Exploring the link between violence against women and women involvement in illegal activities

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ABSTRACT

The present study entitled, "Exploring the link between violence against women and women involvement in illegal activities" was carried in district Farrukhabad to assess the criminal women. Thus, one jail was selected with 100 respondents. After studying women involvement in different criminal activities (crime). Higher women involvement in domestic violence with 1.60 mean value and dowry death with 1.41 mean score value. Further, after studying their causes of dowry death crime, it was found that women respondents involved lack of education, 1.19 mean score, attempt to suicide, violence was increased 1.22 mean score and kidnapping, not good guidance with 1.22 mean score and domestic violence, social stress with 1.28 mean score, money is major causes of murder with 1.39 mean score and women respondents found the poverty causes of attempt murder with 1.40 mean score. Many women respondents have ill-treatment by parent causes of prostitution with 1.19 mean score and women involved in drug trade, family occupation with 1.13 mean score, habited and not good guidance in robberies with 1.08 mean score, feeling neglect/ignored under appreciated causes of cheating with mean score. From the study, it was concluded that mostly women involved in crime domestic violence and dowry death etc. causes of family violence, money, lack of education, poverty, social stress etc.

INTRODUCTION

As Swami Vivekananda had said "That country and that nation that do not respect women have never become great, nor ever be in future". Women are considered as a weaker sex not only from physical point of view but also from sociological aspect also. Women we refer to Smritis, we notice that woman has always been dependent on man. During childhood, on her father, after marriage on her husband and during her old age on her son. However, in olden times we find say "where women are respected there gods reside" Mahatma Gandhi once observed. To call women a weaker sex it's liable is mans injustice to women if by strength means brute strength, then indeed women are less brute than men. If by strength means moral power then women is work of Gabon the sprit of man in every position like priest, husband and guardian perpetuated the female sex as to obey the man but no one questioned as to why she must be treated as obeying person. Over the years many enactments have been passed to take care of fair sex. Provisions pertaining to domestic life of women, proprietary rights and women, social life of women and their personal rights are some of the examples of such progressive legislation. Hindu

Marriage Act 1955, Child Marriage Restraint Act 1901. Dowry Prohibition Act 1961 is some of the glorious examples to improve the situation. However in present male dominated society much for welfare of the women has to be done because of manifold offence against women.

The understanding of violence against women can be broadened and deepened by focusing on the link between gender abuse and women's involvement in illegal activity – two of the most compelling problems facing contemporary criminologists. The groups of women who are most marginalized in society are vulnerable to both problems. A comprehensive response through public policy and programming can make a difference in reducing both violence against women and their growing involvement in criminal activity.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

To complete the above objectives the research methodology employed and the study was conducted in Fatehgarh Jail (Farrukhabad) district during 2011-12, one jail was selected in this study. 100 respondents were selected. Dependent and independent variables namely age, caste, education, family income, occupation etc. were used. The collected data were subjected to statistical analysis for which statistical tools, percentage, weighted mean and correlation coefficient were used.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

It is evident from the Table 1 reveals that the distribution of respondents according to age, 6.3 per cent of respondents belonged to age group 51 and above with mean age 59 years and 4.6 per cent of respondents belonged to age group 18 to 35 years with mean age 26 year. Only 4.3 per cent respondents belonged to age group 36 to 50 years with mean age 41 years and S.D. 4.3 years.

Different criminal illegal activities (crime) :

Table 2 reveals that 60.0 per cent of respondents are involved in domestic violence which hold the I rank with mean score 1.60 followed by II rank has 41.0 per cent of respondents involved in crime of dowry death with mean score value of 1.41. Further 20.0 per cent respondents involved in crime of murder hold III rank with mean score value of 1.20 while 18.0 per cent of respondents are involved in crime of kidnapping hold IV rank with mean score value of 1.18. 12.0 per cent of respondents involved in crime of cheating hold V rank with mean score value of 1.12 whereas, 5.0 per cent of women are involved in crime of robberies hold VI rank with means score of 1.05 and 4.0 per cent of respondents are involved in crime of abetment of suicide hold VII rank with mean score value of 1.04 and 3.0 per cent of respondents are involved in crime attempt murder hold

