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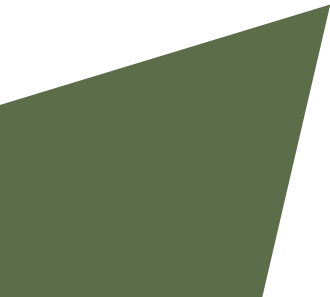
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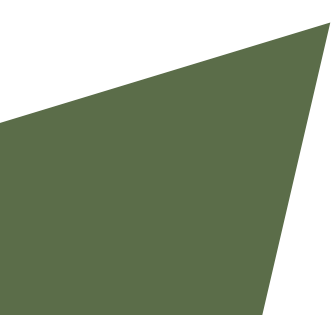
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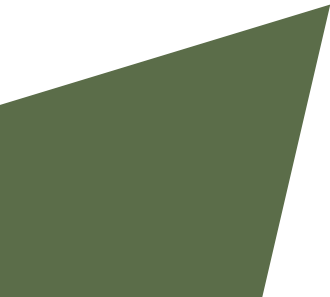
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Child sex abuse

Rahul Mankad

ABSTRACT

Children, the vulnerable gems of the society having no idea about the ongoing worst scenario that happens around them and with them. Yes, I am trying to draw the attention towards Child Sex Abuse. The sexual abuse of children is not only a violation of law but a violation of Mankind too. Children are abused by a person, whom they trust and believe, most often relatives, brother, father, uncle or neighbours. Protection of Children Against Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO) protects child from sexual abuse but still there are many incidents which remain secret and hence are not reported. Child sex abuse disturbs the life cycle of child. Depression, anxiety, sleep disturbance are all psychological effects which are all a catastrophe to the life of a child. A child also suffers injury and infection which may cause death. Due to fear and shame a child hesitates to share the incident with anyone. The silence of the child makes the child sick. If a child dares to tell family member or anyone that he or she has been sexually abused, then the child is been encountered by a so called pet phrase.. "It's ok my child that person is good.. it's normal.. nothing to worry just ignore it.... It's practicing", because he or she is a child, that doesn't mean that anyone can touch him or her in anyway and anywhere on his or her body. A survivor of child sex abuse has a right to be heard, and there is no disgrace in being such survivor nor there is a need to be sick, now is the time where we all must stand to put an end to it and make it clear that the shame is not on the survivor but on the aggressor. This paper will focus on child sex abuse, Global and Indian scenario, the laws, judiciary's role, findings and suggestions.

KEYWORDS: Vulnerable Gems, Sexual Abuse, Protection of Children Against Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO), Molestation, Survivor

INTRODUCTION

India is the second most populous country in the world and latest Census 2011 reveals that it's a home to 17% of the world's population. Nearly 19% of the world's children live in India, which constitutes 42% (more than one-third) of the India's total population¹ and around 50% of these children are in need of care and protection.

Signing up to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, India promised to protect it's children from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. Article 34 (a) of the Indian Constitution enjoins state machinery to prevent the inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity.

Child sex abuse is a universal problem with grave life-long outcomes. The term child sex abuse includes a range of activities like "intercourse, attempted intercourse, oral-genital contact, fondling of genitals directly or through clothing, exposing children to adult sexual activity or pornography, and the use of the child for prostitution or pornography.

Ironically, a majority of such cases occur in schools, home, or the neighbourhood. Child sex abuse is inflicted upon a child by a person in his immediate circle and a stunning majority of these cases go unnoticed, which is the worst part. Also, reasons like shame, sickness, and family honour contribute towards shunning and covering the cases of the child sex abuse.

Sexual abuse has immediate as well as long-term effects on the child, from emotional and behavioural problems to abnormal behaviour and psychiatric disorders. Sexually abused children suffer from more psychological symptoms than normal children. The risk of harm is greater if the abuser is relative, if the abuse involves intercourse or attempted intercourse, or if threats or force are used. Most importantly, these psychological effects prevent the normal development process and positively correlated with mental problems in later life.

Child abuse is a violation of the basic human rights of a child and is an outcome of a set inter-related familial, social, psychological and economic factors. The problem of child abuse and human rights violations is one of the most critical matters on the international human rights agenda. In the Indian context, acceptance of child rights as primary inviolable rights is fairly recent, as is the universal understanding of it.

