Survey on Violence between Men and Women

7th Global Forum on Gender Statistics
November 2018

Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office, Japan
Violence against women is a serious violation of human rights, and seriously impairs the formation of gender-equal society where men and women respect each other’s dignity and promote establishment of an even relationship.

Cases of damages caused by spouses or intimate friends, such as violence, sexual crimes and sexual violence, are becoming a serious social issue in Japan. Since such damages tend to be hidden, it is necessary to conduct a regular survey on a continuous basis, thereby correctly understanding the actual situation of violence.

※ In Japan, the “Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims” (established in 2001) and the “Fourth Basic Plan for Gender Equality” (determined in 2015) provide that efforts shall be made to research and study violence against women.

The Japanese Government understands the actual situations of violence between men and women through a survey conducted every three years (which has been conducted seven times since FY1999, when the survey was started.)
Overview of the survey

Name of the survey
"Survey on Violence between Men and Women"

Target of the survey
5,000 people (men and women) over the age of 20 throughout Japan
(4,500 people until FY2005)

Major survey items
(1) Experience of receiving spousal violence ⇒ DV
(2) Experience of receiving violence from an intimate friend ⇒ DV
(3) Experience of being persistently approached, etc. ⇒ Stalker
(4) Experience of being forced to have sexual intercourse, etc. ⇒ Sexual violence

How to conduct the survey
Questionnaire survey with random samples
(selectable from among mail survey, in-person survey and on-line survey)
※ Collection rate of the questionnaire ⇒ Approx. 68.7% (the average of the past seven surveys)

Main survey contents

- Have you ever become a victim? (type of violence, timing, relationship with the assailant, etc.)

- Did you feel you might be killed when you were subject to violence?

- Change of life after receiving violence

- Situation of consultation after receiving violence (Did you consult anyone? If yes, whom? If no, why not?) etc.
(1) Violence by spouses

Note: "Spouses" include ex-spouses (after divorce, bereavement or dissolution of de facto marriage), as well as de facto partners (without submission of a notification of marriage) and estranged spouses.
## Survey results for FY2017  (1) Violence by spouses

### Ratio of respondents who have received violence from their spouse (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Violence</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Several times</th>
<th>Once or twice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical assault</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>17.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>15.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological attack</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic pressure</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual extortion</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Ratio of respondents who felt they might be killed (%)

- **Female**: 15.0%
- **Male**: 3.1%

*(Females: n=427) (Males: n=223)*
Survey results for FY2017  (1) Violence by spouses

Approx. one in three women who have had a spouse have received violence from the spouse.

Approx. one in seven women have received violence several times.
Survey results for FY2017 (1) Violence by spouses

Did you consult anyone about your damage? (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes, I consulted someone</th>
<th>No, I didn't consult anyone</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Females:</strong></td>
<td>57.6</td>
<td>38.2</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Males:</strong></td>
<td>26.9</td>
<td>69.5</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The most respondents reply that they consulted "family members and relatives" or "friends and acquaintances". Only a small percentage of respondents consulted the "police".

Why didn't you consult anyone? (Only items with the most answers; %)

- **It was so minor that I didn't have to consult anyone**
  - **Females:** 54.6%
  - **Males:** 61.9%

- **I thought that I was to blame**
  - **Females:** 33.7%
  - **Males:** 34.8%

- **I thought that it was no use consulting anyone**
  - **Females:** 25.2%
  - **Males:** 19.4%

- **I thought that it would be all right if I put up with violence**
  - **Females:** 31.3%
  - **Males:** 12.9%

- **I didn't intend to part with my spouse**
  - **Females:** 19.6%
  - **Males:** 14.2%
(2) Violence by intimate friends
Survey results for FY2017  (2) Violence by intimate friends

Ratio of respondents who have received violence from their intimate friend (%)

- Physical assault
  - Females: 21.4%
  - Males: 11.5%

- Psychological attack
  - Females: 10.7%
  - Males: 6.3%

- Economic pressure
  - Females: 7.8%
  - Males: 13.6%

- Sexual extortion
  - Females: 6.3%
  - Males: 2.5%

Ratio of respondents who felt they might be killed (%)

- Females: 21.3%
- Males: 12.1%

(Females: n=207)  
(Males: n=99)

Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office, Japan
Survey results for FY2017 (2) Violence by intimate friends

Did you consult anyone about your damage? (%)

Yes, I consulted someone  No, I didn't consult anyone  No answer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>61.8</td>
<td>43.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>35.7</td>
<td>52.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The most respondents reply that they consulted "family members and relatives" or "friends and acquaintances". Only a small percentage of respondents consulted the "police".

