

An Investigation Of The Effect Of Various Variables On The Attitudes Towards Violence Against Women: A Meta-Analysis Study

Kadına Yönelik Şiddet Tutumunun Çeşitli Değişkenler Açısından İncelenmesi: Bir Meta-Analiz Çalışması

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ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this study was to determine the effects of some variables (i.e. gender, family type, education level, etc.) on the attitude towards violence against women.

A total of 30 studies that were suitable for the inclusion criteria were included in the meta-analysis by scanning the databases of CHE Thesis Center, PubMed, EBSCOhost, Web of Science, and Google Scholar on the subject. The Comprehensive Meta-Analysis Ver. 2.2.064 (CMA) program was used in the analyses.

As a result of the analysis made according to the random effects model, it was found that the general effect of gender on the attitude towards violence against women ($d = -1.26$) was at a high level. In the analysis made for the family type variable, it was found that the average general effect sizes of individuals with nuclear family structure were higher than those of extended and fragmented families ($d = 47.301$). In the analyzes made for the education level variable, it was found that the general effect sizes of the individuals who had primary education level were higher than those who had high school and higher education level ($d = 56.935$).

As a result of the analysis, it was seen that gender, family type and education level were effective variables on the attitude towards violence against women.

Keywords: Violence Against Women, Gender, Family Type, Education Level, Meta-analysis

ÖZ

Bu çalışmanın temel amacı, kadına yönelik şiddet tutumu üzerinde bazı değişkenlerin (cinsiyet, aile tipi, eğitim düzeyi vb.) etkilerini belirlemektir.

Konuyla ilgili YÖK Tez Merkezi, PubMed, EBSCOhost, Web of Science ve Google Akademik veri tabanları taranarak, dahil etme kriterlerine uygun toplam 30 çalışma meta-analize dahil edilmiştir. Analizlerde Comprehensive Meta-Analysis Ver. 2.2.064 (CMA) programı kullanılmıştır.

Rastgele etkiler modeline göre yapılan analiz sonucunda, cinsiyetin kadına yönelik şiddet tutumu üzerindeki genel etkisinin ($d = -1.26$) yüksek düzeyde olduğu bulunmuştur. Aile tipi değişkeni için yapılan analizde çekirdek aile yapısına sahip bireylerin genel etki büyüklüklerinin ortalamalarının geniş ve parçalanmış aile yapısına sahip bireylerden daha yüksek olduğu bulunmuştur ($d = 47.301$). Eğitim seviyesi değişkeni için yapılan analizde ilköğretim mezunu bireylerin genel etki büyüklüklerinin lise ve üzeri eğitim seviyesine sahip bireylerden daha yüksek olduğu bulunmuştur ($d = 56.935$).

Analiz sonucunda cinsiyet, aile tipi ve eğitim seviyesinin kadına yönelik şiddet tutumu üzerinde etkili değişkenler olduğu görülmüştür.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Kadına Yönelik Şiddet, Cinsiyet, Aile tipi, Eğitim düzeyi, Meta-analiz

Key Points

* It is seen that gender, family type and education level have high effects on the attitude towards violence against women, which is an important problem all over the world..

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INTRODUCTION

Violence against women is a sub-dimension of violence and a significant phenomenon that physically and psychosocially affects women, children, and society. Violence against women is defined as “any gender-based act physically, sexually or spiritually harms women”.¹ Preventing and responding to violence against women is a human rights priority. It is necessary to ensure that women in every country and culture live a life free from violence and coercion. The World Health Organization (WHO) report on violence against women shows that 1 in 3 women was subjected to physical or sexual violence by a partner, or sexual violence by a non-partner.² Being subjected to spousal sexual violence is a critical issue that needs to be handled, but it is often ignored because the source of violence is the spouse. However, any involuntary intercourse is described as rape.³

Violence can cause multiple short-or long-term problems for individuals. The risk of depression and eating disorders is almost twice as high in women who are victims of violence. These forms of violence also cause depression, post-traumatic stress, other anxiety disorders, sleep difficulties, eating disorders, and suicide attempts in victims of

violence. Health problems seen in women are headaches, pain syndromes (backache, abdominal pain, chronic pelvic pain), gastrointestinal disorders, limited mobility, and poor general health.⁴

Domestic violence, particularly, can create significant health problems for children who have been exposed to this violence in some way. It causes children to experience low self-esteem, behavioral issues, lack of self-confidence, or tantrums, which can negatively affect their social and academic life. Violence experienced during pregnancy and the postpartum period can also affect the care given to the child, increasing the rates of illness in children, and indirectly causing infant and child deaths. Its social and economic impact is enormous and has fluctuating effects throughout society. Women experience social isolation, unemployment, loss of wages, cannot participate in social activities and may be unable to take care of themselves and their children.⁵

The main purpose of this study was to determine the effects of some variables (i.e. gender, family type, education level, etc.) on the attitude towards violence against women.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was carried out with a meta-analysis method based on systematic synthesis and analysis.⁶ Meta-analysis is creating a new analysis by combining the results of studies on a subject.⁷ This meta-analysis study was prepared according to the PRISMA checklist (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses Protocols (PRISMA) Checklist).⁸ To reduce the potential risk of bias, literature review, article selection, and data extraction were performed independently by the first and second researchers. Then, two researchers rechecked these stages and made a quality evaluation of the studies.

