



Factors affecting domestic violence risk behaviors among Thai Muslim married couples in Satun province



Kasetchai Laeheem

Department of Educational Foundation, Faculty of Liberal Arts, Prince of Songkla University, Songkhla 90110, Thailand

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate factors affecting domestic violence risk behaviors among Thai Muslim married couples in Satun Province. The data were collected from 1,920 wives as representatives of families, and analyzed using the R program to find out frequencies, percentages, chi-square test, odds ratios, and logistic coefficients. The results revealed that 34.3 percent of Thai Muslim married couples in Satun Province had domestic violence risk behaviors, and the factors affecting domestic risk behaviors with statistical significance consisted of six variables, namely jealous wives, suspicious wives, drinking husbands, drug abusive husbands, being not ready to have one's own family, and lack of time for discussions. Married couples who had high domestic violence risk behaviors were those with wives who were regularly jealous, and those with wives who were occasionally jealous were 3.70 times, and 3.43 times more likely to have risk behaviors than those with wives who were never jealous; those with wives who were regularly suspicious, and those with wives who were occasionally suspicious were 3.19 times, and 1.76 times more likely to have risk behaviors than those with wives who were never suspicious; those with husbands who regularly drank, and those with husbands who occasionally drank were 2.14 times, and 1.41 times more likely to have risk behaviors than those with husbands who never drank alcohol; those with husbands who regularly used drugs, and those with husbands who occasionally used drugs were 1.86 times, and 1.39 times more likely to have risk behaviors than those with husbands who never used drugs; married couples who were not ready, and those who were moderately ready to have their own families were 1.79 times, and 1.44 times more likely to have risk behaviors than those who were very ready to have a family, and married couples who did not have time for discussions, and those who moderately had time for discussions were 1.72 times, and 1.47 times more likely to have risk behaviors than those who had a lot of time for discussions.

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Introduction

Domestic violence is a hidden problem prevalent in society all over the country. It is a complicated problem that is increasingly severe and difficult to prevent and solve even though it is a problem known among family members,

neighbors, and social members. It is a worrying problem that directly and indirectly affects quality of life, mental condition, emotion, and physical condition of victims and their family members. The victims are usually injured physically and mentally. They suffer, worry, feel frightened and stressed, and the incidents can become mental scars that always remain in their memory. For family members who witness the incidents, they might imitate such violent behavior because they think that problems can be solved

E-mail address: ikasetchai@yahoo.com.

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with violence (Laeheem, 2014c). Nevertheless, Thai society does not give much importance or pay much attention to the problem of domestic violence but looks at it as normal or personal matter for family members only, and other people should not interfere. This has made the problem difficult to prevent and to solve (Kanjanakul, 1997; Promrak, 2007).

Domestic violence is an intention to use force or power to threaten or hurt family members more severely than normal. It develops from conflicts and quarrels, and results in physical and mental injuries and losses of some rights. Domestic violence can be committed physically, verbally, and sexually such as forcing, threatening, beating, kicking, limiting, and obstructing the other party's rights and freedom (Intarajit & Karinchai, 1999; Laeheem, 2014c; Triemchaisri, 2001). It focuses on physical, sexual, mental abuses towards family members, especially between husbands and wives (Kongsakon & Pojam, 2008; Malley-Morrison, 2004). It is expressions related to conflicts and ill treatment more severe than usual between family members including expressions because of anger, fright, being apprehensive or lack of restraint that are expressed with a clear purpose to trouble and harm the victim that sometimes can cause death (Berkowitz, 1989; Corsini, 1999; Stuart, 1981). Most of the incidents are committed by husbands who want to display power and control their wives by injuring them physically, mentally and sexually, and to force and threaten their wives to do something for them (Hampton, Gullotta, & Ramos, 2006; Walker, 2001). Domestic violence affects families and society. For example, children whose parents use violence against each other might learn and absorb violence they have witnessed (Hemmanad, 1990; Puawongpaet, 1994). Another effect is on the government having to spend a large amount of budget on treatment of victims, providing advice to victims, implementing preventive measures and campaigning to terminate problems related to domestic violence (Kanjanakul, 1997; Puawongpaet, 1994). The victims are injured physically and mentally while their young children are affected mentally, have negative feeling towards family relationship, feel pressure from the situation, become aggressive, escape from home, and are not attentive in their studies. For parents, they may decide to separate and divorce (Laeheem, 2014c; Promrak, 2007; Siriwattana, 1995). Sometimes children are beaten and they see and remember the violence and think that all problems can be solved with violence. Children may be abusive towards their peers and their own pets, and when they grow up, they may become violent towards their own family (Klongpayabarn, 1999; Kongsakon & Pojam, 2008).

