Gender Issues

A Discussion

Gender Issues

- What are Gender Issues?
- Let's identify a few Issues we consider
 Gender Issues...

Women's labour market participation







Claudia Goldin Harvard University, USA "för att ha förbättrat vår förståelse av kvinnors arbetsmarknadsutfall"

"for having advanced our understanding of women's labour market outcomes"

- If women are treated unequally in the labor market, this is not only an equity concern, but also a matter of economic efficiency.
- Reducing the gender gap in employment and improving the allocation of female talent could thus lead to significant increases in global GDP.

Scientific Background to the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2023, The Committee for the Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel

Oldest modern democracy in the world

- Who was the first woman President of US?
 - ...or the last?



UNITED STATES PRESIDENTS





Smt. Indira Gandhi: Prime Minister of India (1966-77 & 1980-84)...notable achievement - electing a woman PM - even the USA, failed...



Youngest President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu



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Mercy Petition

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Statement of Mercy Petition Cases- Rejected

					As On Date 28/0	04/20
Sr.No	Name of Convict(s)	Date of Supreme Court Judgment /Review/Curative	recomd.	Date of Disposal	Remarks	
1	Vasanta Sampat Dupare	03/05/2017	28/03/2023	10/04/2023	1) The mercy petition was rejected by the President	

Women who played the role of US President in Hollywood movies - not elected but through

ascension



Geena Davis in Commander in Chief, Cherry Jones in 24, Julia Louis-Dreyfus in Vee

Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam

- The Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act passed on 28 Sep.2023
- Seeks to provide 33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and state Assemblies
- Global average (26.7 %) of the percentage of women in national Parliaments
- Rwanda, Cuba, Mexico, New Zealand, UAE have the highest women - 50% + in Parliaments

The Constitution (Seventy-third Amendment) Act, 1992

- Constitution of India, Clause (3) of Article 243D ensures participation of women in Panchayati Raj Institutions by mandating not less than one- third reservation for women out of total number of seats to be filled by direct election and number of offices of chairpersons of Panchayats. (1993)
- Over 20 States have made provisions of 50% reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions in their respective State Panchayati Raj Acts.

Women development to Women-led development



Women development to Women-led development

- G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration, a great diplomatic achievement by India as G20 President, recognises women-led development as crucial for gender equality and global GDP growth.
- The *Declaration* commits to achieving the Brisbane Goal to reduce the gap in labour force participation and implementing the G20 Roadmap Towards and Beyond the Brisbane Goal '25 by 25'.
- The *Declaration* agrees to create a new Working Group on Empowerment of Women to support the G20 Women's Ministerial.

The other side

- India is ranked 127 out of 146 countries in the Global Gender Gap Report 2023.
- Global Gender Gap Index benchmarks the current state and evolution of gender parity across 4 key dimensions:
- Economic Participation and Opportunity
- Educational Attainment
- Health and Survival
- Political Empowerment
- The Global Gender Gap Report 2023. World Economic Forum 2023.

Crimes against Women and Children NCRB (National Crimes Records Bureau) Report 2021 (released on 28 Aug 2022)

- 15.5% increase in crimes against women in 2021
- 4.28 lakh cases of crimes against women were registered in 2021 (during 2020 – 3.71 lakhs)

(over 1000 crimes against women per day)

Crimes against Women

 A majority of the cases in 2021 were of kidnappings and abduction, rapes, domestic violence, dowry deaths and assaults.

• 107 women were attacked with acid, 1,580 women were trafficked, 15 girls were sold and 2,668 women were victims of cybercrimes.

Crimes against Children

1,49,404 cases of crime against children were registered during 2021

- Increase of 16.2% in crimes against children
- Kidnapping & Abduction (45.0%) and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (38.1%) including child rape.
- (over 400 crimes against children per day)

They are not just numbers

 They are our daughters, sons, sisters, spouses, friends..

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xLdElcv5qqc

Why do we need to be concerned?

Child Sex Ratio (girls per 1,000 boys: 0-6 yrs)

YEAR	CHILD SEX RATIO	VARIATION
1961	976	
1971	964	-12
1981	962	-02
	Introduction of Ultra Sound Scanners in India	
1991	945	-17
2001	927	-18
2011	914	-13

Lowest Child Sex Ratio



- Child sex ratio
- in 2011 is 914 girls against 1,000 boys (0-6 years)- the lowest since Independence.
- Census of India 2011: Provisional Population Totals released by the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India

Female Foeticide in India: Son preference

Ultra sound is the main culprit - instantly gives results, is non-invasive, accessible and affordable to all; facilitates other two techniques which are invasive:

Amniocentesis, Chorionic Villus Sampling.



Causes of Concern

- Male child preference
- Crimes against women
- Dowry

• ..

Sex Ratio at Birth

Sex Ratio at Birth for children born in the last 5 yrs (girls per 1,000 boys):

India 929

Telangana 894

as per NFHS – 5 (2021)

Crimes against Women and Children

- In the US, when 19 children and 2 teachers died in a school shoot out on May 24, 2022, within two weeks,
- House Oversight Committee invited victims and parents for testimony and after an extensive debate, passed gun control legislation called the
- Protecting Our Kids Act
- on 8th June, 2022



Crimes against Women and Children

Ukrainian Parliament, on June 20, 2022, even in the midst of deadly war, approved



Istanbul Convention for preventing and combating violence against women

- financing more shelters, resources for victims.

