

# POCSO Act: Challenges and Impact on the Indian Society

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**Abstract:** *Children's are called to the future of country but to what extent wills that future abused. Yes, it would be question of all the children who are the victim of child sexual abuse or abused by any other form. Children as one important ignored group who, in lieu of being carefully playing in the sun and going to school, quite often suffer from various types of maltreatment, exploitation mostly sexual. Thus, they are marginalized not only in terms of their access to the basic human needs, but also in expressing freely their views and getting this properly accepted on the issues vital to them. Out of all these sufferings, the sexual exploitation and abuse are considered as the most heinous crime by the perpetrator as it bears huge impact on the mental and physical condition of the victims. Recognizing the importance of this crime and the vulnerability of the children, there are some criminal laws to protect them. But due to the increasing trend of this sexual offence a separate act named as Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 was formulated in order to protect the health and security of the children, who are integral in the process of development. The significance of this Act also lies in the fact that children are the most vulnerable to such crime as they do not understand the consequence and seriousness of the matter. These little innocent children can only feel the pain of the mishappening leaving a scar over the body and mind forever. In this backdrop, this study focuses on to examine the significance of the POCSO Act which has been introduced to fill in the shoes of existing laws particularly the Juvenile Justice Act. The study will also focus on the constitutional provision and the provisions of UN Convention behind this law. By citing a few case studies, this applicability of this Act will be examined along with its loopholes. The roles of doctors, police, courts and human rights activists are very important in the question of providing adequate protection and security of the children. Their roles need to be reviewed in this study in the present social context.*

**Keywords:** POCSO Act

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