What are the causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan?

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Word count: 12845

**Introduction**

According to World Health Organisation statistics, around 400 women die annually in Kazakhstan as a result of domestic violence.

Domestic violence against women is one of the most important and alarming public health problem and violation of women's human rights around the world.  Especially, in Kazakhstan the cases of domestic violence against women are increasing rapidly every year and it has reached an extremely high level in our country that even family violence occurs in every 6 Kazakh families. What really concerns is that despite this terrible situation in Kazakhstan our society, even women accept it as a normal thing or keeps silence about domestic violence against women and government of Kazakhstan does not take any measures to solve the problem as if everything is all right instead of fighting for rights of women who suffer from domestic abuse. Besides, this horrific reality has a big impact on different spheres. It has a big impact on social life. Nowadays domestic violence against women is a common case among Kazakh families and it causes damage to the physical and mental health of a significant part of the population on a daily basis. It maintains as an unresolved problem in society and really concerns the residents of Kazakhstan, however despite this terrible situation in our country, our community and most women endure it and close eyes to this issue. Furthermore, increasing rates of family violence worries policy too, because dealing with domestic violence is difficult for officials and law enforcement, therefore in Kazakhstan government have to solve numerous problems to reduce these rates, for instance, police and staff at crisis centers operated by government have not received sufficient specialized training to respond effectively to victims of family violence, also state policies aimed at keeping the family “intact” make it more difficult for women to escape violence.

I am really concerned about this issue, because it belongs to MY COUNTRY and all cases of domestic violence are happening around me. Honestly, it is very horrifying and brutal truth. I remember when I lived at my last home, we frequently heard batteries, screams of neighbors, especially of women and their children and then when we moved to new house, we knew that our new neighbors are suffering from family violence too. It definitely shocked me (and motivated me to investigate this topic).  In addition, I decided to research a topic “What are the causes of rise of domestic violence AGAINST WOMEN rates in Kazakhstan?”, because most victims of family violence are women, for instance only 1.4% of all crimes related to domestic violence were committed by women! Kazakhstan’s government and society should have made much greater progress in protecting women from violence during last decades, but instead women’s lives are still in danger and they are still suffering from violence. I cannot believe that our government and society are raising the domestic violence against women rates by keeping silence about this serious issue. It leads to the violation of human rights of woman and big gender inequality in family. It drives me crazy, therefore I decide to explore main causes of increasing rates of domestic abuse. I am sure that identifying reasons is important in combat to this issue. If everyone is aware of the reasons, they will clearly understand the ways of solving problem based on their knowledge.

The potential bias that I hold towards the question is that the raise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan is a fault of government's careless attitude towards the issue of family violence, because they close eyes to this problem and do not take any measures, like strengthening laws against domestic violence against women, although they have enough power to change the terrible situation in country to a better side. Even if they attempt to provide help, they will still continue to send women, and abusers, the message that domestic abuse should not to be taken seriously. Therefore, women in Kazakhstan, who encountered a domestic violence, receive insufficient protection and have little recourse for justice. However, it can negatively affect to conducting research, because this bias will encourage me to focus all my attention to government, however not only government is involved in this problem. We have also society of Kazakhstan, where this problem occurs and where people keep silence about it, not even realizing that they make the situation worse, also domestic violence has deep roots in our history. Moreover, I can minimize an impact of bias by conducting deep online search for information that related to causes of domestic abuse from different sources, in this way I can explore topic from different angles and I can receive more information about what factors cause this issue, except government. After this, I will take into consideration them in my research too.

There are several groups of beneficiaries, who can benefit from outcomes of my research:

First group is women victims of domestic violence. My research can, roughly speaking, rescue women from terrible position. If the causes of domestic abuse, which investigated by my research, are well-known among officials and residents of Kazakhstan, it will be more easy to reduce the rates of family violence and help women who suffer from domestic abuse. However, community, even women keep silence about their terrible situation, therefore we are not well aware of the seriousness of the domestic abuse. However, my research can contribute to correct the situation by informing readers of this issue and its importance and causes. Second group is children who suffer from family violence. Children who see their mother being abused have a higher chance of being abused themselves and also abusing others when they are adults. By my research we can really prevent such situations, so it represents that my research can help keep children, who witness domestic abuse, safe, even save their lives and aid them in building a happy family in the future. However, I do not say that my research will definitely provide help for these groups of people, it can only affect society and government to focus their attention on this issue or consider about it and only after this they decide to help or not. So it is up to community and government, but I hope that my research contributes to solving problem. The next group is people or organizations that support gender equality, also feminists. My research raises the issue of domestic violence, which is related to ideas of gender equality and feminism.  Moreover, my research contributes to solving this issue by identifying its causes.  Therefore, I can say that research definitely supports gender equality and feminism, hence people who are for these ideas. The final group will be officials, law enforcement, who works with domestic violence or generally government, so if they will aware of causes of increasing rates of family violence, they can solve problem by eliminating them.

From my point of view, reducing the rates of domestic violence and future of Kazakh women and Kazakh girls are only up to us, therefore we should speak openly about this problem instead of keeping silence and close eyes to it.

**Context**

Domestic violence against women is one of the most important and alarming public health problem and violation of women's human rights around the world. According to Cambridge Dictionary, domestic violence is defined as a situation in which someone you live with attacks you and tries to hurt you (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021). By Merriam-Webster, violence means the use of physical force to injure, abuse, damage, or destroy (Violence, 2017).

Unfortunately, it is more widespread than previously thought and now most women are becoming victims of family violence by their partners in their HOME, which is considered to be the safest place for people. Global estimates published by WHO indicate that about 1 in 3 (35%) of women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime. Most of this violence is intimate partner violence (Violence against Women, 2017). From the words of the Sexual Violence Research Initiative Founder and Coordinating Group member, and WHO Lead on Violence Against Women, Claudia Garcia-Moreno (Deutsche Welle (www.dw.com), 2013), such abuse occurs around the world with few differences from one region to another. Moreover, The United Nations organization said violence against women had reached "epidemic proportions" (Deutsche Welle (www.dw.com), 2013).

Especially, in Kazakhstan the cases of domestic violence against women are increasing rapidly every year and it has reached an extremely high level in our country, for instance The Union of Crisis Centers of Kazakhstan, an umbrella organization of 16 nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), reports that partners kill hundreds of women in Kazakhstan each year and that domestic violence takes place in one out of every eight families in Kazakhstan (Kazakhstan: Little Help for Domestic Violence Survivors, 2020). What really concerns is that despite this terrible situation in Kazakhstan our society, even women accept it as a normal thing or keeps silence about domestic violence against women and government of Kazakhstan does not take any measures to solve the problem as if everything is all right instead of fighting for rights of women who suffer from domestic abuse. Human Rights Watch discovered that women in Kazakhstan facing domestic violence receive insufficient protection and have little recourse for justice. Even Assistant Central Asia researcher at Human Rights Watch, Viktoriya Kim stated, “Kazakhstan should have made much greater strides in protecting women from violence, but instead women continue to suffer. The government has renewed its commitments to provide help, but at the same time is sending women, and abusers, the message that abuse inside the home isn’t to be taken seriously (Kazakhstan: Little Help for Domestic Violence Survivors, 2020).”

Family violence against women is essential and pressing problem in local area too. Locally, since the beginning of this year, 70 percent more women have applied to the law enforcement agencies of East Kazakhstan than in the same period last year. All appeals related to domestic violence (online.zakon.kz, 2019). As we noticed, the local level is similar to the national and the global level, in all levels the rates of domestic violence are rapidly increasing.

In addition, my research is related to several lenses. Firstly, Historical lens: Worldwide history shows that domestic violence against women has been deeply entrenched in the culture of humanity from its early days and wife beating was apparently quite common in the ancient world (Sarah Pomeroy, 2011). In the past, domestic violence was often seen as a way husbands could legitimately 'correct' their wives, therefore before the 1970s, judges and police officers still saw wife beating as a trivial offense, and cases rarely came to court (Clark, 2011). Now this tendency is still existing, especially in our country, for instance in 2017 domestic violence in Kazakhstan had been decriminalised by law, and only a fraction of all the cases get reported to police (Aya Shalkar, 2020). Throughout history many of the behaviors now thought of as domestic violence have been both legal and socially acceptable. Therefore, domestic violence against women was even considered to be normal and usual thing in our society. For instance, when I read the first book (kitap.kz,1961) of the novel “Қан мен Тер”, there is written “What if he beats the dog? What Kazakh man didn't beat his wife and dog?!”. This comprehension of the relationship of man toward woman passed down through generations. So current increasing rates of family violence is the reflection of what happened in history of Kazakh families.

