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Violence against Women in India and How to Make India a Safe Heaven for Women

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ABSTRACT

The constitution of India provides a safeguards and protection to all citizens of India whether children, lunatics, senior citizens, etc. the child rights in India is adopted in our constitution since from beginning 1950 includes most of the rights in UN Convention on child rights as Directive Principal of State Policy. The State is also given responsibility to protect the rights given to children, women, senior citizens etc. Over the years the many Individual and Public Interest groups has approached court and helped in making the law relating to women rights be more stringent and effective from time to time. Recently the crimes related to women and in past few years the rise in cases of crime relating to women in India has proved as eye opener for new stringent law for their protection and granting equal status in society. The most recent example is of case of 2012 Nirbhaya Gang Rape in Delhi after which the amendments in IPC and changes in juvenile justice act. The aim of my project is to know the solutions to end violence against women in India.

Based on Review of literature of articles on Heinonline and Jstore and some case study on women's rights and reading some Judgements of Apex court which has led to making stricter law for women's safety in India. Recent incidents in past few years that helped in changing the law relating to women and has led to Bigger question of "How violence against women can be ended?"

My project will cover 5 to 6 Heading pointers followed by Introduction of the Topic what are women's rights and how can it be protected which includes what constitute violence against women and How can it be controlled. Then the next heading will be Rising in cases of violence against women in recent -: Analysis of growth in crimes related to women in India and recent cases such as Hathras Gang Rape and Hyderabad Gang Rape Case and most recently in Punjab Rape and Murder of 6year old girl child in Tanda. Then the next Heading Will be Is India becoming Unsafe for Women's -: Comparison of crimes against women in India and other developing Nations and steps taken by our judiciary and parliament in ensuring women's safety are sufficient. Then the next heading will be Various Types of crime Relating to Women-: law realting to it and Is law enough to provide safety of Women and what more could be done. The causes of rise in crimes against women and its way forward. In my project I will analyze the How Rape is

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becoming most common form of violence against women in India and India becoming world's most dangerous country for sexual crimes against women.

In the last heading there will be Analysis of women's right in India and other Nations and How can we make an India a safe haven for women and end all crimes relating to women by providing solution to problem and the need to do more from just making law's is not enough for women's protection. Changing the mindsets of society and giving knowledge to women about their basic rights given by our constitution and most important is we need to make a collective effort to end the problem of violence against women. And empowerment of women is first step to end violence against women and giving women equal rights in society. Analysis of steps taken by State to protect women's right and safety for example states such as Rajasthan, Jammu Kashmir and Haryana as passed a law for death penalty for rapes of minor below 12 year of age.

I. INTRODUCTION

India from beginning is the country of diversity in which people of all religions, communities, and tribes are living together. Since then the different culture are prevalent in India under which each culture of community grants different rights to women, children, lunatics and etc. In Hindu religion the Hindus worship Devi but in Vedic era the women are considered as dependents on their male counterpart because According to some women are physically different from man and are naturally made to weak from male to be under protection of man². But this argument can also be heard in essay written by Mahatma Gandhi who considered as champion of women rights activist argues that women are weak both physically and naturally so it supposed to be below man protection and should not come out on streets to protest for voting rights.

Women are given rights only when Britishers came to India and first step was ending of Sati practice and this helped women rights activists to achieve their goal. Women have different place in each religion like for example women God i.e. Devi is worshiped by Hindus as their god but in reality, women plight was not so good and are considered weak. Similarly, the Sikh community's Holy book Guru Granth Sahib Ji consider women as supreme which says "Aval Allah Noor Upaya Kudrat Ke Sabh Bande Ek Noor Te Sabh Jag Upjeya Kaun Bhale Kau Mande" which means that a god has made the universe and all humans are childrens of god so why differentiate between women and man. The women rights are debatable topic since from 19th century where some people argue for voting rights of women given in US are too late and

