestic violence is the commonest against women, men and children. It affects women across the life span from sex selective abortion of female fetuses to forced suicide and abuse, and is evident, to some degree, in every society in the world (Glover, 2018). The World Health Organization reports that the proportion of women who had ever experienced physical or sexual violence or both by an intimate partner ranged from 15% to 71%, with the majority between 29% and 62%. (Obi and Ozumba, 2017) India's National Family Health Survey-III, carried out in 29 states during 2017-19, has found that a substantial proportion of married women and men have been physically or sexually abused by their husbands and wives at some time in their lives. The survey indicated that, nationwide, 37.2% of women ``experienced violence'' after marriage. Bihar was found to be the most violent, with the abuse rate against married women being as high as 59%. Strangely,

63% of these incidents were reported from urban families rather than the state's most backward villages. It is most worrisome that despite the legislation and other efforts made by NGOS Civil Society Groups, churches and other organizations, the prevalence of domestic violence is still on the increase (Okoli, Uzoma, & Musa, 2017).

According to UNICEF (2016), the issue of domestic violence is a major problem in the society in that the main victims; women and children and men suffer from it, in places where they should be safest: within their families at the hands of somebody close to them- somebody they should be able to trust. However, research shows that domestic violence affects over 27% of the economic state of most families. 18% of homicides in Africa occur within families with the risk for women being 1.3 to that of their husbands due to the fact that when wives kill their husbands, self-defense is involved approximately seven times as often when husbands kill their wives (Campell, 2020).. In terms of actual numbers, Cohen and Marrion (2020) States that about 1.8 million are battered by their husbands each year in Kenya. They further state that this figure is low because it does not include violence against women in neither dating nor cohabitation relationship. Dube and Anda, (2021) also reported that while spouse violence is serious, abuse of female partners is a particularly serious community health problem. This not only demoralizes the dignity of women but also leads to stigmatization, lack of employment, poverty and self-isolation.

Furthermore, despite the numerous studies that has been done in the area of domestic violence and socio-economic sustainability of families, it is worthy of note to state that most of these studies were done in the advanced countries. There seem to be scanty of research work in this area in Nigeria and especially in Ogun State based on the researchers knowledge, therefore the researcher intend to fill this gap by investigating the effect of domestic violence on socio-economic sustainability of families in Shagamu Ogun State,Nigeria.

### **Objectives**

The main objective is to investigate the Effect of domestic violence on socio-economic sustainability of families in Shagamu ogun State Nigeria. In order to achieve the main objective, the following specific objectives are to:

1. examine the prevalence of domestic violence on socio economic sustainability of families in Shagamu Ogun State.
2. examine the social effect of domestic violence on sustainability of families in Shagamu Ogun State.
3. assess the effect of domestic violence on economic sustainability of families in Shagamu Ogun State.
4. determine the psychological effect of domestic violence on sustainability of families in Shagamu Ogun State.

### **Literature Review**

#### **Conceptual Review on Domestic violence**

Domestic violence, also known as domestic abuse, spousal abuse, battering, family violence, and intimate partner violence (IPV), are defined as a pattern of abusive behaviors by one partner against another in an intimate relationship such as marriage, dating, family, or cohabitation. Domestic violence, so defined, has many forms, including physical aggression or assault (hitting, kicking, biting, shoving, restraining, slapping, throwing objects), or threats thereof; sexual abuse; emotional abuse; controlling or domineering; intimidation; stalking; passive/covert abuse (e.g., neglect); and economic deprivation, (Okoli, Uzoma, and Musa, 2017). According to Olayode (2016) domestic violence and abuse is not limited to obvious physical violence. Domestic violence can also mean endangerment, criminal coercion, kidnapping, unlawful imprisonment, trespassing, harassment, and stalking.

