

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN AFRICA

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ABSTRACT

Violence against women, in Africa, is a pertinent issue, which is affecting many families. Africa is a continent, which comprises of many different communities with varying cultural backgrounds. For this reason, violence against women is viewed differently. This paper will focus on examining violence against women as presented in northern, southern and western states, in Africa. The principal discussion in the paper will be on cultural practices, religious affiliations, stress, marital unions, education, and their effect on promoting violence against women. This paper will examine each issue independently by drawing upon previous research, which was done by other scholars. This paper will also briefly examine the strategies women use to reduce violence in their homes, and protect their families. Finally, it will also examine intervention strategies, which may help to reduce violence against women, in Africa. The paper will conclude by noting that since Africa is a country with different views on violence, it is imperative that policy makers develop geographically differentiated interventions.

Keywords: Violence against Women, Africa.