



Domestic violence of wives against their spouses from the perspective of jurisprudence and criminal law

¹Ali Yarikhah, ²Hadith Askarpour

¹PhD in Criminal Law and Criminology, Tehran, Iran

bebdaco@gmail.com

²Expert in Jurisprudence and Fundamentals of Law, Yasuj, Iran

hadisaskarpor8282@gmail.com

Abstract

Domestic violence is usually studied in legal and criminological literature with a focus on male violence against women; however, in recent years, attention has also been paid to “domestic violence of wives against spouses.” Due to the cultural, religious, and legal structure of Iranian society, this type of violence is rarely seen and is not reported in many cases. The present study, with an interdisciplinary approach, examines domestic violence of wives against spouses from the perspective of Islamic jurisprudence and Iranian criminal law. The research method is descriptive-analytical and the data were collected from jurisprudential sources, criminal laws, international documents, and criminological studies. The findings show that, contrary to popular belief, Islamic jurisprudence has considered violence against husbands under various headings—including harassment, insults, beatings, threats, disorder, bad association, and disruption of the family system. In Iranian criminal law, violent behaviors of wives against husbands can also be prosecuted under headings such as intentional assault, insult, threats, destruction, slander, and misconduct. However, legal gaps, cultural barriers, social shame, and weak support mechanisms have led to this type of violence being underreported. Finally, the article presents a model for identifying, preventing, and criminally confronting domestic violence by wives against their spouses.

Keywords: Domestic violence, criminal law, Islam, jurisprudence

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Introduction

Domestic violence is one of the most important social and legal challenges in contemporary societies. In criminology literature, domestic violence is often defined as male violence against women; Because in many societies, the power structure in the family has been such that women have been more exposed to violence (Walker, 2009). However, recent research shows that domestic violence is a two-way phenomenon and in some cases, women can also commit violence against their spouses (Straus, 2011). This type of violence, especially in societies with a traditional cultural structure, is less visible and in many cases goes unreported due to social shame, fear of judgment, or lack of support mechanisms.

In Iran, domestic violence against spouses is a less researched topic. Many men refrain from reporting their spouse's violence due to cultural norms, fear of ridicule, or concerns about weakening their social status. On the other hand, the Iranian legal and social system focuses more on supporting women and less on violence against men (Mohammadi, 2020). This has caused domestic violence against men to be marginalized and remain an "invisible" issue.

From the perspective of Islamic jurisprudence, domestic violence by a wife against her husband is a subject that can be examined. Contrary to popular belief, Islamic jurisprudence does not only emphasize the duties

of a woman, but also considers the violent behavior of a woman against her husband under the headings of bad company, harassment, beating, insulting, threatening, and disorderly conduct (Makarem Shirazi, 1425). In many jurisprudential sources, a woman is considered obligated to be good company and avoid harassing behavior towards her husband. Therefore, violence by a wife against her husband is reprehensible and can be prosecuted not only from a moral and social perspective, but also from a religious perspective.

In Iranian criminal law, violent behavior by a wife against her husband has also been criminalized under various headings. Intentional assault, insult, threat, slander, destruction of property, mistreatment, and even leaving home in some circumstances can be examples of violence against a spouse (Islamic Penal Code, 1392). However, legal gaps, the lack of specific laws on domestic violence, and the weakness of support mechanisms have led to this type of violence receiving less attention.

The importance of this research is that domestic violence by a wife against her husband, in addition to its personal and psychological effects, can have widespread consequences on family health, child rearing, social stability, and the functioning of the family institution. In many cases, violence by a wife against her husband manifests itself in the form of psychological, verbal, economic, or emotional violence, the effects of which are sometimes more severe than physical violence (Johnson, 2014). This type of violence can cause depression, anxiety, decreased self-esteem, impaired social functioning, and even suicide in men. 2. Theoretical foundations of domestic violence and types of violence by wives against their spouses

1 .Conceptualization of domestic violence

Domestic violence in the literature of criminology and criminal law refers to any harmful, threatening, humiliating or controlling behavior that occurs in the context of family relationships (Johnson, 2014). This violence can be physical, psychological, sexual, economic or emotional and usually occurs in relationships where there is some kind of dependency, unequal power or emotional bond between the parties (Walker, 2009.)

