

Impact of Literacy Rate and Males in White-Collar Jobs on Crime against Women in India

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Abstract: *In some male groups, sexual aggression is often seen as a masculine identity in manhood which leads to a traumatic experience for its victims in a physical, psychological, and sociological way. This research paper aims to investigate the dynamic impact of literacy rate and males in white-collar jobs on the crime against women in India individually and the dependence of the crime rate of rape on the upbringing of an individual. The scope of this paper is to present clarity on how the rate of crime of rape is affected by both the factors.*

Keywords: Literacy Rate, Rape, White-Collar Jobs, Crime against Women

1. Introduction

What is Literacy Rate and White-Collar Jobs?

The literacy rate measures the socio-economic progress of a country. It refers to a precise sample of a population of a country (in percentage terms) that has the potential to read or write. According to the census in 1991, the people that are taken into account to calculate the literacy rate is aged seven years or above. The government of India has been initiating various programs to boost the literacy rate in the country. Despite the hard efforts of the government, it is visible that the literacy rate of India has been growing in a very sluggish manner. The literacy rate of India stands at 74.04% with Kerala being the most literate state (93.91%) and Bihar is the least literate state (63.82%).

In addition to this, the white-collar jobs refer to the people who work at the desk or administrative offices. People always identify white-collar workers as superior because they have acquired more formal education and can be referred to as the most indispensable assets of the companies that they work for. These workers can be recognized as people who have acquired esoteric skills over the years in their respective areas of interest.

How does rape affect the victim?

Rape is defined as “a type of sexual assault involving sexual intercourse or other forms of sexual penetration carried out against a person without that person's consent”. In the aftermath of a sexual assault or rape, the victim can face post-traumatic stress disorder and maybe a sense of vulnerability. The victim can also develop a negative outlook towards life and feel damages from inside. Survivors face harrowing experiences which leads to their mental health deterioration. Rapes can often lead to sexual dysfunction, thereby causing fluctuations in the menstrual period of the female victims. In some victims, the psychological effects of rape are long-lasting and harmful. Concluding, rapes have always been a traumatic experience for the victims.

Crime Rate of Rape = Number of Cases of Rapes Reported / Mid-Year Projected Population in Lakhs

2. Impact of Literacy Rate on the Crime Rate of Rape

In a patriarchy driven country like India, the sex-ratio states that males have always outnumbered women with a large margin. Men have ever tried to dominate women to prove their superiority. Earlier, people used to focus on educating more men than women because they did not realize that the lack of education makes them less equipped with the advancing technology. The denial to impart training to individuals makes them less aware of the happenings in their surroundings. If the individuals are literate enough, they will keep an eye on every situation that takes place and is of some concern to society. According to the Economic Times survey, the crime against women contributes to ten per cent of the total crimes that take place. It is possible to believe that the most literate states have the highest crime rate of rape. The crime rate is high due to the level of awareness that the literate people possess because literacy does not increase rape but the reported rape.

3. Impact of Males in White-Collar Jobs on the Crime Rate of Rape

According to Sutherland, “Crime committed by persons of respectability and high social status in the course of their occupation” are referred to as white-collar crimes since these crimes are committed for financial gain. In the present scenario of the corporate sector, there is a lot of competition, and everyone is running a rat race for success irrespective of gender. It is honest of them to think that they can get away even if they commit a heinous crime because it has become difficult to prosecute as very sophisticated systems are involved. There also exists a wage difference based on gender. The fact “Supremacy of Men” is very brutal because the male in a white-collar job finds themselves as someone holding a high-status position in society. Just like men, women also feel like holding a good position in the workplace, but sadly, she is often being

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mistaken. Men take them as indications as it is too difficult for them to think of a woman working hard and maintaining relations like any other man. On considering these factors, it is fair to assert that the males in white-collar jobs weakly correlate with the crime rate of rape.

4. Dependence of Crime Rate of Rape on the Household Milieu of an Individual

It has been observed that the ultimate goal of a rapist is to hurt or intimidate their victim. Growing in environments that are sexually violent and have a robust patriarchal base where men have always tried to overpower women by dominating them leads to men being raised as more preeminent and are likely to use sexual coercion against women. In families where social relationships are involved, and women have always been blamed and men not punished, rape is most likely to occur with impunity. In some men, sexual violence is seen as a learned behaviour. Men who aren't supported emotionally and have distant relations with their family members tend to grow sexually aggressive and commit such crimes. Men are brought up as bold and despotic to affirm their masculinity. In an environment where females have always been suppressed, to save the family from shame and regain honour, victims usually don't report the rape, which causes a reduction in the crime rate of rape.

5. Conclusion

Rape crime is wrongful, but still, it continues to persist in India and across the country. The nation needs to address a heinous crime like rape, but the problem that exists, which makes it even worse is the underreporting of rapes. Victims usually don't report their cases due to lack of trust in judiciary and historical evidence that even after being reported the person who carried out this evil activity had not been punished. Therefore, it is imperative to spread awareness among the underprivileged society, to empower educated teachers, and proper implementation of government schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Bridging courses and realization of social responsibility is a key to increase the literacy rate and reduce the crime against women. There is an urgent need to formulate policies to reduce rape cases. To minimise the impact of males in white-collar jobs on the offence against women, it is necessary to eliminate gender bias in the workplace by supporting women into senior role and giving them a chance to be part of the sizeable executive board of the company. It can also be done by standardizing wages and providing unbiased training. In the white-collar sector, crime cells should be proactive and precise policy related to gender discrimination and inappropriate behaviour in the workplace should be created. Even though males in white-collar jobs have little effect on rape, nevertheless we shouldn't ignore ways for improvising on it.

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