

Measuring Perception of Criminality towards Women: A Descriptive Analysis



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ABSTRACT: The perception of criminality towards women is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon that affects their well-being, safety, and access to justice. This paper reviews the existing literature on this topic, focusing on the descriptive methods and findings of previous studies. The paper describes the main factors that influence the perception of criminality towards women, such as gender stereotypes, media representations, and social norms. It also identifies the main themes and patterns that emerge from the descriptive research, such as the role of victim blaming, empathy, and emotions. The paper synthesizes and summarizes the key insights and implications of descriptive research for theory and practice, highlighting the gaps and challenges in the current knowledge and methods. The paper provides recommendations and suggestions for future research and policy on the perception of criminality towards women, based on the descriptive analysis of the literature. The paper concludes that more rigorous and comprehensive descriptive research is needed to understand and address the perception of criminality towards women in different contexts and settings.

KEYWORDS: Perception of Criminality, Women, Gender stereotypes, Media representations, social norms.

1. INTRODUCTION

Most offenders are male, and women make up a small percentage of the prison population. The low rates at which women commit crimes necessitate a careful examination of how the criminal justice and social systems treat those women who do break the law, as well as the incorporation of gender perspectives into efforts to curb criminal activity generally. Crime against women is only one aspect of women's involvement with the criminal justice system; understanding the full magnitude of the problem requires considering women both as victims and perpetrators of crime. Despite the low overall crime rate, it is essential to keep a close eye on female criminal behavior. Alternately, trends that mirror the greater male offender population may obscure the unique experiences of women and girls in the criminal justice system.

Civilization is inextricably linked to the rule of law. Since it is inconceivable to envisage a civilized society where there is no rule of law. Criminal law, more than any other area of law, is essential to maintaining order in modern society. The purpose of criminal law is to punish illegal behavior and to define what constitutes a criminal offense. The prevalence of crime in modern society has been used as an example of the realities we must accept. Both experts and the public view crime as a form of violence that results in victims being hurt, property being destroyed, and social norms and authority figures being disregarded. It is abundantly evident that the author faces significant challenges, both practical and scholarly, in our pursuit of a better understanding of crime (Carlen, 1998).

Despite the common belief that women are the keepers of social norms, statistics show that for the past decade, an increasing number of women around the world have been breaking the law and committing crimes. This is also true for India. The number of female criminals in India has also risen dramatically. Several reasons could be at play, some of which will be briefly described here, that could lead to such a rise. As women's roles, occupations, and social standing change and as they gain economic and political independence, they become more actively involved in society at large, making them more vulnerable to crime. The study would also address the fact that women are involved in far more serious and non-traditional crimes than are typically associated with them. Despite the rise in female criminal activity that has accompanied the modern era, the law continues to treat the problem just as it did decades ago. Thus, the legislation should be changed to be less protective of women and more neutral between the sexes.

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Criminal activity is intricate and intertwined with many facets of society and the economy. Acts that violate the law carry legal repercussions. There is a consequence for breaking the law, no matter how big or small the infraction. However immoral, repulsive, destructive, or dangerous conduct may be, some believe that it is not a crime unless the authorities of the State, the legislature, declare it to be one. In the view of some sociologists, an act is not criminal unless and until it has been punished by the law. This means that only people who have been found guilty in a court of law are criminals. Many possible criminal activities rarely result in prosecution because not all of those who commit them are apprehended and brought to justice.

Depending on the offense, the punishment might be anything from community service to a prison sentence. Behaviors that are considered deviant by most of society are called “deviant.” It's a deviation from the established “norm” and the kind of conduct commonly associated with labels like “weird, evil, sick, and immoral.” This could be as little as showing up to a party in the wrong attire or as serious as murder. Although society frowns upon them, many antisocial behaviors are not technically illegal. Behavior that is considered normal in one culture may be looked down upon and discredited in another. For instance, even though alcohol consumption is associated with several bad outcomes for British society, it is generally accepted. Many civilizations, especially those influenced by religion, frown upon this sort of thing. A crime is any wrongdoing, whether an act or omission, that causes harm in such a way that the perpetrator or perpetrators “ought” to be punished for their actions, regardless of what the law books of a state say. Regardless of what the statute books of a given country state, it is always wrong to violate God's law, which is revealed in the Bible, the Koran, and the Torah, and which we also know intuitively as being contrary to God's will. A criminal offense is any conduct that violates a lawfully enacted statute or constitutional provision.

