

# A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW ON INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE (IPV) AMONG MALE PARTNERS AND ITS PSYCHO-SOCIAL IMPACT

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DOI: [10.17605/OSF.IO/8MZPV](https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/8MZPV)

## Abstract

Current review systematically describes the types, causes, psychosocial impact and dilemmas of Intimate partner violence (IPV) among male victims. Male partners suffer physically, sexually & psychologically due to IPV by their female partners. As compared to the published literature, the IPV against male partners exists many folds in the society. This ratio is continuously increasing due to the fear of being criticized, lack of family support, lack of legal & moral framework support from human rights forums. No doubt, strengthening women rights have consistently mobilized the society & law firms to protect the female victims. But current ratio of male victims in the society demands a proper legislation too.

**Keywords:** Male: Victimization; IPV; Partner Violence

## INTRODUCTION

The prevalence of intimate partner violence (IPV) is a major problem for the public's health. Despite the growing research on interpersonal violence, there has been relatively little conducted on male victims of IPV and interpersonal violence, victimization and perpetration in men are not well understood (Godbout et al., 2017; Abrahams, Jewkes, Laubscher, & Hoffman, 2006; Black et al., 2011; Desmarais, Reeves, Nicholls, Telford, & Fiebert, 2012a, 2012b; Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000). The topic of intimate partner violence (IPV) has received a growing amount of attention in the published works of science, which has resulted in an abundance of research on risk factors, including a rapidly growing body of reviews and meta-analyses (Capaldi, Knoble, Shortt, & Kim, 2012; Fry, McCoy, & Swales, 2012; Gil-Gonzalez, Vives-Cases, Ruiz, Carrasco-Portino, & Alvarez-Dardet, 2008; Smith-Marek et al., 2015). The objective of current study was to highlight various form of abuse and limitations of the male partners who are seeking help in IPV.

## PREVALENCE OF IPV AGAINST MEN

Since the early to middle 1970s, when studies of intimate partner violence (IPV) first began, there have been reports of incidences of women physically assaulting their male partners. For instance, Gelles (1974), a pioneer in the field of research on domestic violence, discovered that "the eruption of conjugal violence occurs with equal frequency among both husbands and wives" (p. 77). Since then, data on the incidence of intimate partner violence (IPV) committed by women against men have been collected from a variety of different sources. To begin, the most recent data available from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), which is conducted by the United States Department of Justice, indicate that in the year 2004, more than 1.3 per 1,000 men were assaulted by an intimate partner, the majority of whom were women (Catalano, 2007). In addition, whereas the rate of reported intimate partner violence

against women dropped dramatically between 1993 and 2004 (from 9.8 to 3.8 women per 1,000), the rate of reported IPV against men did not fall quite as precipitously during this time period. National Family Violence Surveys [NFVS] of 1975 and 1985; 1992 National Alcohol and Family Violence Survey] carried out by researchers at the University of New Hampshire in the 1970s to 1990s showed that in contrast to declining rates of violence by men toward women, violence by women toward men has remained stable over the 17-year period that spans the time between the first (1975) and last (1992) surveys. These surveys were carried out between 1975 and 1992. (Straus, 1995). According to the "National Violence Against Women Study" (NVAWS), which was a national random-digit-dial telephone survey of 8,005 women and 8,001 men in the United States, 24.8 percent of women and 7.6 percent of men reported that at some point in their adult lives, they had been the victims of physical and/or sexual abuse at the hands of an intimate partner. The implications of this are that an intimate partner is responsible for the sexual assault or physical abuse of approximately 1.5 million women and 834,700 men each year (Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000). These trends are the same as those found in the NCVS, with the exception that the rates of intimate partner violence in the family violence surveys are significantly higher. To be more specific, when age and socioeconomic status were taken into account, it was reported that minor assaults (such as slapping or pushing) committed by wives toward their husbands occurred at a rate of approximately 75 per 1,000 in 1975 and 1985. After that, the number of reports increased to approximately 95 per 1,000 in 1992. According to the findings of the study, the rate of severe assaults committed by wives toward their husbands (for example, punching or beating up) was approximately the same at 45 per 1,000 throughout all of the study years. These rates of severe assaults projected into approximately 2.6 million men per year who were victims of intimate partner violence that was likely to cause an injury (Straus & Gelles, 1986).

## CLASSIFICATIONS OF IPV AGAINST MEN

Classification of IPV among male partners is generally divided into two types

- 1) Classification by Form of abuse
- 2) Classification by Type & Cause

### (1) Classification By Form Of Abuse

One method of categorizing IPV is based on the type of abuse that occurs. It is possible that gaining an understanding of the various types of abuse will assist in the process of determining strategies that can be used to combat each type of abuse. The World Health Organization (2002) divides intimate partner violence (IPV) into three categories: physical, sexual, and psychological. Although some policymakers have identified additional categories, such as economic and social abuse, it is not entirely clear whether these subcategories actually exist as distinct dimensions of intimate partner violence (IPV) (Hegarty, Sheehan, & Schonfeld, 1999). This classification is frequently used and reported in studies individually as physical violence, psychological violence, and sexual violence, or in combination with each of these types of violence (Devries et al., 2013; World Health Organization, 2013).

**(a) Physical Violence:** Physical violence refers to the use of physical force to inflict pain, injury or physical suffering to the victim. Slapping, beating, kicking, pinching, biting, pushing, shoving, dragging, stabbing, spanking, scratching, hitting with a fist or