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".
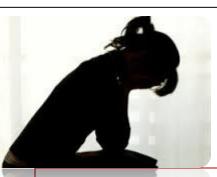
- Swami Vivekananda

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)
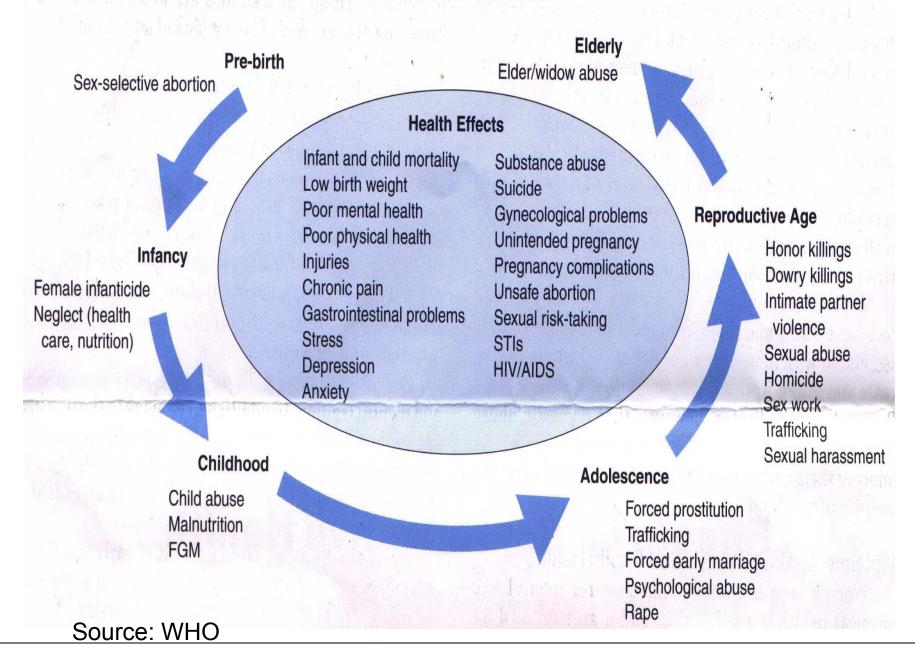
Various forms of Violence against Women

- 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
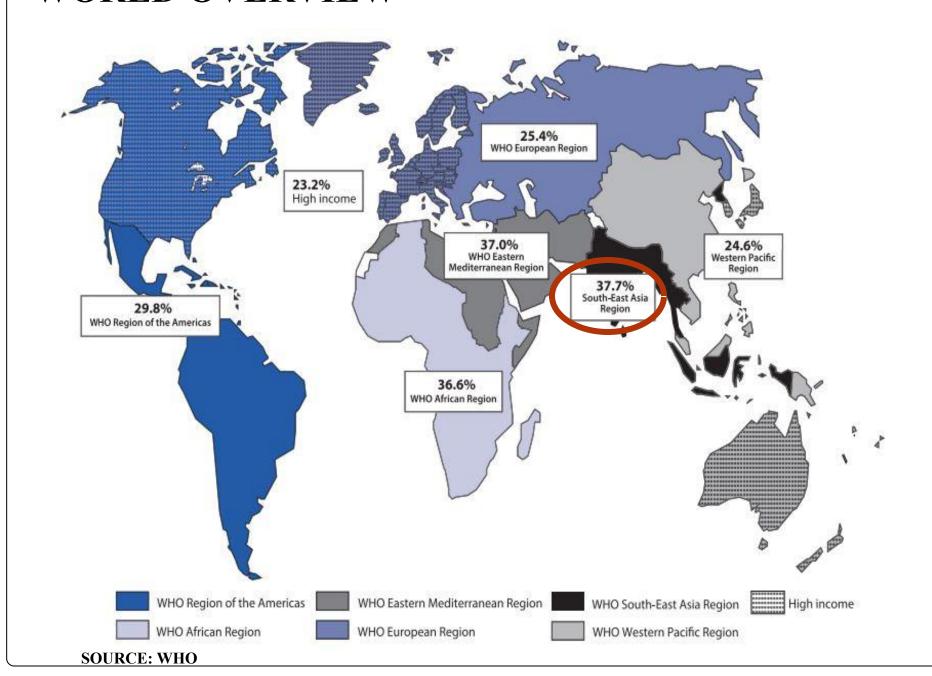- Child marriages
- Stalking