² <https://theswaddle.com/a-brief-history-of-indian-women-protesting-gender-inequality/>

in India on other hand rise in gap of gender-based discrimination. So, the struggle for equality of women and rights lead to changes introduced by Britishers for improving conditions of women in India and this was carryforward by our constitutional makers and our four fathers as Art 15 as fundamental right to reduce gender-based inequality. But sad part of the life is till today in some rural areas the plight of women is same and has no rights of their own. The typical patristical mindset of medieval age people can be seen from poet Tulsi Das poem in which he says that “dhor, ganwar, shudra aur nari, ye sab taadan ke adhikari” which simply means that animals, illiterate, untouchables, and women are to be punished which easily describes the condition of women³. Even in Vedic text in Hindu family the male child is considered more preference than female child the idea is the male child will be descendent of his father and will grow and strengthen his family well. Another idea of male child is preferred more than female child is that male child is son have better skills to manage a family and good physical strength and they remain in family forever but daughters are considered another’s property after their marriage.

In today’s scenario the conditions of women have not changed much and there is continuous rise in crimes and violence against women’s around the world. This has now has become a great matter of concern and it has also led to a black spot on human nature. In India there is steep rise in cases of violence and crimes against women from past few years in order to stop this situation the framers if our constitution has enshrined the fundamental right in constitution of India. Which says that there Equal and absolute freedom to every individual to live his life on his own without any interreference. But this provision is far from the real reality in practical world and has failed to be implemented on Ground basis so this has led to continuous exploitation of women and is being exploited and oppressed from the years in India. But now the time has come to protect the rights of women and it’s our responsibility and obligation to protect women from any kind of harm and torture in order to save human race. According to the study there is every single woman in 3 are every minute is subject to either of form of crime against women.⁴ Ultimately the safety of women has become a great topic of debate and concern as women are not safe anywhere whether it be household or workplace or any public place. The report published by world health organization the types of crime against women are harassment, assault, rape, which also includes martial rape by male partner, emotional torture etc. these are some types of offences which has led to great impact on health conditions of women and. Moreover, every single hour every woman is victim of

³ Sukhdeo Thorat, “Hindu Social System and Human Rights of Dalits” Critical QuestPub.2004

⁴ <https://blog.ipleaders.in/protection-crimes-women-indian-laws-comprehensive-analysis/>

these crimes.

So now the time and need has been felt for change in some older laws relating to safety of women and there should be more strict and stringent laws to be enacted for safety of women. The typical mindset of people i.e. women are not equal to men and are considered weak sex than man is same from centuries⁵. Despite of the fact that with time human have developed and reached moon with innovative technology but still the mindset for women remains same of the society. Even in today's scenario is that society is not ready to accept women as breadwinner for the family and is only bound to maintain family and look after her children. If women comes late at night from her job or goes for job at night the people of our society question them and sees such women with question on their character whereas if man goes to job in night or comes late night from job he is considered as hard worker who works so hard day and night to sustain his family. Moreover, if both male and female are working it is the solely the duty of female to cook food for her family and look after her children after she completes her job. This is not the only case in India but is same story all over the world and time has come to change our perspective against women and to threat them equal with male counterpart. But in India there is constant struggle of women for their rights so the solution was given by making constitution of India and forming some law to protect rights of women.

But these rights came to light when the Supreme Court in 1981 while deciding the landmark case of *Air India Vs Nargesh Meerza*⁶ held that the rule of Air India company for termination of job of Female air hostess if she gets pregnant within 4 years of service is totally an arbitrary and was declared unconstitutional by apex court. This judgement was a landmark in the history of women's rights and working conditions to be same and match with male employees. Under Art 15(3) of constitution empowers the state to make some special laws for protection of women and children so the steps have been taken by governments of each state and center for making special rules for women for e.g. Giving reservation to women in education and employment sector. Moreover, the courts have also cleared that any educational institute started by state government for exclusively for women or giving women reservation in education institute does not violates fundamental right of Art 14 right to equality and Art 15 (*Dattatraya Vs State of Bombay*⁷). There is another case which came to the court in state of UP was similar to above mention case that issue of giving reservation of 50% of vacancies to female candidate and court held it not arbitrary and is good law for welfare of women (*Rajesh*

