

THE IMPACT OF VIOLENCE AGAINST SINGLE WOMEN AND WELL-BEING: A CASE STUDY IN FARRUKHABAD DISTRICT

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Abstract- Violence against women and girls is one of the world's most prevalent human rights violations, taking place every day, many times over, in every corner of the globe. It has serious short- and long-term physical, economic and psychological consequences on women and girls, preventing them full and equal participation in society. The magnitude of its impact, both in the lives of individuals and families and society as a whole is immeasurable conditions created by the pandemic including lockdowns, reduced mobility, heightened isolation, stress and economic uncertainty have led to an alarming spike in domestic violence and have further exposed women and girls to other forms of violence, from child marriage to sexual harassment online. Violence against women and girls is defined as any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering to women and girls, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life encompasses, but is not limited to physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family or within the general community, and perpetrated or condoned by the state. This paper deals with violence against single women, its various forms, its causes and solution for violence are also discussed in this paper.

Key words: Violence, Single Women, Well-Being, Social, Problem, Farrukhabad district

Introduction:

“Violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women, which have led to domination over and discrimination against women by men and to the prevention of the full advancement of women...”

Though the status of women in India, both historically and socially, has been one of the respect and respect, but the harsh truth is that even today, they are struggling for their own identity, shouting for diffusion of their voices and fighting for their own esteem. Every day, they cross among the fears and fraught for identity. Despite the constitutional guarantee of equality of sexes, unbounded discrimination and exploitation of women in India continues. The incidence of dowry deaths, women sexual harassment, molestation and ill treatment of women are on increase. Crime against women should be punishable and in the era of technology, globalization and with revolution in means of communication, the media role has become more pivotal for women empowerment in Indian modern society. In modern society changes have been taking place in everywhere in almost every field but to protect honor or glory of women.

Discrimination and oppression leading to physical, mental or emotional violence have been accepted as a part of every patriarchal society. Violence against women is a violation of basic human rights. It is shameful for the states that fail to prevent it and societies that tolerate and in fact perpetuate it. It must be eliminated through political will, and by legal and civil action in all sectors of society. Visaria (2000) found in his research that high domestic violence frequency in India are deep-rooted male patriarchal roles.

Different Forms or Types of Violence:

Women have fear of violence in their mind which causes the lack of participation in various areas of life. According to the National Crime Records Bureau, in 2011, there were more than 228,650 reported incidents of crime against women, while in 2021, there were 4,28,278 reported incidents, an 87% increase. Globally, an estimated 736 million women almost one in three have been subjected to physical sexual violence, or both at least once in their life (30% of women aged 15 and older).

Most violence against women is committed by current or former husband or intimate partners. More than 640 million women aged 15 and older have been subjected to intimate partner violence (26 per cent of women ages 15 and older). Violence against women can be domestic as well as public, physical, emotional and mental. Time is the real eyewitness of all the sufferings like exploitation, aggression, oppression, humiliation, and degradation etc bear by the women.

Causes of Violence

The root of violence is mixed in our family and social attitudes, or values. The poisonous and violent culture to women, the lack of participatory, compassionate, responsible and healthy relationship between men and women influence in this regard. Moreover the lack of proper education of the children from their families mostly helps to develop such negative mentality among them. The overall causes of violence are mentioned very easily below:

1. The acute attraction to the opposite sex and women deem as goods and objects of consumption;
2. The decadence of social values and lack of proper family and moral education;
3. The misuse of technology;
4. The unemployment and desperation;

5. The lack of healthy culture and the harmful effects of electronic and film media; the available use of drug;
6. The lack of proper implementation of relevant legislations;
7. The lack of necessary training of law enforcement personnel;
8. The men's negative attitude towards women in society;
9. The discriminatory relationship between men and women in domestic, social, economic and political aspects etc.

Social Problems Created by Violence

It is prevalent in India, as the Indian society is well defined by certain norms and practices that might be considered deteriorating. The dowry system is a obvious example of such a regressive practice and considered one of the root causes of domestic violence in India. A subset of violence against women is domestic violence defined as violent or aggressive behaviors' within the home, typically involving the violent abuse of a spouse or partner. Violence not only comes physical injury, it also undermines the social, economic, psychological, spiritual and emotional well-being of the victim, the male factor contribution to the poor health of women. The effects of domestic violence are totalitarian to protect the unequal position of women in society. Always it obstructs the activities and movements of women. Not only that, it puts the women socially incompetent and dull to destroy their morale. It prevents their capacity building qualities at early stage. The bad habit of teasing fulfils the lives of men by enchanting feelings and helps them to express their greedy mentality. On the other hand it creates the intolerable situations for the women and children constantly through which it is impossible to receive the fresh air of normal life. The common impacts of eve teasing or sexual harassment are kidnapping, rape, trafficking, acid attacks, dropping out from the study, early marriage, forced marriage, suicide, family shifting from the locality, increasing social and economic dependency, expansion of social degradation, spreading of social insecurity, deterrent in freely movement, injuries of parents and brothers, creation of psychological problems etc. and it spoil and destroys the society as a whole.

Women's safety Laws and Initiatives of the Government

Government of India has introduced many strong laws to resist violence against women, but due to the lack of proper implementations of these laws in due time, violence against women are rising day by day.

