

GENDER FEATURES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Mannapova Katerina Robertivna
Kharkiv National University of Internal Affairs
Kharkiv, Ukraine
e.mannapova@gmail.com

Abstract. Violent crimes committed in the family are becoming an increased public danger. Family violence involves the unlawful actions of one family member in relation to another member or several members of the family. There are analyzed the approaches to the concepts of "gender violence", "violence against women" and "domestic violence". There are four types of domestic violence that are considered: physical, sexual, psychological, and economic. Also, the consequences of violence that lead to personality deformation are singled out. The concept of the cycle of violence as a psychological mechanism between the aggressor and the victim is described and a social relay race of violence.

Key words: gender violence, domestic violence, woman, family.

Violence is one of the most widespread forms of human rights violations. As a rule, women, children and the elderly are the most affected by violence. The most common and most difficult to counteract is domestic violence. Violence in the family is inherent in many countries, despite their positive achievements in the legislative, political and practical spheres. As mentioned above, women are the main victims of domestic violence, which, in our opinion, occurs precisely because of gender characteristics. Such actions can be called gender-based violence. The concept of "gender-based violence" is new to global and domestic legal science. However, there are certain types of violence in which women are predominantly victims. Therefore, the United Nations has decided to distinguish between violence and gender based violence or violence against women (VAW).

The phenomenon of domestic violence is not a problem of an individual state or ethnic group, and that is why the civilized world has decided, jointly, to change the situation for the better. In 2011, in Istanbul, the Council of Europe has elaborated the Convention on the Prevention of and Treatment of Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (CETS No210, Istanbul Convention). The Istanbul Convention is a comprehensive international instrument aimed at protecting, preventing, judging and developing a strategy for combating violence against women and domestic violence. The Convention contains effective mechanisms for combating violence, as well as an international system for monitoring its implementation. The Convention defines the concept of "violence against women", which is understood as a violation of human rights and the form of discrimination against women, and refers to all acts of gender-based violence against women resulting in or likely to be physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering in relation to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, regardless of whether it occurs in public or private life ¹.

At the same time, it should be noted that the use of gender-based violence is the most widespread phenomenon and that is why it is paid much attention to it. Article 1 of the UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women states that "violence against women is an arbitrary act of violence committed on the basis of a sexual feature that causes or is likely to cause physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, and the threat of committing such acts, compulsory or arbitrary deprivation of liberty or private life" ².

Domestic violence - acts (acts or inaction) of physical, sexual, psychological or economic violence committed in the family or within the place of residence or between relatives, or between

¹ Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Violence against Women and Domestic Violence

² United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women

the former or the present spouses, or between other persons who live together) with one family but not staying (not staying) in a family relationship or marriage to one another, regardless of whether the person who committed domestic violence resides in the same place as the victim and threats of committing such acts. An act is recognized as violence only when it violates the requirements of the current legislation and leads or may lead to violation of the constitutional rights and freedoms of the family member. Domestic violence can take the form of active actions (beatings, destruction of property, etc.), and inactivity, that is, the passive behavior of a person when he does not commit actions that he could and should do to prevent the passing of harmful consequences (for example, failure to provide helping a family member who is in a dangerous position for life) ¹.

It is possible to conclude a typology of persons who commit violence in the family:

- a regressive type, which, due to a low self-esteem, is not able to control their tends and desires, loses the limits allowed during the performance of the function of the administrator in the family;

- a morally indiscriminant type, characterized by brutal behavior and brutal attitude towards family members, forcing them to engage in sexual contact with the use of physical force, using the helpless state of the victim;

- sexually irresolvable type that does not have any moral principles, norms and rules in the sexual satisfaction of their needs;

- inadequate type - sociopaths who do not obey social norms and treat family members as property that does not constitute any moral value and have no right to personal expression ².

