MAPPING THE VARIOUS FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST VULNERABLE GROUPS IN THE CONTEXT OF SEXISM

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ABSTRACT

This paper explores and maps the different forms of violence associated with sexism that impact vulnerable groups, including both men and women. While physical violence is often more visible, this study focuses primarily on psychological violence, which profoundly undermines mental health but is less frequently recognized. By examining how gender discrimination and sexist attitudes influence the occurrence and nature of violence, the paper identifies specific patterns and manifestations of violence shaped by prevailing gender stereotypes. These stereotypes dictate socially accepted behaviors and marginalize those who deviate, thereby contributing to multiple forms of violence. Using a qualitative approach, data collected from in-depth interviews with 86 informants and extensive document analysis provide a detailed mapping of the varied violent behaviors linked to sexist norms. The findings reveal that without addressing the underlying sexist values that legitimize these violent acts, vulnerable groups will continue to suffer diverse and persistent harms. This study thus offers a comprehensive framework for understanding and challenging the multifaceted expressions of violence rooted in sexism.

Keywords: *gender roles, men. patriarchy, sexism, violence, women.*

ABSTRAK

Tulisan ini akan menganalisa bagaimana seksisme sangat berkorelasi dengan kekerasan yang dapat membahayakan kelompok rentan baik laki-laki maupun perempuan. Kekerasan yang dimakud disini adalah kekerasan psikologis. cenderung lebih mudah mengenali kekerasan fisik dibandingkan kekerasan psikologis, yang justru menempati peringkat nomor satu dalam menghancurkan kesehatan mental. Tulisan ini juga akan menjabarkan bagaimana pengaruh diskriminasi gender menjadi penentu hadir atau tidaknya kekerasan dalam lingkup prilaku seksis terhadap kehidupan kelompok rentan. Seksisme dan Stereotipe gender menjadi rujukan utama dalam pengklasifikasian prilaku apa yang boleh dan apa yang tidak boleh, apa yang seharusnya dilakukan dan apa yang seharusnya ditinggalkan baik oleh laki-laki maupun perempuan. Stereotipe gender ini membawa konsekwensi tersendiri bagi siapa saja yang tidak konsisten dengan pola yang sudah ada dan diterima secara sosial. Tulisan ini memilih penjabaran konsep seksisme sebagai alat analisis utama dengan menggunakan metode kualitatif. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan melakukan wawancara secara mendalam dengan 86 informan terpilih dan analisis terhadap referensi dan dokumen-dokumen tertulis yang berkaitan dengan seksisme dan kekerasan. Tulisan ini menunjukkan bahwa kekerasan dalam konteks seksisme akan terus berkelanjutan memakan korban-korban dari kelompok rentan, jika nilai-nilai kekerasan dalam seksisme tidak dihentikan.

Kata Kunci: *kekerasan, laki-laki, patriarki, peran gender, perempuan, seksisme.*

INTRODUCTION

Violence against women is widespread and takes many forms, including physical assault, sexual coercion, psychological violence, and behavior control (Rollero et al., 2019). Such violence threatens vulnerable groups and has serious consequences for their physical and mental well-being. Participants in this study include adolescents aged 18 to 22 years, with 23 males and 64 females. This paper categorizes different acts of violence affecting vulnerable groups—both men and women—such as physical violence, restriction of freedom, imposition of specific behaviors, and emotional violence, including verbal and emotional abuse. It highlights the direct influence of sexism in perpetrating violence through sexist behaviors, urging comprehensive attention to these issues.

Previous studies distinguish between forms of abuse, emphasizing psychological and emotional violence alongside physical aggression (Chamberland et al., 2007; Ortabag et al., 2014). Research shows that gender stereotypes establish specific behavioral standards, influencing sexist behaviors towards targeted groups (Prentice & Carranza, 2002). For example, women are stereotypically expected to be warm and nurturing, while men are expected to be firm and serve as role models. Gender stereotypes are closely tied to traditional social roles and power imbalances between men and women (Eagly, 1987), supporting existing social structures (Hoffman & Hurst, 1999; Jost & Banaji, 1994; Sidanius & Pratto, 1999). People who deviate from these stereotypes often face punishment and rejection (Fiske et al., 1991; Rudman & Glick, 1999).

