ERADICATING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE A COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY: PARTNERING WITH TEACHERS IN HARD TO REACH COMMUNITIES

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to gauge teacher trainees' knowledge of domestic violence, causes; and its negatives impacts. In nature, it was a descriptive survey and purposive sampling technique was used to select the respondents. The survey concentrated on six core areas: level of knowledge of domestic violence, level of knowledge of understanding of domestic violence, level of knowledge of causes of domestic violence, level of knowledge of the negative impacts of domestic violence, level of knowledge of support services needed by victims and perpetrators; and level of knowledge of preventive methods of domestic violence.

Due to limited financial resources and time, the study took approximately one year seven months. Well-structured questionnaires were used to collect the data from participants. The data was presented and analyzed using tables and percentage. The findings revealed high level of awareness of domestic violence among the participants though no consensus on its causes. It negatively affects all aspects of victims' life and living conditions. While government should be the core provider of the needed services for victims and perpetrators, the non-governmental organizations have huge complementary roles to play.

Keywords: domestic, violence, teacher; and eradication

Introduction

In The Gambia, the current rate of domestic violence is yet to be scientifically documented. However, many parties are victims for various reasons viz. partners' inability to completely prevent, eliminate or minimize marital disputes being it between married and dating parties. Therefore, many people in the community are experiencing some difficulties due to domestic violence. In light of this and its consequences on families and the community at large I was motivated to conduct the study.

Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study was to have an in-depth understanding of the different types of domestic violence, its causes, impacts, preventive methods; and support services needed by survivors and perpetrators.

Research questions

The study was guided by the following questions:
1. What are the main causes of domestic violence in The Gambia?
2. What are the negative impacts of domestic violence?
3. What are the professional services needed to support victims and perpetrators of domestic violence?

Research methodology
Area of Study
The study was conducted in Brikama targeting Gambia College students. The College is not only one of the rapidly growing higher learning institutions in the country, with students from all regions, tribes and religious groups but it trains all types of teachers in all relevant areas vis-à-vis behavior, behavioral change and co-existence. In most remote and hard-to- reach communities, teachers do not only teach but they serve as social workers, community development practitioners, health workers and even legal advisers. In view of these critical roles it was ideal to map out the views of the teacher trainees at the Gambia College about domestic violence.

Sample and Sampling Technique
The design used for the study was simply descriptive survey. The sample population consisted of 50 teacher trainees in the College. A sample size of 25 men and 25 women were recruited using purposive random sampling technique.

Data collection method
The data was collected by conducting individual interviews using a structured questionnaire with 25 (twenty five) men and 25(twenty five) women participants. The questionnaire was divided into six sections namely, level of knowledge of domestic violence, level of knowledge of understanding of domestic violence, level of knowledge of the causes of domestic violence, level of knowledge of the negative impacts of domestic violence, level of knowledge of the support services needed by the survivors and perpetrators of domestic violence; and level of knowledge of the preventive methods of domestic violence.

Data Analysis Method
The data analysis process entailed two stages: the initial analysis was coding and tables creation, preparation of variables by combining a number of codes, converting codes into variables or developing completely new ones. This was used to provide a summary of patterns that emerged from the responses of the participants.

Limitations of the study
The following were some of the challenges in the execution of the study:
Literature: though there have been many similar studies in this area but few were conducted in The Gambia. Therefore, it was a strong challenge to get the desire materials, especially for the literature review.
Funding: there was no financial support from any institution or individual despite all attempts. If there was some financial support the study would have been easier, less time consuming and above all, the sample would have been bigger for generalization.

Objectives of the study
The objectives of the study are to identify the causes of domestic violence and its negative impacts at different levels.

Purpose of the study
The purpose of the study was to have an in-depth understanding of the causes of domestic violence and its negative consequences on the overall welfare of the survivors.

Significance of the study
The importance of the study stemmed from the followings:
1. It will contribute to the body of existing knowledge in academia and other fields.
2. It will act as an input for policy makers, thus providing new insights to improve their ability to design effective policies and programmes to cater for the welfare of survivors, perpetrators; and potential victims.
3. It will provide a base for the protection and promotion of the rights of victims of domestic violence.
4. It will be useful to women and children rights advocates.
2. It will increase people knowledge of the risks to which survivors are exposed.

Definition of concepts
Domestic: intimate relationships (i.e. partners in marriage and/or in love).

Violence: any actual or attempted act that cause pain, injury, psychological harm, maldevelopment, deprivation or death.

DATA PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION; AND DISCUSSIONS

Level of knowledge of domestic violence and perception towards it

The results indicate a high level of awareness of domestic violence among the participants in spite of differences in meaning: hitting of one partner by another in an intimate relationship, abuse of one partner against another in a heterosexual relationship, abuse of one partner against another in an intimate relationship, abuse of one partner against another who are not married yet, abuse of one partner against another in a sexual relationship, abuse of one partner against another in a marital relationship, others specify; and abuse of one partner against another in a same sex relationship.

Table1: Meaning of the concept domestic Violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Abuse of one partner against another who are not married yet	28	16
Abuse of one partner against another in a same sex relationship	7	4.1
Abuse of one partner against another in a heterosexual relationship	34	20
Abuse of one partner against another in a sexual relationship	18	10.5
Abuse of one partner against another in a marital relationship	10	5.8
Abuse of one partner against another in an intimate relationship	30	17.4
Hitting of one partner by another in an intimate relationship	37	21.46
Others specify	8	4.64
Total	**172**	**100.00**

This corroborates with domestic violence includes but not restricted to physical, emotional, psychological, sexual; and financial abuse, Metropolitan Police (2020). Domestic violence is an act of a current or previous husband, boyfriend, or other partner that result in physical, sexual or psychological harm, including physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse; and controlling behavior, Violence Against Women & Girls (2019). Domestic violence is to punish and control women to ensure men's authority is maintain in the household, Srinivasan S. et al. (2007). Domestic violence is an abusive behavior that uses coercion, threat, intimidation, isolation, power or fear that leads to physical, psychological or emotional trauma, ROOTCAUSE Social Issue Report (2011).

Similarly, commenting on the possible indicators of a person being a victim of domestic violence, respondents reacted differently: loss of confidence in a partner, being afraid of a partner, sleep disorder, chronic unexplained pain, substance abuse, anxiety, self-harming behaviors, withdrawal, depression, frequent miscarriages, sexually transmitted infections, unintended pregnancy, vaginal bleeding, unintended abortion, others specify; and delayed pregnancy.