This long history of abuse toward the women has created a huge mass of social, cultural, and traditional views and beliefs that current societies have yet to overcome in order to establish attitudes against domestic violence in any form.

Secondly, Social lens: Nowadays domestic violence is a common case among Kazakh families and around the world too. Worldwide, almost one third (30%) of women who have been in a relationship report that they have experienced some form of physical and/or sexual violence by their intimate partner in their lifetime. According to official statistics, in Kazakhstan, in 2016, criminal offenses in the family increased by 2.8%, in 2017 the growth was 4.7%. Compared to 2015, crime against women and children has increased by 90% (Republic of Kazakhstan, 2018)! Nationally, it maintains as an unresolved problem in society and really concerns the residents of Kazakhstan, however despite this terrible situation in our country, our community and most women endure it and close eyes to this issue. Vast majority of violence and harassment related cases that happen in Kazakhstan towards women stay unreported. Cases that get reported and given publicity are often met with very strong victim blaming from the public. The victims deserve to be heard without judgement (Aya Shalkar, 2020). This represents how society reacts to cases of domestic violence against women. Besides, gender stereotypes in society such as “women should be silent when a man speaks and listen to him in everything” or “a man has the right to beat his wife” are critical obstacles to gender equality and they create a false perception about the role and place of a woman in the family.

Besides, perspectives of certain groups of people need to be considered in my research. The perspectives of women who live or lived with domestic abuse. Their experience will be important in identifying causes of domestic abuse against women. Besides, they can give full and extended answer for many research questions: do they get enough support from society or government, how can we help them, what are the obstacles in solving this issue, how did domestic abuse affect them, why do you endure it. Attitude of people who witness a domestic violence in society or people whose relatives, friends encountered this issue. They will play a role of a society, so it is important to know attitude of community to domestic abuse: do they keep silence about it or react in another way, what do they think about it, does this issue concern them or not. Specialists such as psychologists and officials in government that works with resolving problem of family violence can answer my research questions. They have deep knowledge about family violence, and they have worked with numerous cases of domestic abuse, therefore they can give us more precise and extended, reliable information. It is important, because nowadays most people or society keep silence about cases, and they remain unreported. Generally, all women of Kazakhstan can express their opinion of family violence. It is essential to solve the problem because most domestic violence cases are against women, so we can know their attitude related to this problem.

**Aims**

The main aim of this research is to find the ways of solving the problem of domestic abuse against women in our country by investigating causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan and I want to explore this question “Who is to blame for high rates of cases of domestic abuse?” “Society?” “Or Government?”. By knowing what must be overcome (causes of issue), Kazakhstan’s society and government may be more successful in their efforts against domestic violence.

Thus, the following questions are going to be referred to:

• Do victims of domestic violence appeal to police?

• Is it hard for women to combat domestic abuse?

• Does society keep silence about family violence against women or close eyes to it?

• Why do many men use violence against women or against their female partners?

• Do victims of domestic violence get sufficient support from society and government?

• How contemporary society reacts to cases of domestic violence?

• To what extent is Domestic Violence Laws system effective?

• To what extent is society aware of domestic violence against women?

• What are the causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan?

• How can we lower these rates?

**Methods**

The main aim of this research was to find the ways of solving the problem of domestic abuse against women in our country by investigating causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan and I wanted to explore this question “Who is to blame for high rates of cases of domestic abuse?” “Society?” “Or Government?” “Or anything else?”. By knowing what must be overcome (causes of issue), Kazakhstan’s society and government may be more successful in their efforts against domestic violence. In methods I used 2 types of research methods- interview and 2 surveys, but these surveys have different aims and questions. The topics of interview and first survey are same- “What are the causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates?”, while topic of second survey is “To what extent is society aware of domestic violence against women?”. Questionnaire helps to ask simple questions about domestic abuse against women to a large number of people, which can provide with a statistic data. Interview is for investigating the topic in depth through asking open-ended questions about my research problem specialists. Each method cooperating with another one. Survey, interviews were used to build confidence in the findings, as data was collected using one method and verified using another. For instance, I checked the data gathered from survey by the results of interview.

The first method – survey “What are the causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates?” was used to determine the causes of increasing rates domestic abuse against women and the ways of reducing this given problem based on opinions of respondents. The sample group was fifty to seventy different-aged NIS students, teachers, citizens of Ust-Kamenogork, residents of Kazakhstan and even of other countries. As it was aimed to collect brief opinions of a huge amount of people, we got statistical data, so it was quantitative, but there were 6 open questions (“why do you think so?”), which helped to gain qualitative information. In this case there were 17 questions. In order to discern the gap, respondents had to indicate their gender and age for first 2 questions. Since this method allows information to be gathered from a large number of people in short period of time, it facilitated the task of obtaining general statistics and information on domestic violence against women, taking into account the views of different people. Data collection procedure was not complicated, since the website provided statistics and answers of all respondents, however, the survey could not fully reflect the emotional responses or feelings of respondents, also respondents might not feel encouraged to provide accurate, honest answers and might not feel comfortable providing answers that present themselves in an unfavourable manner. These weaknesses or challenges of survey method can lead to unclear data. The survey was conducted through online questionnaires, so I sent the link of online survey through Facebook, WhatsApp, VK. There was only one requirement for the respondents - to answer truly, honestly and to give extended, detailed explanation for some questions.

The second method was again survey, the topic of which is “To what extent is society aware of domestic violence against women?”. Unlike the first survey, the second survey was aimed to assess the awareness of society of Kazakhstan about domestic violence against women and its sample group covered only residents of Kazakhstan, which created national picture of the issue. Besides, we found or searched cause of rise of domestic violence against women rates in responses of survey takers. As it consisted of only true or false questions, it gave information of how many people can correctly answer to each question, therefore it was quantitative method. A true or false question consisted of a statement that required a true or false response. Effective true or false eLearning questions were factual based, rather than opinion-oriented, and were designed to quickly and efficiently test learner knowledge about problem of domestic violence against women. As for obstacles, there was a 50% chance of users getting the question correct. It could be hard to determine who knows the material and who doesn't. The method was conducted through the platform, named Microsoft Forms. I shared the link of online survey through Facebook, WhatsApp, VK. In this case, there were 11 questions. In order to discern the gap, respondents had to indicate their gender and age for first 2 questions. The program automatically analysed data and displayed pie chart for each question, which is quite convenient. Everything went okey, program was working without problems and letting me know about each new respondent. There was only one requirement for the respondents - give true, honest answers based on their opinions, views, comprehension without any random answers or just guessing the right answer.

To check the results from the first questionnaire and gather more detailed information about causes of increasing rates of domestic abuse against women and ways solving this problem, Interviews were conducted with people chosen carefully, who have enough knowledge and experience around the topic of my research and, also according to their qualification and major. This method was interview, which gave the opportunity to ask open ended questions interviewees, thus gathered qualitative data. The aim of this research method was the same as the first questionnaire, to collect the data from different viewpoints (of specialists and victims). However, this method had several weaknesses: might be difficult to summarize responses and there could be possible biases from interviewer, respondent, situation, also this method provided less anonymity, which was a big concern for many respondents, especially for victims of domestic violence.

The following is the target in each:

• Teachers of Kazakh history, Kazakh literature, Rights of people. These specialists have enough knowledge to give information about causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates that connected to different spheres, such as history, literature, rights of people. It helped us to know the link between of causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan and history, literature, rights of people of Kazakhstan, also to identify the effects of these spheres on given problem.

• Psychologists of our school, they are able to explore and analyze the issue of my research by clearly understanding the psychology of women, especially of women who have experienced or encountered any form of domestic violence against women. Moreover, these specialists might have worked with victims of domestic abuse or families affected by it. Besides, psychology of society and man, including abusers, the impact of Societal Factors on the issue are comprehensible for them. Therefore, they gave full and detailed answers for my questions related to psychology, also suggested ways of overcoming given problem.

