

## EXPLORING THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR STALKING IN INDIA

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### ABSTRACT

This comprehensive study delves deeply into the multifaceted legal framework governing stalking in India. It critically analyzes the effectiveness of existing legislation, including the Indian Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code, in addressing and preventing this pervasive menace. By examining the intricate definitions of stalking, associated penalties, and legal procedures, this research sheds light on the intricacies of the Indian legal system. Additionally, it investigates the practical implementation and enforcement challenges faced by law enforcement agencies in combating stalking. Moreover, the study explores the profound impact of legal measures on stalking victims, with a keen focus on gender-specific dynamics and the overall societal implications. Drawing upon international comparisons, this research identifies global best practices and provides a set of recommendations aimed at strengthening India's legal response to stalking while ensuring comprehensive protection for all individuals.

### 1. Introduction

The practice of stalking, which is characterized by persistent and unwelcome attention being directed at an individual, has emerged as a significant issue of worldwide relevance, especially within the specific context of India. This pervasive problem involves a pattern of intrusive activities that can generate anxiety and uncertainty in the victim, ultimately putting the victim's own personal safety and well-being in jeopardy. Behaviors that fall under the category of stalking cover a wide variety of activities, some of which include but are not limited to invasive surveillance, relentless and unwanted correspondence, and physical following.

It is impossible to overstate the devastating effects that stalking has on its victims, who are frequently put through extreme mental pain and significant emotional trauma as a result of the behavior. It should be of the utmost concern to civilizations all over the world because, in many instances, it poses a considerable risk to the individual's personal safety, which in turn makes it a matter of fundamental concern.

When looking at the problem of stalking within the context of India, it becomes clear that this issue is impacted by a wide variety of causes, some of which include historical legacies, modern social dynamics, technology advancements, and changing gender relations. In order to acquire an in-depth

comprehension of this complex issue from a variety of perspectives, it is essential to investigate the historical and contemporary context of stalking in India. This kind of information is absolutely necessary for developing efficient legal remedies and support structures that are able to effectively address the intricacies of stalking in the Indian setting.

In order to have a comprehensive comprehension, it is necessary to investigate the historical origins of stalking in India and to identify any cultural or sociological variables that may have contributed to the practice's continued existence. In addition, the development of technology and the rise of the digital era have given rise to new aspects of the crime of stalking, the most prominent of which is the phenomenon of cyberstalking. It is vital, in order to create remedies that are relevant and successful on the legal and societal levels, to investigate these changes and their impact on the nature of stalking.

Stalking frequently has a gendered dimension, with women being disproportionately affected, hence it is vital to take into consideration the growing dynamics of gender relations in India. Furthermore, it is essential to address the evolving dynamics of gender relations in India. It is absolutely necessary, in order to design effective interventions and support systems, to conduct research on the altering gender norms and power dynamics that intersect with stalking.

Understanding the historical and contemporary context of stalking in India is the first step toward developing a sophisticated and effective solution to this prevalent issue in India. This understanding is the foundational stage in the process. We can only hope to adopt real legal reforms, promote public awareness, and offer the necessary support systems to combat stalking and secure the safety and well-being of all individuals within Indian society if we have such a thorough knowledge. Only then can we hope to provide these things.

## 2. MEANING OF STALKING WITH TRENDS OF STALKING IN INDIA

Stalking can be defined as a pattern of intrusive and unwanted behavior that is directed toward a specific individual, causing them to fear for their safety, well-being, or privacy. It is characterized by a persistent and often obsessive pursuit of the victim, leading to emotional distress and potentially physical harm.

Stalking can manifest in various forms, both online and offline, and may include the following:

1. **Cyberstalking:** In the digital age, cyberstalking has become increasingly prevalent. It involves the use of electronic communication tools, such as emails, social media, and instant messaging, to harass, threaten, or intimidate the victim. Perpetrators may engage in activities like sending unsolicited messages, spreading false information, or tracking the victim's online presence.

2. **Physical Stalking:** This form of stalking involves the stalker physically following or monitoring the victim's activities. It often includes actions like trailing the victim, showing up at their workplace or residence, or loitering in their vicinity. Physical stalking can escalate to more serious offenses, such as

break-ins or assaults.

