

A research study on VAW...



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**VIOLENCE
AGAINST
WOMEN...**

affects those you love





“There is no chance for the welfare of the world unless the condition of woman is improved. It is not possible for a bird to fly on only one wing”.

- Swami Vivekananda

Words of UN Secretary-General ,Ban Ki-Moon

“Violence against women and girls continues unabated in every continent, country and culture. It takes a devastating toll on women’s lives, on their families, and on society as a whole. Most societies prohibit such violence — yet the reality is that too often, it is covered up or tacitly condoned”.

United Nation's definition of Violence against Women



“Any act of **gender-based violence** that results in or is likely to result in **physical, sexual, or psychological harm** or suffering to women, including **threats** of such acts, **coercion** or **arbitrary deprivation** of liberty, whether occurring in **public or private life**.”

Situation of violence against women in India



- Gender discrimination, including **physical, sexual, emotional and economic violence, son preference, unequal resource distribution and unequal decision-making power** (in both private and public spaces)
- **Caste discrimination**, especially (but not restricted to) women from specific castes
- **Communal violence** against women
- **Neo-economic policies** impacting women's lives in diverse ways (specific kinds of jobs for women, market impacting men leading to increasing violence against women)

Various forms of Violence against Women

- Rape
- Forced sexual initiation or abuse
- Sex-selective abortion
- Acid throwing, honor killing ,dowry related deaths
- Undue virginity examination
- Forced caesarian section deliveries
- Trafficking in women and girls
- Child marriages
- Stalking



SAY NO

TO VIOLENCE

SPEAK UP FOR

YOURSELF AND OTHERS

you have
the power
to change
YOUR LIFE!

you can
choose

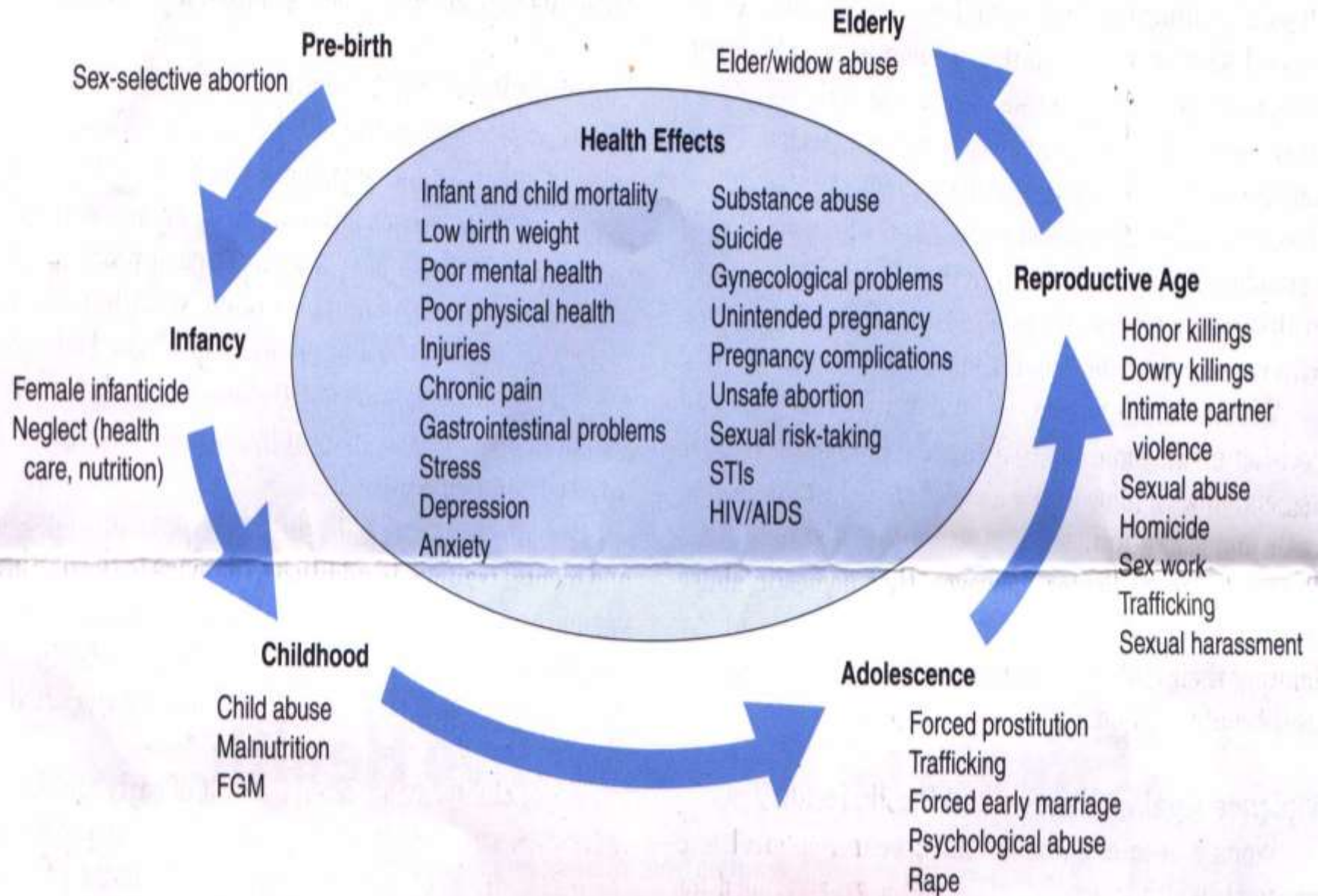
TO REFUSE!

