Domestic Violence Perpetrators in Jail: A Comprehensive Study

Charesma Grace K. Lud-ayen[1], Dethavelrose L. Antipuesto[2], Jared Randolph B. Aquino[3], Brix C. Bagangao[4], Renila P. Bas-Ilan[5], Caroline C. Chelnag[6], Jayrome A. Gale[7], Aila A. Navarro[8], Shirlyn C. Osting[9], Romnick C. Sacla[10], Williamar S. Tami-Ing[11], Zheynie P. Viloria[12]

[1]Dean, University of Baguio
[2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12]Student, University of Baguio

ABSTRACT

Domestic violence is a pressing issue worldwide, affecting millions of individuals and families. In recent years, researchers have focused on understanding the profiles of perpetrators to devise effective intervention and prevention strategies. The purpose of this study is to gain a comprehensive understanding of the various aspects of domestic violence perpetration among incarcerated people. This study aims to shed light on the psychological, social, and environmental factors that contribute to offenders' involvement in domestic violence. The study employed qualitative data collection techniques. The key informants consisted of eleven (11) male PDLs incarcerated at Baguio City Jail-Male Dormitory with a history of domestic violence offenses and were interviewed using a structured questionnaire. The researchers explained each question to the respondents to provide detailed information that led to the success of the research.

The study revealed several key characteristics of domestic violence perpetrators in jail. With the results found, most of the demographic profiles of the key informants are all male-dominated and are presumed to be between the ages of 20- 60. The majority of the critical informants confessed that they had committed domestic violence, and almost all of them have committed Physical and Sexual Abuse, with only one Psychological Abuse. Also, most of the critical informants responded with Economic factors as a motivation for their offenses. As perceived by the responses, most informants claimed to have good relationships with their victims before the offense. Still, it resulted in wrong, broken, and no communication after the incident. Most of them felt guilty and were willing to ask for forgiveness for their actions. All the key informants confessed that they undergo rehabilitative programs provided by the jail. This comprehensive profiling study provides valuable insights into the profiles of domestic violence perpetrators in jail. The findings from the data gathered by the researchers highlight the complex factors that contribute to domestic violence and the importance of Rehabilitation, family, and support programs for perpetrators. These findings can inform future interventions and policies aimed at addressing domestic violence and promoting healthier relationships.

INTRODUCTION

The involvement of offenders in domestic violence is a multifaceted issue that encompasses various psychological, emotional, social, and sometimes even religious determinants. Understanding the underlying reasons for this involvement is critical in developing effective interventions and support systems for victims and offenders. Within the Criminal Justice System, a significant proportion of incarcerated individuals are serving sentences related to domestic violence offenses. Understanding the characteristics and behaviors of these domestic violence perpetrators is essential for developing effective intervention and prevention strategies, as well as informing policy and legal responses.

One significant underlying reason for offenders' involvement in domestic violence is related to control issues, where offenders may feel a need to secure valuable support or resources, leading to behaviors aimed at controlling their partners. This need for control can stem from fear of losing valuable support or resources and can be exacerbated by the desire to secure shelter, money, food, or drugs/alcohol (Silver et al., 2023). Additionally, relationship disharmony, financial strain, and poor communication can serve as triggers to a range of abusive behaviors, leading to physical, emotional, and psychological harm for the victims (Saputra, 2023).

Furthermore, societal and cultural pressures can also play a role, where the desire to preserve the family's reputation and the belief that resolving domestic violence through divorce can break the chain of violence and tyrannical behavior are seen as underlying reasons for the offender's involvement (Musawwamah, 2022). These pressures can lead to a complex interplay of motivations that contribute to the perpetuation of domestic violence. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted how external stressors, like global health crises, can lead to an increase in domestic violence incidents. However, it did not significantly change the underlying pattern of domestic violence (Babeluk et al., 2023). This suggests that while external factors can exacerbate the frequency of domestic violence incidents, the core underlying reasons remain rooted in individual, relational, and societal dynamics.

In addressing the underlying reasons for offenders' involvement in domestic violence, it is essential to consider the psychological, emotional, social, and religious determinants. The motivations behind victim retraction in domestic violence cases, such as the impact on children and the dynamics of the victim's relationship with the offender, are also critical in understanding and addressing domestic violence comprehensively (Hopkins, 2023).

Literature Review

Domestic violence is a global issue affecting individuals and families. Understanding the patterns and frequencies of prior offenses among incarcerated domestic violence perpetrators is crucial for developing effective intervention and prevention strategies. Research has identified several patterns of previous crimes, including a history of criminal behavior, convictions for offenses like assault, harassment, stalking, and violations of protection orders. A significant proportion of domestic violence perpetrators have a history of involvement in the criminal justice system, with prior arrests and convictions for various offenses. A thorough investigation by Stuart and associates clarifies the occurrence of arrest records in this situation. Concerning figures emerged from their research involving 303 men and 82 women: a startling 75% of the male offenders and 67.9% of the female offenders had prior arrest records. This strong

evidence emphasizes the ongoing link between domestic abuse and past engagement with the criminal justice system. It highlights the pressing need for specialized interventions and preventative measures considering the unique traits and environmental circumstances of people with such histories. Stuart's research challenges assumptions about the demographic distribution of domestic violence perpetrators by highlighting the gender dimension of the problem in addition to emphasizing the frequency of prior offenses (Shorey et al., 2012). Some domestic violence perpetrators may also engage in coercive control tactics, such as psychological abuse, financial control, and isolation from support networks.

The frequencies of prior offenses among incarcerated domestic violence perpetrators vary based on individual characteristics and contextual factors. Some perpetrators may have a single prior offense, while others may have multiple prior convictions or arrests. The frequency of prior crimes also depends on the availability of intervention and support services, as well as the effectiveness of law enforcement responses to earlier incidents of domestic violence. Understanding these frequencies can inform risk assessment practices and guide the development of tailored interventions for individuals with varying levels of prior involvement in criminal behavior related to domestic violence.

There are several types of research conducted to address the distressing impact and understand the causes of domestic violence. Most research on domestic violence is focused on male offenders. Still, in the study conducted by Ismail D.E & Sarzon M.T.Z.(2021), they study those factors affecting the occurrence of domestic violence committed by a woman in Garontalo. According to the findings of their study, these factors are economic factors, parental factors, alcohol abuse, low understanding of religion, communication factors, the presence of a third person in the household, and psychological factors. In the study of Rubin L.J. et al. (2007), They conducted a structured interview with 13 women who are domestic violence offenders. Most of these women are victims of child abuse and observed violence inside their homes. As a result, they left their house before turning 18 and experienced violence and their past relationship. Offenders' primary motivation for violent behaviors was to retaliate or defend themselves from the physical abuse of their partner; secondarily, it was to respond to their emotional abuse and domination tactics and to show their anger. Some say to control their husbands.

On the other hand, Lois et al. (2013) conducted a systematic review of the existing research literature to gain a better understanding of the pervasiveness of domestic violence among pregnant women and the factors leading to their victimization. In their analysis, lower educational level was a decisive factor in domestic violence during pregnancy. Other risk factors are unintended pregnancy, they are not married, and having a low socio-economic status. Falb (2011) conducted a study to determine if there is a correlation between childhood bullying in school and adult domestic violence. They make sure to control other confounders that might affect their variables. On their findings, the results say that there is a correlation. Those men who have bullied their classmates were likely to have engaged in abusing their female partner.

Siegel (2011) emphasized in his book "The Core (4th ed.)" that Economic Stress produces harmful effects on parents and their children. Low incomes and loss of financial resources might make the members of the family, particularly the parents, feel heavy pressure with these consistent problems; it could affect relationships within the family at some points. These could cause an unstable marriage effect between spouses/ couples, and worse, it could lead to separation or violence. Parents may lose proper/ effective parenting styles, neglecting their children's growth and discipline. Due to a lack of adequate parenting, children might get themselves involved with groups that lead to deviance and aggression (such as bullies,

gangs, and violent groups). Some children may be exposed to violence due to external factors, frustrations, and broken bonds, and they carry it through the course of their lives.

