INVESTIGATION OF SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION: A CASE STUDY OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN IN GOWA REGENCY, INDONESIA

a Andi Irma Ariani, b Darmawan Salman, c Muhammad Syukur

ABSTRACT

Objective: The aim of this study is to investigate social construction of children and women within the cycle of violence and exploitation in the Gowa Regency, Indonesia.

Theoretical Framework: The high incidence of violence against children and women is a worrying concern in Gowa Regency, Indonesia. In this context, the influence of power and the operation of social constructs contribute to the increased occurrences related to the internalization of values within a society. Previous results were analyzed from a medical perspective but did not examine this crime as part of social construction.

Method: A case study method was used by conducting interviews with 18 children and women in the regency. The data analysis method was conducted in stages: (1) thematic analysis of interview results to identify main categories related to violence against children and women, (2) analysis of the main themes in each sample; (3) cross-theme analysis to determine commonalities and differences, allowing for the generalization of themes across the three cases, children labor exploitation, and women as victims of divorce.

Result and Conclusion: The results showed that there was a distressing phenomenon of children being socially constructed as sex workers. A critical contributing factor to verbal violence against women in households is the normalization of such violence by husbands within the framework of marital relationships.

Implication of Research: The process of social construction, with its stages of internalization, objectification, and externalization, preserved the image of women as victims of violence within the confines of official marriages.

Originality/value: This study presented the theoretical concept of violence against children and women at a substantive level.

Keywords: children, women, violence and exploitation, social construction.

Received: 28/08/2023
Accepted: 27/11/2023
DOI: https://doi.org/10.55908/sdgs.v11i12.1865
INVESTIGAÇÃO DA CONSTRUÇÃO SOCIAL DA VIOLÊNCIA E EXPLORAÇÃO: UM ESTUDO DE CASO DE CRIANÇAS E MULHERES NA REGÊNCIA DE GOWA, INDONÉSIA

RESUMO

Objetivo: O objetivo deste estudo é investigar a construção social de crianças e mulheres dentro do ciclo de violência e exploração na Regência de Gowa, na Indonésia.

Estrutura teórica: A alta incidência de violência contra crianças e mulheres é uma preocupação preocupante na Regência de Gowa, na Indonésia. Nesse contexto, a influência do poder e a operação de construções sociais contribuem para o aumento das ocorrências relacionadas à internalização de valores dentro de uma sociedade. Os resultados anteriores foram analisados numa perspectiva médica, mas não examinaram esse crime como parte da construção social.

Método: Um método de estudo de caso foi usado pela realização de entrevistas com 18 crianças e mulheres na regência. O método de análise de dados foi realizado em etapas: (1) análise temática dos resultados da entrevista para identificar as principais categorias relacionadas à violência contra crianças e mulheres, (2) análise dos principais temas de cada amostra; (3) análise transversal para determinar semelhanças e diferenças, permitindo a generalização de temas nos três casos, exploração do trabalho infantil e mulheres como vítimas de divórcio.

Resultado e Conclusão: Os resultados mostraram que havia um fenômeno angustiante de crianças serem socialmente construídas como prostitutas. Um fator crítico que contribui para a violência verbal contra as mulheres nas famílias é a normalização de tal violência por maridos no âmbito das relações conjulgas.

Implicação da Pesquisa: O processo de construção social, com suas etapas de internalização, objetificação e externalização, preservou a imagem da mulher como vítima de violência nos confins dos casamentos oficiais.

Originalidade/valor: Este estudo apresentou o conceito teórico de violência contra crianças e mulheres em nível substantivo.

Palavras-chave: crianças, mulheres, violência e exploração, construção social.

1 INTRODUCTION

Violence against children and women is known to take distressing forms, including the notion that engaging in sex work constitutes a legitimate profession (Tabet, 2012). In certain instances, it is portrayed as a lifestyle choice (Kishimoto et al., 2022), where their exploitation is accompanied by protection from disease risks behind sexual relations with multiple partners (Freedman et al., 2021). Another aspect includes the coercion of young females into children labor (Jalili et al., 2021), and in this context, the proceeds of their work are taken by the employers, either their parents or others (Baidawi et al., 2020), leaving children disadvantaged (Rohde et al., 2016). Violence against children and women can also occur within marital relationships in the form of recurring verbal abuse (Parker et al., 2022), physical and mental stress due to family economic...
limitations (Dew et al., 2012; Sánchez-Guevara Sánchez et al., 2020), being blamed for divorce (Mshweshwe, 2020), or suffering emotionally due to a husband's infidelity (Betzig, 1989). According to (Chapman, 1990), domestic violence is often encountered, with women being the primary victims.

