

Quadrant II - Notes

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Module Name: Types of Victims and reasons for victimization

Module No : 28

According to *Sec.2 (w)(a) of Code of Criminal Procedure*, a “Victim” means a person who has suffered any loss or injury caused by reason of the act or omission for which the accused person has been charged and the expression “victim” includes his or her guardian or legal heir.”

Selin and Wolfgang states five categories of victims as Primary victims, Secondary victims, Tertiary victims, Mutual victims and No victims. Mendelsohn further offers a classification of victims into Innocent victims, Victims with minor guilt. Those who are guilty victims but offender is guiltier. Also, those cases where offender is guilty but victim is guiltier. Also, the case of guilty victim and an imaginary victim. According to Abel Fattah the victims are of five types; non-participating victims, latent victims, provocative victims, participating victims and retaliating victims. There are several factors which result in victimization such as precipitating factors like being in wrong place at wrong time, or attracting factors like opinions, choices, etc. Also, pre-disposing factors like demographic characteristics of the victim.

All persons are prone to victimization but there are some who are more prone to be victimized than others due to some peculiar factors. It includes children, old persons, disabled persons, women or young persons, persons placed in volatile situations and belonging to minority groups.