

AND THE MEDIA

Q AND A:

1. Have you heard or read about any one of the cases mentioned by the author- Priya Darshini Matto, Jessica Lal, Nitish Katara, Scarlett Keeling and Aarushi?

A: Yes, I have heard about all these cases:

Aarushi Case: Aarushi's murder case happened in Noida, Delhi where she was killed along with the servant Hemraj. In this case the media took lots of interest and caused for the suspicion of her father Dr. Rajesh Talwar for killing his daughter.

Priyadarshini Mattoo: She was a law student who was found raped and murdered in Delhi by Santosh Singh who was a high profile perpetrator. In this case too the media's involvement played a prominent role. At first the court sentenced death for the acquittals later it reduced the punishment to life imprisonment.

Jessica Lal: Jessica Lal was a high profile barmaid who was shot dead by Manu Sharma son of Venod Sharma a member of parliament. Following the immense pressure from the media the court had tried this case on a fast track basis in 25 days and sentenced Manu Sharma a life imprisonment.

Nitish Katara: Nitish Katara was a 25 year old business executive who was murdered by Vikas Yadav. This was an honour killing done by Vikas as Nitish was in love with his sister and the family didn't approve it. The court awarded life sentence.

Scarlett Keeling case: Scarlett Keeling was a 15 year old British girl who was raped and drowned in Goa. At first it was just tried to cover up as an accident. But with the involvement of media and Vikram Varma the famous lawyer it was found that the girl was found raped and drowned in the waters.

In all the above cases media played a major role and has helped to fasten the trial of these cases.

2. What does the word alleged mean? Why do newspaper articles use this word?

A: The meaning of the word alleged is "said, without proof, to have taken place or to have a specified illegal or undesirable quality". The newspaper articles use the word while describing the criminal cases because it is yet to be proved by the law that who is the actual criminal involved in the crime.

3. What is the author's view of the media particularly in such murder cases? Do you agree with his views?

A: The author opines that the media involvement is justified to some extent as it fastens the trial procedure but sometimes it may mislead and lead the people for they don't wait to know what actually happened and who the real victim is but just believe what is written in the news articles. Yes, I agree with his views.

4. Who are affected by the sensational articles published in the news articles?

A: People are the ones who are affected by these articles as they simply distort the truth and make believe that whatever is written in these articles is true.

5.'It jolts the executive into action'.What is the author referring to in this sentence?

A: The author here is referring to the involvement of the media in the criminal cases.He says that the media involvement hastens the process of trial but this may sometimes lead to the misleading of the truth.