Understanding gender violence requires a situation analysis that recognizes the effects of the larger social context on gender performances. When men abuse women in intimate relationships, they use the violence to define their own gendered identities. A barterer often wants to show the woman that he is in control or to prove to other men that he controls her. He may view the violence as discipline that the woman deserves or has provoked (Eseosa, 2019). Gender violence is now an umbrella term for a wide range of violation from rape during wartime to sexual abuse in prisons to insults and name calling within marriages. International

activists continue to expand the scope of violence against women, to include cultural practices such as female genital cutting, illegal acts such as dowry deaths, the trafficking of women as sex workers, the effects of internal wars such as displaced people and the vulnerability to violence experienced by migrants in the context of contemporary globalization.

Violence towards women is a global challenge. It is also endemic throughout Africa and wears many faces. Domestic violence rape, sexual harassment and female circumcision are but a few. They embody disrespect and powerlessness that permeates women's lives. They are also examples of problems where more changes in law have little or no effect on practices. This problem is a legal challenge that must be met by all of us in pursuits of human rights (Evans, 2017). Gender inequality based violence and sexual harassment and abuse are widespread in our society and beyond. Glover (2018) asserts that the study of male violence towards women has been a major and well documented contribution from radical feminism. This is the main area in which arguments for the generality of women's oppression by men can be supported. It has been possible to show the prevalence of violence not only in western societies, but in many other parts of the world where women are dependent on men and are physically abused by men (Nwanmuo, 2019).

### **Domestic Violence in Nigeria**

Traditionally, in Nigeria, as in many other African countries, the beating of wives and children is widely regarded as a form of discipline (Nigeria CEDAW NGO Coalition, 2018). Therefore, beating of children by parents is believed to be a cultural means of instilling discipline in them, likewise the same way as in husbands beating their wives, who are regarded like children to be prone to indiscipline which must be curbed. This is especially so when a woman is economically dependent on a man. The society is basically patriarchal and women's place within the scheme is decidedly subordinate. Domestic violence therefore functions as a means of enforcing conformity with the role of a woman within customary society. It therefore does not matter if the woman is economically dependent or not, her position, like that of the children is subordinate. Nwanmuo (2019) argues that violence against women in the home is generally regarded as belonging to the private sphere in Nigeria and is therefore shielded from outside scrutiny.

### **Types/Forms of Domestic Violence**

#### **Physical Abuse**

This is the use of physical force in a way that injures the victim or puts him/her at risk of being injured. It includes beating, kicking, knocking, punching, choking, confinement. Physical abuse is one of the commonest forms of abuse. Babalola (2020) found that 83% of respondents in their study reported physical abuse. Apart from deaths and injuries, physical violence by an intimate partner is associated with a number of adverse health outcomes (Cohen & Marrion 2020). Several health conditions associated with intimate partner violence may be a direct result of physical violence e.g. bruises, knife wounds, broken bones, traumatic brain injury, and pelvic pain etc. Other conditions are the result of the impact of intimate partner violence on the cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, endocrine and immune system through chronic stress (Crofford, 2017). Many of the physical injuries sustained by women seem to cause medical difficulties as women grow older. Arthritis, hypertension and cardiac diseases have been identified by battered women as directly caused and aggravated by domestic violence early in their adult lives. Medical disorders e.g. hypertension may be aggravated in victims of domestic violence since the abuser may not allow them to access to medical care and this make abused women to have a 50-70 per cent increase in gynecological, central nervous system (CNS) and chronic stress-related problems compared to non-abused women (Obi & Ozumba, 2017).

#### **Economic Abuse**

This includes stealing from or defrauding a loved one, withholding money for essential material like food and medical treatment, manipulating or exploiting family member for financial gain, preventing a loved one from working or controlling his/her choice of occupation. Economic abuse is a form of domestic and

family violence involving behaviors that negatively affect a person's finances and undermine that person's efforts to become economically independent (Emery, 2019). Economic abuse is also referred to as economic control, economic deprivation, economic violence, financial abuse or financial control. It often occurs together with other forms of violence and may overlap as part of a pattern of controlling behavior. Economic abuse can occur in intimate partner relationships (Crofford, 2017). It can also occur in a broader range of family and other relationships. This includes circumstances where a person may be vulnerable due to their dependence on others for day-to-day support. Victims often lose their jobs because of absenteeism due to illness as a result of the violence. Absenteeism is occasioned by court appearances which jeopardizes their livelihood. Victims may have to separate from spouses many times to avoid violence which makes the situation to be economical inconvenient in term of job sustenance. This in the long run renders them poor as they grow older (Obi & Ozumba, 2017). A person who is in a relationship in which there is economic abuse can lack the resources needed for daily survival (Eseosa, 2019). Economic dependence on a partner can also be a critical obstacle to leaving the relationship. For example, it may not be possible for the woman to access the funds needed to leave the relationship. As with domestic and family violence more generally, economic abuse may not be identified until after a woman has left a relationship to escape violence which ends up in crisis for the victims.

