



Factors predicting domestic violence among Thai Muslim married couples in Pattani province



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ABSTRACT

This study examined factors predicting domestic violence among Thai Muslim married couples in Pattani province and created a prediction equation for domestic violence. The data were collected from 1,536 subjects who were selected using multi stage sampling and data were analyzed using the R program to calculate Pearson's product moment correlation coefficients and multiple linear correlation coefficients. The results of the study revealed five predictors of domestic violence among Thai Muslim married couples in Pattani Province with predictability at a significance level of .001. Three predictors were found to have positive relationships with domestic violence: strict upbringing (X_1), violent behavior in childhood (X_6), and females' inferior status (X_7) while severe punishment in childhood (X_4) and the emphasis on male dominance (X_8) had negative relationships with domestic violence and their prediction efficiency was 87.5 percent ($R^2 = 0.875$, $p < .001$). Females' inferior status (X_7) had the highest level of relationship, and severe punishment in childhood (X_4) was the lowest.

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Introduction

The family is the smallest social institution that is directly associated with the way of life among humans. Its emphasis is on interrelationships between and among family members so that they have close relationships, help, care for, and are concerned for each other. The family institution is the foundation of the change and exchange of love, especially between husband and wife. If the exchange of love is satisfactory with proper proportions, smooth development that enhances trust, care, and readiness to sacrifice for each other, then the married life will be happy and they will have a warm family. On the contrary, if the exchange is not satisfactory with improper proportions, and unsmooth development, there can be conflict in the

married life with chaos and disorder that lead to suffering, frustration, bitter feeling, anger, and hatred that can become severe and affect mental health. This can eventually lead to quarrels, beating each other, using force and violence toward each other, and consequently, the couple can become estranged and some may decide to divorce, which may become a social problem (Boonleang, 2007; Kanjanakul, 1997; Laeheem & Boonprakarn, 2014; Promrak, 2007).

Domestic violence is a social phenomenon determined by social and cultural conditions, and has existed in married couple relationships as well as society for a long time, but most people in society do not give sufficient importance and realization to the problem. They usually think that domestic violence is a family matter in which other people from outside the family should not interfere. As a result, there are no preventive measures and no solutions to the problem of domestic violence as a type of crime (Kongsakon & Pojam, 2008; Pradabmuk, 2003). There are many phenomena of violence between husbands and wives

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that indicate that attacks against wives have become increasingly more severe while husbands who attack their wives come from every economic status, occupation, race, and religion, and they are people who witnessed or experienced violence before being married themselves. Such experiences can affect them physically and mentally, and may damage the happiness of their family (Kongsakon & Pojam, 2008). This violence is between married couples who intentionally use force and power to threaten or hurt each other more severely than usual and it originates from conflict and quarrels done physically, verbally, mentally, and sexually such as forcing, coercing, beating, kicking, threatening, and limiting freedom (Intarajit & Karinchai, 1999; Laeheem & Boonprakarn, 2014; Triemchaisri, 2001). Mostly, these are by husbands against wives and are meant to hurt physically, mentally, sexually, and to coerce the spouse to do or not to do something that the husband wants. The behavior is expressed toward each other out of anger, fright, feeling apprehensive, lack of restraint, and with obvious intention to harm so that the other party is in trouble and danger that can be life-threatening (Corsini, 1999; Hampton, Gullotta, & Ramos, 2006; Kongsakon & Pojam, 2008; Malley-Morrison, 2004; Walker, 2001). In particular, the victims are usually injured physically and mentally, and may decide to separate or divorce. In addition, young children who witness such violence regularly learn and absorb the violence, and as a result, they can have repressed emotions, become aggressive, and have violent behavior, and when they are grown up, they perpetuate the problem through violence against their family members (Klongpayabarn, 1999; Kongsakon & Pojam, 2008; Laeheem & Boonprakarn, 2014; Promrak, 2007; Siri wattana, 1995). The government sector needs to allocate large amounts of money for medical treatment for victims, implementing preventive measures, and for campaigning to stop the problem (Hemmanad, 1990; Kanjanakul, 1997; Puawongpaet, 1994).

