

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR LEGAL RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS



Open Access, Refereed Journal Multi-Disciplinary
Peer Reviewed

www.ijlra.com

DISCLAIMER

No part of this publication may be reproduced or copied in any form by any means without prior written permission of Managing Editor of IJLRA. The views expressed in this publication are purely personal opinions of the authors and do not reflect the views of the Editorial Team of IJLRA.

Though every effort has been made to ensure that the information in Volume II Issue 7 is accurate and appropriately cited/referenced, neither the Editorial Board nor IJLRA shall be held liable or responsible in any manner whatsoever for any consequences for any action taken by anyone on the basis of information in the Journal.

Copyright © International Journal for Legal Research & Analysis

EDITORIALTEAM

EDITORS

Dr. Samrat Datta

Dr. Samrat Datta Seedling School of Law and Governance, Jaipur National University, Jaipur. Dr. Samrat Datta is currently associated with Seedling School of Law and Governance, Jaipur National University, Jaipur. Dr. Datta has completed his graduation i.e., B.A.LL.B. from Law College Dehradun, Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Srinagar, Uttarakhand. He is an alumnus of KIIT University, Bhubaneswar where he pursued his post-graduation (LL.M.) in Criminal Law and subsequently completed his Ph.D. in Police Law and Information Technology from the Pacific Academy of Higher Education and Research University, Udaipur in 2020. His area of interest and research is Criminal and Police Law. Dr. Datta has a teaching experience of 7 years in various law schools across North India and has held administrative positions like Academic Coordinator, Centre Superintendent for Examinations, Deputy Controller of Examinations, Member of the Proctorial Board



Dr. Namita Jain

Head & Associate Professor

School of Law, JECRC University, Jaipur Ph.D. (Commercial Law) LL.M., UGC -NET Post Graduation Diploma in Taxation law and Practice, Bachelor of Commerce.

Teaching Experience: 12 years, AWARDS AND RECOGNITION of Dr. Namita Jain are - ICF Global Excellence Award 2020 in the category of educationalist by I Can Foundation, India. India Women Empowerment Award in the category of "Emerging Excellence in Academics by Prime Time & Utkrisht Bharat Foundation, New Delhi. (2020). Conferred in FL Book of Top 21 Record Holders in the category of education by Fashion Lifestyle Magazine, New Delhi. (2020). Certificate of Appreciation for organizing and managing the Professional Development Training Program on IPR in Collaboration with Trade Innovations Services, Jaipur on March 14th, 2019



Mrs.S.Kalpana

Assistant professor of Law

Mrs.S.Kalpana, presently Assistant professor of Law, VelTech Rangarajan Dr.Sagunthala R & D Institute of Science and Technology, Avadi. Formerly Assistant professor of Law, Vels University in the year 2019 to 2020, Worked as Guest Faculty, Chennai Dr.Ambedkar Law College, Pudupakkam. Published one book. Published 8Articles in various reputed Law Journals. Conducted 1Moot court competition and participated in nearly 80 National and International seminars and webinars conducted on various subjects of Law. Did ML in Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Administration. 10 paper presentations in various National and International seminars. Attended more than 10 FDP programs. Ph.D. in Law pursuing.



Avinash Kumar



Avinash Kumar has completed his Ph.D. in International Investment Law from the Dept. of Law & Governance, Central University of South Bihar. His research work is on "International Investment Agreement and State's right to regulate Foreign Investment." He qualified UGC-NET and has been selected for the prestigious ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship. He is an alumnus of the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi. Formerly he has been elected as Students Union President of Law Centre-1, University of Delhi. Moreover, he completed his LL.M. from the University of Delhi (2014-16), dissertation on "Cross-border Merger & Acquisition"; LL.B. from the University of Delhi (2011-14), and B.A. (Hons.) from Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi. He has also obtained P.G. Diploma in IPR from the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi. He has qualified UGC – NET examination and has been awarded ICSSR – Doctoral Fellowship. He has published six-plus articles and presented 9 plus papers in national and international seminars/conferences. He participated in several workshops on research methodology and teaching and learning.

ABOUT US

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR LEGAL RESEARCH & ANALYSIS
ISSN

2582-6433 is an Online Journal is Monthly, Peer Review, Academic Journal, Published online, that seeks to provide an interactive platform for the publication of Short Articles, Long Articles, Book Review, Case Comments, Research Papers, Essay in the field of Law & Multidisciplinary issue. Our aim is to upgrade the level of interaction and discourse about contemporary issues of law. We are eager to become a highly cited academic publication, through quality contributions from students, academics, professionals from the industry, the bar and the bench. INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR LEGAL RESEARCH & ANALYSIS ISSN 2582-6433 welcomes contributions from all legal branches, as long as the work is original, unpublished and is in consonance with the submission guidelines.

