

Innovations

Of Cyber Stalking Victimization Behaviour and Inadequacies of Indian Cyber-Law: Exploring the Criminal Contents Related to Lesser Degree of Social Integration

Dr. Debahuti Panigrahi

Associate Professor,

H.O.D. & Dean, Humanities & Social Science Raffles University, Neemrana, Rajasthan

Corresponding Author: **Dr. Debahuti Panigrahi**

Abstract

A mobile phone can be the worst possible format of harassment who can imagine this in the age of idea and technology. Even if the mobile phone is switched off and is upon the bed as a handy object in today's materialistic world, the audio device is on and someone has tapped the phone and is listening to every sound the women is making and the front and back camera is live - recording each and every private moments of her personal life. In a socio-legal front this is a crime challenging the privacy and security of women. This paper examines the lacunae of the cyber laws and tries to put into picture the patterns of victimisation of women in the form of cyber blackmail, threats, cyber-pornography, posting and publishing of obscene sexual content, stalking, defamation, morphing, and the establishment of fake profiles, cyber extortion & cyber bullying.

Key Words: 1.Cyber-stalking, 2.Victimization, 3.Deviance, 4.Neutralization Theory, 5.Rational Choice Theory, 6.The self-control theory, 7.General Deterrence Theory & Liquid Modernity.

I. Introduction

Cyber-stalking victimization behaviour can be called as the abnormal social fact, a criminal tendency and the side effect of the post-modernised communication era. To quote Durkheim every crime has its functional significance. Here, this deviance calls forth the functional necessity of rearranging and re-establishing virtual social relationship and cyber-law. Cyber-stalking involves anti-social behaviour, defying ethics, morality and formal rules and regulations of the society. It has become a grave concern to study and put light upon such deviant and criminal behaviour that is occurring in a large scale in the field of online communication. So far the civilization has witnessed real world criminals. Now it is undergoing though a phase of virtual criminals without any adequate preparation of legal measures to deal with it.

Cyber-stalking victimization behaviour is a criminal activity in which someone harasses by annoying, pestering, bothering or stalking a victim using electronic or digital means. It may be simply by hacking someone's computer or tapping phone or accessing someone's profile or identity in the field of social media, email, instant messaging (IM), or messages posted to a discussion group or forum. The cyber-stalking victimization behaviour, which is otherwise known as online harassment involves mild to grave negative socio-psychological consequences. It can take the form of identity theft, online impersonation, identity deception, transmitting virus and destroying data or computer/laptop/phone, threats, and hostile posting, sexual motives, coercing a religious cult, blackmailing and pressurising a person to commit terrorism or communal killing, forcing women into divorce or prostitution and even bullying victims into suicide.

From a psychological perspective, Meloy and Gothard (1995, p. 258) defined *stalking* as "the wilful, malicious and repeated following and harassing of another person that threatens his or her safety." Westrup and Fremouw (1998, p. 258) suggested a behavioural-oriented definition: "one or more of a constellation of behaviours that (a) are

repeatedly directed toward a specific individual, (b) are unwelcome and intrusive, and (c) induce fear or concern in the target.” In criminology, Fisher et al. (2002, p. 255) defined it as “the same person exhibiting repeated pursuit behaviour that seemed obsessive and made the respondent afraid or concerned for her safety.” In a survey supported by the American National Institute of Justice et al. (1998, p. 240), stalking was defined as “a course of conduct directed at a specific person that involves repeated visual or physical proximity, non-consensual communication, or verbal, written or implied threats, or a combination thereof, that would cause a reasonable person fear.” Summarizing these definitions one can obtain three common elements, as noted by Meloy (2001):

- a behavioural intrusion on another person;
- implicit or explicit threats arising from the behavioural intrusion;
- fear arising as a result of the threats.

However, Pittaro considers control and inducing fear factor as the foundational element of stalking. To him, “stalkers are motivated by an obsession with having power, control, and influence over their victim”. According to Menesini et al. (2012), imbalance of power, intentionality (of hostile behaviour), and anonymity have been highlighted as three distinguishing criteria of cyber-bullying, which is a subtype of cyber-stalking. So, considering all these definition, we can conclude stalking as a series of repeated socially intrusive behaviour-motivated by an obsession or curiosity with having power, control, and influence over a victim - that facilitates implicit and explicit threats, and thus induces fear and need for security in a victim.

