

# A study on awareness among young adults about Gender Based Violence (GBV) the dark side of excess Digitalization

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## Abstract

*We are writing this article after observing serious issues of Gender Based Violence. Previous research study shows that one out of six people are affected by GBV all over the world. Few come into lime light and few silently buried in darkness. Both Men and women encounter this gender based violence. But men by nature withstand strongly but in case of women it is hard to sustain and disclose the facts in these male dominated societies. I think that is the reason we notice in majority cases, compare to men women are drastically affected which in some cases leads to suicide attempts and honor killings. The rocket speed in communication Technology led to increases of access of Technology for which internet has become inevitable. Its growth has increased to certain extent that it has become one of the necessity in our day to day life .The working style has changed from physical form to digital form which made everyone to use various digital and social media platforms inevitable for business and as well as education.. But, use of this technology has crossed limits and started showing its negative streaks in the form of GBV especially more impact on women, young adults and teenagers. My study is about to focus on awareness level about GBV among young adults which is not much spoken in real world. The study was conducted on five different Engineering colleges with age ranging from 18 to 23 years the focused groups were studied thoroughly as they are regular use of various digital and social media platforms. The study also focuses on causes and consequences of GBV among young adults. To highlight various compatible groups to tackle GBV i.e Government, Family , Friends and society if targeted group encountered with gender based violence.,*

**Keywords:** Gender based violence, Digitalization, Communication Technology, Organizations, Government, society, Domination

## INTRODUCTION

GBV is a violence directed at a person based on his sex (male or female) or gender identity. It is mostly perpetuated by men or women and girls. However men also face violence. There are different forms of violence like Physical violence, harmful traditional practices, sexual violence, psychological violence and economic violence. In India usually major forms of Violence we encounter are Physical form of Violence & Digital form of Violence.

Global statistics show that one in three women is exposed to intimate partner violence. As per UN reports 19% of women whose age between 15-49 years who ever are in relationship faced some or the other type of violence.38% of murders says that they are done by intimate partners. Study shows that amount spent on GBV acts is far double than what they invest in education in few countries. Some of the violence's faced by the both the genders are below.

Sexual Offences: Rape, harassments, Dowry related deaths, Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking, Acid Attacks, Honor killings, Black mailing, Digital Violence Cyber Bullying, Cyber Crime, Cyber grooming, Intimidation, Sexual Assault, Threats, Trolling, Verbal Violence and commenting on Display pictures. The usually youngsters who encountered with GBV often tend to Affect on mental health, Get addicted to drugs, irritating behavior, Go into depression, Self restricting, Finding difficulty in forming relationships, Leave all digital platforms, Honor Killings, and in rare cases homicides & suicides

### **PROBLEM STATEMENT**

This study mainly focuses on the Gender Based Violence among young adults. Since they form 70% of the social groups and 90% of users of digital technology. The risk of exposure is more specially among young adults. The research deals with whether girls and boys are well aware of the consequences of excess uses of digitalization and its impact on both their physical and mental health. The research also covers whether any training programs are planned at school and college level. The ways and means to tackle the situation successfully if encountered by them.

### **EXISTING FRAME WORK**

Violence against women in India in recent two years have increased a lot. The covid 19 has also added some essence to number of cases. GBV is unjust, unequal and uprooted itself beyond social & economic boundaries of all sections of society. In India though we have achieved a remarkable progress in all fields still unchangeable concept called tag line “male dominated society”. Where men are considered to be more superior to women. Even important decisions of household are taken by men. even today. Which somewhere have rooted for GBV? The GBV has increased by 7% in India from past two year’s .As per statistics in India Women face GBV from the age of fifteen and one year statistics is given below.

Acts in India to control all types of Violence against Women

The laws that protect people from all forms of sexual assault and rape (including human trafficking) are: The Criminal Law Amendment Act (2007), The Sexual Offences Act (1957), The Law of Evidence and Criminal Procedure Act (1987), The Judicial Matters Second Amendment Act (2013).

Laws to safe guard women against domestic violence Section 498A and Section 304B the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA) 2005.

