

УДК 343.1

Marcela Tittlová
JUDr., PhD,
Assistant professor Department of Public Law
Faculty of Law
Pan European University

THE CONSEQUENCES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN¹

Introduction

Women are the most frequent group of victims of domestic violence and their real number in the available surveys and research from year to year increases. They touch them all available forms of violence, from physical to social and economic. The positive is that from year to year increases the number of cases of domestic violence against women have been reported and dealt with criminal law. Just social need which provoked this situation, because in recent years has led to some changes in our legislation, in particular the public. Were established and improved a number of institutes that have to combat this phenomenon help.

1. The concept of “domestic violence against women”

If we were to define the term domestic violence against women, the resources available will meet with a number of different perspectives on this phenomenon with a number of different definitions. Much more efficient to homologation of the content through a number of definitions, but also that in some cases different. Given the very diverse nature of domestic violence in general and taking into account the fact that violence against women is widespread in all social strata, fields, at all levels of our system, the lack of a universal definition is understandable. Some differences can be seen not only in the definition of the individual authors of the continental environment, but especially for authors English and American sources. The Anglo-American sources we meet with the name:

- domestic violence;
- women violence;
- wife abuse;
- battered women.

The German sources most commonly used for this phenomenon marking family violence and for us we used term domestic violence against women or abused women. Above definitions it is evident that the Anglo-American culture, there is a relatively high variability in the description of this phenomenon so that this term captures the essence of violence occurring. In German literature we meet with the inclusion of violence against women within the concept of family violence, although these terms not accepted. In our available resour-

es (in Slovak and Czech) we met to take over more of the following concepts with regard to the differentiation of a variety of attacks to which they occur against a woman which is indeed correct, but the problem is that these terms are vague and inconsistently interpreted. Under each of them often subsumes violence against women as well, which is not correct.

Efforts to define violence against women encounter problems in several areas. One of the most important is the debate on the scope of the concept respectively width with which they define violence against women. Some Representative (especially feminist) to this approach very broad definition, other authors are restricted to the traditional perception of domestic violence. As I have already stated in connection with the general definition of domestic violence, and in this case it is neither too general nor too specific definitions are not entirely satisfactory. Each one has its positives, but also the larger or smaller negatives. The need to include domestic violence as a phenomenon in general and at the same time it is sufficiently specify, found its solution in documents dealing with, human rights. Specifically, according to Article 1 of the UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women in March 1993 (in the literature also met with the designation Vienna Declaration), the violence against women is considered to be any manifestations of violence as a form of behavior that is based on gender inequality. This speech, behavior while heading to the implementation of physical, intimate or psychological attack, which results in adequate aggrieved at that – which area. Violence against women under this Article shall also include the implementation of this threat of violence, restriction of a person in the private or the public. Subsequently, in this definition are contained individual, but only the most typical, forms of domestic violence against women. The significance of this lies primarily in defining the scope of the attacks that have been marked as violence against women. Likewise, the subject of violence can be subsumed not only a woman as a wife, but also a friend, companion or ex-wife, which is undoubtedly a great asset to the extent of potential victims of domestic violence. Although this definition seems

¹ This work was supported by the Slovak Research and Development Agency under the contract №15-0644.

to be relatively precise and undoubtedly has a number of positives, there are also its critics. Several authors argue that this definition is actually only tautological and does not address the key issue, which is the definition of gender-based violence. Knowledge that has brought this document lies in the fact that violence against women arises from an imbalance of power between the genders. This is indeed regarded as a key asset in this document. UN directly to the text of this document under the influence of the above criticisms expressed directly and concluded that the cause of violent behavior against women is historically and long-term asymmetrical model of separation of powers and rights between women and men. This enabled the uneven development respectively. Prevent women develop evenly in their abilities, without discrimination, publicly assert their rights.

Imbalance of power, which was this document identified as the cause of violence against women, was subsequently reflected in some other definitions. In the opinion of the Asia Pacific Forum on Women in 1990, violence against women in any act that accompanies the abuse of power or violence that lead to the creation, retention and preservation of asymmetric model in relations, hierarchical system in them. It is obvious that the purpose of the perpetrator is to maintain, or stabilize create a hierarchy of relationships where the man is dominant [5, p. 6]. This performance was directed violent attacks or threats directed against female victims. Within this definition compared with the previous, absent calculation of typical forms of physical assault and domestic violence. Domestic violence is under it regarded any act thus by the specific action of the aggressor. Under this concept it is, however, necessary to include threats of their implementation.

