

Portrayal of Physical and Sexual Women Violence Issues in Elite Press of Pakistan

Adnan Shahid¹, Zahid Yousaf², Mehmood Ahmed³ and Najma Khaliq⁴

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Abstract

This study investigates how leading English and Urdu newspapers in Pakistan cover issues of physical and sexual violence against women. The primary objectives include examining the extent and nature of coverage, comparing Urdu and English newspapers, and analyzing media framing of these issues. The research questions focus on identifying the types and amount of violence reported, the space allocated, the placement of news items, and whether the coverage is favourable or unfavourable. Utilizing framing theory and feminist theory, the study adopts a cross-sectional research design and employs content analysis to examine data from June 1, 2021, to May 31, 2022. The sample includes Daily Jang, Daily Nawa-i-Waqt, The News, and The Nation. Indicators such as the type of violence (physical, psychological, sexual), placement of news (front page, back page, crime page), and column space were coded and analyzed using Chi-Square tests. Results show that Urdu newspapers provide more extensive and unfavourable coverage compared to English newspapers. Physical violence received the most coverage, followed by sexual and psychological violence. Significant findings highlight the media's role in perpetuating stereotypes and biases against women, emphasizing the need for balanced and ethical reporting. Recommendations include enhancing media literacy, promoting ethical journalism, and advocating for policies that ensure fair representation of women's issues in the press.

Keywords: Women Violence Issues, Physical Violence, Sexual Violence, Framing Theory, Leading Urdu and English Newspapers.

Introduction

Research reports show that women's violence is a global issue. It has grappled not only developing countries but also developed nations as well (Walsh et al., 2015). Many factors are responsible for violence against women that are multifaceted, complex and based on the discriminated social structure of the society. Women are not only exploited culturally, financially, legally, and politically in Pakistan but also across the globe. Violence against women could ensue in several ways and quite typically, leads to grave physical, psychological, and social implications for the victim (Ali & Gavino, 2008). In this era of globalization, media is regarded as a powerful and dominant institution of a country. Today, media platforms have gained more importance than

¹PhD Scholar, Centre of Media and Communication Studies, University of Gujrat, Pakistan.

Email: adnanshahid48@gmail.com

²Dean and Professor, Centre of Media and Communication Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Gujrat, Pakistan.

Email: zahid.yousaf@uog.edu.pk

³Assistant Professor, Higher Education Department, Punjab, Pakistan. Email: mehmood.ahmed@uog.edu.pk

⁴Assistant Professor, Higher Education Department, Punjab, Pakistan. Email: najmakhaliq1983@gmail.com



traditional social institutions like families, educational institutions, and churches (Silverblatt, 2004). The prime concern of the media is to highlight the issues of marginalized communities, especially women (McQuail, 1979). This apprehension gained momentum during the second wave of feminism in 1960 in the US and spread across the world (Krijnen, 2017). There is no denying the fact that print media still have a vast audience and an immense impact on the audience and the government. Unluckily, the press in Pakistan often does not give objective coverage to women's violence issues. The role of media is biased in portraying women's violence issues, which depicts the negative picture of women and ultimately suppresses the development of society. The media understates the women and presents both sexes in a stereotypical way. The representation of women in the press is grounded on the conventional and typical gender roles and violence against women (Wood et al., 1994). For example, in rape news, the media channels show the picture of the victim, which is against the media code of ethics and cause social and moral problems for women (Ahmar, 2004). It is reported that from 2004 to 2016, almost 4876 women sexual cases and, 15500 cases of honour killing, 5500 women abduction cases, and 1800 domestic violence were confronted in Pakistan. (Welle, 2019). In the context of Pakistan, violence against women that are in different forms, which includes murder, honour killings, rape, acid attacks, domestic violence, forced marriage, women trafficking etc., has been a severe problem since its inception. The Punjab government has been forced to pass the Women Protection Act 2016. On the same footing, The Sindh government also passed the women's protection bill.

Problem Statement

The media is known to be the watchdogs of the society. The press, especially the fourth state, has played a significant role in the development of many countries. So, the question is, what is the attitude of Pakistani print media towards women's issues, especially women's violence issues? Newspapers carry hundreds of news about physical violence against women. Print media persuade people in different ways, and they can change people's opinions. It also helps to understand the intensity of the issues. In this research study, the researchers want to explore how the leading Urdu and English newspapers of Pakistan portray women's violence issues and which press, whether Urdu or English, is giving more coverage.

Study Objectives

The following are the objectives of this study:

- To examine the coverage of women's violence issues regarding physical and sexual violence.
- To explore which newspaper portrays more physical violence than sexual violence.
- To find out whether Urdu newspapers and their sister newspapers give equal coverage to the women's violence issue or not.
- To examine the treatment (space, placement, language, body of news, pictorial coverage) given by selected newspapers to women violence issues.
- To find out whether selected newspapers portray favourable or unfavourable coverage of women's violence issues.

