



UNIVERSITETET I AGDER

Me too... I Can't Breathe

Welfare and Social development of Violated immigrant women in Norway. (Immigrant's women married to Norwegian).

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This master’s thesis is part of the academic requirement Department of Global Development and Planning, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Agder. The University of Agder is not responsible for any research conducted or the content of information in this project. This research project is my original authentic work done with my knowledge and experiences and data extracted during fieldwork.

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Abbreviations

DSF	Central the National Population Register (Det sentrale Folkeregistret)
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOJAPS	Ministry of Justice and Public Security
NOVA	Norwegian Social Research
SSB	Statistics Norway's population statistics (Statistisk Sentralbyrå befolkningsstatistikk)
SSS	Stine Sofia Centre
UDI	Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (Utlendingsdirektoratet)
WHO	World Health Organization

Forward

This thesis concludes my master's degree in social studies acquired from the Department of Social Science at the University of Agder. The thesis journey has been highly informative and thoroughly enhanced my perception and knowledge in the Social Science field. The period through this study has been exceptionally challenging and rewarding at the same time and it paved a significant milestone in my life. I want to express my appreciation to UIA, and exceptional gratitude to my supervisor Hege Bergljot Wallevik who supervised and guided my thesis journey. Eternal gratitude to my parents and my daughter who encouraged me to pursue my aspirations. Furthermore, I want to thank the Crisis Center representatives who supported and encouraged my work. Finally, I am thankful to my Norwegian family at Stine Sofie Center for reviving our lives, giving me the power to be a survivor of abuse and thrive in life.

I like to extend an enormous thank to the people who participated in this research, despite their circumstances and COVID19 pandemic challenges. Without it will be impossible for me to gather valid raw data directly. I admire their bravery and straightforwardness and enthusiasm to come forward to discuss their deeply personal and tragic stories that caused enormous pain and suffering while for some the cycle of violence is ongoing. I have a higher regard for them being honest and open with me, investing their time and efforts in sharing their stories, and, more importantly, trusting me in this endeavor. I also want to thank MIRA Centre, NAV, Lawyers, Healthcare workers, Volunteers organizations, and other individual participants for their time, efforts, enthusiasm, contribution, and all the encouragement which contributed valuable insights to the research project. I received overwhelming support from many individuals for bringing this topic a life. All those who believed in me to make a difference in my social studies made a fulfilling journey. Finally, particularly grateful to my colleague Saul Tamwine who volunteered to proofread some chapters of my project without any hesitation.

Motivation

The research intends to unveil essential insights on a critical social problem related to immigrant women in Norway. It aims to explore the story of battered immigrant women that are married to Norwegians. The thesis empirical through interviews unveils physical, psychological, emotional, sexual, and financial violence and controls; how it impacts the individual and society that becomes a social problem. The longitudinal interviews and widespread reports revealed control and violence among the 18 participants in the study. The literacy included generating a set of autobiographical narratives to serve as sources of qualitative data on violated immigrant women's battered lifecycle

of life, work, welfare, and social relationships. The literature and empirical bring to the audience on battered women's lifecycles and the obstacles that use retrospective sabotage and violence in several different layers. Many victims' stories are hidden and buried in society as they remain silent and inability to voice their stories to the outside world. Although this thesis is a part of the completion of my Master's; I wish to bring this to a wider audience to attract students, the community, and policymakers to research it further, find a rational resolution and prevent the recurrence of ostracism of Intimate Partner Violence for immigrant women, is my distinct goal.

This research journey began from a personal experience as a foreigner and academic researcher who is a survivor of IPV from a Norwegian spouse. During my long corporate career in workplaces around the world, I encountered distinct IPV incidents towards women and managed to rescue and empower many women, and thought had seen, heard, and witnessed all crueler versions. Yet, I was naive to think such ferocious violence does not occur in Norwegian society. When I became a victim of IPV myself in Norway, I recognized the revulsion of how an individual and society, systems are interconnected to violence and how institutional influence indirectly enables domestic violence that paralyzes the victim. It is not only an individual personal ordeal it inherits collateral damage to the social-economic world. As a survivor, I can understand from a comprehensive reflection of both internal and external factors. My experience elucidates individual risk for victimization and the consequences of the victim's ferocious physical and mental health while how destructive to the children, family, and the socio-economic world. This research was the most demanding and psychologically challenging journey that cost me a treacherous psychological and physical breakdown during data collection, writing, and reading. Yet feel obligated to speak on behalf of the abused community, as well as both private and public institutions striving to help and prevent violence.

Also, it is essential to safeguard the dignity of the responsible and compassionate Norwegian men in the country that treats their spouse with respect, dignity, and care. The objective of the research paves essential insights for future researchers to explore the subject of social problem. It presents and emphasizes legitimate social dilemma that gives substantial insights for policymakers to take appropriate action in social development activities. I hope that the hard work, determination, and personal endurance to bring this project forward to "make the difference" in Norwegian society will be meaningful and worthwhile. I invite you to read this thesis with an open mindset and join the many domestic violence prevention experts locally and worldwide who have contributed to implementing its vital call for effective prevention of systematic domestic violence.

CHAPTER ONE

Introduction

1. Introduction to the project

Migration is a common phenomenon among both humans and animals since ancient history. All species migrate for better a quality of life and survival. Migration comes with its inherited pros and cons for all actors in the migrant landscape. This thesis aims to explore women migrating to Norway to marry Norwegian and their migration and integration journey to excavate hidden social problems that linger in the society. In the migration context “the cause of a social or individual phenomenon is never another social or individual phenomenon alone, but always a combination of a social and an individual phenomenon.” (Mangalam. J, J, & Morgan, Cornelia, 1968, p. 3, para 2). Consequently, among the issues that immigrant women endure, migration can expose women to exploitation. According to MIRA the violence and abuse towards immigrant women are significant problems that go unnoticed on the political radar and remain fragile topic, causing intolerable consequences to both the immigrant and the socio-economic world (Mira, 2020). Around 4,250 foreign women arrive in Norway every year to live with their Norwegian husbands, according to the state statistics bureau SSB (Statistics Norway), which compiled the figure for Aftenposten. Around 3,460 children also came to Norway during the past five years via their mothers’ marriages to Norwegian men (Berglund, 2017).

Domestic violence is a complex and broad theme. It has been a central topic for decades in the social welfare landscape while it inherits a ‘global public health problem of epidemic proportions’ (WHO, 2013, p.7). Domestic violence affects a significant proportion of the world’s population and runs across the North-South divide. It threatens behavioral consequences and the impact of violence on people's social fabric and physical and mental health. It impacts overburdened health and economic systems, undermines human capital formation, and slows down economic and social development worldwide. The human, social and economic costs of violence against women are substantial. UN Women has stated that research estimates the cost of violence against women to be around two percent of the global gross domestic product; more importantly, it is a social problem. Such violence has enormous costs for the health, safety, and well-being of women. Our societies will gain individually, socially, and economically from its elimination (Norway and the OSCE, n.d.). Also, abuse is more than physical violence, to scrutinize the harm, the stigma it endures, and the consequence of violence requires a nuanced understanding of the behaviors, and patterns, that define it. As well as exploring illustrations of backgrounds, interactions, circumstances, and their

outcomes. According to Egeland (2001, p. 88), the use of terms in the public debate such as “Slave trade business” and “trafficking women” contributes to stigmatizing public perceptions of foreign women married to Norwegian men. (Egeland, 2001, p. 88 cited at Huitfeldt et al., 2019, p.13, para 4). 6 out of 10 residents of the crisis center are foreign women married to Norwegian (Crisis Centre 2020). Bufdir (2020) exhibits statistics showing that 65% of women violated are foreign women (Bufdir, 2020). This thesis intends to uncover complex domestic violence topics narrowing to scrutinize violence towards immigrant women married to Norwegian spouses. The research will show how the consequence of IPV are multidimensional, having acute destruction not only on the victims but also the society, its economy, and future generations. The research challenges society and legal boundaries in many respects. It forces us to reach beyond our notions of what is acceptable and comfortable. Thus, it challenges notions that acts of violence are simply matters of family privacy, individual choice, or inevitable facts of life showing the human toll of violence that affects not only individuals but also society and the economy, thus becomes a social problem. The research challenges that this unfortunate phenomenon of a high prevalence of violence against women can be straightforwardly resolved with tactical efforts and regulatory changes.

Research Problem Statement. The IPV phenomenon towards immigrant women is rarely made explicit publicly in Norwegian society. In Norway, gender equality has been given a prominent role in societal development; despite norms women continue to suffer from violence in close relationships. It is perceived that foreign women married to Norwegians, are well integrated and settled in Norway. Contrary to several general public, NGOs, and some institutions contest that many foreign women are exploited physically, psychologically, sexually, and financially creating modern-day slavery (Crisis Centre, 2020). These women often arrive in Norway as part of a so-called family reunion, where the husband is the sponsor and custodian of the wellbeing of their partner during the initial few years, thus a high probability of exploitation (Mira, 2020). The problem remains to continue to be an unspoken and unimportant subject on the social and political radar (Paul, R.,1998). This research explores violence in a close relationship, taking a feminist standpoint aiming to exhume the life of women living in cross-cultural relationships being married to a Norwegian. The research intends to excavate the social problem through literature and qualitative empirical data to examine these women’s immigration lifecycle and ultimately to determine if such a social problem genuinely persist? if so to discover potential solutions. The following research questions anticipate exploring and diving into immigrant women’s stories to understand their journey, and challenges and build the thesis around the reasons, backgrounds, causes, and solutions to the social problem.

1.1 Research Questions:

1. Why do women migrate to Norway in the first place?
2. What kind of violation are they exposed to within their marriages and what are the consequences of these abuses?
3. Do women stay or leave the relationship, and how do they cope with the violence they experience?
4. What are the current Norwegian laws related to women's migration for marriages, integration, and safeguarding protocols towards potential exploitation?
5. How are women immigrants' social development and wellbeing can be secured?

Chosen Approach, my research entails an exploration of the IPV landscape particularly on immigrant women married to Norwegian men. The research anticipates taking a feminist standpoint to excavate the social problem through literature, and empirical. It explores the questions predominantly through a qualitative method, individual interviews and other ethnographic methods that provide an opportunity to deep-dive through the research questions and explore, describe, understand, explain, predict, and analyzed the outcome and conclusions (Blaikie, 2009). These approaches provide clearer and more discriminating evidence and understanding of a distinct social phenomenon. Finally, the research outcome and analysis will pave the path to concluding the hypothesis specified in the research problem.

1.2 The thesis structures

- ❖ **CHAPTER ONE** the current chapter, comprises a short introduction to the research project, background, rationale, objective, problem statement, and research questions.
- ❖ **CHAPTER TWO** the context chapter introduces the framework in which my research is situated. It maneuvers literature statistics on migration backgrounds and further dives into women's migration trends and rationalities. It exhibits the backgrounds leading to marriages, legal formalities relate to marriage, and divorce and a glimpse of IPV. The chapter also broadly unveils the economic costs, briefly the measures in place. and insight into existing legal protocols and their hovels. The context chapter indicates how critical policy representations can influence IPV prevention and justice for foreign women while securing socio-economic damage.
- ❖ **CHAPTER THREE** presents an overview of the key literature findings that are related to the subject topic. It discusses valuable insights related to IPV as part of certain immigrant women's lifecycle, challenges, and exploitation. The literature captures critical information related to

the consequences of domestic violence particularly for individual and social-economic aspects. It further paves key concepts and theories in the field that gives treasured insights correlate to the chosen social problem.

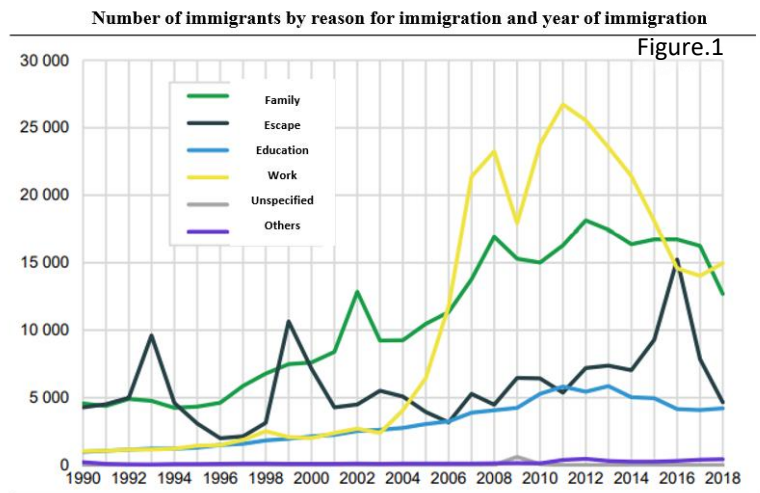
- ❖ **CHAPTER FOUR** exclusively encompasses research methodology; the chapter comprises research design, research method, and risk for the researchers and participants, including capturing ethical considerations. It also addresses fieldwork issues and the implications of researching a sensitive topic.
- ❖ **CHAPTER FIVE** I presents empirical findings and reveal how migrant women married to Norwegian live through violence. It also presents one case of an immigrant man who is married to a Norwegian woman. Among the 18 participants, 9 unique stories have been unveiled as short cases. The chapter describes the characteristics of individual victims' realities, presented in an original narrative and as close to their wordings/language as possible, to keep the authenticity and the information of their experiences. The remaining 9 cases also took similar traits of abuse nature related to one or more of physical psychological, sexual or economical nature that is presented in various chapters through quotes of their original wording.
- ❖ **CHAPTER SIX** I discuss research findings. The chapter further examines the systems and thus barriers in place which may act to obscure the extent of foreign women abuse. intended to discuss and illuminates key facts and discussion about crucial research findings. It is related to IPV trends, and external factors that enable the violence indirectly, especially the system that people rely on working against immigrant women. The chapter further examines the barriers in place which may act to obscure the extent of foreign women abuse. It explores the issue of denial and how the contradiction of particular social problems emerges and is sustained within a given society. It gives insight into existing legal protocols and their hovels. Moreover, it examines how broader structural considerations such as legislation and policies are crucial as preventive measures for violence, exploitation, and human trafficking through transnational marriages. Finally, it offers several avenues for recommendations and resolutions for future improvements and preventive actions.
- ❖ **CHAPTER SEVEN** exclusively stands for the concluding chapter summarizing migration and its inherited obstacles linger in society. Its precision and conclusion combine reality through research discoveries and legitimate literature. The section condenses migration led to exploitation and domestic violence as a complex issue while encapsulating it as a preventable phenomenon.

CHAPTER TWO

Background and context

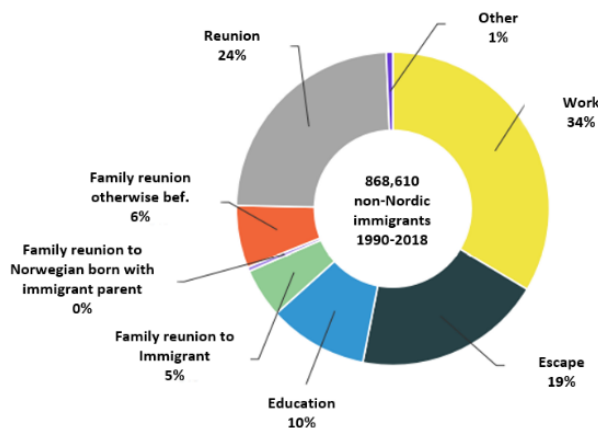
2. Immigration population statistics of Norway

In the context of studying women's migration to Norway, it is important to investigate Norway's immigration population, trends, and patterns to obtain better clarity on the women's migration paradigm. The immigrant population to Norway consists for various reasons: work, study, free from war or prosecution as a refugee, asylum seekers, humanitarian backgrounds, and family reunification. Family immigration is the leading and more consistent cause of migration. It mostly comprises a permit that allows either a family reunion (joining an immediate family member) or a family start-up as a result of a marriage. Any Norwegian or resident adult age from 24 years onwards can enter into family establishments with a foreign spouse and invite



Source: SSB. (2020).

Immigration of non-Nordic citizens, by reason of immigration type of family immigration and the reference person's immigration background. 1990-2018, percent



Source: SSB. (2020).

immigrated due to family, reflecting almost four times as many as in 1990 (SSB, 2020).

Figure.2 him/her to Norway¹ (SSB, 2020).

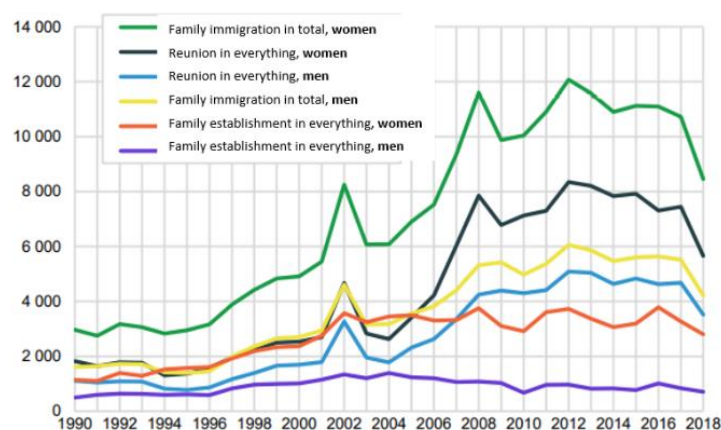
The annual number of family immigrants to Norway has almost tripled during the period 1990 to 2018. In 1990 around 4,500 family immigrants came to Norway, and 12,700 people came in 2018. The increase appears to be even greater if one considers that 2018 was the year with the lowest family immigration since 2007. In 2017, 16,200 people

¹. The age restriction was adopted in June 2016, cf. Act of 17 June 2016 no. 58. (SSB, 2020).

Figure.3

Most family immigrants are from Poland, followed by Thailand, Somalia, the Philippines, and Lithuania. There are family reunions, especially for working immigrants from new ones' EEA countries and refugees, who dominate family immigration. Out of 312,700 who have come as family immigrants since 1990, 67%

with immigrant parents. More detailed figures for women and men by year and type of immigration,

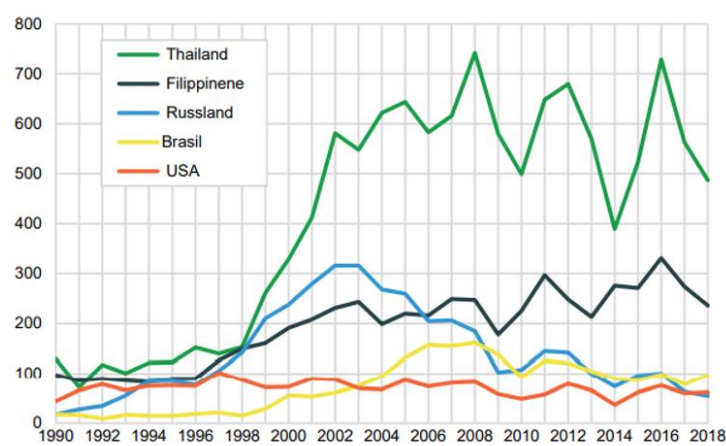


Source: SSB. (2020).

came to reunite with family, and 33% to establish a relationship with one who lives in Norway. The statistics show that most of the population in Poland come for family reunions are endogamous marriages (married to the same nationality) are to join their family members in Norway that come for work. Similar endogamous marriages reflect in Somalia, Pakistan, and other eastern European countries that are the most robust trend to marry someone with the same country background. Women from the Philippines, Thailand, Russia, the USA, and Iran are considerably more exogamous than men from the same country. Many marry someone with a Norwegian country background (SSB, 2020).

Figure.4

Number of family establishments for men without an immigrant background, by citizenship of the family immigrant. Five largest groups



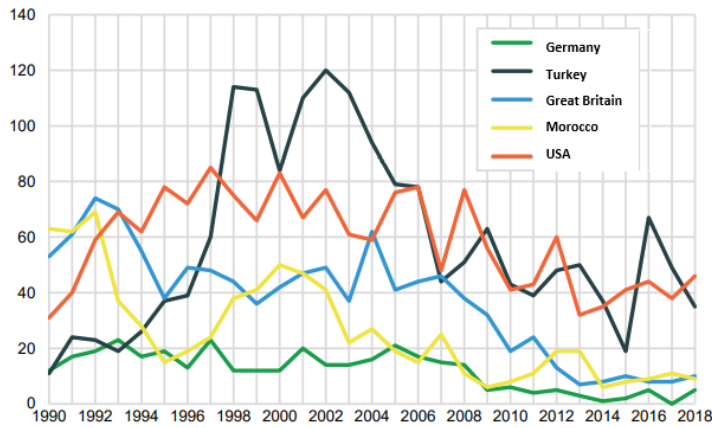
Source: SSB. (2020).

As illustrated in figure 4, the FIVE largest groups of women who migrated to Norway to marry ethnic Norwegian are from Thailand, the Philippines, Russia, Brazil, and the United States. In the period from 1990 total of 26,100 Thailand have been to Norway for family establishment. Thailand was by far the largest group, followed by the Philippines, and Russian women began

to decline. The number of Filipinos who have come to establish themselves remained relatively constant, while the number of women from Russia has declined since 2003. Women's immigration progressed in the year 2002 and 2003, and over 300 Russian women annually, while Filipino

Number of family establishments for women without an immigrant background, by citizenship of the family immigrant. Five largest groups

Figure.5



Source: SSB. (2020).

Norway (SSB,2020). In 2016 alone, 1,109 women and 233 men from Thailand could move to Norway for family reunification. That is second only to Syrians in the statistics compiled by Norway’s immigration agency UDI. In contrast to women's migration, male migration for family, the establishment seems very low. It is far more common for ethnic Norwegian men to be engaged with foreign spouses than ethnic Norwegian women. Between 1990-2018, there were 42,300 women and 13,600 men migrated as per the SSB statistics. The majority of the men were immigrants for marriages from the United States, Turkey, and the United Kingdom from 1990 to 2018 (SSB, 2020).

2.1 Why do women come to Norway?

As per the statistics, most of the migration is related to work, study, refugee/asylum or family establishment, and reunification reasons. According to the statistics, most women come to Norway to establish and reunify through endogamous and exogamous marriages (SSB, 2020). Transnational marriage migration of women to Norwegian men is often perceived as a mobility strategy for women from developing countries (participant, 2020).

2.2 Foreign Marriage trend in Norway

As per literature although other nationalities Poland, Somalia, Syria, Iran, Pakistan, etc., seem to come for endogamous marriages. Thailand, the Philippines, Russia, Brazil, and the USA dominate to engage in exogamous marriages to Norwegian spouses (SSB, 2020).

2.3 Why do Norwegian men prefer women from other countries?

The literature indicates a real gap in the male-female population ratio that affects the Norwegian marriage market. According to statistics: in Norway 104 men per 100 women with a 4% deficit of

women 5,600, and Thai women who are more with 12,100. As per SSB statistics, family establishments and reunions dominate Thailand. In total, it has come to just under 19,900 Thai family immigrants, 16,800 women, and 3,000 men in the period 1990 to 2018. 7,000 are families reunited along with 17 years and younger and children followed with their mother to

women in the 20-39 age group in 2009, the ratio differs depending on the city and rural municipalities in cities where the distribution close and rural locations widen considerably. Because of the natural surplus of males, municipalities with many men outnumber municipalities with fewer women SSB (2010).

Another end of the spectrum is that increasing globalization and international mobility have gradually impacted the Norwegian marriage market; in 1990, 4% of all marriages were between two immigrants or two Norwegian-born immigrant parents. By 2008, this had increased to 11%. Marriages between men from the rest of the population and female immigrants Norwegian-born to immigrant parents have increased in recent years, from 6-13 % from 1990-to 2008. Most of these men marry women from Thailand, the Philippines, and Russia about 6% of all marriages in both 1990 and 2008. While Norwegian women usually marry men from Sweden, Denmark, the USA, and the UK, some from Turkey, Australia, and other nationalities SSB (2019). Grytting says foreign women have many choices between different men through contact agencies when choosing their partners. Thus, the male contact seekers were also subjected to an objectification related to the foreign women (Dawn 2000:156 cited at Huitfeldt & Kavli, 2019:11 cited at Lie, B., (2004).

2.4 Domestic Violence

According to WHO, domestic violence comprises abuse against women, particularly by intimate partner violence and sexual violence² (WHO, 2021). “If a person is subjected to physical or psychological violence or threats from their family members or former family members, that is called domestic violence. This also concerns children who experience violence in the family” (UDI, n.d.). Violence in close relationships may have significant consequences for physical and mental health and social relationships outside the family (Råkil, 2002). Violence prevention programs have yet to be systematically implemented and monitored for their legitimate impact and feasible prevention. In order to effectively plan, implement, measuring such appropriate prevalence, understanding the domestic violence phenomena and its consequences on individuals and socioeconomics is an indispensable part. The understanding of violence will vary between different disciplinary traditions and professional approaches. A criminal procedure will mainly focus on violence with legal implications. A health perspective will focus on violence as the cause of illness

² World Health Organization (WHO) uses the following general definition of violence as a cause of the disease: “The intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community that either result in or have a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment, or deprivation” (World report on violence and health 2002:5)

and injury (NOU, 2003:31). The research identifies three types of domestic violence in Norway: the study exemplifies the second topic that is relevant to the thesis.

1. IPV in both Norwegian partners, endogamous marriages
- 2. IPV in exogamous marriages Norwegian men that are married to foreign spouses.**
3. IPV in endogamous marriages, the foreigners that are married to the same nationalities.

The research navigates real-life facts and literature evidence linking IPV phenomena in foreign women married to Norwegian men. According to Alsaker (2010) Norway, despite a country of high welfare and gender equality, reported a multitude of severe threats and actual acts of physical, sexual, and psychological violence from shelters Norway and the exact reason was not exactly clear Alsaker et al., (2010). In Norwegian context, society presents as “desperate and poor women who sacrifice themselves for the good of their family than as successful and romance” Tyldum & Tveit (2008:11, para 2). Contrary it may perceive as women reaching a higher status concerning their partners and against a background of traditional and rigid gender norms can be at higher risk of IPV victimization. At the same time, it is a common phenomenon endured by women from all walks of life Alsaker (2010) Violence can end in death. In 2002, the WHO estimated that 1.6 million people worldwide die annually because of violence. In Norway, each year, approximately ten women are killed by their spouses (Schei, 1999). About two-thirds of women get killed or abused by their partners or ex-partners who have been physically abused over time (Campbell, Soekn, McFarlaine & Parker 1998 cited in Råkil 2002, p. 66). People exposed to violence are at risk of developing a range of psychological distress and symptoms. Research from the USA shows that suicide attempts occur 12 times more frequently by women exposed to domestic violence than those who are not exposed to domestic Violence (NOU 2003, p.31). American sources conclude that abuse causes significantly more injuries than general accidents (Schei, 1999). To understand the depth of IPV for foreign women research to dive into the background and relationship between foreign women and Norwegian men.

2.5 LOVE & family model

Human interaction, socialization, and relationship are the basic fundamental values of a human being. Among relationships in all different forms are the core existence of human beings. Romantic interaction is the most intimate interaction of all, thus fundamentally one of the most potent forms of a union of two human beings recognized in countries from different cultures and geographies. Marriage and family are the contexts requiring cooperation and interdependence. The process to achieve the goals and purposes of making married and maintaining a family is known as the family

process. The family process includes the strategies and behavioral patterns within the family to achieve the family's goal (Day, 2010 cited at Andayani, Ancok & Wulan, 2018). Although this romantic partnership has evolved with time and formed variations of segregations of partnership in relations, "marriage" is still considered the most common public and legal expression of a romantic relationship that is common to all geographies and cultures (Blau, P. M., C. Becker, & K. M. Fitzpatrick. 1984, p. 591).

Language of love and marriage has been the dominating factor of emotional, and psychological factors leading to temptation in attracting the marriage market. The research will unveil critical factors on how offenders use love and family models, socioeconomic resources, and legal inadequacies to take advantage of the vulnerable groups. The study discovered most relationships are formed based on desire and the language of love, and family; the characterization and understanding depend on their expectations or aspiration within its parameters. Psychological studies on good close relationships suggest a relational-oriented value called communal value (Argyle, 1991; Hegelson in Mosher & Danoff-Burg, 2005 cited at Andayani et al., 2018). Communal value is the one oriented to relationships and the wellness of others or spouses (Mosher & Danoff-Burg, 2005 cited at Andayani et al., 2018). That specific value diminishes in transnational marriages between many Norwegian men and foreign spouses.

2.6 Norwegian-Foreign marriage formalities

According to SSB (2020) statistics and figure 1, the number of marriages between Norwegians and people from other countries has increased. Statistics indicate that since the late 1990s, family reunification is the most important reason for a residence permit in Norway. The number of marriages has been between Norwegian men, and non-western women increased significantly (Lie 2004). Statistics Norway has analyzed register data from 1990 to 2001 that may account for 19% of all marriages in Norway in 2001, compared with 12% in 1990 (Huitfeldt et al., 2004). According to the law, a residence permit with a duration of up to six months may be granted to an applicant entering marriage after entry with a reference person, as mentioned in section 40, first paragraph. It is a condition that both parties are over 24 years of age³ (Regjeringen, n.d.).

³ The provisions of § 40 third, fifth, and seventh paragraphs, § 40a and § 41, apply correspondingly. If an exemption from the 24-year requirement covers the parties, cf. section 41 a, it is a condition that both parties are over 18 years of age. It is a condition for granting a residence permit according to section 48 of the Act that it documented that there are no obstacles to entering a marriage.

A foreigner who newly comes to Norway with the intention of marriage, must be legally staying in Norway to get married. In principle, the foreigner must apply for a fiancé permit via the Norwegian embassy in their home country, with the supporting documents provided by the sponsor. Upon receiving the visa, the foreigner can come to Norway. As soon as arrival the foreigner must register him/her in Norwegian Police/UDI and consequently in Norwegian Population Registry. The foreigner is then granted a temporary visa which allowed them to be married within the given time (formally 6 months) or the foreigner must leave the country when the visa expires. Under the fiancée visa, children are not accompanied by the bride/groom. Before getting married Norwegian population, a registrar must ensure the documents are legitimate and valid and grant approval. (Regjeringen, 2021). The marriage processes are an expensive, time-consuming, enormous number of certified documentations in each step daunting immigration task due to various documents scrutinizing levels and authorities and approval from different legal entities from both home country and Norway. The process takes up to 9 months to 16 months for processing time. Upon obtaining the permission to get married, an authorized person usually conducts a civil ceremony and courts from the municipality with two witnesses. Also, a civil ceremony can hold at Norwegian foreign service missions. A marriage contracted outside Norway shall be recognized in Norway if the marriage has been validly contracted in the country of marriage, provided the marriage has taken place following the country's laws and regulations and is legitimate (Regjeringen, 2021). In addition to fiancée visa, some foreigners may come on a visit visa, work permit, or student visa, and find their Norwegian partner and enter into a marriage.

