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CRIMINAL PSYCHOLOGY AND IMPACT OF RECENT GLOBAL PANDEMIC: ANALYSIS OF CRIMINAL MIND WITH A SUDDEN SURGE IN CRIME RATE

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Abstract

The year 2019 was marked with the 2019-CoVID pandemic attack, a widespread contagious effect of newvirus of coronavirusfamily. This pandemic attack was widely followed by nationwide lockdown which possessed negative impact on the economy of India. Thus, resulting in depreciation in the living standards of the people corona created a crime-reflux in the country. The extended contagious nature of the corona virus came as boon for the criminals bugging India as government released thousands of prisoners from jail while hearings in most of the cases were adjourned. This action boosted their and their prospective

like ones confidence. Though harsh physical crime reduced during the lockdown period yet an illicit increase was noticed in cyber crime, terrorism, illegal-markets and-smuggling, robberies and burglaries. Criminals started diversifying in other areas and branches of criminal activities. Exploiting the public information on crime in India, along with relying on routine-activity and pattern-theories of crime, this work-investigates whether and how new-coronavirus containment policies affected criminal psychology. The study will be useful to understand the impact of COVID 19 situations and policies made to take shelter against it on the criminal psychology with specific reference to India. The study also attempt to suggest practical solutions to mitigate the development and consequences of criminal psychology.

Keywords: Corona virus, Bayesian Modelling, Social Distancing; Urban Crime; Causal Impact; Time-Series; Routine Activity Theory; Crime Pattern Theory

1.1 Introduction

Criminal psychology is defined as a branch of criminal anthropology and is the study of thoughts, views, actions, intentions, and reactions of criminals and all who participate in criminal behaviour. It analyses the psychological causes and trigger points which induce a person to commit crime and studies the pattern of different types of anti social behaviour. This branch of psychology is extremely useful in studying the reasons and patterns of criminal behaviour and can be effectively used to prevent the vulnerable situations and occurrence of crime. It is a well established fact that changes in social conditions and increasing frustrations elevates the chances of activating criminal psychology of a person. Situations like COVID pandemic attack and lock down increases the frustration and hence the probability of crime. Further, isolation raises the anxiety and

depression and inspires the prospective criminals to commit diversified crimes and innovative way to commit crimes.

In December 31st 2019, China raised an alert the World Health Organization (WHO) regarding the contagious nature of pandemic spreading in its Wuhan district. This report was followed by the recurring reports of corona positive cases from various countries round the world. On January 30th, the WHO declared 2019-nCoV a global health emergency. Being extremely contagious, Corona infection is still spreading its footing on different parts of World and India is the most severely affected country. To stop the spread of corona-positive counts Government promoted & enforced social-distancing-measures. In the second-half of March 2020 a nationwide lock down was adopted by the country (and most other countries of the World). Though numerous researches have been conducted on the impact and scientific integration of coronavirus, yet no dedicated research exists to investigate the effect of corona, lock down and other measures on criminal-psychology. Though such studies have been conducted in other countries but the research field of India remained barren from such analysis. This research-work attempts to address such gap by carrying on a scientific investigation in the impact of measures taken to mitigate coronavirus on Criminal Psychology and crime rate of India. The study is relevant for understanding the nature of influence of societal modifications on the criminal psychology. Such forced modifications and disciplines require root understanding to develop cause and effect relationship between them and the crime boosted or enforced by their frustration.

Crime-rate in India plummets amid Corona attack but like corona; country cannot be said to be sanitized of criminals. Most of the countries round the world reported that crime rates took a hit during the lock down period with exception to hilding increase in the crime rate of domestic violence. India suffers a lack in crime reporting or maintenance of updated summation of the data on crime which makes it quite difficult to analyze the trend and socio-economic factors on the psychology of criminals. The lock down situation further made the task harder as people became more reluctant to report the crime. Further, Indian jails were over-crowded, hence thousands of criminals were released on parole and the hearing dates of various suits were pushed while less serious crimes were disposed over in order to prevent the transmission of the deadly virus. These all cumulatively increased the crime rate in India. Though corona kept the people from the street but the criminal act took the route of targeting the family members and vicinity people.

