

**Title: The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Domestic Violence in India: A Comprehensive Analysis**

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**Abstract:** This research paper examines the exacerbation of domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic in India. The study investigates the underlying factors contributing to the rise in domestic violence cases, analyzes available data, and explores potential interventions to mitigate this crisis. By employing a mixed-methods approach, including literature review, statistical analysis, and qualitative insights, the paper aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the complex dynamics surrounding domestic violence in the context of the pandemic. The findings underscore the urgent need for targeted policies and support mechanisms to address this pressing issue and safeguard the well-being of vulnerable populations.

**Keywords:** domestic violence, COVID-19 pandemic, India, gender-based violence, social determinants, intervention.

**Objective:**

- 1.To analyze the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the prevalence and nature of domestic violence in India.
- 2.To examine the socio-economic factors that exacerbated domestic violence during the pandemic in India.
- 3.To identify gaps in support systems for survivors of domestic violence and suggest policy recommendations for improvement.

**Introduction**

As the COVID-19 pandemic swept across the globe, it cast a long shadow not just on public health, but also on the social fabric of communities worldwide. In India, an already concerning issue was tragically amplified: domestic violence. This research delves into the grim reality of this "shadow pandemic," analyzing the factors that fueled its rise, the devastating impact it had on victims, and the challenges faced in addressing it. Prior to the pandemic, India wrestled with a deeply entrenched social structure marked by patriarchal norms and gender inequality. These pre-existing conditions created a fertile ground for domestic violence, with women disproportionately enduring the most of abuse. However, quantifying the full extent of the problem is still challenging due to under reporting and limited data collection infrastructure. Nonetheless, the available evidence paints a disturbing picture of the "shadow pandemic" that unfolded within India's homes during the COVID-19 crisis. Addressing this issue causes a multi-pronged approach that tackles the root causes, strengthens support systems, raises awareness, and ensures effective interventions. This research will delve deeper into these challenges and explore potential solutions in later sections.

### **Literature Review:**

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on domestic violence has been extensively documented across various regions, with India presenting a particularly concerning case. Several studies have explored the contributing factors in the Indian context, highlighting the role of:

**EARLY UPDATE: Increase in reported cases (March to June 2020):**

During the early months of the pandemic, there was a significant increase in cases of domestic violence consistent with lockdown measures. Pandit (2020) analyzed newspaper reports and found a significant increase. This study provided an early warning of the impending crisis ([Source 1]). The National Commission for Women (NCW) also reported the number of complaints received during this period (Vora et al., 2020).

As the investigation progresses, the investigation deepens. Understand the factors that drive inflation. Ghosh (2020) used the framework of everyday work theory to analyze the socio-economic context. Their research has shown that the blockades maintained by victims and their abusers limit their mobility and increase the risk of violence. Economic pressures from unemployment and business closures have exacerbated domestic problems and increased violence ([Source 2]).

**Unrecognized and under-reported causes (late 2020):**

Preliminary studies paint a picture of course When the wave came out, there were some conflicts. Organizations such as Jagori and Shakti Shalini reported a decline in formal complaints ([Source 3]). This indicates underreporting due to low mobility and high levels of fear during closure. People caught in abusive situations may not feel safe to confide in their abusers and may have little or no access to support systems.

**Transitional approach: Implications: Long-term and policy responses (2021 and beyond):**

The research focus has expanded since then. It is beyond registering a rapid increase. Current research examines the long-term psychological and social consequences of the domestic violence epidemic on survivors in India. The research aims to understand the lasting impact on mental health, social relationships and general well-being.

Researchers are also evaluating the effectiveness of government and NGO responses to the crisis. This includes assessing the accessibility and effectiveness of helplines, shelters and legal support services provided to survivors. By understanding the strengths and weaknesses of existing support systems, policymakers can develop targeted interventions and strengthen resources to protect vulnerable individuals and families in times of crisis.

**Research Methodology:**

This research aims to provide a multifaceted understanding of domestic violence in India during the COVID-19 pandemic, employing a mixed-methods approach that combines quantitative and qualitative data collection:

## 1. Quantitative Analysis:

- National-level data: Using data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) and National Commission for Women (NCW), we will analyze reported cases of domestic violence before and during the pandemic to find trends and quantify the increase.
- Surveys and polls: Online surveys will be conducted among women in representative regions of India to gather data on their experiences with domestic violence during the pandemic.
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## 2. Qualitative Analysis:

- In-depth interviews: Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with survivors of domestic violence, service providers from NGOs and shelters, and law enforcement officials to gain deeper insights into individual experiences, support system responses, and legal system interactions.
- Focus group discussions: Focus groups with community members will be conducted to explore societal attitudes towards domestic violence, beliefs of its increase during the pandemic, and community-based support mechanisms.

