Causes and Surviving Strategies of Marital Abuse against Women in Anyigba Communities in Kogi State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The study specifically examined the perceived causes of wife abuse against women in Anyigba communities in Kogi State, Dekina Local Government Area.; investigated the pattern of wife abuse among couples; assessed common abuses faced by wives and ascertained the coping strategies adopted by wives who suffered abuse in Anyigba Community. The study used in-depth interviews and self-administered questionnaire. Married couples (400) with at least two children were purposively selected for the study. The respondents completed copies of the questionnaire correctly, and both descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyze the data. Findings from the study revealed that forced marriage and a lack of affection between partners were found to be the main reasons why wives in the study area were abused. According to the study, most abused wives use coping mechanisms such as refusing to have sex with their husbands, accepting responsibility for their actions to maintain harmony, and reporting abuse to a family member for intervention. According to the study's findings, wife abuse is common in the region under investigation and poses a serious risk to marriage's stability. Therefore, the study suggests that married couples should get marriage counselling. Additionally, religious institutions and the customary court should make good use of the media and other channels to raise awareness of the threat of wife abuse in society.

Keywords: Marital Abuse; Causes; Pattern; Survival Strategies; Women

Introduction

Intimate partner violence (IPV), sometimes referred to as domestic violence or wife abuse, is a worldwide issue that cuts beyond national, cultural, and socioeconomic borders. Abuse patterns might vary from one-off events to ongoing, increasing violence. A variety of violent behaviours, such as physical, psychological, sexual, and financial abuse, are included in the category of wife abuse. About one in three women globally has either suffered intimate relationship violence, either physical or sexual, or non-partner sexual assault at some point in their lives (WHO,2021). Abuse is more common because of patriarchal institutions and traditional gender norms, which maintain power disparities in relationships (Beebeejaun-Muslum, 2024).

How abuse is viewed, reported, and dealt with in communities is also influenced by cultural elements like power, inheritance of positions, division of labour, etc. Social expectations, customs, and cultural standards all have a significant influence on how wife abuse plays out (Devries et al.,219).

Several international organizations, such as the United Nations and World Health Organisation (WHO), have started global efforts to prevent wife abuse and advance gender equality. These projects often involve gathering data, launching awareness campaigns, and advocating for legislative reforms. Understanding these worldwide endeavours can provide valuable background for area research and initiatives (UN Women, 2020). Physical violence, verbal threats and insults, sexual coercion, economic control, and psychological manipulation are just a few of the behaviours that go under the umbrella of wife abuse. In addition to causing immediate pain, this type of abuse has long-term effects on the victims' physical and mental health (Heron & Browne, 2022; WHO, 2021).

The issue of gender equality as it pertains to domestic violence is a serious issue. It is a societal problem that cuts across cultures, classes and races. Women are often excluded from participating in most sensitive social activities on the grounds of cultural and patriarchal dichotomies. However, the indisputable truth is that women are part and parcel of every society and its order (Adebayo & Kolawole, 2013; Aliegba et al., 2025). In Nigeria, like in many other African countries, gender relations have remained patriarchal in nature, and the Nigerian society has been suffocated with stereotypes, patriarchy; gender insensitive statutory, religious and customary laws have all engendered violence against women.

Wife abuse has profound physical and psychological implications for the victims. It can cause physical damage, chronic health problems, mental health concerns like depression and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and even death. Abuse can leave emotional and psychological scars that last a long time, hurting victims' self-esteem, relationships, and general quality of life (Campbell, 2019).

Married women, who are frequently the primary targets of domestic abuse, endure psychological, sexual, financial, emotional, and physical harm. Because they are afraid of more consequences, they are unable to make decisions, express their thoughts, or defend themselves and their children. They constantly fear violence, and their human rights are abused. In Bangladesh and India, Rapp et al. (2019) discovered that the educational attainment of the spouses impacted the prevalence of wife abuse. Higher educated couples were less likely to encounter domestic violence, and women who had more education than their husbands were less likely to suffer from severe abuse. To address this issue and create successful counselling interventions, it is essential to comprehend the existence of various patterns of domestic violence, the causes that contribute to them, and their ramifications.

The high number of battered wives indicates the severity of the problem, and many more cases likely go unreported (Olaoye, 2019). The prevalence of underreporting can be attributed to factors like fear of further violence, hopes of salvaging the relationship, mistrust of agencies, and ignorance of available support services. It is important to understand that the reported cases represent only a fraction of the actual number of women experiencing abuse (Smith & Umezulike,2020).