II. Objectives

The present study addresses the following objectives:

- To evaluate the cause of cyber-stalking victimization behaviour as the low degree of social integration of individual into the society.
- To assess the source of cyber-stalking victimization behaviour as the differential patterns of alienated social relationship charged with liquid modernity.
- To examine Neutralization Techniques used by cyber-stalkers to justify their behaviour.
- To assess the strength of General Deterrence Theory (GDT) that legal administrators can implement social order by instilling fear of consequences of breaking law in individuals to deter them from committing crime.
- To interpret cyber-stalking victimization behaviour as the outcome of the delinquent or criminal association people share. (according to Differential Association Theory of Sutherland)

III. Cyber-Stalking Victimization Behaviour - Resultant of Low Degree Collective Conscience in Social Milieu

Internet has become the part and parcel of daily life now. As of 2022, the estimated number of internet users worldwide was 5.3 billion. Online life has become not only convenient but also handy to deal with, which made people discharge multiple activities of daily life including official to personal work online. Every difficult task has become so easier that people assume it is being done with the tip of a finger. When internet usage has made life so easy and convenient people spend most of their time online- call it office or even home.

However, this virtual world has it's negative side as well. That is physical distance. A person does not know whom s/he is dealing with. Everybody in their childhood is being taught a grave lesson-‘do not talk to strangers’. But it seems nobody follows that or there is a charm in interacting with strangers that people can not resist. Without knowing a person or examining his personal background people start forming relationship virtually in the form of texting or phone calls. This anonymity creates a sort of impersonality and inhumanity, which leads to cruelty and distortive tendencies. Real physical association creates belongingness whereas the lack of physical presence makes the relationship impersonal and inhuman where no attachment can be identified. This gives rise to deviant tendencies to harm a person posing as friend or mentor or guide or just as an imposter. Cyber-stalkers take advantage of the anonymity of the alienated world marked with normlessness or *anarchy* afforded by the internet to stalk or harass their victims, sometimes without being caught, punished or even detected.

The social system is based on groups and institutions. Groups can be either primary or secondary. Primary group especially family, friend circle deals with personal relationship of a person and is based upon emotional attachment and we-feeling. The institutions attached to it are marriage and kinship. The cohesion is very strong and the social order is maintained judiciously. The secondary group deals with other impersonal relationships of individuals that is required for fulfilling other facets of life. An individual's relationship with school, colleges, bank, office, police, political organisation, legal organisation defines her/his secondary groupings where the inter-personal relationship lacks emotional attachment. Rather it is defined by professional attachment.

However, an individual belonging to either primary group or secondary group is known to other members of the society. So, inhumanity is not involved as a basic human trait with someone one knows personally with his/her physical presence. But, in an online environment there is no grouping- neither in the form of primary integration nor secondary organisations. At this level there is no basic human affinity. There are no probable social institutions working with rules regulation as such to control human behaviour. When one enters cyber world, one leaves the civilization and enters into the wild-wild world again where masked intelligent predators move with unchecked *id*. The anonymity is another black-spot through which they operate with unhindered evil intentions.

IV. Liquid Modernity, Virtual Reality & Alienation of Identity

What kind of reality is this virtual reality? A question arises in the purview of academia that needs to be defined. Zygmunt Bauman has coined a term called '*Liquid Modernity*' where he describes the modern world is in constant motion to define and redefine rules associated with relationship and identities. Nothing seems constant and valid here. Everything is in liquid form that can take any shape any time. It is a very dangerously treacherous zone of social world. A society without a pre-defined social system can be well identified as an alienated society. Karl Marx has defined the concept of *alienation* to some context of social relationship that is especially with human to his marketable production that gradually moves into estrangement from society in general. But here, in this online world we witness alienation in its severe format i.e. alienation of social relationships where basic human element is missing, where human identity is alienated. This alienation equipped with liquid modernity has caused cyber-stalking victimization as a social fact happening unchecked, unperturbed.

This abnormal social fact called as cyber-stalking victimization calls forth probe into the socio-psycho and legal perspectives. It also warrants the reconstruction of varied social institutions, i.e. interpersonal moral and legal. The extreme monetization of materialistic social life where religion as a social institution has failed to operate anymore as a social control method need to be reconsidered to be rebuilt to encourage moral grounds in individual life to check the uninhibited *id* and to generate appropriate social *ego* and *super-ego* whenever required.

V. The Taxonomy of Cyber-Stalking Victimization Behaviour

In cyber-stalking, one individual illegally and repeatedly stalks another person via their online actions. "Stalking is an obvious violation of Article 21 of the Indian Constitution, which protects the right to privacy.

The case was Justice K.S. Puttaswamy and Others v. Union of India and Others, and this was the decision." Its primary function is to make individuals feel afraid, but a secondary consequence is social isolation. Negative mental predisposition such as rage, vengeance, envy, obsession, extreme narcissism, psychiatric conditions, desire for control, sadomasochistic fantasies, sexual deviance, internet addiction, and religious fanaticism may trigger cyber-stalking victimization behaviour.