Literature Review

Physical and sexual harassment is an abuse of fundamental rights across the globe and also a significant risk to the lives of Pakistani women (Critelli, 2012). Most women's violence news is presented in a sensational way that leads to a stereotypical way. Domestic violence is considered a private matter between two families that delays justice (Fairbairn & Dawson, 2013). Physical

violence is a criminal activity and is not reported to others (Lloyd, 2017). Honour killing is the worst form of violence against women in which women lose their precious lives (Kiran, 2017). Physical violence also includes bashing, using abusive language, hitting household objects, shouting aloud, suffocating them with hands or pillows, and whipping (Khan, 2013). They emphasize that the media is a vital organ for promoting freedom of expression, women's empowerment campaigns, decision-making, and economic empowerment of women by using media and other technological sources. They also explore the idea that media should give balanced coverage to women-related issues and discourage stereotypical attitudes towards women (Narayana & Ahamad, 2016). Research on media reporting on gender-based violence against Women in Bosnia and Herzegovina". The researcher adopted qualitative and quantitative methods, which comprised a content analysis, a survey conducted on journalists, half-structured interviews with editors, and case studies to elaborate on his research. In a nutshell, in Bosnia and Herzegovina, there is 42% of women older than 15 years of age suffer from psychological, 24% from physical and 6% from sexual violence (Elvira, 2016). A comparative study of the Pakistani Print Media" Daily Jang and Daily Khabrain examines news coverage by using content analysis methods on honour killing. The researcher treated honour killing as a social evil and concluded that newspapers subjectively portray women's violence issues (Raza & Liaqat, 2016).

The business of media, while covering women's issues, is destroying the image of women. The researchers adopted the survey method and filled out 100 questionnaires with open-ended questions using a random sampling technique. The researchers found out that the media is not giving objective coverage to women's violence issues, damaging their image (Rameez & Ali, 2015). A study, "Myths Broken or Sustained: Representation of Women Victims in Pakistani Media", examined the coverage of women in crime reporting in the leading English press of Pakistan. The researcher examines the seven-year data to check the changing pattern of coverage. Author analyzed the coverage in light of Mill's feminist stylistics. The Results of her study show unevenness while reporting female victims and describing them in terms of matrimonial relationships and men in terms of their profession (Yasmin, 2015).

Women media workers faced harassment, physical violence and even sexual violence in the workplace. A sample of 1000 female journalists were selected and interviewed. The researcher also explains that the respondents reveal that organizations are unable to protect them from these types of violence (Barton & Storm, 2014). The newspapers portray the women burning news in a biased manner by character assassination of the victim (Ayesha, 2012). The representation of women's violence issue in Indian press regarding a particular campaign popularly known as The Pink Chaddi. The media content tried to downplay the women's image (Das, 2012). The elite English press gave more coverage to women's violence issues in a more objective manner (Javeria, 2011).

The leading press portrays women's issues sensationally and subjectively, and women are projected as sexual entities, objects of beauty, and also prey to domestic violence (Tabassum, 2009). Media coverage of violence against women in the Egyptian press by using secondary analysis data technique in the light of the social-cultural analysis model by investigating the relationship between media's widespread social and political discourses. The press manifests subjective coverage of sexual harassment cases (Yousef et al., 2009).

Research Questions

- RQ1: How many types and amounts of violent news related to women's violence issues are covered by these newspapers?

- RQ2: How much space is given by selected newspapers to women's violence issues?
- RQ3: What is the placement of women violence issues news in selected newspapers?
- RQ4: To what extent do newspapers portray favourable or unfavourable coverage of women's violence issues?

Hypothesis

H1: Urdu newspapers give more coverage to women's violence issues as compared to English newspapers.

H2: Urdu and English newspapers mostly prefer to publish news related to physical violence than others.

H3: Urdu newspapers unfavourably portray women's violence issues compared to English newspapers.

Theoretical Framework

Framing Theory

The framing methods offer diverse opinions on subjects that guide the viewers to determine the proposed connotations of the news or issue (Entman, 2007). Goffman (1974) says, "audiences on the basis of personal experiences develop their frame, which they use while interpreting the news." While differentiating framing from agenda setting and priming, he argues that the assumption of framing is how an event can influence the audiences' understanding after a media person properly shapes it. People interpret a news item according to the primary information already recorded in their minds.

