

## Prevention Strategies for Acid Attacks: A Review of Public Awareness and Policy Interventions

Prof. Dr. Nisha C. Waghmare<sup>1\*</sup>, Pratik Anil Kamble<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1\*</sup>Head, Department of Social Work, Walchand College of Arts and Science (Autonomous), Solapur, Maharashtra, India.

<sup>2</sup>Ph. D. scholar, P.A.H. Solapur University, Solapur, Maharashtra, India.

### ABSTRACT

Acid attacks function as an extreme form of gender-based violence that permanently damages both physical and mental well-being of primarily women and girls. This paper investigates acid attack prevention methods through the lenses of public education efforts and policy development and community involvement. The public awareness approach to acid violence prevention has shown effectiveness by educating people about acid attack dangers and the fundamental importance of gender equality. The campaigns focus their prevention messages at educational institutions and universities together with community settings to combat social norms that enable violence against women. The Acid Crime Control Act of Bangladesh serves as a fundamental legal tool to fight acid violence through its acid regulation system and its severe penalty structure for violators. Law enforcement success encounters barriers because of inconsistent quality of enforcement and regulatory gaps present in the system. Local leaders together with family members who engage youth in anti-violence discussions represent an essential strategy that protects survivors and stops violence perpetrators from further attacks. Media coverage determines how the public understands acid violence and media platforms actively support laws that provide better protective measures. ASTI organizations have strengthened their global policy efforts through collaboration which allows them to provide resources to victims worldwide. Complete law reform along with community learning initiatives supported by community engagement programs creates permanent change. The adoption of enhanced preventive measures will decrease acid violence occurrences thus creating safe conditions for at-risk populations.

**Keywords:** Acid attacks, gender-based violence, public awareness, legal frameworks, community engagement, policy interventions, media, international collaboration.

### INTRODUCTION

Acid attacks represent a brutal form of violence which perpetrators use corrosive substances to harm women and girls. Such attacks lead to severe physical disfigurement together with disability and deep psychological trauma (Barchielli et al., 2023). The survivors of acid attacks encounter social rejection and discrimination which intensifies their trauma (Goswami, n.d.). The prevention of these attacks remains inadequate because the current efforts lack coordination. Acid violence prevention needs a comprehensive solution that includes awareness programs and legal systems and community participation (Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca, Italy & Calcini, 2022).

The world has witnessed enduring acid attack incidents particularly in India, Bangladesh and Pakistan because these nations face gender inequality and dowry systems and domestic disputes which intensify such violent acts (Kanchan et al., 2015). Acid attack perpetrators use various motives that include revenge for perceived wrongs and family disputes and extreme misogyny (Begum, 2004). Many cultural norms in these regions make the situation worse by allowing perpetrators to escape justice (Chatterjee, 2011).

Acid attack prevention requires a fundamental increase in public understanding about this issue. Survivors receive support and awareness about acid attacks from both activists and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) in Bangladesh operates as a leading organization that runs public awareness campaigns and school education programs and legal advocacy work to teach about acid violence consequences (Stroope et al., 2021). Through their efforts they have demonstrated that public intervention and community-based programs must be developed to change cultural attitudes about violence and victim support.

Public understanding of acid attacks derives substantial impact from media reporting. The humanization of acid attack survivors happens through media outlets that use survivor stories and awareness strategies to start social movements (Haque & Ahsan, 2014). The crucial public awareness efforts contribute significantly to the solution but they do not address all aspects of the problem. Media portrayal of acid violence requires deeper investigation because it determines how survivors experience social stigma (Haque & Ahsan, 2014).

Acid attack solutions emerge from legislative approaches that go past public awareness initiatives. The governments of India and Bangladesh have created acid regulation through laws that establish harsh punishments for acid attack perpetrators. Acid violence reduction legislation includes the Acid Crime Control Act in Bangladesh (2013) and the Acid Control Act in India (2013) that focus on controlling corrosive substances availability (Koul et al., 2023). Successful reforms need better enforcement procedures and action for these laws to fulfill their goals effectively. Research indicates

that perpetrators successfully obtain acid despite existing regulations containing several loopholes (Rasouli et al., 2015). To stop corrosive substances from being easily accessible society requires stronger regulations and better enforcement measures.

Law enforcement agencies take a central role in acid violence prevention due to their essential position in this battle. The effective implementation of laws depends on proper legislation and law enforcement training for both police officers and judicial authorities according to (Brady, 2013). Quick and transparent legal processes combined with fairness reduce acid attack occurrences because they demonstrate severe consequences to perpetrators. The fast hands of authorities in detecting and punishing offenders' functions as a warning to discourage potential violent perpetrators into similar conduct. The medical care and psychological counseling given to survivors remains fundamental for their rehabilitation needs. Acid attack survivors need urgent medical intervention along with sustained psychological help to heal their trauma according to (Sarker et al., 2023). Acid Survivors Foundation offers complete survivor support through its free medical services and psychological counseling programs. Survivors benefit from these essential services which help them reconstruct their lives while enabling their return to society according to (Huesmann, 2007). Survivor support from the community stands as an essential element which cannot be disregarded. The recovery process for survivors depends heavily on supportive social environments which accept them and encourage them to achieve life fulfillment (*Acid Survivors Trust*, n.d.).

Societal issues related to acid attacks continue being significant however public education initiatives coupled with legislative changes and new government policies work together to reduce these violent occurrences. Such initiatives will deliver maximum effectiveness when supported through stringent enforcement methods together with enhanced community participation and comprehensive services for survivors (Hakim & Kamruzzaman, n.d.). A safer environment for vulnerable individuals especially women and girls who experience the most acid violence requires simultaneous prevention strategies and rehabilitation programs.

### 1. Epidemiology of Acid Attacks

Acid attacks represent purposeful violence which inflicts devastating physical as well as psychological damage to those who become victims. Acid attackers use sulfuric or hydrochloric acid to harm their victims which results in severe burns and lasting disabilities and disfigurement. Acid attack occurrences show different levels of frequency between regions although South Asia reports the highest numbers. The occurrence of acid attacks reaches its highest levels in Bangladesh along with India and Pakistan because these nations have social cultural and legal elements that intensify the frequency of such incidents.

Acid attacks against women and girls in South Asia primarily occur as part of gender-based violence and during family conflicts and disputes and marriage proposal rejections (Brady, 2013). Acid attacks primarily occur in these regions because patriarchal social systems maintain women in inferior positions and make them vulnerable to violence when they resist traditional gender norms. The Acid Survivors Trust International (ASTI) documented that India experiences about 1,000 acid attacks per year according to their estimates but official statistics show lower numbers (Zafreen et al., 2010). The reported statistics reveal a major problem because numerous attacks remain hidden because victims fear being stigmatized or lack access to justice.

Bangladesh stands as one of the countries worldwide with the highest acid violence rates yet it has experienced both rising awareness and falling attack numbers through specific intervention programs (Wiegand, 2012). The Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) established itself in 1999 to become a leading organization in policy advocacy while delivering complete support services to survivors. Acid attacks in Bangladesh mainly occur because of domestic disputes and conflicts involving dowry which frequently target women as victims of this extreme violence. Acid Survivors Foundation data shows that 70% of acid attack victims in Bangladesh are female and they mostly suffer attacks from their families or rejected lovers (*Monitoring Poverty as If Gender Mattered*, n.d.).

