

**SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF GHANA**

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN WITHIN THE ASHAIMAN
COMMUNITY**

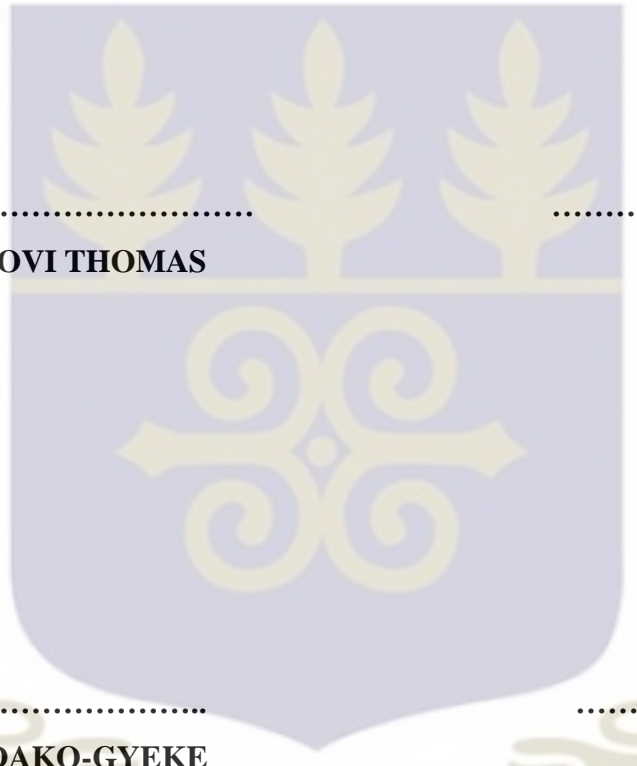
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**THIS DISSERTATION IS SUBMITTED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF GHANA,
LEGON IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD
OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN APPLIED HEALTH SOCIAL SCIENCE DEGREE**

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DECLARATION

I Ahoto Ahotovi Thomas achieved this work independently under the supervision of Dr. Phyllis Dako-Gyeke. I declare that except for other peoples investigations which have been duly acknowledged, this work is a result of my own original research, and dissertation, either in whole or in part has not been presented elsewhere for another degree.



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INTEGRI PROCEDAMUS

DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate this work to Daniel Aheto and Eric kpeli for their advice and support.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

For your unending love and mercies upon my life, I say thank you lord Jesus for seeing me through all. I would like to thank each and every one who has helped me in a way or the other to complete this work. Your support has been very crucial to the production of this dissertation. I would start by thanking my academic supervisor, Dr. Phyllis Dako-Gyeke whose knowledge in research has enlightened me and given me direction to follow in completing this work. Her suggestions and commitment to ensure that my dissertation turned out good was very obliging I must say thank you for your support and advice.

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I am very grateful for my head of department Professor Philip Adongo, lecturers and all the staff in the Department of Social and Behavioral Science, School of Public health, and my colleagues Emma and Stanley.

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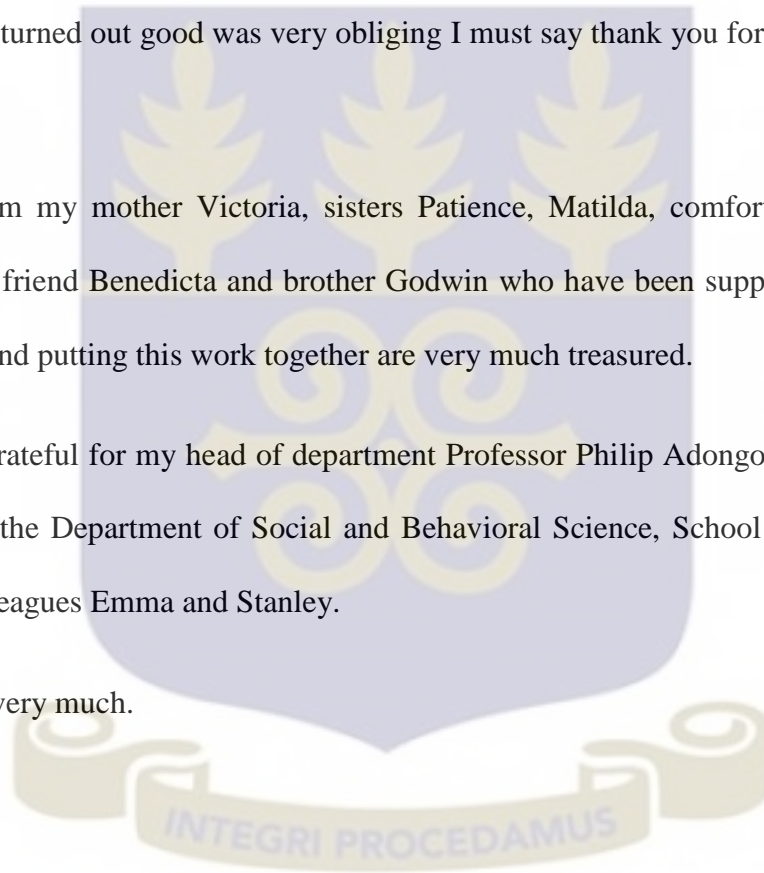
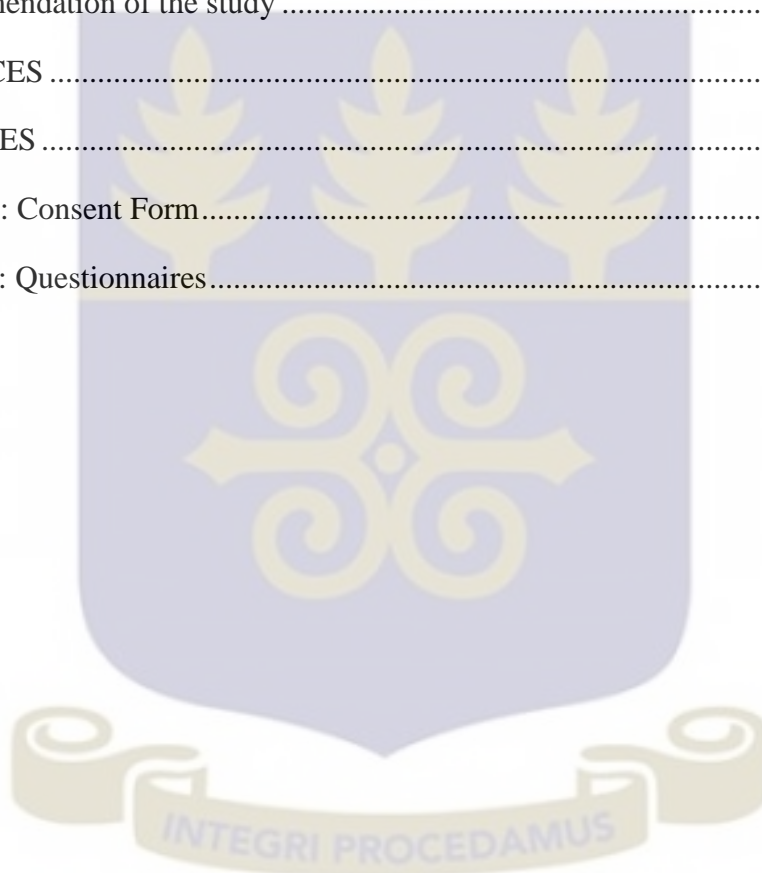


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ABSTRACT

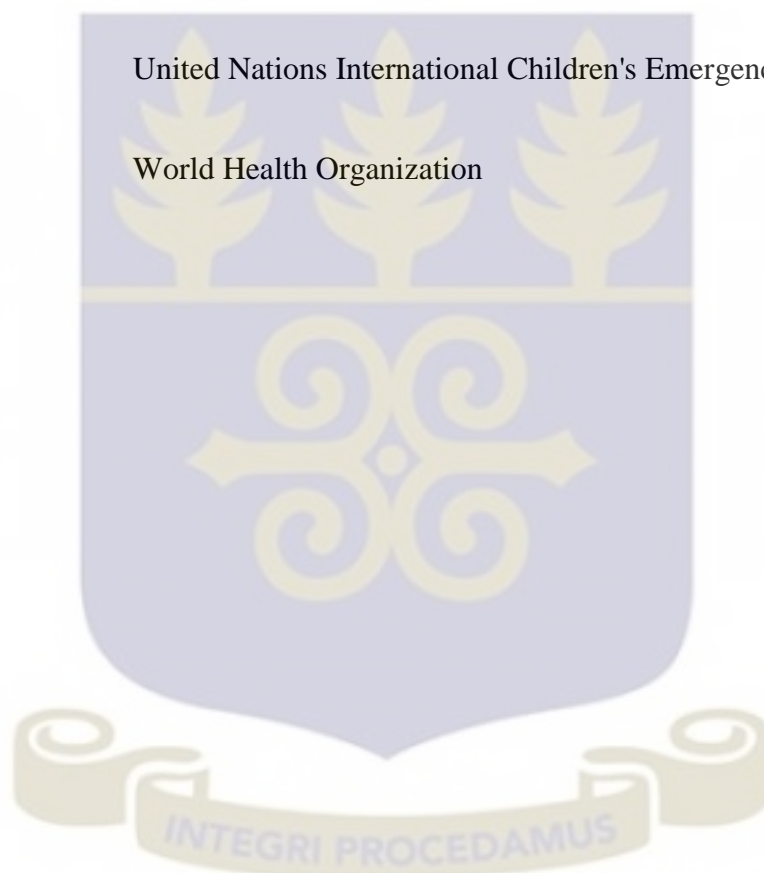
Domestic violence is a major public health problem that has negative impact on the peaceful existence of people who are engaged in various forms of relationships. A large number of the Ghanaian population may have experienced, witnessed or heard about its occurrence. The aim of this study was to identify forms of domestic violence perpetrated against men by their female partners, reasons for male abuse and actions taken by abused men. The study was carried out within the people living in the Ashaiman community. Structured questionnaires were administered to respondents for data collection. Data collected were analyzed using SPSS version 21.0. Descriptive statistics and chi-square analysis were run on the data.

