

The Evaluation of Domestic Violence: The Case of Zonguldak

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Domestic violence in general terms, refers to incidents in which one of the family members violently acts against to another member. It may occur between spouses, between parents and children, between children or between children and grandparents. However, the most frequent type of domestic violence is between male and female partners. Since “family” is the fundamental element of society, the reasons of domestic violence must be well-understood in order to implement correct precautions against it. The aim of this study is to provide an evaluation of domestic violence in the city of Zonguldak. In this respect, some important previous studies, and some remarkable statistics on Zonguldak are reviewed firstly. Upon that, domestic violence cases in Zonguldak city between 2009 and 2011 are investigated retrospectively.

Keywords: Domestic Violence; Emotional Violence; Sexual Violence; Physical Violence

Introduction

Based on the societal structure, the structure of families may vary. However, it is common that disputes within family members are solved again within the family. One of the most significant problems experienced in contemporary “family” is domestic violence. Today, the news on domestic violence has become more frequent in media. Although most incidents of domestic violence remain secret in a family (İçli, 1994: p.7), some of them yet lead to courts.

Domestic violence refers to incidents in which one of the family members violently acts against to another member. Domestic violence may occur between spouses, between parents and children, between children or between children and grandparents. However, the most frequent type of domestic violence is between male and female partners.

Domestic violence mostly occurs as one of the four types, namely physical, psychological, economic and sexual type. The person who experiences domestic violence is mostly pushed, punched, kicked and attacked with several devices, leading to physical pain (Kyriacou, et al., 1999: p.1892). In addition, the person may experience threats, assaults, insults and humiliation.

Spouses may use the sexual intercourse as a way of punishment. In addition to these well-established types of domestic violence, there are other kinds. For instance, married women who want to work may not be given permission to do so by their husbands. Such instances are called economic violence.

Based on the data reported by the Turkish Statistics Institution (TUIK) (2011b), it can be stated that 42.9% of the women living in the Western Black Sea region including the provinces of Bartın, Karabük and Zonguldak have experienced domestic violence. This region is in the fourth rank in Turkey by means

of domestic violence against women.

For this reason, the statistics and the inferences of this study are very important for further researches on domestic violence that may focus on similar demographic properties as of Zonguldak's.

The aim of this study is to provide an evaluation of domestic violence in the city of Zonguldak. The following parts of the study contain data from some important previous studies, and some remarkable statistics on Zonguldak and then, domestic violence cases in Zonguldak city between 2009 and 2011 are investigated retrospectively.

Studies on Domestic Violence

Violence occurs in different forms in the family context. It may occur between spouse, between siblings or between parents and offsprings. Such cases may lead to deaths. Parents mostly kick, push, sock, or abuse their children.

With regard to domestic violence between siblings, it is found that 80% of the children at the age group of 3 - 17 experience at least one violence incident perpetrated by their siblings (Ritzer, 1990: p. 188). There are studies that emphasize the fact that violence is a learned act (Ayan, 2007; Bilican Gökkaya, 2011). It is further argued that children learn violence and it becomes a lasting behavior in the adulthood (İçli, 1994; İçli, 2007).

Domestic violence between parents and children is very common. Such violence incidents mostly occur between adolescents and their parents in the form of verbal insults or even physical attacks. In a study, it is found that 43% of the male children and 41% of the female children had an experience of attacks against older family members (Mahoney & Donnelly,

2000). In another study, it is found that 14% of fathers and 20.2% of mothers experienced violence perpetrated by their children.

It can be stated that women experience the most frequent cases of domestic violence. There are various accounts of this fact, including socio-psychological and sociological approaches. İçli (1994) states that women are subjects of domestic violence because they try to maintain marriage after the first incidence of violence.

The fact that desperate women contribute to the continuation of domestic violence has been related with gender-role based socialization (İçli, 2007; Ritzer, 1990: pp. 190-192). After socializing based on gender-roles, women think that they can not avoid domestic violence or that they have limited chance to avoid it when they face with violence (İçli, 1994: p. 10).

The other reason for frequent experience of women the domestic violence is about economical disadvantages of women. Since they have no or little economic sources to continue their life independently, they feel themselves helpless in the face of domestic violence. It is certain that such factors are much more dominant in patriarchal societies (Ann Hoff, 1990: p. 32).

The rate of women who are seriously wounded due to domestic violence is 9%, while it is 22% in less serious wounding cases (Wilt & Olson, 1996). Furthermore, women are murdered by their spouses in one-third of homicide cases in the US (Kellermann & Mercy, 1992). Smith et al. (1998) reports that of 4.739 homicide incidents including women in the US in 1994, 28.4% of them were perpetrated by male spouses. Moreover; 17.337 homicide cases in the US were perpetrated by female spouses (Maguire & Pastore, 1996). It is estimated that only 15% of domestic violence in the United Kingdom are reported to police. 27% of women are estimated to have domestic violence experience in their life (Mooney, 1993). 97 women were killed by their spouses in the UK and Wales in 1996 and it forms 45% of all homicide cases involving women (Mayhew, 1996). In Pakistan, a total of 370 homicide cases involving women were reported during the first six-month of 1992, and 50% of them were related to domestic violence (Bhatti et al., 2011).

