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&
Carmel College (Autonomous), Mala, Thirssur, Kerala.

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Chief Editors
Dr. G. Kanaga
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Editors
Dr. O. Aisha Manju
Ms. S. Hema
Dr. T. Amirtha Mary

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Editors Profile

Dr. O. Aisha Manju

Dr. O. Aisha Manju is an Assistant Professor of PG& Research Department of Social Work, Cauvery College for Women (Autonomous), Trichy with more than 8 years of experience in teaching and student counseling. She was a recipient of Linnaeus Palme International Student Exchange Scholarship of SIDA in 2010. She has published various articles in International/National conferences and workshops and also in edited books. She is specialized in Family and Child Welfare Social Work.

Ms. S. Hema

Ms. S. Hema is an Assistant Professor of PG & Research Department of Social Work Cauvery College for Women (Autonomous), Trichy with more than 7 years of Experience in teaching and 3 years of Industrial Experience. She is specialized in Human Resource Management. She has published articles in International /National conferences and Workshops and also edited books.

Dr. T. Amirtha Mary

Dr. T. Amirtha Mary, Assistant Professor, PG &Research Department of Social Work has been into Teaching, Research & Training for the past 7 years. Being a UGC-Junior Research Fellow, she has received the Best Research Scholar Award in the year 2013 and has published 12 research articles in International, National Journals and in Conference proceedings. She has received 12 citations for her research articles among the research community. Her areas of research include educational research using mixed methodology. At present she is focusing on collaborative research for greater applications of the research findings.

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YOUTH ATTITUDE TOWARDS DOWRY

Ms. M. Valarmathi

III BSW Student, Department of Social Work,
Cauvery College for Women (Autonomous), Tiruchirapalli.

&

Ms. PL. Rani

Assistant Professors, PG & Research Department of Social Work,
Cauvery College for Women (Autonomous), Tiruchirapalli.

&

Dr. O. Aisha Manju

Assistant Professors, PG & Research Department of Social Work,
Cauvery College for Women (Autonomous), Tiruchirapalli.

Abstract

India has an alarming trend of dowry death according to which 20 women die every day as a result of Dowry related harassment – either murdered or compelled to commit suicide. According to National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) reports on an average, every hour a woman succumbs to dowry deaths in India with the annual figure rising upwards of 7000. Another statistical figure which shows the reality of our society and laws and also the sheer weakness of our legislative and judicial system (Surbhi Chaudhary, 2022) Dowry is a social evil in society that has caused unimaginable tortures and crimes towards women and polluted the Indian marital system. Dowry is payment made in cash or kind to a bride's in-laws at the time of her marriage. In

2021, reported dowry death cases in India amounted to nearly 6.8 thousand. This was a gradual decrease from the 2014, in which this number was approximately 8,5 thousand. The dowry system in India incorporates payments in the form of capital. Durable goods, real estate among others, made to the bridegroom from the family of the bride as a condition for marriage (Sanyuktakanwal, 2022). Researchers were interested to study attitude of Adolescents towards Dowry. Researcher used interview Schedule to collect data from the respondents. The major findings will be discussed in full paper.

Keywords : Dowry, India, Women, Crime, Marriage, Attitude, Social Evil

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Introduction

Dowry has become a societal norm, which is a major issue for both society and women. Dowry is the oldest social malady or sickness on the Indian subcontinent. The dowry system is the evil that has murdered and disabled countless vulnerable women, forcing some to commit suicide. Dowry is a social evil in society that has caused unimaginable tortures and crimes towards women and polluted the Indian marital system. Dowry is paid in cash or kind to a bride's in-laws at the time of her marriage. According to data shared by Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Kumar Mishra in Rajya Sabha, 35,493 dowry deaths were reported in the country between 2017 and 2021. In 2017, 7,466 dowry deaths were reported, 7,167 in 2018, 7,141 in 2019, 6,966 in 2020, and

6,753 in 2021. In 2021, reported dowry death cases in India amounted to nearly 6.8 thousand. This was a gradual decrease from the 2014, in which this number was approximately 8.5 thousand. In 2021, the northern state of Uttar Pradesh in India had the highest number of reported dowry deaths with more than two thousand cases registered with the authorities. Mizoram, Nagaland and Meghalaya, there is hardly any concept of dowry system.

Causes of the dowry

Economic factors

There are many economic factors that contribute towards the system of dowry. Some of these include inheritance systems and the bride's economic status.

Social factors

The structure and kinship of marriage in parts of India contributes to dowry. In the north, marriage usually follows a patrilocal (lives with husband's family) system, where the bride is a non-related member of the family.

Religious factors

Dowry in India is not limited to any specific religion. It is widespread among Hindus and other religions. For example, Indian Muslims call dowry as jahez, justify the practice in terms of jahez-e-fatimi. Islamists classify jahez into two categories: The first comprises some essential articles for the outfit of the bride as well as for conjugal life.

The first dowry system

In 1662 AD, when Charles II of England married a Portuguese princess Katherine and then he received the Island of Bombay as dowry.

Laws against dowry

The first all-India legislative enactment relating to dowry to be put on the statute book was The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and this legislation came into force from 1 July 1961. It marked the beginning of a new legal framework of dowry harassment laws effectively prohibiting the demanding, giving and taking of dowry. Although providing dowry is illegal, it is still common in many parts of India for a husband to seek a dowry from the wife's family and in some cases, this result in a form of extortion and violence against the wife.

To further strengthen the anti-dowry law and to stop offences of cruelty by the husband or his relatives against the wife, new provisions were added to the Indian criminal law – section 498A to Indian Penal Code and section 198A to the Criminal Procedure Code in 1983. In 2005, the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act was passed, which added an additional layer of protection from dowry harassment. Although the changes in Indian criminal law reflect a serious effort by legislators to put an end to dowry-related crimes, and although they have been in effect for many years now, they have been largely criticised as being ineffective.

What is this law about?

This Act prohibits the practice of giving or taking of dowry by either party to a marriage. This law also punishes demanding and advertising dowry. It imposes a duty on parties getting married to make a list of gifts and presents. If dowry has been exchanged at a wedding anyway, it imposes a duty on the person who is given dowry to give it to the bride. Note that the more serious crimes in relation to dowry such as dowry death and cruelty from dowry demands are punishable under the general law on crimes – the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

Who can be punished under this Act?

Any person who gives or takes dowry (minimum punishment of five years); Any person who helps someone to give or take dowry; Anyone who in any way demands dowry; Anyone who advertises and offers to give money or property in return for marrying his son, daughter or relative; Anyone who publishes these advertisements; Anyone who does not hand over the dowry to the bride within the specified time.

Effect on the public of the Dowry Prohibition initiative

• The parents don't lay enough emphasis on educating their daughters, as they feel that husbands will support them later.

• The Poorer sections of society who send their daughters out to work and earn some money, to help them save up for their dowry.

• The regular middle and upper-class backgrounds do send their daughters to school but don't emphasize career options.

• The very wealthy parents who happily support their daughters until they get married and their ability to fork out a high dowry

Review of literature

All India Dowry Workers' Association (AIDWA) (2003) observed that sudden rise in dowry cases is also linked to the rising consumerist culture and according to the Natural tendency of human to have the easy access to the consumer goods which was Prompted by the varied choices of consumer goods available in the market.

Ghaffar (2010) studied that collective marriage is a new concept in Pakistan and it is and unusual procedure as compared to the simple marriage so different people showed different Attitude toward it. 60 % respondents were criticized to take dowry from government by their Relatives. The major criticism was that the respondents were unable to marry their daughters and received a grant from government. 10 % respondents hesitated to invite their relatives on the Wedding occasion.

Vani Prabhakar (2012) remarked that gender based violence affects almost every society Across the globe, and represents a significant impediment to Development. She critically point out that in spite of all the Talk and activities regarding the protection of women's Human and legal rights, women are grossly denied their Rights throughout the world and especially in South –East Asia.

Haveripeth (2013) found Dowry related violence and bride burning (dowry – death) are only peculiar to our country and

beside husband, his kin also join together in prosecuting the bride as the dowry and related customs provides a good excuse to them for humiliating, insulting and even beating up on women.

Ramegowda (2013) observed the socio-educational profile of victims of dowry offences and relate it to the socio-cultural practice of dowry and that the socio-cultural norms have remained unchanged and therefore giving and practicing of dowry continues. Adequate social awareness and education is necessary, along with legal punishment, to do away with this evil practice

Significance of the topic

The actual meaning of dowry has disappeared and coercive elements like force and demand have crept in society. This evilness in society has taken deep roots not only in the marriage ceremony but also in post-marriage relationship. What was originally intended to be a non- mandatory offering given by the bride's party to the bridegroom has now gone out of proportions and has assumed the overtones of demand. According to the report of TOI, in the survey of 2010, around 8391 dowry death cases & in 2017, around 7000 were reported, whereas unreported cases are still missing from the file. It means every hour there is one dowry death in our country. In 2021, 13,534 cases were registered in the country under the Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961, reveals the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). This, strikingly, was a 25 percent increase sine last year's statistics. Many dowry issues were not reported in our country .Youth of our country should be sensitized about the dowry and dowry death. This made the researcher to study the youth attitude towards dowry.

Objectives

➢ To know the social demographic characteristics of the respondents

➢ To analyse the awareness level of Dowry Prohibition Act among the respondents

➢ To understand the attitude towards dowry among the respondents

➢ To suggest suitable measure to change the attitude of the respondents

Methodology

Research Design:

Descriptive research design is a type of research design that aims to systematically obtain information to describe a phenomenon, situation, or population. In this study, researchers described the demographic characteristics, family background, and People's opinion about dowry, knowledge on dowry prohibition act.

Sampling Technique:

Convenience sampling

Sample size:100

Results and Discussion

Table-1

Distribution of the respondents by their socio-demographic Characteristics

S. No	Particulars	No. of. Respondents	Percentage
1	**Age**		
	17-20 yrs	58	58%
	21-23 yrs	19	19%
	24-26yrs	23	23%
2	**Gender**		
	Male	50	50%
	Female	50	50%
3	**Education**		
	UG	81	81%
	PG	19	19%
4	**Religion**		
	Hindu	92	92%
	Christian	5	5%
	Islam	3	3%
5	**Siblings**		
	1-2	93	93%
	3-6	7	7%

6	**Marital status**		
	Married	8	8%
	Unmarried	92	92%
7	**Type of family**		
	Joint family	27	27%
	Nuclear family	61	61%
	Single parent family	12	12%
8	**Domicile**		
	Rural	59	59%
	Urban	41	41%
9	**Type of house**		
	Tiled roof house	32	32%
	Roof house	6	6%
	Concrete house	62	62%

The above table shows that more than half of the respondents (58%) belong to the age group between 17-20yrs.One fifth of the respondents (19%) belong to the age group between 21-23yrs.One fourth of the respondents (23%) belong to the age group between 24-26yrs.

The above table shows that half of the respondents (50%) were male. Half of the respondents (50%) were female respectively.

The above table shows that vast majority of the respondents (81%) were in Under Graduation. One fifth of the respondents (19%) were doing Post Graduation.

The above table shows that vast majority of the respondents (92%) belong to Hindu religion. Very few of the respondents (5%) belong to Christian religion. Very few of the respondents (3%) belong to Islam religion.

The above table shows that vast majority of the respondents (93%) having one or two siblings. Very few of the respondents (7%) havingthree to six siblings.

The above table shows that vast majority of the respondents (92%) were unmarried. Very few of the respondents (8%) were married.

The above table shows that more than one fourth (27%) were from joint family. Majority of the respondents (61%) were from nuclear family. Few of the respondents (12%) were from Single parent family.

The above table shows that more than half of the respondents (59%) were from rural area. Less than half of the respondents (41%) were from urban area.

The above table shows that more than one fourth of the respondents (32%) having tiled roof house. Very few of the respondents (6%) having roof house. Majority of the respondents (62%) having Concrete house.

Table-2

Distribution of the respondents by their parent's occupation education and income

S. No	Particulars	No. of. Respondents	Percentage
1	**Father's occupation**		
	Government job	7	7%
	Non-Government job	8	8%
	Daily vendors	30	30%
	Agriculture	33	33%
	Own business	15	15%
	Death	7	7%
2	**Mother's occupation**		
	Government job	8	8%
	Non-government job	5	5%
	Daily vendors	13	13%
	Agriculture	6	6%
	House wife	63	63%
		5	5%
3	**Family income**		

	5000-10000	42	42%
	10000-25000	25	25%
	25000-50000	19	19%
	50000 above	14	14%
4	**Father's education**		
	Primary education	17	17%
	High school education	35	35%
	Higher secondary	23	23%
	UG	15	15%
	PG	10	10%
5	**Mother's education**		
	Primary education	22	22%
	High school education	46	46%
	Higher secondary	14	14%
	UG	10	10%
	PG	8	8%

The above table shows that very few of the respondents (7%) Fatherswere in government job.Very few of the respondents (8%) fatherswerein non-government job. More than one fourth of the respondents (30%) fatherswere Daily vendors. One third of the respondents (33%) Father's involved in agriculture. Few of the

respondents (15%) fathers involved in own business. Very few of the respondents (7%) father'sdeath.

The above table shows that very few of the respondents (8%) mother's involved government job. Very few of the respondents (5%) mothers were in non-government job. Few of the respondents (13%) mothers were Daily vendors. Very few of the respondents' (6%) mothers were Agriculture workers. Majority of the respondents (63%) mothers are House Wives. Very few of the respondents (5%) had no mother.

The above table shows that less than half of the respondents (42%) family's income ranges between 5000-10000. One fourth of the respondents (25%) family's income ranges between 10001-25000. Less than one fifth of the respondents (19%) family's income ranges between 25001-50000. Few of the respondents (14%) family's income range 50000 above.

The above table shows that less than one fifth of the respondents (17%) fathers completed their primary education. More than one fourth respondents (35%) Father's completed their secondary education. Less than one fourth of the respondents (23%) fathers completed their higher secondary education. Few of the respondents (15%) fathers completed their UG. Very few of the respondents (10%) fathers completed their PG.

The above table shows that less than one fifth of the respondents (22%) mothers completed their primary education. Nearly half of the respondents (46%) Mothers completed secondary education. Few of the respondents (14%) mothers completed their higher secondary education. Very few of the

respondents (10%) mothers completed their UG. Very few of the respondents (8%) mothers completed their PG.

Table-3

Distribution of the respondents by their awareness on Dowry

S. No	Particulars	No. of. Respondents	Percentage
1	**Who - whom**		
	Bride-bridegroom	97	97%
	Bridegroom – bride	3	3%
2	**Dowry Affect**		
	Known	18	18%
	Unknown	82	82%
3	**Dowry support**		
	Yes	9	9%
	No	91	91%
4	**Important reason for dowry**		
	Society	81	81%
	Family	19	19%
5	**Girls HigherEducation**		
	Support	15	15%
	Oppose	85	85%

6	Female infanticide		
	Support	31	31%
	Oppose	69	69%

The above table shows that vast majority of the respondents (97%) told dowry means bride will be given to house bridegroom. Very few of the respondents (3%) told dowry means bridegroom will be given to house bride.

The above table shows that less than one fifth of the respondents (18%) know the dowry affected people. Vast majority of the respondents (82%) unknown the dowry affects people.

The above table shows that very few of the respondents (9%) no support the dowry system. Vast majority of the respondents (91%) support the dowry system.

