

# WHITE BLACK LEGAL LAW JOURNAL ISSN: 2581-8503

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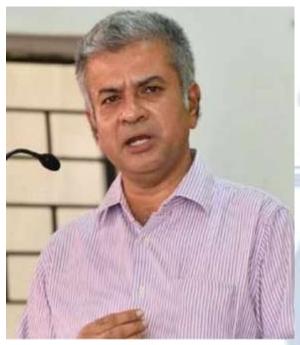
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professional diploma Procurement from the World Bank. Dr. Raju Narayana Swamy popularly known as Kerala's Anti Corruption Crusader is the All India Topper of the 1991 batch of the IAS and is currently posted Principal as Secretary to the Government of Kerala . He has accolades as he hit earned many against the political-bureaucrat corruption nexus in India. Dr Swamy holds B.Tech in Computer a Science and Engineering from the IIT Madras and a Cyber from Ph. D. in Law Gujarat National Law University . He also has an LLM (Pro) with specialization IPR) ( in as well as three PG Diplomas from the National Law University, Delhi-Urban one in Environmental Management and Law, another in Law Environmental and Policy and a third one in Tourism and Environmental Law. He also post-graduate holds а diploma in IPR from the National Law School, Bengaluru and a Public in

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Ms. Sumiti Ahuja, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, Ms. Sumiti Ahuja completed her LL.M. from the Indian Law Institute with specialization in Criminal Law and Corporate Law, and has over nine years of teaching experience. She has done her LL.B. from the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi. She is currently pursuing Ph.D. in the area of Forensics and Law. Prior to joining the teaching profession, she has worked as Research Assistant for projects funded by different agencies of Govt. of India. She has developed various audio-video teaching modules under UGC e-PG Pathshala programme in the area of Criminology, under the aegis of an MHRD Project. Her areas of interest are Criminal Law, Law of Evidence, Interpretation of Statutes, and Clinical Legal Education.





## Dr. Navtika Singh

#### <u>Nautiyal</u>

Dr. Navtika Singh Nautiyal presently working as an Assistant Professor in School of law, Forensic Justice and Policy studies at National Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat. She has 9 years of Teaching and Research Experience. She has completed her Philosophy of Doctorate in 'Intercountry adoption laws from Uttranchal University, Dehradun' and LLM from Indian Law Institute, New Delhi.

#### Dr. Rinu Saraswat



Associate Professor at School of Law, Apex University, Jaipur, M.A, LL.M, Ph.D,

Dr. Rinu have 5 yrs of teaching experience in renowned institutions like Jagannath University and Apex University. Participated in more than 20 national and international seminars and conferences and 5 workshops and training programmes.

#### Dr. Nitesh Saraswat

#### E.MBA, LL.M, Ph.D, PGDSAPM

Currently working as Assistant Professor at Law Centre II, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi. Dr. Nitesh have 14 years of Teaching, Administrative and research experience in Renowned Institutions like Amity University, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Jai Narain Vyas University Jodhpur, Jagannath University and Nirma University.

More than 25 Publications in renowned National and International Journals and has authored a Text book on Cr.P.C and Juvenile Delinquency law.





#### <u>Subhrajit Chanda</u>

BBA. LL.B. (Hons.) (Amity University, Rajasthan); LL. M. (UPES, Dehradun) (Nottingham Trent University, UK); Ph.D. Candidate (G.D. Goenka University)

Subhrajit did his LL.M. in Sports Law, from Nottingham Trent University of United Kingdoms, with international scholarship provided by university; he has also completed another LL.M. in Energy Law from University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, India. He did his B.B.A.LL.B. (Hons.) focussing on International Trade Law.

#### ABOUT US

WHITE BLACK LEGAL is an open access, peer-reviewed and refereed journal providededicated to express views on topical legal issues, thereby generating a cross current of ideas on emerging matters. This platform shall also ignite the initiative and desire of young law students to contribute in the field of law. The erudite response of legal luminaries shall be solicited to enable readers to explore challenges that lie before law makers, lawyers and the society at large, in the event of the ever changing social, economic and technological scenario.

