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**A STUDY ON CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF PRISON  
VIOLENCE WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO  
TAMILNADU**

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**ABSTRACT:**

Prisons are environments that are likely to contain a higher number of socially excluded people. The basic reason for the existence of prisons in society, which expresses the means of courts, is that it is necessary to separate and isolate some people who have broken the law. The research method followed is Empirical research. The info is collected through a questionnaire and therefore the sample size is 200. The sources used are primary sources such as questionnaires, surveys and secondary sources such as books and journals. Convenience sampling method is adopted within the study to gather the info. The samples were collected from public, friends and relations. The independent variable used such as age, gender, occupation and education qualification. The dependent variable The prisoners rights are being violated in Indian prisons, The purpose of the criminals justice system in India is to protect not only the rights of the victim but also the convicts prisoners and under trail, Ways in which prisoners can be reformed, Common kinds of violence found in prison, Rate your views on factor contributing to prison violence in India. (Violation of the prisoners rights). The statistical tools used by the researcher are chi square tests and frequency table, Independent sample test and Anova test. According to the human rights law for the protection of the imprisoned person, imprisoned person means a

person who loses personal liberty as a result of his conviction on any and imprisonments mean such a condition of an imprisoned person.

**KEYWORDS:**

Prison, Violence, Punishment, Criminal justice, Constitution, Reforms, security.

**INTRODUCTION:**

The word prison is derived from the Latin term which is to seize. According to the Oxford English Dictionary prison means a place duly effective and equipped for the reception of persons who by legal process are committed to it for safe custody while awaiting trial and punishment. Under the Government of India Prisons Act, 1870 prison means anything or penitentiary including the raising grounds and other grounds or structures engaged for the use of the prison. According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica prison means an institution used for the confinement of persons condemned for major crimes or felonies. "How good is the prison but still no one will be willing to go to prison. To lose their family, friends and most importantly their liberty is the worst thing. A prison is a commodity that's defined as a place of accommodation which was used for the individuals who have committed an offence and whose trial is pending for having committed that offence. The prison and prisoners law in India are one of the laws that was unnoticed and forgotten and it cannot get sufficient significance as it should be for reforms in today's scenario. There's lack of strong legislations for those people who are staying in the prisons who also have the right to live with dignity and also entitled for basic respect like other citizens getting in the country. There are numerous cases in which prisoners have been subordinated to inhuman conditions or treatment and deprived of basic requirements similar to proper food and proper sanitary conditions. Prison should help in reforming humans rather than only punishing them. Reforms only be brought in society when culprits get the right chance of improvement. If a person commits crime that doesn't mean that person stops from being a human being or becomes non-human he cannot be deprived of personal liberty. In India there are three types of Prison such as Taluka, district and central prison. The jails in these types are known as Sub jails, district jails and central jails respectively. In general the infrastructure, security, medical facilities, educational and recuperation facilities are better from sub jail to central jail. And some other types of jails are women's jails, Borstal school, open jails, and special jails. According to the human rights law for the protection of the imprisoned person, imprisoned person means a person who loses personal liberty as a result of his conviction on any offences, and imprisonments mean such a condition of

an imprisoned person. But the basic dignity of an arrested person must be given proper respect. Recently in TamilNadu **Jayaraj – Bennix case** where the deaths of Jayaraj and his son Bennix while they were in police custody in June 2020. The incident sparked outrage and protests across Tamil Nadu and drew attention to police brutality and custodial deaths in India. The father and son were arrested for allegedly violating lockdown regulations. However, their deaths while in police custody raised questions about excessive force and torture. Several police officers were arrested and charged in connection with their deaths, and the case received widespread media coverage and public scrutiny. Protections of such class are mentioned in the universal protestation of mortal rights as well as under Article 21 of the Indian constitution. It's need of the hour that provisions of security of prisoners mentioned in jail manuals must be followed rigorously and also well- equipped and trained prison staff should be appointed to look for safety measures. Regular and timely examination from judicial officers must be conducted. All the organs of police and administration must combine together so that effective social rehabilitation of convicts can be secured. The necessary of this is to find the causes and effects of prison violence in India.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

