EGYPT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN STUDY

MEDIA COVERAGE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This study attempts to identify the nature of the coverage of violence against women in the Egyptian mass media with the aim of introducing an effective media mechanism that will help expand interest in this issue beyond the limited academic community and dedicated authorities, and expanded to the general public.

This report was written by Dr. Enas Abu Youssef and the Cairo University Center for Research on Women and Media. The National Council for Women (NCW) selected Dr. Abu Youssef to conduct this secondary analysis of the NCW Media Watch Unit's previously published reports. The study was conducted within the framework of the NCW's multidimensional study of violence against women in Egypt, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the Combating Violence Against Women project.

This study is based on a secondary analysis of six reports published by the NCW's Media Watch Unit from April 2005 to March 2006 and from February 2007 to February 2008.

The theoretical framework of the study is based on the social cultural analysis model of monitoring the direct relationship between the media discourse and the prevalent culture and the social and political discourses in society.

The findings of the analytical study indicate that the media did not give sufficient attention to publishing information related to violence against women. Issues related to violence against women comprised only 17.4 percent of its total coverage of women's issues, based on the study sample. The representation of community violence was covered more often (66.1 percent of cases of media coverage of violence against women), compared to domestic violence (33.9 percent). Both print media and television were similar in their coverage of community violence (70 percent and 60.2 percent coverage of violence against women, respectively), and in their coverage of domestic violence (30 percent and 39.8 percent, respectively). Radio programs had an equal interest in domestic and community violence (50.1 percent and 49.9 percent coverage of violence against women, respectively).

The findings confirm that media discourse tends to focus negatively on sexual harassment of women at work and in the street. However, on the issue of political involvement of women, media discourse was divided between supporting and opposing women in politics. Of particular note is the media's general agreement with the idea that a woman does not have the right to be nominated for the presidency.

The review of the target audiences indicates that media messages do not differentiate by audience categories — rural/urban, age categories, and economic levels. Rather, media discourse is oriented primarily elite audiences.

In dramatic representation of violence against women on radio and television, the analysis shows that violence against women is one of the main sources for conflict in plots for broadcast dramas. Of the 48 percent of radio dramas that presented issues of violence against women, 86.8 percent depicted domestic violence and 13.2 percent depicted community violence. Of the 45 percent of television dramas presenting violence against

women, 69.5 percent depicted domestic violence and 30.5 percent depicted community violence.

The qualitative analysis of the dramatic productions shows that, when these programs portray violence, the family's disintegration or malfunctioning is mostly the woman's fault and only she is to be blamed. In addition, in these productions, justifiable reasons are given for violence against women.

1. INTRODUCTION

Violence against women stems from Egypt's cultural heritage. The country's male-dominated culture reveres patriarchal authority in its current social relations. Exacerbating the negative effects of this male-dominated culture on Egyptian women is the relationship of violence against women to the deteriorating economic situation and the gap between different social categories and classes. However, with the increasing involvement of organizations concerned with women's rights, the issue of violence against women has attracted the attention of the Egyptian mass media in the past decade — especially the emerging media, such as privately owned newspapers, private television channels, and other media.

Violence against women takes several forms, and is categorized as follows:

- Violence against women within the family (domestic violence)
- Violence against women within the society (community violence)
- Violence against women by the state

Each category may include subcategories, such as physical or psychological violence. Civil society organizations concerned with women's causes and rights are keen to monitor the role of Egyptian media in the representation of women's issues and images in the media. Foremost in this effort is the NCW, which signed an agreement with UNICEF in December 2003 to establish a Media Watch Unit concerned with the image of women in the Egyptian mass media. This agreement fit within one of NCW's main objectives — to propose general policies that contribute to the integration of Egyptian women in different fields of development.

The Media Watch Unit presented an evaluation of methods used by mass media to addressing issues related to Egyptian women, values included in the media discourse, and how this representation affects the formation of images of women in the media. The report was designed to acquaint policy-makers, media experts, and those concerned with women's issues with its findings. A major issue that the Media Watch Unit has analyzed in its six reports is violence against women and how it is addressed in print media and radio and television programs and dramas.

This study, produced under the direction of the Egyptian NCW and funded by USAID through the Combating Violence Against Women project, will shed light on the role of the mass media in influencing attitudes towards women in general and the representation of violence against women in particular. It is based a secondary analysis of the Media Watch Unit's reports on the Egyptian mass media's representation of violence against women. Therefore, this study includes the following:

1. A quantitative and qualitative analysis of the media coverage of violence against women during the past two years
2. An analysis of methods adapted by the media when addressing violence against women compared to the results of previous research in the same area during the past decade
3. Identification of the priority given to the issue of violence against women compared with other issues addressed by the media

    4.   Identification of patterns of violence against women on which the media has focused

2. LITERATURE REVIEW OF EGYPTIAN MEDIA

Studies related to the mass media's coverage of women's issues during the past decade can be divided into three categories:

1. Studies that addressed women's issues in general (74 studies)
2. Studies that focused on violence as a main topic (18 studies)
3. Studies that focused only on violence against women (2 studies)

2.1. Media Studies that Addressed Women's Issues in General (74 Studies)

Covering the period from 1996 to 2007, the media studies that addressed women's issues in general included a sample from every type of mass media (print media, radio, television, and cinema). This research included both analytical and field studies. The field studies were based on samples from rural and urban districts in Upper and Lower Egypt and on random samples of media leadership in high administrative and management positions, including media figures in the Egyptian Radio and Television Union, in addition to communications experts from Egyptian newspapers. To analyze women's issues addressed by the mass media, these studies applied utilization and satisfaction assessments, survey research methods, comparative methods, quantitative and qualitative analysis methods, and discourse analysis.

A review of these studies reveals several findings:

1. *The mass media are now more interested in social issues; traditional issues are of less importance*.[1] Also, the support of the mass media for participation of women in the political process has increased; women are encouraged to vote and to run for seats in the Parliament and local councils[2]. There is also a positive relationship between exposure to television and interest in women's political participation.[3]

2. *Print media communications experts are still dominated by stereotypical and traditional views of women, although some progress has occurred*. Although an image of modern and creative working women has emerged, this image was nevertheless lost amid other images of women.[4] Newspaper "crimes and incidents" sections and caricatures still typically focus on the image of a woman as unfaithful, a murderess, a mistress, a tyrant, an exploiter, a chatterbox, and an opportunist. These stereotypes cast women as the cause of family conflicts, while men are shown as providers and dominant members of the household.[5] A similarity is suggested between the wife and the state, showing them both as supervisory authorities who may engage in coercion and, sometimes, violence.[6] The image of women in social marketing campaigns differs from that in advertisements and music videos. While social marketing campaigns portray women positively and equal to men, advertisements and music videos usually exploit women as provocative symbols.[7] In the cinema, portrayal of women is more often negative than positive, with women often associated with sexuality and the commission of illegal acts[8]. Some studies have shown some improvement in the image of women as reflected in radio and television dramas.[9]

3. *Some media still portray women as negative, as weak creatures who are unable to make decisions or think logically, as emotional and superficial, with no initiative, and shying away from problems.* Women were depicted in some dramatic works as caring only for appearances and formalities.[10] Egyptian newspapers, television dramas and advertisements still focus on the traditional and stereotypical roles of women as mothers, wives, employees, victims, mistresses, and provocateurs.[11] Although there is an increase in positive roles for women, the attention given to negative roles is nevertheless still greater. For example, mass media is usually keener to emphasize[12] women committing illegal acts than men. Although the mass media is well aware of the productive role of women and the importance of including them in development processes for education, health, culture, economics, and politics through topics that deal with adult literacy, women's political participation and equality at work,[13] this occurs only on political occasions with direction from political authorities.[14]

4. *The public's perception of women varies;[15] it is positive when associated with the constructive role of women in the family[16] but negative when associated with the mass media's distorted and superficial portrayal that focuses on women's femininity as an element of seduction and attraction to men.*[17] Rural women are portrayed as weak and inferior, a stereotypical and traditional image that marginalizes them and their issues.[18] Some studies described female media professionals' disapproval of the image of women as portrayed by the mass media, [19] concluding that these professionals' acceptance the prevalent traditional perceptions influences their work.[20] Some studies noted the need for a media strategy that aims to change the negative image of women prevalent in the mass media.[21]

5. *The views of media professionals are affected by their affiliations and experience as well as their stereotypical images of women's role and status in society.* These views affect what is printed or broadcast about women in the mass media. Some studies commented on female media professionals' lack of cultural and social awareness as well as their failure to understand the psychological dimensions that prevent them from fully understanding and effectively reporting on violence against women.[22]

6. *Media professionals of both genders are affected by limitations to their freedom in the field of media and the rights and obligations imposed on them by legislation that regulates journalism.*[23] In addition, like other Egyptian women, female media professionals experience the same limitations in employment opportunities, travel, and training. Specific to their profession, they lack opportunities to advance to management positions in print media organizations to serve on editorial boards or in central editorial departments.[24]

7. *Media discourse does not focus equally on all values in its communication to the public. Although participation of both men and women in family life and responsibilities was the most prominent value revealed in daily newspapers (particularly national papers but also some political newspapers) and radio and television broadcasts, equality was the most prominent value discussed in some private and party newspapers and some radio and television programs.*[25] One

study concluded that the Egyptian public perceives equality between men and women in a stereotypical way, whether in daily life[26] or through the symbolic reality reflected on television; findings revealed the projection of positive qualities on men and negative qualities on women.[27] Some advertisements focus on equality between men and women and equal opportunities for their participation in public and family life.[28] The values of loyalty and cooperation are depicted in some radio drama, but of freedom, forgiveness, and independence are rare. The value of work appears in the content of some private, daily, and party newspapers.[29]

8. *Some publications still promote intellectual intolerance and extremism, demanding that women revert to the social, political and cultural backwardness typical of earlier centuries.* [30]

9. *The studies revealed the absence of a general mass media strategy for women's issues; radio and television programs and much writing for print media, present dual messages: at the same time that they urge women to participate in politics, they marginalize their political role and depict their responsibilities as limited to household chores.* Similarly, the media presents contradictory images of women: one that is more traditional, showing women as obedient, submissive, helpless, self-sacrificing, and passive; and more modern image of independent, constructive women who are capable of making decisions and contributing to Egypt's development.[31] Ms. Magda Omar believes that by adopting a media strategy that reflects male logic in the development process, women's contributions are marginalized.[32]

10. The media discourse lacks clear social depth in addressing some important social issues, leading to misunderstandings. For example, a woman's right to retail the option of divorcing her husband is regarded superficially. Where the media could correct misinterpretations of this right by explaining the benefits to women, it instead portrays the only benefit as a woman denying her husband a say in the procedure.