There are many causal factors of domestic violence, but an important one is the females' inferior status where male dominance is valued and it is believed that men must be the head of their family, own all the family assets, and control the behavior of their family members. Studies found that causes of domestic violence were wrong attitudes and values about the role of males and females, and authoritative power in the family, gender inequality, especially in the family where the husband has authority over his wife, and wants her to agree in all matters. Additionally, he makes her dependent on him so that she sees that a divorce will affect their children (divorced women are disliked by society) and she will have to live alone with no one caring for her (Puawongpaet, 1994; Straus, 2001). Furthermore, according to the concept of patriarchy, the inferior status of women and a belief that men have power, strength, and leadership over women, and are the head of the family, own the property, manage the family, and control the behavior of all family members. So, men using violence is considered normal because of male chauvinism, which is the cause of regular violence against and exploitation of their wives (Archawanitkul & Im-am, 2003; Moser & Winton, 2002; Punamsap, 2005; Siri wattana, 1995; Songsumpan, 2002).

Thus, the researcher was interested in exploring the factors predicting domestic violence among Thai Muslim married couples in Pattani province to determine such factors. The results of the study would be useful for related individuals and organizations in forming policy for preventing and solving the problem of domestic violence before it becomes more severe and become a social problem that is difficult to solve in the future, and in seeking ways to solve the problem in a timely manner.

Literature Review

Means of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is behavior showing intention to use force or physical power to threaten or to harm others or to violate personal rights physically, verbally, mentally, or sexually by forcing, threatening, hitting, kicking, punching, limiting, and obstructing rights, and freedoms in public or personal life. This can result in physical and mental suffering for the victim (Arpapirom, 2000; Berkowitz, 1989; Stuart, 1981). Domestic violence also refers to using force to harm family members physically, mentally, sexually, or to harm life, and to violate rights and freedoms in various ways, which are unfair actions in order to get power to control over them or to make them yield (Corsini, 1999; Pakjekwinyusakul, Jamsutee, & Nettayasupa, 2003; Pongwech & Wijitranon, 2000; Punamsap, 2005). Domestic violence is incidents taking place between members of the family, and between couples inside and outside the home such as violence against children, wives, and the elderly, with the purpose of hurting them physically, mentally, emotionally as well as harming their health, rights, and freedoms. This is done by misuse of force or power to make family members do or not do and accept the action (Laeheem, 2014a; Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, 2007; Punamsap, 2005).

Types of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence can be classified according to the actions into three types. Type 1 is physical violence, which refers to the use of force or a tool as weapon to hurt the victim such as pushing, slapping, hitting, punching, beating, jerking, squeezing the neck, throwing something at, and injuring severely with a weapon or a sharp object. Type 2 is mental violence, which refers to any action or failure to act which causes the victim sorrow or losing rights or freedoms by either verbally or through gestures and action such as verbal despising, satirizing, scolding, bawling, yelling, embarrassing, being indifferent, threatening, showing anger. Type 3 is sexual violence, which refers to an incident when a husband abuses his wife, a father abuses his children, an elder relative such as a brother, an uncle, a grandfather abuses his younger relative. Such actions are usually sexual molestations or sex-related offenses. For example, the husband uses physical force to have sex with his wife in a way that she does not like, or want, or has sex with her without caring about her pleasure or the husband forces his wife to sell, or have, sex with other men or a man rapes his own child or niece

(Archawanitkul & Im-am, 2003; Laeheem, 2014a; Oopyokin, 1995; Songsumpan, 2002; Suwannarat, 2002).

Causes of Domestic Violence

There are many factors related to causes of domestic violence. It can be concluded from various studies that there are five causes of domestic violence (Hemmanad, 1990; Kanjanakul, 1997; Klongpayabarn, 1999; Laeheem, 2014a; Moser & Winton, 2002; Straus, 2001).

- 1) The length of time spent together: Each day family members spend time interacting with each other for many hours, so there are more opportunities for domestic violence to happen among them when compared with other groups of people with whom they also spend time such as colleagues and friends. This indicates that in addition to the length of time spent together, there are other factors related to it.
- 2) The scope of activities and interest: Interactions between other groups of people usually have specific purposes. However, interactions between family members cover a wider range of activities. Therefore, there are more chances for conflict and unexpected incidents to take place.
- 3) Childhood experiences of violence: Individuals' learning and absorption of violence from society and environments, especially in childhood in a family that regularly uses violence, children can absorb violence and use it. They would see that violence is normal and believe that problems can be solved with violence.
- 4) Social values and attitudes of surrounding people: Misbeliefs about status with emphasis on male dominance that a man must be the head of the family and male aggressiveness and violence are normal and macho. On the contrary, women must not be aggressive and violent because that is not what ladies should be. Good wives must be modest, humble, and patient, not haggle with their husbands, respect their husbands, be obedient, and ready to serve their husband in all matters. Another belief is that husbands are the owners of their wives and have the right to do anything with them, even beating them for punishment, and their wives do not have the right to protest. Moreover, other people should not interfere when husbands and wives quarrel because it is normal just like the tongue and teeth hitting each other. When fathers beat their children, they have the power to do it and other people should not pay attention to it. There is another belief that it is normal for married men to have sexual intercourse with other women, but not for married women to do so because it is considered adultery, and such women are bad and nobody would want to be associated with them.
- 5) In a society without alertness for human rights that does not believe all human beings are equal in rights, it is normal for people in such a society to see some people as