With this thought, we hereby present to you

LEGAL

### <u>VICTIMOLOGY IN THE PENAL JUSTICE SYSTEM</u> <u>WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO WOMEN</u> <u>AND CHILDREN</u>

Authored By- Atul Kumar Ojha, Amity University, Patna

#### Abstract

In common language, "victim" refers to anybody who suffers harm, loss, or difficulty for whatever reason, including criminal activity. Thus, victimology may be characterised as the study of those who suffer harm or adversity for any reason. It may be referred to as "victim profiling" and entails analysing victim characteristics. Victimology distinguishes between two categories of victims: kind is made up of direct victims, or those who are still alive and suffering as a result of the harm the accused caused when committing the crime, while the second category consists of indirect victims, who suffer as a result of being dependent on the direct victims of crime loss of their primary provider. A criminal victim cannot be ignored by the criminal justice system. He has endured the most hardship. The scientific study of victimisation, the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator, and the interactions between the victim and the criminal justice system is known as victimology. This study paper will focus on women and children, who are the most vulnerable groups in society. The problem of crime against any individual necessitates examination from several angles. Crime is a word that denotes unrest and terrible experiences. Anyone who follows Indian society on a regular basis would undoubtedly come across news articles in print and electronic media about crimes against women and children. Sexual harassment of women at work, gang rape of women, outrage against women's modesty, and other crimes against women and children are all reported. There could possibly be unreported cases, the exact number of which is anybody's estimate given the lack of precise, trustworthy statistics or information in this area.

#### Keywords

Victimology, Women Victim, Child Victim, Crime, Vulnerable

#### Introduction

Victimology is the science of study of victimization and relation of victim and offender and the interaction between victim and criminal justice system.<sup>1</sup> The scientific study of victimisation, encompassing the connections between victims and perpetrators as well as the interactions between victims and the criminal justice system that is, the police, courts, and correctional officials is known as victimology. Connections between victims and other social groups and organisations, such the media, companies, and social movements, are also included.<sup>2</sup>

Victimology, in its narrowest definition, is the scientific, factual study of crime victims. Because of this, it is strongly associated with criminology and may be seen as a component of the larger issue of crime. Victimology, taken more broadly, refers to the corpus of knowledge about victims, victimisation, and societal attempts to subvert victims' rights. It is therefore made up of information from a variety of disciplines, including psychology, criminology, law, medicine, social work, politics, education, and public administration.<sup>3</sup> A person who has experienced any loss or harm as a result of the act or omission that the accused person is accused of is referred to as a "victim." The word "victim" also include the guardian or legal heir of a victim.<sup>4</sup>

In common language, "victim" refers to anybody who suffers harm, loss, or difficulty for whatever reason, including criminal activity. Thus, victimology may be characterised as the study of those who suffer harm or adversity for any reason. It may be referred to as "victim profiling" and entails the study of victim characteristics.<sup>5</sup> Victimology distinguishes between two categories of victims: direct victims, or those who are still alive and suffering as a result of the harm the accused caused during the commission of the crime; and indirect victims, or those who are dependent on the direct victims of crimes and suffer as a result of losing their primary provider.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Black's Law Dictionary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Paranjape, Dr. N.V., Criminology and Penology with Victimology, 15th Ed., Central Law Publications Ltd., Allahabad, 2011, p. 663.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Randhawa, Gurpreet Singh, Victimology and Compensatory Jurisprudence, 1st Ed., Central Law Publications, Allahabad, 2011, p. 42

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Criminal Procedure Code 1973, S 2(wa).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Supra note 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> State of Gujrat v. High Court of Gujrat, (1998) 7 SCC 392

A victim of crime cannot be in the criminal justice system considered a "forgotten person." He has endured the most hardship.

The concept of "justice to victims" was promoted in Chapter 6 of the Malimath Committee Report (2003). The report brought attention to the predicament faced by crime victims throughout the criminal justice system and suggested the appointment of a victim support service coordinator to protect their rights during the trial phase. Through actions taken in the 2005, 2006, and 2008 Amendments, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 was amended to include a specific concern for victims. Every State Government is required to establish a Victim Compensation Fund under the intricate Victim Compensation Scheme adopted in the 2008 Amendment.<sup>7</sup>

Although there is now no specific statute in India for victims of crime, there is a bright side in that victims have received justice through affirmative action and Supreme Court judgements. The Indian Supreme Court appears to have been inspired to develop unique victim justice precedent in India by developments in the field as well as the constitutional guarantee of "fair justice" for all people. The Supreme Court has adopted a "pro-victim" stance in a number of its rulings.

