

## The Rise of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the Pandemic: The Covid-19 Experience in Turkey

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### Abstract:

This study aims to find out the effect of Covid-19 on intimate partner violence against women in Turkey by using the regression discontinuity design and difference-in-difference methods. The pandemic increased exposure duration between the partners, introduced new economic difficulties such as unemployment and income losses, and provoked more alcohol consumption. These changes are possible triggers of partner violence against women. The data on google trend keywords is used in the study to overcome the data difficulties. The findings indicate that the Covid-19 pandemic has increased partner violence in the country. Additional estimations conducted to analyze whether the increase in domestic violence causes higher divorce rates, indicating that the pandemic has also increased divorce attempts. The results show that divorce considerations of Turkish women have also increased since the pandemic. The main mechanisms behind the rising trend of domestic violence and divorce are significantly associated with the increase in exposure duration and economic stress.

**Keywords:** Intimate Partner Violence, Exposure Duration, Economic Stress, Covid-19, Alcohol Use.

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