

A Socio-economic Study of the Deserted Women by NRI's in Punjab

*Dissertation submitted to the School of Arts and Languages
in fulfillment of the requirements or the Awards of the degree of
Master of Arts in Sociology.*

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April 2017

DECLARATION

I hereby state that the thesis entitled “*A Socio-Economic study of the deserted women by NRIs in Punjab*” submitted to the Lovely Professional University, Phagwara, Punjab in partial fulfilment of the requirements of the degree of Master of Arts in Sociology is a record of original research work done by me during the academic year 2016-17 under the supervision and guidance of *Dr. Muhammed Madappalli* and it has not previously formed the basis for award of any degree, diploma, associateship, fellowship or other similar title to any candidate of any university.

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the dissertation entitled “*Socio-Economic study of the Deserted women by NRIs in Punjab*” submitted by *Desmond Lotha* bearing the registration no 11512330 has been completed under my guidance and supervision. The present dissertation is the result of her original work, investigation and study. No part has ever been submitted for any other degree or diploma at any University. The dissertation is fit for the submission of partial fulfilment for the award of the degree of M.A. in Sociology to the Lovely School of Arts and Languages, Lovely Professional University, Phagwara, Punjab.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Through this column, I would first like to thank God for giving me the strength in making this research journey a success.

I also take this opportunity to thank Dr. S Kannan for reaching out to my e-mails, advising and motivating me with his knowledge in research throughout his tenure in Lovely Professional University.

I am highly grateful to Madam Depshika for her kindness in giving me advice despite her busy schedule.

I would also like to express my gratitude to all the faculty members of the Sociology Department for their moral support and also the extra assistance which have been provided in guiding me throughout the research study.

I would also like to thank all the participants who were cooperative enough to provide me with the required information needed for the careful execution of this study.

I would also like to thank my Parents, Colleagues and friends for their moral support which gave me the potency and courage to complete my Dissertation work.

Lastly, I would like to give special gratitude to my supervisor, Dr. Muhammed Madappalli (MA .MPhil. PhD) under whose guidance this entire research has come out to be a success. It was due to his tireless efforts for which this Dissertation work has been completed well on time.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

In the contemporary society, women are marginalized and abused. They constitute a part of the weaker section, and thereby, a vulnerable section of society. The happiness and well-being of a married woman depend upon her status in the conjugal family, which may give rise to problems in the marital relationship. The society is in fact facing serious crises like bride burning, dowry, physical and mental harassment, extra marital relationship, misunderstanding, adjustment problem, etc., in such situation, if a woman wants to live separately; she requires social, financial as well as emotional support for self-empowerment.

The term “deserted woman” means a woman who has been deserted by her husband or a woman whose husband does not want to continue as he life partner. The meaning of the term is indeed very painful, and only a woman who is being deserted or separated from her husband can understand the pain hidden behind this social evil. In this manner, even in 21st century, ladies keep on being loaded by their exceptionally womanhood. They keep on being smothered, subordinated and segregated from multiple points of view and are consigned as peasants.

With its exceptional qualities, Indians' relational unions to Non Resident Indians (NRI) are the most desired ones in Indian culture, promising greener fields for the young lady as well as her whole family. They are viewed as the simplest approach to meander abroad. Extra there are allurements by marriage operators and families feel that such unions would lift up their position in the public eye. In the energy not to relinquish such open doors, families totally overlook even the standard alerts that are exploratory in standard matchmaking. Relational unions are along these lines hurried into, and as the insights demonstrate that up to two out of ten times they end up being fake. In a significant number different occasions there have been news of mental and physical mishandle. About 30,000 ladies have been surrendered and 15,000 cases enlisted in the condition of Punjab alone (Bhushan, 2006).

The phenomenon of wives abandoned by their NRI husbands has been growing invisibly for more than a decade. Nearly every Indian state has women deserted by NRI men who live in various foreign countries including Canada, UK, various European and Middle Eastern countries, and the USA. Keeping in mind the socio cultural situation in India, once abandoned these ‘holiday’ brides lose everything including their social standing. They and their families are often ostracized and in severe debt due to the loans taken for the marriage and for giving exorbitant dowries. Some women are taken abroad only to be brutally worn out, assaulted, abused both mentally and physically, underfed, confined and ill-treated by their husbands and at times their in laws for dowry. In definite cases, wives reach the foreign country of their husband’s residence and are left waiting at the international airport, abandoned in a foreign country. They are deserted with no support or means of sustenance or the consent to stay on there. There are quite a few cases where a woman later learns that her NRI husband has given false information about his job, immigration status, or earning to con her into marriage. Some of these men turn out to be married previously or living with another woman abroad.

The example of NRI spouse desertion falls into three classes:

- (a) A woman who is dwelling with her significant other in a remote nation all of a sudden discovers her better half has vanished abandoning her;
- (b) A woman who has been dwelling abroad with her better half is either misleadingly or coercively reclaimed to India and left there without her travel permit, visa, and cash and along these lines with no method for rejoining her significant other; and
- (c) A woman who is married when husband visits India and he migrates to other country without sending back any support for visa and the women is left abandoned while there is no news from the husbands side. For the present review I will be focusing mainly on the third point of abandonment.

Though the problem of abandoned brides is common to many Indian states including Gujarat Haryana, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh, yet the problem is very serious in Punjab, in the Northern part of India, where the desire to migrate to western countries has traditionally been strong. For women in the Punjab getting married beyond the international boundary and engaging in migration, the motivation is essentially economic, triggered by “push” and “pull” factors in the state, community and family. The spiraling price of real

estate, lack of suitable employment, decreasing rate of return from agriculture and allied activities, growing difficulty of getting into professional courses of education, demonstration effect of successful emigration in the neighborhood, higher value attached to western education and experience in the Indian job market, and a powerful lobby of emigration promoters are some of the “push” factors in the Punjab. Similarly, temptations of a good standard of living, better future for children in terms of health, education and employment, social security in old age, and the power of remittances are a few common “pull” factors. Emigration to developed countries is usually seen as a great leveler in terms of wealth and power, and, in the background of rising restrictions on international immigration, marriage provides the surest way of settling abroad and a legitimate escape route from some of the traditional burdens in one’s own land. Marriage abroad is presumed as a safe way of getting all near and dear one’s overseas.

