

VIOLATION OF RIGHTS BY ANTI-SOCIAL ELEMENTS ON WOMEN POLICE OFFICERS IN TAMIL CINEMA

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Abstract : Women happen to occupy a major percentile of the Indian populace. Women also have been given important place in the Vedas and in many rituals and festivals. They are solely responsible and are the reason for a plethora of rituals and festivals to take place as they happen to be the chief role players in them. Women also have had risen above men in various fields. However, it was not all easy as they had countless difficulties in achieving the same. Films are an important form of media outlet that can easily penetrate the cognizance of the people and makes lasting impact as well. It is one of the mediums that tends to give wrong portrayal of events and more often glorifies many social evils by justifying them. Violation of rights isn't something new in films however, it is to be noted that women characters in a Police character is no pushover but, the violation of their rights is condemnable. The current research study looks at the violation of rights faced by women police officers in select films in Tamil cinema through Iconography.

Keywords -Films, Rights, Violation, Tamil cinema, Iconography

I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 RIGHTS IN WORKPLACE:

In the workplace, people should be treated very well. The workplace environment should be free of verbal abuse, threats, sabotage etc. Their employment should maximize the fulfillment and development of the people concerned. The employees should never be afraid to stand up for their rights. And have access to fair means to pursue justice when their rights are being violated.

II. REVIEW OF LITERAURE

2.1 WOMEN IN POLICE FORCE:

Thernstrom and Thernstrum (2009) quotes O.W. Wilson (1952) that a police personnel should be of a vely high order. A police chief cannot afford to appoint to his force an applicant whose calibre is questionable or one whose character is said to cause doubt on his future action.

Pearl J (2014) mentions about Kenney work (1954) which indicated that supervision may be summarised as the sum total of all techniques used to get people to perform acceptable work. Supervision is a key factor in the achievement of efficient Police.

Bayley (2015) quotes Bihar Police commission;s report (1961) which observed that “a constable should be expected to exercise his discretion and assume responsibility.” According to Richard H. Blum (1964), if police service is to be of high calibre, the member must have suitable qualifications and they must be directed and controlled.

David H. Bayley (1969) in his research study felt that the responsibility for the prevention and investigation of crime and for the preservation of public order are carried out by state police organisation while the central government had only police forces like the Central Bureau of Investigation and the Central Reserve Police Force etc.

III. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

- To analyse the violation of rights by anti-social elements on women characters in Tamil cinema especially in the Police department.

IV. METHODOLOGY

Two films viz. Jilla (2014) and Tirunal (2016) are taken for the study to analyse how the violation of rights by anti-social elements on women police officers by using iconography.

V. ANALYSIS

Jilla (2014)

In the film Jilla, Shakthi is the protagonist who falls in love with Shanthi who happens to be a Police officer. Shakthi is unaware but is behind Shanthi. Shakthi hates Police but is forced to become a Police officer himself upon compulsion by his father. The incident happens during his joining ceremony. He is being welcomed with a garland by Shanthi as he is her superior officer now.

At that time, he instructs the Police parade to turn around and touches her back and says that you touch me now it's time for me. She can't react and is really shocked.



ICON 1 & 2 Courtesy: Jilla DVD



ICON 3 & 4 Courtesy: Jilla DVD

About turn. Nee enna anniki thottela, inikki en turn.

The above sequences in the film Jilla, portrays how it is very casual and easy to portray the aspect of inappropriate touching by a stranger or a higher official as very justifiable. It is also to be seen as depiction of such scenes are totally in contravention to the notion that it is wrong to touch a women without her consent even if it is your wife.

Thirunal (2016)

The film Thirunal is about the underworld politics and local rowdies in Thiruchirappali and Tanjore districts. “Blade” Ganesh is the protagonist in the film. Vanitha is a police character in the film and serves as a Police sub-Inspector. She did the job of protecting and controlling the orchestra program in a Thiruvizha (“a village festival”). Blade snatches her walkie-talkie and ran away into the dark place. The scene has been portrayed in the film to showcase the audience about the harassments that a policewoman faces. The very next scene shows a parcel being sent in stealth to her father.

That parcel had his daughter's dress (police uniform with her name badge). A phone call came and the person black mailed Anitha's father to sign a bond to transfer his house property to the antagonist name illegally.



ICON 5 & 6 Courtesy: *Thirunaal DVD*



ICON 7 & 8 Courtesy: *Thirunaal DVD*



ICON 9 & 10 Courtesy: *Thirunaal DVD*

Her father also accepts and signed bond for the transfer. This whole scene in the film explains the fact that there is no security for women in working place, even she being a police guard or a police officer. The working nature of a police is very stressful thing for women these scenes in the films justify certain realities. This scene has shown women kidnapping and blackmailing is so usually happened in the society. These kinds of scenes portray the problems that women face. Finally when she was released, she was given a new dress by the goons, until then she was nude and locked in a room. After her father signed the bond the new dress is given and is not a police uniform. Even after that ordeal they are threatened by the antagonist.

Un ponnu vidu thirumbanum naa naanga solratha seinga. Pathilukku ethavathu senjingana naanga ethavathu seivom. Athukku thiruppi neenga seiyya naanga seirathulenthu ungalale meendu varave mudiyathu.

The above sequences depicts how a rowdy can for fun, play with the official gadget of the Police department for various other gains. In the sequences it is to be seen that the protagonist is running away with the walkie-talkie of the Police officer who happens to be a sub-inspector of Police. She chases him and the next sequence shows her being locked in a room without dress and only upon meeting the demands of his employer does the protagonist give new clothes to wear to the Police officer and is keeping her locked in a room. However, the portrayal of the scene is seen as a violation of her right to perform her duty as a public servant in maintaining law and order at a particular place. There also raises a serious question as to whether the Police officer was attacked or overpowered and her modesty and virginity was being violated.

VI. CONCLUSION

Tamil cinema industry is one of the top most entertainment power house and is the highest earning amongst all other entertainment houses such as Tollywood, Mollywood and Bollywood. The portrayal of the film characters has a lasting impact in the minds of the people. They tend to believe that whatever is shown in the movies is the actual reality in the society. However, there are a lot of instances where wrong portrayals are shown in the big screen. The current research study was envisioned to look into the violation of rights by anti-social elements on women Police officers. In this study, it was found that women police officers are being stripped or disrobed, stealing of gadgets used, and inappropriate touching of women happening. This kind of unparliamentary visuals creates wrong and bad image and thoughts about the female Police personals among the people who watch this kind of visuals in cinema thereby also glorifying the concept of rogueness by anti-social elements to be fair even if it is in violation of rights of a women who also happens to be a Police officer.

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