

NRI Marriages

“Abandoned” Grooms, “Abducted” Children and “Abused” In-Laws

- 498a.org

December 15th, 2007

Factors determining **Successful marriage**

RAKSHAK

- Emotional Maturity of spouses
- Understand meaning and commitment of marriage

- Sense of responsibility and tolerance
- Mutual trust and respect

- Educational background
- Level of expectations from
 - Lifestyle
 - Money
 - Career
 - Social Standing

- Integrity and value system
- Adjustment based on
 - Cultural background
 - Customs
 - traditions

▪ Expectations

- NRI
 - hold on to Indian values
 - Keep connected to roots
- Resident Indian
 - Easy route to immigration

▪ Cultural differences

- Difficult to adapt to foreign culture
- Abrupt change
- Unfamiliar environment

▪ Employment restrictions

- Spouse of visa holder not allowed to work
- Frustration due to loss of job opportunity
- Feeling of living a life with constraints

▪ Complete dependency on spouse

- Independent --> dependent
- Dependent for basic and higher needs
- Loss of self-esteem in dependent spouse

- Visa issues and delays

- Paperwork delays for getting spouse visa
- Foul play suspected by resident Indian

- Lack of social support system

- Lack of emotional support in foreign land
- Limited social support from friends
- Absence of mediation of elders and siblings

- Unfulfilled expectations

- Misconceptions about NRIs (bollywood)
 - Enormous money, relatively easy
 - Life is fun and without hardships

- Homesickness

- Separation from friends and family
- Psychological stress in new environment
- Having to deal with issues alone

■ Divorce

- Western countries are lenient in granting divorce
- Futile for two unwilling partners to force
- Complications with foreign divorces

■ Child Custody

- Children suffer most in broken marriage
- Child abduction by spouse to India
- Legal complications
 - Different countries
 - Different private international laws

■ Jurisdiction

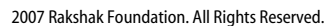
- Women jump to favorable jurisdiction
- Inability of husband to take vacation to fight long legal battles
- Women get support from laws, NGOs and government, husband does not

■ False cases under foreign laws

- VAWA in United States
- Immigration benefits by false DV case
- Child custody by false child harassment

- False cases under Indian laws
 - False 498a (dowry harassment)
 - False domestic violence accusations
 - False dowry death accusation (Russian case)
- Malafide Intentions & Ulterior Motives
 - NRIs are gullible and easy prey (money)
 - Extortion victims in broken marriage
 - False allegations hurts
 - Social stature, pride and dignity
 - Mental and financial harassment
- Effect on India's Global Image
 - US official travel website warning
 - Canadian Website warning
- Ineffective counselors
 - Lack of knowledge of foreign counselors
 - Culture and traditions
 - Importance of marriage for Indians

RAKSHAK



All Broken Marriages **are not** fraudulent marriages

- Marriage do fail 'everywhere' due to various reasons
 - Temperament differences, Expectations mismatch, Health issues, Family interference, etc
 - Resident Indian marriage divorce rate is rapidly increasing.
- Inability of spouse to cope with marriage problems
cannot be reasons
to classify a marriage as fraudulent

- Concealment of material facts
 - Marital status
 - Education
 - Age
 - Health conditions/medical history
- Fulfilling academic ambitions of acquiring foreign degree at expense of spouse
- Leading a lavish lifestyle
- Flaunting an NRI status in community
- To gain entry into foreign lands to reunite with their paramours
- Extort money by filing false and frivolous charges/cases
- To seek hefty alimony by resorting to divorce

Special privileges provide leverage for committing **fraud**

- Assumptions

- Special privileges to married Indian women
- Women would not resort to fraud
- Women would not level false accusations

- Fallacy

- Above assumptions are **not** valid

- Violation of human rights

- False implications
- Illegal detention under gender biased laws
- Corruption makes it more easy
- Elder abuse

- Loss of Dignity

- False accusations also results in
 - loss of job
 - Social harassment
 - Mental and economic abuse
 - Major health implications

- Loss of Faith

- Loss of trust in institution of marriage
- Psychological problems in next relationship

- Gender biased laws provide necessary leverage to **pose NRI spouse as fraudsters**
- Gullible NRI spouse succumb to pressure, **family held at ransom**
- **Out of Court settlements** are resorted to (Ref. Dr. Ambati's case, \$500,000 were asked)
- Alternative for NRI is
 - to see their family in India suffer proving themselves innocent
 - long drawn criminal cases in India
 - police harassment
- If you were in place of NRI, would you settle, or would you
 - Leave your job, come to India for years in search of justice and prove yourself innocent
 - Cost and outcome?

■ Passport and Visa Issues

- Revocation or impounding of Passport by MEA → leads to loss of livelihood
- Interpol Red Corner Notice (IRCN) issued
- Problems in renewal of passport (pending criminal 498a case)
- Visa Renewal problems with Non-bailable warrant or IRCN
- Problems obtaining permanent residency or foreign citizenship

■ Family Issues

- Alienation of NRIs from India and family
- Unjustified arrest of Indian family members
- Complicated child custody issues
- Divorce issues – Foreign decree
- Innocent relatives entangled in false cases

■ Employment Issues

- Harassment at workplace by wife (letters etc sent to employer and peers)
- Dealing with legal cases effects performance at work
- Employer would not like to employ a person with Interpol red corner notice

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for citizenship
stated that Indian government
tics showed that nearly 7000 women
were killed in 2001 by their husbands
and in-laws over inadequate dowry
payments.
"Filing a 498A is as easy as ordering
a pizza," says Rahul, explaining
the simple procedure and how the
police are compelled to follow up the

SAMRAO
Silicon Valley, Calif.

Bhavani M has been in the US for over a decade now. With a steady job, she lives a comfortable life with her husband and young children—a typical story of a young professional NRI in the US. After having migrated here, she must have never imagined that the Indian judicial system could affect her tranquil life in the US. And worst of all, it was domestic violence that affected her entire extended family life. Worse still, neither she nor her husband was involved in any marital dispute.

This is one example where the seemingly innocent members of the extended family get caught up in the cycle of vendetta or extortion due to the strictest interpretation and carrying out of the law 498A of the Indian Penal Code.