Violence against children and women in Indonesia is quite significant. In 2021, the National Commission on Violence Against Women recorded a total of 338,496 cases, an increase from 226,062 in 2020. In 2022, there were 3,014 cases, with 860 being related to sexual violence in public or community settings and 899 in personal settings (National Commission on Violence Against Women, 2022). According to manual records from Women’s Empowerment and Children Protection Office in Gowa Regency, the number of reported cases in the last 5 years were 12, 25, 29, 71, and 59 in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021. These cases included domestic violence, neglect, violence against children and women, threats, harassment, custody disputes, and abuse.

Previous studies found that the silencing of victims occurs due to biomedical dominance (Sweeney et al., 2019), and the prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases reflects the severity of children exploitation (Shoji & Tsubota, 2022). Therefore, improving infrastructure can be a step forward in preventing violence against women while not leaving the responsibility for safety and protection solely (Garfias Royo et al., 2023). Social constructs behind the occurrence of violence against children and women were not analyzed. Investigation of social construction is important due to the increase in the number of cases, which can inadvertently erode the perception of violence as a breach of established social norms.

In a study conducted by (Berger, 1994), social construction is the process by which individuals internalize something from outside, as well as objectify and externalize the understanding into reality in the form of actions. For Berger and Luckmann, there is a positive correlation between an individual and social reality. Using a generative structuralism perspective, (Bourdieu, 1977) explained that social practices were the product of the interplay between habitus (the cognitive structure mediating an individual with social reality) and the capital (social, economic, symbolic, and cultural) possessed in various aspects of life. Meanwhile, (Foucault, 2017) stated that social reality was constructed through power relations behind the functioning of discourse. The framework from (Berger, 1994) was used because the reality of violence against children and women has become part of internalized knowledge with externalized actions.
This study aimed to uncover the processes of internalization, objectification, and externalization among the actors included in violence against children and women, namely the victims, perpetrators, and their social environment. Following the introduction, there will be explanations on the methodology, results and discussion, and conclusion.

2 METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted in Gowa Regency, South Sulawesi, Indonesia. This regency is located between 119.37730 to 120.03170 and 5.08293428620 to 5.5773054370 degrees east and south latitudes, in the southern region of South Sulawesi (Central Bureau of Statistics, 2020). In this context, the three sub-districts used are Somba Opu, Pallangga, and Bontomarannu.

Figure 1. Map of Gowa Regency


Data was collected through interviews with purposively selected victims and related actors, totaling 18 individuals. In the case of children workers (mobile snack sellers), six girls aged 6-14 were interviewed. Regarding sex workers (pimps), four individuals were interviewed, namely, one pimp and sex worker aged 16, one student who was also a sex worker aged 16, one hotel escort aged 14, and one former student who decided to become a sex worker aged 16. In the case of violence within official marriages
"widows' alley"), eight women aged 24-57 were interviewed. These samples experienced physical, psychological, and verbal violence.

The data analysis method was conducted in stages: (1) thematic analysis of interview results to identify main categories related to violence against children and women, (2) analysis of the main themes in each sample; (3) cross-theme analysis to determine commonalities and differences, allowing for the generalization of themes across the three cases, children labor exploitation, and women as victims of divorce. This analysis process followed the comparative case study method (Creswell; & Cheryl N. Poth, 2018).

3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The reality of violence against children and women in the Gowa Regency has increased and takes place in various forms. In Pacciongang Village, there is a term known as "cool pimps", where female children are ensnared to become commercial sex workers by being facilitated with hotel accommodation and pocket money. In Romangpolong Village, female children are compelled to sell crackers to their parents with a specified earnings target, and failure to comply results in physical abuse. In Tetebatu Village, there is a term known as "widows' alley", where there are several widows divorced from their husbands due to domestic violence. The three case variants are covered by violence, occurring against children and women. The results are divided into three themes violence and exploitation, namely exploitation of children through prostitution, exploitation of children through labor, and violence against women through official marriage ties.

