

An Empirical Study on Rape Myth and Sexual Attitudes among Police Officers in Bangalore City

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ABSTRACT: *The most frequent crimes in the nation are rape and other sexual assaults. It is found that the pace is increasing with time. Rape myth is a term that may be construed in a number of ways, but it usually refers to a false notion regarding unwanted or non-consensual sexual activity. The bulk of rape myths support victim guilt. This is an empirical research on the myth of rape and sexual attitudes among male and female police personnel in Bangalore. Eleven female and 32 male police officers of different age groups and classifications make up the sample, which is made up of varied groupings of men and females. The sampling method was "Purposive Sampling Technique", and the respondents' answers were recorded using the Illinois Rape Myth Acceptance (IRMA) Scale and Sexual Attitude Scale (SAS). There was no significant difference in Rape Myth and Attitude toward Pre-Marital Sex between male and female police officers, according to the results. When compared to female police officers, male officers were found to have a more favorable view towards Pre-Marital Sex. There was a substantial difference in views regarding pornography between male and female police. When compared to female police officers, male policemen were found to have a more favorable attitude about pornography.*

KEYWORD: *Attitude, Commits Rape, Male and Female, Police Officers, Pornography, Psychology, Rape Myth, Scale, Sexual.*

INTRODUCTION

The science of the mind and conduct is known as psychology. The term psychology is derived from the Greek words psyche, which means breath, spirit, or soul, and logy, which means study of something. Human development, sports, health, clinical, social behavior, and cognitive processes are just a few of the many subfields of psychology that may be researched [1]. Forensic psychology is a field of professional psychology that focuses on providing professional psychological competence to individuals engaged in the legal and judicial systems [2]. The confluence of law and psychology is how forensic psychology is usually characterized. It's when clinical specialties are applied to the legal arena. This term emphasizes clinical psychology's relevance in a forensic setting. It is a professional psychology specialty defined by activities mainly focused at delivering professional psychological knowledge within the legal and judicial systems (American Psychological Association). The application of clinical specialties to legal institutions and persons who come into contact with the law is defined by Christopher Cronin, author of a well-known textbook on forensic psychology, as the application of clinical specialties to legal institutions and persons who come into contact with the law.

Stressing the application of clinical skills such as assessment, treatment, and evaluation to forensic settings once again. It also emphasizes the application of research and experiments from other disciplines of psychology to the legal arena (e.g., cognitive psychology, social psychology). This could involve applying results from research in areas like cognitive psychology to legal problems [3]. The vast knowledge and skills of forensic psychology reflect the intersection of legal theory, procedures, and legislation with therapeutic concerns, practices, and ethics. Cronin refers to this concept as legal psychology, or the scientific study of how the law affects people and how people influence the law. As a consequence, forensic psychology is concerned with the psychological assessment of individuals who are linked with the court system in some way [4].

Despite the fact that law school education and quantifiable brain research are needed, the most significant talents a legal analyst should possess are strong clinical abilities, such as clinical assessment, conversing with, report writing, good verbal relational abilities, and case presenting [5]. Risk assessments for schools, child care assessments, skill assessments of criminal litigants and the elderly, advising administrations on

wrongdoing victims, death notification strategies, screening and determination of law authorization candidates, assessment of post-traumatic stress disorder, and conveyance and assessment of intercession and treatment programs are all errands that can help with. Exams, research considerations, assessments, counselling, the design and execution of treatment initiatives, and preliminary proof from a master observer are all required for scientific brain science practices [6].

In forensic psychology, a primary goal is to define and evaluate abilities that are relevant to legal problems. As a result, the forensic expert attempts to come up with relevant, trustworthy, and compelling facts and conclusions that feed legal arguments and judicial decision-making without interfering with them. Furthermore, there is a special focus on the need to reconcile conflicts between psychological ethical standards and legal requirements [7]. Rape is a kind of sexual assault in which a person is subjected to sexual intercourse or other sorts of sexual penetration without their consent, or when a person forces another person to have sex against their will. Intercourse in the vaginal, anus, or mouth is considered rape. It's a felony, which means it's one of the most severe crimes a person can commit. Men, women, and children may all be raped. Rape offenders often use violence to force the victim into having sex. Rape may also be committed purely on the grounds of fear. The victim of rape may endure both physical and emotional anguish [8]. Rape is covered under sections 375, 376, 376A, 376B, 376C, and 376D of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), and the following provisions will be substituted:

1. Rape: Indian Penal Code (IPC) 375

A man is said to commit "rape" on the off chance that he:

- a. Puts his penis into a lady's vagina, mouth, urethra, or butt to any sum, or powers her to do as such with him or any other person; or
- b. Puts any instrument or part of the body, other than the penis, into the vagina, urethra, or butt of a lady, or powers her to do as such with him or someone else, to whatever degree; or
- c. Manipulates any bit of a lady's body to make infiltration into her vagina, urethra, rear-end, or some other bit of her body, or powers her to do as such with him or someone else; or
- d. Under any of the accompanying seven depictions, a male puts his mouth to a lady's vagina, rear-end, or urethra, or powers her to do as such with him or someone else:
 - First, despite not wanting to.
 - Second, without her permission.
 - Third, with her assent, when she has provided her assent by putting herself or anybody she frequently thinks about in danger.
 - Fourth, with her consent, when the person is aware that he is not her significant other and that she is providing her permission because she recognises that he is another person to whom she is legally married.
 - Fifth, with her consent if, at the time of giving such consent, she is unable to comprehend the nature and consequences of that to which she accepts due to insanity or inebriation, or the administration by him directly or indirectly of any shocking or unwholesome substance.
 - Sixthly, when she is under the age of eighteen, with or without her consent.
 - Seventhly, when she is unable to give her consent.

Clarification 1: For the sake of this section, the term "vagina" includes the labia majora.

Clarification 2: Consent is an unambiguous deliberate arrangement in which a lady expresses her desire to participate in a specific sexual demonstration through words, motions, or some other type of verbal or nonverbal communication: Given that a lady who does not actually go against the entrance demonstration should not be viewed as consenting to the sexual movement simply because of that reassuring.

Case 1: A therapeutic action or mediation is not considered an act of violence.

Special instance 2: Sexual activity or intercourse between a guy and his own better half who is not younger than fifteen isn't viewed as assault.

2. Punishment for Rape: IPC 376

A side from the conditions listed in article (2), anybody who submits to assault shall be punished by harsh detention of any kind for at least seven years, but not more than life detention, as well as a fine.

Whoever,

- a. Assaults a lady in the care of a community worker or a local official subordinate to such local official:
 - Within the confines of the police headquarters to which such cop is assigned; or
 - In the premises of any station house; or
 - On a lady in such cop's authority or in the care of a cop subordinate to such cop; or
- b. Assaults a lady in the care of a community worker or in the care of a local official subordinate to or
- c. While functioning on the organization or staff of such prison, remand home, spot, or establishment, commits assault on any prisoner of such prison, remand home, spot, or establishment made by or under any enactment right now as a consequence, or of a ladies' or kids' foundation; or
- d. A female patient is assaulted by a member of an emergency clinic's administration or personnel; or
- e. Assaults a lady who is a member of her family, a watchman, or an instructor, or who is in a position of trust or authority over her; or
- f. Assaults during partisan or communal harshness; or
- g. Assaults a woman while aware that she is likely to get pregnant; or
- h. Assaults a lady when she is under the age of sixteen; or
- i. Assaults a woman who is ill-equipped to consent; or
- j. Submits to attack on a lady when in a position of power or supremacy over her; or
- k. Assaults a woman who is mentally or physically disabled; or
- l. While assault entails serious bodily injury, it also mutilates, distorts, or puts a woman's life in jeopardy; or
- m. Repeated assaults on the same woman should be met by harsh detention for at least 10 years, but which may extend to life detention, which is detention for the rest of that person's normal life, as well as a fine.

LITERATURE SURVEY

E. Suarez *et al.* articulated in the article that despite the fact that male rape is being recorded at a greater rate than previously, women continue to remain the majority of rape victims. Rape myths, erroneous beliefs used to shift rape blame from criminals to victims are also prevalent in today's society and contribute to rape's pervasiveness in many ways. Despite this, there has been little consideration given to how rape prevention initiatives and laws could address this issue, and there is no current data on the demographic, attitudinal, or behavioral elements related to rape myths. This research looked at the correlates of rape-myths acceptance (RMA) in published studies to fill in the vacuum. A total of 37 articles were evaluated, and the results were incorporated using meta-analytic techniques. Overall, males supported RMA at a significantly higher rate than women, according to the statistics. RMA was also significantly related to hostile attitudes and actions against women, supporting the feminist argument that sexism is the basis of RMA. Other "isms" such as racism, heterosexism, classism, and ageism were also shown to be related to RMA. These results indicate that rape prevention activities and policies should incorporate efforts to address other repressive attitudes that exist alongside RMA. Indeed, a better knowledge of how the RMA affects societal views of rape victims, especially those of care professionals, may assist victims avoid re-victimization and enhance their coping ways [9].