• Group of victims of domestic violence against women from Domestic Violence Crisis Center “Ulba” in Ust-Kamenogorsk and director or principal staff of this crisis center. This crisis center is important for my research, because it is working directly with domestic violence against women, so their duty is helping and supporting, even protecting victims of domestic abuse(women), and generally contributing to reducing this problem. Therefore, director or principal staff of this crisis center can realize victims of family abuse and their situation, explain the effect of society and government on the issue and how we can reduce given problem.

• Women, who have experienced family abuse, can reveal the brutal truth about condition of such women not only in Kazakhstan, also around the world. Their responses were helpful to understand these women and their actions, to answer research questions related to how society and government treat domestic violence and its victims. I am sure that they clearly know ways of dealing with this issue.

• Dina Smailova, a women's rights activist in Kazakhstan. Smailova launched the Don't Be Silent movement in Kazakhstan. She has assisted 200 women victims and was instrumental in seven sexual assault court cases in 2017. I submitted her my interview questions as a message through Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/dina.tansari> ), however the case that she will answer my message was not highly probable. Taking into account it, I sent the same interview questions to director of PUBLIC ASSOCIATION "CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ADAPTATION" PHOENIX "-Akhmetkalieva Nazigul Matashevna in Facebook or email ([nazigul\_ahmetkal@mail.ru](mailto:nazigul_ahmetkal@mail.ru)). Public Association "Center for Development and Adaptation" Phoenix " is combating to cases of domestic violence. They have conducted numerous events (trainings and seminars), distributed information through brochures, booklets, memos or through media in combat to domestic violence. To my mind, these 2 people (Dina Smailova and Akhmetkalieva Nazigul Matashevna) gave valid information to my questions, because, according to above mentioned data, they have enough experience and knowledge about my research issue.

Interviewing the last 2 options was not completely possible, however I attempted to take interview from them.

All interviews included at least 6 and at most 15 questions that required clear and full response. The main purpose was to gather an accurate picture of causes of the current problem of domestic violence against women from the specialists’ and victims’ perspectives as possible. Each person was given around 5 minutes to answer each question and give explanation or examples to their response. The main participant eligibility requirement was to give true and extended answers to questions.