Acid attacks in Pakistan occur primarily because women face punishment for actions that dishonor their family. Acid attacks remain prevalent because acids including sulfuric and hydrochloric acid are easily bought at many marketplaces. The UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) reports that weak regulations about substance sales help increase acid attack occurrences. The Pakistani government has enacted the Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Act of 2010 to combat acid violence yet weak enforcement and easy access to acid persists (UNODC, 2020).

Acid attacks in Cambodia affect the population at a substantial level despite having fewer occurrences than South Asian countries. Acid attacks in Cambodia happen most frequently due to personal hatreds and feelings of jealousy between romantic partners. The Cambodian Acid Survivors Charity (CASC) documented 200 acid attacks against women during the period from 1985 to 2009 which occurred because of jealous partners and family members. Through CASC advocacy and high-profile cases in the country the public awareness level has increased together with survivor assistance programs. The core societal beliefs that cause acid violence continue to exist without proper resolution according to the Cambodian Acid Survivors Charity (2021).

South Asian acid attack incidents along with other regional occurrences show signs of improvement due to joint initiatives between NGOs and activists and international organizations. The general population needs public awareness campaigns to understand fully the destructive nature of acid violence. ASF's awareness campaigns in Bangladesh have succeeded in lowering acid attack incidents through their focus on crime severity and their support for legal changes. Awareness

programs exist to teach people about acid violence penalties within the law while advocating for gender equality to decrease social acceptance of such attacks Barchielli et al., 2023.

Acid violence combat has greatly benefited from the implementation of various policy interventions. Countries such as India together with Bangladesh and Pakistan have established legislative frameworks to regulate acid sales. The Acid Control Act of 2002 from Bangladesh serves as an example for other countries because it limits acid sales while establishing harsh punishments for acid attack perpetrators. The implementation of acid control legislation remains weak while acid remains accessible in local markets which indicates the need for additional regulatory measures Wiegand, 2012. The Supreme Court of India issued a 2013 order for acid sale monitoring yet acid remains accessible in unregulated areas across the country Wiegand, 2012.

The battle against acid attack violence requires both legal instruments and supportive measures which offer assistance to victims. Survivors normally endure serious physical along with emotional difficulties. Acid burn medical care demands specialized treatment and lengthy reconstructive surgery procedures that survivors usually cannot afford to pay for. Acid attack survivors need psychological help because they commonly develop severe depression and anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) after their attack. The survival of acid attack victims depends heavily on ASF and CASC as well as other non-governmental organizations which deliver medical treatment and psychological support and offer legal assistance to victims who want justice (“(PDF) Acid Violence in South Asia,” 2025).

Acid accessibility together with weak enforcement against perpetrators are the primary obstacles that stand in the way of acid violence reduction. The regions need to enhance their legal framework and raise public awareness while providing better rehabilitation services to survivors to effectively stop acid violence. The formulation of better acid attack prevention strategies requires international collaboration and knowledge sharing with nations that have successfully reduced acid violence.

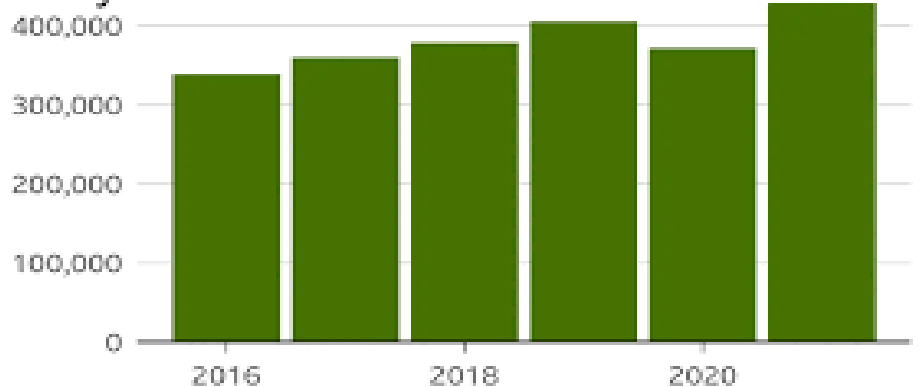
## 2. Socio-Cultural Factors Contributing to Acid Violence

Acid violence needs to be studied within its social and cultural environment because these factors strongly reinforce structural inequalities and traditional gender norms which lead to gender-based violence. The occurrence and continuation of acid attacks stems from patriarchal values together with rigid gender roles and societal acceptance of violence against women. The study of socio-cultural elements enables better understanding of acid violence causes which leads to improved prevention methods development.

### 2.1 Patriarchal Norms and Gender Inequality

Acid violence continues to persist because patriarchy functions as a social system that grants men authority over leadership positions and moral authority and social privileges and property ownership rights. The belief in male superiority runs deep through cultural traditions and social systems of many South Asian communities. The patriarchal way of thinking leads to controlling women through dominance which restricts their ability to make choices independently. Women typically find their worth only through their familial relationships with men either as daughters or wives or mothers (“(PDF) Community-Based Rehabilitation Program for Acid Assault Victims of Bangladesh,” 2024).

### Incidents of crimes against women highest in 6 years



Source: National Crime Records Bureau (2016-2021)

BBC

Figure 1: Crime against Women (BBC)

Within these social settings female resistance to traditional norms or male authority leads to the perception of breaking established social rules. Gender nonconformity leads to severe consequences including violent responses. Acid attacks act as punishment instruments which people use for domination purposes. The research conducted by Brady, 2013

demonstrated that acid attacks serve as punishment against women who refuse traditional gender roles including marriage proposals and family obedience. Patriarchal societies use acid attacks to display the violent outcomes that result from breaking gender norms.

The problem intensifies due to gender inequality. Women from rural areas experience higher risks of abuse since modern educational programs and economic engagement and formal protective systems are not accessible to them. Women who lack economic independence along with social freedom possess minimal options to escape domestic abuse situations or seek justice after an attack occurs. Women stay in abusive situations because they fear their communities will reject them and their families will inflict punishment according to Wiegand (2012). Acid attack violence prevention requires women to gain economic independence and expanded education and legal services as solutions to gender inequality.

### **3. Societal Acceptance of Violence Against Women**

Different parts of the world accept violence against women as an established practice to maintain social organization and family position. Acid attacks serve as severe violent methods used to discipline women who violate social norms. Traditional gender roles enforced by South Asian societies and other global communities force women to follow obedience and submission while practicing modest behavior Barchielli et al., 2023. Society views women who break traditional gender roles as worthy of receiving punishment.

Societal approval of violence against women stems from historical cultural elements including dowry practices and honor-violence traditions together with established male authority over female bodies. Acid attacks frequently occur because women fail to satisfy dowry demands so their husbands or in-laws carry out the attacks Brady, 2013. The perpetrators commit these attacks because they feel jealous or want revenge after a woman brings dishonor to her family through rejected marriage proposals or extramarital relationships.

