

Socioeconomic Triggers of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women



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家庭内暴力、とりわけ夫婦や恋人間の性的・身体的・精神的な暴力は世界中で深刻な問題となっているが、そのトリガーとなり得る社会経済的な要因を、フィリピンにおけるデータをもとに統計的に分析した。

Abstract

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a global scourge with far-reaching consequences for women's health and well-being. This study explores the complex underpinnings of IPV against women in the Philippines, examining the influence of socioeconomic factors on their vulnerability. This study used data from the 2022 Philippine National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS), which classifies IPV into three types - physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. Ordered logistic regression is undertaken for each of the three IPV types. Key findings reveal that a combination of individual-level factors (such as higher age and educational attainment) and household-level factors (such as higher household wealth and higher education of husbands/intimate partners) are associated with a lower likelihood of both physical and emotional violence. Married women are less likely to experience the three types of violence compared to those who are not married. On the other hand, women with husbands/intimate partners who consume alcohol are more likely to be victims of all three types of violence. Interestingly, the results of the sexual violence regression indicate that women's individual-level characteristics are insignificant in their experience of sexual abuse, while household, specifically partner, characteristics are significant. This suggests that the occurrence of sexual violence has more to do with male partners and less to do with women. This study aims to inform strategies to combat IPV and assist policymakers in addressing socioeconomic disparities that contribute to this issue, paving the way for safer and more equitable communities in the Philippines.

Keywords

intimate partner violence, physical violence, emotional violence, sexual violence, socioeconomic characteristics

Introduction

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a significant global issue that cuts across cultures, socio-economic levels, and geographic boundaries. It disrupts relationships, weakens communities, and jeopardizes the health and well-being of women — the more common victims of IPV. Rooted in power imbalances, cultural norms, and entrenched attitudes, IPV is a pervasive problem demanding our attention (Kaur et al., 2008).

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), IPV encompasses behaviors within intimate relationships causing physical, sexual, or psychological harm,

including aggression, coercion, and controlling behaviors, involving both current and former partners. The WHO's 2018 dataset on Violence Against Women highlights the alarming reality of IPV, with about 30% of women worldwide reporting experience of physical or sexual violence from an intimate partner. The figure for the Philippines in the same year was 14%, lower than the global average but still substantial. It is also imperative to recognize that any instance of IPV is unacceptable. IPV inflicts a complex array of physical, emotional, and cognitive harm on women (Burlae, 2004). Beyond bodily violation through physical and sexual violence,

IPV restricts women's mobility and autonomy through limitations on personal space. Alongside verbal abuse, physical and sexual violence erodes women's well-being and contributes to psychological distress that potentially exacerbates depression and health issues (Siddiqui et al., 2021). Tragically, the supposed safe haven of intimate relationships becomes a central threat, jeopardizing women's safety and overall health.

Fueling the flames of IPV are power imbalances within relationships, alongside cultural norms and ingrained masculine ideals that prop up patriarchal systems (Mshweshwe, 2020). In countries with strong patriarchal structures, like the Philippines and many other Asian nations, male dominance reigns supreme, leading to economic exploitation and a higher tolerance for violence against women. Societal expectations of self-sacrifice further silence victims, keeping them trapped in abusive situations (Valdez et al., 2022). Calleja of UCA News reported an expected 16% upsurge in IPV in the Philippines in 2020 due to the COVID-19 lockdowns that confined the victims with their abusers (UNFPA, 2020). This alarming trend underscores the critical need to address the complex web of factors that contribute to IPV. A comprehensive understanding of these multifaceted issues, including the way socio-economic factors within patriarchal cultures increase women's vulnerability, is essential before we can implement effective interventions.

Given the severity of IPV's consequences and the unprecedented challenges posed by the pandemic, this research delves into the intricate interplay between women's socio-economic status, their partners' status, and their susceptibility to violence. This study is particularly relevant in the current climate as it lays the groundwork for addressing IPV and its underlying determinants, especially in light of recent surges in violence.

To delve into the complex dynamics surrounding IPV, this research aims to answer the question: *"How do a woman's socioeconomic traits and those of her partner affect the likelihood of her experiencing violence from her intimate partner?"* The specific socioeconomic factors included in the analysis are: (1) the woman's

income, education, employment status, age, religion, marital status, and household wealth, and (2) the partner's education level and alcohol consumption. Examining these factors collectively provides a comprehensive picture of the economic and social contexts within which individuals and households operate. In our pursuit to investigate the aftermath of the pandemic surge on women's experience of IPV, this study uses data from the Philippine Statistics Authority's (PSA) National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) for the year 2022. This extensive dataset provides intricate details regarding the socioeconomic attributes of women and their partners, as well as the instances of violence experienced by women from their intimate partners.

