



## SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN INDIA: MANIFESTATION OF SAVAGE CHARACTER OF HUMAN BEINGS\*

### 1. INTRODCUTION

In man, the sexual passion intoxicates for the moment all the senses.<sup>1</sup> In his sexual rut, even man is dominated as by a magic influence.<sup>2</sup> Today, unfortunately, man is descending back to the level of barbarian age and exhibiting uncontrolled display of sexual impulses. Hundreds incidents of sexual violence, abuse and assault are reported across the globe daily. With no exception of India, such incidents have been in practice against woman, child, man, animals and quite recently corpse of woman. They are not safe in the streets, on the roads, in the homes, at workplaces, and in schools. The age of the victim and the place (State) of sexual violence are not generally relevant for its commission. The perpetrators are scattered all over the different States of the country and different parts of a State.

In India, sexual offences take place in the form of marital rape against woman<sup>3</sup>; sexual harassment at workplace; eve teasing and brutal rapes and so on. The new on the list is public masturbation at different places – roads, public transport etc. in different parts of the country. The present paper is confined to only gang rapes and some of the sexual violence/ abuses reported in the past few years. It does not discuss the legal framework (under Indian Penal code, 1860, The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, (POCSO), 2012 etc) to deal with the offence of sexual violence. Rather, the aim of the researcher is to emphasize that inspite of presence of strict penal provisions in the law, the number of ‘the offence’ is far from being controlled. The issue is presented in the paper through an extensive review of incidents of gang rapes reported between 2013-2017 and various incidents of sexual violence, victim-wise. The incidents have been selected randomly from all parts of the country.

Discussions, debates and reviews of the ideas and values underpinning research and treatment of sexual deviance are going on. The sexual impulses can be effectively disciplined under effective education, training and socialization. The growing generations must be made more

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<sup>1</sup> August Forel, *The Sexual Question- A Scientific, Psychological, Hygienic and Sociological Study for the Cultured Classes* 75 , trans. By C.F. Marshall (Rebman Ltd., London, 1908).

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> Russia, Poland, Sweden, Norway, France, U.S.A. are some of the countries that have criminalized marital rape. *Whereas India is joined by* Ghana, Indonesia, Jordan, Lesotho, Nigeria, Oman, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Tanzania etc in not treating rape within marriage as a crime.

responsive and sensitive towards the dignity of lives. The responsibility to prevent sexual offences is not solely of the government. It has to be shared by the society as a whole. The paper is of value to policy makers, social activists and educationists who are interested in controlling sexual crimes.

## 2. GANG-RAPES IN INDIA AFTER NIRBHAYA INCIDENT

Rape is essentially one of the more perverted and “illegal” expressions of patriarchy which is already so deeply entrenched in the society.<sup>4</sup> In sub-continental societies, a rape victim is a victim twice.<sup>5</sup> She is a perpetual victim.<sup>6</sup> Once invaded by the soulless barbarian, and forever stigmatized to the soulless society.<sup>7</sup> Since rape culture beliefs are socialized into young men and women from childhood, it calls for right kind of upbringing. Rape culture teaches young men that sexual jokes and uninvited sexual touch are normal and desired, and it teaches young girls that silence or compliance is their role.<sup>8</sup>

On 16 December, 2012, a brutal gang rape of 23 old girl in Munirka, in South Delhi came to limelight. It was followed by The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, which came into force from 3 April 2013. The coming into force of the amendments to criminal laws was expected to curb the brutal offences. A look at gang-rape cases after Nirbhaya Gang Rape, Delhi shows the failure in the implementation of the amended laws and dull picture of heartless India, tough to imagine.

