

# A Study on Determinants and Types of Sexual Violence

Ashish Kumar<sup>1\*</sup> Dr. Nilesh Sharma<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Research Scholar, Rabindranath Tagore University, Bhopal

<sup>2</sup> Rabindranath Tagore University, Bhopal

**Abstract – Sexual violence implies that without your agreement someone else pushes or manipulates others into undesired sexual interaction. Some people may not agree to reasons that may include fear, age, disease, handicap, and/or alcohol or other medicines. Either child, adolescents, and adults, or elderly, may suffer sexual violence. Those that abuse sexually may be families, trusted persons, or strangers. In this study we have discussed about the determinants of sexual violence, types of sexual violence with women, different types of sexual violence which is concluded that the best way to eradicate sexual harassment at work is via prevention.**

**Keywords – Sexual Violence, Harassment, Determinants, Types**

-----X-----

## INTRODUCTION

The term violence derives from the Latin word vis, which means force and refers to the notions of constraint and using physical superiority on the other person. At present time there has been a shocking decline in moral values all around the World and India is not an exception to it. Now India is facing proliferation in Violence against Women. Violence against women is present across the world cutting across boundaries of culture, class, education, income, ethnicity, and age. Violence against women does not simply refer to the physical violence which a woman has to bear, but also verbal abuse, emotional torture, economic deprivation, and social disregard. No woman is born to be treated inhumanly and to be deprived of her right to life.

Violence against women also takes place every day, and in very specific mundane forms. Acts of abuse like eve-teasing, molestation, sexual abuse, domestic violence, and rape have become very common forms of offenses that are reported almost every day. It is also pertinent to consider that any form of violence, whether verbal or physical, may be forced against a woman either by a stranger or by people who are known to them. There have been many instances where the suspected offenders are either family members themselves, or relatives, or even family friends. Considering such circumstances, it will not be wrong to presume that a woman is not safe in today's time even at her own home.

"Every female from nine months to ninety years is at risk," tells Pauline Bart and Patricia O'Brien (1985).

Women face physical and/or mental Violence during every stage of their life cycle- before birth they are condemned to sex selection and female feticide; during infant and childhood stage they are subject to infanticide or undernourishment; if they do manage to pass the age of five, they are neglected in medical care and education as well as subjected to sexual or physical violence; in adolescence and adulthood, they are faced with situations of early marriage, early pregnancy, sexual violence, domestic violence, harassment for dowry, desertion, dying during deliveries and as older women and widows condemned to a life of desertion and neglect, etc.

## DETERMINANTS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Recent inter-cultural studies on family violence and rape based on data from ninety societies around the world indicate that four factors together constitute strong predictors of violence against women in society: i) economic inequality between men and women; (ii) the use of physical conflict resolution violence; (iii) male authority, decision-making control; and (iv) the restriction of the use of physical violence

Apart from the four main predictors, these and other auxiliary variables in society are multiplied and eventually lead to violent sex-related events for women. Failure to address a few of the main causes of sexual violence: –

### 1) Unequal Power Relation in Society

The most important Determinant for sexual violence is the historically rooted inequality of power relation

between men and women. Violence is not a natural or biological phenomenon rather it is a product of the unequal power equations in society. Sexual violence mirrors gender inequalities and reflects other forms of social inequalities.

The direct consequence of economic disparities is that women, who earn less than men, are not likely to advance to positions of authority and power, hence women remain excluded from the control of the knowledge system and its discourse.

## 2) Cultural Practices and Ideology

The violence that stems from uneven power between men and women may also involve regular damage excused or exempted by customs, tradition, religion, etc. Many cultures endorse a certain level of violence towards women or at least accept it. One example of violence promoted and perpetuated by cultural and religious traditions is the Devadasi system and female genital mutilations. Another important antecedent for sexual assault against women is this societal devaluing of women.

## 3) Control of Women's Sexuality

The regulation of women's sexual activity, which emphasizes women's chastity, is a key focus of several legislation codes. Such control over sexual activity ensures the paternity of time of a kid born to the lady which is very essential to ensure that the legacy of the successor is guaranteed. Violence is frequently used as a tool for controlling sexual conduct.

Visualizing women only as sexual being reduces them to a sexual object, and the first step to make women an acceptable target of abuse is this inhumanity and objective.

## 4) Women as an Object of Pleasure

Man's supremacy in each system prevailed and women were seen as an object of pleasure. The woman was and still is considered a possession that may be dispensed with at any moment. In contemporary times, the tendency was prevalent and ladies were exploited for advertising and their attractiveness.

