# EXPLORING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: A CASE STUDY OF THE VICTIMISATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN MANKWENG POLICING AREA, LIMPOPO PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA

Ву

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**UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO** 

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# **DECLARATION**

I declare that the dissertation *EXPLORING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: A CASE STUDY OF THE VICTIMISATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN MANKWENG POLICING AREA, LIMPOPO PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA* hereby submitted to the University of Limpopo, for the degree of Master of Arts in criminology and criminal justice has not previously been submitted by me for the degree at this or any other university; that is my work in design and in execution, and that all material contained herein has been duly acknowledged.

Thasum	12 OCT 2021
Phasha M.J	 Date

# **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this study to my family; I would not have been able to complete this work without their support.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- I wish to acknowledge the following people for their roles in ensuring that I complete this study:
- I would like to take this opportunity **to thank God** the almighty, my saviour for the courage and strength to complete this study.
- I also want to thank my family at large especially those that gave me support and strengthened me when I was getting weaker in preparing this study, particularly my husband; Mr T Ngobeni, my daughters; Vanessa and Nthabiseng, my son Bonolo.
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#### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to explore domestic Violence, closely looking at the victimisation of women and children in the Mankweng police area, situated in Capricorn Municipality, Limpopo Province, South Africa. This study sought to identify factors contributing to abuse against women and children, to assess types of abuse experienced by victims and to determine measures that can be applied to prevent it.

This qualitative study applied the exploratory research design to recruit participants using non-probability sampling techniques, specifically purposive sampling tehniques. About Fifteen (15) participants, including Twelve (12) local SAPS officials and three (3) social workers attached to the SAPS FCS who work closely with domestic violence, were selected in this study. Data was collected using semi-structured face-to-face interviews. Based on the transcribed data, themes were extracted and analysed using Textual Content Analysis (TCA).

This study established that there are factors that contribute to the occurrence of domestic VAW and children; victims are affected by domestic violence (I.e., Be it physical, sexual, psychological and financial); and that there are measures that may reduce its occurrence. Findings of this study indicates that factors such culture, alcohol abuse, financial dependency, and exposure to abuse at early childhood contribute to the occurrence of domestic violence and that victims experience abuse differently. For recommendations, there is a need for Educational programmes on domestic violence legislative framework(s), especially the Domestic Violence Act [DVA] (No. 116 of 1998). They should be strictly enforced to assist perpetrators to note the seriousness of this crime and the detrimental effects of their actions. The response of the Criminal Justice System (CJS) on this practice should be efficient in this regard. The potential victims should be aware of different steps to take to avoid domestic violence and related abuse. There also a dire needs for the available service providers, such as the social workers, health professional and police to be familiar with effective ways to deal with this practice.

**Keywords:** Children, Domestic violence, Domestic Violence Act [DVA] (No. 116 of 1998), Limpopo Province, Mankweng policing area, Women, VictimisationVictims

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# LIST OF ACRONYMS AND DESCRIPTIONS

ANC African National Congress

**DV** Domestic Violence

**DoH** Department of Health

**DSD** Department of Social Development

**DVA** Domestic Violence Act (No. 116 of 1998)

**DSD** Department of Social Development

**GBV** Gender-Based Violence

**Covid-19** Coronavirus Disease-2019

FCS Family violence, child Protection and sexual assault

NGOs Non-Governmental Organisations

NICRO National Institute for Crime and Reintegration of offenders

**PSDT** Post-Traumatic Stress disorder

SAPS South African Police Service

Stats SA Statistics South Africa

**TREC** Turfloop Research and Ethics Committee

**UL** University of Limpopo

**UN** United Nations

VAW Violence Against Women

WHO World Health Organisation

#### CHAPTER ONE

# **GENERAL ORIENTATION**

# 1.1. BACKGROUND AND MOTIVATION

A home is considered to be a source of love, support, protection and security. However, a person's chance of becoming a victim of interpersonal violence is greatest within the family set up (Pather, 2019:1619-1622). The reason for this is that the family is seen as a private domain and that no interference from outside is tolerated. Within the family, various types of violence could occur such as wife abuse, parental abuse and violence towards siblings (Pillay & Kriel, 2006:587-592). In this study, the researcher is concerned with the factors contributing to domestic Violence Against Women (VAW) and children in Mankweng policing area.

South Africa has a high rate of crime, including domestic violence, which not only affects the quality of life for its citizens, but also on the economic growth and development of the country (Smith, Minaar & Schnetler, 2004:73-108). Furthermore, "domestic violence is regarded as a broad term that involves spouse violence, child abuse and violence between siblings" (Vetten, 2005:3-4). According to Campbell (2002:1331-1336), "domestic violence refers to a situation where physical and sexual violence occur" and is committed within the confines of private homes (Smith, Minaar & Schnetler, 2004:7108).

Domestic VAW and children is regarded as a major issue in South Africa and globally (Campbell, 2002:1331-1336). Other studies have focused on evaluating the competency of police officials when dealing with domestic violent cases at Rietgat Police Station, Tshwane Gauteng Province. These studies guide and encourage the police to search for innovative methods of policing, and to render quality service to victims of domestic violence (Manamela, 2006:26). Bendall's (2010:101) study focused on the available support and safety to victims of domestic violence in South Africa, and the action that is being taken in order to prevent it from occurring. While this study focused on contributing factors to domestic VAW and children in the Mankweng policing area.

A survey on domestic violence carried out in South Africa in 1998 by the National Victimisation Survey indicates that "in 58, 7% of cases, the abusers were partners, lovers or spouses of the victims, and in 18, 3% of the cases, the abusers were a relative of the victim" (Mistry, 2004:8). South Africa is presently overwhelmed with several pandemics, such as Coronavirus disease (Covid-2019), with GBV as the most serious issue. Even though this is not a new pandemic in South Africa, the Covid-2019 has worsened it (Ndlovu, Obadire, Nyalungu & Mashifane, 2020:15119). On the 17 June 2020, President Ramaphosa gave Covid-19 update to the nation, where he condemned the violence against women and children across the country and he highlighted GBV as dangerous pandemic as other pandemics, such as COVID 19 (Makhetha, 2020). During the lockdown, which is introduce by several countries in contesting the spread of Covid-19 between January and April 2020, reports indicate a substantial increase rate in GBV by 70% (Ndlovu et al. 2020:15119). The never-ending violence against women and the onset of Covid-19 has been the centre of attention after the brutal murder of Tshegofatso Pule who was eight months pregnant with her first child. Pule was found hanging from a tree and dead at Durban Deep, Roodepoort in June 2020 (Makhetha, 2020).

Domestic VAW and children does not only influence victims on physical, psychological, or social levels only but the World Bank (2018:1) shows that, globally, violence against women is estimated to cost countries about "3, 7% of their global domestic product which is sometimes more than what governments spend on education. The World Health Organisation [WHO] (2017:1) also reports that this scourge often harms women [And children] physical, mental, sexual, and reproductive well-being and may also increase their risk of getting infected with the Human Immune Virus [HIV] and other infections".

Therefore, this study focused on factors contributing to domestic VAW and children in Mankweng precinct. It is hoped that this study will help to close the gap in the existing body of knowledge by providing new nor untapped information on factors that contribute to victimisation of women and children in the selected location of this study.

# 1.2. RESEARCH PROBLEM

Domestic violence appears to be a worldwide problem. South Africa, like other countries is faced with the issue of domestic VAW and children (True, 2012). As indicated in the background and motivation section, Manamela's (2006:26) study was based on actions of police officers regarding domestic violence. This cited study guides and encourages the police to search for innovative methods of policing, and to render quality service to victims of domestic violence. Davhana-Maselesele's (2003) study conducted in Vhembe district of Limpopo Province focused on psychoeducational support to couples experiencing domestic violence in rural communities of Limpopo Province, and aims to develop, implement and evaluate psychoeducational support to couples experiencing domestic violence.

Owing to the pilot study conducted by the researcher and the findings of this study, it can be confirmed that domestic VAW and children is a pressing issue in Mankweng policing area, and most cases of domestic violence consist of victims abusing the Domestic Violence Act, 1998). This was revealed by local SAPS officials attached to the local SAPS FCS. This visit was done to understand factors contributing to victimisation of women and children by their spouses or fathers in Mankweng policing area. The researcher asked questions relating to the prevalence and nature of domestic violence in the policing area. It was found that local women abuse the DVA. This is practised by laying charges of abuse or violence, which are latter withdrawn or dropped altogether. Sometimes they open cases to push their personal agendas. For example, if they are unable to get maintenance money or when they want their partners to be removed from their house in order to bring along their newly found boyfriends. The phenomenon of domestic VAW and children and related victimisations is not new, and this practice continues to increase in South Africa. Violence against females is extensive, and researches suggest that Africa, in general records highest rates of physical and sexual Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) numbers in the world, which often occurs in the domestic domain (Dzivande, 2016:10).

According to Katembo (2015:1), little attention is being paid to men who are even thought as the main perpetrators of violence because of the perception that they are not willing to address this issue. Katembo (2015:1), also believes that men should be included in the strategies for preventing this practice, because if they are excluded there will not be any alteration. In many societies' males are regarded as the key figures that can create a way for change if they are involved in the interventions aimed at decreasing the occurrence of GBV (Mashiri & Mawire, 2013:96).

The research problem to which this study was identified from previous seminal research studies on this subject [Domestic violence]. This study provided an understanding of factors contributing to domestic VAW and children. Although domestic violence is committed across South Africa, Mankweng policing area still lags behind in conducting adequate research studies on factors contributing to domestic VAW and children.

This study explores factors contributing to domestic VAW and children in Mankweng policing area. The research problem to which this study relates was identified from previous studies about domestic violence. Although studies have been done in domestic violence, it seems there is scarcity of criminological studies in Mankweng. As indicated in the background and motivation section, Manamela's (2006:26) study was based on actions of police officers regarding domestic violence. As initially mentioned; this cited study guides and encourages the police to search for innovative methods of policing, and to render quality service to victims of domestic violence. For this reason, very little scientific knowledge of these factors exists in South Africa. Therefore, the purpose of this study was to contribute to knowledge about domestic violence by exploring factors contributing to domestic VAW and children.

# 1.3. STUDY AIM AND OBJECTIVES

# 1.3.1 Study aim

The aim is a broad statement, designed outcome or the general intention of the research, which paints a picture of the research study. It emphasises what is to be accomplished. The aim addresses long-term project outcomes and relates to what the researcher wants to achieve (Farrugia, Petrisor, Farrokhyar & Bhandari, 2010:280).

The aim of this study was to explore factors that contribute to domestic VAW and children in Mankweng policing area.

# 1.3.2 Study objectives

Study objectives refers to an active statement about how a specific research study is going to answer a specific research question (Farrugia, Petrisor, Farrokhyar & Bhandari, 2010:280). Objectives can (and often do) state exactly which outcome measures are going to be used within their statements. De Vos (2002:107) stated that study objectives denote the more concrete, measurable and more speedily attainable conception of such end toward which effort or ambition is directed. The study objectives are regarded as an important element of research, as they not only help guide the development of the protocol and design of a research study, but also play a role in sample size calculations and determining the power of research (Farrugia, Petrisor, Farrokhyar and Bhandari, 2010:280). According to De Vos (2002:107), a study should answer two questions which are: Why this study was conducted and how the results will be utilised by the government (I.e., Police, magistrates, and Non-Governmental Organisations - NGOs) dealing with domestic violence. Thus, the objectives of this study were designed as follows:

- To assess the nature of domestic VAW and children in Mankweng.
- To evaluate factors that contribute to domestic VAW and children at Mankweng police station.
- To determine challenges faced by victims when reporting their victimisations in Mankweng police station.
- To determine challenges faced by the CJS when dealing with domestic VAW and children in Mankweng police station.

# 1.4. DEFINITION OF KEY CONCEPTS

A variety of definitions exist to explain the terms 'domestic violence, factors contributing and victims (Bowker, 2007:9). Furthermore, one's view of what may be considered violent behaviour is largely influenced by one's culture and social environment. As such, it is necessary to explore the meanings of these terms and to clarify how the terms have been understood and applied in this study. The definitions were used theoretically as they are in this study. According to Bowker (2007:10), domestic refers to home or family affairs and violent simply involves using great physical force.

# 1.4.1 Children

A young human being below the age of puberty or below the legal age of majority. A child means every human being below the age of 18 years (The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, 1990).

# 1.4.2 Domestic violence

Manamela (2006:14) highlights that the South African parliament defines domestic violence as physical abuse, psychological abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse and verbal abuse, harassment, intimidation, stalking, damage to property and entry into complaints residence without consent, where the parties do not share the same residence, or any controlling or abusive behaviour towards a complaint which may cause or intend to cause harm to the safety, health or wellbeing of the complaint (DVA, 1998).

Manamela (2006:14) defines this concept as unlawful and negative exercise of physical force or threat of such force, which includes attitudes and actions leading to emotional abuse or spiritual abuse. Barkhuizen (2004:16) argues that domestic violence is any pattern of assaultive and coercive behaviour, including physical, sexual, psychological attacks and economical coercion that adults exercise against their partners. Domestic violence is described as a pattern of battering or abusive acts in an intimate relationship. This may include physical, emotional, financial or sexual abuse (Mills, Friend, Conroy, Fleck-Henderson, Krug, Magen, Thomas & Trudeau, 2000:316).

Almeida and Durkin (1999:313) describe domestic violence as any incident of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. Other studies define domestic violence as the patterned and repeated use of coercive and controlling behaviour to limit, direct and shape a partner's thoughts, feelings and actions. An array of power and control tactics is used along a continuum in concert with one another (Almeida & Durkin, 1999:313). According to Epstein (2003:9-56), domestic violence is both a personal and social issue as it is perpetrated by men against their wives or intimate partners.

# **1.4.3 Women**

A woman is a female human being. The term woman is usually reserved for an adult, and the term girl is the usual term for a female child or adolescent. The term woman is also sometimes used to identify a female human regardless of age as in phrases such women's rights (Blocker, Hallford, McElfish, Danylchuk & Dean, 2020:440-450).

#### **1.4.4 Victim**

The victim empowerment policy framework and Guidelines (2002:6) refers to a victim as any person who, individually or collectively, has suffered physical or emotional harm, property damage or economic loss because of crime. Lottering, Botha and Klopper (2002:19) define victim as any person whose properties have been affected by injustice.

# 1.5. ROLE OF THEORY IN THIS STUDY: A PREMILIMINARY REVIEW

The proposed study used Socio-cultural Theory. The 'Socio-cultural Perspective' emphasises that "victimisation of women and children is the outcome of the historical treatment of women and the current patriarchal make-up of the society" (Peacock, 2015:48-50). This theory focuses on the traditional role where females are regarded as male property of the father or husband subject to control and discipline. In terms of culture, women are raised to be submissive to their husbands. Culturally, when a man marries a wife, the woman becomes his property. Women do not have any say concerning their bodies such as issues of family planning.

They have been socialised in a way that their role is in the kitchen and for childbearing (Peacock, 2015:48-50). Sonjani (2011:18-19) submits that liberals emphasise existing attitudes and the way in which gender roles operate in most African culture. Radical feminists put the blame for domestic VAW and children on men. The key focus of radicals is on patriarchy, which permits men to dominate and control women. Sometimes police officials sympathise with the culprit (If he is a male) than the victim if she is a female (Altbeker, 2005:3). The reason for this sympathy is that police officials are men who are born and socialised in a violent male-controlled society, which affects them even when they are performing their responsibilities regardless of their training. For example, most SAPS members are trained in handling domestic violence cases, but patriarchy still dominates their thinking and actions.

The Socio-cultural Theory is applicable to this study because it emphasises the role of culture and how individuals are socialised in respect of gender and roles. Women are being socialised in a way that they become submissive to their husbands, which make them to be more vulnerable to abuse. Men are socialised in a way that they are more important than women; they are automatic inheritors of their parents' belongings in which inequality develops.

# 1.6. RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this section is to inform the reader about the implemented research design and methodology as implemented in this study. How the sample was obtained? The instrument used to obtain the collected data and the methods employed to analyse this data were described. Ethical issues taken into consideration during the implementation of this study was discussed.

# 1.6.1 Research design

Research design consists of exploratory, explanatory and descriptive research designs (Burns & Grove, 2005). This study opted for exploratory research design, which assisted the researcher to explore factors that contribute to domestic VAW and children in Mankweng Precinct (Bordens & Abbott, 2016). According to Mouton (1996:103), the aim of exploratory design is "to establish facts, to gather new data and determine whether there is an interesting pattern of data". Polit and Hungler (1991:19) argues that "exploratory aims at a phenomenon of interest and pursues factors that affect, influence or relate to the phenomenon". Brink and wood (1994:106) state that an exploratory research design is used because there is little information about the topic under investigation; and that this is the initial step in the development of new knowledge. It is the aim of this study to gather information about the following:

- Exploring factors contributing to domestic VAW and children in Mankweng policing area.
- The nature of domestic violence in Mankweng police area.

# 1.6.2 Research methodology

The proposed study adopted the qualitative research approach. By using the qualitative approach, the researcher was able to obtain underlying reasons, opinions and motivation of factors contributing to domestic VAW and children (Lichtman, 2006). This study is a qualitative case study to find factors contributing to VAW and children in Mankweng. Bryman (2016:61) believes that a case study and the qualitative method are conducive for detailed examination of any case. In this study, the researcher explores factors that trigger VAW and children in Mankweng. For this, a detailed study of factors is needed along with the current situation (Burke & Larry, 2016).

The researcher opted for a qualitative research approach owing to the limited and rare nature of research on factors contributing to domestic VAW and children in Mankweng precinct (Johnson & Christensen: 2008). According to Davhana-Maselesele (2003:15), qualitative research approach is usually used when there is little information about the phenomenon and the researcher suspects that the present knowledge or theories may be bias. It is important to use the qualitative approach, as very little information is available about factors contributing to domestic violence (Davhana-Maselesele, 2003:16).

# 1.6.2.1 Study location

This study was conducted in Mankweng Policing area, Capricorn District, Polokwane Municipality, Limpopo Province, South Africa. Mankweng developed in the 1960s when the University of the North was established by the apartheid regime in pursuit of its policy of racially segregated education. Mankweng is also called Sovenga, which is the combination of Northern Sotho (87%), Venda (1.9%) and Tsonga (2.9%) population, including English 2.0% and other 5.7% (Setwaba, 2018:14-15). It was the hometown of the late African National Congress (ANC) Youth League president, Peter Mokaba (Setwaba, 2018:14-15).

Mankweng is a very rich area in terms of resources. These include the local university [University of Limpopo], which is offering the highest level of education, the biggest hospital in Limpopo Province, a big shopping complex and a shopping mall. All the above-mentioned amenities are in an area of 11.97 Kilometres square (Km²) (Statistics South Africa, 2020).

Mankweng is a small township and is situated more or less 30Km from the city of Polokwane which is the largest city in the province. According to statistics provided by the current [2021] South African Population General Statistician; Mr Risenga Maluleke, Limpopo's population is 5 982 584 and Capricorn has a population of 378 272. Mankweng consists of 98% black Africans, 0.8% coloureds, 0.3% Indians/ Asians, 0.6% whites and 0.3% other. It is located about 27 km east of Polokwane on the R71 road to Moria and Tzaneen (Setwaba, 2018:14-15).

# 1.6.2.2 Study population

The ideal population of this study are all SAPS officials and social workers in Mankweng police station who work directly with women and children as attached to the FCS. The sample size consists of 15 participants: Twelve (12) Mankweng SAPS and three social workers at Mankweng police area.

# 1.6.2.3 Sampling size and procedures

The researcher has opted for a non-probability, purposive sampling method for the selection of participants in this study (Burns & Grove, 2005:246). Purposive sampling, which is a form of non-probability sampling (Bryman, 2016:408), is used in this study. According to Bryman (2016:408), purposive sampling can give detailed and in-depth information about the problem. It helps to sample in a manner that provides the best to the research questions (Bryman, 2016:408).

The selection of participants in this study was based on the following criteria:

- Officials of SAPS who attached to FCS, with knowledge of domestic violence.
- Members of Department of Social Development [DSD] (Social workers) attached to Mankweng police station, with knowledge of domestic violence.

# 1.6.2.4 Data collection methods

The researcher opted for primary data. Data was collected at Mankweng Township in Capricorn District, Limpopo Province. Face-to-face semi-structured interviews were conducted with 15 participants at Mankweng police station (I.e. Consisting of SAPS and social workers who work directly with the SAPS FCS. Not all members of the South African police officials were selected, but only those who are attached to the SAPS FCS. Notes were taken and an audio device was used to record the selected participants. Their responses were transcribed into a manuscript where the researcher was able to analyse the data. The questions to be posed to participants of this study were guided by an interview schedule guide. The questions posed to the selected participants of this study, as included in the Interview Schedule Guide were as follows:

- What are types of abuse being experienced by women and children?
- What is the nature of the relationship between victim and perpetrator?
- What are factors that contribute to domestic violence?
- Was the perpetrator drunk during the violent act?
- How does culture and patriarchy contribute to domestic VAW and children?
- What are challenges that hinder the Mankweng police area to adequately respond to domestic violence in accordance with the provisions of the DVA, 1998?
- What are challenges faced by magistrates when responding to the issue of domestic VAW and children in Mankweng.
- What kind of challenges are faced by women and children when responding to domestic violence?
- Why do victims of domestic violence stay in an abusive relationship?

# 1.6.2.5 Data analysis

Content data analysis was adopted in the current study, and information was collected through an audio device. Data were transcribed into a manuscript, summarised, categorised, grouped into themes and analysed at the same time. Open coding was utilised during data analyses, as follows (Creswell, 1994:155):

- All transcripts were read carefully, and the ideas was written down as they come to mind.
- One interview was studied at a time while meanings were underlined, and thoughts were written in the margin.
- After completion of the task all topics were written and clustered together into similar topics (Themes).
- Topics were converted into themes, categories and subcategories.
- Data materials belonging to each category were assembled and analysed.

Furthermore, data analysis of this study involved the following aspects:

- Familiarisation with the transcripts: The researcher read and reread the transcripts with assistance from audio tapes to gain a clear understanding of views of participants. A summary of each individual interview was written thereafter.
- Developing a coding frame: After reading each transcript in detail, important
  concepts in the transcripts were identified in order to understand participants'
  responses. The concepts were labelled and listed to build a coding frame.
- Coding: The coding frame obtained during the previous step enabled the entire set of transcripts to be coded. This was done by identifying each section as being part of a code which gives room for changes to be made as more data is analysed.
- Cut and paste: Transcripts were arranged together through the grouping of similar extracts. The list of extracts under the same code enabled the identification of various views under the same topic.

# 1.7. METHODS TO ENSURE STUDY TRUSTWORTHINESS

Tracy (2010:837-851) has developed criteria to ensure reliability and validity in qualitative studies. There are four criteria used to review the trustworthiness of qualitative research. This study adopted these criteria, which are as follows:

# 1.7.1 Credibility

The researcher has ensured credibility through various conducts outlined by Shenton (2004:64). Firstly, the methods used to collect and analyse data was adopted from approaches "that have been successfully utilised in previous comparable projects" (Shenton, 2004:64). Secondly, the researcher has opted for thematic data analysis, by creating a sample of participants from different demographics such as age, ethnicity and marital status. Thirdly, the nature and the implication of their participation to this study was explained to participants. They have been made aware that they have the option to refuse to participate at any point without being required to provide any explanation.

Fourthly, probing was used not only for clarity from participants, but also to identify discrepancies in their responses. In essence, the researcher conducted semi-structured face-to-face interviews with selected participants to explore their perceptions and experiences of the subject. The credibility of techniques used for data collection, such as interviews and literature studies were indicated. The researcher ensured that the interviews conducted and literature studies on the subject are credible by presenting a true and accurate picture of what is claimed.

# 1.7.2 Transferability

Transferability can only be attained when a study is immersed in existing literature that contains similar characteristics of a conducted study (Shenton, 2004:64). The applicability of this study has been indicated by the researcher by means of literature review in multiple environments. The transferability in this study was ensured as follows: the researcher described the process to be followed to conduct this study for

other researchers to replicate, such as data collection methods and challenges encountered in this study.

The researcher also indicated how and to what extent the theoretical knowledge to be obtained in this study could be transferred to similar contexts in line with this subject.

# 1.7.3 Dependability

Dependability is produced by a study that can be repeated in the same settings with the same procedures if it produces similar if not identical findings (Shenton, 2004:64). The researcher has given a descriptive discussion of methods used to attain the end results of this study. Furthermore, the methods were repeatedly evaluated for errors to allow rectification. Dependability was achieved in this study by explaining the choice of research design and methodology to be followed to determine whether these procedures and processes are acceptable at master's level. This ensured coherent linkages between the data to be collected and reported findings. Furthermore, consensus discussions could be held between the researcher and allocated supervisors to corroborate identified themes and inferences.

# 1.7.4 Confirmability

Confirmability was attained through the researcher by ensuring that her own perceptions of the phenomenon under study do not have influence on a conducted study (Shenton, 2004:64). This was accomplished by the researcher by providing full related disclosures in the final report, revealing all decisions taken in this study and the reasons behind the decisions from the conception and completion of this study. To ensure conformability in this study, the researcher kept detailed records of all literature studies to be consulted and the interviews transcripts. As a result, the researcher was able to prove that the envisaged findings and their interpretation did not derive from his or her imagination but was clearly linked to data collected. The researcher also indicated how she set aside any biases, motivation and perspectives that could influence this study as a woman. She ensured that this study is completely guided by the literature reviews to be consulted and interviews conducted.