STOP THE
ABUSE

REFUSE ABUSE!

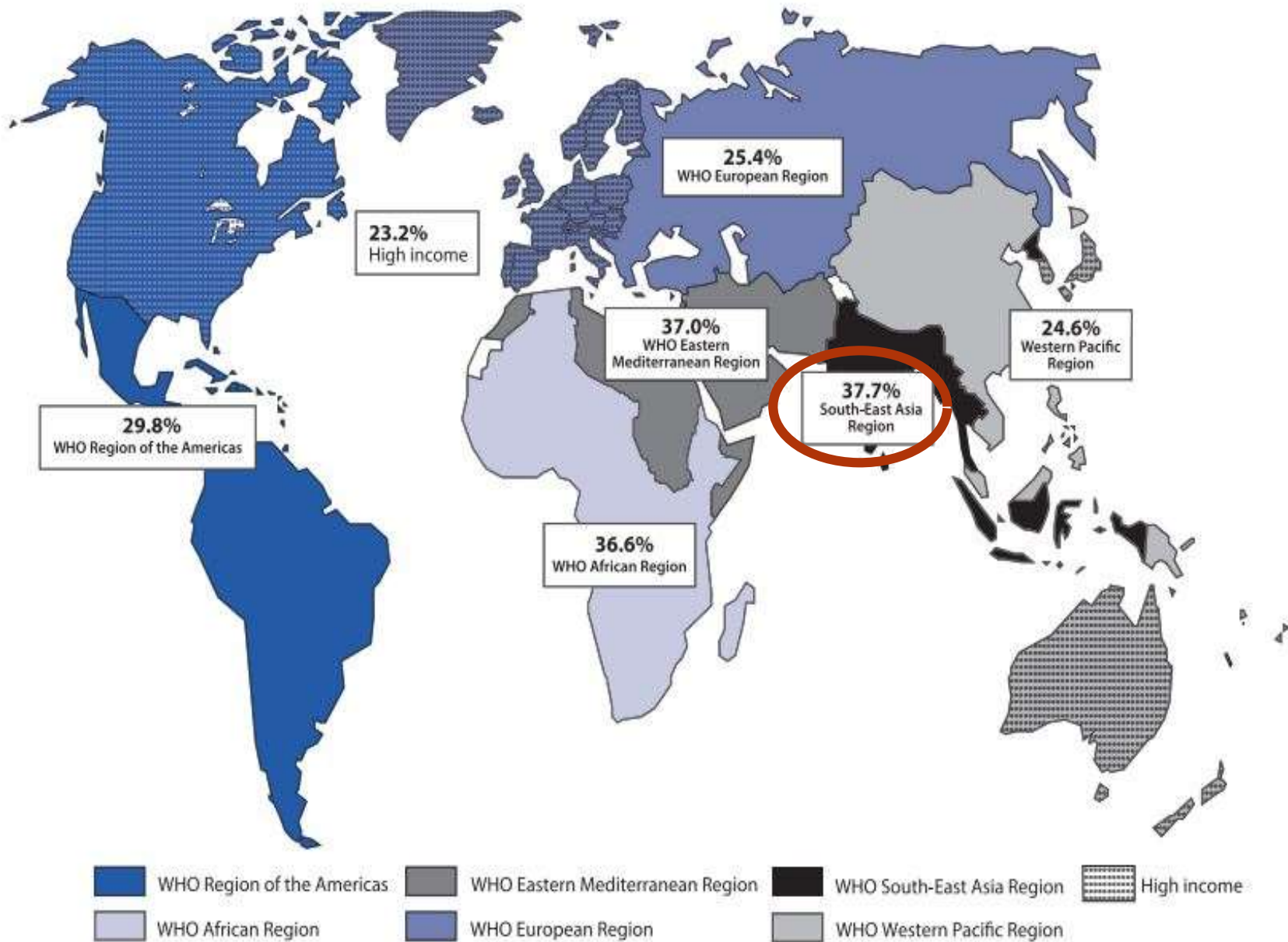
No
TO VIOLENCE
AGAINST
WOMEN

Figure 1. The Life Cycle of Violence Against Women and Its Effects on Health*



Source: WHO

WORLD OVERVIEW



SOURCE: WHO

Indian Perspective: What do the statistics show?

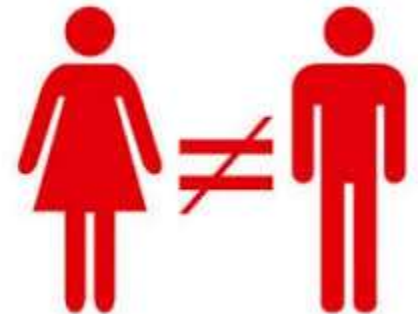


- Census of India 2011: sex ratio of 943:1000 (933/1000 in 2001)
- Child sex ratio (0-6 years) – from 914:1000 (927/1000 in 2001)



According to the UNDP Human Development Report 2013

- India ranks 136 out of 187 countries in the Human Development Index.
- India ranks 101 out of 136 countries in the Gender Inequality Index.





**ATROCITIES
AGAINST WOMEN
IN
GOD'S OWN
COUNTRY?**

The image features the dark silhouettes of a man and a woman against a bright, light-colored background. Both individuals have their hands raised, with fingers spread, in a gesture that could be interpreted as protest, agreement, or a specific form of communication. The lighting is high-contrast, creating a stark silhouette effect.

23,853 cases of
violence against
women in Kerala in 2
years

- Amid continued debate on more stringent laws to curb crime against women, Kerala has recorded 23,853 cases involving violence, including rape, against women and 1,326 cases of attack on children in the past two years.
- Also, 14,640 people ended their lives in the past two years out of which 3,501 were women and 448 children.
- In a written reply in the state Assembly, Home Minister Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan said out of the 23,853 cases of violence against women, as many as 1,976 cases related to rape and 6,870 connected with molestation.

- Eight women and two children were killed due to sexual harassment during the period and 30 cases in connection with sexual exploitation of children below the age of five years were reported.
- Malappuram district (7) followed by Thiruvananthapuram and Ernakulam (5 each) topped the list of sexual harassment on children below five years, the reply tabled in the House said.

- Apart from this, 2,050 cases of violence against minor girls including 579 rape and 45 murder were reported during the period.
- A total of 675 cases related to sexual harassment against children were reported from homes and educational institutions.

A woman's face is visible in the background, looking directly at the camera. Her right hand is raised in the foreground, palm facing the viewer, in a clear stop or 'no' gesture. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows.