It is important to note that existing laws and statistics mostly ignore other forms of abuse, such as emotional, psychological, and financial abuse, in favour of focusing on physical and sexual assaults as forms of domestic violence. Not only does this distort the numbers, but it also keeps victims of non-physical abuse invisible. A complicated issue with profound cultural, economic, social, and political roots is intimate partner violence (IPV) (Smith and Umezulike,2020).

This study examines the degree of knowledge about wife abuse policies among Anyigba couples to determine the perceived reasons for wife abuse among these couples. Moreover, investigate how often wives in the Anyigba society are being assaulted by their husbands.

Causes of Wife Abuse

There are many different reasons why wives are abused, and it is crucial to remember that no one reason can completely account for or explain why such abuse occurs. Nonetheless, some frequently mentioned reasons provide insight into the dynamics and complexity at play. It is imperative to address these issues sensitively and acknowledge that they are contributing elements to abusive behaviour rather than justifications for it (Johnson, 2018).

Power and Control: The desire for power and control in close relationships is one of the main reasons for wife abuse. Abusers may use violence to keep control over their relationships because they feel compelled to dominate and exert authority over them. Gender norms and cultural ideas that uphold the unequal power relations between men and women may be the source (Saunders, 2023).

Learned Behaviour: People who were raised in violent circumstances may reproduce these tendencies in their relationships, thus continuing the cycle of abuse. Childhood exposure to violence can normalize abusive behaviour and create the perception that it is a legitimate means of resolving disputes (Bakchi *et al.,* 2020).

Sociocultural Factors: The acceptance or tolerance of abusive behaviour can be reinforced by deeply rooted cultural beliefs that view women as inferior to men and as property or objects to be controlled. Sociocultural factors include cultural beliefs, traditional gender roles, and societal norms. These factors can all contribute to wife abuse (Beebeejaun-Muslum, 2024).

Substance Use: Although substance abuse, especially alcohol and drug addiction, is frequently linked to an increase in domestic violence, it should be noted that substance abuse is not a direct cause of abuse but rather a contributing factor that can intensify preexisting

tensions. Substance abuse's disinhibiting effects can exacerbate aggressive tendencies and impair judgment, increasing the likelihood of abusive behaviour (Durojaiye, 2020).

Socioeconomic Factors: Economic hardships and limited resources can strain relationships, increasing the likelihood of conflicts and violence. The stressors associated with socioeconomic challenges can exacerbate power imbalances and strain relationships, increasing the incidence of abuse (Adekeye, 2018; Smith & Umezulike, 2020). Socioeconomic factors, including poverty, unemployment, and financial stress, can also contribute to wife abuse.

It is critical to understand that every instance of wife abuse is different and that these alleged causes interact and overlap. Understanding these factors can help create all-encompassing preventive, intervention, and support plans for survivors. Promoting gender equality, opposing detrimental social norms, offering education and awareness campaigns, and addressing the root causes of wife abuse should be the main priorities. (Campbell,2019; Coker*,e-tal*,2019; Neale,2023)

Effects of Wife Abuse

Domestic violence, commonly referred to as wife abuse, can have serious and enduring consequences for the victims' mental, emotional, and physical health. The consequences of wife abuse will be examined in this conversation.

Physical Effects: Wife abuse victims frequently sustain physical harm, from cuts and bruises to more serious conditions such as fractured bones and brain trauma (Campbell, 2019). According to Breiding et al. (2015), these injuries may cause fatalities in severe cases or long-term health issues. Once more, unintended pregnancies and STDs are among the negative consequences of wife abuse on reproductive health (Campbell, 2019).

Psychological and Emotional Effects: Abusive relationships often cause survivors anxiety and depression. Many victims experience PTSD because of the traumatic events they go through, which can include hypervigilance, nightmares, and frequent flashbacks. Victims may struggle to rebuild confidence because of low self-esteem brought on by the abuser's emotional abuse and unrelenting criticism. Research has shown a higher prevalence of suicidal thoughts and attempts among women who experience abuse within intimate relationships (Coker *et al.*, 2019; Evans, 2022).