With the bio-social change amid COVID-19 pandemic attack, scientists and scholars became busy in analysing its socio-economic impact, but till date no dedicated research exists to investigate the effects of such incidents and measures on criminal activities and psychological paradigm of criminals. Several news papers have already started to report & describe the micro-level short-term shifts in the patterns of crime in the country (Times of India, 2020; Economic Times, 2020; The Hindu, 2020; India Today, 2020). Present research is an attempt to bridge this gap. This study will be highly relevant for analysing the impact as well is the magnitude of impact of societal-modifications on the present and upcoming lives of the

Indians and the probability of occurrence of crimes or new branches of crimes. The paper will develop an understanding of the change in modus operandi of the crime as per the changed scenario. Since the detailed and updated statistics on the crime status of India is not available, the research moves forward with the analysis of various reports of NCRB and other crime articles reported in the backdrop of corona attack.

1.2 Objective and Scope of the Research

This is a descriptive cum exploratory study. The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To understand the impact of COVID -19 on the criminal psychology with special reference to India.
2. To find the crimes most affected by COVID -19 pandemic attack and policies made in its backdrop.
3. To find the reason of rise in rate of crime during lock down and quarantine period
4. To suggest effective measures to address such situations in future.

1.3 Related Literature Review

COVID attack is not the only one pandemic giants which world has witnessed ever since. Infact there have been several instances of such a kind of pandemic attacks. The study of situations during and after such pandemic attacks will be helpful to frame the root level understanding of the subject. The list of such pandemics is hereunder:

Table1:Snap shot of pandemic attacks and their impact

YEAR	NAME OF PANDEMIC	IMPACT
1918	Spanish Flu a H1N1-influenza-virus	infected approximately 27% of world population
1957	Asian Flu	around 1.1 million deaths counts round the world
1968	A-(H3N2)-influenza	killed 1 million people worldwide
2002	acute-respiratory-syndrome-corona-virus .i.e. (SARS-CoV also emerged from China)	Spread quickly in different countries.
2009	novel A/H1N1 influenza virus – Swine Flu	emerged from the United States and spread quickly all over the world with an estimate of about 61 million cases in the United States alone
2020	COVID-19	Around 5.9 million people got infected (till September 2020)

Source: Data compiled by researcher through various sources.

Time and again countries took various measures to fight the pandemics. Spanish flu was one of the most dangerous flues amongst the list presented above but the COVID overtook it in terms of infection counts and death counts too. Each of such incidents was followed by change in criminal psychology in the country. Unfortunately the compiled statistics of crime is not available for the country. Therefore to form the logical understanding of the subject, researches in the matter during the above listed events is resorted to.

The related literature review is presented hereunder:

Brainerd. Et.al. (2003) ^[2] in their study titled - The Economic effects of the 1918 Influenza Pandemic, highlighted the fact that outbreak of pandemics like influenza has far reaching impacts on the economy of the infected country as it is often followed by depression and hikes in crime rate of the country. Depression rather than influenza itself is a major cause of increase

in the crime rate as it is characterized by the massive job loss and decrease or loss of income of people.

Gupta et.al. (2005)^[3] in their research titled - SARS in Toronto as a case study, Journal of Infection, reported SARS and pandemics alike to have a significant positive relationship with the growth in criminal incidence. They also remarked that SARS was much dangerous for the economy post its wave as the crime rate increased and lead to economic fall.

Smith et.al. (2006)^[4] in their research titled - Responding to global infections disease outbreaks: Lessons from SARS on the role of risk perception, communication and management, Social Science & Medicine, attempted to analyze the impact of SARS on various dimensions of the economy and highlighted that rise in criminal incidence in the aftermath of SARS was in itself as dangerous as the SARS. He also suggested that proper policies should be made in advance to mitigate the upcoming criminal incidences following the pandemics.

Chan, Chiu, et.al.(2006)^[5] in their report titled - Elderly suicide and the 2003 SARS epidemic in Hong Kong, highlighted that suicide is a crime and the SARS pandemic as a major factor elevating the number of suicide cases in Hong Kong. They explained that once infected, the old aged people lose the hope of living and the terror of loosing inability to have healthy limbs and pain of treatment frustrates them and they choose to finish their lives.

Cheung et.al. (2008)^[6] in their research titled - A revisit on older adults suicides and Severe

Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) epidemic in Hong Kong, reevaluated the impact of SARS on elderly suicide in Hong Kong and further added to the findings that it's a fact that recovery chances are low for older people, thus disease causes more severe depression in them. They lose hope in their lives and commit suicide, such suicides or suicidal attempts by several elders inspire other people of same age group in the same situation to take this brutal decision.

