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4. **Title of the Ph.D. Thesis** : **Immoral Trafficking for Commercial Sexual Exploitation Among Women of Bedia Community of Agra District: A Human Rights Violation**

**Key Words: Trafficking for Commercial Sexual Exploitation, Prostitution, Women Rights, Bedia Community, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act**

### **ABSTRACT**

Immoral trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation among women of Bedia community of Agra district is an organized crime that violates their basic human rights to live with dignity and bodily integrity. Since, it has been observed that, young girls are trafficked to major cities and towns for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation, the most common and glaring being for prostitution. Furthermore, it becomes more challenging due to its variations throughout the world and India is not an exception. Often, poverty, vulnerability of women and children, little or no access to education and health care and lack of livelihood options are some of the underlying cause of trafficking. However, the matter becomes more complex when trafficking for prostitution is seen as a traditional and cultural practice by communities such as Bedias, Sansi, Devadasi and Jogin tradition, which are still prevalent in some part of India and have the tacit support of family and society.

My empirical study shows about the involvement of Bedia and Non-Bedia women in this profession and found that that 80% of Bedia women introduced into the profession by their parents due to mothers profession or tradition/social custom. While only 40% women were introduced into this profession by their relatives or their family members due to poverty. Therefore, in the prevailing climate of Bedia community who have been traditionally practicing prostitution so my appeal to government and local body to take efforts to evolve an effective

remedial measures so that they may use womanhood from disgrace. Moreover, it can be argue that such type the community profession is a big challenge for the Government as well as several organizations who have been working in protection human rights of CSWs among Bedia community; firstly, because of involvement of huge political and criminal nexus, women have become a commodity in this game and even they are not in a position to demand for their dignity and struggle for their rights, secondly, to identify red light areas in Agra division are now diminishing and no longer remain a concept for sexual exploitation, thirdly, they are not able to come under one umbrella so they have no platform to come forward to demand for their rights and it is very sad that the government has no effective rehabilitation programmes. Therefore, the recommendations suggested for the study are (a) to improve anti trafficking laws, b) to protect the traffic victims from exploitation, c) to fight the problem of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. Last but not the least, in order to address the above issue, I have tried to formulate four set of recommendations i.e. legislation, law enforcement, adjudication of cases and shelter homes which may prove prudent in shaping the future policy for trafficking and it may contribute to large extent for the well-being of trafficked victims in general and Bedia women in particular.