Social and Economic Effects: Abusers frequently cut off their victims from friends and family, which results in social isolation and a lack of support systems. Victims of economic abuse may become financially reliant on their abusers, which makes it challenging for them to leave the relationship or get assistance (Willan et al.,2022)

Impact on Children: Children who see their mothers being abused may experience emotional stress and developmental problems, which could lead to a violent cycle. Children who witness domestic abuse may develop behavioural issues, become more aggressive, and experience more psychological diseases

(Evans *et al.,* 2022). It is critical to understand that the impacts of wife abuse transcend beyond the individual victim to include families and communities. To address and mitigate these negative impacts, interventions and support networks, such as shelters, counselling, and legal protections, are crucial. Promoting healthy relationships and ending the cycle of abuse can be achieved in part by encouraging victims to get help and increasing public awareness of domestic violence (Bergs *et al,*2022*)*.

Patriarchal Theory

According to the patriarchal theory (Walby,1989), deeply rooted cultural norms, attitudes, and power structures that give men more authority and influence inside the household and society at large are the cause of wife abuse. It implies that this unequal power dynamic may influence the occurrence of wife abuse. The theory contends that the more extensive patriarchal system, which upholds male dominance and female submission, is reflected in gender-based violence, including abuse of wives. By addressing both individual behaviours and the cultural structures that support abuse, an understanding of the patriarchal foundations of wife abuse can help guide intervention and prevention methods. The dynamics of wife abuse are related to the patriarchal norms and values that are prevalent in a society. Patriarchal theory offers a valuable prism through which the reasons and trends of wife abuse in Anyigba can be viewed. The dynamics of wife abuse are related to the patriarchal norms and values that are prevalent in Anyigba society. Patriarchal theory offers a valuable prism through which the reasons and trends of wife abuse in Anyigba can be viewed (Aliegba *et al*., 2025).

Methodology

The survey design was used to investigate the causes of wife abuse among couples in the Anyigba community, which is located in the centre of Igala land in the Dekina Local Government Area of Kogi state, North Central Nigeria. Married couples with at least two children comprise the study's population. Using Yamane's (1967) formula, the total sample size for this study was 400. Cluster sampling was used for the quantitative data, and purposive sampling for the qualitative data.

Data was gathered using copies of questionnaire (400), while twenty (20) in-depth interviews were conducted among married couples who had at least two children. The data gathered for this study were analysed using both descriptive and inferential techniques. The data were collected and tabulated using frequency and percentage counts. Analysis of variance, correlation analysis, and simple linear regression were employed to analyse the collected data.

Results

Table 1: Presentation of data on the Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

Item	Variables (n=400)	N	Percentages (%)
Age (years)	15-19	2	0.5
	20-24	29	7.2
	25-29	208	52
	30-34	61	15.3
	35-39	44	11
	40 and above	56	14
Marital Status	Single	31	7.8
	Married	369	92.2
Religion	Islam	80	20
	Christianity	320	80
Education	Non-formal	58	14.5
	Secondary	48	37
	Tertiary	194	48.5
Ethnic Affiliation	Igala	193	48.3
	Yoruba	53	13.3
	Ebira	54	13.5
	Others	100	25
Occupation	Employed	164	41
	Unemployed	53	13.3
	Self Employed	129	32.3
	Farming/Retiree	54	13.5
Average Income	Less than ₦30,000	31	7.8
	₦30,000- ₦39,999	67	16.8
	₦40,000- ₦49,000	302	75.5
Place of Residence	Idah Road	123	30.8
	University community	45	11.3
	Ogane-Aji, Dekina road	134	33.5
	Abuja Area/Egume Road	98	24.5

Source: *Field Survey 2023*

Table 1 above summarises the socio-demographic characteristics of respondents. The ages of respondents were 15-19 years were 2 (0.5%), 20-24 years were 29 (7.2%), 25-29 years were 208 (52%), 30-34 years 61 (15.3%), 35-39 years 44 (11%), and 40 years and above were 56 (14%). There were more married persons (369, 92.2%) than singles (31, 7.8%). The majority practiced

Christianity, 320(80%), and Islam, 80(20%). They were well educated, as most possessed a degree or diploma (48.5%) from a tertiary institution. About 74% were gainfully employed or self-employed, and only 26% were not. Only 7% of respondents had a monthly income below N30,000, while the majority (76%) had an income above N40,000. Places of residence included Idah Road (123), Abuja Area (35), Ajetachi (134), and others (98).