The study found that the level of knowledge about domestic violence was very high as (93%) of the respondents know about some forms of domestic violence. The study also established that men suffer from various forms domestic violence, including physical (82.4%), sexual (79%), verbal and psychological abuse (93.3%). The results from the study also indicated that females abuse their male partners for several reasons with the major one being the inability of men to provide money for housekeeping according to (87%) of the respondents. It was also found that reporting to religious leaders and family relatives were the major actions taken by abused men as claimed by 77.3% and 76.4% of the respondents respectively.

Based on the findings of the study it is recommended that religious leaders should be give appropriate education about domestic violence to boost their knowledge in the way to address it, as most victims call on them with issues of abuse. Again there is the need for further studies in to male abuse as society has been silent on the issue of male abuse for long.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

DOVVSU	Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit
DV	Domestic Violence
IRC	International Rescue Commission
PHC	Population and Housing Census
UNCIEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
WHO	World Health Organization



DEFINITION OF TERMS

- Domestic violence – Any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between adults who are or have been in relationship, with the abuser using any kind of abuse to seek power over the victim.
- Relationship – Relationship between two adults of different sex (married or dating)
- Sexual abuse – The act of forceful engagement of a partner in a sexual contact which includes sexual conducts that abuse, humiliates or degrades the partner or otherwise violates the partner's sexual integrity.
- Physical abuse – physical assault or the use of physical force against a partner by another partner, or subjecting a partner to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading act.
- Chop money – Amount of money provided to run the home on daily bases.



CHAPTER ONE

1.1 Introduction

Domestic violence knows no boundaries, race, educational levels or ethnicity. It is a general problem that has matured from social issue to a public health concern (International Rescue Commission, 2012; World Health Organization, 1996). In Ghana domestic violence is a daily threat to human existence in some communities. It has been one of the public health issues that have received a lot of attention from the print media, television and radio (Biney, 2010)

Many prominent people in society have added their voices to the fight against this public health problem, but most of them focused on gender by presenting males as the perpetrators and females as victims of domestic violence (WHO, 1995). For example in a 2008 campaign titled, “Unite to End Violence Against Women” UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon observed that “at least one out of every three women is likely to be beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused in her lifetime” But he made no reference to male victims (United Nations, 2008).

It must be said that most researchers (Bowman, 2010; Richardson, Feder and Coid, 2002; Ellsberg et al, 2002) project the problem as the battle of men against women in which men always harm women. But this is not always the case as many men were victims of various forms of domestic violence in both developing and developed countries (WHO.2012). For example in the USA, women offenders constituted the fastest growing segment of criminals within the criminal justice system (Carney, Buttell, and Dutton, 2007).

In Ghana, reports from Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit (DOVVSU) of the Ghana police service show that there was 62% increment on reported cases of different forms of domestic violence in 2011. Researchers revealed that many men were not

reporting the various forms of abuse they experienced from their partners due to reasons such as actions and inactions of public officials (police, social welfare, judiciary), stigmatization, threat of partners justifying their actions for self-defense, socio-cultural and other reasons (Etter and Birzer, 2007; Frieze, 2005 ;Sarantakos, 2004; Allen-Collinson, 2009).

In various domestic violence awareness programs organized by Non-Governmental Organizations, media attention was always devoted to men as the perpetrators of the various forms of abuse and women as victims, ignoring the fact that men too were often victims (Henning, Jones and Holdford: 2005). Very few crimes were reported when men were victims of domestic abuse and even fewer cases were highlighted in the media (Stop Abusive and Violent Environments, 2010). While abuse of any kind is viewed as intolerable, female abusers were disproportionately shown leniency by society and this makes men not to seek professional assistance (Barber, 2008).

1.2 Problem statement

Domestic violence can involve a wide array of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. Many countries now provide legal protections against domestic violence but some do not enforce it (Brush, 1990). It is good to note that domestic violence is not a problem of any one particular group of people in a particular part of the world, but rather the problem of both developed, developing and under developed nations, even though statistics differs from country to country. (UNICE, 2000).

Menard, Anderson, and Godboldt (2008), reported that each year approximately 1.3 per 1000 men were victimized by their female partners, as opposed to 3.8 per 1000 women. Although the figures of abused men were not as high as that of women, it is not a

negligible figure to be overlooked. In the past, domestic violence was considered a personal issue, rather than a social issue. But now, it has gained the status of a serious social crime (Johnson, 2005).

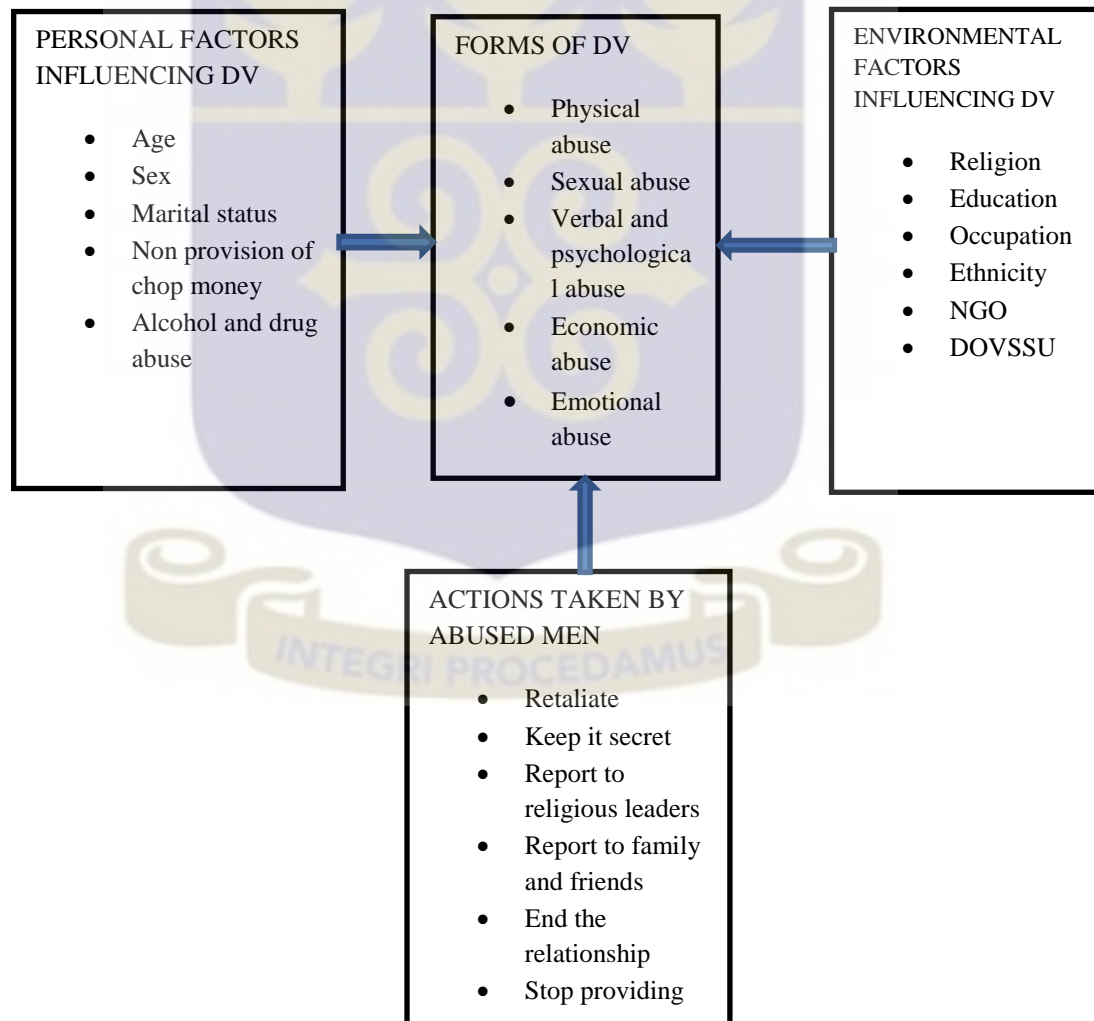
With World Health Organization's estimate of 36.6% of African women being victims of domestic violence in 2010 (WHO, 2010). One can estimate that about 9.2% of African men were also victims based on the figure of 1.3 per 1000 for men and 3.8 per 1000 for women as provided by Menard, Anderson, and Godboldt (2008). The Police Public Relation Department of Ghana recorded 2,474 men reporting various forms of domestic violence to the Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU) in 2011. Even though the figure was not as high as that of women (15,495), the figure shows 62% increment on that of the previous year, (Ghana News Agency, 2010). However, with the issue of domestic violence, writers and advocacy groups have shown clear differentiations of the sexes in committing violence, as they mostly call it gender-based violence, and described it as violence against women. The fact that most reporters of domestic violence were women does not mean men were not victims (Carney, Buttell & Dutton, 2006; Frieze, 2005; Lowenstein, 2005; Schroffei, 2004; Swan, Gambone, Caldwell, Sullivan, & Snow, 2008).

Observation made at the Ashaiman office of the Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit (DOVVSU) showed that about 16 cases were reported daily with women mostly being the complainants as well as the victims. Even though many men were abused on daily bases, only few report to the appropriate authorities. Again observations revealed that even though women were the first to report domestic abuse, in most cases they may be guilty of the crime they report. With increase domestic violence of various forms against men in the Ashaiman community, it is necessary to research the problem of what men do

when they are abused, forms of violence they experience and the reasons why men are being abused by their partner.

1.3 Conceptual framework

The conceptual framework below was adapted from World Health Organization partnership violence report, (2013) and based on the social cognitive theory which stated that behaviour is made by personal and environmental factors



Sources: World Health Organization partnership violence report (2013)

Components of the conceptual framework

The social cognitive theory emerged in the year 1941 as theory of social learning (Miller and Dollars, 1941). It was broadened to add the principles of observations and leaning vicarious reinforcement by Bandura in 1977. Bandura placed emphasis on the important roles of various internal processes of the learning individual, such as observations and interactions that one has with his environment. The theory also made it clear that one's behaviour is shaped by the rewards or punishments attached to particular action. The theory focuses on two main factors that account for human behaviour, these are personal and environmental factors. The personal factors are made up of individual knowledge, perception and others. Whilst environmental factors such as socio-economic, religions, and institutions will influence the way an individual behaves (Bussey & Bandura, 1999). Though the environmental and individual factors may influence domestic violence it can be reinforced with punishments or rewards.