The IPC 498A is a recent law (1983) written with the view of protecting brides from the vicious cycle of dowry demands and related violence. It aimed at eliminating the dowry problem in India and is defined as: "Whoever, being the husband or the relative of the husband of a woman, subjects such woman to cruelty shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years."

there is a warrant against him or there is the fear of being incarcerated, he is mobilising the community to stand with him. Over the internet, trading various stories and offering help and advice for men who fall victim to dowry immigration fraud.

Rahul, a Non-Resident Indian (NRI), in Bangalore with an M.Tech

The law has its origins in the horrific string of homicides in the '80s when unsuspecting brides were burnt alive for not bringing enough dowry. and



there is a warrant against him or there is the fear of being incarcerated, he is mobilising the community to stand with him. Over the internet, trading various stories and offering help and advice for men who fall victim to dowry immigration fraud.

Labor certification, hops on a plane to India for a three week trip, with the help of his parents gets married

Poll/Vot Government: 45% campaign posters depicting Indian women working all over the

file as well as the starkest illustration of how a perfectly good law can be twisted out of shape.

Though the Karnataka High

my brother. So suddenly, when such a case is brought up, it gets really very upsetting," maintains Bhavani. Since Bhavani is a US citizen and was "lucky to have the means to hire a lawyer and make arrangements" with local authorities, she was released from jail and allowed to leave India. She can only imagine the plight of the 498A victim's relatives living in India who have reportedly been harassed as well. Cases about 498A have been recorded at the US Consulate in Delhi and also with the FBI for extortion attempts against Indian-Americans while in India. Since the 498A offense is termed non-com-poundable, even if the accuser withdraws her complaint, the court continues to investigate and prosecute - as seen in many cases. Also, if the accused is arrested in India, he can remain in police custody at the court's discretion, making it a viable means for the police and colluding spouse's families to extract money from the NRI, according to some victims.

Sunil relates his story of two years of marriage in the US, after which his wife wished to return to India to be with her parents and then accused the groom of demanding dowry. Back in India, she filed a complaint against him under 498A.

Jayakrishna says he had put an episode behind him. "It was a bitter nightmare. I don't look back at things that happened. I look for-

an immigrant visa for his prospective spouse to travel immediately to the United States. The courts sometimes order the US-citizen to pay large sums of money to his spouse in exchange for the dismissal of charges. The courts normally confiscate the American's passport, and he must remain in India until the case has been settled."

However, the US Embassies have no jurisdiction in any matters related to breaking local law, except to ensure proper representation and maintaining of universal human rights.

Similarly, the Indian Embassies in the US have expressed their inability to do much more than forwarding memorandums with footnotes attached while issuing state-specific role or comment on the issue, which has to be addressed through usual legal means.

According to a US State Department report, Government of India statistics reveal that nearly 7,000 women were killed over inadequate dowry payments and nearly 6,000 cases were filed in Delhi alone in 2005, based on the Dowry Prevention act of 1961. But it remains that the number of false dowry claims against men is a much smaller number.

fallouts of 87% marriages, in which the parents

by 498a fraud racket

residency and return to India. This is to help siblings settle there or to help friends and bring

JANUARY 5, 2007

The unsaid tale of NRI grooms' agony...

Investigation done by Russian police finds NRI family innocent in accidental death of wife

Indian Police arrests the whole family at airport at the charges of dowry death

The St Petersburg Times
Issue #1191 (57), Tuesday, August 1, 2006

NEWS

Indian Woman Falls to Her Death
By Anatoly Medetsky and Carl Schreck
Staff Writer

MOSCOW — An Indian woman fell to her death from a 10th-floor apartment in southern Moscow last week, and her relatives are pressing the police to investigate whether the death is linked to a \$10,700 dowry dispute.

Indian police are refusing to investigate, saying the case — which is making headlines in India — is out of their jurisdiction. Moscow police believe the fall was an accident.

Ambika Sharma was found severely injured Tuesday on the ground below her apartment in a diplomatic building on Simferopolsky Bulvar, near the Nakhimovsky Prospekt metro station, a duty officer at the local police precinct said Sunday.

Sharma, 25, was rushed to the hospital and died at 8.20 p.m., about 90 minutes after the fall, according to a police report seen by The Moscow Times.

The family had been observing a traditional Indian fast, and Sharma had complained of dizziness, her husband, Sajjan Sharma, a tea importer, told police, according to the report.

He said his wife had served him a meal and then went to the kitchen when a friend came to visit, the report said. Hearing a noise in the kitchen, he said, he went there, found a window open and closed it. Moments later, he heard women's shrieks outside, so he reopened the window and saw his wife on the ground. He went to her, and she tried to talk to him, but in vain, the report said.

Police concluded that the death was accidental after questioning the husband, the friend, a building guard and several neighbors, a source familiar with the investigation said. Neighbors said the couple had not quarreled that day, said the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to release the information.

3 Aug 2006, 12:03 hrs IST, IANS

Ranchi girl killed for dowry in Moscow?

KOLKATA: The Moscow-based husband and father-in-law of Ranchi girl Ambika Sharma, who was allegedly killed for dowry in the Russian capital, were arrested from the airport as they arrived with the body.

Tea merchant Sajjan Sharma, 32, and his septuagenarian father Mohanlal, were taken into custody as they landed at the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport (NSCB) on Wednesday.

The duo was arrested on charges pressed by Ambika's family. According to them, Ambika, who died after falling from the kitchen window of her tenth floor apartment in Moscow on July 25, was actually murdered for dowry.

The parents were told about her death on the night of July 25 by a man identifying himself as Ambika's neighbour.

"We have arrested Sajjan and his father following a complaint from Ambika's father Dindayal, who alleged that his daughter was tortured for dowry and killed," said Praveen Kumar, superintendent of police (North 24-Parganas).

Ambika, the mother of two-year-old twins, got married to Sajjan on April 3, 2003. Sajjan's parents live in Kolkata's Dum Dum area, while Ambika's family is in Ranchi.

The police have said that they have contacted their counterparts in Moscow through the union home ministry and the ministry of external affairs to get the details of the incident.

