



Research Paper

Attitude towards rape victim-exploring gender differences among Delhi/NCR.

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Abstract

Delhi is often called the “rape capital” of the country first ranked among the metropolitan cities. The purpose of the study is to examine the attitude of adults (18 years and above) living in Delhi/NCR regions towards the rape victim, for the present study Attitude towards Rape Victim Scale was used. The study sample consisted of 118 participants (Males= 50) and (Females= 68), and the average age of the respondent was 24.07 years. Results of the study indicated Males ($M= 50.28$, $SD= 24.3$) showed a slightly less positive attitude towards rape victims than Females ($M= 63.31$, $SD= 22.91$), a high number of respondents had been recorded from Delhi (both in males and females) with Gurugram (males) and Faridabad (females). Further research findings are discussed in the research with research limitations and recommendations.

Keywords: Attitude, Rape, Delhi/NCR, Metropolitan, and Rape Victim.

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I. Introduction

Rape is a social issue and a violation of human rights. It has been found that Rape against women is one of India's most normal crimes against women (Crime against Women in India, 2020).

The number of the 19 metropolitan cities, Delhi ranked first in crime towards women at 28% whereas, in underneath rape crime, Delhi ranked 2nd with 12.8% (Crime against Women in India, 2020). Reasons for rape is often been pointed to the garb of the girls, poverty, makeup, and desire to control which can be related to the patriarchal machine of masculinity where a lady is usually been dealt with as a sexual item, some other motives were the shortage of sex education frequently adolescent boys want to realize extra upon the sex preference and woman bodies (Times of India, 2019) terrible law repute, entertainment and absence of parental steering also becomes the path to dedicate the crime of rapes (Sneha, 2014)

It has been visible that the notion of rape varies from culture to culture; mainly in the Indian situation rape is considered stigmatic and stressful for the victims (Madan and Sinha, 2013). Tripathi & Chatterjee, (2017) talk about how in the Indian scenario rape victim experience traumatized as it's far one of the few crimes in which the sufferer is stigmatized through society. In 1947, India did perform freedom however the lady in India nonetheless wants liberation and empowerment. The study using Gravelin et al., (2019) explains how in beyond few years India has witnessed a fierce increase in rape cases being reported, there may be numerous motives that could explain the motive of the rape cases pronounced (Tripathi & Chatterjee, 2017)

In section 375 of the Indian Penal Code, Rape occurs whilst a person is stated to devote "rape" if he--

- (a) Penetrates his penis, to any extent, into the vagina, mouth, urethra, or anus of a girl or makes her achieve this with him or any other character; or
- (b) Inserts, to any volume, any item, or a part of the body, now not being the penis, into the vagina, the urethra, or anus of a woman or makes her accomplish that with him or some other character; or
- (c) Manipulates any part of the body of a female to cause penetration into the vagina, urethra, anus, or any part of the body of a such girl or makes her achieve this with him or every other character; or
- (d) Applies his mouth to the vagina, anus, or urethra of a woman or makes her do so with him or some other

character,

Beneath the situations falling under any of the subsequent seven descriptions: 1) Towards her will.

2) Without her consent.

3) Along with her consent, while her consent has been received via placing her or any individual in whom she is fascinated, in worry of death or of hurt.

4) Along with her consent when the person knows that he is not her husband and that her consent is given due to the fact she believes that he is any other guy to whom she is or believes herself to be lawfully married.

5) With her consent when, on the time of giving such consent, by way of the motive of unsoundness of thoughts or intoxication or the management with the aid of him in my view or via another of any stupefying or unwholesome substance, she is unable to understand the character and effects of that to which she offers consent.

6) With or without her consent, whilst she is below eighteen years of age. 7) When she is unable to communicate consent.

Clarification 1. For the functions of this phase, the "vagina" shall additionally encompass labia majora.

Clarification 2. The consent method is an unequivocal voluntary agreement while the woman through phrases, gestures, or any form of verbal or non-verbal communication, communicates a willingness to take part in the sexual act:

Supplied that a girl who does no longer bodily withstand to the act of penetration shall now not via the reason handiest of that reality, be deemed as consenting to these sexual pastime.