1.1 Female Offenders and Crime

While only a fraction of all crimes perpetrated by criminals are violent, women commit far less violent crimes than men do over the course of their criminal careers. The careers of women who use violence typically begin and peak earlier than those of men. When compared to men, women have a much lower recidivism rate for violent crimes. Women have a much higher propensity to stop being violent after one incident. For the most part, female criminals do not engage in illegal activity for extended periods of time or have lengthy criminal careers.

Since criminology has always been dominated by men, feminists think that all existing theories of criminality are based on men's perspectives. According to feminism, women in patriarchal societies are oppressed because of their gender. They think that fundamental changes are needed in gender institutions and social relations to put an end to patriarchy. The objective would be to eliminate discrimination and inequality in the legal system that is based on a person's gender. Because most convicted women in India are economically and educationally disadvantaged, this argument seems most applicable to the country's high rate of female incarceration for dowry-related crimes. Together with another person, they commit the murderous act. The majority, though, are first-time offenders. In this part of the world, it may appear that women are killing each other for money, but the practice of demanding a dowry is itself a deeply patriarchal tradition that demonstrates the belief that men are superior to women and that anyone from the groom's family has the right to mistreat, abuse, and even kill the bride and insult anyone from the bride's family. Women are disproportionately overrepresented in the criminal justice system due to the prevalence of crimes such as prostitution, sex delinquency, child marriage, dowry murder, cruel treatment by family members, dowry harassment, robbery, and murder (Adler, 1975).

1.2 Causes of Female Criminality

Female criminality has multiple root causes. The most important ones are addressed here, and they include the social economic, psychological, biological, cultural, and personal factors:

- **Socio-Economic Factors**

There is a significant connection between the idea of female criminality and the social and economic status of women in society. The author contends that women's crime patterns and frequency will more closely resemble those of their male counterparts once their social status is equal to that of men. The author concentrated on the connection between the women's liberation movement and new feminism and the remarkable increase in female criminality. The study referred to modern feminism as a “consciousness-raising” movement and projected that as women and men grew more socially equal, so too would their level of equality in the criminal justice system (İÇLİ, & Ashhan, 1988).

- **Psychological Factors**

Female criminality and certain personality traits have been linked in several ways, however, the debates around this topic are contentious. Females, according to Burt, commit fewer crimes because they are dominated by more benign emotions such as tenderness, forgiveness, and fear. Bonger argues that women are inherently more resilient than men, which translates to significantly lower rates of criminal activity on their behalf. Bonger claims that, in the years following World War II, economic hardship has led to the participation of a negligible number of women in criminal activity. Some research, however, suggests that women experience feelings of hopelessness at a higher rate than males do, maybe because they are more prone to psychiatric issues and are more difficult to get along with in general. One possible contributing element to women's propensity for criminal behavior is that they tend to be more distrustful than men.

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• **Biological Factors**

Women are in fact the social order's protectors, as is necessary by their very nature, and the harmonization causes them to embrace and succumb to the social order. Furthermore, it is asserted that certain physical incompatibilities lead to women engaging in criminal activity. Females are more conservative and play a neutral role in terms of their internal physio-chemical traits, which results in their committing fewer crimes than 14 males. According to Lombroso, women's contradictory and changeable views about their indirect participation in family matters are the main cause of criminality. Since their roles as mothers and wives are valued more highly in communities where there are fewer women than men, women are better safeguarded in these societies. On the other side, in communities where there are more women, the average age of marriage is lower, the fertility rate is higher, and there are fewer options for women to pursue higher education (Pollak, 1950).

• **Cultural Factors**

Women belong to a different subculture than men, which accounts for the difference in the number of crimes they commit compared to men. The perceptions of women's and men's crime and the subcultures these perceptions give rise to differ greatly, even when they reside in the same village or neighborhood. Women are less tolerant of their flaws. The education that women acquire in society is more oppressive than the education that males receive. The aforementioned instruction is still being provided, albeit to varying degrees, in the home, neighborhood, and classroom. In terms of female criminality, the family is one of the most important determinants of whether women develop their own subcultures. As a result, the majority of recently completed research concentrates on the families of female criminals.

• **Personal Factors**

When spouses, in-laws, or other relatives abuse women, they could resort to illegal behavior. Some individual factors that might affect the crimes committed by women include the absence of a woman in a relationship or family as well as a male who engages in dangerous behavior, such as drinking or gambling.

