

Spousal Sexual Abuse: The Worst of Domestic Violence

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Abstract

Objective is to seek public perception about spousal sexual abuse now in many part of the world known as spousal rape or marital rape. Marital rape is simply the sexual act without the implied or expressed consent of spouse. This paper addresses the element of marital rape in two local communities - Lyari and Clifton, in the city of Karachi, Pakistan. The topic is not new but the acceptability is; mostly people avoid discussing such taboos in the public, for them rape doesn't exist in the marital life. To find out the true picture, we have conducted a qualitative survey the methodology that we are following is qualitative survey of general public married spouses from two areas and the public servants those deal with this phenomenon in their capacities including the lawyers, religious scholars, and non-profit organizers. Our sample size is 200 concerned individuals and is equally divided in two areas. We opted a random sampling method based on qualitative research to reach the target audience in both the localities with an assumption to find the real deal. Our research is based on the volunteering response of the people regarding the concerned query, not to trigger or force people to share their respective experience/s. Instruments of research are questioners filled in by spouses from both areas. Hypothesis were tested using the method of Z-Testing. The study will help us to clarify the public perception about unconsented sexual intercourse or spousal sexual harassment or marital rape.

Keywords: *Sexual Abuse, Domestic Violence, Marital Rape.*

Introduction

As per law, Pakistan penal code 375 any sex without consent is considered as rape. It is a traumatic experience regardless of the relationship between the rapist and the victim. This is not a single gender-based issue, rape, in any case, can be related to both males and females. The common mindset of this being one-sided is in fact an issue. Marital rape is an act of sexual intercourse with spouse without his/her consent. It is another word for domestic violence coupled with sexual abuse. Historically, sexual intercourse with spouse was regarded as a spouse's right, but now engaging in the sexual act without the spouse's consent is recognized by law as a crime. The percentage of marital rape cases has increased over the years and further ignorance of this will lead to the continuation of these cases.

Not raising voice over the issue just because he is your "Majazi Khuda" is the reason behind increasing number of victims. And the sad part is even victims do not realize that they are victims because "Biwi to hoti he isi liyae hai". Using religious sayings to protect themselves from their

sick deed, a proper and vast religious information is needed on such taboos of our society. Before we overhaul the law, we have to take a look into our society to define the actual cause behind marital rape. Certain social norms of our society have helped to pave a way for such heinous acts. The acceptance in our society is much needed, we have to recognize the victims and serve them with justice. For the sake of family's reputation and position in society such cases go unreported. People should be educated about their right and the laws which have been created for their own benefit. Section 376 penal code should be familiarized among the masses for their own benefit. As per the *Pakistan Penal Code*, in section 375, the comprehensive definition of rape is as follows:

Rape:- A man is said to commit rape –a sexual intercourse - with a woman under the following circumstances,

- 1) *Against her will.*
- 2) *Without her consent*
- 3) *With her consent, obtained by fear of death or of hurt,*
- 4) *With her consent, without the intentions of getting married with her and vice versa*
- 5) *With or without her consent when she is under sixteen years.*

Rape laws in Pakistan have an exemption for marriage; means a husband could not be prosecuted for raping his wife up till 2006. A big thanks to the Women's Protection Act 2006, now marital rape is legally a crime and comes under the ambit of the law.

“A man said to commit rape - sexual intercourse- with a woman, who is not his wife” The words “who is not his wife” has removed back in 2006; such a concerted move to include marital rape in the law. A literature review states that according to some estimates, every 10minutes a women is subjected to rape from the person she ensures her well-being. Almost 10-14% women are subjected to marital rape. A project carried out by LUMS Lahore students in Islamabad and Rawalpindi states that 46.9% women reported nonconsensual sex and are stuck in forced sexual relationship and neglecting this act.