Exception 1. A medical procedure or intervention shall no longer constitute rape. Exception 2. Sexual sex or sexual acts via a person along with his very own wife, the spouse no longer being below fifteen years of age, is not rape (Conviction Rate fell from 41% to 24% in 12 years, 2013).

In keeping with Goonesekere, (2004) rape is not always merely an obsessive preference for sexual gratification however most instances in society it is being practiced by using the man to establish the prevalence over the lady.

Rape has negative outcomes on the victim's lifestyles mainly in India, a variety of negative reactions and social stigma are hooked up to it, aside from social and cultural isolation victims of rape end up at risk of several bodily and psychological troubles (Karmen, 2004; Tripathi & Chatterjee, 2017). The victims might be afflicted by numerous diseases like STIs and HIV/AIDS after the attack. McNulty and Burnette, (2006), they located out that victims can also level in psychological troubles like anxiety, fear, and posttraumatic sickness.

In step with the feminist principle, it explores inequalities in gender, members of the family, and the charter of gender. It additionally addresses the difficulty that women and men are affected in another way with the aid of social-level variables (Mittal et al., 2017). A variety of theorists awareness of how gender inequality manifests in establishments consisting of the place of job, home, defense force, financial system, or public sphere, others explore the range of practices that have emerged as described as masculine or female and how gender is constituted in terms of other social members of the family (Carison and Ray, 2020).

Rape lifestyle is a surrounding in which rape is normal and where sexual violence is normalized and excused within the media and famous lifestyle (what is Rape way of life... | Verahouse, n.d.).

Rape tradition is maintained mistreatment of misogynistic language, the objectification of girls' bodies, and the glamorization of sexual violence, thereby growing a society that disregards women's rights and protection (The Drug, n.d.), as an example, Blaming the sufferer ("She asked for it!") or underestimating sexual attack ("Boys are often boys!").

In simple terms, an attitude refers to people's beliefs, thoughts, and perceptions about humans and positive items (Bohner and Dickel, 2011). The mindset of the rape sufferer has been influenced using, protecting the victim's responsible without looking into the opposite elements (Nagel et al., 2005). A mindset is said to be nice while the individual's belief is stated to be undoubtedly valued and favored by others on comparison terrible attitude refers to a character's belief that is said to be negatively valued and now not universal through others (Glanz, Rimer, and Viswanath, 2008).

Burt (1980) rape myths are defined as prejudicial, stereotyped, or fake ideals or ideologies approximately rape, rape victims, and rapists. Precise ideals and attitudes may contribute to ongoing sexual violence by moving the blame for sexual assault from perpetrators to sufferers are known as rape myths. (Kamdar et al., 2017; Pöllänen et al., 2021).

Lonsway and Fitzgerald (1994) defined rape myths as "the attitudes and ideals that are usually fake but are extensively and constantly held, and that serve to deny and justify male sexual aggression towards women" (Kushmider, 2015)

According to Kamdar et al. (2017) most common type of rape, myth is the perception and attitude that the way a woman dresses or acts shows that "she asked for it," or rape happens as men cannot control their sexual impulses (Z. Kamdar et al., 2017).

Within the examination by O'Donohue, Yeater & Fanetti (2003) they have verified that the acceptance

of rape myths now not only indicates tricky attitudes but is also an explanatory predictor in the actual perpetration of sexual violence.

Attributing the rape victim

Within the idea of blame, the route model of Blame is a map of the four or five data processing steps that Malle, Guglielmo & Monroe advocate as essential and sufficient to account for viewers' ascription of blame to norm violators. The direction model forms the routes responsible from occasion detection onwards and consists of judgments of agent causality and intentionality, in addition to finer differences regarding consideration of the agent's reasons, duties, and capacity to behave about the event (Niemi & Young, 2014)

The maximum straightforward software of the version to the case of rape proceeds as follows. First, the viewer detects rape because of the norm-violating occasion. Second, the viewer detects the rapist as the causal agent. Third, the viewer determines the rapist's intentions and motives, in the end, observers allocate some degree of blame to the rapist. As such, the course version of money owed for the way observers would possibly assign blame to the perpetrator, that is, the rapist, inside the case of rape (Niemi & Younger, 2014).

