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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AS A SOCIAL PROBLEM
БЫТОВОЕ НАСИЛИЕ КАК СОЦИАЛЬНАЯ ПРОБЛЕМА

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Аннотация. Проблему домашнего насилия давно перестали "засекречивать", аргументируя это тем, что фраза "не выносите ссоры из избы" является излюбленной у агрессоров. С каждым годом этой проблеме придается

все большее значение, жертвы уже не боятся говорить о домашнем насилии в семье. По данным Консорциума женских неправительственных организаций (КЖПО), в 2021 году 71,5% женщин умерли из-за домашнего насилия. Процент смертей из-за бытовых конфликтов и насилия значительно возрос во время пандемии, поскольку женщины были вынуждены постоянно находиться с агрессором на одной территории, в закрытом помещении.

Бытовое насилие существовало всегда, всегда и во всех обществах, но раньше ему не уделялось должного внимания, потому что общество носило патриархальный характер. В патриархальной семье женщина была обязана беспрекословно подчиняться мужу и терпеть побои. Точно так же в семье воспитывались дети. Телесные наказания были обязательны в семье. В нашей стране нет специального закона о борьбе с насилием в семье. Кроме того, насилие в семье противоречит моральным и этическим ценностям.

В этой статье мы сможем ознакомиться с социологическим исследованием на тему: "Отношение современной молодежи к домашнему насилию как социальной проблеме». В исследовании приняли участие студенты Национального исследовательского университета "БелГУ", Института социальных наук и массовых коммуникаций. Мы также сможем понять причины, разновидности, цикличность, последствия семейного насилия и способы предотвращения домашнего насилия в современном обществе.

Abstract. The problem of domestic violence has long ceased to exist "classified", arguing that the phrase "do not take quarrels out of the hut" is a favorite for aggressors. Every year, this problem is given more and more importance, victims are no longer afraid to talk about domestic violence in the family. According to the Consortium of Women's Non-Governmental Organizations (FGM), 71.5% of women died because of domestic violence in 2021. The percentage of deaths due to domestic conflict and violence increased significantly during the pandemic, because women were forced to constantly stay with the aggressor in the same territory, in a closed room.

Domestic violence has always existed, always and in all societies, but previously it was not given due attention, because society had a patriarchal character. In a patriarchal family, a woman was obliged to obey her husband implicitly and endure beatings.

Children were brought up in the same way in the family. Corporal punishment was mandatory in the family. There is no special law on combating domestic violence in our country. Also, domestic violence is repugnant to moral and ethical values.

In this article, we will be able to see a sociological study on the topic: "The attitude of modern youth to domestic violence as a social problem» student of the National Research University of BelSU, the Institute of Social Sciences and Mass Communications participated in the study. We will also be able to understand the causes, varieties, cycles, consequences of family violence and ways to prevent domestic abuse in modern society.

Ключевые слова: домашнее насилие; социальная проблема; семья; жертва; насильник; агрессор; жестокое обращение; зависимость.

Keywords: domestic violence; social problem; family; victim; rapist; aggressor; abuse; addiction

The purpose of the work: An author's study of the attitude of students at the Institute of Social Sciences and Mass Communications of the National Research University of BelSU.

Methodology: In the process of studying students' attitudes to domestic violence as a social problem, an empirical analysis was used using a questionnaire in the form of an online survey of the Google Forms service.

The object of research: students at the National Research University of BelSU

INTRODUCTION

Domestic violence is one of the urgent social problems of modern society. It should be said that domestic violence is not discriminatory. Its victim or culprit can be a person of any race, age, or religious affiliation. It also does not matter the socio-economic situation or the level of education. Domestic violence is a global problem affecting not only an individual family, but also society. This social phenomenon goes beyond family and household relations, somehow affecting the socio-economic, cultural, and spiritual sphere of public life.

Both Russian and foreign researchers E.I. Kholostova, I.V. Rodina, M.A. Gulina, L.V. Safonova, I.A. Grigorieva, Lenore Walker, M. Straus and others devoted their works to the problem of domestic violence.

