

## ANALYSIS OF FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PREVALENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN PATIENS AT CILEGON REGIONAL PUBLIC HOSPITAL

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### ABSTRACT

*Domestic violence is a serious public health issue with an increasing prevalence each year. In Cilegon City, domestic violence cases have increased significantly, but there is limited research on specific factors associated with domestic violence cases in this region. The research employed a cross-sectional design with a retrospective approach. The sample consisted of 43 violence cases handled at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital during 2021-2024, selected through purposive sampling. Variables studied included victims' educational level and triggering factors such as economic problems and infidelity. Data analysis was performed using chi-square test ( $p < 0.05$ ). Of the total cases studied, 55.8% were identified as domestic violence. The majority of victims (67.4%) had a high educational level (high school-university), and 27.9% of cases were related to triggering factors such as economic problems/infidelity. Statistical tests revealed no significant relationship between educational factors ( $p = 0.594$ ;  $OR = 0.706$ ; 95% CI: 0.196-2.544) or triggering factors ( $p = 0.836$ ;  $OR = 1.153$ ; 95% CI: 0.299-4.439) with the occurrence of domestic violence. Domestic violence is a complex phenomenon that cannot be explained solely through educational factors or specific triggers, but is influenced by various interacting factors. A multifactorial approach in handling and preventing domestic violence is necessary, along with further research using larger samples and examining other factors not covered in this study.*

**Keywords:** Domestic violence, educational factors, triggering factors, Cilegon Regional Public Hospital

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## INTRODUCTION

Domestic violence is a form of human rights violation that remains a global issue affecting various levels of society. According to Article 1 of Law Number 23 of 2004 concerning the Elimination of Domestic Violence, domestic violence is defined as any act against a person, particularly women, resulting in physical, sexual, psychological misery or suffering, and/or household neglect, including threats to commit acts, coercion, or unlawful deprivation of liberty within the household.<sup>1</sup>

Data from the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2018 showed that nearly 1 of 3 women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by their partners, and almost 38% of female homicides are committed by their partners.<sup>2</sup> In Indonesia, domestic violence has become a serious issue with a prevalence that tends to increase annually since 2010. According to data from the National Commission on Violence Against Women (Komnas Perempuan), 401,975 cases of violence were recorded throughout 2023, with violence in the personal domain being the most frequently reported case.<sup>3</sup>

The Department of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (DP3AP2KB) stated that domestic violence cases in Cilegon City have increased each year. In 2020 there were 83 cases, in 2021 there were 189 cases, and in 2022 there were 156 cases. Domestic violence cases are like an iceberg phenomenon, where visible and reported cases are actually only a small portion of the total cases occurring in society, especially in Cilegon.<sup>4</sup>

Several factors considered to contribute to domestic violence cases include economic factors, education, culture, psychology, and social environment.<sup>5</sup> Educational factors are often associated with understanding healthy relationships and conflict management abilities.<sup>6</sup> Meanwhile, economic problems and infidelity often become direct triggers for domestic violence.<sup>7,8</sup>

Nevertheless, there is still limited research specifically analyzing factors associated with domestic violence cases in Cilegon. This study aims to identify and analyze the relationship between victims' educational factors and triggering factors (economic problems and infidelity) with domestic violence cases in patients at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital.

## METHODS

This research was conducted with a cross-sectional design using a retrospective approach to determine the relationship between educational factors and triggering factors with the occurrence of domestic violence. The research was conducted at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital during the period from February to May 2025.

The target population in this study was all patients with domestic violence cases occurring in Cilegon City, with the accessible population being all patients with domestic violence cases handled at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital from 2021-2024. The research samples were selected using purposive sampling technique based on inclusion criteria: (1) patients with domestic violence cases handled at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital, and (2) patients with complete medical records containing educational background and chronology of events. Exclusion criteria were patients with incomplete medical records.

The minimum sample size was calculated using the categorical descriptive formula with a domestic violence occurrence proportion of 0.0282 based on data from the National Commission on Violence Against Women's Annual Notes 2023, 95% confidence level, and 5% margin of error, resulting in a minimum of 43 samples.

Secondary data were collected from the medical records of domestic violence patients at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital. The variables studied included domestic violence occurrence (yes/no), educational factors (low [elementary-junior high school]/high [high school-university]), and triggering factors (economic problems and/or infidelity/neither).

Data analysis included univariate analysis to describe the characteristics of each variable and bivariate analysis using chi-square test with a significance limit of  $p < 0.05$  to determine the relationship between independent and dependent variables. This research received approval from the Health Research Ethics Committee (KEPK) of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa University with number 35/UN43.20/KEPK/2025.

