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ABSTRACT

The killing, torturing, and maiming of women and girls as a result of physical violence, psychological violence, sexual violence, and economic violence is still a widespread problem all over the world. It is one of the human rights abuses that happens the most often. The term "violence" refers to a purposeful and excessive type of hostility, such as the use of physical force or authority, that is threatened against a person, group, or community, and that results in damage, psychological and emotional suffering, rape, torture, and deprivation, or even death. The lives of women and girls in every socioeconomic level throughout the globe are being negatively impacted by violence in modern times. It transcends cultural and religious boundaries and manifests itself in a myriad of different ways. The current research endeavours to investigate not only the many manifestations of domestic violence, but also the factors that contribute to it, the repercussions it has, and the impact it has on the autonomy of women.

Key Words: Violence, Empowerment, Domestic.

I. INTRODUCTION

When a family member, current or former spouse, or ex-partner tries to control physically or mentally another individual, this behaviour is known as domestic violence, domestic abuse, or spousal abuse. Abuse between spouses is one common example of domestic violence; however, the term may also apply to violence between cohabitants and intimate partners who are not married to each other. People of many different races, ethnicities, faiths, sexes, and social classes may be violent towards their intimate partners. Domestic violence is a global problem that affects all cultures. Both men and women are equally at blame for the problem of domestic violence. As a result of India's patriarchal system, the mistreatment of women evolved into a socially accepted behaviour. There is often more than one factor at play when a violent incident occurs in the home. It is possible to say, from a feminist point of view, that the patriarchal system, the stereotyping of gender roles, and the allocation of power, whether actual or perceived, in society are the root causes of the frequency of domestic violence against women. This is one theory. In most contexts, it is accepted wisdom that males are physically stronger and more powerful than women. They have

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power over women and their lives, and because of this imbalance of power, they may injure women without fear of repercussions.

The domestic violence act, also known as the protection of women from domestic violence act, is a commendable piece of legislation that was adopted in 2005 to address this issue. Its purpose is to prevent women from being abused in their own homes. In principle, the Act does a great deal to safeguard women within the context of the home setting. It is the first significant step toward eradicating the dubious public/private difference that has been historically preserved in the law and that feminists have repeatedly brought into question. This distinction has been questioned by feminists on several occasions. It is true that in the past, victims of domestic abuse who wanted to take legal action could do so under the provisions of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The lives of millions of women throughout the globe, across all socioeconomic and educational strata, are negatively impacted by violence. There are often three types of domestic violence, including sexual violence, verbal and emotional abuse, and economic abuse. Sexual violence is the most common kind of domestic violence.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- 1. To investigate the many types of domestic violence, its causes, and its effects.
- 2. To investigate how domestic violence affects women's empowerment.
- 3. To analyse the relationship between the protection of women from domestic violence Act and empowerment of women in Badaun district.

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The technique was limited to secondary data sources, such as books, journals, and online resources.

Domestic Violence in India

In India, where women make up approximately half of the population, they have historically been subjected to inhumane treatment and denied their constitutionally protected rights to life and personal liberty. India's constitution expressly prohibits such behaviour. Women have always been thought of as being physically and emotionally weaker than men. However, in today's world, women have proven themselves in almost every field of life, proving that they are no less than men due to the amount of effort they put in, whether at home or in the workplace. This proves that women are not inferior to men. People are being murdered, beaten, and subjected to other forms of abuse behind closed doors at residences located all around the United States. This phenomenon is occurring in rural regions, as well as in towns, cities, and even urban places. It is reaching people of all different age groups, genders, ethnic backgrounds, and socioeconomic strata. It is starting to become a legacy that will be handed down from one generation to the next. But incidents of violence against women, which highlight the depressing truth that women just do not have the same level of

protection wherever in the world. The most recent data to be compiled by India's National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) indicates that a crime committed against a woman is documented every three minutes in the country of India. Two women are sexually assaulted in this nation every hour and a half. Every six hours, the body of a young married lady is discovered with signs of having been beaten to death, burned, or pushed to take her own life.

The research was carried out in the Badaun area, and the sample was chosen using the snowball method. For the research, a total of fifty-five married women were chosen. For this research, only women who were aware of domestic abuse were chosen. The information was gathered through telephone contact. Data were gathered using a schedule of self-prepared interviews. There are four basic types of domestic violence: financial, psychological, and sexual.