According to statistics, 15,000 women die every year in Russia at the hands of their husbands (or at the hands of lovers, husbands, and roommates). According to statistics from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, in 2019 there were about 176 thousand victims, of which about 60% were women, 33% under the age of eighteen, and men – 7%.

The total number of women killed in domestic conflicts in the Russian Federation (according to the Ministry of Internal Affairs) in 2015 was 304, in 2016 - 352, in 2017 – 288, in 2018 – 253 and in 2019 – 2432.

However, do not forget that these are not real figures, because most victims do not contact law enforcement agencies, fearing to aggravate the situation and become the object of universal attention [2, c. 248]. Wives are afraid of the consequences of their statements about violence and say that they do not want to bear the stigma of a beaten woman [3, c. 194]. Some of them may believe that they deserve to be beaten because of wrong actions on their part. Other women refrain from talking about abuse because they are afraid that their partners will harm them in response to the disclosure of family "secrets".

According to many researchers, domestic violence (family violence) is any behavioral pattern, the purpose of which is to gain power and control over a spouse, partner, girlfriend/boyfriend, or a close family member, while using such types of violent actions as physical, economic, psychological, and sexual [4, c. 149]. It should also be added that abuse can be present in both heterosexual and homosexual relationships, as well as in relation to former spouses or partners, in relation to children and the elderly [2, c. 248]. Consider the types of family violence.

Physical violence is the use of brute force to inflict bodily harm on another person [5, c. 34].

Psychological violence is behavior that aims to cause emotional or mental harm. [6, c. 80]. It may not hurt the body, but it can be just as painful and painful in a relationship. It may include:

- a threat to harm children or other people who are important to a person.
- actions aimed at embarrassing a person in public or in front of family, friends, or people they work with.
- a derogatory attitude towards a person because of things that they cannot change, such as religion, race, disability, gender, family.

Economic violence is a form of violence by close partners. Although its definition and boundaries are not clear, economic violence or economic harm refers to behavior aimed at depriving the victim of all or any of his economic or financial resources. The financial vulnerability of women is the main reason why they do not leave abusive relationships.

Sexual violence is any form of forced or unwanted sexual activity by one person against another. A rapist or aggressor may use physical force, threaten, or use a person who is unable to fight back against him.

American researcher Lenore Walker has developed a theory of the cyclical nature of domestic violence, which, in her opinion, consists of 4 phases (See Figure 1).

The first phase is an increase in tension, the second is a scandal, i.e. conflict, the third is reconciliation and the fourth phase is a calm period of relations. It follows that the victim cannot break out of such a painful relationship. But, and the rapist, in turn, is interested in such a relationship until as long as the victim can defend himself.

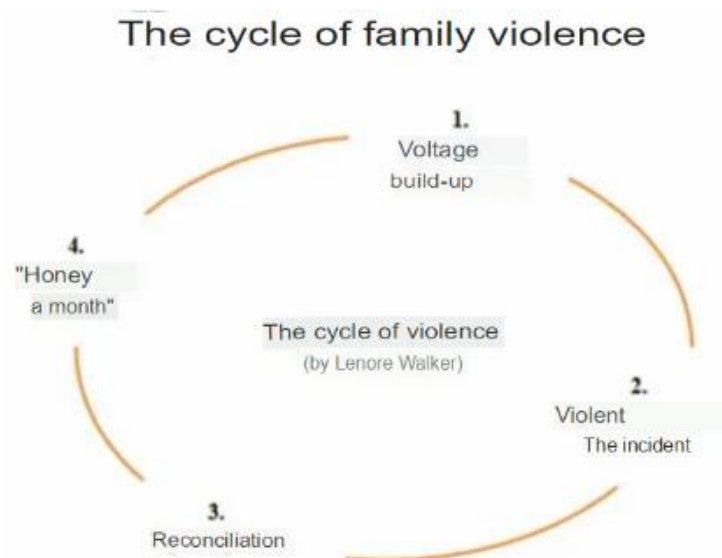


Figure 1. The cycle of violence by Lenore Walker

The main causes of domestic violence include unfavorable financial situation, psychopathic predisposition, alcohol and drug use, lack of legislative projects to protect against domestic violence, and more.

