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Voices For Change: Crime Against Women, Evaluating Legal Reforms and Women's Rights Movement

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ABSTRACT

The fight for women to achieve equal status in the society has been a challenging journey. The women's rights movement has played vital role in advocating for gender equality and influencing legal reforms to protect women from crimes such as rape, domestic violence, acid attacks and sexual harassment. It has also initiated to contribute on creating awareness in the society for the recognition and protection of fundamental, social and natural rights of a woman. However, factors like patriarchal thinking of the society, some social and cultural norms lead to gender based violence against women which again leads to non-effective implementation of the legal frameworks in the country. This study investigates the extent to which the legal reforms effectively enhance women's access to justice or merely serve as a symbolic measure without substantive impact. It explores the gap between legal provisions and its enforcement, the societal and institutional barriers that hinder justice for women. Special emphasis is placed on the Indian context where the constitutional rights of a women goes unrecognized and patriarchal norms contribute to the widespread of discrimination in the society. Through legal case studies and comparative analysis of legal systems, this research evaluates the effectiveness of legal frameworks and proposes recommendations for strengthening laws to ensure safety and justice for women.

KEYWORDS

Women's Right Movements, Crime Against Women,

Patriarchy, Legal Frameworks and Reforms, Social Norms, Discrimination, Gender Equality, Legal Case Studies, Justice, India.

INTRODUCTION

Cultural, social and political considerations have all had an impact on the prolonged and complicated fight for women's rights. Legal structures have developed globally to combat crimes against women such as acid attacks, rape, sexual harassment and domestic abuse. However, gender-based violence continues despite these legislative developments, casting doubt on the efficacy of legal reforms. Legal protections have historically been pushed for in large part by women's rights movements. Activism has played a key role in influencing policy from the early 20th-century suffrage movements to the more recent #MeToo movement. However, many women are left unprotected since these rules are frequently not implemented and enforced as they should. This investigates whether legal changes actually advance women's justice or if they are only token gestures with no real effect. It looks into how activism affects policy-making and the discrepancy between legal promises and real justice.

Women rights guaranteed by the Indian Constitution are often getting unrecognized by the society, governmental and non-governmental authorities. Women have always struggled for achieving equality in the Indian society and world-wide too. Gender inequality underpins many problems which disproportionately affect women and girls such as domestic and sexual violence, lower pay, lack of access to education and inadequate healthcare. In whatsoever century, women and their rights have always been taken for granted and so no necessary legal reforms or laws have been enforced for the women to get recognition of their rights. Women rights movements initiated helps the society to realize the importance and necessity for providing the women with the same rights, respect and dignity. It helps the governmental authorities to understand the importance and necessity to make stricter laws reforms for women and also for the crime initiated towards them. For years and years women rights movements initiated have been successful to make necessary reforms to address inequality and other crimes like domestic abuse, sexual harassment, rape, gender based violence, acid attacks, unequal opportunities, etc.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

1. To analyze impact of women's rights movements on development and implementation of legal reforms addressing the crimes against women.

2. To evaluate effectiveness of legal frameworks in delivering justice to women victims of crimes like domestic violence, rape, sexual harassment and honor killings.
3. Identifying the gaps between legal provisions and enforcement in different country's jurisdiction.
4. Examining the societal and institutional barriers that hinder justice for women.
5. To explore recommendations for strengthening legal system to ensure more meaningful protection and justice for women.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. How have women's rights movements influenced legal reforms addressing crimes against women?
2. To what extent have legal reforms improved access to justice for women?
3. What are the major obstacles in enforcing laws related to gender-based violence (GBV)?
4. What further legal and policy changes are needed to bridge gap between legal recognition and real justice for women?
5. How do different legal system compare in handling crimes against women?

This research article defines the scope of including all the women rights movements initiated by the society in relevant cases arising time-to-time and how does such movements helps in creating awareness in the society against such acts done towards women and the need for stricter laws in the country to ensure women safety and women rights. It introduces to the readers about the inequality made towards women, their daily struggles to achieve a respectable status in the society, crimes initiated towards women and necessary laws been enforced by Indian Government for women's safety and crime. This research outlines relevant laws in-force in the country for women and whether justice system of India is efficiently working towards providing women justice against such serious crimes.