**Some Incidents of Gang Rapes in India (2013-2017)<sup>9</sup>**

S.No.	Offence	Victim's Age	Number of Accused	Brutality of Offence	Place of Incident
1.	Gang rape	29 years	Seven	-	Gurdaspur (Punjab) <sup>10</sup>
2.	Gang rape	39 years	Five	-	Datia (Madhya Pradesh) <sup>11</sup>
3.	Gang rape of two girls	13 years and 22 years	Three	Accused are repeat offenders of rape	Mumbai (Maharashtra) <sup>12</sup>
4.	Gang rape in moving car	40 years	Two	-	Meerut (U.P.) <sup>13</sup>
5.	Gang rape	17 years	Three	-	Khammam, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh) <sup>14</sup>
6.	Gang rape	26 years	Eight	Rape thrice over two months	Bharuch (Gujarat) <sup>15</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Raza Habib Raja, “The trivialization of rape in Pakistan”, *The Dawn*, Mar 19, 2014.

<sup>5</sup> Badar Iqbal Chaudhary, 'Rape the girl, blame the girl', *The Dawn*, Mar 03, 2015.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>8</sup> Tara Samples, “Rape Culture Is Real”, 16 Feb 2015, <https://sojo.net/articles/rape-culture-real>

<sup>9</sup> Compiled by the Researcher.

<sup>10</sup> “Police: 7 men gang rape bus passenger in India”, Jan 14, 2013, <http://edition.cnn.com/2013/01/13/world/asia/india-new-gang-rape/index.html>.

<sup>11</sup> “Swiss tourist gang-raped in Madhya Pradesh”, *The Hindu*, Mar 16, 2013.

<sup>12</sup> “Police file charge sheet in Shakti Mills gang rape case”, *The Hindu*, Sept 20, 2013.

<sup>13</sup> “40-year-old woman gang-raped in moving car in Meerut”, *Times of India*, Sep 9, 2014.

<sup>14</sup> “17-year-old girl gang raped in Andhra Pradesh”, *Deccan Chronicle*, Dec 31, 2013.

<sup>15</sup> “Woman gang raped by eight men in Gujarat village” June 10, 2014, <http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/woman-gangraped-in-gujarat-by-eight-men/1/366103.html>.

7.	Gang rape	23 years	More than five men	Raped for eight months ; got pregnant and <u>her petition for abortion was turned down</u> by the Gujarat High Court because she was too advanced in her pregnancy	Surat (Gujarat) <sup>16</sup>
8.	Gang rape and abduction	21 years	Three	-	Ludhiana (Punjab) <sup>17</sup>
9.	Robbery and gang rape of Danish girl	51 years	Two	-	Delhi <sup>18</sup>
10.	Kidnapping and raping of a Japanese student	22/23 years	Five	Repeated rape for a month	Patna (Bihar) <sup>19</sup>
11.	Gang rape and murder of a mentally ill Nepalese woman	20 years	Seven	-	Rohtak (Haryana) <sup>20</sup>
12.	Gang rape	71 years	Eight	-	Ranaghat, Nadia (West Bengal) <sup>21</sup>
13.	Gang rape of Bangladeshi woman	20 years	Four	-	Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) <sup>22</sup>
14.	Gang rape	22 years	Four	-	Aurangabad (Maharashtra) <sup>23</sup>
15.	Gang rape	2 and half years	Two	-	Delhi <sup>24</sup>
16.	Gang rape	5 years	Three	-	Delhi <sup>25</sup>
17.	Gang rape on train	14 years	Two	-	Howrah-Amritsar Express <sup>26</sup>
18.	Gang rape	14 years	-	Repeatedly for	New Delhi <sup>27</sup>

<sup>16</sup> “Indian gang rape victim faces 'purification ritual'”, 14 June 2015 , <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-32444349>.

<sup>17</sup> “21-year-old abducted, gang raped in Ludhiana”, *Times of India*, Mar 9, 2015.

<sup>18</sup> “Danish woman allegedly robbed and gang-raped near New Delhi railway station”, *Times of India*, Jan 15, 2014.

<sup>19</sup> “Japanese Tourist Allegedly Kidnapped, Repeatedly Raped In India” , January 3, 2015 <http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2015/01/03/374757140/japanese-tourist-allegedly-kidnapped-repeatedly-raped-in-india> .

<sup>20</sup> “Indian police arrest eight for 'brutal' Haryana rape and murder”, 9 February 2015, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-31282673>.

