

Public Opinion on Crime against Women and Children in India

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Abstract:

The purpose of conducting the research on Crimes against women and children which refers to the gender based violence which can be physical or sexual committed against women and children which can have an everlasting effect on their health is to spread awareness to the public about these crimes happening to women and children and to educate the part of the society which is unaware about the above concept. The main aim of the researcher is to make the public aware about the various crimes happening to women and children in our environment. For the purpose of this study, descriptive research is used to portray accurately the public opinion on crime against women and children. Convenient sampling method was used to collect the Samples. 1540 samples - sample size. Independent variables are gender, educational qualification and age. Dependent variables are crimes against women and children, types of crimes against women and children, Restricted imprisonments, capital punishment, heavy fine and life imprisonments. Independent sample T test, chi square and anova are the research tools used in this research. The expected outcome of the research is to create awareness and educate the public on the topic of crime against women and children.

Keywords: *Crime, violence, health, society, Gender*

INTRODUCTION:

Child abuse, sexual and domestic violence are among the most destructive and cruel experiences afflicting women and children. The wide happenings of such violence takes an enormous toll on the lives of these women and children as well as the environmental society, through innumerable behaviour, psychological, health and economic consequences. Necessary steps have been taken by organisations and government agencies to spread awareness about the crimes and have taken measures to ensure a safe society for women and children. But in recent years, as the crimes against women and children have increased, steps must be taken to protect them and to ensure strict punishment must be given to those

who commit such crimes. The rights of the women and children are violated in this manner. For example, children in the society are not given proper education and are forced to work in factories, godowns etc. This is referred to as child labour which has been existing for a long time. Children sometimes face gender based discrimination and are not given equal opportunities in certain fields of learning. In the present these days, Women are afraid to step outside their houses and travel alone due to the increase in the number of crimes happening against them. Sexual and physical assault on women is one of the common crimes being committed these days. Women and children's health is adversely affected due to these crimes. It

is the duty of the government and us citizens to protect women and children and to ensure a harm free environment for them. **The aim of the research is to find out as to how far the public aware aware of the crimes happening to women and children in our society.**

OBJECTIVES:

1. To understand about the crimes against women and children
2. To analyse the association between the crimes against women and children and the age
3. To examine the difference between the various crimes happening to women and children and the gender.
4. To identify the level of agreeability for punishments of crimes against women and children among the educational qualification groups

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

S Lavanya and D Akila(2019).In this article, the authors examine software engineering and criminal equity as a means to enhance an information mining system that can help unravel Crimes against women quicker. **Beijer U, Scheffel Birath C, DeMartinis V, Af Klinteberg B,(2018)**. The aim of this study was to investigate the type and extent to which women with abuse problems have been exposed to male violence during their lifetime , and to analyse the possible differences between women living in houses and homeless women. **George W Burruss, Thomas J Holt,(2017)**The authors examine the experiences of vicarious trauma and coping behaviours of digital forensic examiners In a sample taken from across the country. This article highlights the fact that the cyber crime against children has increased in the recent past. **G Paranthaman, S Shanthi, R Radha, G Poornima Thilagam,(2019)**. Women constitute a key role in Indian society. This article traces the role of women in India through the Vedic and Medieval period and compares their state to their current one in the 21st century. The

authors also in this article, highlight the difference in respect shown to women through the ages. **John Simister,(2018)**. This paper uses Indian household survey and crime data to study gender based violence (GBV). There is evidence of long term increase in gbv risk in india- some possible explanations are investigated by the author in this article .**Neena Bohra,(2015)**.The authors reflect on the various causes contributing to violence against women in India including an inefficient law enforcing machinery. They also discuss the role of psychiatric illness in perpetuating such crimes. **Jennifer J mootz,(2015)**.This Study aims to address gaps in knowledge around intersections of violence against women and children in humanitarian context. Using qualitative methods, this study was guided by the following 2 research questions: 1. What are the different local drivers and social norms affecting household violence?. 2. How does exposure to conflict and or relocation affect families. **LA Valente,(2016)**.This was a retrospective study wherein 10483 reports of physical injuries that occurred in the family environment were analysed. According to this study, The prevalence of head and neck injuries was high. The authors conclude by stressing the fact that notification organs should be created in Brazilian hospitals in order to conduct surveillance and formulate policies. **Bjornseth I, Szabo A,(2018)**.Sexual violence against children in sports receives little research attention. The purpose of this study was to synthesise the up to date knowledge and identify the already known and still unknown information in this area. This study hopes to raise the awareness of parents about the vulnerability of their children to sexual abuse if they're involved in sports. **Yuping Cao,(2016)**.Domestic physical violence is common in China. The authors aimed to examine the effects of exposure to DPV on Children's behaviour in a Chinese community.