There is no direct federal law in Russia on the prevention of domestic violence and assistance to victims of it. Domestic violence against family members is not something inspired by modern realities. This attitude towards women has been around for centuries. Cultural mores, religious customs, economic and political realities may well become catalysts for domestic violence, but in the end, the choice to commit an act of violence or not has always been and remains a personal choice for everyone, regardless of external factors. The gender imbalance in domestic violence is partly related to differences in physical strength and size. In societies with patriarchal power structures and rigid gender roles, women are often unable to defend themselves if their partners resort to brute physical force. Husbands, as a rule, feel that they are exercising their right to maintain order in the family, which in turn means punishing their wives for their faults and mistakes.

In the past centuries, the patriarchal family dominated, in which women occupied a subordinate position. According to the famous literary monument of the XVI century "Domostroy", care was expressed in the regular teaching of the wife through beatings. It was necessary to beat a woman so that the wife would not lead her husband into the temptation of Satan, as the medieval church taught. Women had to endure beatings. Children were brought up in the same way [7, с. 192]. Corporal punishment was mandatory to avoid future vices [8, с. 134]. For example, the Ossetians in the past centuries had a popular custom of avoidance. The essence of the custom was that there were prohibitions in the family – this is avoidance between parents and children, between wife and relatives, between spouses. This custom helped large families to avoid conflicts, and therefore domestic violence. Thanks to this, large families did not break up into small ones. Problem Domestic violence was recognized in many countries in the twentieth century. In 1960, for the first time, a law was introduced in the United States that prevented domestic violence.

Domestic violence as a social problem in Russia began to be publicly discussed in early 1993. Representatives of women's organizations and experts in the field of gender

studies initiated the discussion of such a delicate issue [9, с. 156]. Now, there is no legislative act in the Russian Federation that would regulate domestic violence. In 2016 and 2019, the draft law of Federal Law No. 1183390-6 "On the prevention of domestic violence" was submitted to the State Duma, but it has not yet been adopted and was sent for revision to the authors of the bill. Even though there is no law regulating domestic violence, there is a constitution of the country that guarantees every citizen of the Russian Federation protection of personal dignity (Article 21, paragraph 2): "No one should be subjected to torture, violence, or other cruel or degrading treatment or punishment." And in conditions of self-isolation and the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID 19), cases of domestic violence have increased.

The consequences for victims of domestic violence are bodily injuries (injuries, fractures, concussions, etc.), mental disorders, post-traumatic stress, sleep disorders, depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, suicide, alcohol, or drug use, etc.

There are many organizations and crisis centers in the Russian Federation whose activities are aimed at combating and preventing domestic violence [9, с. 156]. There are organizations in RSO-Alania that provide legal and psychological assistance to women and children in difficult situations ("Republican Center for Medical, Socio-Psychological Assistance", Republican Center for Social Rehabilitation of Minors "Kind Heart", Center for Psychological, Pedagogical, medical and Social Assistance "Trust", Online project "Hot" and other centers, and institutions).

Social work plays an important role in preventing domestic violence. Pathogenetic social work is used to offset the effects of domestic violence. Its peculiarity lies in the fact that it is a transdisciplinary type of professional activity of a pedagogical, medical, legal, psychological nature, and it is aimed at restoring the personality and further maintaining the personal growth of a victim of domestic violence [2, с. 246].

Being implemented in different fields of activity, social work borrows various types and methods of work from these areas [10, с. 292]. An example of such borrowings may be:

- rehabilitation and psychotherapeutic methods of work in the field of healthcare.
- methods of social counseling, service, patronage from the sphere of social protection of the population.

The activities of a social worker with a victim of domestic violence are divided into the following groups:

- Work to save the victim.
- Work to maintain the social functioning of the victim.
- Work on the social development of the victim [2, с. 246].