SILENT SUFFERING: THE GROWING NORMALISATION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN IN INDIA

AUTHORED BY - MUSKAN SRIVASTAV
BA.LLB (H),

CO-AUTHOR- DR. SARITA YADAV
(Assistant Professor)
Amity University, Lucknow

SUBJECT TO WHICH THE TITLE RELATES: Family Law and Criminal Law

Abstract

In this patriarchal society, men feel ashamed to come forward as male victims of any violence. Women are typically portrayed as the victims of domestic violence, which is frequently viewed through a gendered lens. However, the growing number of men in India who endure emotional, physical, and mental violence in their homes without speaking out is a rising but underreported reality. Men are not acknowledged as victims under the current legal system, particularly the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act of 2005, which makes them less visible in scholarly, social, and legal discourse. Through an analysis of media representation, judicial patterns, and sociocultural views, this research investigates the increasing normalization of domestic violence against males in India. Additionally, it looks into the structural flaws and the absence of gender-neutral language in the law as it is now. This study advocates for a more comprehensive understanding of domestic violence by using empirical evidence, case laws, and national and international perspectives. In order to provide equal protection and justice for both genders, the research ends with suggestions for legislative modification, policy reform, and awareness-raising campaigns.

Keywords: domestic violence, male victim, patriarchal society, gender-neutral laws, men in India.

1. INTRODUCTION

Domestic violence is a serious problem in our society, occurring in nearly every home. The first individual that comes to mind when we hear or read the term “Domestic Violence” is typically a woman. Domestic violence in India has traditionally been viewed as an issue specific to gender, predominantly highlighting women as victims and men as offenders. While the prevalence of violence against women is a harsh reality, the rising conversation about male victims is frequently dismissed, mocked, or completely overlooked. Men who face domestic abuse—whether it be physical violence, emotional coercion, financial domination, or verbal deterioration—often feel compelled to remain silent due to entrenched social stigma and a lack of legal acknowledgment. In a culture that associates masculinity with strength and emotional restraint, male victims are often regarded as weak or non-existent. While it is true that women are often the victims in most domestic violence cases, this does not imply that men cannot also be victims or that society accepts the notion of men as victims of domestic violence. In India, the legal system does not even recognize domestic violence against men. A significant reason for this is the longstanding belief in the overwhelming dominance of men in Indian culture, making it difficult for society to accept the idea of a male victim and a female perpetrator. Domestic violence encompasses more than just physical abuse; it includes various forms of violence, such as emotional and psychological, with men frequently experiencing emotional and psychological mistreatment from women. The legal system exacerbates this issue by not offering sufficient remedies; for example, the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, does not provide protection for male victims. Consequently, there is an increasing acceptance of violence against men in intimate relationships, making them invisible in both legal frameworks and societal awareness. This paper aims to question the conventional narrative by exploring the legal, social, and psychological aspects of this neglected form of abuse.

2. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- I. To examine societal views and cultural beliefs that play a role in the acceptance and obscurity of male victimization.
- II. To evaluate the current legal structure and its shortcomings in handling domestic violence towards men.
- III. To recognize the psychological, social, and legal impacts of domestic violence on men.

- IV. To suggest measures for gender-neutral legislation, awareness initiatives, and support systems for male victims of domestic violence.

3. RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS

- I. Patriarchal gender expectations in India play a major role in the social neglect and acceptance of domestic violence directed at men.
- II. The lack of gender-neutral laws concerning domestic violence in India results in legal marginalization and inadequate safeguards for male victims.
- III. Men in India are significantly more reluctant to report cases of domestic violence because of fears related to social stigma and a lack of adequate institutional support.
- IV. Males facing domestic violence in India are at an increased risk for psychological issues because of the lack of acknowledgment and social support.

4. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The methodology taken in this paper is solely doctrinal. Doctrinal research, commonly known as library-based research, is a distinctive method of legal inquiry that involves analysing and reviewing existing legal regulations, case law, and scholarly literature. This method is particularly useful for examining the theoretical and conceptual aspects of law, as well as for systematically outlining legal doctrines and principles. The primary sources utilized in doctrinal research include legislative materials, court rulings, and authoritative writings, with secondary sources such as commentaries, articles, and legal digests also being considered. The process of research involves identifying, gathering, and critically evaluating these sources to formulate well-reasoned conclusions and provide insights into the legal matters under investigation. By utilizing doctrinal research, this paper seeks to offer a comprehensive and cohesive understanding of the legal framework on the topic at hand.