Once the foreigner is legally married in Norway under family reunification or family establishment ground the foreign spouse can apply visa for their dependent children to enter Norway (Regjeringen, 2021). The foreigner is entitled to a free Norwegian class for 300hrs, 600hrs of Norwegian culture learning course under family reunification grounds. However, the complete financial responsibility of the foreign spouses is utterly dependent on the sponsoring spouse. There is no structured integration process in place for foreign spouses (Regjeringen, 2021).

2.7 Independent visa formalities

In case of the abused women, in most cases, wish to remain in Norway due to various circumstances and apply for their independent visas under the law specified as “§ 53. Continued residence permits as “an independent residence visa” shall be permitted according to §§ 40 or 41, upon application. The request shall be granted under clause (b) the cohabitation has ended. Provided tangible evidence to prove that the foreigner or any children have been abused in the cohabitation relationship or by other members of the same household, or by the in-laws” (Government, 2010,

Section 53, para 1-3); however, there are specific criteria for proving the evidence of the abuse and proof of witnesses and documentation. It is pointed out that abuse in a cohabiting relationship with a person living in Norway is justified to stay in Norway on an independent basis if shown that the quality of life is reduced because of abuse. Where this right is relevant, the case goes to UDI with subsequent costs for investigations and case processing. Regardless, there are costs on many levels. First, it applies to the source of help where when, and how the ability of the victim and all agencies involved, and substantial evidence to prove the abuse of women and children. However, not everyone can get an independent visa as the regulations are stringent (Dagbaladet, 2021).

2.8 The type of abuse towards Immigrant women in Norway.

Domestic violence is such a complex phenomenon. Simultaneously, identifying violence is a universal problem. WHO defines the importance of identifying the types of violence shown below diagram distinguishing and capturing multiple form and layers of violence types. Figure 6 illustrates the different nature of violence; the typology of violence provides a valuable framework for understanding the complex patterns of violence one can endure.

These research findings challenge that IPV victims related to Norwegian foreign marriages go through all forms of violence mentioned in the

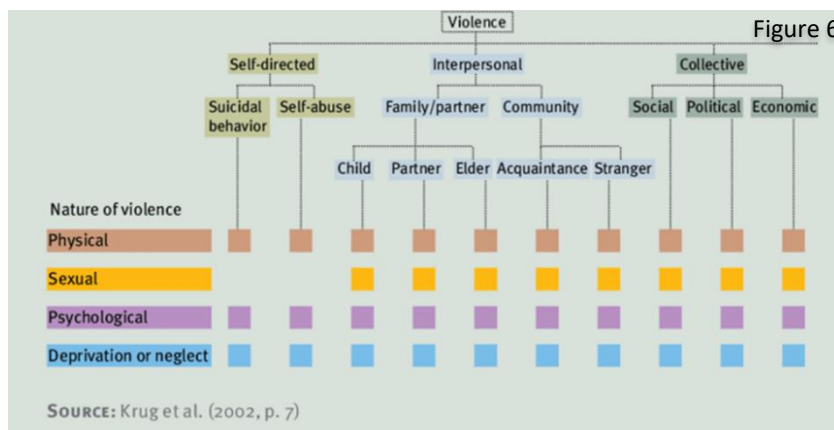


diagram. Including violence categorized under “collective” via Social, political, and economic violence towards physical, sexual, psychological, and deprivation or neglect: research uncovers this violence is enabled through social, political, and economics standpoint. Later chapters particularly chapter 3 & 5 explain these traits explicitly. Domestic violence is a pandemic and social and economic burden regardless of which type of violence it is. Eggebø & Brekke (2018) and SSB (2020) emphasize that in Norway, the top their most significant immigrant women are from Russia, Thailand, and the Philippines married to ethnic Norwegian spouses are in danger of exploitation (Daugstad 2008b; Eggebø 2013b cited in Eggebø & Brekke, 2018). These immigrant women become entirely dependent on their sponsored spouses for their daily life. This financial, emotional, physical, and legal dependency can be a considerable challenge for women not fully living an independent life. Also, “a few studies investigate the lives of these groups of marriage migrants”

(Flemmen and Lotherington 2009; Lotherington and Flemmen 2007; Nadim and Tveit 2009; Ndure 1991; Tyldum and Tveit 2008 cited in Eggebø & Brekke, 2018, p. 40 para 3). In Norway, a survey carried out in 2005 showed that approximately 9% of women over fifteen years of age Norway had been victims of serious violence from their current or former partner one or more times during their lives (Haaland, Clausen, and Schei, 2005 cited in Ministry of Justice and the Police, n.d). It further illustrates that when women are under any form of abuse, it exposes their children as victims of domestic violence. NOVA research indicates that "a significant number of children see their mother being abused. They see, hear and experience violence against their main caregiver. They are also victims. Every year, 1,500 children spend one or more nights in women's shelters in Norway" (MOJAP, n.d. p. 3). A survey carried out among pupils in upper secondary schools shows that seven percent have experienced partner violence against their mother and two percent have experienced partner violence against their father. Two percent have experienced gross partner violence against their mother (NOVA, 2007 cited in MOJAP, n.d. p. 3).

According to Gender in Norway (n.d.), "Mostly women are victims of gender-based violence. In 2018, a total of 3509 cases of ill-treatment in family relations were reported. Sixty-four percent of the victims of domestic violence were women. And 80% of the victims of sexual crime were women. A total of 8374 sexual offenses were reported to the police in 2018: 5% more than the previous year" (Gender in Norway, n.d. para 3)⁴. The violence related to foreign women research found that cases related to younger women between 19 to 32 married to older Norwegian men over 45-65 in the range subject to IPV were determined to leave their more senior partner for a new younger man. The women in their 40s above seem to look for a more stable and secure relationship rather than looking for a new adventure. They were determined to work through the hurdles and chose to live through the violence rather than look elsewhere. In contrast, many Norwegian men married foreign women who took a cherry-picking paradigm to choose their partner and left them at their convenience to choose another better version (Crisis Centre, 2020). The facts and unanswered debate on transnational marriages in Norway remain constant and unresolved dilemmas. Although IPV related to women victims is more the leading topic dominated few decades. Studies revealed that women practitioners of male abuse have come to the surface in recent years. In contrast, studies indicate that men's exposure to violence is becoming more on the surface in recent years (Bjørnholt, 2020).

⁴ There are institutes committed to conducting various research related to Domestic violence in Norway by Norwegian Social Research (NOVA). It is a breakthrough milestone for the research project (NOVA, n,d).

In a hegemonic model, men associate masculinity with and classified men as strong, energetic, and powerful while females are fragile and weaker than men in terms of physical inferiority. According to this theory, women's role as tender and more inadequate practitioners in the relationship is more recognized in victimizing positions than in hegemonic ideals. It is a difficult task to characterize male vulnerabilities as a victim in the context of partner violence. Although IPV has traditionally been so strongly associated with the female as a victim, it may be particularly challenging for men to convey their experiences of violence satiety (Durfee, 2011 cited at Rosten, 2020). The focus on violent marriages between Norwegian men and non-western women is perceived as burdensome for many women and men living in mixed marriages. Many men are afraid that the negative attention will go beyond their wives. A man who has been married to a Thai woman for 13 years believes the authorities should take action against those who abuse their foreign wives (Huitfeldt et al., 2019:12, para 2). Grytting (2000) defines it as a charged public debate that can amplify public disarming, making it difficult for these women to establish a network in Norway. Contradicting public debate, both the men and women Grytting interviewed had good marriages they did not belong to the women exploited in Norway (Huitfeldt et al., 2019).

2.9 How intimate partner violence affects society.

Social Impact, cost to the public sector (see page 22-25), in connection with poor health, inability to work, and inability to take care of their children issues caused by abuse and violence for women become extraordinarily incapable of functioning in everyday life. Thus, they become socially paralyzed and become unproductive. It then becomes an issue for the entire socio-economic balance. Women are a powerful resource to the family and the family economy. They are good sources to cultivate solid family systems, and productive and healthy children, nurturing them to be valuable citizens, besides contributing to economic activities that benefit families, children, and the country's economy. These natural capabilities diminish with violence and abuse (Wijma et al., 2003:34). Alsaker (2008 cited in Rasmussen et al., 2012) shows that women at Norwegian shelters were much worse off the quality of life than other Norwegian women of the same age. Chapter 3 under 3.6 for more explicit material.

2.10 How intimate partner violence affects the host country.

According to Alsaker et al. (2016), studies indicate that 27 % of women go through abuse among the Norwegian population, and 8.8 % of the women reported in the survey go through life-altering

violence (Neroien and Schei 2008 cited in Alsaker et al., 2016, p.480). It further elaborates that the “socioeconomic cost of intimate violence was estimated to be 4.5– 6 billion NOK in 2010 (0.75– 1.0 billion USD)” Alsaker et al., (2016, p.480). The economic loss or the cost evaluations based on assessment indicate that approximately 75.000 to 150.000 population are exposed to violence and abuse situations annually. According to such data that shows about several women “seek help through police and refuge at the Municipal Crisis Centre Services every year, about 8000 of these are in the group of people experiencing severe intimate partner violence. The cost for the Norwegian society is related to loss of productivity because many women exposed to IPV are unemployed for a long or short period” (Vista Analyses, 2012, p.480). However, these statistics or data do not distinguish the immigrant women population. Not to omit that these statistics are only based on reported violence to authorities, a significant amount of violence that is not considered yet comes to the surface WHO (2021) states that “Social and economic costs, the social and economic costs of intimate partner and sexual violence are enormous and have ripple effects throughout society. Women may suffer isolation, inability to work, loss of wages, lack of participation in regular activities, and limited ability to care for themselves and their children” (WHO, 2021, p. 16). Many empirical testimonies supported this (page 24 & pp. 55-71). Chapter 3 under 3.6 for more explicit material.

2.11 Cost to the Norwegian Economy

Vista analysis shows that violence in close relationships covers a wide range of violence. It also seems that violence in intimate relationships occurs within everyone's social classes, ethnic groups, levels of education, and income. According to several surveys in Norway, about 2-4% of the Norwegian population, approximately 75,000-150,000 people annually, are exposed to domestic violence in Norway (Rasmussen et al., 2012). This massive socio-economic costs in 2010⁵ for the justice sector (police, judiciary, penal care, knowledge and competence, tax expenses, compensation for victims of violence, free legal aid, and the like), the health service (acute injuries, late injuries), and NAV (social assistance/disability benefits and lost labor income/labor

⁵ The cost contributes to 1). Loss of life. 2). Victim's (Spouse/child) Inability to fully participate in work life. 3). due to point No.,2 loss of productivity due to short or prolonged absence from work. 4). The reasons for lack of work can be weakened mentally and physically. 5). Perpetual loss of resources and products related to people who stay. 6). disability benefits. 7). Welfare loss for the victims of violence in close relationships, for the children and other relatives. 8). Future losses due to children growing up with violent parents can become perpetrators of violence in intimate relationships. 9). Use of resources related to police work, trials, shelters, child welfare and doctors, dentists, emergency services, etc. 10). Tax financing costs are associated with public use of resources, social security payments, and general compensation to victims of violence. 11). Taxes can influence individuals and companies so that less is produced in society. 12). Production loss that the socio-economic cost related to social security payments and public compensation. Note that social security expenditure and general compensation are not socio-economic costs but taxpayers' transfers to victims of violence. (Rasmussen et al.,2012, p.12 para 4).

productivity). Furthermore, it desires to shed light on the costs of this other public and private assistance apparatus such as the RKKs (advisory offices for crime victims), shelters, State child service, and organizations such as an alternative to violence, incest centers, and more (Rasmussen et al., 2012, p.13). Empirical find that many victims had to utilize multiple help and support institutions during and after their abuse lifecycle considering pure financial cost without including the loss of quality of life of the individual.

Table. 1

Overview of valued Public Cost to the Economy

Details	Per individual	Quantity	Total (billion Kroner) in 2010
Public costs in 2010	15-30 000	75-150,000	2,0-2,4
Loss of Life in 2010	27,000,000	19	0.5
Loss of productivity adult women exposed to violence in 2010, annual cost in 2010	100-300 000	6000-8000	1.1 -1.4
Loss of productivity children exposed to violence in 2010, annual cost 2010	50-150 000	8000 - 22000	0.7 - 01.9
Personal additional costs			Not appreciated
not appreciated Loss of quality of life			Not appreciated
Loss of productivity in other groups			Not appreciated
Estimated annual cost in 2010 production losses and public expenditure			4.5-6 billion kroner

Source: Rasmussen et al., (2012:13)

2.11.1 Police, courts, conflict resolution

The public cost consists of amounts that go over public budgets is about 400 million kroner less. Among the public costs, it is child welfare, which means the most, about 900 million. The rest of the aid apparatus costs NOK 450 million annually. The operation of the shelters is the other largest cost. The police and the judiciary's expenses for violence in close relationships are just over NOK 300 million. The prison and probation service has the largest sub-item: costs associated with keeping perpetrators incarcerated. Measures to reduce perpetrators' propensity for new abuses are also included (Rasmussen et al., 2012:13). According to the statistics in 2010, the compensation payments and operating costs were NOK21,500,000. The calculation of police resources a cost that occurs by utilizing police man-hours for the total cost of violence is 20-30 Million Kroner total of 4070 case handling. Among exclusively related to domestic violence cases were 4.5-9million Kroner being average of 6.8million Kroner spent on police resources. Judicial, Judges, and courts cost 22.5-42million Kroner being an average of 32 million. Prison care costs a total of between 190-232 million to an average of 211 million Kroner. The conflict council cost related to violence in a close relationship is 13 million (SSB, 2020).

2.11.2 Health care cost

About one in five of the women in shelters are referred to the doctor or emergency room intensive care cases or during the victim's violent life cycle. In several other cases, the health service's contact with victims of violence begins shortly after the relationship with the GP. Psychologist services and psychiatric services and others⁶ etc., the combined total of 50-150 million Kroner and an average of 100million Kroner spent on Domestic violence. The production loss is calculated as a present value, that is, the value in 2010 of the total loss of production. The estimated loss from 2010 is between 33 - 65 billion kroner for the violence 2010. This cost is calculated as an annual fee where it is assumed that the production loss is distributed equally over 31 years for women and 49 years for the children affected (Rasmussen et al., 2012, p.13).

2.11.3 Auxiliary Device Costs

In addition to the public costs shown in table 1. There are several other private institutions, municipality-supported agencies, and private and voluntary organizations. **Shelters**, a public service institution managed by municipalities, codeshare expenses in 2010 with 51 shelters around the country and shelter secretariat and shelter associations totaling 310 million Kroner cost in the year 2010 (Crisis Centre, 2020). As much as employees there are volunteers who help at crisis centers, those free manhours are not included in the costs. **Stine Sofia Foundation, MIRA Centre, and other private institutions** and organizations receive state support to some extent; however, that is not enough to sustain the services and salaries, and institutions' expenses. They have their own approaches to collecting funds in another creative method. E.g., For Stine Sofia Foundation alone state support 33millioner Kroner; an additional 2 million were allocated to the follow-up team for the year 2021. Stine Sofie Foundation itself has supported 1,201 Violence exposed children and 337 siblings of victims of violence at the center, along with 1,005 parent(s) or caregivers of the victim. (Stine Sofia Centre, 2021). The amounts are not exclusively for women that are married to Norwegian men. However, they are included in the specified costs (SSS, 2021).

2.11.4 Other costs

The subsequent generational costs and the long-term costs of domestic violence for the next generation are not included in these estimates. These costs resulting from the harm done to children's development are significant, as indicated in the literature review on social services and

⁶ Also, the Department of Clinical Sexology and Therapy, District psychiatric centers, educational psychology service, Child and adolescent psychiatric outpatient clinic, Outpatient clinic for children and young people's mental health that is used for an emergency room, etc.,

children: more comprehensive social support and intervention costs. Many people can leave or otherwise deal with domestic violence with the help of their friends, relatives, colleagues, and neighbors, or victims' individual efforts. This informal social support can be of vital significance, but they are not included anywhere or converted into economic value. It is not only the provision of somewhere to escape, though this is important also supports addressing the full breadth of problems that domestic violence can bring. Further, an extensive network of volunteers and activists has committed considerable time and effort to address a wide range of issues concerning domestic violence. **More importantly, those women and children were forcefully sent to their home country**, loss of jobs and income, their expenses related to loss of quality of life, psychological and financial damages, and the social and cultural nature of consequence is not materialized in the calculation Rasmussen et al., (2012).

2.12 What are the measures taking place in connection to domestic violence?

Domestic violence was the first policy, and the critical theme in the women's movement in the 1970s was that violence against women became an integral part of fights for equality, justice, and human rights. (UN, n.d.) Therefore, CEDAW the effort against violence against women has been embedded in the UN convention of elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women by the UN Convention on the Rights of Women and the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against close relationships by the Istanbul Convention, which Norway ratified in 2017 (Bjørnholt, 2020). In addition, Norway's legislation is tied to the Soria Moria Declaration and other forms of violence prevention acts (see page 25 & 26). Furthermore, the action plan, "Turning point," More details under pages 26 & 27.

2.12.1 Soria Moria Declaration

Domestic violence is unacceptable under any circumstances. The Government has taken several measures to prevent violence and protect the population (Regjeringen, 2020). Consequently, the Ministry of Justice and Police had an aggressive action plan against domestic violence from 2008- to 2011, followed by the Soria Moria Declarations plan of the cation. As a humanitarian nation, Norway subjugates, taking measures of a violence-free safe country for its inhabitants. There were several steps taken against Domestic violence. In 1999, the government forwarded the action plan on Violence against women (Sunde, 2011). According to Soria Moria declaration 1, chapter16, under violence and abuse state "we will strengthen the efforts of family violence, and violence against women and children" (Soria Moria, 2005:68-69) assure action against domestic violence. Under this action plan, victims of domestic violence will be (1) ensured necessary assistance and

protection, the spiral of violence will be halted by improving treatment services for offenders, and (2). Victims of domestic violence will be offered arranged conversations with the offender (restorative justice). (3). Cooperation between and competence in the support services will be improved. Research and development activities will be initiated and continued. (4) There will be a stronger focus on raising public awareness of domestic violence. Domestic violence will be prevented by changing attitudes. (MOJP, 2008-2011). Followed by another action plan Norwegian Center for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies (Saur, Haustad & Heir 2011) had an action plan for Activities and measures to prevent violence in close relationships. Also, the Ministry of Justice and Public Security had another action plan against Domestic Violence in 2012 (MOJAPS, 2012).

Moreover, there are several action plans to prevent domestic violence, such as the action plan against Domestic Violence 2008-2011 by the Ministry of Justice and the police. The action plan called “Turning Point” (2008–2011) entailed a variety of measures that were implemented related to Domestic Violence. Thereafter another action plan for 2014-2017 has been submitted in 2013 and accepted by the government. The previous objectives were continued and supplemented with some new ones. Examples of new measures include an offer of facilitated conversations between the victim and the perpetrator of violence (known as “restorative justice”) and the initiation of research and development activity. The plan contained 50 specific measures that were to be implemented during the period (MOJAPS, 2012).

In addition, from 1 January 2010, the crisis center provision was made a statutory responsibility of Norwegian municipalities. The Act of 19 June 2009 relating to municipal crisis center provision requires all Norwegian municipalities to provide a crisis center provision for their inhabitants. The purpose of a crisis center provision is to provide users with support, guidance, and help in contacting other public services. The condition includes a 24-hour helpline, residential facilities, a daytime provision, and follow-up during the re-establishment phase. (Regjeringen, n.d.) The objectives common to all three methods were that violence in close relationships would be prevented through attitudinal changes in society and by strengthening professional communities and expertise. Ensuring the necessary assistance to victims of violence and the (further) development of therapeutic services for perpetrators of violence were also emphasized in all the action plans. In 2008, a handbook was developed to motivate and encourage the municipalities to follow up on the measures identified in the national action plan (Justis departementet, 2008). The handbook was distributed to all the municipalities throughout the country with a request from the Minister of Justice to draw up their municipal action plans. The purpose of these action plans was to help the

municipalities implement measures to prevent violence in close relationships and provide better assistance to those subjected to violence. No literature identifies the evaluation of the action plan or any further extension of the same procedure for future years.

2.12.2 Direct help organizations and NGOs.

There was distinctive evidence of the MIRA center, Stine Sofia Center, and many other organizations⁷ contribute enormously to safeguarding and rehabilitating victims of abuse in various methods. Legal assistance, rehabilitation programs, guidance, and preventive measures and campaigns are core services. Due to COVID 19, there is an increased intention to create awareness about Domestic violence and the safety of children and women. Both government and non-government organizations are aggressively involved in understanding through social media and news channels, TV & newspapers, books and articles, brochures about domestic violence and child abuse contacts campaigns, and helplines for the victims to contact help or inform authorities (SSS, 2020).

2.12.3 Indirect assistance organizations and NGOs.

Norwegian Directorate of Children, Youth and Family Affairs (BUFDIR), The Children's Houses (states barnehus), Pro-Sentret, Norwegian Association for Women's Rights, Norwegian Association for Women's Health, Self-help for Migrants and Refugees, Women in struggle – training for self-defense, Women's Group Ottar, Women's Front, Fokus - Forum for Women and Development, JURK – legal advice for women, Sex and politics –The Association for Sexual and reproductive health and Rights, Resource Centre for Self-organized Self-Help, The Norwegian Helsinki Committee, The Christian Council of Norway, Norwegian Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies (NKVTS), Regional Resource Centers for Violence, Trauma and Suicide Prevention (RVTS), National Centre for Emergency Primary Health Care, Centre for Crisis Psychology, Bergen, Brøset Competence Centre for Prison and Forensic Psychiatry, St. Olavs Hospital, Trondheim, National Mediation Service, The Equality and Antidiscrimination Ombud, KRÅD – Council for Prevention of Criminality, NOVA – Norwegian Social Research Institute, NIBR – Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research, SIRUS – Norwegian Institute for Research on Alcohol and Drugs, KUN Centre for Gender Equality, Centre for Equality, Centre for

⁷ Norwegian Secretariat of Women's Shelters (Crisis Centre), Norwegian Union of Women's Shelters, Alternative to Violence (ATV), Reform – Resource Centre for Men, Save the Children - Redd barna, Norwegian Red Cross, DIXI – Resource Centre for Victims of Rape in Oslo, Bris Center – Resource Centre Against Sexual Assault, Stine Sofia Foundation, MIRA – Resource Centre for Migrant and Refugee Women, White Ribbon Norway, Blålys - The National Association against sexual assault, The Church Resource Centre against Violence and Sexual Abuse, The Rosa Project.

Gender Equality – the University of Agder, Centre for Gender Research, University of Oslo, Nadheim Centre for women and men with experience of prostitution, PION Sex Workers' Interest Organization, Lauras Hus Safe housing for victims of human trafficking.

2.13 Where can you turn?

Women in principle, when requires such an incident can get in touch with a variety of public services. Some of the offers are emergency measures. Others may be more likely to have a preventive effect. Domestic violence victims worry if they are subject to violence or suspect that someone around them is vulnerable and can inform emergency lines, shelters, and other agencies.

2.14 The Norwegian Divorce Law inadequacies

The present Marriage law with respect to marrying a foreigner mandate variety of scrutiny levels; while vastly different from a marriage between two Norwegians. In contrast current Norwegian divorce law and procedure that remain applicable to both Norwegians and foreign marriages. That is highly controversial as the present divorce procedure is designed and fit that serves two Norwegians citizens' interests, while it paves a great avenue for the exploitation of foreign women. Thus, the current marriage law and the divorce law must be enhanced and improved to accommodate heterogeneous foreign marriages.

2.14.1 Dissolving the marriage (Divorce)

According to Norwegian law Section 19. A marriage may be dissolved by divorce after prior separation pursuant to section 21 or without prior separation pursuant to sections 22 and 23. A marriage may also be dissolved pursuant to section 24. The law allows one spouse who wishes to end the relationship to apply an application for separation through the county governor (Reijeringen, n,d: para 1, 2 & 4). Via an application completed signed by the applicant and two witnesses and submitting the application to the nearest police station. The law does not specify if the other spouse must know about the separation. The police then acknowledge of the receipt of the application and send it to the county governor's office. The County governor then conveys a notice to both the spouses (as per application data which is by email and post), offering three weeks of notice to respond by acknowledging the receipt of the separation letter. The law does not specify if they shall accept or decline the separation request. Upon completing the three weeks' notice, the definite separation formalities become complete and commence regardless of the other spouse's knowledge or consent. After a separation of one year, either spouse can apply to the county

governor for a divorce. In the divorce application also one spouse can initiate the divorce process without the other spouse's knowledge or consent (lawyer, 2020).

However, the law states that the spouses who move away from each other without being properly separated can apply to the county governor for a divorce two years after the breakup of their relationship (Reijeringen, n.d: para 1, 2 & 4). Spouses with children under 16 years of age must attend mediation before they can apply for separation or divorce pursuant to sections 20 and 22 attend mediation proceedings before the case is brought before a court of the county governor, cf. section 27. The purpose of the mediation is to reach an agreement concerning parental responsibility, right of access, or where the child or children shall permanently reside, with due emphasis on what will be the best arrangement for the child/children. Sections 52 to 54 of the Children Act shall apply correspondingly. The Ministry will, by regulations, make further provisions regarding who may undertake mediation according to the first sentence and regarding the approval of such bodies. Nevertheless, it is proven in this research that the same is not applicable when marrying a foreigner. Also, the law does not include protecting non-biological children involved in the divorce; it only protects biological children via mediation. There are many cases reported by Crisis Center of the same issue, of discarding women at the airport or manipulate sent to their home country by the perpetrator when they deemed fit. It is a colossal disparity in the law (Smaadahl, 2002).

2.14.2 Legal and Political Implications

When measures against abuse and gross exploitation are discussed, it is necessary to distinguish between preventive and protective measures are a virtuous and indispensable component. Although many elaborate policies and action plans seem to be existing. Despite diverse forms of knowledge and evidence of violence, there has not been any control, protection, or preventative measures for vulnerable foreign women. Linden argues that it is also essential to distinguish between actions that safeguard the interests of different actors: victims of practitioners and the immigration policy interests that apply to foreign women (Liden, 2005). Is the perspective of women and children, and will prevention include measures that prevent them from getting into a situation where they are exposed to abuse? It may be information about past abuse so that she can make informed choices about the situation, knowledge of her rights, and other measures that prevent her from being in a position of powerlessness in the user's face. Thus, laws and regulations are ought to be included as preventive measures, and this applies to criminal law follow-up of domestic violence and the Immigration Act and its regulation (Liden, 2005).

The role of the police is an essential part of the abuser, and prevention will be to offer violence practitioners the form of informative and control measures, as well as well-developed treatment options when it comes to changing violent behavior (Liden, 2005). Criticism is that perpetrators are not identifying themselves as violators; they most often deny their actions. Also, there is no evidence that serial marriages have an interlink toward perpetrators' behavior or evaluating their capabilities of taking care of a family or their character or past behaviors (Liden, 2005). Through legal framework on sentencing for ill-treatment and actual implementation of the legislation, signs are essential general preventive measures, which do not exist at the moment. It is necessary to give a legal consequence to the perpetrator for their action irrespective of which scale the ill-treatment remains. When the women and children end up at the crisis center by the offender, thrown out of the house, out of the country, that is considered a significant injustice; treacherous denigrate human rights. Thus, assistance extends emblem reenactment of legal consequences. The immigration policy must define the prerequisites for preventing domestic violence and exploitation. The "5-year rule" (detailed explanation in chapter 6) for granting a settlement permit entails that foreign spouses are in a transitional phase for the first five years when it comes to citizenship. It implies that law advisers are well aware of the condemned methods of discarding women on derogatory terms and using those legal loopholes to conveniently endorse offenders (Mira, 2020).

CHAPTER THREE

Literature and theoretical framework

Domestic violence is a severe and often hidden social problem with significant consequences for those affected (NOU 2003, p.31). Violence and women abuse has been a global epidemic for decades. Due to various conflicts and poverty in the global south, many migrate to the Global North for a better life. Migration has both pros and cons for the immigrant and the host country and is a complex endeavor. From a negative standpoint, migration incurs human trafficking, exploitation, and violence in the immigration context. Women's abuse and exploitation that has not been given enough attention or justice in the immigration context. According to the Ministry of Justice and the police “Domestic violence against women and children is a serious and to some extent hidden social problem, which means that many people live lives of humiliation and indignity” (Ministry of justice and the police,2004, para 1). There is a broader literature on domestic violence, but as outlined above, the context for exploring domestic violence in this thesis concerns the situation of immigrant women that are married to Norwegian men. The starting point of the research is thus emphasized that these foreign migrating women are in a vulnerable situation for exploitation by the current system. According to Crisis Center, Violence against women is a social problem, and society must take care of those exposed to this violence. To take care of them in the best way possible, there is a need for more knowledge of these problems (Smaadahl, Hernes & Langberg (2002, p. 2). With the aim of understanding the social problem; I present some theoretical entry points that resonate with IPV violence on foreign women that are married to Norwegian men. These theoretical points interconnect when interpreting and discussing IPV occurrence and potential preventive actions.

3. Theoretical entry points for researching violence.

The research questions were formulated to cover and discover a comprehensive overview of the chosen social phenomena to excavate 'what,' 'why' and 'how' (Blaikie, 2009). These theories provide background and concept that drives personality traits and reasons and background related to complex IPV phenomena. These traits help understanding IPV causes and finding suitable intervention. This research found profound degree of empirical support much closely resonate with the following models.

Feminist Theory, often referred to as the Feminist Model, is one of the oldest and most well-known theories which seeks to understand violent relationships by examining the socio-cultural context in which these relationships develop. Often credited with ending a husband's right to abuse, this second-wave feminist theory upheld those women specifically in heterosexual marriages have the

right not to assault regardless of whether the perpetrator is their legal spouse. Most of those who favors this particular theory link to female inequality in male dominating societies. Bell & Naugle, 2008 defines that “Gender roles defined by society and taught to individuals during childhood taught men’s positions of power over women, including physical violence to control women and the typically gender-oriented model” (Dobash & Dobash, 1977; Mihalic & Elliott, 1997 cited at Bell & Naugle, 2008, p. 8). Criticism of this theory is that some argue that men’s oppressive behavior and masculine beliefs create female inequality, power imbalances, and sexism hindering from society’s male-controlled beliefs. Limitations of this theory are that mixed empirical support fails to explain IPV in same-sex groups, limited impact of preventive measures and treatment, and limited scope observed in this theory (Bell et al., 2008). This theory takes a closer and dominating standpoint in this thesis.

Power Theory confirms that the roots of violence stem from within the culture and the family structure and family conflict intervening in cases of partner abuse, which may then result in the continuation of family violence. Violent behavior can inherit from childhood by witnessing violence or physical abuse. Social acceptance of violence and gender inequality are assumed to interact and lead to gender inequities in relationship power and control—the category of scales least consistently associated with IPV perpetration. The control measures' less explicit and more general content may explain the weaker overall association observed between the control measures and IPV perpetration. It is also associated with psychological, social, and economic stress, which triggers aggressive behavior or power imbalances between the man & woman, increasing family violence. The research concerned with power relations shows a higher rate of family conflicts and violence-prone in families with higher stress levels related to lower socioeconomic status (Coleman & Straus, 1986; Gray-Little, Baucom, & Hamby, 1996 cited at Bell et al., 2008). Limitations to this theory are mixed empirical support, restricted flexibility, limited prevention treatments, and limited capacity in general (Bell et al., 2008). Power theory seems to closely resonate in the IPV.

