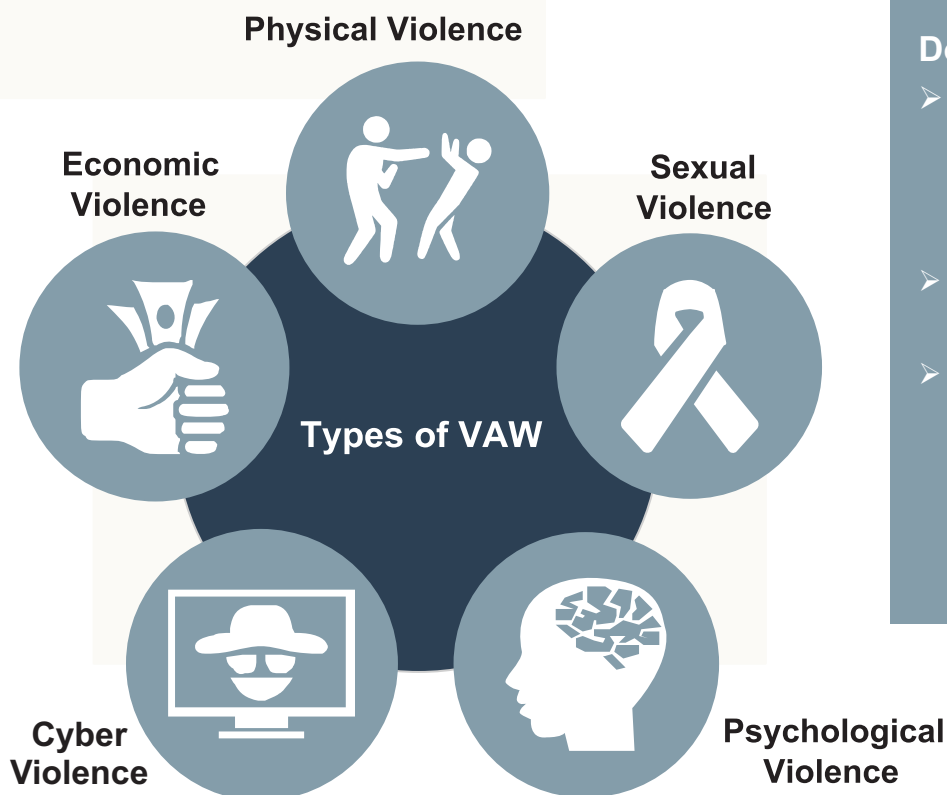


GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN PAKISTAN

Freedom from violence is essential for assertion of fundamental human rights and instrumental to the achievement of gender equality. Threat or fear of violence is a powerful deterrent to the realization of women's potential and opportunities for social, economic and political participation.

Violence can take place in the home, in public spaces, in institutions or online. Women and girls are vulnerable to violence, irrespective of age, class, location or socio-economic position.



Domestic Violence-Pakistan¹

- One in 4 women report spousal physical or emotional violence over lifetime.
- 27% report physical spousal violence
- Divorced, widowed and separated women suffered more violence than married women.

LEGISLATION ADDRESSING VAW (2006-2018)

