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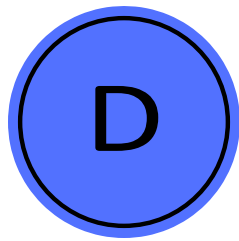
India's Rape Crisis – As perceived by the world

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DIMENSIONS

THE LIMITLESS

A few days back, I was walking with my girlfriend, although I'm still searching for one, just assume for the case that I have one. On the other side of the road, she spotted a few foreigners - all girls.

"I don't know how come these foreigners feel safe in India," she said, "when we are hearing about all these horrible cases of sexual harassments daily." She added, bitterly.

"Who knows? India might be safer than their own country?"

"Come on! You have no knowledge of current affairs, right? And then you call yourself an MBA. India was found out to be the most dangerous country for women recently in a survey," she said in a cautionary tone, "and this is for your information." she added.

Now, come out of the hypothetical situation of me having a girlfriend. Although, we had some difference of opinion yet it was good of an experience.

Poor-jokes apart, let me ask you a very important question - which place do you think India shall stand if rated on the basis of rape cases reported per hundred thousand women?

Just give it a wild guess! First, second, third, 8th, 11th, 51st? Any other number?

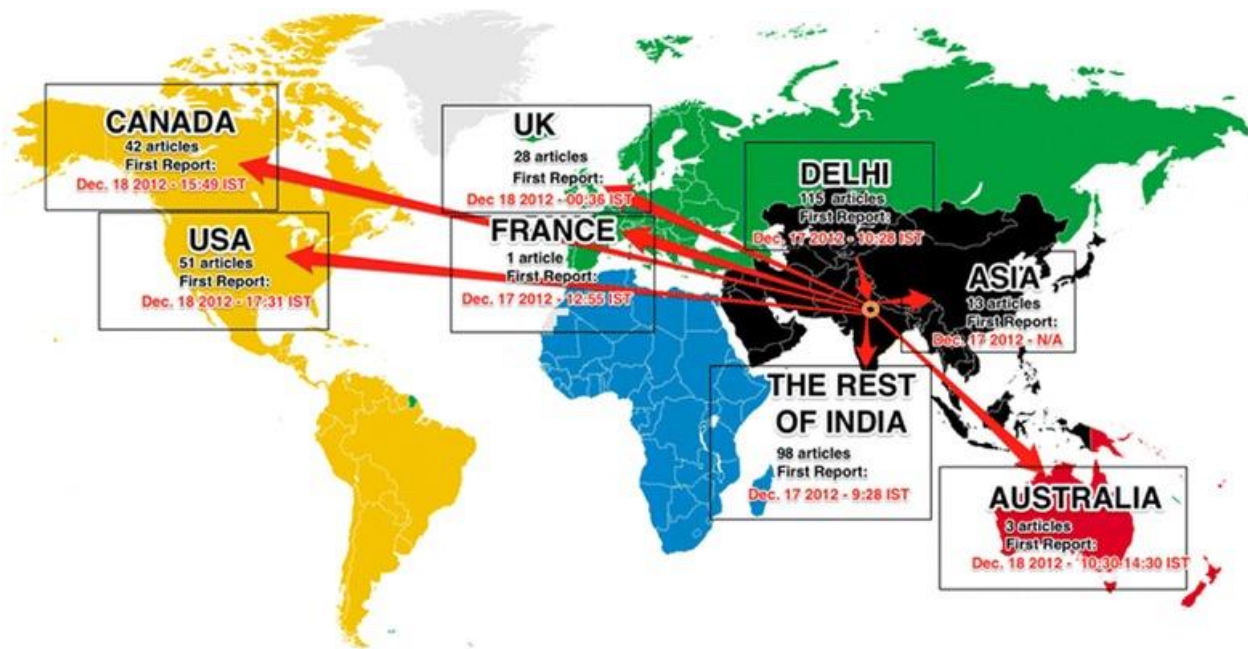
Recently, in a survey conducted by some 548 experts in the USA, India was declared to be the world's most dangerous country for women. What makes India the world's dangerous country for women?

As per National Crime records bureau, India has a rate of 1.8 per hundred thousand women. Considering the unique social scenario in India, we assume this doesn't represent the true picture because most of the rapes go unreported, and hence we doubled – okay, don't be angry – tripled - no, no, four times – no, five times. Now enough. So, take this ratio, $(1.8*5)$ 9.0 rape cases per hundred thousand women.

The part of our interest here concerning with the survey results is, the number is still far below the developed countries like Australia – 28.7 rape cases per hundred thousand women, Sweden – 63.5, United Kingdom – 17, Israel – 17.5, New Zealand – 26, and wait, your favourite – United States of America has 27.3 rape cases per thousand hundred women. Does the reality resemble your perception(ranking), and more importantly the survey that declared India to be the dangerous nation for women? I don't think so! If you still think so yes it does, I'm obligated to bring to your notice that Delhi Commission for Women's report stated, “53.2% of the rape cases filed between April 2013 and July 2014 in the capital were found 'false'.” Ya, that's the menace nobody wants to talk about.

Now you know that India is nowhere close to the survey results - the world's most dangerous country for women. Then what shaped this image of India in the world? The excessive media glare around the Nirbhaya case and the cases that followed after led India to be seen as the apogee of this rape culture.

As shown in the picture above, following the 16th December incident, 42 articles were published in Canada, 51 in the USA, 29 in the UK, and in total 534 media reports were published within a few weeks talking about the Nirbhaya case.



After the December 2012 incident, all the prominent news agencies were all ears, and rightly so, on any rape-related news from India. Any such sort of incident went straight on the focus section. It spread like a viral. So, this perception of India being the world's most dangerous country is coming from here. Rape, rape, rape, rape....., India, India, India – the country of rapists. Opinion formed!

Always, make the base of your source information sound enough before you form an opinion. Despite the strong base, don't forget to carry possibilities for the second opinion.

But let me clarify myself before you form a perception about me, that I'm in no way trying to defend the deteriorating situation in our country. The heinous rape cases that we get to know about in the news and social media are brutal, shameless and do not really fall in line with even the worst that can be expected from a human being. That said, such things can never ever be defended. More or less, the bad is bad and instead of covering it up we should focus on making things better. By the way, the Delhi rape case convicts are yet to be hanged. Just putting a reminder on the table.