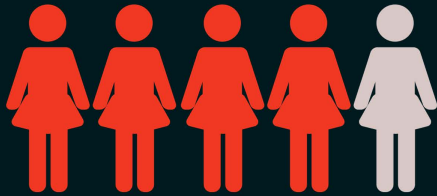
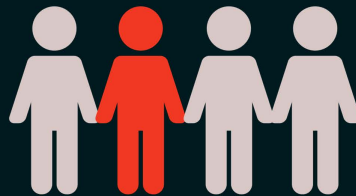


THE **RAPE** ENDEMIC: ISN'T THERE A WAY OUT?



At least
4 WOMEN
are raped everyday in
Bangladesh amidst the
COVID-19 pandemic.

1 IN 4 MEN
have admitted to rape in
certain regions of Asia.
(Source: Survey by UN)



Ain o Salish Kendra
stated that **during**
2020, by men

975

women were
raped

43

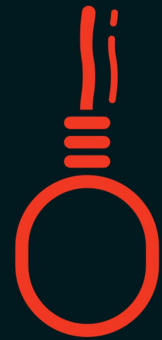
women were
killed

204

women were
attempted to be
raped

The government responded to
the citizens by administering

DEATH PENALTY
to the rape assaulters.



BUT IS THIS PUNISHMENT **ENOUGH?**

CRITICIZING VICTIMS

VICTIM-BLAMING DUE TO ATTIRE

HOW TO **CHANGE** THIS MINDSET?

UNDERSTAND THE DEFINITION OF 'VICTIM'.

According to Cambridge Dictionary, a victim is someone or something that has been hurt, damaged, or killed or has suffered, either because of the actions of someone or something else, or because of illness or chance.

This statement shows **NO IMPLICATION OF THE VICTIM'S ACTION** being a causative agent of any form of harmful incident.

The term '**VICTIM-BLAMING**' IS **REDUNDANT** as a victim is already the recipient of the damage.



CLASSIFICATION OF RAPE VICTIMS

SECTION 375 OF THE PENAL CODE 1860:

Rape is mentioned as a '**gender specific crime**'

14 the statutory age
of consent set by
the Rape law

Problem:

Does the girl under the age
of fourteen understand what
consent or rape is?

marital rape is a
criminal activity
only if the wife is
under the age of

13

SECTION 155(4) OF THE EVIDENCE ACT 1872:

Gives permission to defense lawyers to rescue
perpetrator by proving that the rape complainant
is of '**general immoral character**'

Problem:

What constitutes a 'general immoral character' and why?



HOW CAN THE NATIONALS **FIGHT BACK?**

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Parents must start empowering their girls from homes, teaching them to raise their voice against oppression.

EDUCATING BOYS ABOUT RESPECTING WOMEN

Especially focusing on how their behavior towards women should be.



WHAT CAN THE GOVERNMENT DO?

MASS INVESTMENT IN SEX EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

Initiate widespread campaigns to educate families about rape and other forms of sexual violence

REFORMS IN LAWS, ALONG WITH, EXTENSIVE COMMUNICATION ABOUT WHY THE LAW NEEDS CHANGE.

A similar example: the amendments made in the Sexual Offences Act 2003, an Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom.



WHAT CAN THE MEDIA DO?

CHANGE CONSTRUCTION OF HEADLINES AND SENTENCES REGARDING RAPE

Make rapist the active subject of the sentence.

Reason:

Will subconsciously shift the blame away from the female to the male.

OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 **INTRODUCE CONSENT CLASSES** in schools to uproot rape culture.
- 2 **REFORM RAPE LAW** in line with international human rights standards.
- 3 **BAN USE OF CHARACTER EVIDENCE** against rape survivors during trial.
- 4 **DEFINE PENETRATION** to include rape using objects.
- 5 **ENACT WITNESS PROTECTION LAW** so that safety of survivors and witness is ensured.



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