Judge Krishna Iyer stated in Rattan Singh v. State of Punjab<sup>8</sup> that "the fact that victims of crime are not brought to the notice of the law is a weakness of our jurisprudence." In fact, victim compensation remains our criminal law's most disappearing point. There is a flaw in the system that has to be fixed by the legislators. There should be greater focus on this issue.

Krishna Iyer, J. concluded in Maru Ram v. Union of India that although it is the criminal's social obligation to make amends for the loss or heal the hurt, the length of the jail sentence is not a means of providing compensation to the injured or bereaved; rather, it is a futility compounder with cruelty. Victimology must be fulfilled not by cruelty, but by the perpetrator being forced to repay the harm done, not by making the victim feel worse, but by minimising the loss of the abandoned.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> B.B. Pande, "Growing Concern for 'Victims' Interest in Criminology Theory, criminal Law Level Practices: Implications for Future Action" (2011) 1 (1) KIIT Journal of Law and Society

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 1979 (4) SCC 719.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 1981 (1) SCC 107.

The Supreme Court ruled in Dayal Singh v. State of Uttaranchal that the goal of a criminal trial is to fairly try the accused, the victim, and society as a whole. The courts perform the dual duty of preventing the guilty man from escaping punishment and ensuring that no innocent man is punished.<sup>10</sup>

#### Women as a victim of crime

Women are increasingly becoming victims of crime on a local, regional, national, and international scale. Women are committing crimes everywhere. Women continue to suffer horrible crimes worldwide in spite of all the achievements. "Crime against women is an expression of traditionally imbalanced power relations between men and women, which have led to command over and discrimination against women by men and to the anticipation of the full development of women," according to the UN Declaration on the Exclusion of Crime against Women (1993).<sup>11</sup> India is working to integrate all women into society and politics, but in the meanwhile, women there endure cruel treatment and live in constant dread of violence, endangering the advancement of both women and the nation. It is often recognised that an increase in crimes committed against women is not a good indicator of economic progress, and India is now facing a significant problem in this area. Therefore, in order to address the issue, it is essential to look into the types, origins, and nature of crime against women.

#### Emerging trends in crime against women

The NCRB reports that there were 9,782 instances of crime against women overall in 2020 compared to 12,902 in 2019. In 2020, there were 938 occurrences of assault on women, up to 1,088 in 2019, and 862 cases of sexual harassment, compared to 644 in 2020. There were 967 recorded incidents of rape in 2020 compared to 1,231 in 2019, a 21% reduction. Additionally, stalking witnessed a 40% decrease, with 235 occurrences registered in 2020 compared to 388 in the year before.<sup>12</sup> The bureau's "Crime in India-2020" report states that there was a minimum 8.3% decline in crimes against women from 2019 to 2020. Compared to 4,05,326 offences in 2019, there were 3,71,503 crimes against women reported in 2020. "The country remained under complete lockdown from March 25, 2020, to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 2012 (8) SCC 263.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> http://memoires.scd.univtours.fr/EPU\_DA/LOCAL/2015\_M2RI\_SHAKTHE\_SHARAVANA%20KUMAAR

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> <u>https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Delhi/crimes-against-women-dip-by-24-cybercrimes-see-55-rise-ncrbdata/article36486113.ece</u>

May 31, 2020, due to the COVID19 Pandemic (First Wave)," the NCRB noted in its report. "During this time, movement in public space was very limited." Consequently, the number of instances reported under the categories of Dacoity, Theft, Burglary, Robbery, and Crimes against Women, Children, and Senior Citizens has decreased.<sup>13</sup>

Data from the National Commission for Women (NCW) show that during the lockdown, there was a sharp rise in domestic abuse against women. From March 25 to May 31, 1,477 women filed complaints with the NCW about domestic abuse. In just 68 days, there were more complaints filed than in the ten years prior, from March to May.

