

Impacts of Violence in Thai Muslim Marriage in Satun Province: A Case Study of Husbands Assaulting Their Wives

Sojirat Supanichwatana* and Kasetchai Laeheem**

Abstract

Violence against a large number of Thai Muslim spouses in Satun Province brought us to identify many cases using the data gathered from January 2014 to December 2014. The analysis in the variety of Muslim women assaulted by their husbands or partners was performed to categorize which endangered conditions best compared among women implicated in calm nonviolent relationships, verbal assaulted relationships, relationships showing minimum physical aggressions and undesirable violent relationships. All this categorization have as a result collateral damages with their nurturing as human beings generating marital struggles some of them emerging by cultural conditioning and others by socioeconomic status as the primary causes of women- wife assaults. During this study process we categorized our information in three groups: 1) Fifteen wives experiencing domestic abuse and violence, 2) fifteen people involved with the aforementioned couples, and 3) five officers from One Stop Crisis Center. The obtained data were initially analyzed by categorizing them according to conflict issues. Later, the content of the conflicts

* Department of Educational Foundation, Faculty of Liberal Arts, Prince of Songkla University.
15 Karnjanavanich Road, Hat Yai, Songkhla 90110, THAILAND.
E-mail: sojiratsu@gmail.com

** Department of Educational Foundation, Faculty of Liberal Arts, Prince of Songkla University.
15 Karnjanavanich Road, Hat Yai, Songkhla 90110, THAILAND.
E-mail: lkasetchai@yahoo.com

was logically analyzed based upon perception, theory, and related research. The findings revealed that there were 6 major impacts of violence against Thai Muslim spouses in Satun Province. These six major impacts are as follow: 1) the wife being physically and psychologically injured; 2) family unrest; 3) divorce; 4) the impacts on children; 5) hampering activity performance; and 6) annoyance of neighbors.

Keywords: Impact, Violence Against Spouses, Thai Muslim Spouses, Domestic Violence

ผลกระทบของการใช้ความรุนแรงระหว่างคู่สมรสไทยมุสลิม ในจังหวัดสตูล: กรณีศึกษาสามีทำร้ายร่างกายภรรยา

โซจิรัตน์ ศุภนิจวัฒนา* และ เกษตรชัย และทีม**

บทคัดย่อ

การวิจัยครั้งนี้มีวัตถุประสงค์เพื่อศึกษาผลกระทบของการใช้ความรุนแรงระหว่างคู่สมรสไทยมุสลิมในจังหวัดสตูลศึกษาในกรณีสามีทำร้ายร่างกายภรรยาใช้วิธีการเก็บรวบรวมข้อมูลระหว่างเดือนมกราคม-ธันวาคม 2557 โดยการสัมภาษณ์แบบเจาะลึกกับผู้ให้ข้อมูล จำนวน 3 กลุ่ม ได้แก่ 1) ภรรยาที่ประสบปัญหาการใช้ความรุนแรงในครอบครัว จำนวน 15 คน 2) ผู้มีความเกี่ยวข้องกับคู่สามีภรรยาที่ประสบปัญหาการใช้ความรุนแรงระหว่างกัน จำนวน 15 คน 3) เจ้าหน้าที่ศูนย์ช่วยเหลือเด็กและสตรีที่ถูกราชการทำรุนแรง (One Stop Crisis Center: OSCC) จำนวน 5 คน แล้วนำวิเคราะห์ข้อมูลด้วยวิธีการวิเคราะห์เนื้อหา เพื่อระบุประเด็นหลักที่บ่งบอกถึงผลกระทบของการใช้ความรุนแรงระหว่างคู่สมรสไทยมุสลิมในจังหวัดสตูล โดยใช้หลักตรรกะเทียบเคียงแนวความคิด ทฤษฎี และงานวิจัยควบคู่บริบท แล้วนำมาเรียบเรียงพร้อมนำเสนอการ์ดที่ศึกษา ผลการวิจัย พบว่า ผลกระทบของการใช้ความรุนแรงระหว่างคู่สมรสไทยมุสลิมในจังหวัดสตูล: กรณีศึกษาสามีทำร้ายร่างกายภรรยาที่สำคัญ 6 ด้าน ได้แก่ 1) ภรรยาได้รับบาดเจ็บทางร่างกายและเกิดบาดแผลทางจิตใจ 2) ทำให้ครอบครัวขาดความมั่งคง 3) การหย่าร้าง 4) ผลกระทบต่อเด็ก 5) ผลกระทบต่อการดำเนินกิจกรรมในชีวิตปกติ และ 6) สร้างความรำคาญและอึดอัดใจให้กับเพื่อนบ้าน

คำสำคัญ: ผลกระทบ การใช้ความรุนแรง คู่สมรส ไทยมุสลิม

* คณะศิลปศาสตร์ มหาวิทยาลัยสงขลานครินทร์

เลขที่ 15 ถนนกาญจนวนิชย์ อำเภอหาดใหญ่ จังหวัดสงขลา 90110

อีเมล: sojiratsu@gmail.com

** ภาควิชาสารัตถศึกษา คณะศิลปศาสตร์ มหาวิทยาลัยสงขลานครินทร์

เลขที่ 15 ถนนกาญจนวนิชย์ อำเภอหาดใหญ่ จังหวัดสงขลา 90110

อีเมล: lkasetchai@yahoo.com

Introduction

The family is the smallest social unit, and the first point of socialization. The relationship in the family between spouses in today's Thai society presents diversity and variation according to economic and social conditions, where a wife is often forced to find work outside her home in order to earn more money to support the family's well-being. Moreover family routine, where members can discuss things is lessened, leading to misunderstandings about the roles of wives and husbands. Often, families are in difficulty and the relationship between a couple is affected. Additionally, conflicts arise and neither of the spouses express his or her dissatisfaction. Once the silent tension is accumulated, stress and eventually violence are much more likely to follow. As a result, the children witnessing physical abuse between parents might copy the parent's coercive physical actions (Yoddamnoen-Adtidge, 2005; Phuaen Ying Foundation, 2005; Kongsakon, 2006; Promrak, 2007; Laeheem, Kuning, & McNeil, 2009; Sanprasit, Boonprakob, Kongsakon, & Intarakamhang, 2011).

