

## THE WOMAN VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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### **Abstract**

Violence against women is a large-scale phenomenon in contemporary society, the number of women abused in a couple's relationship is constantly increasing. Even though in recent years there have been significant changes regarding the distribution of roles in the family, and the differences between men and women have narrowed considerably, there are still men with traditional mindsets who place women in a spot of inferiority, women's capabilities and aspirations being treated with superficiality or even with indifference.

The investigative approach consisted of qualitative research, with an interview guide, applied to 20 women involved in abusive relationships. The qualitative research was conducted in the „Children of Jesus” Day Center in Reșița Municipality. The purpose of the study is to determine the main reasons causing victims of domestic violence not to end the abusive relationship. The results of the research demonstrate the difficulties faced by victims of domestic violence and the need to adopt legislative measures to protect victims and apply strict sanctions to domestic abusers.

**Keywords:** traditional mentality, aggressor, legislative measures, frustrations, helplessness, support, protection.

### **Résumé**

La violence contre les femmes est un phénomène de grande ampleur dans la société contemporaine, le nombre de femmes maltraitées dans les relations de couple est en constante augmentation. Même si, ces dernières années, des changements significatifs ont eu lieu en ce qui concerne la répartition des rôles au sein de la famille et que les différences entre les hommes et les femmes se sont considérablement réduites, il existe encore des hommes ayant une mentalité traditionnelle qui placent les femmes dans une position d'infériorité, les capacités et les aspirations des femmes être traité avec superficialité, voire avec indifférence.

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L'approche de l'investigation a consisté en une recherche qualitative, l'application d'un guide d'entretien, appliqué à un certain nombre de 20 femmes impliquées dans des relations abusives. La recherche qualitative a été réalisée au centre de jour « Enfants de Jésus » du municipe de Reșița. Le but de la recherche est de déterminer quelles sont les principales raisons qui poussent les victimes de violence domestique à ne pas mettre fin à la relation abusive. Les résultats de la recherche démontrent les difficultés rencontrées par les victimes de violence domestique et la nécessité d'adopter des mesures législatives pour protéger les victimes et d'appliquer des sanctions sévères aux agresseurs domestiques.

**Mots clés :** mentalité traditionnelle, agresseur, mesures législatives, frustrations, impuissance, soutien, protection.

### **Rezumat**

Violența asupra femeii reprezintă un fenomen de amploare în societatea contemporană, numărul femeilor abuzate în relația de cuplu fiind într-o continuă creștere. Chiar dacă în ultimii ani s-au produs modificări semnificative referitoare la distribuția rolurilor în familie, iar diferențele dintre bărbați și femei s-au redus considerabil, încă există bărbați cu mentalități tradiționale care plasează femeia pe un loc de inferioritate, capacitățile și aspirațiile femeilor fiind tratate cu superficialitate sau chiar cu indiferență.

Demersul investigativ a constat într-o cercetare de tip calitativ, bazat pe interviu, aplicat unui număr de 20 de femei care sunt implicate în relații abuzive. Cercetarea calitativă s-a realizat în cadrul Centrului de zi „Copiii lui Isus” din Municipiul Reșița. Scopul cercetării fiind acela de a determina care sunt principalele motive care le determină pe victimele violenței domestice să nu pună capăt relației abuzive. Rezultatele cercetării demonstrează dificultățile cu care victimele violenței domestice se confruntă și necesitatea adoptării unor măsuri legislative care să protejeze victimele și să aplice sancțiuni aspre agresorilor familiari.

**Cuvinte cheie:** mentalitate tradițională, agresor, măsuri legislative, frustrări, neputințe, suport, protecție.

## **1. Introduction**

Violence against women is not a recent phenomenon, being encountered in all societies and at all times. In recent years, it has taken on a special dimension as a result of the large number of women abused in the couple's relationship, who do not manage to put an end to the abusive relationship. An alarm signal is the multitude of cases of violence in which the victims lost their lives because they did not benefit from the support of the competent authorities in time to be able to end the abusive relationship.

Violence supposes an abuse of power closely related to a position of power and the imposition of this power on others, but there are also cases in which precisely the lack of power determines episodes of violence. However, it is interesting to note that the abuse of power and the imposition of control in a violent way paradoxically denotes the aggressor's lack of power. Thus, the accumulated frustrations and inability to be in control lead to aggressive behavior imposing this much-desired control and power on others, which can be very well observed in the cases of men, but even women aggressors (Rădulescu, 2001).