# 1.8. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Ethical considerations in research are critical. Ethics are norms or standards for conduct that distinguish between right and wrong. They help to determine the difference between acceptable and unacceptable behaviours (Detert, Treviño & Sweitzer, 2008:374). Ethical standards prevent the fabrication or falsification of data and therefore, promote the pursuit of knowledge and truth, which is the primary goal of research (Detert *et al.* 2008:374). Researchers must also adhere to ethical standards in order for the public to support and believe in the research.

The public wants to be assured that researchers followed the appropriate guidelines for issues such as human rights, animal welfare, compliance with the law, conflicts of interest, safety, health standards and so on (Detert, Treviño & Sweitzer, 2008:374).

The researcher applied for ethical clearance from the UL and adhered to internal processes such as the submission of the research proposal to the Department for Round-Robin Review (DREC) in preparation for the School of Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee (SSREC) proposal defense. Furthermore, after the approval from the SSSREC, this proposal was submitted to the Faculty of Higher Degrees and Ethics Committee (FHDC). The favourable decision of the latter office saw the submission to Turfloop Research Ethics Committee [TREC] (I.e. Internal gatekeepers) for the issuing of ethical clearance certificate and SAPS [i.e. External gatekeepers]. Therefore, the following ethical considerations were adhered to in this study:

# 1.8.1 Informed consent

The aim, objectives and all-around information about this study was explained by the researcher to participants before their participation. Participants' roles in this study were also explained by the researcher. She has enlightened them about their right to withdraw from this study at any point without having to face consequences. In general, participants were made aware of the nature of this study and were given a chance to ask questions. This enabled them to give informed consent before participating in this study. They were asked to sign a consent form.

# 1.8.2 Deception

In this study, no amount of deception was used by the researcher and all information concerning this study was communicated to participants.

# 1.8.3 Voluntary participation

Participation in this study was voluntary. Participants to be selected were not coerced by means of either psychological manipulation or physical force.

# 1.8.4 Confidentiality

Participants were assured of the confidentiality of their responses, meaning that the information provided was not be traced back to them. The researcher explained the limitations that come with the kind of confidentiality that participants are entitled to have. If requested by law, for instance, the researcher might have to give away participants' right to confidentiality. This information was available to them. She used coding by replacing participants' names with numbers (For example: 'Participant 1 and participant 2'). She explained to them the process of coding so that they become aware of the extent to which confidentiality will be maintained. For example, participants' responses were quoted in this study, and they were made aware of this fact.

# 1.8.5 South African Police Service National Instruction 1 / 2006: Research in the service

The researcher applied to conduct research at the SAPS as guided by the National Instruction 1 / 2006. The purpose of this instruction is to regulate requests to conduct research in the Service by person0s from outside the Service or by employees who wish to conduct the research for private purposes (Such as for the purpose of their studies). The researcher adhered to sections 1-6 of this document and fully understood the instructions in his capacity as an applicant to conduct a study of this kind and undertook the submission of indemnity and declaration aspect of conducting a research study at the SAPS (SAPS, 2006:1).

#### 1.9. STUDY SIGNIFICANCE

It is hoped that this study will contribute towards existing information and studies about domestic violence towards women and children. Furthermore, it is also of aid to the government (I.e. SAPS and DSD officials, among others) working with victims and offenders of domestic violence, as this study identifies factors that contribute to domestic violence towards women and children. This study is of aid to police officials and social workers as it assists with knowledge of the root causes and factors contributing to domestic violence. The information acquired from this study further assists with solving domestic violence-related cases. This study helps the government and NGOs (Such as the *Thuthuzela* Care Centre) which are responsible for fighting and preventing domestic violence by addressing factors that contribute to it. It is impossible to prevent something without knowing the root or the cause of the problem. By knowing and understanding the root causes of domestic VAW and children, the local SAPS [In Mankweng policing area] will be helped to improve current strategies to effectively address this scourge.

# 1.10. CHAPTERS PROGRESSIONS

This study consisted of five chapters. **Chapter one** provided the general orientation to this study and contained the introduction to the topic in terms of factors that contribute to domestic VAW and children in Mankweng police area, Limpopo Province, Polokwane Municipality. It will also discuss the problem statement, the aim and objectives of this study, the adopted research design and methodology, methods to ensure trustworthiness and ethical considerations sections, as well as the study significance and limitations.

**Chapter two** presented literature review and theoretical frameworks. It covered previous research works on this subject. A context for domestic violence was provided before focusing on factors contributing to domestic VAW and children. Once the context for domestic violence is created, literature regarding factors contributing to domestic violence was reviewed, including alcohol consumption, economic status, culture and patriarchy, nature of domestic violence which include types of abuse and the impact of domestic violence on victims, and challenges faced when responding to domestic violence by the victim and the government.

Chapter three focused on the theoretical perspectives of this study. The Socio-cultural Theory was discussed. According to the 'Socio-cultural Perspectives,' victimisation is a result of historical treatment of women and children and the patriarchal make-up of the society. The theoretical framework includes the root and founder of the theory, critics and the value of this theory.

**Chapter four** was confined to the adopted research design and methodology of this study. Details relating to the sample and the instrument are provided. Ethical considerations relevant to this study are explored.

**Chapter five** consisted of data presentation, interpretation and analysis. This chapter discussed findings of this study as they relate to participants' responses guided by the study aim and objectives of this study, as well as the current literature on the subject.

**Chapter six** highlighted the summary, conclusions and recommendations of this study in line with its aim and objectives. This was drawn from chapter five of this study.

# 1.11. STUDY LIMITATIONS

- Due to the sensitivity of the topic, possible participants might not be willing to participate in the research. The researcher, thus, intends to inform potential participants that anonymity and privacy will be exercised.
- Participants may not open up during interviews in fear of findings being used against them. To avoid this, participants will be informed that pseudonyms will be utilised for identification purposes.

# **1.12. SUMMARY**

In this chapter (one), an overview of this study was given. The background to this study and the problem statement were discussed. The aim and objectives of this study were developed, followed by the paradigmatic perspective that guides this study, which includes research methodology where the qualitative method was opted for to find indepth information on factors contributing to domestic VAW and children in Mankweng area. Also, not all SAPS officials and social workers have the same opportunity to participate in this study, but only those who are attached to SAPS FCS have an opportunity to do so. Finally, the brief layout of the chapter was given for orientation purposes. The next chapter (chapter two) will introduce the literature review of related literature and documents on domestic violence.

#### CHAPTER TWO

# LITERATURE REVIEW ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

# 2.1. INTRODUCTION

Howard (2014:101) reveals that literature review involves searching, reading, evaluating and summarising available literature directly and indirectly relating to the research topic under study. Literature broadly is used to refer to different kinds of published information, including textbooks, dissertations, theses, journal articles, documentary studies (I.e. Legislations and government publications - SAPS Annual reports and crime statistics releases, and other local and international statutes) and material available online [internet] on a specific subject.

Chapter one of this study argued that domestic violence is a global issue and has a negative impact on the country's economy. Moreover, the literature in this chapter (two) focused on seminal studies to explore domestic violence, focusing on victimisation of women and children as conducted in South Africa and elsewhere. Probable factors contributing to this scourge such as alcohol, culture, patriarchy and economic status were cited in this section. This review further drew attention to the acknowledged authors' agreements and contradictions in the findings of this study to accomplish triangulations. This was done to identify research gaps in the existing empirical and reviewed literature to establish study themes and inform future research studies on the subject.

# 2.2. THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The researcher confirms that domestic violence has been a pressing issue in Mankweng, Limpopo Province for the past decade, where women and children are abused by their intimate partners and their parents respectively. According to Epstein (2003:9-56), domestic violence is both a personal and social issue as it is perpetrated by men against their wives or intimate partners (Mihalic &Elliott, 2017: 303-329). Many people believe that domestic violence can be simply defined as wife-battering or man beating up his wife. However, this scourge can be defined as an assaultive and coercive behaviour used by adolescents or adults against their intimate partners, causing psychological or physical harm (Epstein, 2003:9-56).

This practice also refers to a wide term involving a spouse, child abuse, elder abuse and violence occurring between siblings (Epstein, 2003:9). In most cases, victims of domestic violence suffer sexual, physical, emotional and economic abuse. About 47.4% of victims of domestic violence were sexually abused, 41.8 were physically abused, while 6.3% suffered emotional abuse and 4% encountered economical abuse (Dauda, 2011:28 & 50). Manamela (2006:24) reveals that statistics on domestic violence have shown that abuse may take place in different forms such as sexual, physical, emotional and psychological. The National Victimisation Survey carried out in South Africa in 1998 has found that 54% of assault and 68% of sexual violence occur in or around homes of victims. It is further emphasised that men are perpetrators of domestic violence because of the community that insists on male dominance. In most cases, domestic violence occurs at home, which is supposed to be a safe place (Pather, 2019:1619-1622).

Makou (2018:1) points out that statistics of violence on women and children's murder and rape are perpetrated by their intimate ex-partners or fathers. Notable cases relate to the slain Karabo Mokwena, Reeva Steenkamp, Amanda Tweyi, Zolile Khumalo, Siam Lee and Anene Booysen. These individuals died at the hands of their current and past partners. Specifically, the 2017/2018 SAPS crime statistics shows that 15.2 out of every 100,000 recorded murdered women were victims of domestic violence (Makou, 2018:1). According to the South African statistics, 7.7% of women 18 years and older experience violence by a current or previous partner in the 12 months before the survey. This is the highest number ever reported in the country for the last years with an increase of 16% (Makou, 2018:1). Approximately, One (01) in every Four (04) women in South Africa are assaulted by their boyfriends or husbands every week. A study by the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development [DoJ & CD] (Makou, 2018:1) also estimates that 01 out of 04 South African women are survivors of domestic violence, 1 in 6 women is battered by her partner and 68 out of 159 women surveyed by in Cape Town experienced battering and marital rape.

The current Chief Justice [Mogoeng Mogoeng] [2019] (in Kempen, 2019:10-13) 2018/19 Annual Report of the South African Judiciary on Gender-Based Violence called on increased harsh and immediate penalties for this practice. It was also highlighted that although imposing 'firm' sentences in cases involving gender-based violence was a 'major deterrent factor,' it was not the most effective form of deterrence. International research had proved that the best deterrence was achieved through certainty or predictability of detection, prosecution and conviction if the evidence allows.

Furthermore, the Minister of Police [General Bhekokwakhe 'Bheki' Hamilton Cele] during the 2018/2019 SAPS Annual Crime Statistics promised to increase officials dealing with domestic violence, citing the SAPS FCS to fight VAW (Kempen, 2019:10-13). According to Kempen (2019:10-13), the 2018/2019 police crime statistics indicates that sexual offence has increased with 4.6%, murder 3.4%, attempted murder 4.1%, assault to do grievous bodily harm 2.2%, and common assault 2.0% as compared to the 2017/2018 financial year of SAPS Annual Report.

The Minister of Police, General Bheki Cele 2019/2020 on crime statistics argue that contact crime has increased and stated that "this of crime has terrorized most households and communities as most of these crimes happen behind closed doors and only publicized when the offence has been committed and, in most cases, when victims of crimes are no more". The minister emphasises that awareness campaigns on gender-based violence and femicide must be intensified, and that the private sector and gender activist organisations must work together with government to defeat the scourge and expose perpetrators in this regard. According to the SAPS crime statistics 2019/2020, contact crime has increased with 0.7%, some types of crime has decreased 1.7% of sexual offences as compared to 4.6% of 2018/2019. A decrease of 1.7% to 3.9% of rape and murder 1.4% of 3.4% (Kempen, 2020:10-13.

#### 2.2.1 International statistic on domestic violence

Compared with the United States (US), South Africa has a higher rate of femicide, which is a 117% rise since 2015 (Al Jazeera, 2018:1). It should be indicated that South African femicide has increased with 7.7% and not 117% (World Bank Group, 2018). The SAPS recorded 124,526 cases of rape in three years from 2014/15 to 2016/17. In 50,988 of these cases, the victim was recorded as aged 18 or younger. This is 41% of all the rapes recorded in South Africa over the three years (Makou, 2018:1).

A study conducted in *Vietnam* in by the National Study on Domestic VAW (2010) (in Hanoi, 2012:18) found that 32% of single women have experienced physical abuse in their life, and 6% had experienced physical abuse in the past 12 months, which shows that physical violence starts early in the relationship. This study also found that even though it is difficult for women to talk about sexual violence, 10% of single women reported that they have experienced sexual abuse in their lifetime and 4% in the past 12 months (Heise, Raikes, Watts & Zwi, 1994:1165-1179). Like elsewhere in the world, women who report sexual violence also report physical violence. The IPV occurs in all settings and among all socioeconomic, religious and cultural groups (Hanoi, 2012:18).

This study also confirmed that IPV is widespread in all countries studied (countries such as *Bangladesh*, *Zambia*, *Tanzania*, *Serbia Ethiopia*, *Japan*, *Namibia*, *Peru*, *Samoa*, *Thailand and Montenegro*). Among women who had ever been in an intimate partnership, about 61% reported ever having experienced physical violence by a partner, 49% reported having experienced severe physical violence by a partner, 59% reported sexual violence by a partner at some point in their lives; and 75% reported experiencing one emotionally abusive act, or more, from a partner in their lifetime, WHO (2012:1 & 9).

In addition, a comparative analysis of Demographic and Health Survey [DHS] (2012) (in WHO, 2012:1-9) indicates data from nine countries (*I.e. Serbia, Zambia, Tanzania, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Japan, Namibia, Peru, Samoa*) found that the percentage of ever-partnered women who reported ever experiencing any physical or sexual violence by their current or most recent husband or cohabiting partner ranged from 18% in *Cambodia* to 48% in *Zambia* for physical violence, and 4% to 17% for sexual violence. In a 10-country analysis of the DHS data, physical or sexual IPV ever reported by currently married women ranged from 17% in the Dominican Republic to 75% in *Bangladesh*. Similar ranges have been reported from other multi-country studies (Heise, Raikes, Watts & Zwi, 1994:1165-1179).

In 2002, South Africa ranked as the world's highest in terms of VAW cases that were reported (Sibanda-Moya, Khonje & Brobbey, 2017:10). It is also reported that the South African's femicide is higher, when compared to the global one which is 24.7 per 100 000 (Sibanda-Moyo, Khonje & Brobbey, 2017:10). Even though South Africa is ranked as the world's highest in terms of domestic VAW and children, SAPS Statistics of 2017/2018 have found that Limpopo is ranked at number six with 5,2%, followed by North West 4,6%, Mpumalanga at 3,5% and Northern Cape with 2,5%. Western Cape is regarded as the highest province sitting at 32,6% of domestic VAW and children in South Africa, followed by Gauteng with 22,0%, Free State with 10,4%, Eastern Cape with 9,8% and KwaZulu-Natal with 9,3% (SAPS 2018:38-40).

Moreover, the SAPS (2017/2018) (in Makou, 2018:1) argues that crime committed against women has increased from 173 405 counts in 2016/2017 to 177 620 in 2017/2018, an increase of 4 215 counts (2.4%); and crime committed against children has decreased by 712 counts (1.6%) from 44 252 counts in 2016/2017 to 43 540 in 2017/2018. The 2018/2019 SAPS statistics rate of this crime increased as compared to 2017/2018 (Nicolson & Mafolo, 2019:1). The SAPS (2017/2018) (in Makou, 2018:1) further reveals that women and children experience 67,3% of physical abuse, 19,4% of emotional, verbal and psychological abuse, 17,0% of damage to property, 12,4% of economic abuse, 8,5% of intimidation, 2,7% of sexual abuse, 1.9% of unauthorised entry into the victim's residence, 1,1% of stalking, 0,9% of controlling behaviour and 0,4% harassment.

In South Africa, the rates of IPV are prevalent across population-based studies and rate at between one-in-five and one-in-three women reporting experiences of physical IPV in their lifetime, with 40 to 50% of men disclosing having perpetrated physical partner violence. One in five women have reported experiencing sexual IPV, while 40 to 50% of men have disclosed being perpetrators of physical VAW (Sibanda-Moyo, Khonje & Brobbey, 2017:10).

Hanoi (2012:18) highlights that there is a high level of emotional abuse as 45% of women have experienced emotional abuse in their lifetime, and 25% have reported experiencing emotional abuse, while 9% reported experiencing economical abuse. Women in Vietnam are reported to have experienced violence by a partner than someone else. A study conducted by WHO (2012) (in McKenney, 2015:1-9) provides that multi-country has found that a growing number of population have measured the prevalence of IPV, most notably the cited study on women's health and domestic VAW, which collected data on IPV from more than 24 000 women in 10 countries, representing diverse cultural, geographical and urban/ rural settings (Grande, Hickling, Taylor & Woollacott, 2003:543-550).

According to the South African Crime Statistics (2018:5) and Hanoi (2012:19) in 2016/2017, women and children experience 3.6% while men experience 3.9% in general crimes. In other parts of the world, at least one in three women is beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused by an intimate partner in their lifetime. Hanoi (2012:18) establishes that women aged 15-44 are more at risk of rape and domestic violence than from cancer, motor accidents, war and malaria, and that between ½ and ¼ of all women have been abused by their partners. Moreover, about ½ of homicide murder of women around the globe is caused by their current or former partners; and that 40% - 70% of female murder victims were killed by their partners (WHO, 2012:1-9).

## 2.2.2The types of abuse experienced by women and children

According to Mihalic and Elliott (2017: 303-329), women and children experience various types of abuse from their intimate partners, fathers or husbands, which includes emotional, economic, physical, sexual abuse, murder, intimidation, harassment, stalking, damage to property, imminent harm, exploitation and discrimination (Sibanda-Moyo Khonje & Brobbey, 2017:12). Domestic violence is regarded as a pressing issue in South Africa and internationally, where women and children are abused, physically, emotionally, psychologically and sexually (Kimmel, 2002:1332-1363). It does not only affect victims, but also has a negative impact on the country's wellbeing and economy (Smith, Minaar & Schnetler, 2004:73).

Moreover, children who are grown up in an environment where their parents are abused have a high chance of abusing their partners in future (Mihalic &Elliott, 2017: 303-329). It also has an impact on their education and social life as they may bully other kids (Repetti, Taylor & Seeman, 2002:330). A survey that was conducted focused on 1 306 women who have been physically abused in their lifetime by their partners or ex-partners in South Africa. It was found that 19% of women in Limpopo Province were abused, 28% were victims of abuse in Mpumalanga Province, while the Eastern Cape Province registered 27% of abused women (Vetten, 2005:3-4).

According to Jewkes, Penn-Kekana, Levin, Ratsaka and Schrieber (1999:1), "other studies establish that 51% of women in the Eastern Cape Province, 40% of women in Limpopo Province and 50% of women in Mpumalanga Province have been subjected to the same abuse." A study conducted by Manamela (2006) in Rietgat police station in 2006 found that types of domestic violence that women and children encountered cannot be separated. He further found that most common types of abuse which are reported to the police are 95% physical and emotional abuse. 60% of victims have experienced sexual abuse while 50% have experienced economical abuse. All these types of abuse victims have reported that it takes place in their homes (Manamela, 2006:56).

## 2.2.2.1 Physical abuse experienced by women

Henwood (2001:4) mentions that in most cases of domestic violence victims suffer physical abuse, which involves physical assault and includes body harm or invisible injuries (Manamela, 2006:24). Physical abuse may consist of kicking, hitting, slapping, chocking, burning and shooting of victims (Bollen, Artz, Vetten & Louw, 1999:10). Madzivhandila (2015:28) defines physical abuse as any act or threat of physical violence intended to cause physical pain, injury, suffering or bodily harm. According to Henwood (2001:9), 47% of victims have experienced physical abuse, and women are more likely to suffer physical violence than men are, which is 47% compared to 31% of men.

Henwood (2001:9) emphasises that 58% of women encountered injuries during the abuse. Furthermore, a 2010 study conducted on the quality of Criminal Justice Services available for victims of domestic violence in Vietnam by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [UNODC] (2010) (in Viitala, Anh, Hagemann, Chau, Nguyet, Chi & Van, 2011:46) show that 900 women who are victims of domestic violence have reported violence, including the following: approximately 64% of victims experienced pushing, grabbing, twisting of arms or pulling of hair in a way that really hurts or scares, 69% throwing something that hurts or frightens, 83% threatening to hurt physically, 90% victims were slapping, kicking, biting or hitting with a fist, 37% using or threatening to use a knife/ sword/ gun, 29% strangling, trying to suffocate, burning or scalding, and 38% used physical violence in one way of the other.

## 2.2.2.2 Sexual violence experienced by women

Women and children encounter sexual abuse such as touching, kissing, raping, forced oral sex and being forced to perform prostitution from perpetrators (Bollen *et al.* 1999:10). According to Madzihvandila (2015:29), sexual abuse refers to "any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed, against a person's sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting, including but not limited to home and work" (Langeland & Hartgers, 1998:336-348).

The most common kind of VAW in South Africa is sexual violence, which remained consistently high in the national crime statistics from 2012–2015 (Vitala, Anh, Hagemann, Chau, Nguyet, Chi & Van, 2011:46). Sexual violence is generally grouped into IPV and non-partner violence, which may include gang rape, rape homicide, school- and workplace-related violence, among others (Vitala *et al.* 2011:46). These forms of VAW occur in spaces and environments within which women's general life experiences occur, including their homes, schools, workplaces, neighbourhoods and communities (Kimmel, 2002:1332-1363). The 2012 Demographic and Health Survey, surveying women aged 15 to 49, indicated that 38% of rape victims identified a teacher or principal as a rapist (Vitala *et al.* 2011:46).

The severity of South African rates of VAW and IPV becomes apparent when compared, for example, to those of North Carolina (3.5 per 100 000), which has the highest rates in the US. Equally, South Africa's IPV rates are 2.5 times higher (Vitala *et al.* 2011:46). In 2010/2011 statistics from the SAPS, the combined figure for all sexual offences, including rape and indecent assault, increased by 2.1%, and femicide by 5.6%, compared to the figures for 2009/2010 (Vitala *et al.* 2011:46). Dahlberg and Krug suggest that South Africa's rates of femicide are significantly higher than the global indications of four per 100 000. Half of these acts of femicide are estimated to be perpetrated by intimate partners (Vitala *et al.* 2011:46). A study by the UNODC on the quality of CJS services available for victims of domestic violence in Vietnam also found that 36% of victims have experienced forcing or attempting to have sexual intercourse, 20% touching sexually against the wall and 33% of victims experienced harming or threatening to harm or to kill children or someone close (Vitala, *et al.* 2011:46).

Furthermore, there are different types of sexual abuse (rape) where the perpetrator uses force, power, including power rape, anger rape, sadistic rape, sexual degradation, forced sadomasochistic practices, insisting on unwanted and uncomfortable touching, or forcing a person to strip. In this instance, power rape refers to when the rapist uses enough physical force to subdue the victim, assault to prove that he is powerful and competent deluding himself to think that the victim wanted to have sex with him (Madzivhandila, 2015:29 & 30).

In anger rape, the perpetrator brutally beats and degrades his victim. Usually in these rapes, the rapist knows the victim and does not gain pleasure through rape but through humiliating and hurting the victim (Madzivhandila, 2015:28 & 30). In sadistic rape, the victim is stalked and tortured. Usually this kind of rape is committed by mentally ill men. Sexual degradation includes the use of abusive insults such as 'whore' and 'frigid', sexual criticism and making demeaning gender-based comments (Madzivhandila, 2015:29 & 30).

## 2.2.2.3 Emotional abuse experienced by women

Victims of domestic violence suffer emotional abuse which is associated with psychological, spiritual abuse and other forms of abuse related to human integrity (Manamela, 2006:24). Madzivhandila (2015:31) argues that emotional abuse involves acts such as verbal attacks, controlling behaviour, withholding affection by a person in an intimate relationship and name calling such as calling someone crazy or possessed as well as threats to the recipient's children, pets or belongings (Bollen *et al.* 1999:10).

According to Nicholas and Agius (2017:6), emotional abuse is an IPV where the perpetrator has control over their partner's access to economic resources, to which he is entitled under law or requires out of necessity, resulting in the victim being financially dependent on the perpetrator (Motz, 2014). This form of abuse can be used by the perpetrator to control the victim (Nicholas & Agius, 2017:6). According to Henwood (2001:9), 90% of women have experienced emotional abuse. Women reported being very fearful and frightened during the incident. Equally, emotional distress was reported by 90% of women experiencing chronic domestic violence; and three quarters of women whose experience was of intermittent violence reported being very upset (Nicholas & Agius, 2017:6). About 80% of victims of emotional abuse have reported to be very fearful during the incidents of violence.

## 2.2.2.4 Economical abuse experienced by women

Economic abuse is regarded as another type of abuse encountered by victims of domestic violence (women and children) (Shalhoub-Kevorkian, 2000:620-634). This type of abuse includes any coercive acts or limitation placed on an individual that has adverse economic implications on the victim or dependents. Madzivhandila (2015:31) describes economical abuse as the unreasonable deprivation of economic or financial resources to which the victim is entitled under law or requires out of necessity, such as rent money or household necessities, and that 32% experienced exploiting economically.

