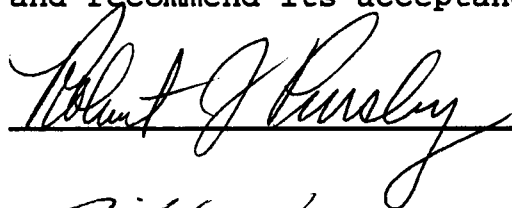


To the Graduate Council:

I am submitting herewith a dissertation written by Elisabeth Reichert entitled "Domestic Violence Against Women - Perceptions of International Students." I have examined the final copy of this dissertation for form and content and recommend that it be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, with a major in Health Education.


James J. Neutens, Major Professor

We have read this dissertation
and recommend its acceptance.







Accepted for the Council:


Vice Provost
and Dean of The Graduate School

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN -
PERCEPTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

A Dissertation
Presented for the
Doctor of Philosophy
Degree

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Elisabeth Reichert
August 1989

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To Lyn

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To all who helped me through this adventurous journey-
I am grateful !

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to assess and contrast international students' perceptions of violence against women in their home countries. The sample of 120 students was obtained from 890 international students enrolled during the Fall semester 1988 at the University of Tennessee by quota sampling according to country category. The results were contrasted among four country categories: low- (I), lower middle- (II), upper middle- (III) and industrial market (IV) countries.

Instrumentation consisted of a survey instrument designed by the researcher to measure students perception of awareness of the problem, nature, cause and prevention of woman abuse in their home country. The respondents completed the questionnaire resulting in the computation of percentages. Further, the mean rank for each country category was computed and then compared. Results were analyzed using Kruskal-Wallis one way anova and Mann Whitney U Wilcoxon procedures. The findings of this study led to the following conclusions regarding the international students sampled in this investigation.

Respondents from the low-income (I) countries and industrial market (IV) countries were significantly more aware of the existence of the problem and of services availability.

Students from the industrial market (IV) countries assessed the problem more accurately according to current research which describes woman abuse to include emotional and verbal abuse, crossing all socio-economic and educational levels.

Respondents from the lower middle- (II) income countries tended to view that the problem needs to be handled privately, while respondents from industrial market (IV) countries believed in the public solution. Socio-economic equality was seen as prevention by primarily students from the low-income (I) countries. While education promoting equality was viewed as a preventive measure by industrial market (IV) respondents.

In conclusion respondents from industrial market (IV) countries assessed the problem more accurately according to current research. However this does not indicate that the problem is less prevalent in the other country categories.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Many countries representing various cultures have begun to recognize that the family can be a potentially dangerous institution (Gelles & Cornell, 1983; Paltiel, 1987). The United Nations first addressed the international problem of troubled families in 1975 at The World Conference of the International Women's Year in Mexico City (United Nations, 1976). This conference marked the beginning of the International Women's Decade. Prior to the International Women's Decade, women's lives had not been a focus of sustained interest and had generally been investigated on standards based on male norms and masculine values (Paltiel, 1987). In 1976, the International Tribunal on Crimes Against Women was held in Brussels, Belgium. The conference members requested that governments recognize the existence and the extent of the problem of woman battering. The members also requested financial and legal protection for the victims of domestic violence (Russel & de Ven, 1976).

The 1980 United Nations conference in Copenhagen, Denmark on Equality, Development and Peace urged member states to adopt measures to protect the victims of family violence and to implement programs whose aims are to prevent such abuse, provide centers for the treatment,

shelter and counseling of victims of violence and sexual assault were also advocated (United Nations, 1980).

In 1985 at the conclusion of the United Nations Decade of Women, the World Health Organization (WHO) prepared a report at the World Conference designed to review and appraise the achievements of the decade within the three categories of health, education and employment (WHO, 1985). The report stated that if the goal of health for all is to be attained, more attention must be given to women's health and development (Director General of WHO, 1985). The resolution which was adopted by the thirty-eighth World Health Assembly, states that the Assembly is concerned about the increasing incidence of family violence and the impact on women and children (United Nations, 1986).

The World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women on Equality, Development and Peace met in Nairobi, Kenya, in July, 1985. The resolution regarding family violence states that "Gender specific violence is increasing and governments must affirm the dignity of women as a priority action" (United Nations, 1986). A draft resolution on domestic violence against women was submitted by 35 nations. The resolution indicated that governmental measures must be taken to prevent battering against women.

The Surgeon General's Report of 1985 reported that in some Third World Countries more citizens are dying

prematurely due to violence than those dying from infectious diseases. Therefore the reduction of violence is seen as an international health priority. A broad perspective in studying violence and developing intervention strategies is of great importance (Foege, 1985).

The United Nations Commission on the Status of Women met in 1986 in Vienna, Austria. The focus of this conference was on understanding the effects of family violence on women. Case studies were presented from developed and developing countries that revealed the universal nature of the problem despite cultural diversity (Paltiel, 1987).

Gelles and Cornell (1983) state that women abuse is probably most common in Western industrialized nations. However, the United Nations Conferences in Mexico City, Copenhagen and Nairobi (United Nations, 1976, 1980, 1986), and the expert meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women (Paltiel, 1987) emphasized the fact that the problem exists internationally. Research reports of women abuse in non-industrialized nations have been published more recently but they are still sparse. Gelles and Cornell (1983) point out that it is not correct to assume that countries other than the United States have little or no family violence because there are no scholarly or journalistic discussions of violence in those cultures.

The attention given to family violence in the United States when compared with the lack of acknowledgement given to family violence in other cultures has led many people to assume that family violence is unique or at least more common in the United States than in other societies (Gelles & Cornell, 1983). Whether or not this problem is acknowledged, violence against women by their male partners is a common practice in countries and cultures throughout the world.

Gelles and Cornell (1983) stress the need for a knowledge of family violence built on cross-cultural research using precise and replicable definitions, measures and research designs. They further emphasize the need for cross-cultural research on family violence which empirically examines the factors which cause variation in the extent and patterns of family violence. It is also suggested that the cultural effects of wifebeating be examined further (Response, 1985). The assumption that other countries are not aware of family violence is also fallacious.

While the study of family violence is relatively new, there is a general acceptance in Western countries, that violence represents abuse of power (Response, 1985; Schechter, 1987).

A. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The problem was to identify similarities and differences of international students perceptions about woman abuse in their home countries by division of low-income countries, lower middle-income countries, upper middle-income countries and industrial market countries as defined by the World Bank.

B. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

More specifically, the study was designed to seek answers to the following questions:

1. What were the perceptions of students regarding the nature of the abuse in their home country?
2. What were the perceptions of students regarding the cause of the abuse in their home country?
3. What were the perceptions of students regarding effective ways of dealing with the problem?
4. What were the contrasts among low-income countries, lower middle-income countries, upper middle-income countries, and industrial market countries regarding the nature of abuse ?
5. What were the contrasts among low-income countries, lower middle-income countries, upper middle-income countries and industrial market countries regarding the cause of the abuse ?

6. What were the contrasts among low-income countries, lower middle-income countries, upper middle-income countries and industrial market countries regarding effective ways to deal with abuse ?

C. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROBLEM

In 1986/7 there were 349,609 foreign students who were studying in the United States (Zikopoulos, 1987). Those students constitute about 3% of the total enrollment in postsecondary education (Araskog, 1984). International students are even more important in graduate education, since they constitute 15% of the total (Altbach, Kelly & Lulat, 1985). Most likely the largest number of international students, particularly those from Third World nations, wish to improve their professional opportunities at home by studying abroad. In many cases they obtain training in technological or other fields which are not available in their home country. For others, the prestige value of a foreign degree is a major motivation. Both the skills obtained abroad and the benefits of having studied abroad are highly valued. In most Third World nations, such foreign qualifications are quite useful in the job market and usually lead to higher salaries and better prospects for promotions (Altbach, Kelly & Lulat, 1985). The vast majority of academicians in the Third World and a large number of professionals in

influential nonacademic positions have been trained in the United States themselves or in their own countries by foreign trained expatriates. Graduate training at a United States university has been considered the pinnacle of successful education. Therefore graduates of the United States universities often occupy key positions near the top of the social hierarchy (Weiler, 1984). Important positions indicate clout and influence as policymakers.

The motivations for study abroad among students from the industrialized nations differ significantly from those from the Third World. The former typically do not obtain a foreign degree, but rather go abroad for linguistic training or cultural enrichment and often for the experience of living in another environment. While there has been no comprehensive study of the motivations of students from the industrialized nations who study abroad, it seems clear that the focus is more personal and cultural than it is professional and economic (Altbach, Kelly & Lulat, 1985). There were few studies of international students who returned to their home countries which focus on the impact of the foreign education experience (Deutsch, 1970).

The literature suggested that more research is needed in order to assess and eventually prevent the problem of woman abuse (Gelles & Cornell, 1983). This study took the first step in assessing the perceptions of international students about woman abuse.

The results of this study led to recommendations regarding future educational programs for international students, such as courses offered on international family violence through the women's studies department and extracurricular activities at the Center for International Education at the University of Tennessee. The study also created an awareness among the participants.

D. DELIMITATIONS

The study was restricted to international students attending the University of Tennessee during Fall Semester 1988.

E. LIMITATIONS

The major limitation was the willingness of the students to respond honestly.

F. BASIC ASSUMPTIONS

The following assumptions were considered essential for the study:

1. The interview techniques elicited valid responses;

2. The students were able to read and understand English, since the TOEFL test was required for University admission.

G. DEFINITION OF TERMS

Abuse: an act carried out with the intention or perceived intention of causing physical and/or emotional pain or injury to another person.

Abuser: an individual who actively inflicts abuse on his spouse or partner.

Abused Woman or Victim: a woman who has experienced physical, verbal, or emotional pain as a result of intentional abuse by her partner or husband.

Categories of Countries: low-income countries, lower middle-income countries, upper middle-income countries and industrial market countries as defined by the World Bank based on the gross national product per country (World Development Report, 1986).

Domestic Violence: abuse carried out in the family, usually by a husband.

Gross National Product (GNP) is the total national output of goods and services valued at market prices. GNP can be viewed in terms of expenditure categories which comprise purchases of goods and services by consumers and government, gross private domestic investment, and net exports of goods and services. GNP measures the

output attributable to the factors of production-labor and property. GNP differs from "national income" since GNP includes allowances for depreciation and for indirect business taxes (National Data Book & Guide to Sources, 1987). There are a number of problems with using GNP as a broader measure of development such as economic activities are difficult to measure. The GNP data do not reflect the distribution of income and wealth within a country, further the comparability of the GNP data among countries is limited (World Resources, 1987)

International Student: a person from a country other than the United States who is enrolled at the University of Tennessee as either part time or full time undergraduate, graduate student.

Shelter: a residence where an abused woman and her children can be be safe. Shelters provide protection for the victim or potential victim of assault.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter contains a review of the literature related to the study of national and international woman abuse and to international students in the United States. The first section summarizes the theories, causes and characteristics of women abuse. The second section reviews cross-cultural studies of woman battering. The third section summarizes the various international conferences findings relating to the characteristics of woman abuse. The fourth section reviews studies on international students.

A. CHARACTERISTICS OF WOMAN ABUSE

INTRODUCTION

The mental health of every woman is affected by the way her society regards and treats women in general. (Paltiel, 1987). The subordinate status of women in most of the worlds' societies is well documented (Blumberg, 1978; Chafetz, 1984). The World Health Organization (1985) states that:

"Although women constitute half of the world's adult population and one-third of the official labor force, they perform nearly two-thirds of

total working hours, receive only one-tenth of the world income, and own less than 1% of world property." Physical force is the ultimate recourse to subordinate groups of people and to perpetuate unequal power.

Woman abuse is not a new problem. English common law in 1768 asserted that a husband had the right to "physically chastise" an errant wife, provided the stick was no bigger than his thumb. In 1867 this rule was upheld by an appellate court in North Carolina (Straus & Gelles, 1987). The women's movement addressed the issue as an intolerable problem in Western countries. In the early 1970s women initiated efforts to provide shelter and assistance. They defined the problem within the context of the position of women in society (Paltiel, 1987). Woman abuse has been recognized as a significant health and social problem in the United States and many other industrialized countries, such as West Germany and Great Britain (Koppel & Leuteritz, 1980; Dobasch & Dobasch, 1979; Surgeon General's, 1985). In the past two decades, most Western countries have begun to recognize violence against women as a crime with unique characteristics and implications. As a result, new legislative, criminal justice and social service responses have been developed (Response, 1985).

Researchers found that 21 % of all women who use the emergency surgical service are battered and that battering

accounts for one in every four suicide attempts by all women and half of all suicide attempts by black women (Flintcraft et al., 1981). The result of a national survey in 1985 estimates that at least 2,052,000 wives are severely assaulted each year (Straus & Gelles, 1987). Those findings seem conservative compared to other estimates which suggest that nearly six million women will be abused by their partners in any one year and the F.B.I estimates that one out of every two women will be physically abused at some point in their lives by the men with whom they live or have lived. It is also indicated that a woman is beaten every eighteen seconds in the United States (State of New Jersey; Department of Community Affairs, n.d.). The FBI estimates that one out of every four women who is murdered is killed by her husband or partner (FBI, 1982).

Child abuse was nationally recognized as a social and health problem as early as 1960 (Kempe 1962). During the 1960s it was recognized that child abuse was wide spread and that it must be viewed as criminal behavior. This acknowledgement changed public opinion about the formerly sacrosanct privacy of the home (Paltiel, 1987). Awareness of woman abuse has followed awareness of child abuse in the United States and other countries (Gelles & Cornell, 1983). There is much less written outside of the United States on spouse abuse than on child abuse. The discrepancy between the number of articles on spouse abuse

and on child abuse could be a reflection of the trend in the United States where child abuse was identified as a significant social and health problem ten years before woman abuse was (Gelles & Cornell, 1983).

Woman battering has been defined in various ways by different writers; Ni Charthy's definition is expressed in the following terms:

Battering is physical force used by one person against another, to coerce, demean, humiliate, punish, or simply to release tension or demonstrate power. A battered woman is one who has been subjected to battering by her intimate partner on more than one occasion. An abused woman is one who has been subjected to physical assault, or emotional abuse, or both, by her intimate partner on more than one occasion (NiCarthy, 1986).

Feminist scholars such as Mary Daly (1979) have argued that all forms of violence against women, including wife beating, should be considered together. In this theory such practices as rape, genital mutilation, homicide of women, footbinding, Indian suttee, the stoning of unmarried non-virgins and bride stealing would be considered along with wife beating as instances of past or present violence against women in a culture.

Violence among family members is a major public health problem affecting the physical and mental health of

the victim, the perpetrator, and other persons in the households; in family violence everyone is victimized. During the last decade this problem has received increasing attention from three groups: behavioral researchers, health practitioners and concerned public (Lystad, 1984). Health practitioners who are researchers are trying to create service programs and treatment procedures for the victims.

THEORIES OF WOMAN ABUSE

While the study of domestic violence is relatively new, there is general acceptance, at least in Western societies, that domestic violence represents an abuse of power (Finkelhor 1983, Walker, 1983, Pagelow 1984, Schechter 1987). Finkelhor (1983) has observed that when violence occurs within a family it is generally perpetrated by the most powerful family member to the least powerful family member. Violence against women by their male partners is a common practice in countries and cultures throughout the world. Such violence is manifested in direct physical abuse and sexual assault. It is often more broadly defined to include various forms of sexual and financial exploitation, verbal abuse, and other psychological intimidation (Response, 1985).

Foege (1985) states that some Third World countries are already losing more premature years to violence than

to infectious diseases. Woman abuse is highly correlated with domination, control and chastisement of women due to the inferior position of women (Gelles & Cornell, 1983). Various research has shown that in households where the man is more dominant and both partners have rigid roles, the woman is more likely to be abused (Berk et al. 1983). Almost all writers and researchers of spouse abuse have called for an end to unequal power relationships between men and women in both the home and in society and for the replacement of this norm with egalitarian relationships (Dobash & Dobash 1979; Gelles 1979; Straus & Gelles, 1986).

The intergenerational theory and the transmission of violence theory stress that abusers themselves have been rejected or abused during their childhood. The risk that a parent will mistreat his children depends on past and current life stresses (Herrenkohl, 1983).

