



KYRGYZSTAN'S OPINION ON FAMILY VIOLENCE

Report
Results of telephone survey in Kyrgyzstan

July 2018

FOREWORD

During the period of July 10 -17, 2018 public organization Coalition for Democracy and Civil Society conducted a nationwide telephone survey.

The purpose of this survey is to study the opinion of Kyrgyz citizens about the problem of domestic violence.

METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

The survey was conducted with specialized computer system of telephone interviewing - CATI (Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing). This method allows quickly and accurately collect data on socially significant issues. An important advantage of telephone surveys is that information can be obtained and processed quickly. Also, one of the advantages is reliability, since the organization has the ability to monitor the survey through a direct presence in the operator's room. In addition, the interviewers are under supervision, the supervisor can listen to any ongoing conversation and monitor the interviewers.

A specially developed computer program randomly generated cell phone numbers. Moreover, to reach respondents by landline telephones, a fixed telephone number database was used for each oblast.

Population of survey

The survey covered urban and rural population of Kyrgyzstan aged 18 and over, permanently residing in the territory of 9 regions of the country: Bishkek, Osh, Chui Oblast, Issyk-Kul Oblast, Talas Oblast, Naryn Oblast, Jalal-Abad Oblast , Osh and Batken oblasts.

Description	Sample breakdown	Country breakdown in % according to data of National Statistics in 2016 ¹
Gender		
Men	48,4%	48,4%
Women	51,6%	51,6%
Age		
18-34	48,5%	48,5%
35-54	35,8%	35,8%
55+	15,7%	15,7%

Table 1. Comparison of sample and entire population by three demographic profiles.

¹ electronic database of National Statistics <http://www.stat.kg/ru/statistics/naselenie/>

Sample design

Sampling was equally distributed between the seven oblasts, Bishkek and Osh cities. Such an equal distribution of the sample allowed reducing the statistical error. During the telephone survey, the sampling of urban citizens was exceeded. To restore the disturbed proportions in the sample population as compared to the general population, the sample parameters were corrected by weighing the "Region" variables. In this regard the weights obtained by the categories for two variables were multiplied. The weight coefficients for each variable were calculated by formula given below:

$w_i = P_i / p_i$, where

w_i - weight number

P_i – share of respondents in oblasts i (Data provided by National Statistics), and

p_i – share of respondents in oblast i -in available sampling.

In total, out of 1,038 potential respondents, who were reached by the interviewers, 738 people agreed to participate in the survey (the response rate was 78%). For this size of sample population, the maximum statistical sampling error at a confidence level of 0.95 makes up 3.61%.

The overall selection of respondents carried out with the control of gender-age quotas, regional quotas (oblast / urban / rural), as well as quotas for the use of mobile only, stationary numbers and quotas for respondents using both mobile and fixed communication.

When dialing to landline phone numbers, interviewers surveyed the individual who picked up the phone. Randomness was ensured by the fact that selected stationary numbers were used from a common database drawn up by a random method. When dialing to the cellular numbers, the respondent who picked up the receiver was interviewed. Cell phone numbers were generated randomly by appropriate software.

The respondents are citizens who use the services of the following cellular and fixed communication operators:

-Beeline

-Megacom

-O!

-Kyrgyztelecom

Data processing

The processing of the survey results was carried out with specialized SPSS statistical and econometric modeling software.

Questionnaire

The questionnaire for the telephone survey consisted of 6 demographic and 14 questions aimed at studying the opinion of the citizens of Kyrgyzstan on the problem of domestic violence. Respondents shared their views on the causes of domestic violence, its most commonly found forms, who is the victim, and how the adopted Law on Safeguarding and Protection against Domestic Violence helps to solve the problem of family violence.

The questionnaire consisted of closed and semi-closed questions. The questionnaire was compiled in Russian and translated into Kyrgyz language. Interviewers used both variants in the survey depending on the respondent's language. The completion of one questionnaire varied from 3 to 15 minutes and, on average, took 5 minutes.

SUMMARY OF THE RESEARCH

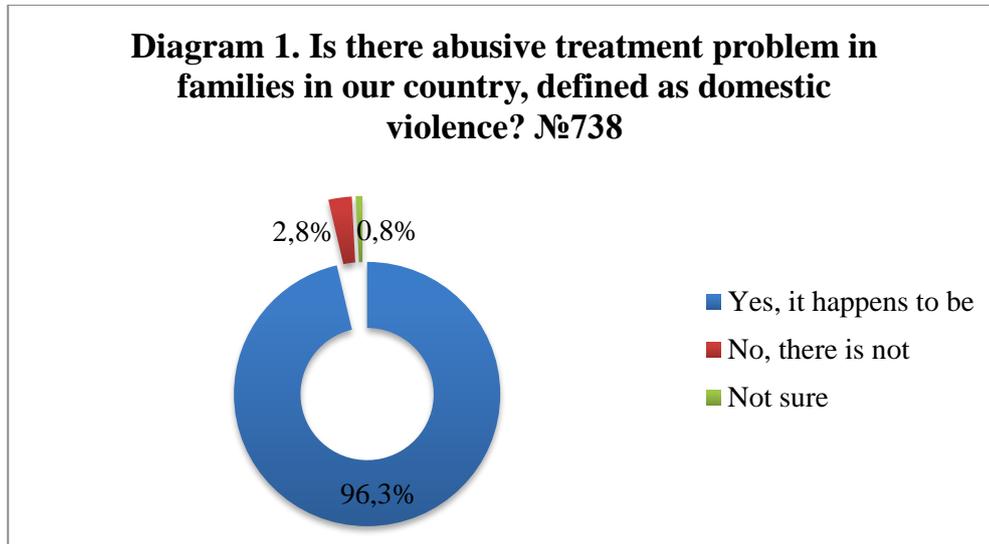
This sociological survey was conducted with the aim of studying the opinion of the population of Kyrgyzstan on the problem of domestic violence, its causes, the prevalent forms and towards whom they are committed most often.

- The overwhelming majority (96.3%) noted that in our country there is a problem of abusive treatment in the family, so-called domestic violence.
- The three main causes of domestic violence, according to the opinion of the Kyrgyz people, are: first - "social disorder: in the form of unemployment and money difficulties"; the second - "alcoholism and drug addiction"; and the third - "low level of education and culture of the population".
- In the opinion of 62.6% of the surveyed population, physical violence (beatings, bullying with the use of force, etc.) is the most common form of family violence. The second place is given to moral, psychological violence (threats, insults, prohibitions, etc.), which amounts to 20.1%. In third place - economic violence (manipulation with money, the financial dependence of one member of the family from another, the prohibition to dispose of money, etc.) with a total of 9.2%. Sexual violence (rape, sexual harassment, etc.) turned out to be the less common form of domestic violence, according to Kyrgyz people, and makes up only 1.5%.
- Women and children most often suffer from domestic violence, according to the opinion of majority surveyed population. The proportion of elderly people affected by domestic violence made up 6.1%. Men and family members with disabilities, according to respondents, suffer from domestic violence less than other categories of people (3% each).
- 86% of the interviewed people consider domestic violence inadmissible in any form. However, every ninth respondent is sure that some forms of violence are permissible (10.7%). Urban residents of the Chui oblast, whose share is 26.7%, mostly support this opinion.
- 82.2% of the population noted that they did not face domestic violence. Nevertheless, 17.5% of the respondents encountered domestic violence to some degree. Among them, 4.7% admitted to be victims of violence themselves. Every ninth respondent (10.6%) noted that they are familiar with a victim of domestic violence, and 2.2% are familiar with an aggressor in the case of domestic violence. The highest proportion of respondents experiencing domestic violence is in Bishkek (26.8%), Issyk-Kul (25.6%), Chui (23.2%) and Osh (19.5%) oblasts of Kyrgyzstan.
- 54.3% of respondents claim abuse by physical violence in the family and in some way were faced with ill-treatment. 33.1% of the respondents noted the manifestation of moral, psychological violence in their environment. Every tenth faced with manifestations of economic violence, and 2.3% with sexual violence.
- Every fifth respondent who has been subjected to domestic violence, or a person known to him or her seek help (20.8%). 74.6% of respondents, or people familiar to them, who were subjected to domestic violence, did not seek help.
- Respondents who were subjected to domestic violence mainly addressed either to law enforcement agencies - to the police, prosecutors or courts (44%), or to relatives and friends (51.9%).

