

A COMPARISON OF TYPES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN ZORA NEALE HURSTON'S "SWEAT" AND IN SANDRA CISNEROS'S "WOMAN HOLLERING CREEK"

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Abstract. This study reveals the types of domestic violence in "Sweat" by Zora Neale Hurston and "Woman Hollering Creek" by Sandra Cisneros. The discussion will involve the types of abuse, the reactions of the victims, and the similarities and differences about the abuse in the two selected short stories. This study is designed to interpret phenomena of life associated to domestic violence reflected in the selected stories. Thus, this is a qualitative study. As the discussion is focused on the characters' psychological aspects, the extrinsic approach is applied. The study finds out that the types of domestic violence that exist in the stories are emotional/psychological violence and physical violence and the victims of the abuse response somewhat differently to the abuse. The reactions of the abuse victim in Hurston's "Sweat" include taking the violent silently and then to be moved to fight back, and the reactions of the abuse victim in Cisneros "Woman Hollering Creek" include taking the violent silently and then making an effort to be free from the abuse by getting help from other people. The analysis also shows that the two short stories contain both similarities and differences.

Key words: domestic violence, emotional abuse, physical abuse

INTRODUCTION

Domestic violence is a type of abusive relationship. Abusive relationships do not involve trust, respect and consideration for the other person. The relationship is characterized by disrespect, mistreatment, or physical violence. Domestic violence which is also known as domestic abuse, battering, or family violence is defined as physically injurious assault by highlighting the interrelated range of abusive, coercive, controlling behaviours, causing psychological, sexual or physical harms, which often accompany or precede the use or threat of physical force (Barnish, 2004: 6). Similarly, Child Welfare Information Gateway defines

that domestic violence is an attempt to cause physical injury to a family or household member or to put a family or household member in fear by threat of force in fear of imminent physical harm (Child Welfare Information Gateway, 2018: 2).

Based on control theory of family violence the abuser's motivation in committing violence behavior is the power or control that she or he is able to draw upon other members of the family (Hyde-Nolan and Juliao, 2012: 9). In other words, domestic violence is any behavior the purpose of which is to gain power and control over a spouse, partner, or intimate family member.

Domestic violence in marriage is conducted by husband to his wife. Slabbert and Green, (2013: 237 – 241) divide domestic violence into four types – physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual violence, and economic abuse.

Physical abuse

Physical abuse includes physical assaults resulting in injuries ranging from bruising, scalding, burning, and stabbing to internal injuries, cracked ribs or broken bones. Physical abuse may include throwing things, kicking, hitting, shoving, grabbing, restraining, shaking, choking, burning, strangling and inflicting head injuries, etc. (Slabbert and Green, 2013: 237).

Emotional abuse

Emotional abuse can be in the form of verbal or non verbal. It usually involves insult, accusations, infidelity, and ignoring one's partner which result in the breaking down of the victim's self-esteem and self-worth. Another type of emotional abuse is intended isolation of the victim from family, friends, and neighbors (Slabbert and Green, 2013: 238). In addition, Follingstad, Coyne, & Gambone in Karakurt & Silver, (2013: 804) defines that emotional abuse is any non physical behavior or attitude that is designed to control, subdue, punish, or isolate another person through the use of humiliation or fear.

The term emotional abuse is often used interchangeably with psychological abuse. Psychological abuse which is referred to as emotional or mental abuse is a type of abuse that is characterized by a person subjecting or exposing another person to behavior that may cause psychological trauma. World Health Organization Information sheet provides examples of emotional (psychological) abuse. The emotional (psychological) abuse involve constant humiliation, belittling, insult,

intimidation such as destroying things, threats of harm, and threats to take away children (World Health Organization, 2012: 1).

Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse is any sexual attempt to acquire a sexual act by coercion. It may take the form of sexual assault such as treating the partner as sexual object, intercourse by coercion, derogatory name calling, etc. According to Edlin & Golanty, (2007: 514) sexual abuse of women involves forcing and intimidating the women to do sexual performance, or have sex with them when they do not want to (Edlin & Golanty, 2007: 514).

Economic abuse

Economic abuse is a person's attempt to obtain control over the intimate partner's access to economic resources so that the victim financially dependent on him. Examples of economic abuse include preventing or forbidding an intimate partner from working, controlling the financial resources, and withholding access to economic resources (Slabbert and Green, 2013: 240).

