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Gender-Based Cyber Violence: A Challenge to Gender Equality in Indonesia

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Abstract

The cyber dimension of gender-based violence is evolving worldwide and obstructing a few affirmative action's being taken to bring gender equality. Indonesia has recently seen a continuum of gender-based cyber violence offline which includes online hate speech, trolling, cyber harassment, cyberstalking, sharing content without consent, hacking, identity theft, cyberbullying, and image-based sexual abuse. Such genderbased cyber violence is the most severe form of gender-based discrimination as now it employs technology to inflict harassment and prejudice. Such disproportionately against women based on their gender are detrimental to establish gender equality in society State governments have policies to address gender-based violence and maintain gender equality, but they are not applicable to gender-based cyber violence. Even the developed nations like the United States have failed to address online gender-based violence on a legislative level despite pressure from media and women activists. There is a need to frame concrete policies that denounce and decrease the pervasiveness of online gender-based violence. This study investigated the extent to which gender-based cyber violence has corrupted the Indonesian society and weakening the efforts to bring gender-based equality

Introduction

The term Online Gender-Based Violence (OGBV) refers to such cybercrimes that can be termed as criminal, civil or harmful, sexually aggressive and harassing acts, committed with the help of digital communication technologies (Powell & Henry, 2017). The OGBV assaults a person's gender identity, and also seen as a violation of human rights (Amnesty International, 2018; Lewis et al., 2017; UNHRC, 2018), that are carried out by people obsessed with sexual or gender identity of their victims. This puts particularly the women and young girls in danger. By making use of internet technology, the offenders are involved in crimes like stalking, bullying, sexual harassment, defamation, hate speech, and exploitation (Hinson et al., 2018). For this reason, the International Center for Research on Women calls OGBV as a Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence or, sometimes, Technology-Facilitated Sexual Violence.

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Even the developed nations like the United States have failed to address online gender-based violence on the legislative level despite pressure from media and women activists. In Indonesia, the National Commission on Violence Against Women's (Komnas Perempuan), in their 2020 Annual Report, revealed that there is an increase of 300% in OGBV cases compared to the previous year (Perempuan, 2020). Even during the pandemic, an increase of 400% cases of OGBV were recorded as compared to 2019 (Ratnasari et al., 2021). The SAFEnet (Southeast Asia Freedom of Expression Network) is a civil society organization that fights for digital rights in Southeast Asia and launches protests against OGBV. Such reports are detrimental to the Indonesian attempts to bring gender equality and giving broadband access to females to ICT applications. It is envisaged that ICT can transform the lives of millions of women in terms of their health, education, financial status and community participation. The access to ICT will also prevent violence against women and make internet a safe place for women. Last, but not least, ICT and the access to Internet will also open new avenues of gender equality.

The current study aimed at addressing the critical issue of gender equality amidst challenges of online gender violence that has corrupted the Indonesian society and weakened the efforts to bring gender-based equality. Among all gender-based crimes, recently the cyber violence is the most severe form of gender-based discrimination as it employs the uncontrollable and infinite power of technology to harass women and young girls. This study also attempted to examine the extent to which the government policies have succeeded in addressing the gender-based violence in order to achieve gender equality. The study strongly recommended the need to frame concrete policies to prevent online gender-based violence and participation of social media platform to raise awareness campaign for building an environment of gender equality, and respect for another gender.

Problem's statement

Cyber Violence Against Women and Girls (Cyber-VAWG) has emerged as a global issue affecting adversely the society as well as a nation's economy. Women globally are subjected to different forms of online violence, especially women of specific religions, ethnic or racial groups, sexual orientation, economic status, and with disabilities. Women aged 18 to 24 are at a heightened risk of being exposed to every kind of Cyber-VAGW. Amnesty International (2018) reports that approximately one-fourth of the 4,000 women surveyed in the European nations including the most developed ones like United States, United Kingdom, Spain, and Italy have experienced online abuse or cyber harassment at least once. In the EU nations, 18 per cent of women have experienced a form of serious Internet violence since the age of 15, which corresponds to about 9 million women .44