In Iran, the concept of domestic violence is not explicitly defined in the laws, but it can be seen from the set of criminal and civil regulations that any harmful behavior in the family environment is criminalized under various titles (Islamic Penal Code, 2013.)

1 .1–Domestic violence against men: a less common phenomenon

In general literature, domestic violence is usually considered synonymous with male violence against women. This is due to:

- Historical power structures

- Women's greater vulnerability

- The focus of support policies on women (Straus, 2011). However, recent research shows that violence against men is also an undeniable reality and in some cases, the severity of psychological or economic violence against men has been reported to be even greater than physical violence against women (Hines & Douglas, 2010.)

In Iran, domestic violence against men is underreported due to cultural reasons, social shame, and the lack of support mechanisms (Mohammadi, 2020). Many men refrain from reporting their wives' violence for fear of ridicule or weakening their social status.

2 .Types of violence by wives against their spouses

Wife-to-partner violence can manifest itself in different forms. This section examines the types of violence separately.

2 .1–Physical Violence

Physical violence includes any physically harmful behavior such as:

- Beating
- Throwing objects
- Injuring the body
- Using household tools to hit (Johnson, 2014.)

Although women's physical violence against men is usually less severe in terms of physical force, in some cases, the use of hard objects or cold weapons can cause serious injuries (Hines & Douglas, 2010.)

In Iranian criminal law, this behavior is criminalized as intentional assault (Articles 614 and 615 of the Islamic Penal Code, 1392.)

2.2–Psychological and verbal violence

Psychological violence is one of the most common and at the same time most destructive types of domestic violence. This type of violence includes:

- Humiliation, ridicule and insults
- Threats of divorce, threats to reveal secrets
- Ignorance, emotional coldness, humiliation of masculinity
- Excessive control
- Creating feelings of guilt or worthlessness (Walker, 2009.)

Psychological violence against men is very common in Iran, but due to the lack of specific laws, it is rarely prosecuted. However, behaviors such as insults, threats and defamation are criminalized in the Islamic Penal Code.

2.3–Economic violence

Economic violence occurs when a wife:

- Exploits her husband's income
- Destroys or seizes her husband's property
- Forces her husband to make unusual payments
- Prevents her husband from working
- Puts him under financial pressure

Economic violence against men is less well known in Iran, but in many cases, women put their husbands under pressure by threatening to withhold dowry or abusing their financial rights (Hosseini, 2011.)

In criminal law, property destruction, fraud, breach of trust, and extortion can be examples of this type of violence. 2–4. Sexual violence

Sexual violence against men is one of the most hidden and underreported forms of domestic violence and is ignored in many cultures due to shame, stigma, and patriarchal norms. This type of violence can include forced sexual intercourse, intentional and harassing refusal of sexual intercourse, sexual humiliation, or using sex as a tool to control the husband (Straus, 2011). In Islamic jurisprudence, refusal to obey without a legitimate excuse is considered an example of infidelity and can lead to legal consequences such as the loss of alimony or the obligation to obey (Makarem Shirazi, 1425). In addition to legal consequences, these behaviors have profound psychological and emotional consequences for men and can cause reduced self-esteem, anxiety, depression, and disruption in marital relationships. 2–5. Emotional and Relational Violence

Emotional violence is one of the most common but least visible forms of domestic violence and includes behaviors such as intentional neglect, emotional coldness, disconnection, belittling feelings, and creating a sense of rejection. This type of violence, especially in long-term relationships, can have profound psychological effects on men, causing depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, and feelings of worthlessness (Johnson, 2014). Emotional violence often occurs without physical symptoms, making it difficult to recognize and prove. However, its consequences are often more severe than physical violence and can seriously undermine the foundation of the marital relationship.

2.6–Social Violence

Social violence occurs when a wife uses social, family, or media situations to humiliate, limit, or destroy her husband's reputation. This behavior can include humiliating the husband in public, limiting his social relationships, creating conflict with the husband's family, or damaging his reputation on social networks. In Iranian criminal law, behaviors such as spreading lies, slander, threats, and defamation can be examples of this type of violence and can lead to criminal liability for the perpetrator. Due to its symbolic and public nature, social violence has a destructive effect on the man's social reputation and his position in the family and society, and can lead to social isolation and the collapse of family relationships.