V.A. The Taxonomy of Cyber-Stalking Victimization Behaviour

The taxonomy of cyber-stalking victimization behaviour can be summarized into five groups, which may be a) to gratify cyber-stalkers' suppressed, un-sanctioned psychological needs related to the victim b) to lead a imaginative live-in relationship with the victim c) To infuse fear in the psyche of the victim d) To take unwanted revenge upon the victim and e) finally to take complete control of the life of the victim.

Table -01

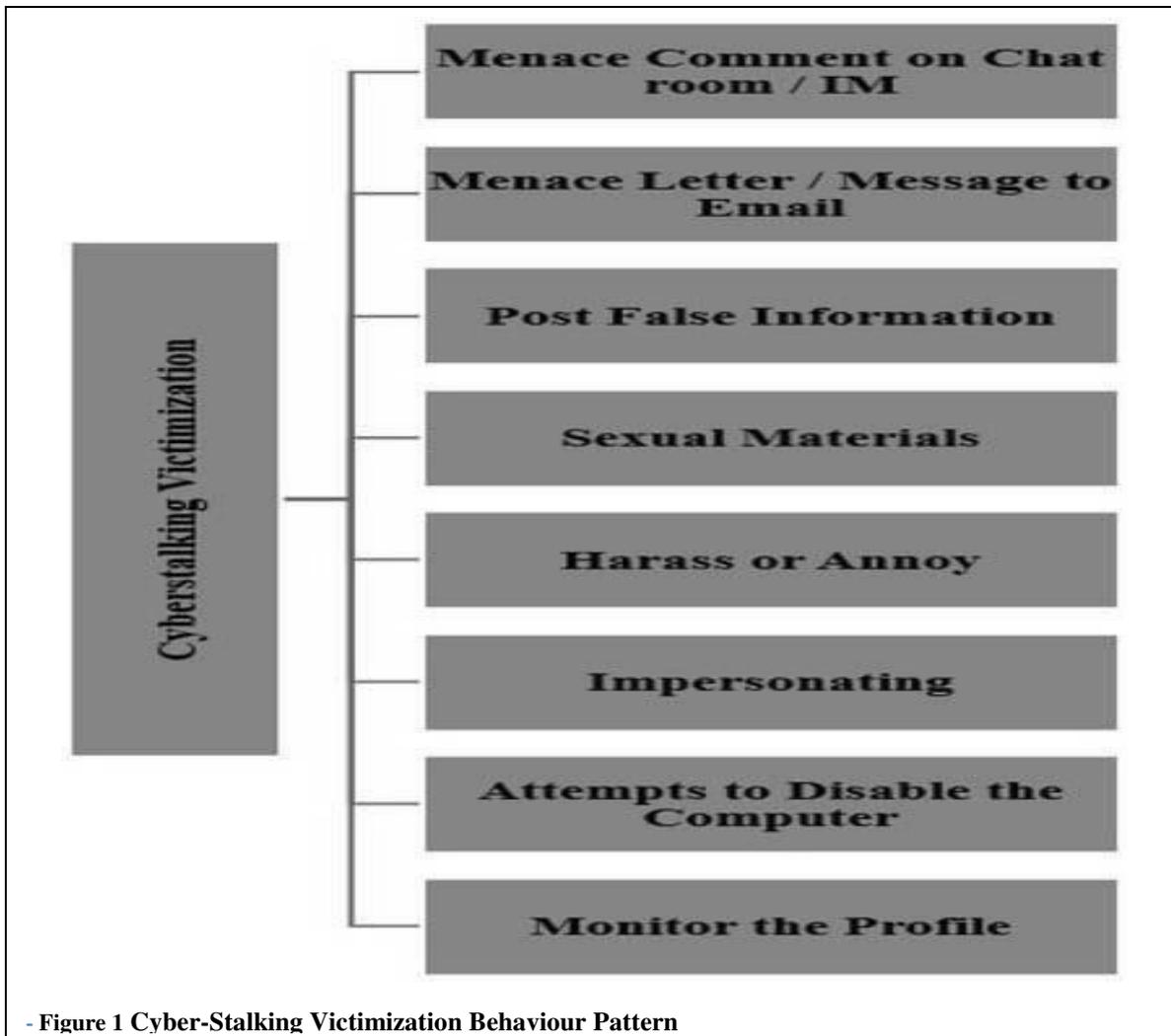
Classifications and Taxonomy of Cyber-Stalking Victimization Behaviour