The authors recommend that these children need treatment to mitigate the effects on maladjusted behaviours

Methodology

For the purpose of this study, descriptive research is used to portray accurately the public opinion on crime against women and children. Convenient sampling method was used to collect the Samples. 1540 samples - sample size. Independent variables are gender, educational qualification and age. Depending variables are crimes against women and children, types of crimes against women and children, Restricted imprisonments, capital punishment, heavy fine and life imprisonments. Independent sample T test, chi square and anova are the research tools used in this research.

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Null hypothesis:

There is no significant association between the awareness of crimes against women and children and age of the respondents

Table 1: Crosstabulation - Crime Against Women and Children and Age

Age	Crime Against Women and Children		Total
	Yes	No	
Less than 25 years	419	192	611
26-35 years	235	148	383
36-45 years	251	71	322
46-60 years	140	35	175
Above 60 years	42	7	49
Total	1087	453	1540

Table 2: Chi-Square Tests - Crime Against Women and Children and Age

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	38.180	4	0.000

Since p value is less than 0.05 null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore there is significant association between awareness of crimes against women and

children and the age of the respondents. It shows that awareness of crimes against women and children is influenced by age of respondents.

Null hypothesis:

There is no significant difference between the various types of crimes happening to women/children and the gender of the respondents.

Table 3: Worst Crime Against Women and Children and Gender

Gender	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Male	803	2.24	.842	.030
Female	737	2.17	.817	.030

Table 4: Independent Samples Test - Worst Crime Against Women and Children and Gender

	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
Independent Sample t test	1.486	1538	0.138

Since p value is more than 0.05 null hypothesis is accepted. Therefore there is no significant difference between various types of crimes happening to women/children and the gender of the respondents. It shows that the various types of crimes happening to women and children is not influenced by the gender of respondents.

Null hypothesis:

There is no significant difference in the mean scores of level of agreeability towards the punishments for crime against women/children among the educational qualifications groups.

Table 5: ANOVA - Punishments for Crimes against Women and Children and Educational Qualification

	Sum of	df	Mean	F	Sig
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		Squares		Square		.
Restricted Imprisonment	Between Groups	63.752	4	15.938	13.243	.000
	Within Groups	1847.445	153	1.204		
	Total	1911.197	153			
Capital Punishment	Between Groups	109.078	4	27.270	28.226	.000
	Within Groups	1482.971	153	.966		
	Total	1592.049	153			
Heavy fine	Between Groups	74.297	4	18.574	17.094	.000
	Within Groups	1667.965	153	1.087		
	Total	1742.262	153			
Life imprisonment	Between Groups	266.660	4	66.665	53.189	.000
	Within Groups	1923.901	153	1.253		
	Total	2190.561	153			

Since p value is less than 0.05 null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore There is a significant difference in the mean scores of level of agreeability towards the punishments for crime against women/children among the educational qualifications groups. It shows that level of agreeability towards the punishments for crime against women/children is influenced by educational qualification of respondents.

CONCLUSION:

Child abuse, sexual and domestic violence are among the most destructive and cruel experiences afflicting women and children. The wide happenings of such violence takes an enormous toll on the lives of these women and children as well as the environmental society, through innumerable behaviour, psychological, health and economic consequences. It was found that the

awareness of crimes against women and children is influenced by age of respondents, the various types of crimes happening to women and children is not influenced by the gender of respondents, the level of agreeability towards the punishments for crime against women/children is influenced by educational qualification of respondents. Three suggestions of the study are undertake marches and protests to stop the crimes happening to women and children, create a free and caring society for women and children and mandatory education to be given to each child below the age of 14. I'd like to conclude that if the government can take strict measures and increase the punishment for those committing these crimes, then a free and fair society can be established.

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