

# **Impact of Mob Lynching Phenomenon on Well-Being**

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## **Abstract**

Nowadays in India we see many incidents of mob lynching taking place and that too on another level. Gathering together and turning it into mob lynching is kind of abnormal behaviour. The other aspect of mob lynching is antisocial behaviour. Such behaviour of person/people is seen due to the influence of the Group's ideas, thoughts. The reason is that the way group thinks about a particular issue same is perceived by each individual/ civilian of the group without proper knowledge and thus without awareness or unconsciously they like to perform and turned out to be a terrifying, vulnerable behaviour. It does mean that the influence of Groups ideas leads to abnormal behaviour and also incidents like khairlalji, Massacre in Dhule are responsible for creating terror, insecurity, suspicious, doubtful environment which is disturbing not only the mental health but also the social health of people such incidents create castism and smashes social integrity this creates a threat to mankind.

In the present research study, the total sample of 120 college students of Jalgaon city is selected using simple random sampling technique. The tools used for the research for measuring Mob lynching behaviour a self-made Mob lynching behaviour test is used. A 2x2 factorial design is used. For statistical analysis Mean, SD, ANOVA and correlation methods are used.

**Key words:** Mob lynching phenomenon & behaviour, well-being, college students.

## **Introduction –**

Mob lynching can be similar to hell, in both the cases a group of people or vigilante target the person or family which are innocent but are accused, assaulted for some reasons and harms, kill, brutally beaten, murdered. Lynching and Mob lynching are the words known worldwide but only about violence not about taking legal action or trying to make a law which will be safety for humans well being.

Lynching means to punish a person or a family without legal action, process or authority in simple terms it does mean to harm, threat, and kill, someone without knowing the fact.

The history of lynching started in the mid 18th century in the United States associated with two men named Charles Lynch and William Lynch

Mob lynching is not only seen in India but also in countries and cities like South Africa, Israel, Afghanistan, Nigeria, Mexico, Europe, and the United States. Mob lynching takes place on the issues like black vs white, lower caste vs Upper caste, religious matters, Hindu vs Muslim, slaughtering, skinning, transporting and eating of beef (cattle/cow), child lifting, rumours accusing a victim of killing someone or been involved

The issues may vary but the results are terrifying and horrible if we look at the data and statistics of mob lynching its shameful & are going vast day by day. Now developing countries like India is also dealing with the violent acts, incidents many states of India day by day having incidents of mob lynching on issues like grudges, chaos, hate, castism etc and the numbers are increasing rapidly. If we count statewide then UP stands on 1<sup>st</sup> number with 18 incidents Gujarat stands 2<sup>nd</sup> with 13 incidents and Rajasthan stands 3<sup>rd</sup>. Such incidents took place through the media and then share to the social media, social group, members, activists even the media like news channels try to cover the story but only for the breaking news they also don't take the efforts to find the truth behind the allegations and thus these too provokes, instigates and incident takes place on a very disgusting mode.

## **The incident of Hhairlanji shocked India -**

On 29 September 2006 for members of Dalit family were murdered in khairlanji a village of fewer than 200 families in Bhandara district of Maharashtra. Surekhabhotmange age 40 and her daughter Priyanka Age 17 were stripped, battered, paraded naked, raped several times and killed by a Hindu mob led by men of kunbi caste goaded by the entire village. Surekha's son Roshan age 21 and Sudhir age 19 were also tortured and murdered for trying to save their mother and sister. Only Bhaiyalalbhotesurekha's husband survived, watching the lynching and rape hiding behind a bush. The love survivor of the family fought for his family in the court but he didn't have the justice he wanted the entire village was involved and only a few were arrested still the case remain pending. Last year on 20 Jan he died due to heart attack

Think about the person who saw and fought to his last breath and still he didn't get the justice this is the sad truth about India. How painful, tensed, depressed he was. How was his mental health? Isn't the week being of human being in danger?

