REPORT

RESEARCH STUDY ON

WOMEN'S SAFETY FROM SEXUAL ASSAULT AT PUBLIC SPACES IN NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

*

SUBMITTED TO

Ministry of Women & Child Development Government of India

STUDY CONDUCTED BY

INDIAN SOCIETY FOR INTEGRATED WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT (ISIWCD)

W/O : C- 806, ICON, Sector CHI-3, Greater Noida – 201310 , G.B. Nagar.
Mob.: 8860610314, Phone: 0120- 4210103 ,Email: isiwcdngo@gmail.com
Regt. Office: Flat No. 174, Block 10, Janta Flats, DDA Ghazipur DF, Delhi - 110091

Women safety is a very important aspect of any society. However, women safety is at risk due to increasing sexual harassment in public places in our society especially in Delhi NCR. Despite strict   laws enacted more than three years ago after a girl was gang raped on a bus and later died of her injuries, street harassment is an enormous menace in NCR Delhi. Due to fear of social stigma and many   other reasons, women accept, tolerate and keep quiet about such experiences. Street harassment continues to kill, torture, and harm – physically, psychologically, sexually and economically by denying women and girls' equality, security, dignity, self-worth, and their right to enjoy fundamental freedoms. It has been found to occur in all socioeconomic and cultural population subgroups; a universal phenomena cutting across boundaries of religion, culture, class, education, income, ethnicity and age in all societies in the world.

Social safety for women plays a critical role in advancement of women and society. Very often, street harassment is seen as an expression of male interest and a form of flattering sexual attention for women; a somewhat vulgar but harmless romantic game, well within the range of normal, acceptable behaviour between men and women. Thus, it is important to recognize the existence of street sexual harassments as harmful and its causes in order to prevent it. The present research identifies causes and the remedies as well as their awareness about the measures/laws and schemes implemented by the government taken to eliminate them as perceived by the community. The findings will go a long way for improvement in women safety, encourage positive change, and support women in realizing their highest potential. Gains made by women are not gains made at the expense of men rather, they benefit families and society as a whole.

The findings highlight the fact that the Acts and the schemes still have a long way to go to be able to protect our women from sexual atrocities. The fact is that street violence is as much of a social problem as a legal one. The data shows that there is a need for the police as well as families to recognize street harassment as a health, legal, economic, educational and social issue, and a complete violation of human rights. This recognition will help the society to be sensitive to the issue and revamp their act to deal with the gaps which will be an important step towards the social transformation.

Dr. Geeta Sinha
Research Expert
28 February, 2017

TABLE OF CONTENT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Capital Region is recognized as a very "unsafe" place for women as there has been a tremendous   increase in cases of sexual atrocities (also called street harassment) in public places in recent years. "Street harassment" or "sexual harassment in society" ranges from sexual harassment to rape and even murder. It occurs in public places, e.g**.,** in streets, public transport, taxi, public parks,   in and around schools, within the campus of university, inside public sanitation facilities and worse, in the very own neighbourhood. Women of all ages, backgrounds and races experience sexual harassment and thus there is no 'typical harassed' woman. Sexual harassment negatively impacts everyone who is affected by the offensive conduct, whether they were the intended target or not. The study **"Women's Safety from Sexual Assault at Public Spaces in National Capital Region'** was designed to examine   the above problem. The following objectives were tested:

- ■ To identify most rampant causes of sexual harassment perceived by women.
- ■ To determine the most important factors that enhances common women's safety in public places.
- ■ To discern women's responses in cases of violence against them.
- ■ To find feasibilities of women's access to Police and other governing agencies.
- ■ To find the level of awareness regarding laws concerning rapes and its punishments among women and men.
- ■ To enlist gender sensitive activities in communities, particularly low income group persons, for improving gender sensitive relationship

METHODOLOGY

1. Tools of study

   Secondary documents, laws and policies were reviewed along with previous research and conclusions. Participatory Rural Appraisal tools (e.g. semi-structured interviews and focused group discussions) were used in the pilot study and based on that, structured Instrument (questionnaire) was developed to identify the issues and main attitudes behind the sample groups' thinking. Questionnaire schedule was the main tool of data collection**. Research study of "Women's Safety from Sexual Assault at Public Spaces in National Capital Region'** interview schedule was prepared to address the research issues. After the first brainstorming session, the questions were generated and given to five people for comments. This way the questionnaire was modified and fine tuned four times. Discussion was also held with community people, gender experts and NGO workers before finalizing the questionnaire. Oriented towards the objectives of the study, it included questions about perceived causes and consequences, identity of offenders and ideas for preventing mechanisms from people and respondents point of view to tackle this phenomenon in public places and other relevant issues. The questions were on the following dimensions;

Appendix 1:   **Questionnaire-30 questions**

   Demographic information was taken in the questionnaire.-Question no's   1 to 11. Each question covering one dimension had many sub-questions. The details are provided below:

                                                                No. of sub questions

1. Demographic Information   11
2. Feeling of safety by women while travelling in NCR   01
3. Awareness about sexual abuses that women suffer on street   03
4. Identity of sex offenders   07
5. Time of sexual assault on streets   03
6. Who helps   06

2. Selection of Sample and Districts

Selection of research coverage area was in compliance with research objectives to understand the factors and possible remedies of sexual harassment against women and girls in public places.

Sample Design:

The study used purposive sampling methods to collect information from selected respondents belonging to diverse categories spread across Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida.

Sample size and categories:

Total sample size was 5221 with each respondent category sub divided into various categories with specific sample size allotted to each category. Details are as below.

Table-1 : Profile of Respondents

Sl.	Respondents	Categories of Respondents	Under 25 years		26-45 years		46-60 years		Above 60 years		Total	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Women	Government job	29	12%	149	61%	56	23%	12	5%	246	100%
		Private job in organised sector	128	35%	225	61%	17	5%	0	0%	370	100%
		Private job in unorganised sector	90	24%	256	68%	28	7%	4	1%	378	100%
		Factory workers/Construction Workers	138	20%	487	72%	51	8%	4	1%	680	100%
		Domestic helpers	35	12%	213	73%	40	14%	4	1%	292	100%
		Housewife	126	13%	693	72%	112	12%	35	4%	966	100%
		Travellers/Tourists	56	31%	111	62%	12	7%	1	1%	180	100%
		College/School students	1057	96%	40	4%	2	0%	0	0%	1099	100%
		Unemployed	53	56%	35	37%	2	2%	4	4%	94	100%
		Sub Total	**1712**	**40%**	**2209**	**51%**	**320**	**7%**	**64**	**1%**	**4305**	**100%**
2	Men	Government job	2	3%	38	50%	26	34%	10	13%	76	100%
		Private job in organised sector	15	19%	52	65%	7	9%	6	8%	80	100%
		Private job in unorganised sector	10	14%	46	66%	14	20%	0	0%	70	100%
		Factory workers/Construction Workers	25	17%	108	75%	11	8%	0	0%	144	100%
		Domestic helpers	1	3%	35	88%	4	10%	0	0%	40	100%
		Housewife	0	0%	9	75%	2	17%	1	8%	12	100%
		Travellers/Tourists	14	26%	33	61%	6	11%	1	2%	54	100%
		College/School students	110	96%	4	4%	0	0%	0	0%	114	100%
		Unemployed	3	50%	3	50%	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%
		Sub Total	**180**	**30%**	**328**	**55%**	**70**	**12%**	**18**	**3%**	**596**	**100%**
3	Stakeholders	Police, Bus staffs etc.	36	11%	210	66%	70	22%	4	1%	320	100%
	Overall	Government job	31	10%	187	58%	82	25%	22	7%	322	100%
		Private job in organised sector	143	32%	277	62%	24	5%	6	1%	450	100%
		Private job in unorganised sector	100	22%	302	67%	42	9%	4	1%	448	100%
		Factory workers/Construction Workers	163	20%	595	72%	62	8%	4	0%	824	100%
		Domestic helpers	36	11%	248	75%	44	13%	4	1%	332	100%
		Housewife	126	13%	702	72%	114	12%	36	4%	978	100%
		Travellers/Tourists	70	30%	144	62%	18	8%	2	1%	234	100%
		College/School students	1167	96%	44	4%	2	0%	0	0%	1213	100%
		Unemployed	56	56%	38	38%	2	2%	4	4%	100	100%
		Stakeholders	36	11%	210	66%	70	22%	4	1%	320	100%
		Total	**1928**	**37%**	**2747**	**53%**	**460**	**9%**	**86**	**2%**	**5221**	**100%**

The above mentioned respondents were divided into all districts of Delhi along with Gurgaon and Noida. Thus, questionnaires were filled by a total of 5221 respondents. As the media reports and pilot survey had revealed street violence to be positively related to lower socio-economic groups, the sample was mainly

lower socio-economic group in rural, semi-urban and even in urban areas and slum clusters.

3. Sample selection

Identification of a correct and representative sample was carefully done as the issue of street violence is very sensitive and complex. The present team, with its previous experience in carrying out research on sensitive social issues, maintained care in locating the sample with the help of other research experts, research experts, police personnel, lawyers, actively working local NGOs, doctors, community and Angan Wadi centres and other women's organizations.

Selection of Geographical Areas

Before the commencement of Field Investigation, the Universe of the Study was meticulously decided. A list of harassment – prone areas from the Special unit for Women and Children, Nanakpura and Office of the Joint Commissioner of Police was obtained. Their crime map pertained to incidents of rape, molestation and eve teasing during 2015. The map showed only five districts which were more prone to women harassment. Two new districts were formed since after the award of the study. Thus out of existing 11 districts in Delhi, 50% of the respondents were selected from the harassment affected areas and another 50% were taken from the rest six districts.

Two localities, necessarily slum and resettlement areas, from each district were selected to cover women of moderately weaker and lower economic status

Three sectors each from Gurgaon and Noida were selected on recommendation of local Mahila police and Angan Wadi workers.

The areas covered are as below:

1. Noida (Gautam Buddha Nagar District, UP)
2. Gurgaon, Haryana
3. Delhi:
   - ❍ North District
   - ❍ South District
   - ❍ South West District
   - ❍ North East District
   - ❍ Central District
   - ❍ New Delhi District
   - ❍ West District
   - ❍ East District

❍ North West District   ❍ South East District

❍ Shahdara District

In order to seek support from government agencies, if required, letters were posted to:

1. Principal secretary, Dept. of Women and Child Development, Govt. of UP, Lucknow, with a   copy to the District Magistrate, GBNagar.

2. Principal secretary, Dept. of Women and Child Development, Govt. of Haryana, Chandigarh with a copy to the Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon.

3. The Secretary, dept. of Women and Child Development, Govt. of NCT of Delhi with copies to all 11 deputy Commissioners of respective districts.

4. Basis of Sample Selection

Total population of Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida divided by the number of the respondents was used to determine the number of respondents from each area.

Area	Population	Ratio	Sample Size
Delhi	11,034,555	88%	4573
Noida	637,300	5%	264
Gurgaon	876,969	7%	363
TOTAL	**12, 548,824**	**100%**	**5200**

✓ Out of the above 4288 women belonging to different categories, 592 and 320 stake holders belonging to both genders have been covered.

QUALITATIVE METHODS

Focus group discussions were held with people of the target areas. Respondents here included the residents, students, teachers, doctors, hospital people, authorities and other people from the community, (men and women). The points discussed were related to suggestions and recommendations about the implementation.

DATA COLLECTION

Data collection was done as per the design of the study.

Questionnaire schedule was applied on the above mentioned sample. The responses of the respondents were recorded on the different items of the schedule.

Demographic information on education, income etc. were also collected. The respondents were interviewed and the schedules filled by the investigators.

Before selecting and approaching any particular community for the study in any district, one or two local persons having knowledge and the information of the nearby localities and communities were included in the team by the field workers. This enabled the research team to gain confidence of the target community.

DATA ANALYSIS

Data analyzing Method/ Coding Plan

The responses of the participants were recorded on the different items of the schedule. Initially, a database was created for data recording and analysis. After data collection the coding plan was explained to the computer expert. Scores were assigned to the levels of responses and added up to generate a score on the various dimensions. Data were systematically coded and entered in computer Excel sheet and analyzed. Software of SPSS software was used for analyzing collected data to clearly determine and compare research findings. For analysis, mean and percent scores have been computed for each question for the whole group.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section presents the data collected by quantitative methods as well as qualitative methods namely, focus group interviews of communities and interviews of functionaries.

QUANTITATIVE FINDINGS:

Tables were generated for the dimensions tested in the questionnaire:

First of all it was tested whether women feel safe in NCR and whether the community knows about it.

Perceived Feeling of safety while travelling in NCR (Ref. Table 12)

While 82 % of women, 78 % of men and 83 % of stakeholders have said that women do not feel safe while travelling in NCR. So if we look at the total score we find that an overwhelming percentage of 81% of respondents have said that women feel unsafe while travelling in NCR, while 11% feel that women feel safe while travelling in NCR and 8% feel that they cannot comment on this matter.

Awareness about abuses women suffer from (Ref. Table 13)

Table 13 shows whether respondents are aware that women and girl suffer from sexual abuse in public places. The total response shows that a very high level of awareness has been shown by the respondents that women using public space are suffering from sexual harassment. 87% of total sample agrees that girls suffer from verbal abuse, 88% believe that they suffer from physical abuse and 94% that they are being stared at. Similarly in terms of the three locations also, there does seem to be high awareness regarding existence of the three kinds of abuse.   85% respondents from   Delhi, 98% from Gurgaon and 95% from Noida believe that they suffer from verbal abuse, 87% from Delhi, 91% from Gurgaon, 97% from Noida think that women in NCR suffer from physical abuse in public places and 94% of the respondents from Delhi, 97%   from Gurgaon, 85% from Noida believe that women in NCR are being stared at. Similarly in Table 13 B and Table 13 C which looked at the responses in terms   of education and income also reveal high agreement between the different groups on the three dimensions. Thus, there does not seem to be much difference between the responses of male and female as well as stakeholder, or the three locations or even in terms of income and education in terms of their awareness regarding existence of the three kinds of abuse

Identifying most rampant causes of sexual harassment perceived by women.

Question no. 23 was designed to examine the perceived causes of sexual harassment of women in public places. Fifteen dimensions picked out from literature and newspapers/media reports which have been commonly perceived as the reasons behind the street sexual harassment of women, were used to solicit responses from the respondents. **Table 23 and 23,A** reveal the responses of women, men and stakeholders as well as of the respondents from three locations of Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida together and separately too. At least 47% of the respondents have seen each of the fifteen causes as instrumental in facilitating street sexual assault. Punishment not being severe has been seen to be highest ranked cause (86%) followed closely by availability of pornographic material on mobile (84%), easy access to face book and net (83%). Influence of media/TV/Cinema (81%), Prevailing lawlessness in the society (73%), Corruption in

law enforcing authorities, (69%), Culture of Late Night Parties (69%), Unsympathetic Police (68%), inadequate infrastructural facilities (65%), Lax and costly judicial system (65%), physical inability of women to defend themselves (63%),%. 55% of sample believes that Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders. Revealing Dresses of women by 50%, Free and informal behaviour of women by 49% and Sexual aggression in men by 47% of the sample to be the reason behind sexual harassment. **Table 23 A** shows the breakup of percentage   of perception of respondents from three locations Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida for causes of sexual assault on women. Revealing Dresses of women has been seen as the reason for sexual assault by 53% of respondents from Delhi, 35% of the sample from Gurgaon and 37%   from Noida perceive it as that. Free and informal behaviour of women has been seen as the reason by 49%, 30%, and 70% of the sample from the three locations respectively. Physical inability of women to defend themselves has been perceived as the factor behind sexual harassment from respondents from Delhi 61%, Gurgaon (71%), Noida (81%). Sexual aggression in men (49%, 53%, 19%) Prevailing lawlessness in the society (73%, 72%, 71%), inadequate infrastructural facilities (63%,62%,86%). Corruption in law enforcing authorities (66%75%, 96 %%), Unsympathetic Police (64%,78% 96%), Lax and costly judicial system (62%, 66%, 95%). Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders (56% 60% 34%) availability of pornographic material on mobile (83%, 83%, 97%), punishment not being severe (85%, 92%, 98%) Influence of media/TV/Cinema (82%, 70%, 85%) easy access to face book and net (84%, 76%, 86%). Culture of Late Night Parties (67%, 74%, 94%) are the other factors which have been tested.

As we can see from the data, the personal factors of women, namely, Revealing Dresses of women and Free and informal behaviour of women have been perceived by 62% of men as leading to sexual harassment whereas 49% and 47% of women have perceived them as not as important as men. Physical inability of the women to defend themselves was perceived by 61% women and 72% of men to be a factor. A difference is visible in the perception of men and women here. This   data is in line with the earlier research. Style of dress makes no difference to the level of harassment they experience has been reported in many cases (SAATHI 1994: 10). Some have tried to place the blame for unwanted attention and violence from men on women, who they assert invite this attention through a "provocative style of dressing, conversing and walking", as highlighted by (Ghosh 1993: 114). Many

scholars feel that above arguments serves to shift the burden of blame away from the harasser to victim creating a culture of victim blaming. This results in continuation of the problem (Kearl, H. personal communication, August 01 2012 as well as also serve to reinforce the existing harmful cultural values and norms (Vijeyarasa, R. personal communication, August 20 2012). This is a widespread perception which, in some instances, has been shared by the police (Sherpa, M. personal communication, August 01 2012), who pinpoint the wearing of certain clothing as being responsible for the offence. While, it has been practically observed that although women wearing more revealing clothes are subject to greater levels of harassment, women wearing traditional clothing (kurtha salwar) are also harassed (Action Aid 2011: 51).

Table 23 also shows difference in the perception of men and women regarding the dimension of sexual aggression, an independently male factor. 35% of men and 50% women have perceived Sexual aggression in men as responsible for sexual harassment of women. Some of the factors are dealing with shortcoming in police and law and order systems. Five factors, namely, prevailing lawlessness in the society and Corruption in law enforcing authorities, Unsympathetic Police, Lax and costly judicial system, Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders have been also perceived highly as leading to sexual atrocities. However punishment not being severe has been seen as the most important causative factor. 98% of sample from Noida has perceived it to be very important. Other important factors relate to impact of media, like, Availability of pornographic material on mobile, Influence of media/TV/Cinema, easy access to face book and net. Culture of Late Night Parties has also been seen as very important as perceived by 94% Noida respondents. Inadequate infrastructural facilities has also been seen by 73% of total respondents as being a factor in rising street sexual harassment.

Determining the most important factors that enhance common women's safety in public places.

Question no 28 was designed to examine the perceived factors which can improve women safety and reduce incidences of sexual harassment of women in public places. Nine dimensions picked out from literature and newspapers/media reports which have been commonly perceived as the factors behind the street sexual

harassment of women, were used to solicit responses from the respondents. As we have seen in the Table 28 and 28 A, the tables have been prepared to reveal the responses of women, men and stakeholders as well as of the respondents from the three locations of Delhi Gurgaon and Noida together and separately too. Very strong responses (over 90%) came from the respondents towards all the factors which were tested in the questionnaire. The questions consisted of mainly three dimensions, a) one referred to infrastructural suggestions. Crowded buses/Stations should be under constant camera surveillance was the response of 96% of the total sample. Parks and public places should be well lit (93%) and well guarded (91%), frequently patrolled (90%) public toilet should be clean and guarded (90%) b) refers to law order and justice systems, namely, Legal punishments should be made harsher (94%), judicial disposals should be quicker (92%), Mahila police should get greater role in patrolling (91%), c) third dimension was about strengthening the women herself, namely women should be encouraged to carry pepper spray/ safety pins etc (94%) were the response of the total sample. Only 1% of the sample did not agree that crowded buses should have continuous camera surveillance and 2% said the women need not carry pepper spray etc. Moreover, there was not much difference in the responses of the three categories, men, women and stakeholders. All had similar views.

Table 28,B & Table 28,C - These two tables also look at the same nine dimensions of perceived factors which can improve women safety and reduce incidences of sexual harassment of women in public places where the respondents have been categorised in terms of education Table 28B) and income (Table 28C). The income categories have been divided in terms of three categories. Below one lak income, between 1 to 2 laks of income and over 3 laks of income. The table reveals that the differences are minor among the various categories of respondents. All responses are above 87%. There is very high agreement among all categories of respondents on all the dimensions.

These findings are also in line with earlier research findings. The earlier research has revealed that **public transport is a spot where there is huge risk of sexual harassment**. The infrastructure and law and order   issues have also been recommended in earlier   research.

Some other related questions have been asked to respondents which throw light on the perceived reasons as well as   remedies for   sexual harassment. Two tables,

namely, Table 24 and Table 25 are related to identity of offenders in terms of the age group as well as socio economic class. 86% thought that offenders were from age group of 19-25. 78% of respondents thought that the offenders belonged to 25-50 age range. 64% of respondents thought offenders were 18 years of age or even less. Only 20% perceived the perpetrators to be over fifty age group. Table 25 shows the perceived socio -economic background of the sex offenders. 72% of the respondents perceived them to be from lower socio economic background.67% and 64% of the respondents perceived the offenders to be from middle and higher socio economic strata of the society.

Table 15 deals with the most frequent perceived timing for street assaults. An overwhelming 88% of total sample (88% women, 92%men, 88% stakeholders) has said that sexual assault on women can take place anytime. 41% (42% women, 36%men and 30% stakeholders) say that it takes place after dusk and 31% believe that sexual harassments take place (33%, 20%, and 18%) before dusk Table deals with the perceived places where maximum street harassment takes place. Table 20 shows the perceived locations of sexual harassment incidents. Out ten locations, bus stop has emerged as the most agreed upon location for sexual harassment incidents at 94% of total respondents choosing bus stop.. Closely followed by market places at 90%, public parks at (84%), Alcohol shops at 72%, railway station/metro station at 62%, taxi stands at 61%, deserted streets at 59%, cinema hall, construction sites at 44% each with Grameen sewa public transport at 42% of the sample as location for sexual harassments.

Another question **(Table 26)** examines the most vulnerable categories of women who are susceptible to sexual assault. 89% of respondents perceived unprotected women as well as students to be most vulnerable for sexual assault. Closely following was the category of women working in night shift who were perceived by 87% of the sample to be vulnerable for attack. Working women category was perceived as susceptible to sexual harassment by 84% of the respondents. Alcohol Users were seen by 82% of the sample to be vulnerable for attack. The category of homeless women//girls living on streets who were perceived by 73% of the sample to be vulnerable for attack. Migrant Women not speaking local language were perceived at 68% of the total respondents to be susceptible for sexual assault. Domestic helps and Daily wage earners were perceived by 73% and 71% of the

sample to be vulnerable for attack respectively. Differently able were perceived by 57% of the sample to be vulnerable for attack.

Discerning women's responses in cases of violence against them.

This objective was addressed by using two questions: number 19 and question no 27. **Table 19** reveals the responses to five questions which examine the impact of harassment on women. It deals with long term changes in the women's self image/psychological or physical health showing the coping behaviour of sexually harassed women. It also shows the coping behaviour of sexually harassed women. The   question has tested five options. 86% of the total sample have agreed that sexually harassed woman would become 'Pathologically Afraid of men'. That women become depressed after suffering sexual harassment was responded to by 78%.The third option being stigmatized was perceived by 75% of the sample to result from sexual harassment. Scornful and revengeful was perceived by 51% and becoming handicapped was perceived by 33% of the sample as consequences of sexual harassment by women.

The literature survey has also supported this finding. The fear of sexual assault in public places as well as actual facing of it can result in long term damage to a woman's psyche and can disturb her life as already discussed in detail in first chapter.

The Table 27 reveals the responses to nine questions which examine the immediate response which women make to the situation of facing a sexual harassment incidence. **Table 27, A** shows high agreement on women's response to sexual assault. Out of nine factors which have been tested among the respondents, on each factor the total agreement percentage is above 53%. By tolerating the humiliation was the response perceived to be the strategy to be use by 81%, 71 % and 84% of the respondents for Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida respectively. By avoiding reporting was the response of the respondents' for 77%,(Delhi), (73%), Gurgaon and (82%) Noida respectively. By using self-defence techniques was the response of 63%, 61% and 49% of respondents from Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida respectively. We see a difference in the relation with neighbours between Noida and Gurgaon as only 37% from Gurgaon feel that women would take help from neighbourhood

whereas 70 % respondents from Noida and 53% from Delhi say women would seek help from neighbourhood. Similarly difference between Delhi (53%) Gurgaon (46%) and Noida (30%) are visible on the factor of 'by taking help from law enforcing agencies'. Noidaits seem more comfortable with neighbours and Gurgaon residents with law enforcing agencies. 70% of the respondents said that women would respond in the case of sexual assault by involving family and friends with 71% from Delhi, 61% from Gurgaon and 75% from Noida. By stopping to move out alone was received by 57% of Delhiits , 66%, of Gurgaon residents, and 72% of Noida respondents.

Table 16 shows response of the sample to the question regarding who helped women to lodge complaint. According to an overwhelming 92% (92% women, 93% men and 91% of stakeholder) women get help from family members in lodging complain, 72%(72% women,71% men 51% stakeholder)from Friend/colleague, 39%(38%, 47%, 38%) from public at spot. Helpline applications, NGO and Police were perceived to be helpful in lodging complain by 35 %(34%42%31%), 39% (40% 32% 34%) (60%, 64%, 48%) of the respondents respectively.

Finding feasibilities of women's access to Police and other governing agencies.

Table 17 reveals the answer of the respondents on the question of nature of action taken against the abuser in case of sexual assault. There were four options. The option of abuser taken into custody was perceived by 65% of the total sample, Strong warning to abuser was perceived by 63%, public deals with the abuser 23%, and no action was perceived by 40% total respondents to be the action taken against the abuser. What are the barriers to reporting- was the question answered by Table 18. It reveals the reasons for not reporting the sexual crimes as perceived by various categories of respondents.

Table 17 and **Table 18** show that there are many reasons for not reporting. Because the victims find that no action is taken against the offender (40% in our study Table 17.) Police cannot be trusted was the response of 63 %. 51 % and 50 % of the respondents agreed that 'no one would believe them' and 'it would be wastage of time and money.' (Table18). 'It earns bad name in the society' was perceived by 85% of the total respondents to be the reason for not reporting. 'Offenders may take revenge' was the second most popular response.70 % of the total respondents believed that the victims' families should deal with the problem.

Some of the factors are dealing with shortcoming in police and law and order systems are also revealed in Table 23. Five factors, namely, prevailing lawlessness in the society and Corruption in law enforcing authorities, Unsympathetic Police, Lax and costly judicial system, Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders have been also perceived highly as leading to sexual atrocities. However punishment not being severe has been seen as the most important causative factor. 98% of sample from Noida has perceived it to be very important.

All these figure show that women do not find it accessible to report to police or other governing agencies. Again this finding is supported by literature survey, newspaper TV reports. As data for this year shows that in Delhi, on average, six cases of sexual assault are reported everyday "Where rape is concerned the numbers cannot be an indicator of the prevalence of the crime since only a fraction of cases gets reported even in cities like Delhi. Though police have been sensitized, the level of consciousness has not changed much. There are still delays in disposing of cases due to a lack of sensitivity," says women's rights activist Kavita Krishnan. According to The times of India (March 30, 2015), 80 household in Delhi that experienced sexual harassment only 6 went to police and 74 remained unreported. Only one out of thirteen incidents of gender crimes reaches Police Station. In Delhi 1 in 11 cases of all criminal events involved sexual harassment. 94% of all sexual harassment incidents include staring or passing lewd comments. Incidents of touching or groping or being followed are not reported due to bureaucratic Police and lazy court system.

Finding the level of awareness regarding laws concerning rapes and its punishments among women and men.

Table 22Aa shows the perception of the respondents about the level of awareness regarding laws concerning rapes and its punishments among women and men. A total of 57% were aware of laws against rape. 61% had heard about Punishment against rape out of which 60%were from Delhi, 49% were from Gurgaon and 87% from Noida. The provision of Death penalty for rape was known to 37%. 31% of the respondents also knew about Punishment awarding authorities against rape. It does seem that there is awareness about laws concerning rape and its punishment amongst the community. However, the crimes are on the rise. So the many reasons

which stop the victims to report also encourage the perpetrators to continue unabated. One logical explanation does seem the perception that punishments are not adequate. Literature is replete with data showing the cases not coming to a conclusion. The police are unable to perform well and similar host of reasons which facilitate as well as create barrier to bringing the culprits to book.