**Results**

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| During conducting the methods, were gathered valuable data about causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan and the ways of solving this problem in our country, so we can connect this gathered information with the global situation of domestic abuse against women. Various results were obtained from 3 different methods.  The first survey about “What are the causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates?” was conducted among 50 people: 40 people from Kazakhstan-28 women, 12 men and other respondents from different countries, namely Russia (5 women), USA (2 women). Germany (1 man), Ukraine (1 man), Solomon Islands (1 man).   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Is a problem of domestic violence against women pressing? | Respondents | | | **Residents of Kazakhstan** | **Residents of other countries** | | Yes | **34** | **10** | | ***Row percent*** | ***77.2%*** | ***22.7%*** | | No | **6** | **0** | | ***Row percent*** | ***100%*** | ***0%*** |   Table1  Изображение выглядит как стол  Автоматически созданное описание  Pie chart 1  According to the results of the survey, in general, 85% of residents of Kazakhstan think that a problem of domestic violence against women pressing in Kazakhstan, in detail 86% of women, and 83% of men agreed with this statement, which means that domestic violence against women is important issue for large percentage of population in Kazakhstan. Surprisingly, absolutely all (100% of) residents of other countries consider this problem as pressing in their countries. So it represents that the issue of domestic violence against women is considered to be highly problematic and highly serious in other countries in comparison with Kazakhstan.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Age | | | | | | | **12-16** | **17-24** | **25-34** | **35-44** | **45-54** | **55 years and over** | | Very concerned | **7** | **10** | **3** | **7** | **3** | **0** | | ***Row percent*** | ***23.3%*** | ***33.3%*** | ***10%*** | ***23.3%*** | ***10%*** | ***0%*** | | Somewhat concerned | **0** | **7** | **1** | **1** | **1** | **2** | | ***Row percent*** | ***0%*** | ***58.3%*** | ***8.3%*** | ***8.3%*** | ***8.3%*** | ***16.7%*** | | Neither concerned nor unconcerned | **1** | **0** | **1** | **0** | **1** | **1** | | ***Row percent*** | ***25%*** | ***0%*** | ***25%*** | ***0%*** | ***25%*** | ***25%*** | | Somewhat unconcerned | **0** | **0** | **1** | **2** | **1** | **0** | | ***Row percent*** | ***0%*** | ***0%*** | ***25%*** | ***50%*** | ***25%*** | ***0%*** | | Very unconcerned | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | | ***Row percent*** | ***0%*** | ***0%*** | ***0%*** | ***0%*** | ***0%*** | ***0%*** |   Table2-Level of concern of different age groups about issue of domestic violence against women.  From the data which is shown in the first table, we can put these age groups in order according to their level of concern:   1. **The most concerned people** about the given problem are young people aged 17-24. 2. Teenagers aged 12-16 3. People aged 35-44 4. Adults aged 45-54, People aged 25-34 5. Senior citizens aged 55 years and overare **the least concerned**.   The average age at which women get married for the first time in Kazakhstan is 25 years. For men, it is 27.6 years. As the most respondents are from Kazakhstan, the above mentioned statistics gives explanation to results from table2: **The most concerned people** about the given problem are young people aged 17-24, because they are concerned about their marriage and as we know domestic violence is closely connected to family life and now these cases are frequently happening in Kazakh families. Senior citizens aged 55 years and over are old and not so energetic like youth, therefore the cases of domestic violence rarely happen in their families.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | How do you think, what is the MAIN reason of rise of domestic violence against women (DVAW) rates in Kazakhstan? | Age | | | | | | | **12-16** | **17-24** | **25-34** | **35-44** | **45-54** | **55 years and over** | | Cultural beliefs dictating outdated gender roles | **5** | **8** | **0** | **4** | **1** | **1** | | ***Row percent*** | ***26.3%*** | ***42.1%*** | ***0%*** | ***21.1%*** | ***5.3%*** | ***5.3%*** | | Ineffective Domestic Violence Laws system | **0** | **6** | **1** | **0** | **2** | **1** | | ***Row percent*** | ***0%*** | ***60%*** | ***10%*** | ***0%*** | ***20%*** | ***10%*** | | Cases of DVAW often go unreported in society | **3** | **3** | **0** | **1** | **1** | **1** | | ***Row percent*** | ***33.3%*** | ***33.3%*** | ***0%*** | ***11.1%*** | ***11.1%*** | ***11.1%*** | | Women provoke the abuse, it is their fault | **0** | **0** | **1** | **0** | **1** | **0** | | ***Row percent*** | ***0%*** | ***0%*** | ***50%*** | ***0%*** | ***50%*** | ***0%*** |   Table3-The main reason of rise of domestic violence against women (DVAW) rates in Kazakhstan based on the answers of different age groups  In relation to the next question about the MAIN reason of rise of domestic violence against women (DVAW) rates in Kazakhstan, for the 19 respondents (47.5% of all respondents from Kazakhstan).  What was unexpected for me is that 2 people, it means 5% of all respondents from Kazakhstan considered that rise of domestic violence against women (DVAW) rates in Kazakhstan is women’s fault, because women provoke the abuse. (Table 3)    Pie chart 2  Whereas most foreigners (5 respondents or 45.5%) think that the MAIN reason of rise of domestic violence against women (DVAW) rates in the world is that cases of domestic violence against women often go unreported.    Pie chart 3 and 4  In Kazakhstan, many men use violence against women or against their female partners, because of the Toxic masculinity in family, based on the responses of most residents of Kazakhstan(22 respondents or 55%). The same result was from the responses of residents of other countries. Besides, there were 6 other reasons from the responses of people from Kazakhstan:   * Poor upbringing of a person, his failure and complete lack of human morals. * This is a mistake of men * The low economic state of the country, the people are not happy and therefore they show this anger and resentment in the family through domestic violence * Women themselves are responsible for male violence, they provoke it, and therefore deserve punishment. Violence is always a response to something (they don't just hit without any reasons). * The cause of violence is alcohol. Alcoholics cannot control their actions, their behavior is primitive.  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Do victims of domestic violence get sufficient support from society and government in Kazakhstan? | What do you think about does Kazakhstan’s society keep silence about cases of family violence against women or vice versa report them? | | | | **Society keeps silence or close eyes to it** | **Society reports them** | **Both** | | Yes | **2** | **1** | **2** | | ***Row percent*** | ***40%*** | ***10%*** | ***40%*** | | No | **17** | **0** | **5** | | ***Row percent*** | ***77.3%*** | ***0%*** | ***22.7%*** | | Maybe | **11** | **0** | **2** | | ***Row percent*** | ***84.6%*** | ***0%*** | ***15.4%*** |   Table 4  The 42.5 % of all respondents from Kazakhstan or 56.7% of respondents, who think that “**Society keeps silence or close eyes to cases of family violence against women”,** answered **NO** for question “Do victims of domestic violence get sufficient support from society and government in Kazakhstan?”. Only 12.5% of all respondents answered **YES**, also only 2.5% of survey takers from Kazakhstan chose the option “**Society reports cases of family violence against women”.** There is seen that most residents of Kazakhstan are sure that society keeps silence or close eyes to problem of domestic violence in our country and they agree that victims of domestic violence against women do not get any support from society and government in Kazakhstan.  **Reasons of answers of residents of Kazakhstan to question “Do victims of domestic violence get sufficient support from society and government in Kazakhstan?”**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Reasons | Number of respondents | | Yes | | | We have specialists like psychologists and organs, etc. that can support them. | 1 | | Crisis centers offer assistance with legal and psychological consultations | 1 | | No | | | Even if victim report to the police, the abuser will not receive proper punishment and then it will lead to more cases of domestic violence. | 4 | | It is accepted by the norm or indifference | 2 | | In our country people blame victims instead of abusers for domestic abuse. Society puts pressure on the affected women, claiming that they provoke domestic abuse. | 4 | | Help is not fully thought out | 1 | | Inefficient domestic violence laws, laws do not provide sufficient protection and help to these women | 5 | | Corruption in the government and police | 1 | | Government and society think that domestic violence against women is not important | 1 | | There are lots of victims of domestic violence and this number does not tend to decrease. Also, criminals are blocked in prisons for not so long period of time (5-20 years are not enough) | 1 | | In light of recent events, there are so many women in social media who are raising this topic and asking for help. |  | | Society considers domestic violence a shame and therefore prefer to hide it rather than help these victims | 2 | | In our country, domestic violence is only a family business | 1 | | Maybe | | | I do not know | 6 | | They provide protection but laws are still powerless to harassment | 1 | | I partially agree with this statement, because many women in Kazakhstan struggle with this, but they lack support | 1 | | They rarely receive support | 1 | | There may be some support from society, however, the government still does not act in order to solve this problem | 1 | | There are few help centers for such situations in Kazakhstan | 1 | | Because we have organizations to fight domestic violence, but some traditions and ineffective laws worsen the situation of domestic violence in our country. | 2 |   Table 5  **Reasons of answers of residents of other countries to question “Do victims of domestic violence get sufficient support from society and government in their countries?”**   * Solomon Islands: Maybe, because Lack sufficient fun and ignorant * USA: Yes, because: Beating spouses was banned in the United States in 1920. Victims can contact special "hot lines", where they will be provided with free consultation and advice on how to proceed. Public organizations are implementing hundreds of victim assistance programs, according to which it is possible for a time - up to 1-2 months, and sometimes even longer - to get a bed or even a dwelling if staying at home is dangerous. The organizers of these programs will cover the material costs of housing, help pay for travel expenses and place children in a kindergarten near the temporary shelter, and will also advise a lawyer for the trial in court. * Russia: No, because:  1. Laws do not protect these people: Victims who seek help from the police return home to the abuser because police was unable to help these women 2. There is no strictly built concept to solve the issue of domestic violence 3. There is no legal and psychological support 4. There is no law, there are crisis centers only in large cities 5. " Do not wash your dirty linen in public ". And if it was taken out into the police, they will laugh and will not accept the application.  * Germany: Yes, because we organize annually the International Human Rights Day. During 16 days UN buildings and several others, including the DW building in Bonn, will be painted orange, symbolizing a future without violence. The motto of this year's campaign is "We will not leave anyone in trouble". In Germany this year, this very topic will be in the foreground - domestic violence. 35 million euros have been allocated for the prevention of violence against women. There will be an increase in the number of structures that help victims of violence, the number of hostels for women who have faced domestic violence, and to toughen penalties for crimes against women. Women who have been victims of violence can seek help from organizations such as the White Ring or the hotline organized by the Ministry of Women, Family and Youth Affairs, where they will be offered assistance. The "hotline", which victims of violence can call, is round-the-clock. The consultations are conducted in 17 languages. * Ukraine: Yes, because to prevent such incidents, the state has developed a special social program, a hotline for psychological assistance, and nine shelters - shelters for victims of violence. For those who need protection, this is very important       Pie charts 5 and 6  Most foreigners answered that “society keeps silence” and ”society keeps silence and simultaneously reports cases of family violence against women” about society of their country. Also most responses supports the idea that victims of domestic violence do not get sufficient support in their countries.  Most residents (49%) of Kazakhstan consider the Feeling of shame as the reason of why **Our Society keeps silence or close eyes to cases of family violence against women.** However **foreigners think “**Because society clearly understands that laws or any organs are not able to aid people who suffer from family violence” as the reason.    Pie charts 7 and 8   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Reasons | Number of respondents | | No | | | It costs nothing to simply write a statement, but the victims themselves are the defenders of these rapists, woman is afraid for her future. Because she depend on the man or does not want to ruin the family. | 1 | | In our country anti-domestic violence movements are just starting to take off | 2 | | Government can always support these women | 1 | | Effective domestic violence laws system | 1 | | Yes | | | People do not want to listen to these women, women are ashamed for their conditions, for cases of domestic violence that happened with them, and for what they told about everything to the appropriate authorities. | 8 | | Gender stereotypes, because many adults are pushing their stereotypical opinion, since there is patriarchy in Kazakhstan | 5 | | People in our country do not support women | 8 | | Outdated Population Principles | 1 | | Inefficient domestic violence laws, laws do not support women | 9 | | Kazakhs have a concept of shame. And everything that crosses the boundaries of morality, we remain in the shadows and people do not want to spread family problems in society. Therefore, many women find it unacceptable to seek help in the event of domestic violence. Thus, women just endure domestic violence. | 4 | | As is commonly believed, women are the weaker sex. In most cases, it is difficult for women to physically resist. | 1 | | Because of our culture and mentality, traditions | 5 | | Women do not want to ruin the family. | 1 | | Women are mostly convinced that domestic abuse is their fault | 1 | | In our country, domestic violence is considered to be not so serious and important issue | 1 | | Our country always try to hide such situations and keep silence or close eyes to them | 1 | | High crime rate, corrupt and ineffective police and courts. | 1 | | Women are afraid | 1 | | Maybe | | | I do not know | 4 | | Possibly difficult due to ineffective laws | 1 | | It is possible, but it doesn’t depend only on women. To deal with domestic violence government and police force also should be involved | 1 | | Society does not support these women | 1 | | Society blames women for provoking men to domestic violence | 1 | | Our country always try to hide such situation like we are unique, ideal and the best community | 1 | | Cultural practices | 1 | | Many women are silent about their problems and about what is happening in their family, because they want to save their family, or it is because of fear for their children and for themselves too, they are scared | 1 | | Women are often ashamed to ask for help | 1 |   Table 6  These diagrams show that combat to domestic violence is hard for women around the world, according to responses of survey takers.  Изображение выглядит как текст  Автоматически созданное описание  Images 1 and 2  **These results show that the level of effectiveness in Kazakhstan and in other countries is not so high, but we can mention that the effectiveness of domestic violence laws system in other countries is slightly higher than in Kazakhstan.