**Experiencing Domestic Violence and Help Seeking Behaviors in Myanmar**

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**Abstract**

At the present time domestic violence is a problem of great magnitude around the world. The prevalence of domestic violence directly and indirectly affects health, livelihoods and opportunities of women in worldwide. The vast majority of violence against women is committed not only by a stranger but also by an intimate partner. One of the most pervasive forms of violence against women is intimate partner violence which is committed by a current or former intimate partner or husband, whether cohabitating or not. Since violence against women occurs in all societies, within the home or in the wider community and it affects women and girls disproportionately. This study endeavors to fill the gap by comprehensively analyzing how socioeconomic and demographic characteristics shape three aspects of domestic violence: experiencing physical, emotional and sexual violence. The study also highlights the relationship between the domestic violence and help seeking behaviors of women who are experienced the domestic violence. Data for ever women age (15-49) from the 2015-2016 Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey (MDHS) are analyzed using logistic regression analysis. This study shows that emotional and physical violence are associated with women’s education, wealth quintile, having children, States/Regions, husband’s education, and woman afraid of husband. Women’s experience sexual violence is related to States/Regions, residence, age difference and woman afraid of husband. Helping seeking behavior is correlated with types of violence, women’s age, wealth quintile, education, States/Regions, and residence. The results of this study could contribute to the government’s efforts to mainstream the gender dimension into the country’s development policies and programs.

**Keywords:** domestic violence, help seeking, logistic regression

**1. Introduction**

**1.1 Rationale of the Study**

Domestic violence is use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury or death. It is defined as domestic abuse, spousal abuse, battering family violence, and intimate partner violence on the women. The second-wave women’s movement occurring at the end of the 1960s is onset of awareness-raising and the public discourse on male violence against women within society. Therefore, the United Nations recognized the violence against women as the society phenomenon with the declaration on the elimination of violence against women in 1994. Although, enormous efforts have been made to overcome violence against women, worldwide studies have shown that domestic violence against women still exists as a human right issue.

Domestic violence is not a new phenomenon and has been prevalent in both the west and east for a long time. According to the worldwide statistical records, 10% to 70% of all women have reported being physically assaulted by an intimate partner at some point in their lives, and intimate partners commit 40% to 70% of fetishism (Bloom, 2008 and WHO, 2005). More than 35% of the murders of women are committed by intimate partners (WHO, 2013). The 2010 Euro-Barometer study indicated that one in every four European women have experienced domestic violence (European Commission, 2010). Violence affects the lives of women worldwide, over long time periods and in many forms. In most countries, between 20% and 36% of women are physically or sexually assaulted and between 40% and 75% of women are psychologically assaulted by their husbands or other intimate male partners (Smith, 1987; Straus and Sweet, 1992 and Jewkews et al., 2002).

Today, all over the world, governments, non-government and international organizations are trying to collaborate to come out with appropriate ways to handle these burning issues. It cuts across ethnic, class, culture and impedes the rights of women to fully participant in society (United Nations, 1996). Like other countries, in Myanmar embedded by social problem and it’s considered normal personal and family matter which outsiders should not intervene. Thus, it has to evaluate the public awareness to those who suffer the domestic violence and perpetrators who commit it.

Until recently, domestic violence was considered largely a private matter and hidden as a shameful secret. However, in 1996, the Myanmar government created a national committee called the ‘Myanmar National Committee for Women’s Affairs (MNCWA). The Government released the national Strategic Plan for Advancement of Women 2013-2022. This ten-year plan covers 12 priority areas, which correspond to the Beijing Platform for action, and the principles of the Convention on Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), to which Myanmar became a signatory in 1997. Therefore, Myanmar is obligated to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women. In many Asia countries, culture plays an important role in growing the philosophy of harmony (Huisman, 1996).

