



“Cyber Crimes Against Women and Its Social Implications With Reference To Pune city”

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Abstract –

Now days, the rate of *Cybercrime against women is increasing rapidly. Cybercrime against women includes various type of crimes committed through Internet. The present study focused on causes and its social implications with reference to Pune City. To explore the major causes of cybercrime against women and its implications on society is the main objective of this study.*

Key Words – *Cybercrimes, women victims, causes of crime and implication on society*

I. Introduction –

Cyber crime against women are increased rapidly since last 10 to 15 years. Ultimately, whole society is affected by this phenomenon. Though cyber crime is a global phenomenon, in Indian society it is also adversely affected by the cyber crime. In Indian culture, we believed a woman is a sacred symbol. In spite of that there is increasing rate of crime against women day by day. Now a day's cyber crimes against women are also increasing. Cyber crime against women like – stalking, cyber pornography, harassment through e-mails, morphing, cyber defamation, e-mail spoofing etc. are increasing rapidly. Increasing rate of using computer, smart phones, Internet, etc., has made easier for people to keep contacts with each other, and keep contacts with the people across long distances. Internet provides free flow of Information and ideas over long distances, which give rise to a worryingly high incidence of irresponsible behavior. The vulnerability and safety of women is one of the major issues of criminal and penal law. The World Wide Web circulates content through its users. The circulated contents are in the form of text, images/photos, videos or sounds. The wide spread circulation of such content is particularly harmful for the women, adolescent girls and minor. There have been several complaints by women who have received unsolicited emails which often includes obscene and obnoxious language. The transcendental jurisdiction of Internet causes the major threat to the

society in the form of cyber crime. It is observed that, the personal Information of the Internet user is being disclosed easily by the cyber café owners and used it for any illegal purposes. This study focused on the causes of cyber crime against women and its sociological implications.

II. Literature Review –

1. Dr. S. R. Myneni (2017) *Crime & Criminology* has focused on various theories of Criminology. **Emile Durkheim's Anomie Theory of Criminology.** Durkheim's main thesis was that crime is associated with breakdown of social norms and rules giving rise to an absence of social control. There are two elements to this: the first is the breakdown of regulations, rules and informal limits, undermining confidence in the social structure; second is that structural problem leads to psychological feelings of isolation. The overall disorder and disorganization, social or personal, shifts behavior in the direction crime. Durkheim's contribution is that social forces have effect on individual behavior. As this theory is related to the abrupt social change and it is associated with breakdown of social norms. The propose research work will find out causes of cyber crime against women and its social implications. So, this theory is relevant.
2. A. Kumari, K. Sharma and M. Sharma, (2015), have presented predictive analysis of cyber-crimes against women in India and laws that prevent cyber victimization in general and women especially. Through the study authors have predicts the effectiveness of laws that provides protection which available to women victims of cyber-crimes like stalking harassment, threatening, blackmailing defamation in the cyber space. Through the study authors have also focused on the various loopholes existed in India law especially in the Information Technology Act 2000 and 2008. In the opinion of authors, the Information Act 2000 does not mention cyber-crimes like cyber stalling, morphing, spoofing etc. as offences, and therefore there is less conviction rate. Author have also pointed out that poor cyber-crime conviction rate is not helped the causes of regulating cyber-crime in India.
3. S. Gupta, A. Singh and N. Kunwar, (2017), have pointed out that the most popular activates on social network is maintaining one's own virtual profile on the likes of Facebook , Twitter posting and sharing an update as well as replying to something to others. Through the study author have also focused on the cyber-crime and its impact on the youth. The study was conducted in Faizabad District of UP. Authors have examined significant variables concerned with socio-economic conditions of the Internet user, which included comparison of Internet Users in terms of independent variables like age, education, income, family income, etc. and dependent variables like gadgets, social networking sites, cyber-crime, cause, promoting factor etc. authors have observed that teenagers were more aware about social networking

sites and actively used social networking sites. In the opinion of authors education has increased the rate and quality of collaboration among the teenagers using social media. Authors have stated that, cyber-crime in all of its forms is increasing very rapidly today and it creating negative impacts on the teenagers.

III. Importance of the study –

The present study is useful to understand causes of cyber crime against women in Pune City. . This study is also important with a view to understand the sociological implications on society. Therefore, this study has been conducted in Pune city.

