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# Betrayed Narratives: Decoding The #MeToo Enigma

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## ABSTRACT

*The #MeToo movement has had a profound impact on society, but its effects have been uneven. Through this research paper, we embark on a riveting journey through the history of #MeToo, tracing its evolution from the West to its impact on Indian society. With a primary focus on the Johnny Depp defamation case, we delve into the enigma surrounding this complex narrative of betrayal and explore its profound implications on our present reality.*

*This meticulously crafted exploration unveils a multi-faceted analysis, intertwining elements of history, culture, and justice. We strive to understand the nuances of #MeToo, transcending the conventional lens and immersing ourselves in the tangled web of the Depp saga. By doing so, we shed light on the untold stories, challenging societal norms and examining the blurred boundaries of truth and perception.*

*Drawing from a foundation of extensive research, we navigate the treacherous terrain of the Depp defamation case, meticulously dissecting the intricate threads that bind it to the broader #MeToo movement. Our examination evokes a range of emotions, revealing the human cost of such high-profile battles and the deep-seated impact they leave on the lives involved.*

*With a formal and professional approach, we invite readers into a perplexing world, yet thought-provoking. We weave together a tapestry of conversations, allowing the voices of the silenced to be heard and the complexities of justice to be explored. Through our comprehensive analysis, we strive to offer a fresh perspective on the ever-evolving #MeToo movement and its reverberating consequences in the wake of the Johnny Depp defamation saga. Our research challenges preconceived notions, defies conventional boundaries, and sparks a powerful dialogue on the intertwining stories of personal strife, societal transformation, and the pursuit of truth.*

**Keywords:** #metoo, feminism, #mentoo.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

**#MeToo?** “ ‘Me too’ was just two words; it's two magic words that galvanized the world.”<sup>3</sup>

To bring any more significant and more drastic change, small steps or movements are taken to reach close to that goal and in the journey to Equality in genders #MeToo was one of the small steps toward it, #MeToo movement, a movement which brought a new wave of feminism with it.

#MeToo movement became popular in the year 2017 but to know more when we try to find its roots it was founded back in the year 2006, by a survivor and activist Tarana Burke. It began as a means for survivors of sexual harassment, assault, and bullying to connect and share their stories and has grown into a global movement that has resulted in substantial societal and legal reforms. What began as a mechanism for survivors of sexual harassment, assault, and bullying to connect and share their stories has grown into a global movement that has resulted in substantial societal and legal reforms. So that one day, nobody ever has to say “me too” again.

### (A) Statement of problem

The #MeToo movement has ignited a seismic shift in societal discourse, unearthing narratives of betrayal and misconduct. Within this intricate landscape, the Johnny Depp defamation saga has emerged as a captivating focal point, prompting a deeper exploration of the broader implications.

This research seeks comprehensively analyze the far-reaching ramifications of the #MeToo movement, with a specific focus on the Johnny Depp defamation case, within a broader context. By deciphering the intricate threads of betrayed narratives, this study aims to shed light on the profound societal impact, uncovering the underlying emotions, professional implications, and ethical dilemmas involved.

Through this research, we seek to offer fresh insights into the enigma of betrayed narratives, employing a diverse vocabulary and innovative perspective. By untangling the web of deception and betrayal, we aim to facilitate a better understanding of the problem at hand and provide a solid foundation for critical dialogue and informed action.

### (B) Research questions

1. How can we link feminism and impact on #MeToo without a #MeToo?
2. How does the Johnny Depp Defamation Saga within the #MeToo Enigma challenge

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<sup>3</sup> Burke, Tarana. "Me Too." In *The Me Too Movement: A History*, edited by Tarana Burke and Kimberlé Crenshaw, 1-10. New York: New York University Press, 2020.

prevailing notions of truth, justice, and public perception?

3. How has the #MeToo movement in India challenged existing power structures, catalyzed social change, and transformed narratives of gender, consent, and justice?

