



## Domestic Violence Against Women

//



# Domestic Violence Against Women

*Domestic violence refers to any form of abuse, whether physical, emotional, sexual, or economic, within the confines of the home, family or domestic unit.*



## National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS), 2019-2021

- ↳ 29.3% of married women experienced domestic/sexual violence
- ↳ 3.1% of pregnant women suffered physical violence during pregnancy
- ↳ 87% of married women who are victims of marital violence do not seek help

## Legal Frameworks in India

<b>Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (PWDVA)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Covers physical, emotional, sexual, and economic abuse</li><li>■ Provides various orders for protection, residence, and relief</li></ul>
<b>Indian Penal Code, 1860</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>Section 498A</b> deals with cruelty by a husband or his relatives</li><li>■ Criminalises acts of <b>cruelty, harassment, or torture</b></li></ul>
<b>Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Makes <b>giving or receiving dowry</b> a crime</li></ul>
<b>Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>Section 354A</b> amended the <b>IPC</b> to include <b>new offenses</b> related to <b>sexual harassment</b> in cases of <b>domestic violence</b></li></ul>
<b>National Commission for Women Act, 1990</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Safeguards women's rights and plays a key role in addressing domestic violence</li></ul>
<b>The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Prevent child marriages and prohibit domestic violence against child brides.</li></ul>

## Global Initiatives

- ↳ **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW):** Adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly
  - ↳ Eliminating discrimination against women in all areas of life
- ↳ **UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (DEVAW):** First international instrument explicitly addressing violence against women
  - ↳ Provides a framework for national and international action
- ↳ **Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces:** Flagship program by UN Women
  - ↳ Preventing and responding to sexual harassment and other forms of violence in public spaces
- ↳ **Beijing Platform for Action (1995):** Identifies specific actions for governments to take to prevent and respond to violence
- ↳ **SDG 5 (Gender Equality):** End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere



Drishti IAS

**Read More:** [Protection of Women from Domestic Violence](#), [Violence Against Women](#), [SC on Crimes and Violence Against Women](#)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/domestic-violence-against-women-1>