IV. Objectives of the study –

1. To find out the causes of rising cyber crime against women.
2. To know implications on society due to the cyber crime against women.
3. To know human behavior of accused and victim.
4. To find out psychological reasons of criminals.

V. Scope of the study-

The scope of the present study is confined to the study of find out causes cybercrimes against women and its impacts on their family and social life. Therefore, this study does not focus on the other types of cybercrimes.

VI. Sampling Technique –

Convenient sampling method has been followed to select the sample of experts in pune city for study purpose. Purposive sampling method has been followed to select the sample of victim through trial court Judgments. Purposive sampling method has been followed to select sample of college youths.

VII. Size of the sample –

The sample consisted of 25 experts, 50 trial court judgments and 200 students for study purpose.

VIII. Geographical scope of the study –

The geographical limit set for the survey population is Pune city only.

IX. Research Methodology –

For the study purpose descriptive research method has been followed. To collect the primary information from the respondents (Experts from various fields) interview schedule is used. The primary information was collected from 25 respondents. The researcher has collected 50 trial court Judgments. Secondary data of trial court judgment is used for the purpose of selective case studies. Additionally, researcher has selected in total 200 students (male and female) from various collages in Pune city .

X. Sources of Data collection –

Required information (data) has been collected through primary and secondary sources. As stated above interview schedule used as the main tool or source of collections primary information. The secondary information has collected by trial court judgments. Information available on Internet has also referred and considered for the study purpose.

XI. Results and Discussion –

The selected population sample there are police officer, software engineers, professional social workers, counselors, psychiatrist etc. The majority of

the respondents agreed for that there is an increasing rate of Cyber crimes (especially against women) in India. According to the majority of the respondent harassment through E-mail and Cyber stalking, defamation morphing and E-mail spoofing, Cyber flirting, Cyber bullying, sexual defamation etc. are some major Cyber crimes against women in India. It is found that, yet Indian women are not having adequate skills for browsing on Internet freely and also not much aware about the basis Cyber ethics and therefore there is an increasing rate of Cyber crimes against them. According to these respondents easy accessibility of Internet, curiosity and attraction of searching on Internet are some major factors that caused for increasing Cyber crime rate.

To understand the adverse impacts of Cyber crimes on the women victims' social and family life and the nature of Cyber crimes committed against women, researcher has reviewed some (50 cases) case studies pertaining to Cyber crimes against women in Pune city. The social networking has provided an opportunity to the women for socializing, there are several chances of Cyber crimes committed against them due to lack of awareness about Cyber crimes and its impacts. Ironically on one side social networking is serving as boon, but on other side social networking has made the life of women insecure because of growth in Cyber crime rate. Majority of the women victimized in Cyber crimes like – threatening through email, showing porn videos, financial cheating hacking of Gmail and Facebook

account, outrage of modesty etc. Apart from this it is also found that, due to on-line Cyber crime victimization the marriages of many women were cancelled.

Table No. 1

Incidences of cyber crimes/cases registered under IT Act (Section wise)

Sr. No.	Types of Cyber Crimes	Year 2016	2017	2018
01.	Cheating and Fraud	1167	4320	3654
02.	Offences of Social Networking	552	885	824
03.	Hacking	151	239	156
04.	Data Theft	22	25	32
05.	Mobile Offences	101	167	106
06.	Mobile Laptop Theft	13	06	00
07.	Fake Website	11	08	04
08.	Child Pornography	01	00	00
09.	Software and Movie Piercy	01	00	02
	Total including other cyber crime offences	2079	5741	5523