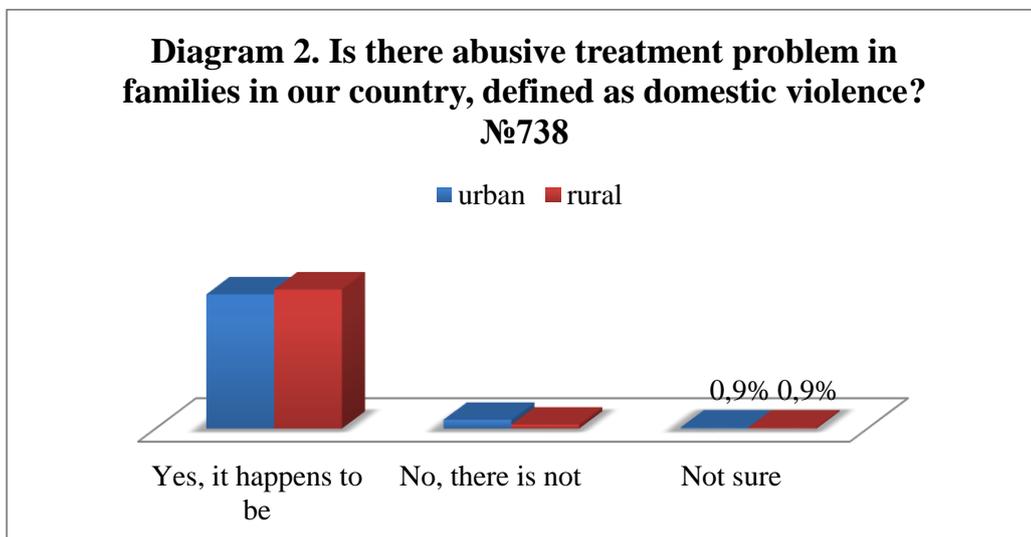
- 22.4% of the surveyed population noted their awareness about Law on Safeguarding and Protection Against Family Violence. This number indicates low level of awareness among the population about this Law. In general, low level of awareness about the Law is noted in all oblasts of the country.
- Every fourth among those who heard about the adoption of the Law On Safeguarding and Protection against Family Violence, were aware of cases when the Law was applied (22.4%).
- Only 10.7% of respondents have an idea of domestic violence restraining order, and only 4.6% indicated that they knew what it envisaged. 89.3% of the surveyed population do not know anything about domestic violence restraining order.
- 32.5% of the respondents believe that the Law On safeguarding and protection against family violence will help solve the problem of domestic violence. Every fifth person is sure that the adopted Law will not help to solve the problem of harsh treatment in the family. 42.3% of the interviewed respondents found it difficult to answer this question.
- Respondents singled out and indicated the most effective measures for the prevention of domestic violence in the family:
 - preventive conversations (37,5%);
 - identification of crimes within the framework of domestic violence in a separate article of the Criminal Code, tighten the legislation on domestic violence (22,2%);
 - campaign of zero tolerance towards domestic violence through Mass Media (11,3%);
 - as well as special programs in educational institutions (9,7%).

GENERAL RESULTS OF SOCIOLOGICAL SURVEY

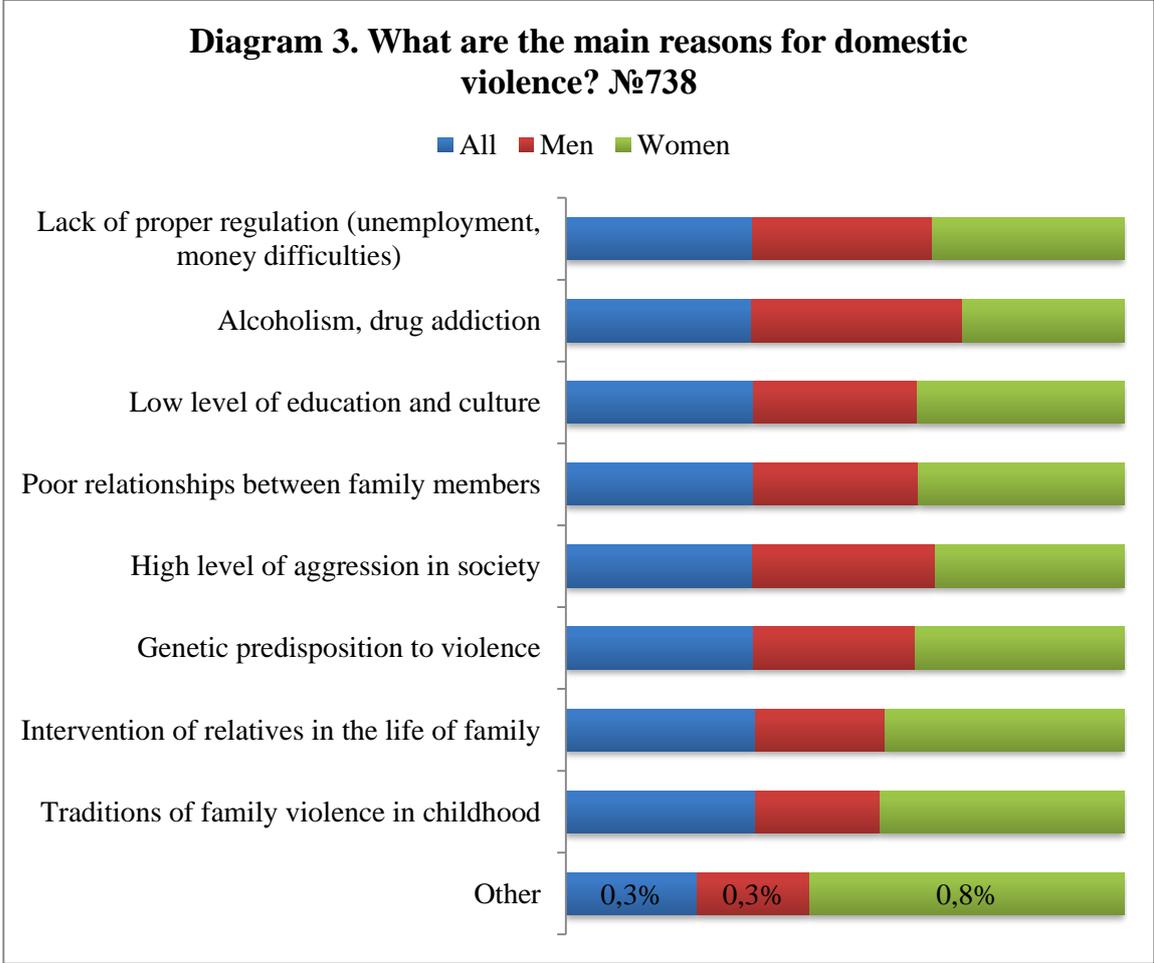
In spring of 2017 the Kyrgyz Republic adopted a Law On safeguarding and protection against family violence. This law came into force in early 2018. In this regard, this survey was conducted among the population of the Kyrgyz Republic. The majority of the surveyed population noted the existence of a problem of abuse in the family, defined as domestic violence (see Chart 1).



Rural residents noted the existence of a problem of abuse in family a little more often than urban residents (see Diagram 2).



The three main causes of domestic violence, according to the Kyrgyz people - the first - "social disorder: in the form of unemployment and money difficulties"; the second - "alcoholism and drug addiction"; and the third - "low level of education and culture of the population" (see Diagram 3). Male respondents, unlike women more often called "alcoholism and drug addiction" (40.7% versus 31.1%) as the main cause of domestic violence. While women slightly more than men noted "a low level of culture and education" (13.7% versus 10.8%).



Differences in the answers to this question can also be seen from the inhabited locality of respondents. Rural residents among the main causes of violence in the family named - "alcoholism and drug addiction." In addition, villagers more often than urban residents noted "bad relationships between family members" and "interference of relatives in the life of the family" as other causes of domestic violence. Urban residents mentioned "social disorder" and "low level of culture and education" as problems that were more recent. (See Diagram 4).

Family status also influences respondents' answers on this issue. Thus, married / widower / widow respondents more often than others named "social disorder" as well as "alcoholism and drug addiction" as the main cause of family violence. While respondents who were not married / divorced inclined to answer "low level of education and culture". It is noteworthy that married respondents least of all noted "bad relationships between family members" as the cause of domestic violence (see Diagram 5).

