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## WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTION TO MODERN INDIAN SOCIETY

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# Effect Of Cyber Crimes On Women: A Premilinary Study

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**Abstract**

Cybercrimes is a new millennium threat to society nowadays which brings by developments of technology and information.Various forms of Cybercrimes exist either theft and fraud involving money and property or safety threat involving contamination of dignity. Therefore, this study will identify cybercrimes related to women in Malaysia for cases of theft and fraud of money and property through cyberspace. Cybercrimes will be identified and classified according to cases that often occurred in Malaysia and legal protection provided to the victim. The results showed lack of awareness about cyber security transactions and the provision of existing law that exists for cybercrime cause women to be victims of cybercrime.

**Introduction**

Cyber-crime is a global phenomenon. With the advent oftechnology, cyber-crime and victimization of women are on thehigh and it poses as a major threat to the security of a person as awhole. Even though India is one of the very few countries to enactIT Act 2000 to combat cyber-crimes, issues regarding women stillremain untouched in this Act. The said Act has termed certainoffences as hacking, publishing of obscene materials in the net,tampering the data as punishable offences. But the grave threat tothe security of women in general is not covered fully by this Act.Cyber bullying can affect everyone, including children. Safety Webprovides support for parents to improve internet safety for kids.Technical measures to protect computer systems are beingimplemented along with legal measures to prevent and detercriminal behavior. But this technology knows no physicalboundaries; it flows more easily around the world subsequentlythe criminals are increasingly located in places other than wheretheir acts produce their effects and Cyberspace is no exception toit. Cyberspace is a new horizon controlled by machine forinformation and any criminal activity where computer or networkis used as the source, tool or target is known Cybercrime.[1]

Cybercrime against women in India is relatively a new concept.When India started her journey in the field of InformationTechnology, the priority was given to the protection of electroniccommerce e-commerce and communications under InformationTechnology Act, 2000 whereas cyber socializing communicationshas remained untouched. The Act turned out to be a half-baked law as the operating area of the law stretched Cyber Victimizationof Women and Cyber Laws in India. The present study is anattempt to highlight the cyber-crimes against women in India.Safety of women has always been an issue, especially in a countrylike India where worm of crime rate against women is increasing like a coconut tree. Earlier, it was limited to roads or at placesaway from Home. Home was the safest place for a woman toprotect herself from being victimized, but not now. Home isbecoming equally dangerous place, prone to crime for them. Thelimit is set to their computer screens, however. This is a majorconcern. The increasing rate of cyber-crime against women hasled to development of insecurity within a woman. They don't feel safe anymore, anywhere. Its effects are worse on them and on the

Society as a whole, when we look into the broader picture.[2]

"A subcategory of computer crime and it refers to criminal offensescommitted using the internet or another computer network as acomponent of the crime."

### Objectives of this study

- To analyze crime against woman through cyber laws.
- How to compare the equality between the man and women.
- Cyberspace limits for protect for women anywhere.
- Insecurity of woman increase cyber-crime.

To examine the all laws whether traditional or modern technology act, means.

### Types of cyber-crimes against women

In basic terms, cyber-crime is any illegal activity that uses acomputer as its primary means of commission. It is expanded toinclude actions like a criminal offense on the web, a criminaloffense regarding the Internet, a violation of law on the Internet,an illegal activity committed through Internet, breach of law onthe Internet, computer crime, contravention of any law throughthe Web, corruption regarding Internet, criminal activity on theInternet, disrupting operations through malevolent programs onthe Internet, electric crime, Internet crime, sale of contraband onthe Internet, stalking victims on the Internet, theft of identify onthe Internet. Cyber-crimes may be committed against persons,property and government. The common types of cyber-crimes arediscussed below.

- Harassment through e-mails: It is not a new concept. It is very similar to harassing through letters. It includes blackmailing, threatening, bullying, and even cheating via email. Though E-harassments are similar to the letter harassment but creates problem quite often when posted from fake id's.

- Cyber stalking: It is one of the most talked about and committed net crimes in the modern world. Stalking is defined as pursuing stealthily according to the Oxford dictionary. Following a person's movements across the Internet by posting messages sometimes threatening on the bulletin boards accessed by the victim, entering the chat-rooms used by the victim and by constantly bombarding the victim with emails, messages etc. constitutes a cyber-stalking.

- Cyber pornography: It is the most dangerous threat to the female netizens. This would include pornographic websites or pornographic magazines produced using computers to publish and print the material and the Internet to download and transmit pornographic pictures, photos, writings etc. Internet has provided a medium for the facilitation of crimes like pornography, especially cyber porn. Today, almost 50% of the web sites contain pornographic material on the Internet. This turns dangerous to a woman's integrity as cyber criminals use photos of women and fix them with nude Photographs or videos and the photograph or video resembles of that woman only.[3]

- Cyber defamation: Cyber tort including libel and defamation is another common crime against women on the net. This occurs when defamation takes place with the help of computers and/or the Internet. For example, someone publishes defamatory matter about someone on a website or sends e-mails containing defamatory informationto all of that person's friends or relatives. It is mostlycommitted by hacking someone's id onFace Book, Google,or any other social networking or mailing website. It is alsodone by creating fake profile of a person containing allpersonal information about that person, which resemblesto be a genuine one to others on any website.