A minor faces severe trauma after sexual assault. In court, cases become weak for several reasons, including inadequate investigation and insufficient medical evidence. The laws too are visible

¹ Study on Child Abuse: India 2007. India, Ministry of Women and Child development Government of India. 2007. Available from: wcd.nic.in/childabuse.pdf (Accessed on November 10, 2018)

offence of child sex abuse and contains serious contradictions that inhibit victims from reporting such crimes. This issue came into notice in 1970s and 1980s. Prior to this point in time, sexual abuse remained rather secretive and socially unspeakable. Legal action upon this issue became prevalent in the 1970s with the enactment of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act in 1974 in United States in conjunction with the creation of the National Centre for Child Abuse and Neglect.

DEFINITION OF KEY TERM

The term ‘Child Abuse’ may have different connotations in different cultural milieu and socio-economic situations. In the Indian context the definition of child sex abuse does not exist and has yet to be defined. The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines Child Sex Abuse as “the involvement of a child in sexual activity that he or she does not fully comprehend and is unable to give informed consent to, or for which the child is not developmentally prepared, or else that violate the laws or social taboos of the society.”

Child Sex Abuse means contacts of interactions between a child and an older or more knowledgeable child or adult (stranger, sibling, parent or caretaker), when the child is being used as an object or gratification for the older child’s or adult’s needs. Such contacts or interactions are carried out against the child using force, trickery, bribes, threats or pressure.²

Child Sex Abuse (CSA) is a form of child abuse in which an adult or older adolescent who is in a relationship of responsibility, trust or power, uses a child for sexual stimulation.³ Child sexual abuse is a punishable act as per the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act the bill passed in the parliament in May 2012. Child sexual exploitation includes ownership, production and supply of sexually explicit images of children; using the Internet to lure children into sexual acts; prostitution of children; and child molestation.

GLOBAL SCENARIO OF CHILD ABUSE

The UN Secretary General’s Study on Violence against Children has given the following overview of the situation of abuse and violence against children across the globe.

- WHO estimates that almost 53,000 child deaths in 2002 were due to child homicide.

² UNICEF, 2001

³ "Child Sexual Abuse." Medline Plus; U.S. National Library of Medicine, 2008.04.02

- In the Global School-Based Student Health Survey carried out in a wide range of developing countries between 20% and 60% of school going children reported having been verbally or physically bullied in school.
- An estimated 150 million girls and 73 million boys under 18 have experience forced sexual intercourse or other forms of sexual violence involving physical contact.
- UNICEF estimates that in sub-Saharan Africa, Egypt and Sudan, 3 million girls and women are subjected to FGM every year.
- ILO estimates that 218 million children were involved in child labour in 2004, of whom 126 million were engaged in hazardous work. Estimates from 2000 suggest that 5.7 million were in forced or bonded labour, 1.8 million in prostitution and pornography and 1.2 million were victims of trafficking.

Due to the enactment of Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act in 1974 in United States the awareness of child sex abuse increased and also encouraged more victims to come forward and report the incident, but many past victims kept their abuse secret.

A review of studies from 21 high and middle income nations showed that 7% to 36% of females and 3% to 29% of males reported being victims of sexual abuse during their childhood.⁴ Evidence from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data system found that in 2006, 8.8% children were abused sexually in the US.⁵ In a report by Advocates for Youth, it was estimated that per year 1-3% of youth from the US experience CSA.

A study conducted in Hong Kong among college students on recall of sexual abuse before 17 years of age reported the prevalence of various forms of CSA to be 6%; these rates were higher in females. Majority of the participants reported being abused during their teens; the average age being 11 years.⁶

Another study conducted in Mexico, reported prevalence of CSA to be 58% in girls and 42% in boys. Physical abuse was involved in 75% of the cases.

⁴ Study on Child Abuse: India 2007. India, Ministry of Women and Child development Government of India. 2007. Available from: wcd.nic.in/childabuse.pdf (Accessed on November 10, 2018)

⁵ Miller KL, Dove MK, Miller SM., A counsellor's guide to child sexual abuse: Prevention, reporting and treatment strategies, (2007, October). Available from: www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/1186016 (Accessed on November 10, 2018)

⁶ Tang CS. Childhood experience of sexual abuse among Hong Kong Chinese college students. Child Abuse Negl. 2002 . Available from: www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/1186016 (Accessed on November 10, 2018)

INDIAN SCENARIO OF CHILD ABUSE

CSA remains a taboo but it's a very real problem in India, and the situation is aided by the absence of effective legislation and the silence that surrounds the offence. Majority of people feel this is a largely western problem and does not happen in India. The definition of child Sexual abuse varies from country to country.