Enlisting gender sensitive activities in communities, particularly low income group persons, for improving gender sensitive relationship

Table 21 shows the respondents' awareness about Programmes Implemented by NGOs and Govt. agencies in their locality for women. 71% of the total respondents knew about Empowerment of Women programmes being held in the locality. Self - defence Training were known to 61% of respondents. Spreading awareness of laws was perceived by 47% of the respondents to be going on in their locality. Free Legal Help to Women was perceived by 34% of the sample. Creating forum for women's grievances was known to 26% of the total sample. Popularising Gender Schemes by Police/Government was seen by 30% of the sample as being done in their localities. Creating awareness of gender equality was also seen by 42% of the total sample to be going on in their areas.

Table 22 shows the perception of the respondents about the awareness of the Government Schemes. A total of 97% respondents were aware of Emergency helpline No. 100. 89% had heard about women helpline 1091, 62% knew about women commission, laws against harassment/assault of women were known to 37%, and 30% of the respondents knew about punishment for different offenses, 25% were aware of Anti-stalking service for women, 38% were aware of Exclusive Help Desk for Women at Police Stations, Thana level Women Safety Committee was known to 35% of the sample and 50% of the total respondents knew of Self-defence Training Program for Women.

It does seem that gender sensitive activities in communities, particularly low income group persons, for improving gender sensitive relationship are going on in many communities and moreover people are aware of them.

CONCLUSIONS

Findings suggest an urgent need for immediate actions for the societies and government to curb harassment and violence against women in public spaces.

1. Awareness about the women's low safety, sexual harassment as well as the laws, Acts is high among the community. However, the harassment is continuing. Findings have suggested that the system of reporting and punishments are not in place.

2. Trivialization of sexual harassment in public - space is high among the general community, victims, and even law enforcing machinery.

3. Impact of the laws in protecting women from street Violence is negligible.

4. Practice of street violence against women and girls is rampant in most of the NCR.

5. Street violence has negative consequences for the victim and her family.

6. Women themselves are not aware of laws and empowered to act.

7. Certain areas in NCR are very susceptible to sexual harassment at public places.

8. A large number of atrocities are committed from population in the rural areas of NCR, specially the youth who are old or original residents. Victims come from migrant communities in many areas. Perpetrators are men with individual temperament for sexual harassment in communities where the norms are tolerant, ambiguous, or even supportive of such behaviour.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The action has to be multipronged. Firstly **preventive measures** have to be strong. Creating awareness in community about the role of bystander while witnessing women being sexually harassed in the public spaces, strengthening the women by improving their confidence level and self defence skills, well lit public spaces, well patrolled public transport, trained transport personnel, use of CCTV cameras, use of Mahila patrol will go a long way in preventing the incidences.

- Sensitizing the police, using Mahila police, streamlining complaint mechanism, keeping the identity of complainant confidential, lodging complaint quickly and taking quick actions are needed.

STRATEGIES FOR DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF THE SOCIETY

For Government/ public-awareness

➢ Women's safety needs must be acknowledged and identified as important objectives within the planning and management of public areas. This must involve the participation of women alongside other relevant stakeholders

➢ Implementation of public-awareness efforts. This should include public-service messages and the display of "zero tolerance on sexual harassment" signs at highly visible areas such as bus stops, buses and roadsides.

➢ Any problem with women's safety in public spaces and women's human rights should be immediately addressed.

➢ State should have massive awareness campaigns to educate the masses about negative consequences of sexual harassment at public places.

➢ Political and religious leaders should condemn any sexual violence against women.

➢ Homeless women should be given priority for employment or education /training.

➢ To make cities safe for women and girls, the government and NGOs need to work with local communities to understand and claim their rights to access and enjoy all that cities have to offer and to change their cities for the better.

➢ Governments should fund essential public services (street lighting, safe public transportation and safe housing) to reduce violence against women

➢ Governments should implement public policies on service provision and to ensure that all service providers receive the necessary training to prevent, identify and report harassment and violence against women

➢ Government should support Public Spaces Mentoring Programs in communities. Any project idea to address gender-based street harassment in a community can be selected and provided in-depth mentoring for some time.

➢ Men and boys must be part of the solution. Information should be made available regarding how boys /men can work and can volunteer. There should be tips and information for bystander.

- State supported shelter homes, Nari Niketans, remand houses, juvenile delinquent homes, and shelters for differently-abled children and orphans should have schedule of regular and transparent inspection by independent body.
- Working women's hostels for SC/ST/Minority/Differently-abled girls should be provided special protection.
- Easy availability of Helpline and support system to be widely advertised on radio, TV and Newspapers

- The laws and punishments need to be popularized through media having national reach.
- Multidimensional methods like Street plays, debates, lectures, discussions can be planned and funded by state government and executed in partnership with local panchayats/communities and NGOs.
- The states must allocate a certain financial budget that may cover appropriate advertisement among urban and rural masses .

For Judiciary

- Gender sensitization for the judiciary and police' is also important. It is also important to include men in the sensitizing and other programmes.
- A specific court may dedicate a particular day in week or fortnight to take up pending cases.
- Procedure of investigation should not be lengthy and disposal of cases should be speedy to strengthen victims' faith in the system.
- Suitable amendments in law and its procedure for police and judicial accountability needs to be done.
- More women judges should be appointed

Rehabilitation and treatment of victims

- Treatment and rehabilitation of victims and survivors of severely affected/rape incidences as well as counselling, mental health treatment should be available.

For Police

➢ Victims fear to lodge complaints as/because if complaints are lodged the perpetrators' friends start chasing and harassing. Even 1091 that register complaints make women frightened by saying that their identity shall be disclosed. Victims should be encouraged to complain and, as a matter of demonstration, special hearing for such cases be instituted and punishments be awarded forthwith.

➢ More and better law enforcement and security in public places, mahila police patrols and the installation of security cameras and PCRs exclusively operated by Mahila police should be introduced.

➢ Special preventive measures should be taken in prone areas.

➢ Police in each State should be made more sensitive to provide rescue to victims

➢ Punishment should be made much more stringent. Legislation by the state should address all forms of violence against women and girls in public spaces

➢ A proper complaint procedure within the justice system, accessible to the poorest and most excluded women should be developed

➢ On-line complaints should be instantaneously responded to but the name of complainant should not be disclosed.

For Education system

➢ Self- defence training should be made compulsory in schools/colleges syllabus.

➢ Students should be made to learn about the principles of gender equality, legal rights of women, seriousness of sexual violence in public places and punishment on crimes against women in school/college.

➢ Special training to school/college students on sexual harassments-how to save oneself as well as what to do as a bystander.

For Public transport system

➢ There is a need for basic data and case study material on how women make use of the transport system, the differential impacts of transport on women, and what opportunities are denied to them when the system cannot meet their needs.

➢ Recruiting more female bus conductors, drivers, and police should be done.

➢ Strict implementation of women's compartments in Metro/ Intercity trains and dedicated seats in all public transports to be made available by operating staff.

➢ Special orientation programs for bus staff on their responsibility and duty towards women and girls as well as punishment in case of failing to do its rightful discharge ought to be imparted.

For Women themselves

➢ The traditional approaches to women's safety and their place within the societal hierarchy need to be changed. Thus a change in women's' self image to enable them to shift the blame away from themselves and onto those who commit crimes has to be inculcated.

➢ They need to go beyond discriminatory values of playing a submissive and dependent role and have a positive self identity, be independent in their self concepts and psychological capacities.

➢ Women should know the law too, specially their legal rights.

➢ Women should organise and demand their rights on issues related to their safety and go above the traditional culture which trivializes and allows sexual harassment to continue and victims to be blamed.

➢ For becoming stronger in terms of physical and learning self - defence techniques, self-defence training should regularly be given to girls so that to enhance their confidence and ability to protect themselves.

For Media

➢ Print media should be socially responsible. The reporting of sexual crimes and episodes should be factual and not sensational.

➢ The film media should also be socially responsible and not sensationalize and should document illustrations of women's experiences and the impacts upon their lives caused by sexual harassment.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Indeed, any research has some limitations. Due to the sensitiveness of the issue of sexual atrocities; it is difficult to find person/persons to reveal information fearlessly on sexual harassment cases. It is not easy to find adequate information about cases of sexual harassment in public places as the societal mindset is still under domination of unfair traditional structures and conservative culture. Fear of social stigma causes the cases of sexual harassment to remain hidden.

❍ ❍ ❍ ❍ ❍ ❍

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

In recent years women safety has been jeopardised in our society. A woman can't take   her safety for granted on the streets in our society. Emerging as one of the fastest developing countries in terms of infrastructure and economy, data show crime against women on the rise in India. A nation striving for women's empowerment is also going higher on daily episodes of sexual violence against women's freedom to move out of homes.

The National Capital Region is, unfortunately, recognized as a very "unsafe" place for women as there has been an enormous increase in cases of sexual atrocities (also called street harassment) in public places.   "Street harassment" or "sexual harassment in society" ranges from sexual harassment to rape and even murder. It occurs in public places, eg**.,** in streets, public transport, taxi, public parks,   in and around schools, within the campus of university, inside public sanitation facilities and worse, in the very own neighbourhood. Women of all ages, backgrounds and races experience sexual harassment and thus there is no typically harassed woman. Sexual harassment negatively affects everyone who is affected by the offensive conduct, whether they were <u>the intended target</u> or not.

Definition

Problems which are identified and named adequately get addressed properly. As a type of VAW (violence against women), Sexual harassment of women existed long before the Industrial Revolution (Fitz). Sexual harassment in public space is noted in earlier literature, as Smith (2008) mentions Brook's (1997) discussion of the early New York City subway in an 1871 illustration from Harpers ' Illustrated Weekly of two women about to board a horse-drawn tram while several men leer at them from the

windows (Smith 2008: 119)**. The concept of sexual harassment at workplace**, in its modern understanding, is a relatively new one, dating from the 1970s onwards; although other related concepts have existed prior to this in many cultures. International instruments define sexual harassment broadly as a form of violence against women and as discriminatory treatment, while national laws focus more closely on the illegal conduct.

All definitions of sexual harassment are in agreement that Sexual Harassment is conduct of a sexual nature that occurs because of the victim's sex, is unwanted and causes harm to the victim. Conduct of a sexual nature includes very wide range of behaviours or actions, which are expressions of sexuality or have sexual connotations in our society. Therefore, relatively innocent behaviour (such as joking, innuendoes, flirting and asking someone on a date) to blatantly illegal behaviour (such as unwanted whistling, leering, sexist and persistent requests for someone's name, number or destination after they've said no, sexual names, comments and demands, following, flashing, public masturbation, groping, forced fondling and attempted or actual rape and sexual assault) can all constitute conduct of a sexual nature.

Jessica Valenti, author of *He's a Stud, She's a Slut…and 49 Other Double Standards Every Woman Should Know* (2008) and executive editor of Feministing.com comments "While I've heard the argument that street harassment is actually a compliment –, because we're supposed to be flattered that strange men are screaming at us about our asses – it's really a super-insidious form of sexism. Because not only do perfect strangers think that it's appropriate to be sexual toward any woman they want, ... that you're allowed to say anything to women that you want – anytime, anywhere." Carol Brooks Gardner, author of *Passing by: Gender and Public Harassment* (1995) defines it as "Public harassment is that group of abuses, harrying, and annoyances characteristic of public places and uniquely facilitated by communication in public... Public harassment is on a continuum of possible events, beginning when customary civility among strangers is abrogated and ending with the transition to violent crime: assault, rape, or murder." According to Hawley Fogg-Davis, author of "A Black Feminist Critique of Same-Race Street Harassment" (2005) "Sexual terrorism is an apt description of street harassment. As a young woman you know it will happen, but you never know for certain when or how it will happen. This makes

street harassment hard to define, and difficult to combat. Its insidiousness derives in large measure from its venue: the semi-private, semi-public everyday occurrence of walking, sitting, or standing along city streets, or other public spaces such as parks and shopping malls." Cynthia Grant Bowman, author of "Street Harassment and the Informal Ghettoization of Women" (1993) notes "Street harassment occurs when one or more unfamiliar men accost one or more women in a public place, on one or more occasion, and intrude or attempt to intrude upon the woman's attention in a manner that is unwelcome to the woman, with language or action that is explicitly or implicitly sexual. Such language includes, but is not limited to, references to male or female genitalia or to female body parts or to sexual activities, solicitation of sex, or reference by word or action to the target of the harassment as the object of sexual desire, or similar words that by their very utterance inflict injury or naturally tend to provoke violent resentment, even if the woman did not herself react with violence." **Gender-based street harassment is, thus, unwanted comments, gestures, and an action forced on a stranger in a public place without their consent and is directed at them because of their actual or perceived sex, gender, gender expression, or sexual orientation.**

Sexual harassment has been categorized by different scholars. According to Gruber (1992: 452) sexual harassment falls into three distinct forms**: remarks, requests, and nonverbal displays**. Tiffanie Heben, author of "A Radical Reshaping of the Law: Interpreting and Remedying Street Harassment" (1994) further **categorises three levels of street harassment**:

1. Severe: a) sexually explicit reference to a woman's body or to sexual activities, b) profanities directed at a woman because of her gender, c) any comment fitting into these categories combined with racial or ethnic slurs, d) any comment that fits any of these three categories combined with references to a woman's possible homosexuality, e) physical acts such as following a woman, throwing things at her, or pinching or poking her.

2. Moderately severe: a) sexual innuendoes, b) references to a woman's gender or body that are not sexually explicit.

3. Least severe: a) staring, b) whistling, c) all other comments men make to women that are unnecessary or are not political in nature.

Literature Review

Studies on the sexual harassment of women in public places are fewer than studies on sexual harassment at workplace. This fact might be due to two factors. First, viewed as trivial or as flattery, sexual harassment is not illegal or even unacceptable unless public harassment rises to the level of violent assault. Second, as public places are viewed as incidental routes used by people on their way to someplace else, rules of conduct in streets and other public and semi-public places have not received the same attention as in private places like workplace..

Theory and Research

One of the early sociologists to discuss the topic of sexual harassment in public places, Erving Goffman (1963; 1971) argued that anonymity between strangers in public places allows people to feel free and therefore permit breaches of social norms. Goffman thus views street remarks of a sexual nature as a way for men... to communicate regard for the attractiveness of a passing woman which she can ratify the comment with a smile or remark, or ignore it. According to him, the breach of etiquette is slight and not potentially problematic for women since the participants are engaged for only a short period of time (Goffman, 1963). However, Gardner (1989) criticised the approach for ignoring the gendered nature of public places and allowing the systematic ill treatment of women by men. Three arguments are used:

I. The social-structural argument considers sexual harassment as fallout of unequal power between men and women. Men, on average, have access to greater resources (physical, legal, political and economic) than women, placing women in a subordinate or dependent position. Gardner (1989; 1995) finds considerable support for this argument in field research that she conducted on public harassment in Santa Fe and Indianapolis. She rejects the notion that public harassment is about men's insecurity concerning their masculinity, and argues instead that it is about men's power over women. She notes that groups that are targets of discrimination are the most likely to be harassed, including women, members of racial minorities, and persons with disabilities. Moreover, while individual differences are somewhat muted in public places, appearances connoting high status produce less susceptibility to harassment (Gardner, 1995).

II. The socio-cultural argument focuses on the role played by norms and expectations related to gender in promoting male violence against women. Gender role prescriptions are not only different for men and women; they also define the "normal" heterosexual relationship as one between a superior male and an inferior female. Women are portrayed as sexual objects and male aggression is eroticized, perpetuating cultural myths that support violence against women (Kelly, 1988; Fitzgerald, 1993; Koss et al., 1994; Ussher, 1997). Gardner (1995) argues that the public order "recapitulates traditional presumptions about gender relations." Thus, public etiquette suggests that women should be absent from some public places, use companions, behave with decorum, and be unremarkable so as to avoid drawing attention to them. Men, in contrast, view public places as their home territory. Sexual harassment is a means by which they prove their masculinity to themselves and other men. Thus, men (and some women) excuse street remarks and other types of public harassment on the grounds that "men can't help themselves" or that they are just trying to show appreciation (Stanko, 1990; Gardner, 1995). Gardner (1980; 1989; 1995) maintains, however, that public harassment denigrates women and informs them that their very presence in public renders them "out of role" and therefore susceptible to comment.

Other research shows that women are more likely to define behaviour as harassment if they consider it part of a larger social problem (Stockdale et al., 1995; Gardner, 1995), espouse a feminist ideology (Brooks and Perot, 1991), or perceive that other cultural norms have been breached. Race, appearance, class, age and sexual orientation have all been found to influence the likelihood that women will define behaviour as harassment (Guiffre and Williams, 1994; Gardner, 199).

III. The social control argument sees sexual harassment as a means of social control serving to reproduce and maintain the status quo of male dominance (Fitzgerald, 1993; Koss et al., 1994). Pryor, Giedd and Williams (1995) find that men who link sexuality with social dominance are more likely than other men to score high on the Likelihood to Sexually Harass scale.

More indirect evidence for the social control argument lies in how women modify their own behaviour in public places in order to minimize the risk of sexual assault. Women avoid going out alone at night, rely on companions, walk only in certain areas, and have even turned down jobs (Deegan, 1987; Stanko, 1990; Gardner, 1989; 1995). Deegan (1987) adds that women present themselves as "good women" to ensure their claims are accepted. The good girl/bad girl dichotomy restricts women's movements and reinforces patriarchal domination of the street. Women who retaliate in response to men's remarks often find that men escalate the exchange in order to maintain control (Gardner, 1980).

International Scenario

While street harassment is an under-researched topic (though that is changing), but each existing study shows that street harassment in public is a significant and prevalent problem in all societies especially for women and girls. In a global survey by in 2016 by ActionAid on harassment in a number of countries, it was found that 79% of women living in cities in India, 86% in Thailand, and 89% in Brazil have been subjected to harassment or violence in public, as had 75% of women in London, UK. Gallup data from surveys in 143 countries in 2011 show that in those countries, including Italy, France, Australia, and the U.S., men are considerably more likely than women to say they feel safe walking alone at night in their communities. The results of the Gallup's annual Crime Survey, conducted in 2014, found that 37%, of U.S. adults say they would not feel safe walking alone near their home at night. By gender, 45%, of women said they do not feel safe walking alone at night, compared with 27% of men. YouGov survey in UK (Fawcett Devon and Plymouth for End Violence Against Women Coalition, May 2012) found 85% of women aged 18 to 24 have experienced unwanted sexual attention, with 45% experiencing unwanted sexual touching in public. Nearly two thirds of women of all ages across the UK have experienced sexual harassment in public places, making it the most common form of abuse, with 81% saying they would have liked someone to intervene. Of the victims, more than a quarter were aged less than 16 when it happened for the first time, and more than three quarters were under 21 when it first happened. The survey also found that significantly more women than men feel unsafe in public places - 63% compared to 45% - and almost half are doing conscious "safety planning" if they go out in the

evenings, such as avoiding public transport and paying for taxis, leaving early and taking a different route. In the survey, which questioned 1,650 women, females were asked what they thought should be done about sexual harassment in public places. More than half said they supported more police, 38% said better street lighting or more transport staff and 35% wanted public awareness campaigns encouraging others to intervene. No respondent thought that the problem should be ignored. In the survey, examples of sexual harassment included sexual comments, exposure, staring and wolf-whistling. Study also revealed that one in three girls in UK schools (as young as 12) had experienced unwanted sexual contact. Activists claimed that it was rare to meet a woman who had not suffered street harassment. *Speed is a man's* priority when it comes to public transport whereas for a woman it is 'safety' "Women manage this harassment every day, in their routines and daily decisions – but it has an impact on their self-esteem and body image. In Canada too, being subjected to sexually harassing behaviours is a particularly common experience for women (Pina & Gannon, 2012). Tuerkheimer (1997) went as far as to say that for many women "street harassment seems an inevitable part of our existence" (Laniya, 2005). For example, in Macmillan and colleagues' (2000) study "more than 80 per cent [of participants] experienced some form of stranger harassment, and almost 30 per cent experienced explicitly confrontational forms of harassment" (p. 319). This study drew on data from the Canadian-based 1993 Violence Against Women Survey, and used a representative sample of 12,300 women aged 18 years or older. Similarly, Lenton et al.'s (1999) study of 1,990 Canadian women found that nine in ten women have experienced at least one incident of public harassment, and three in ten have been involved in the most severe type of harassment, where the perpetrator touched or tried to touch the victim in a sexual way. Lenton et al. (1999) also highlighted that younger women and single women are more likely to be impacted by sexual harassment in the street stating that "younger women report much more harassment than older women, and … single women are more likely to report harassment than married, cohabiting or widow regardless of the measure used" (p. 530). In an Australian study, LaMontagne, Smith, Quinlan, Shoveller, and Ostry (2009) also found that younger women in Australia are disproportionately affected by unwanted sexual advances in the workplace (p. 177). Likewise, the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) (2012) also identified young adults (including both women and men) aged 18-24 as the age group most likely to experience sexual harassment. In Ho, Dinh, Bellefontaine,

and Irving's (2012) study of 248 Asian and White female college students in the USA, 96% of participants reported experiencing at least one unwanted sexual advance, while 35% experienced at least one incident of sexual coercion. Around 41% of the 228 female college students in Fairchild and Rudman's (2008) study indicated that they experienced "unwanted sexual attention from strangers at least once a month. In addition, approximately one-third of these participants reported experiencing harassment such as "catcalls, whistles, and stares every few days or more" (p. 353). Finally, one-quarter of Fairchild and Rudman's sample encountered experiences "akin to sexual coercion or assault at least once a month" (p. 353). Based on these data, the authors argued that sexual harassment by strangers functions as "a significant form of humiliation and indignity that targets women and is likely to undermine the quality of their lives" (p. 353). According to the AHRC national sexual harassment survey, one-third of women surveyed have experienced sexual harassment since the age of 15. Further, one-quarter of women had experienced sexual harassment in the workplace in the past 5 years (AHRC, 2012).

Studies in India and South Asia

A survey by an international charity organisation Action Aid released in Nov2016 has revealed shocking details on the extent of harassment women face in public places in India. As per a report in the *Hindustan Times*, the survey found that nearly four out of five women in India have faced harassment in public places. The survey took into account responses from more than 500 women in cities across the country. According to the survey, 84 percent of the women who faced harassment were in the age group of 25 to 35 years. And most of them were working women and students. "For us in India the findings are not big news, what is noteworthy of the 500 women interviewed in India, is the extent to which women have responded and reported boldly about facing harassment and violence," claims Sandeep Chachra, ActionAid India's Executive Director, "It is as if society is telling women that public spaces are not for them, and what is more interesting is that women are asserting their claim of these spaces," ActionAid's four-nation survey revealed that women around the world experience harassment for the first time at a shockingly young age with 6% experiencing harassment before the age of 10 in India. More than four in 10 women (41%) in India experience harassment or violence before the age of 19. The figure for

Brazil is 16% while it is 12% in Britain and 8% in Thailand. The research also found that around three fourth (73%) of women in India have experienced some form of violence or harassment in the past month. The figure is even higher in other countries and highlighted an increased risk of women with 67% of women polled in Thailand and 87% in Brazil having been subjected to harassment or violence in the past month. According to the ActionAid's report, more than one in four (26%) women in India said they have been groped in the past month. This compared with one in five women in Brazil (20%), one in four women in Thailand (26%) and one in six in Britain (16%). In another study, YouGov UK market research firm poll of 2,200 women aged 18 and over in their online survey(2016) found women across India, in cities of New Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai and Kolkata, were harassed in places like: on the street, in parks, at community events, on college campuses and while travelling on public transport. More than 75 percent of the respondents had been groped in public while over 50 percent of them had been followed at some point of time. Nearly nine percent of them said they had been raped. The finding by the NGO also shows that it is now common for women to take steps in their everyday lives to guard against the threat of harassment and violence. More than 8 in 10 women (82%) in India said they have taken steps to protect themselves against harassment. This figure rises to 91% for women in the age group 25 to 34. Steps range from avoiding parks and poorly lit areas (35%) and changing a travel route (36%) to using an everyday object like keys as a weapon (23%) or carrying a protective device such as a rape alarm or pepper spray (18%). Similar findings have been reported by Mahesh Nalla, Andy Henion, 2016 where about 40% percent of women surveyed in Delhi said they have been sexually harassed in a public place such as a bus or park in the past year, with most of the crimes occurring in the daytime and 58 percent were sexually harassed at least once during their lifetime. Further, 33 percent of women have stopped going out in public and 17 percent have quit their jobs rather than face harassment, or worse, in public places. Nalla and co-investigator Manish Madan, assistant professor of Criminology at Stockton University, surveyed some 1,400 men and women in the capital city of New Delhi on a host of issues including perceptions and history of sexual harassment, use of public transportation, safety in public spaces and police effectiveness in dealing with these concerns. Respondents were asked to gauge the seriousness of sexual incidents ranging from whistling to asking a woman for sexual favours' to patting her buttocks or squeezing her breasts. While both men and women generally considered

all incidents serious, men considered them considerably less serious, illustrating "a disjunction between how males and females think," Nalla said (published online in the International Criminal Justice Review 2016). Another study by Dhillon and Bakaya (2014) attempted to understand street harassment as experienced by young women in Delhi. Interviews were conducted on 20 women between the ages of 18 and 30 years to understand the nature of harassment they faced, its perceived consequences, their ways of coping with it, and the changes they felt were needed for them to feel safer. Findings revealed that harassment occurred most often in crowded spots and in broad daylight. High levels of harassment were attributed to factors like prevalent attitudes toward women and weak implementation of laws. Participants saw their lives as being restricted in several ways by the harassment. The police was seen as apathetic, and women took on themselves the responsibility for staying safe. Sometimes, women chose to defend themselves by moving away from harassers rather than confronting them due to fear of escalation. However, several participants felt that staying quiet allowed the perpetuation of harassment. The major change that women sought was more effective police functioning. In an earlier study, results of similar nature were found. 1995-96, a group of students and teachers in Delhi University conducted a research by way of survey and questionnaires to demonstrate the prevalence, nature and extent of sexual harassment in the university. The hope was that it would help convince the university administration to streamline the institutional mechanisms of redressal and complaint resolution. The survey conducted by the Gender Study Group among students in the university found that most women respondents felt that eve teasing constituted male behaviour that could be overlooked and ignored; it amounted to sexual harassment only when it crossed the threshold of their tolerance. Verbal harassment tended to be classified as eve teasing and physical harassment or sexually explicit behaviour as sexual harassment. They distinguished the two by the harm caused to them by each – eve teasing as largely harmless and sexual harassment as harmful. And used indifference or tolerance as learnt behaviour towards harassment, and deploying silence or ignoring the harassers as a strategy to deal with the harassment – since they felt that no one would either take them seriously or come to assist them. In a recent survey by a group of students of National Law Institute University (NLIU) for Madhya Pradesh Human Rights Commission (MPHRC), Bhopal; around 80 girl students of prestigious government educational institutes of the city, including Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology (MANIT), Gandhi

Medical College (GMC), Institute for Excellence in Higher Education (IEHE) and Nutan girls PG College were asked to fill up a questionnaire for the purpose. Findings reveal that girls suffer sexual harassment at almost all public places in the city and no one comes forward to help, not even other girls. A majority of men, irrespective of their age do it for fun. Singing a song while looking at them, making vulgar gestures like making kissing sound and staring are some of the most common forms of harassments in the city, said those surveyed. Victims also said that instead of parents they prefer to inform their friends after an incident. Based on the same, it was revealed that 50% girls suffered sexual harassment at least once in every ten visits to their school or college. Girls said they feel insecure irrespective of clothes they wear or the time they move out. At the time of registering a complaint, the victim faces awkward questions from the police, i.e., what were you doing there at that particular time. As for action taken by police on a complaint, a number of them viewed that police never looked, inquired into the incident nor did they inform the victim about the outcome of the investigation. Insensitive policing and no strong punishment against those involved emerge as one of the reasons why incidents of sexual harassment continue. All India Women's Conference (a leading women NGO in India), working for women welfare and their development since more than eighty years, have taken out a document 'Violence against women-whose concern?'(2013). Eight workshop on the theme in different states of India were organized between August and September 2012. The goal of the series of the workshop was to study the problem in a holistic manner from the perspective of the states. The causes are likely to differ from state to state and effort was made to identify the good practises in various states that have proved effective in prevention of the problem. The workshops in the series were held In Delhi (for Delhi, Haryana and Punjab) followed by seminars in Agartala (for West Bengal, Tripura and Manipur), Allahabad (for UP and Uttarakhand), Gandhinagar (Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa), Jammu (JK, Punjab and HP), Trivandrum (Kerala, Chennai and Karnataka), Jabalpur(Jharkhand, Orissa, Bihar, Mp and Rajasthan and Hyderabad (for Andhra Pradesh). The findings were used in prevention as well as making the existing programmes more effective by incorporating the best practises.

