

Risk Factors and Issues of Family Violence Prevention

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Abstract

The purpose of the study is to identify the main factors contributing to the occurrence of violence in families and to consider measures and ways to prevent domestic violence. The main methods used in the study are analysis and synthesis, formal-logical method, induction and deduction, generalisation, and specification. According to the results of the study, domestic violence is a complex problem that arises in society under the influence of various factors that are characteristic of Kyrgyz society. These factors include early marriage, marital traditions such as bride kidnapping, and other socio-legal and economic factors. It is established that to provide comprehensive assistance to victims of domestic violence, some changes and additions have been made to the legislation. However, the study shows that despite all the legislative measures taken, the problem of domestic violence remains quite common in Kyrgyz society.

Keywords: Legal Protection; Gender Equality; Probation; Temporary Protective Order; Family Conflict; Crime Prevention.

Introduction

As the oldest social institution, family is the basis for the whole society and encompasses all possible social processes. It is well known that the level of safety within the family directly affects the overall security and well-being of society. Based on statistical data, domestic violence in the Kyrgyz Republic exists at a fairly high level and, therefore, is a very pressing issue. The application of various forms of domestic violence has its causes and catalysts, which are often related to national traditions, stereotypes, and prejudices prevalent in society. To counteract such a complex phenomenon as domestic violence, it is very important to identify the factors of its occurrence in families and to develop specific effective measures

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that can practically ensure protection for individuals who have already become victims of domestic violence, which may also have a preventive character. Therefore, issues of countering and preventing domestic violence are very relevant for detailed investigation.

The problem of the study is that domestic violence is a complex and comprehensive phenomenon that includes legal, psycho-social, and economic aspects. When exploring the risk factors for domestic violence, the national features of a particular country should also be considered. In addition, before identifying measures to prevent domestic violence, it should be noted that all legislative measures that have been adopted earlier to counteract violence in families have not yielded the proper results, as the number of cases of domestic violence has only been increasing recently.

Both foreign and domestic researchers have been exploring this issue. For example, I. Saifnazarov and F. Saifnazarova (2023) conclude that there is a growing level of inequality between the sexes in the Kyrgyz Republic, and there is a certain imbalance between regions in this regard. According to this study, it can be argued that the main factors of violence against women are gender stereotypes and a misinterpretation of national traditions. A. Tashybaeva and B. Marzabaeva (2022) examined the legislative regulation of gender equality issues in the Kyrgyz Republic. This study concludes that the Kyrgyz Republic has a fairly developed legislative framework to ensure gender equality. However, on the other hand, the actual situation differs significantly from legal norms. There is actually insufficient participation of women in decision-making processes.

N.T. Tynybekov et al. (2018) concluded that a temporary protection order is an effective mechanism for preventing violence in emergencies. To date, there are still some gaps in the legislation regulating the prevention of domestic violence, which significantly reduces the possibility of providing assistance to persons affected by domestic violence. G. Kuldysheva et al. (2021) dedicated their study to examining the legal status of women and the place of polygamy in traditional Kyrgyz society. According to the results of this study, it was established that in traditional Kyrgyz society, both monogamous and polygamous marriages existed. As a result, some disagreements arose regarding the legal status of women in the family, which is an additional risk factor for domestic violence.

The study of V.I. Oleinik (2021) is devoted to analysing legislation pertaining to preventing and suppressing crime in the domestic sphere. The author studied the causes of domestic violence and developed organisational and legal measures to counteract such offences. This study established that the prevention of domestic violence requires the development and implementation of coordinated measures aimed at strengthening the family, combining measures of a general and

individual nature. In the study by B.U. Seitkhozhin and A.S. Asainov (2022), some aspects and features of domestic violence in the family were considered, its forms and manifestations were analysed, and the main principles and measures to prevent such violence were presented. The authors pay attention to the issue of countering domestic violence and conclude that the prevention of violence in the family requires the implementation of social, legal, and organisational measures by all state bodies.

Since previous studies in the field of countering domestic violence do not consider all general factors contributing to domestic violence or provide measures to prevent domestic violence, the purpose of the study is to explore the main risk factors for domestic violence and determine measures to counteract and prevent domestic violence.