While existing research provides valuable insights into psychological abuse and gender stereotypes, it often lacks a comprehensive categorization of the diverse forms of violence within the context of sexism, especially across both genders. Many studies focus on women as victims, leaving the vulnerabilities of men underexplored. Furthermore, the interconnection between sexist norms and multiple violence forms has yet to be systematically mapped. This limits a full understanding of how sexist behaviors perpetuate violence and restricts the development of holistic preventive measures.

This paper addresses these gaps by qualitatively mapping different forms of violence—physical, emotional, behavioral, and restrictive—rooted in sexist attitudes affecting both men and women. By interviewing adolescents and analyzing related documents, it explores how sexist behaviors and gender stereotypes interact to perpetuate violence. The study's uniqueness lies in its inclusive approach to vulnerable groups and its nuanced emphasis on the complex

relationship between sexism and various violent behaviors, contributing to broader efforts to challenge sexism and promote gender equality..

METHODS

This paper follows a qualitative approach to deepen the analysis of how gender discrimination influences the presence or absence of violence within sexist behaviors affecting vulnerable groups. The research uses gender stereotypes as a conceptual framework to examine societal norms that define acceptable and unacceptable behaviors for both men and women. The study further explores the consequences faced by individuals who deviate from these established norms.

Data collection began by distributing a questionnaire via Google Forms to approximately 191 university students who had taken a gender studies course, assessing their knowledge or personal experience of sexism, as well as whether they had witnessed or heard of sexist incidents. From this initial pool, 86 respondents whose answers were relevant to the research indicators were purposively selected for in-depth interviews. This purposive sampling ensures that the informants provide rich, relevant data related to the study's focus.

To strengthen data validity, the study triangulates information obtained from these interviews with relevant literature and document analysis. This comprehensive data collection and validation process aims to provide a robust understanding of the ways violence perpetuates within sexist contexts. The findings underscore the urgent need to challenge and dismantle sexist values to prevent ongoing violence against vulnerable groups.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Flood and Pease (2009) believe that multiple factors, including individual and social variables, influence behaviors leading to various forms of violence. Literature frequently records the key factors, with a particular emphasis on gender. Vandiver and Dupalo (2012) and Vonderhaar and Carmody (2015) suggest that concerning respect for women, men often rationalize the utilization of violence against women and perceive violent actions towards women as less grave and not significantly harmful. Powers et al. (2015) and Emmers-Sommer (2017) affirm the presence of this gender disparity within the societal population.

Perceptions of violence against women often differ between men and women, influenced by the dynamics of gender groups, such as sexism, gender norms, and societal standards of appearance. Glick and Fiske (1996, 1999, 2001) delve into various forms of sexism, noting that these behaviors encompass

diverse facets. Concerning attitudes toward women, hostile sexism (HS) portrays women as attempting to manipulate men and gain power over them. Benevolent sexism (BS) portrays women as individuals in need of protection while simultaneously implying that they are delicate and suited for traditional gender roles. Sexist attitudes toward men also encompass hostility toward men (HM) and benevolence toward men (BM). Hostility involves beliefs in male supremacy and cultural norms depicting men as superior beings.

The Ideal Physical Appearance Standards and Psychological Violence Against Vulnerable Groups

The forms of sexist violence that are part of psychological violence faced by vulnerable groups, both women and men, are indeed diverse. One of them is the issue of the ideal physical appearance. Dohnt & Tiggemann (2006) and research conducted by Tiggemann and McGill (2004) describe that the perfect physical appearance portrayed by the media is related to body shape. Thomsen et al. (2002) also add that self-destructive behaviors such as damaging diet practices affect women due to the pressure of the ideal appearance. Smolak and Stein in Dill and Thill (2007) reveal that concerning the perfect appearance, media also has a significant influence on the image of the ideal body shape, similar to the strong influence of masculinity stereotypes related to muscle body, motivating young men to engage in unhealthy practices by following body shaping exercises and illegal steroid use.

