



STREE MANORAKSHA TRAINING

Understanding Violence in Family Context





Learning objectives



Learning objectives

- **To understand types of violence in the context of family and couple.**
- **To understand various contributing factors of violence between couple.**
 - **Ecological model of Intimate Partner Violence**
 - **Social factors**
 - **Individual Specific contributing factors.**
 - **Feministic Principles of violence against women.**



Understanding Violence in Family Context

Violence as a continuum..



Conflict and Disagreement

- **Disagreement:** To have a different opinion about something.
- **Conflicts:** Any argument between two people caused by differences in their opinion.

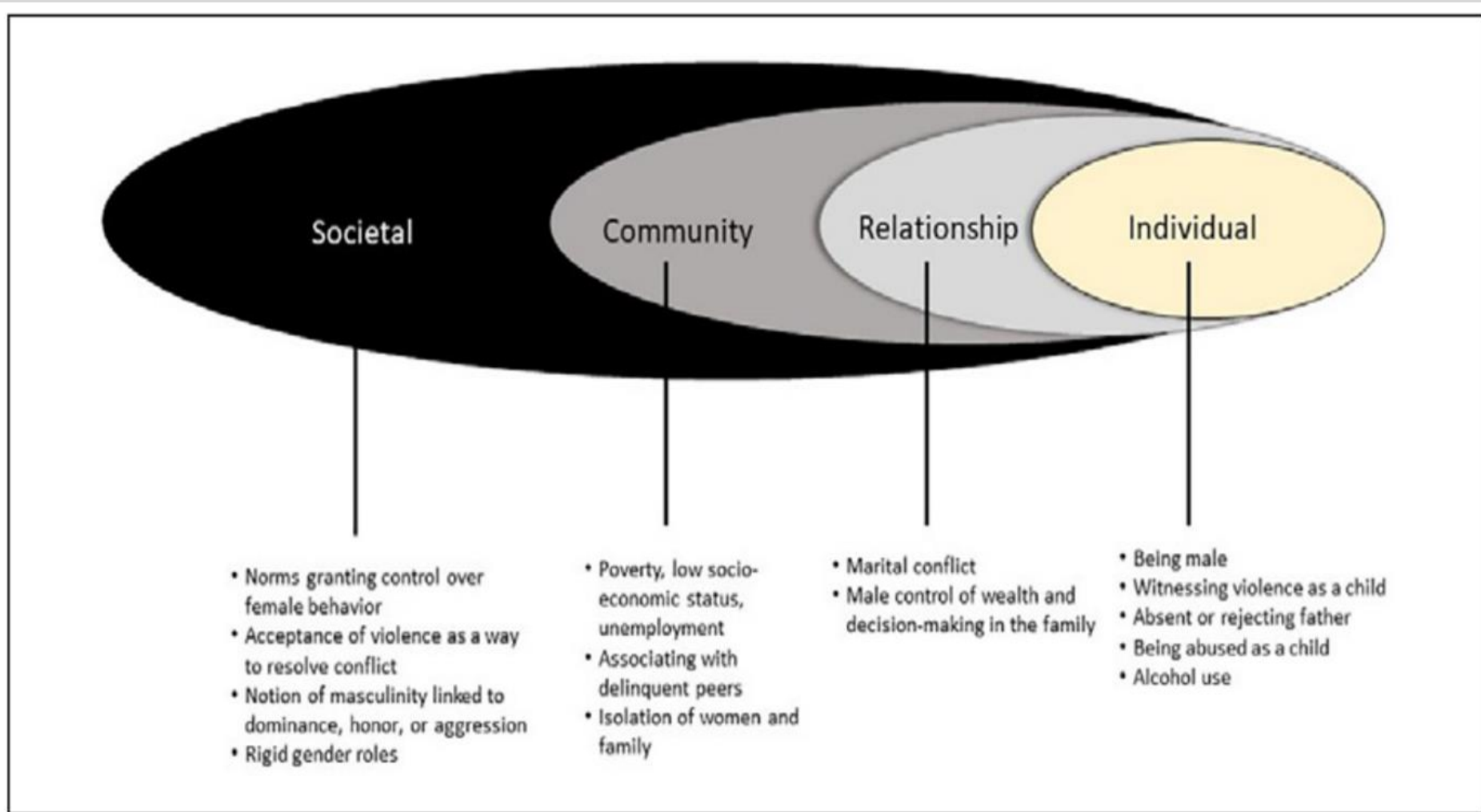
Types of violence among couple

- Physical Violence
- Emotional violence
- Sexual Violence
- Controlling behaviours



Factors contributing to violence between couple

Ecological Model of Intimate Partner Violence



Nested ecological model of IPV (Heise, 1998)



Social Factors

- Patriarchy
- Gender Roles
- Power Imbalance
- Toxic Masculinity



Patriarchy

- Belief system of the society, focused on gender.
- Men have more power than women.
- Specific gender roles are assigned by the society.
- Families passing the assigned gender roles to the next generations.



