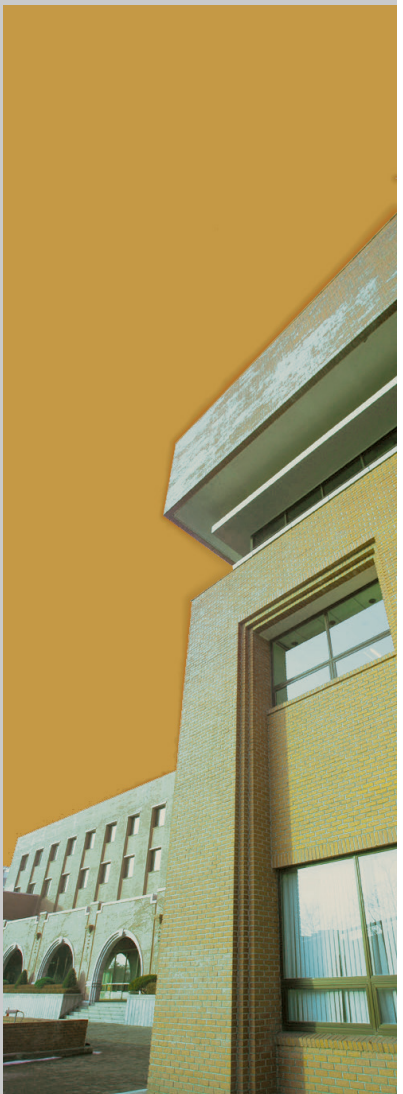
2016

English Research Paper – 07

Development of a Women's safety Index

: A Cross-Regional Analysis of risk factors in Seoul City

Mi Hye Chang
Bok Soon Park
Sung Hoon Rho
Hoon Lee
Ji Youn Jeoung



Korean Women's Development Institute

Development of a Women's safety Index :
A Cross-Regional Analysis of risk factors in Seoul City

©2016
Korean Women's Development Institute
225 Jinheung-ro Eunpyeong-gu
Seoul 03367
Korea
www.kwdi.re.kr

Contents

1. Introduction ····· 1

1) Background and Objectives of Study ····· 1

2) Research Methods ····· 2

3) Theoretical Background and Precedent Studies ····· 3

2. Analysis Results of Domestic Violence Cases Reported via 112 in 20145

3. Computation of Local Women Safety Index ····· 11

4. Results from Local Examination of Hot Spots in Seoul City ····· 16

5. Policy Suggestions and Expected Outcomes of Study ····· 19

1) Improvement of Women Safety Services utilizing IT ····· 19

2) Assessment and Development of Women Safety Projects for Local Communities ····· 20

3) Measures for Strengthening Local Community Cooperation System for Local Women Safety ····· 23

4) Anticipated Results from Local Women Safety Policies ····· 25

www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

Tables

I. Introduction ····· 1

<Table 1> Number of Reported Domestic Violence Cases by Gu ····· 6

<Table 2> Correlation Analysis between Local Characteristics and Number of Cases Reported via 112 ····· 10

<Table 3> Local Women Safety Index of Administrative Gus in Seoul City ····· 12

<Table 4> Correlation between Local Women Safety Index and Women Safety in Seoul City ····· 14

www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

Figures

[Figure 1] Reporting Frequency by Mont ····· 7

[Figure 2] Reporting Frequency by the Hour ····· 8

[Figure 3] Reporting Frequency according to Gender ····· 9

[Figure 4] Correlation between Local Women Safety Index and Reported Domestic Violence Cases per 1,000 population in Gu ····· 15

www.kwdi.re.kr
한국여성정책연구원

Development of a Women's safety Index : A Cross-Regional Analysis of risk factors in Seoul City

Mi Hye Chang
Bok Soon Park
Sung Hoon Rho
Hoon Lee
Ji Youn Jeoung

Ⅰ. Introduction

1) Background and Objectives of Study

Recently, women safety has been viewed with increased levels of interest in society. However, it still is not easy to identify comprehensively the many incidents and factors that threaten women safety. Violence is a gendered factor that threatens women safety; leading cases of violence against women are domestic violence and sexual violence. While the number of cases of domestic and sexual violence can be found by looking at criminal statistics, there is a limit in identifying the actual number of occurring cases of violence because statistics only account for reported cases.

Additionally, despite continued government efforts to strengthen safety for women, violence which threatens women safety is not on the decrease. For example, the number of women who went to the ONE-STOP Support Center for domestic violence was 1,788 in 2011. This number increased to 2,020 in 2012 and increased higher

www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

still to 3,303 in 2013. Likewise, the number of reported sexual violence cases increased from 21,912 in 2011 to 22,933 in 2012. The number rose to 28,786 in 2013.

