

SOCIETAL ECHOES ON SCREEN: MARITAL RAPE DEPICTIONS IN INDIAN CINEMA'S TRANSITION

Dr. Sewa Singh Bajwa*; Surender Pal Singh**

*Professor,
Journalism and Mass Communication,
Chaudhary Devi Lal University,
Sirsa, Haryana, INDIA
Email id: nachizbajwa@gmail.com

**Research Scholar,
Journalism and Mass Communication,
Chaudhary Devi Lal University,
Sirsa, Haryana, INDIA
Email id: s4surenderpalsingh@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT:

In the world of Indian cinema, time is captured not just on film but also in the stories it spins. This study unveils a comparative exploration of the portrayal of marital rape in two emblematic Indian films, "Dehan" (1997) and "Ammu" (2022). With a lens focused on pre-liberalization and post-liberalization eras, this research employs a robust blend of content analysis and textual analysis to unravel the nuances of cinematic depictions.

The aim of this study is to unravel the metamorphosis of societal attitudes and cinematic narratives surrounding marital rape across these two distinct epochs. The objectives encompass an intricate dissection of contextual underpinnings, character dynamics, and cinematic techniques that shape the representation of this sensitive theme. Employing a theoretical framework rooted in gender studies and cultural analysis, this research probes the intersection between art, society, and transformation.

The findings underscore how cinematic portrayal of marital rape has evolved, reflecting shifting socio-cultural dynamics and offering intriguing insights into the evolution of societal perspectives. This study contributes not only to the academic discourse on film studies but also to the broader understanding of how cinema serves as a mirror to societal metamorphosis. As celluloid narratives unfold, they unveil the intricate tapestry of change, urging us to contemplate the role of cinema in molding and mirroring societal perceptions.

KEYWORDS: *Marital Rape, Indian Cinema, Content Analysis, Textual Analysis, Dehan, Ammu.*

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