According to Jonathan A.C. Brown, Islamic law has handled the phenomena of marital rape differently from the modern laws, originated back in 1970s. Sexual abuse within the marriage has conceptualized as harm to his wife rather the violation of consent. Historical records reflects that women were used to go to court to let their husbands to desist and pay for the damages in such cases. If the husband used violence to force his wife to sleep with him, he is legally a sinner and she has the right to go to court and file a complaint against him to get punished (Dar Al-Ifta Al-Missriyyah). It is high time to bring such taboos in light. Marital rape does not exist is not true.

Review of Literature

According to many researchers including Randall & Haskell (1995), Mahoney and Williams (1998) and Adinkrah (2011) rape has, and still been a challenging crime to accept and study due to one of the most underreported assault. The contextual meaning of marital rape is not static among the states; however, generally, and according to Bergen (1996), Pagelow (1992), and Russell (1990) marital rape is unwanted intercourse obtained either by force or threat of force or when the spouse is unable to give consent. According to the study conducted from Center for Disease Control and Prevention back in 2010-12, it was analyzed every five women and every seventy-one men rape once in their lifetime, while the ratio of marital rape is just one in ten (Resick, 2008). According to Martin, Resick, and Teft (2007), rape is already the most far-fetching to study, whereas, the concept of marital rape is the most threatening yet unfortunately the least studied sexual assault. Basile (2002) revealed that the ratio of reporting rates is one of the most challenging factors to contribute coupled with low conviction rates. He argues that gender stereotypes and the patriarchal views of sex are the cause behind the non-existence of reported cases. As per Mahoney & Williams (1998) a collection of studies revealed that the rape by intimate partner's accounts for one-fourth of all the rapes. Similarly, another study by Haskell and Randall (1995) of a random sample of 420 women in Toronto, found that 30% of rape cases reported were by their spouses.

Based on the comprehensive study by Finkelhor and Yllo (1985), on violence against women in the US, estimated that the ratio of married women who experience marital rape is between 10 and 14 percent. Based on the findings made by Mahoney, Williams, and Westback (2001), it's estimated that approx. 7.7 million women have been raped by their partners, they researched that women who are battered by their partners are at higher risk for sexual violence. (Robinson, 2017)

Types of Marital Rape

- Battering rape: In this type of marital rape, spouse experience both physical and sexual violence in many ways.
- Force-only rape: In this type of marital rape, husbands use certain amount of force and coerce their wives; women who refuse sexual intercourse face such assaults.
- Obsessive rape: In obsessive rape, charges involve brutal torture to perverse sexual acts, they are also labeled as brutal rape.

Historical Significances of Marital Rape

Throughout the history, it's normal for men to force their wives for sex without or against their will. In most societies, the generalized definition of the word rape used to be like 'the sexual intercourse without her consent.' This provided the spouse, an exemption to prosecute, called "a license to rape". The historical foundation traced back to Sir Matthew Hale, Chief Justice of England in 17th Century, stated: "*the husband cannot be guilty of raping his lawful wife, as their*

mutual consent and contract assumed that the wife hath given up herself unto her husband that she cannot retract". Isn't surprising that Lord Hale did not support his claim with any argument, any case law or any of the legal basis to justify his assertion. According to him, the wife automatically hands over her non-retracted sexual consents to her husband for no reason whatsoever. He introduced a notion of implied consent within the marriage, which continued for the entire course of the marriage. (Hale, 1971). Thanks to John Stuart Mill (1869), for observing that marital rape is never a welcoming act to women as it's a surrender of dignity and it lowers the wife beneath of a slave. The notions of exempted tenets of the marital rape were 'irrevocable implied consent' and 'the common law doctrines that consider a woman as a property of her husband' (Susan M. Okin, 1988) (Harve, 1986)

As per Martin, Taft & Resick, (2007), until recent decades, the possibility of marital rape was non-existent; it was a crime committed by a stranger or with whom the victim have no intimate relationship with; the exemption of rape laws for married couples was and still is the reason for under-reporting. First marital rape conviction occur by the 1970s in the United States. Many victims of marital rape were reluctant to report until 1993, even it's not completely illegal in the United States and some are still confused whether it is a crime or not and while some fear of falling apart their marriages. Thanks to the lobbying developed by multiple feminist advocates to bring change in the legal system, even some provisions exist in some States, where it is legal for a man to rape his wife without the fear of any consequences. Such provisions are counted as "partial exemptions"; depending on the amount of physical force and the wife's inability to allow due to mentally impaired. Given these conditions, marital rape is persecuted only if the couple is separated, divorced, or living apart.