Violence directed at women is a manifestation of gender inequality, more precisely of certain social practices that are detrimental to women and put them in a place of inferiority. The norms that establish the dominance of men over women legitimize various forms of violence (Băluță&Tuفیș, 2022).

Domestic violence may be conceptualized through different forms of abuse: physical abuse, manifested by visible injuries on the victim's body; social abuse, in which the victims isolate themselves and refuse to communicate with those around them, passively accepting the abusive situation; mental abuse, considered extremely serious because it affects the mental health of the victim, possibly leading to the appearance of serious disorders. Also, abuse of a sentimental nature makes its presence felt in abusive relationships, with the victims being exposed to painful traumas that affect their ability to find their emotional balance (Bonea, 2013).

Domestic violence is a serious issue that often goes undetected for a long time. Thus, its effects may be blunted and neglected, allowing those who commit such acts to continue their abusive behavior without consequences or repercussions; however, it cannot be easily forgotten. Every act of aggression, and every moment of fear contributes to the deterioration of interpersonal relationships and the traumatization of victims. It is crucial to understand the complexity and severity of these long-term consequences of domestic violence to provide support and protection to victims.

## **2. The cyclicity of domestic violence**

Certain researchers, having concerns about the phenomenon of domestic violence, have identified a process of its emergence. By analyzing this cycle process, we can explain how women become victims, how they come to accept the abusive behavior of their partners, and why they do not have the courage to end such a relationship. Dănilă et al. (2009) highlight three distinct phases that differ according to duration and intensity, both within the couple and between couples, determined by certain events that occur in the life of the couple, phases that follow one other after the period called „courtship” (p. 103).

During the courtship period, the relationship between the two partners is characterized by a particularly affectionate behavior, rich in compliments from the abuser towards the female victim. In this phase, the fact that the man is loving and attentive makes the woman not pay due attention to the aggressive episodes of the life partner. Very often, the abuser identifies certain weaknesses in the woman and tries to take advantage of them at times when the woman cannot handle herself, and this makes her believe that she can rely on him and that they can be a functional couple. Also, during this period, the man can make certain confessions from the intimate sphere, tell her certain episodes from his childhood, and confess certain events that marked his existence, all this with the aim of justifying his own aggressive behaviors. All these stories and forays into the past do nothing but create and strengthen a state of dependence of the victim on the aggressor and the aggressor on the victim.

At the beginning of a relationship, women show an exaggerated enthusiasm for phone calls from their partner, but with time they become more frequent and turn into dozens of calls a day, which aim to constantly check on the woman. Over time, the woman becomes more introverted and more withdrawn, her relationship with family and friends becomes increasingly distant. All this is part of the „seduction” plan, and after it is carried out, acts of violence also begin (Walker, 2009, pp. 63-70).

- **The first phase – creating tension**

During this phase, the first adversarial discussions appear, discussions that the woman tries to manage with calm, and understanding and in some situations avoids her partner. By adopting this strategy, the woman is unconsciously implying to the man that she accepts the abuse and legitimizes it. This behavior, it does not mean that she does not realize the context in which she is, but she believes that by adopting such a position she can avoid the situation escalation. She resorts to what we call denial. Freud (1925) defined this term as „a behavior that brings together a variety of defenses aimed at diminishing the threatening part of reality and thus allowing the individual to live under less psychic stress”.

- **The second phase – serious incidents of aggression**

When the tensions between the two partners become unbearable, the beginning of a phase is triggered in which even the most banal discussions may degenerate into conflicts. Initially, the man tries to justify his behavior, but along the way, he loses his ability to communicate. According to studies conducted by Hearn in 1998 on a sample of men incarcerated for domestic violence, they claim that anger blinds their judgment intense moments. Thus, acute incidents occur as a result of a man's desire to demonstrate his power in front of his partner, intending to teach her a lesson and discipline her, without realizing that he can hurt her (Hearn, 1998).

- **The third phase – the aggressor's regrets**

At this stage of the process, the abuser appears to express regret for his actions, asking for forgiveness and enlisting the help of relatives and mutual friends to win the woman's forgiveness.