### **Psychological Violence**

Physical violence go hand in hand with psychological abuse; depression remains the foremost response with most of battered women reporting depression. Emotional or psychological abuse can be verbal or nonverbal. Its aim is to chip away at the confidence and independence of victims with the intention of making her compliant and limiting her ability to leave (Koenen, 2018). Emotional abuse includes verbal abuse such as yelling, name-calling, blaming and shaming. Isolation, intimidation, threats of violence and controlling behavior. Many abused women define the psychological effects of domestic abuse as having a 'more profound effect on their lives- even where there have been life-threatening or disabling physical violence. Despite this, there is almost always pressure to define domestic abuse in terms of actual or threatened physical violence (Okoli, Uzoma, and Musa, 2017). This includes threatening a person or his or her possession or harming a person's sense of self-worth by putting him/her at risk of serious behavioral, cognitive, emotional or mental disorders. Shouting at a partner which was found to be the most common abuse by Okoroafo, Umoh, and Ojinma, (2014) is included. Also included in emotional abuse are name-calling, criticism, social isolation, intimidating or exploitation to dominate, routinely making unreasonable demand, terrorizing a person verbally or physically and exposing a child to violence.

### **Spiritual Abuse**

This includes preventing a person from engaging in his/her spiritual or religious practices or using one's religious belief to physically or emotionally manipulate, dominate or control him/her.

### **Neglect**

This includes failure to provide for dependents who may be adults or children, denying family members food, clothing, shelter, medical care and protection from harm or a sense of being loved and valued.

### **Factors Influencing Domestic Violence**

The world we live in is characterized with violence against women. This is present in many forms like battering, sexual assault and abuse, female genital mutilation and rape in war and peace-time etc. domestic violence is the fate of millions of women all over the world and these are affecting their productivity at homes, places of work and communities. There are different types of domestic violence, which occur at different levels within the family, community and the state. Domestic violence is a universal reality, which exists in all societies regardless of income, class and culture (Okoli, Uzoma, and Musa, 2017). It would be difficult to find one woman whom at one time or other in her lifetime had not been afraid merely because she is a woman. Women who are particularly vulnerable are those who live in precarious conditions or who are discriminated based on race, language, ethnic group, culture, age, opinion, religion or membership in a minority group. Research studies on domestic violence in Turkey state that violence results from

sociocultural, socio-economic, and psychological factors (Olayode, 2016). These factors include low education level, low family income, unemployment of the husband and wife, cultural background of the family, history of childhood abuse and either the man's or the woman's approval of violence (Nwadinobi, Makanjuola, and Nyukalu, 2018).

Eseosa (2019) explained that these internalized social norms, which sanction domestic violence, lead women to perceive that the violence is her fault; often because of shame and denial, religion or culture, women believe such behavior must be endured to preserve the marriage or family. Also, in patriarchal societies, men do not allow their wives to work outside of the house. They believe that a working woman would neglect her in-house duties and increase her decision-making authority inside the family (Emery, 2019). Under such circumstances, the man feels threatened because he can no longer dominate his wife. This leads to conflicts in the relationship which often followed by a violent act being perpetrated by the husband (Clarion (2021). This psychological factor increases women's tolerance towards violence, thereby reducing their ability to leave a potentially violent relationship, and empowering men to use more violence (Ajibola & Micheal, 2015).