Table2: Possible indicators of being a victim of domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Self-harming behaviors	18	6.1
Suicidal tendencies	5	3
Substance abuse	21	7.1
Unintended pregnancy	12	4.1
Unintended abortion	7	2.4
Frequent miscarriages	15	5.1
Delayed pregnancy	2	1
Withdrawal from children	17	6
Sleep disorder	31	11
Being afraid of a partner	35	12
Loss of confidence in a partner	48	16.3
Sexually transmitted infections	13	4.4
vaginal bleeding	8	3
chronic unexplained pain	23	8
Depression	16	5.4
anxiety	19	3.1

Others specify	3	1.0
Total	**293**	**100**

This is authenticated by indicators of abusive relationship entails extreme jealousy, partner not be allowed to visit friends or family members, insults, put-downs, control of every penny in the household, refusing to pay for the basic needs, scaring looks, controlling the movement of a partner, refusing a partner to decide for him or herself, threats to harm or take away children, preventing partner from working or attending school, destroying property or threats to harm pets, intimidation with weapons, forced sexual intercourse; and force to abuse substance, National Domestic Hotline (2019). The indicators of being a victim of domestic violence encompasses: suffering from physical, sexual, psychological, and financial maltreatment or being threatened, intimidated or stalked by a current or previous partner, Metropolitan Police (2020). Symptoms of a person being a victim of domestic violence include always wanting to please the abuser or being a friend of him or her, tolerating all that perpetrator says and does, always telling the perpetrator where s/he is and doing what, frequently receiving abusive calls, and most of the time lamenting on the jealousy, short temperament; and possessiveness of his or her partner, Melinda Smith, M.A. et al. (2019).

Level of knowledge of the types of domestic violence
The study revealed that there are numerous types of domestic violence in the community: physical abuse, sexual abuse, verbal abuse, food and nutrition control, emotional abuse, psychological abuse, property damage, social abuse, stalking, reproductive control, economic abuse, spiritual abuse; and cyber abuse.

Table 3: Types of Domestic Violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Physical abuse	41	17.2
Psychological abuse	18	8.0
Emotional abuse	20	8.4
Sexual abuse	34	14.3
Verbal abuse	29	12.1
Economic abuse	7	3.0
Stalking	10	4.2
Cyber stalking/technological abuse	5	2.1
Social abuse	12	5.0
Reproductive control	9	4.0
Food and nutrition control	23	10.0
Property damage	16	6.7
Religious/spiritual abuse	5	2.1
Others specify	7	3.0
Total	**236**	**100**

This concurs with domestic violence includes physical abuse, verbal abuse, economic abuse, social abuse, emotional; and psychological abuse perpetrators use to maintain control over their sexual partners, Rutherford A. et al. (2007). Domestic violence, the misuse of power and wrongly exercise of control consisting of physical, sexual; and psychological harms, Fairtlough A. et al. (2006).

Reflecting on the elements constituting spiritual abuse in domestic violence, respondents reacted as netted: forcing a partner to act against his/her beliefs, denying partner to practice his/her religion, accusing partner of being too religiously sensitive, forcing a partner to change religion; and downplaying the religion of a partner.

Table 4: Elements constituting Spiritual abuse in domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Denying partner to practice his/her religion	34	19.0
Downplaying the religion of a partner	25	14.0
Forcing a partner to act against his/her beliefs	46	25.3

Accusing partner of being too religiously sensitive	12	7.0
Accusing a partner of not being religious	31	17.1
Forcing a partner to change religion	28	15.4
Others specify	7	4.0
Total	**183**	**100**

This is in agreement with spiritual abuse entails denying partner to access religious sites, attend ceremonies or rites, prevention from performing religious practices, undermining partner's religion; and forcing a partner to practice something against his or her religion, Queensland Government (2018).

In discussing elements constituting cyber or technological abuse in domestic violence, participants observed: tracking partner's phones, installing tracking devices to listen to partner's conversations, posting partner's information on the internet, installing spyware, installing tracking devices in partner's room, installing keystroke-login hardware, installing hidden cameras, tracking partner's mails; and installing tracking devices in partner's cars.

Table 5: Elements constituting Cyber or technological abuse in domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Posting partner information on the internet	27	14.0
Tracking partners mails	13	7.0
Tracking partners phones	38	20.0
Installing tracking devices in partner cars	7	2.0
Installing tracking devices in partner room	19	10.0
Installing tracking devices to listen to partner's conversations	31	16.1
Installing spyware	21	11.0
Installing hidden cameras	15	8.0
Installing keystroke-login hardware	19	10.0
Others specify	4	2.1
Total	**194**	**100**

This is supported by technological abuse or stalking consist of hacking into partner's emails, personal accounts, tracking partner's phone to know where s/he is, doing what and talking about what, monitoring partner's activities and conversations in the social media; and forcefully asking for partner's passwords, Women against Abuse (2020). Technological or digital abuse entails stalking, posting malicious messages about a partner in the social media, trolling, controlling partner's messages contents, revenge pornographic materials; and monitoring and controlling partner's phone calls and emails, Mankind Initiative (2020). Stalking the abuse of technology to control a partner can be committed via different methods including the use of telephones and smart mobile phones to monitor and control victims' activities through spyware, video, webcam, listening devices; and GPS, Emms M. et al. (2014). Technological abuse consist of the application of digital technologies to non-consensually share intimate images in the social media that results in significant physical and psychological impacts as well as some damages to the victim's reputation and social standing in the community, Al-Alosi H. (2017).

Lamenting on the various elements constituting verbal abuse in domestic violence, respondents asserted divergently: insulting, constant putdowns, making threatening calls, describing one's partner badly; and saying bad things to scare one's partner.

Table 6: Elements constituting Verbal abuse in domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Constant putdown	33	20.0
Making threatening calls	29	17.4
Saying bad things to scare one's partner	17	10.2
Insulting	37	22.2
Shouting at a partner	27	16.2
Describing one's partner badly	21	13

Others specify	5	3
Total	**169**	**100**

This is reinforced by verbal abuse encompasses screaming, shouting, put-downs, name-calling, swearing, sarcasm or ridiculing partner for his or her religious beliefs or ethnic background, Domestic Violence Prevention Center Gold Coast Incl. (2020).

Reiterating on the different elements constituting physical abuse in domestic violence, participants opined differently: actual bodily harm, causing injuries, fractures, causing bruises, choking, burns, attempted harm, scratches; and harming children.

Table 7: Elements constituting Physical abuse in domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Actual bodily harm	37	19.0
Attempted harm	11	6.0
Causing injuries	31	16.0
Choking	19	10.0
Harming children	7	4.0
Causing bruises	22	11.2
Fractures	31	16.0
Broken bones	15	8.0
Scratches	9	5.0
Burns	13	7.0
Others specify	3	2.0
Total	**198**	**100**

This is supported by physical abuse consist of hitting, pushing, biting, corporal punishment, ill treatment, torturing; and choking, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2011). The constituencies of physical abuse include slap, punch, push, shove, bite, kick, burn, choke, hold-down; and throwing objects at partner, National Health Service (2019). Physical abuse includes hair pulling, punching, slapping, kicking, biting, choking, hurting with weapons; and harming children, National Domestic Hotline (2019). Physical abuse entails pushing, shoving, hitting, slapping, attempted strangulation, hair-pulling, punching; and use of weapons, Domestic Violence Prevention Center Gold Coast Incl. (2020). Physical abuse includes slapping, shaking, beating with fist or objects, strangulation, burning, kicking; and threats with a knife, UNICEF (n.d.).

