

Violence against Women in Different Ages

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Abstract

Women have been subject of facing various kind of violence for ages. However the form may be different. In spite of Digitalization or Computer Age, even after centuries, women have not come out of the cage of patriarchal bonds. They suffer from various form of violence. The false codes of the bonds are framed and tightly interwoven that they have merged into blood particles of the people. There have been several severe codes imposed on women since the past that depict violence against women. All the codes involve severe abuses refer to violence against women. Life of women in the past was no less than hell and like the life of animals. Violence against women is a kind of injustice that is a subject of great concern and invites young scholars, academicians, authors and law experts for discourse.

Key Words: Violence, ages, Dwapara Yuga, Treta Yuga, Kali Yuga

violence comes in Middle English via Old French from Latin '*Violentia*', from 'Vehement, Violent' meaning '*the unlawful exercise of physical force or intimidation by the exhibition of such force.*' In general sense, violence involves to get the work done forcefully without his or her hearty will. It depicts the domination of the stronger on the weaker one. The phenomena of stronger and weaker is the subject of strength or force, or it is the outcome of outdated social codes of belief. In the present scenario, the term '*violence*' or the phrase '*Violence against Women*' strongly favours the second definition. It clearly indicates that '*physical, mental and emotional torture caused to women folks is the outcome of India's outdated dogmas, false codes of society determined by men in power.*' The nature of violence in the present sense is entirely unlawful, can tremble even a stony heart.

Violence according to World Health Organization is, "*the intentional use of physical force or power threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community that either insults in, or has a high likelihood of resulting injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development, or deprivation.*"

Types of Violence:

- (i) Physical Violence
- (ii) Sexual Violence
- (iii) Psychological Violence
- (iv) Socio-economical Violence
- (v) Emotional Violence
- (vi) Cultural Violence
- (vii) Verbal Violence

(i) Physical Violence:

(ii) Sexual Violence: Physical Violence refers to beating, burning, killing, kicking, biting, or bodily harm with any objects or weapons.

Physical Violence is caused by a person as controlling over on the another person through the use of physical force.

(iii) Psychological Violence: Psychological Violence refers to controlling or restricting someone's movement, threatening another person, verbally disrespecting and degrading someone. Hurting the integrity and dignity of any person comes in the category of Psychological Violence.

(iv) Socio-economical Violence: Socio-economical Violence refers to someone's socio-economic deprivation. It includes economic vulnerability. Disallowing someone from earnings or not allowing someone having separate income comes under Socio- economical Violence.

(v) Emotional Violence: Emotional Violence refers to controlling or manipulating someone emotionally. It includes insults, humiliation, forcing to isolation in order to control someone.

(vi) Cultural Violence: Cultural Violence refers to existence of prevailing or prominent social norms by the use of symbolic processes to justify and legitimize inequitable power.

(vii) Verbal Violence: Verbal Violence refers to verbal attack, verbal aggression, verbal violence, verbal assault, psychic aggression and psychic violence. It also includes calling names, demean, or controlling another person.

According to WHO, "Globally about 1 in 3 (30%) of women worldwide have been subjected to either physical, or sexual violence, intimate partner violence or non partner sexual Violence in their lifetime."

Women are the most Victim of intimate partner violence. Worldwide almost one third (27%) of women aged (15-49) years face, physical or sexual violence committed by intimate partner.

Only women folks are such creatures who has a deep sea of all knowledge within her heart.

"A mother is like a bellow (dhaukani). A son is really belongs to his father. A father is also born in form of a son. Rear him up as your son and not to insult Shakuntala..." (Mahabharata-1,71).

"The whole ashram was dipped into sorrowful atmosphere seeing your going from here. The hind left eating grass, peahen stopped dancing. This was not enough, the bowers were shedding tears in the form of falling dry leaves," (Shakuntalam, 4/117).

Violence in Different Ages:

All ages are evidence of Violence against women. However, it has changed in form and nature, and also in graphically structure.

'Treta Yuga': In Treta Yuga, Sita had to face violence caused by Ram. She had to give fire ordeal thrice. Renuka, Parshuram's mother and the wife of Jamadagni was beheaded by her own son ordered by his father.