## RESULTS

### Frequency of Domestic Violence Cases

Table 1. Frequency Distribution of Domestic Violence Cases at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital, 2021-2024

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Domestic Violence	Occurred (Yes)	24	55.8
	Did Not Occur (No)	19	44.2
Education Factor	Low (Elementary - Junior High School)	14	32.6
	High (Senior High School - Higher Education)	29	67.4
Triggering Factors	Economic/Infidelity Issues (Yes)	12	27.9

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
	Not Economic/Infidelity Issues (No)	31	72.1
<b>Total</b>		<b>43</b>	<b>100</b>

Of the 43 violence cases studied at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital during the 2021-2024 period, 24 cases (55.8%) were identified as domestic violence incidents, while 19 cases (44.2%) were not categorized as domestic violence (Table 1). The frequency distribution of respondents based on educational factors showed that the majority of respondents had a high educational level (high school-university) with 29 people (67.4%), while respondents with a low educational level (elementary-junior high school) numbered 14 people (32.6%). The frequency distribution of respondents based on triggering factors showed that for the economic problems/infidelity factor, there were 12 cases (27.9%), while 31 cases (72.1%) were not related to economic problems or infidelity.

### Relationship Between Educational Factors and Domestic Violence Cases

The analysis of the relationship between educational factors and domestic violence incidents showed that of the 14 respondents with a low educational level (elementary-junior high school), 7 people (50.0%) experienced domestic violence and 7 people (50.0%) did not experience domestic violence. Meanwhile, of the 29 respondents with a high educational level (high school-university), 17 people (58.6%) experienced domestic violence and 12 people (41.4%) did not experience domestic violence (Table 4).

Statistical test results using chi-square showed a p-value = 0.594 ( $p > 0.05$ ), which means there is no significant relationship between educational factors and the occurrence of domestic violence at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital. The Odds Ratio (OR) value of 0.706 with a 95% confidence interval (0.196-2.544) which includes the value of 1 also indicates that a low educational level is not a significant risk factor for the occurrence of domestic violence.

Table 2. Relationship Between Educational Factors and Domestic Violence Cases at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital, 2021-2024

Educational Factors	Domestic Occurrence	Violence	Total	p-value	OR (95% CI)
	Yes	No			

		n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	
Low (Elementary-Junior High)		7 (50.0)	7 (50.0)	14 (100.0)	0.594
High (High School-University)		17 (58.6)	12 (41.4)	29 (100.0)	
Total		24 (55.8)	19 (44.2)	43 (100.0)	

### Relationship Between Triggering Factors and Domestic Violence Cases

The analysis of the relationship between triggering factors and violence cases showed that of the 12 cases with triggering factors in the form of economic problems/infidelity, there were 7 cases (58.3%) classified as domestic violence and 5 cases (41.7%) classified as non-domestic violence. Meanwhile, of the 31 cases without triggering factors in the form of economic problems/infidelity, there were 17 cases (54.8%) classified as domestic violence and 14 cases (45.2%) classified as non-domestic violence (Table 5).

Statistical test results using chi-square obtained  $p\text{-value} = 0.836$  ( $p > 0.05$ ), which means there is no significant relationship between triggering factors and violence cases at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital. The Odds Ratio (OR) value of 1.153 with a 95% confidence interval (0.299-4.439) which includes the value of 1 also indicates that triggering factors in the form of economic problems/infidelity are not significant risk factors for the occurrence of domestic violence cases.

Table 3. Relationship Between Triggering Factors and Violence Cases at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital, 2021-2024

Triggering Factors	Violence Cases	Total	p-value	OR (95% CI)
	Domestic Violence	Non-Domestic Violence		
	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	
Economic Problems/Infidelity	7 (58.3)	5 (41.7)	12 (100.0)	0.836

NotEconomic Problems/Infidelity	17 (54.8)	14 (45.2)	31 (100.0)
Total	24 (55.8)	19 (44.2)	43 (100.0)

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## DISCUSSION

### Frequency of Domestic Violence Cases at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital

The research results showed that of the total 43 violence cases studied at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital during the 2021-2024 period, 24 cases (55.8%) were identified as domestic violence incidents. This high prevalence of domestic violence is in line with national data from the National Commission on Violence Against Women (Komnas Perempuan) which recorded 401,975 cases of violence in 2023, with violence in the personal domain being the most frequently reported case type.<sup>3</sup> Similarly, the Annual Notes (CATAHU) of the National Commission on Violence Against Women in 2020 showed that domestic violence cases in the personal domain still dominated with a percentage of 75.4% of the total violence cases.<sup>9</sup>

The high frequency of domestic violence cases at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital is also consistent with data from the Department of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (DP3AP2KB) of Cilegon City which recorded an increase in domestic violence cases each year. This phenomenon indicates that domestic violence remains a serious problem in the Cilegon region and requires attention from various parties, including health institutions as the front line in identifying and handling domestic violence cases.

