

# FACTORS AFFECTING THE RELATIONSHIP OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PERPETRATORS

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## FACTORS AFFECTING THE RELATIONSHIP OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PERPETRATORS

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### ABSTRACT

Domestic violence is generally carried out by the person closest to the victim and the husband is the dominant person being the perpetrator of violence against the wife. This can occur because family awareness has not been touched in improving self-quality through the application of understanding family functions. Victims of Domestic Violence also frequently exhibit mental health situations associated with a history of trauma to violence in their family. The depiction that men are considered more powerful and stronger makes them more aggressive, which can lead to domestic violence against women. The power relations of the perpetrators are also influenced by the wife's economic independence. The power of the perpetrator which is higher than the victim is influenced by the domination of the perpetrator in the economic system. Because the husband spends time in the sector that makes money while the wife takes care of the household and takes care of the children. The pattern of husband-wife relations greatly affects the roles between husband and wife and the distribution of power. Scanzoni and Scanzoni divide the husband-wife relationship into four types of marriage patterns, namely; property owner pattern, head complement pattern, senior-junior pattern, and equal partner pattern. These four patterns result from special and dynamic socio-economic conditions. Equal distribution of power in the family will have a low level of conflict of control, and violence.

**Keywords:** Causes of Domestic Violence, Power Relations

### INTRODUCTION

According to Mahfudi a woman activist Domestic violence is generally carried out by the person closest to the victim and the husband is the dominant person being the perpetrator of violence against the wife. This can occur because family awareness has not been touched in improving self-quality through the application of understanding family functions. Violence certainly has a detrimental impact on victims of domestic violence, especially wives. violence for a long time has serious consequences for the victim both physically and psychologically.

Victims will experience a lack of self-confidence that hinders the ability to carry out social activities, health problems and reduces autonomy in the economic, political or socio-cultural fields. So it can be said that the impact is not only felt on the victim but also on his development with the surrounding environment. Victims of domestic violence also frequently exhibit mental health situations associated with a history of trauma to violence in their family. The violence received by the victim in the household is generally not only one type, where the physical violence received is usually also followed by psychological violence, or physical violence along with economic violence, or four forms of violence can befall the victim, resulting in multiple suffering.

Data on violence against women in Indonesia is still difficult to obtain. However, this does not mean that there is no violence against women in Indonesia. Some very serious cases were covered by the mass media, which often resulted in fatalities. Data derived from case records at the Women's National Commission in 2018 showed the number of cases of violence against women in 2018 was 293,220, most of the data was obtained from case data or cases handled by

359 Religious Courts at the district or city level spread across 30 provinces in Indonesia, which reached 280,710 cases or around 96%. The patterns of violence that are quite prominent from year to year are practical violence and sexual violence, all of which are divided into three domains, namely family or personal relations, community and state.

Victims of domestic violence that are quite prominent based on Komnas Perempuan data are violence against wives which reaches 99%, and the age of the victims tends to be young (between 16-21 years). In the context of gender, women are often blamed and considered weak. So that in such a position women often do not have as wide a space as men in defending. Even in society, women are often reminded of the idealization of society about women who should be gentle, loving, and obedient to their husbands.

There are several studies that are considered to be a little describing the analysis of violence against women, namely the 2014 Annual Record Sheet of the National Women's Commission, "violence against women; the state immediately terminates the immunity of perpetrators." service institutions for women victims of violence, whether managed by state institutions, community institutions and law enforcement agencies that occurred in Indonesia during 2012 there were 293,220.

The husband's power relationship tends to have a high level of conflict, control, and violence against his wife. The husband with his power suppresses the people in his household, so that the power relationship between husband and wife has an unpleasant impact on the wife. A husband who feels powerful causes a lack of respect and acts arbitrarily towards his wife. The wife is considered as someone who fulfills her husband's wishes, so that a wife who is guilty and disobedient to her husband has the right to be beaten by her husband because by nature the wife must obey her husband. So, in this case the wife who gets the smallest portion of power makes her vulnerable to becoming a victim of violence in domestic life (domestic violence).

Factors that influence the power relations of actors in general are perceptions of gender bias. Men are seen as having a greater chance of committing violence against women, as seen in several studies which reveal that men must have a higher status than the status of a woman who is their partner, the husband has a higher position than the wife where the husband has full power in run the household. In addition, the depiction that men are considered more powerful and strong makes them more aggressive, which can lead to domestic violence against women.

The power relations of the perpetrators are also influenced by the wife's economic independence. The power of the perpetrator which is higher than the victim is influenced by the domination of the perpetrator in the economic system. Because the husband spends time in the sector that makes money while the wife takes care of the household and takes care of the children.

This makes the husband's work more valuable. Housework is not considered important because it has no monetary value. This encourages women or wives to depend on their husbands, especially economically and makes women fully under the control of their husbands. As a result, the wife is often treated arbitrarily according to the husband's will. Another factor that affects the power relations of the perpetrators is the pattern of husband-wife relations.