Social Learning Theory eco more towards power theory that resonates with IPV initially acquired through modeling during childhood. Either learning from the environment the person lived through or adopting behavioral patterns from others from patterns of family conflicts by observing parental and peer relationships. Being in a violent environment and witnessing abuse or directly experiencing physical abuse as children results in the development of tolerance or acceptance of violence within the family. The research indicates that intergenerational violence results from seeing or experiencing abuse as a child that may associate with the future victimization and

perpetration of partner abuse. The consequence of violence carries into adulthood depending on the nature of the violence they have experienced in their childhood. What defines the adult be the perpetrator or the victim depends on their childhood experiences. It also increases a person's expectations that future violence will result in similar outcomes and continued aggression. Social learning theorists emphasize that direct reinforcement of violent behavior is not required to maintain that behavior. Instead, simply witnessing either positive or negative consequences of violent behavior may be sufficient in determining whether an individual will engage in future violent episodes. The positive side of the theory focusing on social learning is that it can encourage and reinforce better treatment or better strategies to address family conflicts. However, this theory's limitations are mixed empirical support (Scott, 2004 cited at Bell et al., 2008). This theory is more prominently associated with the child victims of IPV with respect to this thesis.

The background and situational model describe two elements, background (historical, social) and situational (individual) factors, that contribute to the development and maintenance of aggression in IPV and identify key predictor factors for the interpersonal attack within each component. Background factors include a history of witnessing or experiencing abuse, aggressive personality characteristics, provocative prior use of aggression, psychopathology, and social acceptance of charge to handle conflict. Situational refers to situational interpersonal conflicts, such as substance use, relationship satisfaction, intimacy levels, problem-solving skills, and personal expectations of outcomes of violence. Also, communication styles are all situational factors that believe to be related to the onset of a violent episode (Riggs & O'Leary, 1989 cited at Bell et al., 2008). Research shows some empirical evidence to support this theory. Furthermore, situational factors appeared to account for a more significant proportion of variance than the background factors. Overall, the background/situational model shows limitations in prevention treatments and restricted scope (White et al., 2001 cited at Bell et al., 2008). It resonates more in children exposed to IPV-related abuse, being witnessed or direct victims of the abuse.

Personality/typology theories, many attempts to identify psychopathology and personality characteristics should be correlated to perpetrating IPV. Borderline Personality Organization (BPO) and Assertiveness theory and Holtzworth-Munroe and Stuart's Developmental Model of Batterer Subtypes (Dutton, 1995; Holtzworth-Munroe & Stuart, 1994 cited at Bella et al., 2008). Both theories indicate the role of attachment, early childhood experiences, and impulsivity in IPV perpetration. Based on attachment theory, perpetrating IPV in adulthood correlates to insecurity and shame during early childhood and adolescence. Individuals with these traits are characterized

mainly by having a desire for intimate social contact while also experiencing a fear of rejection and distrust of others, resulting in frequent dissatisfaction with personal relationships. In combination with individuals' tendency toward experiencing anger and aggression, these fear factors lead to IPV. It led to instances of IPV perpetration when the perpetrator feels threatened by the partner or believes that the relationship has failed somehow (Bell et al., 2008). Some empirical challenged if the abusers could be of relating to these theories.

Psychopathy, although the detrimental effects of IPV are observed across different types of harm that partners inflict on each other. The critical individual difference influencing IPV is psychopathy recognized and acknowledged in the literature. It identifies as a powerful predictor of violence. The psychopathy traits can exacerbate violence that contributes to antisocial risk, including lack of remorse, manipulateness, shallow emotion, callousness, and persistent violation. The theorists have suggested that men typically perpetrated IPV in the broader context of coercive control. (Bell et al., 2008). Also, speculate if the abuser's background can be related to these traits.

These theoretical backgrounds pave key concepts to explore this complex and broad phenomenon of IPV. When focusing on the subjective social problem of foreign women married to Norwegian that is in the danger of exploitation; a theoretical overview illustrates how IPV originates and bread in societies from an individual level. It also ignites further due to other external influences such as social, economic, political, and legislative factors or deficiencies in preventive measures. Magnifying from the feminist standpoint it can perceive that power theory reflects momentum of abuse. In addition, how other theories such as social theory and situational theory interlink to breed violence and expand to generations and accelerate social problems. This study interlinks theories, literature, and empirical to exhibit how it reflects in the selected social problem. To excavate the root causes, one needs to understand the entire women migration paradigm to unleash who is looking for who, why and the consequences of it.

3.1 Real man or Real woman?

When researching IPV related to foreign women in Norway there are key highlights that surfaced need to document. Perception of Norway brings much discussion among research participants who are looking for “Real man or Real woman”. Literature contended more on general overview of gender perception Norwegian paradox. It is worth capturing who is looking for what. Although Nordic countries show that major egalitarian reforms and substantial welfare-driven nation what most women migrants much talked about Norway’s humanitarian popularity perceived to be a

secure nation. Likewise, gender equality seemed more reassuring. According to News in English.no, The lack of a female population in rural Norway also shows other reasons why Norwegian men are encouraged to find a wife from abroad. (Berghlund, 2017). Men's desire and Personal choice-based preference or based on attraction toward different ethnic groups, personality traits, appearance, and other reasons can be a motive to choose foreign women. Demanding Norwegian women vs. equality is also another reason. As a male participant revealed that «...Norwegian women are very demanding, and they prefer partners based on the financial ability than their personality». Modern-day Norwegian women cannot take for granted; they have the choice and have the capability and resources to live an independent life. These traits paving an enormous path for many Norwegian men to choose their foreign spouse as their first or as second marriage. Similarly, it can presume that some Norwegian men in their older ages lean towards more gender-influenced relationships to cope with their needs as caregivers and intimate relationships in one package. Correspondingly, this research discovered some older Norwegians between the age of 60s-70s finds a foreign bride in their 20s-to 30s that mostly end up in a divorce or conflicting breakup (Lie, 2004). Searching for a Real man or real woman dilemma further links to the Norwegian equality paradox.

3.2 Norwegian Equality paradox

Gender equality is one of the fundamental value in Nordic countries. While Norway thrives on gender equality, and a high prevalence of domestic violence Norwegian equality paradox remains perplexing (UWE, 2016). While implementing robust action plans such as “Action plan for Men and Gender Equality” (1997) and by the Nordic Trade Union Council (NTUC) in an “action plan for Gender Equality” (1999). Holter (2003, p.7) confirms that it requires the participation of both men and women intervention by individuals, institutions, and society to amplify the paradigm. Despite many policy efforts, Norwegian equality remains a constant dilemma. Gender roles embrace a central theme of inequality models. The studies contemplate critical research on men in Europe and the “Work change Gender” methodology related to welfare development. In the Nordic context, caregiving is the main issue compared to other issues, peace or development Holter (2003). Holter (2003) points out that equality swings around the household income and work trends rather than traditional gender roles and responsibilities highlighting three different models⁸. These various income factors sway the conventional duties at home. Holter (2003) further exemplifies, that

⁸ A. Full equality model that divides paid and non-paid work, finance equally with full time work.
B. One-and-a-half model one work part time and the other full time
C. Provider or breadwinner model one person work for the household expenses.

nowadays most men cannot afford single household expenses alone. Holter (2003) further explains that economic relationships and household chores will significantly vary before and after having children (Holter, 2003). Holter (2003) argues that feminism has gone a little far when women demand men to do mixed responsibilities, and roles that fit women's desires and needs. Some Norwegian women expect their men to be at times the breadwinner or financial provider, child caregiver, resourceful husband, help in house chores, to be a "little bit manly" (Participant, 2020). From this perspective, it is fair to presume that men also learn to find some traditional feminine qualities in a woman Holter (2003) further argues that initially, women are attracted to finding a financially stable man as a "real man"; then, after the family establishes it slowly shifts. It shifts towards "find his way to fit the family," even inequality scenarios, type of job can sway home responsibilities depends on who compromise? Equality can be as good as it sounds; it can also create conflict. Men are "gently pushed" toward all different conflicting directions, and the household becomes less harmonized. Although equality reflexivity can be economics circumstance, labor power, and individual ambitions, women can sway men in an undesired direction Holter (2003). Although Nordic countries pride themselves on equality, they still follow the "sprinkle system" that supports the breadwinner model, supported by men's earnings in the labor market being 20-30% higher than women. However, the sprinkling system banded to the economic system tied to social, cultural, and psychological factors that sanction unmanliness contempt to weaken model power struggles. It reflects that both breadwinner models and sprinkle models were challenging because equality challenges the caregiving role and social benefits, maternity, and paternity leave in Norway as 2/3 for the mother and 1/3 for the father. It also illustrates some men as "double losers," losing their job and consequently losing their wives as an example. Some equality techniques have gone little far than it supposed to be that can reflect man's distribution of labor; the economy in the relationship equality must benefit both perspectives Holter (2003).

In contrast to Holter (2003), Lie (2004) points out that middle-aged and older men and some younger men get married to foreign women because of globalization. Globalization and increase in travel and tourism, to/from Norway, and through organized networks, and dating sites, refer to each other, providing a variety of choices for both men and women to have partners from different places worldwide. According to the SSB statistics, the majority are from Asia, South America, and East European countries. Also, Lie 2004 proves that Norwegian women are independent, and have control over their finance, and the division of labor at home; thus, men eventually prefer to have more submissive and accommodating gender roles leaning toward the hegemonic model (Lie (2004). In an equal society, Norwegian men were looking for more conservative attitudes towards

women. Surplus of their choice or are the board with their race is a complex topic. Similarly, Norwegian women marry Moroccans and Turkish men. However, the pattern of Norwegian women marrying them is becoming lesser. According to the SSB statistics, the ratio of divorce rate is twice higher as divorce-related for Norwegian men and foreign women (Lie, 2004). Some Norwegian men expect both traditional gender-defined characteristics simultaneously independent and resourceful, strong and financially independent women. Norwegian women get married to men in hegemonic societies; perhaps Norwegian women, after all, want a “real man,” or is its new equality system of social construction deviating both men and women from looking elsewhere. Criticism and argument towards the majority of the Norwegian population appreciate gender-equal culture. They are happy with each other, and sure they are not looking for a “real man “or a “real woman.”

On the other hand, social anthropologist Stephen Sparkes believes Norwegian men marry foreign women because Norwegian women have become too career conscious. Some men replace their Norwegian wives in favor of a young woman from Thailand accustomed to a traditional gender role pattern. A Norwegian man with a girlfriend from Thailand expresses in a newspaper this attitude. (Huitfeldt & Kavli, 2004). *“I don't like the morality and attitude here at home anymore. Things have become all too easy with foreign women. Being in a relationship, considering it, is so easy just to leave if you don't get what you want. In a way ”* (Huitfeldt et al., 2004, p.11 para 2). Huitfeldt (2004) argues that gender roles are also the reason why some women want an out-of-country man. His research on social conditions in Thailand points out that a group of Thai women has emerged struggling to find real-life men in their home country in recent years. The argument resonates well with the research findings; many women who were independent in their home countries sought a man who values equality trends rather than traditional gender roles (Huitfeldt et al., 2004). “Middle-class women in Thailand face the same resistance in their homeland, which some career women meet in Nordic countries. Traditional men in Thailand want stay-at-home women. Thus, many highly educated Thai women end up with a foreign husband” (Huitfeldt et al., 2004, p.11 para 2). It is also an interesting argument. Social anthropologist Astrid Grytting shows how Norwegian men married to Filipino and Polish women believe that gender equality has come too far at home. At the same time, this equality makes them attractive in the eyes of foreign wives. Some foreign women highlight their Norwegian husbands as gentler, better at helping in the house, and more thoughtful to children than men from their homeland (Grytting 2000, p.187 cited at Huitfeldt et al., 2004). Grytting also believes that there was a greater or lesser degree of infantilization of women among the Filipino couples she examined. She describes as a cute, petite, slightly irrational woman who expects the man to protect her, takes responsibility, and give her a stable future (Grytting, 2000,

p.185 cited at Huitfeldt et al., 2004). The report on the marriage camp in Setesdal between Norwegian men and Russian women (Egeland, 2001 cited at Huitfeldt et al., 2004) gives a similar picture of equality among the Norwegian participants (Huitfeldt et al., 2004).

Lie (2004) explains why all foreigners are marrying Norwegians because Norway offers better benefits than the home country of the foreigners. Facts are education, employment, independence in the marriage, children's upbringing, welfare, freedom, and that choice that influx marriage brings to the table. This Norway attracts foreigners to find a spouse and move to Norway (Lie, 2004). Arguably, every human being expects qualitative life and freedom, just the same way Norwegian looks for foreign brides to bring them values to their lives or the same way that Norwegian migrates to the USA hoping for better lives. Most Foreign women argues that the Norwegian gender equality model is just an illusion for foreign women but only applicable to only two Norwegian. Equality in a relationship should consist of sharing responsibilities, mutual, considerate, compassionate, empathic, and respect for each other, and building a stable partnership accepting the person they are. That did not resonate among the foreign population. For the sake of argument, in Norwegian society, where equality seems to be more credited among the marriage of two Norwegians, equality switch gears when a Norwegian married a foreigner (Participant, 2020). Combining the facts in the literature in pursuit relationships due to gender, equality, globalization seeking a foreign partner explicitly sway on personal choice & circumstance Holter (2003). On the other spectrum, criticism of the Norwegian equality paradox challenges when legislation gives full power to Norwegian spouses in the immigration process without considering shielding measures. It is exposing the women and children to a tragic dilemma in life-altering violence. Understandings of violence in close relationships are considered more as an individual problem to the individual's mental state, circumstance abuse, or in other ways peculiar life situation. Bredal, A., Eggebø, H. & Eriksen, A. M. A. (2020). Among other factors, the Norwegian equality paradox and gender power relations are enormously paradoxical when it omits to prevent violence against foreigners married to Norwegian despite many discussions for decades (Mira, 2020).

3.3 Wife shopping.

Due to many factors already discussed previously. Wife shopping becomes an attractive adventure to Norwegian perpetrators. Advancement of Technologies and globalization, travel accessibility, and attractive tour packages shed light on the perpetrators to expand horizons towards developing countries to travel and choose a partner of their choice. Many found their foreign partner when they are at work abroad or visiting, and some men meet women who come to Norway on visit visas, as

au pairs, or as a student. Others introduce by their Norwegian friend at gathering parties or on social media; access to various dating sites and social media is another key choice of source for wife shopping. The number of marriages between Norwegians and people from other countries increases, and family reunification is the most important reason for a residence permit in Norway. Thus, the need to implement proper formalities to prevent exploitation is vital to stupor collateral damage (Lie, 2004).

3.4 Marriage to Prostitution

Fafo's report of "Crossing Borders" (Brunovskis and Tyldum, 2004 cited at Huitfeldt et al., 2004) revealed that most of the prostitutes in Oslo originally came to Norway married to their ethnic Norwegian partners. They end up directly from home to the road due to losing a job and income, the partner throws them out of the house, ending the relationship, or abandons the women they end up in prostitution. The majority of Thai followed by Russian women are overrepresented. The Fafo survey uncovers that some women were in prostitution without their partner's knowledge to earn money to send to their children and family abroad. Many of them are also due to poor Norwegian language ability. Others couldn't get a proper job or have a low-income part-time job. Life circumstances pressure them to earn extra money or find survival in the way they can; the survey also classifies that women who went into prostitution had a deficient education level (Huitfeldt et al., 2004). The report describes how women in acute financial or personal crises are often more vulnerable than women exploited in prostitution. The report also shows how women who make quick decisions to change their economic situation are often more susceptible to exploitation than those who spend more time making a decision (Huitfeldt et al., 2004). Also, the study revealed that some women had exposure to a nature of prostitution forced by their Norwegian husbands. They were especially "manipulating or threatening them" to interact with their friends or asking them to bring money home through prostitution (Participant, 2020). The theory that one male participant exposed was that if

«... Norway does not allow prostitution... it's not legal...but prostitution is existing... it's on media time to time...problem is that man cannot be found with a prostitute... if found the man must pay a huge fine, but not the prostitute... So how do you think that a shy, unsocial, or old Norwegian man who is poor can live his entire remaining life without having sex. Such Norwegian men cannot have a Norwegian woman for sure as Norwegian women never chose such men. Norwegian woman wants men with stability & money. So, men have no choice but to look elsewhere... mostly women from poor countries...Do you think you as a woman can walk around anywhere in Norway, any time of the day and night so safely...if there were no

opportunity for men to have sex. There will be men raping women and children whenever they get a chance... so foreign women coming here to Norway solve the problem...any poor man can afford them... also foreigners want to come then why not... problem solved? »
 (Participant, 2020)

His argument was a pivotal indictment. Does this mean foreign women import practice with loopholes in the legislation is an alternative to direct prostitution or a legitimate mistake? The question remains controversial and unanswered.

3.5 Marriage to Crisis Center

According to Crisis Center statistics, every 3rd foreign woman in a Crisis Center had been subject to violence by their Norwegian husband. In 2001, 237 foreign women fled their Norwegian husbands to the Crisis Centers with their children. In 2003 there were 751 women with foreign backgrounds of 38 different nationalities were in 50 crisis centers across Norway. The majority dominated Thai and Russian nationalities (Jonassen, 2004 cited at Huitfeldt et al., 2004). The women end up in the crisis center because of their violent Norwegian husbands. Some are constantly busy picking a new wife and frequently changing their wives after discarding the one they already have. Such Norwegian men then bring new women on a tourist visa and busy continuing life. In many scenarios, these men are simply sending the new woman upon the expiration of tourist visas. Life continues to find a new woman. According to Several shelters, Norwegian men deliver their women at their door when they “finish with them.” Garza, (2019, para 4). According to Bufdir (2020), statistics data shows that 1800 persons, 1650 women, and 146 men, took refugee shelter admission, 3 of the gender was undisclosed, and 1450 children and 2637 women took day support in Crisis Centers across Norway. The number slightly decreased compared to 2018; from 2003-to 2018 was an increase in the number, while from 2010 to 2013, it was stable and then declined. From 2016 to 2019, the number of resident persons in the Crisis Center was approx. 1800 to 1844 Bufdir (2020).

Table.2

The year 2019 Crisis Centre statistics

	Day user form	Residents form - adults	Resident form - children
Number of visits/stays	12 454	2 471	1 876
Number of individuals	2 637	1 800	1 450

Source: Bufdir (2020)

Although the above statistics do not pacifically direct to Norwegian foreign marriages, according to Crisis Center representative’s statistic, about 60-65% of the population directed to Crisis Center

are foreign women married to Norwegian men (Crisis Center, 2020). According to Bufdir (2020), 6 out of 10 residents had immigrant backgrounds in 2019; 63% of residents are immigrant backgrounds. These women were subject to various⁹ physical, physical & psychological violence and against the children, including sexual violence against children, which were the most common reasons residents sought help at the shelter. Nine out of 10 residents were victims of mental violence. Almost 7 out of 10 were victims of physical violence, and 6 out of 10 were subjected to threats. Furthermore, 26% had been exposed to material violence, 24% to economic violence, 18% to sexual violence, 10% to digital violence, and 7% to honor-related violence. Violence against residents' children was also the cause of several shelter stays. Among residents who brought children to the shelter, 26% said the inquiry was due to mental violence against their children, while 10% reported physical violence against their children. 3% were in the shelter because of sexual violence against their children. Based on the UDI's case files studied in such divorce cases, variations of remarriage were evident. It reveals several types of marital careers where frequent remarriage is linked to either. 1) abuse also over-for former partners, 2) exploitation of immigration rules, possibly related to gross exploitation of women and children, and 3) "trial and error" to find "it right" (Liden, 2005: 8, para 3) or a combination of these. Arguably the Norwegian men can test women as consumers to find which one they fit the best, just as tasting food or test-drive an automobile while the law has no implications to the perpetrators (Participant, 2020).

3.6 Consequences of IPV

The consequence of IPV for an individual is several layers, it affects health, work, children, and other family members. Ultimately linking to the entire socio-economic world.

3.6.1 How intimate partner violence affects health.

Abuse and violence towards women by their spouses ultimately result in significant physical and emotional health issues that are temporary or lead to lifelong tragedy and dysfunctional health complications. One reason why violence has been ignored mainly as a public health issue is the lack of a clear definition of the problem (Wijma et al., 2003). Vista Analyzes for the Ministry of Justice reflected Kurz (1989, cited at Rasmussen et al., 2012) that women exposed to domestic violence are burdened with health budgets up to 90% more than women in the randomly selected control group that have not been exposed to such violence. Besides physical injuries, permanent emotional disabilities were significant health consequences and can be irreversible. "Thus, violence

⁹ mental violence, physical violence, threats, material violence, economic violence, digital/electronic violence, human trafficking, sexual violence

against women by their partners is an important public health concern" (Nerøien & Schei 2008, para.1). Perrone (1992 cited in Rasmussen et al., 2012) finds that women who have been exposed to violence in close relationships have greater chances than other women of developing serious diseases later in life. It means, among other things, that domestic violence can increase health costs for society (Rasmussen et al., 2012). Therefore, the consequences of violence are often chronic physical and mental problems and, in the worst case, murder or suicide (WHO, 2000). Alsaker (2008 cited in Rasmussen et al., 2012) shows that women at Norwegian shelters were much worse off the quality of life than other Norwegian women of the same age. Women also have significantly more inferior quality of life and health when compared to other groups such as experienced or have experienced severe health risks (threat of death), such as soldiers who had been at war. The women in this project had a low quality of life measured on eight different scales than women of the same age in Norway. They had the inferior quality of life in terms of mental health, social health, and vitality Rasmussen et al., (2012). Many victims were severely affected by physical health, detreated, and were faster¹⁰.

3.6.2 How Intimate partner violence affects work.

Depending on the circumstance that the women are in, they may or may not work. Some women are not allowed to work due to their abusive partners controlling nature. "Economic abuse involves behaviors that influence a woman's ability to acquire, use and maintain economic resources, thus threatening her financial security and potential for self-sufficiency "(Adams et al. 2008, p. 564 cited in Alsaker et al., 2016, p.479). On the contrary, the author states that some women might enjoy their work as that is the place that validates their self-worth and an opportunity to be away from their abusive partner and gain economic independence. However, this situation can quickly shadow if an adverse event occurs at work due to abusive home background and trauma (Alsaker et al., 2016, p.479). Almost all the victims of serious violence in close relationships fall outside the labor market significantly due to trauma, physical, emotional, psychological disabilities, or grievances. Violence hinders a person's ordinary consciousness, concentration, and ability to think and remember. Also, associating with people, personal hurdles, children, responsibilities, and work pressure becomes overwhelming; thus, victims cannot work. Hence either the victim volunteer resigns, or the job asks the victims to take a break. In many cases, due to poor mental and physical

¹⁰ e.g., many confessed that they suffered from frequent migraine, continuous menstruation for continuous months, hypertension, severe abdominal pain, nausea, eating disorders, during and after the breakup of the relationship and after that for persistent symptom around a year later emergency admission suspect of a stroke. (participant, 2020).

health, women become weaker and unable to cope with the social world or manage work; insecurities and low self-esteem can hinder their ability to work (Alsaker et al., 2016, p.479-487).

An exciting study of the long-term effects of persistent violence by spouse/partner against women finds Lindhorst, Oxford, and Gillmore (2007 cited at Rasmussen et al., 2012) that violence has a significant negative impact on future conditions in the labor market. Violence can increase the likelihood of losing a job that the probability of finding a job, given that the woman is not at work decreases. Persistent violence increases the duration of unemployment. Kurz (1989 cited in Rasmussen et al., 2012) finds that women exposed to domestic violence and work have more frequent and more prolonged sick leave than other women. Regular and long sick leave can lead to loss of employment. Thus, it can also be difficult financially for the woman to break the relationship with the man. A doctoral study based in Norway by Kjersti Alsaker (2008 cited in Rasmussen et al., 2012) shows that 38% of abused women are not allowed by the man to work (Rasmussen, 2012).

Participants voiced as,

«...I had a lot of anxiety at work, and I could not associate with men; I could not be around them as I get severe headaches and nausea...I was completely unsocial, and I could not associate with others, could not smile or be positive when so much was going on. I presumed that people judged me. » «...He didn't allow me to work...he said he will tell the employer that I am crazy...I could not concentrate; I became paralyzed, and I had constant social anxiety. » «...I could not be dishonest, so I explained to my colleagues about my home situation, after every small thing that has nothing to do with my stress, they always judged me as I am stressed... It was very hurtful. At work, we can't fake... also can't tell the truth because it can backfire. »

Falling out of the labor market means that society goes lose production revenues for many years to come. Increased sickness absence and shortened working career Socio-economic costs of violence in close relationships among those at work result from violence in intimate relationships. Lost earnings thus build up over several years. Rasmussen et al., (2012).

3.6.3 How intimate partner violence affects children.

WHO (2021) “The children who are exposed to direct or indirect domestic violence may suffer a range of behavioral and emotional disturbances, these can also be associated with perpetrating or experiencing violence later in life (social learning, situational theory). IPV has also associated with higher rates of infant and child mortality and morbidity (through, for example, diarrheal disease or malnutrition and lower immunization rates)” WHO (2021, para 15) Øverlien (2010) explains that children witnessing violence at home often expose themselves to their mother being abused in

family violence. Despite witnessing violence, children are also subject to direct physical, mental, and sexual abuse Øverlien (2010). Case studies in chapter 5 will uncover such tragic incidents.

Many women in the research disclosed that their children's personality had changed after experiencing violence episodes. Also, many children became confused or angry with the mother for not standing up for herself or themselves. Some children tried to save and support and protect their mothers. Violence against children captures both physical and psychological, conflict home environment, control and threats, negligence, denial of basic needs, and child confusion. This deprivation of liberty can create a feeling of alienation and non-belonging. When mothers have been exposed to violence, the children themselves have also experienced physical or psychological violence. Many mothers felt ashamed to be treated the way when children are witnessing it, « ...we lose children's respect and self-respect. We cannot advise or be a role model to our children anymore ». It is also a strain for the children to see that the mother is treated in degrading manner. It is different how violence is part of family relationships, and about physical abuse is an individual episode or is part of a pattern. Whether violence is part of a pattern will make the situation in the family tense. The children who witness violence describe that the children in such families go into a permanent state of trauma and tension (Participant cases, 2020). Some perpetrator often uses children as part of an excuse to victimize the mother. Moms as their caregiver adopts any strategy to prevent their children from affecting the violence. Children also tolerate violence directly or see their mother being abused. Children feel helpless in the face of abuse because they are simultaneously dependent on them. Not least, mothers without a residence permit, as the mother and their existence are entirely reliant on this relationship. Research also shows that children often take on responses in violent situations and act based on their opportunities (Mullen-der et al. 2003, Solberg 2001, cited in Liden, 2005). There were also cases in that offenders held children hostage to perpetuate women. Or else directly threatening children with the consequences to their mother. Stepparents connect to the new society in Norway; children perceive the entire nation based on the perpetrator's behavior at home.

It was also evident that the Norwegian spouse misinforms Child Welfare Service and avoids talking about abuse to the outside world. The stepfather has also conveyed knowledge about Norwegian society and laws to the children. Thus, they do not dare to speak to anyone. It is also common to want to hide abuse, to avoid being embarrassed, or that they are experiencing shame for the situation they have ended up in. It can lead to them isolating themselves from the outside world. Also, affect every relationship and the fears of others (Participant stories, 2020).

Although schools and friends are a good source of comfort for children, they sometimes isolate themselves. In the UDI survey, there are several examples of children getting sick from the tension they live in (Liden, 2005)¹¹. The UDI survey confirms forms of physical violence against children. More common are threats or various forms of deprivation of liberty. Plus, with physical and psychological violence, the child may be subjected to sexual abuse. Cases in chapter 5 include where such abuses are known. The Crisis Center Survey reports that it is gone the more severe form of physical violence against two illegitimate children and five being beaten and kicked or locked up or denied food. The Crisis Center survey reports that in 10 cases, the father/stepfather has become noted for child abuse. There are conflicts over access rights with joint children in one-fifth of the marriages (Crisis Center, 2020). After the break-up, the parents must lean on mediators to cooperate on social and visiting arrangements. That means the child maintains contact with the father/stepfather who has abused the mother. For some women, this visitation arrangement is the condition for them to obtain a residence permit in family reunification with their child, a Norwegian citizen (Liden, 2005). When children expose to such unpleasant life experiences, it can be a life-altering event for them as much as the mother. Many tend to alter behavioral changes throughout their lives in different circumstances resulting in adverse negative behavioral patterns. Many endure rage, anger, depression, fear, anxiety, instability, and shame, among many other negative consequences. Consequently, they cannot concentrate on their education and feel like a child, destroying childhood innocence. This unfortunate circumstance alters a child's mindset about the world, people and their perception, conflicts, and perhaps feel that violence is a norm or acceptable life pattern or when they grow up use violence during conflict. Research indicates that "domestic violence is the most toxic violence to which children can be exposed" (McAlister Groves, 2001 cited in Øverlien, 2010, p. 82, para 7).

3.6.4 Violent breed Violence

In the context of "violence breeds violence," research on abused women shows that their children are vulnerable. But children can be exposed to violence directly against themselves without their mothers being similarly exposed. They can both be victims, but they can also develop strategies for dealing with violence, partly by protecting themselves and partly by watching their mother and

¹¹ For example, the school tackles the problem because they ventilate, or the children tell the nurse that they are having a hard time at home. Children experience anxiety through sounds and threatening actions, which creates fear and insecurity, which they do not understand. The danger can change between being loving and seeming threatening. It establishes fundamental insecurity in the relationship. In several cases, the man has largely been dismissive of the children, and the children have been the cause of conflicts that end in violence.

siblings. However, violence against children can have many other forms of expression as well. For example, research shows that children who live in the abuse environments often develop strategies to protect themselves from dealing with difficult emotions and situations Øverlien (2012). When children feel they must take care of their mother and be present at home and not go to school and pretend to be sick or being sick, it gives this in the long run costs both in the form of loss of learning and social isolation. It is more likely to drop out of education. It, in turn, gives worse opportunities in the labor market. It also found information that may indicate that “violence breeds violence,” in the sense that abused children learn relationships of violence. (Rasmussen et al., 2012). This was evident in participants’ experiences with their children. Some mothers said

«... my son couldn't witness the way he beat me, so my son told me a couple of times he wanted to hit the man; I pleaded with him not to get involved because if so, the consequences will be worse ».«... my press charges were dropped, and my child said to me, so that means all he did to us is okay, then no problem I can do the same to someone and get away because the law doesn't care ».

