

ABSTRACT

LEGAL PROTECTION OF WOMEN FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN INDIA- A CRITICAL ANALYSIS

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Domestic violence is one of the most frequent violations of human rights of women worldwide. It is one of the common causes of woman death in India. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has estimated that one of five women experience domestic violence throughout their lifetime. This is enough to disturb society and to increase the number and pendency of criminal cases before the courts. Now domestic violence is not a private issue; its prevention and control is the prime responsibility of the state. Domestic violence against wives is the central concern of this paper. This paper deals with legal measures to curb domestic violence against women in India. There are several laws enacted in the past to address the issue and a comprehensive law i.e. the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 is added to the list. Yet, a review of the performance of the old and new laws on domestic violence proves that legal measures to curb domestic violence have serious limitations. They could neither guarantee any reduction in the extent of such violence nor could they expedite the justice delivery system in India. The discussion here is based on secondary data.

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