According to the 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census, a total population of Myanmar is 51.4 million and 52% is women. More than 70% of total population is residing in rural areas. Among female population proportion of women at 15 to 49 ages is 51.5 percent. In Myanmar family, man is always the leader and woman is dependent. Men think to be a brave and dominant person while woman thinks to be gentle and polite to perform the household duties and to be strictly faithful to her husband. Because of these grounds most of Myanmar women do not dispute with their husbands. Normally, women do not express their feelings even if they faced with physical or emotional or sexual violence. According to Myanmar tradition, women always hesitate to go the court for many reasons. Some of that reasons are that Myanmar women are very kind, patient, polite, love their family and more likely kept silent due to considered it as part of family life, show of love and economic dependency on the husband. In addition, Myanmar women do not want to live as a divorce and to become their children as a fatherless child. However, Myanmar’s women are experiencing incidence of domestic violence; there is no precise law to cure that form of violence.

Thus, inequalities in power and assumption between husband and wife have been rooted for several years in the society. General laws contain some provisions which could support equal right with men (Lay, 2009). Myanmar agreed to the CEDAW in 1997 to support the elimination of discrimination law and practices against women, including gender based violence. The implementation of CEDAW has made clear that all of violence against women fall within the definition of discrimination against women as point out in the CEDAW convention.

Violence against women is increasingly recognized as a problem with serious medical and social consequences and has become a prominent issue in Myanmar. The 2014-15 Myanmar Demographic Health Survey indicates the key findings on women’s experience of domestic violence. Dealing with experience of violence from anyone, 15% of women have experienced physical violence since age 15, and 3% have ever experienced sexual violence. Only 3% of ever-pregnant women report having experienced physical violence during any pregnancy. Regarding marital control, 71% of women have never experienced any marital control behaviors by their husbands, and 5% have experienced at least three types of marital control behaviors. About 21% of ever married women have experienced spousal violence; the most common type of spousal violence is physical violence (15%), followed by emotional violence (14%). Only 3% of ever married women have ever experienced spousal sexual violence. Around 37% of ever-married women who have experienced spousal violence report suffering physical injuries, including 7% who have had serious injuries such as deep wounds, broken bones, and broken teeth. Concerning with help seeking, only 22% of women who have experienced physical or sexual violence committed by anyone have sought help to stop the violence, and 37% have never told anyone about the violence (MDHS, 2017).

Recently, finding from the MACWA survey indicated that the main causes of violence in Myanmar are financial problems, alcohol, and disharmony with in – laws and adultery. Ministry of School Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (MSWRR) is currently drafting and negotiating a new law on domestic violence in collaboration with Gender Equality Network (GEN).

Thus, despite of previous studies, further research need to be conducted for the stake of suggestions and recommendations. Only case studies concerning domestic violence have been done and these literatures findings represent only for women in a township but not for the nationwide. Still gap exists to investigate which factors increase prevalence of violence against women in ever married women. This study will assert experiencing domestic violence of ever married women aged 15-49 as a target.

Besides, there is no study in the help seeking behaviors of ever married women when they experience the domestic violence. Therefore, this study attempts to describe which factor can influence violence against ever married women and how can reduce for the elimination of the domestic violence against ever married women in Myanmar. Using the secondary data from 2014-2015 Myanmar Demographic Health Survey (MDHS), violence against ever married women and their help seeking to behavior in Myanmar are also investigated. This study expects to produce the determinants of domestic violence against ever married women and can provide the evidence-based recommendations to the government and non-government organizations which are seeking to eliminate the violence against women.

**1.2 Objectives of the Study**

This study mainly aims to examine domestic violence among ever married women and their help seeking behaviors in Myanmar. The specific objectives of this study are

1. To examine the extent of domestic violence against ever married women
2. To investigate demographic, economic and social factors which can explain the domestic violence against ever married women and
3. To investigate the help seeking behaviors of ever married women when they experience the domestic violence.

**1.3 Scope and Limitations of the Study**

This study focuses on the determinants of domestic violence against ever married women aged 15-49 years in Myanmar and their help seeking behaviors based on the secondary data for the 2014-2015 Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey (MDHS). Only three dimensions of domestic violence such as physical, sexual and emotional violence committed by their husband are considered in this study.

**1.4 Method of Study**

To achieve the objectives of the study, Binary Logistic Regression analysis is applied to investigate the determinants of physical, sexual and emotional violence. The extent of domestic violence against ever married women is obtained based on 3 dimensions of domestic violence. In addition, the help seeking behaviors of ever married women when they experience the domestic violence is explored using Binary Logistic Regression analysis.

