

**Nia Kiah**  
**Sociology 101**  
**Professor Charles Awasu**

**Family Violence**

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Describe three major types of family violence. What social conditions have been shown to underlie each type of family violence?

The three major types of family violence are Domestic Violence, Verbal Abuse and Physical Abuse. Family Violence is patterns of abusive behavior that one family member inflicts upon another member. Family violence takes many forms. It can be physical, economical, psychological and emotional.

Domestic Violence are patterns where one person is trying to control another person. It can take many forms such as physical assault, sexual abuse and emotional abuse. The purpose of this violence is to gain and control the victim.

Verbal Abuse and Emotional Abuse are words used to demean, frighten and control someone.

Physical Abuse is the use of physical force that can harm the person, harm their development and dignity.

There are many social conditions that underlie why violence takes place within families. According to Macionis (2016), Social Inequality is one of the many reasons that contribute to violence. Men have greater power in the workplace, in the government and in homes. Society outlines expectations about gender roles about how boys and girls, women and men are supposed to think and act. Basically cultural patterns support gender inequality. Men treat women as sexual objects. The advertisement industry that is controlled by men as bosses associate product sales with sex. Women are often devalued because of the sexual connotations that is associated with the sales of products. According to Macionis (2016), Sexuality is a theme found everywhere- sports, campus, workplace and mass media. Society's double standard always encouraged men to be sexually active, but women are often expected to be virgins until marriage. Research shows that a high amount of men have been unfaithful in a marriage more than women.

Cultural Patterns are yet another reason of social underlying conditions that contribute to family violence. According to Macionis (2016), today superheroes on TV are often depicted as using force and often violence. Children watching violence on TV and playing videogames that are violent have a long term effect on them psychologically. According to Macionis (2016), 2/3 of TV programs contain violence.

The Breakdown of the Family Structure is another social condition that leads towards violence. According to Macionis (2016), divorce rates are high. Both parents are working and often leave children with less supervision. A lot of children are home being entertained with TV. Single parent families usually face a lot of financial problems and stress when they have to work and care for their children. Family members spend less time together. According to Macionis (2016), studies have been done showing how children who are isolated and deprived by human beings suffered damage.

Social Class plays a huge part in social underlying conditions. According to Macionis (2016), Wealthier parents are likely to push their children to achieve and also put their children in programs and activities so they can be successful. The low-income families do not often have the luxury and it affects their children later in life. Different cultural norms support different types of

violence. According to Macionis (2016), In Saudi Arabia, the law forbids women to drive cars. Some Muslim cultures men control the way the women dress, In Peru female children are valued less than male children, In Guatemala children have a low status within the family, In Turkey physical punishment is acceptable or normal as part of child rearing. According to Macionis (2016), in some countries incest is common. Members of nobility intermarry relatives as a strategy to keep power within the family. Sexual Violence such as rape and date rape are violent acts that are used to hurt, humiliate and control another person. According to the Department of Justice (2014), 80,000 women report each year to be raped. According to Heyman&Slep (2002), there is a breakdown of values in our society. A long time ago sex remained confined within marriage which often led to childbirth. Children who witness their parents being violent or who have been abused are more likely to inflict abuse on others.

Another factor contributing to violence in the US is crime and ownership of guns. According to Macionis (2016), 69% of murder victims in the US die from shootings. Gun ownership reflects people fear of crime. According to Macionis (2016), economic inequality is higher in this country than in most high income nations. There is a huge gap between the rich and the poor which leads to an increase in crime and violence. Social inequality can harm society and promote conflict. According to Macionis (2016), only a small number of people earn very high incomes. Incomes are also linked with race in the US. According to Macionis (2016) white people have a higher status than African American and also receive more schooling. People of low income do not have the best education, medical care, housing, which often cause high stress and leads to job stability. These factors contribute towards child abuse and violence within homes. According to Macionis (2016), people of color have high rates of poverty. Often these homes are being run by single parent families, mostly people of color living in the inner city who are isolated from society because of the barriers such as affordable health care, quality education, jobs, and housing. Poverty leads to homelessness. According to Macionis (2016), the survey done in 2014 found 578, 400 people living in shelters.

In conclusion, many factors as you have read in this paper leads up to violence within families and can have devastating effects. Violence takes on so many forms and brings destruction to families.

## Sources

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Macionis, John (2016) *Society: The Basics*. 14<sup>th</sup> ed. ISBN: 9780134206325. Pearson

[http://www.who.int/violence\\_prevention/publication/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/violence_prevention/publication/en/index.html).