As being the part of the Indian Society, it has a characteristic of being patriarchy, where in men are given more power, importance and privileges as compared to woman. This nature of the society stands out to be the most affecting nature which has been

instigating unequal treatment towards women. Women are mistreated or made feel that they are a burden to the families in which they are born. For the same family's discrimination between the male and female child born in various situations. For example, boy child is given a privilege to study further whereas female child is forced to leave the education and learn household work. This tradition of "Male Supremacy" in the Indian families has been a trend which influences the mindset of the other people of the society towards females. Women are often degraded in the Indian society as they are incapable of handling other activities as males can do so for the society. They have always been made felt restricted to a certain limit where no further life and goals exist for women. As in the 20th century, women being educated and made realize that they are more than capable enough to contribute for society's smooth funding as equal to males.

Women rights are being unrecognized by the society due to such orthodox thinking of the people or any pre-determined perception made towards women, restrictions being put forth to women and female child. Even though after getting the Independence in 1947, having laws which recognizes women rights to be equally applied and respected by the State. The women rights are being violated and crime against women are still initiated by the perpetrators without having any proper legal procedure being initiated and no strict punishment being served to the accused for such heinous crimes. Crime against women in India remains a deeply concerning issue which harms the nation's progress.

Reasons for the perpetrators for igniting crime against women stands out to be as follows:

1. Orthodox thinking towards women- As explained, if any women tries to breach any kind of norms set forth by the traditional society, people as a punishment to be given to such women initiate any kind of such acts.
2. Improper execution of the procedure for investigation of any crime- Improper or slower execution of the investigation procedure by the police authorities to investigate any crime scene, cases, etc.
3. Corruption- Taking place in the internal system of government, judiciary stands out to be the biggest problem for such crimes.
4. Lack of stricter punishments for such crimes- As per the Indian laws, punishments provided for crimes are very less strict as compared to other countries.

5. Lack of Government support to solve any such crimes- Government support is required to initiate any necessary investigation, inquiry is also sometimes missing in any circumstance.
6. Crimes getting unreported- Crimes happening with women are often being unreported to the police because of reasons like reputation of the family being hard, not getting into such lengthy process of law, justice not being provided at right time and right manner, etc.
7. Lack of safe public spaces- Unsafe public spaces increase women's vulnerability to crime, inadequate public transport can lead to harassment and assaults. For instance, Delhi Gang Rape Case 2012.

To look into the Women related crime statistical analysis, according to the National Crime Records Bureau's (NCRB) 2022 report, a total of 4,45,256 cases of crime against women were registered across India, marking a 4% increase from the previous year, which translates to nearly 51 FIRs every hour. Majority of crimes against women were categorized as cruelty by husband or relatives, making up 31.4% of cases. Kidnapping and abduction of women constituted 19.2% Incidents of sexual violence against women peaked at nearly 39,000 in 2016 and in 2018 on an average one woman was raped every 15 minutes across the country. India has seen over 400 cases of sexual harassment at workplace every year since 2018 with an average of 445 cases being reported yearly. Juveniles were involved in 86 rape cases; 68 cases were of outraging the modesty of women.

TYPES OF CRIMES AND LEGAL REFORMS

1. Rape

Rape is defined under Section 63 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023¹. When a man commits any of the following acts against a woman: penetrates her body, inserts an object, manipulates her body or uses his mouth on her body. These acts are considered to be rape if it is done against her will, without consent, with consent gained through fear, if he is not her husband, if she is unable to understand due to her mental state or intoxication, if she is under eighteen years of age or if she cannot communicate consent.

¹ BNS Act, 2023 is the new criminal law replacing the Indian Penal Code (IPC) of 1860. Citation: No. 45 OF 2023.

Mukesh & Anr v. State for NCT of Delhi & Ors., 2017 (Nirbhaya Case)²

Jyoti Singh also known as Nirbhaya. This gang rape case took place on 16th December, 2012 in Delhi, India. Nirbhaya a 23-year-old physiotherapy student and her male friend boarded a private bus at night. They were attacked by six accused including one juvenile, who gang-raped her and beat her friend unconscious. She suffered severe injuries and died on 29th December, 2012. This incident led to nationwide protests and the introduction of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, which improved rape laws. The four adult accused were executed on 20th March, 2020 in Tihar Jail; while the juvenile accused was sentenced to a reform home for three years and was released in 2015. This case caused important legal and social changes.

Punishment under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita:

1. Whoever commits rape shall be punished with rigorous imprisonment of either description for a term which shall not be less than ten years, but which may extend to imprisonment for life and shall also be liable to fine.
2. And in other cases which should mean imprisonment for the remainder of that person's natural life and a fine.