Violence against spouses reveals numerous incidents that reflect that the assault on the wife has become more severe in situations in which the people that commit the hostility are from all economic statuses, occupations, religions, and nationalities (Sonkin, Martin, & Walker, 1985). Apparently, the situation regarding the assault on women is likely to escalate dramatically; within only one year (2012-2013) the figure grew rapidly to 35 percent. According to a summary of violence among spouses and towards women in 2013, in Thailand it has been indicated that 31,996 women were assaulted throughout the year, 87 women a day or 3 women an hour, whereas in 2012 there were 20,582 assaults, or 56 cases a day. The violence is most intensive towards women aged between 24 and 45, accounting for 74 percent of cases. The first important problem established is bodily assaults on 9,699 women, accounting for 77 percent of incidents. The second most frequent problem is sexual harassment, which accounted for 2,226 women, or 18 percent of the sample. Fifty-three percent of the perpetrators are husbands or spouses and the main factors stem from adultery, jealousy, and assault. According to The OSCC (One Stop Crisis Center) statistics, 2011; Violence against Children and Women and Domestic Violence Information Center, 2013), which conforms to a study of Promrak (2007) and Pradabmuk, (2003). Evidence reveals that the experiences regarding violence in the family of women that respond both with and without divorce can be found in

the forms of physical, verbal, psychological, and sexual violence.

The problems regarding violence against spouses in Thailand exhibit high growth and are considered complex. There are various factors as the result of factual and viewed cases. we can mention some of these factors as follow: individual factors, family system factors, community factors, and social factors in which the committed violence affects both the people that experience and commit the violence themselves, the family, and also the community and society. Violence against spouses can occur at any time, and a slight argument could eventually contribute to the violence. Consuming alcohol is among the major causes resulting in violence, as perpetrators' intoxication generally result in an assault toward their spouses (Kaewfan, 2007). Furthermore, the violence is caused by factors regarding general arguments in daily life and making a living, such as financial problems, living-quality problems, and problems from family members that do not realize their own roles and duties. Factors stemming from several family conflicts, such as adultery or having a new partner, are also taken into account. Another obvious factor leading to violence is serious quarreling, which leads to physical assault between spouses or domestic problems that are not possible to handle, potentially resulting in family breakdowns (Archawanitkul & Im-am, 2003; Parimutto, 2010).

The researcher consequently perceived the necessity of studying the effect of violence against spouses in Thai Muslim marriages in Satun province in order to investigate the impact of violence between abused spouses. The research findings will be significant and useful information for concerned personnel and authorities in designating policy to solve and prevent violence against spouses before such problems become more severe to the point where they are impossible to handle. The findings can be applied to concrete guidelines for building a peaceful family with love and understanding, which can be a model for further studies.

Literature Review

Definition of Violence against Spouses

Violence against spouses means any kind of violent action stemming from sexual prejudice and resulting in physical, psychological and sexual harm of the assaulted spouses. This is in accordance with academics who believe that violence is the behavior

and action that goes against their own personal human rights physically, verbally assaulted, psychological disturbed, intimidated, forced to be sexually violated, causing collateral damages involving social unrest, personal unrest getting these women out of a good social environment to express their own freedom to gain quality of life. Violence against a large number of Thai Muslim spouses brought us to identify many cases. The analysis in the variety of Muslim women assaulted by their husbands or partners was performed to categorize which endangered conditions best compared among women implicated in calm nonviolent relationships, verbal assaulted relationships, relationships showing minimum physical aggression and undesirable violent relationships. All this categorization have as a result collateral damages with their nurturing as human beings generating marital struggles some of them emerging by cultural conditioning and others by socioeconomic status as the primary causes of women- wife assaults. (Thompson-Wichitranon & Phongwet, 2000; Promrak, 2007; Phuaen Ying Foundation, 2005).

The emphasis above can be summarized as follows. Most violence against spouses is committed by husbands towards wives. The physical, psychological, and sexual assaults on women are done to exhibit the male power's and to force the woman to comply with what he wants her to do or not to do without considering her personal rights. The husbands use different forms and levels of severity which can take the form of physical attacks, causing physical wounds ranging from minor to more serious ones, or even death if weapons are used. Physical assaults not only hurt physically but also psychologically the person's way of life. This referred as a 'violence' not only means physical assault which could yield psychological wounds as well, but also means verbal assaults like cursing, speaking sarcastically, and ridiculing with sarcasm. Additionally, there is violence not conducted through physical or verbal assaults, but by the husbands' behavior which causes psychological wounds such as adultery, or having mistresses and extramarital affairs. These result in psychological pain and eventually the use of verbal, physical and psychological assaults that do harm to physically well-being, psychological functions and verbally harmony.

Causes and Characteristics of Violence against Spouses

Violence against spouses who have conflicting characteristics can lead to domestic problems: divided households, mental health issues, economic and social

problems. These various problems if chronic, serious and left unattended can hinder national development. Conflicts can be caused by many of the following factors (Straus & Gelles, 1989; Hemmanad; Laeheem, 2014):

1. Risk time. Each day many spouses are together for long hours, so the opportunities for violence to happen are amplified compared to other groups of people, even those who have to spend a lot of time together, such as colleagues.

2. Scope of activities and interests. Normally people interact depending on their nurture targeting social pace, but in this case we are focusing in the variety of social activities where we can find different obstacles that we must face in order to survive this new kind of modern society.

3. Intensity of the relationship. Since a husband and wife have an intimate relationship, they feel more disturbed when one of them does wrong than when other people do. The intensity of conflicts is related to the level of closeness between the people, which will be more intense than that between strangers because each partner will try to conceal his or her displeasure and after some time, the emotion becomes more severe and eventually reveals itself. When that time comes, the matter may not be confined to the cause of the problem, but may encompass other issues as well. The closer the relationship, the more emotional an individual becomes and the harder it is to express displeasure and eventually the higher the tendency to suppress the feeling. If the suppression of feeling continues for a long time, it becomes necessary to let it out.