Crimes against Women and Children

 What should be the strategies to contain CAWC in India?

...

Gender

- Refers to culturally based expectations of the roles/ behaviours of women/ men.
- Socially constructed vs. Biologically determined aspects
- Gender is dynamic .. can change over time and across cultures

Gender is constructed and practiced

Attributes related to sex/gender?

- 1) Women are soft and men are tough.
- 2) Women can conceive and men cannot.
- 3) Women breastfeed their babies; men feed milk in bottles.
- 4) Only Men take decisions.
- 6) Men have moustaches and beards.
- 7) Women can earn only 70% of what men earn.
- 8) Women cry easily and men don't cry easily.
- 9) Men are breadwinners/ head of the household.

(MGS-003 Gender Analysis, Block 1, Unit 1)

Gender stereotyping

 Expectation to adhere to gender related behaviour, roles, identity and professions

Table 1.1 Common Gender Stereotypes

Female	Male				
Dependent	Independent				
Weak	Powerful				
Incompetent	Competent				
Less important	More important				
Emotional	Logical				
Implementers	Decision makers				
Housekeepers	Breadwinners				
Supporters	Leaders				
Fearful	Brave				
Peace makers	Aggressive				
Cautious	Adventurous				
Soft Spoken	Outspoken				
Reference: Prof. Vibhuti Patel, M.A programme SNDT Women's University					

Gender issues

 Subject or problem that a particular society considers related with men and women

Can you identify gender issues in India?

Discuss

- Have you ever been ridiculed by the opposite sex? How did you feel?
- Do you know others who have been sexually harassed at workplace or street?
- Do you know someone personally who experienced domestic violence?
- Have you changed your surname after marriage?
- Have you accepted/given dowry for your marriage?

Gender sensitivity

- Ability to acknowledge existing gender issues and inequalities and incorporate these into strategies and actions
- ...way to reduce barriers to development created by discrimination against women



Good Practices







Good Practice: Kerala

- Calicut University, directed its students to sign a bond, at the time of admission into colleges and before receiving their degrees, stating that they will not engage in the practice of dowry.
- State government has issued a circular directing all male government employees to furnish a declaration to their heads of departments within one month of their marriage that they have not taken any dowry.

- Discuss similar initiatives and good practices adopted by other states in India.
- Do you think civil servants in India should stand as role models in rejecting the practice of dowry and set an example for other employees?

SUSTAINABLE GALS DEVELOPMENT GALS





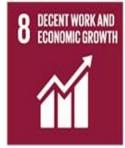
































Target 5.1

- End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
- Indicators 5.1.1
- Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex

- Target **5.2**
- Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
- Indicators 5.2.1
- Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age
- 5.2.2
- Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence

- Target 5.3
- Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation
- Indicators 5.3.1
- Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18
- **5.3.2**
- Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age

- Target **5.4**
- Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate
- Indicators 5.4.1
- Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location

- Target 5.5
- Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life

- Target **5.6**
- Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences
- Indicators 5.6.1
- Proportion of women aged 15-49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care
- **5.6.2**
- Number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education

- Target 5.a
- Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws
- Indicators 5.a.1
- (a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and
- (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure
- 5.a.2
- Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control

- Target 5.b
- Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women

Target 5.c

- Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels
- Indicators 5.c.1
- Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment

Respectful language



Respectful language

Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi, during the Independence Day speech 2022, spoke on gender equality and the importance of honouring women in our daily conversations:

"A distortion has crept in our conduct and we at times insult women. It's important to get rid of every speech and conduct that lowers the dignity of women."

Say no to Curse words

Language

Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013, Sec.4 (1):

- 4. (1) The Chairperson and Members shall be appointed by the President after obtaining the recommendations of a Selection Committee consisting of— ..
- (d) the Chief Justice of India or a Judge of the Supreme Court nominated by him—Member;
- Here the provision reflects the presumption that the Chief Justice of India will always be a man. (Unfortunately, it has been the case.)

Legislations use masculine form by default

The Information Technology Act, 2000, Proviso to Section 85:

- 85. Offences by companies.–(1) ...
- Provided that nothing contained in this subsection shall render any such person liable to punishment if he proves that the contravention took place without his knowledge or that he exercised all due diligence to prevent such contravention.

The practice started in 1897

The General Clauses Act, 1897:

- 13. Gender and number.—In all [Central Acts] and Regulations, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—
- (1) words importing the masculine gender shall be taken to include females; ...

Unique legislative drafting

The Parliament passed the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 on 11th Aug. 2023 - acknowledges women by using the pronoun "she" instead of "he" to refer to individuals irrespective of gender.

Section 7:

A Data Fiduciary may process personal data of a Data Principal for any of following uses, namely:—

 (a) for the specified purpose for which the Data Principal has voluntarily provided her personal data to the Data Fiduciary, and in respect of which she has not indicated to the Data Fiduciary that she does not consent to the use of her personal data.