The study employs ordered logistic regression analysis to identify the socioeconomic factors significantly associated with each of the three distinct forms of IPV defined by the NDHS – physical violence, emotional violence, and sexual violence.

Understanding the interplay between socio-economic factors and IPV empowers individuals to break free from the cycle and informs policy changes. Policymakers can utilize this knowledge to develop targeted interventions, support services, and legislation tailored to protect vulnerable groups and address IPV effectively. Researchers will gain valuable insights into the Philippine context, contributing to the broader understanding of IPV and informing future research directions. By filling this crucial knowledge gap and generating actionable insights, this study aims to empower individuals, guide policy-making, and contribute to the collective effort to combat IPV and promote the well-being of women in the Philippines and beyond.

Methodology

Data Source. This study analyzed data from the 2022 Philippines National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) violence module, a nationally representative survey of females aged 15 to 49. Conducted from May 2 to June 22, 2022, the NDHS used a two-stage stratified sample design with 1,250 primary sampling units. Eligible participants included women aged 15 to 49 who have or ever had a husband (a married or cohabiting

man) or other intimate partner (a man in a longer-lasting relationship involving physical and/or emotional intimacy, excluding casual or one-time encounters) (NDHS, 2022).

Dependent Variables. For this study, the researchers used three dependent variables representing the three types of IPV: *IPV-Physical*, *IPV-Emotional*, and *IPV-Sexual*. Participants in the NDHS were asked, “Did your husband/partner ever do any of the following things (specific violence measures) to you?” For each measure, a respondent could answer “never” if she had never experienced the specified violence measure from her husband/partner in the 12 months preceding the survey, or “sometimes” if she had experienced it infrequently, or “often” if she experienced frequent occurrences of such violence. For each of the three dependent variables, the value of 0 is assigned when the answer is “never” to all violence measures of the IPV type, 1 when the answer is “sometimes” to at least one measure, and 2 if the answer is “often” to at least one measure.

IPV-Physical measures include: (1) push you, shake you or throw something at you, (2) slap you, (3) twist your arm or pull your hair, (4) punch you with his fist or with something that could hurt you, (5) kick you, drag you, or beat you up, (6) try to choke you or burn you on purpose, and (7) threaten to attack you with a knife, gun, or other weapon.

IPV-Emotional measures are: (1) ever said or did something to humiliate you in front of others; (2) threatened to hurt or harm you or someone you care about; (3) insulted you or made you feel bad about yourself; (4) not allowed you to engage in legitimate work or practice; (5) had your money, properties, or work be controlled; or (6) had other intimate relationships.

And *IPV-Sexual measures* include: (1) physically force you to have sexual intercourse with him when you did not want to, (2) physically force you to perform any other sexual acts you did not want to, and (3) force you with threats or in any other way to perform sexual acts you did not want to.

Independent Variables. The conceptual model utilized in this study, inspired by Haobijam et al.’s (2021) framework, posits that IPV is influenced by demographic and socio-economics factors at different levels of analysis: *individual*, *household*, and *community*.

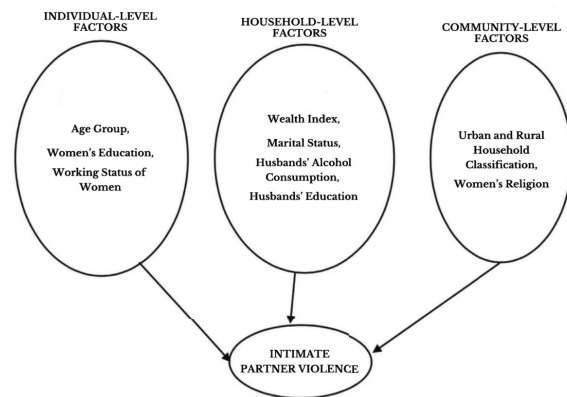


Figure 1. Framework for the Determinants of Intimate Partner Violence

Individual-level variables pertain to factors specific to the individual, the woman victim of IPV. Three individual-level characteristics are included in the regression analysis. First is the woman’s age, a discrete variable from 15 to 49. Second is the set of dummy variables for the woman’s educational attainment, categorized into less than complete primary, primary to incomplete secondary, and secondary and higher. Third is the woman’s employment status, which takes the value of 0 if the woman is not employed, and 1 if employed. The woman’s economic independence may have potential impact on IPV outcomes. Adams and Burowski (2017) argue that the inclusion of employment in violent contexts is tied to power dynamics and gender stereotypes, where unemployment may render a woman inferior, while paid employment challenges the perpetrator’s control.

