



***Lakhbir Singh is the owner of multiple businesses. Founder of Radio Chardi Kala. Mr. Singh enjoys reading and doing talk shows at his radio station regarding different social issues around the world.***

Violence against women is a human right issue because women are human. I have witnessed various acts of discrimination against women. In many cases women do work, but the household income is under the man's control, which increases male dominance. The advances in technology pertaining to sex selection has increased the occurrence of female infanticide. Other forms of violence against women are prevalent too. We must transmute our culture by promoting education and awareness about social issues in our communities. If women are educated about their rights and are provided with a safer environment, they will be able to voice their experiences in the face of discrimination and abuse. We need to ensure more safety in colleges and work places for women and prevent sexual harassment. Many families are worried to send their daughters to colleges in fear of sexual harassment and assault within these campuses.

Most of the times rape victims don't get the justice they deserve. I read a news article about a nun raped numerous times by the Head of the church for over two years. Although the nun filed a report and verbally expressed the abuse, her voice was not heard. If that can happen to a nun, it can happen to any woman. Many times rape victims are asked irrelevant questions and they face victim blaming and shaming. Men and women both should work in partnership to change the attitude that instigate injustice against women and girls.

Men can do several things to prevent gender abuse. First and foremost, they should start talking about these issues. Society should encourage girls to learn physical and emotional self-defense, and educate boys to support the women in their lives in whatever way possible. Kids at an early age should learn about the equality of sexes and mutual support instead of being sheltered from these ideas. This will allow a smooth functioning in society where everyone is given the respect they deserve.