Diagram 4 What are the main reasons for domestic violence ? №738

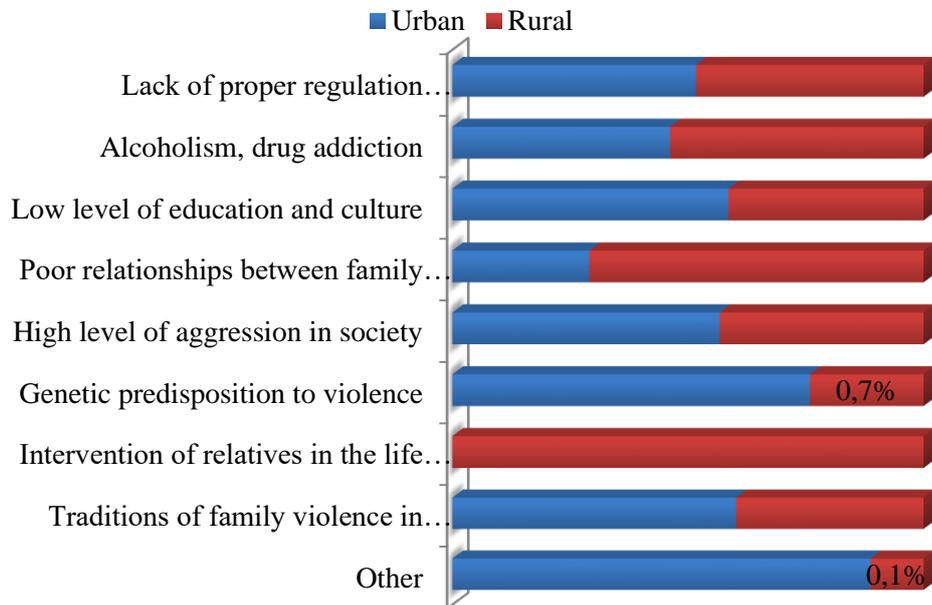
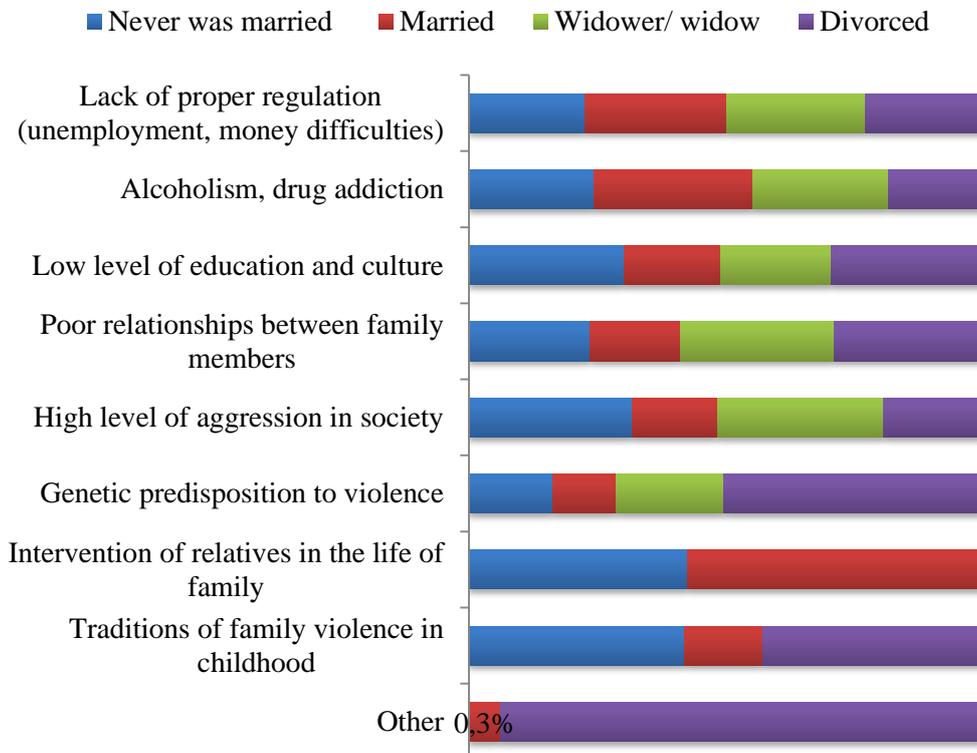
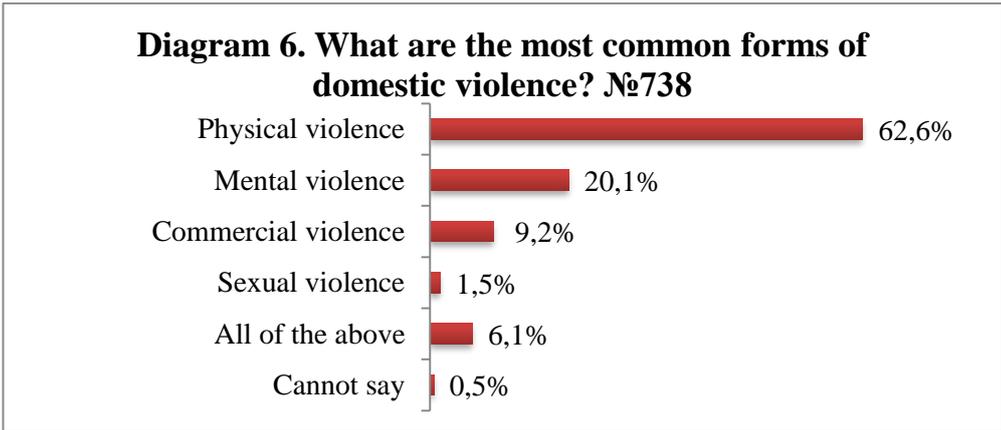


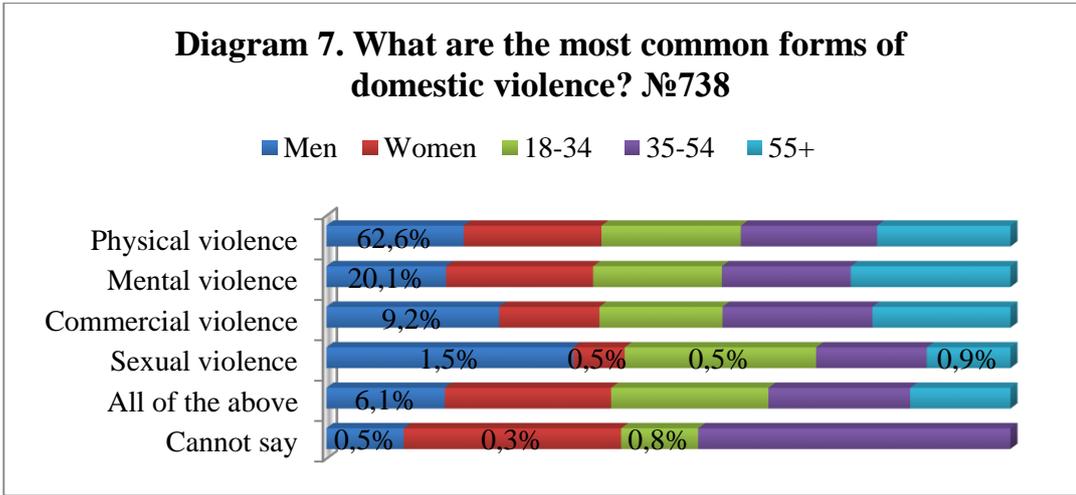
Diagram 5. What are the main causes for domestic violence? №738



According to the opinion of the majority of the surveyed population, physical violence (beatings, bullying with the use of force, etc.) is the most common form of family violence (62.6%). Each fifth respondent notes moral, psychological violence (threats, insults, bans, etc.) as more common among other forms of violence (20.1%). The share of those who faced commercial violence (manipulation with money, financial dependence of one member of the family from another, withholding of money, prohibition to dispose of money, etc.) amounted to 9.2%. Sexual violence (rape, sexual harassment, etc.) was only 1.5%. 6.1% of the surveyed population listed all the forms of family violence, (see Diagram 6).

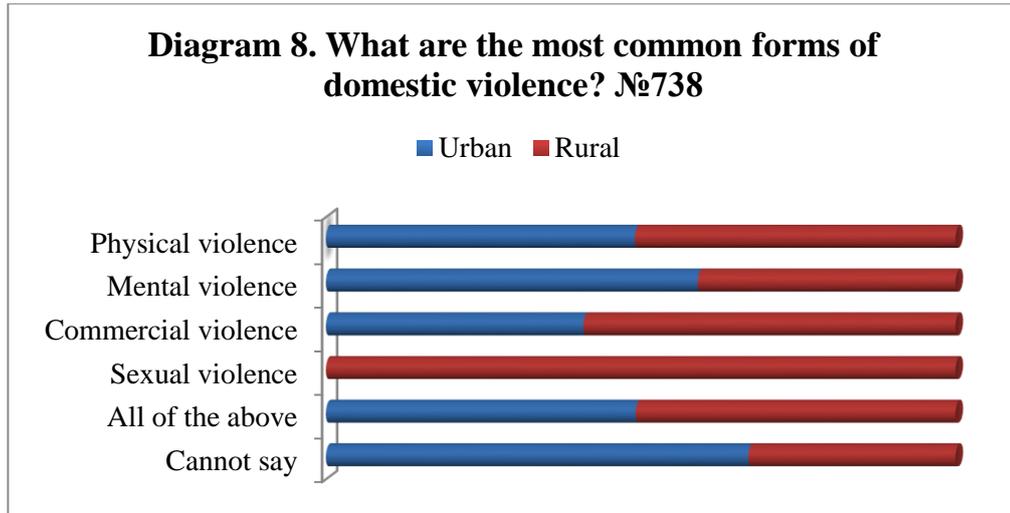


Some differences in the answers may be classified by the gender and age of the respondents. Regardless to gender and age, physical violence is the main form of family violence among all categories of respondents, while moral and psychological violence is more recent for the respondents who are over 55 (See Diagram 7).

