INEQUALITY IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF DOMESTIC AND CARE WORK AND RISK OF IPV AGAINST WOMEN IN MEXICO.

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Introduction

In the last 20 years, the research on care work and its effects on the lives of women (the main historical providers of this type of work) has developed extensively. The literature focuses mainly on the economic and health consequences for women, but little has been done to explore the link between unequal participation in domestic and care work between women and their partners and women's increased vulnerability to IPV.

It is widely documented that domestic and care work (D&CW) is performed almost exclusively by women in Mexico and Latin America. In Mexico, as in any other country, women's increased labor participation is not followed by evident changes in the division of D&CW (Benería and Roldán, 1987; Chant, 1991; García and Oliveira, 1994; Casique, 2000,2001 and 2008, García, 2019). The working day outside the home simply adds to the domestic and care work performed by women, giving rise to what is known as the double workday (González-López 2001: 151).

Inequality between men and women is not only observed in the amount of domestic work performed by each, but also in the type of tasks performed by each (Baiz and Abarca, 2021). This inequality is profusely documented in the literature on the topic.

Empirical evidence between women's domestic and care work and the risk of experiencing different types of intimate partner violence (IPV) is not very usual. However, in the case of Mexico we have been documenting this relationship for several years (Casique, 2014; Casique and Castro, 2018). This paper will examine the distribution of domestic and caregiving tasks among (heterosexual) partners in Mexico and analyze the statistical association between the workload performed by women and the workload assumed by their partners with women's risk of receiving emotional, physical, sexual and economic violence.

Three central objectives guide this work: 1. To explore the magnitude of inequality in D&CW participation among women in union and their partners in Mexico; 2. To identify the explanatory factors of Mexican men's and women's participation in domestic work; and 3. To examine the association between inequality in D&CW participation performed by women and by their partners and the risk of intimate partner violence towards women.

Some theoretical explanations of the participation of women and their partners in the D&CW.

Several theories have been proposed to explain the distribution of domestic work among couples. These include gender ideology, relative resources, time availability, and "doing gender", among others. Resource theory posits that the partner with greater resources or power will perform less domestic work. This approach has received partial empirical support, but it has an important weakness, which is to assume that the effect of resources is equal for men and women (Greenstein, 2000). The available time theory states that participation in D&CW is a function of the time people have available to perform it (South and Spitze, 1994); some authors have interpreted available time from the resource theory as a resource that is positively associated with the amount of domestic work that people perform.

On the other hand, the gender perspective proposes that participation in domestic work is defined by the socialization of what is socially considered appropriate for women and men (Berck, 1984; Fenstermaker, West and Zimmerman, 1991). The performance of domestic work should be understood as a fundamental part of the process of "doing gender" and the definition of what is understood as feminine and masculine (Kroska, 2000).

Although we consider that all these explanations have partially contributed to the analysis of the issue, we frame our analysis from a gender perspective.

Methodology

For this analysis, data from the National Survey of Household Dynamics (ENDIREH) 2021 in Mexico will be used and various statistical tests (such as t-test, ANOVA and logistic regression models) will be used to establish the significance of domestic workload on the risk of intimate partner violence. In this work we used the subsample of Mexican women in union (legal or free union) (n = 68,574).

The ENDIREH 2021 collects information on the participation of women and other household members in the performance of seven tasks related to D&CW: 1. care of children, 2. care of the elderly, 3. domestic chores, 4. formalities and shopping, 5. care of the disabled, 6. domestic repairs and 7. care of the sick. With the responses for these items, we calculated an additive index of participation in the D&CW for women and another for their partners. Two of the tasks considered, caring for the elderly and caring for the disabled, yielded a significant number of missing cases, so we decided to estimate the D&CW index without including these two items, and the resulting indices have values between 0 and 5.

On the other hand, the ENDIREH 2021 captures information on emotional violence, economic violence, physical violence and sexual violence against women perpetrated by their partners. The indicators for each of these types of violence are obtained from the Straus scale (modified) included in the survey and are formulated in our analysis as dichotomous variables (yes or no).

To estimate the magnitude of the difference in D&CW participation between women and their partners, we compared the values of the D&CW indices of women and men globally and by specific task, using significance tests. To identify the factors associated with the participation of Mexican men and women in domestic work, we estimated linear regression models using the D&CW indexes as dependent variables (one model for each sex) and various indicators of individual, couple and household characteristics as explanatory variables. Finally, to explore

the role of the unequal participation in D&CW of women and their partners in the risk of IPV against women, we estimated four logistic regression models (one for each type of violence).

Preliminary Results

The ENDIREH 2021 data confirm the persistence of a pattern of extensive inequality around the domestic and care work performed by married women and their intimate partners. This is evident both in the differences in the percentage of participation in the different tasks and in the average values of the index of participation in domestic and care work for women and for their partners.

The factors significantly associated with women's participation in the D&CW are age, socioeconomic level and the presence of at least one child under 6 years of age (see values of Beta Coefficients in Table 2); while the participation of couples is mainly explained by the work activity of the women, the presence of a domestic employee, the egalitarian attitudes of the woman and the schooling of the couple (see Table 2).

