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Gender-Based Violence

—Veena Thawre, Dolly Singh

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) is a term used to encompass a very broad range of specific offences against a person and against several types of people, including women, children, men, gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and transgender. Men are particularly vulnerable where they are perceived to have transgressed the predominant concepts of masculinity. Man and woman both are equal and play a paramount role in creation and development of their families in a particular society in general. Indeed, the struggle for equality has been one of the major concerns of the women's movement all over the world. The difference in sex and physical form denotes no difference in status. Woman is the complement of man, and not inferior. In India, since long back, women were considered as an oppressed section of the society and they were neglected for centuries. The birth of the son is being celebrated while the birth of a daughter is filled with pain. Boys are encouraged to be tough and outgoing but girls are encouraged to be homebound and shy. All these differences are gender differences and they are created by society. It has adverse impact on development goals and consequently reduces economic growth. It hampers the overall