The social learning theory explanation that violence is learned and reinforced by its social consequences is well accepted in the domestic violence literature (Finkelhor, et al. 1983). Walker (1985) suggests that it is the interaction of sex role socialization patterns with socially learned aggressive responses that differentiate why some men who witness violence as children do not grow up to batter, while others who did not come from abusive backgrounds later turn to violence to control women and children.

Another theory is the social exchange control theory. The basis of this theory is that people hit and abuse other family members because they can. It further proposes that people use violence if the costs of being non-violent do not outweigh the rewards. From this theory is derived the proposition that family violence occurs in the absence of social controls that bond people to the social order and negatively sanction family members for acts of violence (Gelles, 1983). The social exchange control theory also offers recommendations to reduce violence. These include elimination of the norms which legitimize and glorify violence in society and in the family, reducing economic and gender inequity, and increasing the response capacity of the criminal justice system (Gelles, 1983).

After ten years of research and administration of countless psychological tests, the summary evaluation of the psychopathological approach to domestic violence was completed. It concludes that the proportion of individuals who batter their family members and suffer from psychological disorders is no greater than the proportion of the population in general with psychological disorders (Straus, 1980).

There is not one cause - not poverty, not stress, not mental illness or psychopathology, not being raised in a violent home, and not alcohol and/or drugs. Researchers

have found the following factors related to family violence:

- 1.) The cycle of violence - the intergenerational transmission of violence
- 2.) Low socioeconomic status
- 3.) Social and structural stress
- 4.) Social isolation
- 5.) Personality problems and psychopathology.

(Gelles & Maynard, 1987). Although the highest reported incidence is among the poor, this is probably because they are more likely to come to the attention of public agencies and legal authorities in the United States (Nadelson & Sauzier, 1986). Other research indicated that woman battering occurs among all ages and in all ethnic and racial, religious, educational, occupation, and socioeconomic groups (Pagelow, 1984). The existing research seems to be contradictory since it suggests that abuse occurs mainly among low socioeconomic income families as well as it also suggests that abuse is not defined to economic status, but crosses all socioeconomic groups.

It has been argued that data support the notion that the real cause of domestic violence is not psychological disorders or social learning, but rather it is oppressive sexism and racism in a patriarchal social organization of capitalistic societies (U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 1978). Since the cross-cultural research shows that

violence against women also exists in governmental forms other than capitalism this explanation seems to be limited.

Causative Factors of Woman Abuse

Domestic violence victims were interviewed by Fagan et al. (1981). Of these victims, 45% of their abusers witnessed parental violence and 37% had been abused as children. In the Pagelow study (1981), 53 percent of the batterers had mothers who were beaten by fathers; 45% were frequently punished, most often by fathers or father-figures. About half of the group frequently punished described this punishment as extremely severe. A study in Scotland found that only twelve percent of the siblings of batterers were violent to anyone (Dobasch & Dobasch 1979).

Although several causal theories have been postulated to explain the nearly universal phenomenon, no single paradigm has been proven as the cause of men's violence against women (Response, 1985). It has been suggested that the reason why men abuse women is a varied and complicated mix such as internal stress; society's permission to hit interpreted as an individual right; mimicking of violent parents or other role models; interpersonal struggles with the woman and others; feelings of anger, vulnerability, powerlessness and

inadequacy; and lack of few clear actions by the woman, and the justice system (NiCarthy, 1986).

Traits of Battered Women

Walker's learned helplessness theory advocates that women start believing that they are helpless and have no other alternatives but to stay in an abusive relationship. Walker's study found that there are no specific personality traits which would suggest a victim-prone personality for women, although there may be an identifiable violence prone personality for men (Walker, 1983). However, research states that various factors determine whether or not a woman will stay with an abuser. It has been acknowledged that the material and physical resources that women have determine if women stay or leave the relationship. Such resources include money, friends or family, transportation, education, physical health, number of children their ages and their health. Pagelow (1984) states that these women may seek outside intervention and the results of their efforts help determine in large part whether the violence continues or is terminated. Researchers agreed that women who subscribe to traditional values are more likely to remain in abusive situations. This ideology is a belief that women are inferior to men and their role as wife or lover is to be subservient, supportive, encouraging, loyal, and

self-sacrificing. Victims often have a strong commitment to marriage. This commitment is reinforced by cultural institutions, and pressure is exerted on them by family, religion, and community norms (Dobasch & Dobasch 1979; Pagelow 1981, Walker 1979).

B. CROSS-CULTURAL EXAMINATION

Anthropologists have researched violence against wives, but little research has been published on this topic in preindustrial societies. One reason for this lack of research might be simply that husband-wife violence is not a traditional subject of ethnographic investigation (Erchak, 1984).

Masumra (1979) conducted a cross-cultural analysis and determined that of eighty-six "primitive" societies, wife abuse was present at varying levels of frequency and severity in ninety of those studied.

Masumura selected eight cross-cultural codes dealing with aggression. The variables were personal crime, an aggression Index, murder, suicide, feuding, warfare, theft, wife abuse. He related wife abuse to seven other incidences of violence in eighty-six societies. Significant correlations between wife abuse and all of the violence categories, except for suicide, were found.

The second cross-cultural study conducted by Levinson (1983) compared wifebeating and physical

punishment of children in forty-six "small scale and folk" societies. The connection of wifebeating and physical punishment was suggested by social learning theory as applied to family violence. The theory states that young boys learned how to be physically aggressive from experiences in violent families of origin (Straus et al., 1980). Levinson (1983) found that there was an overall significant correlation between the use of physical punishment and frequent wifebeating, but the relationship did not hold true for the majority of societies. In a recent study of 90 societies, Levinson (1989) found that wife beating occurred in more societies than any other type of family violence.

The third cross-cultural study of wifebeating was conducted by Lester (1980) who studied seventy-one "primitive, nonliterate societies". In Lester's study, wifebeating was significantly more common in societies where the status of women was rated as inferior. Contrary to Masumura's findings, Lester (1980) found no correlation between wifebeating and homicide or common warfare, but he did find significant correlation with societies who "killed, mutilated or tortured the enemy".

Musumura (1979) suggested sexual jealousy as an underlying variable connecting the beating of wives with general acceptance of violence in a society. Other theorists (Dobasch & Dobasch, 1979), maintained that

sexual jealousy was an expression of protection of property.

Mushanga's (1978) analysis of homicide of wives in East and Central Africa led to the selection of cultural norms that allow violence against wives. Where there were low rates of homicide, especially against wives, Mushanga found strong cultural sanctions against such practices. Women were more often victimized when they violated strongly held cultural norms if the society approved of punishment for such violations (Mushanga, 1978).

Campbell (1985) states that the notion of male machismo, or compulsive masculinity is related to the beating of wives (Campbell & Humpreys, 1984; Straus, 1983). In some societies, the culturally ideal man is encouraged to be aggressive, sexually active, violently jealous and non-expressive of emotions except for anger.

Whether the violent episodes result in injury or in death, the home is a much more violent place for wives than for husbands. Mushanga (1983) and Dobasch and Dobasch (1979) agree that marriage customs, both in Africa and Scotland, support male domination. Mushanga (1983) demonstrates the relationship between the extent of spousal violence and cultural legitimacy in African societies. In Nigeria it is still the law that a man can "reasonably chastise his wife". It therefore follows that women are expected to accept what men believe is best for them (Paltiel, 1987).

A study conducted in Bangkok, Thailand, found that 50% of married women were battered. A nutrition center for malnourished children in Bangkok found that 25% of the children receiving treatment in the center come from families where the mother is routinely beaten (Paltiel, 1987).

In the People's Republic of China domestic violence is largely attributed to feudal ideas that can not be eradicated overnight by the promulgation of laws. Neither will it vanish automatically with the founding of a new social system. It has been stated that the victims of domestic violence are not the women, but society as a whole. In Shanghai, 6% of all victims of serious injury or death were the result of domestic violence (Paltiel, 1987).

In Australia wife abuse is a federal civil offense. However, states have a broad discretion in handling domestic violence cases. Shelters are eligible for federal funding. In addition to providing short-term (one to four months) emergency accommodations, shelter staff members provide counseling to victims of wife abuse and incest. In New Zealand violence in families has been recognized as being a widespread and serious problem (Response, 1985).

Many women who live in Denmark are known to be victims of wife abuse. In a study of divorce conducted by the Danish National Institute for Social Research, almost

25 percent of the women interviewed cited violence as the reason for divorce (Response 1985). The first Danish shelter opened 1981, and now all major cities either have a shelter or are planning one.

In Finland and Sweden a survey showed that 12 % of the Finish respondents and 11% of the Swedish respondents reported family violence, primarily violence directed by a man against his wife. According to the survey, family violence has been experienced in Finland by 10% of the women, 1% of the men, 3% of the young children and 1% of the teen-aged children. Also in the Swedish cases, the victim was usually a woman. This was reported by 9% in Finland and 7% in Sweden (Peltoniemi, 1982). Over one-half of the Finish respondents and over two-thirds of the Swedish respondents believe that people should intervene more often in violent situations. (Peltoniemi, 1982). Jealousy was a dominant theme in the studies from Finland and Sweden. There was also a strong relationship between intoxication and abuse. For example the Swedish data points out that at least 66 % of the offenders and 26% of the victims had been intoxicated. The role of alcohol was found to be a common ingredient contributing to violence (Peltoniemi, 1982).

In the Federal Republic of Germany it is estimated that 10% to 50% of the men abuse their wives. It is estimated that those statistics are just the tip of the iceberg. Further it is suggested that abuse exists in all

social classes (Bergdoll & Namgalies Treichler, 1987). A woman needs a doctor's report and a witness as proof either for court proceedings or to get a divorce on grounds of physical cruelty (Haffner, 1978). The German legal terminology for marriage refers to this relationship as violence; instead of marital power of the term

"eheliche Gewalt" explicitly speaks of violence. The legal terminology has the prefix "marital" and serves as a justification of this violence (Kappel & Leuteriz, 1982).

In general, groups who started shelters or safe houses believe that women battering is a problem of society and that the same society and that holds responsibility for prevention and rehabilitation. There is strong opposition against municipal homes being set up for battered women. Municipal homes offer assistance to the people who are perceived as helpless and thereby impose the role of helplessness upon their clients. It is argued that battered women are not helpless as for years and decades they have found means, developed strategies and tried to make an intolerable situation tolerable for their children and themselves. According to these advocates battered women do not need resocialization into their former environment, but a house where they are safe, where they can find medical and legal advice and where they are encouraged to make decisions regarding their future (Kappel & Leuteritz, 1982).

The constitution of India declares equality of the sexes, thereby acknowledging that the family should be a basically egalitarian unit. In practice, however, the subordination of women to men pervades family life in all classes and castes in India. Kelkar (1985) states that if the nature of structural violence toward women is to be understood, it is necessary to look at women's subordination in the structure of material production.

No national incidence data are available in India, although the extent of violence is clearly to be very high (Singh, 1986). According to Singh (1986) due to an increase in awareness of the problem, newspapers in recent years have reported "mysterious death by burning" of many women. Most frequently, these are murders committed by husbands or their relatives to punish wives for failing to bring adequate dowry to the marriage (Singh, 1986; Paltiel 1987). It is estimated that in Delhi alone two women a day die in dowry related deaths, and there are no statistics to tell how many women are beaten before they are murdered (Singh, 1986).

PROBLEMS IN STUDYING CROSS-CULTURAL ABUSE

There are several problems associated with studying cross cultural abuse since international statistics are sparse. Whether a country recognizes child abuse, wife abuse, or family violence often depends on local definitions and priorities (Dobasch & Dobasch, 1979). The

development of literature on family violence in other countries frequently parallels the development of the literature in the United States (Gelles & Cornell, 1983). Kempe (1978) has identified five developmental stages that countries go through in addressing the problem of child abuse. In stage one, the problem is denied; in stage two, the more sensational and lurid aspects of abuse are recognized; in stage three physical abuse is dealt with effectively and attention is given to issues such as failure to thrive; in stage four, emotional abuse and neglect are recognized; and in stage five, sexual abuse is addressed (Gelles & Cornell, 1983). Further research is needed to assess if those developmental stages are also internationally applicable to the issue of woman abuse.

It is important to make surveys of family violence in different subgroups of society as well as in different cultures in order to compare the nature and incidence of family violence (Pletoniemi, 1980).

C. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

The United Nations Decade for Women started with a United Nations Conference in Mexico City in 1975. There were 133 participating countries. The United Nations proclaimed the decade 1975-1985 as the United Nations Decade for Women and Development in order to insure that

national and international action would be sustained throughout the period. The three themes of the decade were declared to be equality, development and peace. The decade and this plan of action called for a clear commitment on the part of the international community to accord importance and priority to measure and improve the situation of women, both as means of achieving the goals of social progress and development as an end in itself. The report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year in Mexico City did not speak directly to the issue of woman battering. However it was acknowledged that many families are troubled. For instance paragraph 131 states:

" In order to assist in the solution of conflicts arising among members of the family, adequate family counseling services should be set up wherever possible and the establishment of family courts staffed with personnel, including women, trained in law as well as in other relevant disciplines should be considered." (United Nations, 1976).

In 1976 a conference was held in Brussels, Belgium. The theme of the conference was " Crimes against Women -Proceedings of an International Tribunal". Women from 40 different countries participated (Russel & Van de Ven, 1976). This international subgroup called for urgent action to combat the crime of woman battering. The

participants demanded that governments recognize the existence and extent of this problem and accept the need for shelters, financial aid, and effective legal protection for these women (Russel & Van de Ven, 1976).

In 1980 the United Nations called for a world conference on the decade for women in Copenhagen, Denmark. The United Nations report recalled paragraph 131 of the 1975 World Conference. The following resolutions concerning the family in modern society were made:

1. The United Nations considers that violence in the home and in the family as well as in institutions, and in particular physical, sexual and other forms of abuse of women, children and the elderly constitute an intolerable offense to the dignity of human beings as well as this problem is a grave issue for the physical and mental health of the family as well as for society.
2. The United Nations recognizes that the long held attitudes that diminish the value of women have resulted in virtual immunity from prosecution of persons who commit acts of violence against members of their families and against women in the care of institutions.
3. The United Nations is aware that battering of family members must be recognized as a problem of serious social consequences that

perpetuate themselves from one generation to the

4. The United Nations urges member states to adopt measures to protect the victims of family violence and to implement programs whose aims are to prevent such abuse as well as to provide centers for the treatment, shelter, and counselling of victims of violence and sexual assault (United Nations, 1980).

The World Conference to appraise the achievements of the Women's Decade was held in Nairobi, Kenya in 1985 and was attended by some 6000 delegates. Over 150 workshops on a wide variety of issues were offered and attracted some 14,000 people (WHO, 1985).

A final report summarizing the achievements and current status of women was proposed. Paragraph 231 calls for effective measures to identify, prevent and eliminate all violence, including family violence against women and children (United Nations, 1986). In more detail, the participants expressed primary concern for abused women and children and the destructive consequences of such abuse on the family. They further recognized that domestic violence is widespread and is cutting across all racial, social and economic lines. They concluded that violence is often a learned behavior which can affect future generations and that steps need to be taken to prevent domestic violence through education and a change of attitude.

The members further urged that the appropriate governmental agencies pay special attention to violence against women and treat such behavior as criminal as well as provide assistance to battered women and their children. States were called upon to develop laws and procedures where they do not already exist and to strengthen enforcement processes such as the police and courts for the proper protection and support of women. Law enforcement was called upon to hold violent men legally accountable for their actions (United Nations, 1986).

An expert group meeting on violence convened in December, 1986 in Vienna, Austria. Presented case studies by experts revealed the universal nature of the problem despite cultural diversity (Paltiel, 1987).

D. INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Cultural and scholarly exchange is one of the oldest forms of communication among nations (Professional School, 1968, Altbach, Kelly & Lulat, 1985). The new international communication in intellectual, cultural and educational affairs reflect a markedly different sense of worldwide interdependence. Interrelation of economies and the conflict of ideologies indicate that human capability and understanding is indispensable to prosperity within

nations and to peace among them (Professional School, 1968).

For primarily historical reasons, modern education is dominated by Western higher education. Developing societies tend to accept Western knowledge as the most authoritative. In recent years there has been some rethinking of priorities as a result of problems with some of the returning students. Questions concerning the relevance to local needs of some kinds of foreign training have been raised (Altbach, Kelly & Lulat, 1985).