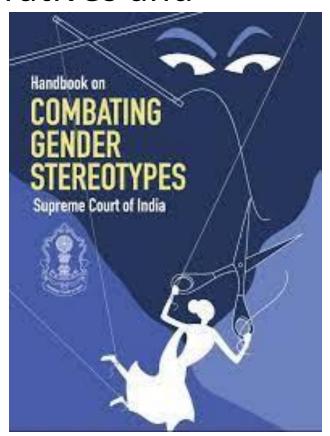
Section 2 (y) "she" in relation to an individual includes the reference to such individual irrespective of gender;

Dr. Justice Dhananjaya Y. Chandrachud, Chief Justice of India

Words matter, as they shape narratives and

influence societal attitudes.

- Inclusive language helps
- break
- harmful patterns of thinking.



Gender-unjust terms

Supreme Court, on 16 Aug.2023, released a Handbook on Combating Gender Stereotypes

- The Handbook contains a glossary of genderunjust terms and suggests alternative words or phrases which may be used while drafting pleadings as well as orders and judgments:
- Stereotype promoting language: (Incorrect)
 Housewife
- Alternative language: (Preferred) Homemaker

UN Gender-inclusive language guidelines

 United Nations claims using gender-inclusive language is a powerful way to promote gender equality and eradicate gender bias

 Gender inclusive language, or gender-neutral language, is language that avoids bias toward a particular sex or social gender and therefore is less likely to convey gender stereotypes

Gender markers

English has very few gender markers:

- pronouns he, she gender-neutral pronouns singular they
- some sentences can be reworded to avoid pronoun use at all.

Prominent style guides the Chicago Manual of Style, the MLA style manual, and the APA style manual—accept the usage of the singular they.

Article 21 of the Constitution

- Article 21 of the Constitution of India would read as follows:
- 21. Protection of life and personal liberty.—No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.
- 21. Protection of life and personal liberty.—No person shall be deprived of *her* life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.
- or
- 21. Protection of life and personal liberty.—No person shall be deprived of *their* life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.
- Or
- 21. Protection of life and personal liberty.—No person's life or personal liberty shall be deprived except according to procedure established by law.

- Article 53 (1) of the Constitution of India would read as follows:
- 53. Executive power of the Union.—(1) The executive power of the Union shall be vested in the President and shall be exercised by **him** either directly or through officers subordinate to **him** in accordance with this Constitution.

•

53. Executive power of the Union.—(1) The executive power of the Union shall be vested in the President and shall be exercised by her either directly or through officers subordinate to her in accordance with this Constitution.

Are Common Nouns Common?

- Batsman Batter
- Cameraman Cameraperson
- Chairman Chair
- Asst. Section Officer
- Director
- Minister

 Dear Sir or Madam? Greetings from the Institute

 Spain is attempting for the wording of the 1978 constitution to be altered, replacing generic masculine nouns with more inclusive forms.

Respectful Motherhood

Venezuelan law recognises five manifestations of obstetric violence:

- Failure to adequately respond to obstetric emergencies,
- forcing women to give birth on their backs, preventing early breastfeeding,
- altering the physiological process of childbirth by using different acceleration techniques without women's informed consent and
- performing unnecessary cesarean procedures without women's informed consent.

Unnecessary C-sections- Brazil

- Brazil made it mandatory under law for all private hospitals to disclose the percentages of cesarean births and normal births, at the physician level.
- The simplicity of the information disclosed is an additional advantage of this legislation. Under the Brazilian legislation, the information disclosed is simply the percentage of cesarean births performed by a physician over the previous 12 months: clear and relevant for expectant women.
- The legislation achieved its goal of reducing the incidence of unnecessary C—sections on women who were less likely to need one.

DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality

- UN theme of the International Women's Day 2023, aims to address digital gender gap as well as ICT-facilitated gender-based violence.
- As per UN Women's Gender Snapshot 2022 report, 38% women experienced online violence and 9 in 10 opted to limit their online activity, increasing the gender digital divide, based on a study of 51 countries...women's exclusion from the digital world alone has shaved \$1 trillion from the GDP of low- and middle-income countries in the last decade.
- Crime in India 2021 (released by National Crimes Records Bureau (NCRB) on 28 Aug 2022) reports 10,730 Cyber Crimes against Women in 2021, which include Cyber Blackmailing, Cyber Pornography/ Hosting/ Publishing Obscene Sexual Materials, Cyber Stalking/ Cyber Bullying of Women, Defamation/ Morphing, Fake Profile and so on.

Image Based Abuse (IBA)

- spread of non-consensual intimate images or videos to harass and exploit young girls, is a serious social concern now.
- Boys who try to molest girls unfortunately are trying to further encash their crime by capturing it on smartphones for exploiting the victim further.