The main laws which have been developed are The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, amendment in the Indian Penal Code, etc.

### **OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

- 1 To identify the awareness level among young adults about GBV
- 2 To analyze the impact of GBV in relation to gender and age of the respondents
- 3 To identify the causes and affect of GBV among young adults.
- 4 To determine the factors which control the affect of GBV?
- 5 To identify different societal groups which play major role in the victim life?

### **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

Flavia Agnes (1998) “Violence against Women: Review of Recent Enactments” this paper focus on period 1980 era where all the cases related to women violence where reported and filed. But in reality and statistics show different picture. The paper focus on number cases registered, charge sheeted, convicted, acquitted and pending on trial basis. It also focus on cased registered under Murders U/S 302 IPC Suicides U/S 306 IPC r/w S.304 B IPC Harassment U/S 498A and U/S 3,4,5 of Dowry Prevention Act. It finally concludes on reforms made in laws and new dimensions in judgments and punishments.

Saumya Uma (2010), in her book “Addressing Domestic Violence through the Law. “Covers about various cases of domestic violence where women are considered subordinates. The book discusses various cases based on domestic violence and judgments’ declared in special cases. It also provides suggestions and remedies that can be availed under PWDVA acts.

Shankar Sen (2005), Trafficking in Women and Children in India.”This book mainly focuses on trends and different patterns of trafficking, the role and responsibility of various voluntary organizations. In associations with NHRC it tries to give training and counseling to the target audience.

Smita Narula (1999) Broken People: Caste Violence against India’s “Untouchables”. This paper focus on most neglected sections of the society. That labeled as untouchables. They are forced to do dirty and unclean jobs in the society. This paper focus on inequality and injustice to this sections and upliftment.

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

**Type of study & Data Collection Methods**

This study is descriptive in nature. The entire study is based on the primary data. The primary data is collected with a structured questionnaire. Likert's scale was used to collect the opinions of the respondents. Strongly Agree (5), agree (4), Neutral (3), Disagree (2) Strongly Disagree (1)

**Population & Sample**

A population of 200 students from 5 different engineering colleges was targeted. A sample random technique was used to obtain 173 student's respondents. This includes both male and female students. The response was collected through online questionnaire shared through mails. The selection of the sample was on random basis. The research is purely based on qualitative.

1. Discussions with focus groups boys and girls separately
2. Interview with experts
3. Questionnaire using digital technology
4. Discussions with focus groups boys and girls separately
5. Interview with experts
6. Questionnaire using digital technology

**Research Tools**

In order to analyze the data chi-square and ANOVA was applied for testing the hypothesis. The overall reliability of the questionnaire was done through cronbach's Alpha which is 0.870. Which means reliability of the questions is good in questionnaire.

**Hypothesis**

H0: There is no significant awareness among young adults about GBV due to excess digitalization

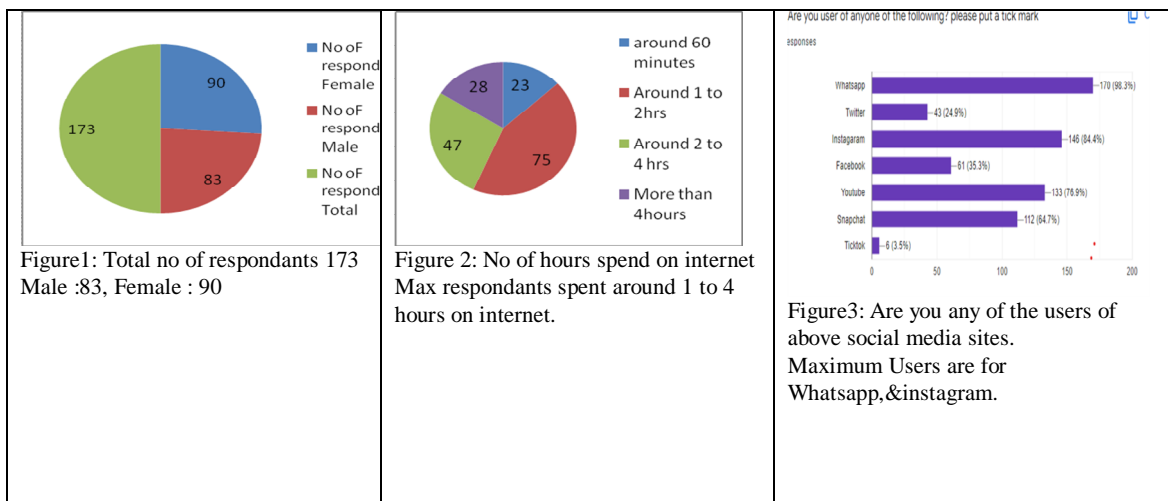
H0: There is no significant impact of GBV in relation to gender and age.