The following types of violence in the family are distinguished:

- between spouses (male - female, in most cases, violence is committed by a man, but there are opposing cases);

- between parents and underage children (violence can be carried out both by the father and mother);

- between adult children and parents (violence can be done by adults as against parents, and vice versa, although the first case is more common). It is a quite typical situation where children who grew up in an atmosphere of violence establish their relationships with their parents on the same principles of violence. Violent attitude towards parents may also occur in families where children have grown in an atmosphere of permissiveness;

- between children in one family (this behavior usually occurs in the background of violent relationships between adult members of the family and can be diverse in nature - older children can commit violence against the younger, brothers over sisters, children can be united for violence against someone else from children);

- violence between other family members: between the mother-in-law or the test and the son-in-law, the father-in-law or the mother-in-law and the daughter-in-law, grandchildren and grandparents, etc.

Jerzy Melibreuda highlighted the following signs of domestic violence:

- Violence is always carried out on a prior intention, that is intentionally. This means that the person who committed the violence had known or should have been aware of the nature of the actions or inaction that he was carrying out, had foreseen or could foresee (based on his physical and mental condition) the possibility of occurrence of such harmful consequences as causing moral harm, physical or mental harm the health of another family member. It should be noted that the perpetration of violence in the state of alcohol intoxication does not exclude the possibility of the person to be aware of and predict the onset of harmful consequences. According to the Criminal Code of Ukraine, a person who has committed crimes in the state of intoxication as a result of the use of alcohol, narcotic drugs or other sedating means is subject to criminal liability;

- actions that make effective self-defense impossible. More often, people who commit violence have certain advantages - it may be age, physical strength, economically advantageous

¹ Chayka V.V. Sotsial'na obumovlenist' kryminalizatsiyi nasy'l'stva v rodyni, p.105.

² Kocherhina I. Psykholohichne nasy'l'stvo nad zhinkoyu: prychny i naslidky, p.70.

situation, etc. For example, a teacher mocks a pupil, forcing him or her to do shameful acts before the whole class, having an advantage over age, position, status;

- actions violate the rights and freedoms of a person. The murderer always tries to control his victim, thereby limiting his rights and freedoms. For example, if a woman does not want, she cannot just have an intimate relationship with her partner right now, but he insists, insults, threatens and eventually gets desirable - it is a violent act;

- violent actions cause damage (physical, moral, psychological, material) to another person. The consequence of violent action is always a harm - it can be a material loss (stolen money, a selected part of the jointly earned property), and injuries (bruises, fractures), and deterioration of the emotional state (shame, fear, oppression). For example, harm from blackmail can be depression, suicide attempt.

Also, Jerzy Melibreuda considers another important aspect – so called hot and cold violence.

Characterizing the hot violence, he refers to such psychological features of the behavior of the rapist as rampant - emotion-filled phenomenon of the rupture of the mental shell of the individual. This shell for some time constrains mental stress, impotence, hatred, aggression, etc. However, anger and rages are rising, rampant gets its accumulation. Psychologists note that although most people define the obscenity of such feelings, but the experience of ecstasy, which is inherent in the solution to the problem of ostentation, has some attraction. This is a powerful dark force that destroys the person, governs it, and cripples its moral and ethical principles.

Cold violence is a scenario that a person has learned throughout his life, often in his or her parents' family, or from the general culture of social relationships. Here is a typical example of the present days. Dirty lyrics are a "safe" manifestation of psychological violence. When a child, a teenager, a young man grows up among dirty liars, they become the norm for him. And for his beloved girl, his wife's behavior is already a scenario of cold violence ¹. Often, a person who grew up in a family where it was the norm to insult, humiliate, restrict, ignore and swear, it finds its realization as a habitual scenarios in their married life. It is worth considering the concept of the cycle of violence as a phenomenon, which is a manifestation of more frequent hot violence, unbridled feelings of the offender, and his ecstasy in the manifestation of strong dark forces of indignation.

The cycle of violence is a psychological mechanism between an aggressor and a victim. When trying to prevent violence, to overcome its consequences, it turns out that this mechanism is quite common and standard. Therefore, it is worth analyzing it from a psychological point of view and looking for ways to stop the social relay race of violence, to find levers of assessment of the behavior of the abuser and the victim to get out of this circle. The cycle of violence can vary in duration from a few hours to many years. Consequently, raping, ecstasy, cruel manifestation of violence is the completion and at the same time the beginning of a new cycle of violence. The victim has suffered, the offender is asking for forgiveness, promises that nothing alike more will not happen any more. The scared victim believes and hopes that her behavior will contribute to the peaceful coexistence of family members. The victim sees the abusive image of the person she loves, and forgives all to that image. Forgiving violence is also driven by belief in one's own fault. Often you can hear phrases that have already become oral folk art: "your own fault ", " You should have known who you married to ", and so on. The accusation of victim in violence is an indication of the patriarchal regime and the culture of rape. Another reason to forgive domestic violence is the social rationale for such violence: "jealous, therefore, he loves," "he cares about you so much," "man is more predictive", "step up, be wiser", "and who doesn't suffer nowadays?"