Goodman conducted a study among Malaysian students and found that education in the United States or Great Britain was ranked higher in value than their own home country or the neighboring countries (Goodman, 1984).

It is estimated that almost half of the scholars throughout the world who are studying outside their own country gravitate to the more than 2,500 colleges and universities in the United States (Araskag, 1984).

Emphasis has been placed on international education to enhance mutual understanding between the people, to strengthen the ties with other nations and to promote international cooperation for educational and cultural advancement. International exchange and education is important because it represents communication of high quality and builds expertise and long term professional and institutional relationships (Groenning, 1984).

During the past several decades, private individuals, numerous governments and major international agencies have heavily invested in supporting study abroad for individuals from developing nations (Moock, 1984).

In many Third World countries, foreign study very often adds a measure of prestige and perhaps power to an individual. Foreign training permits an individual in many situations to have more ready access to positions of authority, leadership, and power than someone who has not had foreign training. The quality of foreign training combined with the implicit assumption that the "best and the brightest" are sent overseas is a powerful combination (Altbach, Kelly & Lulat, 1985). Selvaratnam states that Third World graduates especially with international experience form an elite in their home countries (Selvaratnam, 1988). In most Third World societies women who study abroad are more likely to be of higher socioeconomic background than men studying abroad. Therefore it seems that it is generally more difficult for women to have the opportunity for education (Fry, 1984).

In industrial societies such as the United States or West Germany study abroad also carries high social prestige (Fry, 1984). While there has been no careful research that has correlated foreign study with rapid advancement, there are indications that foreign training does provide certain advantages (Moock, 1984; Altbach, Kelly & Lulat, 1985). Coleman states that of great

importance is the situation that returning international students face when they return such as the quality and supportiveness of the professional infrastructure and the prevailing structure of rewards in their society (Coleman, 1984).

There is a widespread and growing concern on the subject of the utility and effectiveness of international assistance programs. There is also concern among Third World Countries that Western education can generate ethnocentric knowledge paradigms, political and cultural ideology, and public policy are seen as an impediment than as an impetus in the development of the country (Selvaratnam, 1988).

Overseas training continues to play an important role in building the professional elite of Africa (Moock, 1984). It has been argued that most of the students who study in Western universities are from the upper strata of the societies of the countries of the Third World and once they return they maintain the status quo out of self-interest (Selvaratnam, 1988).

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this study was to describe the perceptions of international students regarding the nature and cause of woman abuse and effective ways of dealing with the problem in their home country. The researcher developed a survey instrument and interviewed the students individually. The nonparametric data were tabulated, calculated and analyzed to answer the research questions.

A. SUBJECTS

The total population consisted of 890 international graduate and undergraduate students enrolled during the Fall semester 1988 at the University of Tennessee. The subjects were categorized according to the World Bank definitions. Those were based on the gross national product of each country. The categories were low-income, lower middle-income, upper middle-income and industrial market countries. For those divisions the researcher used quota sampling and selected thirty subjects for each category. The formula the researcher used was :

$$\frac{\text{students in country}}{\text{total students in category}} \times 30$$

The researcher conglomerated countries with five and six subjects to calculate the number of sample as well as countries with four and three subjects and countries with two and one subject in order to get a representative sample. Although there was no random selection, the strata were the same proportions as the entire population.

Page 48 shows the number of students selected for each country category. For the category low-income (I) countries the researcher interviewed thirteen respondents from China, ten respondents from India, two respondents from Pakistan, one respondent from Viet Nam, one respondent from Bangladesh, one respondent from Sri Lanka, one respondent from Somalia and one respondent from Nepal.

For the category lower middle- (II) income countries the researcher interviewed four respondents from Jordan, four respondents from Lebanon, three respondents from Nigeria, three respondents from Tunisia, two respondents from Indonesia, two respondents from Syria, two respondents from Thailand, one respondent from Honduras, one respondent from Egypt, one respondent from the Phillipines, two respondents from Jamaica, one respondent from Peru, one respondent from Yemen, one respondent from Costa Rica, one respondent from Ecuador and one respondent from the Dominican Republic.

For the category upper middle-income (III) countries the researcher interviewed six respondents from South Korea, six respondents from Iran, six respondents from Malaysia, two respondents from Hong Kong, two respondents from Venezuela, two respondents from Greece, one respondent from Singapore, one respondent from Brazil, one respondent from Israel, one respondent from Chile, one respondent from Iraq and one respondent from Portugal.

For the category industrial market (IV) countries the researcher interviewed seven respondents from Canada, six respondents from England, six respondents from the West Germany, four respondents from Japan, one respondent from France, one respondent from the Netherlands, two respondents from Australia, one respondent from Sweden and two respondents from Austria.

The researcher used the method of snowball sampling. She attended various meetings and activities at the University of Tennessee international house. The researcher asked the individual student if he/she was willing to be interviewed.

B. INSTRUMENTATION

DEVELOPMENT OF THE INSTRUMENT

The data-gathering instrument developed for this study consisted of one individual interview schedule. The complete schedule is presented in Appendix B. The

interview schedule was designed by the researcher and covered the areas of students' awareness of the problem of abuse, their perception of nature, cause and ways of prevention in their home country.

Regarding students' awareness, question two was based on Gelles and Cornell (1983) crosscultural findings. Question four, on service availability was founded on Paltiel (1987) and Olson & Saeger (1986) findings.

Questions dealing with the nature of abuse (1,2,19,20,21,22 and 23) were based on findings by Gelles (1979), and Herrenkohl (1984).

The causes of abuse in questions 5,6,9,10,11,14,15,16 and 17 were based on findings of Gelles & Maynard (1987), Pagelow (1984), Walker 1985), Gelles (1983) and study, question six was based on Pagelow (1984), question 9 was based on Walker (1985), Finkelhor (1983) and Ni Carthy (1986).

Questions addressing prevention (7, 8, 12,13, 24 and 25) were based on Ni Carthy (1986), Dobasch & Dobasch (1979), Gelles & Cornell (1987) and Berk et al.(1983) as well as on recommendations of the United Nations conferences (1980, 1986) and the American Association of University Women (1986, 1987).

The instruments were presented to a jury composed of individuals with expertise in the areas of questionnaire design, domestic violence, and international education. Necessary modifications were incorporated to improve the

validity after the return of the instruments from the jury members.

PILOT STUDY

A pretest of the instrument was then completed. The interview schedule to determine the perceptions of international students regarding woman abuse was administered individually to eight spouses of international students. The researcher contacted the respondents individually. The investigation told the respondents the content of the consent form. She then explained that the purpose of the pilot study was to determine if students could understand what each of the question was asking. She encouraged the respondents to be critical of anything they had difficulties with or could not understand. The researcher gave the respondent a questionnaire. She told each each respondent that she would read each question and that she would mark the answers on a scan form. The researcher then marked on each question where the respondents had questions or difficulties. She also marked the answers on the questionnaire and on the scan form. From this group the time frame necessary for completing the questionairre was estimated as thirty minutes.

The pretest served to identify interview weaknesses in both respondent comprehension and interview procedure.

The pilot study led to deleting one of the answers in question one, which is f.) belittling the woman.

Question three was changed to question number two due to sequential reasons. Also the answers were changed from 15-20 times to very often, 10 - 14 times to fairly often, 05-09 times and 01-04 times to not too often, no time to not at all. Question two was changed to question number three.

Question 11 was slightly changed from "A man abuses his wife or partner has a psychological problem" to " More than 50 % of men who abuse their wives or partners have a psychological problem." Some respondents asked for explanations of these more difficult vocabulary words such as mental health, emotional abuse, socioeconomic equality, abusive relationships. Questions 7, 24, 25 were difficult for some, but easily explained. Added to the religious categories was Hindu and Confucian. The resulting pretest data were then organized and analyzed in order to determine if any inconsistencies existed in the method of scoring, coding, and interpreting the interview data. All necessary corrections were incorporated into the final interview schedules, and the instrument was considered ready for research application.

C. INTERVIEW PROCEDURES

After the pilot study was completed, the researcher began interviewing. All interviews of the international students were conducted by the researcher to diminish the possibility of interviewer error. The researcher explained the content of the consent form (Appendix A) to the respondent and then gave the student the questionnaire. Upon initial contact with the international student, the objectives of the research were carefully explained. Emphasis was placed upon the need for reliable information which could only be supplied by the respondent. Each respondent was informed of the right to refuse to answer any or all questions in the instrument but that the information was of critical importance and may be used to help promote and develop international prevention strategies regarding women battering and family violence.

The researcher explained that she would read each individual question and then she would record the answers on a scan form. Then the researcher read each question out loud to the respondent and marked each answer on a scan form. Each interview was recorded by the researcher on an individual interview schedule as the respondent supplied the answers to each question. The average interview time was thirty minutes. After the interview

was completed, the data were prepared for mechanical scoring by computer.

D. ANALYSIS OF THE DATA

The method of statistical data analysis was dependent upon the research questions. The research questions were categorized into two data groups: (1) the identification and description regarding the nature, cause of women abuse and effective ways on dealing with the problem by categorizing the respondents by home country, (2) contrasting the nature, cause and effective ways of dealing with the problem according to the respondents home country.

The interview procedure resulted in nominal level data which were best handled by nonparametric techniques. Percentages for each characteristic were determined from the frequency table. The data were grouped and categorized to investigate trends or associations within subgroups of the total population to include category of home country, gender, graduate and marital status. The data concerned with demographic and category of the respondents' home country was with nominal data. A nonparametric test was used since the researcher wanted to determine significances among the four groups. For this purpose, the Kruskal-Wallis test was most the appropriate test.

E. SUMMARY

This chapter explained the methodology used to describe the perceptions of international students regarding cause, nature of woman abuse and effective ways of dealing with the problem in their home country. It also contrasted the cause, nature and effective ways of dealing with it by the respondents socioeconomic category of her/his home country. The subjects were described as international students enrolled at The University of Tennessee. Instrumentation consisted of survey designed by the researcher. Statistical treatment of the data consisted of percentages, frequencies and the Kruskal-Wallis test. The additional data of gender and graduate status were analyzed by Mann Whitney U test. The Kruskal-Wallis test was used to determine differences by marital status.

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS OF THE DATA

This chapter presents and analyzes data to determine the perceptions and contrasts of international students regarding woman abuse in their home country. The level of significance established was < 0.05 . Data were collected from students who responded to the questionnaire regarding perceptions of woman abuse in the students' home country.

This chapter is organized into four sections. The first section describes the subjects. The second section identifies and contrasts the students' awareness regarding the frequencies of abuse and services available. The third section describes and contrasts students' perceptions and contrasts regarding the nature, cause and ways of prevention of abuse. The fourth section shows significant differences according to gender, graduate and marital status. The fifth section describes the interpretation of the data.

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE SUBJECTS

The sample consisted of 120 international students. The students were enrolled in Fall semester 1988 at University of Tennessee, Knoxville. There were four country

II was lower middle-income countries, category III was upper middle-income countries and category IV was industrialized market countries. Each category consisted of 30 students. Altogether there were 59 females (49 %) and 61 males (51%). The low- income (I) category consisted of 12 females and 18 males, the lower middle- (II) income category consisted of 15 females and 15 males. The upper middle- (III) income countries were divided into 14 females and 16 males and the industrial market (IV) countries were composed of 18 females and 12 males. There were 57 undergraduates (47 %) and 63 graduate students (53 %). Eighty-six (72 %) of the respondents were single, twenty-seven (23 %) were married and 7 (6 %) of the respondents were either separated, divorced or widowed.

Table I presents a summary description of the subjects according to gender, country category, graduate status, and marital status. Table II details the respondents home country according to country categories and gender.

TABLE I
CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDENTS
BY GENDER, COUNTRY CATEGORY,
GRADUATE AND MARITAL STATUS.

Variable	#	%
Gender		
Female	59	49
Male	61	51
Country Categories		
Low-income countries (I)	30	25
Lower middle-income countries (II)	30	25
Upper middle-income countries (III)	30	25
Industrial market countries (IV)	30	25
Graduate Status		
Undergraduate	57	47
Graduate	63	53
Marital Status		
Single	86	72
Married	27	22
*Other	7	6

* Other: separated, divorced, widowed

**Percentages may not equal 100 due to rounding

TABLE II
SAMPLE OF STUDENTS
BY COUNTRY CATEGORIES AND GENDER

Country Category	#	%*	%**
Low-income (I) countries (N=30; 18 males, 12 females)			
China	13	43.3	10.8
India	10	33.3	8.3
Pakistan	2	6.6	1.7
Viet Nam	1	3.3	.8
Bangladesh	1	3.3	.8
Sri Lanka	1	3.3	.8
Somalia	1	3.3	.8
Nepal	1	3.3	.8
Lower middle-income (II) countries (N=30; 15 males, 15 females)			
Jordan	4	13.3	3.3
Lebanon	4	13.3	3.3
Nigeria	3	10.0	2.5
Tunesia	3	10.0	2.5
Indonesia	2	6.7	1.7
Syria	2	6.7	1.7
Thailand	2	6.7	1.7
Honduras	1	3.3	.8
Egypt	1	3.3	.8
Phillipines	1	3.3	.8
Jamaica	2	6.7	1.7
Peru	1	3.3	.8
Yemen	1	3.3	.8
Costa Rica	1	3.3	.8
Ecuador	1	3.3	.8
Dominican Republic	1	3.3	.8
Upper middle-income (III) countries (N 30; 16 males, 14 females)			
South Korea	6	20.0	5.0
Iran	6	20.0	5.0
Malaysia	6	20.0	5.0
Hong Kong	2	6.7	1.7
Venezuela	2	6.7	1.7
Greece	2	6.7	1.7
Singapore	1	3.3	.8
Brazil	1	3.3	.8
Israel	1	3.3	.8
Chile	1	3.3	.8
Iraq	1	3.3	.8
Portugal	1	3.3	.8
Industrial market (IV) countries (N 30; 12 males, 18 females)			
Canada	7	23.3	5.8
England	6	20.0	5.0
West Germany	6	20.0	5.0
Japan	4	13.3	3.3
France	1	3.3	.8
Netherlands	1	3.3	.8
Australia	2	6.7	1.7
Sweden	1	3.3	.8
Austria	2	6.7	1.7

* percentages for each category

**percentages for all categories

B. SUMMARY OF AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEM

Table III describes respondents' awareness of woman abuse in their home country. Question 2 and 4 address the awareness. Kruskal-Wallis analyses of variance were calculated to determine significant differences among country categories. Table IV details the contrasts of respondents' awareness of woman abuse among the different country categories.

FREQUENCY OF NEWS REPORTS IN HOME COUNTRY

Over two-thirds (67 %) of the respondents answered that they have not heard many, if any, news reports regarding woman abuse in their home country. One third (33 %) of the students answered that they have heard or read news reports fairly or very often.

Highest mean ranks were elicited from low-income (I) countries (70.72) and industrial market (IV) countries (69.62). Respondents from upper middle-income (III) countries (51.57) and lower middle-income (II) countries (43.07) ranked consecutively lower. This elicited a significant difference of 0.00. This indicated that respondents from upper middle-income (III) countries were least aware of the frequency of abuse in their home country. Figure 1 describes the mean ranks of frequency of abuse in respondents' home country.

TABLE III
PERCEPTION OF AWARENESS OF ABUSE

	Country Category**									
	I		II		III		IV		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Q.2: "You might have seen or heard the phrase "woman battering or woman abuse in the news. How often have you heard or read news reports about this topic your home country during the three years prior to leaving your home country?"										
Not at all	--	--	9	64	4	29	1	7	14	12
Not too often	17	26	15	23	18	28	15	23	65	55
fairly often	6	25	4	17	5	21	9	38	24	20
very often	7	50	1	7	1	7	5	36	14	12
 Q 4: Some countries have special places or programs where people who have a violent husband or partner can go to or telephone for help. Does your home country have any special places like that ?										
Yes	19	28	13	19	11	16	25	37	68	57
Large Cities	13	22	12	20	10	17	24	41	59	49
Rural Areas	7	41	2	12	1	6	7	41	17	14
Urban	10	29	2	6	3	9	19	56	34	28
No	10	29	14	40	11	31	--	--	35	29
Don't know	1	6	3	18	8	47	5	29	17	14

* Total percentages may not equal 100 due to rounding.

