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We live in strange times. We say we are liberated, and our thinking has changed, but has it, really? Times have definitely changed in terms of the fact that women constitute a large portion of the workforce and most logical people do try to treat men and women in the same way, but how do you change attitude and prejudice, which has been molded over decades?

Crimes against women have not decreased over time, however increase of awareness means people are getting caught more. Harsh punishments have been meted out to offenders, who were caught in their predatory behavior against women and the quantum

of such punishments have increased over time to show that people have realized that these sorts of crimes are heinous and need to be dealt in the strongest manner possible. While fear of punishment is a deterrent, indeed, it is not enough to address the root cause behind these crimes.

To understand the main factor behind all these crimes against women, it is necessary to understand the mental aspect of men who are committing these crimes. The attitude or the mentality of these people is derived from childhood and then further molded by seniors in the school-neighborhood, peers and society, in general. A lot of people have identified education as a root cause behind this and education can definitely improve understanding and help people to realize that women are deserving of utmost respect and equality in every field of life. I do believe education is definitely something, which will help a lot, however school or college education is only part of solution. Children and teenagers learn from home and everything around them—how their father treats their mother, how other adult males around them treat the women around them. When people see that everybody around them treat women with complete respect—this respect is not something special, it is just something that you deserve-- anybody should be treated with dignity, whether adult or children, whether men or women. It is about equality of human being and when every people believe that, the behavior will automatically follow.

There is an inherent bias against women historically, because of the man's role in being the sole breadwinner for the family and women sitting at home and while that may have been true 2 generations back, it is no longer true. Women contribute equally in everything from education to business to service to entertainment. This has helped in the movement for equality however this slows down when children come into the picture. Bringing up children has traditionally been a domain for women and while, it has changed in a few places, in general, this stereotype has not changed. So, there are two things about this statement- Firstly, this is not something, which should be taken for granted- it is a joint decision between the husband and the wife and it can be something different than what the society expects, so the thinking of the society needs to change. Secondly, whoever does it, bringing up children is probably a task worth multiple full-time jobs, not only because of the responsibility but because of the concentration and effort required. Again, this person is in charge of determining how the next generation is going to behave and treat people.

As a way of concluding this small write-up, let me try to conclude by saying that while I believe education is the key to solving this societal issue, what I mean by education is not only the school education but also the overall all-around education which a person is receiving 24 hours a day, at home and in the neighborhood from everybody around. The society needs to change, but society is made up of people so changing people one at a time will help everybody. All kind of work needs to be respected and one should not undermine a particular work compared to others. Doing a job is far easier than raising a child.