- To know about the causes and effect of prison violence,
- To get a people's view on whether a convicted person should get proper rights and respect.
- To spread awareness about the prisoners in Indian prisons

### **REVIEW OF LITERATURE:**

- **Steiner (2000)** A Multilevel Social Control–Opportunity Framework for Understanding Prison Violence. A framework for understanding inmate violence is presented that incorporates the same types of measures examined in alternate frameworks but that also has the ability to move well beyond the “usual suspects.” This framework can also be applied to an understanding of inmate-on-inmate and inmate-on-officer victimizations. Implications for a Multilevel Social Control–Opportunity Theory of In-Prison Violence.
- **Wooldredge (2001)** Key findings from the statistical models described in Chapter 5 are integrated to assess the applicability of a multilevel social control–opportunity framework to understanding inmate violence, inmate victimisation by violence, and officer safety, and to introduce discussion of how these findings might be considered for informing strategies to reduce these problems.



- **Lockwood (2002)** Issues in Prison Sexual Violence. Although exaggerated claims have confused the issue, recent research indicates that sexual harassment is a major punishment for some prisoners. While discussion of prison sexual violence has focused on homosexual rape, a rare event, sexual harassment, affecting far more men, has been a neglected topic. In contemplating such decisions as sentencing and release from confinement, in weighing the suffering of imprisonment in a particular case, the stress associated with being the target of sexual aggressors should always be considered.
- **Fludernik (2003)** The Prison as World—The World as Prison. Chapter 1 deals with two types of metaphors: those that liken the prison to the (or a) world, seeing the prison as a microcosm, and those that project an inverse scenario, in which the world is metaphorically depicted as a prison. After pointing out how prison, as a heterotopia (like hell) is conceived both as lying outside the world and as sharing numerous structural features with it, Section 1.2 moves on to a consideration of early modern similitudes in the ‘character’ literature of Overbury, Dekker, Mynshul, and Fennor. An analysis of two city comedies, *Eastward Ho* (1605) and *The City Gallant* (1614) illustrates how prisons were perceived to mirror early modern society.
- **Steiner and Wooldredge (2005)** Informing Strategies for Preventing Prison Violence. The humane approach to punishing criminal offenders is to refrain from excessive punishments relative to their harms inflicted on society. A challenge in deriving strategies for violence prevention in prison, therefore, is that these strategies should not counter the appropriate balance between control and “freedom” (privileges) for individual prisoners.
- **Bowker (2006)** An Essay on Prison Violence. The purpose of this brief essay is to set out my thoughts on the nature of prison violence using a typological approach to categorize violent phenomena in correctional institutions according to their controls, participants, and goals. The essay is based on my reading of the scientific literature on prison violence, my own observations of prison life (mainly in the Washington State Penitentiary at Walla Walla), and my extended musings about why prisons are so thoroughly permeated by violence.
- **Ruiz (2007)** The Prison Problem. The ultimate fate of prisoners became an ever more pressing issue in October after the fall of Toledo and the ensuing advance of Nationalist forces towards the capital. Even before news of the fifth column appeared in the Republican press, antifascists were convinced that recent military disasters could partly be attributed to the work of the internal enemy.

- **Steiner and Wooldredge (2008)** In-Prison Violence, Non-Utilitarian Considerations and Future Research. Aside from the utilitarian arguments for reducing violence in prison, such efforts are important because the existence of violence in prison is an affront to criminal “justice” per se by nature of creating inequities in punishment across inmates based on their odds of offending or being victimized. To demonstrate the salience of a moral argument favouring violence prevention in prison, we return to the civil cases cited in Chapter 1 involving suits brought by prisoners against their keepers for failing to protect them from the violence of other inmates Prison Violence. This entry presents an overview of prison violence and how issues such as overcrowding and scarcity of resources may contribute.
- **Levan (2009)** Exploring both collective and interpersonal levels of violence, issues such as incidents between inmates and those between inmates and staff are examined. This entry looks at the issues facing males, females, juveniles, and the mentally ill as they contend with correctional institutions and violence within these institutions. *Governing Prisons*.
- **DiIulio (2010)** A comparative study of correctional management that illustrates how the introduction of internal governing systems in prisons can encourage civilized behavior, provide order, and enforce punishment. Challenging the accepted notions about prisons, *Governing Prisons* argues for the necessity of ensuring these facilities are made safely humane. *The Oxford Handbook of Prisons and Imprisonment*.