11. *Media discourse focuses on women of child-bearing age and ignores young girls, adolescents, and older women. The media also gives greater attention to urban women, whether by presenting their issues or portraying their stereotypical images, and ignoring poor and rural women.*[33]

12. *The mass media addresses women's issues in incidental news rather than providing in-depth commentary that would provide context for these incidents and give news stories greater significance.*[34] Study findings reveal that in cinema and television drama address women's topics as secondary issues.[35] However, women are depicted more than men in commercial advertisements.[36]

13. *International gender issues have influenced the media in Egypt, and some of these issues were linked to issues addressed in the Egyptian media. One example is equal rights for men and women.* Coverage also emphasizes personal status issues such as restriction of the number of wives a man takes, the concept of judges presiding over divorce cases, providing houses for divorcees, female genital mutilation, and violence against women.[37]

14. *The media gives positive coverage to topics that are important to women in general, reflecting priorities and interests identified by the female public. Programs addressing women's appearance ranked highest, followed by topics related to health, children, and religion.*[38] The number of female viewers is higher for programs about women and families — more so in rural than urban districts.[39] Television's agenda is similar to that of women, as women are interested in literacy, spinsterhood, early marriage, poverty, and violence against women,[40] and drama reflects these priorities to some extent.[41]

15. *Studies concurred that television is the most common mass medium accessed by Egyptian women, followed by newspapers and radio, and that women prefer dramatic programs, especially television drama.* Because drama attracts the largest audiences, it is a considerable and effective cultural force in the formation of mental images.[42]

16. *In terms of evaluating good gender-specific/women's magazines, the study notes that women's magazines are no longer concerned only with women's issues and the liberation of women, but resemble magazines that target broader audiences, with a feminine perspective.*[43]

17. *Based on the total percentages gathered, the contributions of female media professionals in television and radio are far greater than in print media organizations or in management positions.*[44]

2.2. Media Studies that Focused on Violence as a Main Issue (18 Studies)

Covering the period from 1999 to 2005, the studies that focused on violence as the main issue included a sample from every type of mass media (print media, radio, television, and cinema). They included both analytical and field studies. The field studies were based on samples from rural and urban districts in Upper and Lower Egypt and on random samples of leadership in high administrative and management positions, including media figures in the Egyptian Radio and Television Union and communication experts at Egyptian newspapers. To analyze issues of violence addressed by the mass media, these studies applied utilization and satisfaction assessments, survey research methods, comparative methods, quantitative and qualitative analysis methods, and discourse analysis.

These studies found that the media still continues to portray women in a negative manner, portraying her as the main reason behind violence. Some of the results are as follows:

1. The studies confirmed that the print media focuses on violence committed by women. Although *El Goumhoreya* newspaper had discussed a case of violence against women, it was also interested in crimes committed by women and portrayed them as unfaithful, culprits, mistresses, and murderers.[45]

2. The Egyptian cinema often denigrates the image of women, restricting their roles to sexual relationships with me, and typically presenting exaggerated images of corrupt women who violate taboos or appear as murderers, drug dealers, drug abusers, and prostitutes without any positive traits.[46]

3. During the past five years, the mass media has shown a tendency to discuss some topics that were previously kept quiet, such as violence against women and female genital mutilation.[47]

4. Field studies of media leadership reveal that the violence against women did not receive adequate media coverage.[48]

5. Some studies confirmed that cases of violence against women are at the top of the Egyptian print media's priority list, although sexual harassment is at the bottom.[49]

6. Newspapers have reported that violence often accompanies elections, and this restricts women from voting in public elections.[50]

7. Studies suggest that addressing violence against women in the mass media offers benefits to the public by developing awareness of these issues. However, programs that discussed these issues tended to do so in a traditional and repetitive manner.[51]

8. The studies concluded that it is important to improve the image of women in mass media by developing a media strategy that can enhance the image of women; focus on violence (such as beating, sexual harassment, and female genital mutilation) and discrimination against women; and increase the legal and social awareness that will guarantee the elimination of all forms of violence against women.[52]

9. A study compared the communication agenda of nongovernmental organizations print media agenda over the period from June 2003 to May 2004. The study found that violence against women leads the communication agenda for nongovernmental organizations. Issues such as female genital mutilation had the highest priority, followed by psychological violence, rape, and sexual harassment. In contrast, the highest priority of the national newspapers was wife-beating, followed by rape and female genital mutilation.

2.3. Studies that Focused Only on Violence against Women (2 Studies)

The studies that focus on violence against women are relatively recent; only two studies were done between 2003 and 2007. The first, a study of television drama, analyzes 30 Arabic movies, 10 evening dramatic series, and three Arabic drama series broadcast on Channel 1 during from September through November 1998. The study findings were based on a random sample of 400 episodes in Cairo governorate.

The second study, using media theory and frame analysis, was conducted on a sample from the newspapers *El Ahram, El Akhbar, El Gomhoureya, El Messa, El Wafd, El Masry El Youm, El Dostour, El Osbou',* and *El Ahaly* newspaper editions, published from October 23 to November 23, 2006. The study also examined everything that was published regarding a sexual assault case that occurred on November 23, 2006, the first day of the *Bairam* feast. In addition, a field study was conducted on a sample of 100 stories divided equally among the media and academic elites.

The study of television drama focused on violence between men and women as portrayed in Arabic drama. This study examined the perceptions and views of individuals toward violence in male/female relationships and the association of these views with what they saw portrayed in television dramas.

The television drama study concluded that [53]

1. The most common form of violence portrayed in the relationship between men and women was verbal violence (59.88 percent), followed by physical violence (21.14 percent), then both types in combination (18.98 percent).

2. Men commit physical violence most often (30.7 percent) in television drama; women committed verbal violence more often (70.59 percent).

3. Violence between men and women as portrayed in television drama occurs in rural districts (79.84 percent) more often than in cities 20.16 percent).

The print media study focused on identifying how Egyptian newspapers addressed sexual harassment.

The most important analytical and field results from the print media study are[54]

1. *The study revealed that there are differences in print media coverage of sexual harassment.* These differences not only were based on the different types of newspapers (national, party, or independent) but also were found among newspapers of the same type. Independent newspapers addressed sexual harassment and assault most frequently (52.3 percent, followed by party newspapers at 30.8 percent and national newspapers at 16.9 percent). These newspapers addressed sexual harassment as a general issue in society by introducing an issue, presenting causes for its occurrence, and making recommendations for solving the problem. These findings conform with both the field study measuring feedback on the interest newspapers demonstrated in reporting on sexual harassment and the researchers' observations of the newspapers' level of interest in addressing the issue. *El Dostour* was most interested, followed by *El Masry El Youm*, *El Ahaly*, *El Wafd*, *El Gomhoureya, El Ahram, El Mesaa, El Akhbar,* and *El Osbou'*.

2. *In comparing national newspapers' coverage of sexual harassment cases, El Gomhoureya gave the greatest amount of coverage.* This newspaper is one that makes use of appealing editorial content, catchy titles, pictures, and colored headlines. Nevertheless, its perspective is similar to the other national newspapers, varying between criticism and caution regarding sexual harassment. In contrast, private newspapers focus more on the causes of sexual harassment (36.9 percent of total coverage of this issue), while national newspapers focused on the causes in 27.9 percent of coverage. Party newspapers were somewhere in the middle, focusing on the causes of sexual harassment in 32.2 percent of the coverage.

3. *The newspapers under study show both differences and similarities in addressing the main themes, causes, and suggested solutions for issues of violence against women.* With regard to general or main themes, the national newspapers opted to

focus on sexual assault as the most dangerous form of violation of human rights, whereas party and private newspapers focused on sexual abuse of children attending primary and preparatory schools. In terms of the news media's views on the causes of sexual harassment, both the national and party newspapers blamed unemployment and delay in the age of marriage; the private newspapers focused on the lack of police security in congested areas. In proposing solutions to issues related to sexual harassment, the national newspapers were elimination of unemployment and removal of marriage prerequisites; the party and private newspapers focused on the elimination of the phenomenon of street children and the role of the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood.

4. The private newspapers elicited the greatest trust from the public (63 percent) regarding information on sexual harassment; party newspapers received 31 percent trust and the national newspapers 23 percent.

The study reveals the importance of conducting scientific research on the issues of sexual harassment and assault to evaluate their current status more comprehensively. The hazards of this issue do not lie only in its extent, nature, and frequency, but in what it suggests for the future with regard to disorders in the current social structure as well as what it reveals of the demise of traditional values in Egyptian society.

3. MAIN STUDY CONCEPTS

3.1. Challenge

Based upon the findings discussed above, the challenge of this report is to develop and investigate scientific hypotheses in an effort to answer the following question:

What is the nature, interest, and limitations of the Egyptian media in dealing with issues of violence against women in governmental, private, and specialized media?

This study is important because:

1. Few studies focus on this subject
2. The issue is becoming increasingly important in Arab societies in general and in Egypt in particular
3. Interest in women's rights has increased
4. The occurrence of severe human rights violations against women in Egypt necessitates that the media play a critical role in both documenting these incidents and mounting public awareness campaigns

3.2. Objectives

The main objective of this study is to identify the nature and limitations of the Egyptian mass media in all its material forms (print media — newspapers and magazines, radio, and television); forms of ownership (state, independent/private, party); audience type (for the general public or specialized); frequency of publication or broadcast; and content type (talk shows, drama, advertisements, print media articles) with regard to the issue of violence against women.