Over the course of 2020, while mobility restrictions persisted in some areas of the nation even after the lockdown, the women's commission received 5,297 reports of domestic abuse. When compared to the 2,960 complaints the NCW received in 2019, this indicates an almost 79 percent rise. However, domestic violence in the nation has declined, according to NCRB statistics, which monitors incidents recorded by the police. The NCRB reports that 446 incidents were reported under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act in 2020. (or the Act DV). This was a startling 19.3% drop from the 553 cases that were recorded in 2019. In a similar vein, there have been less instances of spouse cruelty, which are commonly used in place of or in addition to the DV Act. There were 1,24,934 of these occurrences in 2019 as opposed to 1,03,272 in 2020. (A decrease of 17.3%).

The NCRB reported 28,046 occurrences of rape in total in 2020, a decrease of 12.4% from 32,032 cases reported in 2019. The NCRB reported 28,046 incidents of rape in 2020, a 12.4% decline from the 32,032 cases reported the year before. According to data from the 2018 NCRB study, individuals who are known to the victim perpetrate over 90% of rapes. The rising rate of convictions for crimes against women, including rape, is another unexpected finding in the most recent NCRB statistics. Of the 20,919 rape cases in 2019, 5,800 instances resulted in a conviction, representing a 27 percent conviction rate. The percentage increased to an astounding 37% by 2020. (4,473 instances out of 11,977) with a conviction. The overall conviction rate for offences against women increased, rising from 19.3 percent in 2019 to 23 percent in 2020. Is the legal system operating more effectively now? Has the judicial system become more gender-neutral?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> <u>https://theleaflet.in/how-to-read-the-latest-crime-against-women</u>

Data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) showed that there were 371,503 reports of crimes against women nationwide last year, according to government estimates.<sup>14</sup> According to the data, 398,620 people were detained in 2020 in relation to crimes against women, 488,143 people were charged, and 31,402 people were found guilty. In 2020, there was an 8.3% decrease in offences committed against women in urban areas compared to the previous year. Rape, outrage modesty, dowry killings, harassment, acid assaults, and kidnappings are among the crimes committed against women. With 49,385, Uttar Pradesh recorded the most of these instances among states and Union territories, followed by West Bengal (36,439), Rajasthan (34,535), Maharashtra (31,954), and Madhya Pradesh (25,640).<sup>15</sup>

The government cited the NCRB report from September, which stated that "the majority of cases under crimes against women were registered under [the category of] cruelty by husband or his relatives (30.2 percent)." This was followed by assaults on women with the intention of outraging modesty (19.7%), kidnapping and abduction of women (19.0 percent), and rape (17.2%).

#### **Rulings of the supreme court of India in cases**

#### The Nirbhaya Rape Case

The horrific Delhi rape case of 2012 rocked the whole nation when a young woman, identified by the media as Nirbhaya, was brutally raped by a gang for failing to disclose her identification in accordance with Section 228A (2) of the IPC. Six guys viciously gang raped her on a bus in Delhi, tearing out her internal organs and cutting off her privates in an extremely cruel way that left her severely injured and finally killed.<sup>16</sup> "The attitude, perception, the bestial proclivity, inconceivable self-obsession and individual centralism of the six made the young lady to suffer immense trauma and, in the ultimate event that the life-spark that moves the bodily frame got extinguished in spite of availing himself of all the medical world's possible treatment,"<sup>17</sup> the statement reads. "She was treated as an object, an

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> <u>https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/more-than-370-000-cases-of-crimes-against-women-reportedin-2020-says-govt-101639625323320.html</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> <u>https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/more-than-370-000-cases-of-crimes-against-women-reported-in2020-says-govt-101639625323320.html</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Business standard, <u>https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/brutality-of-nirbhaya-gang-rapesounds-like-story-from-different-world-sc-117050501358\_1.html</u>

article for experimentation, and prey to the pervert proclivity of the six." <sup>18</sup>In December 29, 2012, she passed away in a Singaporean hospital due to her injuries.