| Source | Criteria | Key classifications used |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| (McFarlane & Bocij, 2003) | Motivation and relationship | Vindictive cyber-stalker, composed cyber-stalker, intimate cyber-stalker, collective cyber-stalkers |
| (Bocij, 2002) | Individual/organization and motivation | Dimension 1: Individual/organization: individual stalks organization, organization stalks individual Dimension 2: Motivation: vengeful, individual gain, ideological, unwitting, for profit, competitive |
| (Wikipedia, 2013a) | Behavioural patterns | False accusations, attempts to gather information about the victim, monitoring the target's online activities, encouraging others to harass the victim, false victimization, attacks on data and equipment, ordering goods and services, arranging to meet |
| (SAPAC, 2013) | Motivation, relationship, personality, duration, and criminality | Rejected stalker, resentful stalker, predatory stalker, intimacy seeker, incompetent suitor, erotomania, and morbidly infatuated |
| (Quit-Stalking-Me, 2011) | Motivation | Envy, fulfill wishes or cravings, feel invincible, not happy with current career, make others feel inferior, delusional, instill fear in others to justify status, embarrass others, cannot deal with some problems, curious |
| (Network for Surviving Stalking) | Motivation and relationship | Ex-partner harassment, infatuation harassment, delusional fixation stalking, sadistic stalking |

A sociopath having psychopathic tendencies needs to gratify his suppressed, un-sanctioned psychological needs, cravings or obsession regarding a person. The only way out is the cyber-stalking.

- It may include uncontrolled curiosity about someone, to control someone’s mood by making fun of someone, to exhibit cruelty/rude behaviour/bad moods without any specific cause.
- It is to show the victim how the cyber-stalker is in control of everything about the victim.
- The cyber-stalker may want to lead an imaginative live-in relationship including sexual relationships backed up with fantasies with the victim where his emotional/physical needs are to be gratified with maintaining his anonymity.
- The culprit’s another motivation is to infuse fear in the psyche of the victim.
- It may involve taking unwanted revenge upon the victim or to punish her without any possible cause.
- It may be due to jealousy or the social restrictions or the denial of the person concerned regarding a possible relationship or any undefined assumptions of the culprit regarding the victim.
- The cyber-stalker may be venting out a past hurt related to women in general upon the victim, as she is also a woman. The generalization theory without any possible background applied here by the psychopathic cyber-stalker causes immense harm into the life of the victim.
- The cyber-stalker may be motivated by a single cause or by the combination of many causes to stalk and harass the victim. The general aim is to break the self confidence of the victim concerned.

The figure -01 expresses the different possible patterns of Cyber-Stalking Victimization Behaviour.



VI. Cyber-Stalking Victimization Behavioural Patterns

Cyber-stalking Victimization Behaviour also involves cyber-bullying. The key cyber-stalking victimization behaviour includes: (a) cyber-stalking in secret, (b) indirect cyber-stalking, and (c) direct cyber-stalking.

VI-a. Cyber-Stalking in Secret

Cyber-stalking in secret involves accessing other's presence online along with their data and information available without the knowledge of the person. It may involve the tracing of daily activity of a person. The cyber-stalker processes the information privately and usually does not inflict any indirect or direct damage on the victim or sometimes does when there is need to do so.

VI-b. Indirect Cyber-Stalking

Indirect cyber-stalking involves accessing other's presence online along with their data and information available without the knowledge of the person with an intention to harm the person undoubtedly by creating fake profile to cause false accusations. It may be to destroy the data or the computer of the person. This cyber-stalking victimization behaviour may or may not cause immediate damage to the victim involved. But the necessary data collected are stored to cause long-term harm to the victim.

VI-C. Direct Cyber-Stalking

Direct cyber-stalking involves accessing other's presence online along with their data and information with the awareness of the person to inflict hurt, shame and damage the person by sending instant messages, emails, online comments, feedback, obscene/hurting/insulting/demeaning posts even scolding in the form of severe hatred in a general forum and thereby to have control upon the victim. This direct communication between the cyber-stalkers and the victim creates a kind of relationship unknown to the social world where the cyber-stalker claims himself to be the righteous master of the demeaned victim. It causes immense gratification to the criminal side of the cyber-stalker whereas it gradually ruin the victim in every possible way - financial, career -related, physical, psychological, or emotional that cause severe depression and mental problems as well along with the scar and trauma attached to such inhuman relationship.

VII. Motivation behind Cyber-stalking Victimization Behaviour

Cyber-stalking victimization behaviour starts with a motivation to commit the crime and ends with the consequential factor of harassing, forcing, coercing or terrorizing the victim. This paper will unravel the motivations behind the source of such criminal tendencies.