Catalano (2007) states that 95.7% of women are subject to domestic violence perpetrated by their spouses. In another study in UK, it is found that 28% of women among 1007 married couples experience physical violence (Painter, 1991: p. 44). In a similar vein, Mooney (1993) found that 30% of 430 women in northern London had the experience of physical violence, including pushing, shaking or stabbing. In Turkey, a total of 1.070 married women were interviewed in Ankara, İstanbul and İzmir. It was found that 21.2% of the participants experienced physical violence perpetrated by their spouses. The most frequently stated reason for violence is "economical problems". 78% of the participants reported that they prefer to keep quiet and endure the violence (İçli, 1994).

Domestic violence mostly affects those women with limited economical resources (Davis, 1999; Gelles, 1997; Hetling & Zhang, 2010; Lloyd & Taluc, 1999; Logan et al., 2007; Renzetti, 2009; Tolman & Raphael, 2000; Williams & Mickelson, 2004). Particularly, limitations on accessing the sources are serious disadvantages for the women without any income or with lower-levels of income (Williams & Mickelson, 2004). It is estimated that nearly 4.4 million women are abused by their spouses in the US every year (Plichta, 1996; Tjaden & Thoennes, 1998). Although the women from all socio-economic

levels are subject to domestic violence (Wiehe, 1998), domestic violence is much more frequent among those women with lower levels of income (Hotaling & Sugarman, 1990). A study concerning the economic status of women experienced domestic violence from 2001 to 2005 states that 12.7% of these women have less than the annual income of \$7,500 and that only 2% of them have more than the annual income of \$50,000 (Catalano, 2007). Another study suggests that 44% of the women who are subject to domestic violence do not have any job or any (Erbek et al., 2004).

As stated earlier, domestic violence against women may happen in the form of sexual violence. In a study involving 613 Japanese women experienced domestic violence, it is found that 57% of the participants are subject to physical, psychological and sexual violence (Yoshihama & Sorenson, 1994). Another study carried out in Mexico found that 52% of the women experienced physical violence also experience sexual violence (Granados-Shiroma, 1996). In a Nicaraguan study, it is found that only five out of 100 battered women did not come across sexual violence (Ellsberg et al., 2000).

Another study in Turkey dealt with the reports of married couples applied for Marriage Counselling Center in İstanbul. The rates of women who reported domestic violence and sexual violence are as follows: 29.3% of them reported that they occasionally experience sexual violence; 2% of them reported that they frequently experience sexual violence and 4% of them reported that their spouses force them to make love (Erbek et al., 2004: p.200). The findings of a study carried out in Çanakkale show that the sexual needs of 10.9% of the women with domestic violence history are neglected. 9.8% of them reported forced sexual intercourse. 7.9% of them reported that sexual performance is underestimated. 4.9% of them states that sexual intercourse is avoided and it is used as a punishment. 2.7% of them reported rape by their spouse (Tanrıverdi & Şıpkın, 2008). In another study in Aydın, it is found that 9.2% of women reported sexual abuse (Karaçam et al., 2006).

Kyriacou et al. (1999) found that those women with domestic violence experience who applied for hospitals in the US form the first category. Their socio-economic and behavioral characteristics of women from the age group of 18-64 were analyzed. The most frequently stated reasons for domestic violence are found to be the perpetrators' use of alcohol, drug use, long-period unemployment and the women's meeting with ex-spouses. The mean age of the women is found to be 32. The educational background of the women with domestic violence history is as follows: 35.2% university education; 29.7% high school education; 33.2% less than high school education. The distribution of their annual incomes is as follows: 83.2% less than annual income of \$30,000. The rate of women who are alcohol addicted is found to be 22.7%. The mean age of perpetrators is found to be 34. The educational level of perpetrators is found to be as follows; 21.1% university education; 30.5% high school education and 39.5% less than high school education. Their employment status is as follows: 49.2% full-employment, 9% part-time jobs and 9% unemployment. 63.7% of the perpetrators are addicted to alcohol, while 36.7% are addicted to drugs.

In a Slovenian study involving 829 subjects (506 women and 323 men), it is found that 20.5% of men and 79.5% of women are subject to domestic violence. Psychological violence was experienced by 19.2% of men and 80.8% of women. Physical violence was experienced 22.4% of men and 77.6% of women.

Violence is found to be experienced mostly by the age group of 18 - 35 (29.1%). 22% of those who experienced domestic violence have no child. 26% of them have one, 36.2% two and 15.7% three or more children. Interestingly, it is also found that perpetrators are other family members than husbands in 15.4% of the incidents. The use of alcohol and unemployment are found to be important factors in domestic violence (Selic et al., 2011).

