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### Reality of women status in Indian society: A study of Patna District in Bihar

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#### Abstract

In this paper the author focuses on the more insidious and routine forms of sexual harassment women have to deal with when they step into the Bihar to earn a livelihood or take part in social, political and educational activities. The segment of society chosen is university students and teachers from middle class. Real life experiences have been recounted which show how men use aggressive sexual encounters to maintain dominance and control and how and why women are forced to suffer such behavior. Steps towards protecting women from sexual harassment are suggested, to bring a meaningful change in women's currently powerless and vulnerable position. An aggregate sample of about 150 women (15-49 years) was selected for this study. In this study discussion based on primary data and purposive sampling. A schedule was administered to the selected women to obtain information about their problem. Conducted by on the interview on different opinion, who the women lived in Patna district of Bihar. The aim of this paper is to discuss the main hurdles and possible solution concerning protect the women in the underdeveloped district of Bihar. The Report point out that the problems are particularly acute in women dignity.

**Keywords:** Sexual harassment, women exploitation, patriarchal society

#### 1. Introduction

In the Indian modern country is fast emerging as a global power but for half of its population, the women across the country, struggle to live life with dignity continues. Women, irrespective of their class, caste and educational status, are not safe In the modern society women have been the victims of exploitations since long time in different fields in their life both physically, socially, mentally and economically. There are several causes of sexual as well as moral abuse which are very often highlighted by the media in Indian modern society, and a lot of those also remain unexplored. Although, such violence against women, sexual harassment, and exploitation to women is not of recent origin, its trace is found in the history of ancient India. Women are facing problems in every sphere of life whether employment, access to health care or property rights. India is fast developing but women's in India continue to be discriminated. They are victims of crime directed specifically at them, rape, dowry-related crimes, sexual harassment, eve-teasing, etc. It is realized that the long run supremacy of male over female in all respect in the patriarchal society in India is highly responsible for arresting the empowerment of women. Crimes against women occur every minute; every day and throughout the year, though several such crimes go unreported. According to National Crimes Records Bureau, Government of India, there were over 32,000 murders, 19,000 rapes, 7,500 dowry deaths and 36,500 molestation cases are the violent crimes against women during 2006. While Madhya Pradesh is worst off among the states, the national capital New Delhi continues to remain the most unsafe city in India. It is a sad reflection on the country's law and order situation when its capital is a cauldron of crime. Delhi seems to be going down the slide year after year. For instance while the national crime rate declined by a negligible 0.02 % in 2006 Delhi's rate grew to 357.2 more than double the national average of 167.7. Rape is the fastest growing crime in the country today and as many as 18 women are assaulted in some form or the other every hour across India. Over the last few months cases of rapes and assault have made it to the headlines with alarming frequency.

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Recent news of Gang Rape in New Delhi 23 Year Old Woman was raped by 6 people in a Moving Bus in New Delhi in December, 2012. UN Women in India stresses the urgent need to promote and protect the safety of women and girls in India. Every girl and woman should be able to live safely and free of violence. According to NCRB data -2016, majority of cases under crimes against women were reported under ‘Cruelty by Husband or His Relatives’ (32.6%) followed by ‘Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty’ (25.0%), ‘Kidnapping & Abduction of Women’ (19.0%) and ‘Rape’ (11.5%) at all India level. According to NCRB data-2018, majority of cases under crimes against women out of total IPC crimes against women were registered under ‘Cruelty by Husband or His Relatives’ (31.9%) followed by ‘Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty’ (27.6%), ‘Kidnapping & Abduction of Women’ (22.5%) and ‘Rape’ (10.3%). The crime rate per lakh women population is 58.8 in 2018 in comparison with 57.9 in 2017 at all India level. According to NCRB data-2020, a total of 3, 71,503 cases of crime against women were registered during 2020, showing a decline of 8.3% over 2019 (4,05,326 cases). Majority of cases under crime against women under IPC were registered under ‘Cruelty by Husband or His Relatives’ (30.0%) followed by ‘Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty’ (23.0%), ‘Kidnapping & Abduction of

Women’ (16.8%) and ‘Rape’ (7.5%). The crime rate registered per lakh women population is 56.5 in 2020 in comparison with 62.3 in 2019 at all India level.

**2. Objective of this study**

- To understand the different forms of women exploitation in present society.
- To examine the responsible condition of women exploitation and how women are facing this problems in day-to-day life.