** country category I :low-income countries
country category II :lower middle-income countries
country category III:upper middle-income countries
country category IV :industrial market countries

TABLE IV

CONTRASTS OF AWARENESS OF ABUSE

Awareness	I	Country II	Category III	IV	2 X	<0.05
Q. 2: You might have seen or read the phrase "woman battering" or "woman abuse" in the news. How often have you heard or read news reports about this topic in your home country during the three years prior to leaving your home country ?						
Mean Rank	70.72	43.07	51.57	69.62	17.46	0.00*
Q.4. Some countries have special places or programs where people who have a violent husbands or partner can go to or telephone for help. Does your home country have any special places like that ?						
Yes						
Mean Rank	64.50	52.50	48.50	76.50	16.15	0.00*
Large Cities						
Mean Rank	57.00	55.00	51.00	79.00	15.71	0.00*
Rural Areas						
Mean Rank	66.00	56.00	54.00	66.00	8.36	0.04*
Urban Areas						
Mean Rank	63.50	47.50	49.50	81.50	30.12	0.00*
No Services						
Mean Rank	63.00	71.00	65.00	43.00	17.72	0.00*
Don't Know						
Mean Rank	54.00	58.00	68.00	62.00	7.27	0.06

* significances at the <0.05 level.

** country category I :low-income countries
country category II :lower middle-income countries
country category III:upper middle-income countries
country category IV :industrial market countries

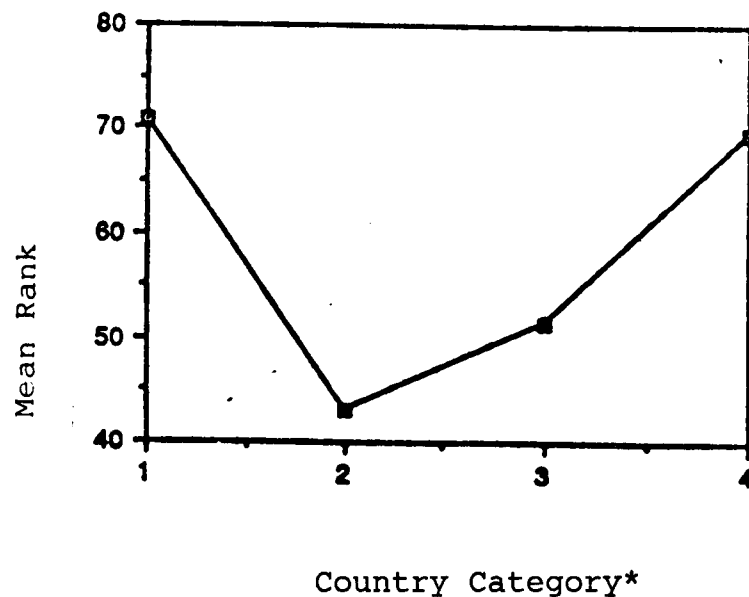


Figure 1. Perception of Frequency of Woman Abuse in Home Country

- * country category I : low-income countries
- country category II : lower middle-income countries
- country category III : upper middle-income countries
- country category IV : industrial market countries

SERVICES AVAILABLE

Over half of the students (57 %) responded that their home country does have services for people with violent husbands or partners; less than one third (29 %) stated that their home country does not have services available. Almost half of the respondents (49 %) stated that such services were available in large cities. Less than a half (42 %) stated that services were available in rural and urban areas. Fourteen percent of the respondents did not know.

Respondents from industrial market (IV) countries (76.50) were most aware of services available, followed by respondents from low-(I) income (64.50) and lower middle-(II) income countries (52.50). Respondents from upper middle-(III) income countries (48.50) were least aware of services available. The found significance was 0.01. Figure 2 demonstrates the distribution of mean ranks.

Service availability in large cities elicited the most responses from industrial (IV) market participants (79.00), followed by low-income (I) countries (57.00), lower middle-(II) income countries (55.00) and upper middle- (III) income (III) countries (51.00). The significance established was 0.00. Figure 3 illustrates the distribution of mean ranks.

Service availability in rural areas was equally answered by respondents from low-income (I) countries (66.00) and industrial market (IV) countries (66.00). The

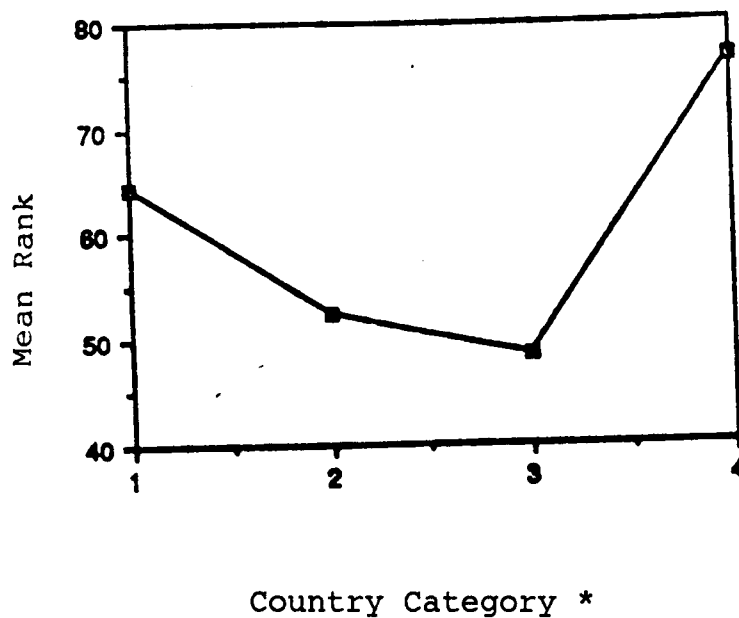


Figure 2. Perception of Service Availability in Home Country

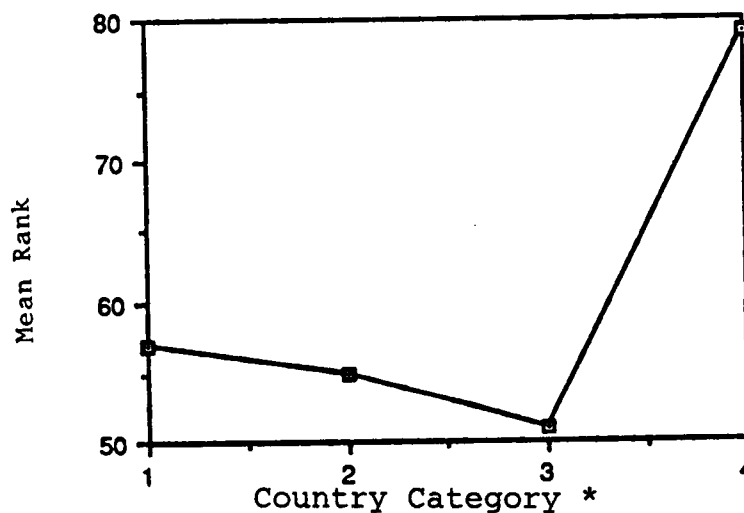


Figure 3. Perception of Service Availability in Large Cities

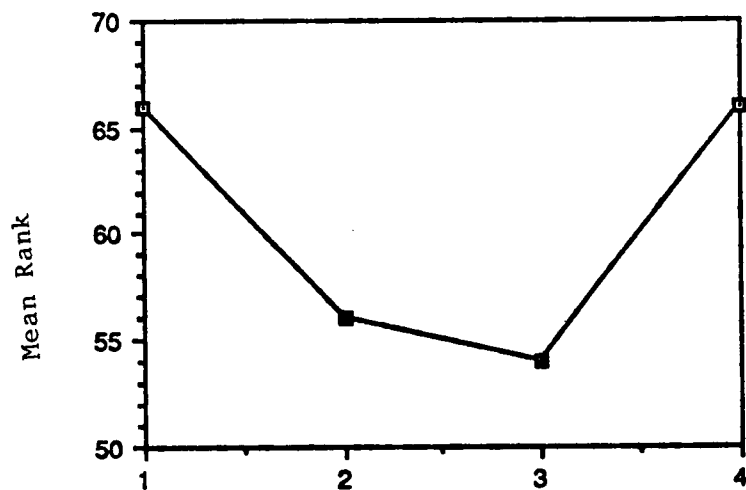
- * country category I : low-income countries
- country category II : lower middle-income countries
- country category III : upper middle-income countries
- country category IV : industrial market countries

mean ranks were similar among the lower middle- (II) income countries (56.00) and the upper middle- (III) income countries (54.00). A significance of 0.04 was elicited. Figure 4 shows the distribution of mean ranks.

The highest responses regarding services in urban areas were recorded by students from industrial market (IV) countries (81.50), followed by respondents low- (I) income, (63.50), upper middle- (III) income (49.50) and lower middle- (II) income countries (47.50). The significance extracted was 0.00. Figure 5 demonstrates the distribution of mean ranks.

No service availability received the highest response from lower middle- (II) income countries (71.00), followed by low-income (I) countries (63.00), upper middle- (III) income countries (65.00) and industrial market (IV) countries (43.00). The significance found was 0.00. Figure 6 demonstrates the distribution of mean ranks.

Respondents from low-(I) and industrial market (IV) countries rated the frequency of woman abuse in their home country significantly higher than students from lower middle- (II) and upper middle- (III) income countries. Industrial market (IV) and low-income (I) respondents also had a greater awareness of service availability in their home country, contrary to the lower middle- (II) and upper middle- (III) income respondents.



Country Category *

Figure 4. Perception of Service Availability in Rural Areas

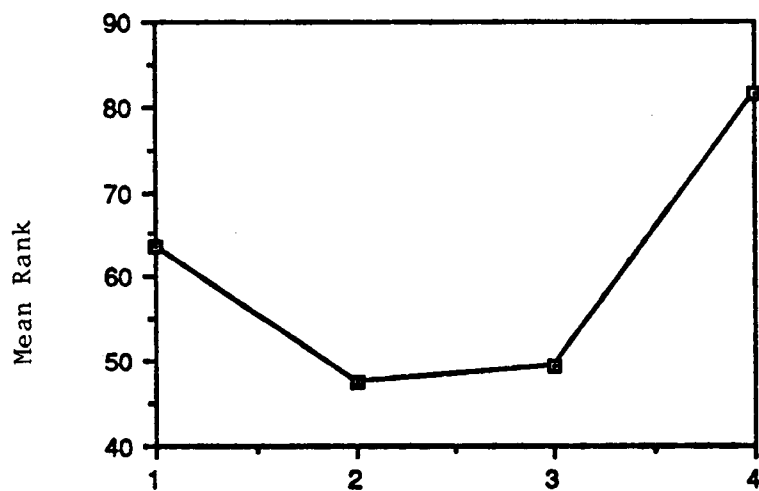


Figure 5. Perception of Service Availability in Urban Areas

- * country category I : low-income countries
- country category II : lower middle-income countries
- country category III : upper middle-income countries
- country category IV : industrial market countries

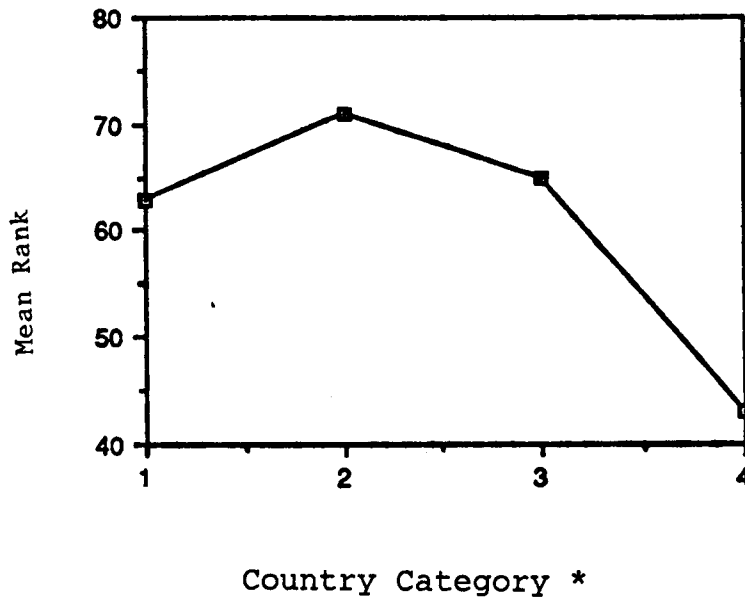


Figure 6. Perception of No Service Availability
in Home Country

- * country category I : low-income countries
- country category II : lower middle-income countries
- country category III : upper middle-income countries
- country category IV : industrial market countries

B. RESEARCH QUESTION OF NATURE OF ABUSE

Two research questions addressed the perceptions regarding nature of abuse and whether there are contrasts among the four country categories. The interview schedule questions 1, 3, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23 directly relate to the nature of abuse. Table V demonstrates the distribution of percentages and numbers of responses to the nature of the abuse. To answer the question of difference among the country categories, the Kruskal-Wallis analysis was performed; SPSSX was used in doing these analyses. Table VI shows the distribution of mean ranks and significances.

WHAT CONSTITUTES ABUSE

According to the data across on what constitutes abuse, the highest response was slapping (89 %), followed by punching (80 %), verbal threats (73 %), pushing (66 %), screaming (55 %), domineering (52 %), being extremely jealous (23 %) and other (8 %). No significances were found between the categories.

PHYSICAL ABUSE

Over half (53%) of the respondents answered that physical abuse was not too common. Less than half (47%) of the students answered that physical abuse occurred fairly or very often in their home country. No significances were shown among the country categories.

TABLE V
PERCEPTION OF THE NATURE OF ABUSE

Nature	Country I		Country II		Category * III		IV		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Q.1.: When you hear the phrase "woman abuse" what do you think it is ? Multiple answers										
verbal threats	24	27	21	24	18	20	25	28	88	73
pushing	17	22	21	27	17	22	24	30	79	66
slapping	27	25	24	22	28	26	28	26	107	89
punching	22	23	21	22	26	27	28	29	97	80
screaming	17	26	16	24	12	18	21	32	66	55
jealous	8	29	5	18	6	21	9	32	28	23
domineering	20	32	11	18	13	21	18	29	62	52
none of those										
other	2	20	3	30	4	40	1	10	10	8
Q.3.: Please rate the degree you think this is an issue in issue in your home country.										
<u>physical abuse</u>										
not too common	15	25	18	30	17	28	10	17	60	53
fairly common	10	24	9	22	9	22	13	32	41	37
very common	4	36	1	9	2	18	4	36	11	10
<u>emotional abuse</u>										
not too common	12	29	9	22	13	32	7	17	41	39
fairly common	13	27	13	27	12	25	11	22	49	46
very common	1	6	4	25	2	13	9	56	16	15
<u>verbal abuse</u>										
not too common	9	22	12	29	15	37	5	12	41	37
fairly common	15	33	11	24	8	17	12	44	46	42
very common	2	9	4	17	7	30	10	44	23	21
Q.19: Abuse of woman affects her physical health										
SD	--	--	--	--	1	100	--	--	1	1
D	--	--	1	100	--	--	--	--	1	1
U	1	17	2	33	1	17	2	3	6	5
A	19	29	17	26	15	23	14	22	65	54
SA	10	21	10	21	13	28	14	30	47	39
Q.20: Abuse of woman affects her mental health										
SD	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
D	1	50	--	--	1	50	--	--	2	2
U	--	--	3	100	--	--	--	--	3	3
A	13	26	13	26	13	26	12	24	51	42
SA	16	25	14	22	16	25	18	28	64	53

TABLE V CONTINUED

Nature	Country Category**								Total	
	I		II		III		IV			
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Q.21: Men who are usually violent to their wives are also violent to their children ?										
SD	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	100	1	1
D	5	36	4	29	1	7	4	29	14	12
U	7	23	5	16	8	26	11	36	31	26
A	15	30	11	22	12	24	12	24	50	41
SA	3	13	10	42	9	38	2	8	24	20
Q.22: Children will be harmed emotionally if their fathers are violent to their mothers.										
SD	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
D	--	--	1	100	--	--	--	--	1	1
U	3	43	1	14	1	14	2	29	7	6
A	13	32	12	30	9	30	7	17	41	34
SA	14	20	16	23	20	28	21	30	71	59
Q.23: Religious persons are less likely to be abusive										
SD	1	7	3	20	3	20	8	53	15	12
D	6	16	9	24	9	24	14	37	38	32
U	12	41	7	24	4	14	6	21	29	24
A	9	30	8	27	11	37	2	7	30	25
SA	2	25	3	38	3	38	--	--	8	7

* Total percentages may not equal 100 due to rounding.