<sup>21</sup> “71-year-old nun gang-raped in West Bengal, minister blames ghar wapsi”, *Times of India*, Mar 15, 2015.

<sup>22</sup> “Bangladeshi woman alleges gang rape”, *The Hindu* , May 14, 2015.

<sup>23</sup> “Woman gang-raped by four in Maharashtra” , *The Hindu* , Aug. 29, 2015.

<sup>24</sup> “Delhi shamed: Two minor girls gang-raped”, *Times of India* , Oct 17, 2015.

<sup>25</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>26</sup> “Kolkata teen gang-raped by Army jawans on Amritsar Express”, *Times of India* , Dec 29, 2015.

				two weeks; shot twice and dumped in a well	
19.	Gang rape		Seven		Murthal, Sonapat (Haryana) <sup>28</sup>
20.	Gang rape	22 years	Six	Abduction and rape	Andheri, Mumbai (Maharashtra) <sup>29</sup>
21.	Gang rape on bus	28 years	Two	Offence in presence of 3 years old daughter of victim and death of 14 days old son	Shishgarh, Bareilly (U.P.) <sup>30</sup>
22.	Gang rape of woman and her minor daughter	35 and 14	Twelve	-	Bulandshahr (U.P.) <sup>31</sup>
23.	Abduction and gang rape	13 years and 15 years	Thirteen	-	Dahod (Gujarat) <sup>32</sup>
24.	Criminal Conspiracy and Rape of Minor	16 years	Two	Raped for five months and got her three-month-old <u>foetus</u> <u>aborted</u> at a <u>private hospital</u>	Ludhiana (Punjab) <sup>33</sup>
25.	Gang rape	7 year	-	-	Ghurpur, Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh) <sup>34</sup>
26.	Gang rape on moving train	19 years	-	-	Kurukshetra (Haryana) <sup>35</sup>
27.	Molestation and gang rape	19 years	Three	Killed her eight-month old daughter	Manesar, Gurgaon (Haryana) <sup>36</sup>
28.	Brutal rape and murder	Around 22 years	Two	Woman's skull had been shattered, and	Sonapat (Haryana) <sup>37</sup>

<sup>27</sup> "India teen gang-raped, shot, dumped in well", January 10, 2016, <https://www.yahoo.com/news/india-teen-gang-raped-shot-dumped-well-090120099.html>.

<sup>28</sup> "Woman Alleges Gang-Rape In Murthal During Jat Agitation, Case Filed", February 29, 2016, <http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/woman-says-gang-raped-in-murthal-during-jat-agitation-case-filed-1282198>.

<sup>29</sup> "22-year-old woman gang-raped in Andheri", 03-Mar-2016, <http://www.mid-day.com/articles/mumbai-crime-22-year-old-woman-gang-raped-in-andheri/17005196>.

<sup>30</sup> "Mother gang-raped on bus in India as two-week old baby dies in attack", 11 March 2016, <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/asia/india-gang-rape-women-violence-bus-bareilly-daughter-baby-killed-a6925371.html>.

<sup>31</sup> "Mother, daughter dragged from vehicle, gang-raped on NH-91", *Deccan Chronicle*, Jul 31, 2016.

<sup>32</sup> "Daughters gang-raped in front of father in Gujarat; 5 arrested", *The Tribune*, Mar 17, 2017.

<sup>33</sup> "Minor was gang-raped for months, got pregnant", *Times of India*, May 11, 2017.

<sup>34</sup> "7-year-old girl gang-raped in Allahabad", *Hindustan Times*, May 27, 2017.

<sup>35</sup> "Woman alleges gangrape on train near Kurukshetra", *The Tribune*, Apr 26, 2017.

<sup>36</sup> "Manesar gang-rape: 'Molester' truck driver had served five years in prison", *Hindustan Times*, 13 Jun 2017.

