

Preface

It was in 2000, soon after I joined the University of North Bengal that I first thought about working on sexual offences against women. It took three years to collect materials on the topic for the preparation of the synopsis of the thesis. Initially I was inspired by my colleague and my supervisor Dr. Rathin Bandyopadhyay. Little did I realize that it would take so many years and tremendous labour to complete the present work. I am glad that I did not have the foresight to know then what I know in hindsight; if I did I would never under taken it.

Over these past six years many individuals and institutions have helped me in numerous ways; without their help this work would never have been completed. At the end of this long road, I now have the pleasure of expressing my gratitude to all of them publicly. I would like to like to record my deep sense of gratitude to prof. P.K. Saha, Honourable Vice Chancellor, University of North Bengal, prof. Raghunath Ghosh, Dean Arts, Commerce and Law, NBU, Head, Department of Law, NBU, and my colleagues for their valuable suggestion and other help. I was fortunate to have Dr. Rathin Bandyopadhyay, as my supervisor whose kind help and guidance in every step of my work had made this work so easy. In the course of collecting and writing the thesis I have benefited immensely from discussion and guidance from senior faculty member of the Calcutta University. Both of them had read and commented on previous drafts of one or more chapters. I am really indebted to my teacher Dr. Nihar Ranjan Chakraborty, former Head, Department of Law, N.B.U. who gave me lots of confidence far away from London, U.K.

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