

Rape in india



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Rape in India Brittany Jones As a woman in the United States, rape is the ultimate nightmare, but to women in India it's everyday life. Many rape victims' stories just show how the police in India fail to respond adequately to crimes, especially crimes involving children or women. On February 14th, three girls that were five, nine, and 11 were raped and murdered in the village of Lakhni, India. When the girl's grandfather reported the girls missing to the police nothing was done about it. After two days, the girls were found dead in an old water well.

The bodies were reported as "accidental" deaths. Nobody took any notice to the girl's deaths until protestors blocked a national highway in uproar of the police inaction. When a television reporter from CNN arrived in the village on Thursday, the girl's mother said: "The first day when we filed the complaint [about the girls disappearing], the police didn't act on it. Had they looked for the girls, my girls would have been found. This is nothing but negligence." The government offered the family about one million rupees (currency) in compensation for their losses.

After the offer the mother said "No amount of money is going to bring my girls back. I appeal to the government to catch the culprits and hang them." This case is a prime example of the corruption and negligence of the justice system and the government as a whole in India. In the Indian culture women and children are not looked upon as equals to men. This relates to authoritarian personality, the police aren't handling the situations as abruptly as they would if the case were related to men rather than women or children.

Theodor Adorno concluded that highly prejudiced people have deep respect for authority and are submissive to authority figures, especially in matters of religion or sex (Adorno et al. 1950). They concluded that they are more of like possessions or something to own instead of human beings. It was only after a mob of people shut down a highway that people actually started to care about what happened to those little girls. Another example of the negligence of the Indian government is when a young girl was brutally and raped on a bus in Delhi, the government promised better policing and faster legal action to protect women inside their homes and outside in the public. While lawmakers prepared to discuss a new law against sexual offense, they tried to keep the news of the recent rape and murder of three young girls on the down low. It was soon after that people took it into their own hands by rioting and blocking the national highway until they were promised a proper investigation. For a rape crime, capital punishment (the death penalty) is the most extreme measure the state takes.

However, it's shown that the death penalty isn't administered evenly. Geography wise it can change your sentence just by where you are when you kill someone. It also can affect the punishment you receive. Another death penalty dependent would be your social class. For instance, it's very rare that someone of much wealth will be sentenced to death. They may rather receive time with just some fines that they can easily afford anyways. Gender is another big bias with the death penalty. It's said to be unheard of for women to be sentenced to death, let alone actually be executed.

Statistics show that women commit 9.6% of the murders, but they make up 1.8% of death row inmates (Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics 2009).

On 3 February 2013, after the public made their voices heard about the brutal rape in Delhi, the Indian Government was forced to pass an ordinance which applied the death penalty in cases of rape that leads to death or leaves the victim in a " persistent vegetative state". Although the death sentence is very rarely used in India they do believe in the death penalty because they feel it doesn't involve torture, humiliation, or degrading of oneself.

It's usually carried out by hanging, even when upheld on appeal. In Ohio today the punishments for rape are somewhat different than they are in India. The rape of a young child 13 and under could be served a sentence of up to life. However, unlike India the term is expected to be served rather than the convicted just being executed, or in India's views, hung. I personally feel that rape is a very serious crime and it's something that can also affect someone for the rest of their lives. Reading about India and how lightly they take rape crimes just affles me. I can't imagine what the mother of these three little girls was going through, especially with the police having no interest in the fact that her daughters were missing. It's sad to think that someone could be so heartless to not care about little girls being brutally raped and murder, however I'm sure had it been the police forces children it would have been a whole different story. People these days are not only bias but they tend to care only about their selves and ignore the feelings of others.

I'm from a small community where everyone knows everyone and everyone is willing to lend a helping hand. When someone in our town were to die the entire community would come together to help, even if it was just giving

their condolences. I realize however that India's culture is very different than ours and not to mention the situations seem much more dangerous. Even though rape crimes seem to be a very frequent crime to them, you would think the police force would take a notice and try and stop this constant reoccurrence rather than ignore what's happening.

They are finally passing bills but why did it take a huge riot of the people for them to start taking action. Making the laws is just the first step; actually doing something to make them work is the hard part. They can make the laws but in order for things to change they'll actually have to make it as big of a deal as it really is. Find the people, punish them, and make sure they know they'll never harm another women or child again. This article was very interesting to read and it's interesting to see what's going on in other cultures today.

I never would have imagined how lightly things like rape and murder can be handles, especially just because it's children and women rather than men. It's sad to think of all the prejudice and bias going on in our world today, and even worse to think that it will probably never end. India needs to make stricter laws and force the police field to do a better job. Reference Rahman, Maseeh " India: three girls raped and murdered, ages 5, 9, and 11. " The guardian. 21 February 2013.