The pattern of husband-wife relations greatly affects the roles between husband and wife and the distribution of power. Scanzoni and Scanzoni divide the husband-wife relationship into four types of marriage patterns, namely; property owner pattern, head complement pattern, senior-junior pattern, and equal partner pattern. These four patterns result from special and dynamic socio-economic conditions. Equal distribution of power in the family will have a low level of conflict of control, and violence.

## RESEARCH METHOD

This study uses an analytical descriptive research method with a normative juridical approach, where the data and information studied are analyzed juridically so as to get an overview of Factors Affecting the Relationship of Domestic Violence Perpetrators.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Laws and regulations in Indonesia already exist to govern the prohibition of certain actions. In 2004, the Indonesian government enacted Law no. 23, which addresses the issue of eliminating domestic violence.

Despite these legal measures, the government is concerned about the ongoing challenges faced by women. There is a high divorce rate accompanied by acts of violence, some of which victimize children. While many critics focus on downstream issues like domestic violence and violence against women and children, there is a lack of serious attention given to upstream factors, particularly early marriage. Early marriage not only pertains to the age at which individuals marry but also encompasses the age defined by marriage laws, which can increase vulnerability to violence.

Contemporary Indonesian society still largely adheres to a patriarchal culture, where women's status is weakened, and men's status is reinforced. This perspective perpetuates gender inequalities, with men being perceived as strong and leaders while women are seen as the weaker side, meant to be led. This entrenched cultural understanding fosters male dominance and efforts to exert control.

Changing this deeply rooted culture will be a protracted process because it involves altering long-held societal beliefs, particularly among men who initially view themselves as superior to women. Initially, the term "patriarchy" referred to a historical system originating from Greek and Roman law, where the male head of the household had absolute legal and economic authority over family members, including dependent slaves. Over time, "patriarchy" has come to represent the worldwide dominance of men over women, leading to the marginalization of women.

In the public sector, one can observe how advertisements in both print and electronic media often exploit a woman's physical appearance as a symbol of a product's beauty to attract consumers. This commercialization of women's bodies contributes to their marginalization, as they face economic pressures without fairness. The historical construction of society, with its deep patriarchal roots, places a burden on both men and women, with men justifying their privileges due to the heavy expectations they bear, including leadership roles. This, in turn, indirectly contributes to violence against women.

Therefore, addressing these complex issues requires comprehensive efforts to challenge patriarchal norms, promote gender equality, and enforce existing laws to protect the rights and safety of women and children in Indonesia.

### Gender Bias Perception

Gender bias can be seen through the allocation of roles, rights, responsibilities and expectations placed on men and women that apply in society. Discussing gender bias cannot be separated from gender inequality which can have an impact on gender discrimination, especially for women. If someone has an awareness of gender equality, then there will be no assessment that the position and role of men are higher than women and have control and dominance over women which can have an impact on gender discrimination. The perception of gender bias here will be seen based on perceptions related to marginalization, subordination, dual roles,

stereotypes and gender-based violence where these aspects contain elements of gender inequality against women.

### **Marginalization**

Based on the data obtained, it is known that the men have a perception that agrees that the work done by the wife is not important if it does not make money. Husbands often forbid their wives to participate in activities outside the home. However, the husband does not forbid if the wife wants to work to help meet the needs of the family. Husbands also view that <sup>12</sup>men cannot be leaders, especially in the household. According to him, if in a household, the husband is the leader of the family. Ijab Kabul is seen as the surrender of the <sup>8</sup>wife from her in-laws to her, so that she is fully responsible for the wife. His natural wife is to take care of the household, children, and serve her husband, so according to him the wife must obey him in all things.

### **Subordination**

Based on the data obtained, it is known that some husbands agree that women should not occupy higher positions than men because the nature of women is below men, the needs of husbands and households are more important to fulfill than the needs of their wives, their interests must be prioritized over men. wives and women should receive less salary than men even in the same job. Some husbands often view that men have so many jobs and heavier responsibilities. While the wife only depends on her husband. The income his wife gets from work is seen as unable to meet household needs. <sup>7</sup>

The perception of some husbands regarding women's subordination is known not only in the domestic sector but also in the public sector. Culture has positioned men as superior and women as inferior. Men who have been formed have the power, direct the knowledge of the community, so that the relationship between the sexes is formed with the dominance of subordination which results in women being positioned as parties governed by men.

### **Double role**

There is a perception of a dual role in the husband. Where the wife who works in the fields is still seen as having to carry out her nature as a housewife, taking care of children and serving her husband. There is no division of labor in the domestic sector. The wife is even seen as having to replace her roles and responsibilities when her husband is not at home. So that the workload received by the wife is more than the husband. In some husbands have a perception that agrees with the dual role. Even though the wife works in the public area, it is not accompanied by a reduced burden in the domestic area. After working in the public sector, domestic responsibilities remain the wife's obligations and responsibilities. Women are considered to have heavy and continuous tasks and responsibilities. In addition to serving their husbands, women are pregnant, give birth, breastfeed, look after the house and also participate in making a living. However, this does not mean eliminating their duties and responsibilities in the domestic sector. Domestic responsibilities still rest on the shoulders of women. As a result they experience a double burden.

