EDUCATION AS A MEANS TO ERADICATE GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

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"No human development goal can be achieved as long as women and girls continue to suffer from violence or live in fear of it"

- Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin

God has created man and woman both are the same and have the right to enjoy the same opportunity woman have served as nurturers and care giver in society. They have been subjected to different forms of abuse.

Gender Based Violence (GBV)

Violence against woman is a persistent and universal problem occurring in every culture and social group. GBV is particularly disbursing phenomena which exist in all regions of the world. The term refers to any harmful act that is perpetrated against one person will and that is based on socially prescribed (Gender) differences between male and female, around the world, at least one in every three women has been beaten, coerced into sex or abused in her lifetime most often by someone she knows, including a member of her own family, an employer or a co-worker. It includes acts that inflict physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering, threats of such act, coercion and other deprivations of liberty, whether occurring in professional or in private life.

GBV is predominantly a crime against women and represent a violation of human rights. The cyclic nature of GBV can be described as "cradle to grave". GBV is violence against women based on women's subordinate status in society and it happens because of their gender. In most cultures traditional beliefs, norms and social institutions legitimized and therefore perpetuate violence against women. It is violence involving men and women in which the female is usually the victim and which is derived from unequal power relationship between men and women. Violence is directed specifically against a woman because she is a woman or affects women disproportionately. Social acceptance of male superiority, domination and control by women, and the reinforcement of such by the family, school, policy makers and religious institutions contribute to the prevalence of GBV worldwide.GBV includes physical, sexual, psychological and domestic violence. :

Forms of Gender Based Violence

Violence can be classified into four categories- Physical, Sexual, Psychological, and Emotional. Violence against women is not limited to discrimination, physical abuse and emotional abuse but can take various other forms as well some of them are

Violence and Gender Discrimination Act at Birth, Infancy and Early Childhood

These types of GBV includes collective sex abortion of female fetuses, neglect of girls which results in malnutrition, female infanticide which is common in isolated and rural parts of south and east Asia, immunization coverage is better for male children and often the female children receive partial or no immunization at all.

Examples of gender-based violence throughout the life of a woman include:

- Pre-birth: Sex-selective abortion
- Infancy: Female infanticide, physical

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abuse, neglect, poor nutrition, and lack of immunization and medical care.

- Girlhood: Child marriage, female genital mutilation (FGM), trafficking, child prostitution, sexual abuse, poor nutrition, lack of immunizations and medical care, and minimal or lack of educational opportunities.
- Adolescence: Forced marriages, date rape, FGM, limited or lack of social interaction, acid throwing, dowry deaths, sexual harassment at school and workplace, mass rape during war and civil unrest, lack of safe motherhood facilities, forced prostitution, and trafficking. Other types of violence include economic and social discrimination.
- Young and middle-aged women: Intimate partner abuse, marital rape, dowry abuse, psychological and sexual abuse of women at the workplace, rape, widow abuse, and lack of access to health care including access to safe motherhood facilities.
- Elderly women: Physical and mental abuse of elderly women and widows including rape and neglect.

Acid Attacks

It is a harmful practice against women. In an acid attack acid is thrown, usually by a man on to the face of a girl or woman with the intent of disfiguring her. The reason of this most heinous crime may be vary but the most common reason for this act is rejected marriage proposal by the victim.

Dowry Deaths

Unfortunately the practice of dowry abuse, which is a violation of human rights against woman, has been increasing in south Asian countries especially in India. A woman is subjected to ill treatment by her husband and in-laws when the dowry she has brought is considered insufficient. She may be abuse verbally, physically, or be subjected to humiliation.

Child Marriage and Forced Marriage

In many parts of Asia, Africa and Middle East there is a tradition of marrying young girls before they attain puberty forcefully. The impact of this trauma can be subtle prolong and often hard to access to counseling services. The practice of child marriage is a violation of the human rights of girls who are decried of their dignity and self respect.

Practice of Sati and Devdasi

Sati and Devdasi are special forms of cultural violence against women. In the practice of sati, the widow was burned on the funeral pyre along with her dead husband. Devdasi tradition is prevalent in south India which means ‘servant of god’. Devdasies are adolescent girls who are lured into prostitution in the name of religion. These young girls may suffer from depression, or traumatic stress syndromes and injury as a result of physical violence.

Honor Killing

Globally hundreds or even thousands of young girls and woman are murdered each year by their families in the name of family honor. Honor killings are perpetrated for a wide range of offenses. Marital Infidelity, premarital sex, flirting, inappropriate attire can be perceived as impugning the family honor

Sexual violence

WHO defines sexual violence as: any sexual act, attempt to obtain act, unwanted sexual comments or advances or acts to traffic, otherwise directed, against a person’s sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting, including but not limited to home

and work. The following are forms of sexual violence: Marital rape, date rape, rape by strangers, sexual harassment, which includes demanding sex in return for favor, forced abortion, forced virginity inspections forced prostitution and trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation"

Globalization and New Forms of Gender Violence

In the absence of any safety net, globalization has enhanced control over sexuality, fertility and labor of women migrants. Innocent rural girls as well as educated adolescent girls are inducted into the workforce. Cross country migration of girls and women for domestic work, industrial and professional services such as nursing, secretarial practice, telemarketing and business process outsourcing has increased.

