



EFFECTS ON THE SPOUSES OF THOSE WHO ARE REMANDED FOR A PROLONGED PERIOD: WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO MALE SUSPECT IN NEW MAGAZINE REMAND PRISON, COLOMBO

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ABSTRACT

All existing humanitarian laws reveal that “a suspect” is innocent. According to the Code Of Criminal Procedure Act (No. 15 of 1979), the 37 sentence has said that, “Any peace officer shall not detain in custody or otherwise confine a person arrested without a warrant for a longer period than under all the circumstances of the case is reasonable, and such period shall not exceed twenty-four hours exclusive of the time necessary for the journey from the place of arrest to the Magistrate”. In spite of these legal assurances more than 60 % of remanders have to wait at the prison for more than one month to two years expecting their final verdict. This can affect their family back ground. It is because every person works closely with their families. This study attempts to find out how a person’s imprisonment impacts the family. On the basis of hypothesis, it would be the main question of this study, to see how it affects the spouses of those who are imprisoned for a long time. The general objective is to identify the effects on the married spouses of those who are imprisoned for a long time while specific aims are to identify the nature of relationships that exist between the suspects and the social and economic relationships that exist among the members of the family. Married spouses of male suspects who were imprisoned for more than one year and living in Colombo District were the sample and 110 wives had been chosen using multi stage sampling method. According to the research, majority of spouses had faced several issues such as financial and psychological issues. This was due to loss of defense and protection of their husbands, absence of emotional rapport, and collapse of financial support for the family. It had also seen that majority of spouses engaged even in unsuitable jobs such as sale of illicit intoxicating drinks and drugs and prostitution. As per this study, Suitable self- employment jobs or employment opportunities can arrange through the State, for those women who are engaged in ulterior jobs. The State should mediate in acceleration of court procedure, in order to protect the rights of suspects.

Keywords: Suspect, Remand, Spouse, Women, Family bond