

BOOK REVIEW

THE UNSEEN FACES OF VIOLENCE

Review by Carmen PALAGHIA¹

The book „The Unseen Faces of Violence” is a collective volume coordinated by Mihaela Rădoi and Gabriela Irimescu, published by the „Alexandru Ioan Cuza University Press” in Iași in 2021.

Mihaela Rădoi is a Ph.D. in Sociology and an associate professor within the Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Human Resources, Faculty of Philosophy and Political Science, at „Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University in Iași. She is the author of several books, chapters in collective volumes, and studies published both in Romania and internationally. She is the coordinator of the paper „Violence against Women: Facets, Explanations, Interventions,” 2017.

Gabriela Irimescu is a Ph.D. in Sociology and an associate professor within the Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Human Resources, Faculty of Philosophy and Political Science, at „Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University in Iași. Her main areas of interest focus on family and child social work, social work for child victims of abuse, family violence, family crises, group dynamics in social work practice, and family therapy. She published the work „Social Protection of the Abused Child” in 2006 and coordinated the work „Violence against Women: Facets, Explanations, Interventions” in 2017. She is a co-author of several volumes and author of university courses and textbooks for social workers.

The volume „The Unseen Faces of Violence” consists of works by professionals and academics from „Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University in Iași and the Republic of Moldova, presented at the third and fourth editions of the Conference on Violence against Women: Facets, Explanations, Interventions. The event is part of a series of conferences organized by the Department of Sociology and Social Work. The work captures both the seen and unseen aspects of violence, its areas of manifestation, the effects of violence, and strategies for addressing this serious and unresolved issue in Romanian society.

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Topics addressed include violence against women of all ages, from minors to elderly individuals, as well as various forms of violence ranging from neglect to physical and emotional violence. Different spaces of occurrence and manifestation are also explored, from the domestic sphere to the workplace and virtual spaces. The authors of the volume „The Unseen Faces of Violence” propose reflections on various aspects. Professor Ion Ionescu addresses the themes of uncertainty, vulnerability, and persistent exclusion. Ioan Ticu delves into the history of domestic violence. Magdalena Roxana Necula discusses the effects of violence on women. Marian Pislariu examines manifestations of violence against women in the context of the migration phenomenon.

Professor Cristina Gavriluța and Costel Gîțlan explore „Beyond Appearances” and outline „Current Trends in Domestic Violence in Iași County.”

Professors Gabriela Irimescu and Mihaela Rădoi, along with Atena Gaspar and Almeida Santos, describe a case study on „Emotional Violence: From Invisible to Visible.” Atena Gaspar and Almeida Santos also detail „Symbolic Violence in the Third Age: Between Recognition and Acceptance,” alongside Cristina Crudu, who presents „Social Aspects of Elderly Abuse in the Republic of Moldova.”

Professors Irimescu and Rădoi reveal „The Hidden Face of Neglect,” while Sergiu Bortoș outlines the emergence, evolution, typology, and possible solutions identified for reducing cyberbullying. Paula Acatrinei, Delia Elena Pavel, and Raluca Ioana Toma detail the types of cyberbullying, the means of propagation, the consequences of such acts, data about cyberbullies, and the impact this type of aggression has on victims.

Elena Pătrău draws attention to aspects related to physical, verbal, and emotional violence among students. Mihaela Denis Gălățanu develops specific aspects for two phenomena of discrimination in the workplace: mobbing and bullying, while Costel Gîțlan details aspects regarding the application of provisional protection orders in Iași County. Professors Cătălin Mircea Dîrțu and Camelia Soponaru present a program for anger management. Bianca Farcaș conducts a comparative analysis of violence against women in Romania and the Republic of Moldova, and Tatiana Sincovschi presents myths and realities about violence against women, as well as intervention models in the Republic of Moldova.

We note the existence of volume in a context where the World Health Organization estimates that globally, approximately 1 in 3 (30%) women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence, with the majority of perpetrators being their intimate partners. Violence significantly impacts women's health once it occurs, which is why we emphasize the importance of prevention.

Biodata

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