Materials and Methods

Statistics from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic (2024) were used to comprehensively analyse the current situation regarding domestic violence in the Kyrgyz Republic. The statistical data includes information on the number of individuals who have suffered from domestic violence, broken down by gender and region. Moreover, data on the number of individuals who have committed domestic violence, considering gender and region, was utilised. Information on criminal cases initiated in cases of domestic violence, including the criminal articles involved, was also used, including statistical data on the number of instances of domestic violence, including the types of violence (physical, psychological, sexual) and the number of protective orders issued.

In the course of the study, a sociological survey of probation clients was conducted using a selective questionnaire. Since the deviant behaviour of individuals is an additional risk factor for domestic violence, and the functions of probation authorities include educational and preventive work with offenders, the survey was conducted among these individuals. The total number of respondents is 300 registered with the probation authorities. Among them, individuals aged 18 to 25 accounted for 66, 25 to 35 years old – 102 individuals, 35 to 45 years old – 105 individuals, and 45 years old and older – 27 individuals. There were 243 males and 57 females. The survey included convicted individuals of various ages and genders who are characterised as satisfactory, timely attending calls to probation authorities, and generally adhering to social rules of behaviour. The survey was conducted to determine probation clients' social status, educational and cultural development, and financial situation.

The survey was conducted in the capital of the Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek, from October 1 to December 31, 2023, in an offline format. The questionnaire was conducted under the Code of Ethics (International Sociological Association, 2001), observing the basic principles of sociological research:

- the principle of respect for human rights (European Court of Human Rights, 1950), his individuality, and dignity;
- the principle of professional competence;
- the principle of honesty.

To analyse the legal norms in the field of combating domestic violence, the following regulations were used: Law of the Kyrgyz Republic No. 63 “On Protection and Defense against Family Violence” (2017), Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic No. 513 “National Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic on Achieving Gender Equality until 2030” (2022), Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic No. 390 “On the Procedure for the Implementation of Protection and Defense against Family Violence” (2019).

During the study, empirical methods of scientific knowledge such as questionnaires and surveys were used. Furthermore, general theoretical methods of scientific knowledge were used to conduct a comprehensive and comprehensive study. Using the method of analysis, the main factors contributing to the occurrence of domestic violence in the Kyrgyz Republic were identified, and the causes and circumstances under which there is a trend of increasing crimes related to domestic violence. In addition, the main measures to influence the causes of domestic violence were formulated, and the relationship between risk factors and the increase in the number of cases of domestic violence was determined. Using the method of synthesis, general patterns related to the manifestation of acts of violence in the family were established, and gender indicators of violence were analysed, which showed that in most cases, victims of domestic violence are female. Using the formal-logical method, statistical data in the field of crimes related to domestic violence were investigated.

Using the deductive method, general factors of domestic violence were investigated, the link between risk factors and the likelihood of violence in the family was established, and the patterns of violence in the family circle were examined. In addition, the functions of probation bodies and their role in ensuring preventive measures in combating domestic violence were analysed. Using the inductive method, factors of domestic violence, specifically in the Kyrgyz Republic, were examined, and the features of their manifestation were explored. Using the method of concretisation, specific measures to prevent domestic violence and factual data reflecting the real situation of offences related to domestic violence were examined. Specific measures aimed at a comprehensive

solution to the problem of domestic violence in society were analysed, including specific functions of probation bodies that can be aimed at implementing measures to prevent domestic violence. Using generalisation, general measures to counteract manifestations of any violence were identified, and universal measures for the development of society and public culture that contribute to the prevention of domestic violence were established.

Results

Since the proclamation of independence in the Kyrgyz Republic, a policy of combating and preventing domestic violence has been actively implemented, including measures to protect victims of domestic violence and victims of discrimination in any form. Over the past years, there has been an increase in the number of cases of domestic violence, so it becomes evident that the problem of domestic violence in Kyrgyzstan is widespread. To determine effective measures to counter domestic violence, the first question arises about the factors that cause trends in the growth of violence in the family in Kyrgyz society.