Sexual Harassment about Sex or Power?

According to a 1992 study conducted by the International Labor Organization (ILO), sexual harassment is linked with power and takes place in societies which often treat women as sex objects and second-class citizens. The UN Declaration on Elimination of Violence against Women States, "Violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relation between men and women". Catharine MacKinnon, one of the foremost writers on the topic, describes sexual harassment as an explosive combining of unacceptable sexual behaviour and the abuse of power. A particular incident of harassment may or may not include any explicitly sexual behaviour, but it always involves some form of abuse of power. For example, when a harasser sabotages a woman's work, he is engaging in aggression, not in any kind of romantic sexual action. This situation is similar to that of the street harasser who comments on a woman's body as she walks by, the co-worker who won't stop touching her or the landlord who won't repair the sink because she hasn't been nice enough to him. All are forms of sexual harassment. Confusion about the difference between sexual invitation and sexual harassment is common. Many men and women around the world believe that sexual harassment is a practice based on simple sexual attraction. Martha Langelan analyzes how the confusion about the dynamics of sexuality and power in sexual harassment prevents women from reacting to harassers with strong, effective countermeasures in "*Back Off! How to Confront and Stop Sexual Harassment and Harassers".* She argues that the difference between invitation and harassment is the use of power. Harassment is not a form of courtship and it is not meant to appeal or attract women rather is to coerce them. When the recipient of sexual harassment has no choice in the encounter, or has reason to fear the repercussions if she declines, the interaction has moved out of the realm of invitation and courtship into the area of intimidation and aggression. American writer and activist Kearl(2010) defines in the book' Stop Street Harassment: Making Public Places Safe and Welcoming for Women' as "unwanted attention" in public places, includes not only "physically harmless leers, whistles, honks, kissing noises, and sexually explicit evaluative comments," but also extends to "more insulting and threatening behaviour like vulgar gestures, sexually charged comments, flashing, and stalking, to illegal actions like public masturbation, sexual touching, assault, and rape." Kearl claims, that street harassment is a power dynamic that shows which gender

wields more power and control in a given society. She argues that a young girl is likely to be blamed if she walks alone on a street at night and is sexually assaulted but wearing conservative clothes in the light of the day does not stop men from sexually harassing her. Thus, the street (public space) harassment is not due to the woman's fault and it has nothing to do with the time or   dress.

It has also been noted that harassment of women in public places bears some similarities with harassment of women in the workplace, in terms of the coping mechanisms developed by men to deal with the threat of women's increased presence within both spaces. It is suggested that this increased presence has resulted in the policing of the behaviour of women who appear visibly independent and perhaps more successful than their male counterparts, who have traditionally occupied that space (Hale 1989: 375; Gangoli 2007: 63 and Valentine, 1993; Namaste, 1996; Pain 2000: 375 and Atray 1988: 36). These authors assert that sexual harassment is a form of VAW (Violence Against   Women), used by men in order to maintain the gender hierarchy of society by exposing women to risk when they venture into public space, which men perceive as being their domain only. Some have tried to place the blame for unwanted attention and violence from men on women, who they assert invite this attention through a "provocative style of dressing, conversing and walking", as highlighted by (Ghosh 1993: 114). Many scholars feel that above arguments serves to shift the burden of blame away from the harasser to victim creating a culture of victim blaming. This results in continuation of the problem (Kearl, H. personal communication, August 01 2012) as well as also serves to reinforce the existing harmful cultural values and norms (Vijeyarasa, R. personal communication, August 20 2012). This is a widespread perception which, in some instances, has been shared by the police (Sherpa, M. personal communication, August 01 2012), who pinpoint the wearing of certain clothing as being responsible for the offence. While, it has been practically observed that although women wearing more revealing clothes are subject to greater levels of harassment, women wearing traditional clothing (kurtha sarwal) are also harassed (Action Aid 2011: 51). Style of dress makes no difference to the level of harassment they experience, has been found in many cases (SAATHI 1994: 10) as already discussed. Another reason cited for the perpetuation of sexual harassment of women in public space within South Asia is increasing urbanisation. Ghosh suggests that it also reflects modernisation within Indian society. Devi (1998) talks of Delhi where due to enormous heterogeneous population, there is little sense of

shared cultural and social values and low fear of recognition and identification, people do not conform to previously acceptable behavioural norms (Devi 1998: 51).

In addition a range of other reasons are cited as possible explanations for why men choose to harass. In a 2009 survey of 274 women in Chennai (Mitra-Sarkar and Partheeban 2009), a comparison of responses to the survey question "Why Do Men Harass?", revealed that 69.7 per cent of respondents agreed men were "influenced by movies", 64.5 per cent of respondents agreed men were "influenced by their friends" and 62.7 per cent of respondents agreed men found it to be a "form of enjoyment". There were also a high percentage of respondents who said that some of the blame lay with women who were "afraid to speak out" (58.3 per cent) and "did not report crime" (49 per cent). A significant proportion of respondents also believed that, in addition to not reacting at the time, women were also responsible for inviting repeated offences against them by "encouraging by dressing provocatively" (31 per cent) and enjoying being "the centre of attention" (27.9 per cent). Furthermore, 42 per cent of respondents also agreed with the statement that men harass because "they are superior". The perceptions of these women mirror the belief of some men that it is "their birth right" to harass women (SAATHI 1994: 9), which should not be subject to protest and interrogation. This belief also represents internalisation by women of the idea that harassment in public space is often deserved (Baxi 2001; Mitra-Sarkar and Partheeban 2009: 82). It is clear that sexual harassment is perceived and interpreted by both sexes differently.

Sexual Harassment Taking Place on Public Transport

High levels of sexual harassment have been reported in public transport (Jagori and UN Women 2011); many times sexual harassment is perceived by women as highest risk to their safety in public space. In a global study, YouGov conducted a large study about harassment on public transportation in 2014. They polled people in 16 major cities worldwide and then ranked the transit systems from safest (New York City) to least safe (Bogota). As far as experiences of verbal harassment go, the top five worst cities were Mexico City, Delhi, Bogota, Lima, and Jakarta, while the top five worst cities for physical harassment were Mexico City, Bogota, Lima, Tokyo, and Delhi. Practically, these problems pose serious issues for women who need to access public space to maintain their livelihoods and provide for themselves and their families.

Increasing number of women going out to work on the one hand signifies economic and personal opportunities but on the other also means more vulnerability and risk for them (Suseela 2008). "Women have adjusted to the demands of working in male spaces; the reverse adjustment has not been as smooth. Women may have changed the way they see themselves but men, it is clear, have not" (Suseela 2008: 263-264). Public transport can be an important enabler in accessing the public sphere, with a denial of access impacting women throughout their lives. In highlighting the inadequacy of the Delhi transportation system in meeting the needs of women who travel alone, Anand and Tiwari (2006) assert that women's lack of mobility is linked to their poverty by affecting their access to livelihood opportunities. They highlight that practically every woman interviewed during household surveys within the slum cluster of Sanjay Camp, Delhi, were targets of sexual harassment while travelling to work, either walking down the street or travelling on the bus. It is asserted that gender violence, through its effects on a woman's ability to act, can serve as a brake on socio-economic development (Mathur 2004: 34) and limit women's productivity, the gains of which (an increased share of family income allocated to food and health care for children, higher household incomes and improved child survival) are lost (Subramani 2005: 185). In India, where 5.5 million women enter the workforce each year, more than 50% express high concerns about the safety of their commute. The problem is intensified by the existence of a cramped, inadequate public transportation system, massive youth migration to urban areas and the fact that India is a traditional patriarchal society where many still believe a woman's place is in the home. Aladuwaka and Oberhauser (2011) note in their study of microcredit activities of women in the Kandy district of Sri Lanka, that the increased mobility of women borrowers who travel to other areas to sell their products has led to greater independence from their husbands and a higher level of visibility within their community, which has increased their confidence and self-esteem (Aladuwaka and Oberhauser 2011: 259). In this case, women's access to the public sphere has led to gains not just in terms of income, but in how they perceive themselves and are perceived by others. Recent surveys in Chennai and Delhi highlight that only a small percentage of female respondents who have experienced sexual harassment lodged a complaint with the police, with the vast minority of these labelling the police as unsympathetic and unresponsive when they sought assistance (Chockalingam and Vijaya 2008; Mitra-Sarkar and Partheeban 2009: Jagori and UN Women 2011: 11).

The 2006 Delhi Human Development report notes that macho behaviour from police, bus drivers and bus conductors, among others, has created a feeling of vulnerability in women (Government of NCT of Delhi 2006: 120). However, in a survey of women in Chennai , where only 8 per cent of women experiencing sexual harassment asked a ticket checker or conductor on the bus to intervene on their behalf, 44 per cent of those women found these individuals to be helpful when they sought assistance (Mitra-Sarkar and Partheeban 2009: 78), suggesting that authorities at the public transport level may have the potential to be more accommodating and obliging than the police. It is asserted that justice is not just about obtaining legal recourse at a high level, which requires great emotional and financial expenditure, but also community figures (including bus drivers and conductors) supporting victims of harassment (Abraham, C. personal communication, August 08 2012). This is also particularly relevant in contexts where substantial investment of valuable time and resources is required by women who report crime to police, which could instead be spent looking after their children or running their businesses (Vijeyarasa, R. personal communication, August 20 2012). In contexts where there is a lack of provision at the level of the police and judiciary, and where the perpetrator is likely to flee the scene before the authorities can be alerted, the involvement of transport workers who are already present within the vicinity seems particularly pertinent. In addition to perceived lack of interest by police, women also often choose not to lodge a complaint due to the negative effect that police intervention can have on their lives, bringing shame and upset on in-laws (Hazarika 1995: 27). It is estimated that 90 per cent of sexual harassment cases in India go unreported because victims and their parents and guardians do not want to put the family to shame through involvement in police investigations and court proceedings (Ghosh 1993: 113). Sexual harassment on public transport is not only an experience in India or South East Asia but an everyday occurrence for millions of girls and women living in some of the world's biggest capitals. A poll by the Thomson Reuters Foundation in partnership with YouGov reveals that 32% of women in London say they have been verbally harassed on public transport; 19% were victims of direct physical abuse. The global ranking puts the safety of London's transport system behind that of New York, Beijing and Tokyo, but ahead of Paris, where 85% of the women polled expressed little confidence in receiving help by a member of the public if they were in trouble.

The worst capitals are those in Latin America, where six in every 10 women reported being physically assaulted on buses and trains. A study from Afghanistan "sexual harassment of women in public places, workplaces and educational institutions of Afghanistan" to identify the causes, consequences and ways to combat sexual harassment in Kabul, Kapisa, Balkh, Nangarhar, Kandahar, Herat and Badakhshan also showed that sexual violence is a widespread phenomenon in homes, schools, places of work and on the street and no place is safe for women. The population of this research is 364 people, including 35 victims of sexual harassment and 14 cases of sexual harassment including case studies. The questionnaire respondents said: 90% in public places, 91% in educational institutions, 87% in workplace have been harassed sexually. Also 90% in public places, 71% in workplaces and 79 % in educational institutions said that they have seen other women and girls being harassed. In public places physical harassment occurs more than other types. Verbal harassment occurs, 43% in public places and 38% in each of the workplace and educational institutions. Non-verbal harassment is seen 31% in public places, 25% at workplaces and 10% in educational institutions. The consequences of sexual harassment in the family and society include increase in forced marriages, family conflicts, life with fear and anxiety, reduced security, reduced socio-political, cultural and economic contributions of women. Also sexual harassment leads to isolation, distrust, hatred of self and others, feelings of shame, guilty and depression, the victims feel their Life is full of horror and disgrace.

Another study, a survey in Bangladesh , conducted by NGO Action Aid in seven cities for two months, has found that women get sexually harassed more in public places than any other areas and that the prevalence of sexual harassment is more in cities than in rural areas. The survey was conducted on 1200 people -- 800 women and 400 men -- in Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet and Narayanganj. The report said: "Women are sexually harassed more in public places including public transports. Eighty-four percent women interviewed faced unexpected comments and indecent behaviours. Fifty percent women were given indecent proposals and 57 percent were subjected to unexpected touches." The Action Aid citing the finds said 76 percent of under-20 women and 44 percent of above-30 females faced sexual harassment. The victims usually did not disclose sexual harassment incidents unless that was severe and 50 percent did not protest the harassment, according to the study. However, 54 percent victims informed their

families of the harassment and 41 percent protested instantly. It said most of the victims did not move the authorities in fear of social stigma and further harassment. Eighty-four women respondents said they did not inform police or any other law-enforcing agency of the harassment they underwent. Sixty-five percent said police usually blamed the victims for the harassment and 57 percent said the law enforcers procrastinated in recording cases. Fifty-three percent said they did not get any remedy after lodging complaint with police.

In a nutshell, sexual harassment may happen everywhere but its form and intensity varies in different societies and several variants including cultural, traditional issues, level of awareness, time and place of occurrence and social solidarity, affect this problem. Sexual harassment's circle begins form verbal harassment (the simplest one) to sexual assault (the harshest form); making sexual assault very different from sexual harassment. People are also harassed because of factors like their race, nationality, religion, disability, or class thus, it is multi-layered with race, socioeconomic status, gender expression, and disability. Harassment is about power and control and it is often a manifestation of societal discrimination like sexism, classism and racism. Some people are harassed for multiple reasons within a single harassment incident. No form of harassment is ever okay; everyone should be treated with respect, dignity, and empathy. While sexual harassment is a problem experienced by women worldwide, it may be more prevalent in emerging democracies such as India and other countries in South Asia where societies are, witnessing a shift from male domination to being gender equal and women are becoming more involved in the workforce. It is thus possible that the recent increase in cases of assault is a result of the male backlash for the growing gender equality. Despite efforts from Government, Ngos, other organisations, sexual harassment continues on a broad scale, in India. While violence against women and girl exists in every country, cutting across culture, caste, ethnicity education, income and age, the worst manifestations are in South Asia which is known as the most gender insensitive region in the world having the highest number of violence against women cases. A global poll conducted by Thomson REUTERS Foundation among the powerful G-20 countries, India was ranked 19th and was rated the worst place for women (even Saudi Arabia was ranked higher) on the basis of parameters such as infanticide, child marriage and slavery (Deccan herald, 7th Feb 2013).

Perpetrators

Overwhelmingly male, relatively little is known about the perpetrators of street harassment. For example, 90% of the women who experienced sexual harassment in the 2012 AHRC study said the perpetrator was male. Gender inequality means that the power dynamics at play. While women can and do perpetrate sexual harassment (men can also be the victims of sexual harassment), and frequency of the harassment, the underlying threat of rape, and the impact on the harassed person's life is rarely comparable. Most common perpetrator/victim configuration is a man sexually harassing a woman. Wesselmann and Kelly (2010) reported that social and cultural contexts along with an individual's disposition for engaging in sexual harassment (Pina & Gannon, 2012) play a role in occurrence of sexually harassing behaviours, They note that this behaviour "is most likely to be perpetrated by men with individual proclivities for sexual harassment only under context where the situational norms are tolerant, ambiguous, or even supportive of such behavior" (Wesselmann & Kelly, 2010, p. 451). In contrast, where the situational norms were not supportive of sexual harassment, men with a proclivity for sexual harassment were no more likely to sexually harass than other men. Wesselmann and Kelly (2010) also found that men were more likely to engage in the sexual harassment of strangers when they were in a group. Two main reasons for this were, a) the relative anonymity provided in a group; and b) engaging in sexual harassment acted as a form of group bonding (p. 458). Men with a proclivity to engage in sexual harassment are also more likely to hold problematic beliefs about sexual relationships and sexual violence more broadly. Summarising the available literature on this issue, Pina and Gannon (2012) indicated that these men "hold beliefs about sexual behaviour that are adverse, endorse higher levels of rape-myths and are more accepting of interpersonal violence" (p. 215). This demonstrates the interconnections between sexual harassment and more "serious" forms of sexual violence. Laniya (2005) identified three broad categories of perpetrators of street harassment:

■　predatory harassers: who "harass for sexual satisfaction";

■　dominance harassers: who "harass to reassert men's power over women"; and

■　Strategic/territorial harassers: who "harass to protect 'male' environments" (p. 108).

However, these categories of perpetration may not be mutually exclusive. There are likely to also be a range of other reasons that men engage in these behaviours (Laniya, 2005). The perpetrators of sexually harassing behaviours may also differ based on the context in which it occurs. For example, work-based sexual harassment is more likely to be perpetrated by someone known to the victim, whereas strangers typically perpetrate street-based harassment (Crouch, 2009). These findings also suggest that evolving social and cultural norms in a manner that rejects sexual harassment, and encouraging bystander intervention when sexual harassment is occurring, may be viable and successful avenues for preventing and reducing the occurrence of sexual harassment.

Impacts of harassment

Effects of sexual harassment can vary depending on the individuality of the recipient and the severity and duration of the harassment. Often, sexual harassment incidents fall into the category of the "merely annoying, relatively benign, harmless, or even as affectionate or a joke, research suggests that these experiences can have a profoundly negative effect on victims. Harassment may lead to temporary or prolonged stress and/or depression depending on the recipient's psychological abilities to cope and the type of harassment, and the lack of social support for the recipient. Psychologists and social workers report that severe/chronic sexual harassment can have the same psychological effects as rape or sexual assault. Victims who do not submit to harassment may also experience various forms of retaliation, including isolation and bullying. As an overall social and economic effect every year sexual harassment deprives women from active social and economic participation, and huge costs in lost educational and professional opportunities for mostly girls and women.

Ho and colleagues (2012) identified sexual harassment as being linked to a range of negative outcomes for female college students, including: anxiety, fear, shame, guilt, headaches, disturbed sleep, decreased appetite; and decreased weight (p. 96). In addition to these impacts, Lenton et al. (1999) also identified the following consequences of sexual harassment: work-related issues, such as loss of job opportunities and lower job satisfaction (for sexual harassment that occurs within the workplace); distrust, depression, nausea, sexual dysfunction, gastrointestinal disorders; lower self-esteem, lower self-confidence and stress reactions (pp. 522-523).

Participants in Ho et al.'s (2012) study also experienced symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), with 80% of participants reporting they had experienced at least one PTSD symptom as a result of sexual harassment. The severity of these symptoms, and particularly depression, was positively correlated with the frequency of exposure to sexual harassment. That is, the more participants had encountered sexual harassment, the more negatively they were affected by it. Further, the impact of the sexual harassment and coercion varied depending upon the type of behaviour encountered. For Ho et al.'s participants, the forms of sexual harassment that were seen as most distressing included: being stared, leered, or ogled at in a way that made the participants uncomfortable (17%); being touched in a way that made them uncomfortable (12%); and having someone make unwanted attempts to stroke or fondle them (11%) (2012, p. 100).

Common psychological, academic, professional, financial, and social effects of sexual harassment and retaliation:

■ Becoming publicly sexualized (i.e. groups of people "evaluate" the victim to establish if he or she is "worth" the sexual attention or the risk to the harasser's career)

■ Being objectified and humiliated by scrutiny and gossip. Defamation of character and reputation

■ Having one's personal life offered up for public scrutiny—the victim becomes the "accused", and his or her dress, lifestyle, and private life will often come under attack.

■ Decreased work or school performance as a result of stress conditions;

■ Effects on sexual life and relationships: can put extreme stress upon relationships with significant others, sometimes resulting in divorce

■ Firing and refusal for a job opportunity can lead to loss of job or career, loss of income

■ Having to drop courses, change academic plans, or leave school (loss of tuition) in fear of harassment repetition and/or as a result of stress

■ Having to relocate to another city, another job, or another school

■ Loss of references/recommendations

■ Loss of trust in environments similar to where the harassment occurred

■ Loss of trust in the types of people that occupy similar positions as the harasser or his or her colleagues, especially in case they are not supportive, difficulties or stress on peer relationships, or relationships with colleagues

■ Weakening of support network, or being ostracized from professional or academic circles (friends, colleagues, or family may distance themselves from the victim, or shun him or her altogether)

■ Some of the psychological and health effects that can occur in someone who has been sexually harassed as a result of humiliation : depression , anxiety and/or panic attacks, sleeplessness and/or nightmares, headaches , fatigue or loss of motivation, stomach problems, eating disorders (weight loss or gain) , alcoholism, feeling betrayed and / or violated , feeling angry or violent towards the perpetrator, feeling powerless or out of control, increased blood pressure, loss of confidence and self-esteem, withdrawal and isolation, overall loss of trust in people, traumatic stress, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) , complex post-traumatic stress disorder, suicidal thoughts or attempts , suicide.

The consequences of sexual harassment on the street may also be compounded by other social and structural factors, such as class, race, sexuality and disability (Ho et al., 2012; Kelly & Radford, 1996). Macmillan and colleagues (2000) found that street harassment impacted on participants' perceptions of safety "while walking alone at night, using public transportation, walking alone in a parking garage, and while home alone at night" (p. 319). These negative impacts were significant enough for the authors to suggest that "stranger harassment is a key determinant of perceptions of safety among women" (p. 319), although harassment from known perpetrators was not found to have the same impact on perceptions of safety in this instance. For participants in Fairchild and Rudman's (2008) study, experiencing sexual harassment from strangers was "related to fear of rape, and reliably related to perceived risk of rape" (p. 348). Lenton and colleagues (1999, p. 531) reported that three-quarters of the 1,990 Canadian women they interviewed experienced fear as their first reaction to being sexually harassed in public space. Other immediate reactions of participants included feeling angry (20%), violated (7.4%), repulsed (7.3%), or shocked (5.4%) (p. 531). Significantly, 19.3% of participants reported still "being afraid or upset, even though, in some cases, the harassment took place years or even decades ago" (Lenton et al., 1999, p.531). This suggests that rather than being a "minor" or trivial event, sexual harassment and street harassment has the

potential to negatively impact upon women in an ongoing way. Tuerkheimer (1997) encapsulated the harm caused by street harassment:" The harm to our psyches and to our spirits is as real as the damage inflicted upon our bodies when we are raped and beaten, and we are similarly oppressed by it. (p. 190)" Lenton et al. (1999) found that women who have experienced sexual harassment were more likely to engage in the use of protective routines in comparison to women who had not experienced sexual harassment - and women's use of avoidance or protective routines in public spaces has been well documented (Esacove, 1998; Stanko, 1985, 1990). For example, women who had experienced street harassment were more likely to avoid certain streets or public areas "always or most of the time" (54.6%) in comparison to women who had not experienced this harassment (36.4%) (Lenton et al., 1999, p. 534). This suggests that sexual harassment in public places has the potential to impact women's fear of crime and perceptions of safety in public spaces, and thus, to curtail women's freedom of movement and access to/use of public space (Laniya, 2005). This impediment negatively impacts their social and economic wellbeing. For example, feeling unsafe in public spaces can restrict when and where women are able to work or engage in social settings in ways that men generally do not experience (Laniya, 2005; MacKinnon, 1979, in relation to economic freedom).

Coping

Sexual harassment, by definition, is unwanted and not to be tolerated. However, a number of effective ways are used by victims to overcome the resulting psychological effects, regain healthy feelings within personal relationships, recover the ability to concentrate and be productive in educational, work environments as well as remain in or return to society, regain social approval. This may include stress management and therapy, cognitive-behavioural therapy, friends and family support, etc. Immediate psychological and legal counselling are used since self-treatment may not release stress or remove trauma, and simply reporting to authorities may not have the desired effect, may be ignored, or may further injure the victim at its response.

Barriers to disclosure and reporting: It has been well established in the literature on sexual violence that there is significant under-reporting of incidents of sexual violence. It is estimated that as many as 85% of victims do not report their experiences to police, or otherwise disclose to friends, family or service workers (ABS, 1996). Any statistics are likely to underestimate the true extent of women's experiences of sexual

harassment (Pina & Gannon, 2012). For example, in Lenton et al.'s (1999) study only 9% of participants had reported "their most upsetting experience of harassment to police" (p. 531). In AHRC survey on sexual harassment only 20% of respondents who were sexually harassed "made a formal report or complaint" (AHRC, 2012, p. 5). Age influences perception of safety. Young people are more fearful of violence in public domain. Socio-economic status is another factor associated with these fears and poverty also highlights greater apprehension. People living in poverty experience a heightened sense of fear of assault due to lack of material and social resources and at a community level 'lack of contacts, organizational ability and political networks available to higher status neighbourhood'. (Panzis 2000).

There are a range of factors that may contribute to the under-reporting and disclosure of sexual harassment:

- Victims may not recognise or label their experience as constituting sexual harassment as sexual harassment constitutes a broad range of behaviours. (AHRC, 2012; Bursik & Gefter, 2011; Pina & Gannon, 2012).
- The behaviour in question may not be illegal, so there are no or limited avenues of reporting (Lenton et al., 1999).
- Sexual harassment is often dismissed as trivial, or even welcome, behaviour (Kelly & Radford, 1996; Lenton et al., 1999; MacKinnon, 1979; Stanko, 1996).
- Victims may feel that no one will take them seriously.
- Victims may fear reprisal from the perpetrator or other negative outcomes (such as being viewed as a "troublemaker"), particularly for sexual harassment that occurs within the workplace (MacKinnon, 1979; Pina & Gannon, 2012).[1]
- Victims may downplay the harm of their experience as a coping strategy, particularly in relation to work-based harassment to allow them to maintain their employment (Kelly & Radford, 1996).
- Victims may consider it too risky to complain in a workplace environment that is permissive of sexual harassment (Pina & Gannon, 2012, p. 211).

Legal provisions in India

According to The Constitution of India sexual harassment infringes the fundamental right of a woman to gender equality under Article 14 and 15 and her right

to life and live with dignity under Article 21. Discrimination against women and girls is one of the most important obstacles for women empowerment and gender equality.

Crimes against women in India are classified under two categories: 1. Crimes classified under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and 20 crimes specified under the Special Laws (SL).

Crimes under IPC include:

i) Rape (Sections 375 &376), Indian Penal Code's Section 375 recognized rape, thus, as:

"A man is said to commit "rape" who has sexual intercourse with a women in circumstances following under any of the six descriptions as below" :

i)　　Against her will.

ii)　　Without her consent.

iii)　　With her consent having been obtained by putting her or any person in who she is interested, in fear of death or hurt.

iv)　　With the consent, when the man knows that he is not her husband, and that her consent is given because she is believes that he is another man to whom she is or believe to be lawfully married.

v)　　With the consent, when in unsound state of mind or intoxicated and is unable to understand the nature of consequences.

vi)　　With or without her consent when she is under sixteen years of age.

After April 2013, the description has been revised through the Criminal Law (Amendments) Act 2013, which also raises the legal age to Eighteen. Simple wordings of "Sexual intercourse" have also been explicitly elaborated. The earlier six conditions have been added with the seventh: "When she is unable to communicate consent". Here consent means an unequivocal voluntary agreement when the women, by words, gestures or any form of verbal or non verbal communication, communicate willingness to participate in the specific sexual act. Provided that women who does not physically resist to the act of penetration shall not by the reason only of that fact, be regarded as consenting to the sexual activity.

ii) Kidnapping and Abduction (Sections 363 & 373),

iii) Dowry Homicides (302 3040,

iv) Torture; Physical and/or Mental (498A),

 v) Molestation (354),

vi) Eve- Teasing or Sexual harassment (294/509), Eve-Teasing:-It is a non- bailable offence committed by way of whistling, winking and stalking offences [Those who are witnesses to such incidents in public places and do not intervene to help the victim may be made a party].

Blank Calls, Lewd SMS/MMS: Offenders are booked under sections 509 (words, gestures intended to outrage the modesty of a woman), 354 or other sections.

vii) Importations of Girls (366B).

viii) Acid Attack: It is tried either under section 307 or 326.

Special law category- crimes include: i) Immoral Trafficking (Act 1956), Demanding Dowry (Act 1961), and includes Indecent representation of Women (Act 1986).

Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 says, 'a person commits the offence of insulting the modesty of women when he: i) utters any words, ii) makes any sounds or gestures, iii) exhibits any object with the intention to be seen/heard by a woman, iv) intrudes upon the privacy of a woman.