The death penalty was imposed on the four defendants after they were found guilty in September 2013 of rape, kidnapping, murder, and evidence destruction. The Supreme Court affirmed the death penalty in 2017, noting that the case qualified as a "rarest of rare cases."<sup>19</sup> According to the Juvenile Justice Act, one of the accused, Ram Singh, reportedly committed himself at Tihar Jail. The juvenile offender was given a three-year term in a reform home.<sup>20</sup>

#### Union of India v. Justice K. S. Puttaswamy (Retd.)<sup>21</sup>

The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights states clearly in Article 12 that "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, or to attacks upon his honour and reputation." The right to privacy is widely regarded as one of the fundamental human rights. Everyone is entitled to the protection of the law against these kinds of intrusions or assaults.

#### The mee too movement and its legal consequences

The American social activist and community organiser Tarana Burke first used the hashtag "#Me Too" in 2006 on the Myspace social network. It gained widespread attention on social media in October 2017 when actress Alyssa Milano used it in a tweet criticising Harvey Weinstein. The Me Too Movement, often known as the #MeToo Movement, opposes sexual assault and harassment, particularly in the workplace. Sexual issues have a detrimental effect on society in addition to undermining women's self-confidence.<sup>22</sup> As time goes on, there has been a rise in sexual harassment at work, which negatively impacts women. This incident prompted other women to come forward with claims of sexual harassment at work. Union minister MJ Akbar has been accused of sexual harassment by at least 10 women who worked with him when he was an editor at the Asian Age and

<sup>18</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> THE HINDU, <u>https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/nirbhaya-case-four-convicts-hanged-to-death-in-tiharjail/article31114864.ece</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Ibid 19

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> AIR 2017SC 4161

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> <u>http://racolblegal.com/metoo-movement-and-its-legal-consequences/</u>

Telegraph. Akbar refuted the accusations and sued Priya Ramani, a journalist who had been the first to identify him, for defamation. Prominent reporters and Bollywood actors, like Sajid Khan, Vikas Bahl, and Alok Nath, have also faced allegations of sexual harassment.

#### Initiative by government

- Bachao Beti. Working Women Hostel (WWH) guarantees the protection and security of working women. Beti Padhao provides for the safety, survival, and education of the female child.
- In keeping with the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act of 2018, the "Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences," an online analytical tool for law enforcement, was created in February 2019 to track and oversee time-bound investigations in cases of sexual assault.
- In order to assist law enforcement agencies in their investigations and nationwide tracking of sexual offenders, the Ministry of Home Affairs announced the creation of the "National Database on Sexual Offenders" (NDSO) in September 2018.
- A cybercrime service that enables individuals to report offensive information was launched in 2018. Furthermore, several states have created Cyber Crime Forensic Labs, and more than 3,664 individuals, including 410 public prosecutors and judicial officers, have received training in identifying, investigating, and resolving cybercrimes against women and children.
- Guidelines for gathering forensic evidence in sexual assault cases have been released, along with the typical contents of a kit for gathering evidence of sexual assault. To ensure there is a sufficient supply of personnel, training and skill-building programmes for medical officers, prosecution officers, and investigation officers have started. 3,221 personnel have previously received training from the Lok Narayan Jayaprakash Narayan National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science and the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) in the gathering, handling, and transportation of forensic evidence. BPR&D supplied 3,120 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits to States and UTs as an orientation kit as part of the training.

#### Child As A Victim Of Crime

India documents 440 million children, or 19% of all children worldwide and one-third of the nation's population, are under the age of eighteen, and about 40% of them require care and protection. It amply demonstrates the scope of the issue. Children are regarded as the most vulnerable and underprivileged group in society. The National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) meticulously documented his findings about child crime.

Over the three ears, there has been a noticeable increase in crime against children, with a 13.6% increase (1,06,958) in 2016 over (94,172) in 2015. 52.3% of the cases were Kidnapping and Abduction of Children, while 34.4% of the cases were Cases Reported under POCSO.

Over the last three years, the cases under "Juveniles in Conflict with Law" have showed a mixed pattern. In 2015, there was a 13.1% decrease from 2014 (38,455) to 33,433, and in 2016, there was a rise of 7.2% from 2015 to 35,849. throughout all, 8,132 instances of human trafficking were documented throughout the nation. 58.7% of the 15,379 victims of human trafficking throughout the year were minors. The country had 23,117 rescues this year, with minors making up 61.3% of the casualties (including those from the previous year).