Table 2. Presentation of data on Perceived Causes of Wife Abuse

Items	YES (%)	NO (%)	Mean
Lack of love between couples	400 (100%)	-	2.0
Low level of education	307 (76.8%)	93 (23.2%)	1.76
Forced marriage	371 (92.8%)	29 (7.2%)	1.92
Pressures from in-laws	305 (76.3%)	95 (23.7%)	1.76
Mental illness	334 (83.5%)	66 16.5%)	1.83
Drunkenness or drug addiction	400 (100%)	-	2.0
Wife's clumsiness /untidiness	400 (100%)	-	2.0
Cannot satisfy husband sexually	400 (100%)	-	2.0
Disagreement on children's discipline	307 (76.7)	93 (23.3)	1.76
No respect for the husband	400 (100%)	-	2.0
My wife cannot cook well	400 (100%)	-	2.0
Husband's financial incapacity	400 (100%)	-	2.0
Cluster Mean			1.92

Source: *Field Survey 2023*

The perceived reasons for wife abuse are displayed in Table 2. All 400 respondents agreed that the following factors contribute to wife abuse: men who are not sexually fulfilled, wives who are dirty, husbands who are intoxicated or addicted to drugs, disrespect for their spouses, poor cooking skills, and husbands who are unable to provide enough care. Additional variables were mental illness (mean = 1.83), forced marriage (mean = 1.92), low educational attainment (mean = 1.76), and dispute over child discipline (mean = 1.76). The replies were major contributors to wife abuse, as indicated by the grand mean of 1.92

One of the respondents emphasized that:

> From my own point of view, the word abuse means that the husband is tormenting the woman through beating, forceful sexual relationship etc. for me, causes of wife abuse include lack of respect from the wife, lack of submission, lack of care from the husband and infidelity and keeping another woman outside the family. *(IDI/ female/ fish seller/ 45*

years/ Married/ Anyigba/ September, 2023)

Another participant said:

Both couples can be at fault, either the wife or the husband, in the sense that the husband might not be caring and providing for the family's needs. The wife may be getting information about the husband being a cheat and not asking him if he's involved or not. She may also have gone ahead to say that the wife might not be obedient to the husband by not fulfilling her roles as a wife in the house*. (IDI / Female/self-employed/ 25 years/ Married/ Anyigba/ September, 2023).*

Trends of Wife Abuse among Couples

Table 3. Presentation of data on Pattern of Wife's Abuse among Couples in Anyigba Community

Items	SA	A	U	D	SD	Mean
Yelling and insulting on wife	237	163	-	-	-	4.59
Throwing an object at his wife	51	293	-	56	-	3.85
Kicking the wife	10	359	29	-	2	3.94
Hijacking of wife's shirt	138	120	88	54	-	3.86
Pushing wife away from the way	29	371	-	-	-	4.07
Choking the wife	103	204	64	-	29	3.88
Use a deadly instrument	57	250	29	-	64	3.59
Throwing an object at the wife	51	266	-	83	-	3.71
Grabbing the wife	111	151	29	107	2	3.66
Denial of sexual relationship	162	185	-	53	-	4.14
Cluster Mean						4.59

Source: *Field Survey 2023*

With an average of 4.59 (Table 3), it demonstrated that every suggested pattern of abuse was noteworthy. The most common patterns of wife abuse among Anyigba couples were yelling and insulting the wife (mean = 4.59), denying a sexual relationship (mean = 4.14), shoving the wife (mean = 4.07), and kicking the wife (mean = 3.94). Although 64 people disagree, other forms of abuse include pushing, choking, throwing objects at, grasping, and using deadly weapons against the wife.

A respondent:

The level of abuse will be reduced among educated families, but when they are not educated, they do not know the meaning of the word abuse. Education helps when it comes to awareness of wife abuse in society; the man or the woman will choose to grab each other when in a conflict, or even push the wife away when they are not adequately educated (IDI/ Male/ employed/ 40 years old/ Divorce/ Ajetachi/ September 2023).

Another respondent said that:

> To me, wife abuse includes beating, insulting, kicking, and pushing the wife. They can even use deadly instruments to fight their partner. It is too bad. (IDI/ Male/Self-employed/ 28 years old/ Married/ ogane aji/ September, 2023).

Table 4. Relationship between perceived causes of wife abuse and age and Occupation

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	18.073	1	18.073	115.789	.000[a]
Residual	62.124	398	.156		
Total	80.197	399			
Regression	39.017	2	19.509	188.074	.000[b]
Residual	41.180	397	.14		
Total	80.197	399			

Source: *Field Survey 2023*

Table 5. Correlation Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
1	.475a	.225	.223	.39508	
2	. 698b	.487	.484	.32207	2.522

Source: *Field Survey 2023*

The model summary in Table 5 indicates a negative serial correlation, as the Durbin-Watson (DW) value exceeds 2. It also shows that the linear correlation between the variables exists since R-squared (0.225) < DW (2.522).