In cases where a social worker sees that his client's life and health are in real danger, he can use the services of crisis centers and hospital shelters that will provide comprehensive support to the victim, and most importantly, they will become a place for her to hide from the abuser. The victim's difficult financial situation gives her the right to seek emergency social assistance (or targeted assistance). The essence of maintaining the social functioning of the victim is that the social worker organizes activities for comprehensive social and psychological rehabilitation. Such activities include professional training and retraining of the victim in order to become financially independent.

THE MAIN PART

- ❖ Using Google Forms, we conducted a social survey and asked the following questions:
- ❖ Are you aware of cases of violence committed in the families of your friends and acquaintances?

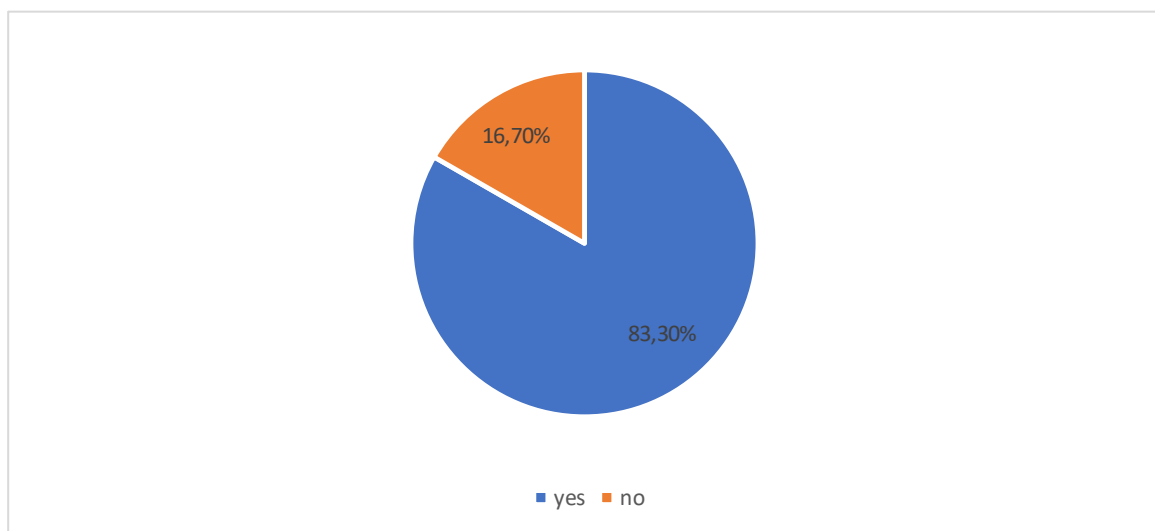


Chart 1 «Are you aware of cases of violence committed in the families of your friends and acquaintances?»

The issue of awareness of social groups regarding the commission of violent acts is extremely important for our work. So, 83.3% of respondents answered positively,

16.7% answered negatively, which allows us to conclude that the problem of domestic violence is of an acute social nature. (view the chart 1)

❖ What were the known cases of violence?