1.2 Role of Dowry in desertion of women by NRI’s

Dowry has a vital role to play during this desertion of girls by NRI’s cases. Ladies are typically abandoned as a result of their unable to pay the usurious amounts of gift demanded by the NRI grooms and their families. Before the wedding grooms typically brazenly threaten to decision off the weddings on the pretext of having the ability to induce higher offers of gift from alternative families. In these cases, the bride’s folks typically pay the quantity asked by the groom and his family so as to save lots of their daughters from being left at the altar. However , even when the wedding, the strain from the groom and his folks don't stop and once the woman’s folks are unable to offer the quantity demanded, their daughters are abandoned in India and lots of of them never hear from their husbands once more once they come back to their country of residence.

As indicated by the Dowry Prohibition Act: settlement signifies "any property or important security given or consented to be given either straightforwardly or in a roundabout way by one gathering to a marriage to the next gathering to the marriage; or by the guardians of either gathering to a marriage or by some other individual, to either gathering to the marriage or to whatever other individual; at or before or whenever after the marriage regarding the marriage of said gatherings however does exclude endowment on account of people to whom the Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) applies." Originally, the idea of Dowry can be followed back to the conventional north Indian marriage framework. Settlement alluded to the endowments going with the endowment of the lady (kanya dan), and was respected was a

demonstration of upgrading the status and family respect of the provider. However this has now developed into a social wickedness where ladies and their families are consistently irritated and debilitated by their spouses and in laws to blessing extreme sums particularly if the prepare is a Non Resident Indian. In the last case, of NRI relational unions, individuals will give more share as this is viewed as an approach to guarantee a superior future for the lady of the hour. Once the lady is hitched to a Non occupant Indian and moves to a remote nation it is expected that she could, by resulting sponsorship, go about as a channel for her relatives to move there also.

In spite of hostile to share enactment in autonomous India, an obvious increment in settlement has been seen. Notwithstanding, the taking or giving of Dowry is an offense as set down in the Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961 which expresses that "If any individual, after the initiation of this Act, gives or takes or abets the giving or taking of settlement, he might be culpable with detainment for a term which should not be under five years, and with the fine which might not be under fifteen thousand rupees or the measure of the estimation of such endowment, whichever is more". Ladies and their families are in an exceptionally unsafe position with regards to Dowry. From one perspective they feel constrained to pay the sum therefore of societal weights and desires while then again, giving of Dowry is additionally considered as an offense. The Delhi High Court had as of late said ladies or their folks who proceed with marriage in spite of share requests from the groom's side would need to be viewed as "assistants to the wrongdoing" and "will confront indictment" under the Dowry Prohibition Act. Universal share cases get its own arrangement of issues, going from get-together proof to getting the NRI life partner to face criminal activity in India. As a rule, the police have needed to take the guide of the High Commissions of UK, the US and Australia, to execute the requests gone by the nearby courts and in extraordinary cases, Interpol red corner sees have been issued to convey the damaging spouse to book.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Before exploring any new phenomena, “It is necessary to look into various aspects already studied. Research is a continuous process and it must have some continuity with earlier facts. The knowledge gathered in the past should be consolidated to keep it on records for future use. It is like consulting the maps of the previous period to explore future direction.” (Vidyulath, 1990). So, the present chapter tries to present an account of research findings related to the objectives of the present study.

Chadha (2016) in her study cites that NRI marriage take place for a better future for the bride and has been continuing for years. But now, the present trend of such marriages turns out to be phony and split fast with the wife left isolated. Some of the instances which occur are domestic violence, abandoned of the wife, NRI husband already married, continued demand for dowry etc. Apart from it, in India there is absence of unified civil code which makes the situation more critical and the psychological, social, economic and emotional life of the women is affected.

Jacob (1995) in his study found out that while technically Desertion was a cause for granting divorces in many States, more often desertion was the method employed to break the marriage relationship for there were hundreds of thousands of unhappy couples who could not pay for the divorce actions. Therefore, any discussions of causes or effects of family desertion must be linked with the problem of total marital instability.

Mathew(1998) examined the socio-economic character of deserted women, explored the reasons for desertion, troubles faced by them, and the social support accessible to them. The study was tentative in nature and was conducted on 35 women headed households in the cities of Hyderabad and secunderabad. The data was composedthrough interviews and home visits, which were completed to study the home surroundings. The findings indicated that the causes for desertion mixed and overlapped, 16 women expressed their husband’s inability to dynamically support the family, 11 women stated alcoholism as the cause , 8 women were not able to satisfy dowry demands, 13 women suspected their husbands had illicit relations, and 3 women were identified by their husbands as mentally troubled. Some of the disturbing problems noticed in the deserted women were feelings of trauma(29%), feelings of emptiness and loneliness (14%), feelings of fear, uncertainty and insecurity (34%) and intense suicidal

tendencies (6%). Almost all of them felt that the profound mark would stay forever, and held themselves exclusively responsible for their condition. They felt that they were overloaded in their multiple roles, and the lack of a father figure had resulted in an impression missing in regulation author and discouragement of their position as a mother. Therefore, programmes need to be initiated for the development of livelihood principles of deserted women. Live centers and homes should be recognized for women who need refuge during such catastrophe situation.