There are many factors or causes of domestic violence but some important ones include wives' being jealous and suspicious of their husbands' fidelity, husbands' alcohol and drug abuses, being unready in terms of maturity and finance for having a family, not having time to discuss and do family activities, and valuing male dominance and believing that males must be family leaders and have rights to own properties and to control behaviors of family members. Some studies found that jealousy and suspicions are the most important risk factors that cause domestic violence (Parimutto, 2011; Straus, 2001; Ua-amnoey, 2002). Drinking alcohol or drug abuse are other factors causing domestic violence. Husbands who drink alcohol and use drugs are very likely to commit violence against their wives

(Arpapirom, 2000; Banditwong, 2001; Klongpayabarn, 1999). Domestic violence is caused by the fact that husbands and wives are not ready physically, mentally, and not mature as well as not prepared to have a family which result in their being unable to adapt to each other. They have differences in their characters, attitudes, personality, finance, and their negligence of their role and responsibility (Khapolklang, Polnigongit, & Chamnongsri, 2014; Kongsakon & Pojam, 2008; Parimutto, 2011; Pongwech & Wijitranon, 2000). Additionally, other causes of domestic violence include husbands and wives' differences in their interest in doing family activities and having no time to care for each other. These cause uneasiness when being together, reduce closeness in family relationship, and as a result, they do not understand each other, and lack love and care for each other (Pradabmuk, 2003; Puawongpaet, 1994; Straus, 2001). Furthermore, husbands' belief in male dominance in the family, especially in their ownerships over the family's properties, their rights to manage the family in all aspects, and to control behavior of family members which may be shown in the form of domestic violence (Archawanitkul & Im-am, 2003; Punamsap, 2005; Songsumpan, 2002).

Therefore, it is essential to study factors affecting domestic violence risk behaviors among Thai Muslim married couples in Satun Province in order to investigate 11 interesting factors to see whether or not, and how these factors affect the use of domestic violence in Thai Muslim families in Satun Province. The study would be useful for all parties concerned so that they could apply the study results to prevent and provide help for married couples who have behaviors in using domestic violence. In addition, it would be useful for problem management domestic violence of behavior in other provinces or other parts of the country before the problem becomes more violent and becomes a social problem, in addition to help finding solutions to the problem in time.

Literature Review

Meanings of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is behavior showing an intention to use force or physical power to threaten or to harm others or to violate personal rights physically, verbally, mentally, or sexually by forcing, threatening, hitting, kicking, punching, limiting, and obstructing rights and freedoms in public or personal life. This can result in physical and mental suffering for the victim (Arpapirom, 2000; Berkowitz, 1989; Stuart, 1981; Supanichwatana & Laeheem, 2014). Domestic violence also refers to using force to harm family members physically, mentally, sexually or to harm life, and to violate rights and freedoms in various ways, which are unfair actions in order to get power to control over them or to make them yield (Corsini, 1999; Pakjekwinyusakul, Jamsutee, & Nettayasupa, 2003; Pongwech & Wijitranon, 2000; Punamsap, 2005). Domestic violence is incidents taking place between members of the family, and between couples inside and outside the home such as violence against children, wives, and the elderly, etc. with a purpose to hurt them physically, mentally, emotionally as well as to harm

their health, rights, and freedoms. This is done by misuse of force or power to make family members do or not do and accept the action (Laeheem, 2014c; Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, 2007; World Health Organization, 2002).