The next several tables depict instances that have been recorded under a variety of domestic abuse categories.

Table: 1.1: Cases Reported (I), Victims(V) & Rate (R) of Crimes Commit-ted Against Women During 2015

S.	State/UT	Cruelty By Husband	Cruelty By Husband or His Relatives (Section 498-A IPC)					
No.	States:	I	V	R				
1	Andhra Pradesh	6121	6129	23.9				
2	Arunachal Pradesh	66	66	10.7				
3	Assam	11225	11225	71.5				
4	Bihar	3792	3835	7.6				
5	Chhattisgarh	620	623	4.9				
6	Goa	19	19	2.1				
7	Gujarat	4133	4134	14.0				

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8	Haryana	3525	3541	28.3
9	Himachal Pradesh	226	226	6.6
10	Jammu & Kashmir	400	400	6.8
11	Jharkhand	1654	1676	10.2
12	Karnataka	2732	2743	8.9
13	Kerala	3668	3684	20.2
14	Madhya Pradesh	5281	5281	14.3
15	Maharashtra	7640	7645	13.5
16	Manipur	39	39	3.1
17	Meghalaya	44	44	3.2
18	Mizoram	9	10	1.8
19	Nagaland	4	4	0.4
20	Odisha	3605	3608	17.2
21	Punjab	1583	1584	11.9
22	Rajasthan	14383	14383	41.6
23	Sikkim	2	2	0.7

24	Tamil Nadu	1900	1908	5.5
25	Telangana	7329	7329	40.3
26	Tripura	501	502	27.0
27	Uttar Pradesh	8660	8660	8.5
28	Uttarakhand	407	407	7.9
29	West Bengal	20163	20169	44.6
	TOTAL STATE(S)	109731	109876	18.4
30	A & N Islands	14	14	5.3
31	Chandigarh	126	126	17.6
32	D&N Haveli	2	2	1.0
33	Daman & Diu	3	3	2.8
34	Delhi UT	3521	3521	37.9
35	Lakshadweep	2	2	4.9
36	Puducherry	4	4	0.5
	TOTAL UT(S)	3672	3672	32.4
	Total (ALL INDIA)	113403	113548	18.7

1	Andhra Pradesh	174	174	0.7	
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0.0	
3	Assam	216	216	1.4	
4	Bihar	1154	1154	2.3	
5	Chhattisgarh	89	89	0.7	
6	Goa	0	0	0.0	
7	Gujarat	12	12	0.0	
8	Haryana	243	245	1.9	
9	Himachal Pradesh	2	2	0.1	
10	Jammu & Kashmir	6	6	0.1	
11	Jharkhand	267	271	1.6	
12	Karnataka	254	254	0.8	
13	Kerala	8	8	0.0	

14	Madhya Pradesh	664	665	1.8	
15	Maharashtra	268	268	0.5	
16	Manipur	0	0	0.0	
17	Meghalaya	1	1	0.1	
18	Mizoram	0	0	0.0	
19	Nagaland	0	0	0.0	
20	Odisha	356	356	1.7	
21	Punjab	85	85	0.6	
22	Rajasthan	463	463	1.3	
23	Sikkim	1	1	0.3	
24	Tamil Nadu	65	65	0.2	
25	Telangana	262	263	1.4	
26	Tripura	28	28	1.5	
27	Uttar Pradesh	2335	2338	2.3	
28	Uttarakhand	54	54	1.0	

29	West Bengal	498	499	1.1	
	TOTAL STATE(S)	7505	7517	1.3	
30	A & N Islands	0	0	0.0	
31	Chandigarh	5	5	0.7	
32	D&N Haveli	1	1	0.5	
33	Daman & Diu	0	0	0.0	
34	Delhi UT	122	122	1.3	
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0.0	
36	Puducherry	1	1	0.1	
	TOTAL UT(S)	121	121	1.1	
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	7634	7646	1.3	

Economic abuse

In the case of rented housing, not paying the rent, preventing his wife from accessing or using any part of the house, preventing, or obstructing her from carrying out her employment, selling her valuable belongings without her consent, forcibly taking away her salary, etc. are all examples of economic violence. Other examples include not providing their children with food, clothes,

medicine, etc.; preventing his wife from accessing or using any part of the house; preventing or obstructing her from carrying out

