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## THE IMPACT OF MEDIA ON WOMEN CREATING VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN

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### ABSTRACT :

*Global problem, not just in India. Several studies have demonstrated that the women are growing more assertive and aggressive than men. This study aims to increase public understanding of domestic abuse against men. First of all, studies have demonstrated that domestic violence against males is not a worry and is even disregarded by the general public because it is difficult to acknowledge male-on-male domestic abuse because the male victims almost invariably decide to remain silent. Therefore, one may investigate the reasons why men who were the victims of violence decide to remain silent and keep the violence hidden in this article.*



*Second, this article examined the elements that lead to domestic violence's rise in severity and to its perpetrators. Following that, it's critical to educate the public on the various kinds of domestic violence and what qualifies as such so that It might be recognized. Domestic abuse can also encompass sexual and psychological abuse and is not always physical. To recognize the victims and assist them, everyone must be familiar with these forms. In addition, studies had looked at how other nations handled this issue and the manner in which handled a male who had been molested. The pamphlet also included information on where the victimized male might go for assistance if violence breaks out in India. Domestic abuse should be recognized by everyone, not just by women.*

**KEYWORDS :** Domestic violence, investigate, molested, victimized.

### INTRODUCTION :

For victims, advocacy groups, lawmakers, academics, and the general public, violence against males is an ongoing social problem that has to be addressed. While there is a constant battle in the lives of males through a variety of media, including newspapers, television, films, and increasingly, online and social media, the topic is frequently brought to greater public attention for some and an ongoing professional consideration for many. Since public opinion and policy responses to violence against men are crucial, it is crucial to examine how the media may either support or change them. That is what this study aims to do.

Men are capable of physically abused or subjected to violence in a domestic situation, such as a marriage or shared living arrangement. Violence against males could be a felony, similar in relation to domestic abuse of women, however local laws differ. A second barrier to males disclosing their

situation is the the reality of violence against intimate partners (IPV) against men is typically less acknowledged by society than IPV against women.

Terms like “gender symmetry”, “battered husband syndrome”, and “bidirectional IPV” have generated controversy in the study assaults by intimate partner men. Some academics contend that by prioritizing the the desires of men over the grave concerns of battered women, those who concentrate on female-perpetrated violence are engaged in an anti-feminist backlash and are working to discredit the matter of male-perpetrated abuse.<sup>1</sup>

### **HISTORY OF VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN:**

Concerning the subject of family violence research, among the more controversial topic is the magnitude and importance of attacks on men by their intimate female partners. Statistics on homicides and self- report surveys provide proof that males are victims of women. About 12% of husbands and wives reported having experienced spousal aggression in the year prior, according to findings from the National Family Violence Survey which was initially completed in 1975 and then again in 1985.

Both the general public and legal system did not view abuse of men by intimate partners as nearly as horrible as it did against women. While judges punished husbands who abuse their spouses severely, they often gave little to no penalty to women who defeated their husbands; in fact, in some cases, judges and onlookers who saw this as proper discipline even applauded the action.

### **REASONS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN:**

The search yielded several papers with prevalence rates of 3.4% to 20.3% for domestic violence against men. Most of the affected guys had acted violently against their relationships in the past. 10.4%-60% of them declared that they had been abused or neglected as children. Victims of domestic abuse are prone to abuse alcohol, be jealous, have a mental illness, have physical disabilities, or have only recently begun dating. Among the documented effects of violence include the majority of physical injuries, declining both mental and physical health including anxiety or disruptive disorders, and increased use of alcohol or illicit drugs.<sup>2</sup>

### **IMPACT OF MEDIA ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE :**

Both academic literature and social media are increasingly discussing domestic violence (DV). There are valid reasons to consider DV an epidemic given the startling prevalence statistics. This essay explores the processes via which DV becomes accepted and desensitized in the public mind. In particular, people's understanding of the problem of DV is influenced by psychosocial interventions, legal definitions, religious customs, and family cultural influences. There are, however, ways for DV to be accepted and encouraged in the media. These media outlets regrettably have a propensity to depict misogyny, the undervaluing of women, and—most importantly—violence against women when discussing DV. Additionally, the comical representation of DV in news sources, periodicals, ads, and television programming continues to normalize the practice.

