

Of being woman

And misogyny of Republic

Foundation The London Story

Attn: (Jack) twitter.
Wherever you are.

Too much information

This report may shock you and may invoke emotions that may make the world look like a really dark place!

Disclaimer: We want to keep this situation analysis simple and to the point. So we will not use flowery language, theory, or footnotes to say what we can say in a few sentences and images. By removing the frills, we are allowing you - our reader - to think about what has become of us as a society and if this is the future we want the future we are building. For theories and conceptual clarity of how misogyny is placed and treated we invite you to use Google Scholar and keyword search 'Misogyny' or 'gender and power' at the very minimum.

RELEASED UNDER CREATIVE COMMONS FEEL FREE TO USE ANY
PART OF THIS REPORT TO EXPLORE MISOGYNY FURTHER

UNNECESSARY INTRODUCTION

'No one has the right to abuse another person'

Freedom of expression and information is the bedrock of our human rights. Every person is free to express not only their knowledge, opinions, and desires but also their anger, frustration, and discontent. However, freedom of speech is not an absolute right and it stops when it enters the domain of inciting violence against another person, dehumanizing others, defaming others, or abusing someone. And this right to abuse does not exist when such slurs, epithets, and oral diarrhea is directed towards people one has no direct relation or causal connection too.

In the third week of January 2021, long after Amnesty International's report on Online Misogyny and UN Women's report on ICT-Violence Against Women we decided to run a random check of slurs directed at Swara Bhaskar on Twitter.

Our curiosity invoked by the fact that a while ago (in December), Swara tagged us in one of her Tweets (perhaps on the insistence of common friends) and with every Twitter notification we received slurs, and more slurs and more slurs! That was a bummer.



Amnesty Report: [Amnesty International India Troll Patrol India Findings 2020.pdf](#)

UN Women: [brief-online-and-ict-facilitated-violence-against-women-and-girls-during-covid-19-en.pdf](#)

Methodology

100% replicable by all human beings with access to twitter

We used keywords to search Slurs* directed at Swara, Rana Ayub, and Faye D'souza between 16th January 2021 to 23rd January 2021. Our keywords was a limited sub-set of slurs that we are familiar with – these included {MC or Kamin* or Chu*yapa or lu*or ungl* or prostitute or r*nd* or g*nd or mull* or ch**t..... } and so on and so forth you get the idea.



FINDING



We got a list of 707 tweets directed at Swara, Rana, and Faye, of which 687 slurs were directed at Swara. We believe this was mostly because Rana was absent from the Twitter during this particular week. Else of course our list of slur-filled tweets would have been much larger. Most of the slurs directed against Swara came from her opinion that she is a Hindu and do not find Tandav offensive.

Objectionable Tweets/Day-Hour to Swara Bhaskar



Twitter Policy on abuse reproduced

We consider abusive behavior an attempt to harass, intimidate, or silence someone else's voice.

Rationale: On Twitter, you should feel safe expressing your unique point of view. We believe in freedom of expression and open dialogue, but that means little as an underlying philosophy if voices are silenced because people are afraid to speak up. In order to facilitate healthy dialogue on the platform, and empower individuals to express diverse opinions and beliefs, we prohibit behavior that harasses or intimidates, or is otherwise intended to shame or degrade others. In addition to posing risks to people's safety, abusive behavior may also lead to physical and emotional hardship for those affected.

When this applies: Some Tweets may seem to be abusive when viewed in isolation, but may not be when viewed in the context of a larger conversation.[1]

When we review this type of content, it may not be clear whether it is intended to harass an individual, or if it is part of a consensual conversation. To help our teams understand the context of a conversation, we may need to hear directly from the person being targeted, to ensure that we have the information needed prior to taking any enforcement action.

We will review and take action against reports of accounts targeting an individual or group of people with any of the following behavior within Tweets or Direct Messages. For accounts engaging in abusive behavior on their profile, please refer to our abusive profile policy.

For behavior targeting people based on their race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, religious affiliation, age, disability, or serious disease, this may be in violation of our hateful conduct policy. Using aggressive insults with the purpose of harassing or intimidating others We take action against excessively aggressive insults that target an individual, including content that contains slurs or similar language.

Please also note that while some individuals may find certain terms to be offensive, we will not act against every instance where insulting terms are used.

Do I need to be the target of this content for it to be reviewed for violating the Twitter Rules?

No, we review both first-person and bystander reports of such content.

[1] We believe that it is likely that Twitter may suspend our Twitter thread because of the use of the word cloud. We would then gently remind twitter that the tweeted image while seemingly abusive when put in its context of challenging online misogyny is a 'finding' and not our views or frustration directed against any person group or corporate entities. The larger question is that we do not need to shock or be shocked if platforms are doing their job.

CONCLUSION

We are shocked, ashamed, and embarrassed by the slurs directed towards Swara on a daily basis. We hope this weekly conduct of online-trolls (for the lack of a better word) allows you to see misogyny in a new visual (but same old light!). To Swara Bhaskar we say – We are sorry Comrade, we hope you know that there are millions of us rooting for you and pro*d of the women like you.

The second part of this mini-state of art status analysis comes with a list of tweeter_user handles and the text that they used against Swara, Rana, and Faye. This part of the report is uncensored and provides compelling evidence as to why these people should be de-platformed from Twitter immediately We invite twitter to do the right thing and follow its own policy.