

A study of women imprisoned for violent crimes in the central prisons of Sindh Province

MPhil Scholar:
Murk Nazish

Socioeconomic Factors

Societal expectation and stereotypical image of Pakistan is blurs out the reality of women being capable of committing heinous crimes (Walayat .S. 2013). A study by Ali T.S et al. (2011) considered those women who are pressured to accept arranged marriages and also early marriages, develop aggression and hostility against their family members and others. Due to these experiences, certain women develop an aggressive and hostile behaviour against others resulting in many cases as involving in killing and assaulting brutally their partners and family members including children. (Shaud, S., & Asad, S., 2020).

Introduction: In Pakistan, women involve in various violent crimes like murder, violent assault, kidnapping and robbery, and other forms of violence. In Karachi in Dec 2021, Rubab killed her husband brutally and cut his body into pieces (ARY, 2021). This shows women get involved in violent acts.

However, CRIMINOLOGY SUBJECT HAS NOT COLLECTED MUCH INFORMATION ABOUT THE VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR OF WOMEN, THEIR NATURE AND CAUSES OF THEIR VIOLENT ACTS IN PAKISTAN. INDEED, THERE IS LIMITED EMPIRICAL UNDERSTANDING ABOUT WHY AND HOW WOMEN INVOLVE IN VIOLENT CRIMES. MOST IMPORTANTLY, QUALITATIVE VIEWS FROM WOMEN INVOLVED IN VIOLENT CRIMES AND THOSE IMPRISONED HAVE RARELY BEEN ANALYZED TO KNOW WHY AND HOW THEY COMMITTED VIOLENT CRIMES IN SINDH PROVINCE. .

Literature: What scholars and criminologists say why women become involved in violent offending behaviour?

Psychological Factors

It has been observed that the presence of aggression in certain women lead to adopt violent action and reaction, in some cases in self-defense (Babcock et al., 2003). Women are considered as inferior sex on social, religious and cultural levels. Moreover, she is deprived of decision-making process for her life career and movement. (Ahmad, 2012). Such experiences and societal reaction create aggressive attitude in them which may motivate them react violently.

Cultural Factors

Though it is commonly believed that women are less physically aggressive than men (Archer, 2004) and this thought is culturally shared across Pakistan. But, women being forced and motivated by cultural mind-set, socio-economic, psychological conditions resort to take violent measures for her personal gratifications and revengeful attitude (Hasan et al., 2013).



Research objectives

1. To examine the nature and causes of violent crimes committed by women.
2. To study why and how women choose the path of violence.
3. To collect view from women prisoners for making policy guidelines for the prevention and control of violence by women.

Research Methods: To conduct this study, qualitative explanations and views will be collected through in-depth interviewing process from convicted women prisoners in Sindh prisons.