



TGTMUN

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Introduction

Gender related attacks, also known as violence against women (VAW) or sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) are a serious act of crime committed mostly towards women and girls, and are increasingly reported in situations of complex emergencies such as involving political instability and armed conflict. The term "gender related attacks" comprises not only rape and attempted



rape, but also sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, forced early marriage, domestic violence, marital rape, trafficking, female genital mutilation, political discrimination, social discrimination, etc.,. These acts of violence can lead to serious consequences to physical and psychological health and social well-being of women all over the world.

In the point of view of economy losses, the situation of ongoing VAW economic effects is also catastrophic. According to the OECD, the cost to the global economy of gender-based discrimination in social institutions is USD 6 trillion (7.5% of the global GDP), and the social impact of gender inequality affects the quality of life of millions of women in every sphere, but also has consequences for their families and communities, which will cause more severe economic decline, especially in the region such as Africa or Middle Asia, which are the most less economically developed region.

Last but not least, all types of gender related attacks or such hate crimes will cause huge social problems. In many LEDCs, due to wrong and male-biased social education, many women, victim of VAW, are considered themselves inferior and are deeply accepting the male dominance. These women's 'inferiority' is socialized and maintained as a form of interaction between male domination and female subjugation. Therefore, this ruling-subsidiary order between men and women is to be unrecognized and strengthened in the repetition of casual interactions in everyday life.

Key Terms

MEDC

More economically developed countries also known as developed countries. Countries with more developed and rich economies.

LEDC

Less economically developed countries also known as developing countries.

VAW

Violence against women. Violent acts primarily or exclusively committed against women or girls. Such violence is often considered a form of hate crime, committed against women or girls specifically because they are female, and can take many forms.

Dowry

The durable goods, cash, and real or movable property that the bride's family gives to the bridegroom, his parents, or his relatives as a condition of the marriage that leads to crime against women, ranging from emotional abuse and injury to even deaths.



DEDAW

The Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. A human rights proclamation issued by the United Nations General Assembly, outlining that body's views on women's rights.

DEVAW

The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, adopted without vote by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 48/104 of 20 December 1993. Contained within it is the recognition of "the urgent need for the universal application to women of the rights and principles with regard to equality, security, liberty, integrity and dignity of all human beings". The resolution is often seen as complementary to, and a strengthening of, the work of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

Kusasa Fumbi

Sexual cleansing. Kusasa Fumbi is an African tradition in which a girl or woman is expected to have sexual relationship as a cleansing ritual after her first menstruation, after becoming widowed, or after having an abortion.

Problems Raised

Effects on society

According to an article in the Health and Human Rights Journal, regardless of many years of advocacy and involvement of many feminist activist organizations, the issue of violence against

women still "remains one of the most pervasive forms of human rights violations worldwide". The violence against women can occur in both public and private spheres of life and at any time of their life span. Violence against women often keeps women from wholly contributing to social, economic, and political development of their communities. Many women are terrified by these threats of violence and this essentially influences their lives so that they are impeded to exercise their human rights; for instance, they fear contributing to the development of their communities socially, economically and politically. Apart from that, the causes that trigger VAW or gender-based violence can go beyond just the issue of gender and into the issues of age, class, culture, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation and specific geographical area of their origins.

Importantly, other than the issue of social divisions, violence can also extend into the realm of health issues and become a direct concern of the public health sector. A health issue such as HIV/AIDS is another cause that also leads to violence. Women who have HIV/AIDS infection are also among the targets of the violence. The World Health Organization reports that violence against women puts an undue burden on health care services, as women who have suffered violence are more likely to need health services and at higher cost, compared to women who have not suffered violence. Another statement that confirms an understanding of VAW as being a significant health issue is apparent in the recommendation adopted by the Council of Europe, violence against women in private sphere, at home or domestic violence, is the main reason of "death and disability" among the women who encountered violence.

In addition, several studies have shown a link between poor treatment of women and international violence. These studies show that one of the best predictors of inter- and intranational violence is the maltreatment of women in the society.

