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## **ABDUCTION OF XX GENDERS FOR SENSUALITY: A REALISTIC SURVEY IN VIRUDHUNAGAR**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This article highlights the abduction of xx genders for sensuality with particular reference to Virudhunagar District, the motivations behind it, the available legislations to curb it, the crime against women in Virudhunagar District, the after effect of it and the suggestions to remove this social crime. Rape is the most heinous of all crimes committed against women and the damage caused due to this is irreparable. It not only ruins the life of the victimized woman but also affects the family as a whole. It is therefore necessary to look at this crime from a broader perspective. It is a problem of criminal violence, a social problem of human welfare and a social issue of changing woman's status in family and society. It is perceived as pernicious to the welfare of the society in general and women in particular.

**Key words:** Abduction, Custodial Rape, Gang Rape, Sex gratification

### **INTRODUCTION**

According to the 2011 census of India, Indian population is increased to 1.21 billion. For every 1000 males 940 females are there. Women are the best creature endowed with many

virtues by nature. In patriarchal and man dominated societies they were never accorded due status of equality and recognition. The woman has a deliberate faculty but it is without

authority. “Authority and responsibility are like the bow and arrow, the hammer and anvil, man and woman each useless without the other”<sup>[1]</sup> The male is by nature superior and the female inferior the one rules and the other is ruled. A woman feels insecure in the male dominated world.

Violence against women is widespread. It occurs within the home or in the wider community and affects women disproportionately. Women are vulnerable to violence in all stages of their life. Violence against women is a manifestation of the social, psychological and economic subordination of women. Crimes such as rape, dowry, immoral trafficking, kidnapping and abduction, molestation, eve teasing, indecent representation etc. are directed against women. The focus of this paper is on Rape, a crime against humanity with the reported cases obtained from the Crime Records Bureau for the years 2001 to 2010 for all the taluks in Virudhunagar District.

## **POSITION OF WOMEN**

The women who represented nearly one half of the population of the Indian society played a role and contributed to socio-economic, cultural and political development of the

country. But their roles and contributions could not be recognised, because it was a male dominated society. The large chunk of women population entangled themselves with all sorts of social evils was also denied of education and property inheritance rights. Despite this a handful of elite and royal women by making use of scarce opportunities, proved their mettle worth as women in all the stately and societal activities in Ancient India.

The Medieval India of 9<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century, the influence of alien culture and the development of composite culture had a bearing on the role, contribution and on the changing attitudes of women during the period but the position of the womenfolk in general had remained more or less same as in the past. They were slated for spicy role in the society.

The initiative and heroism shown by Indian women during freedom struggle opened the eyes of many Indian leaders. While participating they felt a sense of equality with men and they were able to realise their own dignity and worth as human beings.<sup>[2]</sup>

Since 1960's the issue of domestic violence against women which was confined within the four

walls has now become a public issue. This is because of the growing awareness amongst women of their rights and the need for protection from exploitation. The Constitution of India guarantees fundamental rights to all its citizens. The Preamble of the Constitution resolves to secure Justice, social, economic and political, Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship, Equality of status and of opportunity and to promote among them all Fraternity assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the nation.<sup>[3]</sup>

The Rome Statute Explanatory Memorandum which defines the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court recognises rape as crime against humanity. Rape is committed not only by the breakers of law, but also by the protectors of law. Those who are expected to protect the life and liberty of the people are themselves involved in this crime. There have been a number of cases where policemen have raped women. Gang rapes by individuals and even by policemen are well known. Rape is a type of sexual assault which is initiated by one or more persons against another person without that person's consent. There are several types of rape,

generally categorised by reference to the situation in which it occurs.<sup>[4]</sup>

## **MOTIVES IN RAPES**

Most people don't know much about why humans have the desires, emotions and values that they have, including those that cause rape. This is because most people lack any understanding of the ultimate causes of why humans are the way they are. This lack of understanding has severely limited people's knowledge of the exact proximate causes of rape, thus limiting the ability of concerned people to change the behaviour. The causes examined here refer to single rape and not to group rape because group rape needs psychoanalytical and sociological explanations and an analysis of criminal partnership and criminal companionship.<sup>[5]</sup>

- In majority of cases, this includes those offenders who commit sexual offences because of the favourable opportunities they got. Occasionally, sexual attack on the part of the rapist may merely be the outcome of an opportunity he gets for sex gratification.
- Finding the girl unprotected, he criminally assaulted her. In these cases, the offenders had not

planned the rapes, but when they noticed a young girl/ woman, they had an urge to have sexual relations with her. Apart from their sexual attacks, these offenders had not been living a life of crime.

- Caste and communal violence mostly target the women. Dishonouring women is the most accepted norm of taking revenge on specified castes and communities.

- A few of the assaulters had such an attitude of hate and hostility towards women and their rape attempt could be said to be primarily directed towards the humiliation of the victim.