Table 1 : Distribution of respondents according to age group				
Age group (years)	Frequency	Per cent	Mean age (yrs)	S.D.
18 to 35	34	34.0	26	4.6
36 to 50	21	21.0	41	4.3
51 and above	45	45.0	59	6.3
Total	100	100.0	44	15.6

Table 2 : Distribution of respondents according to different criminal illegal activities (crime)				
Crime	Yes	No	Mean score	Rank
Dowry death	41 (41.0)	59 (59.0)	1.41	II
Abetment of suicide	4 (4.0)	96 (96.0)	1.04	VII
Kidnapping	18 (18.0)	82 (82.0)	1.18	IV
Domestic violence	60 (60.0)	40 (40.0)	1.60	I
Murder	20 (20.0)	80 (80.0)	1.20	III
Attempt murder	3 (3.0)	97 (97.0)	1.03	VIII
Prostitution	1 (1.0)	99 (99.0)	1.01	X
Women's involvement in drug trade	2 (2.0)	98 (98.0)	1.02	IX
Robberies	5 (5.0)	95 (95.0)	1.05	VI
Cheating	12 (12.0)	88 (88.0)	1.12	V

Table 3 : Distribution of the respondent according to causes of crime with correlation co-efficient

Variables	Correlation co-efficient (r)									
	Crime causes									
	Dowry death	Attempt to suicide	Kidnapping	Dowry violence	Murder	Abetment of murder	Prostitution	Women involved in drug	Robberies	Cheating
Age	0.0938	0.1326	-0.0218	0-1794	-0.0448	0.1013	0.0316	0.0427	0.0661	-0.1103
Education	0.1625	-0.0024	-0.90324	-0.0621	-0.0590	-0.2161	0.0691	-0.0771	-0.2151	-0.2270
Caste	-0.0293	-0.0787	0.1201	0.0038	0.0042	0.0416	-0.0872	-0.1374	0.1617	0.0412
Family type	-0.0791	0.2126*	-0.0485	-0.0612	-0.0093	0.0613	0.0761	0-.1162	-0.1216	0.2513*
Family size	0.0860	0.0935	-0.0384	0.0622	-0.1066	0.1160	0.1981*	0.1819	-0.1313	0.1971*
Family occupation	-0.0622	0.2413*	0.0596	0.0579	0.0401	-0.0551	-0.0691	-0.0176	-0.0188	-0.1071
Income	-0.1001	0.0523	0.0541	-0.1553	-0.0047	-0.2154	0.2263*	-0.1992	-0.1981	0.1988*

*indicates significance of value at $P=0.05$

VIII rank with mean score value of 1.03 while 2.0 per cent of respondents are involved in crime of women involved in drug trade hold IX rank with mean score value of 1.02 and minimum 1.0 per cent respondents are involved in crime of prostitution hold X rank with mean score value of 1.01.

Causes of crime with correlation coefficient :

Table 3 reveals that correlation coefficient between causes of crime and independent variables, in abetment suicide of respondents was positively correlated with family type (0.2126*), family occupation (0.2413*) and causes of prostitution was significant correlated with family size (0.1981*) and annual income of the respondents (0.2263*). Causes of cheating of respondents were positively correlated with types of family (0.2513*), family size (0.1971*) and annual income (0.1988*) of the respondents. Dowry death was negatively correlated with caste, family type, family size, family occupation, income. Abetment of suicide was negatively correlated with education, caste, kidnapping was negatively correlated with age, education, family type, family size. Domestic violence was negatively correlated with education, family types, income, and murder was negatively correlated with age, education, family types, family size, and income. Attempt murder was negatively correlated with education, family occupation, income, prostitution was negatively correlated with caste, family occupation. Women's involvement in drug trade was negatively correlated with education, caste, family occupation, income, robberies was negatively correlated with education, family type, family size, family occupation, income, cheating was negatively correlated with age, education, and family occupation.

Conclusion :

Women's disproportionately high rate of poverty, women's increased access to areas of crime formerly dominated by males and the overall increase of violence and crime are some possible explanations for the surge. From the study, it was concluded that mostly women involved in crime domestic violence and dowry death etc.

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