The word 'frames' can be distinct as "horizons of meaning" (Matthes, 2014, p. 10; own translation) that focus on some firm data and perceptions while playing down others. The way this happens is called "framing". Madiha (2008) explains that the term framing means how to cover an event happening in a specific article, feature or editorial. Many factors determine the location of a news item or story, such as geographical location, proximity, personality, timelines, and magnitude. It also depends upon the writer and those who are covering women's violence stories. Sutherland et al. (2015) replicate that the media of different countries frame gender-based violence stories in prejudiced and discriminatory ways. Koga (2014) explored that media frames sexual violence and physical violence issues critically and negatively.

The researcher formulated the direction of this research study according to the framing theory; as the researcher has discussed that, framing refers to describing a subject in terms of what is not. In this sense, media often gives a new meaning to an idea by comparing it to something else, which demonstrates that mass media have the option to directly influence the minds of people because they tell the audience how to think and react to a particular issue. The Nation and Nawa-i-Waqt are the sister publications claiming to adhere to the ideology of Pakistan. Women played a role in the movement for Pakistan and also figure prominently in the ideology of Pakistan. The Nation and Jang are widely circulated, and popular newspapers give prominent coverage of the activities of women. Thus, it can be safely presumed that the newspapers selected for this study "Frame" the issues reported and commented upon them. The coverage of women's violence issues in newspapers is supposed to be framed in accordance with the ideological framework of the newspaper. This theory allows the researcher to examine which newspaper gave favourable coverage to women's violence issues. Which gave unfavourable and neutral coverage on the issue? How did the media treat the news items regarding the selected issue? Which newspaper highlighted the news while covering the selected issue? Therefore, framing theory is suitable for this research.

Feminism Theory

The word feminism is obtained from the French word *féminisme*. It is elaborated by Merriam Webster (2018), who selected it as their 2017 Word of the Year, as "the theory of the political, economic, and social equality of the sexes." Feminism is a movement that advocates for the political, social, cultural, and economic rights of women through equal rights and legislation. Beecher (1990) noted that feminism was coined by Charles Fourier in 1837. There are three waves of Feminism that not only shaped it but also added to the things required for equality to prevail. The first wave began in the 19th and early 20th century and involved equality in social and economic rights. It involved the campaigns for voting rights for women and socially equal rights. The second wave of feminism started with the slogan to end patriarchy in 1960. The women became active for their education, right to divorce and career opportunities. The third wave of feminism started in 1990 with gender violence and issues related to the oppression of women. Pakistan's femininity is not quite strong in terms of finances, physical appearance, and emotions, and it depends on the wishes of men (Mumtaz & Salway, 2007).

The central assumption of the radical feminist theory is that the patriarchy is the main reason behind gender discrimination and sexual violence (Whisnant, 2017). Another theory of feminism, named Marxist feminist theory, describes that social class inequality is the fundamental cause of sexual violence while gender is the second one (Rennison, 2014). A fresh feminist approach is formed on the basis of "knitting" together numerous preexisting theories, as shown in Beverly McPhail's (2016) *Feminist framework plus*. The researcher related the feminist theory with the topic of research coverage of women violence issues such as physical, psychological and sexual violence against women in national daily newspapers of Urdu and English. Rehman (2009), in his study, explored that in this patriarchal society, women face inequity and discrimination. In this chauvinist society, thoughts were forced upon women, and low literacy rates among women and fewer economic chances suppressed the progress and rights of women. It is unfortunate that the fundamental rights of women, such as education, health, independence, marital decisions, etc, are snubbed by the male side. Men consider that they have a firm right to make decisions, and women have to follow them. Another aspect is that women are portrayed as commercial entities, portrayed in stereotypical ways, less skilled, and psychologically frail, which undermines their capabilities. The theory of Feminism firmly believes in women's rights and gender equality. The feminism theory would help the researcher to explore how news media portray women's violence issues, psychological, sexual and physical, which is most sensitive and significant. The researcher examines the coverage of selected newspapers regarding women's violence issues from the perspective of this theory because this theory is in favour of the protection of women's rights. It is evident that in the media, some vital issues of women have been covered negatively and subjectively, such as news of rape, the name of a woman being listed with her name, pictorial coverage, home address, and family details, etc., which is unethical. Sometimes, print media touches its extreme by reporting "the mother of five children elopes with lover". The researcher examined that the media did not highlight the main issues of violation and exploitation of women's rights. The newspapers gave unequal treatment to women's violence issues and were keen on portraying physical violence and sexual-related news sensationally. Generally, women's related issues are not published on the front page of a newspaper unless it is a brutal murder and rape case. The researcher explores that physical and sexual violence is portrayed more frequently on the front page and inside pages rather than psychological violence. The newspapers must give equal

importance to all women-related issues, especially violent issues, whether physical, sexual, or psychological.