### **Effect of Domestic Violence on Socio-Economic Sustainability of Families**

The effects of domestic violence go hand in hand with the forms of violence. The costs of violence against women to the socio-economic sustainability can be estimated by considering a number of categories. There are costs associated with pain, suffering, health care and premature mortality. There are costs of being absent from work as well as consumption-related costs such as replacing damaged property. There are costs associated with children witnessing and living with violence (including child protection services). The police, courts system, counseling and violence prevention programs comprise a final cost category (Adams, Sullivan, Bybee, & Greeson, 2018). Approximately 29% of women and 10% of men in the world have experienced rape, physical violence, and stalking by an intimate partner and reported at least one measured impact related to these forms of violence in the relationships (Bacchus & Ranganathan 2018). Victims of repeated violence experienced serious consequences than victims of one-time incident (Babalola 2019).

Economic abuse is a form of domestic and family violence involving behaviors that negatively affect a person's finances and undermine that person's efforts to become economically independent Ayodele, and Ogundele (2020). Economic abuse is also referred to as economic control, economic deprivation, economic violence, financial abuse or financial control. It often occurs together with other forms of violence and may overlap as part of a pattern of controlling behavior. Economic abuse can occur in intimate partner relationships. It can also occur in a broader range of family and other relationships. This includes circumstances where a person may be vulnerable due to their dependence on others for day-to-day support. Victims often lose their jobs because of absenteeism due to illness as a result of the violence. Absences occasioned by court appearances can also jeopardize their livelihood. Victims may have to move many times to avoid violence. Moving is normally costly and can interfere with continuity of employment. This in the long run renders them poor as they grow older (Babalola, 2020). A person who is in a relationship in which there is economic abuse can lack the resources needed for daily survival (Obi, & Ozumba, 2017).

She is likely to incur high financial costs for items such as health services, housing and legal assistance associated with separation and parenting. Women may leave situations of violence without employment, with no or poor credit ratings and with outstanding debts. In addition, they may be inexperienced and lacking confidence in dealing with financial matters as a direct result of the abuse they have experienced (Eseosa, 2019). Victims of domestic violence sometimes face the following social consequences Restricted access to services, Strained relationship with health providers and employers, isolation from social networks, homelessness (Finucane, & Paciorek, 2014). In order to increase your dependence on him or her, an abusive partner will cut you off from the outside world. He or she may keep you from seeing family or friends, or even prevent you from going to work or school. You may have to ask permission to do anything, go anywhere, or see anyone.

### **5 Prevalence of Domestic Violence**

In many countries, including Nigeria, women are socialized to not only accept, tolerate and to rationalize domestic violence but to remain silent about such experience (Olayode, 2016). Currently, there are no

accurate data on domestic violence in Nigeria and therefore not readily available and published statistics are based only on the cases that are reported to authorities. Women living in poor households, especially those in urban informal settlements are more likely to have experienced violence at the hands of their spouses (Uyang, Ejeje, and Aniah, 2016). Studies carried out by NGOs in Kenya indicate that over half of all reported cases of intimate partner violence occur in urban informal settlements which are characterized by high levels of unemployment, poverty and physical insecurity (Walby, 2021).

## **Theoretical Framework**

### **Social Learning Theory (Intergenerational theory)**

The paper underpins social learning theory which emphasizes that social behavior is learned by observing and imitating the behavior of others. Psychologist Albert Bandura developed the social learning theory an alternative earlier work of fellow psychologist B.F. Skinner who is known for his influence on behaviorism which focuses on how the environment and reinforcement affect behaviors, Bandura put forth that individuals can learn behavior through observation.

The adopted theory throws more light on family violence in terms of a learned phenomenon which is the intergenerational link between violence and individuals' learned behavioral role. It starts during childhood and established through the process of modeling. Finucane and Paciorek (2014) supports the role of families to expose individuals to violence and techniques of violence, and their direct or indirect effort to teach the use of violence. Finkelhor et al (1988) suggests that those who are abused suffer from a sense of powerlessness, stigma, and inability to trust others which hinder their contribution towards the development of the community with negative effect on development of normal coping mechanisms leading to violence. The assumption is that violence remains a learned response transmitted and reinforced across family generations (Johnson, (1998). The contribution by Walker (1984) has significantly influenced the body of thought around family violence.