3 .Factors affecting wife-to-partner violence

3-1 .Individual factors

Individual factors play an important role in the occurrence of wife-to-partner violence and include mental disorders, addiction, personality problems, and a history of violence in the family of origin. Women who have experienced violence in childhood or adolescence are more likely to display violent behaviors in marital relationships. Disorders such as depression, borderline personality disorders, or dependency can also increase the likelihood of violent behaviors. These individual factors are usually combined with environmental and family factors and increase the intensity of violence.

3 .2–Family factors

Family factors such as marital disputes, lack of communication skills, economic pressures, and family interference can lead to wife-to-partner violence. Lack of conflict resolution skills, frequent misunderstandings, and inability to manage emotions can exacerbate marital tensions. Economic pressures are also one of the most important factors in the occurrence of violence in families and can increase tension and reduce psychological tolerance. In many cases, the involvement of families on both sides also leads to the intensification of conflicts and the occurrence of violent behaviors.

3 .3–Social and cultural factors

Social and cultural factors play an important role in the formation or intensification of wife-to-partner violence. Changing gender roles, increasing women's economic independence, weak support mechanisms for men, and cultural norms that prevent men from reporting violence are among the most important of these factors. In many cultures, men do not report violence due to fear of ridicule or social stigma, which perpetuates the violence. Also, social changes and the increase in new roles for women can increase power conflicts in the family and create the basis for violence.

4 .Consequences of wife-to-partner violence2–5. Emotional and Relational Violence

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4 .Consequences of wife-to-partner violence In jurisprudence, infidelity means “rebellion” and “failure to fulfill marital duties.” The Holy Quran refers to women's infidelity in verse 34 of Surah An-Nisa and provides solutions for dealing with it.

Infidelity of a wife includes the following:

- Refusing to submit to sexual intercourse without a legitimate excuse
- Leaving the house without permission
- Deliberately ignoring the husband
- Harassing and humiliating behaviors
- Failure to cooperate in managing their common life (Mousavi Khomeini, 1421.)

3-2 .Infidelity as an example of domestic violence

Although in jurisprudence, infidelity is mostly considered a violation of legitimate duties, many of its examples are actually considered psychological, emotional, or sexual violence against the husband. For example:

- Deliberately refusing marital intercourse can be an example of sexual violence.

-Humiliation and neglect are examples of psychological violence.

-Leaving the house without notice can be an example of emotional and social violence.

Therefore, wife abuse in Islamic jurisprudence is one of the most important concepts related to domestic violence against men.

4 .Abuse and harassment of the wife towards the husband

4 .1–The concept of abuse

In jurisprudence, abuse means “to cause harm” and includes any behavior that causes physical or psychological harm to the other party. Jurists have considered abuse to be forbidden and have introduced it as an example of oppression (Makarim Shirazi, 1425.)

4 .2–Examples of wife abuse against the husband

-Beating and wounding

-Shouting and swearing

-Threatening to commit suicide or harm the children

-Destroying the husband’s property

-Revealing family secrets

-Creating conflict with the husband’s family

These behaviors are forbidden in Islamic jurisprudence and in many cases constitute a religious obligation.

5 .Wife’s insults and insults to the husband

5 .1–The jurisprudential ruling on insulting

Insulting (swearing) is a major sin in Islamic jurisprudence and is forbidden for anyone. The jurists have stated that insulting one’s spouse, in addition to being forbidden by Sharia law, also leads to the downfall of justice and moral responsibility (Najafi, 1404.)

5 .2–Insulting as domestic violence

A wife’s insulting and cursing of her husband is one of the most common examples of psychological violence. This behavior can have profound effects on a man’s mental health and is strongly condemned in Islamic jurisprudence.

6 .Wife’s assault on her husband

6 .1–The jurisprudential ruling on assault

In Islamic jurisprudence, assault is forbidden without Sharia law permission. Like a man, a woman commits a sin and is liable for blood money (Mousavi Khomeini, 1421.)

6 .2–Financial security

The jurists agree that if a wife injures her husband, she must pay blood money, even if the husband does not consent (Makarem Shirazi, 1425.)