3. **Psychological Stalking:** Psychological stalking focuses on the emotional manipulation and psychological distress of the victim. Stalkers may engage in gaslighting, making the victim doubt their own perceptions, or sending disturbing messages that induce fear and anxiety.

4. **Intimate Partner Stalking:** In cases of intimate partner violence, stalking can be particularly dangerous. It involves stalking behaviors within the context of an existing or former romantic relationship. Perpetrators may use stalking tactics to exert control, intimidate, or harm their partners. Stalking is a pervasive issue in India, affecting individuals across various demographics. Understanding the prevalence and evolving trends is crucial for addressing this social problem effectively:

1. **Prevalence:** Stalking in India is more common than often reported due to underreporting and social stigma. In 2019, the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) of India reported 21,797 cases of stalking. However, the actual number is likely higher, as many victims do not come forward due to fear, embarrassment, or a lack of awareness about legal remedies.
2. **Urban vs. Rural Divide:** Stalking cases are more frequently reported in urban areas, where access to technology and reporting mechanisms is more readily available. However, stalking also occurs in rural regions, albeit with lower reporting rates.
3. **Gender Disparities:** While stalking can affect individuals of any gender, women are disproportionately targeted. Stalking is often linked to gender-based violence and harassment, with male perpetrators predominantly targeting female victims. However, cases of male victims being stalked are also reported, highlighting the need for gender-neutral legal provisions.
4. **Technological Advancements:** The advent of technology has introduced new dimensions to stalking. Cyberstalking, in particular, has seen a significant rise, with perpetrators exploiting digital platforms to harass and intimidate victims. Cases of online harassment, doxxing, and revenge porn have become increasingly prevalent.
5. **Underreporting:** One of the major challenges in assessing the prevalence of stalking is the underreporting of incidents. Victims often fear retribution from the stalker, societal judgment, or a lack of faith in the legal system. Raising awareness about stalking and providing support to victims is essential to address this issue.

### 3. CHALLENGES FACED BY MALE VICTIMS

One of the notable aspects of the legal framework addressing cyberstalking in India is the existence of gender-specific provisions. For instance, Section 354-D of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) primarily focuses on offenses against women. This provision acknowledges the vulnerability of women to stalking and harassment, which is an important recognition. However, it inadvertently leaves male

victims with limited legal recourse. Cyberstalking is not a gender-specific issue, and it can affect individuals of any gender. The gender specificity of the law thus raises questions about the equal protection of male victims.

- **Societal Stereotypes and Expectations:** One of the primary challenges confronting male victims of cyberstalking stems from societal stereotypes and expectations surrounding masculinity. Traditionally, men are often expected to be strong, resilient, and unshakeable in the face of adversity. Admitting to being a victim of online harassment may be perceived as a sign of weakness, which can deter men from reporting such incidents. They might feel compelled to conform to these stereotypes and attempt to handle the situation privately, which can exacerbate their distress.
- **Fear of Emasculation:** Male victims of cyberstalking may fear emasculation or the loss of their perceived masculinity. Online harassment that includes threats or derogatory comments about a man's masculinity can be particularly distressing. The fear of being ridiculed or labeled as weak or effeminate can discourage male victims from seeking help or reporting the harassment. This fear can significantly impact their mental and emotional well-being.
- **Lack of Awareness and Support:** In many cases, male victims may be unaware of available support services or resources specifically tailored to address cyberstalking. The majority of awareness campaigns and support systems often focus on female victims, leaving male victims with limited knowledge of where to turn for assistance. This lack of awareness can isolate male victims and further hinder their ability to seek help.
- **Doubt and Disbelief:** When male victims do gather the courage to report cyberstalking incidents, they may encounter skepticism or disbelief from law enforcement, friends, or family members. Some individuals may question the severity of online harassment faced by men or may even dismiss their claims altogether. This doubt can be emotionally distressing and discouraging for male victims, leading them to withdraw and not pursue legal recourse.
- **Legal Limitations:** Existing legal provisions that are gender-specific in nature can also pose challenges for male victims. In countries where laws are primarily designed to protect female victims of stalking, male victims may not find adequate legal remedies or protection. This legal limitation reinforces the perception that cyberstalking primarily affects women and further isolates male victims.
- **Lack of Mental Health Support:** Cyberstalking can have severe psychological effects on male victims, including anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). However, there may be a lack of mental health support services that cater specifically to male victims. The dearth of appropriate mental health resources can make it challenging for male victims to cope with the emotional toll of cyberstalking.