In India, child abuse exists in many forms, but the laws are still ambiguous and most children suffer in silence. In India, which places a high premium on chastity of women and yet has the largest number of child sex workers in the world, there is no single, specific definition of child abuse. Disbelief, denial and cover-up to preserve family reputation has made child sexual abuse an invisible crime in India. In fact, it is as old as the joint family system and patriarchy.

The first study on CSA in India was conducted by Recovery and Healing from Incest, and Indian non-government organization (NGO) in 1998. Majority (76%) of the participants reported being abused during childhood or adolescence.⁷ Save the Children, the international organization, and, Tulir-Center for Healing and Prevention of Child sex abuse, an Indian NGO, conducted a study in 2005 among 2,211 school going children in Chennai. About 48% and 39% of the boys and girls, respectively, reported as being sexually abused, while more than 15% of the participants states as having faced severe forms of sexual abuse.⁸

The first ever National Study on Child Abuse was conducted by the Ministry of Women and Child development, covering 12447 children, 2324 young adults and 2449 stakeholders across 13 states. In 2007 it published the report as "Study on Child Abuse : India 2007." The survey, covered different forms of child abuse i.e. physical, sexual and emotional as well as female child neglect, in five evidence groups, namely, children in a family environment, children in school, children at work, children on the street and children in institutions.

The main findings of the study in relation with sexual abuse are- "Sexual abuse was reported by 53.22% children. Among them 52.94% were boys and 47.06% girls 21.90% of child respondents faced severe forms of sexual abuse, 5.69% had been sexually assaulted and 50.76% reported other forms of sexual abuse."

- AP, Assam, Bihar and Delhi reported the highest percentage of sexual abuse among both sexes, as well as the highest incidence of sexual assaults.
- 50% abusers were known to the child or in a position of trust and responsibility.

⁷ Breaking the silence. Child sexual abuse in India. USA, Humans rights watch. 2013 Available from: <http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/india0113ForUpload.pdf>. (Accessed on November 10, 2018)

⁸ Study on Child Abuse: India 2007. India, Ministry of Women and Child development Government of India. 2007. Available from: wcd.nic.in/childabuse.pdf. (Accessed on November 10, 2018)

- Most children did not report the matter to anyone.
- More than 53% children report facing one or more forms of sexual abuse and boys were equally at risk as girls.
- Almost 22% faced severe sexual abuse, 6% sexually assaulted.
- 5-12 years group faced higher levels of abuse, largely unreported.
- Severest sexual abuse in age group of 11-16 years, 73% of sexual assault victims were in age groups of 11-18 years.
- The age wise distribution showed that though the abuse started at the age of 5 years, it gained momentum 10 years onward, peaking at 12 to 15 years and then starting to decline.
- Another study on child abuse in Kolkata, Elaan, an NGO, found that four out of 10 boys faced sexual harassment in school. Generally the age of maximum abuse is between 9 to 12 years. The national study found that the abuse gained momentum at the age of 10 and peaked between 12 to 15.
- This shows that the teenagers are most vulnerable.

CASES OF MALE & FEMALE CHILD SEX ABUSE IN INDIA

Collaborative Child Response Unit is a multidisciplinary team which is there to tackle child sex abuse in a general hospital. Following are the cases in regard to male child sex abuse which came up before CCRU:

CASE 1:

A 9 year old boy, was brought to the collaborative child response unit with complaints of school refusal, academic decline, sleep disturbances, marked social anxiety, and withdrawal. According to the father, patient was being bullied by older boys in the neighbourhood for money as he used to work in the shop. One day, patient's older brother aged 14 years alleged the patient was doing "dirty activities." On questioning the brother, he reported that he had seen a mobile video where patient was performing fellatio on a guy who was above 18 years and known for petty crimes in that area . The video was shot by another 12 years and the brother said that it was deleted by him. The incident had occurred 3 months ago. The video was used to blackmail the child and make him steal money from the shop to supply the abusers.

Family was willing to press charges as per the Prevention of Sexual Offenses against Children Act 2012. Since the incident had occurred 3 months ago, no forensic evidence could be obtained and the mobile video recording was also deleted. The family was not interested in follow-up psychiatric care.

“He is a boy; he neither lost a hymen nor will get pregnant. He should behave like a man, not a sissy” (father of the victim).

