



**PERCEPTIONS OF MEDICAL STUDENTS REGARDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:
A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF FRENCH AND ROMANIAN STUDENTS AT UMPH IULIU
HATIEGANU IN CLUJ-NAPOCA**

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Introduction: Domestic violence is a problem that affects individuals in different cultures and societies. Efforts have been made to approach the problem globally, with variations in perceptions and attitudes towards domestic violence among different populations. This study aims to explore differences in perceptions of domestic violence between Romanian students and French students at UMPH Iuliu Hatieganu in Cluj-Napoca.

Romania and France have distinct cultural contexts, each with its own set of norms, values and beliefs. In Romanian society, traditional gender roles and patriarchal structures have historically influenced perceptions of domestic violence. Thus, the acceptance of male dominance within the family may contribute to the normalization of certain forms of abuse. In contrast, French society has undergone significant transformations in terms of gender equality and women's rights, shaping the way domestic violence is perceived and treated.

The legal framework concerning domestic violence in Romania and France show variations that may influence perceptions of the issue. While both countries have legislation aimed to combat domestic violence, the implementation and enforcement of these laws may differ. In France, comprehensive laws and support systems for victims of domestic violence have been established. In contrast, Romania has experienced difficulties in implementing of the specific legislation, resulting in gaps in victim protection. Social stigmatization of domestic violence can act as a barrier to victim's help-seeking behavior. In Romanian society, cultural norms can perpetuate shame and silence around domestic abuse, discouraging victims from seeking support or speaking out against perpetrators. France has taken important steps to reduce the stigma associated with domestic violence.

Material and method: We used a 10-question questionnaire in which we tried to assess different aspects of domestic violence; the answers being statistically processed.

Conclusion: Perceptions of domestic violence among Romanian and French students are shaped by a complex interaction between cultural, social and historical factors. While both societies recognize the importance of approaching domestic violence, variations in cultural norms, legal contexts and perceptions of gender roles contribute to differences in how this issue is perceived and treated. By understanding these contrasts, stakeholders can adjust interventions and support systems to better meet the needs of victims.

Keywords: stigma, domestic violence

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