

## Outline

2- If women are not protected socially,  
can legal actions protect them?

### 1. Introduction

As women is facing various issues in the world. It is often been debated that women are not safe in society, although various laws ~~has~~ exists. Social protection is more important to protect women in society.

### 2. Highlighting the social protection is more important or legal protection

### 3. Social Protection is important for women than just legal protection (Theirs)

3a- Economically under-privileged women face highest domestic violence.

3b Honor killing, rape and acid attacks find social acceptance

3c Political representation of women acceptable when supported by men

3d. Women is subject to open harassment in all roles except mother or daughter.

3e- Climate Change hits women, as they have to ensure water availability at home.

### 4. Success of social protection is based on legal protection.

4a- There is no social class inequality on the basis of law

4b- Various acts and Ordinances are passed by states to protect women from all kind of violence.

4c- Constitution of Pakistan provides equal right of political representation to women.

4d- The law has same legal protection to women in all roles.

4e- To perform household, women are provided with water and other things.

5. Legal action are ineffective, without implementing social protection.

5a. lower class women are unable to get access to legal protection

5b. Negative social attitude towards victims of rape and honor killing make difficult to get legal help

5c. Majority of women representatives in parliament are relatives of strong male politicians.

5d. In patriarchal society, women are not protected outside home.

5e. legal protection cannot ensure water supplies in households, women have to arrange water whatever difficulty they might arrange.

6. Conclusion



In an ideal world, all women enjoy equal rights and protection. However, the reality is quite different. According to global survey, one in the three women has experienced physical or sexual violence. In a world where women's rights remain under threat, legal action emerges as a powerful force for change. Throughout history, women have fought tirelessly for their rights. From suffragettes campaigning for voting rights to modern day battles against gender based violence, the role of legal action in protecting women's right has never been more significant. As women is facing various <sup>social</sup> issues in the world. It's often been debated that women are not socially protected, although various laws has been passed. So, social protection is more important to protect women's rights in the society. In the world, ~~Honor~~ Honor killing, rape and acid attacks are become common. Women is being harassed in all other forms other than mother or daughter. On the other hand, laws has been passed, even in the constitution of various countries provides equal right to women. No social discrimination on the basis of law. Acts and ordinance are passed to eliminate cases of sexual harassment, rape and honor killing. <sup>Hence,</sup> ~~But~~ all legal measures are not effectively working, without implementing social protective measures.

The social protection of women is important rather than legal protection, which is given to them. On one hand, social protection is necessary for females than legal protection. For instance 2924 women are killed and 4352 were victims of rape in 2022 in Pakistan. This means that an average of



08 women were killed and 12 were raped everyday. (Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, 2022). On the other hand, The Anti-domestic violence Act 202 was passed legally on decade before the above mentioned figure of cases, but still there is no reduction in the cases of domestic violence in Pakistan. Though, social protection is necessary to protect women than legal protection.

The highest number of domestic violence cases are faced by economically under-privileged women. Monetary dependent women are becoming victims of domestic violence than independent women. As per World bank report 2021, only 23.3% of Pakistani women are employed in work force, which is lowest <sup>in world</sup> and it resulted into increase dependence of women on men and ~~in~~ and make the suppressed and face domestic violence. Moreover, less than 50% of working age women are in labour market, and this figure has barely changed over the last quarter of century, it resulted in barely change in the cases of domestic violence. Hence economic dependence of women to make them face domestic violence.

The incidents of Honor killings, rape and acid attacks are becoming common and socially accepted in the world. Social acceptance is given to cases of rape, honor killings and acid attacks. According to Aurat Foundation, <sup>2022</sup> 287 women were killed in honor killings in Pakistan, 305 reported rape cases. In addition to this, highest number of rape cases are reported in Bosnia. Sweden (World population Review, 2022). All in all, incidents of rape, acid attacks and honor killing is becoming common day by day.



Representation of women in politics is supp acceptable when it is supported by men. Success of Acceptance of women in politics is judged when it is endorsed by men. In the subcontinent, Representation of Fatima Jinnah in politics was acceptable because she was sister of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. Moreover, Sheikh Haseena Wajid, representative of Awami League is daughter of Sheikh Mujeeb-ur-Rahman, it is their main reason behind her representation in women is acceptable. Though, In politics women representation is accepted when it's supported by men.

Moreover, In the role of Mother and daughter women is protected from harassment. Except role of mother and daughter, women is not protected from harassment. According UN women Organization report 2021, 58% of harassment cases are found even in the boundary of home by the uncles, and other relatives, and mostly girls having the <sup>age of</sup> 15-19 year is harassed by their own relatives in the world. In a nutshell, women is not protected from harassment except in the role of mother and daughter.