**    Pie chart 9   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | How did you or anyone you know react to cases of domestic violence against women | Have you or anyone you know witnessed any forms of domestic violence against women? | | | How would you react, if you witness cases of domestic violence against women? | | **Yes** | **No** |  | | | Ignore | **7** | **5** | Ignore | | | ***Row percent*** | ***87.5%*** | ***12.5%*** | ***Row percent*** | | | Take action by myself to help woman | **17** | **5** | Take action by myself to help woman | | | ***Row percent*** | ***77.3%*** | ***22.7%*** | ***Row percent*** | | | Call the police | **4** | **7** | Call the police | | | ***Row percent*** | ***36.4%*** | ***63.6%*** | ***Row percent*** | | | Called the police, but they did not help them | ***1*** | ***0*** |  | | | ***Row percent*** | ***100%*** | ***0%*** |  | | | Ask for help from relatives and parents | ***3*** | ***0*** |  | | | ***Row percent*** | ***100%*** | ***0%*** |  | | | Call the helpline | ***1*** | ***0*** |  | | | ***Row percent*** | ***100%*** | ***0%*** |  | | |  | ***0*** | ***1*** | Firstly ask does this person need help or not | | |  | ***0%*** | ***100%*** | ***Row percent*** | |   **Table 7**  64.7% of respondents(70% of foreigners) witnessed cases of domestic violence against women. It is an evidence for high rates of domestic violence rates around the world.   * Most respondents, who have witnessed such cases: 52% of them took action by themselves to help woman. * Most respondents, who have not witnessed such cases, would react in these ways, if they witness: 39% of them will call the police.     Bar chart 1  According to the graph that related to responses of question “If you were the victim, where would you go to seek help?”, FROM THE DIAGRAM IT IS OBVIOUS THAT that most people -16 respondents or 32% of all respondents would go to domestic violence organizations in order to seek help, however I have wondered about number of people (7 respondents or 14 % of respondents) who decide to stay at home with abuser.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Reasons | Number of respondents | | Family, parents | | | They can help me and calm down and complain about the abuser, soberly assessing the situation | 1 | | The family will support me | 3 | | They can understand me and my situation | 2 | | They will protect me | 2 | | I want to discuss this with my family first, so that they can help me to get out of domestic violence situation. | 2 | | Domestic violence organizations | | | These are specifically aimed to work with this problem, therefore I have to report there, respectively. | 2 | | The organizations will support me | 2 | | The organization can effectively solve the problem and help me | 5 | | I think that only special organizations that understand the difficult situation of victims and whole essence of the problem of domestic violence can help the victim. | 2 | | This is the only place that will not judge me | 1 | | The police ignore this crime and it is not in the legal field, there is no criminal or administrative punishment for it. There is also an indifference of society, family and neighbors. Besides, staying with abuser can lead to death or disability of victim. Therefore, the option of activists remains. | 1 | | They are able to provide sufficient psychological help and give food and accommodation for victims and their children, even if it is temporary | 1 | | They are able to provide urgent help for victims and their children too. | 1 | | Local police department | | | Their method of punishment is the most effective | 3 | | They are able to give me good advice on how to act in cases of domestic violence | 1 | | Because we must not just leave it like that | 1 | | The police are needed to fight offenses. They are people of the law and by law, violence is a crime. | 6 | | To act in the legal field | 2 | | Avoid any future violence | 1 | | The police will at least somehow (verbally) threaten the offender a little. But, this is only for a while | 2 | | Nowhere, I will stay at home with abuser | | | Fear, I feel scared | 1 | | This is my problem, and I don't want to tell anyone about it. | 1 | | Financial dependence to abuser | 1 | | Fear of losing children | 1 | | Fear of retaliation of abusers | 1 | | Children need their father, even if he is aggressive. | 2 | | Domestic violence is the women’s fault, because she provokes her husband, therefore she must reflect on her mistakes and stay at home. | 2 |   Table 8  The table above represents the reasons of respondents to their answers in the previous question. The most common reasons for each option:   * Family, parents- The family will support me * Domestic violence organizations- The organization can effectively solve the problem and help me However there is an interesting opinion and to my mind such opinions are common nowadays- **The police ignore this crime and it is not in the legal field, there is no criminal or administrative punishment for it. There is also an indifference of society, family and neighbors. Besides, staying with abuser can lead to death or disability of victim. Therefore, the option of activists remains.** * Local police department- The police are needed to fight offenses. They are people of the law and by law, violence is a crime. * Nowhere, I will stay at home with abuser-1) Children need their father, even if he is aggressive.2) Domestic violence is the women’s fault, because she provokes her husband, therefore she must reflect on her mistakes and stay at home. **In order to reduce the problem of domestic violence against women around the world, we must to work with destroying such “wrong” opinions and myths about domestic violence.**   The second survey about “To what extent is society aware of domestic violence against women?” was conducted among 50 people: 50% of them were women, 50% were men. Also most of the respondents were 17-24 aged people-28%, and we have only five 45-54 aged survey takers-10%.    **Bar chart 2**    **Pie chart 10**  In relation to the next question about giving definition to the term of «Domestic violence», there are gotten several groups definitions:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Definition | Number of respondents | | Violence or other abuse in a domestic setting, in a family | 16 | | Negative physical or mental impact on a family member | 1 | | A complex pattern of behaviors that may include, in addition to physical acts of violence, sexual abuse and emotional abuse. | 1 | | When one partner tries to exert power and gain or maintain control over another intimate partner. | 7 | | The situation in which someone you live with attacks you and tries to hurt you | 2 | | Domestic mistreatment by one person towards another | 1 | | Abuse or aggression that occurs in a romantic relationship. | 1 | | When family members suffer as a result of domestic violence | 1 | | Misunderstanding and disrespect in the family | 1 | | Physical violence in family: beating a family member | 6 | | Violence that occurs in families with low social status or in poor families | 2 | | It is not a crime, it is a family business that is not accepted to interfere. | 4 | | Something that needs to be hidden, hushed up or suffered from it. | 1 | | Domestic abuse is only a momentary loss of temper. | 3 | | Domestic violence is just an occasional slap or punch that is not serious. | 1 | | Person had some difficulties in answering this question | 3 |   Table 9  To my mind, **30 people or 58.8% of all respondents** have given the correct definition to term of domestic violence, and it means that they clearly understand and realize this term. However, there is also **one definition**, that causes some difficulties in determining it as a correct or incorrect answer, so it was **“Misunderstanding and disrespect in the family”**, I think that this person is not fully aware about meaning of domestic violence. Definitely, we got some wrong definitions, that are closely related to myths about domestic violence-**it makes up 33.3% of all answers (from 17 respondents)**. Unfortunately, 3 people (5.9%) cannot even answer this question, which is an indicator of their unawareness about family violence.   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Statements | **True** | **False** | | Domestic violence against women affects a small percentage of Kazakhstan’s population. | **14** | **36** | | ***Row percent*** | ***28%*** | ***72%*** | | Humiliating (constant criticisms, blame, jealousy, control) partner is not a domestic violence. | **14** | **36** | | ***Row percent*** | ***28%*** | ***72%*** | | Domestic violence against women can result in serious injury. | **46** | **4** | | ***Row percent*** | ***92%*** | ***8%*** | | If He Beats You, It Means He Loves You | ***5*** | ***45*** | | ***Row percent*** | ***10%*** | ***90%*** | | Man has right to beat his wife | ***10*** | ***40*** | | ***Row percent*** | ***20%*** | ***80%*** | | Man, who beats or emotionally abuses his wife, but provides financially for his family, is still a good husband | ***12*** | ***38*** | | ***Row percent*** | ***24%*** | ***76%*** | | Domestic violence is not a crime and there is no need to call the police | ***12*** | ***38*** | | ***Row percent*** | ***24%*** | ***76%*** | | Survivors of domestic violence must report incidents to the authorities or access shelters geared for survivors | ***40*** | ***10*** | | ***Row percent*** | ***80%*** | ***20%*** |   Table-10  According to the table above, most respondents have answered correctly, however incorrect answers are an evidence that there are some people, who are not completely aware of problem of domestic violence against women in Kazakhstan. So this can be one of reasons of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan, because of such unconsciousness, people will not fully realize seriousness and importance of this problem, hence they will not care about reducing this issue of domestic violence against women.  The data, which was given by the respondents of the survey was proved by the opinion of interviewees and the issue of my research was analyzed from different spheres like history and literature, rights of people. There were 3 of them: teacher of Kazakh History and Kazakh literature, Rights of people. If to sum up their opinion, the following answers WERE given by interviewees:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Teacher of Kazakh History** | | | **Has Domestic Violence against women been throughout our history?** | **Cases of domestic violence against women did not happen in ancient Kazakh families, because there were not any conditions for that. Men and women had separate functions and they were busy with their affairs in society and in family too, for instance men protected nation from enemies, while women had to do housework, so they clearly understood the importance of their responsibilities, therefore it prevents cases of domestic abuse.** | | **Have the rates of domestic violence against women changed throughout our history? Why? If yes, how has it changed?** | **Yes, nowadays cases of domestic abuse are existing. When Kazakhs pass from nomadic farming into settled farming, they were affected by social marginalisation. The values and qualities that are characteristic to our nation have changed. For instance, During the Soviet Union, there were important events like The Great Patriotic War, so at that time we have lost a large number of man and many families have been destroyed, consequently our family values have been weakened.** | | **Is there any historical factor that caused this problem?** | | **How can we lower these rates?** | **Strengthen our domestic violence laws system.**  **Develop family values and upbringing values and also women and men should clearly know and understand their responsibilities in family.**  **Develop family institutes.** | | **Teacher of Kazakh literature** | | | **Was domestic violence against women normal in ancient Kazakh families? Should it be normal in modern Kazakh families?** | **Domestic violence against women was not normal in ancient Kazakh families, because at that time our ancestors really respect women, therefore there was not any violence against women and it must not be normal in modern Kazakh families** | | **Is domestic violence against women our tradition or is it strongly embedded in the Kazakh mentality?** | **There are some traditions that cause domestic abuse, for instance we have tradition “Kyz alyp kashu”, which means bride kidnapping, and 30% of all families were formed by this tradition. When women are forced to marry stranger, it causes quarreling in family, so it leads to domestic abuse against women.** | | **Do the Kazakh literature propagandize the idea of domestic violence against women or affect to situation of domestic violence against women in Kazakhstan?** | **Kazakh literature does not propagandize the idea of domestic violence against women and it does not affect to situation of domestic violence against women in Kazakhstan, because images of women are well-revealed in our literature and it has not any ideas that we should bit women or not respect them. Besides, our modern Kazakh literature shows women like wise, strong, great people.** | | **What are the causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan?** | **Need to develop upbringing in family.**  **Women and men do not clearly know their responsibilities, functions.**  **Small number of Institutes of mothers and brides**  **Low social status, situation in family: unemployment of people, etc.** | | **How can we lower these rates?** | **Increase the numbers of Institutes of mothers and brides, family institutes.** | | **Teacher of Rights of people:** | | | **Do victims of domestic violence appeal to police in the Kazakhstan? If not, why?** | **Victims rarely appeal to police, because domestic violence is considered to be just a family business based on our mentality** | | **How do you assess helpfulness of Kazakhstan’s Domestic Violence Laws system? Why?** | **I think that, there are no problems with these laws, also Kazakhstan’s Domestic Violence Laws system is made according to laws about protecting rights of women and families in United Nations. Therefore, I think they are helpful.** | | **Do the Women in Kazakhstan facing domestic violence receive sufficient protection from government?** | **Yes, there many events that related to reducing problem of domestic violence, for instance** **"Mereili otbasy" program or Day of Family are intended to cement family relationships and develop family values, moral values, strengthen the responsibilities of parents in the upbringing of children. They give sufficient protection for such women.** | | **How can Kazakhstan lower the rates of domestic violence against women?** | **Improve social situation by:**  **Organizing more events and programs for families**  **Denoting money to help families**  **Giving facilitated credits and mortgage to families** |   Table 11  The main aim of this research is to find the ways of solving the problem of domestic abuse against women in our country by investigating causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan. All the 3 methods contributed to the achieve this aim. For instance, in the first survey was identified the causes of rise of domestic violence and was investigated global and national situation of domestic violence against women and were answered research questions like:   * Do women endure domestic violence or keep silence about it? * Is it hard for women to combat domestic abuse? * Does society keep silence about family violence against women or close eyes to it? * Why do men use violence against women or against their female partners? * Do victims of domestic violence get sufficient support from society and government? * How contemporary society reacts to cases of domestic violence?   The second survey can connect the reasons of rise of domestic violence rates in Kazakhstan with to what extent society aware of domestic violence by checking their knowledge about this topic. Interviews with teachers can help to identify causes of issue of my research through spheres like history and literature, rights of people and they also suggest the ways of reducing this problem, it has answered the main research questions: **What are the causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan? How can we lower these rates?** So, the results of different methods confirm each other. |
|  |

