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Economic Violence against Women in Punjab: Dimensions, Determinants and its Implications on Women Social Status in Society

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: Women are almost half the population of the world while their poor social status and limited participation in society is a serious issue of their deprivation specifically in developing countries like Pakistan. This study was attempted to investigate economic violence against women and its influential factors on women's social status in society.

Design/Methodology/Approach:

The study used multiple regression analysis for empirical estimation of cross-sectional data of 840 married men from three low socio-economic districts Dera Ghazi Khan, Rajanpur and Muzaffargarh from Punjab province of Pakistan.

Findings: Empirical estimates of the study indicated among men above secondary school education, agricultural occupational status, emotional health status, childhood violence experience and witness are significant factors that impact women's economic violence.

Implications/Originality/Value:

There is a need for adequate legislation and policy measures for free and easy access to schooling, particularly in rural areas. In reducing gender disparity and violence's regarding women social media, electronic media and print media can play a significant role by providing productive and positive messages in discussions and programs.

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Introduction

“Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls” is the 5th Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) which is generally persistent on empowering women with equal opportunity and

authority in social, economic, political and public decisions of society (United Nations, 2015). In the Middle East and North Africa, the estimated gender gap was 39.8 percent while in South Asia 34.3 percent which is higher than the world scenario average of 32 percent (World Economic Forum (WEF), 2018). Political empowerment (77.1%) and economic participation (41.9%) were indicated higher sub-indexes status of gender gap disparity ratio while education attainment (4.4%) and health care (4.6%) with average lowest disparity ratio estimated (WEF, 2018). The significant representation of economic and social decisions regarding employment, health and education with zero discrimination prerequisite for fuelling sustainable development of economies and promoting the welfare of society (United Nations, 2015, Baig et al, 2017).

Behavioral practices not according to norms and the general sequence of society are indicated as violence (Archavanichkul, 2006). Individual rights violations, limiting the private and public sphere of freedom of peoples, victims of mental and physical suffering inflictions elaborated as violence (National Human Rights Committee Office, 2009). Application of power or force to assault, to threat or offense other peoples, community or group of peoples with consequences of preventing potential human development, hearting feeling, death and injuries formally known as violence (World Health Organization, 2007). Reparation of property or lives due to some behaviors or act formally known as violence which is usually caused through the act of human being, accidental practices and natural forces without discrimination of age, gender, race and time. Children and women have indicated the significant victims of violence and men consider core origin (Sarkar, 2010). The extreme form of human rights violation and gender inequality is a violation against women and girls which leads to reducing earning and productivity and limits mobility and increases absenteeism from work (SERIES, 2018).

Economic, emotional, sexual and physical are some significant forms of women violations that are mostly practiced in homes, offices, educational institutions and public places (SERIES, 2018). Domestic violence affects women's livelihood and life is also known as economic violence which includes women's constraints no freedom of independent source of income, no freedom to work, stealing wife's money and limiting wives spending money (Ayuwat and Sananikone 2018). Constraints of access to adequate resources and lacking quality living major issues faced to victims of economic violence while it may be due to inadequate experience of women to managing money rather than their intimate partner (Howard and Skipp, 2015; National Assembly Committee on Women, 2011). The victims of economic violence generally face negative impacts regarding physical and psychological health issues in the shape of future financial uncertain stress and fear of poverty (Sanders, 2015; Smallwood, 2015). In the global scenario almost 35% of women facing the sexual or physical form of violence against intimate on non-intimate sexual partner according to the region of 37.7% in South-East Asia, 37% in Eastern Mediterranean, 23.2% in high income and 24.6% Western Pacific countries (World Health Organization, 2017).

The estimated population of Pakistan is 207.77 million and women as 101.32 million which shares almost 49% population of the country (Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS), 2017). Gender discrimination and social inequalities are major constraints in women's significant role in society and country (Patel, 2010). In South Asia, Pakistan was a higher ratio of gender bias and inequality about women (UNICEF, 2007). Pakistan in the current year 2018 was estimated the second-highest severe disparity status country followed by Yemen and ranked 148 out of 149 countries of the world regarding women disparity status also indicated an increasing disparity tendency related to the last year 2017 (WEF, 2018). In the world scenario average, 34% managerial attainments of women were estimated while Pakistan is among the four worst status countries (Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Yemen) of the world with an average of less than 7% women managerial attainments (WEF, 2018). Social, cultural, demographic and economic constraints play a significant role in raising disparity status in developing countries like Pakistan. In Pakistan, women are less empowered, facing gender discrimination regarding social constraints and having limited

participation status in the country (Government of Pakistan (GOP), 2018). The majority population almost 63.62% of the country inhabited in rural areas, out of 48% overall average literacy rate among females only 36% are literate in rural areas of Pakistan (Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement (PSLM), 2017; GOP, 2018). There are consecutive wide gender discrimination and rights violations regarding women employment opportunities, wages inequalities and frequent honor killing in rural areas.