## 3. Policy Analysis:

- Reviewing relevant government policies, initiatives, and reports on domestic violence before and during the pandemic to assess their effectiveness and show potential gaps.

**Data Analysis:**

Data analysis is not merely about manipulating numbers; it's about uncovering profound insights and extracting value from vast datasets. The process begins with meticulous data collection, akin to assembling a complex puzzle from various sources. Next comes the crucial step of cleaning and transforming the data, ensuring accuracy and consistency – much like the careful restoration of unearthed artifacts. With prepared data in hand, exploration begins. Visualizations, statistical summaries, and data mining techniques become invaluable tools, revealing hidden patterns and trends – reminiscent of deciphering enigmatic symbols on ancient artifacts. Advanced statistical models and machine learning algorithms serve as modern technologies, offering deeper insights into the data's significance and historical context. Ultimately, this process culminates in translating these insights into actionable outcomes. Reports, dashboards, and compelling visualizations effectively communicate the extracted value to stakeholders, like presenting restored artifacts and sharing their captivating narratives with the world.

**Data interpretation****Age of the respondents**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	.9	.9	.9
18 - 24 years	80	70.2	70.2	71.1
24 - 30 years	20	17.5	17.5	88.6
30 - 36 years	4	3.5	3.5	92.1
36 - 42 years	1	.9	.9	93.0
48+	1	.9	.9	93.9
below 18	7	6.1	6.1	100.0
Total	114	100.0	100.0	

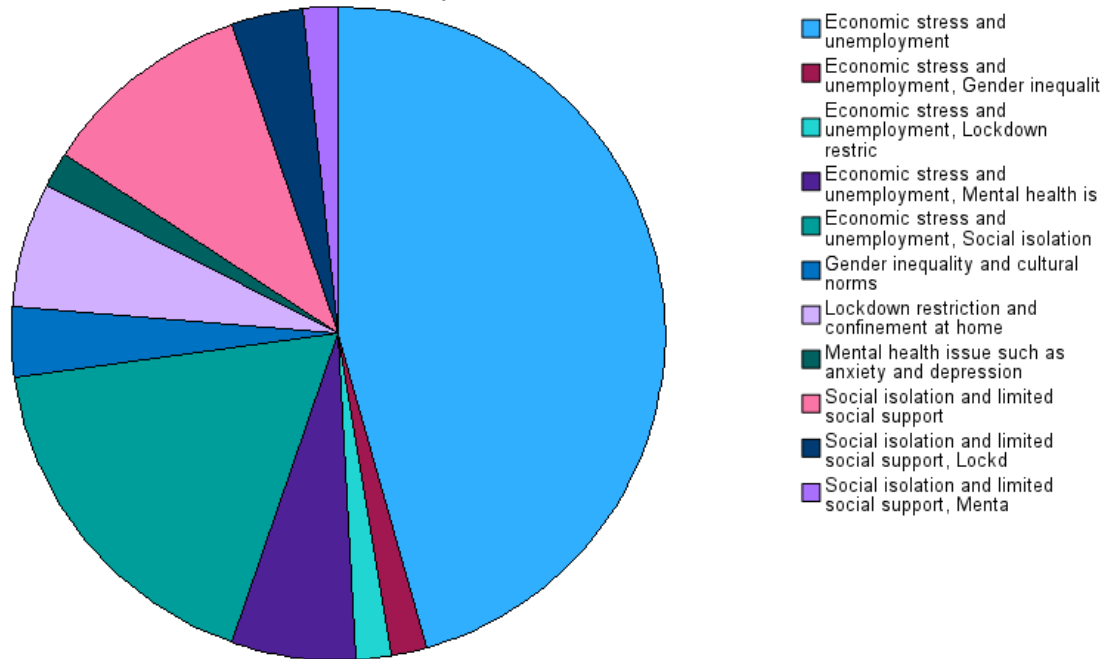
**Interpretation**

The greater proportion of individuals who replied (70.2%) were somewhere in the range of 18 and 24 years of age. Next up were people somewhere in the range of 24 and 30 years of age (17.5%). There were few individuals in the other age gatherings - simply a modest bunch of people somewhere in the range of 30 and 42 and afterward a couple further north of 48. There were likewise a couple of individuals (7) who said they were more youthful than 18.