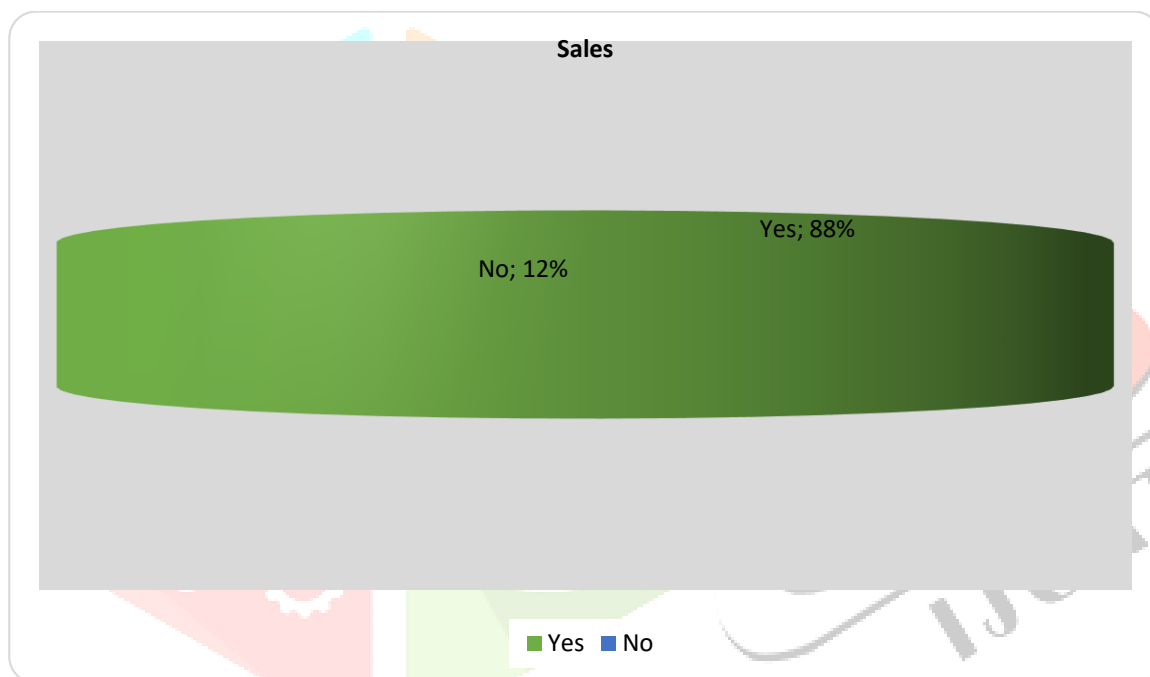
Source – Pune City Police Cyber Crime Unit.

The above table indicates the incidences of cyber crimes or cases registered under IT Act in Pune city, during the years 2016 to 2018. In the year of 2016 there were 2079 cases registered. In the year of 2017 there were 5741 cases registered. In the year of 2018 there were 5523 cases registered under IT Act. These cases are including offences against women. The rate of increasing offences is higher level

Table No.2

Nature of cyber crimes against women frequently encountered (multiple responses)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Frequency	Percentage
01	Sexual Harassment	03	12%
02	E-mail blackmailing	02	08%
03	Cyber sexual defamation	02	08%
04	Cyber spoofing	-	-
05	Morphing	-	-
06	Cyber bullying	-	-
07	All the above	20	80%