According to Shalhoub-Kevorkian (2000:620-634), economic abuse includes not allowing an individual to work, forcing her or him to hand over all or part of his or her earning or shared bank account without his or her knowledge or consent (Bollen *et al.* 1999:10). Madzivhandila (2015:28-33) states that economic abuse may include preventing a victim from resource acquisition, limiting the amount of resources available to him/her, or exploiting the victim's economic resources.

#### 2.2.2.5 Abuse against children

More recent crime statistics for 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 were released after Mabuza's speech. These reveal an even higher share: 18,336 of the 40,035 rapes recorded, or 45.8% were of children (Makou, 2018). The SAPS (2010/11) (in South Africa, 2013:13) figures also indicate a 2.6% increase from 2009/2010 in sexual offences against children, totalling 25,862 cases. Half of people who have experienced domestic violence from their partners or ex-partners in the previous years reported living with children under the age of 16, while 29% reported that children were aware of the violence-taking place between their parents. In a case were women experienced repeated violence, 45% of them reported that their children were aware of the violence (British Medical Association, 1998:30-31).

Children in abusive families appear to be the most susceptible to the impact of domestic violence. First, it is significant that large numbers of this vulnerable group witness violence in the family. According to the 1985 national victim survey, 10 million teenagers witnessed violence between parents every year, and most have endured repeated instances. Some studies confirm the prevalence of children witnessing violence, and reported that in a group of 114 battered women, 45% stated that their children entered situations in which abuse was occurring at least, 18% responded that this occurred "frequently", only 23% said that this "never" occurred (Straus & Gelles, 1990). Like women, children do experience abuse. In most cases, they experience abuse such as physical, sexual, murder, verbal, emotional and neglect

## 2.2.2.5.1 Physical and verbal abuse experienced by children

In a case of physical abuse, children are hit with belts, canes, shoes, hands, spoons, axes, and are kicked, smacked, pinched and thrown against the wall (Motz, 2014). In terms of verbal abuse, they are likely to be called by names (name calling) such as stupid, shouted at, screamed at, sworn at, insulted and labelled as naughty (Madzihvandila, 2015:35). Children as victims of verbal abuse encounter emotional abuse, repeated insults or name-calling.

## 2.2.2.5.2 Sexual and murder experienced by children

According to daily Maverick [Statistics] (2018/2019), 46.5% of reported sexual assaults were against children (Nicolson & Mafolo, 2019:). There were 1,014 murdered children in 2018/19, an increase of 29 over the previous year (2017/2018). Moreover, four children were murdered by their mother in Mpumalanga; the one who is supposed to protect them killed them because she has a fight with her husband or their father (Nicolson & Mafolo, 2019:). According to the Minister of Police [General Cele], sexual crimes against children increased by 899 in the 2018/2019 financial year.

## 2.2.2.5.3 Emotional abuse and neglect as experienced by children

In a situation where children are abused emotionally, they are more likely to be ignored, isolated, favouring other siblings over them, forcing them to do unnecessary chores, forcing them into adult roles, blackmailing and bribing them to do something against their will (Motz, 2014). Children who are neglected are denied the following: love, closeness, affection, food, and not cared for, dirty, torn and stained school clothes, not allowing them opportunity to play, and often kept from school (Madzihvandila, 2015:35).

# 2.2.3 The associated effects of domestic violence on women and children: Global comparatives

Around the globe, victims of domestic violence are seeking treatment in hospital, which in the US alone billions of dollars are used per year for direct medical and health care services (Hanoi, 2012:18). Domestic violence negatively impacts the economy through the cost of medical expenses, sick leave and victims' lost labour productivity. This type of violence has a negative impact on the safety, health and social order of the community (Vitala *et al.* 2011:52). Epstein (2003:16) states that like any other violent event, victims can be tremendously damaged psychologically.

The most common syndromes are Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Rape Trauma Disorder (RTS). Henwood (2001:3) mentions that the effect of domestic violence can range from psychological to sexual abuse and rape, physical injury and death. Garratt (2012:21) further reveals that the effects of domestic violence and abuse on victims are profound and continue to articulate that it can happen to anyone irrespective of gender and age. According to Vitala *et al.* (2011:52), domestic violence can have a negative effect on victims, families and the society. Domestic violence threatens the stability of the family, including children who grow up in a conflict-ridden, unhappy environment and has a negative impact on family members (Vitala *et al.* 2011:52). The effects of domestic violence can have an impact on people who are directly or indirectly involved, such as children witnessing violence or where they may be at risk of assault or abuse (Henwood, 2001:3).

## 2.2.3.1 The psychological effects on abused children due to domestic violence environment

Epstein (2003:17) argues that the reality is that anytime when a mother is abused by their partner or husband at home, their children are affected by the abuse in both overt and subtle ways such as hearing, seeing and sensing the abuse, confusion, stress and fear, feeling guilty that they cannot protect their mother and feeling responsible, or that they are the reason she is being beaten, abused or neglected (Shettleworth, 2009). Children who have been exposed to abuse will develop the following symptoms: headaches, ulcers, bedwetting, sleep disorders and abdominal pain. Sons are more likely to abuse their future wives, and daughters are more likely to be abused by their future husbands (Silverthorn, Frick & Reynolds, 2001:171-181). The abused children will develop constant anxiety and stress about their mother's well-being, thumb sucking and excessive clinginess, speech impediments, worry and uncertainty about their future (Epstein, 2003:17).

Osofsky (1999:33-49) argues that some children and teens are more affected by exposure to violence than others. For example, resilience, may be due to several factors. Firstly, a child's relationship with a caring adult may reduce the negative impact of exposure. Secondly, characteristics of victims have been found to be of significance. Children with average or above average intelligence and strong interpersonal skills are more likely to have increased resilience. Additional factors include self-esteem and other personality traits, socio economic background, religion and contact with supportive people (Silverthorn, Frick & Reynolds, 2001:171-181). Children who have been exposed to abuse are more likely to suffer withdrawal, truancy, running away from home, hyperactivity, constant attention seeking, low self-esteem and low empathy. Abused children encounter nightmares, insomnia, memory repressions, denial, anger management problems, hostility, suicidal thoughts or attempts, self-injury and depression (Epstein, 2003:18).

 Infants will have their attachment needs influenced. They will have problems in eating, sleeping and be more susceptible to injury.

- Pre-schoolers will be more prone to psychosomatic disturbances and school-age children will more likely to have their self-esteem influenced. Their school performance will also suffer (Shettleworth, 2009).
- Adolescents will experience direct conflict with parents. Examples include truancy, drug abuse and sexual behaviours (Reynolds, 2001:171).

## 2.2.3.2 The psychological and emotional effects of domestic violence on women

A better way to understand the impact of domestic violence is to first understand the psychology of victims who have suffered psychological abuse, who encounter the following: anxiety, jumpiness, perfectionism, obedience, submissiveness, feeling inadequacy, powerlessness, worthlessness, humiliation, sleeping and eating disorders, suicidal and self-injury, truancy, withdrawal from activities and friends, avoidance of triggering cues, crying easily, getting hysterical, overacting to minor incidents and low self-esteem (Epstein, 2003:13). According Nicholas and Agius (2017:6), a person who has experienced psychological abuse may suffer trauma, including anxiety and PSTD.

Domestic violence also has psychological effects, including depression, anxiety, PTSD and suicide (British Medical Association, 1998:30-31). Victims who experienced psychological abuse may feel anxious, helpless, afraid, demoralised, ashamed and angry and may experience panic attacks. Battered Women Syndrome (BWS) is a psychological condition that is characterised by psychological, emotional and behavioural deficits arising from chronic and persistent violence (British Medical Association, 1998:30-31).

Women who are experiencing psychological abuse are at a high risk of suffering from depression and anxiety as compared to those who have not (British Medical Association, 1998:30-31). Furthermore, in cases of psychological violence, common features are associated with PTSD and may include flashbacks or persistently reexperiencing the event, nightmares, sleeplessness, exaggerated startle responses, difficulty in concentrating, feeling of shame, despair and hopelessness, learned helplessness, passivity and paralysis (British Medical Association, 1998:30-31).

Victims of domestic violence will begin to avoid triggering events (Cues), change of attentiveness levels and dimming of responsiveness to other, intense psychological distress and re-experiencing of trauma such as dreams and flashbacks. These symptoms can cause significant distress or impairment in daily functioning (Epstein, 2003:16). Nicholas and Agius (2017:6) state that victims of emotional abuse are more likely to experience a pattern of degrading or humiliating. The emotional abuse includes verbal abuse, threats to cause emotional pain, manipulation and jealousy (Nicholas, & Agius, 2017:6). Victims of emotional or spiritual abuse feel worthless, because at first it starts off with words, cheating and saying what do you expect because of you are not doing this or giving me this (Epstein, 2003:16).

Victims of emotional abuse experience sleeping disorder such as insomnia (Nkosi & Van der Wath (2012:116-129). They report experiencing difficulties to sleep. One participant reported that the perpetrator called her by name, hurting her more. She further stated the following:

"Him calling me names hurts more, I struggle to sleep even at night, I did not sleep last night as well; serious, even today I was sleeping during the day, I am scared of him serious; I am scared, last night, at night I have fear. I am scared straight, how will I sleep. I'm just scared that this person can do something bad to me and run away" (Nkosi & Van der Wath, 2012:116-129).

## 2.2.4 The effects of physical abuse on women

According to Nicholas and Agius (2017:6), domestic violence is also referred to as GBV. It is any act or threatened act of physical violence towards the other person that causes injuries or trauma, including slapping, kicking, punching, hitting and pushing. Victims of physical abuse are more likely to have serious injuries such as broken bones, fractures, sprains, cuts, burns and bites. They also suffer from infections, including anal, vaginal and pelvic, dizziness, numbness, and permanent disabilities such as asthma, belly pain, muscle pain, irritable bowel syndrome, miscarriages and unwanted pregnancies, including death (Epstein, 2003:16).

Madzivhandila (2015:35) explains physical abuse as being hit, slapped, punched, kicked, and having weapons used against victims. In the worst case, this can lead to unconsciousness, miscarriage or death. The SAPS (2018:1) establishes that victims of physical abuse felt drained, depressed and reported that when they start working, they do not mind staying at work till late, just so that I don't have to go back there. Epetein's (2003:17-56) study found that the effect of physical abuse are serious injuries such as broken bones, fractures, sprains, burns, curt, consciousness, bites and death.

## 2.2.4.1 The effects of sexual abuse on potential victims: Women and children

Epstein (2003:16) indicates that in an assault or rape, symptoms happen too fast and create an overwhelming state of paralysis. This can produce RTS in the victim as she tries to cope with what has happened (Madzivhandila, 2015:35). This involves short (Acute or two different styles exhibited) and long-term symptoms (chronic). Short term symptoms include expressive and controlled symptoms; expressive symptoms such as fear, anger, anxiety, restlessness, smiling, tension, distress; and inability to concentrate (Morrow & Messinger, 2006). Controlled symptoms include calm or subdued demeanour and withdrawals (Madzivhandila, 2015:35). To this course, the SAPS recorded 124,526 cases of rape in the three years from 2014/15 to 2016/17. In 50,988 of these cases, the victim was recorded as aged 18 or younger. This is 41% of all the rapes recorded in South Africa over the three years (SAPS, 2018:1).

Long-term symptoms (Chronic) include life changes such as changing residence, cell phone numbers, workplaces and habits, nightmares such as re-experiencing, exchanging roles with the abuser and fears and phobias which include mistrust of men and being alone, and chronic symptoms include changes in sexual activities such as decrease or severe increase (Morrow & Messinger, 2006). According to Langeland andHartgers (1998:336-348). sometimes sex can trigger flashbacks and change in relationships, including decrease trust of others, decrease in contact with friends, family, loss of confidence and self-esteem (Epstein, 2003:17).

## 2.2.5 Factors contributing to domestic violence

The consulted literature reflects several factors contributing to domestic violence across the globe. These include the following: alcohol consumption, economic status, culture and patriarchy, among others. Thus, the preceding discussions reflect on these factors:

## 2.2.5.1 Alcohol consumption as contributory factor to domestic violence

Alcohol-related violence is of major concern to society. Around half of all violent crimes are alcohol-related, and yet interventions for alcohol-related violence are underdeveloped (Jewkes, 2002:1423). Alcohol use has been a contributing factor in the commission of criminal behaviours related to violence, especially in the domains of domestic violence and sexual assault (Crowley, Chesluk, Dilts & Hart, 1974:13-20). Domestic violence and sexual assault related to alcohol use pose significant and prevalent problems in South African communities (Jewkes, 2002:1423 & 1429).

Lipsey, Wilson, Cohen and Derzon (1997:245-246) report that "offenders were variously estimated to have consumed alcohol prior to 28-86% of homicides, 24-37% of assaults, 7-72% of robberies, 13–60% of sex offenses, and 6-57% of incidents of marital violence." These authors also argue that there is a possibility that alcohol consumption may have a distinct causal influence on subsequent violent behaviour.

Further research by Lipsey, Wilson, Cohen and Derzon (2002:245-282) indicates that most intimate violence takes place under the influence of alcohol and has been found to be influential in promoting violent crime. While there is substantial argument as to whether alcohol is a cause of domestic violence, the evidence for association is quite strong (Crowley, Chesluk, Dilts & Hart, 1974:13-20). Cross-sectional studies, with few exceptions, report higher rates of alcohol problems among battering husbands (Lipsey et al., 2002:245-282). Manamela (2006:26) states that drug and alcohol can aggravate, rather than cause, violent behaviour. Sonjani (2011:25) reveals that many abusive men abuse their women whether they are sober or drunk.

Among people who have been found committing domestic violence, 61% of them use or abuse substance (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1998b). According to a study conducted in Ohio, domestic violence does not have an impact only on women, but also on children. Aproximately, 25% of cases of domestic violence involve children (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1998b). Consequently, Dauda (2011:28) indicates that some women who are victims of domestic violence have been found to use substances and drugs.

Leonard (2001:235) further argues that there is an association between alcohol consumption and violent crime between intimates. According to the National Crime Victimisation Survey [(sa)] (in Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1998), "55% of victims reported that their victimizer had been drinking, while 12% show that the offender was using alcohol or drugs, and 45% of prisoners who were convicted of murdering their intimate partners were reported to have consumed alcohol" (Leonard, 2001:235).

## 2.2.5.2 Culture and patriarchy

Barlow (1996:430) states that women victimisation is a result of a wider social and cultural context in which individuals operate, and that domestic abuse occurs across society, irrespective of age, femininity, race, sexuality, wealth and geography. Culture and patriarchy are regarded as main factors contributing to domestic violence, because it promotes male domination of women. Historical culture emphasises that females are properties of men subjected to control (Peacock, 2015:48 & 50). George (2002:3) states that historically, domestic violence is linked with men beating up their wives because the patriarchal makeup of the society where women do not have rights than men, but to be submissive to the perpetrator makes them to be vulnerable to domestic violence. Equally, Peacock (2015:48) states that "South African men were made to believe they were superior to women, they dominated women and do as they please anytime they want to.

Pakeeza (2015:17-18) provides that culturally women and children are considered as properties of men, subject to control. In different parts of the world, different factors are responsible for the variable status of women. Furthermore, Qaisarani (2016:11-12) shows that one in every three women is vulnerable to physical and sexual violence. The United Nations (UN) added that only 40% of cases of violence seek for any sort of help.

This is because of the patriarchal make-up of the society where a man is regarded as the head of the family, and traditionally, females are regarded as male properties subject to control and discipline. According to culture, women should respect their husbands, which make them vulnerable to abuse (Peacock, 2015:48 & 50). Madzivhandila (2015:51) mentions that tradition is viewed as a contributor to domestic VAW and children because culture emphasises that domestic violence is a private thing between a husband and wife. What happened indoor is nobody's business unless, it escalates, leading to serious and visible injury to children. Traditionally, women still viewed and treated as object which are the reasons that makes them vulnerable.

Mndende (2006:123) contends that the practice of bride or *Lobola* (marriage) in most African tribes signifies the validity of the marriage. *Lobola* within the context of marriage form alliances between clans, nations and households contribute to the victimisation of women and children. When a young woman enters marriage, she is sometimes treated badly because the family considers her as an outsider that she is married into (Sonjani, 2011:28). *Lobola* contributes to domestic violence because it makes the young woman to be subordinate and submissive, as they have made a payment for her. Therefore, she assumes that she should obey the roles.

#### 2.2.5.3 Economic status

Women in low economic status suffered domestic violence because of their dependence on their husbands. Dauda (2011:28 & 50) states that "60.1 % of cases are economically inactive and dependent on their partners". Approximately "45.4 % of victims of domestic violence were unemployed, 13.9% were in full time employment, while 25.9% were in temporary jobs". In support of this submission, Sonjani (2011:8) highlights that there are high rates of unemployment and under-employment resulting in women struggling to pay for necessities such as travel, accommodation or the costs of separation or relocation.

Lack of economic resources has long been suspected of playing a key role in battered women's tolerance of abuse, and economic dependence was also considered as a main reason that prevents the victim to end an abusive relationship (Peacock, 2015:48 & 50). Manamela (2006:27) submits that women find it difficult to leave the abusive relationship because they are financially depending on the abuser. Most abused women do not leave the abusive relationship because they worry about the survival of their children (Bates, Schuler, Islam & Islam, 2004:190-199). Importantly, there is a higher level of domestic violence in rural communities in Limpopo Province, where victims do not report the abuse to the police because of their dependence on the perpetrator (Davhana-Maselesele, 2003:1-2).

#### 2.2.6 Probable victims of domestic violence

In South Africa and around the world, there are different groups of victims of domestic violence, including children, women, disabled people, elderly and men, who are also victims of intimate partners. While their female partners abuse some men, 95% of the time it is women who are victims of abuse in the home (Dal Grande, Hickling, Taylor & Woollacott, 2003:543). Nevertheless, in this study, the focus is on VAW and children.

#### 2.2.6.1 Women as victims of domestic violence

Straus (1990:14) estimates that roughly 6.2 million women had been beaten by their spouses, while 1.8 million women had experienced a severe assault in 1985. The National Crime Victimisation Survey, which assesses violence that the respondents of this cited study viewed as crimes, they [Respondents] predicted that there were nearly one million females. This clearly shows that more women are being abused than men. Leonard (2001:235-247) states that "an association between alcohol consumption and domestic violence is quite strong. Serious conflict among adults in the home is dangerous, specifically to children" (Keeling & Mason, 2008:47).

In South Africa, the victimisation of women has reached alarming proportions, and legislators must take it seriously, as females' lives are at risk (Njezula, 2006:2-3). Men are also far more likely to use sexual and economic VAW than women are against men. Consulted research further suggests that "women are six times more likely to experience sexual violence from an opposite sex partner than men are, and more than three times more likely to experience economic violence" (Dobash, 2014:61-78).

While it seems that women are more likely to use weapons when responding to the victimisation, they use physical violence against their male intimate partners. Men's acts of violence against their female partners is not more serious or severe, as judged by perpetrators and survivors themselves (Dal Grande, Hickling, Taylor & Woollacott, 2003:543). Women who are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends in South Africa are between 40 and 70 percent (The Star, 2005:1). According to the National Institute for Crime and Reintegration of Offenders (NICRO) and Women's Support Centre (2001) (in Van der Hoven, 2001:13-25), one in every four women is assaulted by their boyfriends or husbands.

#### 2.2.6.2 Children as victims of domestic violence

Children who are at a higher risk of sexual abuse are those who reported coming from domestically abusive families (Johnston, 2006:22). According to Alho (2015:9), "children who have been exposed to domestic violence during their childhood will suffer in their developmental and social welfare, such as lack of problem solving and conflict resolution". While Shelton and Harold (2007:509) argue that "children who have witnessed domestic violence, directly or indirectly, have an increased risk of developing behavioural, emotional and social problems". In connection to this statement, children again are at a higher risk of being preyed on by other children as well, as they will take advantage of them because they are fearful of their fathers to report the abuse outside their home (Alho, 2015:61).

Children who have experience domestic violence are traumatised and experience negative symptoms. They experience negative symptoms such as mental disorders, aggressive behaviour, drug use, physical problems, school difficulties, teenage pregnancy, relationship problems with peers and adults and they are more likely to engage in criminal behaviour during their adolescence and adulthood (Ross, 2010:81).

#### 2.2.6.3 Men as victims of domestic violence

A study conducted by Garratt (2012) focuses on domestic violence against men as a forgotten crime. This study further investigates whether domestic violence against men is taken as a significance problem or forgotten by the police, the Department of Criminal Justice system or by the wider society (Garratt 2012:9). Britton (2012:83) went on to reveal that men are also victims of domestic violence, and that six percent of women and four percent of men have experienced domestic violence in their lifetime. Britton further stated that around 900,000 women and 600,000 men are victims of domestic violence. Most victims have experienced non-physical abuse such as emotional or financial abuse. 57% of women and 46% of men have experienced this from their intimate partners.

## 2.2.7 Challenges in responding to domestic violence

The researcher submits that the South African CJS encounters several challenges when dealing with domestic violence (I.e. SAPS officials, courts - magistrates and correctional service officials). Twenty-two years [22] after the DVA (No. Act 116 of 1998) was passed, IPV remains a serious problem in South Africa. Victims of domestic violence and the police face numerous challenges in responding to the crisis. (Parenzee, Artz & Moult, 2001). For South Africa's DVA, 1998 to work, all those responsible for its implementation must be accountable.

## 2.2.7.1 Notable challenges faced by victims of domestic violence

Victims of domestic violence face many challenges when trying to report their victimisation to the police. Firstly, they encounter primary victimisation from the perpetrators, critiques from the community and family members, and secondary victimisation by the police, such as being told that what they have done triggered the perpetrator's behaviour. Police officials lack communication skills such as listening (Smith, Minaar & Schnetler, 2004:73-108).

2.2.7.2 Law enforcement agencies [South African Police Service] responds to cases of domestic violence

Domestic violence is regulated by the DVA, 1998. This Act was introduced in 1998 with the purpose of affording women protection against domestic violence by creating obligations on law enforcement bodies such as the SAPS to protect victims as far as possible (Parenzee, Artz & Moult, 2001:70-85). The Act attempts to provide victims of domestic violence with an accessible legal instrument with which to prevent further abuses from taking place within their domestic relationships (Parenzee, Artz & Moult, 2001:70-85).

This Act recognises that domestic violence is a serious crime against our society, and extends the definition of domestic violence to include not only married women and their children, but also unmarried women who are involved in relationships or living with their partners, people in same-sex relationships, mothers and their sons, and other people who share a living space (Parenzee, Artz & Moult, 2001:70-85). The DVA, 1998 and Regulations, 1999 are extremely broad and impose the duties on law enforcement officials, the justice system and social development agencies (Smith, Minnnaar & Schnetler, 2004:25). Objectives of the police services are preventing, combating and investigating crime, maintaining public order, protecting and securing the inhabitants of the Republic and their property, including upholding and enforcing the Law (Smith, Minnnaar & Schnetler, 2004:26).

Sonjani (2011:8) confirms that police officials are negligent and incompetent. This results from interviews conducted with 23 women who had obtained protection orders. In addition, in some cases, the police did not show enough sensitivity to the victims and gave them inappropriate treatment, especially in compliance with the DVA [No. 116 of 1998] (Sonjani, 2011:8). They are impatient to victims because they assume that they know what he or she has experienced (Smith *et al.*, 2004:188). In addition, economic status prohibits victims of domestic violence to report their victimisers, because in most cases, the perpetrator is a breadwinner in the family.

A study conducted by Nkwana (2015:14) at Magatle Zebediela, Limpopo Province found that police officers fail to protect domestic violence victims, and such failure goes unpunished. A study conducted by the Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD) between 2001-2008 with 121 complaints in *Tshwaranang* Legal Advocacy Centre found that police are non-compliance regarding the following: failure to arrest abusers (52.5%); failure to open criminal `cases (14.5%); and failure to assist survivors of domestic violence to find suitable shelter, obtain medical treatment and escort the victim to collect their personal property; and seize any dangerous weapons from the abuser (12.3%)," Nkwana (2015:14).

In most cases, police officials fail to arrest perpetrators of domestic violence (Vetten, 2014:6). Police failed to assist victims of domestic violence to find a shelter (Vetten, 2014:6). Sonjani (2011:8) states that there is no safe accommodation for women when there is a need to leave their homes. Victims of domestic violence stay in abusive relationships because they think that the abusing environment will improve and change for the better (Epstein, 2003:9). A study conducted by George and Yardwood (2004) in 2001, which included male victims' responses to the police, indicates that 35% of them claim that the police have totally ignored what they have to say, while 21% had themselves arrested. However, 29% of victims claimed that the police had only spoken to the female partner and ignored actual evidence that the male victim had been assaulted. 27% said they have been arrested because it was said that they should arrest someone, and 48% have suffered 10 assaults before making a first call to the police and suffered for an average of about 3 years (George & Yardwood, 2004:12).