Historically, men have dominated the lawmaking process and their interests in property protection, further exaggerated the concept of married women, as their property, and in this context married men is never be criminally responsible for raping their wives. Lastly, the feminist movement conceptualized by Martin et al, took the marital rape in the realm of social control and dominance over women from patriarchal family system.

Marital Rape in the Laws

Planty, Langton, Krebs, Berzofsky &Smiley-McDonald, researched in 2013 that globally, 119 countries have laws on domestic violence, 125 of them have on sexual harassment, and only 52 of those 119 have laws on marital. Heise & Gottmoeller, has suggested that the existence of rules doesn't compliant with international standards and recommendations, that counts marital rape as a human right violation of spouses.

Talking about the state's reform, rape legislation is slow in regards to the marital exemption. In late 1990's, Russell shared that back in 1978, John Rideout was prosecuted for the cause, and later on they lived together. After some years, Finkelhor and Yllo 1985 observed the case of People v. Liberta, New York; the first marital rape exemption ruled out for the equal protection of married

women. However, there is still considerable variations by the state in prosecuting men for raping their wives. As of 1998, Bergen in 1998 and Eskow in 1996 found out that thirty-three states still favored some exemption from marital rape prosecution. Most commonly, husbands exempt from rape charges if it is not quickly reported or if the attempt lacks the effective effort because the wife was unable to give consent.

Laws on sexual assault in the United States are far from perfect: some states give victims to pay for their rape kits, while others require only three years to report sexual assaults. However, a new report shows the situation is getting more dire-around the world. The women's rights organization surveyed 82 countries and found that there are ten nations where, forcing your spouse into sex is perfectly legal including Ghana, Lesotho, Nigeria, Oman, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Tanzania. For example; Ghanaian law states that "consent given by spouse, cannot be revoked," unless divorced or legally separated. In India, spousal rape is still legal, studies show that marital rape happens in situations, where rape or any other abuse occur in tandem (Shuerman, 2017)

Sadly, marital rape is illegal, but that doesn't mean justice; getting a judge to hear such case was and is still difficult, often, marital rape cases get thrown out. What lawyers do when a judge refuses to listen? There's still something that the US court system refuses to acknowledge; it's still a closeted issue. Mostly, spouse open about being raped from their spouse while shaking relationship counseling, only 30% of the victims come forward for seeking relationship maintenance report, although they don't report it, but share with their counselors. It's quite surprising that the marital rape divorce statistics are lower than your assumptions. Some women choose to live with their husbands after being attacked, for religious reasons; rather than calling out sinner, they rather risk experiencing another rape. There are no clear marital rape divorce statistics as the victim don't always speak up about, and in many cases, the spouse gets a divorce without inquiring about the rape with the fear to face humiliation in the courtroom. Unfortunately, about 69% of women experienced spousal rape at least twice; if it happens once, chances of happening again rise (Bite, 2017)

Effects of Marital Rape

Every marital rape has possible long-term effects: marital rape results in unwanted pregnancies and other gynecological complications such as fibroids, vaginal bleeding, and chronic pelvic pain and urinary tract infections coupled with psychological stress and disorders. Women who have been raped are highly susceptible of attempting suicide; the World Health Organization (2002:1) reports suggest that raped spouses are present with suicidal thoughts and behavior, following, mental health problems like; clinical depression, anxiety, phobias, panic, and symptoms of traumatic stress. Astbury (2006:5) notes that other than these physical issues, spouses also nose-dived into low self-esteem and "a damaged sense of gender identity". Studies proved (Vetten 2007:23) that rape victims are six (6) times more likely fall into Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

