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# Rape Victimization of Men

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## ABSTRACT

*The Indian society has witnessed over a period numerous altering change, which include changes for betterment and upliftment, as well as changes inducing deterioration of multiple existing aspects, and one of such concepts is of Rape, a crime/an offence, so heinous and devastating which destroys the victims character, body, soul, personality wreaking havoc in his/her life. In recent times we have witnessed increment in male rape cases. And throwing a little light on this obscure issue, in the following article I have presented my point of view and reasons contributing towards the rape incidents experienced by male victims and the need to modify the existing rape laws in the country. This article gives an insight of the contributing factors, the laws pertinent to the concerned matter et cetera.*

*It is a not a comparison, in any sense, between male victims and female victims. Rape is a crime of utmost heinous nature, extremely condemnable. The article does not reflect by any means, any biasness towards the male victims in comparison with female victims.*

**Keywords:** Contribution, Reason, Revision.

## I. INTRODUCTION

### (A) What contributes to the cause of crime like rape against men?

#### a. Vengeance

Numerous Individuals behold a vendetta for vengeance. Acrimonious thoughts which emerge due to reason of conflict of interest, disparity or otherwise, emanates the feeling of revenge. In modern time where the females have equal lead and in certain situation have superiority, have dominant power. This is one common cause of developing a vile motive or nature in the new age independent females.

Attainment of the vengeful motive through physical exploitation is prevailing in the male dominative society. Earlier men practised this grotesque act to ruin and destruct a lady's chastity/modesty in order to establish their dominance and to indicate their strength over them. In the new era the females practise similar act to achieve their revenge from men and to prove their dominance.

#### b. Pornography

It is one of the major contributors toward Rapes. Pornographic films have set unrealistic and

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delusionary sexual standards in mind of immature and naive humans, whether men or women. It has made the public, specifically, the youth to develop the concept of Intercourse in such a manner that it is only pleasure based and for satisfying and gratifying human desires rather than procreation and physical wellbeing. Youth, especially due to physical changes are more inclined to believe the illustration of intercourse in pornographic films to be true and under the impression of such depiction of coitus they form assumptions which becomes a leading factor of Rape incidents by youths.

### c. Evolution

The society has over the time transformed tremendously, which is not an incredulous fact. In earlier days the mindset of society was conservative in regards to women, they were considered to be inferior to men and it was set in stone that they are the ones to manage household and look after family members, old, young, everyone, without any support or assistance from the men of the house. Women were supposed to be indoors and obey their father, husband or other male members of the family, they were looked down upon at every stage of life but situation for women is not same anymore.

Now, the status of females in the society has elevated and they are recognized as equal to men. After a long period of struggle and immolations, females of society have finally secured some position or authority. In 21<sup>st</sup> century a considerable number of women have become independent, these women consider rather are equal to men in all aspects, they have generated a feeling of equality and demand for same rights and opportunities as men.

## **II. REASON OF RELUCTANCE TO SEEK HELP**

### a. Patriarchy

In Indian society patriarchy has been prevailing from ancient times, be it in form of custom or tradition or Religious Mythology, it is simply a cover constructed by insecure males to conceal their weaknesses.

Patriarchy has coaxed members of the society to acknowledge men as the powerful, dominant, and higher beings in comparison to the females, children and third gender community.

It is set in stone by the society that males are superior and the stronger than other category of genders.

The men were never expected to behold and show sentimentality to others, they were supposed to act in a manner that they are strong not only by physical means but also emotionally and mentally. The conservative, orthodox and incorrigible members of the society have constructed

this notion for men and they are supposed to follow these concepts in order to “fit in” as masculine, strong, dominant beings of Society.

Over the period our society has experienced innumerable transitions/transformations. These changes no matter its magnitude has impacted social life style and influenced people, be it for the better or worse, for the upliftment or deterioration. There have been various incidents to contribute the patriarchy culture. It is my personal belief that patriarchy is one of the factors which play role in causing Male Rapes.

#### b. Mental Stigmatisation

The males to uphold the social construct of masculinity rather than expressing and seeking support, channelize their mental exhaustion, burnouts, distress, anxiety, distraught in the form of aggression and rage whereas, women express it a loud and clear soliciting help from surrounding. Men feel shame to ask for help because they are strong in the eyes of society and they cannot be vulnerable. The norms established by society are absolutely detrimental and hollow, a man’s physical or sexual needs are prioritized however his emotional needs and wants are overlooked.

Even if men would want to address the issue of mental health the people, the public, would show support near to the value of a zero. Men are reluctant to get help from because this reason, they would not be heard in the same manner as a women would, they would not be encouraged with same amount as a women would, they would not be seen as vulnerable and assailable as a women would.

This disparity is one of the several reasons why men hesitate to seek help regarding their mental or emotional problems and get ignored by people. The public turns a blind eye and deaf ears when it is man’s issue but the same public generates and develops an issue when it is about safeguarding a woman.

### **III. MALE RAPE VICTIMIZATION IS REAL**

In 2022 a case of male victimization of rape was witnessed by the country. In Jalandhar A man was raped by Four women, flabbergasting, is not it, how can a man get raped, some might think it as a shameful act while some might think how lucky that man was; the reality of the hypocrite society we live in is utterly grotesque and maybe some would never accept the fact that a man could get raped.

Accept it or not such ruthless and vicious events occur.

In 2017 in Mumbai, a 13-year-old boy was raped in Powai and another 16-year-old was raped,

sexually exploited, and physically abused by 15 other boys for a year, the shocking incident was confirmed by a medical examination. In Madras a student aged 12 years old was sexually violated by his teacher.

Age is one significant attribute of rape cases; it is seen that younger men are more prone to become a victim than older men. By the statistics stated above it is coherent that men between the age 10-20 have more chances to being a victim.

In most of the male rape cases it was found that either the perpetrator knew the victim already or was somehow connected or linked to the victim, thus it could be concluded that proximity of relation is another attribute of rapes.

#### **IV. REVISION OF EXISTING RAPE & SEXUAL ASSAULT LAWS**

According to the Law an offender shall be punished in order to make him realise his crime and to set up an example for the persons who share similar perspective same as the offender, so that the similar crime or offence is not practised any further.

The existing Laws and rules regarding rape and offences against body are certainly vague, incomplete and outdated. It was not until 2013 that the rape laws were modified to be strict and made strictly followed, only after several repeated incidents, the legislation thought upon the establishment of Rape laws which were relevant according to the present needs and circumstances.

The need to modify these laws and rules has emanated once again, we have rape laws for women and females per se but no law has been designed specifically for men.

The section 375 and 377 of The Indian Penal code, 1860 does prescribe the conditions and acts which tantamount to Rape against women and carnal intercourse with men and animals respectively, however neither of these sections specify the conditions, acts or circumstances that constitute rape against men, therefore, the legislative body of union should take this matter into consideration.

#### **V. CONCLUSION**

What society is going through is agonizing and detrimental. The legislation should investigate in the matter and make the necessary requirements in contemplation of protection of the dignity of citizens, safeguard the human existence and to ensure proper and orderly practise of basic human rights of the individuals.

The members of society need to destigmatise the victimization of male rapes as it is real and it happens, people simply need to acknowledge this fact. We need to accept this incredulous fact

and find measures to set up as to provide aid to the male victims in the same manner as law does for females.

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