Eve teasing, first used in India to refer to behaviour of male university students towards their female counterparts (The Times 1960: 9; Barrett 2006: 109; Mitra-Sarkar and Partheeban 2009: 75), refers to all forms of harassment women face in public spaces considered trivial, funny and part of everyday life, thus acting as mechanisms legitimizing harassment by positioning the presence of women in public spaces as 'provocative'. Later it was classified as those offences that outrage the modesty of women by word, gesture or acts and causes lesser 'hurt' than molestation referring to Sexual harassment of women in public space. It is argued that the semantic roots of the term, "eve" as a temptress being teased, normalises the issue of sexual harassment (Gangoli 2007: 93). In India, however, while sections 509, 294 and 354 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) have provision for dealing with 'eve teasing' and sexual harassment, the intention behind the offence on the part of the perpetrator must be proven, which makes punishment of the culprit very challenging (Jain and Singh 2001: 165-172). In addition to being ineffective in terms of securing convictions, section 509 has been accused of being "couched in completely irrelevant and outdated language and talks about making gestures and sounds with the intention to 'insult the modesty of a woman'" (Singh 2004: 93). Feminists have argued that relevant sections of the penal code are "wholly inadequate in defining the experiences of women" (Agnes 1992, 19-33; Gangoli 2007: 63). A lack of recognition of sexual harassment as a problem within the legal framework has been attributed to the domination of institutions

by male authority (SAATHI 199; Karlekar 1995. This is because the men in positions of authority are unable to empathise with the experience of women, making it difficult for victim to achieve legal recourse when harassed. There is a lack of legal support for complainants due to corruption, in the court and bribing of lawyers (Abraham, C. personal communication, August 08 2012). It has also been asserted that ineffective system for punitive or preventive role does not have any deterrent effect and thus complainants do not tend to pursue cases after the initial complaint (Atray 1988: 36).

Metropolis of NCR-the history

The onset of the Delhi Sultanate, in the 12[th]century, also coincides with the extensive coverage of Delhi's visible history. It witnessed succession of mighty empires and powerful kingdoms to be acknowledged as one of the longest serving Capitals and one of the oldest inhabited cities in the world. Delhi encapsulates everything that is grand and glorifying being famous as the hot seat of power and politics.

Modern Delhi has a unique history. In 1911 when the then rulers, the British, decided to make Delhi the capital of India, a huge area was acquired comprising of arable and non-arable lands. On the 12[th]December 1911 Delhi was declared the new capital of India and Lutyen's Delhi, called New Delhi, was built on its south-west portions. These landowners were the villagers who were basically agriculturists with traditional mindset, untouched by modern attitudes and ways of life that came with the urbanisation in the wake of new settlement of Government servants, businessmen or nobilities. As a matter of mutual convenience neither the newcomers nor the villagers preferred mixing due to cultural gaps and contrasts. As a result a red circle (Lal Dora), was drawn around these villages and the villages were called Lal Dora thence. The term, Lal Dora, was first used in 1908 referring to village lands or Abadi (habitation) which could be used by the villagers for their ancillary purposes such as keeping livestock. Such lands were exempted from municipality rules and regulations. The red line drawn on the maps delineated the village population from the nearby agricultural land for revenue records. The practice continued since then. The villagers also built houses without need to confirm to building by-laws and without any permission in the Lal Dora areas. In 1983, it was extended in six villages granting them the benefit as already availed by the villages falling under the bounds of Lal Dora. Currently, there is no house tax up to 200 sq. meters of plots and houses. Independent of the controls of the municipality or Urban Development authority, the areas belonging to marked Lal

Dora as well as nearby areas started development in the most haphazard manner. It started posing problems for the civil authorities as it had no rules. The result has-been an uncontrolled population density and wide spread inadequacies of infrastructural facilities.

Delhi's revenue record has a list of 362 villages out of which 135 are currently classified as urban villages and 227 are rural villages. Lal Dora areas are fraught with problems of rampant illegal constructions, gross commercialization, bad infrastructure, overpopulation and massive unemployment. All aspects of infrastructure front, roads or sewerage, water or power, sanitation or hygiene, have become perennial problem. In an important judgement in September 2004, the Delhi High Court said that there should no distinction in the treatment of rural and urban areas within urban limits, which implies that civic municipal laws should have been applied in all Lal Dora areas. But, it never has been applied. It has been suggested that reason lies in lack of political will.

However, the large number of villages within the city presents a totally paradoxical cultural picture. The womenfolk of these areas are hugely exposed to various types of sexual harassment as the infrastructural developments of the city are carried out without taking in account the needs of women. The experiences of its women folk are significantly different from the experiences of its male counterpart. Assault and/or apprehension of assault critically undermines a woman's sense of lack of physical and personal securities which are essential component for women's senses of well being and stand as a road block in development of an inclusive society.

Modern Delhi/the NCR

Delhi along with its urban region got the Special status of National capital region (NCR) under the Constitution of India's 69th Amendment Act of 1991. Haryana on three sides and UP to the East of Delhi, India's most expansive city occupies about 1484 Sq. Km of area with a population of about 25 million people (2014). It is the second most populous urban agglomeration in India and 3rd largest urban area in the world. Its geographical location in North western India makes it the most backward region in terms of sex ratio and women's rights. Delhi is also one of the most unequal cities in the country in terms of caste and income showing huge Social and financial disparities.

In 2009-2010 Delhi's gross State domestic Product was at 2,176 million. In 2013 the per capita income of Delhi was reported to be Rs.210, 000.

Population (2011 census):   16,753,235

Male: 8,790,000

Female: 7,564,000

Major population of work force 73.39% is in the age group of 15 − 44.

- Sex Ratio: **1000:866**
- Literacy rate: 86.34%

Population Growth:

Year	Total	Growth rate
2001	13,782,976	46.30%
2011	16,753,235	21.60%

Social group wise break-up:

- SC   20.74%
- OBC   10.89%
- Others   68.37%

Break-up of persons engagement

- Trade   28.23%
- Services   27.55%
- Manufacturing   20.44%
- Transport   9.37%
- Construction   8.21%

Delhi has highest road density of 2013 km/per 100 sq.km in India. Buses are the most popular means of transport catering to about 60% of Delhi's total demand. But a robust public transport system is still a dream.

There are several National Highways emerging out of or passing through Delhi:

- NH 1   Delhi- Attari
- NH 2   Delhi - Kolkata
- NH 8   Delhi – Mumbai
- NH 10   Delhi – Fazilka
- NH 24   Delhi – Lucknow

Unemployment in Delhi:

"The unemployment rate in urban area of Delhi is 40 per thousand persons in labour force as compared to 34 per thousand in urban area at the national level".

(Presented by the Directorate of Economics & Statics, Delhi Government)

	Rural	Urban
Unemployment rate:		
Per 10,000 persons	107	30
Male:		31%
Female:		41%

Total Households :		36.48 lakh
Rural	:	0.96
Urban	:	35.52
Av. Family size	:	4.48 persons

Delhi Police

- Total Strength : 84,536 (including IR Battalion) as in 2015
- 11 districts have 181 Police Stations divided as under :
- 161 Territorial, 2 IGI Airport, 5 Railway Stations, 8 Metro Stations and 5 Specialized Crime Units declared as Police Station namely, Economic Offences Wing, Crime Branch, Special cell, Special Police Unit for Women and Children (SPUWAC) & Vigilance.
- The police to public ratio is far from satisfactory. The capital has one police man for every 800 citizens.

Mahila police in Delhi

National average of lady police personnel is about 6% in India. Chandigarh has the highest percentage of lady police personnel (about 16%).

Nearly 8% of Delhi Police consists of lady police. However, case of women safety in Delhi constitutes a unique situation. Number of employed women is much greater in Delhi than in many other places. Women in Delhi move a lot more than women in many other places. Thus, just a calculation of population count of women in Delhi might not provide a clear picture of factors involved in safety of women as compared to other cities in India. Delhi requires a huge number of lady police personnel to control law and order problems specially to ensure that; i) larger number of cases to be reported and, ii) safe travelling/ movements for women and girls in Delhi NCR.

■ Gurgaon

Bordering on South West of Delhi Gurgaon is the technical hub of Haryana, it occupies 732.2 sq kms.

■ 2011 census:
- **Total Population :**   1,514,085   **Male:** 817, 274   **Female:**   696,811.
- Sex ratio: 1000:870 (improved during last 4 years.
- It registers rapid growth in population because:
- It offers better job opportunity,
- It has decent standards of living,
- It has better connectivity through better and economical transport facilities with Noida, Delhi and Faridabad.

Population Growth:
- 2011   876,824
- 2012   1,132,814
- 2013   1,487,628
- 2014   1,788,541

NOIDA (Distt. Gautam Buddha Nagar)

2.Reported cases of crime against Women

Year	Section under IPC	No. of cases
2016 (01.01.2016 to 30.11.2016**)**	376 (Rape)	88
		(3 were found false)
	354	232
	294	11
	504	4
2015		
	376	37
	354	120
	294	06
	509	nil

2. Other Information:

- **Number of Police Stations in the District**   22
- **PS in Greater Noida**   06
- **PS in NOIDA**   08

  Mahila PS

3.Strength of Police force (Gender wise)

	Male	Female
Police Inspector	29	2
Sub Inspector	216	6
Head Constable	291	1
Constable	1674	122

✓ **This list does not include SSP/SP/Dy SP.**

Crime Against Women

Crimes against women in Delhi

Heads	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 (Till 15.10.2016)
Rape 376 IPC	706	1636	2166	2199	1751
Assault With Intent to outrage modesty 354 IPC	3489	727	3515	4322	5367
Insult to the modesty Of women (509 IPC)	208	916	1361	1492	783
Kidnapping	2048	3286	3604	3738	2789
Abduction	162	323	423	556	396
Cruelty by Husband 498-A/406 IPC	2046	3045	3194	3536	3053

Three Years Rape Statistics in Delhi:

On a black 16th December 2012, a 23 year old student, travelling in a public bus alone with her male companion, was brutally raped in moving bus. It sparked unprecedented protest that continued even after her death. She had violently fought with the perpetrators during the assault and kept unrelenting bold gesture even during the days she was fighting her death call. Gang of accused persons had a Juvenile participant as well. In May 2014, two girl aged 14 and 16 were gang raped. In April a Five year old Girl was raped and brutally beaten by a neighbour for days before being recovered. In a separate case another Five year old girl was subjected to sexual assault in south Delhi slum. In spite of an anti rape law being passed in the parliament (Amendment Act, 2013) to strengthen the countries law on sexual assault against women with strict punishment for offenses like Rape, stalking, voyeurism, etc. The incidents are showing to be on rise instead of decline. Newspaper are riddled with such stories

where girls and women are reported to be raped by somebody at public places like railway stations, public parks, streets, bus stops, Malls and such other places . Even within the confines of her own home a female is not secured this metropolitan NCR. Statistically, rape is the fourth most common crime against women in India. According to National Crime Bureau's 2013 report, 24,923 rape cases across India. The 2014 NCRB report notes that there are 33764 cases of rape having been registered in India. It also shows a jump of 135% over the previous year. Out of these victims 4427 are girls under the age of 14 years. About 26.3% (8877) victims are teen age female (14-18). 41.1% (15556) are women in the age group of 18 to 30 years.

Statistically, Delhi presents a very grim picture. It records the highest number of rape cases in the country. 92 women are raped in India everyday and out of it 4 are in everyday in Delhi, more than 4% of the national figure with less than 1% of its population share. These numbers do not include Gurgaon and Noida.

Year	2011	2012	2013	Total	Average
Case Registered	572	706	1636	2914	971

On an average 3 cases per day were registered in Delhi from 2011 to 2013 (In 2014 it has jumped to 4 per day). Post the Nirbhaya incident, the number of cases in 2013 more than doubled from the previous year strangely. The number of cases registered in 2013 compared to 2012 increased by staggering 131%. There are 4997 cases pending in trial courts. The total number of arrests in Delhi during these three years is 3450 out of which the total number of conviction is only 925. In September2016, the National Crime Records Bureau released data showed 33% increase in stalking cases across India and 60% of all the accused were men between 18 and 30. Shockingly, 84% of stalking cases were pending in the courts in 2015. In 2014, 91% were pending. The Dec. 16, 2012 rape and murder of Nirbhaya by a group of men on a moving bus in Delhi brought about new laws that doubled prison terms for rape and criminalized voyeurism and stalking.

It is worth noting that:

Over the last three years, 75 cases of rape were registered everyday across the country with3 cases being registered every hour. On an average 93 persons were arrested every day. There is a huge pendency of cases in courts.

In view of the two tables given above it may be found that incidences of violence against women are very high in Delhi. The above statistic also shows that with growing gender equality, crime of sexual atrocity have started making headlines. Public reactions to these crimes keep varying between peaks and lows ; peaking when brought to lime light and ebbing away after a period of sustained vociferous condemnation on social media platforms and occasional candle light march. (More information about crime situation in Delhi NCR and its management by Police has been provided in Appendix.)

Sadly, the NCR Delhi, according to statistic, holds the record of the highest number of sexual harassment, sexual atrocities and rape among all Indian cities. In the entire NCR, that includes Gurgaon and Noida, public places have become the most unsafe vicinity for women. Here, sexual harassments and other forms of sexual violence's have become everyday occurrence for women of all ages and economic strata in public places and neighbourhood.

To summarize, the figures and the trend of the crimes, as above, demand in depth identification of broad reasons that motivate such crimes. Safety mechanism to protect the vulnerable ought to be developed. Also, a sense of fear in the minds of the perpetrators is necessary to be inculcated. Such incidences or even its possibilities or the apprehension of it happening, reduces women's freedom, their ability to participate in school or college, their working capabilities and their public life. It limits their access to essential services, even to enjoy cultural and recreational opportunities. It negatively impacts their health and sense of well being and traumatizes their overall personality growth. Violence against women in public domain has been largely a neglected issue. So, sexual harassment might be everywhere, where women and girls appear. Maybe unaware of how seriously it impacts the victims, the perpetrators, young boys and adult men feel a sense of "fun" in sexually harassing a girl/woman. Such acts are further trivialized, and sometimes even justified, by friend, family, community and institutions. It is often seen as a joke, a compliment or our fault. In reality this is bullying, and it is harmful not only to the victim but to others who witness it.

CHAPTER 2

DEFINING THE RESEARCH

Issues before the Present Research

A critical analysis of the review brings to fore certain issues which need attention. As is clear from the above discussion, there is not adequate and reliable information about the phenomena of women safety. It is no secret that women are unsafe on the streets of Delhi. Street harassment or sexual atrocity like rape etc. in public places is an under researched topic though it is a significant and widely prevalent problem. In a notable study of 630 women of all ages and socio economic status in New Delhi and Old Delhi it was found that 95% of respondents felt that their mobility was restricted because of fear of sexual harassments in public places. 82% of them also said that buses were the most unsafe mode of transport. Sexual harassment is a complex challenge, one that is controversial, contentious and often not taken seriously. Attitudes towards sexual harassment range from discomfort, fear, concern, to disbelief and indifference. For ages a common belief existed that abuse, rape, exploitation, trafficking and similar violence against women were caused by conflict, fights, wars, and when family protections weakened and destroyed. This belief is contradicted by the fact that in normal life a female is victimized by sexual harassment, assault and other atrocities by somebody totally unknown to her. Since earlier times, most forms of violence against women were hidden under silence or were even accepted. Societal bias makes the

victims feel that they are at fault for having suffered it. The subject is still taboo, where victims prefer to suffer in silence rather than confront their harassers or reports their actions. Many are reluctant or uncomfortable about even recognizing what has happened to them, or confused or guilt-ridden that they may have brought it on themselves. Those who perpetrate these crimes feel justified in ignoring societal messages that rape, sexual harassment and other forms of violence are 'not unacceptable'.

But the changing social environment in terms of education, employment and legal rights of women meant to empower them signifies a great societal transformation in Indian society in recent times. Women have come out of their homes in large numbers and have joined in the nation building. Spread of literacy and shading off of age old dogmatic practices has largely contributed to emerging boldness of reporting the cases though there is still high under reporting of the incidents. Incidences of sexual harassment/ atrocities threaten and prevent their freedom of movement and limit their ability to make choices about their lives. It can limit their access to public spaces and lower their comfort levels. It can cause women to 'choose' less convenient routes and alter their routines; give up hobbies and change habits; and even quit jobs, move neighbourhoods or simply stay at home. Though measures and steps to eliminate sexual harassment have been taken by the government/other social bodies, many crimes remain unpunished. One strong reason might be the absence of strong reprimand or punishment and a silent acceptance of the society in general. Sexual harassment, in any form, imposes unpleasant circumstances to the victims and can limits their private freedom and deprive them of their civil rights. There is need to eliminate women-directed violence in public and private spaces, raise awareness on human rights especially women rights on gender based equality.

However, newspapers, TV reports, serials and movies show and publish cases relating to day to day incidents of street harassment against women making it more and more apparent that such incidents occur on a massive scale. No woman is secure or immune and it can create harmful and lasting effects upon the women subjected to it. Even family, friends and public institutions are cruelly insensitive about it.

In India, women are guaranteed equality, freedom, opportunity and protection by the Constitution and several legislations. Nonetheless they continue to be victims of domestic violence, family violence, and violence in the community and at workplaces. There are a number of laws against sexual harassment. Is the community benefiting

from the legal provisions, Acts in their lives? The experience has to be analyzed to come up with relevant information which would help in removing the barrier so that these laws become a positive force in our society.

And the next equally important question is, "Is the community empowered and aware enough to make use and seek protection of the law made for them"? The laws are meant for everyone using the public space.

Given to the background of sexual harassment against women and girls, this research aims to increase information about the causes and remedies of this phenomenon and identify ways based on the experiences of the victims of sexual harassment to combat harassment. It is worth mentioning that this research's findings will help to 1.) Provide better services to the victims, 2.) Advocate for improving the preventive regulations, 3.) Suggest recommendations for law modifications, 4.) Increase awareness via social media and other public outreach resources, and 5.) Establish Watch dog Groups in unsafe spots to combat this problem.

Objectives of the study:

- To identify most rampant causes of sexual harassment perceived by women.
- To determine the most important factors that enhances common women's safety in public places.
- To discern women's responses in cases of violence against them.
- To find feasibilities of women's access to Police and other governing agencies.
- To find the level of awareness regarding laws concerning rapes and its punishments among women and men.
- To enlist gender sensitive activities in communities, particularly low income group persons, for improving gender sensitive relationship

CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY

Tools of study:

Secondary documents, laws and policies were reviewed along with previous research and conclusions. Participatory Rural Appraisal tools (e.g. semi-structured interviews and focused group discussions) were used in the pilot study and based on that, structured Instrument (questionnaires) were developed to identify the issues and main attitudes behind the sample groups' thinking. Some questions covering each dimension of the study were developed. The exact number of questions was decided after preliminary field visits. Information, knowledge and understanding of field situations have been used to enhance the quality of the questionnaire.

A. Quantitative Method

1. Questionnaire

Questionnaire schedule was the main tool of data collection. **Research study of women safety from sexual assault at public spaces in national capital region interview** schedule was prepared to address the research issues. After the first brainstorming session, the questions were generated and given to five people for comments. This way the questionnaire was modified and fine tuned four times. Discussion was also held with community people, gender experts and NGO workers before finalizing the questionnaire.

Questions were oriented towards the objectives of the study. It included questions about perceived causes and consequences, identity of offenders and ideas for preventing mechanisms from people and respondents point of view to tackle this phenomenon in public places.

The questions were on the following dimensions:

(Appendix 1: Questionnaire-30 questions)

Demographic information was taken in the questionnaire - Question no. 1 to 11

Each question covering one dimension had many sub-questions. The details are provided below:

No. of sub questions

2. Selection of Sample and Districts

Selection of research coverage area was in compliance with research objectives to understand the factors and possible remedies of sexual harassment against women and girls in public places.

Sample design:

The study used purposive sampling methods to collect information from selected respondents belonging to diverse categories spread across Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida.

Sample size and categories:

Total sample size was 5221 with each respondent category sub divided into various categories with specific sample size allotted to each category. Details are as below.

Table 1 - Profile of Respondents

The above mentioned respondents were divided into all nine districts of Delhi along with Gurgaon and Noida. Thus, questionnaires were filled by a total of 5221 respondents. As the media reports and pilot survey had revealed street violence to be positively related to lower socio-economic groups, the sample was mainly lower socio-economic group in rural, semi-urban and even in urban areas and slum clusters.

3. Sample selection

Identification of a correct and representative sample was carefully done as the issue of street violence is very sensitive and complex. The present team, with its previous experience in carrying out research on sensitive social issues, maintained care in locating the sample with the help of other research experts, research experts, police personnel, lawyers, actively working local NGOs, doctors, community and Angan Wadi centres and other women's organizations.

Selection of Geographical Areas

Before the commencement of Field Investigation, the Universe of the Study was meticulously decided. A list of harassment – prone areas from the Special unit for Women and Children, Nanakpura and Office of the Joint Commissioner of Police was obtained. Their crime map pertained to incidents of rape, molestation and eve teasing during 2015. The map showed only five districts which were more prone to women harassment. Two new districts were formed since after the award of the study. Thus out of existing 11 districts in Delhi, 50% of the respondents were selected from the harassment affected areas and another 50% were taken from the rest six districts. Two localities, necessarily slum and resettlement areas, from each district were selected to cover women of moderately weaker and lower economic status

Three sectors each from Gurgaon and Noida were selected on recommendation of local Mahila police and Angan Wadi workers.

The areas covered are as below:

4. Noida (Gautam Buddha Nagar District, UP)
5. Gurgaon, Haryana
6. Delhi:
   - North District
   - Central District

❍ South District   ❍ New Delhi District

❍ South West District   ❍ West District

❍ North East District   ❍ East District

❍ North West District   ❍ South East District

❍ Shahdara District

In order to seek support from government agencies, if required, letters were posted to:

4. Principal secretary, Dept. of Women and Child Development, Govt. of UP, Lucknow, with a   copy to the District Magistrate, GBNagar.

5. Principal secretary, Dept. of Women and Child Development, Govt. of Haryana, Chandigarh with a copy to the Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon.

6. The Secretary, dept. of Women and Child Development, Govt. of NCT of Delhi with copies to all 11 deputy Commissioners of respective districts.

4. Basis of Sample Selection

Total population of Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida divided by the number of the respondents was used to determine the number of respondents from each area.

Area	Population	Ratio	Sample Size
Delhi	11,034,555	88%	4573
Noida	637,300	5%	264
Gurgaon	876,969	7%	363
TOTAL	**12, 548,824**	**100%**	**5200**

✓ Out of the above 4288 women belonging to different categories, 592 and 320 stake holders belonging to both genders have been covered.

B.Qualitative methods

Focus group discussions were held with people of the target areas. Respondents here included the residents, students, teachers, doctors, hospital people, authorities and other people from the community, (men and women). The points discussed were related to suggestions and recommendations about the implementation.

C. Data Collection

Data collection was done as per the design of the study.

Questionnaire schedule was applied on the above mentioned sample. The responses of the respondents were recorded on the different items of the schedule. Demographic information on education, income etc. were also collected. The respondents were interviewed and the schedules filled by the investigators.

Before selecting and approaching any particular community for the study in any district, one or two local persons having knowledge and the information of the nearby localities and communities were included in the team by the field workers. This enabled the research team to gain confidence of the target community.

In the course of data collection, whenever the research team would visit a mohalla of a village or town, they would soon be surrounded by a curious group of people. As per the research plan, the male investigators would introduce themselves to the male group and the women team would mix with the women folk. Initially, the purpose of the visit (study) would be outlined to the group in general terms and then 3-4 males and an equal number of females would be selected by the male and female investigators respectively for interviewing. In the selection of the respondents for individual and families for interviewing, young and competent persons were used as criteria so that by and large a representative sample could be studied. Often, soon after conducting individual interviews with four or five individuals, it would become difficult for the research team to resist the curious group of onlookers and soon, group interviews would begin. In large settlement areas (village tolas) or township mohallas, the research team would move from one spot to another covering about small groups at each spot.

D.   The Interview Process

■ The interview session would start by giving specific introductory instructions regarding the purpose of the study, i.e., to collect information regarding general status of the factors of street (public space) sexual harassment. These instructions would, however, vary between respondents, groups or localities depending upon the receptivity of the respondents. But the actual theme (statement of the purpose) would remain the same.

- During the interview, questions were asked one by one in a conversational manner conversational manner and preferably in colloquial language so that to elicit the most desired results. The questions were elaborated whenever needed. The atmosphere was kept informal and the respondents were allowed to talk freely on different points. They were also allowed to express their ideas in their own language. The investigators too, wherever and as far as possible, would try to communicate in the local language. Particular answers to the item/question were assessed carefully and recorded accordingly on the scale associated with each item of the schedule.

- Besides interviews, field notes based on experiences narrated by elderly males/females as well as views of more active respondents of the community and other sources were also prepared. At the end of the interview session, the research team would thank the respondents before their departure.

- In the same manner, the entire selected sample were approached and interviewed. The entire exercise of data collection took about three months during which the team travelled the entire stretch of the universe of the study.

E. Problems encountered during data collection

- Collecting valid, reliable, and ethical data on street sexual harassment poses particular challenges because: a) what constitutes harassment or abuse varies across sub-cultures and individuals; b) reporting can be affected by the culture of silence that surrounds experiences of sexual harassment by the victims; and c) specific ethical concerns have to be addressed due to the sensitivity of the topic, concerns for the safety of respondents and interviewers when talking about sexual harassment in public places, and the need to protect women who disclose their experiences. The specialized training was provided for field staff. Apart from these, following observations were made by the investigators during field work regarding the difficulties faced by them:

- General respondents showed no enthusiasm in readily responding to questions. Many people declined when approached. Many took lot of persuasion for responses and showed initial reservation when approached individually

- Many respondents felt that it was a waste of their time. They felt that they would not gain anything by answering the questionnaire. In fact some even said that

they have filled similar questionnaires earlier but no one has ever come back to give them any feedback.

■ Some other respondents felt that some views asked for were of a confidential nature and they would not like to share with others. However, they were reassured that their views would be kept confidential and if they so wanted, they need not give their names.

■ A major difficulty encountered was that the males were very much disinterested in answering the questionnaire. Many of them replied that it was a woman's topic and that these should be filled by women.

■ Respondents were more forth coming when in group.

■ There awareness/information was found to be based more on hearsay.

■ Illiterate and poor women participated more enthusiastically than the affluent ones.

■ Police and other stakeholders were very reluctant and uncooperative asking for lot of paraphernalia in order to respond.

■ At various places where it was said that CC camera were fixed, no such instruments were found either mounted or in operation. At some other places, while CC TVs were mounted in streets, the face of camera was found to be covered. Gurgaon and Noida did not have CC Camera.

■ Most of lower rank govt. employees were busy in data collection for Adhar Card.

■ Women, particularly belonging to low income groups, were conservative and restrained in freely expressing their views. They often looked at male members present there for guidance and permission. This was found in the age group of 40+ whereas in lower age group the women more insisting on recording their opinion rather than the ones given by male persons.

■ Government employees, particularly police, were very slow in responses and wanted lots of time taking paraphernalia to be observed. In spite of showing the letter of authorization issued by the Ministry of WCD they did not readily cooperate.

F. Data Analysis

Data analyzing Method/ Coding Plan

The responses of the participants were recorded on the different items of the schedule. Initially, a database was created for data recording and analysis. After data collection the coding plan was explained to the computer expert. Scores were assigned to the levels of responses and added up to generate a score on the various dimensions. Data were systematically coded and entered in computer Excel sheet and analyzed. Software of SPSS software was used for analyzing collected data to clearly determine and compare research findings. For analysis, mean and percent scores have been computed for each question for the whole group.

CHAPTER 4

RESULTS

This chapter presents the data collected by quantitative methods as well as qualitative methods namely, focus group interviews of communities and interviews of functionaries.

1. Quantitative Findings:

Tables were generated for the dimensions discussed below:

Table 12 Perceived Feeling of safety while travelling in NCR

Table 12 shows response to question whether a woman feels safe in travelling inside NCR. The reply has been noted in terms of yes, no and cannot say for women, men and stakeholders separately and together too. As is clear from the table, only11% of women, 12 % of men and 11 % of stakeholders have said that they think that women feel safe while travelling in NCR. While 82 % of women, 78 % of men and 83 % of stakeholders have said that women do not feel safe while travelling in NCR. 7% of women and 7% stakeholders claim they cannot say and similarly 10% of men cannot say. So if we look at the total score we find that an overwhelming percentage 81% of respondents have said that women feel unsafe while travelling in NCR, while 11% feel that women feel safe while travelling in NCR and 8% feel that they cannot comment on this matter.