While existing literature (Dohnt & Tiggemann, 2006; Tiggemann & McGill, 2004) emphasizes how media portray body shape ideals, the interviews with informants in this study illustrate the real and damaging effects of these societal expectations on individuals' mental health and behavior, Harrison (2003) describes modern media as providing an ideal portrait of feminine beauty known as "curvaceously thin." For example, the perfect bust-waist-hip size is 36-24-36, with clothing size equivalent to 10-2-4. Harrison (2003) also adds that a slim but full figure is the ideal body portrait for both men and women. This also explains why the acceptance of plastic surgery has a particular interest for both men and women.

Research by Kenrick and Gutierres (1980) also shows that media portraits of beauty standards cause many men to view women in real life as less attractive because they do not meet the standards depicted by the media. One common theme from the informants is the intense pressure to conform to an ideal body weight or shape. For example, a female informant shared how being underweight compared to her classmates led to insecurity and painful family comparisons:

> "During my high school years, my weight was far from the average weight of my classmates. This often made me feel very insecure, especially since some of my relatives always used to compare, especially during family gatherings. One of my family members once remarked, "How can a girl not control her weight? Are there any of your classmates who are like

this? There are not, right?" It was quite painful for me to remember." (Informant 1 from interview on 12th December 2023)

Another informant found this pressure hard and manifested in extreme dietary behaviors that adversely affected her health:

"Mockery about my body shape led me to resort to many crazy ways to lose weight. For example, I did not eat for about a month; I only drank water when hungry. My weight dropped by twenty-five kilograms. However, it did not last long. I started getting sick frequently and had to take medication. I became very stressed when I had to gather with my extended family, often feeling anxious when seeing family members who had made fun of what was in me. A few years ago, every time I ate, I would vomit the food back up continuously. I am already tired of extreme diets. Nevertheless, as time passes, my body's resilience decreases. I cannot hold myself up to avoid falling because I feel weak". (Informant 2 from an interview on 12th December 2023)

Another informant's experience reveals how skin color differences led to psychological violence through derogatory teasing:

"I have dark skin, unlike my other friends who have fair skin. I have received teasing that contains derogatory tones and hurt my feelings. He was a boy, and when he mentioned skin color jokingly, it was directed at me by saying, "A girl, but her skin is dark, no fairness at all, lazy in taking care of herself, right?". At that time, he laughed at the joke, which I found intolerable, especially when he involved my parents by saying, "Of course, her parents are like that, what more their child... she is a girl, even darker." (ibid)

The third informant described how body shape-related psychological violence persisted regardless of changes:

"When I was in high school, I was very skinny. At that time, my weight was only 40kg. My friends often teased me by saying that I looked malnourished. I then decided to gain weight so that I would no longer be the target of their ridicule. However, when I gained weight, they instead said that I was no longer malnourished but now looked like a middle-aged woman whose body had widened, and some even said they were as fat as an elephant. The mockery directed at me hurt my feelings and psyche." (Informant 3 from an interview on 12th December 2023)

These testimonies highlight how societal ideals enforced by media and social circles translate into psychological violence through verbal abuse, teasing, and body shaming. The informants' experiences reflect how rigid standards of appearance become tools of sexist violence, harming both men and women by undermining their self-esteem and wellbeing. This nuanced analysis underscores the urgent need to address the damaging effects of such appearance-based violence within sexist social systems.

Understanding the Connection Between Sexist Values and Violence

Glick and Fiske (1996, 1999) and Glick et al. (2004) in Dill and Thill (2007) Understanding sexism starts with the premise that society operates within a hierarchy of power, where men are positioned as dominant entities and women as subordinate. This perspective acknowledges that societal

structures are shaped by historical and cultural factors that have privileged men and marginalized women. Within this framework, sexism manifests as attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors that reinforce and perpetuate this power imbalance, leading to discrimination and oppression against women. By recognizing this foundational premise, efforts to address sexism can focus on challenging and dismantling systems of inequality and advocating for gender equality and equity. Benevolent behavior towards men also includes stereotypes attached to men, such as being responsible and powerful, while hostile behavior encompasses beliefs that men are arrogant and aggressive.