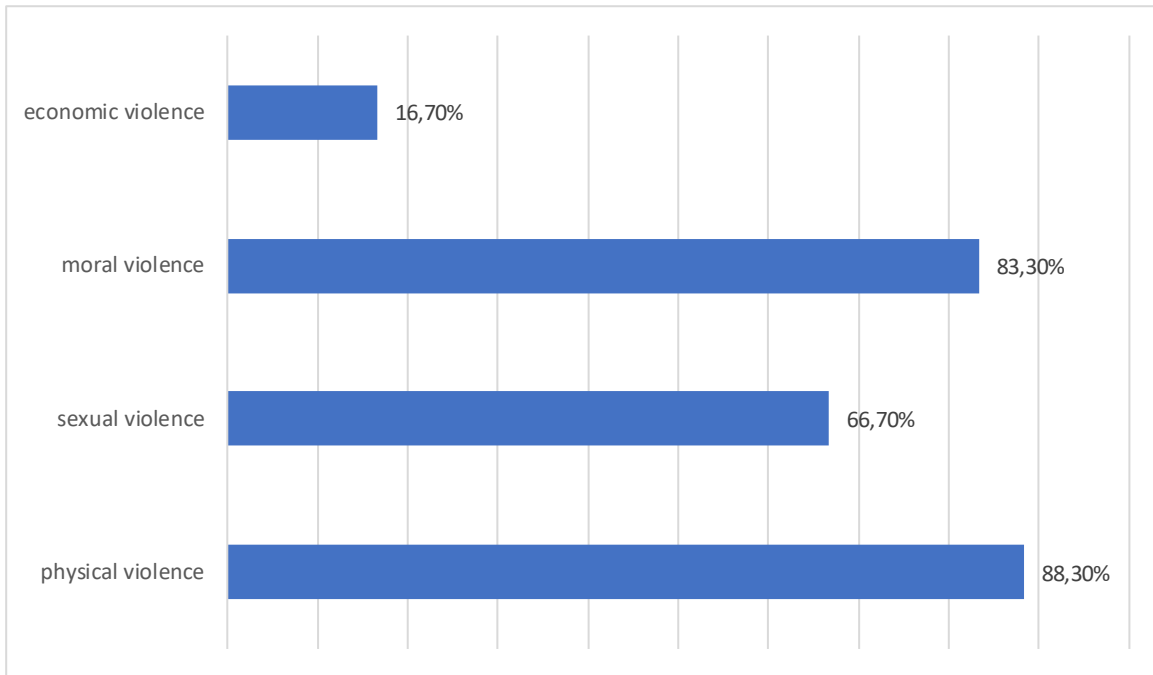


Figure 2 "What were the known cases of violence?"

Having considered the answers to this question, we understand that among respondents who have experienced domestic violence, physical violence and moral violence are in the lead (83.3%), sexual violence in families was exposed (66.7%) of respondents, and economic violence 16.7%. This statistic shocked us. Once again, we have received evidence that domestic violence is an acute social problem. (see Diagram 2)

❖ Do you think there is a problem of domestic abuse in our country?