In another study carried out in the US, it is found that 753 women with domestic violence history are of the age group 18 - 54. More specifically, 28% of them were younger than 25, 46% of them between 25 and 34, and 26% of them older than 35. 66% women have one child. Of those who reported psychological violence, 55% were threatened to be battled. 55.4% of those who experienced physical violence were stabbed and pushed. 34% of them were slapped and kicked. 19.3 of them reported forced sexual intercourse (Tolman & Rosen, 2001).

In the study carried out in Çanakkale involving 366 women, it is found that 51.6% of women with domestic violence history are graduates of primary school. It is also found that 36.9% of perpetrators are also graduates of primary education. The rate of women with children is found to be 89.1%. The incidents of physical violence were pushing (29.2%), throwing objects (28.4%) and slapping (25.7%) (Tanrıverdi & Şıpkın, 2008).

Another study was carried out in Ankara with a sample of 370 women who are older than 15 and have domestic violence history. It is found that 51.4% of women are of the age group 30 - 49, 23.8% are illiterate, 62.7% are graduates of primary school and 95% are housewives without any income. It is further found that 72.9% perpetrator spouses are graduates of primary school and 89.7% of them are employed (Efe & Ayaz, 2010).

In another study, it is found that 34.2% of 202 women with domestic violence history have university education, 30.8% of them have the annual income of \$50,000 and 55% of them are younger than 40 (Gielen et al., 2000).

Ellsberg et al. (2000) found that 60% of the women in the sample experienced more than one incident of domestic violence in the last twelve months. On the other hand, the rate of those who experienced more than six domestic incidents in the same period is 20%.

Separation and divorce are two significant factors in domestic violence (Morley & Mullender, 1994). In a study carried out in the Northern Ireland, it is found that 56% of the married couples with single child divorce due to domestic violence (Evason, 1982: p. 17). Browne (1987) argues that one-third of the divorced women had experience of domestic violence.

Some studies deal with the characteristics of children who either witness domestic violence or experience it. Such children are in risk groups (Herrera & McCloskey, 2001; Finkelhor et al., 2005; Kitzmann et al., 2003). They are reported to have aggression and anti-social personality disorder (Widom, 2000). They more frequently exhibit the externalizing behavior of aggressiveness towards peers in contrast to those who did not witness domestic violence (Raviv et al., 2001). Those female children who witnessed domestic violence are reported to exhibit withdrawn behavior such as depression and anxiety disorder (O'Keefe, 1994, 1995). On the other hand, in a study in Sivas, 54% of the children reported domestic violence perpetrated by their father and 46% by their mother. The educational level of their mother is mostly primary education (56%) and 89% are house wife. In regard to perpetrator fathers, it is found that half

of them have high school or university education (50%). They are mostly worker or civil servant (46%) (Ayan, 2007). It is argued that those parents who perpetrate domestic violence against their children have childhood domestic violence history (Kaymak Özmen, 2004; Vahip, 2002).

Patriarch systems are regarded as one of the most significant factors leading to domestic violence. Such systems allow men to control and punish their spouses (Dobash & Dobash, 1984; Ptacek, 1997; Hearn, 1998). On the other hand, it is argued that women perpetrate domestic violence in order to avoid potential physical and psychological violence perpetrated by their male partners (Cascardi & Vivian, 1995; Dobash & Dobash, 1994).

Data on Demography of the City of Zonguldak

Table 1 presents the demographic data of Turkey and Zonguldak. As seen in **Table 1**, each year the population of Turkey increases by nearly 1 million and the rate of the population increase is 1.43% between 2007 and 2011. However, the population of Zonguldak decreases and it becomes more apparent in 2011. Furthermore, the number of women in Zonguldak is higher than that of men.

Table 2 provides the demographical characteristics of people living in Zonguldak in 2011. As seen in the **Table 2**, the relation between age groups and gender is statistically significant (chi square = 1742.56, p value = 0.000). As it can be noted, the number of men over the age of 34 is higher than women, but the number of women below the age of 34 is higher. On the other hand, overall number of women is higher than that of men and the mean age of women is also higher.

Table 3 presents the data on marriage and divorce in Zonguldak from 2005 to 2010. As can be seen, there is relation between marriage/divorce and year (chi square = 3042.39, p value = 0.000). The number of marriages with respect to divorces made a peak in 2006 and made a decrease especially in 2010. As a mean for six years, marriage is 5.46 times higher than that of divorce.

Table 4 presents the data on the reasons for divorces and duration of marriages in Zonguldak in 2010. In regard to the reasons for divorce in Zonguldak in 2010 (**Table 4**), incompatibility is the most frequent reason stated by nearly all subjects. It is interesting that the reasons for divorce do not include adultery, attempt against life, cruelty or serious insult. The mean marriage duration for those couple divorced is ten years.

Table 5 provides the data on the age of marriage for men and women in Zonguldak from 2005 to 2010. In this five-year period, the mean age of marriage for women increased from 22.5 to 23, and that for men also increased from 25 to 26.