Inclusion Criteria

According to the PICOS;

- ✓ Study group (P: Patient): Women and men.
- ✓ Outcomes (O:): Attitudes towards violence against women and variables of gender, family type, and education level.
- ✓ Study design (S): Cross-sectional studies published in Turkish and English.

Scanning Strategy

The scanning was carried out between November 2020-February 2021 through PubMed, Web of Science, EBSCOhost, Google Scholar, YÖK National Thesis Center

databases, and online libraries of national and international universities using keywords “violence against women”, “abuse against women”, “perception of violence against women”, “attitude towards violence against women”, “attitude”, “women AND attitude AND violence”, “women AND violence or abuse” without any time limitation.

Selection of Studies

In the first stage of the research, the titles and abstracts were scanned for relevance to the subject by the researcher, and in the second stage, the abstracts and full texts were evaluated by two external researchers for inclusion criteria and the quality of the studies. Studies were included in the meta-analysis according to the inclusion criteria. The flow diagram (PRISMA 2009 Flow Diagram) showing how the 42783 studies obtained as a result of the search were reduced to 30 studies included in the meta-analysis is shown in Figure 1.

Research Ethics

The study was conducted with the meta-analysis method following the Principles of the Declaration of Helsinki. There is no direct

effect on living things in the meta-analysis method, so ethical committee approval was not required.

Evaluation of Methodological Quality of Studies

The quality evaluation of the studies in the meta-analysis was carried out by The Joanna Briggs Institute with quality evaluation tools prepared according to the research design.⁹ The evaluation tools were selected according to the designs of the studies in the meta-analysis. An evaluation tool with 8 questions was used for cross-sectional studies. The evaluation results for each research in the study are given as “*Quality score*”.

Synthesis of Data

For statistical calculations, CMA Ver. 2. were used. Heterogeneity among the studies was assessed with the Cochrane Q and Higgins I² tests. I² of more than 50% was considered to indicate significant heterogeneity. The SMD (Standardized Mean Difference) was calculated at a 95% confidence interval (CI) for each outcome variable of the study. A p-value of <0.05 was considered statistically significant in all tests.

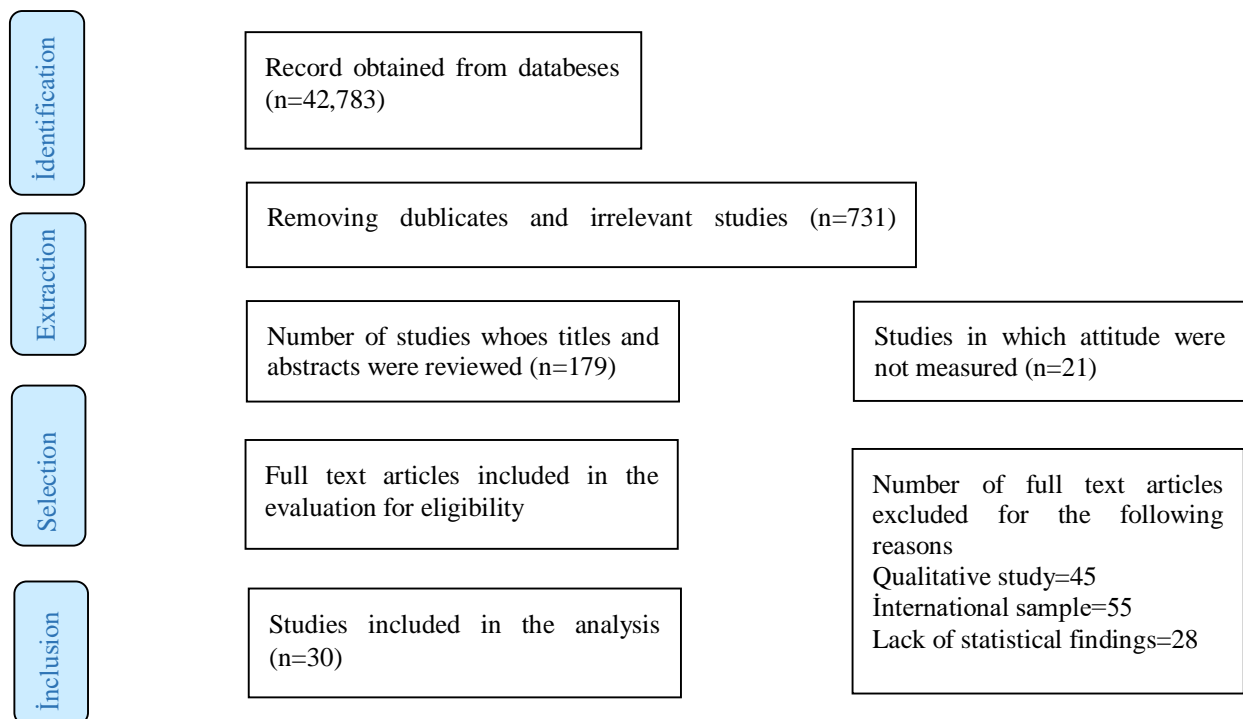


Figure 1. Prisma Flow Diagram

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results Related to the Effect of Gender Variable on Attitudes to Violence Against Women

In the study, publication bias was checked using four tools: (a) Funnel plot, (b) Egger's Regression Test (c) Classic Fail-Safe N

In the funnel plot, one of the important methods of showing the publication bias, the studies for this data set show a symmetrical distribution at the top of the funnel, indicating that there is no publication bias (Figure 2).