Formulate concise definition of violence against women is not easy. Apart from the basic outline of domestic violence, which are the position of power, coercion and enforced in it must be contained and typical forms of violence. It is essential to distinguish between a random act of violence and those that are gender-based, which is disposable and that which is regularly repeated at intervals. Domestic violence is used (intentionally and deliberately) to be the aggressor and maintained its superiority over the victim. There may be cases where, although the intention is missing, but the doing of the aggressor is heading to a woman as a victim has suffered as a result of an attack some injury and that it be maintained in subordination.

Due to the special nature of intimate violence, most authors he pays special. Is especially problematic assumption that marital and partner relationships can be no sexual assault against women, since it is a part of intimate coexistence spouses.

This bias is also added stating that marriage fulfills the biological and reproductive function and each time the divorce to be with us always nature of litigation, the court finds the rate of marriage breakdown through the frequency or nature of the intimate relationship of the spouses. Violence in intimate areas respectively in sexual significant role in an important mission as women in labor, mothers our company. Attacks of this nature result in damage or interfere with the functionality of the genital organs, which ultimately can lead to reproductive problems. It is not rare that it is the psychological problems that accompany intimate violence are the consequence of the inability of women to make contact with the opposite sex, fear of men, the intimate life, women often no longer reach contact with the opposite sex out of fear or because they do not want. Preconception that women are obliged to participate in intimate life to be overcome, as all forms of forced or enforced sexual intercourse or other forms of sexual activities fulfill the constitutive elements of the offenses under the special part of the TZ (Criminal Act no. 300/2005 Coll. as amended by subsequent legislation, hereinafter referred to as "TZ").

2. Implications of domestic violence against women

Domestic violence against women is problematic both because it is an unjustified and unlawful interference with the fundamental human rights of women. These are accorded human beings as such, irrespective of gender. Certain problems is their acknowledgment in countries belonging to the Muslim world, which continues despite many multinational documents which mentioned the fact declared that the woman is secondary and subordinate position. This is the result of strong religious beliefs and the particularities that have Muslim religious traditions. Unfortunately, domestic violence against women and the children in these countries is a common part of everyday life as well as subordination, obedience and devotion to women man. Any domestic violence against a woman is seriously impinges on the fundamental human rights and violates them. Alongside this is violence against women and a variety of health consequences which may, but need not be at first sight visible and obvious.

Several studies carried out have confirmed that domestic violence negatively impacts on the physical, intimate and mental health of women. A number of female victims (according to available resources Zealand) seem to agree that psychological violence on them falls considerably more negative than physical violence. They state that the physical wounds can be healed and wounds gradually heal, but the psychological effects are long-lasting and treatment is difficult. Some women, despite the

long-term psychological therapy continue to suffer from fear, depression, feelings of anxiety that are permanent. Psychological violence, because any traces on the external side of leaves, lives only a long and proven problematic. The physical injuries are mainly bruises and bruises, scratches, cuts and puncture wounds, specific injury front of the head and total body (breast, abdomen), contusion of bone fracture, concussion, internal bleeding, damage to the genital organs and their malfunctions bleeding induced abortions. Side-effects of this physical violence tend pain of the body – the head, abdomen, genital organs, muscles, frequent infections of the vagina and also a number of psychological problems. Such may include insomnia, migraines, indigestion and food intake, excessive sweating, malaise, apathy (psycho-somatic consequences). This is a natural concomitant of physical violence against women. As far as the psychological effects of female victims, these take the form of modified or completely different behavior. Women suffering from psychological violence are secretive, ashamed to be afraid to speak out, they are confused and disoriented, frightened, their movements are jerky, uncontrollable, often suffer emotional attacks or emotions absent, have their own opinion, experiencing feelings of guilt, blame from malfunctioning household, depression and the hopeless situation they see, the consequences on the physical page explains own ineptitude (falls down the stairs, the jerk, etc.), the company is deliberately isolated. Many of the psychological consequences of violence against women persist even after successful completion of a psychological or psychiatric treatment [4, p. 132].