<sup>37</sup> "Haryana gang rape victim murdered, Sonipat", *The Hindu*, May 13, 2017.

				sharp objects may have been inserted into her private parts	
29.	Gang rape of Sikkim woman in a moving car	22 years	Three	Thrown out on a road	Gurugram (Haryana) <sup>38</sup>
30.	Gang rape	35 years	Two	-	Boduppal, Medchal (Hyderabad) <sup>39</sup>
31.	Abduction and gang-rape	12 years	Three	Filming of offence on mobile	Barabanki (Uttar Pradesh) <sup>40</sup>
32.	Gang rape of four females	-	Six	-	Jewar (Uttar Pradesh) <sup>41</sup>
33.	Gang rape in bus	15 years	Three	-	Salem (Tamil Nadu) <sup>42</sup>
34.	Gang rape	23 years	Three	Murder of nine-month-old daughter	Gurgoan (Haryana) <sup>43</sup>
35.	Gang rape in two separate incidents	11 years and 28 years	-	-	Sultanpuri (Delhi) <sup>44</sup>
36.	Gang rape and murder of widow	45 years	Two	Insertion of iron rod in her private part	Dhenkanal, Bhubaneswar (Odisha) <sup>45</sup>
37.	Gang rape		Two	-	Bishnupur, Bankura (West Bengal) <sup>46</sup>
38.	Gang rape	20 years	Five	Extortion, criminal intimidation and House trespass	Gurugram (Haryana) <sup>47</sup>
39.	Gang rape	35 years	Five	-	Karnal (Haryana) <sup>48</sup>
40.	Gang raped	35 years	Three	Kidnapped	Gurgaon (Haryana) <sup>49</sup>

<sup>38</sup> “Woman gang-raped in moving car in Gurugram”, *Times of India* May 14, 2017.

<sup>39</sup> “Daily wage gang-raped, then robbed”, *Times of India*, May 24, 2017.

<sup>40</sup> “12-year-old girl gang-raped, filmed in Uttar Pradesh's Barabanki”, *The Tribune*, May 26, 2017.

<sup>41</sup> “4 gang-raped, family head killed on Yamuna e-way”, *The Tribune*, May 26, 2017.

<sup>42</sup> “Teenage girl ‘gangraped’ in bus in Tamil Nadu’s Salem, three including driver held”, *Hindustan Times*, Jun 07, 2017.

<sup>43</sup> “Gurugram gangrape: Two held for rape of woman, murder of infant”, *The Indian Express*, June 8, 2017.

<sup>44</sup> “Minor girl, woman gang-raped in two separate incidents in Sultanpuri”, 10 Jun 2017, <https://www.nyoooz.com/news/delhi/834830/minor-girl-woman-gangraped-in-two-separate-incidents-in-sultanpuri/>.

<sup>45</sup> “Widow gang-raped, murdered in Dhenkanal”, *Times of India*, Jun 13, 2017.

<sup>46</sup> “2 men gang rape woman after breaking into house; husband held at gunpoint”, *International Business Times*, 15 June 2017.

<sup>47</sup> “20-year-old raped, blackmailed with clips for a year”, *Times of India*, Jun 18, 2017.

<sup>48</sup> “Husband, 4 others booked for rape”, *The Tribune*, Jun 19, 2017.

	in a moving car				
41.	Gang rape	14 years	Six	-	Patna (Bihar) <sup>50</sup>
42.	Gang rape	14 and 15 years	Five	-	Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh) <sup>51</sup>
43.	Gang rape	17 years	Four	Video graphed the incident	Khammam (Telangana) <sup>52</sup>
44.	Gang rape	16 years		-	Kothkhai, Shimla (H.P.) <sup>53</sup>
45.	Gang rape in bus	15 years	Four	-	Haveri (Karnataka) <sup>54</sup>
46.	Gang rape	18 years	Three	-	Umarpura , Raikot, Ludhiana (Punjab) <sup>55</sup>
47.	Gang rape at gun-point	11 years	Three		Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh) <sup>56</sup>
48.	Gang rape	17 years	Eight		Dumka (Jharkhand) <sup>57</sup>
49.	Gang rape	22 years	Two	Murder	Ambernath ,Nagpur (Maharashtra) <sup>58</sup>
50.	Gang rape in moving car	-	Two	-	Delhi <sup>59</sup>

India, the world's second most populous country, has seen lots of gang- rape cases, with many of them under-reported. The incidents narrated above shows that gang rapes are not restricted to NCR of India. The list is illustrative and indicative to show that the offence is rampant all over, regardless of the age and place of the victim.