4. Activities that may clash. Activities of spouses are zero sums—when one gains, the other will lose. Conflicts can occur when the activities of each person want to do are not in concordance with each other, for example, one of them wants to go to the cinema but the other wants to do sport activities. Or it could be because each has his/her own habits and routines like one being untidy, leaving things around while the other has to pick them up.

5. Rights to specify behavior. Marriage partners have the right to specify each other's behavior. Hence, dissatisfaction with the other's behavior can be overblown to the state of trying to change his/her behavior.

6. Differences in age and sex. A married couple often consists of persons of different gender and age and so they are likely to have a different views and cultures, coming from the difference between cultures involving the husband, wife, parents, and children.

7. Inherent roles. Sexual equality as specified by a society is based on the differences between social environmental issues and biological factors. In a society which emphasizes equality between genders, sexual discrimination in a relationship that has a high tendency to get into conflicts. However, even when there is none of the above mentioned, there is still a high level of latent conflicts.

8. Personal space between husband and wife. In many societies, rules and regulations specifying relationships between spouses often turn into a wall preventing the society from stepping in to control the situation and solve the problem. The nuclear family format in industrial towns is the clearest example.

9. High levels of stress. The relationship between spouses can be unstable because of many factors. Generally, a dyadic relationship has a tendency to be unstable. Moreover, the spouses have to face major structural changes which are natural in the family life cycle, for example, birth, children reaching maturity, children's development at each stage of life, ageing, and retirement, etc. These changes greatly affect the spouses' feelings and make them more stressed than other groups of people. Physical assault on wives can first happen at any stage of the time they live together.

In addition, research in Thai context revealed that were three main reasons for violence against women. (Parimutto, 2010; Kanchanakun, 1997; Kaewfan, 2007; Daen-khunthod, 2011; Sanprasit et al., 2010; Puawongpaet, 1994).

Nowadays in daily life are many aspects to check on such as the personality of an individual, habit differences, social molding, or perhaps those characters inherited from their families. Husbands can be abusive, quick-tempered, aggressive, and addicted to substances such as alcohol. Lack of economic support, quality of life, mutual comprehension and misunderstanding of responsibilities can affect the entire family prospects to achieve their goals. Therefore if a family have those issue mentioned above can carry a variety of misunderstanding and non-desirable conflicts generating clashes between the couples because unusual things came up such as adultery, domestic

disturbance, and all this will or can lead to physical assaults, disputes, complex behaviours, etc. So the whole concept of family can be ruined and dissolved in a separation or divorce leaving behind good opportunities to live as one.

Impacts of Violence against Spouses

The negative effect using violence against spouses will determine if he/she will be able to keep carry on with the obstructed relationship if they don't accept a peaceful mutual agreement the result will be so complex to manage from both sides. Besides physical wounds that need to be treated, assaults also cause psychological wounds hidden inside the assaulted all their life. This psychological illness is usually not treated. Second are the impacts on family. Violence against spouses has bad effects on family members, especially will have an emotional impact on the children that they are raising up, and would be directly and seriously affected. They will have a negative picture of family relationships and that will result in undesirable life quality. They can become aggressive, recalcitrant and pay no attention to their studies. Children exposed to violence in their family are not emotionally normal because they will start developing stress, depression and anxiousness and the children's behavior inside and outside their homes will be totally undesirable by their surroundings. In short terms the children will start feeling isolated and perhaps this kid will have emotional limitations causing a nonsocial pattern. They will absorb the violence showed by their conflicted parents provoking psychological issue with themselves and the ones close to them. From the study of straggling children, child drug addicts and child thieves and bullies, it was found that they usually come from families with domestic violence issues. Divorce is one way a wife can retaliate against her husband for the physical assault he has inflicted. It is considered the most decisive way to end the domestic violence. For those who cannot divorce because their husbands refuse to do it, they have to tolerate the situation and look for the long term solution. Sometimes they turn to religion, hoping that when their husbands get older, their violent behavior will decrease. Third are the impacts on society and community. Domestic violence causes both economic and social problems—neglected elderly people, drug addiction, neglected children, quarrelling, cursing and fighting in the family which annoy neighbors and disturb the community peace. If a husband and wife separate or divorce; the children may run away and become homeless, causing another social problem. The economic effects can be seen in the enormous expenses needed

in solving the problems, whether they are health care, social welfare or the loss of production that the people involved in the violence may yield (Ward et al, 2001; Wolfe et al., 2003; Shipman et al., 1999; Hemmanad, 1990; Puawongpaet, 1994; Kanchanakun, 1997; Sriprasert, 2005; Promrak, 2007).

Research Methodology

The overall objective of this investigation on the effects caused by some Thai Muslim men to their spouses in Satun Province focus on the study and data gathered from January 2014 to December 2014. Applying in-depth interviews having as a key informants partitioned groups. The first group was comprised of fifteen wives that had a problem related to family violence, specifically those that experienced their husbands' violent behaviors and were admitted to a hospital, or those that had filed a complaint to the police, or asked for assistance from the One Stop Crisis Center (OSCC). All of these were purposively recruited for this study. The researcher asked for collaboration from any related sectors and persons to help gather the data. The data were gathered from six of those that were admitted to the One Stop Crisis Center, six parents of students that were reportedly involved in family violence, and three of those that asked for assistance from Border Patrol Police Sub-division 436. The second group was comprised of fifteen individuals that had a close relationship with the spouses involved in using violence in their families, such as their parents and relatives. The third group was comprised of five authority figures from the One Stop Crisis Center in Satun Province. The data gathered were preliminarily analyzed according to the categories of the research issues. After that they were analyzed through content analysis.