Meanwhile, Boxall et al. (2022) conducted a study on Female Perpetrated Domestic Violence via analysis that involved police narratives involving female persons of interest (POI). They found out that half were engaged in self-defensive and retaliatory violence, or either of the two. This result then led to what is otherwise known as violent resistance. It means that these female POIs have been victims of prior violence by their partners. They also stated that violent resistance was more common in incidents that involved Indigenous women. These findings highlighted the different factors for females perpetrating domestic violence. Likewise, it also included the importance of understanding the complex dynamics of violent episodes (Boxall et al., 2020). Therefore, with all these, they concluded that victims of crime may become offenders because of retaliation. Although the study focused mainly on the narratives, future research may conduct an in-depth analysis of the personal experiences of the key informants about the victim-offender relationship dynamics. Overall, this study has paved the way to pursue the comprehensive profiling of the perpetrators of domestic violence in jail from a local perspective.

Furthermore, the World Health Organization (2010) claimed that alcohol use could increase the occurrence and severity of violence. Alcohol intake produces a reduction in standard cognitive processing and physical functions, which will then impair self-control following unknown simultaneous actions. As stated by the WHO (2010), "alcohol promotes aggression and can escalate to violent behavior after drinking irresponsibly." Therefore, alcohol intoxication may be imposed as one of the underlying factors of violence and aggression.

With the advancement of technology and the rise of the cyber world, domestic violence is due to particular social factors that involve social media. According to Downie (2022), the National Domestic Violence Hotline, more than one (1) in three (3) women and one (1) in four (4) men in the United States have experienced rape, physical violence, and stalking by an intimate partner on average. Moreover, one (1) in 10 high school students experienced physical violence from a partner in 2021 alone."

A study was conducted examining inmates who have Domestic violence convictions and self-reported perpetrations in (2022). This aimed to determine the influence of media violence on intimate partner violence perpetration by examining the relationship between exposure to various forms of pleasurable violent media and the perpetration of intimate partner violence. The results found indicate a significant positive relationship between exposure to pleasurable television violence and self-reported intimate partner abuse. Endorsement of domestic violence beliefs and victimization experience were found to be the strongest predictors of intimate partner violence perpetration (Gavin & Kruis, 2022). Also, with the COVID-19 outbreak, there has been an increase in domestic violence recorded nationwide. "Nowadays, children are influenced easily by what they see on social media. They are likelier to listen to and believe in famous content creators (influencers) than in reality. (Downie, 2022). Therefore, with the role of social media and its other platforms, not only children but also adults are immersed in these and develop aggression and violence over time.

Theoretical Framework

The reasons why offenders abuse or harm others cannot be traced to just one factor, but it is multifaceted. There are diverse factors that lead a person to commit such a crime. A very known reason why a person abuses others is because they learned it from the environment they grew up in. People are not born with preformed repertoires of aggressive behavior; they must know them somehow. Some elementary forms of

physical aggression can be perfected with minimal guidance. Still, most aggressive activities—dueling with switchblade knives, sparring with opponents, engaging in military combat, or indulging in vengeful ridicule—entail intricate skills that require extensive social learning (Bandura, 1973, p. 206).

Using this theory of Bandura (1973) in the context of domestic violence perpetration, individuals abuse others because they model their violent and harmful behaviors from the environment they grew up in. Adapting this violent behavior is not static but evolves and accumulates throughout an individual's developmental stage. However, it is essential to acknowledge that it is not just social learning that an individual learns to abuse or harm others. It overlaps with other factors, such as individual characteristics, relational factors, and societal influences. The implications of our findings will be utilized to develop effective intervention strategies. We intend to find the complex web of influences that contribute to the behaviors of domestic perpetrators in jail by exploring underlying reasons for their involvement in domestic violence.

Hirschi's "Social bond theory" believes that humans naturally can become perpetrators (Wickert, 2022); however, there are elements of bonds that prevent people from deviating from the norms. It also assumes that the stronger the degree of social control, the more likely people are to behave by standards. Social bonds can include the following: Attachment to the family, Commitment, Involvement in activities, and Belief in the validity of rules. Indeed, the strong bonds a child has with the different social institutions can prevent him from typically becoming a perpetrator.

Violence may develop due to the psychological makeup of a man. According to Zhang et al. (2020), individual inferiority is considered to be one of the causes of aggression. Adler's contribution, known as Individual psychology, particularly "Inferiority Complex theory," is associated with a person's emotional drive. This theory believes that the main motives of human thought and behavior are the individual man striving for superiority and power. Therefore, it assumes that people with feelings of inferiority can compensate for such and develop a drive for superiority. So, individuals are motivated primarily by social interests and strive for superiority or self-improvement (Hoffman, 2024). Perpetrators might have childhood inferiority traumas, which led to them being abusive/ aggressive towards another person to feel superior. This report may help them reduce their inadequacies.

The use of the Strain Theory provides a valuable framework for examining the perspectives of incarcerated domestic abusers and comprehending the elements that lead to their involvement in aggressive conduct. According to Robert K. Merton's explanation of the Strain Theory, people are more prone to engage in unlawful action when they feel a gap between society's expectations and the legal ways by which those objectives can be met (Merton, 1968). By including this idea in the research, the goal is to examine how societal pressures may have contributed to some people's decision to commit domestic abuse. This involves exploring how societal factors such as cultural norms, economic difficulties, and others could have contributed to the perpetrators' stress. The goal of the research is to interpret the complex relationships between societal pressures, personal stress, and the commission of domestic violence acts by examining the stresses experienced by those who commit domestic violence while incarcerated. This theoretical framework enables a thorough investigation of the sociocultural elements affecting how prisoners with a history of domestic abuse view their acts and victims.

Also, a dual-process model of impulsivity, as proposed by Nordvik, Schanche, and Saether (2018), suggests that alcohol consumption can disrupt the balance between reflective and impulsive cognitive processes, leading to a diminished capacity for self-control. Furthermore, the links between alcohol consumption and aggression have been extensively explored within the field of psychology. Studies by

Bushman and Cooper (1990) have shown that alcohol has a disinhibiting effect, lowering individuals' thresholds for aggression and increasing the likelihood of engaging in violent behavior.

Restorative Justice Theory prioritizes the healing of harm caused by crime through reconciliation, emphasizing rehabilitating offenders by involving victims and the community in the process. This approach facilitated dialogues between victims and perpetrators pre-incarceration, allowing victims to articulate the impact of the crime and perpetrators to acknowledge and take ownership of their actions. Even during incarceration, programs rooted in restorative justice principles sustain communication between victims and offenders to nurture empathy and foster accountability in the offender (Zehr, 2015).

Retributive justice theory underscores the notion that punishment is a fitting response to criminal acts, emphasizing that offenders should face consequences commensurate with their wrongdoing. In the dynamics between victims and perpetrators within this framework, legal proceedings before incarceration typically involve victims seeking retribution through the punishment of the offender. Once incarcerated, the focus often shifts towards isolating the perpetrator from society as a means of penalization, with limited direct interaction between victims and offenders. (Von Hirsch & Ashworth, 2005).

Transformative justice theory adopts a structural lens to analyze the societal factors contributing to crime and victimization, emphasizing the necessity of systemic transformation, restitution, and peace and security. It addresses root causes like inequality and marginalization to empower victims and communities. Throughout the process, from pre-incarceration to Rehabilitation and reintegration, the focus is on addressing underlying social issues that drive criminal behavior. As Shearing and Stenning (1981) articulated, this approach signifies a shift towards a new paradigm in the study of law underpinned by modern systems theory.

This study is rooted in Matinson's Theory of Rehabilitation (1974), which suggests that individuals are not inherently permanent criminals and can be reformed to lead productive lives that contribute positively to society. The core objective of Rehabilitation is to prevent chronic offending or recidivism. Rather than solely focusing on punitive measures, Rehabilitation employs educational or therapeutic interventions to help individuals achieve a state of mind conducive to beneficial behaviors, thereby reducing harm to society.