Punjab is the most populated province of the country with an estimated population of 110 million and is the significance of 37% urban and 63% rural population (GOP, 2017). Lower literacy rate in rural areas male (66%) and female (44%) as compared to urban areas male (82%) and female (73%) was estimated in Punjab, Pakistan (Punjab Gender Parity Report (PGPR), 2018). Considerable women violations and miserable status in Punjab province have reported an increase in 5% of women violations (assaulting, rape, domestic violence, murder and honor killing) from 2016 to 2017 (PGPR, 2018). The objective of this study is to investigate the impact of male influential factors on women's economic violence in Punjab Pakistan. This research is categorized into five sections, the first section consists introduction of the study, literature review and theoretical framework highlighted in section two while material and methodology are discussed in section three. Results and discussion are illustrated in section four while the conclusion and suggestion are explained in the last section of this study.

Theoretical Framework and Literature Review

This study is based on intersectional theory which is rooted in the historical background of discrimination laws for African black women regarding critical race and black feminism theory as used by legal theorist African-American Kimberle Crenshaw (Monk, 2011; Viruell-Fuentes et al., 2012). The intersectional theory is included the international level with a significant approach of power structure and experiences of various sexual orientations, ethnicities and genders that can analyze contradictory trajectories of equality (Carbado et al., 2013). Political, representational and structural are three forms of intersectionality (Monk, 2011). In addressing the social problems faced by women related to investigating and outlined antiracist politics and feminist movements formally denoted the political intersectionality (Monk, 2011). Analyzing the women cultural issues those ignored and suppressed by leadership on basis of different form intersections nationality, ethnicity, age, gender, class and race known as representational intersectionality (Monk, 2011; Carastathis, 2014). Women's position of intersection is socially divided and affected by social division indicated the structural intersectionality (Monk, 2011). In Pakistan women mostly argued for vulnerable and disadvantaged political, civil, social and economic discrimination so this theory is compatibles with this research (Amnesty, 2002). Violence against women in Pakistan prominently related to rural/urban and classes as middle and upper urban areas women class face lower violence with more command on their lives related to schooling, health and employment access rather than rural women justify the intersectional theory (Ballantine et al., 2017). Domestic, social, cultural and economic violence are regarding women are also examples of gender discrimination in Pakistan (Iqbal et al., 2012). The conceptual framework of the study highlights the economic losses due to social and economic impacts of violence against women as indicated in figure 1. Negatively economic impacts through individual/household, community and government are determined due to violence against women. Violence against women causes negative impacts to cause social negative impacts through individuals/households, social cohesion and national as subsequently the economic losses.

Figure 1 Conceptual Framework Social and Economic Impacts of Violation against Women

In literature regarding the historical scenario women were deprived of basic rights marriage choice, property, inheritance and children (Pakeeza, 2015) while due to the significant role of feminist activists now somehow the scenario has changed (Babur, 2007; United Nations, 2006; Qureshi, 2012; Khan, 2009) intensity and magnitude of abuses regarding women lives are still horrifying. Women throughout their lives face violence as the consensus of the community (Ali and Gavino, 2008; Heise et al., 1994; Saxena and Kumari, 2016). Former to birth with sex choosy abortion violence against women starts and continues till adulthood foremost to numberless pains and misery (United Nations, 2006). The studies of Coleman and Berenson, (2004) and Khan et al., (2013) elaborated in Pakistan there exists a skewed sex ratio as the reason of negligence is direct to death as indicates a higher infant mortality rate. Married women face a higher degree of sexual, psychological and physical violation from an intimate partner (United Nations, 2006; WHO, 2016) even also in old age due to some economic reasons forced homicide and suicide (Nosheen, 2011). Pakeeza (2015) the study highlighted the supremacy of men and dominance of women in cultural, social, economical and traditional scenarios regardless of significant legislation regarding women's rights. Galtung (1996) highlighted as gender inequality the root cause of cultural, structural and direct violence. Damaging and pains by punishing is denoted direct violence, working against weak and favoring powerful segment of society know as structural violence while reinforcing norms of structural and direct violence indicated as cultural violence's. Babur (2007) studied as in Pakistan women's status is deprived regarding the decisions choices of productive and reproductive, resources control, mobility and their behaviors with dominancy of male decisions. Karmaliani et al., (2012) in Pakistan the whole time society in all stage there is a common practice of women violence. Psychological context, political context, economic context, social and cultural contexts are major contributing factors regarding economic violence (United Nations, 2006). In the scenario of women's rights, these above-mentioned factors develop an unfavorable atmosphere whereas violence is used socially acknowledged with indicate of treat women unfavorably moving physical and mental health. Pakeeza, (2015) focused on Pakistan Shariah law application used to women