E. M. Hammond *et al.* pointed to the aim of the research was to investigate how acceptance of the attack legend, confidence in a fair world, and sexual attitudes affected blame attributions in a date assault scenario. People with a greater degree of assault fantasy awareness, as well as those with more firmly held beliefs in a fair society and those with more moderate sexual attitudes, Creator anticipated, would put more blame on the informer than on the charged. 172 students from a medium-sized Catholic school in the United States read a hypothetical instance of date assault and completed the RMA Scale, the Just World Scale, the Sexual Attitudes Scale, and a Judgment Questionnaire for the present research. The connection between sex and responsibility ratings for both the blamed and the informer was disrupted when the assault fantasy was recognized. Men

were more inclined than women to believe in assault fantasies, attributing less responsibility to the accused and more to the informant. Previous reservations about the notion of assault and the circumstances surrounding it may influence attributions of responsibility in current assault instances. It may be helpful to evaluate if participants have such mentalities prior to the start of a session [10].

METHODOLOGY

1. Hypothesis:

- There is no significant difference in rape myth among the male and female police officers.
- There is no significant difference in attitude towards pre-marital sex based on the gender among police officers.
- There is no significant difference in attitude towards pornography based on the gender among police officers.
- There is no relationship between age, work experience and rape myth based on the gender among police officers.
- There is no relationship between age, work experience and attitude towards pornography based on the gender among police officers.
- There is no relationship between age, work experience and attitude towards pre-marital sex based on the gender among police officers.

2. Sampling Techniques:

The research was placed throughout the Bangalore city Police situated at different police stations in the city. Participants (N=43) are Police Officers, from various places, living in Bangalore City. The sample comprises of diverse groupings of men and females, including 11 female and 32 male police officers of various age groups and designations. "Purposive Sampling Method" was employed as sampling technique. Subjects were mainly requested to complete the permission form before start completing the surveys. IRMA and Sexual Attitude Scale (SAS) were administered to the subject one after another and an interval of 10 minutes was provided to the subjects between the administrations of both the scales.

3. Development of the Scale:

The Sexual Attitude Scale (SAS) has been created on the basis of material accessible on male and female sexuality. A collection of statements for each scale was developed following extensive study of literature about sexuality. These assertions were presented to six judges, selected from different areas, for evaluating responses were also requested. In light of their evaluations, views and comments some things outright rejected, in some changes were made and others were re-written.

The scales offered in the Sexual Attitude Scale (Sub-Scales) include Premarital Sex Scale (PSS), Polygamy Scale (PS), Pornography Scale (PGS), and Lesbianism Scale (LS), for women and Homosexuality scale (HS) for men. The scales utilized for this research are Premarital Sex Scale, the final form of which consists of 14 favorably phrased statements and Pornography Scale, the final form of which comprises of total 16 statements both favorable and negative in equal ratio. Attitude towards Pre-marital Sex Scale is one of the dimensions under the SAS. The PSS consists of 14 elements in it regarding pre-marital sex. All the things are favorably rated.

4. Scoring:

The measure comprises of 14 statements of premarital sex scale and 16 statements of pornography scale. All the statements are should be rated favorably for premarital sex scale. For the scale statements 1, 4, 5, 7, 10, 12, 13 and 16 are to be reversely rated while the statements 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 11, 14 and 15 are to be scored positively. For positive score, Severely Agree is to be recorded as 4, Agree as 3, Undecided as 2, Disagree as 1 and strongly Disagree as 0. For reverse scoring, Severely Agree is to be recorded as 0, Agree as 1, Undecided as 2, Disagree as 3 and strongly Disagree as 4. Higher is the score shows positive attitude and lower level suggests negative attitude towards premarital sex and pornography.

