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Role of Women Police and Women Police Stations in Social Change: <u>Awareness and Perceptions of Victimized Women</u>

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Abstract:

This study explores the role of women police and women police stations in addressing crimes against women and contributing to social change in India. The research focuses on two primary objectives: to study the awareness levels of victimized women about women police stations and crimes and to understand their views toward women police officers and personnel. The study adopts a descriptive and analytical approach based on secondary data, including books, research articles and reports. The literature highlights societal perceptions of policing, challenges faced by women police and the historical and legislative framework supporting women's safety, such as the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005. Findings indicate that while women police stations are perceived as supportive and cooperative, awareness about e-services and legal rights remains low. Most victims are married and housewives, suggesting higher vulnerability within domestic spaces. The study recommends strengthening infrastructure, increasing outreach, providing help desks, appointing female inquiry officers and improving technology adoption to build trust and efficiency.

Key word: Women police; women police stations; crime against women; social change; domestic violence; awareness; victim perception; gender and law.

Research Objectives:

- 1. To study the awareness of women victims regarding women police stations and women crimes.
- 2. To study the views of victimized women towards women police stations and women police officers and personnel.

Study Limitations:

The present dissertation is related to the role of women police and women police stations in social change. This study is based on accounting works and books and other authors' views on it.

Research Method:

The present research study is descriptive and analytical. The material for this study has been acquired very carefully, which is based on the second source. The help of books related to the subject, articles of various scholars, political magazines and latest studies have been taken.



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REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

Iqbal (1981) According to the relation of police society, the relationship between police and society has a great impact on law and order. Yet at present, the relationship between police and society is not satisfactory. According to the author, because society still views the police force as negative or fearful. People of the society still do not consider the police to be friendly.

Michael T. Charles (1982) in his book "Women in Policing" has studied the physical strength of women in the police department and found that it is wrong to believe that women are not physically capable of working in the police department. The author claimed that if women were given proper tests, they could achieve a level of physical strength.

Diaz (1984) The perception of serious college students observed that educated people take serious types of crimes seriously, but their perception of crimes depends on the nature of the crimes and their gender. In these circumstances it is necessary that the police personnel sharpen their approach so that they can improve their efficiency to the public's psyche level.

Joseph Balkin (1988), in his book "Why Policeman Don't Like Police Woman", assesses the reasons for female police performance and male police's negative thinking about female police. Their experience is that male policemen are female policemen. There is a potential source of excitement and anxiety. Male police personnel feel that women policemen feel threatened by their dignity land.

Amit Sarikwal (2009) gets detailed information in his book "Women Police: Rights and Duties". The author in his book has openly told about the history of women police in the world and the establishment of history of women police in India, etc. The author provided information about working conditions of women police personnel, problems of women police and image of women police in society.

Anjana Sinha (2013), in her book "Policewomen in India: Abhi Manzil is away", has told about the status of women police personnel in ancient times and in the present time, the author has told that the entry of women in the history of Indian police happened in the early seventies.

In the book "Women and the Law" presented by Chetan Singh Mehta (1996), Rajasthan Police Rules 1965 described the situation in women's hospitals and police stations. The author said that it is necessary for a woman to have a woman doctor for her treatment. Similarly, the arrest of a woman in police stations should also be done by a woman officer. In any case, below the head constable category. The police officer of the police will not be able to arrest the woman, thus if separate police stations are made for women, then women can listen to their system freely to the police officer.

Crime against women: Present scenario

It is clear from studying the society of all the countries in the world that whether they are a developed country, a developing country has a system of patriarchal society in every society, this



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system has been going on for thousands of years. In India, the woman was given the status of a goddess, but there was no hesitation in burning her alive if she did not bring dowry. The woman's womb that created the entire creation, the same womb was tried to be tainted by painful accidents of rape and sexual harassment. As a woman, mother, sister, wife and daughter, who continued to envy men with their love, affection, dedication and love, the man's lust sometimes forced her to live in the hell of prostitution and sometimes the man's ego. The victim, the woman was forced to commit suicide. In the present age, despite leading the high stakes of education and progress, the woman is cursed to bear many kinds of atrocities and crimes. At present, incidents like kidnapping, molestation of women keep happening with her. If we do a subtle analysis of these incidents then we will find that about 451 incidents of kidnapping, rape, dowry, murder, family harassment occur daily and about 19 incidents per hour in our country, that is in about 3 minutes someone he woman is a victim of some serious crime. To prevent all these incidents, special women police stations have been established in the country which are able to bring justice to the oppressed women. Therefore, it is high time that we study whether women victimized by women police stations.