rights which also determines the responsibility of State to ensure human rights protection for every individual while there remains the severe economic violence regarding women with the male dominant society. Qaisrani et al., (2016) tried to highlight the aspect of violence against women through socio-economic and cultural factors and find out that women face structural, cultural and direct violence's in Pakistan. Kabir and Khan (2019) study elaborated violence against women by an intimate partner and employment barriers in Armenia and conclude as women with an employed status fewer violations of rights rather than unemployed women. Rizvi and Feroz, (2019) focused the women's violence in the aspect of its prevalence and associated factors in Pakistan. This study highlighted the higher prevalence of women violence while major victims proportion not seeking help and not reported whereas higher affected women were those illiterate, unemployed and non-contraceptive uses due to illiterate life partner.

Material and Methods

Administratively Punjab province is categorized into nine divisions and thirty-six districts (Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 2017). There were some significant reasons for the selection of the Punjab province region for this study. Firstly, Punjab province was purposively selected for the reason of the highest ratio of 74.96% violence's against women (abduction, murder, honor killing, rape, sexual assault, domestic violence, etc) in the country (Aurat Foundation, 2014). Secondly, due to lower socioeconomic status and higher gender disparity ratio, these three districts Rajanpur, Dera Ghazi Khan and Muzaffargarh out of thirty-six districts of Punjab province based on the lowest economic, cultural and social progress index were specifically selected for the study (WEF, 2017; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), 2017). According to Punjab's Social Progress Index 2015, district Dera Ghazi Khan, Rajanpur and Muzaffargarh have the lowest social (0.08)(0.35)(0.72), cultural (0.68)(0.76)(1.03), economic (0.35)(0.54)(0.69) dimensions and social progress index (0.13)(0.46)(0.66) comparative to rest of the districts of Punjab province (Government of Punjab, 2018).

Table 1: Punjab Province mostly Lagged behind Districts with Social Progress Index and Various Dimensions

	Districts	Social dimension	Cultural and gender dimension	Economic dimension	Index of social progress
1	Dera Ghazi Khan	0.08	0.68	0.35	0.13
2	Rajanpur	0.35	0.76	0.54	0.46
3	Muzaffargarh	0.72	1.03	0.69	0.66
4	Rahim Yar Khan	0.78	1.09	0.73	0.68
5	Bahawalpur	0.75	1.04	0.70	0.67
6	Pakpattan	0.56	0.99	0.60	0.62
7	Jhang	0.86	1.14	0.77	0.82
8	Bhakkar	0.99	1.25	0.80	0.91

Sources; Punjab's Social Progress Index 2015

Lastly, rural areas were specifically focused in this study due to the prevalence of higher gender disparity and violence in rural areas in a contrast to urban areas and these districts Dera Ghazi Khan, Rajanpur and Muzaffargarh major population ratio 81%, 83% and 84% inhabited in rural areas (Government of Pakistan, 2017; PGRP, 2018).

The multistage simple random sampling approach was used for data collection procedures in the study area with different procedural steps. In the first stage, Punjab province was selected for study due to sharing 53.35% female population and sharing almost 75% acts of violence against women of the country (GOP, 2018). In the second stage, due to the highest ratio of gender disparity, lowest Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) and Human Development Index (HDI) districts of Punjab region Rajanpur, Dera Ghazi Khan and Muzaffargarh districts were specifically selected (WEF, 2017; UNDP, 2017; PRGP, 2018).

Table 2: Lower HDI and MPI Districts in Punjab Province of Pakistan

	Districts	Human Development Index (HDI) (2015)	Multidirectional poverty index (MPI) value (2015)
1	Dera Ghazi Khan	0.535	0.351
2	Rajanpur	0.506	0.357
3	Muzaffargarh	0.584	0.338
4	Rahim Yar Khan	0.625	0.289
5	Bahawalpur	0.645	0.272
6	Pakpattan	0.660	0.189
7	Jhang	0.682	0.196
8	Bhakkar	0.628	0.255

Sources; United Nations Development Program Report, 2017

Two tehsils from each district were selected due to the higher ratio of gender disparity and violations of women in the third stage (Punjab Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW), 2017). From each tehsil, two union councils were randomly selected in the fourth stage of the data collection procedure from the study area. Two villages from each union council were selected in the fifth stage of data collection. In the last stage, thirty-five married men respondent households from each village were selected as indicated in Table 3.