3.1 EXPLOITATION THROUGH PROSTITUTION

Commercial sex workers are a stressful profession, where various rules and obligations are strictly implemented. However, many sex workers often turn to this profession due to pressing economic difficulties in meeting their basic living expenses. In addition, this occupation is perceived as accessible and cost-effective since the process of acquiring clients is facilitated through online booking methods using social media applications such as Mi-Chat.

Dar (16 years old) is a female children who works as both a pimp and a sex worker. This job was introduced by a friend, who then connected children with the boss (Mami). The perpetrator inflicts psychological violence and imposes a quota and a target for this
job, such as forcing children to have sex with 5 people a week. Children is not alone in this situation due to the belief that many others are included and are not caught. Due to this conviction, children called a friend to join the prostitution job. Another source of income is being a pimp, and children does not think that this violates religion, specifically after seeing the easiness of making money on the internet through this job. Finally, children was motivated to take action to look for victims and recruit children to work, even in the local area. The religious leaders, the government, and the police were aware of this, but no action was taken. The religious leaders create the feeling of being safe, even though children is in the underage category.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as an excerpt as follows.

*I am a poor person, you can see that my family is lacking in economy. I have many needs, and my parents do not accommodate them. Therefore, I make money in my way, such as in this profession. Other people are free to judge me and I know myself.*

(D, 16 years old, pimp and sex worker).

Dza (14 years old) first knew about prostitution through friends, considering that it is a challenging job. Through the Michat application, she launched her mission as a result of internalization from friends. Dza took up this job and was assigned as a guest guide to the hotel. The target achievement is normal in work, while violence is assumed as pressure, such as forcing her to take guests to the hotel, providing excellent service, and occasionally offering sexual service.

She believes that this work is safe and she is not the only one included. Therefore, she decided to promote herself through the Michat application and focus on doing work that quickly generates money.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as an excerpt as follows.

*She was right, I had a bow but actually, it was my friend's and it had been returned. She was also honest that I had a pimp on Malino Street. She gave me money and food, but now I do not visit the hotels anymore. This profession pays a lot of money and I showed interest on Michat.*

(D, 14 years old, student, sex worker, and hotel escort).

Saz (16 years old) first learned about prostitution from her friend (widow) who had one children. She was introduced to the big boss (pimp), but now she cut off communication with them because she wanted to focus on school. The Michat application was her way to launch her action as a commercial sex worker without any consideration
because of a tempting promise. Regarding the decision, she was internalized by social friends. She did not provide further explanation because she had lost communication, and the process was influenced by intense meetings. Saz considered prostitution to be a difficult job with many strict rules. She experienced psychological violence, and there was an emphasis and target, such as forcing her to have sex with 3-4 people a week. She was persuaded that the job was safe and controlled with an internet quota as the capital and easy to perform.

The actor's statement described above is presented in an excerpt as follows.

_I am poor as you can see my condition and I try to fulfill my needs through this way. Someone came to offer me this paid profession. I felt it was a trap but I accepted because of the feeling of not being a good person._

(Z, 16 years old, student and sex worker).

Ri (16 years old), first learned about working as a sex worker from her friend, who was paid Ri 500 thousand rupiahs for one sex. For the smoothness of this job, she was required to intensively monitor WhatsApp. The boss (pimp) obtained a fee of 200 thousand rupiahs from guests. Therefore, the customer only needs around 700 thousand rupiahs per date with a prostitute. The lure of fulfilling personal needs, such as clothes and food, made her work as a commercial sex worker. She believes that every job requires a target, even though there is a different pressure, such as forcing her to have sex with 3-4 people a week. She feels that she is not alone in doing this job since many people have not been caught. Furthermore, the absence of firm action from the local government made her carry out her actions. Currently, she has no communication with the pimp whose whereabouts are unknown. Regarding her decision to become a sex worker, she was internalized by friends who did not want to be used further. This is because her whereabouts were no longer known and the process was influenced by frequent meetings from morning.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as an excerpt as follows.

_I am poor, lacking everything. I take this job because of many reasons and factors, one of which is promiscuity._

(R, 16 years old, sex worker).

