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**THE CULTURAL MISCONCEPTION ON RAPE, IT’S IMPLICATIONS ON GENDER CAUSING THE RIFT BETWEEN THE MALE AND FEMALE**

The topic sounds and looks complex to talk on or understand. We were directed to choose a topic from the happenings in our environment, so well the topic quite fits in to what I can name the recent developments in my current environment. In the next few paragraphs I would explain the few terms in the heading and their relationship.

 By the term cultural misconception of rape I mean the way the society describes rape, treat it, approach the term and all and also it still means the repeated misconception the society treats the term rape. It’s implications on gender I mean the way these misconceptions affect the term gender, that one gender is the more dominant than the other, that one gender is the cause, all these obviously causes rift between the male and female gender.

 On the cultural misconceptions, People often don't understand is that rape is not the fault of the victim but the world today has made the victim be the accused. You are raped but you are the one carrying the stigma, why do they talk to just the girls about rape? Yes, I get the fact that boys can be raped too but I am talking and writing based on my current environment. Why not talk to the men and boys that the idea of rape might cross their mind one day, talk to them so that thought can be killed. It would prevent more cases of rape. A rapist has no excuse. Why rape is treated as a less crime in our country today is because of us. A girl is raped especially by someone she knows, she tells her parents. Then they go to the police station this boy is then arrested then the boy’s parents will meet with the girl’s parents and beg them for the boys freedom, with the excuse that it was the work of the devil , the way she dressed , signals hormones and if they make the matter public if would ruin the girls life, so the girl’s parents would drop the charges and let the boy roam the streets again. So nowadays the police don't see rape as a serious crime because the victims now are no longer looking like the victims. A girl is raped but she gets insulted as a whore among friends and the society but the boy carries no stigma. We need to stop being sentimental. With one rapist out on the loose the more girls that would be raped so my advice is do not keep quiet let people hear your voice.

 Then another area is how these misconceptions affect the both genders, from what I have noticed from my environment. Because of these misconceptions the females point out the males as the chief cause of rape, but in actual sense any gender can be a rapist so its better to put the blame on rapists not a particular gender. For the most males they believe that the females are the cause of rape with the misconception that its because of the way the females dress, the way she reacted to them, she gave me signs, I thought she was a whore etc. But the real truth is there is no justifiable excuse for rape. There has to be consent no matter what. These misconceptions have caused the females and the males to be in constant arguments and unnecessary debates forgetting the fight is against the rapists not gender.

 In conclusion the first thing we need to do as members of the society no matter the religion, culture, tribe. beliefs etc we should first find a way to stop fight these misconceptions and completely get rid of them. if not no all the efforts put to fight rape would go to waste. Then for the males there’s need to clear every thought that the females are the cause of rape, there is no legitimate excuse for rape. Rape is animalistic act so unless you classify your self as one, because the only difference between human sexual intercourse and that of animals is the word “consent”. Then lastly for the females although there is no excuse for rape there is still the need to dress properly to avoid giving the rapist an excuse.