## DIFFERENT TYPES OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Here we have some types of sexual violence.

### 1. Child Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse of children (CSA) is considered as an action intended at giving an adult, who utilizes a minor for this reason, sexual pleasure, stimulus, or sexual fulfillment in the interests of the situation of superiority. CSA may have severe consequences on the child. Previous studies have shown that individuals with a

CSA episode conduct more hazardous sexual activity and are more likely to have further episodes of sexual victimization in teens and early childhood. Thus, the connection between CSA, sexual behavior, and adult revictimization may assist to explain although they provide incomplete views: the trauma-genetic dynamic model and the model of information-motivation-compliance.

In many instances, child sexual abuse has catastrophic impacts on the life of the sufferer since it includes the de-structure and sometimes severe interference with their behavior and emotions, and development. In every nation in the globe, the CSA is considered a major health and social issue. It may be described as the action in which an adult exploits a minor to give sexual enjoyment, arousal, or sexual fulfillment using his or her superiority. CSA may occur either through contact with people (e.g. touching, vaginal, oral, and anal) or by looking at porn, adult displays, or demands for sexual favors. CSA may occur utilizing contact with people.

## 2. Acquaintance rape

The rape of an acquaintance is a crime of sexual assault by someone who knows about the victim. Date rape or marital rape is also known when the crime occurs on or between the partners of a date. Forced, manipulative, or compelled sexual intercourse is a crime of sexual assault. If you've been forced to sex, that's rape, even if you know the assailant. Here are a few facts regarding rape:

- It may occur at any time or anywhere.
- The rapist may be a date, a spouse, a neighbor, a coworker, a student, an assistant, or anyone you know.
- A woman aged 16-24 years is the most known rape (US Dept. of Justice, 1994).
- 77% of survivors of the rape knew the perpetrator (US Dept. of Justice, 1994).
- One in seven women is the victim of marital rape (MS., 1990).
- The overwhelming frequency of gang rape, particularly gang rape, involves members of males exclusively, such as brotherhoods and sports teams (Association of American Colleges Project, 1985).
- One in four female undergraduate college students were victims of rape or attempt at rape. 84% of them knew about their assailants. 57% of rapes occurred on a certain date (Dr. Mary Koss, Kent State University, 1987).

- Rape occurs between people and in homosexual and lesbian partnerships.

### 3. Stranger Assault

Sexual attacks by strangers against women are simply one component of the wider variety of sexual violence concerns. This handbook only addresses the special damage that foreigners due to women via sexual assaults. The following are related issues not addressed directly in this guidance, each requiring a separate analysis:

Conference sexual assault, including spousal rape and date rape

- Children's sexual abuse, including legal rape
- Sexual assault against workers in the sex industry
- Prison sexual assault
- Multiple perpetrators or gang rape sexual assault
- Trafficking in people
- False sexual assault reporting.

### 4. Incest

Incest is one of the most gruesome, yet frequent crimes of all<sup>1</sup>. The word incest comes from the word "incest" in Latin, meaning unclean. <sup>2</sup> Incest is a dictionary of sexual intercourse in a prohibited relationship of lawful relationships, such as daughter and father, sister and brother, son and mother, relationships of affinity or consanguinity. The ties not blood-based, but culturally sanctioned are also included in the definition, including step-parents, Rakhi sisters, and the like. A Bronson (1989) definition suggests that any definition of incest requires some consideration to the 'imputed imbalances in trust and authority crucial to the incest (p.21).

Rape and incest are the most terrible barbarous type of violence against women and girls. Psychiatrist Silberman has described the rape as "the last self-infringement." In incest, since even trust is breached, the seriousness of the offense is even greater.

We can find the prevalence of incest from ancient times if we are back in history. The pharaohs of Egypt practiced the practice of their sisters, allegedly to maintain blood pure. Oedipus and his mother Jocasta were likewise committed by Incest as related to Homer in Oedipus Rex. A classic example of incest is also Cleopatra. In the foregoing situations, incest was contained exclusively in noble families. In Indian mythology, humans are also experiencing incest. Arjuna married Subhadra, his aunt's daughter Rohini, in the Mahabharata. There are also more examples, such as Yama's union with his sister Yami; Prajapati

and his daughter Ushas; Pusha and his sister Surya and many more.

Most civilized communities, however, denounced and forbidden the practice of incest. This was banned around 1750 BC by the Code of Hammurabi. The issue of incest is a universal taboo. "Incest tabu is among the few universal cultural monuments known inside the family."

The abuse of girls/women in the home is, nevertheless, a domain with relatively little information. It is a highly delicate issue that can ruin the essence of a family and is therefore very often concealed in the dark corners of the family. The silence about its prevalence and refusal hits us upon evaluating research and incest texts. It is women's recent awareness to say 'no' to all sorts of abuse, which opened the boxes of Pandora's incest and opened their eyes to horrors.