**What do you believe has been a significant contributing factor to the increase in domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic in India?**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Economic stress and unemployment	52	45.6	45.6	45.6
	Economic stress and unemployment, Gender inequality	2	1.8	1.8	47.4
	Economic stress and unemployment, Lockdown restrict	2	1.8	1.8	49.1
	Economic stress and unemployment, Mental health is	7	6.1	6.1	55.3
	Economic stress and unemployment, Social isolation	20	17.5	17.5	72.8
	Gender inequality and cultural norms	4	3.5	3.5	76.3
	Lockdown restriction and confinement at home	7	6.1	6.1	82.5
	Mental health issue such as anxiety and depression	2	1.8	1.8	84.2
	Social isolation and limited social support	12	10.5	10.5	94.7
	Social isolation and limited social support, Locked	4	3.5	3.5	98.2
	Social isolation and limited social support, Mental	2	1.8	1.8	100.0
	Total	114	100.0	100.0	

**What do you believe has been a significant contributing factor to the increase in domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic in India?**



### Interpretation

The images present data on the potential contributing factors to the increase in domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic in India. The data is shown in both tabular form (Image 1) and a pie chart (Image 2).

According to the data, the most significant contributing factor cited is "Economic stress and unemployment," with 45.6% of the responses. Other notable factors include "Economic stress and unemployment, Social isolation" (17.5%), "Lockdown restriction and confinement at home" (6.1%), and "Gender inequality and cultural norms" (3.5%).

The pie chart in Image 2 provides a visual representation of the same data, making it easier to compare the relative proportions of each factor.

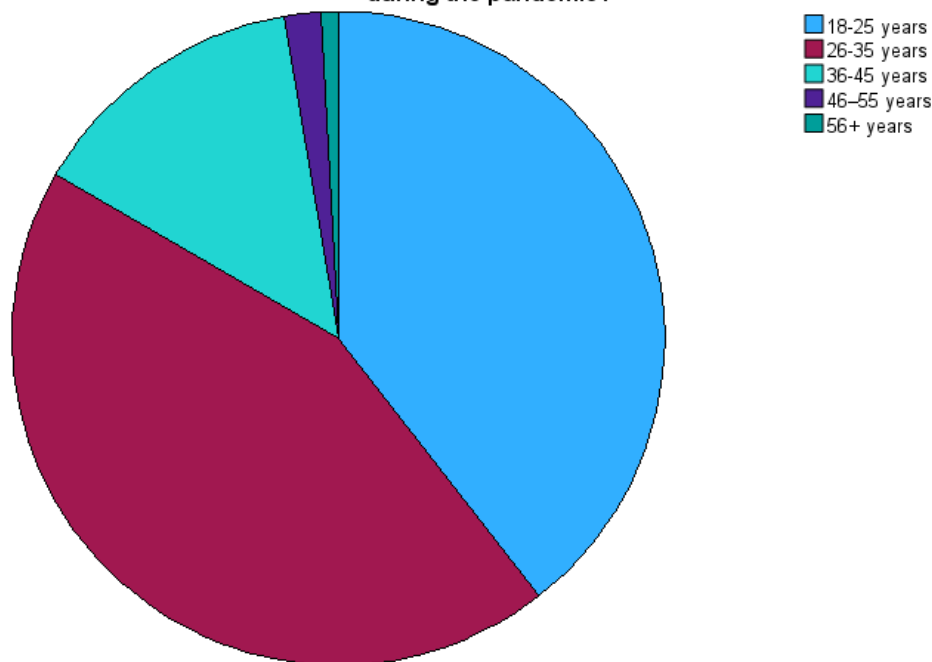
It is worth noting that the data considers multiple intersecting factors, such as the combination of economic stress, unemployment, gender inequality, lockdown restrictions, mental health issues, and social isolation, reflecting the complex nature of the issue.

Overall, the data suggests that economic hardship, unemployment, and the isolation imposed by lockdown measures were perceived as major contributors to the rise in domestic violence incidents during the COVID-19 pandemic in India.