Deshpande (2002) revealed that marginalization and social exclusion had considerably increased among vulnerable groups world-wide. Women continued to make-up the majority of people with limited financial resources and opportunities, constraining their life changes and placing them at rest for exclusion. The Indian society has not been untouched by this phenomenon. Indeed, India women, especially from marginalized groups such as dalits, widowed and abandoned women continued to experience greater risks for marginalization and exclusion.

Joanna (1990) emphasized that there is still much confusion as to the location and extradition of deserters, and in most cities the burden of finding the missing husband and serving the summons upon him is still unrelentingly placed upon the shoulders of the wife. She further elaborated that the wife can claim abandonment only on behalf of her children and sees desertion as only an acute form of the symptoms of weakened and crumbling family life. Through her continuous study on this issue she found that if the husband has deserted for financial reasons, or has left home as the result of a quarrel, his location can be traced much easier than if there is reason to believe he has absconded with another woman. This is further concluded that disparity of age, of race or nationality and of religion are significant factors when they are found in connection with this form of family breakdown.

Kang (2002) investigated the myths about the place that is known for milk and honey and highlights how “ the Punjabis wed their little girls to Nris through whom the entire family can move abroad without checking the kid's instructive foundation, occupant status, work status, wage etc. only to find that the young lady is abused, mishandled and even forsaken now and again. She specifies that movement to remote nations is viewed if all else fails to escape destitution and a as benefit as it builds the financial status of the family, however the substances of migration might be neediness, emotional instability, polygamy, prejudice or more all spouse manhandle.” Such is the furor for traveling to another country that there are

families which can stop the stunning level of organizing a marriage between a sibling and a sister or between cousins, taboo by law.

Raphael Powell (1954) in her article discusses the judgment of different courts with respect to the issues related to the deserted women and the injustice these women face during the judgements. She analyzed how husbands using the loopholes in the laws exploit women financially. She cited many cases demonstrating this unfairness, for instance she cites a condition which expresses that assume that a rich person weds a well off lady and later betrays her. On the off chance that she has sufficient intends to accommodate the way of life set up in the previous marital home, the betraying spouse can't be constrained to pay for the necessities of the family, for the upkeep and instruction of the youngsters (their kids), for therapeutic administrations rendered to the wife in regard of ailment which may have been brought on by the husband's prior brutality, or for the expert charges of the specialist who is at last drawn in to help the wife in getting a separation. The spouse, liable however he may have been of the most scandalous direct towards his better half and family, can pass the entire monetary weight to his significant other in the event that she has the fortitude to bolster it.

Seema Kulkarni and Sneha Bhat (2010) in their article they have found the reasons for the desertion of women and further they also analyzed the living conditions of the deserted women. They found that the main reason for the desertion is when the harassment faced by women is so severe that it had reached to a point where she cannot or refuse to tolerate it anymore and this harassment both by the in-laws as well as the husband, is cited as an important reason for desertion by the researchers. Further one of the reasons for the desertion is due to woman's sexuality and reproduction issues.

Mark Baker (1995) in his found that early marriage and burden of the family on the husband was the main reason for the increase in the cases of the deserted women. The main focus of the article was that this article mentions various advertisements given by the deserted women and the husband's of the deserted wives when Eliezer Lipmann Silbermann announced that he was dedicating the back page of his Hebrew periodical, Ha-maggid, to the search for truant husband. He further concluded that many did not so much disappear as willfully neglect their contractual duties, leaving home under the pretext of seeking economic opportunity or lured by the enticements of adventure or a reputable Talmudic academy. In the absence of any reliable witnesses who could verify the death of her spouse, the wife was compelled by Jewish law to continue to live as a wife, that is, a wife who awaited a husband

who was unlikely to return. Under Talmudic law she was known as an agunah, a grass widow, anchored to a marriage which, in reality, no longer existed. Condemned to the double humiliation of bearing the status of wife and widow, the agunah was prevented by Jewish law from remarrying, although the husband remained unaffected by this status since the law afforded him the possibility of receiving a heter- nisuin-"permission to contract an additional marriage.

The National Commission for women (NCW) recognized flights of women by NRIs as “a champion among the most certifiable sexual introduction issues in Punjab and recommended that a remarkable cell for issues related to NRI social unions be developed in the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs”. They said that some Indian departments had welfare officers to help Indian women gotten up to speed in horrible social unions abroad and there were 22 relationship in the United States working among the South Asian society to address these issues. The NCW has coordinated a movement of workshops and has shown a response to the Ministry of Overseas Indians and besides proposed a draft Convention of Jurisdiction, Recognition and Enforcement of Judgments in Matrimonial Matters.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To study the socio-economic status of deserted women
2. To analyze the legal provisions for deserted women
3. To suggest policy measures for the deserted women

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The number of women deserted by NRIs in Punjab is on the rise and has now become a threat in the lives of those women who gets easily abandoned after marriage. The situation is very grim and no study has been conducted to know the socio-economic life of these women.

The study has been conducted in Phagwara which falls under the district Kapurthala of Punjab. Phagwara is internationally known as a large population of NRIs belongs to this city. Phagwara is located on the Delhi- Amritsar National Highway and also on the main railway link between Amritsar - Delhi and Delhi - Jammu. It is located between two big cities Ludhiana (38 Kms) and Jalandhar (21 Kms). Phagwara is 76 miles (123 Kms) away from Chandigarh and 220 miles (355 Kms) from Delhi.

According to temporary information of 2011 census Phagwara urban agglomeration had a populace of 117,954, out of which males are 62,171 and females are 55,783. The literacy rate is 87.43 for each percent.

The study is delineated with its thematic boundary of socio-economic conditions of deserted women and legal provisions laid down by the government and various agencies. Making mindfulness among individuals with respect to laws and substances in the nation could be an incredible help in decreasing the disquietude. Social mindfulness projects to illuminate the general population of the distinctive laws in distant nations, laws in regards to marriage, separate, authority of kids, upkeep, and so forth ought to be composed.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study “Socio-Economic conditions of deserted women by NRIs in Punjab” is an effort made to find out the living social and economic conditions of the deserted women by NRIs in Punjab. Since it is qualitative in nature, the researcher used interview method to intervene the respondents. To be more specific the researcher used primary data collection method by going to the field using unstructured interview method where informal session was conducted. The researcher also tried brainstorming the respondents to get the personal details.

