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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROFILE AGAINST WOMEN SERVED IN A REFERENCE CENTER

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ABSTRACT

Objective: to characterize the profile of domestic violence against women attended at a Reference Center. **Methods:** documentary study, exploratory and retrospective study with a quantitative approach, presenting a sample of 255 tokens corresponding to the period from 2010 to 2016. Data were analyzed in SPSS - version 21, using descriptive statistics of relative and absolute frequency, trend central (average) and dispersion (standard deviation), and the results discussed through literature on the subject. **Results:** There was a prevalence of women with incomplete elementary school, age between 30 and 39 years, white, household and unpaid, married and with children. All the victims knew the aggressor, being the husband the main perpetrator of this violence and the aggression occurred in the majority of the cases in his residence, the main one of them was the physical violence. **Conclusion:** the importance of preparing professionals and subjects in general to prevent new cases of violence against women is highlighted.

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INTRODUCTION

Violence consists of a great social phenomenon interrelated between people through conflicts with interest and domination. In relation to women, it comprises acts practiced in public or private places, and the domestic environment is the main one, since aggressors are generally persons of the victim's convivality and thus exercise power relations over them, it is a type of gender violence with an act of physical, sexual or emotional aggression, where the aggressor can become protected by the affective ties that they possess, which ultimately leads to the relations of domination to the extreme (Ferreira, 2016 and Madureira, 2014). Thus, domestic violence differs from other violence, because it is practiced in the victim's home and by an aggressor who shares intimate and affectionate relationships with the woman. According to the World Health Organization, the reality of ten countries

including Brazil includes 71% of women aged 15 to 49 years of age who have suffered some type of violence throughout their lives, 23% have suffered domestic violence, determining the worrying rate of one attacked woman every four minutes. Thus, symbolically the home that should be a safe environment and that makes you feel protected, comes to represent a risk in your life (Ferreira, 2016 and Scoot, 2016). This type of violence has become a widely discussed issue around the world, since it is a problem that disturbs growing concern among authorities and researchers about the impact that this reality has on the high rates of homicide against women, taking this configuration to be related to a serious health problem, human rights, public safety and economic impact, since it can affect women throughout their life cycle, causing serious harm to their health and their psychosocial development (Amaral, 2016). It should be noted that although domestic violence is hidden to the eyes of society, it occurs daily, and it is noted that it has social support since the victim often makes first choice in ensuring the maintenance of family ties.

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It tends to progressively evolve, starting with psychological / emotional violence, physical violence and culminating in sexual violence. Thus, this inhuman and disturbing manifestation that develops in the microsocioal plane gains, every day, more adhesion in the interior of several Brazilian homes (Minayo, 2015 and Pasinato, 2015). Thus, the study on the phenomenon of violence indicates that health professionals should be trained to recognize and act in the prevention and combat of violence, in addition to acting with the victim to minimize the damages resulting from the situation of violence experienced within their own home. In view of the fact that domestic violence goes beyond public security issues and becomes a social problem, where health stands out in the assistance to the aggravations resulting from the act of violence, producing a knowledge that allows the formulation of coping strategies through new public policies and encouragement to improve the notification (Ferreira, 2016 and Acosta, 2013). Thus, this study aimed to characterize the profile of domestic violence against women attended at a Reference Center.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This is a documentary study, exploratory and retrospective study with a quantitative approach, developed in a Reference Center for Women's Care, inserted in the Executive Secretariat of Public Policies of the city of Cajazeiras, Paraíba. The study population corresponded to 331 tokens for women in the period from 2010 to 2016, it should be noted that this number includes all the services performed in this service. The sample was composed of 255 tokens for women who suffered domestic violence, obeying the criterion of inclusion of the card referring to the service to women who suffered violence, incomplete tokens were discarded and they dealt with matters other than domestic violence. Data were analyzed in the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (version 21), by means of descriptive statistics of relative and absolute frequency, central tendency (average) and dispersion (standard deviation), discussed through literature on the subject. The study followed the ethical determinations in Resolution 466/12 of the National Health Council. It was approved by the Research Ethics Committee of the Federal University of Campina Grande, under note number 1,703,204.