Several secondary objectives emerge from this main objective:

1. Defining issues of violence against women on which various mass media channels focuses — domestic, community, or state violence
2. Conducting a qualitative analysis of mass media coverage of violence against women
3. Comparing types of coverage of violence against women in the mass media
4. Analyzing the image of women in the mass media in relation to issues of violence against women with particular attention to the source and justifications of violence and reactions to it

Building on this study, the aim is to introduce an effective media mechanism to addresses violence against women in a way that extends the scope of interest to the entire Egyptian society rather than being limited to academic researchers and relevant, specialized authorities.

3.3. Hypotheses

Hypothesis 1. Significant statistical differences exist among different types of Egyptian mass media regarding coverage of violence against women. These include

- Level of interest
- Forms and types of violence
- Justifications (arguments)
- Reaction and methods of addressing violence
- Geographical areas targeted by the media when addressing issues of violence

Hypothesis 2. Significant statistical differences exist among different types of Egyptian mass media regarding coverage of violence against women based on ownership of the media (state, private or party).

Hypothesis 3. Significant statistical differences exist among different types of Egyptian mass media regarding coverage of violence against women based on specialization of the media (for the general public or specialized).

3.4. Inquiries

1. What is the mass media's interest in violence against women in relation to its interest in Egyptian women's issues in general?
2. What is the most common form of violence against women as depicted in the Egyptian mass media?
3. What persuasive arguments (whether supporting or opposing) are made regarding violence against women as presented by the mass media?
4. What are the aspects of agreement or disagreement in the Egyptian mass media's representation of violence against women?
5. What is the source of violence against women presented in radio and television dramas?
6. What reactions to violence against women are presented in radio and television dramas?

7. What solutions do the Egyptian media introduce to combat violence against women?

4. STUDY FRAMEWORK AND METHODOLOGY

4.1. Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework of the study is the social cultural analysis model of monitoring the direct relationship of media discourse to the prevalent cultural, social, and political discourses in society. The analysis assumes that this discourse truly affects the media and its outputs as it acts as a means for consolidation or obstruction of women's rights. Special attention is also is given to the role of religious speech as a fundamental influence on and its role in changing, consolidating, or critiquing this discourse.

4.2. Type of Study

This study is an analytical description that aims to monitor, describe, and analyze the representation of violence against women in the Egyptian mass media (print, television, and radio) according to its content type (print media articles, talk shows, drama, advertisements); extent of specialization (for the general public, specialized); and ownership pattern (state, party, or private).

4.3. Study Methods

4.3.1 Media Survey

The study is based on a survey methodology — the most suitable scientific methodology for descriptive studies in general. The aim is to record, analyze, and explain the current condition of a phenomenon. After collecting the necessary and sufficient data on the phenomenon and its elements, they are analyzed using a set of procedures that define the type of data, their source, and their method of collection[55]. The survey methodology is divided into two parts: a descriptive part that attempts to describe the phenomenon and the object of the study and an analytical part that attempts to explain and analyze the phenomenon under study and its causes.[56] Within this framework, media messages related to violence against women were surveyed in the different Egyptian mass media.

4.3.2 Comparative Method

Researchers compared different intellectual perspectives of violence against women as addressed by mass media channels; they also compared the results of previous studies against one another.

4.3.3 Analysis Tools

This study relied on statistical quantitative analysis obtained using the statistical program SPSS and secondary qualitative analysis of the results of the monitoring and content analysis from the six reports previously published by the Media Watch Unit.

4.4. Study Scope and Survey Sample

This study is based on a secondary analysis of the Media Watch Unit's six reports. These reports include the findings of quantitative and qualitative monitoring and content analysis of 20,160 hours of television broadcasting and 20,160 hours of radio broadcasting (excluding news bulletins and movies).

The Egyptian print media sample encompassed 672 issues of Egyptian daily newspapers and magazines (national, party, and private) and 96 issues of Egyptian weekly newspapers (national, party, and private) and magazines.

The drama sample included 64 television and radio series that were analyzed from April 2005 to March 2006 and from February 2007 to February 2008, based on the "rotation" method to specify the sample period and an "artificial month" (by selecting the first week of the first month, the second week of the second month, and so on until an artificial month is completed for analysis).

The sample of the media material that the Media Watch Unit analyzed over the past two years included 10,648 occurrences of women's issues in print media; 6,469 occurrences in television productions and 643 in television dramas; and 3,899 occurrences in radio productions and 636 in radio dramas.

4.5. Procedural Definitions

4.5.1 Definition of Violence

The study used the definition of violence against women in the United Nations *Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women*, issued in December 1993 (resolution 48/104), which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly. The declaration defines violence against women as

any act of gender-based violence [that] results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion, or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life… Violence against women shall be understood to encompass, but not be limited to, the following:

a. *Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation, and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation;*

b. *Physical, sexual, and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment, and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women, and forced prostitution;*

c. *Physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the State, wherever it occurs.*

5. STUDY FINDINGS

Based on the sample drawn, violence against women was the subject of approximately one-third of the material published in Egyptian print media about Egyptian women (Table 1). This suggests that violence against women was present on the agenda of the Egyptian media.

Table 1. Print Media and Violence Against Women

Type of Issue	Quantity	Percentage
Issues of violence against women	3,096	29.1
Other women's issues	7,552	70.9
Total	**10,648**	**100**

The findings showed that community violence is the Egyptian media's first priority in its agenda regarding violence (Table 2). Domestic violence is the second priority, suggesting that the print media still exercises some caution in its coverage of domestic violence

Table 2. Print Media and Coverage of Violence Against Women

Forms of Violence in the Print Media	Quantity	Percentage
Discrimination and community violence	1,708	67
Domestic violence	8,41	33
Total	**2,549**	**100**

5.1. Forms of Domestic Violence Against Women in the Print Media

The study's quantitative results indicate that the journalistic coverage addressed several forms of physical and psychological domestic violence against women. Psychological violence was a topic in 654 of 841 instances (77.7 percent) and physical violence in 187 (22.3 percent).

Print media covered various forms of psychological domestic violence (Table 3). The most attention was devoted to obstinacy in divorce, followed by insulting wives and the discrimination against girls within the family. Subjects such as polygamy and coercing girls into marriage receive the least coverage despite their harmful social consequences.

Table 3. Psychological Domestic Violence in the Egyptian Print Media

Psychological Domestic Violence Addressed in the Print Media	Quantity	Percentage
Obstinacy in divorce	163	19.4
Husband verbally insults wife	155	18.4
Family members are cruel to girls / mistreat girls	117	14
Wife portrayed as a tyrant	72	8.6
Marital infidelity	71	8.4
Polygamy	37	4.4
Girls coerced into marriage	27	3.2
Women are the main cause of marital problems and corruption of children	12	1.4
Total	**654**	**100**

An article in *Ein* magazine, "Have mercy on us," condemned psychological and physical domestic violence against girls by portraying the tragedy of a girl, not yet 16 years old, whose family tortured and humiliated her and whose father forced her to drop out of school and ordered her to marry her cousin. As a result, she killed herself.

"Save me," an article in El *Goumhoreya* newspaper presented a girl's complaint in the form of a call to help from Egyptian society. To punish the girl's mother for divorcing him, her father prevented the girl from finishing school.

El Akhbar newspaper printed a report on Nage Banan, the first Egyptian village to refuse to circumcise girls, and *El Ahram* newspaper printed an article by Dr. Hassan Noaman, a professor at Cairo Medical University, confirming that "forcing wives to have sexual intercourse is another form of physical domestic violence; it is one form of violence difficult to prove."

The examples above reveal that Egyptian newspapers condemn the increase in violence against women and consider it a main indicator of family disintegration.

Table 4. Physical Domestic Violence in the Egyptian Print Media

Physical Domestic Violence Addressed in the Print Media	Quantity	Percentage
Wife beating	84	33.3
Female genital mutilation	75	29.8
Early marriages	21	8.3
Forcing woman to have an abortion	72	8.6
Total	**252**	**100**

5.1.1 Discrimination and Community Violence Against Women in the Print Media

The analytical study's findings indicate inconsistency in print media coverage of discrimination against women and community violence: coverage appeared to reject all forms of violence against women at work and in the street but was divided between support and opposition of discrimination against women on the issue of participation in the political process (Table 5).

Table 5. Discrimination and Violence Against Women in the Community

Discrimination and Violence Against Women in the Community	Quantity	Percentage
Focusing on portraying women as criminals	882	51.6
Invasion of privacy of female celebrities	313	18.3
Weak political participation of women	114	6.7
Treatment of women as commodities or merchandise	92	5.4
Rape	86	5
Absence of women in judicial positions	45	2.6
Harassment or verbal abuse of women	17	1
Absence of women in leadership positions	16	0.9
Difficulty of women to be nominated for presidency	8	0.5
Sexual harassment	75	4.4
Crimes against women	60	3.5
Total	**1,708**	**100**

5.1.2. Community Violence Against Women at Work in the Print Media

The print media addressed some issues of physical community violence against women, such as sexual harassment at work (4.4 percent). Coverage is low because this is sensitive topic is considered taboo in Egyptian society. On the other hand, the print media never addressed the exposure of less fortunate women, such as farm or factory workers, to sexual harassment.

The print media portrayed the rape of women as a physical act of community violence in 5 percent of the total coverage of community violence against women, and it condemned sexual harassment of women in public transportation, demanding the separation of men and women in public transportation to protect women against all forms of physical sexual harassment. The print media discourse confirmed the importance of supporting rape victims, providing them with all means of protection, and attempting to change society's view of them. The newspapers condemned the increase of rape in general, and *Sot El Omah* newspaper[57] condemned murders committed in the name of honor. *Sot El Omah* reported the story of a farmer who killed his wife because he was suspicious of her behavior and her ambition.

The print media also addressed the exposure of women to verbal harassment and offenses to their modesty as a form of psychological community violence on 17 occasions (1 percent).

El Wafd newspaper confirmed that several hired men sexually harassed and attempted to rape female journalists and women who participated in a demonstration against the referendum to amend Clause 76 in the Egyptian Constitution. Journalist Abbas El Tarabeily condemned this behavior in *El Wafd,* saying "the state has reached a level where it pays its men to rape and harass women and girls."