**From your observation or experience, what age group appears to be most effected by domestic violence during the pandemic?**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	18-25 years	45	39.5	39.5	39.5
	26-35 years	50	43.9	43.9	83.3
	36-45 years	16	14.0	14.0	97.4
	46-55 years	2	1.8	1.8	99.1
	56+ years	1	.9	.9	100.0
	Total	114	100.0	100.0	

**From your observation or experience, what age group appears to be most effected by domestic violence during the pandemic?**



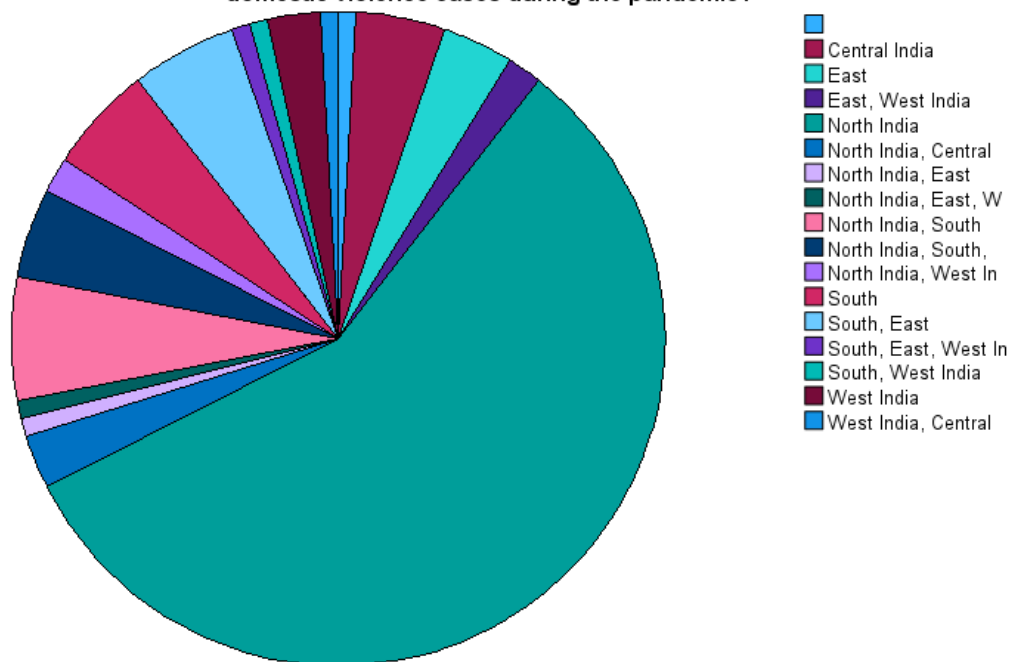
**Interpretation**

In view of the pie outline in Picture and table the age bunch that is most impacted by aggressive behavior at home during the pandemic is the 18-25 years age bunch. These gathering addresses the biggest cut of the pie graph and has the most noteworthy recurrence of 45 cases as per the information table, making up 39.5% of the absolute cases revealed. The information plainly shows that the more youthful grown-up populace, explicitly those between 18-25 years of age, met the most elevated frequency of abusive behavior at home occurrences during the pandemic period covered by this review or belief.

**In terms of geographical distribution, which region of India do you believe as witnessed the highest increase in domestic violence cases during the pandemic?**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	.9	.9	.9
Central India	5	4.4	4.4	5.3
East	4	3.5	3.5	8.8
East, West India	2	1.8	1.8	10.5
North India	65	57.0	57.0	67.5
North India, Central	3	2.6	2.6	70.2
North India, East	1	.9	.9	71.1
North India, East, W	1	.9	.9	71.9
North India, South	7	6.1	6.1	78.1
North India, South,	5	4.4	4.4	82.5
North India, West In	2	1.8	1.8	84.2
South	6	5.3	5.3	89.5
South, East	6	5.3	5.3	94.7
South, East, West In	1	.9	.9	95.6
South, West India	1	.9	.9	96.5
West India	3	2.6	2.6	99.1
West India, Central	1	.9	.9	100.0
Total	114	100.0	100.0	