He tries to convince her that he deserves a second chance, using gifts and tender gestures. On the other hand, the woman's behavior towards the aggressive man changes, and she is susceptible to his promises and requests, influenced by the behavioral patterns in the family and the learned value system. The duration of this stage can vary, sometimes being shorter than the first, but longer than the second. In cases where the period of love and regret is quickly followed by violence and anger, the woman may react impulsively, potentially injuring or even killing her partner (Walker, 1984).

### 3. Abuse of power in the couple's relationship

Abuse of power is one of the main causes of domestic violence. Even if, in recent decades, society has evolved and women have become independent, men continue to want supremacy, often discrediting the actions of their life partners. Women's achievements may often be at odds with men's expectations, and this may cause conflicts within the couple, conflicts risking to degenerate into acts of violence of which both women and children may be victims. Violence, in common language, involves the use of force and coercion by an individual, group, or social class to impose their will on others. From a legal perspective, violence means the use of physical force or other persuasive means to cause damage to property or injury to a person's integrity. From a psychological point of view, violence denotes aggressive behavior most often manifested as a result of frustrations that may not be vented in socially desirable ways (Sinzianu, 2006).

The term power has several meanings: to exploit, to coerce, to manipulate, to enter into competition, or, on the contrary, to associate with someone for the joint use of a position of power, etc. Some of these forms have a positive content, others have negative content, being associated but not identical with violence. Violence is not always power, most of the time violence is a means to an end: gaining a position of power (Hogaș, 2010).

A specific classification of violence focuses on the goals and motives of the aggressor. In this respect, in the literature, two types of violence and two categories of aggressors are identified:

- **expressive violence**, which refers to aggressors who usually fail to control their impulses and tend to erupt in conflict situations, unable to keep their emotions in check. This type of violence may be caused either by difficulties in communicating with others and in controlling the situation, or by the lack of interpersonal strategies necessary to manage the problems encountered.
- **instrumental violence**, which refers to aggressors who do not suffer from a lack of intellectual or social capacities and whose acts of violence are not characterized by impulsivity.

By analyzing the characteristics of domestic aggressors, we can see that domestic violence is the result of the unequal distribution of power within family and society (Dănilă, 2009). Domestic violence is a complex phenomenon involving power and control dynamics. The aggressor wants to have absolute authority over the other family members, expressing this control through various means, such as threats, intimidation, frequent abuse, isolation, deprivation of material resources, cutting off contact with extended families or friends, imposing a regime of restrictive life, humiliation or domination through physical violence. This abusive behavior has serious consequences for the victims and may perpetuate a cycle of violence within the family (Bonea, 2016)

#### 4. Types of abuse directed against women

The analysis of the literature shows the main forms of violence against women:

- **Physical abuse** – it is the most frequently encountered in situations of abuse within the family. In elaborating a definition of physical abuse, several researchers were „prevented” by the fact of including in the same category slapping and acts of violence in which weapons are used, be they cutting weapons or firearms (Husso, 2017, p. 1-14), noting that physical abuse is just another stage in the process of partner abuse, preceded by abuse through neglect. It is considered physical violence and when the aggressor destroys goods inside the home, deprives the victim of food, sleep, and the threat of death using various objects (Sînzianu, 2006). Psychological violence is regulated by Law 25/2012 and is defined as: „imposing personal will or control, causing tension and mental suffering in any way and by any means, demonstrative violence against objects and animals, through verbal threats, control of personal life, acts of jealousy, coercion of any kind, as well as other actions with a similar effect, in these forms of manifestation are forms of psychological abuse, as well as forms of emotional abuse ([http://www. mmuncii.ro](http://www.mmuncii.ro)).
- **Sexual abuse** is a form of abuse that begins with offensive comments to the woman and continues with unpleasant touches and various insults inflicted on the victim during or in connection with the sexual act. Rape is a form of violence that women often suffer in silence, according to social norms that consider intimate relationships primarily a man's right, a territory where he is the master who decides (<http://journal.managementinhealth./article/view>).
- **Social abuse** is „a condition that worsens the situation of the woman as a victim. Social violence is at the same time a barrier to the valorization of women's resources outside the family and a framework that favors her aggression in terms of private and intimate life” (Amnesty International, Femmes, ACT 77/001/2005, 2005).
- **Economic abuse** involves „decreasing the victim's resources and autonomy, controlling the victim's access to money or personal belongings, food, means of transport, telephone and other sources of protection or care from which they could benefit” (Law 217/2003).

