

Analysis the Crime Against Children in the Digital Era

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Abstract: *The rise of digital technology has brought many benefits to society, but it has also created new challenges, particularly in the area of cybersecurity. Cybercrime has become increasingly prevalent issue in recent years, with cyber criminals using the internet to commit a wide range of illegal activities, including identity theft, fraud and cyberbullying. This has created a legal challenges for governments, as they attempt to keep pace with technology advancements and the evolving nature of cybercrime. Cyberspace is a virtual world or online world. It is an artificial world created by computers or internet enabled devices or component to communicate. There are two categories of cybercrime firstly property crime hacking, spamming, identity theft, fraud and copyright infringement and secondly crime against the person is child pornography, sexual abuse of children, cyber stalking, cyber bullying. The aims of the study are to discuss the role of government and policy makers for the rehabilitation of victims against cybercrimes. The paper will suggest some measures for the holistic development and security of children.*

Keywords: children, cyberspace, cybercrime, intervention, psychology, investigation, prosecution, online privacy

I. INTRODUCTION

In today's digital age, the threat of cybercrime looms large over individuals and organizations alike. With the rise of technology and the increasing dependence on the internet, cybercrime has become a widespread phenomenon that poses a major challenge to law enforcement agencies worldwide. As we all are aware with the fact that 'children find everything in nothing' because there are no seven wonders of the world in the eyes of a child, however, there are seven million wonders in their imagination and mind. In the present scenario where parents are passionate regarding the future of the child and provide all the comforts in order to make the life of child easy as well as hi-tech, parents forget that the child is someone today. The term of 'children' and 'technology' has powerful but ambiguous contemporary resonance. On the one hand, it can, especially when focused on information technology, provoke utopian vision of a childhood radically at ease with arcane knowledge, empowered, connected and freed from the constraints of the locality. At the same time, these very visions promote fears about the despoliation of childhood and the transformation, for the bad, of relationships between the generation. In the I -Phone and YouTube videos are easily available to the kids on demand, their childhood has lost the fragrance of garden, culture and the art of learning by observing nature. In this article the major emphasis is on (I) the cybercrime targeted against the children; (ii) the relevant legal provisions to address the cybercrimes and (iii) suggestions for the protection of childhood from contemporary cybercrimes.

To tackle these challenges, government and law enforcement agencies are working towards developing more robust legal frameworks and international cooperation to combat cybercrime. In recent years, several laws and regulations have been introduced to address various forms and cybercrime. For instance, the united state has several laws in place to tackle cybercrime, including the computer fraud and abuse Act and the Electronic communication privacy Act. In this article, we will explore the legal challenges presented by cybercrime.

II. METHODS

This research paper purely based on secondary sources. This is done in order to comprehend the issues to analysis the cybercrime and children in the Digital Era and to encourage the prevention and precautions. The research makes use of secondary sources of data, including journals, newspaper, websites, and case laws from AIR, Legal manuals.

III. DISCUSSIONS

Children are most vulnerable sections of society and are easily exploited in the cyber world due to lack of majority level in them. These days it is seen that even sexual exploitation of the children has started online. The offenders chat online with young children by wrongly stating their age and lure them towards sex. With these latest technologies it has become very easy for the criminal to contact children. Children are easily exploited by online criminals not only because of their age and majority but also as they heavily rely on networking sites for social interaction. Offenders use false identities in chat room to lure victims for personal meetings. This leads to child abuse and exploitation such as trafficking and sex tourism. The child never knows the person with whom he or she is chatting. It is only when they happen to meet each other in person that they see an old man in their 40's or 50's with whom they were chatting and realize their mistake. Many children commit suicide when their offensive pictures are posted online. Children often avoid telling their parents about this mistake which causes further more trouble. The victims of online exploitation are forced to live with their abuse for the rest of their lives. It also affects the overall mental development of children. Children often unknowingly or deliberately share personal information without realizing that by just forwarding this message they can be made to suffer penal charges, Facebook photographs, WhatsApp messages are uploaded and shared by children without knowing the gravity of things and the impact that will it have on their future. We all understand the need of protecting children in the real world but it is equally important role in protecting your children against cyber Abuse. It is high time for parents and elders to take an active role in sharing with your kids about the use and abuse of cyber. To nab an offender in a cybercrime case is not an easy task as the offender can commit this crime from anywhere in the world. These days the offenders are using high end technologies and in order to take hold of them we need the help of cyber cell police station.