### **Stereotypes**

Based on the data obtained, it is known that some husbands agree that women should be shy, whiny, not independent, and physically weaker than men. According to her, women should be kind, pious, obedient to men, while men should be firm and brave. The wife when she is married is responsible for taking care of the childre<sup>10</sup>household and serving her husband, while Suar is responsible for the family economy. So that the wife is seen as dependent on her husband and the husband is responsible for his wife. Stereotyping is the agreement of a group to the image of another group with a tendency to display the wrong image or idea. So that stereotypes also show the existence of unequal or unbalanced power relations that aim to conquer or dominate other parties. Negative labeling is often done on the basis of this gender assumption. Often negative labeling is assigned to women.

## Violence

Based on the data obtained, it is known that the husband tends to have consent to violence, where he agrees that the husband is still worthy of being the head of the household even if he does not fulfill the obligation to provide for his wife, the wife must serve sexually whenever she wants, divorce or divorce is her full right, and she feel entitled to scold, rebuke, and say harshly to his wife anywhere if his wife makes a mistake. Violence can cause damage to psychological functions. Law No. 23 of 2004 has stated that acts of violence against wives in the household are divided into four types, namely: (1) physical violence that results in pain, illness, or injury (2) psychological violence, can be in the form of cursing, yelling, (3) sexual violence, in the form of forced sexual intercourse and (4) neglect of household members. Its not being provided with a regular or sufficient amount of income, limiting or prohibiting proper work inside or outside the home, so that the victim is under the control even though the person (Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 23 of 2004 concerning the Elimination of 2004) So that based on the Act it can be seen that, violence in the view of the subject here is not only psychological violence, but also sexual violence, economic violence or neglect.

### Tendency to Have Antisocial Personality Characteristics

In some of the perpetrators' subjects, several antisocial personality characteristics were found, including low empathy and violation of social norms, aggressive behavior patterns, dealing with criminal acts, and egocentricity.

#### Low empathy and violation of social norms.

The subject's low empathy is shown by his behavior that often doesn't care about his surroundings. Everything he does must be paid for. The wife is only given a meager living and does not meet the needs of the family causing her to have to work. The wife works in the fields, but the wife is also fully responsible for the children. The absence of a fair division of labor in the domestic sector. Even the wife finds it difficult to ask her husband for help both in the field work and housework. In addition, the husband also does not give the same rights to his children. The husband is indifferent and tends to discriminate against his first child, which is shown by giving love, attention and different treatment between the first child and his younger siblings. This shows not only having low empathy but also in some circumstances a disregard for social norms. Someone with an antisocial personality has a low attitude of empathy and even violates social norms

## CONCLUSION

In a society with a patriarchal cultural framework, men often take on the role of perpetrators, while women find themselves more susceptible to becoming victims. This cultural paradigm reflects historical values that restricted women's roles primarily to domestic tasks. Achieving justice and gender equality in such circumstances cannot be attained by solely focusing on women or the opposite. Even in this modern era, despite the push for equality, there persists a notion that women are inherently weaker than men. The root of the problem regarding violence lies in unequal power dynamics and gender disparities, while triggering factors like economic and religious considerations are commonly used as justifications for committing acts of violence. If we replace gender inequality in people's lives with a framework of gender equality, the likelihood of violence decreases. Conversely, even when triggering factors are absent, violence remains possible as long as the underlying causes persist.

Several factors influence the power dynamics of those who become perpetrators. Firstly, there exists a gender-biased perception of subjects, encompassing marginalization,

subordination, stereotypes, dual roles, and violence. For instance, the belief that women's primary responsibilities are domestic in nature leads to an unfair distribution of domestic work, resulting in a double burden for wives. Additionally, the idea that husbands hold an irreplaceable position as household leaders while wives bear full responsibility contributes to this perception. Secondly, there's a prevailing notion that aggressive personality traits are more characteristic of males. This belief is intertwined with societal gender roles, leading men to view aggression as a natural mode of behavior, both verbally and physically. Those with aggressive personalities exhibit irritability often accompanied by verbal and physical aggression, including reprimands, insults, and sometimes physical violence like slapping, kicking, or hitting. Lastly, subjects with antisocial personality traits tend to engage in criminal activities like domestic violence without experiencing feelings of guilt for their actions.

In light of these observations, it is imperative for counselors to offer psychological intervention, particularly through community-based guidance and counseling services. Correctional institutions should also prioritize facilitating counseling programs, especially for individuals with a history of perpetrating violence.

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