In Romania, the phenomenon of domestic violence is increasing day by day and is considered one of the most serious social issues, with roots deeply embedded in people's mentality (Bogeanu, 2013).

#### 5. The methodological dimension of applied research

##### Methods and techniques used

In the applied part of the current approach, we used a sociological survey based on an interview guide, addressed to victims of domestic violence.

The sociological investigation „is a technique of research (investigation) of the cases that are the object of social assistance, necessary to know the social problem raised by the client (individual, group or collective)” (Sandu, 2010, p. 101). The interview represents „a method of obtaining, through questions and answers, verbal information from individuals and human groups, to verify hypotheses or for the scientific description of socio-human phenomena” (Patton, 2002).

#### Ethical aspects of the work

The present research involves the collection of information from a vulnerable group, so in the entire investigative approach, the observance of ethical aspects was taken into consideration. When collecting the data, the purpose and objectives of the research were explained, and the fact that the data will only be used for scientific purposes. Also, the respondents were informed about the confidentiality of the data, but also about the fact that they could withdraw from the study at any time.

#### **The sample of qualitative research**

To outline the qualitative approach, a group of 20 women who were identified as victims of domestic violence was used. The research tool was the structured interview guide. The organization selected for the study is a non-governmental entity involved in the provision of psychosocial assistance services in community environments characterized by deprivation and marginalization, located in Reșita municipality. The period of collection and interpretation of the relevant data for the qualitative analysis was between September 2023 and February 2024.

#### **Research design**

**The purpose of the qualitative research** is to identify the main reasons that lead victims of violence to remain in a relationship with the abusive man.

**Research objectives** Objective 1: Determining the causes that influence abused women not to seek help of a specialist to end the abusive relationship; Objective 2: Exploring the dependency/autonomy of a person who has been subjected to domestic violence.

Following the objectives of the research approach, the research questions were established.

Question 1. How does the victim of domestic violence self-evaluate the situational context in which she is?

Question 2. What are the factors that led to the current situation of victims of domestic violence?

Question 3. Are victims of domestic violence confident enough to seek specialist help/support to become independent again?

Question 4. What does „living with the abuser” mean for persons abused?

Question 5. Are the victims of domestic violence influenced by the experiences lived in the family of origin?

## 6. Analysis and interpretation of data

The present study involved the collection of data through semi-structured interviews, followed by their transcription and analysis. Through transcription, the dominant orientations in the speeches of the interviewed persons were identified, by applying labels to their different fragments. Afterward, the tags were grouped according to the convergence of the analyzed discourse. This method allowed the researchers to familiarize themselves with the discursive content of the respondents (Sandu, 2010).

The structure of the interview guide was based on the following thematic units (axes).

Thematic unit 1: „Incidence of cases of abuse and neglect”. Support questions:

“Have you ever been a victim of domestic violence?” (question no. 1);

“How did the episodes of domestic violence begin in your case?” (question no. 2)

Thematic unit 2: „Knowledge of the phenomenon of abuse and neglect”. Support questions:

“What do you think are the causes of domestic violence?” (question no. 3);

“What are the effects of domestic violence on the female victim” (questions no. 4,5)

“How do you think domestic violence could be prevented” (question no. 8)

Thematic unit 3: „Factors leading to success/failure”. Support questions:

“How do you think episodes of domestic violence have left their mark on you?” (question no. 9);

“How do you think your life will be like in 5 years?” (question no. 10).

**Analysis and interpretation of the results** obtained following the application of the interview guide targeting the answers to the questions, following the thematic units. The first thematic unit focuses on outlining the vision of addicted people on the incidence and onset of abuse in the family.

Thematic unit 1: „Incidence of cases of abuse and neglect”. „Thus, with the help of research questions 1 and 2, the incidence and onset of violent episodes faced by the interviewed persons were identified.

Analyzing the answers to questions 1 and 2: „Have you ever been a victim of domestic violence?” (item no. 1), we note that all 20 persons interviewed were or are currently victims of domestic violence, the onset of violent episodes occurred in different situations: a few months after the beginning of the relationship, a few years after marriage, after the birth of children, after the occurrence of financial problems, etc. We highlighted some of the most relevant answers:



- my husband was violent from the beginning of the relationship, but because I grew up in a large family with great material needs, I decided to endure (woman, 53 years old);
- my first husband was extremely violent. The episodes of aggression started when he lost his job because the company he was working for went bankrupt, he was no longer able to find something that suited him financially, and because of this, he became frustrated, depressed, and particularly aggressive. (woman, 39 years old);
- he used to offend me from the time when we were just friends, but I thought he would change, I thought he was too young and didn't understand what he was talking about. He became physically violent after the birth of our first child because we started to have more and more expenses. (woman, 35 years old).