Sl.	Response	No. of Respondents						Total	
		Delhi		Gurgaon		Noida			
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Safe	496	11%	60	16%	4	1%	560	11%
2	Not Safe	3646	82%	293	77%	370	99%	4309	83%
3	Can't say	322	7%	30	8%	0	0%	352	7%
	Total	4464	100%	383	100%	374	100%	5221	100%

Table 12A - Women Feel Safe While Travelling in NCR

Table 12 A shows response to question whether a woman feels safe in travelling inside NCR. The reply has been noted in terms of yes, no and cannot say for the respondents in Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida separately and together too. As is clear from

the table, only11% Delhi, 16 % of Gurgaon and 01 % of Noida sample have said that they think that women feel safe while travelling in NCR. While 82 % of Delhi sample, 77 % of Gurgaon sample and 99 % of Noida people have said that women do not feel safe while travelling in NCR. 7% of Delhi and 8% Gurgaon claim they cannot say and similarly 0% of sample from Noida cannot say. So if we look at the total score we find that an overwhelming percentage 83% of respondents have said that women feel unsafe while travelling in NCR, while 11% feel that women feel safe while travelling in NCR and 7% feel that they cannot comment on this matter.

Sl.	Respondents	Categories of Respondents	No. of Respondents						Total	
			Yes		No		Can't say			
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Women	Government job	16	7%	218	89%	12	5%	246	100%
		Private job in organised sector	38	10%	318	86%	14	4%	370	100%
		Private job in unorganised sector	26	7%	328	87%	24	6%	378	100%
		Factory workers/Construction	70	10%	562	83%	48	7%	680	100%
		Domestic helpers	24	8%	264	90%	4	1%	292	100%
		Housewife	116	12%	802	83%	48	5%	966	100%
		Travellers/Tourists	26	14%	124	69%	30	17%	180	100%
		College/School students	146	13%	859	78%	94	9%	1099	100%
		Unemployed	12	13%	72	77%	10	11%	94	100%
		Sub Total	**474**	**11%**	**3547**	**82%**	**284**	**7%**	**4305**	**100%**
2	Men	Government job	4	5%	72	95%	0	0%	76	100%
		Private job in organised sector	16	20%	56	70%	8	10%	80	100%
		Private job in unorganised sector	18	26%	50	71%	2	3%	70	100%
		Factory workers/Construction	10	7%	134	93%	0	0%	144	100%
		Domestic helpers	4	10%	32	80%	4	10%	40	100%
		Housewife	0	0%	10	83%	2	17%	12	100%
		Travellers/Tourists	10	19%	30	56%	14	26%	54	100%
		College/School students	8	7%	76	67%	30	26%	114	100%
		Unemployed	0	0%	6	100%	0	0%	6	100%
		Sub Total	**70**	**12%**	**466**	**78%**	**60**	**10%**	**596**	**100%**
3	Stakeholders	Police, Bus staffs etc.	16	5%	298	93%	6	2%	320	100%
	Overall	Government job	20	6%	290	90%	12	4%	322	100%
		Private job in organised sector	54	12%	374	83%	22	5%	450	100%
		Private job in unorganised sector	44	10%	378	84%	26	6%	448	100%
		Factory workers/Construction	80	10%	696	84%	48	6%	824	100%
		Domestic helpers	28	8%	296	89%	8	2%	332	100%
		Housewife	116	12%	812	83%	50	5%	978	100%
		Travellers/Tourists	36	15%	154	66%	44	19%	234	100%
		College/School students	154	13%	935	77%	124	10%	1213	100%
		Unemployed	12	12%	78	78%	10	10%	100	100%
		Stakeholders	16	5%	298	93%	6	2%	320	100%
		Total	**560**	**11%**	**4311**	**83%**	**350**	**7%**	**5221**	**100%**

Table 12D
Women Feel Safe While Traveling in NCR

Table 12 D shows response to question whether a woman feels safe in travelling inside NCR for different categories of   respondents separately and together too. The reply has been noted in terms of yes, no and cannot say. As is clear from the table, out of 82% of women respondents, 90% of domestic helpers, 89% of government job holders have been found to feel it is unsafe for women to travel in NCR. 93% of the police and bus staff out of 83% of the stakeholders said that women feel unsafe while travelling in NCR. While 83 % of   women, 93% of men factory workers and 95% of the men in government jobs said that women feel unsafe while travelling in NCR. Overall 81% of all respondents said that women feel unsafe while travelling in NCR.

Table 13-Awareness about abuses women suffer-All respondents

Table 13 shows whether respondents are aware that women and girl suffer from sexual   abuse in public places. The total response shows that a very high level of awareness has been shown by the respondents that women using public space are suffering from sexual harassment.87% of total sample agrees that girls suffer from verbal abuse, 88% believe that they suffer from physical abuse and 94% that they are being stared at. Moreover, there does not seem to be much difference between the male and female as well as stakeholder.

Table 13

Sl.	Particulars	Awareness about Women and Girls Suffer in NCR from Different Abuses- According to DifferentRespondents											
		% of Respondents											
		Yes				No				Can't say			
		Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total
1	Verbal comments	87%	85%	89%	87%	7%	7%	4%	7%	6%	8%	6%	7%
2	Physical (touching, feeling up etc.)	88%	86%	88%	88%	7%	7%	5%	7%	5%	7%	8%	5%
3	Visual (staring, leering etc.)	95%	92%	84%	94%	3%	6%	10%	4%	2%	2%	6%	3%

Response in terms of their awareness regarding existence of the three kinds of abuse.

Table 13A

Sl.	Particulars	Awareness about Women and Girls Suffer in NCR from Different Abuses											
		% of Respondents											
		Yes				No				Can't say			
		Delhi	Gurgaon	Noida	Total	Delhi	Gurgaon	Noida	Total	Delhi	Gurgaon	Noida	Total
1	Verbal comments	85%	98%	95%	87%	8%	1%	3%	7%	7%	1%	2%	7%
2	Physical (touching, feeling up etc.)	87%	91%	95%	88%	8%	7%	2%	7%	6%	3%	3%	5%
3	Visual (staring, leering etc.)	94%	97%	85%	94%	3%	2%	13%	4%	3%	2%	2%	3%

Table 13A shows whether respondents from the three   locations separately, Delhi, Gurgaon   and Noida are aware that women and girl suffer from sexual   abuse in public places. The total response shows that a very high level of awareness has been

shown by the respondents that women using public space are suffering from sexual harassment. 87% of total sample agrees that girls suffer from verbal abuse, 85% respondents from Delhi, 98% from Gurgaon and 95% from Noida believe that they suffer from verbal abuse, 87% from Delhi,91% from Gurgaon,97% from Noida think that women in NCR suffer from physical abuse in public places and 94% of the respondents from Delhi,97% from Gurgaon,85% from Noida believe that women in NCR are being stared at. Moreover, there does seem to be high awareness regarding existence of the three kinds of abuse.

Table 13 B

			Awareness about Women and Girls Suffer in NCR from Different Abuses			
Sl.	Educational Qualification	Particulars	% of Respondents			Total
			Yes	No	Can't say	
1	Illiterate	Verbal comments	83%	9%	9%	100%
		Physical (touching, feeling up etc.)	84%	9%	7%	100%
		Visual (staring, leering etc.)	93%	3%	4%	100%
2	Upto 12th (can read and write to 12th)	Verbal comments	86%	8%	6%	100%
		Physical (touching, feeling up etc.)	86%	7%	8%	100%
		Visual (staring, leering etc.)	94%	3%	3%	100%
3	Graduate and Above	Verbal comments	86%	8%	6%	100%
		Physical (touching, feeling up etc.)	90%	6%	4%	100%
		Visual (staring, leering etc.)	95%	3%	2%	100%
4	Overall	Verbal comments	85%	8%	7%	100%
		Physical (touching, feeling up etc.)	86%	7%	6%	100%
		Visual (staring, leering etc.)	94%	3%	3%	100%

Table 13 B shows the responses of the sample in terms of level of education. Three categories were developed, namely, illiterate, up to 12th, graduate and above. As is clear from the table, there is not much difference between the three groups. On verbal comments, the 83% of illiterate, 86% of 12th pass and 86% of graduates have responded in yes to whether the community is aware that women suffer verbal abuse on the public places. Similarly in physical and visual harassment also there is high awareness as indicated by the data here. And there are only minor differences between the three groups.

Table 14

SI.	Sex abuses done by	% of Respondents							
		Yes				**No**			
		Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total
1	Work Partners/Colleague	69%	75%	74%	70%	31%	25%	26%	30%
2	Office Seniors	64%	54%	60%	63%	36%	46%	40%	37%
3	Friend	46%	59%	58%	48%	54%	41%	42%	52%
4	Teacher	39%	31%	34%	38%	61%	69%	66%	62%
5	Security guards	38%	30%	28%	36%	62%	70%	73%	64%
6	Transport employees	58%	37%	39%	55%	42%	63%	61%	45%
7	Fake sadhus or Babas	70%	58%	58%	68%	30%	42%	43%	32%

Sex Abuses Done By Whom - According to all different categories of respondents

Table 14 shows seven categories of abusers on which response has been sought from men, women and stakeholders. A total of 70%, 63%,48%, 38% respondents have said yes to work partners/colleagues, office seniors, friends, and teachers respectively (work place   people).36%, 55%,68% of respondents have shown agreement to security   guards, transport   employees, fake sadhus and babas respectively as sex abusers.

Table 15

SI.	Timing	% of Respondents							
		Yes				**No**			
		Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total
1	Before Dusk	33%	20%	18%	31%	67%	80%	82%	69%
2	After Dusk	42%	36%	30%	41%	58%	64%	70%	59%
3	Any time	88%	92%	88%	88%	12%	8%	12%	12%

When Sexual Assaults Happenned - According to different categories of respondents

Table 15 shows the perceived timing of sexual assault on women, an overwhelming 88% of total sample (88% women, 92%men, 88%   stakeholders) has said that it can take place anytime. 41% (42% women, 36%men and 30% stakeholders) say that it takes place after dusk and 31% believe that sexual harassments take place (33%, 20%, and 18%) before dusk.

Table 16

Sl.	Helpers	Who came for Help of Women to Lodge Complaint - According to different categories of respondents											
		% of Respondents											
		Yes				No				Can't say			
		Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total
1	Family Members	92%	93%	91%	92%	5%	3%	4%	4%	4%	4%	6%	4%
2	Friend/colleague	72%	71%	51%	71%	18%	19%	33%	19%	10%	10%	16%	10%
3	Public at the spot	38%	47%	38%	39%	47%	36%	48%	45%	15%	17%	14%	15%
4	Helpline applications	34%	42%	31%	35%	48%	42%	56%	47%	18%	16%	13%	18%
5	NGO	40%	32%	34%	39%	39%	44%	55%	41%	20%	23%	11%	20%
6	Police	60%	64%	48%	59%	29%	30%	43%	30%	12%	6%	9%	11%

Table 16 shows response of the sample to the question regarding who helped women to lodge complaint. According to an overwhelming 92% (92% women, 93% men and 91% of stakeholder) women get help from family members in lodging complain, 72%(72% women,71% men 51% stakeholder)from Friend/colleague , 39%(38%, 47%, 38%) from public at spot. Helpline applications, NGO and Police were perceived to be helpful in lodging complain by 35 %(34%42%31%), 39% (40% 32% 34%) (60%, 64%, 48%) of the respondents respectively.

Table 17

Sl.	Actions Taken	What Actions Taken in Cases of Sexual Assault - According to different categories the all respondents											
		% of Respondents											
		Yes				No				Can't say			
		Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total
1	No action	39%	33%	53%	40%	50%	54%	36%	50%	10%	13%	11%	11%
2	Strong warning	64%	67%	53%	63%	25%	24%	31%	25%	12%	9%	17%	12%
3	Abuser taken into custody	66%	67%	48%	65%	25%	27%	41%	26%	9%	5%	11%	9%
4	Public deals	23%	18%	19%	23%	58%	64%	63%	59%	19%	18%	18%	19%

Table 17 reveals the answer of the respondents on the question of nature of action taken against the abuser in case of sexual assault. There were four options. The option of abuser taken into custody was perceived by 65% of the total (66% women,67%men,48% stakeholders), Strong warning to abuser was perceived by 63% (64% women, 67%men, 53% stakeholder), public deals with the abuser 23% (23% women,18% men, 19% stakeholder), and no action was perceived by 40% total(39% women,33% men,53%stakehoder)of the respondents to be the action taken against the abuser .

Table 17A

SI.	Actions Taken	% of Respondents											
		Yes				No				Can't say			
		Delhi	Gurgoan	Noida	Total	Delhi	Gurgoan	Noida	Total	Delhi	Gurgoan	Noida	Total
1	No action	38%	28%	73%	40%	52%	52%	25%	50%	11%	20%	3%	11%
2	Strong warning	62%	64%	76%	63%	25%	24%	20%	25%	13%	11%	3%	12%
3	Abuser taken into custody	67%	65%	37%	65%	24%	24%	60%	26%	9%	11%	2%	9%
4	Public deals	24%	15%	14%	23%	57%	60%	82%	59%	19%	26%	3%	19%

Actions Taken in Cases of Sexual Assault - According to different categories the all respondents

Table 17A reveals the answer to the question of nature of action taken against the abuser of sexual assault. The respondents were from three locations of Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida. Abuser taken into custody, public deals with the abuser and no action were the four options which were answered by the respondents from Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida. Abuser taken into custody was perceived by 65% of the total (67% Delhi,65% from Gurgaon,37% from Noida), Strong warning to abuser was perceived by 63%(62% respondents from Delhi, 64% from Gurgaon, 76% from Noida 40% total(38% from Delhi,28% from Gurgaon,73% from Noida),) 23%(24% from Delhi,15% Gurgaon, 14% from Noida), of the respondents to be the action taken against the abuser respectively.

Table 18

SI.	Actions Taken	% of Respondents											
		Yes				No				Can't say			
		Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total
1	Their family should deal with it	72%	66%	54%	70%	18%	20%	29%	19%	10%	14%	16%	11%
2	Police can't be trusted	65%	62%	49%	63%	27%	32%	39%	28%	9%	6%	12%	9%
3	Such matters are too trivial	30%	18%	14%	28%	59%	63%	71%	60%	11%	19%	16%	12%
4	Offenders may take revenge	78%	77%	74%	78%	12%	14%	14%	12%	10%	9%	12%	10%
5	It earns bad name in society	85%	92%	84%	85%	10%	6%	11%	10%	6%	2%	4%	5%
6	Wastage of time and money	51%	44%	38%	50%	34%	43%	48%	36%	15%	13%	14%	15%
7	None would believe them	54%	40%	37%	51%	29%	46%	53%	32%	17%	15%	11%	16%

Reasons for not reporting sexual crimes - According to different categories of respondents

Table 18 reveals the reasons for not reporting the sexual crimes as perceived by three categories of respondents, namely, men, women and stakeholders. Seven reasons have been tested. 'It earns bad name in the society' was perceives by 85% of the total respondents (85% women, 92% men, 84%stakeholders) to be the reason for not reporting. 'Offenders may take revenge' was the second most popular response at78 %(women78%, men77%, stakehollder74%).70 %(72%, 66%,

54%)   of the total respondents replied that the victims' families should deal with the problem. Police cannot be trusted was the response of 63 %(65%, 62%, 49%).51 %(54%women, 40%men, 37%stakeholder) and 50 %(51%women, 44%men, 38%stakeholder) of the respondents agreed that 'no one would believe them' and 'it would be wastage of time and money.'

Table 18A

SI.	Actions Taken	Reasons for not reporting sexual crimes											
		% of Respondents											
		Yes				No				Can't say			
		Delhi	Gurgoan	Noida	Total	Delhi	Gurgoan	Noida	Total	Delhi	Gurgoan	Noida	Total
1	Their family should deal with it	70%	56%	78%	70%	18%	27%	20%	19%	11%	17%	3%	11%
2	Police can't be trusted	65%	40%	71%	63%	27%	46%	27%	28%	9%	13%	2%	9%
3	Such matters are too trivial	31%	13%	3%	28%	58%	73%	70%	60%	11%	15%	27%	12%
4	Offenders may take revenge	77%	84%	77%	78%	12%	6%	20%	12%	11%	10%	3%	10%
5	It earns bad name in society	85%	94%	80%	85%	9%	3%	18%	10%	6%	3%	3%	5%
6	Wastage of time and money	53%	35%	28%	50%	32%	48%	69%	36%	16%	17%	3%	15%
7	None would believe them	54%	54%	23%	51%	29%	28%	75%	32%	17%	18%	2%	16%

Table 18 A reveals the reasons for not   reporting the sexual crimes as perceived by three sets of respondents from three locations. Seven reasons have been tested.   'It earns bad   name   in the society' was perceived by 85% of the total respondents (85% Delhi, 94% Gurgaon, 80% Noida) to be the reason for   not reporting. 'Offenders may take revenge' was the second most popular response at78 %((77% Delhi, 84% Gurgaon, 77% Noida).70 %((70% Delhi, 56% Gurgaon, 78% Noida) of the total respondents replied that the victims' families should deal with the problem. Police cannot be   trusted was the response of 63 %((65% Delhi, 40% Gurgaon, 71% Noida). 51%((54%   Delhi, 54% Gurgaon, 23% Noida) of the respondents agreed that 'no one would believe them' and 'it would be wastage of time and money was the response of (53% Delhi, 35% Gurgaon, 28% Noida.

Table 18B

Sl.	Educational Qualification	Actions Taken	% of Respondents			Total
			Yes	No	Can't say	
1	Illeterate	Their family should deal with it	77%	9%	13%	100%
		Police can't be trusted	66%	27%	7%	100%
		Such matters are too trivial	27%	58%	15%	100%
		Offenders may take revenge	76%	13%	11%	100%
		It earns bad name in society	82%	10%	7%	100%
		Wastage of time and money	61%	22%	17%	100%
		None would believe them	57%	25%	18%	100%
2	Upto 12th (can read and write to 12th)	Their family should deal with it	72%	18%	11%	100%
		Police can't be trusted	63%	29%	9%	100%
		Such matters are too trivial	28%	59%	12%	100%
		Offenders may take revenge	79%	11%	10%	100%
		It earns bad name in society	86%	9%	5%	100%
		Wastage of time and money	50%	35%	15%	100%
		None would believe them	51%	32%	17%	100%
3	Graduate and Above	Their family should deal with it	65%	23%	12%	100%
		Police can't be trusted	63%	28%	9%	100%
		Such matters are too trivial	27%	61%	12%	100%
		Offenders may take revenge	77%	13%	10%	100%
		It earns bad name in society	84%	11%	5%	100%
		Wastage of time and money	46%	39%	14%	100%
		None would believe them	51%	34%	16%	100%
4	Overall	Their family should deal with it	70%	19%	11%	100%
		Police can't be trusted	63%	28%	9%	100%
		Such matters are too trivial	28%	60%	12%	100%
		Offenders may take revenge	78%	12%	10%	100%
		It earns bad name in society	85%	10%	5%	100%
		Wastage of time and money	50%	36%	15%	100%
		None would believe them	51%	32%	16%	100%

Table caption: Reasons for not reporting sexual crimes

Table 18C

			No. of Respondents							Total	
Sl.	Income Categories	Actions Taken	Yes		No		Can't say				
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
1	Upto Rs. 1 Lakh	Their family should deal with it	962	67%	294	20%	186	13%	1442	100%	
		Police can't be trusted	832	58%	462	32%	148	10%	1442	100%	
		Such matters are too trivial	402	28%	864	60%	176	12%	1442	100%	
		Offenders may take revenge	1026	71%	250	17%	166	12%	1442	100%	
		It earns bad name in society	1232	85%	150	10%	60	4%	1442	100%	
		Wastage of time and money	744	52%	484	34%	214	15%	1442	100%	
		None would believe them	758	53%	416	29%	268	19%	1442	100%	
2	Rs. 1-2 Lakh	Their family should deal with it	760	65%	234	20%	178	15%	1172	100%	
		Police can't be trusted	664	57%	386	33%	122	10%	1172	100%	
		Such matters are too trivial	266	23%	782	67%	124	11%	1172	100%	
		Offenders may take revenge	952	81%	86	7%	134	11%	1172	100%	
		It earns bad name in society	1074	92%	58	5%	40	3%	1172	100%	
		Wastage of time and money	610	52%	402	34%	160	14%	1172	100%	
		None would believe them	666	57%	302	26%	204	17%	1172	100%	
3	Above 2 Lakh	Their family should deal with it	759	72%	170	16%	130	12%	1059	100%	
		Police can't be trusted	719	68%	244	23%	96	9%	1059	100%	
		Such matters are too trivial	287	27%	648	61%	124	12%	1059	100%	
		Offenders may take revenge	815	77%	122	12%	122	12%	1059	100%	
		It earns bad name in society	766	72%	167	16%	126	12%	1059	100%	
		Wastage of time and money	496	47%	285	27%	278	26%	1059	100%	
		None would believe them	577	54%	268	25%	214	20%	1059	100%	
4	Overall	Their family should deal with it	2481	68%	698	19%	494	13%	3673	100%	
		Police can't be trusted	2215	60%	1092	30%	366	10%	3673	100%	
		Such matters are too trivial	955	26%	2294	62%	424	12%	3673	100%	
		Offenders may take revenge	2793	76%	458	12%	422	11%	3673	100%	
		It earns bad name in society	3072	84%	375	10%	226	6%	3673	100%	
		Wastage of time and money	1850	50%	1171	32%	652	18%	3673	100%	
		None would believe them	2001	54%	986	27%	686	19%	3673	100%	

Reasons for not reporting sexual crimes - By Income

Table 19

Women Faced Problems after Sexual Harassment - According to Different Categories of all Respondents

Sl.	Sexual harassment by becoming	% of Respondents											
		Yes				No				Can't say			
		Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total
1	Pathologically Afraid of men	86%	83%	90%	86%	7%	8%	3%	7%	7%	9%	8%	8%
2	Depressed	78%	81%	78%	78%	13%	9%	14%	13%	9%	10%	8%	9%
3	Such matters are too trivial	73%	86%	75%	75%	18%	7%	18%	17%	9%	7%	8%	8%
4	Offenders may take revenge	51%	51%	41%	51%	32%	35%	44%	33%	16%	14%	15%	16%
5	It earns bad name in society	34%	28%	28%	33%	44%	51%	51%	45%	22%	21%	21%	22%

Table 19 shows the coping behaviour of sexually harassed women. The question has tested five options. 86% (86%, 83%, 90%) of the total sample has agreed that sexually harassed woman would become 'Pathologically Afraid of men '.That women become depressed after suffering sexual harassment was responded to by 78%(78%,81%,78%).The third option Being stigmatized was perceived by 75% (73%,86%,&75%) of the sample to result from sexual harassment. Scornful and revengeful was perceived by 51% (51%, 51%, 41%), and becoming handicapped was perceived by 33% (34%, 28%, 33%) of the sample as consequences of sexual harassment by women.

Table 20

Sl.	Places	% of Respondents											
		Yes				No				Can't say			
		Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total
1	Bus stops	94%	93%	95%	94%	3%	4%	1%	3%	2%	3%	4%	2%
2	Market Places	91%	85%	76%	90%	5%	10%	11%	6%	4%	5%	14%	5%
3	Public Parks	84%	85%	88%	84%	9%	8%	3%	9%	7%	7%	10%	7%
4	Metro/Railway stations	62%	66%	51%	62%	18%	17%	25%	19%	20%	17%	24%	20%
5	Taxi stands	61%	66%	46%	61%	18%	14%	26%	18%	21%	19%	28%	21%
6	Alcohol shops	72%	69%	66%	72%	14%	14%	13%	14%	14%	17%	21%	15%
7	Deserted streets	57%	69%	67%	59%	24%	16%	20%	23%	20%	14%	13%	19%
8	Grameen Seva	44%	41%	28%	42%	36%	35%	33%	36%	20%	25%	39%	22%
9	Cinema Hall	44%	49%	41%	44%	34%	23%	21%	32%	22%	29%	38%	23%
10	Construction site	44%	45%	36%	44%	26%	29%	33%	27%	29%	27%	32%	29%

Places of Incident of Sexual Harassment - According to Different Categories of Respondents

Table 20 shows the perceived locations of sexual harassment incidents. Out ten locations, bus stop has emerged as the most agreed upon location for sexual harassment incidents at 94% of   total respondents choosing bus stop as location for sexual harassments. Closely followed by market places at 90% (91%, 85%, 76%), public parks at (84%) Alcohol   shops at 72%, railway station/metro station at 62%, taxi   stands at 61%, deserted streets at 59%, cinema hall, construction sites at 44% each with Grameen   sewa public transport   at 42%.

Table 21

Sl.	NGOs and Govt. agencies	% of Respondents							
		Yes				No			
		Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total
1	Empowerment of Women	71%	66%	76%	71%	29%	34%	24%	29%
2	Self - defense Training	62%	56%	70%	61%	38%	44%	30%	39%
3	Spreading awareness of laws to protect women	49%	38%	39%	47%	51%	62%	61%	53%
4	Free Legal Help to Women	35%	28%	31%	34%	65%	72%	69%	66%
5	Creating Forum for Women's grievances	27%	20%	26%	26%	73%	80%	74%	74%
6	Popularising Gender sensitive Schemes by Police/Government	32%	18%	26%	30%	68%	82%	74%	70%
7	Creating awareness of gender equality	45%	27%	30%	42%	55%	73%	70%	58%

Programmes Implemented by NGOs and Govt. agencies in the Area - According to Different Categories of Respondents

Table 21 shows the respondents' awareness about Programmes Implemented by NGOs and Govt. agencies in their locality for women. 71% of the total respondents knew about Empowerment of Women programmes being   held in the locality (71% of women, 66% of men and 76% of stakeholders). Self - defence Training   were known to 61% of respondents out of which 62% women, 56% men and 70% were stakeholders. Spreading awareness of laws was perceived by 47% of the respondents with a breakup of 49%, women, 38% men, 39% stakeholders to be going on in their locality. Free Legal Help to Women was perceived by 34%of the sample (35% men, 28% women and 31% stakeholder).   Creating forum for women's grievances was known 26% of the total sample with 27% women, 20% men and 26% stakeholders. Popularising Gender Schemes by Police/Government was seen by30% (32% women, 18% men and, 26%   stakeholders) of the sample as being done in their localities. Creating awareness of gender equality was also seen by 42% of the total sample (45% women, 27% men, 30% stakeholder) to be going on in their areas.

Table 22

Sl.	Government schemes	% of Respondents											
		Yes				No				Can't say			
		Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total
1	Emergency helpline No. 100	97%	98%	95%	97%	2%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	4%	1%
2	Women Helpline 1091	90%	87%	92%	89%	7%	10%	4%	7%	3%	3%	4%	3%
3	Women Commission	62%	55%	76%	62%	26%	34%	18%	27%	11%	12%	6%	11%
4	Laws made against harassment/assault of women	38%	34%	42%	37%	51%	54%	49%	51%	12%	11%	9%	11%
5	Punishments for different offences	31%	27%	30%	30%	57%	58%	57%	57%	13%	15%	13%	13%
6	Anti-Stalking Services for women	27%	15%	24%	25%	61%	70%	66%	62%	12%	15%	11%	12%
7	Exclusive Help Desk for Women at Police Stations	40%	28%	29%	38%	46%	58%	58%	48%	14%	14%	13%	14%
8	Thana level Women Safety Committee	37%	25%	30%	35%	47%	57%	59%	49%	16%	18%	11%	16%
9	Self-defense Training Program for Women	49%	45%	69%	50%	35%	38%	21%	35%	16%	16%	10%	15%

Awareness of the Government Schemes - According to Different Categories of Respondents

Table 22 shows the perception of the three categories of respondents, namely, men, women and stakeholders about the awareness of the Government Schemes. A total of 97% respondents were aware of Emergency helpline No. 100. 89% had heard about women helpline 1091, 62% knew about women commission, laws against harassment/assault of women were known to 37%, and 30% of the respondents knew about punishment for different offenses, 25% were aware of Anti-stalking service for women,   38% were aware of Exclusive Help Desk for Women at Police Stations, Thana level Women Safety Committee was known to 35% of the sample and 50% of the total respondents   knew of Self-defence Training Program for Women.

Table 22A

Sl.	Laws	% of Respondents							
		Yes				No			
		Delhi	Gurgoan	Noida	Total	Delhi	Gurgoan	Noida	Total
1	Of Laws against rape	59%	41%	55%	57%	41%	59%	45%	43%
2	Of Punishment against rape	60%	49%	87%	61%	40%	51%	13%	39%
3	About the provision of Death penalty for rape	39%	44%	12%	37%	61%	56%	88%	63%
4	Of punishment awarding authorities against rape	32%	34%	11%	31%	68%	66%	89%	69%

Awareness of Laws Against Rape

Table 22Aa shows the perception of the respondents about the awareness of the Laws against rape. A total of 57% were aware of laws against rape with a breakup of 59%, 41% and 55% of respondents from Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida respectively. 61% had heard about Punishment against rape out of which 60%were from Delhi, 49% were from Gurgaon and 87% from Noida. The provision of Death penalty for rape was known to 39%, 44% and 12% from Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida respectively. 32%, 32%, 11% respondents from Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida knew about Punishment awarding authorities against rape(31%).