The wider community shows both silence and support for violent acts which demonstrates their acceptance of such behavior. The victims experiencing violence often face stigmatization along with being blamed for the attacks they suffer which prevents them from seeking help or pursuing justice. The research conducted by Koul, 2023 demonstrated that communities impacted by acid violence would usually isolate surviving victims of acid attacks yet celebrate their perpetrators as heroes or avengers. Acid attacks become more prevalent because society accepts violent behavior thus enabling such attacks to happen without consequences.

#### **3.1 The Role of Media in Reinforcing Gender Norms**

Public views get their shape from media channels which also help propagate existing social standards. Media representations of women together with violence lead to the acceptance of gender-based violence including acid attacks. Many cultures allow media outlets to present women as objects for control while their value depends on their adherence to traditional gender roles. Popular cultural depictions indirectly support the notion that women should receive punishment for rejecting traditional gender roles.

Media functions as an effective instrument both for addressing problematic gender norms and for educating people about acid violence effects. The media can effectively fight acid attacks through survivor stories which demonstrate both the seriousness of acid violence and generate sympathy for victims. Media coverage needs responsible handling to prevent the potential negative outcomes of sensationalized reporting about acid attacks and excessive attention to perpetrators' motives Koul, 2023.

#### **3.2 Impact of Religious and Cultural Beliefs**

Religious along with cultural beliefs strongly determine societal perspectives on both women's status and violent conduct. The interpretation of religious scriptures in particular areas serves to legitimize women's oppression alongside violent social control methods. Acid attacks function as a way to restore family honor through dishonoring a woman in Pakistan and India according to Brady, 2013.

The cultural standards regarding marriage and family structures along with female sexual norms help explain why acid attacks take place. Women who do not follow cultural expectations of marriage and childbearing face the risk of violence in numerous societies. Acid attacks commonly stem from cultural norms violations which particularly occur when women deny marriage proposals or challenge male authority.

#### **3.3 Strategies for Addressing Socio-Cultural Factors**

**3.3.1** Acid violence prevention demands that society takes effective measures to eliminate cultural and social elements which maintain this practice. This requires a multi-pronged approach:

**3.3.2** The first benefit of educational awareness campaigns is their ability to change harmful gender norms while the second benefit is their ability to teach people about acid violence effects. Schools and community centers alongside media platforms must teach gender equality principles to male and female audiences to defend women's rights.

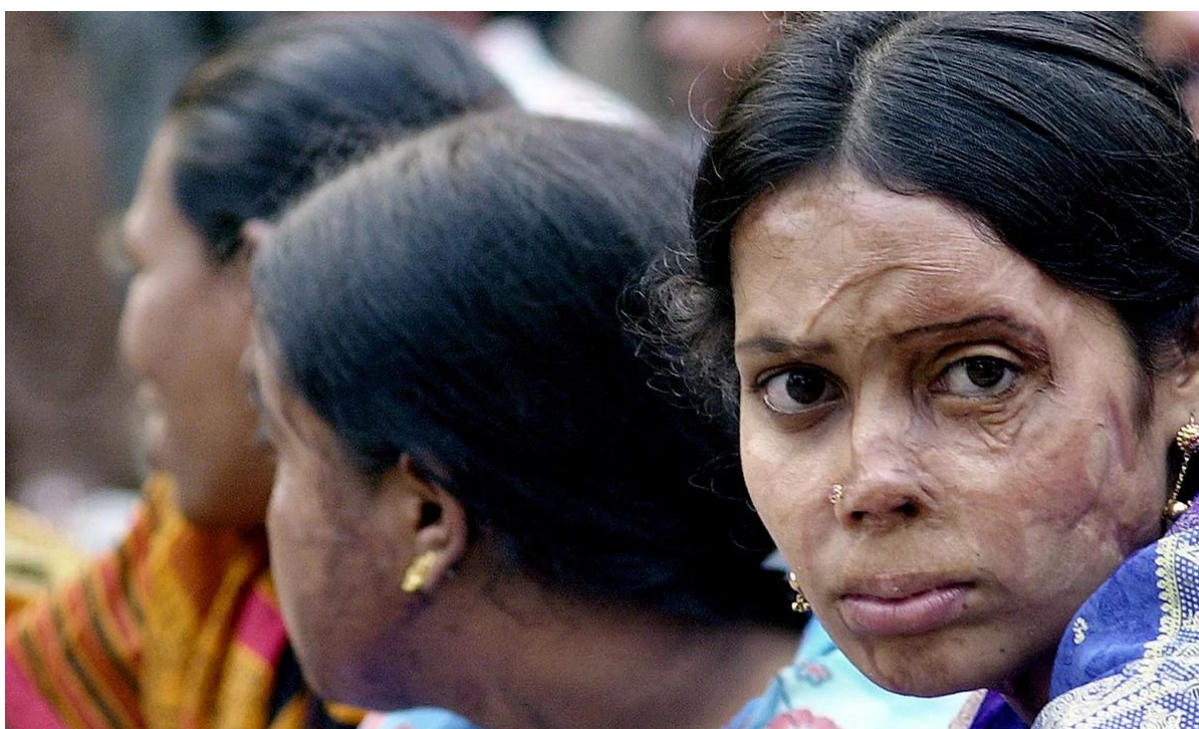
**3.3.3** The empowerment of women needs educational access and work opportunities and legal support to make them less vulnerable to violence. Women who achieve economic independence can use their freedom to escape abusive situations which allows them to seek justice from their attackers.

**3.3.4** Acid violence prevention requires legal modifications that address acid attacks and gender-based violence specifically. The implementation of acid restrictions through law enforcement should include severe penalties for offenders while providing sufficient support to victims.

**3.3.5** Positive societal transformation depends on community-based initiatives that fight against cultural norms which persist in society. Local leaders and religious figures and community members must participate in anti-violence campaigns to modify community beliefs regarding women and violence.

#### **4. Role of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)**

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) provide essential backing to the acid violence issue through their extensive programs which help survivors. The organizations provide instant medical care combined with legal assistance as well as psychological support to survivors while working toward public education about acid violence and better laws and policy creation. The Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) in Bangladesh operates as the regional leader of South Asian organizations that combat acid violence through their victim assistance and community outreach programs for gender-based violence victims.



(IMAGE SOURCE: BBC)

#### **4.1 Medical Support and Rehabilitation**

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have proven crucial in providing medical care to survivors who suffer from acid attacks. Acid violence injuries need specialized medical treatment owing to their extreme severity. Acid attack survivors need immediate medical attention because their third-degree burns affect large body areas requiring emergency treatment for burn recovery and reconstructive surgery and extended rehabilitation.. Medical treatment for acid burn survivors demands specialized care to handle burn wounds while stopping infections and conducting reconstructive procedures that help patients restore functional and physical abilities Goswami et al., 2025.

The Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) operates medical facilities in Bangladesh that provide free medical services including surgeries to acid attack victims. ASF provides complete rehabilitation services to patients through burn care services and surgical interventions and post-surgical care. ASF operates in Bangladesh by linking with local hospitals to deliver prompt medical care and by building healthcare sector capabilities to treat acid burns (Barchielli et al., 2023). Survivors receive help in regaining their mobility and independence through specialized physical rehabilitation centers that organizations have established.