The table below summaries the confessions of victims of violence and exploitation against children and women:
Table 1. Exploitation through Prostitution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Type of Violence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dar</td>
<td>16 years</td>
<td>Pimp and sex worker</td>
<td>Psychic (pressure) Being required to date 5 people a week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Dz</td>
<td>14 years</td>
<td>Student and sex worker</td>
<td>Psychic (pressure) provide excellent service to clients, specifically in taking the clients to the hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Zas</td>
<td>16 years</td>
<td>Student and sex worker</td>
<td>Psychic (pressure) Being required to date 3-4 people a week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ri</td>
<td>16 years</td>
<td>Sex worker</td>
<td>Psychic (pressure) Being required to date 3-4 people a week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Data Processed by Researchers, 2023.

Commercial sex workers are created from women encouraged by a pimp as an intermediary and caretaker who set many targets and rules. The satisfaction of individual requirements and enticing incentives render this occupation interesting, thereby attracting a significant number of women to pursue the profession. The lack of decisive intervention from local authorities, including law enforcement and religious leaders, has resulted in the proliferation of exploitation within prostitution, presenting a pressing concern. Furthermore, intensive socialization is not the solution to social problems. There was social construction of children as sex workers through internalization, objectivation, and externalization stages.

The study shows that children prostitution is a stressful job and full of rules. The target of having sex is common, facilitated by online booking and Michat. The temptation of need fulfillment due to a high lifestyle with bonuses attracted women to work as commercial sex workers. Similarly, the results (Miccio-Fonseca, 2017) showed that sex trafficking consisted of young women aged 16 years included in a lifestyle of prostitution.

3.2 EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN THROUGH WORKERS

Some children respondents work as mobile cracker sellers from morning until late evening. Frustration, verbal outbursts, and physical confrontations are often experienced due to small earnings. Approximately half of these children are enrolled in educational institutions, while a portion remains unenrolled, contributing to their families' economic prospects.

Nay (11 years old) considers selling crackers as part of daily life with a profit of one thousand per piece, taking part-time to help the family after school. Demands from her parents to younger siblings compel her to take this job. Besides, she is promised to be given wages by her mother to buy snacks and this happens continuously. On occasion,
she faces verbal reprimands and physical coercion when her performance falls short of expectations. The parent mistakenly believes that engaging children in part-time labor is a secure practice. Moreover, the situation is increased by the lack of governmental intervention, including the inclusion of law enforcement agencies.

The actor's statement can be seen as an excerpt as follows.

*My mother is a laundry worker, and my father is a pedicab driver. The daily earnings are 30 thousand rupiahs, but pedicab work is now hard to come by. My profit is only a thousand rupiahs, and I am forced by my father to sell crackers. My task is to fulfil my younger sibling's needs, from milk to diapers. Sometimes, rice water is even used as milk for my sibling.*

(N, 11 years old, a victim of children exploitation as a mobile cracker seller, still attending school).

Azi (10 years old) considers selling crackers as parents' obligation, where it is very difficult to achieve the target. This children feels fortunate that she can earn 20,000 to buy tempeh and fish. On a daily basis, the father's instances of physical mistreatment increase the challenging circumstances when she is fatigued from sales activities. The parents maintain the belief that using their children for work is a more financially advantageous choice than investing in education. Additionally, numerous others engage in the same practice of using their children discreetly without proper oversight, and this grievous violation persists unchecked. Additionally, the absence of government authorities such as the police investigating this exploitation allows this work to persist.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as follows.

*My mother collects scrap metal, cardboard, and bottles. My father passed away a long time ago and I sell 5 to 7 crackers, earning 2,000 a day. I will sell for 9,000 while others sell for 7,000 and I give the earnings to my mother. I get hit when only a few are sold and my ears become the target to pinch.*

(A, 10 years old, a victim of children exploitation as a mobile cracker seller, not attending school).