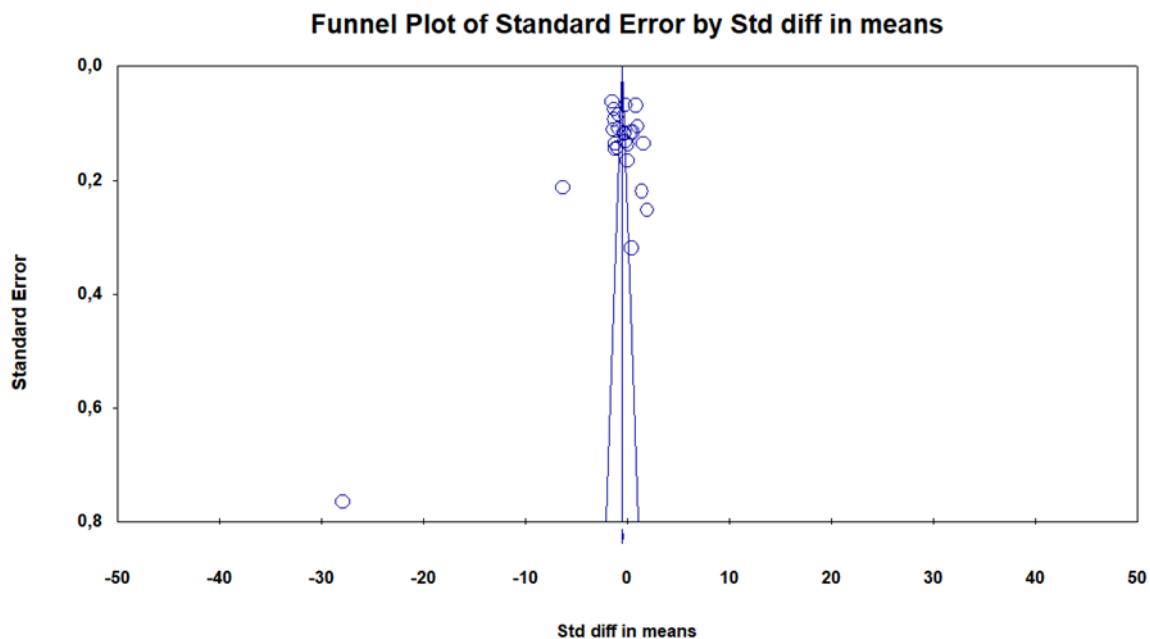
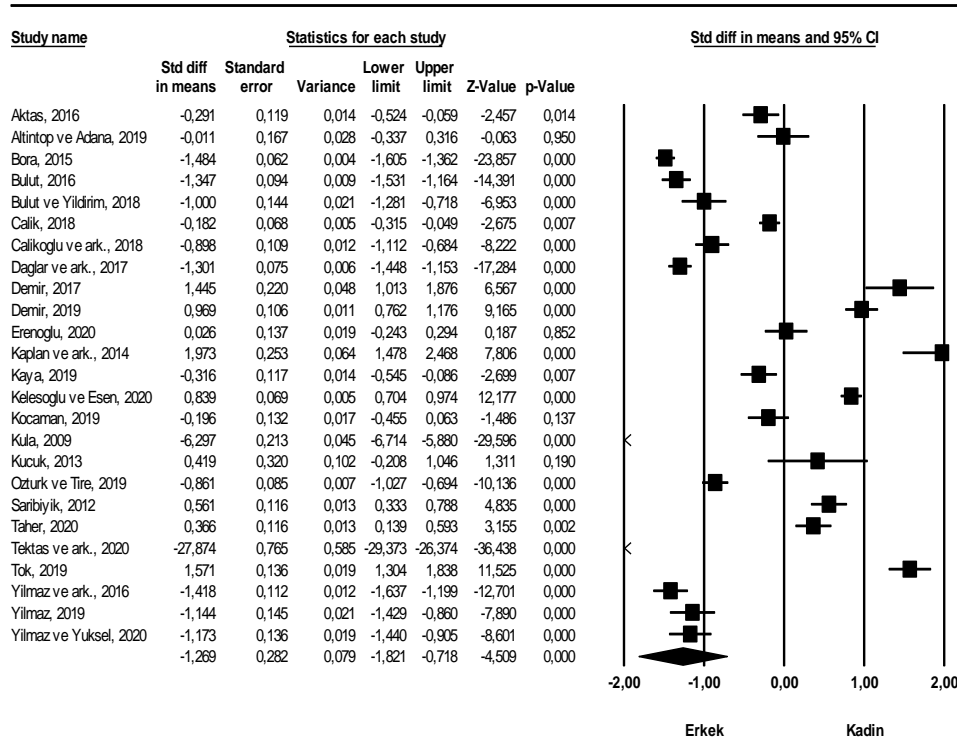


Figure 2. Funnel Plot

According to Egger's method, the cut-off point for this data set (B_0) is 6.22488, 95% confidence interval (-19.53056, 7.08081), $t=0.96779$, $df=23$, and a two-tailed p-value 0.34322. Accordingly, it was determined that the publication bias was not statistically significant ($p=0.34322$). That is, there is no publication bias. Another test for publication bias is the Fail-Safe N test. For the findings of this meta-analysis to be invalid, that is, for the double-tailed p-value to exceed .05, it is anticipated that there must be at least 4289

insignificant studies in the literature, suggesting that there is no publication bias.

The average effect size value of the studies in the study according to the gender variable was calculated as $d = -1.26$ based on the random-effects model. This result shows that gender is an effective variable in the attitude toward violence against women. The forest graph of the 25 studies in the research is given below in Figure 3.