A study conducted in Vietnam by the National Study of Domestic VAW in 2010 found that 65% of victims reported that when they report the abuse, the police were easy and considered the abuse, and 76% considered the police to be polite, 72% sympathetic while 47% were not satisfied by the police work and 54% thought that the measures taken by the police were not strict enough (Hanoi, 2012:18). The victims further claimed that in 83%, the police have visited the abuse's house but in 34%, police have suggested to the victim to go back to solve the problem herself inside the family or advised her to contact other agencies such as the reconciliation team and the Women's Union. In cases that have involved the reconciliation team, 77% of them indicated violence continued after reconciliation (Hanoi, 2012:18).

According to Smith, Minaar and Schnetler (2004:73), South African police officials who are attached to the SAPS FCS should treat victims of domestic violence as follows:

- All victims should be treated with respect and dignity and be interviewed by a trained police official in a sensitive victim manner.
- Victims should be assisted in a Victim Friendly Room (VFR) or an alternative room where a statement will be taken in a private police station or at another location providing victim support service.
- Victims will be referred/ taken to medical examination by professional health care to obtain medical evidence and complete a medical report.
- Investigation should be done by family violence, child protection and the sexual offence investigation unit or a detective with relevant training.
- Families and victims of sexual offences, femicide and infanticides should be referred to victim support services that are available at the precinct for legal, medical and psychological help.
- Victims should be proactively provided with feedback on the progress of their cases on a continuous basis.

Police officials are responsible for the arrest of perpetrators of domestic violence. However, they fail to inform victims, such as letting them alone, and encourage victims to open a case against the culprit and to open a protection order without informing them about their rights and other alternatives. Even in case of physical abuse, police do not take the victim to seek medical assistance, which means that there will be no record for the sustained injuries (Peacock, 2015:140 & 141). Most of the statements and application forms as taken by the local SAPS members in the Community Service Centre (CSC) are poor, missing or even lacking in providing a detailed report leading to domestic violence on women and children. There are allegations of corruption, especially in a case where the police live in the community and know the accused (Peacock, 2015:140).

There are several myths existing in the CJS. It is said that when women apply for protection orders because they want to get back to their husbands, they fail to sustain money for maintenance, and seek protection orders so that their husbands will be removed in order to bring their boyfriends to live with them. Women who apply for protection orders against emotional abuse are not in any real danger of being harmed

(Peacock, 2015:140). Another challenge is that domestic violence is placed under a complex and flawed legal system which is also under-resourced and plagued with inequalities, biases and other human problems. Responding to domestic violence is extremely difficult in court because in sentencing a breadwinner when he has breached a protection order, some magistrates have tried to be more creative and strategic by implementing options such as weekend detentions, treatment programmes and community services (Peacock, 2015:140).

Challenges faced by 'Magistrate Court' in dealing with domestic violence were cited by Peacock (2015:140) when stating that "Magistrates are responsible for granting protection orders based on sexual, emotional, psychological and physical abuse." Maya (2018:4) stated that the Courts have played their part too in protecting women's rights. They must decide on more than 50 protection order applications per day, and in 616 cases, 30% percent of both parties (victim and perpetrator) are present in the finalisation date of their protection order (Peacock, 2015:140 & 141). According to the constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996, every person should be free from any form of violence of any nature and puts a high premium on a person's bodily integrity (Maya, 2018:5).

According to Maya (2018:5), "the key, foundational of these rights are found in sections 10, which guarantees human dignity, 11, which guarantees life and 12, which guarantees freedom and security of persons, of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996". The violation of the fundamental constitution is violated by GBV and femicide perpetrators. South Africa has a vast array of legal instruments that are meant to address VAW and children:

- The National Crime Prevention Strategy (NCPS) of 1996 established crimes of VAW and children as a national priority.
- Thus, we have the mandatory minimum sentences for certain rapes in terms of the Criminal Law Amendment Act (No. 105 of 6 1997).
- The Criminal Procedure Second Amendment Act (No. 85 of 1997) allows for bail conditions to be tightened in cases of those charged with rape.
- The DVA, 1998 seeks to afford women protection from domestic violence by creating various obligations on law enforcement bodies such as the police to

- protect victims as far as possible and makes provision for interim protection orders and restraining orders.
- The second act that addresses the elimination of VAW in South Africa is the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act (No. 32 of 2007), which was promulgated in response to the extremely high levels of gender-based violence and femicide and brought about radical changes in respect of a multitude of criminal offences. Some of the changes were the broadening of the definition of rape and other sexual offences (such as proxy rape and object rape, among others) and the introduction of new offences to deal with contemporary issues of violence, including those that bear on GBV such as the digital distribution of pornography, among others.
- To further curb the prevalence of rape and sexual offences, the Criminal Law [Sexual Offences and Related Matters] Amendment Act (No. 6 of 2012) was passed to provide for the effective prosecution and conviction of offenders. There is also the Maintenance Act (No. 99 of 1998), which provides for garnishee orders, attachment of emoluments and orders by default. Sadly, there is still a lack of awareness. These means of protection are not fully utilised as many do not know of their existence. The mainstay of the fight against gender-based violence are Sexual Offences courts (and *Thuthuzela* Care Centres), which were introduced to focus on the expeditious adjudication of cases involving crimes and transgressions of a sexual nature in specialised courts that are properly equipped to deal with this unique crime.

The 'Magistrate Courts' decision in the cases of domestic violence depend on the officials' (i.e. SAPS, social workers, prosecutors and other role players) report of the incident (Artz, 2003:10). Sonjani (2011:33) highlights that Magistrate Courts' decisions depend on how the evidence against the perpetrator is presented in respect of documentation, and how deep the investigation of the offence is. Sometimes domestic violence cases depend on police statements, application forms and witness statements.

On 02 March 2000, the DoJ & CD and Department of Correctional Services (DCS) established an office of family advocate in order to focus on the best interest of children in instances of divorce (Vetten, 2005:3-4). In response to this continuing issue of domestic VAW and children and its impact on the correctional environment, the national institute of corrections highlighted innovative and promising programmes that address offender accountability and victim safety in domestic violence cases both in institutional and community settings (Vetten, 2005:3-4).

- Provide information about designing a comprehensive post-conviction domestic violence response program for both offenders and victims.
- Steps and tools to identify and prioritise response to offender behaviour.
- Provide resources specifically tailored to the correctional environment.

2.7.1.2 Responding to reasons for victims of domestic violence to stay in an abusive relationship

There are several factors that contribute to why abused people stay in abusive relationships. Factors such as economic reasons and the patriarchal make-up of the society make women to become attached to their partners, believing that they cannot live without their respective partners and mental status (Mabena, 2013:6). These related factors are discussed as follows:

## Mental status of the victim

Epstein (2003:14 & 15) reveals that because the victim loves the abuser and thinks that the abuse is a sign of love, the victim believes the abuser when he says that it will never happen again and hopes that the abuser will change. She is ashamed to admit that she is abused (Madzivhandila, 2015:76).

Due to accommodation reasons, the victim does not have anywhere else to go and does not know where to go. Because the victim has been intimidated by the police and the police's response to domestic violence (Epstein 2003:14 & 15). The victim of violence does not want to split up the family and to ruin the family's reputation. She may stay because she is afraid of what her friends and the family members will say about her, fear of poverty and isolation, fear of losing her children and fear of becoming

homeless. Also, she may not leave the abusive relationship because of financial problems where she depends on the abuser, especially when the victim did not attend school and does not have skills to find a job or maybe she is forced to work at home to raise children. Sometimes it is because the property in her home is in the abuser's name (Epstein 2003:14 & 15).

## • Economic reason (Dependency)

In addition to lack of perceived or actual support, there are other structural factors that might persuade a woman to stay in an abusive relationship. Most research has suggested that battering is associated with socioeconomic status. Abusive relationships exist at all levels of the socioeconomic ladder (Madzivhandila, 2015:76). This study also shows that economic dependency (as measured by poverty status, woman not employed, husband or partner as sole provider) is associated with wife abuse and entering or re-entering shelter for battered women (Madzivhandila, 2015:76).

There are several explanations that might help explain the relationship between economic dependency and abuse. First, some research suggests that some abusive partners attempt to control their partners and keep them through violence or threats of violence from working (Dauda, 2011:28 & 50). Employment can open doors to social support. Employment can knock down barriers to the social isolation that many abused women experience (Dauda, 2011: 50). Third, many abused women have little or no access to viable employment because they have few job skills, lack resources to access work (they live in rural areas of high unemployment or have no means of transportation) or have children to care for at home. Understanding the relationship between economic dependency, abuse and leaving abusive relationship is important (Sonjani, 2011:8).

## 2.2.7.1.3 Victims who prolonged to stay in an abusive relationship

The victim does not have confidence in herself and her ability to take actions. They (I.e. Women) start to rationalise the abuser's behaviour by placing blame on themselves; they accommodate the abusive behaviour (I.e. They are sometimes told that they are responsible for their own victimisations) and start believing that they deserve to be hurt (Madzivhandila, 2015:76). They (I.e. Women) often become mentally and physically exhausted to take the necessary steps in many occasions (Epstein, 2003:15).

Madzivhandila (2015:76) went on to argues that the victim who has prolonged in an abusive relationship becomes too mentally and physically exhausted to take the necessary steps in a way that even if the victim of domestic violence tries to leave the abusive relationship, she may come back to the abusive relationship because she is insecure, does not get enough practical and emotional support from friends and family, children are missing their dad and the perpetrator persuades her to go back (Epstein 2003:15). Walker (1999:21) has emphasised that sometimes it is because victims lack support services education about one's right and police's response to domestic violence in a culture where gender equality exists.

## 2.2.7.1.4 Victims of domestic violence coping strategies

There are five mental phases that someone who has been abused or lives with domestic violence should encounter. These include mental phases such as shock or denial, bargaining, anger, depression (and realisation), avoidance and acceptance. Thus, a study conducted by Nkosi and Van der Wath (2012:116-129) reveals that victims of domestic violence cope with violence through avoidance. They avoid the abuse and try to be strong for the sake of their children. They do not resolve the abuse, but instead ignore it as if there nothing taking place. Even if the avoidance coping mechanism is for a short time, the victim may meet basic needs and keep themselves and their children safe (Goodman, Smyth, Borgers & Singer, 2009:306-309).

Nkosi and Van der Wath (2012:116-129) contend that other victims said that for them to cope with violence, they just avoid and ignore it. They further stated the following:

"I turn around and pretend. I tell myself I must just stand up for my children. When I see that there is no maize meal I must go around and get maize meal, even if it means I must loan money to buy this maize meal, I do". While the other woman said she used silence to avoid the stress and stated that "all these is hurting me, but I told myself I must just keep quiet because I will end up being sick having stress, heart diseases, can you imagine."

Depression and realisation is a stage where rage is turned inwards, and in extreme cases it can result in suicide. Acceptance occurs when a victim does not accept that he or she has been abused. Realisation of the abuse may result in suicide and acceptance where the victim accepts the violence (Epstein, 2003:24; and Madzivhandila, 2015:76). Bargaining is a stage where the victim tries to talk to or reason with the abuser; the abused tries to show or to make the perpetrator aware of his or her behaviour and takes responsibility (Epstein, 2003:24). Epstein (2003:24) further states that it may take years to reach the final stage where the victim takes a decision of moving the abusive relationship. However, even if the victim moves out, she still needs emotional support and practical help from friends and family.

Haloi (2012:52) reveals that the victim of domestic violence uses strategies such as minimising or denying the violence, taking responsibility for the violence, using alcohol and drugs as a numbing effect, remaining in the abusive relationship to avoid escalation of violence or seeking help and using self-defence violence as a means of gaining control. Madzivhandila (2015:76) reiterates that the victim will make a plan for her and her children's safety, get legal advice about her rights and appropriate procedure (Epstein, 2003:24).

#### 2.3. SUMMARY

This chapter (Two) introduced the literature review of related literature and documents on domestic violence. Wherein reading, evaluating and summarising of available literature directly and indirectly relating to the research topic under study where done. Different kinds of published information were used in this study. The nature and extent of domestic violence in South Africa and globally have been discussed.

This is followed by the discussion on phenomena to explore factors contributing to domestic violence, which include alcohol consumption culture, patriarchy and economic status. Victims of domestic violence include men, the elderly, the disabled, women and children. In this study, the researcher focused on women and children as well as challenges faced by victims (Women and children) and the CJS (The police, courts and correctional officials) when responding to domestic violence. The literature provided a rich context for the current study and enabled the exploration of findings within and between the consulted literature studies. The next chapter (Three) articulates the adopted legislative and theoretical framework, which guided this study.

#### CHAPTER THREE

## LEGISLATIVE AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

#### 3.1. INTRODUCTION

Chapter two revealed literature involving the victimisation of women and children in South Africa and around the world, where factors contributing to domestic violence were explored, where culture is regarded as a major factor contributing to abuse. The nature of domestic violence, which includes types and impact of abuse that women and children experience (Physical, sexual, economic, emotional and psychological abuse) were discussed. Probable victims of domestic violence have been highlighted (Women and children). Challenges faced when responding to domestic violence (By victims, law enforcement) were discussed. In this study, the role of sociocultural perspective on domestic violence has been explored by the researcher.

This chapter focused on the theoretical and analytical framework from which judgement on factors contributing to domestic VAW and children in Mankweng policing area can be made. An attempt will be made to understand factors contributing to domestic violence based on existing socio-criminological theories and perspectives, namely; the sociocultural theory.

## 3.2. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK ON UNDERSTADING AND RESPONDING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The DoJ & CD derives its legislative mandate from a different number of Acts, which cover all the categories of the department's function. These include: The DVA, 1998, The Protection of Harassment Act (No. 17 of 2011), Prevention of Family Violence Act (No. 133 of 1993), Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment, 2007, The Children's Act (No. 38 of 2005), the Criminal Procedure Act (No. 51 of 1977), Arms and Ammunition Act (No. 75 of 1969), Firearms Control Act (No. 60 of 2000) and the Best Practices Policy Statement on Domestic Violence.

## 3.2.1 Fundamental differences between acts responding to domestic violence

The DVA, 1998 is the law that deals with domestic violence in South Africa. Its aim is to provide protection to people who are experiencing domestic violence. It also commits the government to stop domestic violence by creating obligations on law enforcement bodies such as the SAPS (Smith, Minnaar & Schnetler, 2004:205-206). The Act attempts to provide victims of domestic violence with an accessible legal instrument with which to prevent further abuses from taking place within domestic relationships (DVA, 1998:2). The Prevention of Family Violence Act (No. 133 of 1993) deals with crime against the victim of family violence (Matthias, 2010:57-67), and grants interdicts regarding family violence for an obligation to report cases of suspected ill-treatment of children (Van der Hoven, 2001:13-25). The Act criminalises wife rape (marital rape) and gives great protection to victims of domestic violence.

The main aim of DVA, 1998 and the Prevention of Family Violence Act (No. 133 of 1993) is to achieve the following:

- To maximise the safety, protection and wellbeing of people who fear or experience domestic violence and to minimise disruption in their lives.
- To prevent or reduce exposure to domestic violence to children.
- To ensure that people who commit domestic violence are held responsible for their act.

Subsequently, these objectives can be achieved mainly by focusing on the following:

- Allowing the court to make a domestic order to provide protection against further domestic abuse.
- Giving police powers to respond to domestic violence, including the power to issue notice.
- Imposing consequences for contravening a domestic violence order or police protection notice in particular liability for the commission of the office.

The essence of the Protection from Harassment Act (No.17 of 2011) is to provide a quick, easy and affordable civil remedy in the form of a protection order for incidences of stalking. It also gives effect to the protection of individual fundamental rights, including but not limited to, the right to equality, privacy, dignity, freedom and the security of the person. The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act (No. 32 of 2007) deals with all legal aspects relating to sexual offences by repealing the common law offence of rape and replacing it with a new expanded statutory offence of rape applicable to all forms of sexual penetration without consent. The Children's Act (No. 38 of 2005) emphasises the protection of children from any form of violence.

## 3.2.2 The Domestic Violence Act (No. 116 of 1998)

According to the DVA, 1998, domestic violence is "a serious crime against our society and extends the definition of domestic violence to include not only married women and their children, but also unmarried women who are involved in relationships or living with their partners, people in same-sex relationships, mothers and their sons, and other people who share a living space" (Smith, Minnaar & Schnetler, 2004:205-206). It is any form of abuse which includes physical, sexual, emotional, psychological or economic harassment, damage to property, stalking and entry into a person's home without their consent (DVA, 1998:2).

Like other countries around the globe in the fight against domestic violence, South Africa introduced the DVA, 1998 to try and protect vulnerable groups (women and children) or those who might be forced into a situation that could become harmful. The DVA, 1998 is the law that deals with domestic violence in South Africa. Its aim to provide protection to people who are experiencing domestic violence and commits the government to stop domestic violence by creating obligations on law enforcement bodies such as the SAPS. The Act attempts to provide victims of domestic violence with an accessible legal instrument with which to prevent further abuses from taking place within their domestic relationships.

According to the DVA, 1998, the first mandate of the SAPS in the case of domestic violence when an incident of domestic violence is reported at the scene of an incident of domestic violence or as soon as reasonably possible thereafter is to render assistance as may be dictated by the circumstances (Smith, Minnaar & Schnetler, 2004:205-206). This includes making arrangement for suitable shelter for the complainant. Officials are required to give a copy of Form 01, which is notice to the complainant in the official language of the choice of the complainant. The content of the notice should be explained to the complainant by the officer who should make reference to all civil and criminal remedies available. The notice includes the complainant's right and steps she or he may take in securing protection against further acts of abuse. It also emphasises that the obligation should not be influenced by the complainant's previous behaviour (Smith, Minnaar & Schnetler, 2004:205-206).

# 3.2.3 The Arms and Ammunition Act (No. 75 of 1969) and Firearms Control Act (No. 60 of 2000)

According to Smith, Minnaar and Schnetler (2004:205-206), a dangerous weapon means any weapon as identified in the Dangerous Weapon Act (No. 71 of 1968). Any weapon can be used in terms of domestic violence. This includes spades, guns, fists, hammers, knives and fire torches. The DVA, 1998 addresses the use of arms and dangerous weapons in domestic violence cases. The DVA, 1998 gives mandate to the court to direct that members of the SAPS be ordered to seize dangerous weapons or arms in possession of or under the control of the respondent. A dangerous weapon is seized if the court is satisfied that the respondent has threatened or expressed the intention to kill or injure himself or herself, or any other person using a firearm, or the possession of such a dangerous weapon is not in the respondent's interest or in the interest of any other (Smith, Minnaar & Schnetler, 2004:205-206). The psychological profile of the suspect and the relationship between the complainant and the alleged abuser will be considered for the court to make a decision.

The DVA, 1998 must not be read in isolation but in terms of Section 11 of the Arms and Ammunition Act (No. 75 of 1969) where the commissioner of the police may issue a notice calling any person to provide reasons why he or she should not be cleared unfit to possess a firearm and have his or her licence withdrawn (Smith, Minnaar & Schnetler, 2004:205-206). While Section 103 of the Firearm Control Act, 2000 provides that a person becomes unfit to possess a firearm if convicted of an offence in which the accused is sentenced for a period of imprisonment without an option of a fine (but this section has not yet come into operation). However, Section 103(i) of the Act provides that a person becomes unfit to possess a firearm if convicted of an offence involving physical or sexual abuse in a domestic relationship. The receipt of a statement made under oath initiates the commissioner's action.

The court must order a member of the SAPS to seize any arm or dangerous weapon in the possession or under the control of the respondent if the court is satisfied with the evidence placed before it, including any affidavits supporting an application referred to in Section 4(1) of DVA, 1998:

- The named person has threatened or expressed an intention to kill or injure him or herself, or some other person using a firearm.
- The possession of a firearm is not in the interest of the named person as a result
  of his or her mental condition, inclination to violence (whether an arm was used in
  the violence or not) or dependence on intoxicating liquor or a drug that has narcotic
  effect.

According to Section 41(1) of the Arms and Ammunition Act (No. 75 of 1969) of the SAPS, an official may at any time without a warrant enter and search such place or respondent and seize any arm or ammunition, for the purpose as set out in Section 11 of this Act.

## 3.2.4 The Protection from Harassment Act (No. 17 of 2011)

The first specific legislation to address sexual harassment in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region is the Protection from Harassment Act (No.17 of 2011). The essence of the Act is to provide a quick, easy and affordable civil remedy in the form of a protection order for incidences of stalking. The Act arose out of a South African Reform Commission (SALRC) and its component is to cover all forms of stalking, not just those involving people engaged in relationships (Woolman & Sprague, 2015:29).

The purpose of this Act - The Protection from Harassment Act (No. 17 of 2011) is to accomplish the following:

- Give effect to the protection of individuals' fundamental rights, including but not limited to, the right to equality, privacy, dignity, freedom and security of the person, which incorporates the right to be free from all forms of violence from either public or private sources, and the rights of children to have their best interests considered to be of paramount importance.
- Legislation enacted to pursue the protection of fundamental rights, as this Act
  asserts it does, is necessary in a constitutional democracy but should be drafted
  to provide maximum protection to deserving victims of human rights violations,
  while minimising the potential for abuse by unscrupulous litigants, by way of an
  interpretation of this Act that creates unjust legal remedies.

## 3.2.5 The Prevention of Family Violence Act (No.133 of 1993)

The Prevention of Family Violence Act (No. 133 of 1993) deals with crime against victims of family violence. This Act (No. 133 of 1993) succeeded the law on husband's marital power in 1984 and abolished VAW and children and criminalised the rape of a wife by a husband (Marital rape); that a husband can be convicted of the rape of his wife; and for matters connected therewith (Matthias, 2010:57-67).

This Act provides the granting of interdicts regarding family violence for an obligation to report cases of suspected ill-treatment of children and gives greater protection to victims of domestic violence. The Prevention of Family Violence Act (No.133 of 1993) precedes the DVA (No. 116 of 1998) because of its greater confusion. This includes the following:

- Apply only to married parties.
- Confusion of the legality of ex-parties.
- Protection order should be delivered by the sheriff at the expense of the complainant.

This Act provides for the obtainment of protection orders by victims of domestic violence. Applying for a protection order is a civil process. Before a victim can obtain a protection order, the following requirements must be met:

- First, the applicant (Victim) must show that he or she is in a domestic relationship with the respondent.
- Secondly, once it has been established that a domestic relationship does exist between the parties, the applicant has to show that an act of domestic violence has occurred.
- Once an applicant has established the above, he or she may approach a police station or a court of law to apply for a protection order. The police officer should assist the victim of domestic violence (Section 2) by referring to the court responsible for the protection order, which usually forms part of the family courts section, as well as to inform them of the right to institute criminal proceedings.

While applications for protection orders are by way of an affidavit, in practice the applicant approaches the clerk of the court who will talk to the applicant regarding the process. The applicant will relate his or her case to the clerk of the court who will take down what the applicant is saying (Smith *et al.* 2004:2005).

# 3.2.6 Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act (No. 32 of 2007)

The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act, 2007 deals with all legal aspects relating to sexual offences in a single statute, comprehensively and extensively review and amend all aspects of the laws and the implementation of the laws relating to sexual offences by repealing the common law offence of rape and replacing it with a new expanded statutory offence of rape applicable to all forms of sexual penetration without consent, irrespective of gender, and enacting corresponding new statutory offences; enacting comprehensive provisions dealing with the creation of certain new, expanded or amended sexual offences against children and persons who are mentally disabled, including offences relating to sexual exploitation or grooming, exposure to or display of pornography and the creation of child pornography (Republic of South Africa, 2007).

This Act aims to address the particular vulnerability of children and persons who are mentally disabled in respect of sexual abuse or exploitation; eliminating the differentiation drawn between the age of consent for different consensual sexual acts and providing for special provisions relating to the prosecution and adjudication of consensual sexual acts between children older than 12 years but younger than 16 years; criminalising any attempt, conspiracy or incitement to commit a sexual offence; providing the SAPS with new investigative tools when investigating sexual offences or other offences involving the Human Immune Virus (HIV) status of the perpetrator (As confirmed by this Act (Donald, Dawes & Louw, 2000)

The Act assists in providing courts with extra-territorial jurisdiction when hearing matters relating to sexual offences; providing certain services to certain victims of sexual offences, inter alia, to minimise or, as far as possible, eliminate secondary traumatisation, including affording a victim of certain sexual offences the right to require that the alleged perpetrator be tested for his or her Human Immune Virus (HIV) status and the right to receive Post Exposure Prophylaxis in certain circumstances; establishing and regulating a National Register for Sex Offenders (McQuoid-Mason, 2008:847-848).

## 3.2.7 The Children's Act (No. 38 of 2005)

The Children's Act (No. 38 of 2005) intends to accomplish the following:

- To give effect to certain rights of children as contained in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996.
- To set out principles relating to the care and protection of children.
- To define parental responsibilities and rights.
- To make further provision regarding children's courts.
- To provide for the issuing of contribution orders.
- To make new provision for the adoption of children.
- To provide for inter-country adoption.
- To give effect to the 'Hague Convention on Inter-Country Adoption.'
- To prohibit child abduction and to give effect to 'The Hague Convention on International Child Abduction.'
- To provide for surrogate motherhood.
- To create certain new offences relating to children.
- To provide for matters connected therewith.