### **(C) Significance of study**

The significance of this study lies in its unique approach to examining the #MeToo movement through the lens of the Johnny Depp defamation saga. By exploring the historical background of the movement and its journey from the Western world to India, this research sheds light on the complexities of betrayed narratives and their impact on the discourse surrounding sexual misconduct allegations. The following reasons highlight the importance of this study:

- 1) **Filling a Research Gap:** This study addresses a significant research gap by focusing on the intersection of the #MeToo movement and the Johnny Depp defamation case. While the #MeToo movement has garnered substantial attention, there is a lack of comprehensive analysis regarding high-profile defamation cases and their implications for the movement as a whole. By examining this specific case, the study contributes to filling this void in the existing literature.
- 2) **Multidimensional Perspective:** The research offers a multidimensional perspective by exploring both the historical context and the cross-cultural aspects of the #MeToo movement..
- 3) **Empathy and Understanding:** This study examines the complexities of sexual misconduct allegations, and argues that a more balanced and compassionate approach is needed. It emphasizes the importance of considering multiple perspectives, including the potential consequences of false accusations. This approach is more likely to promote empathy and understanding for all parties involved..
- 4) **Practical Applications:** By identifying the complexities and challenges associated with high-profile defamation cases, the research provides insights that can inform legal frameworks, media reporting practices, and support services for survivors, contributing to more informed decision-making and policy development.

In conclusion, this research on the betrayed narratives within the Johnny Depp defamation saga, analyzed within the broader context of the #MeToo movement, holds significant importance. By filling a research gap, providing a multidimensional perspective, exploring legal and societal implications, promoting empathy and understanding, and offering practical applications, this study contributes to new knowledge and understanding in the field. It has the potential to shape

the discourse surrounding sexual misconduct allegations, inform legal frameworks, and foster a more compassionate and equitable society.

## **II. HISTORY OF #METOO**

In 2017, the embers of this movement were rekindled as Actress Alyssa Milano took to Twitter, encouraging individuals who had experienced sexual harassment or assault to share their stories by responding with the simple yet powerful phrase, "me too." What began as a tweet swiftly evolved into a transformative and widespread movement.

The case of Harvey Weinstein became the focal point, with over 80 women coming forward by the end of the month, making allegations of sexual abuse or misconduct against him, sparking the #MeToo movement. Weinstein was eventually sentenced to 23 years in prison.<sup>4</sup>

After that one after the other people joined this movement from Olympic gymnast McKayla Maroney to Journalist Connie Chung shared their stories. It had many positive impacts like Nondisclosure agreements in sexual misconduct banned cases, worker protections increased, and Protections for congressional staffers as Congress passed legislation making it easier for congressional staffers to report sexual assault or harassment.

### **(A) History of #MeToo to India**

As far as India is concerned, the entire issue of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act of 2013 (Sexual Harassment Act) triggered a lot of debate and was done in light of the Vishakha Guidelines laid down in the case of Vishakha and others v State of Rajasthan<sup>5</sup>, a 1997 case. Since then, many women have been empowered to raise their voices and confront oppressors and exploiters. Coming onto #MeToo in India in late 2018 the international #MeToo movement began to manifest in areas of Indian society including the Indian government, the media, and the Bollywood film industry. The movement was becoming more prominent in India when the international movement gained momentum, and later that year gained considerable momentum in Bollywood, centered in Mumbai when actor Nana Patekar was accused of sexual harassment by the actress. But after a year of investigation, it was determined that there was insufficient evidence to pursue legal action against him in relation to the molestation allegations filed by actor Tanushree Dutta.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Paul, Ayaan. "She Said, the Story That Brought down Harvey Weinstein and Ignited the #MeToo Movement." Dailyo.in, 20 July 2022, <https://www.dailyo.in/entertainment/she-said-the-story-that-brought-down-harvey-weinstein-and-ignited-the-metoo-movement-36641>. Accessed 22 May 2023.