Table 23

SI.	Causes of Sexual Harassment	% of Respondents											
		Agree				Disagree				Can't say			
		Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total
1	Reveling Dresses of women	49%	62%	52%	50%	46%	31%	41%	44%	6%	6%	8%	6%
2	Free and informal behavior of women	47%	62%	54%	49%	45%	28%	38%	43%	8%	10%	8%	8%
3	Physical inability of women to defend themselves	61%	72%	71%	63%	31%	19%	19%	29%	7%	9%	9%	8%
4	Sexual aggression in men	50%	35%	33%	47%	35%	48%	55%	38%	15%	17%	13%	15%
5	Prevailing lawlessness in the society	73%	71%	72%	73%	14%	19%	21%	15%	13%	9%	7%	12%
6	Inadequate infrastructural facilities	65%	61%	76%	65%	17%	19%	15%	17%	19%	19%	9%	18%
7	Corruption in law enforcing authorities	68%	72%	84%	69%	19%	14%	5%	18%	13%	13%	11%	13%
8	Unsympathetic Police	65%	74%	86%	68%	20%	10%	4%	18%	15%	16%	10%	15%
9	Lax and costly judicial system	64%	63%	77%	65%	16%	17%	10%	16%	20%	20%	13%	20%
10	Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders	56%	43%	53%	55%	21%	33%	32%	23%	22%	24%	15%	22%
11	Availability of pornographic materials on Mobile	84%	82%	89%	84%	6%	8%	3%	6%	10%	10%	8%	10%
12	Punishments not being severe	87%	85%	86%	86%	9%	8%	9%	9%	5%	7%	4%	5%
13	Influence of media/TV/Cinema	81%	86%	78%	81%	13%	9%	16%	13%	6%	5%	7%	6%
14	Easy access to face book, Whatsapp, Net	84%	83%	78%	83%	9%	10%	14%	10%	7%	7%	8%	7%
15	Culture of Late Night Parties	66%	83%	83%	69%	24%	10%	11%	22%	9%	7%	6%	9%

Main Causes of High Sexual Harassment among Women- According to Different Categories of Respondents

Table 23 shows the main perceived causes of sexual assault on women. Fifteen causes have been tested on three points yes, no and cannot say. The responses from three sets of respondents, namely, men, women and stakeholders have been noted in terms of percentage. If we look at the total percentage, at least 47% of the respondents have seen each of the fifteen causes as instrumental in facilitating street sexual assault. Sexual aggression in men, Free and informal behaviour of women, Revealing Dresses of women, Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders

have been seen as responsible for sexual assault on public places by 47%, 49%, 50%, 55% of the total respondents respectively. These have been progressively followed by physical inability of women to defend themselves (63%), inadequate infrastructural facilities (65%), Lax and costly judicial system (65%) Unsympathetic Police (68%), Corruption in law enforcing authorities, (69%), Culture of Late Night Parties (69%), Prevailing lawlessness in the society (73%), Influence of media/TV/Cinema (81%), Easy access to face book, whatsapp, Net(83%), Availability of pornographic materials on Mobile (84%) and Punishments not being severe (86%). The score of the total sample in the table shows that punishment not being severe has been seen to be highest ranked cause(86%) followed closely by availability of pornographic material on mobile(84%), easy access to face book and net(83%).

Table 23A

Sl.	Causes of Sexual Harassment	% of Respondents											
		Agree				Disagree				Can't say			
		Delhi	Gurgoan	Noida	Total	Delhi	Gurgoan	Noida	Total	Delhi	Gurgoan	Noida	Total
1	Reveling Dresses of women	53%	35%	37%	50%	41%	55%	60%	44%	6%	10%	2%	6%
2	Free and informal behavior of women	49%	30%	70%	49%	43%	60%	26%	43%	8%	10%	4%	8%
3	Physical inability of women to defend themselves	61%	71%	81%	63%	31%	23%	17%	29%	8%	6%	2%	8%
4	Sexual aggression in men	49%	53%	19%	47%	35%	26%	78%	38%	16%	21%	3%	15%
5	Prevailing lawlessness in the society	73%	72%	71%	73%	15%	11%	25%	15%	12%	16%	5%	12%
6	Inadequate infrastructural facilities	63%	62%	86%	65%	18%	14%	10%	17%	19%	23%	4%	18%
7	Corruption in law enforcing authorities	66%	75%	96%	69%	20%	10%	1%	18%	14%	15%	3%	13%
8	Unsympathetic Police	64%	78%	96%	68%	20%	10%	2%	18%	16%	12%	2%	15%
9	Lax and costly judicial system	62%	66%	95%	65%	17%	14%	3%	16%	21%	20%	2%	20%
10	Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders	56%	60%	34%	55%	20%	22%	62%	23%	24%	17%	4%	22%
11	Availability of pornographic materials on Mobile	83%	83%	97%	84%	7%	8%	1%	6%	10%	8%	2%	10%
12	Punishments not being severe	85%	92%	98%	86%	10%	3%	1%	9%	5%	5%	2%	5%
13	Influence of media/TV/Cinema	82%	70%	85%	81%	12%	20%	14%	13%	6%	10%	1%	6%
14	Easy access to face book, Whatsapp, Net	84%	76%	86%	83%	9%	15%	10%	10%	7%	9%	4%	7%
15	Culture of Late Night Parties	67%	74%	94%	69%	24%	14%	4%	22%	9%	11%	2%	9%

Table 23 A shows the perception of   respondents from three locations Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida for causes of sexual assault on women. Fifteen causes have been tested on three points yes, no and cannot say from the three sets of respondents. Revealing Dresses of women has been seen as the reason for sexual assault by   50% of the total sample out of which 53% of respondents from Delhi, 35% of   the sample from Gurgaon and 37%   from Noida perceive it as that. Free and informal behaviour of women has been seen as the reason by 49%, 30%, and 70% of the sample from the three locations respectively. Physical inability of women to defend themselves was perceived by 61%, 71%, and 81% of the sample respectively from the three locations. Sexual aggression in men 49%, 53%, 19% Prevailing lawlessness in the society73%,72%,71%   , inadequate infrastructural facilities 63%, 62%, 86% and Corruption in law enforcing authorities 66%75%,96%% Unsympathetic Police 64%,78% 96% (68%), Lax and costly judicial system 62%, 66%, 95% (65%) Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders (56%60%34% availability of pornographic material on mobile83, 83%,97%(84%), punishment not being severe(85%,92%,98%) Influence of media/TV/Cinema82, 70, 85 (81%) easy access to face book and net (83%) 84, 76,86. Culture of Late Night Parties (69%) 67, 74, 94

Table 23B

Sl.	Educational Qualification	Causes of Sexual Harassment	% of Respondents			Total
			Agree	**Disagree**	**Can't say**	
1	Illiterate	Reveling Dresses of women	58%	36%	6%	100%
		Free and informal behavior of women	53%	36%	11%	100%
		Physical inability of women to defend themselves	53%	35%	11%	100%
		Sexual aggression in men	50%	37%	13%	100%
		Prevailing lawlessness in the society	80%	10%	10%	100%
		Inadequate infrastructural facilities	58%	19%	23%	100%
		Corruption in law enforcing authorities	57%	28%	15%	100%
		Unsympathetic Police	55%	25%	20%	100%
		Lax and costly judicial system	56%	20%	24%	100%
		Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders	55%	13%	31%	100%
		Availability of pornographic materials on Mobile	83%	4%	13%	100%
		Punishments not being severe	83%	11%	6%	100%
		Influence of media/TV/Cinema	78%	18%	5%	100%
		Easy access to face book, Whatsapp, Net	84%	6%	9%	100%
		Culture of Late Night Parties	59%	27%	14%	100%
2	Upto 12th (can read and write to 12th)	Reveling Dresses of women	54%	41%	5%	100%
		Free and informal behavior of women	53%	39%	8%	100%
		Physical inability of women to defend themselves	69%	24%	7%	100%
		Sexual aggression in men	46%	38%	16%	100%
		Prevailing lawlessness in the society	71%	15%	14%	100%
		Inadequate infrastructural facilities	62%	18%	20%	100%
		Corruption in law enforcing authorities	69%	16%	14%	100%
		Unsympathetic Police	67%	18%	16%	100%
		Lax and costly judicial system	63%	15%	22%	100%
		Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders	52%	23%	25%	100%
		Availability of pornographic materials on Mobile	85%	6%	9%	100%
		Punishments not being severe	86%	9%	5%	100%
		Influence of media/TV/Cinema	83%	12%	5%	100%
		Easy access to face book, Whatsapp, Net	85%	8%	7%	100%
		Culture of Late Night Parties	73%	19%	9%	100%
3	Graduate and Above	Reveling Dresses of women	43%	50%	7%	100%
		Free and informal behavior of women	42%	51%	8%	100%
		Physical inability of women to defend themselves	56%	36%	9%	100%
		Sexual aggression in men	49%	38%	13%	100%
		Prevailing lawlessness in the society	74%	17%	9%	100%
		Inadequate infrastructural facilities	70%	15%	15%	100%
		Corruption in law enforcing authorities	71%	18%	10%	100%
		Unsympathetic Police	72%	17%	12%	100%
		Lax and costly judicial system	68%	16%	15%	100%
		Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders	59%	25%	16%	100%
		Availability of pornographic materials on Mobile	83%	7%	10%	100%
		Punishments not being severe	88%	7%	5%	100%
		Influence of media/TV/Cinema	80%	13%	7%	100%
		Easy access to face book, Whatsapp, Net	80%	13%	7%	100%
		Culture of Late Night Parties	66%	26%	8%	100%
4	Overall	Reveling Dresses of women	50%	44%	6%	100%
		Free and informal behavior of women	49%	43%	8%	100%
		Physical inability of women to defend themselves	63%	29%	8%	100%
		Sexual aggression in men	47%	38%	15%	100%
		Prevailing lawlessness in the society	73%	15%	12%	100%
		Inadequate infrastructural facilities	65%	17%	18%	100%
		Corruption in law enforcing authorities	69%	18%	13%	100%
		Unsympathetic Police	68%	18%	15%	100%
		Lax and costly judicial system	65%	16%	20%	100%
		Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders	55%	23%	22%	100%
		Availability of pornographic materials on Mobile	84%	6%	10%	100%
		Punishments not being severe	86%	9%	5%	100%
		Influence of media/TV/Cinema	81%	13%	6%	100%
		Easy access to face book, Whatsapp, Net	83%	10%	7%	100%
		Culture of Late Night Parties	69%	22%	9%	100%

Main Causes of High Sexual Harassment among Women

Table 23C

Sl.	Income Categories	Causes of Sexual Harassment	No. of Respondents						Total	
			Agree		Disagree		Can't say			
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Upto Rs. 1 Lakh	Reveling Dresses of women	630	44%	708	49%	104	7%	1442	100%
		Free and informal behavior of women	532	37%	770	53%	140	10%	1442	100%
		Physical inability of women to defend themselves	766	53%	550	38%	126	9%	1442	100%
		Sexual aggression in men	714	50%	480	33%	248	17%	1442	100%
		Prevailing lawlessness in the society	1060	74%	192	13%	190	13%	1442	100%
		Inadequate infrastructural facilities	844	59%	296	21%	302	21%	1442	100%
		Corruption in law enforcing authorities	864	60%	354	25%	224	16%	1442	100%
		Unsympathetic Police	856	59%	346	24%	240	17%	1442	100%
		Lax and costly judicial system	856	59%	228	16%	358	25%	1442	100%
		Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders	810	56%	254	18%	378	26%	1442	100%
		Availability of pornographic materials on Mobile	1132	79%	108	7%	202	14%	1442	100%
		Punishments not being severe	1202	83%	142	10%	98	7%	1442	100%
		Influence of media/TV/Cinema	1114	77%	236	16%	92	6%	1442	100%
		Easy access to face book, Whatsapp, Net	1200	83%	114	8%	128	9%	1442	100%
		Culture of Late Night Parties	936	65%	376	26%	130	9%	1442	100%
2	Rs. 1-2 Lakh	Reveling Dresses of women	618	53%	474	40%	80	7%	1172	100%
		Free and informal behavior of women	552	47%	506	43%	114	10%	1172	100%
		Physical inability of women to defend themselves	776	66%	286	24%	110	9%	1172	100%
		Sexual aggression in men	546	47%	440	38%	186	16%	1172	100%
		Prevailing lawlessness in the society	846	72%	174	15%	152	13%	1172	100%
		Inadequate infrastructural facilities	688	59%	222	19%	262	22%	1172	100%
		Corruption in law enforcing authorities	782	67%	202	17%	188	16%	1172	100%
		Unsympathetic Police	792	68%	158	13%	222	19%	1172	100%
		Lax and costly judicial system	666	57%	190	16%	316	27%	1172	100%
		Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders	632	54%	182	16%	358	31%	1172	100%
		Availability of pornographic materials on Mobile	982	84%	102	9%	88	8%	1172	100%
		Punishments not being severe	984	84%	142	12%	46	4%	1172	100%
		Influence of media/TV/Cinema	982	84%	136	12%	54	5%	1172	100%
		Easy access to face book, Whatsapp, Net	994	85%	112	10%	66	6%	1172	100%
		Culture of Late Night Parties	864	74%	198	17%	110	9%	1172	100%
3	Above 2 Lakh	Reveling Dresses of women	432	41%	565	53%	62	6%	1059	100%
		Free and informal behavior of women	418	39%	563	53%	78	7%	1059	100%
		Physical inability of women to defend themselves	561	53%	412	39%	86	8%	1059	100%
		Sexual aggression in men	629	59%	284	27%	146	14%	1059	100%
		Prevailing lawlessness in the society	879	83%	98	9%	82	8%	1059	100%
		Inadequate infrastructural facilities	753	71%	150	14%	156	15%	1059	100%
		Corruption in law enforcing authorities	713	67%	240	23%	106	10%	1059	100%
		Unsympathetic Police	637	60%	282	27%	140	13%	1059	100%
		Lax and costly judicial system	671	63%	216	20%	172	16%	1059	100%
		Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders	753	71%	152	14%	154	15%	1059	100%
		Availability of pornographic materials on Mobile	899	85%	56	5%	104	10%	1059	100%
		Punishments not being severe	915	86%	94	9%	50	5%	1059	100%
		Influence of media/TV/Cinema	886	84%	107	10%	66	6%	1059	100%
		Easy access to face book, Whatsapp, Net	894	84%	92	9%	73	7%	1059	100%
		Culture of Late Night Parties	568	54%	391	37%	100	9%	1059	100%
4	Overall	Reveling Dresses of women	1680	46%	1747	48%	246	7%	3673	100%
		Free and informal behavior of women	1502	41%	1839	50%	332	9%	3673	100%
		Physical inability of women to defend themselves	2103	57%	1248	34%	322	9%	3673	100%
		Sexual aggression in men	1889	51%	1204	33%	580	16%	3673	100%
		Prevailing lawlessness in the society	2785	76%	464	13%	424	12%	3673	100%
		Inadequate infrastructural facilities	2285	62%	668	18%	720	20%	3673	100%
		Corruption in law enforcing authorities	2359	64%	796	22%	518	14%	3673	100%
		Unsympathetic Police	2285	62%	786	21%	602	16%	3673	100%
		Lax and costly judicial system	2193	60%	634	17%	846	23%	3673	100%
		Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders	2195	60%	588	16%	890	24%	3673	100%
		Availability of pornographic materials on Mobile	3013	82%	266	7%	394	11%	3673	100%
		Punishments not being severe	3101	84%	378	10%	194	5%	3673	100%
		Influence of media/TV/Cinema	2982	81%	479	13%	212	6%	3673	100%
		Easy access to face book, Whatsapp, Net	3088	84%	318	9%	267	7%	3673	100%
		Culture of Late Night Parties	2368	64%	965	26%	340	9%	3673	100%

Main Causes of High Sexual Harassment among Women

Table 24

		Age Group of Sex Offenders - According to Different Categories of Respondents							
SI.	**Age Group**	**% of Respondents**							
		Yes				**No**			
		Women	**Men**	**Stakeholder**	**Total**	**Women**	**Men**	**Stakeholders**	**Total**
1	18 years & below	67%	52%	52%	64%	33%	48%	48%	36%
2	19-25 years	87%	84%	85%	86%	13%	16%	15%	14%
3	25-50 years	78%	79%	83%	78%	22%	21%	18%	22%
4	Above 50 years	20%	17%	23%	20%	80%	83%	77%	80%

Table 25

		Economic Background of Sex offenders - According to Different Categories of Respondents							
SI.	**Socio Economic Background**	**% of Respondents**							
		Yes				**No**			
		Women	**Men**	**Stakeholder**	**Total**	**Women**	**Men**	**Stakeholder**	**Total**
1	Lower Socio Economic background	74%	59%	59%	72%	26%	41%	41%	28%
2	Middle Socio Economic background	66%	55%	54%	64%	34%	45%	46%	36%
3	Higher Socio Economic background	66%	66%	79%	67%	34%	34%	21%	33%

Table 24 and table 25 show the perceived age and socio -economic background of the sex offenders respectively. Maximum number of respondents, i.e., 86% thought that offenders were from age group of 19-25. 78% of respondents thought that the offenders belonged to 25-50 age range. 64% of   respondents thought offenders were 18 years of age or even less. Only 20% perceived the perpetrators to be over fifty age group. Table 25 shows the perceived socio -economic background of the sex offenders. 72%   of the respondents perceived them to be from lower socio economic background.67% and 64%   of the respondents perceived the offenders to be from middle and higher socio economic strata of the society.

Table 26

		Most Vulnerable Women for Sexual Assault in NCR - According to Different Categories Respondents											
SI.	**Vulnerable Women**	**% of Respondents**											
		Yes				**No**				**Can't say**			
		Women	**Men**	**Stakeholders**	**Total**	**Women**	**Men**	**Stakeholders**	**Total**	**Women**	**Men**	**Stakeholders**	**Total**
1	Who are uunprotected women	90%	87%	89%	89%	4%	7%	5%	5%	6%	6%	6%	6%
2	Who are working Women	87%	79%	63%	84%	5%	5%	8%	5%	9%	16%	29%	11%
3	Who are women working in night shift	88%	87%	85%	87%	6%	6%	4%	6%	6%	8%	11%	6%
4	Who are Homeless Women/girls living in streets	75%	72%	58%	73%	11%	9%	8%	11%	14%	19%	34%	16%
5	Who are Migrant Women not speaking local language	70%	57%	49%	68%	11%	10%	6%	10%	19%	33%	45%	22%
6	Who are differently abled	60%	45%	43%	57%	22%	39%	39%	25%	18%	15%	19%	18%
7	Who are Domestic helps	75%	68%	58%	73%	8%	10%	8%	9%	17%	22%	34%	19%
8	Who are Daily wage earners	73%	68%	49%	71%	10%	8%	5%	9%	17%	24%	46%	20%
9	Who are Students	89%	89%	89%	89%	4%	5%	2%	4%	7%	5%	9%	7%
10	Alcohol Users	81%	85%	88%	82%	8%	7%	5%	7%	11%	8%	7%	10%

Table 26 shows the percent of women who are vulnerable for sexual assault as perceived by our respondents. 89% of respondents perceived unprotected women as well as students to be most vulnerable for sexual assault. Closely following was the category of women working in night shift who were perceived by 87% of the sample to be vulnerable for attack. Working women category was perceived as susceptible to sexual harassment by 84% of the respondents. Alcohol Users were seen by 82% of the sample to be vulnerable for attack. The category of homeless women//girls living on streets who were perceived by 73% of the sample to be vulnerable for attack. Migrant Women not speaking local language were perceived at 68% of the total respondents to be susceptible for sexual assault. Domestic helps and Daily wage earners were perceived by 73% and 71% of the sample to be vulnerable for attack respectively. Differently able were perceived by 57% of the sample to be vulnerable for attack.

Table 27

SI.	Responds	Women Respond in Cases of Sexual Assault - According to Different Categories of All Respondents											
		% of Respondents											
		Yes				No				Can't say			
		Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholders	Total
1	By tolerating the humiliation	80%	80%	77%	80%	12%	14%	16%	12%	8%	6%	8%	8%
2	By avoiding to report	77%	77%	75%	77%	16%	17%	16%	16%	7%	6%	9%	7%
3	By using self-defense techniques	62%	57%	65%	62%	25%	24%	21%	24%	13%	19%	14%	14%
4	By seeking help from neighborhood	53%	58%	40%	53%	33%	27%	39%	33%	14%	15%	21%	14%
5	By taking help from law enforcing agencies	52%	47%	41%	51%	31%	38%	45%	33%	16%	15%	14%	16%
6	By involving family & friends	72%	71%	52%	70%	17%	15%	24%	17%	11%	14%	24%	12%
7	By stopping to move out alone	58%	63%	57%	59%	33%	25%	29%	32%	9%	12%	14%	10%
8	By shouting for help	81%	87%	88%	82%	13%	4%	4%	11%	7%	9%	9%	7%
9	By using mobile phones	85%	89%	86%	86%	8%	5%	7%	7%	7%	6%	7%	7%

Table27 show the perceived responses of the sample to sexual assault by the men, women and stakeholders. Tables 27 A, B, C show the responses from the three from locations, education and income respectively. And Table 27 shows responses of the total sample. There are nine dimensions on which the responses have been collected. 80% of the total sample claims to respond by tolerating the harassment, 77% claim that they avoid reporting, 62%) say that they respond by using self-

defence techniques. By seeking help from neighbourhood (53%). By taking help from law enforcing agencies (51%). By involving family & friends (70%) By stopping to move out alone (59%), by shouting for help (82%), by using mobile phones (86%) were the other responses on which the data has been collected.

Table 27A

Sl.	Responds	% of Respondents											
		Yes				No				Can't say			
		Delhi	Gurgoan	Noida	Total	Delhi	Gurgoan	Noida	Total	Delhi	Gurgoan	Noida	Total
1	By tolerating the humiliation	81%	71%	84%	80%	11%	22%	14%	12%	8%	6%	1%	8%
2	By avoiding to report	77%	73%	82%	77%	16%	22%	17%	16%	8%	5%	2%	7%
3	By using self-defense techniques	63%	61%	49%	62%	23%	22%	50%	24%	14%	17%	1%	14%
4	By seeking help from neighborhood	52%	37%	70%	53%	33%	44%	23%	33%	15%	19%	7%	14%
5	By taking help from law enforcing agencies	53%	46%	30%	51%	31%	31%	62%	33%	16%	23%	8%	16%
6	By involving family & friends	71%	61%	75%	70%	16%	29%	16%	17%	13%	10%	9%	12%
7	By stopping to move out alone	57%	66%	72%	59%	33%	26%	21%	32%	10%	8%	6%	10%
8	By shouting for help	81%	78%	97%	82%	12%	11%	1%	11%	7%	11%	2%	7%
9	By using mobile phones	86%	83%	92%	86%	8%	7%	7%	7%	7%	10%	1%	7%

Women Respond in Cases of Sexual Assault - According to Different Categories of All Respondents

The table 27A shows the percentage of yes/ no and cannot say responses to the nine factors for Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida separately as well as totally. There is high agreement on all the factors among the respondents. On each factor the total agreement percentage is above 53%. By tolerating the humiliation was the response perceived to be the strategy to be used by 81% ,71,% and 84% of the respondents for Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida respectively. By avoiding to report was the response of the respondents from Delhi (77%), Gurgaon(73%) and Noida (82%) respectively 77% (total). By using self-defence techniques was the response of 63%,61% and 49%. of respondents from Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida respectively. For Gurgaon 37% feel that women would take help from neighbourhood whereas 70 % respondents from Noida and 53% from Delhi say women would seek help from neighbourhood. 70% of the respondents said that women would respond in the case of sexual assault by involving family and friends with 71% from Delhi, 61% from Gurgaon and 75% from Noida. By stopping to move out alone was perceived by 57% of Delhiits , 66%, of Gurgaon residents, and 72% of Noida respondents. By shouting for help was perceived by 81% (Delhi), 78% (Gurgaon), 97% (Noida) and 82%(total) as the response to sexual assault by women. By using mobile phones was perceived by

86% (Delhi) 83% from(Gurgaon) and 92 from Noida respondents. By taking help from law enforcing agencies was the response of 53%, 46%, and 30% of respondents from Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida respectively.

Table 27B

**Women Respond in Cases of Sexual Assault**						

Sl.	Educational Qualification	Responds	% of Respondents			Total
			Yes	No	Can't say	
1	Illeterate	By tolerating the humiliation	79%	10%	10%	100%
		By avoiding to report	68%	23%	9%	100%
		By using self-defense techniques	62%	22%	16%	100%
		By seeking help from neighborhood	55%	33%	12%	100%
		By taking help from law enforcing agencies	52%	26%	22%	100%
		By involving family & friends	72%	17%	12%	100%
		By stopping to move out alone	46%	46%	8%	100%
		By shouting for help	75%	18%	8%	100%
		By using mobile phones	87%	7%	7%	100%
2	Upto 12th (can read and write to 12th)	By tolerating the humiliation	79%	13%	8%	100%
		By avoiding to report	77%	15%	7%	100%
		By using self-defense techniques	61%	26%	13%	100%
		By seeking help from neighborhood	54%	30%	16%	100%
		By taking help from law enforcing agencies	50%	34%	17%	100%
		By involving family & friends	71%	15%	14%	100%
		By stopping to move out alone	62%	28%	10%	100%
		By shouting for help	82%	11%	7%	100%
		By using mobile phones	86%	7%	7%	100%
3	Graduate and Above	By tolerating the humiliation	81%	12%	7%	100%
		By avoiding to report	78%	16%	6%	100%
		By using self-defense techniques	64%	22%	14%	100%
		By seeking help from neighborhood	50%	37%	13%	100%
		By taking help from law enforcing agencies	53%	33%	15%	100%
		By involving family & friends	69%	20%	11%	100%
		By stopping to move out alone	56%	34%	10%	100%
		By shouting for help	83%	10%	8%	100%
		By using mobile phones	86%	8%	6%	100%
4	Overall	By tolerating the humiliation	80%	12%	8%	100%
		By avoiding to report	77%	16%	7%	100%
		By using self-defense techniques	62%	24%	14%	100%
		By seeking help from neighborhood	53%	33%	14%	100%
		By taking help from law enforcing agencies	51%	33%	16%	100%
		By involving family & friends	70%	17%	12%	100%
		By stopping to move out alone	59%	31%	10%	100%
		By shouting for help	82%	11%	7%	100%
		By using mobile phones	86%	7%	7%	100%

Table 27C

Women Respond in Cases of Sexual Assault										
Sl.	Educational Qualification	Responds	No. of Respondents						Total	
			Yes		No		Can't say			
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Upto Rs. 1 Lakh	By tolerating the humiliation	1142	79%	190	13%	110	8%	1442	100%
		By avoiding to report	1108	77%	248	17%	86	6%	1442	100%
		By using self-defense techniques	870	60%	376	26%	196	14%	1442	100%
		By seeking help from neighborhood	766	53%	514	36%	162	11%	1442	100%
		By taking help from law enforcing agencies	810	56%	406	28%	226	16%	1442	100%
		By involving family & friends	1070	74%	236	16%	136	9%	1442	100%
		By stopping to move out alone	802	56%	514	36%	126	9%	1442	100%
		By shouting for help	1096	76%	222	15%	124	9%	1442	100%
		By using mobile phones	1168	81%	154	11%	120	8%	1442	100%
2	Rs. 1-2 Lakh	By tolerating the humiliation	852	73%	210	18%	110	9%	1172	100%
		By avoiding to report	830	71%	230	20%	112	10%	1172	100%
		By using self-defense techniques	718	61%	270	23%	184	16%	1172	100%
		By seeking help from neighborhood	600	51%	400	34%	172	15%	1172	100%
		By taking help from law enforcing agencies	558	48%	376	32%	238	20%	1172	100%
		By involving family & friends	792	68%	208	18%	172	15%	1172	100%
		By stopping to move out alone	728	62%	340	29%	104	9%	1172	100%
		By shouting for help	964	82%	120	10%	88	8%	1172	100%
		By using mobile phones	1024	87%	80	7%	68	6%	1172	100%
3	Above 2 Lakh	By tolerating the humiliation	803	76%	146	14%	110	10%	1059	100%
		By avoiding to report	747	71%	218	21%	94	9%	1059	100%
		By using self-defense techniques	644	61%	269	25%	146	14%	1059	100%
		By seeking help from neighborhood	612	58%	304	29%	143	14%	1059	100%
		By taking help from law enforcing agencies	704	66%	181	17%	174	16%	1059	100%
		By involving family & friends	809	76%	132	12%	118	11%	1059	100%
		By stopping to move out alone	535	51%	424	40%	100	9%	1059	100%
		By shouting for help	908	86%	89	8%	62	6%	1059	100%
		By using mobile phones	939	89%	52	5%	68	6%	1059	100%
4	Overall	By tolerating the humiliation	2797	76%	546	15%	330	9%	3673	100%
		By avoiding to report	2685	73%	696	19%	292	8%	3673	100%
		By using self-defense techniques	2232	61%	915	25%	526	14%	3673	100%
		By seeking help from neighborhood	1978	54%	1218	33%	477	13%	3673	100%
		By taking help from law enforcing agencies	2072	56%	963	26%	638	17%	3673	100%
		By involving family & friends	2671	73%	576	16%	426	12%	3673	100%
		By stopping to move out alone	2065	56%	1278	35%	330	9%	3673	100%
		By shouting for help	2968	81%	431	12%	274	7%	3673	100%
		By using mobile phones	3131	85%	286	8%	256	7%	3673	100%

Table 28

Sl.	FACTORS	IMPORTANT FACTORS THAT ENHANCES WOMEN'S SAFETY IN PUBLIC PLACES - According to Different Categories of Respondents											
		% of Respondents											
		Yes				No				Can't say			
		Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total	Women	Men	Stakeholder	Total
1	Parks/ Streets are well lit	91%	95%	94%	92%	5%	2%	3%	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%
2	Parks/ streets are well guarded	88%	94%	92%	89%	7%	3%	4%	6%	5%	4%	4%	5%
3	Crowded Buses/Stations are under constant Camera surveillance	96%	96%	96%	96%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	3%	2%
4	Public toilets are clean and guarded	92%	95%	96%	93%	5%	3%	1%	4%	3%	3%	4%	3%
5	Parks/ Public places are frequently patrolled	89%	95%	94%	90%	6%	2%	1%	5%	5%	3%	5%	4%
6	Legal punishments are made harsher	92%	96%	94%	93%	6%	2%	2%	5%	2%	1%	4%	2%
7	Judicial disposals are quicker	88%	94%	94%	89%	7%	2%	3%	6%	5%	4%	3%	5%
8	Mahila police gets greater role in patrolling	83%	96%	94%	85%	13%	2%	1%	11%	5%	2%	5%	4%
9	Women are encourage to carry pepper spray/ safety pins etc.	94%	96%	93%	94%	2%	3%	3%	2%	5%	1%	4%	4%

Table 28A

The Table 28 A shows the percentage of yes/ no and cannot say responses to the important factors that enhance women's safety in public places for Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida separately as well as totally. Nine factors have been tested. Crowded buses/Stations should be under constant camera surveillance was the response of (96% of the total sample.) Parks and public places should be well lit (93%) and well guarded (91%), frequently patrolled (90%) public toilet should be clean and guarded (90%) Legal punishments should be made harsher (94%), Judicial disposals are quicker (92%), Mahila police should get greater role in patrolling (91%), Women should be encouraged to carry pepper spray/ safety pins etc (94%) were the response

of the total sample. Only 1% of the sample did not agree that crowded buses should have continuous camera surveillance and 2% said the women need not carry pepper spray etc. Moreover, there was not much difference in the responses of the three categories, men, women and stakeholders. All had similar views.