Ame (11 years old) sees selling crackers as a part of life. After school, she immediately starts selling 5 or 7 pieces of crackers, earning 2,000 per piece. This children will sell for 9,000 per piece while others sell for 7,000, and the earnings are given to the mother. Ame considers this work a duty as children to help the family's finances, even though it has to be accomplished every day. The mother believes that using her children is normal since many others do the same. Furthermore, the absence of government intervention makes this work seemingly acceptable and safe for children.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as follows.
I work as a mobile cracker seller, my mother collects scrap metal, and my father passed away a long time ago. She berates me, and pushes my head, saying I often play around when selling. These are the words that always come out of my mother's mouth.
(A, 11 years old, a victim of children exploitation as a mobile cracker seller, still attending school)

Ana, at the tender age of 8, views the sale of crackers as an obligatory responsibility. The targets established serve to intensify her labor, and this is not an isolated occurrence, but rather a daily obligation. At times, she becomes teary and yearns for the opportunity to attend school. However, the parents do not grant her permission since formal education is perceived as an extravagant waste of time and financial resources. Furthermore, there is a belief that the selling of crackers is conducted by numerous others. The absence of government intervention further increases their conviction that engaging their children in such work is without risk.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as follows.

I am not currently attending school, although I have the aspiration. My mother has forbidden me from pursuing an education, stating that engaging in labor yields substantial financial gains. According to her perspective, formal schooling is unnecessary, and she advocates for preferring employment as a more favorable path.
(A, 8 years old, a victim of children exploitation as a mobile cracker seller, not attending school).

Mus, who is 7 years old, perceives the sale of crackers as an obligatory duty expected of children. The parents have established specific targets that drive her to work diligently, often accompanied by the promise from the mother that she will be permitted to attend school. Furthermore, there are instances when she faces physical discipline, including pinching and slapping, when her sales fail to meet expectations. The mothers hold the conviction that engaging their children in such work is customary, a practice followed by numerous others. The lack of government intervention shows the acceptability and safety of this labor carried out by children.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as follows.

I am not attending school due to the unavailability of a family card. My mother has assured me that I will have the opportunity to attend when I am older. I do not face physical beatings but I am subjected to verbal reprimands and pinching when my sales performance falls short. On occasion, these corrective actions occur in the presence of my friends.
(M, 7 years old, a victim of children exploitation as a mobile cracker seller, not attending school).
An, a 14-year-old, considers the daily sale of crackers as a means to contribute to the family's financial well-being. Despite having pursued her education until the fourth grade and financial constraints, she remains steadfast in pursuing her dreams. Occasionally, The parents resort to scolding and pushing when the goods are not sold. Furthermore, there is the belief that engaging their children in this occupation is practiced by many others. The lack of government intervention further increases their confidence in the safety of using their children.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as follows.

_I previously attended school up to the fourth grade in Kolaka. However, I had to discontinue my education due to financial constraints. Even though there is no strict obligation to sell all the items, not meeting the sales targets occasionally leads to being subjected to verbal scolding and physical pushing._
(An, 14 years old, a victim of children exploitation as a mobile cracker seller, not attending school).

The table below summarizes the confessions of victims of violence and exploitation against children and women.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Type of Violence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Nay</td>
<td>11 years</td>
<td>Student, mobile cracker seller</td>
<td>Psychic: suppression and coercion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Azi</td>
<td>10 years</td>
<td>Student, mobile cracker seller</td>
<td>Verbal: using harsh words (fool) Physical: hitting and twisting the ears Psychic: suppression and coercion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Ame</td>
<td>11 years</td>
<td>Student, mobile cracker seller</td>
<td>Psychic: suppression and coercion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Ana</td>
<td>8 years</td>
<td>Mobile cracker seller</td>
<td>Psychic: suppression and coercion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Mus</td>
<td>7 years</td>
<td>Mobile cracker seller</td>
<td>Verbal: using harsh words (fool) Physical: pinching and throwing things Psychic: suppression and coercion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>An</td>
<td>14 years</td>
<td>Mobile cracker seller</td>
<td>Verbal: using harsh words Physical: hitting the Psychic: suppression and coercion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Data Processed by Researchers, 2023.

Children exploitation through workers includes parents forcing their children to work with the target of earning wages. The lack of strict enforcement such as the police makes these parents feel secure in pursuing their actions to reap unilateral profits. There is social construction of children as workers through the stages of internalization, objectification, and externalization.
The results show that children exploitation through workers includes children working as mobile cracker sellers who are exploited by their parents, a daily occurrence with wage targets. In this context, physical and psychological violence can occur when the wages do not meet expectations. These results are consistent with previous studies that simultaneous violence is a common occurrence, leading to neglect (Namy et al., 2017; Abdullah et al., 2021).