90% women feel unsafe on Kerala roads: study

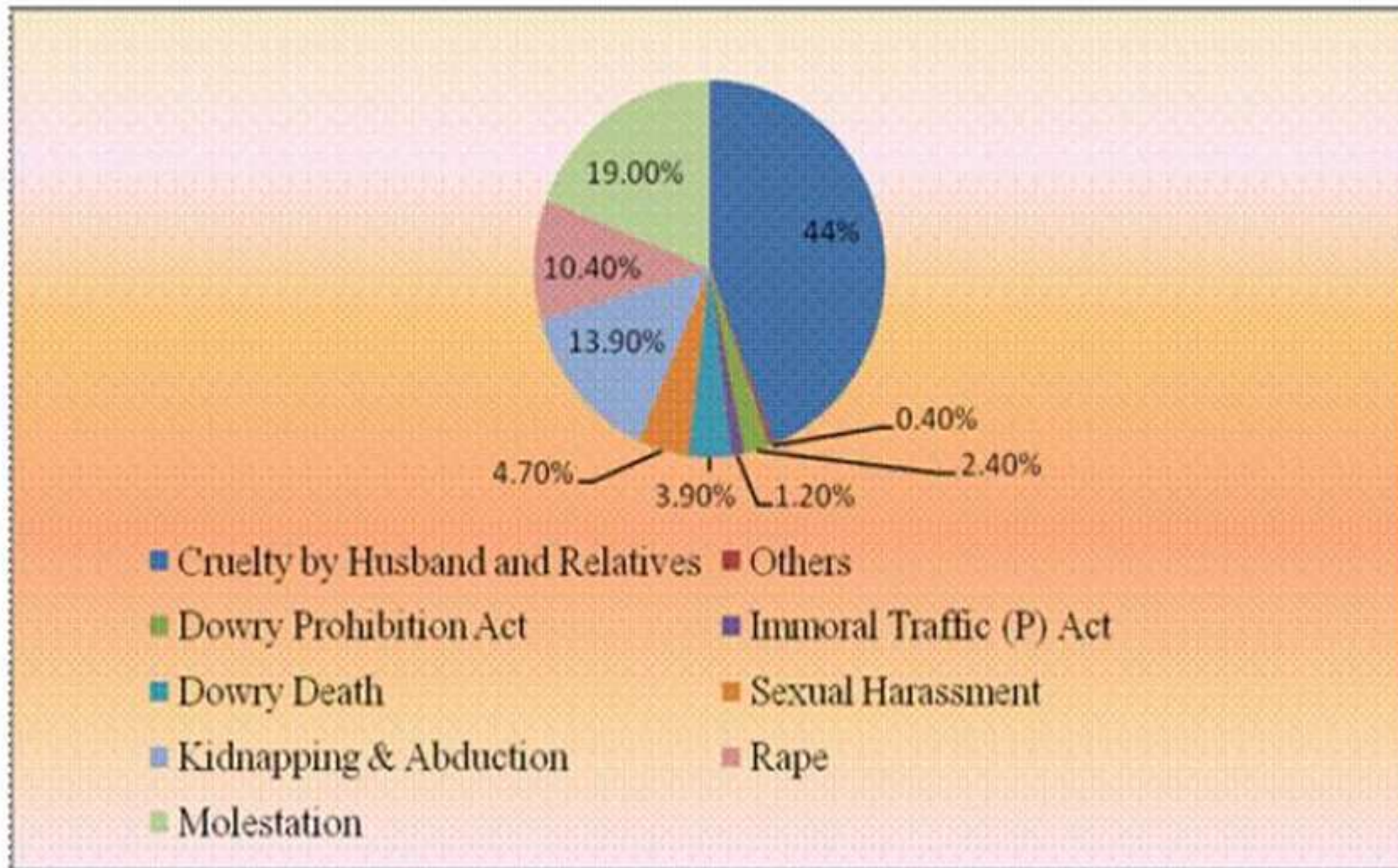
- Over 90 per cent of women feel unsafe while travelling on Kerala roads after sunset, a study conducted by Sakhi, a women's organization, revealed. 98% women in Thiruvananthapuram and 99% women in Kozhikode cited sexual harassment as their major concern.
- The study, 'Safe City Free of Violence against Women and Girls,' was conducted in Trivandrum, Cochin, Trissur and Calicut.
- The study disclosed that women's helpline number 1091 was ineffective in the four cities.