Clarke. Et.al. (2009)^[7] in their study titled - Situational Crime Prevention: Theoretical Background and Current Practice, stressed that awareness is required for prevention of crime. There are several indicators which hint the commitment of a criminal act such as: downward sloping economy, which results in the loss of income and induces crime. They also highlighted the economic depression as the root cause of surge in the incidences of domestic violence and suggested that dedicated awareness programmes may address the issue.

Scoones et. al. (2010)^[8] in their paper titled Avian Influenza: Science, Policy and Politics, Earthscan, presented a complete analysis of Avian Influenza on different economic disciplines and found that though Avian Influenza was very dangerous but the rise of crime rate and diversity of criminal incidences in its climax were more severe than the influenza itself. They concluded that hunger, unemployment and economic downfall resulted in new kinds of crime and increased the severity of already prevailing crimes in a place.

Wang et.al. (2009)^[9] in their study titled - Is quarantine related to immediate negative psychological consequences during the 2009 H1N1 epidemic?, found significant positive correlation between the Quarantine and quantum of quarantine with the negative psychology and increase in the crime rate. They concluded that Quarantine increases the frustration which results in anxiety and depression and thus, blurs the decision taking capacity and turns the victims into criminals.

Raja, Mohsin et.al (2013), ^[13] in their study titled - Relationship between crimes and economic conditions in Pakistan: a time series approach, found a very strong relationship between the post trauma stress syndrome in the zones infected by some kind of epidemic and the growth in their crime rate. The study concluded that post trauma stress occurring after pandemic situations surges crime rate and the severity of the crimes in the infected areas .

Karlsson et.al. (2014) ^[10] in their report titled - The impact of the 1918 Spanish flu epidemic on economic performance in Sweden, analyzed the economic effect of Spanish flu in Sweden and found a significant increase in the forgery and extortion cases in post flu situation. They also found that after the flu the majority of criminals adapted themselves as per the changed economic situations and started committing crime in different manners or pattern.

Eymann et.al. (2015) ^[11] In their research titled - Global health security: the wider lessons from the west African Ebola virus disease epidemic, analysed the impact of Ebola epidemic and identified it as an important

determinant of increase in the criminal incidents during and after the epidemic. They also spotted that loss of job and economic slowdown as the major factor that resulted in fresh criminals i.e. the addition of new criminals.

Bortel et.al. (2016) ^[12] in their article titled - Psychological effects of an Ebola outbreak at individual, community and international levels, described that the emergence of COVID 19 resulted in reduction in various types of crimes which involves physical presence of the offenders in India. The extended lock down and stoppage of transport facilities from one place to other along with the terror of getting infected by Corona virus was found to be the major reason of such reduced rate of crime (reported by India express 30.04.2020 and India today, 27.06.2020).

Hayes et.al.(2018) ^[15] in their research titled - Repeat Victimization Among Intimate Partner Violence Victims: The Impact of Guardianship, Feminist Criminology, posed that the increase in the domestic violence between partners is the matter of tension for the economy of a country as if any person or criminal is frustrated or annoyed or even depressed by some condition, the most easiest and prone victim to their violent action is their intimate partner and such situation becomes more worse if the victim is a child or minor and the person who is targeting them is their guardian as in almost all such cases , victims don't even seek help which makes the intensity of crime more serious.

Dodd, et.al. (2020) ^[16] in their study titled - Murder inquiries could be hit if corona virus reduces UK police numbers, highlighted the fact that though

corona situation has decreased the number of calls count for reporting murder and considered it as a favourable impact of corona attack but expression worry on increasing count of forgery, burglary and cyber crime cases.

Rubin, et.al. (2020) ^[17] in their research article titled - The psychological effects of quarantining a city, discovered that even persons with normal conscience develop criminal psychology if quarantined which is quite a dangerous thing. They added that though quarantine period decreased the crime which requires physical presence of the criminal, yet it has increased cyber crimes and forgery. The worst impact of the quarantine period is on intimate partners and children as they are the easiest prey for such a kind of offender. They also discovered that since quarantine period gives ample of time to offender to work out well planned crimes or to learn developing new ways to commit crime, it becomes more dangerous.

Poston, et.al. (2020) ^[18] in their article titled - Arrest by LAPD and Sheriff's Department drop amid corona virus outbreak, Los Angeles Times, revealed that in order to prevent the spread of corona, number of arrest counts were reduces in Los Angeles and so is the fact in other countries of the world. This ultimately will boost the morale of the criminals and may result in more severe crimes, more specifically in the case of victims who are not likely to complain for e.g. intimate partner or old age persons or kids.

