

**AN ANALYSIS OF PROVISIONS IN THE PREVENTION OF  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACT OF SRI LANKA IN THE  
LIGHT OF INTERNATIONAL STANDS ON WOMEN'S  
RIGHTS**

**By**

**PRIYANTHI SRIYALATHA WEERASINGHA HEWAGE**

*The Thesis/Dissertation/Research Report submitted to*

**GENERAL SIR JOHN KOTELAWALA DEFENCE**

**UNIVERSITY**

**SRILANKA**

*In partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of the degree*

*of*

**Master of Laws**

**August 2023**



## Abstract

This research is carried out to find out to an Analysis of Provisions in the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of Sri Lanka in the Light of International Standards on Women's Rights. This research attempted to analysis of Provisions in the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act and examined the future reforms. The Prevention of Domestic Violence Act no.34 of 2005 (PDVA) was enacted to strengthen legal remedies available to victims who suffer violence in their homes. The court process is designed to achieve the objectives for speedy and meaningful protection to the victim through a Protection Order. This Order prohibits the abuser from further harming the victims. Punishment to the offender is not an objective of the PDVA. The PDVA is designed to deal with physical abuse and provide a remedy only provisions recognized as a crime under the Penal Code. It is not considered a remedy for marital rape and impact of actual break down of a marriage. This study attempted to investigate the extent of domestic violence factor, find out to their relationship, nature and causes, prevailing attitude, weakness in the present domestic violence Act and examine the implementation of the law. For that purpose that domestic violence cases and other cases were selected according to limitation of law. The main tool for collection of data from library searching and attorney-at-law who is aware of cases of domestic violence. The gathered information was analyzed using both quantitative and qualitative methods. Interviews and observations were used for exploring practices. The research employed in the mixed method. The study has revealed that the domestic violence is an indirect reasons for increasing violence of family lives and violence rate in Sri Lank. It effect children, family and society. Domestic violence Act should be amended according to the light of international stands on women's rights. State is responsible in ensuring not only women's political and civil rights but also economic, social and cultural rights which are very close to them. State must take positive substantive and procedural steps to ensure the equal rights of women compared with men within the domestic sphere.

**KEYWORDS:** Intimate partner's violence, Domestic abuse, Violence against women, International stands on women's right.