Moreover, the possibility of violence is not applicable identically to all women. Thus, the need exists to analyze the relationship or correlation between local community characteristics and women safety. Until now, studies does on causes of violence have been focused on individual elements such as individual dispositions, values, attitude, incomes, and genders. The individual, however, is a person who belongs to a local community and is thus influenced by the culture, environment, and structure of the local community. The individual is a being who interacts with the group that he or she belongs to. Therefore, the need arises to analyze the impact that the local community has on the causes of violence.

Upon this background, then, the objectives of this study are as follows. First, the current state of violence is investigated by examining the following two figures: 1) domestic violence statistics among 112 reports in the Seoul City area and 2) sexual violence statistics in the district under the jurisdiction of Seoul Gangseo Police Department. Second, the correlation between the current state of violence against women and local community characteristics is analyzed. Third, local investigation of hot spots and cold spots of domestic and sexual violence is carried out; results are analyzed. Fourth, alternative policies for women safety on the local scale are proposed.

2) Research Methods

The following research methods were used for this study. First, a

literature review was conducted in order to examine both academic and policy discussions on violence against women, women safety, and local safety. Literature was also referenced to investigate current states of local communities and violence-related conditions. Second, statistical data was used to analyze the current state of violence against women. To analyze the occurrence of domestic violence in the Seoul area, cases of domestic violence reported via 112 were analyzed. To analyze sexual violence crimes, the researchers obtained crime statistics from the National Police Agency's Korea Integrated Criminal System (KICS) and analyzed the obtained data. Third, hot spots and cold spots were selected in terms of domestic and sexual violence. Surveys were administered to local residents of the selected spots; survey results were analyzed. Fourth, a Focus Group Interview (FSI) was conducted two times with experts as interviewees. Index professionals were consulted to create an index on occurrences of violence against women. Afterwards, experts on women safety were consulted for advice on women safety policies in local communities.

3) Theoretical Background and Precedent Studies

Violence against women is a gendered type of violence; violence is inflicted upon women by men who have the upper hand in terms of power. The scope of violence against women is wide as cases differ according to the relationship between men and women involved; cases also differ depending upon the type of violence inflicted. Two approaches exist when trying to explain why violence against women occurs. The individualistic approach pays attention to the individual traits of the perpetrator. The feminist approach focuses on a male-dominant society and culture which gives rise to patriarchy.

www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

In a same culture or a single country, violence against women occurs differently depending upon local areas. Neither the individualistic nor the feminist approach can offer a viable explanation for why this is so. Therefore, violence against women has to be examined on multiple levels. The interaction between the local community environment and individual and socio-cultural characteristics have to be inspected to see how such interaction impacts violence against women. For examiple, some national studies have revealed crime rates differ according to the size of a local community.

In Korea, numerous precedent studies have been conducted in the strengthening of local women safety. In many cases, however, the studies have remained at the generic level. They have only identified the correlation between women safety awareness and women safety-related policies. Additionally, almost no studies exist that have focused on the Seoul Metropolitan area, an area where nearly half of the Korean population reside. Thus, precedent studies have not well reflected the correlation between regional traits and women safety. Consequently, in order to fill the void made by the precedent studies, this study will discuss women safety with Seoul as the focus area of interest.

2. Analysis Results of Domestic Violence Cases Reported via 112 in 2014

This study analyzed the domestic violence cases reported via 112; the data was provided by the National Police Agency. The original data for reference contains all domestic violence cases reported via 112 in Seoul Metropolitan Area during 2014. This data has a total of 45,686 reports. Each report contains the following: date and time of violence occurrence, place of occurrence, police station which has jurisdiction of the place of occurrence, and gender of the reporter. After data analysis, 2,051 cases were found to be reported from Gyeonggi-do, an area outside of Seoul; another 88 cases had ambiguous places of occurrence. So after eliminating 2,094 cases, 43,547 cases were chosen for analysis. Geocoding was done for the 43,547 cases which occurred in 423 administrative dongs (dong: a Korean word referring to a residential area unit) belonging to 25 administrative gus (gu: another Korean word that also refers to a residential area unit; comprises of multiple dongs). The first geocoding generated 34,349 normal coordinates and 9,198 abnormal coordinates. Address correction was then done for the 9,198 abnormal coordinates. Upon an additional round of geocoding after address correction, all 42,617 cases were generated as normal coordinates and included in the final analysis.