Supporting the data collected through interviews, the secondary sources like the newspaper reports, journal articles have been used by which the researcher could connect the findings with the existing sociological knowledge in this field.

Pertaining to the feasibility of the respondents, the researcher collected the information through FIRs and personal contacts. The researcher believed that the interview which was conducted with the deserted women could obtain very applicable information and factual data.

However, while getting in touch with the respondents, it was hard to obtain the in-depth information regarding their personal life because many of them did not want to share about their upsetting and shaky experiences. Initially they were reluctant to give some personal answers but after getting friendly and steady with them the researcher somehow managed to grab the information needed.

It was also difficult for the researcher in locating the houses of the deserted women but it was helpful after enquiring from shopkeepers and the residents nearby. There also use to be situation where the women were not available in the house and therefore a second visit were attempted.

The researcher faced difficulties like language barrier as he is a non-local, but with aid from the local acquaintance, the researcher successfully overcame the barriers and got authentic information required. However, there was no methodological challenges in terms of suitability of techniques used throughout the study.

CHAPTER 2

CONTEXTUALISING THE DISCUSSION

2.1 Desertion of women by NRI's in India

The quantity of instances of women being betrayed by their NRI spouses is ascending in a disturbing rate in India step by step. As indicated by the administration records, the most astounding quantities of cases have been accounted for from the United States and Britain. What's more, Delhi is second just to Punjab, where women are hoodwinked for the sake of marriage.

The Government of India has ordered numerous laws to shield the interests of women in India. This has upheld the women's position at the working environment. Nonetheless, it just so happens, her status in her wedding home has crumbled as there has been no equitable and successful legitimate solution for certification her physical wellbeing, her mental dependability, her budgetary and conservative welfare and care of kids. The blended types of aggressive behavior at home mental, monetary, sexual abuse and physical abuse keep on being executing against her. Anticipation of abusive behavior at home is a bursting issue everywhere throughout the world. Abusive behavior at home is not kept to any one financial, ethnic, religious, racial or age gathering. It is an issue of expanding stress since it negatively affects all relatives, particularly kids. It has been bring into being that youngsters, who see brutality at home, clear indications like the individuals who are transparently manhandled. In India there is more convergence of NRI populace in the conditions of Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Kerala as contrasted and different states. Then again, the detailed instances of renunciation of wedded ladies by NRIs are more in the conditions of Punjab and Andhra Pradesh. Since the issue of NRI left ladies is an essential issue of the day and there is absence of information or any significant research on this issue, there is a dire need to gather appropriate data respected to these issues. The issue is accepted such amassivescale that it has turned out to be key to study it in every one of its viewpoints and repercussions: social, social, monetary and also legitimate. The framework itself requires a re-hope to counter the shrewdness. In this situation the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) embraced a review on "Abandonment of Married Women by Non-Resident Indians in Andhra Pradesh and Punjab". In spite of the fact that the States of Punjab

and Andhra Pradesh speak to the North and South of India having different social, statistic and financial foundations, there is a typical worry about these issues related with NRI relational unions and abandonment of wedded ladies.

Here is some rundown of regular occurrences of the issue that could emerge in NRI relational unions: (NCW-National Commission for Women)

1. Women hitched to a NRI who is abandoned even before being taken to the outside nation of his habitation.
2. Women harshly batters, struck, manhandled both rationally and physically, decayed, kept and abused and compelled to document or coercively sent back
3. A snappy engagement, trailed by a huge wedding, an immense share and a special night, after which the NRI spouse flies out of India while the wife sits tight for her visa.
4. The hazard of 'Special night ladies' is a major emergency to manage as 20,000 ladies have not seen their spouses after wedding trip.
5. Women who arrive the remote nation of her better half's living arrangement and hold up at the worldwide air terminal there just to find that her significant other would not turn up by any stretch of the imagination.
6. NRI spouse was at that point hitched in the other nation to another ladies
7. Husband had given false data on any or the majority of the accompanying: his occupation, movement status, winning, property, conjugal status and other material particulars, to con into her marriage.
8. Women who achieved the court, either in India or in the other nation, for wellbeing or separation however always experienced specialized legitimate impediments linked to expert of courts, administrations of notification, or implementation of requests or learnt of the spouse origination immediate disciplinary lawful activities in the nation.

These issues have accentuated the need of arrangements to ensure these ladies and conspicuously make them mindful of their rights and government managed savings implies that are open for them.

Despite the fact that there is minimal efficient research regarding the matter, the numbers detailed in daily papers are amazing. By a 2004 gauge, around 12,000 surrendered women live in Gujarat, and as indicated by a recent report, an expected 25,000 spouses of NRIs have been abandoned in Punjab. In 2008, GOI Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs, Vayalar Ravi expressed that in Punjab alone; no less than 20,000 legitimate bodies of evidence were pending against NRI spouses, probably to abandon their wives. In 2009, the executive of the National Commission for Women's (NCW), Girija Vyas, remarked that "out of 10 NRI relational unions, two outcomes in the spouse being deserted after special night". In Canada, there might be upwards of 10,000 absconder grooms. As per the Government of Indian, ostracize spouses have relinquished no less than 30,000 ladies in India, a number extensively not as much as what daily papers report and NGOs recommend.

In spite of the outcomes of real figures, there is little uncertainty that the quantity of spouses relinquished by NRI husbands is terribly high. An additional shock is that the overwhelming greater part of forsook women have no chance to get of fighting their spouses' deserting.