To determine a goal as attractive the cyber-stalker criminal analyses three factors such as gratifiability, antagonism, and insecurity of the target. Finkelhor and Asdigian imply that an antagonistic target can elicit a harsh response from a motivated offender. A weak target is defined as someone who can not overcome the malicious activities, access and control of a motivated offender.

According to Burke, an appropriate subject is an individual or item of interest or things or people on whom criminality is aimed, such as an object to rob or a person to strike.

VII-a. Routine Activity Theory

The routine activity theory proposes that cyber-stalking crime occurs when there is a motivated offender, an attractive target, and the absence of capable guardianship or legal/moral faculty or institution. Routine activity theory is based on the assumption that crime can be committed by anyone who has the opportunity. Motivated offenders are individuals who are not only capable of committing criminal activity, but are willing to do so physically, and mentally. A suitable target is any type of individual or property that the motivated offender can damage or threaten in the easiest way possible. If a target is suitable, this means that there is a greater chance that the crime can be committed, rather than, a target that is hard to achieve. The acronym VIVA provides four different attributes of what makes a target actually suitable, in the judgement of the offender.

The acronym goes as follows:

V: Value (The value of achieving the target, in a real or symbolic manner)

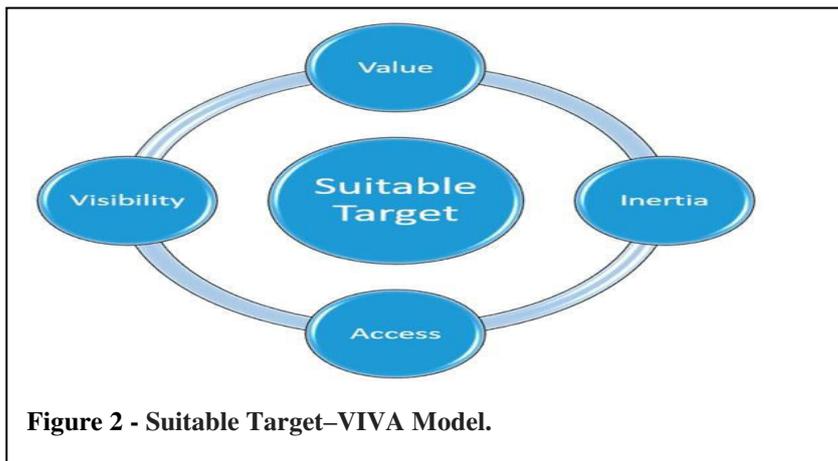
I: Inertia (The physical obstacles of the target: weight, height, strength, etc.)

V: Visibility (The attribute of exposure which solidifies the suitability of the target)

A: Access (The placement of the individual, or object that increases, or lessens, the potential risk of the intended attack)

VII-b. Suitable Target-Viva Model

Felson and Clarke created VIVA Model in which they have articulated four features which initiates cyber-stalking victimization behaviour. It can be broadly defined as - value, inertia, exposure, and access (VIVA). Worth refers to the target's monetary value, inertness to its weight, visibility to its appearance, and accessibility to its functionality.



VII-c. Absence of a Suitable Guardian

Guardianship refers to a person or an object that is effective in deterring criminal offenses and sometimes crime is stopped by simple presence of guardianship in space and time. A guardian would not necessarily have to be a policeman or a security guard but rather a person whose proximity or presence would lower the chances of a crime happening. This could include a housewife, a doorman, a neighbour or a co-worker. Whilst inadvertent, the presence of a guardian has a powerful impact on the likelihood of a crime taking place. Thus when the guardian is not within the vicinity of the target, the likelihood of a crime occurring is significantly higher.

VIII. Theoretical Model on Intrapersonal, Situational and Interpersonal Motivation

The source of the motivation for cyber-stalking victimization behaviour can be accountable to Intrapersonal, Situational, and Interpersonal levels. The Intrapersonal Level involves a) the Emotional Theory of Stalking (Spitzberg, 2000), and b) Neutralization Theory (Sykes & Matza, 1957). Next comes the Self-Control Theory of Crime (Gottfredson & Hirschi, 1990) that includes Rational Choice Theory (Becker, 1968) as a broad theory for situational-based decision making. Lastly, in interpersonal theory, we analyse the Social Learning Theory of Crime (Akers, 1973) and Differential Association Theory. These theories broadly attempt to analyse the socio-psychological cause and motivation behind Cyber-stalking victimization behaviour.

