

A Study on Impact of POCSO Act and its Challenges with Reference to Indian Society

Nishanthi Susanth¹ and Megha Santhosh²

BBA.LL.B(Hons), 5th Year¹

BA. LL.B(Hons), 5th Year¹

Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science, Chennai, India
nishanthisusant@gmail.com and meghasanthosh27@gmail.com

Abstract: *The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act is a legal framework in India that was enacted in 2012 to address the issue of sexual abuse and exploitation of children. The Act is designed to provide a comprehensive and effective legal framework for the protection of children from sexual offenses, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, and pornography. However, the implementation of the POCSO Act has faced several challenges. One of the primary challenges is the underreporting of cases of sexual offenses against children. Many victims and their families are hesitant to report such incidents due to fear of social stigma, lack of awareness, and inadequate support from law enforcement agencies. Another challenge is the slow and inefficient legal process. Delays in the investigation and trial of cases can lead to prolonged trauma for the victim and their families, and also increase the likelihood of the accused being released on bail or escaping punishment. children's rights and furthering the cause of protecting children against sexual abuse in conjunction with a related legislation to clamp down on child. The empirical research was carried out. The sample size was 200. The independent variable age, gender and educational qualification is used*

Keywords: Comprehensive law, gender neutral, non-bailable offenses, POCSO act, Stigma