During February 2020, the President of the Republic of South Africa, Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa's State of the Nation Address (SONA) highlighted that the government has implemented plans to curb domestic VAW and children (Kempen, 2020:10-12). President Ramaphosa stated that the government implemented an emergency action plan and reprioritised R1.6 billion to support this plan (Kempen, 2020:10-12). The South African President acknowledged that domestic violence is the current pressing issue in the country, and that "over last six months, the nation has been galvanised across communities, government, civil society, religious, the judiciary and parliament to end the crisis of violence perpetrated by men against women" (Parenzee, Artz & Moult, 20020:24).

Subsequently, the president said that the national government would be amending various Acts to help solve some problems, and that the DVA, 1998 will be amended to better protect victims of domestic violence, and the Sexual Offences Act, 2007 to broaden categories of sex offenders whose names must be included in the 'National Register' for sex offenders. The government will also pass laws to tighten bail and sentencing conditions in cases that involve gender-based violence (Donald, Dawes & Louw, 2000).

#### 3.3. THEORENTICAL FRAMEWORK ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

## 3.3.1 The roots of Socio-cultural Approach

The combination of the concepts social and culture is the source of the concept 'sociocultural', used as a compound concept in the social sciences. The sociocultural theory derives from Vygotsky (2008:12). The assumption is that he coined the term sociocultural to explain his thoughts and ideas on how society and culture influence the learning and developmental process of a person (Pérez, 1998:253-270). A pioneer of the 'Socio-cultural Approach' was the Soviet Psychologist [Lev Vygotsky] in 1997, Vygotsky (Luriâ & Knox, 2013:8-12), who became interested in developmental psychology and helped to change the face of the field. According to Vygotsky (1993:15), culture is "the product of man's social life and his public activity and If social is every cultural and culture is a product of man's social life, then the concepts social and culture are virtually the same."

Kimberly (2005:48) states that the term social implies "interaction with others" and relates to society and the way it is organised (Lupton, 1999). Society refers to people, in general, thought of as a large organised group of people who relate to each other and have their way of life. It is proposed that interactions made by children can shape and influence both the way in which they perceive the world and their cognitive processes ((Vygotsky, Luriâ & Knox, 2013:8-12). The way children learn and develop varies from culture to culture and is sometimes specific to each individual society. While the resulting cognitive processes may be unique to each culture, the way in which they are handed down from generation to generation is often similar (Vygotsky, Luriâ & Knox, 2013:8-12).

## 3.3.2 Socio-cultural Theory on victimisations of women and children

The 'Socio-cultural Perspective' emphasises that "victimisation is the outcome of the historical treatment of women and the current patriarchal make-up of the society" (Peacock, 2015:48-50). A common method of explaining what makes and defines us as individuals is the application of the sociocultural approach. This approach emphasises the influence of the society that we are living in our learning process. According to the sociocultural approach, cultural factors such as language, art, social norms and social structures can play a significant role in the development of our cognitive abilities (Lupton, 1999).

This approach focuses on the traditional role of females and males in the society, and on the traditional role where females are regarded as male property of the father or husband subject to control and discipline (Peacock, 2015:27). The manifestation of values and norms inherited in our society, such as the notion that men have the authority to discipline their female partners and children, may contribute to the victimisation of women and children (Walker, 2009:7). Limited opportunities and restricted socialisation of women in the society make them vulnerable to domestic violence (Peacock, 2015:27). In terms of culture, women are often raised to be submissive to their husbands (Men). Culturally, when a man marries a wife, the woman becomes his property. Women do not have any say concerning their bodies such as issues of family planning (Peacock, 2015:27).

Women have been socialised in a way that their role is in the kitchen and for childbearing (Peacock, 2015:48-50). Sonjani (2011:18-19) submits that liberals emphasise existing attitudes and the way in which gender roles operate in most African culture. Most African society is dominated by males with women in a subordinate position, considered and treated as men's properties (Peacock, 2015:48-50). Radical feminists put the blame for domestic VAW and children on men. The key focus of radicals is on patriarchy, which permits men to dominate and control women. Patriarchy and male dominance are factors contributing to domestic VAW and children (Peacock, 2015:27).

Sometimes police officials sympathise with the culprit (if he is a male) than the victim if she is a female (Altbeker, 2005:3). The reason for this sympathy is that police officials are men who are born and socialised in a violent male-controlled society which affects them even when they are performing their responsibilities regardless of their training. For example, most SAPS members are trained in handling domestic violence cases, but patriarchy still dominates their thinking and actions. The Socio-cultural Theory is applicable to this study, as it emphasises the role of culture and how individuals are socialised in respect of gender and roles. Women are being socialised in a way that they become submissive to their husbands, which make them to be more vulnerable to abuse.

Men are socialised in a way that they are more important than women; they are automatic inheritors of their parents' belongings in which inequality develops (Abrahams & Jewkes, 1999). According to Bowman (2013:21), "almost every traditional society is patriarchal and woman's place within this scheme was decidedly subordinate. The institutionalisation of this inequality remains common in the African customary law. According to Peacock (2015:27) women are almost without remedy upon divorce and economic abuse is supported strongly in African culture and thus, making the abuse of women complex to deal with as the abuse goes beyond the husband but to the broader extended family and it is also said that they have no right to inherit from their husbands, are not regarded as sharing ownership of marital property/land.

This theory articulates that main factors contributing to domestic VAW and children are the product of their commitment to cultural values and norms that accept violence as a means of resolving interpersonal conflicts. Inequalities (Economic) is referred to as factors contributing to domestic violence. For example, labour division where males earn more than females and the system of white and pink job promotes the vulnerability of women due to low wages. Sociocultural in this study is therefore understood to refer to the context and relational dynamics between people of a given society and how that affects and influences their patterns of thought, knowledge, beliefs, values, behaviour, customs and traditions.

# 3.3.3 Existing criticisms of Socio-cultural Theory on victimisations of women and children, focusing on domestic violence

Lui and Mathews (2005:392) mention that Vygotsky's 'Socio-cultural Theory' has neglected the role of individuals at the expense of the collective. Instead, Vygotsky asserted that the mind is not separate from the group. Vygotsky's perspective is that knowing is relative to the situation in which the knowers find themselves (individual is influenced by the environment) (Lloyd & Fernyhough, 1999). However, this theory does not recognise that individuals can rise above the social norms based on their abilities to bring about personal understanding (Lui & Mathews, 2005:392). For example, a child who is gifted or a critical thinker. Lambert and Clyde (2000:29) emphasise that Vygotsky's theory has neglected the fact that an individual can influence the environment and think above the norms and morals of the society.

According to Vygotsky (2008:12), social, cultural and historical beliefs and norms play a pivotal role on an individual (Ellis, 2000:193-220). Also, Vygotsky's theory does not provide as many specific hypotheses to test as did Piaget's theory, which stressed how a child's interactions and explorations influenced development, suggesting that development is largely universal, and that it is through the child's experiences of manipulating and changing the world that the child acquires knowledge about relations within and between people and objects (Marginson & Dang, 2017:116-129).

The main criticisms of Vygotsky's work concerns are based on the assumptions that it does not seem to apply to all social and cultural groups, because social groups may not be whole and equal with all children being able to gain the same meaning from engagement (Lui & Mathews, 2005:392). This theory further emphasises that the victimisation of women and children is the result of the historical make-up of the society in which gender role is more important, and men are regarded as automatic inheritors of their parents' property (Peacock, 2015:27). This has excluded cultures where females are automatic inheritors of their parents' property (Lloyd & Fernyhough, 1999). The patriarchal system of the society and the way in which culture regards women as property of their husbands make them more vulnerable to domestic violence (Peacock, 2015:48-50).

In this study, the researcher focused on culture as main factors contributing to domestic VAW and children. The victimisation of women and children is the outcome of the historical makeup of the society. In African culture, women and children are raised to be submissive to their husbands or fathers, which make them to be more vulnerable to abuse. Culture presents that a girl child is regarded as less important than a boy child (Peacock, 2015:48-50). In most African culture, boys are regarded as automatic inheritors of parents' property, which results in inequality. The gender roles that are made towards women and men supress women and give men power. When a woman starts gaining power, men start abusing them because the society had labelled men to be the ones ruling and reigning.

## 3.3.4 The lasting value of Socio-cultural Theory on responding to victimisations of women and children on domestic domain

The 'Socio-cultural Model' looks at a macro level analysis of family violence (Peacock, 2015:48-50). According to Abrahams and Jewkes (1999), sociocultural theories are mainly known for relying on factors that are outside of the family as causing violence, namely: cultural norms, social structured inequalities, attitudes, surrounding violence, abuse and family relations (Peacock, 2015:48). The theory emphasises that cultural norms contribute to domestic violence. For example, rules or expectations of behaviour and norms within a cultural or social group can encourage violence (Mann & Takyi, 2009:323-335).

Cultural and social norms are regarded as highly influential in shaping individual behaviour, including the use of violence (Mann & Takyi, 2009:323-335). Cultural acceptance of violence, either as a normal method of resolving conflict or as a usual part of rearing a child (Kozulin, Ageyev, Gindis & Miller, 2003). Social tolerance of violent behaviour is likely learned in childhood through the use of corporal punishment or witnessing violence in the family in the media or in other settings (Bent-Goodley, 2005:195-203). The Socio-cultural Theory holds the belief that according to culture, sex is a man's right in marriage. Sociocultural factors have three dimensions that pertain to domestic violence (Kasturirangan, Krishnan, & Riger, 2004:318-332).

Firstly; the social system is a major structural source of stress for individuals. Secondly, there are numerous factors that contribute to family and social conflict; thirdly, several social cultural situations provide opportunities for learning to become violent and to maintain violent behaviour (Kasturirangan, Krishnan & Riger, 2004:318-332). According to Peacock (2015:48-50), besides the two well-known theories, the Structural Functional theory and the theory of the Subculture of Violence, the Learning theory, the Exchange theory, the Anomie theory and the Resource theory also come under a sociocultural analysis of violence (Kasturirangan, Krishnan, & Riger, 2004:318-332).

The main idea of the Socio-cultural Theory is that people's mental abilities are shaped by the culture they live in and the way they interact with others (Lehrner & Allen, 2008:220-234). The main desire for Vygotsky (1999) was to design a new way to look at and come up with solutions to educational and social problems of the time (Kozulin, Ageyev, Gindis & Miller, 2003). They are factors contributing to women and children abuse, besides biological instinct, caused humans to act the way they do and suggested a way in which culture plays part in each person's nature (Bent-Goodley, 2005:195-203).

The Socio-cultural Theory emphasises that relatives, parents, peers and society have an important role in forming a high level of functioning (Bent-Goodley, 2005:195-203). This theory holds the belief that every function in the child's cultural development appears twice on the social level and on the individual level (Jewkes, Levin & Penn-Kekana, 2002:1603-1617). This means that skills that children learn from first level are related to interactions with others and take the information and use it within themselves.

The Socio-cultural Theory emphasises that domestic violence is the outcome of the historical treatment of women and children and the patriarchal make-up of the society (Peacock, 2015:48-50). Culture is regarded as a factor contributing to domestic VAW and children because of the norms and beliefs that women and children are the property of the husband and the father in terms of discipline, and that IPV is a taboo subject and therefore disrespectful (Kasturirangan, Krishnan, & Riger, 2004:318-332).

Culture emphasises that there is no sexual violence, because man's right in marriage is sex. According to the socio-cultural perspective, culture holds the belief that divorce is a shameful thing and a disgrace to the entire family, which makes them more vulnerable to abuse (Mann & Takyi, 2009:323-335). According to Bowman (2013:21), women and children are raised to be submissive to their husbands, which makes them to be vulnerable to abuse (Peacock, 2015:48-50). The historical tradition where boys are valued than girl children, and boys are automatic inheritors of the parent's property leads to inequality (Bowman, 2013:21). Inequality makes women and girls to be more vulnerable to violence because of their dependability to men (Peacock, 2015:48-50).

In our postmodern society, the Socio-cultural Theory is used in learning to explain that learning occurs during social interactions between individuals. It is one of the dominant theories of education today. According to the Socio-cultural Theory, learning happens first through social interaction and second through an individual's internalisation of social behaviours (Vygotsky, Luriâ & Knox, 2013:8-12).

#### 3.4. SUMMARY

According to the above chapter (Three), it is quite clear that domestic violence is a pressing issue in South Africa and around the globe, where women and children are victimised. Also, according to the Socio-cultural Theory, culture is regarded as the main factor contributing to domestic VAW and children. This theory emphasises that cultural norms and beliefs of the society lead to domestic VAW and children, who are regarded as the property of the husband and father in terms of discipline, which makes them to be more vulnerable to abuse.

According to the Socio-cultural Theory, the victimisation of women and children is the outcome of the historical patriarchal makeup of the society where gender inequality occurs. A boy is valued than a girl child. Boys are regarded as automatic inheritors of parents' property, which makes women to depend on their husbands, leading to economic abuse.

The CJS holistically derives its legislative mandates from number of Acts, inclusinf the Constitutional foundations (Constitution, 1996) and the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977, which cover all the categories of the department's function. These includes: The DVA, 1998, which is the law that deals with domestic violence in South Africa. Its aim is to provide protection to people who are experiencing domestic violence and commits the government to stop domestic violence by creating obligations on law enforcement bodies such as the SAPS, Arms and Ammunition Act, 1969 and Firearms Control Act, 2000, which emphasises that SAPS officials may seize any weapon used in domestic violence. The Protection of Harassment Act, 2011, which provides a quick, easy and affordable civil remedy in the form of a protection order for incidences of stalking.

Furthermore, the Prevention of Family Violence Act, 1993, dealing with crime against victims of family violence, which includes maltreatment of children. The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act (No.32 of 2007) deals with all legal aspects relating to sexual offences. The Children's Act, 2005, giving effect to certain rights of children as contained in the Constitution, 1996 and sets out principles relating to the care and protection of children.

The 'Socio-cultural Perspectives' has been criticised because it focusses on cultural norms and values where males are regarded as automatic inheritors of their parents' properties, and less on culture that females are automatic inheritors of their parents' properties. This chapter discussed the theoretical and analytical framework. The next chapter (four) focuses on research design and methodology.

#### **CHAPTER FOUR**

## DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

#### 4.1. INTRODUCTION

Chapter (three) revealed that culture is a main factor contributing to domestic violence. According to the socio-cultural perspective, the victimisation of women and children is the outcome of the historical make up and patriarchal society, where gender roles dominate. This chapter (four) outlines methodological approaches and interview schedule guide employed in this study. In addition, issues relating to data collection and sampling are discussed. This section also presents ethics that were considered during this study. Finally, the researcher discusses the data analysis process and limitations of this study.

#### 4.2. THE FOLLOWED RESEARCH PROCESS

The data presentations, analysis and interpretation were discussed and linked with the consulted literature studies, legislative frameworks and theoretical frameworks linkages, as this study affirms. This section primarily focuses on introducing findings of this study, while analysing the collected data. The main aim of this study was to gain understanding of factors contributing to domestic VAW and children in Mankweng policing area. Information was gathered from accounts given by 15 participants, 12 SAPS officials and 03 social workers who are attached to the SAPS FCS at Mankweng area as indicated in the introduction of this study. Two interview schedules were utilised as instruments for data collection. Data gleaned was organised according to the themes that emerged during the analysis.

Also embedded in this chapter is the substantiation of the collected data with existing theories that guided this study (Mouton & Marias, 1990). As the data was collected in two phases, this chapter will present and discuss data found from twelve participants. Thereafter, the chapter will concentrate on information gathered from three social workers. The use of code was initiated to protect the identity of participants, as it is in line with the ethical principle of anonymity in social research.

The emerged Seven (07) themes and challenges are discussed focusing on the following: 1) Inexhaustible types of abuses experienced by women and children; 2) The unbearable effects relating to exposure to violence incidences during early childhood; 3) Turbulent causes of domestic violence; 4) The toxic relationship between victims and perpetrators; 5) Disheartening challenges faced when responding to domestic violence by the local officials and victims; 6) Notable reasons for victims to stay in abusive relationships; and 7) The inadequate effectiveness of current policies dealing with domestic violence. Therefore, it was hoped that this chapter sets the stage for the next chapter, which focuses on the interpretation of research findings.

A qualitative research approach was employed as its methods suited the requirements of this study. This was based on the types of questions and the research problem, which prescribed an in-depth understanding of factors contributing to domestic VAW and children. To gain the appropriate information on this topical issue, several related questions were formulated from the problem statement. The key posed questions to the participants were indicated in paragraph 1.6.2.4 of chapter one of this study.

The adopted research approach (Qualitative) was tailored in such a way that the researcher has a first-hand involvement with the social world. This implies that the researcher is not an observer but is involved in this study. As such it becomes an active part of the event that he or she is investigating. In addition, case study and qualitative method are conducive for detailed examination of any case. Scholars who share the same sentiments concur that qualitative researches provide rich descriptions of the world than quantitative studies that divert their attention on developing generalisations. The argument by Bryman (2016:61) in paragraph 1.6.2 of the introduction section of this study supports the above statement that a case study and the qualitative method are conductive and provide rich descriptions of the world than quantitative studies. `.

Male domestic VAW and children is fairly a new area in South Africa. Most researchers, practitioners and other service organisations have tended to focus on women and children when it comes to gender based violence. This is evident in the researcher's literature search, where most of the information gathered leaned towards women experiences of abuse perpetrated by their partners. Those researches that have focused on men most of them have been quantitative in nature.

The scarcity of information on factors contributing to domestic violence is what inspired the researcher to pursue this study. Qualitative methods are used when a research requires an in-depth understanding of a social aspect as indicated by Bryman (2016:61) in paragraph 1.6.2 of the introduction section of this study. This study required an in-depth understanding of factors that lead to domestic VAW and children. Furthermore, Davhana-Maselesele (2003:15) made the discussion in chapter one paragraph 1.6.2, that the qualitative approach has the advantage of being flexible as it allows the interviewer to respond to new theories and concepts raised by participants. During the data collection process, the researcher was able to alter some of the questions after either facing a difficulty with a question or depending on the participants' participation(s).

The researcher chose the qualitative research approach because it has been incorporated in many gender violence studies conducted before and has produced substantial results that have reproduced new gender violence strategies and programmes. Examples of such studies is research conducted in Rietgat police station, Tshwane Gauteng Province, which focused on evaluating the competence of police officials when dealing with domestic violent cases. This study encouraged the police to search for innovative methods of policing, and to render quality service to victims of domestic violence (Manamela, 2006:26). Bendall's (2010:101) study focused on the available support and safety to victims of domestic violence in South Africa, and the action taken in order to prevent it from occurring as stated in paragraph 1.1. of the introduction and background section of this study.

The aim of the targeted sample was to get an approximate representation of the possible target population. The research was targeting SAPS and social workers who are attached to the SAPS FCS. Thus, the population consisted of all SAPS and social workers at Mankweng police area. Due to the complexity of the issue of domestic violence, the researcher faced a number of challenges in finding possible participants. The CoviD-19 regulations were to be followed, such as restriction of movement and more confirmed cases of Covid-19 in Mankweng police station, where the police station was closed for fourteen days. Initially, the researcher intended to interview participants through an audio recorder. This did not come to fruition because of fear of Covid-19.

The research also included three Mankweng social workers who are attached to SAPS FCS using purposive sampling. These social workers were in constant interaction with domestic violence cases. These were made part of the sample as they have special knowledge of domestic violence and offer services that aim to reduce domestic violence.

The non-probability purposive sampling method is suitable to this study, as the aim was to gain information on domestic violence on factors contributing to domestic violence. Purposive samples have been largely incorporated in feminist researches as they target battered women in search of their experiences. Moreover, the researcher deliberated with local SAPS officials and social workers to be considered as part of the sample. Because the research required an in-depth study, a sample of twelve SAPS officials and three social workers was selected as qualitative studies focus more on content than quantity. This required the researcher through the SAPS to locate SAPS officials. As a result, twelve SAPS officials and three social workers who are attached to SAPS FCS in Mankweng were interviewed.

The non-probability purposive sampling method was utilised during the sampling procedure. This type of sampling is chosen with a 'purpose in mind'. In addition, Burns and Grove (2005:246) in chapter one paragraph 1.6.2 revealed that purposive sampling is selected by the researcher based on predefined criteria. Feminists concur that the essence of their research works is to locate the 'knower' in the production of knowledge. The researcher thus only goes to those people who in his/her opinion are likely to have the required information and be willing to share it. Bryman (2016:408) argues that this sampling method is extremely useful when one wants to develop something about that which only little is known.

Fifteen face to face semi-structured interviews (For the 12 SAPS FCS officials and Three social workers) were utilised as means of collecting data. The researcher chose this data collection method because of its flexibility during the actual interview. The researcher was able to follow up on interesting avenues that emerged in the interview. It allowed the researcher to get a detailed picture of participants' beliefs about or accounts of a particular topic as indicated in paragraph 1.6.2 of in introduction section of chapter of this study (Davhana-Maselesele, 2003:16).

The interviews were conducted using an audio recorder to enable the researcher to have detailed information on what would have transpired during the interview. The researcher notified the selected participants before the interview about the use of the tape recorder and gained their consent so as to ensure that they could express themselves freely. The interviews took between 30 to 40 minutes each depending on the openness of participants. As indicated in the introduction section of this study, the interviews with the selected 15 participants were conducted in English.

The face-to-face semi structured interviews required the researcher to have a set of predetermined questions in an interview schedule. As stated in chapter one of this study, Bryman (2016:408), stated that the interview schedule in semi-structured interviews is there to guide rather than to dictate the interview process. It is important to note that data collection was done in two phases, first for the twelve SAPS officials and the second three for the social workers. Hence, the researcher designed two interview schedules attached as Appendix C for the local SAPS officials and Appendix D for Social workers' participants. The interview schedule was divided into seven themes. Furthermore, the demographic information of the selected participants' forms part of this chapter.

As initial indicated, the identified themes and challenges established by this study revealed the following. The first theme questioned participants about the inexhaustible types of abuse experienced by women and children. The second theme focused on the unbearable effects relating to exposure abuse during early childhood. The third theme concentrated on the turbulent causes of domestic VAW and children. The fourth theme focused on the nature of the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator. The fifth theme focused on challenges faced by police and victims in Mankweng police area when responding to domestic VAW and children. The sixth theme was concerned with why victims stay in abusive relationships. The last theme was concerned with the effectiveness of the current strategies in responding to domestic VAW and children

The interviews were conducted separately to provide them with the opportunity to speak freely without feeling scared or embarrassed to share their understanding. Only two participants were interviewed each day and after each session. The participants were debriefed about the purpose of this study. Moreover, this study was undertaken in Mankweng Police area, which falls within Polokwane Municipal area. Participants were identified from SAPS officials and social workers, where the SAPS already work closely with the communities on gender equality initiatives.

#### 4.3. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS REVISTED

In this section, ethical considerations that were adhered to in respect of this study are discussed in detail. As a mandatory requirement of a master's degree for all students, it is very important for the researcher to comply with ethics as they ensure that no harm or bad treatment will be experienced by study participants and all affected parties. Ethics are very important. The following considerations were made to ensure that participants are treated fairly, equally and without experiencing any harm: all study participants were not forced in any way to participate. Informed consent and confidentially were also discussed accordingly with participants.

The researcher applied for ethical clearance at both the UL Turfloop Ethical Clearance Committee (TREC) and the SAPS. The following ethical considerations will be adhered to:

#### 4.3.1 Informed consent

The data collection commenced with the signing of consent forms by participants, after which the researcher readdressed the objectives of this study to each selected participant. The familiarisation with the audio recorder followed, as it is unethical to make use of recording instruments without the consent of the participant as indicated in chapter one of this study paragraph 1.9.1 (Detert, Treviño & Sweitzer, 2008:374).

The interviews followed the same pattern, albeit with a great deal of flexibility for each interview. All interviews were conducted at the Mankweng police station as advised by the organisation in order to avoid the researcher's safety being jeopardised. Furthermore, the fact that interviews were conducted at the organisation was also done to cement the trust between the researcher and participants as the organisation was viewed as a safe and secure place, which participants are used to.

## 4.3.2 Confidentiality

Confidentiality was exercised through the use of pseudonyms in order to ensure that the participant's identities were protected. The researcher also wishes to point out that, as participants were accessed through the SAPS, which is obligated to maintain the confidentiality of participants. Kumar (2005), states that, in trying to maintain the confidentiality of the participant, the researcher should ensure that information gathered cannot be traced back to its source by anyone else except the researcher. The use of pseudonyms was mainly implemented to ensure that information given by participants could not be traced back to them.

#### 4.3.3 Exposure to risk and harm

Exposure to harm or risk of participants was taken into consideration in this study, as the topic was a very sensitive one. It is most likely that participants to some extent were afraid that information will be used against them in some way. The researcher made sure to reiterate the fact that information gathered would be used for academic purposes only and would not under any circumstances be used against them.

Data analysis is a process of bringing order, structure and meaning to the mass of collected data as indicated by Creswell (1994:155) chapter 1, paragraph 1.6.2.5 of this study. This study used content data to analyse data gathered from individual interviews. However, the analysis of the data gathered from these two different groups was done separately although using the same approach. Content data analysis essentially involves searching for trends, patterns and relationships.