<Table 1> below shows the number of domestic violence cases reported per each administrative gu. As can be seen in the table, Gangseo-gu has the highest number of reported cases with 2,761; next comes Nowon-gu with 2,738, followed by Songpa-gu with 2,631. The gu with the lowest number of reported cases was

www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

Jung-gu with 597 followed by Jongno-gu with 645. However, the population difference between the gus have not been taken into account. Thus, there are limits in pronouncing final judgment simply by looking at the number of reported cases. Consequently, the number of reported cases per population of 1,000 was analyzed for each gu. Analysis results showed Geumcheon-gu with the highest number with 5.95 followed by Jungnang-gu (5.66) and Eunpyeong-gu (5.60). The gu with the lowest number of reported cases per 1,000 showed to be Seongbuk-gu (3.14).

<Table 1> Number of Reported Domestic Violence Cases by Gu

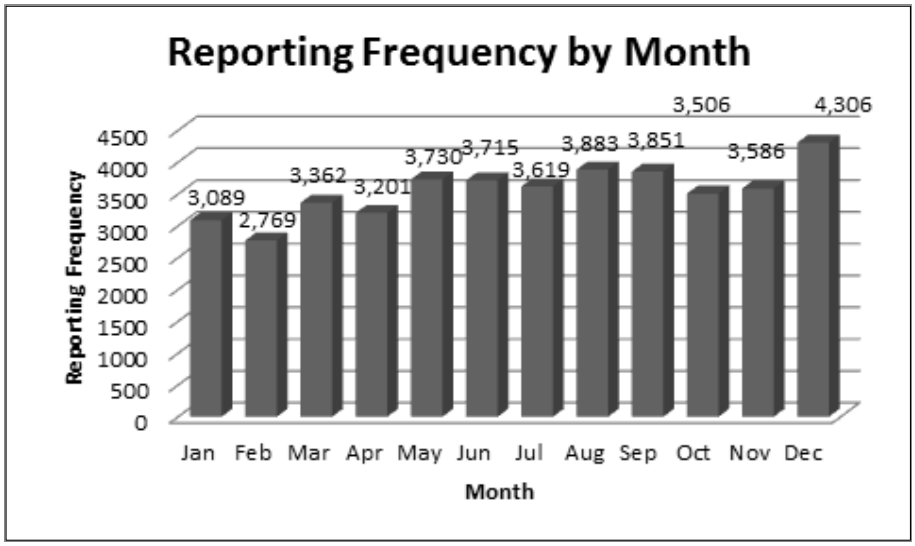
(Unit: case, 1,000 people/case)

Administrative Gu	Reported Cases	Cases per 1,000
Gangseo	2,761	5.05
Nowon	2,738	4.66
Songpa	2,631	4.07
Eunpyeong	2,522	5.60
Gwanak	2,330	4.47
Gangnam	2,307	4.37
Jungnang	2,294	5.69
Gangdong	2,172	4.66
Yangchun	2,108	4.49
Guro	1,739	4.17
Dobong	1,667	4.78
Dongdaemun	1,588	4.58
Dongjak	1,554	3.91
Gwangjin	1,442	3.92
Geumcheon	1,442	5.95
Seongbuk	1,436	3.14
Mapo	1,425	3.86
Yeongdeungpo	1,391	3.51

Administrative Gu	Reported Cases	Cases per 1,000
Seocho	1,379	3,51
Seodaemun	1,172	3.73
Seongdong	1,117	3.77
Gangbuk	1,088	3.35
Yongsan	1,072	4.71
Jongno	645	4.15
Jung	597	4.93
Seoul City Combined	42,617	4.35

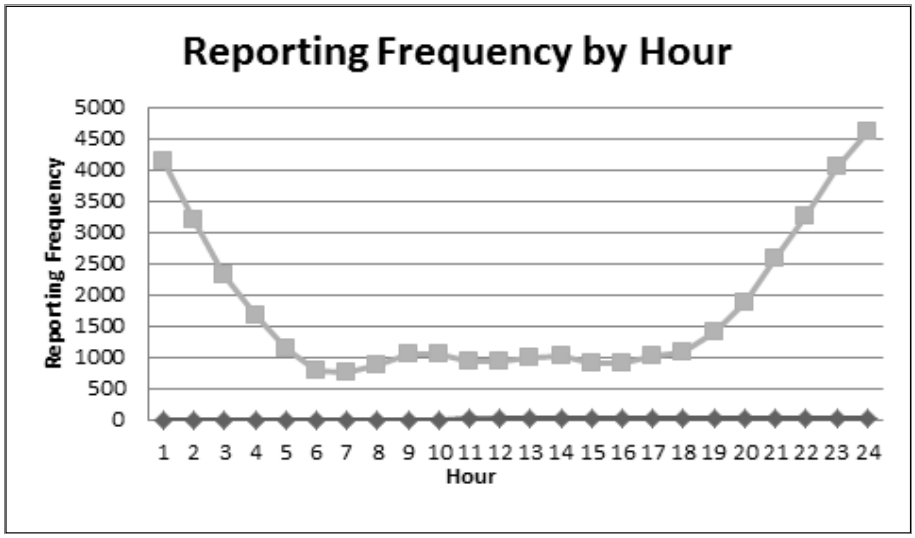
Reference: Gu population obtained from 2010 demographics released by National Statistics Office