Physical, psychological and even intimate violence and the consequences of such attacks against female victims led to the definition of so-called battered women's syndrome. It provides for specific physical and psychological consequences of domestic violence against women that this phenomenon clearly and accurately distinguish it from other forms of violence to which women are confronted. In addition to these effects, it is for the public to striking that female victims generally do not want to leave the aggressor, with which, despite the violent attacks remain living in the same household with them or otherwise maintain relationships. To the victims of violent is typical for justifying phrases that much of the violence against them lightens or trying to give the impression that this is a normal thing and nothing irrelevant. From the cycle of domestic violence themselves been locked and external intervention is necessary in this case. This phenomenon has led to so described. Stockholm Syndrome, which justifies the binding of women – victims of domestic violence on their aggressors.

3. Syndróm týranej ženy

The content of this connection is characteristic consequences that domestic violence causes to the physical and mental female victims. Taken as a whole makes the process, by repeating the attacks is decreasing ability or interest of women deal with violent behavior in their relationship. It is natural that this syndrome arises immediately after the first attack, which is by nature of domestic violence. Which of course is longer and more frequent repeat attacks, which are more intense, thus increasing the risk of some of the typical features of the syndrome, or the above feature deepens. The symptoms that this syndrome occurs, include:

- a) post-traumatic stress disorder;
- b) acquired helplessness;
- c) self-harming and self-destructive activities.

In cases where the domestic violence takes a long time for the female victims is observed traumatic stress disorder. Thus it arises as a result of long-term violent behavior, and this may be so natural, intimate and psychological, economic or social character. For women suffering from this disorder is typical lack of interest in their surroundings, passivity, lethargy, reduction or loss of contact with reality, contact with their surroundings. Women create their own world, in which the contract and do not wish to leave it. Very troublesome to them or communicate the attempts at conversation do not respond, do not communicate at all. It often happens that in front of the lockers for strong environment in rooms, offices, so to establish a particular line of defense. They believe that people around them can only harm, and all the positive activities and a communication they believe are the only hypocrisy that precedes violence. For some entities, but there are very few can create overly positive relationship. Those persons are open to them, they know to be very careful. Attention, however, deliberately focus on that person in order to divert attention from their problem, they are talking about do not want, do not want to deal with it. Communicate disinterest inherent problem is caused also by the need to break away from their own lives, not to think about their problems and what is happening in the relationship. These disorders sometimes lead to serious psychological disorders.

Domestic violence is a specific relationship between the victim and the aggressor. This is not a foreign person or persons that would be before they met only briefly. Between the victim and the aggressor there are a number of links, including emotional. Just violence against women as a violation of confidentiality and closeness of this relationship produces in women feelings of helplessness. With recurrent attacks women acquire this feeling can not control the situation, to break away from it,

and then gradually feel that it is inconclusive. Several efforts were directed to addressing domestic violence in the case of failed or plus current situation is somewhat worse. Attempts to tackle domestic violence are punished by the aggressor, so women gradually come to realize that it is better not to attempt to escape the problem of domestic violence, as alleged attempts have resulted only in additional or more intense violence. Violent attacks have therefore accepted as the everyday reality and they do not attempt to resist. The long-term this process, thereby reducing the likelihood of women's active involvement in solving your problem. In the initial stages it is therefore crucial to calming the situation of women and domestic violence was not satisfied already at this early stage addressed.

Self-mutilation is a very effective form in which adolescents as well as women suffering from domestic violence succeeded to break the physical and mental pain that they experience their surroundings. It's actually some strategy potential aggressor, to prove that an attack is followed by further action aimed at expressing the victims of the attacks. This may be an attempt to distract you from the pain caused by intense pain, but it can also be a very risky strategy to combat domestic violence, which naturally cannot be considered appropriate not effective. Women who are directing their actions to themselves or damage to the self-destruction of the absolute majority of cases of domestic violence they blame, lay blame him. Women in this position confer responsibility for domestic violence aggressors but herself. Therefore tackle domestic violence or do not seek, do not attempt to Him. Their behavior adapted to these pages aggressor. Even the larger differences exist between the various manifestations of the personality of the aggressor, the victim was bound over to him, the more respectful to him and the more responsibility and guilt feeling. The effort to excuse the aggressor and his glorification led to the formation of the above mentioned and described in the next section of the Stockholm syndrome. Self-destructive reactions can be reported according to the following expressions:

- a) female victims generally do not confer an aggressor guilty of domestic violence and winds itself; justifying violence by external factors such as unemployment, alcoholism, serious illness;
- b) consequences of violent attacks trying different kinds of ways to minimize, not realizing the seriousness of the situation, the physical and psychological trauma overlooked, do not visit a doctor in time, try to treat them yourself;
- c) violence against themselves deny injury justifying invented excuses;
- d) possibility of refusing to help or repeatedly returning to the aggressor; If you have filed for divorce, so that downloaded and under.