Household-level variables encompass factors related to the household and the male partner. One such variable is the wealth index, which is the wealth quintile of the household that the woman is a part of. A composite measure of a household’s cumulative living standard, the wealth index is specified as a set of dummy variables for the following wealth quintiles: poorest, poor, middle,

rich, and richest. Economic disparities within households can contribute to power imbalances and IPV. Another household-level variable is marital status, which takes on the value of 1 if the woman is married, or 0 if unmarried (which includes those who have partners but are non-cohabiting, currently living with their partners but not married, widowed, divorced, and those no longer living with their partners). It must be noted that the definition of IPV, according to WHO, includes both current and former spouses and partners. The third variable is the partner's alcohol consumption behavior, which is equated to 0 if the partner does not drink alcohol or 1 if the partner drinks alcohol. Lastly, the educational attainment of the husband/partner, with three categories (less than complete primary, primary to incomplete secondary, and secondary and higher, is specified in terms of two dummy variables for the last two categories.

Community-level variables take into account factors related to the broader social context in which individuals live. For this study, the type of place of residence, urban or rural, is included to check if different living environments influence the prevalence and nature of IPV. Another factor is the woman's religion, specified as dummy variables for various religious groups (Roman Catholic, Protestant, Iglesia ni Cristo, Aglipay, Islam, other Christian groups, all other religions, and no religion). Religious beliefs and practices can influence family dynamics and hence IPV.

Regression Analysis. Three separate regressions corresponding to the three IPV dependent variables (*IPVPhysical*, *IPVEmotional*, and *IPVSexual*) are run using the ordered logistic regression procedure.

Ordered logistic regression is deemed appropriate when modeling a polychotomous variable or an ordered categorical variable with more than two categories (Das et al., 2011). In this study, the dependent variables reflect the severity of intimate partner violence experienced by female respondents with three levels (0 for never, 1 for sometimes, 2 for often).

The foundational assumption of ordered logistic regression, known as the “proportional odds assumption”,

ensures consistent relationships between different outcome groups. This assumption suggests that coefficients describing relationships between various categories of the response variable remain uniform. It streamlines the model, eliminating the need for separate models for each pair of outcome groups.

Empirical validation of the proportional odds assumption is crucial. The “Omodel” test, a likelihood ratio test, checks for significant differences in coefficients across models. The three data sets of the three regression runs conducted in this study all pass the “Omodel” test, with p-values exceeding the 0.05 significance threshold (*IPVPhysical*: 0.0809, *IPVEmotional*: 0.0578, *IPVSexual*: 0.2495). This indicates that the proportional odds assumption holds, justifying the use of marginal effects for interpreting ordered logit model results. This validation reinforces the models' ability to consistently assess the impact of independent variables on the probability of a specific category occurring in the dependent variable across all categories.

Marginal effects are calculated and presented in the Results section, instead of the regression coefficients. The marginal effect, typically reported in terms of a probability, provide a more intuitive understanding and more useful interpretation of how a change in one independent variable, *ceteris paribus*, affects the probability of a particular category of IPV occurrence (i.e., “never,” “sometimes,” or “often”).

The sum of the marginal effects of the three categories of violence frequency for each independent variable must equal 0, consistent with the basic probability rule that the sum of the probabilities of all possible occurrences must always equal 1.

All statistical analyses in this study were performed using Stata version 15.1 (StataCorp, 2017).

Results

This section discusses the results of the ordered logistic regressions for physical, emotional, and sexual intimate partner violence using the 2022 NDHS datasets. The regression runs yield robust results, with the signs of the variables staying the same, and the marginal effects having very minimal differences.

Table 1 presents the predicted probabilities of IPV based on the ordered logit regression results. The probabilities that a Filipina never, sometimes, and often experiences physical violence from her intimate partner are 97%, 2%, and 0.4%, respectively. In the case of emotional IPV, the probabilities of never, sometimes, and often are 88%, 9% and 3%, respectively. Finally, the likelihood that a Filipina never experiences sexual violence is 98%; while the likelihood of occasional sexual violence is 2% and frequent sexual violence is only 0.3%. Data reveals that the most common type of IPV experienced by Filipinas is emotional IPV, with a combined probability of “sometimes” and “often” occurrence of 12%, compared to only 2.4% for physical violence and 2.3% for sexual violence.