#### **4.2 Legal Support and Advocacy**

NGOs have proven essential by offering legal assistance to people who survive acid attacks. Acid attack survivors need legal support because they usually lack both sufficient funds and legal understanding to use formal legal channels for justice. Acid Survivors Foundation and other NGOs in Pakistan and India provide survivors with free legal representation

to guide them through the slow judicial process. Legal support services comprise of case filing and court representation for victims alongside policy work for acid violence legislation.

Legal advocacy work performed by NGOs goes beyond individual case management to concentrate on shaping reform of the entire system. Acid attack survivors receive enhanced legal protection through the continuous efforts of numerous NGOs((PDF) *Preventive Detention and Section 54 of the Code of Criminal Procedure*, n.d.). The Acid Survival Foundation achieved its goal when the Acid Crime Control Act became law in Bangladesh during 2002 because it prohibited unlicensed acid sales and established severe punishments for acid attackers. The Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Act in Pakistan was passed through the efforts of various NGOs in 2010 to establish acid sale regulations and strengthen acid violence penalties Brady, 2013. These organizations have collaborated with legislative authorities to create laws that both punish acid attack perpetrators and offer proper support to survivors regarding rehabilitation and compensation.

#### **4.3 Psychological Support and Counseling**

Organization NGOs extend essential mental healthcare programs together with professional counseling for their beneficiaries. Acid violence survivors face severe psychological consequences which lead them to develop PTSD alongside depression and anxiety. Survivors endure severe emotional challenges because acid burns combine with public discrimination about acid attacks Wiegand, 2012. Survivors encounter obstacles when they try to restore their social relationships while dealing with the public disgrace of being an acid attack victim.

The regional NGOs ASF along with others offer counseling programs to assist victims in coping with the mental and psychological consequences of the attack. Survivors receive personalized therapy and group therapy and support group counseling through these services which help them face their trauma and start their healing journey. ASF operates rehabilitation centers across Bangladesh which combine mental health therapy and personalized training to give survivors necessary tools for building new lives. Survivors need counseling to recover their sense of control and dignity and self-worth which serves as a critical element for their social reintegration (Zafreen et al., 2010).

#### **4.4 Raising Public Awareness and Education**

NGOs play an essential role in spreading awareness about acid violence and its destructive consequences to the public. Through awareness campaigns the general population receives education about acid attack effects while eliminating false acid violence beliefs to develop more compassionate social support. Acid violence awareness campaigns reach the public through media channels as well as educational institutions and social media networks and public discussion events. ASF has organized multiple public awareness initiatives throughout Bangladesh to inform citizens about acid violence severity and acid attack reporting Brady, 2013.

The implementation of public awareness campaigns helped transform social perspectives regarding acid violence. South Asian communities traditionally treated acid attacks as both a punishment method and a way for men to dominate women (Hakim & Kamruzzaman, n.d.). Non-governmental organizations together with grassroots movements have successfully altered public understanding of acid attacks by making people recognize acid violence as a criminal offense that inflicts severe social and psychological damage to survivors. ASF's campaigns and similar initiatives play a central role in changing societal understanding about acid violence together with promoting gender equality according to Barchielli et al., 2023.

#### **4.5 Advocacy for Policy Reforms**

Through their advocacy work NGOs have successfully pushed for new policies which obstruct acid violence while offering protection to victims. NGOs have successfully implemented regulations to control acid sales in their target areas. Acid remains available for purchase in markets across Bangladesh, India and Pakistan which enables perpetrators to obtain it easily for acid violence purposes. NGO advocacy has led to new acid sale regulations that involve obtaining licenses to buy acid and monitoring the distribution of corrosive substances in large quantities. Through their advocacy work NGOs succeeded in passing new legislation which includes the Acid Crime Control Act in Bangladesh and parallel laws in Pakistan Brady, 2013.

NGO organizations actively support the implementation of complete survivor rehabilitation services together with compensation benefits. Acid attack victims require medical care and legal representation and psychological counseling according to NGOs who seek government funding for their proper assistance. The implementation of laws and regulations concerning acid violence receives consistent and effective enforcement through the efforts of NGO.

#### **4.6 Global Collaboration and International Advocacy**

The issue of acid violence receives global advocacy support through NGO collaboration across different regions. Acid Survivors Trust International (ASTI) operates globally to back national organizations while providing assistance to victims. International standards for acid violence prevention emerge through collaborations between the organizations and United Nations entities while they also focus on spreading awareness about this phenomenon. Acid violence visibility



depends on international community support which enables advanced legal systems and proven violence prevention solutions distribution.

Acid violence survivors receive essential medical treatment and legal support while NGOs that focus on this issue provide psychological counseling. Non-governmental organizations help victims after attacks but also focus on developing improved legislation while teaching the public and providing survivors with necessary care needed for recovery. The main accomplishment of NGO activities includes acid violence reduction and survivor empowerment that gives victims access to justice and healing. The battle against acid violence remains ongoing because NGOs need to collaborate with governments and international organizations to achieve total elimination of this practice.

## **5. Public Awareness Campaigns, Community Engagement, and Media's Role in Prevention of Acid Attacks**

Widespread public awareness is essential to prevent acid attacks because these violent gender-based assaults result in permanent life changes. Acid violence organizations recognize public awareness programs and community outreach and ethical media coverage as essential tools for detecting acid attack sources. Acid attacks create severe personal harm to victims while producing societal patterns that originate from institutional systems which drive gender discrimination and aggressive behavior. Strategic public awareness programs distributed across broad areas serve as essential tools to educate people about acid violence effects and support gender equality objectives. Public awareness campaigns together with community involvement and media support represent the key elements for acid attack prevention as stated by the Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) and other initiatives that have shown substantial impact.

### **5.1 Public Awareness Campaigns: A Vital Tool in Prevention**

Acid attack prevention heavily depends on public awareness campaigns because these methods show the most successful results in prevention. Educational campaigns serve as vital tools that teach people about acid violence effects and work against social customs that enable this violence. The primary cause of acid attacks stems from persistent gender inequality that leads to attacks against women who experience dowry expectations or marriage proposal rejections or dishonor allegations. Public awareness campaigns exist to combat discriminatory social norms and champion gender equality as their primary goal.

The Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) in Bangladesh achieves successful public awareness programs to reduce acid violence incidents. ASF runs educational initiatives that instruct students and college students about acid attack risks and gender equality principles according to Barchielli et al., 2023. Acid attacks serve as an illustrative example of gender-based violence that the programs present through their combination of educational presentations and workshops and discussions. ASF focuses its educational programs on institutions to recruit young people into its mission that works to establish cultural transformations for gender equality in male-female relationships.

ASF conducts both community meetings and public discussions which spread knowledge about acid violence throughout local communities. Local community leaders and social workers and residents from the area meet at these initiatives to analyze acid attack origins and their resulting effects. The campaigns establish open dialogue in communities to remove acid violence stigma while motivating citizens to back survivors instead of holding them responsible (Koul et al., 2023). Public awareness campaigns depend on media distribution of acid violence-related information to achieve their goals. The proven method for reaching large audiences successfully includes electronic television outlets and radio stations and social media networks. Survivor stories in these campaigns show acid violence victims as human beings to create better connections with audiences and generate sympathy for victims. The Acid Survivors Foundation in Bangladesh works together with media organizations to broadcast survivor stories that highlight their resilience and explain the importance of victim support Brady, 2013. Acid attack survivor stories appear in documentary films and interview segments and written articles that fully showcase the total effects of acid violence against victims.