⁵ <https://theconversation.com/why-do-women-need-special-laws-to-protect-them-from-violence-50944>

⁶ 1981 AIR 1829, 1982 SCR (1) 438

⁷ AIR 1953 Bom 311, (1953) 55 BOMLR 323, ILR 1953 Bom 842

gupta Vs State of UP⁸). These above-mentioned cases are classic examples of how judiciary has played a great role in helping women in safeguarding their rights conferred by our constitution of India. The judiciary has also played a significant role in forming rules and guidelines for women safety at workplace and public places for e.g. Apex court in case of Vishaka and Ors Vs State of Rajasthan and Ors⁹ in which the court laid down guidelines for regulating and managing the working condition of women on their working place and made stricter rules to be followed by employer of women employee for insuring her complete safety and enforcing right to equality of women on her working place.

In today scenario has changed and now equal rights and dignity of women in religious sphere has also gained great importance in social life. We have seen the classic examples of this concept in past few years landmark judgement passed by Supreme court to protect women's right to worship and her rights in religious law. The two most famous judgements are of Sabarimala case¹⁰ which started with filling of petition in Kerala High Court in 1990 for banning entry of women inside the Sabarimala Temple but the case gone so long and finally the verdict was announced in 2018 which allowed the entry of women in temple and held that there can be no discrimination with any women on basis of her gender in any sphere i.e. religious sphere also. The court also held that our constitution grants fundamental right of Art 14 of equality of law so no person can violate individuals fundamental right in any way or any sphere. Similar case came before Bombay High Court in 2016 when group of women denied entry into inner premises of Shani Shingnapur temple in Bombay according to the trustees and management of temple women was from 400 years not allowed to enter Shani temple but the court finally allowed in 2016 the entry of women in temple as basic fundamental right of each individual to worship. These steps taken by judiciary has helped a lot in favor of women giving them equal rights and proper implementations of such right. But there are some groups who believe in typical old orthodox methodology and opposed such acts of judiciary in interference in their religious laws and giving women same rights. Such arguments we have seen few year back in 2017 when Supreme court passed landmark judgement of Shariya Bano Vs Union of India famously known as Triple Talaq case which came into limelight when apex court gave its historical judgement by making Triple Talaq as unconstitutional and punishable offence. This was treated as historical victory for women rights in Muslim Law and finally justice was being delivered to Muslim women's like Shariya Bano those were victim of harassment and harmed by male oriented practice of Triple Talaq and which gave rise to

⁸ AIR 2005 SC 2540

⁹ AIR 1997 SC 3011

¹⁰ AIR 2019 SC 1111

higher rate of crime against women. Women in India whether in religious or in other social aspect is now gaining some upliftment by realizing their rights to be enforced which was given to them by our constitution of India. But there is still more to be done for there upliftment and betterment because still there is increase in crimes against women.

II. RISE IN CASES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN INDIA IN RECENT TIMES

Since from birth or even before birth girl child is higher at risk to become victim of crime or violence towards women in India. According to National Crime Bureau there was 19,675 incidents of Rape of Minor Children reported in 2016 in India¹¹. This is not the only highest number of rapes committed against women in India but the number is rising each year. Some people has also viewed that India is becoming one of the worst countries for safety of women in world and has on the urge of becoming country in which highest rapes are committed against women. It is the point to be noted that the society is a dynamic concept which keeps on changing with time and society consists of human being which also gets evolved from time to time so there are laws which govern the society also need to be changed with changing time. So, the law made for protection of women in our society long way back in 90's also is outdated and crimes against women are changing so there is also need to change the laws. Each and every year we witness the change in nature of crime committed against women like from past few years the Rape which is one of the types of violence and crime against women is becoming a common form of crime against women in India in today's India. Like growth in various crimes against women led to amendments in Indian Penal Code of 1860 in 2013 after Nirbhaya Rape case. Which led to addition of incidents or acts which are against women's safety as offences punishable crimes. Judiciary also by pronouncing some landmark judgements also stressed there is need of hour to change laws for women protection and implement some stringent laws.