The conceptual framework diagram contains four segments. The first segment talks about forms of domestic violence, perpetrated against men, this included physical, psychological, verbal, sexual etc. The second segment shows personal factors that influence domestic violence positive or negatively; includes age, sex, marital status, alcohol and drug abuse etc. The third segment indicates some environmental factors influencing domestic violence they are, religion, education, occupation, ethnicity etc. The final segment shows actions taken by abused men, some were retaliation, report to the police, report to religious leaders and stop providing for the family etc.

1.4 Justification of the study

With the increasing cases of domestic violence against men in Ghana and other parts of the world (Carney, Buttell and Dutton, 2007; Ghana news agency, 2011), the outcome of the study will help identify barriers preventing men from reporting abuse, form of abuse experienced by men and what men do when they are abused by their partners. The findings will bring public attention to the silent issue of male domestic violence victims, help shape the policy and works of organizations that handle domestic violence issues.

In conclusion the outcome of this work will help bring some changes to how domestic violence awareness programs are being organized by emphasizing on men inclusion in their activities as the way forward.

1.5 Research questions

The research seeks to answer the following questions at the end of the study.

1. What are the forms of domestic violence experienced by men within the Ashaiman community?
2. What are the reasons why men are abused by their partners within the Ashaiman community?
3. What do men do when they are abused by their partners within the Ashaiman community?

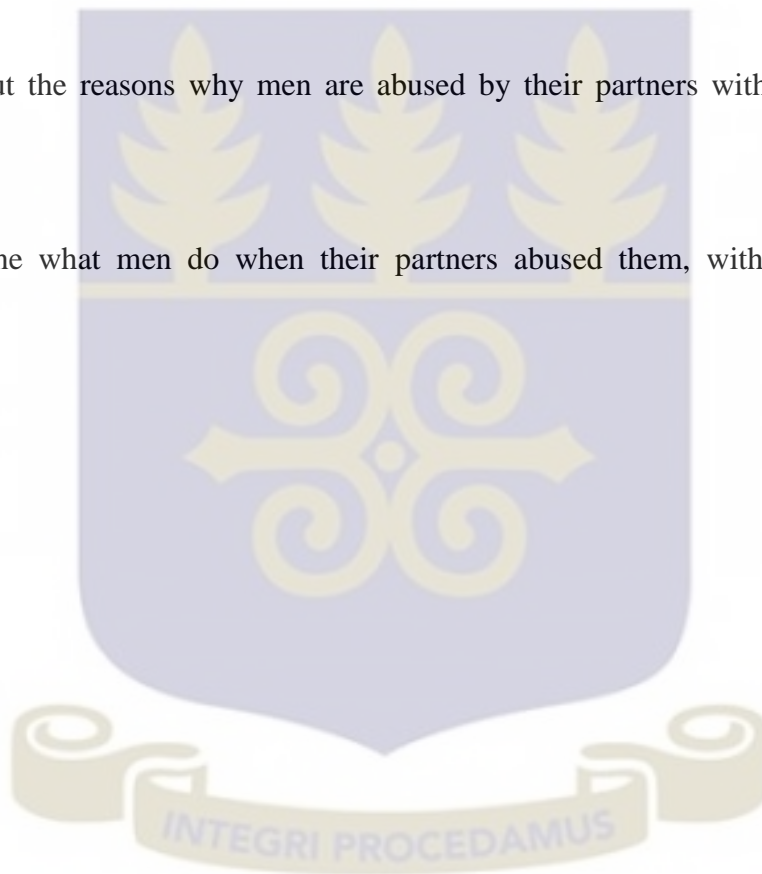
1.6. Objectives of the study

1.6.1 General objective

To examine domestic violence against men within the Ashaiman community.

1.6.2 Specific objectives

1. To identify the forms of domestic violence experienced by men within the Ashaiman community.
2. To find out the reasons why men are abused by their partners within the Ashaiman community.
3. To examine what men do when their partners abused them, within the Ashaiman community.



CHAPTER TWO

2.0 Literature review

This chapter focuses on reviewing and synthesizing the ideas of other writers about domestic violence against men. It includes the definition, the prevalence, the forms, factors influencing domestic violence and the reasons of non-reporting of domestic violence by male victims.

2.1 The prevalence of domestic violence.

Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behaviours by one or both partners in an intimate relationship such as marriage, dating, family, friends or cohabitation which make the victim feeling scared and intimidated (Lawrence,2003; Kelly,1999). It includes domestic abuse, spousal abuse, battering, family violence and intimate partner violence. In other words, a form of violence may be judged as domestic violence if there is a past or existing relationship between the parties involved in the violence, an example is divorced couples. (Miller, 2005; Phetlho-Thekisho, 2009).

According to Allen-Collinson (2009), domestic violence can be described as violent or aggressive behaviour within the home, typically involving the violent abuse of a spouse or partner. Domestic violence has been on the increase, though a lot of efforts are being put in place to reduce its occurrence. According to the World Health Organization (2012), one out of every three women will be victim of various forms of domestic violence during her life time.

Domestic violence or intimate partner violence has been happening among men and women but strong voices of feminist groups and lack of data has made it difficult to get a true figure of the prevalence of domestic violence against men (Leonard, 2003; Baber,

2008). Due to the influence of feminist groups, even the justice system of developed countries such as America pay less attention to the prevalence of domestic violence against men (Carney, Buttell, & Dutton, 2007; Dutton, 2007; Minaker & Snider, 2006).

According to Ménard, Anderson, and Godboldt (2008), about 3.8 women per 1000 and 1.3 men per 1,000 may be victims of domestic violence during their life time. The Bureau of Justice Statistics (2007) noted that each year approximately 1,181 women and 329 men are victims of intimate partner homicides in United State of America. Whilst the Police Public Relation Department of Ghana recorded in the year 2011, 2,474 men reporting various forms of domestic violence to the Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU). Even though the figure is not as high as that of women (15,495) it shows a 62% increment on that of the previous year (Ghana News Agency 2012). Though women were the most victims of domestic violence, the number of male victims is not insignificant.

Johnson (2005) argued that the increase in the prevalence of domestic violence against men is not new. Research conducted in the 1970s, provided empirical evidence that men are as likely to be victims of domestic violence as women (Caroletta, 2010). The high prevalence of domestic violence against men defeat most comments made by feminist groups which try to paint the picture (as if) that men are domestic violence free.

The majority of people who report domestic violence are women (Carney, Buttell, & Dutton, 2006; Frieze, 2005; Lowenstein, 2005; Schroffei, 2004; Swan, Gambone, Caldwell, Sullivan, & Snow, 2008). Unfortunately, the figures quoted for male victims may be under estimated, since the criminal justice system does not pay attention to male victims, the system does not normally record violence against men and men themselves do not admit they were abused (Cook,1997; Lewis and Sarantakos,2001). Nonetheless we

cannot compare the prevalence of domestic violence between men and women, because the numbers of female victims far outnumber that of male victims. However we need to establish the fact that no form or margin of violence is acceptable (Carey, 2010).

A detailed study in the prevalence of domestic violence, demonstrated that countries with a good economic performance had less domestic when compared to countries with bad economic performance (She & Williamson, 1999). According to the International Rescue Commission report on prevalence of domestic violence (IRC, 2012), using the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as economic indicator, Ethiopia and Bangladesh, with their poor GDPs recorded high incidence of domestic violence, as compared to United States of America and Japan with highest GDPs in the world recorded less domestic violence incidents. This alerted researchers that countries with poor economic performance stand the chance of having a lot of domestic violence case. This suggested that some Africa and Asian countries may record high level of domestic violence since their economic condition does not enable them to create supportive environment to preventing and supporting victims (Jamieson, 2004)

Prevalence of domestic violence varies between people who are educated and those who had little or no form of formal education. Abraham, Jewkes, Hoffman and Laubsher, (2004) concluded that the prevalence of domestic violence varies between the educated and less or non-formal educated people. In their study conducted in South Africa, they found that, the less educated recorded a higher level of domestic violence than the more educated. They also established that communities with high unemployment recorded a higher level of domestic violence when compared to communities with full employment. Again it was established that the prevalence of domestic violence among drug users was higher than that of non-drug users (Sharps, Campbell, Gray, Webster, Campbell, 2001).

Maxine, Greenstein and Lang (2005) and Melzer (2002) estimated that there was a high prevalence of domestic violence in a relationship in which there is a resource imbalance, especially when the woman is relatively richer than the man, as compared to a relationship with balanced resources and where the man is relatively richer than the woman.

2.2 Factors influencing domestic violence.

Bowman (2003) indicated that some factors may influence domestic violence positively or negatively. Religion by itself may not influence domestic violence but, some involvement in religious activities and the meaning assigned to its teachings may be an influence. In Christianity the following bible quotation teaches how man and woman should stay together as husband and wife. Colossian chapter 3 verses 18, states, wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord (The holy Bible). This quotation sees women not to be at par with men but as a help mate. Dorschel (2011) argues that the bible till today supports a universal patriarchal ideology which limits the females' capacity.

Again, it is not allowed by the law for a man to beat the wife in Ghana and many other countries, but Islam allows the use of minimum force as a measure to control women in marriage (Hassan, 1989). Many religious practices are not in agreement with some of the human right conventions (Straus, 2007). According to Hassan (1989), despite the fact that women such as Khadijah and 'A'ishah (wives of the Prophet Muhammad) and Rabi'a al-Basri (the outstanding Sufi woman) featured significantly in early Islam, the Islamic tradition has, by and large, remained rigidly patriarchal until the present time, prohibiting the growth of scholarship among women. Nonetheless, the negative impact of religion on domestic violence, Christian, Muslim and other religions provide some positive support to victims. An example is the counseling of victims and the provision of shelter.