2.2 LIVE EXAMPLES OF SOME DESERTED WOMEN AROUND INDIA

1) Swapna of Guntur district married to Prakash Babu of Vijayawada in the year 2013. At the time of marriage, Swapna has come with much dowry amount. Prakash Babu, an employed NRI in London, went to London after spending some days with her and said that he will manage visa for Swapna and will take her along with him. After one and a half years, he did not take her and started neglecting her. His family members have also reportedly demanded for more dowry. Swapna has filed a police case against all these. Though Swapna tried to contact her husband, but her husband, has not melted. He came back and wanted divorce saying on her face. Police reportedly failed to help her. Swapna has now moved to Human Rights Commission for justice.

2.) Rajni Sharma, a lady from a white collar class family, dependably longed for traveling to another country. Since her folks weren't exceptionally rich and well off, she couldn't seek to

think about in a remote nation like her rich companions. Be that as it may, when her folks started searching for a reasonable match, they decided for a NRI spouse for their lone little girl. She was hitched to Ritesh Sood in a basic wedding in India, after which he cleared out for New York. Rajni tailed him following two months. "I anticipated living abroad, yet inside a month I found that my better half had a live-in sweetheart. On the reason of purchasing another home he even took away all the hard money that my folks had given me," she said. Left with no decision, she came back to India inside a year.

3) Priyanka's case is the same. Despite the fact that she is battling for her rights in the wake of being abandoned by her NRI spouse, she winds up at convergence. She stated, "I cleared out my reviews mid-way when my folks got this recommendation from some family companions, who guaranteed to know Nitin Kapoor, an agent in the US. We were informed that Kapoor was excited on wedding an Indian young lady. In any case, the truth was that he was required into it by his folks, since they were discouraged of his helping works. "I had taken up a little time work there with the goal that we could live cheerily. In any case, this gave my better half anchance to bring his lady friends home amid my nonexistence. When we grumbled to our family companions, they had moved to Australia and appreciated my predicament. "Priyanka said she had run over a few focused on stories of ladies living abroad. I mean battling it out and get my buddy rebuffed for psychological pain. In any case, I be comfortable with what its going to be a long battle," she said.

Thus, the entire scenario in India is taking place in a sequence, where there are not much change or action taken place of NRI related issues where the life of the women is exaggerated in a very ill- habituated manner.

2.3 DESERTION OF WOMEN BY NRI IN PUNJAB

This wonder of abandonment of women by NRI is not new in Punjab. The case has been there for a drawn out stretch of time and Punjab has revealed the most noteworthy number of cases regarding Deserted ladies by their spouses. Therefore, the State stays in the highest point of NRI related issues. In Punjab the majority of the NRIs are from the Sikh gathering of individuals and the majority of them fit into less talented work classes. In Punjab associates and relatives including close relatives likewise assume a main part in understanding of marriage that too in such a surge, to the point that young lady's folks are left with any other

decision to make examination about the spouse. 60% of relational unions are not enlisted because of the brief time of time.

In Punjab, Doaba region is the most developed with four districts namely Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala and Nawansahar. It is also called the NRI belt of the state because 75% of NRI are from this region and thus constitute a huge number of cases related to desertion. In Punjab alone there are about 20,000 legal cases of deserted women by NRI.

In Punjab most of the women who are deserted end their life living in absolute isolation with or without child and most of them are unemployed and jobless so they depend on their in laws.

From 2009 around 30,000 cases of desertion of women are said to reported in India where 15,000 cases out of the total cases was from Punjab alone so this shows how the state tops the list. The issue has become a major social problem and a form of violence against women because it is hampering the social and normal life of the individual. She is wholly dependent and is going to live a life of misery and bonkerness without any legal paper of marriage or family. Isolated in complete darkness the life of these women are in great pain and rage.

2.4 OUTSIDE MIGRATION

The wonder of relocation to different nations has additionally inflexible part to play in the matter of why there are various condition of out movement particularly among the adolescents of Punjab. Two variables basically play an incredible component i.e Push and force

The force elements can be:

The allure and higher life openings offered in remote nations, especially inside the West, are exceptionally enticing.

One gets the following pay, in genuine terms, inside the West for a comparable work. a far higher typical of living will be kept up by the Indian measuring stick. This pulls in the lion's share.

□ A swimmingly working body framework in remote nations is observed to be extremely good. The basic necessities are offered while very little issue. In refinement to the present, accessibility of essential necessities, similar to water, power, and so forth isn't secured inside the nation of origin. One should not to pay the authorities to instigate things done in remote nations.

□ There is a significant measure of security – mental as well as physical and cash in western nations. There is ease of access to work, and after that long as there's a temperament to figure, cash hardship will be maintained a strategic distance from.

□ There's less physical instability and people are a great deal of well behaved. There's adulthood and state security for subsistence in times of might want.

□ There's nobility of work inside the western nations. Manual work isn't looked downward on and is generously compensated as well.

□ And finally the name of living abroad raises their social quality and that they get joy from partner expanded remaining inside the general public back home.

Then again the Pull variables can be:

□ Increasing state and a lifetime of neediness make the adolescent need to move out of land region. Government opportunities haven't been pitched inside the most recent seven years. Indeed, even specialists and designers are with none likelihood of acquiring business.

□ The situation is highlighted by the reservation approach. Those from the general ranks don't get work even once doing thus of the greater part of the opportunities are held for the retrogressive and booked stations.

□ The organization is staggeringly degenerate and to urge something done, even what's genuinely due, one must convey money to the assistants and babas inside the different divisions.

□ There is absence of communal safety. Despite the fact that an individual unvaryingly pays assessment to the administration, one gets nothing in one's later life once one can't work.

□ There is absence of metro sense and work culture in India. The dominant part doesn't appear to be tried concerning others and just need that they should get the right to everything.