Image

ప్రేమికుడితో దిగిన ఫాటోలు వైరల్

మనస్తాపంతో యువతి ఆత్మహత్య

భూపాలపల్లి అర్బన్/రామన్నపేట/నర్సం పేట రూరల్: ట్రేమికుడితో దిగిన ఫొటోలను అతను మరో యువకుడికి పంపడం, ఇద్దరూ కలిసి బ్లాక్మెయిల్ చేయడం, ఆ ఫొటోలు సోషల్ మీడియాలో వైరల్ కావడంతో మనస్తా పానికి గురైన యువతి ఆదివారం ఆత్మహ త్యకు పాల్పడింది. పోలీసులు తెలిపిన వివ రాల ప్రకారం.. జయశంకర్ భూపాలపల్లి జిల్లా కేంద్రానికి చెందిన రక్షిత వరంగల్ జిల్లా నర్సంపేట పట్టణంలోని ముగ్దంపురం శివా



రక్షిత

రులో ఉన్న ఓ ఇంజనీరింగ్ కళాశాలలో బీటెక్ (ఈసీఈ) మూడో సంవ త్సరం చదువుతోంది. అయితే తన కుమార్తె కన్పించడం లేదంటూ రక్షిత తండ్రి శంకరాచారి ఈ నెల 22న స్థానిక పోలీసులకు ఫిర్యాదు చేశాడు. పోలీసులు దర్యాప్తు చేపట్టగా 24న రక్షిత ఆచూకీ లభించింది. విచారణ సం దర్భంగా..తన డ్రేమికుడితో దిగిన ఫొటోలను అతను వేరొకరికి పంపిన విషయం, ఇతర వివరాలు ఆమె వెల్లడించింది. దీంతో పోలీసులు ఇద్దరినీ పిలిచి కౌన్సెలింగ్ నిర్వహించి పంపేశారు. ఈ ఇద్దరు యువకులూ భూపాల పల్లికి చెందిన వారేనని మట్టెవాడ పోలీసులు తెలిపారు. కాగా సరదాగా తీసుకున్న ఫొటోలు కాస్తా సామాజిక మాధ్యమాల్లో వైరల్ కావడంతో మన స్తాపానికి గురైన రక్షిత ఆదివారం వరంగల్లోని తమ బంధువుల ఇంట్లో ఉరి వేసుకుని ఆత్మహత్య చేసుకుంది. కుటుంబ సభ్యులు ఇచ్చిన ఫిర్యాదు మేరకు మట్టెవాడ పోలీసులు కేసు నమోదు చేసుకుని దర్యాప్తు చేస్తున్నారు. మృతదేహాన్ని పోస్టుమార్టం నిమిత్తం ఎంజీఎం మార్చురీకి తరలించారు.

Best Practices

 Australia created 'eSafety Commissioner', first in the world, as an independent regulator for online safety to provide help to remove images and videos, access to counselling and support and legal assistance.

The UK Revenge Porn Helpline (StopNCII.org) has supported thousands of victims, with an over 90% removal rate, successfully removing over 200,000 individual non-consensual intimate images from the internet. The UK is also making efforts to proactively detect and remove such content.

- Korea's Digital Sex Crime Victim Support Center provides digital content deletion as well as investigative cooperation with foreign IT companies. Efforts are also being focused on technological solutions such as preemptive deletion support which detects digital violence in advance of its occurrence.
- Mexico even enacted Olimpia Law (Olimpia Coral Melo, a victim of IBA) to contain IBA.

Image Based Abuse

- Helpline 1930
- https://cybercrime.gov.in
- Indian National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal facilitates a person to report cybercrime anonymously related to Sexually Abusive Content.
- Screenshots, URL of the content are needed for uploading as evidence on the portal.

Gender Equity in Police Forces

- In India, at the national level, out of the actual strength of 20,91,488 police personnel in States and UTs as on January 1, 2020, the strength of women police personnel is 2,15,504 which is 10.3 per cent.
- Tamil Nadu with 18.50%, Himachal Pradesh with 19.15% and Bihar with 25.30% women police personnel are ahead.

 Telangana State Police Department currently employs 5.11 % of women police personnel, lowest in India, according to the recent Data on Police Organizations (As on Jan.2020), released by Bureau of Police Research and Development.

Surname-Son preference

 Family surname creates unique concern for India where female foeticide is a major social evil that results in lower Child Sex Ratio.
 Families particular about continuity of surname would go to the extent of female foeticide once they found out the gender of the fetus.

- Son preference can be contained to some extent if we do away with surnames. Right to be forgotten in respect of family surnames can be a great changemaker in fighting low CSR in India.
- Controller of Publication, Department of Publication issued Guidelines for 'Change of Name for Majors' which require advertisement of change of name in one of the daily local leading newspaper, affidavit duly attested by Notary, payment of printing charges for publication of change of name in the Gazette of India.



Recent Judgements of significance

Safe/Unsafe Touch

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1AMplV
 79 Q
- 7.35 min

Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005

- Whether the consideration of Domestic Incidence Report is mandatory before initiating the proceedings under DV Act, 2005 in order to invoke substantive provisions of Sections 18 to 20 and 22 of the said Act?
- It is held that Section 12 does not make it mandatory for a Magistrate to consider a Domestic Incident Report filed by a Protection Officer or service provider before passing any order under the D.V. Act. It is clarified that even in the absence of a Domestic Incident Report, a Magistrate is empowered to pass both ex parte or interim as well as a final order under the provisions of the D.V. Act.