Table 6 shows the data on educational levels of women in Zonguldak in 2009. It is seen that 78.7% of women have less than high school education.

Table 7 presents the percentages of domestic violence experienced by women in Zonguldak based on their age and educational level. It is seen that older the women, higher the rate of domestic violence. Therefore, the age group that mostly experiences domestic violence is interestingly that of 45 - 59 with the rate of 45.4%.

In terms of educational background, it is seen that 52.2% of the illiterate women experience domestic violence. This rate among those with basic education is 39.9%. 25% of the women with high school or higher education experience domestic violence. These findings may get inferences that higher the edu-

Table 1. Comparison of Turkey and Zonguldak in terms of population from 2007 to 2011.

	Turkey		Zonguldak	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
2007	35,376,533	35,209,723	302,827	313,063
2008	35,901,154	35,615,946	304,997	314,154
2009	36,462,470	36,098,842	306,075	313,737
2010	37,043,182	36,679,806	307,550	312,153
2011	37,532,954	37,191,315	302,370	310,036
Annual mean difference (%)	539,105	495,398	-114	-757
	1.49	1.38	-0.03	-0.24

Source: TUIK, 2011.

Table 2. Population of Zonguldak in 2011 in terms of gender and age groups.

Age groups	Male (M)	Female (F)	Total	Differences based on gender (=K - E)
0 - 4	20,904	19,850	40,754	-1054
5 - 9	20,783	19,636	40,419	-1147
10 - 14	23,111	21,856	44,967	-1255
15 - 19	22,419	22,243	44,662	-176
20 - 24	22,549	23,132	45,681	583
25 - 29	25,408	24,505	49,913	-903
30 - 34	26,431	25,950	52,381	-481
35 - 39	23,438	23,656	47,094	218
40 - 44	20,664	21,714	42,378	1050
45 - 49	20,846	22,744	43,590	1898
50 - 54	20,454	21,251	41,705	797
55 - 59	18,977	18,892	37,869	-85
60 - 64	13,354	13,802	27,156	448
65 - 69	8349	9544	17,893	1195
70 - 74	6202	8057	14,259	1855
75 - 79	5098	6770	11,868	1672
80 - 84	2614	4445	7059	1831
85 - 89	661	1590	2251	929
+90	108	399	507	291
Mean age:	33.87	35.46	34.67	Mean difference: 403.47

Source: TUIK, 2011.

Table 3. Data on marriage and divorce in Zonguldak from 2005 to 2010.

Years	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Mean
Marriages (M)	6,103	6,494	6,094	5,960	6,192	5,033	5,979
Divorce (D)	1,101	1,007	1,106	1,176	1,173	1,023	1,097
Ratio of M/D	5.54	6.45	5.51	5.07	5.28	4.92	5.46

Source: TUIK, 2011.

Table 4. Data on the reasons for divorces and duration of marriages in Zonguldak in 2010.

Reasons for divorce	Number	Duration of marriage	Number
Adultery	1	Less than a year	52
Attempt against life, cruelty or serious insult	1	One year	81
		Two years	71
Infamous crime or dishonorable conduct	-	Three years	78
		Four years	74
Willful desertion	3	Five years	62
Insanity	-	Six to ten years	233
Incompatibility	997	Eleven to fifteen years	153
Other	7	More than 16 years	219
Unknown	14		
Total	1023	Total	1023

Source: TUIK, 2011.

Table 5. Age of marriage for men (M) and women (F) in Zonguldak from 2005 to 2010.

Age/gender	2005		2006		2007	
	F	M	F	M	F	M
Mean age	23.3	26.6	25.7	28.8	24.5	27.7
Age of marriage	22.5	25.0	22.7	25.3	22.8	25.4
Age/gender	2008		2009		2010	
	F	M	F	M	F	M
Mean age	24.3	27.5	29.3	32.4	26.2	29.6
Age of marriage	23.0	25.6	23.2	25.9	23.4	26.1

Source: TUIK, 2011.

educational levels of women, lower the rate of domestic violence.

Methodology

Based on the data reported by the Turkish Statistics Institution (TUIK) (2011b), it can be stated that 42.9% of the women living in the western Black Sea region including the provinces of Bartın, Karabük and Zonguldak have the experience of domestic violence. This region is at the fourth rank in terms of domestic violence experience of women.

Erbek et al. (2004, p.199) argue that the rate of women from Western Black Sea Region (the cities of Zonguldak, Bartın and Karabük) who applied EDAM (The Center of Marriage Advisory) as a result of their experience of domestic violence is the highest rate (28%) when compared with the rest of Turkey.

The data of the study are collected from the domestic violence cases occurred in the districts of Bağlık, Tepebaşı, Mithatpaşa, Meşrutiyet, Yayla, Çınartepesi, İnağzı, Asma, Yenimahalle, Yeşil, Dilaver, and Baştarla in Zonguldak from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2011. The number of cases investigated is 326. The data are given in tables and cross tables that are calculated for statistical tests by using SPSS 18.0 version program.