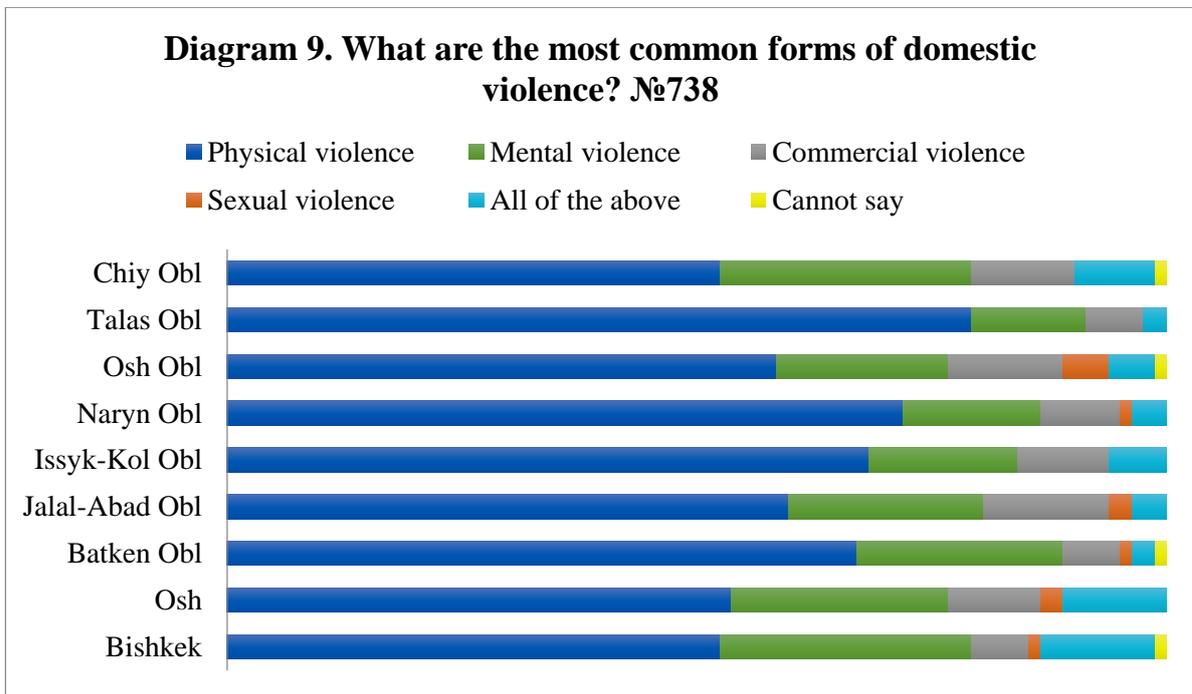


It is noteworthy that male respondents spoke of sexual violence more often than the female ones (1.5% vs. 0.5%).

Differences in the answers to this question may be classified by the inhabited locality of respondents. With the exception of physical violence, urban residents are more likely to face moral, psychological violence compared to rural residents (24.6% versus 17.1%). While rural residents are more exposed to commercial and sexual violence, (see Diagram 8).

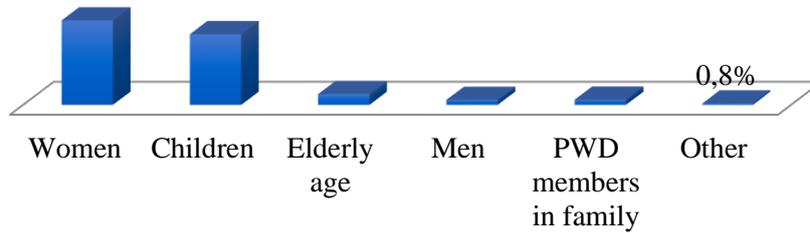


Significant differences in the answers can also be seen in the area of residence of respondents. For example, physical violence is most common in Talas (79.3%) and Naryn (72%) oblasts. Moral, psychological violence was mentioned more by residents of the Chui oblast and Bishkek (26.8% each). Commercial violence is more relevant to Jalal-Abad (13.4%) and Osh (12.2%) oblasts. Sexual violence often reported by respondents in the southern regions, mostly in Osh Oblast (4.9%) (See Diagram 9).



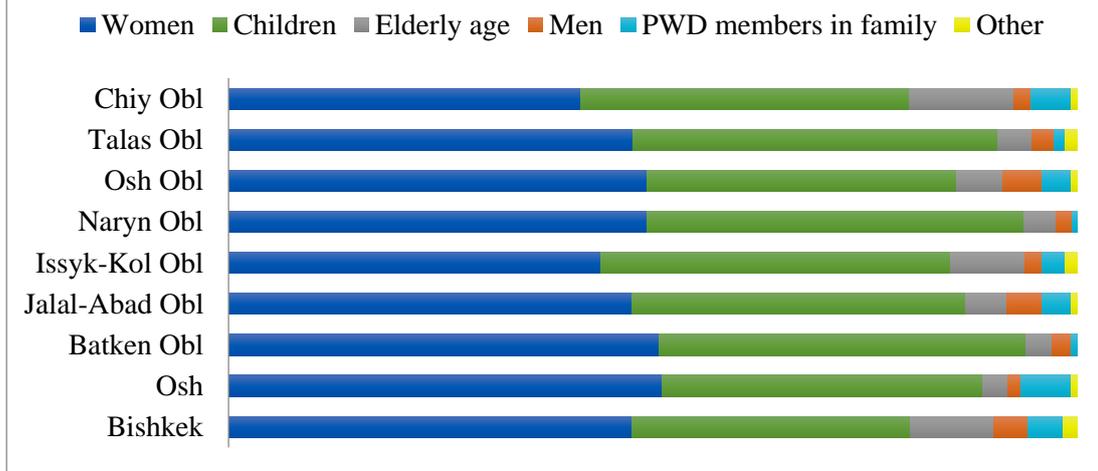
Women and children most often suffer from domestic violence, according to the majority of the surveyed population (see Diagram 10). The proportion of elderly people affected by domestic violence was 6.1%. Men and disabled members in the family, according to respondents, suffer from domestic violence less than other categories of people (3% each) (see Diagram10).

Diagram 10. What categories of people most often suffer from domestic violence? №738



In general, according to the respondents, women and children suffer from domestic violence more often, regardless of the region of residence. Some differences can be seen in other categories of people suffering from domestic violence (see Diagram 11).

Diagram 11. What categories of people most often suffer from domestic violence? №738

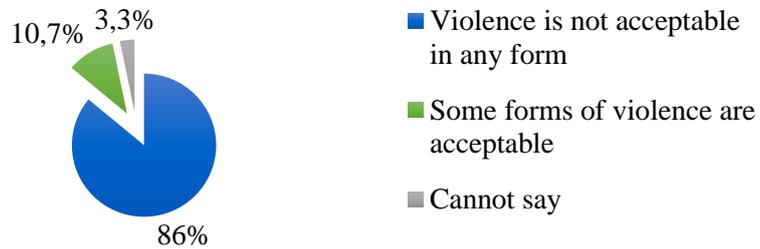


Thus, elderly people are more often exposed to domestic violence in Chui (12.2%), Issyk-Kul (8.8%) oblasts and Bishkek (9.8%). Disabled individuals are more often affected by domestic violence in the city of Osh (5.8%) and Chui oblast (4.8%).

86% of the respondents consider domestic violence inadmissible in any form. However, every ninth respondent is sure that some forms of violence are permissible. 3.3% of respondents found it difficult to answer the question (see Diagram 12).

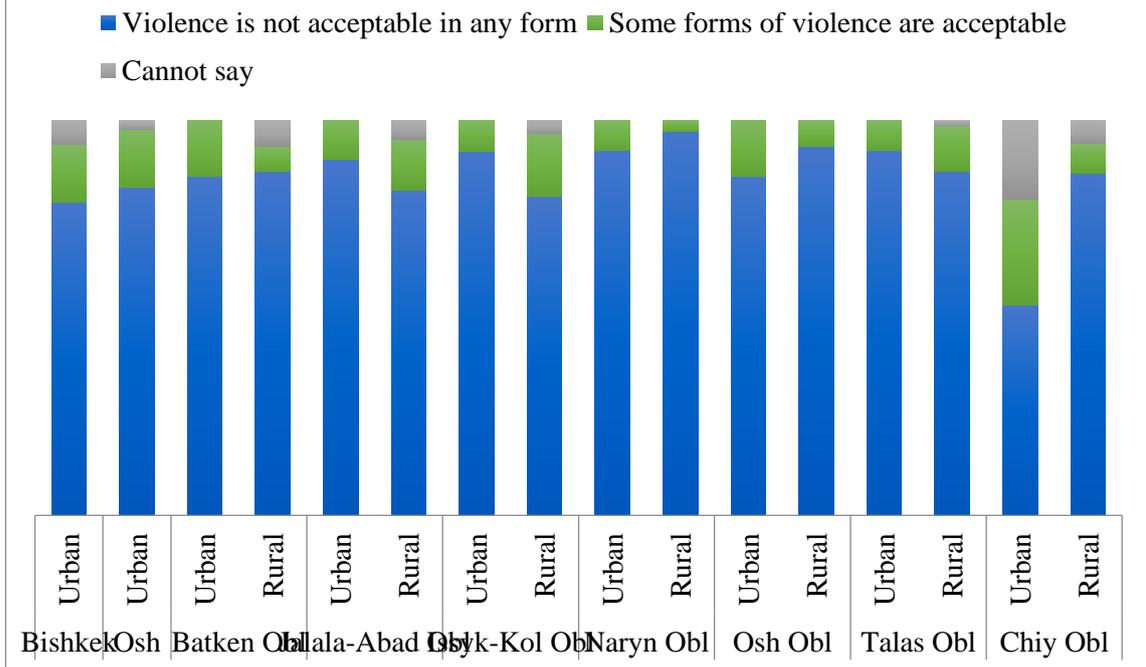
Diagram 12. There are different points of view on the problem of domestic violence in society.