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News in this Section

- Patil's swearing-in ceremony to be st of unity of UPA-Left
- Maruti pulled up for selling defective auction
- No proceeding against employee 20 years after offence: HC
- Fake stamp paper scam: Telgi wants plead guilty

Other News

- Police jobs may be outsourced to priv eyes
- Tendulkar's 'aura' proves too much fo Potter
- Abdul Karim Telgi wants to plead guil
- Russia lifts ban on Indian rice

Pictures

Finance Minister P Chidambaram arrives to interact with Chief Commissioners and Directors Generals of Central Excise, Customs and service tax at their Annual Conference at Vigyan Bhavan, in New Delhi. (PTI Photo)

- Gender Neutrality in laws related to marriages (involving NRIs)
- Gender biased laws must be made civil (not criminal) and bailable and compoundable
- Permission to return to place of employment – right to earn livelihood
- No revocation/impounding of passport
- No Lookout Cards (LoC)/No Interpol Red Corner Notice (IRCN) for marriage related cases.
- Time bound trial in marriage related NRI issues
- Strict and stringent penalties for false cases
- No arrest of NRI family in India
- Assistance in legal representation in India [video conferencing/ other electronic means]
- Affidavits under penalty of perjury by spouses should be exchanged

- Mandatory prenuptial agreement
- Compulsory registration of marriage and list of gifts exchanged
- No Arrests unless absolutely necessary
- Fair and balanced reporting and studies by Indian government
- Respect the jurisdiction – eg. Spouse cannot file DV case in India for offence in USA

- Women Deserted by NRI spouses
- Legislation being considered to punish erring partners
- Foreign Govts implementing tighter controls for marriage based immigration
 - Britain's new Policy

UK's new law to bar Indian wives fo

RASHMEE ROSHAN LALL

[28 Mar, 2007 2100hrs IST TIMES NEWS NETWORK]

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LONDON: Britain has announced double-"strength" immigration controls, with a bold new focus on rules governing entry-by-marriage, in a move that will mean an estimated 3,000 mainly Indian women will be barred from coming to the UK.


The British Home Office announced on Wednesday that it was raising the minimum age at which foreign nationals can receive marriage visas from 18 to 21. This is expected to plug the perceived gap in Britain's immigration regime, mainly with respect to Indian girls imported into the country as wives of British Indian men.

Officials say about 15,000 British nationals marry non-Europeans each year, the brute majority being on the Indian sub-continent and that India featuring as the largest single provider of wives.

Nirmal Singh, Secretary, Ministry for Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA), has said that though the issue of problematic marriages involving non-resident Indians (NRIs) is a social problem, a legal remedy is needed to deal with the issue.

Speaking at the workshop on 'Problems relating to NRI marriages and suggested measures', the Secretary said that precise numbers are not available but information gathered from various sources reveals that there are more than 30,000 cases in the country in which the brides have been abandoned by the respective grooms on various grounds.

Secretary speak



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centres in
States,
Malaysia
for these are the places where
significant Indian population.
"Besides other things, these
also extend counselling facilities
help of professional counsellors
who face the problem of
fake/fraudulent/failed marriage
He also called on state government
and non-governmental organizations
(NGOs) to play an active role

- Data from MOIA
- Reported in the July 2006 "Pravasi Bhartiya" booklet by the Ministry

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Home

NRI MARRIAGES

India in action to extradite NRI grooms who desert wives

NEW DELHI, Jan 9, 2007
Sonia Sharma

On Monday, the Minister of State for Women and Child Development Renuka Chowdhury was addressing a session on women at the Pravasi Bhartiya Divas and said, "I am in talks with the US and the UK about the existing treaties between us to ensure that Indian laws apply to people no matter where they reside." She spoke about the experience of many harassed women who were left in lurch by their NRI husbands in the alien land, after making rosy promises.

"Why should a woman who has got married here get divorced abroad?... If they (NRI men) violate laws, they should be called back home," she said.

"Don't teach the women to wait for a hand, empower them," she said. She said over 30,000 Indian women have been abandoned in "NRI marriages", and of these 15,000 are from the Doaba region of Punjab alone.

- Data from NCW
- Quoted by Minister in Pravasi Bhartiya Divas, 2007

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether a number of cases of NRIs getting married in India and deserting their brides have come to the notice of Government ;

(b) if so, the number of cases reported during the last two years and till date;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide protection and render necessary assistance to these hapless women; and

(d) the success achieved in this direction ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER)

(a) Some cases have been brought to the notice of Government.

(b) One case each from West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan two cases each from Haryana, Maharashtra Andhra Pradesh and Punjab, and six cases from Delhi have been brought to the notice of the Government.

- Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 160 (3rd August 2005)
- 18 cases reported

Annexure "A"**Lok Sabha un-starred question No. 2104 to be answered on 14.3.2007**

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the number of women abandoned or cheated by their NRI husbands have increased;
- (b) if so, the number of complaints received from such women, State-wise;

ANSWER

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b) : Such data is not maintained. However, the Ministry has received about 100 complaints from women victims of NRI marriages which are given State wise in the statement enclosed as Annexure -A.

| States | Number of cases |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Delhi | 25 |
| Punjab | 18 |
| Haryana | 09 |
| Kerala | 05 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 11 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 14 |
| Tamilnadu | 03 |
| Bihar | 01 |
| Maharashtra | 04 |
| West Bengal | 02 |
| Rajasthan | 02 |
| Gujarat | 02 |
| Karnataka | 01 |
| Madhyapradesh | 01 |
| J&K | 02 |
| Total: | 100 |

- Lok Sabha UnStarred Question No. 2104 (14th March 2007)
- 100 cases reported

- Data from WCD and MOIA
 - 30,000 abandoned brides
 - 15,000 from Doaba region of Punjab
- Lok Sabha Questions on Aug 3, 2005
 - 18 Abandoned Brides
 - Lok Sabha Question on March 14, 2007
 - 100 Abandoned Brides
-
- The figure of 30,000 abandoned brides is unsubstantiated
 - Attributed to “various sources” by Secretary, MOIA
 - Mere Receipt of a Complaint can not be reason enough to classify someone as an “Abandoned Bride”
 - Huge Gap in number of cases quoted by MOIA vs. number of cases mentioned in responses to questions in the Parliament

- Doaba Leads in Immigration
- Out of the 3.18 lakhs people traveling abroad from Punjab, 75% are from Doaba

