"A STUDY TO ASSESS THE EXPERIENCE OF MOLESTATION IN A PUBLIC AREA AMONG GIRLS IN SELECTED COLLEGES OF MEHSANA DISTRICT VIEW TO DEVELOP INFORMATION BOOKLET."

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Abstract

Sexual harassment against women is an incidence of violation of personal space of women by individual or groups of men where they do uninvited sexual advances, unwelcomed gestures, comments, insults, slurs and other obscenities at women in public places. It can exist as any form of sexual contact or activity ranging from verbal abuse to physical assault. The following are the behaviors which could be considered as sexual harassment when they are unwelcomed The aim of study to assess the experience of molestation in public area among college girls. quantitative non experimental descriptive research design was used. by using non probability Convenience sampling technique. 300 girls selected colleges of Mehsana district using Non-Probability Convenience sampling technique. Self- Structured Knowledge Questionnaire. It reveals that experience level (96%) (score: 21-49) of the sample had mild; level experience of molestation 'while moderate level experience of molestation (score: 50-78) was observed in (4%) of the sample, and (0%) have severe level experience of molestation (score79- 105) There is significant association between the experience and their demographic variables such as religion, frequency of molestation at p≤0.05 level. There is no significant association between the experience and their demographic variables such as age, as age, educational status, socioeconomic status , place of residency, types of molestation , use of transportation, place of molestation, time of molestation p≤ 0.05 level. The finding of the study reveal that samples has mild experience of molestation in public area.

Key words: *Assess, experience, molestation , girls*

INTRODUCTION

This study therefore is out small attempt to find out the prevalence and the responsible factors for everyday occurrence of sexual harassment in Another form of violence against women is that of molestation, or what is commonly known as 'sexual abuse' or 'sexual assault'. It is the forcing of sexual behavior by a man over the women. Molestation is the sexual exploitation of a child or a woman by an adult or a male person for sexual gratification. The Sexual abuses can be of various types namely, Fondling, Mutual masturbation, Sodomy, Coitus, Child pornography and child prostitution, etc. It may be an attack on one's dignity and modesty by an acquaintance or a close family member or friend, or even by a complete stranger.[2]

The National Capital Region is, unfortunately, recognized as a very "unsafe" place for women as there has been an enormous increase in cases of sexual atrocities (also called street harassment) in public places. "Street harassment" or "sexual harassment in society" ranges from sexual harassment

to rape and even murder. It occurs in public places, e.g., in streets, public transport, taxi, public parks, in and aroundschools, within the campus of university, inside public sanitation facilities and worse, in the very own neighborhood. Women of all ages, backgrounds and races experience sexual harassment and thus there is no typically harassed woman. Sexual harassment negatively affects everyone who is affected by the offensive conduct, whether they were the intended target or not3

Sexual harassment against women is an incidence of violation of personal space of women by individual or groups of men where they do uninvited sexual advances, unwelcomed gestures, comments, insults, slurs and other obscenities at women in public places. It can exist asany form of sexual contact or activity ranging from verbal abuse to physical assault. The following are the behaviors which could be considered as sexual harassment when they are unwelcomed:[4]

Verbal
Whistling or making cat calls at someone; making sexualcomments about a person's clothing   or body; telling sexual jokes or comments [2]

Non-verbal
 Paying unwanted attention to someone (i.e., staring, following, blocking a person's path) displaying sexually suggestivevisuals; making facial expressions such as winking, throwing kisses, or licking[2]

Physical
Hanging around, standing close, or brushing up against a person; touching a person's   clothing, hair, or body touching or rubbing oneself sexually around another person; hugging, kissing, patting or stroking.