Reacting to the constituencies of social abuse in domestic violence, participants mooted diversely: controlling friends and family contacts, monitoring partner's calls and interactions, controlling partner's use of phone and internet, preventing one's partner from leaving his/her house to chat with friends, constantly checking on the whereabouts of a partner, determining places which one's partner can go to, controlling what to wear, ridiculing partner's upbringings, denial to participate in decision making, denial to interact with children, controlling what partner sees; and ridiculing partner's works or employment.

Table 8: Elements constituting Social abuse in domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Controlling what to wear	23	7.1
Controlling what to see	9	3.0
determining places which one's partner can go to	35	11.0
Controlling friends and family contacts	41	13.0
Preventing one's partner from leaving his/her house to chat with friends	37	11.4
Denial to participate in decision making	15	5.0
Monitoring partners calls and interactions	39	12.1
Denial to interact with children	11	3.4
Ridiculing partner's works or employment	8	2.4
Constantly checking on the whereabouts of a partner	37	11.4

Controlling partner's use of phone and internet	39	12.1
Ridiculing partner's upbringings	23	7.1
Others specify	7	2.2
Total	**324**	**100**

This is congruent with social abuse consist of restriction of a partner in taking part in social activities, excessive questioning, stalking, monitoring movements and social communications including texts or social networking, Queensland Government (2018).

Elaborating on what elements constitute sexual abuse in domestic violence, respondents felt verily: rape, unwanted sexual contacts, force sexual intercourse, frontage, exhibitionism, forcing partner to perform undesired sexual acts; and voyeurism.

Table 9: Elements constituting sexual abuse in domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Force sexual intercourse	27	17
Unwanted sexual contact	32	20.2
Forcing partner to perform undesired sexual acts	13	8.2
Rape	41	26
Exhibitionism	15	9.4
Frontage	17	11
Voyeurism	9	6.0
Others specify	5	3.1
Total	**159**	**100**

This is vilified by sexual abuse consist of inappropriate touches, sexual demands, hurt during sexual intercourse, pressure to have unsafe sex; and forced sex, National Health Service (2019). Sexual abuse entails force sexual intercourse and other types of sexual coercion, World Health Organization (2012). Sexual abuse consist of coerced sex through threats, intimidation or through physical force, forcing unwanted sexual acts, forcing sex in front of others; and forcing sex with others, UNICEF (n.d.).

Commenting on the elements constituting reproductive control in domestic violence, respondents submitted differently like denial of using contraceptive methods, imposition of pregnancy, imposition of number of sexual contacts, imposition of time and days for sex, imposition of child-spacing, imposition of a contraceptive method, imposition of abortion; and imposition of number of children to bear.

Table 10: Elements constituting reproductive control in domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Denial of using contraceptive methods	37	16.3
Imposition of a contraceptive method	23	10.1
Imposition of pregnancy	35	15.4
Imposition of abortion	21	9.2
Imposition of number of children to have	15	7.0
Imposition of child-spacing	29	13.0
Imposition of number sexual contacts	32	14.1
Imposition of time and days for sex	31	14.0
Others specify	3	1.3
Total	**226**	**100**

This is in agreement with reproductive coercion include any threat or force for a partner to become pregnant, blocking access to family planning services, forcing her to continue or terminate a pregnancy by for example, blocking access to abortion services, compelling her to abort or injuring her in order to induce abortion, hiding,

withholding, destroying or forcefully dispossessing contraceptives, deliberately breaking or removing condoms during sex, Silverman J.G. et al. (2014). Reproductive abuse consist of hiding or destroying contraceptive pills, removing vaginal rings, patches or intrauterine devices without partner's consent, removing or breaking condoms during sex, threatening to beat, leave or hurt a partner if she does not agreed to become pregnant or to terminate a pregnancy, Reuters (2015). Reproductive coercion consist of sabotaging birth control kits like flushing contraceptive pills, poking holds on condoms, lying about being on birth control, stealthing (the act of removing condom during sex without partner's approval); and forcing partner to be pregnant or abort, Sumano K. (2020). Reproductive abuse includes refusal to use any contraceptive, removing or breaking condoms during sexual intercourse, lying about the use of contraceptives, refusal to 'pull out' during sex as agreed, forcing partner not to use contraceptive, removing partner's contraceptives, undermining contraceptive methods, withholding funds meant to purchase contraceptives, suppressing menstrual cycles, forcing pregnancy, abortion, constantly talking about partner not bearing children; and continuously keeping a partner pregnant, County of Delaware, PA. (2019).

In reacting to the elements constituting access to food and nutrition control in domestic violence, participants opined verily: refusing to provide adequate fish-money, eating balance diet during sickness control, eating balance diet during pregnancy control, control of dietary preference, denial to access food at the right time, access to fresh food control; and controlling partner's time and where to eat.

Table 11: Elements constituting access to food and nutrition control in domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Control of dietary preference	23	13.3
Access to fresh food control	13	8.0
Eating balance diet during pregnancy control	27	16.0
Eating balance diet during sickness control	32	19.0
Refusing to provide adequate fish-money	36	21.0
Denial to access food at the right time	21	12.3
Controlling partner's time and where to eat	12	6.0
Others specify	7	4.1
Total	**171**	**100**

Although not well supported by other studies, it seemingly concurs with mothers in persistently food-insecure homes had significant higher rate of depression and/or a psychotic spectrum disorder, taking risky behaviors, trading sex for money, staying in violent relationship, or had experienced domestic violence, Chilton M.M. et al. (2012).

Lamenting on the constituencies of financial abuse in domestic violence, respondents felt as captured: refusal to provide partner money for survival needs, unnecessary prevention of partner from looking for employment, unnecessarily denying a partner to maintain an employment, unnecessarily denying a partner to join business enterprise, unnecessarily controlling partner's income, unnecessarily denying a partner to access his/her money, forcing partner to provide receipts for small items, unnecessarily denying partner to access his/her bank accounts, unnecessarily denying a partner to join credit unions, forcing partner to provide for which s/he should not, unnecessarily controlling partner's financial affairs; and unnecessarily denying partner to access his/her credit cards.