VAWG is in the form of intimidating and sexually explicit text messages, threats of violence, emails, images, and videos. The sender platforms are majorly online dating and social media platforms, or form chat rooms and instant messaging services. Women and girls of all age groups are more likely to experience this form of harassment than men and boys (Davis & Schmidt, 2016; Moriarty & Freiberger, 2008; Reyns et al., 2011). Cyberbullying does not seem to be a gender-based cybercrime since the research on the role of gender in cyberbullying got mixed results. A few





studies found gender as a statistically significant predictor of cyberbullying (Beran & Li, 2005; Kowalski & Limber, 2007; Navarro & Jasinski, 2012, 2013; Patchin & Hinduja, 2006) while others did not (Calvete et al., 2010; Fanti et al., 2012; Livingstone et al., 2016; Rivers & Noret, 2010; Slonje et al., 2013; Peter K. Smith, 2012; Peter K Smith et al., 2006).

Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence (TFGBV) has globally impacted women's productivity and the ability to perform everyday tasks. When faced such a situation, women prefer to withdraw and self-censor, as a result of which they lose contacts and employment opportunities (Amnesty International, 2018). Besides, they also suffer economic losses and as survivors often need to bear high costs for legal fees, health care, relocation or having their information or images removed online (Dunn, 2020). A few of them even have loss to home and property and their social relations (OHCHR, 2018). With the rise of new technology and social media platforms, gender-based cyber violence is growing at a constantly increasing speed, with significant impacts on the safety of women and girls. Online harassment, stalking, and other threats have only been exacerbated by the online shift during the pandemic, and the action taken so far has been inadequate.

This study used a qualitative approach to examine the legal-juridical data available in books, legal documents, Acts and Archives. The data was collected through observations, survey methods and literature review. There is a dearth of studies on gender-based cyberbullying in the context of Indonesia where VAGW has not only corrupted the Indonesian society but also weakened the government's efforts to bring gender-based equality. Hence, with the view to fill this research gap, the current study aimed at examining the extent to which gender-based cyber violence has penetrated into the Indonesian society and what laws and policies have been framed to curb the pervasiveness of online gender-based violence.

The paper is organized as follows: The first part dealt with the background information about the current state of gender inequality and the role of cyber bullying in accelerating this issue. This section also included a problem statement that highlighted the magnitude of the problem. This section is followed by a literature review which presents previous studies and efforts made to establish gender equality and the role played by the laws to prevent and curb cyber bullying that is contributing to widening the gender inequality. The next section discusses significant findings of the study highlighting the current state of gender equality in Indonesia and what role the government has played towards this cause. This section is followed by a discussion and analysis ending with a conclusion that provides some recommendations.

Literature review

Online gender-based cyberbullying

Online gender-based cyberbullying includes undesirable sexual remarks, posting of sexual media without consent impersonation, hacking, spamming, tracking and surveillance, malicious threats, and harassment through gender-based discriminatory photos and posts. There are various forms of cyber violence against women and girls, including, but not limited to, cyberstalking, non-consensual pornography (or "revenge porn"), gender-based slurs, hate speech and harassment, "slut-shaming", unsolicited pornography, "sextortion", rape threats and death threats, and electronically facilitated trafficking. In Ghana, women suffer from online abuse through sexually explicit images and videos and offensive comments (Abissath, 2018). There are several studies reporting cases of gender-based harassment from across the globe (Li, 2006, 2007; Powell & Henry, 2017). Women's rights activists and feminist organizations have also been subjected to cyber harassment and cyberstalking for example, in Colombia, incidents of online sexual violence and stalking against women activities were reported (Lyons & Blanchard, 2016). Even being a female public figure invites online sexual harassment and misogynistic comments as reported by UK Labor MP, Jess Phillips, who received over 600 rape threats in one night and derogatory comments on her online accounts (Rawlinson, 2018).

The vulnerable groups include not only women and young girls, but asexual, bisexual, gay, intersex, trans, intersex, queer, and lesbian. Powell and Henry (2017) call Online gender-based cyberbullying as a "technology-facilitated sexual violence" which employs information and communication technology (ICT) measures "to facilitate or extend sexual and gender-based harm to victims," including "technology enabled sexual assault;... image-based sexual abuse; ... cyberstalking and criminal harassment;...online sexual harassment; and... gender-based harassment and hate speech" (Henry & Powell, 2014; Powell & Henry, 2017; Powell et al., 2018). Cinco (1999), of the Association for Progressive Communications (APC), asserts that "violence against women is mutating because of technology", and remarks that "the Internet has opened up private lives into new avenues of potential violence".