Research Method

This study is qualitative in nature. According to Denzim and Lincoln (2002: 3) qualitative research involves the interpretive and naturalistic approach which means that qualitative researchers study things in their natural settings, attempting to make sense of, or to interpret phenomena in terms of the meanings people bring to them. It is called qualitative method because it is designed to reveal the meaning that informs the action or outcomes that are typically measured by quantitative research. This study is designed to present the phenomena of life interpretation dealing with domestic violence. It attempts to reveal the type of domestic

violence reflected in some short stories. Thus, this study is a qualitative study. In addition, this study employs extrinsic approach due to the fact that the discussion is focused on the psychological aspects of the characters. Therefore, the extrinsic approach applied is psychological approach.

The data sources used in this study are two selected short stories entitled "Sweat" by Zora Neale Huston and "Woman Hollering Creek" by Sandra Cineros. The data that are analyzed are sentences and dialogues from the two short stories that are related to the topic of the study.

Result and Discussion

A. The Types of Domestic Violence in Hurston's *Sweat*

"Sweat" tells about a marriage life of a black couple, the wife Delia and the husband Sykes. In "Sweat" story Delia is described as a wife who becomes the breadwinner by working as washerwoman for white families. Her husband does not work yet he resents that Delia washes the white's clothes in their home. Sykes is an abusive husband who has began to beat Delia two months after they god married. Since then, he continuously abuses Delia. Delia and Sykes have been married for fifteen years, so it means that Delia has taken the abuse for fifteen years. For fifteen years Delia has to endure emotional or psychological and physical abuse.

Emotional/Psychological Abuse in Hurston's "Sweat"

The prominent feature of emotional abuse is that it is committed intentionally to degrade person's self – worth. Examples involve constant criticism, instilling fear, name calling, embarrassing, mocking, humiliating, intimidating, and treating like a servant. The forms of emotional abuse experienced by

Delia are intimidating, name calling, and embarrassing.

a. Intimidating

Intimidating is the act to frighten or threaten somebody so that he/she will do what you want. Intimidation is one form of emotional abuse done by Sykes toward Delia. Sykes knows well that Delia is afraid of snake. He makes use of Delia's fright as an effective means to abuse her. At first he only uses his big bull whip which is snake like to scare Delia: "A great terror took hold of her. . . . Then, she saw that it was the big bull whip her husband liked to carry when he drove (Hurston, 1926: 1). What Sykes does to Delia is not a joke. His real intention is to disturb Delia's work, sorting laundry according to color. His underlying reason in doing such action is to make Delia does what he wants. He wants Delia to stop becoming a washerwoman for white people. Apparently Sykes is an unreasonable man. He is not able to understand that washing clothes for the white people is the only way for her to earn money to support their life since Sykes is unemployed.

Knowing that he is unable to make Delia does what he wants by disturbing her work, Sykes makes another effort. He scares Delia by keeping a rattlesnake inside the house: "Sykes! Sykes, my God! You take that rattlesnake away from here! You got. Oh, Jesus, have mussy! . . . Nowhow he wouldn't risk breakin' out his fangs 'gin yo' skinny laigs (Hurston in Oates , 1926: 6)." Rattlesnake is dangerous and poisonous and its bite can cause death. Sykes knows the potential danger that might happen because of keeping the rattlesnake in the house, but he does not listen to Delia's plea to take the rattlesnake away. Sykes even makes it clear that the rattlesnake could bite her because she does not know how to treat it. It is Sykes's way to

intimidate and instill fear to Delia in the hope that she will do what he wants.

b. Name calling

Name calling is the act of using rude or insulting words about somebody. It is considered abusive behavior because it labels a person as something negative without thinking about the person's feeling. This form of abuse is also used by Sykes.

“ . . . Look at your stringy old neck! Your rawbony laigs in arms is enough to cut man to death. Yes you look like the devil's doll-baby to me. You cannot hate me no worse and I hate you. I have hating you for years (Hurston, 1926: 7).”

The quotation shows that Sykes does verbal abuse to Delia. He uses cruel and nasty words to give insulting comments on Delia's body part and appearance and to tell her that he hates her very much without considering that his remarks hurt Delia's feeling. Every woman in the world is able to accept insults willingly. By doing this Sykes wants to make Delia feels that she is nobody and this is the way for Sykes to gain power and control over Delia.

c. Embarrassing

Embarrassing is an act to make somebody feel shy, awkward or ashamed, especially in social situation. This is also one of the forms of emotional abuse done by Sykes to Delia.