Paradigm of the Study

INPUT	PROCESS	OUTPUT
Literatures on: • reasons for the offender's involvement in domestic violence • patterns and frequencies of prior offenses among incarcerated domestic violence perpetrators	Case Study Interview Thematic Analysis	Profiling study report detailing the complex relationships between societal influences, personal stress, and domestic violence acts among incarcerated perpetrators in Baguio City Jail Male Dormitory. Identified patterns, risk factors, and potential indicators for domestic violence perpetration based on comprehensive profiling.

• incarcerated perpetrators perception of their actions and the victims • dynamics between victims and perpetrators before and during their incarceration welfare and development programs for domestic violence perpetrators in jail		Recommendations formulated for the development of effective prevention strategies, rehabilitation programs, and interventions aimed at mitigating domestic violence and reducing recidivism rates.

Figure 1 shows the Paradigm of the Study following the IPO (Input- Process- Output) Model.

Significance of the Study

The study "Domestic Violence Perpetrators in Jail: A Comprehensive Profiling Study" promises significant benefits across various fronts. Firstly, it aims to provide a thorough understanding of domestic violence perpetration among incarcerated individuals, exploring the psychological, social, and environmental factors underlying such behavior. This insight can shape targeted interventions for prevention and Rehabilitation, thereby safeguarding both present and potential victims of domestic violence. Decision makers and policymakers stand to gain from evidence-based recommendations generated by the study, enabling the formulation of more effective policies and intervention strategies within the criminal justice and social work realms. As researchers or affiliates of specific organizations, the researcher's involvement in advancing knowledge in these domains holds the potential for improving practices and outcomes in addressing domestic violence within correctional settings. Ultimately, the study's findings can bolster community safety, foster offender rehabilitation, and mitigate the recurrence of domestic violence incidents.

Objectives of the Study

The purpose of this study is to gain a comprehensive understanding of the various aspects of domestic violence perpetration among incarcerated people. This study aims to shed light on the psychological, social, and environmental factors that contribute to offenders' involvement in domestic violence. In addition, the study will examine the patterns and frequencies of prior offenses among jailed perpetrators to identify potential trends and risks. It will also investigate how these people perceive their actions and victims, providing information about their cognitive and emotional states. Furthermore, the dynamics between victims and perpetrators before and during incarceration will be investigated better to understand the progression and escalation of abusive relationships. Finally, the effectiveness of inmate welfare and development programs in influencing the behaviors and attitudes of domestic violence perpetrators will be evaluated to identify strategies to facilitate Rehabilitation and reduce recidivism. The study aims to contribute valuable knowledge to criminal justice and social work by providing evidence-based policy and intervention strategy recommendations. Specifically, this study will seek to answer the following questions:

1. What were the underlying reasons for the offender's involvement in domestic violence?

2. What are the patterns and frequencies of prior offenses among incarcerated domestic violence perpetrators?
3. How do incarcerated perpetrators perceive their actions and the victims?
4. What are the dynamics between victims and perpetrators before and during their incarceration?
5. What effect do welfare and development programs have on domestic violence perpetrators in jail?

METHODOLOGY

In this study, the researchers conducted one-on-one interviews with the respondents in a friendly and professional manner. They ensured that the interviews were conducted with cultural sensitivity and careful analysis. The researchers also explained the informed consent to the respondents in a language they understood, emphasizing the importance of confidentiality and ensuring their personal information's safety.

During the interviews, the researchers took the time to explain each question to the respondents in detail, aiming to gather comprehensive information that would contribute to the success of the research. They also allowed the respondents to ask additional questions or provide further information that could help in understanding the situations of perpetrators of domestic violence in jail. However, the researchers ensured that these additional questions aligned with the research objectives and consumed only a little time, as the interviews were scheduled appointments. The focus remained on the main areas of inquiry.

Once the researchers gathered the necessary information from the respondents, they politely expressed gratitude for their participation and contribution to the success of the research.

Study Design

The researchers utilized the qualitative research method in this study. Further, a case study was used to provide tools for the researchers to study complex phenomena within their contexts. When applied correctly, it becomes a valuable method for health science research to develop theory, evaluate programs, and develop interventions (Baxter et al.; S., 2013). This research design was chosen to provide a comprehensive understanding of domestic violence perpetration among incarcerated individuals, focusing on the specific context of Baguio City Jail-Male Dormitory. The study aimed to explore the psychological, social, and environmental factors that contribute to offenders' involvement in domestic violence.

The study was conducted at Baguio City Jail, with a sample of 20 selected inmates who had a history of domestic violence. Ethical considerations, such as informed consent and participant anonymity, were prioritized. Data collection involved multiple methods, including semi-structured interviews, surveys, and document analysis. Thematic analysis was utilized to analyze qualitative data in social science research. It helps researchers identify, analyze, and report themes or patterns within their data (Braun and Clarke, 20026). This approach was applied to identify underlying reasons for offenders' involvement, perceptions, and dynamics.

The impact of existing inmate welfare and development programs was assessed through participant feedback and program records. All research activities occurred within the confines of the Baguio City Jail-Male Dormitory, Baguio City, ensuring a localized and specific context for the study.

The findings of this research were then compiled into a comprehensive report, which will provide evidence-based recommendations for policy and intervention strategies in the fields of criminal justice and social work. This study design aims to contribute valuable knowledge that can aid in understanding and addressing domestic violence perpetration among incarcerated individuals.

Population and Locale of the Study

The research team facilitated the participant selection process by collaborating with the authorities in Baguio City Jail while upholding ethical considerations. This approach aimed to provide a nuanced understanding of the factors that contributed to domestic violence perpetration.

The participants consisted of eleven (11) male PDLs presently incarcerated at Baguio City Jail-Male Dormitory with a history of domestic violence offenses. The selection criteria intentionally include individuals from diverse socio-economic backgrounds, varying ages, and different educational levels to ensure a comprehensive representation of domestic violence perpetrators within the jail setting.

Data Gathering Tools

The researchers utilized an interview guide with a semi-structured type. A voice recorder assisted the researchers prepared the informal interviews and notes. The researchers formulated the interview guide questions based on the information needed to relate to the topic and specific problems of this study. The interview guide was subdivided into five themes: The first part deals with the underlying reasons for the offender's involvement in domestic violence; the Second is the patterns and frequencies of prior offenses among incarcerated domestic violence perpetrators; the Third focuses on how incarcerated perpetrators perceived their actions and the victims, while the dynamics between victims and perpetrators before and during their incarceration is the fourth and finally, are the effects of inmate welfare and development programs have on domestic violence perpetrators in jail.

Data Gathering Procedures

The research commenced with the collaboration of the researchers at the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology-Cordillera Administrative Region, particularly at Baguio City Jail-Male Dormitory, who focused on domestic violence perpetrators in jail. The researchers prepared letters addressed to the Regional Director of BJMP-CAR to seek permission and set the parameters for data gathering. Upon receipt of the written approval, the researchers coordinated at Baguio City Jail-male Dormitory for the schedule and orientation on data gathering. The participants were PDL with a history of domestic violence offenses. They were intentionally selected from diverse socio-economic backgrounds, varying ages, and different educational levels to ensure a comprehensive representation of domestic violence perpetrators within the jail settings. Letters and attached questionnaires or interview guides were sent individually to each participant. Informed consent was obtained, and measures were implemented to ensure confidentiality and anonymity throughout the study.

Additionally, permission to use audio recording devices during the interviews was granted in the approval letters. The interviews were scheduled according to the availability of the key informants and within the timeframes established by the jail authorities. The data collection strictly adhered to the ethical standards specified in the study protocol. Once collected, the data was organized, and the responses from key informants were prepared for transcription by the researchers. Throughout this process, the utmost respect for the participants' privacy was maintained, and they were assured that they would be informed about the study's outcomes.