The threat of VAWG has increased with the increase in the usage of the new digital technologies, which has given tool to cause harm to women and girls. The easy access to the Internet and social networks made it further easier for cybercriminals to contact and harass women without obstructions. It has become even much easier for perpetrators to search online and locate women and girls. Navarro and Jasinski (2013) show their concern by observing that women do not feel safe having "same geographic and spatial boundaries" as men have. With the increase in the ICT devices like GPS, it is now easier to locate and communicate with people globally, resulting in the erosion of women's safety. Indonesian women are subjected to what is called image-based sexual abuse (IBSA) or 'revenge porn', a new kind of cyber harassment (Henry et al., 2019) evolved to cause "distress and humiliation" to victims. Powell and Henry (2017) observed that behind 'revenge porn', there is the perpetrator's motivation to obtain monetary benefits or boost social status, which is detrimental to gender equality.

• Issue of gender equality

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has marked gender equality as one of its priorities and a goal for global development of women. This includes giving women access to technology for their empowerment and open their road to progress. In order to realize this goal, it is necessary that all stakeholders take actions to ensure a safer and secure Internet without any discrimination of gender, race or culture. In the past also, there were similar efforts made through social media platforms to trigger feminist social movements and advocate gender equality. These efforts addressed social problems resulting from sexual assaults and traumatization and tried to act as effective tools for communication and coordinating to solve such issues.





Recently, Anam et al. (2020) launched online activism measures to bring gender equality. Online activism is also known as digital activism that focuses on human rights issues (Monshipouri et al., 2016), or politics (Jati & Sunderland, 2018), or anticorruption (Zempi & Rahayu, 2019), and environmental protection (Anam et al., 2020). According to them, online activism has three categories: awareness, mobilization and reaction. First, awareness refers to public awareness towards a cause by the use of the internet and disseminating information across all information channels to mobilize a social reaction; second, mobilization can be executed by inviting people to take offline and online actions; third, reaction refers to activities taken up to stop or abolish violence.

In Indonesia, online or digital activism focuses on anti-violence movement against gender discrimination or violence against women, making use of YouTube (Maryani & Astari, 2018; Ratnasari et al., 2021). The United Nations Human Rights Council stated that the use of technology and online spaces should serve as a tool for accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women instead of a tool of subjugation, the perpetration of violence and silencing of women in all their diversity.

• Legislative measures to check gender-based violence

A shift towards digital is a greater cause of concern as perpetrators of cyber violence make use of it indiscriminately and without any fear for legislation. Due to the absence of adequate legal measures, several nations have requested European Commission to come forward with legislative proposals on gender-based violence. It was demanded that many of their legislations should expand to cover online genderbased crimes or crimes committed with digital tools. European Commission and its Member States included gender-based violence in the list of euro-crimes in Article 83(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union in order to have a solid legal basis for an effective and holistic directive to combat all types of violence against women and girls, both online and offline.

As a result, a few initiatives were taken to curb the problem of online gender-based violence. For instance, UNESCO and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights issued several guidelines to the countries to end online gender-based violence. The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) was the first organization to demand the need for regulations against online gender-based violence. The SIDA report serves as a source of information to further regulation process. It also noted the role of organizations such as the Women's Rights Programme of the Association of Progressive Communication in pushing for an increase in substantive policies regarding online gender-based violence. This report also points out the discrepancies between international regulations and state implementation.

Findings

The Indonesian constitution explicitly guarantees gender equality which was ratified in 2000 in the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The Convention enacted a Presidential Instruction on Gender Mainstreaming (INPRES No.9/2000) making it mandatory for all government ministries and agencies at national and local levels to prioritize gender mainstreaming in all development projects. The Ministry of Finance disseminated a document called Gender Equality and Diversity (GED) to all government units asking them to build GED taskforces to ensure effective implementation of gender mainstreaming. These taskforces should comprise high government officials who would be assigned the role of "Gender Champions" and its members to develop action plan for Gender Equality. A very good example of compliance of GED regulations was the step taken by the Indonesian Customs Department which devised a *Gender Equality Organizational Assessment Tool* (GEOAT) to assess whether the existing policies and procedures on gender equality adhered to the GED norms. They also devised an analytical tool called the *Gender Analysis Pathway* (GAP) to examine where improvement was needed to achieve gender equality.