## METHODOLOGY:

Empirical Research is used for the purpose of the study. The methodology used by the researcher is a simple random sampling method to collect samples. The sources used are primary sources such as questionnaires, surveys and secondary sources such as books and journals. The total sample size collected through questions is 200. The independent variable used such as age, gender, occupation and education qualification. The dependent variable The prisoners rights are being violated in Indian prisons, The purpose of the criminals justice system in India is to protect not only the rights of the victim but also the convicts prisoners and under trail, Ways in which prisoners can be reformed, Common kinds of violence found in prison, Rate your views on factor contributing to prison violence in India. (Violation of the prisoners rights). The statistical tools used by the researcher are chi square tests and frequency table, Independent sample test and Anova test.

**ANALYSIS:****TABLE 1****Chi-Square Tests**

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	121.439 <sup>a</sup>	6	.000
Likelihood Ratio	117.549	6	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	51.867	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	200		

a. 0 cells (0.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 11.00.

**LEGEND:**

Table 1 shows that Age and The prisoners' rights are being violated in Indian prisons.

**NULL HYPOTHESIS:**

There is no significant relation between Age and The prisoners' rights are being violated in Indian prisons.

**ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESIS:**

There is a significant relation between Age and The prisoners' rights are being violated in Indian prisons.

Here the P value is lesser than 0.05 i.e. .000. So the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted.

**TABLE 2**

**Chi-Square Tests**

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	77.153 <sup>a</sup>	8	.000
Likelihood Ratio	69.012	8	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	29.870	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	210		

a. 5 cells (10.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 2.33.

**LEGEND:**

Table 2 shows that Gender and The purpose of the criminal justice system in India is to protect only the rights of the victims but also the convicts, prisoners and under trial.

**NULL HYPOTHESIS:**

There is no significant relation between Gender and The purpose of the criminal justice system in India is to protect only the rights of the victims but also the convicts, prisoners and under trial.

**ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESIS:**

There is a significant relation between Gender and The purpose of the criminal justice system in India is to protect only the rights of the victims but also the convicts, prisoners and under trial.

Here the P value is lesser than 0.05 i.e. .000. So the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted.

**TABLE 3****ANOVA**

Ways in which prisoner can be reformed

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	65.347	3	21.782	24.256	.000
Within Groups	176.008	196	.898		
Total	241.355	199			

**LEGEND:**

Table 3 shows that Occupation and Ways in which prisoner can be reformed

**NULL HYPOTHESIS:**

There is no significant relation between Occupation and Ways in which prisoner can be reformed

**ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESIS:**

There is a significant relation between Occupation and Ways in which prisoner can be reformed

Here the P value is lesser than 0.05 i.e. .000. So the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted.

**TABLE 4****ANOVA**

Common kinds of violence found in prison

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	40.617	3	13.539	12.070	.000
Within Groups	219.862	196	1.122		
Total	260.480	199			

**LEGEND:**

Table 4 shows that Educational qualifications and Common kinds of violence found in prison

**NULL HYPOTHESIS:**

There is no significant relation between Educational qualifications and Common kinds of violence found in prison

**ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESIS:**

There is a significant relation between Educational qualifications and Common kinds of violence found in prison

Here the P value is lesser than 0.05 i.e. .000. So the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted.

**RESULT:**

**Table 1** shows that Age and The prisoners' rights are being violated in Indian prisons. Null hypothesis There is no significant relation between Age and The prisoners' rights are being violated in Indian prisons. Alternative hypothesis There is a significant relation between Age and The prisoners' rights are being violated in Indian prisons. **Table 2** shows that Gender and The purpose of the criminal justice system in India is to protect only the rights of the victims but also the convicts, prisoners and under trial. Null hypothesis There is no significant relation between Gender and The purpose of the criminal justice system in India is to protect only the rights of the victims but also the convicts, prisoners and under trial. Alternative hypothesis There is a significant relation between Gender and The purpose of the criminal justice system in India is to protect only the rights of the victims but also the convicts, prisoners and under trial. **Table 3** shows that Occupation and Ways in which prisoner can be reformed. Null hypothesis There is no significant relation between Occupation and Ways in which prisoner can be reformed. Alternative hypothesis There is a significant relation between Occupation and Ways in which prisoner can be reformed. **Table 4** shows that Educational qualifications and Common kinds of violence found in prison. Null hypothesis There is no significant relation between Educational qualifications and Common kinds of violence found in prison. Alternative hypothesis There is a significant relation between Educational qualifications and Common kinds of violence found in prison.