Results and Discussion

The data collected from the first stage showed us that the violence against Thai Muslim spouses had in a fundamental social effect that made me realize and expose six main aspects. Including:

1. The wife is physically and psychologically injured

A wife that becomes a victim of violence committed by her husband can be physically injured as a result of severe assaults such as thrusting, slapping, hitting,

punching, smashing, yanking, throwing things, and also physically assaulted until they become severely injured by weapons and sharp items that directly affect the body of the victim. In the case of Mrs. Rose, who said that her husband is bad-tempered and fussy, during severe disputes normally assaulted her, including slapping, kicking, hitting her with wooden sticks and slashing her use in a knife. For Anwanee's case, she stated that she always is harshly blamed and criticized and if her husband gets extremely angry, he would assault her more severely for example slapping, kicking, punching, hitting her with wooden or metal sticks and stabbing her with a knife. For Mrs. Wannee, she stated that she was hit with wooden sticks, slapped, kneed, and elbowed until near death twice and the most severe instance occurred when her husband hit her with a wooden stick in the middle of her head and the injure were so severe that she needed medical treatment. In some cases, a wife was indirectly affected by having a chronic illness, as in the case of Mrs. Mareeya, who mentioned that the result of a lengthy assault caused her tendonitis and scoliosis as well, and her body is still having pain. Moreover, wives that are assaulted are normally mentally affected most of the time with "PTSD" (post-traumatic stress disorder) Although it is an invisible wound, it causes tremendous pain to the victim, including depression disorders, feeling that life has not a good meaning anymore. Having suicidal tendencies, and being embarrassed and avoiding companion. We can take the case of Mrs. Lamai as an example. She stated that her husband assaulted her and it worsened her mental condition. She had headaches and became having dizziness and vomiting from stress until she needed to see a psychiatrist to treat the symptoms through psychological consulting and the intake of antidepressants medication.

According to the above examples, it is clear that the spouses that were assaulted and affected; both physically and psychologically. In terms of physical effects, barehanded attacks or from any equipment regarded as a weapon leads to violent injury inflicted on the wife. We can't denied that these attacks are acts of desperation created by external factors so as : lack of find a job, poor social security, social inequality, education, government selfishness, racism, social class based on socio-economic status, and much more that we can keep on mentioning without doubts.. In terms of psychological violence, the experience caused passive women to be sad and to lose their freedom. In addition to all those topics already mentioned above, a husband usually

assault his wife because being under pressure and feeling without much hope to raise a family this individual (husband) will target his spouse or children as a kind of pressure releasing and then transform that internal anger into something evil for the eyes of the rest of people without those relevant external factors. (Archawanitkul & Im-am, 2003; Promrak, 2007). The victims of violence normally get injured, and the injuries range from minimal to widely injuries such as bruises, swelling, muscles pain or bones deformities caused by the brural attacks, broken noses, jaws, arms, bruises or a torn internal organs and having severe injuries that lead to the victim get ER admission in the nearest hospital for treatment. In some cases these victims can't get this medical attention because when they arrived to the hospital unfortunately they already passed away. Besides this, there are psychological effects since the assaulted person will feel pained, depressed, fearful, powerless, lonely, weak, and lose self-esteem, which may lead to the loss of consciousness (Triemchaisri, 2001; Kungsakon & Pojam, 2008; Laeheem, 2014).

2. Family Unrest

Refers to the social conditioning, the integration, the job market, the attitude towards some patterns coming from immigration issues and the diversity of cultural values. In general families segregated areas suffering from social disorders are characterized by socio-economic vulnerability and high unemployment sometimes ended with family violence. At the company level, they reflect the attitudes and cultural values of the community. The spouses affected in the local communities at Satun Province. In the case of Mrs. Mareeya I could see that she was married for about fifteen years. Since Mareeya got married she decided to move to her husband's house where she shared her life with her husband close relatives. Until she found that his lovable Muslim husband was addicted to drugs consuming killing cocktails such as amphetamine, heroin, cocaine and other associate drugs to "Volatile Social Abuse" (VSA). When Mareeya's husband was under drugs effects he started having insane quarrels with her and even he attacked his own children, so in long term having this kind of daily assault in daily bases. Because his religion he got into polygamy having a "Mistress" and this overloaded the situation and Mareeya got attacked again, but this time he was aiming to kill her using a Thai axe fortunately when threw the axe to her he missed

the target thanks to Allah. Involving himself more acts of crime. The case of Mrs. Arsana, she stated that her “husband likes to drink alcohol with his friends and the neighborhood usually when he come back home obviously drunk! He just started getting really violent with anyone around him especially with me (Mrs. Arsana). The first time, when I fought back my husband I realized that I must back off and avoid him at any cost I tried to talked to him about the situation and he needed to slow down consuming alcohol, but he denied my peaceful advise and he just overreacted using violent assaults my person verbally and physically I had a tolerance by leading Islam conditions to console myself and get better. In the thesis statement of Nakapadungrat (1999), she expressed that if a couple involved in a gradual relationship can be affected by misunderstandings provoking a sequence of violent situations where normally the husband or partner unleash a variety of assaults against his wife having as a result mental, spiritual, physical, and psychological unrest in her spouse and family.

3. Divorce

Divorce is one of the effects of interrupted peace of mind between husband and wife. The violence scale is more frequent and intense where the wife chooses a divorce as the last solution to terminate the uncomfortable situations in her marital status. In the case of Mrs. Jhan, she stated the following: “My husband and I have a quarrel regularly and he always hurt me. I cannot handle this any longer and I decided to get divorce at the end.” In the case of Mrs. Wee she made the following statement: “My husband and I, we really struggled during our marriage. I wanted to divorce but I could not do it because my children were the most important reason to keep my marriage going on.” In the case of Mrs. Noi we can state a difference situation as follows on the other hand stated the following: “My ex-husband and I lived in different places. He is a rubber tapper at Betong, Yala Province. He used to come to me some days a month and bring some money in order to raise the family. When I knew that he was cheating on me, he started showed a weird behavior with me and he disappeared for a period of three mouths without giving any kind of his signals of his whereabouts. One day I decided to go to his workplace and I found him with his mistress that he met during those three months that he did not come back home. I could not accept it. On the second time I came to him, and he blamed on me. We had an argument and he overreacted