5. LITERATURE REVIEW

Domestic violence (DV) has long been viewed through a gendered lens, predominantly framed as violence perpetrated by men against women. International organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO) define domestic violence as any behaviour within an intimate relationship that causes physical, psychological, or sexual harm to those in the relationship (World Health Organization, 2012). In the Indian context, the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA), 2005, was a landmark legislation, but it

is explicitly designed to protect women and does not recognize male victims under its provisions (Government of India, 2005). Recent studies, however, suggest that men also experience domestic abuse, albeit in different forms. A cross-sectional study conducted in rural Haryana found that 52.4% of married men reported experiencing some form of gender-based violence from their spouses, with emotional and verbal abuse being the most common (Kalokhe et al., 2016). Despite this, such experiences are largely underreported due to stigma, shame, and fear of social ridicule. Indian society's deep-rooted patriarchal values perpetuate the belief that men should be emotionally stoic and physically dominant, leaving little room for male victimhood in public discourse (Connell, 1995). The legal framework in India is also skewed in favor of women. Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code criminalizes cruelty against a woman by her husband or in-laws, and while it serves an essential role in protecting women, it has been criticized for being misused in certain cases, leading to false accusations and harassment of men (Dewan, 2020). Moreover, there are currently no legal provisions or welfare schemes that specifically cater to male victims of domestic violence. The absence of gender-neutral laws leaves male victims without institutional support or legal remedy, further normalizing their abuse (Sarkar, 2019). Scholars and legal experts have begun advocating for gender-neutral laws to ensure that all victims of domestic violence, regardless of gender, receive equal protection. In contrast to India, several countries such as the United Kingdom and Canada have adopted gender-neutral domestic violence policies, providing a legal precedent for inclusive frameworks (George & Yarwood, 2014). The disparity between global practices and India's current approach highlights a significant gap in the legal and policy domains. The portrayal of domestic violence in the media also contributes to how society comprehends this issue. An analysis of Indian news and entertainment media reveals that male victims are either ignored or ridiculed, reinforcing stereotypes and silencing discourse (Chopra & Verma, 2021). Public awareness campaigns and government initiatives rarely, if ever, address men as potential victims, thereby institutionalizing their invisibility. In conclusion, while there is growing empirical and anecdotal evidence that men in India are also victims of domestic violence, academic, legal, and institutional recognition remains minimal. The literature overwhelmingly points to a systemic gap in acknowledging male victimhood, both in terms of policy and societal support. This study seeks to address this void by highlighting the growing normalization of domestic violence against men and advocating for a more inclusive and equitable approach to domestic abuse. In **Sushil Kumar Sharma v. Union of India** (AIR 2005 SC 3100), the Supreme Court noted the potential for misuse of Section

498A IPC, stating that “the provision is being misused and exploited by disgruntled wives.” This judicial recognition adds credibility to the argument for gender-neutral laws. In **Preeti Gupta v. State of Jharkhand** (2010), the Supreme Court expressed concern about the growing misuse of Section 498A and recommended a legislative review, emphasizing that innocent men and their relatives are often trapped in prolonged legal battles.

6. MEANING, DEFINITION & EXPLANATION

Domestic violence, also known as domestic abuse, means violence against a person within their household or cohabitation. Though we know that any violence is considered a crime then why is this violence known as domestic violence? It is because the relationship between abuser and victim is domestic; they are related either by marriage or by blood. This act of violence is committed by one partner to take control over another partner so that they can boss them around, order them, and abuse them as they want, and no one would say anything because they think they have the authority to do so. Domestic violence can happen to anyone. It is not necessary that it only happens to women and children. Though no one talks about it, domestic violence also happens to men in our society.