- The aggrieved person can by herself or through her advocate approach the Magistrate for seeking any of the reliefs under the D.V. Act
- PRABHA TYAGI VS. KAMLESH DEVI
- SUPREME COURT OF INDIA, CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 511 OF 2022, 12May2022

THE IMMORAL TRAFFIC (PREVENTION) ACT, 1956

- BUDHADEV KARMASKAR Appellant(s)
- VERSUS THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL & ORS.
- Criminal Appeal No(s).135/2010, 19-05-2022

Sex workers not to be arrested

Whenever there is a raid on any brothel, since voluntary sex work is not illegal and only running the brothel is unlawful, the sex workers concerned should not be arrested or penalised or harassed or victimised.

Guidelines for the media

The Press Council of India should be urged to issue appropriate guidelines for the media to take utmost care not to reveal the identities of sex workers, during arrest, raid and rescue operations, whether as victims or accused and not to publish or telecast any photos that would result in disclosure of such identities.

No child of a sex worker should be separated from the mother

Merely on the ground that she is in the sex trade. Further, if a minor is found living in a brothel or with sex workers, it should not be presumed that he/she has been trafficked. In case the sex worker claims that he/she is her son/daughter, tests can be done to determine if the claim is correct and if so, the minor should not be forcibly separated.

Aadhaar cards to be issued without address proof.

Prohibition of virginity test as unconstitutional

- The Supreme Court of India raised objections to the use of the "virginity test" in rape and sexual assault cases in Oct. 2022. The doctors who were found to be administering the test will be found guilty of misconduct, the bench further warned.
- The exam "violates the right of rape survivors to privacy, physical and mental integrity and dignity."

- Criminal Appeal No 1441 of 2022
- October 31, 2022
- The State of Jharkhand versus Shailendra Kumar Rai

Dowry

- The Supreme Court declared that any demand made on a woman, whether for property or a thing of value, should be considered a "dowry."
- State of Madhya Pradesh vs. Jogendra & Anr.,
- CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 190 OF 2012, January 11, 2022

US Supreme Court's judgement 'Dobbs v.
 Jackson' that denied constitutional right to
 abortion by overturning 'Roe v. Wade'.



Right to Abortion services

- The Supreme Court has ruled that all women, regardless of their marital status, are entitled to benefits of safe and legal abortion up to 24 weeks of pregnancy.
- A three-judge Bench declared that discrimination against women based on their marital status is against their right to equality.

Right to bodily autonomy, reproductive autonomy

- The state must ensure that information regarding reproduction and safe sexual practices is disseminated to all parts of the population.
- Further, it must see to it that all segments of society are able to access contraceptives to avoid unintended pregnancies and plan their families

- X ... Versus The Principal Secretary,
- Health and Family Welfare Department,
- Govt. of NCT of Delhi & Anr.
- Civil Appeal No 5802 of 2022
- September 29, 2022

Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act

The Act allows abortion till 20 weeks of pregnancy

- It can be permitted if backed by medical opinion for reasons such as:
- The pregnant woman would be at risk if she continues the pregnancy.
- If it causes grave injury to the medical or physical health of the woman.
- If the child born would suffer from a serious ailment.

It allows pregnancy to be terminated up to 24 weeks after it is backed by 2 medical practitioners for reasons such as:

- If the woman is a victim of sexual assault or rape.
- If the woman is a minor.
- If the woman is in an emergency situation that is declared by the Government.
- If the woman is mentally unwell or has some major physical disability.

If a woman wants to terminate her pregnancy beyond 24 weeks on the ground of foetus abnormalities, a four-member board has to be consulted.

 unmarried and single women whose pregnancy is between 20 to 24 weeks will also have the right to abortion like married women.

POCSO Reporting exemption

 "For the limited purposes of providing medical termination of pregnancy in terms of the MTP Act, we clarify that the RMP (Registered Medical Practitioners), only on request of the minor and the guardian of the minor, need not disclose the identity and other personal details of the minor in the information provided under Section 19(1) of the POCSO Act (information to local police)

DNA test

- United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child acknowledges the control that individuals, including children, have over their own personal boundaries and the means by which they define who they are in relation to other people. Children are not to be deprived of this entitlement to influence and understand their sense of self simply by virtue of being children.
- Only in exceptional and deserving cases, where such a test becomes indispensable to resolve the controversy the Court can direct such test.

- Aparna Ajinkya Firodia ...Versus
- Ajinkya Arun Firodia
- SLP (C) No.9855/2022, Feb. 20, 2023

Need for Safe Womb for Female Foetus

- Anoj Krishan Ahuja Vs. State of NCT of Delhi & Anr.
- Bench: Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma
- Case no.: CRL.M.C. 1352/2023 & CRL.M.A.5184/2023
- Order Dated: 24.04.2023

Need for Safe Womb for Female Foetus

- At present, the details of the District Appropriate Authorities are not readily available or known to a common layman. It is also not clear as to whether such Appropriate Authorities have an office or a website where a complaint can be lodged or whether a person has to go to their office personally or not.
- In today's world of technology, it would be appropriate if online portals and websites are created for this purpose, if not yet done, to notify and inform the general public about the procedure, place and mechanism to lodge such a complaint
- The constitution of Appropriate Authority, their contact details, including the E-mail Id and phone numbers, where a complaint can be made be also mentioned at specific conspicuous places in all the hospitals and clinics, where the facility for ultrasonography or other pre-natal diagnostic techniques are available or are being carried out.

