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I think living in a country like India, everyone has seen some form of misogyny and predatory behavior in action. For instance, every woman has experienced eve teasing that happens on a daily basis in buses, metros and even in corporate life. More disappointing is the fact that girls and women themselves have accepted it as part of their lives. Women tend to ignore it even if those lewd comments bother them emotionally. I have seen that parents don't let their daughters go out after 8 PM, they are scared when their daughters travel by public transport alone even during the day and I have also seen that most parents would not like their daughters to wear clothes that might get unwanted attention from perverts. The point that I want to make is that a lot of the brunt for preventing misogyny and predatory behavior lies with the parents of the future generation. They have to make their daughters strong, instill self-esteem into them to raise their voice against these acts. Having said that, I think that the root of this issue lies in illiteracy as well. I think men need to be educated by their parents to respect women. If their boys make a casual disrespectful joke or comment about girls, they should be condemned for it.

We, as a society, make movies, TV shows and even songs that objectify women and no one objects to it and this is precisely the reflection of how casually we have accepted predatory behavior and misogyny. On a more optimistic note, I think there are steps being taken as a society to prevent violence against women. One of the examples is a worldwide #MeToo movement that went viral when women finally got the courage to stand up against sexual assault and sexual harassment at the workplace. What was great about the #MeToo movement was that you could see how one woman standing up against sexual assault empowered other women to do the same. And I would like to believe that it made men realize that they are not exempt from predatory behavior no matter how rich or famous they are. #MeToo movement also opened our eyes, as a society, to realize that sexual assault and sexual harassment is deeply ingrained in our culture and we have to come together and fight against it with open-mindedness, courage and determination.