Although there have been lots of cases of mob lynching on various issues happened but in all the cases the victims were assaulted on mere the suspicion and no other evidence of cold lifting found later

Psychologist upneetlalli (deputy director of the Institute of Correctional Administration in Chandigarh) told "the violence started with the cow-related vigilantism but it's now building up more violent behaviour from small to big reasons anything could be a trigger. Once set off for any reason the mob hysteria is extremely difficult to control."

The mob or the vigilante gets boost up with the only thought to do violence; they are not in a mood to get things sorted out in peace or with using law. They only have one thing on their mind is only violence, antisocial behaviour, aggression, irrational mind etc so they spread the things about the person or group whatever goes against them. The mob or vigilante creates the hell on earth and still thinks that they are doing the good for their community. Due to such incidents or events the mental health gets disturbed, people suffer from fear, threats and feels insecure, life-threatening experience also the social environment and human well being withdraws or sometimes it destroys.

### **What happened in India legally?**

India does not have a specific law to deal with lynching the IPC does not mention the word 'Lynching' however section 223 (a) of the code of Criminal procedure, 1973 states that person or Mob involved in the same offence in the same act can be tried together somehow this provision has not helped in delivering justice in case of lynching meanwhile a civil society group called the National Campaign Against Mob lynching founded by youth leaders Jignesh Mewani (Now Gujrat MLA) tehsen Poonawala (Congress) Kanhaiya Kumar and Shehla Rashid (both JNUSU) released a draft bill titled, Maanavsarakshakanoon (Masuka,) last year it was introduced in Rajya Sabha by KTS Tulsani in December 2016 as the protection from lynching bill 2017 the government has not taken any note of the Masuka bill.

The studies revealed that the mob lynching phenomenon of Male and female students are different from each other.

### **Review of study –**

A study conducted by **David Garland** examining spectacle lynching reports, suggesting “nearly 4000 lynching” were recorded in newspaper accounts.<sup>29</sup> However, Tolnay and Beck’s studies examining lynching in the South from 1882 to 1930 report that approximately 2,018 “separate lynching incidents” account for the deaths of “at least 2462 African American men, women, and children.

There are two considerable issues to account for regarding this binary of lynching. First, from the 1880s through the 1930s, lynching was a particularized form of violence where the intended purpose—either carried out or attempted—was the execution of an identified victim.

**Lisa Lindquist Dorr** argues that in some cases of black-on-white violence in Virginia, 1900 to 1960, “legal authorities used the potential for mob violence to influence a case.”<sup>16</sup> Dorr further argues that “Trials also provided a clearly visible ritual enactment that defused and diffused the hysteria provided by allegations of black-on-white assaults.”<sup>17</sup> In the case of legal lynching, the formal, ritual of legal proceedings, alongside the potential for mob violence served as conditions for an already forgone outcome.

We can now see the resolution to the apparent contradiction between wanting to study prejudice simultaneously as a group-based phenomenon and also at the level of individual and behaviour. The key is to recognize that I am not proposing the simultaneous study of individual behaviour and group behaviour in themselves; these are indeed rather different levels of analysis. Rather, I wish to distinguish between individuals acting as group members — that is, in terms of their group memberships. (**Sherif, 1966; Tajfel, 1978**)

### **Aim-**

The aim of the present study was to investigate the levels and difference of the mob lynching and wellbeing of Male and female college students of Jalgaon district.

To achieve this purpose following **objectives** have been decided.

1. To examine the mob lynching phenomenon factors (violent, influence, prejudice, wellbeing) of male and female college students.
2. To find out the difference between the mob lynching phenomenon factors (violent, influence, prejudice, wellbeing) of rural and urban area students.