VIII.-a. Emotional Theory of Cyber-Stalking Victimization Behaviour

To Spitzberg (2000) the emotionality attached to cyber-stalking behaviour is two-folded- one of shame the other of anger. The attempt is made out of anger and of breaking legal and moral code of conduct brings forth shame and guilt as back-end emotions. However, according to Koenigs et al., 2011; Young et al., 2012 this theory does not apply well to sociopaths who has hatred for humans. And all the Cyber-stalkers are Sociopaths. They also suffer from psychopathic disorders, in which they are abnormally immune to the emotions of the victim and the hurt they cause to the victim. This makes them insensitive to the influence of morality and ethics in their behaviours, among other personality disorders. So, if cyber-stalkers are caught and counselled the generation of guilt and shame and sensitivity towards the pain and helplessness of others can be the clue to stop further such degenerative behaviour.

Neutralization Theory and Cyber-stalking Victimization Behaviour

Neutralization theory implies nothing important is happening or whatever is happening can be neutralized by providing some adequate justifications. To Sykes & Matza, neutralization techniques used by delinquents or cyber-stalkers to justify their behaviours include denial of responsibility, denial of injury, denial of the victim, condemnation of the condemners, appeal to higher loyalties. They try to create a make-believe world where they are kind of doing justice to the world by punishing or inflicting pain and misery to the victim. It may be illegal but not immoral- they do justify. Whatever ideologising and justifying does not minimize the level of crime committed and pain inflicted to an innocent person.

The self-control theory propitiates lack of social integration of an individual with the society, which results in improper formation of social ego. (Here, ego does not reflect pride of a person but it defines the social self of an individual that is being cultivated by proper socialization methods). This gives rise to imbalance of three-some factor-id, ego and super-ego. When the ego is not properly formed the id takes the prominence in the life of a defunct person. They develop inferiority complex because of their lack of proper social self-called-ego. This inferiority complex coupled with low degree of self-control make them vulnerable with their irrational emotional gratification. These factors trigger in them intention to perform delinquent behaviour regardless of other rational considerations. In the words of Bossler & Holt, they are more likely to have a higher degree of cyber-stalking victimization behaviour as “an efficient and effective means to satisfy immediate gratification”. Consequently, Gottfredson & Hirschi argue that self-control theory of crime believes that individuals with low self-control are more likely to commit crime when offered with the opportunity.

Howard Becker had introduced Rational Choice Theory (RCT) as one of the cause of delinquency or criminal action. To him rationalizing a situation/decision depends upon the outcome and consequences of it. Applying RCT to the cyber-stalking victimization behaviour will be handy in the sense the criminal/delinquent/offender finds the rationalization of victimizing a person without being caught or punished. So, he continues to do it. Thus, cyber-stalking victimisation behaviour is an outcome of RCT.

General Deterrence Theory (GDT) posits that legal administrators use GDT to implement social order. They instill fear of consequences of breaking law in individuals to deter them from committing crime. Thomas Hobbes in 17th century had opinionated that since people are self-centered beings with instinctual gratification as their prime objective it is GDT alone which can help keep criminal tendencies at check. We find in the contemporary cyber-world the cyber law is not that stringent to follow GDT. So, cyber-stalking victimization behaviour is increasing at a higher pace.

VIII-b. Interpersonal-Level Theories Explaining Cyber-stalking

Interpersonal Level Theories include social learning theories especially based on the influence of social relations. The Differential Association Theory proposed by Sutherland puts forward that a person is very much inclined by the association of people s/he shares. For example, a non-smoker after joining a group of smokers becomes a smoker automatically. No one coerces him. Likewise the slum dweller children become small level to medium level criminal as they share the companion of offenders only. There is no other out but to follow the group and it's activity. There is a justification lie here that when everyone is doing why I will be left. Same is the circumstance with the cyber-stalkers. When they find nothing happens to their fellow-mates they get encouraged to break the law.

After analysing these theories that support cyber-stalking victimization behaviour, it can be proposed that an individual's perceived risks and costs of cyber-stalking, calculated through (a) formal sanctions and (b) informal sanctions can decrease cyber-stalking.

IX. Cyber-Laws for Cyber-Stalking Victimization in India

Indian Penal Code, 1860

Section 354D of the Indian Penal Code criminalizes stalking behaviour by stating that anyone who tries to keep tabs on a woman's internet life by using electronic means is committing stalking.

Section 292 of IPC

A violation of Section 292 of the Indian Penal Code has been committed if a stalker transmits obscene material to another person through the internet with the intent that the target would read, see, or hear it.

Section 507 of IPC

Section 507 of IPC discusses Criminal intimidation through anonymous communication. This provision makes it illegal for a stalker to try to keep his identity as anonymous to the victim in target.

