


University of Mysore

**CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND
INCLUSIVE POLICY**

Humanities Block, Manasagangothri, Mysore - 570006

**KSCW Sponsored Two Day State Level Seminar on
'Missing Girls and Women: Issues and Implications'
January 23rd and 24th 2012**

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Venue:

**Rani Bahadur Institute of Management Science
Manasagangothri, University of Mysore, Mysore – 570006**

Organized by

**CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND
INCLUSIVE POLICY**

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Funding Courtesy:

**Karnataka State Commission for Women (KSCW), Govt. of Karnataka
Bangalore**

Background of the Seminar

The appalling dimensions of violence against women and children made the situation vulnerable and the concept of 'human rights' appeared questionable to researchers, academics, and development practitioners and human rights activists. If one opens a newspaper, web site, satellite and television, one almost sees horrendous stories of the violence inflicted on women and children, each more terrible than the previous ones. On the basis of reasons, nature and purpose we called as different types i. e. Trafficking, missing, kidnapping. Many studies have shown that missing, kidnapping and trafficking in women and children, the worst forms of violence are on the increase in recent times due to negligence and corruption of the law enforcing agencies, coupled with political malice.

Trafficking is a new form of contemporary slavery, which is a grave violation of human rights. The contributing factors are poverty, the inferior status of women and children; escape from conservative/traditional values and customs; the sexual abuse of girls, often by family members; and the willingness of poor parents and guardians to let their children go to urban centers and neighboring countries for economic benefits of the whole family, sometimes not knowing the grave consequences.

The term 'missing' denotes a process by which there is no trace or information about children and women who are the victims. A missing person is a person who has disappeared for usually unknown reasons. Missing persons' photographs may be posted on bulletin boards, milk cartons, postcards, and websites, along with a phone number to be contacted if a sighting has been made. People disappear for many reasons. Some individuals choose to disappear alone; most of these soon return. The term refers to women and children who are reported as lost or who are kidnapped by agents or procurers without a specific case of violation being filed. On the other hand, 'kidnapping' of children and women include all forms of abduction and capture with the intent to demand ransom, sell, exchange or use in slavery, servitude, flesh trade, organ collection, commercial sex work and pornography by means of violence, threat of violence or using drugs.

However, 'trafficking' may be defined as, "All acts involved in kidnapping, abduction, capture, acquisition, recruitment and transportation of women and girls within and across national borders with the intent to sell, exchange or use of any illegal purpose such as commercial sex work, servitude in the guise of marriage, bonded labour or sale of human organs by means of violence or threat of violence" At present there is no internationally agreed definition of trafficking. The term 'trafficking' is used by different actors to describe activities that range from voluntary migration, to the exploitation of commercial sex work, to the movement of persons. The special rapporteur uses the following definition of trafficking. "Trafficking in persons means the recruitment, transportation, purchase, sale, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons: Trafficking in people, especially amongst minors and the young girls, is increasing enormously all over Karnataka. In our state, trafficking and sexual exploitation of children has grown visibly. The trafficking is not only limited to prostitution but also for forced labor, commercial gay and lesbian relationships, to hire the wombs i.e., for surrogacy and for illegal marriages, domestic slavery, organ transplantation, begging and for camel races. Social pressures, lack of protective laws and failure to enforce them, social customs,

poverty, discrimination within the family, etc have made young girls vulnerable to all kinds of violence, especially sexual exploitation. Trafficking has not been addressed with due importance and because of loopholes in the Indian laws and order system, the trafficking networks are very active. In South India, we came to know about the nexus between the mafia, the traffickers and some corrupt officials. Due to the inefficiency of the police, border security forces and railway police, and for non-cooperation by the public because of their ignorance, thousands of girls have been trafficked into the sex trade.

In Karnataka, it is found that more than 1 lakh girls are supplied to the brothels of Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata. The women and girls from North Karnataka are regularly trafficked into the sex-trade during their search for a job to gain their livelihood. Similarly, in South Karnataka, the school going young girls go missing everyday and this is not being given due attention. Domestic slavery is quite rampant and in many cases the owner's family sexually exploits the domestic workers. Traffickers are using different strategies like job assurances, marriage, modeling opportunity, entrance into the film industry to lure the minors into the sex trade.

Aim of the Seminar

The aim of this seminar is to discuss certain issues and implications of missing girls. It was a fact that many of the missing cases of girls turn out to be elopement cases. It is necessary to find the factors that are influencing the girls to go missing. Now the government has taken serious note of this and was working to find solutions for this serious issue. Because it is the duty of the state to primarily protect the individual, family and their concerns. Further, it is necessary to protect the girls and to provide rehabilitation have been established. The missing of girls is being reported not only in Karnataka but in entire India. And this is a universal problem. Yet the problems in Indian states are different. Missing of girls is being reported in spite of the fact that there are many laws and policies are there. This is most a serious issue to be studied, discuss, understand, analyze, disseminate, educate and resolve it. In this context, this seminar is very important to discuss the issues and implications of missing girls.

It is in the backdrop of these issues we thought of organizing a state level seminar on "Missing of Girls and Women: Issues and Implications".

Objectives of the Seminar:

The overall objective of the seminar is to bring together academicians, policymakers and grass-root activists on a platform to identify the issues and implications of missing girls and women.

1. To identify the factors that are influencing the girls and women to go missing;
2. To analyse the consequences of missing girls and women on society;
3. To find out community perception about missing girls and women;
4. To examine the role of Government and Civil Societies in prevention and rehabilitation of missing girls and women;
5. To discuss the various legislative measures and effectivity and to suggest suitable amendments to them and
6. To discuss the various suggestive measures to prevent missing girls and women.

Sub Themes:

1. Socio -economic Factors
2. Violence against Women and Girls
3. Sexual Harassment
4. Human Trafficking
5. Child abuse and prostitution
6. Health and other consequences
7. Legislative measures
8. Role of Civil Societies and NGOs
9. Role of Media and missing girls and women
10. Rehabilitation and Reformation
11. Other related issues

Resource Persons

The presentation will be made by experts in the field by invitation only. Full Papers can be submitted through Email in Word format to csseip_uom@yahoo.in. Submission of full paper is compulsory before 10th of January 2012. Outstation delegates with paper presentation will be reimbursed III AC (Train) or Bus from the shortest route and free lodging and boarding facilities will be provided in the university guesthouse.

Registration Fee:

Faculty Members, Academicians and NGOs: Rs. 100/-
Research Scholars and Students: Rs. 50/-

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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