The IPC 1860 has been added with some acts by amendment which constitute a crime against women. some of the penal provisions are Addition of Section 326A and 326B which talks about causing grievous hurt intentionally to women by throwing acid on her. The next is Section 375,376,376A,376B,376C,376D,376E which talks about provision for rape and other related offences against women. Even the offence of any act which amounts to attempt of committing of rape is also punishable under the law Section 376 and 511. But still we have seen a rise in incidents of rape from past years. Another provision for safeguarding women from violence and cruelty is dowry death Sec 304B punishable and also fine is imposed on

¹¹ <https://www.nationalheraldindia.com/india/crimes-against-women-including-rape-on-the-rise-indiaspend-report>

such practice. This provision is also having to some extent helped the women from being victim of torture for dowry but still in India witness 20 women die every day due to harassment over dowry which ultimately led to women either committing suicide or being murdered. Sexual harassment also another form of violence which has also been added as punishable offence under Sec 354A of IPC. The judiciary of India has also realized another form of sexual harassment at workplace in its historical judgement in 1997 Vishaka & Ors Vs State of Rajasthan where the court laid some guidelines famously known as Vishaka Guidelines which was made mandatory for safety and prevention of any sexual harassment at workplace to be followed by every private or public employer. The stalking is also another form of crime which is punishable offence under Sec 354D. One culture which have made a way for stalking is Gedi Culture which prevails everywhere in India but mostly in Punjab and Chandigarh. The most common route for Gedi is of sector 10 in Chandigarh. In past few years the nature of Gedi has been changed earlier from just roaming in cars or bikes with friends and family has shifted more now days to Just Stalking the women or girls. As I lives in Punjab most common incidents of Stalking, I hear in news is from 3b2 Mohali market. Where each day we hear incident of stalking because it is one of the very famous Gedi route in Mohali. Sometimes the incidents of stalking leads to incidents of passing an unfavorable comments and harassments to women.

The judicial system of our country has also played an important role in changing the scope and ambient of old preexisting laws which in todays scenario are not well effective or sufficient for protection of women rights. The one of the earliest landmark case which came before Supreme Court is of Tuka Ram & Ors Vs State of Maharashtra¹² this case shown that there is need to protection and safety of women on every place in society. The matter came shook the country because According to prosecution the women was raped by police constable in police constable but ultimately the Rape under sec 375 of IPC was not proved by prosecution by evidence as Apex court gave reasoning that no bodily harm or consent under threat was also not proved so the offence committed don't fall under Rape. Moreover, she kept on changing her statement which ultimately led to supreme court acquitted the accused. This ultimately was a bad ruling in eyes of law so this led to amendment in the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1983 was passed by parliament. The amendment mainly changed sec 114A of Evidence Act which made the consent wouldn't presumed until given clearly. Another important amendment was in sec 376 of IPC which made strict punishment for custodial rape to 7 years imprisonment and the shifted the burden of proof on accused once rape or sexual

¹² 1979 AIR 185, 1979 SCR (1) 810

intercourse in proven. Another landmark case which lead to amendments in preexisting laws was of Vishaka & Ors Vs State of Rajasthan 1997 there was some group of people which filed the public interest litigation to protect women from sexual harassment at workplace. The Public interest Litigation was accepted and court recognized fundamental rights given under Art 14(2), 19(1)(g), and Art 21 of our constitution which talks about providing safe working environment for women. In this case the court issued some important guidelines for creating safe and healthy working environment for female employees which are made strictly to be made followed by employers of any private or public sector. Moreover, Supreme court the given more wider definition of sexual Harassment and held that any type of physical touch or conduct or showing pornography or passing any kind of unpleasant, unfavorable comments/taunts or asking for any kind of sexual pleasure or desire from women will amount to sexual harassment. Most importantly court stressed on forming women grievance cell in every office or employment office for handling complaints relating to sexual harassment.

