

Issues of child abuse in Indian Scenario; Acritical Analysis

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In India, child abuse is one of the critical issues which has hollowed the country from within. Several governmental and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have initiated prevention programs aimed at preventing child abuse, attempting to embark upon various abuses and ensuring their safety and security. The Government of India is becoming more and more sensitive and conscious about the statutory and constitutional rights of children. While the Constitution of India guarantees many fundamental rights to the children, the advance to guarantee the fulfilment of these rights was more needs based rather than rights based. The evolution to the rights based approach in the Government and civil society is still evolving due to apathy in the families and society as far as the issue of child abuse is concerned. One of the major problems in understanding the scope of the subject of "Child Abuse" is that it is extremely difficult and cumbersome to get responses from a child victim because of their inability to comprehend and understand the different dimensions of child abuse and to talk about their horrific experiences. It is henceforth complex to collect data on abused children. Several reports and surveys conducted have pointed out the plight of children in contemporary India. Majority of the children of the country are deprived of the basic right to live with dignity. One of the major causes is child abuse. Many of these children are subjected to various exploitations such as rape, corporal inflictions, trafficking, drug abuses, violence, forced prostitution, to name a few. Psychological abuses affect the children in a similar way. Documented data shows psychological abuses resulting in developmental delays, memory lapses, inability to control anxiety and violent outbursts.