Table 12: Elements constituting financial/economic abuse in domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Unnecessarily control of partner's financial affairs	11	4.0
Unnecessarily denial to access money	23	8.3
Unnecessarily denial to access bank accounts	17	6.1
Unnecessarily denial to access credit cards	11	4.0
Unnecessarily controlling of income	27	10.0
Unnecessarily prevention from looking for employment	35	13.0
Unnecessarily denial to maintain an employment	31	11.2

Forcing partner to provide for which s/he should not	13	5.0
Forcing partner to provide receipts for small items	19	7.0
Refusal to provide partner money for survival needs	37	13.3
Unnecessarily denying a partner to join business enterprise	31	11.2
Unnecessarily denying a partner to join credit unions	17	6.12
Other specify	9	3.2
Total	**281**	**100**

This bolster financial abuse include the illegal exercising of control on all finances of a partner, taking his or her assets, subjecting partner to provide receipts for necessities which have been provided automatically; and forcing a partner to survive on limited funds and blaming him or her for failing to utilize it rationally, Queensland Government (2018). Economic abuse entails preventing a partner from securing and maintaining a job, strictly controlling family wealth, restricting access to family income, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2011). Financial control abuse include isolating victim from sources of support, exploiting victim capacities and abilities for personal benefits, denying victims resources required for independence, resistance and escape to other places; and the strict regulation of the victims daily undertakings, Metropolitan Police (2020). Economic violence includes restriction of partner not to conveniently acquire, maintain; and use his or her financial resources, Shorey R. C. et al. (2015).

Reacting on the elements constituting property abuse in domestic violence, participants responded diversely: cutting into pieces properties of a partner, killing the property of a partner, burning properties of a partner, damaging the property of a partner, smashing the property of a partner, breaking partner's assets, soaking properties of a partner, throwing the properties of a partner, scratching cars, abandoning the property of a partner, kicking holes in the wall of a house, contaminating the property of a partner; and abusing a pet of a partner.

Table 13: Elements constituting property abuse in domestic violence

Types of responses	No of responses	%
Kicking holes in the wall of a house	12	4.0
Scratching cars	19	6.3
Breaking partner's assets	25	8.3
Abusing a pet of a partner	9	3.0
Burning properties of a partner	31	10.2
Soaking properties of a partner	23	8.0
Cutting into pieces properties of a partner	35	12.0
Throwing the properties of a partner	21	7.0
Contaminating the property of a partner	11	4.0
Abandoning the property of a partner	19	6.3
Killing the property of a partner	33	11.0
Damaging the property of a partner	29	10.0
Smashing the property of a partner	27	9.0
Other specify	7	2.3
Total	**301**	**100**

This is uphold by property abuse implies any action that would result in the damage of anything belonging to a partner such as punching a wall or door, destroying appliances, setting fire on property solely or jointly owned, Townsend, Tomaio & Newmark, L.L.C. (2019). Property abuse entails stealing, damaging or destroying personal properties such as ATM cards, telephone and its cords, furniture, digital devices, cars, breaking windows, chopping holes in the roof; and driving a car into a partner's wall, National Domestic and Family Planning Bench Book (2019). Property abuse comprises the breaking of properties owned by a partner with the ultimate objective of inflicting terror which include breaking of plates, kicking a hole in walls, breaking cars, household furniture and burning house itself, Domestic Violence Action Center (2020). Property abuse, damaging of equipment for example, computers, burning of homes, breaking of cars, windows of cars, family heirloom, photographs, jewelry; and tearing of clothes, D. Kelly Weisberg (2017).

Discussing the constituencies of stalking in domestic violence, respondents posited verily: repeated unnecessary phone calls, unnecessarily following a partner, spying on a partner, unnecessarily keeping track of partner's activities, openly watching a partner, sending unnecessary mails, sending unnecessary gifts, loitering near partner's home; and loitering near partner's workplace.

Table 14: Elements constituting stalking in domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Repeated unnecessary phone calls	31	15.2
Sending unnecessary mails	21	10.3
Loitering near partner's home	11	5.4
Loitering near partner's workplace	9	4.4
Spying on a partner	29	14.2
Openly watching a partner	23	11.3
Unnecessarily following a partner	31	15.2
Sending unnecessary gifts	13	6.4
Unnecessarily keeping track of partner's activities	26	13.0
Others specify	9	4.4
Total	**203**	**100**

This supports stalking includes following a partner from one place to another including workplaces, checking emails and phone calls, sending gifts regularly, freighting annoying and malicious communications, damaging properties, tearing clothes; and physical or sexual assault, Mankind Initiative (2020). Stalking or controlling behavior consist of isolation of a partner from family and friends, monitoring movements, restriction to access financial resources, employment opportunities, education; and medical care, World Health Organization (2012). Stalking is a form of abusive behavior meted on victims by the use of modern technologies particularly smartphones and computer to inflict trauma by harassing or threatening through text messaging, posting photographs in social media, monitoring partner's movements and behaviors digitally, Woodlock D. (2017). Stalking consist of the use of telephones and smart mobile phones to monitor and control victims' activities or movement through spyware, video, webcam, other listening devices; and GPS, Emms M. et al. (2014).

Level of knowledge of the types of Negative Impacts of domestic violence
The study indicates high level of awareness of negative consequences of domestic violence in the studied community though participants opined divergently: health, psychological, social, educational, behavioral, religious, political; and economic impacts where enumerated.

Table 15: Major negative impacts of domestic violence in the community

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Political	15	8.3
Educational	21	12.0
Behavioral	19	10.4
Psychological	25	14.0
Health	37	20.3
Economic	13	7.2
Social	25	14.0
Religious	19	10.4
Other specify	9	5.0
Total	**183**	**100**

This dovetail with domestic violence affects the family in different ways including payment of legal and medical bills, damages to relationship, decreases ability of the working women, decreased in living standard for women and children, reduction in the community wealth, increase pressure on the healthcare and social services system, more serious violence happening in the society especially if perpetrators are not severely punished, increase in criminal

sanctions, loss of respect in the community, and it can even cause dead, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2011). The negative impacts of domestic violence include psychological complications including depression, posttraumatic stress disorder, anxiety, substance abuse, low self-esteem, facial and head trauma, physical injuries; and death, Shorey R. C. et al. 2015. Domestic violence is both a major contributing factor to women poor health and social wellbeing and a huge impeder to the social, economic, psychological; and emotional welfare of victims especially the women, Kaur R. et al. (2008).

Commenting on psychological impacts, respondents reacted differently: feeling worthless, mental disorder, being angry, poor-self-esteem, impaired concentration, feeling hopeless, depression and anxiety, feeling emotionally numb, illicit drug abuse, eating disorder, being fearful, being shameful, sleeping disorder, self-harming behavior; and suicide attempts.