On the other hand, stereotypes of women portray them as warm and likable yet weak and submissive. In heterosexual relationships, women are seen as objects of male desire and are present to satisfy the needs of men. Inequality stereotypes in the media are evident through sexist coverage of gender and power, as well as the relationship between men and women.

Cornell in Dill and Thill (2007) analyzes hegemonic masculinity and describes femininity as a sociological approach that combines social psychology and sexism. In Cornell's explanation, it can be understood that masculinity and femininity constantly interact. In a social context, masculinity is an understanding of an idea related to power, aggressiveness, material success, and heterosexual conquest. The emphasis on femininity is more about women being present to meet men's sexual needs, be mothers to their children, and generally serve men. In Cornell's analysis, referring to Hegemonic Masculinity, sexist views are present in media portrayals and socially fully support the ideal and dominant aspects of masculinity and femininity (e.g., in business, government, and even in intimate relationships or bedroom matters). Existing myths shape a social reality where people believe in the truth of these myths and act accordingly.

The perception of hegemonic masculinity leads to violence against women, whether consciously or unconsciously, and this behavior is generally related to gender relations, known as sexism. Glick and Fiske in Rollero et al. (2019) explain that both hostile and benevolent sexist behaviors fundamentally contain elements of violence against women. In hostile sexism (HS), for example, women are seen as having a desire to control men and seize male power. Meanwhile, Benevolent sexism (BS) portrays women as creatures to be protected yet also asserts that women are weak and only suitable for conventional gender roles.

Sexism is generally understood as a reflection of hostility towards women. It involves highly subjective attitudes towards women, often accompanied by antipathy. Sexism can be seen as a multidimensional construct reflecting two sexist behaviors: hostile sexism and benevolent sexism. Hostile sexism requires little explanation, as its aspects align with Allport's classic definition of assumptions or

prejudices (1954). Benevolent sexism is viewed as a series of behaviors that stereotype women as being limited to specific roles in the domestic sector.

To comprehensively understand how sexism is perceived in society, interviews were conducted with 86 informants to gather their perspectives on sexism. Table 1 summarizes the key perceptions expressed by the majority of informants.

**Table 1. Perspectives of the Majority of Informants
Regarding the Understanding of Sexism**
(the data in the table does not duplicate the findings in the article)

No.	Informant	Perception of Sexism
1.	Informant 1, 2, 5	Actions that harm one party.
2.	Informant 3, 4, 8, 11, 12	Actions that belittle, whether verbally or non-verbally, are directed towards a victim perceived as weak.
3.	Informant 16, 22, 23, 25, 26	Unwanted actions of insult towards the victim.
4.	Informant 29, 31, 32, 33, 38	Actions that hurt feelings and can affect anyone.
5.	Informant 40	Actions containing verbal violence.
6.	Informant 41, 44, 45, 47, 49	Harassment towards individuals, both women and men.
7.	Informant 50	Inappropriate actions involving violence and harm.
8.	Informant 51, 52, 54, 56	Actions that violate an individual's privacy.
9	Informant 59, 62, 65	Actions with negative connotations and impacts on the victim.
10.	Informant 66, 67	Actions that undoubtedly leave trauma on the victim.
11.	Informant 68	Actions that are essentially non-physical violence.
12	Informant 69, 70, 72	Intentional violence aimed at humiliating the victim.
13.	Informant 73, 74	Actions that make the victim uncomfortable.
14.	Informant 75	Actions that harm the victim even if they do not cause physical injury.
15.	Informant 76, 78	Genuinely immoral actions.
16.	Informant 80	Serious violence.
17.	Informant 82, 83	The violence will have profound psychological impacts.
18.	Informant 84, 85	Actions that one person does to hurt another.
19.	Informant 87	Psychological and verbal violence.

