

Bliss

Victims of Crime

By Sadguru Jaggi Vasudev

Usually, you only look at the abused as a victim, but the person who is doing the abusing is also a victim, because in many ways he is degrading himself too. The worst thing any human can do to himself is to degrade himself like an animal, which he does for some reason. Though it may give him some pleasure or joy or power at that moment, still, in many ways, it is a tragedy for him as well. So it is not that one is a victim and the other an assailant. Both are victims. Many such incidences occur; it is not just an individual act; it is a complex process. So should you allow it to happen? No, you do whatever you can to see that these things don't happen.

But these things do happen in the world. Do whatever you may you cannot change everything. It does not matter what kind of person you become, even if you become a super-human, you will never have absolute control over the external world. Whether it is your institution or your family or the world, you will never have total control over external situations.

But you can have total control over your internal situations. This is always possible. Now that the external situations have gone out of control for some reason, people are killing, raping and doing all kinds of ugly things. Does it mean that you should allow the internal go out of control too? If your external situa-

tions are going out of control, is it not very important that you keep your internal situation in control?

Now that man has gone insane he acts accordingly. If you are also going insane with anger and hatred against that man where is the difference? He raped, so you want to kill. What is the difference? That does not mean you should not do something about the situation. Do what you have to do. But when you do it with anger and hatred, it is of no value - whatever you do.

Unfortunately, for most people, fear, anger and hatred are the most intense situations in their lives. Their love is never so intense, their peace is never so intense, their joy is never so intense, but their negativities are intense. So they experience power in negative situations. As you experience power in anger, the rapist experiences power in his lust. It is the most powerful situation that he experiences in his life, where he physically imposes himself on somebody else. He feels powerful.

And that is exactly the justification you are giving to be angry. It is not different. It is just that the acts are different. One is socially approved and another is not approved. That is all. Otherwise both these actions arise from the same basis.

Now you think that you can change the world, or you have the capacity to move yourself only with anger. Why? Why can't you move with love? Why can't you move with compassion? Why can't you move out of intelligence? Okay, if not out of love then at least

out of intelligence do what is needed for the society around you. The most beautiful things will happen when your actions spring from your intelligence and not from your anger.

How you respond depends on what kind of situation you are in, who you are, what your capabilities are and what means you have. You cannot respond in the same manner to every situation. If you have the power and the means to do something effectively, you can respond in one way. If you do not have the power and the means to respond at that moment, maybe your response will be to remain quiet at that moment and see what can be done later. But this is not done in vengeance or revenge.

You don't want this to happen, either to the victim or to the assailant. Both are in some way being degraded in their life. Only then can you say that you are functioning from love. Otherwise you are functioning only from your identity as a woman or man, which will not create a healthy world. All this misery has happened because people always act from their identity of belonging to a certain group, or religion, or race, or country, or sex.

If you react in a wild manner you will not bring any justice. You will not bring any well being to the world. You will just counter one evil with another evil. That is not a solution. Only when you act without identifications, when you function out of your intelligence, can there be a solution to this.