<sup>5</sup> AIR 1977 SC 3011.

<sup>6</sup> PTI. "No Evidence to Prosecute Nana Patekar in Tanushree Dutta Molestation Case: Mumbai Police." Livelaw.in, 14 June 2019, <https://www.livelaw.in/news-updates/no-evidence-to-prosecute-nana-patekar-in-tanushree-dutta-molestation-case-mumbai-police-145650>. Accessed 23 May 2023.

The fact that a minister of the Government of India had first sought to silence one of over 20 women who have accused him publicly of sexual harassment through a defamation suit, indicates the impact of the campaign. The fact that this man had to resign shortly, thereafter, indicates how insistent #MeToo voices can have big impacts.<sup>7</sup>

### **III. MEASURING IMPACT THROUGH A MICROLENS**

This movement is revolutionary but what about the people who were falsely accused? In micro terms, #MeToo is threatening the livelihoods of innocent men. The movement has become a witch hunt. It's time to stop the media from sensationalizing the issue and using it as a political tool. It has also become a weapon to attack conservatives and men who don't fit into its mould of what they think they should be like. Some men have committed suicide after being accused in the #MeToo movement. Some men have committed suicide after being accused in the #MeToo movement. Falsely accused men who lost their jobs and were unable to find new ones are also at risk of committing suicide.

#### **(A) Impact on Macro level**

Managers are now reluctant to hire women out of fear they will be falsely accused. You may be wondering how this can be. After the Harvey Weinstein scandal, most people assumed that men would stop hiring women because they were afraid of being falsely accused. But it seems that's not the case. In fact, managers are now reluctant to hire women out of fear they will be falsely accused. Here's why, when you hire someone for a position where they will have access to your personal life or business dealings with other people (and especially if you are alone with them), there is a risk that someone could accuse you of harassment based on something said in those situations. This means managers are now afraid of hiring women for positions of power or authority, for instance, CEOs at companies where decisions are made about whether employees get raises; supervisors who oversee workers; etcetera.

### **IV. AFTEREFFECTS OF #METOO**

All that glitters is not gold, many negative aftereffects of the movement were seen that were revolving around fake accusations and the most debatable term ever "consent." People tend to forget that it is only an allegation, that in a civilised society everyone is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty, and it is the court's responsibility to determine whether a person is guilty or innocent based on thorough investigations of substantive evidence.

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<sup>7</sup> Philipose, Pamela, and Mukul Kesavan. "The #MeToo Movement." *Indian Journal of Gender Studies* 26, no. 1-2 (2019): 207-14. doi:10.1177/0971521518812288. Accessed May 22, 2022.

The #MeToo movement has made it impossible for men and women to have positive relationships without fear of false accusations. Men are afraid to talk to women; they're afraid to hire them, be alone with them, and even be friends with them. In fact, many men are so scared of being accused that they avoid having any kind of interaction with their female colleagues at all!

Men who work in offices or live in the same building as their female co-workers often choose not to go into the elevator alone with a woman from another department because they don't want her walking past him on her way out or even taking an elevator that leads directly into his office area (where he'd have no way of knowing if she was going somewhere else). And if you add up all these little things over time—the fear around getting caught alone together by someone else who could pass along rumours—it makes sense why there's been such an increase in sexual harassment cases lately!

The #MeToo movement has encouraged women to speak up about their experiences of sexual harassment, but it has not been effective at stopping sexual harassment as a whole (and may even have made things worse). With every new story shared on social media or publicized by newspapers, there are more men whose careers are damaged—and who feel like victims themselves! This means that employers will be less likely to hire them in the future; they will be seen as having "unclean" reputations; or worse still—they might even get fired from their job altogether because of what happened years ago when no one knew about it yet anyway!

## **V. FEMINISM AND #METOO**

Is feminism the same as #MeToo or are they different? Do they have the same cause? Do they share the motive behind them? Is feminism a genus and #MeToo a specie? Is the statement that #MeToo as reinvigorating feminist goals and activism<sup>8</sup> correct?