Reported cases were also analyzed on a monthly basis. In 2014, December had the highest number of reported cases with 4,306 (10,1%); February had the least with 2,769 (6.5%) (refer to [Figure 1]).



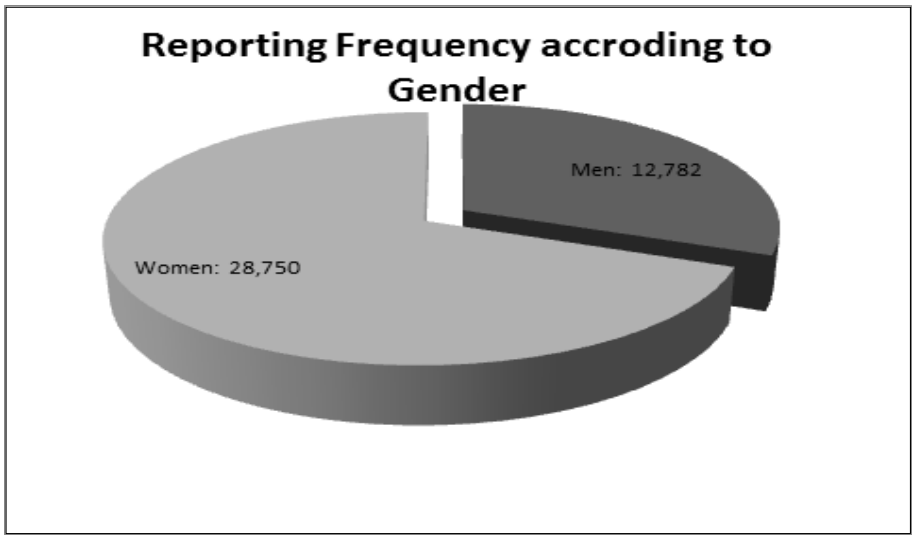
[Figure 1] Reporting Frequency by Mont

Analysis of reporting by time periods showed the following results. Number of cases reported started to increase gradually from 18:00 until 01:00 and then began to fall back down. In particular, 54.5% of the reporting occurred between the hours of 21:00 and 03:00. The hour between 23:00 and 24:00 showed the highest reporting rate at 10.8% (refer to [Figure 2]).



[Figure 2] Reporting Frequency by the Hour

Meanwhile, gender-wise, 12,782 cases (30.0%) were reported by men while 28,750 cases (67.5%) were reported by women. The figure reveals that domestic violence is a bigger threat to women (refer to [Figure 3]).



[Figure 3] Reporting Frequency according to Gender

Based on the data presented above, the correlation between number of cases reported via 112 and economic levels and safety-related factors were analyzed. The correlation analysis was done for each gu. Analysis results showed that the number of reported cases had a correlation of significance (p-value 0.1) with the following factors: 1) ratio of households headed by woman and 2) ratio of households on the national basic livelihood security system (NBLSS) (refer to <Table 3>).

www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

〈Table 2〉 Correlation Analysis between Local Characteristics and Number of Cases Reported via 112

	Reported Cases	Households headed by women	House-holds on NBLSS	Percentage of low-income households among all respondents that were asked of their income level	Ratio of respondents who felt severely threatened of their livelihood 1 (crime,violence)	Ratio of respondents who felt severely threatened of their livelihood 2 (waste)	Ratio of respondents who felt severely threatened of their livelihood 3 (parking)	Cases reported per 1000 people in gu
Reported Cases	1							
Households headed by women	.781**	1						
Households on NBLSS	.628**	.490*	1					
Percentage of low-income households among all respondents that were asked of their income level	-.169	-.122	.080	1				
Ratio of respondents who felt severely threatened of their livelihood 1 (crime,violence)	-.009	-.213	-.057	-.283	1			
Ratio of respondents who felt severely threatened of their livelihood 2 (waste)	-.003	-.142	-.015	.154	.390	1		
Ratio of respondents who felt severely threatened of their livelihood 3 (parking)	-.102	-.344	-.135	-.045	.543**	.734**	1	
Cases reported per 1000 people in gu	.386†	-.079	.258	-.057	.327	.041	.243	1