Treatment of Data

After the data collection process, the acquired answers were transcribed and comprehensively discussed. The interview responses were organized into sections, categories, and subcategories to facilitate analysis.

Thematic analysis, specifically Braun and Clarke's Thematic Analysis approach, was used to analyze and assimilate the accumulated information. This method helped the researchers identify the underlying reasons for the offenders' involvement in domestic violence. It also allowed them to analyze the patterns and frequencies of prior offenses among incarcerated domestic violence perpetrators and understand how the perpetrators perceived their actions.

Additionally, thematic analysis was employed to examine the dynamics between victims and perpetrators before and during their incarceration. The researchers also explored the impact of inmate welfare and development programs on domestic violence perpetrators in jail. The findings from the thematic analysis provided valuable insights into these various aspects of domestic violence perpetration.

Ethical Considerations

In this study, strict adherence to ethical considerations was paramount to ensure the confidentiality and ethical treatment of the key informants throughout the research process. Confidentiality was given utmost importance, with measures in place to protect the participants' privacy during the interviews, treatment, analysis, interpretations, and data presentations. Before data gathering, permission and informed consent were obtained from the key informants, who were fully informed of the study's objective. Participants were given the option to maintain their anonymity, and they were assured that their involvement was voluntary, with no negative consequences for their status or decision to withdraw. To further safeguard confidentiality, strict measures were implemented for participants who chose not to disclose certain information. Risk management strategies were also implemented to ensure the safety and well-being of all study participants. The selection criteria for participants were non-discriminatory and justifiable, allowing for a comprehensive representation of domestic violence perpetrators within the jail setting.

Lastly, the study recognized its ethical obligation to disseminate the findings to the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), ensuring that the relevant authorities were informed and could utilize the research outcomes for policy and program development related to domestic violence in the jail setting. By upholding these ethical considerations, the researchers maintained the integrity of the study while prioritizing the rights and well-being of the participants.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data gathered by the researchers from the key informants is presented through tabulations and thematic analysis with corroborations of relevant literature related to the study.

	KI 1	KI 2	KI 3	KI 4	KI 5	KI 6	KI 7	KI 8	KI 9	KI 10	KI 11
AGE	34	33	23	53	65	23	37	28	N/A	42	27
GENDER	Male	Male	Male	Male	Male	Male	Male	Male	N/A	Male	Male
OCCUPATION	Farmer	None	Farmer	Vegetable Packer	Teller	Waiter	N/A	Construction Worker	N/A	Restaurant - Delivery Boy	Security Guard
EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND	College Undergraduate	College Graduate	Elementary Graduate	Elementary Graduate	High School Graduate	High School Graduate	High School Graduate	Grade 3	N/A	College Undergraduate	College Undergraduate

Table 1 presents the Key Informant Demographic Information.

KI= Key informant; N/ A= No Answer

With the results found, most of the demographic profiles of the key informants are all male-dominated and are presumed to be between the ages of 20- 60: Key Informant 3 is the youngest (23), and Key Informant 5 is the oldest (65). Most informants only acquired low educational backgrounds, such as elementary and high school graduates; only KI 2 graduated from college, while the other three dropped out (KI 1; KI 10 & KI 11). Moreover, most of the critical informants worked from a minimum wage rate type of occupation. According to Kadir Shahar et al. (2020), there are significant factors associated with violence (esp. Intimate Partner Violence). These include the following such as lower education background, lower socio-economic status, substance abuse, exposure to abuses, not violence, and other activities involving violent actions (fights and physical injuries).

Reasons for Involvement in Domestic Violence
The majority of the critical informants confessed that they have committed domestic violence, and almost all of them have committed Physical and Sexual Abuse, with only one Psychological Abuse committed by KI 3.

Intoxication
Intoxication is the state when there is a high level of alcohol intake of a person. Too much alcohol intake may produce mental or physical fluctuations such as changes in speech, disorientation of thoughts, and difficulty in proper stance (Hartney, 2022). Suppose a person is under the influence of alcohol. In that case, they may appear angry, aggressive, or different from their normal behavior because of being intoxicated, which, unfortunately, could harm people around them, especially in cases of domestic violence.

Specifically, this study is connected with the responses of Key Informant 4: "*Due to intoxication of Liquor*" and KI 11: *"Because of being alcoholic (drinking Liquor)."* Therefore, it can be interpreted that people can exhibit changes in normal behavior when under the influence of alcohol. A moderate dose of alcohol in the blood tends to cause cognitive, perceptual, verbal, and motor impairments as well as a loss of control, which eventually leads to unacceptable social behavior, including violence (Pinel & Barnes, 2018). A person is more aggressive if alcohol is involved, and the behavior will be directly changed once they take the substance. It is also found that the intensity of violence is more significant when the offender is intoxicated compared to when they are not. Based on existing literature, alcohol consumption is more related to the severity of domestic violence rather than its occurrence (Graham et al., 2011) and exacerbated by an increase in consumption (Ferrari et al., 2016).

The responses of the Key informants are aligned with the findings of the WHO concerning the connection between alcohol use and increased violence and based on the research conducted by Giancola, Parrott, and Silvia (2012) demonstrated that acute alcohol intoxication can lead to cognitive impairment and reduced physical coordination, potentially resulting in impaired decision-making and an increased likelihood of engaging in impulsive and unpredictable behavior. This aligns with the accounts of the critical informants attributing their offenses to alcohol, as they highlighted a reduction in standard cognitive processing and physical functions through the use of alcohol. Also, such responses of the key informants aligned with the dual process model of impulsivity (Nordvik et al., 2018), which suggested that alcohol consumption can disrupt the balance between reflective and impulsive cognitive processes, leading to a diminished capacity for self-control. This theory supports the idea that unknown simultaneous acts, as described by the key informants, can be a consequence of impaired self-control induced by alcohol or drug intake. This shall

also be supported by the study of Bushman and Cooper (1990), which claimed that alcohol has a disinhibiting effect, lowering individuals' thresholds for aggression and increasing the likelihood of engaging in violent behavior. This corroborates the WHO's claim that alcohol promotes aggression and can escalate to violent behavior after irresponsible drinking as articulated by key informants.

Drug Influence

Moore (2023) agreed to the concept of "under the influence" as "impairment to any degree of an individual's ability to safely or normally behave as a result of the use of alcohol, drugs, or a combination of both." The person under the influence of both can change their behaviors, such as sudden changes in relationships (friends, hobbies, frequent isolation, silence, or secrecy. "Substance use" refers to the habit of using drugs, alcohol, or both until it leads to a psychological or physical dependence. Substance abuse is when an individual continues to use drugs despite the harmful effects that are inflicted upon themselves (The Correlation Between Domestic Violence, 2022).

The critical informant said that his reasons were *"Intoxication with liquor and drugs"*. This proves that drug and alcohol influences may produce fluctuations physically and mentally in the individual. Domestic violence and substance abuse have long been connected and often co-occur; it is not always the case, but one is usually the symptom of the other.

Such a response from the key informant can be corroborated by the claim that "substance abuse" is considered one of the primary causes of domestic violence, and the relationship between these two shall not be ignored (The Correlation Between Domestic Violence, 2022). Several drug intakes coupled with consistent alcoholic addictions may have caused a trigger leading to the perpetration of the offense based on the key informant's response.

Weak Family Ties

The family is known to be the oldest and most fundamental institution in society. Several studies have established that variations in the strength and level of family ties have far-reaching consequences for every person's economic and social life (Davis & Williamson, 2020). Therefore, strong families grow from love, security, communication, and connection, including quality time and family relationships. However, disrupted or broken relationships affect one's family bonds and thus could result in criminality.

Key informant 8 said *"Matinding Kalasingan at Malayo sa Pamilya"*. Being far away from family indicates that KI 8 might have lost his sense of bond and developed alternatives such as addictions to alcohol intake, therefore leading to aggression and violence. On the other hand, Key informant 3 said, *"environmental factors (Schoolmate), Social Factors (Social Media), Broken Family relationship*s."

