

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY AND LEGAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN JUVENILE DRIVING CASES: A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE PUNE PORSCHE ACCIDENT

Tushar Sharma *

ABSTRACT

This study tried to find out different aspects of the Juvenile Justice System in India and the responsibility that will be there if their children who are minors commit an offense such as offense of underage driving it also tries to trace the historical and constitutional aspects, it also tries to shed some light on the evolution of Juvenile Justice laws and what are the challenges that are being faced to implement those new provisions. Furthermore, it finds the major role played by media in shaping public opinion and influencing the legal outcome of the case. It also tries to figure what could be possible ways by which we can create an equal and just society for all where the rights of each person are being respected as well as protected by the government and even by citizens of the country this is because they can understand the life and law principles in a much better state and will be well aware of the fact what could be the outcome of their own action which could also affect their parents life along with their self career destruction.

1. INTRODUCTION

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1.1 Background and Context

An essential part of the legal framework in India created to cater to the particular requirements and situations of children who are in legal trouble is the Juvenile Justice System (JJS). The system, which is based on the concepts of reform, rehabilitation, and care, attempts to safeguard juvenile rights while assisting their reintegration into society as contributing members of society. The Indian juvenile justice system, which is mostly governed by the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, of 2015, complies with both international treaties on child rights and constitutional duties.

1.2 Research Objectives

- Figuring out laws on Juvenile Justice System

*BA LLB, SECOND YEAR, LOVELY PROFESSIONAL UNIVERSITY, JALANDHAR.

- Understanding the Role of Media and Newspaper
- Analysis of some car crash cases from the justice point of view
- Finding out various ways to spread awareness and education on the topic of the Juvenile Justice System
- Analyze foreign car crash cases for a better understanding

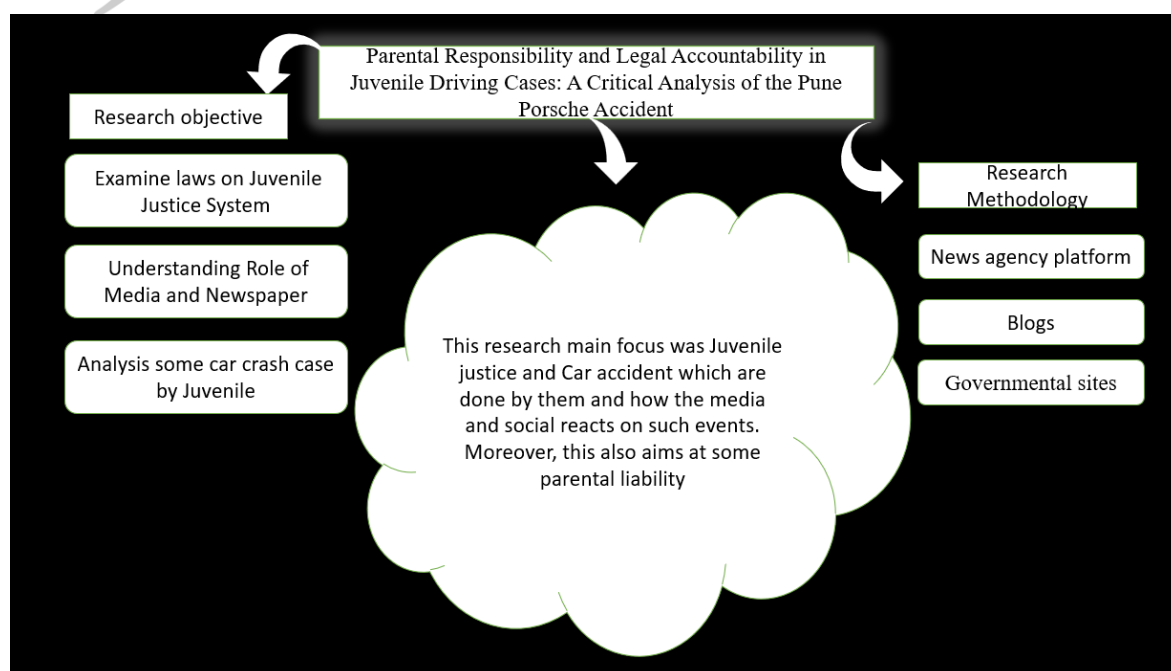
1.3 Research Methodology

This research tries to examine the topic “Parental Responsibility and Legal Accountability in Juvenile Driving Cases: A Critical Analysis of the Pune Porsche Accident” and examine electoral politics in which the main focus was Juvenile justice and Car accident which are done by them. Moreover, this also aims at parental liability for all this research I have visited through various news agency platforms, books found in the library of public domain, blogs published on well-reputed sources, Governmental sites, deep analysis of YouTube analysis, and various other valued sources.