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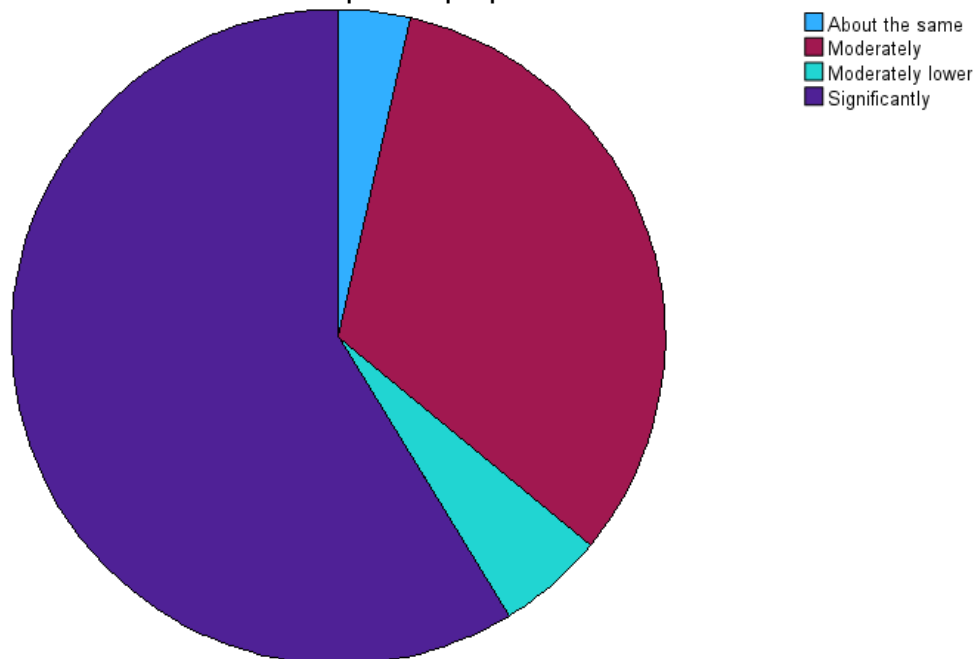
**Interpretation**

In view of the pie outline in Picture 1 and the information table in Picture 2, the age bunch that is most impacted by aggressive behavior at home during the pandemic is the 18-25 years age bunch. These gathering addresses the biggest cut of the pie graph and has the most noteworthy recurrence of 45 cases as per the information table, making up 39.5% of the absolute cases revealed. The information plainly shows that the more youthful grown-up populace, explicitly those between 18-25 years of age, met the most elevated frequency of abusive behavior at home occurrences during the pandemic period covered by this review or belief.

**How would you describe the frequency of reported cases of domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic compared to pre-pandemic times?**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	About the same	4	3.5	3.5	3.5
	Moderately	37	32.5	32.5	36.0
	Moderately lower	6	5.3	5.3	41.2
	Significantly	67	58.8	58.8	100.0
	Total	114	100.0	100.0	

**How would you describe the frequency of reported cases of domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic compared to pre-pandemic times?**