**2. Data and Methods**

**2.1 Data**

 In analyzing domestic violence, a wide variety of political, demographic, social, and economic determinants can be used. Moreover, domestic violence can be explored at the national, community, and household levels. In this study, emphasis is made on women’s domestic violence at the national level in a household-based analysis that considers only demographic, social and economic aspects.

The analysis uses datasets from the newly available national 2015-16 Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey (MDHS), which collected data for multiple indicators of demographic and health information (Ministry of Health and Sports and ICF 2017). The data analysis of this study focuses only on ever married women aged 15-49. Although data on 12,885 women are available from the 2015-16 MDHS, this study was limited to 3425 ever married women age 15-49 who have experienced domestic violence. To obtain nationally representative estimates, sampling weight was applied and the final weighted samples included only 3059 ever married women age 15-49 who have experienced domestic violence were considered.

**2.2 Key Variables and Measurements**

Appendix-Table 1 shows the identification and measurement of dependent and independent variables considered for fitting four models in this study.

**2.3 Logistic Regression**

 Logistic regression is used in many fields such as business and finance, engineering, marketing, economics, and medicine. Logistic regression deals with relationships among variables, with one variable being the dependent (outcome or response) variable and the others the independent (predictor or explanatory) variables. The independent variables can be continuous or categorical in nature. Logistic regression revolves around a core concept called the odds ratio. The goal of logistic regression is to predict the category of outcome for individual cases using the most parsimonious model. It uses the prediction of group membership and measures the associations and strengths among the variables.

 The dependent variable in logistic regression is dichotomous—that is, the dependent variable can take the value 1 with a probability of success, P(Y=1) =, or the value 0 with a probability of failure, P(Y=0) =. This type is called a Bernoulli or binary variable. The applications of logistic regression have been extended to cases where the dependent variable is more than two cases, known as multinomial logistic regression.

The binary logistic regression model is

 (1)

where   (2)

= the constant of the equation

= the coefficient of the predictor variable i

= the error term

= probability of success

= probability of failure

 Odds ratio = (3)

Taking the natural log of equation (3)



**3. Results**

**3.1 Descriptive Analysis**

Information on characteristics of women and their husbands included in the study, as well as descriptive statistics on women who have ever experienced physical, emotional or sexual violence committed by their husbands are presented in Appendix-Table 2. It is found that the percentage of experiencing physical and emotional violence by women’s and husband’s background characteristics are not appreciably different but the percentage of experiencing sexual violence are significantly lower than physical and emotional violence.

Among ever married women, the percentage of experiencing any one type, any two and all three types of domestic violence are 12%, 7% and 2% respectively. However, 79% of the ever married women have no experience of domestic violence (Table 1).

**Table 1: Percentage of ever-married women who experienced physical or emotional or sexual violence by husband**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Experiencing domestic violence  | Percent |
| No experienced | 79 |
| Any one type  | 12 |
| Any two types  | 7 |
| All three types  | 2 |

 Source: MDHS (2017)

When women have experienced physical, emotional or sexual violence committed by anyone, they have sought help to stop the violence but some of them have never told anyone about the violence. Table 2 describes the help seeking behaviours of women experiencing domestic violence. About 30% of women sought help from any source when they experience domestic violence while about 70% of the women did not seek any help. The percentages of seeking help for physical and sexual violence are similar on the other hand that of emotional violence is slightly lower. Percentage of seeking help from women’s own family and neighbors are apparently higher than those form husband’s family and other sources.

**Table 2: Percent distribution of ever-married women age 15-49 who have experienced domestic violence sought help by sources**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Help seeking behavior | Types of violence |
| Physical | Emotional | Sexual |
| Did not seek help | 71.6 | 68.3 | 71.6 |
| Source | Seek help | 28.4 | 31.7 | 28.4 |
| Own family | 12.3 | 13.1 | 9.2 |
| Husband’s family | 4.2 | 3.9 | 2.3 |
| Neighbors | 8.9 | 10.8 | 12.9 |
| Others (Social service organization, friend, police, religious, lawyer, doctor) | 3.0 | 3.9 | 4.0 |

 Source: MDHS (2017)

**3.2 Multivariate Analysis**

**3.2.1 Model 1**

 Binary logistic regression model was performed on ever-married women who have experienced physical violence. The summary results are shown in Appendix-Table 3. Number of living children (5 children or more), husband’s education level, number of reasons for wife beating is justified (1-2), woman’s father beat her mother and woman afraid of husband are statistically significant and have a positive association with experiencing physical violence. In contrast, women’s education level (secondary), States/Regions (Bago, Mandalay, Kayah, Chin and Shan) and spousal education difference are statistically significant and have a negative association with experiencing physical violence.