The above table shows that vast majority of the respondents (81%) Society is main reason of dowry. Less than one fifth of the respondents (19%) family is main reason of dowry.

The above table shows that few of the respondents (15%) told dowry not affects the girl's education. Vast majority of the respondents (85%) told dowry affects the girl's education.

The above table shows that more than one fourth of the respondents (31%) felt dowry is the not reason for female infanticide. Vast majority of the respondents (69%) felt dowry is the reasonfor Female infanticide.

Table-4

**Distribution of the respondents by their awareness about
Dowry prohibition act**

S. No	Particulars	No. of. Respondents	Percentage
1	**Dowry death**		
	Known	37	37%
	Unknown	63	63%
2	**Awareness about DPA**		
	Yes	51	51%
	No	49	49%
3	**DPA Punishment**		
	Yes	52	52%
	No	48	48%

The above table shows that more than one third of the respondents (37%) don't know about the dowry death. Majority of the respondents (63%) know about the dowry death.

The above table shows that more the half of the respondents (51%) were awareof the dowry prohibition act. Nearly half of the respondents (49%) don't aware of the dowry prohibition act.

The above table shows that more the half of the respondents (52%) know the punishment of the dowry prohibition

act. Nearly half of the respondents (48%) don't know the punishment of the dowry prohibition act

Major findings

1. More than half of the respondents (58%) belong to the age group between 17-20yrs.
2. Half of the respondents(50%) were male &Half of the respondents(50%) were female respectively
3. Vast majority of the respondents(81%) were studying Under Graduation
4. Vast majority of the respondents(92%) belong to Hindu religion
5. Vast majority of the respondents(93%) having one or two siblings
6. Vast majority of the respondents(92%)were unmarried
7. Majority of the respondents(61%) were from nuclear family
8. More than half of the respondents(59%) were from Rural area
9. Majority of the respondents(62%) were having Concrete house
10. One third of the respondents (33%) fathers were agriculture labours
11. Majority of the respondents (63%) mothers are House Wives
12. Less than half of the respondents(42%) family income ranges between 1000-10000
13. More than one fourth respondents (35%) father's completed their secondary education
14. Nearly half of the respondents (46%) Mothers completed secondary education

15. Vast majority of the respondents(76%) having own house
16. Vast majority of the respondents(82%) knew that dowry affects people
17. Vast majority of the respondents(91%) supported the dowry system
18. Vast majority of the respondents(81%) believe that society is the main reason of dowry
19. Vast majority of the respondents(85%) believe that dowry affects the girl's education
20. Vast majority of the respondents(69%) felt dowry is the reasonfor Female infanticide
21. Majority of the respondents(63%) knew about the dowry death
22. More than half of the respondents(51%) aware   of the dowry prohibition act
23. More than half of the respondents(52%) knew the punishment of the dowry prohibition act

Suggestions

- To give social awareness campaigns for Rural area through Skit, Street Play etc., for youth by organizing seminars, conferences, group discussions.
- Initiating mass media campaign.
- Making women self-dependent.
- To provide legal aid to the families of weaker and the needy.
- Sensitise people should be following the rules and regulation of the government.

- Anti- dowry club should be established in schools and colleges to explain the issue of dowry to help students better understand the impact of dowry.
- To encourage the youth to abstain from getting dowry at the time of their marriage.
- To provide counselling to separated parents due to dowry issues.
- To provide legal, psycho-social and emotional support to the innocent persons who are affected by malicious implication of dowry.

Important steps to eradicate dowry

- Educate your daughters and son
- Encourage them to have their (daughter) own career
- Teach them (daughter) to be independent and responsible
- Treat them (your daughter) equally without any discrimination
- Do not encourage the practice of giving or taking dowry

Conclusion

People misunderstand that dowry is a status of society. This mindset needs to change. People are aware of the disadvantage of dowry, but due to some social culture they are still practiced. People are aware of government rules regarding dowry issues but not fully aware of it. Women should come forward to solve their problems, many governments scheme help women. They should use it properly. Do not accept and do not encourage dowry.

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SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITION OF BONDED LABOURERS IN THANJAVUR DISTRICT

Dr. A. Sivagami

Associate Professor, Department of Social Work,
CDOE, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli

Email : sivagami@bdu.ac.in

Introduction

The problem of Bonded Labour was one of the deep-rooted problems prevailing in larger parts of our country particularly in the rural areas. Rife with abuse and discrimination, this contemporary form of slavery, targets members of socio-economically-disadvantaged communities and subjects them to inhumane working conditions. Looking for cheap labour, employers or owners take advantage of the vulnerable, trapping them by providing an advance and exploiting them for profit. Using debt as an obligation, owners often force labourers to work with high restrictions on movement and employment, for below-minimum wage or no wages and often in inhumane conditions. The bonded labour system takes advantage of the declining living conditions of people, forcing them into long hours of work for little or no wage.

What is Bonded Labour ?

The 1976 Bonded Labour (Abolition) Act defines 'bonded labour system' as "the system of forced labour under which a debtor enters into an agreement with the creditor that he would render service to him either by himself or through any member of

his family or any person dependent on him, for a specified or unspecified period, either without wages or for nominal wages, in consideration of loan or any other economic consideration obtained by him or any of his ascendants, or in pursuance of any social obligation, or in pursuance of any obligation devolving on him by succession".

Historical context

Constitution of India did not allow forced or bonded labour, Article 23 bans trafficking in human beings and forced labour. The first large-scale survey to assess the nature and magnitude of the bonded labourers was conducted in 1978 by Gandhi Peace Foundation and National Labour Institute. A number of judgments have been pronounced by the Supreme Court of India to clarify the meaning of the term 'bonded labour'. It has also appointed Commissioners and has given a number of directives to Central and State Governments to reduce the incidence of bonded and forced labour and to vigorously implement the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. Since 1997, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has been given a pivotal role in monitoring the implementation of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 and in ensuring that the Central and State Governments follow the directives of the Supreme Court of India. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) constituted an Expert Group (2000) who made it clear that the intention of Article 23 of the Constitution is the prohibition of all kinds of forced labour and not only forced labour based on debt.

Importance of studying socio-economic condition of Bonded Labourers

- **Human Rights and Social Justice:** Bonded labour is a gross violation of human rights and social justice. Understanding the socio-economic conditions of bonded labourers sheds light on the extent of exploitation, abuse, and injustice they endure. This knowledge is crucial for advocating for their rights, ensuring their dignity, and working towards their emancipation.

- **Addressing Modern Slavery:** Bonded labour is a form of modern slavery, and it persists in various parts of the world, including India. By studying the socio-economic conditions of bonded labourers, we can gain insights into the factors that perpetuate this practice. This knowledge forms the basis for implementing effective policies and interventions to eradicate modern slavery.

- **Poverty and Vulnerability:** Bonded labour is often fueled by poverty and vulnerability. Many individuals are trapped in bonded labour due to their inability to repay debts or secure viable employment alternatives. Understanding the socio-economic conditions of bonded labourers helps identify the root causes of their vulnerability, informing poverty alleviation strategies and social support programs.

- **Informing Policy Interventions**: Detailed research on the socio-economic conditions of bonded labourers provides policymakers with evidence-based insights. Policymakers can

use this information to design targeted interventions aimed at providing rehabilitation, empowerment, and protection for those affected by bonded labour.

- **Economic Impact:** The presence of bonded labour has significant economic implications. It perpetuates unfair labour practices and impacts the overall workforce. By analyzing the socio-economic conditions of bonded labourers, policymakers, businesses, and society can recognize the economic costs of this exploitative practice and make informed decisions to foster fair labour practices.

- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** The United Nations' SDGs emphasize ending poverty, promoting decent work, and achieving social justice. Addressing the socio-economic conditions of bonded labourers aligns with these global goals, as it contributes to poverty reduction, economic growth, and ensuring inclusive and sustainable development.

- **Creating Awareness:** Research on the socio-economic conditions of bonded labourers helps raise public awareness about the prevalence and consequences of this issue. Increased awareness can foster a sense of responsibility and solidarity, leading to collective efforts to combat bonded labour and support affected communities.

- **Building Empathy and Compassion:** Understanding the challenges faced by bonded labourers can foster empathy and compassion among individuals and society. It encourages

people to take action, support anti-bonded labour initiatives, and contribute to a more equitable society.

- **Empowerment and Rehabilitation:** Analyzing the socio-economic conditions of bonded labourers allows for targeted empowerment and rehabilitation programs. By tailoring interventions to address specific needs, these programs can effectively assist bonded labourers in breaking free from the cycle of exploitation and rebuilding their lives.

Legal Measures to Combat Bonded Labour System in India

1. **Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976:** This is the primary legislation at the national level specifically targeted at eradicating bonded labour. The Act prohibits the practice of bonded labour and declares it illegal. It defines bonded labour as any labour or service rendered under the obligation of a bonded debt. The Act provides for the release and rehabilitation of bonded labourers and imposes penalties for those violating its provisions.

2. **The Minimum Wages Act, 1948:** While not exclusively targeting bonded labour, this Act plays a crucial role in preventing exploitation. It ensures that workers are paid a minimum wage for their work, thereby reducing the possibility of labourers falling into debt bondage due to low wages.

3. **The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989:** Bonded labour often disproportionately affects marginalized communities, including Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This Act provides protection to these

communities and strengthens their rights against atrocities, including bonded labour.

4. **The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, and Amendment, 2016:** Child labour is often linked to bonded labour. These laws prohibit the employment of children in hazardous occupations and processes, thereby aiming to protect children from exploitation and bondage.

5. **The Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979:** Bonded labourers are often migrants who move from one state to another in search of work. This Act safeguards the rights of inter-state migrant workers, ensuring they are not exploited and subjected to bondage.

6. **The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005:** This Act provides a legal guarantee of 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to rural households whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. By ensuring access to employment opportunities, MGNREGA helps prevent vulnerable individuals from falling into the trap of bonded labour.

Objectives of the Study :

The main objective of the study is to conduct a survey for identifying the number of bonded labourers in Thanjavur district. The specific objectives are :

- To map the sectors in which the bonded labourers are predominantly working

- to describe the socio demographic profile of bonded labourers in Thanjavur district.

- to understand the nature of bonded labourers along with the wages given to them.

Research Methodology

The study is descriptive in nature and based on primary as well as secondary sources of information. The areas with highest concentration of bonded labourers in Thanjavur District were selected by purposive sampling for this study. The selection of 60 respondents was random but not systematic random. The Questionnaire given by the office of the Assistant Commissioner for Labour Enforcement, Thanjavur had been used as Interview Schedule to collect the data from the field.

Key Findings and Discussion

Socio-demographic Profile of Bonded Labourers

The findings mentioned in the discussion highlight several significant aspects of the socio-economic condition of bonded labourers in India.

- **Productive Age Group**: The fact that nearly half of the bonded labourers (50.2 percent) fall within the age group of 36-50 years is noteworthy. This age group is considered to be in the peak of their productive years. The prevalence of bonded labourers in this age group indicates that employers may exploit their physical strength and labour to extract maximum work output.

DIAGRAM NO. 1.1

Age of the Bonded Labourers
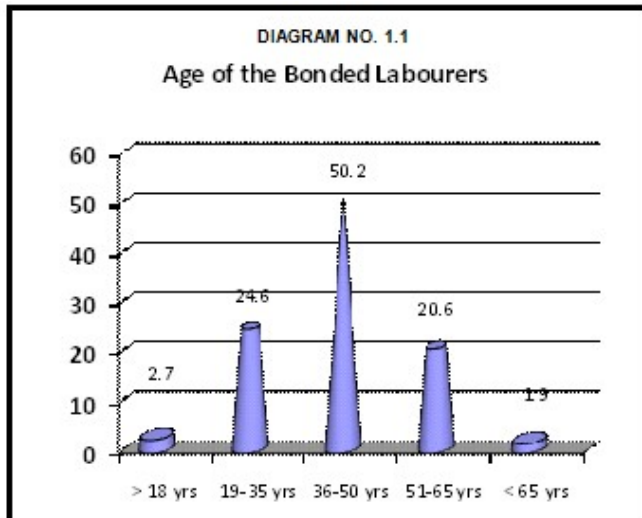
- **Child Labour**: Despite efforts to combat child labour, about 2.7 percent of the surveyed bonded labourers were found to be children below 18 years. This finding is alarming as it indicates that children are still being subjected to bonded labour, which violates their rights to education, protection, and a childhood free from exploitation.

- **Religious and Caste Dynamics**: The strong association between Hindu religion and the majority of bonded labourers (96 percent) points to the influence of caste-based practices in perpetuating bonded labour. Caste-based discrimination and social inequalities likely contribute to the vulnerability of certain communities, leading to their exploitation as bonded labourers.

- **Illiteracy and Wage Calculations**: The prevalence of illiteracy among a significant proportion of bonded labourers

(39.2 percent) highlights the challenges they face in accessing education and opportunities. Illiterate labourers may be more susceptible to exploitation, as they may not have a proper understanding of their rights, wages, and working conditions.

- **Short-term Bondage**: The finding that bonded labourers work with their present owners for varying periods, ranging from less than one year to a maximum of three years, suggests a revolving door of bonded labour. It indicates that bonded labourers do not remain tied to a single employer for extended periods but may move between different employers while still experiencing exploitation.

Nature of Work and Wage Payment

- **Annual Salary and Family-based Wages**: It was found that though the wages are being calculated based on the scale of production every week in case of Brick Kilns, it is recorded into the small note, which is being adjusted against the advance received by them. The bonded labourers who are in goat/duck herding used to get their wages as individual once in a year ('Annual Salary'). In Brick kiln, as most of them (57 percent) work as families, their wages are being calculated for the entire family. The fact that bonded labourers engaged in goat/duck herding receive their wages individually once a year, while those working in brick kilns get wages calculated for the entire family, highlights the different wage systems in these sectors. The practice of providing annual wages might further trap

workers in bonded labour, as they receive their wages only after an entire year's labour, which can perpetuate their indebtedness.

- **Wage Calculation and Advances**: In brick kilns, wages are calculated weekly based on the scale of production. However, the wages are recorded into small notes, which are adjusted against the advance payments received by the labourers. This practice of giving advances can lead to a cycle of debt bondage, as workers may find it challenging to repay the advances fully and become dependent on the employer.

- **Extent of Advances**: The advance amount ranges from Rs.20,000 - 60,000/-, for goat herding it is Rs.40,000 - 1,00,000/-, for brick making it is Rs.80,000 - 3,00,000/- The wide range of advance amounts (Rs. 40,000/- to Rs. 3,00,000/-) indicates the significant financial burden that bonded labourers take on to secure employment. Such large advances can exacerbate their vulnerability and tie them to the employer until the debt is repaid, which may take several years.

DIAGRAM NO. 1.2
Years of Bondage
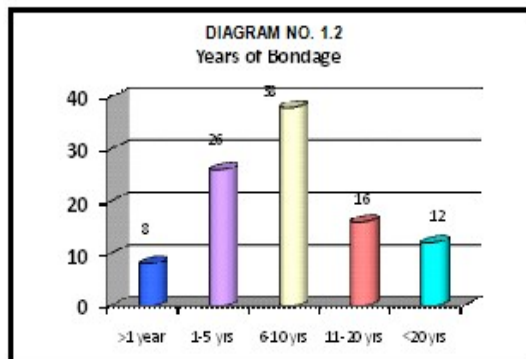
- **Loyalty to Employers**: The finding that almost all bonded labourers prefer to continue with their present owners because they feel comfortable with them raises concerns about the power dynamics and dependency that exist within these labour arrangements. This loyalty might be driven by fear of repercussions if they attempt to leave or seek employment elsewhere.