According to Gelles (1997) Walker developed a "cycle theory of violence", which outlines distinct phases experienced by women in episodic family violence, including escalating tension, an explosion of violence and a honeymoon stage. The core emphasis of the social learning/ intergenerational theories is on family dynamics and interpersonal relations. Family violence is viewed as a symptom of dysfunctional family relationships and key concepts include learned helplessness, socialized roles and modeling effects. The danger in applying this understanding is the tendency to assume women are helpless victims. Further, this is exacerbated by notions that reduce family members and self-esteem issues of women. The difficulty of these assumptions is the tendency to target interventions in the form of couple counseling and family therapy, thus individualizing the nature of the problem. Disclosure of violence by a family member during a treatment session may precipitate violence and lead to its escalating once outside the counseling setting.

## **Methodology**

The study utilized a survey research method to investigate domestic violence among women. The population comprised 60 women, aged 16 to 39 and above, who were undergoing domestic violence, as identified by the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development in Shagamu, Ogun State. Given the relatively small number of respondents, enumeration sampling was employed. Questionnaires were distributed using a simple random sampling technique and utilized a four-point Likert scale.

Data collected from the survey were analyzed and interpreted using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 26. Prior to analysis, the research instrument underwent validity and reliability testing to ensure its accuracy and consistency. Results were presented using descriptive statistics in tabular format. Additionally, inferential statistics were performed using Pearson's Moment Correlation at a significance level of 0.05.

## **FINDINGS**

### **Results of Analysis**

**Paper Question One:** What is the prevalence of domestic violence on socio economic sustainability of families?

**Table 1: Mean responses of the prevalence of domestic violence on socio economic sustainability of families in Shagamu Ogun state.**

Statement	Strongly Agree F(%)	Agree F(%)	Strongly Disagree F(%)	Disagree F(%)	Mean	Standard Deviation
My partner throwing and hitting me with objects	32 (53.33)	19 (31.67)	6 (10.00)	3 (5.00)	3.33	.857
My partner locks me out of the house	21 (35.00)	23 (38.33)	4 (6.67)	12 (20.00)	2.88	1.106
I am denied basic physical needs(eating and sleeping)	28 (46.67)	10 (16.67)	16 (26.67)	6 (10.00)	3.00	1.074
My partner shoves and drags me around the house	14 (23.33)	28 (46.67)	9 (15.00)	9 (15.00)	2.78	.976
My partner locks me up/starve me and the kids	14 (23.33)	24 (40.00)	10 (16.67)	12 (20.00)	2.67	1.052
<b>Average Mean</b>					<b>2.93</b>	<b>1.013</b>

**KEY: If mean is 1 to 1.74 = Strongly Disagree; 1.75 to 2.49 =Disagree; 2.50 to 3.24 =Agree; 3.25 to 4= Strongly Agree**

Table 1 aims to examine the effect of physical violence on socio-economic sustainability of families in Shagamu ogun state. The table showed that the respondents strongly agreed that their partner throwing and hitting me with objects (mean=3.33, SD=.857), they agreed that their partner locks them out of the house (mean=2.88,SD=1.106), they agreed that they are denied basic physical needs(eating and sleeping) (mean=3.00, SD=1.074), they agreed that their partner shoves and drags them around the house (mean=2.78, SD=1.052), they agreed also that My partner locks me up/starve me and the kids (mean=2.67, SD=1.052). The average mean 2.93 and SD=.1.013 showed that the respondents agreed to all questions in this section. This signified that the respondents believes that physical violence has influence on socio-economic sustainability of families in Shagamu Ogun state.



Research Question Two: What is the social effect of domestic violence on sustainability of families?