Thematic unit 2: „Knowledge of the phenomenon of abuse and neglect”

This thematic unit aims to the research within the paper aims to present a clearer picture of the victim's knowledge of the phenomenon of abuse and neglect, of the causes of domestic violence, considered to be basic in terms of the response to the phenomenon of abuse. After analyzing the responses of the women interviewed to the questions: „What do you think are the causes of domestic violence?” (question no. 3); „What are the effects of domestic violence on the woman victim” (questions no. 4, 5), it emerges that the causes of violence exercised in the family environment are multiple, from alcohol consumption to the importance of abusive family history, to infidelity, entourage, financial problems, etc. We continue to emphasize deviant structures by suggesting that acts of violence are more when the husband has low self-esteem and a bad opinion of himself, on the fact that in traditional families domestic violence is included in the domain of natural acts, but also the present analysis proves to us that domestic violence has acquired a multitude of forms, a fact that accurately contributes to the awareness of the seriousness of this phenomenon. Awareness of the repercussions of domestic violence has led to an understanding of the determinants and effects, forcing us to look for real ways to reduce the effects of this phenomenon. Observing the devastating effects of domestic violence, we reconsider the importance of respecting human rights and the adoption of legislative acts to support these vulnerable categories.

Going from the general to the particular, this thematic unit aims to explore the answers obtained:

- from my own experience, I think that the family history of the life partner, and the power of the example speaks for itself! I think men want to prove their superiority over women and that's why they resort to violence. (Interview 7, woman, 49 years old);
- clearly, alcohol, infidelity, and other passions such as gambling, and sports betting. In my opinion, men cannot bear to be inferior to women, and I think this also leads to violence. (Interview 1, woman, 36);

- there are several causes, but I think that lack of education and respect and alcohol are the most common. A man who respects his life partner will never be violent. In my opinion, lack of money also leads to a lot of problems. Quarrels are frequent because of shortcomings and worrying about tomorrow (Interview 20, woman, 31 years old).

The explanation arising from the present approach related to the causes and effects of violence produced in the family (Interview no. 1, item no. 4), is considered to be reactive, having its source outside the family system. We believe that it is rooted in experiences that inhibit personal development, in frustration, and hence the need to react with violence.

In the understanding of the women interviewed, domestic violence has multiple effects that affect their entire existence, manifesting in their lives through depression, isolation, low self-esteem, physical and mental trauma, panic attacks, etc.

Behavioral patterns have a decisive role in the life of the individual, the value system by which they are guided, many of the violent human behaviors may be explained by looking at a person's family of origin. The whole life of a person who has been a victim of domestic violence is affected, no matter how much the physical wounds are healed, the mental ones remain and have long-term effects.

The 20 women interviewed through the answers to: „How do you think domestic violence could be prevented” (question no. 8), emphasized the importance of social support, which is one of the most important factors contributing to the optimal social functioning of people in difficulty, of legislative support and an involvement of the state institutions, by building a center intended for victims of domestic violence in each county, by granting immediate and harsh punishments to the aggressors.

The last thematic axis aimed to identify and raise awareness of the factors that marked their existence. the outline of the thematic unit 3: „Factors leading to success/failure”.

Evaluating the answers to the two items: „How do you think episodes of domestic violence left their mark on you?” (question no. 9); „How do you think your life will look in 5 years?” (question no. 10). we have summarized some of the relevant responses that surprised us:

- I changed radically! From a woman full of life and enthusiasm, I turned into a negative one, full of frustrations and regrets. I lost that bit of joy in living, I have no longer future plans and I often think that life seems to have stopped for me (Interview 3, woman, 31 years old);
- I am mentally mutilated! Physical wounds pass, and the soul never heals. The loss of self-respect is the hardest consequence of domestic violence. (Interview 4, woman, 45 years old);
- I lost my confidence in myself, I lost my self-esteem, I didn't know how I would manage with money if I got a divorce (I only worked for a few months at a grocery store). The emotional wounds remain for life, I have

lost communication with extended family and frequently have terrible panic attacks. (Interview 2, woman, 53 years old);

- I have changed, as I didn't expect to go through something like this. I thought everything would be fine and we would live in harmony, but unfortunately, I was wrong. There is nothing left of the woman I used to be. (Interview 19, woman, 42 years old);
- Any woman changes when she is treated worse than an animal. I changed my perception about life, about family, about living together. I have changed a lot, both physically and mentally (Interview 15, woman, 41 years old).