So calming and then reconciliation have come. The tyrant often manages to convince the victim that she is guilty in many ways - did not comply with the requirements, provoked an act of aggression. The victim is trying hard to please the abuser, to prevent a new dissatisfaction. But the conflict is resolved, so there are new contradictions and circumstances. There comes a phase of intensifying the tension that breaks again in the case of violence. The cycle ends and at the same time a new one begins. In almost all such families, with time, the stages of calming and

¹ Kosenko S. S. Nasył'stvo v sim'yi, yoho vydy ta motyvvy, p.167.

reconciliation are reduced, and cases of violence become more frequent. Violence in the family occurs in all sectors of society, regardless of religion, race, sexual preferences, professional and educational level. The perpetrators of violence try to get power and control over their close partners. The authorities are gaining the appearance of strategic offensive tactics (physical, sexual, verbal, emotional), which provides increased control.

The following causes lead to domestic violence:

- social (tension, conflict, violence in society, propaganda in the media of violence as a model of behavior);
- economic (material disadvantages; lack of decent living conditions and, at the same time, the absence of conditions for employment and earnings, economic dependence, unemployment);
- psychological (stereotypes of behavior); • pedagogical (lack of a culture of behavior - legal, moral, civil, aesthetic, economic, labor);
- socio-pedagogical (lack of conscious paternity, family values in society, positive model of family life on the basis of gender equality, family education based on the rights of the child);
- legal (the attitude towards violence as an intra-family problem, and not as a negative social phenomenon, for family members - as property; insufficient legal consciousness);
- political (propensity for gender stereotypes; insufficient priority of family problems and gender equality; attention to maternity and childhood, not to the family as a whole; lack of attention to parenthood; men);
- social and medical (lack of reproductive culture among the population, responsible parenting, family doctors, alcoholism, drug addiction, aggression, etc.);
- physiological and medical (violations of the hormonal background, metabolism, reaction rates, intake of excitatory drugs, diseases of the nervous system, etc.)¹.

There are four forms of such violence: physical, sexual, psychological, and economic. However, another form of gender-based violence in the family is the direct control of female sexuality: forced abortions and forced pregnancies.

Physical violence is a form of domestic violence that includes slips, kicking, pushing, pinching, flogging, biting, as well as illegal deprivation of liberty, beatings, muzzle, causing bodily harm of varying degrees of severity, abandoning danger, failing to provide assistance to a person who is in a life-threatening state, causing death, committing other offenses of a violent nature. Sexual abuse is a form of domestic violence that includes any act of a sexual nature committed against an adult without her consent or with regard to a child, regardless of her consent, or in the presence of a child, coercion of a sexual act with a third person, and other offenses against sexual freedom or sexual integrity of a person, including those committed against or in the presence of a child.

In addition, incest - sexual relationships between close relatives - father and daughter, mother and son, brother and sister, etc. - belongs to sexual violence in the family. Extremely dangerous manifestations of sexual violence in the family are sexual acts in relation to the child: the abuse of the child; demonstration of a child (teenager) of genital organs (exhibitionism); demonstration of an act of masturbation; involving a child in child prostitution or child pornography, etc.

Psychological violence is a form of domestic violence that includes verbal abuse, threats, including against third parties, humiliation, persecution, intimidation, other acts aimed at limiting the will of the person, control in the reproductive sphere, if such actions or inactivity were caused to the victim fear of their safety or security of third parties caused emotional insecurity, inability to protect themselves or harm the person's mental health. Psychological violence often causes depression, nerve disorder, exacerbation of chronic diseases, and even leads to suicide. Psychological violence in the family accompanies all other forms of violence.