1.4 a) Research Question

- Are our Laws properly made as in the 21st Era?
- Are we heading in the right direction to control road accidents?
- Should parents be held liable if their minor commits an accident?
- Should we need to change our awareness and Education methods?

1.4 b) Graphical Abstract



2. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

2.1 Treatment of Juveniles during Colonial Era

The colonial era, when minors were treated the same as adult offenders, is where the historical background of the juvenile justice system in India can be found. The British government frequently imposed severe penalties on small offenders. Minors used to face harsh punishments, such as being banished from their colonies or, in certain situations, hanging. Reformatory measures were established in the early 20th century as a result of the recognition of the need for a separate system for juveniles.¹

2.2 Recognition of the Need for a Separate Juvenile System

The establishment of a separate Juvenile Justice System (JJS) in India is a strong signal that the unique needs and circumstances of children in conflict with the law are worthy of special recognition. In the past, particularly during colonial times, juveniles found themselves facing similar punitive measures irrespective of their age or cognitive development as adult criminals.² Yet as shifts occurred in societal attitudes it dawned that actions geared towards reform were imperative — as adults, we were responsible for fostering their rehabilitation and integration back into society

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2.3 Establishment of Reformatory Measures

During the period of the colonial era, In India Juveniles used to get the same punishment as adult offenders used to get. However, with time societal understanding began which resulted in events that led to demand for developmental needs and requirements for a separate justice system for Juvenile offenders. Over time attitude towards Juvenile justice shifted more to emphasize reformatory approaches with the aim was rehabilitation.

The Constitutional Provisions of India protect, support, and safeguard the rights of children. These acted as a principle that further laid into foundation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and

¹ Divyansh Jasoria, 'Juvenile Justice System in India' (Legal Service India, 2021) <https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-6794-juvenile-justice-system-in-india.html> accessed 11 June 2024.

² Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015' (Wikipedia, 23 May 2024) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juvenile_Justice_\(Care_and_Protection_of_Children\)_Act,_2015](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juvenile_Justice_(Care_and_Protection_of_Children)_Act,_2015) accessed 11 June 2024

Protection of Children) Act, of 2015.³ It was based on a model that can be termed as 2RC as it works more on Rehabilitation, Reform, and Care for Juvenile offenders also it reflects a major effort to prioritize the holistic development of minors.

The Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 aligns with the constitutional mandates of India which emphasize the best interests of the minors and promote their overall well-being by using the 2RC model. This model underscores the nation's commitment to nurturing the potential that is present in youth and in addition to this will also provide them with needed support and guidance for making their future better.

3. CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

3.1 Relevant Articles in the Indian Constitution

As Constitution of India emphasizes the protection and welfare of minors and laid foundation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, of 2015. Relevant articles are found in the constitution of India and those articles also reinforce this commitment. Article 15(13) empowers the state body to make special provisions that will deal with minors and acknowledge their unique needs, Article 21A empowers the minors by giving them the right to free education for their future growth and development, Article 24 empowers minors by prohibiting their employment in a hazardous environment to ensure they get proper well being and safety, Article 39(E) and (F) also empowers minor by directing the state to ensure that there is no abuse against a minor and to protect them from any kind of exploitation. Additionally, Article 45 mandates early childhood care of minors and proper education for all children until they attain a specific age.⁴ Together these provisions given under the Constitution of India create a robust framework that supports the Juvenile Justice Act.

3.2 Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015

Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 was enacted to address the growing concerns regarding Juvenile delinquency and to provide a structured framework and

³ Arpita Khare, 'The Law Related to Juvenile Justice System in India: A Critical Analysis' (Legal Service India, 1 January 2022) <https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-9482-the-law-related-to-juvenile-justice-system-in-india-a-critical-analysis.html> accessed 11 June 2024.

