

ABSTRACT

Wife Beating Phenomenon in Ramallah and Its Camps

Purpose of The Study

The main objective of this study was to investigate the extend of the presence of the phenomenon of the battered spouses in Ramallah and it's surrounding Camps (al-Ammar, Deir Ammar, Al-Jalasone and Qalandla Camps) in the West Bank of Palestine

The second objective of this study is to analyse the impact of some of the structural factors related to this phenomenon and how it affects the spouses.

A sample of 300 women living in Ramallah and the Camps sorounding it were requested to fill out a questionnaire, with the help of the researcher, composed of:

Witnessing and Experiencing Violence from the husband,
Perceptions about husband beating present and in future.

A multiple correlation analysis and related statistical methods were used to reveal the following results:

- 1- The rate of battered spouses in the Camps was higher than that in the city of Ramallah.
- 2- The differences between the age of the couple can be seen as a factor contributing to wife beating in the Camps but not in the city of Ramallah.
- 3- There was a small correlation between the educational level of the wife and the phenomenon of wife beating.
- 4- There was a relationship between husband job situation and wife beating in the city of Ramallah but no such relationship in the Camps.
- 5- No correlation between the wife job situation and wife beating both in Ramallah City and the Camps.
- 6- There was a relation between the family income and wife beating in the city of Ramallah but not in the Camps.
- 7- There was a relation between the number of the children and wife beating only in the city of Ramallah.
- 8- No relation between wife beating and wives in polygamous marriages.

The limitations of the study were discussed and the need for further research and theory development attempts were presented.