The growing ties the victim to the aggressor are only a response to violent attacks, lived. These attempts victim of a natural and logical way justified, and does not admit misconduct on his part. Naturally accused of domestic violence itself, resulting in trauma, passivity, helplessness, feelings and activities leading to self-harm or self-destruction. This is a very critical case, which are unable to perceive the true reality, fail to recognize the basic feelings and emotions, unable to navigate in a natural environment. For these women is crucial glorification aggressor and accusations of itself.

Violence against women is considered to be very negative phenomenon, which also negative impact on the physical and mental health of women and greatly affects their quality of life. Of course, it is possible to meet with intensive and less intensive forms of disability in female victims, but all the same it is necessary to condemn. All the physical and psychological consequences of violence naturally signed by the inability or the inability to deal with violent behavior and are dependent on the help of others. According to available sources, the physical and psychological consequences that led to the description of battered women's syndrome is possible in terms of severity and intensity compared with the consequences experienced by victims of abduction, victims of natural disasters or victims who survived the terrorist attacks.

4. The Stockholm Syndrome

Very frequently we encounter the question of why women victims of domestic violence do not address their situation departure from aggressor why neodpútajú from him and continue to remain with him. It is quite a logical question that the problem of domestic violence seems to be dealt with – from the perspective of the public. Domestic violence is very specific proximity relations persons to whom it occurs. The victim and aggressor are related parties. It is a relationship based on understanding, trust, understanding and responsibility. Victims therefore generally in phase petitions and the promise of betterment aggressor tend to believe, to forgive him, and in their relationship to keep going. The longer the repeated violent attacks, thereby reducing the likelihood that victims will be capable of self-break away from the aggressor. This fact supports a variety of physical and psychological effects on the victim and the psychological aspects of battered women's syndrome. Ultimately, detachment victim of the aggressor increasingly complicated number of ties. Many victims were consensual acceptance of this role and accept it, others cannot help themselves, as they fear will their relationship work after leaving the aggressor, who will help them and so on.

Excessive emotional attachment victim to aggressor cartridge contains the Stockholm syn-

drome. This has been studied in a sample of 200 American women who are victims of domestic violence. In their case, it was psychologically examined their behavior, reaction to violence, relationship to the aggressor and the interest to solve the situation. In most cases, while psychologists have concluded that these women adequately respond to external stimuli behave rationally to violence take a negative stance, but their relationship to the aggressor and links to it are still very strong. This pattern of behavior has been named as Stockholm Syndrome, and according to the incident from the 70s of the last century. This covered bank robber collapse when perpetrators took hostage six people. A prerequisite of this syndrome are:

- threat to the life of the victim;
- impossibility or the seeming impossibility of escaping from the perspective of the victim;
- isolation of victims;
- transitional phase rotation favors the perpetrator and the victim transitional kindness.

As with the aforementioned hostage dramas, as well as in cases of domestic violence it is like attacks when physical, intimate or sexual violence pose serious risks to life and health of the victim. For abused women it is characteristic that in the initial phase are interested in how they could escape from aggressors to escape violent attacks. In many cases, they do not know exactly what form of violent expected with other attacks, so look for the corresponding losses of the previous attacks. As well as hostages thinking about the possibility of escape and are isolated from the environment, as well as victims of domestic violence – women in this position receive. This is one of the most peculiar phenomena domestic violence. Aggressor generally limits the victim's contacts with the outside, preventing it to address certain works, restriction of activities than can be addressed and controlled by a variety of ways. Phase affection aggressor to the victim and the victim to the aggressor are typical for this syndrome. As well as the aggressor in this relationship, at some stage forgets his previous behavior to the victim to violent attacks. It is usually the response to the woman deal with domestic violence or leave the aggressor. Victim under the weight relations considering and ultimately thought about that the aggressor continues to remain. In contrast to the hostage cases, domestic violence usually takes much longer and therefore emotional shading enhances the individual stages. Female victims tend to identify with the aggressor to take his opinions, attitudes and views on certain issues. In the event of a violent attack, however, cannot implement the same pattern of behavior, unable to escape and physically are unable or counterattack. Such a loss occurs, which causes all the solutions to the victim appear to be unreason-

able, impossible or impracticable. This finding it numbs and paralyzes. The reactions of the victims are gradually crippled well, the victim was in the final stages certainly does not prevent. It is typical for her fear, helplessness. The final stage is the loss of contact with reality, inability to respond to external stimuli, the emergence and deepening of the post-traumatic disorders. Stockholm Syndrome for describing the binding of the victim and the aggressor in the context of domestic violence is characterized by:

- a) victims of domestic violence are exposed to long-term;
- b) undergo physical, intimate, psychological, economic and social violence of varying intensity in different combinations and intervals;
- c) ignorance about the possibilities of external aid, aid agencies generally do not believe, or they have a bad experience;
- d) impasse that occurs after the victim leaves the aggressor (where and how it will continue to live, security issues, settlement and so on).