(PTSD). Some other possible effects fall into social difficulties; changing attitude of the society towards rape victims -critical, judgmental and uncaring. Even the rape survivor's family is unaware of how to respond to the victim. Rape survivors lost the meaning and purpose of life, experiencing uncertainty about the future (Glanville, 2012)

Marital Rape in Pakistan

Criminalization of marital rape is the most controversial yet the most complex debate without any direct lawmaking in the absence of the cultural and social framework. Pakistan, with the regressive cultural norms and values, it seems reluctant to discourage or even recognize marital rape, the law has the flexibility for victims to seek legal proceedings against the spouse. The Pakistan Penal Code, section 375 is ambiguous to interpret the concept marital rape criminalization in Pakistan. Rape laws in Pakistan recently lift husband's exemption to prosecute for raping his wife; credit goes to the Women's Protection Act 2006.

However, due to weak interpretation among police officers and the judiciary coupled with cases not being reported, unfortunately, the provision is still not a part of public knowledge. At worse, the absence of marital rape from our culture creates a mighty wall between its interpretations. Confusion and dispute over marital rape criminalization is the true reflection of lack of synchronization and consensus among the state and society. Perhaps it's a paradoxical cycle in the evolution that Pakistan has seen, due to which country seemed to feed society. (Rao, 2017)

Unfortunately, Pakistan society has not evolved enough to talk about the rape openly, and marital rape is even a bigger taboo. Mostly, the woman's family convince her to stay quiet and taught her acceptance if she inquires that her husband has raped her; it sounds so vague to them that they even laugh. So constructively, Pakistan has not grown enough to consider this, a crime. Till now, only 2-3 cases popped up -mostly via social media; even there, the women faced such deadly social pressure to back out from it. Just because the rapists are not hanged, rather being encouraged so, there is no point of attaching such rapists; as its song of the land far away (Bilal, 2016). Currently, when the slogan of women empowerment is echoing globally, voices against Marital rape are also gaining strength. There are certain social norms in the world in general and Pakistan that pave the way for such heinous acts. Let's probe Pakistani culture.

In Pakistan, victims fail to realize if marital rape exists. Unfortunately, in the marriage, it is the moral duty of the wife to cater to any needs of her husband. The issue becomes routine so, no one feels it something unusual. In Pakistani society, females hardly talk about the domestic violence with the fear that it may end their marriage and live the life of divorcee would complicate their lives for a girl who is living a post-separation; it's not welcomed in our society. There is no doubt that Islam advocates gender equality when it comes to human rights, and it's strictly prohibited to

exploit any social group. The fact is that females can surpass the men in every field and people use religion to prove the legitimacy of their dominant status. Husbands threaten their spouses from the consequences of hell and God's wrath and quickly get a license to turn their wives' lives hell with fury upon them.

Pakistanis grow up with a perception that religion makes it compulsory for the females to cater to every desire of their husbands, so the girls consider it religiously obligatory to bear all sorts of physical abuse. In an average eastern society, a man carries the burden for a living, and this traditional relationship between husband and wife implies the financial needs of the woman have to be met by his man. And since the man strives hard to provide shelter, food, and clothing to his female partner, so it okay to do whatever he wants with her. As a result, a man considers his spouse, his property and he is allowed to do whatever he wants to (Ismail, 2016).

Pakistan society is male dominant, with limited laws supporting the rights of women, and rape is one of them. People don't take marital rape seriously or even considered a joke as they perceive that marriage is a consent between a man and a woman to have sexual intercourse; marital rape is counted as the husband's love for his wife. Now the issue, which is bigger than marital rape is the refuse to count marital rape as a rape; how can we expect a proper law for rape in Pakistan. Ladies' NGO' the Aurat Foundation bolstered this view with an appropriate precedence for this issue, but the lawmakers has not yet developed any adequate legislation for the cause.