- The organisers of the study said that this was mainly due to lack of funds, facilities, such as vehicles, and sufficient trained personnel.
- According to the official statistics available with the Kerala Police 9758 crime cases against women have been registered till September last year. Malappuram tops the chart in crimes against women reporting 962 cases followed by Trivandrum Rural (858) and Kannur (742). Malappuram district recorded maximum number of rape cases — 70.

RECENT CASES IN INDIA

- DELHI GANG RAPE (2012)
- HONOUR KILLINGS BY KHAP PANCHAYATS
- ACID ATTACKS
- FORCED ABORTIONS
- TEHELKA 'S EDITOR TARUN TEJPAL ISSUE
- JUSTICE GANGULY'S ISSUE
- ALLEGED SURVEILLANCE BY GUJARAT GOVT.

Crime against women Percentage Distribution during 2012



Source: NCRB

■ **physical/sexual violence**

■ **violence during childhood**

■ **psychological violence**

■ **stalking**

■ **sexual harassment**

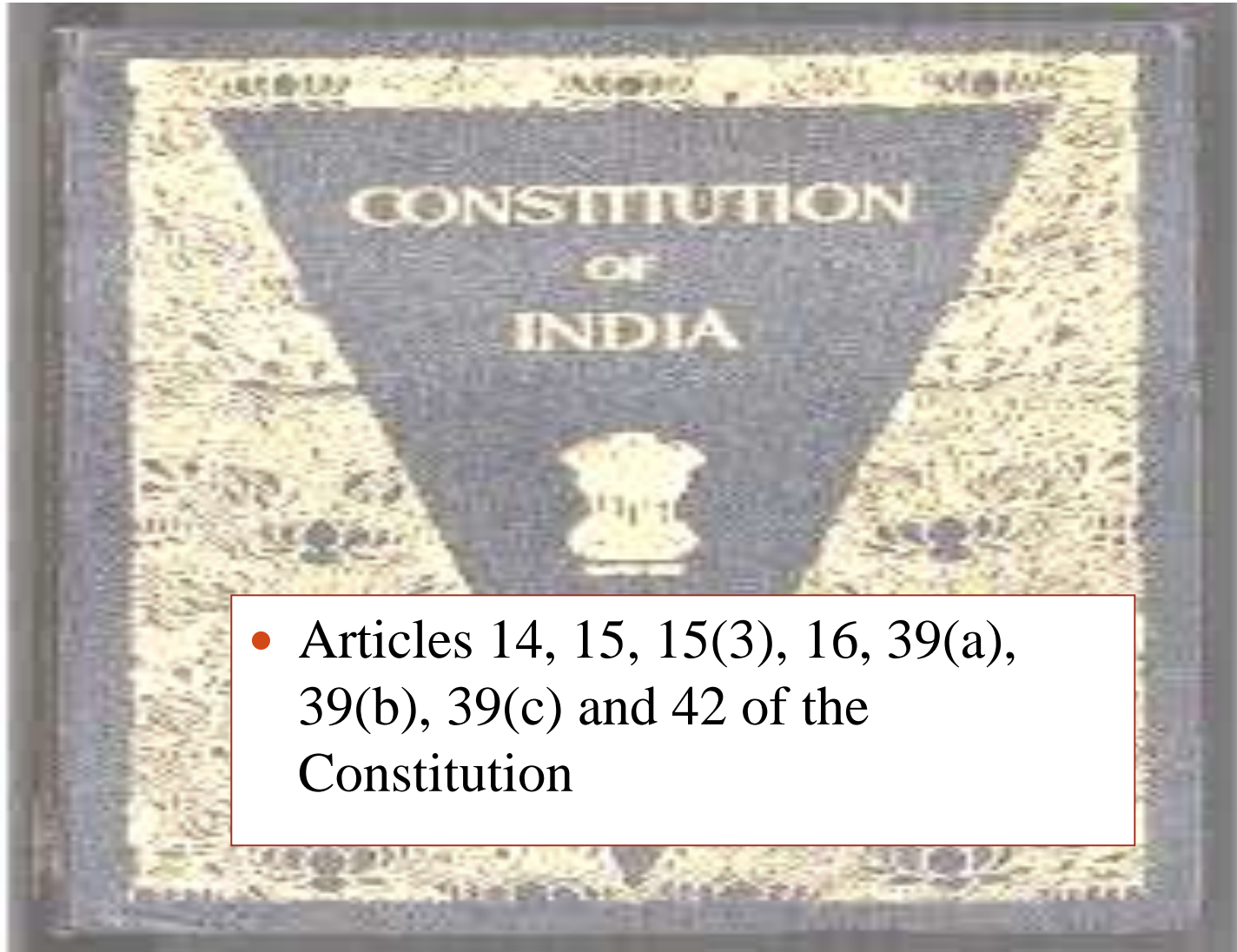


Violence against Women

- 1 in 5 women (20%) face domestic violence from their husbands (global statistics between 20-50%)
- The National Crimes Record Bureau (2012): total crime against women has increased by 32.5% from 2006
- From 2009-2012, there was a 12.2% increase in rates of cases filed under dowry “deaths”.



