

WOMEN ARE THE VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE-A GRIM REALITY AND THE APPALLING STORY OF EVERYDAY LIFE OF WOMEN, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES WITH REFERENCE TO THE WRITINGS OF INDIAN WOMEN WRITERS

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Abstract

Violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced in to a subordinate position compared with men. At least one out of three women around the world has been beaten coerced in to sex or otherwise abused in her life time with abuser usually someone known to her and some of the forms of violence perpetrated by individuals are rape, domestic violence and sexual harassment. As literature represent socialist thought , from the very beginning there has been a mutual relationship between society and literature both has been progressing one influencing the other especially from 20th century towards a medium of modernism in which women create and proclaim their autonomy. The recent women writers like Shoba De, Nayantara Saghil and Shashi Deshpande argue in support of women's claim as equal partners within marriage as well as an individual. Since the modern educated women caught between patriarchy and tradition in search of independence and individuals, as it was said by Vivekananda women must be put in a position to solve their own way, no one ought to do this for them, as our Indian women are capable of doing it as any other woman in the world.

Key words: Modern educated women – crucial social mechanism-Domestic violence-sexual harassment-society and literature-Indian women writings – empowered and responsible women-equal partners-patriarchy and tradition-mutual relationship-Progress in the country.

Introduction

As the world is leading in the technological improvement and the advancement of material prosperity etc, the rate of violence against women, rapes and brutal murders have been so common now a days. Violence against women has grown to a great extent in the free India. Dowry death's ,murders ,bride burning, harassment, chain snatching are giving rise to other violence in the society and so simultaneous increase in violence against women is hindering the social ,economical, political and cultural progress in the country. The meaning of term violence may involve verbal abuse or psychological stress without the actual hitting which cause injury to the mind and harm the reputation. Violence against women in the country is getting more frequent and alarmingly with huge sound. It is creating pressure and heavy responsibility over the shoulders of social workers too. However there is urgent need for women to be empowered and responsible to themselves in order to understand all the rights and take benefits

As India is a traditional male dominated country where women have to face violence in the society from the ancient time to the modern time and a big incident of violence against women in India happened in Delhi on

16th of December in 2012. It was a brutal gang rape of the 23 year old woman India. Though there was serious agitation of anger people, having call for the change still such type of cases are regularly happening in the society, it is still going very complex and deep rooted. It is true that insufficient legal justice system, weak rules of law and male dominated social structures dominate the increasing education level of the people.

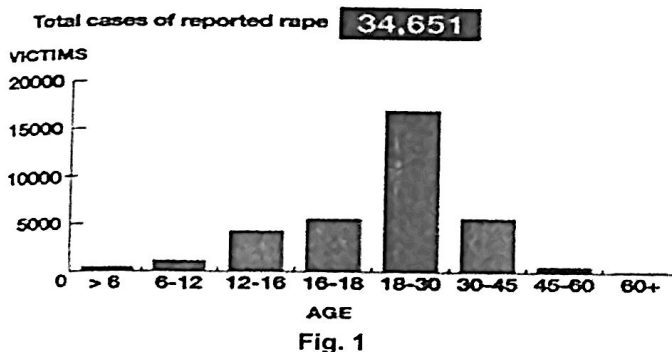
Violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced in to a subordinate position compared with men. At least out of every three women around the world has been beaten, forced in to sex or otherwise abused in her life time with the abuser usually someone unknown to her. Some of the forms of violence perpetrated by individuals are Rape, domestic violence, sexual harassment. Crimes against women have more than doubled over the past ten years. According to latest data released by the national crime records bureau. As many as 2.24 million crimes against women are reported over the past decade. 26 crimes against women are reported every hour or one complaint every two minutes reveals that crime against women is direct or indirect physical or mental curtly to women.

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- Cruelty by husbands and relatives is the major crime committed against women, across the country. With 909,713 cases reported over the last 10 years or 10 every hour.
- Assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty earlier classified as molestation under section 354 of IPS, it is the second – most reported crime against women over the last decade.
- Kidnapping and abduction of women is the third most reported crime followed by rape of women and dowry death.
- More than 66,000 cases have been reported under the dowry prohibition over the last decade.
- Ten cases of cruelty by husband and relatives are reported every hour across the country followed by case of kidnapping and rape.

According to the research women in India have been victims of violence from many years in almost at the societies, regions, cultures and religious communities. Women in India started being used as commodities for the men to perform different functions of daily routine. As long as it continues, we cannot claim to be making real progress towards equality, development and peace. Basically we are covering gender discrimination but the statistics of last three years report that at least 34,651 cases of rape were reported across India last year, statistics released by the country's National crime records Bureau (NCRB) have revealed. Aged between 18 and 30 reporting the largest rate of rape attacks totaling almost 19,000 total number of crimes against women including rape, sexual harassment, important of girls cruelty by husbands, kidnapping were recorded by the crime Bureau are 3,27,394 in 2017.

Graph shows total cases of reported rape in 2015, divided along age groups.



A recent study has concluded that violence against women is the fastest-growing crime in India. So what exactly do we want? We need to fight the domestic

violence evil. Need for strongest laws, Role of non-governmental organizations police and health care.

From the very beginning, there has been a mutual relationship between society and literature. Both have been progressing, one influencing the other. Literature represents socialist thought; they both have strong mutual relationship, especially between the progress of the society and the evolution of literature. Women's writings in 20th century moved towards a medium of modernism in which feminist statements were combined. Writers like Shoba De , Nayantara saghal and Shashi Deshpande have chosen the problems and issues faced by the women and tried to create awareness that to proclaim their autonomy. Nayantara novels starting from A Time to Be Happy (1963) This time of morning (1965) The Day in Shadow (1971) plans for departure (1985)mistaken identity (1988) lesser breeds(2003) argue in support of women's claim as equal partners within marriage as well as an individual.