Table 16: psychological impacts of domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Depression and anxiety	29	7.2
Sleeping disorder	13	3.2
Eating disorder	23	6.0
Impaired concentration	31	8.0
Illicit drug abuse	27	7.0
Self-harming behavior	13	3.3
Mental disorder	38	10
Suicide attempts	11	3.0
Being fearful	23	6.0
Being shameful	19	5.0
Being angry	32	8.0
Feeling worthless	41	10.2
Feeling hopeless	31	8.0
Feeling emotionally numb	29	7.3
Poor-self esteem	32	8
Other specify	7	2.0
Total	**399**	**100**

This is in agreement with children exposed to domestic violence suffer psychosomatic illnesses, depression, suicidal thoughts, bed-wetting, substance abuse, juvenile pregnancy; and other criminal behaviors, Unicef (2018). Domestic violence impacts on women can be devastating both physically and emotionally as they include depression, post-traumatic stress disorders, deep bruises, broken and/or fractured bones, chronic pain; and gastrointestinal symptoms; all of which affect women's quality of life, social and economic productive, increase use of medical services; and requiring long term counselling and group therapy if dead did not occur, ROOTCAUSE Social Issue Report (2011). Psychological abuse entails isolation from others, excessive jealousy, control of partner's activities, verbal aggression, and intimidation via property destruction, harassment or stalking, threats of violence, constant belittling; and humiliation, UNICEF (n.d.). Emotional abuse includes putting one's partner down, making him or her feel bad about himself or herself, calling him or her bad names, making him or her think s/he is crazy, playing mind games, humiliation; and making him or her feel guilty, National Domestic Hotline (2019). Emotional or psychological abuse comprises insults, belittling, constant humiliation, intimidation, destroying properties, threats of harms; and threats to take away children, World Health Organization (2012).

Lamenting on the physical impacts respondents opined: scares or minor cuts, physical deformation, fractures, disability, partial or permanent hearing impairment, physical exhaustion, internal bleeding, bruises, chronic neck pain, death, chronic backache; and partial or permanent visual impairment.

Table 17: physical impacts of domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Physical exhaustion	21	7.1

	19	6.4
Bruises	19	6.4
Fractures	33	11.2
Chronic neck pain	19	6.1
Chronic backache	12	4.1
Scares or minor cuts	38	13.0
Partial or permanent hearing impairment	23	8.0
Partial or permanent visually impairment	11	4.0
Physical deformation	37	13.0
Internal bleeding	21	7.1
Disability	31	11.0
Death	17	6.0
Others specify	4	1.4
Total	**286**	**100**

This is supported by negative impacts of domestic violence on women include physical, mental, and behavioral health outcomes including unwanted pregnancy and abortion, Russo N.F. et al. (2006). Domestic violence impacts on women can be devastating both physically and emotionally as they include depression, post-traumatic stress disorders, deep bruises, broken and/or fractured bones, chronic pain; and gastrointestinal symptoms; all of which affect women quality of life, social and economic productive, increase use of medical services; and requiring long term counselling and group therapy if dead did not occur, ROOTCAUSE Social Issue Report (2011). In addition to the individual impacts like threatening the women and children's quality of life, capacities and independence, domestic violence has some negative impacts on the society and cannot be treated as a private matter, Ostadhashemi L. et al. (2015). Domestic violence affects women negatively in many ways including physically, mentally, sexually and reproductively, and it also increases their vulnerability to sexually transmitted diseases, The Point Newspaper (2016).

Commenting on financial impacts, respondents submitted diversely: spending meager resources on medical bills, financial debts to treat wounds or hurts, increase financial dependency, work concentration disorder, difficulties in finding a job, unemployment, wasting time and money on conflict resolution meetings, being unable to provide for oneself, lateness at workplace, absenteeism from work, being unable to meet children's basic needs, wasting time and money at police stations, wasting meager resources on legal bills; and limited contribution towards retirement scheme.

Table 18: Economic/financial impacts of domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Unemployment	23	7.3
Financial debts to treat wounds or hurts	31	10.0
Wasting meager resources on medical bills	37	12.0
Absenteeism from work	19	6.1
Lateness at workplace	21	7.0
Spending meager resources on legal bills	7	2.2
Wasting time and money at police stations	13	4.1
Wasting time and money on conflict resolution meetings	23	7.3
Limited contribution towards retirement scheme	7	2.2
Increase financial dependency	31	10.0
Work concentration disorder/limitations	29	9.2
Being unable to provide for oneself	21	7.0
Being unable to meet children's basic needs	17	5.4
Difficulties in finding a job	27	9.0
Others specify	3	1.0
Total	**309**	**100**

This is validated by in 2008-09 in Australia alone domestic violence against women costed taxpayers 13.6 billion and it is projected to cost the state 15.6 billion US Dollars in 2021-22 if not addressed with urgency. The said sum covered costs associated with pain, suffering and premature mortality, provision of healthcare services, reduced in employment and productivity, replacement of damage properties, child protection services, criminal responses and prevention services; victims compensation and support, Morgan A. et al. (2009). The domestic violence in England and Wales are estimated to cost 23 billion British pounds annually, Logar R. (2005). Domestic violence is both a medical and social cost to the society which mainly arises from the cost of providing services for survivors; loss of economic productivity, legal service provision; and law enforcement. In the United States alone annually domestic violence cost $4.1 billion in medical and mental healthcare, $ 1.8 billion in lost productivity and roughly $2.2 billion in medical injuries treatment, ROOTCAUSE Social Issue Report (2011). Economic losses due to domestic violence can be estimated to be in the tune of 19 billion US Dollars, Early Intervention Foundation Report (2014). Domestic violence cost on the healthcare system is overwhelming with an estimated cost of $5.8 billion dollars annually in the United States alone, Shorey R. C. et al. (2015). The economic cost of domestic violence is enormous as one incident of abuse leads to seven days absent from work, in the United States and Australia; it adds up to 18.9 billion US Dollars per year, Kaur R. et al. (2008). Domestic violence is an economic cost to all due to reduction in women's job performance as a result of absenteeism, tardiness, job leavings; and even termination, Swanberg J.E. et al. (2005).

Reacting on the social impacts, participants divergently opined: one's children becoming victims or perpetrators, frequent quarrelling in the family, feeling shame and guilt, being labelled difficult person, parenting problems, creating problems among families, decreased or lack of community respect, lack of friends and family support, children being finger-pointed at in the community, homelessness, withdrawal from friends and acquaintances, isolation, losing support networks; and difficulties in getting rental apartment.

Table 19: Social impacts of domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Homelessness	11	4.2
Lack of friends and family support	17	6.4
Isolation	9	3.4
Parenting difficulties	21	8.0
Lack of respect	15	6.0
Difficulties in getting rental apartment	7	3.0
Withdrawal from friends and acquaintances	10	4.0
Feeling shame and guilt	24	9.1
Decreased or lack of respect from community	18	7.0
Children being finger-pointed at	12	5.0
Creating problems among families	21	8.0
Frequent quarrelling in the family	26	10.0
Being label or named difficult person	23	9.0
One's children becoming victims or perpetrators	29	11.0
Losing support networks	9	3.4
Others specify	11	4.2
Total	**263**	**100**

This is substantiated by domestic violence is a devastating social problem and affects every aspect of the human population, Swanberg J.E. et al. (2005). Children witnessing domestic violence are victimized negatively by numerous happenings including traumatic events, neglect, being directly abused, difficulty in developing attachment with parents or caregivers, failure to thrive, risk of losing one or both parents, eating and sleeping disorder, difficulties in relating with peers, emotional instability, poor academic performance, becoming perpetrator or victims of teens dating violence, headache or stomachache, hypervigilance to danger, frequent fighting with peers, temper tantrum, withdrawal, loneliness, substance abuse, suicide attempts, engagement in dangerous activities, difficulties in concentration, feeling of being futureless, taking parental responsibilities at early age, excessive worrying, bed-wetting, developmental delay, becoming adult abuser; and dissociation, H. Lien Bragg (2003). The physical and mental consequences of domestic violence result in social and economic hardship both on the individuals, family, community; and society at large, Kaur R. et al. (2008).