Significant legislative measures have been introduced in the Kyrgyz Republic to regulate norms, ensuring citizens' rights and freedoms and establishing the competence of state bodies to enforce them. Thus, the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic No. 63, "On Protection and Defense against Family Violence" (2017), was adopted. In addition, to implement legislative norms, the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic No. 513 "National Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic on Achieving Gender Equality until 2030" (2022) and Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic No. 390 "On the Procedure for the Implementation of Protection and Defence against Family Violence" (2019) were adopted, establishing the procedure for the implementation of protection and defence against family violence. All the mentioned legislative and programmatic initiatives indicate Kyrgyzstan's commitment to fulfilling its international obligations in the field of gender equality and reducing violence against women and children.

Since domestic violence is a very complex problem, many circumstances and conditions influence its occurrence (Osmonova et al., 2023). In Kyrgyz society, some features can be the cause of violent actions in the family. According to the results of the author's survey among the population of Kyrgyzstan, real factors of domestic violence were identified. The main factors, according to the survey results, include:

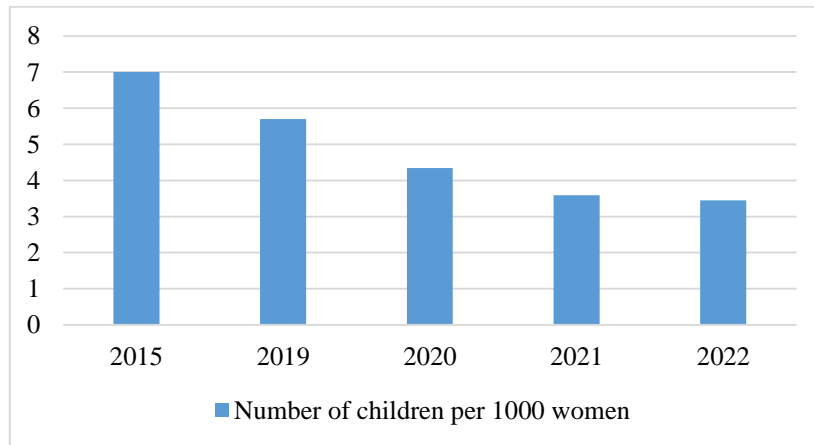
- the lack of education of the population;
- upbringing;
- early marriage;

- ignorance of one's rights and responsibilities;
- submission to any criticism.

In addition, according to respondents, unemployment, social orphanhood, alcoholism, and drug addiction have a significant impact on the level of violence in the family. The survey showed that domestic violence is more prevalent in rural areas due to the remoteness of cultural events and medicine.

One of the main reasons for the spread of domestic violence, a characteristic of Kyrgyz society, is early marriage. The conclusion of early marriages is influenced by cultural, social, and religious views of society, as religion in traditional society establishes the role of genders and defines views on sexual life and childbearing age (Spytska, 2023). Certain social frameworks and stereotypes that encourage young girls to marry early lead to the discontinuation of education and, as a result, to the limitation of women's development as individuals to create a family (Youngson et al., 2021).

The early age of young brides is often associated with the deprivation of the opportunity to make decisions in marriage, which results in inequality in relationships. This can also lead to the risk of domestic violence, as the weaker party may find themselves in a dependent position. Based on this, it can be argued that early marriages have a very negative impact on the physical and psychological well-being of women, which can subsequently lead to domestic violence. Therefore, an important step towards preventing violence in the family is to eliminate the practice of early marriages and provide girls with the opportunity to learn and develop professionally. Currently, according to statistical data, there is a trend towards a decrease in the number of early marriages and the number of children born to young girls, as reflected in Figure 1.

Figure 1: The number of children born at the age of 15-17 years

Source: National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic (2024).

Another factor contributing to the prevalence of domestic violence in Kyrgyz society is the tradition of bride kidnapping. This phenomenon remained unstudied for a long time, even though many girls who got married as a result of this practice became victims of domestic violence and ended up divorcing. Until 2010, there was a peak in the practice of “ala kachuu” (bride kidnapping) in Kyrgyzstan. As a result, in 2013, a bill was developed proposing stricter penalties for this offence. According to data provided by the head of the Crisis Center “Ak-Zhurok,” before 2010, there were numerous cases of bride kidnapping where victims suffered various physical injuries, such as broken legs and arms. Some of the abducted girls tried to escape, even jumping out of moving cars, because they did not feel any sympathy for their kidnappers and had no connection with their future husbands or knowledge of their relatives. As a result, many of these women refused to stay in their new “families.” Some sought help from the imams who performed the wedding ceremony or turned to law enforcement agencies with complaints and appeals (Makanbai kyzy, 2023). Thus, it is evident that such a practice of women’s abduction, which was mistakenly considered a tradition, has a very detrimental effect on the marital life of spouses and is a direct factor in the occurrence of domestic violence (Hbur, 2021; Yara et al., 2023). Furthermore, one of the main causes and prerequisites for domestic violence are gender stereotypes and inequality. For a long time, there has been legislative recognition of the close link between women’s discrimination and violence against women (Gnatenko et al., 2020; Ebert and Steinert, 2021). Statistical data confirming that women are the main victims of violence is shown in Table 1.