Brookset.al. (2020) ^[19] in their research titled - The psychological impact of quarantine and how to reduce it: rapid review of the evidence, analyzed

the continual impact of quarantine on the criminal psychology and found that it enhances the intensity and innovation in the nature of crimes. Further, it also adds new criminals to the arena. They marked that cyber theft, more specifically the theft via e banking or e cash route have grown during and post quarantine period. Quarantine period has increased the traffic on e commerce websites which increased the occurrence of eves dropping and internet theft and forgery. They also suggested the introduction of STP's (secured transfer protocols) and secured channels with proper verification facility to address the growing cyber crimes.

Mohler,et.al. (2020) ^[20] in their research titled - Impact of social distancing during COVID-19

pandemic on crime in Indianapolis (2020), analysed the impact of crime due to social distancing in the backdrop of COVID 19 and found that not only the count of domestic violence increased during the lockdown phase but the brutality of the crime has also increased. They also highlighted the role of internet as a reason for increase in such crimes in India.

1.4 Critical Analysis of Criminal Psychology and Impact of Recent Covid-19 Pandemic Attack with specific reference to India

Studying the criminal psychology and the impact of COVID 19 situation and policies on it is quite a hard task since the updated statistics on the subject is not available. To analyse the impact of so called corona virus and policies during and after the lock down, various reports and news are analyzed. It was found that due to lock down situation and largely accepted social distancing measures, crimes like murder, theft, chain snatching, eve teasing etc got reduced but like other things criminals also

adapted the changed situation in their psychological build up. With increasing trend of 'work from home', criminals shifted their focus from physical to cyber crime. Many criminals chose such activities as such crimes satisfy them more and can be easily done without much physical effort. Also the crimes of violence against women and child increased as they are the easiest victims who makes offenders less vulnerable. Social websites and even e commerce websites became the new platform for the criminal minds. In this way the lock down, quarantine period and social distancing changed the approach of the psychology of criminals. The paradigm shift in the quantum and nature of crime increased during the infamous corona situation and crime field witnessed many entrant and innovative ideas to commit crime. Following are the most reported crimes in India which surged in effect of COVID pandemic attack and also diversified during such scenario.

1.4.1 Counterfeiting and fraud

To counterfeit refers to imitate something authentic, with the intent to steal, destroy, or replace the original, for use in illegal transactions, or otherwise to deceive individuals into believing that the fake is of equal or greater value than the real thing. Counterfeited products are unauthorized or fake replicas of the original product

Fraud refers to the wrongful /criminal deception intended done for financial/personal gain.

Crime knows no bound of ethics or morals. Criminals do commit a crime even in the miserable conditions of COVID pandemic attack. It has been

widely uncovered that counterfeiting & fraud have direct relation with the COVID-19 situation. People during lock down or quarantine period got ample of time to learn new skills to commit such kind of crimes since learning such new skills is not a tough task as they are easily available on internet. India, like other parts of the world witnessed new kind of unethical counterfeit cases. Interpol report, April 2020 noted the fact that in the outset of March-2020, above 34, 000 counterfeit surgical masks were seized by the authorities worldwide under Operation-Pangea supported by Interpol and Europol. Indian police has also seized thousands of fake-N95-masks, raided shops selling overpriced masks & sanitizers, and registered cases against the hoarders of masks, sanitizers and personal-protective-equipment (PPE's).

The quantum of diversification in fraud cases was also witnessed during lock down and still is in surge. Criminals have innovated new ideas to rob innocent. Use of cloning devices in ATM's, eaves dropping, sending fake messages to get the personal details of a person like sending a message or mail to fill in details and then asking customer to share OTP after entering which that person loses all their money. Police sources reported that the even the person who are not habitual offender are converting to criminal activities to get money. Further loss of job and frustration due to extended lock down has also forced many people to resort fraud tricks.

1.4.2 Cybercrime

Lock down and quarantine period make people spend more time online, which in turn has increased cyber-crime (as per reported by DIG M.

Mahender Reddy)^[23]. Over 15300 new complaints of cyber crime were received (during the period of January to July) in Ahmadabad only with no accounting or wind of unreported cases^[22]. With the growing concept of 'work-from-home', more & more corporate-data is being-accessed-from-homes; posing safety threats to the confidential information as home environment cannot maintain the same security level as that of offices. During lockdown period cyber crimes increased to such an extent that The World Health Organization published a cyber security notice to warn people from fraudsters imitating WHO employees. America also witnessed the phishing when their funds meant-for-unemployed were redirected to some fraudulent-accounts by some Nigerian cyber criminals.