Also, some women said their children aimed to become adults and get the revenge, some said “they wanted to treat him the way he treated us”. There are heavy consequences to paying to be in an abusive relationship. Besides the rage towards the perpetrator, many children showed other negative personality traits and genuine physical illness. Mothers’ ability to physically and psychologically care for and protect children weakened when exposed to violence. The psychologist also identifies those children exposed to violence in their childhood tend to have a poor quality of life, addiction to drugs and alcohol, rage, anger, or violent behavior in their adulthood (Rasmussen et al., 2012). In the book “**The bear is sleeping**,” former Minister of Justice Storberget focuses on the whole domestic violence issues women who their boyfriends and husbands abuse, men who abuse, and not least what domestic violence does to children. In addition, these children are predicted to be a replica of future abusers as per power theory, social learning theory, and background or situational theory.

3.6.5 How Society treats the victim

Most of the time, society is unaware or uninterested in the victim’s condition. Consequently, converging on pathologizing the victim and not the actual problem. When diagnosing, most therapists try to analyze perpetuating the person in front of them as a victim of abuse. Subsequently, consider her current feelings and assess the symptoms and patterns of her present feelings and not the personal relationship or the situation. Often the victim must own the blame and the failure of the relationship while the offender has no responsibility or consequences to bear. Also, many

women were asked by several individuals, «... *If the relationship ends up in a divorce, so why don't you go back to your country* ». implying that they do not have any rights to live in Norway anymore. Pathologizing a victim is an unempathetic social behavior¹². Victims claimed that if the argument turned around to the same individual, «... *Do you like this to happen to your daughter or your child*». they cannot comprehend the question. Women didn't come to Norway as physically and psychologically broken. Therefore, it is not acceptable to send them to return as shattered and battered individuals (Participant, 2020). Social pressure and social discrimination, and stereotypes of people are significant barriers to victims surviving the aftermath of abuse. Victims come out of one abuse and go through many in the society, thus burden victims' lives significantly. Many spoke about while undergoing traumatic reality pressure with daily economics, responsibilities at work, duties to studies, lawyers' cases, and childcare services scrutinizing all at once was complex. Many women addressed that their economic situation was utterly terrible; due to a lack of concentration and focus or inadequate money, they delayed or couldn't pay bills. Thus, it comes with fines. The periodic documentation formalities to seek social help were also a daunting task for women as they didn't have the knowledge or psychological capacity to execute. Societal gaslighting about the abuse was another level of abuse. Many women complain that they heard from many people in society that it is entirely the victim's responsibility to evaluate the risks of coming to a new country and accepting the abuse encountered. Besides that, many victims find it is impossible to find a job without a tie with a Norwegian. During job interviews, the victims were asked about their relationship to their Norwegian surname, if they were married or cohabitant with a Norwegian partner or having a Norwegian child. If not, they found out that there is no connection to Norwegian, then the interviewer immediately dismisses the interview, and the employment journey ends instantaneously.

¹² Most of the time, victims perpetuate a cycle of getting stuck in that cycle of self-blame, self-doubt, self-pantheonization, and gaslighting narratives by other people. How society views the victim as a person and their personality is overwhelming. Almost all the victims told how societal gaslighting and undervaluing the pain and suffering and the damage it case to self and children was an uncompromisable task. Societal views are more to blame the victim for getting married to such a person. Not being able to get out, not forget, and move on instead of blaming the perpetrators or acknowledging right and wrong was significant social discomfort.

CHAPTER FOUR

Methodology

4. Research Methods:

This research positions a predominately feminist theoretical standpoint related to abused immigrant women. IPV phenomena from the feminist standpoint incline and entails in power inequalities. Thus, research explores strategies to answer both "why", "what", and "how" questions (Blaikie 2009) and deep dive into the social phenomenon. In terms of sampling strategy, research participants were selected based on the actors involved in the selected social phenomena in Rogaland County Norway. As per Blaikie (2009) "an aggregate of all cases that conforms to some designated set of criteria" must be outlined (Blaikie, 2009, p.172).

Thus, the sampling for this research consists of FIRST Women that are married to Norwegian SECOND diverse actors from organizations relevant to the subject THIRD general random population who willingly participated. The selected population contributed pivotal contributed rich data to nourish the thesis. The research paved a qualitative method, with ethnographic semi-structured interviews and questionnaires to keep uniformity across all participants. The qualitative research method was the more suited role in dive into and exploring women's experiences. Thus, research conducted in-depth interviews, and participant observations to understand the background, reasons, motivations, behaviors, attitudes, root causes, and circumstances throughout the abused lifecycle. Observations through group settings during their studies, work, and leisure activities, organized trips, and interaction with children through their natural settings gave more depth to their situations. Such ethnographic observation in their natural settings nourished the exploration of common problems. The participants were recruited through various sources and through those who know someone or were willing to share their stories as research inputs. The qualitative research method is more suited into the interplay between design, data collection, data analysis, and theorizing, and thereby tends to homogenize research approaches. Whilst keeping within a particular broad tradition are different yet important ways in terms of both their methodology and their underlying philosophical assumptions (Blaikie, 2009).

The questions focused on getting the participants' experiences that encapsulated their life before and after violence. As a researcher, it is a complex process that is likely to involve an interplay between individual characteristics and social factors. Both structure and agency have a role (Blaikie, 2009); questions focused on asking about unique attributes and contextual factors associated with the circumstance. All interviews followed the same design and questioning format, although

questions were worded differently depending on whether the participant was in the survivor stage or the victim. However, at times had to navigate questions asking individuals to explain, expand, give more detail, and give examples or rephrase the question to elicit a more detailed response. The data generated were analyzed, using a thematic analytical approach, from the beginning to the end of the migration to the violence stage and then the abuse lifecycle. Relevant literature is supported to an aligned hypothesis.

Participants: Violated women 18, Foreign women and 1 foreign man, 10 foreign women who are successfully married, General public Norwegian women 5 & men 5 included healthcare workers, lawyers, Nurses/doctors, Teachers, journalists, and general civil. Besides, Crisis Centre, MIRA center, NAV, and Stine Sofia Center have contributed valuable inputs.

Data Collection is based on qualitative interviews with women of diverse backgrounds and nationalities who have previously been married to or currently is married to Norwegian men and/or are suffering/suffered from a violent relationship. Most women were encouraged by the study and were glad to give their information as they thought it was an opportunity to empty their feelings to someone who believes in it. Many Norwegians shared the contact and made the connections so that researcher obtained as many victims as possible for the project contributions. One-to-one interviews were conducted at a place known to the participants and at a time that suited them. Interviews are conducted with open-ended questions to enable the participant to tell their story. Since the research was a little controversial and sensitive, there were several initial meetings was to build a rapport and explain the purpose of the research to the participants. The preliminary meetings gave both researcher and the participant gain confidence, to identify sensitive and problem questions, and avoid questions that will not add significance (Bryman, 2016). 18 female victims were married to Norwegian men, and 1 male victim. Various social groups have been interviewed such as 10 foreign women that are successfully married to Norwegian spouses and 10 independent Norwegian individuals who belong to diverse occupations (teachers, lawyers, nurses, doctors, and social workers), to ensure an understanding of the social influence how the social phenomenon has been perceived (Bryman, 2012, p. 6). Many participants gave valuable input to the research and shared my phone numbers with the victims they knew.

They commented «... *we always knew this is a problem. Someone must stand up for it... I am glad if you can represent* ». Understanding societies, social institutions, and social phenomena, it was necessary to gather much as data from a variety of individuals provide a clearer and more

discriminating understanding of different approaches to research (Blaikie 2009). During interviews, the participants introduced themselves with their background information, such as age (as a range) and how they came to Norway. The information such as the native country of the participants, how many children they have, what kind of life they had before coming to Norway, duration of the abuse, nature, and intensity of the abuse they had experienced were extracted during their conversation and descriptions. Interviewees chose how much they wanted to talk about the violence and how it affected them when it was going on and afterward. Many had a lot on their minds, and the interviews often took between 2-5 hours. All interviews were transcribed in their entirety using the computer and hand notes. The interview extractions have been condensed into shorter stories that will be presented on case basis. Some chapters consist of direct quotes from the interviews to showcase the raw emotions and feelings that they shared and to retain the authenticity of the research. Most women were encouraged by empathy and listening to their hurdles and found comfort in being understood. The individual interviews, however, provided more detailed accounts of the violence. The individual interviews were semi-structured interviews in which the role of the researcher was to listen and ensure that the focus remained broadly on the theme of work. All the information relevant to each theme was extracted from the participant's discussions.

Those who were willing to participate in the study received a complete overview of the research. All the women were in heterosexual relationships, among 18 women 15 of them were mothers with both children from a previous marriage and the current marriage. Three of them did not have any children. The interviews were transcribed and anonymized by name and other characteristics that could lead to the recognition of participants. The interviews navigated in the light of women's life stories resonating with the primary research method to explore, describe, explain, understand predict, and its consequences on the individual, socio-economic factors (Blaikie, 2009). During data collection, women were resourceful when discussing their background and the violence they had experienced. It constitutes all the majority of foreign women in the partner violence, belonged to a so-called closed denomination, such as Asia, South American, Russian, some Arab, Eastern European and American. The women in this project came from Rogaland County of Norway. At the time of the interview, they were aged 23–60 years, most in their 30-40 but several younger women in their twenties. Some of the women were still in abusive relationships. Some were just out of it, and some had broken up relationships a few years ago; for most women, the violence is still haunting in their regular life. Some interviews took a drastic turn due to Corona and trapped women being extra vulnerable during the pandemic. The researcher and participant were in contact

from time to time over the telephone or via skype/WhatsApp/Viber. Still, they did not conduct any interviews via these methods due to sensitivity.

Data Analysis For the research, analysis involved understanding the role of social actors involved in constructing the social IPV phenomenon. The research aimed to theorize the social problem an ontological perspective to identify if there is such social problem that exists. Then the theorized hypothesis is divided into 5 questions to explore it in the social world. The diverse data from various sources were then gathered taking an epistemology approach constituting the social phenomena concerning IPV. All the interviews have been transcribed via computer and written. All the data gathered from literature and empirical analysis to develop a thematic manner to visualize and present the entire abuse landscape and the way out of it. Retrodictive research strategy enabled the researcher to uncover salient themes uncovering and explain the foundation of indeed observed regularities (Blaikie 2009, p.89). To support the generated pieces, a balanced presentation of the experiences promotes the trustworthiness of the data, and direct quotes are provided the readers into the voice of these women. While sensing that critical realism, evaluation, and impact assessment, the research showcases that IPV is not independent phenomenon but is a part of the entire social construction of reality (Blaikie, 2009, p. 69).

Limitations: The findings need to be interpreted within the context of the study limitations. Group classification of the women was based on self-report using the volunteered women and their experiences. Due to the high sensitivity nature of data of IPV, it is also possible that response bias may have influenced the women's reporting due to the lack of interviews and information from the perpetrator's viewpoint. Thus, it can be seen as a limitation to the research. Nevertheless, to compensate for the limitation of inputs from perpetrator research thrived to find much legitimate literature that supports to mitigating these potential biases and following the guidelines proposed by Bryman (2012) to reduce bias and promote the credibility and confirmability of the research. **First**, the literature findings and survey, and statistics represented in this research were obtained from professional government institutions or reputed private organizations. **Second**, other literature is consistent with the research objective and empirical findings. **Finally**, numerous times checked on the empirical and relevant literature supporting each stage of the analytical process to compare data demonstrating transparency regarding the themes' development, evidence, and representing the participants' experience and the conclusions were drawn based on the research findings.

4.1 Ethical Considerations

Informed consent: In brief primary permission from NSD was obtained. Consequently, research information and details cascaded to the participants on an individual basis before the research commenced. A clear and concise statement relating to the purpose of the research study, the expected duration of the interview or observation, reason, objectives of the research, and the description of the research procedure, predicted risk, and discomforts clarified and obtained participants' volunteer consent. Most importantly, **confidentiality** and ethical considerations of the information and records collected safeguard every individual and institution involved in the research are prioritized. Also, clarity in the statement relating to the participants for the study is a voluntary event that has no obligation or consequences binding to it. It also has the right to disengage or refuse participation at any point. USC Libraries (2019). **Personal Data Protection:** The research project has dealt with sensitive topics and requires ethical vigilance to obtain data and anonymization. All case-presented in the report are anonymized, and details that are not decisive in the argument have been changed. The representation of the victim's expressions is used to stigmatize a type of marriage or immigration practice. As part of the procedure of safeguarding personal and sensitive data, names were used in a coded language that only the researcher can understand. Also, keeping information and was as digital as possible within password-protected files. Ensure that participants and their rights "rights of access, rectification or erasure" as per NSD online guidelines.

Since the research is a very private matter and personal and sensitive data related to the informant's emotions, possible psychological reactions traumatized participants were predicted. Consequently, the researcher was prepared in advance how the interview could handle. However, upon commencing the discussion, some stories were disturbing, and it was overwhelming to handle. All the behavior, emotional patterns, and psychological conditions have been collected in writing. Most of the participants had no problems talking about their experiences. At times, some of them needed breaks, or I needed a break due to emotional reactions. Thus, data collection took long breaks or was postponed to another date.

4.2 Challenges and risks

Covid 19 situation has changed everybody's life around the world. During data collection, this situation was a massive barrier to contacting participants on the phone or in person. The pandemic situation delayed meeting participants and institution representatives. Due to COVID 19, Individual participants are reluctant or avoid discussion; there were restricted or no social gatherings, classes,

meeting places, and NGO activities. These became a significant hurdle to getting collective information and observation from participants. Also, the sensitivity of the subject interviews had to be conducted multiple times. It has a more extended period than initially anticipated. Many victims who had discussions could not come out of their houses as their partners were home or working from home. Pandemic certainly created limited freedom and undoubtedly trapped and in a devastating situation. Other **sensitivities** and the more significant challenge were that the subject is confidential, private, and intimate data that needed to be extracted along the way while conversing with the informant. The interview questionnaire was guidance to the researcher and the participants. However, it helped very little to the participant, as when they begin to explain their story, the researcher could not interrupt, skip, or jump to the next question. The researcher had to follow the flow and the convenience of the participant allowing them to navigate the meeting as they feel comfortable. Many became very emotional, and crying, flashbacks, memories, failures, mistakes, and violence were present and visible at the time of conversation. Thus became a very powerful emotional roller-coaster to empathize with the victim and yet to focus on the project. **Other participant's** interviews, such as random Norwegians who know about a violent situation, also took a drastic change and lagging time to postpone or cancel meetings due to COVID 19. Institutions: Data collections with the institutions took far more grater time than expected due to COVID 19. The institutions were extremely busy, or they were not interested at all in the meetings. COVID 19 also became a barrier however was also the biggest excuse for many. Also, COVID 19 hindered accessibility for an interview with individuals.

The risk: for participants, political, legal, cultural, religious, and demographic restrictions can foresee hinders. Personal circumstance and risk in revealing sensitive information due to the fear for the perpetrator. Also, women were scared that the data will have a consequence on their visa status. **Risk for the researcher,** Political, legal, and cultural barriers. Uncertainty and fear caused by potential threats or safety concerns in abusers are finding out on the research or if victims reveal it to the abuser. **Empathy and Feelings,** many women seemed to carry accumulated suffering on their excruciating journey. Several atrocious and emotional stories took place that was hard to listen to and hard to document. It took a toll on my health and wellbeing, especially during data collection, and has taken long rest or days, weeks, and sometimes months to stop the interviews. It was also tough during analyzing, writing, and reading. The entire thesis cycle was enormously challenging; therefore, I had to take extended breaks at times months, focus on other things, listen to music, and go to different places to change my mind before resuming again.

CHAPTER FIVE

Empirical Presentation

5. How women fall from marriage to exploitation and trafficking

Under the love or marriage disguises the migrant women are exploited in many dimensions. The research empirical observed First it is a choice that women make in pursuit of family or a better life. By doing so they trap into some form of IPV. IPV is a voluntary prison that one situates themselves in and most likely does not escape. Second hindrance of legal barriers to escaping. Third social consequences. Forth Economic consequence Fifth lack of support system, and language. Following case studies exhibit the nature of exploitation and trafficking to set a light on the researched social phenomena.

Case 1 - Irina is from Asia and in her late thirties. She was introduced to a Norwegian man in his fifties by one of her friends in her county, as he visited for tourism. And they met, talked. During his stay in her country, they were intimate. After a few months of talking to each other on the phone every day, the relationship developed into a romance and she said, «... *he seemed to be a charming person, looked trustworthy* ». (Participant, 2021). After considering a long-term plan for their relationship, they decided to take the relationship to the next step. He applied for her visa to come to Norway, and she came with her two girls. The man was divorced and had grown-up children. She had two small daughters from a previous marriage and lived with her parents after the death of her 1st husband; after her husband died, she worked in her home country as a manicurist, and she claimed that she was not a rich person, but she managed. After she came to Norway, he started to rule her in her daily life. She says that she was supposed to cook, clean, wash, do gardening, and do every household chore; she was also supposed to treat him with the utmost respect “like a king” (Participant, 2021). He was jealous if she treated her children any way or better than him. He wanted all the attention and everything. She described how rude he was to the children and her. If she made the slightest mistake, he shouts at her with filthy words or beats her. He threatened to send her back. In the bedroom, she had to be a prostitute to him; she had to do everything he asked her to do. She felt so sick, but she did not see any escape route. Also, she wanted to make her husband happy. She could not go out of the house without him, not allowed to go to school. The children went to the school; at times, she follows them simply to escape from him. He was insulting and arrogant to the children and began to harass them if the mother does anything significant. Also, she said that she noticed that he was watching the girls having a bath one day. He pretended to bathe them another day, but he was aroused and asked the children to touch his private parts. She screamed and shouted

at him, but he started to beat her on the floor and asked her to perform certain sexual acts as he wishes. If not, the consequence shall pay by the kids. So, from then onwards, she became overly submissive and obeyed all his demands without thinking twice. She had lived through the same violence for about two years, and then one day again, she saw he was touching her eldest daughter's private parts and performing sexual acts. So, she fought that day with him, a few days later, she left him and went to the crisis center. The case reveals the vulnerability of the women in personal life circumstances has been taken for granted by the Norwegian spouse. Power theory demonstrates throughout the case and situational theory can be predicted in respect to the children involvement. The case is a shocking testimony elucidate how vulnerable women and children are in the given situation, their first choice is not to escape from the potential abuse, they wait until the situation escalate when it is too late and tragic when children are in an exploitation grounds.

Case 2 - Zara was single in her early thirties and from East Asia; the Norwegian man was in his late fifties, married to a Norwegian woman, and divorced. He had four children, and the children were co-parented and visited every fortnight. They met through a dating site, and they talked and built a relationship, and eventually, she came to Norway. She had her parents and siblings in her home country. She thought it is an excellent opportunity to start her own life in Norway with a kind Norwegian man. She came to Norway on a fiancée visa, and then after a few months, they got married. Before the marriage, the couple had ups and downs, but she thought it was normal to have conflict as the relationship is new. Slowly and surely, she understood it was beyond ordinary as his expectations and demands were beyond comprehension and never the end, never satisfied. More than anything, the way he condemns her and invalidates her, her home situations, and personal circumstances were often “rubbed on her face,” and “he treated me like some unworthy creature.” (Participant, 2020). In a new country and new culture, she didn't know what to do. He expected her to be the nanny or the servant to his children, not another mother; she felt so hurt. But she thought she would manage. He did not spend money on her but expected her to be always on top service to him and his children. He expected a lot more than she can handle in the bedroom; in other words, she said that he raped her almost every night. He was very aggressive in the bedroom and used to enjoy brutal sexual activities. At times she got worried if he will kill her. He tied her up or closed her mouth and inserted equipment into her private parts. She said it was agonizing; he chained her, and beat her. She said that he told me many times that I cannot have this fun with a Norwegian woman. Although she felt so frightened, she said that she thought that if she accepts his demand, eventually he will love her; after everything is done, he started to show he loves her, so she wanted to believe that. So, intending to get the reward at the end, she said she tolerated the intolerable.

Sometimes they visited BDSM groups. After a year, she got a child with him, and then the relationship took another turn. He started to find more women from her country and tried to mistreat her, and he communicated with them when she was around, but she couldn't do anything about it. He ignored her, watched adult videos, talked to women, and saw that he was planning to get another woman from her country. She started to beg and pleaded when it didn't work; she fought when that also didn't work; she accepted the circumstance and surrendered herself. One day he threw her belonging out of the house. She ended up in the shelter and started her life. She said that since she had the child with him, she could stay in the country. He continued his life with a new woman from abroad. The case is another testimony of how the power theory plays in IPV using personal circumstances and vulnerability to trap her. The case also illustrates the perpetrators switch in personality in the beginning and immediately after the marriage and taking control of her life and turning to abusive nature. It also showcases the perpetrator's ability to treat foreign women differently from Norwegian women. In addition, the abuse continues as long as the partner need and discards her in the end. It is an apparent lack of ability to defend themselves in the relationship due to the complete dependency of the Norwegian spouse.

Case 3 - Gosia in her twenties found her Norwegian partner through an arrangement agency here in Norway. The man was in his early sixties. He came and brought her on a visit visa first, then they went to her country a few times, thereafter she came on a fiancée visa to Norway, and got married. This man was an athlete of some sort and obsessed with outdoor activities. The woman did not want to do so. He forced her, complained, and psychologically abused her daily basis. She was allowed to maintain only 50Kgs of her weight and deprive herself of food and the quantity of food she eats a day. He restricts her from doing a job or learning a language. At times he asked her to step on the scale to see if she had put on weight. She said that he uses her as a servant in the house where he did not contribute any housework. He demanded to live in a certain way. She gets sick often, but she was not allowed to go to the doctor. She was not allowed to speak to her family. He restricted her money. She was asked to run in the rain, wind, and cold weather to get used to Norway. She was asked to learn to knit as Norwegian women do. She was expected to go out with him to do extensive outdoor exercises, she claims it was freezing, and she cannot adjust, had few clothes, and he did not buy anything for herself. She got some clothes from a few people that she came to know around. The worst is that she says he expected her to do sexual activities with his friends while the husband watches and participates or records. He demanded, at times to have sex with multiple partners. Less than two years into the relationship, he dumped her at the airport and send her home, saying. I need a new young one. She had no other choice. When she said that she would go to the

police, he threatens her to release the photos and videos on the social network and say that she cheated on him. She said that she could not do anything about it, and she went home, and now she is again back in Norway, married to a non-Norwegian man and having a child. Another classic empirical resonating power theory is based on woman's inadequacy to defend themselves from abuse. The abuser pushes boundaries, physical, sexual, financial abuse and manipulation to discard, and get over with the woman.

Case 4 - Mary did not want to disclose where she is from, but from a western country with a well-educated and well-paid job and independent life and was in her early thirties. She was involved with him through social media; he was in his mid-fifties. He was never married but had two children with a Norwegian woman. Many of her extended friends living in Norway knew about him in general and he seemed friendly. After some time, they build a relationship, and she came to Norway. The man was employed in a company and earning reasonably good pay. However, he never spends any money when they go out or when they were together. He always complained about his poor finance and the money he had to give to the Norwegian spouse he had children with, and how bad the relationship was. She thought that she was in love with him, and since she wanted to build a life here in Norway, she sold her apartment back home and sent money to him to refurbish his home and buy a boat which was his dream. After a few months, she claimed that he was deliberately calculatedly psychologically abusing her everyday basis. He denied many things he said to her. He goes and tells very unpleasant things about her to his friends and family. She said that he was very manipulative and heartless. No matter how hard she tries, it was never good enough. She said that the psychological abuse was so intense that she was depressed most of the time, and their relationship became far worse day by day. She thought she was crazy, she was working in a supermarket, and he ensures taking all of her salaries ensuring she pays all the bills in the house. She had enough and asked to separate and asked him to give her the money she had spent on them. He threatened her that he would not give her 1 Kroner as she was living with him, he demanded that if she must leave him as per the Norwegian rules, she had to pay a lot of money to him. She had consulted a lawyer in the matter who told her since she lived with him, the money she invested in the house is considered as used for both of them and that cannot be claimed. After that, the relationship became bad to worse. He started to treat her unwanted; he ignored her and gave silent treatment. She was invisible to him; no matter how hard she tried, he dismissed her. Meanwhile, he gets involved with another woman and shows her photos of them together in an intimate setting. She said it was very hard; she lost her job, all her savings, everything back home, and everything she own. And one day, he asked her to pack her bag to go for a trip; on the way, he dumps her at a

friend's place and says "it is over" with some of her belongings. The relationship was over. He had informed UDI as she is longer lives with him and proceeded with the separation. This case mostly takes the feminist theory influences to ensure efforts towards safe and happy family life while the man takes the power theory in the play of controlling the relationship. It showcases physical and financial abuse while manipulating to discard and end the relationship remorselessly.

Case 5 - Mia from East Asia. A Norwegian man in his sixties with no children or previous marriages visits an East Asian country and meets a woman in her late twenties. They met each other at a bar. They feel comfortable with each other, and he looked like a very calm and friendly person. She has a child in her home country. He spends money to buy her clothes and helps her out. He also gives her money for her low-income family, and her child lived with her parents and the two sisters. The Man then brings her to Norway on a visit visa and lives a reasonably good life for a while. But she said she did the house chores while he did only outside work. When the visit visa was over, he sent her back to her country but kept contacting her. Consequently, he revisits her country and explains that the law does not permit her to apply for a visit visa for the same person. So that he asked her to send her younger sister just to work at home, due to financial struggle in her country, and she and her sister agreed. The sister comes and lives with him as a couple, and then afterward, when the visa gets over, he dumps her back in the country and applies visa for another woman. When that was over, he sends the 3rd woman back to her home. And contact with the 1st woman again. She then demands she would only come if he married her. After some months, he agrees. And she comes to Norway and gets married. After 1 ½ year into the marriage, the man gradually gets agitated with her cooking, cleaning, and housework. She had to work at his mother's house also, and the demands never end. She gets pregnant and continues living with him after the child was born; she builds a relationship with people from her country. She says he was emotionally abusive. He says to her on everyday basis that how she got a good life because of him, so he should always be grateful for him. He always reminds her that after a child, how bad her body becomes and disgusted with her appearance. He complains about how much he likes young women; he psychologically abused her everyday basis. She claims that he tried everything to get rid of her, but she didn't leave him. He then holds a grudge against her for sticking with him too long. She was afraid to lose the child. She claims because of the child and the shame of leaving him. He demanded her to bring her sister and threatened that he would send her back and keep the child, and she said she had no choice, so she agreed. The sister comes on a visit visa and lives with them. The man then ignores her. She was prohibited from her bedroom after her sister arrives. Both the sisters could not do anything. When the visit visa was over, the sister goes home, and after a few months, he applies again and demands

her to come. Since they had no choice, the sister comes back to Norway and lives a for a few months with them; the situation was intolerable for both the sisters and they plan for an escape. With the help of their friends of their nationality, the sister got involved with another Norwegian man, and eventually, they got married. The husband becomes furious, and she pretends that she doesn't know about her sister. Then the man becomes seriously violent and abuses the woman physically and psychologically. And finally, upon completion of the 3-year visa, she leaves her husband and finds a new independent life. The control, abuse, and exploitations of not only one person many family members. Taking advantage of poverty, vulnerability, and legal loopholes are key power theory traits. Feminist theory resonates with the tolerance of the exploitation levels at the same time violence and the abuse continued for up to three years due to a lack of uncertainty regarding legal consequence.

Case 6 - A woman named Sofia in her forties meets her Norwegian man in his late sixties via internet. And they become involved and get married. She sees women's clothes in their house. He explained it was his ex-wife's. She come to know from her neighbor that he had married twice with foreign women before her. In addition, the man had once married a Norwegian. When she inquires, trouble starts in the relationship. She says he was very abusive, throwing items and slammed things at her, hitting her, and strangling her. And once, he uses the kitchen knife to threaten her. Another time in the garage, he took a screwdriver and asked her if she wants it in her lungs. She was frightened but didn't want to leave him. He tried to do anything and everything that he demands. She contacted the shelter once, and due to the uncertainty of the visa to remain in Norway as Crisis Centre couldn't guarantee anything but advised her to collect evidence so that she went back to him. She tried to take photos of her injuries and keep them collective. She wanted to obey him in every possible way, assuming he might change. She was kept locked at the house sometimes, and he goes away to friends or sometimes does not come home for days. She was not allowed to go anywhere without him; he says there are cameras. If she goes, he will know it. After over a year of living with him, it was enough for her one day; then she seeks refuge at the crisis center. The case well demonstrates the power and control by the Norwegian spouse while lack of evidence and insecurities and uncertainty of legal rights implications the woman had back and forth lived with the abusive relationship. This also shadows the feminist theoretical footprint as the woman tries to remain in the abusive relationship due to legal, social-economical insecurities.

Case 7 - Emma in her early twenties from South America, marries a man in her late thirties; they become involved in a wedding that he had attended in the hotel. They talked and kept in contact.

Later, after some time, they begin a relationship, and he then brings her to Norway. He was very jealous of her; she could not talk to anyone, she can't go to the mandatory school, he texts her every time, he checks on her where she goes, whom she talks to, etc., at times he suspects her of having a relationship with other men. He called her ill language and at times beat her. She then also becomes rebellious and tries to take control. He threatens to send her home. She feels it's a shame to go back to her country after a failing marriage, so she tries to hang onto the relationship. It was hard, and every day it was turbulent at home; she says she doesn't know what is coming next when he is around. He demands to be intimate with her when it fits him. He neglects her when she is sick, but he should be treated like a king all the time. She finds a job at a kindergarten and tries to make a living. The abuse continues, and he drinks and uses all her money. She feels enough and after three years completed, and when she gets her permanent visa, she leaves him and marries a person from her own country and continued living in Norway. A mix of psychological, and physical intimidations, limiting freedom, and economic abuse defines power control. Thus, direct resonates with power theory. However, the tolerance of the abuse and continuation of the relationship until the obligatory 3 years completion prove that women put themselves in voluntary prison due to legal hinderance from one aspect while her fear in going back due to cultural norms and perhaps home country's economic instability discourage women to escape from the abuse.

Case 8 - Lisa from Asia in her thirties has two children under 10 years. He is in his late fifties and had grown-up children. And the relationship developed on the phone and the internet. He visits her home country; they get married in their home country and apply for a visa for her and her children and come to Norway. Once she and her two children come to Norway, she goes to school to learn Norwegian, and she tries to get temporary jobs and earn money. He asks her to get credit cards and loans under her name, and she does. He uses all that also persuades her to buy electronics. Her bank card is used by him for gambling or to watch adult sites. She was left with nothing. She was worried about the children, but she could not do anything. The situation continued, and he did not care for her children at times, shouted and hit them or throw something at them. He was short-tempered and violent. They were given only the minimum thing, such as food, money, and limited freedom in the house. Such as they were not allowed to use the house as theirs. They were only allowed to live in the basement. They did not have any heaters during winter as men forbid it because the electricity bill gets higher. Also, they did not have warm clothes. They were often sick of flu and cold. She lived with fear all the time. He threatened the children that if they speak to anyone about anything, they will be deported. She takes her children to work after their school sometimes. Children had eating disorders and concentration at school. When she became depressed, the relationship becomes

worse. One day he took all three of them and dumped them near the shelter, and said, “I am done with you, shown the shelter, and said that they would get you a ticket to go back. You are not my problem anymore”. She claims that not only do I have to restart from the beginning, but I have loans to pay. But I feel “finally we are free.” (Participant, 2020). Deprivation of food, quality of life, violence, and psychological violence and discard is classic domination of power. It’s tragic to hear the children are under direct and indirect mistreatment. It violates basic human rights and is utterly injustice to those who endure it. Besides children have the tendency to adopt violence as a norm in their lives of become future perpetrators as per the background, social learning theory.