⁴ Arpita Khare, 'The Law Related to Juvenile Justice System in India: A Critical Analysis' (Legal Service India, 1 January 2022) <https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-9482-the-law-related-to-juvenile-justice-system-in-india-a-critical-analysis.html> accessed 11 June 2024.

protection for children in India⁵. This Act replaced the Juvenile Justice Act, 2002 which brought various significant changes to how juveniles were treated one of the major changes introduced by the 2015 Act was the provision which allows children aged 16 to 18 years to be tried as adults in the case of heinous crime. This was a response to outrage shown by the public on serious crimes done by minors and also aimed to balance child protection with societal safety concerns. Additionally, the Act sought to simplify and make the adoption process more transparent improving older laws such as the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act of 1956 and the Guardians and Wards Act of 1890. This was aimed at ensuring that children who need family could get a good family efficiently and legally way.

The Act mandates the establishment of child welfare committees (CWSs) in every single district so that we can address the needs of children who need welfare and protection. These committees are responsible for ensuring the rehabilitation and welfare of such children. Similarly, this Act also highlights a need for a board that handles cases where Juveniles conflict with the law and lead to the formation of Juveniles. These boards are tasked with adjudicating cases and ensuring that Juvenile offenders receive appropriate rehabilitation and counseling. The Act was implemented nationwide in January 2016, however, the implementation of the Act faced significant challenges one major challenge was the lack of adequate infrastructure and resources due to which many states struggled to set up and maintain the necessary institutions such as CWC and JJB due to financial and logistical constraints.⁶ Another challenge was the need for extensive training and sensitization programs for law enforcement officers, judicial officers, and social workers. The effective implementation of the Act depended heavily on these stakeholders.

Furthermore, the provision allowed Juveniles aged 16 – 18 years to be tried as adults faced considerable resistance from child rights activists and some of the lawmakers. Critics argued that this could lead to harsher punishments that do not consider the potential rehabilitation hold in itself and bring out some reform in Juveniles. Effective implementations also required robust coordination among different agencies which was lacking in some agencies which led to delays and inefficiencies.

⁵ The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015, <https://www.indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/2148/1/a2016-2.pdf> accessed 11 June 2024.

⁶ Divyansh Jasoria, 'Juvenile Justice System in India' (Legal Service India, 2021) <https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-6794-juvenile-justice-system-in-india.html> accessed 11 June 2024.

4. CASE STUDIES

4.1 Pune Road Accident

Pune road accident during the night of 18 May 2024. Two friends, one a 24-year-old man named Aneesh and a 24-year-old woman named Ashwini, went outside in Pune to chill and relax with their friends.⁷ Both of them were born in the state of Madhya Pradesh, and the city was Jabalpur, although both of them used to work together in an IT-based company based in Pune. They went to a club named Ballr.

On that same dark night, Vedant and his 12 friends gathered in a pub named Cosie. The time was 10:40 PM; this was the time when Vedant and his friends entered this pub and spent approximately 1.5 hours there, during which they spent a lot of money, and their bill reached 48,000. The CCTV recording of their presence at the pub is publicly available, where we can notice that Vedant was sitting with his friends and drinking.⁸

The first violation starts here, which is the drinking age, which is above 18 years, but he was much younger than the legal age. Around midnight, the pub named Cosie stopped serving; therefore, as a reflex action, these people left this pub. A few kilometers away, there is another club, Marriott Suites, named Blak. If we see the distance gap between the IT workers and Vedant and his friend, it could still be mapped as 3 KM away. After a few hours, nearly about 2 AM, Vedant and his two friends left that club also named Blak. They were drunk. Before we highlight future events, until now, there are two problems: firstly, Vedant was a minor, so how did they get access to intoxicants like alcohol, and by what way did both the clubs, Cosie and Blak, serve alcohol to minors, which is not allowed as per Indian laws.