### 3. Recent Incidents of Sexual Violence in India against Woman, Man and Animals

The term “sexual violence”, broadly interpreted, includes aggressive and abusive behaviours of different intensity and consequences, from unwanted touching to forced intercourse and rape. It refers to a spectrum of behaviors that are sexually aggressive, including physical, verbal and virtual harassment, including online bullying. Cases of sexual violence vary so greatly in their gravity and in their very nature. Neither the age of the victim nor his gender is relevant, sexual violence takes place against all. The present Part shall highlight some of the incidents of sexual violence. The following incidents have been presented, based on victim’s gender and age -

<sup>49</sup> “Gurgaon horror: Woman kidnapped and gang raped in a moving car by 3 men”, Jun 20, 2017, <http://www.oddnaari.in/news/story/woman-kidnapped-and-gang-raped-in-a-moving-car-in-gurgaon-odd-125662-2017-06-20>.

<sup>50</sup> “Girl gang-raped, thrown off train near Kiul station”, *Times of India*, Jun 19, 2017.

<sup>51</sup> “Two minor girls gang raped in Uttar Pradesh” July 3, 2017, <http://zeenews.india.com/uttar-pradesh/two-minor-girls-gang-raped-in-uttar-pradesh-2020779.html>

<sup>52</sup> “Students gang-rape 17 year old classmate; make a video of it at party”, July 4, 2017, <http://en.southlive.in/india/2017/07/04/students-gang-rape-17-year-old-classmates-make-a-video-of-it-at-party>.

<sup>53</sup> “CBI takes up probe in Shimla gang rape case” July 22, 2017, <https://dailyworld.in/cbi-takes-up-probe-in-shimla-gang-rape-case/>.

<sup>54</sup> “K'taka: 15-yr-old gang-raped in bus by 4 KSRTC staffers; 3 arrested”, *Deccan Chronicle*, July 12, 2016.

<sup>55</sup> “18-year-old gang-raped in Batala”, *Hindustan Times*, Aug 12, 2017.

<sup>56</sup> “Girl gang-raped at gunpoint in Gwalior, three held”, *Indian Express*, Sept 3, 2017.

<sup>57</sup> “Girl gang-raped by eight in Jharkhand”, Sept. 7, 2017, <http://odishasuntimes.com/2017/09/07/girl-gang-raped-by-eight-in-jharkhand/>.

<sup>58</sup> “Nagpur techie gang-raped by friends; Sliced her and packed in suitcase”, Sept. 7, 2017, <http://en.southlive.in/india/2017/09/07/6eighb-techie-gang-raped-by-friends-sliced-her-and-packed-in-suitcase>.

<sup>59</sup> “Uzbek woman gang-raped in car in Delhi”, *Times of India*, Sep 6, 2017.

### (a) Toddler Girls

Toddler girls are being mercilessly made victim of sexual assaults in India. A two-and-a-half-year-old girl was raped allegedly by two men who abducted her on a motorbike from outside her house in west Delhi.<sup>60</sup> A five-year-old girl was allegedly gang-raped by three neighbours in east Delhi's Anand Vihar.<sup>61</sup> A three-and-a-half-year-old girl was sexually assaulted inside the premises of a reputable private school by a temporary staff member<sup>62</sup>. Three years old girl reportedly murdered after being sexually assaulted.<sup>63</sup> A 21-month-old child was kidnapped and raped allegedly by her neighbour in Gandhi Nagar in east Delhi; five-year-old deaf and dumb girl being raped by a youth in Varanasi.<sup>64</sup> A 21-month-old child was kidnapped and raped allegedly by her neighbour in Gandhi Nagar in east Delhi.<sup>65</sup> Three-year-old girl child was admitted to SSKM hospital in Kolkata with several needle injuries and a broken arm.<sup>66</sup>