Discussing the health impacts, respondents thought verily: pregnancy complication, painful sexual intercourse, spread of sexually transmitted infections, forced pregnancy termination, unwanted pregnancy, vaginal infection or bleeding, abortion, sexual dysfunction, gastrointestinal disorder/internal organs diseases, urinary tract infection, strangulation/blood circulation cut off, fistula/tunnels that connect glands leading to uncontrollable secretion; and pelvic infection.

Table 20: Health impacts of domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Unwanted pregnancy	19	8.4
Abortion	15	7.0
Forced pregnancy termination	21	9.2
Pregnancy complication	32	14.1
Gastrointestinal disorder/internal organs diseases	11	5.0
Strangulation/blood circulation cut off	8	4.0
Sexually transmitted infections	28	12.3
Vaginal infection or bleeding	17	7.4
Pelvic infection	5	2.2
Urinary tract infection	11	5.0
Fistula/tunnels that connect glands leading to uncontrollable secretion	7	3.1
Painful sexual intercourse	31	14.0
Sexual dysfunction	15	7.0
Others specify	7	3.1
Total	**227**	**100**

This is corroborated by domestic violence health implications on pregnant women include miscarriages, late entry into prenatal care, stillbirth, premature labor and birth, fetal injury; and low-birth-weight or small-for-gestational-age infant, World Health Organization (2012). Women subjected to domestic violence at younger age suffer menstrual difficulties and irritable bowel syndromes in adulthood. It does not only result in the contraction of STIs, HIV AIDs and STDs as abusive men do not only engage in extramarital relationship hardly using condoms but it also leads to unplanned pregnancies, miscarriages; and maternal deaths. In addition to the physical and mental health negative impacts, domestic violence has on women, it negatively affect their reproductive and sexual health and also cause injuries, gynecological problems, depression, suicide and temporal or permanent disabilities among others, Kaur R. et al. (2008). Domestic violence leads to infertility, unintended pregnancies; and underweight babies, Pallitto C.C. et al. (2005).

Commenting on the educational impacts participants subscribed verily: losing interest in education, depression, concentration disorder, lateness at school, dropping out of school, sleep disorder, absenteeism from school, low self-esteem, disruptions at school, feeling guilty for the abuse, withdrawal, non-class attendance, feeling insecure in school, unplanned changing of school; and opting for early marriage.

Table 21: Educational impacts of domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Disruption at school	16	7.0
Non class attendance	9	4.0
Concentration disorder	21	9.0
Sleep disorder	19	8.0
Withdrawal	12	5.0
Feeling insecurity in school	7	3.0
Feeling guilty for the abuse	13	5.3
Depression	23	9.4
Low self-esteem	18	7.3

Dropping out of school	21	9.0
Losing interest in education	27	11.1
Lateness at school	21	9.0
Absenteeism from school	19	8.0
Unplanned changing of school	5	2.1
Opting for early marriage	2	1.0
Others specify	11	5.0
Total	**244**	**100**

This is in agreement with children who witnessed domestic violence are more likely to perform bad academically as they tend to have problems in completing school assignments, concentrating in class; and reading well compare to those from non-abusive families. Similarly, children exposed to domestic violence suffer learning difficulties, limited social skills, juvenile delinquency, depression, show risky and violent behaviors; and severe anxiety, UNICEF (n.d.). Domestic violence leads to absenteeism and worse of all, school drop-out because fighting parents hardly have time for the children including their basic needs such as soap, uniform, sanitary towels, school levies, guide and mentorship; and even food, Ratemo R.O. et al. (2016). With mental, emotional and physical injuries due to domestic violence, education, career, economic independence, family, social order and cohesion is disrupted, negatively affecting not only survivors but communities and societies as poverty and loss of faith in the family sets in, Kaur R. et al. (2008).

Pondering on the behavioral impacts of domestic violence, respondents reacted differently: harmful substance and alcohol use, lower rate of contraceptive and condom use, multiple sexual partners, aggressiveness, choosing abusive partner later in life, change in behavior, anger, unpredictable behavior, hyperactivity; and bullying perpetrators.

Table 22: Behavioral impacts of domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Harmful substance and alcohol use	35	20.0
Multiple sexual partners	23	13.1
Choosing abusive partner later in life	16	9.1
Lower rate of contraceptive and condom use	27	15.4
Change in behavior	13	7.4
Unpredictable behavior	9	5.1
Aggression	19	11.0
Anger	11	6.2
Hyperactivity	6	3.4
Bullying perpetrator	3	2.0
Others specify	14	8.0
Total	**176**	**100**

This concurs with women who are victims of domestic violence are more likely to abuse substance and drink alcohol when pregnant, Martin S.L. et al. (2003). Children who witnessed domestic violence developed serious behavioral, emotional, developmental; and academic problems to the point that they use violence to resolve conflicts, build their self-esteem and reputation, attempt suicide, abuse illicit substance, become delinquent; and adult abusers, Kaur R. et al. (2008).

Elaborating on the political impacts, participants felt diversely: patriarchal dominance, increase chances of silencing disadvantaged ones, decreases chances of leadership roles, subordination, low candidature for political positions, decreases strong alliance formation, not being able to influence laws and policies, low participation in civic roles, weaken participation in solving community problems, low voting rate, decreases promotion of women politics, weaken ability to hold leaders accountable; and increase fear of political victimization.

Table 23: Political impacts of domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Subordination	19	9.2
Patriarchal dominance	29	14.0
Low voting rate	10	5.0
Low candidature for political position	19	9.1
Low participation in civic roles	13	6.2
Not being able to influence laws and policies	15	7.2
Decreases promotion of women politics	7	3.4
Decreases chances of leadership roles	27	13.0
Decreases strong alliance formation	17	8.2
Weaken ability to hold leaders accountable	5	2.4
Weaken participation in solving community problems	11	5.2
Increase fear of political victimization	3	1.4
Increase chances of silencing disadvantaged ones	28	13.4
Others specify	4	2.0
Total	**207**	**100**

This is bolstered by because domestic violence is a human rights violation, it is a shame for nations that refused to prevent it and communities that accept it and perpetuate it, Kaur R. et al. (2008). Domestic violence deters women from making proper choices that accord them the opportunities to effectively participate in national development by maximizing their potential, Srinivasan S. et al. (2007).