Meta Analysis

Figure 3. Forest Graph

The meta-analysis diagram (forest plot) showing the effect sizes of the studies is presented in the figure. The effect sizes of the studies are shown as squares in the meta-analysis diagram. Horizontal lines passing through each square indicate the confidence interval for the study. The longer the horizontal line, the wider the confidence interval. The last line of the graph shows the meta-analysis total result. The middle of the figure represents the mean effect, and the width of the figure represents the mean confidence interval. If this figure does not cross the “no effect” line, that is, the 0 line, the difference calculated between the negative and positive relationship can be considered statistically significant.¹⁰ In the studies in the forest graph, those above 0.00, a positive value, indicate that the violence against women attitudes is in favor of female

individuals, and those below 0.00, a negative value, have violence against women attitudes in favor of male individuals. In this meta-analysis, it was found that the attitude toward violence against women was statistically significant in favor of men (SMD: -1.269, %95 CI: -1.821, -0.718, Z= -4.509, p=0.000, I²= %99). According to Cohen d, an effect size < 0.20 indicates an insignificant effect size, and an effect size ≤ 0.80 indicates a large effect size. Since the effect size value is greater than 0.80, it has a large effect according to Cohen's classification.¹¹

The homogeneity test, also known as the Q-statistic, was calculated as Q=3802.583. Developed as a complement to the Q statistics that shows heterogeneity, another measurement method is the study-level measure of effect, I² explains how much of the

total variance in the effect sizes is due to the variance between studies. If the percentage of study change is 75-100%, it represents considerable heterogeneity.¹² In this study, $I^2=99.369$ shows considerable heterogeneity, and accordingly, the random-effects model was used in the analysis.

As a result of the moderator analysis, a statistically significant difference was found in the effect size of the type of publication moderator ($p=0.005$), the gender of the researcher ($p=0.000$), the region where the research was conducted ($p=0.000$), the type of scale ($p=0.007$), and the sample group ($p=0.000$) ($p<.05$). It was determined that the effect resulted from articles according to the type of publication, the groups with researchers including males according to the gender of the researcher, the studies conducted mostly in the Black Sea region according to the regions, the scales using EKYFSITO, EKYSITO, ISKEBE, KYSTO, and SYTO according to the scale type, and only young people according to the sample group.

The meta-regression result with the moderator variable of publication year was not statistically significant ($Q=0.38$, $df=1$, $p=0.5383$). In other words, there has been no difference between men and women in the attitude toward violence against women over the years in terms of the effect sizes of the studies.

Findings Related to the Effect of Family Type Variable on Attitudes to Violence Against Women

In this study, publication bias was determined using four tools: Funnel plot, (b) Egger's Regression Test, (c) Classic Fail-Safe N

In the funnel plot, one of the significant methods of revealing the publication bias, the studies in this data set are concentrated at the top of the funnel but show a dispersed distribution on the right side, so other tests for publication bias were also performed (Figure 4).