www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

3. Computation of Local Women Safety Index

To analyze what kind of environmental impact the local community has on women safety, this study investigated the correlation between macro indicators (indices) related to women safety. Interest on local areas as units of analysis have been on the rise. Thus, examination of precedent studies yielded various factors at the local level. Previous studies have generally used averages of individual characteristics per each administrative gu or used variation coefficients to show the characteristics of environments that an individual perpetrator is subject to. Such studies measured local characteristics by looking at the following: 1) macro indices including land value, population density, economic variables, and crime rates of each administrative area and 2) averages of individual conditions and awareness including education level, solidarity among residents, and awareness of crime occurrence. With the measurements, local women safety index was initially categorized into the following five categories: 1) demographics, 2) socio-economical, 3) residential conditions, 4) public order, and 5) safe environment. After the initial categorization, experts in the area of crime and local environment were consulted to create the final index.

The data for Seoul City, the area under study, was indexed by different environmental factors per each administrative gu. After indexing, the relationship between environmental factors and domestic/ sexual violence were analyzed. The indices utilized for the computation of the local women safety index are as follows: population density of each administrative gu, residential population, transient population, crude divorce rate, women to men local population ratio, income awareness level, percentage of households on NBLSS, percentage of

www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

households headed by women, percentage of persons experiencing job insecurity, awareness rate of waste left neglected on street, financial independency of gu, ratio of college graduates, awareness rate of crime/violence severity, awareness rate of severity of parking order, apartment ratio, home sale/purchase price index, social trust, satisfaction level of living environment, number of police officers, number of installed CCTV, population designated per one patrol division, number of adult entertainment areas, threat experience rate, crime victim threat experience rate, selection rate of residential safety/gu public order, and urban safety awareness rate.

The averages and standard deviations of each aforementioned index were computed. Then the average scores of sub-indices were computed. The computations were weighted to deduce the local women safety index. The administrative gu with the lowest index score was 018 with −29.57. It was followed by 017 with −16.55 and 001 with −16.12. The gu with the highest index score was 022 with 36.05 followed by 011 with 35.85 and 015 with 22.45 (refer to <Table 3>).

〈Table 3〉 Local Women Safety Index of Administrative Gus in Seoul City

Administrative Gu	Local Women Safety Index
001	-16.12
002	-9.97
003	-13.29
004	-11.33
005	14.67
006	-7.71
007	-14.43
008	21.97
009	-10.10
010	-8.45
011	35.85

Administrative Gu	Local Women Safety Index
012	-4.02
013	-12.08
014	7.71
015	22.45
016	-6.80
017	-16.55
018	-29.57
019	-17.83
020	-0.95
021	-7.53
022	36.05
023	21.64
024	16.39
025	10.01

The correlation between local women safety index and women safety-related statistics was analyzed (refer to Table 4>). Of the results, households headed by women showed a positive correlation with reported domestic violence cases, and reported sexual violence (.781 and .514, respectively). Households on NBLSS showed a positive correlation with reported domestic violence cases and households headed by women (.628 and .490, respectively). Local women safety index showed a significant correlation with households headed by women, livelihood safety awareness (crime/violence), and livelihood safety awareness (parking). The computed local women safety index showed a very weak linear relationship with number of reported domestic violence cases per 1,000 population in a gu.

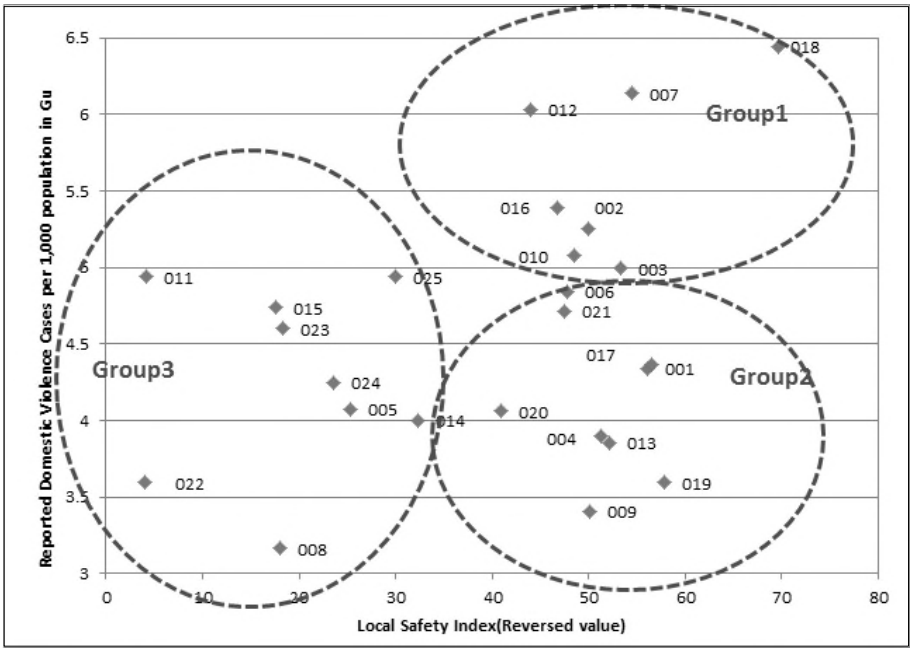
www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