The fact that incidents of incest are widespread in society is shocking and crude. We do not normally discuss children's sexual abuse and incest incidents, yet there is no secret of their presence in society. Not just in the slums and in the deprived elements of the community, it is pervasive, but also in well-educated homes. Due to the stigma and trauma involved with this horrendous crime; the real statistics are fairly difficult to find. The leading sociologist, M.N. Srinivas, has said that the sexual abuse of children is prevalent, but the researcher has escaped because the fear of stigma is a big obstacle, especially in the middle and higher classes.

### 5. Intimate Partner Sexual Assault

Any kind of sexual assault that takes place in an intimate relationship is intimate partner sexual violence. It does not only encompass marital rape, but also all other forms of sexual assault, whether married or not, in a present or prior personal relationship. IPSV means that a person is forced to use force, threats, or compulsion for sexual acts; to disguise the sexuality or sexual preferences of a woman; and/or not to respect the sexual or physical privacy of a wife. Sexual violence serves to establish power and control over a partner in a relationship that includes IPSV.

IPSV includes but is not limited to the following:

- coerced or forced oral, anal, or vaginal intercourse
- unwanted sexual touching or being forced to touch
- making degrading sexual taunts
- forced involvement in making or watching pornography

- forced prostitution
- use of technology to victimize
- using sex to prove faithfulness

## 6. Same-Gender Assault

The same gender assault occurs when the victim or perpetrator of a sexual assault is the same. However, the same sexual assault is occurring in the GLBT population. However, this does not necessarily mean they are identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender (GLBT).

The same sexual assault is often called "gender rape." That is unprecise because many sexual cases of abuse entail act other than "assaults." It is not always homosexuals who perpetrate this type of sexual violence.

During the relationship or in the context of household abuse in same-sex relations, the great majority of same-sex assaults are committed.

Gay men and lesbians who suffer sexual assaults of the same gender sometimes find it difficult to find it because they fear that when they find out that they are LBT, their employment, their victims, friends, and homes get lost. Conversely, if the victim of a sexual assault is identified as heterosexual, he may fear reporting that he is regarded as gay or lesbian for fear.

## 7. Sexual Exploitation by Professionals

Therapeutic/professional client victims of sexual abuse occur. It may be instructive to compare this with the best-understood parent-child incest phenomenon as an approach to comprehending customer sexual exploitation. The following parallels include power imbalance of client/therapist or another professional, reduced experience to make choices of his interest, discomfort with sexual feelings, sex as an inverse role that takes place in the context of other reverse functions, sex among other power abusers, secrecy and isolation.

## 8. Prostitution

Prostitution is typically regarded as work while it is women's ownership and sexual access without any condition. In a social setting that endorses sexual objectification of women the choice of a woman to engage in prostitution. Culturally reinforced power and control strategies assist and effectively block the recruitment or coercion into prostitution of women and children. The system of male domination assures that a group of women are vulnerable to recruitment and imprisonment in prostitution while sustaining a society in which women are economically excluded. Prostitution is sexual abuse since prostitutes suffer any number of sexual actions that would, in any other

context, be termed assault or at least unwelcome and coercive against any other woman. Prostitution.

## 9. Drug-Facilitated Sexual Assault

Just as it is against the law to slip drugs to make sexual assault easier for someone, sexual assault is also regarded if the victim/survivor is ingesting drugs or alcohol knowingly and freely. Any sexual person on someone who is unaware or sleeps, who is too inebriated or incapable of communicating is contrary to the law. The law is infringed.

Normally, the victim gets black and has no memory of the assault or the assault events. Drugs that are routinely slipped to the victim/survivor are cleared rapidly from the body without proving the drug's presence in the victim/survivor system. This element operates commonly against drug-facilitated sexual assaults investigations, along with loss of memory.

## 10. Indecent Exposure, Peeping, Hidden Cameras

All these are forms of sexual violence. Victims/survivors might experience both the short and long-term impacts of other sexual violence victims/survivors. These crimes are offenders from all walks of life and contexts. The person who committed the offender may have a long history or an isolated act of inappropriate behavior. These are all crimes and it is vital to report to local law enforcement authorities.

## 11. Child Pornography

Pornography of children is described as content that appears to be used either by the use of children or by the use of modern technology. Child pornography does not need vulgar behavior but may include suggestive sexually explicit behavior. Child pornography is illegally produced, traded, and owned in the US; photographs from the Internet need thus not be kept to be used just for an offense that occurred.

## 12. Sexual Violence and the Internet

Children need to understand how to securely use the internet and what to do if they experience something that makes them uncomfortable. Adults also need to know safety precautions and how to react if they have experience with which they are not comfortable. Victims might utilize the Internet to attract their victims.