CHAPTER 3

COGNICISING LEGAL PROVISIONS

3.1 LEGAL PROVISIONS FOR DESERTED WOMEN BY NRI'S

Section 498A in The Indian Penal Code

498A. Husband or family member of husband of a woman subjecting her to brutality.

Whoever, being the husband or the family member of the husband of a woman, subjects such woman to brutality shall be punished with imprisonment for a period which may extend to three years and shall also is legally responsible to fine.

Clarification; for the reason of this section, “brutality” means-

a.) Any disruptive action which is of such a character as is expected to drive the woman to commit suicide or to cause severe injury or risk to life, limb or health (whether mental or physical) of the woman.

b.) Aggravation of the woman where such harassment is with a view to coerce her or any person related to her to meet any illegal demand for any property or precious security or is on explanation of breakdown by her or any person related to her to meet such order.

Many steps have been taken up by the government as well as the state to contain this threat. However majority of the deserted women are not covered under such programmes. Many of them are not aware of the women’s helpline, family counseling centers, and free legal aid, national and state level commission for women and programs for women and child development. Those who are covered under these programs are not satisfied.

Hence, the Union Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has prompted all States to set up isolated cells to offer guiding to women wanting to wed abroad Indians.

A different cell has likewise been set up in Punjab however it is not the women who plan to wed a NRI, yet who have been abandoned by a NRI, spouse who get directing. Thus, the Union Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has provoked all States to set up discrete cells to offer encouraging to ladies needing to marry abroad Indians.

An alternate cell has furthermore been set up in Punjab anyway it is not the ladies who plan to marry a NRI, yet who have been spurned by a NRI, mate who get controlling. The Ministry had in like manner assigned NRI volunteers who may make cautious demand about solitary officers needing to marry Indian young women.

Understanding the gravity of the condition the Punjab Government is considering making the going with steps:

1. It has unfaltering to choose Sub divisional Magistrates (SDMs) as Dowry Prohibition Officers. The steamed companions would then not be worried to visit police home office in association with settlement grievances.
2. It has organized that the overall public should ensure that the social prosperity figure of NRIs is said in the Marriage Certificate. This will make it simple to start a show against any bungling companion.
3. The Punjab police is making a settlement for the probability of booking mate double-crossing NRIs for attack and beginning action under Section 376 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). They felt that selecting occasions of deception and subjecting a married woman to mercilessness under Sections 420 and 498A of the IPC on cases of asking for settlement was adequately not.

Notwithstanding, legitimately it may not probably put forth a defense against these young men for assault. The assent of the young lady, which is exceptionally basic on account of assault, is available in the marriage and numerous a times the issue begins might be even following a year or more.

The Supreme Court in its judgment for such cases has highlighted the need considering establishment ensuring the interests of women and has proposed the going with specific plans:

1. No marriage between a NRI and an Indian woman which has happened in India may be invalid and void by a remote court.
2. Satisfactory bolster should be paid to the mate out of the share of the property of the spouse, both in India and abroad in case of division.

3. The choice permitted by Indian courts should be made executable in remote courts both on the standard of comity by going into basic statements and illuminating them under fragment 44A of the Civil Procedure Code which settles on an outside choice executable as it would have been a declaration passed by that court.

Violent behavior against women has constantly remained a fraction of patriarchal value structure shared with the societal method by which women are enforced into inferior position. Desertion of women by their NRI has turn out to be a big social problem to be looked upon because it has become a new form of domestic violence where the social and psychological life of the women is affected.

Most of the NRI belong to medium profile skilled / service categories. And therefore the countries offering such kind of occupational services are Canada, North America, Australia , United Kingdom and New Zealand. Thus the demand for these NRIs in the marriage market is very high and these marriages are arranged by marriage brokers and advertisements in the press and electronic media. A large portion of these relational unions occur contained by a short period of time. Therefore, the folks of the women may not have the time for preparation in recognizing the detailed information of the groom

On the other hand, the motivation of the young women's family to find an outsider prep is most of the way the reasonable high and astonishing status of the get ready, however grandiose, and generally their slant for an opening into the ensured land to fill in as an entry for substitute people from their family. Regardless, once married, the entire situation changes. The women are not taken abroad on the friendship or the other. She is made a demand to hold up till the laws/controls of the outside land enable her to secure an ensured visa for that land. In case she is grievous, she may transform into a mother in the meantime or end up as an unpaid cleaning expert in her in-laws family toiling from morning to night. She is less arranged to fight such situation thus of her poor preparing or bent and she is further not prepared to give her issue or grievance to anybody subsequently of her zero acknowledgment with the adjacent vernacular. Second relational unions are additionally performed by the NRI abroad and it is normal and some of them have even made thriving business with this strategy. There are various sorts of issues which is been taking part in exacerbating the life of the ladies by the NRI and the family included. The spouse's family extends ruddy and deceiving pictures about their status and salary. The young women's family has no assets or are in a position to confirm those cases and further in a rush organizes are made for the

settlement claims. Thus another reason might be ravenous for DOWRY. Here and there, the kid might be now hitched yet nobody knows about it .

More often than not the kid and young lady, as in orchestrated Indian relational unions, have never met marriage. This prompts extremely offensive and heartbreaking results offering approach to numerous a social issues, yet the impact of turbulence is higher on the young ladies side since she is situated in India with no gifted or based learning and training.

CHAPTER 4

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY AND ANALYSIS

4.1 FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Focusing the socio-economic status of the deserted women, the researcher has taken up 10 respondents from the field falling in the age group between 20 to 40. In all the cases the husband was living abroad and came to India just for marrying. It was also learned that in most of the cases marriages were arranged by the relatives and close friends of the family. The parents of the girl on the other side also do not seek any legal and other counseling after desertion which ultimately diminishes the living condition of the girl. The parents also did not enquire anything about the husbands work profile and other detailed information.