- Socio – Economic Phenomenon
- Agriculture no longer sustainable
- Thousands of Punjabis risk life, limb, property and pride to move abroad
 - Frontline (Jun 02-15, 2007)

- Flourishing Immigration Racket in Punjab
 - Locals call it “kabootarbaazi” (Indian Express, July 24, 2007)
- Obsession for Migration leads to tragedies
 - Malta Boat tragedy, Daler Mehendi Case

- Foreign Govts. tightening immigration
 - UK explicitly mentions Punjabi immigrants
- All legal and illegal Avenues explored
 - Marriage, cultural and religious visits
- Abandonment – not a deterrent for migration

The Tribune, Chandigarh, India - Ludhiana Stories

NRI woman held for fraud Admits to luring youths into marriage, duping them

Mahesh Sharma

Mandi Ahmedgarh, September 4
Non-remunerative agriculture in Punjab and the desire for greener pastures in Canada and America are major factors why the youths in the state are ready to compromise to any extent for a chance to settle abroad. This was stated by the NRI woman who was arrested from a religious place at Alamgir by the local police yesterday. She was wanted in connection with an FIR registered under Sections 420, 494, 406 and 120-B for allegedly duping a youth of Rs 12 lakh by marrying him and then deserting him.

Parwinder Kaur, daughter of Gurdeep Singh Sandhu of Marwah Khurad, Yamunanagar, an NRI settled in Canada, was arrested from Alamgir while trying to flee after duping Beant Singh, another youth of Momnabad village, near here.

Kuldip Singh, son of Nachhatar Singh, a resident of Manakwal village, had accused her of duping him of Rs 12 lakh.

Preliminary investigations reveal Parwinder, like many other NRI women, lured Punjabi youths with the promise of greener pastures in Canada. Harbans Singh, another NRI and close relative of Parwinder, was instrumental in introducing her to Bhupinder Singh of Dhulkot and Baljinder Singh of Koom Kalan who asked Kuldeep to marry her.

[Click here](#)

used to you as

- Personal Meeting with MOIA Minister
 - Briefed multiple times
- Personally meeting with Ambassador of India in United States: **Ronen Sen**
- Several Communications to Secretary and other MOIA officials.
- Consul General of India in foreign Countries
- Memorandums to MOIA and Ambassador
- Comments (spanning a period of 18 months) through Interactive forum on the Website of Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

NRIs Efforts to reach out to the Govt.

| Date | From | communication | Party Communicated to | Subject |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|--|
| November 13th, 2005 | Satya Kumar, Rakshak Member | e-mail | Secretary, MOIA, secretary@moia.nic.in, snri@mea.gov.in, rverma@alpha.nic.in, presidentofindia@rb.nic.in, hrwdc@hrw.org | Gender biased booklet by MOIA and Misuse of 498a |
| January 4th, 2007 | Vandana Jhingan, TV Asia Bureau | e-mail | MOIA Ministry, Vayalar Ravi, dg@indianconsulate.com, cg@cgisf.org, CCA@cgisf.org, edu@indiacgny.org, cgi-hou@swbell.net, dsms1@moia.nic.in, dsds@moia.nic.in, dirss@moia.nic.in, minister@moia.nic.in, secretary@moia.nic.in, dsfs@moia.nic.in, diremig@moia.nic.in | False dowry cases by women of Indian origin, defamation of Overseas Indians by MOIA and Interpol Red Corner Notices on falsely accused Overseas Indians |
| February 16th, 2006 | Rakshak Member | email | minister@moia.nic.in, secretary@moia.nic.in, dsds@moia.nic.in, dirss@moia.nic.in, presidentofindia@rb.nic.in | Torture of NRI women: Falsely implicated by 498a (by sister-in-law) |
| April 18th, 2006 | 3 Rakshak Members | Personal Meeting at Stanford University | Consul General B.S.Prakash | Handed over 2 booklets: "Misuse of 498a booklet" and "Guidance booklet for NRI marriages prepared by Rakshak" in response to highly pro-women booklet prepared by MOIA |

NRIs Efforts to reach out to MOIA

| Date | From | Mode of communication | Party Communicated to | Subject |
|------------------|--|--|--|--|
| April 24th, 2006 | Consul General BS Prakash | email | help.rakshak@gmail.com | Invitation to discuss the misuse of 498a and biased booklet |
| May 12th, 2006 | 10 Rakshak Members | Personal meeting with CG's office SF, USA | Prabhat Kumar, Vice Consul | Families harassed by wives misusing 498a, 498a research booklet created by Rakshak, MOIA booklet |
| June 15th, 2006 | 2 Rakshak Members | Personal meeting with Indian Consulate officials | Prabhat Kumar and CG | Gender biased booklet by MOIA and Misuse of 498a |
| June 19th, 2006 | help.rakshak@gmail.com | e-mail | Consul General of India, SFO, USA, cca@cgisf.org, jsds@moia.nic.in, dirss@moia.nic.in, minister@moia.nic.in | our concern about MOIA meeting with NCW on 20-21st June'06 without any getting NRIs involved. |
| June 19th, 2006 | Sanjay Dhani, Rakshak Member | e-mail | jsds@moia.nic.in, dirss@moia.nic.in, minister@moia.nic.in | concerns of hundreds of NRI/PIO grooms who are extorted through abuse of IPC 498A filed against |
| June 21st, 2006 | help.rakshak@gmail.com | e-mail | Consul General of India, SFO, USA , cca@cgisf.org, jsds@moia.nic.in, dirss@moia.nic.in, minister@moia.nic.in, manmohan@sansad.nic.in, presidentofindia@rb.nic.in | our concern about MOIA meeting with NCW on 20-21st June'06 |