- **Role of Brokers**: There seems to be brokers (belonging to the districts of Thanjavur, Ramnad and Ariyalur) working all over Thanjavur District to fetch these bonded labourers. The owners also prefer these brokers or known contacts so that they can approach in case of any issue related to absconding or advance pending. The presence of brokers recruiting bonded labourers from different districts suggests a well-established network facilitating the exploitation of vulnerable individuals. The involvement of brokers can make it difficult for labourers to seek recourse if they face issues related to absconding or unpaid advances.

Human Rights Perspective of the Issue

The human rights perspective on bonded labour highlights the gross violation of fundamental human rights that this exploitative practice represents. Bonded labour, also known as debt bondage, is a form of modern slavery that traps individuals and families in a cycle of forced labour to repay a debt, often inherited from previous generations. From a human rights perspective, bonded labour raises several key concerns:

- **Right to Freedom**: Bonded labour deprives individuals of their basic right to freedom. It coercively binds them to work under exploitative conditions, leaving them with little or no control over their lives and choices.

- **Right to Dignity and Equality**: Bonded labourers are often subjected to degrading and inhumane treatment, eroding their sense of dignity and self-worth. The practice disproportionately affects marginalized communities, perpetuating social inequalities and discrimination.

- **Right to Safe and Healthy Working Conditions**: Bonded labourers are often forced to work in hazardous and unsafe environments, jeopardizing their health and well-being. They lack access to proper safety measures and protective gear.

- **Right to Education and Development**: Bonded labour deprives children of their right to education and denies individuals the opportunity to develop their skills and capacities, hindering their social and economic mobility.

- **Right to Adequate Remuneration**: Bonded labourers typically receive meagre wages or no wages at all, leading to economic exploitation. This violates their right to fair and just remuneration for their labour.

- **Right to Identity and Citizenship**: Bonded labourers may have limited access to documentation, which affects their ability to assert their identity and citizenship rights, leaving them vulnerable to further exploitation.

- **Right to Social Security**: Bonded labourers often lack access to social security benefits and protection, leaving them without any safety net in times of illness, injury, or old age.

- **Right to Justice and Redress**: Bonded labourers face significant barriers in seeking justice and redress for the abuses they suffer. Fear of retaliation, lack of legal awareness, and limited access to legal aid hinder their ability to seek recourse.

The human rights perspective on bonded labour calls for urgent action to protect and promote the rights of those affected. Governments, civil society organizations, and international bodies have a collective responsibility to eradicate bonded labour and address its underlying causes. This involves:

1. Strengthening legal frameworks: Enact and enforce laws that explicitly criminalize bonded labour and provide strong penalties for perpetrators.

2. Empowering labourers: Raise awareness about human rights, labour rights, and legal protections among bonded labourers. Provide them with access to legal aid and support to assert their rights.

3. Rehabilitation and reintegration: Implement comprehensive rehabilitation programs to rescue and rehabilitate bonded labourers, including access to education, healthcare, and vocational training.

4. Poverty alleviation: Address the root causes of bonded labour by implementing poverty alleviation measures and social welfare programs to uplift affected communities.

5. Accountability and monitoring: Hold individuals, businesses, and employers accountable for engaging in bonded labour. Establish robust monitoring mechanisms to track progress and compliance with anti-bonded labour efforts.

From a human rights perspective, eradicating bonded labour is not just a legal or economic issue but a moral imperative. It is about ensuring that every individual enjoys their inherent human rights, lives a life of dignity and freedom, and is treated with the respect and equality they deserve.

Recommendations

- It is essential to support these bonded labourers to develop income-generating activities for their socio-economic and ritual expenses which is the main cause for their bondage. Hence wider propaganda or awareness campaign shall be conducted in the brick making units for accessing and getting benefits under related government welfare schemes.

- It is necessary to conduct surveys on rehabilitated bonded labourers with regular time frame. It is also suggested that the rescued bonded labourers may be put into contact with District Social Welfare Department enabling the government officials / social workers for close follow up of the entire family as well as availing benefits under the related government welfare schemes.

- It is understood from the present survey that the issue of bonded labour cannot be dealt independently by the officials from Department of Labour. They need to have tie up arrangements with DIC for locating the brick kilns as well as with Department of Social Welfare for follow up of families of rescued and rehabilitated bonded labourers.

- The Government of India's stand-alone Free Helpline - 80560 80000 for bonded labourers framed in 2014 need to be widely publicized either among the public or bonded labourers.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the study on the socio-economic condition of bonded labourers in India provides valuable insights into the plight of individuals trapped in this exploitative and dehumanizing practice. The findings shed light on the challenges faced by bonded labourers, the prevailing wage practices, and the underlying socio-cultural dynamics that perpetuate this form of modern slavery. To combat bonded labour effectively, a multi-pronged approach is essential. This includes implementing and enforcing robust legal frameworks, raising awareness about labour rights, providing education and rehabilitation programs, and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities. Additionally, addressing the underlying caste-based discrimination and social inequalities is crucial to break the cycle of vulnerability that makes individuals susceptible to bonded labour.

It is imperative for governments, civil society organizations, and international bodies to collaborate and take

decisive action to eradicate bonded labour in India. Protecting and promoting human rights, ensuring dignity and equality for all, and creating a society free from exploitation should be at the forefront of these efforts. Ultimately, the study's findings call for a collective commitment to tackle the root causes of bonded labour, empower affected individuals, and build a future where every person can live a life of freedom, dignity, and opportunity. By working together, we can bring an end to this heinous practice and create a more just and equitable society for all.

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EXPOSURE TO EVE - TEASING AMONG LATE ADOLESCENTS

Ms. S.K.Vishali

II MSW Student, PG & Research Department of Social Work,
Cauvery College for Women (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli.

&

Dr. O. Aisha Manju

Assistant Professors, PG & Research Department of Social Work,
Cauvery College for Women (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli.

&

Ms. PL. Rani

Assistant Professors, PG & Research Department of Social Work,
Cauvery College for Women (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli.

Abstract

Tamil Nadu has experienced a sharp rise in crimes against women and children in the year 2021 compared to earlier years. Government statistics show that it went from 803 in 2019 to 892 in 2020 and 1,077 in 2021. One of the crimes against women that are based on a person gender is eve teasing. It is typically committed by men who love using women as playthings. The term Eve teasing refers to women who are bothersome or irritable. Most often, eve teasing isseen in public spaces like streets, public transportation, and other locations. In order to make light of, provoke, annoy, irritate, or humiliate women through comments, remarks, gestures, jokes, physical contact, and taunts, it is considered to be the act of harassing them in either a playful or malicious manner. Most of

the time, it is disregarded because people believe it to beharmless and non-violent, and women usually forget the act after some time. But it must also be considered a serious offence of harassment against women Eve teasing is widely prevalent in all walks of life. The number of molestation cases has been increasing year on year. Even though Tamil Nadu has a special safeguarding act-Eve Teasing Prohibition Act, 1998. This study collected data on the eve teasing exposure among late adolescent girls. Data was collected from 50 respondents by using semi structured interview schedule. The major findings of the study will be discussed in full paper.

Keywords : Crimes; Eve teasing, Women; Exposure; Gender, Late adolescents.

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Introduction

Eve-teasing is a form of sexual harassment of women in public places which include catcalling, lewd or obscene remarks, inappropriate sexual remarks including rubbing, touching, fondling, stalking, voyeurism etc. This conduct humiliates and affects the girl or the women physically, psychologically and socially as well. There is a very thin line to covert eve-teasing into severe offence. It starts with eve-teasing and results in assault, rape and doesn't spare till murder. The Delhi rape case, December 2012 acquaints us with how heinous and horrifying it may result.

Eve-teasing is a very broad term that also includes sexual staring, making remarks or passing comment, Indecent proposals, pulling hands, scarves and saris, Bottom pinching, touching hips

and breasts of women, Stalking, Indecent exposure, winking, whistling, and deliberate pushing by a boy into another boy to "accidentally" push a girl. Email harassment, mobile phone harassment, and cyber-bullying . Eve-teasing is perpetrated by a single or group of people, known or unknown person or even within the home. It is found that the perpetrator can be of the same age group or younger or older than the victim, nearly half of the perpetrators were perceived to be older than the participant, and approximately 50% were known to the participant. It can happen in numerous public places depending on the mobility of the victim for example market place, temple, movie theatres, park or street, coffee shop etc. A major reason behind eve-teasing is human sexuality, sex deprivation, gender inequality, thrill or sensation seeking by individual or group of people, media influences, lack of sex education, patriarchal approach, the status of women, cultural clashes etc.

Eve-teasing is a common threat to women, which repeatedly occurs every day, making them feel insecure, embarrassed, and humiliated (Dhillon &Bakaya, 2014; Lawson, 2008).

The Indian patriarchal social structure continues to blame young women's gestures, makeup, and outfits for such incidents (Menon, 2019; Littleton et al., 2014; Welson & Mohamad, 2019).

Specific illustrations of Eve-teasing include fondling, rubbing against women, stalking, making passes, pornographic gestures, pinching, staring, whistling, etc. (Smith-Darden et al., 2016; Natarajan, 2016).

Provisions in Indian Penal Code

- For the prevention of women from eve-teasing, IPC section 294, 354, 354A, 354B, 354C, 354D, 509 plays a major role.

- Section 294 deals with Obscene acts and songs- With the intent of annoyance, if a person does any obscene act or verbally in any form utter any obscene words in a public place shall be punished with imprisonment of a maximum of 3months with or without fine.

- Section 354 of IPC- Any person who uses assault or criminal force with the intent or knowledge to outrage the modesty of women shall be punished with imprisonment of a minimum of 1 year and max. of 5 years with fine[20].

- Section 354-A of IPC- This section explains sexual harassment and its punishment. Any man involved in unwelcome or explicit sexual overtures and physical contact, or demands sexual favour shall be guilty of sexual harassment and shall be punished with imprisonment for a maximum of 3years with or without a fine. Any man showing pornography against her will or making sexually coloured remarks are guilty of sexual harassment and shall be punished with imprisonment for a maximum of 1 year with or without a fine.

- Section 354-B of IPC- Any man who uses assault or criminal force with the intent to disrobe or compelling her to be naked shall be punished with imprisonment for a minimum of 3 years and which shall extend to 7 years including fine.

- Section 354-C of IPC- It deals with Voyeurism Any man who watches or captures images or disseminates such images of

women engaging in a private act which include an act which expected to provide privacy shall be punished with imprisonment for a minimum of 1year and shall extend to 3years including a fine, where the subsequent action shall be punished with a minimum of 3years and shall extend to 7 years including a fine.

- This section further provides that, where the victim consents to capture images but doesn't consent to its dissemination to 3rd person shall also behold guilt and punished under this provision.

- Section 509 of the IPC is used for uttering any words or making any sound or gesture or exhibiting any object to insult the modesty of any woman.

Impact on girls due to eve teasing

Cases of molestation do have a very deep effect on mental health. Girls lose self-confidence and start hating themselves. Survivors fear everywhere they go. It takes months to years just to get out of a room.

These were just internal problems. WHO defines health as a state of physical, mental and social wellbeing not just absence of any disease. With an increase in eve teasing cases, many girls in India are going through mental health diseases.

While going through anxiety and self-hatred, society serves as external worries. Always a girl is blamed, her clothes are targeted, and her freedom is snatched. She is deprived of basic human rights. A girl is further scared to raise her voice. Eve

teasing in a way ruins her entire life. Many girls have committed suicide due to the mental trauma caused by eve teasing.

Materials and Methods

Using descriptive research design ,the data was collected from late adolescence with the objective of1)Assessing the awareness on Late adolescents about eve teasing 2)To know about their exposure to Eve teasing 3)To understand their knowledge on Eve Teasing prohibition act.Asemi structured interview schedule was used to collect the data from 50 late adolescents. Convenience sampling method was used to select the samples.

Table-1

Distribution of the Respondents by their Socio-Demographic Characteristics

S. No	Particulars	No. of. Respondents (N=50)	Percentage
1	Age		
	17-18yrs	21	42
	18-19yrs	29	58
2	Religion		
	Hindu	30	60
	Christian	13	26
	Islam	7	14
3	Siblings		

	1-2	27	54
	No siblings	13	26
	More than two	10	20
4	**Type of family**		
	Nuclear family	32	64
	Joint family	18	36
5	**Domicile**		
	Rural	30	60
	Urban	20	40

The above table shows that more than half (58%)of the respondents were 18-19 years and less than half (42%) of the respondents were 17-18 years, more than half (60%) of the respondents belong to Hindu religion, more than one fourth of the respondents belong to Christian religion very few percentage (14%) belong to Islam religion and more than half (54%) of the respondents had one to two siblings, more than half(64%) the respondents belong to nuclear family and more than one fourth (36%)of the respondents belong to joint family, more than half(60%)of the respondents are residing in Rural area and less than half of the respondents are residing in urban area.

Table-2

Distribution of the respondents by their awareness on Eve Teasing

S. No	Particulars	No. of. Respondents(N=50)	Percentage
1	**Knowledge about Eve teasing**		
	Yes	35	70
	No	15	30
2	**Exposure to Eve teasing**		
	Yes	34	68
	No	18	32
2 a)	**If yes , Reacted to Eve teasing**		
	Yes	28	56
	No	22	44
3	**Last time of eve teasing Experience**		
	Less than 3 months	35	70
	Can't remember	5	10
	Never	10	20
4	**Know any one affected by Eve teasing**		
	Yes	28	56
	No	22	44

5	Witnessed Eve teasing		
	Yes	14	28
	No	36	72
6	Knowledge on Eve Teasing Prohibition Act		
	Yes	7	14
	No	43	86

The above table shows that nearly three fourth (70%)of the respondents were aware of Eve teasing, less than three fourth(68%) of the respondents were exposed to Eve teasing, more than half (56%) of the respondents reacted to eve teasing, nearly three fourth(70%)of the respondents were exposed to eve teasing in less than three months, more than half(56%)of the respondents know others who were affected by eve teasing, nearly three fourth (72%)of the respondents never witnessed Eve teasing and Vast majority (86%) of the respondents didn't know about Eve Teasing Prohibition Act.

Major Findings

- More than half (58%)of the respondents were 21-23 year old
- More than half (60%) of the respondents belong to Hindu religion
- More than half (54%) of the respondents had one to two siblings
- More than half (60%)of the respondents are residing in Rural area

- Nearly three fourth (70%) of the respondents were aware of Eve teasing
- More than half (56%) of the respondents reacted to eve teasing
- more than half(56%)of the respondents know others who were affected by eve teasing
- Nearly three fourth(72%) of the respondents witnessed eve teasing
- Vast majority (86%) of the respondents didn't know about Eve Teasing Prohibition Act.

Discussion

The present study reveals that many late adolescents are not known that Eve teasing is a punishable offence.Lack of awareness on the safe guarding mechanismsis prevailingamong adolescent girls.Vast majority of the girls are not aware of Eve teasing Act in the state.Eve-teasing is disrespectful to a woman's honor, decency, and self-respect.. It needto be handled like a serious offense against women.