Formula for Mann-Whitney Test was used for the testing of hypothesis:

$$U_a = n_a n_b + \frac{n_a(n_a+1)}{2} - \sum R$$

$$U_b = n_a n_b + \frac{n_b(n_b+1)}{2} - \sum R$$

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Analysis of Hypothesis 1: Mann-Whitney Test:

There is no substantial difference in rape myth among the male and female police personnel. From the study of Table 1, it can be concluded that there is no significant difference in Rape Myth among male and female police officers. Thus, scientists accept the null hypothesis. The 'U' value for the Rape Myth Scale was found to be 146.5 and 'Z' value was found to be 0.822 and significance value was found to be 0.411 at a 0.05 level of significance. From the table, it can also be concluded that male police officers were found to have a higher score on all the subscales, suggesting stronger rejection of rape myth i.e. male police officers were found to have less rape myth when compared to females.

It is found that there is significant variation in attitude towards pornography depending on gender among police personnel. Thus, rejecting the null hypothesis. The 'U' value was found to be 79 and 'Z' value was determined to be 0.006 at 0.05 level of significance. From the data, researcher may also conclude that male police officers (25.03) were having more positive attitude towards pornography as compared to female police officers (13.18).

Table 1: Showing the "U" and "Z" value for rape myth among male and female police Officers.

| Rape Myth Sub Scales | Gender | N | Mean Rank | Sum of Ranks | 'U' Value | 'Z' Value | Significance Value |
|-----------------------|--------|----|-----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
| She asked for it | Male | 32 | 22.36 | 715.5 | 164.5 | 0.321 | 0.748 |
| | Female | 11 | 20.95 | 230.5 | | | |
| He didn't mean to | Male | 32 | 23.08 | 738.5 | 141.5 | 0.967 | 0.333 |
| | Female | 11 | 18.86 | 207.5 | | | |
| It wasn't really rape | Male | 32 | 22.72 | 727 | 153 | 0.647 | 0.518 |
| | Female | 11 | 19.91 | 219 | | | |
| She lied | Male | 32 | 22.92 | 733.5 | 146.5 | 0.829 | 0.407 |
| | Female | 11 | 19.32 | 212.5 | | | |
| Rape myth Total | Male | 32 | 22.92 | 733.5 | 146.5 | 0.822 | 0.411 |
| | Female | 11 | 19.32 | 212.5 | | | |

2. Analysis of Hypothesis 2: Mann-Whitney Test:

There is no significant difference in attitude towards Pre-Marital Sex based on the gender among police officials.

Table 2: Showing the "U" and "Z" value for Pre-Marital Sex based on gender among police officials.

| Gender | N | Mean Rank | Sum of Ranks | 'U' Value | 'Z' Value | Significance Value |
|--------|----|-----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
| Male | 32 | 23.56 | 754 | 126 | 1.394 | 0.163 |
| Female | 11 | 17.45 | 192 | | | |

It may also be concluded that there is no significant difference in the attitude towards pre-marital sex depending on gender among police officers. Thus, adopting the null hypothesis. The 'U' value for premarital sex was found to be 126 and 'Z' was found to be 1.394 and the significance value was found to be 0.163 at a 0.05 level of significance. From the table researcher may also conclude that male police officers (23.56) were

having more positive attitude towards premarital sex as compared to female police officers (17.45). Table 2 shows the “U” and “Z” value for Pre-Marital Sex depending on gender among police officers.

CONCLUSION

The aim of the research is to assess the rape myth and sexual attitudes among police personnel in Bangalore. The study's main objectives were to analyze the Rape Myth, as well as views towards premarital sex and pornography among male and female police officers. The results showed that male police officers had less Rape Myth than female officers, and that Rape Myth had no relationship with age or work experience depending on the gender of the officers. In contrast to female police officers, men officers had a more favorable attitude towards premarital sex and pornography, according to the research. In terms of views towards premarital sex and pornography, it was also found that there is no connection between age and work experience based on the gender of police officers. This research was unable to expand owing to practical problems such as time, cost, and sample size. This study can only be regarded as a beginning step in a bigger research effort. Recommendations for future scope are as follows: A bigger sample size may be used to strengthen previously established results. For further research, a range of other variables may be added in the study. Longitudinal and comparative studies may be conducted with other professional groups, such as advocates, to create and use a wider frame of reference.

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