Now, let's come back to the incident where, in drunken conditions, they sat in Vedant's electric Porsche Taycan, a car priced between Rs. 1.92 Crore and going up to Rs. 2.46 Crore in the area of Pune. His driver was also present in that Porsche Taycan car, and on the other side, approximately 3 KM away, Aneesh and Ashwini were also ready to leave for their respective homes on their motorcycle. Their motorcycle took a U-turn on a road named Kalyani Nagar

⁷ Simran Kaur, 'Pune Teen's Deadly Porsche Crash: Father and Pub Face Legal Action' (Y20 India, 20 May 2024) <https://y20india.in/pune-teens-deadly-porsche-crash-father-and-pub-face-legal-action/> accessed 12 June 2024.

⁸ Hindustan Times, 'Pune Porsche accident: CCTV footage shows teen driver in bar; Congress reacts' (Hindustan Times, 11 June 2024) <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/pune-porsche-crash-cctv-footage-shows-17-year-old-accused-in-pub-congress-reacts-101716269149648.html> accessed 12 June 2024.

Airport Road, and on this road only, Vedant's Porsche Taycan was running at the speed of 160 kmph or even some sources claim that the speed was more than 200 kmph.⁹ This road where this Porsche was being dragged at such high speed cannot be permissible as the road was not that broad. It was a normal road that was not too wide, and here is the third violation: overspeeding, which amounts to another lapse. Driving dangerously and additionally, there was one more lapse, using a vehicle without registration. As all these circumstances clearly show, there are high chances of a harsh accident, and that happened with a collision the airbags of that car opened, and due to this banging noise, a crowd emerged, and after a heated talk, people handed Vedant over to the police as per the need for justice. Vedant was taken to Yerwada police station. Vedant was from a rich family, and his father was a builder. There are allegations that from the luxury cars group, one person came out from a Mercedes and delivered pizza cartons.¹⁰

At 8:26 AM on 19 May 2024, an FIR was launched against the minor at this police station, which was based on a complaint from Akib Mulla, a friend of Aneesh and Ashwini. This FIR was filed under section 304A and not 304. The difference needs to be understood that Section 304 A of IPC is death by negligence, which means due to your fault, someone loses their life, and you can be punished by a maximum of 2 years of jail. Secondly, section 304 of IPC deals with Culpable Homicide not amounting to murder, which means when you are well aware of the fact that if you do this activity, someone could lose their life, but there was no intention to kill any specific person, so it is different from murder. Punishment under section 304 of IPC can be ten years in jail. For reference, if we see, if you are harshly driving or you are drunk but still driving, then in these cases, the driver is well aware that if he or she does this, it might affect them and others also as it can lead to an accident.

According to data, drunk driving caused 3268 accidents in the year 2022, and data from 2021 published by the National Crime Records Bureau, shows that 55.9 percent of fatalities in road accidents – amounting to 87,050 deaths – were attributed to overspeeding.¹¹ This backed the

⁹ NDTV, '17-Year-Old Crashes Speeding Porsche Into Bike In Pune, 2 Killed: Cops' (NDTV, 11 June 2024) <https://www.ndtv.com/pune-news/17-year-old-crashes-speeding-porsche-into-bike-in-pune-2-killed-cops-5697027> accessed 12 June 2024.

¹⁰ Shivangi Saxena, 'Porsche, pizza, police, politics: The midnight deaths of two techies in Pune' (Newslaundry, 23 May 2024) <https://www.newslaundry.com/2024/05/23/porsche-pizza-police-politics-the-midnight-deaths-of-two-techie-in-pune> accessed 12 June 2024.

¹¹ Shocking Stat: Over 80% of Delhi Respondents Confess to Drunk Driving in Survey" (Year), The Times of India, <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/auto/news/shocking-stat-over-80-of-delhi-respondents-confess-to-drunk-driving-in-survey/articleshow/107824068.cms> (last accessed June 12, 2024).

upper statement, and as addressed earlier, the permanent registration had been pending since March as the owner did not pay the fees of 1758.¹² This car was a gift for Vedant, which was told by his grandfather. One more important factor here was the blood test, which is usually taken to know whether the person was drunk or not during the time of the accident. The first personal appearance test was conducted 8 hours later after the accident, which turned out to be negative, and the other test was a blood test. Here, one more lapse to be true is when it came out that the blood sample of that minor was thrown in the dustbin, and the blood sample was replaced with a blood sample which was tested as the blood his mother gave.¹³ Due to this, we can see that a great lapse is there, which amounts to tampering with evidence. As a result, 2 doctors were arrested. The amount which was given to these doctors was supposed to be around 3 lakh rupees. Additionally, the mother of the minor requested the driver to take the blame for the crash, and even the grandfather of the minor threatened the driver to take the blame on himself, but the presence of an eyewitness was too much so that no tampering was possible.¹⁴