3.3 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN THROUGH OFFICIAL MARRIAGES

In domestic violence by husbands, only the wives are required to work. The husbands consider that this practice is performed by many other people, but are not yet exposed. Therefore, many wives propose divorce due to infidelity and economic issues.

Musda (24 years old) believes that domestic violence, specifically when accompanied by infidelity, is sad. This violence occurs frequently because of the absence of intervention from authorities. The act stems from minor issues blown out of proportion until domestic violence is experienced.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as follows.

*The presence of violence and infidelity is deeply troubling and distressing. As a young individual, I am disheartened by my husband's behavior, which causes great embarrassment. I also feel uncomfortable and ashamed of my mother, with whom I currently reside.*

(M, 24 years, victim of domestic violence).

In (18 years old) considers that violence occurring within her family is frequent, primarily verbal abuse such as cursing. The husband views this violence and cursing directed at her as normal. He believes that many men do the same outside, and there is no intervention by any party, leading her to decide on divorce. The only action taken was during a custody battle, where pepper water was used.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as follows.

*I got married in 2019, and in less than a year, I'm already divorced. I was often beaten and no matter the issue, violence was always used physically.*

(I, 18 years old, a victim of domestic violence).

Al (53 years old) believes that psychological violence can be in the form of abundant demand, burdening over small issues such as food, leading to frequent arguments. Even though the husband should be responsible for the family, these responsibilities are often transferred to the wife. This is because violence is normal and
the believe that many others do the same to their wives. The lack of assistance to resolve these issues leads to divorce.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as follows.

*I divorced my husband because of many demands which should be his responsibilities. He has many desires but has no money, and usually uses harsh words. I do not like it, specifically being cheated on.*

(A, 53 years, victim of infidelity and prosecution).

Neng (38 years), perceives sporadic violence as relatively common. However, the reality is that the husband's violence behavior persists, including verbal abuse, infidelity, and secret marriages. She holds the belief that these occurrences are common, and many individuals engage in similar behavior, even though it remains concealed. The absence of government intervention in addressing the prevalent violence has led her to contemplate the prudent decision of pursuing a divorce as a middle-ground solution.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as follows.

*We are still legally married, but Infidelity and secret marriages have occurred. There has been no domestic violence, just frequent anger and I cannot accept all of this.*

(N, 38 years, victim of infidelity).

De (57 years old) sees her husband's continuous verbal violence as prolonged suffering. She considers verbal abuse to be a common thing, believing that many others do the same. This repeated violence and pressure of polygamy led to the decision of divorce.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as follows.

*I do not like polygamy, and I prefer to get a divorce instead. The painful reality is that my husband has proposed polygamy, and the third party is a member of my own family. Even though there are no issues of domestic violence, the frequent use of harsh and hurtful language remains a significant concern.*

(D, 57 years, victim of infidelity).

Nu (54 years old) perceives the psychological violence in their household as regrettable. Frequent conflicts and arguments make the domestic situation increasingly tense. This is also a common occurrence and the lack of assistance to resolve these issues leads to divorce.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as follows.
We sometimes argue, and in any marriage, there are bound to be disagreements. But I cannot accept an argument mentioning my parents and the implied regret about our marriage. It is often said during arguments, and this feels oppressive and distressing.
(N, 54 years old, victim of psychological violence).

Su (37 years old) believes that violence within her family should be resolved through divorce. Domestic and physical violence should come to an end and are not perceived as a solution to any problem. Frequent arguments, unclear anger, and physical violence led to the decision of divorce. This is considered a common occurrence since others do the same to their wives. The lack of assistance from others to resolve these issues leads to divorce.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as follows.

*In the end, I divorced my husband because of domestic violence. I was tired of the frequent quarrels, unclear anger, and hitting.*
(S, 37 years, victim of domestic violence).

An (31 years old) finds domestic violence, specifically infidelity happening right in front of her, to be sad. Frequent arguments led to the decision to get a divorce. This violence is also considered a common occurrence since others do the same to their wives. The lack of assistance from others to resolve these issues leads to divorce.

The actor's statement described above can be seen as follows.

*I divorced my husband because he had an affair with another woman, and what is tragic is that I caught him at my in-laws’ house, and I felt like going crazy.*
(A, 31 years old, victim of infidelity).

The table below summarizes the confessions of victims of violence and exploitation against children and women.

