

NARRATIVES OF WOMEN'S ISSUES IN INDIA  
VOLUME 1:

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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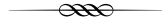
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## FORWARD



It is with great pleasure, honor and sadness (due to the important but painful subject matter) that the International Human Rights Art Festival presents this collection on domestic violence in India. This powerful volume explores this horrific crime, including several first person accounts. The stories explore the silent predator that is domestic violence. It represents a physical assault that destroys the well-being of victims. All of the pieces are timely, important and very impactful.

India is the second largest country in the world, teeming with different ethnicities, religious practitioners and extremely varied lifestyles. The ten writers featured are based in different regions of the vast land, representing this human array. This variety of views assures inclusiveness among the stories. However, the sad but common thread binding the stories is the misery that women face.

A reading of the stories evinces that domestic violence runs through all social and demographic groups, from domestic worker, to an office worker, to a stay-at-home mother. Some of the victims are affluent, some are poor.

This publication on domestic violence is the first in the series of Narratives on Women's Issues. Please read the book to see how this pernicious behavior affects these women, who are blameless and often without recourse.

Special thanks to Shashi Kadapa, the IHRAF International Fellow 2021, and of course, the writers, who bring this issue to life with such vivid, and painful clarity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Block".

Tom Block  
Executive Director,  
International Human Rights Art Festival, NY