Economic violence is a form of domestic violence that involves deliberate deprivation of housing, food, clothing, other property, funds or documents, or the ability to use them, abandonment without care or care, obstruction in obtaining the necessary services for treatment or

¹ Humennykova T.R., Metil' A.S. (2018) Kharakterystyka domashn'oho nasyl'stva: vidpovidal'nist' i naslidky, p.13.

rehabilitation, forbidding working, forcing to labor, the prohibition on studying and other offenses of an economic nature¹. One of the most common manifestations of economic violence in Ukraine is expulsion from the home (apartment), which in most cases applies to women and children. It should be noted that the commission of any kind of domestic violence leads to rather specific and unpredictable consequences:

- To seek approval of their actions by other people, a person who has been subjected to domestic violence;

- Feeling of insult (as a result of the domestic pressure, the person feels the image of both the offender and himself, but in the future, the feeling of insult grows up and manifests itself in the form of anger and feelings of guilt);

- Undervalued self-esteem, underestimation of their capabilities. The violator instills and supports the woman in her conviction that she is incompetent and responsible for the violence committed against her;

- Dependence. A woman has no desire to leave the aggressor, and even sometimes, in our opinion, reveals in this sense masochistic tendencies. She often defines her personality through relationships with others - mainly through relationships with her partner;

- Lack of communicative skills. Women who are subjected to domestic violence in their personal relationships do not have the skills of productive relationships. Hence the inability to control their anger, misunderstanding their needs and ways to meet them, ignorance of how to resolve conflicts are arising. These women are deprived of a clear sense of their psychological, physical boundaries. They either start to trust people too quickly or do not trust at all;

- Isolation. A victim is often isolated in the sense that a person exercises strict control over her social contacts. Being isolated from society and having no new information about the world around us, a woman becomes dependent. After beating, she continues to isolate herself emotionally and (or) physically, because she feels shame and fear;

- Helplessness. This can lead to the aggressor's dominance, his active control and the desire to control the victim, isolation from the outside world. The feeling of helplessness is most often so strong that a woman is unable to make decisions, take care of herself and build her plans for the future. All this, as a rule, leads to depression and suicidal mood. The victim does not expect to help herself, but retains the hope that a partner will change;

- Active use of psychological protective mechanisms (such as rationalization and negation). A woman who has suffered domestic violence even in the past is psychologically hard; it's ashamed to acknowledge the truth. In some situations, the mechanism of psychological protection helps the victim to survive violence. However, later there is a desire to diminish or deny the facts of the use of violence. The fact of the rejection of violence occurs unconsciously, but the process of exclusion itself is accompanied by the destruction of mental and physical health, as well as the weak differentiation of their feelings and often a complete lack of rational reflection;

- Increased anxiety that is observed in many victims of domestic abuse. Anxiety among victims of ill-treatment is as follows: hyperactivity in relation to the supposed danger; increased need for control; incorrect interpretation of objectively neutral or positive interpersonal stimuli as threatening or dangerous; somatic symptomatology;

- Leading one of the family members who is regularly subjected to violence from the offender, to depression and psychological disorders (syndrome of trained helplessness, Stockholm syndrome, Diogen syndrome and post-traumatic stress disorder). In the affected people, a tendency to disorders of eating behavior, alcoholism, drug addiction, vagrancy, and pathological accumulation may increase;

- Suicide execution as a result of prolonged domestic violence;

- Loss of human lives (murder, death due to injuries).

- Invalidation, chronic diseases due to injuries and psychosomatically acute diseases;

¹ Chayka V.V. Sotsial'na obumovlenist' kryminalizatsiyi nasyt'stva v rodyni, p.106.

- Inter-generational reproduction of violence. Children and adolescents who witnessed domestic violence adopt the gender model of violent behavior and reproduce it in the next generation;

- HIV / AIDS. WHO has ruled that women in abusing relations are significantly more at risk of getting HIV / AIDS. In such relationships, it is more difficult for women to negotiate or require safe sex with their partners, they are more often forced into sex, it is harder for them to ask for proper diagnosis when they suspect that they are infected with HIV;

- Vicious (secondary) injuries. Persons who are emotionally involved in communication with the immediate participants in conflicts - friends, relatives, neighbors, colleagues, social workers and employees, medical staff, law enforcers, lawyers, judges;

- Public rehabilitation costs for injured, judicial system, investigative measures, treatment of disabled people.

