

A UNIQUE CRIME

UNDERSTANDING
RAPE IN INDIA

Edited by

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A Unique Crime: Understanding Rape in India

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Rape is a unique crime, for society inflicts more suffering on the victim than on the perpetrator. Mass rape of women is a part of wars, riots and forced migrations. Many women, and most children, are raped by relatives and acquaintances. The fear of rape shapes women's lives.

This book does not aim to theorise the problem of rape. The questions raised here are of practical and immediate concern: What can be counted as 'consent' in a sexual relationship? Why is medical evidence of rape so often inconclusive? How can a family cope with a sexually abused child?

By putting together articles from lawyers, doctors, activists, journalists and researchers, this book aims to develop a discourse on rape that will move on from pre-fabricated ideological frameworks to a multi-dimensional, many-layered dialogue.

Contributors

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About the Editor

Swati Bhattacharjee is Assistant Editor, *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, the largest-circulated Bengali newspaper. Born in Kolkata in 1969, she won gold medals for Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Philosophy from Jadavpur University and a distinction for MSc in Media Research from University of Stirling, UK. She started her career in journalism with *The Telegraph* in 1994. Her focus areas are health, medical research, women's rights and rural self-governance. She was awarded the Panos Reproductive Health Media Fellowship in 1998. She was a winner of the European Delegation in India Essay Contest (2005), and received the Jefferson Media Fellowship of East-West Centre in Hawaii (2006). Her essay, 'Anonter Anatomy,' won the Ananda Bazar-Dettol Best Essay award in 2006. She has published several non-fiction books in Bengali and English.