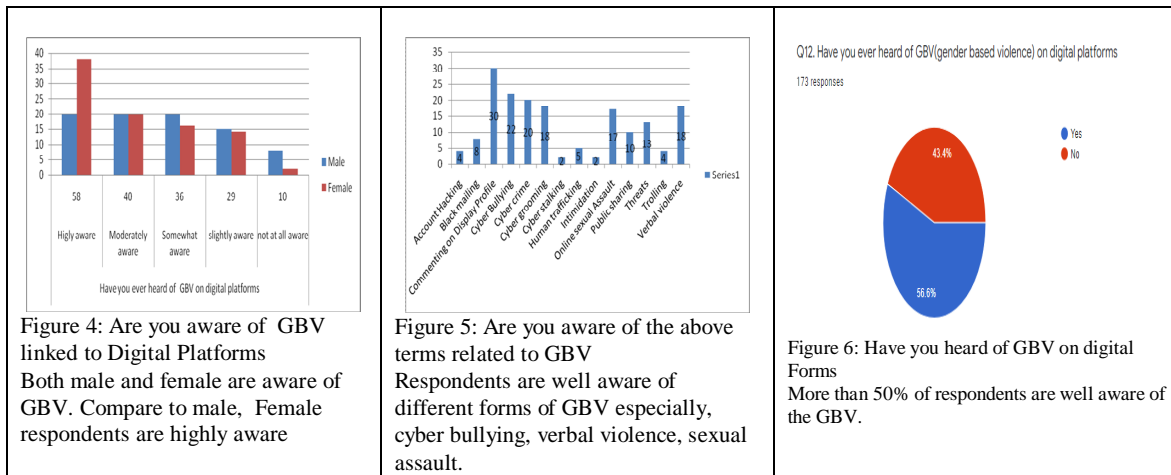
H0: There is no significant impact of Education, technology, punishment, self-control on controlling affect of GBV.

Ho: There is no significant impact of family & friends in victim's life.

**DATA ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATIONS**

H0: There is no significant awareness among young adults about GBV due to excess digitalization





**TABLE : 1** (Calculating Chi-Square)

Level of Awareness about GBV	Aware	Not Aware	Total	
<b>Male</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>83</b>	
<b>Female</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>173</b>	
<b>Observed Frequency</b>	<b>Expected Frequency</b>	<b>(O-E)</b>	<b>(O-E)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>(O-E)<sup>2</sup> / E</b>
<b>60</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>(-4)</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0.25</b>
<b>74</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>(-4)</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0.22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0.84</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0.8</b>
				<b>2.11</b>

Chi-Square = 2.11, D.F = (2-1) (2-1) =1, Level of significance 5% = 3.841

Since calculated value is less that tabulated value. Accept Ho. It shows that female respondents are highly aware about GBV.

H0: There is no significant impact of GBV in relation to gender and age.