Another kind of crime or cruelty against women which in recent years increased rapidly is Acid Attacks on women. the one of the important cases which came into limelight in 2015 and opened the eyes of judiciary and made felt the need to make stricter law for protection of victims of acid attack and harsher punishment for Accuse of acid attack. Laxmi Vs Union of India & Ors¹³ which highlighted the issues of Acid attack when Laxmi 16-year-old girl was thrown an acid by accused. Main motive of acid attacks is Crime of passion which is fueled by Revenge or Jealousy. It is simply and generally assumed that throwing of acid on victim is one of the easiest ways of taking revenge from women with motive of harming and disfiguring her body when demands like proposal of marriage, asking sexual pleasure, and dowry demands are rejected. The victims of acid attacks suffer both physically bodily pain and social mentally pain which is result of just satisfaction of revenge and jealousy from victim by accused. The accused was held guilty and was booked under sec 375(1) (B) of IPC for pain and turoma she has suffered both bodily and mentally. But the demand of the prosecution is that punishment given to accused was less as she suffered more pain and damages. So, Laxmi filed a PIL in Supreme court which ultimately led to certain amendments by legislation and supreme court laid some guidelines. The amendments were done in Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 in section 375A requiring each state government to coordinate with central Government for preparing mechanism for some schemes providing Funds to victim for injury caused by crimes or torture against women. the apex court also issued directions for providing minimum compensation 3 lac for every victim of acid attack. And most importantly

¹³ AIR (2014) 4 SCC 427

addition of 326A which provides for voluntary causing hurt by use of acid and Sec 326B which talks about attempting or voluntarily throwing acid etc. To provide safety of women in every sphere due to rising cases of acid attack against women.

Cyber bullying or cyber-crimes against women has increased rapidly in India the figures or graph has gone up since 2000 so there was need felt by our society for having law in 2001 there was 1st case reported of cyberbullying in India Ritu Kohli case in which Ritu Kohli was stalked on internet by Manish Kathuria on social chatting website. The allegation of prosecution was that accused repeatedly used to send her in chat obscene photos or material by changing his name/identity. And moreover, distributed her number to different individuals which led to receiving calls from persons from different states and talking about salaciously with her. She reported the matter and lodged complaint to Delhi police and accused booked under sec 509 IPC for insulting the modesty of women by words or gesture/actions. Because there was no proper law to deal with such offence so this ultimately led to enactment of new amendments in Information and Technology Act in sec 66E.

There has been constantly rise in crimes and violence against women in recent times in any of one form of crime. The graph as we have seen has not gone down despite of many amendments made in Law. So, there is need to do more and steps are more to be taken for safety of women and just making laws and punishment for offences is not sufficient. As we have seen in December 2012 very unfortunate incident happened i.e. Nirbhaya Gang Rape in which the young girl was Gang raped by 6 men including them 1 was minor 17-year child in moving bus in midnight when she was returning home from movie theatre with her friend. The nature of Rape was such a brutal that it shocked the entire soul of India as the accused also pulled her intestines and mutilated her private parts which ultimately led to her death on 29 December 2012 due to cardiac arrest, multiple organ failure and internal bleeding. The matter when reached the Supreme court held all the accused guilty for inhuman treatments and Rape committed. The court also held that the crime committed by accused was of rarest of rare case and moreover was of inhuman nature and ultimately awarded Death penalty to accused and was finally hanged to death in Tihar jail on 20th March 2020.

After Nirbhaya case lots of amendments were made in Indian Penal Code and many other laws were changed to stop such crimes against women. So that no other women like Nirbhaya can suffer the pain or what happened to her can't happen to other women. But till today the situation has not changed much last year 2019 in Hyderabad women veterinary doctor was first Gang Raped and then burned alive. The incident was such an inhuman nature that led to rise in national protest against safety of women's despite of many women friendly laws.

finally, before the trial for conviction of accused can start they were killed in Police encounter. And most recently the Hathras Rape case in UP has shown us that there is not much change in condition of women and more specifically women belonging to poor depressed class. As the case clearly shows the arbitrary exercise of power by police by burning the body of girl victim in midnight without informing the family completely violate the basic human rights as well as legal right of women¹⁴. The police first tried to save accused who belong to upper caste but latter took action when the matter was highlighted by media and protest were held to give justice to victim. Finally, the accused and police officer who were guilty was suspended and accused was also arrested. The situation of women safety is same in every state like UP last month 6-year girl was raped and burned alive by accused grandson and grandfather in Tanda district Hoshiarpur Punjab. We can't turn our eyes blind by just saying that when any crime like Rape, stalking, sexual harassment etc. takes place with any women society generally by says that it is fault of women that she goes out in night and hangout with male friends in night or she wears short dresses in sort some people tries to do character analysis of women rather arguing for stricter punishment to accused.