Suggestions

- To protect from eve teasing ,all girls should learn self defense martial arts like Karate.
- Use technology like Kavalan App for emergency support
- Get help from others
- Speak and react if you become a victim
- Seek the help of authorities to manage the situation.

Conclusion

Eve teasing clearly has deleterious effect on women in terms of their ability to feel safe in public and they experience low self-esteem. Such experiences and misbehaviour contributes to negative impacts on their mental health. Most of the time Eve teasing cases are not being reported. Victimization, or the threat of victimization, may induce anger, shame, humiliation, fear of rape, and significant restriction on girls spending time in public (Talboys, S. L.et.al.).Eve teasing is a problem that has to be stopped very soon. There should be stricter laws and severe punishment against it. Complaints should be logged in such cases and more attention should be given by the respective. If eve teasing is not stopped soon or if it is considered lightly, it could turn into a grievous and harmful crime. Proper education as well as the punishments is to be explained. The importance of social, cultural and moral values should be taught by educating male children from very young age itself.

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LEGISLATION AGAINST MENTAL ABUSE/HARASSMENT IN INDIA THE PLIGHT OF TEACHERS DURING LOCKDOWN

Mary Philip

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science
Carmel College (Autonomous), University of Calicut,
Email : maryphilip@carmelcollegemala.ac.in

The COVID-19 pandemic that spread to most of the countries of the world had caused some of the strictest lockdowns in the affected nations. With our entire attention on this pandemic and the extra ordinary global public health emergency it had caused, there were some vital issues that were seen slipping through the cracks. Perhaps, for the first time people were being forced to confine themselves to the four walls of their dwellings along with other inhabitant for a longer period of time, than anybody could have imagined. Major adjustment problems came to the forefront, especially in the households where suddenly all were at home at the same time, which was otherwise impossible because of their busy work and other schedules. The women at home had to directly bear the brunt of the situation, since, now they had to be working as 24*7, customer care centres. They suddenly became overloaded with work at home, being forced to cater to the needs of all the family members, belonging to age groups ranging from infants to the elderly and chronically sick members, besides the handling of covid cases in the family, which

would start with one person and spread to all.In this tiring ordeal of continuous service, the health and wellbeing of the women,even if she were to be infected herself, would not make much of a difference, since women in our Indian society are expected to be serving the family even if they are on their death-bed .In many households, more than the physical abuse, it was the emotional abuse that was affecting the women to a disturbing extend. Emotional abuse is a kind of interpersonal and invisible violence that is used to exert power, or show dominance and control over victims. It is manipulative and unpredictable in nature. Emotional abuse also known as the silent killer, is usually when a person resorts to forcefully subject or expose another person to a behaviour which can cause a psychological trauma, including anxiety, chronic depression or post-traumatic stress disorder or in other words, a pattern of behaviour where one person deliberately and repeatedly subjects another to nonphysical acts that are misleading to behavioural and affective functioning and overall mental well-being.

Though, in general, we see a large number of women from all walks of life, fall a prey such an abuse, the pandemic brought out in the open, the plight of teachers in particular. Their situation was found to be even more deplorable since, during the pandemic, with the schools and colleges switching over to online mode of education, they were left to struggle for breath between their professional and family life. With ever increasing cases of abuse in lockdown, what makes mental trauma, a lot more damaging than other sorts of trauma, is the incontrovertible fact that nobody ever

validates the experience as traumatic or difficult. Neurobiological, mental abuse elicits an equivalent trauma response within the brain as physical events, but the social response to psychological abuse is probably going to be different.

Mental abuse is under-researched, unrecognised and unreported despite being extremely damaging for the victims. As a society, we prioritise physical health over mental well-being, despite the very fact that they are inextricably linked. The violation of our physical boundaries (sexual abuse, physical abuse) is taken into account and considered more problematic than violation of our emotions. The scars of emotional abuse are very real and they run deep but since they are intangible, it leaves no scars and thus there are no strict social taboos against the abusers who put mental pressure on their partners, children or loved ones, making them feel worthless and unloved. This paper is an attempt to address those grey areas and demand more stringent mechanisms in place to protect the working women especially the teachers.

The sudden switch from a high rate of offline traditional teaching techniques used in the majority of schools and colleges in India, to a sudden shift to online teaching during the pandemic, caught a large number of teachers off-guard. Not only were they pressured by their respective institutions to continue taking classes online, but also were directed by them to prepare their lessons and deliver them by using the latest available tools of teaching and learning. Their condition was so pathetic that without any kind of prior training or time for preparation, they were expected to deliver to an audience that very often chose to remain unresponsive or

hidden behind the turned off cameras or muted microphones. The time of taking classes or sessions were so stressful that on one hand they were expected to be the best teachers in their discipline, on the other hand, they had to prove themselves as the best homemakers or the perfect balance between the two. The case of women teachers is to be specially noted and studied since they were faced with the peculiar situation that they as part of 'work-from-home' arrangement, they were expected to be available online for all the school/college and other clerical works, not only during the normal working hours but much beyond that. While at home, the family members assumed that sitting in one place and talking to the screen isn't much of a work so they did not hesitate to leave all the household work to these helpless women, who were also teachers. The concept of work-from-home was meant to relieve the teachers from any kind of extra burden and allow them to take advantage of the comfort of their homes. On the contrary, they were burdened not only with their professional work but also the domestic chores. The unavailability of domestic help and other paid helping hands and the possible danger of bringing in infection with any newcomer to the house, forced them to push themselves to the limits, in order to keep the family safe. In this kind of environment, the stress levels were skyrocketing and so was the degree of emotional and physical abuse in a number of households.

The interpersonal equations in many families seemed balanced since they had different work schedules. The pandemic had however forcefully brought together all the family members and that too in the absence of anybody outside the immediate

family. The otherwise less discussed matters in the family very often surfaced, creating unnecessary tension among the members. Another cause of struggle was the employed status of teachers and the sudden un employability of most of the other family members. The continuous struggle to maintain a balance in work and family against the backdrop of raised expectations, the levels of mental stress and emotional abuse began to rise. In many cases, the frustrations caused to the partner due to loss of job began to reflect in the ill-treatment of the other partner and children also. In case of female victims, history tells us that the patriarchal framework of the Indian society has left very little space for the women to vent out their frustrations or voice their opinion in case of disagreement. This continues to a large extent even today. Unlike yesteryears, number of women who are employed in some kind of job has increased considerably. This has resulted in increased stress and pressure for them, trying to bring about a work-home balance. However, it is an accepted fact that, most of them have been able to work out a timetable that perfectly allows them to work as super-women. That is when the pandemic struck and this balance was disturbed. While some women were lucky to have an understanding family around them, others were not so lucky.

The plight of women teachers was particularly dismal as they had to face the double challenge of not only deal with the all new phase in their profession, that is, complete shift to online mode of teaching, but also, the complete shuffling of their daily timetable. The expectations from them went up very high without giving them time to adjust to the new environment. Knowingly or

unknowingly, this led to mental abuse and harassment of this group of women. Section 498A of the IPC speaks of imprisonment and fine for mental abuse or harassment, here, in case of partners in marriage. But given the harm that such harassment does to people, the punishments also should be harder. It is also to be debated that emotional or mental abuse need not always happen only in a relationship. It can happen at workplace, professional or any family or other close environment where the victim doesn't open up about her perils in front of others because of the fear of humiliation and loss of reputation.

This scenario needs to be completely changed. All that needs to be done is that where they is added responsibility, there should also be an additional support system that fosters the fulfilment of the responsibility. It is high time that the society at large recognises the difficulties being faced by the women teachers even today. It is everyone's responsibility to ensure that they are not treated as customer service centres with a round-the-clock schedule, instead are treated with respect and empathy. Teachers who shoulder the responsibility of shaping the future of the country by educating the students, who come before them, definitely deserve a lot more. The institution, organisation, society and family of which they are a part, should become their pillars of support. Instead of pushing them to the limits, they should be encouraged and empowered to move ahead without regretting the choices they made.

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POCSO ACT A CRITICAL ANALYSIS WITH THE GUIDING PROCESS & PRINCIPLES OF SOCIAL WORK

Dr. Gayathri

Assistant Professors, Anugraha Institute of Social Sciences, Dindigul.

&

Fr. Bobichan George

Assistant Professors, Anugraha Institute of Social Sciences, Dindigul.

Abstract

The POCSO Act, 2012 is a comprehensive law to provide for the protection of children from the offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography while safeguarding the interests of the child at every stage of the judicial process by incorporating child-friendly mechanisms for reporting, recording of evidence, investigation and speedy trial of offences through designated Special Courts.

The said Act defines a child as any person below eighteen years of age, and defines different forms of sexual abuse, including penetrative and non-penetrative assault, as well as sexual harassment and pornography, and deems a sexual assault to be "aggravated" under certain circumstances, such as when the abused child is mentally ill or when the abuse is committed by a person in a position of trust or authority vis-à-visthe child, like a family member, police officer, teacher, or doctor. People who

traffic children for sexual purposes are also punishable under the provisions relating to abetment in the said Act. The said Act prescribes stringent punishment graded as per the gravity of the offence, with a maximum term of rigorous imprisonment for life, and a fine.

So as to implement this act and make people follow intensively it is inevitable to apply the guiding principles & professional processes. This conceptual paper focuses more on applying the principles & following the process of social work to implement the POCSO act and also to enlighten society to make everyone feel responsible for creating an abuse-free environment for children.

Intervention with Social work Methods:

1. Casework-Understanding the child's physical and emotional state

2. Group work-Working with children groups to tap their skills

3. Community Organization- Framing & Conducting awareness programs to address Child abuse

4. Social Welfare Administration–Bringing new policies, and acts and modifying the environment to stop child abuse and to rehabilitate the abused victims.

5. Social Action- Creating Social work cluster Groups to address the child abuse issues, Having associations to create awareness on child abuse to create a conducive environment for the child.

6. Social work research- Action or intervention modules shall be

developed so as to rehabilitate the victims of Child abuse, Skill assessment & training modules shall be framed.

With these methods principles of self-determination shall be applied so as to make the POCSO act successful and to sustain Social justice in this society to achieve UN developmental goals.

Keywords: Sexual Assault, Child Sexual Offences, Child Sexual Abuse, Penal law, POCSO Act.

Introduction

India has one of the largest populations of children in the world – Census data from 2011 shows that India has a population of 472 million children below the age of eighteen. Protection of children by the state is guaranteed to Indian citizens by an expansive readingof Article 21 of the Constitution of India and also mandated given India's status as a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Before the implementation ofthe POCSO Act,the Goa Children's Act, 2003, was the only specific piece of child abuse legislation.

Salient features of the POCSO Act

- "Children" according to the Act are individuals aged below 18 years. The Act is gender-neutral.

- Different forms of sexual abuse including but not limited to sexual harassment, pornography, penetrative & non-penetrative assault are defined in the Act.

- Sexual assault is deemed to be "aggravated" under certain circumstances such as when the child is mentally ill. Also

when the abuse is committed by the person in a position of trust such as a doctor, teacher, policeman, family member.

- Adequate provisions are made to avoid re-victimization of the Child at the hands of the judicial system. The Act assigns a policeman in the role of child protector during the investigation process.

- The Acts tipulates that such steps must be taken which makes the in vestiges on process as child-friendly as possible and the case is disposed of within one year from the date of reporting of the offence.

- The Act provides for the establishment of Special Courts for the trial of such offences and matters related to it.

- Under section 45 of the Act, the power to make rules lies with the central government.

- Tomonit or the implementation of the Act, the National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and State Commissions for the Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs) have been made the designated authority. Both being statutory bodies.

- Section 42 A of the Act provides that in case of inconsistency with provisions of any other law, the POCSO Act shall override such provisions.

- The Act calls for mandatory reporting of sexual offences. A false complaint with intent to defame a person is punishable under the Act.

POCSO Act–General Principles

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 mentions 12 key principles which are to be followed by anyone, including the State Governments, the Child Welfare Committee,the Police, the Special Courts, NGOs or any other professional present during the trial and assisting the child during the trial. These include:

1. **Right to life and survival –**A child must be shielded from any kind of physical, psychological, mental and emotional abuse and neglect

2. **Best interests of the child –**The primary consideration must be the harmonious development of the child

3. **Right to be treated with dignity and compassion –**Child victims should be treated in a caring and sensitive manner throughout the justice process

4. **Right to be protected from discrimination –**The justice process must be transparent and just; irrespective of the child's cultural, religious, linguistic or social orientation

5. **Right to special preventive measures –**It suggests, that victimised children are more likely to get abused again, thus, preventive measures and training must be given to them for self-protection

6. **Right to be informed –**The child victim or witness must be well informed of the legal proceedings

7. **Righttobeheardandtoexpressviewsand concerns –**Everychild

hastheright to be heard in respect of matters affecting him/her

8. **Right to effective assistance** –financial, legal, counselling, health, social and educational services, physical and psychological recovery services and other services necessary for the child's healing must be provided

9. **Right to Privacy** –The child's privacy and identity must be protected at all stages of the pre-trial and trial process

10. **Right to be protected from hardship during the justice process** –Secondary victimisation or hardships for a child during the justice procedure must be minimised

11. **Right to safety** –A child victim must be protected before, during and after the justice process

12. **Right to compensation** –The child victim may be awarded compensation for his/her relief and rehabilitation

Social Work

Social work is an academic discipline and practice-based profession concerned with meeting the basic needs of individuals, families, groups, communities, and society as a whole to enhance their individual and collective well-being.

Social work practice is often divided into three levels. Micro-work involves working directly with individuals and families, such as providing individual counseling / therapy or assisting a family in accessing services. Mezzo-work involves working with groups and communities, such as conducting group therapy or providing services for community agencies. Macro-work involves fostering

change on a larger scale through advocacy, social policy, research development, non-profit and public service administration, or working with government agencies. The social work profession developed in the 19th century, with some of its roots in voluntary philanthropy and in grassroots organizing.

Social work Definition

Social work is a practice-based profession and an academic discipline that promotes social change and development, social cohesion, and the empowerment and liberation of people. Principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility and respect for diversities are central to social work. Underpinned by theories of social work, social sciences, humanities, and indigenous knowledge, social work engages people and structures to address life challenges and enhance well-being- International Federation.

Principles of the Social Work Profession

Social work profession has certain guiding principles as it is a value-based education that helps people to help themselves. The eight core principles of Social Work have been listed below:

1. Acceptance

2. Self-Determination

3. Confidentiality

4. ControlledEmotionalInvolvement

5. Dignityandworthoftheindividual

6. Individualisation

7. Non-judgementalattitude

The key social work values: service, social justice, dignity and worth of the individual, importance and centrality of the social-worker-client relationship honesty and integrity.

Application of Principles of Social Work in Viewing the Salient Features of POCSO Act

Principle of Acceptance: Social work accepts the individual as he or she is with all his/her limitations. The principle of acceptance implies that social worker must perceive, acknowledge, receive and establish a relationship with the individual client as he actually is, not as social worker wishes him to be or think he should be – With regard to POCSO act, at first we must accept the victim child of Sexual abuse. It will lead to the formulation of necessary intervention schedule as per the child/victim's need.

Principle of Individualization : Social work believes in the uniqueness of individual. Each individual is different from that of every other individual nature. As we know that individual is unique as his thumb print. The social worker views the problem of each client as specific and helps the client move forward finding the most satisfactory means for client to deal with particular problem situation. – With regard to POCSO act, we need to understand the individual or victim of the traffic, the place where it has happened and the problem i.e. the consequences raised from the issue so as to handle the victim of the sexually assaulted child.

