

Abstract

The state of tolerance of woman who are ill treated by husband in Thai society : a case study of Friend of Women Foundation of 10 female participants who were victims of domestic violence. This research aims to answer types of domestic violence, and analyze the causes of the violence. Qualitative methodology, and case studies, are use in this research. All participants are from Friend of Women Foundation. Datas has been gathered through interviews conducted by the researcher.

It was found that the main factor in determining the presence of domestic violence is incomes. Nowadays, the economy is extremely poor, and the cost of living is steeply increasing. As a result, the level of tension friction among each couple is badly affected. In domestic violence, the level of her education, and her job position help determined how long she would stay with her abusive husband. This was the reason why a complete analysis in participants' personal information is important for this research. It explains the cause of the domestic violence, and predicts the length of each female participant's stay within the abusive marriage.

According to the research, there are three categories of the domestic abuse. The first categories is a physical abuse. This category includes physical contacts, objects throwing in the direction of the abused person, face slapping, and crashing the heads of the abused into the ground. A second category, which is an emotional abuse, includes sarcasm, talking down, and swearing. In this category, it also includes an extra-marital affair. The third, and final, category is the combination of the physical and emotional abuse.

The main factor that has been found to be the most influential in creating the domestic abuse was the level of alcohol consumed by the male partners. The secondary factor was financial hardship of the couples. It was also found that the primary and the secondary factors, for most of the time, are interplayed to create a very tense environment for the couples. The problem of domestic violence was also found that the structure of Thai culture, emphasise empowering males much more than females.

It has also been found that one of the reasons as to why these female participants stayed in their marriages was to maintain the institution of marriage as they has been taught from the society. These participants thought that they had to live within the domestic violence for their children. So that their children would be able to have a family just like everybody else. The society has always also taught them that part of being a woman was to accept whatever thrown at her, and be patient about it, for the sake of family. However, whatever the reasons the female participants had to tolerate, the real reason was the love for their husbands.

Words of advice from this research is that each couple who is getting married should consider their readiness before commit their lives in their marriage. And once problems occurred throughout their marriage, they should try their best to communicate to each other to solve the problems. Wives should also learn of her legal rights after her marriage. They should also learn about things that would violate her rights, and what she could and should do if she find herself in the domestic violence. They should learn of the places they could go for help. Those places usually are staffed with professionals who would deal with domestic violence victims and the state of tolerance of women who are ill treated by husband in Thai society.