** country category I :low-income countries
country category II :lower middle-income countries
country category III:upper middle-income countries
country category IV :industrial market countries

TABLE VI
CONTRASTS OF NATURE OF ABUSE

Nature	I	Country II	Category** III	IV	2 X	<0.05
Q1: When you hear the phrase woman abuse what do you think it is ?						
Verbal Threats Mean Rank	64.50	58.50	52.50	66.50	5.07	0.17
Pushing Mean Rank	55.00	63.00	55.00	69.00	5.11	0.16
Slapping Mean Rank	61.00	55.00	63.00	63.00	3.68	0.30
Punching Mean Rank	56.00	54.00	64.00	68.00	6.99	0.97
Screaming Mean Rank	61.50	59.50	51.50	69.50	5.48	0.14
Extremely Jealous Mean Rank	62.50	56.50	58.50	64.50	1.85	0.61
Domineering Mean Rank	69.50	51.50	55.50	65.50	7.02	0.07
None Mean Rank	60.50	60.50	60.50	60.50	0.00	1.00
Other Mean Rank	59.50	61.50	63.50	57.50	2.16	0.54
Q.3: Please rate the degree you think woman abuse is an issue in your home country.						
Physical Abuse Mean Rank	58.47	49.46	52.20	66.16	5.39	0.15
Emotional Abuse Mean Rank	46.48	55.42	46.74	65.17	7.92	0.05*
Verbal Abuse Mean Rank	52.10	50.28	50.80	69.22	7.70	0.05*

TABLE VI CONTINUED

Nature	I	Country Category**			2 x	<0.05
		II	III	IV		
Q.19: Abuse of woman affects her physical health. Mean Rank	58.48	56.00	62.75	64.77	1.51	0.68
Q.:20 Abuse of woman affects her mental health. Mean Rank	60.68	55.13	60.68	65.50	1.73	0.63
Q.21: Men who are usually violent to their wives or partners are also violent to their children. Mean Rank	55.25	68.68	69.70	48.37	8.98	0.03*
Q.22: Children will be harmed emotionally if their fathers are violent to their mothers. Mean Rank	52.73	57.13	65.53	66.60	check	0.22
Q. 23: Religious persons are less likely to be abusive. Mean Rank	71.38	64.67	67.62	38.33	17.95	0.00*

* significance at the <0.05 level.

**country category I :low-income countries
country category II :lower middle-income countries
country category III:upper middle-income countries
country category IV :industrial market countries

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

While almost two thirds (61%) of the respondents thought that emotional abuse was a fairly or very common problem in their home country, over one-third (39 %) mentioned that emotional abuse was not too common. Preponderantly respondents from industrial market (IV) countries thought that emotional abuse was a problem (65.17), followed by lower middle- (II) income (55.42), upper middle- (III) income (46.74) and low-income (I) countries (46.48). There was a significance of 0.05. Figure 7 demonstrates the distribution of mean ranks regarding emotional abuse.

VERBAL ABUSE

Almost two thirds (63 %) of the respondents stated that verbal abuse was a fairly common to a very common occurrence in their home country. Over one third (37 %) of the students believed that verbal threats were not too common. Mainly respondents from industrial market (IV) countries (69.22) thought that verbal abuse was a problem in their home country. This was followed by respondents from low-income (I) countries (52.10), upper middle- (III) income (50.80) and lower middle- (II) income countries (50.28). The found significance was 0.05. Figure 8 describes the distribution of mean ranks regarding verbal abuse.

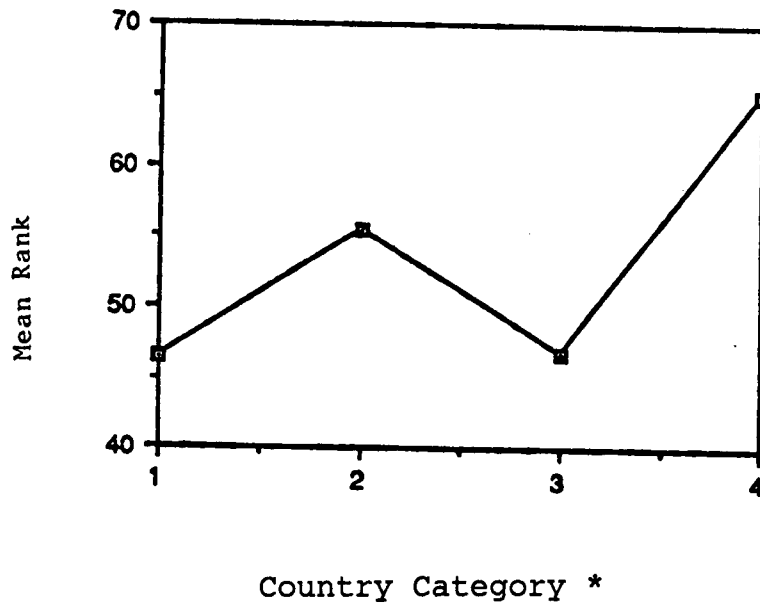


Figure 7. Perception of Frequency of Emotional Abuse in Home Country

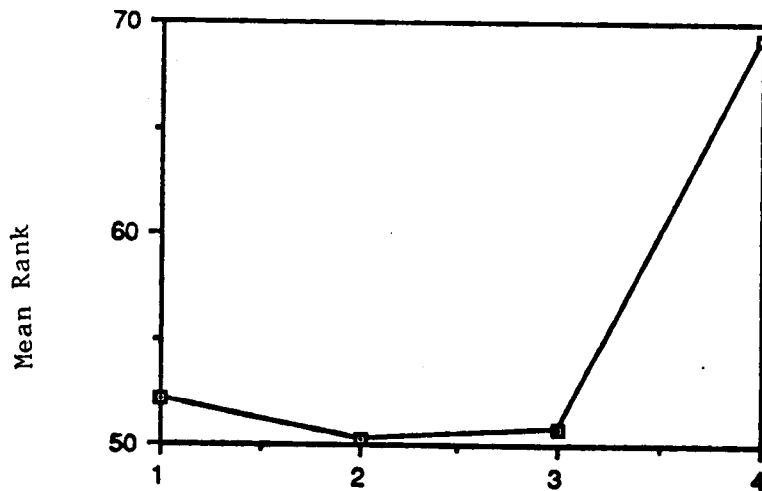


Figure 8. Perception of Frequency of Verbal Abuse in Home Country

- * country category I : low-income countries
- country category II : lower middle-income countries
- country category III : upper middle-income countries
- country category IV : industrial market countries

WOMEN'S HEALTH

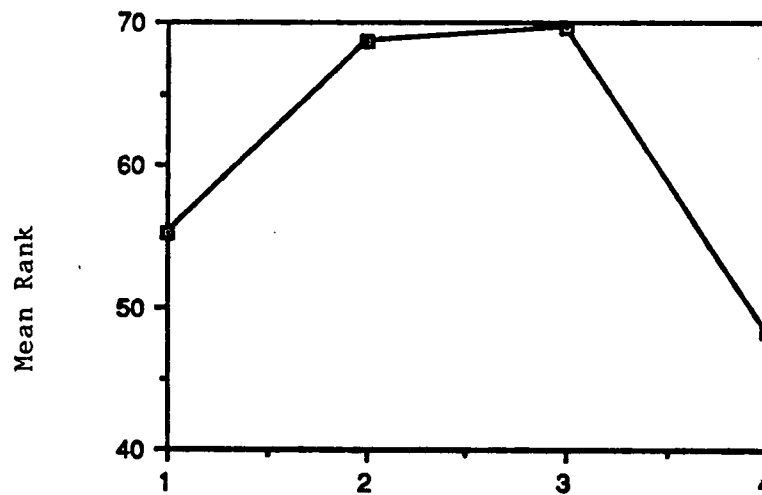
Almost all (93 %) of the students agreed or strongly agreed that abuse affects a woman's physical health. Five percent of the respondents were undecided and 2 % disagreed or strongly disagreed.

That woman abuse affects the victim's mental health was agreed or strongly agreed to by almost all (95 %) of the students. Three percent were undecided, and two percent of the respondents disagreed. No significances on how abuse affects the physical and mental health of women was found.

VIOLENCE TOWARDS CHILDREN

Almost two-thirds (61%) of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed that men who are usually violent with their wives or partners are also violent with their children. Twenty-six percent were undecided and thirteen percent disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement.

There was more agreement among respondents from upper middle- (III) income countries (69.70) and lower middle- (II) countries (68.68). Respondents from low-income (I) countries (55.25) and industrial market (IV) countries (48.37) tended to disagree. The significance elicited was 0.03. Figure 9 describes the distribution of mean ranks according to country categories.



Country Category *

Figure 9. Perception if Abusive Men are Violent with their Children

- * country category I : low-income countries
- country category II : lower middle-income countries
- country category III : upper middle-income countries
- country category IV : industrial market countries

AFFECTS ON CHILDREN

The vast majority of respondents (93 %) agreed or strongly agreed that children will be harmed emotionally if their fathers are violent with their mothers. Six percent were undecided, and one percent disagreed. None of the students strongly disagreed. No significance was found

RELIGIOUS PERSONS AND ABUSIVENESS

Almost half of the respondents (44 %) either disagreed or strongly disagreed that religious persons are less likely to be abusive. Approximately one-third (32 %) of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed, while almost one-fourth (24 %) of the respondents were undecided.

Mainly respondents from low-income (I) countries (71.38) tended to agree followed by upper middle- (III) countries (67.62) and lower middle- (II) income countries (64.67). Respondents from industrial market (IV) countries (38.33) ranked lowest and therefore tended to disagree. A significance of 0.00 was elicited. Figure 10 describes the distribution of mean ranks according to country category.

D. RESEARCH QUESTION OF CAUSE OF ABUSE

Two research questions addressed the perceptions regarding the cause of abuse and whether there are the

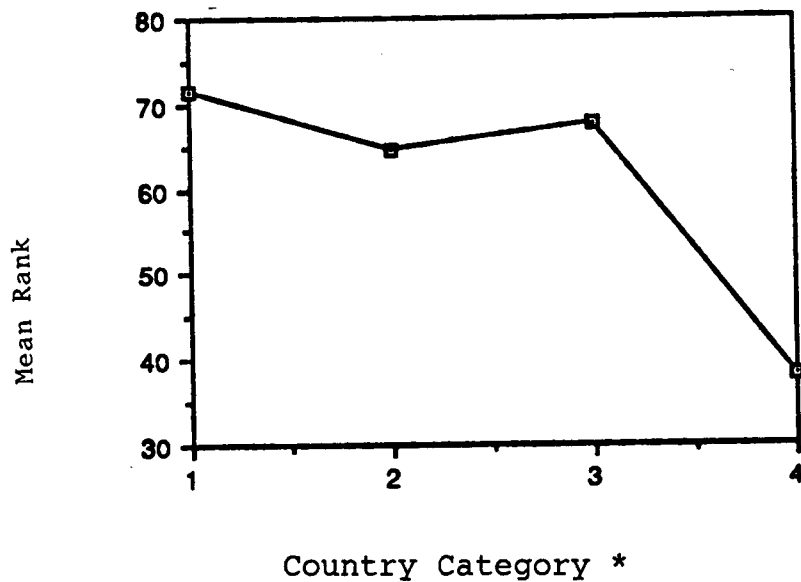


Figure 10. Perception of Religious Persons and Abusiveness

- * country category I : low-income countries
- country category II : lower middle-income countries
- country category III : upper middle-income countries
- country category IV : industrial market countries

contrasts among the four prescribed country categories. Interview-schedule questions 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 directly relate to the cause of abuse. Table VII demonstrates the distribution of percentages and number of responses to the cause of abuse. To answer the question of difference, the Kurskal-Wallis one-way analysis of variance by ranks test was performed; SPSSX was used in doing these analyses. Table VIII lists the distribution of mean ranks and significances.

SOCIOECONOMIC BACKGROUND

The majority (74%) thought that woman abuse occurs most often in low-income families. Mainly respondents from low-income (I) countries (68.00) and upper middle- (III) income (68.00) believed that abuse occurs in low income families, followed by respondents lower middle- (II) income (58.00) and industrial market (IV) countries (48.00). This elicited a significance was 0.01. Figure 11 shows the distribution of mean ranks regarding the role of low-income and abusivness.

About one-fifth (21 %) of the respondents believed that abuse occurs mostly in middle and high-income families. The answers middle and high-income families did not extract significant differences at the <0.05 level.

Seventeen percent stated that woman abuse occurs in all income levels and this was the opinion of preponderantly

TABLE VII
PERCEPTION OF CAUSES OF ABUSE

Cause	I		Country		Category **		IV		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Q 5: In which income group do you think woman abuse occurs most often in your home country ? Multiple answers.										
low income	26	30	21	24	26	30	16	18	89	74
middle income	3	16	3	16	8	42	5	26	19	16
high income	1	17	4	67	1	17	--	--	6	5
all income	2	10	4	19	3	14	12	57	21	17
Q. 6: What educational background do you think persons in abusive relationships have ? Multiple answers.										
well educated	--	--	1	100	--	--	--	--	1	1
average educated	8	40	3	15	3	15	6	30	20	17
poorly educated	22	30	18	24	23	31	11	15	74	62
among all	6	14	10	23	7	16	20	47	43	36
Q. 9: A man beats his wife or partner because he learned this behavior from his parents?										
SD	1	14	4	51	2	29	--	--	7	6
D	13	33	10	25	12	30	6	13	40	33
U	13	41	7	22	6	19	6	19	32	27
A	2	6	8	23	8	23	17	49	35	29
SA	1	17	1	17	2	33	2	33	6	5
Q. 10: A man who abuses his wife or partner because society accepts this behavior as normal?										
SD	4	14	6	21	10	36	8	29	28	23
D	20	39	12	24	8	16	11	22	51	42
U	1	8	3	23	5	39	4	31	13	11
A	5	19	8	31	7	27	6	23	26	22
SA	--	--	1	50	--	--	1	50	2	2
Q.11: More than 50 % of men who abuse their wives or partners have a psychological problem.										
SD	--	--	--	--	1	100	--	--	1	1
D	12	52	5	22	2	9	4	17	23	19
U	5	21	8	33	8	33	3	13	24	20
A	12	25	10	21	12	25	14	29	48	40
SA	1	4	7	22	7	29	9	38	24	20
Q.14: A woman stays with an abusive man because she has no place to go.										
SD	1	14	2	29	2	29	2	29	7	6
D	10	36	8	27	7	26	3	11	28	23
U	8	42	3	16	5	26	3	16	19	16
A	6	13	12	27	10	22	17	38	45	38
SA	5	24	5	24	6	29	5	24	21	17

TABLE VII CONTINUED

Cause	Country Category									
	I		II		III		IV		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Q.15: A woman stays because she wants to keep the family together.										
SD	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
D	1	25	--	--	2	50	1	25	4	3
U	5	33	3	20	4	27	3	20	15	12
A	20	27	16	22	17	23	21	28	74	62
SA	4	15	11	41	7	26	5	19	27	23
Q.16: A woman stays because she hopes that he will change.										
SD	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	100	1	1
D	3	17	6	33	7	40	2	11	18	15
U	4	19	1	5	7	33	9	43	21	18
A	22	31	18	26	14	20	2	20	70	58
SA	1	10	5	50	2	20	2	20	10	8
Q.17: A woman stays because she loves him.										
SD	2	100	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	2
D	3	15	6	30	5	25	6	30	20	16
U	9	21	11	26	9	21	14	33	43	36
A	14	32	8	18	14	32	8	18	44	37
SA	2	18	5	46	2	18	2	18	11	9
Q.18: A woman stays because she can not support herself and her children without her husband										
SD	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
D	8	42	4	21	2	10	5	26	19	16
U	1	7	5	36	6	43	2	14	14	11
A	18	29	15	24	14	22	15	24	62	52
SA	3	12	6	24	8	32	--	--	25	21

*Total percentages may not equal 100 due to rounding.