〈Table 4〉 Correlation between Local Women Safety Index and Women Safety in Seoul City

	Reported domestic violence cases	Sexual violence occurr-ences	Reported sexual violence	House-holds headed by women	House-holds on NBLSS	Percen-tage of low-income household	Livelihood safety awareness (crime/ violence)	Livelihood safety awareness (waste)	Livelihood safety awareness (parking)	Local women safety index
Reported domestic violence cases	1	-.031	.174	.781**	.628**	-.169	-.009	-.003	-.102	.381
Sexual violence occurrences	-.031	1	.620**	.302	-.095	.003	-.117	-.063	-.183	.123
Reported sexual violence	.174	.620**	1	.514**	-.003	-.083	-.128	-.320	-.485*	.237
Households headed by women	.781**	.302	.514*	1	.490*	-.122	-.213	-.142	-.344	.487*
Households on NBLSS	.628**	-.095	-.003	.490*	1	.080	-.057	-.015	-.135	.139
Percentage of low-income household	-.169	.003	-.083	-.122	.080	1	-.284	.155	-.046	-.179
Livelihood safety awareness (crime/violence)	-.009	-.117	-.128	-.213	-.057	-.284	1	.390	.543**	-.664**
Livelihood safety awareness (waste)	-.003	-.063	-.320	-.142	-.015	.155	.390	1	.734**	-.381
Livelihood safety awareness (parking)	-.102	-.183	-.485*	-.344	-.135	-.046	.543**	.734**	1	-.526**
Local women safety index	.381	.123	.237	.487*	.139	-.179	-.664**	-.381	-.526**	1

** $p<0.01$* $p<0.05$

[Figure 4] below shows the distribution of gus according to the correlation between local women safety index and the number of reported domestic violence cases. As can be seen in the figure, the gus in Seoul City form clusters to some degree in terms of the correlation between the two indicators.



[Figure 4] Correlation between Local Women Safety Index and Reported Domestic Violence Cases per 1,000 population in Gu

www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

4. Results from Local Examination of Hot Spots in Seoul City

Domestic violence hot spots were designated by utilizing the address data of the final 42,617 cases selected from the 2014 data of total cases reported via 112. When considering only those cases with female reporters, the following three gus showed the highest number of reported cases per 100,000 households: Geumcheon (957.7), Jungnang (868.7), and Dobong (835.6). To designate sexual violence hot spots, statistics data was obtained from the National Police Agency's Korea Integrated Criminal System (KICS); obtained data was analyzed. A total of 389 rape and sexual molestation cases occurred during a 23-month period, from January 2012 to November 2013. The addresses of the occurrences were utilized for designation of sexual violence hot spots.

Two hot spots and two cold spots were designated for each of the three gus with the top three numbers of reported domestic violence cases. One hot spot and one cold spot were designated for Gangseo-gu. In all, a total of fourteen hot spots and cold spots were designated. Then, surveys were administered to a total of 720 residents (480 women, 240 men) residing in the designated areas.

Domestic violence hot spot-cold spot T-test was done for the entire sample of areas investigated for domestic violence. T-test results showed that although the majority of the variables did not show meaningful differences, two variables displayed statistical significance. First, the variable 'exchange with neighbor 2' was higher in the domestic violence hot spots than the cold spots. Second, the variable 'standard of living' was lower in the hot spots than the cold spots.

www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

With such a result, it can be interpreted that one of the most important causes behind domestic violence is an economic issue.

There was a clear difference in the number of domestic violence occurrences between the hot spots and the cold spots designated for study. However, in terms of the resident awareness level of whether such violence was occurring, the residents in the hot spots did not differ from the cold spot residents. Based on the result, then, it can be said that the domestic violence frequency felt by the local residents does not accurately reflect the actual number of domestic violence occurrences.