Another factor influencing domestic violence is both feminist and masculine ideology, as most research by World Health Organization are feminists focused on domestic violence (WHO, 2010; 2011; 2012) with the caption domestic violence as violence against women. This makes male involvement in prevention of domestic violence low. (Barber, 2008) has also acknowledged that men and women are equally violent. This calls for neutral thinking to solve the problem of domestic violence.

Talcott Parsons (1902-1979), wrote about the sex role in the division of labour, which states that women must play a complementary role which is the provision of care and security for children and the offer of emotional support to men, whilst men play instrumental role, which is going outside to work to provide economic support to the family. The question is, are these roles the same today where men and women are equally educated? Maxinep, Greenstein and Lang, (2005), argue that masculinity and femininity are related to an agenda which defines the roles men and women play in their relationship. Whereas it is easy to determine the sex of a person as either male or female, when it comes to the issue of gender, the designation man or woman goes with responsibility. Masculinity and femininity influence domestic violence when one assumes the designation man or woman, yet not playing the role that goes with the designation, one still expects to be accorded the respect of being either the one or the other (Kahr, 201; Kumar, 2012).

However some researchers, Carney & Buttell,(2004) and Munirkazmi & Mohyuddin (2012) partially disagree on the use of masculinity as a factor influencing domestic violence, since there is violence in lesbian relationships too. Furthermore the modernization of society which is influenced by the social media and the signing of international treaties are impacting negatively on society hence the increasing number of domestic violence issues as Africa is changing from being a traditional society to being a modern society (Anyidoho, 2009).

But the traditional roles of gender still exist, men and women are playing these roles interchangeably. The Beijing conference on women in 1995, there were a lot of resolutions giving hope to women, encouraging them that they can do what men can do and do it better. Many women were inspired by the Beijing conference as the way to go, but a lot of traditional Africans, even the educated ones, are still finding it difficult to accept this as the way forward.

Bowman, (2003) stated that, African society would have been free or have limited domestic violence cases if they were not touched by the idea of modern society brought in by the Europeans and the Americans. This has put African societies in unknown situation (either to accept their traditional or modern ways of life). For example Gelle, (2011), states that people hit and abuse family members because they can. And in today's society, as reflected on TV, in movies, and according to feminist doctrine, women are openly given permission to hit men. For example, a woman slapping a man in the face.

Though Africa is a society in transition, because of the influence of other societies, one can also say this has enabled Africans to identify some of their culture practices as violent. According to Lowenstein (2005), the past patriarchal society has led to the inequality of women's points of view about social problems such as domestic violence. The inability of Africans to neutralize the power of men and women has led to the identification of different types of domestic violence. The modern society may help to uncover a lot about domestic violence against men, an example is the changing of Women and Juvenile Unit (WOJU) into Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit (DOVVSU) to give equal attention to both female and male victims in Ghana.

The final major factor influencing domestic violence is the actions and inactions of the law enforcers. According to Kahr (2011), domestic violence is high in countries which have

weak legal support against domestic violence. Though Sorenson and Taylor (2005) found that females aggression against males are on the increase, actions and inactions of the law enforcers and support givers in cases in which males are victims are nothing to write home about.

George and Yearwood (2014) reported poor response of care givers in the issue of male abuse among the English and Welsh .in police responses if attending first emergency call of male victims. High number of male victims claimed the police had totally ignored what they had to say, whilst some victims had been threatened with arrest for breach of the peace despite being the victim. Others victims had themselves been arrested.

Male Victims claimed that the police had only spoken to the female partner and ignored actual evidence that the male victim had been assaulted (SAVE, 2010). However only hand full of female perpetrators had been arrested. These actions do not help in solving the problem of domestic violence against men. In both developed and developing countries lack of shelter to house victims is a challenge. In places where there are shelters it only house female victims (Lawrence, 2003)

2.3 Forms of domestic violence.

Physical abuse is the most common form of domestic violence. According to Swan, Gambone, Caldwell, Sullivan, & Snow, (2008) physical abuse is common between both male and females, but females sustain more injuries compared to males. Also, females are as violent as males (Maguire, 2010; Dobash & Dobash, 2004). According to the 2007 domestic violence act “physical abuse involves specific acts or threats to commit acts such as physical assault or the use of physical force against another person including the forcible confinement or detention of another person and the deprivation of another person’s access to adequate food, water, clothing, shelter, rest, or subjecting another

person to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment”
(Biney,2010)

Though it is uncommon to hear men complaining of the above form of abuse, research conducted in the United States of America by Du Plat-Jones (2006) has found that male victims of domestic violence experience stabbing knocked out of teeth, injuries to the genitals, and other forms of physical abuse. Again the World Health Organization reports on domestic violence show that women record high numbers of physical abuse (WHO 2012) But Henning and Feder (2004) estimate that a lot of women use weapons to attack their partners. Findings by Henning and Feder, do not give any account as to whether women are more violent than men, yet establish the fact that women also use weapons to attack their partners, which is not legally and socially accepted.

Males who experienced physical abuse from their partners may lose their masculine nature, and may come out fearing their partners. In some cases this may harm the man for long time since he has to stay with the perpetrator and cannot break the silence (Sarkar, Dsouza & Dasgupta, 2007). A study by Hines, Brown, and Dunning (2007) found that male victims who experienced physical abuse from their female partners feared them. George and Yarwood (2004) noted that male victims suffered a lot of physical abuse with most of them being kicked in their genital organs. Some suffered various degrees of burns on their body or had been hit with heavy weapons. The researchers made it clear that male victims hardly report their partner for their misconducts.

Sexual abuse is another form of domestic violence, it is common among people from the ages of 35 to 44 years, with South East Asia recording the highest (WHO, 2013). Sexual abuse is a forced attempt to have or perform sexual acts against a partner’s will. Thus, attacking the sexual parts of a partner’s body, treating a partner as a sex object, threatening

physical violence should a partner not comply with sexual demands, Knowingly infecting a partner with STI's or the HIV/AIDS virus constitute sexual abuse. However not only non-consensual sexual contact, such as rape and fondling (sexual assault) but having sex with your wife or husband without her concern is also sexual abuse (Domestic violence act, 2007).

The third form of domestic violence is sexual harassment which focused on the use of word, looks, gifts and gestures to influence a person sexually. Biney (2010) revealed that sexual harassment is a controversial issue because many people in Ghanaian society are now becoming aware of this problem. It is difficult for one to point out what actually constitutes sexual harassment. However it involves unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favours. The World Health Organization (WHO, 2012) defines sexual violence as any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic or 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 places.

According to Lowenstein (2005), Barber, (2008) and Allen-Collinson (2009) sexual harassment occurs mostly among people who are family, who are domestic workers or who have some form of relationship between them, though women mostly report a lot of sexual abuse, most of these cases turns up to be untrue, since some women used it as a weapon to fight people of higher authority.

The last form of domestic violence is psychological and emotional abuse. According to the Domestic Violence Act 2007, Psychological and emotional abuses are acts that are intended to degrade, humiliate, or demean a person in public or in private. The aim of emotional or psychological abuse is to chip away at your feelings of self-worth and

independence. Men, who are victims of emotional abuse, feel that there is no way out of the relationship, or without their abusive partner they cannot move on, so they stay with the perpetrators hoping things will get better (Kumar, 2012; Kernsmith, 2006).

This form of abuse includes verbal abuse such as yelling, name-calling, blaming, and shaming. Isolation, intimidation, and controlling behavior (Constitution of Republic of Ghana, 1992). Adinkra (2010), states that issues relating to emotional abuse can lead to men committing suicide. Most studies do not normally write on this form of domestic violence and people do not report this form of violence to the police or other authorities. According to records from the Ashaiman domestic violence and victims support unit, this form of violence is only set as the foundation for other violence such as physical abuse.

Though there are several form of domestic violence against men, researchers (Carney, Buttell, & Dutton, 2007; Dutton, 2007; Minaker & Snider, 2006; Lowenstein, 2005; Menard, et al., 2008) mostly focus on physical abuse. It has been estimated that the most frequently reported cases of domestic abuse is physical abuse, but there are other forms of abuse such as verbal abuse which is often the bases for physical abuse (Undocumented evidence, DOVVSU Ashaiman center). To conclude, there are other forms of domestic violence according to the domestic violence act 2007, World Health Organization, 1996, and the International Recue Commission, 2012.

2.4 Reporting or not reporting of domestic violence by male victims.

Male victims of domestic violence are like orphans, since society, care givers, the law enforcers and the judicial services pay less attention to them (Cook, 1997; Lewis and Sarantakos, 2001). Males have been falsely framed as perpetrators of domestic violence (Carney, Buttell & Dutton, 2006). Though one cannot compare the figures of domestic violence between men and women, since it is clear from the World Health Organization,

International Rescue Commission and other documents that women are the most of time victims of domestic violence, the treatment given to male victims is different (Shuler, 2010).

The large number of male victims of domestic violence does not report to the authorities and professionals about their abuse due to some individual and social reasons (Barber, 2008). According to Allen-Collinson (2009), men do not normally report their abuse, even if they do report to the police no or little action is taken against the perpetrators.

Sarantakos (2004) found that women often threaten their male victims with the fact that they will report them as having assaulted them first, so they only assault their partners for self-defense. Carney, Buttell, and Dutton (2007), argue that the criminal justice system has been lenient to women, though we do not have different laws for men and women, the problem is how social support providers handle the issues.

Du Plat-Jones (2006), states that men do not report violence due to the social stigma. This stigma becomes a barrier which prevents them from telling their friends and family members about their problems, as families and friends will see them as weak men should they bring such issues out. Carney and Buttell (2004) reported, that the fact that more women are not arrested shows how partial the law and its enforcers are toward the issue of violence. Though the issue is still men abusing women, there are a lot of changes as to how awareness creation is being done.

