

Women Empowerment for Sustaining Development

**Workshop on
Reducing Violence Against Women (VAW)
through De-Addiction intervention**

Madurai Symposium 2019

Thamukkam Ground, Madurai
September 21, 2019

Supported by

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Violence Against Women (VAW)

Violence against women (VAW), also known as gender-based violence and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) are violent acts the victims of which are primarily or exclusively women or girls. Such violence is often considered a form of hate crime, committed against women or girls specifically because they are female. VAW has a very long history, though the incidents and intensity of such violence has varied over time and even today varies between societies. Such violence is often seen as a mechanism for the subjugation of women, whether in society in general or in an interpersonal relationship. Such violence may arise from a sense of entitlement, superiority, misogyny or similar attitudes in the perpetrator, or because of his violent nature, especially against women.

The UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women states, "violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women" and "violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared with men."

Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations, declared in a 2006 report posted on the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) website: Violence against women and girls is a problem of pandemic proportions. At least one out of every three women around the world has been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in her lifetime with the abuser usually someone known to her.

Prelude

Alcoholism is known as Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD) is a broad term for drinking of alcohol that results in mental and physical health problems resulting in the domestic violence against women in the families destructing the peace in the family. Alcoholism in India is culturally rooted; local beverages are common and familiar. Yet the widespread practice of alcoholism in India among all age group has transformed the problem into a social issue. Environmental

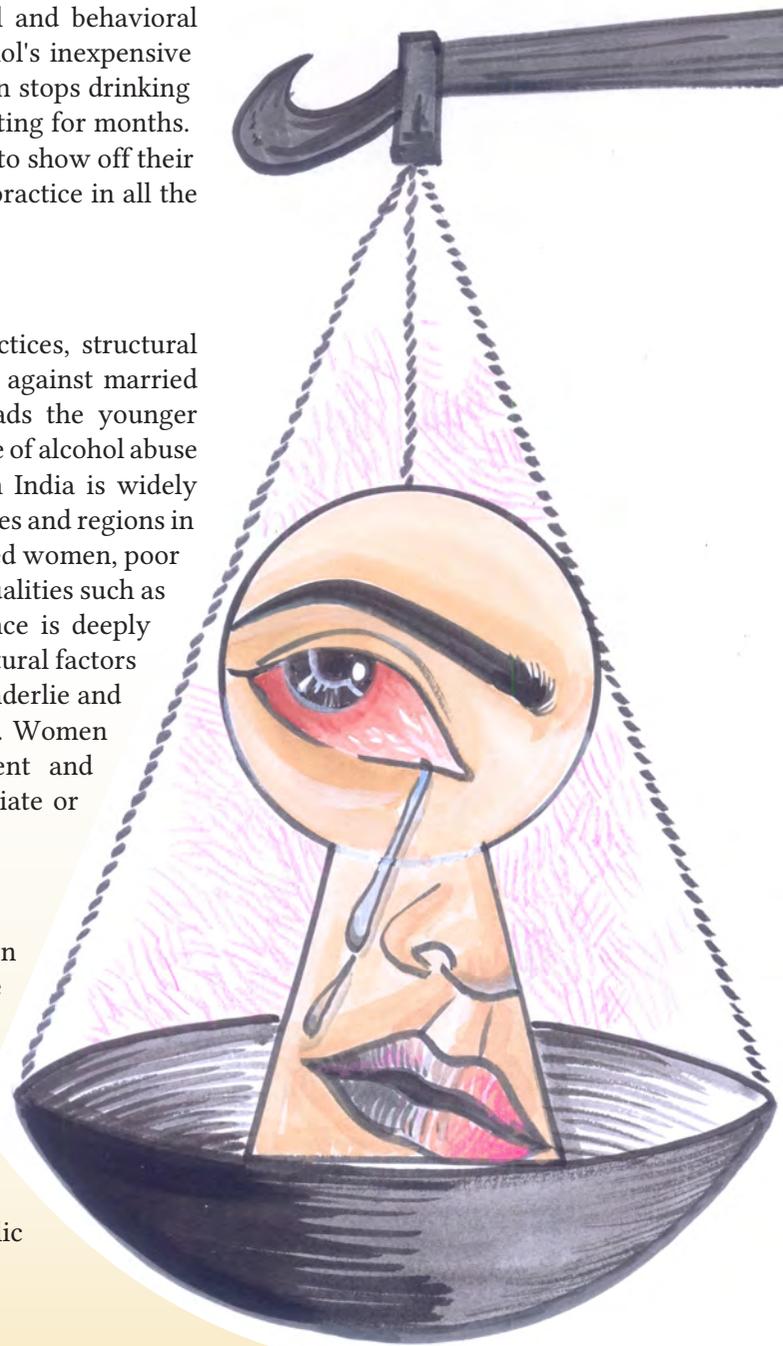
factors and genetics are two components associated with alcoholism, with about half the risk attributed to each. Someone with a parent or sibling with alcoholism is three to four times more likely to become an alcoholic themselves. Environmental factors include social, cultural and behavioral influences. High stress levels and anxiety, as well as alcohol's inexpensive cost and easy accessibility, increase the risk. After a person stops drinking alcohol, they may experience a low level of withdrawal lasting for months. Earlier it was believed alcoholism is for the wealthy people to show off their status symbol but now it is transformed into a customary practice in all the occasions irrespective of good or bad.

Effect of Alcoholism in VAW

Gender-based violence rooted in norms, socialization practices, structural factors, and policies that underlie men's abusive practices against married women in India is exacerbated by alcohol. This also leads the younger generation to get trapped into alcoholism. The co-occurrence of alcohol abuse and domestic violence against women within marriage in India is widely acknowledged. Domestic violence is widespread across classes and regions in India, although it is more prevalent among less well educated women, poor women, and women in situations that magnify gender inequalities such as income, age, or educational differentials. Domestic violence is deeply rooted in gender-based norms, socialization practices, structural factors and policies that discriminate against women and which underlie and endorse or ignore men's abusive practices against women. Women who are socially, culturally and economically dependent and subordinate to their partners have limited ability to negotiate or fight with them.

The Workshop

The workshop on “Addressing Violence Against Women (VAW) through De-Addiction intervention” focuses on the brunt of alcoholism and its relative upshot on violence against women who are considered to be vulnerable in the community. The event also helps in compiling the various interventions and initiatives implemented across the domain of the organization to bring out the alcoholic anonymous who can help each other to come out of alcoholism. There will be experience sharing by the Alcoholic





Anonymous to help others to get rid of addiction by strengthening the mainstream linkages and with other organizations working for the cause.

Objectives of the workshop

- To understand alcoholism and its influence on violence against women
- To consolidate the learning from the previous interventions and the initiatives under de-addiction programme
- To share the experiences and effect of alcoholism among men by women.
- To work out the strategies and mechanisms for strengthening the mainstream linkages for addressing VAW and Addiction.

Participants

Social Activist, NGO representatives, community leaders, women from affected families, Alcoholic Anonymous, professionals from DHAN Foundation and associates. There will be presentations by the expertise from the similar field with grass root experience.

Programme content & Structure

1. Lead paper presentation by the event coordinators
2. Presentations and address by the delegates.
3. Consolidating the experiences for programme designing.
4. Discussion on addressing VAW and addiction habits
5. Sub group discussion and consolidation

Date & Venue

The workshop will be held on Saturday, 21st September, 2019 at Thamukkam Grounds, Madurai from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

For further information, please contact

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Event Coordinators

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