

Consent, Agency and Abuse: Intimate Partner Violence in the Indian Context: A Primary Study Based on Working Women from Lower Income Groups in Smart Cities across North India

Authors : Shirin Abbas, Sandeep Kumar Dubey

Abstract : Intimate partner violence (IPV) is one of the most common forms of gender-based violence (GBV) and is classified as discrimination on the basis of gender. Article 2 of the non-binding UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (DEVAW). This was adopted in 1993 as the first international pronouncement regarding violence against women, including physical, sexual, and psychological violence in the family (i.e., domestic violence, marital rape, battery, statutory rape, rape by male members of the family, etc.) While crime against women continues unabated, the Indian government has strongly refuted the 2018 study by the Thomson Reuters Foundation categorizing India as a risky country for women due to the high risk of sexual violence and being forced into slave labour, according to a poll of global experts. This paper has explored consent, agency, and abuse through the lens of intimate partner violence among women from lower income groups in smart cities in the state of Uttar Pradesh, India. Using focused mapping, the paper has explored the situation on IPV internationally and studied the status of working women from lower income groups to ascertain if their lot was any different where IPV was concerned to study. The findings of the study also vindicate global reports which rate India as a country unsafe for women, even within marriage.

Keywords : consent and agency, domestic violence, gender based violence GBV, intimate partner violence IPV

Conference Title : ICWS 2023 : International Conference on Women Studies

Conference Location : Toronto, Canada

Conference Dates : September 18-19, 2023