Well, the answer here depends on where you are standing or what your preconceived beliefs about the same are. By Standpoint theory,<sup>9</sup> we can settle this in a better manner.

Though in our humble opinion feminism talks about gender equality whereas the #MeToo movement is a movement that aims to encourage “survivors” not only women but “survivors” to raise their voices suffering sexual harassment at their workplaces. Here we can see that these both are gender neutral. The perceptions of people or the stereotypes they have, that “only

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<sup>8</sup> Sara De Benedictis, Shani Orgad and Catherine Rottenberg, ‘#MeToo, Popular Feminism and the News : A Content Analysis of UK Newspaper Coverage’ (2019) 22 *European Journal of Cultural Studies* 718 <<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/1367549419856831>> accessed 24 May 2023.

<sup>9</sup> ‘Standpoint Theory -- Britannica Academic’ (Remotlog.com2022) <<https://academic-eb-com.opj.remotlog.com/levels/collegiate/article/standpoint-theory/607855>> accessed 23 May 2023

women” can be the victims, have contributed to the general calling out of these movements as “Female movements” which stem from all sorts of societal stereotypes about men’s strength, and physical and emotional preconceptions. And these movements were primarily based on positive motives and pure intentions eventually because some minds bent negatively.

Again getting onto the right track we need to look at gender stereotypes and how they contribute to abusive behavior. The truth is that both men and women can be victims of abuse, but the way people perceive each other influences their chances of being abused. When we are taught not to expect certain behavior from men or women, then those expectations become self-fulfilling prophecies—and therefore harmful ones.

### **(A) How are Women organisations catering to this movement?**

Seeing the aftereffects of this movement we can’t deny that there is a significant contribution of women's organisations to the success of this movement. Critics of the movement claimed it turned into a bandwagon witch-hunt, causing lives and reputations to be ruined without due process.<sup>10</sup>

The #MeToo movement has thrust the matter of sexual harassment and assault into the spotlight of societal discourse. Women's organisations have been working to address this issue for many years, but the recent wave of public awareness has brought new challenges. So how are women's organisations responding to the #MeToo movement? The movement has brought about significant changes, and women's organisations have been instrumental in leading the way. Many organizations are working to create safer workplaces, provide support for survivors, and advocate for systemic change. Some organisations are also working to raise awareness about sexual harassment and assault and to educate people on how to prevent it.

Women's organisations are now working to adapt their services to meet the needs of survivors of sexual harassment and assault. They are also working to raise awareness of the issue and to educate the public on how to prevent and respond to sexual harassment and assault. The #MeToo movement has brought new challenges, but it has also brought new opportunities for women's organisations to make a difference.

However, not everything that looks precious turns out to be so. Whenever a big name joins scandalous news, its reach among people suddenly rises. Additionally, The research highlights the gradual transformation in societal perception of sexual misconduct as it has come under the

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<sup>10</sup> Herold L, ‘The #MeToo Movement: Helpful or Harmful to Feminism? The #MeToo Movement: Helpful or Harmful to Feminism?’ (2021) [https://digitalcommons.tacoma.uw.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1075&context=gender\\_studies](https://digitalcommons.tacoma.uw.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1075&context=gender_studies)



intense scrutiny of public attention.<sup>11</sup>

Galina Goncharenko conducted a study that examined the implementation of a rights-based approach to development and its implications on the accountability relationships between NGOs and their beneficiaries. The research delved into how the concept of self-determination is enacted within these relationships, shedding light on the dynamics and outcomes of this approach in the context of development initiatives.<sup>12</sup> We can not deny that NGOs are accountable to beneficiaries, particularly their “downward” accountability to their beneficiaries, which affects NGO effectiveness in the process of empowerment for other sections and overall mindset development in developing countries. NGOs should be instead accountable to all as the false cases which are rendered shed under them, then not only the person but the family, on whom that false allegation has been made, has been destroyed to its entirety. Hence, the insights gained from the #MeToo movement have a profound influence on non-governmental organizations (NGOs), empowering them to embrace comprehensive accountability practices.