Furthermore, Climate Change hits women, by creating shortage of drinking water, as women are bound to ~~met~~ ensure availability of water at home. Women is responsible to supply water at home for cooking and drinking. Due to climate change, in many places, water sources are far from homes in Asia and Africa, women walk on average 9-6 kilometers (3-7) miles per day for collecting water. (Water.org, 2021) Moreover, As per the report of Women's, Children's and Adolescents Health report 2023, In Sub-Saharan Africa women and girls spend 40 billion hours a year



to collect water, which is equivalent to a year's worth of labor by the entire workforce in France. Hence, Climate Change created scarcity of water and increased burden on women to collect water for home.

On the other hand, (Sex) Social protection can be implemented on the basis of legal protection. There is social class discrimination on the basis of law. In law, ~~but~~ all women are equal to <sup>protect</sup> ~~have~~ their rights. As per Constitution of Pakistan 1973, Article 34, that state shall protect rights of women and children. ~~without~~ This means the state has duty to <sup>protect</sup> women and children from harm and to ensure their safety and well-being. In Article 34 of Constitution no discrimination for race, class, ~~and~~ religion and color of women. Though, in the eye of law, every one has equal right either male or female.

In Addition to this, Numerous Acts and Ordinance exists to protect women from different types of violence. Laws and Acts are present to protect the women from various domestic violence. Such as Zainab Akht Bill or Zainab Akht, Response and Recovery Act 2017 is passed to protect the girls from Rape, abduction and harassment in Pakistan. Moreover, The Protection against Harassment of Women Act 2010, it protect women from harassment at workplace, public place and in the home. So, various acts are ~~present~~ present to protect the women.

Additionally, In Pakistan's Constitution ~~1973~~ <sup>equal</sup> political rights are given to women for their political representation. For political representation, equal right are given to women in the constitution of Pakistan.

In the constitution of Pakistan 1973, 10% seats in



National Assembly and 5% seats in the provincial assembly is reserved for women, with no restriction on contesting general seat as well. <sup>Hence</sup> Gender equality in the political representation is guaranteed in the constitution of Pakistan 1973.

Moreover, Law has equal legal protection for women in all roles. There is equality in legal protection for female in all roles by law. For instance, In Women's Protection Bill 2006, it was passed to protect all women from the harassment either at their home or at work place. It clearly in cases that laws protect women in all roles. All in all, law provides equally protection to women in all roles of society.

Furthermore, Women are facilitated and provided with everything including water. Water and other things are provided to women at home to perform house chores. In Urban areas, of Pakistan, Water board ensure availability of water at the doorstep. In rural areas, <sup>of Pakistan</sup> hand pump is very common in villages to get drinking water at home. So, availability of water is ensured to women to do household work.

In the above debate, it's clearly indicated that legal actions are not workable until social protection mechanism is implemented. Such as Lower class women are unable to get legal protection. Domestic violence Economically dependent women can't have access to get legal protection from law. Women dependent on man is unable to get access to Police or court because she don't have fees to pay to a lawyer to get justice against domestic violence. All in all, Economically under-privileged women has no access to legal protection.



Moreover, Negative social attitude towards victims of rape and honor killing to get the help from law. legal support mostly not given to victims of rape and specially honor killing. According to Sindh Police website, In 2022 152 women have been killed in so-called honor killing - and cases are disposed by considering it their personal matter of honour. In addition to this, in rape cases two finger test is considered as character certificate for women, either she is raped or habitual of having sex. There is negative attitude of society towards the victims of rape and honor killing.

Furthermore, Majority of women in Pakistan are relative of strong male politicians. Strong political background is necessary for women to be accepted in politics. For In Pakistan, ~~At~~ Shahheed Mohtamim Benazir Bhutto, became 1st ~~PS~~ Female Prime Minister of Pakistan was daughter of Shahheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Mother well-known politician Mariyam Nawaz belongs to Nawaz league is daughter of former Prime Minister of Pakistan Nawaz Sharif. All in all, For representation in politics, strong <sup>male</sup> political background of family is necessary.

Additionally, Women outside boundary of home is easy to target of harassment and attack. Women is not safe in patriarchal society. In Country like Pakistan 5048 cases of harassment as reported in 2021, (Dawn.com, 2021). In Philippines, 80% of harassment cases are outside the boundary of homes. Though, women is not socially protected outside house.



In Addition to this, laws do not ensure to facilitate water supplies at home. There is no law to provide protection to women<sup>not</sup> to ensure availability of water at home.

In a nutshell, Social Protection is more essential for women than legal protection. Social protection will reduce the cases like related to harassment, rape and acid attack ~~but~~ legal protection is introducing various laws to eliminate these domestic violence of women ~~but~~ its <sup>effective</sup> implementation is still question mark. Effective implementation of laws in society ~~can protect~~ and their social acceptance in society protect the women in the world.

Social Security is promise that we cannot and must not break.

(Barrie Sanders)