Owing to these efforts, undoubtedly, it is evident that Indonesia has initiated gender equality programs in the country. This is also reflected in improved rates of literacy, school enrollment, and employment, as well as such women empowerment policies that hint at a more gender-equitable society. In terms of curbing violence against women, particular online and cyberbullying, in 2008 anti-pornography laws were passed in the national parliament. These laws set to only protect the women and young girls for being subjected to be used as sex objects, it also defined protective mechanisms for the Indonesian lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community. These laws strengthened their progress towards gender equality.

During COIVD-19, National Commission on Violence Against Women (Komnas Perempuan) reported incidents of violence against women had increased, particularly because of too much exposure to Internet and ICT devices. Currently, the government is speculating to pass anti-sexual violence bill, keeping in view the SDG goals. Indonesia is 'moderately improving' its SDG metrics in terms of gender equality, however there is still a long way to go, both socially and politically. The country aims to attain its gender equality goals by 2030.

Responding to the global demand for taking action against gender based cyberbullying, the National Commission on Violence Against Women (Komnas Perempuan) also agreed to carry out research studies on online gender-based violence (KBGO). Their efforts succeeded in identifying acts of gender based cyber violence that occur during this digital era. The National Commission on Violence Against Women (Komnas Perempuan) was forced to declare cyber-violence as a growing trend against women in Indonesia. In its 2017 annual report, it highlighted various categories of cyber bullying like online defamation, malicious distribution, infringement of privacy, illegal content, hacking, cyber-harassment and cyber-grooming. These categories not only marginalized the women as they became easy targets to be victimized, hinting at the growing inequality in the Indonesian society despite several successive attempts to bring gender equality.

The Indonesian law has paid scant attention to prevent online harassment; instead there are several loopholes and lapses that embolden the perpetrators to commit more crimes. As an example, the Indonesian Information and Electronic Law (UU ITE) protects alleged offenders by giving them the opportunity to report victims for





defamation. In this way, both victims and perpetrators are grouped together. The victims fail to assess the risks in revealing their identities and narrate their experiences not knowing that the Law itself could become a source for further defamation. Several NGOs and women activities organizations came forward to eliminate the UU ITE or to amend it.

Discussion

Gender-based violence has undoubtedly been proven as a cause of gender inequality, which not only widen the gap between the genders in the socio-cultural roles, but also create a barrier to social and economic development. To quote the UN's 2030 Sustainable Development goals once again, Goal No 5 clearly states to achieve gender equality and empower women and girls (United Nations, 2015). To accomplish this, the UN stipulates two targets: Target one requires "to end all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere" and Target two requires "to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private sphere." In this way, the UN explicitly linked gender-based violence and gender inequality.

Several critics have felt to broaden the gender inequality issue by including the online gender-based abuse and cyber bullying (DeKeseredy et al., 2017; Harris, 2020). Harris (2020), for instance, raised the gender equality issue by openly alleging that abuse and physical violence against women (VAW) is a "typical" and "aberrant" male behavior, aiming at widening the gender inequality. Moreover, sexual harassment at work and in public places and physical assaults such as domestic violence, create an environment of gender inequality. By being subjected to threats for their rights and freedoms, women and girls lose their autonomy, dignity, and privacy and the equal opportunity to participate in socio-economic activities.

Many nations have enacted laws to sustain gender equality while there are social platforms to establish a sort of stage-wise, structural equality (Dragiewicz et al., 2018). These laws and social media platforms suggest changing user's attitude and behavior through education and cultural transformation, making them learn to systematically respond to online bullying and gradually return to a more acceptable and effective online communication between genders. These laws and platforms have also addressed GBV and other forms of cyberbullying in order to identify systemic inequality and design policies for enforcement (Kaye & ŠImonović, 2017).

Conclusion

This study has demonstrated that women and girls experience various forms of gender based cyber violence and bullying with the motive to denigrate their self-respect and demean their dignity, in other words, causing gender inequality. These gender-based cyber violence has socially, physically, psychologically and economically impacted women and girls which is also an infringement of the principles of equality.