Research Methodology

The study aimed to analyze the coverage of women violence issues such as physical violence, psychological violence, and sexual violence in sister publications of Daily Jang and Daily Nawa-i-Waqt, The News and The Nation, respectively. The researcher adopted the content analysis approach for this research study. In this study, the researcher used both quantitative and qualitative techniques to explore the data from various directions. Scholars analyzed the news items on selected pages of two leading Urdu Daily Jang, Daily Nawa-i-Waqt, and English newspapers, namely The News and The Nation. Study examined how these newspapers have given coverage to women's violence issues in the selected period. Study used the quantitative technique to measure the extent of coverage given to women violence issues and the qualitative technique to observe the nature (favourable, unfavourable or neutral) of this coverage.

Universe of the study

The current study's universe consisted of two selected Urdu newspapers, Daily Jang and Daily Nawa-i-Waqt, and two English newspapers, Daily the News and Daily the Nation, respectively.

Sample of the study

The researcher has chosen the front page, page number 3, crime news page, and back page of the selected Urdu newspapers (Daily Jang and Daily Nawa-i-Waqt) and the front page, back page, page number 3, crime news page, and other pages of the selected English newspapers (The News and The Nation) as the study's sample.

Unit of analysis

The unit of analysis in this study is news items of selected newspapers, which comprise selected pages of Urdu and English newspapers.

Period of the study

The study period was from June 1st, 2021, to May 31st, 2022, during which time all the news items related to women's violence issues were analyzed.

Categories of the Analysis

The category system is referred to as the heart of any content analysis for classifying media content (Wimmer & Dominick, 2011). In this study, the main categories of contents were identified. Within those categories, the framing of news items of the Pakistani newspaper "Daily Jang", Daily Nawa-i-Waqt "The News" and The Nation were analyzed. In this research study, in order to avoid the bias of the qualitative approach, the researcher read the material several times. The frames, ideologies, idioms, phrases, catchy words, keywords or slogans used in the selected news items determined their direction as pro, anti or neutral regarding the selected categories.

The researcher has constructed the following categories:

1. Physical violence news
 - Honour Killings
 - Karo Kari
 - Burning of Women

- Acid Throwing
- Murder and Suicide
- Femicide
- Sex-selective abortions, female infanticide
- Trafficking
- 2. Sexual violence news
 - Sexual Abuse or Incest
 - Marital Rape
 - Use for Prostitution
 - Sexual Harassment
 - Groping
 - Mass sexual assault

Data Analysis and Discussion

Table 1: Comparative coverage of women violence issues in all selected Urdu and English newspapers.

Daily Jang	Nawa-i-waqt	The News	The Nation	Total No. Of News
653 (36.64%)	621 (26.67 %)	537 (23.06%)	517 (22.20%)	2328

The 653 (36.64%) news and 621 (26.67 %) were published by the Daily Jang and daily Nawa-i-waqt respectively during selected time period. Similarly, 537 (23.06%) and 517 (22.20%) news were published by The Daily News and The Daily Nation respectively during the selected time period. It shows that the Urdu press published more news about woman violence issues than English press.

Table 2: Comparative coverage of women violence types in all selected newspapers

Types of newspapers		Types of Women Violence			Total
		Physical Violence	Psychological Violence	Sexual Violence	
Daily Jang	Count	459	36	158	653
	% within Types of Newspapers	70.3%	5.5%	24.2%	100.0%
	% within Types of Women Violence	28.2%	24.0%	28.8%	28.0%
Nawa-i-waqt	Count	431	29	161	621
	% within Types of Newspapers	69.4%	4.7%	25.9%	100.0%
	% within Types of Women Violence	26.4%	19.3%	29.4%	26.7%
The News	Count	382	44	111	537
	% within Types of Newspapers	71.1%	8.2%	20.7%	100.0%
	% within Types of Women Violence	23.4%	29.3%	20.3%	23.1%
The Nation	Count	358	41	118	517
	% within Types of Newspapers	69.2%	7.9%	22.8%	100.0%
	% within Types of Women Violence	22.0%	27.3%	21.5%	22.2%
Total	Count	1630	150	548	2328
	% within Types of Newspapers	70.0%	6.4%	23.5%	100.0%
	% within Types of Women Violence	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Note: Chi-Square =32.029 df= 6 p=.001

Out of 653, 459 (70.29%) of physical violence news, 158 (24.19%) of sexual violence news and 36 (5.51%) of psychological violence news were published by Daily Jang. Similarly, out of 621, 431 (69.40%) of physical violence news, 161 (25.92%) of sexual violence news, and 29(4.66%) of psychological violence news were published by Daily Nawa-i-Waqt. While, out of 537, 382 (71.13%) of physical violence news, 111 (20.67%) of sexual violence news and 44 (8.19%) of psychological violence news were published by The News. Out of 517, 358 (69.24%) of physical news, 118 (22.82%) of sexual violence news and 41 (7.93%) of psychological violence were published by The Nation. It shows that all selected press gave more coverage to Physical violence news than others. It also supports our hypothesis that the Urdu press give more coverage to women violence issues than English press.