**Table 2: Mean response of respondents on domestic violence on socio sustainability of families in Shagamu Ogun state.**

Item Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Total	
	F(%)	F(%)	F(%)	F(%)	Mean	Standard Deviation
My partner humiliates me in front of friends, family or strangers	19 (31.67)	20 (33.33)	6 (10.00)	15 (25.00)	2.72	1.166
My partner uses disproportionate anger or yelling to intimidate me	18 (30.00)	18 (30.00)	12 (20.00)	12 (20.00)	2.70	1.109
My partner insults, threatens or assaults my friends or family; driving them away	24 (40.00)	17 (28.33)	7 (11.67)	12 (20.00)	2.88	1.151
My partner does not identify with me in the public	35 (58.33)	7 (11.67)	12 (20.00)	6 (10.00)	3.18	1.081
I feel ashamed of my self being beating at home from time to time	27 (45.00)	7 (11.67)	11 (18.33)	15 (25.00)	2.77	1.267
Average Mean					2.85	1.154

**KEY: If mean is 1 to 1.74 = Strongly Disagree; 1.75 to 2.49 =Disagree; 2.50 to 3.24 =Agree; 3.25 to 4= Strongly Agree**

Table 2 examines the social violence influence socio-economic sustainability of families in Shagamu Ogun state. The table showed that the respondents agreed that their partner humiliates them in front of friends, family or strangers (mean=2.72, SD=1.166), they agreed that their partner uses disproportionate anger or yelling to intimidate them (mean=2.70, SD=1.109), they agreed that their partner insults, threatens or assaults their friends or family; driving them away (mean=2.88, SD=.151), they agreed that their partner does not identify with them in the public (mean=3.18, SD=1.081), they agreed also that they feel ashamed of their self being beating at home from time to time (mean=2.77, SD=.1.267). The average mean 2.85 and SD=1.154 showed that the respondents agreed to all questions in this section. This signified that the social violence influences socio-economic sustainability of families in Shagamu gun state.

Research Question Three: What is the social effect of domestic violence on sustainability of families?

**Table 3: Mean response of respondents on social effect of domestic violence on economic sustainability of families.**

Item of Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Total	
	F(%)	F(%)	F(%)	F(%)	Mean	Standard Deviation
My partner withholds affection, approval or appreciation as a punishment	18 30.00%	17 28.33%	16 26.67%	9 15.00%	2.73	1.056
I suffer obsessive jealousy and accusation of unfaithfulness	18 30.00%	17 28.33%	7 11.67%	18 30.00%	2.58	1.211
My partner irrationally blames me for everything	26 43.33%	12 20.00%	13 21.67%	9 15.00%	2.92	1.124
My partner uses intimate knowledge of me to abuse me	28 46.67%	6 10.00%	14 23.33%	12 20.00%	2.83	1.224
My partner threatens to harm himself or commit suicide just to punish me	18 30.00%	10 16.67%	10 16.67%	22 36.67%	2.40	1.265
AVERAGE MEAN					2.69	1.176

**KEY: If mean is 1 to 1.74 = Strongly Disagree; 1.75 to 2.49 =Disagree; 2.50 to 3.24 =Agree; 3.25 to 4= Strongly Agree**

From the table 4.4 above it can be deduced that the respondents agreed that their partner withholds affection, approval or appreciation as a punishment (mean=2.73, SD=1.056), they agreed that they suffer obsessive jealousy and accusation of unfaithfulness (mean=2.58, SD=1.211), they agreed that their partner irrationally blames them for everything (mean=2.92,SD=1.124), they agreed that their partner denies them access to shared resources, including bank accounts and common property (mean=2.83,SD=1.224), they also agreed that their partner uses intimate knowledge of them to abuse them (mean=2.40, SD=1.265). The average mean of 2.69 and SD=1.176 shows that the respondents agreed with the questions in this section. This finding reveals that the respondents believe psychological violence has effect on socio-economic sustainability of families in Shagamu Ogun State.

Research Question: What is the economic effect of domestic violence on sustainability of families?

