An Analytical Study of POCSO Judgments and Child Trafficking in the Context of Juvenile Justice, Youth Crime, and Child Rehabilitation in India

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Abstract:

Child sexual abuse and child trafficking continue to be serious problems in childhood protection and administration of justice in India. The offences are a violation of children's rights and put children at risk of being subjected to exploitation, violence and social exclusion. The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 and Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, are crucial laws for addressing sexual offences, protecting vulnerable children and rehabilitation and social reintegration.

The purpose of this research is to critically examine the Judicial decision related to POCSO and Child trafficking with particular emphasis on judicial interpretation, victim protection, juvenile justice and rehabilitation. It explores the use of laws on evidence, consent, sentencing and the protection of the child in judicial processes. The study also examines the links between trafficking, youth crime and the juvenile justice system, including how trafficked children are involved in the juvenile justice system. It highlights the difference between children in need of care and protection from the law and children in conflict with the law. The research method used is doctrinal and analytical approach that utilizes primary sources of data, namely legislation, judicial decisions, documents from the government, scholarly articles and international instruments that are relevant to the subject. It examines procedural delays, irregularities in judicial interpretation, problems in gathering evidence, institutional coordination and shortcomings in rehabilitation. Special focus is placed on legal aid, psychological services, education, victim sensitive approaches and social reintegration.

The study aims at identifying the existing problems in the implementation of the law and suggests the changes that should be made in judicial practice, institutional cooperation and rehabilitation policies. It advocates for an integrated strategy in child protection, showcasing accountability, protection and child-centred justice. The ultimate goal of the research is to reinforce the juvenile justice system in India and to ensure the dignity, safety and welfare of children victims of sexual abuse and trafficking.

Keywords:

POCSO Act, Child Trafficking, Juvenile Justice, Youth Crime, Child Rehabilitation, Judicial Interpretation.