El Akhbar newspaper printed a condemnation of the Arab Journalist Union regarding an incident of rape and sexual harassment of female journalists in front of the syndicate, noting "the district attorney was unable to identify the culprits who violated the female journalists."

5.1.3. Discrimination Against Women Participating in the Political Process in the Print Media

The print media discourse attacked discrimination against women in the field of political participation (6.7 percent of cases), but it was also skeptical of women's capacity to be an eligible candidate for presidency (5 percent of cases).

Egyptian newspapers of all types of ownership — the national newspapers taking the lead — launched an organized campaign against marginalizing the participation of women in political life. In its presentation at a seminar conducted by the El Ahram Regional Institute on Egypt's experience in the elections in light of political plurality, *El Ahram* newspaper criticized[58] and blamed the government for the low number of Egyptian women in the Egyptian Parliament in 2005.

> The state-owned *El Ahram* newspaper reported that the governing National Democratic Party nominated 60 businessmen as party representatives, but only six of the 160 women who had submitted their papers to the electoral committee. In the same newspaper, Ms. Ekbal Baraka questioned the National Party's position towards women running in parliamentary elections and criticized other political parties for their regressive views on women in Parliament.

The state-owned newspaper, *El Gomhoureya*, vigorously opposed the idea of a female presidential candidate. This position reflects the state's vision, because the state owns this publication.

> *El Gomhoureya* newspaper discussed the nomination of women in the presidential elections, commenting that "Eve herself refuses to assume the president's position." A female columnist asked "if it was logical to give her vote in the presidential elections to Ashgan, Nageya, or Hamdeya running against President Hosny Mubarak with his long experience. Is it logical to risk supporting women who had never run in any elections and never performed any political work in their lives?"
>
> The newspaper also printed an interview with Dr. Fawzeya Abdel Sattar, former chair of the Parliament's legislative committee. Dr. Sattar confirmed that women are not permitted to nominate themselves for the presidential elections because men are more capable, Egypt does not lack male presidential candidates, and men are the caretakers of women."

5.1.4. Relationship Between Gender of Sources and Coverage of Violence in the Print Media

The attitudes of a journalist's sources used by a journalist affect the print media coverage of violence. Many studies have shown that using both genders as sources has the greatest effect on the representation of issues. The studies also show that male sources may be more persuasive when addressing certain topics might have a more persuasive effect.

The quantitative results indicate that the use of both genders as sources varies, depending on the topic (Table 6). Male sources are most often used in discussions of subjects related to violence (34.7 percent), followed by female sources (27.4 percent), sources whose gender is not identified (19.6 percent), and sources of both genders (18.3 percent).

Table 6. Gender of Source

Gender of Source	Quantity	Percentage
Men only	883	34.7
Women only	707	27.4
Gender not identified	500	19.6
Men and women together	459	18.3
Total	2,549	100

Detailed findings revealed that men were more common sources on neglect of wives by husbands (62 percent) than female sources (19.7 percent). Regarding exposure of women to sexual harassment, men were sources more frequently (50 percent) than women (16.7 percent).

The statistical analysis confirmed that men were more often sources on topics that denigrate women's images and portray them as criminals (64.9 percent) and tyrants (42.1 percent). Men were the only source who provided bad examples of women at work (100 percent).

Meanwhile, female sources exceed male sources on topics "cruelty of stepmothers (40 percent), marital infidelity (27.5 percent) and problems facing working women (46.7 percent).

Both men and women were sources on topics such as coercing girls into marriage" (42.9 percent), women's daily sufferings (46.2 percent), and legal aspects of violence against women (91.9 percent).

Respondents noted two positive points regarding the media's persuasiveness related to VAW issues: first, that both males and females (experts and members of the public) took part in addressing some issues of domestic and community violence, and second, that male sources served as sources who were against some issues of domestic violence, thus emphasizing that both men and women disagree with domestic violence.

Male journalists more often addressed violence against women in the Egyptian print media (55.2 percent) than female journalists (23.2 percent). Male and female journalists worked together to address issues related to violence at a very low rate (0.6 percent).

Table 7. Gender of Journalist Addressing Violence Against Women

Gender of Journalist	Quantity	Percentage
Men	1,407	55.2
Women	591	23.2
Journalist not mentioned / gender not apparent	535	21
Both together	16	0.6
Total	2,549	100

Detailed analytical results reveal that only male journalists addressed some topics related to VAW, such as Coptic women's right to civil divorce, loss of trust between married couples, denigration of women's images in media, poor examples of women at work, and

social pressure on women. Only female journalists addressed male chauvinism toward women.

Male journalists more often addressed other issues related to violence, such as marital infidelity (60 percent), neglect of women by men (69 percent), cruelty of stepmothers (80 percent), coercing girls into marriage (71.4 percent), problems facing working women (44 percent), and exploitation of women in music videos (50 percent)

Print media coverage by male journalists took a negative perspective of some topics, such as portrayal of women as criminals (72 percent) or tyrants (60.5 percent), and invasion of privacy of female celebrities (41.2 percent compared to 19.6 percent by females).

Female journalists more often addressed the marital problems of female celebrities (40 percent compared to 26.7 percent by males) and the daily sufferings of women (61.5 percent). Coverage of sexual harassment by male and female journalists was equal (50 percent each).

The general public was most often the target of the cases addressing violence (59.2 percent), followed by the entire family (26.2 percent), women (11.1 percent), a specific audience (1.4 percent), children (0.7 percent), and youth (0.2 percent).

Table 8. Target Audience for Print Media Discourse on Violence against Women

Target Audience	Quantity	Percentage
General public	1,509	59.2
Family	668	26.2
Women	283	11.1
Specific audience	36	1.4
Men	29	1.2
Children	18	0.7
Youth	6	0.2
Total	2,549	100

Coverage of different forms of violence against women most often targets the general public. This is a positive indicator, emphasizing that these issues do not concern women alone but are social problems that need the combined efforts of society to solve them.

Nevertheless, ignoring the different environments of the targeted audiences (Table 9) is an indication that the print media has the urban districts and elites at the top of its agenda — revealing a primarily *elite-oriented discourse*. Marginalization of audiences in crowded neighborhoods, rural districts, and Bedouin areas suggests that print media discourse is not concerned with the uniqueness of the different areas; therefore, it does not address the separate problems of each area.

Table 9. Environment of Target Audience

Environment of Target Audience	Quantity	Percentage
Entire society	2,022	79.3
Rural and urban districts	208	8.1
Urban districts (upper-class neighborhoods)	143	5.6
Urban districts (middle-class neighborhoods)	113	4.4
Urban districts (low-income neighborhoods)	39	1.5
Rural districts	21	0.8
Bedouin areas		0.1
Total	**2,549**	**100**

5.1.5. General Analysis

The print media discourse has included the issue of violence on its agenda, at least quantitatively (29.1 percent). This quantitative indicator does not reflect in-depth coverage or regular campaigns combating different forms of violence against women; rather, it reflects the fact that most coverage was sporadic and in response to particular incidents or as part of coverage of public events, not a newspaper's initiative to combat violence as a social phenomenon.

The analysis showed that print media still tackles issues of domestic violence hesitantly and omits mention of issues considered taboo and not to be addressed. As such, issues related to family violence (domestic violence) ranked in second place in reporting after community violence. Analysis of the print media coverage of community violence confirmed that print media discourse has contributed to creating a type of psychological violence against women by denigrating the image of women in discussions of crime-related issues, diminishing them through caricatures, or objectifying them as mere bodies or symbols of provocation and attraction in advertisements. Commenting negatively and denigrating the image of women when reporting on community violence occurred more frequently (75.3 percent) than reporting on community violence against women in general. The numbers bring into question the journalists' awareness of the forms of violence against women.

As a result of sporadic coverage of violence and insufficient awareness of violence against women, journalistic discourse is very general and does not reflect unique environments or social classes. In addition, coverage was primarily oriented toward elites, the upper class, and upper segments of the middle class, with rare exceptions. As a result, forms of violence that are prevalent among the poorer social classes, such as sexual harassment in factories and fields, incest in slum areas, and trading of girls through so-called summer marriages, are absent from the print media discourse agenda.

The print media did not offer solutions to issues of either domestic or community violence against women addressed in the print media discourse. Rather, print coverage only requested separation of men and women in public transportation to minimize harassment of women. However, plenty of attention was given to the absence of political participation by women, leading to demands by the print media to strengthen laws and legislation guarantee fair representation of women in the Egyptian Parliament.

5.2. Television Programs and Violence Against Women

Approximately 20 percent of the total occurrences of women's issues on television addressed violence against women during the sample period, thus affirming the existence of this issue on the agenda of Egyptian television (Table 10).

Table 10. Women's Issues on Television

Type of Issue	Quantity	Percentage
Violence against women	1,164	18
Other women's issues	5,305	82
Total	**6,469**	**100**

5.2.1. Forms of Violence Against Women on Television Programs

Discrimination and community violence against women were more frequently addressed on television compared to domestic violence (56.3 percent versus 43.7 percent, respectively) (Table 11). Interest in community violence is attributable to the broadcast of political programs that discuss participation of women in political life and the many topics and events covered on television during the monitoring period, such as constitutional amendments and legislative and local council elections.

Table 11. Forms of Violence Against Women on Television

Forms of Violence	Quantity	Percentage
Discrimination and community violence	431	56.3
Domestic violence	335	43.7
Total	**766**	**100**

In addressing domestic violence, television programs focused on some forms of psychological domestic violence, such as husbands insulting wives verbally (27.5 percent); portraying wives as tyrants (11.3 percent), obstinacy in divorce (10.9 percent), accusing women of causing marital problems and corrupting children (8.9 percent), polygamy (6.9 percent), marital infidelity (3.6 percent), and coercing girls into marriage (3.3 percent). Television programs also covered some forms of physical domestic violence among domestic violence issues that were addressed, such as wife-beating (9.9 percent), female genital mutilation (8.9 percent), early marriage (7.2 percent), and forcing women to have medically unnecessary abortions (2.1 percent) (Table 12).