hitting me on my face, so after that happened I decided to get the divorce. He accepted, but under the Islamic religious conditions". In the case of Mrs. Rose, she indicated the following: "My husband is a jealous person and look at me always as I was dating difference men and perhaps thinking too much about this situation, that his own mind was creating. On the other hand, I also look at him suspiciously that probably he was dating his ex-wife. We got into an argument. He is a hot-tempered man and easily gets angry when we are having verbal argument, and bit by bit he starts getting violent and vulgar. He physically assaulted me and made critical wounds on my body using a sharp knife. We already have been divorced twice, but he convinced me to come back to our relationship twice and I did accept his petition. Under Islamic religious conditions, the husband is able to get divorce three times in his life. If this condition is not follow it as it is under Islamic laws, the men will not be entitled to get back with his wife. If they want to return together, she must get marry with another man and divorces him in order to come back with her ex-husband." Mrs. Sorfeeyha said the following: "My husband respected my religion before married me. After he married me, he became a Muslim because the Islamic religious conditions stated in order to get married, but he is still going to the club to have some drink and sing a song at the karaoke places under effects of alcohol. In our earliest married stage we always use to go to together but, we always in end up having a quarrels. After that he was indifferent to me and he did not say anything or have any answer to my questions. I felt awkward until I get divorce." which conforms to the findings of Promrak (2007), In this publication she pronounced herself about divorce saying "The divorce is the last solution where a woman can terminate the violence suffered during her unhappy marriage, and those who are not able to get divorce they must learn to live in that hostile environment trying to find alternative solutions to their damaged marriage. Sometimes they must rely on religious principles with the hope that her husband went he will get older his violent behaviour may decrease. Hence, it is clear that spouses that experience regular violence are not able to build a stable family as relationships among the members who relationship are damaged, and the family leader, wife, husband or parents cannot perform their duties properly. Family unrest exists because the members are indifferent to each other, and there is often a lack of love, harmony and trust among members. This sort of family cannot live in a normal society, and may end up in a divorce, which directly affects children and it is

likely that they may imitate the forms of violence in many ways with their future families. (Triemchaisri, 2001; Kungsakon & Pojam, 2008; Laeheem, 2014).

4. Impact on Children

There are negative and positive results in children with broken or unstable families. Children that are witnesses of violence among their parents are more possibly encouraged to pay full attention to school or any other studies and behaving well in order to relieve the difficulties of the mother that has been assaulted. In the case of N, a girl, she said that she had witnessed her mother being assaulted for as long as she could remember, and she was highly sympathetic to her mother, but she was unable to help her. What she was able to do was to try to behave herself well, study hard, and pay close attention in the school class until she obtained a school scholarship so as to please her mother. She believes that studying will bring her a bright future and can provide her an opportunity to take her mother away from her father careless behavior. As well, Mrs. Arsana mentioned her son and that he was joyful and diligent, although he knows that his parents have difficulties with their relationship. When he sees his parents having loud verbal conflicts what he does is just keep himself away going and staying in his relative's place. Concerning the negative result, on the contrary, N stated that her younger brother becomes isolated, never talks to strangers, and his studies are always discontinued as he frequently has to change schools. His damaged feelings and emotions slow down his abilities to learn, and his interact with others. When their father gets drunk, she and her brother were always get assaulted. The effect on children were presented negatively and positively, conforming to the findings which indicate that children that experience violence reflected by their parents they will be affected and that is generally the results why the children start getting stress, depression, anxious, so children get emotionally affected showing problem with their behavior as result from their assaulted and unattended lives. (Shipman, Rossman, & West, 1999; Ward, Flisher, Zissis, Muller, & Lombard, 2001; Wolfe, Crooks, Lee, McIntyre-Smith, & Jaffe, 2003)

The problem regarding violence against spouses directly affects children's behaviour, which are caused by observing and analyzing their primary leading role models such as their own parents, so these children apparently follow their surroundings and nurture. Children are vulnerable to any kind of emotional discrimination shown

particularly by their parents or people around them. Abdul is an example of this kind of emotional disregard. So unfortunately Abdul did something that he didn't want to do, but in order to protect his mother from his father's violence he had to fight against his own father, but of course this kid had limited power, so sometimes he just run away from home heading to his friend's house where he could find shelter. His mother also mentioned that family problems caused Abdul serious mental disorders converting him in a "Bully Boy" against his own willingness. In the case of Harun, he stated that his parents assaulted each other like boxers. Knees, elbows and fists were employed as physical weapons and each fight. Moreover, any nearby objects were also used as fighting tools, such as chairs, wood, pots or anything within the area. Neither would yield and they would continue fighting until they get tried or ran away. Neighbors did not dare to interfere because they saw this situation as a normal daily life. He had seen this kind of behavior since he was a young boy to the point that he felt ambivalent about it. However, he sometimes felt depressed and bored because of it. This next case is about Sharif and this kid pointed that his parents normally fight each other as a usual routine, but he indeed felt like he was the problem. Because Sharif could observed that all those quarrels between his parents were because of his behaviour. Having his father always complaining to his mother that she was not capable to nurture Sharif as the way that he wished.

The research suggests that parents committing violence cause to their offspring to learn and imitate behavior and are likely to commit violence with their surroundings, and when they dispute with friends they tend to employ violence as a solution to get rid of the problem (Bandura, 1976; Gelles & Straus, 1979). Children that witness their parents assaults will be encouraged to absorb and imitate the violence until they become adults and tend to commit violence with their own spouses and offspring in a near future (Laeheem, 2014). People that experience violence both directly and indirectly as a perpetrator, a victim, or an observer since they were young tend to develop acceptable behaviour in using violence from violent people, and once they faced those violent disagreements among their parents or somebody else in their surroundings, the individual will imitate those behavior by addressing the situation using violence as a defence or attacking (Gelles & Straus, 1979). People with experience of family violence where parents that blame and assault each other or their children see their siblings

dispute regularly and become more likely to commit violence against to their spouses, than those that have never experienced violence, and this violence will increase (O'Leary & Williams, 2006). This idea also concurred in the research findings of Stets, 1990.