Constitutional Guarantees

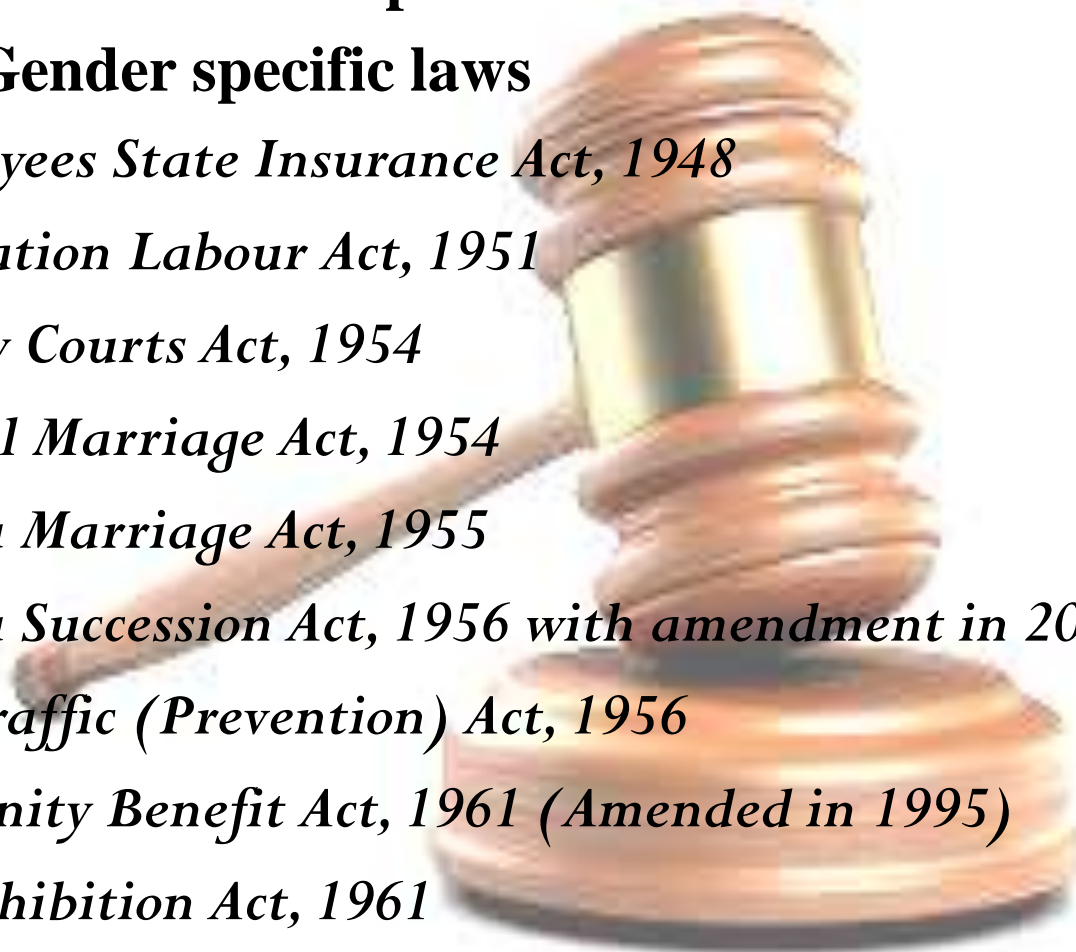


- Articles 14, 15, 15(3), 16, 39(a), 39(b), 39(c) and 42 of the Constitution

Various legislation for safeguarding the rights of women

- The Crime under Indian Penal Code (IPC):
 - i. Rape (Section 376 IPC)
 - ii. Kidnapping and abduction for specified purpose (Section 363-373 IPC)
 - iii. Homicide for dowry, Dowry death or their attempts. (Sec. 302/304-B IPC)
 - iv. Torture both mental and physical (Sec.498-A –IPC)
 - v. Sexual Harassment (Sec. 509 IPC)
 - vi. Importation of girls (Up to 21 years of age) (Sec. 366-B IPC)



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- **The Crimes under the Special and local Laws (SLL)- Gender specific laws**
 - *The Employees State Insurance Act, 1948*
 - *The Plantation Labour Act, 1951*
 - *The Family Courts Act, 1954*
 - *The Special Marriage Act, 1954*
 - *The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955*
 - *The Hindu Succession Act, 1956 with amendment in 2005*
 - *Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956*
 - *The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 (Amended in 1995)*
 - *Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961*
 - *The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971*

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- *The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1976*
 - *The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976*
 - *The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006*
 - *The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 1983*
 - *The Factories (Amendment) Act, 1986*
 - *Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986*
 - *Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987*
 - *The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005*
 - *The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013*

Challenges



- Cultural mindset about women
- “Superiority” of men versus “inferiority” of women (both within private spaces like the family, and public spaces like the workplace)
