



CRIMEAN'18

CRIMINAL LAW CONCLAVE

‘DEBATTLE’

DEBATE COMPETITION

CONCEPT NOTE

Ancient wisdom dictates that status of women is the test of civilization in every nation. 'Women's Safety' is presently one of the biggest sociological issues being faced in India which is largely hindering the overall development of the country. It is unfortunate that despite increased judicial activism and various reforms made in the law over past two decades, there is a continuous upsurge in the incidences of rape and sexual harassment of women, especially minors, as evinced by NCRB's data. The ineffectiveness of extant criminal law regime to create any significant deterrent effect is palpable and there is nationwide furor calling for major reforms in the rape laws to curb the situation.

Recently, in wake of vociferous protests triggered by brutal rape and murder of an eight-year-old Asifa Bano in Kashmir earlier this year, an ordinance was promulgated by the President of India which, inter alia, amended the provisions of Indian Penal Code, 1860 to provide death penalty as punishment for rape of minor girls below the age of 12. This new ordinance was lauded by majority of people as a bold move by the government to deter perpetration of such heinous crimes against women.

On the flip side, the ordinance was heavily criticized by some experts and social activists for the reason that providing death penalty for child rapists would prove to be ineffective in creating any deterrent effect and it was rather a 'easy political candy handed out to angry and upset citizens'. Some contented that this move might even worsen the current situation as it will make it more difficult for children to come forward and disclose their sexual abuse, given that in majority of cases the perpetrators were relatives of the victim. Further, concerns have been raised that promulgation of such ordinance might revamp the idea of extending death penalty to other crimes as well.

In light of various conflicting considerations, similar to those highlighted above and critical future repercussions of the government's recent move, we call the students to:

Debate on the Topic– "WHETHER DEATH PENALTY FOR CHILD RAPISTS IS JUSTIFIABLE?"

ELIGIBILITY

- This Competition is open to students (undergraduate/post-graduate) from all colleges in India duly recognized by UGC.
- Participation of more than one team from a single institution is permitted.

- Each team shall consist of two members.

FORMAT OF THE COMPETITION

- The language for the competition will be strictly English.
- The competition shall comprise of three stages: Qualifier, Semi-Final and Final.
- In the qualifier round, each team would present broader arguments for and against the motion in 8 minutes (total). At the end of this round, the top 50% teams would qualify for the next round based on scores given by the judges. For example, if there are 20 teams only the top 10 teams would qualify for the next part.
- Semi-Final Round would test the grasp of the participants on various aspects of the central issue of the debate ('given topic') (for example: constitutional, sociological, psychological, human rights, evidence etc.). Each team would randomly select one aspect of the given topic through 'chit system' and time of 10 minutes would be provided for preparation. Each team would speak for and against the given topic by presenting arguments strictly related to the allotted aspect in 15 minutes (total). At the end of this round, top 2 teams would qualify for the third and final round based on scores given by the judges.
- In the third and the last part of the competition, each finalist would be given a random situation based question and time of 20 minutes would be provided for preparation. Both teams would present their views from both the sides in 20 minutes (total) and after each speaker of the team has spoken, the opposite team would be allowed 3 minutes for rebuttal. The team with the highest scores would be adjudged the winner.

GENERAL RULES

- In case of any dispute, the decision of the Organizing Committee will be final.
- The participants would be marked across various fields, mainly quality and depth of research, argumentation, oratory, speech deliverance, negligible use of any paper, diction etc.

PRIZES

- The Best Team - Rs. 6,000 Cash Prize and Certificates.
- The Runners-Up Team - Rs. 3,000 Cash Prize and Certificates.
- The Best Speaker (for the motion) - Rs. 4,000 Cash Prize and Certificates.

- The Best Speaker (against the motion) - Rs. 4,000 Cash Prize and Certificates.

REGISTRATION

Registration fees is Rs. 2000 per team.

For Online Registration, .

In case participant(s) wish to register offline, the registration fees, along with accommodation charges i.e. Rs. 400 per person (if applicable), must be sent via demand draft in favour of “Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, payable at Noida”. A soft copy of demand draft, as well as Name of the Participant(s), Name of the Institution, Course and Contact details, is to be sent through e-mail at **crimean.debattle@gmail.com** to us latest by **25th August 2018**.

For any further enquiries and clarifications, contact:

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