“Delia's work-worn knees crawled over the earth in Gethsemane and up the rocks of Calvary many, many times during this months. She avoided the villagers and meeting places in her efforts to be blind and deaf. But Bertha nullified this to a degree, by

coming to Delia's house to call out to her at the gate (Hurston, 1926: 5).”

Sykes makes Delia feel ashamed by having an affair with a woman and intentionally making it public knowledge. He likes to display his affection to his mistress in public places and he even lets His mistress, Bertha, to come to his house to meet Delia. People are gossiping about them and this situation makes Delia feel ashamed and hurt so that she avoid the villagers and public places in order not to see the affair or to hear what people say.

Physical Abuse in Hurston's "Sweat"

Physical abuse involves the use of physical force against another. This may involve beating, kicking, hitting and so on. Physical abuse can also be found in Hurston's "Sweat". In the story, it is described that Sykes abuses Delia physically through kicking, snatching inanimate objects and beating and kicking and snatching inanimate objects.

a. Kicking, snatching inanimate objects and beating

Sykes's physical abuse can be identified both from the narration and statement of Delia and the behavior of Sykes. There are at least three forms of abusive behavior done by Sykes to Delia. One of the forms of Sykes abusive behavior is kicking Delia and snatching inanimate objects: “. . . She went to slee p and slept until he announced his presence in bed by kicking her feet and rudely snatching the covers away (Hurston in Oates, 1992: 1024).” Sykes's abusive behavior is also done by beating Delia: “Two months after the wedding, he had given her the first brutal beating (Hurston in Oates, 1992: 1023).” Another form of Sykes's abusive behavior is known from Delia's narration. Delia narrates that Sykes has given her his first cruel beating two months after they got

married. The word "first" implies other beatings must follow. This indicates that beating is usual thing that Sykes does to Delia. Sykes's physical abuse to Delia is also known from Delia's statement: ". . . , you done beat me an Ah took dat, . . . (Hurston in Oates, 1992: 1027)." Delia's statement affirms that Sykes likes to beat her.

b. Snatching and kicking inanimate objects

Another form of Sykes's abusive behavior is kicking inanimate objects. Sykes like to kick Delia's laundry anytime he has an argument or gets angry with Delia, ". . . He stepped roughly upon the whitest pile of things, kicking them helter-skelter as he crossed the room (Hurston in Oates, 1992: 1023)."

As a washerwoman for the white people, Delia has to start doing the laundry on Sunday and gets through them on Saturday. She has to manage her time so that she can finish her work in time. What Sykes does to the laundry not only makes her to work harder but it also hurts Delia's feeling for she has worked hard to support him but instead of getting respect she even gets bad treatment.

B. Delia's Reaction to the Abuse in Hurston's "Sweat"

Delia has been enduring her suffering of being abused by Sykes for fifteen years and during the time she accepts all that has been done by Sykes. In the fifteenth year she, however, starts to be moved to struggle for her freedom. She begins to show her courage to fight back. She fights back by resisting, retorting, and threatening. Delia's resistance is done through some acts. The first act of resistance done by Delia is to remind Sykes that during their marriage years it is her who provides for the family and that the house is also bought with her money, ". . . Muh tub of suds is filled yo' belly with vittles more times

than yo' hands is filled it. Muh sweat is done paid for this house and Ah reckon Ah keep on sweating in it (Hurston in Oates, 1992: 1023)." Delia's intention to remind Sykes that he is dependence on her is to make him aware that it is indecent for him to treat her badly while he is completely dependent on her.

Other acts of resistance done by Delia are retort and threat. This happens when Sykes tries to intimidate her by keeping a rattlesnake inside their house. Delia asks Sykes to take the snake away from the house but Sykes insists on keeping it.

"Delia said this with no signs of fear and Sykes departed from the house, threatening her, but made not the slightest move to carry out any of them (Hurston in Oates, 1992: 1028).

Delia's threat to Sykes is done by warning him that if he dares to beat her again, she will go to white people for help. Delia's threat is an effort to make Sykes stop doing abusive behavior to her.

". . . Perhaps her threat to go to the white folks had frightened Sykes! Perhaps he was sorry! Fifteen years of misery and suppression had brought Delia to the place where she would hope anything that look towards a way over or through her wall of inhibitions (Hurston in Oates, 1992: 1028)."

Delia seems tired of all misery and suppression she has endured during fifteen years of her marriage life. Her courage to resists the suppression done by her husband gives her a new hope that Sykes will be sorry for all bad deeds he has done to her so that she can continue her life peacefully.