**Table 3: Mean response of the respondents on the economic effect of domestic violence on sustainability of families.**

Item Statement	Strongly Agree F(%)	Agree F(%)	Strongly Disagree F(%)	Disagree F(%)	Total	
					Mean	Standard Deviation
My partner seizes my credit cards, money or cheque book	35 (58.33)	3 (5.00)	13 (21.67)	9 (15.00)	3.07	1.191
My partner intimidates and extorts my money	31 (51.67)	7 (11.67)	13 (21.67)	9 (15.00)	3.00	1.164
My partner jeopardizes my employment by negative tactics example; creating conflict with co-workers, supervisors or clients; creating scenes with co-workers; forcing me to miss work through threats	24 (40.00)	19 (31.67)	7 (11.67)	10 (16.67)	2.95	1.096
My partner denies me access to shared resources, including bank accounts and common property	27 (45.00)	14 (23.33)	10 (16.67)	9 (15.00)	2.98	1.112
My partner forces me to pay for all expenses including rent, food and utilities	27 (45.00)	23 (38.33)	4 (6.67)	6 (10.00)	3.18	.948
Average Mean					3.00	1.102

From the table 3 above it can be deduced that the respondents agreed that their partners seize their credit cards, money or cheque books (mean=3.07, SD=1.191), they agreed that their partners intimidate and extort their money (mean=3.00, SD=1.164), they agreed that their partners jeopardize their employment by negative tactics example; creating conflict with co-workers, supervisors or clients; creating scenes with co-workers; forcing me to miss work through threats (mean=2.95,SD=1.096), they agreed that their partner denies them access to shared resources, including bank accounts and common property (mean=2.39,SD=.94), they also agreed that their partner forces them to pay for all expenses including rent, food and utilities (mean=3.18, SD=.948). The average mean of 3.00 and SD=1.102 shows that the respondents agreed with the questions in this section. This finding reveals that the respondents believe economic violence has effect on socio-economic sustainability of families in Shagamu Ogun State.

### **Discussion of Finding**

The result of the study shows that there is an effect of physical violence on the socio-economic sustainability of families in Shagamu Ogun State this finding is consistent with the findings of Heise and Fulu (2021) who found that physical violence has impact on the economic wellbeing of families in the eastern Nigeria. In line with the findings of this study, Koenen, (2018) found that that 64.4% and 50.4% of ever married and unmarried women, respectively, expressed consent for wife beating. The study further highlighted that brutal attack on women by intimate partners in different forms such as 'acid bath', rape, beatings, some of which sometimes result in the death of the victim. Many victims do not report for fear of reprisal from abusers or the belief that the police and the judicial system cannot help. Similarly, Ayodele and Ogundele (2020) in their study revealed high incidence of physical forms of abuse such as beating (0.91), wife battering (0.88), injuring (0.87), molestation (0.85), rape (0.82) and confinement (0.75) in the study area.

The result of the study shows that there is an effect of psychological violence on the socio-economic sustainability of families in Shagamu Ogun State. This result align with the findings of Okoroafor, Umoh, and Ojinma, (2014) which shows that about 64.4% of 45 women interviewed in the work place said they had been psychologically abused by a partner (boyfriend or husband), 56.6% of 48 interviewed market women admitted experiencing such violence. Similar interview carried out in Oyo State and other parts of Nigeria, yielded similar results. Conclusively, the study showed that a significant relationship exist between psychological violence on socio-economic sustainability of families. Similarly, a study carried out by Obi and Ozumba (2017) on the factors associated with domestic violence, in South East, Nigeria 70% of respondents reported abuse in their families with 92% of the victim being female partners and the remaining 8% being male. The common forms of abuse reported were shouting at a partner (93%), slapping and pushing (77%).

According to a study by Peled and Dekel (2020), psychological violence can lead to economic abuse, such as preventing the victim from obtaining or keeping a job, controlling access to money, or causing financial damage. Another study by Gagné and Lavoie (2021) found that psychological violence can cause mental health problems, including depression and anxiety, which can lead to decreased work productivity and loss of income. A study by Sabina and Sullivan (2020) demonstrated that psychological violence can lead to physical health problems, such as chronic pain, which can result in increased healthcare costs and loss of income due to missed work with resultant effect of increased divorce rates, which can have significant negative impacts on the socio-economic sustainability of families.