Do you think that violence in any form is acceptable in family? №738



Below diagram shows the differences in respondents' opinions on this issue with a breakdown to regions and areas. The majority of the population in all oblasts noted the inadmissibility of any forms of domestic violence (see Diagram 13).

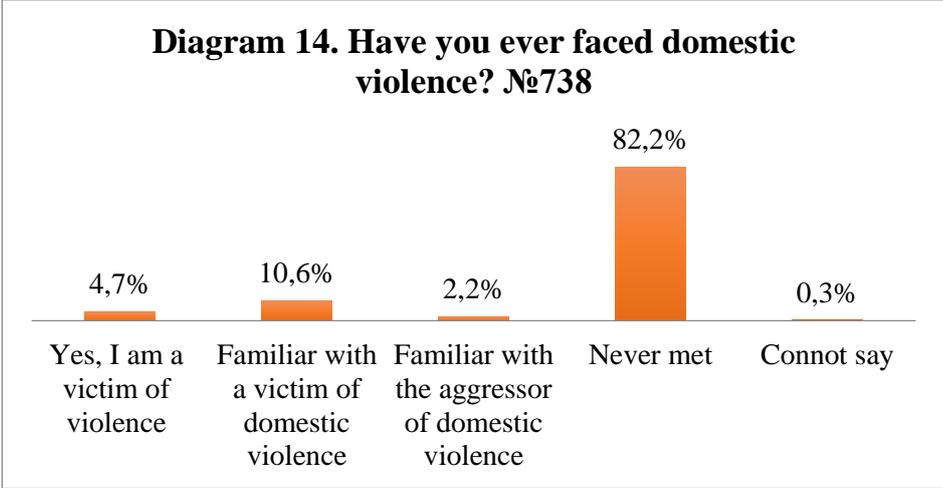
Diagram 13. There are different points of view on problem of domestic violence in society. Do you think that violence in any form is acceptable in family? №738



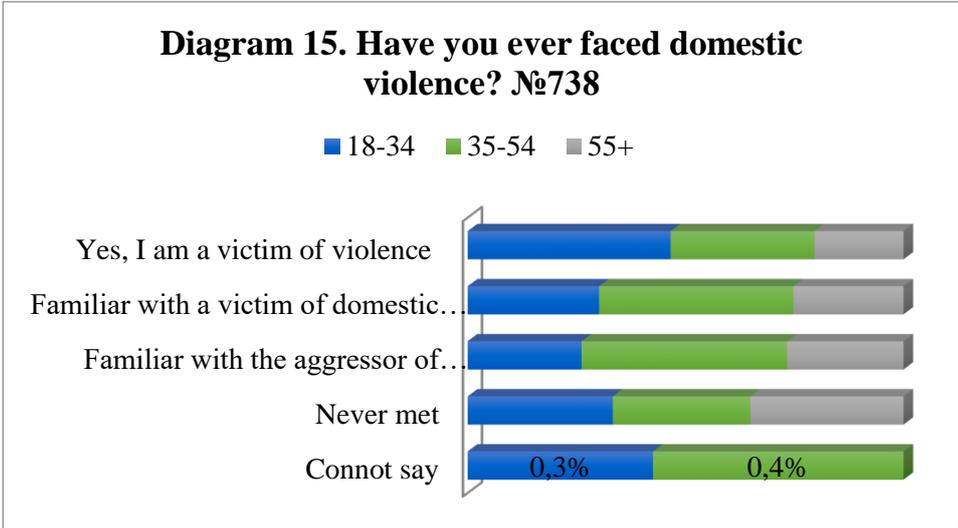
Nevertheless, every fourth inhabitant of the urban area of Chui oblast considers that some forms of domestic violence are permissible (26.7%). Slightly lower share of such respondents observed among residents of rural areas of Issyk-Kul Oblast (15.8%), Jalal-Abad Oblast (12.9%) and urban areas of Osh (14.3%), Osh and Bishkek (14, 6%).

The majority of the population noted they did not face domestic violence (82.2%). Nevertheless, 17.5% of the respondents encountered family violence to some degree. Among them 4.7% respondents admitted to be victims of violence themselves. Every ninth

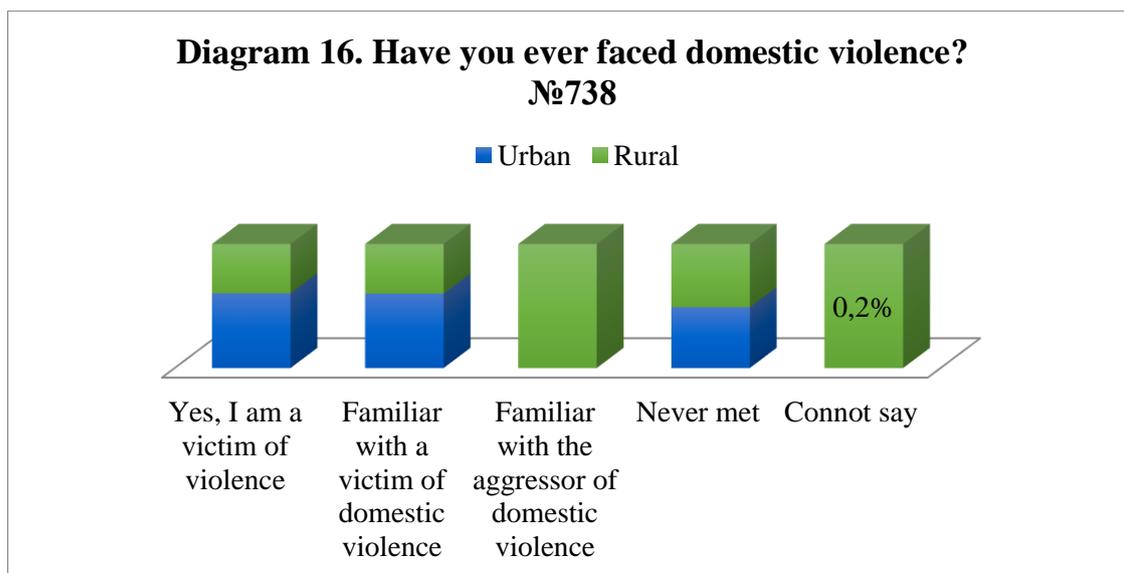
respondent (10.6%) said they were familiar with the victim of domestic violence, and 2.2% were familiar with the aggressor of domestic violence (see Diagram 14).



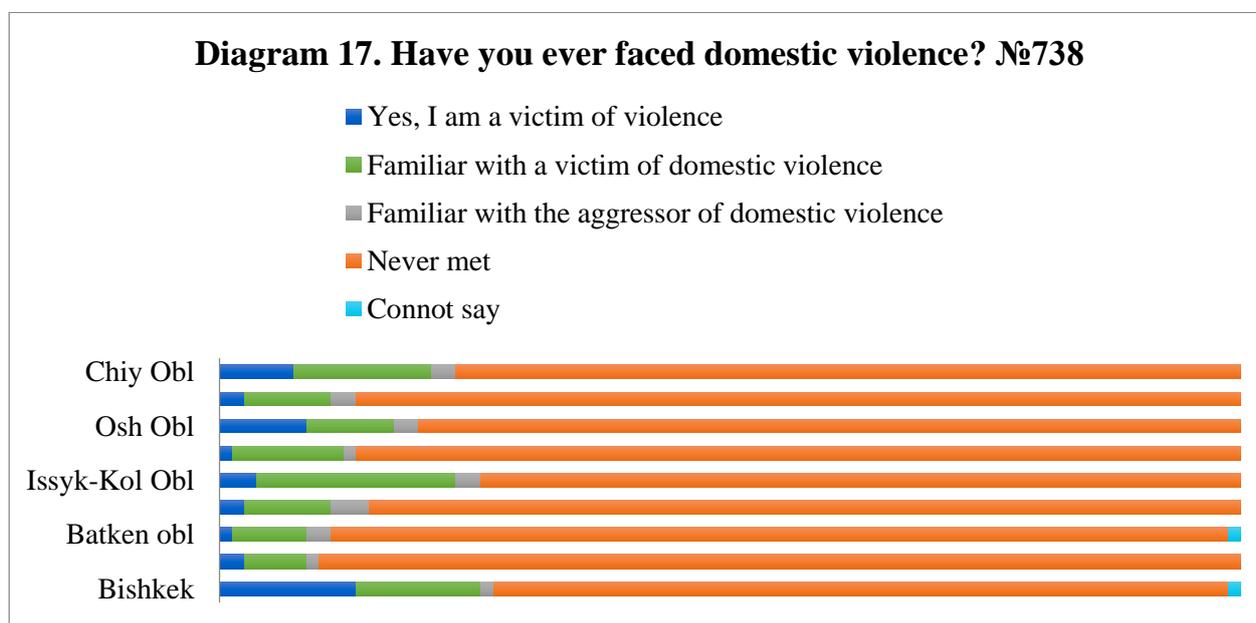
The common category of people who faced were with domestic violence - from 35-54 years old (in total, 20.8%), among them those who met victims of domestic violence amount to 13.6%. The respondents between 18-34 years old (16.8%) were slightly less experienced with domestic violence, and among respondents who were over 55 years of age it made up 12.1% (see Diagram 15).