The study forwarded a few recommendations. The Indonesian government should formulate policies for cyber violence against women and girls with the view to recognize the gender equality. Such strategies should be adopted that integrate gender-based cyber violence prevention measures with the rights to equality and

right to freedom of expression irrespective of race, caste, gender and religion. Such civil society organizations should come forward with awareness campaigns to educate women and girls about gender-based cyber violence and their safety and privacy.

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Professor_K. Jaishankar is presently the Executive Director (Honorary) of the Centre for Cyber Victim Counselling (CCVC) www.cybervictims.org He is previously the Professor of Criminology and Head of the Department of Criminology at the Raksha Shakti University (Police and Internal Security University), Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India. Prior to the present position, he served as a faculty member at the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu, India. He is the recipient of the prestigious "National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) - SCOPUS Young Scientist Award 2012 - Social Sciences" and ISC - S.S. Srivastava Award for Excellence in Teaching and Research in Criminology. He was a Commonwealth Fellow (2009-2010) at the Centre for Criminal Justice Studies, School of Law, University of Leeds, UK and has completed a research project on Victims of Cyber Crimes. He is the founding Editor-in-Chief of the <u>International Journal of Cyber Criminology</u> and Editor-in-Chief of <u>International</u> Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences He is the founder President of South Asian Society of Criminology and Victimology (SASCV) and founder Executive Director (Honorary) of Centre for Cyber Victim Counselling (CCVC) He was a member of the UNODC (United Nations office of Drugs and Crime) Core group of Experts (15 member group) on Identity related crime (2007-08). He is a Member of the Membership and Advancement Committee, World Society of Victimology (WSV), International Advisory Board member of the Center for the Research and Development of Positive Criminology, Department of Criminology, Bar Illan University, Israel, Advisory Board Member of the Center for Cybercrime Studies, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, USA and Member of the International Cybercrime Research Centre, Simon Frazer University, Vancouver, Canada, Member of the Scientific Commission of the International Society of Criminology (ISC) and Fellow of the African Center for Cyberlaw and Cybercrime prevention. He was a Discussant in the "Opening Discussion: Focusing on victims of crime - Comparing crime patterns and improving practice. Researchers' advice to policy" of the Stockholm Criminology Symposium held during June 11-13, 2012 at Stockholm, Sweden and responded to questions of Beatrice Ask, Swedish Minister for Justice, and Paula Teixeria da Cruz, the Portugese Minister for Justice. He was a Keynote Speaker at the 15th World Society of Victimology Symposium held during 5 - 9, July 2015, at Perth, Australia and 14th World Society of Victimology Symposium held during 20 - 24, May 2012, at The Hague, The Netherlands. He is an International Ambassador of the British Society of Criminology (BSC). His areas of Academic Competence are Victimology, Cyber Criminology, Crime mapping, GIS, Communal violence, Policing, and Crime prevention.

Susan W. Brenner

Chief Editorial Advisor

Professor Susan Brenner is the NCR Distinguished Professor of Law & Technology at the School of law, University of Dayton, USA. Professor Brenner has spoken at numerous events, including the Montreux Secure IT Conference in Switzerland, Interpol's Fourth and Fifth International Conferences on Cyber crimes, the Middle East IT Security Conference, the American Bar Association's National Cyber crime Conference, the Yale Law School Conference on Cybercrime and the Symposium on Internet and Privacy held at Stanford University Law School. She spoke on terrorists' use of the Internet at the 2005 American Society of International Law conference, and on cyber crime legislation at the Ministry of the Interior of the United Arab Emirates. She has conducted cyber crime training for the National District Attorneys Association and for the National Association of Attorneys General and was a member of the European Union's CTOSE project on digital evidence; she has also served on two Department of Justice digital evidence working groups. Professor Brenner chaired the International Efforts Working Group for the American Bar Association's Privacy and Computer Crime Committee, serves on the National District Attorneys Association's Cyber crimes Committee, and chairs the National Institute of Justice - Electronic Crime Partnership Initiative's Working Group on Law & Policy. She is a member of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. She has published various articles dealing with cyber crime, including State-Sponsored Crime: The Futility of the Economic Espionage Act, 26 Houston Journal of International Law 1 (2006), Cyber crime Metrics, University of Virginia Journal of Law & Technology (2004) and Toward a Criminal Law for Cyberspace: Distributed Security, Boston University Journal of Science & Technology Law (2004).

