

**SOCIO-PSYCHOLOGICAL DETERMINANTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST
WOMEN IN THE FAMILY AND LEGAL PROTECTION MECHANISMS:
THEORY AND PRACTICE**

Asia International University, Department of Pedagogical Theory

Teacher of Psychology and Pedagogy

N.D. Palvanova

nodirapalvanova166@gmail.com

Abstract: *This article comprehensively analyzes the psychological, economic, and legal aspects of violence against women within family relationships. The author substantiates a layered classification of types of violence, reveals the phenomenon of “secondary victimization”, and highlights the significance of reforms in the updated criminal legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Article 126-1 of the Criminal Code).*

Keywords: *domestic violence, household aggression, psychological pressure, economic dependency, protection order, secondary victimization, gender equality, rehabilitation, perpetrator, victimhood.*

INTRODUCTION

Ensuring human dignity, personal inviolability, and human rights is one of the priority directions of a modern legal state. However, as in many countries around the world, the problem of violence against women within family relationships remains relevant in our country as well. In recent years, the protection of women’s rights in Uzbekistan has been elevated to the level of state policy strategy [1].

Domestic violence is not merely the infliction of physical injury. It is a complex socio-psychological phenomenon aimed at degrading an individual’s dignity, suppressing their will, and restricting their social activity through a system of consistent actions. The main purpose of this article is to theoretically analyze this problem, distinguish its types, and study its legal solutions.

Literature Review

The international legal foundation for combating violence against women is the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 48/104.

According to Article 1 of this Declaration, violence refers to any gender-based act that causes physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts and deprivation of liberty [7].

Article 2 of the Declaration lists specific forms of violence occurring within the family environment:

- Beating within the family;
- Marital rape;
- Traditional practices harmful to women;
- Violence related to exploitation [7].

This document defines violence as “a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women”. This confirms that the problem has not only legal but also socio-psychological roots.

Main Part

In scientific research, the concepts of “family violence”, “domestic violence” and “household violence” are often confused. However, they should be differentiated based on the principle of layered classification. This system may be imagined as “encompassing circles”[5]:

1. Family Violence (Inner Circle)

This is the most hidden and internal layer. Here, the perpetrator and the victim are connected through legal marriage, kinship, or adoption. The main driving force is the establishment of absolute control over the partner’s emotions and behavior.

2. Domestic Violence (Middle Circle)

This concept has a broader scope and includes all individuals living within the same household or territory (house, yard, apartment). This may include aggression between former spouses, relatives living together, or co-tenants.

3. Household Violence (Outer Circle)

This is the broadest concept, encompassing all social and бытовой environments where everyday human life takes place, including dormitories, hospitals, and social institutions [5].

This hierarchical analysis demonstrates that family violence is characterized by the highest level of secrecy (latency) and psychological dependence.

Psychological violence serves as the “foundation” for all other forms of aggression, including physical and sexual violence. As academician G.B. Shoumarov noted, psychological pressure within the family disrupts a woman’s self-awareness [3]. Manifestations of psychological violence may be divided into three main directions:

- Social isolation and control: The perpetrator systematically isolates the woman from the outside world – her parents, friends, and professional environment – making her fully dependent on the abuser as the sole source of information and material support.

- Verbal aggression: Through insults, humiliation, and constant criticism, the abuser creates feelings of helplessness and guilt in the woman [6].

- Psychological patterns: Violence becomes repetitive rather than accidental, leading to neuroticization and loss of trust in the world.

In modern society, economic violence against women is also becoming widespread. Economic violence is one of the most effective tools for depriving women of the right to make independent decisions. According to psychologist M. Murtazova, economic pressure acts as the main “chain” forcing women to remain in abusive situations [4]. Its main indicators include:

1. Financial control: The family budget is managed solely by the man, while the woman receives minimal money for expenses and is required to account for every expenditure.

2. Prohibition from working: Preventing women from engaging in professional activity and suppressing their economic independence.

3. Property discrimination: Appropriation of property or income belonging to the woman.

Often, women are forced to endure even physical abuse due to economic insecurity and fear of being unable to provide for their children [4].

The year 2023 became a turning point in the history of Uzbekistan’s legislation concerning the protection of women’s rights. The following innovations determine the practical significance of this article:

- Introduction of Article 126-1 into the Criminal Code: “Family (domestic) violence” was officially recognized as an independent criminal offense [2]. This article covers not only physical but also psychological and economic harm, bringing women’s legal protection to a completely new level.

- Protection orders and their effectiveness: Based on the Law “On Protection of Women from Oppression and Violence,” protection orders were introduced, enabling restrictions on contact between the abuser and the victim and limiting the abuser’s presence at the victim’s residence [1].

- Inevitability of punishment: Previously, family conflicts were often regarded merely as “domestic matters,” but now criminal liability for such acts has been strengthened, and procedures regarding withdrawal of complaints by victims have become stricter.

One of the most tragic consequences of domestic violence is the psychological damage inflicted on children. Psychologist H. Tillaeva emphasized that children witnessing domestic violence become victims of “secondary victimization” [8]. Its consequences include:

- Development of anxiety, fear, and aggression in children;
- Reproduction of violent family models in adulthood or adaptation to the role of victim;
- Social maladjustment and academic difficulties.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The fight against domestic violence should not be limited solely to punitive measures. It is necessary to address the socio-psychological roots of the problem.

Our recommendations:

1. Mandatory psychological correction: Introduction of compulsory psychological training and behavioral correction programs for perpetrators of violence [3,4].

2. Women’s employment: Ensuring women’s economic independence is the strongest shield protecting them from becoming victims of violence.

3. Social immunity: Formation of a culture of “zero tolerance toward violence” in local communities and educational institutions.

In conclusion, the new legal norms adopted in Uzbekistan ensure the legal inviolability of women. However, solving the problem at the socio-psychological level requires moral responsibility from every member of society.

REFERENCES:

1. Ўзбекистон Республикасининг 2019 йил 2 сентябрдаги «Хотин-қизларни тазйиқ ва зўравонликдан ҳимоя қилиш тўғрисида»ги ЎРҚ-561-сон Қонуни.
2. Ўзбекистон Республикасининг 2023 йил 11 апрелдаги ЎРҚ-829-сон Қонуни (Жиноят кодексига 126-1-модданинг киритилиши).
3. Шоумаров Ғ.Б. Оила психологияси. – Т.: Шарқ, 2010. – 215 б.
4. Муртазова М.Б. Хотин-қизларни тазйиқ ва зўравонликдан ҳимоя қилишнинг психологик механизмлари. – Т., 2022. – 148 б.
5. Ярская-Смирнова Е.Р. Социальная работа с семьей: гендерный аспект. – М., 2015. – 256 с.
6. Берковиц Л. Агрессия: причины, последствия и контроль. – СПб.: Прайм-Еврознак, 2001. – 512 с.
7. БМТ Бош Ассамблеясининг 48/104-резолюцияси билан қабул қилинган «Хотин-қизларга нисбатан зўравонликка барҳам бериш тўғрисидаги Декларация».
8. Тиллаева Х. Шахслараро муносабатлардаги низолар ва уларнинг психологик таҳлили. – Т., 2020. – 176 б.