హైదరాబాద్ 🏻 బుధవారం 23 నవంబర్ 2022

ఆడపిల్ల పుడుతుందని అనుమానం...

వివాహితకు అబార్షన్

● భర్త, అత్త అరెస్ట్ ● నవజాత శిశువుకు పాేస్టుమార్టం

చంపాపేట, నవంబర్ 22(ఆంధ్రజ్యోతి): ఆడపిల్ల పుడుతుందనే అను మానంతో మహిళకు భర్త, అత్త అబార్షన్ అయ్యేందుకు మాత్రలు ఇచ్చారు. దీంతో ఆమె అస్వస్థతకు గురై ఇంట్తోనే బాబుకు జన్మనివ్వగా, శిశువు మృతి చెందాడు. ఈ ఘటన ఆలస్వంగా వెలుగులోకి వచ్చింది. పోలీసుల కథనం $_{1}$ పకారం.. హఫీజ్బాబానగర్కు చెందిన తబుసం(24), సయ్యద్ మహ్మద్ (34) దంపతులకు రెండున్నర సంవత్సరాల క్రితం వివాహమైంది. వారికి 18 నెలల కుమార్తె ఉంది. ఆమె మళ్లీ గర్భం దాల్చింది. ఆడపిల్ల పుడుతుందనే అనుమానంతో ఆరో నెలలో ఈ నెల 14న భర్త, అత్త షమీంబేగం(61), ఆడప డుచు షహనాజ్ బలవంతంగా అబారన్ కావడానికి తబుసంతో మాత్రలను మింగించారు. 15న ఆమె అస్వస్థతకు గురై ఇంట్లోనే బాబు జన్మించి మృతి చెందాడు. రెండు రోజుల చికిత్స అనంతరం తేరుకున్న తబుసం తనకు బల వంతంగా అబార్షన్ చేయించారని, నిందితులపై చర్యలు తీసుకోవాలని ఈ నెల 17న కంచన్బాగ్ పోలీస్స్టేషన్లో ఫిర్వాదు చేశారు. పోలీసులు కేసు దర్యాష్మలో భాగంగా హఫీజ్బాబానగర్లోని శృశాన వాటికలో పూడ్చిపెట్టిన నవజాత శిశువును బయటకు తీయించి స్థానిక తాహసీలార్ ఆధ్వర్యంలో మంగళవారం పోస్టుమార్లం నిర్వహించారు. తబుసం భర్త, అత్తను అరెస్టు చేసి రిమాండ్కు తరలించినట్లు ఇన్ స్పెక్టర్ వి. ఆనంద్ కిషోర్ తెలిపారు.



క్రమంలో

The law

 In the year 1994, the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act was enacted by the Parliament and was brought into force on 01.01.1996.

 By way of Amendment in the year 2003, the short title of the Act was amended to 'The Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act'.

Centre For Enquiry into Health and Allied Themes (CEHAT) vs. Uol

2001 5 SCC 577

- The Hon'ble Apex Court, in the year 2001, had issued a set of directions to the Central Government, Central Supervisory Board, State Governments, and Appropriate Authorities after expressing that the Act was not being implemented to a large extent by the Central Government and State Governments.
- A further set of directions were issued by the Hon'ble Apex Court in Centre For Enquiry into Health and Allied Themes (CEHAT) v. Union of India 2003 8 SCC 398 since the concerned governments and authorities had failed to comply with the guidelines and directions issued in the year 2001.

Supreme Court

Supreme Court in Voluntary Health
 Association of Punjab v. Union of India 2013 4 SCC
 1 as well as in Voluntary Health Association of
 Punjab v. Union of India 2016 10 SCC 265 issued
 directions to the Central Government and
 State Governments to take steps for effective
 implementation of the Act

Post event intervention is critical

- India maintains a sex offenders' list, accessible to police.(convicted for rape, gang rape, harassing women and POCSO)
- (US, the UK, Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and Trinidad and Tobago..)
- The United States is the only country where the sex offenders' database (names, addresses, photos) is available to the public.
- https://www.nsopw.gov/

Post event intervention is critical

First-Ever

TS mulls Sex Offenders Register

Move comes after the rape of a school student in Hyd; KTR agrees to take Prajwala founder's concept forward

STATE BUREAU HYDERABAD

A Sex Offenders Register is on the cards in the State, with Padma Shree awardee and Prajwala founder Sunitha Krishnan suggesting one and IT Minister KT Rama Rao agreeing to take the concept forward. Following the rape of a primary school student at a school in Banjara Hills, Krishnan tweeted the suggestion on Thursday, tagging Rama