- Morphing: Editing of the original picture by unauthorized user or fake identity is termed as Morphing. It was identified that female's pictures are downloaded by fake users and again re-posted/uploaded on different websites by creating fake profiles after editing it.

- Email spoofing: An e-mail which misrepresents its origin is a spoofed mail. It shows its origin to be different from which actually origin.[4]

*"Cyber-crime is as any activity that uses the internet to commit a crime."*

*-Milhorn*

### Impact of cyber-crime

Under this technological development era the most effected victim is women. Every sphere of life now a day, start and end with digital intervention i.e. computer technological interferences. In the light of this, the positive as well as negative sides also come out. Cybercrime is a global phenomenon. The advancement of technology, cybercrime and victimization of women are on the high and it poses as a major threat to the security of a person as a whole. The privacy and personal security of the individual are under threat with this growing issue of cybercrime in the cyberspace.[5] Internet is world's largest information system and giant network. As telecom infrastructure developments

continue to penetrate into smaller towns, Internet usage numbers showcase the effects with its ever increasing base of users. The Internet is now a part of the globalization process that is evidently sweeping away old realities and certainties, creating new opportunities and challenges associated with living in a compact world. The cyberspace has been a blessing to human civilization. Internet has connected people around the globe. The desire to know what is unknown is indispensable of human nature. It is the desire to know about the people, who inhabit the earth, has aggravated the urge of discovering the untraded path. This has led to the unearthing of the cyber world.[6]

- The social networking websites have developed a new arena for socializing.
- Irrespective of any distinction, women in the society are exulting with this liberation to the fullest.
- From online shopping to net banking, from e-ticketing to e-tax filling, it has made the life of Indian women easy.
- It has enabled women to fight for equality even within the confines of their society.
- They can now share their experiences to the whole world, to voice their struggles and success in life, it inscribes new spaces of power, which is accompanied with knowledge.
- The internet is serving as boon, but on the other side, it has made the life of women insecure due to rising cybercrime in the virtual world.
- While many women are victimized online, what makes Indian women unique?
- India is predominantly patriarchal and orthodox country and women who are victimized are mostly blamed andonline victims are no exception
- Penetration of Information and Communication technologies offers great opportunities and more and more users are getting connected.
- The cost of owning Internet enabled devices has also facilitated to this growth.
- The increase in penetration of ICT, has spurred a growth in ICT-based businesses and services.
- The ICT sector with its direct and indirect contribution to various socioeconomic parameters.
- Global player as provider of world class ITES enabled solution and services, various parameters like employment, standard of living and diversity among others.
- IT-enabled initiatives like Government to citizen services, public distribution systems, Healthcare, e-Learning andmobile banking, etc.[7]

*"Computer mediated activities which are either illegal or considered illicit by certain parties and which can be conducted through global electronic networks".*

*-Thomas & Loader*

## Traditional laws for female stratum

The difference between a man and a woman has certainly taken a form of a monster which is now feeding on the female strata of society. There would be no women safe in India if we do not act now.

### Indian Penal Code, 1860

- Section 354 Assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty.
- Section 354 (A), (B), (C), (D)
- Section 359-Kidnapping, Section 360 and Section 361
- Section 509-Eve Teasing (Sec. 509)
- Section 378-Chain snatching (Sec 378)
- Sections (376,376A,376B,376C,376D)-Rape
- Domestic Violence-(Sec. 498A)
- Section 506 part II of the section which prescribes punishment for criminal intimidation to cause death or grievous hurt
- Section 120-B-criminal conspiracy
- Section 441 of the IPC-criminal trespass
- Section 292A of the IPC for printing or publishing grossly indecent or scurrilous matter or matter intended to blackmail
- Honor Killing And Dowery Deaths
- Sections (Sec. 326A, 326B)-Acid attacks
- Section (Sec. 354D)-Stalking
- Sections (Sec. 370, 370A, 372, 373)-Women trafficking8

- Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013 9
- Protection of Children Against Sexual Offences Act, 2013 10

### Cyber laws in India

The penalties for these offenses include fines, imprisonment for up to two years, or both. Cybercrime against woman in India Cybercrime against women is on at alarming stage and it may pose as a major threat to the security of a person as a whole. In India the term "cybercrime against women" includes sexual crimes and sexual abuses on the internet. India is considered as one of the very few countries to enact IT Act 2000 to combat cybercrimes; This Act widely covers the commercial and economic crimes which is clear from the preamble of the IT Act.

- Section 65, Chapter XI of the IT Act deals with the offences such as Tampering with computer source documents (s.65).
- Section 66 Hacking with computer system (s. 66).
- Section 67 publishing of information which is obscene in electronic form (s.67).
- Section 70 Access to protected system (s. 70).
- Section 72 Breach of confidentiality and privacy (s. 72).

### CONCLUSION

Rate of cybercrime is frequently increasing which has become a threat to human, especially for women. Mas we can't avoid them, we have to take precautionary measures to prevent the loss as much as possible like secure browsing avoiding sensitive & personal information on social media like sharing Password, OTP etc. Women should be aware from fake accounts on social media, limitations of laws, awareness of about the technology among women& misuse of technology etc. these are prime reasons for cyber offences.

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