Table 12. Forms of Domestic Violence Against Women on Television

Domestic Violence Against Women	Quantity	Percentage
Husbands insulting wives verbally	92	27.5
Portrayal of wife as a tyrant	38	11.3
Obstinacy in divorce	35	10.9
Wife-beating	33	10.4
Accusing women of causing marital problems and corrupting children	30	8.9
Female genital mutilation	30	8.9
Early marriage	24	7.2
Polygamy	23	6.9
Marital infidelity	12	3.6
Coercing girls into marriage	11	3.3
Abortion (when medically unnecessary)	7	2.1
Total	**355**	**100**

5.2.2. Discrimination and Community Violence Against Women on Television Programs

Television programs covered some forms of discrimination and community violence against women at work, in political participation, and in the streets, while some television programs focused on psychological violence against women (Table 13).

The Dream2 television channel condemned both psychological and physical domestic violence against Egyptian women. The programs *Sayedati Anysati* and *El 'ashera Masaan* presented many acts of violence against Egyptian women, such as marital infidelity, beatings, and insults to wives. The channel noted that 43 percent of women in Egypt are beaten by their husbands and 30 percent of those women suffer from physical and psychological effects that require medical attention.

Table 13. Discrimination and Violence Against Women in the Community

Discrimination and Violence Against Women in the Community	Quantity	Percentage
Weak political participation by women	130	30.2
Absence of women in leadership positions	87	20.2
Rape	46	10.7
Failure of women to occupy judicial positions	44	10.2
Treating women as a commodity or merchandise in advertisements and music videos	43	10
Focusing on portraying women as criminals	31	7.2
Invasion of the privacy of female celebrities	30	6.9
Difficulty for women to be nominated for presidency	10	2.3
Sexual harassment	10	2.3
Crimes against women	0	0
Sexual abuse	0	0
Total	**431**	**100**

5.2.3. Discrimination Against Women at Work and in Political Participation

Television programs focused on two types of psychological community violence against women — disparaging women's capacity to occupy leadership positions (20.2 percent) and judicial positions (10.2 percent).

Television programs addressed discrimination against political participation by women in 30.2 percent of cases and skepticism of women's capacity as presidential candidates in 2.3 percent of cases.

5.2.4. Community Violence Against Women in the Streets

Television programs addressed issues of physical community violence against women such as rape (10.7 percent) and exposure of women to verbal harassment and offending their modesty (2.3 percent each).

5.2.5. Gender of Guests and Violence in Television Programs

The *Arab House* program considered the lack of political participation by women and the weakness of representation of women in Parliament as a sign of the government's indifference to women and women's rights. The program demanded support for women's political rights and representation in Parliament.

Magalet El Mara'ah and *Good Morning Egypt* called for a search for a legal solution that would result in fair representation of Egyptian women in Parliament. Channel 8 highlighted the decline in women's political participation and the weak representation of women in Parliament, suggesting that the government, all political parties, and civil society organizations search for radical solutions to this problem.

The *West El Balad* program presented by Ms. Shafky El Moneiry on Channel 1 condemned rapes of large numbers of women and girls. According to the program, some statistics revealed 34 rapes every six months. The program condemned all community violence against women and characterized it as a form of tyranny that causes Egyptian women all ages to commit suicide.

The *El kessa we ma fiha* program presented by Ms. Rola Kharsa noted increased sexual harassment of Egyptian women and girls. The program argued that a large percentage of women and girls in Egypt are sexually harassed on public transportation due to the absence of security measures that could end such crimes.

In television programs that discuss issues of violence against women, those whose only featured guests were female were the most common (52.3 percent), followed by programs with only male guests (23.2 percent) and programs in which guests of both genders appeared together (15.6 percent) (Table 14).

Detailed results reveal that female guests were invited to participate in programs that discussed problems of working woman and other problems, such as wife-beating, polygamy, balancing work and family, the right to occupy leadership and judicial positions, political empowerment of women, female genital mutilation, and traditions that lead to discrimination against women at work. Men were invited as guests on programs discussing the role of women in marital problems, family conflicts, and boredom in marital life.

Table 14. Gender of Guests

Gender of Guests	Quantity	Percentage
Women only	400	52.2
Men only	178	23.2
Both men and women together	120	15.6
No Guests	68	9
Total	**766**	**100**

Programs dealing with violence confirmed that had only male presenters (50 percent) were more common than those with only female presenters (35.1 percent), or with male and female co-presenters (14.9 percent) (Table 15).

Men were presenters of programs focusing on several related issues, such as passing over women for work trips abroad, a woman's right to be nominated to the presidency, increased unemployment among women, employers' preference for male workers, denying women training opportunities, forcing women to work in unsuitable conditions, institutional violence, depriving women of free expression opinions, objectifying women as commodities, and incompatible marriages.

Women were the only presenters for programs addressing female celebrities' marital problems, rape, early marriage, polygamy, and Coptic women's right to divorce. Men were presenters on programs addressing marital infidelity, verbal abuse of women by their husbands, portrayal of women as tyrants and criminals, exploitation of women in music videos, sexual harassment, polygamy, accusing women of causing marital problems and corrupting children, a women's right to occupy leadership positions, and forced abortions. Men were also the presenters on programs regarding the habits, traditions and customs that disempower women, such as depriving women of their inheritances and the restricting the participation of women in public life and at work.

Female presenters were active in television programs addressing problems of working woman and their ability to combine work and family, women occupying leadership positions, allocation of Parliament seats for women, inclusion of women on election lists, obstinacy in divorce, paternity suits, a woman's right to travel abroad without her husband's permission, rape, and customs that reinforce women's inferior status. Men and women were commonly co-presenters on television programs on the selection of males over females in the field of education, verbal harassment, wife-beating, early marriage, and customs and traditional values that oppose women working.

Table 15. Gender of the Program Presenters and the Representation of Violence

Gender of Program Presenter	Quantity	Percentage
Male only	383	50
Female only	269	35.1
Male and female co-presenters	114	14.9
Total	766	100

The statistical analysis confirmed that the television programs addressing violence targeted the general public (46.2 percent), women (32 percent), and the entire family (17 percent); while the targeting of men was very weak (4.2 percent). Television programs also targeted children (0.3 percent), specific audiences[59] (0.2 percent) and youth (0.1 percent) (Table 16). The categories of children and youth need special attention because they are most susceptible to changing social ideas and harmful behaviors. It is easy to shape their attitudes toward women by refuting the social and cultural heritage that helps to spread violence.

Table 16. Target Audience of Television Programs Regarding Violence Against Women

Target Audience	Quantity	Percentage
General public	353	46.2
Women	245	32
Family	130	17
Men	32	4.2
Children	3	0.3
Specific audience	2	0.2
Youth	1	0.1
Total	**766**	**100**

The statistical analysis confirmed that the entire Egyptian society was the main target of programs addressing issues of violence against women (91.9 percent), while 7.6 percent of such programs targeted rural societies and 0.4 percent of the programs targeted urban societies (Table 17).

Rural districts were targeted by programs addressing issues such as male domination, depriving women of education, early marriage, polygamy, female genital mutilation, customs that reinforce the inferior status of women, and harmful social practices. This confirms that the television programs support uniqueness local environments and that the media discourse aims to change customs and traditions that oppress women's rights. The programs targeting the entire society discussed all issues related to different forms of violence, whether domestic — such as marital infidelity, wife-beating, polygamy, and early marriage — or community violence, such as discrimination against women at work, portrayal of women as criminals, and restriction of women's participation in public life.

Table 17. Focus of Target Audience

Focus of Audience	Quantity	Percentage
Entire society	704	91.9
Rural districts	58	7.6
Urban districts	4	0.4
Total	**766**	**100**

5.2.6. General Analysis

Although the issue of violence against women is present on the agenda of television programs, the issue still does not attract the expected attention in Egyptian television. Television is considered one of the most important means of affecting awareness among the Egyptian population. As shown by the analytical findings described above, television programs address issues of violence only periodically, and they avoid discussions of critical issues such as domestic violence, which is last on agenda of interests of television programs.

The analysis also indicated that Egyptian television programs concerned with women's issues typically oppose community violence. In contrast, programs usually represented domestic violence as a result of the general spread of violence, unemployment, and

disintegration of the family. Television programs did not often suggest solutions to these problems or encourage society to combat violence.

5.3. Radio Productions and Violence Against Women

Radio programs addressing violence against women did not exceed 15 percent of the total radio coverage of women's issues during the sample period (Table 18). This suggests the low priority of this issue on the agenda of the Egyptian radio.

Table 18. Type of Issue Addressed

Type of Issue	Quantity	Percentage
The issue of violence against women	573	14.7
Other women's issues	3,326	85.3
Total	3,899	100

Radio programs more commonly addressed domestic violence (58.5 percent) than community violence (41.5 percent) (Table 19). This is in contrast to the print media and television, which were more concerned with community violence than domestic violence.

Table 19. Forms of Violence Against Women Addressed

Form of Violence	Quantity	Percentage
Domestic violence	196	58.5
Discrimination and community violence	139	41.5
Total	335	100

5.3.1. Radio Productions of Domestic Violence Against Women

Media discourse in radio leans toward combating domestic violence generally, the violence is whether physical or psychological. Acts of psychological violence were addressed in 72.4 percent of programs on domestic violence; acts of physical violence were addressed in 27.6 percent of such programs (Table 20).

Table 20. Forms of Violence by Radio Programs Addressing Domestic Violence

Forms of Violence in Radio Programs	Quantity	Percentage
Psychological violence	142	72.4
Physical violence	54	27.6
Total	196	100

Radio programs most frequently covered mistreatment of girls by family members (18.4 percent), husbands verbally insulting thief wives (15.3 percent), female genital mutilation (14.3 percent), and early marriage (8.2 percent) (Table 21). Radio programs also focused on problems related to a women's right to obtain alimony as a form of violence against women. Discussion of other issues was neglected, which suggests that the Egyptian radio needs to discuss forms of violence more broadly, especially domestic violence, as many studies have indicated an increase in the number of listeners in rural areas who might not have other sources of news and information.