II. Review of Literature

Within the look at with the aid of White and Kurpius (1999), they examined the relationship between gender and expert fame on attitudes toward rape victims. The Attitude toward Rape Sufferers Scale turned into finished with the aid of 74 upper-class undergraduates (20 males, 54 females), seventy-eight starting graduate college students in counseling (18 adult males, 60 females), and forty-five intellectual health specialists (22 males, 23 females). Male undergraduates had the maximum poor attitudes toward rape sufferers, and lady professionals had the maximum favorable attitudes. All males nonetheless preserve greater terrible attitudes closer to rape victims than do their female counterparts, regardless of expert fame.

According to Choudhari et al., (2016), had look at becoming geared toward assessing the attitudes of scientific students toward women, their mindset closer toward rape victims, stages of rape myths acceptance, and associations between understanding and attitudes, focusing on gender, age differences, and internal factors of family members. The look confirmed that age and education degree have an impact on the mindset toward rape victims. More youthful age and female gender are related to a more egalitarian mindset. Male gender and increasing age were related to more rejection of rape myths. Female gender, increasing age, and married reputation had an accepting mindset towards rape sufferers. These effects are crucial considering scientific college students are at the point of care where rape victims come for assistance. Interventions to improve their information are necessary for higher care.

Kaur (2016), carried out a study on the mindset of youngsters toward sexually assaulted girls (N=300) on a graduate student from a specific university in Punjab. As a result, they had a look that indicated 64% of the participants confirmed a slightly beneficial mindset, 27% showed a favorable mindset, and 9% had an adverse mindset.

Mittal, Singh, and Verma (2016) determined in their research, that a poor mindset toward rape victims various adult males than ladies and additionally suggest as the social class (General, OBC, and SC), OBC class human beings preserve a greater terrible mindset toward rape victims than General and SC category people.

Kamdar et al. (2017) wanted to look at the attitude and myths towards rape among college-going students of Surat town it was discovered several of the respondents, 75% were ladies. The mean age of participants become 20.22 ± 1.27 years. Nearly one-third (73%) of girl individuals and 42% of male individuals disagreed with the myth that "when a female says 'no' she approaches 'yes'." around 30% of the individuals had been uncertain about the myth that "A girl cannot be raped with the aid of a person she formerly knew or had sex with." while nearly 35% of individuals believed that "maximum rapes are accomplished by using strangers." strong sexual preference of men, drunkenness, and girl's clothes had been said to be elements that initiate rape through 50%, 40%, and 33% of respondents, respectively, around ninety five% of girl and 92% of male participants think that 7-year imprisonment for rape is not sufficient. Rape myths are determined to be noticeably standard among young people and higher among men. (Z. N. Kamdar et al., 2017).

Dhaka, Kalola, and Steenkamp (2019), in their study, examined locators that made college students have a drastically better stage of adverse attitudes, with an indication that most rape sufferers are attacked because of their brief garb patterns.

Cantwell (2019), had studied gender distinction amongst Irish adults (N=168) toward rape sufferers, the findings of the study looked at indicating a significant distinction between women and men, adult males showed a higher range of unfavorable attitudes towards rape sufferers than females.

III. Method

Objective

There are two objectives for the present study,

- I. Comparing the gender differences in attitude towards rape victims in Delhi/ NCR.
- II. Finding the Highest percentage of responses from Delhi and NCR region.

Sampling:

The participants for the present study are adults (18 years and above) from different Delhi/ NCR regions, who had good access to the internet and understood the English language.