Effects on economy

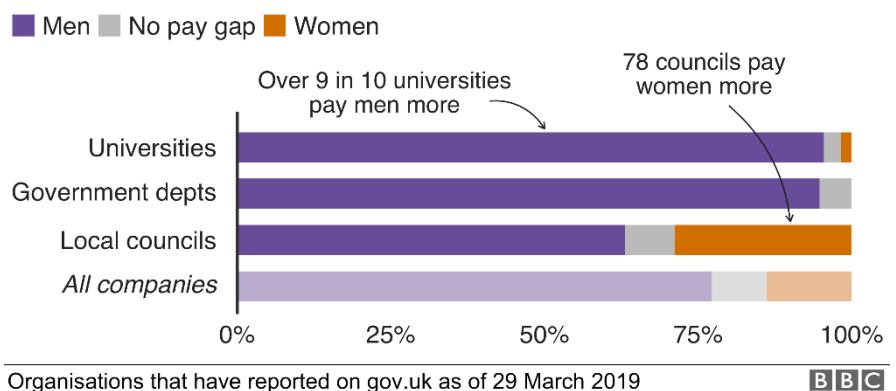
The gender pay gap is also a type of pandemic VAW, and can be a problem from a public policy perspective because it reduces economic output and means that women are more likely to be dependent upon men, which causes even more VAWs.

For economic activity, as

2009 report for the Australian Department of Families shows, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs argued that in addition to fairness and equity there are also strong economic imperatives for addressing the gender wage gap. The researchers estimated that a decrease in the gender wage gap from 17% to 16% would increase GDP per capita by approximately \$260, mostly from an increase in the hours females would work. Ignoring opposing factors as hours females work increase, eliminating the whole gender wage gap from 17% could be worth around \$93 billion or 8.5% of GDP. The researchers estimated the causes of the wage gap as follows, lack of work experience was 7%, lack of formal training was 5%, occupational segregation was 25%, working at smaller firms was 3%, and being female represented the remaining 60%.

Pay gaps are common in the public sector

Gender pay gap favours...

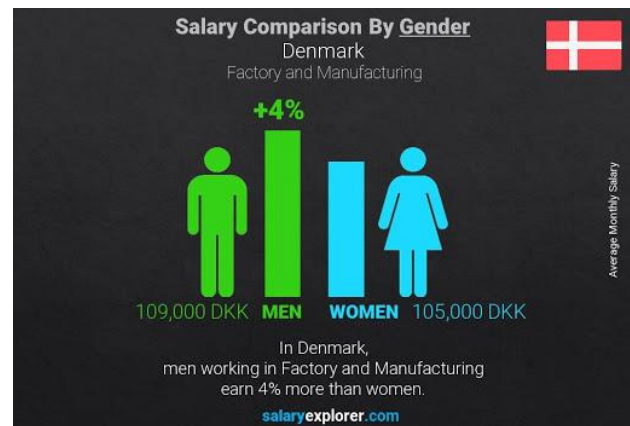


An October 2012 study by the American Association of University Women found that over the course of 47 years, an American woman with a college degree will make about \$1.2 million less than a man with the same education. Therefore, closing the pay gap by raising women's wages would have a stimulus effect that would grow the United States economy by at least 3% to 4%.

Also, the European Commission argues that the pay gap has significant effects on pensions. Since women's lifetime earnings are on average 17.5% (as of 2008) lower than men's, they have lower pensions. As a result, elderly women are more likely to face poverty: 22% of women aged 65 and over are at risk of poverty compared to 16% of men.

Last but not least, for education, analysis conducted by the World Bank and available in the 2019 World Development Report on The Changing Nature of Work connects earnings with skill accumulation, suggesting that women also accumulate less human capital (skills and knowledge) at work and through their careers. The report shows that the payoffs to work experience is lower for women across the world as compared to men. For example, in Venezuela, for each additional year of work, men's wages increase on average by 2.2 percent, compared to only 1.5 percent for women.

In Denmark, by contrast, the payoffs to an additional year of work experience are the same for both men and women, at 5 percent on average. To address these differences, the report argues that governments could seek to remove limitations on the type or nature of work available to women and eliminate rules that limit women's property rights. Parental leave, nursing breaks, and the possibility for flexible or part-time schedules are also identified as potential factors limiting women's learning in the workplace.



Related Countries

India

Recently married women can be a target for dowry related violence because she is tied economically and socially to her new husband. In some cases, dowry is used as a threat or hostage type situation, in order to extract more property from the bride's family. This can be seen in new brides, who are most vulnerable in the situation. Dowry crimes can occur with the threat or occurrence of violence, so that the bride's family is left with no choice but to give more dowry to protect their daughter. The northern and eastern states of India show higher rates of dowry-related violence.

Dowry is considered a major contributor towards observed violence against women in India. Some of these offences include physical violence, emotional abuses, and even murder of brides and young girls prior to marriage. The predominant types of dowry crimes relate to cruelty (which includes torture and harassment), domestic violence (including physical, emotional and sexual assault), abetment to suicide and dowry death (including, issues of bride burning and murder).