Social and Policy Impact after Nirbhaya case: After a female student was gang-raped in the Nirbhaya case in December 2012, this case becomes a turning point in India's fight against sexual violence leading to stronger laws and social awakening among society regarding increasing awareness and activism around women's safety and gender equality. A launch of "One Stop Centres" (OSCs) and Nirbhaya funds to support survivors of sexual violence, stricter laws and police reforms to improve women's safety in public places. Following the case, a committee was set-up to propose changes in the existing statutes to offer better protection of victims of sexual violence. Criminal Act was also not perfect and did not include some crucial aspects to fight crimes against women. This case amended a few sections of Criminal Procedure Code and Indian Evidence Act, the amendment recognized and incorporated several new offences such as acid-attacks, voyeurism, stalking, disrobe a woman, sexual assault, sexual harassment

² (2017) 6 SCC 1.

causes death or injury causing a person to be in persistent vegetative state.

Following are the particulars of the Criminal Amendment Act,2013 and Indian Evidence Act,1872:

- ***Criminal Procedure Code, 1937***

1. Special provisions were added for the recording of FIR of offences listed under sections 354, 354A, 354B, 354C, 354D, 376, 376A, 376B, 376C, 376D, 376E or 509 of the Indian Penal Code the amendments are that any information of committal of an offence under the above-listed section was to be recorded by a woman police officer and in the case during the committal of such an offence if the victim gets permanently or temporarily mentally or physically disabled then such information of committal of such an offence should be recorded at the residence of such victim or any convenient place of such person's choice and this should be done in the presence of an interpreter or a special educator as the case may be.
2. In addition to changes made a new sub-section was added which made it necessary for the recording of the statement of offences given by the victim under respective sections of the Indian Penal Code,1860 by the Judicial Magistrate as soon as the commission of such an offence is brought into the notice of the police authorities.
3. Section 309 of the code was modified to make the trial processes even quicker in cases of an offence committed under respective sections of crime.
4. Section 357C was inserted in the code which made sure that all hospitals, whether private or public or run by any other person to provide free medical aid to the victim of offences covered under Section 376 A-E.

- ***The Indian Evidence Act,1872:***

1. Section 53A was inserted in the Indian Evidence Act which deals with "evidence of character or previous sexual experience" this section makes previous sexual experience or character of a person an irrelevant fact while deciding the question of consent.

2. Existing section 114A was substituted by a new one stating that in a prosecution for rape, the sexual intercourse of the accused is proved and the question is whether it was without the consent of the woman alleged to have been raped and such woman states in her evidence before the court that she did not consented the court shall presume that she didn't consent.
3. In a prosecution for Rape, Cross-examination of the victim as to previous sexual experience or immoral character of such person with any person for proving such consent or quality of consent shall not be permissible to adduce evidence.

2. Domestic Violence

Domestic violence in India is defined under Section 3 of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA), 2005³. This law provides protection, relief and legal remedies for women facing violence within the household. Domestic Violence includes Physical abuse (like hitting, beating or assault); Sexual abuse (like forced sexual acts); Verbal and Emotional abuse (like insults, humiliating or threats) and Economic abuse (like denying financial resources, preventing employment). The law protects women in domestic relationships and live-in partners. The accuse can primarily be husbands or male relatives but in some cases female relatives can be held liable for the same. Women can seek protection orders, residence orders, monetary relief, custody orders and compensation. Domestic violence cases can be filed in Magistrate's Court. A landmark case related to domestic violence in India is *Indra Sarma v. V.K.V. Sarma, 2013*⁴. This case clarified that women in live-in relationships can seek protection under the Domestic Violence Act, depending on the nature of the relationship.

3. Acid Attacks

Voluntarily causing grievous hurt by use of acid, etc. is defined under Section 124 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023. "Acid" includes any substance which has acidic or corrosive character or burning nature, that is capable of causing bodily injury leading to scars or disfigurement or

³ PWDVA, 2005 is an Indian law aimed to protecting women from domestic violence. Citation: ACT NO. 43 OF 2005.