**3.2.2 Model 2**

 Binary logistic regression model was performed on ever-married women who have experienced emotional violence. The summary results are shown in Appendix-Table 3. Number of living children, husband’s education level, alcohol consumption (often drunk), and number of reasons for wife beating is justified (1-2), woman’s father beat her mother and woman afraid of husband are statistically significant and have a positive association with experiencing emotional violence. In contrast, women’s education level, wealth quintile (middle), residence, States/Regions (Bago, Yangon and Shan) and spousal age difference (wife is 1-4 years, wife is 5-9 years and wife is 10 or more younger) are statistically significant and have a negative association with experiencing emotional violence.

**3.2.3 Model 3**

Binary logistic regression model was performed on ever-married women who have experienced sexual violence. The summary results are shown in Appendix-Table 3. States/Region (Tanintharyi, Kayah and Rakhine) and woman afraid of husband are statistically significant and have a positive association with experiencing sexual violence. In contrast, residence and spousal age difference (wife is same age) are statistically significant and have a negative association with experiencing sexual violence.

**3.2.4 Model 4**

 Binary logistic regression model was performed on help-seeking behavior women who have ever experienced physical, emotional and sexual violence. The summary results are shown in Appendix-Table 4. Women’s age, States/Regions (Mandalay, Yangon and Kayin), women’s educational level (secondary) and women who have experienced emotional violence are statistically significant and have a positive association with their help-seeking behavior. In contrast, women’s wealth quintile, and residence are statistically significant and have a negative association with their help-seeking behavior.

**4. Discussions and Conclusions**

Domestic violence is a violation of basic human rights and has documental adverse health, demographic, and economic consequences for women, children and societies. Domestic violence is abroad term that includes different types of violence such as spouse battering, child abuse, elderly abuse, domestic abuse, intimate partner violence and violence against women (McCue, 2008). In recent years, domestic violence has been one of the burning issues in Myanmar. It is evident that gender equality is important for economic growth, poverty reduction, and enhanced human well-being of a country. It is essential to analyze the determinants of domestic violence to inform policies for national development. Thus, this study explored the women background factors and their husband’s factors related to domestic violence and help seeking behaviors when experiencing domestic violence in Myanmar.

The investigation of this study revealed the following points:

1. Women who are educated, in a high wealth quintile, and whose husbands have a higher level of education show the decreasing experience of physical and emotional violence.

(ii) Women with having children tend to increase in experiencing physical and emotional violence than women without any children. Women who afraid their husband sometimes or most of the time tend to increase in experiencing physical and emotional violence than those who never afraid their husband.

(iii) Women who are residing in rural area tend to decrease experiencing sexual violence but women who afraid their husband tend to increase experiencing sexual violence.

1. Women’s age, education, States/Region, and experiencing emotional violence tend to increase their help seeking behavior whereas women in high wealth quintiles and residing in rural areas tend to decrease their help seeking behavior.

Based on the findings of this study, the key areas of policy priority are:

• Protecting of rights of women

• Increasing the quality of life of women

• Continuing to eliminate gender differences

• Developing community awareness

• Removing hesitation to seek help due to tradition and custom

• Founding counseling centre and support centre

• Implementing a suitable law which can protect for the abused victim women

This study has limitation to determine causality because it used cross-sectional study design. This might induce social desirability bias during self-reporting of the domestic violence because of cultural barrier for disclosure sensitive and family secrets.