### (b) Old aged Women

An 80-year-old woman was gang-raped by two unidentified persons in Shikarpur town, Bulandshahr.<sup>67</sup> 50-year-old woman, who worked as a domestic servant, was gang-raped by two men in Hulimavu police limits of Bengaluru.<sup>68</sup> The guard of the lodge in Varanasi's Madhopur village barged into her room in inebriated condition at night and raped her.<sup>69</sup> 5 men after raping a 62 years, had inserted an iron rod and a broken bottle into her private parts to kill her at Sandeshkhali in Parganas district of Kolkata.<sup>70</sup>

### (c) Sexual Abuse by members of the family

The instances of sexual violence and abuse are in itself frightening. The degree of inhumanity increases when such offences are committed by closest of the relatives – father<sup>71</sup>, grand-father<sup>72</sup>,

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<sup>60</sup> “Delhi shamed: Two minor girls gang-raped”, *Times of India*, Oct 17, 2015.

<sup>61</sup> Ibid.

<sup>62</sup> “3-year-old raped inside Gurugram school”, *Times of India*, Sep 30, 2016.

<sup>63</sup> “Chennai: 3-year-old girl sexually assaulted & killed, body found in garbage”, 20 Feb 2017, <http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-chennai-3-year-old-girl-sexually-assaulted-killed-body-found-in-garbage-2328842>.

<sup>64</sup> “5-year-old deaf and dumb girl raped, left to struggle for life”, *Times of India*, May 11, 2017.

<sup>65</sup> “Delhi: Toddler raped by neighbor, had just learnt to walk”, *Hindustan Times*, May 10, 2017.

<sup>66</sup> “Sexually Assaulted, Needles Inserted In Body Of 3-Year-Old Girl In Bengal Allegedly By Mother’s Employer”, 17 July 2017, <http://www.huffingtonpost.in/2017/07/16/bengal-man-allegedly-tortures-3-year-old-girl-by-inserting-needle-a-23033155/>.

<sup>67</sup> “80-year-old woman gang-raped in UP”, *Indian Express*, Sept 28, 2015.

<sup>68</sup> “50-year-old woman raped”, *The Hindu*, May 23, 2016.

<sup>69</sup> “70-Year-Old French Woman Allegedly Beaten, Raped In Varanasi”, 19 June 2017, <http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/70-year-old-french-woman-allegedly-beaten-raped-in-varanasi-1718421>.

<sup>70</sup> “62-year-old woman gang-raped by a group of 5, iron rod and broken glass inserted in her privates; dies”, August 2, 2017, <http://en.southlive.in/india/2017/08/02/62-year-old-woman-gang-raped-by-a-group-of-5-iron-rod-and-broken-glass-inserted-in-her-privates-dies>.

<sup>71</sup> For details, see “13-year-old girl dies after sexual abuse by stepfather”, *Hindustan Times*, Oct 23, 2013; “Minors raped by father; grandfather lodges police complaint in Mathura”, 06-Aug-2017, <http://www.mid-day.com/articles/minors-raped-by-father-grandfather-lodges-police-complaint-national-news-mathura/18482191>; “Molester dad asked daughters to massage his private parts”, 27 July, 2017, <http://www.mid-day.com/articles/mumbai-crime-news-man-gets-3-year-jail-term-for-molesting-daughters/18456198>.

aided by mother and so on. When the country was celebrating 71<sup>st</sup> Independence Day, another shocking incident was reported where 92 years old man arrested for sexually abusing 9 years old girl for over six months in Mumbai.<sup>73</sup>

#### **(d) Against Males**

Irrespective of the gender of the perpetrator, sexual abuse is sexual abuse. 36 years old woman allegedly compelled a 16 year old to have physical relationship with her for nearly four to five months.<sup>74</sup> A priest from Kalpetta of Wayanad district (Kerala) was arrested for sexually abusing minor boys at a children's home.<sup>75</sup> 16-year-old boy living in Andheri was allegedly raped by 15 boys over the past one year.<sup>76</sup> Two young boys of ten years and thirteen years committed suicide after being raped repeatedly in Mumbai (Filterpada in Powai).<sup>77</sup>