A total of 5,49,008 people (2,34,334 men and 3,14,674 women) were reported missing in 2016. The highest number of missing people (17.2%, or 94,919 people) were reported from Maharashtra during that year. At year's conclusion, 2,29,381 people (89,523 women and 1,39,858 men) were located across the nation (including those from the prior year). In all, 1,11,569 children 70,394 girls and 41,175 boys were reported missing in 2016. At the conclusion of the year, 55,944 children nationwide including those from the prior year were located.

#### **Children as Victims: Diverse Types and Categories**

William Wordsworth once said, "Child is the father of man". Children make up 42% of our population.

Should the kids not be appropriately raised by shielding them from mistreatment, violence, and other

negative experiences, our society's future will be uncertain. The welfare and protection of children are crucial to India's bright future. Child abuse is a big problem as it poses a great hazard and is a complex subject. The "abuser" in the majority of child abuse situations is either a known individual, a relative, or someone else.<sup>23</sup> For reasons that the victim child's parents or other close relatives are most aware of, it is exceedingly challenging to identify the abuser.

#### **Physical Abuse**

A kid under the age of eighteen who suffers physical damage or bodily harm beating, striking, kicking, burning, or other physical harm from parents or other concerned parties is considered a "physically abused child."24 In a 2007 survey, UNICEF, Save the Children, and the Indian government collaborated to discover that 65% of school-age children in India receive corporal punishment, and that the traditional wisdom of "spare the rod and spoil the child" is still largely followed by schools and teachers<sup>25</sup>. Section 17 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 prohibits corporal punishment in all its forms and provides for disciplinary action against those who violate it. In Gaurav Jain v. Union of India,<sup>26</sup> the Supreme Court issued an order mandating the formation of a commission to thoroughly investigate the issues surrounding prostitution, child prostitutes, and children of prostitutes, and to devise appropriate plans for their rehabilitation and rescue. The supreme court gave instructions to guarantee the defence of these people's human rights. The court also wanted effective action imperatives that aim to arrest the immoral trafficking of women under the ITP Act through interstate or Interpol agreements to be plugged into the realities on the ground. The Indian Constitution's Articles 14, 21, 23, and 39 ensure that no child would be subjected to any kind of exploitation. Human trafficking, "beggaring," and other types of forced labour are all forbidden under Article 23.

#### **Neglect and Emotional Abuse of Children**

It is a disgrace to children. It is sometimes referred to as psychological maltreatment, verbal abuse, and mental abuse. It covers actions or inaction on the part of parents, carers, peers, friends, family

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Jonathan Robinson vs. The Inspector of Police, MANU/TN/3381/2015

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Report of Ministry of Women and Child Development, 2007

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Deccan Herald dt. 14th August, 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> (1997) 8 SCC 114.

members, and other individuals that have caused or may cause severe trauma, behavioural, cognitive, emotional, or mental discomfort. More than any other type of abuse, emotional abuse can have long-lasting detrimental psychological repercussions.<sup>27</sup> It was decided in Smriti Madan Kansagra v. Perry Kansagra<sup>28</sup> that spiteful litigants exploit innocent children as weapons of revenge, causing them to suffer from severe emotional and psychological abuse that has a major negative impact on the kid in later life.

#### **Sexual Abuse**

P.D. Mathew defines child sexual abuse as hiring, utilising, enticing, or coercing any kid to participate in unlawful or consensual sexual activity. It also includes using children to help other people have explicit sex with them.<sup>29</sup>

The engagement of a child in sexual activity that they do not completely understand and are unable to consent to, are not developmentally ready for, or that violates legal or societal taboos is known as "Child Sex Abuse" (CSA), according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).<sup>30</sup>

#### **Children Who Are Missing**

The phrase "missing children" refers to children who are lost or separated from their families, as well as runaway and kidnapped children. However, the primary factor responsible for these high numbers is the amount of runaway children, namely those between the ages of 10 and 18. Some people leave their homes for silly reasons, like not wanting to go to school, while others feel compelled to do so in order to flee what they claim to be a dreadful life. Many people leave their families in order to work or to avoid abuse, and a significant portion become victims of human trafficking.<sup>31</sup> The kids could get abducted, stray off, or be enticed away by human traffickers. If they are apprehended by traffickers, they could be forced to work as forced labour, sexually abused, sent to the Gulf as child brides or camel jockeys, coerced into drug deals and begging, or fall prey to the organ trafficking.<sup>32</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Deccan Herald dt. 14th August, 2009