7 .Threats and intimidation by the wife against her husband

Threats of divorce, threats to reveal secrets, threats to harm herself or her children are examples of psychological and social violence. The jurists have considered threats as examples of abuse and declared it forbidden (Tabatabai, 1417.)

8 .Abuse of financial rights (mahriya) as violence

In some cases, the wife uses her mahr or financial rights as a means of pressure against her husband. Although mahr is a woman's religious right, abusing it to threaten, extort, or humiliate her husband is, from a jurisprudential perspective, an example of oppression and harassment (Hosseini, 1400.)

9 .Leaving home and disrupting the family system

Leaving home without a religious excuse is an example of desertion in Islamic jurisprudence. This behavior can:

- cause the collapse of the family
- have psychological effects on the husband and children
- be an example of emotional and social violence

The jurists have considered leaving the house without permission to be forbidden (Najafi, 1404.)

10 .Jurisprudential conclusion

Based on jurisprudential analysis:

- Violence by a wife against her husband is well known in Islamic jurisprudence.
- This violence has been examined in the form of concepts such as disorder, bad association, abuse, insults, beatings, threats, and disruption of the family.
- Islamic jurisprudence has considered violent behaviors by a wife against her husband to be forbidden and has determined financial guarantees or legal consequences for some of them.
- Therefore, contrary to popular belief, Islamic jurisprudence is not indifferent to violence against men.

If you are ready, I will write you Part Four: Criminal Law Analysis of Wife Violence Against Her Husband in Iran.

If a wife tarnishes her husband's reputation in public or on social media, she has committed the crime of defamation or spreading lies, according to Article 697 of the Islamic Penal Code.

6 .2–Revealing family secrets

According to Article 648 of the Islamic Penal Code, revealing secrets—even within the family—is a crime in some cases.

7 .Legal gaps in protecting male victims of violence

Despite the possibility of criminal prosecution for many violent behaviors, the Iranian legal system faces the following challenges:

7 .1–Lack of a specific law on domestic violence

There is no comprehensive law on domestic violence.

This gap has led to: - Psychological and economic violence should not be criminalized

- Men who are victims of violence do not receive adequate support
- Police and courts do not have the necessary tools for immediate intervention

7-2 .Cultural barriers

Many men refrain from reporting violence because:

- Violence against men is not “believable”
- There is a fear of ridicule
- Men believe that complaining will question their “masculinity” (Mohammadi, 2020.)

7-3 .Weakness of support mechanisms

- Lack of safe houses for men
- Lack of specialized counseling
- Lack of a special hotline for reporting violence against men

8 .Summary of criminal law

Based on the analysis of criminal law:

- Many violent behaviors of wives against their spouses are criminalized in Iranian laws.
- However, psychological, economic, and emotional violence are not fully covered.
- Legal gaps and cultural barriers have caused men to receive less criminal protection.
- There is a need for a comprehensive domestic violence law and special support mechanisms for men.

If you are ready, I will write you Part Five: Criminological and Social Analysis of Wife-to-Spouse Violence.

4 .Criminal Law Analysis of Wife-to-Spouse Violence in Iran

1 .The Position of Domestic Violence in the Iranian Criminal Law System

In Iranian criminal law, “domestic violence” is not criminalized as an independent title. However, violent behaviors in the family environment—including violence by a woman against her husband—can be prosecuted under various criminal titles. Unlike some legal systems such as Canada or Spain, the Iranian legislature does not have a specific law for domestic violence, but a set of legal articles in the Islamic Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code provide for the possibility of criminally dealing with these behaviors (Islamic Penal Code, 2013.)

This situation has led to domestic violence against men being examined within the framework of general crimes, and as a result, many instances of psychological, economic, or emotional violence remain without criminal response (Mohammadi, 2020.)

2 .Physical violence of the wife against her husband in criminal law

2 .1–Intentional assault

If a wife commits intentional assault against her husband, she is criminally liable according to Articles 614 and 615 of the Islamic Penal Code. These articles stipulate:

- Any intentional physical harm—even in the family environment—is a crime.
- The perpetrator is obliged to pay blood money and bear the Ta’zir punishment.

In judicial practice, there are numerous cases in which women have been convicted of assaulting their husbands, although the number of these cases is less than that of men’s violence against women (Jafari, 2011.)