1.3 **Nature of Crimes Committed by Women**

Women's criminal activity has historically been relegated to less serious offenses like shoplifting, prostitution, and similar offenses. Women nowadays commit a wide range of crimes, including-

- Adultery
- Kidnapping
- Murder
- Pickpocketing
- Drugs Trafficking
- Smuggling
- Terrorism
- Theft
- Blackmailing
- Forgery
- Marital Crimes

These are only a few instances of recent crimes perpetrated by women. Their involvement in illegal activities including smuggling, white-collar crimes, and even terrorism is now a major concern (Shah, 2000).

1.4 **Need for a New Approach to Prevent Female Criminality**

When it comes to reducing the number of female criminals in India, the following are some strategies that have shown promise:

- Modification of laws
- Programs for community-based prevention
- Community-based institutions for crime prevention
- Studying female criminality from a variety of disciplinary perspectives
- Reducing the prevalence of sexism in homes, classrooms, and workplaces
- Rehabilitation and Education for Women Criminal Offenders
- Restructuring of the justice system
- Recovery and Reintegration
- Rehabilitation of female offenders
- Reliable Media
- Sex Education
- Equal sharing of social and domestic responsibilities between men and women as opposed to their designation.

Research and publications related to female wrongdoing should be quickly embraced by the strategists developing the strategies, the academic community, and the general public around the world because it is crucial to develop "effective procedures

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for the consideration, treatment, and restoration of female offenders.” Every individual must contribute to the development and prosperity of women by eliminating all barriers to their advancement because women are valuable for humanity, for the development of nations, and for the continuation of civilization (Kulshreshtha, 2020).

1.5 Perception of Criminality towards Women

The perception of criminality towards women refers to the societal and often biased judgments and assumptions made about women's involvement in criminal activities. This perception is influenced by various factors, including cultural norms, gender stereotypes, and historical precedents. Women have traditionally been associated with traits like nurturing, passivity, and moral virtue, which can lead to the erroneous belief that they are less likely to engage in criminal behavior. Consequently, when women do commit crimes, their actions may be met with disbelief or minimized compared to men. Additionally, this perception can impact how female offenders are treated within the criminal justice system, potentially resulting in more lenient sentences or alternative forms of punishment. It is essential to challenge these gender-based stereotypes and biases to ensure that women are treated fairly and equitably within the criminal justice system (Davis, 2016).

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Shao, L., et al., (2023) discussed how sentiments about immigration differ based on race and gender. Studied on the subject had prioritized developed nations above developing ones. To bridge the gap, the author investigated the issue in China, a growing nation whose residents had limited direct contact with immigrants and were transitioning from a source of emigration to a destination of immigration. The author discovered through two rounds of survey studies involving more than 4,000 respondents that immigrant women's gender cues raise public support for immigration and liberal immigration policies, whereas immigrant Black people's racial cues decreased it. Further investigation suggested that racial bias was most likely the result of worry about public safety, whereas gender bias was most likely the result of socio-psychological anxiety about threats to culture. The author added to the body of knowledge on the racial segregation and prejudice faced by immigrants in emerging nations.

Afrouz, et al., (2023) explained stereotypes and gender expectations were products of cultural and social construction. Previous studies revealed that the Afghan community was a conservative, male-dominated society where men were more visible in social events and women continued to be primarily responsible for household duties. The purpose of the investigation was to examine how Afghan women perceived gender roles and the opportunities and impediments within Australian culture for changing those roles after their immigration to the country. 21 Afghan women who had resided in Australia for six months to ten years participated in the study through semi-structured interviews. The interviews were conducted over the phone or in person in either English or Farsi (Persian). To investigate the data and develop ideas, an inductive thematic analysis was applied. Women in Afghanistan were “aware of gender roles, patriarchy, and gender inequality, and they want to address these issues” now that they live in a culture where women have greater independence. As a result of the opportunities, skills, and self-confidence that came with moving to Australia, many women were motivated to challenge gender norms and pursue opportunities that had previously been closed to them. Still, their attempts to promote gender equality usually came into resistance from their relatives or the greater Afghan society.