Marital Rape in Limelight

A 35-year-old Naila faced an abusive life for nine years with her husband, according to her;

“Every time he approached me, it was sheer torture - physical, and forever mental and emotional. He used to be physically brutal and wanted me to indulge in something I was not okay with. He never cared about my needs and wants, not even about my well-being or pregnancy,”

And when she discussed with her parents:

“They thought I am wrong and always ask me to fulfill his needs, as he has a right over me. I always being threatened with the fear of isolation with my three sons, nobody have ever cared about my rights and I had not much courage. Our social norms and misunderstood religious ethics, conditioned us to stay silent in the face of pain and sufferings” (Man in Jhelum arrested for 'marital rape and sodomy' on wife's complaint, 2018)

Objectives of the Study

- 1) To evaluate the main cause behind increasing victims and cases.
- 2) To analyze public mindset towards the scenario.
- 3) To understand respective law and religious values.

Research Questions

- 1) What public think about marital rape?
- 2) What spouse think about marital rape?
- 3) Do residents of slum and post area think alike?
- 4) Does education create awareness about the issue?
- 5) Is there such a thing known as marital rape in Pakistan?
- 6) Can a husband be accused of rape?

Hypotheses of the study

H1: Sex without consent of spouse is rape

H2: Marital rape is not accepted in the society which is the main cause of increasing number of victims.

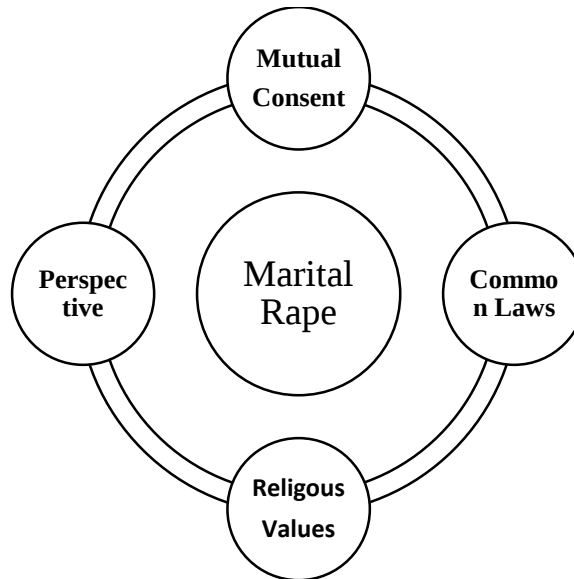
H3: Our law and religious values verify marital rape.

Research Methodology

Sample & Instrument

Data was gathered from random members of the society to avoid biases and to get familiar with the public perspective about marital rape. The sample of 200 participants was divided into two groups that is; married and unmarried people from Clifton and Lyari along the interviews conducted from lawyers, doctors, NGOs and religious scholars. This population group of married people was chosen because the topic concerns the whole society regardless gender or age or marital status. Probability sampling technique will be followed throughout the research. We followed a survey research design to obtain the perception of a particular group of individual's. As by conducting a survey, we were able to emphasize on finding out what men/ women think about marital rape. The philosophy we used was Epistemology in order to increase our knowledge about this topic. The paradigm we used was Positivism because we wanted to explore the social reality of this topic. Reasoning approach used is deductive and strategy used is exploratory. Cross-Sectional is the time horizon used as survey was conducted in a specific time frame. The method of data collection was done by using questionnaires and interviews. The dependent variable in our research is marital rape comprising our independent are Perception of the society and the victims about marital rape belonging to different parts of the society with different age group, education etc. and the dependent variable is the impact of fairness cream advertisements on their perception. The instruments used were questionnaires to gather quantitative data for our research objectives.