## **6. Community Engagement and Education: A Key to Shifting Societal Attitudes**

Society's perception of acid violence requires essential involvement from community members. Multiple community sectors including members, leaders and families together with youth have essential roles to play in acid attack prevention through their work in building respectful and empathetic environments free from violence. The transformation of cultural and social norms which sustain gender-based violence demands joint efforts between community members.

Local leaders who participate in acid violence discussions become important supporters of prevention programs. Local leaders who include religious figures and political representatives together with community activists maintain substantial power to influence community members. Organizations can expand awareness about equality and non-violence through local leaders who endorse their anti-acid violence campaigns (Chatterjee, 2011). Religious leaders maintain powerful positions which they can use to combat violence through public declarations that defend human dignity for all people without gender discrimination.

The prevention of acid violence heavily depends on the actions taken by families. Acid attacks mostly occur within family environments because of dowry conflicts and domestic disputes. The prevention of acid violence depends on community-wide education about violence's destructive effects and the development of balanced relationships between men and

women Wiegand, 2012. Family members particularly male household members need to participate in gender equality discussions because they typically make important household decisions.

Strategies based on community engagement need young people to be an essential part of their success. The future generation of leaders and policymakers and change agents need to participate in gender equality discussions and respect education to become active participants in long-term acid violence prevention. Acid violence education and non-violent conflict resolution training at schools and universities and youth centers will produce a new generation which refuses violence in favor of equality Barchielli et al., 2023. The combination of supportive survivor environments with gender norm-challenging tools given to youth through community initiatives creates lasting social transformation.

### **6.1 The Media's Role in Shaping Public Perception and Mobilizing Support**

Public opinion gets shaped by media outlets that influence social attitudes simultaneously build support for various social cause agendas. The media has proven ability to activate public awareness about acid violence while presenting survivor stories and generating social transformation. Media reports about acid violence must remain accurate while showing sensitivity toward survivors when presented to the public.

Media platforms use their power to place important matters like acid violence in the public awareness through detailed coverage of prominent cases and their destructive consequences. The media demonstrates acid attack effects to the public by presenting news stories alongside documentaries and feature articles which show both the emotional and physical and social impacts on survivors. The media showcases survivors who demonstrate remarkable resilience in facing adversity which breaks down public resistance while attracting support for changes in laws Goswami et al., 2025.

The media demonstrates great potential for leading the effort to secure stronger laws along with policy reforms. The public can drive lawmakers to establish tougher acid sale restrictions through media platforms which reveal the current law weaknesses. ASF along with other NGOs in Bangladesh have conducted media campaigns to push for acid sale regulations because they believe unrestricted access to acid fuels acid violence incidents. The media creates public backing for legislative changes through its dual mission of exposing legal deficiencies and presenting organizations that fight against acid violence Brady, 2013.

Portable digital platforms function as premier tools at present for both social justice awareness elevation and justice advocacy. People on Twitter and Instagram platform use #StopAcidAttacks to spread awareness of acid violence through storytelling and activist work along with public mobilization initiatives. The online campaigns spread awareness about acid violence to worldwide audiences who might not otherwise notice these incidents (Sarker et al., 2023). Real-time interaction between NGOs and survivors of acid violence as well as supporters becomes possible through digital platforms that form communities for acid violence activism.

### **6.2 A Collaborative Approach to Prevention**

A comprehensive strategy must be developed to stop acid attacks through awareness initiatives for the public and societal outreach efforts and ethical media reporting tactics. ASF along with other NGOs plays a crucial role in educating the public about acid violence impacts and gender equality by running educational initiatives and advocacy programs and survivor support services. Society's attitudes began changing after public outreach initiatives reached schools and colleges while humanizing media reports about acid violence which led to increased support for prevention strategies.

Every aspect of this issue heavily relies on media involvement. Reporting that is handled with sensitivity influences public perception and boosts awareness levels thus creating stronger pressure for authorities to reform the laws. Active community participation requires all members including youth members to work with families and local leaders to prevent potential perpetrators.

Acid violence victims will find protection within the space that develops through NGO-media-community partnerships as society works to eliminate this brutal practice.

## **7. Legal Frameworks, Regulation of Acid Sales, Law Enforcement, and Medical Support: A Comprehensive Approach to Acid Attack Prevention**

The solution to acid attacks as gender-based violence requires multiple strategies that include strong legal structures combined with acid sale regulations and enhanced law enforcement together with complete survivor support. The governments of Bangladesh and India and Pakistan have advanced their legal systems to fight acid violence although both governmental bodies and NGOs actively pursue better law enforcement outcomes. The medical and psychological needs of survivors need immediate attention because it helps survivors transition back into society and establish a new life. The following section examines legal frameworks alongside acid sale regulations together with enforcement measures and medical and psychological support systems that work to prevent acid violence.



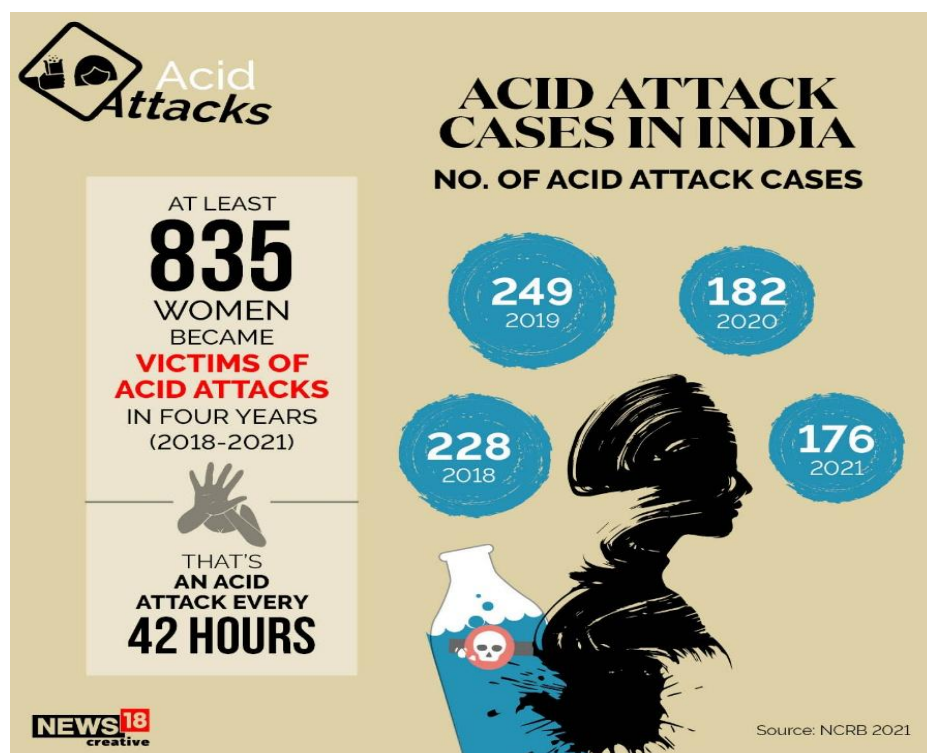


Figure 3: Frequency of Acid attacks and legal cases (News 18)

### 7.1 Legal Frameworks and Policy Interventions: Deterring Acid Attacks

A comprehensive legal system functions as the key factor to prevent acid attacks and ensure justice for criminals. The reduction of acid violence incidents in Bangladesh and India and Pakistan became possible through the creation of laws that control acid distribution and punish acid violence perpetrators.