Table 21. Forms of Domestic Violence Addressed by Radio Programs

Forms of Domestic Violence Against Women in Radio Programs	Quantity	Percentage
Mistreatment of girls by family members	36	18.4
Husband verbally insulting wife	30	15.3
Female genital mutilation	28	14.3
Obstinacy in divorce	17	8.7
Early marriages	16	8.2
Wife-beating	9	4.6
Portraying wife as a tyrant	9	4.6
Coercing girls into marriage	7	3.5
Total	**196**	**100**

The *For Men Only* program discussed the tyranny of men obtaining divorces. The *For Housewives* program discussed the dangers of polygamy, the fight for women's rights, and the struggle to combat discrimination against women. On the Al Quran Al Karim station, in response to a question about the right to divorce, a guest stated that the reason that divorce is a man's decision and that women do not have the right to divorce is that God made men responsible for women.

5.3.2. Discrimination and Community Violence Addressed by Radio Programs

Discrimination Against Women in the Field of Political Participation

Some radio programs addressed discrimination against women in the field of political participation in general (18.7 percent) (Table 22) without addressing a woman's eligibility to be nominated for the presidency in particular, even though this issue was addressed in print and on television during the two-year sample period. Radio, on the other hand, addressed women's right to participate in political life, emphasizing the role of the state in removing obstacles restricting women's participation, such as efforts of the state and political parties to include women on elections list and the introduction of laws that enable the effective political participation of women.

Discrimination Against Women at Work

Radio programs addressed two types of discrimination against women at work: doubting their ability to occupy leadership positions (6.5 percent) and judicial positions (3.6 percent) (Table 22).

Community Violence Against Women in the Streets

Radio programs discussed rape in 5.8 percent of programs addressing community violence (Table 22), a low percentage that indicates that radio programs are still reluctant to tackle the taboo subjects that are usually kept quiet.

Table 22. Discrimination and Violence Against Women in the Community

Discrimination and Violence Against Women in the Community	Quantity	Percentage
Invasion of privacy of female celebrities	71	51.1
Weak political participation of women	26	18.7
Treating women as commodities or in music videos	15	10.7
Absence of women in leadership positions	9	6.5
Rape	8	5.8
Absence of women in judicial positions	5	3.5
Portrayal of women as criminals	5	3.5
Sexual abuse	0	0
Crimes against women	0	0
Harassment or verbal abuse of women	0	0
Preventing women from being nominated for the presidency	0	0
Total	**139**	**100**

On programs that addressed issues of violence against women, those with only female guests were most common (44.2 percent), followed by programs with no guests (31.9 percent), only male guests (23.4 percent), or both male and female guests (0.5 percent) (Table 23). The presentation of only a woman's point of view is not enough when discussing issues of violence; these issues should be discussed in the presence of both genders to give a complete picture. In addition, presenting only a women's point of view encourages audience prejudices, leading to superficial attention to these issues. In several cases, the absence of guests was due to the short time provided for the discussion of the issue.

Table 23. Gender of Guests and Issues of Violence in Radio Programs

Gender of Guests	Repetition	Percentage
Women only	148	44.2
No guests	107	31.9
Men only	78	23.4
Women and men together	2	0.5
Total	**335**	**100**

Female presenters were concerned with the issues of divorce, marital infidelity, verbal abuse of wives by husbands, cruelty of families towards girls, gender discrimination in all aspects of life, female genital mutilation, sexual harassment, paternity cases, and obstacles to the inclusion of women on elections lists.

Male presenters were more concerned with crimes committed by women, polygamy and the reasons behind it, discrimination against women at work, and passing over women for training opportunities and work trips abroad.

Table 24. Gender of Program Presenter and Issues of Violence

Gender of Program Presenter	Quantity	Percentage
Women only	205	61.1
Men only	109	32.5
Women and men together	21	6.4
Total	335	100

5.3.3. Target Audience of Radio Programs Regarding Violence Against Women

Radio programs addressing issues of violence targeted the general public (57 percent), women (24.6 percent), the entire family (15.5 percent), children (0.9 percent), specific audiences (1 percent), and youth (1 percent) (Table 25).

Table 25. Target Audience for Programs on Violence Against Women

Target Audience	Quantity	Percentage
General public	191	57
Women	79	24.6
Family	52	15.5
Youth	5	1
Specific audience	5	1
Children	3	0.9
Total	335	100

All of Egyptian society was the main target of radio programs addressing issues of violence (94.9 percent); 4.7 percent of these programs targeted rural audiences and 0.4 percent targeted urban audiences. Rural districts were targeted by programs addressing issues such as early marriage, polygamy, female genital mutilation, and depriving girls of education. These topics confirm that the programs support unique local environments and that radio discourse aims to change customs and traditions that oppress women's rights.

5.3.4. General Analysis

Radio programs address controversial issues only marginally, focusing mainly on the official international agenda that places women's political participation at the top of its priorities.
Radio could have an important role in shaping public awareness of the dangers of and possible solutions to violence against women. For example, broadcasts could mention success stories and role models for combating violence against women.

5.4. Radio and Television Drama and Violence Against Women

5.4.1. Violence Against Women in Radio Drama

Radio dramas focused on domestic more than community violence (Table 26). Radio dramas also presented different points of view on combating violence, consistent with the nature of dramatic work that usually attempts to present a conflict and a solution.

Domestic violence was more commonly depicted in radio drama (90.9 percent) than community violence (9.1 percent).

Table 26. Forms of Violence Against Women in Radio Drama

Type of Violence	Quantity	Percentage
Domestic violence	159	90.9
Discrimination and community violence	16	9.1
Total	175	100

Based on the qualitative analysis, radio drama has been supportive of women and has condemned forms of domestic violence.

Table 27. Forms of Domestic Violence Against Women in Radio Drama

Domestic Violence Against Women in Radio Drama	Quantity	Percentage
Wife-beating	24	15.1
Coercing girls into marriage	22	13.8
Polygamy	20	12.6
Marital infidelity	13	8.2
Portrayal of wives as tyrants	12	7.5
Depriving girls of choice of life partners	11	6.9
Early marriage	5	3.1
Husband using wife to achieve certain objectives	10	6.3
Obstinacy in divorce	10	6.3
Husband's greed for wife's inheritance	8	5
Female genital mutilation	7	4.4
Stepfather's cruelty and misuse of stepdaughters	5	3.1
Coercing girls to drop out of school	5	3.1
Abortion (when medically unnecessary)	4	2.5
Limiting women's role to breeding	3	1.9
Total	159	100

Radio drama marginalized issues of community violence and discrimination against women, with only 16 shows addressing the topic during the two years when programs were sampled. Issues of violence represented included rape (62.5 percent), treating women as commodities (18.8 percent, 3 occasions), exploitation of women in music videos in (12.5 percent, 2 occasions), and depriving women of the right to receive pensions (6.2 percent, a single occasion) (Table 28).

Table 28. Discrimination and Community Violence Against Women in Radio Dramas

Violence against Women in the Community	Quantity	Percentage
Rape	10	62.5
Treating women as commodities	3	18.8
Exploitation of women in music videos	2	12.5
Depriving women of the right to receive pensions	1	6.2
Total	16	100

Methods of Combating the Forms of Violence Presented in Radio Drama

Radio drama did not present a vision for combating violence that would lead to strengthening the image of women (for example, how to endure or attempt to fight psychological and physical harm). Radio dramas also did not present ways to legally combat violence or motivate public opinion against the phenomenon. Nor did they provide an enlightened vision for tackling other issues of violence against women, such as coerced marriage, except through individual interventions by a parent.

Source of Violence in Radio Drama

Men were the source of violence in 54.5 percent of radio dramas and while women in 45.5 percent. Violence directed toward women by men was most frequent (40.6 percent), followed by violence directed toward men by women (26.6 percent) and violence directed at women by other women (9.7 percent). Both categories of violence by women summed to 36.3 percent, almost equal to the level of violence directed at women by men. Violence directed at men by men was 8.6 percent, followed by self-inflected violence by women (5.3 percent) by parents toward children (4.3 percent), by the police (3.9 percent), and self-inflicted violence by men and violence by children toward parents (both 0.5 percent).

5.4.2. Violence Against Women in Television Drama

Domestic violence dominated (71.3 percent) in television dramas dealing with the issue of violence against women, compared to community violence (28.7 percent) (Table 29).

Table 29. Forms of Violence Against Women in Television Drama

Type of Violence	Quantity	Percentage
Domestic violence	206	71.3
Discrimination and community violence	83	28.7
Total	289	100

Forms of Domestic Violence Against Women in Television Drama

Acts of psychological domestic violence against women in television drama are numerous, including portraying women as the main cause of marital problems and corruption of children (18.4 percent), portraying a wife as a tyrant (17 percent), obstinacy in divorce (9.7 percent), polygamy (8.3 percent), marital infidelity (7.3 percent), neglect of wives by husbands (5.3 percent), and coerced marriage (2.9 percent). These were followed by cruelty of family members towards girls; depriving women of free expression

of opinions, attitudes, and thoughts; incompatible marriages (2.6 percent each); and men's right to insult women (1.5 percent) (Table 30)

Forms of Physical Domestic Violence Against Women in Television Drama

The acts of physical domestic violence against women are numerous in television drama, including instances of wife-beating (14 percent), abortion when medically unnecessary (3.4 percent), early marriage (2.9 percent), and female genital mutilation (2.4 percent) (Table 30). The latter indicates that the issue of female genital mutilation still does not appear in television drama, although some writers have adopted an enlightened attitude toward this issue.

> The television series *A Women's Outcry* addressed female genital mutilation when Tharwat, the father of a girl who was going to be genitally mutilated by a barber, feels sorry that she is crying and says he doesn't want the procedure done to his daughter. His mother-in-law replies "What are you saying? This is our tradition, and circumcision is for the chastity of girls." Afifi responds, "Chastity should be embedded in our children as part of their upbringing, and there is no evidence in the Quran and Prophet Mohammed's sayings about the obligation to perform this act. It's a Pharonic custom, not to mention that it is barbaric. So why should we uphold it?" Tharwat's mother-in-law replies, "All the women in the family were circumcised." The girl is circumcised, and she bleeds to death.