Causes of Domestic Violence

There are several factors that contribute to domestic violence, such as the fact that a lack of financial resources contributes to women's susceptibility to violence as well as their difficulties in escaping from violent relationships. There is a cyclical relationship between violent behaviour, an inadequate availability of economic resources, and reliance. On the one hand, the prospect of violence and the dread it instils in women either prevents them from looking for work or, at best, forces them to accept low-paying, exploitative work they can do from home. And on the other hand, if a woman has the economic independence necessary to support herself, she has little authority to leave an abusive relationship. One of the primary contributors to the ongoing problem of violence against women is the absence of adequate legal protection, inside the private sphere of the home.

- Women's economic dependence on men.
- Dissatisfaction with the dowry from wife.
- Arguing with the partner.
- Refusing to have sex with the partner.
- Neglecting own children.
- Not cooking properly.
- Extra marital affairs and not looking after in-laws.
- Infertility in females.
- Desire for a male child
- Use of alcoholism by the partner.
- Going out of home without telling the partner.
- Lesser legal knowledge of women either by written law and/or by practice.
- Domestic violence is not taken seriously.

Consequences of Domestic Violence

The detrimental effects that violence has on the mental health of women may have serious and even deadly repercussions. A substantial percentage of abused women suffer from stress and illnesses that are linked to stress, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, panic attacks, depression, trouble sleeping and eating, high blood pressure, alcoholism, drug usage, and poor self-esteem. There are some women who, after being driven to the brink of death by depression and humiliation at the hands of their abuser, feel that the only way out of a violent relationship is to take their own life. The denial of basic human rights to women and girls is perhaps the most significant repercussion of the violence that is committed against women and girls. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), which was adopted in 1948, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), which was adopted in 1979, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), which was adopted in 1989 are examples of international human rights instruments that affirm the principles of fundamental rights and freedoms of every human being. The following is a list of some of the consequences of domestic violence:

Physical Health Effects

Women who have been victims of violence may experience chronic health problems because of the injuries, fear, and stress that they have endured as a result of the violence. As a result of these health problems, women may find that they are unable to carry out the activities necessary to increase their income.

Forms of Domestic Violence (Domestic Violence Act 2005)

In accordance with the Domestic Violence Act of 2005, there are three distinct types of domestic violence.

- Sexual abuse
- Emotional and Verbal abuse
- Economic abuse

Sexual abuse

Any instance in which an individual is coerced or threatened into participating in sexual behaviour against their will qualifies as sexual abuse. Every year, millions of individuals all over the globe are victims of sexual assault, which is a widespread and critical issue in the realm of public health. It is influenced by a wide variety of social, cultural, and economic contexts, all of which play a role in its development. Inequality between the sexes is the driving force behind acts of sexual violence committed against women.

Sexual abuse includes

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- Forced sexual intercourse.
- Forcing someone to entertain other against his/her will.
- Abusing, humiliating, degrading others.
- Rape within marriage.
- Rape by strangers
- Sexual abuse of mentally or physically disabled people
- Forced for abortion

Emotional abuse

Any behaviour that threatens, intimidates, undermines the victim's sense of self-worth or self-esteem, or limits the victim's freedom is an example of emotional abuse. [Citation needed] This might include warning the victim that they will be murdered if they ever leave the relationship or humiliating them in public. Threatening the victim with violence or harm is another kind of emotional abuse. One kind of emotionally abusive behaviour is known as verbal abuse, which involves the use of words in an abusive manner. The use of threatening language is another term for the practise of verbal abuse.

Mental Health consequences

The most common forms of mental illness that may result from exposure to domestic abuse are depression and stress disorders. These are most associated with controlling behaviours, such as preventing a woman from working or taking her earnings, restricting a woman's access to her family and friends, preventing a woman from seeing her family and friends, preventing a woman from seeing her family and friends, etc., causing her to live in fear and stress, and subjecting her to forced sexual activity or physical abuse. Abuse of alcoholic beverages and illicit drugs is another mental health complication that is common among abused women in developed nations.