Types of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence can be classified according to the actions into three types as follows. Type 1 is physical violence, which refers to the use of force or a tool as weapon to hurt the victim such as pushing, slapping, hitting, punching, beating, jerking, squeezing the neck, throwing thing at, and injuring severely with a weapon or a sharp object, etc. Type 2 is mental violence, which refers to any action or ignoring to act which causes the victim sorrow or losing rights or freedoms by doing it verbally or through gestures and action such as verbal despising, satirizing, scolding, bawling, yelling, embarrassing, being indifferent, threatening, showing anger, etc. Type 3 is sexual violence, which refers to the incident when a husband abuses his wife, a father abuses his children, an elder relative such as a brother, an uncle, a grandfather abuses his younger relatives, etc. Such actions are usually sexual molestations or sex-related offenses. For example, the husband uses physical forces his wife to have sex with without caring about her pleasure. The husband forces his wife to sell or have sex with other men. A man rapes his own child or niece, etc (Archawanitkul & Im-am, 2003; Laeheem, 2014c; Oopyokin, 1995; Songsumpan, 2002; Suwannarat, 2002).

Causes of Domestic Violence

There are many factors related to causes of domestic violence. It can be concluded from various studies that there are five causes of domestic violence (Hemmanad, 1990; Kanjanakul, 1997; Klongpayabarn, 1999; Laeheem, 2014a, 2014c; Moser & Winton, 2002; Straus, 2001; Supanichwatana & Laeheem, 2014).

- 1) The length of time spent together—Each day family members spend time interacting with each other for many hours, so there are more opportunities for domestic violence to happen among them when compared with other groups of people with whom they also spend time much time such as colleagues and friends. This indicates that in addition to the length of time spent together, there are other factors related to it.
- 2) The scope of activities and interest—Interactions between other groups of people usually have specific purposes. However, interactions between family members cover a wider range of activities. Therefore, there are more chances for conflict and unexpected incidents to take place.
- 3) Childhood experiences of violence—Individuals' learning and absorption of violence from society and environments especially in childhood in a family that regularly uses violence, children can absorb violence and

use it. They would see that violence is normal and believe that problems can be solved with violence.

- 4) Social values and attitudes of surrounding people—Wrong beliefs about status with emphasis on male dominance that men must be heads of families and males' aggressiveness and violence are normal and macho. On the contrary, women must not be aggressive and violent because that is not what ladies should be. Good wives must be modest, humble, and patient, not haggle with their husbands, respect their husbands, obedient, and ready to serve their husband in all matters. Another belief is that husbands are owners of their wives and have rights to do anything with them even beating them for punishment, and their wives do not have the right to protest them. Moreover, other people should not interfere when husbands and wives quarrel because it is normal just like the tongue and teeth hitting each other. When fathers beat their children, they have the power to do it and other people should not pay attention to it. There is another belief that it is normal for married men to have sexual with other women but not for married women to do so because it is considered adultery, and such women are bad and nobody would want to be associated with.
- 5) In society without alertness to human rights that does not believe all human beings are equal in rights, it is normal for people in such society to see some people as having higher status and more rights than other people do. Women and children have a lower status than men have and thus have less rights, and this causes abuses against them and causes them to be taken advantage of. In society where violence is so widely used that it becomes normal and accepted, where the use of violent behaviors reflects advantage and becomes incentive for using more violence, and where environments have influence on violence, pressure, thought, people in such society will be aggressive and likely to commit more acts of violence.

Effects of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence incurs enormous economic burden to society in expenses of medical treatment, social welfare, counseling for victims, and implementations of preventive measures (Kanjanakul, 1997). Parents' quarrelling and injuring each other can affect children mentally, emotionally, and affect their learning as well because the beating and scolding usually link to children, too. Studies about vagrant children, drug-addicted children, and children who steal and injure others found that these children are generally from families that use violence (Hemmanad, 1990; Laeheem, 2014a, 2014c; Puawongpaet, 1994; Supanichwatana, 2015; Triemchaisri, 2001).

Research Methodology

Population and Subjects

The population of the research was Thai Muslim families in Satun Province. One person who was a wife from

each of 1,920 families was selected to give information using a survey and multi-stage sampling as follows. In stage 1, districts were selected using stratified sampling divided into three strata: large-size, medium-size, and small-size districts. These sizes were classified according to the number of population, and the criteria of the Department of Provincial Administration. Then two districts were selected from each size totaling six districts using simple random sampling. In stage 2, through simple random sampling, four sub-districts were selected from each district totaling 24 sub-districts. In stage 3, through simple random sampling, two villages were selected from each selected sub-district totaling 48 villages. In stage 4, which was the last stage, 20 families with domestic violence problems, and 20 families without domestic violence problems, totaling 1,920 families, were selected from each village by local Muslim leaders who were requested by the researcher.