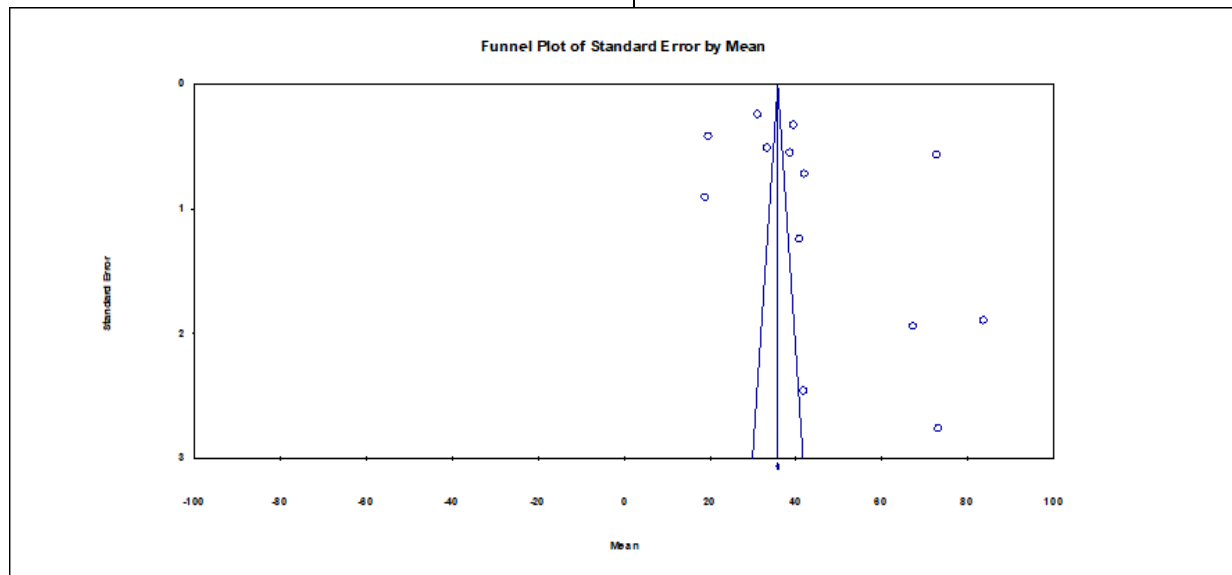


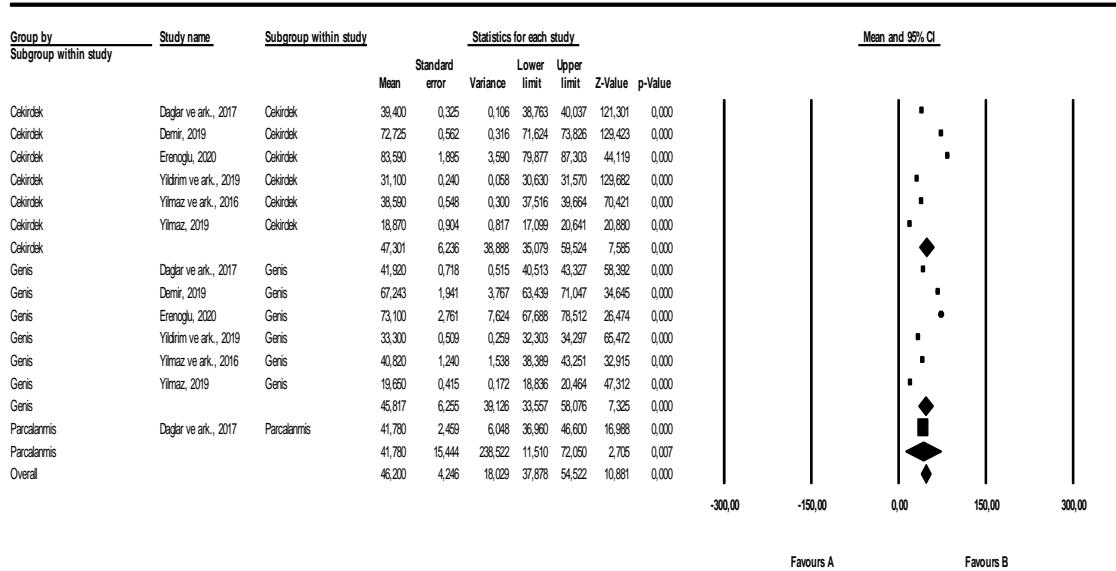
Figure 4.Funnel Plot

According to Egger's method, also used to evaluate publication bias, the cut-off point for this data set (B_0) is 16.40136, 95% confidence interval (-9.83629 – 42.63901), $t=1.37585$, $df = 11$, and a two-tailed p -value is 0.19623. Accordingly, it was determined that the publication bias was not statistically

significant ($p = 0.19623$), that is, there was no publication bias. Another publication bias test (Fail-Safe N) analysis was also performed, and the error protection number was determined to be 5769. For the findings of this meta-analysis to be invalid, that is, for the double-tailed p -value to exceed .05, there

must be at least 5769 insignificant studies in the literature. This is a very high rate and indicates the absence of publication bias.

Meta Analysis



Meta Analysis

Figure 5. Forest Graph

In this meta-analysis, the distribution of the scale mean score and standard errors (SE) in terms of a family type of violence against women in the studies according to nuclear, extended, and separated family subgroups were examined. The mean score was found to be 47.301 ± 6.236 (Min-Max: 35.079-59.524) for the nuclear family group, 45.817 ± 6.255 (Min-Max: 33.557-58.076) for the extended family group, and 41.780 ± 15.444 (Min-Max: 11.510-72.050) for the separated family group.

In a study dealing with the separated family structure, the average effect size value of the studies according to the family type was calculated as 46.18. In this case, it can be said that family type is an effective variable of the attitude toward violence against women (SMD:46.18, %95 CI:38.29-54.07, Z=11.476, p=0.000, $I^2=99$), which is statistically significant with p=0.00.

I^2 is one of the measurement methods that reveal heterogeneity, and it is the study-level measure of effect, which explains how much of the total variance in effect sizes is due to the variance between studies. A study variation percentage value of 75-100% represents considerable heterogeneity.¹² In this study, I^2 is 99.848 and shows considerable heterogeneity, and accordingly, the random model was used in the analysis.

As a result of the moderator analysis, a statistically significant difference was found in the effect size of the region where the research was conducted (p=0.000), scale type (p=0.000), and the sample group (p=0.005) moderator variables (p<.05). In terms of the regions, there is a large effect of the family type variable, especially in the attitude of violence against women in the Mediterranean region. In terms of the types of scales used, the greatest effect is due to the İSKEBE scale. In the sample group, the group including young

and adult individuals differs in terms of effect size.

The meta-regression result with the moderator variable of publication year was not found to be statistically significant ($Q=2.93$, $df=1$, $p=0.086$). In other words, there has been no difference between family types towards the attitude of violence against women over the years in terms of the effect sizes of the studies.

Findings Related to the Effect of Education Level Variable on Attitudes to Violence Against Women

In this study, publication bias was determined using four tools: (a) Funnel plot, (b) Egger's Regression Test, (c) Classic Fail-Safe N

In the funnel plot, one of the significant methods of showing the publication bias, the studies in this data set are concentrated at the top of the funnel, but there is a distribution. Therefore, other tests for publication bias were also performed (figure 6).