NEED OF THE STUDY
According to wikipedia.org , in India (2021) 23% said train or train station,17% said local train or metro or its station, 20% public gathering, 17 % local train or metro its station,6% other location. (in 2020) 38.1% of the victims of sexual harassment ,in (2019), 4 lacks reported sexual harassment cases ,32,033 rape ,in (2018) , 68% of victims of sexual harassment.[10]

According times of India report (2019) Ahmadabad reported 291 rape cases in (2018) 70 rape cases , surat (2019) has the second highest number of reported rape cases after Ahmadabad with 214 cases. in addition, report published in 2014 by the NGO save children claimed that 63% of girls in Gujarat had reported sexual abuse which was the highest in the country.[11]

According nation news, 78% women experienced violence in public places, reports survey the study said that 54.6 per cent respondents had intervened in an incident of violence against women in a public space 55.3 observed discomfort of the woman facing violence, while 67.7 per cent respondents said that their intervention resulted in the violence stopping.[12]

Srestha nandy, pursuing b.b.a.ll.b from ims unison university, dehradun.in a survey of (2016) 504 women were included in the polling procedure, from which the results turned out as four out of five women face sexual assault in public places like staring, insult, wolf-whistling, etc.[13]

According Times of India (2015) as many as 315 cases of "insult to modesty of women" under section 509 of the Indian penal code) in public transport were reported in 2015, an increase of 160% over the preceding year, according to government data. over two years to 2015, 436 such cases, which included sexual harassment in taxis--were registered nationwide. up to 57% of these cases were registered in the southern state of telangana, followed by Maharashtra (28), Andhra Pradesh (24), Delhi (19) and Assam (14).[14]

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

"A study to assess the experience of molestation in a public area among girls in selected colleges of Mehsana district view to develop information booklet"

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To assess the experience of molestation in a public area amonggirls.
2. To find out the association of the knowledge with their selecteddemographic variable.

ASSUMPTION

Girls may have frequently experience of molestation in a public area among college girls.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

A quantitative non experimental descriptive research design was used. by using non probability convenient sampling technique. This study was also done on 300 sample, data was collected by questionnaire to assess the experience of molestation in public area among girls.

RESULT

Demographic data was analysed using frequency and percentage. Frequencies, percentage, mean, mean percentage (%) and standard deviation was used to determine the knowledge score.

FINDING RELATED TO DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

In this study overall the highest percentage in the demographic data including 121(40.33%) of girls were in the age group of 17-18 years. Religion represent that highest percentages 274(91.33%) of girls belong to Hindu. educational status Represent that majority 121(40.33%)of college girls in first year. socioeconomic status represent that highest percentage 212(70.66%) of girls belong to middle class. Place of residency represent majority 193 (64.33%) of girls in urban area . types of molestation represent that highest percentage of 137(45.66%) of girls experience non-verbal molestation. Use of transportation represent that highest percentage of 169(56.33%) of girls use of bus transportation frequency of molestation represent that highest percentage of 112(37.33%) of girls three and more time experienced molestation .place of molestation represent that majority public transportation 212(70.66%) of girls place of molestation . time of molestation represent that highest percentage of 103(34.33%) of girls experienced in afternoon time.

FINDINGS RELATED TO FREQUENCY AND PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF EXPERIENCE OF MOLESTATION

Table-1 Frequency and percentage distribution of experience of molestation

Level of experience	Experience percentage	
	F	%
Mild level experience of molestation(21-49)	288	96%
Moderate level experience ofmolestation(50-78)	12	4%
Severe level experience of molestation(79-105)	0	0%

Data in **Table 1** shows that experience level (**96%**) (score:21-49) of the sample had mild; level experience of molestation 'while moderate level experience of molestation (score:50-78) was observed in (**4%**) of the sample, and (**0%**) have severe level experience of molestation (score 79-105)

ASSOCIATION OF MAJOR FINDINGS

TABLE-2: Range, Mean, Median and standard deviation experience scores of college girls

Obtained range	Mean	S.D
21-105	31.62	9.63

There is significant association between the experience and their   demographic variables such as frequency of molestation ,religion at p≤ 0.05 level. There is no significant association between the experience of molestation and their demographic variables such as age, educational status, socioeconomic status place of residency,types of   molestation , use of transportation, place ofmolestation, time of molestation at p≤ 0.05 level

CONCLUSION

The present study aims to evaluate the assess experience of molestation in public area among girls in selected colleges in Mehsana district. A study was conducted by using non- probability convenient sampling technique, this chapter has dealt with the analysis and interpretation of the data collected from 300 girls. Inferential statistics were used to analyze the data. The analysis has been organized and presented under various sections like description of demographic variables, and association between the experience score and selected demographic variables.

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