Besides such big frauds number of cyber crime incidents were reported during and post lock down period^[24], e.g. generation of fake QR by imitating OLX website for fund transfer and wiping the victim out of funds (incident reported in Jaipur city of Rajasthan)^[25], many weird incidents when after announcement of the dates to change the centre of NTA exams some girl was reported to call people crying for help as she has mistakenly entered their mobile number and they might have got the OTP of her exam centre and begged to share the same, once such OTP is shared by the victim he gets swiped of all his funds etc.

Apart from financial crimes many other types of crimes were also reported in which the criminal installed some software in the desktop of victim which enables him to turn their camera on after which he captures private

pictures of the victim and forced them to do illicit things in ransoming those pictures.

1.4.3 Domestic violence

Domestic violence is the crime which increased the most due to COVID-19 pandemic situation. People lost their jobs and were bounded inside the walls of their house which increased the frustration and depression in them. Intimate partner and child being the easiest target were hit by the violence from their partner or guardian. Alarming rise was seen in such cases just from 25.03.2020 to 31.05.2020. This period of 68 days in itself recorded the highest number of complaints than those made in past 10 years (reported The Hindu, 22.06.2020)^[26] and this is the data of cases reported only, while unreported cases still remain the concern of the government. Further the severity and brutality of the domestic violence also increased^[27]. Postponement of hearings and arrest or other law proceedings increased the zeal of such criminals. Many victims reported that their abuser started giving them further threats to harm them saying that delay in legal proceedings will work as a shield for them.

1.4.4 Terrorist attacks

Terrorist took the advantage of COVID situation in the country and keep finding opportunity to hurt the integrity of India.^[30] In the first week of May, 5 Indian-Army-special-forces-para-commandos were killed by terrorists.^[32] The International-Crisis-Group reported that the pandemic would harm international counterterrorism efforts.

In the month of April, 2020 India circulated an advisory among Delhi-police-staff regarding a potential ISIL attack on police personnel in the field, in the form of a lone wolf attack or stabbing, firing or hitting by vehicles.^[29] Further, during January-May 2020, Indian-security-forces conducted 27-counterterrorism-operations in Jammu & Kashmir in which more than 64 terrorists were killed.^[30] amongst whom approximately 18 were killed during the lockdown period.^[30] The reports reveal that terrorists are opportunistic to hurt the wounded India during the lock down and post such period.

1.4.5 Use of COVID-19 as a weapon

Even antisocial people started using COVID-19 as a weapon to create terrorism. Many instances were reported and gathered media attention in which people doing nuisance attempted spitting on the corps trying to catch them.

1.4.6 Elderly Suicide

People in their old age get frustrated if they get infected by corona virus and even if not infected the loneliness of the old age eats them up. During lock down many cases of suicide of elderly people were reported as these people develop a mentality that they cannot recover from this infection. People in their old age are most affected by the Social distancing and quarantine period along with lock down as they can't bear being alone in the dawn of their life and are not energetic or updated enough to effectively use technology as an alternative. Further, news of suicide of one old person encourages the other to do the same.

1.5 Reason of increase in Crime during lock down

Understanding the reason of crime is the purpose of this paper. There are several identified reasons for increase in the criminal incidents during COVID situation. These reasons are presented below, under 2 broad categories:

1.5.1 Psychological Reasons

1. Loss of jobs and vocations due to which certain people turned as offender to fulfil their liquidity needs.
2. Isolation resulted in increased internet surfing hours for large mass which in turn becomes the source of information to commit crimes in more innovatively.
3. Spending long hours on porn is another reason for increase in sexual crimes in India and will be a reason for increase in such kind of crimes in the coming future too.
4. Frustration due to lock down which gets out in form of violence.
5. Most of the abusers of domestic violence are aware that their intimate partner or children will not file any complaint against them and hence keep on increasing the brutality of their crime.
6. Removal of arrest provision from Information Technology Act 2000 has resulted in fearless conduct of cyber crimes, more specifically the crimes committed by misuse of private information of the victim.
7. The idea of not getting caught due to loopholes in the law and late action or even the idea of getting punishment after a long time also induce them to commit crime.

