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Historical Roots And Modern Forms Of Economic Violence

Abdulfaizova Durdona Ikramjonovna

Doctoral student at Andijan State University, Teacher of a NHEI "University of economics and pedagogy", Uzbekistan

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Abstract: This article analyzes the socio-philosophical essence of the phenomenon of economic violence, its impact on the life of the individual, family and society, as well as the theoretical and practical mechanisms of its elimination. The study highlights the historical formation, contemporary manifestations, and social consequences of economic violence in a global, regional, and national context, and considers the neoliberal economic system, digital financial services, gender inequalities, and patriarchal values as key factors in economic violence. It also substantiated the need to harmonize legal, economic, digital and educational approaches to reduce economic violence.

Keywords: Economic violence, gender equality, economic freedom, social justice, digital economy, economic independence, social stability.

Introduction: Economic violence as one of the forms of violence in the history of mankind, which has the deepest roots, manifests itself in various forms from ancient times to the present day. It is carried out by economic means through the use of force, increased control, and limited opportunities for social groups. Historically, economic violence has developed under a patriarchal system in which women remained financially dependent on men, while their economic independence was severely limited by patrilineal inheritance and patriarchal family systems [8]. In addition, the exclusion of women from social and economic activities under the influence of religious and political regimes such as the Catholic Church was a contributing factor to economic violence [8]. Throughout history, there have been many examples of economic violence. In the process of colonization, the invading forces seized economic control by abusing the indigenous population and resources, and this process exacerbated social inequality [5]. In Guatemala, for example, the cocoa-based monetary system has increased control over local production, creating a practical picture of economic violence (Sampeck, 2019). Throughout history, there have been many examples of economic violence. In the process of colonization, the invading forces captured. [7] Even in our time, the misuse of resources is observed as an actual form of economic violence. For example, in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria, it was noted that the damage caused by the oil industry to the environment sharply limited the economic opportunities of the population and led to the fact that local communities plunged into a whirlpool of poverty and violence [17]. Modern manifestations of economic violence manifest themselves in various forms under the conditions of modern capitalism and universalization. Women still face discrimination in the labor market and limited financial opportunities [8]. However, due to the imbalance in global economic systems, the activities of large international enterprises, and resource control mechanisms, economic violence has also increased at the interstate level [9]. On the other hand, financial constraints caused by the historical legacy of ethnic violence slow down innovation and hinder economic development [15]. Changes in the political system and the dramatic accumulation of wealth also exacerbated economic violence. During the time of the ancient Roman Republic or in medieval Italy, the growth of wealth and political instability that caused violence were recognized by historical experience [16]. Marginalized groups face the most serious consequences of economic violence. Unemployment and loss of economic resources lead to fragmentation of communities and weakening of social cohesion [12]. Economic violence in Latin American cities is more related to social inequality and isolation from society than to poverty, and this condition is closely related to higher levels of violence [3].

During the COVID-19 pandemic, violence increased dramatically in areas with high economic and racial segregation [19]. There are also studies that have shown that the policy of opening up trade in agriculture increases political violence in some developing countries [2]. Gender-based economic violence also remains an urgent problem. For example, in fishing, women were subjected to sexual and economic violence, and their standard of living deteriorated dramatically [11]. However, economic violence is widespread in the family, caused by economic control and financial deprivation, and these processes are often accompanied by physical and psychological violence [1]. One of the most serious consequences of economic violence is its mental impact. Studies have shown that economic violence is closely associated with depression, anxiety, disorders after severe mental shock, and an increased risk of suicidal thoughts [20]. Financial dependence limits the victims' ability to get out of abusive relationships, which further worsens their mental health [4]. Financial pressure has been noted as one of the main factors of depression [14], while social support is recognized as an important tool for mitigating the negative effects of economic violence [10]. Therefore, the analysis of economic violence is becoming increasingly important not only from the point of view of economic policy, but also from the point of view of human rights and mental well-being.

Theoretical and methodological basis: This study is aimed at analyzing the phenomenon of economic violence based on an integrated and interdisciplinary approach based on a scientific and methodological platform combining gender studies, theories of social injustice, analysis of global economic systems, as well as legal and regulatory concepts. The multifaceted nature of economic violence limits its explanation to economic, social, or gender-based criteria only. Therefore, the theoretical basis of the research is a combination of different scientific views and theoretical directions. The theoretical basis of the research is primarily the theory of gender inequality and women's scientific cognition (feminist cognition). The scientific views put forward by Duani [8], Joseph and Doon [11], as well as Stylianu [20], interpret economic violence as a mechanism for preserving patriarchal social structures. According to this approach, control over economic resources, the formation of financial dependence and gender discrimination in the labor market are forms of not only social, but also cognitive violence.