Most of the NRIs were living in countries like the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and America also the study revealed that the boy was much older than the girl. The girl also were left deserted for a period of 3-7 years and only the girls who had certain education qualification were ready to fight the cause.

4.2 ANALYSIS

Age of the respondents

Age	Respondents	Percentage
20-30	5	50%
30-35	3	30%
35-40	2	20%

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS

With consideration to the socio-economic profile of the deserted women the following are the major findings of the study.

Source of livelihood

40% of the respondents were dependent on their parents as the source of their livelihood whereas the remaining 60% were independent because they were engaged in workplace but however they also clinched on to their parents sometime for financial support.

Occupation

Educational qualification	No. of respondents	Occupation	Percentage %
Class X	2	-----	20%
Undergraduates	6	Call centers /School teacher	60%
Postgraduates	2	Lecturers	20%

When it comes to occupation, 20% of the respondents passed out tenth standard and were now not interested in any kind of occupation as they were staying with their parents and were afraid to face the doldrums from the society and relatives. It was a remarkable support from the parents which worked out for 20% of the respondents who were staying with their parents. The remaining respondents who as we discussed earlier who were independent were either graduates or post graduates, so they preferred working in call centers and teaching for secondary school students. From the data, it was analyzed that the more the qualification of the women, the more she was drifted away from her parental home and was with a thought of controlling their life by their own choice seeing that the decision of their parents to marry them to an NRI had in away put their life into a mere darkness.

Relationship with in-laws

No. of Respondents	Form of relationship	Percentage %
4	Not allowed to make contact with husband	40%
2	Treated as servants	20%
1	Denied meals	
4	Not given freedom	40%

All the respondents left their husbands family or were not in touch with them because either it was their own choice to leave them or they were strained by their in-laws family to do so. Such reasons were due to the mistreatment faced by the deserted women. 40% said that they were not allowed to make contact with their husband and 20% narrated that they were treated like servants and 1% said that sometimes she was denied meals. The other 30% said that they were not given liberty to move about.

“Chand Deep Kaur who was staying with her husband’s family in Jalandhar narrated that the behaviour of her in-laws changed after marriage. She was told that they had disowned Ramandeep and therefore she should move back to her parents. When she tried to make calls to her husband, he did not respond and when she tried to call her in-laws they had already blocked her number,” she claimed. (Hindustan times, 2017)

Social Interaction

When enquired about their social interaction, most of the respondents do not associate themselves in gatherings like parties, visiting neighbors, political participation or attending any other functions but rather use their leisure time in watching television, reading books and stitching, which shows a very poor socialization among the respondents.

Decision making

The respondents who were dependent on their parents were not having any power of decision making regarding buying property or selling any other money matter. On the other hand the women who were independent did not hold any share of property be it her parents or the husbands, so they only concentrated in decision making for their children.

Social Stigma

No. of Respondents	Kinds of Social Stigma	Percentage %
2	Selfish to get married to NRI	20%
2	Disobeyed Husband	20%
4	Unable to pay dowry	40%
2	Betrayed by own family	20%

If we were to look into the husbands situation, (Banwala 2014, legalserviceIndia) No social stigma is emotionally involved to them for their behavior as barely anyone in their social sphere abroad has an idea what they have been up to. Some do not even think about if anyone knows. However the story is different for the woman who is left deserted.

The victims faced serious kind of social stigma from the society. 20% said they get comments like selfish to get married to an NRI and live a lavish live 20% said not obeying the husband 40% said that they were unable to pay dowry and another 20% said that they got betrayed by her own family. There were only few people from the society who supported them. Such things absurdly bring down their morals and self-esteem which ultimately had an effect on their health. 60% said they use to suffer from sleep disorders, 20% undergo headaches and nausea when they face such negativity from the society and 10% did not disclose their problems because it was too personal for them.

Idea of remarriage

60% of the respondents decided not to marry again in their life but rather bring up their children well so that in future the children do not face such kind of degradation. 30% were skeptical or indecisive to remarry again and the remaining said they wanted to marry again but not with an NRI.

After passing through a dark phase in their life, happiness seems to be a mirage in most of the women's life. 50% of the respondents were just surviving making their kids happiness as theirs and the remaining 50% were not having any kids but spending their life based their passion towards life.

In a society like India where the role women has to perform is fixed by religion in the name of values, norms etc, and a perfect women has to follow these norms by hook or crook and when anything goes wrong in the marriage the whole blame comes upon the fate of the women or on her inability to perform her duty towards her husband. The same kind of mindset was seen when a women was left deserted by her husband though the reasons included the meanness of the husband. All the respondents who were interviewed were viewed by the society either as victims of their own bad luck or see as though she did not obey her husband, hence encountered with such fate. According to them, there were very few people who supported them.

When enquired about the legal formalities undertaken to get justice, Mandeep Kaur who is 28 years old has tried all the means to get justice but all efforts were in vain. Even after 3 years of being deserted by her husband she lost hope in the judicial system as her husband got out of the case by using the loopholes within the Indian judicial system and at the end her family lost almost everything in fighting the case. Not only Mandeep Kaur, remaining women are in same condition. Asked about their present status of mind they said that initially they blamed themselves for whatever was happening in their life but gradually they moved on with their lives. Around 50% of the respondents were satisfied with their present living condition where as remaining 50 % are with a view that injustice has happened to them and they are even more miserable when they think that the person who was the reason behind their situation had escaped.

Reasons for such marriage

The intense craze to go abroad and live a blissful life is what the desire is all about. There are three parameters to go abroad and i.e. Education, work and marriage. As it is expensive to go for education only the elite or the people through scholarship program go there and the second one being work, most men get try and get a spot and finally through marriage where the real picture lies. However, there are explanations from both sides Male as well as the female as to why such marriages happen.

Reasons from the male's side:

- They can get dowry if they marry a girl from India and the parents of the girl are ready to pay huge dowry demands.