Michael Pittaro

Associate Editor

Michael Pittaro, PhD is a 30-year criminal justice veteran, highly experienced in working with criminal offenders. Before pursuing a career in higher education, Dr. Pittaro worked in corrections administration; has served as the Executive Director of a county outpatient drug and alcohol facility; and as Executive Director of a county drug and alcohol prevention agency. Dr. Pittaro has been teaching at the university level (online and oncampus) for the past 16 years while also serving internationally as an author, editor, presenter, and subject matter expert. Dr. Pittaro holds a BS in Criminal Justice (Who's Who Among University Students – 1989); an MPA in Public Administration (Summa Cum Laude); anda PhD in criminal justice (4.0 GPA – Summa Cum Laude). Dr. Pittaro is currently an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice with American Military University and an adjunct professor of criminal justice with East Stroudsburg University. Dr. Pittaro has contributed to nearly 80 book and scholarly journal publications and serves on three International Editorial Advisory Boards, including the International Journal of Criminal

Justice Sciences, the International Journal of Cyber Criminology, and on the Academic Advisory Council / Journal with Karnavati University's United School of Law, India. He has also served for the past three years as a program committee member for the conferences of the South Asian Society of Criminology and Victimology and as a federal grant peer reviewer for the United States Department of Justice and National Institute of Justice. Dr. Pittaro also serves as a corrections subject matter expert with Pearson publishing, Savant Learning, McGraw Hill, Cengage Learning, and countless others. He is a regular contributor to In Public Safety, Corrections One, the Huffington Post, and is often interviewed on Tier TalkInternet radio. He resides in Nazareth, Pennsylvania, USA with his two sons (Dakota and Darrian).

Debarati Halder Associate Editor (Book Reviews)

Professor Debarati Halder, is an Advocate and legal scholar. She is the managing director (Honarary) of the Centre for Cyber Victim Counselling (CCVC), India and Currently, she is the Professor of Legal Studies, Unitedworld School of Law, Karnavati University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India. She holds a PhD degree from the National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bangalore, India. She received her LLB from the University of Calcutta and her master's degree in international and constitutional law is from the University of Madras. She has co-authored two books titled "Cybercrime against Women in India" (SAGE Publishing) and "Cyber crime and the Victimization of Women: Laws, Rights, and Regulations" (IGI Global, USA) and co-edited a book titled "Therapeutic Jurisprudence and Overcoming Violence Against Women" (IGI Global, USA) with Prof. K. Jaishankar. She has published many articles in peer-reviewed journals and chapters in peer-reviewed books. Her work has appeared in scholarly journals, including the British Journal of Criminology, Journal of Law and Religion, Victims and Offenders; Murdoch University E-Journal of Law; ERCES Online Quarterly Review; TMC Academic Journal (Singapore); Temida and Indian Journal of Criminology & Criminalistics; and edited volumes, Crimes of the Internet, Trends and Issues of Victimology, Cyber Criminology. She has presented her research works at many international conferences including the Stockholm Criminology Symposium held during 11-13 June 2012, the International Conference on Social Media for Good, held during 15-16 May 2015 at Istanbul, Turkey and the World Congress of Criminology held during 15-19, December 2016 at India. She was a resource person in various programmes conducted by the National Commission for Women, unicef, Facebook, Kerala State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Rajiv Gandhi National Institute for Youth Development, Women Christian College (Kolkata & Chennai), Loyola College, North Eastern Police Academy, Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights and Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli and Jindal Global University, Haryana, India. Debarati's research interests include constitutional law, international law, victim rights, cyber crimes and laws.