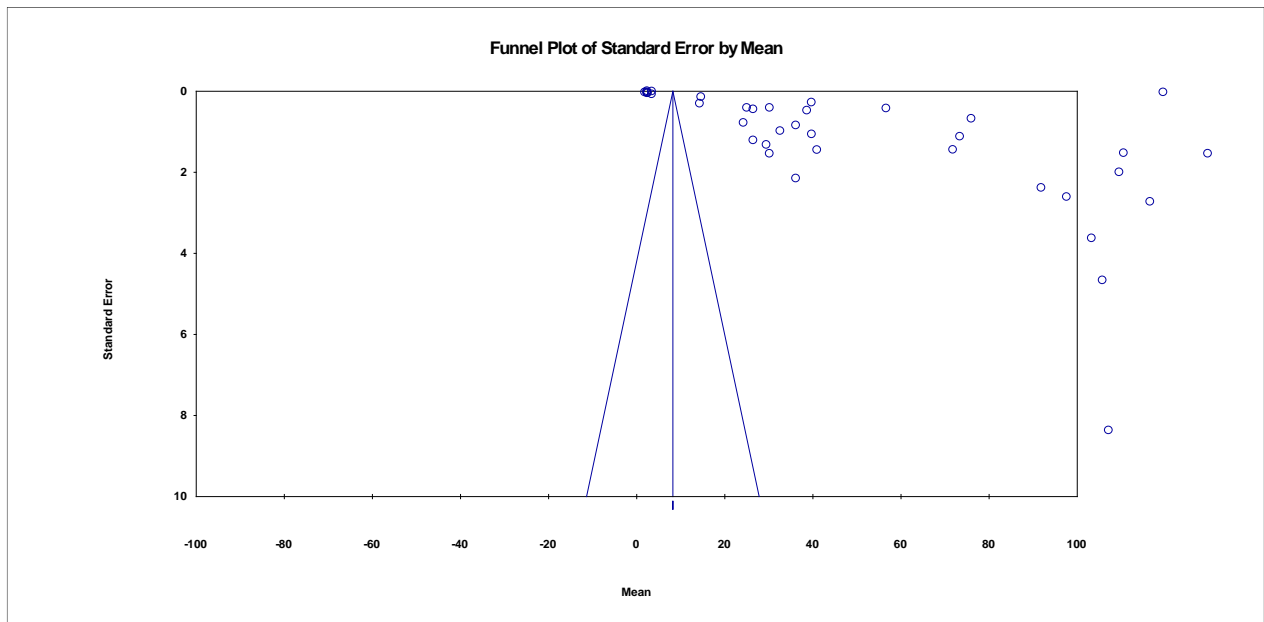
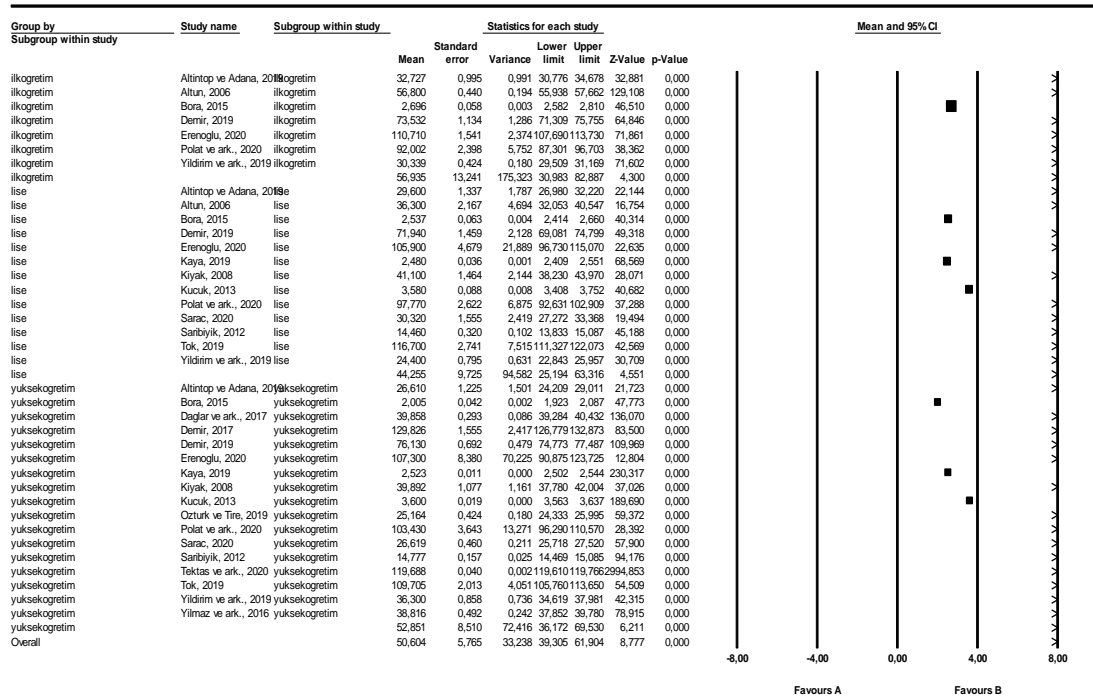


Figure 6. Funnel Plot

According to Egger's method, also used to evaluate publication bias, the cut-off point for this data set is (B0) 89.21608 at a 95% confidence interval (-87.04026 – 265.47242), $t=1.02758$, $df=35$, and a two-tailed p-value is 0.31119, showing no publication bias ($p=0.31119$). According to the Fail-Safe N test, it is predicted that there must be at least 7034108 insignificant studies in the literature for the findings of this meta-analysis to be invalid, that is, for the double-tailed p-value to exceed .05. This rate is very high and shows that there is no publication bias.

In this meta-analysis, the distribution of violence against women scale mean score and

standard errors (SE) according to primary, high school, and university subgroups were examined. The mean score was found to be 56.935 ± 13.241 (Min-Max: 30,983-82.887) for the primary school group, 44.255 ± 9.725 (Min-Max: 25.194-63.316) for the high school group, and 52.851 ± 8.510 (Min. -Max: 36.172-69.530) for the higher education group. I^2 values were found to be 100% in all three groups. According to the education level variable, the average effect size value of the studies in the study was calculated as 50,572 according to the random-effects model (figure 7).



