

# Dowry Prohibition- A Social Innovation Approach

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**ABSTRACT:** Social challenges need social innovation for solutions. Transition management is a governance approach for collective engagement to achieve sustainable development objectives. Preventive policing achieves cultural change and reduced harm. The paper explains a four step preventive policing method to curb dowry in times to come.

**Keywords:** dowry, preventive policing, marriage calendar

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## I. INTRODUCTION:

Social challenges need social innovation for solutions [1]. Social innovation cross-sectorial information and resource sharing empower society to solve social challenges [1]. Social innovation not only includes new products and services but also changes in behaviours, processes and routines [1]. Thus public policy is the driver of social innovation among researchers, policy makers and practitioners interested in social innovation [1].

## II. LITERATURE SURVEY:

Transitions are irremediable transformation processes in a society's culture, structure and practices [1]. Transition management is a governance approach for collective engagement to achieve sustainable development objectives [1]. Every innovation demands a collective action of the competencies in an organized environment of social artifacts and necessary resources[2].The dowry prohibition act 1961 defined dowry as any property or valuable security given or agreed to be given either directly or indirectly a) by any party to the marriage to the other party to the marriage or b) by the parents of either party to a marriage or by any other person; at or before or any time after the marriage [3]. The penalty for taking dowry will be an imprisonment for not less than five years and with fine not less than fifteen thousand rupees or the amount of the value of such dowry, whichever is more[3]. Preventive policing strategize for fewer victims, fewer offences and less demand on policing achieved by addressing underlying causes and using partnership oriented problem solving [4]. Preventive policing achieves cultural change and reduced harm [4].

## III. METHODOLOGY:

1. marriage calendar- let police stations have a marriage calendar every year. Dowry practice needs to be prohibited in hindu and jain religions. Thus, the yearly marriage calendar belongs to hindu religion.
2. The police stations list all the places of marriage in their commanding area to cross-check dates of marriages.
3. Police enquire dowry practice and furniture in these marriages to inculcate fear of law with time.
4. Whether police files a case or not is the decision of home affairs depending upon the situation on case-to-case basis.

## IV. CONCLUSION:

Hindu religious practice of dowry has turned into a social evil from ages. There is an urgent need to curb this social evil with social innovation. Dowry is a challenge to be solved with social innovation. The hindu religion should collectively adopt a participatory approach alongwith preventive policing situational approach to eliminate dowry in hindu marriage system. The paper explains a four step preventive policing method to curb dowry in times to come.

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