

REVIEW ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN NASHIK REGION.

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ABSTRACT

The present study was carried out from Biology division of Regional Forensic Science Laboratory Nashik, Total 15644 Cases were collected for this study purpose of last five years. 5021 i. e. 32.10% cases were history of crime against woman and children from total received cases. Nashik region which include five districts; those are Ahmednagar, Dhule, Jalgaon, Nandurbar and Nashik. Violence against women represents sexual offences, dowry death, female foeticides, domestic violence and sexual harassment while violence against children represents child abuse, infanticides and sex selective abortion. woman and children constitute about 75% of the global population but they have been socially, economically, physically, psychologically and sexually exploited from time to time.

KEYWORDS: Violence, foeticides, child abuse, spouse, abduction and Eve-teasing.

INTRODUCTION

The aim of this review was to study the violence against women and children in Nashik region. woman and children constitute about 75% of the global population but they have been socially, economically, physically, psychologically and sexually exploited from time to time. Violence against women has been clearly defined as a form of discrimination in numerous documents. The World Human Rights Conference in Vienna, first recognized gender- based violence as a human rights violation in 1993. In the same year, United Nations declaration^[1] 1993, defined violence against women as “any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to a woman,

including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivations of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life". (Cited by Gomez, 1996).

Radhika Coomaraswamy.^[2] identifies different kinds of violence against women, in the United Nation's special report, 1995, on Violence against Women;

a) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, non spousal violence and violence related to exploitation.

b) Physical sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational Institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution.

c) Physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the state, wherever it occurs. This definition added 'violence perpetrated or condoned by the State', to the definition by United Nations in 1993.

The family and its operational unit is where the child is exposed to gender differences since birth and in recent times even before birth, in the form of sex-determination tests leading to foeticide and female infanticide. The home, which is supposed to be the most secure place, is where women are most exposed to violence.

Since Independence, the Constitution of India contains certain provisions that guarantee the welfare and development of children. The Indian Penal Code also has defined infanticide as murder. While the deliberate act of causing a miscarriage or injury to the new born child, exposure of the infant and concealment of births are covered under Sections 312 to 318 of the I.P.C, the intention of preventing a child being born and causing bodily harm to the infant are covered under I.P.C Section 315. Section 317 makes the concealment of the birth and secret disposal of the dead body an offence (Negi, 1997: 24).

Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act (MTPA) 1971 allows abortion if the doctor is of the opinion that the continuance of the pregnancy would endanger the life of the pregnant woman or involve grave injury to her physical or mental health; or there is substantial risk that the child would suffer from disabling physical or mental abnormalities. The anguish caused by pregnancy as a result of rape, or as a result of failure of any device or method used by a

married couple for the purpose of limiting the number of children, may be presumed to constitute a grave injury to the woman's mental health.

International, regional and national legal frameworks are critical to addressing violence against women.^[3]

According to United Nations Indicators to measure violence against woman a report of expert group meeting, Geneva, Switzerland 2007, "Violence against women is one of the most systematic and prevalent human rights abuses in the world. It is directed against a woman because she is a woman or affects women disproportionately. Such gender-based violence against women is a form of discrimination and deeply rooted in power imbalances and structural relationships of inequality between women and men. Violence against women is a global phenomenon, occurring in every continent, country and culture. It harms families, impoverishes communities and reinforces other forms of inequality and violence throughout societies."