Section 509 of IPC

Section 509 of IPC deals with the breach of protection of the privacy of a woman by the cyber-stalker. It may be either through establishing unwanted electronic communications or by making derogatory remarks about her online presence.

Information Technology Act, 2000

Section 67 of the IT Act

The Information Technology Act labels this as criminal activity and prosecutes the cyber-stalkers under Section 67 of the IT Act. If he uses social media or other electronic means to broadcast pornographic content obscene information about the victim with the intent to harass or bully that person. Section 67A of the Information Technology Act makes it illegal for a stalker to distribute “sexually explicit” information electronically (including through email, text message, or social networking site) and outlines the penalties for doing so.

Section 67B of the IT Act

The Amendment Act of 2008 includes the section of 67B of the IT Act that declares it as a criminal act when a cyber-stalker who preys on children under the age of 18 with the intention of scaring them or blackmail them by exposing their sexual behaviour patterns.

Section 66E of IT Act, 2000 and Section 354C of IPC

Voyeurism otherwise known as a tactic used by stalkers to make their victims feel uncomfortable and miserable by releasing the intimate photos of them online is dealt with both the Section 66E of IT Act, 2000 and Section 354C of IPC as illegal and criminal activity.

Inadequacies of Indian Cyber-Law as the Result of Cultural-Gap

Cyber law is the regulations that deals with the abnormal social trends and illegal activities related to the secondary groups such as corporate or government organisation as well as primary groupings such as family or a single individual as well. But the inadequacies of Indian cyber-law is to be witnessed as a social fact happening because it is related to the institutional framework. All institutional frameworks are a part of non-material culture. And it is a proven fact that non-material culture will always lag behind the material culture. I must accolade to the famed sociologist W.F. Ogburn who had long back predicted this as the “*cultural-gap*” which is otherwise named as ‘*technological gap*’ (as non-material culture does not possess the capacity to match with the speed of change of material culture and always lag behind. Change can not affect the core areas of the society as desired always but can affect the outer areas -that is the material culture.) thus, creating social problems.

One can blame the police who do not take note of cyber-stalking as a practical reality. Or the girl or woman is not to be blamed who does not report the harassment related to the crime. The stalker and stalked both very well are aware of the fact the cyber laws dealing with cyberspace crimes are yet to be developed to deal with the practical side of the anti-social reality. It is like talking of implementing Article-17-Removal of Untouchability in a remote village of caste-Hindus. The theoretical part of the law may sound normal but the practical side of implementation is still missing, as the government departments still lack properly trained IT personnel and proper equipment to deal with the seriousness of the crime.

Recommendation

- Government cyber-law department should take cyber-victimization behaviour as seriously as they consider cyber monetary fraud due to hacking in the post-demonetization phase.
- Cyber-stalking victimization behaviour should be reported both online and offline.
- N.G.O.s should get involved in this by understanding the seriousness of the cyber crime.
- The human rights organisation should amend and develop new laws related to cyber-stalking victimization behaviour
- The cyber-stalker should be counselled after being arrested and put under psychiatric observation and treatment.
- Society should accept cyber-stalking victimization behaviour as a reality when the student organisations or N.G.O.s spread awareness by arranging sensitisation programs.

- Media should take active lead role in changing the notions related to cyber-stalking victimization behaviour

Conclusion

This paper ascertains that the motivation for cyber-stalking victimization behaviour lies in social and psychological factors. The qualitative analysis of the sociological and psychological theories has helped to prove the objectives of the study as well. Thus, it is proved that -

- Cyber-stalking victimization behaviour is the result of low degree of social integration of individual into the society.
- Cyber-stalking victimization behaviour is the result of alienated social relationship charged with liquid modernity.
- Neutralization techniques used by delinquents or cyber-stalkers to justify their behaviours include denial of responsibility.
- General Deterrence Theory (GDT) posits that legal administrators use GDT to implement social order. They instill fear of consequences of breaking law in individuals to deter them from committing crime.
- The Differential Association Theory proposed by Sutherland puts forward that a person is very much inclined by the association of people s/he shares.

However it can be concluded that Cyber-Laws Dealing with cyber-stalking victimization in India is not the proper tool to check this criminal act. Most of the victims do not make formal complain. If they do, police do not register their complaints because of their inadequacy in dealing with computer knowledge and related crime to it. Moreover, if the cyber police is alerted by the victim of possible criminalization, the time they reach the cyber-stalker he is capable to destroy all the evidence concerned with it and can evaporate into thin area. One can not trace an offender by tracing his online profile or a telephone number or a damaged machine- may be smart phone or laptop. Thus, the anonymity of the cyber-world makes it impossible to catch hold of a cyber criminal. The cyber-laws should be amended and reconstituted to deal with the gravity of the crime otherwise the range of cyber-stalking victimization behaviour is going to increase in the recent future in such an alarming rate that people will be scared using internet anymore.