**DISCUSSION**

**Table 1** shows that Age and The prisoners' rights are being violated in Indian prisons. Null hypothesis There is no significant relation between Age and The prisoners' rights are being violated in Indian prisons. Alternative hypothesis There is a significant relation between Age and The prisoners' rights are being violated in Indian prisons. Here the P value is lesser than 0.05 i.e. .000. So the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted. **Table 2** shows that Gender and The purpose of the criminal justice system in India is to protect only the rights

of the victims but also the convicts, prisoners and under trial. Null hypothesis There is no significant relation between Gender and The purpose of the criminal justice system in India is to protect only the rights of the victims but also the convicts, prisoners and under trial. Alternative hypothesis There is a significant relation between Gender and The purpose of the criminal justice system in India is to protect only the rights of the victims but also the convicts, prisoners and under trial. Here the P value is lesser than 0.05 i.e. .000. So the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted. **Table 3** shows that Occupation and Ways in which prisoner can be reformed. Null hypothesis There is no significant relation between Occupation and Ways in which prisoner can be reformed. Alternative hypothesis There is a significant relation between Occupation and Ways in which prisoner can be reformed. Here the P value is lesser than 0.05 i.e. .000. So the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted. **Table 4** shows that Educational qualifications and Common kinds of violence found in prison. Null hypothesis There is no significant relation between Educational qualifications and Common kinds of violence found in prison. Alternative hypothesis There is a significant relation between Educational qualifications and Common kinds of violence found in prison. Here the P value is lesser than 0.05 i.e. .000. So the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted.

### **HYPOTHESIS:**

Null Hypothesis(H<sub>0</sub>):

There is no significant relation between Occupation and Ways in which prisoner can be reformed.

Alternative Hypothesis(H<sub>1</sub>):

There is a significant relation between Occupation and Ways in which prisoner can be reformed.

### **LIMITATION:**

One of the major limitations of the study in the sample frame. There is a major constraint in the convenient sampling method, the survey was conducted through questionnaires by google form to collect responses from the people. Another limitation is the size of 200 which cannot be used to assume the thinking of the entire in a particular country, state, or city. The physical factors have a larger impact, thus, limiting the study.

## **SUGGESTION:**

Improving prison condition by making available proper food, clothing, sanitation etc. The focus must be on human rights of prisoners besides improving their amenities. Undertrial in jails to be reduced to bare minimum and they be kept away from convicts. The prison staff to be properly trained and organized. The focus must be on Rehabilitation and reforming of offender. The Government should make an effort to provide adequate financial resources. To improve Staffing and Training, Enhance Prison Conditions, Strengthen Security Measures, Promote Rehabilitation Programs.

## **CONCLUSION:**

According to the human rights law for the protection of the imprisoned person, imprisoned person means a person who loses personal liberty as a result of his conviction on any offences, and imprisonments mean such a condition of an imprisoned person. Prison violence can have severe consequences, including physical harm, psychological trauma, and even loss of life for both inmates and staff members. It undermines the principles of rehabilitation and the potential for successful reintegration into society, perpetuating a cycle of violence and recidivism. Addressing prison violence requires a comprehensive and multi-dimensional approach. It involves improving prison conditions, such as reducing overcrowding and ensuring appropriate staff-to-inmate ratios. Implementing effective security measures, including proper screening protocols and increased surveillance, can help prevent the entry of contraband and reduce the risk of violent incidents. Addressing prison violence requires a comprehensive and multi-dimensional approach. It involves improving prison conditions, such as reducing overcrowding and ensuring appropriate staff-to-inmate ratios.

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