What aggravates matters is that many domestic violence cases are not reported to the police. Domestic violence victims think the occurrence as a family matter and an issue that should be taken care of in the home. So although an area may have an actual high number of domestic violence cases, unless the victims would share their plight with their neighboring residents, the residents cannot know whether violence is occurring or not. Thus, attention needs to be given to the fact that awareness level of violence can be different from the actual occurrence frequency of domestic violence.

Analysis of the surveys administered to sexual violence hot spots and cold spots yielded statistically meaningful difference between the two areas in only one variable - exchange with neighbors. The respondents of cold spot areas showed to have a higher level of neighor exchange compared to the respondents of hot spot areas. Such difference can be explained by regional differences. Two areas designated as sexual violence hot spots were areas where adult entertainment clubs and motels are concentrated. On the other hand, areas designated as sexual violence cold spots are residential areas.

www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

Generally, residents residing in residential areas have higher levels of connectedness in comparison to commercial areas where there is much more mobility and entering of outsiders. Therefore, such difference in levels of connectedness can be interpreted as the reason for the difference in neighbor exchange between hot spots and cold spots.

5. Policy Suggestions and Expected Outcomes of Study

1) Improvement of Women Safety Services utilizing IT

The following are a few suggestions for improving women safety services utilizing information technology: 1) crime prevention effect analysis and monitoring using CCTV (closed-circuit television), 2) alarm (warning) service for prevention of recurring domestic violence, 3) service for safe return to home, 4) location sharing application, 5) women safety application, and 6) setting up of a women safety map using collective intelligence.

First, in the case of CCTV use, the Ministry of Public Safety and Security has been seeing some positive results from CCTV use regarding violent crime prevention and criminal arrest. However, expert analysis and effectiveness analysis of CCTV use is still in its early stages and in need of more development. In particular, special attention should be given to analyze how CCTV can be utilized in preventing sexual and domestic violence crimes.

Second, in regards to an alarm (warning) service for preventing recurring domestic violence, a violence hotline can be provided to families who have reported dometsic violence. For instance, if a certain household continously made calls via 112 for domestic violence, then with the consent of the reporter or a household member, an alarm and recording device could be installed in the home under duress. When the alarm is pressed during an emergency situation, the precinct police would be immediately notified of the situation and the conversation at the home would be automatically recorded. Such an alarm/recording device would ensure quick response

www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

by the police. The recording device would further ensure that all conversations that took place before the police arrives at the scene of violence can be used as evidence.

Third, as for a safe return service and a location sharing application, applications abound which provide location sharing. So a new application may lead to confusion. Additionally, for people who are not well aware of smart phone services, the application will not be of much help. Therefore, service integration needs to take place for a location sharing application that all Koreans can use. Moreover, there is need to develop locating sharing technology for people who do not use smart phones.

Fourth, regarding a women safety application and a creation of a women safety map utilizing collective intelligence, the current children safety map provided by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family can be used as a model. In making such a map, individuals who are aware of potentially dangerous spots can be asked to participate; thus, the collective intelligence of women can be utilized to create a women safety map aimed at violence prevention.

2) Assessment and Development of Women Safety Projects for Local Communities

Currently, the ‘Safe Village Project’ is being executed in many areas around the country. The project is being carried out in many diverse formats in different gus and dongs to meet the needs and desires of local residents. For the safe village project to be connected to capacity-building for women safety, the following would have to be executed. Firts, continuous research is necessary to identify the current state of safety in local communities. The

research should take into account local living environment, demographics, and socio-cultural characteristics of a given local community. The mechanisms that give rise to violence against women are many and diverse. Also, violence occurs in different forms depending on the local environment at hand. Consequently, the multifaceted characteristics of a given local community should be identified periodically. Safety projects should be structured and run so as to diminish the mechanisms that generate violence.

Second, in order to assess the effectiveness of local community research and women safety policies being implemented locally, there is need to 1) analyze in detail the demographics and environmental factors of local communities and 2) provide/strengthen customized safety policies. For example, in areas with higher 112 call volumes for domestic violence, projects dealing with domestic violence prevention education and raising of awareness can be developed. The effectiveness of the implemented policies can be identified by researching deeply the before and after of areas with policies set in place. Changes in occurrence and awareness level of domestic violence can be examined.

Third, analysis which links local community characteristics with currently occurring cases of violence against women should continously be conducted on a local scale. Additionally, performance evaluation and effectiveness analysis for the safe village project should be done. To check whether the safe village project actually contributes to women safety, the following questions should be addressed by analyzing various data available: 1) Has violence and crimes against women decreased? and 2) Has the awareness level of local residents concerning safety been raised higher? Especially,

www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

analyzing the change in safety levels ‘felt’ by women can be an effective way to reflect the women’s position in evaluating the safe village project. In practical terms, statistical indices presented in this study such as number of reported domestic violence cases and women safety index can be considered seriously when planning and executing the safe village project. After the safe village project has been executed, the indices which indicate levels of violence against women and women safety can again be checked to assess the effectiveness of the safe village project.