Conclusion

Domestic violence as a negative phenomenon currently represents a major problem not only with regard to the spectrum of the victims who are affected, but particularly with regard to health implications that are associated with it. Despite the fact that all of the victims, who are threatened or directly affected by this phenomenon, the necessary legal and extra-legal means to protect before this phenomenon, though some are a little more specific with respect to their characteristics. In addition to child victims it is in any case of female victims, which significantly towards the future and this issue is to touch. Domestic violence against this group of victims and it is to be seen not only in the context of physical effects caused, but also in the context of psychological effects, which in most cases persist for years or decades. Their thorough description and understanding are the basis of professional psychological assistance to victims of domestic violence.

References

1. Bourdieu P. Nadvláda mužů / P. Bourdieu. – Praha : Univerzita Karlova, Karolinum, 2000. – 179 s.
2. Bútorová Z. Násilie páchané na ženách ako problém verejnej politiky / Z.Bútorová, J. Filadelfiová akol. – Bratislava : Inštitút pre verejné otázky, 2005. – 131 s.
3. Heise L. Násilie páchané na ženách – skrytá ujma na zdraví. Študijný materiál vypracovaný pre Svetovú banku / L. Heise, J. Pitanguy, A. Germain. – Bratislava : Aspekt, 1998. – 150 s.
4. Hirigoyenová M.-F. Psychické týranie / M.-F. Hirigoyenová. – Bratislava : Sofa, 2001. – 230 s.
5. Model strategy aimed at eliminating violence against women in the field of crime prevention and judicial justice : Annex to UN General Assembly Resolution № 52/86, 1997. – 15 s.

Summary

Tittlová M. The consequences of domestic violence against women. – Article.

Domestic violence is a serious social problem that affects not only women and children but also other categories of victims. On the basis of the results of surveys carried out so far, it appears that it was a group of women victims of this negative phenomenon is most affected. Besides the general characteristics of the reported violence against women, it is a rather specific phenomenon both in substance and in terms of consequences for this category of victims of domestic violence is. The present contribution is analytically processed health consequences that violence against women is still in the form of psychological syndromes described.

Key words: domestic violence, violence against women, the health consequences of violence, battered women's syndrome, Stockholm syndrome.

Анотація

Титтлова М. Наслідки побутового насильства по відношенню до жінок. – Стаття.

Домашнє насильство є серйозною соціальною проблемою, яка зачіпає не тільки жінок і дітей, а й інші категорії жертв. На основі результатів проведених досліджень, проведених до сих пір, здається, що це була група жінок-жертв цього негативного явища найбільш постраждалих. Крім загальних характеристик побутового насильства по відношенню до жінок, це досить

специфічний феномен, як по суті, так і з точки зору наслідків для цієї категорії жертв домашнього насильства. Ця стаття аналізує наслідки для здоров'я, оскільки раніше насильство по відношенню до жінок було описано в формі психологічних синдромів.

Ключові слова: насильство в сім'ї, насильство по відношенню до жінок, наслідки для здоров'я насильства, синдром побитих жінок, стокгольмський синдром.

Аннотация

Титтлова М. Последствия бытового насилия в отношении женщин. – Статья.

Домашнее насилие является серьезной социальной проблемой, которая затрагивает не только женщин и детей, но и другие категории жертв. На основе результатов исследований, проведенных до сих пор, кажется, что это была группа женщин-жертв этого негативного явления наиболее пострадавших. Помимо общих характеристик бытового насилия в отношении женщин, это довольно специфический феномен, как по существу, так и с точки зрения последствий для этой категории жертв домашнего насилия. Эта статья анализирует последствия для здоровья, поскольку ранее насилие в отношении женщин было описано в форме психологических синдромов.

Ключевые слова: насилие в семье, насилие в отношении женщин, последствия для здоровья насилия, синдром избитых женщин, стокгольмский синдром