5. Hampering Activity Performance

A wife that has suffered from a husband's violence her daily life activities will be affected, which interrupts her activity performance. Escaping reality hiding herself from the actual problem it will not help her to overcome the situation, rather will immerse her thoughts into a variety of moral dilemmas, and pass for a period of "psychological episodes". And perhaps this individual will start incurring to commit suicide. In the case of Mrs. Lamai, she indicated the following: "My groom made a marriage proposal to my parents, and once I got married with him at first everything was marvelous, but...being serious about this relationship at that time, I did not like him actually I did like another man. Even I took the risk to get married with him knowing that he had already two children with his ex-wife. During married he is still going to date with ex-wife and he started living a double life, with me and his ex-wife. I did not accept and we had a quarrel about this uncomfortable situation and then he started punishing himself physically. Seven months ago, he threw a knife to her wife's head injuring her and she took medical attention where she needed five stitches on her head in order to heal the bloody wound. I got depressed and went to see a psychiatrist after that I escaped to live with my sister in Malaysia and after that I came back home." In the particular case of Mrs. Suni we found that she met her actual husband when she graduated from year 9 and without having much life's experience, she had her first baby at the age of sixteen. Being an underage she couldn't have a job to help the relationship and support her newborn kid, obviously her young partner was and unemployed as well. My husband always assaulted me from the beginning and showing more violence using his bare hands to hit me until he could get satisfied, even he used any kind of tool to make physical damage on me. I cried all day and night and I have been carry on with this abrupt relationship for fifteen years, I am 31 years now. From the right beginning I tolerate all Islamic conditions and one particular condition says that I must respect my husband not matter what. I have never been at the Mosque to try to do some spiritual meditation, but this did not really bother me at all. Until I decided to escape from home looking for new opportunities away from my husband.

From the above case studies, it can be seen that if a couple suffers from violence it will interrupt their normal life activity performance. This kind of individual will create in their mind social awareness concerning about that she is in the risk to get sexual abuse, emotionally unstable, isolation from the rest of people, and perhaps they can express antisocial patterns. Therefore this individual will start a refracted life that generates comparitions between her past life and their current life, so they will be push to undergo upon their good expection to reach a quality of life. The adversities carried by this female individuals it really has a social impact that can be seen as nuisance by others living in a normal and straight society, and sometimes being refuse to come back to a normal social state by those showing disregard to them (Walker, 1979; Srisorachatr, 2001; Hmunkaew 2003).

6. Annoying the Neighbors

Every time spouses commit violent behavior against each other through disagreement and verbal dispute, the result affects neighbors until they become unhappy, disturbed, and annoyed to the point where they undeniably perceive the events negatively. However, as the spouse is a fundamental unit of the family and the family is the smallest unit in society, once spouses have problems, society is consequently faced with difficulty. Loud verbal disputes can disturb others without them knowing, because they are out of control. As in the case of Raida's neighbors who frequently was assaulted by her husband having as a result of it really loured fights, the husband regularly got drunk and acted wildly towards his wife, and sometimes she would tremble with shock from the screams. Initially, she felt sympathetic, yet now she was annoyed. For Miss Mali also stated that her neighbors always quarreled late at night, until 2 or 3 in the morning, frequently yelling at each other. She used to warn them to keep their voices down since that was considered as social disturbance for most of the neighborhood. She suffered of insomnia, felt agitated and perturbed without knowing what to do about it. In the case of Ms. Mai, she mentioned that she was extremely bothered since a neighboring husband would normally hold parties almost every night, later the wife would start to curse of course under the effects of alcohol, and soon afterward they would brawl and assault each other. All of the neighbors in the area were annoyed, agitated, and wished they would move out very soon.

This cases of domestic violence according to the study results that mention that violence against spouses in the families, including quarrels, cursing, and outrage, is always committed in a situation that bothers neighbors and causes community unrest (Triemchaisri, 2001; Kungsakon & Pojam, 2008). The impact on the community and society includes cursing and physical assaults within the family, which also affects the neighbors and increases problems in society as the family institute collapses (Hongthong, 2000; Opitagchewin, 2008). In terms of social interference, women normally offer a hand to their counterparts in order to bring them out of the violence, while men normally refuse to interfere in their friends' problems, since the majority has the idea that it is an individual's issue. Public health volunteers think that spouses with regular problems are familiar with the difficulties and that they are able to solve the problem themselves, whereas community leaders are focused on developing the community in order to reduce violence against spouses (Intarajit & Karinchai, 1999; Srisorachatr, 2001).

Table 1: The Basic Information of a Case Study

No.	Pseudonym	Age	Characteristics of Violence	Causes	Impact
1.	Mrs. Noi	30	- unfaithful - quarrelling - physical violence	- adultery - Infidelity	- divorce
2.	Mrs. Rose	45	- sensitive issue over the third person - uncomfortable relationship - Mrs. Rose's husband normally assaulted her physically using bare hands or any other tool that could make any dangerous wound such as a knife or hard stick	- adultery - jealousy	- divorce - physically injuries
3.	Mrs. Sorfeena	25	- her husband way of life drinking so much alcohol induced him to commit several physical attacks to her - indifference show by her husband	- infidelity - alcohol consumption of her husband	- divorce

Table 1: The Basic Information of a Case Study (continued)

No.	Pseudonym	Age	Characteristics of Violence	Causes	Impact
4.	Mrs. Sorfeeyha	25	- domestic violence - indifference from her husband	- alcohol consumption of her husband	- physically and psychologically injuries
5.	Mrs. Jhan	27	- violent language and arguments - domestic violence	- adultery	- divorce - physically and psychologically injuries
6.	Mrs. Angsana	40	- violent language and arguments - serious degree of domestic violence	- involuntary marriage	- physically and psychologically injuries - sign of depression during the early stage of violence - her son showed good behavior in desire to ease his mother
7.	Mrs. Anwanee	50	- violent language and verbal assaulting from her husband - serious degree of physical trauma resulting from several assaults: some by hard objects.	- adultery	- physically injuries
8.	Mrs. Wannee	57	- head trauma: a blow to the head by hard objects - violent language - several physical assaults by her husband	- involuntary marriage	- severe physical injuries - psychological disorder