Research Instrument

The research instrument was the Screening Inventory for Thai Muslim Spouses at Risk of Domestic Violence Behaviors in Satun Province developed by the researcher (Laeheem, 2014b), and has been tested for its quality and to be with normal criteria for results interpretation. The five rating scales are: 4 = Regularly (16 times or more); 3 = Often (11–15 times); 2 = Quite often (6–10 times); 1 = Once in a while (1–5 times); and 0 = Never. The target group was asked to determine the level of their spouse's behaviors during the last six months. These instruments was divided domestic violence into four aspects as follows.

Aspect 1: Physical abuse consisting of 14 question items on being kicked, hit, pushed by foot, beaten, shoved, slapped, hit by knee, hit by elbow, thrown at, bitten, pinched and scratched, getting hair pulled or snatched, strangled, and burnt with a cigarette butt. **Aspect 2: Emotional and mental abuse** consisting of 14 question items on being scolded, being bawled or yelled at, talked at rudely, ridiculed, insulted, talked at sarcastically, abandoned without financial help, receiving no attention and no love, being mocked, despised, oppressed, threatened, detained, and teased about disabilities/impairments. **Aspect 3: Sexual abuse** consisting of 10 question items about being forced to have sex when one does not want to, being forced to have sex the way one does not like, being forced to have sex in a place that one does not think appropriate, being forced to have sex when one is not well, being molested in front of others, being lewd in public, being forced to watch pornography, being forced to wear clothes that reveal parts of one's body, being forced to have one's photos taken naked, and being injured while having sex. **Aspect 4: Social abuse** consisting of 10 question items about being detained, being obstructed from socializing with friends, being obstructed from contacting relatives, being censored on telephone calls, being confined to the house, being prohibited from working outside the home, being restricted in participating in social activities, being obstructed from talking with neighbors, being forced to travel only with family, being forced to resign from work.

Data Collection

The researcher and experienced research assistants collected field data. The research assistants were mainly from the areas where data were collected. They were trained to have the same understanding of the data collecting method before they actually collected the data.

Research Variables

There were 11 determinants: feeling jealous of husband (never feel jealous, occasionally, regularly); feeling suspicious that husband is having an affair (never feel suspicious, occasionally, regularly); husband's drinking (husband never drinks, occasionally, regularly); husband's drug abuse (husband never uses drugs, occasionally, regularly); readiness to have a family (very ready, moderately ready, not ready); having a stable income before marriage (very stable, moderately stable, not stable); having time for discussions (having a lot of time, having enough time, having no time); having time to do family activities (having a lot of time, having enough time, having no time); husband's being dominant (husband regularly asserts dominance; occasionally, never); husband's ownerships of properties (husband regularly asserts his ownerships, occasionally, never); and husband's control over family members' behaviors (husband regularly shows that he is in control, occasionally, never), and the dependent variable was domestic violence risk behaviors (at risk, and not at risk).

Variable Measurement

1. The eleven variables of determinants were measured by finding means of the questionnaire and making them into standard scores or z-scores. After that they were divided into three groups where the cut points were set as follows. If the standard score was lower than -1.00, it meant that it was at a low level or never. If the standard score was from -1.00 to 1.00, it meant that it was at a moderate level or once in a while, and if the standard score was from 1.01 or more, it meant that it was at a high level or regularly.
2. Criterion variables were calculated by adding up the results of the measurement form and comparing them against the normal criteria of the screening inventory developed by the researcher. The criterion is that Thai Muslim married couples who are classified into the group with domestic violence were those whose score is from 118 or more (T56.15 or more).

Data Analysis

The data were analyzed using the R Program to determine the frequency, percentage, chi-square test, odds ratio test, and logistic coefficient.