- “Public” domestic violence (“honour” killings, community courts)
- Myth of male marginalisation used to support withdrawal of progressive legislation (like reservations)

SPECIAL INITIATIVES FOR WOMEN

- National Commission for Women- 1992
- Reservation for Women in Local Self –Government
73rd amendment of constitution
- The National Plan of Action for the Girl Child (1991-2000)
- National Policy for the Empowerment of Women, 2001



DAYS DEDICATED TO WOMEN



MOTHER'S DAY- SECOND SUNDAY OF MAY

Approach towards safety of women:

- To increase reporting of rape and assault cases
- Law enforcement agencies
- Exemplary punishment
- Amending the marriage age



Way ahead

- **Increase women's participation at all levels: social, economic and political**
- **Awareness of women's rights – by the State, civil society organisations, as well as the public at large**
- **Gender budgeting and gender mainstreaming within State agencies and civil society organisations**
- **Making the existing laws stringent and policies safeguarding the rights of women**



- “To call woman the weaker sex is a libel; it is man's injustice to woman. If by strength is meant brute strength, then, indeed, is woman less brute than man. If by strength is meant moral power, then woman is immeasurably man's superior. Has she not greater intuition, is she not more self-sacrificing, has she not greater powers of endurance, has she not greater courage? Without her, man could not be. If nonviolence is the law of our being, the future is with woman. Who can make a more effective appeal to the heart than woman?” - Mahatma Gandhi

THANKYOU

SHE
IS CLOTHED IN
STRENGTH
AND
DIGNITY,
AND SHE
LAUGHS
WITHOUT FEAR
OF THE FUTURE.



Violence
Against
Women

A successful

woman

is one who can build
a firm foundation
with the bricks
others have thrown

at her.

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IT IS HARD
TO BE A WOMAN

THANK YOU

*You must think like a man,
Act like a lady,
Look like a young girl,
And work like a horse.*