The results of their responses could be aligned with Hirschi's claim on the Social bond theory. They suffered from a lack of attachment to their families, Commitment, Involvement in activities, and Belief. With broken relationships, their sense of connectedness is lost, and they start creating or looking for comforts, such as too much exposure to Social media or alcohol Addictions. It can be interpreted that such actions were affected by his surroundings, such as the loss of bonds with intimate social strongholds such as family, friends, and partners, eventually affecting the person psychologically, socially, mentally, etc. (Wickert, 2022).

Economic Factors

Santaularia et al. (2023) stated that a study claims economic hardship. This concept is related to the diffic-

ulty caused by needing more money or resources. This is also considered as a social determinant of health. Several Factors that lead to economic hardship include challenges with employment, housing, and access to transportation. A study conducted by Ouedraogo and Stenzel (2021) regarding Domestic Violence being a threat to economic development, and results concluded that higher levels of violence against women and girls are connected to lower economic makeup. Key informants 2, 6, and 8 responded with "*Economic factors*".

These responses about Economic influences can be aligned with what Siegel (2012) has stated. The economic stress surrounding the individual may shift their actions towards violence. Due to the line of their occupations coupled with frustrations and other external factors, the commission of domestic violence is possible. Their employment and financial difficulty in making amends may have triggered them to commit such offenses.

Depression

Depression has various descriptions in which it varies from person to person, but there are some common signs and symptoms that each feels. The more symptoms the person has, the stronger they are, and the longer they have lasted then, it is more likely that depression is imminent (Smith et al., 2024). Sources of Depression can be because of a severe stressful event/crisis, failures, or family history, among others. Signs and Symptoms could include Feelings of helplessness and hopelessness, Loss of appetite or sudden drop in weight, Loss of energy, and Concentration problems. Signs could also be anger and irritability. Being in a depressed state, the person may exhibit abnormal behaviors that could emotionally or physically hurt people, especially close family members.

Key Informant 2 said that "*Depression*" motivated him to commit the offense. Depression might have played a role in blurring his rationality, which led to his crime commission, and irritability stemmed out and probably lashed out behavior towards his victim.

KI 2's responses may be aligned to the loss of bonds with intimate social strongholds such as family, friends, and partners, eventually affecting the person psychologically, socially, mentally, etc. (Wickert, 2022). In support of this, Cognitive vulnerability, according to Beck's theory (Reilly et al., 2014), claims that adverse experiences in childhood may influence the development of dysfunctional beliefs and cognitive schemas, which possibly lead individuals at risk for depression. With the feelings he experienced, he may have committed the offense due to some behaviors exhibited by his victim, which had triggered his depressive thoughts.

Strain

"Most people share similar values and goals; however, failure to get what they want can lead to frustration and anger, a condition referred to as strain." (Davies & Fennelly, 2019).

Frustration can occur to anyone, anywhere. This is a type of emotional reaction to stress experienced by the person. (Scott, 2023). This feeling might be because of what individuals encounter, known as "Stressors ."Such factors could happen at home, school, work (external), or even personal (internal). Frustration usually occurs when one's goals or expectations do not pan out. Some common causes of frustration arise from the following factors: interpersonal conflicts, relationships, work stress, financial shortage, and the like. The effects of such intense feelings may lead to aggressive behaviors, unhealthy relationships, and poor self-esteem.

Specifically, Key informant 2 said*, "feeling of frustrations*." Because of the frustration he experiences in

his work, personal life, and other stressors, he might have developed internal solid frustration, which he feels very frustrated about, and a trigger might have caused the commission of his offense. Key informant 9 said, *"Anger management issues."* Being caught up in a frustrating moment may have led to a negative effect. Supported by several studies, some impacts of frustration include interpersonal conflicts with his victim and relationship problems. Also, the critical informant might be stressed from work and have financial shortages, making him frustrated, irritated, and angry. The effects of such intense feelings may lead to his aggressive behaviors, and he could not control his anger.

However, KI 6 said his actions were *"Not Intentional, asked by his boss to escort the minors"* and responded *"Economic factor"* to the follow-up question. In support of this, according to Robert K. In Merton's explanation of the Strain Theory (Merton, 1968), people are more prone to engage in unlawful actions when they feel that there is a gap between society's expectations and the legal ways by which those objectives can be met, resulting in strain (frustration). Therefore, such a response may be interpreted as his action resulted from strain and pressure from his surroundings and led to the commission of domestic violence.

The factors that influenced the key informants to perpetuate domestic violence were mainly because of their frustration, internal and external, as indicated in their responses. These may be associated with internal frustrations, such as Emotional factors like unresolved traumas, loss, stress, depression, jealousy, or any factors that intensify their broken feelings, and External factors, which include Economic stresses, weak interpersonal relationships, broken bonds, and other factors from their surroundings.

Social Media

Social media played a role in its emergence. It exceptionally changed people's lives and made it more accessible. However, due to its wide array of conveniences, it paved the way as a factor for crimes, including violence and aggression.

Key informant 3 said, *"Social Media Influence (via x-rated videos),"* when questioned about the reason for committing the offense. Social media being a model for domestic violence is possible, considering that many social media contents can induce a person's curiosity, hype, and interest in undertaking such violent actions.

The key informant's response can be connected to one of the studies discussed. The exposure to various forms of social media content and the perpetration of intimate partner violence showed significant positive relationships (Gavin & Kruis, 2022). This may support KI 3's responses that he was introduced to various content due to his exposure to social media exposure, developed a consistent habit of watching x X-rated films, and was influenced by these. With that consistent pattern, he was able to commit domestic violence towards his victim.

Patterns and Frequencies Before the Offense

The majority of the key informants mentioned that before they committed the offense, they were experiencing unstable emotions, anger issues, and strained feelings toward the victim due to relationship disharmony. Two key informants (K3 & K10) have a wrong motive for the victims, thus making them aware of their actions.

Unstable emotions

The term "unstable emotion" can be closely linked to behaviors like aggression and violence, particularly

in the context of committing domestic violence. Individuals experiencing emotional instability, such as those with emotionally unstable personality disorder or borderline personality disorder, may struggle with regulating their intense emotions, leading to outbursts of anger and aggression. These individuals may find it challenging to manage their impulses and reactions in relationships, which can escalate into verbal, emotional, or physical abuse within the home environment.

Anger issues stemming from various mental health disorders can significantly increase the risk of aggressive and violent behavior, including domestic violence. Individuals experiencing unstable emotions may struggle to manage their anger, leading to verbal or physical outbursts that can escalate into abusive behavior within intimate relationships. The inability to regulate emotions coupled with impulsivity and irritability characteristic of these disorders can contribute to a cycle of aggression and violence, perpetuating harm not only to the individual but also to their partners or family members.

Combined strain and psychological factors were also indicated as reasons. The responses are interpreted to result from internal and external influences that have also fueled the way to the commission of the offense. Specifically, for Key informants 2 and 9, factors that influenced them to perpetuate domestic violence were mainly because of their "feeling of frustration" and "Anger management issues," as indicated in their responses. These may be associated with Emotional factors like unresolved traumas, loss, stress, depression, jealousy, or any factors that intensified their broken feelings, which led to them being abusive/ aggressive towards another person to feel superior.

Relationship disharmony and inadequate family

Relationship disharmony is a state of imbalance and conflict within a relationship, often stemming from self-cherishing attitudes that prioritize one's own needs over others. This mindset leads to misunderstandings, resentment, and an inability to empathize or take responsibility for one's actions. In extreme cases, such disharmony can escalate to domestic violence, where power imbalances and abusive behavior are used to control others. Addressing relationship disharmony involves cultivating empathy, mutual respect, and accountability to prevent harmful behaviors and promote healthier relationships.

