

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE WORK DONE

Plan	: XII (2012-2017)
Scheme	: Minor Research Projects
Name of Principal Investigator	: Dr. Jouhar Munavvir. T
Title of the Project	: Harassments against Teenage Girls: A Survey from Secondary Schools of Kerala
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OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

1. To identify types of harassments against teenage girls for total sample and sub sample based on locale of residence of students
2. To identify categories of Reasons for harassments against teenage girls.
3. To identify the Extent of school related harassments against teenage girls from secondary schools of Kerala

METHODOLOGY

The study was carried out on a representative sample of 500 teenage secondary school students studying in secondary schools of various districts of Kerala. The sample also consists of 100 secondary school teachers, 50 victims of harassment and 20 counsellors by using stratified random sampling method. Tools used were Questionnaire to find out the different types of harassments experienced by teenage girls of secondary schools, Information blank for teachers at secondary schools to find out the different types of harassments reported by teenage girls of secondary schools and its reasons and Information blank for counsellors to find out the different types of harassments consulted with them by teenage girls of secondary schools and its reasons. Investigator used Percentage Analysis for analyzing data.

MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

1. 65.20 percent of teenage girls of secondary school of Kerala reported that they are experiencing verbal abuses and 51.60 percent reported that are the victims of direct Intentional touching.
2. 35.20 percent of teenage girls of secondary school of Kerala reported that are the victims of Eve-Teasing and 34.60 percent experienced Attempt to Rape.
3. 33.80 percent of teenage girls reported that they are harassed by male who are so closely linked by blood or affinity and 32.2 percent reported that many people took their photos without their consent.
4. Thirty one percent teenage girls abused from schools by school mates and more than thirty percent reported that they showed indecent images and videos by strangers.
5. Other harassments reported by teenage girls who are studying in secondary schools of Kerala are Sexual attempt by Strangers (29.80%), Insult to the modesty of teenage girls (29.40%), Indecent behaviour from other women or girls (29.20%), Showing indecent

- images or videos by relatives (28.80%), Intentional touching directly through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks (25.80%).
6. Other harassments reported by teenage girls who are studying in secondary schools of Kerala are Witness of 'flashing' (25.80%), Suicide tendency in teenage girls (25.20%), Beating (24.80%), Send photos and videos to strangers through social networks (24.40%), Cracking sexual jokes in the presence of girls (23.20%), Shooting videos without consent (20.80%), Cruelty by relatives (20.40%),
 7. Some students reported that they experienced Digital Rape (15.20%), Kidnapping & abduction in the name of Love affair (15.00%), Kidnapping & abduction of teenage girls (13.60%), Abused by teachers (13.60%), Pornography (11.00%), Blackmailing in the name of past mistakes (4.40%), Custodial Rape (2.00%) and Gang rape (0.60%) as harassments.
 8. 65.15 percent of urban teenage girls and 65.25 percent rural girls reported Verbal abuse and 42.74 percent urban teenage girls reported direct intentional touching at the same time rural area it is 59.85 percent.
 9. More urban teenage girls (40.25%) reported Eve-Teasing than rural girls (30.50%) and more urban students (38.59%) reported Abuses from School mates than rural (23.94%).
 10. Incest rape is more in urban area (36.51%) than rural Area (31.27%) and showing indecent images or videos by relatives to teenage girls are also high in urban (36.51%) area than rural area (21.62%).
 11. But more rural (36.29%) teenagers encounter attempt to rape than urban teenagers (32.78%).
 12. Indecent behaviour from other women or girls is high in urban locality (31.95%) than rural locality (26.64) but Insult to the modesty of teenage girls high in rural area (30.12%) than urban area (28.63%).
 13. Harassments against teenage girls reported by secondary school girls that are high in urban areas than rural areas are kidnapping & abduction of teenage girls, seduced kidnaps in the name of love affair, blackmailing in the name of past mistakes, custodial rape and gang rape.
 14. Harassments against teenage girls reported by secondary school girls that are low in urban areas than rural areas are showing indecent images or videos by strangers, suicide tendency in teenage girls, taking photos without consent, intentional touching directly through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks, beating, witness of 'flashing', cracking sexual jokes in the presence of girls, send photos and videos to strangers through social networks, cruelty by relatives, shooting videos without consent, digital rape, abused by teachers and pornography.
 15. School related reasons for harassments against teenage girls are valueless education that emphasising only curriculum, lack of proper sex education, teachers are not ready to interfere in issues because of fear of police case, lack of psychological approaches by teachers, unnecessary school celebrations like birthdays of friends etc. and un secured conditions in tutorial centres
 16. Society related reasons for harassments against teenage girls are public places are not safe for teenage girls and anyone can approach teenage girls, the present generation considering women and girls as a commodity, violation of the boundaries of male- female relationships, men above the age of 50 are not getting the expected satisfaction from their wives and go to 'children and teenagers for sexual satisfaction, behaviour of the conductors in the private buses in Kerala, modern dressing pattern of teenage girls, cinema and media stimulates unwanted male female relationships, religion's role in the