The Acid Crime Control Act (2002) represents a major legislative achievement in Bangladesh because it establishes laws against acid attacks and acid distribution regulations and provides survivor protection and rehabilitation services. The law emerged as a deliberate solution to growing acid attack incidents that targeted women specifically while establishing itself as one of the earliest complete legal systems for acid violence control. The Acid Crime Control Act allows courts to impose life imprisonment or death penalty on acid attack perpetrators based on the severity of their crimes Barchielli et al., 2023.

Under the Acid Control Act (2002) authorities regulate acid sales through requirements that limit unregistered distribution of corrosive substances. Acid sellers must register their business with the government and obtain licenses to operate under the Act which limits availability of corrosives to potential attackers. As crucial as these laws are there exist inconsistent enforcement of such regulations. Acid remains available without restrictions in numerous regions while criminals manage to avoid prosecution because of legal system shortcomings Brady, 2013.

The Indian government established the Acid Attack (Prevention) and Rehabilitation Bill (2013) as their legal response to acid violence. The Acid Attack (Prevention) and Rehabilitation Bill (2013) controls acid sales while requiring financial support for survivors and stipulates harsh penalties for criminals. The problem arises from the need to enforce laws quickly during emergencies while delivering sufficient survivor assistance. Research by Khan et al. (2018) indicated that acid violence persists as a commonplace crime because both law enforcement agencies and victims lack proper understanding of legal assistance options.

The Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Act (2010) of Pakistan makes acid sales without permits illegal while establishing severe punishments for acid attack participants. The purpose of this law is to limit acid availability while strengthening punishments for acid attack offenders. The legal advancements in acid attack prevention face implementation challenges because regulatory enforcement is weak and acid attack perpetrators often avoid accountability (Shamsher & Ahmad, 2019).

### 7.2 Regulation of Acid Sales: A Critical Preventive Measure

The control of acid sales represents an essential strategy to prevent acid violence incidents. Acid accessibility throughout many nations remains the primary reason behind the elevated number of acid attack occurrences. Local markets allow easy access to acid because they do not enforce proper regulations on its sale. Unrestricted access to acid allows potential attackers to easily obtain it which they can use as a weapon for violence. Acid attacks can be prevented through strict regulations which control the distribution and sale of acid products.

The regulation of acid sales requires three essential measures which include obtaining licenses for acid traders and monitoring acid quantity sales along with requiring proof of valid identification and purpose from potential buyers. The Acid Control Act (2002) of Bangladesh demands that acid vendors must both register with the government and acquire a selling license for acid products. The government has implemented this regulation to stop acid sales to unapproved persons while creating barriers to attacker access Barchielli et al., 2023.

The execution of these regulations has not achieved complete success. Acid sellers persist in operating without proper documentation and break existing laws while conducting their business. According to a 2019 Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) report acid remains readily available across numerous regions of the country despite government intervention. The Acid Control Act requires stronger implementation through enhanced acid sale monitoring and stricter penalties for non-compliant sellers.

### **7.3 Law Enforcement and Judicial Response: Ensuring Accountability**

Law enforcement practices determine the effectiveness of acid violence prevention measures. Law enforcement agencies serve as essential components for acid attack investigations which leads to justice for perpetrators and appropriate support for victims. Many nations demonstrate inconsistent approaches when their law enforcement agencies handle acid violence cases. Some areas experience insufficient trained personnel who can investigate acid attacks because corruption and social biases affect case management in other regions.

The effective management of acid attack cases requires proper training for law enforcement agencies. Police officers need thorough education on acid violence characteristics together with proper legal investigation methods and survivor support during legal proceedings. The response to acid violence crimes improves when law enforcement receives specialized training for handling sensitive cases and when officers understand the effects acid violence has on victims (Haque & Ahsan, 2014)0.

Acid violence cases need quick and fair judicial handling. Insufficient investigations coupled with drawn-out trials and weak evidence evidence results in failures of proper law enforcement accountability against perpetrators. The perpetrators succeed at evading criminal charges by exploiting insufficient judicial funding and prolonged legal procedures. The achievement of justice through deterrence requires courts to speed up trials while providing survivors with legal aid and handing out harsh punishments to acid violence perpetrators Brady, 2013.

### **7.4 Medical and Psychological Support for Survivors**

Acid attack survivors need extended medical care combined with psychological assistance because the injuries affect them physically and emotionally. Acid attacks inflict extreme physical damage which results in burns together with scarring and permanent disabilities. Survivors need immediate medical assistance to stop infections from developing while also reducing the permanent harm that acid injuries create. Survivors need medical attention together with psychological help to manage emotional trauma resulting from the attack along with physical appearance changes and social discrimination that follows.

The Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) in Bangladesh operates as an NGO that delivers complete survivor care through medical services and surgical procedures and psychological counseling. These rehabilitation plans work toward both physical rehabilitation and emotional recovery of survivors so they can rehabilitate into their community. ASF provides free medical care including reconstructive surgery that enables survivors to restore lost functions and obtain better appearance outcomes. The survivors receive psychosocial support that combines therapy and counseling to help them manage their attack trauma while reconstructing their lives Goswami et al., 2025.



(IMAGE SOURCE: News 10)

The psychological care needs special attention because survivors typically develop anxiety alongside depression and PTSD because of the traumatic attack and subsequent social stigma. Through counseling services survivors can learn emotional control but also they develop resilience to rebuild confidence in their present and future selves. Survivors find support through groups that let them bond with people who share their traumatic experiences thus creating a strong sense of unity.

Survivors need rehabilitation programs which focus on social reintegration because these programs help them break through the barriers that stand in their way of life reconstruction. Survivors encounter multiple challenges in finding work because they face discrimination and their communities shun them. The rehabilitation process needs to offer vocational training education along with stigma reduction programs to create an accepting environment for survivors.

### **7.5 A Holistic Approach to Preventing Acid Violence**

A complete solution to prevent acid attacks requires strong legal systems together with acid sale restrictions and effective police work and complete survivor support services. Some nations have advanced their efforts but multiple obstacles persist in maintaining uniform law enforcement and controlling acid sales together with delivering proper support for survivors. We can decrease acid violence alongside establishing a fair society by improving current law enforcement training and by providing comprehensive support systems for survivors and through proper law implementation.

## **8. International Collaboration, Case Studies, and Future Strategies in the Prevention of Acid Attacks**

The occurrence of acid attacks continues to be a major problem across different world regions especially in South Asian nations together with select African countries. The elimination of acid violence requires both international partnerships and local initiatives to stop its origins and protect victims while securing their justice. ASTI operates internationally to collaborate with local organizations which enables them to provide resources and support advocacy work while advancing global policy changes. This part will analyze global partnerships while reviewing positive intervention examples and obstacles together with suggested strategies for combating acid attacks.

### **8.1 International Collaboration and Support**

International cooperation enables both preventive measures to become more effective while providing better support to acid attack survivors. ASTI functions as the primary global organization that promotes awareness through technical support while working to achieve national and international policy changes that will stop acid violence.