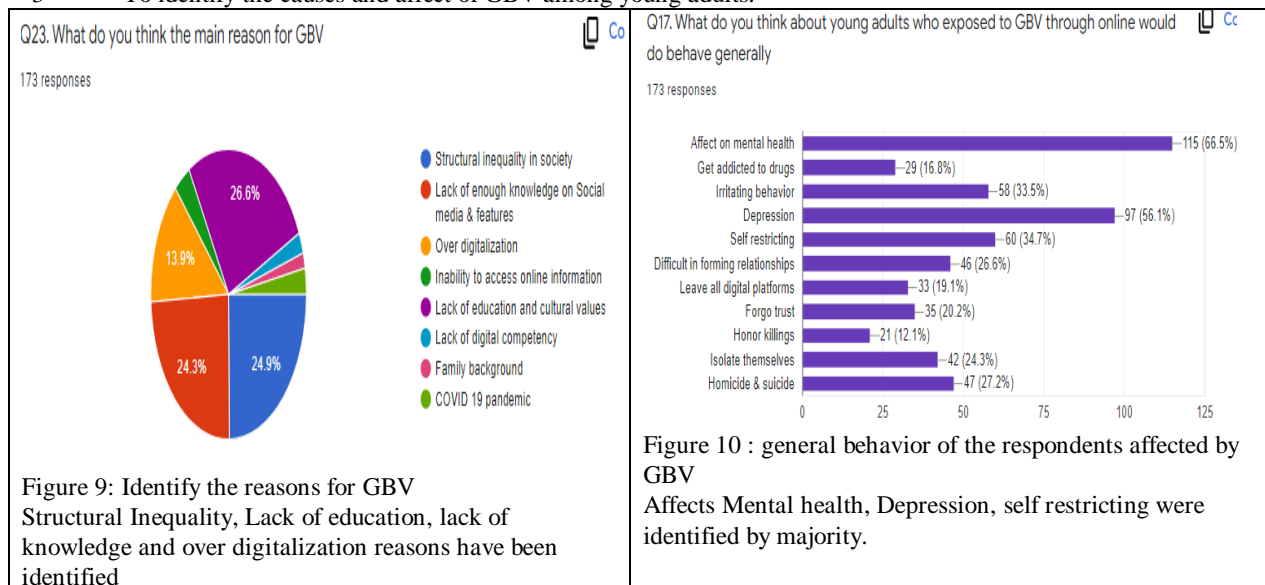


**TABLE 2:** By Applying ANOVAs test

	Around 10 years	11-20 years	20-30years	Above 30years	Total	
Male	10	10	10	7	37	
Female	22	86	15	13	136	
Total	32	96	25	20	173	
Male	4	37	9.25	2.25		
Female	4	136	34	1216.667		
Around 10 years	2	32	16	72		
11-20 years	2	96	48	2888		
20-30 years	2	25	12.5	12.5		
Above 30 years	2	20	10	18		
ANOVA						
Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Rows	1225.125	1	1225.125	2.081923	0.244749	10.12796
Columns	1891.375	3	630.4583	1.071373	0.478068	9.276628
Error	1765.375	3	588.4583			
Total	4881.875	7				