Adinkra (2012), in his study about suicide in Ghana, shows that men commit more suicide than women, since some men prefer death to the loss of their command as men. Adinkra, laid much emphasis on the societal perception of masculinity of men as a determinant of what men do in most difficulty situations. An example there are Akan sayings “o,barima nsu” (man does not cry) and “o,barima na o,nom aduroa eye nnwono” (it’s a man who

takes bitter medicine) these show that men may commit suicide rather than disclosing their abuse to others.

In conclusion Gelles (1999) highlighted that there is the need for social workers, law enforcers and health professionals (nurses and doctors) to gain the recognition that men to can be victims of domestic violence to enable them change their attitude towards men victims. These may encourage men to break the silence.



CHAPTER THREE

3.0 Methodology

This chapter describes the methodology employed for this study. Issues covered in this chapter include the study area, research design, study population, sampling techniques, data collection and data analysis.

3.1 Type of study

This was a cross sectional study that used quantitative techniques for data collection. The choice of this method was due to its advantage to facilitate collection of original data that is necessary to address the research questions.

3.2 Research setting

This study was carried out at the Ashaiman community which is located in the greater Accra region. It is one of the municipalities created in 2008 with the population of 190,972, made up 97285 females and male population of 93727 living in 49,936 households. The community is made of suburbs such as Attadeka, Zenu, Newtown, Zongolaka, Official town, New and Old quarters, Middle-east and others. Ashaiman community has three police stations, social welfare, domestic violence and victim support unit and others social structures. The community is cosmopolitan in nature, consisting of people from different ethnicities, languages and different professions (PHC, 2010)

3.3 The study population

Three suburbs in the Ashaiman community was used for data collection, these communities were middle-east which represents the educated and well to do segment of

the Ashaiman population, the zongolaka suburb which represents the less educated and less wealthy area within the Ashaiman community. Lastly data was collected in New - town which shows people of different religion and ethnicity. The research involved people who were living in these communities, engaged in some forms heterogeneous relationship or divorced and were above the age of 18years.

3.5 Sample size determination

Since there was scanty or no data on domestic violence against men in Ghana the researcher used the following in the calculation of sample size was calculated as follows;

Population, (N) = 190,972.

Expected lost ratio, = 10%

Proportion, = 0.5

Margin of error (d) = 5%

Confident level, (1- α) = 95%

Actual sample size =198

Sample size adjusted to loses, = 216

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3.6 Variables

The following were the variables that were measured.

- The dependent variable was domestic violence against men.

- The independent variables were age, sex, education, religion, ethnicity, employment, and relationship status

3.7 Sampling method

Stratified sampling was used to collect data. Stratified sampling is the process of grouping members of the population into relatively homogeneous groups before sampling. Stratifying factors which already existed were selected to represent different characteristics of people within the Ashaiman community. In every stratum the researcher selected the most educated among the population to answer the questions. The most educated people were selected due to their understanding of the topic and their willingness to provide the needed information to the study. This method was chosen based on its advantages to this work, stratified sampling enabled the researcher to get respondents who truly represented the people of Ashaiman community.

3.8 Data collection techniques and tool

Structured questionnaires were administered to people who were in some forms of heterogeneous relationship (married, divorced, dating and cohabitant) and aged between 18 and 60 years, some of whom have been victims of domestic violence while some were not. The questionnaires were distributed using face-to-face technique.

Structured questionnaire was given to people within the suburbs who fall within the eligibility criteria which they read and answered at the presence of the researcher or research assistants, the researcher or the research assistance read the questions to the participants who cannot read. The researcher and research assistants administered the questionnaires to persons who were mentally sound, permanent residents in the selected suburbs.

The use of structured questionnaires enabled the researcher to gain responses which were specific to the objectives of the study and provide answers to the research questions, though it limited the researcher from probing to know some of the reasons behind the given responses. This method was used in similar studies in United Kingdom and South Africa (George and Yarwood, 2004; Abrahams, Jewkes, Hoffman and Laubsher, 2004).

3.9 Quality control

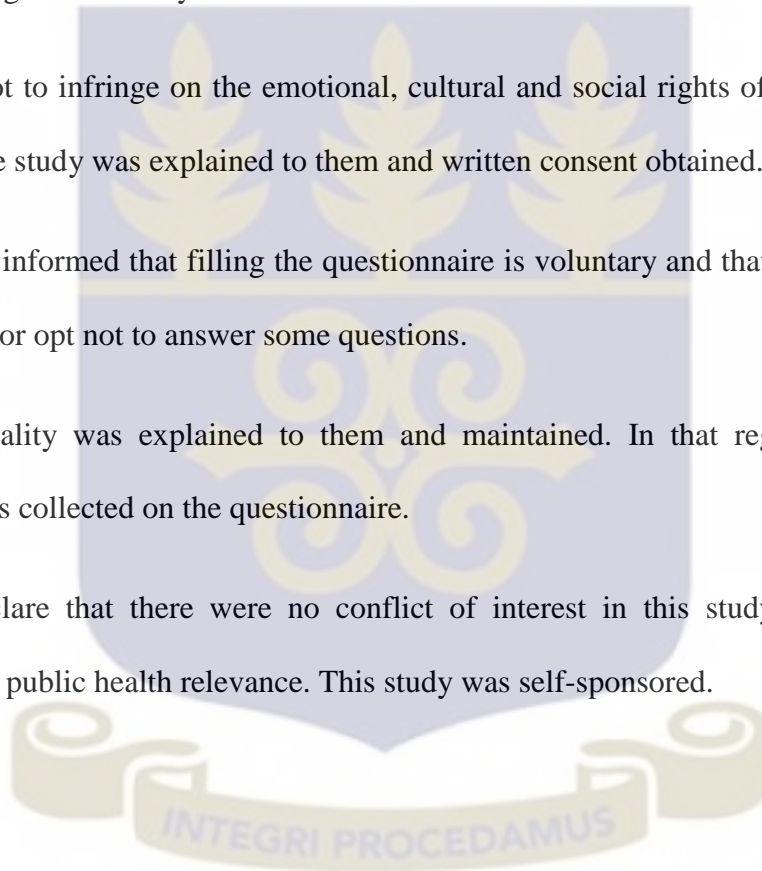
The structured questionnaire was created and revised based on reference materials and recommendations from supervisor. Research assistants were trained on how to collect data, after which pretesting was carried out at Tema community one. The researcher and the research assistants make sure the data was collected properly. All questionnaires that were returned were checked for mistakes and completeness. The questionnaire that had unclear responses or many missing information that could not be clarified were excluded. Double entry of data was done to reduce data entry errors and validate authenticity.

3.10 Data processing and analysis

The analysis of data collected was done using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS version 21.0). Descriptive statistics (frequency tables and percentages) were used to summarize the data and chi-square test was used to show associations between variables such as education, employment status, relationship status, religion, age and domestic violence against men.

3.11 Ethical clearance

1. Before the commencement of the study, the proposal was reviewed by the Ghana health service ethical clearance committee.
2. Protocol was observed when entering the Ashaiman community. First of all, introduction letter was submitted to the heads of the community to seek their permission before carrying out the study.
3. In order not to infringe on the emotional, cultural and social rights of respondents, the purpose of the study was explained to them and written consent obtained.
4. They were informed that filling the questionnaire is voluntary and that they can decline to participate or opt not to answer some questions.
5. Confidentiality was explained to them and maintained. In that regard no personal identifiers was collected on the questionnaire.
6. I also declare that there were no conflict of interest in this study apart from the academic and public health relevance. This study was self-sponsored.



CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 Results

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the results of the study. A total of 235 questionnaires were distributed to participants within the Ashaiman community. Nineteen (8.1%) questionnaires were eliminated from the analyses due to incompleteness of responses. This reduced the number of questionnaires to 216 (90.9%). The results are organized in four parts, background characteristic, respondents' knowledge about domestic violence, forms of violence perpetrated against men by their female partners, what men do when they are abused by their female partners and reasons why females abuse their male partners and association between background characteristics and DV victims.

4.2 Background characteristics by respondents' knowledge about domestic violence.

From table 4.1, 18.1% of respondents were aged between 18 and 24 years while the majority (37.5%) was aged between 25 and 34 years. Fifty-one percent of the respondents were males whilst 48.6% were females. In terms of religion, 72.2% were Christians, 21.1% Muslims and the rest belong to other religious groups. Majority of respondents (34.3%) were Akans, 24.5% were Ewes and the rest belongs to Ga-Adangbes, Dagombas and other ethnic groups. Majority of the respondents (44%) were civil servant by occupation while the rest were artisans, bankers, traders and other occupations. Fifty-four percent were married, 36.6% were single whilst the rest were engaged in other forms of relationships. Only few respondents (8.8%) had no form of formal education.

In addition a total of 65.7% and 74.1% of the respondents respectively witnessed and or heard about the occurrence of domestic violence in their communities. Out of this number, 23.1% of those who heard about domestic violence and 25.0% of those who witnessed

domestic violence were in the age group of 25-34years. Total of 34.7% male respondents have witnessed the occurrence of domestic violence and 38.0% have heard about it in their communities. Thirty-one percent and 36.1% of female respondents respectively witnessed or heard about its occurrence in their communities. Twenty-two percent of the Akan respondents have witnessed domestic violence occurrence and 26.0% of them have heard about it. Thirty-four percent and 38.0% of married couples' respectively have witnessed or heard about the occurrence of domestic violence.