The shocking part came when the Juvenile Justice Court granted bail within 15 hours to that minor on several conditions that he had to study all the rules and regulations prepare a presentation and write a 300-word essay on the topic of the effect of road accidents and their solution. This decision cannot be backed because it is not justified to write a 300-word essay or study rules and regulations as a punishment for an offense where two innocent people lost their lives. After a lot of media pressure and social pressure, this case was moved into session court seeking an order to treat that minor as an adult and wanted to modify section 304A to section 304. The session court insisted on approaching the juvenile justice board.¹⁵ By looking at the seriousness of the crime, authorities booked some more people, such as the manager, who were somewhat involved in this dark Porsche crash accident, and even the father of the minor was charged with section 75, which means willful neglect of a child or exposing a child to mental or physical illness, and section 77, which means supplying a child with intoxicant

¹² "Pune Porsche Crash: Porsche Registration Stalled Since March Over Non-Payment of Rs 1,758 Fee" (Year), NDTV, <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/pune-porsche-crash-porsche-accident-porsche-registration-stalled-since-march-over-non-payment-of-rs-1-758-fee-5718515> (last accessed June 12, 2024).

¹³ "Pune Porsche Car Accident Case: Police Arrest Accused Juvenile's Mother" (Year), The Economic Times, <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/pune-porsche-car-accident-case-police-arrest-accused-juveniles-mother/articleshow/110608806.cms?from=mdr> (last accessed June 12, 2024).

¹⁴ "Pune Crash Case: Teen's Father, Grandfather Booked in Separate Suicide Case" (Year), Business Standard, https://www.business-standard.com/india-news/pune-crash-case-teen-s-father-grandfather-booked-in-separate-suicide-case-124060700528_1.html (last accessed June 12, 2024).

¹⁵ "Porsche, Pizza, Police, Politics: The Midnight Deaths of Two Techies in Pune" (Year), NewsLaundry, <https://www.newsLaundry.com/2024/05/23/porsche-pizza-police-politics-the-midnight-deaths-of-two-techie-in-pune> (last accessed June 12, 2024).

liquor or drugs.¹⁶ Additionally, sections 3, 5, and 199A of the MVA were also charged for allowing his minor son to drive without a license. On 20 May, the father of the minor was on the way to Mumbai, and multiple cars were involved to confuse the cops as to where he was headed. He also issued a new SIM card so that police couldn't track his number, but on 21 May 2024, the father of the minor was arrested from Aurangabad.¹⁷ On 22 May 2024, the Juvenile Court said that he would be tried and punished under section 185 of the MVA, which deals with drunk driving. For two weeks, the minor was kept at Nehru Udyog Kendra observation home in the city, and again police requested to treat the minor as an adult. In this case, if we see the possibility as per legality, then in 2015, the Juvenile Justice Care and Protection of Children Act 2015 was made according to which, "If a child is above 16 years and is alleged to have committed a heinous crime, the JJ allows for the proceedings to be conducted under normal procedures like adults and not child-friendly procedures of the JJ Act". Here, heinous crimes are those crimes for which the minimum punishment is imprisonment for 7 years or more.

There is a concept of Doli Incapax, which means a minor cannot commit a crime on their own and it aims to protect them, but the age of this concept matters from country to country, like in some countries it is 9 years, in some, it is 12 years, and even in some cases, 15 years is also seen. The motive is to rehabilitate those minors as there might be bad parenting, lack of resources, or any other factor that leads to such behavior of that minor, but there might be several minors who have all resources, but still, they turn into such incidents.