Table 1. Predicted Probabilities for Dependent Variables

Variable	Categories	Mean	Std. Dev.
Physical	Never	0.97681	0.02275
	Sometimes	0.01887	0.01833
	Often	0.00433	0.00442
Emotional	Never	0.88247	0.06865
	Sometimes	0.08789	0.04935
	Often	0.02964	0.01936
Sexual	Never	0.98355	0.01508
	Sometimes	0.01392	0.01271
	Often	0.00252	0.00237

Basic Data Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Tables 2, 3, and 4 present the marginal effects of the independent variables on the probability of IPV for each of the three IPV types – physical, emotional, and sexual – respectively. Table 2 displays the results of the ordered logit regression for *IPVPhysical*. The marginal probabilities of the three levels of *IPVPhysical* (never, sometimes, and often) with respect to the woman’s age are all statistically significant. The marginal probability of “never” is positive and is equal to 0.0006, which means that a woman who is older by one year is more likely to experience physical violence by 0.06%. In contrast, the negative marginal probabilities of “sometimes” and “often” imply that an older woman is less likely to experience physical violence “sometimes” (probability is lower by 0.05% points for each additional year) and

“often” (probability is lower by 0.01% points for each additional year). These results suggest that older women face a reduced risk of physical violence, consistent with findings from Wilson (2019) and Gheshlaghe et al.’s (2021) studies, which reported a lower likelihood of intimate partner violence among older women.

Table 2. Ologit Regression Results: Physical IPV

Variable	Description	Marginal Effects		
		Never	Sometimes	Often
Women’s Age	Continuous Variable	0.00058* (0.00019)	-0.00047* (0.00015)	-0.0001* (0.00003)
Women’s Education	0 = Less than Complete Primary	-	-	-
	1 = Primary to Incomplete Secondary	0.00826 (0.00633)	-0.00663 (0.00507)	-0.00163 (0.00128)
	2 = Secondary and Higher Education	0.01732* (0.0064)	-0.01395* (0.00515)	-0.00337* (0.00133)
	0 = not employed	-	-	-
Women’s Employment	1 = employed	-0.00272 (0.00283)	0.00219 (0.00228)	0.00053 (0.00056)
Household Wealth	0 = poorest	-	-	-
	1 = poor	0.00652 (0.00396)	-0.00526 (0.00319)	-0.00126 (0.00078)
	2 = middle	0.00339 (0.00471)	-0.00273 (0.00379)	-0.00067 (0.00092)
	3 = richer	0.01357* (0.00455)	-0.01097* (0.00369)	-0.00260* (0.00092)
	4 = richest	0.01635* (0.00473)	-0.01322* (0.00385)	-0.00312* (0.00097)
Marital Status	0 = not married	-	-	-
	1 = married	0.01087* (0.00323)	-0.00877* (0.00262)	-0.00209* (0.00057)
Partner Drinks Alcohol	0 = does not drink alcohol	-	-	-
	1 = drinks alcohol	-0.02525* (0.00294)	0.02046* (0.00245)	0.00478* (0.00081)
Husband/ Partner’s Education	0 = Less than Complete Primary	-	-	-
	1 = Primary to Incomplete Secondary	0.00557 (0.00522)	-0.00417 (0.0042)	-0.00102 (0.00103)
	2 = Secondary and Higher Education	0.01228* (0.00464)	-0.00990* (0.00375)	-0.00239* (0.00096)
	0 = Urban	-	-	-
Urbanity	1 = Rural	0.00557 (0.00316)	-0.00448 (0.00254)	-0.00108 (0.00063)

Religion	1 = Roman Catholic	-	-	-
2 = Protestant	0.00807*	-0.00652*	-0.00155	
	(0.00387)	(0.00314)	(0.00076)	
3 = Iglesia ni Cristo	-0.01074	0.00861	0.00213	
	(0.01168)	(0.00933)	(0.00236)	
4 = Aglipay	0.00729	-0.00589	-0.0014	
	(0.00897)	(0.00727)	(0.00172)	
5 = Islam	0.00835	-0.00674	-0.0016	
	(0.00559)	(0.00296)	(0.00107)	
6 = Other Christian	0.02205*	-0.02051*	-0.00414*	
	(0.00358)	(0.00148)	(0.00083)	
7 = Other	0.00406	-0.00327	-0.00079*	
	(0.00953)	(0.00770)	(0.00183)	
8 = None	0.02522*	-0.02051*	-0.00471*	
	(0.00168)	(0.00148)	(0.00066)	

For the woman's education variable, regression results indicate that having secondary to higher education increases the likelihood of never experiencing physical violence by 1.73%, while decreasing the likelihood of sometimes (by 1.4%) and often (by 0.34%) experiencing physical violence. This aligns with Bhona et al.'s (2019) who found that women with higher education levels are less likely to face physical violence from their partners.