**Conclusion**

The main aim of this research is to find the ways of solving the problem of domestic abuse against women in our country by investigating causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan. Over the course of the research, the hypothesis that reason of this problem is affected by both government and society was proved to be correct.

* Do victims of domestic violence appeal to police?

According to response of Teacher of Rights of people, Victims rarely appeal to police, because domestic violence is considered to be just a family business based on our mentality.

* Is it hard for women to combat domestic abuse?

Pie charts 7 and 8 show that combat to domestic violence is hard for women around the world.  The main reasons based on the responses are (data is used from Table 6):

1. Inefficient domestic violence laws, laws do not support women
2. People in our country do not support women
3. People do not want to listen to these women, women are ashamed for their conditions, for cases of domestic violence that happened with them, and for what they told about everything to the appropriate authorities.

* Does society keep silence about family violence against women or close eyes to it?  Do victims of domestic violence get sufficient support from society and government?

According to fourth table and pie charts 5 and 6, most residents of Kazakhstan and most foreigners are sure that society keeps silence or close eyes to problem of domestic violence and they agree that victims of domestic violence against women do not get any support from society and government around the world. Besides, we have identified reasons for such answers from results of surveys: Most residents of Kazakhstan consider the Feeling of shame as the reason of why Our Society keeps silence or close eyes to cases of family violence against women.  However foreigners think “Because society clearly understands that laws or any organs are not able to aid people who suffer from family violence” as the reason.

The victims of domestic violence against women do not get any support from society and government in Kazakhstan, because (data is used from Table 5):

1. Inefficient domestic violence laws, laws do not provide sufficient protection and help to these women.
2. Even if victim report to the police, the abuser will not receive proper punishment and then it will lead to more cases of domestic violence.
3. In our country people blame victims instead of abusers for domestic abuse. Society puts pressure on the affected women, claiming that they provoke domestic abuse.

However, Teacher of Rights of people stated that The victims of domestic violence against women get sufficient support from society and government in Kazakhstan and he proved it with many events that related to reducing problem of domestic violence, for instance "Mereili otbasy" program or Day of Family are intended to cement family relationships and develop family values, moral values, strengthen the responsibilities of parents in the upbringing of children.

Surprisingly, there were also differences in responses of foreigners: because Russian people said NO and respondent from Solomon Islands answered MAYBE, while others (USA, Ukraine, Germany) answered YES.

* Why do many men use violence against women or against their female partners?

According to Pie chart 3 and 4, Toxic masculinity in family is the main reason of why many men use violence against women or against their female partners, therefore it is one of the main factors that affects issue of domestic abuse and it can a possible cause of high level of this issue. However, graphs represents the information that there are still existing myths about domestic abuse in society’s mind, such as “The cause of violence is alcohol” and “Women themselves are responsible for male violence, they provoke it, and therefore deserve punishment”.

* How contemporary society reacts to cases of domestic violence?

Table 7 shows that the largest percentage of respondents, who have witnessed cases of domestic violence against women, have taken action by themselves to help woman, while most respondents, who have not witnessed such cases, would call the police, if they witness, but there is seen that only 4 of 33 respondents, who have witnessed domestic abuse against women called the police, so it shows difference in responses (in the ways how they react) of people who have witnessed cases of family violence against women and who have never witnessed them.

* To what extent is Domestic Violence Laws system effective?

As you can see in images 1 and 2, the level of effectiveness in Kazakhstan and in other countries is not so high, but we can mention that the effectiveness of domestic violence laws system in other countries is slightly higher than in Kazakhstan. Therefore government should pay attention to their laws, if they want to combat to issue of domestic violence.

However, the teacher of Rights of people claim that there are no problems with these laws and they are helpful, also he said that Kazakhstan’s Domestic Violence Laws system is made according to laws about protecting rights of women and families in United Nations.

* To what extent is society aware of domestic violence against women?