Inadequate family communication encompasses negative behaviors like yelling, blaming, and silent treatment, causing trust and emotional bonds to deteriorate (Hall, 2017). Within domestic violence contexts, deficient communication fosters control, intimidation, and manipulation, perpetuating abusive cycles (Piotrkowski, 1999). Addressing communication shortcomings is crucial for preventing and addressing domestic violence, as healthy communication cultivates mutual respect and understanding within family dynamics (Stith & McCollum, 2011).

In the case of KI 9, he experienced frustration and "Strained feelings because of arguments and no trust," which this feeling fuels him to commit the crime. In the case of KI 7, he is family-oriented and has a good relationship with the victim, but the victim lacks time and case for the offender. In support of this, according to Robert K. In Merton's explanation of the Strain Theory (Merton, 1968), people are more prone to engage in unlawful actions when they feel that there is a gap between society's expectations and the legal ways by which those objectives can be met, resulting in strain (frustration). Moreover, because of frequent fights and the lack of trust in the relationship between the offender and victim, the hole between them grows bigger, resulting in frustration and leading to the commission of the offense.

Inferiority complex

In the context of an inferiority complex, unstable emotions marked by feelings of inadequacy and insecuri-

ty can contribute to aggressive and violent behavior, including domestic violence. Individuals struggling with an inferiority complex may harbor deep-seated beliefs of inferiority compared to others, leading to a constant sense of worthlessness and low self-esteem. These feelings of inadequacy may manifest in aggressive tendencies as individuals attempt to assert dominance or control in their relationships to compensate for their perceived shortcomings. Moreover, the fear of being perceived as weak or inferior may drive individuals to lash out violently to maintain a sense of power and superiority.

According to KI 3 and KI 10, from the beginning, they already possess a bad motive towards their victim. For KI 3, the "Offender met the victim through Facebook, and his first impression of the victim is as "prey" or "target," and KI 10 is "emotionally driven to the victim. The victim is also a minor.". In their statement, they choose the victim based on their innocence and age. According to Zhang et al. (2020), individual inferiority is considered to be one of the causes of aggression. Adler's contribution, known as Individual psychology, particularly "Inferiority Complex theory," is associated with a person's emotional drive. This theory believes that the main motives of human thought and behavior are the individual man striving for superiority and power. By choosing the victim with a specific category before committing a crime, the offenders made sure that they had the power and control over the victim.

Perceptions of Perpetrators to their actions and victims
Remorse and Guilt

This theme regarding the Perceptions of Perpetrators of their Actions seeks to understand how people who perpetrate domestic violence see their actions. It aims to investigate their ideas, beliefs, and explanations for their actions. Researchers may look at the offenders' comprehension of the repercussions of their acts, their emotional state during the episodes, and their view of the victim's part in the scenario. According to Wale Okerayi LMHC LPC, a licensed mental health counselor, "Remorse is a deep feeling of sadness that one can feel based on something that they have done to hurt another person. Guilt often accompanies Remorse in most cases. Guilt is a feeling of worry that you have done something wrong, often followed by an action to right said wrong. Guilt is also usually only felt by the person in the wrong." Nevertheless, Remorse says, "Forgive me for hurting you," while guilt or regret says, "Stop making me feel guilty for hurting you." "Regret often seems flat, emotionless, and is more focused on moving on and getting the "punishment" over with," Fjelstad says.

Victims' Remorse and Guilt also investigates the victims' emotional responses to domestic abuse. It aims to comprehend the victims' sentiments of sorrow and guilt, which may arise directly or indirectly due to the perpetrator's behavior. Researchers may investigate the victims' self-blame, coping techniques, and the consequences of these feelings.

Almost all responses from the participants were guilt, regrets, anger, and feelings of isolation. KI 5 particularly said, "*Feeling nervous because of an ongoing trial*." However, KI 4's response, "*none due to intoxication*," and KI 8, "*Sobrang lasing*," can be interpreted differently. They confessed no perceptions due to the effect of intoxication they experienced on the commission of the offense. The strong link between alcohol use and violence is well-demonstrated (Mann et al., 2006), as alcohol consumption is an essential factor in the prevalence of violence (Room and Rossow, 2001).

Key informants in the study expressed guilt, regret, anger, and isolation. These emotional responses suggest a level of self-awareness and Remorse for their actions. Walker's Cycle of Violence Theory proposes a three-stage behavioral pattern in violent relationships. Tension-building, intense explosion, and honeymoon. Perpetrators in this cycle frequently deny the abuse, downplay its gravity, or blame the victim

for inciting it. Denial and minimizing can make it difficult for the offender to recognize their abusive activities and accept responsibility for them.

The responses of the KIs to guilt and Remorse are well-supported by the Psychoanalytic Theory (Freud), wherein the expression of guilt aligns with Freud's psychoanalytic theory, where individuals may experience guilt due to conflict between their moral values and actions. The researchers may reflect on their behavior and acknowledge a sense of wrongdoing. One prevalent theory aligned with the responses of the KIs is the decision regret theory, which posits that individuals experience regret when they perceive that their decisions have resulted in unfavorable outcomes. It also suggests that individuals experience regret when they believe that their choices have led to adverse outcomes. This regret may arise when people perceive that alternative decisions could have resulted in better consequences.

Victim- Perpetrator dynamics before and during incarceration

The perpetrators and their victims form together a complex and highly emotive relationship, bound in secrets and silence. However, this relationship has been disrupted as the crime happens. Disentangling their ties from the harm done through the relationship is as painful as the harm itself (Middleton, 2017).

As perceived by the responses, most critical informants claimed to have good relationships with their victims before the offense. Still, these relationships resulted in wrong and broken relationships and no communication after the incident. K1 and K2 said they had a close relationship, while K3 was even a friend of the victim before the crime happened. However, after the crime was committed, their good relationships all broke up.

KI 1 and KI 2 responses: Before: "Close relationship" After: "Totally broke up"

KI 3's response: Before: "As a friend." After: "No communication"

KI 8's response; Before: "Kakilala lang kasi pumunta sa construction site." After: "Hindi ko pa nakikita".

Similarly, with Theme 3, most of them felt guilty and had the willingness to ask for forgiveness for their actions. This is true; as KI 4, KI 6, and KI 7 said, they want to ask for forgiveness and apologize to their victims.

KI 4's response; After: "Gustong humingi ng pasensya sa biktima"

KI 6's response; After: "Asking sorry kasi nadamay sa kaso"

KI 7's responses' Before: "Hindi makapaniwala" After: "*Magkapatawaran*"

Moreover, KI 10 and KI 11 have said that they have still communicated with their victims before and even during their incarceration.

KI 10's response Before*: "Okay, in Good Terms."* After: *"Okay, pa rin"*

KI 11's response: Before*: "We are always arguing in some matters like financial problems and were fighting verbally and sometimes physically because of the influence of liquor."* After*: "We still communicate with each other and ask for forgiveness and explain everything I did to her. She is still supporting me despite what I have done.".*

Additionally, one of the respondents revealed that their relationship before the crime was filled with misunderstanding and conflicts, and during the incarceration, they both had no contact with each other.

KI 9's response: Before: "*Filled with frequent conflicts and tension." After: "No contact since I was incarcerated*."

While others divulged the state of their relationship before and after their incarceration, some of the key informants did not say anything regarding their status with their victims.

The responses from the informants revealed an awareness of their actions' impact on their relationships

with the victims. The majority reported having good relationships before the crime, suggesting that domestic violence can occur within seemingly trusting or close relationships. The act itself disrupts the relationship, often leading to its breakdown and a complete loss of communication, highlighting the devastating impact on the pre-existing bond. While some key informants acknowledged their mistakes, others remained silent. This suggests that some participants may be unwilling or unable to discuss this sensitive topic.

On the other hand, many perpetrators expressed guilt and a desire to apologize to their victims, suggesting a potential for Remorse and reconciliation. Finally, while the dominant theme is a pre-crime positive relationship followed by a breakdown, there is also a case where the pre-crime relationship was already strained. This indicates that the dynamics of perpetrator-victim relationships can vary.

