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**TOPIC: RAPE CULTURE**

Rape culture is a wide spread problem that has affected and still affecting our country and the nation at large. Dr. Angela Yvonne Davis said ‘We cannot grasp the true nature of sexual assault without situating it within its larger sociopolitical context. If we wish to comprehend the nature of sexual violence as it is experienced by women as individuals, we must be cognizant of its social mediations’. There is no way to begin discussing the major issue that has been plaguing our world. We most look into the definition of rape. What rape? Rape is an unlawful sexual intercourse or any other sexual penetration of the vagina, anus or mouth of another person, with or without force, by a sex organ, other body part, or foreign object, without the consent of the victim.

When we talk about rape culture we talk about creating a society that disregard women’s right and safety. According to Wikipedia rape culture is a sociological concept for a setting in which rape is pervasive and normalized due to societal attitudes about gender and sexuality. In our society, Rape culture has been the order of the day. The rape of one woman is a degradation, terror, and limitation to all women. Most women and girls limit their behavior because of the existence of rape. Most women and girls live in fear of rape. Men, in general, do not. That’s how rape functions as a powerful means by which the whole female population is held in a subordinate position to the whole male population, even though many men don’t rape, and many women are never victims of rape.  This cycle of fear is the legacy of Rape Culture and it also associated with rape fantasy and rape pornography. The root cause of rape culture is domination of women, objectification of women and victim blaming and rape culture does not have a single cause and causes maybe localized base on the society.

Domination is defined as they authority or control one have over another while Domination of women is the authority a men as over a women. In the society we find ourselves women are treated as weaker and lesser vessels that is discrimination. women are often dominated or governed by men and the society we find ourselves do not help the matter cause they believe that men are the rulers, men are the bread winner and so on and these is only increasing the rape cultures in the society because if boys grow up with the mentally of degrading and disrespecting of women and not corrected it may not lead or will lead to rapes and it becomes a culture. Rape issues that become a culture but the bad and evil can of culture. Most rape are not committed by outsiders, but by most trusted member of the family; co worker; neighbor; even the siblings. For the siblings aspect of this evil practices it every common where there are step mother or step father where the criminal will dominate the suspected victim since he is man or boy and the suspected victim is a lady and a child from another woman but the same father. In another case where a women remarried and move in with her female child she gave birth to in her previous marriage or out of wedlock, in a long run, the step father may result in raping or assaulting the child and the mother will not be able to speak out for child or make any official report because she want to lose they man and in the society we find ourselves women do not have their say due to the dominating power of men.

Objectification of women is another cause of rape culture; it is a notion central to Feminist theory. It can be roughly defined as the seeing and/or treating a person, usually a woman, as an object*.* In this entry, the focus is primarily on sexual objectification, objectification occurring in the sexual realm. Some reasons why women are treated as object are instrumentality, denial of autonomy, inertness, fungibility, violability, ownership, denial of subjectivity, reduction to appearance, reduction to body silencing and so on. Instrumentality is the treatment of a person as a tool for the ojectifier’s purposes, Denial of autonomy is the treatment of a person as lacking in autonomy and self-determination, Inertness is the treatment of a person as lacking in agency, and perhaps also in activity, Fungibility is the treatment of a person as interchangeable with other objects, Violability is the treatment of a person as lacking in boundary-integrity, Ownership is the treatment of a person as something that is owned by another (can be bought or sold), Denial of subjectivity is the treatment of a person as something whose experiences and feelings (if any) need not be taken into account, Reduction to body is the treatment of a person as identified with their body, or body parts, Reduction to appearance is the treatment of a person primarily in terms of how they look, or how they appear to the senses, Silencing is the treatment of a person as if they are silent, lacking the capacity to speak.

Victim blaming occurs when the victim of a crime or any wrongful act is held entirely or partially at fault for the harm that befell them. Blaming of the victim causes increase in rape cases that becomes a culture. For instead, in some situation where the victim is inferior to criminal like in cases of a well known man or politician raping a daughter of nobody, cases like these are handled lightly in the court or are not even taking to the court at all, victim parent or family begin to blame the victim for the incident because they family may have been threaten or they criminals family bribes the victim family not expose the issues and the victim family will give in and mange it down domestically.

Degrading of women, treating of women without disrespect, Body shaming, women become slaves in their own country, no sociality among women among women and so on are effect of rape cultures on the women while reducing the standard of living, high crime rate, security of the country is jeopardized, under population and so on are effect on rape culture in the country on victims of rape culture. Enforcement of strict law against rape culture, provision of employment for the unemployed because a saying says an idle hand is the devil’s workshop, provision of women empowerment programs in the country, women and men should be treated equally in the country because everyone as human rights, right to choice, right to life and so on but men and women, Avoid using language that objectifies or degrades women, Speak out if you hear someone else making an offensive joke or trivializing rape, If a friend says she has been raped, take her seriously and be supportive, Think critically about the media’s messages about women, men, relationships, and violence, Be respectful of others’ physical space even in casual situations, Always communicate with sexual partners and do not assume consent, Define your own manhood or womanhood.  Do not let stereotypes shape your actions, Get involved! Join a student or community group working to end violence against women these are some solutions to rape culture.

In conclusion, I would like emphasize that rape culture poses an obstacle to peace and security of the country. It makes women subordinate to men in the community, it makes women object to men and it makes victims stigmatized and blamed for the harm that befell them. This, in turn can shatter the security level of a country. This vicious cycle must stop, as we cannot accept a selective zero- tolerance policy.