To sum up, spousal violence can be caused by many factors such as emotion factors, economic conditions, social and cultural behaviors and so on. The effects of spousal violence are immense and it affects every area of life. The victims will suffer from physical, psychological, sexual, or financial problems. Occasionally, such violence results in the victim death which may be caused by suicide. It also causes great harm to society as a whole. Furthermore, such violence may continue for a long period of time after it begins.

Therefore, it is required to pay attention to prevent spousal violence. There are two main pillars such as legal protection and social policies relating to the prevention of the spousal violence. If the law is not enforced effectively and the response of police does not address the problem of spousal violence, that weaker spouse or the victim will continue to be violated and abused by the stronger one physically, mentally, and in economic terms. Also when the violence occurs in the family, the victim sometimes needs to go to a counseling centre, a medical care centre and support centre for shelter and often for a job. By the effective legal and social responses, the problem of spousal violence can be prevented and this will lead to a less violent society.

Without addressing violence against women could not achieving growth and development targets in the country. Therefore, determining magnitude and associated factors from different reviews’ can help government officials, policy makers, program designers and any concerned bodies to design prevention and controlling strategies to tackle domestic violence. Preventing violence against women has key role to the achievement of the eight MDGs that specifically addresses promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment (MDG-3). The results of this study can be used for planning of intervention programs in different part of the country.

The Government of Myanmar has noticed to implement the rights of women and protect them from abusive situation. Coordinating with international, regional and intergovernmental organizations, the task for the protection of rights of women and the task for abused women in violence are implemented effectively. Nowadays, it is no doubt that the government could stand for women victims in emergency. Anyhow, further research on domestic violence has to be initiated with a view to eradicating this and raising community awareness in this regard. Especially, a suitable law which can protect for the abused victim women should be enacted in line with the changing situation. It is recommended that the government policy makers, program planners and nongovernmental organizations to establish appropriate strategies and programs to prevent and control violence against women.

## Acknowledgements

Our deepest gratitude goes to Yangon University of Economics for free internet access. We would like to thank USAID/ICF for providing data of the MDHS and the STATA software. Our special thanks go to authors and publishers of different journals for open access to researchers, without them this study would be not realized.

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**Appendix**

**Table 1: Identification of dependent and independent variables**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dependent Variables | Independent Variables |
| Model (1)Experienced physical violenceY=1 if woman experiences physical violenceY=0 if woman does not experience physical violence | Women’s age X1 = 1 if 15-24 years  = 2 if 25-39 years  = 3 if 40-49 yearsMarital statusX2 = 1 if divorced, separated and widowed  = 2 if married No. of living children X3 = 1 if no children  = 2 if 1 and 2 children  = 3 if 3 and 4 children  = 4 if 5 children or more  | Women’s educational level  X7 = 1 if no education  = 2 if primary  = 3 if secondary  = 4 if higher Residence X8 = 1 if urban  = 2 if ruralMen’s educational level  X9 = 1 if no education  = 2 if primary  = 3 if secondary  = 4 if higher |
| Model (2)Experienced emotional violenceY=1 if woman experiences emotional violenceY=0 if woman does not experience emotional violence |  Women’s employment X4 = 1 if unemployed for cash  = 2 if unemployed not for cash  = 3 if not employedWealth quintile X5 = 1 if poorer and poor  = 2 if middle  = 3 if richer and richest | Husband’s alcohol consumptionX10 = 1 if does not drink alcohol and drinks alcohol but is never drunk = 2 if sometimes drunk  = 3 if often drunk Spousal education differenceX11 = 1 if wife has more education =2 if both have equal education = 3 if husband has more education |
|  States/ RegionsX6 = 1 if Nay Pyi Taw =2 if Sagaing =3 if Tanintharyi =4 if Bago =5 if Magway =6 if Mandalay =7 if Yangon =8 if Ayeyarwady =9 if Kachin =10 if Kayah =11 if Kayin =12 if Chin =13 if Mon  =14 if Rakhine =15 if Shan | Spousal age differenceX12 = 1 if wife older = 2 if wife is same age = 3 if wife 1-4 years younger = 4 if wife 5-9 years younger = 5 if wife 10 or more years younger No. of reasons for wife beating is justifiedX13 = 1 if 0 = 2 if 1-2 = 3 if 3-4 = 4 if 5Woman’s father beat her motherX14 = 1 if no and don’t know = 2 if yesWoman afraid of husbandX15 = 1 if never afraid = 2 if sometimes afraid = 3 if afraid most of the time |
| Model (3)Experienced sexual violenceY=1 if woman experiences sexual violenceY=0 if woman does not experience sexual violence |
| Model (4)Experienced sexual violenceY=1 if woman sought help when experiencing violenceY= 0 if woman did not seek any help | X1 = 1 if 15-19 years = 2 if 20-24 years = 3 if 25-29 years= 4 if 30-39 years = 5 if 40-49 yearsX2 to X8 are defined as in Model 1to 3.X16 = 1 if woman does not experience physical violence= 2 if woman experiences physical violence | X17 = 1 if woman does not experience emotional violence = 2 if woman experience emotional violenceX18 = 1 if woman does not experience sexual violence= 2 if woman experience sexual violence |