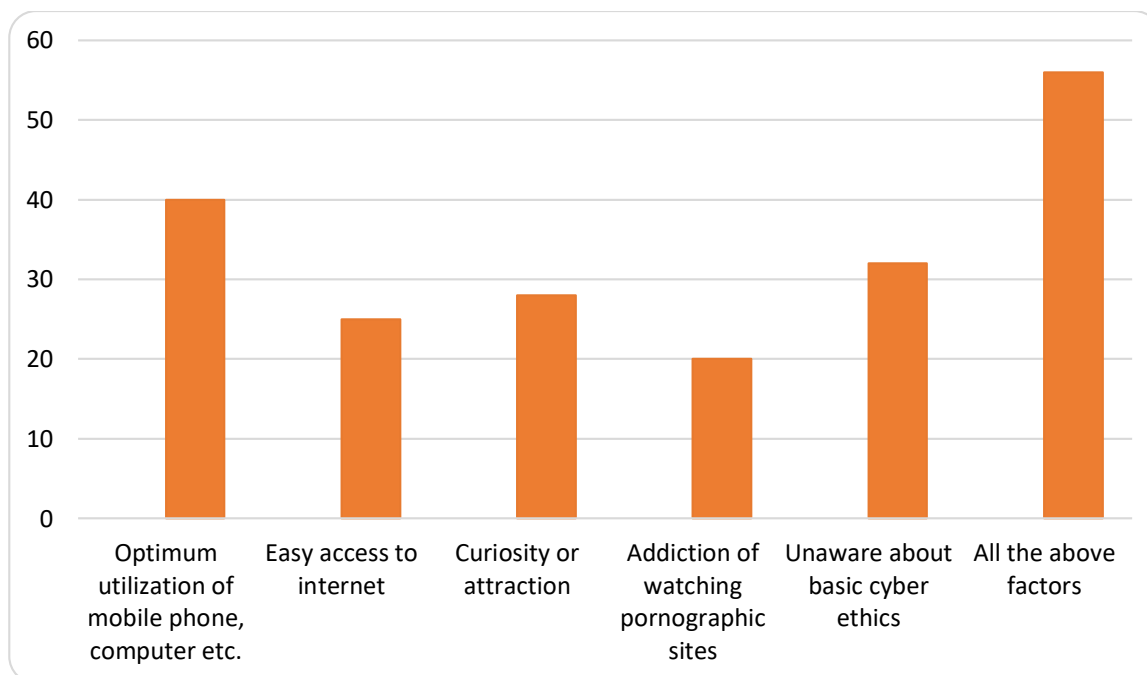


As per the information provided by the 80% of them have stated that sexual harassment email blackmailing, cyber sexual defamation, cyber spoofing, morphing cyber bullying etc. are the major cyber crimes which are frequently encountered by them. Only 12% respondents have stated that they have encountered the cyber crime like sexual harassment and 8% respondents have stated that, they have encountered the cyber crimes like email blackmailing and cyber sexual defamation frequently. It means there are various types of cyber crimes committed against women as there is development in Information technology in India.

Table No.3

Factors caused to increase cyber crime against women (multiple responses)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Frequency	Percentage
01	Optimum utilization of mobile phone, computer etc.	10	40%
02	Easy access to Internet	07	25%
03	Curiosity or attraction	07	28%
04	Addiction of watching pornographic sites	05	20%
05	Unaware about basic cyber ethics	08	32%
06	All the above factors	14	56%

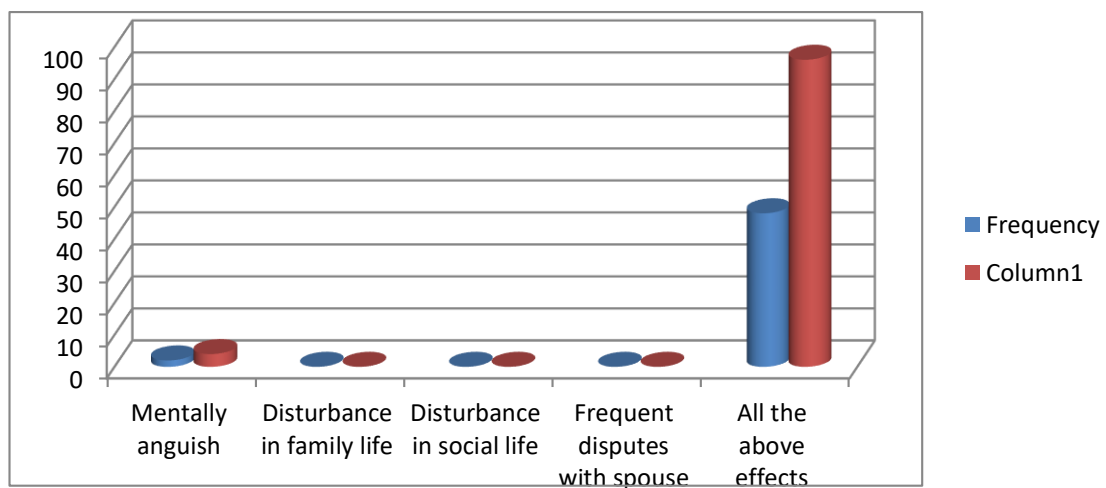


In the opinion of 40% respondents, optimum utilization of mobile phone, computers unnecessary surfing on Internet are the major factors that caused to increase the cyber crime rate against women. In the opinion of 28% respondent's easy accessibility of Internet and curiosity and attraction of surfing on Internet are also major factors caused to increase cyber crime against women. According to 20% respondents addiction of watching pornographic sites by young people may also cause to increase the cyber crimes against women. It is also observed that yet majority of the women are not having adequate skills for browsing on Internet freely and also not

having awareness about basic cyber ethics and therefore they faced the problem of cyber crimes against them; stated by 32% respondents. Majority of the respondents 56% have stated that all the above mentioned factors are caused to increase cyber crime against women.

Table No. 4**Effects of cybercrime family life and social life of the victims**

Effects	Frequency	Percentage
Mentally anguish	02	04%
Disturbance in family life	-	-
Disturbance in social life	-	-
Frequent disputes with spouse	-	-
All the above effects	48	96%
Total	50	100%



Once the women victimised in any type of cybercrime by any person, she faced several problems concerned with health, family life, social life, mentally disturbance etc. According to the information provided by the respondents, only 4% of them have reported that, they faced the problem of mentally disturbance any anguish after victimisation in cybercrime against them; while majority of the respondents (96%) have stated that, they faced not only the problem of mentally anguish but also faced the problems like disturbance in family and social life; which is resulted to increase the inferiority complex among them. They feel that everyone is watching them doubtfully even though they have not made any mistake. Almost all the respondents have faced the problem of frequent disputes with their spouses due to egoistic issue having male spouses (husband).