Conceptual Framework



Procedure of the Study and Data Collection

Survey research was conducted by constructing a questionnaire of 25 questions each. 200 random samples were taken, out of which 63.5% were male and 36.5% were female among which 53.5% were single whereas 37.5% married, 6.0% divorced and 3.0% separated. The questions asked were in simple language so that it is easily understood by the targeted population and answered without any biases. Whereas qualitative research was done by conducting interviews from the lawyers, doctors, religious scholars, and victims.

Reliability and Validity

This research report is reliable as the overall demographics of the participants required for the survey and interviews were discussed beforehand. The participants of the survey were chosen from diverse groups of Clifton and Lyari so that the results can be away from a bias perspective. The questionnaire was made in a way that the participants had full control on their choices, there weren't any leading questions.

Production Specification

Camera: Two DSLR cameras were used for the thesis interviews and documentary; Canon 70D. The frame rate was set at 24 fps while shutter speed was 50 on both Cameras. Both the cameras used for the interviews were operated with the same settings in order to remove any lighting contrasts and variations.

Lens: The lenses for the documentary was 50 mm fixed lens and 18-135 Canon lens

Sound: *Sound was recorded with a Sony collar mic for better distortion free sound with an extension cable attached and utilized RODE Mobile mike as a backup.*

Editing: *All the post editing of the documentary and interviews was completed on professional editing software Adobe Premiere Pro CS6.*

Qualitative Analysis

The topic of marital rape is known to be a taboo in Pakistan; various cases dealt with are not spoken about due to what society might think. Victims usually never come front with the story in fear of what people might think about them or in fear that they won't be accepted by their own people. Going around and getting people's perspectives on this matter has changed a few thoughts. This analysis is driven from the words of lawyers, NGOs, doctors (various), religious scholars and the general public.

According to lawyers the basic definition of rape, yes, is the act of forcefully sexually assaulting someone, this can be defined by the general public as well. But the matter in fact is that there are variations of such cases that exist. Rape cases occur with cases that are with and without consent.

There are two environments that we live in, which have a source of law, one that follows the Constitution and one that follows Laws based on religion. The Islamic Republic of Pakistan follows Sharia Law, and *"In Islam there is no concept of marital rape."* -- G.N. Qureshi

The NGOs help victims in such cases of lower class by giving them shelter from the abuse, not only catering to their needs but providing them supposed safety from the torment. Their views are that women are meant to provide for their husbands but not meant to be tormented for being a wife. They believe that spreading the awareness of such an issue and educating women of their rights would only create more chaos and that everything should be handled under the eyes of God.

Through which religious scholars have a common viewpoint that in any religion there is no such thing as marital rape and that *"the word rape and marriage are quite opposite from each other"*- Pastor Francis but there are certain situations where the husband has to respect his wife or the

wife respects her husband, in case of health uncertainties and that forced relations are not permitted in any religion.

“In our society the concept is not acceptable, so men will not understand that its rape ”

This issue thus arises the oppressor’s thought process that since the concept is unclear then the punishment would be dismissed as well and therefore increasing the number of victims. Whereas by spreading the awareness of such a cause would only get victims a path of knowledge on how to get out of such a situation.

Such people only go with rape only because they’ve never been taught from the start on how the world exists. The difference between right and wrong, and that if something is wrong would they know about it.

The concept of religion from people’s perspective is that a woman is not meant to refuse her husband’s needs without a proper reasoning.

“Religion is divine, it’s so smart it knew that the woman is the one that would say no, so it said don’t say no and it knew that the man is the one that will force, and it said wait for her to say yes, it did not tell the man not to say no, religion understands us very well, religion is an advice”—Esa

As an understanding from the general public of marital rape it is an issue to be criminalized and that our society should recognize this as a real issue that exists.

