

## Abstract

This thesis examines the issues of domestic violence faced by South Asian women within the western countries. It has analysed two novels, *Brick Lane* by Monica Ali and *French Lover* by Taslima Nasrin. The issue of domestic violence exists globally although with varying degrees across countries. Even advanced countries like England and France where women enjoy a better social status and are perceived protected are not an exemption. The analysis of this thesis suggests that women are vulnerable to domestic violence irrespective of their socio-cultural settings and geographical locations. This vulnerability is pervasive, atrocious and unpreventable. Some of the South Asian families discourage women from socialising. This undermines the development of their individual identity and independent thinking. In many instances, women become unable to distinguish between being cared or controlled because violence does not come from strangers but from their own families. However, domestic violence does not only impact the women who suffer from it, their family members also face its implications. The thesis concludes by suggesting that in order to reduce the sufferings of women from domestic abuse the intensity of the problem needs to be realised and assessed. Also, there is a need to change the approach to deal with domestic violence.