#### **(e) Against Animals**

Man inserted his penis into cow's vagina and used coconut oil as a lubricant in Indore.<sup>78</sup> 55 years man was accused of committing an unnatural sex act after allegedly raping an injured cow.<sup>79</sup> Dog was subjected to bestiality in Kerala.<sup>80</sup> Sexual intercourse with a dog carcass was reported in Shastripuram.<sup>81</sup> 18-year-old boy in New Delhi engaged in sexual activities with calves.<sup>82</sup> In August, 2015 a 25-year-old man was accused of raping a seven-month-old calf, in Mandanagla village near Ahmedgarh in Bulandshahr.<sup>83</sup>

#### **(f) Against Corpse of Women**

'Sex with the corpse' too has become prominent in this country. Few incidents were reported in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. The grave of a 26-year-old woman was dug up by three men, who then allegedly had sex with her body in Ghaziabad district of Uttar Pradesh.<sup>84</sup> A 28-year-old man was caught raping a woman's dead body in Sunlight Colony of New Delhi.<sup>85</sup> A 16-year-old was

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<sup>72</sup> For details , see "Granddad rapes teenage granddaughter, arrested in Mumbai", 06-Jul-2017 , <http://www.mid-day.com/articles/mumbai-crime-granddad-rapes-teenage-granddaughter-arrested/18397160> .

<sup>73</sup> "92-year-old man arrested for sexually abusing 9-year-old girl for over six months", 15 Aug 2017, <http://www.mid-day.com/articles/mumbai-crime-92-year-old-man-arrested-for-sexually-abusing-9-year-old-girl-neighbor-for-six-months-news/18506163>.

<sup>74</sup> "Mumbai: 16-year-old boy accuses friend's mother of rape" ,1 Apr 2015, <http://www.dnaindia.com/mumbai/report-mumbai-16-year-old-boy-accuses-friend-s-mother-of-rape-2073569>

<sup>75</sup> "Kerala priest arrested for sexually abusing minor boys"18 July ,2017, <http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/kerala-priest-sexual-abuse-minor-boys-church-wayanad/1/1004653.html>.

<sup>76</sup> "16-year-old boy 'raped' for a year, names 15 teens", *Indian Express*, August 3, 2017.

<sup>77</sup> "Mumbai boy raped, dies after consuming poison, father records dying declaration", *Hindustan Times*, July 28, 2017.

<sup>78</sup> "Man booked for bestiality in Indore", *Times of India*, Jun 29, 2013.

<sup>79</sup> "Man has sex with injured cow using coconut oil as lubricant", September 30, 2013, <http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/india-rape-animal-sex-cow-blue-cross-510141>.

<sup>80</sup> "Dog raped by man in Kerala, says animal rights body" 18 Feb 2016 , <http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-dog-raped-by-man-says-animal-rights-body-2179325>.

<sup>81</sup> "India shocked by sex monster who strangled a pregnant dog and molested the carcass", October 25, 2016, <http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/india-shocked-by-sex-monster-who-strangled-pregnant-dog-molested-carcass-1588146>

<sup>82</sup> "Delhi teenage boy ends up in hospital after having sex with calf", December 22, 2015, <http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/india-delhi-teenage-boy-ends-hospital-after-having-sex-calf-1534520>

<sup>83</sup> "Youth booked for raping 7-month old calf in Bulandshahr", *Hindustan Times*, Aug 05, 2015.

<sup>84</sup> "Three gang rape woman after digging body from grave in Uttar Pradesh" October 25, 2015 <http://www.india.com/news/india/shocking-three-gang-rape-woman-after-digging-body-from-grave-in-uttar-pradesh-655705/>.

<sup>85</sup> "Man caught raping a dead body in Delhi arrested", *Times of India*, Dec 7, 2016 .



apprehended for allegedly raping, murdering his neighbor, and performing sexual acts on the corpse.<sup>86</sup>

#### 4. RECENT EFFORTS TO CONTROL AND PREVENT SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN INDIA

The society often fails to provide an orderly way for understanding the role and meaning of sexual involvements in general. This may lead to adverse effects on healthy development of individuals who lack sexual knowledge. Changing attitudes towards sexuality and changing sexual behaviour among young people; the emergence and spread of HIV/AIDS and other STDs ; the rapid spread of the Internet and mobile phone technology etc. call for an urgent need for holistic sexual education.<sup>87</sup>

When sentencing and penal punishments seem not to reduce the crime rate, it shows that the purpose of deterrence is not fulfilled by such punishments. Primary prevention aims to address the root causes of violence.