XII. Findings of the study –

- 1) As per the information provided by the respondents, it is found that, yet Indian women are not having adequate skills for browsing on Internet freely and also not much aware about the basis Cyber ethics and therefore there is an increasing rate of Cyber crimes against them. According to these respondents easy accessibility of Internet, curiosity and attraction of searching on Internet are some major factors that caused for increasing Cyber crime rate.
- 2) As per the information provided by the respondents it is found that many Cyber crime cases against women are not fully detected and remain unsolved by the police; due to many reasons.

3) As per the provided information by some respondents it is observed that the existing Cyber laws and rules (IT Act. 2000) are having ability to prevent Cyber crimes against women, but majority of them respondents are having negative opinion in this regard. In the opinion of these respondents there is a lack of specific provision to protect security of women and children and lack of proper implementation of IT Act and thus, this Act is not able to prevent Cyber crimes against women.

4) Majority of the respondents have stated that, lengthy judicial process caused for failure in controlling Cyber crimes against women in India. According to these respondents, this is the major obstacle in resolving the Cyber crime cases against women quickly. According to these respondents' inability to control on the Cyber offenders is not a result of mere lengthy judicial process and delay in court hearing but it is a result of ineffectiveness of Cyber laws and hesitation in reporting to the police by the women victims.

5) Through the study it is found that, the increasing rate of Cyber crime against women in India is adversely affecting on their family and social life and also adversely affecting on the physical and psychological health conditions, because Cyber space provides a plethora of opportunities for the Cyber offenders either to cause harm to women and innocent minor girls.

6) It is found that the social networking has provided an opportunity to the women for socializing, there are several chances of Cyber crimes committed against them due to lack of awareness about Cyber crimes and its impacts. Ironically on one side social networking is serving as boon, but on other side social networking has made the life of women insecure because of growth in Cyber crime rate.

7) It is observed that, women belonging to all age groups and milieu are suffering due to dark side of the social networking. While many women in all over the world are victimized on-line, Indian women are not exception for this. Through the study it is found that, majority of the women in their young age of their life, faced various social and family related problems due to victimization of Cyber crime.

8) Through the study it is found that majority of the women are housewife. To overcome the problems of depression, loneliness etc. these women tend to find a solution through social networking and unknowingly trapped and victimized in Cyber crimes.

9) Through the collected information, it is observed that majority of the women victimized in Cyber crimes like – threatening through email, showing porn videos, financial cheating hacking of Gmail and Facebook account, outrage of modesty etc. Apart from this it is also found that, due to on-line Cyber crime victimization the marriages of many women were canceled.

10) On the basis of case studies and judgmental reports, it is found that, majority of the women victims also suffered from the problems such as – mentally anguish, disturbance in family and social life, frequent disputes with spouse and other family members due to their victimization in Cyber crime.

11) In the context of girl student Cyber crime victims it is found that, majority of them had lost their concentration on studies and are not able to grasp even an easy part of the subject. Majority of them experienced anxiety and insomnia, followed by social dysfunctional somatic symptoms and depression.

12) Through the study of Cyber crime cases it is found that, the extent of the impact of victimization is clearly higher. Some victims seem to describe similar kinds of emotional and psychological impact as victims, who suffer crime in more settled circumstances though many victims in extreme conditions suffer impact and more suffer them with greater severity.

13) On the basis of collected information, fear, anger and depression etc. are common as short term effects, but may converted into long term depressive effects which may be sleeplessness, anxiety and constant reliving of the event. Apart from this some social effects of Cyber crime are very disruptive to the women victims' family life and overall life style which may adversely affect the earning potential.

14) Due to Cyber crime victimization, there are some cases related with the mental shock to the women. These victimized women lost their trust or faith towards society, specifically in the local community or in the context of social group or social place where the offence has committed with them.

XIII. Conclusion –

On the basis of collected information we can say that, cyber crime against women is increasingly day to day. There are various causes behind the cyber crime. The impacts on society are certainly to understand several points of view.

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