- They also know the fact that the girl is weak to deny her parents for marriage as she is ever ready to go abroad.
- They get the girl as a holiday wife, when they come to India for few weeks. Some of them even marry twice or thrice each time they visit India.
- Some of the girls who are taken abroad are treated as maid while the boys have extra marital affairs.

Reasons from the female's side:

- The first thing they ever want above all is the chance to settle abroad. They want to marry an NRI so as to have glamour's life and get whatever they want.
- It may also be a step to further encourage her relatives and parents to come abroad.
- They also don't want the desire to marry a boy from India as she thinks that most of them are unemployed and also those who are employed doesn't earn so much as compared to the boy living overseas.

The marriage proposal was also brought through relatives and also at times through matrimonial advertisements and online sites.

CHAPTER 5

SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

5.1 SUGGESTIONS

Any good research even after answering its research questions should be of a mind to innovate ideas for further assistance for the deprived segment. Thus, the following social and legal suggestions are made for policy making in order to meet the future challenges regarding deserted women.

5.1.1 Social Suggestion

1. To frame dynamic and competitive policies for deserted women.
2. To make reservations on education and employment for the children of this deserted women.
3. The women should be given half of the husbands property be it land or money.
4. Provide financial Assistance to sustain the deserted women.
5. Provide housing schemes for the deserted women.
6. Pre-marital counseling centers for women should be mandatory especially in rural areas.
7. Inculcate income generation-aid and skill based training centers for deserted women.
8. To make awareness campaigns about the different government facilities for these women.
9. Make sustainable policies to ensure and support the economic and property rights of the deserted women.
10. Provide reliable health schemes for the deserted women.

5.1.2 Legal Suggestions

1. Passports ought to incorporate the photo and particulars of the life partner. Travel papers of NRIs who surrender their spouses ought to be nullified.
2. It should be made imperative for each moving toward NRI spouse and his transitory relatives, particularly those living in India, should be made to record an insisted declaration in the close-by court on the prep's marital status before solemnizing the marriage.
3. Any FIR against the NRI should therefore join the names of these relatives.

4. An unfriendly to fake marriage cell against NRIs should be developed in every district under the prompt supervision of the Commissioner/Deputy Commissioner.
5. All women ought to have self-governing house status. By then once she is surrendered and returns to her people's home, she can't approach the Indian courts that connect with petitions on home laws. In India, at present, a woman's habitation is that of her father before she is hitched which of her significant other's once wedding.
6. Dual citizenship of spouses forsaking their wives ought to be pulled back.
7. Law ought to be sanctioned to make enlistment of all marriages, both with NRIs and also NRIs, necessary.
8. All ladies ought to have autonomous habitation status
9. India ought to have respective assertion in matters of individual law, conjugal disagreement, youngster care, movement laws, execution of declaration granted in remote courts, ejection.

5.1.3 Awareness Campaigns

In order to sensitize the NRI marriage related issues it is necessary to start up awareness among the different segments of the society and also to stop the malaise of desertion of women. Therefore, some awareness programmes should be suggested.

1. Information Pamphlet: These pamphlets in different dialogues regarding the rights and responsibilities and also the precautions of the women should be introduced. So that the women will have basic idea before entering into Overseas Marriage.
2. Information through media; print as well as electronic, advertisements, TV, newspapers and magazines in order to sensitize people about this problems.
3. Workshops and seminars on Marriage regarding overseas should be taken up in order to educate and spread awareness among the women who is keen to marry an NRI.
4. Social awareness campaigns regarding the different laws of Divorce, abandonment, dowry etc should be made known both National and International.
5. Counseling centers should play an important role in order to make sure that the people are aware of the consequences before stepping into the real practice of marrying an NRI.

5.2 CONCLUSION

Desertion of the women is such an alarming reality in the Punjabi society. Throughout the period of in-depth interactions with respondents, it can be analyzed that there were diverse issues the respondents were facing. The women took long time to get socialized in public places after they were deserted by their husband. Socially and economically they faced problems and some were even blamed as if they themselves were responsible even though the mistake was from her husband side.

The researcher further analyzed that, these NRI husbands though stayed and settled abroad for a long period of time their mind set is worst then the traditional mindset. The researcher also finds that as the parents were in a hurry to marry their daughter to an NRI for its high social status they do not want to miss the proposal and move the chance to someone else. Hence, they do not give enough time for the girl and boy to understand each other and in the long run this becomes a major reason of the quarrels which leads to marriage break down and finally to desertion. One more finding by the researcher was that in order to escape from the huge payment of alimony as the husbands are NRIs; these NRIs just stay unreachable and further do not give divorce.

From the study, it was found out that the parents are the ones who must be blamed for a rush in the marriage without looking at the credentials of the groom and also for not giving a compatibility check between the partners. Hence, the parents must be made aware of such cases through possible ways like media, so that such mistakes will be prevented.

Finally, the researcher suggests that the government must see to it that these women are well protected by schemes so that they will be self reliant and the cases of such desertion cases must be supported by providing lawyers to fight the case without charging especially from the economically backward women.

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APPENDIX (A)

Socio-economic study of Deserted Women by NRI's in Punjab

Name.....

Age.....

Occupation.....

Place.....

1. How many Children do you have?
2. What is the source of your livelihood?
3. Do you participate in any kind of important decision-making like buying property or selling property or any money matter?
4. Do you have share in your parental property?
5. What is your source of income?
6. What is your monthly income?
7. What are the major heads of expenditure?
8. How do you support your kids?
9. Do you attend any ceremonies or functions?
10. How often you visit your in-laws place?
11. How do you engage yourself in leisure time?
12. Do you go outside for refreshment or to relax?
13. If Yes, who accompanies you?

14. What kind of social stigma you are facing from the society?

15. How frequently you visit to your neighbours in a week?

16. Who accompanies you to hospital when you are ill?