We need to focus the individual, problem & the place with the individual focus for the betterment of the victim.

Principle of Confidentiality : The principle believes that confidential things of the client must be kept confidential and other agencies and individual & should be consulted only with the clients consent With regard to POCSO act, we must assure the maintenance of total confidentiality as it is very sensitive and breech of confidentiality inflicts psychological issues the victims are need to be assured with confidentiality.

Principle of Self Determination : The principle emphasizes client's right to self determination. Every individual client has the right to decide what is appropriate for him and decides the ways and means to realize it. In other words, social worker should not force decisions or solutions on the clients because the client has come to him for help. Therefore, social worker should support and guide the client to develop insight into his social situations in correct perspective and encourage and involve him to like decisions that are good and acceptable to him. With regard to POCSO act, the victim or the child must be tamed or practised to act in future with self realization. She or he needs to overcome the inhibitions and forget the psychological or physical trauma that they face.

Principle of Dignity and worth of the individual : This principle focus every individual as worthy and need to treat them with dignity. – With regard to POCSO act, we need to make the individual or the victim to be more aware of Self. This will make them to focus on their strength, weakness, opportunities to face

their life and what are the hindrances that are preventing them from achieving.

Principle of Non-judgement altitude : Principle of non-judgmental attitude presumes that the social worker should begin the professional relationship without any bias. He should not form opinion about the client, good or bad, worthy or unworthy. He has to treat the client as somebody who has come to him for help and he should be willing to help the client without being influenced by the opinions of other about the client or his situation. This enables the worker and the client feel free to develop understanding of each other. With regard to POCSO act, while making rooms to understand the problem or individual and also while making the effort to create intervention programs for dealing the sexual trafficking.

Principle of Controlled Emotional Involvement: This principle guides social work professional not to indulge too much personally in the client's difficult situation or being too objective. Therefore the social worker should maintain a reasonable emotional distance even while sympathizing with the client social worker should indicate the understanding of the difficult situations of the client without showing pity or appearing to be indifference. With regard to POCSO act, it is very essential to create a controlled emotional involvement for both the victim of traffic and also the person who is handling this issue. There should not be any possibility of transference or counter transference i.e emotional attachment of victim towards the person helping or vice versa. Handling emotions is an essential skill to be trained and take it for ward

throughout the session of handling individuals facing sexual victim.

Hence by applying the principles of Social work it will be easy for us to create intervention programmes for the victims with regard to the Sexual Harassment. It will pave the way for us to create intervention programmes with the help of social work profession.

Interventions with the methods of Social work :

1. Case work- Understanding the child's physical and emotional state, his or her emotional status so as to device the strategic therapy plan to deal the child effectively.

2. Group work- Working with children groups to tap their skills like Capacity building, working with teams and striving to overcome the trauma that they faced or experiencing.

3. Community Organization- Framing & conducting awareness programs to address Child abuse. It is inevitable to create skill training programmes i.e Life Skills module for handling the emotions, Life skills for the children especially who have faced Sex trafficking.

4. Social Welfare Administration – Bringing new policies, and acts and modifying the environment to stop child abuse and to rehabilitate the abused victims.

5. Social Action- Creating Social work cluster Groups to address the child abuse issues, Having associations to create awareness on child abuse to create a conducive environment for the child.

6. Social work research- Action or intervention modules shall be developed so as to rehabilitate the victims of Child abuse, Skill assessment & training modules shall be framed.

With these methods principles of social works hall be applied so as to make the POCSO act successful and to sustain Social justice in this society to achieve UN developmental goals.

Roles & Functions of a Social worker in implementing the POCSO Act:

Social workers play many roles in implementing the POCSO Act, including those of case manager, advocate, administrator, and therapist. The major functions of a psychiatric social worker are promotion and prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation. Social workers may also practice the following services to

- Counseling and psychotherapy
- Case management and support services
- Crisis intervention
- Psycho education
- Psychiatric rehabilitation and recovery
- Care coordination and monitoring
- Program management / administration
- Program, policy and resourced evelopment
- Research and evaluation

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MAGNITUDE OF SEXUAL ABUSE IN TAMIL NADU

Ms. A. Yuvalakshmi

II MSW Student, Department of Social Work,

Srimad Andavan Arts and Science College (A), Trichy.

&

Dr. S. Sasikala

Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work,

Srimad Andavan Arts and Science College (A), Trichy.

Introduction

Sexual abuse is a sexual behaviour or a sexual act forced upon a women, men or child without their consent. It is an act of violence which the attacker uses against someone they perceive as weaker than them. It does not come from an uncontrollable sex drive. But is a crime committed deliberately with the goal of controlling and humiliating the victim.

Types of sexual abuse:

- **Touching :** Include sexual activity where there is physical contact. For example rape, kissing, rubbing and touching on top of clothes.
- **Non-Touching :** Include sexual activity where there is no physical contact. For example taking sexual photos or videos, involving them in looking at sexual images or watching sexual activity through online or over the phone.

Impact:

Sexual abuse can have psychological, emotional and physical effects on a survivor. The victim faced following problems because of the abuse.

➢ Post-traumatic stress Disorder

➢ Depression

➢ Self harm

➢ Substance abuse

➢ Suicide

➢ Anxiety

➢ Lowered self esteem

➢ Pregnancy

➢ Sexually transmitted infections

Sexual abuse in India:

According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) in 2013; one woman is raped every 20 minutes and in 2021, of the 33,348 incidents registered under sections 4&6 of the POCSO Act, 33,036 involved girls and 312 involved boys

Legal provisions:

Under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) the punishment for sexual harassment is rigorous imprisonment for a term that may extend to 3 years, or a fine, or both.

The POCSO act provides for stringent punishments, which have been graded as per the gravity of the offence. The punishments range from simple to rigorous imprisonment of varying periods. There is also provision for fine.

Review of literature:

Mannat Mohanjeet Singh (2014) An Epidemiological overview of child sexual abuse

intended to assess the magnitude and the issues related to CSA. They searched databases such as PubMed, Google scholar, web (newspaper reports), and government websites. The relevant data was extracted from these sources for gathering evidence on CSA and secondary data analysis was done. The prevalence of CSA was found to be high in India as well as throughout the world. CSA is an extensive problem and even the lowest prevalence includes a huge number of victims. It also has various adverse effects on the psychological, physical, behavioral, and interpersonal well-being of the victim. Hence, stringent measures should be taken for the prevention and control of this hidden public health issue.

Russell (2020) Preventing child sexual abuse : A systematic review of interventions

Research on prevalence, risk factors, and prevention interventions for child sexual abuse has continued to focus on western and developed countries. Where country-level prevalence data or large-scale research exists, rates of child sexual abuse are consistently higher in developing and non-western countries than

their western and developed counterparts. We systematically reviewed research on the nature of child sexual abuse interventions in developing countries, the settings and populations included to identify types of child sexual abuse prevention initiatives being implemented in developing countries and their effectiveness. Following PRISMA guidelines, they conducted a systematic search of six databases and identified eight studies to include in our analysis. If the focus on school-based strategies to prevent child sexual abuse continues in developing countries, a significant gap in knowledge of the efficacy of population-level interventions outside of school contexts, and consistency across the application of interventions will remain. Evaluations are needed that address the efficacy of broader government-led or whole-of-community prevention interventions to reduce actual prevalence of child sexual abuse, or that can link increased knowledge and skill with reduced victimization.

Methodology

Significance

The sexual abuse cases are increased day to day life. But the people didn't care about this or not aware about that. Most victims of sexual violence are women. Sexual violence is another means of oppressing women in a patriarchal society. Many cases of abuse are not reported or are reported late because of the fear about the publicity or not aware about the process. Sexual violence is seen to occur in all ages, in all socioeconomic classes and all regions.

Aim :

To provide insight about the prevalence of sexual abuse to enhance awareness.

Methodology :

Used secondary data analysis method and collected data from three daily newspapers (Daily thanthi, Dhinamani, Hindu Tamil Thisai) which are published in Trichy District for a period of three months (Dec 2022 to Feb 2023).

Analysis Table : 1

Distribution of Sexual cases based on the states

Month	December	January	February	Total cases
Cases in Tamil Nadu	16	27	15	58
Cases in other states	4	4	4	12

Table : 2

Distribution of Sexual cases based on the Age

Age	In Tn	Percentage	Other states
1-10 years	5	7%	2
10-20 years	22	38%	2
20-25 years	2	3%	-
25& above	7	12%	1
Not specified	22	38%	7

Table : 3

Distribution of Sexual cases based on place of abuse

Place of Abuse	In TN	Percentage	Other states
Institution	11	17%	4
Work places	6	10%	-
Residential area	27	47%	3
Not specified	14	24%	5

Table : 4

Distribution of Victims based on their identity

Identity of victim	In TN	Percentage	Other states
School student	18	31%	4
College student	6	10%	4
Working women	11	19%	3
Not specified	23	40%	1

Table : 5

Distribution of Victims based on the type of abuser

Type of abuser	In TN	Percentage	In other states
Familial	23	40%	4
Institutional	11	19%	2

Colleagues	6	10%	3
Unknown	18	31%	3

Table : 6

Distribution of cases based on the type of abuse

Type of abuse	In TN	Percentage	In other states
Sexual harassment	37	64%	4
Rape	12	20%	7
Non touching (image, video, phone call)	9	16%	1

Table : 7

Reported cases in District wise

Districts	No. of cases
Chennai	20
Tiruchirappalli	6
Thanjavur	3
Pudukkottai, Perambalur, Ariyalur, Karur, Thirunelveli, Coimbatore, Salem, Sivakangai, Dindukal	2 (in each district)

Kanchipuram, Nagapattinam, Thiruppur, Thiruvannamalai, Viruthunagar, Krishnagiri, Nagarkoil, Tharumapuri, Viluppuram, Kanyakumari, Thenkasi	1 (in each district)

Findings:

- More than one third of the victims (38%) belong to the age group of 11 to 20 years and equal percentage of victims age group was not specified.

- Nearly half of the victims (47%) were abused in their residential areas.

- Nearly one third of victims (31%) were school students and more than one third of the abusers are not specified.

- More than one third of (40%) abusers were familial persons(parents, neighbours, friends and relatives) to the victims.

- More than half (64%) of the abuses were sexual harassment (touching, hugging, kissing).

- One third (36%) of cases were reported by the victims themselves.
  Nearly half (48%) of the abusers were arrested under the POCSO act

Suggestions and Conclusion:

- Study reveals that the school going adolescents are abused more. So they must be trained in self defence technique to protect themselves.

- The most abuses are done in their residential areas by their familial persons like parents, neighbours, friends and relatives. So everyone must know the limit in any relationship and aware of their intension.

- Sex education and can be incorporated in the school curriculum.

- Strengthen the students knowledge on   acts and policies related to abuse.

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PERCEPTION TOWARDS STRESS MANAGEMENT AMONG WOMEN TEXTILE WORKERS IN KARUR

Dr. N. Chitra

Assistant Professor in Social Work,

Srimad Andavan Arts and Science College(A),

Tiruchirappalli.

Abstract

Stress is our body is way of responding to any kind of demand or threat. When the feel of threat is experienced, the nervous system responds by discharging a flood of stress hormones, including adrenaline and cortisol, which rouse the body for emergency action. Our heart pounds faster, muscles tighten, blood pressure rises, breath quickens, and making our senses sharper. The physical changes increase the strength and stamina, speed-up our reaction time, and enhances focus.

Key words : Stressors, Tolerance, Women, Stress Response.

<p align="center">**********</p>

Introduction

Stress is the body's way of responding to any kind of demand. When feel threatened, the nervous system responds by releasing a flood of stress hormones including adrenaline and cortisol, which rouse the body for emergency action. Our heart pounds faster, muscles tighten, blood pressure rises, breath quickens, and our senses become sharper. These physical changes

increase the strength and stamina, speed up the reaction time, and enhance our focus.

This is known as the "fight or flight" stress response and is the body's way of protecting us. When working properly, stress helps individuals stay focused, energetic, and alert. In emergency situations, stress can save one's life—giving extra strength to defend ourselves, for example, or spurring you to slam on the brakes to avoid an accident.

The latest research into the brain shows that we, as mammals, have three ways of regulating our nervous systems and responding to stress:

Social engagement is our most evolved strategy for keeping ourselves feeling calm and safe. Since the vagus nerve connects the brain to sensory receptors in the ear, eye, face and heart, socially interacting with another person—making eye contact, listening in an attentive way, feeling understood—can calm you down and put the brakes on defensive responses like "fight-or-flight." When using social engagement, you can think and feel clearly, and body functions such as blood pressure, heartbeat, digestion, and the immune system continue to work uninterrupted.

Mobilization, otherwise known as the fight-or-flight response. When social engagement isn't an appropriate response and we need (or *think* we need) to either defend ourselves or run away from danger, the body prepares for mobilization. It releases chemicals to provide the energy you need to protect yourself. At

the same time, body functions not needed for fight or flight—such as the digestive and immune systems—stop working. Once the danger has passed, your nervous system calms the body, slowing heart rate, lowering blood pressure, and winding back down to its normal balance.

Immobilization. This is the least evolved response to stress and used by the body only when social engagement and mobilization have failed. One may find themselves traumatized or "stuck" in an angry, panic-stricken or otherwise dysfunctional state, unable to move on. In extreme, life-threatening situations, you may even lose consciousness, enabling you to survive high levels of physical pain. However, until you're able to arouse your body to a mobilization response, your nervous system may be unable to return to its pre-stress state of balance.

Effects of stress overload

The body's autonomic nervous system often does a poor job of distinguishing between daily stressors and life-threatening events. Repeated experience of the fight or flight stress response in the daily life can raise blood pressure, suppress the immune system, increase the risk of heart attack and stroke, speed up the aging process and leave you vulnerable to a host of mental and emotional problems.

Many health problems are caused or exacerbated by stress, including :

- Pain of any kind

- Heart disease

- Digestive problems

- Sleep problems

- Depression

- Weight problems

- Auto immune diseases

- Skin conditions, such as eczema

Signs and symptoms of stress overload : The following are some of the common warning signs and symptoms of chronic stress. The more signs and symptoms you notice in yourself, the closer you may be to stress overload.

Cognitive Symptoms	Emotional Symptoms	Physical Symptoms	Behavioral Symptoms
Memory problems	Moodiness	Aches and pains	Eating more or less
Inability to concentrate	Irritability or short temper	Diarrhea or constipation	Sleeping too much or too little
Poor judgment	Agitation, inability to relax	Nausea, dizziness	Isolating yourself from others

Seeing only the negative	Feeling overwhelmed	Chest pain, rapid heartbeat	Procrastinating or neglecting responsibilities
Anxious or racing thoughts	Sense of loneliness and isolation	Loss of sex drive	Using alcohol, cigarettes, or drugs to relax
Constant worrying	Depression or general unhappiness	Frequent colds	Nervous habits (e.g. nail biting, pacing)

Causes of stress

There are various Factors that influence stress tolerance. To list a few are Social support network, Exercise levels, Diet, Sense of control, Attitude and outlook, Ability to deal with our own emotions, Knowledge and preparation.

Unfortunately, many people cope with stress in ways that only compound the problem. They drink too much to unwind at the end of a stressful day, fill up on comfort food, zone out in front of the TV or computer for hours, use pills to relax, or lash out at other people. However, there are many healthier ways to cope with stress and its symptoms.