ShobaDe's writings starting from sisters (1992) sultry days (1994) second thoughts (1996) snapshots (2006) are thought provoking and provocative. She reacts against the male culture and marginalization of women. Shashi Deshpande's protagonists are modern educated Indian women caught between patriarchy and tradition in search of independence and individuality. Her writings like The Dark Holds No Terror(1980) That long silence(1989) The Binding Vine(2002) A matter of Time (2003) explores the women's struggle to secure self-respect and self identity. The three writings besides sensitizing the people to the problem, they offer possible and feasible solutions to tackle these problems. As novel has been considered a powerful medium for expressing thoughts, feelings and experiences the Indian women novelists signifies the birth of new era of freedom to Indian women by dealing the issues related to women in the contemporary society. They clearly give the picture of an independent Indian woman her quest, her personal discovery of self and fulfillment of the self. The realistic picture of male dominated societal frame work reminds us the sayings of Plato in "The Republic" We shall have to train the women also Then in both kinds of skill , and treat them in the same way as the men.

The writers like Sahgal's novels explore on the marriage of the women protagonists. A time to be happy(1958), The time of morning(1968), The day in shadow(1971) are the best examples to deal with the contemporary personalities. The protagonist in A Time to be happy deals with Kurume's suffering from the torment of a broken marriage and Maya's emotional experience in marriage. This time of marriage illustrates the unhappy marriage of Rashmi and Rakesh, where the protagonist is not treated as a person with ideas, feelings and

emotions. The day in shadow deals with disintegration of the marriage with necessary analytical power. It is a story of divorce with harsh conditions laid down. Over all we see the strong independent Indian Women. So it's said that the humanist in Nanantara champions the new human values to blast its way through the jungle of superstition.

Sahitya Academy award winner Shashi Deshpande's writings reflect the reality so faithfully where every woman identifies herself with her characters. As she explores the many facts of Indian women's life on the exploitation of the troubled sensitivity of the middle class milieu in the context of contemporary Indian society to find her identity as wife, mother and most important of all as human being. Her writing like *The dark Holds no terror* (1980), *Roots and Shadows* (1983), *The long silence* (1986), *Small remedies* (2000) became so popular. The first novel describes an unusual protagonist Sarita who breaks the age old traditions to marry a man outside her caste where her love marriage does not prove to be fruitful. Next novel is the story about Indu the protagonist who belongs to middle class, brought up in an orthodox family. She rebels against Akka and marries Jayant and desert her home. The third novel deals with Jaya's the protagonist's psychological fights against conventional male control. So all novels deal with the sufferings or violence against women in a male dominated society and their desire to forge an identity for themselves.

Shobha De is one of the popular, frank and straight forward woman novelists who explores the sexual mania of the commercial world. She explores the sexual mania of the commercial world. She explores the secret depth of human psychology and also the spiritual break down of human society. her novel "starry nights" is a story of film actress, Asha rain, who struggles at her early age days and rise to stardom and then her acceptance of the changed scenario, so she changes the decision to with draw from acting and builds the studio and she introduces her own daughter Sasha into the film world, her latest book "spouse" discusses the decay and demise of the marriage system, arguing that the attitude of the men and women as deficient.

Women at home and society in general, is a different cup of tea. How did the men win the winning hand/how are the women treated as second class citizens/how did this battle of sexes begin? Why woman's role was taken as for granted. As we all know, over a period of time the man started believing that his role was superior to that of the woman and woman's role was taken as granted. But only when things went way beyond the level of tolerance that the woman raised their voices.

The first such voice was heard loud and clear in the early 19th century. Women's rights movement gained mass support in the latter half of the twentieth century when the essential problems like discrimination, inequality and limited opportunities continued to confront women in all spheres of life. Feminists were those who wrote, spoken and acted on behalf of women and their rights to social, economical and political equality. In this phase, Indian women writes tried to equate themselves with men by proving that they were as good as them. Women novelists raise many questions by providing the reader with an insight in to the problems of different roles that a woman in a society. Since literature has a different reality and different version, women novelists herald a changing scenario in novel writing with their in depth portrayal of the Indian psyche, specially seen in their depiction of the women protagonists.

Conclusion

The study of the life of the protagonists of these writers is an eye opener. Most of us think that one should be Rani Lakshmi Bai to bring about this change. But all we need is to do is find our or your voice. Take the first step in whichever way can like the middle class ordinary protagonists of the writers who changed their life by raising their voice. Women need to break free of their limiting beliefs. As Swami Vivekananda quotes Women must be put in a position to solve their own problems in their own way. No one ought to do this for them. Find our Indian women are as capable of doing it as any in the world. As no society or country can ever progress without the active participation of women in it's over all development. You may be asking, how can we change the traditions that have been entrenched in our system through ages? We need to question ourselves that when the entire universe is ever-changing, why can't we? Why do you and I need to be such in age of old systems that no longer serve any purpose?

Women today need not look anywhere for a perfect rolemodel. they need to look within and listen to their intuition to take the right action at the right time. 21th century women should look forward to her empowered role. In this new age, the change should continue which was already begin to gain of its fruits. The time is ripe for the women of all classes to come together to be the icon of change, to invoke the masculine-feminine balance in all of us. The women in the 21th century across the world in general and Indian women in particular are paying need to their inner voice. As they are placed at a position of advantage, they are a step forward finding their individual and collective voice.

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