The Impact of Intimate Partner Violence on Asian Women

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**Introduction**

The research proposal focuses on the preparations for the study that shall focus on “The Impact of Intimate Partner Violence on Asian Women,” where it is divided into parts 1 and 2. In the paper part 2, the emphasis is laid on the prospect of facilitating the coverage of the aspects that include questionnaire/instrument development, identification of a population of interest, evaluation of ethical issues and the construction of the informed consent form.

**Research Focus**

The research is going to focus on the exploration of the impact of intimate partner violence (IPV) on Asian women. It is the research that has to be undertaken on the background on the fact that IPV has emerged as the most prevalent form of violence against women that is perpetrated by their intimate partners that include the boyfriends, husbands, and parents. IPV is characterized by cases of physical, emotional, and sexual violence. The fact that such acts are witnessed across the world where there are women that belong to various social, cultural, and religious backgrounds implies the need to have an investigation of the impacts related to them.

An empirical study undertaken by Garcia-Moreno and his colleagues involving a sample of 24,000 women drawn from 10 different counties that are characterized by diverse cultural and geographical settings indicated that cases of IPV are evident across all nations. The results indicated that between 13 to 61 percent of women had experienced cases of IPV, where 4 to 49 percent indicated that they had been severely abused physically. In the same regard, between 6 and 59 percent were sexually abused, while 20 to 75 percent were emotionally abused (Garcia-Moreno et al., 2005).

It is based on the above brief highlight of the situation that the research will have to focus on the prospect of undertaking the study based on depression and suicidal ideation among the Asian women that are living in the United States who have encountered any form of IPV. To ensure the comprehensive aspects of the study, there will be the secondary aim that will concentrate on the aspect of exploring the relationship between education levels that have been reached by the women and the cases of IPV amongst them. In that regard, emphasis will be laid on the idea of ensuring that the subjects in the study shall be women who have only experienced IPV in the past but still experience the consequences as well as their counterparts that have already recovered.

The research will be built around the idea of trying to figure out the causality aspects of the independent variables on the dependent ones. In that regard, the independent variable is going to be the IPV, thus implying the need to have the semi-structured interview. There will be two distinct dependent variables that shall include depression and suicidal ideation, respectively. In that regard, there will be the use of the back inventory for the sake of determining the levels of depression while the Suicidal Ideation Questionnaire will be meant for the access to the suicidal ideal of women that are victims of IPV.

The second part of the study will entail the analysis of the educational level, which will be treated as the independent variable while violence will be portrayed as the dependent variable. The following hypotheses are formulated for the purpose of the study:

1. Asian immigrant women who experienced IPV in the past will have higher levels of depression.

2. Suicidal ideation will differ according to the kind of violence women are facing.

3. Higher levels of education are predicted to be associated with a lower level of IPV among Asian Immigrant Women.

**Instrument Construction and Measures Section**

(A) Description of the Contents of the Questionnaire

For the sake of the data collection obligations, there will be the use of the questionnaire that is meant to facilitate the gathering of data regarding the three types of hypotheses. The questionnaire shall be administered via the face-to-face interview that will be conducted. The questionnaire that has been prepared for the sake of this research is standardized in such a way that each interviewee will be subjected to the same set of questions at any given moment.

Questionnaire is characterized by both the closed-ended and open-ended questions that are going to ensure the capturing of the quantitative and qualitative data, respectively. The questions shall be focusing on the three hypotheses that have been adopted in this context. There will be the integration of both the independent and dependent variables. The questions shall be ordered in such a way that there will be three sections each for one of the three hypotheses.

The researcher will have a brief introductory session of less than 5 minutes to brief the interviewee on what is expected before proceeding. At the end of the questions associated with the first hypothesis, there will be a transition where the interviewee will be notified that the interview is moving to the next level. The same procedure will be repeated until the coverage of the third hypothesis.

 (B) The Table

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| --- | --- |
| H1: Independent Variable: IPV | Questionnaire Item Number 1 and 2 |
| H1: Dependent Variable: Depression | Questionnaire Item Number 3 and 4 |
| H2: Independent Variable: IPV | Questionnaire Item Number 1 and 2 |
| H2: Dependent Variable 1: Violence | Questionnaire Item Number 3,4,5,6 |
| H3: Independent Variable: Education | Questionnaire Item Number 1 and 2 |
| H3: Dependent Variable: Violence | Questionnaire Item Number 3,4,5 |

(C.) As depicted by Rubin & Babbie (2017), to operationalize a given variable refers to the prospect of defining it for the sake of ensuring that it can be measured and/or expressed. It is a framework that shall be used to remove ambiguity in the research. The variables in this regard include intimate partner violence (IPV), depression, suicide ideation, and education. IPV refers to the domestic violence orchestrated by the former or current partner in the intimate relationship against the other partner.