Table 3: Presentation of news items as per column given by all selected newspapers

Types of newspaper			Column Given by Newspapers			Total
			Single Column	Double Column	More than double column	
Daily Jang	Count	289	343	21	653	
	% within Types of Newspapers	44.3%	52.5%	3.2%	100.0%	
	% within Column Given by Newspapers	23.9%	32.4%	36.2%	28.0%	
Nawa-i-waqt	Count	283	322	16	621	
	% within Types of Newspapers	45.6%	51.9%	2.6%	100.0%	
	% within Column Given by Newspapers	23.4%	30.4%	27.6%	26.7%	
The News	Count	331	198	8	537	
	% within Types of Newspapers	61.6%	36.9%	1.5%	100.0%	
	% within Column Given by Newspapers	27.4%	18.7%	13.8%	23.1%	
The Nation	Count	307	197	13	517	
	% within Types of Newspapers	59.4%	38.1%	2.5%	100.0%	
	% within Column Given by Newspapers	25.4%	18.6%	22.4%	22.2%	
Total	Count	1210	1060	58	2328	
	% within Types of Newspapers		52.0%	45.5%	2.5%	100.0%
	% within Column Given by Newspapers		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Note: Chi-Square=58.61 df= 6 p=.000

Out of 653, 343 (52.5%) of double column news, 289 (44.25%) of single column news, and 21 (3.2%) of more than double column news were published by the daily Jang. Out of 621, 322(51.85%) of double column news, 283(45.57%) of single column news, and 16(2.57%) of more than double column news were published by Daily Nawa-i-Waqt. While, out of 537, the News published 331(61.63%) of single column news, 198(36.87%) of double column news and 8(1.5%) of more than double column news were published by The News. Similarly, out of 517, 307(59.38%) of single column news, 197(35.10%) of double column news and 13(2.51%) of more than double column news were published by The Nation. It clearly shows that the Urdu press gave more coverage to the women violence issue than English press in terms of Space. It supports my first hypothesis as well.

Table 4: Allocation of news items on selected pages of Urdu newspapers

Types of newspaper (Urdu)		Selected Pages of Urdu Newspapers				Total
		Front	Back	3rd Page	Crime Page	
Daily Jang	Count	97	217	189	145	653
	% within Type of Newspapers	15.0%	33.5%	29.2%	22.4%	100.0%
	% within Page Type	53.3%	51.4%	47.4%	54.5%	51.1%
Nawa-i-waqt	Count	85	205	210	121	621
	% within Type of Newspapers	13.7%	33.0%	33.8%	19.5%	100.0%
	% within Page Type	46.7%	48.6%	52.6%	45.5%	48.9%
Total	Count	182	422	399	266	1269
	% within Type of Newspapers	14.3%	33.3%	31.4%	21.0%	100.0%
	% within Page Type	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Note: Chi-Square=53.830 df= 3 p=.000

Out of 653, 217(33.23%) on front page, 189 (28.94%) on 3rd page, 145(22.20%) on crime page and 97 (14.85%) on front page news were published by the daily Jang. Out of 621, 210(33.81%) on 3rd page, 205(33.01%) on back page, 121(19.48%) on crime page and 85(13.68%) on front page news were published by Daily Nawa-i-Waqt.

Table 5: Allocation of news items on selected pages of English newspapers

Types of newspaper (English)		Selected Pages of English newspapers					Total
		Front	Back	3rd Page	Crime Page	Other Page	
The News	Count	73	135	84	128	117	537
	% within Type of Newspapers (English)	13.6%	25.1%	15.6%	23.8%	21.8%	100.0%
	% within Page Type	51.4%	51.5%	46.7%	49.0%	56.0%	50.9%
The Nation	Count	69	127	96	133	92	517
	% within Type of Newspapers (English)	13.3%	24.6%	18.6%	25.7%	17.8%	100.0%
	% within Page Type	48.6%	48.5%	53.3%	51.0%	44.0%	49.1%
Total	Count	142	262	180	261	209	1054
	% within Type of Newspapers (English)	13.5%	24.9%	17.1%	24.8%	19.8%	100.0%
	% within Page Type	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Note: Chi-Square= 33.865 df= 4p=.001

Out of 537 total news, the News published 135(25.13%) on back page, 128(23.83%) on crime page, 117(21.78%) on other page, 84(15.64%) on 2nd page and 73(13.59%) on front page. Similarly, out of 517 total news, 133(25.72%) on crime page, 127(24.56%) on back page, 96(18.56%) on 2nd page, 92(17.79%) on other pages and 69(13.34%) on front page were published by The Nation.