The legal context in India, particularly under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA), 2005, is gender-specific and does not acknowledge men as possible victims. Consequently, the experiences of male victims of domestic violence are frequently excluded from public discourse, legal protections, and policy responses. The increasing normalization of domestic violence against men refers to the growing societal apathy, denial, or even rationalization of abuse when the victim is male. This phenomenon is fuelled by deeply rooted gender norms that depict men as inherently strong, unemotional, and incapable of being victims. In Indian culture, traditional views on masculinity discourage men from showing vulnerability or seeking assistance, resulting in significant underreporting and inadequate institutional support. As a result, male victims often endure suffering in silence, confronting not only abuse but also societal shame, legal prejudice, and emotional distress. The problem is further exacerbated by the lack of gender-neutral legislation in India. Although female victims can seek legal recourse under Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code and the PWDVA, men lack comparable legal protections or support systems like helplines, shelters, or counselling services. In many instances, men also face false allegations and misuse of legal provisions, which further marginalizes their experiences. In summary, this research addresses the systemic, legal, and cultural elements

that contribute to the invisibility and normalization of domestic violence against men in India. It aims to challenge dominant assumptions, underscore deficiencies in legal and policy frameworks, and promote a broader understanding of domestic violence that acknowledges all victims, irrespective of gender.

7. HISTORICAL BACKGROUN /EVOLUTION

Historically, women have been subjected to violence. Nearly every woman has experienced severe abuse from their partners or family members. They endured significant suffering, but after numerous movements and efforts, some protective laws were established against domestic violence. The Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961 and the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act of 2005 have served as lifelines for women, providing them with much-needed assistance. Currently, women have achieved greater independence, financial stability, and education. They are self-sufficient, handle various responsibilities, and can live independently. They stand on equal ground with men. Conversely, many men are facing considerable financial challenges due to a scarcity of job opportunities and societal pressure. There is a fear of being ridiculed by society if they fail to achieve success or if a woman surpasses them. This financial instability often contributes to domestic violence perpetrated by men. They frequently endure mental, verbal, and emotional abuse from their wives. They suffer silently, fully aware that neither society nor the law is likely to support them. The prevailing patriarchal mindset means that society tends to disregard and mock a man who bravely steps forward as a victim of domestic violence. The legal framework, primarily skewed in Favor of women, has led some to misuse the law by filing false allegations or threatening men. Nowadays, it is not uncommon to hear about a man who has died or taken his own life due to the abuse and torment he faces, recognizing that he has no recourse or support from the law in such situations.

8. COMPARISON WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

Comparison with Other Countries (With APA Citations) While India continues to address domestic violence primarily through a gender-specific lens, several countries have recognized the need for gender-neutral legal frameworks and inclusive support systems. A comparative analysis reveals significant differences in how domestic violence against men is acknowledged, legislated, and addressed globally.

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom has adopted a gender-neutral approach to domestic violence. Under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, abuse is defined in a gender-neutral manner, recognizing coercive control, emotional harm, and financial abuse (UK Government, 2021). The UK Home Office provides funding for services aimed at male victims, including helplines and shelters. As reported by the Office for National Statistics (ONS, 2023), around a third of domestic abuse victims in England and Wales are men, and this data is continually tracked using gender-disaggregated statistics.

United States

In the United States, domestic violence laws vary by state, but many have gender-neutral provisions. Although the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) was originally framed for female victims, it has since been revised to include men and LGBTQ+ individuals (U.S. Department of Justice, 2022). The Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, 2022) reports that nearly one in four men have experienced intimate partner violence, including physical and psychological abuse. Support services, including shelters and legal aid, are available to male victims in several states.

Canada

Canada criminalizes all forms of domestic violence through a gender-neutral criminal code. Government-funded support programs such as Shelter Safe and Men & Domestic Abuse Services (MDAS) provide aid to all victims (Government of Canada, 2021). According to Statistics Canada (2022), 27% of domestic violence victims are men, and public awareness campaigns now include messaging targeted at male victims.

Australia

Australia also takes a gender-inclusive approach to domestic violence. All states and territories enforce laws that are explicitly gender-neutral. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS, 2021) reported that one in every six men has faced emotional abuse from a partner since turning 15. The One in Three Campaign is an advocacy organization that raises awareness and conducts research on male victims, with some state governments providing funding for support services designed specifically for men (One in Three Campaign, 2021).

Contrast with India

In contrast, India's domestic violence legislation remains gender-specific. The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, applies only to women and makes no mention of male victims (Government of India, 2005). Similarly, Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code addresses cruelty by husbands or in-laws toward wives, offering no parallel protection for abused men. India lacks official data on male victims, has no government-run shelters or helplines for men, and legal recognition remains absent (Sarkar, 2019). The omission of male experiences from policy frameworks contributes to the normalization and invisibility of domestic violence against men in Indian society.

9. STATISTICAL/ DATA ANALYSIS

Understanding the frequency and impact of domestic violence against men requires a careful examination of both public and transnational data sources. Although empirical data in India is limited due to underreporting and lack of gender-neutral checks, available statistics and independent studies suggest that manly victimization is a real and growing concern.