Table 6.

Data on educational levels of women in Zonguldak in 2009.

Educational level	Primary education and less	High school	Undergraduate education	Post-graduate	Doctorate	Total
Percentage (%)	78.7	15.5	5.5	0.2	0.1	100

Source: TUIK, 2011b.

Table 7.

Percentage of domestic violence experienced by women in Zonguldak based on their age and educational level.

Age group	Domestic violence rate (%)	Educational level	Domestic violence rate (%)
15 - 24	31.9	Illiterate	52.2
25 - 34	36.6	Basic education	39.9
35 - 44	39.7	High school education and higher	25
45 - 59	45.4		

Source: TUIK, 2011b.

Results

Findings According to Victims

The years of the cases are as follows: 34% of cases occurred in 2011, 37.1% in 2010 and 28.8% in 2009. All these cases were reported to the official authorities. The half of the married participants (50.5%) has been married for ten years or less. The rate of participants who experienced domestic violence in the first three years of the marriage is 25.8%. Of the married couples, 13.2% have no child. 27.6% have one child and 45.4% two children.

As seen in **Table 8**, 43.3% the participants are from the age group of 30 - 39 and 30.1% of them of 19 - 29. The youngest of the victims is 16 years-old, whereas the eldest one is 82 years old.

81.3% of the participants have a history of domestic violence, whereas, 18.7% have no history of violence.

Table 9 shows that mostly women are the target of the domestic violence (90.2%). Only 6.7% of them are men. The term “children” in the table refers to those younger than 18 years old.

67.8% of the victims have primary education or less. Only 4% of them have university education.

Majority of the victims are house wife (76.7%). There are also civil servants (3.1%) and workers (15.3%).

Majority of the victims (79.4%) have no income. Victims are mostly subject to physical violence (68.1%). They also experience emotional violence (24.2%) and sexual violence (7.7%).

The victims reported several reasons for domestic violence, including the use of alcohol by the spouse (20.6%), divorce suit (14.4%) and adultery (13.5%). Additionally, 35% of them reported that ordinary discussions lead to domestic violence.

Findings According to Perpetrators

As seen in **Table 10**, majority of the perpetrators are from the age group of 30 - 39 (52.5%); 19.3% of them from the age group of 40 - 49. The youngest perpetrator is 15 years old, while the eldest one is 82 years-old.

The majority of the perpetrators have secondary education (75.2%). Nearly half of the perpetrators are coal mining workers (45.7%). However, the major income source can be stated as mining for the people living in Zonguldak, known as the most popular coalfield of Turkey. So, this finding is not sur-

Table 8.

Age groups of victims and Percentage of the previous domestic violence history.

Age group	n	%	Violence History	n	%
11 - 18	7	2.1	Experienced violence	265	81.3
19 - 29	98	30.1			
30 - 39	141	43.3			
40 - 49	52	16	No violence experience	61	18.7
Older than 50	28	8.6			
Total	326	100	Total	326	100

prising. The rate of the perpetrators who are unemployed is 12.6%.

The rate of the perpetrators who have no income is 12.6%. Adultery is given as the highest frequent reason for domestic violence by perpetrators (23.9%). Another frequently reported reason for domestic violence is divorce suit (22.7%). Therefore, nearly half of the cases occurred due to adultery and divorce suit (46.6%).

Domestic violence occurred mostly in the form of slapping and punching (53.7%). Additionally, attacks with knives and ax also occurred with the rate of 4.3%.

As a result of domestic violence, 20% of the victims were wounded, requiring more serious medical intervention. The rate of those experienced psychological trauma as a result of domestic violence is 23.6% (**Table 11**).

At the significance level of 0.05, it is statistically significant that types of domestic violence experienced related with the victims with income and without income. Namely, as the reasons of “the use of alcohol and psychological problems” and “economics problems” are more common for victims without income than victims with income, but the reasons of “adultery” and “divorce suit” are more common for victims with income than victims without income. The victims without income reported that the frequent reason for domestic violence is either the use of alcohol or economic problems. The frequent reasons for domestic violence by the victims with income are adultery and divorce suit (**Table 12**).

Of 326 victims experienced domestic violence in the period of 2009-2011, one-fifth (65 persons) were treated in intensive care or medically observed in clinics. Of those who treated in

Table 9.
Victims.

Victims	n	%
Women	294	90.2
Children	1	0.3
Spouses	22	6.7
Sons/daughters	9	2.8
Total	326	100
Reasons for Domestic Violence	n	%
The use of alcohol by the spouse	67	20.6
Economic problems	41	12.6
Incompatibility	114	35
Adultery of the spouse	44	13.5
Mental illness of the spouse	13	4
Divorce suit	47	14.4
Total	326	100
Violence type	n	%
Physical violence	222	68.1
Emotional violence	79	24.2
Sexual violence	25	7.7
Total	326	100
Income	n	%
Yes	67	20.6
No	259	79.4
Total	326	100
Job	n	%
House wife	250	76.7
Civil servant	10	3.1
Worker	50	15.3
Self-employed	13	4
Retired	3	0.9
Total	326	100
Education	n	%
Illiterate	15	4.6
Basic education	206	63.2
High school	92	28.2
University	13	4
Total	326	100

intensive care unit, 38 had experienced physical violence, while 25 had sexual violence. Nearly one-fourth of the 326 cases (77 persons) reported psychological trauma and their wish to have psychiatric treatment as a result of domestic violence. It is seen that domestic violence has negative effects on the individuals' health and psychological well-being.