**country category I :low-income countries
country category II :lower middle-income countries
country category III:upper middle-income countries
country category IV :industrial market countries

TABLE VIII
CONTRASTS OF CAUSES OF ABUSE

Cause	Country		Category **		² x	<0.05
	I	II	III	IV		
Q.5: In which income group do you think woman abuse occurs most often in your home country ?						
Low Income Mean Rank	68.00	58.00	68.00	48.00	11.86	0.01*
Middle Income Mean Rank	57.00	57.00	67.00	61.00	4.16	0.25
High Income Mean Rank	59.50	65.50	59.50	57.50	6.26	0.10
All Income Mean Rank	54.00	58.00	56.00	74.00	14.37	0.00*
Don't know Mean Rank	61.50	63.50	57.50	59.50	3.48	0.32
Q.6: What educational background do you think persons in abusive relationships have ?						
Well Educated Mean Rank	60.00	62.00	60.00	60.00	3.00	0.39
Average Educated Mean Rank	66.50	56.50	56.50	62.50	4.28	0.23
Poorly Educated Mean Rank	67.50	59.50	69.50	45.50	12.45	0.01*
Among All Mean Rank	51.00	59.00	53.00	79.00	17.65	0.00*
Don't Know Mean Rank	61.50	61.50	59.50	59.50	2.02	0.57
Q.9: A man beats his wife or partner because he learned this behavior from his parents.						
Mean Rank	49.95	54.30	57.67	80.08	14.60	0.00*
Q.10: A man who abuses his wife or partner because society accepts this behavior as normal.						
Mean Rank	58.38	65.22	58.18	60.22	0.89	0.83

TABLE VIII CONTINUED

Cause	Country Category				χ^2	<0.05
	I	II	III	IV		
Q. 11: More than 50 % of men who abuse their wives or partners have a psychological problem.						
Mean Rank	43.90	61.38	64.95	71.77	11.40	0.01*
Q.14: A woman stays with an abusive man because she has no place to go.						
Mean Rank	53.03	59.63	60.45	68.88	3.40	0.33
Q.15: A woman stays because she wants to keep the family together.						
Mean Rank	54.02	70.57	58.75	58.67	4.94	0.18
Q.16: A woman stays because she hopes that her husband or partner will change.						
Mean Rank	64.27	67.65	52.38	57.70	4.35	0.23
Q.17: A woman stays because she loves her husband or partner						
Mean Rank	63.05	61.13	63.78	54.03	1.64	0.65
Q.18: A woman stays because she can not support herself and the children without her husband.						
Mean Rank	53.05	59.60	64.87	64.48	2.67	0.45

* significance at the <0.05 level.

**country category I :low-income countries
country category II :lower middle-income countries
country category III:upper middle-income countries
country category IV :industrial market countries

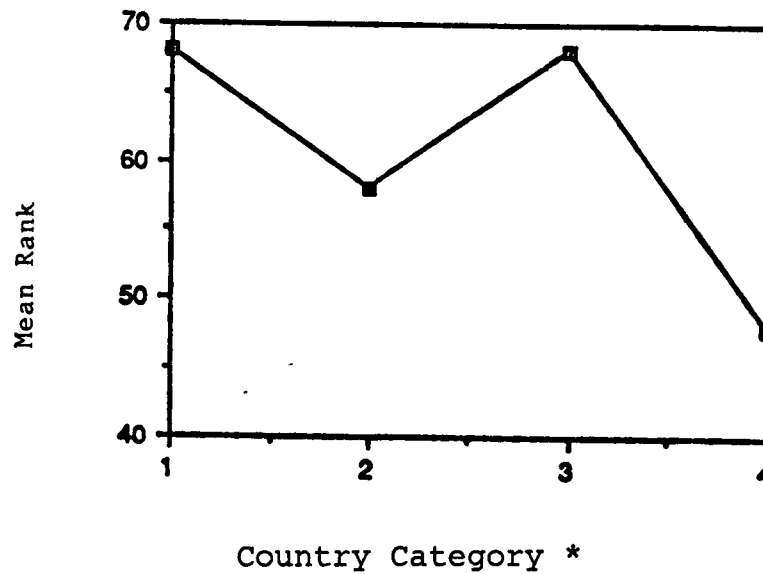


Figure 11. Role of Low-Income and Abusiveness

- * country category I : low-income countries
- country category II : lower middle-income countries
- country category III : upper middle-income countries
- country category IV : industrial market countries

respondents from industrial market (IV) countries (74.00). Respondents from lower middle- (II) income (58.00), upper middle- (III) income (56.00) and low-income (I) countries (54.00) ranked significantly lower and the found significance was 0.00. Figure 12 demonstrates the distribution of mean ranks according the role of family income and abusiveness.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Over half (62 %) of the respondents stated that the educational background of abusive families is among the poorly educated. This answer was mostly chosen by respondents from upper middle- (III) income countries (69.50) and low-income (I) countries (67.5). Less likely to think so were respondents from lower middle- (II) income countries (59.50) and industrial market (IV) countries (45.50). This answer elicited a significance of 0.01. Figure 13 shows the distribution of mean ranks according to perception of the poorly educated and abusiveness.

More than one -third (36 %) answered among all educational backgrounds and the majority of respondents were from industrial market (IV) countries (79.00). Respondents from lower middle- (II) income countries (59.00), upper middle- (III) income countries (53.00) and low-income (I) countries (51.00) tended not to choose this answer. The found significance was 0.00.

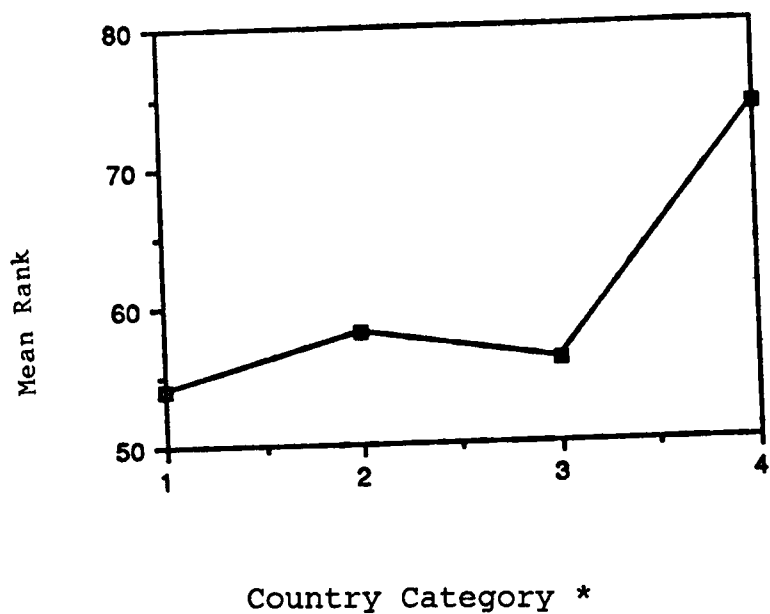


Figure 12. Role of Family Income and Abusiveness

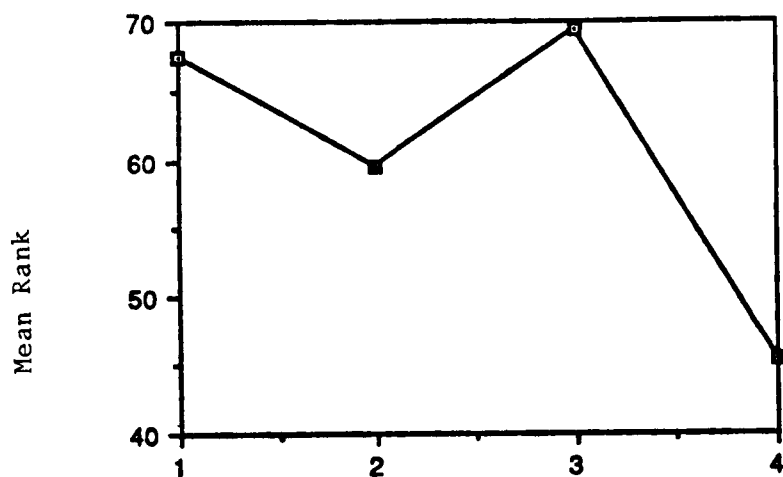


Figure 13. Perception of the Poorly Educated and Abusiveness

- * country category I : low-income countries
- country category II : lower middle-income countries
- country category III : upper middle-income countries
- country category IV : industrial market countries

Seventeen percent believed that abuse occurs among the average educated and one percent thought abuse occurred among the well educated strata. Those answers failed to show a significance.

LEARNED BEHAVIOR

Less than half (39 %) disagreed or strongly disagreed that abuse is a learned behavior, more than a third (34 %) agreed and strongly agreed, while 27 % were undecided. Mainly respondents from industrial market (IV) countries (80.08) agreed that abuse is a learned behavior, followed by respondents from upper middle- (III) income countries (57.67), lower middle- (II) income countries (54.30) and low-income (I) countries (49.95). This answer elicited a significance of 0.00. Figure 14 demonstrates the distribution of ranks regarding the perception of the role of learned behavior and abusiveness.

PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEM

The statement that more than 50 % of men who abuse their wives or partners have a psychological problem was agreed or strongly agreed to almost two-thirds (60 %) of the respondents. Almost one-fifth (19%) disagreed, and one-fifth (20 %) were undecided. One percent strongly

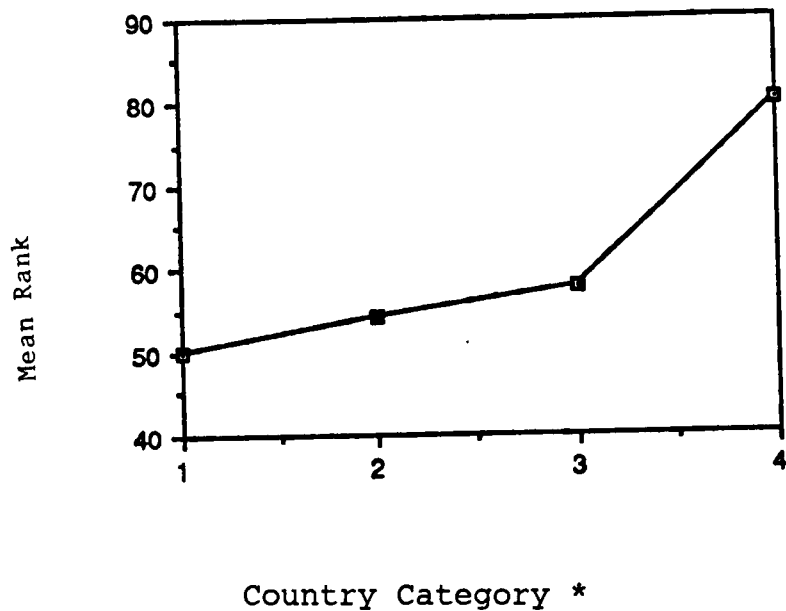


Figure 14. Perception of Role of Learned Behavior and Abusiveness

- * country category I : low-income countries
- country category II : lower middle-income countries
- country category III : upper middle-income countries
- country category IV : industrial market countries

disagreed. The majority of respondents from industrial market (IV) countries (71.77) thought that abuse occurs due to a psychological problem, followed by respondents from upper middle- (III) income (64.95), lower middle- (II) income (61.38) and low-income (I) countries (43.90). The significance found was 0.01. Figure 15 demonstrates the distribution of mean ranks according to the role of psychological problems in abusive males.

SOCIETAL ACCEPTANCE OF ABUSE

Almost two thirds (65%) disagreed or strongly disagreed to the statement that a man who abuses his wife or partner does so because society accepts this behavior as normal. Close to one-fourth (24 %) agreed or strongly agreed, while eleven percent were undecided. This statement did not elicit a significance.

WHY DO WOMEN STAY

The statement that women stay with abusive men because they have no place to go was agreed or strongly agreed to by over half (55 %) of the respondents. Less than one-third (29 %) disagreed or strongly disagreed, while sixteen percent of the respondents did not know.

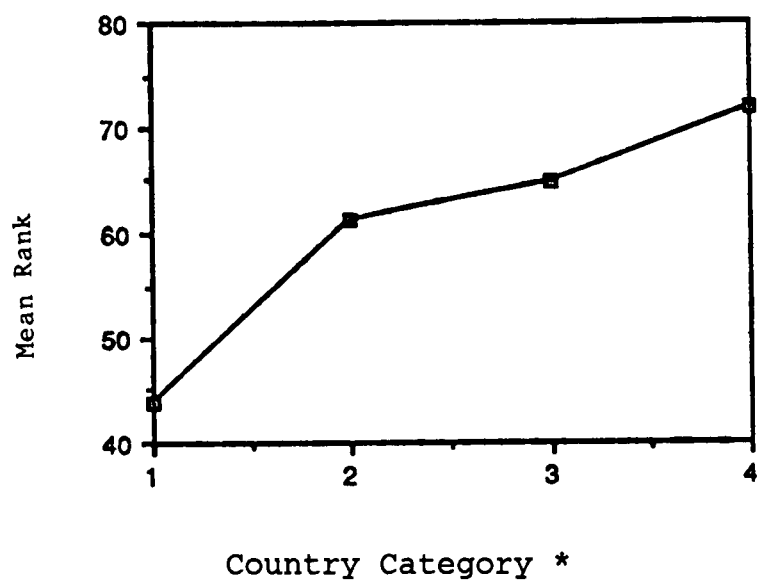


Figure 15. Role of Psychological Problems in Abusive Males

- * country category I : low-income countries
- country category II : lower middle-income countries
- country category III : upper middle-income countries
- country category IV : industrial market countries

Women stay to keep the family together was agreed or strongly agreed (85 %) upon by a majority of the of the respondents. Twelve percent were undecided, and three percent disagreed.

Two-thirds (66 %) of the students agreed or strongly agreed that women hope their husband or partner will change. Eighteen percent were undecided, fifteen percent disagreed, and one percent of the students strongly disagreed.

Almost half of the respondents (46%) agreed or strongly agreed that women stay because of love for their husband or partner. Over one-third (36 %) were undecided and sixteen percent disagreed. Two percent of the respondents strongly disagreed.

A majority (73 %) of the students agreed or strongly agreed that women stay because they are unable to support themselves and their children. Eleven percent were were undecided and sixteen percent disagreed.

All statements regarding why women stay in abusive relationships failed to elicit significances.

E. RESEARCH QUESTION OF PREVENTION OF ABUSE

Two research questions addressed the perceptions regarding prevention of abuse and whether there are contrasts among the four prescribed country categories. Interview -schedule questions 7, 8, 12, 13, 24 and 25 directly relate to the prevention of abuse. Table IX demonstrates the distribution of percentages and numbers of abuse. To answer the question of difference, the Kurskal-Wallis one-way analysis of variance by ranks test was performed; SPSSX was used in doing these analyses. Table X displays the distribution of mean ranks and significances.

HANDLED PRIVATELY

Over half (57 %) of the students disagreed or strongly disagreed that woman abuse is a problem to be handled privately in a family. One third (33 %) of the students agreed or strongly agreed with this statement. Ten percent of the respondents were undecided. Mainly respondents from lower middle- (II) income countries (78.50) believed in the private solution of the problem, followed by respondents from upper middle- (III) countries (62.52) and low-income (I) countries (55.02). Respondents from industrial market (IV) countries (46.07) tended mostly to disagree with the private solution of the problem. The significance found was 0.00. Figure 16 demonstrates the distribution of mean ranks

TABLE IX
PERCEPTION OF PREVENTION OF ABUSE

	Country		Category**		Total	
	I	II	III	IV		
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Q. 7: Woman abuse is a problem to be handled privately within a family ?						
SD	3	21	2	14	3	21
D	17	32	7	13	13	24
U	3	25	3	25	3	25
A	6	18	14	42	10	30
SA	1	14	4	57	1	14
					6	43
					17	32
					12	10
					33	27
					7	6
Q. 8: Woman abuse is a problem that society should do something about.						
SD	--	--	--	--	--	--
D	--	--	--	--	--	--
U	2	29	2	29	4	100
A	8	22	9	24	2	29
SA	20	28	19	26	11	30
					9	24
					14	19
					19	26
					72	60
Q. 12: Socioeconomic equality in society between men and women makes woman abuse less likely.						
SD	--	--	--	--	--	--
D	--	--	5	36	5	36
U	6	20	5	17	4	29
A	15	27	15	27	9	30
SA	9	43	5	24	13	24
					55	46
					3	14
					4	20
					21	17
Q.13: When a man and a woman have equal status in the home woman abuse is less likely to occur.						
SD	--	--	1	100	--	--
D	3	25	4	33	4	33
U	2	18	3	27	1	8
A	16	25	13	20	3	27
SA	9	28	9	28	18	28
					6	19
					8	25
					32	27
Q. 24: Education that stresses nonviolence may help prevent the abuse of women.						
SD	--	--	--	--	--	--
D	1	33	--	--	2	67
U	5	36	3	21	3	21
A	16	23	19	28	16	23
SA	8	24	8	24	18	26
					9	27
					9	27
					34	28
Q. 25: Education that stresses equality may prevent woman abuse.						
SD	--	--	--	--	--	--
D	1	14	2	29	4	57
U	7	44	3	19	5	31
A	19	26	19	26	15	21
SA	3	13	6	25	20	27
					9	38
					24	20

*Total percentages may not equal 100 due to rounding.