References

1. Adam, A. (2002), "Cyberstalking and internet pornography: Gender and the gaze," *Ethics and Information Technology* 4(2), pp. 133-142.
2. Akers, R. L. (1990), "Rational choice, deterrence, and social learning theory in criminology: The path not taken," *The Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology* 81(3), pp. 653-676.
3. Akers, R. L., Krohn, M. D., Lanza-Kaduce, L., & Radosevich, M. (1979), "Social learning and deviant behavior: A specific test of a general theory," *American Sociological Review* 44(4), pp. 636-655.
4. Alexy, E. M., Burgess, A. W., Baker, T., & Smoyak, S. A. (2005), "Perceptions of cyberstalking among college students," *Brief Treatment and Crisis Intervention* 5(3), pp. 279-289
5. Bandura, A. (1999), "Moral disengagement in the perpetration of inhumanities," *Personality and Social Psychology Review* 3(3), pp. 193-209.
6. Baron, S. W., Forde, D. R., & Kay, F. M. (2007), "Self-control, risky lifestyles, and situation: The role of opportunity and context in the general theory," *Journal of Criminal Justice* 35(2), pp. 119-136.
7. Basu, S. & Jones, R. (2007), "Regulating cyberstalking," *Journal of Information, Law and Technology* 2(1), pp. 1-30.
8. Bocij, P. (2004). *Cyberstalking: Harassment in the Internet Age and How to Protect Your Family*. Westport, CT: Praeger Publishers.
9. Bocij, P., Griffiths, M., & McFarlane, L. (2002), "Cyberstalking: A new challenge for criminal law," *Criminal Lawyer* 122(3), pp. 3-5.
10. Cupach, W. R. & Spitzberg, B. H. (2004). *The Dark Side of Relationship Pursuit: From Attraction to Obsession and Stalking*. Mahwah, NJ: Routledge.

11. Dressing, H., Anders, A., Gallas, C., & Bailer, J. (2011), "Cyberstalking: Prevalence and impact on victims," *Psychiatrische Praxis* 38(7), pp. 336-341.
12. Erdur-Baker, Ö. (2010), "Cyberbullying and its correlation to traditional bullying, gender and frequent and risky usage of internet-mediated communication tools," *New Media & Society* 12(1), pp. 109-125.
13. Hinduja, S. & Patchin, J. W. (2008), "Cyberbullying: An exploratory analysis of factors related to offending and victimization," *Deviant behavior* 29(2), pp. 129-156.
14. Holt, T. J. & Bossler, A. M. (2008), "Examining the applicability of lifestyle-routine activities theory for cybercrime victimization," *Deviant Behavior* 30(1), pp. 1-25.
15. Holtfreter, K., Reising, M. D., & Pratt, T. C. (2008), "Low self-control, routine activities, and fraud victimization," *Criminology* 46(1), pp. 189-220.
16. Howes, O. D. (2006), "Compulsions in depression: stalking by text message," *The American Journal of Psychiatry* 163(9), pp. 1642-1642.
17. Hu, Q., Xu, Z., Dinev, T., & Ling, H. (2011), "Does deterrence work in reducing information security policy abuse by employees?," *Communications of the ACM* 54(6), pp. 54-60.
18. Kamphuis, J. H. & Emmelkamp, P. M. (2000), "Stalking—A contemporary challenge for forensic and clinical psychiatry," *The British Journal of Psychiatry* 176(3), pp. 206-209.
19. Keith, M., Thompson, S. C., Hale, J., Lowry, P. B., & Greer, C. (2013), "Information disclosure on mobile devices: Proposing and testing an improved research methodology for capturing behaviour," *International Journal of Human-Computer Studies* forthcoming(
20. Khalifa, M. & Liu, V. (2007), "Online consumer retention: Contingent effects of online shopping habit and online shopping experience," *European Journal of Information Systems* 16(6), pp. 780-792.
21. Kowalski, R. M., Limber, S. P., & Agatston, P. W. (2012). *Cyberbullying: Bullying in the digital age*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.
22. Lowry, P. B., Curtis, A., & Lowry, M. R. (2004), "Building a taxonomy and nomenclature of collaborative writing to improve research and practice," *Journal of Business Communication* 41(1), pp. 66-99.
23. Spitzberg, B. H. & Rhea, J. (1999), "Obsessive relational intrusion and sexual coercion victimization," *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 14(1), pp. 3-20.

Corresponding Email- debahuti7@gmail.com