Although domestic violence is generally associated with womanish victimhood, recent data suggest a significant number of men also witness abuse within intimate connections. However, the lack of gender-neutral legislation and restricted research in India makes it challenging to obtain reliable data. nonetheless, available studies and checks offer important perceptivity into the retired frequency and nature of domestic violence against men.

A community- grounded cross-sectional study conducted in Haryana set up that 52.4% of wedded men reported passing gender- grounded violence from their women, with emotional and verbal abuse being the most common, followed by physical and profitable abuse (Kalokhe et al., 2016). The study also noted that 51.6% of men had no way bared the abuse, primarily due to societal smirch and fear of being mocked or discredited.

In a check conducted by Save Indian Family Foundation (SIFF), a men's rights association, nearly 98 of the 1,650 manly repliers claimed they had endured some form of abuse from their consorts, particularly emotional and legal importunity (SIFF, 2021). Although the methodology of similar studies may vary, the sheer volume of repliers suggests a wide issue that remains largely undocumented by sanctioned sources.

In discrepancy, India's National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) does not maintain specific records on manly victims of domestic violence, reflecting an institutional eyeless spot. While NCRB data for 2022 shows that over 1.2 lakh cases were registered under Section 498A of the IPC(atrocity by hubby or in- laws), it provides no data on cases where men may be falsely indicted or victimized(NCRB, 2023). Numerous legal academics and social researchers contend that without gender-segregated data, a biased narrative is maintained, hindering policy changes (Sarkar, 2019).

These figures highlight a significant disparity in discussions surrounding domestic violence in India, where male victims are often overlooked, unverified, and notably unrecognized. The absence of dependable public data not only limits academic understanding but also hinders the development of inclusive legal and weal mechanisms.

In **Rajesh Sharma v. State of U.P. (2017)**, the Supreme Court mandated the establishment of Family Welfare Committees to review complaints filed under Section 498A prior to any arrests, demonstrating the court's recognition of the potential for misuse stemming from gender bias.

The judgment in **Arnesh Kumar v. State of Bihar (2014)** cautioned against mechanical arrests in 498A cases, noting that false accusations can severely affect innocent men and their families.

10. CONCLUSION

Domestic abuse represents a serious infringement of human rights, regardless of the victim's gender. Still, in India, the conversation around domestic abuse has historically cantered on women, frequently leaving male victims unnoticed, unheard, and unsubstantiated. This exploration has stressed how domestic violence against men, especially emotional, verbal, fiscal, and legal abuse, is not only real but decreasingly regularized within society. Patriarchal prospects of virility, social smirch, and legal imbalances contribute significantly to this silence. The absence of gender-neutral laws, lack of government data, and media depiction of men solely as perpetrators further consolidate this extremity.

While admitting that violence against women remains a serious concern, it's inversely important to fete that manly suffering doesn't diminish womanish suffering; it simply adds

another subcaste of verity to the broader issue of domestic violence. No victim should feel shamed, mocked, or discredited because of their gender. mortal pain has no gender, and neither should our empathy or legal protection.

Domestic violence against men is an extremely serious issue, and we need to acknowledge this reality. In many households, a man is enduring domestic violence in silence, feeling powerless, as there seems to be no support from society or legal systems. They resign themselves to their situation and continue to suffer quietly because, in this patriarchal world, few would believe their claims. A Public Interest Litigation submitted in Vivek Narayan Sharma v. Union of India (an ongoing PIL) advocates for gender-neutral changes in domestic violence legislation, demonstrating an increasing awareness among the public and the legal system regarding male victimization in intimate partnerships.

To combat such violence against men, specific laws should be established to protect them from false accusations and various forms of abuse by their partners. An awareness campaign is necessary to highlight the plight of male victims of domestic violence. We ought to educate our communities that patriarchy has diminished in many areas and that men can also experience emotional pain, deserving of support. Men should no longer experience shame when coming forward as victims; they must understand their right to live freely, without being confined by outdated beliefs. They can advocate for justice concerning their situations and utilize legal avenues to assert their rights. This issue needs to be brought to light so that the government can take measures, and laws can be enacted to protect male victims of domestic violence

10.1. SUGGESTIONS

Legal Reform

The Indian government should consider amending domestic violence laws to make them gender-neutral, ensuring that protection is extended to all victims, including men, LGBTQ individuals, and non-binary persons.