Table 1
Number of victims of domestic violence

Region	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
Kyrgyz Republic	69	3	65	61	56	48	80	51	85	45	83	37	110	3
	66	5	62	6	59	6	60	7	87	1	47	8	02	5
		7												5
Batken region	34	1	27	18	19	23	24	20	26	23	22	16	314	1
	0	8	4		0		6		3		5			3
Jalal-Abad region	10	5	11	25	74	32	67	58	61	32	59	25	622	2
	74	8	51	0	5		4		7		3			0
Issyk-Kul region	82	4	37	47	38	21	69	67	64	58	63	69	799	3
	7	1	9		1		3		6		7			7
Naryn region	33	3	33	37	31	61	32	45	27	39	25	27	423	4
	7	2	7		1		3		8		5			6
Osh region	60	5	63	53	69	10	59	75	52	53	54	48	485	2
	7	0	6		6	0	9		0		9			3
Talas region	25	2	20	30	17	13	24	14	26	17	26	22	277	2
	1	0	2		3		5		4		3			2
Chuy region	17	8	18	15	12	18	16	11	12	10	18	61	214	7
	13	1	16	2	45	4	64	8	34	3	26		6	8
Bishkek city	14	1	13	10	16	32	33	11	33	12	36	98	5	1
	77	2	52		22		69	3	95	3	41		428	0
														8
Osh city	34	4	42	19	29	20	24	7	37	3	35	12	508	8
	0	5	6		6		7		0		8			

Note: F – Female; M – Male.

Source: National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic (2024).

It is unequivocal that the attitude of state authorities towards domestic violence also affects the number of crimes related to domestic violence (Komarynska & Polian, 2023). The measures of accountability and the effectiveness of law enforcement and judicial bodies are also important factors in the increase or decrease of domestic violence incidents (Askat uulu, 2019). According to the Statistical Committee, the period from 2022 to 2023 saw a 1.5-fold increase in the number of perpetrators of domestic violence.

Table 2

The number of perpetrators of domestic violence

Region	2022		2023	
	F	M	F	M
Kyrgyz Republic	430	8295	324	11033
Batken region	15	226	15	312
Jalal-Abad region	26	592	25	617
Issyk-Kul region	115	591	46	790
Naryn region	20	262	23	446
Osh region	52	545	23	485
Talas region	23	262	18	281
Chuy region	69	1818	60	2164
Bishkek city	105	3634	108	5428
Osh city	5	365	6	510

Source: National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic (2024).

Table 2 lists the perpetrators of domestic violence. It is not excluded that domestic violence also occurs against children and older people. The dynamics concerning women who commit domestic violence are also noteworthy. In this regard, there is a problem that the majority of domestic violence cases remain hidden, as victims refuse to report to law enforcement agencies out of fear of being left alone with the aggressor for a long time.

According to the results of the probation clients survey, the following data were obtained: The age of the respondents is characterised as follows: 66 individuals are aged 18 to 25, 102 individuals are aged 25 to 35, 105 individuals are aged 35 to 45, and 27 individuals are aged 45 and older. There were 243 males and 57 females. The educational level of the respondents is as follows: 237 individuals have completed secondary education, 53 individuals have completed vocational education, and only 10 individuals indicated that they have higher education. In response to the question about income level, the respondents answered as follows: the majority of respondents, 225 individuals, indicated a low income level, 20 individuals indicated an average income level, and only 15 individuals indicated an above-average income level. Approximately 45% of the total number of respondents had previously been charged with domestic violence. 15% of the respondents, namely 45 individuals, were charged with domestic violence at the time of the survey. All of these individuals are low-income earners with low income levels and are employed in unskilled jobs. It is important to note that 41 of the individuals charged with domestic violence entered into marriage at

an early age and have two or more children to support. The data obtained from the survey shows that the probation clients, i.e., individuals sentenced by the court to non-custodial sentences, are mostly middle-aged adult men with no vocational education and low income levels. Out of the 45 individuals convicted (charged with an offence) for domestic violence, 41 entered into marriage at an early age, which indicates a statistically significant correlation between early marriage and subsequent conviction.