NRIs Efforts to reach out to MOIA

| Date | From | Mode of communication | Party Communicated to | Subject |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| June 29th, 2006 | 4 Rakshak Members | Personal Meeting with MOIA minister Vayalar Ravi and his Staff, Los Angeles | Vayalar Ravi, Vice Consul Prabhat Kumar at Hotel Hyatt Century Plaza, Los Angeles | Gave memorandum/Letter to Minister. Apprised Minister of alarming rate of misuse of dowry law against NRI and their family members. Talked with highly women biased marriage booklet by MOIA and request for changes. |
| July 6th, 2006 | ForgottonWomen.org | Personal Meeting with MOIA minister Vayalar Ravi and his Staff, New York | Vayalar Ravi, Vice Consul Prabhat Kumar at Hotel Hyatt Century Plaza, Los Angeles | Gave memorandum/Letter to Minister. Apprised Minister of alarming rate of misuse of dowry law against NRI and their family members. Talked with highly women biased marriage booklet by MOIA and request for changes. |
| July 9th, 2006 | Vandana Jhingan, TV Asia, Rakshak | Personal Meeting with MOIA Minister | Vayalar Ravi | What is MOIA doing to protect innocent NRI husbands from false cases in India by their estranged wives |
| May 12th, 2006 | 10 Rakshak Members | Personal meeting with CG's office SF, USA | Prabhat Kumar, Vice Consul | Families harassed by wives misusing 498a, MOIA booklet |
| December 6th, 2006 | Prabhat Kr. Singh (Vice Consul) | e-mail | help.rakshak@gmail.com | acknowledgement that our issues have been forwarded to ministry |
| December 17th, 2006 | Rakshak Members | Letter sent to MOIA Minister Vayalar Ravi | MOIA Minister Vayalar Ravi | Complaints for Pravasi Bharatiya Divas: Misuse of Indian Dowry Laws and unfair treatment of NRIs by MOIA |

NRIs Efforts to reach out to MOIA

| Date | From | Mode of communication | Party Communicated to | Subject |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|---|---|
| January 24th, 2007 | Rakshak Members | e-mail | Consul General, BS Prakash | Request to consider joint Consul General meetings and meeting with Ambassador to look at NRI families tortured misusing 498a and MOIA not returning requests to consider the matter |
| January 31th, 2007 | Rakshak Members | Personal Meeting with Ambassador of India to US and CG BS Prakash | Ambassador Ronen Sen, Consul General BS Prakash | Discussion about Gender biased MOIA marriage guidance booklet, unilateral policies and laws for abandoned brides, misuse of 498a against NRI families |
| February 15th, 2007 | Rakshak Members | e-mail | Ambassador Ronen Sen, Consul General BS Prakash, JS Rajya Sabha Secretariat | 498a research booklet, Rakshak version of Marriage booklet, Memorandum, cover letter, Media reports of NRI husband harassment. |
| March 19th, 2007 | Rakshak Members | Personal Meeting with CG BS Prakash | | Letter to Consul General about Misuse of 498a against NRIs |
| September 2007 | Rakshak Members | Personal meeting with CG BS Prakash, Mr Nirmal Singh and Ms Sandhya Shukhla | | Child Abduction, false 498a cases, Elder Abuse and discussed assistance from MOIA |

| | | |
|---------|------------|---|
| Chetan | 10/30/2005 | My father-in-law checked everything about me. What he never told me was that his daughter was having mental disease and was full of greed for money. All was well till I had job in USA in 2001. After that, whole hell broke lose on all of us including my son. |
| Chetan | 10/30/2005 | In country like India, where Girl is coerced a lot to be timid and meek and not explore or express herself, Brides are far more likely to be deceptive about their reality than grooms. If Govt of India cares about both brides and groom and wants to be involved, make it compulsory for mental checkup. |
| sb repr | 10/30/2005 | The real problem with good NRI persons is of getting implicated in false cases by working wife of some of his relative in false dowry case or now the new law to occupy the house of boys parents or relatives, wrongly called domestic violence bill to fool the persons, instead of house grabbing bill. Instead of attacking this problem, the feminist, fimeNazi, controlled organizations that have the agenda |

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| J Nair | 11/18/2005 | to the problem. Dear Sir I appreciate your intentions to bring wrong doing husbands to justice but please notice the below points 1 Divorce is not a crime when a NRI tries to go for a normal divorce the girls side would try every trick and lie to stop this as they are losing a big source of income and a emmigration chance The law doesn't address this problem 2 We need to ask for concrete proof of any allegations on NRIs before trying to take action 3. More indian women cheat NRI gooms than vice versa because the NRI has a lot to lose job visa and wouldnt take risks 4 Blackmailing NRI gooms for money is a common phenomenon in India as in most cases the groom earns much more than what the girls family has in Indian standards It does not make much sense for a NRI to ask money from a poorer family 5 Most of us in the US ae highly qualified skilled and hard working people, who do not wish to be treated in the same way as a common criminal because of false allegations I hope you will consider these points to prevent misuse of this law Thanks |
| Nageswara Rao Guilapalli | 11/18/2005 | Registration of Marriages is compulsory. Counseling is necessary at Mandal Level in all parts of India for bringing the brodes and gooms together when the marriage is failed. |

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been taken to provide correct and updated information. Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs,INDIA is not responsible for providing data/information etc. The visitors to the site are therefore, requested to contact the Ministry for details.

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Information provided by Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs,INDIA

PUBLIC VIEWS FOR : Failed and Fraudulent Marriages

Showing 21 to 30 of 97 Records

| POST YOUR OPINION | | |
|-------------------|------------|---|
| Posted By | Posted On | Views |
| Rahul | 10/31/2005 | Regarding Information Booklet on Marriages to Overseas Indians - It's a Biased Approach: You need to add a second part in the same information booklet which should contain guidelines, precautions, suggestions and remedies for NRI men who fall victim of fraud marriages with Indian women and become victim of misuse of false 498A, 406 cases in India. The whole family of victim is kept on ransom, the girl only wanted to get a foreign visa and property of the husband. Many highly qualified professionals from IITs, IIMs are facing such problems today. |
| Neel Grundfo | 10/31/2005 | Please stop this madness. Women are not always the victims. There are many marriages ruined by women, illogical classification of men and husband in 498a has already ruined many families. Domestic Violence Law is adding to the plight of men. I am afraid of marrying in India again or even if I do I am afraid of marrying a woman who is well educated and knows her rights, to send the husband and his family in jail. |