Significant results for the household wealth variable are only found for the "richer" and "richest" quintiles dummy variables. In the case of the fourth quintile, the resulting marginal probabilities reveal that women in the "richer" quintile (relative to the "poorest" quintile), have a higher probability of never experiencing physical violence by 1.4%, while having lower probabilities of experiencing physical violence sometimes and often by 1.1% and 0.3%, respectively. The marginal probabilities for the "richest" quintile are correspondingly higher (+1.6%, -1.1%, and -1.3, respectively). Hence, wealth in the woman's household leads to less physical violence, which Durrance et al. attribute to reduced power imbalances, improved access to support services, and fewer conflicts related to financial matters. Note that the marginal probabilities for the "poor" and "middle" quintiles are not statistically significant, implying that the probabilities of physical violence for women in the bottom three quintiles are statistically the same. Improved conditions are only experienced by women in the top two quintiles.

Being a married woman increases the probability of

never experiencing physical abuse by 1.09%. This also reduces the likelihood of experiencing physical violence sometimes by 0.88% and often by 0.21%. Similar results have been found in Haobijam & Singh's (2021) study, where married women are less likely to experience intimate partner violence compared to non-married women, divorced, and women separated from their partners.

When the woman's partner consumes alcohol, it increases the likelihood of the woman experiencing physical abuse sometimes by 2.05% and often by 0.48%, and decreases her likelihood of never experiencing the same type of violence by 2.53%. This implies that the partner who drinks alcohol is more likely to engage in physical abuse. Excessive alcohol consumption can diminish inhibitions, impair judgment, and elevate the risk of aggressive behaviors (Galbicsek, 2020).

A woman whose husband or intimate partner has a secondary or higher education is more likely to never experience physical violence from her partner by 1.23%, and less likely to experience physical violence sometimes (0.99%) and often (0.24%). This finding aligns with Chandra et al.'s (2023) study, where the husband's education is negatively associated with IPV.

For religion, only Protestant, other Christian groups, and non-religious categories have statistically significant marginal coefficients. The results reveal a higher likelihood of never experiencing physical violence for women in these groups as compared to a Roman Catholic woman.

Lastly, the study finds that the location of residence (urban or rural) as well as the woman's employment status do not significantly influence the woman's experience of physical IPV, consistent with the results of the studies of Bhona et al. (2019) and Vyas & Jansen (2018).

The regression results for the emotional violence variable (displayed in Table 3) are similar to the outcomes of the physical violence variable.

Table 3. Ologit Regression Results: Emotional IPV

Variable	Description	Marginal Effects		
		Never	Sometimes	Often
Women's Age	Continuous Variable	0.00181* (0.00039)	-0.00129* (0.00027)	-0.00052* (0.00011)
Women's Education	0 = Less than Complete Primary	-	-	-
	1 = Primary to Incomplete Secondary	0.01028 (0.01231)	-0.00722 (0.00862)	-0.00305 (0.00369)
	2 = Secondary and Higher Education	0.03158* (0.01242)	-0.02241* (0.00862)	-0.00917* (0.00372)
	0 = not employed	-	-	-
Women's Employment	1 = employed	0.00810 (0.00590)	-0.00578 (0.00421)	-0.00232 (0.00169)
Household Wealth	0 = poorest	-	-	-
	1 = poor	-0.00509 (0.00832)	0.00361 (0.00590)	0.00148 (0.00242)
	2 = middle	0.00208 (0.00937)	-0.00148 (0.00666)	-0.00060 (0.00270)
	3 = richer	0.02764* (0.00988)	-0.01987* (0.00714)	-0.00776* (0.00277)
	4 = richest	0.03482* (0.01051)	-0.02512* (0.00764)	-0.00970* (0.00292)
Marital Status	0 = not married	-	-	-
	1 = married	0.02853* (0.00675)	-0.02034* (0.00483)	-0.00819* (0.00197)
Partner Drinks Alcohol	0 = does not drink alcohol	-	-	-
	1 = drinks alcohol	0.09081* (0.005950)	0.06607* (0.00450)	0.02474* (0.00193)
Husband/ Partner's Education	0 = Less than Complete Primary	-	-	-
	1 = Primary to Incomplete Secondary	0.00621 (0.01050)	-0.00439 (0.00742)	-0.00182 (0.00309)
	2 = Secondary and Higher Education	0.01907* (0.00595)	-0.01355* (0.00655)	-0.00552* (0.00272)
	0 = Urban	-	-	-
Urbanity	1 = Rural	-0.01787* (0.00614)	0.01276* (0.0044)	0.00509* (0.00175)
Religion	1 = Roman Catholic	-	-	-
	2 = Protestant	-0.00480 (0.00960)	0.00342 (0.00682)	0.00139 (0.00278)
	3 = Iglesia ni Cristo	-0.02146 (0.02136)	0.01515 (0.01494)	0.00630 (0.00642)
	4 = Aglipay	0.00255 (0.02094)	-0.00182 (0.01496)	-0.00073 (0.00597)
	5 = Islam	0.06645* (0.00905)	-0.04867* (0.00681)	-0.01777* (0.00241)
	6 = Other Christian	0.05244* (0.01486)	-0.03821* (0.01105)	-0.01423* (0.00388)
	7 = Other	0.00428 (0.02281)	-0.00306 (0.01632)	-0.00122 (0.00648)
	8 = None	0.04773 (0.07323)	-0.03471 (0.05426)	-0.01302 (0.01897)