Result

General Data of Domestic Violence Risk Behaviors and the 11 Determinants

The data collected from wives who were representatives of Thai Muslim married couples in Satun Province revealed

that most wives (43.4%) were regularly jealous of their husbands, followed by 29.7 percent of wives who were occasionally jealous of their husband, and 26.9 percent were never jealous of their husband. Almost half the number of the wives (46.6%) were never suspicious that their husband had an affair while 31.5 percent of the wives were regularly suspicious that their husband had an affair, and 21.9 percent felt occasionally suspicious that their husband had an affair. Nearly two-thirds of the subjects in the target group (63.0%) stated that their husbands never drank alcohol while 23.4 percent said that their husbands drank alcohol occasionally, and 13.6 percent said that their husbands regularly drank alcohol. Regarding drug abuses, more than two thirds of the subjects in the target group specified that their husbands never used drugs followed by 16.8 percent who said that their husbands used drugs occasionally, and 10.8 percent said that their husbands regularly used drugs.

Almost half the number of the subjects (48.2%) in the target group thought that their spouses were not ready to have a family while 32.1 percent thought that their spouses were fairly ready to have a family, and 19.7 percent thought that their spouses were very ready to have a family. In addition, nearly half of the subjects (47.0%) in the target group thought that before marriage, their spouses had an unstable income while 37.4 percent thought that their spouses had a moderately stable income, and 15.6 percent thought that their spouses had a very stable income. Moreover, almost half of the subjects (47.0%) in the target group said that they and their husbands did not have time for discussions while 42.1 percent said they had enough time for discussions, and 13.3 percent said they had a lot of time for discussions. Forty five percent of the subjects did not have time for doing family activities while 40.5 percent had enough time to do family activities, and 14.5 percent said they had a lot of time for doing family activities.

More than two-fifths of the subjects in the target group (43.5%) stated that their husbands occasionally asserted dominance while 39.2 percent said that their husbands regularly asserted dominance, and 17.3 percent said their husbands never asserted dominance. Forty six of the subjects said that their husbands occasionally asserted rights and ownerships of the properties followed by 36.4 percent of the wives who said their husbands regularly asserted rights and ownerships of properties, and 17.7 percent never asserted rights and ownerships of properties. Almost half the number of the subjects (46.9%) thought that their husbands occasionally asserted power and control over behaviors of their family members while 36.3 percent said their husbands regularly asserted power and control over behaviors of their family members, and 16.8 percent said their husbands never asserted power and control over behaviors of their family members.

In this study, the subjects were classified into two groups. One was a group with risk behaviors and the other was without risk behaviors. The data analysis revealed that 658 subjects or 34.3 percent of the total subjects were in the group with domestic violence risk behaviors.

Relationships Between Domestic Violence Risk Behaviors and the 11 Determinants

Table 1 shows the analysis results of the relationships between domestic violence risk behaviors and the 11 determinants, which were wives' jealousy, wives' suspicions, husbands' drinking alcohol, husbands' drug uses, readiness to have a family, a stable income before marriage, time for discussions, time for family activities, husbands' assertion of dominance, husbands' assertion of rights and ownerships of properties, and husbands' assertion of power and control over behaviors of family members. The results of the chi-square test revealed that eight determinants that had relationships with domestic violence risk behaviors among Thai Muslim married couples in Satun Province were: wives' jealousy, wives' suspicions, husbands' drinking alcohol, husbands' drug uses, readiness to have a family, time for discussions, time for family activities, and husbands' assertion of dominance.

Factors Affecting Domestic Violence Risk Behaviors

Table 2 shows analysis results of the final model of factors affecting domestic violence risk behaviors among Thai Muslim married couples in Satun Province. The binary logistic regression analysis revealed that six factors that significantly affected domestic violence risk behaviors were wives' jealousy, wives' suspicions, husbands' drinking alcohol, husbands' drug uses, readiness to have a family, and time for discussions. The residual deviance was 2181.8 in the degrees of freedom of 1907 and $p = .000$.

Married couples with wives who were regularly jealous and those with wives who occasionally jealous were 3.70 times (95% CI 2.79–4.93) and 3.43 times (95% CI 2.53–4.65), respectively, more likely to have domestic violence risk behaviors than those with wives who were never jealous. Married couples with wives who were regularly suspicious and those with wives who were occasionally suspicious were 3.19 times (95% CI 2.51–4.05) and 1.76 times (95% CI 1.34–2.31) more likely than those with wives who were never suspicious to have domestic violence risk behaviors.