Kerman, K. T., & Ozturk, F. O. (2022) determined how dating violence, ambivalent sexism, and gender stereotypes affected nursing students' perceptions of intimate partner violence. Although there appeared to be an increase in interest in comprehending the socio-cultural contexts and the causes of intimate partner violence, nursing students seriously lack empirical knowledge on the various aspects of the issue. Data were gathered from “a sample of 520 university students from three nursing schools in Istanbul, Turkey,” using a cross-sectional correlation methodology. Convenience sampling was used to choose the participants. “The Beliefs About Wife Beating Scale, the Ambivalent Sexism Inventory, the updated Conflict Tactics Scale, and the Bem Sex Role Inventory” were used to gather data in addition to the sociodemographic form. showed male participants were more likely to defend wife abuse and think that beatings helped battered women. In accordance with findings, factors other than sex, such as “region of birth, conforming to feminine or masculine gender stereotypes, hostile sexism, psychological aggression, and having sustained an injury” because of intimate partner violence in a recent relationship, were significant predictors of nursing students' beliefs about such violence. The teaching of gender equality, misogyny, and violence against women should all be part of nursing curricula. Universities should do more to offer counseling services to nursing students who have been the victims of violence.

Bishu, S. G., & Headley, A. M. (2020) described the public sector has taken pride in providing a haven from job discrimination for women and other marginalized groups. Nevertheless, there were clear gender disparities in the workforce of the public sector. The gendered internal organizational procedures, arrangements, and interactions that have had an impact on women's experiences in roles with a male predominance were highlighted in the study using interview data from city administrators and police officers. The results suggested that, despite appearing to have equal opportunities to access and engage in these bureaucratic professions, women continue to face gendered barriers and restrictions that have an immediate impact on their experiences at work and their results in relation to their employment. Legislative and administrative measures cannot entirely remove the gendered experiences

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that women experienced in roles that were dominated by males. Instead, it's essential to implement a culture shift within the workplace to accomplish the goals of civil rights laws enacted more than 50 years ago.

Culhane, et al., (2016) conducted two experiments in which participants from all throughout the nation saw, heard, or read the story of an actual police shooting. The information for the study was acquired prior to the media's thorough coverage of a well-known police killing in Ferguson, Missouri. The results revealed that when participants could hear or see the shooting, they were much more likely to think it was justified than when they had to read a transcript of the incident. The author repeated the first study shortly after the events in Ferguson, Missouri, and discovered very different findings. Even though there was widespread dissatisfaction with the shooting across all media presentations, video evidence contributed to the highest degree of citizens' impressions of an arbitrarily carried out shooting, while audio evidence contributed to the lowest level. Nevertheless, mandating police to wear body cameras was widely supported by the populace. The use of body-mounted cameras with excellent audio was advised for police departments.

McCarrick, et al, (2016) examined how males perceived the UK Criminal Justice System (CJS) in the wake of female-perpetrated intimate partner violence (IPV). Six males, ages 40 to 65, participated in unstructured in-person and Skype interviews. Interpretative phenomenological analysis (IPA) was used to examine interview transcripts. The author engaged in a process of reflexivity because of the analysis approach and the sensitive nature of the research. There were determined to be four key themes: "Guilty until Proven Innocent: Victim Cast as Perpetrator; The Masculine Identity Light at the End of the Tunnel and Psychological Impact." Future research paths, criminal justice reform initiatives, and therapeutic initiatives were discussed, with direct quotes extracted from the transcripts being utilized to elucidate and further emphasize specific issues.

Eckel, C. C., & Grossman, P. J. (2008) explained in search of evidence of systematically different behavior between men and women, the study examined the findings from an experimental measurement of risk aversion. Women were generally demonstrated to be less risk-averse than men, according to the study. Contextualized studies yield less reliable findings. An important economic topic was whether there were consistent differences between how men and women react to risk. If women were less risk-averse than males, the author evident in every element of their decision-making, including their choice of career (and consequently income), their choices of investments, and the things they have chosen to purchase. Numerous recent studies directly investigated this distinction. The topic of whether people made decisions that were compatible with predicted utility maximization was the focus of many experiments that examined preferences over risky options.

Gorman, E. H. (2005) pointed out Stereotypes and in-group favoritism had been demonstrated to affect people's views and assessments of others in laboratory studies, but empirical research had not yet connected these processes to gender differences in actual employment results. The study suggested that "the same-gender preferences of decision-makers and the stereotypically gendered selection criteria function" to exacerbate gender inequality in employment. These claims were examined using information on sizable American law firms in the mid-1990s. The results demonstrated that women made up a lesser percentage of "new recruits when selection" criteria contained more stereotypically masculine attributes and that women were more represented among new hires when selection criteria included "more stereotypically feminine traits." Additionally, "female decision-makers hired more women than male decision-makers," although the effect declined among entry-level hired as women's proportion of high-ranking roles rises toward gender parity.

3. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- To describe the main factors that influence the perception of criminality towards women, such as gender stereotypes, media representations, and social norms.
- To identify the main themes and patterns that emerge from the descriptive research on the perception of criminality towards women.
- To synthesize and summarize the key insights and implications of the descriptive research on the perception of criminality towards women for theory and practice.
- To provide recommendations and suggestions for future research and policy on the perception of criminality towards women based on the descriptive analysis of the literature.

4. RESEARCH QUESTION

- What are the primary factors shaping the perception of criminality towards women, including but not limited to gender stereotypes, media portrayals, and societal norms?
- What overarching themes and patterns characterize descriptive research on the perception of criminality towards women?
- What are the significant insights and practical implications derived from descriptive research on the perception of criminality towards women, and how do they contribute to theory and practice?
- What recommendations and suggestions can be proposed for future research and policy development regarding the perception of criminality towards women, drawing from a descriptive analysis of the existing literature?

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5. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The term “research methodology” describes a methodical and scientific way of carrying out research. Selecting and executing suitable procedures for data collecting, analysis, and interpretation is critical for obtaining a satisfactory answer to the research topic. Researchers may choose for either quantitative or qualitative approaches, depending on the nature and goals of the study. The study employed a qualitative research strategy. The research approach delves into and makes sense of events, meanings, and experiences with interpretative tools and non-numerical data. Situations and in-depth assessments of certain individuals or settings are typical uses. 80 publications were found because of the initial study. 50 articles were deemed pertinent following the second round of screening. A total of 32 items were selected for analysis following the final screening (see figure:1 for details).