CASE 2:

A 4 year old boy was referred to the collaborative child response unit by another hospital with complaints of fever, excoriation in the anal region. Informant was the father. He told that he was sexually abused in the school toilet by two older boys, one of them beat him, holding him down, and the other sodomized him.

Child refused school, had sleeplessness, would watch cartoons on TV till 3 am, and suffered constipation for the past 8 days since the occurrence of abuse. On examination, there was no evidence of injury or sexual contact. Due to lack of evidence, the abusers could not be brought to justice, the parents decided to relocate to their native place as the father lost his job due to litigation and stigma. Father was clinically depressed and decided to leave the city.

“If he was a 4 year old girl, raped by two older boys, school would be afraid of a scandal, because he is a boy no one cares or accepts the crime.” (father of the victim)

CASE 3:

A 7 year old boy was referred by the police from an orphanage with reports of sexual abuse by a 14 year old boy another inmate of the same orphanage.

The police had received a complaint from the father of the boy who was a native of another country because he was ill and his wife died while they came to India, he had housed his son in the orphanage. He usually took the son home during the weekends and while bathing him claimed to have native abrasions on the private part of his son, while questioned the son alleged this boy of sexual misconduct.

The victim was an intelligent boy and he was very kind and gentle. He was the favourite of most of the teachers. He had few good friends and he was being bullied by several other boys on a regular basis. The victim alleged that the older boy used to abuse him physically and emotionally whenever he was alone. He said that the older boy was rubbing himself on the child with all his clothes intact, it was coercive-induced fear and shame. The child expressed a wish to return to his motherland once father got well. He had symptoms of complicated grief over the loss of his mother. He reported feeling numb and disconnected.

The boy who was accused, reported feeling jealous of the younger boy as he was the favourite of teachers and also as the father of the boy showed interest, took him home often. The older boy had no father and his mother visited him once a year, never got him gifts. His jealousy made him angry with the victim, and hence, he tried to dominate the boy by force, sexually. He was referred to another psychiatrist for correctional therapy.

CASE OF MANDEEP:

The case of Mandeep illustrates how police failures can have catastrophic consequences.

When Mandeep, 15, was hospitalized with burn injuries from a suicide attempt at her home, in Uttar Pradesh, she explained to medical workers that she took this step after a 35 year old neighbour forced her to have oral sex with him on June 12, 2011. She died a week later.

Her family told Human Rights Watch that two weeks earlier, she had successfully fought off her abuser, but when she went to a police station, officers there accused her of lying. The family took up the issue with the head of the village, but he advised them not to make a formal complaint and instead reach some sort of informal settlement.

After she was attacked for the second time, Mandeep did not tell anyone in her family what had happened to her and the next day doused herself in kerosene and set herself alight.

She was taken to the hospital, where she survived for eight days. During this time, a journalist videoed Mandeep naming the man who she said had attacked her and briefly describing what had happened. Her father said that doctors, policemen and the other community members tried to dissuade him from pursuing the case, despite this, he persisted and the alleged attacker was arrested.

Mandeep's father told Human Rights Watch that his daughter should have received better support from both, the community and the police. Maybe her life would have been saved if on the first occasion the police had made an effort.

CASE OF KRISHNA:

Krishna says she was raped in June 2012, when she was 12 years old. She said her attacker was a young man from a neighbouring village in eastern Uttar Pradesh, who was from a politically influential family. When she went to report the case to police, she said they detained her for 12 days to get her to retract her complaint. She told Human Rights Watch that when she went to the police station, she was not treated with respect and she faced character assassination by the policeman. She was kept in police station and was locked up for 12 days and was not allowed to meet her parents.

She was forced to change her statement and was threatened that something might happen to her and her family. This intimidation did not work however, and when Krishna was taken to see a magistrate, she told him exactly what had happened to her. "I knew I had to tell the truth," she said. She was released and an NGO is currently helping the family pursue the case.

In both of the above mentioned cases, it is clear that the police plays a vital role in combating the child sex abuse because they should be the first point of contact for anyone wishing to report a case. The sensitivities required for this role are recognized by the Juvenile Justice (Care and

Protection of Children) Act of 2000, which obliges every police station a specially trained “child welfare officer” and every district and city to have “special juvenile police units.”

NATIONAL LEGISLATIONS

The legislative framework has been laid down to protect and give strength to the rights of children. The formulation of new laws and amendment of existing laws helps to do the same. Some of the examples are- The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POSCO) Act, 2012, Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act (2009), Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (2006), Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2000, amended in 2006, The Goa Children’s (amendment) Act 2005.