The result of the study reveals that there is an effect of social violence on the socio-economic sustainability of families in Shagamu Ogun State. This findings is in line with the findings of Adams, Sullivan, Bybee, and Greeson, (2018) who established that there is a significant relationship between social violence and economic sustenance of families. The study concluded that government should provide palliative measures to curb low income earning among family by providing employment opportunities or sustainable programmes to alleviate poverty. In line with this finding, Ajibola and Micheal (2015) asserted that Social violence can have a significant impact on the socio-economic sustainability of families. It can lead to physical and psychological trauma, loss of income, and displacement, among other consequences. In turn, these factors can lead to long-term economic and social instability for families and communities. Obi and Ozumba (2017) also found that exposure to community violence was associated with lower levels of income and education for both men and women (Okoli, Uzoma, and Musa, 2017).

Another study conducted in South Africa found that exposure to violence increased the likelihood of food insecurity and reduced the availability of social support (Nwanmuo, 2019). Similarly, the direct impact on families, social violence can also have broader economic consequences for society as a whole. A study conducted in Colombia found that the economic cost of violence accounted for over 5% of the country's gross domestic product (Uyang, Ejeje, and Aniah, 2016) while another one reveals that domestic violence resulted in a 1-2% reduction in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) with the highest impact on low-income countries Okoli, Uzoma, and Musa (2017) In support for this study, Clarion (2021) asserted that addressing social violence and its impact on families is crucial for promoting socio-economic sustainability. This can involve a range of interventions, including addressing the root causes of violence, providing economic support to affected families, and promoting access to education and other resources.

Domestic violence resulted in a 1-2% reduction in GDP, with the highest impact on low-income countries. Okoli, Uzoma, and Musa, (2017) also found a consistent result which shows that a large percentage of women agreed that a man is justified in beating or hitting his wife. A qualitative small-scale US study of women's experiences of relationship rape and were beaten at some point in their homes. Also, Okoli, Uzoma, and Musa (2017) found that some women described 'giving in' to their partner's advances as a bid to avoid violent consequences due to fear induced by past physical violence. Another study by Gagné and Lavoie (2021) found that psychological violence can cause mental health problems, including depression and anxiety, which can lead to decreased work productivity and loss of income. A study by Sabina and Sullivan (2020) demonstrated that psychological violence can lead to physical health problems, such as chronic pain, which can result in increased healthcare costs and lost income due to missed work. In a study by Finn and Foshee (2021), it was found that psychological violence can lead to increased divorce rates, which can have significant negative impacts on the socio-economic sustainability of families.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, domestic violence significantly affects the socio-economic sustainability of families, leading to long-term instability due to physical and psychological trauma, loss of income, and displacement. The broader economic consequences of such violence can ripple through communities, underscoring the importance of addressing these issues comprehensively. Interventions must focus on the root causes of violence, provide economic support to affected families, and promote access to education and other vital resources. Continued research and proactive measures are imperative to mitigate the impact of domestic violence and foster sustainable socio-economic development.

### **Recommendations**

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations are proposed:

**Increased Funding and Support:** Government agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) should allocate more funding to programs and services that tackle the root causes of domestic violence. This includes providing economic support to affected families and promoting access to education and other essential resources.

**Educational Initiatives:** Education plays a critical role in equipping individuals with the skills and knowledge necessary to pursue economic opportunities and build resilience against violence. Therefore, educational initiatives should be prioritized alongside healthcare and social services to foster socio-economic sustainability.

**Economic Support:** Providing direct economic support to families affected by domestic violence is essential. This could be achieved through financial assistance programs such as cash transfers or microfinance loans, which can help families manage the economic repercussions of violence.

**Training and Capacity Building:** Governments and NGOs should invest in training and capacity-building programs for community members, service providers, and policymakers. Enhancing their knowledge and skills is crucial for effectively addressing the impacts of domestic violence on families.

### **Limitations of the Study**

During the course of this study, the researcher encountered several constraints that impacted the data collection and analysis processes. Chief among these constraints was financial limitations, which hindered the acquisition of necessary data and the logistical movement between various locations. Additionally, the reluctance of respondents to complete questionnaires posed a significant challenge, affecting the overall response rate and the comprehensiveness of the data gathered.

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