Finally, the results of the logistic regression models suggest that as women's participation in domestic and care work increases, the risk of the four types of IPV increases significantly (see Table 3).

Table 1. Percentage of women and their partners participating in domestic and care work

	Women	Partners
Care of children	87.46	30.71
Caring for the elderly	69.56	27.72
Household chores	94.50	25.34
Shopping	76.21	60.10
Care for the disabled	73.46	29.64
Household repairs	11.77	71.28
Caring for the sick	87.00	42.43

Source: Endireh 2021. Author's calculations.

Table 2. Participation of women and their intimate partners in D&CW, Mexico. Linear regression.

Participation in D&CW (Index)	Women			Partners		
	Coefficient	Signif.	Beta	Coefficient	Signif.	Beta
Low socioeconomic stratum (vs. very low)	-0.0035	n.s.	-0.0098	-0.0081	**	-0.0177
Middle socioeconomic stratum (vs. very low)	-0.0289	***	-0.0689	0.0030	n.s.	0.0055
High socioeconomic stratum (vs. very low)	-0.0648	***	-0.1256	-0.0188	***	-0.0285
Woman's age	-0.0022	***	-0.1864	0.0006	**	0.0378
Partner's age	0.0005	***	0.0450	-0.0002	n.s.	-0.0103
Woman's years of schooling	0.0017	***	0.0442	0.0018	***	0.0366
Partner's years of schooling	-0.0010	***	-0.0262	0.0050	***	0.1003
Free union	0.0084	***	0.0227	0.0193	***	0.0406
Duration of union	-0.0004	***	-0.0349	-0.0012	***	-0.0833
At least 1 child under 6 years of age	0.0464	***	0.1107	0.0396	***	0.0739
Woman works outside the home	0.0039	**	0.0108	0.0597	***	0.1301
Partner does not work	-0.0103	***	-0.0217	-0.0044	n.s.	-0.0072
Woman earns more than her partner	-0.0109	***	-0.0141	0.0324	***	0.0328
Have a domestic worker	-0.0189	***	-0.0404	-0.0792	***	-0.1324
Index of women's egalitarian attitudes	0.0561	***	0.0349	0.2371	***	0.1156
Index of women's decision-making power	0.1141	***	0.0973	-0.0804	***	-0.0537
Constant	0.4402	***		0.1430	***	.

N = 61.085

R^2 adjusted= 0.1194

* p<0.05   **p<0.01   ***p<=0.001

N = 61.085

R^2 adjusted= 0.1097

* p<0.05   **p<0.01   ***p<=0.001

Source: Endireh 2021. Author's calculations.

Table 3. Risk factors for IPV against married women in Mexico. Logistic regression models.

Variables	Emotional		Economic		Physical		Sexual	
	Odds ratio	Signif.	Odds ratio	Signif.	Odds ratio	Signif.	Odds ratio	Signif.
Low socioeconomic stratum (vs. very low)	1.1961	***	1.1809	***	1.0883	ns	1.2539	**
Middle socioeconomic stratum (vs. very low)	1.2125	***	1.0650	ns	0.9662	ns	1.2454	*
High socioeconomic stratum (vs. very low)	1.0788	ns	0.9848	ns	0.8202	0.0220	0.9711	ns
Woman's age	0.9861	***	0.9899	***	0.9913	0.0090	0.9718	***
Partner's age	0.9973	ns	1.0008	ns	0.9931	0.0100	1.0048	ns
Woman's years of schooling	1.0180	***	1.0155	**	1.0009	ns	1.0165	ns
Partner's years of schooling	0.9845	***	0.9825	***	0.9700	***	0.9723	**
Free union	0.7742	***	0.8249	***	0.7222	***	0.9167	ns
Duration of union (years)	1.0061	***	0.9998	ns	1.0100	***	1.0091	*
Number of children	1.0568	***	1.0173	ns	1.0093	ns	1.0076	ns
Woman has a paid job	1.4474	***	1.5293	***	1.5752	***	1.8137	***
Partner has no job	1.0183	ns	1.0670	ns	1.1815	0.0010	0.9051	ns
Woman earns more than partner	1.1205	**	1.1857	**	1.0326	ns	1.0532	ns
Woman's participation in D&CW (Index)	1.4642	***	1.7987	***	1.6281	***	2.5263	***
Partner's participation in D&CW (Index)	0.3015	***	0.1874	***	0.1783	***	0.1041	***
Egalitarian Attitudes of woman (Index)	0.5676	***	0.4048	***	0.7614	ns	0.8136	ns
Woman's Decision Making Power (Index)	0.6622	***	0.4609	***	0.1315	***	0.0407	***
N=	61,085		61,085		61,085		61,085	
Log-Likelihood	-14448.4080		-20650.304		-14448.408		-5965.2802	
Pseudo R^2	0.0457		0.0322		0.0457		0.0603	

Source: ENDIREH 2021. Own calculations