Delia's hope to be free from her husband suppression is apparently turned out to be fulfilled but it is not because Sykes stops

doing violent acts to her but because Sykes dies of his rattlesnake's bite.

C. The Types of Domestic Violence in Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek"

Sandra Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek" is a story of a Mexican woman, Cleofilas, who gets married to Juan Pedro. It is told that Cleofilas leaves her family to follow her husband to United States with her believes that she will have a happy marriage life. Arriving at her new home, she soon finds out that she has to live in a ramshackle house in a dusty little town. She lives in a neighborhood across a stream called Woman Hollering Creek. Her new life which was supposed to be happy turns out to be a lonely and desperate life. Her husband loves her only in the beginning. As time passes by he changes into an abusive husband and Cleofilas has to endure both his emotional and physical abuse.

Emotional/Psychological Abuse in Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek"

It has been mentioned above that in Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek" the abuser is Juan Pedro, the husband, and the victim is Cleofilas, the wife and that one of the types of abuse he does is emotional abuse. The emotional abuse done by Juan Pedro takes the form of constant neglect of victim's requests and need, encouraging the victim's dependency, and isolation.

One of emotional abusive behaviors done by Juan Pedro is constant neglect of his wife's requests. In marriage life both husbands and wife must have fair involvement in rearing-child tasks, doing the housework, etc. This ideal condition does not happen in Juan Pedro and Cleofilas marriage life. He is a portrait of a husband who does not want to be involved in anything related to rearing-child tasks, taking care of the house, etc. He refuses his wife request for helping to take

care of the children. He even considered his baby's howl as annoyance. He also refuses to do house repair work while repairing broken things is actually the job of men. This situation confirms that Juan Pedro constantly neglects his wife request and need.

" . . . Or wonder a little when he kicks the refrigerator and says he hates this shitty house and is going out where he won't be bothered by the baby's howling and her suspicious questions, and her request to fix this and this, and this . . . (Cisneros, 1991: 223)."

The next form of emotional abuse done by Juan Pedro is encouraging the victim's dependency. When Cleofilas asks her to do fixing jobs, he neglects her wife request. Instead he reminds her that he has worked hard to make a living, so he must not be involved in taking care of the house.

" . . . and her request to fix this and this, and this because if she had any brains in her head she'd realize he's been up before the rooster earning his living to pay for the food in her belly and the roof over her head and would have to wake up again early the next day so why can't you just leave me in peace, woman (Cisneros, 1991: 223)."

By reminding Cleofilas that he is the sole provider in the house, he wants Cleofilas to realize that she is completely dependent on him, and she has to understand that as she is a dependent wife, she must not be demanding.

Juan Pedro also abuse Cleofilas emotionally by isolating her from her family. He does not allow his wife to be in contact with her family in any way: "*She hasn't been allowed to call home or write or nothing* (Cisneros, 1991: 227)." Apparently, Juan Pedro's reason in isolating Cleofilas from her

family is to prevent her from getting help to leave the relationship with him.

Physical Abuse in Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek"

Physical abuse includes but not limited to choking, slapping, punching, beating, pinching, pulling hair, stabbing, hitting with an object, threatening with a weapon, or threatening to physically assault. It may also take the forms of destroying properties, throwing things in anger, hitting or kicking doors, walls, or other inanimate objects during an argument. Among these forms of physical abuse, the forms that are done by Juan Pedro in abusing Cleofilas are slapping, hitting with an object, and kicking inanimate object.

The form of physical abuse that is done constantly by Juan Pedro is slapping. At the beginning, he just gives Cleofilas a slap but in the course of time she gets more slaps: "*But when the moment came, and he slapped her once, and then again, and again, until the lip split and bled an orchid of blood, . . .*" (Cisneros, 1991: 222)." The quotation confirms that she constantly gets brutal slaps that make her lip split and bled.

Juan Pedro does not only slap Cleofilas but he also hits her. The first hit that Juan Pedro gives to Cleofilas is a hit that is done with a book she loves: "*He had thrown a book. Hers. From across the room. A hot welt across the cheek*" (Cisneros, 1991: 225)." This hurts her feeling very much because it is the book from which she gets consolation since entering difficult marriage life situation with him. Apparently, the hits that are done by Juan Pedro become fierce over time because they leave bruises all over her body: "*Hijole, Felice! This poor lady's got black-and blue marks all over. I am not kidding*" (Cisneros, 1991: 226)."