Table 28B

Sl.	Educational Qualification	FACTORS	% of Respondents			Total
			Yes	No	Can't say	
	IMPORTANT FACTORS THAT ENHANCES WOMEN'S SAFETY IN PUBLIC PLACES					
1	Illeterate	Parks/Streets are well lit	94%	2%	4%	100%
		Parks/streets are well guarded	92%	3%	5%	100%
		Crowded Buses/Stations are under constant Camera surveillance	94%	2%	5%	100%
		Public toilets are clean and guarded	94%	4%	2%	100%
		Parks/Public places are frequently patrolled	90%	7%	4%	100%
		Legal punishments are made harsher	88%	10%	2%	100%
		Judicial disposals are quicker	78%	13%	9%	100%
		Mahila police gets greater role in patrolling	73%	20%	7%	100%
		Women are encourage to carry pepper spray/safety pins etc.	89%	4%	8%	100%
2	Upto 12th (can read and write to 12th)	Parks/Streets are well lit	92%	4%	4%	100%
		Parks/streets are well guarded	89%	6%	5%	100%
		Crowded Buses/Stations are under constant Camera surveillance	96%	1%	3%	100%
		Public toilets are clean and guarded	93%	4%	3%	100%
		Parks/Public places are frequently patrolled	91%	5%	4%	100%
		Legal punishments are made harsher	93%	5%	2%	100%
		Judicial disposals are quicker	90%	5%	5%	100%
		Mahila police gets greater role in patrolling	87%	9%	5%	100%
		Women are encourage to carry pepper spray/safety pins etc.	93%	2%	5%	100%
3	Graduate and Above	Parks/Streets are well lit	91%	5%	4%	100%
		Parks/streets are well guarded	88%	7%	5%	100%
		Crowded Buses/Stations are under constant Camera surveillance	98%	1%	2%	100%
		Public toilets are clean and guarded	92%	6%	2%	100%
		Parks/Public places are frequently patrolled	89%	6%	5%	100%
		Legal punishments are made harsher	93%	5%	2%	100%
		Judicial disposals are quicker	90%	6%	4%	100%
		Mahila police gets greater role in patrolling	84%	12%	4%	100%
		Women are encourage to carry pepper spray/safety pins etc.	96%	2%	3%	100%
4	Overall	Parks/Streets are well lit	92%	4%	4%	100%
		Parks/streets are well guarded	89%	6%	5%	100%
		Crowded Buses/Stations are under constant Camera surveillance	96%	1%	2%	100%
		Public toilets are clean and guarded	93%	4%	3%	100%
		Parks/Public places are frequently patrolled	90%	5%	4%	100%
		Legal punishments are made harsher	93%	5%	2%	100%
		Judicial disposals are quicker	89%	6%	5%	100%
		Mahila police gets greater role in patrolling	85%	11%	4%	100%
		Women are encourage to carry pepper spray/safety pins etc.	94%	2%	4%	100%

Table 28C

Sl.	Income Categories	FACTORS	No. of Respondents						Total	
		IMPORTANT FACTORS THAT ENHANCES WOMEN'S SAFETY IN PUBLIC PLACES								
			Yes		No		Can't say			
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Upto Rs. 1 Lakh	Parks/ Streets are well lit	1304	90%	72	5%	66	5%	1442	100%
		Parks/ streets are well guarded	1268	88%	100	7%	74	5%	1442	100%
		Crowded Buses/Stations are under constant Camera surveillance	1372	95%	24	2%	46	3%	1442	100%
		Public toilets are clean and guarded	1276	88%	120	8%	46	3%	1442	100%
		Parks/ Public places are frequently patrolled	1254	87%	116	8%	72	5%	1442	100%
		Legal punishments are made harsher	1250	87%	144	10%	48	3%	1442	100%
		Judicial disposals are quicker	1242	86%	120	8%	80	6%	1442	100%
		Mahila police gets greater role in patrolling	1078	75%	288	20%	76	5%	1442	100%
		Women are encourage to carry pepper spray/ safety pins etc.	1338	93%	36	2%	68	5%	1442	100%
2	Rs. 1-2 Lakh	Parks/ Streets are well lit	1074	92%	44	4%	54	5%	1172	100%
		Parks/ streets are well guarded	1052	90%	50	4%	70	6%	1172	100%
		Crowded Buses/Stations are under constant Camera surveillance	1124	96%	18	2%	30	3%	1172	100%
		Public toilets are clean and guarded	1096	94%	48	4%	28	2%	1172	100%
		Parks/ Public places are frequently patrolled	1068	91%	54	5%	50	4%	1172	100%
		Legal punishments are made harsher	1094	93%	52	4%	26	2%	1172	100%
		Judicial disposals are quicker	1060	90%	50	4%	62	5%	1172	100%
		Mahila police gets greater role in patrolling	1042	89%	78	7%	52	4%	1172	100%
		Women are encourage to carry pepper spray/ safety pins etc.	1070	91%	26	2%	76	6%	1172	100%
3	Above 2 Lakh	Parks/ Streets are well lit	981	93%	36	3%	42	4%	1059	100%
		Parks/ streets are well guarded	963	91%	46	4%	50	5%	1059	100%
		Crowded Buses/Stations are under constant Camera surveillance	1013	96%	12	1%	34	3%	1059	100%
		Public toilets are clean and guarded	991	94%	32	3%	36	3%	1059	100%
		Parks/ Public places are frequently patrolled	937	88%	80	8%	42	4%	1059	100%
		Legal punishments are made harsher	983	93%	58	5%	18	2%	1059	100%
		Judicial disposals are quicker	923	87%	104	10%	32	3%	1059	100%
		Mahila police gets greater role in patrolling	873	82%	152	14%	34	3%	1059	100%
		Women are encourage to carry pepper spray/ safety pins etc.	1019	96%	16	2%	24	2%	1059	100%
4	Overall	Parks/ Streets are well lit	3359	91%	152	4%	162	4%	3673	100%
		Parks/ streets are well guarded	3283	89%	196	5%	194	5%	3673	100%
		Crowded Buses/Stations are under constant Camera surveillance	3509	96%	54	1%	110	3%	3673	100%
		Public toilets are clean and guarded	3363	92%	200	5%	110	3%	3673	100%
		Parks/ Public places are frequently patrolled	3259	89%	250	7%	164	4%	3673	100%
		Legal punishments are made harsher	3327	91%	254	7%	92	3%	3673	100%
		Judicial disposals are quicker	3225	88%	274	7%	174	5%	3673	100%
		Mahila police gets greater role in patrolling	2993	81%	518	14%	162	4%	3673	100%
		Women are encourage to carry pepper spray/ safety pins etc.	3427	93%	78	2%	168	5%	3673	100%

The following field report is based on the field visit of the investigators of this study.

Investigation Supervisors Views:

About the perpetrators:

Mainly youngsters were found to be indulging in assaulting women/girls. Maximum comments directed to women/girls came from unemployed local newly rich youth with low education who loiter and waste their time on roads. They operate mostly in groups and use ganja and beer. Local Gujars from Noida and Gurgaon were found to be most violent. Most of the offenders were original domiciles. Some migrant men, under the guidance and support of original domiciles also participated in teasing act. The migrants from Eastern UP, Bihar, Bengal, Nepal and M.P. emerge as greatest sufferers. Maximum exploitation was reported by employers and senior executives in factories and offices for temporary/daily wage women workers. The jobs of women who yield are able to continue whereas those who resist are terminated from the jobs.

About location and time

Maximum incidents take place in and around urbanized villages, slum settlements (like Masoodpur), new settlement areas where migrant population dwells and also areas with very thick population density. While incidences of harassment are reported from every place, incidences of assault mostly occur at crowded spaces.

Sexual harassments can take place anytime; however, most cases of assault occur during afternoons and nights.

Most unprotected public space was found to be within buses. Bus staffs, namely, conductors and drivers of public transport try to allure and take advantage of the travelling women and girls. Mostly students and working women are the sufferers and cases of sexual assault are rampant with the women/girls who travel in buses. Inside buses people who try to touch inappropriately are mostly aged upto fifty and more.

They were also found to be mostly recalcitrant and in civic. Most unsafe place have been reported as unlit streets and also while getting down from bus. Metro was found to be safer because of the special provision for ladies compartments.

Self defence trainings are given in district offices of ICDS for three days in a week without asking for any costs. Some privately run schools also offer self-defence training to girl students

All women whether provocatively or simply dressed are highly teased. Most men think that advanced looking women are desirous to flirt and can be trapped. The women of

original domicile families wear traditional dresses while the migrants wear modern dresses.

Women tenants are most harassed. Girls/women from lower financial strata are frightened of sitting at home as when the family elders have gone to work, the intruders come and assault them and the victims are afraid of informing the family of the incidents for the fear of consequences.

The victims do not trust Police. Construction workers/ Domestic helps do not complain because they stay within the confines of their own clusters and they desist from complaining because a) they are financially very weak, b) they are afraid of police for not having proper documents, and c) loss of income if they have to spend time in courts and police stations d) for fear of being asked very insulting questions) fear of perpetrators and as there is no special protection given to complainant. Similarly, sexual harassment cases are not disclosed to family member for fear of their picking fights. Women do not share their grief out of shame.

In case of complaints, police claim, "It is very normal and common. How many people shall we book?" Police start alleging women/girls for provoking teasers to act.

CHAPTER 5

DISCUSSIONS

Following objectives were tested in the study:

■ To identify most rampant causes of sexual harassment perceived by women.

■ To determine the most important factors that enhances common women's safety in public places.

■ To discern women's responses in cases of violence against them.

■ To find feasibilities of women's access to Police and other governing agencies.

■ To find the level of awareness regarding laws concerning rapes and its punishments among women and men.

■ To enlist gender sensitive activities in communities, particularly low income group persons, for improving gender sensitive relationship

■ Apart from the above specific objectives, some other questions were asked to set the tone of the research.

1. Whether women feel safe in NCR /whether community is aware that women suffer sexual abuse in public.

First of all it was tested whether women feel safe in NCR and whether the community knows about it.

Table 12 shows response to question whether a woman feels safe in travelling inside NCR. Only11% of women, 12 % of men and 11 % of stakeholders have said that they

think that women feel safe while travelling in NCR. While 82 % of   women, 78 % of men and 83 % of stakeholders have said that women do not feel   safe while travelling in NCR.   7% of women and 7% stakeholders claim they cannot say and similarly 10% of   men cannot say. So if we look at the total score we find that an overwhelming   percentage 81% of respondents have said that women feel unsafe while travelling in NCR, while 11% feel that women feel safe while travelling in NCR and 8% feel that they cannot comment on this matter. Majority of respondents said that women feel unsafe while travelling in NCR.

Table 13 reveals whether respondents are aware that women and girl suffer from sexual   abuse in public places. The total response shows that a very high level of awareness has been shown by the respondents that women using public space are suffering from sexual harassment. 87% of total sample agrees that girls suffer from verbal abuse, 88% believe that they suffer from physical abuse and 94% that they are being stared at. Moreover, there does not seem to be much difference between the male and female as well as stakeholder response in terms of their awareness regarding existence of the three kinds of abuse.

The literature review has shown similar findings. Newspaper and TV reports show daily reports of sexual crimes against women .Gender right activists and NGOs in Delhi, strongly plead that 'women in Delhi are far from 'feeling safe' while travelling in the City.

The following objectives were tested:

1. To identify most rampant causes of sexual harassment perceived by women.

Question no 23 was designed to examine the perceived causes of sexual harassment of women in public places. Fifteen dimensions picked out from literature and newspapers/media reports which have been commonly perceived as the reasons behind the street sexual harassment of women, were used to solicit responses from the respondents. Table 23 and 23A reveal the responses of women, men and stakeholders as well as of the respondents from three locations of Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida together and separately too. At least 47% of the respondents have seen each of the fifteen causes as instrumental in facilitating street sexual assault. Punishment not being severe has been seen to be highest ranked cause (86%)

followed closely by availability of pornographic material on mobile (84%), easy access to face book and net (83%). Influence of media/TV/Cinema (81%), Prevailing lawlessness in the society (73%), Corruption in law enforcing authorities, (69%), Culture of Late Night Parties (69%), Unsympathetic Police (68%), inadequate infrastructural facilities (65%), Lax and costly judicial system (65%), physical inability of women to defend themselves (63%),%. 55% of sample believes that Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders. Revealing Dresses of women by 50%, Free and informal behaviour of women by 49% and Sexual aggression in men by 47% of the sample to be the reason behind sexual harassment. Table 23 A shows the breakup of percentage   of perception of   respondents from three locations Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida for causes of sexual assault on women. Revealing Dresses of women has been seen as the reason for sexual assault by 53% of respondents from Delhi, 35% of the sample from Gurgaon and 37%   from Noida perceive it as that. Free and informal behaviour of women has been seen as the reason by 49%, 30%, and 70% of the sample from the three locations respectively. Physical inability of women to defend themselves has been perceived as the factor behind sexual harassment from respondents from Delhi 61%, Gurgaon (71%), Noida (81%). Sexual aggression in men (49%, 53%, 19%) Prevailing lawlessness in the society (73%, 72%, 71%), inadequate infrastructural facilities (63%,62%,86%). Corruption in law enforcing authorities (66%75%, 96 %%), Unsympathetic Police (64%,78% 96%), Lax and costly judicial system (62%, 66%, 95%). Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders (56% 60% 34%) availability of pornographic material on mobile (83%, 83%, 97%), punishment not being severe (85%, 92%, 98%) Influence of media/TV/Cinema (82%, 70%, 85%) easy access to face book and net (84%, 76%, 86%). Culture of Late Night Parties (67%, 74%, 94%) are the other factors which have been tested.

As we can see from the data, the personal factors of women, namely, Revealing Dresses of women and Free and informal behaviour of women have been perceived by 62% of men as leading to sexual harassment whereas 49% and 47% of women have perceived them as not as important as men. Physical inability of the women to defend themselves was perceived by 61% women and 72% of men to be a factor. A difference is visible in the perception of men and women here. This   data is in line with the earlier research. Style of dress makes no difference to the level of harassment they experience has been reported in many cases (SAATHI 1994: 10).

Some have tried to place the blame for unwanted attention and violence from men on women, who they assert invite this attention through a "provocative style of dressing, conversing and walking", as highlighted by (Ghosh 1993: 114). Many scholars feel that above arguments serves to shift the burden of blame away from the harasser to victim creating a culture of victim blaming. This results in continuation of the problem (Kearl, H. personal communication, August 01 2012 as well as also serve to reinforce the existing harmful cultural values and norms (Vijeyarasa, R. personal communication, August 20 2012). This is a widespread perception which, in some instances, has been shared by the police (Sherpa, M. personal communication, August 01 2012), who pinpoint the wearing of certain clothing as being responsible for the offence. While, it has been practically observed that although women wearing more revealing clothes are subject to greater levels of harassment, women wearing traditional clothing (kurtha sarwal) are also harassed (Action Aid 2011: 51).

Table 23 also shows difference in the perception of men and women regarding the dimension of sexual aggression, an independently male factor. 35% of men and 50% women have perceived Sexual aggression in men as responsible for sexual harassment of women. Some of the factors are dealing with shortcoming in police and law and order systems. Five factors, namely, prevailing lawlessness in the society and Corruption in law enforcing authorities, Unsympathetic Police, Lax and costly judicial system, Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders have been also perceived highly as leading to sexual atrocities. However punishment not being severe has been seen as the most important causative factor. 98% of sample from Noida has perceived it to be very important. Other important factors relate to impact of media, like, Availability of pornographic material on mobile, Influence of media/TV/Cinema, easy access to face book and net. Culture of Late Night Parties has also been seen as very important as perceived by 94% NOIDA respondents. Inadequate infrastructural facilities has also been seen by 73% of total respondents as being a factor in rising street sexual harassment.

2. To determine the most important factors that enhances common women's safety in public places.

Question no 28 was designed to examine the perceived factors which can improve women safety and reduce incidences of sexual harassment of women in public places. Nine dimensions picked out from literature and newspapers/media reports

which have been commonly perceived as the factors behind the street sexual harassment of women, were used to solicit responses from the respondents. As we have seen in the Table 28 and 23 A, the tables have   been prepared to reveal the responses of women, men and stakeholders as well as of the respondents from the three locations of Delhi Gurgaon and Noida together and separately too. Very strong responses (over 90%) came from the respondents towards all the factors which were tested in the questionnaire. The questions consisted of mainly three dimensions, a) one referred to infrastructural suggestions. Crowded buses/Stations should be under constant camera surveillance was the response of 96% of the total sample. Parks and public places should be well lit (93%) and well guarded (91%), frequently patrolled (90%) public toilet should be clean and guarded (90%) b) refers to law order and justice systems, namely, Legal punishments should be made harsher (94%), judicial disposals should be quicker (92%), Mahila police should get greater role in patrolling (91%), c) third   dimension was about strengthening the women herself, namely women should be encouraged to carry pepper spray/ safety pins etc (94%) were the response of the total sample. Only 1% of the sample did not agree that crowded buses should have continuous camera surveillance and 2% said the women need not carry pepper spray etc. Moreover, there was not much difference in the responses of the three categories, men, women and stakeholders. All had similar views.

Table 28 C, Table 28 D- These two tables also look at the same nine dimensions of perceived factors which can improve women safety and reduce incidences of sexual harassment of women in public places where the respondents have been categorised in terms of   education Table 28C) and income (Table 28D). The income categories have been divided in terms of three categories.: Below one lak income, between 1 to 2 laks of income and over 3 laks of income. The table reveals that the differences are minor among the various categories of respondents. All responses are above 87%. There is very high agreement among all categories of respondents on all the dimensions.

 These findings are also in line with earlier research findings. The earlier research has revealed that public transport is a spot where there is huge risk of sexual harassment. The infrastructure and law and order   issues have also been recommended in earlier research.

Some other related questions have been asked to respondents which throw light   on the perceived reasons as well as   remedies for   sexual harassment. Two tables,

namely, Table 24 and Table 25 are related to identity of offenders in terms of the age group as well as socio economic class. 86% thought that offenders were from age group of 19-25. 78% of respondents thought that the offenders belonged to 25-50 age range. 64% of respondents thought offenders were 18 years of age or even less. Only 20% perceived the perpetrators to be over fifty age group. Table 25 shows the perceived socio -economic background of the sex offenders. 72% of the respondents perceived them to be from lower socio economic background.67% and 64% of the respondents perceived the offenders to be from middle and higher socio economic strata of the society.

Table 15 deals with the most frequent perceived timing for street assaults. An overwhelming 88% of total sample (88% women, 92%men, 88% stakeholders) has said that sexual assault on women can take place anytime. 41% (42% women, 36%men and 30% stakeholders) say that it takes place after dusk and 31% believe that sexual harassments take place (33%, 20%, and 18%) before dusk Table deals with the perceived places where maximum street harassment takes place. Table 20 shows the perceived locations of sexual harassment incidents. Out ten locations, bus stop has emerged as the most agreed upon location for sexual harassment incidents at 94% of total respondents choosing bus stop.. Closely followed by market places at 90%, public parks at (84%), Alcohol shops at 72%, railway station/metro station at 62%, taxi stands at 61%, deserted streets at 59%, cinema hall, construction sites at 44% each with Grameen sewa public transport at 42% of the sample as location for sexual harassments.

Another question (Table 26) examines the most vulnerable categories of women who are susceptible to sexual assault. 89% of respondents perceived unprotected women as well as students to be most vulnerable for sexual assault. Closely following was the category of women working in night shift who were perceived by 87% of the sample to be vulnerable for attack. Working women category was perceived as susceptible to sexual harassment by 84% of the respondents. Alcohol Users were seen by 82% of the sample to be vulnerable for attack. The category of homeless women//girls living on streets who were perceived by 73% of the sample to be vulnerable for attack. Migrant Women not speaking local language were perceived at 68% of the total respondents to be susceptible for sexual assault. Domestic helps and Daily wage earners were perceived by 73% and 71% of the sample to be

vulnerable for attack respectively. Differently able were perceived by 57% of the sample to be vulnerable for attack.

3. **To discern women's responses in cases of violence against them.**

This objective was addressed by using two questions: number 19 and question no 27. Table 27 reveals the responses to nine questions which examine the immediate response which women make to the situation of facing a sexual harassment incidence.

Table 19 reveals the responses to five questions which examine the impact of harassment on women. It deals with long term changes in the women's self image/psychological or physical health showing the coping behaviour of sexually harassed women. The question has tested five options. 86% of the total sample have agreed that sexually harassed woman would become 'Pathologically Afraid of men'. That women become depressed after suffering sexual harassment was responded to by 78%.The third option being stigmatized was perceived by 75% of the sample to result from sexual harassment. Scornful and revengeful was perceived by 51% and becoming handicapped was perceived by 33% of the sample as consequences of sexual harassment by women.

The literature survey has also supported this finding. The fear of sexual assault in public places as well as actual facing of it can result in long term damage to a woman's psyche and can disturb her life as already discussed in detail in first chapter. The table 27A shows high agreement on women's response to sexual assault. Out of nine factors which have been tested among the respondents, on each factor the total agreement percentage is above 53%. By tolerating the humiliation was the response perceived to be the strategy to be use by 81%, 71 % and 84% of the respondents for Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida respectively. By avoiding reporting was the response of the respondents' for 77%,(Delhi), (73%), Gurgaon and (82%) Noida respectively. By using self-defence techniques was the response of 63%, 61% and 49% of respondents from Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida respectively. We see a difference in the relation with neighbours between Noida and Gurgaon as only 37% from Gurgaon feel that women would take help from neighbourhood whereas 70 % respondents from Noida and 53% from Delhi say women would seek help from neighbourhood. Similarly difference between Delhi (53%) Gurgaon (46%) and Noida (30%) are visible

on the factor of 'by taking help from law enforcing agencies'. Noidaits seem more comfortable with neighbours and Gurgaon residents with law enforcing agencies. 70% of the respondents said that women would   respond in the case of sexual assault by involving family and friends with 71% from Delhi, 61% from Gurgaon and 75% from Noida. By stopping to move out alone was received by 57% of Delhiits , 66%, of Gurgaon residents, and 72% of Noida respondents. By shouting for help was perceived by 81% (Delhi), 78% (Gurgaon),   97% (Noida)   and 82%(total) as the response to sexual assault by women. By   using mobile phones was perceived by 86% (Delhi) 83% from (Gurgaon) and 92 from Noida respondents.

It does seem that women are perceived to be proactive in case they are facing a harassment/assault. And some difference is perceived in the preferences of respondents from Noida , Delhi and Gurgaon.

4. **To find feasibilities of women's access to Police and other governing agencies.**

Table 17 reveals the answer of the respondents on the question of nature of action taken against the abuser in case of sexual assault. There were four options. The option of abuser taken into custody was perceived by 65% of the total sample, Strong warning to abuser was perceived by 63%, public   deals with the abuser 23%,   and no action was perceived by 40% total respondents   to be the action taken against the abuser. What are the barriers to reporting- was the question answered by Table 18. It reveals the reasons for not   reporting the sexual crimes as perceived by various categories of respondents.

Table 17 and table 18 show that there are many reasons for not reporting. Because the victims find that no action sis taken against the offender (40% in   our study Table 17.) Police cannot   be   trusted was the response of 63 %. 51 % and 50 % of the respondents agreed that 'no one would believe them' and 'it would be wastage of time and money.' (Table18). 'It earns bad   name   in the society' was perceived by 85% of the total respondents to be the reason for   not reporting. 'Offenders may take revenge' was the second most popular response.70 % of the total respondents believed that the victims' families should deal with the problem.

Some of the factors are dealing with shortcoming in police and law and order systems are also revealed in Table 23. Five factors, namely, prevailing lawlessness in the society and Corruption in law enforcing authorities, Unsympathetic Police, Lax and costly judicial system, Lack of commitment from Political/Religious Leaders have

been also perceived highly as leading to sexual atrocities. However punishment not being severe has been seen as the most important causative factor. 98% of sample from Noida has perceived it to be very important.

All these figure show that women do not find it accessible to report to police or other governing agencies. Again this finding is supported by literature survey, newspaper TV reports. As data for this year shows that in Delhi, on average, six cases of sexual assault are reported everyday "Where rape is concerned the numbers cannot be an indicator of the prevalence of the crime since only a fraction of cases gets reported even in cities like Delhi. Though police have been sensitized, the level of consciousness has not changed much. There are still delays in disposing of cases due to a lack of sensitivity," says women's rights activist Kavita Krishnan. According to The times of India (March 30, 2015), 80 household in Delhi that experienced sexual harassment only 6 went to police and 74 remained unreported. Only one out of thirteen incidents of gender crimes reaches Police Station. In Delhi 1 in 11 cases of all criminal events involved sexual harassment. 94% of all sexual harassment incidents include staring or passing lewd comments. Incidents of touching or groping or being followed are not reported due to bureaucratic Police and lazy court system.

5. To find the level of awareness regarding laws concerning rapes and its punishments among women and men.

Table 22A shows the perception of the respondents about the awareness of level of awareness regarding laws concerning rapes and its punishments among women and men. A total of 57% were aware of laws against rape. 61% had heard about Punishment against rape out of which 60%were from Delhi, 49% were from Gurgaon and 87% from Noida. The provision of Death penalty for rape was known to 37%. 31% of the respondents also knew about Punishment awarding authorities against rape. It does seem that there is perceived awareness about laws concerning rape and its punishment amongst the community. However, the crimes are on the rise. So the many reasons which stop the victims to report also encourage the perpetrators to continue unabated. One logical explanation does seem the perception that punishments are not adequate. Literature is replete with data showing the cases not coming to a conclusion. The police are unable to perform well and similar host of reasons which facilitate as well as create barrier to bringing the culprits to book.