In addition, the research is also enriched with concepts of social inequality and structural violence. In the works of Arias and Mont [3], Kaul [12] and Conley and de Waal [7], economic inequality, inequality in resource allocation, exclusion of marginalized groups, and the use of economic instruments for political purposes are justified as determining factors of structural violence. Based on this theoretical approach, economic violence is studied as a result of the functioning of macrosocial systems, economic policies, global capital flows, and governance mechanisms.

The research was conducted on the basis of a comprehensive scientific and methodological approach. Firstly, the content analysis method was used in the systematic study of scientific articles, reports of international organizations, statistical data and regulatory sources related to economic violence. Secondly, the comparative method allowed for a comparative analysis of the mechanisms of formation and manifestation of economic violence between different states, historical periods and gender groups. Thirdly, the system-analytical method was used to study economic violence in the interrelation of social, economic, political, legal and psychological factors. Fourthly, the method of regulatory analysis made it possible to assess national and international legal norms, identify existing regulatory gaps, and formulate legal mechanisms for preventing economic violence from a human rights perspective.

The initial research base consists of scientific articles indexed in Scopus and Web of Science, open scientific research in the Google Scholar database, legislative resources of the United Nations, UN Women, UNFPA, who and the Republic of Uzbekistan. These resources allowed us to explore the phenomenon of economic violence in a multi-level (individual, family, social, interstate) context.

It is worth noting that the scientific novelty of the study lies in the analysis of economic violence based on the integration of gender, structural, global and legal factors, the construction of a methodological bridge between existing theories and the proposal of a conceptual model. This approach provides a scientific justification for interpreting economic violence not only as an economic manifestation of violence, but also as a complex social phenomenon.

RESULTS

Economic violence as a complex phenomenon that forms in the system of social relations and is inextricably linked with historical, cultural and economic processes, manifested itself in various manifestations throughout the development of mankind. Its formation is directly inextricably linked to the economic structure of society, the distribution of gender roles, property relations, religious dogmas, mechanisms of political domination and the transformation of global economic systems. Therefore, the analysis of economic violence is relevant not only as a domestic or micro-level phenomenon, but also as a multi-stage process determined by historical roots and the development of social systems.

Historical sources indicate that the first forms of economic violence were modeled after a patriarchal society. As the main element of the patriarchal system, men were formed as subjects of management of economic resources, property and labor products, and women- as economically dependent objects. As Duani notes [8], the deprivation of women's ownership of property, restrictions on employment, and the regulation of inheritance rights in favor of men have led to a historical normalization of economic violence. The social construction of gender roles directly influenced the allocation and control of economic resources.

At later stages of historical processes, economic violence was also widespread in the colonial and neocolonial systems. During the colonial period, the establishment of control over the resources, labor, and economic opportunities of the indigenous population was a form of violence carried out by economic means. As Chris notes [5-6], colonialism laid the foundation for the global continuation of economic inequality and violence through economic exploitation and centralization of resources. Sampeck [18], while an analysis of Guatemala's cocoa-based monetary system shows that control over economic resources has become an institutional manifestation of the colonial regime's pressure on local society and economic violence.

Political interests are also an important factor in the historical formation of economic violence. Conley and de Waal [7] interpret the processes of blocking economic resources, restricting food supplies, and using hunger as a political tool as a targeted and planned form of economic violence. Such practices have formed a mechanism for subjugating society by depriving it of economic resources. This indicates the need to consider economic violence not only at the gender and family level, but also as an instrument of interstate and political governance.

By modern times, economic violence is taking on new forms under the influence of global capitalism and collective economic systems. Processes such as the uneven development of global economic systems, the activities of multinational corporations, and labor migration exacerbate inequality in the ownership and management of economic resources [9]. The economic imbalance between countries, the global centralization of capital, and the limitation of economic independence are causing some countries to experience economic pressure.

The echoes of these processes can be traced in the history of Central Asia and Uzbekistan. In the socio-economic life of the region, patriarchal values, gender differences in the distribution of inheritance, and the restriction of women from economic activity have formed local forms of economic violence. Although the modernization policy of the Soviet period to some extent expanded women's access to the labor market, the dominance of men in economic decision-making remained. Although reforms aimed at ensuring gender equality and increasing women's economic activity were carried out in Uzbekistan and the States of the region after independence, modern manifestations of economic violence are manifested in gender differences in the labor market, the preservation of patriarchal norms in certain regions and the continuation of economic control in the family.

An analysis of these historical processes shows that the formation of economic violence is directly related to the evolution of social systems, and is a complex sociohistorical process based on control over economic resources in society, gender roles, political interests, and global economic systems. To understand economic violence, it is necessary to study it in a historical context, integrating patriarchal culture, colonial heritage, global capitalism, and regional socio-economic changes.

Modern economic violence is closely linked to the radical transformation of global and local economic systems, gender inequality, and the spread of the digital economy. New forms of economic violence are developing mainly on the basis of neoliberal capitalism, financial exploitation and political and economic inequality.