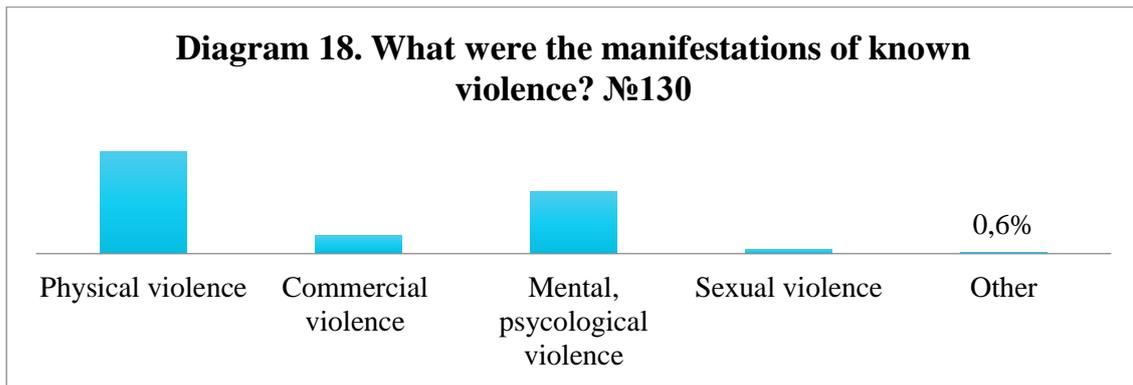
In general, urban residents faced domestic violence more often than rural residents (20.2% versus 16.5%). Among them, most often respondents indicated that they were familiar with the victim of domestic violence (see Diagram 16).



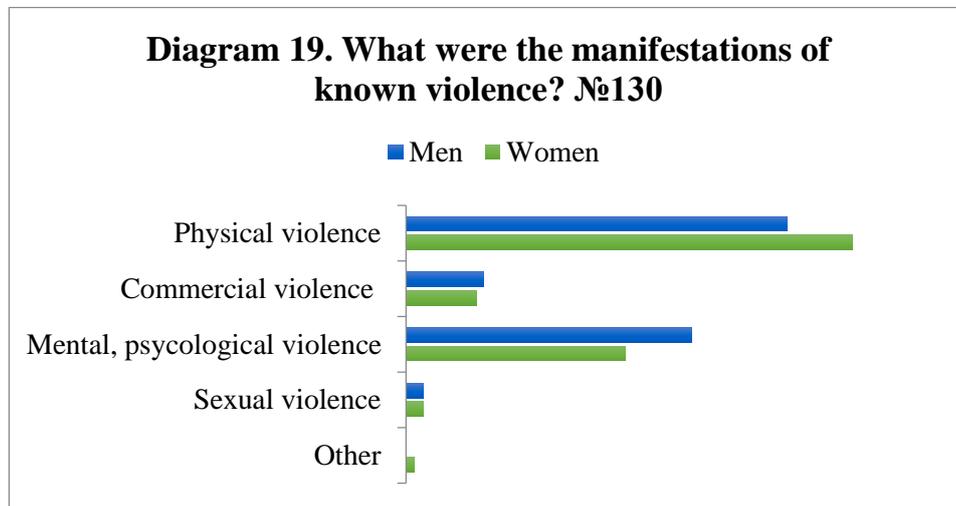
The highest proportion of respondents experiencing domestic violence were in Bishkek (26.8%), Issyk-Kul (25.6%), Chui (23.2%) and Osh (19.5%). Among the others, respondents who more often met the victims of domestic violence were in Issyk-Kul Oblast (19.5%). The highest proportion of those who directly became victims of domestic violence turned out to be in Bishkek (13.4%) (See Diagram 17).



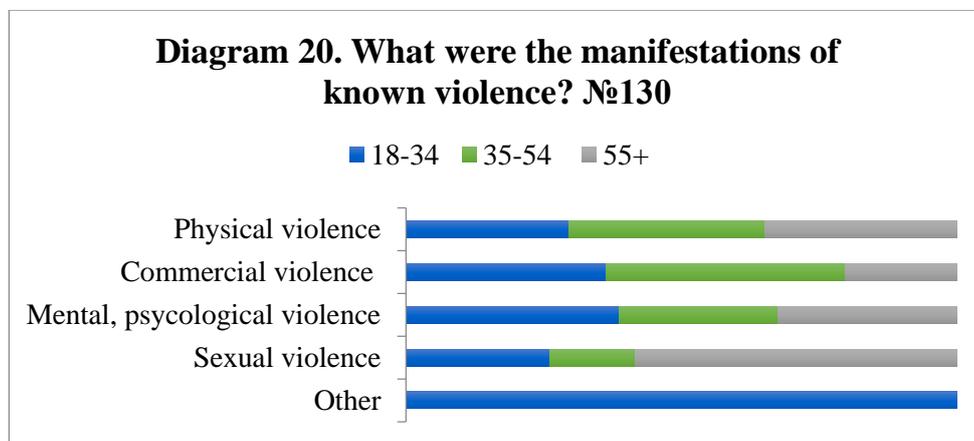
Little more than half of respondents faced physical violence in the family, among those who faced with abusive treatment to some point (54.3%). One-third of the respondents noted the manifestation of moral, psychological violence in their environment (33.1%). One in ten faced commercial violence, and 2.3% sexual violence (see Diagram 18).



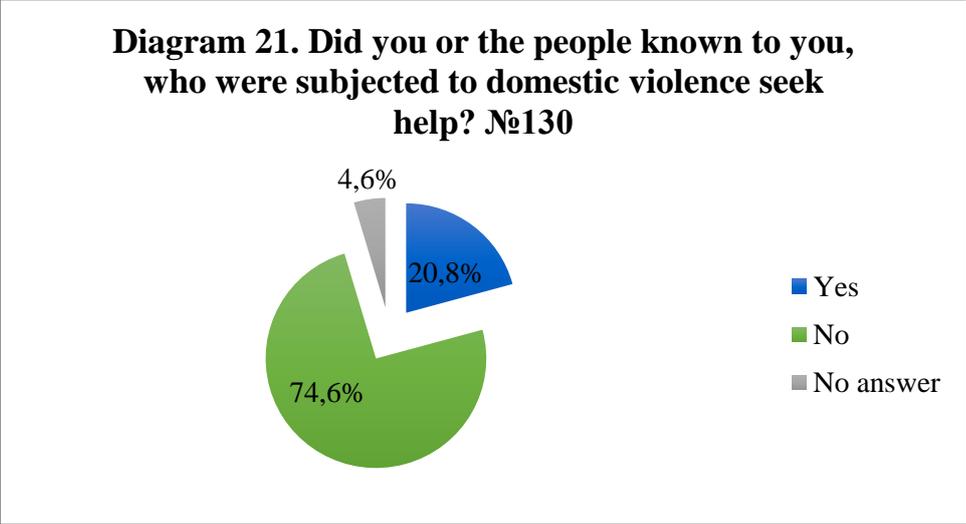
Female respondents were little more likely than male respondents to face domestic violence expressed in the form of physical violence (58.6% vs. 50%). While male respondents were more likely to report moral, psychological violence (see Diagram 19).



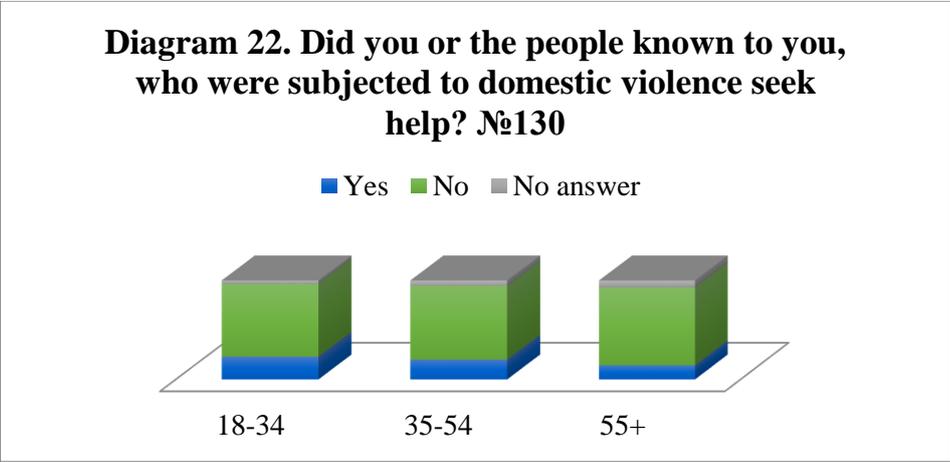
Respondents over 35 were more likely to experience physical violence comparison to younger respondents. Young people under 34 noted the manifestation of moral, psychological violence. It is interesting to note that respondents older than 55 years (see Diagram 20) more often noted the manifestation of sexual violence.