RESULTS

Among the 255 tokens analyzed, the year 2010 had the lowest number of attendances with 25 (9.8%), while in 2011 the highest number of women attended was 66 (25.9%), which represented a 16,1% raise in relation to the past year, thus the years of 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 had respectively 30 (11.8%), 33 (12.9%), 34 (13.3%), 38 (14.9%), and 29 (11.4%) attendances. Female victims of violence have a characteristic profile throughout the national scenario, thus, Table 1 specifies the profile of domestic violence against women in the city of Cajazeiras, Paraíba. According to table 1, it was observed that the majority of women had low level of schooling, there was a prevalence of women with incomplete elementary education (45.9%). In relation to age, 30.6% are between 30 and 39 years old. Most of the women reported that they were housewives, corresponding to 32.9% of the cases, and according to the remuneration, 49.5% received. Regarding the marital situation, 43.5% are married, the majority with children (83.1%). And in relation to their color, 40.4% declared themselves white.

Table 1. Description of sample's demographics data

	N	%	Média	Desviopadrão
Scholarity				
Not literate	33	12,9		
Incomplete elementary school	117	45,9		
Complete elementary school	17	6,7		
Incomplete high school	24	9,4		
Complete high school	55	21,6		
Incomplete higher education	3	1,2		
Complete higher education	6	2,4		
Age			37,75	14,42
From 14 to 21	25	9,8		
From 22 to 29	60	23,5		
From 30 to 39	78	30,6		
From 40 to 49	40	15,7		
From 50 to 59	28	11		
60 or more	24	9,4		
Occupation				
Housewife	84	32,9		
Farmer	21	8,2		
Retired	8	3,1		
Civil servant	17	6,7		
Student	12	4,7		
General Helper	9	3,5		
Seller	15	5,9		
Others	31	12,2		
Not informed	58	22,7		
Remunerated				
Yes	96	49,5	727,46	733,95
No	98	50,5		
Not informed	61			
Marital Status				
Single	74	29		
Married / Consensual marriage	111	43,5		
Widow	14	5,5		
Divorced	40	15,7		
Homosexual	5	2,0		
Not informed	11	4,3		
(living time)				
Color/Race				
White	103	40,4		
Black	35	13,7		
Yellow	2	0,8		
Pardo	96	37,6		
Indigenous	2	0,8		
Others	17	6,7		
Children				
Yes	212	83,1		
No	43	16,9		
How many children			2,57	1,73

Source: Direct Search. 2016.

Table 2. Description of the data on the aggression and the aggressor

	N	%
Known aggressor		
Yes	255	100,0
No	0	0,0
Type of relationship with the aggressor		
Husband	109	47,8
Boyfriend	3	1,3
Brother	6	2,6
Father	5	2,2
Stepfather	3	1,3
Ex husband	43	18,9
Son	22	9,6
Other	37	16,2
Place of occurrence		
Home	153	81,8
Work	5	2,7
Public place	10	5,3
School	3	1,6
Bar or similar	1	0,5
Other	15	8,0

Source: Direct Search. 2016.

The profile of the aggressor is fundamental in the discussion that identifies risk situations of women victims of violence, regarding this information, table 2 shows how the aggressor

presents himself in the studied reality. This table shows that all the victims of domestic violence knew the perpetrator, corresponding to 100.0% of the cases, the husband being the main perpetrator of this violence (47.8%) and aggression in most of the cases in his residence (81.8%). Considering the multiple ways of printing violence against women, we identified the types of violence registered in the reality of interest and in table 3, it is presenting the plurality of this occurrence. Thus, the most prevalent form of violence was psychological violence with 82.7%, followed by physical violence (52.2%).

Table 3. Prevalence of types of violence

Type of violence	N	%
Physical	132	52,2
Sexual	25	9,8
Psychological	210	82,7
Moral	81	31,8
Patrimonial	53	20,8
Torture	22	8,6
Other	10	3,9
Not informed	2	0,8

Source: Direct Search. 2016.

DISCUSSION

Women in situations of domestic violence have low levels of schooling, which is in line with the literature, since for some authors this reality is indicated as a condition in which violence is opportunistic, since women that are more educated tend to have a lower degree of tolerance. However, this does not necessarily mean that women with more years of schooling also do not face situations of violence. The difference is that these are generally of greater purchasing power and have other resources, such as: offices and private offices of doctors, psychologists and lawyers and thus, these alternatives lead to underreporting of cases (Albuquerque, 2013). In the national scenario, the profile of women with greater social and personal vulnerability to domestic violence is related to age over 30 years and low educational level and absence of paid work. Low schooling also disregards the possibility of autonomy from better education, considering that this condition favors a better placement in the labor market, and it is inferred that the better the education the woman has the greater power of contestation for her rights and personal development. Thus, it is believed that the lower the educational level, the lower the professional qualification, increasing the chances of being economically dependent on the aggressor.