Table 4. 1: Background characteristics by respondents' knowledge about DV. N=216

BACKGROUND VARIABLE	WITNESSED DV IN THEIR COMMUNITY. YES (%)	HEARD OF DV IN THEIR COMMUNITY YES (%)	TOTAL (%)
AGES			
18-24	31 (14.5%)	35 (16.2%)	18.52%
25-34	50 (23.1%)	54 (25.0%)	37.5%
35-44	31 (14.4%)	38 (16.6%)	21.76%
45-54	24 (11.1%)	24 (11.1%)	15.74%
55 and above	6 (2.8%)	9 (4.2%)	6.5%
SEX			
Male	75 (34.7%)	82 (38.0%)	51.4%
Female	67 (31.0%)	78 (36.1%)	48.6%
RELIGION			
Christians	92 (42.6%)	115 (52.2%)	72.3%
Muslim	41 (19.0%)	37 (17.1%)	23.15%
Traditional African Others	7 (3.2%)	6 (2.8%)	3.8%
	2 (0.9%)	2 (0.9%)	0.93%
ETHNICITY			
Akans	49 (22.8%)	56 (26.0%)	34.3%
Ewes	35 (16.2%)	39 (18.1%)	24.4%
Ga- Adangbes	23 (10.6%)	31 (14.4%)	20.4%
Dagomba	22 (10.2%)	19 (8.8%)	12.1%
Others	13 (6.0%)	16 (7.4%)	8.8%
MARITAL STATUS			
Married	74 (34.3%)	82 (38.0%)	54.2%
Single	53 (24.5%)	63 (29.2%)	36.5%
Co habiting	8 (3.7%)	6 (2.8%)	4.2%
Divorced	3 (1.4%)	4 (1.8%)	2.3%
Widowed	4 (1.8%)	5 (2.3%)	2.8%
OCCUPATION			
Civil servants	59 (27.3%)	65 (30.1%)	44.4%
Traders	42 (19.4%)	44 (20.4%)	24.1%
Artisans	11 (5.1%)	13 (6.0%)	7.4%
Bankers	12 (5.6%)	12 (5.6%)	6.9%
Factory hands	4 (1.9%)	4 (1.9%)	2.8%

Others	14 (6.5%)	22 (10.2%)	14.4%
EDUCATION			
No formal education	17 (7.9%)	17 (7.9%)	9.3%
Primary	11 (5.1%)	12 (5.6%)	5.6%
JHS leavers	14 (6.5%)	17 (7.9%)	9.7%
Secondary/vocation	36 (16.7%)	37 (17.1%)	23.1%
Tertiary and above	64 (29.6%)	77 (35.6%)	52.3%

4.3 Forms of domestic violence perpetrated against males.

Table 4.2, shows that out of the two hundred and sixteen respondents, 82.4% of them have heard about various forms of physical violence against men in their communities. Most of the respondents claimed that females sometimes commit physical violence against their male partners. This included, slaps (53.2%), pushes (48.1%), throwing item at them (43.5%), bites (35.6%) Ninety-three percent of the respondents have heard about the occurrence of various forms of verbal and psychological abuse against men by their female partners. Out of the ninety-three percent, most of them claimed females frequently abuse their male partners in the following ways, insult (55.6%), yelling (33.8%), using of harsh gestures (29.9%), and refusal to serve meals (23.6%). With the issue of sexual abuse of males by their female partners, 79% of respondents have heard about it in various forms. Most of the respondents agreed that females sometimes commit sexual abuse against their male partners in the form of kissing them forcefully (32.4%), playing with their manhood against their will (35%), denying them sex (50%), and having sex in exchange of resource (44.4%).

Table 4.2: Forms of domestic violence perpetrated against men, N=216

Kind of abuse	Never	Sometimes	Frequently
Physical violence			
Slap them	11.1%	53.2%	16.2%
Push them	13.0%	48.1%	19.4%
Throw item at them	12.5%	43.5%	24.5%
Bites them	26.4%	42.6%	11.1%
Beat them up	19.9%	35.6%	25.0%
Verbal and psychological abuse			
Insult them	4.2%	33.0%	55.6%
Yell at them	10.2%	48.1%	33.8%
Using harsh gestures	18.5%	44.6%	29.6%
Refuse to save meal	13.9%	55.1%	23.6%
Ignore them in public	15.3%	66.7%	25.0%
Sexual abuse			
kiss men forcefully	40.0%	32.4%	8.3%
play with their manhood	38.9%	35.0%	6.9%
deny them sex	7.4%	50.0%	26.4%
influence them to take aphrodisiac	31.0%	34.2%	14.8%

4.5 Reasons for male and what men do when they are abused.

From table 4.3, one hundred and eighty-eight (82.4%) of the respondent also agreed that women abuse men who do not give money for upkeep of the home. Also poor performance in bed accounts for male being abused by their female partners according to 80.1% of the respondents. Eighty-seven percent agreed that women abuse male partners who take drugs and abuse alcohol, while 85.1% agreed that having sex outside the relationship accounts for violence against men.

With the issue of what men do when they are abused by their partners, 76.4% claimed men retaliate, 64.4% said men report to family and friends, 77.3% agreed men report to religious leaders, while 77.3% disagreed that men report to police or DOVVSU. Sixty-nine percent of the respondents agreed that men keep their abuse secret whilst 63.4% agreed that it leads to ending the relationship and 60.2% claimed that abused men stop providing for their female partners.

When asked about the reasons for non-reporting of domestic violence perpetrated against men by their female partners, 186 (86.1%) of the respondents agreed that men fear of being ridicule, 132(61.1%) agreed that men fear the police will not listen to them, while 77.3% agreed that men think reporting is to the police to waste of time and energy etc.

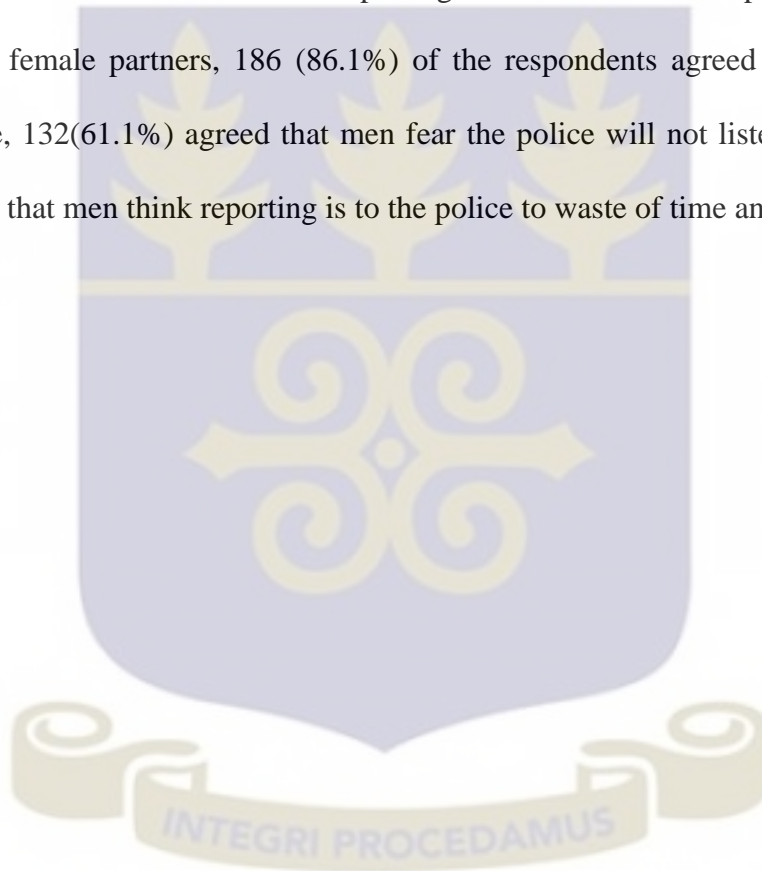


Table 4. 3: Reasons for male partner abuse and actions taken by abused men. N=216.

Reason for male abuse	Frequency	Percentages
When men do not give chop money	188	87.0%
When men are not performing well on bed	173	80.1%
When men are under the influence of alcohol and drugs	188	87.0%
When men have sex outside their relationship	186	85.1%
When men are unemployed	172	79.6%
What men do when they were abused		
Retaliate	165	76.4%
Report to family and friends	139	64.5%
Report to religious leaders	167	77.3%
Report to the police (DOVVSU)	49	22.7%
Keep it secret	150	69.4%
End the relationship	136	63.4%
Stop providing for the family	130	60.2%
Reasons for non-reporting of DV by men		
Men's fear of being ridicule	186	87.1%
Men's fear the police will not listen to them	132	61.1%
Men's fear women will lie that they only revenged	152	70.4%
Men's think reporting is a waste of time and energy	167	77.3%

4.5 Association between background characteristics and DV.

With domestic violence being the dependent variable and the background characteristics being the independent variables, the chi-square table below indicates that occupation and education were significantly related to domestic violence with $P < 0.00$ & $P < 0.00$ respectively. Apart from occupation and education the relationship between the other background characteristics and domestic violence were insignificant as demonstrated on

table 4.4. This implied that apart from occupation and education which can positively or negatively influence domestic violence, other background characteristics and domestic violence are statistically dependent. This also highlighted the fact the ability of background characteristics such as age, religion, marital status and ethnicity to influence domestic violence is very less. Bowman (2013) also emphasized those factors such as background characteristics less influence domestic violence, as her outline modernization and media as factors causing the various forms of abuse.

Table 4.4: Background characteristics by DV victim, N=216.

Domestic Violence	Chi-square analysis	
Background characteristics	Chi-square value	p-value
Age	9.333	0.053
Sex	0.786	0.88
Religion	6.085	0.193
Ethnicity	4.913	0.29
Marital status	4.180	0.382
Occupation	24.10	0.00*
Education	20.17	0.00*

Statistically significant *

CHAPTER FIVE

Discussion

5.1 Introduction

This cross sectional study was conducted to identify the forms of domestic violence against men, find out reasons why men are abused by their female partners and examine what men do when abused. The study involved people from the Ashaiman community who were into different professions, from different ethnic groups and education levels. This chapter discusses the findings of the research in the context of the conceptual framework developed for the study and also how the results correspond with previous studies.

5.2 Domestic violence knowledge among respondents.

The highest numbers of respondents were Akans making 34.3% of respondents, this support the fact that the Akan are the most populated ethnic group in Ghana. Majority of (72.2%) of respondents were Christian, this support the fact that Christianity is the largest religious group in Ghana (PHC, 2010). Most of the respondents who have some form of formal education have heard about the occurrence of domestic violence in their community. Majority of respondent (52.4%) were married and have heard or witnessed the occurrence of domestic violence in their communities. Seventy-two percent of the respondents claimed that men are mostly the perpetrators of domestic violence, while 89.8% agreed that women are mostly abused. This is similar to research conducted by Menard, Anderson, and Godboldt (2008), which suggested that 130 out of 1000 men and 380 out 1000 women are likely to be victims of domestic violence. Another research by the International Rescue Commission in West Africa indicated that 1 out of 3 West African women were victims of domestic violence (IRC, 2012).