2 .2–Use of weapons or dangerous objects

If the wife uses a knife, hard objects, or household items to strike, her behavior is subject to an increased punishment (Article 614 of the Islamic Penal Code.)

33 .Psychological and verbal violence by the wife against her husband

Psychological and verbal violence is one of the most common and at the same time the most hidden types of violence against men. This type of violence usually occurs without physical effects and for this reason, in many cases, it is ignored or difficult to prove. In Iranian criminal law, only a part of these behaviors is criminalized, and many examples of psychological violence still remain in the moral or family sphere.

However, the psychological effects of this violence can be very deep and cause anxiety, depression, reduced self-confidence, and disruption of men's social functioning (Johnson, 2014.)

3.1–Insults and obscenities

Insults and obscenities are one of the most important examples of verbal violence that is criminalized in Article 608 of the Islamic Penal Code. This article stipulates that insulting individuals—even within the family—is a crime and the perpetrator is sentenced to flogging or a fine (Islamic Penal Code, 1392). Insulting a wife to her husband can include swearing, humiliation, ridicule, attributing derogatory attributes, or belittling the husband's personality. In addition to criminal consequences, these behaviors have severe psychological consequences for the man and can lead to the destruction of the marital relationship and a decrease in self-esteem. From a criminological perspective, repeated insults in family relationships are one of the main factors in emotional erosion and emotional divorce (Straus, 2011.)

3.2–Threats

Threats are one of the most severe forms of psychological violence, and according to Article 669 of the Islamic Penal Code, threats of murder, financial loss, disclosure of secrets, or any other threat are considered crimes. In many family cases, women threaten their husbands to reveal family secrets, file unfounded complaints, leave the house, or even harm themselves or their children. These behaviors are clear examples of psychological violence and can cause severe anxiety, feelings of insecurity, and disruption of a man's social functioning (Hosseini, 2011). Threats in family relationships are usually made with the aim of controlling, dominating, or creating psychological pressure, and their effects are in many cases more severe than physical violence.

3.3–Defamation and Spreading Lies

Defamation and spreading lies occur when a wife makes untrue accusations against her husband or publishes false information on social networks. According to Articles 697 and 698 of the Islamic Penal Code, these behaviors are crimes and the perpetrator is sentenced to imprisonment or a fine. In the age of social networks, this type of violence has become more widespread and can lead to the destruction of social prestige, damage to one's job position, and severe psychological stress on men. From a criminological perspective, media violence is one of the most destructive forms of violence because its effects are public, widespread, and lasting (Johnson, 2014.)

4 .Economic violence by wives against their husbands

Economic violence against men is less well known in Iran, but it is observed in many family cases. This type of violence occurs when a wife uses financial, legal, or economic means to control, humiliate, or pressure her husband. Economic violence can have profound psychological and social effects, causing a man to feel powerless, anxious, and reduce his social functioning. In criminological literature, economic violence is considered one of the tools of domination in family relationships (Straus, 2011.)

4.1–Destruction of property

Destruction of property is a clear example of economic violence. According to Article 677 of the Islamic Penal Code, if a wife destroys her husband's property—even if the property is in a shared home—she is guilty of the crime of destruction and is subject to criminal prosecution. This behavior can include breaking equipment, damaging a car, destroying documents, or destroying the husband's personal property. In addition to financial damage, destroying property has severe psychological consequences and can cause feelings of insecurity, anger, and instability in a relationship (Mohammadi, 2020.)

4.2–Abuse of Dowry

Dowry is a woman's religious and legal right, but using it as a tool for threats, extortion, humiliation, or psychological pressure can be an example of economic violence. In some cases, the wife uses the dowry as a means of pressure to force the husband to behave in certain ways or accept unreasonable demands. Although this behavior is not considered an independent crime, in some cases it can be investigated as

extortion, threats, or abuse of rights (Mohammadi, 2020). From a criminological perspective, the misuse of legal means to exert psychological pressure is one of the most complex forms of domestic violence. 4-3. Preventing the husband from working

In some cases, the wife prevents the husband from working by creating conflict, threats, or harassing behaviors. This behavior is not criminalized in Iranian law, but it can be an example of harassment or misbehavior.

5 .Sexual violence by the wife against the husband

In Iranian criminal law, sexual violence against men has received less attention. However, some behaviors by the wife can be an example of sexual violence.

