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Srinand Jha, Hindustan Times
 Email Author
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Brides dumping NRI grooms in a hurry

- *In within a week of marriage in 2002, Toronto-based electronics engineer Raghu Modi was told by his wife she had married him for Visa and had no intention of terminating relationship with her paramour.*
- *After Modi refused to process the immigration formalities for his wife, she filed a “dowry” case against him. Unable to bear the harassment, Modi paid Rs 7 lakh to settle the case. Within a month, his wife remarried in the US.*
- *New York-based Jaspreet’s wife — a registered medical practitioner — filed a “dowry” case against her after their marriage in 1998. Later, her family came up with a compensation demand of Rs one crore. She passed away in India, but neither Jaspreet nor his brothers were able to perform the last rites — as Intestates’ Rights Act prevented them. Jaspreet has been engaged in a labyrinthine process of litigation in Indian courts for the past several years.*
- *Riyadh-based Ilyas Ahmed has a dowry case pending for his refusal to concede his wife Husna’s death to her family. Husna’s family members in Bangalore have attacked his family home on several occasions and he has been harassed.*
- *Shortly after Mandeep arrived back in Canada after his marriage, his wife Jasvinder deserted him and he had to fight for a visa. In accordance with the Canadian immigration laws, he provides financial support to his “vanishing bride”.*

These are samples of case studies collected with aims of presenting the converse side of the story of NRI marriages. ‘Rakshak’ is an organisation dedicated to elder abuse. ‘Rakshak’ works in close conjunction with 498a.org — leading in the impact of misuse of gender biased laws such as Section 498 A of the IPC.

The phenomenon of abandoned brides is one that has received huge media attention, but a new trend of “vanishing brides and abandoned grooms” has somehow escaped attention, said Dr Anupama Singh of ‘Rakshak.’ The phenomenon of abandoned new trend of “vanishing brides and abandoned grooms” has somehow escaped attention, says Dr Anupama Singh.

At a teleconferencing session on Thursday, several NRI men recounted stories of having been dumped by their wives in the advantage of gender-biased laws by filing false cases of domestic violence and dowry abuse to harass and harass them.

Statistics, Dr Singh said, speak for themselves: Against the number of 152 cases registered of “abandoned brides,” the number of “abandoned grooms” is around 700. Also, the courts have declared 80 per cent men charged under Sec 498-A of the IPC is a criminal law in which the wife and her family can charge any or all of the husband.

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