4.2 Mercedes Hit-and-Run Case

A juvenile who was involved in a Mercedes hit-and-run case, which killed a 32-year-old man named Siddharth, was just 4 days away from attaining the age of 18. Initially, the driver claimed that he was driving the car but later changed his words.¹⁸ The Juvenile Court of Justice said that the juvenile would be treated as an adult as he was a repeat offender and just 4 days away from attaining the legal age. However later in 2020, the Honourable Supreme Court denied this

¹⁶ "Confident of Proving Culpable Homicide: Pune Top Cop to NDTV on Porsche Crash" (Year), NDTV, <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/confident-of-proving-culpable-homicide-pune-top-cop-to-ndtv-on-porsche-crash-5713722> (last accessed June 12, 2024).

¹⁷ "Pune Porsche Crash: Pune Teen Driver's Father Had Elaborate Escape Plan, How He Was Caught" (Year), NDTV, <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/pune-porsche-crash-pune-teen-drivers-father-had-elaborate-escape-plan-how-he-was-caught-5717699> (last accessed June 12, 2024).

¹⁸ "Juvenile in Delhi Mercedes Hit-and-Run Case to Be Tried as an Adult, a First for India" (Year), ThePrint, <https://theprint.in/india/governance/juvenile-in-delhi-mercedes-hit-and-run-case-to-be-tried-as-an-adult-a-first-for-india/190911/> (last accessed June 12, 2024).

by stating that this does not fall under a heinous offense; therefore, he should be treated as a minor only.¹⁹

4.3 Aston Martin Car Crash Case

On December 7, 2013, during the darkness of night, an Aston Martin Rapide, a Rs 3.5 crore-worth luxury sports car, was being driven at very high speed towards Pedder Road in Mumbai's posh South Bombay suburb when the driver lost control. The car, with the number plate MH-01-BK99, crashed into two cars. One was an Audi with the number plate MH14-DN-6666, owned by a 25-year-old MBA student.²⁰ The impact was so high that the Audi jumped the divider and hit a private bus coming from the opposite direction. Then, the Aston Martin hit a Hyundai Elantra owned by Vikram Mishra. One of the passengers in that car was a pregnant woman who sustained injuries.²¹

This resulted in a chaotic situation, under which the Aston Martin driver was taken away from the place in the SUV following that car. Nearly 12 hours later, around 5:30 AM, the FIR was written, and the statements of the witnesses present that night were recorded. After inspection, it was found that the car with the number MH-01-BK99 was registered under the name of Reliance Ports and Terminals Limited, and the FIR was launched by Forum Ruparel, the owner of the Audi car.

Bansilal Joshi, a 55-year-old person working as a driver at a well-known company, reported to the Gamdevi Police Station 12 hours after the accident. However, eyewitnesses raised objections, claiming he was not the driver that night, as the person driving was much younger. Witnesses gave different reports to the media. For instance, one witness told Mumbai Mirror that a young man was in the driver's seat, while another told NewsLaundry that the person who exited the Aston Martin was young and did not have a mustache like Joshi.

Media coverage of this accident was surprisingly restrained compared to other hit-and-run cases. For instance, one news outlet described the driver as a worker for a private firm. Another initially mentioned the name of the company but later republished the article, referring to the

¹⁹ "The Supreme Court rules that a minor involved in a hit-and-run case in Delhi will be tried as a juvenile" (Year), The Indian Express, [link](#) (accessed on June 12, 2024).

²⁰ "The Car Crash That Never Was" (2013), NewsLaundry, <https://www.newsLaundry.com/2013/12/12/the-car-crash-that-never-was> (last accessed June 12, 2024).

²¹ "Aston Martin Crash in Mumbai: Reliance's Akash Ambani Safe" (2013), India Today, <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/west/story/astom-martin-crash-mumbai-reliance-akash-ambani-221238-2013-12-18> (last accessed June 12, 2024).

company as a "national-level firm" instead. Some major news outlets even removed reports on the accident. The well-known company claimed the driver was alone out for a test drive at 1:30 AM, followed by two SUVs.

Although this happened, the case was later closed as the witnesses present modified their statements, claiming that the older person was driving the Aston Martin and no other person. The case subsequently disappeared into the smoke.

