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### Men batter wives to recover lost power

Malaysia Sun  
Friday 9th April, 2010  
(IANS)

Sexiest men resort to violence when they feel their power is being threatened in sentimental relationships, a new study says.

Women who are afraid that their husbands will react violently against them if they do not stick to their traditional role, opt for forgoing equality in exchange for security.

Thus, violence becomes either an instrument to control their threatened power and a way to restore it.

Currently, many men 'feel threatened by the change that their relationship with women has undergone. They are unable to understand their relationship with women in terms of equality despite the prevailing social rules'.

Such conclusions were drawn from a study conducted by Carmen Herrera Enriquez, professor in social psychology and methodology of behavioural science, University of Granada, Spain, coordinated by Francisca Exposito Jimenez, professor Miguel C. Moya Morales.

This study was undertaken to obtain an answer to why do certain men batter women. The research employed a psycho-social perspective based on two factors: sexism and power imbalance in marriage.

Concretely, the author's purpose was to get a more thorough perspective and so she tried to investigate to what extent men's perception of losing power may be a cause of gender violence, says a Granada release.

As Carmen Herrera states: 'It is not only the person's behaviour what causes violence, but also the social context and its influence on men's behaviour.'



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