Table 3: Number of Affected and Selected Districts Union Councils, Villages, Household and Respondent

Districts	Tehsil	Union Councils	Selected villages	No of respondents
Dera Ghazi Khan	Dera Ghazi Khan	Ghosa Abad	Chah Dadar Wala	35
			Basti Lal Shah	35
		Basti Malana	Mud Bolo	35
			Basti Mehran	35
	Taunsa	Makwal Kallaan	Basti Mubarak Wali	35
			Basti Makwal	35
		Hardan Sharqi	Basti Khosa	35
			Basti Mahmood	35
District Rahim Yar Khan total sample size				280
Rajanpur	Rajanpur	Kot Tahir	Rakh Azmat wala	35
			Bastic shareefabad	35
		Hajipur	Basti Karya	35
			Basti Mianwali	35
	Rojhan	Kacha Mianwali	Meranpura village	35
			Safdarabad	35
		Shah Wali	Basti Hameedabad	35
			Basti Arz Muhammad	35
District Rajanpur total sample size				280
Muzaffargarh	Kotaddu	Ahsan Pur	Bait Hinjranu village	35
			Khara Niazi Wala	35
		Bat Qasim Wala	Khara Nawa	35
			Tibbi Qarani	35
	Alipur	Bait Mulan Wali	Malik Arian	35
			Bait Channa	35
		Khan Garh Dooma	Missan	35
			Kotla Ghulam Shah	35
District Muzaffargarh total sample size				280
The total sample size of three districts				840

Sources; authors collected data

This study used sample data of 840 married men and in sampling selection (Krejcie and Morgan, 1970) sampling table used for study areas and it collected from October 2017 to April 2018. A pre-tested and well-structured questionnaire was developed in the English language while it was translated into the Urdu language for ease of understanding and data collected from face-to-face meetings with the respondent in the national language Urdu or local language Punjabi and Saraiki for ease to understanding and proper response. Family and demographic characteristics, childhood

witness violence, gender and violence perception, violence, law and policy perception, social and economic status, violence childhood experience and men's health status were some significant research tools used in the questioner for data collection.

In the econometric estimation linear regression model formally known as a starting point, The study used a multiple regression model for empirical estimation of the factors that significantly influence economic violence against women committed by the male population of the study area. Multiple Regression Analysis among one of the Multivariate Analysis techniques appropriately used in this study for identifying the factors to have a definite influence on common violence against women. In estimating data regarding Multiple Regression Analysis, data of both independent and dependent variables must be in ratio scale or interval scale. In the scenario of data is an ordinal level or nominal or lower than scale than dummy variable is developed before estimating through Multiple Regression Analysis. Avoiding the multicollinearity issued in relationship analysis, independent and dependent variables all pairs statistically tested for ensuring as no coefficient correlation value equal or more than 0.75 before using the Multiple Regression Analysis (Prasitratthasin, 1995). In the table of standard correlation coefficient the study variable pair of independent and dependent estimated values of correlation coefficient less than 0.75 indicating the possibility of application of Multiple Regression Analysis as used in some significant studies (Ayuwat and Sananikone, 2018) also employed in this study for empirical estimation.

Results and Discussion

In the total male sample population higher frequency of 40.05% of respondents were aged between 29-39 years while 30.47% major proportion of the sample had below five years of schooling. The major proportion of study area population 79.63% employed in agriculture, 67.29% lower income status while having the lower emotional health status 28.15% and addiction of gambling 18.89%. There was a limited level of awareness among married men regarding laws (12.73%), sexuality (9.35%) and violent acts (7.11%). The major proportion of men 53.27% agreed as they pay for the bride so have more rights than women, 59.27% of men consensus to improve women violation laws so strict in current form and 67.91% of men stressed the need, women more obedient to husbands and current anti-violence activities cannot significantly impact in reducing the violence against women majority of men population 71.32% were in view. In childhood majority of men, 61.97% witnessed violence while limited community 13.87% were experienced their parent's verbal violence in the family some 15.29% experienced occasionally abuse violence while others 21.53% mostly faced physical violence in the family. Higher prevalence of economic violence 83.71% against wives by men was indicated in the study area, 13.79% of men accessed their wife income or assets without their permission, 32.85% of men generally use their wives' total income and higher men population 67.15% not willing to allow their wives to work outside home.