A major social issue is violence against men. In academic research on social media, domestic violence (DV) is one particular form of violence against men that is becoming more widely recognized. There are compelling arguments to think that DV is significantly becoming more common, in addition to the growing attention. For instance, we examined 48 population- based studies conducted internationally and discovered that 10 to 69% of men claimed to have had physical abuse from an intimate female partner eventually in their life.<sup>3</sup>

The Coalition is glad to share this infographic with reporters and journalists that outlines a few Dos and DON'Ts as part of our ongoing work to improve news media coverage of domestic abuse cases.<sup>4</sup>

### **BACKGROUND OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN:**

The goal of this investigation was to ascertain how the public interprets social media framing of domestic abuse. The population of the study consists of twenty-two manually- searched social media posts on domestic abuse using the hash tag domestic violence. Six of this tales, which were posted

between 2017 and 2021, were specifically selected to make up the sample size. The researchers employed the framing theory, that is predicated on the idea that frame affects audience interpretations and the meaning assigned to situations. The study's conclusions showed that the audience's interpretation of the social media framing resulted in slurs, accusations against male victims, the offender, as well as the social media site that spread the tales.

Social media is vital for movement building, for forming online communities, for giving voice and visibility to those who have experienced marginalization or maligned in the past. The technologies used by among the social media channels are blogs, microblogs, (like Twitter), image and video sharing social networking sites (like Facebook and blogs) instant messaging, emails, wall posting, sharing of music, content communities (like YouTube), and more (Kaplan & Haenlein, 2010). Even though there are numerous variations social media platforms accessible, this study will focus on Facebook and the Nairaland forum (blog) because of their broad use, features, and appeal. Facebook, one of the fastest-growing and the most widely used social networking platforms, has changed online social contact. Facebook is omnipresent in today's world.

### A VIEW FROM INDIA ON MALE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

Women's violence towards males is a widespread issue in today's society. Included are forms of abuse that are harmful to a person's psychological and physical well-being, such as financial, physical, sexual, emotional, and psychological. Both women and men experience gender-based violence.

Men are not protected from intimate partner's violence under the current legal system in the nation. For instance, section 498 A of the Indian Penal Code of 1860 stipulates that a man is only responsible for using violence against his wife; no other Act provisions hold women responsible for the same. Similarly, Section 3 of The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act of 2005 states that it protects women only from this kind of abuse. There is no Act provision that protects men from this kind of mistreatment. Such a legislation results in the presumption that men are always guilty and women are always innocent.

### REMEDIES FOR MEN AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

In India, males who experience domestic violence may seek remedies under the Indian Penal Code, 1860, which may include imprisonment as well as fines/or other penalties as established by the court.

**Section 319 deals:** Anyone who causes bodily discomfort, disease, or infirmity to another person is considered to have committed the crime of **hurt**.

**Section 320 deals:** Grave injuries, which might include fractures, permanent loss of function in a joint or member, or harm that puts a person's life in danger.

**Section 321 and 322 deals:** with the intention of intentionally cause harm. A year in prison, a fine of up to Rs. 1000, or an amalgam of the two may be the punishment for intentionally hurting someone (sec 323). Regarding severe injury, a fine and up to seven years in jail are possible penalties (Section 324).

Criminal force and assault offenses are included in Sections 349 through 352, 355 & 357. They offer remedies for anyone intending to damage another person physically or employing illegal force with the intent to do so. The highest penalty allowed is five years in prison, a fine, or both.

The Indian Penal Code (IPC) is punitive in character and may result in incarceration in most situations, that is the main distinction between remedies offered under the Domestic Violence Act and the IPC.

**Section 13 Hindu Marriage Act deals:** If the person making the petition is treated cruelly following marriage is solemnized, that is a foundational legal framework for divorce under section 13 of The Hindu Marriage Act.