However, it should be noted that this figure may only represent a small portion of the total domestic violence cases actually occurring in the community, considering that many cases are still not reported due to various factors such as shame, fear of social stigma, economic dependence on the perpetrator, or the view that domestic violence is a family's private matter. As expressed by Huecker et al., the domestic violence phenomenon is often likened to an "iceberg phenomenon," where visible and reported cases are only a small portion of the total cases actually occurring in society.<sup>10</sup>

### Relationship Between Victim's Educational Factors and Domestic Violence Cases

The research results showed that the majority of domestic violence victims had a high educational level (high school-university) at 67.4%, while victims with a low educational level (elementary-junior high school) were at 32.6%. This profile differs from research conducted by Fildzah et al. which found that

domestic violence victims with a low educational level had a higher percentage.<sup>6</sup> This difference may be due to the demographic characteristics of Cilegon City as an industrial area with a relatively higher educational level of the community.

The high percentage of domestic violence victims with higher education at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital may also be due to better awareness in reporting cases. According to Setiawan et al., victims with a higher educational level tend to have better access to information and support services, as well as more courage to report the violence they experience.<sup>5</sup> Conversely, victims with a low educational level may be more likely to conceal violence due to limited knowledge about their rights or because they more strongly hold traditional values that consider household problems as taboo to discuss outside the home.

Statistical test results using chi-square showed a  $p\text{-value} = 0.594$  ( $p > 0.05$ ), which means there is no significant relationship between educational factors and the occurrence of domestic violence at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital. This finding is in line with several other studies that also found no significant relationship between educational level and domestic violence incidents. Research conducted by Safitri and Kuntoro at Dr. Soetomo Regional Public Hospital in Surabaya showed similar results, where no significant relationship was found between educational level and domestic violence incidents ( $p=0.468$ ).<sup>11</sup> Another study by Fatimah in Mamajang District, Makassar, showed similar results, where no significant relationship was found between educational level and domestic violence incidents ( $p=0.269$ ).<sup>12</sup>

This result also indicates that domestic violence can occur at all educational levels, both low and high. This confirms that domestic violence is a complex problem that is not solely influenced by educational level, but also by various psychological, social, and cultural factors that interact with each other.

### **Relationship Between Triggering Factors and Domestic Violence Incidents**

The research results showed that triggering factors in the form of economic problems and infidelity were present in 27.9% of cases. Economic problems as a trigger for domestic violence align with Sopacua's research which stated that financial pressure can increase stress and conflict in households, which can then lead to violence.<sup>7</sup> Economic difficulties, unemployment, or income instability can create tension that triggers violent acts as a form of frustration release.

Meanwhile, infidelity as a triggering factor indicates that trust issues and infidelity in marital relationships have a significant impact on the occurrence of domestic violence. This is consistent with Siagian et al.'s research which found that infidelity can create significant emotional tension in relationships, where jealousy, anger, and hurt feelings often trigger conflicts that lead to violent acts.<sup>8</sup>

However, statistical test results using chi-square obtained  $p\text{-value} = 0.836$  ( $p > 0.05$ ), which means there is no significant relationship between triggering factors and domestic violence incidents at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital. This finding is supported by several previous studies. A study conducted by Kurniawan et al. in West Lombok Regency found that there was no significant relationship between economic factors and domestic violence incidents ( $p=0.092$ ).<sup>13</sup> Another study by Hidayati et al. in Semarang City also showed similar results for the infidelity factor, where no significant relationship was found between infidelity and domestic violence incidents ( $p=0.124$ ).<sup>14</sup>

This result confirms that domestic violence is a complex phenomenon that cannot always be explained by a single triggering factor. Often, domestic violence occurs as a result of the interaction of various risk factors, whether individual, relational, communal, or societal, as explained in WHO's ecological model of domestic violence.<sup>2</sup>

## CONCLUSION

Based on the research results and discussion regarding factors associated with domestic violence cases in patients at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital, it can be concluded that the frequency of domestic violence cases at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital during the 2021-2024 period is quite high, with 55.8% of the total violence cases handled identified as domestic violence.

The profile of domestic violence cases at Cilegon Regional Public Hospital shows interesting characteristics, where the majority of victims (67.4%) have a high educational level (high school-university), contrary to the general assumption that domestic violence occurs more in less educated groups. This indicates that domestic violence can occur at all educational levels.

Statistical analysis results showed that there is no significant relationship between the victim's educational factors and domestic violence incidents ( $p=0.594$ ) or between triggering factors (economic problems and infidelity) and domestic violence incidents ( $p=0.836$ ). This indicates that domestic violence is a complex phenomenon that cannot be explained by just one or two risk factors.

The findings of this study emphasize the importance of a multifactorial approach in handling and preventing domestic violence. Further research is needed with larger samples and a broader range of factors to comprehensively understand the factors associated with domestic violence in Cilegon.

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