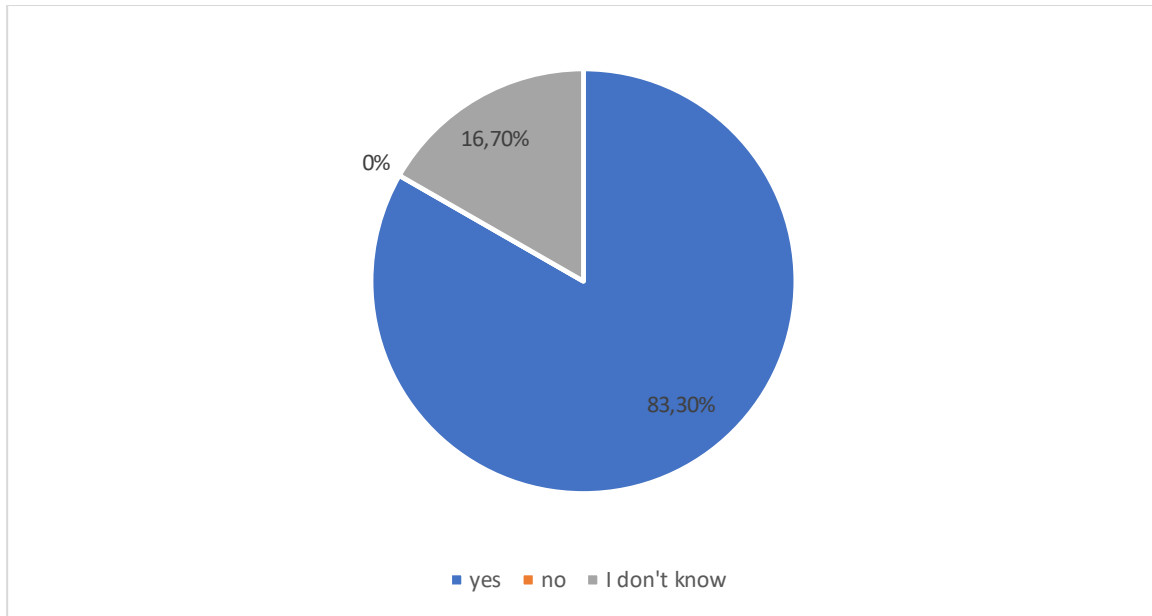


Figure 3 "Do you think there is a problem of domestic abuse in our country?"

Thanks to this question, we understand that 83.3% of respondents believe that the problem of domestic violence in our country takes place, that it is an acute social problem. 16.7% of respondents do not understand whether this problem exists in our country. People who believe that this problem does not exist have not been identified, which allows us to confirm our hypothesis about the scale of the problem. . (see Diagram 3)

❖ What are the main causes of domestic violence?

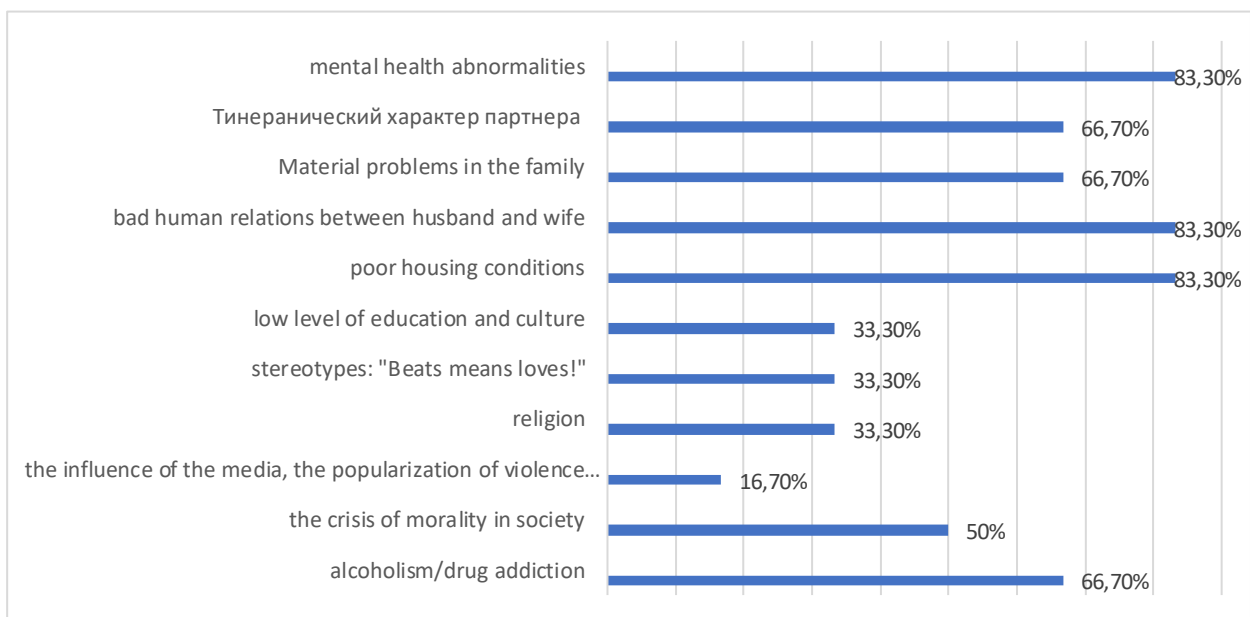


Figure 4 "Do you think there is a problem of domestic abuse in our country?"