Married couples with husbands who regularly drank alcohol and those with husbands who occasionally drank alcohol were 2.14 times (95% CI 1.58–2.90) and 1.41 times (95% CI 1.10–1.81), respectively, more likely than those with husbands who never drank alcohol to have domestic violence risk behaviors. Married couples with husbands who regularly used drugs and those with husbands who occasionally used drugs were 1.86 times (95% CI 1.35–2.58) and 1.39 times (95% CI 1.06–82) more likely than those with husbands who never used drugs to have domestic violence risk behaviors.

Married couples who were not ready to have a family and those who were moderately ready to have a family were 1.79 times (95% CI 1.34–2.40) and 1.44 times (95% CI 1.06–1.96), respectively, more likely than those who were very ready to have a family to have domestic violence risk behaviors. Married couples who did not have time for discussions and those who had enough time for discussions were 1.72 times (95% CI 1.22–2.43) and 1.47 times (95% CI

Table 1
Relationships between domestic violence risk behaviors and 11 determinants

Determinants	Domestic violence risk behaviors			Chi-square <i>p</i>	
	Not at risk (1,262)	At risk (658)	Total (1,920)		
Wives' jealousy			110.983*** .000		
Never	84.1	15.9	26.9		
Occasionally	62.5	37.5	29.7		
Regularly	56.6	43.4	43.4		
Wives' suspicions			70.198*** .000		
Never	73.6	26.4	46.6		
Occasionally	67.6	32.4	21.9		
Regularly	52.8	47.2	31.5		
Husbands' drinking alcohol			36.623*** .000		
Never	69.9	30.1	63.0		
Occasionally	63.1	36.9	23.4		
Regularly	50.8	49.2	13.6		
Husbands' drug uses			40.906*** .000		
Never	69.5	30.5	72.4		
Occasionally	60.9	39.1	16.8		
Regularly	48.1	51.9	10.8		
Readiness to have a family			22.371*** .000		
Very ready	75.7	24.3	19.7		
Moderately ready	65.3	34.7	32.1		
Not ready	62.0	38.0	48.2		
Stable income before marriage			3.933 .374		
Very stable	70.0	30.0	15.6		
Moderately stable	66.3	33.7	37.4		
Not stable	63.9	36.1	47.0		
Time for discussions			20.205*** .000		
Had a lot of time	77.3	22.7	13.3		
Had enough time	65.8	34.2	42.1		
Not have time	62.1	37.9	44.6		
Time for family activities			9.272** .009		
Had a lot of time	73.4	26.6	14.5		
Had enough time	65.6	34.4	40.5		
Not have time	63.4	36.6	45.0		
Husbands' being dominant			11.298* .035		
Regularly	69.4	30.6	39.2		
Occasionally	65.1	34.9	43.5		
Never	59.0	41.0	17.3		
Husbands' ownerships of properties			4.885 .087		
Regularly	68.5	31.5	36.4		
Occasionally	65.1	34.9	45.9		
Never	61.8	38.2	17.7		
Husbands' control over family members' behaviors			3.679 .159		
Regularly	67.6	32.4	36.3		
Occasionally	65.8	34.2	46.9		
Never	61.5	38.5	16.8		

p* < .05, *p* < .01, ****p* < .001

1.04–2.08) more likely than those who had a lot of time for discussions to have domestic violence risk behaviors.

Discussion and Conclusion

The results of the study revealed that the factors that significantly affect domestic violence risk behaviors among Thai Muslim married couples consist of six variables: wives' jealousy, wives' suspicions, husbands' drinking alcohol,