As a woman's age increases by one year, her probability of never experiencing emotional violence increases by 0.18%. Simultaneously, the probability of experiencing emotional violence sometimes and often decreases by 0.12% and 0.052%, respectively. This suggests that older women are less prone to experiencing emotional violence, similar to the results of Xu et al. (2014) which states that younger females reported the highest rates of emotional abuse, and this declined with age.

On the other hand, a woman who obtained a secondary or higher education has a 3.12% higher likelihood of never experiencing emotional violence. Along with that, the likelihoods of experiencing emotional violence sometimes and often both decrease by 2.22% and 0.92%, respectively. This implies that the woman's level of education significantly reduces her vulnerability to emotional violence, which is consistent with the results of Nazareno et al. (2022) using the 2017 NDHS data.

Women belonging to households in the "richer" wealth quintile have a greater likelihood of never experiencing any form of emotional violence by 2.76%. Being in the "richest" wealth quintile increases the likelihood of never experiencing emotional violence even more (3.45%).

Similar to the physical violence variable, married women have an increased probability of never being emotionally abused by their partners by 2.85%. Being married decreases a woman's probability of experiencing emotional violence sometimes by 2.03%, as well as the probability of experiencing emotional violence often by 0.82%, indicating that married women are less prone to emotional violence from their partners compared to women who are not married.

Women with partners who consume alcoholic beverages are at a higher risk of encountering emotional violence sometimes by 6.61% and often by 2.47%. The findings indicate a reduced likelihood of these women never experiencing any type of emotional violence. These results are in line with Kerridge & Tran (2016) and Chikhungu et al. (2021), suggesting that women face a higher risk of emotional violence when perpetrators are intoxicated since alcohol heightens impact on judgment, aggression, and the tendency to lash out

verbally or physically. Frequently, alcohol serves as a coping mechanism for stress and anger, perpetuating a cycle of violence (Begum et al., 2015).

Women whose partners or husbands have achieved a secondary and higher level of education are 1.91% more likely to never encounter any form of emotional violence. On the other hand, they have lower probabilities of experiencing emotional violence sometimes by 1.36%, and often by 0.56%.

Unlike the results for physical violence, the marginal probabilities for location of residence in the case of emotional violence are statistically significant. Women residing in rural areas have a lower likelihood of never experiencing emotional violence (1.79%), while having higher probabilities of encountering emotional violence sometimes (1.28%) and often (0.51%). These imply that rural women are more vulnerable to emotional abuse than their urban counterparts, consistent with the findings of Tjaden et al. (2000).

Further, Islamic women generally have a reduced likelihood of experiencing emotional violence relative to Roman Catholic women, as indicated by the statistically significant negative marginal probability of the “never” category (-0.06645). Likewise, women belonging to the “other Christian” groups have a lower probability of experiencing emotional violence.

Like in the case of physical violence, the woman’s employment status has no statistically significant influence on the woman’s experience of emotional violence.

The regression analysis on the dependent variable *IPVSexual* yields noteworthy findings. As shown in Table 4, women’s own attributes (age, education, and employment status) as well as the environment in which the couple live (urban or rural residence) do not significantly affect the woman’s experience of sexual violence.