#### 4. UNDERREPORTING AND STIGMA ASSOCIATED WITH CYBERSTALKING

- **Fear of Retaliation:** One of the primary reasons for underreporting cyberstalking is the fear of retaliation by the perpetrator. Victims may worry that by reporting the incident, they could provoke the stalker to escalate their harassment. This fear is not gender-specific but applies to all victims. However, male victims, in particular, may hesitate to report due to concerns about appearing vulnerable or incapable of handling the situation.
- **Privacy Concerns:** Victims often value their privacy and may be reluctant to involve law enforcement or legal authorities in their personal affairs. This concern is heightened in the digital age, where personal information is readily accessible online. Male victims may fear that reporting cyberstalking could lead to the exposure of sensitive personal information or embarrassing details about their lives, which can contribute to their reluctance to seek help.
- **Skepticism About Law Enforcement:** Male victims, like female victims, may doubt whether law enforcement agencies will take their complaints seriously. They might be concerned that authorities may not fully understand the nature and severity of online harassment. The perception that cyberstalking is less significant than physical forms of harassment can lead to skepticism about the effectiveness of legal remedies.
- **Societal Stigma and Shame:** Male victims of cyberstalking may experience shame and societal stigma, which can discourage them from reporting. Stalking is often associated with persistent unwanted attention, and victims may worry about being judged for not being able to handle the situation themselves. The stigma surrounding male victimhood can be particularly challenging to overcome, as it may conflict with traditional notions of masculinity.
- **Lack of Awareness:** Many individuals, including male victims, may not be fully aware of the legal options and support services available to them. This lack of awareness can lead to a sense of helplessness and isolation. Male victims may believe that they have no recourse or that they must endure the harassment silently.
- **Emotional Toll:** Cyberstalking can take a severe emotional toll on victims, leading to anxiety, depression, and other mental health issues. Male victims may fear being perceived as emotionally fragile if they admit to the emotional distress caused by cyberstalking. This fear of judgment can deter them from seeking help or reporting the harassment.
- Addressing underreporting and stigma associated with cyberstalking requires a multifaceted approach. Public awareness campaigns should emphasize that cyberstalking is a real and serious crime that can affect anyone, regardless of gender. Law enforcement agencies must be trained to handle cyberstalking cases sensitively and effectively. Providing victims with confidential reporting mechanisms and access to support services, including mental health support, can encourage more individuals, including male victims, to come forward and seek assistance. Ultimately, reducing underreporting is essential to gaining a comprehensive

understanding of the prevalence and impact of cyberstalking and to provide adequate protection and support to all victims.

## 5. INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS OF STALKING LAWS IN INDIA, USA, UK, AND AUSTRALIA

Indian Penal Code (IPC)

### 1. Section 354D: Cyberstalking

Section 354D of the IPC addresses the offense of cyberstalking. It specifically deals with instances where a person follows, contacts, or monitors another person, leading to a reasonable fear for their safety or a breach of their privacy through electronic communication.

**Legal Elements:** To constitute an offense under Section 354D, the following elements must be present:

**Persistent Conduct:** The accused must engage in a pattern of persistent conduct directed at the victim.

**Electronic Communication:** Such conduct must occur through electronic communication.

**Fear for Safety or Privacy:** The victim must reasonably fear for their safety or experience a breach of their privacy due to this conduct.

**Penalties:** Upon conviction, the perpetrator may face imprisonment for up to three years for the first offense, and for subsequent offenses, the punishment can extend to five years.

**Limitations: Section 354D has some limitations:**

**Gender Specific:** One limitation is that the provision is gender-specific, focusing solely on offenses against women. This gender bias can leave male victims with inadequate legal protection, as cyberstalking can affect individuals of any gender.

**Incomplete Coverage:** While it addresses certain aspects of cyberstalking, it may not encompass the full range of tactics employed by stalkers, such as doxxing, impersonation, or non-consensual distribution of intimate images.