Level of knowledge of the causes of domestic violence in the community
The study manifests discussants' high level of awareness of the main causes of domestic violence in the community despite the divergences: norms granting men control over women, unemployment, acceptance of violence as a way to resolve conflict, huge dowry payment, poverty, bad socio – cultural practices, inadequate income, difficulties in bearing children, religious tolerance of it, too much women rights promotion, rigid gender roles, association with peers who condone violence, others specify, plentiful women being around, not having enough knowledge about domestic violence, notion of masculinity linked to dominance, low general public literacy rate, not having enough knowledge about domestic violence, male control of wealth and decision making in the family; and isolation of women.

Table 24: Main causes of domestic violence in the community

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Not having enough knowledge about domestic violence	12	3.2
Too much women rights promotion	19	5.1
Low general public literacy rate	13	4.0
Bad socio – cultural practices	23	6.2
Male control of wealth and decision making in the family	10	3.0
Isolation of women	7	2.0
Difficulties in bearing children	21	6.0
Religious tolerance of it	19	5.1
Huge dowry payment	28	8.0
Plentiful women being around	15	4.1
Association with peers who condone violence	17	5.0
Unemployment	31	8.4
Poverty	27	7.3
Inadequate income/wages	22	6.0
Rigid gender roles	17	5.0
Notion of masculinity linked to dominance	13	4.0
Acceptance of violence as a way to resolve conflict	29	8.0

Norms granting men control over women	37	10.0
Others specify	15	4.0
Total	**375**	**100**

This occurs with some of the risk factors to domestic violence include young age, low level of education, witnessing or experiencing violence as a child, abuse of alcohol and drugs, social values tolerating partner abuse, history of abuse, male dominance, economic stress, having multiple partners, disparity in educational attainments, relationship dissatisfaction, personal disorders, gender-inequitable, social values, poverty, low social and economic status of women, weak legal systems, weak community sanctions, wider acceptance of violence as a method of addressing conflict, armed conflicts, drugs and alcohol abuse, sleeping and eating disorders, physical inactivity, poor self-esteem, post-traumatic disorders, smoking, self-harm; and unsafe sexual behaviors, World Health Organization (2012). Obstacles to the fight against domestic violence encompasses societal normalization of abuse, seeing women as a private matter, continuous subordination of women and girls, prejudice and bias justifying violence against women and girls, sexist, racist, misogynist and anti-human attitudes, being neglected by law, policy makers and politicians, inadequate allocation of resources, lack of awareness, training and policy guidelines among law enforcement agencies and the judiciary, Logar R. (2005). Domestic violence happens when men's self-representations and social evaluations are threatened by their female partners' behavior such as talking to other men, act of infidelity, non-willingness to execute commands, wide spread tolerance of violence by society and even women such as not reporting it to the police, calling it boyish behavior, abused partners not willing to leave abusive relationship even when there are no children or financial dependence, abusive men easily getting partners, beating signifying love; and police not willing to act on domestic violence cases, to some extent legitimized the phenomenon, Jewkes R. et al. (2002). Domestic violence is an outcome of power struggle and patriarchy, and partially systematic attempts by the males to maintain control over the females both at home and in the community, Tracy S.R. (2007).

Level of knowledge of the preventive methods
The findings revealed a strong comprehension of the methods of preventing domestic violence in the community, however, participants subscribed to different methods: enactment and enforcement of strict laws against domestic violence, conducting public sensitization on the importance of peaceful marriages, quick amicable settlement of intimate disputes, conducting public sensitization on domestic violence impacts, incorporation of key social problems including domestic violence in schools curriculum, banning domestic violence, provision of pre-marriage counseling, financial support to families in need, psychosocial support provision to difficult intimate relationships, discouraging huge dowry; and prevention or minimization of intimate disputes.

Table 25: Methods of preventing domestic violence in the community

Types of responses	Responses	%
Banning domestic violence	25	8.3
Discouraging huge dowry	18	6.0
Provision of pre-marriage counseling	21	7.0
Conducting public sensitization on domestic violence impacts	31	12.2
Conducting public sensitization on importance of peaceful marriages	36	12.0
Enactment and enforcement of strict laws against domestic violence	39	13.0
Prevention or minimization of intimate disputes	13	4.3
Quick amicable settlement of intimate disputes	33	11.0
Psychosocial support provision to difficult intimate relationships	19	6.3
Financial support to families in need	21	7.0
Incorporation of key social problems including domestic violence in schools curriculum	26	9.0
Others specify	17	6.0
Total	**299**	**100**

This is in agreement with strategies to combat domestic violence consist of legal and criminal procedures reforms, media and advocacy campaigns, strengthening women civil organizations, establishment of governmental and non-governmental coalitions, research to support evidence based advocacy and awareness raising, developing behavioral change materials, promotion of social and economic empowerment of women, availability of comprehensive social

services, teaching of life-skills programmes in schools, early interventions, engaging all sex in the crusade; and holistic and gender sensitive programming and implementation, World Health Organization (2012). The prevention of domestic violence is best at three levels: primary prevention consisting of awareness raising, campaigns, community initiatives, human rights education, discussions with kids and adolescents. Secondary prevention: entailing the identification of risk factors and groups, the empowering of women both economically, legally; and socially. Tertiary prevention: requiring supporting victims, establishing respiratory shelters, formulating laws and policies against abuse, strengthening the Police and Judiciary sector. Also, it requires financial aid and housing, anti-violence training for men; and multi-agency cooperation involving the judiciary or criminal system, police, civil courts, healthcare system, social services, women support services, child protection agencies, probation officers, immigrants communities and their respective organizations, Logar R. (2005). Because women autonomy increases their chances of being abused, government and partners should formulate policies that support attitudinal change while empowering the women through coalitions and other support services like relaxing males' controlling behaviors, counselling for perpetrators, victims and children who witnessed abuse, laws that prohibit early marriage; and domestic violence in all its form, Fakir A.M.S. (2016). Critical in the life of survivors and the eradication of domestic violence include community awareness and advocacy, crisis and pre-crisis services, medium and long-term services; and children's services, ROOTCAUSE Social Issue Report (2011).

Level of knowledge of support services needed
Although, the results indicated high level of awareness of the types of support services needed by victims of domestic violence, discussants subscribed to multifaceted submissions: financial, material, counseling and guidance, educational, emotional, others, shelter; and security support.

Table 26: Types of support services needed by victims of domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Financial	35	23.1
Material	29	19.1
Educational	18	12.0
Shelter	7	5.0
counseling and guidance	28	18.4
Emotional	17	11.2
Security	7	5.0
Others specify	10	7.0
Total	**151**	**100**

This is in conformity with though the types of counselling may vary, victims of domestic violence need counselling for grief treatments, substance abuse, psychoeducation vis-à-vis abuse and it consequences, feminist oriented counselling; and other individualized type, Shorey R. C. et al. 2015. Survivors can be economically supported by attaching them to local businesses both for income and training while sensitizing employers about the social problems and its impacts on businesses and the communities at large, Shorey R. C. et al. (2015). To support the victims and perpetrators they need services such as safe house, financial support, access to healthcare and referrals for psychosocial support services, UNICEF (n.d.). Engagement in income generating activities including paid work and ownership of properties such as residential place can significantly reduce domestic violence in the communities, Bahattacaryya M. et al. (2011).