Age and the reasons for wife abuse are significantly correlated in Table 4 (F= 115.789, p=0.000), with an effect size (η2) =0.225. This suggests a large effect size, meaning that the age of the abuser or the abused significantly predicted the reason for wife abuse. Additionally, Table 5 showed that the effect size (η2) =0.487 and the occupation and cause of wife abuse were significantly correlated ($p<0.05$) for all situations (F = 188.074, p = 0.000). This significant effect size suggests that the occupation of Anyigba community members predicts the prevalence of wife abuse in the region.

Table 6. Correlation of trends of wife abuse among couples in Anyigba and Religion

Variables		Religion	Patterns of wife abuse
Religion		1	
Patterns of wife abuse	Pearson Correlation Sig. (2-tailed) N	-.949** .008 400	1

Patterns of wife abuse and religious affiliation were shown to be significantly correlated negatively ($r = -0.95$, $p = 0.008$, $p < .01$). The findings suggested that abusive behaviours would decline as more people developed a stronger religious inclination. There is no meaningful correlation between the pattern of wife abuse among Anyigba couples and their religious beliefs.

Discussions

Most research participants demonstrated the highest level of awareness regarding wife abuse in the Anyigba community. The results indicated that respondents had a very high degree of awareness of policies on women's abuse and associated penalties, with a cluster mean of 3.83. They were aware that different offences, as defined by the law, carried different penalties and sentences. This supports Willan et al.'s (2019) assertion that some variables, including research studies, organizations' activities, and increased media coverage, may have contributed to women's increased knowledge of spousal abuse. Organizations, researchers, and the media have all worked together to raise awareness of wife abuse, which has resulted in a better understanding of the issue, the creation of stronger support networks for survivors, and the adoption of preventative measures.

The results of the study on the causes of abuse indicated that the following factors contributed to the abuse of wives: a lack of love between couples; drunkenness or drug addiction; a lack of education; forced marriage; mental illness; a wife's lack of cleanliness; a husband who is not sexually satisfied; disrespect for the spouse; an inability to cook; and the husband's incapacity. This reaffirms that the need for power and control in close relationships is one of the main underlying reasons for wife abuse. Similar findings were made by Rapp et al. (2019) in Bangladesh and India, who discovered that spousal education disparities affected the prevalence of domestic violence. While couples with higher levels of education overall had the lowest likelihood of domestic violence, women who had more education than their husbands were less likely to suffer from severe domestic abuse. Abusers may feel compelled to control and dominate their partners, and they may resort to violence in order to do so. Gender norms and cultural beliefs that sustain unequal power dynamics between men and women may be the source of this (Beebeejaun-Muslum, 2024).

Substance abuse, especially alcohol and drug addiction, and socioeconomic factors like poverty, unemployment, and financial stress, are frequently linked to higher rates of domestic violence. The disinhibiting effects of substances can increase the likelihood of abusive behaviour by impairing judgment and aggravating aggressive tendencies, but it is crucial to remember that substance abuse is not a direct cause of abuse but rather a contributing factor that can exacerbate existing tensions (Adekeye, 2018; Durojaiye, 2020) There were physical, emotional, social, and physiological forms and patterns of abuse in the research area, according to findings on the types and patterns of wife abuse among couples. Wives in the Anyigba community face various sorts of abuse, including name-calling, yelling, beatings, marital rape, sexual denial, and injuries that can occasionally lead to death. These results are consistent with other research showing that physical abuse is one of the most common forms of abuse experienced by spouses in married partnerships. Physical abuse is when someone is harmed or injured by the use of force or violence. It can take many different forms, such as kicking, punching, slapping, beating, or any other kind of physical assault. Research has repeatedly shown that one of the most common types of violence that women encounter in close relationships is physical abuse (Durojaiye, 2020; Ackerman et al., 2019; Johnson, 2018).

Adekeye (2018) stresses that one partner's dominance and control over the other is a component of domestic abuse. A victim's mental and emotional health may suffer severe and protracted consequences from emotional abuse, which is frequently less obvious than physical abuse. It can result in feelings of worthlessness, low self-esteem, anxiety, and depression. Another type of violence that frequently occurs in abusive marriages is sexual abuse. It includes any forced sexual actions or non-consensual sexual activity that is performed on the victim. Rape, forced sexual actions, unwelcome sexual approaches, and marital rape are a few examples of physical assault (Alhabib et al., 2020). Research has repeatedly shown that physical abuse is a common type of violence that spouses encounter in close marriages (Babcock et al., 2018; Berg, et al.,2022; Coker et al., 2019; Rapp et al., 2019; WHO, 2021, et al.).