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Mus</td>
<td>24 years</td>
<td>Bridal MuA</td>
<td>Physical: hitting and pushing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Psychic: infidelity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>In</td>
<td>18 years</td>
<td>Canteen employee</td>
<td>Verbal: using harsh words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Physical: hitting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Al</td>
<td>53 years</td>
<td>Canteen employee</td>
<td>Verbal: using harsh sentences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Psychic: demands and infidelity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Grocery trader</td>
<td>Verbal: using harsh words</td>
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<td>Psychic: infidelity</td>
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Women become victims of domestic, verbal, and psychological abuse when the husbands normalize violence against their wives, wrongly perceiving the concept as commonplace, and often hidden from public awareness. The lack of strong government enforcement increases the conviction as a common occurrence among families. In this context, there is social construction of women as victims of violence in official marriages through the stages of internalization, objectification, and externalization.

The results show that violence against women through official marriages includes husbands subjecting their wives to physical, psychological, verbal, and non-verbal abuses due to economic and infidelity-related reasons, leading to the decision to divorce. These results are consistent with the reason that domestic violence is a result of social, cultural, psychological, and economic factors (Kocacik et al., 2007); (García-Moreno et al., 2015).

Violence is not a unique incident but continuous, and globally, millions of women live with the consequences (Watts & Zimmerman, 2002). Children, as exploitation victims, often face bullying, insults, oppression, and verbal abuse, leading to negative consequences. In such circumstances, children are forced to assume a parentification role, being burdened with responsibilities that should rightfully be shouldered by the parents. This process deprives the opportunity to experience a normal childhood, which includes learning and playing without any demands. Studies on parentification are associated with risks to children's well-being (Pakenham & Cox, 2012).

The concept of social construction (Berger, 1994) related to the internalization, objectification, and externalization of violence actions occurs in the form of transforming children into sexual workers, driven by pimps who are intermediaries and caregivers for Commercial sex workers, with targets and rules in place. The absence of decisive actions from the surrounding environment, such as the police, religious leaders, and the government, makes this violence a worrisome issue. Furthermore, there is social construction of children as sex workers through the stages of internalization, objectification, and externalization. A form of children exploitation through workers includes coercion by parents who target the wages of their children. The lack of decisive action from the government, such as the police, makes these parents feel secure in profiting unilaterally without considering the future of their children. Additionally, a form
of making women victims of violence through official marriages includes physical, psychological, and verbal violence carried out by husbands. This is considered a common occurrence and widely practiced by others without knowing the concept. The lack of decisive action from the government creates the conviction to normalize the criminal case, which is a common occurrence among families. Therefore, there is social construction of women as victims of violence through official marriages through the stages of internalization, objectification, and externalization.

4 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the inclusion of women in sex work was driven by the coercion by pimps, as an intermediary and caregivers for commercial sex workers. The absence of action from the surrounding environment, such as the police, religious leaders, and the government, made this a worrying issue, and socialization was not the answer to the social problem. In this context, there was social construction of women as sex workers through the stages of internalization, objectification, and externalization. Children exploitation through workers included coercion by parents, targeting the wages of their children. The lack of decisive action from the government, such as the police, made these parents feel secure in profiting unilaterally without considering the future of their children. Women became victims within official marriages due to verbal violence carried out by husbands who considered the act a common occurrence in households and widely practiced by others. The lack of decisive action from the government created the conviction to normalize the criminal case, which is a common occurrence among families. There was also social construction of women as victims within official marriages through the stages of internalization, objectification, and externalization.

Violence against children and women was no longer a new phenomenon due to its global occurrence. This act was not conducted without a cause, and one of the causes was the economy. Furthermore, repeated violence had severe physical and psychological consequences for the victims. The cases had reached a concerning point, requiring immediate action from stakeholders to dismantle social construction and exploitation of children and women. The statistics of violence against children and women were on the rise, and the significant power imbalances pushed individuals to resort to forceful means. The functioning of social construction led to the prevalence of violence and was related to the internalization of societal values. This study presented the theoretical concept of
violence against children and women at a substantive level. However, it had limitations that should be addressed in future results. The sample size, while considered adequate for a qualitative study, might be supplemented in a quantitative method with a larger sample.
REFERENCES


Kishimoto, T., Churiki, M., Mikazato, T., Yamashiro, A., Nagasawa, Y., & Shokita, H.