Common external causes of stress	Common internal causes of stress
Major life changes	Chronic worry
Work or school	Negative self-talk
Relationship difficulties	Unrealistic expectations/Perfectionism
Financial problems	Rigid thinking, lack of flexibility
Being too busy	All-or-nothing attitude
Children and family	Pessimism

Manage stress can teach healthier ways to cope with stress, help to reduce its harmful effects, and prevent stress from spiralling out of control again in the future.

- **Engage socially is t**he simple act of talking face to face with another human being can release hormones that reduce stress even if you're still unable to alter the stressful situation

- **Get moving.** Physical activity plays a key role in managing stress. Activities that require moving both your arms and your legs are particularly effective. Lifestyle changes to deal with the symptoms of stress

- **Set aside relaxation time** to do yoga, meditation, and deep breathing activate the body's relaxation response, a state of

restfulness that is the opposite of the fight or flight stress response.

- **Eating a healthy diet** as well-nourished bodies are better prepared to cope with stress

- **Plenty of nights sleep as f**eeling tired can increase stress by causing you to think irrationally

Review of literature

Kristina and Stephen (2015) reported that working women are facing higher level of stress than compared to men. The stressors are multiple roles, discrimination and stereotyping.

Tomba and Rapheileng (2013) concluded that female entrepreneurs feel more stress than male counterparts. Inability to spend enough time with families and friends, daycare and education for children are considered very stressful by both male and female entrepreneurs.

Dr. Hemanalini (2014) investigated the causes of stress that affect women in the working atmosphere in the textile industry. Majority of women stated that they are experiencing stress because of job insecurity and because of high targets.

Katherine Pollak. Eisen. George J. Allen. Mary Bollash and Linda S. Pescatello in their book titled "Stress management in the workplace" (2009) it suggested that work stress significantly contribute to corporate health costs. Comparison through randomised controlled design of stress management and intervention provided by an instructor-led group and computer

presented format, has resulted in significantly higher attrition in computer based presentation format.

Nagesh, P. and Murthy, M. S. Narasimha in their study titled "Stress Management at IT Call Centres" (2008) has identified that the six factors contribute to workplace stress: demands of the job, control over work, support from colleagues and management, working, clarity of role, and organizational change. This paper also suggested measures in the form of training to enable organizations and individuals to manage stress at workplaces in general and IT call centres in particular. The paper is based on a study carried out in respect of a few selected IT call centres.

Richardson, K. M., and Rothsetin, H.R.in their article titled "Effects of occupational stress management intervention programs" (2008) they provided an empirical review of stress management interventions, employing meta-analysis procedures. The results also revealed that relaxation interventions were the most frequent type of intervention. Further, there were a few stress interventions focused on the organizational level. More specific results also indicated that cognitive-behavioural interventions produced larger effects than other types of interventions.

Methodology

Objectives

- To study the socio-demographic aspects of the women textile workers in Karur district

- To know the level of occupational stress among the women textile workers.
- To analyze and compare the selected demographic variables and the stress management among women textile workers.
- To suggest suitable measures to manage occupational stress (if any).

Hypothesis

1. There is statistical significant difference between the Stress management level among the women working in textiles and their years of experience

2. There is statistical significant difference between the designation of the women textile workers and the level of Stress management.

3. There is statistical significant difference in the Stress management level among the women textile workers and their area of domicile.

4. There is statistical significant difference between Stress management and level of education among the women textile workers.

Research Design : The present study has adopted descriptive research design. Independent Variables of the study are Age, Education, Religion, Type of Family, Marital status, Area of residence, Designation, Years of experience and Income. The Dependent Variable is Stress management.

Sampling:

Simple random sampling was used for this study and sample size of 50 was taken.

Tools :

Interview schedule was used for this research work which addresses the area of women working in Textiles. For the purpose of this research work, the questionnaire used was:

Stress Management scalea five point likert type scale by Dr. Vandana Kaushik and Dr. Narmada Arora Charpe. Respondents give their responses using this five point Likert type bipolar scale. The scale is consist of 40 questions and the respondents response is based on selection of response on Strongly Agree, Agree, Uncertain, Disagree, Stongly disagree. It is bipolar scale and consists of positive and negative questions; the score is ranging from 1 to 5 or 5 to 1 for the corresponding replies by the respondents based on positive or negative type of question respectively.

For the purpose of analyzing and assessment of Dependent variables one way a nova, and Chi-square test were used.

Results and Discussions:

Table: 1

Sample Distribution of the Respondents

S. No.	Factors	Category	No. of Respondents (n:50)	Percentage
1.	Age	Up to 30 years	8	16.0
		31-40 years	8	16.0
		41-50 years	26	52.0
		Above 50 years	8	16.0
2.	Education	Middle school	28	56.0
		High school	10	20.0
		Higher secondary school	3	6.0
		UG	1	2.0
		Illiterate	8	16.0
3.	Marital Status	Married	44	88.0
		Unmarried	5	10.0
		Divorced	1	2.0
4	Religion	Hindu	45	90.0

		Christian	2	4.0
		Muslim	3	6.0
5	Community	BC	25	50.0
		MBC	20	40.0
		SC	5	10.0
6	Type of House	Own	19	38.0
		Rented	31	62.0
7	Area of Residence	Rural	19	38.0
		Urban	31	62.0
8.	Designation and department	Packing	21	42.0
		Piece checking	25	50.0
		Tailor	4	8.0
9.	Years of experience	1 to 5 years	14	28.0
		6 to 10 years	28	56.0
		11 to 15 years	6	12.0
		More than 15 years	2	4.0
10.	Mode of Transport	Bus	8	16.0
		Walk	4	8.0
		Train	38	76.0
11	Salary	Rs 4500	45	90.0

		Rs 5000	5	10.0
12	Sharing about work place with family	Yes No	36 14	72.0 28.0
13	Possession of Agricultural land	Yes No	6 44	12.0 88.0

The table above shows that half of the respondents (52%) were of the age group 41 – 50 years of age which shows that the demand for women workers were more in textiles industries. Exactly half of the respondents have completed their middle school education. Most of the respondents are married (88%). 56% of the respondents are having nearly 6 to 10 years of experiences. Half of the respondents live in a rented house and belong to backward community. 76% of the respondents' use train to reach the place of work. Majority of the respondents (72%) shares about the workplace with their family members.

Table - 2

Distribution of Respondents by Level of Stress Management

S. No.	Level of Stress management	No. of Respondents (n:50)	Percentage
1.	Low Level	27	54.0
2.	High level	23	46.0

From the above table, it is seen that 46% of the respondents' are having an idea to deal with stress while 54% have low level of stress management.

Table: 3

't' Test Between the Respondents Rural and Urban Residence with Regard to Stress Management

S. No	Area of residence	$\overline{X}$	S.D.	Statistical Inference
1	Rural	112.11	4.569	t = -3.201 df = 48
2	Urban	116.13	4.153	P > 0.01 Highly Significant

The table above shows that there is a high significant between the residence of the respondents and the stress management. The level of managing stress is high with regard to respondents from urban places which is revealed from the mean value. Hence research hypothesis is accepted.

Table -4

One way Analysis of Variance Among Various Educational Qualifications of the Respondents with Regard to Stress Management

S. No.	Source	Df	SS	MS	$\overline{X}$	Statistical Inference
1	Between Groups	4	42.369	10.592	G1= 115.75	F = 0.458 P > 0.05
2	Within Groups	45	1041.6	23.147	G2= 114.04	Not Significant
					G3= 114.50	
					G4= 117.33	
					G5=114.00	

G1= Illiterate   G2=Middle school   G3=High school   G4=Higher secondary
G5=UG

It is observed from the above table that there is no significance between the educational status of the respondents and the stress management. In addition the respondents with higher secondary education have higher mean score in stress management when compared to other educational status of the respondents. Hence research hypothesis is rejected.

Table - 5

One Way Analysis of Variance Among Marital Status of the Respondents with Regard to Stress Management

S. No.	Source	Df	SS	MS	$\overline{X}$	Statistical Inference
1	Between Groups	2	12.473	6.236	G1= 114.73	F = 0.274
2	Within Groups	47	1071.52	22.798	G2= 113.20	P > 0.05
					G3= 116.00	Not Significant

G1= Married   G2=Unmarried   G3=Divorced

The One way Analysis of Variance test table explains that there is no significance between the marital status of the respondents and the stress management. Hence research hypothesis is rejected.

It is understood that he respondents who were divorced have higher mean score in stress management when compared to married and unmarried respondents.

Table :6

Karl Pearson's Co-Efficient of Correlation Between the Respondents Age and Stress Management

S. No.	Variable	Correlation Value	Statistical Inference
1	Age And Stress management	-0.199	P > 0.05 Not Significant

Karl Pearson Co-efficience of correlation test was applied in order to test the research hypothesis. It has been inferred that there is no significant relationship between age of the respondents and their stress management. It is negatively correlated which shows that managing stress decreases with increase in age. Hence null Hypothesis stands accepted.

Findings:

1. Half of the respondents (52%) were of the age group 41 – 50 years of age which shows that the demand for women workers were more in textiles industries.
2. Most of the respondents are married (88%) and they share their financial needs of the family.
3. 56% of the respondents are having nearly 6 to 10 years of experiences.
4. Half of the respondents live in a rented house and belong to backward community.

5. 76% of the respondents' use train to reach the place of work and there is accessibility to the workplace.

6. Majority of the respondents were (72%) sharing about the workplace with their family members which show the support system.

7. The level of stress management is high among 46% of the respondents while low with the remaining 54%.

8. There is a high significant between the residence of the respondents and the stress management. Hence research hypothesis is accepted.

9. There is no significance between the educational status of the respondents and the stress management. Hence research hypothesis is rejected.

10. There is no significance between the marital status of the respondents and the stress management. Hence research hypothesis is rejected.

11. There is no significance between the age of the respondents and the stress management. Hence research hypothesis is rejected.

Recommendations and Conclusion:

Stress management is an art and needs one's own initiative to overcome eustress, stress and distress. Though the stress management requires a bit of understanding about the environ a person lives, a lot more is needed from both the person involved and his immediate support circle like family and friends. The research has given a good experience on the perception of stress and the right ways to handle in family and workplaceto the

respondents. The research recommend the employer to organize a small creation or fun activity once in a while either during the break hours or in entry /exit hour and to display posters on stress relief or management. Though there is no acceptance of independent variables with the stress management, the women employees could vent their emotions of low and high level to prevent damages in relationships and health.

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THE TRIANGULAR RELATIONSHIP OF PARENTS, TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

S. Sathiya

Researcher Scholar, PG and Research Department of Social Work, Cauvery College for women, Trichy.

&

Dr. G. Mettilda Buvaneswari

Associate Professor, PG and Research Department of Social Work, Cauvery College for Women, Trichy.

Abstract

In this modern world, students, teachers and parent's relationship get affected due to dilution of moral values and cultural degradations. Most of the parents do not spend time with their children to get know their physical wellbeing and their academic performance. Further in developing friendship at school children moral values and behavior which may not be accepted by the family members due to generation gap. Hence the researcher analysis the relationship between parents teachers and students. Descriptive research design had used. The researcher adopted descriptive research design, as the study focus on describing the characteristics of the population. The researcher used census method to draw total universe of 150 respondents as a sample. Self- prepared questionnaire, child -parent relationship scale developed by Nalini Rao (1988), and parents-child, students-teacher, teacher-parent scale developed by the researcher. Karl Pearsons co-efficient of correlation and one way analysis was applied to test the hypothesis. The statistical analysis indicate half

of the respondent have high level of parent-child relationship with regard to the dimension of behavior and discipline, nearly one third of the respondents (41.7 percent) were having low level of students- teachers relationship with respect to the dimensions personality development, discipline and personal concern. Majority of the respondents (81.2%) were having high level of teachers-parent relationship regards co-operation and educational level. The researcher suggest few measures to enhance healthy future to India a triangular relationship of parents, teachers and students should be healthy. Only a good parent and teacher relationship can give a healthy student.

Keywords : Parent, Teacher, Student, Generation Gap, Relationship, Personality Development, Discipline, co-operation.

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Introduction:

In this contemporary world, parents prefer to live in a nuclear family at the mean time they have not spent time to their children. In this situation the child fail to practice their family and social values. The primary agents for children's socialization are parents. They play essential role in basic values and practices enable to encourage and develop children's learning. Another important agent of socialization is school, the school is formal institution to transmit knowledge and skills children need to become productive members of society. Children spend 6 or 7 hours a day, 5 days a week, 36 weeks of the year, totaling, altogether, about 15,000 hours by high school graduation. During

this period the good student and teacher relationship make the student develop with self-confident, discipline, punctuality and overall personality development. In short, aims and objectives of educationalpsychologyhelptheteacherwiththeinformationandsuitabl emethodswiththehelpofwhichteacher can improve their teaching skills and also ensure desirable growth in the personality of the pupil.

Review of Literature

The parent child relationship has important and significant impacts for a child. A parental style is an important component that shapes the child's views about themselves and their world. Parents are a source of producing healthy self-esteem, self-worth, healthy thinking and behavior in children (Santrock, 2005).

Hamre et al. (2012) hypothesized that "it was not sufficient for teachers to be able to gain knowledge about effective teacher-child interactions; they needed actual skills involving identification of effective interactions with a high degree of specificity in order to be most likely to transfer the course work into changes in their practice"

In the same line of thinking, Koplow (2002) proposed that effective student teacher relationships encourage greater confidence and classroom engagement in much the same manner as sensitive parenting encourages a greater sense of security and confidence. Students need the confidence and motivation to learn, which can be stimulated by the relationship they hold with their teachers. Students also perform well when they feel that the

teacher is passionate about what they are teaching and pass security and confidence to the students. When teachers believes in students' ability to succeed it motivates them because students don't want to let them down but it also makes students believe that they are more capable than they even imagined.

The benefits to positive relationships between parents and teachers are many (Epstein, 1986, Hill & Taylor, 2004, Mc Wayne, et al., 2004, Hughes & Kwok, 2007). Parents who have had positive relationships with their children's school and teachers are more likely to initiate contact with the school. Conversely, parents who have had negative interactions with the school and teacher are likely to have ill feelings towards the school and are less likely to contact the school or be involved in school activities (Gutman & McLoyd, 2000). Another significant benefit of a positive parent-teacher relationship is increased student achievement. "A high quality parent-teacher relationship may strengthen the positive impact of a paren's home involvement on achievement" (Hill & Taylor, p. 163)

Statement of the Problem

In this modern world, students, teachers and parents' relationship get affected due to dilution of moral values and cultural degradations television occupies most of the time of parents and children at homes resulting in communication gap. Most of the parents do not spend adequate time with their children to get to know their physical wellbeing and their academic performance. Further in developing friendship at school children moral values and behaviour which may not be accepted by the

family members due to generation gap. It may lead to increasing conflict and quarrel among children, parents and grandparents. Another aspect in the student-teachers relationship which may get affected due to commercialization of education, modernization and westernization. Moreover teachers' commitment towards teaching profession and the students' respect towards teachers are changing. Hence the present study analyses the triangular relationship of parents' teachers and students.