Case 9 - Rose, who is from Asia married to a Norwegian man in his fifties, secure and a comfortable, job and a lifestyle moved on a permanent basis to Norway with her child because of the marriage, she brought all her lifelong economics and belongings. Soon after settling down the man took full control of her and her child’s life. Physical, Psychological, and economic abuse were everyday endurance. Rose endured all mistreatment knowing she is on the abusive ground and tried her best to accomplish all demands set by him and hoped that his continuous submissiveness and kindness would change him one day. After some time, suddenly forced to go on a vacation to her home country. Since Rose had no verdict in the marriage only to obey his instructions, she had no choice but to go on vacation as he demanded, plan was for him to join the vacation after a few days. She was unaware that he is planned to process the separation formalities without any indication to her. Soon after she departed Norway airport all her phone connection was disabled, and he stopped contact with her completely. After 3 weeks of vacation time, he sent a three-sentence email to her informing her that she and the child cannot return to Norway because he has taken the divorce and canceled the visa, and the return flight tickets. The marriage is an ultimate relationship and fear of failing the marriage and being a divorcee Rose attempted to rescue her marriage. And, since she had all her life-long belonging, documents, and money in Norway, she decided to come back and find a resolution. But he threw her and the child out of his house and told her that she is illegal in the country and his house and will call the police and deport her, and also refuse to give any of her belongings or her money. His aim was to deport her so that he can start a new chapter in life. Rose and her child had no choice and went to the Crisis center and began their agonizing new life. Later she found out that he had planned to separate Rose before even she left for vacation, he had consulted a lawyer who has given all information and the loopholes in the law. Rose found out that he had submitted the separation documents signed by him and the two witnesses of his own friends and sent it to the police on the same day that she and her child departed Norway for vacation. Consequently, the separation document was sent to the county governor (Fylkysman) for further

processing. The county governor then sent his response informing about the divorce. That she never saw or received as she was on another continent. The separation application consists of two options for how the other spouse should be informed on the separation. 1. by post 2. by email (Separation application Q-165B page 2, row 3 refers, etter ekteskapsloven § 20) he had checked as “by normal post” where then the letter from County governor goes to the address given by him which was his home. The letter indicated that she had to sign the receipt of the separation within 3 weeks, which she never received as it had gone to his post address while she was on vacation. According to Norwegian law, the separation took place regardless of her knowledge or consent and could do nothing about it. The case stands as profound testimony to manipulation, exploitation and execution of power, and control in the relationship under the legal disparities. The case sear shocking evidence how easy to discard human lives without any remorse or consequences to the perpetrator. More importantly there no evidence any shield for foreign women protection while enabling the Norwegian spouse to discard women and children as they deemed fit.

Case 10 - When the research was about to finish randomly met a man who liked to be anonymous who has been in a violent relationship married to a Norwegian woman. Who had to go through extreme psychological abuse that resulted in permanent damage to his psychological aspect of life and wellbeing. He met his wife when she visits his country for vacation, they fell in love and the relationship progressed to marriage as she got pregnant, consequently, he moved to Norway. He has a daughter from the marriage hence he is not willing to leave Norway for the fear of never seeing his child ever again. During the relationship, his wife has been brutally violent, but he was not able to do anything about it because “no one believes him” as she always claimed, *«... try going to the authority or anyone... I will tell that you are abusive towards me... do you think authority will believe you from XYZ countryman or me »*. In addition, she threatens him a daily basis to send him back to his home country or tell the world that he abuses her and put him in jail and asked him to choose wisely which way he prefers. The woman has taken a divorce without his consent and also all his money and belongings that he brought from his home country. He felt helpless and trapped and vulnerable. He is extremely broken not able to work and not able to have any kind of relationship with society and still living with the fear of losing the semi-custody of the child due to the continuous manipulation and abuse from his ex-wife”. The finding reveals that exploitation is at times beyond gender. Power seems to play a key role in all the cases and each case showcased a distinguished pattern of psychological, physical, sexual, and economic abuse when the migrant women or men are in a vulnerable situation due to their personal situation, or social or economic situation where they come from. These vulnerable situations elevate to a different dimension when

the victims do not have the ability to leave the abused situation due to legal stringiness that does not prevent exploitation during migration. It is evident that today's legal circumstances in immigration allows both men & women are in an exploitable situation.

Other 9 Cases – The other 9 cases interviewed had familiar stories involved in abuse or exploitation from physical, psychological, financial, or sexual forms. Most confessions of women coordinated with similar experiences. The experience of being neglectful, chaotic, inconsistent, abusive, dismissive, and discarding in relationships under love and predicated abuse causes trauma in all the victims. Some of them in this group continue to stay in violent relationship. Women who went through wars, rape, poverty, and discrimination said it “we often think that it happens outside your home, but we realize it when we go through it all form of abuses in one place call home”. That familiar voice consolidate was “it’s like sleeping with the enemy with a smile.” (Participant, 2020). The relationship is being placed where the person always must maintain the partner's interest and anticipation prolifically exhibited.

Many women understood that the man's behavior is abnormal and further acknowledged that they had a meticulous upbringing, leading them to be unhealthy and much-needed psychological help. Perpetrator's brutal or violent childhood upbringing mirrored their mastering to be a calculative and deliberate abuse artist. Also, many participants indicated that the perpetrator had “big problems” in maintaining social status, displaying to everyone that they have a great marriage and thriving life. Contrary, they struggle with insecurities and inadequacies of their own while trying to orchestrate a happy life. When women understand that this is not normal, most women try to rescue them by being kind and loving and obligated not to abandon them, like most cultural and moral values pervasive among abused women. Many women's narrative was. *«...I thought I could help him; in the long run, it is good for both of us. ...He is the father of my child; I simply wanted my children to have their father not abandon them ».* *«...I thought I could help; I can change him for the better ».* *«...It is not in my culture to abandon a person who is so sick; I had my cultural and moral obligation to stick by him, although I know I will ruin my life in the process ».*

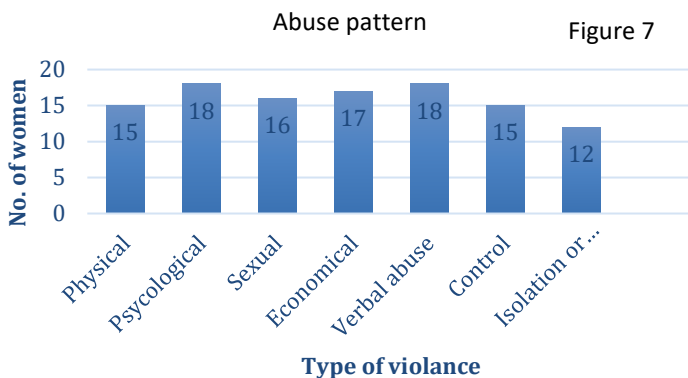
Empathy, religion, and cultural norms have influenced women's decisions in part with the abuser. Some women displayed that they have helped their husbands with financial insecurities presuming that it would solve the problem. Some went to the extent of using their own savings and bringing money from abroad to fix the money hunger of their spouses. Ensuring that the partner feels financially secured and emotionally fulfilled did not seem a permanent solution; was only a temporary and momentary fix; quickly and surely indeed, the abuse continued. In a narrative, 3-

year sponsorship without consideration towards foreign spouse’s safety and wellbeing giving exclusive power to Norwegian spouse is a predicated indoctrinated relationship entirely neglecting unequivocal institutional disparity that enable perpetuation Samaadahl et al., (2002).

These empirical cases distinguish how migration led to exploitation. It excoriates the power imbalances disguise legal hovels enable IPV. Secretary of Crisis Center Tove Smaadahl argues that while Norwegian women are accused of continuing to live with violent relationships, the regulation encourages or perhaps forced foreign women to stay in the violent partner due to legal restrictions with a 3-year obligatory period. The reason is that the lawyers and other advisers cannot guarantee that they will be granted a permit to stay in Norway even after seeking help to escape a violent relationship. The same issue concluded by Fafo reports recent research done for the Ministry of Labor and Social Inclusion. Smaadahl (2002) elaborates in the article that several lawyers have advised the victim to return to the violent relationship until their independent visa is granted; it is exceptionally dreadful. Samaadahl et al., (2002).

5.1 What kind of violence are they exposed to?

Research Finding foreign women married to Norwegian Men



Source: Reaserchers construction (Individual Interviews).

Bjørnholt (2020) argues that there are three different levels and different dimensions to gender-related violence. The structural level, cultural level, and institutional levels. These elements then result in how the social institution is structured to protect and help the victims of violence¹³. The structural level is influenced by the economic distribution

utilizing public services such as juridical, shelters, protection, and other support as necessary. The second dimension, the cultural level, is understanding the concept of relationship, love, culture, sexual desires, equality, gender roles, and language in the general idea of a relationship or partnership that shapes an individual’s perception and intention. The third is the emotional level that comprises how an individual interprets and behaves in a particular situation in the relationship. Bjørnholt (2020). The three dimensions voyeuristically perpetuate foreign women married to Norwegian men, in addition to unavoidable pain and trauma inflicted by sexual, psychological, physical, and financial abuse over time. Empirical also indicated that societal view on IPV

¹³ It is unfortunate but valid to say that the most dangerous place can be in the home. (Informants, 2020).

prolifically exhibits on the victim and not the perpetrator. Why the survivor stayed in the relationship, why she was allowed to be violated, why the victims do not go back to their home country if they are in so much misery, being a salve to alter reality and less emphasis on why somebody abused another.

5.1.1 Sexual abuse:

According to UDI's definition, someone pressuring into sexual acts, rape, and other sexual abuse. (UDI, n.d). However, sexual abuse is unwanted sexual activity, with perpetrators using force, making threats, or taking advantage of victims not giving consent. This type of abuse encompasses a broad range of actions from sexual harassment and violation, sexual pressure or coercion, rape, and sexual torture. According to Smaadahl, et al., (2002). "From the shelters in the West of Norway, we are told stories about Russian women who have been exposed to extreme violence, and who have been forced to have intercourse with their husband's male friends" (Smaadahl, et al., 2002, p.13, para 2). If a person exploits a family member or someone else, for example, prostitution, work, begging, or crime, this is a treacherous form of human trafficking. The case studies indicated there were many women under sexual abuse by their partners. Many went from marriage to prostitution. Men demanded women to perform specific sexual fantasies without their permission. Men forced them to film them or take photographs and ask their wives to perform sexual activities with their male friends or brothers or multiple partners exposed to violent/brutal sexual behavior. Sexual abuses such as inappropriate sexual position and sexual acts, inconvenient locations forcing to perform sexual acts, or psychologically manipulating many women were ostracized and dehumanized were all common patterns in many victims.

Most participants disclosed that they are very private about discussing their intimate lives. However, everyone claimed that they had been sexually abused in some form by their husband during their relationship. One victim got angry and asked him to "go get a prostitute for this" his answer was, "that's what I got you." (Participant, 2021). The participants revealed that often their husband threatens to leave her or "find someone who can do it" or "I don't need you" or "I will send you back" if she does to fulfill his desires. Such a form of servitude and slavery physiological manipulation dimly diminished victims' existence that seared imprinted slavery. The women revealed that sexual abuses are not something that they can complain about to somebody. Some women felt obligated to fulfill their husbands' desires as a part of their wives' duty.

5.1.2 Physical Abuse.

According to UDI, shoving, hair pulling, name-calling, hitting, kicking, and denying someone food is considered physical abuse. (UDI, n.d). According to the research finding, among the 18 women, and 1 man 15 of them have been victims of some or severe physical abuse during their relationship. Additionally, three other women endured occasionally. They suffered from scratching, pushing, shoving, grabbing, biting, choking, shaking, slapping, punching, hitting, burning, grabbing on the flow, use of a weapon, or showing a knife or screwdriver or a sharp object; one was strangled until the victim couldn't breathe, and use of restraint or one's body against the wall. This type of violence does not only lead to physical harm. It also has severe adverse psychological effects¹⁴. Many of the victim's children were witnesses of their mother being abused. Most women said physical wounds had faded away. Still, they were fearful of disability, losing vision or brain damage, or permanent disabilities due to physical abuse. What was worse, the psychological effect was seared and imprinted permanently, or when the children are aware of it.

A result of IPV leads to self-directed violence including suicidal behavior and self-abuse, such as self-mutilation. Several women had the thought of suicide at one point, or their husbands repeatedly asked, «... *if you are suicidal, and after some time, the woman also felt that it is an option*». Suicidal behavior ranges in degree from merely thinking about ending one's life to planning it, finding the means to do so, attempting to kill oneself, and completing the act. However, these should not be different points on a single continuum. Many people who entertain suicidal thoughts never act on them, and even those who attempt suicide may have no intention of dying. However, there were close signs of women becoming depressed ubiquitously to vigor suicide end suffering. The thought was very close to actioning and escaping the reality they thought about their children and family and tried hard to remain alive. «... *no one understands, people think it is a weakness, but it is very much a reality if you lived my life* » a participant disclosed in tears. Although physical violence is a legitimate matrix measure in typical violence, some of the longest-lasting treacherous and most debilitating pivotal effects of physical abuse are psychological damage that causes by physical violence (based on the research finding).

¹⁴ Other than that, a physical form of violence is only a humiliating fact or degrading feeling from a psychological point, especially when the victim knows that her children understand it. It relates to demeaning personal experience; evidence obscures and denies how emotions and shame impact individuals diminishing self-confidence, self-respect, and self-worth and erases the essence of being. The violence cannot be fully understood without reference to how shame, fear, uncertainty, insecurity affects those experiences. It explores how shame operates as a repeated set of self-regulatory practices, losing the ability and power in an individual's life.

5.1.3 Psychological Abuse.

Many people are uncertain about whether they are being subjected to violence if the violence is not physical. Examples of psychological violence can consist of threatening (directly or indirectly), controlling, harassing, ignoring, locking someone inside or outside, refusing someone to have contact with family or friends, refusing someone to move freely in society, for example, to taking part in Norwegian classes, isolating someone, refusing to let someone express their opinions. (UDI, n.d). Physical abuse is a part of psychological abuse because the effect of physical abuse ends up being a psychological problem. When perpetrators mobilize gender-based stereotypes, structural inequalities, and institutional vulnerabilities against victims with whom they are in an intimate relationship, gaslighting becomes not only compelling but devastating.

The factors and significance of domestic violence are extremely complex and vary from person to person. But common traits of most bodily and psychological damage are undervalued. (Haaland, 2005) Most norm is to recognize the physical abuse with its consequences to physical damage and evidence. The interviews conducted were evidence of long-term psychological scars that never seem to fade. Although women have gone through various modes of therapies and healing processes, IPV alters abducted lives permanently. Many women described that they went through unbearable psychological pain¹⁵ that leads to significant mental and physical health stupor in all victims. All the women confronted that they were constantly under Justification, future faking, and repetition compulsion: to justify the victim's action and remain in the abusive relationship. See appendix I for an explanatory description of these connotations. The research uncovers substantial evidence that many women were in denial of the abuse as much as they see it as their everyday reality. Many were in survival mode; many didn't have any other option. At the same time, most women neither complain nor collected evidence nor bring legal justice in the name of culture and customs indoctrinated fear of consequences and existence.

5.1.4 Economic Violence

According to UDI Norway, economic violence is described as destroying things, and exploiting someone financially. (UDI, n.d). On contrary the form of economic violence in IPV goes beyond specified boundaries. Perpetrator utterly restricts finance from foreign women. Among the women interviewed, some were employed, and some were not. An interview with a Crisis Center

¹⁵ self-blame, diminishing self-confidence, self-doubt, auditions, self-destruction, concentration issue, memory loss, eating disorder, irritation, anger, fear, shame were typical symptoms, that lead to physical health issues such as weight loss, breathing problem, frequent migraine, chaotic menstrual cycle, heart problem, fainting and blackouts, asthma, nausea, aging fast, weakening body strength were some among common health issues to all victims.

representative uncovered that many men have financially abused women into trapped and manipulating women to buy electronics, household items, gambling, or credit cards under women's names (Crisis Centre interview, 2020). In addition, some women spend money to refurbish their houses, buy new boats, cars, or a new home, or go on expensive vacations. In either scenario, women ultimately end up in Crisis Centers without even getting their belongings from the offender's home. Testimonies are familiar and evident in many scenarios.

«... I didn't know what I was signing for, and it was all in Norwegian I doubted him I had no option but to sign the documents»? "He said to trust him if I love him, I could not refuse or doubt him that jeopardize our relationship. I just wanted to prove that I trust him ». I had no choice; I didn't care about tomorrow, my survival was on day to day, so I signed it ». «...It was in Norwegian, and I didn't know what I was signing he said it was a different document/reasons they both must sign because they are married... I must trust him ».

According to Gro Wildhagen, an attorney disclosed to a newspaper that she knows many cases of how Norwegian men abuse their foreign women. For example, an Asian woman who married a Norwegian man moved to Norway with her two children, and after a few months, her husband lost his job. He forced the woman and the children to work in a restaurant all day and night to earn around KR20,000 per month which was used for his gambling. The woman had no language ability, and unknowing the rules and regulations led to an isolated life Berglung (2017). The women are being used and manipulated dismally and pushed to obtain loans they do not intend to be liable for. Restricting access to their work and being independent violate economic access and deny her to manage their income unabashedly mugged or scammed. Thus, UDI's amplification of economic violence is a little under-evaluated.

5.1.5 Other types of Violence

The victims revealed that they have been humiliated and criticize their cultural beliefs, upbringing, and specific cultural behaviors, particularly in a social gathering among their friends. The theme of humiliation and entertainment martyrdom topic for the day.

5.1.6 Violence toward Immigrant woman's children

The research project did not have permission to interview the victim's children directly; however, it was impossible to ignore the outstretched observations, and legitimate facts of the extended abuse towards the children during the interview with the victims. Many conversations unveiled numerous horrifying and prolifically abusive stories of children by the perpetrator. Psychological violence such as threatening, ignoring, silent treatment, rejecting, deprivation of food, restricting expressing

feelings, and limiting freedom¹⁶ among emotional exploitation. Also, confuse the child with affection when other people and friends and family members are around and violent when no one is around. Several victims declared that the perpetrator had been physically abused¹⁷ or sexually intimidated¹⁸ their children with or without their knowledge. Some of these incidents provided insight into incomprehensible degrading behavior patterns for most commiserating societies.

5.1.7 Further barriers to escape.

According to Anderson and Saunders (2003), vital structural constraints and psychological factors hinder women from leaving, influencing the nature of violence, the victim's life history, social-psychological factors, external resources, and previous coping mechanisms. One of the critical reasons is economic, children's ability, education, work opportunities, support system, etc., Anderson and Saunders (2003). In the Norwegian context, the main reason is legal boundaries and the specified reasons why women do not break up their relationship. 1) Fear of losing the visa, 2). Poverty in their home country 3). Social shame in the country being divorced, 4). Fear of the future of the children, 5). Not knowing the language, 6). Not knowing the rules and rights 7). Not having their support system in Norway. In addition, empirically discovered additional reasons. **7) complexity of co-parenting** with the perpetrator after the breakup. **8) women were deceived or threatened** by the perpetrators that foreign women must pay a large sum of money as compensation to the Norwegian spouse. **9) as a result of an abusive relationship, many women lose self-confidence, and thus seemed worried about being alone**, financially independent, and taking care of the children on their own without their partner. Many women did not live alone before their marriage to their Norwegian Partner; their family always protected them. Thus, in a culturally and legally disadvantaged with a lack of resources to re-build life, women were terrified to break up and be alone. The survey identified six women aged 40-55 who were frightened to leave their marriage due to fear of being alone for the rest of their lives. Fear of being alone without a partner did not know how their life would be, and due to their age, they were sure that they could not find a legitimate partner to share their life with. In contrast, women of age 23-38 were the ones who are

¹⁶ such as playing, walking in the house, running, only allowing her to associate with the children of his friends, be in a certain part of the house, sitting, playing, beating the children's pet, threatening not to send her to activities, threatening, not allowing to speak their native language, reminding to send them back to home country, threatening about the police, threatening to harm the mother, and verbal abuse of using filthy words.

¹⁷ beat their children, pulling hair, holding from both shoulders and rough shaking, and screaming, hard pushing, hitting the head from his hand, slapping, twisting the arm, squiring the ears or nose, hard pinching, beating from an object.

¹⁸ Some claimed that the children were sexually aroused, touched, and rubbed, and the perpetrator or perpetrator has shown his private parts to the children. In some cases, children were deceived and hugged inappropriately. During the shower, the perpetrator had inappropriate behavior, and children were threatened not to reveal their mother if so the consequences.

ready to give up on the marriage and willing to close the chapter for good. Few participants said, «...*At one point, I was numb; I didn't feel anything anymore... I just accepted and tried to live with it as long as I could* ». «...*I didn't see any solution, and I had to bite the bullet* ». Tragically many choose the violence rather leaving due to the reasons mentioned. **10)** Some women who had tried to go to the **police refuse to entertain** the complaints. But got rejected in some form Women claimed they experienced such as «... *When I went to the police once, they didn't care at all what I was saying, they were laughing with each other, and I think she made fun of me and saying something; I didn't feel I can trust them* ». «... *I went to the police, and they asked me to reconsider as this is a private matter* ». «... *They don't want Norwegians to be in trouble simply they don't want to believe me* ». **11)** The other common obstacle was in most small towns. It **closed communities since everyone knows each other** women were not confident to talk to outsiders about their marital problems unknowing that the information could reach the perpetrator. **14) Mentally not capable** Bjørnholt (2020) describes significant emotional strain, energy to stand up and explain and justify the abuse is not an easy task, also sometimes abuse cannot be proven, especially while living with the abusive partner. Besides the victim's usual responsibilities of household work, children, work, and other responsibilities Bjørnholt (2020) further illustrates that women are expected to take greater responsibility in the relationship as caregivers and well-being of the relationship and members of the function that display an outstanding level of gender dynamics and power¹⁹ (Bjørnholt, 2020).

5.1.8 Own spotlight on children's situation

Among the foreign women who end up in shelters, a majority have children. When the mother is in a divided marriage the children, who are a particularly vulnerable group in this context. Evidence (participant, 2020) found that some women try to trap the Norwegian men to conceive a child to protect them as a security policy; connected to a 3-year rule fearing “in case of scenario” of their husband would leave them, they would have the right to stay Norway. How the lives of abused women and their struggles are mostly shaped related to the men they are involved with.

¹⁹ A case reported in Kirkens (Est Finmark) that 59-year Norwegian man killed his 37-year-old Thai wife and her 12-year-old son. The victim seemed to seem to have her permanent residency however she had reported the police about psychological violence by the perpetrator and followed by Crisis centers help she was palling to move out of her Norwegian husband house ending the marriage. The day before her leaving the abuser shot her and her son shocking the foreign and Norwegian community. The case stands as a classic example of conflicts and gaps related to foreign spouse vulnerability. The foreign community that was married to Norwegians was overwhelmed and frighten with the incident understanding their vulnerability especially in remote places, small and medium towns. According to Norwegian newspaper Aftnposten reported that in 2015 increasing population of women trying to move from smaller town to bigger cities for studies and work. (Berglund, 2017).

CHAPTER SIX

Discussion, Analysis and Recommendations

6. Systematic Abuse.

Empirical and literature reverberates on many foreign women married to Norwegian men who end up in the Crisis Center while the law indirectly allows or ignores the exploitation and how it links to systematic abuse. According to Skumsvoll (2019) around ten women each year are subject to end up at the door of the crisis center in Telemark Skumsvoll (2019). Resulting in too many women, enduring a lifetime of consequences of physical and mental violence from their Norwegian husbands. And the practice of wife import seems a stigmatized industry in Norway. The 18 case studies and the 9 unique cases in this research are compelling testimonies of exploitation, human trafficking, and modern-day slavery. The magnitude of the exploitation out way the successful of marriages as a minority ends with tragic consequences.

6.1 Spouse import

Irrespective of marriage under the illusion of love or good life; spouse import practice elevated from 1990 Daugstad (2008, p.8). Although there are strict rules for obtaining a fiancée or spouse visa to bring women to Norway; there seems to be a significant number of women are imported under visit and tourist visas and returned them at sponsors' disposal. While for those who are legally married or under a fiancé visa come to Norway endure entrapment with the sponsor. According to Skumsvoll (2019), the reporter's interview with Crisis Center representatives elaborated that some contract agencies import women to Norwegian men, and then they end up in the Crisis Center. Upon investigating one particular case, the shelter understood it was the same man who was the reason for four other women to ended in the Crisis Centre in the previous years. After throwing up the women on the street or the Crisis Center, these men then inform UDI that they are no longer residing with them and for their residence permit to be revoked Skumsvoll (2019). Although most such transnational unions are engaged by ethnic Norwegians, mainly men marrying women from Thailand, Brazil, Russia, and the Philippines (Henriksen 2010: 9; Daugstad 2008: 82), such unions share unions among marriages are more prominent among immigrants and descendants. Smaadhil, secretary of the National Crisis Center, illustrated serial importers of foreign brides, allowing the same man to abuse multiple women. "Some of the women in our crisis centers have been abused by the same man" (Berglaud, 2017, para 14). The statement was evident in empirical research findings by many informants as they said «... *I also heard from a Norwegian lady that she knows*

of a case that the man had imported foreign women five times and continue to abuse them and their children».(Participant, 2020).

Many victims confessed that they realized that their husband had brought many other foreign women before them after some months. Mostly came to know through a neighbor, family member, or someone else. On the different spectrum, most participants' experience is that their spouses were already in a relationship when they end their relationship. Also, there were no significant consequences to the perpetrators for their ill-treatment and convictions. Two out of three convicted cases affect remarriage (Liden, 2005, p. 8). Among the 18 women interviewed that were exposed to violence had 41 children were exposed to direct or indirect abuse. Some are the children that the women already had prior to coming to Norway, and some are common to both partners. And the majority of the children witnessed the mother subjected to physical and psychological abuse. Also, 34 children were subjected to direct physical and mental violence. The separation among Norwegian men and women with foreign backgrounds involved many debates in Crisis Centers in Norway (Crisis Centre, 2020). Most foreign women remain married to violent Norwegian men with the fear of consequent divorce or deportation. The circumstances surrounding divorces between non-Norwegian women and ethnic Norwegian men can be many reasons. In a holistic context, Norwegian society represents the world as an example nation for humanitarians. In that context, most women think Norwegians are perceived to be kind people with the nation of humanitarian laws that protect everyone. Some women revealed that their perception of Norway was a complete illusion.

6.1.1 Wives become perishable goods

Crisis Centers report that many women and their children end up on their doorstep by Norwegian husbands. Some women were dropped at the center by the man and said, “get this woman back to her country; I want a new and young woman” (Smaadahl, 2002, p. 21, para 1). Victims have often been minimized and trivialized. It is disclosed that while the victim is in the shelter, the man’s adventure for a new wife already began or traveled to a destination where they started new wife shopping. In some cases, due to substantial evidence of danger, the shelter had to transfer the victim to a facility in another country (Samaadahl, 2002). Women are dumped at airports with their children with one-way tickets or tickets to travel back home while the perpetrator is busy with legal action for the separation without the wife's knowledge. One participant mentioned that *«...Norwegian men treat women as if there are consumer goods. Even no one can discard consumer goods or damage them and return them. But they can do it to human beings without any*

consequences ». Those victims are full of discard and shame, despair not given consolation or legal protection.

It is not only dehumanizing the victim it increases the risk of a social problem. Admittedly, current legalities are unweakened and outstretched in the exploitation. The perpetrators choose to dump the unwanted woman very quickly as there are no specific legal measures as to why the separation or divorce should occur. Perpetrators take the legal loophole to their advantage and dispose of spouses as they buy electronics or consumables. There must be a legitimate reason why the divorce should occur. From a legal perspective, it is evident that separating, disposing of a spouse, or discarding has no significance in the legal view, nor is it a criminal act. Thus, the offender's betrayal towards victims has no consequences; more evidently, at times, they consult legal advice through lawyers before they proceed. Arguably it is stupor evidence that is legally enabling perpetrators to be deceitful in escaping. Besides, the police do not take such matters seriously as it does not bind any legal parameters covering that it was a wrongful act. Police informed one informant that: «... *He hasn't done anything wrong to make a complaint* ». This testimony outstretched imprinted evidence and massive legal disparity and lack of transparency or justice to the foreign spouse. The literature and empirical evidence that Norwegian men import women under the legal boundaries while the intention to use them on a “trial basis” and continuing to search for “the right one” and the journey consequence women end up being objects and consumer goods, abused, betrayed, destroyed and dump at the doors of Crisis center, airports, or their home country at the Norwegian spouse's convenience. It is dismally seared the human rights the commiserating discarding human lives without any repercussions.

6.2 Why do women live through such violence?

Women from the global south in heterosexual relations tolerate most abusive behavior from their spouses. In a hegemonic model, associate masculinity classified men as strong, energetic, and powerful while females are fragile and weaker than men in terms of physical inferiorities. According to feminist theory, women's role as delicate and more inadequate practitioners in the relationship is given more recognition in victimizing positions instead of in hegemonic ideals. The women come with their cultural patterns to the new relationship and remain tolerant of various abuse. Although IPV has traditionally been so strongly associated with a female as a victim, it may be particularly challenging for men to convey their experiences of violence satiety (Durfee, 2011 cited at Rosten, 2020) also empirical cases 10 under chapter 5 evident this argument. However, in most cases, men downplay the abuse or do not admit to being abused due to feeling inferior and the

influence of hegemonic structure. This qualitative study found that IPV towards men often downplays and normalizes violence. However, fear, uncertainty, and abusive characteristics remain the same trying to downplay it due to preserve male dignity (Fjell, 2015; Kestell, 2019; Migliaccio, 2002 cited at Rosten, 2020). Contrary empirical found that it is hard for a male victim to exile as and prove them as a victim breaching the norm due to cultural codes. (Participant, 2021). At the same time, men abused by their Norwegian partners also are mainly in a vulnerable situation as women married to Norwegian men. However, Bjørnholt argues that men primarily in a vulnerable position have a better place to advantage based on their different hierarchical advantage in terms of class and ethnicity. They will have access to resources and privileges in a social structure like Norway as culture, and gender differences favor men. However, men are typically subject to the general stereotype of being admitted as a victim position due to the same structure (Rosten, 2020 cited at Bjørnholt, 2020).