having higher status and more rights than other people do. Women and children have a lower status than men have and thus have less rights, and this causes abuses against them and causes them to be taken advantage of. In society where violence is so widely used that it becomes normal and accepted, where the use of violent behavior reflects an advantage and becomes an incentive for using more violence, and where the environment has an influence on violence, pressure, and thought, people in such a society will be aggressive and likely to commit more acts of violence.

Effects of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence incurs an enormous economic burden on society in expenses for medical treatment, social welfare, counseling for victims, and implementations of preventive measures (Kanjanakul, 1997). Parents' quarreling and injuring each other can affect children mentally and emotionally, and affect their learning as well because the beating and scolding is usually linked to children. Studies on vagrant children, drug-addicted children, and children who steal and injure others have found that these children are generally from families that use violence (Hemmanad, 1990; Laeheem, 2014a; Puawongpaet, 1994; Triemchaisri, 2001).

Methods

Population and Subjects

The subjects of this study were 1,536 wives who were representatives of Thai Muslim married couples. They were selected using multi stage sampling as follows. Stage 1) Districts were selected using stratified sampling divided into three strata as districts with high and very high levels of population loss (red ones), districts with a moderate level of population loss (pink ones), and districts with a low level of population loss (green ones). These levels were determined using the data and trends of violence provided by the [Center of Deep South Watch \(2013\)](#). Then, two districts from each strata were selected using simple random sampling to get six districts. Stage 2) Four sub-districts were selected from each district through simple random sampling to obtain 24 sub-districts. Stage 3) Two villages were selected from each sub-district to get 48 villages. Stage 4), in this last stage of subject selection, 32 wives were selected from each village to represent Thai Muslim married couples in Pattani province providing data. The 32 wives were then divided into two groups of 16. One group was with, and the other without, risk of domestic violence behavior. They were selected by local Muslim leaders in the target areas.

Research Instrument

The research instrument was the Screening Inventory for Thai Muslim Spouses at Risk of Domestic Violence Behaviors (Laeheem, 2014b) that was developed by the researcher, and has been tested for its quality and to be with normal criteria for results interpretation. The five-

point rating scales are: 5 = Regularly; 4 = Often; 3 = Quite often; 2 = Once in a while; and 1 = Never.

Data Collection

The data for this study were collected by the researcher and research assistants who, even though they were experienced in data collection and were locals in the target areas, were retrained to apply the same data collecting methods.

Data Analysis

The data were analyzed using the R program to determine the frequency, percentage, arithmetic mean, and standard deviation. The relationships between family background in upbringing (strict upbringing, democratic upbringing, and undisciplined upbringing), experience of violence (severe punishment in childhood, witnessing parents' quarrels in childhood, violent behavior in childhood), and authoritative relationship (women's inferior status and patriarchy) and domestic violence were analyzed by calculating Pearson's product moment correlation coefficients, and creating a backward multiple regression equation that could predict domestic violence by calculating multiple correlation coefficients.

Interpretation Criteria for Mean Values

The researcher employed the interpretation criteria of Best (1981) for mean values of predictors and variables where 1.00–1.49 = Lowest; 1.50–2.49 = Low; 2.50–3.49 = Moderate; 3.50–4.49 = High; and 4.50–5.00 = Highest.

Results

Profiles of the Subjects

Most of the 1,536 subjects who were Thai Muslim spouses in Pattani province were in the age group 36–45 years (37.70%), followed by 26–35 years (25%), over 36 years (21.87%), and below 25 years (15.43%), respectively. Most of the subjects had an associate degree or equivalent (36.33%), followed by those who had only primary school education (35.16%), secondary school education (17.19%), bachelor's degree or higher (11.32%), respectively. The occupation of most of the subjects was in agriculture (40.17%), followed by trading (35.61%), government service (12.70%), and odd job employment (11.52%), respectively. Most of the subjects had a monthly income of THB 5,001–7,500 (37.63%), followed by THB 5,000 and below (27.15%), THB 7,501–10,000 (21.68%), and THB 10,001 or more (13.54%). Most of the subjects had been married for 6–10 years (45.18%), followed by 5 years or less (22.79%), 11–15 years (18.88%), and 16 years or more (13.15%), respectively.