Data Collection and Research

Government bodies such as the National Crime Records Bureau(NCRB) and the Ministry of Home Affairs must begin collecting and publishing gender- disaggregated data on domestic violence. Regular public checks should include men as a focus group.

Devoted Support Services for Men

Establish helplines, harbors, legal aid centres, and comforting services for manly victims of abuse. These services should be accessible, non-public, and free of smirch.

Sensitization and mindfulness juggernauts

Launch public mindfulness juggernauts that challenge gender conceptions and admit manly victimhood in domestic violence. These juggernauts should be visible in seminaries, workplaces, public transport, and social media platforms.

Training for Law Enforcement and the Judiciary

Police officers, attorneys, and judges should be trained to handle male victims with perceptivity and equity. Legal professionals must be educated on the actuality of male victimization and how to respond appropriately.

Addition in the academy and council Class

Gender education should go beyond empowering girls; it must also educate boys' emotional knowledge, concurrence, and healthy conflict resolution, while validating their vulnerabilities.

Encourage Open Dialogue

Society needs to move toward a more compassionate and inclusive dialogue on domestic violence, where both women and men feel safe to partake their gests without fear of judgment or scorn.

Eventually, addressing domestic violence in its full complexity isn't about shifting sympathy from one gender to another — it is about widening our understanding of mortal suffering and justice. As a society, we must stand up for all victims, regardless of their gender, because silence types smirch, and smirch allows violence to thrive.

REFERENCES**I. Books / Commentaries / Journals Referred**

- a) Chopra, R., & Verma, S. (2021). *Media framing of domestic violence against men in India: A content analysis*. Journal of Media Studies, 45(2), 112–130.
- b) Connell, R. W. (1995). *Masculinities*. University of California Press.

- c) Dewan, R. (2020). *The misuse of Section 498A IPC: A socio-legal analysis*. Indian Bar Review, 47(1), 88–103.
- d) George, M. J., & Yarwood, G. A. (2014). *Male victims of domestic violence: A substantive and methodological research review*. Journal of Family Violence, 29(2), 197–206. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10896-013-9574-8>
- e) Government of India. (2005). *Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005*. Ministry of Law and Justice. <https://wcd.nic.in>
- f) Kalokhe, A. S., Potdar, R. R., Stephenson, R., Dunkle, K. L., Paranjape, A., & Sahay, S. (2016). *How well does the World Health Organization definition of domestic violence work for India?* PLOS ONE, 11(3), e0151808. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0151808>
- g) Sarkar, S. (2019). *Gender bias in domestic violence laws in India: A critical review*. Journal of Gender Studies and Social Justice, 5(1), 42–59.
- h) World Health Organization. (2012). *Understanding and addressing violence against women*. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/77432>

II. Online Articles/ Sources Referred

- a) Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2021). *Personal safety survey: Men's experience of violence*. <https://www.abs.gov.au>
- b) Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022). *Intimate partner violence*. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/index.html>
- c) Government of Canada. (2021). *Family violence: It's your business*. <https://www.canada.ca>
- d) Office for National Statistics. (2023). *Domestic abuse in England and Wales overview: November 2023*. <https://www.ons.gov.uk>
- e) One in Three Campaign. (2021). *Statistics and research on male victims of family violence*. <https://www.oneinthree.com.au>
- f) UK Government. (2021). *Domestic Abuse Act 2021: Statutory guidance*. <https://www.gov.uk>
- g) U.S. Department of Justice. (2022). *Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) reauthorization*. <https://www.justice.gov/ovw>
- h) Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022). *Intimate partner violence*. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/index.html>

- i) National Crime Records Bureau. (2023). *Crime in India – 2022*. Ministry of Home Affairs. <https://ncrb.gov.in>
- j) Office for National Statistics. (2023). *Domestic abuse prevalence and trends, England and Wales: Year ending March 2023*. <https://www.ons.gov.uk>
- k) Save Indian Family Foundation. (2021). *Annual male abuse survey report*. <https://saveindianfamily.org>

III. Cases Referred

- a) Sushil Kumar Sharma v. Union of India (AIR 2005 SC 3100)
- b) Preeti Gupta & Anr. v. State of Jharkhand & Anr.
- c) Rajesh Sharma & Ors. v. State of U.P. & Anr.
- d) Arnesh Kumar v. State of Bihar & Anr.
- e) Vivek Narayan Sharma v. Union of India (Ongoing PIL)

IV. Statutes Referred

- a) Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA), 2005
- b) Indian Penal Code of 1860, Section 498A