

CHAPTER 1: Overview of the Domestic Violence Plague

This chapter will introduce an overview of the entire study, grounded on the view that women are abused by men mostly in the home. Domestic violence (DV) in the home has generally been understood from the perspective that males are perpetrators and females are victims. Central to this study is the quest to gain understanding of the nature of abuse perpetrated against women by men in the home. This is accomplished in three sections. The first section examines the roles of community members in the prevention and control of domestic violence. The second section analyses the experiences of married women about domestic violence. This brings in the discussion on developing strategies for educating community members within the African Context on the prevention and control of domestic violence among married women in Zimbabwe. The background to the problem and the statement of the problem are also addressed. The chapter will further outline the research questions and the research purpose. This will then followed by clarification of the methodology of the study, the theoretical framework, the assumptions of the study, the significance of the study, the delimitations of the study, the definition of terms, the summary of the content of Chapter 1 and the structure of the book.

Domestic violence is one of the most common forms of violence against married women and it includes physical, sexual, emotional abuse and controlling behaviours by the husband. Domestic violence occurs in all settings and among all socio-economic, religious and cultural groups (WHO, 2012:1).

According to WHO (2012:1) domestic violence refers to any behaviour within an intimate relationship that causes physical, psychological or

Chapter 7: Discusses the study strengths, limitations and the general recommendations.

The purpose of the study was to develop strategies for educating communities within an African context on the prevention and control of domestic violence affecting married women in Zimbabwe. Betty Neuman's System's Model was used to guide the study. In this chapter the study discussed the background information of the study, the statement of the research problem, the research questions, the purpose of the study, the summary of the methodology, and the assumptions of the study and the definition of terms.