### 2. Section 509: Word, Gesture, or Act Intended to Insult Modesty

Section 509 of the IPC pertains to instances where a person uses words, gestures, or acts intended to insult the modesty of a woman. While it may not directly address cyberstalking, it can be applied to cases where offensive or threatening messages are sent to a woman. It criminalizes actions that violate a person's dignity and modesty.



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**United States of America (USA):**

**Legal Provisions:** The United States has comprehensive anti-stalking laws at both the federal and state levels. The Interstate Stalking Punishment and Prevention Act and the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) include provisions that address stalking, including cyberstalking. These laws provide clear definitions of stalking behaviors, penalties for offenders, and protection mechanisms for victims.

**Protection Orders:** In the USA, victims can obtain restraining orders or protection orders, which can include provisions prohibiting the stalker from contacting or approaching the victim, both in-person and online.

**Online Harassment Laws:** Several states in the USA have enacted specific laws addressing online

harassment and cyberbullying. These laws often cover a wide range of behaviors, including the non-consensual distribution of intimate images and online impersonation.

### **United Kingdom (UK):**

#### **Legal Provisions:**

##### **Protection from Harassment Act 1997:**

The UK has a dedicated legislation, the Protection from Harassment Act 1997, which addresses various forms of harassment, including stalking. This Act offers a broad and encompassing definition of harassment, covering behaviors that cause victims distress or fear. It recognizes the psychological and emotional impact of stalking on victims.

#### **Criminal and Civil Remedies:**

One significant feature of this Act is that it provides both criminal and civil remedies for victims. Victims can pursue criminal charges against stalkers, and if successful, the perpetrators can face criminal penalties. Additionally, victims can seek civil remedies, including injunctions, to prevent further harassment.

#### **Restraining Orders:**

In the UK, victims of stalking can obtain restraining orders or non-molestation orders through the civil court system. These orders can include specific provisions that prohibit the perpetrator from contacting or approaching the victim, whether in-person or through online communication channels. The violation of these orders can result in legal consequences for the stalker.

#### **Sentencing Guidelines:**

##### **Sentencing Council:**

The UK has established the Sentencing Council, an independent organization responsible for developing sentencing guidelines for various offenses, including stalking. These guidelines help ensure consistency and proportionality in sentencing for stalking offenses.

##### **Factors Considered:**

The sentencing guidelines take into account several factors when determining the appropriate sentence for stalking offenses. These factors include the level of harm inflicted on the victim, the culpability of the offender, and the impact of the stalking on the victim's physical and mental well-being.

##### **Custodial Sentences:**

Stalking offenses in the UK can result in custodial sentences, depending on the severity of the offense and the harm caused to the victim. The sentencing guidelines help guide judges in determining the



appropriate length of imprisonment.

In summary, the United Kingdom has established a robust legal framework to address stalking, recognizing the significance of protecting victims from distress and fear caused by such behavior. The Protection from Harassment Act 1997 provides a comprehensive definition of harassment, offering both criminal and civil remedies to victims. Protection orders and sentencing guidelines further strengthen the legal response to stalking, ensuring that offenders are held accountable for their actions and that victims receive the protection and support they need.

### **Australia:**

#### **Legal Provisions:**

Criminal Code Amendment (Stalking) Act 2004: Australia introduced the Criminal Code Amendment (Stalking) Act 2004, which amends the existing Criminal Code Act 1995. This amendment includes provisions specifically related to stalking, providing a legal foundation to address stalking behaviors, including those carried out through electronic communication. These provisions define stalking offenses and prescribe penalties for offenders engaged in such conduct.

#### **Protection Orders:**

Restraining Orders and Apprehended Violence Orders (AVOs): Across various Australian states and territories, victims of stalking can seek legal protection through restraining orders or Apprehended Violence Orders (AVOs). These orders can encompass both physical and online stalking or harassment. They are designed to prohibit the stalker from contacting or approaching the victim, ensuring the victim's safety and well-being.

#### **Cyber bullying Laws:**

**Protection for Children and Adolescents:** In response to the growing concern over cyber bullying, particularly involving children and adolescents, Australia has implemented specific laws aimed at addressing this issue. These laws target individuals who engage in harmful online behaviours, including cyber bullying. They impose penalties on those found guilty of such offenses, recognizing the unique vulnerabilities of young individuals in the digital age.

