

**A study on the impact of domestic violence on the
psychological well-being of victimized females who sought
professional help**

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ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to reach three main objectives: (i) to determine the impact of domestic violence on psychological status of victims; (ii) to examine whether different types of domestic violence influence on psychological status of victim differently, and (iii) to explore the different coping mechanisms of victims. To reach these objectives, the study used both quantitative and qualitative methods. The study sample was 50. Forty women were from Women in Need (WIN) Colombo centre and 10 from Anuradhapura Center. Nine women participated in semi-structured interviews designed to gather qualitative data. Scores from the Conflict Tactics Scales second version short form (CTS2S) was used as the independent variable and GHQ 28 version was used as dependant variable. Data was analyzed using SPSS 13.0 software package and tape recorded interviews were transcribed and analyzed using content analysis. Results indicated no relationship between these two variables, but women scored high in both scales individually. Variety of coping skills and strategies were reported during the interviews despite of the limitations women have. The study data provides guidance to practitioners in the field of domestic violence.