5 .1–Intentional refusal of marital intercourse

This behavior is not a crime in criminal law, but in civil law and Islamic jurisprudence it is an example of infidelity and has the following effects:

- Loss of alimony
- Possibility of filing a lawsuit for the obligation to obey
- Possibility of filing a divorce lawsuit by the husband (Makarem Shirazi, 1425.)

5 .2–Sexual humiliation

If a wife humiliates her husband sexually, this behavior can be considered an insult or harassment.

6 .Social and dignity violence6–1. Defamation of dignity

Defamation of dignity is one of the most severe forms of psychological and social violence that can seriously damage a person's status in the family, workplace, and society. This behavior occurs when a wife damages her husband's social reputation by spreading false information, publicly humiliating him, revealing secrets, or destroying his character on social networks. In Iranian criminal law, behaviors such as defamation, spreading lies, insulting, and threatening are criminalized in Articles 697, 698, and 608 of the Islamic Penal Code, and the perpetrator is subject to criminal prosecution (Islamic Penal Code, 2013). From a criminological perspective, defamation of dignity has profound psychological effects on the victim and can cause social isolation, depression, and a severe decrease in self-esteem (Johnson, 2014). This type of violence is considered one of the most destructive forms of domestic violence due to its widespread and persistent nature.

5 .Criminological and Social Analysis of Spousal Violence

1 .Domestic Violence Against Men: A Hidden Phenomenon in Criminology

In classical criminology, domestic violence is mainly defined as male violence against women, and this approach has its roots in feminist theories of the 1970s that focused on the patriarchal power structure and women's vulnerability (Walker, 2009). However, recent research shows that domestic violence is a two-sided phenomenon and in many countries, a significant percentage of domestic violence victims are men (Straus, 2011). In Iran, domestic violence against men is less visible because men report less, society does not consider this type of violence credible, the legal system focuses more on protecting women, and the media pays less attention to this issue. This situation has led to the formation of a phenomenon called "hidden violence", which is known in criminology literature as Hidden Violence (Hines & Douglas, 2010.)

2 .Why is spousal violence against partners hidden?

2 .1–Patriarchal norms and social shame

In Iranian culture, men are usually seen as "strong," "supportive," and "pillars of the family," making it difficult for them to admit to being victims. Many men avoid reporting violence for fear of ridicule, diminished social status, being labeled "weak," or not being believed by the police and family (Mohammadi,

2020). These cultural norms result in spousal violence being underreported in official statistics and victims suffering in silence. From a criminological perspective, social shame is one of the most important barriers to reporting violence against men.

2.2–Lack of support mechanisms for men

In Iran, safe houses, hotlines, and counseling centers are primarily designed for women, and male victims of violence usually do not have access to safe havens or specialized services. Many men are not taken seriously when they report to the police, which exacerbates the concealment of violence (Hosseini, 2011). The lack of support mechanisms causes male victims of violence to be trapped in a cycle of isolation, shame, and helplessness, and violence continues. This institutional vacuum is one of the most important factors in the persistence of domestic violence against men.

2.3–Gender stereotypes about violence

In many societies, women’s violence against men is considered “safe” or “not serious,” and these stereotypes cause women’s physical violence to be trivialized and psychological and economic violence to be completely ignored. Male victims also refrain from reporting violence due to fear of ridicule or disbelief by society. These stereotypes also exist in Iran and hinder effective reporting and intervention (Straus, 2011). From a criminological perspective, gender stereotypes are one of the most important obstacles to identifying domestic violence against men.

3 .Patterns of Wife-to-Spouse Violence from a Criminological Perspective

3.1–Reactive Violence

Reactive violence occurs when a woman acts out violence in response to previous violence by a man. This type of violence is usually sudden, emotional, and unplanned, and is most common in relationships with intense and long-standing conflicts (Johnson, 2014). Reactive violence differs from control violence from a criminological perspective because its goal is not control or dominance, but rather an emotional response to a stimulus. This type of violence can usually be controlled with therapeutic and counseling interventions.

3.2–Coercive Control

Control violence is one of the most complex and dangerous types of domestic violence in which a woman uses psychological, economic, or sexual violence to control her husband. This type of violence includes threats, humiliation, financial control, sexual refusal, or threats of dowry, and is very common in Iran due to the legal structure of dowry (Hosseini, 2012). Controlling violence is usually gradual, persistent, and purposeful, and has profound psychological effects on the victim. This pattern is recognized in criminology as one of the most dangerous forms of domestic violence.