Table 30. Forms of Psychological Domestic Violence in Television Drama

Violence against Women in the Family	Quantity	Percentage
Women considered the main cause of marital problems and corruption of children	38	18.4
Wife portrayed as a tyrant	35	17
Wife-beating	29	14
Obstinacy in divorce	20	9.7
Polygamy	17	8.3
Marital infidelity	15	7.3
Neglect of wives by husbands	11	5.3
Abortion (when medically unnecessary)	7	3.4
Coercing girls into marriage	6	2.9
Early marriage	6	2.9
Cruelty of family members toward girls	5	2.4
Female genital mutilation	5	2.4
Depriving women of free expression of opinions, attitudes, and thoughts	5	2.4
Incompatible marriage	4	1.9
Husband's right to verbally insult wife	3	1.5
Total	**206**	**100**

The acts of community violence against women in television drama are numerous, including rape and the negative view of the society toward the raped woman as scandalous and a disgrace (35 percent), followed by portraying women as criminals (19.3 percent), denying women their inheritance (14.5 percent), sexual touching (12 percent), and illiteracy and considering girls the cause of anxiety and problems (6 percent each) (Table 31).

Table 31. Discrimination and Community Violence Against Women in Television Drama

Discrimination and Violence against Women in the Community	Quantity	Percentage
Rape and the negative view of the rape victim	35	42.2
Focusing on portraying women as criminals	16	19.3
Denying women their inheritance	12	14.5
Sexual touching of women	10	12
Considering girls the cause of anxiety and problems	5	6
Women illiteracy	5	6
Total	**83**	**100**

Methods of Combating the Different Forms of Violence in Television Drama

Two television series *A Case of Public Opinion* and *A Woman's Outcry*, showed support for the right of women to combat violence against them by all means, legally and in the media. Both series offered reasonable and logical justifications for the need to combat violence and address taboo subjects — particularly in the face of fear of scandal and threats of negative images of female victims of violence. The programs also emphasized that rape victims are not responsible for these assaults.

> In *A Case of Public Opinion*, Nadia's husband learns that her her sister Abla was raped, and tells his wife not to allow Abla to stay at their house because her situation is a catastrophe, and scandalous among his colleagues at school. Dr. Abla replies, "you should know that I am protecting the future generations."

Sources of Violence in Television Drama

Men were portrayed as the source of violence in 63.8 percent of television dramas and women in 36.2 percent. In 35 percent, men were violent toward women. This violence is often portrayed in drama as justified by showing women as raging and screaming tyrants who force men to resort to violent responses. Violence was directed at men by other men (22.5 percent), at men by women (19.8 percent), by women toward each other (12.2 percent), by parents toward children (4.8 percent), by children toward parents (2.4 percent), by the police (1.9 percent), self-inflected by women through suicides and abortions (0.8 percent), and self-inflicted violence men (0.6 percent) (Table 32).

Table 32. Sources of Violence in Television Drama

Source of Violence	Quantity	Percentage
By man to woman	164	35
By man to man	105	22.5
By woman to man	93	19.8
By woman to woman	57	12.2
By parents to children	22	4.8
By children to parents	11	2.4
Self-inflicted by woman	4	0.8
By police	9	1.9
Self-inflicted by man	3	0.6
Total	**468**	**100**

5.4.4. General Analysis

The findings discussed above indicate that radio and television dramas use domestic violence as the principal material for their work. Although some dramatic works discuss issues of violence against women and support women's causes — such as defending rape victims and criticizing the immorality of coerced marriage — the quantitative analysis shows that radio and television dramas depicting family conflict usually present women as solely responsible for family disintegration. Moreover, television and radio dramas suggest that the best way to reform a woman is to reproach or hit her, and such violence is always presented in a justifiable manner that will appear to viewers as the appropriate solution. Therefore, it is vital to recommend the broadcasting of enlightened drama productions like the television series *A Woman's Outcry* and *A Case of Public Opinion*.

6. HYPOTHESIS TESTING

Non-parametric tests were used for hypothesis testing using the statistical program SPSS, as follows:

1. The Kruskal-Wallis test was used to measure variations in types of violence, issues of violence, targeted audiences, supporting and opposing arguments, and gender of media personnel and guests

2. The chi-squared test was used to determine the relationship between variables related to violence for each type of mass media separately

6.1. Hypothesis 1

Significant statistical differences exist in Egyptian mass media coverage of issues of violence against women. The areas of difference include:

1. Level of interest (as measured by the frequency that issues are included in media content)
2. Forms and types of violence covered/portrayed
3. Justifications (arguments)
4. Reaction and methods of addressing violence against women
5. Geographic areas targeted by the media when addressing issues of violence

The Kruskal-Wallis test was used to test the accuracy of the hypothesis. Test results confirmed the existence of significant statistical differences regarding types of violence (Table 33).

Table 33. The Correlation between VAW Coverage and Different Types of Mass Media

Mass media	Mean	Chi-squared	Degree of Freedom	Level of Significance
Print Media	778.67			
Television	757.34	99.5	2	<0.001
Radio	477.43			

As shown in Table 33, it is obvious that significant statistical differences exist regarding the types of violence addressed by the different mass media. As indicated by the means for each group, the print media was more interested than television and radio in violence of all types. As indicated by the qualitative and quantitative analysis, this result is due to

the variety of newspapers, with their diverse intellectual perspectives, variety of ownership, extent of specialization, amount of freedom allowed to discuss different types of violence, frequency of publication, and dedicated print space for these issues.

The results of the Kruskal-Wallis test indicate the existence of significant statistical differences regarding media personnel (chi squared calculated as 583.32 at a level of significance $p<0.001$), gender of guests (chi squared calculated as 219.9 at a level of significance $p<0.001$), nature of targeted audience (chi squared calculated as 448.7 at a level of significance $p<0.001$), environment of targeted audience (chi squared calculated as 32.88 at a level of significance $p<0.001$), and opposing arguments (chi squared calculated as 69.006 at a level of significance $p<0.001$).

6.2. Hypothesis 2

Significant statistical differences exist in the Egyptian mass media in their coverage of violence against women based on ownership patterns (state, private or party).

To test the accuracy of this hypothesis, a chi-squared test of independence was used for each medium separately and in comparison with other media, as discussed below.

6.2.1. Print Media

The results of the chi-squared test indicate the existence of significant statistical differences in coverage of types of violence against women based on the type of newspaper ownership. The calculated chi-squared is 41.04 and the level of significance is $p<0.001$.

State newspapers had the greatest coverage of all forms of violence — primarily domestic violence (93.9 percent) compared to 3.9 percent coverage by private newspapers and 2.5 percent by party newspapers. State newspapers also covered community violence to a greater extent (87.4 percent) compared to party newspapers (11.5 percent) and private newspapers (1.1 percent). State newspapers also provided greatest coverage of state violence (98.4 percent) compared to private newspapers (1.6 percent); coverage of state violence was absent from party newspapers.

Accordingly, significant statistical differences were seen among newspapers based on the frequency of publication and the presence of specialized, permanent pages for women's issues. Many newspapers also now have daily pages dedicated to crimes; unfortunately, this has led to increased portrayal of women as criminals by publicizing crimes in which women are involved in a provocative, exaggerated, accusatory, and biased fashion — usually even before a woman accused of a crime is found guilty(the level of coverage is 85.3 percent).

The national newspapers devoted more coverage to all types violence against women, including infidelity, portrayal wives as tyrants, problems of working women, violation of the privacy of female celebrities, and violence against women —specifically the legal aspects of these issues.

The statistical analysis did not prove any statistically significant relationship between type of ownership of newspaper and coverage of violence of these controversial issues,

such as sexual harassment. The calculated chi-squared is 9.426 at a significance level of p=0.051, which is not statistically significant.

6.2.2. Television

Significant statistical differences exist in television's representation of violence against women based on pattern of ownership (state or private).The statistical results obtained using the chi-squared test confirmed the existence of significant statistical differences in coverage of controversial types of violence against women based on ownership of the television channels (calculated chi-squared is 21.609, degree of freedom 2, at a level of significance of p<0.001). This shows a relationship between coverage of controversial issues on television and type of ownership. Private satellite channels cover these issues more often than state-owned channels.

The state-owned channels had the greatest coverage of all forms of violence, primarily community violence, (63.7 percent) compared to private channels (36.3 percent). State-owned channels also focused on issues such as employers' preference for hiring males over females, rape, the right to travel, and custody of children.

The state-owned television channels also covered state violence (71.4 percent) more often compared to private channels (26.8 percent). Accordingly, the programs focused on several issues, such as the women's right to occupy judicial and leadership positions, nomination to presidency, and political participation of women, in addition to discrimination against women in the laws.

Finally, television coverage focused on domestic violence, with greater interest shown by public stations (57.1 percent) compared to private channels (42.9 percent). This coverage addressed issues such as wife-beating, polygamy, early marriage, women as the main cause of marital problems, female genital mutilation, divorce, and temporary marriage to a second man (*mohalel*).

Accordingly, significant statistical differences appear in favor of state-owned television channels. However, there is less coverage of domestic violence in comparison with the forms of violence against women. This lesser coverage is logical in light of the state's insistence on the family as the basic unit of society and its insistence that any deviation from this pattern violates the ethics, values, and religion that govern Egyptian society. This has led to the hushing-up of many negative developments in current Egyptian society, particularly as they relate to increased violence and the spread of practices such as incest.

With regard to other, non-controversial, women's issues, findings obtained through the chi-squared test confirmed the existence of significant statistical differences for types of violence against women based on ownership of the television channels: calculated chi-squared is 9.791, degree of freedom 1, at a level of significance of p=0.002.

The state-owned television channels covered all non-controversial violence related to women —primarily the negligence of wives by husbands, portraying wives as tyrants, problems of working women, female school drop-outs, portraying women as criminals, and invasion of privacy. The private channels addressed sexual harassment, invasion of female celebrities' privacy, and the marital problems of celebrities.

6.2.3. Radio

The chi-squared test confirmed a lack of significant statistical differences in coverage of different types of violence in women's issues and topics based on the type of ownership of the radio stations. The calculated chi-squared is 0.199, degree of freedom 1, at a level of significance of $p=0.656$, which is not statistically significant.

With regard to controversial issues, statistical analysis confirmed that only state-owned radio stations discussed controversial issues of violence; private stations did not (e.g., Negoum FM).