Table 6: Presentation of Physical violence in different forms

		Types of Physical Violence									Total
		Honor Killing	Acid Throwing	Burning of women	Murder	Suicide	Female infanticide	Trafficking	Femicide	Kidnap	
Daily Jang	Count	135	35	42	128	38	5	13	9	54	459
	% within Type of Newspapers	29.4%	7.6%	9.2%	27.9%	8.3%	1.1%	2.8%	2.0%	11.8%	100.0%
	% within Types of Physical Violence	28.7%	31.0%	27.6%	26.0%	28.1%	33.3%	39.4%	37.5%	27.7%	28.1%
Nawa-i-Waqt	Count	125	33	41	127	37	4	10	7	48	432
	% within Type of Newspapers	28.9%	7.6%	9.5%	29.4%	8.6%	0.9%	2.3%	1.6%	11.1%	100.0%
	% within Types of Physical Violence	26.5%	29.2%	27.0%	25.8%	27.4%	26.7%	30.3%	29.2%	24.6%	26.5%
The News	Count	107	24	36	121	31	4	6	5	48	382
	% within Type of Newspapers	28.0%	6.3%	9.4%	31.7%	8.1%	1.0%	1.6%	1.3%	12.6%	100.0%
	% within Types of Physical Violence	22.7%	21.2%	23.7%	24.5%	23.0%	26.7%	18.2%	20.8%	24.6%	23.4%
The Nation	Count	104	21	33	117	29	2	4	3	45	358
	% within Type of Newspapers	29.1%	5.9%	9.2%	32.7%	8.1%	0.6%	1.1%	0.8%	12.6%	100.0%
	% within Types of Physical Violence	22.1%	18.6%	21.7%	23.7%	21.5%	13.3%	12.1%	12.5%	23.1%	21.9%
Total	Count	471	113	152	493	135	15	33	24	195	1631
	% within Type of Newspapers	28.9%	6.9%	9.3%	30.2%	8.3%	0.9%	2.0%	1.5%	12.0%	100.0%
	% within Types of Physical Violence	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Note: Chi-square= 78.196 df=24 p=.000

Out of 459, 135(29.41%) of honour killing, 128 (27.88%) of murder, 54 (11.76%) of kidnapping, 42(9.15%) of burning of women, 09(1.96%) of Femicide and 05 (1.08) of female infanticide news were published by Daily Jang. Out of 431, 127 (29.46%) of murder, 125 (29.01%) of honour killing, 48(11.13%) of kidnapping, 41(9.15%) of burning of women, 37(8.58%) of suicide, 04 (0.92%) of female infanticide and 10(2.32%) of trafficking of women news were published by Daily Nawa-i-waqt. Similarly, in English press, out of 382, 121 (31.67%) of murder, 107(28.01%) of honour killing, 48(12.56%) of kidnapping, 36(9.42%) of burning of women, 31(8.11%) of suicide, and 06(1.57%) of trafficking of women news were published by The News. Out of 358, 117(32.68%) of murder, 104(29.05%) of honour killing, 45 (12.56%) of kidnapping, 33(9.21%) of burning of women, and 03(0.83%) of trafficking of women news were published by The Nation. It explains that how selected press published physical violence news patterns in its different forms. Honour killing is the worst form of violence against women in which women lost their precious lives (Kiran, 2017).

Table 7: Distribution of news items regarding physical violence in all selected newspapers by slants

Newspapers		Slants			Total
		Favorable	Unfavorable	Neutral	
Daily Jang	Count	127	273	59	459
	% within Newspaper	27.7%	59.5%	12.9%	100.0%
	% within Physical Violence	21.8%	35.8%	20.7%	28.2%
Nawa-i-waqt	Count	113	254	64	431
	% within Newspaper	26.2%	58.9%	14.8%	100.0%
	% within Physical Violence	19.4%	33.3%	22.5%	26.4%
The News	Count	179	120	83	382
	% within Newspaper	46.9%	31.4%	21.7%	100.0%
	% within Physical Violence	30.8%	15.7%	29.1%	23.4%
The Nation	Count	163	116	79	358
	% within Newspaper	45.5%	32.4%	22.1%	100.0%
	% within Physical Violence	28.0%	15.2%	27.7%	22.0%
Total	Count	582	763	285	1630
	% within Newspaper	35.7%	46.8%	17.5%	100.0%
	% within Physical Violence	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Note: Chi Square = 122.21 df= 6 p =.000

Out of 459 physical violence news in Daily Jang, 127 (27.7%) are favourable, 273 (59.5%) are unfavourable and 59 (12.9%) are neutral. Similarly, out of 431 physical violence news in Daily Nawa-i-Waqt, 113 (26.2%) are favourable, 254(58.9%) are unfavourable and 64 (14.8%) are neutral. Similarly, out of 382 physical violence news Daily The News 179 (46.9%) are favourable, 120(31.4%) are unfavourable and 83(21.7%) n neutral. In the same way, out of 358 physical violence news in Daily The Nation 163(46.9%) are favourable, 116(31.4%) are unfavourable and 79(21.7%) are neutral.