PUBLIC VIEWS FOR : Failed and Fraudulent Marriages

Showing 31 to 40 of 97 Records

| POST YOUR OPINION | | |
|-------------------|------------|---|
| Posted By | Posted On | Views |
| Mihir | 11/24/2005 | Is preparing a unbiased NRI marriage guidelines too difficult ? Looking at the letter and the booklet on NRI marriage, the intentions of NCW and other organisation are far away from having a fair and unbiased policy. If there are many NRI gooms who have concealed vital information to the bride leading to divorce or abandonment, then there are as many incidents where the Indian bride has concealed her intentions to marry an NRI only to extract as much money as possible. How would you protect the basic human rights of those NRI if you are planning to formulate such biased policy ? Seeing the booklet, women's organisation's ulterior motives got transparent and we understood that they are looking for an easy victim who can dole out money for their Indian bride under the blanket of so-called women's 'rights'. How you didn't noticed it ? |

Comments on MOIA's website

RAKSHAK

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| Kamlesh | 3/6/2006 | Gender biasing is incorrect and reflects the image of the country. I obtained my Divorce in United States based on the charge of Adultry, strong email evidence - confirming her pregnancy, air-travel and hotel reservation while she was in India for a period of 16 months and later when discussed about this she along with her family filled 498A, attempt of murder and other charges, chargesheet submitted by police within days etc.. etc... High Court provided a Stay against all proceeding 2 years back. Is this correct as per Indian Judicial System to give women the power and un-trained officers to harass your own Citizens who work and earn respect for your Nation. Ministry of Overseas Indian is of No Use and awaits for a day and opportunity to extract dollars when NRI are in trouble. |
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| UC | 2/14/2006 | 1. It has to be recognized that NRIs include individuals of all kinds just like resident Indians. Therefore, making specific laws against NRIs is unfair. If laws are made they should be equally applicable to NRIs and resident Indians. 2. Any laws made should consider the fact that the potential to abuse marriage or indulge in fraud exists in men as well as women. Therefore, both men and women need equal protection against such crimes. 3. There are many NRIs and their families who are victims of Indian law. False accusations against anyone, whether they are an NRI or not, should be considered a serious crime and the complainants be severely dealt with. 4. It has to be understood that NRIs represent some of India's best potential. There are many NRIs who are contributing towards India's upliftment in several fields. Making unfair laws will impede not only individual lives but also impair intellectual progress and development of the country in a significant way. |
| Sanil Sukumaran | 2/15/2006 | It is apparent that misuse of IPC 498A legislation is becoming a common occurrence. It is clear and evident that 498A is largely misused/abused by the daughter-in-law and her family for purpose of extracting money and harassing the groom and his relatives. Solutions for misuse of 498A: • Simply revoking the law is not a solution as the law is intended to protect vulnerable women. As the law stands, the daughter-in-law or her relatives can register a case and watch the harassment against her in-laws. 498A is being misused, the legislation should be amended so that it is bailable, compoundable and non-cognisable to avoid innocent people arrested and imprisoned. • A rigorous investigation |

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| Raj Singh | 8/25/2006 | Dear Sir/Madam: I wanted to bring to your attention that these days Government and Media have taken a biased stand towards Girls side. People who live away from India are threatened with Dowry laws, incase the marriage fails because of temperamental issues/differences. There are many people in India who take the advantage of these biased laws to extort money, and cause damage to boy and his family. For any dispute raised with NRIs, I think due attention should be given to both the side, and we should keep in mind that its not always the boys who are on the wrong side. Many girls are liars, cheats, offenders as well. Take the example of Zahira Sheikh, who fooled complete India and Media. Interesting everyone believed her in first instance, but then the truth came out, and she was sent to Jail. As in Western Countries, India should also learn from them that there should be no gender bias, and justice should be given to each party. Whoever is found guilty should be punished, but no one should be blamed for something which he/she has not done. Dowry Act in India, is one of the most foolish acts ever seen. The girl simply walks in Police Station and the boy gets arrested. No reason, No evidence, No witness. This should not be the case, everyone should be given fair chance to prove his innocence. I hope sometimes will shed some light on the plights of India living abroad. Your help and cooperation is much appreciated. Kind Regards Raj |
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| rao | 8/26/2006 | harassment law. Thanks Rajesh What is the punishment for bride-who is hiding facts and getting married to NRI grooms. this is completely one sided .why dont we follow similar guidelines for both women and men. lots of senior citizens and mostly old women are suffering because of false 498 A cases. |
| Sarfran | 8/26/2006 | In most parts of the civilized world, domestic issues are resolved by civil laws. In criminal law, a person is innocent until proven guilty based on evidence. As per the draconian Indian dowry law, the man, his family and his friends are considered guilty without any evidence being required, are jailed, harassed, and subjected to extortion and stigmatization until proven innocent. There is no way that a wife would acquire a part of her husband's property or a lump sum payment from him, when marriage is irretrievably broken within a couple of years. This is the main reason for the misuse of the dowry laws. They are being used as a tool for blackmail to extort money out of the in laws. In urban India, the majority |

- Obsession to migrate to foreign shores is one of the root causes for abandonment
- Illegal Travel Agents and Marriage Bureaus have flourished because of the strong desire to migrate abroad
- The contention that every case of abandoned bride is due to harassment/dowry demand is over-simplistic.
- Failure of NRI marriages happen due to a variety of reasons and both men and women are responsible for the same.
- MOIA should have well documented evidence of number of women victims of fraudulent NRI marriages before proposing any laws
 - 100 complaints from a diaspora of 45 million can not be called alarming
- MOIA needs to be gender neutral
 - NRI Marriage Fraud is committed by both men and women.
 - Govt should extend necessary support to abandoned spouse, regardless of gender
 - Any study undertaken or legislation proposed should be gender neutral

International Interparental Child Abduction

- India - a Safe Haven for Child Abduction
- Wife takes children to India. In almost all cases when the husbands contest the case, abuse of laws like 498a, 506 are definite
- A Child Custody case – which is a civil case gets easily morphed into a criminal case
- NRI family – aged parents, senior citizens or young kids does not matter are jailed and harassed without an iota of evidence. In most cases these victims are not even allowed to participate in the investigation process
- Paternal side of the child's family loses complete contact with their child. Despite court orders the wives do not comply with the same (as no penalty for perjury, domestic violence, adultery, false accusations & fraud by errant wives).
- According to UN Convention on Rights of the Child, the State should ensure that the identity of the child is retained and he/she remains in constant touch with both parents. Indian Courts are either indifferent or are oblivious of the noble Articles enshrined in the UN Convention
- These left-behind parents have lost contact with their beloved children