Descriptive Statistics of Outcome Variable (Domestic Violence) and Predictor Variables

The outcome variable for this study consisted of domestic violence (Y), and the analysis showed that Thai

Muslim couples in Pattani province had a moderate level of domestic violence (mean = 2.86). The analysis of predictor variables related to family background in upbringing revealed that most of the Thai Muslim spouses had had a democratic upbringing (X_2) at the high level (mean = 3.52), followed by undisciplined upbringing (X_3), and strict upbringing (X_1), and the levels of these two variables were moderate with means of 3.43 and 3.01, respectively. For the predictors in experience of violence, it was found that most of the Thai Muslim spouses had violent behavior in their childhood (X_6) at a moderate level (mean = 3.62), followed by witnessing their parents quarreling in childhood (X_5), having severe punishment in childhood (X_4) and the levels of these two variables were moderate with means of 3.35 and 3.23, respectively. Regarding the predictors in authoritative relationship, it was found that more Thai Muslim spouses in Pattani province had inferior status of women (X_7) than those with patriarchy (X_8). The inferior status of women (X_7) was high with a mean of 3.52 while patriarchy (X_8) was moderate with a mean of 3.40 (see Table 1).

Relationships Between Outcome Variable: Domestic Violence and the Eight Predictors

From the analysis of the relationships between the eight predictors and domestic violence among Thai Muslim married couples in Pattani province by calculating Pearson's product moment correlation coefficients, it was found that there were seven predictors that had highly significant, positive relationships with domestic violence. The inferior status of women (X_7) had the highest relationship with domestic violence ($r = .93, p < .001$), followed by strict upbringing (X_1) ($r = .91, p < .001$), patriarchy (X_8) ($r = .90, p < .001$), witnessing parents quarreling in childhood (X_5) ($r = .66, p < .001$), severe punishment in childhood (X_4) ($r = .64, p < .001$), violent behavior in childhood (X_6) ($r = .53, p < .001$), and undisciplined upbringing (X_3) ($r = .41, p < .001$). However, democratic upbringing (X_2) did not have a relationship with domestic violence among Thai Muslim married couples (Table 2).

Table 1
Descriptive statistics of outcome variable (domestic violence) and predictor variables

Variable	Mean score	S.D.	Interpretation
<i>Outcome</i>			
Domestic violence	2.86	0.66	Moderate
<i>Family background in upbringing</i>			
Strict upbringing (X_1)	3.01	1.18	Moderate
Democratic upbringing (X_2)	3.52	0.82	High
Undisciplined upbringing (X_3)	3.43	0.89	Moderate
<i>Family background in experience of violence</i>			
Severe punishment in childhood (X_4)	3.23	0.95	Moderate
Witnessing parents quarreling in childhood (X_5)	3.35	0.90	Moderate
Violent behavior in childhood (X_6)	3.62	0.86	High
<i>Family background in authoritative relationship</i>			
Inferior status of women (X_7)	3.52	0.88	High
Patriarchy (X_8)	3.40	0.84	Moderate

Table 2
Relationships between outcome variable: domestic violence and predictor variables

Predictor variable	<i>r</i>	<i>p</i>
<i>Family background in upbringing</i>		
Strict upbringing (X_1)	0.91	.000
Democratic upbringing (X_2)	0.02	.344
Undisciplined upbringing (X_3)	0.41	.000
<i>Family background in experience of violence</i>		
Severe punishment in childhood (X_4)	0.64	.000
Witnessing parents quarreling in childhood (X_5)	0.66	.000
Violent behavior in childhood (X_6)	0.53	.000
<i>Family background in authoritative relationship</i>		
Inferior status of women (X_7)	0.93	.000
Patriarchy (X_8)	0.90	.000