Philip N. Ndubueze

Managing Editor

Dr. Philip N. Ndubueze is a Cyber Criminologist with the Department of Sociology, Federal University Dutse, Nigeria. He obtained his PhD in Sociology (with specialization in Criminology and Criminal Justice) in 2012, and M.Sc. Sociology (with bias in Criminology) in 2005 from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria. He is currently the Deputy Director (Partnership/Affliation) Research and Development Directorate, Federal University Dutse, Nigeria and heads the University Affiliated Institutions Unit. He is the Postgraduate Coordinator of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) and member Postgraduate Board of the, Federal University Dutse, Nigeria. Dr. Ndubueze's PhD thesis was on cybercrime and third-party policing in Nigeria. He has published several book chapters and articles on cybercrimes/cyberterrorism in referred national and International journals (including those published by Oxford University Press and CRC Press, Taylor and Francis Group, USA). He is the Editor of the first dedicated textbook on Cyber Criminology in Nigeria: Cyber Criminology and Technology-Assisted Crime Control: A Reader (2017). He has also presented papers on cyber criminology issues in both local and overseas academic conferences including at the 2018 United Nations Office of Drug and Crime (UNODC) International Academic Conference on Linking Organized Crime and Cyber Crime, Chuncheon, Republic of Korea. He has taught several courses in Criminology and Security Studies such as: Cybercrimes, Development of Criminological Thought, Deviant Behaviour and Corrections, Forensic Science, Fundamentals of Victimology, Legal Aid and Criminal Justice, Measurement of Crime, Research Methods in Criminology and Security Studies, Theories of Security, and so on. He is currently teaching courses in cybercrimes/cybersecuity at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. He has also supervised students' dissertations on cyberdeviance, cybercrime and cyberterrorism at undergraduate/postgraduate levels.

Leepaxi Gupta

Editorial Assistant

Leepaxi Gupta is formerly a law student at the Guru Gobind Indraprastha University, New Delhi, India.

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About the journal

What is Cyber Criminology? Who is the Founding Father? Who coined the term?

Cyber Criminology is a multidisciplinary field that encompasses researchers from various fields such as Criminology, Victimology, Sociology, Internet Science, and Computer Science. Jaishankar (2007) is the Founding Father of the academic discipline Cyber Criminology and he coined and defined Cyber Criminology as "the study of causation of crimes that occur in the cyberspace and its impact in the physical space". Jaishankar (2007) academically coined the term Cyber Criminology for two reasons. First, the body of knowledge that deals with cyber crimes should not be confused with investigation and be merged with cyber forensics; second, there should be an independent discipline to study and explore cyber crimes from a social science perspective. Since the launch of the International Journal of Cyber Criminology, the term Cyber Criminology has taken its academic roots in the online as well as offline academic circles.

Aim and Scope

International Journal of Cyber Criminology (IJCC) is a peer reviewed online (open access) interdisciplinary journal (Established: 2007) published biannually and devoted to the study of cyber crime, cyber criminal behavior, cyber victims, cyber laws and cyber policy. IJCC is an unique Diamond open access, international journal, where the author(s) need pay article processing charges.APC of Each paper is \$3000. IJCC will focus on all aspects of cyber/computer crime: Forms of Cyber Crime. Impact of cyber crimes in the real world. Policing Cyber space, International Perspectives of Cyber Crime, Developing cyber safety policy, Cyber Victims, Cyber Psychopathology, Geographical aspects of Cyber crime, Cyber offender behavior, cyber crime law, Cyber Pornography, Privacy & Anonymity on the Net, Internet Fraud and Identity Theft, Mobile Phone Safety, Human Factor of Cyber Crime and Cyber Security and Policy issues, Online Gambling, Copyright and Intellectual property Law. As the discipline of Cyber Criminology approaches the future, facing the dire need to document the literature in this rapidly changing area has become more important than ever before. The IJCC will be a nodal centre to develop and disseminate the knowledge of cyber crimes primarily from a social science perspective to the academic and lay world. The journal publishes theoretical, methodological, and applied papers, as well as book reviews. We do not publish highly technical cyber forensics / digital forensics papers and papers of descriptive / overview nature.

The International Journal of Cyber Criminology (IJCC) believes that knowledge is open to all and it should be freely accessible. IJCC makes all content freely available to all researchers worldwide, ensuring maximum dissemination of content through its website. IJCC not only provides its contents free, but also does not charge its authors. IJCC also supports Create Change in promoting the concept of open

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- IJCC is a highly ranked journal. IJCC is ranked in 99th Position (out of 685 criminology/law journals) in SCOPUS CITESCORE 2019 is 2.3.
- IJCC utilizes Hirsch's h-index and data source Google Scholar to assess journal impact. The Google Scholar Hirsch's h-index Journal
- Other impact measures from SCOPUS are: CITESCORE 2019 2.3 (CiteScore CiteScore metrics calculate the citations from all documents in year one to all documents published in the prior three years for a Journal). SJR 2019 - 0.299 (SJR - SCImago Journal Rank is a prestige metric based on the idea that not all citations are the same). The SJR indicator measures the scientific influence of the average article in a journal, it expresses how central to the global scientific discussion an average article of the journal is. Cites per Doc. (2y) measures the scientific impact of an average article published in the journal, it is computed using the same formula that Journal Impact factorT (Thomson Reuters), SNIP 2019 - 0.717 (SNIP - Source Normalized Impact per Paper measures contextual citation impact by weighting citations based on the total number of citations in a subject field).