According to the study, abused women in the Anyigba community use a variety of coping mechanisms, such as denying their spouse sex, having family members visit to resolve conflicts, having parents adopt their child after they were abused, attacking with everything they have to defend their mistreatment, accepting responsibility and apologizing so they can endure the pains and remain in the marriage, running away from the home alone, filing for legal backup to maintain peace, and reporting to family members. Many spouses seek practical and emotional support from friends, family, or support organizations. Social support can offer a safe space to share experiences, express empathy, and receive validation. The results of this study showed that reporting to family members was one of

the coping strategies employed by women in the study region (mean = 4.16). While the man runs away from home, the family may choose to provide a support network for the abused lady or woman instead of reporting the abuse to the appropriate authorities. To address and mitigate these negative impacts, interventions and support networks, such as shelters, counselling, and legal protections, are crucial (Smith & Umezulike, 2020). This finding contradicts that of Olaoye (2019), who believed that the high number of battered wives demonstrated the seriousness of the problem of wife abuse and that many more cases probably went unreported. Additionally, the incidence of underreporting might be linked to many issues, including mistrust of agencies, a lack of understanding about available support services, aspirations of preserving the relationship, and fear of additional violence. These negative consequences.

The study's results are consistent with other research showing that the effects of wife violence might include physical, physiological, social, and emotional trauma that is also passed on to children (Campbell, 2019). Children who witness wife abuse may experience emotional trauma and developmental problems, which could lead to a cycle of violence. According to Evans et al. (2022), children who witness domestic violence may have aggressive behaviour, behavioural issues, and a higher prevalence of psychological diseases.

The study revealed a significant link between age and the causes of wife abuse ($F = 15.789$, $p = 0.000$), with an effect size ($\eta 2$) =0.225. This suggests a large effect size, meaning that the age of the abuser or the abused significantly predicted the reason for wife abuse.

Findings further indicated that there was a significant relationship between occupation and cause of wife abuse ($F = 188.074$, $p = 0.000$) and the effect size (η^2) = 0.487. This significant effect size suggests that the occupation of Anyigba community members predicts the prevalence of wife abuse. More than 73% of respondents were self-employed (32.5%) or employed (41%). According to the literature, the most common jobs in the research area were semi-skilled and unskilled, as well as blue-collar jobs such as farming, plumbing, trading, mechanics, and okada riding. This importance could have been attributed to their semi-skilled and unskilled occupations or to their wives being more affluent or prestigious than their husbands. This supports the findings of Ballan et al. (2022), who found that women in professions that were comparable to or higher in status than their spouses were twice as likely to be victims of physical and psychological abuse as women in professions that were lower in status. In 2021, Bhalotra and colleagues concluded that while unemployed women were less likely to be abused, male unemployment increased the frequency of violence. Males experience significant financial and psychological strain associated with unemployment. Similarly, a rise in violence is linked to better job prospects for women, which is consistent with male retaliation (Bhalotra et al., 2021).

Conclusion and Recommendations.

It is evident from the study that wife abuse is a global problem that impacts women from all socioeconomic situations. It is the whole separation or disunion of a partnership and includes all types of violence, such as economic, sexual, psychological, and physical abuse. Religions and cultures, however, disapprove of wife abuse. Lack of affection between spouses, low educational attainment, pressure from in-laws, forced marriage, and the wife's awkwardness are the leading causes of wife abuse. The ultimate consequences of wife abuse are death and irreversible singleness. It is also determined that the majority of people abuse their wives by getting married young, not understanding one another, and having different religious beliefs. Thus, it can be said that survey participants were highly aware of wife abuse and its consequences. Therefore, the study also concluded that younger couples and those who fathered children at a relatively young age were more likely to mistreat their wives since they lacked the maturity to remain married. In order to address these issues, the government, religious organizations, and married couples who are abused must organize a forum where they can receive education about socialization, respect for one another's values and needs, and the risks of wife abuse in society.

There is a need for more adequate awareness of gender-based violence among the people of the Anyigba community. There is a need for more government policies on wife abuse, and resources and support should be made available to couples who are victims of domestic abuse so they can leave these stressful relationships.

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