

POCSO ACT

CHALLENGES IN INVESTIGATION AND MEASURES TO ADDRESS THEM

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Our children are the rock on which our future will be built, our greatest asset as a nation. They will be the leaders of our country, the creators of our national wealth who care for and protect our people



GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION

- 53% of Children in India face Sexual abuse
- Serious deficiency of infrastructure
- Delay in disposal of cases
- Feasibility to follow mandate of POCSO Act is less (Disposal in one year, Victim Statement -30 Days)
- Rise in pendency of cases
- Rise in reporting of cases



MOTTO

Not just to report and punish those who abuse and exploit the innocence of children, but also to

prove AN EFFECTIVE
DETERRENT IN CURBING THE
OCCURRENCE OF THESE
OFFENCES AND TO PREVENT
FURTHER VICTIMISATION OF
THE CHILD VICTIM





**CHALLENGES FROM
VICTIM SIDE**

- SOCIAL STIGMA
- HINDRANCE
- HESITATION
- SOCIO ECONOMIC STATUS
- LOCAL SETTLEMENTS
- FAMILY PRESSURES
- LONG JUDICIAL PROCESS
- FURTHER VICTIMISATION



SOCIAL STIGMA

- Social stigma is a taboo that needs to be eliminated
- Educate them to create awareness



HINDRANCE

- Encourage them to file the case
- Child friendly approach



HESITATION

- Friendly policing needs to be implemented
- Separate cell to approach without any hesitation



SOCIO ECONOMIC STATUS

- Owing to socio economic status, victims tend to compromise for money, which is the serious concern now
- Awareness pertaining to this issue is a must to initiate change



LOCAL SETTLEMENTS

- Local settlements are usually done to avoid the mess.
- Culprits should be **PUNISHED**
- It should be a strong deterrent in the society



FAMILY PRESSURES

- When parent/guardian is accused, family silence the child



LONG JUDICIAL PROCESS

- Child friendly justice delivery process
- Special Courts



VICTIMISATION

- Children are already victimised, we should avoid further victimising them
- Victimisation should be eradicated with more child friendly approach





**CHALLENGES FROM
POLICE SIDE**

- IGNORANCE OF THE SPIRIT OF THE ACT
- UNABLE TO RECORD THE STATEMENTS
- MISINTERPRETING CHILD PSYCHOLOGY
- NO CHILD FRIENDLY PROCEDURES
- HOSTILE TENDENCIES AND BEING INSENSITIVE
- ERRORS IN PROCEDURES
- LACK OF INFRASTRUCTURE



IGNORANCE OF THE SPIRIT OF THE ACT

- Police should be educated about the ACT in letter and spirit



UNABLE TO RECORD THE STATEMENTS

- Recording the statements in verbatim is a must





MISINTERPRETING CHILD PSYCHOLOGY

- Child needs to be nurtured and understood.
- Understanding them is the first step to success

NO CHILD FRIENDLY PROCEDURES

- Procedures should be child friendly
- Abused children are the most vulnerable, we should treat them in a friendly manner and get accustomed to the case



HOSTILE TENDENCIES AND BEING INSENSITIVE

- Victims turning hostile should be avoided
- Being insensitive to the most sensitive and vulnerable kids is pathetic



ERRORS IN PROCEDURES

- Medical
- Sec. 164CRPC
- Sec. 161CRPC
- Scene Visit
- Linking Crime to Criminal and Crime Scene.



LACK OF INFRASTRUCTURE

- Infrastructure and support staff should be provided



It's not our job to
toughen up children to
face a cruel and heartless
world, its our job to raise
children who will make
the world a little less
cruel and heartless



KEY PLAYERS

- Police
- Prosecution
- Courts
- Medical institutions
- Psychologists and counsellors
- Institution of social service

We require **MULTI-SECTORAL AND
MULTI- DISCIPLINARY** support system to nurture children



THINK



INITIATE



EDUCATE



PROTECT



NURTURE



“PEOPLE ASK, HOW CAN A PERSON
ABUSE A CHILD?
I ASK, HOW CAN SO MANY GOOD
PEOPLE NOT DO ANYTHING
ABOUT IT?”

THANK YOU