##### ➤ Engagement of Gender Champions by schools and colleges<sup>88</sup>

The Ministry of Women and Child Development in July 2015 mandated engaging 'Gender Champions' across educational institutions in India. They would act as responsible leaders who will facilitate an enabling environment within their schools/colleges/academic institutions where girls are treated with dignity and respect. The Gender Champions Club can organize school's annual function or college fest on the theme of gender equality and women's empowerment and encourage students to sign up and express their support for gender justice and equality. They can organize exposure visits to various public service institutions at the village, block, district and city level (public health centers, hospitals, post offices, banks, police stations, block office, SDM/DM office to facilitate knowledge about gender issues as they affect diverse populations.

##### ➤ NCERT's revised syllabus<sup>89</sup>

Students of classes 1 to 5 will now be taught about child sexual abuse. It plans to include a revised version of sex education imparted to children in schools. *Komal*, a film on child abuse, which explains sexual abuse in detail, is likely to be made a part of the curriculum. The NCERT has developed a curriculum titled 'Health and Physical Education' for classes 1 to 12, which has been prescribed to all schools.

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<sup>86</sup> "Delhi teen sexually abused corpse after raping, killing neighbour", *Hindustan Times*, Nov 30, 2015.

<sup>87</sup> Bhumika Sharma, "Existing System of Sex Education in India: Some Suggestions", *Commonwealth Journal of Constitutional Law & Public Policy*, Vol. 3 Issue 2, 2017; Bhumika Sharma, "Expanding Sexual Revolution: A Need for Holistic Sexual Education" in *The '19 (1) a*, Vol. 3, Issue 1, 2017.

<sup>88</sup> Guidelines for engagement of Gender Champions by schools and colleges across the country issued by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, 28 July 2015, <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=123871>.

<sup>89</sup> NCERT revised syllabus to include sex education for younger children, May 4, 2017, <http://indiatoday.intoday.in/education/story/sex-education/1/945160.html>.

### ➤ **Efforts in Media**

Women's rights groups have developed innovative ways of breaking into male spaces and pushing the agenda of public safety forward. A pan-India movement called Why Loiter?, named after a pathbreaking book, brings together young women who walk the streets during the day and at night, bike around, or sit in parks, asserting their equal right to move freely and without harassment. Safetipin, a mobile-based app, crowdsources information from women on which public spaces they deem to be safe. A web program titled- "Sex Chat with Pappu & Papa" has been launched in July 2016. It is an initiative of Y Films and more of such efforts are welcomed.

### ➤ **"Orange the World" Program of United Nations**

From 25 November through 10 December, Human Rights Day, the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence aim to raise public awareness and mobilizing people everywhere to bring about change. "**Orange the world**," colour designated by the UNiTE campaign to symbolize a brighter future without violence.

## **5. Conclusion**

The human civilization seems to be regressing towards aboriginal living, with little or no respect for other beings. The various incidents discussed show that sexual violence transcends boundaries of age, gender and now even the difference between human and animals. The exact dimensions of sexual violence are frequently disputed. The actual incidents of the sexual violence are far more than reported cases. India is mounting to reach higher instances of barbarism in different forms.

The word "sex" seems to be a problem, but it shouldn't be. Sexuality is an intrinsic part of being human and sexual development is a normal part of growing up. In spite of some awareness efforts of government and various NGOs around the country, lack of information and forum to outlet sexual dilemmas abound. Sensitization about various aspects of sexuality, consensual relationships and relationship education - of each individual, every national, irrespective of educational status, age, profession, community should begin at various levels of the society. It is hoped that swift change would come and no one would be scared of their sexual safety in the country.

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