Trade in the organs of destitute women and children from poor Asian communities have gained demonic proportions. Soft porn as well as hard-core pornography and cyber sexual violence are used for humiliation and intimidation of women and girls. Cyber stalking is also on the rise. Policy intervention is needed to deal with online sexual violence. An increasing number of women from cities are also reporting harassment through spam, cyber porn and SMS messages.

Smut parties for executives of multi-national and indigenous houses have become routine affairs, and governments do not take action in spite of prima-facie evidence provided by the media (Shyam 2002).

The Sites of Gender Based Violence

Family

Family is one of the primary sites of gender violence it prepares its members for social life, forms gender stereotypes and perceptions of division of labor between sexes. family is the arena where physical abuses (spousal battering, sexual assault, sexual abuse) and psychological abuse occur. Domestic violence also takes place in family.

Community / Society

Society as a group sharing common social cultural, religious or ethnic belonging, it perpetuates existing family structure and power inequalities in family and society. It justifies the behavior of male abuses aimed at establishing control over in the family and supports harmful traditional practices such battering and corporal punishment

Work place can also be a site of violence. Either in governmental service or in a business company, Women are vulnerable to sexual aggression (harassment intimidation) and commercialized violence (trafficking for sexual exploitation).

State

State legitimizes power inequalities in family and society and perpetuates gender-based violence through enactment of discriminatory laws and policies or through the discriminatory application of the law. State is responsible for tolerance of gender violence on an official level (i.e. in the family and in the community).

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTS)

GBV is performed not only in the real world but the virtual world of ICT is also a place where this type of violence is dominant. Genderit.org identifies three distinct categories of ICTs or information and communication technologies:

- Information technology that uses computers;
- Telecommunications technology including telephones, facsimiles and satellite broadcast of radio and television; and

- Networking technologies including the Internet and mobile phones.

In other words, ICTs are all or any forms of "technology and tools that people use to share, distribute, and gather information to communicate with one another, one on one, or in groups."

There are several points of intersection between gender violence and ICTs. While both men and women are equally vulnerable to several forms of fraud and identity theft, young women, children and those who are gay or lesbian are also vulnerable to violence of other kinds. In some cases, this violence can and has spilled over to the 'offline' world. For instance, harassment online or via mobile phones is often an additional dimension of sexual harassment at the workplace. Relationships that are forged online through dating sites are as susceptible to violence as any others. Increasingly, women face abuse and harassment online from strangers and casual acquaintances as well as former partner

When does this violence occur?

Domestic, sexual and gender-based violence are global health, human rights and developmental problems. These problems have profound, immediate and long term consequences involving physical, psychological and social effects. Despite the various forms of domestic and sexual violence worldwide, there is one clear pattern in the occurrence. A growing body of international research examines the extent and patterns of gender-based violence across a range of countries. This work indicates that these forms of violence and abuse are universal, occurring in all countries of the world. It also reveals that, generally, the perpetrators are well known to their victims. A ten-country study on women's health and domestic violence sheds light where few data were previously available (WHO,2005). The study finds that, depending on the country, between 15 per cent and 71 per cent of women reported physical or sexual violence by a husband or partner and that significant numbers of women experience more than one form of abuse. In fact women most often describe patterns of abusive behavior and repeat victimization in these relationships. The most common patterns are women experiencing physical abuse only, or physical abuse and sexual abuse, and bothpatterns are accompanied by the controllingbehavior of their intimate partner.

The studies that are available consistently indicate that domestic and sexual violence are experienced by both women and men (see Coker et al, 2002; Schafer et al, 1998 for the international context). To date the emphasis, particularly in large-scale research, has been on men's violence towards women. This inclination has severely limited the extent to which issues relating to domestic and sexual violence are addressed for both women and men. Gradually, however, prevalence studies are beginning to cover the extent of domestic and sexual violence among both men and women.