Violence is also known as abuse and includes any sort of physical aggression or misbehaves.^[4] When violence is committed at home it becomes domestic violence and involves family members such as children, spouse, parents or servants. Domestic violence may involve different means such as hitting, kicking, biting, shoving and restraining, throwing objects^[5] In broad terms, it includes threats, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, controlling or domineering, intimidation, rape, abduction, kidnapping, murder (all cases of criminal violence, dowry death, wife battering, sexual abuse, maltreatment of a widow and for an elderly woman and domestic violence)^[6] and eve-teasing, forcing wife/daughter-in-law to go for foeticide, forcing a young widow to commit sati, etc (all cases of social violence), are issues which affect a large section of society.^[7] The United Nations defined "Violence against Women" in 1993 in Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women. It defines it as any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life.^[8] The child abuse defines a child as any person below eighteen years of age and defines different forms of sexual abuse, including penetrative and non-penetrative assault, as well as sexual harassment and pornography and deems a sexual assault to be "aggravated" under certain circumstances, such as when the abused child is mentally ill or when the abuse is committed by a person in a position of trust or authority, like a family member, police officer, teacher, or

doctor. People who trafficker children for sexual purposes.^[9] The crime against women & children has been steadily rising. As per latest NCRB statistics in India a case of crime against women occurs every 2 minutes, a rape every 20 minutes, a dowry death case every 50 minutes. Children also are victims of abuse , violence both physical and sexual. No age is safe for rape, in India a child of 5 year or less and old women of 70 year old or more have been raped. Different laws protect form violence but still these laws not sufficient to control the violence against children and women.

Crime against woman and children under the Indian Penal Code (IPC)

- 1) Rape / sexual assault (sec.376)
- 2) Sexual Harassment (Sec.509 IPC)
- 3) Unnatural sexual assault (sec.377)
- 4) Kidnapping and abduction (sec.363 to 373 IPC)
- 5) Molestation (Sec.354 IPC)
- 6) Importation of Girls (Sec.366-B IPC)
- 7) Dowry Death (Sec.302, 304B IPC) and Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
- 8) Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956
- 9) Sati Prevention Act, 1987
- 10) Torture (Cruelty by Husband & Relatives) (Sec.498-A IPC)
- 11) Abortion (Sec.312 & 313 IPC)
- 12) Neglect of Abandoning of infant (Sec.317 & 318 IPC)
- 13) The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.(3) & (4)

Promoted with these literature reports we have undertaken the position of women and children in Nashik region.

MATERIALS AND METHOD

This study was carried out from last five year data- January 2011 to December 2015. Total 15644 cases were received in last five year; out of these 5021 cases were history of crime against woman and children. The data were collected from following sources.

- 1) Annual report from Biology division of Regional Forensic Science Laboratory, Nashik.^[10]
- 2) Police authority forwarding letters.
- 3) Medical Officer forwarding letters.
- 4) Monthly data register of Regional Forensic Science Laboratory, Nashik.^[11]

OBSERVATION

Total **15644** cases were evaluated for this study purpose.

Table No.1 Proportions of crime against woman and children towards total crime cases.

Sr. No.	Year	Total Crime Cases	Crime against woman and children Cases	% against total crime Cases
1	2011	2592	740	28.55
2	2012	2571	732	28.47
3	2013	3134	1026	32.74
4	2014	3573	1247	34.90
5	2015	3774	1276	33.81

Table No.2 Crime cases of crime against woman and children received by District wise and year wise.

Year / District	Ahmednagar	Dhule	Jalgaon	Nandurbar	Nashik
2011	247	38	162	57	236
2012	223	88	167	49	205
2013	348	123	179	68	308
2014	385	132	218	84	428
2015	414	131	221	75	435

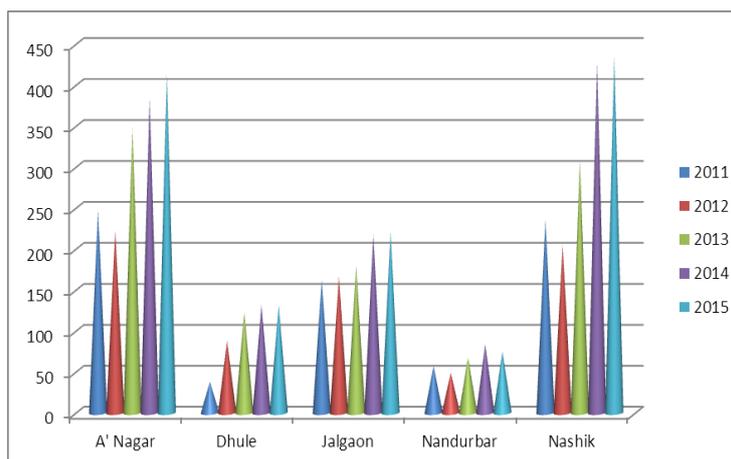
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Fig.1: Graphical representations of Crime cases of crime against woman and children received by District wise and Year wise

Table No. 3. Total crime by IPC Section wise of the year- 2015 in Nashik region.