Significance of the Study

The causes of decreasing human relationship is growth of population, lack of communication, advancement of technology etc. lead to increasing indiscipline, crime, violence, truancy etc. among the student community. Poor parent child relationship is also one of the cause of behavior problems. Parents play a vital role in forming the behaviour of their children. The quality of their relationship forms the base for their children's relationship with others especially at their school. The second person who affects the children's behaviour is his/her teachers and they are the second parents who are responsible in setting models for their students. It is the quality of their relationship which creates conducive atmospheres for learning. Not only the student teachers relationship and also the interest shown by the parents in contacting the teachers to find out their children's performance at school. So it is the triangular relationship which affects the student's academic performance.

Aims and Objectives

I)   To study the socio demographic status of the respondents.

II)   To study the relationship of child and parents.

III)   To study the student's – teachers relationship.

IV)   To study the relationship between teachers and parents.

V)   To suggest suitable measures to improve the parent-child
        student – teacher and teacher - parent relationship.

Research Design

The researcher used descriptive research design as the study focused on describing socio-demographic charactertics of the respondents.

Universe

The number of students from IX and X standard, their teachers and one of their parents (eitherfatheror mother) constituted the universe. The universe is 150 i.e. 65 student's, 20 teachers and 65 parents and census method was adopted to study all the respondents.

Tool of Data Collection

i)   Socio demographic data of the respondents were collected
        using self – prepared questionnaire.

ii)   Child parent relationship scale –Dr.Nalini Rao (1988).

iii)   Student teacher questionnaire (5 dimension with 45 items)

iv)   Teacher-parents questionnaire (4 dimension with 37 items).

TABLE-1

One way Analysis of Variance Among Various Qualifications of the respondents (Parents) with regard to Various dimensions of Parents-Child Relationship

S. No	Source	DF	SS	MS	X	Statistical Inference
1	Behaviour Between groups	3	808.186	269.395	G1= 81.4286	F=1.860
					G2= 71.2353	P>0.05
	Within groups	56	8112.214	144.861	G3= 74.1756	Not significant
					G4= 86.5000	
2	Education Between groups	3	96.925	32.308	G1= 36.8571	F=0.575
					G2= 37.2353	P>0.05
					G3= 39.7059	Not significant
	Within groups	56	3145.475	6.169	G4= 37.5000	
3	Discipline Between groups	3	256.484	85.495	G1= 53.4286	F=0.819
					G2= 58.5294	P>0.05
	Within groups	56	5844.450	104.365	G3= 58.5000	Not significant
					G4= 65.0000	

4	Overall Between groups	3	981.875	327.292	G1= 171.7143	F=0.481
					G2= 167.0000	P>0.05
	Within groups	56	38139.458	681.062	G3=172.3824	Not significant
					G4= 189.0000	

The above table points that there was no significant difference between various educational qualification of the respondents with regard to various dimensions of parents-child relationship such as behaviour, education, discipline and overall.

Parents educational qualification does not have significant influence on parents-child relationship.

TABLE-2

Association Between Occupation of the Parents and Various Dimensions of Parents-Teachers Relationship

S. No	OCCUPATION	Various Dimensions of Parents-Teachers Relationship		Statistical Inference
		LOW	HIGH	
1	**Discipline**	**N: 29**	**N: 31**	
	Agriculture	5	5	X^2=2.362

	Business	14	10	Df=3
	Government job	8	11	P >0.05
	Dailywages	2	5	Notsignificant
	Behaviour	**N: 30**	**N: 30**	
2	Agriculture	5	5	$X^2=0.195$
	Business	12	12	Df=3
	Government job	10	9	P >0.05
	Dailywages	3	4	Notsignificant
	Personalitydevelopment	**N: 26**	**N: 34**	
3	Agriculture	3	7	$X^2=2.028$
	Business	12	12	Df=3
	Government job	7	12	P >0.05
	Dailywages	4	3	Notsignificant
	overall	**N: 29**	**N: 31**	
4	Agriculture	5	5	$X^2=0.129$
	Business	12	12	Df=3
	Government job	9	10	P >0.05
	Dailywages	3	4	Notsignificant

It was found from the above table that there was no significant association between the occupation of the respondents and various dimensions of parents-teachers relationship such as discipline, behaviour, personality development.

Hence the occupation of the respondents does not have any influence on various dimensions of parents - teachers relationship.

TABLE-3

Karal Pearson's Co-Efficient of Correlation Between the Teachers Experience and Various Dimensions of Teachers-Students Relationship

S.No	Variable	Correlation value	Statistical Inference
1	Experience and Self Experience and Observation	-0.455	P>0.05 significant
2	Experience and Personality	-0.420	P>0.05 significant
3	Development Experience and Social	-0.280	P>0.05 Not significant
4	Behaviour Experience and Mental Status	0.267	P>0.05 Notsignificant
5	Experience and Social Personal Status	-0.494	P>0.05 significant
6	Experience and Overall	-0.042	P>0.05 Notsignificant

It was found from the above table that there was a significant relationship between teaching experience of teachers and the dimensions of self, observation, mental status and overall Teachers-Students Relationship

Suggestions and Social Worker Intervention

❖ Parentsmayencouragetheirchildpositively.Whenthechild'sperformanceatschoolispoor

❖ Parents may have friendly relationship with their child.

❖ Parentsmayconcentratebothacademicandnon–academicactivitiesfortheirchild.

❖ Parents may set role model for child.

❖ Parents should spend more time with their child.

❖ Parents may avoid criticism of teachers and the teaching profession, in front of their child, this will develop a positive attitude habits in the children and they will have genuine respect and love for their teachers.

❖ Theparentsmayshowinterestingettinginformationfromtheschool aboutco-curricularactivitiesofthe child.

❖ Parents-teachersassociationhastobeconductedperiodicallyintheschool.

❖ Students maybe oriented in inculcating respect for their teachers, parents, grandparents and others.

❖ Teachers may act as parents for their students.

❖ Teachers maybe prepared to work together with the parents and

value their opinion regarding the child.

❖ Parents may how interest to understand the growth and development of their children.

❖ Parents may in form the teacher very honestly about the child's behaviour and work athome.

❖ Depending upon the strength of the students, teachers must be appointed. So that it may avoid over work load to the already existing teachers.

❖ The appointment of social workers in schools maybe encouraged in order to look after the students' personality development and to solve the behaviour problems of the students in school.

❖ Social workers may act as a good mediator between teachers, students and parents.

❖ Staff development programmes may be arranged for the teachers to understand the present students' psychology for and their culture to improve students-teachers relationship.

❖ In the present study the reisanegative correlation between Years of Experience of the teachers and Teachers-Students relationship with regard to the dimensions self, observation, mental status and overall Teachers Students Relationship.Itshowsthestudentsdon'thavecordialrelationshipwi thseniorteachers. It may be due to the teachers' conventional approach, burn out, work may become monotonous for the teachers etc. The management of the school may explore the

reasons by getting feedback from the students, may organize refresher courses for the senior teachers on the issues of students in the contemporary society, may organize interactive programmes for the students and teachers etc to enhance the students teachers relationships.

❖ Social Workers may play a vital role in meeting the senior teachers and taking a survey with the senior teachers so that the factor contributing to the gap between teachers and students may be found out paving way to chalk out strategies to fill the gap.

Conclusion

To give a healthy future to India a triangular relationship of parents, teachers and students should be healthy. Only a good parents and teacher relationship can give a healthy student.

In olden days teachers concentrated more on human values, education, truth, honesty, behaviour etc. compare to this generation parents also were living in a joint family which develops co-operation, tolerance sharing and care for human beings. So the triangular relationship of parents, teachers and students was very good.

But now the teachers are compelled to concentrate only on academic sides due to competition. Parents also busy with the in jobs as wellasthy preferred to live in all clear families. Students also want to be independent, they themselves they decision without considering parents and teachers. Because of these, triangular relationships of parents, teachers and students get

diluted. To conclude the parents, teachers and students should give more attention to maintain the triangular relationship among them to give a healthy India.

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A STUDY ON ATTITUDE AMONG MARRIED AND UNMARRIED WOMEN RELATED TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACT

V. Thenmozhi

M.Sc. Psychology, Department of Social Work,
Cauvery College for Women (Autonomous), Trichy.
Email : ramyaviswa97@gmail.com,

&

J. Jesinth Jenifer

Guest Lecturer, Department of Social Work,
Cauvery College for Women (Autonomous), Trichy.
Email : jeni8dec@gmail.com

Abstract

Domestic violence is a worldwide health problem nowadays. It is a violence involving someone in the victim's domestic circle. Domestic violence includes partners and ex-partners, family members, relatives and family friends. Joseph Lasong et al., found risk of domestic violence was higher among working women than non working women. The aim of the study is to investigate the attitude among married and unmarried women on domestic violence. Initially 30 samples were taken for the pilot study in and around Trichy. For the main study around 100 samples were taken by using simple random sampling. They were administered the test on domestic violence by using 23 - item 6 point Likert Domestic Violence Blame Scale (DVBS) was

developed by Petretic-Jackson and colleagues and 18 - item 6 point likert Domestic Violence Myth Acceptance Scale(DVMAS). The data was analyzed with the help of SPSS and the result showed that significant differences were found among the demographic variables on domestic violence.

Key Words : Women, Attitude, Domestic Violence.

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Introduction

In today's world women are equally important as men in our society. women can even be described as the backbone for the developing nation. They should always be encouraged and never be underestimated about their gender. But at present it is not so easy to be a girl or woman. women are not equally treated as men by our society. They are discriminated against everywhere they go including our home. In rural places it is still happening that they are not even given the primary education and there starts the discrimination. Domestic violence is nothing but the crime that is being done against women or elderly or children by the immediate family members. It includes physical, emotional and sexual abuse. Domestic violence is being faced by millions of women across the world. The violence performed by the men is basically due to the gender inequality which has existed for a very long time. Women are not feeling comfortable by the way they are being treated and violated by men. Our present study mainly focuses on the attitude that each and every woman has towards domestic violence. It is necessary both the married and unmarried women should atleast

have some basic attitude about domestic violence so that they may get encouraged and thereby in future they may take some actions in case they are being violated by their partners. Therefore it is necessary to know the attitude of women regarding domestic violence so that they are able to create physical and mental health.

Domestic violence

It is the behavior pattern in which it is used to gain control over the intimate partner. It is kind of maintaining power and doing violent acts by their immediate family members against spouse or child or elders in the family. It is mistreating the other person in a close relationship. For the protection of rights of women in India several constitutional acts were developed. The victims of the violence can be protected by the act who are directly or indirectly affected by the offenders who are connected either directly or indirectly. The act is called the Protection of Children from Domestic Violence Act which was set up in the year 2005. WHO defined Violence as intentional use of the physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, which either results in or has high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm and maldevelopment. The Domestic Violence Act of 1998 states domestic violence as any form of abuse that comes under physical, sexual, psychological and economic harassment. In Criminal laws domestic violence is defined as any offense that involves violence or physical harm or physical harm or threat of violence or physical harm committed by a person. A clinical or behavioral definition

states that it is a coercive behavior that includes physical, sexual and psychological attacks against their intimate partners.

Theories related to domestic violence

Attachment Theory is one of the tools to understand the behavior of the perpetrator. It tells us about how the experience of the childhood days strongly influences the behavior of the individual among the close relationships. This attachment theory is used by therapists to find out the status of the client in relation to their attachment, their interventions and their communication with the others. It also tells them what are the approaches that can be carried out by them in order to treat the clients. The findings made it clear that domestic violence is not the mere result of social conditioning but also the interaction between the psychological conditioning and the social context of the individual. Hence it is clearly proved that the social changes are the important one in bringing the violence down only when the psychological and biological factors are minimized then the violence will be reduced.

Identity Theory: Identity theory states that all domestic violence behaviors are the result of issues in self and identity. The behaviors including the aggression are rooted from the self and the identity. When the individual's identities are not confirmed then the individual will take the situation under his or her control to make others respond to him. When the control is not working, then they take aggression as their tool to make the situation or favor for them. Thus this theory tells how the lack of identity in the individual takes them to aggression and thereby to increase violent nature in them.

Attitude

Attitude is a mental and emotional attribute in which it defines a person their way (attitude) to approach something or their personal view on it. Attitude is basically a learned tendency in which it evaluates things in a most certain way. The 3 components of the attitude are cognitive component, affective component and behavioral component. Cognitive component deals with the thoughts and beliefs about the subject. An Effective component deals with the objects or persons that make the one feel about them. Behavioral component deals with how the behavior is influenced by the attitude. Attitudes are broadly divided into Explicit and Implicit. Explicit attitudes are the one which we are aware of consciously and that influences our beliefs and behaviors. Implicit attitudes are unconscious ones which drive our behaviors and beliefs. Attitude is an individual's degree of liking or dislike for something. A readiness to respond in such a way that behavior is given a certain direction is known as attitude(Travers). An attitude is a learned predisposition to respond in a favorable or unfavorable manner towards people, an object and idea or situation. (Martin Fishbein). Michael Hogg defined attitude is a negative or positive evaluation of an object which influences the human behavior towards that object.A study on attitudes regarding domestic violence and its implications for social work education was conducted by Vonnie L. Hawkins (2007). Domestic violence blame scale and domestic violence myth acceptance scale was used to collect the data of 236 samples. The result revealed that victim blaming was given much importance than the seriousness of

the domestic violence was identified. Antai (2008) conducted a study on Rural women's attitudes in Nigeria toward intimate partner violence. Samples of 3911 rural women were taken. The result revealed that social, religious and cultures bring changes in attitude towards domestic violence. No significant differences were found on literacy and occupation. In 2012 Amir Mohammad Sayem et al., made a study on attitude towards intimate partner violence among married women in Bangladesh. The data was collected by using Inventory of Beliefs about Wife Beating (IBWB). Significant differences were found in education, age and exposure to media.

Research Methodology

The present study initially contains 30 samples for the pilot study in and around Trichy. For the main study a sample of 120 women consists of 48 married women and 72 unmarried women, selected through simple random sampling technique by survey method from in and around Tiruchirapalli. 12 samples were rejected due to incompletion of data. So the final sample of the study is 108. The hypotheses of our study are

H_1 - There may be a significant relationship between myth and blame towards domestic violence among married and unmarried women.

H_2 - There may be a significant difference in place of residence on myth.

H_3 - There may be a significant difference in working status on blame.

H_4 - There may be significant difference in marital status on blame and myth

H_5 - There may be significant difference in age on blame and myth

Results

The main findings of the present study are shown in tables given underneath.

Table 1: H_1 - There may be a significant relationship between myth and blame towards   domestic violence among married and unmarried women.

Variable	Myth towards domestic violence
Blame towards domestic violence	0.388**

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level

Table 1 shows the correlation between blame and myth acceptance of domestic violence. From the table it is found that there is a positive correlation between myth and blame of domestic violence. Hence the stated hypothesis 1 is accepted.

Table 2: H$_2$- There may be a significant difference in place of residence on myth.

Demographic Variable	Variable	't' value	Significant level
Place of Residence	Blame	-0.389	0.44
	Myth	4.697	0.00*

*. Significant at 0.05 level

Table 2 shows the significant difference in place of residence on domestic violence myth and therefore the stated hypothesis is accepted. The table also showed no significant difference in place of residence on blame towards domestic violence.

Table 3: H$_3$- There may be a significant difference in working status on blame.

Demographic Variable	Variable	't' value	significant level
Working status	Blame	-3.33	0.00*
	Myth Acceptance	-0.634	0.349

*. Significant at 0.05 level

The above table showed the significant differences in working status on domestic violence blame. Hence the above stated hypothesis H3 is accepted. The table also showed that domestic violence myth did not show any significant differences. The study is associated with Antai (2008).

