

### *Book Review*

**Balaiah Donta, Saritha Nair, Shahina Begum and C. P. Prakasam. 2016. "Intimate Partner Violence and Family Planning Acceptance", B. R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi, India**

During last few decades increasing attention has been paid on the issues of domestic violence that comprises of physical, emotional, sexual and economical. Also domestic violence against women is one of the gender based violence and affects women's sense of personality, causing insecurity, lack of safety, loss of health and self importance. Domestic violence has been emerged as a potentially important factor for sexual, reproductive and child health, contraceptive behavior and infant death also. Violence against women by her partner becomes a pervasive public health problem in male dominated society. This book focuses on the Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and Family Planning Acceptance into five chapters considering both qualitative and quantitative aspect. This book is an outcome of the ICMR funded research project to develop an intervention model to reduce IPV in slum communities of Mumbai.

The first chapter is of introductory in nature and illustrates relevancy, importance and objective of the study with study design, sample selection techniques and tools for measuring Domestic Violence. Some of the specific objectives of the study are to understand the prevalence of unmet need for family planning and domestic violence from husband. Author made an attempt to design an intervention program to address problem of domestic violence and also to reduce the IPV enhancing the acceptance of contraception. For sampling, Clusters are identified and then with the help of Simple Random Sampling samples are drawn from two selected villages of Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai. Sample units are the currently married women aged 18-39 years staying with her partner and have at least one child, also reported unmet need for contraceptives. There are three categories determined to measuring domestic violence from husband particularly Physical violence, Sexual violence and Emotional violence.

Second chapter contains baseline data analysis with tables of various background characteristics of women. Unmet need for family planning with background variables and prevalence of IPV are studied and endorsed by the help of tables and graphs. Chi-square test is applied to find out significant association between several variables *viz.* IPV, unmet need, etc. Logistic Regression is also applied to explain the factors influencing ever experienced physical, emotional and sexual violence. The knowledge about Family Planning, marital controlling behaviour and marital communication are examined very explicitly with various tables. The existence of IPV is influenced by husband's habit regarding alcohol, smoking etc, poor communication between husband and wife. Spacing methods of family planning is more likely to use by couple than limiting methods in the study area.

Third chapter is consists of another method of capturing qualitative data (beyond *yes/no* type answers) through Focus Group Discussions conducted among women. A total of four FGDs were conducted in the study areas, two in each. The major objectives are revealed with help of FGDs particularly Family planning awareness of methods, desired number of children, women empowerment and violence from husband.

In fourth chapter Intervention strategy is introduced for enhancing the contraceptive acceptance by reducing intimate partner violence. Because the analysis of baseline data, results revealed that prevalence of IPV is high and the relation between IPV and unmet need for family planning exists in the study area. Four qualified female investigators deployed to carry out the intervention program with effective supervision. A number of individual sessions on family planning with women are carried out with utmost care. Purpose of this intervention program is to create awareness about Family Planning among married couples and motivate them to accept any family planning method of their convenience. Content analysis revealed that poverty, extra marital affairs of husband, low autonomy of women, drinking alcohol, son preference and say of mother-in law regulate IPV in the study area.

In chapter five an end line surveys has been conducted to observe the impact of intervention in enhancing accepting family planning method and reducing violence by husband. Data is collected through pre designed questionnaire such that the information can be compared with baseline data. A comparison of pre and post intervention has been done for unmet need and intimate partner violence. Authors found a significant reduction in the IPV and increase in contraceptive use and knowledge after effective intervention program.

The book is a praiseworthy attempt to highlight the pervasive public health problem viz. IPV and its consequences. This book is interesting for professionals and students both and can serve as an introduction to pivotal issue. This book would help not only scholars but also planners and policy makers to generalize the issue in all part of India.

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