- Some of the rapes occur after drinking when the offenders are intoxicated and in a widely excited and belligerent state of mind scarcely understanding the consequences of their actions. Drugs and alcohol are directly involved in crime against women. Alcohol related sex crimes illustrate a reckless disregard of time and circumstances.

- Poverty is linked to both the perpetration of sexual violence and the risk of being a victim of it.

- Major disasters, particularly where safe spaces, privacy, and access to justice are minimized and destroyed, can play a key role in increasing rates of sexual violence.

- Sometimes the victim of sex crime, by her relationship to the offender and by her behaviour which is often unconscious, creates the situation of her victimization.

- The sources of misunderstanding between men and women that sometimes results in male sexual aggression also requires due attention.

- The increasing criminalisation of society, media images of violence, inadequate means to address the causes and consequences of violence, unabashed consumerism and erosion of traditional values have all added to it.

- Lack of gender sensitisation is one of the maladies that plagues our society, and is indirectly one of the causes for this rise in violence against women.

- Lack of evidence, lack of guidance, loopholes in existing laws is some of the factors for the rise in violence against women.<sup>[6]</sup>

However the rapists who commit rapes in pairs or in groups are definitely men who are qualitatively and psychologically different from other men – abnormal and perverts. As regards the victims, most of them are from socially vulnerable groups, illiterate and from financially weaker sections of society.

**RAPE CASES IN VIRUDHUNAGAR DISTRICT**

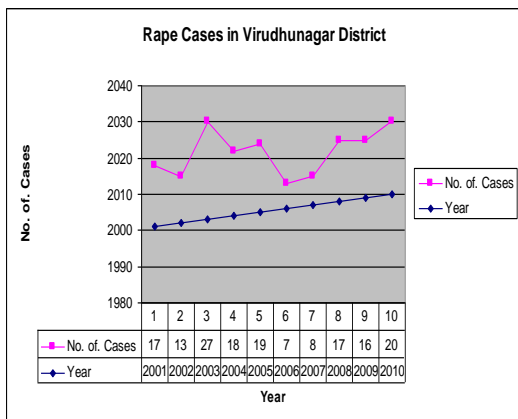
Virudhunagar District is an administrative district of Tamil Nadu state in southern India. Virudhunagar is the district headquarters. Virudhunagar district was formed by the separation of Old Ramanathapuram District on 1987 into Ramanathapuram District, Sivagangai District and the west part as Virudhunagar District. Virudhunagar District was formerly called Karmavirer Kamarajar District. In 1997 its name has been changed into Virudhunagar District. The district is bounded by Sivagangai district and Madurai district on the north, Tirunelveli district and Tuticorin District to the south and Ramanathapuram District on east and Kerala state to the west and Theni district to the northwest. The District is divided into six taluks namely Virudhunagar, Sattur, Sivakasi, Srivilliputtur, Rajapalayam, and

Aruppukottai. As of 2011, Virudhunagar district had a population of 1,942,288 with a sex-ratio of 1,007 females for every 1,000 males.<sup>[7]</sup>

The study tries to explain the crime against women in Virudhunagar District from 2001-2010. The reported rape cases obtained from the District Crime Records Bureau for the years 2001 to 2010 are given below for all the taluks in Virudhunagar District. However, it is important to note that the figures given in the table represent only the number of cases reported, but in reality, the number is more than that. This is because a large number of cases are not reported due to the social stigma attached to it.

<b>Year</b>	<b>No. of Cases</b>
2001	17
2002	13
2003	27
2004	18
2005	19
2006	07
2007	08
2008	17
2009	16
2010	20

[8]



**FINDINGS**

Victims and victimizers in sexual violence are not always strangers to each other but in a large number of cases, the victims are known to their assailants. The risk of victimization by criminal assault is highest for unmarried girls; married males are a greater threat to unmarried girls. Sex gratification is not always the main or important motive in sex offences. Some rapes are for hostility, revenge, causing harm and for dominance. Sexual assault is predominantly a situational act. In only one out of ten cases is rape a planned event. In a large number of cases, rape is one- to-one forced sexual relationship. Pair and group rape cases or multiple offender victimization account for only four out of every ten cases. Non- physical violence like temptation and verbal coercion is more

frequently used than physical violence to subdue rape victims. Lack of gender sensitization is one of the maladies that plague our society. Media images of violence- not only movies but also TV serials and advertisements, it is common to portray women as sex objects. Lack of evidence, lack of guidance loopholes in the existing laws are some of the factors for the increase in violence.

**SUGGESTIONS**

To prevent woman’s abuse and exploitation, to tackle the various crimes against women and for dealing with female depersonalization trauma, the following measures can be suggested.

- Socially redefining patriarchal norms and removing gender bias.
- Change in women’s values.
- Strengthening women organisations.
- Adopting humanistic approach to victims.
- Changing the criminal justice system.
- Establishing taluks level machinery to deal with this problem.

- A massive education programme to teach the society equality between men and women.

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