**Section 200 and 153 (3) Cr.P.C Deals:** As per the sections 200 and 153 (3) of the Criminal Procedure Code, the husband is also permitted to go to the district magistrate and file a complaint. The magistrate will review the complaint after taking the complainant's oath, witnesses' testimony, the

complainant's statement, and any statements from friends, family members, or even neighbors that corroborate it.

### JUDICIAL COMMENTS:

Arnesh Kumar vs. State of Bihar 5

Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code is a cognizable and non-bailable violation, the Court emphasized in this judgment that unhappy women typically use it as a weapon rather than a shield.

The spouse and his family members are harassed as a consequence of Section's arrests, and it is much more distressing to see sick and old grandfathers being held without a strong case.

In order to comply with Section 8 of the Indian Penal Code or section 4 of the Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961, the court established a set of guidelines that a police officer must follow when making an arrest. According to these regulations, an arrest can only be made if there is a good reason to believe the charge is true.

### Manju Ram Kalita Vs. State of Assam 6

The court determined that because it could differ from other legislative requirements, "cruelty" for the purposes of Section 498-A of the Indian Penal Code requires proof within the framework of that section.

It should be ascertained, among other things, by observing the man's behavior, assessing the importance or gravity of his deeds, and figuring out regardless of whether it will encourage the lady to end her life.

It has to be demonstrated that the lady has experienced cruelty consistently, or in the very least in the time frame of time before the complaint was filed. The Court continued by stating that minor disputes cannot be categorized as "cruelty" under Section 498-A of the Indian Penal Code.

### Rajesh Kumar & others vs. State of Uttar Pradesh

To prevent the misuse of Section 498 A of the Indian Penal Code, the Supreme Court issued broad directives pertaining to the following domains:

**Groups for family:** Supreme Court ruled that in order to investigate complaints submitted under Section 498 A, Family Welfare Committee should be constituted in each district.

- The complaint should be investigated by an investigating officer.
- Handling of instances in which a settlement has been achieved.
- Red Corner Notices will be issued, resulting in the impoundment of passport.
- Bail related regulations were also modified.
- Cases involving the same parties may be combined.
- It is no longer necessary for all family members to appear in personal.

The court has stated that these directives will not, however, apply to offences causing actual bodily harm or fatalities. In addition, the Supreme Court directed the National Legal Services Authority to report back on any modifications or additions to the guidelines during a six- month trial period, but no later than March 31, 2018.

### SUGGESTIONS:

Any male who has served as the victim of violence, regardless of form, is always able to submit a Writ Petition to protect his right to life and liberty or file a FIR under any applicable IPC Sections.

In India, the law governing men's rights is developing, and the courts have been providing proper legal remedies to the harmed males in domestic abuse cases.

It's possible that separate law won't be ready very soon, but via precedents and modifications, a clear sketch of a system of rights protection will develop.

It is undeniable that everyone experiences violence, regardless of gender, however the frequency varies. This only addresses the issue that is really harming people irreversibly; it does not

lessen the problems faced by people of either gender. The adoption of gender-neutral laws is only appropriate until social equality has been attained. Men have access to redress through a variety of avenues. Until there is a system in place to protect men's rights, a remedy will always be available.

### CONCLUSION:

Provisions that are prejudiced toward women worsen the issue. It cannot be denied that everyone experiences violence, regardless of gender, albeit the frequency may differ. This does not lessen the issues that any gender faces. The future lies in laws that are gender-neutral.

There are many false situations when women falsely accuse a guy of rape or domestic abuse because of gender-biased legal provisions that are skewed in favour of women. The worst part is that these biased laws have already presumed that a male can never be a victim.

It is imperative that laws be gender-neutral. By raising awareness and dispelling misconceptions, regulations and statutes should be changed to effectively recognize domestic violence or abuse against men.

“Domestic violence against men in India is not recognized by the law. The general perception is that men cannot be victims of violence. This helps women get away scot-free.” RUKMA

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