Abstract

Why Men Batter: MaleV(i)olence, Malevolence, Misogyny

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Domestic violence, and in particular men’s violence against known women, is a prevalent, and seriously under-reported social problem which has attracted attention internationally. In this thesis the perspective of the abusive male partner is investigated via analyses of qualitative data collected from in-depth interviews. Violence is an integral element of hegemonic masculinity and men’s violence against known women occurs as a result of existing constructions of masculinity and misogynistic attitudes embedded in these constructions. Violence and misogyny exist as a potential in all men and will be eradicated only if masculinities are reconstructed to exclude violence and misogyny as integral components.

Keywords: Raquel Lisa-Marie Sukhu; domestic violence, battering, male violence, masculinity, patriarchy, misogyny, Trinidad and Tobago.