

Box 1 Main categories and subcategories obtained from the data analysis

Risk factors of violence

- Woman's young age
- Woman's low level of education
- Woman's lack of financial independence
- Man's exposure to violence in childhood
- Interference of spouse's family in the couple's life
- Low economic status

Protective factors against violence

- Woman's financial independence
- Woman's higher level of education
- Man's correct interpretation of and adherence to the religion
- Man's positive experience of his father's respect for his mother
- Woman's support from the husband's family

Excuses for violence

- Simple excuses
- Economic problems
- Dissatisfaction with woman's performance of housekeeping duties
- Picking fights about family relationships

Behavioural and cultural challenges in men

- Man's negative personal and behavioural characteristics
- Man's suspicion of women
- Belief in superiority of men
- Irresponsibility

Inevitable adjustment

- Traditional teachings
- Opinion of others
- Lack of financial and social support
- Love for children
- Fear of the stigma of divorce

Escalation of violence

- Home as a battlefield between husband and wife
- Retaliation by spouses

Presenting to legal medicine organizations

- Judicial remedy
- In search of solution
- Fear for one's life
- Violation of human rights and dignity