6. Awareness about the Legal provisions and govt schemes:

Table 21 shows the respondents' awareness about Programmes Implemented by NGOs and Govt. agencies in their locality for women. 71% of the total respondents knew about Empowerment of Women programmes being   held in the locality. Self - defence Training   were known to 61% of respondents. Spreading awareness of laws was perceived by 47% of the respondents to be going on in their locality. Free Legal Help to Women was perceived by 34%of the sample.   Creating forum for women's grievances was known to 26% of the total sample. Popularising Gender Schemes by Police/Government was seen by30% of the sample as being done in their localities. Creating awareness of gender equality was also seen by 42% of the total sample to be going on in their areas.

Table 22 shows the perception of the respondents about the awareness of the Government Schemes. A total of 97% respondents were aware of Emergency helpline No. 100. 89% had heard about women helpline 1091, 62% knew about women commission, laws against   harassment/assault of women were known to 37%, and 30% of the respondents knew about punishment for different offenses, 25% were aware of Anti-stalking service for women,   38% were aware of Exclusive Help Desk for Women at Police Stations, Thana level Women Safety Committee was known to 35% of the sample and 50% of the total respondents   knew of Self-defence Training Program for Women.

It does seem that gender sensitive activities in communities, particularly low income group persons, for improving gender sensitive relationship are going on in many communities and moreover people are aware of them.

CHAPTER 6

CONCLUSIONS

Findings suggest an urgent need for immediate actions for the societies and government to curb harassment and violence against women.

- Awareness about the women's low safety, sexual harassment as well as the laws, Acts is high among the community. However, the harassment is continuing. Findings have suggested that the system of reporting and punishments are not in place.

- Trivialization of sexual harassment in public - space is high among the general community, victims, and even law enforcing machinery.
- Impact of the laws in protecting women from street Violence is negligible.
- Practice of street violence against women and girls is rampant in most of the NCR.
- Street violence has negative consequences for the victim and her family.
- Women themselves are not aware of laws and empowered to act.
- Certain areas in NCR are very susceptible to sexual harassment at public places.
- A large number of atrocities are committed from population in the rural areas of NCR, specially the youth who are old or original residents. Victims come from migrant communities in many areas. Perpetrators are men with individual temperament for sexual harassment in communities where the norms are tolerant, ambiguous, or even supportive of such behaviour.

CHAPTER 7

RECOMMENDATIONS

The action has to be multipronged. Firstly **preventive measures** have to be strong. Creating awareness in community about the role of bystander while witnessing women being sexually harassed in the public spaces, strengthening the women by improving their confidence level and self defence skills, well lit public spaces, well patrolled public transport, trained transport personnel, use of CCTV cameras, use of Mahila patrol will go a long way in preventing the incidences.

Sensitizing the police, using Mahila police, streamlining complaint mechanism, keeping the identity of complainant confidential, lodging complaint quickly and taking quick actions are needed.

Strategies for different aspects of the society.

For Government/ public-awareness

- ➢ Women's safety needs must be acknowledged and identified as important objectives within the planning and management of public areas. This must involve the participation of women alongside other relevant stakeholders
- ➢ Implementation of public-awareness efforts. This should include public-service messages and the display of "zero tolerance on sexual harassment" signs at highly visible areas such as bus stops, buses and roadsides.
- ➢ Any problem with women's safety in public spaces and women's human rights should be immediately addressed.
- ➢ State should have massive awareness campaigns to educate the masses about negative consequences of sexual harassment at public places.
- ➢ Political and religious leaders should condemn any sexual violence against women.
- ➢ Homeless women should be given priority for employment or education /training.
- ➢ To make cities safe for women and girls, the government and NGOs need to work with local communities to understand and claim their rights to

access and enjoy all that cities have to offer and to change their cities for the better.

➢ Governments should fund essential public services (street lighting, safe public transportation and safe housing) to reduce violence against women

➢ Governments should implement public policies on service provision and to ensure that all service providers receive the necessary training to prevent, identify and report harassment and violence against women

➢ Government should support Public Spaces Mentoring Programs in communities. Any project idea to address gender-based street harassment in a community can be selected and provided in-depth mentoring for some time.

➢ Men and boys must be part of the solution. Information should be made available regarding how boys /men can work and can volunteer. There should be tips and information for bystander.

➢ State supported shelter homes, Nari Niketans, remand houses, juvenile delinquent homes, and shelters for differently-abled children and orphans should have schedule of regular and transparent inspection by independent body.

➢ Working women's hostels for SC/ST/Minority/Differently-abled girls should be provided special protection.

➢ Easy availability of Helpline and support system to be widely advertised on radio, TV and Newspapers

➢ The laws and punishments need to be popularized through media having national reach.

➢ Multidimensional methods like Street plays, debates, lectures, discussions can be planned and funded by state government and executed in partnership with local panchayats/communities and NGOs.

➢ The states must allocate a certain financial budget that may cover appropriate advertisement among urban and rural masses .

For Judiciary

➢ Gender sensitization for the judiciary and police' is also important. It is also important to include men in the sensitizing and other programmes.

➢ A specific court may dedicate a particular day in week or fortnight to take up pending cases.

➢ Procedure of investigation should not be lengthy and disposal of cases should be speedy to strengthen victims' faith in the system.

➢ Suitable amendments in law and its procedure for police and judicial accountability needs to be done.

➢ More women judges should be appointed

Rehabilitation and treatment of victims

➢ Treatment and rehabilitation of victims and survivors of severely affected/rape incidences as well as counselling, mental health treatment should be available.

For Police

➢ Victims fear to lodge complaints as/because if complaints are lodged the perpetrators' friends start chasing and harassing. Even 1091 that register complaints make women frightened by saying that their identity shall be disclosed. Victims should be encouraged to complain and, as a matter of demonstration, special hearing for such cases be instituted and punishments be awarded forthwith.

➢ More and better law enforcement and security in public places, mahila police patrols and the installation of security cameras and PCRs exclusively operated by Mahila police should be introduced.

➢ Special preventive measures should be taken in prone areas.

➢ Police in each State should be made more sensitive to provide rescue to victims

➢ Punishment should be made much more stringent. Legislation by the state should address all forms of violence against women and girls in public spaces

➢ A proper complaint procedure within the justice system, accessible to the poorest and most excluded women should be developed

> On-line complaints should be instantaneously responded to but the name of complainant should not be disclosed.

For Education system

> Self- defence training should be made compulsory in schools/colleges syllabus.
> Students should be made to learn about the principles of gender equality, legal rights of women, seriousness of sexual violence in public places and punishment on crimes against women in school/college.
> Special training to school/college students on sexual harassments-how to save oneself as well as what to do as a bystander.

For Public transport system

> There is a need for basic data and case study material on how women make use of the transport system, the differential impacts of transport on women, and what opportunities are denied to them when the system cannot meet their needs.
> Recruiting more female bus conductors, drivers, and police should be done.
> Strict implementation of women's compartments in Metro/ Intercity trains and dedicated seats in all public transports to be made available by operating staff.
> Special orientation programmes for bus staff on their responsibility and duty towards women and girls as well as punishment in case of failing to do its rightful discharge ought to be imparted.

For Women themselves

> The traditional approaches to women's safety and their place within the societal hierarchy need to be changed. Thus a change in women's' self image to enable them to shift the blame away from themselves and onto those who commit crimes has to be inculcated.

> ➢ They need to go beyond discriminatory values of playing a submissive and dependent role and have a positive self identity, be independent in their self concepts and psychological capacities.

> ➢ Women should know the law too, specially their legal rights.

> ➢ Women should organise and demand their rights on issues related to their safety and go above the traditional culture which trivializes and allows sexual harassment to continue and victims to be blamed.

> ➢ For becoming stronger in terms of physical and learning self - defence techniques, self-defence training should regularly be given to girls so that to enhance their confidence and ability to protect themselves.

For Media

> ➢ Print media should be socially responsible. The reporting of sexual crimes and episodes should be factual and not sensational.

> ➢ The film media should also be socially responsible and not sensationalize and should document illustrations of women's experiences and the impacts upon their lives caused by sexual harassment.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Indeed, any research has some limitations. Due to the sensitiveness of the issue of sexual atrocities; it is difficult to find person/persons to reveal information fearlessly on sexual harassment cases. It is not easy to find adequate information about cases of sexual harassment in public places as the societal mindset is still under domination of unfair traditional structures and conservative culture. Fear of social stigma causes the cases of sexual harassment to remain hidden.

.

References;

ActionAid (2011) Women and the City: Examining the Gender Impact of Violence and Urbanisation. A Comparative Study of Brazil, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Liberia and Nepal, ActionAid International

Agnes, F. (1992) Protecting Women against Violence: Review of a Decade of Legislation, 1980-89, Economic and Political Weekly, 27(17): 19–33

Ahuja, R. (1987) Crime Against Women, The Kapur Press

Aladuwaka, S. and Oberhauser, A.M. (2011) Contextualising Credit Programmes, Poverty Alleviation, and Women's Empowerment: A case study from rural Sri Lanka, in Raju, S. Gendered Geographies: Space and Place in South Asia, Oxford University Press

Anand, A. and Tiwari, G. (2006) A Gendered Perspective of the Shelter–Transport–Livelihood Link: The Case of Poor Women in Delhi, Transport Reviews, Vol. 26, No. 1, 63–80, January 2006

Anwary A. (2003). Acid violence and medical care in Bangladesh: Women's activism as care work. Gender & Society, 17, 305-313.

Ardener, S. (1981), Women and Spaces: Ground Rules and Social Maps. London: Croom Helm

Asian Development Bank (2007) Socially Inclusive and Gender-Responsive Transport Projects, Asian Development Bank

Ashley Tellis, 'Resisting Feminism', *Indian Journal of Gender Studies* 8(1), 2001.

Astbury, J. (2003) Whose honour, whose shame? Gender-based violence, rights and health, Manderson, L. and Bennett, L.R (Eds) Violence Against Women in Asian Societies, Routledge Curzon Atray, J.P. (1988) Crimes Against Women, Vikas Publishing House

AWARE, Singapore, Report, research study on workplace sexual harassment, 2008

Bandyopadhyay, M. and Khan, M. R. (2003) Loss of face: violence against women in South Asia, Manderson, L. and Bennett, L.R (Eds) Violence Against Women in Asian Societies, Routledge

Baxi, P. (2001) Sexual Harassment, Seminar. Vol. 505, pp. 54–59 Brooks ,

Baxi Upendra, 'The Avatars of Indian Judicial Activism: Explorations in the Geographies of [In]Justice.' In S.K. Verma and Kusum (eds.), *Fifty Years of the Supreme Court of India: Its Grasp and Reach.* Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2000, pp. 156-209.

Bell, D. (1995) Body work: heterosexual gender performances in city workplaces, Bell, D. and Valentine, G. (Eds) Mapping desire, London: Routledge, 75–95

Benard C., Schlaffer E. (1996). The man in the street: Why he harasses. In Verta T. A., Whittier N., Richardson L. (Eds.), Feminist frontiers IV (pp. 395-398). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill.

Bowman C. G. (1993). Street harassment and the informal ghettoization of women. Harvard Law Review, 106, 517-580.

Celik Y., Celik S. S. (2007). Sexual harassment against nurses in Turkey. Journal of Nursing Scholarship, 39, 200-206.

Chockalingam, K. and Vijaya, A. (2008) Sexual Harassment of Women in Public Transport of Chennai City: A Victimological Perspective, p.167-184, The Indian Journal of Criminology and Criminalistics, Vol XXIX No. 3, September-December, 2008

Crimes in India Report, Crimes Record Bureau, Government of India, 1994, 1995, 1996.

Cynthia Grant Bowman, "Street Harassment and the Informal Ghettoization of Women" (1993)

Cohen, L.E and Felson, M. (1979) Social Change and Crime Rate Trends: A Routine Activity Approach Sociological Review, Vol. 44, No. 4 (Aug., 1979), pp. 588-608

Curzon Barrett, G. (2006) Official Dictionary of Unofficial English, McGraw-Hill Professional

Dave, A. (2005) Feminist Social Work Intervention, Kannabiran, K. (Ed) The Violence of Normal Times: Essays on Women's Lived Realities, Women Unlimited

Devi, L. (1998) Crime, Atrocities and Violence Against Women and Related Laws and Justice, Institute for Sustainable Development 42

Duchène, C. (2011) Gender and Transport, International Transport Forum Discussion Paper No. 2011- 11, OECD/ITF Fernando,

Dhillon, M., & Bakaya, S. (2014). Street harassment: A qualitative study of the experiences of young women in Delhi. SAGE Open, 4, 1–11.

Fernando, P. and Porter, G. (2002) Introduction: Bridging the Gap Between Gender and Transport, Fernando, P. and Porter, G. (Eds) Balancing the Load: Women, Gender and Transport, Zed Books

Flavia Agnes, 'Protecting Women against Violence: Review of a Decade of Legislation, 1980-89', *Economic and Political Weekly* 27(17), 1992, ws 19-33.

Flavia Agnes, 'Violence Against Women: Review of Recent Enactments.' In Swapna Mukhopadhyay, *In the Name of Justice: Women and Law in Society.* Manohar, Delhi,1988, pp. 81-116.

Gangoli, G (2007) Indian Feminisms: Law, Patriarchies and Violence in India, Ashgate Publishing Gardner, C.B. 1995: Passing by: gender and public harassment in public space. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press

Gender Study Group, A Report on Sexual Harassment in Delhi University. Delhi, 1996.

Ghosh, S. K. (1993) Women and Crime, Ashish Publishing House

Gill, A. (2004) Voicing the silent fear: South Asian women's experiences of domestic violence, Howard Journal of Criminal Justice 43, 5, 465-83

Gomez, S. and Gomez, M. (2004) Sri Lanka: The Law's Response to Women Victims of Violence, Goonesekere, S. (Ed) Violence, Law and Women's Rights in South Asia, Sage Publications

Government of NCT of Delhi (2006) Delhi Human Development Report 2006: Partnerships for Progress, Oxford University Press

Gruber, J.E. (1992) A Typology of Personal and Environmental Sexual Harassment: Research and Policy Implications for the 1990s, Sex Roles, Vol. 26, Nos. 11/12, 1992

Gupta, K (2006) Violence Against Women: Some Dimensions and Theoretical Implications, Vir, D. (Ed) Violence Against Women and Their Exploitation in India, New Academic Publishers

Hale, S.M. (1989) The Status of Women in India, Pacific Affairs, Vol. 62, No. 3 (Autumn, 1989), pp. 364-381

Harzarika, Y (1995) Paper 3: An Overview of Crimes against Women in Delhi, 1984-1994,

Hsin-Ping, H. (2009) How Does Fear of Sexual Harassment on Transit Affect Women's Use of Transit?, Women's Issues in Transportation, pp.74-84, Summary of the 4th International Conference, VOLUME 2: TECHNICAL PAPERS', October 27–30, 2009 Irvine, California

Jagori (2010) National Workshop on Safer Cities for Women: Perspectives, Methodology and Tools, August 19-21 2010, Teri Retreat, Delhi

Jagori Jagori (2011) Aurtein Insaaf ki Dagar par: Women's leadership camp and training for Women leaders of Hoshangabad, Dindori, Kesla, Balaghat and Betul, October 10-14, 2011,

 Jagori Jagori and UN Women (2011) Safe Cities Free of Violence Against Women and Girls Initiative: Report of the Baseline Survey Delhi 2010,

Jagori and UN Women Jain, S.P and Singh, M. (2001) Violence Against Women, Radha Publications Jilani, H. and Ahmed, A. M. (2004) Violence Against Women: The Legal System and Institutional Responses in Pakistan, Goonesekere, S. (Ed) Violence, Law and Women's Rights in South Asia, Sage Publications

Karlekar, M. (1995) Silences and Choosing to Hear: Perceptions of Violence Against Women, Karlekar, M. Argarwal, A and Ganjoo, A. (Eds) No Safe Spaces... Report of a Workshop on Violence Against Women. March 27-28, 1995, Centre For Women's Development Studies

Karlekar, M. Argarwal, A and Ganjoo, A. (Eds) No Safe Spaces... Report of a Workshop on Violence Against Women. March 27-28, 1995, Centre For Women's Development Studies

Kearl Holly 2010, Stop Street Harassment: Making Public Places Safe and Welcoming for Women   Praeger Publishers

Kelkar, G. (1992) Violence Against Women: Perspectives and Strategies in India, Indian Institute of Advanced Study Khan, J. A. (2005) Women's Human Rights: Problems and Challenges Faced by Indian Women, Devi, U. (Ed) Violence Against Women: Human Rights Perspective, Serials Publications

Krishna Kumari, D.B. and Ramana, D.V. (2005) Human Rights: Strategies for Gender Violence, Devi, U. (Ed) Violence Against Women: Human Rights Perspective, Serials Publications

Koskela, H. (1999) Gendered Exclusions: Women's Fear of Violence and Changing Relations to Space, Geografiska Annaler. Series B, Human Geography, Vol. 81, No. 2 (1999), pp. 111-124

Latif, Z. (1999) The Impacts of the Use of IMT on Transport Needs and Access of These by Women in Rural Pakistan, in 'Meeting Transport Needs with Intermediate Means of Transport', Vol. II Lanka Forum for Rural Transport Development, Colombo Lester Coutinho, Suman Bisht and Gauri Raje, 'Numerical Narratives and Documentary Practices: Vaccines, Targets and Reports of Immunisation Programmes', *Economic and Political Weekly* 35(8-9), 2000.

Lenton, Rhonda Smith, Michael D. Fox, John Morra, Norman; The Canadian Review of Sociology and Anthropology; November 1, 1999;

Madan,M. and Nalla M.K., Sexual Harassment in Public Spaces: Examining Gender Differences in Perceived Seriousness and Victimization, International Criminal Justice Review,2016, Vol. 26(2) 80-97, Sage

Manderson, L. and Bennett, L.R (2003) Introduction: gender inequality and technologies of violence, Manderson, L. and Bennett, L.R (Eds) Violence Against Women in Asian Societies, Routledge

Mathur, K. (2004) Countering Gender Violence: Initiatives Towards Collective Action in Rajasthan, Sage Publications

Menon, N. (2000) Embodying the Self: Feminism, Sexual Violence and the Law, Chaterjee, P. and Jeganathan, P. (Eds) Community, Gender and Violence, Subaltern Studies XI, Hurst & Company

Mernissi, F. (1975) Beyond the Veil: Male-Female Dynamics in Muslim Society, Al Saqi Books McDowelll,

Micaela di Leonardo, author of "Political Economy of Street Harassment" (1981)

Midgley, P. (1994) Urban Transport in Asia: An Operational Agenda for the 1990s, World Bank Technical Paper Number 224: Asia Technical Department Series

Mitra-Sarkar, S. and Partheeban, P. (2009) Abandon All Hope, Ye Who Enter Here: Understanding the Problem of "Eve Teasing" in Chennai, India, Women's Issues in Transportation, pp.74-84, Summary of the 4th International Conference, VOLUME 2: TECHNICAL PAPERS', October 27–30, 2009 Irvine, California

M. W. (1997) Subway City: Riding the Trains, Reading New York, New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press Chockalingam,

Namaste, K. (1996) Genderbashing: sexuality, gender, and the regulation of public space, Environment and Planning D: Society and Space 14, 221–40

Nivedita Menon, 'Embodying the Self: Feminism, Sexual Violence and the Law.' In Partha Chatterjee and Pradeep Jaganathan (eds.), *Community, Gender and Violence.* Subaltern Studies XI. Permanent Black, New Delhi, 2000, pp. 66-105.

Pain, R. (1991) Space, Sexual Violence, and Social Control: Integrating Geographical and Feminist Analyses of Women's Fear of Crime, Progress in Human Geography, Vol. 15, No. 4, pp. 415–431

Pain,R . (1997) Social geographies of women's fear of crime, Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers, 22:231- 44

Pain, R. (2000) Place, Social Relations and the Fear of Crime: A Review, Progress in Human Geography, Vol. 24, No. 3, pp. 365–387

Painter, K. (1989) Crime prevention and public lighting with special focus on elderly people. London: Centre for Criminology, Middlesex Polytechnic

Peters, D (2001) Gender and Transport in Less Developed Countries: A Background Paper in Preparation for CSD-9, Background Paper for the Expert Workshop "Gender Perspectives for Earth Summit 2002: Energy, Transport, Information for Decision-Making" Berlin, Germany, 10 - 12 January 2001, Jointly hosted by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Protection and Nuclear Safety and the Heinrich Boell Foundation

 Phadke, S. (2007) 'Dangerous Liaisons: Women and Men: Risk and Reputation in Mumbai', Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 42, No. 17 (Apr. 28 - May 4, 2007), pp. 1510-1518

Phadke, S. Khan, S. Ranade, S. (2011) Why Loiter? Women and Risk on Mumbai Streets, Penguin Books Poonacha, V. (1991) Women and Violence, Bombay: SNDT University

Rajini, K. (2008) Advances on Women Empowerment, Ganesamurthy, V.S. (Ed) Empowerment of Women in India: Social, Economic and Political, New Century Publications

Raju, S (2011) Introduction: Conceptualising Gender, Space and Place, Raju, S. Gendered Geographies: Space and Place in South Asia, Oxford University Press

Rivera, R. L. K. (2007) Culture, Gender, Transport: Contentious Planning Issues, Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No. 76, 2007

SAATHI (1994) Sexual Harassment in Public Places in the Kathmandu Valley: Results of a Survey, SAATH

Ratna Kapur and Shomona Khanna, Memorandum on the Reform of Laws Relating to Sexual Offences. Centre for Legal Research, Delhi, 1996.

Report, research on sexual   harassment against women in Public places, workplace, educational   institutions of Afghanistan, 2015, Publisher: Women and children Legal Research Foundation

Saheli, Another Occupational Hazard: Sexual Harassment and the Working Woman. Saheli Women's Resource Centre, New Delhi, 1998.

Shobna Saxena, *Crimes against Women and Protective Laws.* Deep and Deep, New Delhi, 1995.

Singh, K. (2004) Violence Against Women and the Indian Law, Goonesekere, S. (Ed) Violence, Law and Women's Rights in South Asia, Sage Publications

Smith, M.J (2008) Addressing the Security Needs of Women Passengers on Public Transport, Security Journal, 2008, 21, (117 – 133), Palgrave Macmillan Ltd

Sohail, M. Maunder, D.A.C. and Cavill, S. (2006) Effective regulation for sustainable public transport in developing countries, Transport Policy, 13(3), pp. 177-190 45

Stanko, E.A. (1987) Typical violence, normal precaution: men, women and interpersonal violence in England, Wales, Scotland and the USA, Hanmer, J. and Maynard, M. (Eds), Women, violence and social control, London: Macmillan, 122–34

Stanko, E.A (1995) Women, Crime, and Fear, Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Vol. 539, Reactions to Crime and Violence (May, 1995), pp. 46-58

Subramani, T. (2005) Violence Against Women, in Devi, U. (2005) Violence Against Women: Human Rights Perspective, Serials Publications

Suseela, C.(2008) Empowerment of Women: A Question of Male Mindset, Ganesamurthy, V.S. Empowerment of Women in India: Social, Economic and Political, New Century Publications

Vishakha and Anrs v. Union of India, AIR 1997 SC 3011.

Shockwaves: The Global Impact of Sexual Harassment, Susan L. Webb, New York 1994.

Appendix

- Study conducted by UN Women found (2012) that 92% of women experienced some form of sexual harassment in Delhi. And around round 120 million girls worldwide have experienced forced sex. Less than 40% of victims seek help.

- Ministry of Women and child development, Govt. of India, opted for the study because 125 countries have passed laws on sexual harassment – but with poor implementation. Since 1995 more than hundred countries have conducted, at least, one survey addressing this issue. Out of the above 44 countries have done these surveys between 1995 and 2004. 89 countries did it between 2005 and 2014. More than 40 countries have got such surveys twice. As published in The times of India on march 30, 2015 (Page 4).

- Commonwealth Human Rights Initiatives (CHRI):

Fear of retaliation deters women from going to police in case of crime against them. Only one out of thirteen incidents of gender crimes reaches Police Station. In Delhi 1 in 11 cases of all criminal events involved sexual harassment. Staring or passing lewd comments – 94% of all sexual harassment incidents. Incidents of touching or groping or being followed are not reported due to bureaucratic Police and lazy court system. 80 household in Delhi that experienced sexual harassment only 6 went to police and 74 remained unreported.

Why people do not go to Police for help?

- Fear of retaliation   8%
- Lack of evidence   33%
- Did not know where to report   5%
- Did'nt think cops to entertain complaint   15%
- Did not know helpline number   02%
- Did not expect Police to act   15%
- Due to Family matters   04%
- Did not want to get stuck with Police/ Courts 48%
- Scared to go to Police station   02%
- Personal Comment:

Capital's Dark Corner: Rape's Ground Zero- Case of Aman Vihar,-

An area in the capital's northwest has emerged as the Ground Zero of sexual assault – the highest number of reported cases in absolute terms from any police station in the city this year. In 2012, when the 'Nirbhaya' rape spurred amendments in sexual assault law, Aman Vihar recorded just eight cases of rape. The number dramatically rose each year pushing it to the first place among all police stations and, except for a dip last year, the trend has remained the same. This year, Aman Vihar has already recorded 60 rape cases – more than one per week. Mehrauli at No 2 recorded 48 cases. In 60 per cent of cases the victims are minor. 87 per cent of victims of sexual assault are below the poverty level. 88 per cent of accused have studied up to Class 10, 10 per cent are illiterate and 2 per cent graduates. 45 per cent of illicit liquor consumption, 34 cases of gambling and 12 cases of drug use has been registered this year in Aman Vihar.

This police station has 155 personnel against a sanctioned strength of 210, which means one policeman for almost 6,500 people.

Along with many other factors, sociology and geography of the area are very distinctive factors:

 "People migrate from different parts of the country and settle down in Aman Vihar. They do not have permanent addresses. Their identities remain a mystery. The area has also seen a rise in land disputes, as there are 108 unauthorised colonies.' The same persons who commit a petty theft can be involved in sexual assault cases. Also job losses result in drug addiction and gambling', says a police officer. The rise in cases of rape should not be looked in isolation. Rise in other types of crime should also be looked in this context to understand the place like Aman Vihar. The local MLA says that 955 of the population are migrants and the literacy rate is abysmal at 50 per cent against city's 86 per cent. Most of the young men are unemployed so they indulge in petty crimes like betting, and consuming liquor in public places. A report from The Indian Express dated December 16, 2016 (page 2). According to Delhi Police data, just 29.4% of the cases ended in conviction in 2015. For this abysmal rate the Police explain that the amendments to law after the December 16 gang rape did result in a significant rise in the number of cases reported , but when each case takes up to five years on average

to be decided, only over time can statistics truly reflect the actual conviction status.4 Year Data :-

Year	RAPE	MOLESTATION	OUTRAGING MODESTY
2012	706	727	208
2013	1636	3515	916
2014	2166	4322	1361
2015	2199	5367	1492

✓ 1,981 RAPE CASES REGISTERED TILL NOVEMBER 30 THIS YEAR.

The Times of India dated 17 December, 2016 (Page 2)

The Delhi Govt. Plan for making Delhi a safe city

The Delhi government has drawn up an extensive plan to cover roads and public spaces across the capital with CCTVs, streetlights and Wifi facilities. According to government officials, a committee has been constituted to finalise the specifications of "wireless standalone cameras within-built recording and network facility. "Delhi has a total of 30,000 km of roads of which only 1260 km comes under the Public Works Department. Covering PWD roads with these features shall be undertaken comprehensively along with the governments 'digitization programme. CCTV, Wi-Fi and Streetlights shall be dovetailed with fibre network for smart features. E-collection of tolls is also under active consideration. Covering PWD roads by CCTV has to be comprehensive and cannot be taken up in isolation "said a senior official. The department has been asked to identify "vulnerable" areas, such as colonies and markets, and places that see high footfall, like temples, where CCTV cameras can be set up, said the official. These areas are frequented by women, and there is a dire need to install CCTVs her on a priority basis to ensure their safety. The urban development department has sanctioned Rs. 200 crore for this fiscal to be utilized by the PWD for the work". As soon as the specifications are finalized the chief project manager shall ensure submission of the preliminary estimate and issue order.   Officials added that the urban development department shall work out modalities for installation and maintenance of CCTVs by RWAs and market associations. The government has also ruled that CCTVs will not be covered under the MLA local area development fund.