Quantitative Analysis

frequencies

		Gender			
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	127	63.5	63.5	63.5
	Female	73	36.5	36.5	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Age

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	18-24	71	35.5	35.5	35.5
	25-34	73	36.5	36.5	72.0
	35-44	32	16.0	16.0	88.0
	Above	24	12.0	12.0	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Education

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Matriculation/Intermediate	40	20.0	20.0	20.0
	O/A Levels	36	18.0	18.0	38.0
	Bachelors	74	37.0	37.0	75.0
	Masters	27	13.5	13.5	88.5
	PHD	23	11.5	11.5	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

What is your marital status?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Single	107	53.5	53.5	53.5
	Married	75	37.5	37.5	91.0
	Divorced	12	6.0	6.0	97.0
	Separated	6	3.0	3.0	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Where do you live?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Clifton	105	52.5	52.5	52.5
	Liyari	93	46.5	46.5	99.0
	Other	2	1.0	1.0	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

What are cultural values of your family?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Religious	31	15.5	15.5	15.5
	Religious	123	61.5	61.5	77.0
	Liberal	46	23.0	23.0	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Do you know what is rape?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	183	91.5	91.5	91.5
	No	12	6.0	6.0	97.5
	Maybe	5	2.5	2.5	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Uncensored public discussions about sexuality or rape exists in our society.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	56	28.0	28.0	28.0
	Agree	76	38.0	38.0	66.0
	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	21	10.5	10.5	76.5
	Strongly Disagree	10	5.0	5.0	81.5
	Disagree	37	18.5	18.5	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Do you know what is amarital rape?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	149	74.5	74.5	74.5
	No	34	17.0	17.0	91.5
	Maybe	17	8.5	8.5	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Does marital rape exists in our society?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	110	55.0	55.0	55.0
	No	40	20.0	20.0	75.0
	Maybe	50	25.0	25.0	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Forced sexual relationship between the spouse is rape.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	63	31.5	31.5	31.5
	Agree	92	46.0	46.0	77.5
	Neither agree nor Disagree	22	11.0	11.0	88.5
	Strongly Disagree	7	3.5	3.5	92.0
	Disagree	16	8.0	8.0	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Your national and cultural heritage effects the way in which you see(Marital) Rape.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	32	16.0	16.0	16.0
	Agree	104	52.0	52.0	68.0
	Neither agree Nor Disagree	35	17.5	17.5	85.5
	Strongly Disagree	3	1.5	1.5	87.0
	Disagree	26	13.0	13.0	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Do you know anyone who has had sexually abusive relationship?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	74	37.0	37.0	37.0
	No	113	56.5	56.5	93.5
	Maybe	13	6.5	6.5	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Do you think there is psychological reason behind marital rape?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	88	44.0	44.0	44.0
	No	45	22.5	22.5	66.5
	Maybe	67	33.5	33.5	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Are you aware of pakistan rape law?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	51	25.5	25.5	25.5
	No	136	68.0	68.0	93.5
	Maybe	13	6.5	6.5	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Are you aware of amendments made in rape law?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	35	17.5	17.5	17.5
	No	161	80.5	80.5	98.0
	Maybe	4	2.0	2.0	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Should our government pass a specific law for marital rape?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	113	56.5	56.5	56.5
	No	53	26.5	26.5	83.0
	Maybe	34	17.0	17.0	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Marital rape should be criminalised

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	76	38.0	38.0	38.0
	Agree	67	33.5	33.5	71.5
	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	37	18.5	18.5	90.0
	Strongly Disagree	1	.5	.5	90.5
	Disagree	19	9.5	9.5	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Do you think the number of victims is increasing day by day?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	79	39.5	39.5	39.5
	Agree	21	10.5	10.5	50.0
	Maybe	100	50.0	50.0	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Is marital rape a single gender based issue?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	35	17.5	17.5	17.5
	No	99	49.5	49.5	67.0
	Maybe	66	33.0	33.0	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Do you think marital rape is a offence against women?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	86	43.0	43.0	43.0
	No	74	37.0	37.0	80.0
	Maybe	37	18.5	18.5	98.5
	5	3	1.5	1.5	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Most of the victims don't talk about marital rape because they feel ashamed.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	67	33.5	33.5	33.5
	Agree	99	49.5	49.5	83.0
	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	29	14.5	14.5	97.5
	Disagree	5	2.5	2.5	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