Tools:

For the present study, the Attitude Towards Rape Victim Scales (AVRS) is used and has 25 items which had been developed by C. Ward (1998). The reliability of AVRS has been examined with Cronbach alpha and factor analysis and came out internally consistent with alpha= .83. The Construct validity of the AVRS has been found to correlate with other scales Adversarial Sexual Beliefs Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence, Sexual Conservation, and Attitudes toward Women. The response for the scale is on a 5-point Likert type (1= Strongly Disagree to 5= Strongly agree). The scoring for some items has been reversed, items with reverse scoring numbers are 3,5, 7, 10,12,15,19, and 22. High scores on AVRS show a highly Negative Attitude toward Rape Victim.

Procedure

A Google form was made and consisted of all the 25 items of the scales, informed consent was taken from the participants and then the instruction was provided for the research. The participants were also informed about ethical guidelines and that their information will remain confidential it's been only used for research purposes. To analyze the data Excel 2013 had been used.

IV. Results

Table 1: Gender differences among the participants.

Gender	N	Mean	SD	SEM	df	t	Significance
Female	60	63.31**	24.35**	3.19	116	2.99	0.0034*
Male	58	50.28	22.91	2.95			

* $p < 0.05$; **Highest mean and SD shows a more positive attitude towards the Rape victim.

Table 2: Response of Participants from different regions of Delhi/NCR.

Gender	GBN*	Delhi	Ghaziabad	Gurugram	Faridabad
Male	5.93%	17.79%	10.16%	5.08%	9.32%
Female	16%	25.42%	2.54%	5.93%	1.69%

*GBN = Gautam Buddh Nagar consisting of Noida and Greater Noida.

V. Discussion

The present study focused on understanding the attitude difference among gender in Delhi/NCR region and finding the highest percentage of responses from the different Delhi/NCR regions. Delhi is among the first ranked Cities in India for the highest number of rape crimes. Rape is a social issue and a violation of human rights. It has been found that Rape against women is one of India's most normal crimes against women (Crime against Women in India, 2020). The method incorporated for the study is one-way ANOVA to find gender differences.

Data from Table 1 describes the gender differences between the attitude towards rape victims, Females (M= 63.31 SD= 24.35) and Males (M= 50.28, SD=22.1) Females have shown a more positive attitude towards rape victims than their male counterparts, possible reasons can be the women believing upon the modern thinking, the cause of the rape is never the clothes or she invites for the rape whereas a negative attitude towards rape victim by men can be said due to the

patriarchal beliefs that women are sexual objects, they attract men for sexual contacts, showing women in a sexist way in the entertainment industry, for example, item number songs of Bollywood portray women's body more. Much literature supported the above findings, Percec, Bednarz, Guzik, and Druzbecki (2022) in their study also found a positive attitude of females more than males among Polish medical college students. White and Kurpui (1999) found more terrible attitudes of males than females among graduate college students.

Data from table 2 shows the response percentage of the participants from different Delhi and NCR regions, the highest Male (17.79%) and Female (25.42%) responses are from Delhi and the lowest response is

recorded from Gurugram for Males (5.08%) and Faridabad for Females (1.69%). The highest responses indicate that people are aware of the rape victims, but still have slightly different attitudes towards them as compared to the participants from other NCR regions. Cantwell (2019) studied attitude differences toward rape victims among Irish adults, findings indicated that male adults had a more negative attitude toward rape victims than female adults. **Limitations and Recommendations**

There are some limitations to the present study, the sample size is relatively small, which makes it difficult to generalize the study findings, the scale can also be used in finding correlations with the other scales. Socio-economic background as a factor can also be studied as it can make an attitudinal difference. The attitude of the third gender could also be seen in future research, also gender differences can be studied among different Delhi/NCR regions. These limitations can be a lighting path for future research and the authors hope that study provides valuable insight into knowledge and attitudes towards rape victims presented by Delhi/NCR people.

VI. Conclusion

There is no doubt that victims of any crime are never been blamed for crime, rape victims are the most vulnerable ones. The study has shown the most expected attitude of the people, Delhi is called the rape capital of India, and the response from maximum participation shows that the capital has people with two different attitudes as compared to other NCR regions. Traditional attitudes are still active in people's minds, especially males, which need to be changed by creating awareness that it is not the fault of the victim but rather the intention of the accused.

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