

CYBER VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS (CVAWG). THE ALGORITHMS OF THE ONLINE- OFFLINE CONTINUUM OF GENDER DISCRIMINATION

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ABSTRACT

Millions of women and girls across the globe are subjected to purposeful violence because of their gender. Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is universal, navigating borders, race, and culture and socio economic groups, harming society as a whole. Reports suggest that 73 % of women have already been exposed to or have experienced some form of online violence¹. For a problem of pandemic proportion, the Society has not yet formulated strategies to address impact of cyber violence, trauma that women, girls and are characteristically exposed to and mostly go unreported. Patriarchal superstructures, the limitations of legal recourse due to presumed absence of corporeal harm hamper justice for women. VAWG clogs the democratic utilization of cyber space by women to reap the benefits of a technology which can hardly be called gender neutral from its inception to use. As the cyber space expands and progressively becomes a fundamental part of people's lives, mind-sets and norm that contribute to cyber VAWG must be addressed with urgency where all stakeholders must enhance efforts to ensure a safer, more secure Internet for present and future generations before we become techno humans totally governed by skewed gendered algorithms.

KEYWORDS: *Culture and Socio Economic Groups, Democratic Utilization of Cyber Space*

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