Australia has taken a multi-faceted approach to combat stalking, encompassing legal provisions that define and penalize stalking behaviours, the issuance of restraining orders and AVOs to protect victims, and the enactment of cyber bullying laws to safeguard the well-being of children and adolescents. This comprehensive legal framework underscores Australia's commitment to addressing the complexities of stalking and harassment, whether they occur in physical or digital spaces.

**Comparative Analysis:**

The United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia stand as exemplars in their approach to combating stalking within their respective legal frameworks. These countries have placed significant emphasis on crafting comprehensive definitions of stalking behaviours, which are adaptable to the changing dynamics of the digital era. By doing so, they ensure that their legal provisions remain pertinent and capable of addressing the evolving tactics employed by stalkers in the online realm.

A notable feature of their legal frameworks is the provision of robust protection mechanisms for victims. These mechanisms, including restraining orders and protection orders, can be customized to encompass not only physical but also online forms of stalking. This holistic approach acknowledges that stalking can manifest in various ways and seeks to offer victims effective safeguards against all forms of harm. Penalties and sentencing guidelines form another essential component of their legal provisions. By prescribing penalties that correlate with the gravity of the offense and considering the impact on the victim, these countries aim to deter potential offenders and ensure that justice is served. This approach not only holds wrongdoers accountable but also sends a clear message that stalking is a serious crime with severe consequences.

Moreover, the commitment of these countries to raising public awareness cannot be overstated. They recognize that education is key to addressing stalking and harassment effectively. Through comprehensive awareness campaigns, they have endeavored to inform their citizens about the diverse manifestations of stalking, the importance of reporting such incidents, and the availability of support services. By fostering a culture of vigilance and support, these campaigns encourage victims to come forward, seek assistance, and pursue justice.

In sum, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia have exhibited a robust and multifaceted approach to combatting stalking within their legal frameworks. Their comprehensive definitions, protection mechanisms, penalties, and public awareness initiatives collectively form a formidable arsenal against the scourge of stalking in the digital age. These countries serve as role models for others seeking to address the complex challenges posed by stalking, both online and offline.

**6. STRENGTHENING THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR STALKING LAWS IN INDIA**

India, like many countries, faces significant challenges in addressing stalking effectively. To strengthen the legal framework for stalking laws in India, several key reforms and proposals can be considered:

**Gender-Neutral Legislation:**

Gender-neutral legislation represents a critical reform in the context of India's stalking laws. Currently, Section 354-D of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) exclusively focuses on offenses against women, a recognition of their higher vulnerability to stalking and harassment. However, this gender-specific approach inadvertently leaves male victims with limited legal recourse.

Stalking is a crime that transcends gender, impacting individuals irrespective of their sex. Therefore, the adoption of gender-neutral legislation is essential to ensure that all victims, regardless of gender, receive equal legal protection.

This reform addresses several key issues: firstly, it acknowledges the experiences of male victims, often marginalized due to societal stereotypes; secondly, it encourages reporting, as the absence of gender bias removes the stigma associated with male victimhood; thirdly, it provides comprehensive protection by encompassing the full spectrum of stalking tactics, both online and offline. Moreover, gender-neutral legislation aligns with constitutional principles of equality and non-discrimination and resonates with international norms, promoting consistency and fairness within the legal framework. In essence, it represents a crucial step toward an inclusive and just legal response to stalking in India.

### **Comprehensive Definitions of Stalking:**

Comprehensive definitions of stalking are imperative for strengthening India's legal framework to combat this pervasive issue effectively. Stalking encompasses a broad spectrum of behaviors that extend beyond physical following, including an array of online and offline actions. These actions encompass cyberstalking, the persistent and unwanted barrage of digital communication, tracking an individual's movements, and intrusive monitoring of their activities. Without comprehensive definitions, certain forms of stalking may fall through legal gaps, leaving victims without the protection they need and deserve. A well-articulated legal framework not only ensures that all manifestations of stalking are recognized and addressed but also sends a clear message that such behavior is unacceptable and unlawful. Moreover, it aids law enforcement, prosecutors, and the judiciary in better understanding and handling the complexities of stalking cases, both in the physical and digital realms. By providing a robust legal foundation with precise definitions, India can significantly enhance its ability to combat stalking comprehensively and protect the well-being of its citizens.