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Note: Crime Rate is calculated as crime per one lakh of population.

Population source: Registrar General of India estimated population of 2016 based on 2011 census. For example, in the above table, crimes against women in India in the year 2016 have been shown through statistics. Which prove that CAW Are increasing in the present time. It is shown from the table that the most affected state in Uttar Pradesh. Therefore, the Government of India and the state government should establish more and more women police stations so that crimes can be curbed.²

Protection from Domestic Violence Act, 2005

Women are still victims of domestic violence in large numbers. The fabric of the patriarchal society, from the house to the police station and the court, is such that the woman remains a victim everywhere. The biggest reason behind raising their voice against domestic violence is their financial dependence on someone or the other and the fear of being snatched away from home. Before the year 2005, in the name of fighting domestic violence, we had sections like 498A and 304B which were sections giving relief to women from prostitution torture and dowry death. But these could not be implemented due to many reasons and under them various types of domestic violence incidents could not be covered. The result was that various types of violence against women inside the homes were not only ignored but women lost their lives year after year.

In the year 2005, the Protection from Domestic Violence Act came as a ray of hope for women and organizations working on women's rights and this act was also given the name of Progressive Act. In this act, almost all types of violence against women have been defined under the Domestic

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Violence Act, but according to the problem, reliefs like the right to safety inside the house, right to residence have been included. Such a system saves women from a big problem. But it is a pity that till now the government is not serious about the implementation of this act. The insensitive attitude of the administration remains a challenge in giving security to women through this act.³

Results and suggestion:

- 1. The study shows that most of the victims are married. The reason for this is that there are more number of dowry related cases and domestic violence related cases of married women in women police stations is very high.
- 2. It is known from the study that most of the affected women are duodenal. It is clear from this that the women living in the house are more harassed than the women who work outside.
- 3. It is known from the study that when the victim women were asked from where did you get the information about these police stations, those women said that the information about women police stations was received from the neighborhood. He said that when the incident happened to him, the women were advised by the neighbors to go to the police stations. While some of the victims women got information thorough Newspaper.
- 4. It is known form the study that the problems of most of the victims were carefully listened to by the women police personnel. He said that we got full cooperation in women police stations.
- 5. It is clear form the known results from the study that the victim women do not have to use any e-service technology like whats-app number, online FIR and there was no information about e-mail. While some of the aggrieved women only got online FIR there is information about.
- 6. In women police stations, there should be a cooperative behavior of the women police personnel towards the aggrieved women so that the trust of the victim women in the women police stations can be increased.
- 7. There should be help desk facility in women police stations so that the functioning of women police stations, organizational structure and where and how to file reports can be known.
- 8. In women police stations, only women officers should be appointed on the post of inquiry officer so that the aggrieved women can express their complaint without hesitation and the matter can be disposed of quickly.

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Conclusion:

The study reveals that women police stations play an essential role in providing support and justice to victimized women, yet gaps persist in awareness, accessibility and technological integration. Most victims were married women facing domestic violence or dowry-related harassment and the majority learned about women police stations through informal networks rather than formal awareness campaigns. While women police personnel were often reported as cooperative and attentive, victims lacked information about online complaint mechanisms such as e-FIR or helplines. Key recommendations include: Expanding awareness programs through community outreach, digital platforms and media to ensure women know about women police stations and available services. Establishing help desks and clear reporting procedures in every women police station. Appointing women officers in key inquiry and leadership roles to ensure comfort and confidentiality for victims. Strengthening the implementation of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and integrating technology-based solutions for reporting and follow-up. By addressing these areas, women police stations can become stronger agents of social change and enhance the trust of women in law enforcement.

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