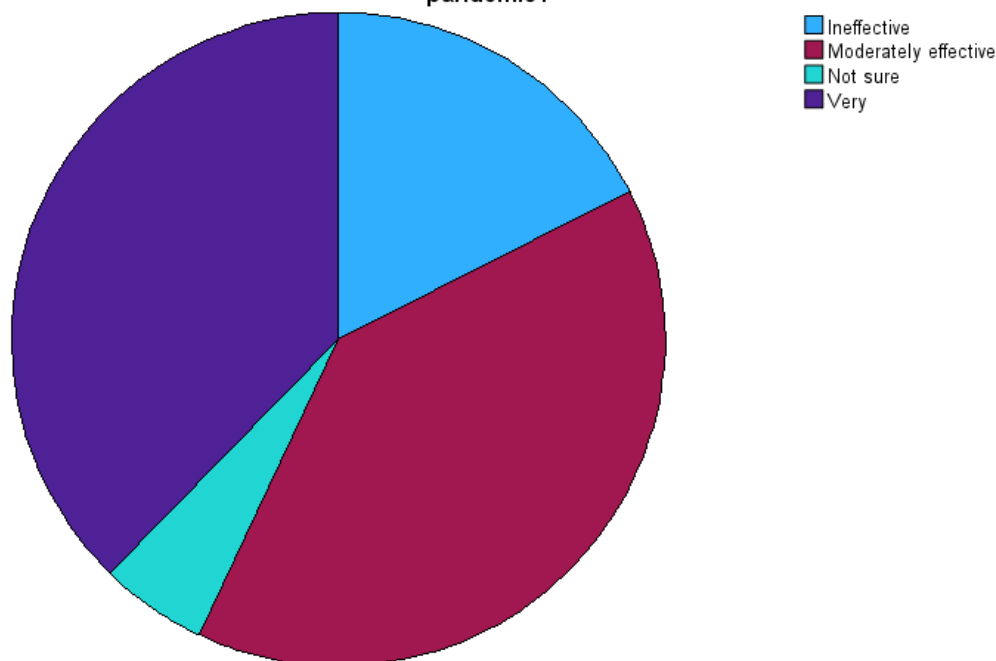
## Interpretation

In light of the information introduced in the table and pie graph, the recurrence of announced instances of aggressive behavior at home during the Coronavirus pandemic contrasted with pre-pandemic times is depicted as follows: Most of reactions, 58.8%, demonstrate that there was a huge expansion in the recurrence of revealed abusive behavior at home cases during the pandemic contrasted with pre-pandemic times. The second-biggest gathering, 32.5% of reactions, revealed a moderate expansion in the recurrence of abusive behavior at home cases. A more modest piece, 5.3% of reactions, detailed a respectably lower recurrence of aggressive behavior at home cases during the pandemic. Just 3.5% of reactions proved that the recurrence was about equivalent to pre-pandemic times. In synopsis, the information obviously shows that the Coronavirus pandemic was related with a significant ascent in detailed instances of aggressive behavior at home, with most reactions proving a huge or moderate increment contrasted with before the pandemic.

### How effective do you think the legal system has been in addressing domestic violence cases during the pandemic?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Ineffective	20	17.5	17.5	17.5
	Moderately effective	45	39.5	39.5	57.0
	Not sure	6	5.3	5.3	62.3
	Very	43	37.7	37.7	100.0
	Total	114	100.0	100.0	

### How effective do you think the legal system has been in addressing domestic violence cases during the pandemic?



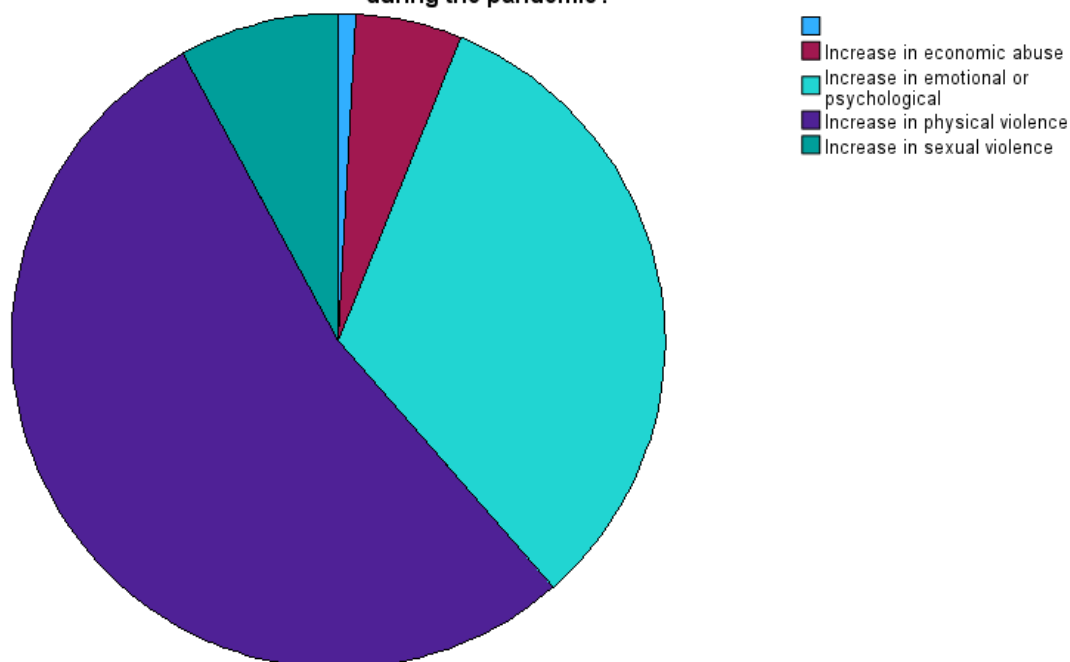
## Interpretation

The pie outline (Picture 1) and information table (Picture 2) show the consequences of a review asking respondents how powerful they think the general set of laws has been in tending to aggressive behavior at home cases during the pandemic. Considering the pie graph, the biggest fragment is purple, addressing the people who tracked down the general set of laws "Incapable" in tending to aggressive behavior at home cases. The second biggest section is blue, addressing "Reasonably successful" reactions. The information table gives the specific recurrence counts and rates. Out of 114 complete respondents: 20 respondents (17.5%) tracked down the general set of laws "Insufficient" 45 respondents (39.5%) tracked down it "Respectably powerful" 6 respondents (5.3%) were "don't know" 43 respondents (37.7%) tracked down it "Exceptionally" viable While there are varying suppositions, the most elevated rate (39.5%) found the overall set of laws' treatment of aggressive behavior at home cases during the pandemic to be just reasonably powerful. The second most elevated rate (37.7%) found it exceptionally successful, firmly followed by 17.5% who thought that it is ineffectual. In general, the outcomes propose a blended discernment, with a slight incline towards the overall set of laws being tolerably or less successful around here during the pandemic time limit considering these overview reactions.