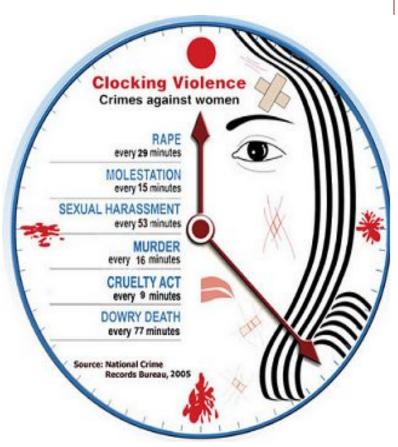# Figure 1. The Life Cycle of Violence Against Women and Its Effects on Health*

Pre-birth
Sex-selective abortion

Elderly
Elder/widow abuse

Infancy
Female infanticide
Neglect (health care, nutrition)

Reproductive Age
Honor killings
Dowry killings
Intimate partner violence
Sexual abuse
Homicide
Sex work
Trafficking
Sexual harassment

Health Effects

Infant and child mortality
Low birth weight
Poor mental health
Poor physical health
Injuries
Chronic pain
Gastrointestinal problems
Stress
Depression
Anxiety

Substance abuse
Suicide
Gynecological problems
Unintended pregnancy
Pregnancy complications
Unsafe abortion
Sexual risk-taking
STIs
HIV/AIDS

Childhood
Child abuse
Malnutrition
FGM

Adolescence
Forced prostitution
Trafficking
Forced early marriage
Psychological abuse
Rape

Source: WHO

WORLD OVERVIEW

25.4%
WHO European Region

23.2%
High income

37.0%
WHO Eastern
Mediterranean Region

24.6%
Western Pacific
Region

37.7%
South-East Asia
Region

29.8%
WHO Region of the Americas

36.6%
WHO African Region

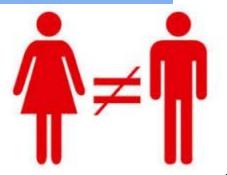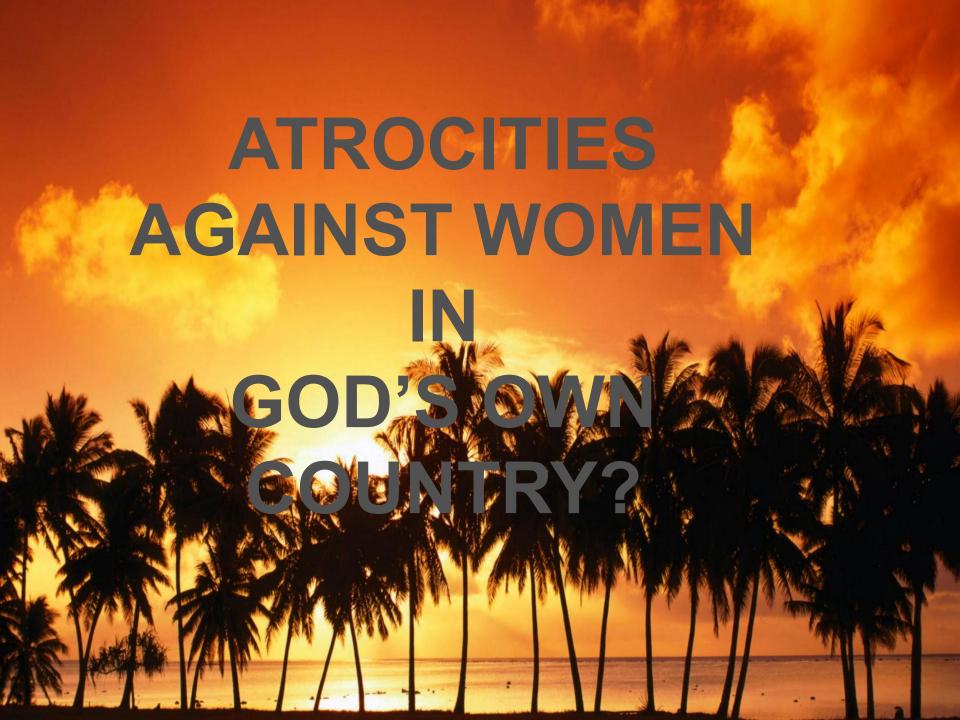|			
WHO Region of the Americas	WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region	WHO South-East Asia Region	High income
WHO African Region	WHO European Region	WHO Western Pacific Region	

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)

Clocking Violence
Crimes against women

RAPE
every 29 minutes

MOLESTATION
every 15 minutes

SEXUAL HARASSMENT
every 53 minutes

MURDER
every 16 minutes

CRUELTY ACT
every 9 minutes

DOWRY DEATH
every 77 minutes

Source: National Crime Records Bureau, 2005

STOP violence against women watch out for the signs

According to the UNDP Human Development Report2013

- India ranks 136 our 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?