▪ **Ramesh Krishnan – Married for 5 years**

- E-mail received from father-in-law indicating that he was ill and wanted to see the child
- Ramesh buys return tickets for his wife and son
- Wife within 2 weeks of her stay in India files for child custody
- Ramesh moves the court in the US (where the child “Ordinarily resided” for child custody. Summons sent to his wife. Wife sends her objection letter to the US Court; the court considers the letter and passes an order in favour of Ramesh indicating that it had the Jurisdiction to decide as the child had and would have continued to reside in the US but for the child abduction.
- Ramesh contests the case in India and gets a court order in favour of him asking his wife to ensure that the child has constant contact with the father. Several evidences including letter from the US Department of Justice provided to the court. None was considered.
- In all proceedings prior to this order (for almost 5 months) there was no mention of any dowry or threatening calls. But within a matter of few hours, allegations of dowry harassment and threatening calls surfaced and a civil case was converted easily to a criminal case.
- 80 years old father arrested along with his sister. Her two kids did not know where their mother was for 2 days.
- Ramesh has not been able to talk to his son for over a year now. Contempt of court was also filed in India; but the court’s response has been lukewarm

- Jerry (Married for 16 years)
 - Family spent holiday in India
 - Wife takes the kids to her place and stops communicating with the father
 - Jerry comes to know that wife had withdrawn close to 20,000 USD from joint account
 - Jerry's attempts to make contact were futile; he returns to the US
 - US DOS, FBI and NCMEC assist and try to convince the mother to keep the best interests of the child in mind. No response
 - After 4 months of court proceedings, 498a and other cases filed against Jerry and his family
- Friend
 - A well know Doctor
 - Divorced in the US. Ex-Wife abducted the children to India. Ex-wife pockets more than \$500,000 as part of divorce settlement. Friend's career was ruined by his ex-wife and this was specifically noted by the court in the US
 - False case of 498a filed against Friend and his family. ex-wife and her family are using political/bureaucratic connections in New Delhi
 - Daughters have been denied access (phone/email/letter) to their own father (the natural guardian who was awarded sole custody by the US Courts) virtually for the last 6 years

■ Amit

- Has a daughter
- Divorced in the US in after 8 years of marriage. Ex-wife had extra-marital affair. Incidentally his ex-wife eloped with a friend's husband who left behind his wife and his two kids in the most inhumane manner
- Father gets visitation rights and was very involved in her academic and co-curricular activities
- Child taken without the permission of the father to India. Ex-wife marries in India and comes back to the US
- Amit gets visitation rights modified. Ex-wife flees to India along with the child
- Amit has lost contact with his daughter. Amit is working with the various state agencies to help restore contact and return of his daughter

■ SM

- Married for 4 years. One child – 11 months old
- Wife fools husband into letting the child to be taken to India. Pretect – to see her father. SM was to join her shortly. Day before his departure to India wife says does not want to continue relationship
- Lost contact with wife. False allegations including 498a filed against him and his family.
- Wife's family demanding 25 lakhs (approx \$50,000 USD) for settlement

■ From Germany

- Father who is a Pediatrician has been paying alimony and child support for over 15 years. Yet has not access to his child
- Has court orders from Germany and from India giving him the custody of the child. Wife has refused to obey the orders
- False criminal cases have been filed against him and his family

■ From UK

- Father is surgeon by profession and now student of international human rights
- Children abducted while in transit via Mumbai
- Approach to child line India, childline UK, RPCC and several letters/verbal presentations to Local police plus District Suptd. Police/Suptd. of Police/CHIEF Secretary, NZ Consulate in India, Reunite in UK, Children and Youth family services NZ were either unheard or did little to help us
- Father has no contact with his kids

- Reeta Sharma reports that more and more separated NRI couples are taking advantage of India's inability to resolve inter-country disputes over child custody
 - <http://www.tribuneindia.com/2006/20060430/society.htm#2>
 - **INDIA is becoming a safe haven for child abductors**
 - With the increasing number of NRIs and multiple problems arising leading to family conflicts, inter parental child removal to India now needs to be resolved on an international platform. It is no longer a local problem. The phenomenon is global
 - Steps have to be taken by joining hands globally to resolve these conflicts through the medium of Courts interacting with each other. Until India becomes a signatory to the Hague Convention, this may not be possible
- As Supreme Court in a matter in 1994 rightly said "it does not buy the argument that only mothers can take care of young children". The notion of family has changed dramatically and many men are better at taking care of children than women

- Seminar on this subject titled, 'Conflict of Jurisdiction in Inter-Parental Child Custody Disputes,' – May 5th, 2006
 - Discussing the issue **Indira Jaisingh, senior advocate the Supreme Court** of India, said: "The problem of divorce and child custody cases is really complicated when the two battling parents are based in different countries. In such situations, visitation by the other parent becomes nothing but a legal formality on paper with no practical possibilities. Then, there is the tendency of one parent turning the child against the other or the parental alienation syndrome." Jaisingh stressed that, "today it is important that India signs The Hague Convention. Especially due to the problem raised on recognising and respecting foreign judgements on this issue. In India, we have no bilateral agreements by which our agreements can be enforced abroad. This often has serious repercussions for children."
 - In many cases such acts of emotional enslavement of the children is inadvertently encouraged by the courts
 - **Dr Justice A.R. Lakshmanan, Judge, Supreme Court**, was especially articulate on the issue saying: "Statistics show that divorce and custody cases are on the rise. The practice of international child abduction has its roots in these inter-parental custody battles." The Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction came into force on December 1, 1983, and has 75 contracting nations to it. The convention secures the prompt return of children wrongfully removed or detained in any contracting state and ensures the rights of custody and access under the was of such contracting nations.

- Australia Attorney General – Philip Ruddock MP
 - 21 January 2007 : Mr Ruddock held talks with Indian government on the issue and urged it to consider adopting the *Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction*, by which disputes are determined under the law of the country where the child “normally resides”
 - The Attorney-General said he looked forward to working with India in taking a lead role in the Asia-Pacific region on the child abduction issue
 - "One of the problems arising from child custody disputes is that parents seek out countries with laws that would most likely deliver them is that a favourable custody outcome."
 - "Parents who wrongfully remove their child to another country ultimately leave the child wounded, particularly if by doing so they deprive the child spending time with or communicating with the other parent."