⁴ Citation: (2013) 15 SCC 755

temporary or permanent disability. The law states that anyone causing serious harm such as permanent damage or disfigurement to another person by throwing or administering acid will face severe punishment. This includes a minimum ten-year prison term, which can extend to life imprisonment along with a fine that should cover the victim's medical expenses. Additionally, if someone merely attempts to throw acid or cause harm without success, they can still be punished with five to seven years in prison and a fine. *Laxmi v. Union of India, 2015*⁵ this case is a landmark judgment in India addressing acid attacks. Laxmi Agarwal a victim of an acid attack, filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in the Supreme Court seeking stricter regulations on the sale of acid and better treatment and rehabilitation for victims. The Supreme Court (SC) ruled in favor of Laxmi, imposing a ban on over-the-counter sale of acid without proper regulation and directed the government to formulate guidelines for the treatment, rehabilitation and compensation of acid attack survivors. Court also made provisions for legal protection including the provision of free medical treatment for victims. This case is important as it emphasized the necessity for legal reforms to safeguard acid attack survivors and uphold their dignity and rights.

4. Gender Based Violence

Gender Based Violence (GBV) or Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) is a global issue that affects 1 in 3 women in their lifetime. It is a phenomenon that is deeply rooted with the concept of gender inequality and continues to be one of the prominent reasons for violation of human rights. "Gender based violence is a violence done to any person because of belonging to any particular gender." The violence done can be of physical, emotional, economic, social, sexual nature. Violence done to such particular genders not only deprives them of their basic human right but also deeply affects the mental health. Failure to address such issues may significantly hamper the development of a nation. Both men and women are prone to such violence but women are majority victims of this issue. This concept of violence has wider scope and includes all other forms of crime against women. Gender inequality is the essence of this such act, the patriarchy nature of society, social and cultural norms hinder the redress of this significant issue and women are as always been deprived of basic life, liberty and other opportunities. Every woman in their daily life

⁵ Citation: 2014 SCC (4) 427

experience such kind of abuse, it has become a part and parcel of the day where people normalize such kind of gender based discrimination. Even women going-through by such violence after a point normalize and accept such an act and there is no solution for this deep-rooted problem of the society.

Types of Gender Based Violence:

- A. Domestic violence- All acts of physical, sexual, emotional and economical abuse. By the partner or male relative, 17.7% of every partnered woman have experienced sexual or physical violation by their intimate partners.
- B. Sex-based harassment- Includes unwelcome physical, verbal, or other non-verbal conduct of sexual nature with the purpose of violating the dignity of a person. An estimated 30.8% of every-working woman have experienced sexual harassment at work.
- C. Female Genital Mutilation- Is the ritual of cutting or removing of some or all external female genital. It not only hampers mental and physical health of the women but also its participation in their community and women's dignity.
- D. Online violence- It is an umbrella term for all the harmful behavior initiated against women. They include all illegal threats, stalking, or incitement to violence, unwanted offensive or sexually explicit messages or emails, sharing of private images without consent on social networking sites.
- E. Stereotyping women and Orthodox beliefs- Many stereotypes are being made that makes women a less active or useless social being for the society. Examples being, women cannot drive, women only love pink color. Orthodox beliefs present in the society also adds to such unnoticed crimes against women. Women should be restricted to kitchen walls, they shall be married as soon as they get into their 20's, etc. are some of the belief's and stereotypes that hamper women growth socially.

5. Sexual Harassment Of Women At Workplace

Sexual harassment of a woman in workplace is a serious concern to humanity on the whole. It cannot be construed to be in a narrow sense, as it may include sexual advances and other verbal or physical harassment of a sexual nature. The victims of sexual harassment face psychological and health effects like stress, depression, anxiety, shame, guilt and so on.

Workplace sexual harassment in India was first time recognized by the Supreme Court (SC) in its landmark judgment of *Vishaka v. State of Rajasthan, 1997*⁶. The SC framed certain guidelines and issued directions to the Union of India to enact an appropriate law for combating workplace sexual harassment. The guidelines were formulated in response to the gang rape of Bhanwari Devi a social worker in Rajasthan, who was assaulted for trying to prevent a child marriage. The Supreme Court of India established the Vishaka Guidelines, requiring employers to address workplace sexual harassment grievances until a specific law was created. Sexual harassment is defined under Section 2(n) of The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013⁷, includes any one or more of the following unwelcome acts or behavior (whether directly or by implication) namely: -

- i. physical contact and advances; or
- ii. a demand or request for sexual favors; or
- iii. making sexually colored remarks; or
- iv. showing pornography; or
- v. any other unwelcome physical, verbal or non-verbal conduct of sexual nature.