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> MANU/DE/0386/2017

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Sudesh Jakhu v. K.C.J., 1998 Cri.L.J. 2428 (Del).and also see "Sexual Abuses of the Children and the Law", New Delhi: Legal News and Views, 1996.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> In Re: State and Ors., MANU/TN/3816/2015

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Humaira Ansari & Surekha S. "Missing" DNA, Mumbai, 19 July,2008

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Shreya Roy Chowdhory, "When will these Children Return Home?" The Times of India , New Delhi, 14th Nov, 2008.

In the nation, the percentage of missing and unaccounted-for children has risen by around 84% from 2013 to 2015. According to CRY (Child Rights and You), on average 180 children go missing each day, 22 of them are from the nation's capital. According to Union Home Ministry figures, there were 62,988 untraced minors overall in 2015 compared to 34,244 in 2013.

#### **Compensation to the victim**

For any damage or harm incurred as a result of an act for which an accused person is found guilty, compensation is given. India lacked comprehensive legislation for compensating victims of crime until the 2008 CrPC (Amendment Act). A new S. 357-A was added by the 2008 Amendment Act, which offers a method for compensating the victim. Each state government must create a plan for compensating victims of their dependents who have lost anything as a result of the crime and need rehabilitation after consulting with the federal government.<sup>33</sup> The court noted in K.A. Abbas H.S.A. v. Sabu Joseph<sup>34</sup> that the sole intent of this clause is to protect victims' interests inside the criminal justice system. In the process of making these observations, the court cited the case of Hari Singh v. Sukhbir Singh<sup>35</sup> and noted that in addition to convicting an accused person, the court may also compel them to compensate the victim for losses they caused.

The Malimath Committee has also offered suggestions on victim recompense. The Committee has recommended that: "The Supreme Court and High Courts in India have of late evolved the practise of awarding compensatory remedies not only in terms of money but also in terms of other appropriate reliefs and remedies forged by apex court, demonstrating empathy for the plight of victims under Criminal Justice administration and taking advantage of the obligation to do complete justice under the Indian Constitution in defence of human rights." The rulings in Railway Board v. Chandrima Das<sup>36</sup> and Nilahati Behera v. State of Orissa<sup>37</sup> demonstrate this new trend of exercising constitutional authority to provide victims of crime with justice. Significant financial awards have been made to compensate the State's instruments for their inability to uphold the victim's rights.<sup>38</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> G.S. Bajpai and Ramneek Kaur, "Evolving Victimological Jurisprudence: A view from Supreme Court Cases", 3J NLUD 33 (2015-15)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> (2010) 6 SCC 230.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> AIR 1988 SC 2127

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> (2000) 2 SCC 465

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> (1993) 2 SCC 746

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Justice V.S. Malimath Committee report, 2003

#### Conclusion

This study aims to showcase the developing victimological jurisprudence in India, specifically focusing on women and children who have been harmed. Crime may have a wide variety of effects on victims and their families, from little disruptions to major bodily and psychological harm. A analysis of the legislative framework pertaining to the rights of crime victims finds that very little has been done, either statutorily or via programmes, to address the whole spectrum of issues that crime victims experience. The only exception is the provision of compensation. The victim of a crime appears to be disregarded since there is no legislation pertaining to this issue. It is asserted, meanwhile, that victims in India lack the protection and legal rights necessary to participate fairly in judicial procedures, which frequently leads to indifference in the proceedings and administrative distortions in the criminal justice system. Many victims are afraid of negative publicity and needless harassment, therefore they choose not to report it to the police. However, in the case of the kid, the nation's legal system is unaware of him, which causes a rise in unregistered cases and ultimately the inability to successfully reintegrate the child into society. In addition to the delays or even complete lack of justice, the victims occasionally experience similar incidents, are unable to locate a safe haven in society, and do not perceive any opportunities to live honourably in the future. Regarding this, the courts must act with a strong sense of duty and greater tact when handling cases involving women and children as the victims.