

Women's Safety in India - The Impact of Technology and Artificial Intelligence on Society and Future Trends

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Abstract: *This research explores the women's safety in India. In today's world the safety of women has become the greatest concern. There is no place in the city where women are not bound to fear of violence. No leader can strongly say that his nation is free of violence on women. Women's and girls' face sexual harassment and threats in streets of the city. The fact is that we are unaware of the depth of problems faced by women and there are fewer laws or policies to address the issues in detail. Various movements and reforms aim to empower women and enhance their safety, yet challenges remain in enforcement and societal attitudes. Additionally, this paper highlights the importance of providing accessible support services, such as helpline and shelter and what they should do to save themselves, and also includes laws improvement, justice and present laws for women safety.*

Keywords: Women's safety, sexual harassment, women's empowerment, domestic violence, law enforcement, education, awareness, policy framework, technology for safety, campus safety.

I. INTRODUCTION

India, a country with a rich cultural heritage and rapid economic growth, continues to struggle with ensuring the safety and well-being of its women. Safety of women in India is a vast topic now-a-day. Despite progress in various spheres, women in India face numerous challenges that threaten their physical, emotional, and psychological safety. We cannot say that women are safe in India by seeing the last few years of crimes against women especially in the national capital. It is a very sad reality of the country that its women citizens are living with fear all the time. Personal safety of women has been the topic of importance for every Indian citizen. The persistence of patriarchal norms, inadequate laws, and inefficient implementation perpetuate violence and discrimination against women, with reports of sexual harassment, violence, and unsafe public spaces becoming a daily reality for many. Despite existing laws aimed at protecting women, the lack of effective enforcement and the influence of societal attitudes continue to endanger women live.

II. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Women in India face many safety challenges, with over 445,000 crimes reported by 2022. The measure shows almost 51 crimes per hour and many others go unreported due to fear, embarrassment, or lack of confidence in the system.

These crimes include domestic violence, kidnapping, assault and rape. In their homes, women are not free from fear - domestic violence, whether physical, sexual, psychological, or financial. Outside, many women feel unsafe in public places like streets, Bus, Auto, and even the office.

The Nirbhaya rape case (2012) shook the country when a young girl was gang-raped and attacked on a bus in Delhi. Similarly, the Kolkata doctor rape case illustrates the harsh reality of unsafe environments. These words remind us that women can face danger anywhere—in their homes, in their workplace, or even on the streets. These incidents highlight not only the vulnerability of women, but also society's inability to protect them.

India has strong laws in place to protect women, such as the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013 which was introduced after the Nirbhaya case, ensuring harsher penalties for crimes like rape, sexual harassment and etc. Other laws include the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013.

Despite these rules, however, there are many differences in their enforcement. Incidents of stalking, teasing and domestic violence are often not reported or taken seriously, creating opportunities for escalation. Law enforcement agencies sometimes fail to properly investigate troubling cases, which can prevent more serious crimes. Police should also be trained to deal with such cases with sensitivity and urgency.

The rise of digital technology has transformed communication in India, providing women with opportunities for expression and empowerment. However, this digital landscape has also become a battleground for harassment, where women frequently face threats, intimidation, and abuse. Online harassment not only affects individual victims but also perpetuates a culture of fear and silence among women, hindering their participation in public discourse and digital spaces. The fear of online harassment can inhibit women's professional and personal growth, limiting their engagement in various spheres, including politics, journalism, and activism. **We need to use technology to CREATE A SAFER, more SUSTAINABLE, and more EQUITABLE FUTURE FOR ALL.**

III. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The emotional and psychological impact on women who experience violence is profound. Delayed justice only adds to their suffering, making it harder for them to heal and move forward. Women deserve swift justice, but the overburdened court system and procedural delays prolong the legal process. Multiple appeals, social pressures, and corruption contribute to the inefficiency of the system. This lack of timely justice not only impacts women emotionally but also reflects the broader societal failure to protect them.

The slow justice system means many victims wait years for their cases to be solved. This was evident in the Nirbhaya case, where justice took nearly eight years, leaving an entire nation questioning why swift action couldn't have been taken.

One of the main reasons is the public perception of women. Many men still think women are less important or see them as objects. This attitude leads to violence and makes women vulnerable. In addition, the legal system works slowly, and this delay is unfair.

Real change cannot come from better laws alone; The way society treats women must also change. Women deserve to live without fear, and they need justice that is fast and fair.

IV. SUGGESTIONS

To improve women's safety in India, several measures should be taken:

1. Tackle Deep-rooted Patriarchy: Societal norms and patriarchal attitudes need to be challenged to reduce gender-based violence.
2. Strengthen Law Enforcement: Although strict laws exist, their inconsistent implementation makes them ineffective.
3. Encourage Reporting: Many women avoid reporting incidents due to the fear of social stigma, and awareness programs should address this.
4. Increase Education: Public education campaigns can raise awareness about women's rights and available safety measures. It is essential to focus on educating boys during their formative teenage years about respecting girls and women. This can contribute to shaping a more respectful and safer environment for women in the future.
5. If you or someone you know has or is currently encountering online harassment of any sorts (bullying, cyber stalking, online impersonation, cat fishing, hate speech or threat of violence, cyber predators or trolling), please be assured that you can report these instances.
6. Women Helpline (WHL): A 24-hour toll-free helpline for women and child survivors of violence. You can call 181, email, or chat online with the helpline. The helpline can connect you with the police, hospitals, and other agencies for assistance.

V. CONCLUSION

Women's safety in India remains a critical issue that demands urgent attention. Delays in justice, inefficient law enforcement, and societal attitudes create significant barriers to safety. A multifaceted approach that includes stronger law enforcement, judicial reforms, societal change, and technological solutions is necessary to ensure that women feel

safe in both public and private spaces. It is only through collective efforts at every level—legal, social, and cultural—that the safety of women in India can be truly ensured. Education, especially for boys, is key to fostering respect from a young age.

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