## 4.3.4 Systematic demonstrations of data analysis

In the first stage, the researcher listened to the taped interviews and then the information was transcribed in English as mentioned in chapter one under data analysis procedure. In addition, in paragraph 1.6.2.5 of the introductory section of this study, Creswell (1994:155) postulated that the tedious process of transcribing is good for novice researchers as it draws them close to the data and will also help in the labelling units of meaning. The researcher synthesised the data gathered by putting together information from all participants. After transcribing the data, the researcher had to search for shared themes extracted from the textual data transcribed which is called open coding.

Open coding is a process of categorising segments of data and simultaneously summarises and accounts for each piece of data. It allows for effective analysis of primary data by providing a framework for selecting and sorting information. Creswell (1994:155) in paragraph 1.6.2.5 of this study indicated that the analyst has to read through the entire text in order to get the global impression of the content before codification. Some of the codes that emerged during transcribing were infidelity, cultural roles, and presence of alcohol, expression of power, money issues and so forth. Codes represent the decisive link between the original raw data that is textual material such as interview transcripts on the one hand and the researcher's theoretical concepts on the other.

During transcribing, the researcher was able to adopt connections between information gathered in the literature chapters. This enabled the researcher to compare the two and to help with the formation of the themes. For example, in the literature chapters, the use of alcohol is portrayed as one of the causes of gender violence. This postulation was supported during the interviews as some participants stated that they in most cases beat up their wives because they were drunk.

After the naming of the numerous codes, the researcher then grouped the codes/concepts together into categories to make the data meaningful and manageable. The next stage, which is the axial coding, required the researcher to put data found in new ways by finding connections between the categories found. Finally, the researcher substantiated data found with existing theories.

## 4.3. ADDITIONAL ENCOUNTERED STUDY LIMITATIONS

Stemming from paragraph 1.11 of chapter one of this study, it can be further stated that there were a number of challenges that were faced by the researcher during the data collection processes as follows:

- The first one was experiencing difficulties in accessing participants. The researcher initially intended to carry out the research through the Mankweng police station. However, this was difficult due to the Covid-19 pandemic because physical distance and wearing of face shield (Dust masks) was compulsory. Thus, conducting the interview was impossible, where most participants were writing their responses on a page.
- The issue of domestic violence is a very sensitive one. The researcher felt that
  most participants' information was selective as there were tendencies to project a
  non-blaming picture of the self. The sensitivity of the topic was evidenced by the
  way most of the participants were answering questions.
- The researcher was a woman. This might have contributed to participants' selectivity of information because most perpetrators are men. There were also more men than women participants. This is in the light of the fact that participants were male officials. The researcher felt that they anticipated she would take women and children's sides and neglect their side of the story.

## 4.4. RESULTS FROM THE FIELDWORK (CONDUCTED INTERVIEWS)

In this section, information gathered from in-depth individual interviews conducted with police and social workers will be discussed. Themes and subthemes emerging from interviews will be discussed. In this study, all participants revealed that there are various factors contributing to domestic violence. These include alcohol consumption, financial dependency, pre-exposure to abuse and culture.

## 4.4.1 Demographic information of the selected participants

**Table 1:** Demographic information of the selected study participants

Age	Gender	Educational level	Ranks	Nationality	Total
		Occupational status			
30-39	Male	Grade 12	Constable	African	
	Male	Grade 12	Sergeant	African	5
	Male	Grade 12	Constable	African	
	Female	BSW degree	Social worker	African	
	Female	BSW degree	Social worker	African	
40-49	Male	Grade 12	Constable	African	
	Male	Diploma	Sergeant	African	6
	Male	Grade 12	Sergeant	African	
	Male	Grade 12	Constable	African	
	Female	Grade 12	Sergeant	African	
	Female	BA(Hons) Psychology	Social worker	African	
50-59	Male	Degree	Lt col	African	
	Male	Grade 12	Captain	African	4
	Male	Degree	LT Col	African	
	Male	Grade 12	Colonel	Indian	

Source: Researcher's illustration (2020)

Table 1 depicts the demographic variables that characterised the sample. The research relied on information given by twelve SAPS officials and social workers in Mankweng police area who are attached to the local SAPS FCS. The sample consisted of SAPS officials between the ages of 34 and 59 years and three social workers ranging from the age of 34 to 47 female participants.

There were two participants (SAPS officials) under the age of 35 and one was 39. Five participants were between the ages of 40 and 49, including one woman. Three were in their 30s' and four in their 50s. Among the three social workers, two were in their early 30s and one was 47 years. Between the two participants (Social workers), one was thirty-four and the other one was thirty-five.

## 4.4.2 Identified themes and challenges

The emerged seven (07) themes and challenges are discussed based on the following: inexhaustible types of abuses experienced by women and children; the unbearable effects relating to exposure to violence incidences during early childhood; turbulent causes of domestic violence; the toxic relationship between victims and perpetrators; disheartening challenges faced when responding to domestic violence by local officials and victims; Notable reasons for victims to stay in abusive relationships and the inadequate effectiveness of current policies dealing with domestic violence.

## 4.4.2.1 Types of abuses experienced by women and children

The answers to the following question gave rise to the theme and its subthemes:

"What are types of abuse experienced by women and children in Mankweng police area?"

The purpose of this question was to determine types of abuse experienced by victims of domestic violence in Mankweng area. It is necessary for role players to understand the types of abuse experienced by women and children so that programmes dealing with the issue of gender-based violence can be initiated in order to positively contribute to the programme and for it to have the required impact. It became clear during interviews with the local SAPS and social workers that in most cases of domestic violence, women and children experience physical, emotional, economic, verbal, sexual and femicide.

This category sheds light on participants' description of types of abuse experienced by women and children in Mankweng policing area. This part answers question one of the research questions, which seeks to inquire on the types of abuse experienced by women and children. When asked about types of abuse experienced by women and children in Mankweng area, participants (social workers and local SAPS FCS officials) revealed that in most cases of domestic violence, victims encounter, physical, sexual, psychological and economic abuse.

This view by participants reads with paragraph 2.2.1 of the literature review section of this study. Manamela (2006:16) and Epstein (2003:9) reveal that domestic violence may take place in different forms such as physical, psychological, sexual and economic abuse. Victims who have experienced physical abuse suffer assault, including body harm or visible injuries. Physical abuse may consist of kicking, hitting, slapping, choking, burning and shooting the victim, and may lead to murder. The following sub-themes emerged from the data gathered:

## Physical abuse

When asked about the types of abuse experienced by women and children in Mankweng, participants revealed that one of the major abuses experienced by women and children is physical abuse. In paragraph 2 of 2.2.1 of the literature review section, Manamela (2006:56) and Henwood (2001:4) in paragraph one of 2.2.1.1 confirm the findings of this study that in most cases, victims of domestic violence suffer physical abuse, which involves physical assault, and includes body harm or invisible injuries. Physical abuse may consist of kicking, hitting, slapping, chocking, burning and shooting the victim. Participants stated that victims of physical abuse reported that:

"They are pushed, grabbed that hurts or frightens, twisted, pulled by hair in a way that really hurts or scares, throwing something, threatening to hurt physically, slapping, kicking, biting or hitting with a fist, threatened to use a knife/sword/gun, burning or scalding."

While the view by participants supports the argument by Viitala, Anh, Hagemann, Chau, Nguyet, Chi and Van (2011:46) in paragraph 2.2.1.1, in a 2010 study conducted on the quality of Criminal Justice Services available for victims of domestic violence in Vietnam by the UNODC, 900 women who are victims of domestic violence interviewed have reported violence, including the following: approximately 64% victims experienced pushing, grabbing, twisting arm or pulling hair in a way that really hurts or scares, 69% were thrown something that hurts or frightens, 83% were threatened to be hurt physically, 90% of victims were slapped, kicked, bit or hit with a fist, 37% used or threatened to use a knife/ sword/ gun, and 29% were strangled and suffocated.

## Psychological abuse

When asked about types of abuse experienced by women and children, one of the selected participants stated the following in verbatim: "Victim of domestic violence suffer emotional abuse which is associated with psychological, spiritual abuse and other forms of abuse related with human integrity". Participants' responses are supported by the argument by Manamela (2006:24) in paragraph one of 2.2.1.3 in the literature review section of chapter two, that emotional abuse is associated with psychological and spiritual abuse. Participants also revealed that emotional or psychological abuse involves verbal attacks and name calling.

The indicated argument in section 2.2.1.3 of literature review of this study by Madzivhandila (2015:31) confirms the above findings that emotional abuse involves acts such as verbal attacks, controlling behaviour, withholding affection by a person in an intimate relationship and name calling such as calling someone crazy or possessed as well as threats to the recipient's children, pets or belongings. Participants revealed that in a situation where children are emotionally abused, they are reported that:

"They are more likely to be ignored, isolated, favouring other sibling over them, forcing them do unnecessary chores, forcing them into adult roles, blackmailing, bribing them to do something against their will, and children who are neglected are denied the following: love, closeness, affection, food, care, clothes, not allowing them opportunity to play and often keep from school."

#### Verbal abuse

When asked about abuse experienced by women and children, the selected participants (Local SAPS FCS and social workers' officials) revealed that victims of domestic violence encounter verbal abuse, where they are disgraced and called by names such as being called stupid, useless and careless. Participants stated that in most cases, victims of domestic violence experience verbal abuse where they are likely to be called by names (Name calling) such as being called stupid, shouted at, screamed at, sworn at, insulted and labelled naughty. These views by participants read with the literature review section of this study (Madzihvandila, 2015:35) in chapter two topic 2.2.15.1, which reveals that victims of verbal abuse encounter emotional abuse, repeated insults or name calling, which lead to insomnia. Participants stated that victims revealed that due to the abuse they can't sleep at night:

"Him calling me names hurts more, I have fear, I am scared, I struggle to sleep at night, I think that he can do something bad to me and run away, I sleep during the day."

#### Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse is regarded as a major form of violence experienced by women and children. Participants mentioned that in most cases, women and children suffer from sexual harassment and sexual abuse in the form of rape, where women and children are raped by their intimate partners or fathers, siblings, uncles and extended family members. When asked about types of sexual abuse experienced by women and children, participants revealed that victims encounter sexual abuse, which includes, among others, touching, kissing and raping. Arguments made in paragraph 2.2.1.2 of the literature review section of this study. Vitala, Anh, Hagemann, Chau, Nguyet, Chi and Van (2011:46) confirm this finding that victims of sexual abuse experience rape, kissing, touching and forced to perform prostitution and sometimes they are raped as way of degrading them.

When asked about *who victims of sexual abuse are*, the selected participants stated that women and children encounter sexual abuse. But this occurs mostly in married women where their husbands think that because they have paid *Lobola*, they have the right to sex whenever they want it, and women do not have control over their bodies, including issues such as family planning. This view by participants was discussed in the theoretical framework section of chapter three 3.3.2 of this study. Peacock (2015:27) reveals that in most cases, married women do not report their victimisation because they are ashamed that they are failing to perform their duties as wives. Participants stated that victims of sexual offences experience anger rape where the perpetrator is known to the victim:

"While in anger rape perpetrator brutally beats and degrades his victim and usually in these kinds of rape the rapist knows the victim and he does not gain pleasure through rape but through humiliating and hurting the victim."

The argument by i paragraph 2.2.1.2 of chapter two of this study confirm the findings of a study by Madzivhandila (2015:28 & 30), that in anger rape, the perpetrator brutally beats and degrades his victim. Usually in these rapes, the rapist knows the victim and does not gain pleasure through rape but by humiliating and hurting the victim.

#### Economic abuse

One common source of conflict that the majority of participants mentioned was lack of money in the house. In the incidences, participants revealed that the perpetrator's inability to meet the needs of the family sparked many arguments in their relationships. In a bid to stop the arguments, they abused their partners physically, verbally and emotionally. Paragraph 2.2.1.4 of this study confirmed this finding as stated by Madzivhandila (2015:31) that economic abuse is regarded as another type of abuse encountered by victims of domestic violence (women and children). This type of abuse includes any coercive acts or limitation placed on an individual that have adverse economic implications on victims or dependents. This view by participants reads with literature review, paragraph 2.2.1.3 of this study.

Madzivhandila (2015:31) describes economic abuse as the unreasonable deprivation of economic or financial resources to which the victim is entitled under law or requires out of necessity, such as rent money or household necessities. Participants revealed that victims in most cases reported that perpetrators exercise control over their partners' access to economic resources, to which they are entitled under law or requires out of necessity, resulting in victims being financially dependent on perpetrators. This view is supported by the argument by Nicholas and Agius (2017:6) in paragraph 2.2.1.3 of the literature review section of this study, who explains emotional abuse as an IPV where the perpetrator has control over their partners' access to economic resources.

# 4.4.2.2 The unbearable effects relating to exposure to violence incidences during early childhood

The selected participants were also asked this question: "How do adult who have been exposed to domestic violence during childhood relate to and socially interact with others?" The purpose of this question was to determine the impact of childhood exposure to domestic violence in adulthood, and how they relate or socialise with others during adulthood.

The participants revealed that children who have been exposed to domestic violence at their early age develop some personality disorder, such as insecurities and mistrust. This view by participants reads with paragraph 2.2.2.1 of the literature review section of this study. Epstein (2003:17-18) has indicated that children who have been exposed to abuse will develop the following symptoms: headaches, ulcers, bedwetting, sleep disorders, abdominal pain and sons are more likely to abuse their future wives and daughters are more likely to be abused by their future husbands. Children who are grown up in an environment where their parents are abused have a high chance of abusing their partners in future.

When asked about how exposure to domestic violence at an early stage of development has an impact on an individual? Such as how they relate with others socially in adulthood, participants revealed that in most cases of domestic violence, you will find that the perpetrator has been exposed to abuse in their childhood. For example, a man who grows up in a family that a father was beating up his wife grow up knowing that if something goes wrong in a relationship, beating up is the solution of resolving the conflict. The argument by Epstein (2003:17) in paragraph 2.2.2.1 of the literature review section, who confirms the findings of this study, that exposure to domestic violence at childhood has an impact on children's education and social life as they may bully other kids.

Participants revealed that pre-exposure to domestic violence can lead to future abuse. For example, when a wife is getting married and her in-laws abuse her, there are higher chances that she is also going to abuse her daughter in-law, thinking this is the way of treating in-laws: releasing the pain suffered to her daughter in-law. Exposure to domestic violence can be regarded as another factor contributing to domestic VAW and children.

#### 4.4.2.3 Turbulent causes of domestic violence

This question was posed to participants: "What are the factors contributing to domestic VAW and children?"

The purpose of the question above was to determine factors contributing to VAW and children in Mankweng police area. During interviews with the local SAPS and social workers, participants stated that culture, alcohol, financial dependency, previous exposure to abuse, lack of resources and education and adultery are major factors contributing to domestic violence in Mankweng policing area. When the social workers were asked about their opinions on the causes of domestic violence, a varied response was solicited from this question although there were some similarities in some responses. For example, two of the three participants stated that alcohol abuse, unemployment, culture and jealousy; while one respondent added that the environment in which an individual belongs contributes to domestic VAW and children.

This information will be analysed in the following four subthemes:

#### Culture

When asked about factors contributing to domestic VAW and children in Mankweng, participants stated that culture is a major factor contributing to violence. The arguments made in paragraph 3.3.2 of this study. Barlow (1996) indicated that according to the sociocultural perspective, the victimisation of women and children is the outcome of the historical treatment of women and children, and the current patriarchal make-up of the society. The sociocultural approach emphasises that traditional role of females and males in the society contributes to VAW and children, because females are regarded as male property of the husband subject to control and discipline. The argument by Peacock (2015:48) in paragraph 2.2.3.2 of the literature review section of chapter two of this study confirms the findings of this study that women and children are regarded as husband's or father's property subjected to control and discipline.

Participants revealed that in most cases of domestic violence, men are perpetrators of the abuse, believing that because he has married his wife, he has control over the wife and children subjected to control and discipline. As the husband has paid lobola to the wife's parents, then according to culture, the wife should submit and has nothing to say concerning matters about their body, such as refusing to have sex or family planning. This view by participants reads with the theoretical framework section paragraph 3.3.2 of this study. Peacock (2015:27) made a discussion that cultural payment of lobola to the wife's parents makes her his property.

Participants further revealed that culture contributes to domestic VAW and children because according to culture, when women get married, family members are supposed to give her rules and regulations of getting married, including amongst others that she should submit to a husband.

The husband is the head of the family and rules everything. When he comes home late or the following morning, you are not allowed to ask where he comes from, you must just be glad that he finally came home alive. There is a saying in *Pedi* to support this, which says "Monna ke thaka o a naba, monna ke pudi o ja more o mongwe le o mongwe" which means a man can sleep all over and can have multiple wives. According to Pedi culture, as a woman, If you get married, you are not allowed to come back home, because by turning back you will make the family a laughingstock and be called by names such as poa bogadi or returned soldier. (There is a say in pedi that says lebitla la mosadi le bogadi). These rules and regulations make women and children vulnerable to abuse. This view by participants reads with section 3.3.2 of chapter three of this study. Sonjani (2011:18-19) submits that liberals emphasise existing attitudes, and the way in which gender roles operate in most African culture make women and children to be more vulnerable to abuse.

When asked about *how culture contributes to domestic violence*, participants (Social workers) contended that culture in most cases of domestic VAW and children was found to be more influential, because of the context that the society has nursed the view that men have power to discipline when they see fit, and women have accepted that is normal for men to abuse them. Participants had to say that:

"Women were raised in a way that they should be submissive to their husband, and believe that husband has the right to discipline their wife, such as being beaten is normal and men knowing beating a woman is normal and so it is a normal thing, I think that's a what makes it (Domestic violence)."

Participants emphasised that in African culture, beating up a woman is used as a means of discipline or punishment, and men who are able to discipline their wives were regarded with approval as maintaining order in the home.

#### Alcohol abuse

When asked *about factors contributing to abuse*, participants stated that alcohol and drug abuse do contribute to domestic VAW and children, because in most cases of abuse, you will find that the perpetrator was under influence of alcohol. The argument by Lipsey, Wilson, Cohen and Derzon (2002:245-246) in paragraph 2.2.3.1 of chapter two of this study confirmed this finding by indicating that most intimate violence takes place under the influence of alcohol and has been found to be influential in promoting violent crime. Participants revealed that alcohol-related violence is of major concern to society. Paragraph 2.2.3.1 of the kiterature review confirms the findings of this study. Jewkes (2002:1423) indicated that around half of all violent crimes are alcohol-related, and yet interventions for alcohol-related violence are under-developed.

Participants emphasised that alcohol consumption is playing a vital part in the increase in violence in Mankweng. The argument by Leonard (2001:235) in paragraph 2.2.3.1 of literature review confirms the findings of this study, while indicating that alcohol plays a role in the abuse of women. When asked about factors contributing to domestic VAW and children, participants stated that in most cases, fathers who could not provide for their families because of humiliation turn to drinking. Participants revealed that perpetrators abuse alcohol so that they will not be held accountable for their violent acts.

Others mentioned that some perpetrators just go to drink so that when asked about their behaviour, they will say I was drunk, and I do not remember anything so that they will not be held responsible for their violent action. Perpetrators lack conflict resolution skills because instead of dealing with what is bothering them, they go to drink and try to solve problems when they are under influence of alcohol, and because of the influence of alcohol, they start to be aggressive and abuse their wives and children. But few participants mentioned that some perpetrators abuse their wives and children even though they are not under the influence of alcohol. This view is supported by the argument made in the literature review of this study by Sonjani (2011:25) in section 3.2.1, who stated that many men abuse their women whether they are sober or drunk.

## Financial dependency

Participants revealed that man is being raised as the provider of the family and if they fail to provide for their family, they become frustrated and begin to be aggressive and abuse their wives and children. Due to the high unemployment rate in South Africa, most perpetrators of domestic violence are unemployed and have nothing to put on the table. Participants revealed that because men are raised to be heads and providers, when they encounter financial problems, they start to have low self-esteem and low confidence in such a way that they view themselves as useless and not men enough. The argument by Peacock (2015:48) in paragraph 3.3.2 of the theoretical framework section of this study indicated that African men are raised in a way that they are more superior to women. They are heads and providers of the family. When they are unable to provide, they become aggressive and abuse their wives and children.

They become aggressive to boost their ego by abusing their wives and children. In the current situation of Covid-19 pandemic where the country was put under level five of restriction of movement, men had to go home and spend more time there. The country has witnessed an increase in gender-based violence because most people are unemployed and depend on construction work, which applies the system of no work no pay; meaning that there was no income. Men begin to be frustrated and become aggressive to boost their ego for their failure to provide for the family; they then abuse their wives and children.

Participants revealed that domestic violence occurs mostly where victims depend on perpetrators. Women who are unemployed experience abuse because they depend on their abuser. Women and children do not report their victimisation because their abuser is the breadwinner. When the abuser is sentenced, they will struggle. Paragraph 1 of section 2.3.3 of literature review of this study confirms this finding as stated by Dauda (2011:28 & 50), while indicating that women in low economic status suffer domestic violence because of their dependence on their husbands, and that "60.1 % of cases are economically inactive and dependent on their partners.

#### 4.4.2.4 The toxic relationship between victims and perpetrators

The answers to the following question gave rise to this theme and its subthemes: "What is the relationship between victims and perpetrators"?

The purpose of this question was to determine the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator, to find out whether it is an intimate relationship or not. An intimate relationship includes, among others, husbands, fathers, siblings, guardians, stepparents or extended family members such as uncles, aunts and grandparents/children. It became clear during interviews with the local SAPS FCS and social workers that the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator is an intimate relationship.

When asked about the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator, participants stated that abuse occurs in intimate relationships. This view by participants reads with paragraph 2.2 of the literature review section of this study. Epstein (2003:9) indicated that in most cases the abuse occurs in intimate relationships. This includes husband and wife, siblings, guardians and stepparents. This information will be analysed in the following sub-themes:

#### Husband and wife

When asked about the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator, participants stated that domestic violence occurs between intimate partners such as husband and wife. The arguments made by Epstein (2003), in paragraph 2.2 of chapter two of this study confirmed the finding of this study indicating that domestic violence is perpetrated by men against their wives or intimate partners. Participants revealed that women and children are abused by people who are known or those who are supposed to protect them. This statement is supported by the argument made in the literature review section of this study.

Sibanda-Moyo Khonje and Brobbey (2017) in paragraph 2.2 of chapter two of this study indicated that women and children experience various types of abuse from their intimate partners or their husbands, which includes emotional, economic, physical, sexual abuse, murder, intimidation, harassment, stalking, damage to property, imminent harm, exploitation and discrimination.

#### Father and children

Participants revealed that victims (Children) of domestic violence in most cases encounter intimate violence where they are abused by their fathers. Children encounter physical, verbal, psychological and economic abuse from their fathers. Discussions made in paragraph 2.2 of the literature review section of this study by Sibanda-Moyo Khonje and Brobbey (2017:12) indicated that children suffer physical, verbal and economic abuse from their fathers. Participants revealed that in cases of domestic violence between children and their fathers, children experience physical, verbal and economic abuse, such as being beaten up, which results in injuries or bruises, while in economic abuse, they are not taken care of. Where children experience verbal abuse, they are called by names compared to other children. For example, other children are doing good than you do, called stupid and lazy.

#### Siblings

In most cases of abuse between siblings', participants revealed that the abuse occurs when parents are deceased where children fight for their parents' properties such as houses and a car, among others. The argument by Bowman (2013:21) in paragraph 3.3.2 of the theoretical framework section of this study indicated that a boy child is regarded as more important than a girl child. Participants revealed that a last born, especially a boy, will chase a sister out of their parents' home claiming that his parents' properties belong to him as he is the last born, according to culture. He is the automatic inheritor of the parents' properties. Paragraph one in section 3.3.2 of the theoretical framework of this study confirms the findings of this study. Peacock (2015:27) indicated that according to African culture, men are regarded as automatic inheritors of their parents' properties.

#### Guardians

When asked about *the abuse between children and guardians*, participants stated that in most cases of abuse between children and guardians, you would find that children's parents are not staying with their children, maybe because they are employed far away from home. People who stay with their children abuse them, for example, by forcing them to perform all chores at home. Children of their age are not supposed to perform or sometimes they are not cared for. This includes not giving them food, not allowing them to play with other kids, being beaten up and threatened to be killed if they tell their parents.

The indicated views by selected participants reads with topic 2.2.1.5.3 of the literature review section of this study. Madzihvandila (2015:35) indicated that in a situation where children are abused, they are more likely to be ignored, isolated, favouring other sibling over them, forcing them to do unnecessary chores, forcing them into adult roles, blackmailing and bribing them to do something against their will.

4.4.2.5 Challenges faced when responding to domestic violence by local officials and victims

4.4.2.5.1 Challenges faced by South African Police Service and social workers

This question was also asked to the selected participants: "What are challenges that hinders Mankweng police area when responding to domestic VAW and children".

The purpose of this question was to find out challenges faced by SAPS officials, social workers and victims when responding to domestic VAW and children.

When asked about *challenges faced by local social workers*, SAPS officials and victims when responding to domestic VAW and children, participants stated that they are faced with various challenges. These includes the fact that domestic violence occurs frequently, lack of resources, support and available information, victims withdraw cases, and some victims abuse the DVA, 1998.

Information collected will be analysed in the following three subthemes:

## Domestic violence occurs frequently

The participants revealed that other challenges in Mankweng is that domestic violence occurs frequently, and that there are more cases to attend. The process of sentencing and for the perpetrator to appear in court takes time to be finalised. Magistrates are lenient when sentencing perpetrators because in most cases the perpetrator is the breadwinner.