5. PUBLIC AND MEDIA REACTIONS

5.1 Role of Media in Highlighting Cases

The role of the public and media is a crucial element, as we know that the media is the fourth pillar of democracy and the people are the main source of power. It is a very important factor that can both highlight a case and make it disappear. In any country, various things happen, such as accidents, crimes, and developments in the areas of science or infrastructure. In the 21st century, we know that there are several media sources such as YouTube, Instagram, and one more app, "X," which is owned by Elon Musk. These platforms help people raise their voices in both cases, whether it is against bad customer support or an incident that was being ignored by news media channels due to specific reasons.

There have been several incidents where information about an event spread using these platforms, as other people share or retweet it, helping to gain popularity. Then, news media channels broadcast it on their channels due to social pressure. But whether it is media channels or social media platforms, we need to make sure that both are independent and highlight every important issue so that the people involved in that incident get justice.

The Latin legal maxim "Fiat justitia ruat caelum," which means "Let justice be done though the heavens fall,"²² supports this statement. Several news media channels are doing an independent job and saying no to any external factors that stop them from publishing the truth.

5.2 Influence of Social Media

The influence of social media on public opinion is profound various platforms like YouTube, and Instagram have revolutionized how information and news are being spread as they allow

²² "Fiat justitia ruat caelum," Wikipedia, [link](#) (last accessed June 12, 2024).

real-time sharing and discussion based on events which allows the public to raise awareness about various issues that are not highlighted on news media for figuring out how this influence is created in the people. Social media usage is increasing day by day as per articles we touch our phones around 2600 times a day spending an average of 2.5 to 3.75 hours on screen which spiked to 6.9 hours during the covid-19 pandemic.²³ This social media addiction is fueled by factors like there is ease of access and therefore there is speedy rewards addition to this there is infinite scrolling which backs this addiction. Therefore we can say that these social media platforms are becoming a vital source for spreading the news as there is a large population that is using these platforms in their daily lives and where there is a large platform users there are possibility that news will spread out.

6. LEGAL ACCOUNTABILITY OF PARENTS IN JUVENILE CRIMES

6.1 Overview of Legal Responsibilities

In India, the legal system follows specific procedures which are outlined in the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, of 2015. This Act sets out rules to ensure that there is fair support for minors who commit a mistake. When a car accident happens the first thing authorities might do is verify the age of the person if he or she is a minor then things will go a little bit differently. Then the police investigate the accident by collecting as much evidence as possible and even talking to witnesses. The case is then taken to a special court which is made for Juveniles it is termed as Juvenile Justice Board and this board has a more positive approach towards helping the minors to be better human beings in the future for reference they might do counseling or community service to learn from their past action. In addition to court also considers how to help people who got hurt by a minor's action.

6.2 Punishments and Fines for Neglect and Endangerment

The main objective of the Indian legal system is to encourage a rehabilitative approach to crimes which is committed by minors. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act of 2015, offers a new perspective particularly toward the age of a minor if he or she is included in a Heinous crime. Parental sanctions may consist of fines, court costs, incarceration expenses, treatment costs, and other expenses. For example, parents may face charges under Section 75 for willful neglect or endangering the welfare of their child, and

²³ "We Touch Our Smartphones at Least 2,617 Times a Day" (Year), NDTV, <https://www.ndtv.com/world-news/we-touch-our-smartphones-at-least-2-617-times-a-day-1431500> (last accessed June 12, 2024).

they may face charges under Section 77 for providing alcohol or other dangerous drugs to a child.

7. FOREIGN CASE STUDIES

7.1 Ford Mustang Car Crash

In 2018 a teen named Cameron Herrin who was of the age of 18 years was involved in a car crash two people died including Jessica Reisinger-Raubenolt, a 24-year-old woman, and Lillia, her naive 1-year-old daughter.²⁴ All of this occurred as a result of his street racing, and regrettably, he lost control of his Ford Mustang. The situation was brought before a judge, who found him guilty of both unlawful racing and vehicular homicide and sentenced him to 24 years in prison. Another driver, John Barrineau, received a six-year sentence.²⁵ This made it easier for the neighborhood to implement changes like fewer speed limits and more stoplights.