Why didn't you consult anyone? (Only items with the most answers; %)

- It was so minor that I didn't have to consult anyone
- I thought that it was no use consulting anyone
- I thought that it would be all right if I put up with violence
- I thought that I was to blame
- I felt too embarrassed to consult anyone

(Females: n=207) (Males: n=99)

(Females: n=74) (Males: n=52)
(3) Damage from persistent approach, etc.
Survey results for FY2017  (3) Damage from persistent approach, etc.

Ratio of respondents who have been persistently approached (%)

Per type of violence
- I was persistently asked to see or go out with someone
  - M: 4.5, F: 10.9
  - M: 2.5, F: 7.2
- I was followed or ambushed
  - M: 2.2, F: 7.0
- I was told that I was being monitored
  - M: 1.2, F: 3.2
- Rude behavior
  - M: 1.8, F: 3.2
- Silent phone calls and continuous email transmission
  - M: 2.5, F: 5.9
- Dirt, etc. was sent to me
  - M: 0.3, F: 0.3
- I was dishonored
  - M: 1.4, F: 2.3
- I was sexually insulted
  - M: 0.4, F: 1.3

Ratio of respondents who felt they might be killed (%)
- M: 27.1, F: 25.9
  - (Females: n=197) (Males: n=70)

Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office, Japan
Did you consult anyone about your damage? (%)

(Females: n=197)  (Males: n=70)

- Yes, I consulted someone: 81.2% (F)  55.7% (M)
- No, I didn't consult anyone: 18.3% (F)  38.6% (M)
- No answer: 0.5% (F)  5.7% (M)

Compared with cases of DV, a larger percentage of respondents reply they consulted someone.

Why didn't you consult anyone? (Only items with the most answers; %)

- It was so minor that I didn't have to consult anyone:
  - F: 33.3%  
  - M: 51.9%
- I thought that it was no use consulting anyone:
  - F: 27.8%  
  - M: 25.9%
- I thought that it would be all right if I put up with the damage:
  - F: 22.2%  
  - M: 11.1%
- I thought that, if anyone knew about the damage, my relationship with that person would never be the same again:
  - F: 16.7%  
  - M: 14.8%
- I did not want to involve others:
  - F: 16.7%  
  - M: 11.1%

Survey results for FY2017  (3) Damage from persistent approach, etc.
(4) Forced sexual intercourse, etc.
### Survey results for FY2017

#### Ratio of respondents who have been forced to have sexual intercourse, etc. (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Females: n=1,807)  (Males: n=1,569)

#### Relationship with the assailant

(only items with the most answers; %)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Relationship</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Males</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spouse or ex-spouse</td>
<td>26.2</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intimate friend or former intimate friend</td>
<td>24.8</td>
<td>17.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People (excluding customers) at my workplace (including places where I work part-time)</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total stranger</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Females: n=141)  (Males: n=23)

#### When were you victimized? (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Males</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before enrollment in elementary school</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When in elementary school</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When in junior high school</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After graduating from junior high school, before turning 17 years old</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>17.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 or 19 years old</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 29 years old</td>
<td>30.4</td>
<td>52.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 to 39 years old</td>
<td>21.3</td>
<td>26.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 to 49 years old</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 years old or older</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Females: n=141)  (Males: n=23)
Survey results for FY2017 (4) Forced sexual intercourse, etc.

Did you consult anyone about your damage? (%)

Why didn't you consult anyone? (Only items with the most answers; %)

- I felt too embarrassed to consult anyone
  - Females: 55.4%
  - Males: 22.2%
- I thought that it would be all right if I put up with the damage
  - Females: 27.7%
  - Males: 33.3%
- I didn't want to remember the damage
  - Females: 24.1%
  - Males: 11.1%
- I thought it was so minor that I didn't have to consult anyone
  - Females: 20.5%
  - Males: 22.2%
- I thought that it was no use consulting anyone
  - Females: 18.1%
  - Males: 33.3%

Compared with cases of DV and stalkers, a smaller percentage of respondents reply they consulted someone.

The percentage of respondents who have consulted the "police" or the "designated contact office for supporting victims of sexual crimes and sexual violence" is also low.
Situations of main usage of the survey results

- Materials to be used when considering revision of laws ⇒ The laws have been revised three times
- Materials to be considered in connection with support for victims (including improvement of the consultation framework, prevention and awareness raising)
- Basic materials to be used as performance indicators of, or at the time of establishment of, the Government's Basic Plan for Gender Equality
- Materials to be considered in meetings for discussing violence against women
- Materials for public relations and awareness raising (to make people recognize the existence of violence)
Thank you!