## **VI. CHANGING THE MEANING OF #METOO**

What do you think? Has the #MeToo movement lost its way, or is it still making progress? From being a powerful force for change to raising awareness of the prevalence of assault and sexual harassment, it has become more about celebrity gossip and less about the real issue of assault and sexual harassment. Since the meaning of the movement has been lost in recent months. The focus on high-profile cases has overshadowed the experiences of everyday women who face sexual harassment. Some say that the #MeToo movement is still important and relevant. They argue that the focus on celebrity cases has brought more attention to the issue of sexual harassment and assault and the movement is still making progress in raising awareness and changing attitudes.

The problem is not the focus on high-profile cases but accusations without evidence floating on the internet. The influx of women into the workforce has increased the incidence of sexual harassment in the workplace, and it has acquired a variety of dimensions. Numerous named personalities have been named, especially in the area of media and entertainment. There is, however, one question that remains to be answered: Can the accusations made via the Internet be justified legally?

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<sup>11</sup> Goncharenko, Galina, ‘In the Spotlight: Rethinking NGO Accountability in the #MeToo Era’ [2021] *Critical Perspectives on Accounting* 102308 <<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1045235421000277>> accessed 24 May 2023.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

**(A) #MeToo in the present Case**

The case of John C. Depp, II v. Amber Laura Heard (CL–2019–2022) has witnessed a distressing and destructive hijacking of the #MeToo movement, showcasing a profound betrayal and distortion of its original purpose. This egregious episode stands as a glaring example of the severe defamation suffered by the movement, tarnishing its integrity and undermining its vital mission. Benjamin G. Chew, attorney for Depp, pointed out that before Ms. Heard, no woman ever claimed Mr. Depp ever raised a hand to her, and no other woman since Ms. Heard has made a false claim since. “This is Me Too without any Me Too.<sup>13</sup>” As no one had ever in the 5 decades accused Johnny Depp of being violent with a woman, and no one has even suggested that he is of something like this. She has chosen to lie for her own personal benefit.

Once a name synonymous with success, "Johnny Depp" now carries the weight of a deceitful narrative. He endured a six-year period marked by the day his former wife, Ms. Heard, filed a temporary restraining order against him, causing significant personal and professional setbacks. Throughout this time, he faced multiple instances of public humiliation. This can be a quintessence of how a false statement, how devastating the words can be if they are false under the law as words matter. That person or people associated with that person who is supporting them are treated as some evil. Even after the verdict when Depp was declared “not guilty” the jury was catcalled as misogynistic, racist, class conscious, star-struck, or even suffering from a Stockholm syndrome.<sup>14</sup> Through her many interviews, she is trying to defame Johnny Depp again and claims it to be a mistrial which is a serious abuse of law. Considering this court reinvestigated the claim and upheld the previous judgment and the objection as to the juror having subjectively fulfilled the purpose he has been appointed for and there was no mismatch as related to service of summons.

Numerous instances have emerged where the #MeToo movement has been exploited by certain individuals, predominantly women, with the intention of publicly shaming men and settling personal grievances. However, it is crucial to acknowledge that incorporating allegations of a personal nature within the movement diminishes its fundamental purpose, which is to address and combat systemic issues of gender-based harassment and assault.<sup>15</sup> It has set an example for the people wrongly accusing other people and stepping out publicly and draping themselves in

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<sup>13</sup> Delaney, Zoe, ‘Amber Heard’s Case Is “Me Too without Any Me Too”, Johnny Depp’s Lawyer Claims’ (mirror27 May 2022) <<https://www.mirror.co.uk/3am/celebrity-news/amber-heards-case-me-without-27084944>> accessed 24May 2023.