III. IS INDIA BECOMING UNSAFE FOR WOMEN'S

On 14th September 2020 incident took place in Hathras District in Uttar Pradesh which highlighted the plight of Dalit women in India. The 19-year-old Dalit girl was Gang raped and tortured by 4 men of upper caste. The kind of torture done with women was very brutal and in human nature as her tongue was also cut down and limbs was fractured, her spinal court was also damaged. This clearly shows what is the state or condition of women, Dalits, poor people in India and are the laws made are sufficient or really helping them to giving them their right. Most important question we need to ask ourself is has anything change in condition of women's?

Being a woman is not easy especially when she lives in India. The reason behind this thought is very painful and a matter of concern because in India a girl is raped in every 20 minutes. And if we look at the current scenario even in 2020 the condition has worsened. According to the report published for safety of women India has been ranked among world's top nations for most dangerous place for women. The reason is clear behind such poor ranking of India is the constant increase in number of Rapes against women's in India and less rate of justice served to victims. The one of the main causes for non-accessibility of justice to the victim women's is that many of the rape victim don't approach the court or police authorities because of

¹⁴ https://www.indialegallive.com/special-story/evolution-of-women-rights-in-india/#_ftn17

typical mindset of society people fear that if any such incident happens to their daughters or sisters or wife's the society will make fun of them and questions the act or character of the women. The situation gets worst when the society not accept the women victim of crimes of rapes, acid attack victim, etc. and treat them different whereas on the other hand the man who commits the crime or accused are treated by society normally and consider it's the usual act committed by him on women¹⁵. Even in 20th century in some parts of India the women are considered as corpus of his husband and her status is not more than any property owned by the male person either husband or father. There is constant rise in rape cases against minor girls in every state of India we have seen major cases like Unnao Gang rape case¹⁶, Kathua gang rape case, and most recently Hathras Gang rape case this has shown us that nothing has changed with women since Independence despite there is rise in cases of rapes or crimes against minor girls. This is the situation in almost every state where crimes like rapes happens with girls especially minor has increased recently there was case in Tanda district Hoshiarpur, Punjab where the two accused grandfather and grandson raped the minor 4-year-old girl child in vacant plot and after committing rape she was also burned alive to death and was murdered. It is very easy to publish such incident in newspaper and record the statements of the victim women but can we feel the pain and suffering victim girl/women suffers and how society looks towards her.

So, in order to give actual justice to the victims of crime and preventing further committing of crime against women it is very important to set an example in giving justice to victim and giving punishment to such accused to such and extend that it can be example for others to see that so such incident or crimes can future take place against women. But the problem with Indian system is that the laws are made for women protection but implementation on ground level is not properly done and if proper laws are made the punishments given are not exemplary in nature. If in my opinion the punishment given to accused be too hard and strict or in one case give exemplary punishment so that it can be act as deterrence so that if any individual tries to commit any type of crime against women he should think twice. In Arab Countries the punishment for such types of crime against women is "Stone Death" so this is such harsh punishment or sometimes pubic execution or hang till death in front of general public. So, this act as deterrence in minds of people which prevent them from committing such types of crimes. Whereas in India the legal system is based on principals of Natural Justice which talks about No person shall be punished Unheard which provides right to be