Every fifth respondent who has been subjected to domestic violence or a person known to him seek help (20.8%). The majority of respondents or their familiar people who were subjected to domestic violence did not seek any help (74.6%) (See Diagram 21).

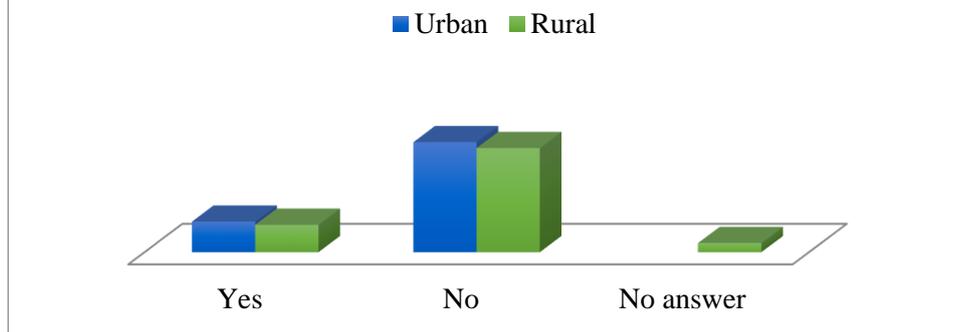


The older the age of respondents who were subjected to domestic violence, the less they were inclined to seek help. People older than 55 years more than the other age categories shied away from answering this question (see Diagram 22).



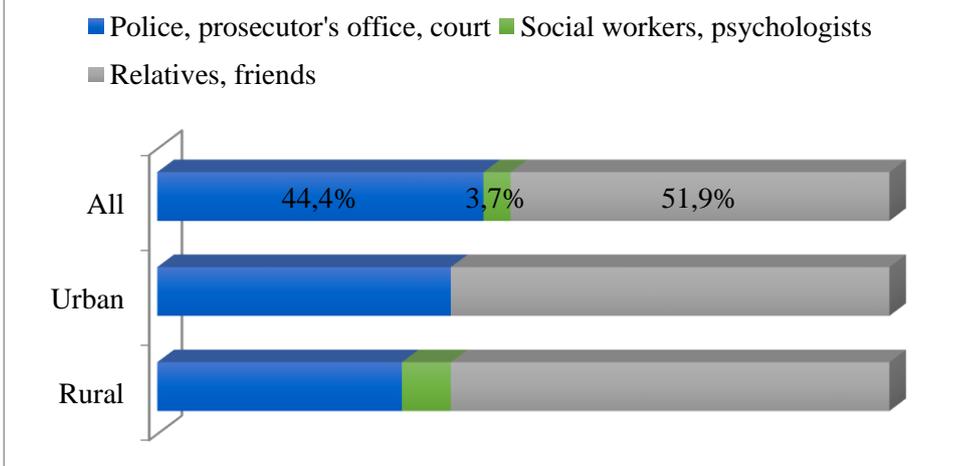
Urban residents subjected to domestic violence, a little more often seek help than residents of rural areas. Rural residents often preferred not to give an answer to this question (see Diagram 23).

Diagram 23. Did you or the people known to you, who were subjected to domestic violence seek help? №130



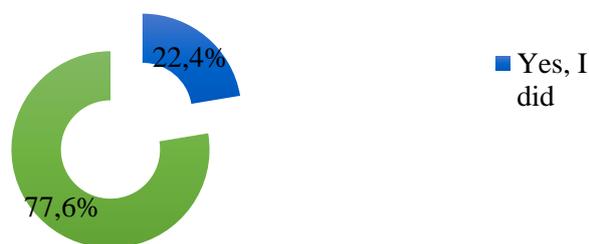
Respondents who have been subjected to domestic violence mainly appealed either to law enforcement agencies - police, prosecutors' office or courts, or to relatives and friends (see Diagram 24).

Diagram 24. If yes, which institution it was? №27



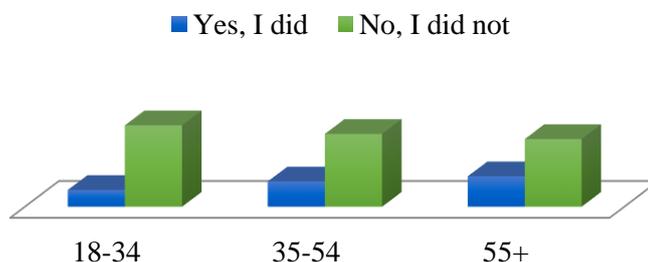
The diagram below reflects a low level of awareness among the population about the existence of Law on Safeguarding and Protection Against Family Violence (see Diagram 24). This indicates that people do not know what to do, where to apply and where to go in case of domestic violence. Only 22.4% of the surveyed population noted that they were aware of the existence of the Law. Among them, more women in contrast to men (26.2% versus 18.2%).

Diagram 24. Law on Safeguarding and Protection Against Family Violence was adopted in 2017, did you hear about it? №738

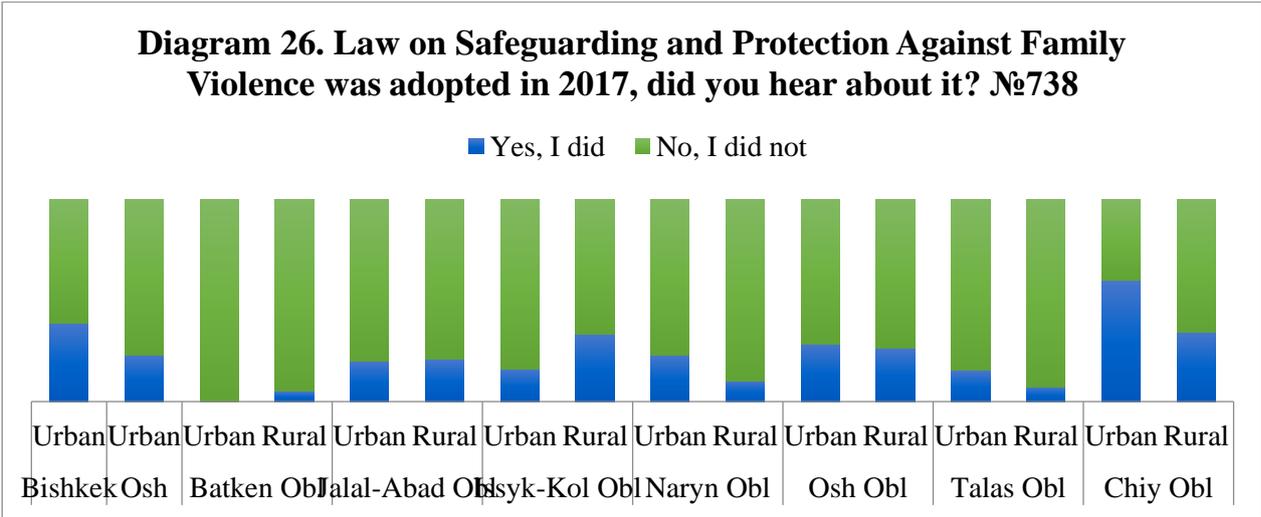


Awareness of the population about the Law On safeguarding and protection against family violence depends on the age of the respondents. The younger the age of the respondents, the fewer those who had heard about the Law and vice versa, the older the age, the more knowledgeable about the Law (see Diagram 25).

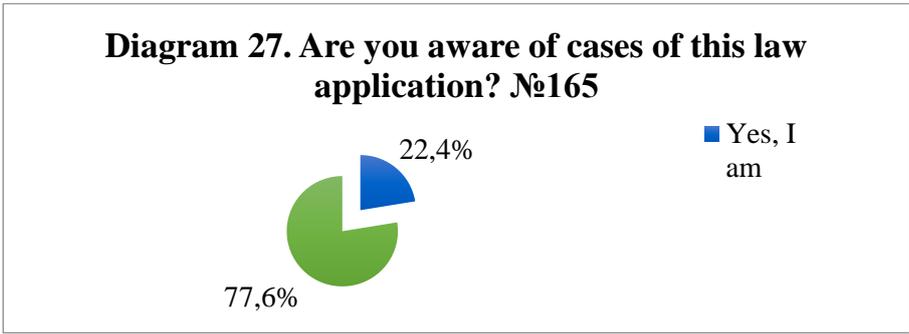
Diagram 25. Law on Safeguarding and Protection Against Family violence was adopted in 2017, did you hear about it? №738



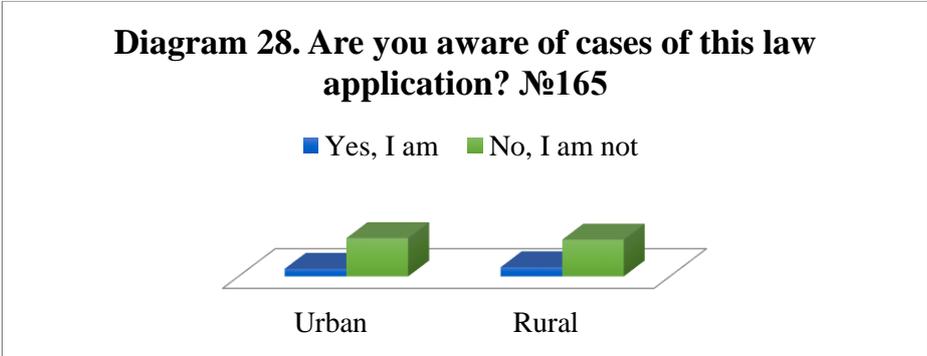
The diagram below reflects the level of awareness of the population about the Law On safeguarding and protection against family violence, by oblasts. In general, a low level of awareness about the Law was noted in all oblasts, but the situation turned out to be better in Chui oblast, Bishkek and Issyk-Kul oblast (see Diagram 26).