Though the figure of abused men is not as high as that of women, it cannot be overlooked. Though, as 94% of respondents agreed that women verbally and psychologically abuse their male partners, most of them do not recognize these forms of act as unlawful. Knowledge about domestic violence was high among the educated as compared to those who have no forms of formal education, this was also demonstrated on the conceptual frame work as education have huge impact on occurrence of domestic violence. But Henning, Jones, and Holdford (2005) do not see education as having huge impact on DV, per their study both former and non-former educated women abuse their partners and have knowledge about DV.

Again the conceptual framework which is based on the social cognitive theory shows that, personal factors such as ones religious believes together with social factor like occupation were found to influence individual's knowledge about domestic violence. The study also reveals that there was association between education, occupation and victims of domestic violence. This implied that one's level of education or the type of occupation may lead to him or her being aware of the problem of domestic violence. A research conducted by Pickett and Pearl in the United State of American reveal that education and occupation were among some of the social factors that determine the occurrence of domestic violence (Pckett and Pearl, 2000)

5.3 Forms of domestic violence perpetrated against men.

Majority of respondents (82.4%) agreed that females abuse their male partners. This indicated the high level of male abuse in the community. However, physical abuse of males by their female partners seemed not to be as high as other forms of abuses. This reflects some cultural practices of the Ghanaian society as men who complain about such issues are seen as cowards. A research by Adinkra, (2012) indicated that Ghanaian men

prefer to die than to be dishonored or seen as cowards, so many men will prefer to be quiet when physically abused by their partner. Most of the respondents claimed that physical abuse of males by their female partners happen sometimes with slapping of male by their female partners being the leading kind of physical violence reported by men. This finding is similar to a research conducted in Ireland, which showed that slapping of men by female partners was the most occurring kind of physical abuse suffered by men in the hands of their female partners (George and Yarwood, 2004)

Verbal and psychological abuse were the highest forms of abuse perpetrated against men by their female partners, as 93% of the respondents agreed that females frequently abused their male partners verbally and psychologically. Insult is the leading kind of verbal abuse perpetrated against men according to 55.6% of the respondents. Using of harsh gestures and refusal to serve meals, though males provide home keeping money, was high as claimed by respondents.

The findings about verbal and psychological abuse also reflect the undocumented evidence gathered from the Ashaiman unit of DOVVSU (2012), which indicated that psychological and verbal abuse becomes the bedrock for other forms of abuses. Though verbal abuse occurs daily according to the findings much attention is not given to it as people do not normally report it to their mediators. Issues of verbal and psychological abuse mostly come up when there are other problems of abuse to be settled.

Seventy-nine percent of the respondents agreed that female abuse their male partners sexually. Denial of sex and exchange of sex for resources were the most occurring kind of sexual abuse. This was a claim made by 55% and 44% of respondents respectively. The situation by which women in relationship request for resource in exchange of sex was identified by a research done in Durban, South African which was termed survival sex

(Suzanne, 2008). Some men were abused sexually by their female partners in the form of influencing them to take aphrodisiac to enhance their sexual performance as potent sexual performance demonstrate ones masculinity (Cornwall and Lindisfarne, 1994)

5.4 Reasons why domestic violence is committed against males

The research findings show that the inability of men to provide housekeeping money (chop money) is the major reason for male abuse as this was reported by 87% of the respondents. A report in (Daily graphic new paper, June 4th 2015) indicated how a female stabbed the male partner to death because the man was not able to provide chop money due to unemployment.

Poor performance on bed and having sex outside the relationship were highly identified as a reasons for females to abuse their male partners as claimed by (80.1%) and (85.1%) of the respondents respectively. Majority of respondents stated that men who engaged in these activities were mostly subjected to all kinds of abuse by their female partners, according to (Hines and Douglas, 2009) men's reasonless demand for sex outside their relationship has made most of them victims of domestic violence. Poor sexual performance by men is a major topic in the Ghanaian media as several herbal medicines manufacturers claim to have a cure for sexual weakness, promotional messages played on radio and television show how men with such problems were verbally and psychologically abused. Example, women asking their partners in the Akan language "wuye berma" (are you a man)

5.5 Actions taken when men are domestic violence victims

The finding of the research indicates a series of actions taken by men when their female partners abused them. Seventy-six percent of the respondents agreed that most men

respond to their abuse by retaliating. A report from the department of public affairs of the Ghana service (2012) indicated that only few abused men report to the police. The study established same, as the refusal of men to report their abuse partners to police was very high.

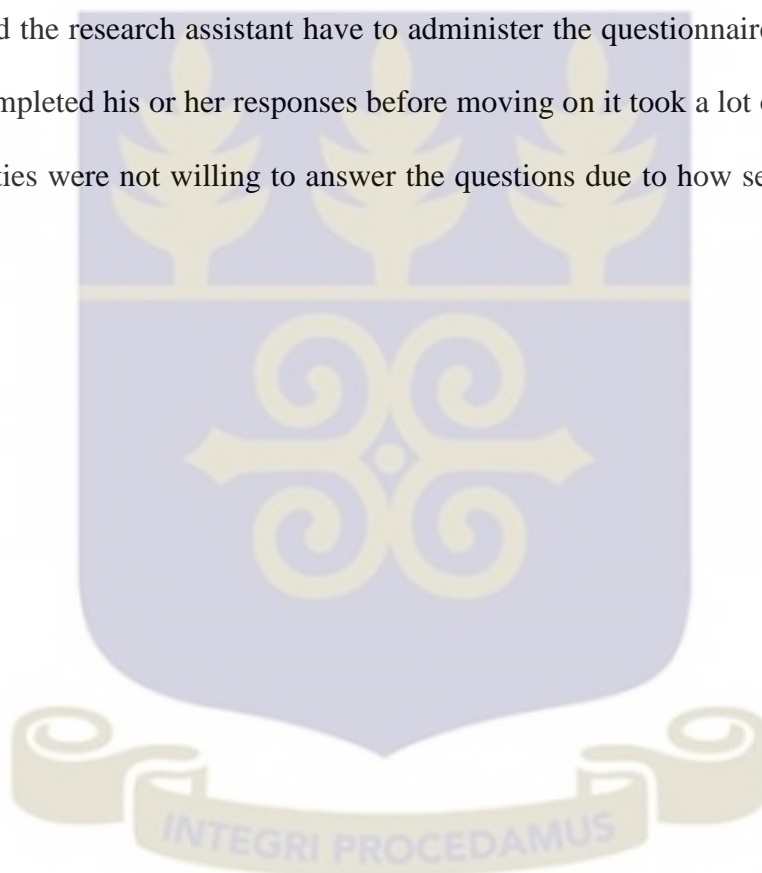
Though 69.4% of the respondents claimed that men keep secret the bitter treatments they suffered the hands of their female partners as sharing it with the public will only dishonor them, 64.5% of the respondents said men report issues of abuse to family members while majority (77.3%) agreed that men rather prefer reporting to their religious leader. The results show that religious leaders play a vital role in addressing domestic violence issues as most Ghanaians belong to some forms of religious groupings (PHC, 2008). Finally 63.4% agreed that abused men end the relationship with the perpetrators and enter into new relationship while 60.2% concluded that men who were abused by their partners stop providing for their partners. As Ghana is polygamous country, men who claimed to have find discomfort with their partners are quick to enter into new relationship as the way of comfort according to (Ofei-Aboagye, 1994)

Seventy-seven percent of study respondents claimed that men do not report to the police (DOVVSU) for support when they were abused by their female partners. Findings indicated that the fear of being ridiculed by the public is a major reason why men refuse to report to the police as agreed by 87.1% of the respondents. A related research by Baber, (2008) demonstrated that men in the UK find it difficult to report to the police when they were abused by their partners due to the fear of being ridiculed and biasness of the police. The study found that some men in Ashaiman fear police will not listen to them, while some men have the perception that reporting to the police is a waste of time and resources. It became clear that men have a lot of negative perception about the way the police handle

domestic violence issues. Men mostly perceived the police as being biased and therefore do not see the need to fall on them when they were abused (Robert, 2007).

5.6 Limitation of the study

The following were some challenges faced during the research process. The use of stratified sampling method limited the research to only specific environs within the Ashaiman community. Data collection was very difficult and time consuming as the researcher and the research assistant have to administer the questionnaire and wait till the individual completed his or her responses before moving on it took a lot of time. People in the communities were not willing to answer the questions due to how sensitive the issues were.



CHAPTER SIX

Conclusion and recommendations

6.1 Conclusion of the study

Domestic violence is a public health issue affecting large number of people in all parts of the world. Though both men and women are susceptible to it, the issue of domestic violence has taken gender perspective as males are identified as the perpetrators and females as victims. Findings indicated that female victims of domestic violence were about four times higher than that of males but that did not call for the silence on the issues of abused men by the public and authorities.

The study found that there was high level of awareness about domestic violence against men. Most respondents agreed that females abuse their male partners sexually and physically with verbal and psychological abuse being the most occurring. Inability of men to provide money for home upkeep, poor performance in bed, having sexual activities outside their relationship and the use of drugs and abuse of alcohol was found to be some of the reason why women abuse their partners.

Also, retaliation, reporting to religious leaders and families, stop providing for the partners, end the relationship, were some of the actions taken by abused men. The finding of the study also show that men do not report to the police (DOVVSU) for the following reasons, fear of being ridiculed by the public, fear the police will be biased toward them, think it is a waste of time and energy reporting to the Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit etc.