A few of the legal acts of government are given below in chronological order:

- Penal Code, Section 375, 1860
- The Child Marriage Control Act, 1929
- Married women's Property Act, 1874
- Dowry Prohibition Act, 1980
- The Legal Aid Provision Act, 2000
- The Prevention of Women and Children Repression Act, 2000
- The Acid Crime Prevention Act, 2002
- The Acid Control Act, 2002

Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005

As stated above in the Prevention of Women and Children Repression Act, 2000, a remarkable provision was mentioned in article 10 that teasing women through indecent gestures and comments is offensive and the punishment for such act would be simple imprisonment for seven years or two years of confining. But then again in 2003, the act was amended stating that no one would be charged of sexual abuse until and unless it is physical. The women right activists struggled to change the law. Finally the law has been changed when harassment of women has increased in India tremendously with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both, But in most of the cases, eve teasers are not identified and eve teasing also has no proof. Although, there are many laws which need genuine and clear evidence of violence against women, mostly the women cannot produce direct evidence due to fear and threat by the oppressors, lack of influential person in their family, poverty, and mostly due to social prestige. They do not even complain against the oppressors. Theoretically our constitution are completely in favor of equal right and equity between male and female, laws are also there, but unfortunately implementation is very infrequent. Indian Government is promised to reduce violence and eve teasing from the society but Government alone cannot stop violence by enforcing laws, mind set, attitude, awareness among womens and family education are needed to control the violence from the society.

Objectives of the Study

The general objective of this study is to identify the violence against single women as a social problem and how violence affects well-being of single women. The study has been conducted through the following special objectives basis on this objective. Such as, to know about the personal and demographic information of the respondents, to collect their economic and psycho-social information, to learn about the causes, forms and nature of violence, to perceive the impact of violence on the single women and their well-being of Farrukhabad city, to know about the legal assistance related information for the victim single women of violence, to learn the opinion of the victim women about the doings to prevent violence and so on.

Methodology of the Study

This study is based on sample case study. The Farrukhabad city of Uttar Pradesh has been identified as the study area here. The all single women who are unmarried, divorce, separated and widow in this area have been regarded as the population. The data have been collected detail from 40 single women selected by incidental sampling from three tehsil chosen by purposive sampling of this

area. The direct interviewing technique with structured questionnaire has been applied in this regard. Observation has been practiced as the auxiliary technique respectively. The collected data have been edited first then described successively.

Some Studied Case Descriptions

Case 1.

Mrs. X, age 46 years married for 25 years separated from husband for 18 years. Her husband is alcoholic and doing private service which is not permanent. Mrs. X started doing work as assistant in cloth shop after their separation and living alone with her daughter. Her husband and in laws were illustrating her and demanded money (dowry) from her father. She has thrown out from in laws house. Later her husband filed case in court for compensation of conjugal rights. But due to violence Mrs. X had fear in her mind about her safety. After a long legal process they both agreed for divorced and custody was kept with Mrs. X without any maintenance. She later on started working of an cloth shop and could earn about rs10,000 per month. She studied up to H SC.S he feels children can claim property in future from their father if they want. Mrs. X was lucky to have her parents support .Her employer is also supportive.

Case2.

Mrs. Y is a 35 years divorcee. She has no sibling and married five years back and was not at all enjoyed her married life. Her husband always considered her as a source of satisfying his physical needs only and never gave her concern which a wife deserves. Continuous experience of adverse situation made her to take a step and separate from her husband. She belongs a traditional and stereotype families where being a divorcee people do not accept you easily. Being a women people always blame her and always comment, “*isne adjust nhi kiya hoga*” and “*ladkiyon ko hi adjust krna chahiye*”. Nobody cares about the real situation where she is in. After two years of trauma she decided to separate from her husband legally. She has only father in parents and he was not able to go with her, so she always went for case hearing alone. Meanwhile she started working with some education institute and start studying again. She is facing economical, health related problems and other problems but no one is there for her help.

CONCLUSION:

Women bear the highest burdens of household chores (Vecchio and Roy, 1998). This means they wake first, eat last, and sleep late after all chores are completed. It is high time now that women should get a respectable and dignified position in the Indian society. Since violence against women is both a consequence and a cause of gender inequality, primary prevention programs that address gender inequality and tackle the root causes of violence are all essential.

Every woman has a fundamental right to be safe. Protesting injustice, if a woman is able to protest her with the right and education, then that protest her life becomes miserable. In Indian modern society it is very much essential to all women get educated to solve all women issues in any society and in any circumstances, in order to time with honor. Education will only give them strength and societal status. This will increase the women smooth living in modern society. Because majority of women in India (74.2%) live in rural areas (census of India, 1991). They suffer many social and cultural discriminations (Vecchio and Roy, 1998).

Women in India thus became less valued our time. There is a relationship between gender, caste, class and income because the majority of poor women come from lower class. The silent suffering of a woman is making her easy prey to the male domination which is supported by widespread patriarchy. The authoritative, autocratic nature of male member in society and victimization of female makes the situation bad. Women must gain recognition and inclusion of both local and national levels. Attempts to push forward policies without charging social realities create a difference and speculative society. Although several government policies and initiatives were launched after independence, they have not been adequately enforced (Dhagnawar, 1995; Hirway and Teral, 2002; Mohan, 1973; Vecchio & Roy, 1998).

At least 14 governmental departments and ministries currently focus on women's issues (United Nations, 1997), but implementations percolate at a sleepy pace. In spite of many critiques of governmental efforts, it is generally recognized that the Indian government can play a pivotal role in women's development (Bagwe, 1995; Berman, 1994; Census of India, 1991).

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