Table 2
Factors affecting domestic violence risk behaviors: the final model

Factors	Odds ratio	S.E.	95% confidence interval	<i>p</i>
Wives' jealousy				.000
Never	1			
Occasionally	3.43	0.16	2.53, 4.65	.000
Regularly	3.70	0.15	2.79, 4.93	.000
Wives' suspicions				.000
Never	1			
Occasionally	1.76	0.14	1.34, 2.31	.000
Regularly	3.19	0.12	2.51, 4.05	.000
Husbands' drinking alcohol				.000
Never	1			
Occasionally	1.41	0.13	1.10, 1.81	.007
Regularly	2.14	0.16	1.58, 2.90	.000
Husbands' drug uses				.000
Never	1			
Occasionally	1.39	0.14	1.06, 1.82	.017
Regularly	1.86	0.17	1.35, 2.58	.000
Readiness to have a family				.000
Very ready	1			
Moderately ready	1.44	0.16	1.06, 1.96	.020
Not ready	1.79	0.15	1.34, 2.40	.005
Time for discussions				.006
Had a lot of time	1			
Had enough time	1.47	0.18	1.04, 2.08	.031
Not have time	1.72	0.18	1.22, 2.43	.002

husbands' drug uses, readiness to have a family, and time for discussions. When compared with married couples with wives who are never jealous of their husbands, never suspicious that their husbands have an affair, husbands who never drink alcohol, never use drugs, couples who are very ready to have a family and who have a lot of time for discussions, married couples who are more likely to have domestic violence risk behaviors are as follows. Married couples with wives who are regularly jealous of their husbands (3.70 times); those who are occasionally jealous of their husbands (3.43 times); those who are regularly suspicious that their husbands have an affair (3.19 times), and those who are occasionally suspicious that their husbands have an affair (1.76 times). Married couples with husbands who regularly drink alcohol (2.14 times), and who occasionally drink alcohol (1.41 times); those with husbands who regularly use drugs (1.86 times), and those who occasionally use drugs (1.39 times). Married couples who are not ready to have a family (1.79 times), and those who are moderately ready to have a family (1.44 times); those who do not have time for discussions (1.72 times) and those who have enough time for discussions (1.47 times).

From the above study results, it can be seen that the factors that affect domestic violence risk behaviors most are wives' jealousy of husbands and suspicions that their husbands have an affair. This is because jealousy and suspicion are natural for humans who are jealous of the ones they love and this can cause suspicions and worries all the time that the ones they love might share their love with other women. This can result in wives' observations over husbands' behaviors, and wives' questioning their husbands regularly that makes their husbands irritated, annoyed and angry which can eventually lead to quarrels and physical assaults. [Ua-amnoey \(2002\)](#) and [White and Mullen \(1989\)](#) state that jealousy and suspicions are

major causes that make couples quarrel and physically harm each other resulting in mixed feelings of love and pain, sorrow, anger and fright amidst doubts, worries, and fear of losing loved one. It is also a state of love that is incited verbally and that is incited by abusive behaviors that causes the other party to be unable to control his or her emotion and becomes impatient, and as a result, domestic violence takes place. [Chotiratana \(1994\)](#), [Sithisisoradej \(1999\)](#), and [Straus \(2001\)](#) agree that jealousy and suspicions are frustrations that cause couples to use abusive behaviors and impolite verbal expressions that lead to physical assaults to release frustrations and alleviate unhappiness that have been accumulated for a long time. In addition, [Parimutto \(2011\)](#) and [Puawongpaet \(1994\)](#) specify that couples who display their jealousy and suspicions and use impolite and offensive verbal expressions that are so strong that they cause conflict and quarrels can eventually hurt each other physically. [Holtz and Safran \(1989\)](#) and [Moser and Winton \(2002\)](#) emphasize that jealousy and suspicions between husbands and wives are the beginning of destructive relationship; they do not trust, understand or care for each other any longer which lead to conflict that can become problems of domestic violence.