3.3–Instrumental Violence

Instrumental violence occurs when a woman uses violence to achieve specific goals, such as obtaining financial benefits, forcing her husband to behave in a certain way, seeking revenge, or pressuring for a divorce. This type of violence is usually planned and purposeful and is observed in many family cases. From a criminological perspective, instrumental violence is a form of abuse of power in family relationships and can have devastating effects on the victim’s mental and social health (Straus, 2011.)

5 .The final proposed research model

The proposed model of this research consists of three levels:

Level one: Primary prevention

Actions	Cultural
Stereotype correction, media education	Educational
Communication skills, legal education	Structural

Economic support, strengthening the family institution	Cultural
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Level 2: Secondary prevention

Measures	Area of
Reporting centers, police training	identification
Screening in courts, database	intervention

Third level: Tertiary prevention

Measures	Criminal
Criminalization of psychological and economic violence	Protective
Protection orders, counseling, medical services	Area

Conclusion

1 .General summary of the study

Contrary to popular belief, domestic violence against husbands by wives is a real, multidimensional phenomenon with extensive individual, family and social consequences. This study showed that violence against men not only exists, but in many cases remains hidden due to cultural structures, gender norms and lack of support mechanisms. Male victims of violence are less likely to refer to official institutions due to fear of ridicule, social shame and lack of credibility of violence against men (Hines & Douglas, 2010.)

From the perspective of Islamic jurisprudence, violent behaviors of wives against husbands have been carefully considered in the form of concepts such as disorder, bad association, abuse, insults, beatings, threats and disruption of the family system. Islamic jurisprudence condemns not only violence against women by men, but also violence against husbands by women and in many cases considers it forbidden and has determined religious and legal guarantees for it (Makarem Shirazi, 1425.)

In Iranian criminal law, a significant portion of violent behavior by wives against their spouses has been criminalized under headings such as intentional assault, insult, threat, defamation, destruction of property, abuse of financial rights, and defamation. However, the lack of a comprehensive domestic violence law and the failure to criminalize psychological and economic violence have resulted in a significant portion of violence against men remaining unpunished (Mohammadi, 2020.)

From a criminological perspective, violence by wives against their spouses can manifest in various forms such as reactive violence, controlling violence, and instrumental violence. This violence has profound effects on men's mental, social, and family health and can cause depression, anxiety, decreased self-esteem, emotional divorce, and family breakdown (Johnson, 2014.)

2 .Main findings of the study

2 .1–Violence against a wife is well-known in Islamic jurisprudence

Islamic jurisprudence has carefully and deeply addressed the abusive behavior of a wife against her husband and analyzed it in the form of concepts such as incest, bad association, and harassment. This shows that Islamic jurisprudence is not indifferent to violence against men.

2-2 .Iranian criminal law has the capacity to deal with many instances of violence

However, legal gaps—especially in the area of psychological and economic violence—need to be corrected.

2-3 .Violence against men is a hidden phenomenon

Due to cultural norms, men are less likely to report violence, which exacerbates the damage.

2-4 .Support mechanisms for men are very limited

In Iran, there are no safe houses, support hotlines, or counseling centers specifically for men.

2-5 .The proposed research model can serve as a basis for policymaking

This model includes three levels of primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention and can help reduce domestic violence.

3 .Policy Recommendations

3 .1–Enact a comprehensive domestic violence law

This law should include a definition of violence, types of violence, support mechanisms, and immediate support orders.

3 .2–Criminalize psychological and economic violence

These two types of violence cause the most harm to men.

3 .3–Establish special support centers for men

Counseling centers, safe houses, and special hotlines should be established.

3 .4–Train police and bailiffs

to identify and properly deal with violence against men.

3 .5–Create a culture and modify gender stereotypes

to break the taboo of violence against men.

4 .Suggestions for future research

-Field study of domestic violence against men in Iran

-Comparative analysis of Iranian laws with countries with comprehensive domestic violence laws

-Psychological research on the effects of violence on men

-Study of the role of dowry in economic violence against men

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