Year-2015	IPC- 302	IPC- 307	IPC- 376	IPC- 498A	Other	Total
Jan-15	34	39	64	0	152	289
Feb-15	60	24	71	0	86	241
Mar-15	45	19	53	0	166	283
Apr-15	65	27	84	0	62	238

May-15	98	36	97	1	124	356
Jun-15	119	56	112	0	100	387
Jul-15	102	46	83	3	92	326
Aug-15	66	72	79	2	85	304
Sep-15	56	57	124	0	91	328
Oct-15	71	63	126	0	140	400
Nov-15	46	52	100	2	96	296
Dec-15	79	64	70	0	113	326
Total	841	555	1063	8	1307	3774

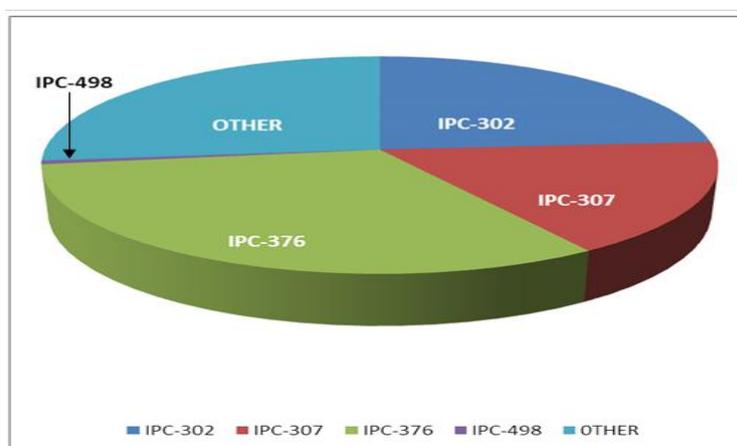


Fig. 2: Graphical representations of Total crime by IPC Section wise of the year- 2015 in Nashik region.

From the above graph we observe that the crime against woman and children has been steadily rising in Nashik region. The data in table 1 revealed that percentage of crime against women and children increases every year, in 2011, percentage of such type of crime was 28.55%, in 2012 was 28.47%, in 2013 was 32.74%, 2014 was 34.90% while in the last year 2015 was 33.81%. As comparing to the crime against woman and children, in the last three successive years 2011, 2012 and 2013 with the year 2014 and 2015 there is total 14% increase in such type of crime in this region. From Table 2 and Fig. 1 we observed that, among all the five district in Nashik region Ahemadnagar and Nashik district have maximum number of crime were the history of crime against woman and children. In the year 2014 and 2015 total crime cases received as 3573 and 3774, out of these total receiving cases 1247 and 1276 cases were the history of crime against woman and children respectively.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

From the above discussion we can conclude that, the crime ratio against women and children steadily increasing day by day in the Nashik region and it is maximum in Ahemadnagar district.

These are some suggestion which can be helpful for reducing such type of crime against women and children.

- 1) Only legislation and law enforcement agencies cannot prevent the incident of crime against women.
- 2) There is need of social awakening and change in the attitude of masses, so that due respect and equal status is given to women. This awakening can be brought by education campaign among youth making them aware of existing social evils and the means to eradicate same.
- 3) Need for implementation in laws related to women and children.
- 4) Awareness of forensic science at the school and college level.
- 5) Role of Government and Non Government Organization in women and child welfare program.

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