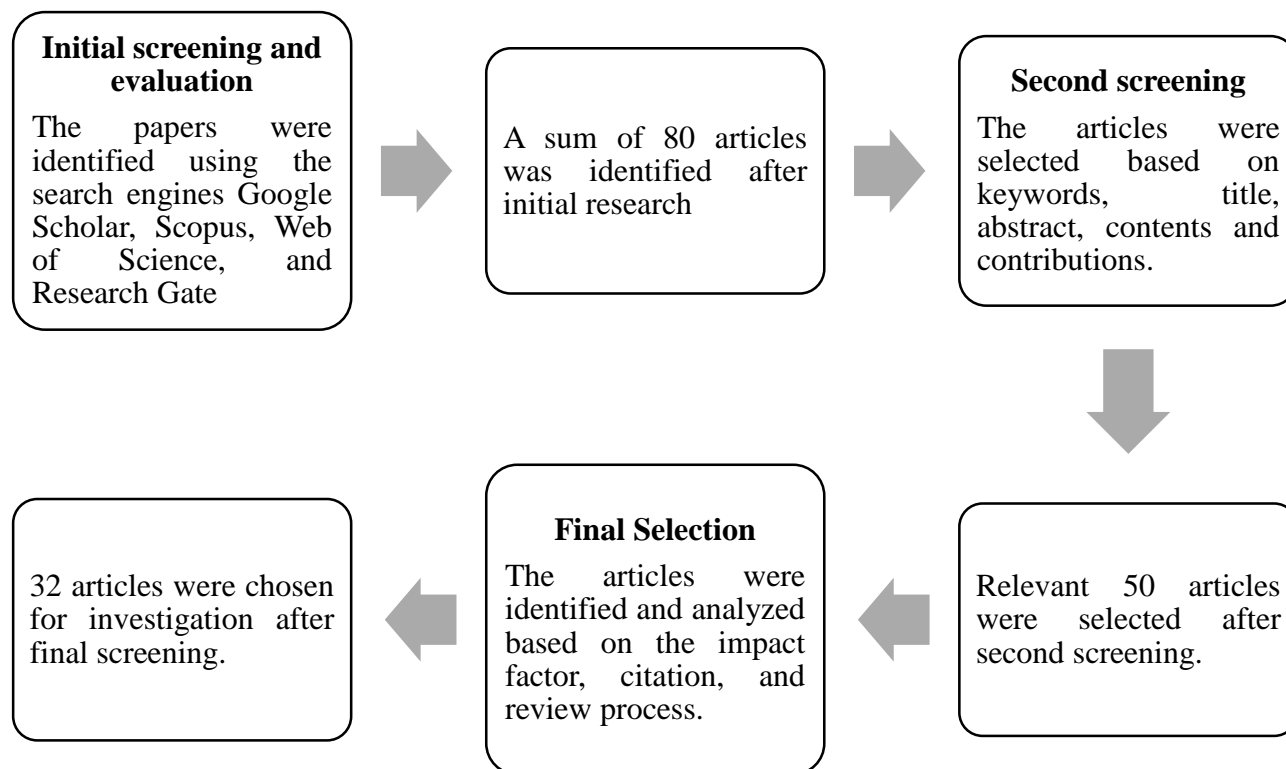


Figure 1: Initial Screening and Evaluation

6. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

I. To Describe the Main Factors that Influence the Perception of Criminality Towards Women, Such as Gender Stereotypes, Media Representations, and Social Norms

Žuffová (2023) underscores how entrenched gender stereotypes perpetuate the perception of women as inherently less capable of criminal behavior, often leading to their invisibility within criminal narratives. Building upon this, Silcox (2023) argues that media representations play a pivotal role in shaping public perceptions, often sensationalizing female criminality, or framing it within narrow archetypes, further distorting reality. Bareket and Fiske (2023) delve into the cognitive underpinnings, elucidating how social norms regulate interpretations of female behavior, reinforcing biased perceptions of criminality. Additionally, LIKA (2019) highlights the historical and cultural dimensions, demonstrating how societal attitudes towards women's roles and agency influence the construction of criminal narratives. Collectively, these insights underscore the complex and interconnected nature of factors shaping perceptions of criminality towards women, necessitating a holistic understanding for effective intervention and change.

In conclusion, the exploration of factors influencing perceptions of criminality towards women reveals a dynamic interplay of entrenched gender stereotypes, media representations, and societal norms. These elements collectively construct a complex narrative surrounding female criminal behavior, often distorting reality and perpetuating biased perceptions. Understanding the multifaceted nature of these influences is essential for developing interventions and policies aimed at addressing and challenging societal attitudes towards women in criminal contexts, ultimately fostering a more equitable and just society.

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II. To Identify the Main Themes and Patterns That Emerge from The Descriptive Research on the Perception of Criminality towards Women

Bush, S. S., & Clayton, A. (2023) discussed that gender stereotypes significantly influence perceptions of criminality towards women, contributing to biases in the criminal justice system. Lehmann, P. S., & Meldrum, R. C. (2023) explained how societal norms play a crucial role in shaping these perceptions, particularly in attributing culpability and determining appropriate punishment. Hester, N., & Hehman, E. (2023) examined the impact of media representations on public attitudes towards female criminal behavior, highlighting the sensationalism and distortion often present in such portrayals. Yohros, A., et al., (2023) investigated the intersectionality of various factors influencing judgments of guilt and innocence in cases involving women, emphasizing the complex interplay between gender, race, and socio-economic status. Collectively, these studies underscore the need for a more nuanced understanding of the factors shaping perceptions of female criminality to address systemic biases and ensure fair treatment within the justice system.

The highlighted study reveals a profound insight into the intricate web of factors influencing perceptions of criminality towards women. It elucidates the pervasive role of gender stereotypes, societal norms, and media representations in shaping public attitudes and judgments. By uncovering these underlying dynamics, the study underscores the need for a more nuanced understanding of female criminal behavior and the biases that surround it. This understanding is crucial for fostering fairness and equity within the criminal justice system and for informing policies and interventions aimed at addressing systemic inequalities.

III. To Synthesize and Summarize the Key Insights and Implications of the Descriptive Research on the Perception of Criminality Towards Women for Theory and Practice

Qerimi., et al., (2023) discussed that gender stereotypes and societal norms significantly influence perceptions of criminality towards women, highlighting the need for theoretical frameworks to address these biases. Lamph., et al., (2023) explained how media representations play a crucial role in shaping public attitudes towards female criminal behavior, emphasizing the practical implications for media literacy initiatives. Salvi., et al., (2023) examined the intersectionality of gender, race, and socio-economic status in understanding perceptions of female offenders, stressing the importance of considering multiple identities in theoretical and practical approaches. Pandey., et al., (2023) investigated the impact of implicit biases on judgments of guilt and innocence, underscoring the necessity of training programs for legal professionals to mitigate these biases in practice. Collectively, these insights offer valuable contributions to both theoretical understanding and practical interventions aimed at addressing biases within the criminal justice system.