## Lack of resources support and available information

When asked about *challenges that hinder Mankweng police area*, participants stated that lack of resources is a major challenge in the area. The station is under construction. When crime is reported, the perpetrator is taken to nearby stations such as Polokwane and Botlokwa police station. The distance travelled to put the perpetrator in incarceration delays the participants of newly reported crime because the victim will wait for a long time for the officials to come to the crime scene. Participants stated that these delays by the officials to respond to the reported crime makes the community to lose trust on SAPS officials and results in them taking law into their own hands (Mob justice).

Victims of domestic violence do not report their abuse because they lack information on available protection and resources. Participants stated that in most cases of domestic violence, the perpetrator is the breadwinner and the victim fears to report the victimisation because when the perpetrator is sentenced, his family members will come and chase them and they will be homeless and lose the means of income. This view by participants reads with paragraph 2.2.5.2 of the literature review section of this study. Smith, Minnnaar and Schnetler (2004:118) reveal that economic status prohibits victims of domestic violence to report their victimisers, because in most cases, the perpetrator is a breadwinner in the family.

#### Withdrawals of cases

When asked about *challenges in Mankweng when responding to domestic VAW and children*, participants stated that the withdrawals of cases by the victim disturbs the process of sentencing the perpetrator. In most times, victims' open cases of abuse and later come to withdraw the case. Participants stated that the perpetrator sometimes may ask for forgiveness from victims and agree to pay the damage occurred during the act of violence. Some perpetrators threaten victims, including, among others, when I came back to prison, I am going to kill you and go back to prison and you be dead when I come back (I will kill you and serve the sentence).

Sometimes the victim withdraws the case because the perpetrator is a breadwinner, and she does not have the means of survival and fear of being homeless. The discussion by Davhana-Maselesele (2003:1-2) in paragraph 2.3.3 of this study confirms the findings and indicated that domestic violence are mostly prevalent in rural areas where unemployment is high and victims do not report their victimisation to the police because they are financially depended on the perpetrator.

## • Victims abuse the Domestic Violence Act (No. 116 of 1998)

Arguments made in paragraph 2.5.1.1 of the literature review section of chapter two of this study. Parenzee, Artz and Moult (2001:70-85) confirm the findings of this study, indicating that the Act attempts to provide victims of domestic violence an accessible legal instrument with which to prevent further abuses from taking place within their domestic relationships. Participants argue that victims abuse the DVA, 1998, this what pans out:

The participant mentioned other challenges that they face when responding to domestic violence, which sometimes make victims to open a case of domestic violence to push their own agenda. For example, reporting a case of abuse while they need the perpetrator (Husband) to be removed so that they can bring their boyfriends at home, or when they are failing to get maintenance money. When they need money, they threaten the husband that if you are not giving me the requested amount, I am going to open a case of abuse against you (Blackmailing).

### 4.4.2.5.2 Challenges faced by victims when responding to domestic violence

Women and children face various challenges when responding to domestic violence. Participants stated that in most cases, victims encounter challenges when responding to their victimisation: challenges such as secondary victimisation, lack of family, friends and community, lack of knowledge on information about the available protection, and fear of the unknown. Data collected was analysed using the following sub-themes:

Victims of domestic violence face various challenges when responding to domestic violence. **Firstly**, they are victimised by the perpetrator and when trying to speak out, friends and family members label them as attention seekers. When victims respond to domestic violence, for example, where the victim has been raped by her husband, friends and family members will judge you and ask how this has happened because you are married, and you should satisfy your husband sexually. Sometimes victims will be asked what they were wearing and why they walk alone at night. They have provoked the perpetrator's action, so they are responsible for their victimisation by not wearing properly.

**Secondly,** when trying to report the abuse to the police, they are told to go home and resolve their differences. Participants stated that victims of domestic violence feel that they are not listened to, and officials are lazy, lack communication skills, passion and attitude. They sometimes send victims back home to resolve their conflict. This view by participants is supported by the argument made in the literature review section of this study. Sonjani (2011:8) in paragraph 2.2.5.1.1 indicated that police officials are negligent and incompetent. In addition, in some cases the police did not show enough sensitivity to the victims and gave them inappropriate treatment, especially in compliance with the DVA [No. 116 of 1998]. Sometimes the perpetrator is not arrested as officials are men who have been raised in a patriarchal society where a man is regarded as the head of the family.

Victims are afraid of reporting their victimisation because they are financially dependent on the perpetrator and if they lay charges against the breadwinner, they will be homeless. This argument was made in paragraph 2.2.3.3 of chapter two of this study by Peacock (2015:48 & 50), who stated that lack of economic resources has long been suspected of playing a key role in battered women's tolerance of abuse.

In addition, participants emphasise that lack of resources is one of the challenges because there is no safe accommodation for victims of domestic violence. Perpetrators are not removed from home or victims are taken home to go and take their belongings.

### Secondary victimisations

When asked about *challenges faced by victims of domestic violence in Mankweng police area*, participants stated that "the victim feels that officials are impatient, negligence and incompetence, because they assume that they know what he or she has experienced," as officials think that they know what the victim is going to say. The argument in the literature review section 2.2.5.1.1 of this study by Smith, Minaar and Schnetler (2004:73) determines the work of SAPS who are attached to cases of domestic violence, which are as follows, among others.

All victims should be treated in respect and dignity and be interviewed by a trained police official in a sensitive victim manner. Victims should be assisted in aVFR or an alternative room where statements will be taken in a private police station or at other locations providing victim support service and be referred/ taken to medical examination by professional health care to obtain medical evidence and to complete a medical report.

When asked about *challenges faced by victims of domestic violence in Mankweng police area*, participants stated that "the victim feels that officials are impatient, negligence and incompetence, because they assume that they know what he or she has experienced," as officials think that they know what the victim is going to say. The argument in the literature review section 2.2.5.1.1 of this study by Smith, Minaar and Schnetler (2004:73) determines the work of SAPS who are attached to cases of domestic violence, which are as follows, among others. All victims should be treated in respect and dignity and be interviewed by a trained police official in a sensitive victim manner. Victims should be assisted in a VFR or an alternative room where statements will be taken in a private police station or at other locations providing victim support service and be referred/ taken to medical examination by professional health care to obtain medical evidence and to complete a medical report.

Victims believe that in some cases police did not show enough sensitivity to the victims and gave them inappropriate treatment. Officials in most cases fail to open a case to arrest, and such failure goes unpunished. Police fail to assist victims of domestic violence to find shelter. This view by participants is supported by paragraph 2.2.5.2 of the literature review section of this study.

Nkwana (2015:14) conducted a study in Magatle Limpopo Province Zebediela. This study found that police officials are incompetent, fail to protect victims of domestic violence and fail to open criminal cases. A discussion by Vettern (2014:6) in chapter two paragraph 2.2.5.2 of this study indicated that police failed to assist victims of domestic violence to find shelter.

Women and children are afraid of reporting their victimisation because they fear stigmatisation by friends, family and community members. Participants state that victims do not report their victimisation because they are afraid of being labelled and stigmatisation. In addition, economic status prohibits victims of domestic violence to report their victimisers because in most cases, the perpetrator is a breadwinner in the family. Paragraph 2.2.3.3 of chapter two of this study supported this discussion as presented by Dauda (2011) to confirm this finding, when indicating that women in low economic status suffer domestic violence because of their dependence on their husbands.

### • Lack of friends, families and community support

The victims of domestic violence experience lack of support from friends, family and community. The argument in paragraph 2.5.2.1 by Madzivhandila (2015:76) indicated that lack of perceived or actual support contributes to the reason why victims stay in abusive relationships. Participants revealed that in most cases of domestic violence, women and children need support from friends, family and the community at large because domestic violence in most cases takes place in a low socio-economic environment where the victim is unemployed.

Victims are afraid of reporting the abuse because they fear being homeless and lose a source of income because the perpetrator is the breadwinner. This view by participants reads with the literature review section of this study. Madzivhandila (2015:51) in paragraph 2.2.3.2 mentions that tradition is viewed as a contributor to domestic VAW and children because culture emphasises that domestic violence is a private thing between a husband and wife. What happens indoor is nobody's business unless it escalates to a serious and visible injury to children.

Bases on African traditions; when people witness domestic violence, they do not report as they think it is between a wife and husband or their children. It is none of their business and they should mind their own business.

## 4.4.6 Notable reasons why victims stay in abusive relationships

This study also wanted to establish "Why victims (women and children) stay in abusive relationships?"

The main purpose of this question was to find out why women and children stay in abusive relationships. This includes why they do not end the relationship and leave or report their victimisation to the police. It became clear during the in-depth interviews with the police and social workers that women stay in abusive relationships for various reasons, such as hoping for the best and lack of available information for their protection and steps to be taken.

When asked why victims of domestic violence stay in abusive relationships, participants stated that in most cases victims stay in abusive relationships because they lack confidence and tolerate the perpetrator's behaviour and start to blame themselves for the behaviour. Also, they stay for the sake of their children. They think things will change for the better; they believe the perpetrator when they ask for forgiveness and say the abuse will never happen again. They are afraid of the unknown such as being homeless, stigmatisation and financial dependency.

Victims lack knowledge, education about protection orders and available information. Participants answered as follows:

### Staying in an abuse relationship for the sake of children

The victims of this scourge often stay in abusive relationships because of their children. They want their children to be raised by both parents and not by a single parent. The argument by Manamela (2006:27) in paragraph 2.2.3.3 of the literature review section supports the finding of this study that women find it difficult to leave the abusive relationship because they are financially dependent on the abuser. They worry about the survival of their children.

In most cases, women do not want their children to see or hear that there is a conflict between parents because they think exposure to domestic violence will influence their development such as how to relate with their peers and their attachment. They will develop insecurities and become aggressive. Arguments made by Epstein (2003:17) in paragraph 2.2.2.1 of chapter two of this study supported this finding that in reality anytime when a mother is abused by their partner or husband at home, their children are affected in both overt and subtle ways as this expression affirms:

"Victims stays in an abusive relationship because of their children, because they do not want their children to know or see that there are conflicts between their parents. Also want their children to be raised by two parents."

The argument by Epstein (2003:14 & 15) and Madzivhandila (2015; 76) in paragraph 2.5.1.2 of this study confirms the findings of this study that victim stays in an abusive relationship because they have fear of losing her children and fear of becoming homeless.

### Financial dependency

Lack of economic resources has long been suspected of playing a key role in battered women's tolerance of abuse, and economic dependence was also considered as a main reason that prevents the victim to end an abusive relationship. The argument by Manamela (2006:27) in paragraph 2.2.3.3 in the literature review section of this study submits that women find it difficult to leave the abusive relationship because they are financially depending on the abuser and most abused women do not leave the abusive relationship because they worry about the survival of their children.

Victims stay in an abusive relationship because they are financially dependent on their victimiser. This view by participants reads with chapter two, literature review section, when Madzivhandila (2015; 76) in paragraph 2.5.1.2 indicated that she may not leave the abusive relationship because of financial problems where the victim is depending on the abuser. Some of the selected participants stated that not all cases of domestic violence are reported to the police, because the victimiser is a breadwinner and the victim does not report because they fear that if the perpetrator is taken to prison, they will be homeless, have financial problems and unable to take care of their children. Participants stated that:

"Victim stays in an abusive relationship because they are financially depending on the perpetrator and think that the abuse will end, and the perpetrator will change for good."

## • Fear of the unknown and stigmatisation

When asked why victims stay in abusive relationships, participants stated that because they are financially dependent on the perpetrator and they fear that if they leave the abusive relationship, they will be homeless and have no means to support children with food and stationery. They stay because they fear stigmatisation. Participants stated that:

"Victim stays in abusive relationship because they have fear of unknown, such as being homeless and stigmatisation and to be a laughing stock for example there is a say in Pedi that says "Lebitla la mosadi le bogadi" [Meaning that if you are married you are not allowed to come back and some are calling them return soldier]."

This view by participants supports the findings of this study. In section 2.5.1.2, Epstein (2003:14 & 15) stated that victims of domestic violence stay in abusive relationships because they do not want to split up the family and ruin the family's reputation.

# 4.5.7 The inadequate effectiveness of current policies dealing with domestic violence

This question was also posed to the selected participants: "Do the current policies or legislation on domestic violence competently empower victims to effectively respond to challenges of domestic violence?" The purpose of this question was to determine the effectiveness of current policies in responding to domestic VAW and children. To find out if it is benefiting victims or those who are in the fight against domestic violence.

When asked about the effectiveness of current policies, two of the three participants (Social workers) stated that current policies responding to domestic violence are effective. Current policies such as the DVA, 1998, Child Protection Act, 2005, and Family Protection Act, 1993, empower victims of domestic violence and determine the duty of police in responding to domestic violence.

This view by participants is supported by the argument by Smith, Minnaar and Schnetler (2004:205-206) and Matthias (2010:57-67) in paragraph 3.2.1 of the theoretical framework section of this study, that the Act attempts to provide victims of domestic violence with an accessible legal instrument with which to prevent further abuses from taking place within their domestic relationships and to provide and grant interdicts regarding family violence for an obligation to report cases of suspected ill-treatment of children.

One respondent (Social worker) revealed that current policies are not effective, because in most cases of the law of protection order given to victims, it creates more problems because in most cases, they cause more violence in the house. When provided by a protection order, it leads the perpetrator not to take care of the family. The argument in paragraph 2.2.5 of the literature review section of this study by Parenzee, Artz and Moult (2018:24) revealed that women report that protection orders against their spouses are fuelling violence in the home rather than reducing it. In addition, twenty-two years [22] after the DVA, 1998 was passed, and the IPV remains a serious problem in South Africa.

"In most case of domestic violence, were perpetrator is given protection order, it cause more violence in the house and the husband will start fixing the wife, not take care of the family or make them angrier, the abuse escalates and sometimes may lead to femicide."

Participants also emphasise that police officials do not have enough capacity to deal with domestic violence cases. While some of the local SAPS officials do not know some of the policies responding to domestic violence, most of them are men and will usually support the perpetrator. Paragraph 2.2.5.1.1 of chapter two of this study confirmed this finding as Smith, Minnnaar and Schnetler (2004) highlighted that the DVA, 1998 and Regulations, 1999 are extremely broad and impose duties on law enforcement officials. The argument by Sonjani (2011:8) in paragraph 2.2.5.1 also indicated that police officials are negligent and incompetent. These are results from interviews conducted with 23 women who had obtained protection orders. Some officials send victims back home without assisting them and helping them to find shelter.

#### 4.5. SUMMARY

This chapter (Four) presented a detailed and systematic demonstration of how the research was conducted. This includes information on the researchers' motivation in using the qualitative method. This validated the use of semi-structured interviews. The chapter also highlighted that the purposive sampling method was utilised in identifying the participants. Added to this information was how data was analysed. The location of this study [Setting], ethical considerations and limitations encountered during this study were included.

Of importance to note is that the researcher's evaluation of each stage was incorporated in this chapter. It is feasible to conclude that gaining insight into the research methods employed lays the foundation for the analysis in that it guides readers on how the information was gathered and analysed. The findings of the emerged themes and subthemes were also discussed. Participants' responses to the in-depth interviews of police and social workers was presented and discussed by means of developing themes and their subthemes. The next chapter presents an interpretation of research findings.

#### CHAPTER FIVE

# DISCUSSIONS OF STUDY FINDINGS [IDENTIFIED THEMES AND CHALLENGES]

#### **5.1. INTRODUCTION**

The preceding chapter (Four) provided insight into the interpretation of findings of this study gathered during interviews, linked with the consulted literature studies, legislative frameworks, policies and theoretical frameworks that guided this study. It highlighted different trends and patterns that emerged in the analysis. This chapter presents lessons learnt based on analysis conducted in the previous chapter. This study aimed at finding out causes of domestic VAW and children in Mankweng police area, types of abuse experienced by victims, the relationship between victims and perpetrators, challenges faced when responding to domestic violence, why victims stay in abusive relationships, the impact of pre-exposure to domestic violence at early childhood, the effectiveness of the current policy dealing with the issue of domestic violence and how the research findings can effect policy change.

This study is important since minimal literature and studies exist in South African contexts based on factors contributing to domestic violence. Therefore, this study will enlighten service providers and policy makers on this pertinent issue. It is further anticipated that this study will provide them with information on how best to address the issue of domestic VAW and children.

An overview of developing themes is discussed as follows:

## 5.2. AN OVERVIEW OF EMERGED THEMES AND CHALLENGES

As indicated in chapter four, the number of themes were acknowledged during data analysis. The themes of this chapter were identified, structured and discussed. From the interpretation of findings, it has emerged that there are various factors leading to domestic VAW and children. The researcher explored answers to factors contributing to domestic VAW and children.

One of the basic questions posed to participants was which factors lead to abuse and challenges when responding to domestic violence. Most participants' responses to this question identified culture, alcohol abuse, economic dependency, and lack of resource as major contributors to abuse against women and children.

The primary themes that emerged from the data analysis as presented in Chapter four are as follows:

- Inexhaustible types of abuses experienced by women and children.
- Unbearable effects relating to exposure to violence incidences during early childhood.
- Turbulent causes of domestic violence. The toxic relationship between victims and perpetrators.
- Disheartening challenges faced when responding to domestic violence by local officials and victims.
- Notable reasons why victims to stay in abusive relationships.
- The inadequate effectiveness of current policies dealing with domestic violence.

The following section presents a brief discussion of factors contributing to domestic violence incidences in the Mankweng policing area.

## 5.2.1 Inexhaustible types of abuses experienced by women and children

Data collected indicates that the majority of participants stated that victims of domestic violence encounter physical, emotional, economic, verbal and sexual abuse. The argument by Manamela (2006:16) and Epstein (2003:9) in the literature review section 2.2.1 of this study indicates that women and children experience numerous types of abuse, which includes physical, economical, sexual and psychological abuse from their intimate partners. In addition, in terms of physical abuse, women and children are beaten up, involving physical assault and body harm or invisible injuries as discussed in the literature review section of chapter two. Physical abuse may consist of kicking, hitting, slapping, chocking, burning and shooting victims.

The following themes discusses the impact of exposure to abuse in childhood and how they relate in adulthood.

# 5.2.2 The unbearable effects relating of exposure to violence incidences during early childhood

It is important to understand the impact of exposure to abuse during childhood and how individuals relate and socialise during adulthood. Data collected indicates that children who have been exposed to abuse in childhood develop some personality disorders. They become aggressive and bully and are at a high risk of abuse or to abuse their future wives (Family). Participants revealed that exposure to abuse may cause mistrust, insecurities and low self-esteem. As indicated in paragraph 2.2.2.1 of chapter two in the literature review section of this study, Epstein (2003:17) stated that children who have been exposed to abuse will develop the following symptoms: headaches, ulcers, bedwetting, sleep disorders and abdominal pain. Sons are more likely to abuse their future wives and daughters are more likely to be abused by their future husbands.

#### 5.2.3 Turbulent causes of domestic violence

This study established various factors contributing to domestic violence, which lead to VAW and children. Participants stated that culture, alcohol abuse and financial dependency are major causes of domestic VAW and children. Women and children are raised to be submissive to their husbands and fathers, which make them to be more vulnerable to abuse.

This study also found that violence is caused by payment of lobola. In African culture, a man is regarded as the head of the family; women and children are regarded as their properties subjected to control and discipline. This finding is supported by the argument by Peacock (2015:27) in paragraph 3.3.2 of the theoretical framework section of this study, who argues that married women do not report their victimisation because they think by paying *Lobola*, they are properties of their husbands. In addition, this study established that a wife's duty is to make her husband happy in terms of sexual satisfaction.

They should not refuse to have sex with their husband, as it is one of their duties. According to culture, there is no rape in marriage (Marital rape does not exist). This made women not to report their victimisation because family, friends and the community will label them as stupid, as they are failing to perform their duties. This study also finds that alcohol abuse contributes to domestic VAW and children. The researcher concluded that it showed that men lack coping skills hence they resort to alcohol. Furthermore, some participants stated that there is a correlation between alcohol and domestic violence. Others state that perpetrators abuse their wives in the absence of alcohol.

The argument made in paragraph 2.3.1 of chapter two of this study by Lipsey, Wilson, Cohen and Derzon (2002:245) confirms the findings of this study that intimate violence takes place under the influence of alcohol, which is influential in promoting violent crime. The researcher finds that men are raised to be providers. When they are unemployed and unable to provide for their family, they get frustrated, turn to abuse alcohol, become aggressive and violent to boost their ego. Financial dependency is regarded as one amongst factors contributing to domestic VAW and children. This study revealed that in most cases, the abuse of victims depends on perpetrators for survival, and it is difficult for them to lay charges against the abuser because he is the breadwinner.

Exposure to domestic violence at an early age also contributes to VAW and children. The argument in paragraph 2.2.2.1 of the literature review by Epstein (2003:17) supports the findings of this study, that children who have experienced abuse in early childhood are at a higher risk of abuse, and sons are more likely to abuse their future wives. The researcher finds that in most cases of abuse, the perpetrator has grown in a family where domestic violence occurred. Under this theme, social workers shared the same sentiments as SAPS officials as they concurred that culture, alcohol abuse and financial dependency is regarded as major factors contributing to abuse against women and children in Mankweng precinct. Culture emphasises that men are heads of the family in terms of control and discipline. They are automatic inheritors of their parents' properties and are providers. When they fail to provide, the get frustrated and abuse alcohol and drugs, where violence is used to boost their ego. Failing to provide make them feel useless and develop low self-esteem.

### 5.2.4 The toxic relationship between victims and perpetrators

In an attempt to gain information on the relationship between victims and perpetrators of domestic violence, this study finds that the abuse occurs between intimate partners. An intimate partner simply means an individual who is related or known to the victim as indicated in chapter two and three. Domestic violence mainly occurs between husband and wife, father and children, siblings, guardians and stepparents. This study assumes that this would lead to the formulation of appropriate intervention strategies of dealing with factors contributing to domestic violence. These findings are supported by Sibanda-Moyo Khonje and Brobbey (2017:10) in paragraph 2.2.1 of the literature review section of this study, who indicated that women and children experience various types of abuse from their intimate partners (Their husband and father).

This confirmed that domestic violence occurs between family and extended family members where women and children are victimised by their relatives and the abuse take places behind closed doors. Victims of domestic violence are victimised by their close relatives, that is, those who are supposed to be their protectors abuse them.

# 5.2.5 Disheartening challenges faced when responding to domestic violence by local officials and victims

This study has found that victims (Women and children) experience various challenges when responding to domestic violence. Firstly, they are abused by perpetrators. Secondly, they are abused by the community and officials. For example, in a case where victims want to lay charges against the victimiser, they will be sent back home to resolve their conflict. Victims feel that they are not listened to because police think that they know what the victim is going to say and what happened to them. This study has identified that police are impatient, negligent and irresponsible because in most cases, they fail to open a case and arrest the perpetrator.

Oftenly, the local police fail to arrest the perpetrator because most police officials are men who are raised in a patriarchal society. The argument by Altbeker (2005:3) in section 3.3.2 of chapter three of the theoretical framework of this study confirms that police officials fail to arrest or open a criminal case because they are men who are born and socialised in a violent male-controlled society which affects them even when they are performing their responsibilities regardless of their training.

This study finds that police fail to assist victims of domestic violence to find a safe shelter to remove the perpetrator, which makes victims to lose trust of the police because they view them as incompetent. The above statement is supported by the argument by Nkwana (2015:14) and Vettern (2014:6) in the literature review section of this study who indicated that local SAPS officials are incompetent, fail to protect victims of domestic violence, to open criminal cases and to assist victims to find shelter. Sometimes victims will be asked what they have done to trigger the perpetrator's behaviour. Victims are afraid of reporting their victimisation because they are financially depended on the perpetrator. They do not report their victimisation because they are afraid of becoming homeless as perpetrators are breadwinners in most cases. This statement is supported by the argument by Madzivhandila (2015; 76) in paragraph 2.5.1.2 that victims are financially dependent on perpetrators for survival.

The researcher has found that members of SAPS and magistrates face challenges when responding to domestic VAW and children. **Firstly,** domestic violence occurs frequently where there are more cases to respond to, and the process of sentencing and for the perpetrator to appear in court takes time. **Secondly,** magistrates face challenges when sentencing breadwinners as this results in a lenient sentence. The argument by Peacock (2015:140) in paragraph 2.2.5.1 of chapter two supports the above statement that responding to domestic violence is extremely difficult in court because in sentencing a breadwinner who has breached a protection order, some magistrates try to be more creative and strategic by implementing options such as weekend detentions, treatment programmes and community services. Victims withdraw charges against the perpetrator because some perpetrators buy their freedom from the victim.

**Thirdly,** some victims abuse the DVA, 1998 by obtaining a protection order, preaching to them, laying charges and withdrawing the charges. Sometimes they open false charges, including laying charges so that the husband must be removed so that they bring their boyfriends home or to get maintenance money. The above statement is supported by the argument in section 2.2.5.2 of the literature review, in which Peacock (2015:140) indicated that some victims lay false charges to push their own agenda such as that their husbands be removed and for them to bring their boyfriends.