Table 4: H$_4$- There may be significant difference in marital status on blame and myth

Demographic Variable	Variable	't' value	significant level
Marital status	Blame	-0.646	0.219
	Myth Acceptance	1.193	0.38

From the table that is given above we can inferred that marital status showed no significant differences on both blame and myth towards domestic violence. Hence the above stated hypothesis is rejected.

Table 5: H₅ - There may be significant difference in age on blame and myth

Demographic Variable	Variable	't' value	significant level
Age	Blame	3.350	0.07
	Myth Acceptance	1.513	0.22

From the table that is given above we can inferred that age showed no significant differences on both blame and myth towards domestic violence. Hence the above stated hypothesis was rejected.

Discussion

The present study assesses the attitude towards domestic violence. In the attitude, myth and acceptance were positively correlated. From married and unmarried women point of attitude, when the misconception (myth) increases the criticism (blame) also getting increased and vice versa. This itself is proof that both married and unmarried women view domestic violence at the same level of attitude. Significant differences in place of residence (myth) may be caused due to surroundings, media exposure etc. In working status (blame) the significant difference indicates the working women might have witnessed more domestic violence

incidents than the non working women. Nevertheless women among the categories i.e place of residence, working status, marital status and age have shown that domestic violence is taking part in their life either directly or indirectly based on the situation and the surrounding. From our study it is clear that positive attitude on domestic violence through myth and blame acceptance reveal that every women is either a victim or a person who is connected either directly or indirectly to domestic violence. The violence has got many consequences for the victim. It can lead to both physical and mental disabilities. The psychological problems include stress, depression, alcohol and substance abuse and high risk sexual behaviors. The physical problems include heart disease, stroke, lung disease, diabetes and gynecological problems. Domestic violence also leads to poor performance and absenteeism in the workplace which is directly related to social isolation. Only changes in lifestyle like educating about it, life skills training, prevention programs and policy change can make a change in preventing domestic violence. The main cause of the occurrence of domestic violence is due to silence and lack of knowledge. It is important to forefront it. It cannot be done only with the victims of domestic violence it is also in the hands of every individual to speak up when they feel that the person related to them is being violated in order to save the person from the domestic violence. Eventually the victims of domestic violence will be getting more focused attention from psychologists, health professionals and policy makers to ensure their physical and mental health.

Implications of the Study

- Domestic violence will be reduced only when women are ready to speak up the problems they are experiencing.

- Domestic violence study is not given much importance in India compared to the other countries.

- Researches must be conducted in that particular field, so people will get to know about the problems.

- Curriculum should be made mandatory in all schools regarding women rights that includes domestic violence so that the girl children from a young age will be known about this and that might help them in future of not getting victimized to domestic violence.

- Awareness should be made based on domestic violence and strict laws should be passed and it must be implemented.

- Rehabilitation of victims should be given priority.

- The government policy makers and also the non-governmental policy makers should make a strategy to control domestic violence against women.

- Extension programs should be made to create the awareness among the women regarding wife or women beating.

Conclusion

Hence, this study proves women are affected by domestic violence and it is not limited to whether they are married or unmarried, coming from urban or rural, working or non-working, all have witnessed domestic violence in one or other ways. Intervention programs are needed to bring the changes in society.

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IMPACT OF DOWRY ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OF WOMEN AND THE ERADICATING MECHANISM IN INDIA

Dr. Stalin Muthuswamy

Dean of Business and Social Sciences Chreso University, Lusaka in Zambia.

Email : stalinrocks86@gmail.com

Abstract

The Dowry system in India refers to the durable goods, cash, and real or movable property that the bride's family gives to the groom, his parents and his relatives as a condition of the marriage. Dowry is referred to dahez in Hindi and as jahez in Urdu. To eradicate the dowry in Indian Government enacted a law against dowry called Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961. Domestic violence in India includes any form of violence suffered by a person from a biological relative but typically is the violence suffered by a woman by male members of her family or relatives. To safeguard the women from domestic violence, the Government enacted the legislation called Domestic violence act 2005. The main objective of the study is to analyse the relationship between the dowry and domestic violence. The researcher adopted the descriptive research design. It is a qualitative study in nature. Secondary method of data collection was adopted. The data were collected from various books, journal, articles, conference proceedings and online sources which were published. The study concluded that dowry is the major women problem at the time of marriage even though the legislation passed to eradicate dowry. The practice of dowry is inevitable in India while marriage. In some cases groom's family expects dowry and in another hand

bride's family giving for their daughter's luxury. Hence at the time of bride's family fails to fulfill the expectation of groom's family the domestic violence arises. The researcher resulted that dowry and the domestic violence are interrelated in India.

Keywords: Dowry, Domestic violence, Women, Legislation and Death

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Introduction

Women form the largest group of victims of domestic violence and Dowry since time immemorial and violence against women still continue even in the 21st century. Women from every social background irrespective of their age, religion, caste, or class fall victim to domestic violence. However domestic violence is not just limited to women; men, children and elderly people can also be victims of it. Domestic violence occurs at all levels of society and in all population groups. Both are the social evils of the society. Dowry is a social evil in society that has caused unimaginable tortures and crimes towards women and polluted the Indian marital system. Dowry is payment made in cash or kind to a bride's in-laws at the time of her marriage.

Dowry related violence

Dowry is an ancient custom, which continues as days passed by. Dowries continue to be expected and demanded as a condition to accept a marriage proposal, in most parts of the world. Dowry is given in most cases as part of an agreement before marriage has money, ornaments or parental properties that are given from the bride's family to the groom or in- laws. It may be given before, during or any time after marriage and it is considered

to be as a demand and in some cases the delay within it may leads to certain problems in the family, and these leads to domestic violence. Domestic system has its root in the attitude of Indian society, towards women. The main thing behind it is that the Indian women do not really have any will of their own and every one treated them, even today, with pity and nobody thinks of giving them equal status with men. The most common forms of dowry – related violence are battering, marital rape, acid throwing, wife burning and other forms of violence. The perpetrators may also use methods of starvation, deprivation of clothing, evictions, and false imprisonment as a method of extortion. They often use violence disguised as suicides or accidents. Mainly the violence and depths associated with dowry demands constitute domestic violence. Certain acts included in dowry – related offences which are similar to acts of domestic violence. The dowry prohibition Act, 1961 was one of the important Act related to the dowry related offences. It marked the beginning of a new legal framework of dowry harassment laws effectively prohibiting the demanding, giving and taking of dowry. Although providing dowry is illegal, it is still common in many parts of the country. By 2005, after the arrival of protection of women from domestic violence, it added an additional layer of protection from dowry harassment.

Dowry related violence has been regarded as a universal phenomenon, cutting across all sorts of boundaries and is on continuous increase in India, it may be taken as a matter of grave concern that dowry death is one of the typical problems of our society.

Legislation Measures to eradicate dowry and domestic violence of women:

Dowry Prohibition Act 1961

Dowry Prohibition Act, Indian law, enacted on May 1, 1961, intended to prevent the giving or receiving of a dowry. Under the Dowry Prohibition Act, dowry includes property, goods, or money given by either party to the marriage, by the parents of either party, or by anyone else in connection with the marriage. This Act may be called the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961. It extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir. It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint.

Penalty for giving or taking dowry

If any person, after the commencement of this Act, gives or takes or abets the giving or taking of dowry, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than five years, and with the fine which shall not be less than fifteen thousand rupees or the amount of the value of such dowry, whichever is more:

Penalty for demanding dowry

If any person demands directly or indirectly, from the parents or other relatives or guardian of a bride or bridegroom as the case may be, any dowry, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than six months but which may extend to two years and with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees. Provided that the Court may, for adequate and special reasons to be mentioned in the judgment,

impose a sentence of imprisonment for a term of less than six months.

Domestic Violence

The United Nations defines violence against women 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, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life." Domestic violence is violence or some form of abuse including mental, physical and sexual abuse in a domestic setting, such as in marriage or cohabitation also commonly known as intimate partner violence.

Forms of violence

- Physical violence. Any act which causes physical harm as a result of unlawful physical force.
- Sexual violence. Any sexual act preformed on an individual without their consent.
- Psychological violence. Any act which causes psychological harm to an individual.

Economic violence

Domestic violence act 2005:

On September 13, 2005, the Protection of Women Against Domestic Violence Act (DVA) was passed by the United Progressive Alliance administration. It is a civil legislation that intends to provide a female victim of domestic abuse with a four-pronged support system, including a defendant's financial resources, residency orders, custody orders, and protection orders.

Before the Protection of Women Against Domestic Violence Act, women could only turn to Sections 304B (dowry death) and 498A of the Indian Criminal Code. The definition of domestic relationship under the DVA is more inclusive; married women, mothers, daughters, and sisters are all included in the phrase.

This Act was among the first in its field to address domestic abuse issues while taking into account all applicable laws, and it tried to lessen the numerous additional issues that other legislation typically encounters (such as inconsistent provisions). The mentalities of Indian men in the Indian setting and social environment are very clearly reflected in this law.

Objectives of the Domestic Violence Act, 2005

- To identify and determine that every act of domestic violence is unlawful and punishable by law.
- To provide protection to women victims, those who experienced domestic violence in the cases such acts occur.
- To provide a justice in a timely manner without delay, cost-effective, and convenient manner to the aggrieved person.

Punishment under Domestic Violence act 2005:

A breach of protection order, or of an interim protection order, by the respondent shall be an offence under this Act and shall be punishable with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine which may extend to twenty thousand rupees, or with both.

Materials and Methods

The methodology of the whole work is based on secondary data. For preparing this research paper, basically used books,

Journals, some case references and websites, newspaper and publish reports and internet. It is descriptive in nature. It is a qualitative study. The researcher secondary data were used to view the impact of dowry practice on domestic violence and also analyzed the legislations for women to safeguard from such practices and violence.

Literature Reviews:

(Shukla, 2021) examined India's Dowry Prohibition Act was passed in 1961. Dowry refers to the bride's family's gift of money or other assets to the groom or his family at the time of the couple's wedding. The compromise of shares is void and prohibited by the Dowry Prevention Act of 1961. If a cruel conduct against the bride occurs within seven years of marriage, Section 498A of the IPC punishes the husband and members of his family. Yet, the clause defines the offence as being neither bailable nor compoundable. These rules are overwhelmingly in favour of women and call for very little previous support in the event that they have any complaints. As a result, some groups of women are allowed to abuse these laws to further their own ulterior motives.

(Nadda, Mallik, Rohilla, & Chahal, 2018)aimed to assess the prevalence and characteristics of domestic violence and injuries owing to domestic violence among currently married women. This was a community-based, cross-sectional study conducted in the rural and urban areas of Haryana. In total, 880 currently married females of the reproductive age group were interviewed using the Women's Questionnaire (used in National Family Health Survey-3) which is according to the Modified Conflict Tactics Scale. Totally, 37% of the females had ever experienced domestic violence and 28.9% currently experienced

domestic violence. All types of violence (except sexual violence) were significantly more common in the rural area than the urban area. Injuries owing to domestic violence were reported by more than half (55.4%) of the women. Among spousal violence, emotional violence was the most common type of violence followed by physical violence. Only 0.1% and 4.5% of females had ever initiated physical and emotional violence respectively, against their husbands, and in rest of the cases, it was the husband who initiated violence. Awareness regarding domestic violence needs to be made, and law enforcement regarding it needs to be made stringent.

(Das & Lakshmanan, 2020)explained that the law empowers women in a variety of ways by giving them the right and the authority to fight against the patriarchal nature of society in order to protect them from discrimination. The major goals of this essay are to examine the terms of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (PWDVA, 2005), and to clarify the functions and duties of various authorities under this Act. In order to determine the causes of the PWDVA's failure, this paper analyses secondary data. These reasons include the budgetary allotments to states being highly uneven, the delays in the delivery of orders, and the lack of clear instructions to stakeholders regarding their roles and responsibilities for effective implementation. There is an urgent need to strengthen the PWDV Act for the victims to get fruitful justice on time

(Saravanan, 2022) explained that the violence against women, including verbal abuse, domestic violence, and even fatalities, is caused by the practise of the dower system. Continual physical and psychological torture of brides is also practised by in-

laws. To abolish the dowry system, the government has passed numerous laws, many of which have become more stringent over time. According to the Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961, anyone found guilty of using the dowry system faces a maximum five-year sentence in prison and a fine of 15,000 rupees for accepting, providing, or participating in its activities. The age range of 18 to 50 is covered by a total of 520 sample respondents. The dependent variables in a graphical representation are age, gender, educational background, and occupation, whereas the independent variables are the reasons of the dowry system in India as well as its impacts and difficulties. According to the survey's findings, the best way to stop the dowry system in India is to establish stringent laws, educate women, and help them become self-sufficient. It can infer that both giving and receiving dowries are panelized as being criminal acts.

(Srivastava, Kumar, & Govindv, 2021) examined the association of dowry demand and other associated risk factors with physical, sexual, or emotional violence against married adolescent girls in two major states of India by using large representative data. Understanding the lives of adolescents and young adults (UDAYA) project survey data was used for this study. The effective sample size for the study was 4893 married adolescent girls. Descriptive statistics along with bivariate analysis was performed to examine the preliminary results. For analyzing the association binary logistic regression method was used. The prevalence of violence was significantly higher among girls who reported that dowry was demanded by their husbands. Results show that the likelihood of any violence was 3.66 times more likely among adolescent girls

who reported that dowry was demanded by their husbands than their counterparts.

Discussion

Even in 21st century the practice of dowry is more prevalent in India. It became one of the inevitable aspects in Marriage ceremony. According to their social status dowry will be provided to their daughters and groom's family seeking dowry based upon their son's income and assets. Most of the women are suffering due to the practice of dowry. According to data shared by Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Kumar Mishra in Rajya Sabha, 35,493 dowry deaths were reported in the country between 2017 and 2021. Bride's family not able to full fill the expectation of dowry from the groom's family is the major reason for domestic violence. It includes verbal, physical and Mental abuse of women by their husband's family members. The Government tried to safeguard the women in India by the way to enact the legislation and actively implemented. The law exists to prohibit dowry and domestic violence, but these laws are either ignored or sometimes not enforced by some higher officials. Laws related with the prohibition of dowry were passed in 1961 but were not effective and it was further amended in 1984 and 1986 as a punishable act and also enacted the domestic violence act 2005, which will also help the women from violence. And Government also introduced a toll free number of 181 for the welfare of women. Special programmes were implemented for women. But few women misuse the laws, they used as a tool to work against their husband's family.

Results and Conclusion:

Dowry is a social custom and it is very difficult to change customs all of a sudden because many people give and take dowry only because their parents and ancestors had been practicing the same from their time onwards. Through this analysis it reveals that women are suffering a lot by domestic violence and in many ways like battering, denying of food, scolding, ill-treatment etc by their own husband and by their in-laws due to non-payment of dowry as mentioned at the time of time. It is also one of the social evils in India. Not only government can stop these evils every citizens put hands in join together to solve this. All parents should give education to their daughters instead of giving dowry. Hence the study concluded that practicing dowry and domestic violence are interrelated. So, The Government should order an immediate punishment without delay for those who performed domestic violence and seeking dowry. Every citizen should get fear to involve in the practice of dowry and violence against women through enacting the severe immediate punishment of the Government.

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