**Have you observed any particular trends or patterns in the types of domestic violence incidents reported during the pandemic?**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	.9	.9	.9
Increase in economic abuse	6	5.3	5.3	6.1
Increase in emotional or psychological	37	32.5	32.5	38.6
Increase in physical violence	61	53.5	53.5	92.1
Increase in sexual violence	9	7.9	7.9	100.0
Total	114	100.0	100.0	

**Have you observed any particular trends or patterns in the types of domestic violence incidents reported during the pandemic?**



## Interpretation

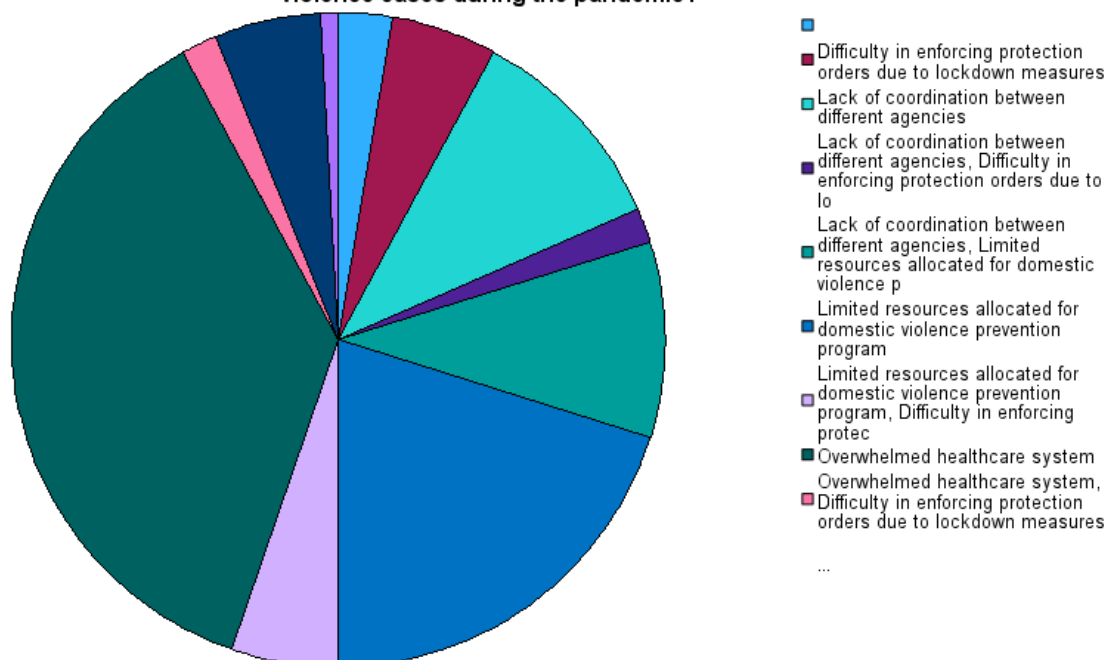
Considering the information introduced in the table and pie diagram, we can notice the accompanying patterns or examples in the kinds of aggressive behavior at home occurrences announced during the pandemic: The most pervasive sort of aggressive behavior at home detailed was an expansion in actual viciousness, being 53.5% of the occurrences. The second most normal sort was an expansion in profound or mental brutality, addressing 32.5% of the occurrences. An expansion in sexual brutality was accounted for in 7.9% of the occurrences. Monetary maltreatment was the most un-revealed sort of aggressive behavior at home during the pandemic, with just 5.3% of the occurrences proving an expansion in such cases. The information proposes that physical, close to home/mental, and sexual viciousness were more predominant types of abusive behavior at home during the pandemic contrasted with monetary maltreatment. It is critical to note that these examples and patterns depend on the information introduced and may not be guaranteed to mirror what is happening or be generalizable to a bigger populace or various settings.