Furthermore, 43.55 of the victims (142 persons) needed for a long-time treatment or intensive care due to traumas they experienced (Table 13).

The relation between types of violence and the reaction of

Table 10.
Age of perpetrators.

Age group	n	%
11 - 18	5	1.5
19 - 29	47	14.4
30 - 39	171	52.5
40 - 49	63	19.3
Older than 50	40	12.3
Total	326	100
Income	n	%
Yes	285	87.4
No	41	12.6
Total	326	100
Job	n	%
Unemployed	41	12.6
Civil servant	16	4.9
Worker	149	45.7
Retired	36	11.0
Self-employed	84	25.8
Total	326	100
Educational level	n	%
Illiterate	5	1.5
Secondary school education	245	75.2
High school education	62	19.0
University education	13	4.0
Post-graduate education	1	0.3
Total	326	100
Reasons for Domestic Violence	n	%
The use of alcohol	51	15.6
Economic problems	45	13.8
Incompatibility	68	20.9
Adultery	78	23.9
Mental illness	10	3.1
Divorce suit	74	22.7
Total	326	100

perpetrators is statistically significant at a level of 0.01. It is seen in Table 14 that it is much more likely for perpetrators of physical violence to escape after the incident. The possibility of arrest of perpetrators of psychological or sexual violence is much higher. Since the results of physical violence are much more subject to legal punishment, they tend to escape. However, for the perpetrators of psychological and sexual violence such cases are much less.

The relationship between duration of marriage and the reaction of perpetrators is found to be statistically significant. Those who relatively married for a short time are arrested. However, those who married long time ago tend to escape after the incident (Table 15).

It is found that the relationship between duration of marriage

Table 11.
Types of violence.

group	n	%		n	%
Slapping and punching	175	53.7	Simple medical Intervention	184	56.4
Kicking	37	11.3			
Attacks with knife	10	3.1	Requires more serious medical intervention	65	20.0
Attacks with ax	4	1.2			
Profanity and insults	76	23.3			
Rape and forced sexual intercourse	24	7.4	Psychological trauma	77	23.6
Total	326	100	Total	326	100

Table 12.
Reasons for domestic violence based on income status of victims.

	Victims with income		Victims without income		χ^2	P-value
	n	%	n	%		
The use of alcohol and psychological problems	12	17.9	68	26.2	11.47	0.43
Economic problems	4	6	37	14.3		
Routine family disputes	24	35.8	90	34.7		
Adultery	14	20.9	30	11.6		
Divorce suit	13	19.4	34	13.1		

Table 13.
Medical intervention for the victims based on the types of domestic violence.

	Physical violence		Psychological violence		Sexual violence		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Simple medical intervention	183	82.43	1	1.27	-	-	184	56.44
Clinical observation and intensive care	38	17.12	2	2.53	25	100	65	19.94
Psychological trauma	1	0.45	76	96.2	-	-	77	23.62
Total	222	100	79	100	25	100	326	100

Table 14.
The relationship between types of violence and perpetrators reaction.

	Perpetrator escaped		Perpetrators arrested		χ^2	P value
	n	%	n	%		
Physical violence	47	85.45	175	64.58	9.177	0.010
Psychological violence	6	10.91	73	26.94		
Sexual violence	2	3.64	23	8.49		
Total	55	100	271	100		

and the types of domestic violence is statistically significant (Table 16). Longer the duration of marriage, lower the rate of physical and sexual violence, but higher the rate of psychological violence. Therefore, in the early years of marriage, disputes

Table 15.
Relation between duration of marriage and perpetrators reaction.

Duration of marriage	Perpetrator escaped		Perpetrator arrested		χ^2	P value
	n	%	n	%		
1 - 7 years	16	29.1	112	41.3	6.625	0.036
8 - 16 years	17	30.9	95	35.1		
+17 years	22	40.0	64	23.6		
Total	55	100	271	100		

Table 16.
Relationship between duration of marriage and the types of domestic violence.

Duration of marriage	Physical violence		Psychological violence		Sexual violence		χ^2	P value
	n	%	n	%	n	%		
1 - 7 years	100	45.0	22	27.9	6	39.3	11.98	0.018
8 - 16 years	65	29.3	34	43.0	13	34.4		
+17 years	57	25.7	23	29.1	6	26.4		
Total	222	100	79	100	25	100		

are solved through physical power. During the first seven years of the marriage and during the advanced mature period (seventeen years and longer) the rate of psychological violence is lower. However, it is very high (nearly 50%) during the mature period of marriage (8 - 16 years).