With the changing global economic system, new forms of economic violence are also developing. Neoliberal policies, especially the expansion of global capitalism, the rise of multinational corporations, and cross-country economic inequality, are exacerbating economic violence. Studies by Jabri [9] and Chris [6] show that modern forms of economic violence are aggravated not only by interstate economic competition, but also by gender inequality in the labor market.

Another important aspect of economic violence is gender-based economic inequality. Studies by Duani [8] and Joseph and Dong [11] show that the restriction of women's economic activity, the gender division of labor and the deprivation of financial opportunities are the main forms of economic violence. Economic differences between women and men in modern societies, discrimination in the labor market, and inequality of educational and work opportunities not only exacerbate economic poverty, but also deepen social polarization in society.

The rise of digital technology and financial technology (FinTech) in the modern economy has shaped new forms of economic violence. Through changes in credit systems, micropayments, and online financial services, people can access economic opportunities on the one hand, and be exposed to addiction and financial violence on the other, through digital loans and loans.The rise of digital technologies and financial technologies (FinTech) in the modern economy has created new forms of economic violence. Through changes in credit systems, micropayments, and online financial services, people can access economic opportunities on the one hand, and be exposed to addiction and financial violence on the other, through digital loans and loans. Such new forms are particularly harmful for groups with less social protection, such as women, poor families, and rural residents. The financial and psychological consequences of this violence limit people's economic independence, which leads to their isolation from the social system.

Modern forms of economic violence are particularly evident in the examples of Central Asia and Uzbekistan. Gender inequality in the Uzbek labor market, women's employment, and restrictions on access to financial freedom are largely dependent on government policies and the economic system. Modern forms of economic violence reflect not only gender inequality, but also the changing global economic system, the growth of the digital economy and interstate economic inequality.

Economic violence primarily restricts a person's economic freedom and undermines their ability to make decisions about their lives. Research shows that lack of control over economic resources increases a person's sense of helplessness, low self-esteem, depression, and social isolation. In family relationships, economic violence often manifests itself as the initial stage of other types of violence. This sets the stage for psychological and physical abuse by limiting the victim's expenses, keeping her in the dark about financial information, preventing her from working or forcing her to work.

The ongoing economic violence in the family system also negatively affects the socio-psychological development of children. According to the World Health Organization, children growing up in families living under economic control tend to perceive feelings of worthlessness, cognitive stress, social adjustment problems, and violence as normal. This increases the risk of violence passing from generation to generation.

Economic violence on a national scale directly affects the effectiveness of the national economy. The restriction of women and socially disadvantaged groups in the labor market from economic activity leads to the loss of productive potential. According to reports by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in some countries it is possible to increase GDP by up to 35% by eliminating gender inequality.

CONCLUSIONS

The essence of economic violence is manifested in the violation of the human right to economic freedom and decision-making about one's own life. This phenomenon is formed as a complex socio-economic process that threatens the principles of social equality, justice and well-being in the life of a person, family and society. The analysis shows that economic violence occurs at the intersection of historical, cultural, political and economic factors. Patriarchal culture, unfair distribution of gender roles, restrictions in the use of economic resources and the imbalance in the system of global capitalism are its main factors.

In today's global economic system, the scale and mechanisms of economic violence are becoming more complex. The digital economy, online financial services, the credit system, and the transformation of the labor market pose a new threat to people's economic independence. In particular, women and the socially vulnerable are becoming increasingly vulnerable to digital and financial exploitation. This requires interpreting economic violence not only as a family or gender problem, but also as a strategic problem related to ensuring the stability of society and human rights. The socio-philosophical consequences of economic violence are multifaceted: on the one hand, it lowers personal self-esteem, increases economic passivity and generates social isolation; on the other hand, it causes a weakening of social trust in society, deepening differences between economic strata and failure to meet the Sustainable Development Goals. Thus, the reduction of economic violence should be considered as one of the economic, political and spiritual priorities for each State.

Recommendations:

1. Recognition of economic violence as a separate legal category and clarification of criminal and administrative liability measures;

2. Expanding the system of providing free legal aid to victims of violence.

3.Expansion of microfinance, employment programs, and professional retraining courses in order to increase the economic activity of women and vulnerable social groups;

4.Recommendations:

1. Recognition of economic violence as a separate legal category and clarification of measures and administrative organizations;

5. Legally prohibit the mechanisms that lead to violence (for example, forced authorization, manipulative advertising) in online loans, microloans and payment systems.

6. Creation of programs aimed at improving economic literacy, gender equality, and family and legal culture in the education system;

7. Creation of research centers specializing in the study of economic violence in research institutions, creation of a database. Legally prohibit the mechanisms that lead to violence (for example, forced permission, manipulative lottery.

In short, the fight against economic violence is one of the most important directions for restoring social justice, ensuring gender equality and strengthening national welfare. Combining legal, economic, digital (based on information technology) and educational approaches, it is possible to form a culture of intolerance towards economic violence in society.

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