

**UNFORGIVING SCARS; EXPLORING ISSUES OF
STIGMATIZATION AND EXCLUSION AMONG ACID ATTACK
SURVIVORS**



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Dedication

This work is dedicated with love and respect to my father MUHAMMAD MASOOD
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Abstract

This research highlights the struggles, challenges and social issues of stigmatized women which are acid victims and survive with facial disability due to acid violence especially in rural areas of Pakistan. Study explore the actual reason and factors which are the cause of acid violence it address the involvement of patriarchal culture that how these victims survive after having facial disability how they face the behavior of their family and society as well. In this research qualitative research design was used, interview guide was developed on the basis of this guide six interviews from acid victim women were conducted. All respondents were from rural areas of Punjab. The social context of disability in rural society was gained through interaction with participant's insider knowledge. The victims say that involvement of society and their culture in their lives is discouraging and negative especially in relation to employability, marriage and about to their justice. Victims shared their experiences and give suggestions for policy makers and governmental institutions as well that how they can save rest of their lives after their facial disability.

Chapter I

INTRODUCTION

Pakistan is a country with diverse culture and traditions. The social economic condition of Pakistan does not depict a very bright picture. The country is facing challenges in poverty, illiteracy, health issues, and unemployment and overall low standard of living of people has ranked Pakistan very low in human rights report.

Unfortunately gender discrimination is an issue that has tougher aggravated the social problems in a society. Pakistan women despite of the efforts of made by the Government and non-government-organization uplift the status of woman in society, are still deprived of basic necessities of life and they have to face discrimination in education, job, household, etc.