Source: Data Analysis Results by the Authors' Team, 2024

From this data, several important conclusions emerge. First, interpretations of sexism vary widely among informants, reflecting the influence of personal experiences, beliefs, and values on their

understanding of sexist behavior. Second, many informants emphasize the emotional and psychological harm caused by sexism, highlighting its detrimental effects on victims' well-being, including trauma, humiliation, and prolonged psychological impact. Third, several informants acknowledge that sexism affects both women and men, challenging the notion that only women are victims, and recognizing that sexist behaviors can target any gender. Fourth, the diversity in perceptions underscores the need for greater awareness and education about sexism's harmful consequences and calls for proactive prevention strategies within society.

An example illustrating hostility toward women emerged in the account of an informant facing body-shape-related verbal abuse:

> "In a previous interview, I was called a "living skeleton" due to my thin body weight. I received all the negative comments from those people and blamed myself for the body shape I had. The insults about my body shape continued even as my body weight increased. In both family and friends circles, I often encountered teasing and discrimination. "Just lose a little weight; your body is already like a buffalo (and other large animals)". (Informant 4 from an interview on 12th December 2023)

These personal narratives correspond with Chamberland et al. (2007), who classify violence into tangible physical violence, restrictions on freedom that limit women's autonomy, and emotional abuse involving verbal and psychological harm. Carmody (2015) further stresses women's particular vulnerability to freedom constraints and emotional abuse. Gender differences also affect perceptions of violence, as men and women may interpret and experience violence distinctly.

The Two Main Clusters Contributing to Sexist Behavior: Stereotyping and Gender Role Discrimination

Gender stereotypes are beliefs that the attributes of men and women give rise to expectations about how they should behave. Eagly et al. (2000) revealed that gender stereotypes reflect the gender-based division of labor and gender hierarchy in society. Eagly et al. (2000) also added that men and women are indeed perceived to have their social roles, where men tend to be more associated with activities that require speed, strength, and the possibility of being away from home for extended periods, while women are preferred to stay at home and engage in household chores, such as caring for and raising children. As a result, men are more viewed as suitable for being active, independent, and capable problem solvers, while women are more associated with friendly behavior, being helpful, and being perceived as weak. Wood and Eagly (2002) also explained that gender stereotypes are shaped by characteristics and activities that align with the types of work and family roles inherent in individuals, where women are expected to embody feminine gender roles, as expressed by an informant who participated in this research:

"An example that I bring in this case is a situation that my older sister experienced. During a work conversation with her colleagues, one of her male coworkers expressed that women seem unable to do things men do, such as changing water gallons, painting, etc. My sister then responded that they could and asked her male coworker in return, "Are you good at cooking?" The man replied, "No, I am not good at it; cooking is something that women should be able to do, to cook for their husbands; husbands just enjoy it." (Informant 5 from the interview on 12th December 2023)

Donaghue and Fallon (2003) analyzed gender stereotypes and roles as cultural expectations that socially place individuals according to gender. Eagly and Karau (1991) and Kidder (2002) also share the same view by stating that gender roles are part of the behavioral standards present in social environments. Chodrow (1994) further emphasizes that gender roles refer to the early childhood period that is socially agreed upon. In essence, Chodorow's hypothesis suggests that young girls tend to emulate their mothers and adopt their behavior as a norm, which has become widely accepted in society. Conversely, adolescent boys actively seek out role models and construct their identities. Society typically encourages teenage girls to embody empathetic, social, and nurturing traits, while adolescent boys are expected to exhibit bravery, independence, and excellence.

Kidder (2002) offers his opinion regarding gender roles, assuming that individuals internalize gender expectations due to social pressures that expect their behavior to be consistent with the gender roles attached to them. Society tends to refer to these expectations to categorize themselves with other groups, serving as a guide in determining their social identity. These categories significantly impact individuals' lives and personal relationships (Donaghue & Fallon, 2003), as well as their careers and income (Eagly & Karau, 1991; Kidder, 2002; Stickney & Konrad, 2007), holiday activities (Malcolm, 2003), and emotional expressions such as fear and anxiety (Gallacher & Klieger, 2001; Palapattu et al., 2006). There is an expectation for individuals to align their behavior with their gender identification, and deviating from these societal norms can result in negative consequences (Kidder & Parks, 2001). For instance, Heikes (1991) reveals that men who undertake domestic tasks traditionally associated with women, such as childcare, may face scrutiny and judgment. Similarly, a girl participating in traditionally male-dominated activities like softball may encounter conflict (Malcolm, 2003). Stickney and Konrad (2007) further explain that women who diverge from traditional gender stereotypes are often less favored than those who conform to societal expectations.