In estimating the Multiple Regression Analysis multivariate statistic test of dependent and independent variables all pairs estimated coefficient correlation less than 0.75 indicating as some significant independent variables emotional health, childhood witness of violence and childhood experience of violence influences the dependent variable as indicated in Table 4. Emotional health is the independent variable negative influential association with violence against women -1.437 indicating that a unit increase in the good emotional health of men will reduce the economic violence against women 1.437 unit. The positive association in the independent variable childhood witness violence 0.311 and economic violence against women elaborated as a unit increase in child witness violence will respond to increase in economic violence against women 0.311. Independent variable childhood experience of violence has a positive relationship with economic violence against women as indicating one unit increase in childhood witness experience will increase 0.287 unit economic violence against women as indicated in table 4. Findings of emotional health, childhood violence witness and childhood violence experience regarding economic violence

against women are similar to the study of (Ayuwat and Sananikone, 2018).

Table 4: Empirical Estimates of Influential Factors of Economic Violence against Women Perpetrated by Men in Punjab Pakistan

Variables	B	Beta	p-value
Constant	2.897		
Age	-0.019	-0.043	0.357
Illiterate	-0.187	-0.137	0.298
Primary years of schooling	-0.211	-1.491	0.453
Secondary years of schooling	-0.247	-1.893	0.367
Above secondary years of schooling	-0.293	-2.071	0.001
Occupational status (having agriculture)	0.136	0.341	0.004
Income status yearly	-3.89	-1.129	0.516
Emotional health	-1.437	-1.879	0.009
Addiction of gambling	-0.128	-0.138	0.317
Childhood violence experience	0.287	0.359	0.002
Childhood violence witness	0.311	0.421	0.013
Violence perception level	0.123	0.139	0.237
Law perception level	0.039	0.057	0.471
Gender perception level	0.081	0.093	0.193
Model R ² value		0.397	
F-statistics		5.142	

Empirical estimates of multiple regression model indicated as above secondary years of schooling, occupational status (agriculture), emotional health, childhood violence experience and witness were a more influential independent variable that impacts the dependent variable economic violence as indicated in table 4. The positive and significant coefficient of agricultural occupational status of men (0.341), childhood violence experience (0.359) and childhood violence witness (0.421) indicate as one unit increase in agricultural occupational status, childhood violence experience and witness of childhood violence increase economic violence of women 0.341, 0.359 and 0.421. In occupational status mostly illiterate or less educated men involved in agriculture relative to other occupations and indulged higher risk of crop earning so more stress and less education cause higher risk of economic violation regarding women and these results are in similar with the study of (Kutin et al., 2017). Economic violence increases with increasing childhood violence experience and witnesses it promotes in men's their supremacy psychology and women's restrictions like not allowing to work outside the home due to cultural constraints and involves women negative manners and various health issues and these findings are in line with the studies of (Benson et al, 2003; Fawole, 2008; Tolman and Rosen 2001; Ayuwat and Sananikone, 2018). The negative and significant coefficient of above secondary years of schooling (-2.071) and emotional health status (-1.879) elaborated as one unit increase in above higher secondary years of schooling and emotional health status it reduces the economic violence of women 2.071 and 1.879 unit. Higher education reduces economic violence of women the reason that literacy status positively promotes men's thinking as higher educated men relatively protect women rights, convinced zero gender discrimination and provide equal economic opportunities rather than illiterate or less educated men and these results are consistent with the study of (Kutin et al, 2017). Positive emotional health status reduces economic violence against women and sound health promotes positive emotional health status and these conclusions of the study are in line with the studies of (World Health Organization, 2007; Rocca et al, 2008; Ayuwat and Sananikone, 2018).

Conclusion and Suggestions

This study was attempted to identify the impact of male influential factors on women's economic violence in low socio-economic districts of Punjab Pakistan. In the empirical estimation of the study, above secondary years of schooling, the agricultural status of occupation, emotional health status, childhood violence experience and witnessing were some significant factors that influence economic violence against women in the study. Increasing status of above secondary years of

schooling and sound emotional health status among men reduces women economic violence while increasing agricultural occupational status, childhood violence experience and witnessing among men increases women economic violence. In the current scenario of increasing gender disparity and women's economic violence generally in developing countries like Pakistan, there is a need for some significant policy measures to empower women. There is a need to increase the literacy ratio among the population for free and easy access by implementing proper educational policies measures. In rural areas farming community mostly remains depressed due to their risky scenario of agriculture and causes acts of violence's so there is a need to be sound policy measures regarding agricultural risk protection of the farming community. Women violence scenario in social family structure can be addressed at family level by upbringing children to prevent violence thinking and providing violence-free friendly environment in the family and society basis. Media (electronic, print and social) can play a significant role in reducing gender disparity and violence's regarding women through providing productive and positive discussions and programs.

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