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

- 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.
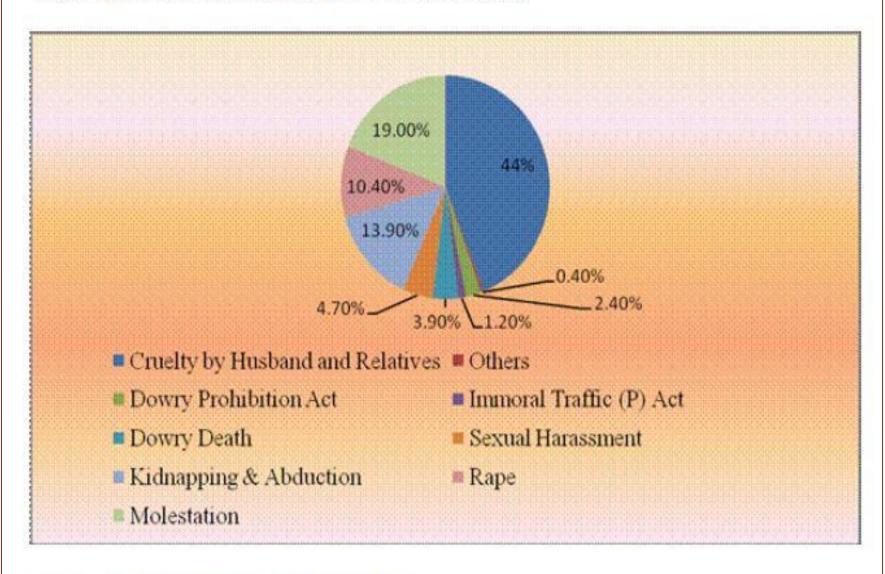
90% women feel unsafe on Kerala roads: study

- 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

- Cruelty by Husband and Relatives
- Others
- Dowry Prohibition Act
- Immoral Traffic (P) Act
- Dowry Death
- Sexual Harassment
- Kidnapping & Abduction
- Rape
- Molestation

44%
19.00%
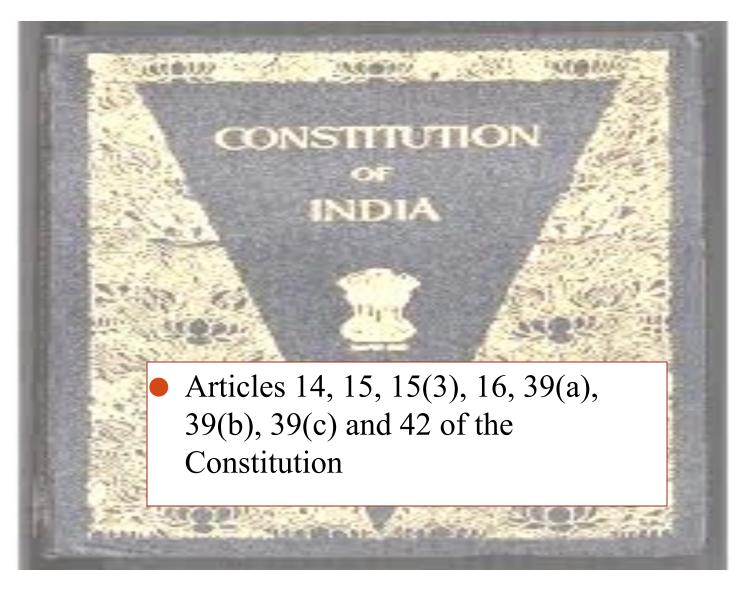10.40%
13.90%
4.70%
3.90%
1.20%
0.40%
2.40%

Source: NCRB

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 Guarentees

- 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)

