

Preventing violence against women

Violent attacks on women are a social problem worldwide. Physical or sexual violence is considered as one of the most common attacks against women or girls of all ages [1]. Although attacks are common for all genders, recent statistics from the Violence Research Group has revealed that the number of women murdered is higher than the number of male murders in England and Wales [2]. A recent government report states that students in England and Wales were over three times more likely than average to have experienced sexual assault [3].

The deaths of high-profile cases such as Bibba Henry and Nicole Smallman in 2020, Sarah Everards, Sabina Nessa and Julia James in 2021 have revealed that violent attacks against women and girls are a serious concern which shocked the UK. The public has outpoured their anger and frustration against their deaths. There are many such incidents happening on a regular basis against vulnerable girls and women of all ages that are gone unrecognised. These tragedies have enforced the urgency of necessary measures to protect women and girls' safety on the streets.

The London Campus of the Institute of Inner City Learning and School of Applied Computing are joining hands to support women and girls and address their safety on the streets. We are opening this problem and placing it on the desk of fresh and energetic minds as a challenge. The participants (as a team) may propose (not limited to) effective, simple and easy-to-use tools/systems/applications designed to focus on overcoming the above stated problem. The proposal must consider user-friendly interface, usability, accessibility etc to achieve a solution to make society safer for women with the use of **emerging trends and technology**.

References:

- [1].B. Krahé, "Violence against women," *Current Opinion in Psychology*, pp. 6-10, 2018
- [2].Sivarajasingam, V., Guan, B., Page, N., Moore, S. and Shepherd, J., 2008. Violence in England and Wales in 2021.
- [3]. Lewis. J. 2022 *Sexual Harassment and Violence in Further and Higher Education* House of Commons Library, [online] Available at:
<https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-9438/CBP-9438.pdf>