**The hypothesis of the study-**

1. There is a significant difference between the mob lynching phenomenon factors (violent, influence, prejudice) of male and female college students.
2. There is a significant difference between the mob lynching phenomenon factors (wellbeing) of male and female college students.
3. There is a significant difference between the mob lynching phenomenon factors (violent, influence, prejudice) of rural and urban area students.
4. There is a significant difference between the mob lynching phenomenon factors (wellbeing) of rural and urban area students.

**Definition-**

1. A Lynch mob is an angry crowd of people who want to kill someone without a trial because they believe that person has committed a crime.
2. To punish (a person) without legal process of authority.
3. A group of people who condemned and punish a person without fair trials. He claims that they had been the victim of a racist's Lynch mob. A group of people who criticize someone severely and try to live about the person's downfall.

**Methodology -**

The studies were conducted through the descriptive method of research.

**Variables -**

**Independent Variable -** Gender - Male - Female  
Area - Rural - Urban

**Dependent Variables -** Mob lynching behaviour

**A sample of the study –**

The present research study was conducted on a representative sample of 120 college students belong to Rural and urban area on the basis of simple random sampling technique of sampling from different colleges of Jalgaon district of Maharashtra.

**Tools of the study -**

**\*Mob lynching behaviour Questionnaire -**

Mob lynching behaviour Questionnaire is self-constructed Questionnaire. This Questionnaire consists of 23 items and each item is provided with three alternatives.

**Research design -**

A 2× 2 balanced factorial designs were used.

Gender (A)	Rural (B1)	Urban (B2)
Area (B)		
Male (A1)	A1,B1	A1,B2
Female(A2)	A2,B1	A2,B2

**Statistical analysis of data -**

In order to achieve the objectives of the study, the descriptive method as mean, standard deviation and t-test, then two way ANOVA was applied. SPSS software version 17.0 was used for the data analysis.

**Result and discussion-**

1. There is a significant difference between the mob lynching phenomenon factors (violent, influence, prejudice) of male and female college students.

Dimension wise Mean, SD & t of Mob lynching phenomenon factor -Gender							
	Gender	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	df	t	Sig.level
Violent	Male	30	5.0667	1.61743	58	3.03	0.01
	Female	30	3.9000	1.34805			
Prejudice	Male	30	6.5667	2.43088	58	1.36	NS
	Female	30	7.3667	2.10882			
M I	Male	30	6.2333	2.11209	58	2.55	0.01
	Female	30	4.8667	2.02967			

Table no-01 shows that the mean value in **violent behaviour** of male students was 5.06 and SD is 1.61. Similarly, the mean value of female students was 3.90 and SD is 1.34. The calculated t value is 3.03. It's significant at 0.01 levels.

Mean value in **Prejudice** of male students was 6.56 and SD is 2.43. Similarly, the mean value of female students was 7.36 and SD is 2.10. The calculated t value is 1.36. It's not significant.

Mean value in **Media influence** of male students was 6.23 and SD is 2.11. Similarly, the mean value of female students was 4.86 and SD is 2.02. The calculated t value is 2.55. It's significant at 0.01 levels.

It means that mob lynching phenomenon or incident negatively impact on violent behaviour of male students& media influence of male students.

2. There is a significant difference between the mob lynching phenomenon factors (wellbeing) of male and female college students.

Wellbeing - Gender							
	Gender	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	df	t	Sig.level
W B	Male	30	6.7667	2.64814	58	2.01	0.01
	Female	30	8.0667	2.33317			

Table no- 02 shows that the mental health of male & female students, the mean value of male students was 6.76 and SD is 2.64. Similarly, the mean value of female students was 8.06 and SD is 2.33. The calculated t value is 2.01. It's significant at 0.01 levels. It means that mob lynching phenomenon or incidents negatively impact on the wellbeing of female students.

3. There is a significant difference between the mob lynching phenomenon factors (violent, influence, prejudice) of rural and urban area students.