Violence is a phenomenon that is scary in nature, and therefore it is not surprising that victims of domestic violence are inclined to feel a sense of anxiety and fear even after a long time after its termination. Violence as an action represents a real physical threat, causing a natural fear for their lives¹. The common thing for abusers is that they witnessed child abuse, in other words, they were involved in inter-generational cycles of domestic violence. This does not mean that all children who see violence will become abusers. Understanding and destroying patterns of inter-generational violence can give more to its elimination than other approaches to violence management.

The more children are physically punished, the more likely they will be violent in their adulthood with their relatives. Numerous studies have shown that physical punishment is associated with "higher levels of aggression between parents, siblings, peers and spouses," even when caused by other factors. While these data do not corroborate causal relationships, numerous longitudinal studies have shown that the experience of physical punishment has a direct causal effect on further aggressive behavior. So, physical punishment of children (such as carving, slapping or beating on the buttocks) is a predictor of the underperformance of such values as empathy, altruism, resistance to temptations, and more antisocial behavior, including violence while dating.

In patrilineal societies around the world, the young bride moves to her husband's family. As a new woman in the home, she gets the lowest or one of the lowest positions in the family and often acts as a subject of violence and abuse, and is also particularly strongly controlled by her husband's parents: with the arrival of the daughter-in-law, the status of in-law is rising and now (often the first time in life) she has significant power over someone, and "this family system itself begins to produce inter-generational violence, where in the past the injured daughter became a forcibly forced mother-in-law". Thus, the patriarchal social systems in which the wife is perceived as the property of her husband encourage the oppression of women one after another.

Women, for a long time, are in a situation of domestic violence (especially if they were subjected to violence in themselves and in their parents' families, as children, when violence was one of the factors of personality formation), acquire a number of specific features of character and personality features that make them emotionally dependent on the offenders. They are more often involved in the "game" with the very aggressor that is stereotypically repeated, based on the so-called dramatic triangle S. Karpman, or the "triangle of power." Researchers of this problem converge in the fact that for women victims of domestic violence characterized by a passive-contemplative position, a sense of fear, anxiety, patience, complacency, rigidity of attitudes. Traces a low self-esteem, self-doubt, and dependence on a man, imbalance, which can be seen in increased emotional, vulnerability or inadequate reactions, aggressiveness. Prolonged negative impact leads to constant deprivation of violence the victim - the situation is perceived as "normal". A person who is in a situation of psychological violence, loses confidence in himself (doubts arise about his own psychological integrity), passivity, fear, depression, self-esteem change.

The ambivalence characterizes the sensory sphere of a person. It shows itself in the contradiction of emotional attitudes toward a particular object. It can be persistent feelings for family members, along with opposite modalities to situational emotions (for example, love and

¹ Kosenko S. S. Nasyt'stvo v sim'yi, yoho vydy ta motyvy, p.167.

respect - and at the same time insult or disdain - and also pity). The ambivalence of feelings can be manifested as inconsistency, contradictory behavior of a person, doubts in the situation of choice. It is assumed that the inconsistency of behavior is a factor provoking violence against such women. Regarding the breach of sex-role identification as a factor in domestic violence against women, it can be assumed that women whose behavior is contrary to generally accepted norms, the perceptions of the behavior of their spouses, mothers, are more likely to suffer from family violence than those who behave in accordance with these notions. A person who is subjected to systematic violence develops a model of life style of a victim, the state of a certain readiness to realize this model in the future. Features of such a model: changing the image of one own self, blaming oneself for what is happening, devaluation of oneself, again the feeling of fear and helplessness as the dominant emotions in the emotional sphere, deprivation of basic needs, that is, dissatisfaction with the needs of love, acceptance, understanding, emotional syndrome dependence, fear of losing attachment, uncertainty for oneself and others, denial of their own needs, devaluation of their own feelings, impaired ability to enjoy life, to establish close emotional contacts, etc.¹.

G. Yu. Mustafayev also notes that women victims of domestic violence have a low level of self-awareness: they are poorly aware of themselves as human beings, lost their own self, are not oriented to their needs and desires, have a pronounced masochistic component, which is obviously based on a negative experience of own childhood. In fact, constant violence leads to personal change².