The statistics on the number of criminal cases initiated for family violence showed that in 2021, there were 256 such cases, with only one case falling under the article specifically addressing family violence. Table 3 presents data that indicates the number of persons registered with probation authorities for 2023 and the number of persons who were registered at the end of the year. Therefore, it is evident that instances of family violence are currently underreported, which significantly impacts the likelihood of committing other crimes.

Table 3

The number of individuals under probation supervision in 2023

Article 70 of the Code of Administrative Offences		Article 177 of the Criminal Code	
The number of individuals admitted	Registered	The number of individuals admitted	Registered
1070	238	10	7

Source: compiled by the author based on the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic (2024).

According to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, a total of 242 criminal cases related to family violence were registered. However, only a few cases actually proceed to prosecution in court. Most victims opt for reconciliation, which leads to the termination of criminal proceedings and often results in repeated violence against women. The legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic in the field of preventing family violence has been continuously improved in response to societal challenges and needs. In particular, the special Law of the Kyrgyz Republic No. 63, “On Protection and Defense against Family Violence” (2017), was adopted to counteract this phenomenon. After six years of implementing this law, amendments were made to provide comprehensive assistance to women and girls affected by family violence. However, despite the tightening of penalties and the implementation of protection mechanisms for victims, family violence continues to threaten the physical and psychological well-

being of women and children (Botnarenko, 2022; Maksymenko, 2022; Saktaganova et al., 2023).

To ensure the protection of the rights of victims of family violence and to minimise the consequences of these offences, attention should be paid to measures to prevent violence within families. Since the problem of family violence is complex and includes social, psychological, and economic aspects, preventive measures should also include legal, organisational, financial, and other measures aimed at eliminating the main factors and causes of these crimes (Childress et al., 2022). Having effective legislation alone is not enough to prevent family violence. Full implementation of legal provisions requires effective cooperation between law enforcement agencies, judicial bodies, and civil society. The key challenge remains not only the development of laws but also their active implementation, training and informing law enforcement officers and judges, as well as creating broader public support and understanding of the importance of combating family violence (Maralbayeva and Pierobon, 2023).

Thus, measures to prevent family violence can be divided into general social and specific ones. General social measures to prevent violence within families include:

- proper legal support for relevant preventive activities;
- ensuring effective implementation of legal norms and establishing cooperation between various state authorities and other authorised bodies to facilitate their close interaction and rapid response to cases of violence (Childress et al., 2023);
- ensuring the maintenance and development of cultural and educational levels among the population, as the education and cultural level of citizens form a system of values in a society where there is no place for violent actions;
- provision of legal information to citizens about the causes and consequences of family violence, dissemination of legal propaganda to cultivate intolerance towards family and gender-based violence;
- adoption of targeted programmes to implement the state policy in the family and household sphere to enforce the policy of violence prevention;
- provision of adequate funding for programmes and legislative measures to counter family violence (Kulanbaeva et al., 2022);
- creating organisational conditions to ensure the identification and prevention of various types and manifestations of violence, including the functioning of mobile teams that can promptly respond to violence cases.

Special attention in terms of preventing family violence should be paid to the activities of probation authorities. Since family violence is closely related to other offences, the risk of its recurrence is also associated with a deviant behaviour pattern in individuals. Thus, probation services are entrusted with an educational function, as probation officers supervise and support individuals who have committed criminal offences and remain in society. In such cases, the effectiveness of the educational work on the individual is reflected in their family well-being and, in turn, directly affects the risk of violence in the family (Urbaeva et al., 2023). Therefore, to effectively re-socialise offenders, probation officers must systematically assist individuals on probation in establishing a social life. For example, they must facilitate employment, including career changes or advancement through referrals to employment services and other educational measures.

