

Q# 08 :: Define Gender based violence. Explain various forms of violence against women in Pakistan and devise some practical strategies which can be helpful in the eradication of gender based violence from our society.

## Answer # 08

### 1) Introduction

Gender based violence is the form of violence which is done on a particular gender solely because of gender. Weak genders are made subject to violence at home, at workplace and on the streets. There are various forms of violence that are happened in Pakistan. Violence against women, domestic violence, or marital rape, psychological violence; physical violence, sexual violence; mental torture, blackmailing and gender-based violence. Women, and children and are not even spared on streets, schools and workplaces. Pakistan must devise strong strategy to combat the ill of violence in Pakistan. Following measures can be instrumental: educating people; sex education at schools, punishing the aggressors through rule of law, legislation should be passed in order to fight all forms of violence. Special cells for women and <sup>against</sup> violence

should be formed to provide emergency help to victims.

## 2) Defining Gender Based Violence

Gender Based Violence (GBV) is the form of violence which is committed on the basis of gender. Victim is made object of violence because of gender, this is done due to the power imbalance between the genders. When a gender, mostly a woman, is considered weak by opposite gender, mostly men, the gender is tortured either physically, mentally or sexually. This is known as the gender based violence.

## 3) Various forms of Violence against Women in Pakistan

There are various forms of violence that happen in Pakistan. They are as follows: domestic violence, physical violence, marital rape, rape, honour killing, forced marriages, mental violence, economic violence, social violence, marriage with Dauran, violence at workplace and state-sponsored violence against women. These are the forms of violence happening against women in Pakistan.

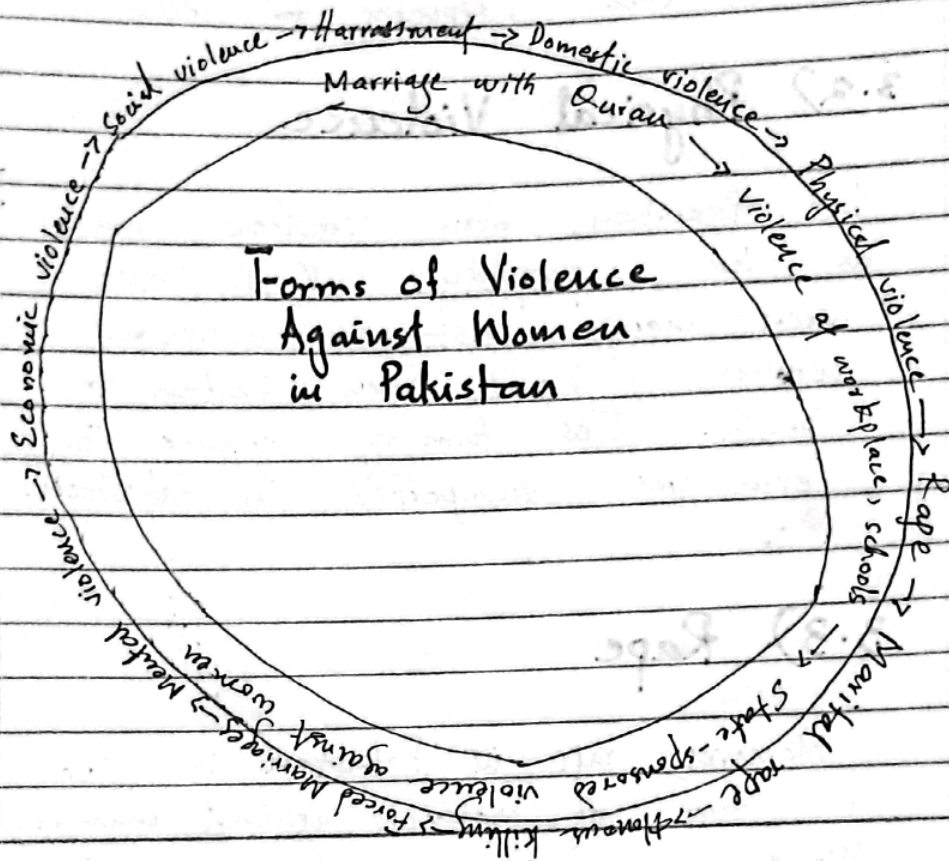


Figure: Holistic view of Violence against women in Pakistan

### 3.1) Domestic Violence against Women

Violence against women is an ignominious blot on society. It was said by Hilary Clinton in one of her speeches. It is true. The domestic violence is kind of violence which is conducted against women at home by either her husband, her mother-in-law or any other family

member. According to UN Women report the violence against women, specifically increased in COVID-19 in Pakistan. It has been happening for years.

### 3.2) Physical Violence

In Pakistan, man considers women as her property. There have been many instances where women have been beaten to death. This form of violence is even goes unreported in Pakistan.