Programs for Domestic Violence Perpetrators in Jail

Every jail facility has programs for the welfare and development of all Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL). The Bureau of Jail Management and Penology has ten (10) core programs that were established and are being implemented for the welfare and development of the PDL in preparation for their reintegration into the community. These are sets of physical, psychological, intellectual, vocational, behavioral, and interfaith activities or interventions that aid in the PDL's well-being and enhancement by the accepted social norms and ethical standards. Furthermore, the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) implements the Therapeutic Community Modality Program (TCMP) to manage and modify the behaviors of PDLs to change their thinking and behavior through structured group processes positively. The program teaches and models positive thinking, pro-social values, sound decision-making, and positive coping. Through the program, PDLs are trained on socially acceptable ways of behaving and relating with their fellow PDLs, personnel, and visitors, thereby fostering a therapeutic jail environment and maintaining a peaceful communal atmosphere. This program has treatment models divided into four categories: behavior management, intellectual/spiritual aspects, emotional and social aspects, and vocational/survival aspects.

All the key informants stated that they undergo welfare and developmental programs implemented by the jail, including the following: Interfaith Programs, Psychological and Behavioral Management Programs, Educational Programs, and Vocational and Livelihood Programs.

In the Interfaith Program, according to the BJMP Manual, PDLs are allowed to practice their faith while under custody without discrimination, subject only to usual safety and security measures. The BJMP chaplains and imams provide different religious services, such as, but not limited to, mass celebrations, communal prayers, spiritual counseling, catechism, and others. Religious organizations and their respective ministers/pastors and leaders are accredited by BJMP to facilitate their regular contact with PDLs for the provision of religious services.

Interfaith programs in jails have been shown to reduce recidivism rates among inmates. A study by the University of Pennsylvania found that inmates who participated in these programs were 13% less likely to return to jail after being released than those who did not participate (Johnson, 2018). This is likely due to interfaith programs' emphasis on personal growth, self-reflection, and community involvement.

Moreover, Professors Jang and Johnson (2019), in their study entitled "The effect of religiosity on emotional well-being among prisoners," they have stated that while criminologists have studied whether religion enhances emotional well-being among prisoners, largely overlooked how religion might improve well-being and whether religion helps both male and female prisoners equally. They hypothesized that prisoners who are religiously involved will report lower levels of negative emotions than those who are

less or not involved in religion. The study found that religious offenders reported higher levels of meaning and purpose in life, forgiveness, gratitude, and self-control than their less- or non-religious peers. In addition, those who scored higher on existential belief and personal virtues tended to report lower levels of feelings of anger, frustration, depression, and anxiety. Religious offenders experienced lower levels of negative emotions partly because their religion was likely to have helped them find new meaning and purpose in life and develop virtuous characteristics, which tended to reduce negative emotions.

In the Behavioral Management/Modification Program, it includes therapy sessions and psychological/ psychiatric counseling. The psychological and behavioral management programs implemented by the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) aim to address the mental health and behavioral issues of PDLs in jail facilities. These programs are also designed to promote Rehabilitation, reduce recidivism, and ensure the well-being of individuals under their care. The BJMP also implements the Therapeutic Community Modality Program (TCMP) to manage and modify PDL behaviors to change their thinking and behavior through structured group processes positively. The program teaches and models positive thinking, pro-social values, sound decision-making, and positive coping. Through the program, PDLs are trained on socially acceptable ways of behaving and relating with their fellow PDLs, personnel, and visitors, thereby fostering a therapeutic jail environment and maintaining a peaceful communal atmosphere.

This program offers numerous benefits for both inmates and staff. The program aims to address the mental health needs of inmates, promote positive behavior change, reduce recidivism rates, and create a safer and more rehabilitative environment within jails. By providing psychological support, counseling, and behavioral interventions, these programs help inmates cope with the stress and challenges of incarceration, improve their emotional well-being, and develop essential coping skills. Additionally, this contributes to enhancing the overall safety and security of jail facilities by reducing incidents of violence, self-harm, and disruptive behaviors among inmates. Furthermore, this program is crucial in preparing inmates for successful reentry into society upon release by focusing on Rehabilitation and reintegration.

One study by Kubiak et al. (2016) highlighted the positive impact of psychological programs in correctional settings. The research found that inmates who participated in cognitive-behavioral therapy and other psychological interventions demonstrated improvements in their mental health symptoms, coping mechanisms, and interpersonal skills. These positive changes benefited the individual inmates and contributed to a more harmonious and orderly environment within the jail facility. Moreover, a report by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) emphasized that effective psychological and behavioral management programs can lead to reduced disciplinary infractions, lower rates of aggression, and increased compliance with institutional rules among incarcerated individuals. This program not only addresses the mental health needs of inmates but also contributes to creating a more rehabilitative and secure environment that supports positive behavior change and successful reintegration into society.

Another program is the **Educational Program, which** aims to provide opportunities for PDL to achieve mandatory education. BJMP adopted the Alternative Learning System (ALS) of the Department of Education for the PDL to earn their elementary and high school diplomas, as well as BJMP personnel teachings such as rules and regulations within the jail. The jail also provides "*The Prisoner's Journey Course*" (response by KI 4). In 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted revised Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, known as Mandela Rules, stating that education gives sources of knowledge to our societies. All people in prison should have access to education, with particular attention on people with literacy difficulties and juveniles, allowing us to improve our lives. It gives us a chance to

have promising careers and opportunities to work at any workplace of our choice. By acquiring an education, we become valuable.

According to Lopez (2015), Correctional education is one of the most significant opportunities afforded to Filipino inmates. This study analyzed the educational program offered to inmates, therefore providing a separate environment for them. It emphasizes the need to view formal education within jail facilities as a means of humanizing the learning experience, enabling individuals to express themselves and redirecting antisocial tendencies. This is necessary to improve the program standards to rehabilitate inmates fully.

Educational programs in prison transform prisoners' lives by boosting self-esteem and confidence, improving literacy levels, and equipping prisoners with valuable skills. Thus, education in prison transforms offenders into law-abiding and productive citizens on release.

In addition, prison education programs are correlated with reducing inmate violence (Pompoco et al., 2017). The incentives of prison education can be both intrinsically and extrinsically motivating. Increased job opportunities and increased literacy rates are among the top motivating factors for participating in prison education programs (Center for American Progress, 2018; Prison et al., 2020). During incarceration, these educational opportunities are about reeducating offenders to increase their chances of success upon transition to society.

Obtaining an education during incarceration is invaluable. Increased job skills, certificates, and degrees translate into employment opportunities, increased earnings, and reduced recidivism (Tomar, 2019). Education improves the lives of the offenders and society by creating safer neighborhoods. With the United States leading the world in incarceration rates, reduced recidivism through increased educational opportunities can lower the burden on communities imposed by the prison system (Baranger et al., 2018; Tomar, 2019; Wagner & Sawyer, 2018)

The Skills Training and Enhancement Program, mentioned by one key informant (KI), aims to equip Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) with technical and vocational skills. These skills will help PDLs seek employment or start their businesses upon release. To ensure that PDLs are competitive in the job market, the training provided is accredited by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). This accreditation allows PDL to earn National Certifications, enhancing their employability. Participation in this program is limited to those PDLs who meet the specific eligibility requirements of the skills training program.

Another is the **Livelihood Program**, an income-generating activity for PDLs during their confinement, where they can earn money for their personal upkeep and financial support to their families. This aims at the changes that can develop attitudes, add knowledge, ease, and address needs and boredom. Another objective of this program is to train the PDLs with livelihood skills, provide services, and improve their life's moral and spiritual aspects. This can be attained by providing them with seminars and training regarding livelihood skills (Raj, 2010).

The policy guidelines for BJMP Livelihood projects stipulate that the PDLs are entitled to receive livelihood activities in charge to the Welfare Development Officer (WDO) of the jail, who is responsible for assessing the needs for livelihood and looking into other opportunities to fulfill the inmates' welfare objectives (Standard et al. Number 2011-2).

Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) are involved in purposeful activities, giving them a sense of being part of a larger community. Programs such as these have the potential for successfully transitioning PDLs from jail to the world of work. Through this program, inmates may learn valuable employability skills that translate into opportunities for employment upon release. (Dunhill, 2016).

Despite their Rehabilitation inside the jail and skills learned through the livelihood program from BJMP, these released inmates do not apply their skills outside the prison because the community does not trust them too much, not knowing that they are already rehabilitated and they are not giving them a chance to apply the skills they learned.

Sagadal (2014) also emphasizes that the livelihood programs for inmates intend to give them hope, contrary to the belief that there is no future for individuals like them.

KI 11 said, "*They conducted a seminar on VAWC (Violence Against Women and Children). The Welfare and Development Officer also gives me a livelihood that fulfills my needs and my family's. They have many programs they conduct to help us be law-abiding Citizens.*" Despite their incarceration, key informants perceive that the Baguio City Jail offers exclusive rehabilitative programs for Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL). These programs include seminars and workshops designed to raise awareness and enhance the inmates' behavioral, mental, emotional, physical, spiritual, educational, and vocational well-being.

The correction pillar is connected to the components of the Philippine Criminal Justice System (CJS), whose goal is to rehabilitate criminal offenders aside from punishing and deterring criminals from doing the same crime. Many arrested and convicted criminals seem not rehabilitated, for they always return to the penal institution they once came to. Criminals, once they have been released from prison, tend to become recidivists for some independent reason, such as the lack of jobs, and they are branded as graduates (Vicente, 2007)

Although the Bureau of Correction (BuCor) has undertaken rehabilitation programs to help an inmate, this should lead to a responsible, law-abiding, and productive life upon release. Efforts shall be made to ensure an optimum balance between the security of the prison and the effectiveness of treatment programs. Inmate and public safety and the requirements for effective custody shall, however, take precedence over all other activities at all times and shall not be compromised. Rehabilitation and treatment programs focused on providing services that will encourage and enhance the inmates' self-respect, self-confidence, personal dignity, and sense of responsibility (BuCor, 2017).

On the other hand, BuCor offers a variety of inmate work programs, from agricultural to industrial. The purpose of the inmates' work program is to keep them busy, provide them with money for their expenses and their families, and help them acquire livelihood skills so that they may become productive citizens once they are released and assimilated back into the mainstream of society (Bureau of Jail Management and Penology Manual Revised, 2007).

In Matinson's Theory of Rehabilitation (1974), the core objective of Rehabilitation is to prevent chronic offending or recidivism. Instead of focusing on the punitive aspect of punishment, Rehabilitation aims to employ educational or therapeutic interventions to help individuals achieve a state of mind conducive to beneficial behaviors, thereby reducing harm to society.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Conclusions

In conclusion, this study employed tabulations and thematic analysis to present the data collected from key informants, complemented by relevant literature. The demographic information revealed a predominantly male group, aged 20-60, with low educational backgrounds and most engaged in minimum-wage occupations.

Table 1 provides an overview of the critical informant demographic information, revealing that most informants were male and aged between 20 and 60. Most of them had low levels of education, with only

one informant having graduated from college. Additionally, the key informants were primarily engaged in minimum-wage occupations. These findings are consistent with previous research that has identified factors such as lower education, lower socio-economic status, and exposure to violence as significant contributors to domestic violence.

The study also identified several themes related to the reasons for involvement in domestic violence. The first theme illuminated reasons for participation in domestic violence, highlighting factors such as alcohol and drug intoxication, psychosocial stressors, and the influence of social media. Key informants reported that their actions were influenced by the impairments caused by alcohol, which can lead to a reduction in self-control and an increase in aggression. The study highlights the role of psychosocial factors, such as economic stress and personal frustrations, in motivating domestic violence. Emotional contributors, including unresolved traumas and issues with anger management, were also identified as significant factors. Additionally, one key informant cited the influence of social media and environmental circumstances as triggers for their involvement in domestic violence. The Strain Theory was utilized to elucidate how societal expectations and resulting frustrations can propel individuals toward unlawful actions.

Patterns and frequencies before the offense varied among the key informants, with some reporting positive patterns and frequencies while others revealed emotional and social frustrations. Relationship disharmony, financial strain, and poor communication were identified as triggers for abusive behaviors, leading to physical, emotional, and psychological harm for the victim. The importance of maintaining bonds and intimacy to prevent domestic violence was emphasized.

The third theme explored perpetrators' perceptions of their actions and victims, unveiling Remorse, guilt, and anger. The influence of intoxication was noted as a mitigating factor affecting the interpretations of their actions.

Regarding the dynamics between the perpetrators and victims before and during incarceration, the majority of the key informants claimed to have had good relationships with their victims before the offense. However, these relationships deteriorated or ceased communication after the incident. Many key informants expressed guilt and a willingness to seek forgiveness for their actions. Restorative Justice Theory played a role in understanding the shift from good relationships to broken communication, with Remorse's desire to seek forgiveness prevalent among perpetrators.

Finally, all of the key informants reported undergoing rehabilitative programs provided by the jail for domestic violence perpetrators, revealing a comprehensive array of rehabilitative initiatives such as religious activities, psychological counseling, educational programs, and vocational/livelihood training. The key informants acknowledged the jail's efforts to facilitate Rehabilitation, prevent habitual offending, and promote beneficial behavior, thereby contributing to their potential reintegration as law-abiding citizens after their release.

Overall, the findings from the data gathered by the researchers highlight the complex factors that contribute to domestic violence and the importance of Rehabilitation, family, and support programs for perpetrators. These findings can inform future interventions and policies aimed at addressing domestic violence and promoting healthier relationships.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations are proposed:

1. The government should develop initiatives to support key informants and individuals with low educational backgrounds in pursuing higher education. Scholarships, vocational training, and educational programs can empower individuals, potentially breaking the cycle of low education contributing to domestic violence.

2. Strengthen mental health services and counseling programs, particularly for those with psychosocial stressors and emotional challenges. Addressing issues such as unresolved traumas, stress, and anger management through professional support may contribute to reducing the likelihood of domestic violence.

3. Enhance support systems for victims of domestic violence, including accessible helplines, shelters, and counseling services. It is crucial to provide a safe and supportive environment for victims to seek help and receive the necessary support to break the cycle of violence.

4. Promote family and relationship counseling services to address strained dynamics, lack of trust, and communication issues identified as patterns preceding domestic violence incidents. Encourage open dialogue and provide resources to strengthen relationships within families.

5. Initiate campaigns to educate the public on responsible social media use, with a specific focus on mitigating the spread of violent content. Collaborate with social media platforms to establish and enforce regulations and guidelines to curb content that could incite violence or aggressive behaviors.

6. Continue and enhance the rehabilitative programs provided within correctional facilities, covering spiritual, psychological, educational, and vocational aspects. Regularly evaluate and update these programs to ensure they align with the evolving needs of the individuals in custody.

7. Expand the implementation of restorative justice programs that facilitate communication between victims and perpetrators, even before incarceration. Encourage empathy-building dialogues to promote understanding and Rehabilitation while involving the community in the reconciliation process.

8. Engage the community in supporting domestic violence prevention efforts. Foster an environment that encourages open discussions, seeks to understand the root causes of domestic violence, and provides resources for individuals and families in need.

9. Establish a systematic monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the effectiveness of implemented programs and interventions. Regularly review recidivism rates and program outcomes data to make informed adjustments and improvements to ongoing initiatives.

10. Encourage further research on domestic violence to better understand its underlying causes and develop more effective prevention and intervention strategies. This research should focus on diverse populations, including different age groups, genders, and socio-economic backgrounds, to ensure that interventions are tailored to specific needs.

By implementing these recommendations, it is possible to create a society that is more aware of domestic violence, supports victims, and provides avenues for perpetrators to change their behavior and contribute positively to their communities.

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