The amendments to the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic in 2023 indicate the high commitment of the state apparatus to improve the effectiveness of combating family violence by improving mechanisms to address this issue. A vital issue in forming a strategy to prevent family violence is educational policy and ensuring the cultural and academic growth of the population. According to empirical data obtained during the study, it can be concluded that general social factors, such as upbringing, the presence of gender stereotypes in society, and the overall level of education of the population influence the increase in the number of cases of family violence. Therefore, the basis for preventive measures in the fight against family violence is legal education and educational measures that should be implemented at all levels of public life. Informing citizens and providing educational measures for law enforcement and judicial authorities also play a key role in preventing a complex phenomenon like family violence. Only through the interaction of all spheres of public life can the desired result be achieved, which will be reflected in reducing violence in families. Educating respect for women, minimising manifestations of gender discrimination, and shaping an understanding of the importance of combating family violence in the minds of citizens will create a favourable environment in a society where all legislative measures will act accurately and effectively (Teremetskyi & Avramova, 2022). Therefore, considering the complexity of this issue, it is necessary to continue implementing measures to prevent and counter family violence at all levels of public life, including legal, social, psychological, and financial mechanisms.

Discussion

Based on the results of the study, it can be stated that the issue of family violence in the Kyrgyz Republic is widely discussed, and legislative measures are

being taken at the legislative level to counter this phenomenon effectively. The analysis of statistical data shows that the risk of committing family violence is higher among the vulnerable segments of the population. This means that social factors such as unemployment, alcohol dependence, and the level of cultural development directly influence behaviour within the family environment. According to data provided by the Probation Department, a direct link between committing family violence and other offences can be observed. The data obtained from the survey of offenders also reflects a direct connection between the social status of the population and the level of criminality, including the commission of violence in families.

Many domestic and foreign scientists have explored the issues of risk factors and measures to prevent family violence. Australian researchers E. Kuskoff and C. Parsell (2020) dedicated a study to analysing government policy in combating gender inequality and family violence. The study noted that the policy of combating domestic violence should include systemic changes, including equal opportunities and guarantees for women. One of the main factors that provoke violence in families, according to the authors, is the social status of women, which historically has been one of subordination. A. Kourti et al. (2023) conducted a study on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the occurrence of family violence. The study indicated that quarantine measures have had a very detrimental effect on the psychological state and social status of many families, leading to a significant increase in the number of violent acts committed within families (Yatsyna, 2021; Sptyska, 2023). A systematic analysis of the impact of quarantine measures on family well-being in all regions was conducted. This study showed that domestic violence has become a global problem, as the close contact of victims with perpetrators has led to an increase in cases of violence and a decrease in reports of violent acts to law enforcement agencies. Therefore, sharing the above findings, it can be concluded that effective preventive measures are necessary to minimise the consequences of family violence.

J. Phoenix (2023) dedicated their study to improving the collection of police data in cases of family violence. Since offences committed during family violence are repeatable, the efficient allocation of law enforcement resources is very relevant. Agreeing with the above findings, family violence is a specific offence that can be systematically repeated, so the police's actions should correspond to the characteristics of such crimes to provide protection for victims of family violence. A. Litviniuc and L. Wells (2022) developed recommendations for implementing measures to prevent family and sexual violence. The concept and essence of sexual and family violence were considered, and step-by-step recommendations for the government were offered, which could serve as a basis

for developing policies to combat family violence. Fully agreeing with the above, it can be noted that for the effective implementation of preventive measures in the field of family violence, all preventive measures should be implemented together with general measures aimed at ensuring equality in society, protecting the rights of women and children, and increasing the well-being of the population. Only in combination will these measures bring the desired result.

P. Novitzky et al. (2023) discussed the ethical challenges and issues related to using new technologies to prevent and counterbalance family violence. The authors also noted that today, family violence is a global problem that has been particularly exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic. Partially agreeing with the authors, it is worth noting that digital technologies based on artificial intelligence can offer new unconventional solutions to address the issue of family violence. However, it is doubtful that artificial intelligence alone can solve the entire complex of problems related to violence in families.