The first all-India legislative enactment relating to dowry to be put on the statute book was The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and this legislation came into force from 1 July 1961. It marked the beginning of a new legal framework of dowry harassment laws effectively prohibiting the

demanding, giving and taking of dowry. Although providing dowry is illegal, it is still common in many parts of India for a husband to seek a dowry from the wife's family and in some cases, this results in a form of extortion and violence against the wife.

To further strengthen the anti-dowry law and to stop offences of cruelty by the husband or his relatives against the wife, new provisions were added to the Indian criminal law – section 498A to Indian Penal Code and section 198A to the Criminal Procedure Code in 1983. In 2005, the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act was passed, which added an additional layer of protection from dowry harassment. Although the changes in Indian criminal law reflect a serious effort by legislators to put an end to dowry-related crimes, and although they have been in effect for many years now, they have been largely criticized as being ineffective.

Kenya

In parts of Kenya, widows are viewed as impure. A tradition to be cleansed to chase away demons involves having sex. It is often forced upon the woman by the deceased husband's family. Those refusing to be cleansed risk getting beaten by superstitious villagers, who may also harm the woman's children. It is argued that this notion arose from the idea that if a husband dies, the woman may have performed witchcraft against him. Cleansing can be done by the deceased husband's brother or other relative or otherwise by a paid sex worker. Widow cleansing was outlawed in Kenya in a 2015 domestic offences bill; however, it is still remained.

Republic of Korea

South Korea's female employment rate has increased since the 1997 Asian financial crisis as a result of women 25 to 34 years old leaving the workforce later to become pregnant and women 45 to 49 years old returning to the workforce. Mothers are more likely to continue working after child rearing on account of the availability of affordable childcare services provided for mothers previously in the workforce or the difficulty to be rehired after taking time off to raise their children. The World Economic Forum found that, in 2015, South Korea had a score of 0.55, 1.00 being equality, for pay equality for like jobs. From a total of 145 countries, South Korea had a gender gap ranking of 115th (the lower the ranking, the narrower the gender gap). On the other hand, political empowerment dropped to half of the percentage of women in the government in 2014.



In 2018, the gender wage gap in South Korea is of 34.6% and women earned about 65.4% of what men did on average, according to OECD data. With regards to monthly earnings, including part-time jobs, the gender gap can be explained primarily by the fact that women work few hours than men, but occupation and industry segregation also play an important role. Korea is considered to have the worst wage gap among the industrialized countries.

Also, the hidden camera crime in South Korea, also known as “molka”, are miniature cameras secretly and illegally installed in order to capture voyeuristic images and videos. Spy cameras proliferated in the country in the 2010s and are most commonly installed in small holes or cracks in walls in locations such as women's public restrooms and motel rooms. The voyeuristic images

and videos are sold online across various platforms, including popular social media sites like Twitter and Tumblr, without knowledge or consent of those on camera. Many Korean women and critics say that molka crimes and the lack of action taken towards them are a product of distorted gendered violence against women in South Korea and the flaws in the law enforcement system.

Related Organizations

UNIFEM

The United Nations Development Fund for Women.



WHO

The World Health Organization.

OECD-SIGI

The Social Institutions and Gender Index

Previous Attempts

Attempt 1

The first major document that highlights the recognition of violence against women as a human rights violation: The United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in Vienna, 1993. It was a result of collective effort of global feminist movement to transform the Vienna conference from a general and mainstream human rights conference into the conference on women's rights. As before the other human rights organizations such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch did not focus on the issue of VAW and did not consider rape and domestic violence as violations of human rights despite of the fact that they also have agenda on women's rights.

Attempt 2

The 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing During the 4th Women Conference, VAW was emphasized and named as a critical concern. Also, the spillover effect was that this push highlighted the need for the development of "new international norms" that have often been used by activists and governments the proposition of legislation that provide other action to redress the acts of violence.

Attempt 3

In Africa, there emerged a series of regional meetings and agreements, which was triggered by the UN processes on the international level such as Third World Conference on Women in Nairobi, 1985; the 1993 Kampala Prep Com; the 1994 Africa-wide UN women's conference[284] that led to the identification of VAW as a critical issue in the Southern African Women's Charter.

Possible Solutions

Strengthening law that are related with VAW.

In many places, acts of abuse, especially acts such as female genital mutilation, marital rape, forced marriage and child marriage, are not criminalized, or are illegal but widely tolerated, with the laws against them being rarely enforced. There are instances where crimes against women are also categorized as minor offenses.

Providing free education in the purpose of improving the awareness of existing VAW-related laws, especially for girls and women in LEDCs.

In many places, although there are laws against violence on the books, many women do not know of their existence. This is especially the case with marital rape - its criminalization being very recent in most countries.

Asks for the governments of each country to reinforce systematic border searches of trafficked individuals with higher scrutiny.

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