- **The U.S. Department of Justice reports:**
 - 203,900 children were the victims of family abductions
- **India: Safe Haven for International Child Abduction**
 - The court system in India is extremely slow so that an abductor has ample time to create “facts on the ground” in terms of getting the child sufficiently settled into life in India as to justify an Indian court in ultimately deeming that it is best to keep the child in India
 - Courts outside India should be extremely wary about allowing parents to take children for temporary visits to India over the objections of the other parents since there is a great likelihood that parents who wrongfully retain children in India will get away with their wrongful conduct scot-free in India
- In a journal <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/journals/jihr/v2/7/>: Utilization of the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989 (UNCRC) seems to be the most promising option in cases where the child has been abducted to non-Hague nations. India although is signatory to this convention, the problem is compounded due to the delays in the court and lack of understanding of these treaties in the lower courts.

United Kingdom

<http://www.fco.gov.uk>: If traveling to India particular caution is needed when, for example, child custody becomes an issue. Please see the [child abduction](#) page on the FCO website

Spain:

Child Abduction – the Unlawful Immigration of Children: Margarita Doménech explains how moving from one country to another with young children can, perhaps unexpectedly, be caught by international law dealing with parental child abduction

The list goes on.....The concern expressed by foreign countries about India as a safe haven for Interparental Child Abduction is conspicuous

Situation:

- ❖ First kids are abducted
- ❖ If the abducting parent is a father, the child is promptly returned. However if the abducting parent is a mother, the child is not returned.
- ❖ If fathers contest the case in India, false cases like 498a and various other allegations are leveled against him and his family
- ❖ Family gets arrested – elders and children alike
- ❖ By converting a civil case to criminal case, fathers are prevented from entering India as the threat of arrests loom large
- ❖ Their passports get confiscated
- ❖ Courts do not ensure that the child is in contact with the father. How is this in the best interests of the child?

Pertinent Questions

- Can the best interests of a kidnapped non-Indian citizen/non-resident child born to non-Indian citizen/non-resident Indian parents be best decided on local Indian parameters and as per local conditions by an Indian Court in an Indian jurisdiction?
- Would this be in the best interest of the kidnapped child? More often than not the abducting parents delays the court proceedings for many years
- Would it be appropriate to reward the errant parent/kidnapper with interim custody till the matter is adjudicated in regular custody proceedings over 6-8 years in a Custody Court in India?
- Had the child not been abducted from a foreign country, where would the child “Ordinarily Reside”?

- Met with the Indian Ministry for Overseas Indian Affairs at the Indian Consulate in San Francisco to highlight the need to sign the Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of Child Abduction
- The Guardian and Wards Act 1890 already protects the rights of the Child by ensuring that the Jurisdiction in which the Child Custody matters need to be heard resides with the court where the Child “Ordinarily Resides”
- Letter sent to National Commission for Protection of Rights of the Child to at least help restore contact in accordance with the Articles of the UN Convention on Rights of The Child.
 - Highlighted the violations as per sections of the Indian Constitution
 - Highlighted the specific articles of UNCRC that were violated
 - Yet to receive response

Violations of the Indian Constitution

- While not going into each and every violation we would like to bring specific focus to Articles 39(e) and (f): the State shall direct its Policy in such a manner that the tender age of children is not abused and children are given opportunities and facilities to develop in a healthy manner and childhood is protected against exploitation and against moral and material abandonment.

India and the UNCRC

- The UNCRC – a clarion of worldwide movement and the pinnacle of international effort to promote the basic needs of children as fundamental human rights
- a remarkable and wonderful gift to the Children.

UNCRC Violations:

- The Society for the Protection of the Rights of The Child (SPARC) categorized the various articles into Survival, Development, Protection and Participation. The violations that we have seen in the cases on hand fall under every category. Specific Articles violated include, but are not limited to, Articles 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 18, 20
- Violations of Committee UNCRC Recommendations CRC/C/93/Add.5 16 July 2003: We would like to draw your attention to Sections III, IV, V, VI, VII and VIII in particular.
- Section V, Subsection E titled Illicit Transfer and Non-Return is of vital importance and is germane to Child Abduction issue we are dealing with. Article 11 states:
 - States Parties shall take measures to combat the illicit transfer and non-return of children abroad.
 - To this end, States Parties shall promote the conclusion of bilateral or multilateral agreements or accession to existing agreements.
- Paragraphs 366 and 377 are documented in the context of Article 11 of UNCRC and are provided hereunder for your ready reference:
 - 366. This article is primarily concerned with parental abductions or retention outside the jurisdiction of the State Party. Though the article includes non-parents in its scope, it should be noted that Article 35 covers the sale, trafficking and abduction of children. Article 11 applied to children taken for personal rather than “financial” gain, whereas “sale” and trafficking” have a commercial or sexual motive. Those who abduct children for purely personal motives are usually though not invariably, parents and other relatives.
 - 377. Such instances of illicit transfer and non-return of children abroad, usually by one of the parents, have been rarely reported in India. India, at present, is not a signatory to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Abduction (1980).

- If the left behind parent is a father and contests the custody case in India, his family in India is hit with 498a and other trumped up cases
- Who loses out? The child ends up with a fractured childhood
 - A just and expedient way of resolving the issues is required.
 - Courts in India must return the child to its Ordinary/Habitual residence. After all especially developed countries like US, UK, Australia, Europe have much more time tested laws to protect the interests of women and child.
 - India should sign the Hague Convention on Private International Law especially on Child Abduction

- India should sign the Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of Child Abduction
- Child Custody Laws should be strengthened as there is no normative process followed
- Any person who has abused the Law Enforcement Machinery, the due process of the Court, should be deemed morally bankrupt and hence incapable to ensure that children grow up to be responsible citizens
- In all matters pertaining to child custody, as a default rule the child should have meaningful contact with both parents.
 - The trial courts in India set up the fathers for failure
 - Visitation rights for fathers typically mean 1 to 2 hours out of 168 hours in a week
 - Courts inadvertently let the child to be emotionally and psychologically enslaved
 - Several research articles have been published to highlight how Child Abduction and the subsequent emotional enslavement of the child leaves the child permanently impaired for life