Dwapara Yuga: Yudhisthira lost all in gamble with Duryodhana, and Draupadi faced violation in Mahabharata. It involved physically, mentally and emotionally violence. Laxman cut off Surpanakha's nose. This also represents violence against a woman. Rambha's raped by Ravan, the king of Lanka depicts another kind violence. Literature is the encyclopedia of evidence of the violence against the women.

She was robbed off on the order of Duryodhana by Dushasana before the entire court. Even the great persons in the society felt no hitch stepping out for women's humiliation. Women had to face at every point every short of violence. Laxman cut off Surpanakha's nose. This also represents violence. Rambha's raped by Ravan, the king of Lanka depicts another kind violence. Literature is encyclopedia of evidence of the violence against the women.

Kali Yuga: 'Kali Yuga' is divided into: Gupta, Maurya, Buddha, British and Modern Period. Women could not save themselves from the fatal torture in Kali Yuga also. They faced severe and different short of violence in the present era. Child Marriage, Sati System, and Male inheritance power are some form of violence in Kali Yuga.

Chandragupta Maurya Period: Violence against women had no less furious form. Asura Marriage, second marriage to husband incase no issue till eight years, husband's freedom to have a number of marriage to get a male child, permission of high caste women to participate in public activities were some form of violence in Chandragupta Maurya period.

Mughal Period: In Mughal Period Parda System, Monogamy, prohibition to widow's remarriage, Sati System, and Higher education to only rich women were some kind of violence to women.

British Period: women took a sigh of relief from the male domination. However it could not take its end completely, But lessened in effect.

Modern Age: In Modern Age, due to imposing severe rules, codes, orders, and organizing different 'Women Empowerment Programmes', ratio Domestic Violence against women has come down, but cases of Divorce in the court have risen up. Every day a number of cases are heard, but at the same time, the more in number are again filed. It proves that even in modern age violence against women has not reduced. It has taken another form like keeping illegal relationship with other women.

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Effect of Violence on Women:

Health Consequences of Violence vary with the age and sex of the victim as well as the form of the violence. Consequences include increased incidents of depression, anxiety, posttraumatic stress disorder, and suicide, risk of cardiovascular disease, eating disorder, and premature mortality. Both kind violence: Physical and mental or Emotional cause bad influence on health as well as mental balance. Besides, there are the following impacts:

(i) Social Impact

(ii) Economic Impact

(i) **Social Impact:** Any kind of Violence causes Social Impact to the women. The Impact includes:

(a) Lack of Participation in Regular Activities

(b) Isolation or Alienation from Friends, Family

(c) No Cultural or Religious Response

(ii) **Economic Impact:** Violence against a woman causes Economic Impact on a woman. Due to lack of participation in daily activities, she suffers economically. Economic Impact includes:

(a) Loss of Wages

(b) Suffers from Health Issues

(c) Unnecessary costs in Counseling and Court Cases

Conclusion:

There are women like Kiran Devi, Sunita Williams etc who have a tremendous courage to inspire coming generation of women folks. Tina Dabi, an IAS topper who secured 1st rank is a best example for coming generation girls preparing for civil exams. Women have showed best in games (Deepa Karmakar, P.V. Sindhu, etc.), music (Asha Bhosle, Lata Mangeshkar, M.S. Subbulakshmi, Subha Mudgal etc.) dance (Rukmini Devi Arundale, Sonai Mansingh), IPS (Kiran Bedi, Vimla Mehra, B. Sandhya etc.), Space (Kalpna Chawla, Sunita Williams etc.), and Beauty Contest (Sushmita Sen, Lara Dutta etc.).

Violence against women will not let the national develop in any field. Every walk of life suffers badly if women are humiliated, harassed, and suffering. Women bring with them an aura that boosts up the atmosphere to work.

By organizing awareness programmes like 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', and other 'Women Empowerment' programmes, a great change in the position of women can be brought. Within the same time, awareness about the punishment and penalty will also help develop their status in the society.

People in the society will have to change their mentality to find no discrimination in gender, caste, race, and religion. Awareness programmes like Women Empowerment, Education to Girls Child, Free Education to Girls, Help and Support to Old Age Women, Senior Women Ashram etc. will bring a great change in the position of women. Successful and developed nation is one in which there is no gender discrimination. Both men and women should have equal rights.

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