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Impact of Covid 19: Increased Rate of Domestic Violence

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ABSTRACT

Women are playing a major role in the welfare of a family. She needs to take care of the family members, take the responsibility in maintaining the infrastructure and ambience of the home, take care of the mental wellbeing of the family members especially kids, do counselling during emotional crisis, do all the rituals in a good manner.

Generally, women are acting like a bridge while connecting the family members and as well as a dam to hold the emotional and economic burden of the family. Covid 19 made their role even harder. Each and every one of a family faces the cruel reality of deployment, loss of salary, mental illness, discomfort of being at home, discomfort of the changes in workstyle, challenges in workplace, need to focus on kid's study and engage them in a meaningful way. Above all the negative emotions of the family members increase lot because of Covid and unfortunately, they put on the baggage to women.

Even the whole world has to monitor the impact of Post Covid issues in economic and social aspect, the state of women in post covid period has to be analyzed and take action with almost care. In most times women are the anchors of a family. Taking care of women can support the wellbeing of a family. So, the crisis faced by women in a family after covid is need to be monitored closely and act immediately.

KEYWORDS: Covid, women, family, domestic violence

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INTRODUCTION

A survey was conducted by the Tamilnadu Women's collective in 62 villages in the state and it reveals the truth about the bitter effect of covid in women. The survey indicated that at least 81% of families reported some form of domestic violence during the lockdown¹

Women are suffering a lot due to this pandemic. Whether she is working, self-employed or a home maker the work increased double time and the stress increased countless. People are appreciating, praising the women who achieved and made them as role models. But in daily life, they are not recognizing their mom, sister or a co-worker for their efforts to come over the day today struggles.

Working women need to face the gender pay gap also. They have to put extra effort to fulfill the professional needs. But it is not properly recognized and gain faith from the superiors.

The Monster Salary Index (MSI) says, Indian men earn 25% more than women in the same kind of work done by both men and women.²

The Indian cricketer Diana David says, "Men are definitely treated better than women in cricket. For every Ranji game, we are paid extremely little, perhaps 10% of what the men would be getting."³

In India goddess are worshiped and women get harassed, abused, raped and killed every single day. The culture has strongly registered that of abusing a woman in home is taken for granted especially for the men and elders. Beating a daughter, refusing her right to study, marriage and job are justified by the name of parenting.

In this research, some specific incidents happened in Tamilnadu are going to be analyzed.

EFFECT OF COVID 19

Covid 19 pandemic made the women's world a hell. Indian women suffered a lot after the issues caused by covid and lockdown. In this survey, some incidents from the life of women are mentioned and they have to lose their lives due to that.

Case 1

A husband killed his wife for not dried the cloths washed as she was busy in welcoming the guests came to their home.

An ex-army officer was very strict in timing and the perfection of the works. Lockdown made him mentality cruel one. One day the wife washed the cloths. While she came to dry the cloths, some guests had arrived to their home. She was busy in welcoming them and forgot to dry the cloths. After the husband returned, he came to know about that. He got anger uncontrollably and beat her to death.

Case 2

A husband killed his wife for changing the menu he told.

In Tamilnadu, a husband bring fish to lunch and he told the menu. As the wife is not well, she had changed the menu without informing him. Later the husband returned to home and came to know about the change. He got furious anger and beat his wife to death.

Case 3

A husband killed his wife due to the family controversies and the depression of losing his job.

In Madhuranthagam, a doctor was married and the couple have no children. Due to covid 19, the husband lost his job and showed his anger and depression towards the wife. She was abused by him both physically and mentally and couldn't manage his cruelty. She went to her home. The husband went there to see his wife and behaved somewhat in a better way. While the husband started to return his home, both were standing near the car and talking. Suddenly the thought of losing job, financial crisis made the husband depressed and he started the car and hit the wife badly. As she didn't expect this, she injured heavily and died.

These cases picturize the emotional burden of women need to carry in a home at the same time the rate and level of domestic violence increased heavily due to covid 19. Normally in India, domestic violence is covered up with family heritage. Female have to sacrifice her wishes, decisions, opinions, thoughts in her own life too. This inequality made today's life of the women cruel. After covid 19 pandemic, financial crisis, losing job, mental stress, increased workload made harder to manage in women's life. Women in India have to manage all the family situations without regrets. She has to tackle the guilty dumped by the society even with all these types of burdens. Negativity, criticism, unrecognition, misunderstanding and low estimation are the major tasks for women's mental health.

Healthy mind is a basic need for healthy women; healthy society. Women have to be recognized, empowered for the betterment of the society.

CONCLUSION

Even the whole world has to monitor the impact of Post Covid issues in economic and social aspect, the state of women in post covid period has to be analyzed and take action with almost care. In most times women are the anchors of a family. Taking care of women can support the wellbeing of a family. So, the crisis faced by women in a family during post covid situation is need to be monitored closely and act immediately.

Phycological counselling to all kind of people is very much needed. Educational institutions can give counselling to the students and employees. Companies need to take care of the workers.

Arranging some games, joyful activities, allowing some free time, relaxation trainings, practicing yoga and meditation, Individual counselling will help the people to come over the pandemic situations and strengthen mental health.

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