The two most important legislations meant to exclusively protect children are the following; **The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act 2000 (amended in 2006)** was a key national legislation. It established a framework for both children in need of care and protection and for children in conflict with the law by catering to their development needs, and by adopting a child friendly approach in the adjudication and disposition of matters in the best interest of children and for their ultimate rehabilitation through various institutions established under the Act.

It prescribes a uniform age of 18 years, below which both boys and girls are to be treated as children. It also aims to offer justice by establishing Juvenile Justice Boards and Child Welfare Committees. The Act has laid special emphasis on rehabilitation and social integration of the children and has provided for institutional and non-institutional measures for care and protection of children. The non-institutional alternatives include adoption, foster care, sponsorship, and after care.

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 was enacted to provide a robust legal framework for the protection of children from offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography, while safeguarding the interest of the child at every stage of the judicial process. The framing of the Act seeks to put children first by making it easy to use by including mechanisms for child-friendly reporting, recording of evidence, investigation and speedy trial of offences through designated Special Courts.

After long debate new enactment, The Protection of Child from Sexual Offence Act, 2012 (POCSO) came into existence to protect male and female child from all form of sexual abuse.

PUNISHMENTS UNDER THE ACT:

- Penetrative Sexual Assault (Section 3) – Not less than seven years which may extend to imprisonment for life, and fine (Section 4).

- Aggravated Penetrative Sexual Assault (Section 5) – Not less than ten years which may extend to imprisonment for life, and fine (Section 6)
- Sexual Assault (Section 7) – Not less than three years which may extend to five years, and fine. (Section 8)
- Aggravated Sexual Assault (Section 9) – Not less than five years which may extend to seven years, and fine. (Section 10)
- Sexual Harassment of the Child (Section 11) – Three years and fine (Section 12).
- Use of Child for Pornographic Purposes (Section 13) – Five years and fine and in the event of subsequent conviction, seven years and fine. (Section 14)

The Constitution of India guarantees several rights to children and enables the State to make provisions to ensure that the tender age of children is not abused. Article 15 (3) empowers state to make special provisions for women and children. The fundamental right of child to live a healthy life free from exploitation and abuses is guaranteed under Article 21.

Article 39 (e) creates a duty to the State to ensure health and strength of children. The Constitution requires the State to provide for protection of tender age of children and their protection from abuses.

Article 39 (f) mandates the State to ensure the children gets opportunities and facilities to develop in a healthy manner and in condition of freedom and dignity. It includes the State to ensure facilities for the development of children and to protect the childhood and youth against exploitation as well as moral and material abandonment.

JUDICIARY ON SEXUAL OFFENCES AGAINST CHILDREN

The judiciary has played a vital role in realizing the heinous crime against children. Time and again the judiciary has issued various guidelines for ensuring the security and rehabilitation of the children affected by sexual assault.

a) **Shakshi v. Union of India**⁹

The Supreme Court laid down following guidelines for holding the trial of child sex abuse:

1. A screen or some such arrangement should be made where the victim or witnesses do not see the body or face of the accused.

⁹ AIR 2004 SC 3566

2. The questions put in cross examination on behalf of the accused, insofar as they relate directly to the incident should be given in writing to the presiding officer of the court, who may put them to the victim or witness in a language which is clear and not embarrassing.
3. The victim of the child abuse or rape, while giving testimony in the court, should be allowed sufficient breaks as and when required.

b) **Shankar kisanraokhade v. State of Maharashtra**¹⁰

The court observed that in most of the cases children are abused by persons known to them or who have influence over them. The court also held that sexual abuse can be in any form like sexually molested or assaulted or encouraging, inducing or forcing the child to be used for the sexual gratification of another person, using a child or deliberately exposing a child to sexual activities or pornography or procuring or allowing a child to be procured for commercial exploitation and so on.

c) **Gaurav Jain v. Union of India**¹¹

The Supreme Court issued several directions to Central Government, State Governments and Non-Governmental Organizations which are as follows:

1. The court held that it is the duty of Government and all voluntary NGOs to take necessary measures for protecting them from prostitution rehabilitate them so that they may lead a life with dignity
2. The court directed that the abused children should be provided opportunities for education, financial support, development, marketing facilities for goods produced by them. If possible, their marriages may be arranged so that the problem of child prostitution can be eradicated. Marriage would give them real status in the society. They should be given housing facilities, legal aid, free counselling assistance and similar add and service so that they do not fall into the trap of red light areas again.
3. The court held that economic empowerment is one of the major factor that prevents the practice of dedication of the young girls to the prostitution as Devdasis. Referring the various measure taken by the different states the court directed that the social welfare department should undertake similar rehabilitation programmed for the following woman, so that the whole practice is totally eradicated and they are not again trapped into the prostitution.
4. The court directed that the rescue and rehabilitation of the child prostitutes and the children should be kept under Nodal Department, namely, Department of Woman and Child

¹⁰ (2013) 5 SCC 546

¹¹ 1990 AIR 292

Development under the Ministry of Welfare and Human Resource, Government of India, devise, suitable scheme for proper and effective implementation. The court directed the Ministry of Welfare, Government of India for the establishment of Juvenile Homes.

d) **Vishal Jeet v. Union of India**¹²

The Supreme Court held that this matter is of great importance warranting a comprehensive and searching analysis and requiring a humanistic rather than a purely legalistic approach from different angles. The court states that this malady is not only a social but also a socio-economic problem and, therefore, the measures to be taken in that regard should be more preventive rather than punitive.

The SC issued the following directions inter alia to the State Governments and Union Territories:

1. Direct concerned law enforcing authorities to take appropriate and speedy action under the existing laws in eradicating child prostitution,
2. Take steps in providing adequate and rehabilitative homes.
3. Set up separate Advisory Committee consisting of relevant Government officials, sociologists, criminologists, members of the women/child welfare/voluntary social organizations to make suggestions for eradicating child prostitution and the devadasi and jogin tradition; and measures for care, protection, treatment development and rehabilitation of victims.

¹² AIR 1990 SC 1412

FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

One of the major problems in understanding the scope of the subject of 'child abuse' is that it is extremely difficult to get responses from children on such a sensitive subject because of their inability to fully understand the different dimensions of child abuse and to talk about their experiences. Even if the cases are reported, the abusers get away easily due to the lack of evidence.

Before POCSO Act, 2012 was passed there was only one specific child abuse legislation that was Goa Children's Act, 2003. Child Sexual Abuse was prosecuted under the provisions of Indian Penal Code. Indian Penal Code is gender specific and hence, does not protect male victims, but POCSO is gender neutral and hence, protects both male as well as female child.

Child Sex Abuse is violation of the trust of children and it is an ugly breach of commitment to protect the innocent. Children are the greatest gift to humanity and their sexual abuse is one of the most heinous crimes imaginable. The Central and State government should spread awareness through media including television, radio and the print media at regular intervals to make the general public, children as well as their parents aware about the sexual abuse of children.

There should be programmes in schools to make the children aware regarding good touch and bad touch differentiation. Parents, teachers and others in the community have a vital role to protect children from sexual exploitation and abuse. Child Sex Abuse is still a taboo in India, and most of the families try to cover up the incident because by doing so they think that their reputation will be hampered and it will protect the child from social stigma, such narrow thinking needs to be eradicated from the roots so that the future of children is secured in this country.

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, is a significant step by the parliament for securing the future of children. With the passing of this Act, now we have a separate legislation dealing exclusively with the offenses of child abuse. The present act not only categorically defines the sexual offences in detail which were not clear earlier but also makes provisions for certain stringent punishments for the accused guilty of committing any offence under this Act. The Act makes provision for a child friendly procedure to be followed in child sexual abuse cases.

CONCLUSION

Child Sex Abuse is a dark reality that is highly prevalent in India and adversely impacts health. To keep the children safe, we need to protect male and female equally. The very low rates of reporting and help seeking among victims of sexually abused boys in India could be due to patriarchy. The problem of child sex abuse cannot be handled in isolation. The primary responsibility of the child is upon the parents, therefore they need to be more vigilant. The government has resources and authority to implement the law, while the organizations have the grass-roots level contacts and trust necessary to facilitate this implementation.

Child Sex Abuse is a vast, unnoticeable and long-standing social ill and it must be attacked firmly so that it can be eradicated from the society. Merely enacting legislation will not be enough unless it is followed by strict enforcement. To get this problem uprooted from the society every citizen must come together and make it clear that there is no shame in being a survivor of child sex abuse and the survivor has a right to be heard, and there is no disgrace in being such survivor nor there is a need to be sick.