<b>Dimension wise Mean, SD &amp; t of Mob lynching phenomenon factor- Area</b>							
	Area	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	df	t	Sig. level
V	Urban	30	4.9667	1.60781	58	0.39	N S
	Rural	30	4.8000	1.66919			
M I	Urban	30	6.8667	2.73840	58	2.05	0.05
	Rural	30	5.4667	2.54251			
P	Urban	30	5.8667	2.02967	58	2.94	0.01
	Rural	30	7.4667	2.17721			

Table no-03 shows that the mean value in **violent behaviour** of urban area students was 4.96 and SD is 1.60. Similarly, the mean value of rural area students was 4.80 and SD is 1.66. The calculated t value is 0.39. It's not significant.

Mean value in **Media influence** of urban area students was 6.86 and SD is 2.73. Similarly, the mean value of rural area students was 5.46 and SD is 2.54. The calculated t value is 2.05. It's significant at 0.01 levels.

Mean value in **Prejudice** of urban area students was 5.86 and SD is 2.02. Similarly, the mean value of rural area students was 7.46 and SD is 2.17. The calculated t value is 2.94. It's significant at 0.01 levels.

It means that mob lynching phenomenon or incident negatively impact on media influence of urban area students & prejudice is seen more of rural area students.

4. There is a significant difference between the wellbeing of rural and urban area students.

<b>W e l l b e i n g - A r e a</b>							
	Area	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	df	t	Sig. level
W B	Urban	30	5.8667	2.55604	58	3.98	0.01
	Rural	30	8.2667	2.08332			

Table no- 04 shows that mental health of urban & rural area students, the mean value of urban area students was 5.86 and SD is 2.55. Similarly, the mean value of rural area students was 8.26 and SD is 2.08. The calculated t value is 3.98. It's significant at 0.01 levels. It means that rural area students better mental health than urban area students. It means that mob lynching phenomenon or incidents negatively impact on the wellbeing of rural area student's.

**Discussion –**

1. Violent behaviour is seen in male students than female students, as we know that males are more aggressive than females also males don't hesitate to express violence or aggressive behaviour whereas female hesitate, sometimes its only verbal violence females are expressive in an only particular environment.

2. Males are one who acts directly whereas females are one who thinks and act, many times they are reserved so such phenomenon or events make them effect on their mindset, emotions, terror makes them feel insecure, so their well being disturbs.

Example -If a woman is raped, even by listening to it all women's, girl's gets discomfort, uneasy, they never want another girl to get victim again.

3. As technologies are more in the hands of educated /bright students but the technology does have a disadvantage. Urban students are much more active on social media they like sharing; chatting is more as compared to rural students. Rural students prejudice is seen more because there is a lack of scientific approach and information.

4. Rural places are the places of people who are close, who are regularly in touch with one another; these are the places where one thing spreads in the blink of an eye. They get frightened by incidents like mob lynching they don't have much more facilities like police, hospitals etc

Because of low rates of literacy they try (rumours) to convey the message whatever they have heard this makes spread negative vibes and changes the minds of people. Whereas urban people don't involve much.

**Conclusion –**

1. The result indicates that mob lynching phenomenon or incidents negatively impact on violent behaviour & media influence on male students.
2. Female students have negative mental health/wellbeing than male students to relate their mob lynching phenomenon or incidents.
3. Urban area students have negative media influence than rural area students; Rural area students prejudice is more than urban area students in relation to mob lynching phenomenon or incidents.
4. Rural area students have negative mental health/wellbeing than urban area students to relate their mob lynching phenomenon or incidents.

**Recommendation –**

1. Law should be made so that the criminal will be behind bars. A victim must get justice.
2. Police should be aware and alert about handling such situations.
3. Various programmes on school levels to be arranged on topics like respect, moral values, rational thinking and should be taught seriously for the development of child where later the child will be able to differentiate the good and bad.
4. NGO's members can make people aware of the facts, lifestyle, and culture of people through programmes or acts/dramas so that there will be fewer issues on casteism.

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