Fourth, there is need to continously monitor the residents’ participation and operation of the many safe village project projects being conducted around the nation. Since the safe vilage project is planned and implemented based on the needs and wants of the local residents, it is critical that the local residents participate voluntarily and take ownership of the project. If the resident participation level is high, then naturally the camaraderie and bonding between the residents will be stronger. Strong bonding between the residents can lead to a local community culture which increases safety for women. Consequently, the need exists to continuously analyze and evaluate in order to find out 1) the direction that the safe village project should take to ensure high levels of resident participation and 2) measures of how residents can participate voluntarily.

Each local government, including that of Seoul City, is tyring out numerous projects for women safety. Local communities are putting their efforts into creating a safety network for women. For the women safety network to be effectively set up, attention should be paid so as to ensure that there are no blind spots − i.e., no group or area should be neglected. To make sure that no blind spots

occur, then, a demographics study would have to be first conducted on women residing in local communities. The following are vital elements to consider when planning and executing women safety projects: women occupancy ratio, ratio of households with women as head, ratio of single-women households, age distribution of women residing in community. For example, up till 2014, Seoul City provided the Home Security Service for single-women households. That service was a project that took well into account the characteristic of areas with high cocentration of single-women households. Currently, safe return home service for women and safe travel to school service for female students/children are being offered. These services are policies customized for the younger-aged population with high mobility. In addition, women safety projects will have to seriously consider the yearly increasing population of elderly women. Elderly women have a weaker and a limited social network in comparison to younger women. Therfore, safety networks and information should be provided to the elderly so that they could easily request for help in case of emergencies. Such services would strenghten the currently existing women safety projects.

3) Measures for Strengthening Local Community Cooperation System for Local Women Safety

To strengthen the local community cooperation system, the need exists to foster local experts on local women safety. In addition, experts in various fields including counseling, medical, legal, and welfare should hold regular meetings. Through the meetings, the experts should create a close-knit cooperation system so that they could, as a team, immediately respond to all violence against women

www.kwdi.re.kr 한국여성정책연구원

incidents - from prevention to response upon violence occurrence. Additionally, the experts who are in action in the local communities should be identified and analyzed. For areas with lack of experts, there is need to foster experts in a systematic manner to fill that lack.

Moreover, cooperation should be expanded and success stories should be found and shared. Currently, the police is operation a solution team – a local community cooperation system - to support domestic violence victims. The solution team, however, has potential for more development and can protect and support victims in diverse manners; it can provide help customized for each local area. Thus, each local communities and police stations should share cases where quality cooperation has taken place. Other local communities can then benchmark and further develop the shared successful cases.

Lastly, a night-time threat response system should be operated for the local community. Considering the fact that safety threats to women normally occur during the night time, various preventive measures should be developed and set in place. More night street lights and installation of emergency bells could be some ways to ensure safety for women at night. Furthermore, in case incidents that threaten women safety occur at night, hospitals, counseling centers, and emergency care centers should be secured for women to immediately use at night times

There is also a need to provide temporary shelter at the local scale for perpetrators of violence. When a domestic violence case occurs, the police who intervenes at the scene will take immediate measures depending on the severity of the case. However, even if a restraining order has been given, the order is violated from time to time because the perpetrator does not have a place to reside. Thus, domestic violence recurs. Therefore, by providing a temporary shelter

for perpetrators, local governments can protect domestic violence victims. The police can know the location of the perpetrator while the perpetrator stays at the temporary shelter. In addition, the perpetrator can be connected with local experts for counseling, education, and post-violence measures.

4) Anticipated Results from Local Women Safety Policies

Thus far, this study has suggested several policies to strengthen women safety at the local scale. The following results are anticipated from the suggested policies. First, numerous women safety policies can be implemented at the local community scale. Even if local communities implement policies with the same framework, the policies can be diversified and customized to meet the specific needs and wants of the many different local communities. Therefore, if local surveys by experts are done on a periodic basis, then the localization of women safety policies can be anticipated

In addition, local human resources can be utilized for women safety. The local residents and civic organizations who know best the situations and safety conditions of the local area can participate actively in the implementing of local women safety policies. Their active participation will allow an accurate analysis of the present state of women safety in the respective local communities. Such accurate analysis will naturally lead to strengthening of measures for women safety. The active participation by local residents and civic organizations can also spark cooperation between local private organizations, local governments, and the central government. The participation can be a catalyst for the finding and fostering of local community experts on women safety.