Table 4. Ologit Regression Results: Sexual IPV

Variable	Description	Marginal Effects		
		Never	Sometimes	Often
Women’s Age	Continuous Variable	0.00027 (0.00015)	-0.00023 (0.00013)	-0.00004 (0.00002)
Women’s Education	0 = Less than Complete Primary	-	-	-
	1 = Primary to Incomplete Secondary	0.00025 (0.00471)	-0.00021 (0.00396)	-0.00004 (0.00074)
	2 = Secondary and Higher Education	0.00498 (0.00472)	-0.00419 (0.00397)	-0.00078 (0.00075)
	0 = not employed	-	-	-
Women’s Employment	1 = employed	-0.00448 (0.00240)	0.00377 (0.00202)	0.00070 (0.00039)
Household Wealth	0 = poorest	-	-	-
	1 = poor	0.00022 (0.00346)	-0.00018 (0.00292)	-0.00003 (0.00054)
	2 = middle	0.00383 (0.00377)	-0.00322 (0.00318)	-0.00060 (0.00060)
	3 = richer	0.00404 (0.00420)	-0.00341 (0.00354)	-0.00063 (0.00067)
	4 = richest	0.01402* (0.00336)	-0.01185* (0.00286)	-0.00217* (0.00063)
Marital Status	0 = not married	-	-	-
	1 = married	0.00867* (0.00277)	-0.00730* (0.00234)	-0.00136* (0.00049)
Partner Drinks Alcohol	0 = does not drink alcohol	-	-	-
	1 = drinks alcohol	-0.01887* (0.00242)	0.01594* (0.00211)	0.00292* (0.00061)
Husband/ Partner’s Education	0 = Less than Complete Primary	-	-	-
	1 = Primary to Incomplete Secondary	0.00642 (0.00430)	-0.00540 (0.00362)	-0.00101 (0.00070)
	2 = Secondary and Higher Education	0.00751* (0.00396)	-0.00632* (0.00334)	-0.00119 (0.00066)
Urbanity	0 = Urban	-	-	-
	1 = Rural	0.00052 (0.00257)	-0.00044 (0.00216)	-0.00008 (0.00040)
Religion	1 Roman Catholic	-	-	-
	2 = Protestant	-0.00516 (0.00419)	0.00434 (0.00352)	0.00081 (0.00068)
	3 = Iglesia ni Cristo	0.00076 (0.00797)	-0.00064 (0.00672)	-0.00011 (0.00125)
	4 = Aglipay	0.00017 (0.00827)	-0.00014 (0.00697)	-0.00002 (0.00130)
	5 = Islam	0.00506 (0.00507)	-0.00427 (0.00429)	-0.00079 (0.00079)
	6 = Other Christian	0.01349* (0.00347)	-0.01141* (0.00297)	-0.00207* (0.00062)
	7 = Other	0.01206* (0.00483)	-0.01020* (0.00411)	-0.00186* (0.00079)
	8 = None	0.01671* (0.00135)	-0.01414* (0.00122)	-0.00256* (0.00047)

What turn out to be significant predictors of women's sexual violence experience are the attributes of the partners. If the woman's partner drinks alcohol, the chance of her never experiencing sexual abuse falls by 1.89%, while the likelihood of her experiencing it sometimes and often increases by 1.59% and 0.29%, respectively. This suggests that alcohol intake contributes to a higher risk of sexual abuse occurrence. These findings echo the results of Kerridge and Tran's (2016) study for the Philippines using 2013 data. The results provide quantitative evidence supporting various theoretical frameworks, including Lawrence E. Cohen and Marcus Felson's Routine Activities Theory and John H. Gagnon and William Simon's Sexual Scripts Theory, which posit that sexual violence against women is attributable to men's characteristics rather than women's (Cohen & Felson, 1979; Gagnon & Simon, 1974). These results underscore a stark reality: women's own individual traits seem to hold no sway over their vulnerability to sexual abuse. Instead, the primary determinants lie in the characteristics of men. This realization is not just a statistical observation; it's a profound indictment of societal norms and power dynamics that perpetuate this form of violence.

Additionally, a woman partnered with someone who has secondary or higher education, as opposed to less than primary education, experiences a 0.75% increase in the probability of never encountering sexual violence and a 0.63% decrease in the likelihood of sometimes experiencing sexual violence from their partners. This supports Agarwal et al. (2023), who conclude that the partner's higher level of education can potentially reduce his propensity for committing sexual violence.

However, the wealth status of the woman's family and her employment status are statistically significant predictors of sexual violence. Being in the "richest" household wealth quintile increases the likelihood of never experiencing sexual violence by 1.4%, while reducing the chances of experiencing sexual abuse sometimes by 1.19% and often by 0.22%. These findings underscore a significant association between household wealth and women's vulnerability to sexual violence. As noted by Jewkes et al. (2002), women in lower wealth

quintiles are more susceptible to sexual violence, potentially due to financial dependence on partners, making it difficult for them to leave abusive relationships.