Prohibitions are accompanied by supervision over their execution. To ensure that the victim adheres to the rules laid down for her, certain manipulations, blackmail, and threats are applied. A person who seeks to dominate will do everything to undermine the self-esteem and confidence of the victim in their own right, to deprive her of the grounds for opposition. Usually a partner or affiliate uses authority, and therefore his / her opinion is perceived faithfully. In this way, the victim is infantilized, returning to the "stage of the mirror" (by Lacan). The "I" of the victim is reconstructed through reprobate, condemnation, ridicule in the mirror, which becomes a partner / partner for her. The real "I" is replaced by the new "I" victim.

An abuser can be any person, regardless of gender. However, women are more likely to suffer from domestic violence than men. Such indicators are quite natural, since a man has more ways to influence a woman according to his "traditional" gender roles and physical abilities. For a man, violence can perform various functions, among the main ones - maintaining his image as "dominant" and asserting his own masculinity. A man often acts as an aggressor, irritated, screams, because usually the boys are taught to react so much since childhood. The same behavior of girls, on the contrary, is very disapproving - they are accustomed to peacefulness, wisdom, understanding, and acceptance. Aggression can be a lonely way out for emotions, because "the real man" has no right to express his feelings in the least, or at all to have their mother. In modern literature, a lot of attention is paid to the concept of "emotional work" - the ability to recognize, take into account, coordinate their own emotions and emotions of other people, and this is usually "feminine case".

An infantile egocentric man can be violent in a situation where his needs are not unconditionally and not always satisfied. The woman, in turn, is raised mainly as a victim who should have "female wisdom", accept, calm ("woman is responsible for peace in the family"); as an addition-helper of a man; as guardian of the interests of family members. An important role is played by the fact that a woman, not "realized" in a family, perceives society as inferior; personal achievements of women are considered unnecessary, are depreciated. The lack of self-identity often pushes a woman not only to be a victim but also to be an aggressor. This can be manifested in claims to a man due to his failure (which in fact is a claim to himself), hyperopia, implementation through a child, the imposition of a younger generation of scripts of personal life, etc.

¹ Kocherhina I. Psykholohichne nasyt'stvo nad zhinkoyu: prychny i naslidky, p.75.

² Mustafayev H. YU. Sotsial'no-psykholohichna kharakterystyka osib, yaki zaznayut' nasyt'stva v sim'yi

References:

1. Chayka V.V. (2018) Sotsial'na obumovlenist' kryminalizatsiyi nasyt'stva v rodyni [Social disasters of criminalization of violence in the family]. *Young Scientist*, No. 4 (56), pp.104-107.
2. Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Violence against Women and Domestic Violence. Retrieved from: <https://rm.coe.int/168008482e> (accessed 23.07.2019).
3. Humennykova T.R., Metil' A.S. (2018) Kharakterystyka domashn'oho nasyt'stva: vidpovidal'nist' i naslidky [Characteristics of Domestic Violence: Responsibility and Consequences]. *Scientific Herald of the International Humanitarian University*, vol. 2, no. 35, pp. 12-14.
4. Kocherhina I.(2017) Psykholohichne nasyt'stvo nad zhinkoyu: prychny i naslidky [Psychological violence against women: causes and consequences]. *Journal of Lviv University, Series of psychological science*, no. 1, pp. 68-76
5. Kosenko S. S. (2015) Nasyt'stvo v sim'yi, yoho vydy ta motyvy [Violence in the family, its views and motives]. *Economics and Law*, vol. 18, no. 28, pp. 164-167.
6. Mustafayev H. YU. (2005) Sotsial'no-psykholohichna kharakterystyka osib, yaki zaznayut' nasyt'stva v sim'yi [Socio-psychological characteristics of persons who suffer from domestic violence]. Retrieved from: <https://fundacia.org.ua/index.php/stati/58-socialno-psyhologichna-harakteristika-osib-yaki-zaznaly-nasyt'stva-v-simji> (accessed 23.07.2019).
7. United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Retrieved from: <http://www.un-documents.net/a48r104.htm> (accessed 23.07.2019).