Referring to Table 9, more than half of respondents have given the correct definition to term of domestic violence, and it means that they clearly understand and realize this term, however we got some wrong definitions, that are closely related to myths about domestic violence. It illustrates that there are people, who have wrong conception about given term or that the myths about domestic violence are still existing in the society’s mind. According to the 10th table, most respondents have answered correctly, however incorrect answers are an evidence that there are some people, who are not completely aware of problem of domestic violence against women in Kazakhstan. So this can be one of reasons of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan, because of such unconsciousness, people will not fully realize seriousness and importance of this problem, hence they will not care about reducing this issue of domestic violence against women.

* What are the causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan?

As determined by Table, the main reason of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan is Cultural beliefs dictating outdated gender roles in accordance with the most responses of residents of Kazakhstan and majority of those were people who`s age is 17-24. It shows that most teenagers of Kazakhstan blame our culture for this problem. Moreover, given table represents that there are still existing myths about domestic violence in the mind of society, such as “domestic abuse is women’s fault, because women provoke the abuse”. Whereas pie chart 2 shows that most foreigners think that the MAIN reason of rise of domestic violence against women (DVAW) rates in the world is “cases of domestic violence against women often go unreported”. As we see foreigners and people from Kazakhstan consider different things as the answer for this research question.

Besides, as said by Teacher of Kazakh literature, the causes are:

* Need to develop upbringing in family.
* Women and men do not clearly know their responsibilities, functions.
* Small number of Institutes of mothers and brides
* Low social status, situation in family: unemployment of people, etc.
* How can we lower these rates?

In relation to the responses of interviewees, we have concluded several ways of dealing with issue of domestic violence against women:

* Strengthen our domestic violence laws system.
* Develop family values and upbringing values and also women and men should clearly know and understand their responsibilities in family.
* Increase the numbers of Institutes of mothers and brides, family institutes and develop them
* Improve social situation by: 1)Organizing more events and programs for families 2)Denoting money to help families 3)Giving facilitated credits and mortgage to families

**Evaluation**

In the course of research work, clear answers to all questions were found. Hence the research goal has been achieved. In general, the work was done in full. Secondary research was conducted with reliable sources and primary research was conducted in cooperation with society.

If to look at strong and weak points of the work design. The main advantage is that research tools consisted of social work. There was conducted a correlation with a people and specialists, which rises the quality of research work and make it social. For instance, people of all ages participated in my 2 surveys. In first survey they were from different countries, which helps to get reliable results and get an overview of global situation of issue of domestic abuse against women. In surveys most respondents were giving full answers to open ended questions and provided valuable examples also. Important fact is that they all was honest reliable people. Also the online surveys was conducted within male and female. Since men and women can give honest answers from their own experience and opinion about problem of domestic violence against women, it was possible to analyze the difference between the attitudes towards this issue of my research of two genders, so the target group was successfully chosen to ensure valid results. Furthermore, interviewees were real specialists, which helped to get a complete answer to majority of research questions. They have illustrated scientific view on the problem, which is quite important in reaching the research aim. Also, they could explain the issue using specific and general examples, which is significant as well.

Despite these advantages, can be noticed some weak points. In surveys the number of people of different ages was not equal and it affected results. It was impossible to control the number of respondents, which resulted in a marginal difference between the response rates of different age groups. This has led to difficulties in clarifying the difference between their viewpoints, albeit to a small extent. That is why, it would have been better if I had set limits on the amount of responses for each age group. Furthermore, in the first survey the number of people from different countries was not equal. It was also difficult to gather foreign respondents, even if I shared the link of my survey through Facebook, VK and other sites, only some people took it, therefore most respondents were from Kazakhstan and results of survey were mostly about situation of problem in Kazakhstan. Could be obtained more data about other countries if I used other ways to gather more respondents, such as using foreign paid survey sites. Besides, the second survey about awareness about family violence was conducted only among residents of Kazakhstan, so it could not explore this topic globally, therefore I had to include foreign respondents in conducting this survey to improve quality of its results.

Another weak point is interview. Teacher of Kazakh Literature was interviewed offline, however Teacher of Kazakh History and Teacher of Rights of People were interviewed online, and other interviewees ignored my interview questions (online), so I interviewed only 3 people. Also, clarifying some answers during online interview was not easy as it was offline. To improve the quality of an interview, online interviews should be replaced by face-to-face interviews so that interviewees' emotions will be fully conveyed and they will feel involved, furthermore, additional questions will be asked based on the interviewee's preceding answers, however these aspects were not included in online interviews.

If to evaluate conclusion, can be noticed good generalization. Information, gathered though primary and secondary research was correlated to answers to all research questions. Causes of rise of domestic abuse against women rates and ways of reducing this problem were observed from all sides: from the perspective of different aged man and women from different countries and specialists from different spheres and bias were avoided in order to take a rational look at the problem. Due to this, conclusion possesses wide applicability. It can be used by government or organizations, that are interested in solving the issue of family violence against women, so they will know with what they should work or what should be improved based on the reasons that are determined in my research, besides it can be used in social issue articles and news to give people full and precise information about this problem. It is also can draw people's attention to the problem and urge them to make contribution for reducing the problem of domestic violence against women, even it can be used in feminist movements by calling on women to protect their rights.

**Further Research**

During the research work, appeared new questions, which worth to be answered. Further research will be suitable for these questions. From this come the questions “Do women, who have experienced domestic abuse, trust police?”, “How do victims of domestic abuse deal with their situation?”, “What do these women need (which form of help)?”, or “What do they want to change in order to solve the problem of rise of domestic violence rates?”, which can be answered in a further study.

It will give more considerable results if to make separate anonymous surveys for victims of domestic abuse, which will also answer new appeared questions during the research work. It will help to get reliable and valuable results. Additionally, it will be better to increase the number of respondents and track the number of people of different categories (age, gender, country) to be equal. By this way, it will be easier to generalize the information.

More selective interviewees will help you collect more data. Conducting the interview with more experts, such as psychologist, who works with cases of domestic abuse and Principal staff or directors of the Domestic Violence Crisis Center “Ulba” or of PUBLIC ASSOCIATION "CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ADAPTATION “PHOENIX” may improve the confidence of conclusions, however I could not conduct online interview with them, because they did not answer my message with interview questions, therefore we should conduct these interviews in further research . We need to find highly qualified specialists and psychologists around the world, who work with solving the problem of domestic abuse. This increases the quality and value of information. It is also possible to find people, who experienced domestic abuse and victims of family violence. Learning from experience and researching examples can bring great results.

In addition, more data collection methods should be added for future analysis in order to identify problems in depth. For example, can be implemented observation to look at cases of domestic abuse against women, such as exploring domestic violence cases happened with neighbors, especially the actions and behavior of partners. Next, can be interviewed police departments, so we can get valid information about domestic abuse against women.

The problem is widespread around the world, so it is very important to study it in other countries. For example, data from countries with completely different cultures or levels of development should be compared. On this basis, the purpose of future research is to determine the impact of culture, mentality or historical events, level of development and economy on the problem of domestic violence against women and people's attitudes towards it, as well as how to overcome the problem.

All in all, depending on the possibilities can be added some new research questions and methods, which will consider different perspectives and help to obtain huge results with wide applicability. Nevertheless, the main research questions were answered during this investigation. To be honest, my personal views have not changed after all the research. I still hold the position that the issue of domestic violence against women plays an important role in the world, therefore the reasons of rise of rates of this issue and ways of solving it are closely related to government and society of each country. Even if my opinion hasn't changed, I have gained more knowledge on this topic. Domestic violence against women is an issue that presents itself in almost every aspect of community’s life and needs a big effort to solve.

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**Appendices**

**Research Tool 1: \_\_** **Questionnaire \_\_ “What are the causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan? “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

[**https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yVLbOR7jwkKAg3U1W3KN4627mN6x85tKk3nbyisw16NUMDc3WUNZTzk3U1YxTllJMjBVN0xNNjkxVi4u**](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yVLbOR7jwkKAg3U1W3KN4627mN6x85tKk3nbyisw16NUMDc3WUNZTzk3U1YxTllJMjBVN0xNNjkxVi4u)

**The main aim of this research is** to find the ways of solving the problem of domestic abuse against women in our country by investigating causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan.