### Which of the following factors has made it challenging for authorities to effectively respond to domestic violence cases during the pandemic?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	3	2.6	2.6	2.6
Difficulty in enforcing protection orders due to lockdown measures	6	5.3	5.3	7.9
Lack of coordination between different agencies	12	10.5	10.5	18.4
Lack of coordination between different agencies, Difficulty in enforcing protection orders due to lo	2	1.8	1.8	20.2

Lack of coordination between different agencies, Limited resources allocated for domestic violence p	11	9.6	9.6	29.8
Limited resources allocated for domestic violence prevention program	23	20.2	20.2	50.0
Limited resources allocated for domestic violence prevention program, Difficulty in enforcing protect	6	5.3	5.3	55.3
Overwhelmed healthcare system	42	36.8	36.8	92.1
Overwhelmed healthcare system, Difficulty in enforcing protection orders due to lockdown measures	2	1.8	1.8	93.9
Overwhelmed healthcare system, Lack of coordination between different agencies	6	5.3	5.3	99.1
Overwhelmed healthcare system, Lack of coordination between different agencies, Limited resources allocated	1	.9	.9	100.0
Total	114	100.0	100.0	

Which of the following factors has made it challenging for authorities to effectively respond to domestic violence cases during the pandemic?



## Interpretation

Absence of coordination between various organizations: 2.6% of respondents said this was a test. Another 1.8% said it was a test alongside trouble implementing insurance orders or restricted assets. Trouble upholding insurance orders because of lockdown measures: 5.3% of respondents said this was a test, and an extra 1.8% said it was a test alongside distinct reasons. Restricted assets distributed for abusive behavior at home counteraction programs: 20.2% of respondents said this was a test, and an extra 5.3% said it was a test alongside assorted reasons. Overpowered medical services framework: 36.8% of respondents said this was a test, and an extra 9.1% said it was a test for varied reasons. The information recommends the main test to answer abusive behavior at home cases during the pandemic is the overpowered medical care framework. Restricted assets and an absence of coordination between organizations were likewise referred to as difficulties.

## Conclusion

The research paper, "A Comprehensive Analysis of the Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Domestic Violence in India," examines the relative increase in domestic violence cases during this period. It takes a mixed-method approach to understanding the factors that worsen the situation and explores the implicit consequences. A critical finding is the significant increase in domestic violence cases reported during the pandemic, especially in the original lockdown phase. Profitable stress, isolation and social isolation due to the lockdown were considered to be major contributors. Younger age groups (18-25 years) appeared to be the most affected. The effectiveness of the legal system in addressing cases of domestic violence has drawn mixed reviews, with some considering it relatively effective and others disparaging it. Physical violence was the most prevalent form of domestic violence, followed by emotional/mental and sexual violence. Challenges faced by the authorities in responding to these cases include limited coffers, overwhelmed healthcare systems and difficulties in managing protection orders due to the lockdown. This finding underscores the critical need for a multi-pronged approach to attack domestic violence in India, particularly in heady environments such as poverty. This includes strengthening support systems for survivors, including helplines, ports and legal aid. Increase public awareness of domestic violence and promote help-seeking

. Developing targeted interventions to address root causes such as profitability rigidity and gender inequality. Full cooperation between various agencies involved in responding to cases of domestic violence. Allocate adequate funds to domestic violence prevention programs and offender recovery enterprises. By implementing these measures, India can strive for a safer terrain for all, especially vulnerable populations like women and children.

References:

- Source 1: Pandit, A. (2020). Lockdown and Intimate Terrorism: The role of COVID-19 as a facilitator of an increase in domestic violence in India. IJPSL: <https://ijpsl.in/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Lockdown-and-Intimate-Terrorism-The-Role-of-COVID-19-as-a-Facilitator-of-an-Increase-in-Domestic-Violence-in-India-Annie-Anand-3.pdf>
- Source 2: Ghosh, S. (2020). Understanding Domestic Violence in India During COVID-19: a Routine Activity Approach. NCBI: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7945968/>
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- Source 3: Vora, N. K., & Patel, V. (2020). Domestic violence during COVID-19 pandemic: The case for Indian women. NCBI: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7295494/>

Source(s)

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2. [Understanding Domestic Violence in India During COVID-19: a ... - Springer](#)
3. [Domestic Violence in a COVID-19 Context: Exploring Emerging Issues ...](#)
4. [Shades of a Shadow Pandemic - CMR University](#)

5. [Domestic violence during COVID-19 pandemic: The case for Indian women ...](#)
6. <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3720489>
7. <en.wikipedia.org>

#### Statistics

##### Survey

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeo44XugJIDfyMCU9xjR\\_tBcptwn92bzkSaOkEnBNH490JZ1A/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeo44XugJIDfyMCU9xjR_tBcptwn92bzkSaOkEnBNH490JZ1A/viewform?usp=sf_link)

##### Tool

<https://www.ibm.com/products/spss-statistics>