On the other spectrum, IPV towards women shows that many perpetrators chose their partners from countries where gender roles are more defined. In addition to their vulnerabilities such as poverty, home country situation, poor economic background, and cultural codes obstruct them from leaving the abusive relationship (Bang-Olsen, Bjørnholt, Hauge & Kiamenesh, 2020 cited at Bjørnholt, 2020, p. 3). According to SSB statistics, IPV violence affects more women than men (SSB, 2020). Some ethnic groups are rather more prone to IPV and being a victim of abuse and higher incident rate. Particularly women from the global south countries. It does not entirely exclude minorities from EEU/EU or other countries. The difference in the significance of the women from global south dominating affects them due to shame, failure of marriage that takes consequences to their family in their hometowns, economic instability, religious beliefs, and cultural restrictions that prevent them from going back to home country. This peculiar form of vulnerability traps women in the relationship, and the consequences of the violence depend on social and economic context. Which is may being the reason empirical and other published literature didn't capture women from developed countries falling under importation as temporary spouses. Or perhaps they do not tolerate the abuse or fall under entrapment, which could not be concluded through the available literature or empirical findings. Thus, the ethnic women exposed to abuse take a minority, from developing countries or ore gender- defined origins and the stigma of equality is taken for granted.

Contradicting the traditional narratives of foreign women coming for a "Good Life," research also uncovered that many Norwegian men marry foreign women to acquire a "Good Life." Few women

from Europe, the USA, and other countries were not the only victims of human trafficking, and they were scammed by men financially. Because some Norwegian men manipulate women to invest in their future (future faking) and use women to purchase valuable items, refurbish their old houses, buy a new home together, or expensive vacation on account of the women. However, these women didn't stay in the relationship for long term suffocation, they either leave the relationship and go back to their home country or start a new life in Norway (participant, 2020). When looking at the stereotypical viewpoint, the wife import industry is becoming elaborate and creative in many new directions. Unveiling, the stereotypical mindset of foreign women who look for a "good life" in Norway is no longer a justifiable statement as:

«... I thought Norway is a safe place... I thought I would never be in this kind of trouble. Everyone thinks that we come here for a "Good Life." I had a good life in my country I fell in love and came here; he expected me to give him a good life and used me to sell all my assets in my homeland to make his life comfortable in Norway.» That was acceptable, but afterward, he threw me out of the house ». Contrary to another participant said, «... my country is poor... I spend all my savings here for this marriage. We just destroy our lives here people pretend to be kind, but they are not ». «... I worked, and he took all my money. After my ex left me, I had no one here, all the friends and relatives of my ex that I thought I could trust, all cut of all the contact with me. I was nobody to them afterward. Many people in Norway told me that when they don't want you...you are finished with them, you are no one to them ».

According to many victims in abusive relationships, the perpetrator is victimizing women with psychological intimidation, ensuring the victim is scared about the outside world, keeping the person around by generating fear, and diminishing self-confidence just like a cult²⁰. Consequently, with the fear of failing the relationship, women try to overcompensate everything to always fit the perpetrator's need. The perpetrator then sees the pattern of such desperate attempts and person other vulnerabilities and hardships, destroying and continuing victimizing the women to end the zeal will never be over. When women are involved with children from their previous relationship brought to the current relationship, or if the women had the children from the perpetrator, the situation escalates to a new level as mothers are responsible for thinking about their children's future beings.

²⁰ E.g. You will not be able to find anyone better than me, no one will like you, no one wants to be with you, no one will love you the way I love you, etc., emotional entrapment to inferior the women and make her feel "you are not good enough". Much information also revealed men intimidated them on they must pay a lump sum amount if they have to breach the relationship (falls information about Norwegian laws), intimidation about the police, friends and the community. These manifestations of great unknown turns to fear feeling. (Informants, 2020 & Crisis Centre, 2020).

Thus, women fall from one problematic situation to a greater one as co-parenting. Policy governs Norwegian law enable more power the perpetrator to be in a superior position in the situation (due to income, job, language and perhaps they are being just Norwegian) further inherits continual abuse and display of power and control in the unending struggle. Also, the victim bears most of the responsibility for the perpetrator's actions during and after the relationship. Since the association was mutual terms and voluntary, there is not much an outsider can do if the perpetrator is not taking responsibility. Therefore, legal intervention seems necessary (Bjørnholt, 2020). The perpetrator continuously insinuates the victim's life chronic transgressions and a world of abuse that become the victims' new normal. No matter whichever path the victims take; they will be abused either way. If they decide to remain in the relationship, their partner will violate them. If they decided to leave the relationship, Norwegian society and the law will banish them or if she goes back to her country she will be banished by her own society, culture, and economy.

6.3 Living in a Violent Relationship “Should I stay, or Should I leave”?

Besides the cultural norms to remain in the abusive relationship. By being framed under the 3-year sponsorship of the spouse without any legal protection for the women, they are in a vulnerable situation as a whole dependency gives Norwegian spouse authoritarian and potential exploitation.

6.4 Three-year captivity sentence changed to five years.

The “three-year rule was a slavery sentence.” (Participant, 2021) is clear evidence of inflicting and enabling abuse and breaching fundamental human rights. “The Human Rights are meant to ensure every individual their most basic needs and protect every human being against violence and injustice. Every person has a right to the same worth and dignity as a human being, and the state has committed itself to ensure every person these rights”. (Smaadhil, 2002, p. 31, para 1). Criticizing the fundamentals, literature unveils the 3-year rule recently changed to 5 years without considering consequences to the victims, society, and socio-economy. Collectively the 5-year Norwegian spouse power inflicting rule is an unequivocal disrespectful model. Compared to the empirical cases and the literature findings notions of acceptable and unacceptable behavior and what constitutes harm are culturally influenced and constantly under review as values, and social norms evolve with the wide variety of moral codes. The 5 year sentence breach encapsulate,

1. Systematic Modern-day slavery
2. Child abuse
3. Systematic Prostitution
4. Systematic Human Trafficking
5. Breach of Human rights
6. Conflicting Norway's reputation & unfair to ethical Norwegians

The 5-year spouse visa law is equivalent to an abuse sentence or modern-day enslavement and encourages the human trafficking distinguished and designed to inherit exploitation. It allows the violent offender to treat the wives as servitude and slavery, forcing them to exploit, and discard. Within this, physical, psychological, sexual and financial abuse is a dominating factor. «... *He used me as a sexual object, a doll. that he treated me as if I am not made with flesh and blood* ». Another participant's exact words are, «... *These Norwegian men think that we are toys; they use us whenever they want. However, they want, and for whatever they want because they know we have no one in this country, we don't speak the language, and we don't have any money, we are trapped* ». Another person mentioned that «... *this is prostitution; my ex had three other women before me and sent them back before the 3-year finished. He threatens me to do the same if I don't agree with anything he says* ».

Schjatvet says that it is a big step to apply for a residence permit after the abuse provision for many women. Many have backgrounds from countries where they are not used to fighting for their rights. They wonder if they dare to divorce at all because it can easily mean new insecurity and life at the bottom of the social ladder. When the regulations do not give them predictability, they dare not risk anything other than enduring the violent husband, she says (Tahir, 2009). In contrast, UNE does not necessarily view one rape as abuse. Rape is a solemn criminal act. It is so severe that the Minister of Justice has called it near-murder. When they say that there is a low threshold, rape must undoubtedly fall under that provision; rape is severe no matter what says equality and discrimination ombud Beate Gangås to Dagsavisen. Tahir (2009). However, proving the sexual abuse between an abusive spouse with evidence and witnesses is a near impossible task for many if they chose to go on the legal path. Contrary according to many women it's a private or cultural matter and the loyalty towards the spouse and how desperate they are to make the marriage work.

Arild Humlen, the Norwegian Legal Association security committee chair, practice around the conviction for abuse provision is vague. However, due to the uncertainty of the rule, procedure, and the decision indirectly forced continue in the violent relationship if they want to stay in Norway until the obligatory period (3 years) is over or until the victim gets permanent residency. Cicilie Schjatvet competence in immigrant laws confirms such a situation is valid and occurring in Norway. She added, for example, "I had a woman with me who was far down. She had to stand up for the man when it came to food, housework, and sex. She wanted to leave him because he abused her physically and mentally. When I could not assure her that she would stay if she left him, she

chose to put up with him.” (Tahir, 2009, para 6). Schjatvet confirms that it is a huge step for women to apply for a residence permit after the abuse provision. She further illustrates that she knows some unfortunate cases in that the women were forced to be in prostitution because they have no one and not due to the language barrier (Tahir, 2009). Literature indicates proposed amendments to the Immigration Act. by the Law Committee and presents on 19 August 2005 Ot.prp.nr 109(2004-2005) On the Act on Amendments to the Immigration Act (protection against coercive marriage and abuse in marriage and safety of foreign workers pay and working conditions, etc.) (Liden, 2005, p. 114, para 2). However, the clause has given no regard to date. Hanne Bredal is also a lawyer in immigration law and has experienced difficulties during the application and appeal process. In several cases, we have experienced that the women lose their school place, and that NAV rejects the benefits they have received so far. It is regrettable because these women are already in a difficult situation, making the burden extra great. Tahir (2009). Tove Smaadahl (2009) knows of cases where it has had an unfortunate outcome: Some end up in prostitution because they do not learn the Norwegian language, often have no education, and have nothing to return Tahir (2009). Despite decades of struggle and many strong voices and noises. The apparent contradiction of the 3-year slavery rule enforced heavily exorbitant power to the Norwegian spouse to treat their foreign spouse as they deem fit. In the autumn of 2020, the government has tightened the immigration to 5-year period entirely disregarding the ongoing violence towards the foreign spouse and without any public consent or allowed a debate or discussion giving overwhelm power and endorsing the abuse for foreign spouses. Criticism raises on when the government ought to tighten general immigration rules; it must have distinct provisions to protect foreign spouses. In addition to 5 years of residence requires a person must have a steady (permanent 100%) job with a relatively higher income to qualify for a permanent residence permit.

On the contrary according to empirical and literature evidence of employer’s defeat to entertain the abused women in the job market. In addition, according to many participants, “in the job market they never give a permanent job opportunity to a person on a temporary visa”. Thus, it is a serious requirement to have a permanent visa in order to get a permanent job. In fact, upon obtaining a permanent visa also getting a permanent job for a foreigner is an impossible task. Most of the women do not have proper language skills nor any connection to Norwegian in order to qualify in the job market. The situation is an epic double-bind situation, or the law discrepancy is a mistake towards foreign spouses or deliberate act that cannot be concluded. Strengthening regulations does not mean obstruction of justice or shackling affected people suffocating from already stringent processes to choking levels. The rules must be reasonable and apply universally to many different

variations of immigrant groups and situations. Research uncovers the reality of foreign women were in various debate during the last decades which could have attention before changing the rules. As such, a permanent decision deserves public opinion and discussion rather than political choices. (Participant, 2021). Such significant legislation that affects entire population must be a public discussion and debated before implementing them as a part of immigration legislation. Thus, conflicting the rights of immigrants and refugees are being restricted without a public debate, which contradicts the democratic liberties of people (MIRA, 2021). All human rights are indivisible and interdependent. It means that one set of rights cannot be enjoyed thoroughly without the other. For example, making progress in civil and political rights makes it easier to exercise economic, social, and cultural rights. Similarly, violating economic, social, and cultural rights can negatively affect many other rights equal and non-discriminatory (OHCHR, 2021).

Strong scrutiny can be drawn based on literature and empirical finding that Norway contradicted its participation in human rights and ratification of CEDAW commitments, law enforcement that defeats fundamental human rights explicitly. Its further discredit under Convention on the Elimination of all form of Discriminations Against Women (CEDAW) of **Human right Act adopted and ratified** Adopted and opened for signature, ratification, and accession by General Assembly resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979 entry into force 3 September 1981, in accordance with article 27(1). Under **article 2**, (a) equal rights for both men & women “(b) To adopt appropriate legislative and other measures, including sanctions where applicable, prohibiting all discrimination against women; (c) To establish legal protection of the rights of women on an equal basis with men and to ensure through competent national tribunals and other public institutions the adequate safety of women against any act of discrimination; (d) To refrain from engaging in any act or practice of discrimination against women and to ensure that public authorities and institutions shall act in conformity with this obligation; (e) To take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women by any person, organization or enterprise; (f) To take all reasonable steps, including legislation, to modify or abolish existing laws, regulations, customs and practices which constitute discrimination against women;(g) To repeal all national penal provisions which constitute discrimination against women” (OHCHR, 2021, article 27(1):Part I article I, pp. 3-8). **CEDAW Human Rights article 6** states, “States Parties shall take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to suppress all forms of traffic in women and exploitation of the prostitution of women” (OHCHR, 2021, article 27 (1), Part II, article 6 p. 1). **CEDAW Human Rights article 16** (c) The same rights and responsibilities during marriage and at its dissolution; (OHCHR, 2021, article 27 (1), Part IV, article 16). None of these laws resonate in the 3-year rule, nor does its elevation to the

5-year rule legislation constitute any relation to these values. Norway stands a frontier advocate for human rights and being a valuable member of CEDAW but none of the elaborated values advocated to the rest of the world it did apply to ongoing foreign women exploitation. Thus, the empirical echo of Norwegian legislation utterly contradicts human rights and CEDAW values.

6.5 Type of domestic violence in Norway

The evidence shows that foreign women married to Norwegian men overrepresent in the Crisis center. Many prostitutes from foreign backgrounds came to Norway through marriage to a Norwegian man. Regardless of how many women this includes, the consequences are severe for those in question. Since the annual number of marriages between Norwegian and foreign women has tripled since 1995, there is reason to provide more knowledge about the background of this increase and the degree of integration, living conditions, and risk exploitation among women and their children (Huitfeldt et al., 2019). The preliminary observation concerning the foreign women violation because of her husband's expectation for the woman to act as a servant. In the process, the perpetrator must deliberately orchestrate love, transparency, trust, and particularly effecting at the beginning of the relationship, which slowly transforms into a tool of manipulation, threats, and control of the women. Many participants had encountered obvious orchestration of manipulation under the influence of love and denial as women revealed,

«... He used to ask me for brutal sexual acts that I begged him that I am not able to do. He uses 'love' often and gets what he wants. I see that he had no feelings nor empathy for my feelings or my physical and mental health ». «...He many times checks my phone, and the passwords were supposed to share and said it's because I love you. I was asked to do many things that I was not comfortable doing sexually with others while he is watching, says if I love him, I should do it »

In most cases, the perpetrator legitimized the action with words while the actions were contradicting. Haavind (1982 cited at Bjørnholt, 2020) interpreted it as a widespread cultural notation of gender, love, and lust patterns with eroticization of male dominance. (Haavind, 1982 cited at Bjørnholt, 2020). In contrast to the Norwegian context of equal gender society, there is no male dominating cultural background. Thus, it is woven to painted and described as an artistic selection of the heterosexual theme of love. He argues that under the notation of love, women struggle to break up with the abusive relationship as it is a psychological and ethical binding to the relationship. (Bjørnholt, 2020). Similarly, some informants confirmed. *«...I could not leave because I loved him. I want to work it out ».«... I didn't leave as I love him, I thought he did too, but he doesn't have the same meaning as we do, his way of love is by getting something for him, from*

morning to evening, there is nothing in return, not even kindness ».«... *I knew this marriage is not a healthy one for me, but I couldn't do that because I knew he is mentally ill; I thought I couldn't leave him. I must help him instead* ». Another element that is prone to abuse is the cultural norm of love and marriage. In most cultures, including Norway, particularly women are wrapped up in the shame of failing such a love relationship. That began in the expectation of love, affection, and mutual attraction that was initially built. Breaking off means it avoids both norms and internalizes cultural position about the relationship that leads to failure or shame (Illouz, 2002 cited at Bjørnholt, 2020). Personal feelings cultural notations, and other circumstances tether women and their children to the exploitive relationship causing direct or indirect physical, psychological, sexual, and economic abuse.

6.6 Is violence related to the Gendered issue?

Domestic violence, how violence is related to a relationship in terms of gender power, has played a significant role. However, it can argue that gender equality power distribution significantly influences the weaker quickly becomes the target of violence. As per norms, Thai, Russian, and Filipino or women from similar backgrounds are more oriented toward a traditional gender role pattern. Norwegian men who marry them deliberately search for women with such characteristics; the pragmatic women in such terminology show that they enjoy conventional gender roles. In contrast, others were highly educated quality of independence rather than embracing traditions, yet willingly engage in a mix of both functions (Egeland 2001; Fired; Grytting 2000 cited at Huitfeldt et al., 2019, p.11, para 4). Huitfeldt et al contend that if then, are non-western women with high education less vulnerable to ending up in marriages with a high degree of exploitation? (Huitfeldt et al., 2019:11, para 4). The research finding indicates women from all different backgrounds face the same fashion of IPV regardless of their educational experience. The debate about which women are immigrants through marriage, and their views on gender roles, is an essential but relatively unresolved topic in the same way as attitudes towards gender roles and other characteristics of the men they marry. A good life is expected by every human being regardless of whether they are Norwegian or a foreigner, man, or woman. Everyone's wants and needs are the same in terms of life, family, and other aspiration which is a natural phenomenon (Crisis Centre, 2020). Thus, people and other species do migrate for a better place and migration phenomena emerge for enhancing the quality of their life.

Regrettably, the research excavated that many Norwegian women also continued to live through complex, violent relationships (Crisis Centre, 2020) despite the privileges, they inherit from

living in an equal society and privileges, resources such as legal, economic, and support systems duly catered to Norwegians. Contrary, foreign women do not have such privileges from a legal, social, or financial standpoint. Pepe & Stefansen, 2004; Skjørten, 2004 characterize violence as psychopathology and marginalization. As described by the victims, the husbands possessed dominating nature using all eccentric power in the relationship. In most cases, the person who is aware of the right and wrong consequences of it. Thus, display two different personalities, one at home and one outside. It can be mainly an impression of the perpetrator's intoxication or psychopathy. (Askeland, 2015; Gadd & Jefferson, 2007 cited at Bjørnholt, 2020). This truth and the narrative of the open facts is that foreign women's exposure to violence is more prominent in the case studies that enslave women and children without any remorse and crossing all moral codes and boundaries. Summing the gender role-play in IPV; the complexity of the gender role in its structural, cultural, and individual context becoming an emphasizing gender, power is a central element to elevate violence (Askeland, 2015; Gadd & Jefferson, 2007 cited at Bjørnholt, 2020).

6.7 Feminist inheritance and power complexities

Based on literature and empirical evidence; naturally, many violated women are unequivocally infuriated by the gender-influenced power-dominated characteristics in some shape and form. Relationships, where violence is perpetrated are characterized by controlling and undermining current discourses in which the perpetrator uses powerful resources to get the partner to feel inferior. Many such events' intimidating resources can include criticism of the other's body, qualities as a woman or her related ethnicity. For example, women from third-world countries seemed to be indirectly discriminated against in Norwegian society. Recognizing them as some object that had come to please a Norwegian man. Foreign women were perceived to be coming for a good life in their resourceful country and considered an inferior population to the rest. (Participant, 2020). Contrary, they do not reflect that many Norwegian go to other countries for better lives. (Participant, 2021). In addition, the social impression of "life in Norway for you is better than where you were, so don't complain you are in heaven compared to where you are coming from" attitude. (Crisis Centre, 2020). Therefore, most the Norwegians perceived that the longevity of violence is a supposed accepted phenomenon that is a part of the risk that women chose to take in coming to a new land and it is something that women should not complain about (Participant, 2020).

Bjørnholt argues that this shows "repertoire of rhetorical resources to undermine and suppress the other party in the relationship can vary. Something that can seem surprising is that equality was

used as one rhetorical resource to legitimize violence in four of the conditions” (Bjørnholt, 2020; CH 2, p. 39 para 3). Equality and gender distribution had used in the way they fit to benefit the perpetrator when and it is required. Research finds among ten women revealed that the abusers display two different personalities, one to the outside and one to the home. Several women articulated that gender patterns and equality are only a stagnant decorated vision that is only applicable to Norwegians.

«...He did not lift a finger, I had to serve him everything, but when someone comes or if we visit somewhere, he is very active in sharing equality ». «...Not with me; he thought I am his permanent slave. That is what I was ». «...He used to scold me, punish me and ignore me; if I couldn't do something, I was always under his scrutiny ».

Bjørnholt (2020) ended his argument by “Gender equality and gender balance are used as a rhetorical resource by the perpetrators. It shows how violence in a society where equality is high in value can be expressed in distinctive and paradoxical forms” (Bjørnholt, 2020; CH2, p. 39, para 6). In contrast, it is not always gendered power that dominates men who hit women nor those who, according to the paradigm, are lost in the male role. Gender subject is more complex than their minimal micro differences. Holters (2003) research uses dual, divided, and contested when distinguishing modern-day gender systems, and it does not take longer a fixed element that acts on its own but becomes a means of power depending on which gender uses it Holter (2003). Gender interactions shift gears more or less in gender-equal models. It forms a compromise between each other that is helped by socially constructed partial equality orientation reflected in contemporary gender-equal societies. Gender is a social process with its logic and practice of development, although it is tied with power and equal status issues. Gender is a social process state that has an intense psychological, social, and cultural dimension. Also, it has a strong influence on economic, work-life, individual income, social and cultural sanctions, rules, and regulations, and more importantly, personal and intimate choices and expectations (Holter 2003). Nevertheless, the Norwegian equality paradox challenges equality and gender power distribution in social and legal stances when it involves foreign spouses. Thus, IPV towards foreign women in Norway more inclines to power theory supported the socio-economic strength of Norway and the legal disparities allowing the execution of power. While feminine theoretical characteristics nurtures the tolerance of IPV and the perpetrators' expectations of how the women should be perceived in these relationships.

6.8 Cultural barriers

In foreign marriages, it is also observed that cultural barriers have a significant role in both transnational foreign marriages. The crucial common peculiarity of all the women interviewed is that the projection was that the Norwegian spouse has no intention of knowing the woman's culture and beliefs. In contrast, foreign women's endurance journey to adopting Norwegian culture is expected by the cultural and legal standards, which is reasonable from the integration viewpoint. Conflict is that several victims shared how impossible it is for the perpetrators to understand them because there was a lack of interest in knowing the foreigner and allowing them to adopt the changes to the new culture slowly. In most cases women indicated that men force them to adopt culture immediately from the day she lands in Norway regardless of their readiness, understanding, or ability to adapt.

In contrast, they have absolutely no interest in knowing the foreigner's cultural background to alter reality. Literature & empirical also indicates that many women became depressed, first because they leave their families, friends at times children, their culture, and comfort zone, and in the grieving period of the parting. Second Sooner or later they realize that they are in a wrong relationship due to the treatment of their husbands. Third, they find it difficult to adopt the culture, language, and weather conditions. Thus, affects their physical and mental health due to vast cultural barriers. women failed to cope with cultural barriers. In addition, meals, physical activities, clothing, habits, and norms are vastly different from other nations, and cultures were vastly different from other European cultures. Some European women themselves found it is not easy to cope with Norwegian cultural differences. Many Norwegian men did not even understand the simplest of geographical differences that foreign women come from. The understanding of cultural background was a far more complex phenomenon. They refuse to comprehend while preparing women to adopt theirs immediately when they move in. That was a huge shock for many. They all claimed that it takes many years to adapt to a new place, while coping with the new reality. Several people found unsociable social traits, job market restrictions on foreigners, and falling to the bottom of the social ladder are some other signs to add to the ordeal. Many informants were confused about their belongings in society Straiton, Aasnes & Tschirhart (2019).

«... He expects me to knit like Norwegian women. In our countries, we don't need to knit as it is a warm country. We don't need wool for a living ... He tells me to go out when there is the massive wind that blows furniture outside, raining like cats and dogs. He didn't allow me to express my feeling loud, said it is not Norwegian culture, but I am not

a Norwegian ».«... In winter, I get so sick because cold weather doesn't suit me; I can't go out and do the things that Norwegian do».«... He sleeps with the window open. I can't sleep the entire night because it is freezing for me... I get a cold and become sick».

Women further elaborated that the offender wanted victims to possess all beneficial native qualities from foreigners' culture and at the same time to possess Norwegian traits that fit them. It was like.

«... Importing a banana tree from Asia and planting it in Norwegian soil, and expect to harvest banana and apple both, every day since the day it was planted. That's how egocentric these abusive men are ».

Contrary it has been observed that in many successful foreign marriages, men have taken a great interest in visiting foreign spouses' countries and learning their cultural values and beliefs and trying to understand and be considerate to their spouses, and support, according to the participant who had successful marriages (Participant 2020).

6.9 Survival and Recovery

Escaping from the offender itself is not a victory for the victims; surviving after the abuse while the abuse cycle continues is an excruciating reality. Abuse does not only occur during the relationship it shelters the cycle of abuse during and after the relationship.

6.9.1 Break up & Coping mechanism.

Breaking up was a massive step for the victim. Some of them eventually decided to leave; Some waited until they received their permanent residency. Many women were thrown out to the street, or some were dropped at the crisis center by their husbands a teacher or friends. Most of the victims who were out of the relationship had refuge in Crisis Centre at one point and started their new life. After abuse 15 out of 18 women had been referred to psychology therapy because of PTSD. Three of them refused as they had some friends or family members who could support them. The most vulnerable group was the victims who did not have friends or family members during the violence and the separation. Teachers in some adult schools have referred them to Crisis Centers or Family counseling and mediation centers. According to the Crisis Center report, "One of the women was for 12 months married and separated, received benefits from social services, lost several kilos and had severe health problems. Her child now has severe psychological issues. Today the woman is awaiting an answer to her application for a residence permit. The husband is currently searching for a new wife. She will be his third". Samaadahl et al., (2002, p.13, para 2). Irrespective of the voluntary or involuntary separation cycle of abuse was an ongoing phenomenon in each of the victims interviewed, regardless of how long ago they were abused.

6.9.2 After Break up formalities and life

After volunteer or involuntary breakup and separation from the abusive relationship, women struggle with multiple aids and help agencies without any progressive pattern. It is also additional pressure and a burden to the victims. Although the agency's help is intentional to help improve the victim's life, each agency is not connected and aligned in the process, and each agency is working independently. The women had significant challenges to lead a "normal life" while procedures and formalities overburden the victim. Many admitted that additional burden due to seeking financial assistance and social benefits through endless paperwork and process that they had no clear mind to focus on or concentrate on. Besides that, they had lawyers visit, therapies, children, daily household chores, finding a job, studying the language, trying to fit into society, in action defending their situation from the community, and family was an overwhelming and endless task.

Victims displayed they are exhausted with finding many applications for economic support through NAV which is a continuous process almost every month. Also, financial support did not suffice. Some victims mentioned that psychology visits at DPS cost Kr350, and women could not pay each time they need therapy. Also, doctors charges per visit costed Kr250. It discourages women from doing so.

«...Because Kr350 I could buy a meal to share with my kids and buy some clothes that are much needed».²¹ «... I wish there were a special code the doctors could use when they should report someone sick for violence so that such an exemption goes automatically. It would have done so much easier for everyone, especially for those exposed to violence, because then they all escape the questions and explanations of new people all the time. Now it is the case that the GP must spend an hour, and NAV and the employer must fill in paperwork». (Rasmussen, 2012:75, para 5).

A nationwide survey carried out in 2005 showed that approximately nine percent of women over fifteen years of age in Norway had been victims of severe violence from their current or former partner one or more times in the course of their lives (Haaland, Clausen, & Schei, 2005). But women are not the only victims of domestic violence. A significant number of children see their mothers being abused. They see, hear and experience violence against their primary caregiver. They are also

²¹ Especially when we get just minimum payment for economic support from NAV, approximately and average of KR8000 per month in addition to that NAV pay the housing and electricity and water. Although appreciating the help KR8000 it is extremely difficult to run the household, food, cloths, children's necessity, transport, children have friends' birthdays that needed to buy something, free activities, household cleaning materials, toiletries etc., so can't spend co-share for doctors. Although women were aware of the "frikort" that was an annual cost of KR2000 previously and now it has increased to KR3000 limit. (Informants, 2020).

victims. Every year, 1,500 children spend one or more nights in women's shelters in Norway. Co-parenting and blaming concern many victims and driven many women into an extended abuse (Regjeringen, n.d).

«... I cannot bear to hear accusations from people about how stupid I have been who have been in a relationship where I have been beaten all the time... I cannot bear to hear him say to our children that it is my fault that he was imprisoned or lost his job. For me, it has been several years with treatment by a psychologist to help me place responsibilities where they should be and out of the painful understanding that everything is my fault ». (Rasmussen, 2012, p.75, para 6).

Women find trapped and obligated to interact with the abusive partner after the breakup if they have shared custody of the children. Women revealed that men somehow influence the victim through their children. Some women disclosed that since she is incapable of sound finance, the Norwegian spouse used to buy expensive toys, and items or buy food for the child in competition with the mother. The abuser influences children with costly things that a woman cannot afford to get the children's prejudice to obtain information or obtain favoritism over the mother or turn the children against the mother. Even after the breakup of the relationship men continue to intimidate or threaten the women on many occasions. According to Rasmussen (2012) "Violence alarms are given for three months at a time and must be justified by each renewal. When you live in a threatening situation, it is difficult to constantly explain the situation and justify the need for a violent alarm. The violence alarm does not necessarily provide any absolute security, but many situations are at least registered and stopped before they go too far. Gradually I could not go through more explanations and processes to keep the violence alarm and now lives without." (Rasmussen, 2012, p. 75, para 6). On the contrary, many did not receive such an emergency alarm despite their fear and concern threats from the offender because there was no substantial evidence that satisfies laws as women said:

«...The shelter helped me with a lawyer so I could file for divorce. It was a big step to take. But he does not leave me alone even though we have been divorced for a long time, and even though he has a restraining order and is not allowed to approach me. I had an alarm because I got close to death threats. Sometimes, get others to make threats to me, so the alarm did not benefit ». *«... He throws stones at my window; he has even broken into where I live now and committed vandalism in the apartment».* *«... I do not think the police are as helpful as I think they should be. Once, I was told that I could not report the affair on a Sunday, come another day. I was also told I should not criticize him for the awful thing he had done to me, another*

time said get us the evidence. Another time they said when I came; you here again?!... I felt not that as any help, exactly. So, what do you do then? ».

According to Rasmussen (2012), there may be a need for follow-up interactions between mother and children; it can be training in managing your own home and finances or close follow-up with processing trauma. Many Crisis Centers do initial support for the victims in the crisis stage; after that, victims are on their own. It is not a satisfactory lasting solution for severely battered victims of violence and their children due to their inability to cope with regular life. It is one reason why many of the users give up and move back to the perpetrator and again are exposed to violence. It is pointed out that there is an increasing proportion regularity among IPV entails sickness absence in jobs, costs in aid apparatus, and most importantly, loss of quality of life. Lack of capacity in the support system poses a risk. Several years extra in a violent relationship with subsequent fall in the probability of one successful re-establishment and rehabilitation after injuries and trauma inflicted is an impossible task. Victims are told to contact child welfare, and child welfare sends them on to the Crisis Center, Crisis Center sends them to the police and child welfare, but reports are not a solution. Victims get advice from the police to move and “re-establish yourself,” but you cannot solve all this on your own, especially not when you must deal with everything alone and the agencies that do not cooperate (Rasmussen, 2012:80 para 8 & p.81, para 1).