**country category I :low-income countries
country category II :lower middle-income countries
country category III:upper middle-income countries
country category IV :industrial market countries

TABLE X
CONTRASTS OF PREVENTION OF ABUSE

Prevention	Country Category **				χ^2	<0.05
	I	II	III	IV		
Q. 7: Woman abuse is a problem to be handled privately within a family . Mean Rank	55.02	78.50	62.52	46.07	15.82	0.00*
Q. 8: Woman abuse is a problem that society should do something about ? Mean Rank	64.87	63.05	51.03	63.05	4.00	0.26
Q.12: Socioeconomic equality in society between men and women makes woman abuse less likely. Mean Rank	74.90	60.50	50.88	55.72	9.08	0.03*
Q.13: When a man and a woman have equal status in the home woman abuse is less likely to occur. Mean Rank	63.50	58.77	55.82	63.92	1.37	0.71
Q.24: Education that stresses nonviolence may help prevent the abuse of woman. Mean Rank	57.15	61.58	59.97	63.30	0.65	0.89
Q.25: Education that stresses equality may prevent woman abuse. Mean Rank	52.60	61.52	54.82	73.07	8.23	0.04*

* significance at the <0.05 level.

**country category I :low-income countries

country category II :lower middle-income countries

country category III:upper middle-income countries

country category IV :industrial market countries

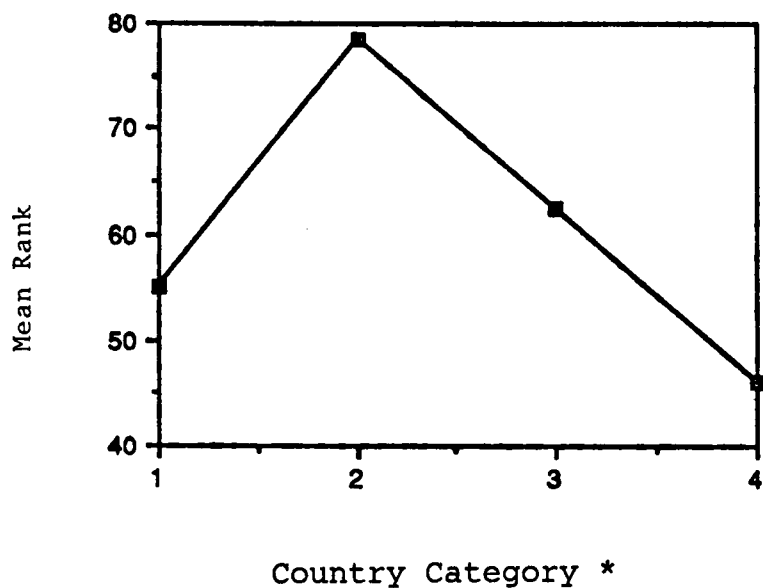


Figure 16. Perception that Abuse Needs to be Handled Privately

- * country category I : low-income countries
- country category II : lower middle-income countries
- country category III : upper middle-income countries
- country category IV : industrial market countries

regarding the private solution of the problem.

SOCIETY SHOULD DO SOMETHING ABOUT

A vast majority of (91 %) of the respondents agreed or strongly that woman abuse is a problem that society should attempt to eliminate. Six percent were undecided and three percent of the respondents disagreed. This failed to elicit a significance.

SOCIOECONOMIC EQUALITY

Almost two-thirds (63 %) of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed that socioeconomic equality in society between men and women makes woman abuse less likely. One-fourth (25 %) of the respondents were undecided, and twelve percent disagreed. Mainly respondents from low-income (I) countries (74.90) tended to think that socioeconomic equality will prevent abuse. Respondents from lower middle- (II) income (60.50), industrial market (IV) countries (55.72), and upper middle- (III) income countries (50.88) tended to disagree with that statement. The significance was 0.03. Figure 17 demonstrates the distribution of mean ranks according to socioeconomic equality as a preventive measure.

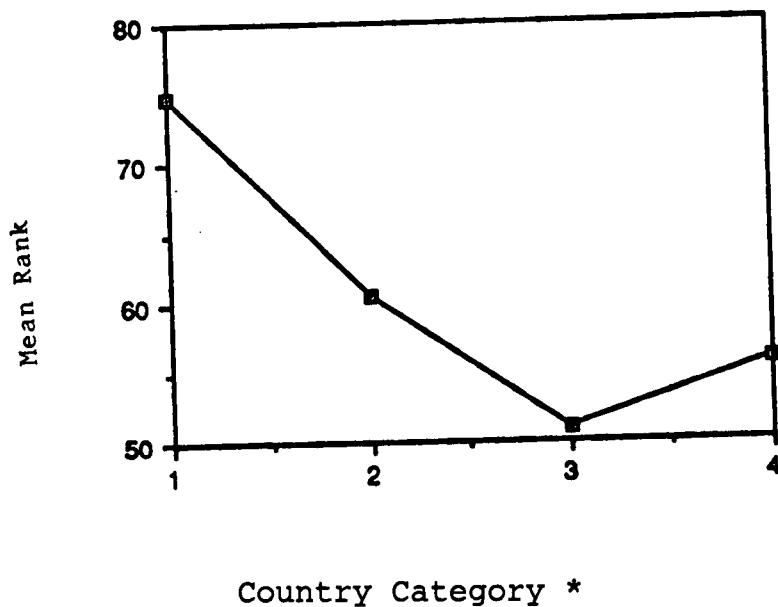


Figure 17. Socioeconomic Equality as a Preventive Measure

- * country category I : low-income countries
- country category II : lower middle-income countries
- country category III : upper middle-income countries
- country category IV : industrial market countries

EQUAL STATUS

Eighty percent of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed that equal status in the home between men and women is a preventive measure. Ten percent of the students disagreed and only one percent strongly disagreed. Nine percent of the respondents were undecided. There was no significance found.

EDUCATION

A large majority (85 %) agreed or strongly agreed that education stressing nonviolence may help prevent the abuse of women. Twelve percent were undecided, and three percent disagreed and no significant difference was found.

Most (81 %) of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed that education stressing equality may prevent the abuse of women. Thirteen percent were undecided, and six percent disagreed. Mainly respondents from industrial market (IV) countries (73.07) tended to agree that promoting equality may prevent abuse. This was followed by respondents from lower middle- (II) income (61.52), upper middle- (III) income (54.82) and low-income (I) countries (52.60). A significant difference of 0.04 was elicited. Figure 18 demonstrates the distribution of mean ranks showing educational equality as a preventive measure.

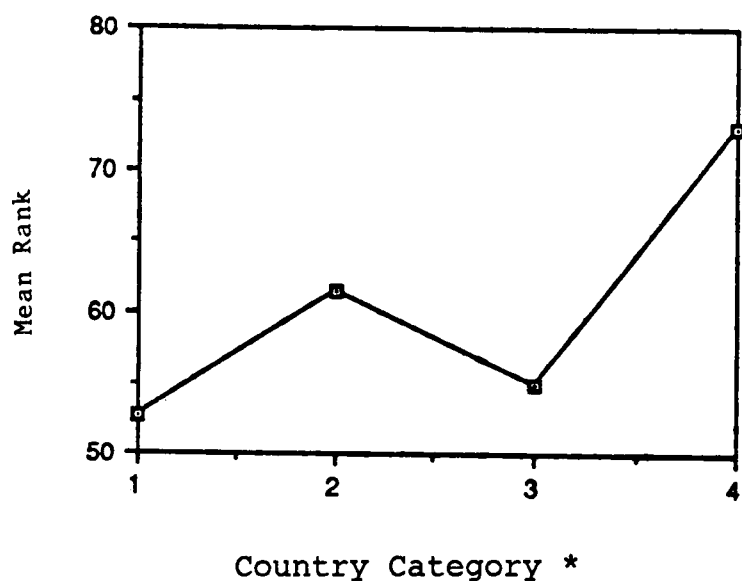


Figure 18. Educational Equality as a Preventive Measure

- * country category I : low-income countries
- country category II : lower middle-income countries
- country category III : upper middle-income countries
- country category IV : industrial market countries

F. ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

In addition to addressing the research questions other significant findings regarding gender, graduate and marital status became apparent.

GENDER DIFFERENCES

Findings regarding significant differences according to gender are shown in Table XI. The Mann-Whitney U Wilcoxon Rank Sum Test was calculated to determine the significance difference between genders. Only results of significances at the 0.05 level were documented.

Service Availability

More females than males thought that services are available in rural areas. The standard normal deviate z resulting from the Mann Whitney U test had a value of -1.90 and showed a significance of 0.05.

Socioeconomic Background

More males than females thought that abuse occurs most often among the middle income families. The standard normal deviate z resulting from the Mann Whitney U test had a value of -2.66 and showed a significance of 0.01.

TABLE XI
SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES OF
NATURE, CAUSE AND PREVENTION OF ABUSE
BY GENDER

	Mean Rank Female N 59	Mean Rank Male N 61	U	Z O	<0.05
Q.4: Some countries have special places or programs where people who have a violent husband or partner can go for help. Yes, my home country does in rural areas	64.20	56.92	1581	-1.90	0.05*
Q.5: In which income group do you think woman abuse occurs most often in your home country ? middle income families	55.07	65.75	1479	-2.66	0.01*
Q.11: More than 50% of men who abuse their wives or partners have a psychological problem	69.53	51.77	1267	-2.93	0.00*

* significance at the <0.05 level.

Psychological Problem

More females than males agreed to the statement that more than 50 % of men who abuse their wives or partners have a psychological problem. The standard normal deviate z resulting from the Mann Whitney U test had a value of -2.93 and elicited a significance was 0.00.

GRADUATE STATUS

Significant Findings according graduate status are shown in Table XII. Mann Whitney U-Wilcoxon Rank sum test was calculated in order to describe the significant differences.

What Constitutes Abuse

Verbal threats ranked significantly higher among graduate than undergraduate students. The standard normal deviate z resulting from the Mann Whitney U test had a value of -2.39 and elicited a significance of 0.02.

Educational Background

That the educational background of persons in abusive relationships is among the average was believed so by more graduate than undergraduate students. The standard normal deviate z resulting from the Mann Whitney U test had a value of -3.18 and resulted in a significance of 0.00. That the educational background of persons in abusive relationships is among the poorly educated was believed so

TABLE XII
SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES OF
NATURE, CAUSE AND PREVENTION OF ABUSE
BY GRADUATE STATUS

	Undergraduate Mean Rank N 57	Graduate Mean Rank N 63	U	Z O	<0.05
Q.1: When you hear the phrase "woman abuse" what do you think it is? verbal threats	54.39	66.02	1447	-2.39	0.02*
Q.6: What educational background do you think persons in abusive relationships have ?					
average educated	53.66	66.69	1406	-3.18	0.00*
poorly educated	52.97	67.31	1367	-2.68	0.01*
among all	66.37	55.19	1461	-2.12	0.03*
Q.8: Woman abuse is a problem that society should do something about.	53.79	66.57	1413	-2.31	0.02*
Q.9: A man beats his wife or partner because he learned this behavior from his parents	53.66	66.69	1405	-2.14	0.03*
Q.10: A man abuses his wife or partner because society accepts this behavior as normal	53.75	66.61	1411	-2.13	0.03*
Q.11: More than 50% of men who abuse their wives or partners have a psychological problem	67.75	53.94	1383	-2.27	0.02*
Q.12: Socioeconomic equality in society between men and women makes woman abuse less likely	53.04	67.25	1370	-2.38	0.02*

* significance at the 0.05 level.

by more graduates than undergraduate respondents. The standard normal deviate z was -2.68 and elicited a significance of 0.01 .

Abuse occurs among persons with all educational background was chosen by more undergraduates than graduates. The standard normal deviate z was -2.12 and the significance found was 0.03 .

Society Should Do Something About

More graduate than undergraduates thought that society should do something about the problem. The standard normal deviate z was -2.31 and the elicited significance was 0.02 .

Learned Behavior

More graduate than undergraduates held the opinion that abusive men learned this behavior from their parents. The standard normal deviate z was -2.14 and the found significance was 0.03 .

Psychological Problem

That abusive men have a psychological problem tended to be more the opinion of undergraduates, than of graduates. The standard normal deviate z was -2.27 and the elicited significance was 0.02 .

Societal Acceptance of Abuse

Society accepts abusive behavior as normal was more agreed to by graduate than undergraduate students. The standard normal deviate z was -2.13 and the elicited significance was 0.03.

Socioeconomic Equality

More graduates than undergraduates indicated that socioeconomic equality in society between the genders makes woman abuse less likely. The standard normal deviate z was - 2.38 and the significance was 0.02.

MARITAL STATUS

To describe the significant differences of perception of abuse according to marital status the Kruskal-Wallis one way analysis of variance was calculated. Table XIII describes the results.

Emotional Abuse

The divorced, separated and widowed saw emotional abuse as more an issue than did those who were single or married. The significance elicited was 0.03.

Service Availability

The single respondents were most aware of services, followed by married and the divorced, separated and widowed. The found significance was 0.05. Those respondents were

TABLE XIII
SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES OF
NATURE, CAUSE AND PREVENTION OF ABUSE
BY MARITAL STATUS

	Mean Rank single N 86	Mean Rank married N 27	Mean Rank other ** N 6	2 X	
					<0.05
Q.3: Please rate the degree you think this is an issue in your home country ?					
b. emotional abuse	55.90	42.54	71.42	5.7935	0.03*
Q.4: Some countries have special places or programs where people with a violent husband or partner can go to or telephone for help					
Yes, my home country does	63.48	57.61	35.07	4.56	0.05*
in large cities	63.79	57.67	31.00	7.98	0.02*
no, does not	56.95	67.44	77.29	5.81	0.05*
Q.20: Abuse of woman affects her mental health ?					
	58.81	58.63	88.50	4.82	0.04*

* significance at the <0.05 level.

**other: divorced, separated or widowed.

mostly aware of service availability in large cities, followed by the married and divorced, separated and widowed categories. The elicited significance of 0.02. The divorced, separated and widowed respondents believed that no services were available, followed by the married and single. The significance elicited was 0.05.

Women's Health

The divorced, separated and widowed ranked highest (88.50) regarding that abuse affects women mental health. This was followed by respondents from category single (58.81) and category married (58.63). The found significance was 0.04.

G. INTERPRETATION OF DATA

AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEM

Respondents from low- (I) income and industrial market (IV) countries had a greater awareness of frequency of abuse in their home country. Industrial market (IV) countries had the largest awareness of services available in their home country. According to statistics (Olson, Jaeger, 1986), more shelters are available for women in industrial market countries.

NATURE AND CAUSE OF THE PROBLEM

Respondents from industrial market (IV) countries

assessed the problem more accurately according to current research which describes woman abuse as including emotional and verbal abuse, crossing all socioeconomic and educational levels, and stating that religious persons are not less likely to be abusive. The more current perceptions of respondents from industrial market (IV) countries does not necessarily indicate that the problem is less prevalent in the other country categories. As Gelles and Cornell (1983) have pointed out, countries go through several developmental stages from recognition of the problem to preventive measures.