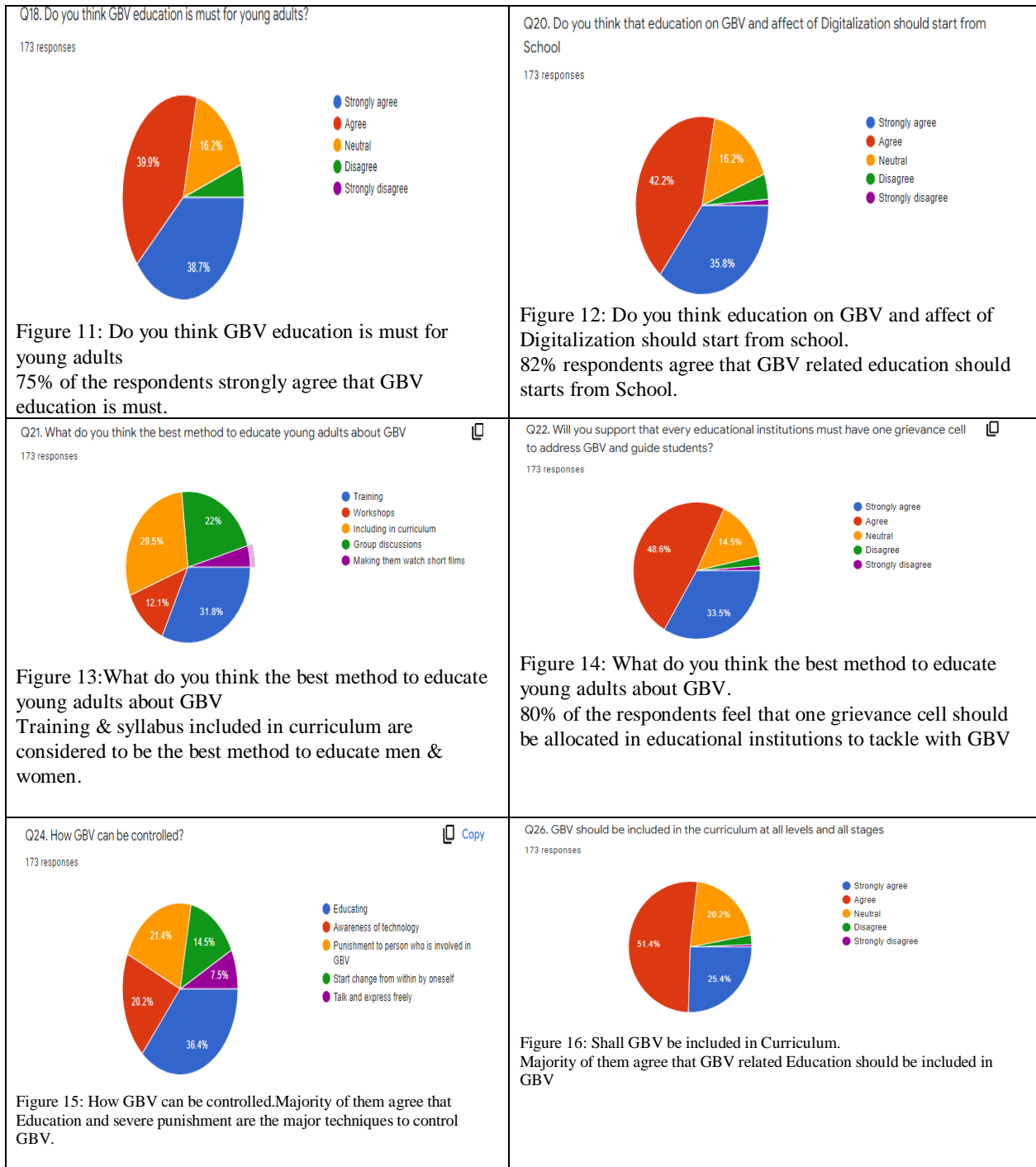
Since calculated value is less than tabulated value. Accept Ho. It shows that women are more affected than male due to GBV. Age group 11-20 years are more affected by GBV

3 To identify the causes and affect of GBV among young adults.



The Major factors which identified to reduce the Affect of GBV is Education, Awareness of Technology, Severe punishments and Self- control & Meditation.

Ho: There is no significant impact of Education, technology, punishment, self-control on reducing affect of GBV.