ASTI works closely with both local organizations and government entities which focus on acid attack prevention throughout South Asian nations. The organization supports local NGOs including the Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) in Bangladesh to offer medical treatment to survivors and provide psychological counseling while fighting for policy changes at the national and international levels. The partnerships between countries enable them to acquire each other's acid violence expertise thus benefiting from their strengths and weaknesses in acid violence prevention.

ASTI leads the advocacy efforts to establish international laws that combat acid violence. ASTI collaborates with the United Nations and other international organizations to establish a platform that raises acid violence awareness while pushing for enhanced acid sale regulations. The collaborative effort led to the development of guidelines which protect survivors of acid violence and these guidelines are currently being adopted across different nations.

ASTI together with other organizations uses international collaboration to unite their resources for sharing best practices while lobbying for worldwide policy adjustments. Local organizations working with international partners demonstrate superior capabilities to engage communities while raising public awareness and motivating governments to focus on acid violence within their human rights agendas (Hossain, 2019).

### **8.2 Case Studies: Successes and Challenges**

Research on acid violence cases across nations reveals pertinent information about successful and problematic aspects in the battle against acid attacks. Three countries including Bangladesh, India and Cambodia have demonstrated significant progress yet their experiences reveal the barriers toward complete resolution of this problem especially regarding law enforcement and cultural acceptance and victim aid.

### **8.3 Bangladesh: Successes in Legal Frameworks and Survivor Support**

The Acid Crime Control Act (2002) makes Bangladesh a worldwide leader in acid violence response. Acid attacks are criminalized under this legal framework and it includes rules for acid sales regulation. The legislation enables the creation of survivor rehabilitation services which provide free medical attention and psychological counseling. The Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) supports survivors while leading the efforts to obtain these new laws.

The law demonstrates its success through its ability to decrease acid attack incidents during the past years. The acid sale regulations face inconsistent application and the judicial system operates at a slow pace despite making progress. The regulation of acid sales remains in place yet the availability of corrosive substances in certain areas works against these regulatory measures. Survivors of acid attacks continue to encounter problems when seeking justice because legal proceedings drag on too long and faced absence of systemic support Brady, 2013.

#### **8.4 Cambodia: Addressing Social Norms and Public Awareness**

Acid violence affects Cambodia to a lesser extent than Bangladesh but the country continues to encounter major difficulties due to acid attacks. Acid violence in Cambodia mainly emerges from individual conflicts and the unequal status of women in society. The Cambodian Acid Survivors Charity (CASC) operates as an NGO to provide medical care and rehabilitation services to survivors of acid attacks.

The Cambodian Acid Survivors Charity (CASC) has achieved a major success through its wide-reaching public awareness initiatives. The awareness campaigns have successfully fought against social beliefs that allow violence against women to continue. The progress in raising awareness about acid attacks has not eliminated the ongoing cultural obstacles that impede progress. Society views acid attacks as means to seek revenge or uphold family reputation thus creating challenges for ending the pattern of violence. Acid violence in Cambodia lacks sufficient legal protection because the country has no specific law that criminalizes acid attacks. The absence of specific legislation regarding acid violence creates obstacles for both prosecuting criminals and regulating acid distribution (CASC, 2020).

#### **8.5 Challenges in Other Regions**

The practice of acid attacks as gender-based violence has become more prevalent throughout African and Middle Eastern territories. Uganda together with Nigeria has experienced an increase in acid attack incidents which stem from jealousy and domestic conflicts and societal dishonor. These regions maintain difficulties regarding acid violence both in their legal systems and in how society views this form of violence despite receiving international backing and increased awareness.

Acid attacks in these countries receive individual treatment instead of recognition as a widespread violent pattern that impacts numerous women. The judicial systems along with legal institutions lack appropriate capabilities to manage acid attack cases which becomes worse because survivors receive insufficient specialized support. Acid violence prevention remains difficult to break because these areas lack both strong legal regulations and support systems for survivors (Begum, 2004).

#### **8.6 Recommendations for Future Strategies**

Several future strategies need implementation to enhance the worldwide response against acid violence. The framework should improve legislation and increase community awareness then add acid sale regulations with comprehensive aid programs for victims.

#### **8.7 Strengthening Legal Frameworks**

The primary requirement to prevent acid violence involves strengthening existing laws and enforcement mechanisms. States have adopted legislation concerning acid violence although they struggle to execute these laws effectively. The government must guarantee both the existence of necessary laws and the execution of these laws by authorities. The achievement of these goals requires better training for police officers and faster and impartial court proceedings alongside complete victim protection during legal procedures. Governments must establish measures that enforce acid sale regulations by implementing penalties for non-compliant businesses.

#### **8.8 Enhancing Public Awareness Campaigns**

The prevention of acid violence depends on raising public understanding about the issue. International organizations together with governments and NGOs must work to enhance public awareness about acid violence through educational programs and media campaigns and public events. The public needs to learn about the serious consequences of acid violence so they can both change social opinions and report acid violence occurrences. The target audience for public awareness initiatives should include communities along with schools and youth populations because these groups determine how society behaves and what attitudes prevail. These campaigns must include both men and boys because patriarchal attitudes which drive acid violence need to be challenged Barchielli et al., 2023.

#### **8.9 Regulating Acid Sales More Effectively**

Acid sales regulation stands as the most powerful strategy to stop acid attacks from occurring. Governments need to establish stronger acid regulations by requiring acid traders to get licenses and maintain proper records while implementing regular acid sale monitoring systems. The implementation of such regulations will decrease the accessibility of acid to those who could carry out such attacks. The development of worldwide acid regulation standards requires international cooperation since acid attacks often include the international movement of corrosive substances (ASTI, 2020).

#### **8.10 Holistic Support for Survivors**

Acid attack survivors need a complete range of services that include swift medical care and extended treatment along with psychological support and social reintegration programs. The provision of medical care together with reconstructive surgery and psychological counseling must be accessible through joint efforts between governments and NGOs to support

survivors' recovery. Survivors gain economic independence through vocational training opportunities that also lead to job placement assistance to enable their social reintegration into society.

### 8.11 Engaging Men and Boys in Prevention Campaigns

The prevention of acid violence demands direct participation by both men and boys. The leaders of societal structures across various cultures should actively join non-violence and gender equality campaigns to transform social norms that enable acid violence. Educational programs that teach young men about healthy relationships and woman respect and show them the destructive nature of violence are essential for long-term cultural norm transformation.

The elimination of acid violence requires various interventions which combine new laws with acid regulation and enhanced law enforcement efforts and educational programs and holistic survivor support systems. International organizations collaborating with local groups succeed in implementing public awareness campaigns along with legislative changes as they provide services to victims. The elimination of acid violence requires further development of current eradication strategies because major barriers persist in stopping acid attacks globally.