While respondents from the industrial market (IV) countries assessed that abuse crosses all income families and all educational levels, respondents from low- (I), lower middle- (II) and upper middle- (III) income countries stated that abuse is more prevalent among the low income families and among the poorly educated. Students from the industrial market (IV) countries tended to view the cause of abuse due to learning theories and psychological reasons.

PREVENTION OF ABUSE

Contrary to respondents from low-(I) and lower middle-(II) income countries who tended to view socio-economic equality as a preventive measure, respondents from industrial market (IV) countries disagreed with this approach. It is less clear why respondents from industrial market (IV) and upper middle- income countries (III) did not

think that socio-economic equality will lessen abuse. Several factors may account for this result. Although women still earn less, industrial market (IV) countries have achieved more socio-economic equality between the genders (Olson & Saeger, 1986). This gap is proportionately larger in countries other than industrialized nations (Olson & Saeger, 1986). This could be an explanation why respondents from mainly low- (I) income countries put more emphasis on socioeconomic equality than respondents from industrial (IV) market countries.

A majority of participants (73 %) believed that women stay in abusive relationships out of economic necessity. Although no significant difference at the 0.05 level was found, it was apparent that low- (I) income country respondents gravitated toward this answer, while respondents from industrial market (IV) countries disagreed with the assumption that women stay due to economic reasons. Contrary to the emphasis on socioeconomic equality, respondents from the industrial market (IV) countries stressed the importance of education promoting equality to be an effective preventive measure. Further investigation is needed to assess and correlate socioeconomic equality and education among various countries.

Another significant difference was that respondents mainly from lower middle- (II) income countries believed woman abuse should be handled privately. Those respondents were also least aware of the frequency of abuse and services

availability in their home country. Respondents from the industrial market (IV), low- (I) income categories showed the most awareness of frequency and service availability in their home countries. Those respondents also tended to disagree to the private solution of the problem. This opens the question on the relationship between awareness of the problem and preventive measures to be taken. Another question arising is what is the relationship between awareness of the problem, service availability and measures of legal protection. Further investigation is needed to assess the correlation is between resources available and existing legal protection for victims.

Additional Findings

The additional findings showed significances at the 0.05 level regarding gender that females were more aware of services in rural areas and that they also attributed abuse due to psychological problems of men. While undergraduates stated that abuse is due to a psychological problem, graduates believed that socioeconomic equality will lessen abuse. Graduate students had a more current view of the problem with the exception of those who thought that persons in abusive relationships are poorly educated. Regarding gender, significantly more divorced, separated or widowed respondents stated their home country not to have services available, emotional abuse to be a problem in their home country and abuse affecting women's mental health.

H. SUMMARY

This chapter presented the analysis of data on 120 international students at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville who completed the questionnaire on the students' perception about abuse in their home country. The data were described and contrasted by the four country categories. The categories were (I) low-income, category (II) lower middle- income, category (III) upper middle- income countries, category (IV) industrial market (IV) countries. Kruskal- Wallis one way analysis of variance was performed to contrast students perceptions regarding frequency of abuse, service availability, nature, cause and prevention. Mann-Whitney U test was performed to find the significant differences among gender and graduate status. Kruskal- Wallis one way analysis was utilized to assess the significant differences of marital status.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY, FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this study was to describe and contrast international students' perceptions of the nature, cause and prevention of woman abuse in their home country.

1. The sample of 120 students was obtained from 890 international students enrolled during Fall semester at the University of Tennessee by quota sampling according to country category, followed by snowball sampling and then directly requesting participation from the international respondent.
2. A pilot study was conducted on 8 spouses of international students which resulted in slight changes of syntax.
3. Participants completed a questionnaire resulting in the computation of percentages for nature, cause and prevention of woman abuse in their home country.
4. The mean rank for each country category was computed and then compared. Results were analyzed using Kruskal-Wallis one way anova and Mann Whitney U Wilxon procedures.

A. FINDINGS

The following significant findings were based on the analysis of the data collected from the self developed questionnaire completed by 120 international students.

Awareness in Home Country

1. One third (33 %) students answered that they have heard or read news reports of domestic violence fairly or very often. Preponderantly respondents from the low-income countries (I) and industrial market (IV) countries held this opinion.
2. Over half (57 %) of the respondents thought that their home country does have services available for people with violent partners, and respondents from industrial market (IV) countries gravitated toward this answer, followed by low-income (I) countries.

Contrasts of Nature of Abuse

3. Almost two-thirds (61 %) thought that emotional abuse was fairly or very common, and this was the opinion of preponderantly industrial market (IV) countries.
4. Of the almost two-thirds (63 %) respondents stating that verbal abuse occurred fairly or very often, the majority of these respondents were from industrial market (IV) countries.
5. Of the almost two-thirds (61 %) respondents

answering that men who are usually violent with their wives or partners are also violent with their children, the majority holding this opinion were respondents from the lower middle- (II) income and upper middle-income (III) countries.

6. Almost half (44 %) of the respondents did not think that religious persons are less likely to be abusive, and the majority of those respondents were from the industrial market (IV) countries.

Contrasts of Cause of Abuse

7. Seventy-four percent mentioned that abuse occurs most often in low-income families, and most of these respondents were from low-income (I) and upper middle-income countries (III).
8. Seventeen percent thought that abuse occurs in all income families. Respondents from industrial market countries (IV) gravitated towards this opinion.
9. Sixty-two percent thought that most people in abusive relationships were poorly educated. The majority of respondents from the upper middle- (III), low- (I) and lower middle- income (II) countries tended to have this opinion.
10. Over one third (36 %) thought that the background of abusive families crosses all educational levels, and primarily respondents from the industrial market (IV) countries held this opinion.

11. About one third (34 %) tended to think that abusive men learn this behavior from their parents; most of these respondents were from the industrial market (IV) countries.
12. Over half (60 %) of the participants held the opinion that abusive men have a psychological problem; and the majority of respondents from industrial market (IV) countries held this view.

Contrasts of Prevention

13. Over half (57 %) of the respondents did not think that the problem should be handled privately. The majority of industrial market (IV) and low-income (I) countries respondents did not believe in the private solution.
14. Almost two-thirds (63 %) thought that socio-economic equality between women and men will lessen abuse, mostly respondents from low-income (I) held this opinion.
15. A majority of 81 % believed that education stressing equality is a preventive measure. Significantly, respondents from industrial market (IV) countries held this opinion.

B. ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

The following findings of significant differences by gender, graduate and marital status were:

Gender

More females than males responded that:

1. services were available in rural areas.
2. the reason men abuse is due to psychological problems.

More males than females answered that:

1. abuse occurs mainly in middle income families.

Graduate Status

More graduates than undergraduates held the opinion that:

1. verbal threats were included in the definition of abuse.
2. the educational background of people in abusive relationships is primarily the average or poorly educated.
3. woman abuse is a problem that society should do something about.
4. abuse is a learned behavior.
5. abuse occurs because society accepts this behavior as normal.
6. socio-economic equality between men and women makes abuse less likely.

More undergraduates than graduates believed that:

1. abuse occurs among all educational background.
2. abusive men have a psychological problem.

Marital Status

More separated, divorced, or widowed respondents answered that:

1. emotional abuse is a problem in their home country.
2. their home country does not have any services.
3. abuse of woman affects her mental health.

More single respondents stated that:

1. services were generally available in their home country.
2. services were available in large cities.

C. CONCLUSIONS

Respondents with the greatest awareness of abuse were from the industrial market countries; they generally had the most accurate assessment of the problem according to current research literature.

The perceptions and contrasts of the nature of abuse lead to the conclusion that respondents from all four categories agreed on the definition of abuse. Students from the industrial market (IV) countries included emotional and verbal abuse to be a problem in their home country. Respondents from the upper middle- (III) and lower middle- (II) countries believed that men who use violence against their wives/partners are also violent with their children.

Respondents with the greatest awareness contributed abuse to be a learned behavior, crossing all socio-economic

and educational backgrounds and that religious persons are not less likely to be abusive. This indicates that those respondents assess the problem more accurate according to current research. The perceptions and contrast regarding prevention revealed that respondents viewing the causes to be the low socio-economic status in the family and due to minimal educational level, also assessed that an effective way of prevention to be the achievement of socio-economic equality of women in society.

Respondents who viewed the causes to cross all educational and socioeconomic backgrounds viewed education towards equality as a preventive measure. Those respondents also advocated that the problem needs to be dealt with by means of the public. Hence, prevention is a public issue and should be addressed educationally and socio-economically through gender equality.

D. RECOMMENDATIONS

The findings of this research suggest that awareness, knowledge and means of prevention need to be researched further internationally. These issues should be correlated with available resources and existing legal protection for victims. Specifically, research needs to be implemented in lower middle- (II), upper middle- (III)

income countries because the students from these countries were least aware of the problem.

Since cultures vary among countries, it is essential to develop culturally specific research, including comprehensive statistical record systems. This research needs to address family income, education, gender and marital status as well as health status, knowledge of domestic violence and specifically the socio-economic status of women in society. Bilateral research organizations need to be established in cooperation with International organizations focusing on Health and Human Rights.

The international research of the health problem can lead to the formation of a curricula regarding domestic violence in health education. Health classes in general need to take the international dimension of health problems, its causes and preventive measures into account.

Educational activities are recommended between the Departments of Health, International Education as well as International and Women's Studies. Classes, workshops and extracurricular activities for students should be structured with the goal to learn about health problems in different cultures and their particular ways of dealing with health and social issues.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

CONSENT FORM

Hello,

I am Elisabeth Reichert and a doctoral student in Health Education. I am conducting research in the area of violence against women. More specifically I want to investigate international students perceptions regarding the nature and cause of woman battering in your home country. I am also interested in what your thoughts are on effective ways of dealing with the problem.

Over the last decade woman abuse has been an issue internationally and this research is important in gathering information about the topic. If you are interested in the results of the study, there will be copies available at the Interantional House and the International Office at the University of Tennessee.

Your responses will be completely confidential and I will not ask for your name. Participation is completely voluntary and you may withdraw at any time. There are no anticipated risks involved.

I will give you a questionnaire and then I will read each question to you individually. I will score your answers on a scan form. You do not have to fill out the answers.

Thank you very much.

APPENDIX B

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Perceptions/Attitudes
Regarding Woman Abuse

Time Interview Starts:

1. When you hear the phrase "woman abuse" what do you think it is ? Check all that you think apply.
 - a.() making verbal threats to a woman
 - b.() pushing a woman
 - c.() slapping the woman
 - d.() punching the woman
 - e.() screaming at the woman
 - f.() being extremely jealous
 - g.() being domineering
 - h.() none of the above
 - i.() other

2. You might have seen or read the phrase " woman battering" or" woman abuse" in the news. How often have you heard or read news reports about this topic in your home country during the three years prior to leaving your home country ?
 - a.() very often
 - b.() fairly often
 - c.() not too often
 - d.() not at all
 - e.() don't know

3. For each one, please rate the degree you think this is an issue in your home country.

	very common	fairly common	not too common	I don't know
a.Physical abuse of women by their husbands/partners	()	()	()	()
b.Emotional abuse of women by their husbands/partners	()	()	()	()
c.Verbal abuse of women by their husbands/partners	()	()	()	()

4. Some countries have special places or programs where people who have a violent husband or partner can go to or telephone for help. Does your home country have any special places like that ?
 - 1.() yes, my home country does
 - a.() in large cities
 - b.() in rural areas
 - c.() in urban area
 - 2.() no, does not have services
 - 3.() don't know

5. In which income group do you think woman abuse occurs most often in your home country ? Multiple responses are possible.
 - a.() low income families
 - b.() middle income families
 - c.() high income families
 - d.() in all income families
 - e.() don't know

6. What educational background do you think persons in abusive relationships have ? Multiple responses are possible.

- a. () well educated persons
- b. () average educated persons
- c. () poorly educated persons
- d. () among all
- e. () don't know

Please check one response for each statement.

7. Woman abuse is a problem to be handled privately within a family.

- a. () strongly agree
- b. () agree
- c. () undecided
- d. () disagree
- e. () strongly disagree

8. Woman abuse is a problem that society should do something about.

- a. () strongly agree
- b. () agree
- c. () undecided
- d. () disagree
- e. () strongly disagree

9. A man beats his wife or partner because he learned this behavior from his parents.

- a. () strongly agree
- b. () agree
- c. () undecided
- d. () disagree
- e. () strongly disagree

10. A man who abuses his wife or partner because society accepts this behavior as normal.

- a. () strongly agree
- b. () agree
- c. () undecided
- d. () disagree
- e. () strongly disagree

11. More than 50 % of men who abuse their wives or partners have a psychological problem.

- a. () strongly agree
- b. () agree
- c. () undecided
- d. () disagree
- e. () strongly disagree

12. Socioeconomic equality in society between men and women makes woman abuse less likely.

- a. () strongly agree
- b. () agree
- c. () undecided
- d. () disagree
- e. () strongly disagree

13. When a man and a woman have equal status in the home woman abuse is less likely to occur.

- a. () strongly agree
- b. () agree
- c. () undecided
- d. () disagree
- e. () strongly disagree

14. A woman stays with an abusive man because she has no place to go.

- a. () strongly agree
- b. () agree
- c. () undecided
- d. () disagree
- e. () strongly disagree

15. A woman stays because she wants to keep the family together.
- a. () strongly agree
 - b. () agree
 - c. () undecided
 - d. () disagree
 - e. () strongly disagree
16. A woman stays because she hopes that her husband or partner will change.
- a. () strongly agree
 - b. () agree
 - c. () undecided
 - d. () disagree
 - e. () strongly disagree
17. A woman stays because she loves her husband or partner.
- a. () strongly agree
 - b. () agree
 - c. () undecided
 - d. () disagree
 - e. () strongly disagree
18. A woman stays because she can not support herself and the children without her husband.
- a. () strongly agree
 - b. () agree
 - c. () undecided
 - d. () disagree
 - e. () strongly disagree
19. Abuse of woman affects her physical health.
- a. () strongly agree
 - b. () agree
 - c. () undecided
 - d. () disagree
 - e. () strongly disagree
20. Abuse of woman affects her mental health
- a. () strongly agree
 - b. () agree
 - c. () undecided
 - d. () disagree
 - e. () strongly disagree
21. Men who are usually violent to their wives or partners are also violent to their children.
- a. () strongly agree
 - b. () agree
 - c. () undecided
 - d. () disagree
 - e. () strongly disagree
22. Children will be harmed emotionally if their fathers are violent to their mothers.
- a. () strongly agree
 - b. () agree
 - c. () undecided
 - d. () disagree
 - e. () strongly disagree
23. Religious persons are less likely to be abusive.
- a. () strongly agree
 - b. () agree
 - c. () undecided
 - d. () disagree
 - e. () strongly disagree
24. Education that stresses nonviolence may help prevent the abuse of women.
- a. () strongly agree
 - b. () agree
 - c. () undecided
 - d. () disagree
 - e. () strongly disagree

25. Education that stresses equality may prevent woman abuse.

- a. ☐ strongly agree
- b. ☐ agree
- c. ☐ undecided
- d. ☐ disagree
- e. ☐ strongly disagree

The last few questions are to help to have the data analyzed and cross-sectioned. I do not want your name, so that the data can be kept strictly anonymous.

Home Country Code Category

Age

Gender : female ☐ male ☐

Status: Undergraduate ☐ Graduate ☐

College:

Marital Status: ☐ Single
 ☐ Married
 ☐ Separated
 ☐ Widowed
 ☐ Divorced
 ☐ Other

Religion:

☐ Buddhist
☐ Christian
☐ Hindu
☐ Moslem
☐ Confucian
☐ Atheist
☐ other _____

Time interview ends:

Date of Interview:

VITA

Elisabeth Reichert grew up in Leutkirch im Allgau, West Germany, where she received her early education. She is a graduate of the Fachhochschule fuer Sozialwesen in Mannheim, West Germany and received her Diploma in Social Work. She gained experiences in the areas of Adult Education and Mental Health. Elisabeth joined the German Volunteer Service and served as a volunteer in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for two years.

In 1983 she was awarded two year Fulbright Scholarship from Germany and in 1985 she received her Master of Science in Social Work from the University of Tennessee. Elisabeth worked as a graduate assistant for the University of Tennessee Women's Center while pursuing graduate studies. In August of 1989 she received the Doctor of Philosophy degree with a major in Health Education, a minor in Public Health and a collateral emphasis in Social Work.