8. Once an offender commits crime, he stops feeling any guilt towards such heinous act and this reduces with the number of crimes committed by him; criminal with such a psychological condition is more dangerous because these kinds of criminals often turn into sociopath and commit serial crimes

1.5.2 Legal Reasons

1. Delay in legal operations and other law proceedings for maintaining social distancing.
2. Absence of proper law to track down or to efficiently deal with the cyber crimes.
3. Non-stringent norms of Information technology act – which further increases their motivation to commit crime.
4. Not having sufficient number of police force and legal officers
.“According to Data on Police Organization 2019 Report, the number of police officer per 100,000 people in Bihar is 81, whereas for India this is 158”which seems to be one of the major reasons of high crime rates in Bihar.

1.6 Steps that can be taken to address the criminal psychology during and after Covid-19

Criminals have always founded and will always keep on finding new ways to commit crime. Since man cannot live in isolation, if forced to do so may turn him into a violent animal. Though situations like COVID attack are hard to predict yet several measures can be taken to mitigate or slow down the brutality of criminal psychology as just making the law will not suffice unless the offender himself builds the logical understanding of right or

wrong. Following steps may be taken to address the Criminal psychology arising out of COVID 19 situation and afterwards:

1. Developing rehabilitation centres to rehabilitate such criminals.
2. Framing of law and speedy trial mechanism to convict the criminals in time.
3. Encouraging people to report the crime in time without any hesitation.
4. Creating chat boats to promote community chats on reasonable cost with affordable options for providing sessions to them. Such option can very well be utilized to stop them from converting into criminals.
5. Training police force to tackle such offenders.
6. Creating awareness regarding cyber laws e.g. launch of ‘#CybHer’, campaign to make the cyber world safe for women and children. to educate women and children about the immediate risks and threats on cyberspace.
7. India though has made many laws to mitigate criminal psychology arising from extended lock down and quarantine but such laws have not been implemented effectively so far. Therefore making effective implementation policies with periodical checks to measure their performance.
8. Making stringent provisions in Information Technology Act 2000 to punish the criminals under the act.
9. Formation of digital nursing system for old age or digital social and spiritual groups for elderly people so that they don't feel the pain of being alone or not taken care of if such situation arises.

10. Developing morals of citizens towards the country and imparting knowledge to them to not get careless in case if they get infected by corona virus and making them conscious about others health too by maintaining social distancing in such situations.
11. Imposing ban on the sites or videos which teach violence or may give innovative ideas to commit crime (e.g. banning the sites which teach bomb making on internet)
12. Developing platforms where women and children can report and get proper support without fear of being further harmed.

1.7 Conclusion

Criminal Psychology is an intellectual concept and cannot be predicted with accuracy.^[1] But it is well established fact the increase in stress or frustration also increases the chances of crime and its intensity. Strict containment policies and social distancing measures to tackle the pandemic situation increase the frustration of offenders mind. This followed by unemployment, lack of recreational activities and financial problems makes the criminal mind more dangerous. Though criminal psychology knows no bounds yet situations like lock down increases the chances of being caught as there are less people on the street or other public places also social distancing measure keep the criminals from grabbing the victim easily as most of the time they remain out of the reach. This creates frustration and may result in creation of sociopaths who may commit more severe crimes. Such policies specifically increased the cyber crimes and domestic violence. Furthermore, events like pandemic attack

come without signal and warning therefore understanding criminal psychology to address the criminal issues during and after these incidents is of vital importance.

Thus, it can be concluded that though organic crime rate has decreased but the rate of other crime has increased. Criminals have adaptive psychology towards the situational change and adopt innovative and diversified ways to commit crime in cases of change in situations e.g. cyber crimes, identity theft etc. It's hard to predict the behaviour of criminal in the changed situation but understanding the impact of pandemic situations on their psychology during and after the pandemic attacks may help to address the issue. Since identification of criminals is quite a hard task, thus, we are left with the option of making people aware and ready to deal the situations and to encourage the victims to report the crime so that next target of the criminal can be saved. Various reasons as described above may be adopted to tackle the impact of pandemic attack situations on criminal psychology. Therefore, to prevent a crime, psychology of the criminal is to be addressed not the crime committed by him as proper understanding of his way of thinking may best help to prevent crime to a great extent.

The research suffers the limitation of non availability of the quantitative data and also suffers the inherent limitations of secondary data. Further research and quantitative analysis may be performed on the topic. The effort made by the researcher is the result of hard work and dedication. Various reports and books have been analyzed to frame a logical understanding of the subject which will further pave the way to the

researchers to explore the individual topics too in future. The research will be helpful to tackle surge of crime during and after the pandemic attack scenario. Besides being helpful for the research work, this study will also serve the purpose of law administration and officials to understand the behaviour and criminal psychology of the offenders through which they can be prepared to handle such situations more effectively in future.

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