Types or forms of IPV for the sake of this research shall include emotional, physical, and sexual abuse. Depression shall be regarded as the mood disorder that affects subjects’ daily life. It will be described by feelings of anger, loss, or sadness. Suicidal ideation shall be regarded as the intent to have suicide or the deliberate self-killing motive as one’s purpose. Finally, education shall be defined and measured in terms of the highest academic qualifications obtained.

**The population of Interest and Pilot Sample**

(A) The research shall be targeting the women of Asian origin that are residing in Boston and its environs within the United States. An observational activity undertaken recently has indicated that there is a large number of women who are of Asian origin that can be traced and obtained in the United States and Boston in particular. The reason as to why the study focuses on Asian women is to facilitate the understanding of the extent of IPV among them as well as the effects of such acts. Secondly, there is a need to understand the link between education and IPV among these women who are in a foreign environment.

(B) The strategy that will be used to find the three individuals to take part in the pilot test will be the use of social media platforms. There are various Facebook and WhatsApp groups of Asian women living in Boston who can be approached to take part in the study. It is a strategy that will be cost-effective and convenient. The only limitation of this approach is the feeling among the participants that their personal information shall be shared with the third parties. It is a feeling that might compromise the whole process.

**Ethical and Cultural Competency Issues**

(A) The respondents will be informed in advance that the study will not entail the aspect of collecting their personal information like names and addresses at any given moment. Secondly, confidentiality shall prevail in the collection and handling of data. Each participant shall be interviewed separately for up to 40 minutes and will not be contacted afterward for any reason whatsoever. The raw data shall not be shared with any third parties in the course of the study.

Participation shall be on a voluntary basis where interviewees shall be conducted in places and locations that are convenient to the interviewees. There will be no recording of voices, taking pictures or videos of the interviewees. All the responses shall be noted down to pave the way for the data cleaning and analysis.

(B) There are various steps that are going to be undertaken to ensure that the interview instrument and procedures are sensitive to class and culture since gender and race are uniform. As observed by McLaughlin (2012), questions shall be framed in a dignified and polite manner to ensure that they are not portrayed as being personal and insensitive to the respondents. There will be the transitions and introductions to assure and remind the respondents that the questions and responses given are purposely for research and not to incriminate or judge anyone. It will be noted that the respondents come from different Asian countries whose cultures and traditions vary, thus the need for a careful way of engaging the interviewees from different backgrounds.

**Conclusion**

Part 2 of the research proposal highlights the various areas that will be addressed before the study is undertaken. There is the coverage of the questionnaire/instrument development that has led to the formulation of the questions to address each of the three hypotheses. Secondly, the Asian women residing in Boston, United States, and its environs form the population of interest whose ethical aspects and issues shall be taken into consideration. Last, there is also the construction of the informed consent form to abide by the legal and ethical aspects of research obligations.

**Appendix**

(a) The Interview Instrument

Hypothesis 1

1. Have you ever faced cases of IPV? Yes/No
2. How long were you being subjected to IPV?
3. Were you depressed as a result of IPV? Yes/No
4. If Yes to which extent? If No, kindly explain.

Hypothesis 2

1. Which kind of violence did you face?
2. For how long were you in that situation?
3. Did you have any suicidal ideas?
4. If yes, kindly explain.
5. Did you get any professional help regarding your situation? If yes, Kindly elaborate
6. Have you recovered such situations as of now?

Hypothesis 3

1. What is your level of education? High school, undergraduate, or postgraduate?
2. For how long have you been working?
3. Have you experienced any forms of IPV? Kindly explain
4. What was the frequency with which you experienced such cases?
5. Have those who have attained same educational levels as yourself experience cases of IPV?

**INFORMED CONSENT**

**Informed Consent to Participate in a Research Study**

Boston University

Boston, MA 02215, United States.

Title of Research Project: The Impact of Intimate Partner Violence on Asian Women

Name of Principal Investigator:

Phone Number of Principal Investigator:

F. **VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION**

Your decision whether or not to participate in this study is voluntary. If you choose to participate in this study, you can withdraw your consent and discontinue participation at any time without prejudice.

G. **QUESTIONS**

If you have any questions about the study, please contact [insert *name of PI*] by calling [*insert phone* *number with area code*]. You can also contact [*insert IRB contact information*] with any questionsabout the rights of research participants or research related concerns.

**CONSENT**

YOU ARE MAKING A DECISION WHETHER OR NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH STUDY. YOUR SIGNATURE BELOW INDICATES THAT YOU HAVE DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STUDY AFTER READING ALL OF THE INFORMATION ABOVE AND YOU UNDERSTAND THE INFORMATION IN THIS FORM, HAVE HAD ANY QUESTIONS ANSWERED AND HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOU TO KEEP.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Research Participant

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Interviewer

**References**

Garcia-Moreno C et al. (2005) *WHO multi-country study on women’s health and domestic violence against women: initial results on prevalence, health outcomes and women’s responses.* Geneva: World Health Organization.

McLaughlin, H. (2012). *Understanding social work research*. Los Angeles: SAGE.

Rubin, A., & Babbie, E. R. (2017). *Research methods for social work*. Boston, MA: Cengage Learning.