



Gender Inequality and Crime in India: A Subnational Analysis

Ravinder Kumar, Ph.D. Scholar, Department of Social Work
Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh, INDIA
Ambreen Jamali, Ph.D., Sarojini Naidu Center for Women's Studies
Jamia Milia Islamia University, New Delhi, Delhi, INDIA

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



Authors

Ravinder Kumar, Ph.D. Scholar
Ambreen Jamali, Ph.D.
E-mail : rk8350925145@gmail.com

shodhsamagam1@gmail.com

Received on : 25/05/2024
Revised on : 18/07/2024
Accepted on : 27/07/2024
Overall Similarity : 09% on 19/07/2024



Plagiarism Checker X - Report
Originality Assessment

Overall Similarity: **9%**

Date: Jul 19, 2024

Statistics: 155 words Plagiarized / 1776 Total words

Remarks: Low similarity detected, check with your supervisor if changes are required.

ABSTRACT

In India, all genders have a basic human right to gender equality. Inequality is a result of the socially constructed roles and responsibilities that our society attributes to men and women according to their gender. In India, gender equality means that everyone has the same power and opportunities, yet girls and boys mostly suffer gender inequity in their homes and communities. Violence against women is rising daily as a result of inequality and is motivated by prejudice. On a global basis, violence against women and girls is a major problem. Gender inequality was not only the root cause of violence against women; it is also one of its effects. The primary issue that first emerged on the gender-based violence front as well gender-related killing. We will explore in this research paper how women are not treated fairly because of their gender in the office or in any other workplace. The researcher used the descriptive method with the help of a literature review, such as books, journals, and other research papers, to execute our research. In the present, Gender imbalance and crimes targeting women are frequently observed. In this research, an effort is made to demonstrate how these issues are becoming more pervasive in society. Researchers know the actual situation of women affected by domestic violence and also want to know about equal pay and equal work for women.

KEY WORDS

Inequality, Women, Violence, Gender.

INTRODUCTION

It is not a recent phenomenon that women and sexual minorities experience disproportionately high

levels of violence. Due to its pervasiveness, it evades even the most advanced legal and legislative frameworks set up to manage it. Despite major efforts to address the issue at the national and international levels, gender-based violence has multiplied over the past ten years. GBV underlines the incapacity to provide people with even the most basic sense of protection and safety, as stated by the international discourse on human rights, in addition to being a symptom of a profoundly unequal patriarchal social order. The UNHCR defines gender-based violence as “harmful acts directed at a person based on their gender. Its primary causes are negative social standards, power abuse, and gender injustice. GBV is a serious violation of human rights as well as a risk to one’s health and safety. Intimate relationship abuse, sexual assault, marriage among children, female genital mutilation, and honor killings are just a few examples of violent actions with long-lasting repercussions. Women and girls are disproportionately impacted by GVB, even if individuals who don’t adhere to heteronormative sexual behavior norms and those who identify as other genders are increasingly afflicted.

Violence Against Women in India

India presents a very concerning scenario when it comes to gender-based violence. Its highly patriarchal underpinnings and the state’s ineffective approach to counteracting its influence throughout the nation are unsettling. India’s response to this phenomenon is frequently haphazard and out of proportion. The legislative and policy framework in place in the nation to address the disproportionate degree of violence experienced by women is overcome by the cultural and social factors of the nation. Along the lines of class, caste, religion, and ethnicity, this violence spreads even more. In India, gender-based violence can take many different forms, including high levels of domestic violence, dowry deaths, human trafficking, sexual assaults, and many other forms. According to the National Crime Records Bureau’s Crimes in India Report, crimes against women increased by 7.3% between 2018 and 2019. Domestic abuse cases made up an astounding 30.9% of all instances, and rape cases made up 7.9%. According to the research, there were 33.2% more crimes committed against women than men. This is a significant figure, and it is reinforced by the global narrative that 35% of women have experienced physical or sexual assault from an intimate or non-intimate partner. One in every three women is a victim of gender-based violence. However, it is important to keep in mind that these examples only represent the groups of women who use the systems for seeking redress; there is a large portion of gender-based violence that goes unreported.

Gender-Based Violence

Gender-based violence is defined as aggression towards individuals motivated by the victim’s gender. It is caused by bad norms, authority abuse, and gender inequity. Gender-based violence is a severe human rights issue as well as a threat to people’s health and safety.

Gender Inequality

Gender equality is the adoption of any profession, way of life, or talent by people of all genders without regard to their gender. There is no gender-based restriction on their rights, opportunities, or access to society. Not everyone must be treated equally in order for there to be gender equality. Their different desires and goals are equally valued. Because of this, talks on gender equity and gender equality often take place at the same time. Since men have traditionally been regarded favorably by society, they have a number of advantages. As disparities are closed by equity, women and other groups can “catch up” to men. Equality must triumph over prejudice and societal inequalities in order to become a reality.

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence occurs when an individual who is part of the victim’s family commits a violent act. This includes your current and former spouses, direct family members, in-laws, and close relatives. When an abuser and the victim have a close relationship, the word “domestic violence” is used.

Review of Literature

Much research, including analytical and comparative studies, has been done on the subject in the current area of inquiry, which has been taken up by a variety of researchers. Different researchers and academics have discussed the topic's many facets. The researcher has reviewed a variety of works of literature to analyze the issue for the present study.

Sharma and Gupta (2004) in a study titled "Gender-based Violence in India: A Never-Ending Phenomenon" both mainly focus on religious beliefs, cultural practices, long-standing prejudices, and other factors that have made Indian women exploitable and subordinate in many spheres of life. Due to low rates of educational participation, a lack of economic independence, biases that work against them, and other factors, women are dependent on men and other institutions of authority such as the family, neighborhood, and society. Even if they knew their rights, they sometimes do not have easy access to the legal system.