IV. EFFECT ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

It is possible for women to be victims of violence at any stage of their "life cycle," beginning with the possibility that their unborn children will be aborted solely since they are female, continuing with the possibility that their daughters will be neglected or subjected to a variety of other forms of abuse, progressing to the possibility that their adolescents will be raped, and finally ending with the possibility that their widows will be neglected. Since women are the most affected victims of global victimization, many women have lost interest in doing chores around the home.

The following are some of the ways in which women's empowerment is impacted by domestic violence:

- The victims of domestic abuse see a decrease in their overall level of productivity.
- In cases of severe assault by an intimate partner, it is necessary for women to spend a portion of their income on medical treatment.
- Some women quit their jobs as soon as they are subjected to their first significant assault, and their ability to survive becomes tough and painful when they are forced to work hard in order to earn enough money to buy themselves two meals a day.
- In the case of employed women, they do not work to the most of their ability in their place of employment.
- A woman who is subjected to emotional harassment and depression may find that she loses interest in the line of work to which she is connected.
- Women's experiences of intimate partner violence (IPV) often result in their having to keep a safe distance from their partners, which has a negative impact on their daily lives. Many of them go through with either the separation or the divorce, and in either scenario, the children are the ones who end up suffering the most.

V. DATA ANALYSIS

Physical Violence: The prevalence of physical assault on women during lockdown is seen in Table 1. Most of the women (70%) who were studied experienced physical abuse from their spouse. Like this, research conducted between 2011 and 2018 in 11 nations, including India, found that most women experienced physical abuse from their husbands (Kalai et al., 2018) and (Jeong et al., 2020). Mother-in-law (32.00%) came in second, and the least number of women (10.00%) reported experiencing abuse from other family members. Most women (74%) encountered violence by being slapped, followed by beating (51%), striking (43%), and kicking (40%). It adversely impacted women, who made up 68.00% of those who were unable to complete tasks, 58.00% of whom were unable to work correctly, and 50.00% of whom were unable to sit well. Most of the women (70.00%) experienced physical abuse that worsened throughout the lockdown. Identical outcomes were discovered by Ravindran & Shah (2020).

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Table 1. Physical violence against women during lockdown

Forms of violence	No.	%
Offender of physical violence		
Husband	38	70.00
Mother in law	16	32.00
Sister in law	11	21.00
Others (Father in law, Brother in law etc.)	5	10.00
Experienced various forms of physical vio	lence	
Hitting	23	43.00
Kicking	25	40.00
Beating	27	51.00
Slapping	40	74.00
Harmful effects of physical violence on wo	men	
Can't sit properly	27	50.00
Can't walk properly	31	58.00
Can't perform activities	38	68.00
Intensity of physical violence		
Increased due to lockdown	40	70.00
Usual as before	15	30.00

Table 2. Status of physical violence according to idependent variables of women

Variables	Category	N	Mean	SD	t	P
Age (yrs.)	<30	17	4.22	1.29	0.75	>0.05
	>30	38	4.51	1.38		
Occupation	Working	35	4.00	1.39	1.01	>0.05
	House wife	20	3.64	1.19		
Monthly	<5000	29	3.63	1.30	0.28	>0.05
income (Rs.)	>5000	26	3.54	1.10		
Educational	<5th std.	30	4.47	1.30	0.38	>0.05
	> 5th std.	25	4.34	1.21		

According to the women's age, occupation, family income, and level of education, Table 2 showed the prevalence of physical violence. Women under 30 years old experienced physical abuse at rates comparable to women over 30 years old (4.22). (4.51). The fact that the t-value (0.75) was not significant demonstrated this. However, Kalokhe et al. (2017) found that women over 50 had a higher risk of experiencing physical violence. The t-value (1.01) indicated that the prevalence of physical violence among working women (4.00) was comparable to that of housewives (3.64), which was not statistically significant. The t value (0.28), which was insignificant, showed that the status of physical violence among women whose families earned less than Rs. 5000 (3.63) was comparable to that of women whose families earned more than Rs. 5000 (3.54). The t-value (0.38), which was insignificant, showed that the physical violence status of women with educational levels below the fifth grade (4.47) was comparable to that of women with educational levels above the fifth grade (4.34).