By creating awarness we can decrease the number of victims

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	64	32.0	32.0	32.0
	Agree	102	51.0	51.0	83.0
	Neither agree Nor Disagree	31	15.5	15.5	98.5
	Disagree	3	1.5	1.5	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Should we eductae those women who still choose not to report about marital rape?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	156	78.0	78.0	78.0
	No	19	9.5	9.5	87.5
	Maybe	25	12.5	12.5	100.0
	Total	200	100.0	100.0	

Would our society accept the victims?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	75	37.5	38.1	38.1
	No	40	20.0	20.3	58.4
	Maybe	82	41.0	41.6	100.0
	Total	197	98.5	100.0	
Missing	System	3	1.5		
Total		200	100.0		

Summary

Our research topic is marital rape-an analysis of public perception and reality of 2 localities of Karachi, the purpose of this research was to know the perception of people of our society about marital rape, what Pakistan's law say about marital rape, what different religions say about marital rape since our country is a land of cultural diversity, and it's important to know perspective of every religion so that results of the research shouldn't be considered bias by any point of view, following the same reason the target audience which we selected was the public of Clifton and Lyari a slum and a posh area to know two different perspectives, a sample of 200 was chosen to know the results whereas at the same time it was very important to know the facts and views from the people whom our society somehow follow, the law makers who make these

law have to say about the issue, not just them but we conducted interviews from the doctors, NGO owners, religious scholars, psychologists who deal with such cases. The research was not specified to the married people so that we can avoid the bias. A survey was made; Random sampling technique was used and a survey of 26 questions took place.

Which clearly stated that lack of knowledge about the laws and rights turned out to be the main issue, people let it be the ones who belong from the posh area and are educated or the ones who belong from slum areas with less education had 2 sides of the story, some considered it to be a filth of our society where as some stated there is no such thing in our society.

Conclusion and Discussion

Education or no education, until unless we will not broaden the capacity of our thinking as a society this issue and many more issues like marital rape are like a stigma of our society, where people are not ready to recognize a crime as a crime, no religion allows forced relationships, no law allows to force a person on other under any circumstances. Let it be a man or women each gender is supposed to respect other and respect their consent. We allow our women to undermine such issues as this is her husband's right likewise a woman cannot force herself on her husband. Our law should recognize marital rape as a crime and should punish the culprits. Victims should raise their voice against this and later justice should be served. Our society needs to understand the victims are not someone who are wrong or cannot be accepted as normal human beings, they seek for such assurance from our society that if they well raise their voice rest of the people are not going to betray them. Awareness is very important for the people who are either victim or culprits or do not consider this as a wrong deed. All developed countries laws recognize marital rape so should Pakistan

From the conducted research, we have come to the conclusion that due to lack of knowledge about laws and actual religious studies people here make their own perspectives based on limited knowledge and do not recognize a crime as a crime. Awareness and education about marital rape is important if not all then at least for people who are married or telling all the basic information before getting married so that they can recognize what is right and what is wrong. People are ready to take steps for their right they just need their law makers and enforces to be with them. So that we can change the mindset of people in society who still say that after marriage any sexual relationship cannot be named as rape let it be forced or even if it includes betting spouse is allowed to do all this.

Findings and Recommendations

Through our findings which we got to know from the survey and Interviews that is that there are 68% people do not have even basic knowledge of laws let them be educated or uneducated belonging from posh area or slum area only 25% people are aware of Pakistan rape law where as 13% were not sure rather they know or they do not. 38% people strongly agree to criminalize marital rape and 33% fairly agree with the idea whereas 9.5% strongly disagree with the idea, 18% were confused about what to say. 51% people said we should create awareness about marital

rape so that people should know and take steps for their rights and report the crime, but at the same time 41% were not sure if rather the society will accept the victims once they come on the surface. People who our society follows such as doctors, lawyers, religious scholars we conducted the interviews from them as well.

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