Violence Against Women
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Introduction

The term violence has very deep roots in society and it's one of the oldest evils in society. And how can we forget women, who are the most common target of violence. They have been the victims of violence throughout the ages in all the cultures, regions, religions, and societies around the world.

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India, which claims to advocate of people and non-violence women have to bear the burden of violence public as well as domestic, emotional, mental, and physical as well. Violence against women is linked to her status as obedient to male-controlled norms dominant in society.

The post-Vedic period was the time when violence against women began to be practiced in India. The doors of social, economic, political, cultural, and educational opportunities were gradually closed for them. The birth of a girl came to be grief and that of a boy rejoiced. Men start to dominate women in respect of dress, diet, movement, marriage, and many more ways. They even began to enslave women. They were treated as commodities like a cow who don't have their own will or freedom to practice what they like and they were sold and purchased like that. They even laid some rules and regulations, obligations, and restrictions on women and were imposed with various punishments and penalties were also forced on them if they violate the rules and restrictions laid by men. From that point violence against women came to have a societal sanction.

With the progress of time, various evils began to dwell and creep up in society. The widow's right to start a new life was denied and the practice of Sati was introduced. Beating wife got social and religious sanctions. This violence took another major turn when young girls were forced to serve as the devadasis in the temples. Also, this made prostitution part of the religious life. The tradition of early childhood marriage began to flourish at a tender age and in certain communities, parents began to kill their newborn girl child with their own hands. Forced marriage became common as polygamy took strong roots in society.

In the colonial period, India did get some educations and legislations that for some time brought a cessation to violence against women but generally British displayed indifference to the status of women. This was the situation of women in colonial times or pre-independence. But post-independence the violence against women not only increased but took many new shapes. With the progress of science and technology, violence takes a new turn in the form of female feticide where illegal screening of fetuses became available at the doorstep. The violence against women mostly grows and relates to their position in society. The reason for this violence is because people perceived women to be the weaker sex, and dependent on man hence they can be treated the way men like or pleases. They are expected to submit to men's command with the least sign of resistance and if they refuse then it invites the use of violence against them to comply. If women are unskilled, dependent, economically dependent, and uneducated then it's seldom that they don't have a choice but to bear all those mayhems mounded on her.

Besides, domestic violence, women are also victims of many social and public violence more often and more chastening like gang rape, eve-teasing, etc. Molestation is not just an act of a man against women instead it represents a patriarchal mindset of the society. They use it as a weapon to prevent women from raising their voices against outrages. In feuds whether personal or family or in situations like wars molestation has always been a form of humiliating the foe. Additionally, the violence continues undiminished but no social action has been forthcoming. Laws and regulations are there and recently more regulations and laws are added to them but still, people seem to have no effect on the law as this doesn't affect them.

Violence against women is clubbed by factors such as religion, caste, class, and community. Mostly, caste wars lead to or result in molestation and rape of women. Further, religious fundamentalism imposes boundaries first on women, and then they are the ones punished for trying to break out of unashamedly unrealistic and unfair codes of conduct.

Conclusion

Today, society needs to make aware of the fact that women are not meant to be treated as an object like punching bags or doormats. Also, the law enforcing mechanism must be proficient and made more profound to the issue of women's safety and security. Additionally, women need to organize themselves in groups and raise a united voice against the system that turns a blind eye towards them if not actually overlooks violent acts against women. Collective efforts can produce a public opinion and uproar against disgraces against women done by men in government or uniform can work as a constraining. Women need to know and learn their rights and stand up to them. In the

fight against violence, every woman needs to stand up with each other shoulder to shoulder. And lastly, for women to stand with dignity in the world, attitudinal changes are required right from the home. Instead of restricting women, we need to educate and restrict boys because it's the only way we can make the world a safer place for women.

Reference

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