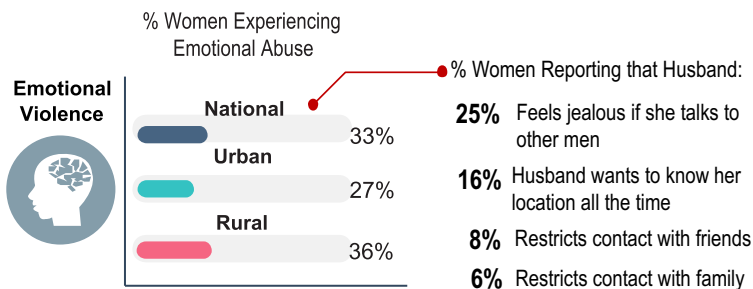
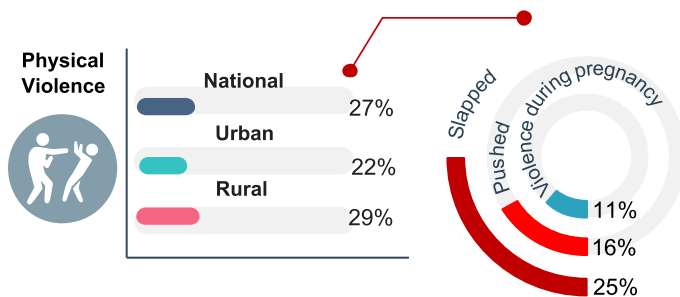
- Criminal Law (Amendment) (Offences relating to Rape) Act 2016
- Criminal Law (Amendment) (Offences in the name or pretext of Honor) Act 2016
- Child Marriage Restraint Act (Punjab Marriage Restraint Amendment Act 2015. Sindh 2014)
- Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act Sindh (2013) and Balochistan (2014) and Punjab (2016)
- Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Deserving Widows and Special Persons Act 2014
- Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act 2011 (pertaining to forced marriages and inheritance deprivation in the name of custom)
- The Women in Distress and Detention Fund (Amendment) Act 2011
- Right to Ownership (Women) Act 2011
- The Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Act 2011
- The Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act 2010 (Azad Jammu & Kashmir 2011, Punjab 2012, Gilgit Baltistan 2013)
- Women Protection Act 2006

Note: This list is not exhaustive

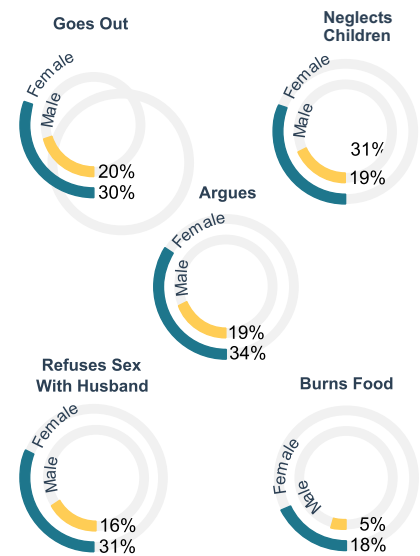
GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN PAKISTAN

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE²

% OF EVER MARRIED WOMEN (AGES 15-49) REPORTING VIOLENCE



ATTITUDE TOWARDS VIOLENCE: WIFE BEATING JUSTIFIED IF SHE



Seeking Help³

Only **35%** of the survivors of domestic violence sought help

74% from own family

22% from husband's family

1% from the police, health providers, and lawyers

Only **0.8%** of the women who experience physical violence actually go to the police for help.

Breaking the silence can result in being ostracized, loss of support from family member, and challenges in the process of seeking redress.

Recommendations

- Mechanisms for initial registration of complaints should be simplified, extended and made widely available.
- Establish women's police station or separate desk in existing police stations to facilitate survivors of VAW in registering cases of violence. Train desk officers to deal sensitively with complainants, provide necessary referrals and support the women to access legal aid or medical services is needed.
- Expand legal aid extension services. Serious crimes of violence against women should not be subject to the "forgiveness" clause whereby survivors and their families are pressurized to withdraw cases and settle out of court.
- Rehabilitation centers and transitional home for survivors of violence, managed by trained sensitized staff and having access to a panel of service providers such as lawyers, psycho-social counselors, skills training institutes etc. Improve capacity of Darul Amans.
- Media and awareness campaigns that target men, especially young men. Public service messages to discourage GBV and to create awareness of laws and penalties for violating the law.

This infographic was developed by the Center of Gender and Policy Studies (CGaPS) for Awaz-e-Niswan (AAN - National network of women voters). CGaPS gratefully acknowledges the support of UN Democracy Fund (UNDEF). Please send any comments on the infographic to CGaPS at program.cgaps@gmail.com



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