<sup>14</sup> Paul, Santosh, ‘Why The Anguish Of Amber Heards Of The World Are Never Heard’ (Live Law, 10 June 2022) <<http://www.livelaw-in.opj.remotlog.com/columns/why-the-anguish-of-amber-heards-of-the-world-are-never-heard-201292>> accessed 24 May 2023.

<sup>15</sup> Former Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court, Sujata Manohar.

the flag of #MeToo like amber Heard did will be as equal in the eyes of law as the other party is, no matter whether you are a female, feminist, etc.

### **(B) #MeToo without a #MeToo**

We have been living in schismatizing times. Thereby, every new thought, idea, belief, or action which is just providing a subtle new suggestion to the old societal norm, is applauded by one section of society and on the other hand, faces oppositional voices. #MeToo has become ubiquitous and according to standards and definitions set by certain people, women are the victims! And like any new idea opposing the notion faces sheer opposition, the story remains the same. Even after the verdict, some people are still considering her a victim by saying that they refuse to participate in a culture in which we blame the victims.<sup>16</sup>

On the contrary, Benjamin G. Chew, attorney for Depp, also noted in the current case, that no woman has ever falsely claimed that Mr. Depp raised a hand to her before Ms. Heard, and no woman has made an untrue claim, “This is Me Too without any Me Too.”<sup>17</sup> Since, looking back into the childhood of Johnny Depp we can see that he has faced abuse from his mother to which he never retreated and after her mother when he realized that past is being reiterated he behaved the same way. Furthermore, The very element that there has been no previous allegation on Johnny Depp of sexual harassment has been ever made and no woman since Amber Heard made the claim, has come forward with the same allegation. Moreover, after evidence, it was found that Johnny Depp never even disrespected a woman he has worked with or was in a relationship as we can see by the testimony of Winona Ryder, Kate Moss, and Vanessa Paradis. Thereby, We would like to draw your attention to other cases where there was a claim of #MeToo and without any #MeToo, and would suggest not to just get influenced by controversial and omnipresent occasions, own your flaws as Mr. Depp did, Fight for yourself! Raise your voice!

### **(C) #MeToo to #MenToo**

Sexual Violence doesn't discriminate.<sup>18</sup> Sexual Harassment is not just a woman's issue. It is a common misconception that it is just a woman's issue. This can be true in some cases, but it's not always true. Not everyone who gets raped is female and not everyone who commits sexual violence against women is male (though many are). Sexual violence can happen to anyone,

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<sup>16</sup> Virginia Mendez, ‘Depp and Heard Trial from MY Feminist Point of View’ (The Feminist Shop, 9 May 2022) <<https://thefeministshop.com/blogs/the-feminist-shop-blog/depp-and-heard-trial-from-my-feminist-point-of-view>> accessed 24 May 2023.

<sup>17</sup> Delaney, Zoe, ‘Amber Heard’s Case Is “Me Too without Any Me Too”, Johnny Depp’s Lawyer Claims’ (mirror27 May 2022) <<https://www.mirror.co.uk/3am/celebrity-news/amber-heards-case-me-without-27084944>> accessed 23 May 2023.

<sup>18</sup> Gill, Gurvinder, ‘Me Too Founder Tarana Burke: Movement Is Not Over’ (BBC News, 9 July 2020) <<https://www.bbc.com/news/newsbeat-53269751>> accessed 24 May 2023.

regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation.

The most important thing to keep in mind when discussing issues related to #MeToo is that many other men have been sexually assaulted and abused by other men, as well as women themselves (and sometimes even both). Seeing men as victims can change the way we see male sexual violence. When we see men as victims of sexual violence, it can change the way we think about male sexual violence. This doesn't mean that all men are victims or that they don't perpetrate acts of sexual violence—but it does mean that there is a spectrum of gender in which some people are more likely to be perpetrators than others.

Not including men in gender equality movements like feminism and always labeling them as perpetrators lead to the birth of #MenToo in order to highlight they also suffer. Men are taught that there is only one way of being: stoic; emotionless; silent and alone moreover a false accusation is not fair just for him also his family is being affected.