- 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*

- *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*

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
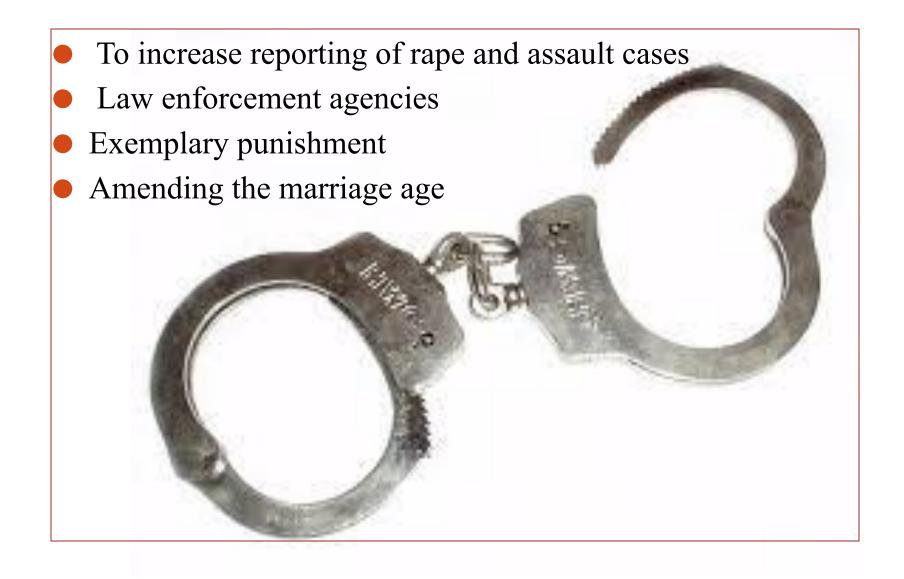
DAYS DEDICATED TO WOMEN

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
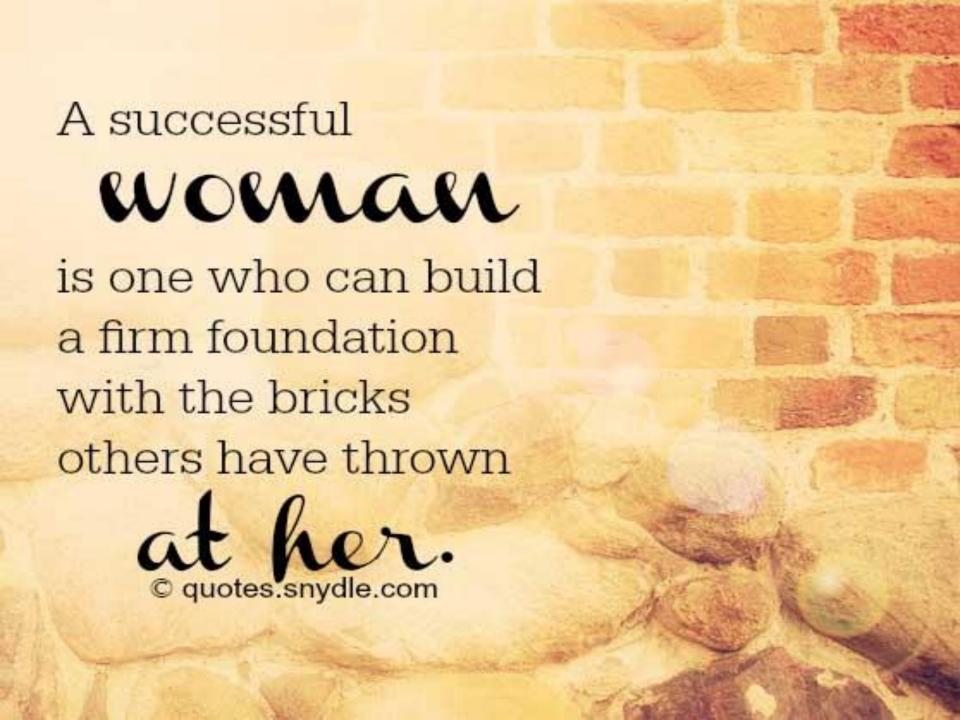- Amending the marriage age

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

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

Stop all kinds of violence against Women

Violence Against Women

A successful **woman** is one who can build a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown *at her.*

IT IS HARD
TO BE A WOMAN

You must think like a man,

Act like a lady,

Look like a young girl,

And work like a horse.

THANK YOU