Table 1: The Basic Information of a Case Study (continued)

No.	Pseudonym	Age	Characteristics of Violence	Causes	Impact
9.	Mrs. Arsana	28	- drinking problem with neighbors - turn abusive after drinking	- husband consumes alcoholic drinks	- needs to send the child away - loudness and noise affecting the neighborhood
10.	Mrs. Lamai	48	- she was in love with another man before marriage - her husband had a double life - violent language - domestic abuse - A blow to the head by a knife, resulting a head injury with 5 stiches.	- involuntary marriage - jealousy	- nausea from stress - the intake of medical prescriptions for depression disorder - she fled from home to live with her sister in Malaysia
11.	Mrs. Iris	20	- drug abuse - Violent language and arguments when she used to leave home - indifference from her husband - Wife physically assaults husband with broomstick. - Money shortage - young-adult marriage, resulting in impulsive behavior and emotional actions	- the lack of readiness in living a family life - husband consumes alcoholic drinks and abuses her after taking addictive substance	- divorce

Table 1: The Basic Information of a Case Study (continued)

No.	Pseudonym	Age	Characteristics of Violence	Causes	Impact
12.	Mrs. Anna	24	- her husband hit her head using a chair - her husband created a trauma to the abdomen using an iron bar	- adultery	- medical attention - signs of stress and depression - ending their relationship by getting divorced
13.	Mrs. Suni	31	- a run-away couple at the age of 16 - lack of employment - physical assaults with hard objects.	- the lack of readiness in living a family life	- seeking of spiritual peace without having any good result - escaped from home
14.	Mrs. Wee	50	- severe physical abuse throughout her marriage	- involuntary marriage	- physical assaults - mental effects on the child
15.	Mrs. Mareeya	32	- drug abuse; such as the consuming of amphetamines and cocaine - domestic violence caused by addiction - physical assaults with hard objects - A blow to the wife's head using a hunting knife by her husband - Husband's infidelity - Child abuse	- husband consumes alcoholic drinks and abuses of addictive substances - adultery - the lack of readiness to manage a family matters	- personal support - medical attention to treat especially her illnesses such as tendinitis and scoliosis to her deformed hands and hurt spine - chronic body ache and pain - signs of depression and isolation - suicidal tendency - the lack to get the right to social security because she had some documentation issue

Conclusion and Recommendations

The analysis of the impacts of violence against Thai Muslim spouses six main aspects concluded as it follow:

1. The wife is physically and psychologically injured: the wife that falls victim to violence committed by her husband will be physically injured from a severe kind of assaults, from thrusting, slapping, hitting, punching, smashing, yanking, throwing things and physical assault until severely injured by weapons and sharp items which affect the body of the victim directly. Furthermore, wives that are assaulted are normally mentally affected. Although it is an invisible wound, it still causes a tremendous amount of pain to the victim, including depressive disorders, suicidal tendencies, embarrassment, and segregation from people. In this case, supporting the victims is what all concerned sectors should seriously take into account, reducing the belief that spouses' issues are best left as a private issue. By doing this, it obstructs the opportunity for those victims to receive assistance. Providing physical treatment should be accompanied with psychological treatment, especially for those that are severely assaulted, in which case constant treatment is urgently needed. The community should arrange volunteers to assist, advice, and take care of victims in order for them to get immediate support.

2. Family unrest: the violence against spouses has considerable effects on the family, as when spouses use violence against each other, children, and other family members that are indirectly affected. For example, children may absorb the violence in the family and other members may be accidentally assaulted. Therefore, spouses should make regular attempts at mutual understanding and spend time doing activities together, as today's social roles and responsibilities force people to be away from family members. If the loosening of a relationship continues, indifference will replace intimacy and problems will ultimately occur.

3. Divorce: divorce is the effect of the wife's decision to terminate the family violence. Divorce is the last solution that a wife chooses because she has tried her best to take good care of the family, and worries about the effect that divorce will have an impact on their children. Therefore, a couple should consider solving the problem of violence before the problem extends to divorce. If the problem of violence in the family cannot be solved, divorce is a solution to end the problem. Society should give a chance it

women who have been victim of violence and terminated by a divorce. Nowadays, women in society have an important role in earning a living and looking after their children.

4. Impacts on children: the problem regarding violence against spouses directly influences children's actions, which are caused by education from and observation of role models and those children employ violence against the surrounding people. Therefore, spouses should consider the subsequent effects of disagreements in front of their offspring completely. A calm and stable environment is normally a suitable way to nurture children, and once they are morally developed, they are likely to grow in responsibility and character.

5. Hampering activity performance: violence that happens in the family causes the hampering of the activity performance of the victim that is affected. A wife that has suffered from violence in both physical and emotional ways feels shy, wants to escape from other people, sees a psychiatrist to treat depression, lives with cousins or in a safe place, and cannot normally earn a good living. Therefore, the assistance of people close to those affected by violence is the most important issue. One Stop Crisis Center is one choice for people who was effected by violence, and this organization will give you some counselling and accommodation. Every single community needs to be assist when these individual suffer from any kind of violence and the government support must take rapid actions to reach the affected population.

6. Annoying the neighbors: every time spouses commit violent behavior against each other by quarreling, verbal disputes, it affect neighbors until they become agitated, disturbed, and annoyed to the point where they undeniably perceive the event negatively. However, creating a network to take care of people in the community may be a good way to provide advice and help to warn of any strange behaviors that may cause disturbance.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to the Research Fund, Faculty of Liberal Arts, and Graduate School, Prince of Songkla University, for supporting this project.

References

Archawanitkul, K. & Im-am, W. (2003). *Violence against women*. Bangkok: Institute for Population and Social, Mahidol University.