This act is also known as POSH Act, 2013. The act has mandated a complaints committee which are of two types Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) and Local Complaints Committee (LCC). The Internal Complaints Committee requires organizations with 10 or more employees to establish an ICC to handle sexual harassment complaints within the workplace. The Local Complaints Committee for workplaces with fewer than 10 employees or in the unorganized sector, the act mandates the formation of LCC at the district level overseen by the District Officer. These committees ensure a structured mechanism for the prevention, prohibition and redressal of sexual harassment complaints providing women a safe working environment. For most cases up to 3 years' imprisonment and or fine. For sexually colored remarks up to 1-year imprisonment and or fine.

⁶ Citation: (1997) 6 SCC 241

⁷ POSH ACT, 2013 aims to protect women from sexual harassment at work.
Citation: ACT NO. 14 OF 2013.

The women's rights movement is a series of campaigns that aim to establish and protect equal rights and opportunities for women. The movement seeks to empower women and end the structural causes of oppression. The women's rights movement aims to achieve equality, justice, freedom and empowerment. This movement focuses on issues like reproductive rights, domestic violence, maternity leaves, equal pay, women's suffrage, sexual harassment and sexual violence. Globally, the women rights movements have a rich history with milestones achievements. It marked its beginning from the year 1848, where it pointed out the limitations placed on women roles under America's new democracy. The 70 years of American Revolution where women took dangerous risks on those dangerous years still women had not gained freedom. The history of women's rights movement can be divided into three waves of feminism. The first waves remarked for the achieving 'right to vote for women' which gained public importance by the end of the 19th century. Publishing newspapers, debates, formation of women's organization lead to the achievement of the voting rights for women in many European States inquiring North America. Post World-War II, the welfare state created many job opportunities which was seen as "Women's Work". Jobs were available in newly created varied sectors. The women participation in Labor force increased from 45.9% in 1955 to 61% in 1965. After such increase women still struggled for various issues one of them being "Equal Pay". Women workers continued to campaign in the 1950's where some civil servants were able to achieve the win in 1961 but the same was only applied where men and women were employed at same post. Women's trade union was seen increasing with the participation of 1.6 million of women workers. 1968 was the significant year for Equal pay. Women sewing machinist who sewed seat covers for the Ford Motor Company went on strike and accepted the increase for pay of 92% off the men's pay their actions received wide publicity and similar other strikes were initiated 1968-69. The second wave aimed to achieve "Women's Liberation". It accounted for better equal laws and reforms on institutions, schools, etc. Women's achievements started getting recognized by literature and women played major role for drafting international documents for women's rights. In 1972, the 'Equal Rights Amendment' provided for the almost 50 years was finally passed. Through campaign for state ratification for the amendment women got opportunities for participating in the women rights movements. The third wave talks about increased awareness for various categories such as caste, class, race, sexual orientation, sexual harassment, pay-gap between men and

women, domestic violence, etc. This era also had a number of women NGO's coming up with specific feminist issues rather than the general issues. Women organizations organized marches, public-support from the members help, house meetings and door-to door canvassing. The people attending the Women's Rights Movements discussion realize much of the discussions have moved beyond the issue of equal pay among feminists. Issues like women reproductive rights, women's participation in military academics, sexual harassment, pornography, social security benefits, etc.

In India, a set of movements aimed at defining, establishing and defending equal political, economic and social rights and opportunities for women in India. It is the pursuit of women's rights within the society of India. The women's rights movement in India has been deeply rooted in both historical struggles and contemporary activism. During the colonial period, social reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar worked to abolish practices like Sati and Child marriage. The Indian freedom movement led by figures like Sarojini Naidu and Kasturba Gandhi also emphasized on women's rights. After independence legal reforms like Hindu Code Bills (1950s), Dowry Prohibition Act (1961) and Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (2005) strengthened women's rights. Modern Indian feminism addresses issues like workplace equality, sexual harassment, political representation and reproductive rights. Movements such as Pinjra Tod, protest against the Nirbhaya case 2012, protest against the R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital (Kolkata Rape and Murder Case,2024) and campaigns for LGBTQ+ rights highlight the ongoing struggle for gender justice in India. Government initiatives like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Women's Reservation Bill and laws against Triple Talaq reflect progress but challenges like gender based violence (GBV), unequal pay and under-representation in leadership remain critical issues.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF LEGAL REFORMS IN INDIA AND USA