Gender roles change due to age (Malcolm, 2003) and self-stereotyping (Gallacher & Klieger, 2001), revealing that gender is dynamic and can depend on age, life situations, or race. These findings describe a society where some gender roles may persist, although some may change under certain conditions and situations. Gender roles have been applied in many fields, placing that women are expected to have nurturing and social traits, as well as maintaining relationships, but women are also expected to avoid activities described as masculine and vice versa.

"I am often considered not fitting the masculine image in my social circle. My friends often judge me as less manly or masculine because I am not interested in playing football or games like PES and FIFA. I also need clarification about why there is a stereotype that a man should be interested in football. For me, football as a sport should not be associated with a specific gender. Football should be a sport that everyone can enjoy, regardless of gender." (Informant 6 from the interview on 12th December 2023)

Gender stereotypes are firmly rooted cultural norms that prescribe appropriate behavior based on an individual's gender. These stereotypes frequently serve to uphold traditional gender norms, linking specific traits and actions with masculinity or femininity. For example, societal norms dictate that women demonstrate nurturing and compassion, whereas men are expected to exhibit strength and self-reliance. These stereotypes establish societal expectations and influence individual behavior and relationships.

The correlation between gender stereotypes and gender discrimination is demonstrated by the perpetuation of unequal treatment and opportunities based on gender norms. Non-conformity to these stereotypes can result in individuals experiencing discrimination or bias. For example, men involved in traditionally female-associated activities like childcare may be perceived as diverging from societal norms and consequently encounter backlash for not adhering to conventional masculine roles. Likewise, women engaging in activities typically deemed masculine, such as playing sports like football, may face opposition or criticism for not adhering to traditional gender norms.

Gender discrimination ensues when individuals encounter unfair or unequal treatment based on their gender, often originating from entrenched gender stereotypes. These discriminatory behaviors can materialize across diverse spheres of life, encompassing education, employment, and social interactions. For instance, women may confront discrimination in professional settings, such as receiving lower wages or encountering restricted opportunities for career progression, owing to stereotypes portraying them as less competent compared to men. Conversely, men showcasing traits or interests traditionally associated with femininity may face marginalization or ridicule for diverging from conventional gender norms.

Gender stereotypes play a significant role in shaping societal expectations and behaviors related to gender. These stereotypes can contribute to gender discrimination by perpetuating unequal treatment and opportunities based on gender. Addressing and challenging these stereotypes is crucial in promoting gender equality and creating a more inclusive and equitable society.

Sexism and Patriarchy

Johnson (2005) contends that patriarchy extends beyond the dynamics between men and women, encompassing issues of power, domination, and control that shape human existence. This system not only influences relationships between men and women but also among men themselves. Within patriarchy, men engage in competition and struggle to establish status, maintain power, and safeguard

themselves from perceived threats posed by other men. Foss, Foss, and Griffin (2006) observed that patriarchy can be understood as a social construct that positions male power and domination over women. Sexual harassment is perilous as its targets will confront traditional, exploitative, and patriarchal rules that are heavily laden with components of masculinity (Lee, 2000; Townsley & Geist, 2000). Ironically, at times, society becomes permissive towards sexual harassment due to the existence of these traditional patriarchal values.

Meanwhile, patriarchy, serving as a gateway to violence in the context of gender-based discrimination in the form of sexist behaviors, can occur anywhere, even within the family environment, as highlighted by one of the research informants.