1. **What is your age:**

* 12-16
* 17-24
* 25-34
* 35-44
* 45-54
* Over 55 years

1. **What is your gender:**

* Male
* Female

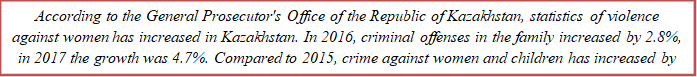
1. **Where are you from?**

* Kazakhstan
* Russian
* Canada
* USA
* Others (please specify)

1. **Is a problem of a pressing and serious problem in Kazakhstan?**

* Yes
* No

1. **How concerned are you about this issue in our country?**

* Extremely concerned
* Very concerned
* Moderately concerned
* Slightly concerned
* Not at all concerned

1. **How do you think, what is the main reason of increasing the rates of domestic violence against women (DVAW) in Kazakhstan?**

* Cultural beliefs dictating outdated gender roles
* Ineffective Domestic Violence Laws system
* Cases of **DVAW** remain unreported in society
* Others (please specify)

Изображение выглядит как текст

Автоматически созданное описание

1. **Why do many men use violence against women or against their female partners in Kazakhstan? What is the main reason?**

* Toxic masculinity in family
* Experiencing abuse during childhood
* Weak punishment for family abusers
* Others (please specify)

Изображение выглядит как текст

Автоматически созданное описание

1. **Have you or anyone you know witnessed any forms of domestic violence against women?**

* Yes (go to 9th question)
* No (go to 10th question)

1. **How did you or anyone you know react to cases of domestic violence against women?**

* Ignore
* Call the police
* Take action by yourself to help women
* Others (please specify)

**Why?**

1. **How would you react, if you witness cases of domestic violence against women?**

* Ignore
* Call the police
* Take action by yourself to help women
* Others (please specify)

**Why?**

1. **If you where the victim, where would you go to?**

* **Family**
* **Domestic violence organizations**
* **Police**
* **Other ()**

**Why?**

1. **What do you think about does Kazakhstan’s society keep silence about cases of family violence against women or vice versa report them?**

* **Society keeps silence (go to 12th question)**
* **Society reports them**
* **Your option** (**please specify**)

1. **Why does society keep silence about family violence against women or close eyes to it?**

* Feeling of shame
* Fear of retaliation of abusers
* Others (please specify)

**How do you assess helpfulness of Kazakhstan’s Domestic Violence Laws system?**

* Very helpful
* Helpful
* Neither helpful nor unhelpful
* Unhelpful
* Very unhelpful
* **Why?** -……………………

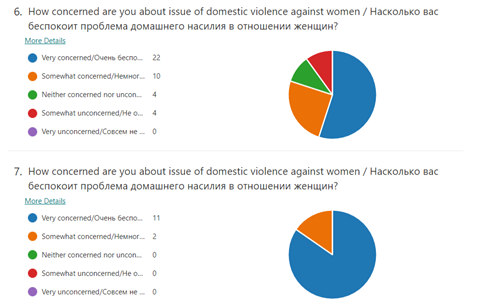
**Do victims of domestic violence get sufficient support from society and government?**

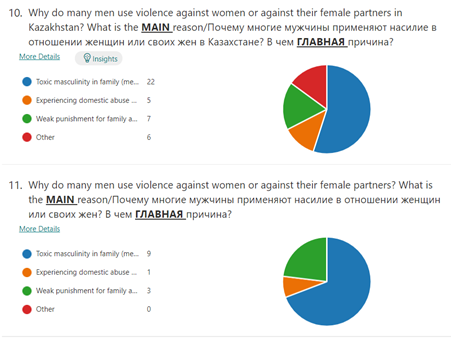
* Yes
* No
* Don’t know

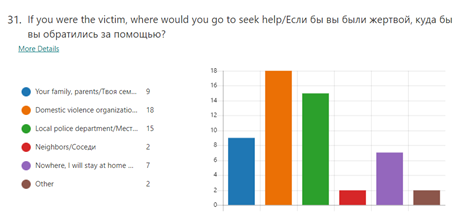
**If you answered Yes or No, can you explain WHY?-…………………………**

**Is it hard for women to combat domestic abuse? Why? -………………………………………………………………**

**We are extremely grateful for your contributing your valuable time, your honest information, and your thoughtful suggestions to complete this survey.**







**Research Tool 2: \_\_\_\_ Questionnaire \_\_\_\_” To what extent is society aware of domestic violence against women?”\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

[**https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yVLbOR7jwkKAg3U1W3KN4627mN6x85tKk3nbyisw16NUNTZYSlI1S1FEMTBNOUlFN0kySUVaUDlNRC4u**](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yVLbOR7jwkKAg3U1W3KN4627mN6x85tKk3nbyisw16NUNTZYSlI1S1FEMTBNOUlFN0kySUVaUDlNRC4u)

1. **What is your age:**

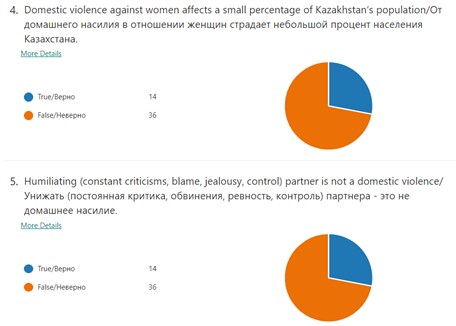
* 12-16
* 17-24
* 25-34
* 35-44
* 45-54
* Over 55 years

1. **What is your gender:**

* Male
* Female

1. **Define the term of Domestic violence.**
2. **Domestic violence against women affects a small percentage of Kazakhstan’s population.** True or False
3. **Humiliating (constant criticisms, blame, jealousy, control) your partner is not a domestic violence.**True or False
4. **Domestic violence against women does not usually result in serious injury.**True or False
5. **If He Beats You, It Means He Loves You.** True or False
6. **Man has right to beat his wife.** True or False
7. **Man, who beats or emotionally abuses their partner, but provides financially for his family, is still a good husband.** True or False
8. **Domestic violence is not a crime and there is no need to call the police.**True or False
9. **Survivors of domestic violence must report incidents to the authorities or access shelters geared for survivors.** True or False

**We are extremely grateful for your contributing your valuable time, your honest information to complete this survey.**





**Research Tool 3: \_\_** **Interview\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**I need to interview these groups of people:**

• Teachers of Kazakh history, Kazakh literature, Rights of people

**How many people do I need to interview to make my research valid? 3**

**Beginning of the interview:**

**•** **Can you tell me is a problem of a domestic abuse against women pressing and serious problem in Kazakhstan?**

**•** **How do you feel about this issue?**

* **How long have you studied or worked on this sphere? (except victims of domestic violence against women)**

**Teacher of Kazakh history:**

**•** **Has Domestic Violence against women been throughout our history?**

* **Have the rates of domestic violence against women changed throughout our history? Why? If yes, how has it changed?**

**•** **Is there any historical factor that caused this problem?**

**•** **Has the government of Kazakhstan made a big progress in solving the problem of family violence against women throughout his history?  Why?**

**Teacher of Rights of people:**

**•** **Do victims of domestic violence appeal to police in the Kazakhstan? If not, why?**

**•** **Do the Women in Kazakhstan facing domestic violence receive sufficient protection from government? If yes, do you have further examples of this? If not, why?**

**•** **How do you assess helpfulness of Kazakhstan’s Domestic Violence Laws system? Why?**

**•** **Do the government apply just punishment for abusers of domestic violence against women?**

* **What measures were taken to lower the rates of domestic violence against women around the world?**
* **Which country has the lowest rate of domestic violence against women? Why?**
* **How can Kazakhstan lower the rates of domestic violence against women?**

**Teacher of Kazakh literature:**

**•** **Was domestic violence against women normal in ancient Kazakh families? Should it be normal in modern Kazakh families?**

**•** **Is domestic violence against women our tradition or is it strongly embedded in the Kazakh mentality?**

**•** **Do the Kazakh literature propagandize the idea of domestic violence against women or affect to situation of domestic violence against women in Kazakhstan?**

**Moreover, I want to ask each interviewee “What are the causes of rise of domestic violence against women rates in Kazakhstan?” and “How can we lower these rates?”.**

**We are extremely grateful for your contributing your valuable time, your honest information, and your thoughtful suggestions.**