Bandura, A. (1976). *Social learning analysis of aggression*. In Ribesynes, E. & Bandura, A. (Eds). *Analysis of delinquency and aggression* (pp. 203-212). Hillsdale, NJ: Earlbaum.

Daen-khunthod, C. (2011). *Domestic violence: A study of wives being assaulted by husbands in Nakhon Ratchasima* (Unpublished master's thesis). Rajabhat Nakhon Ratchasima University, Nakhon Ratchasima.

Gelles, R.J., & Straus, R.A. (1979). *Determinants of violence in the family: Toward a theoretical integration*. In Burr, W.R., Hill, R., Nye, F.I., & Reiss, I.L. (Eds.). *Contemporary theories about the family* (Volume 1, pp. 549-581). New York: Free Press.

Hemmanad, H. (1990). *Family violence: The case of study low income husbands in municipal areas Muang district, Ubonratchathani province* (Unpublished master's thesis). Thammasart University, Bangkok.

Hmunkaew Supa. (2003). The study on violence against women: A case study of women who received Lat Krabang hospital services, Bangkok. (Miner thesis) Srinakharinwirot University, Bangkok.

Hongthong, D. (2000). Selected factors influence domestic violence against woman and the health consequences: Case study among woman in Phayao province (Unpublished master's thesis). Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand .

Intarajit, I. & Karinchai, N. (1999). *Women and children: The victim of domestic violence*. Bangkok: Institute of Psychology Hot Line.

Kaewfan, K. (2007). *Domestic violence: A case study of woman labor in factories in Saraphi District, Chiang Mai and violence against spouses* (Unpublished master's thesis). Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Kanchanakun, C. (1997). *A domestic violence: A study of wife battering* (Unpublished doctoral's dissertation). Srinakharinwirot University, Bangkok, Thailand.

Kongsakon, R. & Pojam, N. (2008). *Family violence*. Bangkok: Srinakharinwirot University.

Kongsakon, R. (2006). *Domestic violence*. Bangkok: Behavioral Science Research Institute, Srinakharinrawirote University.

Laeheem, K. (2014). Causes of domestic violence between Thai Muslim married couples in Satun Province. *Asian Social Science*. 10(21), 89-98.

Laeheem, K., Kuning, M., & McNeil, N. (2009). Bullying: Risk Factors Becoming 'Bullies. *Asian Social Science* 5(5), 50-57.

Nakapadungrat Sureemas. (1998). Relationship between Intra-Family Relation and Social Support of Family towards the Elderly: A Case Study of Senior Educators and Teachers Organization, Ministry of Education. Thesis, Master.Arts (Social Development). Interdisciplinary Graduate Program (Social Development). Kasetsart University.

O'Leary, K.D. & Williams, M.C. (2006). Agreement about acts of aggression in marriage. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 20, 656-662. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/0893-3200.20.4.656>

One Stop Crisis Center (OSCC). (2011). *Statistics of women and children seeking asylum at OSCC*. Bangkok: OSCC.

Opitagchewin, A. (2008). *The violence in families of immigrant female labor in Textile industry in Samutprakarn Province* (Unpublished master's thesis). Huachew Chalermprakiet University, Bangkok, Thailand.

Parimutto, A. (2011). *Family conflict solution applied from Theravāda Buddhism Dhamma* (Unpublished master's thesis). Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University, Bangkok.

Phuaen Ying Foundation. (2005). *Domestic violence in 2005*. Bangkok: Phuaen Ying Foundation.

Pradabmuk, P. (2003). *Family violence: State of the art review and research promoting system in the future*. Nontaburi: Health Systems Research Institute.

Promrak, T. (2007). *Women and domestic violence: Divorce as the solution* (Unpublished master's thesis). Thammasart University, Bangkok.

Puawongpaet, S. (1994). Thai family: The problems and solutions. *Journal of Public Welfare*, 37(6), 20-24.

Sanprasit, Y., Boonprakob, P., Kongsakon, R., & Intarakamhang, U. (2011). Domestic violence prevention model with participatory action of families and community: A case study of a community in Pathumthani province. *Journal of Behavioral Science*, 17(2), 19-36.

Shipman, K., Rossman, B., & West, J. (1999). Co-occurrence of spousal violence and child abuse: Conceptual implications. *Child Maltreatment*, 4, 93-102.

Sonkin, D.J., Martin, D., & Walker, L.A. (1985). *The male batterer: A treatment approach*. New York: Springer.

Sriprasert, P. (2005). *Family Violence: A Case of Wife Abuse*. (master's thesis). Kasetsart University. Bangkok, Thailand.

Srisorachatr, S. (2001). *Domestic violence: Socio-cultural perspective and social intervention in a Thai community* (Unpublished doctoral's dissertation). Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand.

Straus, M.A. & Gelles, R.J. (1989). *Physical violence in American families: Risk factors and adaptations to violence in 8,145 Families*. New York: Transaction books.

Thompson-Wichitranon and Phongwet. (2000). *Development of information systems and indicators of violence in Thailand*. Bangkok: Gender and Development Research Institute.

Triemchaisri, S. (2001). Violence against women: The effects of violence and its prevention. *The Journal of Nursing Science*, 50(1), 8-15.

Violence against Children and Women and Domestic Violence Information Center. (2013). *Annual report on domestic violence cases*. Retrieved on December 9, 2013 from <http://www.violence.in.th/violence/report/violence/report001.aspx>

Walker, Lenore, E. (1979). *The Battered woman*. New York: Harper Colophon Books.

Ward, C.L., Flisher, A.J., Zissis, C., Muller, M. & Lombard, C. (2001). Exposure to violence and its relationship to psychopathology in adolescents. *InjPre*, 7, 297-301.

Wolfe, D.A., Crooks, C.V., Lee, V., McIntyre-Smith, A., & Jaffe, P. G. (2003). The Effects of children's exposure to domestic violence: A meta-analysis and critique. *Clinical Child and Family Psychology Review*, 6(3), 171-187.

Yoddamnoen-Adtidge, B. (2005). *Violence against spouses and women's health*. Nakhon Pathom: Population and Social Research Institute, Mahidol University.