In India, the problem of gender-based violence is getting worse. National Crime Record Bureau statistics show crimes against women increased by 7.1 percent nationwide since 2010. There has been a rise in the number of incidents of rape recorded too. In 2011, 24,206 incidents were recorded, a rise of 9 percent from the previous year. More than half of the victims are between 18 and 30 years of age. Figures indicate that 10.6 percent of total victims of rape were girls under 14 years of age, while 19 percent were teens between the ages of 14 and 18. Alarmingly in almost 94.2 percent of cases offenders were known to the victims and those involved included family members, relatives, and neighbors. Under the IPC (Indian Penal

Code) crimes against women include rape, kidnapping and abduction, homicide for dowry, torture, molestation, sexual harassment, and the importation of girls. A total of 2,28,650 incidents of crimes against women were reported in the country during 2011. The north eastern city of Tripura recorded the highest rate of crimes against women at 37 percent, compared to the national crime rate of 18.9 percent. Kidnapping and abductions are up by 19 percent and trafficking rose by 122 percent in the same period. Crimes that include the Indian term "eve-teasing" or harassment and heckling and sexual innuendoes against women in public places including streets, public transport, cinema halls, along with the rape of minors and women in tribal and villages often go unreported and unrecorded. According to records, Madhya Pradesh, a state with a large population of tribes, has recorded 3406 rape cases, the highest number of incidents in the country in 2011. India's profile as an emerging modern nation has taken a beating by the recent rape case, as widespread gender-based violence has been exposed.

How extensive is the problem and what are the barriers to its resolution?

Some states fail to criminalize and/or to punish marital rape and so-called honor killings. Laws that prevent a woman from owning property or travelling without a male guardian make women vulnerable to control by abusive spouses in the home, and failure of the state to provide safe alternative housing. Failure of police to protect a woman suffering violence for women and their children, leave women trapped in dangerous situations. Economic systems that perpetrate the increasing feminization of poverty contribute to the exploitation of women and girls through prostitution, slavery and trafficking. Women are often victims of violence at the hands of the state itself, when in detention, during armed conflict and during periods of social instability. At the same time, the state may be the most important enabler for eradicating gender-based violence.

Security Council Resolution 1325 recognized women's role in making the world more secure. This is part of a broader re-conceptualization of 'security' and security providers. Current threats have prompted are cognition that 'security' is not only the protection of states, but an indivisible need and value that all people have the right to enjoy. The task of the security sector is thus to create conditions that enable all people to satisfy their need for security and safety.

This concept of security goes beyond state centered military security and focuses on the ability or inability of state institutions to ensure the protection of all citizens. It enables the identification of vulnerable groups that bear the brunt of poverty, armed conflict, malfunctioning of the security sector and inefficient legal protection. It recognizes the contribution of civil society to security. Within this framework, violence against women can be seen as a malfunctioning of the security sector: the failure to protect women, the failure to empower women, and the commission of violence against women.

Gender Based Violence and Education

Usually GBV Starts from family. Girls' Education is affected because of discrimination of Gender. They are prohibited from the opportunity to get education. Because of malnutrition their physical and mental health is affected which directly affects their education they could not get the education according to their ability. The practice of dowry abuse is another reason which affects opportunity to get higher Education to the girls because parents thought if their daughter is highly qualified then they have to give a huge

amount of dowry to get a perfect groom for her. There are many forms of GBV like acid attack, rape, kidnapping and because of these people refuse to send their daughter to outside the house and schools. Government provides many provisions for women education but women could not get it because of GBV.

Education is the main factor by which GBV can be ended. Family is the informal mean of education and a child learns by their family. If a girl is respected in family and there is no discrimination for her then she will be safe from GBV. In the family man will be taught to behave respectfully with girls. School is another agent to stop the GBV. In a co-ed school where boys and girls taught together and live together they automatically started to develop a feeling of respect and understanding. Education is a means by which women can fight with such kind of social injustice.

There are many issues to consider in developing appropriate responses to the problem of gender-based violence. It is important to understand that such violence is complex and must be viewed in an interdisciplinary sense, one that bridges societal implications and their impact on individuals. Recognizing the seriousness of sexual and dating violence is of critical importance because it signals an air of condemnation for such behavior. Therefore, issues of violence must be addressed both as a problem affecting students and adults, and as a social issue to be discussed in the classroom.

Given adolescents' particular vulnerability to sexual and dating violence, educational programming must incorporate issues of sex-role stereotyping and gender expectations. Though violence prevention and conflict resolution programs emphasize qualities of cooperation and communication, they do not necessarily have a "gendered" perspective. In fact, a recent survey of young adolescent violence prevention programs reported that only 4 out of 51 programs specifically listed prevention of teen dating violence and/or rape as a goal.

There are various ways to integrate sexual and dating violence issues in the curriculum, including incorporating such specific components as violence prevention, conflict resolution, gender equity, health education, and peer leadership programs. In addition, there already exist several curricula that specifically address sexual and/or dating violence on youth. However, most of these approaches depend upon individual class presentations without ensuring other aspects of necessary institutionalized support.

In addition to curricula, programs, and comprehensive support services, schools must take an unequivocal stand against sexist bias, harassment, and violence. A number of school and states are currently adopting sexual harassment policies. The incidence of sexual and dating violence has critical implications for education and therefore requires a broad and comprehensive approach. This work cannot be done in one arena alone because the issues themselves are so pervasive. The critical feature of creating diverse opportunities is to break the silence and to empower young people, because such violence undermines the foundations of respect and equity that ought to define human relationships.

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