¹⁵ <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-42436817>

¹⁶ <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/readersblog/why-india-is-not-safe-for-women/why-india-ranked-as-the-dangerous-place-for-women-22638/>

heard to even to the accused. Which ultimately results in long proceedings for finally deciding the matter and causes delay in justice to the victim which is unfair for her as conditions changes with time. There should be more stringent and exemplary punishment in case where crime is committed by police personal towards women because police is statutory body holds duty and obligation for safety to every citizen of the nation and when they becomes violator of our legal system and commits rapes on women then it is Clearly a shame on our police department. The survey conducted by Thomson Reuters Foundation has Placed India among countries worst and most dangerous for women. surprisingly Arabian countries like Saudi Arab, Afghanistan, etc. has performed better than India and ranked among safest countries for women. this report published has been completely rejected by Indian Government and ministry of women and child developments and some experts have also questioned the authenticity of the report. The reason is very clear that how can countries like Afghanistan, Syria where minimal rights are given to women can perform better than India and showing the ranking of India in such bad condition is nothing but to dimmish the image of India in international environment. But some scholars like college professor and social activist Roop Rekha Verma¹⁷ has accepted the report and has blamed that India's ranking is so poor due to the number of rising rape cases in India and they are now being reported in public media in large number. We can't ignore or just wash our hands from reality of India by just saying that no the report published is wrong and is just to malice the India's image but we have to look at the statics in our own country for crimes against women. According to statistics given by National Crime Record Bureau in 2016 a woman is raped in every 13 minutes, each day average 6 women are Gang Raped, each woman is murdered for dowry every 70 minutes, and every month 19 women becomes victim of acid attack¹⁸. And worst is the thousands unreported cases of sexual violence, domestic violence, stalking, and voyeurism takes place in India. So, these statistics are matter of concern because these figures are eye opener for us and despite arguing for wrong and right about the report. India should figure to find solution and try to research for methods to improve India's ranking and try to create friendly peaceful environment for women and must ensure safety of women.

India is world's largest democracy where rule of law prevails i.e., no one is above the law so it is very shameful and matter of concern for us if we see the condition of women and the ranking of women amongst most dangerous countries for women by NGO on international level. More over the countries like Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan and Syria are holds better

¹⁷ <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-42436817>

¹⁸ <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jul/02/india-most-dangerous-country-women-survey>

position than India where women are jailed for just driving just few year ago. The people expect more from Indian women as they live in largest democracy and Indian constitution provides wide fundamental rights for women protection and their upliftment. But the rights given to women by our constitution stand no where in reality when the thousands of men and women walks on streets for protest for providing justice to rapes, acid attack, sexual harassment, dowry death, and women victims for protection of women against such crimes. The condition of women in India has also become worst with rise in cases of crimes like Rapes, sexual harassment, stalking with minor girls below age of 18 years. Biggest question we need to ask from ourself and try to find answer is Are women's really safe and most important why we need to champaign like "Real men don't Rape" and #Mee Too which became very popular last year where number of women's talked about incidents of violence against them committed by men's in society. The problem is our Indian society still believe more in Culture and traditions so women are not allowed to enjoy rights and freedom given by our constitution and still there is little change in condition of women's despite laws, education, and employments.

If you ask a women's about how safe they feel on street or market or at work or even at home when alone the answer you will get will in negative or simple No. This compels us to think about the plight of our women's in our nation despite in 21st century but the Indian government has completely denied this though as they say laws has changed to such and extend to make women feel safe in every corner of India. Our PM of India Narinder Modi has announced to make New India by 2024 in which women safety and development of each section of society will be priorities. The equality of among all but if the condition of women remains same and incidents of Rape, sexual Harassment, dowry death and other cruelty will make India's image as worst country for safety of women in international scenario. Some women are of view that women should be as vigilant as country on terrorist alert because there is no fixed time of rape which can be happened on anytime so women need to be alerted every minute in order to protect them¹⁹. Few Women's have modified their behavior like not going out alone, coming home before dark and dressing and wearing clothes in different way or be very cautious of their body language in order to be save from harassment and other violence. But is this the solution to the problem and is it fault of women's dressing, body posture, her speech, and going out at night. This is the question to be answered and can we not control men's behavior in order to stop violence against her and most important it is why the

¹⁹ <https://www.theweek.in/news/biz-tech/2019/12/17/india-second-worst-after-pakistan-among-neighbouring-countries-for-women.html>

society always questions women's character or her dressing when anything wrongs happens to her. There is still some person who talks or argues that if Rape is committed, they only argue it is the fault of women who works in office and comes to home late night or her dressing is too short and her body posture is not acceptable and many more baseless arguments like these.