Meta Analysis

Figure 7.Forest Graph

Another method of measuring heterogeneity developed as a complement to the Q statistic is I^2 , the study-level measure of effect, which explains how much of the total variance in effect sizes is due to variance between studies. The percentage of study variation value of 75-100% can represent considerable heterogeneity (12). In this study, I^2 was 100 and shows considerable heterogeneity, and accordingly, the random-effects model was used in the analyses.

As a result of the moderator analysis, a statistically significant difference was found in the effect size of the publication type ($p=0.000$), gender of the researcher ($p=0.000$), region where the research was conducted ($p=0.000$), scale type ($p=0.000$), and sample group ($p=0.000$) ($p<.05$). In terms of the education level variable, the effect size of the studies whose publication type is article is larger. The fact that there were women among the researchers led to an effect in the study.

When analyzed in terms of the regions where the studies were conducted, the Black Sea region caused a large effect in terms of the education variable, especially in the attitude towards violence against women. The maximum effect was caused by the ISKEBE scale in terms of the types of scales and by the young in terms of the sample group.

The meta-regression result with the moderator variable of the year of publication is statistically significant ($Q=4.48$, $df=1$, $p=0.034$). In other words, in terms of the effect sizes of the studies, there was a differentiation between attitudes towards violence against women and educational level by years.

Gender Variable

Among the studies included in the meta-analysis, 25 studies investigating the gender variable and attitudes towards violence against women were analyzed. According to

the results, men have higher traditional attitudes towards violence against women. In the literature, the attitude towards violence against women is generally held by men, which is consistent with our study.¹³⁻¹⁵ According to a study conducted in European Union countries, 43% of women who were subjected to violence stated that they had been subjected to violence by their husbands or ex-husbands.¹⁶ In a study in Turkey, 34 percent of women were subjected to physical violence and 11 percent to sexual violence by their husbands or intimate partners.¹⁷ On the contrary, in some studies, women's attitudes towards violence are higher than those of men.¹⁸

The high level of men's attitudes towards violence against women and the fact that they have a more traditional attitude towards gender roles can be explained by the roles that society imposes on men and the different upbringing styles of men and women. Considering the position of women in our country, more traditional attitudes of men towards violence against women may indicate that their violent behaviors and thoughts are at a higher level. While men are regarded as stronger, dominant, and authority figures, women are seen as naïve, fragile, in need of protection, and submissive, which supports the aforementioned perspective. Accordingly, the differences in the studies may vary according to women's attitudes of submission to or opposition to these behaviors and their perceptions of violence.^{19,20} In addition, the increase in women's level of education, changes in the traditional family structure in some regions, and changes in the cultural structure due to migration also change the type of violence women are exposed to.

In moderator analyses, in terms of the gender of the researcher, the attitude towards violence against women differs slightly in favor of men in the studies of female researchers, and at a very high level in the studies conducted by male and male and female researchers together. Although there is no research on this issue in the literature, men's attitudes towards violence when communicating with their fellows or

preparing research questions may have been reflected in the results of the research, even if to a lesser extent.

According to the results of the moderator variable analysis, the attitude towards violence against women is in favor of women in the Mediterranean region, while it is in favor of men in Eastern Anatolia, Aegean, Southeastern Anatolia, Central Anatolia, Black Sea, and Marmara regions. Family structure, women's economic power, and education level can be considered among the factors affecting the attitudes towards violence between regions. Sexual identity is formed by parents, teachers, the child's social environment, and the media from early childhood.²¹ Due to differences in the socialization process, the perception of violence is internalized and not perceived as a problem, or it is treated as an issue that should remain within the family. In regions where the attitude of violence is high, the roles attributed to women exhibit a sexist attitude, divorce rates are low due to reasons like women's lack of economic power, and divorced individuals mostly cite violence as a reason.²²

The type of scale used in the moderator variable analyses is an effective moderator, showing a large effect size in scales such as EKYFSITO, EKYSITO, ISKEBE, KYSTO, and SYTO. The sample groups and the regions where the scales were applied may have affected this result. According to the results of the sample group moderator variable in the moderator analyses, young people have higher attitudes towards violence against women. Men's violence against women decreases especially with advancing age, and the expression of violence is more common at younger ages.²¹ In a study conducted by Özden and Gölbaşı with health workers, it was reported that participants over the age of 35 had more egalitarian attitudes than those under the age of 35, which is consistent with our study.²³

Family Type Variable

In the studies analyzed in this meta-analysis, the distribution of the mean and standard errors (SE) of the scale scores according to nuclear, extended, and separated

family subgroups was examined in 6 studies in terms of family type. One study with a separated family structure was found. Considering the scale mean scores, it is seen that the mean scores of the nuclear family structure, that is, the attitudes towards violence against women, are higher. Some studies in the literature support our study, showing that the attitude towards violence against women in nuclear family structure is more negative.¹⁵ Contrary to our findings, the study conducted by Tamgoç Yıldız (2019) showed that the attitude towards violence against women in individuals with extended family types was higher.²⁴ In addition, some studies demonstrate that the family type variable has no effect on the attitude towards violence against women.²⁵

These contradictory results in the literature may be due to many factors causing violence against women. While women's entry into business life, change in status, and change in the traditional and extended family structure increase women's freedom in a sense and may act as a protective factor, many factors like decreased social support systems of women, increased responsibilities, and men's lack of sharing in these difficult life conditions may trigger violence.