The factors of husbands' alcohol and drug abuses are factors that affect domestic violence risk behaviors among Thai Muslim married couples after jealousy and suspicions. This is because people who drink alcohol and use drugs usually feel drunk or drugged, lose their mind and cannot control themselves, which can lead them to use violence. [Holtz and Safran \(1989\)](#) and [Moser and Winton \(2002\)](#) found that alcohol and drug abuses are important risk factors that cause quarrels among husbands and wives who become aggressive, and assault each other physically. [Hongthong \(2000\)](#) also found that husbands who drink alcohol and use drugs are more likely to use violence than those who do not. Similarly, [Klongpayabarn \(1999\)](#) and [Sarakarn and Kammanat \(2009\)](#) state that consuming alcoholic drinks and drugs mixed in drinks can make drinkers over-excited; their speech is slurred; they cannot walk in a straight line; have trouble seeing properly; feel confused; cannot control themselves, become more aggressive, and more violent. Husbands who drink alcohol and use drugs are more likely to use violence against their wives 3.97 times than those who do not. Husbands' alcohol and drug abuses can predict accurately 66.2 percent of their violent actions against their wives. This corresponds with a study by [Arpapirom \(2000\)](#) and [Banditwong \(2001\)](#) that revealed that husbands' alcohol and drug abuses have significant relationships with behaviors in quarrelling and physically injuring their wives. Husbands who regularly drink alcohol and regularly use drugs are more likely to violently injure their wives than those who do not. Furthermore, [Intarajit and Karinchai \(1999\)](#), and [Tangkunburibun, Sawaengchareon, Thongbai, Saritsombat, and Chirapan \(2006\)](#) provided data that show families with husbands who regularly drink alcohol and use drugs are more likely to use domestic violence than those who occasionally, and who do not drink and use drugs.

Additionally, the factor of readiness in having a family, and the factor of having time for discussions between husbands and wives are factors that affect domestic violence

risk behaviors among Thai Muslim married couples in Satun Province but at a small rate. Nevertheless, readiness to have a family and having time for discussions are basic elements that contribute to making family happy and mitigating problems. To be ready physically and mentally as well as to have maturity before having a family, husbands and wives—to-be need to prepare themselves. For example, they can study and seek knowledge to understand the role of a husband and that of a wife towards each other and towards their children. [Kongsakon and Pojam \(2008\)](#), [Oopyokin \(1995\)](#), and [Puawongpaet \(1994\)](#) claimed that being not ready to have a family is an important cause for conflict and domestic violence. Such problems may stem from their attitudes and values on gender role and authoritative relationships in the family as recognized by society that males have authority over females. This can cause misunderstanding, lacks of love, care, acceptance of the spouse's behavior, and skill to adapt to each other, which lead to conflict, quarrels and physical assaults that eventually become domestic violence. [Hemmanad \(1990\)](#), [Parimutto \(2011\)](#), and [Pongwech and Wijitranon \(2000\)](#) found that couples who are different in their characteristics, character, attitudes and personality are more likely to have conflict, quarrels, and physical assaults, especially couples who do not understand and realize their role towards each other. These factors cause them to not understand each other, quarrel and physically hurt each other so much that they become problems of domestic violence. In addition, having no time for discussions can result in less understanding, sympathy, and opportunities for interactions and adaptation to each other. As a result, they are frustrated, worried, and feel stressed which may lead to severe quarrels and physical abuses. In the studies by [Coser \(1956\)](#), [Gells and Straus \(1979\)](#), and [Straus \(2001\)](#), time for discussions and family activities have causal relationships with domestic violence, especially for couples who focus on work and have no time for each other. When they do not have enough time for each other, they have less time to talk and understand each other and less time to interact, which can cause stress in the family and lead to quarrels and physical assaults. [Pradabmuk \(2003\)](#), [Puawongpaet \(1994\)](#), and [Sukhum \(1988\)](#) stated that the problem stemming from lack of time for each other among husbands and wives exists in society with technological development and affects relationships between husbands and wives in that they do not understand each other, do not care for each other and cannot adapt to each other which can lead to domestic violence.

The results of this study would be useful as one way of prevention and reduction of behaviors in using domestic violence. It is most important for husbands and wives to realize and give importance to how their spouses feel. They need to be patient, to forgive, to be understanding, to trust and to avoid quarrelling. In particular, they must give importance to reducing their jealousy and suspicions towards each other. They must keep away from alcohol and drugs that are forbidden in Islam. They should give importance to preparation for starting a family. In addition, the individuals and organizations concerned must cooperate to promote happy family life, campaign against domestic violence, and assist couples who regularly quarrel by providing them with socialization, mental health

rehabilitation, meditation, etc. This is to assist them to reduce, avoid, and stop their quarreling, and build a happy family where there is love and unity. Individuals who behave according to the Islamic way of life can control themselves not to use violence in their family because individuals who are attached to religious principles have a good conscience and clear goals of life. They are steadfast in doing good deeds and refraining from immoral and unethical doings that deviate from social norms and religious principles.

Conflict of interest

There is no conflict of interest.

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