individual's life is reduced, use of alcohol and drugs among males, availability of pornographic films, especially to boys and erosion of societal values.

17. Family related reasons for harassments against teenage girls are in the busy world teenage girls finding love from outside the family, behavioural problem of the parents, parents are engaged in mobile phones and internet so children blindly follow them without understanding the consequences, deterioration in family relationships, unskilled parenting, pressure of nuclear families such as going behind money, feeling of poverty by comparisons, diseases, frustrations and no sincere relationship and good values in the family such as sincere love, respect to members, responsibility, patience etc are lost.
18. Personal reasons for harassments against teenage girls are teenage girls are not aware about the cheating of bad people, lack of self satisfaction in life, no respect to the opposite sex, misunderstanding and doubts about sex, wide spread of mobile phones, internet and unawareness of girls about the evils of social media, Increasing stress and frustrations of students, Risk taking behaviour of teenagers and Lack of soft skill development
19. Important school related harassments against teenage girls from secondary schools of Kerala are Dirty toilets at school with inadequate facilities. 71.4 percent of secondary school students opined that their school toilets are not female friendly.
20. More than fifty seven percent of secondary school students opined that there is discrimination between boys and girls in school and they feel lack of encouragement (57.4%).
21. 56.6 percent teenage girls opined that problems caused by private bus workers when travelling to and from school is a problem.
22. Other school related harassments opined by teenage girls who are studying secondary schools are others misunderstanding or talking about boy-girl good relationships, teachers abusing girls at school by scolding and hitting, writing girls' names on the walls with boys names, boys passing slips of paper or letters to girls, problems caused by older boys when travelling to and from school, ragging by girls at school, abuse by men on the way to school, taking photos by boys without consent, ragging by older boys on way to school, male teachers abusive languages to girls, male teachers sexual harassments, shooting videos without consent and blackmailing other boys in the name of past mistakes.

CONCLUSIONS

Types of harassments against teenage girls in Kerala were analyzed. Results showed that 28 different types of harassments are reported by the teenage girls who are studying in secondary schools of Kerala state. Results reveal that there are urban rural differences in the harassments against teenage girls. Results also show that there are four categories of reasons for harassments against teenage girls viz., School related reasons, society related reasons, family related reasons and personal reasons. Table also reveals that there are 6 School related reasons, 11 society related reasons, 7 family related reasons and 9 personal reasons. Study revealed 20 school related harassments also.

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

The major findings of the study and conclusions drawn helped the investigator to put forward the following suggestions for the improvement of school, family and social systems.

- The teachers should be made aware of the types of harassments against teenage girls and the reasons of harassments.

- The parents should be made aware of the types of harassments against teenage girls and the reasons of harassments.
- The school environment should make more conducive and girl friendly.
- Policy makers should aware about the causes and types of harassments against teenagers and make more stringent actions for eliminating the reasons for harassment
- The parents should be made aware of the family related reasons of harassments and try to make family relations more conducive.

Signature of Principal Investigator

Principal
(Seal)