Gender Roles

- Gender roles are certain traditionally held, socially prescribed roles for each gender.
- It is about the social beliefs that men should act in a certain way because they are men and women should act in a certain way as they are women.



Gender Roles

Some of the established gender roles for women in the society are-

- Women should do all household chores and take care of children.
- Women should not step out of house without the permission from men.

Gender Roles

- Women should be soft spoken, forgiving and do everything in the best interest of other members in the family.
- Women should not share their opinion in public.



Gender Roles

- Women should not oppose men in anything.
- Women should not be the decision makers in the family.
- Financial aspects in the family should be dealt by men.



Power Imbalance

- Unequal distribution of control and power between partners.
- Men dominates women in families.
- Takes decision and exert power that can cause disadvantages to the partner as well as for their relationship.



Toxic masculinity

Harmful concept of masculinity that gives significant importance on 'manliness'

based on:

- Strength
- Lack of emotion
- Self-sufficiency
- Dominance
- Sexual virility



Attitude of family towards women facing violence

- **Protecting the honor of the family:** The belief that the honour of family will be affected if information about violence in the family goes outside.
- **Families that condone violence:** Acceptance of violence as a method for regulating the family.
- **Stigma towards divorce:** Belief and attitude that divorced woman brings disgrace to the family.



Individual Specific Contributors of Violence between Couple

Mental health of the perpetrator

- Presence of mental disorders (Depression, Anxiety, Severe Mental Illnesses).
- Substance use (Alcohol, other drugs).
- Personality disorders (Way of thinking, feeling and behaving that deviates from the expectations of the culture, causes distress or problems in functioning, and lasts over time).



Personality disorders seen in perpetrators-

Antisocial personality Disorder

- Disregard for others' needs or feelings; Aggressive, engaging in violent behavior; Recurring violation of the law; Lack of remorse for behavior

Paranoid personality Disorder

- Pervasive distrust and suspicion of others; Unjustified, recurrent suspicion that spouse is unfaithful (checking whereabouts, phone).

Emotionally Unstable Personality Disorder

- Inappropriate, intense anger, frequently losing temper, being bitter, having physical fights. Impulsive and risky behaviour (gambling, unsafe sex, drug abuse, quitting a good job, etc.)

Narcissistic personality Disorder

- Failure to recognize others' needs and feelings; Arrogance; inflated self-esteem; considering self as superior; condescending towards others.



Substance Use

- Has a bidirectional relationship with Intimate Partner Violence.
- The most common substance used is Alcohol.
- Alcohol compromises the thinking, reasoning and causes disinhibition in an individual, causing them to react impulsively.
- IPV can happen under intoxication as well as during withdrawal.

Substance Use

- The frequency and intensity of violence increases with substance use.
- Also happens because of social perceptions that a man should consume substances to be 'manly'.
- Often substance use by men and resulting violence is culturally and socially accepted.



Feminism

Feminism is about all genders having equal rights and opportunities.

It is about respecting women's experiences, identities, knowledge and strengths and striving to empower all women to realize their full rights.



Feminist principles of violence against women

Sl.No	Principles	Description
1.	Tactics of Control	Violence as a tactic to control the woman by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emotional abuse• Isolation• Intimidation• Threats• Economic abuse• Sexual abuse• Physical abuse• Using cultural norms to dominate.
2.	Intent	Abusive behaviours are intentional, not a result of uncontrolled anger or of impulsivity.



Feminist principles of violence against women

Sl.No	Principles	Description
3.	Emotions	Feelings of anger, frustration, hostility, and insecurity do not cause a person to be violent.
4.	Minimization, Denial, and Blame	Minimizing, denying, and blaming others for one's acts of violence is an attempt to avoid taking responsibility for one's behaviours.



Feminist principles of violence against women

Sl.No	Principles	Description
5.	Negative Effects	The use of abusive tactics often gets the abuser what he wants, it has negative effects on him, the woman he abuses, his children, and his relationship with family and friends.
6.	Non-violent Relationships	It is possible to achieve nonviolent relationships that are based on equality.

Shepard, M. (1991). Feminist practice principles for social work intervention in wife abuse. *Affilia*, 6(2), 87-94.



Thank you