## CONCLUSION

Successful implementation of preventive measures against acid attacks requires joint efforts between community awareness initiatives and government policies supported by local community participation. The fight against acid violence needs governments to collaborate with non-governmental organizations and society as a unified force because cultural and social factors together with legal elements drive acid violence. Prevention strategies require the widespread understanding of the problem by society. The public requires educational initiatives in educational institutions and social spaces to transform societal beliefs that accept violence against women. Acid violence preventative initiatives will teach society about harmful acid violence outcomes while simultaneously fighting sexism and building gender equality. Traditional and digital media should employ their media power to reinforce these social messages that convert acid violence into a problem that needs community-wide responses. Policy interventions function as essential components to stop acid violence from taking place. Acid attack reduction depends mostly on legal systems which enforce penalties against such crimes while regulating acid distribution and providing support services to survivors. These laws by themselves do not lead to sufficient results. A combination of strong enforcement and proper implementation strategies decides the effectiveness of these laws. Law enforcement agencies must undergo specialized training about handling acid violence cases while survivors need immediate access to legal assistance. The development of supportive environments for survivors depends on strong community engagement because this approach also works to discourage the actions of potential perpetrators. Local leaders and families together with youth need to participate in discussions about acid violence harm to build communities that respect non-violence. Men and boys need to participate in these discussions to help identify acid violence origins while fighting against traditional gender beliefs. Acid violence prevention will succeed through sustained partnership between every segment of society. The creation of a safer world for women and girls requires a unified effort between governments and NGOs and media organizations and local communities to eliminate acid violence.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I want to show deep appreciation to all organizations together with researchers and survivors who provided their work and experiences for this review article. I extend my appreciation to Acid Survivors Foundation, Acid Survivors Trust International and every individual who works to prevent acid violence.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author maintains a neutral stance regarding any potential conflicts during the preparation of this review article. The research findings originate from publicly accessible studies without any financial or personal influence affecting the study content or its conclusions.

## REFERENCES

1. *Acid Survivors Trust*. (n.d.). Retrieved March 6, 2025, from <https://asti.org.uk/>
2. Barchielli, B., Lausi, G., Pizzo, A., Messineo, M., Del Casale, A., Giannini, A. M., & Ferracuti, S. (2023). A Medical-Legal and Psychological Systematic Review on Vitriolage Related to Gender-Based Violence. *Trauma, Violence & Abuse*, 24(5), 2953–2965. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15248380221121288>
3. Begum, A. A. (2004). Acid violence: A burning issue of Bangladesh--its medicolegal aspects. *The American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology*, 25(4), 321–323. <https://doi.org/10.1097/01.paf.0000127389.00255.cc>
4. Brady, B. (2013). Rare recovery for acid attack victim in Cambodia. *CMAJ : Canadian Medical Association Journal*, 185(15), E714. <https://doi.org/10.1503/cmaj.109-4553>
5. Chatterjee, P. (2011). Campaigns against acid violence spur change. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*, 89(1), 6–7. <https://doi.org/10.2471/BLT.11.020111>

6. Goswami, M. (n.d.). *A REVIEW OF LITERATURES ON ACID ATTACKS IN. 1.*
7. Hakim, M. A., & Kamruzzaman, M. (n.d.). *Prevalence of Acid Crime Victimization in South Asia: A Review.* Retrieved March 6, 2025, from [https://www.academia.edu/30654354/Prevalence\\_of\\_Acid\\_Crime\\_Victimization\\_in\\_South\\_Asia\\_A\\_Review](https://www.academia.edu/30654354/Prevalence_of_Acid_Crime_Victimization_in_South_Asia_A_Review)
8. Haque, S. E., & Ahsan, H. (2014). Human rights violations against women: Acid violence in Bangladesh. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 46(2), 216–217. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.amepre.2013.10.013>
9. Huesmann, L. R. (2007). The Impact of Electronic Media Violence: Scientific Theory and Research. *The Journal of Adolescent Health: Official Publication of the Society for Adolescent Medicine*, 41(6 Suppl 1), S6-13. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2007.09.005>
10. Kanchan, T., Ram, P., Tandon, A., & Krishan, K. (2015). Acid violence in India—A modern day somber reality? *Burns: Journal of the International Society for Burn Injuries*, 41(6), 1372–1373. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.burns.2015.06.014>
11. Koul, R., Gowda, M. E., Legha, V. S., & Verma, K. (2023). Maxillofacial rehabilitation of an acid attack survivor—The journey from scar to smile. *Journal of Indian Prosthodontic Society*, 23(4), 401–404. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jips.jips\\_345\\_23](https://doi.org/10.4103/jips.jips_345_23)
12. *Monitoring Poverty as if Gender Mattered: A Methodology for Rural Bangladesh.* (n.d.). Institute of Development Studies. Retrieved March 6, 2025, from <https://www.ids.ac.uk/publications/monitoring-poverty-as-if-gender-mattered-a-methodology-for-rural-bangladesh/>
13. (PDF) Acid Violence in South Asia: A Structural Analysis toward Transformative Justice. (2025). *ResearchGate*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2455632717708717>
14. (PDF) Community-Based Rehabilitation Program for Acid Assault Victims of Bangladesh. (2024). In *ResearchGate*. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/330065594\\_Community-Based\\_Rehabilitation\\_Program\\_for\\_Acid\\_Assault\\_Victims\\_of\\_Bangladesh](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/330065594_Community-Based_Rehabilitation_Program_for_Acid_Assault_Victims_of_Bangladesh)
15. (PDF) *Preventive Detention and Section 54 of the Code of Criminal Procedure: The Violation of Human Rights in Bangladesh.* (n.d.). *ResearchGate*. Retrieved March 6, 2025, from [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/318848696\\_Preventive\\_Detention\\_and\\_Section\\_54\\_of\\_the\\_Code\\_of\\_Criminal\\_Procedure\\_The\\_Violation\\_of\\_Human\\_Rights\\_in\\_Bangladesh](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/318848696_Preventive_Detention_and_Section_54_of_the_Code_of_Criminal_Procedure_The_Violation_of_Human_Rights_in_Bangladesh)
16. Rasouli, H. R., Ebrahimi, A., & Motamedi, M. H. K. (2015). Raising awareness against acid attacks. *Lancet (London, England)*, 385(9970), 772–773. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(15\)60435-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)60435-4)
17. Sarker, M. R., Rouf Sarkar, M. A., Alam, M. J., Begum, I. A., & Bhandari, H. (2023). Systems thinking on the gendered impacts of COVID-19 in Bangladesh: A systematic review. *Heliyon*, 9(2), e13773. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2023.e13773>
18. Stroope, S., Kroeger, R. A., & Fan, J. (2021). Gender contexts, dowry and women's health in India: A national multilevel longitudinal analysis. *Journal of Biosocial Science*, 53(4), 508–521. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0021932020000334>
19. Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca, Italy, & Calcini, G. (2022). Acid Attacks: An Overview of Legal Measures and Motivation Trends in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Colombia, and Cambodia. *Dignity: A Journal of Analysis of Exploitation and Violence*, 7(4). <https://doi.org/10.23860/dignity.2022.07.04.03>
20. Wiegand, C. (2012, April 30). Violence against women in Bangladesh. *E-International Relations*. <https://www.e-ir.info/2012/04/30/violence-against-women-in-bangladesh/>
21. Zafreen, F., Wahab, M. A., Islam, M. N., & Rahman, M. A. (2010). Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Acid Victims in Bangladesh. *Journal of Armed Forces Medical College, Bangladesh*, 6(1), Article 1. <https://doi.org/10.3329/jafmc.v6i1.5985>