**Table 2: Percent distribution of ever-married women age 15-49 who have experienced domestic violence by woman’s characteristics and husband’s characteristics**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Physical violence | Emotional violence | Sexual violence |
| Women’s age 15-24 years 25-39 years40-49 years | 38.231.614.6 | 31.129.113.4 | 8.75.13.5 |
| Marital statusDivorced, separated and widowed Married  | 30.813.7 | 36.710.9 | 8.52.3 |
| No. of living children no children 1 and 2 children 3 and 4 children 5 children or more  | 16.513.815.124.7 | 14.012.712.022.5 | 2.62.72.85.9 |
| Women’s employment Employed for cash Unemployed not for cash Not employed | 16.216.513.4 | 14.715.010.4 | 3.11.53.0 |
| Wealth quintile Poorer and poor Middle Richer and richest | 39.914.721.2 | 33.411.522.0 | 7.73.92.9 |
| States/ RegionsNay Pyi TawSagaingTanintharyiBagoMagwayMandalayYangonAyeyarwadyKachinKayahKayinChinMon RakhineShan | 20.419.428.715.121.27.19.316.024.412,718.710.712.831.37.7 | 16.616.327.710.413.08.66.213.317.125.322.514.319.525.112.9 | 1.43.511.11.22.50.30.93.02.210.93.72.23.611.53.1 |
| Women’s educational level No education Primary Secondary Higher | 17.116.514.96.8 | 17.413.113.58.6 | 3.93.12.81.0 |
| Residence Urban Rural | 13.616.0 | 13.713.5 | 3.22.9 |
| Men’s educational level No education Primary Secondary Higher | 14.916.515.38.9 | 15.413.713.310.5 | 4.03.13.00.1 |
| Husband’s alcohol consumptionDoes not drink alcohol and drinks alcohol but is Never drunkSometimes drunk Often drunk  | 25.615.938.3 | 28.613.439.8 | 3.62.88.6 |
| Spousal education differenceWife has more educationBoth have equal educationHusband has more education | 14.514.816.2 | 13.211.414.4 | 2.72.03.4 |
| Spousal age differenceWife olderWife is same ageWife 1-4 years youngerWife 5-9 years youngerWife 10 or more years younger | 9.915.114.514.615.5 | 10.712.511.49.410.9 | 2.41.42.13.02.9 |
| No. of reasons for wife beating is justified01-23-45 and above | 13.118.016.019.7 | 11.816.211.516.4 | 2.33.73.33.2 |
| Woman’s father beat her motherNo and don’t knowYes | 32.927.4 | 29.724.2 | 7.85.8 |
| Woman afraid of husbandNever afraidSometimes afraidAfraid most of the time | 9.727.263.8 | 8.422.467.8 | 1.44.923.2 |

Note: Missing data on women’s education for 3 cases, on husbands’ education for 69 cases, on women afraid of their husband.

