



Statistics on Family Violence Among Muslims

United States

- **Therapy Patients:** In a study of 190 Muslims seeking mental health counseling in Northern Virginia, 41% experienced domestic violence in the form of verbal, emotional, physical, and sexual abuse. Victims were 71% adult females, 12% adult males, and 16% children. 60% of all clients experienced verbal or psychological abuse in their lifetime, 50% physical abuse, 14% sexual abuse, and 3% reported having a relative killed. (Abugideiri 2007)
- **Prevalence:** A survey of 63 Muslim leaders showed that 10% of Muslims experienced physical abuse in their homes. (Alkhateeb 1999)
- **Prevalence:** A study of 23 Muslim married female immigrants from Bangladesh residing in Houston, Texas revealed a 10% prevalence rate of spousal abuse. (Rianon and Shelton 2003)
- **Attitudes:** A study of 162 women and 40 men was conducted in 202 Arab-American homes (98% of whom were Muslim). Interviewees approved of a man slapping his wife under the following conditions: 34% of women and 33% of men if she insults him when they are at home alone, 17% of women and 43% of men if she insults him in public, and 59% of both women and men if she hits him first in an argument. (Kulwicki and Miller 1999)
- **Women's Shelter Residents:** A study of 57 closed-case files from an American Muslim women's shelter revealed that 37% had experienced multiple types of abuse, 23% experienced physical abuse, and 12% experienced emotional abuse. (Abdullah 2007)
- **Role of Imams:** A study of 22 mosques in New York found that 96% of the participants perceived the imam as a counselor, and 74% had sought counseling from imams for safety issues. (Abu-Ras and Gheith 2006)

International

- **Afghan Attitudes:** In a study of 121 Afghan women and men, over 30% felt increasingly concerned about family violence. (Abirafeh 2007)
- **Bengali Women:** A study of 2677 Bengali women aged 13-40 revealed that three out of four (75.6%) experienced violence from their husbands. (Silverman et al. 2007)
- **Egyptian Women:** In study of 631 Egyptian women, 22% experienced intimate partner violence. (Vizcarra et al. 2004)
- **Iranian Women:** A study of 1800 pregnant Iranian women found that 60.6% of the women experienced multiple forms of domestic violence, including psychological (60.5%), physical (14.6%), and sexual (23.5%) violence. (Jahanfar & Malekzadegan 2007)
- **Lebanese Women:** A study of 1418 Lebanese women attending primary health centers found that 35% experienced domestic violence, including verbal abuse (88%) and physical violence (66%). (Usta, Farver & Pashayan 2007)
- **Pakistani Women:** A study of 1324 pregnant Pakistani women found that 51% had experienced verbal, physical or sexual abuse in the six months prior to and/or during their pregnancies. (Karmaliani et al. 2008)
- **Palestinian Women:** In a study of 395 married women and men living in refugee camps, the majority of men (60.1%) and women (61.8%) believed that wife beating is justified in most situations. (Khawaja, Linos & El-Roueiheb 2008)
- **Sudanese Patients:** A study of 146 Sudanese women at an outpatient clinic found that 45.8% had been victims of domestic violence. (Ahmed 2007)
- **Turkish Women:** In a study of 506 Turkish women attending health centers, 58% experienced domestic violence (primarily psychological and physical) frequently and continuously (Alper et al. 2005)



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