Pirlott and Russo (2006) Mention that the main subjects of Russo and Pirlott's study, "Gender-based Violence- Concepts, Methods, and Findings," are the theoretical aspects of gender, its construct, and violence. It illustrates how violence, sexuality, gender, and power are related. It describes the challenges faced by scholars attempting to study intimate relationship violence. It raises awareness of media influences that frequently minimize the experiences of sexual assault victims by misrepresenting them in plays and films and implying that they consciously chose to be sexually assaulted.

Ramakrishnan (2019) a study titled "Victimization of Women by Sexual Harassment at Workplaces in India: An Overview," Ramakrishnan focuses on the factual elements of the subject as well as the culture of victimization of women in sexual harassment cases and the effects it has, to which the government should pay special attention in addition to NGOs.

Research Objectives

1. To find out the impact of family violence on the social growth of adolescents from joint and nuclear families.
2. To find out the impact of domestic violence on the social maturity of adolescents from joint-family and nuclear-family homes.

Research Methodology

The descriptive method was utilized by the researcher.

Descriptive research is a sort of analysis that outlines the characteristics or issues of the population under study. This descriptive methodology focuses on the "what" of the research problem rather than the "why."

The descriptive research method, rather than focusing on "why" an event occurs, concentrates on identifying the nature of a demographic segment. In other words, it "describes" the subject of the investigation without explaining "why" it occurs.

Qualitative Research

Qualitative research is gathering and evaluating qualitative information (including text, video, or audio) in order to better comprehend concepts, opinions, or experiences. It can be utilized to gain in-depth insights into a topic or generate novel research ideas generate novel ideas for research.

Qualitative research is the opposite of quantitative research, which involves collecting and analyzing numerical data for statistical analysis. Method of data collection:

The researcher used secondary data for research i.e., books, journals, newspapers, articles, etc.

Suggestion

Many people are impacted by gender-based discrimination in different ways. Here are some ideas for

resolving and eliminating discrimination based on gender:

- **Fighting Gender-based Prejudice Requires Education:** Lessons on discrimination against women and men should be taught in schools and colleges. This will support raising awareness of the problem and motivating others to act.
- **Campaigns for Public Awareness:** Public awareness campaigns can aid in bringing up the subject of discrimination based on gender. Social media, billboards, posters, and other types of media can be used for these initiatives.
- **Encourage Reporting:** Employers should encourage workers to report instances of discrimination based on gender. This can be accomplished by developing a secure and private reporting mechanism where staff members can divulge incidents without fear of retaliation.
- Regular training on gender-based discrimination should be offered to employees by their employers. These courses ought to cover topics like what constitutes discrimination, how to spot it, and how to handle it.
- Employers need to have rules and processes that specifically forbid discrimination based on gender in place. All staff members should be informed of these rules, and they should be upheld consistently.
- **Support Groups:** People who have been subjected to gender-based discrimination can benefit from support groups. Employers, neighborhood groups, or governmental organizations can develop these networks.
- **Legal Action:** Gender-based discrimination is illegal, and violators can be held accountable through the legal system. Discrimination victims may seek legal advice and lodge a complaint with the appropriate authorities.

CONCLUSION

Domestic violence has a high chance of causing maladjustment problems, anti-social conduct, delinquency, and substance abuse in adolescents. According to several researchers, the most significant difference between delinquent and nondelinquent kids is a history of family violence or abuse. If a student indicates domestic abuse, consider involving the school psychiatrist, a social worker, a school counselor, and/or the school's administration. Although the circumstances of each case vary, teachers and other school workers are expected to report suspicions of child abuse to the local child protection agency. Contact with the local police department may also be required in some circumstances. This subnational study of India showed that there is a complicated connection between crime and gender disparity. Gender-based crimes have alarmingly increased even as overall crime rates have declined. The results cast doubt on the notion that advancements in gender equality inevitably led to a decrease in violence against women. It's interesting to see that states with moderate inequality had the greatest rates of crimes based on gender. This implies that more than one inequality metric is involved. To fully investigate these nuances, more research is required. Investigations on the influence of certain laws intended to empower women, the function of social norms, and the efficacy of law enforcement are all possible. We can address gender disparity and make India a safer place for everyone by going deeper into these areas and developing more focused solutions.

REFERENCES

1. Allport, F.H.(1924). *Social psychology*, Houghton Mifflin Co., New York, p. 17-26.
2. DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.
3. Ganley, A. (1989) *Integrating feminist and social learning analyses of aggression: Creating multiple models for intervention with men who battered*. In P. Caesar & L. Hamberger (Eds.), *Treating men who batter*, Newyork, p. 196-235.

4. Kilpatrick, D.; Saunders, B. (1997) *Prevalence and Consequences of Child*, US Department of Justice, p. 1-113.
5. National Institute of Justice. NCJ 181028.
6. Osofsky, J.D. (Ed.) (1997) *Children in a violent society*, Guilford Press, New York, p. 1-83.
7. Ramakrishnan, D. (2019). Victimization of Women by sexual harassment at Workplaces in India: An Overview. *Journal of Xi'a University of Agriculture and Technology*, Volume 55 Issue 6, p. 12.
8. Russo, N. F., & Pirlott, A. (2006). Gender-based violence: concepts, methods, and findings. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, p. 1087, 178–205. <https://doi.org/10.1196/annals.1385.024>, Assess on 10/05/2024
9. Terr, L. (1991). Childhood trauma: An outline and overview. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 148, 10-20.ork: Springer, p. 10-20.
10. Thornberry, T. (1994). Violent families and youth violence. Fact Sheet #21. Washington,
11. Victimization: Results from the National Survey of Adolescents, Final Report. Research in Brief. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs.