### 5.2.6 Notable reasons why victims stay in abusive relationships

Victims of domestic violence stay in abusive relationships because they are financially dependent on the perpetrator for the sake of their children and for fear of stigmatisation. This study has found that in most cases domestic violence occurs in a low socio-economic environment, where victims are unemployed and dependent on the perpetrator. Victims are afraid of reporting their victimisation because they fear for their lives and children. As stated in paragraph 2.5.1.2 of the literature review of this study, Madzivhandila (2015; 76) indicated that financial dependency is a contributory factor for why victims stay in abusive relationships. They think that laying charges and obtaining a protection order may lead to an increase in abuse. Sometimes this results in femicide where women and children are murdered. Sometimes perpetrators neglect their duties of providing for their family as a way of punishing their wives.

In this study participants revealed that victims stay in abusive relationships for the sake of their children and believe that the abuse will end and change for better. Victims stay because they do not want their children to see that there is conflict between their parents. Also, that they want their children to be raised by two parents than a single parent. Potential victims stay in abuse because they fear that if they leave or end the relationship, the perpetrator will cut off children's school allowance and stop maintaining the kids. As indicated in paragraph 2.5.1.2, Epstein (2003:14 & 15) and Madzivhandila (2015:76) argue that victims stay in an abusive relationship because they are afraid of losing their children and of becoming homeless.

This study has found that victims do not leave or end the abusive relationship because of fear of unknown. They fear that they will be homeless, labelled as *Poa bogadi* or newly called return soldier. They also fear that they will not be able to take care of the kids alone and be called single parents. This finding is supported by a statement made by Epstein (2003:14-15), who indicated that victims do not want to split up the family and ruin its reputation. Culture is regarded as one of the factors contributing to VAW and children. Cultural roles and beliefs play an important role because according to culture, when you agree to get married, you are not allowed to return. There is a saying in Pedi that emphasises that: "Lebitla la mosadi le bogadi". The argument by Peacock (2015:48-50) in paragraph 3.3.2 supports the findings of this study, that domestic VAW and children are the outcome of the historical treatment of women and the current patriarchal make-up of the society.

# 5.2.7 The inadequate effectiveness of current policies dealing with domestic violence

Interviews between two social workers showed that current policies are effective. The rise in the number of cases of domestic violence really shows that victims are aware of available information about domestic violence and about application for protection orders. Current policies are effective when dealing with issues of domestic VAW and children. Policies such as DVA, 1998, Child Protection Act, 2005 and Family Protection Act, 1993 are effective and empower victims of domestic violence as it allowed them to apply for protection orders against their abusers.

On the other hand, one participant highlighted that current policies are ineffective as statistics and cases of domestic violence are rising. Furthermore, the respondent expressed her concern on the friction caused by the protection order as in some instances it fuelled the situation to the victim and thus recommended for a revaluation of the law on this matter.

#### 5.3. SUMMARY

In this chapter (Five), the discussion of findings of this study based on emerging themes and challenges was made. It became clear during interviews as stated in the previous chapter, chapter four that women and children experience physical, economical, sexual and psychological abuse. In addition, this study found that early exposure to abuse has a negative impact on individuals, including low self-esteem. This study has found that culture, alcohol abuse, financial dependency and early exposure to abuse are major factors contributing to domestic violence, and the relationship between victims and perpetrators is intimate. Victims and officials faced numerous challenges when responding to abuse against women and children. In addition this study found that victims stay in abusive relationships, because they are economically depending on the perpetrator and that the current polices are ineffective. The next chapter summarises this study, presents conclusions and provides recommendations based on the identified themes and challenges.

#### CHAPTER SIX

#### SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **6.1. INTRODUCTION**

This chapter presents a summary of this study and conclusions drawn regarding factors contributing to domestic violence. Furthermore, based on the findings, recommendations are made in respect of how factors leading to abuse can be addressed. These recommendations address all aspects gathered from the empirical study. The researcher conducted in-depth interviews with local SAPS officials and social workers.

The preceding chapter (Five) provided insight into the findings gathered during the analysis of data. It discussed emerging themes and challenges to clearly indicate trends and patterns produced during the data analysis procedures. Existing male violence theories augmented information which enabled the researcher to create an informative analysis.

Moreover, the chapter presents lessons learnt and recommendations based on the analysis conducted in the previous chapter. This study aimed at finding how men define domestic violence; what they perceive as causes of violence; experiences of men after perpetrating the violence; men's empowerment needs; strategies that service providers can use when working with perpetrators of violence and establishing how the research findings can effect policy change. This study is important because there is minimal literature and studies in South Africa on male violence; and therefore, this study will enlighten service providers and policy makers on this pertinent issue. It is further anticipated that this study will provide them with information on how best to address the issue of male violence in policy and in practice.

The conclusions and recommendations will be made for each theme. It is important to note that conclusions and recommendations from data analysed from the ten perpetrators of male violence with be addressed first. Thereafter, attention will be directed towards findings from the focus group.

#### 6.2. STUDY OVERALL SUMMARY

Chapter one begins with the introduction of the rationale for this study, namely; exploring factors contributing to domestic VAW and children in Mankweng area. A comprehensive problem statement was presented, clearly showing the problem to be researched. The presentation of the research aims, and the objectives of this study followed and explained the intentions of this study. The aim of this study was to determine factors that lead to domestic VAW and children in Mankweng area, Capricorn District, Polokwane Municipality, Limpopo Province, South Africa. In addition, attention was given to the value of this study and its envisioned results. This was followed by an explanation of the demarcation of this study. Consequently, key theoretical concepts fundamental to this study were defined to provide a common understanding of their meaning. Subsequently, the research methodology was presented and discussed, which clarified particular steps that were taken to address the research problem, namely; causes of domestic VAW and children. The methods of ensuring trustworthiness as well as ethical considerations of this study concluded the chapter.

**Chapter two** presented an overview of factors contributing to domestic violence. This overview included a brief background of factors contributing to violence and the nature of domestic violence, including types of abuse and their impact on victims. Reasons why victims stay in abusive relationships were also discussed. Challenges faced when responding to domestic VAW and children, and those faced by officials and victims were also presented. The chapter concluded with an overview of the effectiveness of current policies dealing with the issue of domestic violence in South Africa, including legislation such as DVA, 1998.

**Chapter three** consisted of an overview of the theoretical framework. This overview included a brief background of the root and development of Socio-cultural Theory. In addition, the importance and criticisms of the 'Socio-cultural perspectives' in this study were discussed. This was followed by legislative or policies dealing with domestic violence in South Africa, and an in-depth understanding of real causes of domestic violence was outlined in this study.

In **chapter four**, the aim of the data analysis was presented to gain an improved understanding of the data obtained. Data obtained from SAPS officials and social workers were illustrated and described. Each emerged theme was initiated with an explanation. This aim was realised by means of analysis of the relationship between concepts, constructs and variables, the identification and isolation of patterns and trends, as well as the establishment of emergent themes and subthemes. This chapter concluded with a critical reflection of each theme and subtheme.

In **chapter five**, the results of the analysis were interpreted and measured against the comprehensive body of literature, as presented and discussed in Chapters 2 and 3. The identified emergent themes and subthemes provided the basis for the structure of this chapter. These themes are:

- Inexhaustible types of abuses experienced by women and children.
- Unbearable effects relating to exposure to violence incidences during early childhood.
- Turbulent causes of domestic violence.
- The toxic relationship between victims and perpetrators.
- Disheartening challenges faced when responding to domestic violence by local officials and victims.
- Notable reasons why victims stay in abusive relationships.
- The inadequate effectiveness of current policies dealing with domestic violence.

The discussion of each theme presented was substantiated by the inclusion of various literature sources, as described in chapter two of this study. Furthermore, this **chapter** [Six] included perspectives of participants that were integrated to form a comprehensive interpretation of findings in the form of summary, conclusions and recommendations.

#### 6.3. STUDY OVERALL CONCLUSIONS

This study attempted to look at factors contributing to domestic VAW and children in Mankweng. It is safe to conclude that most of the discourses raised by the participants largely support feminist notions of culture and patriarchy as the sole reason for the abuse of women. However, other factors such as alcohol abuse, financial dependency and exposure to domestic violence contribute to domestic violence. The research contributes to literature by providing insight into factors contributing to domestic violence. The effectiveness of the law was brought onto the equation because of the ineffectiveness of the protection order. This study also approached service providers to inquire about their perspectives on this issue and the type of services they offer in dealing with domestic violence. Important to note is that there is a need for cooperation amongst service providers in the fight against male VAW.

This chapter contains a summary of chapters One to Five, followed by recommendations as to how educational programmes for behavioural change can be implemented. This study is important since it explores factors contributing to domestic violence in Mankweng area in Polokwane, Limpopo Province, South Africa. Consequently, this study signals the existence of several areas of paradox between policy and practice as themes and challenges. This study has found that victims experience various types of abuse in their lifetime: physical, sexual, economic and psychological abuse.

Exposure to abuse in childhood may result in insecurities, mistrust, bullying, aggression and low self-esteem. Culture, alcohol abuse, financial dependency, lack of resources and information are regarded as major causes of domestic violence. The researcher has found that the relationship between victims and perpetrators is intimate. This study has found that victims and officials face challenges when responding to domestic violence. Victims stay in abusive relationship because they are financially dependent on perpetrators and hoping that things will change for the better. Most participants revealed that current policies are effective. One participant argued that sometimes a protection order increases the abuse.

#### 6.4. STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS DERIVING FROM THE FINDINGS

The findings made in this study require recommendations on how the implementation of educational programmes could be improved. In this study, the recommendations focus on aspects deduced from this study. The challenges and shortcomings in the implementation of the educational programme in responding to VAW and children were identified, and the recommendations were proposed and derived from the findings of in this study. These recommendations are shared based on identified study themes. It is important to note that recommendations from data analysed from the twelve SAPS officials and social workers who are attached to the local SAPS FCS office will be addressed.

### 6.4.1 Recommendations on types of abuse experienced by women and children

- Educational programmes on domestic violence legislations should be enforced to assist perpetrators to realise the seriousness of actions that can be taken against them and to help victims to be aware of different steps that they can take after abuse.
- There is an urgent need for educational programmes and counselling for perpetrators. These should offer behavioural change sessions, social and communication skills, self-esteem improvement and alternative coping skills. The researcher believes that these skills will decrease the possibility of men using violence against their partners.
- There is need to initiate men's forums that focus on empowering and supporting men on challenges that they are facing that aim to include men in the fight against domestic violence.
- The school curriculum should include information on domestic violence to increase sensitivity of this issue at a young age, to help and avoid violence in youth dating relationships.

# 6.4.2 Recommendations on the impact of exposure to abuse in childhood during adulthood

- Educational programmes on domestic violence legislations should be enforced to assist perpetrators to realise the seriousness of actions that can be taken against them and to help victims to be aware of different steps that they can take after abuse.
- There is a need for educational programmes for service providers such as social workers, health professionals and police on how to deal with domestic violence and to make the law effective.
- There is a need for educational programmes that are led by men that focus on the dissemination of information on domestic violence and its effects to sensitise communities on this issue. Men should have a particular role to play in educating other men about the nature of abuse and how men can change. The programmes should also extend to schools and other places where young people are so as to deconstruct patriarchal breeding grounds.

## 6.4.3 Recommendations regarding causes of domestic violence

- Educational programmes that are led by men should be prioritised, putting focus
  on giving information on factors contributing to domestic violence and its effect on
  affected communities. Programmes to deconstruct the patriarchal breeding
  grounds should be extended to schools and other places where young people are
  found.
- Educational programmes on domestic violence legislations should be enforced to assist perpetrators to realise the seriousness of actions that can be taken against them and to help victims to be aware of different steps that they can take after abuse.
- Educational programmes should be implemented to address power issues in most
  African culture and will challenge the negative impact of customs such as lobola
  and at the same time preserve their positive parts.

 There is an urgent need for job creation to increase more employment opportunities for both men and women so that they will be able to provide for their families. The creation of job opportunities will reduce marital violence because there is a high rate of unemployment in the country.

# 6.4.4 Recommendations regarding challenges faced when responding to domestic violence

- Educational programmes for officials who deal with domestic violence cases and more training is required to equip and empower them with more knowledge and skills to tackle these cases.
- There is a need for the implementation of sensitive policies when it comes to the provision like protection orders and on how such provision affects institutions such as marriage.
- There is a need for outreach campaigns to educate men on domestic violence and its impact on their families, partners, and the community at large.
- There is a need for educational programmes for service providers such as social workers, health professional and police on how to deal with domestic violence and to make the law effective.

### 6.4.5 Recommendations regarding why victims stay in abusive relationships

- Educational programmes on domestic violence legislations should be enforced to assist perpetrators to realise the seriousness of actions that can be taken against them and to help victims to be aware of different steps that they can take after abuse.
- Educational programmes should be emphasised on women and children to acquire
- skills so that they cannot be financially dependent on men.

- The policy that deals with implementation of provisions such as protection orders should be aware of the effects it has on institutions such as marriage and the consequences it has on the future of the marriage institution.
- The initiation of forums that emphasise supporting and empowering women on challenges that they face when responding to domestic violence and include men in the fight against domestic violence.

## 6.4.6 Recommendations on the effectiveness of the current policies

- Educational programmes on domestic violence legislations should be enforced to assist perpetrators to realise the seriousness of actions that can be taken against them and to help victims to be aware of different steps they can take after abuse.
- Men should be given responsibilities and be included in the policies in the fight against VAW and children in order to destroy perceptions of violence as women's problem only.
- The policy that deals with the implementation of provisions, such as protection orders should be aware of the effects it has on institutions such as marriage and the consequences it has on the future of the marriage institution.
- There need to educate men on the definition of domestic violence as stated in the Domestic Violence Bill [DVA No. 116 of 1998] as most of them define violence from a physical dimension.

#### 6.5. THE PROPOSED FUTURE RESEARCH STUDIES

There is a need for further research studies on factors that lead to domestic VAW and children in order to prevent and combat domestic violence in Mankweng areas. The studies should focus on how the issue of domestic VAW and children can be addressed. There is a need for educational programmes and skill development for women and children in Mankweng areas. The studies should focus on how causes of violence can be addressed to prevent further occurrences. The studies should focus on how the SAPS, the DSD, Department of Health (DoH) and other organisations involved in the fight against women and children can work together and address this issue. Studies on the cooperation of these stakeholders will contribute to the achievement of the following outcomes:

- Understanding factors that contribute to domestic VAW and children.
- Addressing factors that lead to domestic violence.
- Establishing a joint-venture domestic violence-combating framework with all stakeholders in the fight against domestic VAW and children.
- Establishment of job opportunities and skills development programmes for both men and women.

There is a need for the government in Limpopo Province to work closely with other relevant stakeholders (NGOs, such as *Thuthuzela* centre, NICRO) to combat domestic violence. The government (SAPS, Department of Social Development and health) should foster this cooperation to address factors contributing to domestic VAW and children. SAPS, the DSD and DoH should work closely with all agencies (*Thuthuzela* and NICRO) in the fight against domestic violence provincially and nationally to ensure that there is a collaboration to address causes of abuse.

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#### APPENDIX A: STUDY INFORMATION SHEET

Thank you very much for agreeing to participate in this study. This Information Sheet explains what this study is about and how we would like you to take part in it.

The main purpose of this study is to explore factors that contribute to domestic Violence Against Women (VAW) and children. The interview will take 30-40 minutes of your time. The information that you provide in the interview will be used for research purposes only. It will not be used in a manner that would identify you with your individual responses. In order to protect you as a participant in this study, the proposed study has been submitted to the Institutional Ethics Committee at the University of Limpopo for approval.

Once again, I would like to thank you for agreeing to take part in this study. If you have any questions about the research at any stage, please do not hesitate to contact me.

[Cell No. 076 279 8668, Email: phashajane@gmail.com].

#### APPENDIX B: PARTICIPANT INFORMED CONSENT FORM

Dear Participant,

My name is Madibe Jane Phasha (student number: 201308472), and I am a Master student (in Criminology and Criminal Justice) at the University of Limpopo (UL), Limpopo Province. To complete my studies, I am expected to conduct a research study and cite a report on my findings.

It was found that there are factors that contribute to domestic Violence Against Women (VAW) and children at Mankweng. In short, this study will seek to explore factors that contribute to domestic VAW and children.

Please note that your participation in this study is entirely voluntary and you can refuse to participate or stop at any time without prejudice. You can also withdraw your consent at any time, before, during or at the end of the interview. Most importantly, please note that the results of this study will be processed into a report but will not include any information that identify you as a participant. You are thus guaranteed to remain anonymous.

#### PARTICIPANT CONSENT SECTION:

I hereby confirm that Ms MJ Phasha has informed me about the nature and conduct of this study. I have also received, read and understood information about this study. I am aware that the information will be recorded and that the results will be anonymously processed into a study report. Furthermore, I have had sufficient opportunity to ask questions and declare myself prepared to participate in this study.

Name of participant	Signature	Date	
Name of researcher	Signature	Date	

### **APPENDIX C: INTERVIEW SCHEDULE GUIDE**

1. Demogr	raphic informatio	on			
1.1 Popula	tion group				
Indian	African	Coloured	White		
1.2 Gende	r				
Female	Male				
Age					
Rank					
Educationa	al level				
2. The nat	ure of domestic	violence against w	omen and c	hildren in Man	kweng.
2.1 What a	are the types of ab	ouse being experien	ced by wome	en and children?	<b>&gt;</b>
2.2 What is	s the nature of the	relationship betwee	en victim and	perpetrator?	
	o adults who hav	re been exposed to ract with others?	o domestic vi	olence during o	hildhood
	that contribute	to domestic violer	nce against v	women and ch	ildren in
3.1 What a	re factors that con	tribute to domestic	violence?		
3.2 Was th	ne perpetrator drur	nk during the violent	t act?		

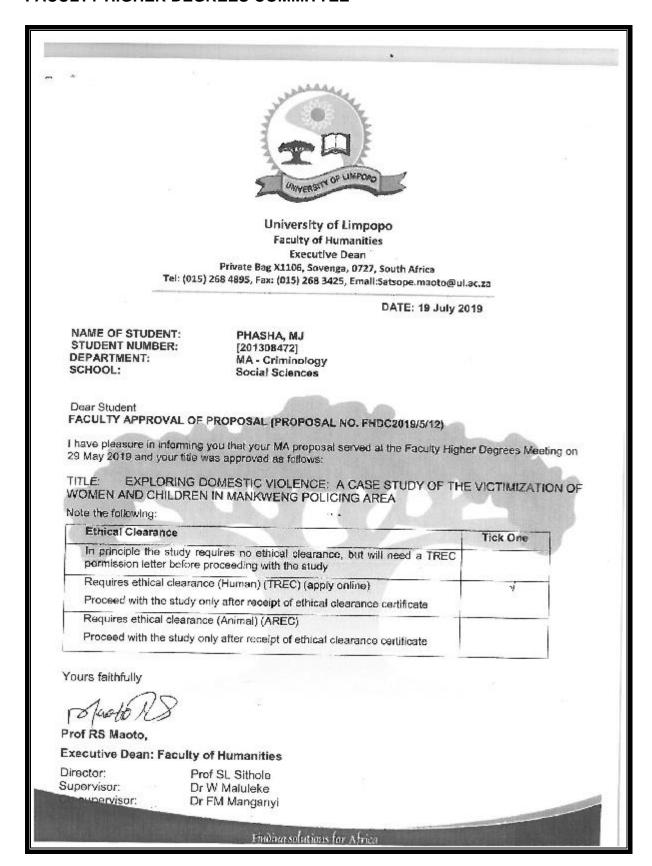
3.3 How does culture and patriarchy contribute to domestic Violence Against Women

(VAW) and children?

- 4. Challenges faced when responding to domestic violence against women and children in Mankweng station.
- 4.1 What are the challenges that hinder the Mankweng police area to adequately respond to domestic violence in accordance with the provisions of the Domestic Violence Act [DVA] (No. 116 of 1998)?
- 4.2 Which challenges faced by magistrates when responding to the issue of domestic VAW and children in Mankweng?
- 4.3 What kind of challenges are faced by women and children when responding to domestic violence?
- 4.4 Why victim of domestic violence stays in an abusive relationship?
- 4.5 Do the current policies or legislation on domestic violence competently empower victims to effectively respond to the challenges of domestic violence?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS INTERVIEW

## APPENDIX D: APPROVAL LETTER FROM UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO - THE FACULTY HIGHER DEGREES COMMITTEE



# APPENDIX E: APPROVAL LETTER FROM UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO – THE TURFLOOP RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE



#### University of Limpopo

Department of Research Administration and Development Private Bag X1106, Sovenga, 0727, South Africa Tel: (015) 268 3935, Fax: (015) 268 2306, Email: anastasia.ngobe@ul.ac.za

#### TURFLOOP RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

#### ETHICS CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE

MEETING:

05 November 2019

PROJECT NUMBER:

TREC/482/2019: PG

PROJECT:

Title:

Exploring domestic violence: A case study of the victimization of women and

children.

Researcher: Supervisor: MJ Phasha Dr W Maluleke Dr FM Manganyi

Co-Supervisor/s: School:

Social Science

Degree:

Master of Arts in Criminology

PROF P MASOKO

CHAIRPERSON: TURFLOOP RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Turfloop Research Ethics Committee (TREC) is registered with the National Health Research Ethics Council, Registration Number: REC-0310111-031

#### Note:

- This Ethics Clearance Certificate will be valid for one (1) year, as from the abovementloned date. Application for annual renewal (or annual review) need to be received by TREC one month before lapse of this period.
- Should any departure be contemplated from the research procedure as approved, the researchcr(s) must re-submit the protocol to the committee, together with the Application for Amendment form.
- iii) PLEASE QUOTE THE PROTOCOL NUMBER IN ALL ENQUIRIES.

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## APPENDIX F: APPROVAL LETTER FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE



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Tar: Zimale: (012) 393 3118 JouhertG@eeps.gov.ze THE READ: RESEARCH SOUTH A RIGAN POLICE SERVICE THETHING COST

Ms MJ Phasha

UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO

RE: PERMISSION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH IN SAPS: EXPLORING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: A CASE STUDY OF THE VICTIMIZATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN: UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO: MASTERS DEGREE: RESEARCHER: MJ PHASHA

The above subject matter refers.

You are hereby granted approval for your research study on the above mentioned topic in terms of National Instruction 1 of 2008.

Further arrangements regarding the research study may be made with the following office:

The Provincial Commissioner: Limpopo:

Contact Person: Lt Col Montjane

Contact Details: (015) 290 6300/6090

Kindly adhere to paragraph 6 of our attached letter signed on the **2020-02-05** with the same above reference number.

MAJOR GENERAL

THE HEAD: RESEARCH OR PRIVUMA

DATE: 20% -0%-10

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## SUID-AFRIKAANSE POLISIEDIENS



SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE

Prįvaatsak/Private Bag X 94

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Vorwysing/Reference: 3/34/2

Navrae/Enquiries: Lt Col Joubert

AC Thenga

Telefoor/Telephone: (012) 393 3118

Email Address: Joubert@@saps.gov.za

The Provincial Commissioner LIMPOPO THE HEAD: RESEARCH SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE PRETORIA DOIN

PERMISSION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH IN SAPS: EXPLORING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: A CASE STUDY OF THE VICTIMIZATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN: UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO: MASTERS DEGREE: RESEARCHER: MJ PHASHA

- The above subject matter refers.
- The researcher, Ms MJ Phasha, is conducting a study: Exploring domestic violence: A case study of the victimization of women and children, with the aim to explore factors that contribute to domestic violence against women and children in Mankweng Policing Area.
- The researcher is requesting permission to interview a total of 15 participants, consisting of twelve (12) police officials and three (3) social workers at Mankweng Police Station.
- 4. The proposal was perused according to National Instruction 1 of 2006. This office recommends that permission be granted for the research study, subject to the final approval and further arrangements by the office of the Provincial Commissioner: Limpopo.
- 5. We hereby request the final approval by your office if you concur with our recommendation. Your office is also at liberty to set terms and conditions to the researcher to ensure that compliance standards are adhered to during the research process and that research has impact to the organisation.
- 6. If approval is granted by your office, this office will obtain a signed undertaking from researcher prior to the commencement of the research which will include your terms and conditions if there are any and the following:
- 6.1. The research will be conducted at his/her exclusive cost.
- 6.2 The researcher will conduct the research without the disruption of the duties of members of the Service and where it is necessary for the research goals,

#### APPENDIX G: CERTIFICATE FROM THE EDITOR



# University of Limpopo Department of Linguistics, Translation and Interpreting School of Languages and Communication Studies Private Bag x1106, Sovenga, 0727, South Africa Tel: (015) 268 3707, Fax: (015) 268 2868, email:kubayij@yahoo.com

08 February 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

#### SUBJECT: EDITING OF DISSERTATION

This is to certify that the dissertation entitled 'Exploring domestic violence: A case study of the victimisation of women and children in Mankweng policing area, Limpopo Province, South Africa' by Phasha Madibe Jane has been copy-edited, and that unless further tampered with, I am content with the quality of the dissertation in terms of its adherence to editorial principles of consistency, cohesion, clarity of thought and precision.

Kind regards

Prof. SJ Kubayi (DLitt et Phil - Unisa)

Associate Professor

SATI Membership No. 1002606

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#### **APPENDIX H: TURNITIN REPORT**