6.9.3 Press charging and taking legal action.

Among the 18 victims interviewed, only 5 of them have gone to the extent of the press charging the perpetrator, but only 1 case got convicted. Victims claimed that they were afraid that would be an additional burden to them and did not have the strength and support system to do it. The women confronted that legal help is very minimal, lacking legal knowledge; lawyers are not giving any advice nor detailed explanations or taking enough time to explain what rights victims have. Women state that lawyers never advise the best options they nor give any guidance. Most victims said victims themselves must investigate what they should do or how they should handle the press charge, case processing, and the ongoing investigation process. They will only refer to the respective legal clause and represent the victim’s case; there will be no actions beyond that. Victims have to rely on the lawyer and hope for the best, their cases success is utterly dependent on advocates efforts and competency. Lawyers interact very minimum basis with them and do not invest a lot of time studying victims’ stories or situations. Many victims said that the law is extraordinary here in Norway; «... *we must do everything ourselves and find out all the information*

by ourselves and present it to the lawyer. Only then will they give some advice but not a full picture or any additional advice» (Participant, 2020).

It is only the Crisis Centers or NGOs that support and, in most cases, contact the lawyers, or they encourage them to press the charge, and then the Crisis Center job ends there. The victim's lack of support, legal knowledge, and consequences hinder press charges. Not to omit, many victims did not build evidence during the abuse; some had concrete evidence but did not proceed to charge against the perpetrator. Even with solid evidence many times cases become dropped without any consequences to the perpetrator. According to the country's largest shelter organization, around 60% of shelter women are foreigners, the Secretariat of the Shelter Movement. But at least 80 percent of these cases are never brought to official attention, and only 10 percent of those end in a conviction, the Justice Ministry says. It is all too common and rarely reported, and those who commit it are even more rarely convicted. Ancient prejudices about male prerogative and modern assumptions about female emancipation conspire to create a thick wall of silence, shame, and legal ambiguity Bennhold (2011).

6.9.4 Finding a job

Research uncovers an essential element. Ten women among the 18 are unemployed because they are incapable of working due to abuse consequences or are discouraged and given up. Some victims like to find a job and be independent, but they couldn't do so due to poor language skills, not having a good network, and not being able to find work caused to social discrimination or isolation.

«... I don't want to depend on NAV, I want to find a job, but it is not possible because I don't know many people and my language skill is terrible.

«... It was also interesting to see that some employers consider the candidate's Norwegian relationship as a qualification to offer jobs if the candidate is not married to a Norwegian spouse or having a child with a Norwegian then no one willing to give a job».

Although social discrimination is not evidently out in the open, it was evident that social distancing and discriminations against victims when they have no relationship with a Norwegian. In this study, women who had experienced abuse from partners and had left them had discovered that employment had still been significant to them. Having a paid job increased their self-esteem and the range of options they had regarding acting independently and having a better quality of life and lesser social burden to the economy.

6.9.5 Violence spiral cycle of multiple and repeated abuses.

In addition to the physical, psychological, emotional, sexual, and financial forms of abuse, women endured during their abusive relationship. It continues in many different forms after leaving the relationship. The research uncovered that many victims found that the cycle of violence extensively continued after leaving the relationship, though rebuilding a life, despite all the legal formalities, economic situation, job situations, children, and social letdowns. Many women faced extended threats from their former partner, smear campaigns, attempting to directly or indirectly harm the victim. Many women endure the abusive nature of perpetrators during mediation, child custody, and during legal battles. The despair of trauma that the victim had suffered during the relationship haunts women on an everyday basis. Normative is no longer become a reality; victims keep hearing the censoring mocking voice or trying to avoid the exclusion in the head permanently. The rejection, discard or dismissiveness lower the self-esteem that infuses life with meaningless and hopelessness or fear and uncertainly governs life. Thus forming self-abuse. This accelerates when social rejection, social discrimination, job situations, children's situations, bad economy, and people misunderstand one's authentic self. Thus, many women go through the repeated abuse caused by themselves, others, and external situations.

«... Norway, people seem to be very kind. The man... seems to be kind and polite in the beginning. But it quickly changed when I came to settle here; it was just an act. The worse is that I never thought that people could treat another human being this way here... it is not allowed by the books, but it doesn't apply to us». «... I was shocked to know that we have no way to protect us in Norway. Everything is entirely different from what it seems from the outside.... Norway seems to me have a double standard; nobody knows the law at the same time everyone knows but do not tell us. We do not know where to find».

«... Norwegian supports Norwegians; they believe their people, not us. So, I have no chance of winning against Norwegian... People think because we come from poor countries, by bringing here and treating us like slaves are not only fine... but it is something we must be grateful for them». «... Everyone abandons us when something happens... but if the same happened to one of their women in another country, the entire country unites and defends their people. And demonstrate how wrong it is, not only that they will boycott the entire nation...but if it happens to a foreigner here in Norway, it is no problem».

In addition, offenders extended use of social media, family, and friends to orchestrate their new happy life with the new partner while victims are trying to survive in Crisis Centers or in their home country. Also, press charging and other types of legal cases walk the victim, and the children

through repeated abuse for months or years while for most of the legal cases go nowhere in their favor causing additional burden to the victim while no legal, financial, or emotional consequences to the perpetrator. Legalities and legal boundaries can be significant hindrances; The abuse cycle technically weakens the rationality and thinking ability of the victim. Thus, women fail to properly plan their future while grieving the abuse, losses, and shame while struggling to deal with everyday reality and legal battles; the complexity of victimization spiral deeper for many.

The experiences of abused women are prevalent, and it is evident that abused women are not socially accepted by most Norwegian (Samaadahl, 2002). These forms collectively harbor a substantial proportion of self-hate due to not having the ability and motivation to escape from reality. After developing to self-hate post-separation period, descriptive evidence shows this cycle of abuse after separation.

«... I was scared during the abuse, but coming out of it, I go through the same abuse over and over million times in the society; they see me as a woman come for good life marrying Norwegian man ... or perceived as a gold digger».

«...I have given up so much to come here, my family, friends, my job, my values, all that money I had saved... yet he treated me so inhumanly, my children suffered so much. Now I am the loser... he is busy with another woman. how can I go back...? I am in a worse situation than I came here».

As an outcome, most victims tend to have self-destructive behavior towards themselves, self-neglect, do not care about self-wellbeing, continued violence, and additional stresses can create a negative spiral worsening psychological outcome²². Trauma effects decline in the months after separation, but a substantial proportion of women continue to suffer from posttraumatic stress and other traumatic problems. Some abuse survivors experience more traumatic effects and depression right after separation than survivors still in a relationship. Anderson & Saunders (2003). Eriksen (2006 cited at Rasmussen, 2012) shows that mothers exposed to violence from their partners in different ways may have problems caring for children. It may be motherly trauma reactions that can also lead to changes in the mother's caring behavior in the short and many cases in the long term. For example, the mother can be in different ways emotionally absent and thus less emotionally available, and she can become more aggressive towards the children. Furthermore, maternal trauma responses can be frightening and can reinforce children's trauma responses (Rasmussen, 2012).

²² Many victims enduring ongoing self-social-destructive behaviors such as addiction to something, isolation, drug and alcohol usage, prostitution, stealing and shoplifting, hate, and anger towards society are some practical consequences observed from the participants.

Every story is different, but it is a shame, grief, triangulated, manipulated, abusive, rumination, anger, sadness, loss, and discard were evident. All kinds of physical symptoms worlds created that foster vulnerability and makes significant moral injuries that were all too common in each victim and will always linger in their lives.

6.9.6 Legal Underreporting

There is a considerable underreporting of domestic violence, especially when the police do not recommend examining it. The literature reveals that most of the time, the victims were asked to move on with life. At the same time, victims have tried conflicts with the former husband and child parenting, and due to the complexity of the cases, many women are discouraged from pursuing legal steps. Some victims have reported and withdrawn the instances due to threats from the former partner or their family (Rasmussen, 2012).

6.10 Analysis

The research literature and empirical paved vital for information about a critical social problem. It reveals exhaustive information related to immigrant women coming to Norway trapped in IPV and exploitation. The collected diverse qualitative data aims to critically evaluate and present pointwise in a thematic flow.

This research attempted to explore the **first** research question **why do women migrate to Norway in the first place?** the genuine justification for what motivates Norwegian men to seek their foreign spouses. Likewise, what motivates foreign women to migrate to Norway. The literature tells us that the immigrant population in Norway increased from 1990 to 2018 due to family establishment and reunification. The top five dominating nationalities are Thailand, the Philippines, Russia, Brazil, and the USA (SSB, 2020). These statistics are significant sources to uncover how the battered women population link to the specified group of migrant women (Liden, 2005). Empirical data in my research shows that women are motivated by their desire for a “happy life or a better life” following the love and family models.

Despite high levels of gender equality in Nordic countries, high prevalence rates of IPV against immigrants it has been identified in both literature review, and statistics from literature. and empirical qualitative data suggest that immigrant women do not benefit from equality in Norwegian society. Also, these immigrant women are particularly orientated toward a traditional gender role pattern that seems to be desired by a particular Norwegian who is deliberately searching for women with such characteristics. Gender equality is generally perceived as an essential value in Norwegian

culture. Many argue that equality ends once you enter the main door of some Norwegian men (Benhold, 2011). According to Tove Smaadahl, secretariat Norwegian Crisis Center “The statistics tell us that the safest place for women is outside, on the street, most rapes happen at home” (Benhold, 2011, para 9). The underlying issue is that family establishment and reunification connected to migration seem to give a greater probability of ending up in violent relationships. My empirical data uncovers tragic cases of IPV abuse, and it sometimes ends up in a very difficult situation, where exploitation and human trafficking are the end result. It also seems that violence in close relationships occurs within every social classes, among various ethnic groups, with varying levels of education and income (Stavanger Aftenblad, 2012 cited in Smaadahl 2002).

Crisis Centre debates on IPV exposed children to direct or indirect victimization. Inability to escape the violent relationship and frequent gaslighting, manipulating, and controlling atmosphere by the perpetrators caused severe psychological consequences to victims during and after the abuse. Which is backed by literature interpretations of “crazy-making” tactics within the broader context of “intimate terrorism” (Johnson 2006, 2008 cited at Sweet, 2019, p. 853). My empirical data contested a significant number of foreign women who experienced a life-altering of physical and mental violence when they moved in with their Norwegian husbands. However, some women are abandoned or subject to deportation. “Far too many of the women have also experienced a life with physical and psychological violence when they move in with their Norwegian men,” and “After a while, they’re thrown out.” Many of the same men have then been known to travel back abroad to “find romance again.” says Svein Gjerset, head of the Telemark crisis center (Berglund, 2017, para 3). My research discloses and challenges those foreign women married to Norwegian men endure all the abuses indicated in the WHO typology of violence diagram. IPV violence phenomena can endure by both men and women; more empirical and literature inclines the majority of them domestic violence victims are women. According to WHO, Figure 6 violence typology demonstrates the nature of violence and the type of violence a person can endure. Although violence is predominant among female victims it is evident that male victims are also found in Norwegian society gone relatively unnoticed.

It challenges that violence is a gender-based phenomenon. The research findings resurgence the perpetrator's behavioral pattern of foreign women vs. Norwegian women. According to Sund (2015), stereotypical gender differences are typically viewed as appropriate because humans are inclined to assume a correspondence between people’s behavior and inner dispositions. Equality appears to be a commonly held value, but it does not reflect gender diversity, especially for foreign

women. Norwegian men seeking foreign women are presumed to have conservative gender roles compared to Norwegian women (Flemmen and Lotherington 2009, 33 cited at Brækhus, 2017). Sund (2015) challenges that perhaps it is time to stop claiming that Norway is such a gender equality paradise and instead focus on measures that can recalibrate this problem (Sund, 2015). Arguably, it may have a significant influence on gender factor violence. It is a concept of gender roles that commonly held expectations about the qualities and behaviors considered appropriate for individuals depending on their gender. The theoretical framework demonstrates that as behaviors become more associated with one gender than another, people judge these behaviors as increasingly suitable for that gender. These expectations are normal describing qualities and behaviors considered desirable for men and women. Respectively, gender providing representation concerning distinct gender differences triggers behavior that conforms to gender roles. Although the cultural code and the norm are women victims, empirical also identified male victims. Thus, challenging, and overtaking norms of violence is a gender-based phenomenon to power-based phenomena that is enabled by legal loopholes in a Norwegian context.

The second research question explored **what kind of violations are they exposed to within their marriages and what are the consequences of these abuses?** Empirical data in this report emphasize systematic wives import and discard become the spouse shopping paradigm a hidden public secret in the past decades. Types of violence scorched to be a combination of physical abuse, psychological abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, economic abuse, neglect, isolation, punishment, and revenge are characteristics of women and children endured. The women exposed to physical violence will also live with the insecurity that such abuse can happen again. Threats, controlling behavior, and deprivation of liberty are often together with physical abuse while psychological impact cannot be measurable or quantified. Empirical data unveiled that distinct physical abuse also leads to psychological impact and psychological abuse itself causes significant long-lasting destruction to the victims and their children. In the present UDI survey, about 2/3 of women are exposed to multiple forms of violence, and just as many reports significant long-term psychological endurance (Crisis Center, 2020). All the victims including the male participant endorsed that physical wound healed with medication or in time but emotional wounds that never faded during their lives perhaps that they must live through their entire lives. Also, lack of caregiving ability from the victim toward their children and conflict with the children due to violence. The research identified that the children of these women became a hostage or direct or indirect victim to the Norwegian spouse. However, the research identified the critical observations from the research finding can bring new sight as the statistics and information provided in the

literature are only those cases that were reported to the centers. This information does not include the following two categories:

1. women and children are continuously in an ongoing violent relationship or those cases that were never reported to the shelters.
2. The women who are discarded and sent back home country by the Norwegian men never got a chance to tell their stories to the authority.

The Crisis Center reveals a large gap between the extent of ill-treatment, reviews, and convictions. Also, victims occasionally report the situation they have been exposed to while a handful of the cases are convicted (Crisis Center, 2020). The possibility of being convicted is mainly related to physical violence and sexualized violence/rape in these conditions (Liden, 2005, p. 8). Psychological violence and other intimidations are not commonly convicted due to lack of evidence, or the existing evidence is not good enough to condemn as a crime (Lawyer, 2020). Critically analyzing enduring violence toward immigrant women is not a significant matter to the cultural matrix nor important on the political radar despite many voices and concerns from the Crisis center. As per Crisis Center representatives' viewpoint, it is only a concern of crisis center employees and NGOs trying to combat the violence, presumably “a private matter” (Crisis Center, 2020). Undeniable evidence was a cycle of abuse that did not end when the victim leaves the perpetrator; it further continued. Criticism directs at many who have forgotten and are ignorant about the significance of the socio-economic factors of these abuses.

IPV not only destruct the victim it ultimately burdens the economy. According to FAFO report First, the public and private sector expenses that absorb the government public services include the criminal justice system (including the police), the health care system (including mental health), social services, housing and refugees, and civil legal services. Second, there is a loss of economic output because of the disruption of employment. It is a cost that both employers and the victim themselves bear, not to omit. It is also a welfare burden. Third, the human cost of pain and suffering does not diminish the importance of this domestic violence aspect (this cost is excluded in the data). The Fafo report finds that preventing violence in close relationships and treating victims amounts to 2 – 2.4 billion kroner annually. The costs of child welfare networks and Crisis Centers are the most prominent individual categories. Sacrifice costs in the form of lost income opportunities are NOK 1.8-3.3 billion annually. Concerning socio-economic costs, the public costs in the police, judiciary, health care, etc., are related to violence in close relationships. It also includes costs that victims of violence in intimate relationships incur in expenses and lost income opportunities. Other socio-economic costs for victims and their quality of life cannot calculate in practice. (Rasmussen

et al., 2012). It further indicates those in the group women and children are hardest hit. The costs do not include loss of quality of life, which will be the highest cost for most people. It is also probable that society absorbs much violence through direct public expenditures and adverse effects on investment and economic growth. There are no literature related economic evaluation or prevention interventions targeting IPV and none for foreign women.

Concerning the 3rd research question contested **do women stay or leave the relationship, and how do they cope with the violence they experience?** relates to empirical data spotted foreign marriage requirement that shackles a three-year in the past and new rule expanded five-year mandatory dependency period that enslaves women to Norwegian spouses. The three-year period that upgraded to 5-year periods in 2020 dependency snare elevate to another destroy integration and safety of foreign women. The dependency formalities developed, taking responsibilities and care for the foreign spouse by the sponsor. Empirical disputed that some Norwegian spouse deliberately shackles their partners integration, freedom, and wellbeing ending exploit them as slaves and objects. The integration, freedom, and future of the foreign women entirely depend on the spouse. One of the complexities of this provision is that during this period, immigrating spouses, particularly women, are more vulnerable to economic domination, emotional abuse, and physical and psychological violence by the sponsoring spouse (Brækhus, 2017).

There are many possible ways to define violence, depending on who defines it and for what purpose (Crisis Centre, 2020). A definition for arrest and conviction, for example, will be different from one for social service interventions. "It's not the first-time immigrant women have become victims of their spouses in Norway, and the murder already has highlighted the painful lessons to be learned about the situation for those in what is now being called "transnational marriages." (Berglund, 2017; para 5). Many victims do not want to report IPV because they may fear, love, depend on, or wish to protect the perpetrator. When medical care is required, women may attribute their injuries to other causes (Berglund, 2017). The case studies further reveal the concept of "shame," "fear of leaving him," "uncertainty," and "fear for losing visa," often commonality in all cases that left women trapped in the violent relationship. " To stay married, they had to embrace the traditional old-fashioned gender roles offered by their husbands, and make sure they did not integrate or adapt too much to Norwegian society" (Tyldum and Tveit 2008: 124 cited in Eggebø & Brekke, 2018, p. 41).

The research literature is backed by an empirical confrontation of foreigners as victims of forced prostitution, or dumped on the streets, abandoned at the airports or Crisis Centers. Empirical argued

that evidence of children of the foreign women became direct or indirect victims by the perpetrators and altered their lives mercilessly. Furthermore, literature and empirical endorsed that exploitation from prostitution, human trafficking, modern-day slavery, and child abuse are designed to occur by the current rule. The research and literature indicate serial marriages, and men chose to find multiple partners to satisfy their needs. Also, legal inadequacies, Norwegian cultural fabrications, stringent and unprotective rules, language barriers, cultural barriers, lack of job opportunities, and social ostracism suffocate the victim. While home country situation, and desired family life, children are some of the inherited impenetrable challenges exceptionally intricate foreign marriages inclining to trap women in continuing violent relationships. Given the realities apparent, The Norwegian 5-year sponsorship rule is an abusive sentence allowing the Norwegian spouse to exploit the immigrant women at their disposal.

Challenging in terms of **coping mechanisms during the violence**; empirical backed by the literature showcase that there was not much choice but to remain in the violent relationship despite their suffering. The main reason is the 5-year obligatory rule for the sponsorship without going back to their home country. Although few cases where victims could prove solid evidence related to violence or through the intervention of an outsider, some women had the privilege to seek shelter support. Contrary to many, swing back and forth to and from Crisis Centre due to legal uncertainty. Also, many other women had a moral and cultural matrix and obligation to remain to commiserate the offender victim in the violence, believing that he will change one day, endorsing violence by their men taking the feminist model into play. Research uncovered that many women do not want to escape or complain to the authority due to a lack of knowledge of the legalities, lack of knowledge and resources despite extreme violence. The justification is strong enough to prevent them from moving on to the resistance pathway and is a barrier to change. The men also permitted themselves to be violent by assigning certain traits and characteristics to themselves. Such features included psychological issues, aggressiveness, lack of empathy, trust, jealousy matters, or simply finding the partner is not “fit” for him. Lack of an option to escape from violence conceived by the rule, extreme co-dependency was the predominant factor in the relationship to continue. Thus, women had no choice but to allow the abuse, tolerate and fit into the new circumstance. Criticism to Anderson et al. (2018) the victim eventually adopts violence as a norm in their lives or is attached to addiction or dependency. “Battered women were believed to harbor a conscious or unconscious need for pain and punishment, which is useful to explain their “provocation” leading to abuse and a lack of motivation for leaving” (Anderson et al., 2018, p.164, para 4).

According to the empirical and literature findings in chapters 5 & 6; the **coping mechanisms after leaving the relationship** analysis can draw those women to leave their abusive partner voluntarily or involuntarily at some point in their relationship period. Also, critically challenging that nobody knows how many women had been forcefully sent home by their Norwegian spouse without the women's consent. Which lead to sheer misery and stigmatize women and children that endure such traumatic episodes. The women to conceal their emotions, feeling, shame and guilt and forced to act in ways following the dominant cultural codes. In doing so women batters with self esteem. Alsaker et al., says "the most profound feeling of shame is a strong feeling of not being worthy as a human being. In the literature, the concept of shame is related to self-esteem, openness, and guilt and reflects a threatened self from the victim's perspective" (Alsaker, Moen, Baste & Morkenm, 2016). Research finds the evidence showcases that after typical mistreatment and repeated abuse after the break-up when complying with legal formalities, poor finance, job situation, child custody, intimidation, and fear spilled over into the work situation, lowering the quality of life. Also, victims continue to suffer, weakening the caregiving ability of children. Seeking residence permits and other legal formalities, restricting lives supported by multiple organizations, plays an additional burden on the victims.

Empirical more challenged the **consequence of abuse** towards the victim while literature backed consequence towards socio-economic factors of abuse. The outcome is that while the victim suffers in multiple forms while it also burdens the society, the economic system in particular shifting becomes an entire social problem. Research endorses that the public sector and society, in general, hold much of the economic burden of IPV. Although it is not directly characterized as related to costs that occurred for violated immigrant women. The research challenged the victims and indirect victims; it is a collateral social problem and cost to the economic system. Also, uncompensated care expenses and overall higher expense rates are not in the shown data. On behalf of the Ministry of Justice and Emergency Preparedness, Vista has analyzed the socio-economic costs of violence in close relationships. The estimate shows that it costs society between 4.5 and 6 billion kroner annually. However, this data does not explicitly distinguish the cost associated with foreign women.

When highlighting the social burden, impossible to ignore IPV consequences for future generations. Many children are subject to direct or indirect domestic violence, including sexual abuse. When the children observe violence, they strategize methods to save themselves and their mothers. Thus, the events become tacit knowledge that they keep to themselves even and are afraid to talk about. That child behaves in this peculiar absorption of surrounding violence, and the child becomes a probable

character of future violence. Theoretical frameworks illuminate that social learning theory and situational model line up with domestic violence that includes children's experiences in these families, instead of mirroring or copying the violence or victimization they remember they had experienced in their childhood. It is a defense mechanism to hide the children's violence as a solution to the problem for mothers. Children may experience that they are not recognized for the brutality that they live in, which can lead to the children not getting the help they need and may be entitled to received it (Mullinger 2003, Solberg 2001, 2002 cited at Linden, 2005).

The 4th research question about **what are the current Norwegian laws related to women's migration for marriages, integration, and safeguarding protocols towards potential exploitation?** research empirical criticized the non-existing legal protocols that safeguard these immigrant women. The approaches taken to several key methodological issues differed substantially across the research reviewed. According to Grete Faremo at Minister of Justice and Emergency Management testifies that violence in close relationships is a comprehensive societal problem (MOJAPS, 2012). IPV preventive measures literature indicates that the government takes efforts to prevent violence and abuse, especially against women and children. Including Soria Moria Declaration comprises domestic violence as a foundation for criminal justice. Action Plan against Domestic Violence “turning point,” (MOJAPS, 2012). How effective the program was, or any literature related to evaluating the action plans, is not to be found.

On the other spectrum, the main criticism is that while the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) was incorporated into the Human Rights Act in June 2009 and is the most important international instrument for protecting women's rights in Norway. Indeed, Norway is also committed to this work through its obligations under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the new Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. Norway signed the Council of Europe Convention in July 2011, and the Government is still considering which legislative amendments will be necessary for the convention to be ratified (MOJAPS, 2012). While Norway is focusing heavily on investing in humanitarian action in other countries, domestic violence does not tackle abused foreign women. Besides, when Norway is at the forefront of the efforts to combat domestic violence. While acknowledging they have not comprehensively embarked on the violence landscape while admitting that the Government intends to present a complete overview of the lessons learned since the National Commission on Violence against Women presented its report in 2003, *The Right to a Life Free of Violence* (NOU 2003:31).

A five-year sentence criticizes because dependency and conflict are also prominent in immigrant women married to Norwegian men (Tyldum and Tveit 2008 cited in Eggebø & Brekke, 2018, p. 40). This extraordinary dependency leads the spouse to dictate and decides the life choices and women are socially and economically dependent on their spouses. The vulnerability of women is most intense during the obligatory period 3-5 years they spend in Norway as sponsored wives without any protocols of women's rights and protective measures being considered. The nature of these challenges can be dismally severe, with some concern for personal safety not admitting to easy solutions or safeguards for those charged with their security and integrity. When given much power control to one spouse it is designed to incline for misuse such as abuse, discard and dumping back in their home country regardless of the reason for divorce. The Crisis Center representatives recommend stricter regulations to safeguard the women and give more direct consequences to the perpetrator, indeed a pandemic that needs propitiations attention Skumsvoll (2019). Crisis Centre Secretariat Tove Smaadahl voiced the Norwegian 5-year rules dreadful consequence "We have been warning the authorities (about the three-year rule) for years, but no politicians dare to touch it" (Berglund, 2017; para 7). She further elaborates that the three-year rule gives Norwegian men enormous power leaving many women in a dangerous situation to continue to live with the abuser.

During the three years, women are threatened and used at Norwegian spouses' will, and many victims were discarded and dumped before the three-year end. Consequently, the women were expelled from residing rights in Norway and left-back in their home country with or without her consent. (Berglund, 2017). Debate and criticism were raised when the government changed the 3-year rule to 5 years without considering an existing problem or if the paradigm of "preventing violence again women and children" exclude foreign spouse, a question yet remains unanswered in the research. There were no specific safeguarding protocols for foreign women when they increase the sentence. Criticism remains that policymakers could not identify the enormous social problem related to foreign spouses despite all elaborate action plans; the 3-year rule were enhanced to 5-year in 2020, endorsing treacherous power and timeline to slaughter foreign women/men. It is also arguable that omitting such a critical social phenomenon is classic negligence or deliberate enabling exploitation is a reasonable agreement that the research couldn't conclude. Literature evident that many immigration advocates raised this argument, emphasizing that the Norwegian exploits preceded spouses to a more incredible deal. Crisis Center leader of Northern Norway Tromsø Hanne Stenvaag points out that there were many examples cases that she knows of the Norwegian men who have threatened women to send back to their home country. Thus, women must tolerate

economic deprivation, freedom restriction, sexual pressure, and other physical and psychological violence that legitimized a clear definition of modern-day slavery and human trafficking (Berglund, 2017). It further strengthens power and gender disparity and inequality by providing the Norwegian spouse a 3-year control, increasing to a 5-year perceived to be authorization and legitimization to abuse of women as per the literature and empirical evidence.

These vulnerabilities may well be enhanced by social isolation reinforced by language, cultural, economic, or gender barriers arising from their circumstances. It is inevitable to assume the conspiracy of whether Norway tries to encourage such abuse towards foreign women to keep a safer society. Permitting men to import women from foreign countries and misuse them and discard them is an avenue; can it be a dualistic world tactic that prevents sexual assaults on Norwegian women. The interpretation is that many isolated single men cannot have a proper relationship with Norwegian women due to their equality paradox or financial difficulties (Participant, 2020). Although this argument couldn't be proven with the data; it is a logical hypothesis. Nevertheless, accumulated data the reality sear and dismiss all elaborated humanitarian models, activities, and fictitious commitments towards illuminating all forms of discrimination among women.

The divorce procedure is highly debatable and tragic negligence of the legal framework related to foreign women married to Norwegian. When getting married to a Norwegian spouse, legal documents require waiting times, and scrutinization layers and authorities are daunting. In contrast, separation is such an abashed procedure. Contradicting policies commiserating "In Norway, all use of violence is a punishable offense" (NKVTS, 2011, p. 15, para 8). It denounces the fact that the victim gets lifelong punishment and loss of quality of life, financial burden, children, dignity, and batter to rectify life. Simultaneously the offender goes free of consequences and pray for a new victim. In addition, empirical criticism of those legalities that permit violence, thereat and force, premeditated under the lawyer's guide and legal guide. Unconsented divorce practice is not a punishable offense and empirically showed it was an acceptable procedure in the legal system (police and courts). An effort must reach a consensus from both the married partners to decide that dissolution is an essential part of foreign marriages. As per international standards, implementing appropriate principled divorce formalities is a critical ethical component. It excoriates such immoral practices in an egalitarian society ought to be less acceptable than in other less egalitarian societies. The research finding and literature demonstrated that the perpetrators are often not given penalties or retribution; cases get dropped before they go to the courts. Only 10% of the cases are given a legal sentence. In 2019 among 2000 abused cases, only 200 had been convicted (Dagbadet, 2021)

perpetrator does not have any consequence or accountability for their actions allowing the perpetrator to start his new life with a brand-new venture again. Simultaneously, the Norwegian system takes the burden of the abused women's re-structuring life process or sends them back to their country. Or victims are left with nothing but trivialization of pain, shame, traumatized, damaged, and abashed life with children that need to re-establish with nothing. NGOs and various foundations have played a vital role in establishing assistance measures, organizing self-help groups, and offering therapeutic services in addition to the Crisis Centers, several supportive and assistance efforts for women, men, and children. Children's experience of violence and neglect at home has been given increased attention. Additionally, NGOs assume many care-related tasks and violence prevention activities and continue to thrive in their extraordinary work.

The fifth and final research question concerned **how women immigrants' social development and wellbeing can be secured?** Ignoring IPV towards foreign women silently contributes to its continuation, more importantly, a legal framework allowing and encouraging Norwegian offenders to violate women is an entirely novel degrading phenomenon. It is also objectifying and endangers genuine relationships and transnational marriages. More devastatingly, a few iniquitous population's demeaning actions trivialize and emblem most dignified Norwegian men. It riptide the reputation of the ethical Norwegian men riddled genuine transactional marriages. Also, dissemination devolves and pervades Norway's legendary humanitarian reputation. Thus, The Government must clarify that domestic violence is a public responsibility; social injustice and human rights violations still stand colossal damage to the individual and social world. Covering the complete landscape of abused immigrant women's immigration and integration to Norway and their marriages to Norwegian men is a tragic taboo in the society.