"Can we set up a Sex Offenders Register for the State of Telangana of convicted offenders on the lines that exists in #USA which even the public can access for the purposes of recruitment etc. I am happy to submit a concept note based on research of 20 countries,"

The Minister responded immediately, agreeing to the idea. "Let's absolutely get it done. Please present the concept note and we will take it forward," he replied. It is not clear yet whether KEEPING TRACK CAN WE SET UP A SEX OFFENDERS SEX OFFENDERS REGISTER HAS A DATABASE OF OFFENDERS REGISTER FOR THE STATE OF CONVICTED UNDER CHARGES OF RAPE, GANG RAPE, PROTECTION **TELANGANA OF CONVICTED** OF CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL OFFENCES, AND EVE-TEASING OFFENDERS ON THE LINES THAT EXISTS IN #USA WHICH • The concept of a registry is to **EVEN THE PUBLIC CAN** safeguard women and children Repository ACCESS FOR THE PURPOSES also has OF RECRUITMENT ETC. I India is among countries including information about AM HAPPY TO SUBMIT A US, UK, Australia, Canada, Ireland, CONCEPT NOTE BASED ON New Zealand, South Africa, and those booked for Trinidad & Tobago, that maintain RESEARCH OF 20 COUNTRIES eve-teasing and such a list - SUNITHA KRISHNAN stalking Padma Shree awardee and Praiwala founder Registry includes details such as name, address, photograph, LET'S ABSOLUTELY fingerprint, DNA sample, PAN, and US is the only GET IT DONE. PLEASE Aadhaar numbers of sex offenders country where PRESENT THE CONCEPT the Sex Offender These details are stored NOTE AND WE WILL Registry is for at least 15 years TAKE IT FORWARD available to the Database profiles offenders under - KT RAMA RAO. public three categories - low danger; moderate danger; serious danger

would have names of people accused of sexual offences or those convicted. Following Sunitha Krishnan's suggestion, concerns were raised in replies to her tweet asking what would happen if the names of the accused were given and if the person was exonerated later. For the register in Telangana the unversed, the Sex Of-

fenders Register has a database of offenders convicted under charges of rape, gang rape, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences, and eve-teasing. The concept of a registry is to safeguard women and children. India is among countries including the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, and Trinidad & Tobago, that maintain such a list.

Details include

In the registry, details such as name, address, photograph, fingerprint, DNA sample, PAN, and Aadhaar numbers of sex offenders are stored for at least 15 years. Besides data on rape accused and convicts, the repository also has information about those booked for eve-teasing and stalking.

The database profiles offenders under three categories — those posing low danger to the community. moderate danger and serious danger. While a firsttime offender will see his name in the database for 15 years from the date of registration of the offence, it is 25 years for repeat offenders. People who are registered in offender databases are usually required to notify the government when they change their place of residence. However, access to this information will be limited to officers with requisite clearances.

Schools, colleges, and other organisations can use the database through law enforcement agencies for background checks. The United States is the only country where the Sex Offender Registry is available to the public.

Economic Participation and Opportunity

Women's labour market participation







Claudia Goldin Harvard University, USA "för att ha förbättrat vår förståelse av kvinnors arbetsmarknadsutfall"

"for having advanced our understanding of women's labour market outcomes"

- If women are treated unequally in the labor market, this is not only an equity concern, but also a matter of economic efficiency.
- Reducing the gender gap in employment and improving the allocation of female talent could thus lead to significant increases in global GDP.

 Scientific Background to the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2023, The Committee for the Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel India is ranked 127 out of 146 countries in the *Global Gender Gap Report 2023*.

Global Gender Gap Index benchmarks the current state and evolution of gender parity across 4 key dimensions:

- Economic Participation and Opportunity
- Educational Attainment
- Health and Survival
- Political Empowerment
- The Global Gender Gap Report 2023. World Economic Forum 2023.

- In the category for economic participation and opportunity category for women, Indian women's Labour-force participation rate (labour force as a percentage of the workingage population) is just 28.26%.
- Women's Labour-force participation rate for the top four economies: US-56%, China- 63%, Japan-54%, Germany-55%.

- Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- 9 Targets
- 14 Indicators
- Target 5.4: Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate
- Indicator 5.4.1: Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location

- 5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
- **5.2** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
- **5.3** Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation
- **5.4** Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate
- **5.5** Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decisionmaking in political, economic and public life
- 5.6 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences
- **5.A** Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws
- **5.B** Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women
- **5.C** Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels

- Unpaid domestic work refers to activities including food and meals management preparation, cleaning and maintaining of own dwelling and surroundings,, do-it-yourself decoration, maintenance and repair of personal and household goods, care and maintenance of textiles and footwear, household management, pet care, shopping for own household and family members and travel related to previous listed unpaid domestic services.
- Unpaid care work refers to activities related to childcare and instruction,, care of the sick, elderly, or disabled household and family members, and travel related to these unpaid caregiving services..

India, aiming to achieve economic growth cannot afford women staying out of the workforce.