- The SCOPUS CiteScore of the IJCC has improved from 0.45 (2013) to 2.3 (2019).
- SCOPUS JOURNAL RANK (CiteScore Rank) of IJCC has improved from 202nd position (2013) to 99th position (2019) (out of 685

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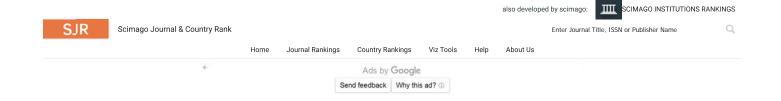
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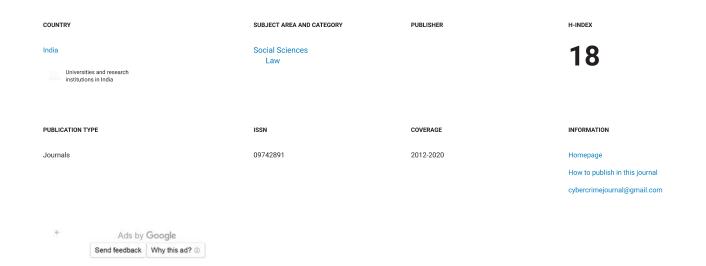
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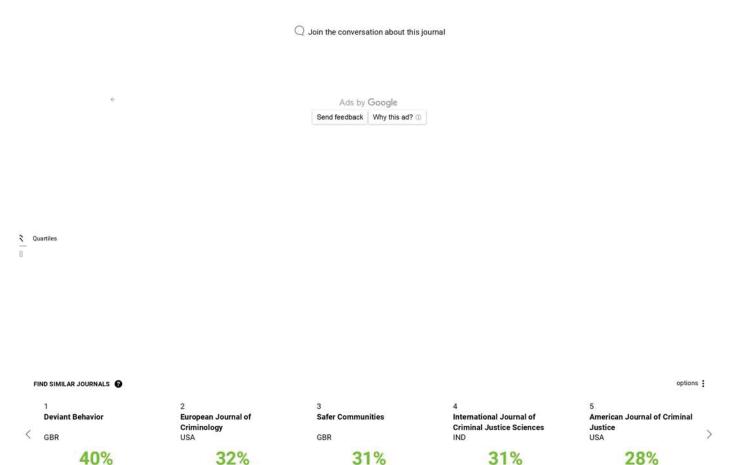


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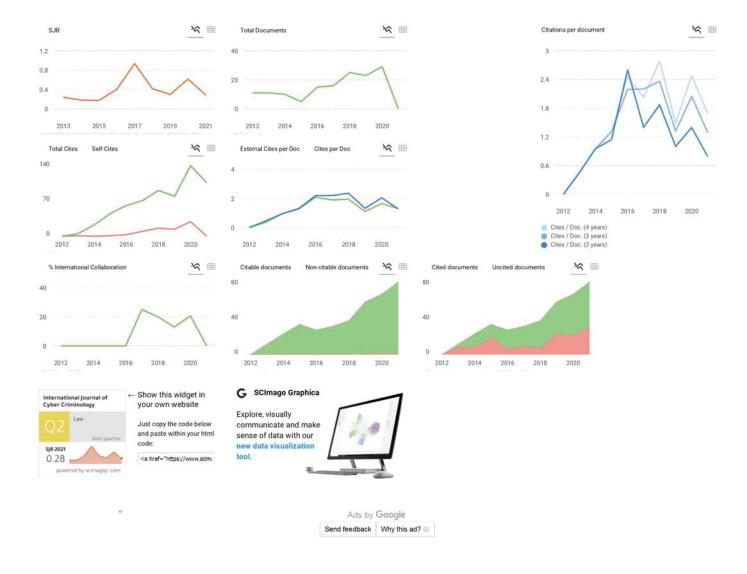
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