Table 3. Psychological violence against women during lockdown

Forms of violence	No.	%
Experienced psychological violence		
Verbal abuse	34	62.00
Insult	37	69.00
Blaming	20	38.00
Shaming	28	52.00
Harmful effects of psychological violence		
Stress	34	63.00
Depression	39	72.00
Anxiety	37	69.00
Harming self	31	58.00
Intensity of psychological violence		
Increased due to lockdown	39	72.00
Usual as before	16	28.00

Psychological violence: The situation of psychological abuse against women during lockdown is shown in Table 3 above. According to the statistics, a greater number of women, 69.00%, were victims of psychological abuse due to insult, verbal abuse (62.0%), and shame (52.0%), whereas a lower percentage, 38.00%, were victims of blame. Depression impacted most of the women (72.0%), followed by anxiety (69.00%), stress (63.00%), and self-harm (58.00 percent). The statistics also showed that lockdown had caused psychological violence to rise in severity by 72.000%. Similar findings were also published by Ravindran & Shah in 2020.

Table 4. Status of Psychological violence according to the idependent variables of women

Category	N	Mean	SD	t	P
<30	21	1.96	0.95	0.18	>0.05
>30	34	2.01	1.02		
Working	32	2.54	1.18	0.17	>0.05
House wife	23	2.49	1.09		
<5000	28	2.19	1.08	0.14	>0.05
>5000	27	2.15	1.02		
< 5th std.	33	2.10	1.10	0.10	>0.05
> 5th std.	22	2.07	1.06		
	<30 >30 Working House wife <5000 >5000 < 5th std.	<30 21 >30 34 Working 32 House wife 23 <5000 28 >5000 27 < 5 th std. 33	<30 21 1.96 >30 34 2.01 Working 32 2.54 House wife 23 2.49 <5000 28 2.19 >5000 27 2.15 < 5th std. 33 2.10	<30 21 1.96 0.95 >30 34 2.01 1.02 Working 32 2.54 1.18 House wife 23 2.49 1.09 <5000	<30 21 1.96 0.95 0.18 >30 34 2.01 1.02 Working 32 2.54 1.18 0.17 House wife 23 2.49 1.09 <5000

Table 4 shows the prevalence of psychological abuse by a woman's age, profession, family income, and level of education. The t value (0.18), which was negligible, showed that the status of psychological violence among women under the age of 30 (1.96) was comparable to that among women over the age of 30 (2.01) The t value (0.17), which was negligible, showed that the status of psychological violence for working women (2.54) was comparable to that of women who were housewives (2.49) The t value (0.14), which was negligible, showed that the status of psychological violence among women whose family income was below 5000 Rupees

(2.19) was comparable to that of women whose family income was over 5000 Rupees (2.15) The t value (0.10), which was insignificant, showed that the prevalence of psychological violence was equal among women with educational levels below the fifth grade (2.10) and above the fifth grade (2.07).

Table 5. Financial abuse against women during lockdown

No.	%	
38	68.00	
38	70.00	
33	61.00	
30	56.00	
39	72.00	
16	28.00	
	38 38 33 30 39	

Financial abuse: According to Table 5, 68.00% of women overall reported experiencing financial abuse while under lockdown. Seventy percent of the ladies were financially reliant on other people. The study also showed that 72.00% more financial abuse occurred as a result of lockdown, compared to 28.00% of women who thought it was business as usual.

Table 6. Status of financial abuse according to the idependent variables of women

Variables	Category	N	Mean	SD	t	P
Age (yrs.)	<30	19	2.89	1.08	0.06	>0.05
	>30	36	2.91	1.11		
Occupation	Working	33	2.52	1.51	0.08	>0.05
	House wife	22	2.49	1.33		
Family	< 5000	31	1.54	0.91	0.20	>0.05
income (Rs.)	>5000	24	1.49	0.89		
Educational	<5th std.	29	1.92	0.91	0.25	>0.05
status	> 5th std.	26	1.98	0.89		

Table 6 shows that the prevalence of financial abuse among women under the age of 30 (2.89) was comparable to that among women over the age of 30 (2.91) and that the t-value (0.06) was negligible. The t-value was (0.08), which was negligible, and the status of financial abuse for working women (2.52) was identical to that of housewives (2.49) The t-value (0.20), which was negligible, also showed that the status of financial abuse among women with family incomes below 5000 rupees (1.54) was comparable to that among women with family incomes over 5000 rupees (1.49) Similar to the women with education above 5th std. (1.89), the status of financial abuse among women with education below 5th std. (1.92), was likewise minor (t-value, 0.25).