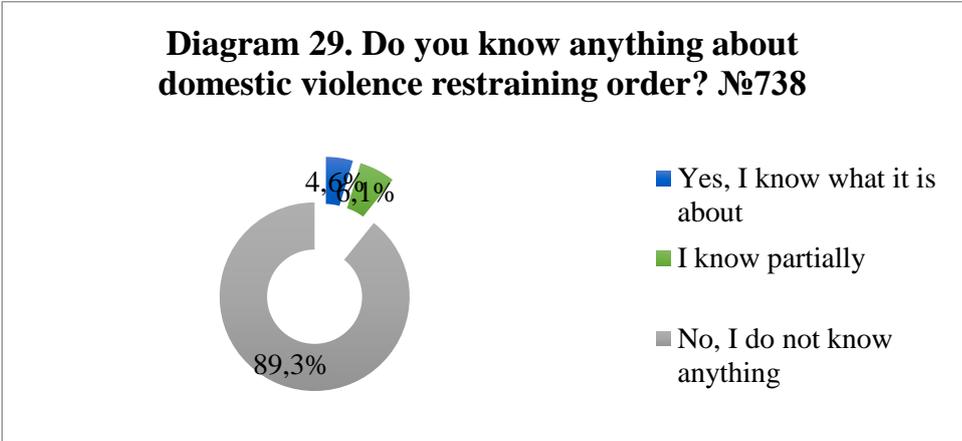
Every fourth of those who had heard about the Law On safeguarding and protection against family violence, knew the cases of application of the Law (22.4%). Among them, there were more male respondents than female ones. The majority of respondents did not know the precedents of its application in a particular case (77.6%) (See Diagram 27).



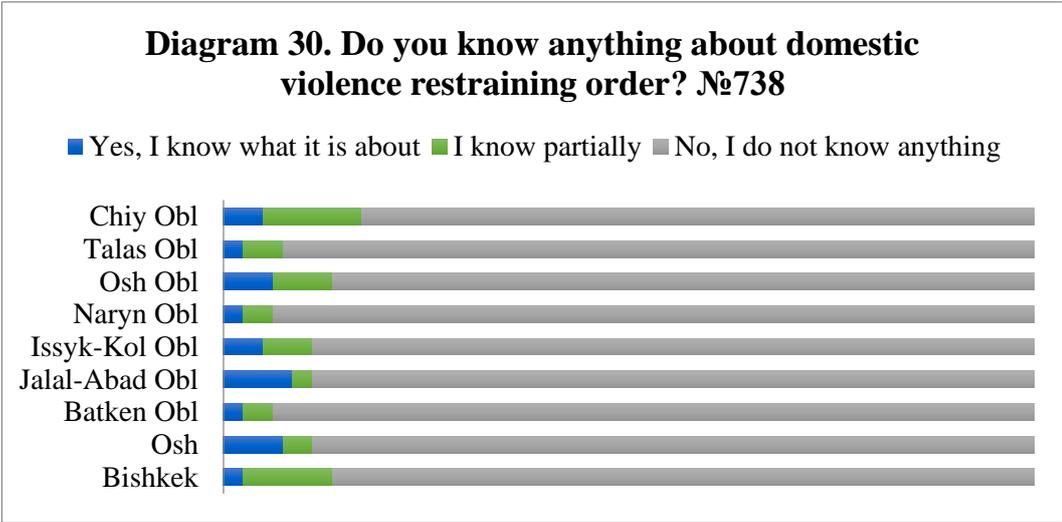
The application of the aforementioned Law was more frequent in rural areas rather than in cities (20% vs. 16.7%) (See Diagram 28).



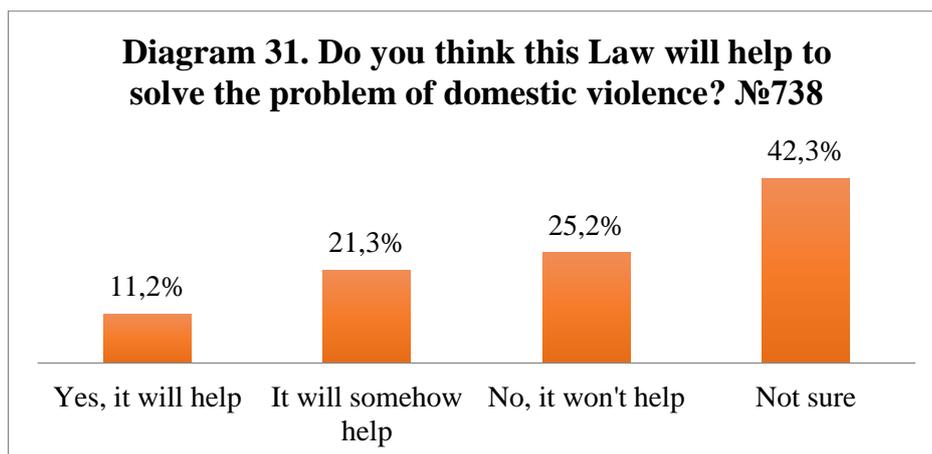
Only 10.7% of respondents had an idea of a domestic violence restraining order, where 4.6% indicated that they knew what it envisaged. The majority of the surveyed population did not know anything about the restraining order (89.3%) (See Diagram 29).



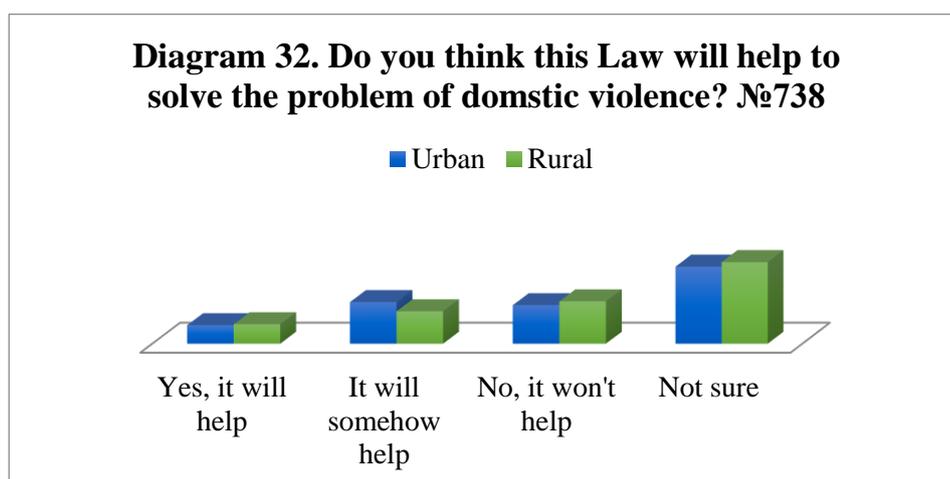
In the regional breakdown, the share of those who to some extent are aware of the restraining order was the lowest in Batken (6.1%), Naryn (6.1%) and Talas (7.3%) oblasts. The highest number was in Chuy Oblast (17.1%). In general, the level of awareness about domestic violence order was low in all oblasts (see Diagram 30).



Despite the fact that only 22.4% of respondents knew about the Law On safeguarding and protection against family violence, 32.5% of the respondents believed that it would help solve the problem of domestic violence. Every fifth person was sure that the adopted Law would not help solve the problem of domestic violence (25.2%). Less than half of the interviewed respondents found it difficult to answer this question (42.3%) (See Diagram 31).



Inhabitants of the cities of Kyrgyzstan (34.2% against 29.5%) hope that the Law will help solve the problem of domestic violence. Rural residents are sure that the Law will not solve this problem (24.1% versus 21.9%) (See Diagram 32).



The most effective measures to prevent domestic violence in the family, according to respondents' opinion were the following (in order of decreasing importance): preventive conversations (37.5%); the identification of crimes within the framework of domestic violence in a separate article of the Criminal Code, the tightening of legislation on the use of domestic violence (22.2%); zero tolerance campaigns towards domestic violence through Mass Media (11.3%); as well as special programs in educational institutions (9.7%) (See Diagram 33).

Diagram 33. What measures can be most effective for the prevention of domestic violence? №738