The reason for the use of physical power to solve disputes during the early years of marriage seems to be related with the inexperience of spouses. Later in the marriage, psychological violence is much more frequently used to solve disputes. It may be a result of the fact that spouses recognizes that they could not solve problems through physical power. The children may be also influential in this regard. The rate of violence decreases significantly during the advanced mature period of marriage. Because spouses become mature, children become older and spouses need themselves much as a result of their ages.

The duration of marriage leads to the changes in the reasons for domestic violence (Table 17). The relationship between duration of marriage and the types of domestic violence is found to be statistically significant at a level of 0.01. For the couples who are married for 17 or more years, the reasons for domestic violence are the use of alcohol and related psychological problems (42.5%).

Economic problems are found to be primary reason for domestic violence among the couples married for the period of 1 - 7 years (41.5%). The longer the duration of marriage, lower the effects of economic problems on domestic violence. These couples also experience domestic violence due to daily family disputes (49.1%). Such disputes may arise since they get married before well knowing each other.

Adultery is much more common reason for domestic violence for the couples married for the period of 1 - 7 years (40.9%). The effects of adultery on domestic violence decrease when they are based on the duration of marriage.

The rate of divorce increases in the eighth and sixteenth years of the marriage (36.2%). The subjects are found to have wanted to divorce and prosecuted for divorce. As stated earlier,

Table 17.
Relationship between duration of marriage and the reasons for domestic violence.

Duration of marriage	The use of alcohol and psychological problems		Economic problems		Routine family disputes		Adultery		Divorce suit	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
1 - 7 years	22	27.5	17	41.5	56	49.1	18	40.9	15	31.9
8 - 16 years	24	30.0	13	31.7	42	36.8	16	36.4	17	36.2
+17 years	34	42.5	11	26.8	16	14.0	10	22.7	15	31.9
Total	80	100	41	100	114	100	44	100	47	100
χ^2	(P value)		22.43		(0.004)					

divorce suit is one of the reasons for domestic violence.

Discussion

Studies show that when the victims are getting older, the possibility of experiencing domestic violence increases. The mean age of women in the study by Kyriacou et al. (1999) is 32, while that in the study by Vahip & Doğanavşargil (2006) is 38. Selic et al. (2011) argued that the rate of violence decreases when the couples become older. The age group which most frequently comes across domestic violence is found to be that of 18 - 35 with the rate of 29.1. In a study carried out in the US, the age group of victims is found to be as follows: 28% younger than, 46% is from the age group of 25 - 34 and 26% older than 35 (Tolman & Rosen, 2001). In another study carried out in Ankara, it is found that 51.4% of the victims belong to the age group of 30 - 49 (Efe & Ayaz, 2010). Gielen et al. (2000) found that 55% of the victims are younger than 40. In the current study, 43.3% the participants are from the age group of 30 - 39 and 30.1% of 19 - 29. This finding is consistent with the data of TUIK.

In regard to educational background of women who are victims of domestic violence there are different findings. For instance, Kyriacou et al. (1999) found the followings; 35.2 of university education, 29.7% high school and 33.2% less than high school. Gielen et al. (2000)'s findings in this regard are as follows: 34.2% university education. In another study, it is found that 35.2% of the victims are university graduates, 29.7% high school graduates and 33.2 of them have less than high school education (Selic et al., 2011). Tanrıverdi & Şıpkın (2008) found that 51.6% of the victims are primary school graduates. Efe & Ayaz (2010) found that 23.8% of the victims are illiterate, while 62.7% are primary school graduates. In the current study, majority of the victims are primary school graduates (63.2%) and 28.4% of them are high school graduates. The findings on the educational background of the victims show similarities with those of the studies carried out in Turkey, but inconsistent with those of the international studies.

Catalano (2007) states that 95.7% of the women experience domestic violence perpetrated by their spouse. The rate of such women is found to be 28% in the study by Painter (1991, p.44), 30% in the study by Mooney (1993) and 21.2% in the study by İçli (1994). Selic et al. (2011) found that physical violence targets 22.4% of men and 77.6 of women and that psychological violence targets mostly women (19.2% of men, 80.8% of women). In the current study, it is found that 68.1% of victims

experience physical violence perpetrated by their spouse, while 24.2% of them experience psychological violence.

The rate of women who experienced sexual violence and abuse has been reported as follows; 57% in the study in Japan by Yoshihama and Sorenson (1994), 52% in the study in Mexico by Granados-Shiroma (1996), 19.3% in the study in the US (Tolman & Rosen, 2001); 95% in Nicaragua study (Ellsberg et al., 2000); 35.3% in the study in Istanbul (Erbek et al., 2004, p.200); 36.2% in the study in Çanakkale (Tanrıverdi & Şıpkın, 2008) and 9.2% in the study in Aydın (Karaçam et al., 2006). In the current study, the rate of women experienced sexual violence is 7.7% that is much lower.