IV. ANALYSIS OF WOMEN'S RIGHT IN INDIA AND OTHER NATION'S

If we talk about international development it is a multidimensional topic and very wide facts and points are to be considered for evaluation of international development of any country in earlier times only economic growth was considered as only factor but now days the other social factors in society are also considered²⁰. So, the growth and condition of women's is also important factor for any country's growth and development if the condition of women is worst and no safety mechanism for their protection then there is no real growth of any nation. According to the report published by world economic forum the condition of women's in India is worse than women in Pakistan, Bangladesh and its neighboring countries in gender parity. Violence on Indian women are relatively more cases than even in Pakistan this is very alarming situation for India as we need to look into the problem deeply to analyze and then give effective solution for protection of women. As India has more laws and is largest democratic country where bundle of rights is given to women by our constitution despite this there is no proper ground implementation of proper law. This give a negative image of India because in our culture in Hinduism the women are worshiped as Devi in society and increase in number of such crimes against her is contrary to our culture. The biggest problem is according to data by National Crime Record Bureau the 95% of women raped knows the rapist this is very serious situation because the rapist may be between her family and friends. So, there is some efforts or steps which need to be taken by ourself and to change mindset of society about women. India was ranked on 112th position by world economic forum for gender gap and this is very poor ranking from last year's 112 position there are many factors which are behind this ranking in India²¹. The other neighboring countries of India like China, Bangladesh, Nepal, Indonesia and Sri Lanka has performed very well in reducing gender gap and securing much higher position than India. The factor of political gender gap is also one of the reasons because there are just 25% seats hold by women's in lower house and only 20% seats in upper house in parliament of India. Despite of education and employment opportunities still the conditions of women's have only diminished from past years as compared to India's neighboring countries women.

²⁰ <https://thewire.in/women/reuters-expert-survey-india-women-safety>

²¹ <https://www.drishtias.com/to-the-points/Paper2/violence-against-women>

There are many reasons behind the rise in cases of violence against women but some of the reasons are now become common because they exist from many year and very little steps are taken to prevent such causes one of the causes is gender disparity this exist in India since from beginning of the society as women are in many points are simply sidelined against women and this is the case in every sphere whether in employment, education, political aspect etc. so to reduce the gender disparity we need to first change the typical gender stereotype of the society that women are weak both mentally and physically and they are made by nature because to be under protection of men or male partner. The other major reason for violence against women is physical and psychological deterioration caused by consumption of Alcohol²² by husband the regular drinking of alcohol is reason because it effects mental health of women and problem of domestic violence in also increased due to problem of alcohol consumption. So, we need to change our habits and need to improve on values we give to our children and most important we need to behave properly in our home with our women so that our children must learn the same. If the son sees his father to be very strict and constantly physical beats her mother or type of behavior with mother will ultimately impact on son's nature and when he will live in family with his wife, he will also tries control the wife and start physical violence with his wife like sees his father in past have done with his mother. The first school of a child is his home he learns and grasp everything he sees his parents doing with each other. The practice of Honour Killing is also the reason for violence against women but there is no honor in honour Killing these types of practiced not only in India but also other countries like Bangladesh, Egypt, Jordan, Pakistan, turkey and many more women are killed just for sake of the Honour of the family. There are many reasons behind honour killing by own family sometimes adultery, having sexual relationship without marriage, rape or falling in love or marrying a person to whom family dislikes or person of lower caste. These become causes or reason which justify any male member to kill a woman for family Honor. The government has also taken several steps to stop violence and protection of women recently government has planned to introduce change in marriageable age for girls from 18 to 21 year. Because early marriage is also a factor for violence against women there are number of cases which are unreported in many states like Rajasthan where girls are married in early age and marriage is against their will or consent which later results in violence against them.

²² <https://blog.iplayers.in/protection-crimes-women-indian-laws-comprehensive-analysis/>