The study revealed a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted nature of perceptions surrounding criminality towards women. It illuminated the pervasive influence of gender stereotypes, societal norms, and media representations in shaping these perceptions. Furthermore, it underscored the importance of considering intersectional factors such as race, class, and socio-economic status in understanding and addressing biases within the criminal justice system. Additionally, the study highlighted practical implications for media literacy initiatives, advocacy efforts, and training programs aimed at mitigating implicit biases among legal professionals. Overall, these revelations contribute to a deeper understanding of the complexities surrounding perceptions of female criminal behavior and inform theoretical advancements and practical interventions towards achieving a more equitable justice system.

IV. To Provide Recommendations and Suggestions for Future Research and Policy on the Perception of Criminality towards Women Based on the Descriptive Analysis of the Literature

Shelby et al., (2023) discussed the need for future research to explore the role of intersectionality in perceptions of criminality towards women, emphasizing the importance of considering how factors such as race, ethnicity, and socio-economic status intersect with gender. Hester et al., (2023) explained the significance of longitudinal studies to track changes in perceptions over time and identify potential interventions to address biases. Farrell, A., & Lockwood, S. (2023) examined the potential impact of educational programs and media campaigns in challenging stereotypes and promoting more accurate portrayals of female offenders. Draus, M. (2023) investigated the efficacy of restorative justice approaches in addressing gender biases within the criminal justice system, suggesting avenues for policy reform. Sundaravadivelu, D. (2023) highlighted the importance of incorporating diverse perspectives, including those of marginalized communities, in shaping future research agendas and policy initiatives. Together, these recommendations provide valuable guidance for future research and policy development aimed at addressing and mitigating biases in perceptions of criminality towards women.

The study concludes that there is a pressing need for comprehensive and intersectional approaches to address biases in perceptions of criminality towards women. It emphasizes the importance of considering factors such as gender, race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, and other intersecting identities in understanding how these perceptions are formed and perpetuated. Furthermore, the study highlights the potential effectiveness of longitudinal studies, educational programs, media campaigns, restorative justice approaches, and inclusive policymaking in challenging stereotypes and promoting fair treatment within the criminal justice system. Overall, it underscores the urgency of concerted efforts from researchers, policymakers, advocates, and practitioners to create a more equitable and just society for all individuals, regardless of gender.

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7. CONCLUSION

The paper reviewed the descriptive research on the perception of criminality towards women, a phenomenon that affects their well-being, safety, and access to justice. The paper described the main factors that influence this perception, such as gender stereotypes, media representations, and social norms. It also identified the main themes and patterns that emerge from the descriptive research, such as the role of victim blaming, empathy, and emotions. The paper synthesized and summarized the key insights and implications of descriptive research for theory and practice, highlighting the gaps and challenges in the current knowledge and methods. The paper provided recommendations and suggestions for future research and policy on the perception of criminality towards women, based on the descriptive analysis of the literature. The paper concluded that more rigorous and comprehensive descriptive research is needed to understand and address the perception of criminality towards women in different contexts and settings.

8. IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY AND FUTURE SCOPE OF STUDY

The descriptive analysis sheds light on the intricate factors influencing perceptions of criminality towards women, emphasizing the pervasive role of gender stereotypes, media representations, and societal norms. By uncovering these influences, the study underscores the need for targeted interventions and policy reforms to address biases within the criminal justice system. Moreover, it highlights the importance of fostering media literacy, promoting diversity and inclusion, and implementing restorative justice practices to challenge stereotypes and promote fair treatment for women in the legal system.

Moving forward, future research could delve deeper into the intersectional dynamics of perceptions of criminality towards women, considering how factors such as race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and disability intersect with gender to shape these perceptions. Longitudinal studies could track changes in attitudes over time and assess the effectiveness of interventions in mitigating biases. Additionally, comparative analyses across different cultural contexts could provide valuable insights into the variability of perceptions and inform cross-cultural strategies for addressing gender biases in the criminal justice system. Overall, the study opens avenues for further inquiry and underscores the importance of ongoing research in fostering a more equitable and just society for all individuals.

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