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# Addressing the Menace of Violence against Women in India

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## ABSTRACT

*This article explores the pervasive issue of violence against women in India, drawing upon data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for 2022 and referencing published sources. The findings underscore the severity of the problem and emphasize the urgent need for collective action. Eradicating violence against women requires a multi-faceted approach encompassing legal reforms, social change, education, and awareness. The article concludes by emphasizing the importance of challenging regressive attitudes, dismantling patriarchal structures, and fostering a safe and inclusive environment to achieve gender equality and justice for all citizens of India.*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Violence against women is a pervasive issue in India, deeply rooted in socio-cultural norms and systemic inequalities. Despite significant progress in various sectors, the nation continues to grapple with the grim reality of gender-based violence. This article aims to shed light on the state of violence against women in India, drawing upon data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for the year 2022, as well as referencing published news articles, journals, and research studies.

## II. EXTENT OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN INDIA

According to the NCRB data of 2022, India witnessed alarming rates of violence against women. The total number of reported crimes against women was X, reflecting a Y% increase compared to the previous year. These statistics are indicative of a deeply concerning trend that demands immediate attention and concrete action.

## III. CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN: A MULTIFACETED PROBLEM

Violence against women in India encompasses a wide spectrum of offenses, including but not limited to domestic violence, rape, sexual harassment, dowry deaths, and acid attacks. The NCRB data reveals a distressing rise in all these categories. It is worth noting that the actual

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numbers may be even higher due to underreporting, societal stigma, and lack of faith in the justice system.

### **Domestic Violence**

Domestic violence remains a pervasive issue affecting women across all socio-economic backgrounds. The NCRB data shows a substantial increase in reported cases of domestic violence in 2022, emphasizing the urgent need for comprehensive measures such as stricter laws, sensitization programs, and support services for survivors.

### **Rape and Sexual Assault**

Instances of rape and sexual assault continue to pose significant threats to women's safety and dignity. Despite efforts to improve reporting and prosecution, the numbers remain alarmingly high. The NCRB data of 2022 recorded X cases of rape, signifying a Y% increase from the previous year. These figures underscore the pressing need for swift justice, survivor support, and gender-sensitive education.

### **Dowry Deaths and Acid Attacks**

The persisting social evil of dowry demands claims countless lives of women every year. The NCRB data shows a concerning rise in dowry deaths in 2022. Similarly, acid attacks, an abhorrent form of violence, continue to cause physical and psychological trauma to victims. Combating these heinous crimes requires a multi-pronged approach, including stringent enforcement of laws, awareness campaigns, and rehabilitation measures for survivors.

## **IV. CHALLENGES IN ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

Several factors contribute to the perpetuation of violence against women in India. Deep-rooted patriarchal norms, gender inequality, inadequate legal frameworks, social stigma, and systemic biases pose significant challenges. Furthermore, the lack of gender-sensitive education and comprehensive sex education programs perpetuates harmful stereotypes and attitudes. Addressing these issues demands a holistic approach involving policy changes, community engagement, and gender empowerment initiatives.

### **Efforts and Solutions**

The Indian government, civil society organizations, and individuals are actively engaged in initiatives to combat violence against women. Stricter legislation, such as the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, has been enacted to address gender-based crimes. The One Stop Centers and the Nirbhaya Fund were established to provide survivors with medical, legal, and psychological support. Additionally, initiatives like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, SHe-Box, and

the #MeToo movement have created awareness and facilitated dialogue.

## **V. CONCLUSION**

Violence against women in India remains a grave concern that demands urgent attention. The NCRB data of 2022, along with various publications, underpin the extent and severity of the issue. Eradicating violence against women requires a multi-faceted approach encompassing legal reforms, social change, education, and awareness. Society as a whole must unite to challenge regressive attitudes, dismantle patriarchal structures, and foster a safe and inclusive environment where women can exercise their rights without fear. Only through collective action can India aspire to achieve gender equality and justice for all its citizens.

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