Unlike other reports (Bhatti et al., 2011; Kellermann & Mercy, 1992; Maguire & Pastore, 1996; Mayhew, 1996; Mooney, 1993; Smith et al., 1998), there was no killing of the victim in the period analyzed in the study.

Research suggests that employment and income are two significant factors in the incidents of domestic violence in which one of the spouses are killed (Dugan et al., 1999). There are also other findings, stating that domestic violence has much more hazardous effects for the women with no or little income and economic sources (Catalano, 2007; Davis, 1999; Erbek et al., 2004; Gelles, 1997; Hetling & Zhang, 2010; Lloyd & Taluc, 1999; Logan et al., 2007; Renzetti, 2009; Tolman & Raphael, 2000; Williams & Mickelson, 2004). The current finding that majority of the victims have no income (79.4%) is consistent with those of the previous studies.

Kyriacou et al. (1999) argue that primary reasons for domestic violence are the use of alcohol, drug use, continuous or recent unemployment and meeting with ex-spouses. Selic et al. (2011) state that the use of alcohol and unemployment are two crucial factors leading to domestic violence. Similar to previous studies, the women experiencing domestic violence stated the use of alcohol (20.6%), divorce suit (14.4%), adultery (13.5%) and economic problems (12.6%) as the factors resulting in domestic violence.

Kyriacou et al. (1999) found that 63.7% of the perpetrators are alcohol-addicted, while 36.7% drug-addicted. In the current study, 15.6% of the perpetrators reported that they implement violence due to their addiction to alcohol. The other reason reported by the perpetrators is the suspicion of adultery (23.9%). Divorce suit was also reported as a reason for domestic violence by the perpetrators (22.7%). On the other hand, in the current study, the use of alcohol is found to be a significant factor in domestic violence during the later stages of the marriage.

The age range of the women is mostly that of 19 - 39 (30.1% (19 - 29 age group) and 43.3% (30 - 39 age group)). The age range of perpetrators is mostly that of 30 - 49 (52.5% (30 - 39 age group) and 19.3% (40 - 49 age group)).

The educational background of the perpetrators is similar to that of the victims. One-fourth of the perpetrators are found to have lower levels of education (75.2%).

Kyriacou et al. (1999) found in relation to employment status of the perpetrators that 49.2% have full-time employment, 9% part-time employment, 9% are continuously unemployed, 16.8% are unemployed for a long time and 13.3% are recently unemployed. In the current study, only 12.6% of the perpetrators are unemployed and that nearly half of them are workers (45.7%). However, given that the major income source for the people living in Zonguldak is coal mines, this finding is not surprising.

Tolman & Rosen (2001) argued that 55% were threatened to be battled. 55.4% of those who experienced physical violence were stabbed and pushed. 34% of them were slapped and kicked. 19.3% of them reported forced sexual intercourse. In another study, the most frequent cases of physical violence occurred in the form of pushing forcefully (29.2%), throwing an object (28.4%) and slapping (25.7%) (Tanrıverdi & Şıpkın, 2008). Vahip & Doğanavşargil (2006) found that 88.7% of women experienced physical violence in the form of pushing, kicking and slapping and that 22.6% of them cannot do daily activities due to their wounds. In the current study, it is also found that one of two women experienced physical violence in the form of slapping or punching (53.7%). The rate of those who experienced psychological violence in the form of insults and profanity is 23.3%. The rate of women experiencing sexual violence is found to be 7.4%. There are also attacks with various objects such as axe, knife and other cutting devices with the rate of 4.3%. The rate of the victims that required more than a simple medical intervention is found to be 19.9%. The rate of those victims who experienced psychological trauma and wanted to have psychiatric treatment is found to be 23.6%.

Conclusion

Domestic violence is the most important problem for society which must be understood completely. Moreover, governments should take a serious sanction to protect victims.

Although motives, types and frequency of domestic violence vary from country to country, it is a common social problem. Domestic violence has four common types such as physical, psychological, sexual and economic type. The most frequent incidents of domestic violence target women and children.

The vast majority of women experience domestic violence perpetrated by their spouses. As it is known to be the most common type of domestic violence, physical violence is the main problem for spouses. However, the rates of sexual and emotional violence should not be ignored.

Use of alcohol and unemployment are two crucial factors leading to domestic violence. Unfortunately, we found important evidence about these problems in this study. The age of victims is mostly 20 or older. The peak point of the victims is the age group of 30 - 39. It suggests that victims keep quiet when they face violence, leading to continuous form of the violence. The reason for the women's such reactions is mostly related with their economical status. Since mostly they have no income, they are dependent upon their spouses for economic sources. Women also believe that their spouse will stop domestic violence at some point in the future.

The educational background and age of the perpetrators are similar to that of the victims. The perpetrators are found to have lower levels of education, that is, lower educated spouses are potential danger for victims.

Domestic violence may result in serious wounding cases as well as serious psychological trauma. In most cases, perpetrators attack the victims with knives or other cutting devices.

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