Hitting or kicking doors, walls, or other inanimate objects during an argument is one form of physical abuse that might be done by the abuser. This form of abuse is also done by Juan Pedro. While he is getting angry, he hits inanimate objects: ". . . *Or wonder a little when he kicks the refrigerator and says he hates this shitty house . . .*" (Cisneros, 1991: 223)."

D. Cleofilas's Reaction to the Abuse in Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek"

In the story Cleofilas is described as a woman who used to say she would fight back if a man, any man, were to stike her, but when this indeed happens to her marriage life she does not do anything to defense herself. She reacts against her husband violent acts in many different ways.

Cleofilas's initial reaction in receiving abusive acts from his husband is feel surprised. She is so surprised that she is not able to say a word or to make self-defence: "*The first time she had been so surprised she didn't cry out or try to defend herself*" (Cisneros, 1991: 222)." Cleofilas reaction seems to happen because she never thinks or expects that her husband abuses her. Cleofilas's next reaction in receiving the next slaps is to take them silently. She does not fight back, break into tear, or run away.

". . . , she didn't fight back, she didn't break into tears, she didn't run away as she imagined she might when she saw such things in the *telenovelas*" (Cisneros, 1991: 222)."

Cleofilas's silent acceptance in taking her husband abusive behaviors may happen due to the fact that economically she is dependent on her husband and as a woman she does not have an opportunity to get a job due to the town situation. She lives in a town where there is no access for women to earn

money so that women are forced to be dependent on their husband.

“Nothing one could walk to, at any rate. Because the towns here are built so that you have to depend on husbands. Or you stay home. Or you drive. If you’re rich enough to own, allowed to drive, your own car. There is no place to go. Unless one counts the neighbor ladies (Cisneros, 1991: 224).”

Enduring her husband continuous abuse, Cleofilas’s reaction move from surprise to feeling trapped and alone. Cleofilas feels that her marriage life is full of sadness. There is no happiness even for a little and there is nothing she can do for the situation. She is also not able to talk to other people, even to her family because her husband has forbidden it. She compares her life with the story in the telenovela that she sometimes watches.

“Cleofilas thought her life would be like that, like a telenovela, only now the episodes got sadder and sadder. And there were no commercials in between for comic relief. And no happy ending in sight (Cisneros, 1991: 226).”

Cleofilas even thinks that the sorrow that happens in her life is because her name does not bring good luck and that she should have changed it into names like jewels because good things always happen to women with such names, “ . . . *Everything happened to women with names like jewels. But what happen to Cleofilas? Nothing. But a crack in the face* (Cisneros, 1991: 226).” Cleofilas’s wish to change her name into one of those which can bring luck to her life indicates that her suffering is unbearable. She think that the name Cleofilas brings about sadness and pain

in her life, so changing it with one that can bring luck may make her life become better.

Cleofilas is apparently not able to endure her suffering anymore, moreover she is afraid that the worst thing might happen to her. She hears her neighbor, Maximiliano, is telling her husband and the other men that he has killed her wife by shooting her because she came to him with a mop. He makes fun of it by saying that his wife was armed and her husband and the other men respon to his story with laughter. Cleofilas also knows that the newspapers also full of stories like Maximiliano’s story, and this makes her shivered because she is frightened, as it is described in the following quotation.

“ . . . It seemed the newspapers were full of such stories. This woman found on the side of the interstate. This one pushed from a moving car. This one’s cadaver, this one unconscious, this one beaten blue. Her ex-husband, her husband, her lover, her brother, her uncle, her friend, her co-worker. Always. The same grisly news in the pages of the dailies. She drunked a glass under the soapy water for a moment - shivered (Cisneros, 1991: 225).”

From Maxiliano’s story and from the news in daily newspapers, Cleofilas realizes that many women died because of violent acts done by people close to them like husbands, a lover, an uncle, or friends. As a woman who experiences violent herself, such story must scare her. So, she finally decides to get help from other people. Cleofilas seems aware that she can not free from her husband abuse without the help of other people. Therefore, she decides to get help. Anastasia is pregnant with her second child and she makes use of this situation to get help. Her appointment with the doctor has been scheduled, so she makes her husband to take her to see the

doctor. She ensures her husband that she will make up a story about the bruises on her body to the doctor and that she must see the doctor to make sure that the baby is not turned out backward and finally her husband takes her to see the doctor. Cleofilas uses this occasion for asking the doctor's help and the doctor agrees to help her.