From the data we received from this question, we understand that respondents consider low level of education, poor human relations between husband and wife,

deviation in psychological health (83.3%) to be the most important and fundamental factors of domestic violence. Further, the survey participants deduced the following reasons: the tyrannical nature of the partner, financial problems in the family, dependence on deviant behavior (alcohol and drug use-66.7%. Next, 50% of respondents consider the moral crisis in society to be one of the causes of domestic violence. 33.3% of respondents believe that the reasons are the low level of education and culture, stereotypical thinking, and religious beliefs. The smallest percentage of respondents are sure that the reasons lie in the influence of the media on society. The data give us the opportunity to confirm that this problem is active even in modern society. . (see Diagram 4)

- ❖ What measures, in your opinion, can be most effective for the prevention of domestic violence in the family?

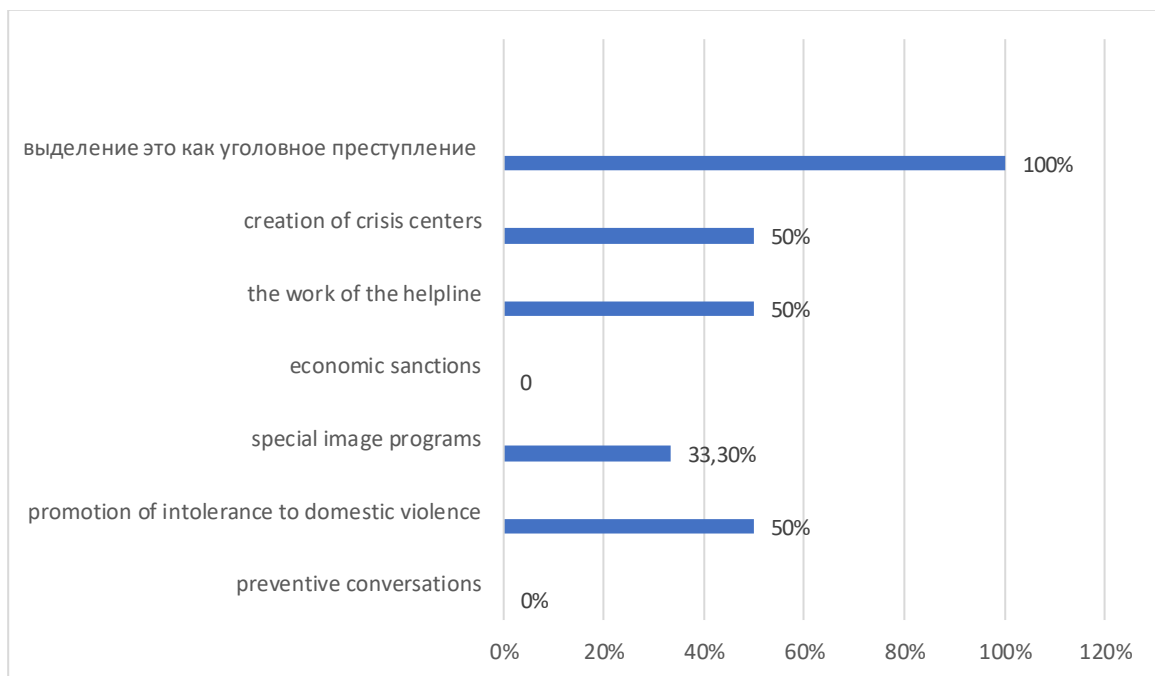


Figure 5 "What measures, in your opinion, can be most effective for the prevention of domestic violence in the family?"

We see that 100% of respondents believe that to combat domestic violence, it is necessary to consolidate it as a criminal offense. Improving the work of helplines, creating crisis centers, and promoting intolerance, according to 50% of respondents, would also have a positive impact on the situation. (see Diagram 5)

CONCLUSION

Thus, properly coordinated work of law enforcement agencies, medical institutions and social service agencies can play an important role in preventing violence in family and household relations, helping to identify families at risk in a timely manner, carry out preventive measures, provide victims with appropriate treatment and support throughout the rehabilitation period. In turn, crisis centers should become a place where the victim feels comfortable and safe. A place where she is treated with due respect and where she can receive multi-level help. At the same time, it is necessary to introduce a new bill in the Russian Federation on the prevention of domestic violence.

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