Table 7. Status of sexual violence against women

Forms	No.	%	
Experienced sexual violence	42	78.00	
Harmful effects of sexual violence on women			
Infertility	28	52.00	
Sexually Transmitted Infections		20.00	
Unwanted pregnancy	38	68.00	
Effects on mental health			
Depression	38	68.00	
Stress	42	78.00	
Substance abuse	34	62.00	
Intensity of sexual violence			
Increased due to lockdown	42	75.00	
Usual as before	13	25.00	

Sexual Violence: According to Table 7, 78.00 percent of women had encountered sexual assault during lockdown, and most of these women (68.00 percent) had endured unwanted pregnancies as a result of this violence, which was followed by infertility, STIs, and other problems. According to Jeong et al. (2020) and Saikia (2020), most women suffered sexual violence as a result of IPV (Intimate Partner Violence). Sexual assault had a negative impact on women's mental health, with most of them (78%) struggling with issues including stress, despair, and drug misuse. While 25% of women reported normal behaviour as it was before to lockdown, the level of violence has escalated (75.00%) as a result of lockdown. In 2020, Ravindran and Shah discovered similar findings.

Table 8. Status of sexual violence according to idependent variables of women

	to the pendent virialists of months								
Variables	Category	N	Mean	SD	t	P			
Age in (yrs.)	<30	21	4.11	1.18	0.97	>0.05			
	>30	34	4.45	1.38					
Occupation	Working	36	4.00	1.39	0.45	>0.05			
	House wife	19	3.84	1.19					
Family	<5000	29	4.10	1.30	0.65	>0.05			
income (Rs.)	>5000	26	3.89	1.10					
Educational	<5th std.	30	4.12	1.30	0.89	>0.05			
status	>5th std.	25	3.82	1.21					

Table 8 shows that the prevalence of sexual violence among women under the age of 30 (4.11) was comparable to that among women over the age of 30 (4.45), as shown by the t-value (0.97), which was not statistically significant. The t-value (0.45) was negligible, and the prevalence of sexual assault among working women (4.00) was comparable to that among housewives (3.84). The t-value (0.65), which was negligible, showed that the prevalence of sexual assault among women whose families earned less than Rs. 5000 (4.10) was equal to that among those earning more than Rs. 5000 (3.89) The t-value (0.89) which was insignificant showed that the

prevalence of sexual assault among women with less than a fifth-grade education (4.12) was comparable to that among women with a fifth-grade education or more (3.82) The study's findings have important ramifications since they demonstrate the bad condition of women as a result of domestic abuse and point out the need of improving women's conditions and educating them about domestic violence.

VI. CONCLUSION

Domestic violence against women is a widespread issue in many parts of the world. On the other hand, its implications are more convoluted, and its severity is far higher in India. The most pitiful part of such crimes is the fact that they occur in the home. Domestic violence is a big issue that exists everywhere in the globe, and it has a negative impact on the well-being and security of millions of women during their lives. A similar attack is sometimes referred to as violence committed by an intimate partner. One of the crimes committed against women that is connected to their disadvantaged status in society is domestic violence. Women also have a higher risk of becoming victims of other crimes. Because of this, domestic violence is widely acknowledged to be one of the most serious obstacles to the economic empowerment of women. The way a society treats its female citizens is a good indicator of both its level of development and its level of affluence. As a result, women must to be encouraged to organises themselves into women's groups, self-help groups, and nongovernmental organizations (NGO). It has the potential to be an excellent weapon for mobilizing the ladies of the populace. Some of the most successful women's groups may also play an important role as agents of catalysis in the process of encouraging women to participate in social and political activities. The rights and benefits accorded to women as well as the functions that are expected of them are the primary factors that determine their status. The socioeconomic factors that define one's status include their level of income and property, as well as their level of education and the skills that enable them to find work. It is impossible to have any hope for gender equality unless women are given an equal voice in the decision-making process in both the private and public spheres. It is imperative that initiatives aimed at assisting women in becoming more self-reliant using vocational training, employment opportunities, and social groups consider the potential unintended consequences that may arise for these women, such as an increased likelihood of experiencing domestic violence.

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