Table 8: Presentation of sexual violence in different forms

Type of Newspapers		Types of Sexual Violence					Total	
		Rape	Sexual abuse	Use for prostitution	Sexual harassment	Groping		Mass sexual assault
Daily Jang	Count	125	13	8	11	0	1	158
	% within Type of Newspapers	79.1%	8.2%	5.1%	7.0%	0.0%	0.6%	100.0%
	% within Types of Sexual Violence	29.8%	30.2%	26.7%	25.6%	0.0%	14.3%	28.8%
Nawa-i-Waqt	Count	123	11	9	13	2	3	161
	% within Type of Newspapers	76.4%	6.8%	5.6%	8.1%	1.2%	1.9%	100.0%
	% within Types of Sexual Violence	29.3%	25.6%	30.0%	30.2%	40.0%	42.9%	29.4%
The News	Count	83	10	6	9	1	2	111

	% within Type of Newspapers	74.8%	9.0%	5.4%	8.1%	0.9%	1.8%	100.0%
	% within Types of Sexual Violence	19.8%	23.3%	20.0%	20.9%	20.0%	28.6%	20.3%
The Nation	Count	89	9	7	10	2	1	118
	% within Type of Newspapers	75.4%	7.6%	5.9%	8.5%	1.7%	0.8%	100.0%
	% within Types of Sexual Violence	21.2%	20.9%	23.3%	23.3%	40.0%	14.3%	21.5%
Total	Count	420	43	30	43	5	7	548
	% within Type of Newspapers	76.6%	7.8%	5.5%	7.8%	0.9%	1.3%	100.0%
	% within Types of Sexual Violence	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Note: Chi-square=69.75 df= 15 p= .000

Out of 158, 125(79.11%) of Rape, 13(8.22%) of sexual abuse, 11 (6.96%) of sexual harassment, 8(5.06%) of uses for prostitution news were published by Daily Jang. Out of 161, 123 (76.39%) of Rape, 13 (8.07%) of sexual harassment, 116.83%) of sexual abuse, 9(5.59%) of use for prostitution news were published by Daily Nawa-i-waqt. Similarly, in English press, out of 111, 83 (74.77%) of rape, 10(9.99%) of sexual abuse, 6(5.40%) of use for prostitution, 9(8.10%) of sexual harassment news were published by The News. Out of 118, 89(75.42%) of rape, 10(8.47%) of sexual harassment, 9 (7.62%) of sexual abuse, 7(5.93%) of use for prostitution news were published by The Nation.

Table 11: Distribution of news items regarding sexual violence in all selected newspapers by slants

Newspaper		Slants			Total
		Favorable	Unfavorable	Neutral	
Daily Jang	Count	51	97	9	157
	% within Newspaper3	32.5%	61.8%	5.7%	100.0%
	% within Sexual Violence	29.8%	38.8%	7.1%	28.6%
Nawa-i-waqt	Count	47	91	24	162
	% within Newspaper3	29.0%	56.2%	14.8%	100.0%
	% within Sexual Violence	27.5%	36.4%	18.9%	29.6%
The News	Count	36	32	43	111
	% within Newspaper3	32.4%	28.8%	38.7%	100.0%
	% within Sexual Violence	21.1%	12.8%	33.9%	20.3%
The Nation	Count	37	30	51	118
	% within Newspaper3	31.4%	25.4%	43.2%	100.0%
	% within Sexual Violence	21.6%	12.0%	40.2%	21.5%
Total	Count	171	250	127	548
	% within Newspaper3	31.2%	45.6%	23.2%	100.0%
	% within Sexual Violence	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Note: Chi Square = 88.30 p = .000 df= 6

Out of 157 sexual violence news in daily Jang, 51(32.5%) are favorable, 97(61.8%) are unfavorable and 9(5.7%) are neutral. Similarly, out of 162 sexual news in Daily Nawa-i-waqt, 47(29.0%) are favorable, 91(56.2%) are unfavorable and 24(14.8%) are neutral. So on, out of 111 sexual news in daily The News, 36(32.4%) are favorable, 32(28.8%) are unfavorable and 43(38.7%) are neutral. Similarly, out of 118 sexual news in daily The Nation, 37(31.4%) are favorable, 30(25.4%) are unfavorable and 51(43.2%) are neutral.