The literature and empirical identified contested a fundamental socio-economic problem related to immigrant women married to Norwegian men while some foreign men are also enduring the same. Abuse is more than physical violence. Ending the destruction and stigma of domestic violence requires a nuanced understanding of the behaviors that define it, as well as examples of healthy relationships to inform decisions and interactions moving forward. Failure to define and criminalize "violence against women" lacks the necessary transparency and precision in various legal frontiers, such as the inability to prevent slavery and sexual exploitation. The formation of brothels and the sex trade, not having justified divorce procedures, is an organized and contemporary form of violence against women. Failure to consider the necessary measures to support battered women is among severe deficiencies in the policies. It explores how individual psychiatrists draw upon

societal and institutional ideologies. Their individual beliefs in their understanding and representations of offenses explicitly cause systematic abuse. Finally, the chapter contends prevalence of systematic abuse of foreign women is a rare or under-recognized phenomenon in society.

The knowledge that holds for providing a theoretical basis for base IPV comprehensive research and effective legal interventions. The intersectionality framework guides social structural oppression, preventing offenders' actions tackle through legal interventions and consequences. Ensuring preliminary safeguarding measures, insurance policies, and penalties must enforce from a legal perspective on the perpetrators. Simultaneously, education and awareness to potential victims include foreign embassies intervention and research addressing IPV at individual and societal levels. Even though IPV portray as entrenched and intractable, many opportunities to develop short-term interventions and act toward long-term change for individuals, communities, and society. IPV is both an epidemic public health problem and a critical social justice issue. Its resolution mandates IPV intervention in legislation and social action that address both dimensions. Given the criticism toward a comprehensive range of methodological differences and extensive disparities in the legislation, the research excavates through existing literature and empirical of IPV related to foreign women. From a socioeconomics perspective, there is an obvious necessity for systematic future research into the violence towards the foreign spouse. Such research should follow rigorous methodological guidelines, be inclusive of direct and indirect cost categories, and perhaps most importantly, be comparable across the country and settings. The study also echoed throughout that those effective preventive interventions are the crucial fundamental resolution to the problem. Given the overwhelming evidence of the high costs of IPV, and the degrading human behaviors, a detailed analysis of the economic feasibility, and social feasibility of interventions must be a clear research priority for a government organization and implement harmonized legislation.

The research hypothesis and research problem have been comprehensively studied, analyzed, and concluded through broad empirical and extensive literature. Evidence concludes that foreign women married to Norwegian are not adequately integrated or protected in Norway, and they are not assimilated well into the sorority. Thus, the research hypothesis conclusion revibrates such a critical social problem linger in the society that needs urgent and methodical legal intervention for the prevalence of exploitation in the research social phenomenon. Considering the legitimate literature and exhausted empirical qualitative data and analysis the researcher suggests the

following recommendations and preventive measures can well safeguard the wellbeing of the migrant women and collateral socio-economic problems.

6.11 Improvements and recommendations.

These proposed recommendations are ideas that were formed based on research knowledge and experience based on observation and practices in different countries when I have lived. This preventive measure can pave vital safeguarding measures can and will help eliminate the potential exploitation of immigrant women and end the social problem. While helping the Norwegian economy to avoid spending unnecessary public costs, safeguarding the humanitarian reputation while helping a safer socio-economic system. In addition, these methods help create new several job opportunities in the job market, thus helping in building social development activities.

6.11.1 Important information to victims or potential victims.

Get a thorough awareness of the form of violence, frequency, and type of violence. Any form of abuse, physical, psychological, emotional, financial, or sexual, is not something one has to endure. If the violence consciously occurs and as a repetition, ensure to take as much evidence. Consequently, inform someone trustworthy, a teacher, doctor, neighbor, or friend, always try to include ethical Norwegians as much as witnesses, seek Crisis center help, build your case and find the exit route, and have the courage to find an escape from the abuse. Trust in Child welfare service (Barneveane) is established to protect children instead of seizing them away from parents. Despite their negative reputation, it is rather beneficial to include Child welfare services in your IPV case, which can help safeguard the victim's situation while the victim can care for herself and the IPV situation or find a solution. That is the safest way to exterminate your child's entire childhood and destroy the child's future. Seek help at crisis center support and ensure press charges against the offender to avoid further harm to another.

6.11.2 Inter-agency cooperation

The multiple agencies must coordinate for a case or have a central institute that can navigate the process to avoid extra burden to the victim, institution, and economy.

6.11.3 Police and front-line employees in respective agencies

Other than the Crisis Center and the NGOs involved, many other agencies do not have competent employees who can adequately navigate victims of violence. Especially police, most likely victims' protective agencies do not have adequate specialized officers to handle such situations, especially

in small towns and suburbs. Although police play a key role in safeguarding its citizens, there have been some gaps in small cities due to a small population and close ties and influences. Relationships and friendships among the police, lawyers, and the perpetrators can be situations where victims fear going and making complaints. Thus, many cases have been dropped or influenced to drop off. Since police officers' competencies and knowledge help a significant influence on criminal activities, it is essential to have competent officers that scrutinize and specialized in such cases and their credibility is tied up with the objectives of the system of a non-violent environment. In contrast, the victim must ensure taking necessary actions concerning legal action. And help agencies, crisis centers, and other institutions must encourage and support the victim to proceed with the legal action where it is necessary.

6.11.4 Norwegian Legislations

The immigrant women's vulnerable situation must shed new light. The women encounter gender-specific barriers that arise from the structural level, and indeed, solvable legislation includes gender equality in immigration policies and more equitable outcomes in the future. It is repeatedly observed that immigrant women married to Norwegian take "systematic abuse" where the abuser uses his power over the women married to them and becomes entirely dependent. Financial and legal dependence gives Norwegian spouses intimidation the immigrant spouse as their new surroundings, new culture, and new people are the only lifeline sources. The Norwegian spouses then use the lack of language ability, lack of knowledge about the legal binding of the 5-year dependent rule as a weapon to rule the immigrant spouse, and the widespread, systematic violence. Versus such background, it has been crucial for women in the movement to show the gendered systematics in the picture of violence. An adequate legal measure must take place to strengthen to prevent all forms of trading of women and children. Preventive measures must entrench in the legislation that solidifies conditionality and tethered demise of exploitation. Subsequently, a visa approval or rejection under family reunification is subject to prerequisites and conditions. Protective measures are, e.g., the abuse clause, conflict resolution, etc., In addition foreign spouse protection plan must be a mandatory clause for visa application and qualification of sponsorships.

6.11.5 Substantial consequences for 5-year rules to prevent ongoing abuse.

Thus, the 3-5year rule technically compartmentalizes and tethered power to Norwegian spouses to control the foreign spouse's life. No restrictions and regulations that are protecting the foreigner. Also enables treacherous violence or serial marriages. The proposed changes amplify significant influence related to family reunification visa process approvals, timelines, and the scrutinization of

documents. It is also a stupor-relevant background check of the reference person, visa refusal criteria, access to the criminal records, and other personal data of the sponsor. These are critical elements that the immigration authorities' application basis for the family reunification visa process has to include (Liden, 2005). The proposed suggestions are direct links to the prevention of serial transnational marriages. Besides, they are exclusively strengthening rigid immigration rules. The changes above touch on fundamental issues when amending laws in good faith within a limited field for legislation and practice. However, it is not necessarily a territory that how to treat the victims of clause § 37.6. It is then not considered that abuse and gross exploitation repetitive short-term cohabitation related to physical and mental violence is a criteria in most cases. In respect for that basis for pervasive damage done to the victims, giving lasting reduced quality of life, denigrate and endurance. When implementing a new law or changing the existing law, it must resonate with “enhancing,” not the subjugation or worsening of existing law. Strengthening immigration rules does not imply a lengthy process and documentation, no strangulation or vanquish; it enforces the consequences affiliated with the action. The new amendment proposal dismisses core problematizations of implementing accountabilities penalization of the perpetrator. In addition, safeguarding foreign spouse’s ought to include.

6.11.6 Consequences for perpetrator

Current testimonies indicate that almost most offender bears no accountability for their ill actions thus social phenomena is a recurrent phenomenon. The evidence indicates that the benefits of restricting legal structure towards the perpetrator’s action not only ensure **accountability** but also may play a role in changing attitudes, thereby preventing future cases. Law enforcement and consequences to the perpetrator under any circumstance of indication of abuse of any form or dumping women, harassing or threatening any condition or manipulating or forceful or manipulated separation without any significant reasoning must give appropriate liability to the perpetrator. Also must be recorded under his/her national profile. Consequently, when applying for sponsorship previous violation can set a light on granting a visa or not. When taking statements, the police must gain more expertise and routines.

Penalizing consequences follows the offenders’ behavior and reduces the likelihood that the behavior will occur under similar circumstances in the future. Within the criminal justice system, penalizing consequences or heavy fines can involve arrest and imprisonment to deter batterers from engaging in IPV perpetration in the future. Other punishing effects may also follow IPV episodes and reduce the likely occurrence of future IPV events, including termination of the relationship,

physical injury, increased emotional distress, reduced relationship satisfaction, and increased criticism by others. As recommended by Crisis Center, “All episodes of violence and threats must always register. It will also help the woman to be able to document the violence and threats in case of a later application for a residence permit. When the police receive a report notified about abuse or threats of violence, they must assess which measures of protection should take” (Smaadhal, 2002, p.29, para 5 & p.30, para 1).

6.11.7 An insurance policy or Security Deposit must be mandatory to sponsor.

Today’s dehumanizing misuse of women is a pattern of modern-day slavery, trafficking, and dumping at the Norwegian men’s choice must be opposed and eliminated. The only way to eliminate such is to give strict consequences to the offender in addition to legal penalties, another possibility is to reduce the damage is to enforce financial responsibility for the offender as a consequence of their actions. The legislation should ensure that the sponsored Norwegian spouse holds accountable for the sponsored women and children; in case of separation, proper legal procedure must undertake via court where both parties are given opportunities to relay the purpose of the divorce. In addition, how the separation should formally take place and what are each other's obligatory responsibilities. The foreign spouse should remain in Norway until the decision finalize. All expenses related to the dependent spouse such as their accommodation, utility, food, transport, clothing, children’s expenses, advocate fee, medical and psychological fee, and repatriation costs (if the court decision for the women and children to leave Norway) must be legally obliged by the perpetrator's accountability.

In addition, plus they must be liable to pay alimony or compensation for the destruction and abused individuals. The above formalities and expenses enforce through an insurance policy or a form of a security deposit at the family establishment or reunification visa process. And ensuring it is a mandatory requirement to sponsor the spouse. The agreement must be considered a mandatory requirement to sponsor a spouse, fiancée, or girlfriend into Norway on any visa. The sponsor's responsibility is to take care of all relevant costs declared by the court’s decision. Also, ensure specialized competent officers at police, NAV, psychologists, and other specialized institutions in dealing with these matters. Developing a new standard prevents future violence and generates a range of diverse brand-new workforce in the job market. The latest employment such as insurance services, banking staff, lawyers, courts employees, police, Nav, Psychologist, crisis centers employees, other NGOs, Health care individuals, and Municipality employees are competent in handling such Domestic violence specialties. **In addition**, there should be a **mandatory course** for

Norwegian men to participate and acquire a participation certificate for their foreign spouse's **culture and country** background.

6.11.8 Proper and transparent Divorce procedure for Norwegian-foreign marriages

The present rule is countercurrent reverberation of violation and gross exploitation and human trafficking. Legislation ought to change to eliminate the county governor's rules for approving foreign divorces. It enables spouses completely free from responsibilities and accountabilities and endorsement to fetch a new wife immediately while the state takes the responsibility to revive broken lives or are just thrown back at their country relinquished and dismally. **FIRST**, the Norwegian spouse should not decide the divorce single-handedly signed the separation documents by his enablers or friends; one witness from both individuals must be represented. In the event of a new foreign dependent not having anyone to witness on their behalf, an official authorized representative from one of the institutions must sign as a witness upon clarifying all necessary information to the foreign person of the separation process and its consequences. **SECOND**, the separation must take a formal justified process in the presence of police or court by both spouse's agreements and knowledge while giving an adequate timeline and various layers of levels and timelines to accommodate the divorces for both parties and children involved a righteousness justice for both the spouses. Like the Danish divorce law as an example. Norway should replicate or adopt the same or similar separation and divorce law as Denmark that suits both Norwegian spouses and foreign spouses universally. Please refer to appendix II for a detailed description respect of the foreign marriage Divorce law of Denmark.

6.11.9 Individual Embassies

It is unfair to place the entire burden on the Norwegian state for abused foreign women. There must be that respective embassies that can contribute some sort of assistance, guidance, and resolutions to the victim. The country's embassies should not wholly be ignoring the fact that their citizens are getting abused. It is a respective country's responsibility to ensure every citizen is registered in the embassy as soon as they come to Norway and have some contact and communication to assist both women and men. The embassy must ensure their citizens are aware of the divorce procedure and crisis contacts in case of an incident and provide their citizens know such incidents and exploitations in Norway. The research did not see any of the victims or no victims contacted their respective embassy for assistance. Foreign-speaking women must receive information in their language. The foreign national women must have access to a correct knowledge of their rights and how Norway's public reinforcement services function. Information brochures in relevant languages

must be made available and distributed in places where women are; the library, public offices in contact with immigrants, social and health services (nurses, doctors), language courses, etc. (Smaadahl, 2002). In addition, there should be a **mandatory culture education course for Norwegian men** to participate and acquire a participation certificate about the women's culture and country background. **Such participation certificate must include in the compulsory requirement for sponsorship.** Every embassy must adhere to it as a part of safeguarding its citizens.

6.11.10 Finding work and integration

First of all, Norwegian employment regulation ought to abolish employers to raised personal demographic questions. Such as if they are married to a Norwegian, if they are living together with a Norwegian, or if the candidate has a child with a Norwegian spouse, these are highly unethical subjugating irrelevant personal information related to the job. That is highly irrelevant, pervasive, and destroys fundamental social standards. It is an indispensable task for us as a community and responsible citizens in Norway to minimize the individual and socioeconomic burden. Those in the decision-making capacity hierarchies in the private and public organizations must consider employment and inclusion for breadwinners in the family and minority populations that need to be included in the job market that benefits the Norwegian economy and reduces social support. Perhaps NAV is the central government authority with complete resources to temporarily extend help support for training and job finding; initially, the trainee gained experience and knowledge. It is followed by finding a suitable employer for these underprivileged social groups, ensuring that they are thoroughly trained and capacitive to the Norwegian economy and not a burden. Employers and co-workers need to know that adverse incidents at work may be a result of IPV. It may also be important that social and welfare services that contribute to the financial security of the victim maintain a specific focus on helping abused women to keep their jobs or find new ones if they must move to a different part of the country. Work may positively impact women's self-esteem and income, function as social insurance, and empower clients in IPV situations to be financially independent of the abusive partner. Help from other private and public organizations must be encouraged. Also, the government can give incentives to those companies including integrating underprivileged and minority groups and populations. And government implemented legislation that ties a quota system as an obligation to retain the immigrant population in their institutions and organization. Thus, rescuing the socio-economic burden from the state budgets and improving individual and national socio-economic balance.

CHAPTER SEVEN

Conclusion

Conclusion

This thesis presents and describes qualitative findings for the authentic incidence, prevalence, and costs of IPV among immigrant women in Norway. The research identifies that IPV is a common phenomenon in both endogamic and exogamy relationships and in every social class. Although the endurance of the violence remains the same, some significance may sway depending on the situations related to internal and external circumstances. In the migration context foreign women that are married to Norwegian spouses and moving to Norway are in a variety of exploitation. Since the late 1990s, the number of marriages between Norwegians and foreigners increased, and family establishment and reunification are currently the most crucial justification for residence permits in Norway. In the debate over immigration, the spotlight has primarily focused on Norwegian men who bring wives from specific nations through marriage. However, these women do not make up most foreign women who come to Norway through marriage or every different case (Lie 2004). Public debate around this phenomenon is more characterized by myths and prejudices than knowledge-based insights. It is evident that some men in Norway deliberately use the family grounds for residence in the Immigration Act to exploit foreign women and children. Many women brutality enslaving to their husbands while children become a direct or indirect victims and ending with dismally discarded.

Equality between women and men is a fundamental value in the Nordic countries, contributing to making the Nordic region the most gender-equal region in the world. The research challenged the sustainability of the Norwegian equality model uncovering important social phenomena related to IPV. Research uncovered about two-thirds of foreign women are exposed to physical violence, and many equally report significant forms of psychological violence to control behaviors and threats. In most cases, it is mental, physical, sexual, and financial violence. Research echoed the victims are going through multiple layers of victimization through the relationship and after. Thus, this violence in relationships has become politically and theoretically linked to gender equality, understood as power and dominance in relationships and society. Being exposed to violence as an ethnic minority woman in Norway comes with a set of tragic consequences. For the cultural notation, love, equality, and the country's economic strength are rhetorical resources for the perpetrator to attract vulnerable women into the relationship institution.

The high prevalence of IPV against women and high levels of gender equality would appear contradictory. Still, these opposite statements appear to be true in Nordic countries, producing what could be the 'Nordic paradox.' The research document analyze how violence in close relationships can vary in nature and scope from various forms and interactions between different social dimensions, such as class, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation. Also, the violence's effect varies based on the same circumstance and is in line with legal boundaries. Most of the violence was downplayed, lack of competency related to this matter, and shortage of individuals in specific public services seem to be a problem. The literature describes how women in acute financial or personal crises are often more vulnerable to being exploited in prostitution and how women who make quick decisions to change their economic life situation are often more susceptible to being used than those who take longer to decide. Research excoriate that some men are subjugated to exploit women for direct prostitution or indoctrinate them in doing so. The women and their children are also treated as consumer goods and abandoned and discarded at the perpetrators' convenience.

There were apparent disparities in the legal system's 3-year dependency rule that have caused enormous social apprehensions for decades. Notwithstanding, its legislation has changed to 5 years, giving more power and time frame to continue to abuse vulnerable women and children, creating it impossible for women to defend themselves or escape from violence, thus continuing to remain in the abusive environment. Such inception and the development of such perceptions are a product of our socio-political and economic processes influenced by public policies and mass media. Nonetheless, more than decades of the prolonged social issue are omitted without ensuring preventive measures on the political radar but aggravated the problem to a new hike. (MIRA, 2021). Research verifies through literature and empirical that they are subject to additional burdens and shackled due to a 5-year visa restriction, language, lack of knowledge of law clarification about divorces, and not having a family or support system central to their victimization.

Also, the current divorce procedure that allows perpetrators to discard women contradicts the equality narrative and human rights. The research is somewhat ambiguous about why certain ethnicities seem to lag so far behind the rest of the group of domestic violence. The Fafo survey focuses on the marriage between Norwegian men and foreign women. The purpose of the work is to identify further the kind of knowledge necessary to develop a targeted policy to reduce women's vulnerability when they travel to another country to get married. It shows that egalitarian attitudes and gender balance in the division of labor in the home are not incompatible with the exercise of

violence. Further, gendered expectations and feelings of care and love formed a gendered entanglement that made it difficult to leave. Fear of the perpetrator and concern for children's safety in the context of the contemporary egalitarian post-separation regime in Norway further added to victims' excruciating ordeals.

The thesis has shown that the victim role with its implications of the passive and weak becomes victim abuse irrespective of gender roles. As male victims are also enduring the same abuse thus power surpasses the gender victimization phenomena that is enabled by legal inadequacies. Research literature and nine unique empirical cases reveal the enormity of the individual, social and economic problems. Often, IPV involves repetitive behavior rather than a single incident. However, reports about IPV do not always clearly indicate whether data refer to the number of IPV incidents or the number of victims. For modern women represent violence as a threat to self-identity and thus against dignity. It can lead to them staying longer in the violent relationship, with a consequent risk for further damage. Research unveiled that most of the time, they either continue to stay in a violent relationship due to exhausting cultural codes, visas, legal issues, children, or are incapable of being independent. The women who use the appropriate strategies to escape are very seldom due to uncertainty in legal implications. Even after eluding the violence, victims' lives seem to be in complete chaos; thus, victims preserve their identity, social position, and dignity by appearing particularly tolerant of violence. They build a shell to avoid appearing vulnerable or stagnant they are concerned with managing themselves. The cultural matrix, lack of self-confidence, economic strains, and legal constraints denigrates women/men to tether to the violent partner.

Many institutions come in the restoration phase, not the preventive phase. The government's investment also indicates that precautionary measure focus is vague vs. post-violence measures were robust. It is also generally the case that even though women report an extensive degree of physical violence, it also points out that psychological violence is an integral and treacherous part of the violence. It is, to a lesser extent, measurable in the form of financial consequences measured in expenditure. Nevertheless, it contributes to poor quality of life for those concerned and reduced their ability to work and care for a shorter or longer period. Violence and being traumatized is a cost even if it does not come in rash indirectly visible injuries.

Victims of violence live at an ongoing cost to the economy for public, private, and anxiety cost ailments are experienced higher cost to most and become a socio-economic cost. When violence

occurs in close relationships, several bodies are gradually involved. All of them use time and resources independently. It is challenging to evaluate, and recognizing the need to measure the magnitude of IPV and resulting economic costs. The research recognizes developing national cost estimates for IPV-related abused women who experience more direct public cost. And the psychological and personal expenses related to health problems and a higher occurrence of depression, drug, and alcohol abuse, medical care, mental health care, social services, and legal services seem to be significantly higher in violated women than others. Also, many other variable costs directly related to victims and their children and families are not accounted for or evaluated. However, the economic costs of IPV for foreign women remain largely unknown. The importance of recognizing the urgent need to measure the enormity of IPV find better resolution and prevent IPV and socio-economic costs. The consequences of staying in the relationship or out of the abusive relationship whichever the path a woman chooses it is a chaotic journey. Immigrant women need lots of support and help learn the community and function on their hands if or when they get out of a violent relationship.

Also noted, a significant number of cases are underreported and unrecognized, shortcomings of the legal perspective, and lack of logical preventive measures. Also, the majority of the cases reported were dropped before they even reaches the court. The perpetrator goes free without any consequences. A growing body of evidence demonstrates the legal implication of a lack of results and accountability for the perpetrator. A key observation from the IPV for foreign immigrant women perspective is that there are no legal protocols to safeguard these women/men. Thus, the legal gap is the main obstacle to such violence and repeated violence as serial marriages. A systematic approach must implement several organizations to maneuver the victims, avoid duplicate work and additional pressure on the victim, and recurring costs to the economy. Also, significant research resources are needed better to understand the causes and risk factors for IPV and develop and disseminate effective primary prevention strategies. Until the policymakers recognize the problems and legitimize practical preventive measures to reduce IPV incidence in Norway, it is impossible to eradicate the economic and social burden. In a nutshell, IPV towards immigrant women in Norway is commiserating “public secret” and excluding the social enigma. Research data contested immigrant women go through every single element of all the abuses that are described by the WHO abuse typology. The research echoed the need to re-evaluate and enhance the law as such an urgent matter. The research challenged practical recommendations as a resolution on assistance, treatment, and self-help to the social problem. The goal of coordinated efforts between various services organizations cooperates with others, mostly with other public bodies.

Corresponding to objectives in the action plans regarding the protection and surveillance of children in violent families, strengthening and further developing police. The research also contended that IPV particularly immigrant women that are married to Norwegian men is no longer a private phenomenon, it carries the consequences for the entire socio-economic world. Thus, worth topic to integrate into local and regional development activities.

The research has summarized comprehensive and exhaustive information from literature reviews, reports, newspapers, and the Internet literature supported by deeper dive into empirical subjective social problems and the case studies and in-depth interviews of victims. It concludes that the research hypothesis and research problem unveiled a significant social problem and remain an unsolved social phenomenon. Create sear shameful and destructive life for migrated who women are married to Norwegian men. It offends the ethical Norwegian men entering into genuine caring transactional marriages. Violence is a complex dilemma related to patterns of thought and behavior shaped by many forces within the families and communities; the research urges us to work with various actors and partners to adopt a proactive approach. Recognizing lost each year and countless more damaged in ways that are not always apparent but expose the many faces of IPV especially foreign women and also the settings in which violence occurs. It shows that where violence persists, health, economy, and society are seriously compromised. Violence often may not be predictable but surely preventable when proper legislation is in place. Domestic violence needs a social and political response. Eliminating domestic violence requires a robust criminal justice intervention in response to the violence. However, it also involves various interventions that may differ from traditional approaches to crime and prosecution. “Taking immediate steps to build a better, more comprehensive social protection system is crucial to providing immediate, life-changing assistance” is a paramount task of legislation (UN, n.d.). Thus, the emphasis on the paradigm shift of violence from individual phenomena to socio-economic phenomena to reformed legal and welfare system must be the pivot and distinct goal of policymakers and social and human rights justice: as “Social Protection is a fundamental human right.” (UN, n,d).

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APPENDIX I

Some reasons why women psychologically trapped into abusive relationship

Justification is a signature move of trauma bonded and all abusive relationships. The series of justification type is, he did not mean it, he is stressed, had a tough childhood, and it is an outcome of that, which is very reflexive and doesn't even think about it. That is a manifestation of cognitive dissonance, a way to break that inconsistent pattern of thinking as the victim wanted this relationship despite knowing that he is being cruel and finding all forms of justification to break the uncomfortable conflict. It is the beginning of the downfall, from the extraction of all the informant's stories. This pattern of justification allows the perpetrator to be more robust and enable. (Durvasala, 2015). **Future faking** is a critical element of many abusive behaviors that was extracted from the participants. Many promises that are given or talked about their relationship, future, what they want to buy, how they want to refurbish the house, retirement plans, what vacation is planning to go, etc., etc., are made to the victim to keep the person intact. While the same person will not buy the victim one good meal or give enough food at home or helping or being kind or do something reflective or something substantial to showcase that he cares for the person and the relationship of this bogus future that is painting. (Durvasala, 2015). It has been one tactic of the perpetrator. What is more shocking is even some informant's stories, also mine relating to that at a time after the relationship break up, the abuser goes ahead the connection with another new victim and executing the plans and the ideas that they have shared with the new person and publicize it so that the victim can see it. Many victims shared that they wanted to believe the partner at the time what he was saying, most women wanted to hang on to the future fakey throwaway things as a little branch of hope to hand on to that although bowing that never become a reality. **Repetition compulsion**, having the same issue repeatedly with no resolution as they will never change but wanted the victim to change, every time he expects her to change in every single time and the demands will never end. And never hear victims' side of the concern, although he gives the room AT TIMES to speak nothing goes to his head, or nothing will change, no empathy, or any circumstances, the only person must change is the victim, not the situation, not the problem, not him. (Durvasala, 2015). The victim gets caught up in a cycle of that if I change this time, everything will be ok. So, the story goes on. It will go on and on with no new outcome, and every time victim will have to change. In the absence of self-recognition, the same cycle will repeat. After some time, this becomes the norm to the victim, and every time she adjusts and changes. And this is where the person changes at the end in an unrecognizable way—the victim's personality changes after living with the abuser.

APPENDIX II

Divorce law in Denmark.

In Denmark, handling all matrimonial matters starts at the State Administration. Couples wanting to obtain a legal separation or divorce must begin by applying to the State Administration with the consent of both party's presence and two witnesses followed by a waiting period, mediation, court proceeding, and clarifying legitimate reasoning and consequences. Agathon, R., (n,d). **If the parties agree**, if either spouse wishes to separate, the State Administration may grant a legal separation if both parties agree on the separation and its terms. Provided that both parties agree to a divorce and agree on the divorce terms, they can elect to divorce immediately. Separation is an evaluation period during which the spouses live apart but are still legally married. During this period, the spouses decide whether they wish to resume the marriage or want to divorce. Divorce should not automatically be granted after a separation in the case of foreign spouses. If the parties want to divorce, they must submit a request to the State Administration. Until then, or until the parties resume their marriage, the separation will continue. If the parties agree, they will be able to divorce at any given time after the separation (Agathon, R., n,d).

If the parties disagree, both sides have a right to a legal separation. The person who intends to part in the relationship always has the right to split, regardless of the other spouse's wishes. No reason or proof is required to obtain a separation. After a separation period of six months, the spouses have the right to divorce, even if the other spouse disagrees. Suppose one spouse wishes to divorce without prior separation, and the other spouse disagrees. If one person wanted a divorce while other spouses disagree with the divorce, they must proceed with the separation process; thus, the separation process period gives them a settlement of any issues Agathon, R., (n,d). Even if one spouse disagrees, the other may request a divorce without prior separation if one of the following conditions is met: Your spouse has a committee adulterer.

1. The spouse has been living apart for at least two years because of disagreements.
2. Your spouse has committed acts of violence against you or your children.
3. Your spouse is married to someone else (bigamy)
4. Your spouse has abducted your mutual child Agathon, R., (n,d).

Such measures are universally adhered to by most countries around the world. Nowhere in the world other than Norway, people divorce each other without participating in the process or without one spouse's knowledge or consent of they are being divorced. In addition, Denmark takes

measures of dividing properties and specific terms to be clarified and agreed such as **alimony**, the right to claim a jointly rented home. Matters such as child support and division of property are not to negotiate when applying for separation or divorce. These matters must be dealt with separately. **Spouses wishing to separate, or divorce must apply to the State Administration and pay a fee for the processing** of the application. **If the spouses disagree on the terms of the separation or divorce**, they must attend a meeting to negotiate terms. An additional fee applies to such a meeting. The State Administration may refer a separation or divorce case to the courts if they believe that the separation or divorce and its terms are questionable. As a main rule, matrimonial matters can only be settled in Denmark, provided that at least one of the spouses can be considered a permanent resident of Denmark, or both spouses are Danish nationals Agathon, R., (n,d).

As of the new law in Denmark, “Couples planning to split must wait three months and undergo counseling” (Henley, 2019). Gert Martin Hald, a psychologist and associate professor of public health at Copenhagen University, described that this new rule would “reducing the human and the financial costs of divorce. It’s good for both the individual couple but also for the municipality – prevention is always better than cure,” said Jette Haislund, head of the healthcare department at Ringkøbing-Skjern municipality in western Denmark, one of the first local authorities to experiment with couple’s therapy. The government’s three-month waiting period and “cooperation after divorce” course, taken online or via an app, aims to smooth the process for divorcing couples and children by helping them improve communication and avoid pitfalls. Parents can tailor their course individually from 17 half-hour modules offering concrete solutions to potential conflict areas during the divorce process, including handling birthday parties or talking to an ex-partner when angry. “It’s about understanding yourself, you and your children’s reactions, and about coping, co-parenting, after the divorce,” Hald said. It helps deal with stress, anxiety, depression and reduces the number of days they take off work. Henley, J., (2019). Indeed, Norway legislation must adopt such ethical divorce proceedings to avoid exploitations and criminal actions. Norwegian spouses and their children and families absorb and adjust with the transition, and it must not be something that one partner is clueless about when the other get the divorce, which is a form of abuse. They were breaching psychological and emotional contracts as much as breaching the legal agreement. Unless taking drastic measures and enforcing legal pressure on the sponsor, this ongoing human abuse will never prevent.

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