### **Increasing Awareness and Reporting Mechanisms:**

To fortify the legal framework addressing stalking in India, a proactive approach to awareness and reporting mechanisms is imperative. Initiatives aimed at raising public awareness about stalking are vital components of this strategy. Public campaigns and educational programs play a crucial role in equipping individuals with the knowledge and tools to recognize the signs of stalking. By promoting an understanding of the various forms and tactics employed by stalkers, these efforts empower potential victims and bystanders to identify and respond to suspicious or threatening behavior.

In addition to awareness campaigns, the establishment of helplines and online reporting platforms can be instrumental in facilitating the reporting process for victims. These platforms should offer ease of access and confidentiality, ensuring that victims feel safe and supported when coming forward with their experiences. Providing multiple avenues for reporting, both online and offline, caters to the diverse

needs and preferences of those affected by stalking.

By combining awareness campaigns with user-friendly reporting mechanisms, India can encourage more victims to report stalking incidents and seek the protection and support they require. Such initiatives not only bolster the legal framework but also foster a culture of vigilance and solidarity against stalking, ultimately contributing to a safer and more secure society.

### **Data Protection Legislation**

The implementation of robust data protection legislation is a crucial aspect of strengthening India's legal framework to combat stalking. Cyberstalkers frequently exploit personal data, making it imperative to expedite the enactment of data protection laws that effectively safeguard individuals' data and privacy. The Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019, which has received approval from both houses of Parliament, represents a significant step toward achieving this goal. This bill, once enacted into law, will provide a robust framework for the protection of personal data in India. Drawing inspiration from international models like the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which has set high standards for data protection globally, India can ensure that individuals' personal information is handled with care and subject to stringent privacy safeguards.

The GDPR, in particular, offers valuable insights into effective data protection measures. It emphasizes principles such as data minimization, purpose limitation, and the rights of data subjects, all of which are essential for safeguarding personal data. By aligning its data protection legislation with international best practices, India can fortify its legal framework against cyberstalkers who exploit personal information, thereby enhancing the overall security and privacy of its citizens in the digital age.

### **Penalties and Sentencing Guidelines**

Reforming stalking laws should include clear and stringent penalties for offenders. Sentencing guidelines should consider the severity of the offense, its impact on the victim, and factors like repeat offenses when determining appropriate punishments.

## **CONCLUSION**

### **Summary of Findings:**

- The existing legal framework, primarily governed by the Indian Penal Code and the Information Technology Act, contains notable gaps and limitations.
- Gender biases within the legal provisions hinder the protection of male victims from stalking.
- Comprehensive definitions of stalking behaviors are lacking, limiting the scope of legal coverage.
- Underreporting of stalking incidents, exacerbated by societal stigma, impedes the development

of tailored support mechanisms.

- International models, particularly in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia, offer valuable lessons and best practices for India's legal framework.

#### **Implications for Legal Reforms:**

- Urgent reforms are needed to make stalking laws in India gender-neutral, ensuring equal protection for all victims.
- The legal framework should incorporate comprehensive definitions of stalking to cover various tactics employed by stalkers.
- Raising awareness and implementing efficient reporting mechanisms are critical to combat stalking effectively.
- Swift legal remedies, including expedited court processes, can alleviate the suffering of victims.
- International cooperation is essential for addressing cross-border stalking cases and ensuring justice.

#### **The Importance of Balancing Privacy and Freedom of Speech:**

- While addressing stalking is crucial, it is equally important to strike a balance between privacy rights and freedom of speech.
- Legal reforms should consider the potential impact on free expression while protecting individuals from harassment.

#### **Call for Comprehensive Measures to Combat Cyber Stalking:**

- Strengthening the legal framework to combat stalking in India requires a multifaceted approach, including legislative reforms, awareness campaigns, and support mechanisms.
- Cyberstalking, an evolving menace, demands proactive and comprehensive measures to ensure the safety and security of citizens in the digital age.

#### **Future Research Directions:**

- Future research should focus on evaluating the effectiveness of legal reforms and awareness campaigns in combating stalking.
- Exploring the psychological aspects of both stalkers and victims can provide valuable insights into preventive measures and support strategies.
- Continuous monitoring of international best practices and their adaptation to the Indian context is essential for evolving the legal framework.

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