On the other hand, it is assumed that women with higher levels of education have alternatives to escape from violent acts, and this is due to the better remuneration. In addition to presenting greater clarification of their rights, which is a factor that influences the non-acceptance of violence (Ferreira, 2016 and Waiselfisz, 2012). With regard to age, violence is an aggravation that can enter the life of women regardless of their condition, whether physical, personal or cultural. Thus, in most cases the victims are of reproductive age and economically active. Therefore, this situation exposes a reality of violence against women in the period of life in which they would be in full development of their potentialities. Faced with this, it is notorious how much is worrying, since this can make them more prone to absence in employment, demotivation, discouragement for family construction, changes in their health status, and consequent reduction of life expectancy (Cortez, 2015). The Map of Violence 2013: Homicide and Youth in

Brazil exposes that younger women are more likely to suffer some form of violence. With this reality, it is necessary to develop more actions that reach these women, with the aim of showing that it is possible to break the cycle of violence, and encourage them to put aside the fear, shame and ignorance of the existence of diverse services and professionals who can help them (Russo Rafael, 2014 and Pereira, 2015). Regarding the professional categories, the majority declared to be from the home, and in relation to the other professions, the main ones corresponded those of low remuneration, which deserves attention, since it characterizes a contributing factor for the event of this aggravation and permanence of the even given that women with low pay can lead to dependency on the husband and to support violence. Married women corresponded to the main victims of domestic violence, so they became constant victims because they were in the daily presence of their aggressor. Thus, they present greater fragility and vulnerability, which may imply loss of identity and self-esteem (Freitas, 2015). Thus, it is more likely that this situation is even more difficult due to the entire family context, which can lead to consequences in the life of the family, such as social isolation and depression, because in most cases they think they need to get used to it with the violence suffered, since their desire to free themselves does not only involve their will, there is always something that leads them to withstand such aggression (Freitas, 2015). The ethnic-racial profile of victims of domestic violence from self-declaration showed the predominance of white women, followed by pardo women, which is in line with other studies reporting that white and pardo women represent the majority in completing the violence, since the potential of social inequality for this group is determinant in association with the occurrence of the act (Sinimbu, 2016).

The number of children is an element that must be analyzed in the context of the situation of violence. In the study, there is a prevalence of women with children, and this is a factor that greatly influences decision making, especially regarding the breaking of the situation of violence, since many believe that separation would harm the full development of the children and would cause harm to them (Freitas, 2015). Therefore, confronting this problem requires as much attention to the victims as to the children, as this situation has an impact on the lives of all the people who live with the victim. Thus, the children are harmed, because they experience together with the mother this terror that is violence, and this can influence their lives anyway and indefinitely (Pereira, 2015).

The main perpetrators of the victims were known and most of them corresponded to the husband. This data therefore reveals that violence against women is neither random nor accidental, it is based on historically constructed power relations, which empower men to normalize, control, and discipline women's lives and conduct, using different forms of violence. humiliation and deprivation. After violating his partner, the aggressor usually presents a feeling of regret, however, new situations of violence happen, which ends up becoming a vicious cycle, being very difficult to face (Freitas, 2015). The victim's residence was evidenced as the main place of violence, which is also found in other studies, thus, in this way, in counterpart to the domestic environment, since it should be a place of harmony, peace, constitutes in a space that is characterized as the main place of occurrence of the aggressions practiced against women (Acosta, 2013). The most frequent type of violence was psychological violence, followed

by physical and moral violence. It is important to note that the numbers show that relationships, be they conjugal or not, are permeated by the use of force, that is, it is related to the use of power, especially from man to woman. Following this reflection, it is pertinent to say that lack of dialogue is the main reason to violence, aggressors use physical violence as an end point to ratify their decisions, to show who commands and demarcates their space. Thus, this type of violence is characterized by several forms, such as rejection, indifference, which often leaves marks and will be with the person for the rest of his life, and may become unrecoverable in individuals previously considered healthy (Waiselfisz, 2012).

Conclusion

Gender violence against women reflects a phenomenon of multi-causal nature, in which, even with the advancement of women's health care policies, the numbers and reality point to the extent of violence and the fragility of combating it. The profile of domestic violence presents a group of women victims of various kinds of violence, in which the majority of these women identify themselves in the so-called minority groups socially because they have low schooling, young adult age and as a housewives, being attacked by their husbands in the home environment, thus altering the family configuration of a safe and risk-free environment, these women are mostly married, have children, and are physically, psychologically or sexually assaulted by their own husbands.

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