6.2 Recommendation of the study

Domestic violence has had a lot of negative impact on the people of Ghana; this includes broken homes, divorce, disability and sometimes death. The government of Ghana, non-governmental organizations, and other institution are working hard to bring it under control, but most of their activities are not to prevent occurrence but rather settling issues and provide some form of support for victims which are inadequate. It is recommended that preventive measures by the way of education on how to settle issues which fuel the problems of domestic violence must be encouraged to help reduce occurrence.

Most researches by the WHO, IRC and other researchers make the issue of domestic violence the problem of women. It is recommended that researchers must give much attention to the male side of the story to enable authorities to give fair hearing to abused men.

The study found that religious leaders play vital roles in handling domestic violence issues, but the problem is that most of them do not have the needed skills and capacity to deal with the issue and mostly relied on the teachings of the Bible, Quran and other religious book, which are patriarchal in nature. It is recommended that they should be given some form of education to enable them do their counselling according to the constitution.

Finally there are other forms of domestic violence such as economic abuse, emotional abuse etc, which the study did not go into. There is the need for other studies to look into the issues of other forms of domestic violence and it must be recommended that issues of abuse and violence should be treated differently when doing further studies.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A: Consent Form

PROJECT TITLE: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN WITHIN THE ASHAIMAN COMMUNITY.

Institutional Affiliation:

School of Public Health

College of Health Sciences, University of Ghana Legon

Background and Personal Introduction: The Principal Investigator is Ahoto Ahotovi Thomas, currently a master's student of the School of Public Health, Legon and conducting a study on domestic violence against men within the Ashaiman community. This study is for academic purposes and a requirement for the award of Master of Science Degree in Applied Health Social science.

Procedure: Respondents will be expected to answer questions on a structured questionnaire that will be provided for them.

RISKS AND BENEFITS

There is no reasonably foreseeable harm that may arise from participating in this research while benefits that may arise include a greater contribution to the knowledge of domestic violence, subsequent policies and interventions that may be developed in respect of this social problem.

RIGHT TO REFUSE:

Although there are no known risks associated with the research protocols, if you feel uncomfortable you have the liberty to opt out. You are also at will to withdraw from participating if you desire to do so.

ANONYMITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

You are assured that the information collection will be handled with the strictest confidentiality, will not be shared with third parties not directly involved in the research and thus will be used purely for academic purposes.

DATA STORAGE AND OWNERSHIP

Hard copy and electronic data will be stored in a lock file cabinet access will be limited to the principal investigator and supervisor of the study.

BEFORE TAKING CONSENT:

Do you have any questions that you wish to ask? If yes, questions to be noted.

If you have question you wish to ask later, or anything you wish to seek clarification on regarding the research, please do not hesitate to contact the principal researcher (Ahotovi Ahotovi Thomas) on; Telephone number: 02463879357 or Email:ahotoahotovithomas@yahoo.com or The administrator Ghana health service ethical review committee Madam Hannah Frimpong telephone number 0243235225.

PARTICIPANT Ihaving been adequately informed about the purpose, procedures, potential risks and benefits of this study. I have had the opportunity to ask questions and any question I have asked have been

answered to my satisfaction. I know that I can refuse to participate in this study without any loss or benefit to which I would have otherwise been entitled. Having gone through the consent form thoroughly I agree to enroll in this study. Name of participant.....

Signature or Right thumb print:

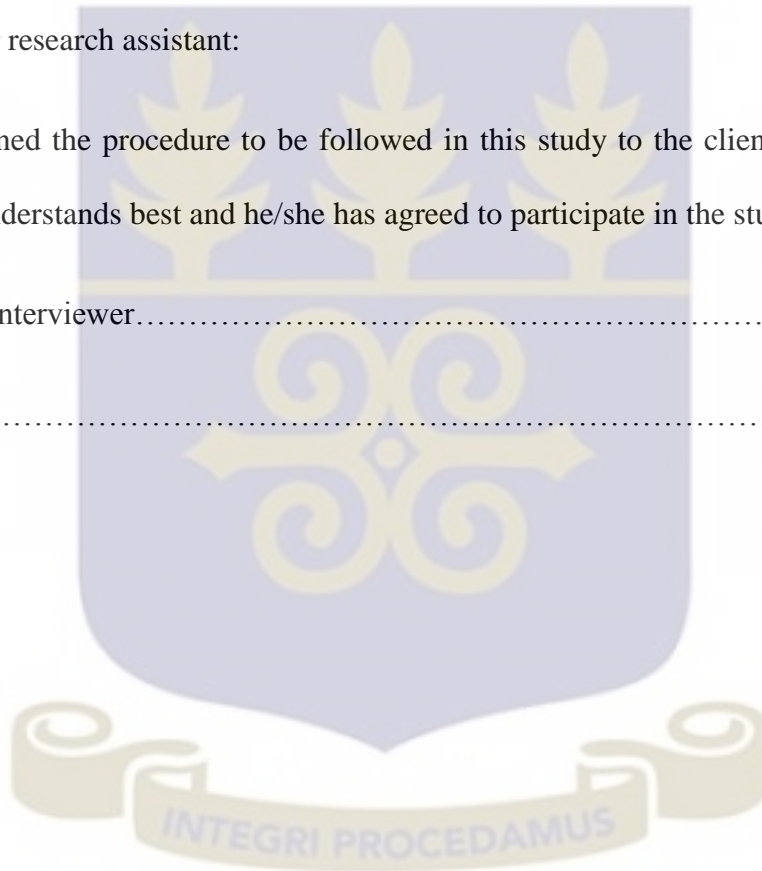
Date:

Researcher or research assistant:

I have explained the procedure to be followed in this study to the client in the language that he/she understands best and he/she has agreed to participate in the study.

Signature of interviewer.....

Date.....



Appendix B: Questionnaires

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF GHANA,
LEGON.

TOPIC: Domestic violence against men.

I am a M.Sc. Applied Health Social Science student of the above university and need information to carry out a study on the topic: Domestic violence against men within the Ashaiman community. This is for academic purposes only and information provided will be treated as confidential. It will be appreciated if you could spend some time to complete the questionnaire.

This data is to be used for only academic purpose, please do not write your name, telephone number or email address on it.

Please tick the appropriate answers. ✓

Background characteristic

Age

- 18-24 ()
- 25-34 ()
- 35-44 ()
- 45-54 ()
- 55 and above ()

Sex

- Male ()
- Female ()

Religion

- Christian ()
- Muslim ()
- Traditional African religion ()
- None ()
- Others specify.....

Ethnic group

- Akan ()
- Ewe ()
- Ga-Adangbe ()
- Dagomba ()
- Others specify.....

Marital status

- Married ()
- Single ()
- Co-habiting ()
- Divorced ()
- Widowed ()
- Others specify.....

Occupation

- Civil servant ()



- Traders ()
- Artisans ()
- Bankers ()
- Factory hands ()
- Others specify.....

Education

- No formal education ()
- Primary ()
- Junior high ()
- Secondary/Vocational ()
- Tertiary and above ()

2. Knowledge about domestic violence

A	Do you know about any form of domestic violence?	yes	no
B	Have you been a victim of domestic violence?		
C	Have you been a witness of domestic violence?		
D	Have you heard of its occurrence in your area?		
E	Who are usually the perpetrators of domestic violence?	men	women
F	Who are usually the victims of domestic violence?	men	women
G	Do you know if women abuse men in your area?		

3. Physical violence against men by their female partners.

A .Have you heard or seen men being physically abused by their female partners? Yes () no ()

If yes how often do women do the following to their male partners?

	Frequently	sometime	never
B. Slap them	3	2	0
C. Push them	3	2	0
D. Throw things at them	3	2	0
E. Beat them up	3	2	0
F .Bite them	3	2	0

4. Verbal and psychological abuse of men by their female partners

A. Have you heard of men being verbally abused by their female partners? Yes () no ()

If yes how often do women do the following to their male partners?

	Frequently	sometime	never
B call them abusive names	3	2	0
C. Insult them	3	2	0
D. Yell at them	3	2	0
E. Say humiliating words about them in the presence of others	3	2	0
F. Ignore or disrespect them in public	3	2	0
G. Refuse to serve meals at home	3	2	0
H. Using hash gestures in public	3	2	0

5. Sexual abuse of men by their female partners

A. Have you heard of men being sexually abused by their female partners? Yes () no ()

If yes how often do women do the following to their male partners?

	Frequently	sometime	never
B .Kiss them forcefully	3	2	0
C. Play with their manhood against their will	3	2	0
D. Deny their partners sex when requested	3	2	0
E. Agreed to have sex in exchange of resources	3	2	0
F. Force men to take aphrodisiac	3	2	0

6. Reasons why women abuse their male partner.

Which of the following do you think are the reasons why women abuse their male partners?		yes	no
A	When men do not give money for up keep of the home?		
B	When men are not performing well in bed?		
C	When men are under the influence of alcohol or drugs?		
D	When men engage in sexual activities outside the relationship?		
E	When men are unemployed?		
F	Others specify.....		

7. What do men do when they are abused by their female partners?

	What men do when they are abused by their partners	Yes	No
A	Abuse women in retaliation?		
B	Report to friends and families?		
C	Report to religious leaders?		
D	Report to the police (DOVVSU)		
E	Keep it secret?		
F	End the relationship?		
G	Stop providing for the women?		
H	Go for another partner		
I	Others specify.....		

8. What do you think are the reasons why men do not report when their female partners abuse them?

	Reasons for non-reporting of domestic violence by male victims.	yes	no
A	The fear of being ridiculed?		
B	They fear the police will not listen to them?		
C	They fear women might say that men were first to attack them?		
D	They fear the relationship may end?		
E	They fear DOVVSU will support women against them?		
F	They think reporting is a waste of time and energy?		
	Other (Specify).....		

9. Women who abuse their male partners are likely to be?

	Women who abuse their male partners likely to be.....	yes	no
A	Highly Educated than their male partners?		
B	Less educated than their male partners		
C	Wealthier than their male partners?		
D	Less wealthier than their male partners		
E	Gainfully employed than their male partners?		
F	Unemployed?		
G	Drink alcohol or use drugs?		
H	Older than their partners?		
I	Younger than their male partners?		