Thirdly, the key safety advice for children is: never provide identification information; alert the parent, guardian, or teacher immediately; never make face-to-face discussions without telling the parent or guardian.

### 13. Female Genital Mutilation

In various nations, female genital mutilation happens. Female Genital Mutilation experiences both short-term and long-term pain and trauma. Mutilation of women's genitals is sometimes done as a religion, but not in all cases. The cruel, oppressive practice of female genital mutilation is one. A clitoris and the labia minora are the most common type of Female Genital mutilation.

### CONCLUSION

The best way to eradicate sexual harassment at work is via prevention. When employees have been informed that sexual harassment will not be tolerated, employers are allowed to stop inadequate actions before they reach the level of harassment by training on harassment prevention, by establishing an effective complaints process, and by acting immediately and appropriately if an employee complains.

### REFERENCES

1. Sojo, V. E., Wood, R. E., & Genat, A. E. (2016). Harmful workplace experiences and women's occupational well-being: A meta-analysis. *Psychology of Women Quarterly*, 40, pp. 10–40. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0361684315599346>
2. Staff. (2016). Sexual assault/abuse. Retrieved from <http://www.goodtherapy.org/learn-about-therapy/issues/sexual-abuse>
3. Stech, K. (2016, March 29). Parent company of Roscoe's House of Chicken and Waffles files for bankruptcy. *Wall Street Journal*. Retrieved from <http://blogs.wsj.com/bankruptcy/2016/03/29/parent-company-of-roscoes-house-of-chicken-and-waffles-files-for-bankruptcy/>
4. Taylor, S. E., Klein, L. C., Lewis, B. P., Gruenewald, T. L., Gurung, R. A. R., & Updegraff, J. A. (2000). Biobehavioral responses to stress in females: Tend-and-befriend, not fight-or-flight. *Psychological Review*, 107, pp. 411–429. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/0033-295X.107.3.411>
5. Till, F. (1980). *Sexual harassment: A report on the sexual harassment of students*. Washington, DC: National Advisory Council on Women's Educational Programs.
6. Vaile Wright, C., Collinsworth, L. L., & Fitzgerald, L. F. (2010). Why did this happen to me? Cognitive schema disruption and posttraumatic stress disorder in victims of sexual trauma. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 25, pp. 1801–1814. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0886260509354500>
7. Valiente, C. (1998). Sexual harassment in the workplace. Equality policies in post-authoritarian Spain. In T. Carver & V. Mottier (Eds.), *Politics of sexuality. Identity, gender, citizenship* (pp. 169 –179). London, UK: Routledge.
8. Vogt, D. S., Pless, A. P., King, L. A., & King, D. W. (2005). Deployment stressors, gender, and mental health outcomes among Gulf War I veterans. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*, 18, pp. 115–127. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/jts.20018>
9. Vranica, S., & Tadana, N. (2016a, March 17). J. Walter Thompson CEO Resigns: WPP replaces Gustavo Martinez with Tamara Ingram in wake of discrimination lawsuit. *Wall Street Journal*. Retrieved from <http://www.wsj.com/articles/j-walter-thompson-company-ceo-resigns-1458232560>
10. Vranica, S., & Tadana, N. (2016b, March 13). Lawsuit sparks soul-searching on Madison Avenue over diversity: Bloomingdale's apologized for an ad, shown in an image from Twitter, that some critics viewed as promoting date rape. *Wall Street Journal*. Retrieved from <http://www.wsj.com/articles/madison-avenue-grapples-with-a-lack-of-diversity-1457914997>
11. Walker, S. (2014). The automatic activation of sexually harassing beliefs: Past experiences and traits of power. *Academy of Business Journal*, 1, pp. 90 –104.
12. Wasti, S. A., Bergman, M. E., Glomb, T. M., & Drasgow, F. (2000). Test of the cross-cultural generalizability of a model of sexual harassment. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 85, pp. 766–778. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/0021-9010.85.5.766>
13. Willness, C. R., Steel, P., & Lee, K. (2007). A meta-analysis of the antecedents and consequences of workplace sexual harassment. *Personnel Psychology*, 60, pp. 127–162. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1744-6570.2007.00067.x>
14. Wright, C. V., & Fitzgerald, L. F. (2007). Angry and afraid: Women's appraisal of sexual harassment during litigation. *Psychology of Women Quarterly*, 31, pp. 73– 84. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1471-6402.2007.00332.x>
15. Wright, C., & Fitzgerald, L. (2009). Correlates of joining a sexual harassment class action. *Law & Human Behavior*, 33,

pp. 265–282.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10979-008-9156-6>

---

**Corresponding Author**

**Ashish Kumar\***

Research Scholar, Rabindranath Tagore University,  
Bhopal