

# HU1201 - End Semester Assignment

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Q1. Recently you read in the editorial column about honour killing practised in the conservative Indian society. Write a letter to an editor drawing attention to the stigma in the society.

IISER Kolkata

Mohanpur

West Bengal

27 June 2022

The Editor

Swarajya

Kolkata

Subject: Honor killings in India

Sir/Madam,

Honour killing is defined as killing for honour, a death that is awarded to the women or men by their own family members for marrying against their wishes or having a pre-marital relationship, marrying within the same 'gotra' or marrying outside their caste. There are some other factors also that can lead to honour killing such as losing virginity before marriage and so on. The main reason contributing to this heinous crime is the mentality of people, that they are not ready to accept the fact their children can marry in accordance with their own choices be it in their own caste, religion or outside their caste or religion. Most of the time it is not just about the caste or religion, there are certain cases in which the family murder their own people just because they do not want that tag of love marriage. Honour killing is not new in our country it could be traced back to the time of the partition of our country when several women were forcefully killed so that their honour could be preserved. Honour crimes violate Articles 14, 15, 19, 21 and 39 of the Indian constitution.

In a highly religious country like India, people in large numbers have failed to understand their “religion” properly. The misconceptions, misunderstandings, incorrect translations and improper education of religious texts have led to such evils in the current society. Today, the frequency of such ‘honour killings’ might have reduced, but it is still practised in many parts of the country. This is because of the societal opinion of the conservative Indians, as the family in question would be accused of cowardice, being morally wrong. So they subsequently get morally stigmatized by their neighbours.

There are some initiatives that are taken by our government against such heinous crimes. Prohibition of unlawful assembly (Interference with the freedom of Matrimonial alliances) Bill, 2011 sought to declare Khap Panchayats as unlawful and mentions measures to prevent honour killings. This bill is supported only by 23 states and is still pending. In a landmark judgement in the year 2010, the Karnal district court ordered the death penalty for five members of the family that committed the crime and life imprisonment for the Khap panchayat chief that perpetrated the incident. ‘National Commission for Women’ (NCW) is working hard to stop honour killings. Its efforts significantly reduced the crimes.

Eliminating honour killings needs a multi-dimensional approach. That means, on one side we should work on changing the attitudes of patriarchal men and women. On the other side, the government should bring a separate law to prevent honour killings. We need to condemn not only the one who commits murder but also the ones who give silent approval to such actions and perhaps were also the ones who drove the perpetrator in question.

It would be a great help if you could publish a related article about this in your esteemed magazine to spread awareness about it.

Yours sincerely,  
Priyanshu Mahato

Q2. The General Manager of Comfort Home Appliances Ltd. Kolkata is worried about the wastage of stationery in almost all sections of the company. Draft a memo to be signed by him and sent to all Sectional Heads, asking them to identify the reasons behind such wastage and also advise the employees under their control to restrain from such damage.

Date: 27 June 2022

From: General Manager

To: Sectional Heads

Subject: Excessive wastage of stationery

Sir/Madam,

The requirements for stationery items have recently increased drastically in almost all the departments. This has led to their increased wastage going unnoticed.

I request you to identify and minimize such wastages and advise all the employees under you to limit their usage to an adequate amount and refrain from increasing the wastage.

If such problems continue, further action might be taken.

With Regards

*P. Mahato*

(General Manager)