H.A.M. Al-Ahmadi and K.J. Al-Naama (2023) also conducted a study on combating family violence. The paper analysed myths and false assertions that hinder the implementation of measures to combat family violence. The authors argue that understanding the root cause of family violence is the first step towards implementing policy measures and developing a mechanism to counter violence in families. Supporting the opinion of the researchers, it should be noted that the primary cause of violence is not explained by mental illness, alcohol dependence, or poverty. Violence is always an intentional act aimed at gaining control over the victim. This should be considered when developing a strategy to combat family violence. This study formulated the main risk factors for family violence and refuted some prejudices regarding the reasons for violence in families. Polish authors J. Karaźniewicz and M. Kotowska (2023) examined the issue of combating family violence more narrowly and in detail in their study, exploring the feasibility and effectiveness of applying a restraining order against the perpetrator. The study noted that today, the restraining order is one of the new and most effective measures to influence the perpetrator and protect the victim. This study provided insights into the positive practice of a European country in protecting victims of family violence.

Having analysed studies on countering family violence, it can be noted that this issue is relevant worldwide and is explored in various aspects. The risk factors for family violence are considered from the legal, social, and psychological sides. Some authors investigate the problem of family violence more broadly and provide more global solutions, such as educating society or ensuring gender equality in social relationships. Another category of scientists examines the issues of combating family violence more specifically and suggests solutions to this

problem more narrowly, such as changes in the activities of law enforcement agencies. It should be noted that both approaches are correct and appropriate when the task is to solve such a complex and multi-level problem as family violence. Agreeing with the opinion of many authors, the reasons for committing family violence can be different and have their own characteristics for different social groups. In this study, as in other similar works, the reasons and conditions for the spread of family violence were examined, the current situation regarding violence in the family was analysed, and ways to solve this problem were proposed.

Many authors analysed the impact of family violence on the psychological state of women and children and considered measures of accountability for the perpetrator of violence in the family in most cases, scientists consider the problem of restoring the rights and interests of violence victims only after the act of violence has been committed. Relatively few papers have been devoted to preventive activities. Therefore, unlike other studies, this paper examined the factors of family violence that are characteristic to a greater extent for Kyrgyz society. In addition, statistical data on the state of offences related to family violence was analysed in this study. In this study, the problem of family violence was analysed from a practical standpoint, considering the indicators of the number of victims of family violence and the number of crimes committed. A sociological survey of probation clients was conducted as a questionnaire, revealing the social and material situation of these individuals. The study showed that the level of educational, cultural, and economic development affects the commission of crimes in general and, in turn, directly affects the level of crime in the field of family violence. Furthermore, certain measures aimed at preventing family violence were identified to minimise the consequences of committing this type of offence. Based on various studies, the main issues in shaping measures to prevent family violence were identified, and the results of previous changes and legislative reforms aimed at preventing and combating family violence were analysed.

Conclusions

Family violence continues to be a serious social problem for Kyrgyz society despite all the positive legislative changes. The issue of violence is very complex and multifaceted, influenced by many factors and circumstances. Among the main factors are early marriage, the practice of bride kidnapping before marriage, and widespread gender stereotypes and prejudices. Studies show that in most cases, women become victims of family violence, which once again indicates the gender aspect of this issue. According to statistics, the crime rate in the field of family violence tends to steadily increase, which also indicates an increase in society's intolerance towards this problem and readiness to overcome it. In addition, based

on the survey results, it was established that individuals of male gender, middle age, with low education, and low social status are at higher risk of committing criminal acts, including family violence. These factors are the main ones in shaping the behaviour model of a person committing violence in the family.

To prevent and combat family violence, key roles are played by societal measures, society's mentality, the stigmatisation of victims, and corrupt mechanisms in state institutions that directly influence people's behaviour. Such measures include: providing information to citizens, measures to increase the level of education among both the population and law enforcement agencies, conducting broad information campaigns aimed at educating the population and cultivating a negative attitude towards violent actions, regulating corruption in law enforcement, judicial, and executive state bodies. In addition, to implement the policy of preventing family violence, the level of interaction between state bodies and society must increase. Therefore, it is necessary to provide wider information dissemination and education to the population about the consequences and unacceptability of family violence. The probation service plays an essential role in preventive activities, as this state agency is responsible for the education and resocialisation of individuals who have already committed a crime, which is an additional risk factor for family violence.

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