8. ENHANCING AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

8.1 Strengthening Legal Frameworks & Public Awareness Campaigns

If we wish to improve and fortify our legal system, we must examine several different aspects, one of which is review and amendment. This is because times are changing, and there are incidents frequently occurring where people are granted legal protections despite being younger than the legal age. However, the question emerged as to whether we need to grant this relaxation in the twenty-first century, and if so, because a child cannot commit a crime on their own and needs to be supported by outside pressure. In addition to punishing individuals who engage in such behavior and attempting to lessen their influence in that area, we also need to address the conditions under which relaxation should be provided. For instance, if there has been poor parenting, we can address that and eradicate it from society. By incorporating the principles of restorative justice, we can improve procedural safeguards. Furthermore, we must fund the development of the capacities of probation officers, social workers, juvenile justice

²⁴ "Cameron Herrin went to prison for a Tampa crash. Were the tweets that followed real?" (2021), Tampa Bay Times, <https://www.tampabay.com/news/crime/2021/08/05/cameron-herrin-went-to-prison-for-a-tampa-crash-were-the-tweets-that-followed-real/> (last accessed June 12, 2024).

²⁵ "Bayshore driver gets 24 years in prison for street racing crash that killed young mom, toddler" (Year), WFLA, <https://www.wfla.com/news/hillsborough-county/bayshore-driver-gets-24-years-in-prison-for-street-racing-crash-that-killed-young-mom-toddler/> (last accessed June 12, 2024).

board members, child welfare committee members, and other stakeholders in the juvenile justice system.²⁶

We have to start Training programs and that should focus on enhancing understanding of child development, trauma-informed approaches, rehabilitation strategies, and the effective implementation of the legal framework. Research should be encouraged: more data collection. It will help in making effective laws and improving the state further— but this cannot be done quickly. For this reason, Collaboration and Coordination need to be reinforced among all parties involved, including government agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). We must also raise awareness: and educate individuals on proper parenting styles. Public Awareness Campaigns must reach every part of the state, at all costs. We need to start education programs based more on the area of the school that could help us obtain a higher literacy rate in India and, therefore, a better understanding of laws among people. Additionally, we need professionals such as teachers who could integrate these things into their normal teaching pattern. Even community engagement is also beneficial for better implementation as it will encourage youth to be more aware and spread more awareness.²⁷

8.2 Recommendations for Policy Makers

First, we must invest in prevention, addressing the root causes of youth crime. Prevention efforts should focus on promoting positive youth development and building supportive communities. We must promote recovery by expanding access to evidence-based interventions such as counseling, education, job training, and mental health services. We must also promote diversion, providing nonviolent youth offenders with alternatives to formal legal proceedings. We also need to conduct research, analysis, evaluation, and then implementation to develop better and more effective juvenile justice policies and programs. In addition, we always have to create a positive approach towards each other.²⁸

CONCLUSION

The research which is done on the topic “Parental Responsibility and Legal Accountability

²⁶ "Awareness Raising", International Juvenile Justice Observatory, <https://www.oiji.org/en/our-work/awareness-raising> (last accessed June 12, 2024).

²⁷ "Comprehensive Approaches for Addressing Juvenile Delinquency in India: Causes, Consequences, Preventive Strategies, and Legal Framework," ResearchGate, [link](#) (last accessed June 12, 2024).

²⁸ "United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (Riyadh Guidelines)," Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, [link](#) (last accessed June 12, 2024).

in Juvenile Driving Cases: A Critical Analysis” delves into the Juvenile Justice System of India and the role of parental accountability in car crashes done by Juvenile also focus on various aspects like legal, historical, case studies and other. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, of 2015 acted as a cornerstone of India’s Juvenile Justice System which emphasizes reform, rehabilitation, and care of the Juvenile. Some Constitutional provisions also back the protection of children's rights this Act introduces significant change, including allowing children aged 16 to 18 to be tried as adults if involved in heinous crimes. Case studies have been analyzed such as Pune Road Accident, Aston Martin Car Crash, and others to understand what factors can lead to different kinds of results. This research also highlights the role of media and social media But with regards to conclusion, we need to put a lot more effort into making this world a much better place where everybody gets proper rights and they are respected by all. Nowadays we have started working on related to problems corruption which is often referred to as a social evil in cases like accidents there are many high chances that the richer side could try to tamper with witnesses by using his or her money even in the field of the news channel. Therefore we have to show unity among ourselves and firstly trust one thing that You will get justice and then we have to fight and improve on areas where we lack.

