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Domestic Violence against Women : A Case Study of Wife Battering With Special Reference to Golakganj under Dhubri District, Assam

Topu Choudhury*

Abstract :- Women, almost all over the globe face domestic violence due to the patriarchal nature of society. Domestic violence against women can be considered as a mechanism to terrorize and humiliate women and continue the male dominance. One of the basic and most common forms of domestic violence is "Wife Battering". Wife battering can be regarded as a violent victimization of women within the boundaries of four walls of their homes usually by their husbands or any other member of her in-laws. Basically such act of violence is obscure—from public consciousness as it occurs in private where no can notice the physical and mental torture infliction or hear the anguished pleas for help. Many people would not intervene based on the belief that "a man's home is his castle". But, as time goes on such act of domestic violence is revealing to public view. As a consequence, the subject matter of domestic violence is regarded as a crucial social phenomenon throughout the world. Therefore, it is very important to look at the pervasiveness of this serious problem. This paper attempts to study the causes and effects of wife battering, one of the most dangerous forms of domestic violence.

Keywords :- Domestic Violence; Wife Battering; Obscure; Torture; Social Phenomenon.

Introduction :- Violence of human rights against women is a global phenomenon. Since time immemorial, women have been the victims in all societies, regions or religious communities in the world. It has always been causing untold miseries to many victimized women. Violence and the threat of violence are ever present in women's public and private lives. It takes a dismaying variety of forms including rape, domestic violence, mutilation, murder, torture, exploitation and sexual abuse is a profound health problem for women across the globe. Domestic violence is one of such acts of violence against women. Generally, domestic violence against women is caused by their intimate or romantic relationship partners. Domestic violence reveals as a verbal, physical or psychological abuse that are more subtle than the violence elsewhere in the society. It is gender based violence. Domestic violence can be regarded as a mechanism to terrorize and humiliate women and continue the male dominance. It includes physical, sexual and psychological- aggression or coercion. The consequences of domestic violence against women are the fear which has effect on women's mobility and empowerment. Living in anticipation of violence limits their priorities and the choices they make for future. One of the most prevalent forms of domestic violence against women is "wife battering". Arguably wife battering can be regarded as one of the fundamental form of "Spousal violence/ Domestic violence". J.P. Saikia mentioned that wife battering is a very silent crime which is commonly depicted in different names. If it is accepted as marital issue then since we live in patriarchal society, it would naturally imply that marital violence is highly directed by the husband against the wife. Consequently, wife battering is more than any violence by wife against husband. It has come to notice that the common cause of wife battering is the male adjustment between husband and wife.

Statement of the Problem :- Suppression and oppression of women as organized and structural violence mostly takes as domestic violence. The act of wife battering is one of the form of domestic violence, is now a burning problem throughout the world. Everyday a sizeable section of husbands brutalize their wives. Most of such violence committed against women remains unnoticed as it takes place in private where no one can observe the physical infliction or hear the anguished pleas for help. But in course of time, wife battering is becoming more exposed to public view and finally the issue of wife battering is

* Assistant Professor of Political Science, Chilarai College, Golakganj, Dhubri, Assam-783334.