### 3.3) Rape

Moreover, rape in Pakistan is also a form of violence against women. Women are even raped on roads by roaming and mad men. Several cases of rape also goes unreported in Pakistan.

### 3.4) Marital Rape

Furthermore, women face marital rape as well. Man rape his wife without her consent. It goes unreported in Pakistan. This is not even considered by the orthodox elements of people.

### 3.5) Honour Killing

Honour killing is also a form

of violence against women in Pakistan. Predator here is mostly immediate close of the woman; father, brother or cousin.

### 3.6) Forced Marriages & Early

Forced marriages and early marriages are also heinous crimes committed in Pakistan. These crimes goes unpunished and forced and early marriages keep happening in Pakistan.

### 3.7) Mental Violence

Mental violence is also a form of violence against women in Pakistan. This is done by husband or his family members on women for certain reasons. Women even reach to the level of depression.

### 3.8) Economic Violence against Women

Husband mostly blackmails wife through economic means. Because man is a breadwinner in the family, for certain reasons he tortures his wife.

### 3.9) Social or Cultural Violence

Women are confined in the cruel cultural cages of society. She is not allowed to practice her basic rights because of some cultural norms.

### 3.10) Harassment at workplace, Schools and Streets

Moreover, women are made subject to violence through harassment at workplace, schools and streets.

### 3.11) Marriage with Quran

Moreover, marriage with Holy Quran is also a practice done in Pakistan. It is done so that man does not have to ~~rep~~ share property with outgoing women.

### 3.12) State - Sponsored Violence Against Women

State-sponsored violence against women is conducted through state's discriminatory policies. Moreover, state of Pakistan has failed to execute the aggressors in Pakistan. Punishment ratio is very low in case of violence against women. Hence, state is also involved in the violence against women. Moreover, there have been many instances where state authorities have done victim blaming.

### 4) Strategy to Root Out Violence from Pakistan against Women

There are many measure which can be taken to root out the violence against women.

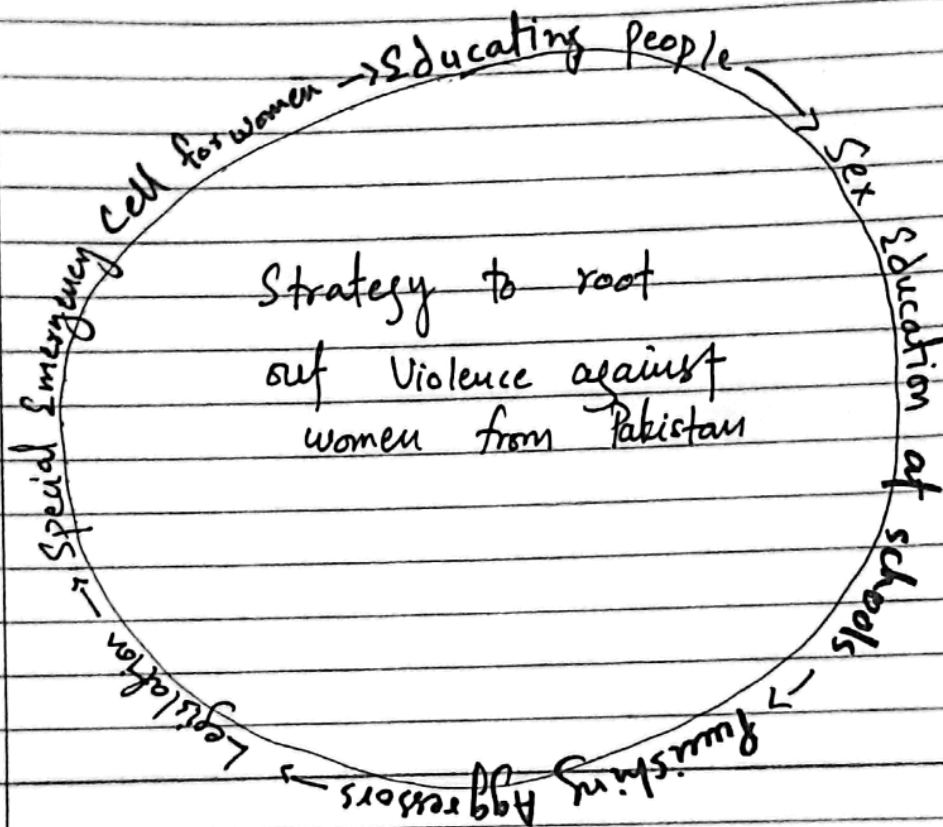


Figure: Holistic view of strategy to root out violence against women from Pakistan

### 5) Conclusion

There are various forms of violence which happen in Pakistan. Gender based Violence is the most common form of violence against women. However, through proper strategy, it can be rooted out from Pakistan.