Moreover, married women have a higher likelihood of never experiencing sexual violence (0.87%), and reduced chances of experiencing sexual abuse sometimes (0.73%) and often (0.14%). Jewkes et al. (2002) propose that the likelihood of married women experiencing sexual violence from their spouses could be lower due to the perception of marriage legitimizing sexual intimacy. In simpler terms, women might not recognize instances of sexual abuse by their husbands because they view sex within the context of marriage as inherently legitimate.

As for religious affiliations, only women who belong to the "other Christian" groups and those who do not have a religious affiliation show significant results. In comparison to Roman Catholics, women in other Christian groups and women with no religious affiliations are less likely to experience sexual abuse.

Conclusion and Recommendations

This study extensively examines the socioeconomic factors associated with women's IPV experience, distinguishing among three types of IPV, namely, physical, emotional, and sexual.

The study finds similar predictors of physical and emotional violence. The woman's age, education, her family wealth, the couple's married status, and the partner's education lower the vulnerability of the Filipina to both physical and emotional violence from her intimate partner. On the other hand, the partner's drinking behavior increases the likelihood of the woman experiencing physical and emotional violence. Women belonging to the Protestant and Other Christian groups as well as those with no religious affiliation are less likely to experience physical violence, while only women in Islam and Other Christian groups are less prone to emotional abuse. Living in a rural setting only increases the probability of emotional abuse.

Remarkably, in the case of sexual violence, the woman's own attributes (age, education and employment status) become irrelevant. Her family's wealth become

less relevant, with only those belonging the top quintile (richest 20% households in the Philippines) having lower chances of experiencing sexual abuse from their intimate partners. Notably, the factor which has the greatest impact on the likelihood of sexual abuse is the partner's alcohol drinking habit. Another partner's attribute that significantly affects (negative) the probability of sexual violence is the partner's education. This challenges the misconception that blames women for experiencing sexual IPV, highlighting the importance of considering the characteristics of the perpetrator in understanding and addressing this form of violence. To avoid counterproductive recommendations or ethical oversights, refraining from blaming victims, particularly women, is essential. It is crucial, given that a substantial segment of the population continues to hold women accountable for experiencing IPV, especially sexual assault (Meyer, 2016).

The study's findings carry significant implications for combating IPV and challenging victim-blaming narratives. It stresses the importance of comprehensive interventions to address societal attitudes and underlying causes contributing to IPV. Rather than blaming victims, particularly women, governmental efforts should focus on initiatives aimed at addressing this persistent public health issue.

To address these challenges not just in the Philippines, but also in Asia, leveraging the study's results is recommended to enhance educational initiatives. Quality education for both men and women is crucial in preventing various forms of violence against women. Measures should prioritize providing education to marginalized individuals, offering job opportunities, and improving overall well-being. This includes incorporating comprehensive "sex education" courses into government and school curricula, instilling principles of consensual behavior, and rejecting the use of sex as a form of abuse.

Government initiatives should prioritize accessibility and visibility within communities by establishing Women's Crisis Centers and One-Stop Shops for legal and medical support, particularly for marginalized individuals. Enhancing social support services and improving the efficiency of emergency hotlines are vital steps

in providing support to IPV survivors, along with enhancing the "women-friendly" initiative of the Philippine National Police, ensuring nationwide implementation.

Given the significant impact of partner intoxication on IPV against women, widespread access to information, comprehensive education, and national awareness initiatives are necessary. The Department of Health should enhance social support services, such as counseling and mental health resources, ensuring accessibility in rural areas. Efforts from the Department of Trade and Industry and the Ad Standards should highlight the harms of alcohol consumption and enforce regulations on alcohol promotion.

Increased government funding for organizations like the Philippine Commission on Women is essential to support their programs and initiatives aimed at empowering women and preventing violence against them. This financial support can facilitate the organization of seminars and initiatives targeting marginalized individuals, ensuring a comprehensive approach to addressing women's rights and well-being in the Philippines.

The researchers also recommend that future studies expand upon this research by examining additional variables. For instance, investigating the experiences of male victims of intimate partner violence and how their socioeconomic factors influence the likelihood of experiencing such violence would contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the issue. It is crucial to acknowledge that violence can occur regardless of gender. Furthermore, future research could explore the dynamics of intimate partner violence before and after the pandemic. Researchers could collect data from both pre-pandemic and post-pandemic periods and conduct regression analyses to compare the prevalence and characteristics of intimate partner violence across these time frames.

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