**3. Methodology**

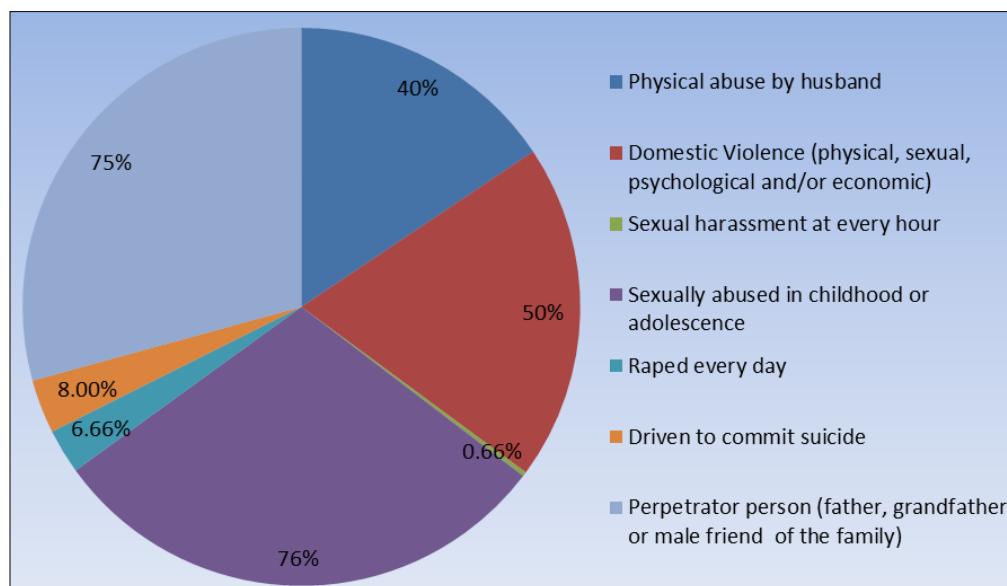
A Purposive sampling method was worked for the selection of the sample. A sample of 150 married women who was the age between 15-49 years from the division of Patna district of Bihar. This study was based on primary data and analysis was conducted the find out that the report by interview. A schedule was administer to the selected women to obtain information about their problems towards sexual harassment. The evaluation was how and why women are forced to suffer such behavior, and Steps towards protecting women from sexual harassment conducted by on the interview on different opinion related to sexual harassment, who the women lived in Patna district of Bihar.

**4. Result**

**Table 1:** Violence against women with number and percent

Sl.	Violence against Women (VAW)	Number	Percent
1	Physical abuse by husband	60	40 %
2	Domestic Violence (physical, sexual, psychological and/or economic)	75	50 %
3	Sexual harassment at every hour	1	0.66 %
4	Sexually abused in childhood or adolescence	114	76 %
5	Raped every day	10	6.66 %
6	Driven to commit suicide	12	8.00 %
7	Perpetrator person (father, grandfather or male friend of the family)	50	75 %

Source: Estimated from field data where (N=150)



Source: Estimated from field data

**Chart 1:** Showing the result in percent where N=150

**5. Discussion**

All forms of violence against women, physical and mental, whether at domestic or societal levels, including those arising from customs, traditions or accepted practices shall be dealt with effectively with a view to eliminate its incidence. Institutions and mechanisms/schemes for assistance will be created and strengthened for prevention of such violence,

including sexual harassment at work place and customs like dowry; for the rehabilitation of the victims of violence and for taking effective action against the perpetrators of such violence. According to survey Working women are often subject to sexual harassment even while going to work in the over-crowded public transport system. At the work-place, a working woman experiences sexual harassment from

colleagues and her higher officers. The latter may often prove difficult to shake off, when the job is very important for the woman. When a woman is praised for her work or promoted on merit, her advancement is often attributed to sexual favors. While discussing on result from table and chart we found that out of 150 women 40% reported physical abuse by husband, 50% reported domestic violence (physical, sexual, psychological and/or economic, 0.66 reported sexual harassment at every hour, 76% reported sexually abused in childhood or adolescence, 6.66% reported women raped every day, 8% reported women driven to commit suicide and 75% reported that main perpetrator of these crimes are father, grandfather or male friend of the family. Physical abuse, domestic violence and sexually abused in childhood or adolescence period were mostly reported by women and main offender behind these crimes were find as male member of family, relative or friend. Thus it can be said female child or women should be given knowledge of good touch or bad touch. So they can save themselves from these crimes occurred on her.

The sexual violence experienced by women and adolescent girls has serious health consequences. Many societies blame the victim of sexual violence, particularly when the victim is a woman or girl. The resulting social rejection reinforces feelings of shame, guilt, loneliness and depression. Victims of gender-based violence may feel overcome with terror, experience a sense of powerlessness, worthlessness, apathy and denial. In some societies, the stigma attached to sexual violation leads to ostracism and isolation. Husbands or family members may shun women or girls who acknowledge that they were raped. Ostracism may also occur in societies that maintain certain myths about survivors of gender-based violence.

## 6. Conclusion

The Constitution of India not only grants equality to women but also empowers the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favour of women for neutralizing the cumulative socio-economic, education and political disadvantages faced by them. Though the constitution has provided equality of both the sexes man and women but biological condition of the female and developed sense of subordination demand extra protection for them. The reason is that "women's physical structure and the performance of certain functions place her at a disadvantage in the struggle for subsistence and her physical well-being becomes an object of public interest and care in order to preserve the strength and vigor of the race". Thus the law and justice demands additional privileges and safeguards for maintaining proper socio- legal status of women in the society.

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