Martin Raiser, World Bank's VP for South Asia, shared four key factors for India to become a high-income country by 2047:

- Continue investment in Human Capital
- Increase Female Labour Force participation
- Improve business climate to attract more private investment, including FDI
- Accelerate climate action initiatives to build resilience & advance India's economic growth & development

Link between economic poverty and time poverty

- a very close link
- the provision of early childhood education services (SDG 4) not only prepares children for primary education but also frees up time for their caregivers
- and the lack of services such as drinkable water, electricity or transport infrastructure increases unpaid work time and disproportionately affects women

- Time poverty is one key concern that pulls back women from pursuing active careers. Indian women have to spend 13.2 hours a week on cooking, whereas South Korean women spend just 3.7 hours per week.
- India's first *Time Use Survey* reveals more distressing statistics: 81% of women devote 5 hours per day in unpaid domestic services for household members. To be precise, 75% of women (of the age 6 years above) devote 204 minutes per day for food and meals management and preparation.
- This burden of unpaid work creates "time poverty", which inhibits women's ability to dedicate time to paid work and acquire the skills necessary to seek better job opportunities.

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION

Effective tool in containing crimes against women & children

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION

- Study the <u>hand-out on BIT.</u>
- Discuss participants' experiences and opinions in the light of BIT perspective

Video

Effective and safe bystander Intervention

- Observe/ Notice & Assess the situation
- Interpret as a problem that requires intervention
- (Recognize the signs or pre-empt the situation when it is about to get violent; Judgment about when to get involved and type of action needed)
- Distract attention-Ignore perpetrator
- Disrupt the situation address victim/ as if you know ..
- Delegate-Involve other bystanders known/ unknown
- Document the situation (Imp: Confidentiality)
- Practical and safe intervening techniques

Effective and safe bystander Intervention

...TIME... (DCPO)

How Accessible are you?

(AWT)

A Word or two will do

(Brahma Dutt)

Have you...

... ever been in a situation where you have been a bystander & something problematic has happened?

Did you.....
Intervene? (active)
... Not intervene?
(passive)
Discuss...

Imagine...

You are in deep sleep at midnight You suddenly hear loud noise from a neighbourhood house ...crying... shouting in distress ..

What would be your response? What are the thoughts occurring in your mind...

Discuss...

Constraints / barriers preventing a bystander from intervening

- Danger/ safety of the individual
- Courage
- Inertia physical & psychological
- Lack of empathy
- Lack of tools or equipment to prevent the crime (eg.CAW)
- Ambiguity in assessment of the situation/ of the need for help
- Fear of legal implications
- Time...paucity

Knowing is Winning:

- Bystander effect Diffusion of responsibility (story on king-milk-village-drought)
- Pluralistic Ignorance/ Social Influence (story the Emperor's new clothes)
- Fear of disapproval/ contempt by/for other bystanders ..discouraged by presence of other bystanders (vs. saving the world) vs. Moral Courage

Bystander Effect

- Whole crowd to wait for someone else to act
- Everyone assumes that someone else will step in and help
- Courage to be the first to respond
 Once crossed, everyone intervenes..

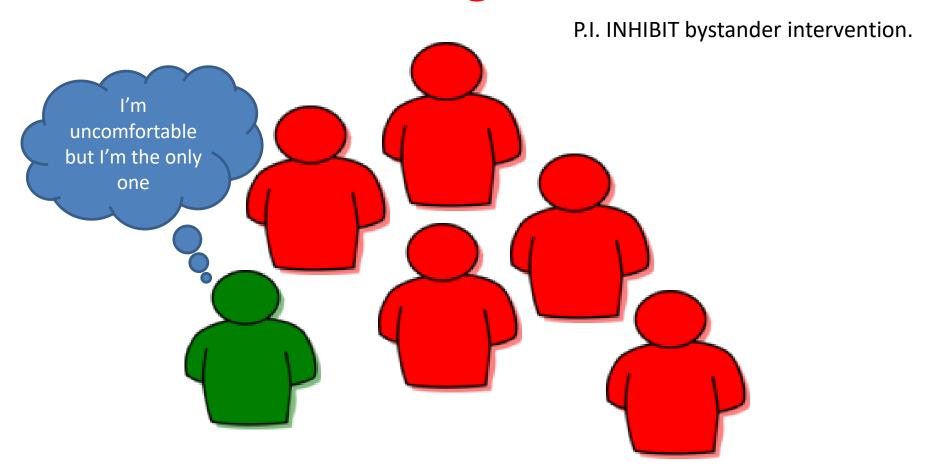
Ashrin Sultana

https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/hyderabadnagaraju-and-syed-ashrin-fathima-hindu-mankilled-in-public-in-hyderabad-allegedly-by-muslimwifes-family-2948248

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https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x8amd4j

Pluralistic Ignorance



Teaching Empathy

- How early we can start teaching Empathy?
- Good training has an important role: <u>Video</u>

What about Hyd Metro?

- https://youtube.com/watch?v=k2SnTrDVGu8 &feature=share
- Video shared by Ms Deepika, MSK

Break Stereotypes

Respect- breaking stereotypes

• Father-2

THANK YOU!

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