

Today, And Tomorrow



Comments 0

**If we are going to make
a Rs 200 crore statue
I think it should be one of
a giant, sexy woman so
men can stare at her
instead of at us**

– KALKI KOECHLIN,
actor,
on the budgetary allocation
for construction of the
Sardar Patel statue



19 Replies

Kuber Chaurasiya do people stare at kalki too? hadd hai.. 😊
Like · Reply · 👍 168 · 15 July at 14:06 · Edited

12 Replies

Sammy Legion Even if A woman Statue is not constructed none is gonna Stare at u..!! 😊
Like · Reply · 👍 52 · 15 July at 14:08

6 Replies

Dhaval Patel Will go to USA to see Statue of Liberty, Will go to Brazil to see statue in Rio ,will go Paris to see Eiffel Tower,Will go to China to see Great Wall of China but Indians will lose mind if Central Govt spends just 200 crore on building largest Statue of the world which will also create ample tourism opportunity and jobs .
Like · Reply · 👍 34 · 15 July at 15:35 · Edited

11 Replies

Vishwanath Ganti Before commenting on statues one should read the contribution of Sardar Patel. Without his iron will india would have been like another middle east/ earstwhile USSR with so much of infighting. I earn to be

Write a comment...



Gogona Saikia 9 August 2014 11538 views

A lazy [Thursday](#) evening lying in bed and exchanging light banter with a few friends. After a pause in the conversation, one of my friends who studies in a reputed university in Noida comes over and offers to show me the [latest](#) videos on his phone: interesting stuff he has received on Whatsapp or downloaded from the net. A couple of videos later, I come across one which at first is not clear to me at all, I can just make out that the person who's recording is saying something (though I don't understand what), and what looked like a window through which two people could be seen. The video had been shot from outside the window. The image became clear to me only after some moments: they were two girls, one in her lingerie, kissing each other.

It wasn't porn and was very obviously recorded. When I asked my friend about it, he told me, very calmly, that it was their girls' hostel, and the boys who had shot it were students at the university, who stayed at the hostel.

For a few moments immediately after, I felt intense pain as my brain grasped the implications.

Since years now, the [women](#)'s empowerment movement has gained momentum in huge strides, especially when the activism aspect is concerned. Severe incidents of torture on [women](#) in major cities as well as minor, like Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Gauhati, across Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and all over the country, have triggered protests and fiery debates and brought up the issue of [women](#)'s safety to the forefront.

It has also been pointed out that the numerous rapes and sexual harassment cases from small towns and villages, of [women](#) belonging to lower economic classes, are largely ignored, whereas even one such case from an 'educated', 'upward' class is thrust to the limelight and gains much [more](#) attention than others.

Let's take a moment to examine the case at hand. The video I saw actually wouldn't let anyone identify the people in it; it was too hazy. However, the facts are these: it was done by someone in the age group 20-24, who was studying at a reputed institution, and who is definitely not unfamiliar to the concept and existence of homosexuality.

[Now](#) an 'educated' man such as him, when he decides to record when he sees two [women](#) kissing (and it was not practically possible to have had erotic desires fulfilled through that video because as pointed out, it was too hazy), what can a person infer? That he did it for fun? Because even now, in spite of his age and 'education' level, he finds issues like homosexuality (see 'lesbian sex') so amusing?

There's a vast difference between pornography and such recorded videos which all comes down to one word: consent. The purpose of porn is to arouse and titillate. Videos like these, recorded without the people's consent or awareness, are an invasion into the most basic levels of privacy, and though it causes no physical harm to those people, it still is very similar to an act of [rape](#), because ultimately it has been done without their approval and in most cases, without their awareness even. Think of consensual sex and [rape](#): the difference here is the same.

And also alarming is the fact that the [women](#) in this case were my friend's college-mates, and he still had no compunctions about the whole thing. This brought to mind [another](#) incident that happened in 2011, when an ex-classmate had been caught on camera with her boyfriend and the video had been widely circulated: I had mutual guy friends coming up and informing me about it and every single one of them had watched the video in spite of the fact that the girl in it had been their classmate just a couple of years ago. Is that supposed to alleviate the arousal factor of the video if you personally know the [woman](#)? Rather, should it not make you stay away as a mark of respect for at least the [women](#) you know? It would be too much to expect all men to stay away from degrading all [women](#) because let's face it, a situation like that is years, maybe centuries away. But if we can't even expect to be respected by the men we personally know, if we can't expect them to [stand](#) up for our dignity, then whom do we rely on to make things better?

It's a fact that most sexual harassment cases are committed by acquaintances. It starts right from childhood, on a daily basis, all the groping, pushing, touching. What's a bit surprising, and disappointing, is that it continues even now, when we are in our twenties and still can't expect better from our peers, from men who claim to be decent and [women](#)-respecting and men who have been brought up in similar backgrounds and are 'educated' enough to read this article and have enough 'knowledge' to maybe even respond to it in some way (most probably negative). What's disappointing is that those men still find it funny to use the word '[rape](#)' for random things (like what happened when Germany 'raped' Brazil in the FIFA semi finals) and confidently [protest](#) when pointed out that it might be unfair to do so. What's disappointing is that the fact that some [woman](#) is a lesbian still makes a man smirk. What's disappointing is that men react like this when Kalki spoke on a [woman](#)'s right to be respected (and to note that the top comment seen here is the one that had the most likes on the whole thread). What's disappointing is that the first meet with many of these 'educated, sophisticated' men is always an analysis of [body](#) parts and nothing [more](#).

So where is the hope?

Gogona Saikia

A Psychology graduate from Delhi University, on my way to hopefully becoming a good journalist, as of now working with Outlook India as a trainee editor as well as a freelance writer. Reach me at gogona1810@gmail.com

ON THIS DAY

Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act notified

Sundaram to investigate SP EAC scuffle

Gold Rush for press club screening

Restore Chakma-Hajong rights: Civil body to government

Lafikul family unhappy with CBI for delay in probe

RELATED

Zubeen Garg: Assam, Society and the Rhythm of a Universal Vision

Lost Winters and Tropical Nights

Surviving patriarchy beyond care

Lakes: The lifeblood of our planet

The Importance of Libraries in Rural India