Source: MDHS (2017)

**Table 3: Summary results of logistic regression among ever-married women age 15-49 experiencing physical, emotional and sexual violence**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Model (1)Experienced physical violence | Model (2)Experienced emotional violence | Model (3)Experienced sexual violence |
| Independent variables | Odds ratio(95% CI) | Odds ratio(95% CI) | Odds ratio(95% CI) |
| Constant | 0.24\*\*(0.06-0.96) | 0.17\*\*(0.04-0.71) | 0.002\*\*\*(0.00004-0.09) |
| Women’s age 15-24 years 25-39 years 40-49 years | 10.82(0.49-1.37)0.44(0.23-0.86) | 10.83(0.48-1.44)0.63(0.33-1.20) | 11.81(0.44-7.42)1.33(0.23-7.52) |
| No. of living children no children 1 and 2 children  3 and 4 children  5 children or more  | 11.16(0.58-2.31)1.32(0.64-2.75)3.10\*\*(1.16-8.28) | 12.27\*\*(1.07-4.84)2.57\*\*(1.18-5.62)4.00\*\*\*(1.46-10.99) | 11.59(0.46-5.56)2.22(0.51-9.67)1.64(0.26-10.46) |
| Women’s employment Employed for cash Unemployed not for cash  Not employed | 10.63(0.31-1.30)0.77(0.51-1.15) | 11.02(0.55-1.90)0.76(0.48-1.20) | 10.56(0.10-3.06)0.78(0.38-1.57) |
| Wealth quintile Poorer and poor Middle  Richer and richest | 10.75(0.44-1.28)0.79(0.49-1.26) | 10.56\*\*(0.32-0.99)0.76(0.48-1.22) | 11.17(0.39-3.5)0.81(0.32-2.06) |
| States/ RegionsNay Pyi TawSagaingTanintharyiBagoMagwayMandalayYangonAyeyarwadyKachinKayahKayinChinMon RakhineShan | 10.89(0.40-1.95)1.58(0.67-3.69)0.46\*\*(0.23-0.94)0.84(0.38-1.87)0.27\*\*\*(0.10-0.74)0.55(0.26-1.16)0.62(0.29-1.30)1.27(0.58-2.79)0.23\*\*\*(0.10-0.51)0.61(0.29-1.30)0.36\*(0.13-1.04)0.55(0.25-1.21)1.08(0.53-2.32)0.28\*\*(0.09-0.92) | 11(0.5-1.98)1.86(0.8-4.32)0.30\*\*\*(0.14-0.63)0.76(0.31-1.82)0.55(0.24-1.26)0.25\*\*\*(0.09-0.71)0.70(0.31-1.56)0.84(0.36-1.99)1.17(0.58-2.36)1.25(0.57-2.72)0.62(0.23-1.66)1.61(0.7-3.69)1.58(0.69-3.60)0.39\*(0.14-1.09) | 11.36(0.09-21.62)16.33\*\*(1.6-166.88)0.74(0.59-9.24)2.50(0.2-32.15)0.6(0.05-7.3)1.55(0.1-23.86)4.33(0.39-47.55)4.55(0.38-54.11)9.31\*(0.9-96.61)3.33(0.28-39.24)6.33(0.52-77.46)6.31(0.46-86.07)19.79\*\*(2-194.97)0.83(0.02-28.79) |
| Women’s educational level No education Primary Secondary  Higher | 10.79(0.42-1.46)0.46\*(0.2-1.05)0.44(0.13-1.50) | 10.61\*(0.33-1.12)0.42\*(0.15-1.2)0.20\*(0.04-1.09) | 10.98(0.33-2.95)0.9(0.14-5.68)0.07(0.002-2.24) |
| Residence Urban Rural | 10.94(0.59-1.51) | 10.51(0.32-0.82) | 10.44\*(0.17-1.11) |
| Men’s educational level No education Primary  Secondary  Higher | 12.22\*\*(1.17-4.2)3.45\*\*\*(1.59-7.51)3.79\*(0.95-15.13) | 13.37\*\*\*(1.57-7.22)4.52\*\*\*(1.48-13.80)7.64\*\*(1.21-48.1) | 11.46(0.37-5.72)1.38(0.2-9.73)0.28(0.01-9.09) |
| Husband’s alcohol consumptionDoes not drink alcohol and drinks alcohol but is Never drunkSometimes drunk Often drunk  | 10.89(0.39-2.05)1.86(0.77-4.48) | 10.80(0.32-2.00)2.46\*(0.98-6.15) | 11.08(0.22-5.3)2.02(0.42-9.72) |
| Spousal education differenceWife has more educationBoth have equal educationHusband has more education | 10.54\*\*(0.33-0.89)0.35\*\*\*(0.18-0.69) | 10.64(0.35-1.18)0.49(0.18-1.31) | 11.64(0.4-6.75)1.29(0.15-11.07) |
| Spousal age differenceWife olderWife is same ageWife 1-4 years youngerWife 5-9 years youngerWife 10 or more years younger | 11.68(1.06-2.25)1.04(0.6-1.8)1.29(0.72-2.29)0.95(0.47-1.91) | 11.34(0.68-2.64)0.63\*(0.37-1.07)0.59\*(0.33-1.05)0.53\*90.27-1.03) | 10.09\*\*(0.01-0.7)0.44(0.16-1.21)0.94(0.33-2.65)0.72(0.26-1.96) |
| No. of reasons for wife beating is justified01-23-45 | 11.54\*\*(0.88-3.21)1.26(0.69-2.27)0.22(0.05-0.91) | 11.41\*(0.94-2.1)0.99(0.59-1.67)0.92(0.28-2.95) | 11.83(0.87-3.89)3.28(1.14-9.41)1.42(0.26-6.76) |
| Woman’s father beats her motherNo and don’t knowYes | 11.84\*\*\*(1.22-2.77) | 11.46\*(0.95-2.25) | 11.38(0.66-2.88) |
| Woman afraid of husbandNever afraidSometimes afraidAfraid most of the time | 12.89\*\*\*(2.07-4.03)26.34\*\*\*(10.39-66.81) | 12.84\*\*\*(1.88-4.29)29.57\*\*\*(11.4-76.7) | 12.66\*\*(1.12-6.33)21.4\*\*\*(8.39-54.61) |