The major factors of parents and children for not reporting online crimes is the fear of further victimization in the police station. Parents and children feel that reporting online crimes could lead to publicizing of the problems to larger social groups which may damage the family reputation. In several cases, children may also feel not to report any victimization to parents fearing unnecessary parental interference in their lives. Several incidences may show that victims of cyberbullying have found self-harm including suicide as the best way to cope with the situation, victims of cyberstalking, revenge, porn, etc. may adopt irrational coping mechanism only to enter into more trouble.

Steps taken by Indian Government (NCRB):

In its magazine "crime in India", the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) collects and broadcasts statistical information on crime. The 2020 report is the most resent to be made public. A total of 305 and 1102 cases of cybercrime against children were reported in 2019 and 2020.

According to seventh schedule of the Indian constitution, "police" and "public order" are state matters. Through their law enforcement agencies, state and union territories are mainly in charge of reducing, detecting, investigation, and punishing crimes, including cybercrime. These LEAs prosecute offenders under the law's provisions.

The central government supported the efforts the efforts of the state government by providing guidance and financial support through various schemes for their capacity building.

The ministry of education was asked to give the necessary instruction to the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) for including appropriate cyber safety content in the school curriculum of children and advised the state government to do the same through their school board to empower children in navigation the online world with proper security.

Law against the cybercrime in India:

The Information technology (IT) Act,2000

section 67B punishment for publishing or transmitting of material depicting children in sexually explicit act, etc. in electronic form.

Section 67 publication of obscene material in electronic form

Section 67-A Cyber Bullying – bullying of a child through the internet in a deliberate and repeated manner and facilitating online abuse/harassment of children.

Provision under the Indian Penal Code 1860

Section 292- incriminates any person who distributes or threatens to disperse any intimate and compromising images of someone through any electronic means, including apps and other social media. If a picture of the child girls is clicked in an obscene manner without her knowledge and is distributed, a voyeurism case under Section 354C of the IPC can also with the aid of other relevant sections from the Information Technology Act,

Section 293- provides punishment for whoever distributes, exhibits or circulates to any person under the age of twenty years any obscene object or attempts to do so.

Section 383-n extortion by offering gifts, money makes them involve in sexual activities via webcam or smartphone followed by recording a child in sexual activity, blackmailing shall be punished imprisonment of either description for term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

the Protection of Children from Sexual Offenses (POCSO) Act. The Act mandates reporting, including kid-friendly tools for capturing testimony and evidence, and ensures that cases are heard fast. It provides a strict legal framework for protecting children from sexual offenses while preserving the best interests of the kid throughout the whole legal process.

Case laws

State of tamil nadu v. suhas katti(2016)

In this case, the supreme court of India emphasized that even mere possession of child pornography is a punishable offense. The court recognized the importance of protecting children from sexual exploitation and reiterated the need for strict action against offenders.

Shibu soren v. Central Bureau of investigation (2007)

The Jharkhand high court ruled that a person can be prosecuted for promoting or transmitting child pornography through electronic media. This case expanded the scope of child pornography offenses to include online dissemination and distribution.

IV. FINDING

The information and communication technologies have created a brand-new area for the kids to learn and play. Its area of both opportunities and risks wherever the youngsters is developed however on the opposite hand they will be the victims of cybercrime. The information and communication technologies enabled the offenders to create the children as their target severally and together. The potential motives of the offenders include personal gratification, typically by manner of sexual exploitation, cash creating etc.

Through the internet, online predators can gain access to children faster and in higher volumes, using chat rooms, emails, online games and social networking sites to find and groom victims. Cyberspace has also significantly reduced the risk and increased the ability for offenders to access child abuse taken on Precautions to be social networking sites and parents' personal information should be posted to a limited extend install and upgrade anti- virus software regularly. Educate yourself about the websites, software, gaming, and apps that your child uses.

Check their social media and gaming profiles and posts. Have conversation about what is appropriate to say or share.

V. CONCLUSION

The ascent of online web exercises in the cutting-edge time has welcomed various dangers on the online security of the children. Without tough lawful arrangements, the increment of such privileges of youngsters appears to be a sunshine dream. School should provide proper education relating to proper use of information technology and train them to be secured in bad situations when the technology they use itself becomes an offence against them.

VI. SUGGESTIONS

Parents should educate our children about the use of technology. Parents should restrict the children without prior permission not use computer and another internet activity. The role of the parents to block the illegal websites to safeguard the children from the cybercrime. Parents cannot give unrestricted freedom to children for using online platform and used the tech contract are best way to restrict children from falling in dark depth of the internet.

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