Factors Predicting Domestic Violence

Using multiple linear regression and incorporating the equation with backward elimination, five predictors of domestic violence among Thai Muslim married couples in Pattani province were identified. The prediction ability was at the significance level of .001 with the prediction efficiency of 87.5 percent ($R^2 = 0.875$, $p < .001$). These five predictors were: strict upbringing (X_1), severe punishment in childhood (X_4), violent behavior in childhood (X_6), the inferior status of women (X_7), and patriarchy (X_8). The predictor with the highest relationship with domestic violence was the inferior status of women (X_7), ($B = 0.66$, $p < .001$) while the predictor with the lowest relationship with domestic violence was severe punishment in childhood (X_4) ($B = -0.06$, $p < .001$) (see Table 3). The raw score prediction equation for domestic violence among Thai Muslim married couples in Pattani province could be written:

$$\hat{Y}_Y = 0.59 + 0.16X_1 - 0.06X_4 + 0.07X_6 + 0.66X_7 - 0.18X_8$$

Discussion and Conclusion

The findings revealed five predictors of domestic violence among Thai Muslim married couples in Pattani province: strict upbringing (X_1), severe punishment in childhood (X_4), violent behavior in childhood (X_6), the

Table 3
Reduced linear regression model of factors predicting domestic violence in the final model

Predictor Variable	<i>B</i>	S.E.	<i>p</i>	R^2 change
Constant	0.59	0.06	.000	
Inferior status of women (X_7)	0.66	0.07	.000	0.868
Severe punishment in childhood (X_4)	-0.06	0.03	.019	0.005
Patriarchy (X_8)	-0.18	0.03	.000	0.002
Violent behavior in childhood (X_6)	0.07	0.02	.000	0.001
Strict upbringing (X_1)	0.16	0.05	.000	0.001

Note: Multiple *R*-squared: 0.8758, Adjusted *R*-squared: 0.8754, Residual standard error: 0.2328, on 1529 degrees of freedom; *F*-statistic: 1798, *p*: .000

inferior status of women (X_7), and patriarchy (X_8). There were three main factors associated with the relationship predicting with domestic violence: authority relationship (the inferior status of women, and patriarchy); violence experience (severe punishment in childhood, and violent behavior in childhood); and family's upbringing (strict upbringing). This indicated that the factor of authority relationship (the inferior status of women, and patriarchy) is one of the causes of domestic violence, which stems from husbands whose concept is that husband is the leader of the household. The husband usually displays authority that he has ownership of all the assets in the household, manages everything in the family, controls and forces his wife to work alone inside and outside the house. He also displays authority in that he controls the behavior of his wife and children and usually displays dictatorship and does not allow democracy in the family. This is a concept that husbands hold fast to in the belief that "A man is the leader of the family and has authority and rights over his wife" or thinks that "A wife is a belonging of a husband and he can behave in any way toward her" This concept is an important cause of wives being attacked physically, threatened, and ordered by their husbands. When the wives defy, they are usually slapped, beaten, and injured physically, which corresponds to a concept in Thai society of patriarchy and believing that the male is the strong gender, with power and energy, and with the status of the leader over female, the gender that is weak, gentle, and unreasonable that allows for female followers only (Archawanitkul & Im-am, 2003; Holtz & Safran, 1989; Siri wattana, 1995). It is believed that it is normal for men to have violent behavior because it makes them true men while women must be ladies, good wives, modest, humble, not arguing but obedient and to serve their husbands (Archawanitkul & Im-am, 2003; Siri wattana, 1995). Wives are their husbands' property and the husbands can do anything to their wives even beat them severely without their wives defying (Archawanitkul & Im-am, 2003; Moser & Winton, 2002; Siri wattana, 1995). With the concept that men are dominant in the household and are in control of the assets, family management, and the behavior and punishment of family members, society usually regards husbands as holding a higher status than their wives, regardless of human rights. Consequently, wives are treated with violence and taken advantage of regularly, and society sees violence as normal in families (Archawanitkul & Im-am, 2003; Punamsap, 2005; Songsumpan, 2002).

In addition, violence that husbands commit toward their wives by oppressing them regularly shows the inferior status of women and their patriarchy, and to the extent that their wives are frustrated and sometimes resist, fight back, and retort because of accumulated frustration, wives try to find a way to retort with violent actions towards their husbands. According to Dollard and Miller (1939), and Pinpradit (1998), frustration is a feeling caused by being hurt, and unwanted actions against individuals, and when frustration accumulates, the individuals might decide to respond with violent behavior. Sriyong (1997) states that individuals who are extremely frustrated because they have been affected with unpleasant and unwanted actions against them, might display frustration with undesirable

behavior. This shows that individuals who have been affected by violent actions often show estrangement that can arouse their feelings such as being angry and wanting to retort. A study by [Sutassanee \(1993\)](#) found that violent behavior is a result of the person having been injured physically, being afraid, and suppressing his or her emotion or feeling, being treated unfairly, being annoyed or attacked, and being uncertain or having an unclear understanding about certain matters. Such feelings have been accumulating to an extent that the person can no longer tolerate them and thus expresses the frustration through violent behavior. [Intarachote \(1993\)](#) reported that one of the causes of violent behavior is a person's emotional deficiency, which causes him or her to be so bristly, hot-tempered, and anger easily that he or she cannot conduct any activity that can result in frustration and violent behavior.