The moderator analysis showed that the region where the research was conducted is an effective moderator variable. In terms of the regions where the research was conducted, the family type variable has a high effect on attitudes towards violence against women, especially in the Mediterranean region. The high living standards in metropolitan cities in the Mediterranean region increase the involvement of both spouses in working life. In these regions, the adoption of a more contemporary lifestyle in terms of women's education levels or living conditions and the involvement of women in working life may cause the nuclear family structure to be more common. Considering our research, it is thought that the effect observed especially in the nuclear family structure may explain this situation.

Scale type is another effective moderator variable. In terms of the types of scales used,

the largest effect was caused by the ISKEBE scale. The sample groups and the regions where the scales were applied may have affected this result. The sample group is also an effective moderator variable. The effect stems from the group of young and adult individuals. In the literature, many studies show that young or adult individuals with nuclear family structure or extended family structure exhibit negative attitudes towards violence against women. Violence against women is a phenomenon that occurs when different factors come together. Unfortunately, it is not always possible to simply increase the level of education or to say that young people do not have negative attitudes.

Education Level Variable

In the 17 studies examined in this meta-analysis, in terms of the attitude towards violence against women and the level of education variable, the distribution of the mean scores of the attitude towards violence against women scale scores according to primary, high school, and university subgroups were examined, and it was found that the primary school level had higher attitudes towards violence against women, followed by the others.

The level of education and attitudes towards violence in the literature are consistent with our study. Babahanoğlu et al. (2018) reported that especially women with an education level of primary school and below were admitted to women's shelters due to partner violence.²⁶ Demirel (2019) emphasized that economic violence increases as the level of education increases, and Kalanlar (2012) draw attention to a positive relationship between the level of education and all types of violence.^{27,28} In some studies, as the level of education increases, the attitude towards violence against women decreases, and more contemporary approaches are mentioned.^{25,26,29} In more gender-equal societies like Canada and Peru, researchers have found that women's employment and education are effective deterrents of intimate partner violence.^{30,31} However, data from societies dominated by patriarchal ideologies

like India and Saudi Arabia, do not support this perspective.^{32,33}

We can address this situation in the literature in two different ways. Firstly, in families with low levels of education, especially men's low education level may increase violent behavior by affecting the roles attributed to women, their perspective, and attitude towards women. A woman's higher level of education than a man may cause the man to feel powerless and lower their self-esteem, which may result in violence against women. Secondly, women whose level of education, economic freedom, or status increases are exposed to more economic violence, although physical violence decreases. The lack of job opportunities for women, the fact that most managers are men and have sexist attitudes towards women, and the increasing educational level of women cause them to be exposed to mobbing, that is, psychological violence.

This situation highlights the need to increase level of education of both women and men. The level of the education can change the type of violence experienced by women and the environments in which they are exposed to violence. We can associate these different results in the literature with the situation.

The moderator analysis revealed that the type of publication is an effective moderator variable. In terms of the level of education, the effect size of articles is larger. This effect is thought to be due to the effect of many cross-sectional quantitative studies in the literature. The gender of the researcher is another effective moderator variable. Interestingly, the presence of women among the researchers constitutes the effect of the study. This result may be attributed to the fact that women who

have higher levels of education and who conducted research have a higher awareness of traditional attitudes towards violence against women.

The region where the research was conducted is an effective moderator variable. When the studies are analyzed in terms of the regions in which they were conducted, a high effect of the education variable was observed in the Black Sea region, especially in the attitude towards violence against women. In the Black Sea region, women are forced to work in tea and tobacco fields, and their participation in unpaid labor employment at an early age may cause them to be unable to go on their education despite their potential. In this respect, the regional characteristic may appear as a contributing variable. Scale type is the other effective moderator variable. In terms of the types of scales, the largest effect was caused by the ISKEBE scale. It is thought that the sample groups and the regions where the scales were applied may have affected this result.

Another effective moderator variable is the sample group. The effect stems from the group of young participants. It is thought that the high level of education or emotional expression in young individuals may create such effects in young people.³⁰ As discussed above, attitudes towards violence against women among young people can be not only physical but also psychological or economic. Another moderator variable that causes an effect as a result of meta-regression is the publication year of the studies. This effect, which has been observed especially in recent years, suggests that the year variable can be examined in future studies as an effective variable in evaluating attitudes towards violence against women.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of this study, it is recommended to increase social arrangements for children to grow up free from violence, provide training on gender equality to all stakeholders at

individual, institutional and societal levels in the struggle with violence, increasing interventions to prevent violence by improving awareness of violence against

women, organize practices especially for increasing women's employment and education level, find a more effective solution to the problem through legislators and increase the number of studies with larger samples and meta-analysis studies on the variables affecting the attitude towards violence against women.

Limitations: The studies included in the meta-analysis are cross-sectional descriptive studies. These situations may reduce the strength of evidence of the results presented by the studies.

Ethics Committee Approval: Research is a literature review

Author Contributions: Concept – EÖ, NG; Design – EÖ, NG; Supervision – EÖ, NG; Resources – EÖ, NG; Materials – EÖ, NG; Data Collection and/or Processing - EÖ; Analysis and/or Interpretation - EÖ; Literature Search - EÖ; Writing Manuscript - EÖ; Critical Review – EÖ, NG

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