> "Gender-based discrimination can occur anywhere, even within the family environment. From my personal experience and observing my sister, we have both been victims of gender-based violence and discrimination by our parents several times. The gender discrimination experienced by my sister often revolves around her actions. One example is when she wakes up late, our parents often say, "A girl should not wake up late." In contrast, my parents do not make such comments when I wake up late. This shows that my sister, as a woman, is not allowed to wake up late, while I, as a man, am permitted to do so". (Informant 7 from the interview on 12th December 2023)

Gender-based violence is not exempt from the experience of one of the research informants. He clearly expressed his expertise as outlined below:

> I am a homebody who rarely goes out unless invited or for specific events, so the majority of my time is spent inside my room or at home. My parents often say, "A boy always stays in his room; it is like you are a girl." Additionally, I am expected to have a solid and muscular body by my parents, with them saying, "A man should have a sturdy, muscular, and strong body.". (Informant 5 from the interview on 12th December 2023)

Sidanius and Pratto, as cited in Rollero et al. (2019), elaborate that sexism serves as the foundational framework for conceptions aligned with social dominance (Sidanius & Pratto, 1999). This suggests that all societal structures are organized within a hierarchical system, with gender as the primary differentiator. Social dominance is characterized as a "general orientation in intergroup relations, reflecting whether these relations are generally equal, challenging hierarchy" (Pratto et al., 1994). Individuals with patriarchal values support beliefs of one group's superiority over another, an ideology that legitimizes discrimination and is perceived as a truth (Sidanius & Pratto, 1999). Pratto et al. (2006) revealed that research findings across various cultures consistently indicate that women occupy a lower position in social dominance promoting patriarchal values compared to men. Christopher & Wojda (2008) suggest that from a perspective of social dominance rooted in patriarchy, sexism can be conceptualized as myths that uphold gender hierarchy and how men exert dominance in intimate relationships. BM reflects subjective behaviors towards men rooted in conventional roles where men are viewed as providers and guardians.

Sexism, as a system of prejudice and discrimination based on gender, can have a significant correlation with various forms of violence, including domestic violence, sexual assault, and harassment. This correlation stems from how sexist beliefs and attitudes perpetuate and normalize power imbalances between genders, leading to harmful behaviors and actions that disproportionately affect women and marginalized gender identities. There are two ways sexism could lead to violence. First, when men portray women as inferior and seek to maintain male dominance, it can contribute to the justification and perpetuation of violence against women. Individuals who hold these sexist beliefs may view women as objects to be controlled or as lesser beings, making it easier for them to rationalize abusive behaviors towards women. This normalization of violence against women is reinforced by societal norms that condone or overlook such behaviors, creating a cycle of harm. Second, when men idealize women as pure, nurturing, and in need of protection, it can also be linked to violence. This often reinforces traditional gender roles and expectations, which can restrict women's autonomy and agency. This can manifest in controlling behaviors, emotional manipulation, and even physical violence under the guise of "protecting" or "caring for" women. Such behaviors not only harm women but also perpetuate harmful stereotypes and power differentials. Therefore, the correlation between sexism and violence is rooted in the power dynamics and unhealthy beliefs that underpin gender inequality.

CONCLUSION

The intricate relationship between sexist beliefs and violence highlights a complex dynamic involving societal norms, gender stereotypes, and discriminatory actions. Sexism, which is grounded in notions of male superiority and female inferiority, plays a significant role in the prevalence of violence against women. Hostile sexism depicts women as challenging male authority, while benevolent sexism reinforces traditional gender roles and confines women to specific domestic duties. These perpetuated sexist attitudes result in concrete forms of violence, such as physical abuse, as well as emotional and freedom-restricting mistreatment.

Gender stereotypes are pivotal in shaping societal expectations and behaviors regarding gender, leading to gender discrimination when individuals diverge from these norms. Deviating from traditional gender roles can trigger bias and discrimination, affecting various aspects of individuals' lives, including career prospects and personal relationships. Confronting and challenging these stereotypes is crucial for advancing gender equality and cultivating a more inclusive society.

Patriarchy, as a structure of power and dominance, sustains gender-based discrimination and violence by reinforcing traditional gender norms and bolstering male supremacy. The presence of patriarchal values can foster tolerance towards sexism and harassment, fostering environments conducive

to gender-based violence. Addressing patriarchy and contesting sexist beliefs are essential steps in promoting a fairer and more just society for all individuals.

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15