The finding also revealed that the factor of violence experience (severe punishment in childhood and violent behavior in childhood) is one of the causes of domestic violence because the factor of violence experience enables children's learning process. Human learning is more efficient and more effective in the context where there is feeling and emotion which often takes place during childhood when children are ready to learn their experience of violence, and thus children learn and absorb what they learn into their personality and it remains with them until they grow up. Therefore, when they grow up and have conflicts with their spouse, they imitate their violence experience of severe punishment in childhood, and violent behavior in childhood, and use violence in solving the current problem ([Bandura, 1986](#); [Gelles & Straus, 1979](#), pp. 549–581). People who have experienced violence have a higher chance of displaying violence against their spouses than those who have not ([Stets, 1990](#)). Children who have experienced violence have a 4.50 times higher chance of committing violence than those who have not ([Laeheem, Kuning, McNeil, & Besag, 2008](#)). Children who have been exposed to severe punishment in childhood and violent behavior in childhood can absorb and imitate what they did or experienced and think that violence can solve problems ([Laeheem & Baka, 2012](#); [Laeheem, 2013](#)).

These results are reflected in the factor of family upbringing (strict upbringing) being statistically significant relationship with domestic violence among Thai Muslim married couples in Pattani province. The results above indicate that Thai Muslim married couples who have experienced domestic violence are from families with background problems in their upbringing. That is, their upbringing background is very important in determining the married couples' behavior. For example, married couples who are from families with strict upbringing can feel lonely and that can directly affect them psychologically. This is in accordance with the studies of [Arayawinyu \(1999\)](#) who reported that married couples from a family with a strict upbringing and express it through having a hot temper, serious anger, aggressiveness, and abusiveness, may acquire similar behavior. These problems affect the married couple's behavior. [Intarachote \(1993\)](#) noted that people who are neglected by their parents, do not get the loving care they need from their parents and consequently,

they exhibit problematic behavior and become unfit for society and try to get attention using various methods such as being restless, interfering with others, being noisy, and being roguish. On the other hand, people who are extremely pampered by their parents can also have behavioral problems such as being selfish, domestic violence, being irresponsible, and looking down on others. Accordingly the results found that strict upbringing has an inverse relation with domestic behavior while the relation of strict upbringing and domestic behavior is a direct variation ([Taosound, 2004](#)). This corresponds with the findings of this study that most people who experienced domestic violence were from a home where there had been a strict upbringing ([Laeheem & Baka, 2012](#); [Sukchan, 1999](#)). A strict upbringing is related to people's and married couple's wrongdoings ([Laeheem, 2013](#); [Srikosol, 2002](#)). Parents who are not understanding of children's feelings, needs, loneliness, and lack of spiritual refuge can result in carrying out undesirable behavior ([Prommana, 2000](#)).

As can be seen, the factors of authority relationship (the inferior status of women, and patriarchy), of violence experience (severe punishment in childhood, and violent behavior in childhood), and of family upbringing (strict upbringing) are significant causes of domestic violence. When women are regularly subjected to violence and become frustrated, and if the frustration accumulates, they might retort or fight back, which can lead to never-ending violence against them. Therefore, the results of this study are useful as one way to identify measures and to form policy to prevent and reduce domestic violence. Husbands are the most important component who must realize and give importance to their wives' feeling, especially, according to the five predictors above. Husbands should also reduce their wives' frustration, anger and reactions, which might be one of the factors that could help reduce and prevent domestic violence. Furthermore, husbands and wives must be patient, forgive, understand, and trust each other, and they must avoid quarreling and beating each other. In addition, related government and private organizations must cooperate to promote happy families, and to resist and campaign to stop domestic violence. The public must help to be on the lookout for and inform or give clues to related organizations about domestic violence as specified in the Domestic Violence Victim Protection Act B.E. 2550.

Conflict of Interest

There is no conflict of interest.

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