I was going to do this sonogram on her – she's pregnant, right? – and she just starts crying on me. *Hijole*, Felice! This poor lady's got black-and-blue marks all over. I'm not kidding. . . .

She needs a ride.

Not to Mexico, you groof. Just to the Greyhound. In San Anto.

No, just a ride. She's got her own money. All you'd have to do is drop her off in San Antonio on your way home. Come on, Felice. Please? If we don't help her, who will? I'd drive her myself, but she needs to be on that bus before her husband gets home from work. What do you say? (Cisneros, 1991: 227)."

The quotation above describes how Cleofilas asks for help to her doctor and how her doctor makes a plan to help her. The doctor help Cleofilas to escape from her abusive husband and returns to her family in Mexico.

E. The Similarities between the Domestic Violence in Hurston's "Sweat" and the Domestic Violence in Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek"

There are some similarities about the domestic violence in Hurston's "Sweat" and the Domestic Violence in Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek". The first similarity is the persons being involved in the violence. In both stories the domestic violence in both stories is

happened between the husbands and the wives, and the abuse is done by the husbands.

The second similarity is the time when the abuse starts. In both stories it is told that the abuse is started not long after the wedding. In Hurston's "Sweat", the exact time is mentioned, ". . . Two months after the wedding, he had given her the first brutal beating (Hurston in Oates, 1992: 1023)." In Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek", the exact time is not mentioned but it can be known from Cleofilas's thought that it starts to happen when they just get married, ". . . , when they were barely man and wife, . . . (Cisneros, 1991: 222)."

The third similarity is in the types of domestic violence that are done by the abuser. In both stories the abusers use both emotional/psychological violence and physical violence. Moreover, in each type of the domestic violence the abusers commit, many forms of abusive acts are involved.

The fourth similarity that can be found in both stories is the reason why the victims start to take action in the effort to be free from abuse. In both stories it is described that the victims start to make an effort to be free from the abuse when they realize that there is potential danger to their live. In Hurston's "Sweat" the victim, Delia, starts to make an effort to stop Sykes's abuse when he threatens Delia by keeping rattlesnakes in the house. In Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek", the victim, Cleofilas, decides to escape from her husband when she realizes that there are many women who died of violent action which means that the situation is possible to happen to her.

One more similarity is the effort done by the victim in trying to be free. In both stories the victims involve other people's help, although this has not happen yet in "Sweat" but getting help is one of Delia's intension to stop Sykes's abuse.

The last similarity is the way the victims get freedom from the abuse. In Hurston's "Sweat", the victim is finally free from the abuse because the husband died of his rattlesnake bite. In Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek", the victim is finally free from the abuse because she escapes from the husband's house.

F. The Differences between the Domestic Violence in Hurston's "Sweat" and the Domestic Violence in Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek"

There are some differences about domestic violence that can be found in Hurston's "Sweat" and in Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek". The first difference is the duration of the marriage. In Hurston's "Sweat", it is mentioned that the marriage has been running for fifteen years, while in Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek" the duration of the marriage is not mentioned, but the story tells that Juan Pedro and Cleofilas first child is still a baby and Cleofilas is expecting with the second child.

Another difference is the depiction about the role of the abuser and the victim in the family related to their economic contribution to the family. In Hurston's "Sweat", Delia as the victim of the abuse is depicted as a hardworking washerwoman who becomes the breadwinner of the family, and Sykes is depicted as a husband whose life is completely dependent on Delia, yet he abuses her. On the contrary, in Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek", Cleofilas as the victim of the abuse is portrayed as a wife who is economically really dependent on her husband, and the husband, Juan Pedro, is described as the sole provider of the family but his earning just barely enough to live on, yet he reminds Cleofilas that she is dependent on him.

The next difference is the way the victim reacts to the abuse. In Hurston's "Sweat", Delia takes the abuse without fighting back until the fifteenth year of their marriage. Then she starts to fight back by reminding Sykes that he is dependent on her and by threatening him that if he dares to beat her again she will tell the white people so help her. In Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek", the victim takes all the pain and the suffering of being abused silently without fighting back. This seems to happen because the victim is economically dependent on the abuser. The victim effort to be free from the abuse is by escaping from the husband.

CONCLUSION

From the analysis the writer finds out that any types of domestic violence can be very harmful to the victims. Thus, it must be prevented to happen in our neighborhood. When it is already happen, the victims must not keep it secret. They have to make an effort to get help from other people to help them to stop the abuse because it would be very difficult to be free from the abuse without the help of other people.

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