A moderate approach may be observed in the speech of the interviewees, they declare that it is difficult to end the life dominated by domestic violence, although they would like to. However, are formulated to question the meaning of the quality of their life, as they are unable to set quality standards due to fear, but are convinced that at some point they will have the courage to end the toxic relationship in which they live and a new life begins.

Being asked how they see their lives in 5 years, the interviewed ladies answered:

- my life in five years, I hope will be peaceful, without tears and without pain. I want to live my old age peacefully, with my children. (Interview 8, woman, 59 years old);
- I want to be a woman more in control of the situation, my self-esteem to be much higher, and to have more confidence in my strengths. (Interview 10, woman, 30 years old).

### ***The conclusions of the qualitative approach***

The interviewees provided complex, thorough answers and were cooperative throughout the application of the interview guide. The purpose of the qualitative research, that of identifying the main reasons that determine the victims of violence to remain in a relationship with the abusive man, was fulfilled with the help of the fixed objectives.

The first objective aimed to determine the causes that influence the abused women not to seek the help of a specialist to end the abusive relationship.

The diversity of the causes of violence in the family environment is an obvious aspect, ranging from alcohol consumption to the presence of an abusive family history, infidelity, the influence of the entourage, or financial problems. An accentuation of the deviant structure is observed, suggestive because acts of violence are more frequent in situations where the individual exhibits low self-esteem and a negative image of himself. Although domestic violence has traditionally been included in the sphere of normality in conservative families, the current analysis reveals the diversification of forms that this phenomenon can take, thus contributing to the awareness of its seriousness.

The awareness of the consequences of violence in the family environment led to the understanding of the determining factors and their impact, imposing the

need to identify effective ways to reduce this phenomenon. Observing the devastating consequences of domestic violence, a reconsideration of the respect for human rights and the adoption of laws to protect these vulnerable categories is required.

The second objective focused on exploring the dependence/autonomy of a person who has been subjected to domestic violence, following both the opinion of those close to them regarding the behavior adopted: all the people interviewed felt invisible, marginalized by those close to them, facing reproaches; as well as the prevailing feelings at the time when they take refuge in these behaviors: peace, detachment, normality, fulfillment, fun, connection to their reality.

The identified socio-medical problems include loss of concentration and memory, internal organ and central nervous system complications, and social marginalization and isolation as well. Most of the interviewees recognized the need for support but did not agree to recognize the problems that required specialist intervention.

Limitations of the application of the interview guide included the ironic responses of the participants, who adopted a self-defensive behavior to some questions and showed a lack of familiarity with empathy and concern for others. Most of the interviewees considered their addictions to be normal; behavioral models play an important role in the life of the individual, who is guided by a specific value system. Violent behaviors can be explained in many cases by referring to the person's family of origin. People who have been victims of domestic violence suffer long-term consequences, no matter how well the physical wounds are healed, because the emotional wounds persist.

## **7. Instead of conclusions...**

In contemporary society, domestic violence is perceived as a normality, the number of victims of domestic violence is continuously increasing, and this is due to the lack of involvement of the authorities. Even if the restraining order is issued and the abuser cannot get closer than 200 meters from his victim, women are not safe, the abuser attacks without regard to the existing legislation regarding the restraining order.

Abused women's lack of information about social services in this field means that they do not seek specialized help to overcome problematic situations, this fact often leads to attempted murder or even suicide. The intervention of a multidisciplinary team, consisting of a social worker, a psychologist, and a social mediator, is essential because with their help abused women can understand the gravity of the situation and the repercussions of the violence, both on themselves and the children.

In the case of women, violence has the following effects: social isolation, apathy, depressive states, anxiety, and suicidal thoughts. The phenomenon of domestic violence is generated by a multitude of factors: financial, social, psychological, and emotional. To prevent this phenomenon, the intervention of the authorities is also needed by adopting effective laws that protect both the woman

and her family. The authorities should create an individualized protection plan for victims of domestic violence to support them, and thus feel safe.

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## Biodata

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