Note: \*\*\*, \*\*, \* represent 1%, 5% and 10% level of significance, respectively.

Results for marital status are omitted because of multicollinearity.

Source: MDHS (2017)

**Table 4: Summary results of logistic regression among ever-married women age 15-49 experiencing physical, emotional or sexual violence according to their help-seeking behavior**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Women’s help-seeking behavior |
| Independent variables | Odds ratio | 95% CI |
| Constant |  0.05\*\*\* | 0.01-0.31 |
| Women’s age 15-19 years 20-24 years 25-29 years30-39 years 40-49 years | 1 5.99\*\* 3.50\* 5.68\*\* 3.38\* | 1.24-28.990.77-15.971.35-23.930.80-14.23 |
| Marital statusDivorced, separated and widowed Married  | 10.73 | 0.39-1.38 |
| No. of living children no children 1 and 2 children 3 and 4 children 5 children or more  | 11.631.551.55 | 0.73-3.630.67-3.590.53-4.57 |
| Women’s employment Employed for cash Unemployed not for cash Not employed | 10.610.84 | 0.23-1.610.49-1.44 |
| Wealth quintile Poorer and poor Middle Richer and richest | 10.56\* 0.33\*\*\* | 0.31-1.020.16-0.68 |
| States/ RegionsNay Pyi TawSagaingTanintharyiBagoMagwayMandalayYangonAyeyarwadyKachinKayahKayinChinMon RakhineShan | 11.551.210.841.47 3.07\*\* 5.03\*\*\*0.881.142.14 3.51\*\*\*1.341.480.491.13 | 0.64-3.70.51-2.850.31-2.320.64-3.421.07-8.841.48-17.070.40-1.960.49-2.680.81-5.681.44-8.550.48-3.740.47-4.600.18-1.330.40-3.23 |
| Women’s educational level No education PrimarySecondary Higher | 11.71 2.79\*\*0.55 | 0.83-3.541.26-6.190.07-4.18 |
| Residence Urban Rural | 10.56\* | 0.30-1.05 |
| Physical violenceNoYes | 11.08 | 0.61-1.90 |
| Emotional violenceNoYes | 1 1.62\*\* | 1.02-2.57 |
| Sexual violenceNoYes | 10.79 | 0.44-1.43 |

Note: \*\*\*, \*\*, \* represent 1%, 5% and 10% level of significance, respectively.

Source: MDHS (2017)

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