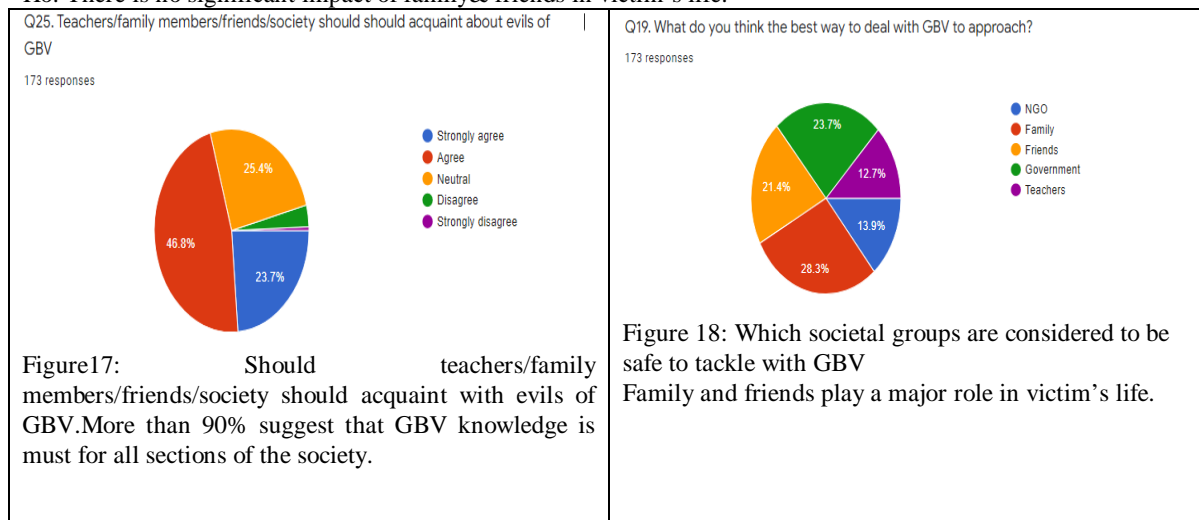


Gender	Education	Awareness of technology	punishment	Self control	Total
Male	20	15	7	30	72
Female	43	20	30	8	101

Total		63	35	37	38	173
Anova: Two-Factor Without Replication						
SUMMARY	Count	Sum	Average	Variance		
Male	5	144	28.8	652.7		
Female	5	202	40.4	1313.3		
Education	3	126	42	463		
Awareness on technology	3	70	23.33333	108.3333		
punishment	3	74	24.66667	246.3333		
Self control	3	76	25.33333	241.3333		
ANOVA						
Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Rows	4326.933333	2	2163.467	5.409117	0.032662	4.45897
Columns	18657.06667	4	4664.267	11.66164	0.002028	3.837853
Error	3199.733333	8	399.9667			
Total	26183.73333	14				

Since Calculated value is more that Tabulated value Reject H0. Which means Education, awareness on technology, punishments will reduce the affect of GBV on society.

Ho: There is no significant impact of family& friends in victim’s life.



**TABLE 4** Social Groups considered safe to tackle GBV

	Family	Friends	government	Teacher	NGO	Total
Men	19	17	21	11	10	78
Women	30	20	20	11	14	95
Total	49	37	41	22	24	173



**TABLE 5 CALUCALTION OF ANOVA**

Anova: Two-Factor Without Replication						
<i>SUMMARY</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>		
Men	6	156	26	668		
Women	6	190	31.66667	1005.067		
Total	6	346	57.66667	3297.467		
Family	3	98	32.66667	230.3333		
Friends	3	74	24.66667	116.3333		
Government	3	82	27.33333	140.3333		
Teacher	3	44	14.66667	40.33333		
NGO	3	48	16	52		
Total	3	346	115.3333	2566.333		
ANOVA						
<i>Source of Variation</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>F crit</i>
Rows	3421.778	2	1710.889	5.962209	0.019741	4.102821
Columns	21983.11	5	4396.622	15.32161	0.000207	3.325835
Error	2869.556	10	286.9556			
Total	28274.44	17				

Since Calculated value is more that Tabulated value Reject H0. This means Family & Friends has significant impact on GBV.

**RESULTS AND CONCLUSION**

Results showed that students are very much aware about GBV. Compare to boys, girls of age 18-23 are more targeted group. All most all the students use digital platforms effectively. They are emotionally strong and dare enough to tackle the situations and are well versed with organizations that help them in case of need.

From the research study it is understood that GBV impact is more on women compare to men.

This study also provides that victims of GBV mostly go for depression, restrict their behavior and will not feel like mingle with others. Depending on intensity of the violence some even prefer for Honor Killings. The reasons which are identified for GBV are lack of education and family background and the brought up environment.

Finally most of them agree that educating the youth, awareness on GBV and severe punishments will bring a drastic change in the society and reduce the dark affects of GBV. Especially Education plays a major role in the present digitalization. Adding syllabus in the regular education curriculum and bringing awareness from school makes a lot of change in the society.



In case of any violence the students feel more compatible to talk to Family & Friends and are ready to fight the situations legally in case of need. .

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