



---

## **Conservatism meets Neoliberalism: The Politics and Narratives of Gender Violence in 21st Century India**

**Indra Bhaskar Mishra and Devesh Pandey**

**Abstract:**

This paper examines the intersection of conservatism and neoliberalism in committing and sustaining gender-based violence in 21st-century India. These two seemingly antagonistic ideas work collaboratively to enable the continuance of male dominance and control over females' lives. Through a deconstruction of history, law, and economics, this study explores how neoliberal policies support and validate conservative values, under the disguise of progressivism, and cause systemic gendered oppression manifested through such channels as domestic violence, dowry-related deaths, and workplace harassment. Statistical trends, legislative progress, and grassroots activism underscore the intricacies involved in addressing gender-based violence and highlight the imperative need for transformative justice frameworks. This investigation brings out the interaction between structural inequalities and cultural narratives in shaping the dynamics of gender violence, which is critical for understanding the curative and preventive measures required against them in the Indian context.

**Keywords:** Indian Women, Gender Violence, Conservatism, Neoliberalism, Subaltern.