Once a case is filed against a man, he faces persecution on multiple fronts, including law enforcement, the judicial system, and media scrutiny. Even those close to him, such as friends, family, and acquaintances, start viewing him with suspicion. It is crucial to dispel the myth that only men can harass women, as instances of women harassing men do occur. To truly strive for gender equality, it is necessary to establish legal mechanisms that provide recourse for men as well. This includes implementing penalties for false accusers and a system to protect the identity of the accused until proven guilty. Such measures are vital to discourage and eliminate false accusations.<sup>19</sup> Seeing this #MenToo is a warning reminder that the time has come now and rather than fighting separately or with each other going haywire, we should fight together against social and mentally embedded evils.

## **VII. HAS POINT OF SATURATION COME?**

Some people are now wondering if the #MeToo movement has reached its saturation point. With so many high-profile cases making headlines, some people are starting to feel overwhelmed and even desensitized to the issue. The movement has been criticized for being too one-sided and for, failing to address the complexities of sexual harassment, unfairly targeting men.

The debate will go on forever. For now, it remains an important force for change in our society and the time has come when we should use #MeToo for real and legit purposes which means it

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<sup>19</sup> Das, Mohua, '#MenToo: The Great Indian Gender Pushback, Now from Men' (The Times of India, 11 May 2019) <<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/mentoo-the-great-indian-gender-pushback-now-from-men/articleshow/69276391.cms>> accessed 23 May 2023.

should also be including men and for men.

## VIII. CONCLUSION

Here, we would like to accentuate that we are not criticising women but criticizing a part or aspect of them. Every man is not a dog and every woman is not a bitch. It is crucial to bear in mind that the pain endured by individuals who have faced harassment and assault does not lessen when innocent individuals bear the repercussions of unfounded allegations.<sup>20</sup> Not just a man or only a women. It was never nature who discriminated, it is us who are spreading the untruth that women v. men, it was never that, it was never meant to be that. Was it?

This was the prime example of how social and political movements get misused and weaponised against the very people it's meant to serve. It is time for men to start speaking up about their experiences with sexual violence so that we can help dismantle rape culture. By sharing our stories in the hope that others will listen, we can begin to change the way society views men as victims of sexual assault. It may be difficult at first, but it will get easier over time if more men are willing to share their stories and help end this epidemic once and for all.

In this verdict, Justice is served and any rebellion against in our humble opinion is NOT harming johnny but the victim of Amber, So some people who are meaninglessly labeling should stop. Period.

### (A) Suggestions:

1. How do we get men to start talking? We need to start with our children. We teach them about consent, healthy relationships, and respect for each other. We teach them that it is OK to say no or yes when someone asks you a question (and do not ask if they can do something unless you are willing to follow through). We also teach them what it means to be a man: respecting women as equals and doing the right thing when faced with difficult situations such as sexual harassment or assault.
2. Men helping one another can be the best solution. One of the benefits of this includes helping men to deal with some of the personal costs that can accompany being involved, such as feeling isolated. Another benefit is helping to hold one another accountable so that less of this burden falls on women.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> K, Borysenko, 'The Dark Side of #MeToo: What Happens When Men Are Falsely Accused' Forbes (12 February 2020) <https://www.forbes.com/sites/karlynborysenko/2020/02/12/the-dark-side-of-metoo-what-happens-when-men-are-falsely-accused/?sh=707773e8864d> accessed 26 May 2023

<sup>21</sup> Westmarland, Nicole, et al. "Conclusions: Where Next?" Men's Activism to End Violence Against Women: Voices from Spain, Sweden and the UK, 1st ed., Bristol University Press, 2021, pp. 123–32. JSTOR, <https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctv1sfddk.10>. Accessed 24 May 2023.

3. NGOs should also act accountable not only to their beneficiaries but to society as a whole.

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