As we looked upon various crimes against women and respective laws, the research also provides with a comparative analysis of the legal reforms in both India and USA, women face domestic violence, sexual assault, workplace harassment and other forms of gender-based crimes. Domestic violence is a serious issue in both countries but though the underreporting is more common in India due to societal pressures. In India the Protection of Women

from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 provides legal remedies, whereas in USA the Violence Against Women Act, 1994 offers similar protections. Sexual assault and Rape are common in both nations, but the USA generally has the higher reporting rates while in India cases have led to stricter laws. Workplace Harassment is another main challenge, in India the POSH Act, 2013 whereas in USA it enforces anti-discrimination laws under the Civil Rights Act, 1964 and has seen stronger protections due to the #MeToo Movement. There are no specific laws in India as well as USA for Reproductive rights. Both India and USA have introduced legal reforms to protect women though the enforcement varies. Women's Rights Movements in both countries have played a crucial role in shaping legal reforms and societal attitudes. In India, early reformers fought against Sati and Child Marriage. After independence, advocacy for gender equality increased leading to legal reforms. In USA, women's rights movements grew with the suffrage movement resulting in the 19th Amendment (1920) that gave women the right to vote. The second-wave feminism in 1960s and 1970s emphasized on reproductive rights, workplace equality and social justice. Recent Movements like #MeToo (2017) and the Women's March have advocated for legal changes and increased awareness of Gender-Based Violence (GBV). India and USA, both have made significant progress in addressing crime against women but the challenges still remain. In India, the patriarchal norms often hinder the enforcement of progressive laws. While in the USA, issues like workplace harassment and reproductive rights debates continue. Despite these differences the Global Women's Rights Movement remains a powerful force advocating for justice, safety and equality.

India being a developing nation is no longer stranger to development process and innovation. However, in such process, women are still lacking behind in multiple sectors of the society as an individual and faces hurdles which hinders their individual growth and representation in the society. Here are some challenges faced by women in India: women often face lower wages and fewer leadership opportunities compared to men, women are also disproportionately affected by physical or mental or sexual or emotional abuse, it also limits women's role and pushing them into subordinate positions which also discourages their independence and individualism, the unequal treatment which women's regularly encounter biases that limit their access to education or career opportunities or equal rights simply because of their gender.

CONCLUSION

This research paper examines the impact of the women's right movement on legal reforms and its effectiveness in addressing the crime against women's which includes rape, domestic violence, acid attacks, gender based violence and sexual harassment. While the frameworks exist to protect women and enforcement remains a significant challenge due to the patriarchal norms, corruption and inability. This study highlights how despite constitutional guarantees the women's rights in India are overlooked leading to the continued gender-based violence. The comparative analysis shows similarities in workplace harassment and gender-based violence but USA has stronger enforcement. Movements like the #MeToo and Nirbhaya case has sparked the legal changes but the barriers still remain the same. It identifies the key challenges which include social disgrace, slow judicial process and lack of government support which prevents women from obtaining justice. Legal reforms like the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 in India and the Violence Against Women Act, 1994 in USA have helped the women's right but the societal views still have made a limit on its effectiveness. Here are some suggestions for law reforms:

- A. Stricter Laws and punishments- The Legislature of the country shall strive to make stricter laws that penalize such crimes initiated against women. The punishments shall be made stricter and heavy that discourage the criminals and society from doing such acts.
- B. Proper enforcement of the laws- Laws that penalize crime against women shall be implemented legitimately. Also laws that provide with any procedural requirement for initiating investigation of any case must be implemented by the authorities liable accurately and with due accountability.
- C. Accountability in Judicial System- The judiciary shall also make rules and regulations for handling the cases of serious crimes against women like rape by providing with speedy judgements of the case. Fast track procedures shall be guided by the court to conduct hearing of such crimes.
- D. Policy changes- Time-to-time legal amendments shall be made in the laws by keeping up the appropriate case laws arising that give such new acts, rules, new provision for already existing crime laws or recognizing any new action as a part of crime.

- E. Governments Initiatives for promoting more of women's rights movements- Government shall encourage women's to stand up for their own constitutional and fundamental rights by providing with necessary support for conducting such women rights movements. It shall also provide with equal representation of women in the law making body that could help women to decide on the laws and punishments for women related crimes and other laws.
- F. Creating awareness for reporting of crimes and patriarchal mindset- Government, other local bodies, educational institutions, NGO's working for cause of women, etc. shall guide the society to report to the authorities liable for any crimes related to women's been occurring in any part of the country. They shall also create awareness about the patriarchal mindset aggravating such crimes and injustice to women. Such mindset shall be discouraged and people shall be guided to do justice to the women and girls of their families by letting them achieve 'equal status' in the society.

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