Commenting on the main providers of support for victims of domestic violence, respondents opined verily: parents of the victims, relatives of the victims, non-governmental organizations, the community, religious based organizations, fathers of the children, central government, local government authorities; and development partners.

Table 27: Main providers of support services for victims of domestic violence

Types of responses	No. of responses	%
Relatives of the victims	23	13.1
Parents of the victim	37	21.1
Fathers of the children	14	8.0
The community	19	11.0

Community Base Organizations	11	6.3
Religious based organizations	19	11.0
Non-Governmental Organizations	21	12.0
Local Government Authorities	9	5.1
Central government	13	7.4
Development partners	3	2.0
Others specify	7	4.0
Total	**176**	**100**

This concurs with municipal and local government authorities and the courts must take domestic violence seriously and built well equipped and secure shelters as social justice initiatives, Fairtlough A. et al. (2006). To address domestic violence, the engagement of the education system including all types of schools, training colleges, universities; and trade unions is a must as they are one of the fundamental transmitters of the cultural norms and values that support and strengthen gender stereotype, European Commission (200). It is critical that business companies are motivated and encouraged not to only support victims of domestic violence but to take the eradication of it as a corporate responsibility either by providing social services, supporting perpetrators and distribution of public awareness raising materials, training programmes, lobby governments and partners to take the eradication of domestic violence seriously, UNICEF (n.d.). Advocates can assist victims to successfully and with ease navigate through the various systems to access resources and support to improve their standard of living and safety. Advocates, who are survivors of domestic violence, can also support the crusade by training law enforcement officials, lobbying legislations, work with healthcare providers; and the criminal justice system in raising the voice of the victims, Shorey R. C. et al. (2015).

Level of knowledge of the persons at risk of domestic violence
Discussants reacting to the persons most likely to be a victim of domestic violence, subscribed to differing opinions: wives, cohabitees, ex-girlfriends, ex-cohabitees, ex-boyfriends, husbands, ex-wives; and ex-husbands.

Table 28: Persons likely to be a victim of Domestic Violence

Types of response	No. of responses	%
Wife	37	26.3
Husband	13	9.2
Ex-wife	9	6.4
Ex-husband	2	1.4
Ex-boy friends	14	10.0
Ex-girl friends	21	15.0
cohabitees	27	19.1
Ex-cohabitees	15	11.0
Others specify	3	2.1
Total	**141**	**100**

This corroborates with domestic violence knows no border and anyone can be a victim or perpetrator regardless of ethnicity, sexuality, social background; and sexual orientation, Metropolitan Police (2020). Anyone can be a victim of domestic violence including women, men, adolescents, persons with disabilities, gays, lesbian and they can be of any age and work profession, H. Lien Bragg (2003). Domestic violence does not discriminate hence, it knows no race, age, sexual orientation, religion or gender and anyone can be a victim or a perpetrator, National Domestic Hotline (2019). Highly educated women are less likely to be victim of domestic violence in comparison to non-educated ones and above all, they are more likely to rapidly come out of abusive relationships due to the wealth they already amassed. Women with autonomy and occupation are more likely not to be victims of domestic violence; however, income and autonomy are two distinct elements, Ostadhashemi L. et al. (2015). Women whose husbands have a problem in maintaining their employment status are more prone to domestic violence compare to those whose

husbands are able to maintain their jobs. On the other hand, women who have permanent employment are more likely to be victims of abuse compare to those who are not because their husbands perceived their employment status as a challenge to their authority, Rocca et al. (2009) as cited in Krishnam S. et al. (2011).

Commenting on the persons who suffer most in domestic violence, discussants reacted verily: wives, husbands, ex-girlfriends, ex-cohabitees, cohabitees, ex-boyfriends, ex-wives; and ex-husbands.

Table 29: Persons who suffer most in Domestic Violence

Types of response	No. of responses	%
Wives	35	28.0
Husbands	19	15.2
Ex-wives	7	6.0
Ex-husbands	2	2.0
Ex-boy friends	9	7.2
Ex-girl friends	19	15.2
Cohabitees	11	9.0
Ex-cohabitees	19	15.2
Others specify	5	4.0
Total	**126**	**100**

This is in agreement with in domestic violence though the rate of injury is much higher among women, men are also injured, Dutton D.G. et al. (2005). Though domestic violence is manifested in numerous ways, women of all ages, nationalities, economic classes; and ethnic groups are victimized, ROOTCAUSE Social Issue Report (2011).

Reacting to the persons who mostly perpetrate domestic violence, respondents felt differently: husbands, ex-husbands, ex-boyfriends, ex-cohabitees, ex-girlfriends; and cohabitees.

Table 30: Persons who is most likely to perpetrate Domestic Violence

Types of response	No. of responses	%
Wives	12	9.0
Husbands	39	28.0
Ex-wives	13	9.2
Ex-husbands	19	13.4
Ex-boy friends	16	11.4
Ex-girl friends	11	8.0
Cohabitees	9	6.4
Ex-cohabitees	13	9.2
Others specify	9	6.4
Total	**141**	**100**

This is supported by if any young person experienced dating with violence; s/he is likely to perceive physical abuse as acceptable in dating in adulthood compare to those who had never experienced it, Bryant S.A. et al. (2003). Common harmful characteristics of domestic violence perpetrators include authoritarianism, self-centeredness; and manipulability all of which undermine partners and are destructive to children, Fairtlough A. et al. (2006).

Summary and conclusion

The purpose of this study was to gauge teacher trainees' knowledge of domestic violence, its causes, negatives impacts, preventive strategies; support services for victims and perpetrator. In nature, it was a descriptive survey and purposive sampling technique was used to select the respondents. The survey concentrated on six core areas: level of knowledge of domestic violence, level of knowledge of understanding of domestic violence, level of knowledge of causes of domestic violence, level of knowledge of negative impacts of domestic violence, level of knowledge of support services needed by victims and perpetrators; and level of knowledge of preventive methods of domestic violence.

Due to limited financial resources and time, the study took approximately one year and seven months. Well-structured questionnaires were used to collect the data. The data was presented and analyzed using tables and percentage. The findings revealed high level of awareness of domestic violence in the studied community though no consensus on its causes. It negatively affects all aspects of victims' lives. While government should be the core provider of the needed service for victims and perpetrators, the non-governmental organizations have huge complementary roles to play.

DECLARATION

ETHICS APPROVAL AND CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE
Ethics approval was not necessary for a small scale study of this nature. However, all participants voluntarily consented to participate and signed all relevant documents.

DATA AVAILABILITY (DAS) STATEMENT
The data that support the findings of this study are available on request from the corresponding author. Thus, the data are not publicly available due to privacy or ethical consideration.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
I declare that there is no conflict of interest with respect to the study, authorship and/or publication of the article.

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AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTION
I declare that the entire study was solely conducted and written by the author.

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