Conclusion

Women in Pakistan are half of the total population. They are facing numerous problems in their daily life. The most important problem faced by women in this patriarchal society is violence against women. In one way, woman faces brutal physical and sexual violence while on the other hand she also faces psychological violence in different ways. She has become victim of domestic violence, sexual harassment, rape, murder, suicide, trafficking, vani, honour killing, etc. The grimmest situation is that press do not portray women violence issues in meaningful way. The main purpose of this study is to find out the coverage of women violence issues in the leading press of Pakistan. The researchers selected two leading newspapers of Urdu (Daily Jang and Daily Nawa-i-Waqt) and two leading newspapers of English (The News and The Nation). The researchers take one year from June 01, 2021 to May 31, 2022 as a time period. For this purpose, the researchers applied content analysis method to analyze data. The researchers have analyzed the news items of the four major newspapers of Pakistan “Daily Jang, Daily Nawa-i-Waqt, The News and The Nation”.

To answer the first research question, How many types and amount of violent news related to women violence issue are covered by these newspapers? The data shows that 459 (70.29%) of physical violence news, 158 (24.19%) of sexual violence news are published in Daily Jang. Similarly, out of 621, 431 (69.40%) of physical violence news, 161 (25.92%) of sexual violence news were published in Daily Nawa-i-Waqt While, out of 537, 382 (71.13%) of physical violence news, 111 (20.67%) of sexual violence news are published in The News and out of 517, 358 (69.24%) of physical news, 118 (22.82%) of sexual violence news are published in The Nation with (df= 6, p=.001) value. This value supports our first and second hypothesis that Urdu newspapers gave more coverage to women violence issues as compared to the English newspapers while Urdu and English newspapers mostly prefer to publish physical violence news than others. To answering the second research question, How much space is given by selected newspaper to women violence issues? The data shows that out of 653, 343 (52.5%) of double column news, 289 (44.25%) of single column news in Daily Jang newspaper, out of 621, 322(51.85%) of double column news, 283(45.57%) of single column news in Daily Nawa-i-Waqt, the News published 331(61.63%) of single column news, 198(36.87%) of double column news, similarly, out of 517, 307(59.38%) of single column news, 197(35.10%) of double column news are published in The Nation with (df= 3, p=.000) values. The values also supports our first hypothesis. The data shows that Urdu newspapers give more coverage to physical violence news than English newspapers. To answering the third research question, what is the placement of women violence issues news in selected newspapers? The data shows that out of 653, 217(33.23%) on front page, 189 (28.94%) on 3rd page in the Daily Jang while out of 621, 210(33.81%) on 3rd page, 205(33.01%) on back page, 121(19.48%). Out of 537 total news, the News published 135(25.13%) on back page, 73(13.59%) on front page. Similarly, 127(24.56%) news on the back page and 69(13.34%) on the front page were published by The Nation. To answering the fourth research question, To what extent newspapers portray favorable or unfavorable coverage to women violence issues? The data

shows that out of 459 physical violence news in Daily Jang, 127 (27.7%) are favorable way and 273 (59.5%) are unfavorable way while out of 431 physical violence news in Daily Nawa-i-Waqt, 113 (26.2%) are favorable and 254(58.9%) are unfavorable. Similarly, out of 382 physical violence news Daily The News 179 (46.9%) are favorable and 120(31.4%) are unfavorable while out of 358 physical violence news in Daily The Nation 163(46.9%) are favorable and 116(31.4%) are unfavorable with (df= 6, p =.000) values. The values support our third hypothesis that Urdu newspapers unfavorably portray women violence issues as compared to English newspapers. It means that the English newspapers give more favorable coverage to women violence issues than Urdu newspaper while Urdu newspapers give unfavorable coverage to women violence issues than English newspapers. Urdu newspapers give more coverage to women violence issues as compared to English newspapers. These newspapers have large audience and potential to cover all issues especially the women violence issues in a judgmental way. The researchers went through the selected pages (front page, back page, page no 3 and crime page) of the selected Urdu newspapers and front page, back page, page no 3, crime page and other pages of the selected English newspapers in the selected time period of (June 01, 2021 to May 31, 2022). The main objectives of the study were to examine how women violence issues (Physical, Psychological and Sexual) is portrayed by the selected press in selected period of time. The researchers also explored about to what extent newspapers portray favorable or unfavorable coverage to women violence issues. This research has pointed to the flaws in the work of the media when it comes to report on violence against women and domestic violence, such as insufficient attention being paid to the issue as the issue of concern for the entire society and to the prevention of that violence. It even spotted some unethical reporting in sensitive cases. Although the examples of violence against women are present in the media almost on daily basis, the daily media fail to explain the background of the cases.

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