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Pick any topic on societal problems and write a three paged essay. - 500 words

**RAPE?!!**

Sexual violence occurs throughout the world, in both genders and by both genders. It is defined as any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed, against a person’s sexuality using coercion, by any person (regardless of their relationship to the victim), in any setting, including but not limited to home or work. Lately, there have been numerous rape cases and I realized that most people do not know coerced sex is a form of rape. Coercion can cover a whole spectrum of degrees of force. Apart from physical force, it may involve psychological intimidation, blackmail or other threats – for instance, the threat of physical harm, of being dismissed from a job or of not obtaining a job that is sought. It may also occur when the person aggressed is unable to give consent – for instance, while drunk, drugged, asleep or mentally incapable of understanding the situation.

Rape is a form of sexual violence and is defined as a physically forced or otherwise **coerced** penetration – even if slight – of the vulva or anus, using a penis, other body parts or an object. The attempt to do so is known as attempted rape. Rape of a person by two or more perpetrators is known as gang rape.

Sexual violence can include other forms of assault involving a sexual organ, including coerced contact between the mouth and penis, vulva or anus.

So basically, it doesn’t matter if it wasn’t the vagina or the anus, or if the perpetrators sexual organ was not involved, a penetration is a penetration and when without consent, it is rape.

It is a known fact that rape is more common in women and girls but it does not make rape any less when it happens to men. In most countries, there is much to be done before the issue of sexual violence against men and boys can be properly acknowledged and discussed, free of denial or shame. When men are raped, it is not taken seriously as when a woman is raped and it is unfair. Take for instance the Just.Solomon case where he allegedly raped men. It was his fans that brought attention to that case from all the insults they rained on him. Till today, nobody knows if the rumors are true or false because nobody really investigated to find the truth and if it is true, no measure has been taken to bring justice to the perpetrator and appease the assaulted. Now everything is back to normal for him and if he is really a rapist he would continue raping people and escaping justice. There are a variety of reasons why male rape is under- reported, including shame, guilt and fear of not being believed or of being denounced for what has occurred. Myths and strong prejudices surrounding male sexuality also prevent men from coming forward.

All rape cases must be taken seriously, and even when they are without proof the agency responsible for sexual violence should keep their eyes open until the necessary evidence is gotten and justice is served.

Rape is a serious offense and should be taken seriously no matter the gender of the assaulted or the perpetrators societal status. There is no excuse to rape, it cannot be justified.

Then regarding situations where women are the victims, the society always justifies the actions of the rapist and blames the victims. The excuses always go like this “Why did she go there to read?” “Why did she wear something like that?”

People always find ways to defend the rapist! Rape cannot be condoned, a rapist is a rapist no matter the situation. It is a mentality that should be corrected not defended!

Rape has a profound impact on physical and mental health. As well as causing physical injury, it is associated with an increased risk of a range of sexual and reproductive health problems, with both immediate and long-term consequences. Its impact on mental health can be as serious as its physical impact, and may be equally long lasting. Deaths following rape may be as a result of suicide, HIV infection or murder – the latter occurring either during a sexual assault or subsequently, as a murder of ‘‘honour’’. Rape can also profoundly affect the social well- being of victims; individuals may be stigmatized and ostracized by their families and others as a consequence.

The aftermath of rape in the victim is drastic and rape should be fought against. Having said that, we should note that the problem lies not in the hands of an individual or a few misogynistic men but in society as a whole. It lies in the mind-set of the people and every one of us taking part in rape culture by endorsing rape myths. We can start by changing our mindsets. Let’s all join the fight against rape.