Accordingly, the statistical analysis only partially proved the accuracy of the second hypothesis; it applies to print media and the television but not to radio. Therefore, for accuracy, the hypothesis should be amended as follows: Significant statistical differences exist between the representation of issues of violence against women by print media and television based on the pattern of ownership (state, party, or private).

6.3. Hypothesis 3

Significant statistical differences exist in Egyptian mass media coverage of violence against women based on the extent of specialization of the media (for the general public or specialized).

To test this hypothesis, a chi-squared test of independence was used for each method separately and in comparison with the other methods, as discussed below.

6.3.1. Print Media

Findings obtained using the chi-squared test indicate significant statistical differences among the controversial types of violence against women covered based on the specialization of the newspaper. The calculated chi-squared is 17.992 at a level of significance of $p<0.001$.

Public newspapers had greater coverage of the different forms of violence (85.6 percent), compared to for specialized publications (14.4 percent), represented by *Hawaa* and *Nesf El Donya* magazines.

Public newspapers also had greater coverage of community violence (91.5 percent) compared to specialized publications (8.5 percent). Public newspapers also had more extensive coverage of state violence against women (84.1 percent) compared to specialized media (15.9 percent), and also covered more domestic violence (73.7 percent) than specialized publications (26.3 percent).

These differences are related to the frequency of publication of the public newspapers (mostly daily, as in the sample), whereas the specialized magazines are published weekly. Additionally, specialized magazines — particularly women's magazines —usually devote a greater amount of space to traditional topics such as cooking, décor, cosmetics, and fashion, with little mention of controversial issues, especially violence against women. Specialized magazines focused primarily on the importance of women's education and

social attitudes that limit access to education, paternity suits, early marriage, women's to combine work and family responsibilities, and success stories.

With regard to non-controversial women's issues, the statistical analysis confirmed the existence of significant statistical differences between the extent of a publication's specialization and its coverage of violence in topics related to women. The calculated chi-squared is 115.969 at a significance level of $p<0.001$.

The public newspapers covered marital infidelity, husband's neglect of their wives, portrayal wives as tyrants or criminals, problems of working women, invasion of privacy of female celebrities, and legal violations against women. In contrast, specialized newspapers focused on the marital problems of female celebrities.

Findings obtained using the chi-squared test confirmed the existence of significant statistical differences between the type of violence coverage of controversial issues of violence based on the type of publication (newspaper or magazine); the calculated chi squared is 15.318 at a level of significance of $p<0.001$.

Newspapers primarily covered community violence (91.3 percent) compared to magazines (8.9 percent), state violence (newspapers: 83.5 percent; magazines: 16.5 percent), and domestic violence (newspapers: 74.7 percent; magazines: 25.3 percent).

With regard to controversial issues, newspapers covered female genital mutilation, women's political participation, divorce, and crimes committed by women.

Regarding non-controversial issues related to women, statistical analysis confirmed the existence of significant statistical differences between the type of publication and coverage of issues of violence related to women. The calculated chi-squared is 104.701 at a significance level of $p<0.001$.

6.3.2. Television

Data gathered supports that there are significant statistical differences among television channels' representation of violence against women based on the extent of the channel's specialization (i.e., public or private channels).

The chi-squared test confirmed the existence of significant statistical differences among coverage of non-controversial types of violence based on a channel's specialization (calculated chi-squared is 8.925 at a level of significance of $p=0.003$). This indicator is statistically significant.

Public channels had more extensive coverage of different forms of violence, primarily community violence (91.6 percent) compared to specialized channels (8.4 percent) and focused on issues such as rape, employers' preference for hiring males over females, inheritance, crimes committed by women, sexual harassment, female drop-outs, invasion of privacy of female celebrities, marital problems of female celebrities, and problems of working woman. Coverage of state violence against women by public channels (87.5 percent) was much higher than coverage by specialized channels (12.6 percent) and addressed issues such as a woman's right to hold judicial and leadership positions, representation on election lists, impediments to political participation, and women's rights

to travel abroad. Coverage of domestic violence by public channels (81.3 percent) contrasts with that of specialized channels (18.7 percent) and focused on issues such as husbands' neglect of their wives and portrayal of wives as tyrants. The specialized channels also covered coercion of girls into marriage, Coptic women's right to civil divorce, verbal harassment, and exploitation of women in music videos.

Regarding controversial issues related to women, statistical analysis confirmed the existence of statistically significant differences between a television channel's specialization and its coverage of controversial women's issues. Calculated chi-squared is 123.072 at a level of significance of p<0.001.

The public channels covered wife-beating, polygamy, customary marriages, women's ability to combine family and work responsibilities, women as the primary cause of marital problems and corruption of children, the right of women to occupy leadership positions and to travel abroad, female genital mutilation, employers' preference for hiring men, abortion, effects of illiteracy, deprivation of women's rights, and women's political empowerment. Specialized channels covered paternity suits, child custody, women's right to travel without a husband's approval, and early marriage.

6.3.3. Radio

Regarding controversial issues related to women, the statistical analysis confirmed the lack of significant statistical differences between a radio station's specialization and its coverage violence against women. The calculated chi-squared is 0.175 at a level of significance of p=0.676; this is not a significant indicator.

Regarding issues and subjects related to women, the statistical analysis also confirmed the lack of significant statistical differences between a radio station's specialization and its coverage of violence against women. The calculated chi-squared is 1.537 at a level of significance of p=0.216).

Accordingly, the statistical analysis proved the accuracy of the third hypothesis only partially, as it was applicable to the print media and television on controversial issues and cases of violence against women, and not applicable to the radio. Therefore, to be accurate, the hypothesis would need to be amended as follows:

Significant statistical differences exist between the representation of violence against women by the print media and television based on the specialization of the media channel (for the general public or specialized).

7. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1. Conclusion

7.1.1. Issues of Violence in the Egyptian Media's Agenda

In media channels, issues of violence against women occupied 23 percent of the space allocated to women issues. Print media addressed violence against women more often than did television or radio. Community violence constituted 61.5 percent of media focus on violence against women in the media — more than any other issue.

7.1.2. Discriminating Between Domestic and Community Violence in Media Channels

Community violence was covered most frequently by print media (66 percent), followed by television (20 percent), and radio (13.4 percent).

Domestic violence was covered most frequently by print media (67.8 percent), followed by television coverage of domestic violence (20.8 percent), and radio programs (11.4 percent). Psychological domestic violence issues constituted 74.1 percent of domestic violence issues covered, compared to 25.9 percent coverage of physical domestic violence.

Quantitative results confirmed that print media still enjoys a margin of freedom in its coverage of issues of violence against women. An examination of issues of domestic violence covered by print media reveals that print media led (or, in one case, equaled) coverage of four following issues, followed by television and radio.

- Beatings of wives by their husbands (print media: 66 percent of cases; television: 26.2 percent; radio: 7.2 percent)
- Circumcision (print media: 56.4 percent; television: 22.5 percent; radio: 21.1 percent)
- Forced abortion (print media: 46.6 percent; television and radio: 6.8 percent each
- Early marriage problems (print media and television: 34.4 percent each; radio: 26.4 percent

In presenting community violence issues the inferior image of women occurred at a rate of 68 percent, violence against women in the work place at a rate of 14.2 percent; psychological community violence against women within the framework of political participation and showing women as second-class citizens at a rate of 12.5 percent; and various forms of violence on the street at a rate of 5.3 percent.

In addressing issues of violence against women, the media portrayed women as criminals at a rate of 40 percent and discussed dealing with women as mere "bodies" in television advertisements and music videos at a rate of 6.8 percent.

Media channels only timidly discussed some "silent issues," such as sexual harassment, which was addressed at a rate of 5.5 percent. Media channels gave only minimal coverage to incest, psychological consequences of circumcision, wife-beating, forced marriages and marriage between rich men and young girls. However even this low rate of coverage is considered the first step in raising awareness about such issues.

7.1.3. Issues of Violence Against Women in Radio and Television Drama

Radio and television dramas presented against women differently from other programs, in that the dramas used manifestations of violence against women as basic focal points of plot conflicts.

Unlike other media, television and radio dramas focused on domestic violence more than community violence and presented different visions for confronting violence. This is in line with the usual dramatic structure, which presents a problem followed by its solution.

Men appeared the source of violence in 36 percent of television and radio dramas and women as the source of violence in 29.9 percent.

7.1.4. Target Audiences of Media on Issues of Violence

The general public was most often the main target audience of media (89.9 percent) followed by the urban "upper class area" audience (3.4 percent), the public in rural areas (3 percent), the middle class in urban areas (2.5 percent), the public in average areas (0.8 percent), Bedouins (0.6 percent), and the public in Upper Egypt (0.3 percent).

7.1.5. The Main Problem in the Research is the Overlap Between Discrimination and Violence

This research raises a major problem from the researchers' point of view because of the overlap between issues of discrimination and violence, especially within the framework of the United Nations definition, because discrimination could be among the main causes of psychological violence.

Can we consider the laws, which are based on inequality between men and women, to be direct psychological violence against women? Or are they a main cause for subsequent psychological or physical violence against women? The research team and its consultants believe precise definition is required — one that identifies patterns of violence and clarifies the dividing lines between violence and discrimination.

7.2. Recommendations

An analysis of the conclusions and previous quantitative and qualitative indicators leads to the following recommendations:

7.2.1. Capacity Building

1. *Develop a training program for communications professionals.* Such a program should extend over a period of five years and aim to upgrade the skills of personnel working in the various media to better address issues of violence against women, rectify concepts of violence, and emphasize new aspects of violence (including the human rights dimension), culminating in the formation of a media lobbying group to address issues of violence against women.

2. *Raise awareness of media personnel pertaining to violence against women* through competitions and other mechanisms.

3. *Raise awareness of violence against women through media channels.*

4. *Establish a mechanism for monitoring of violence against women* in the various Egyptian media channels.

5. *Plan a media campaign on the national level* to raise citizens' awareness of the impact of violence against women on the family and community.

7.2.2. Policies

6. ***Develop a media strategy to combat all forms of violence in the community,*** primarily violence against women and girls, while urging media policy-makers to implement this strategy and to reconsider media messages that conflict with the strategy.

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