Kathua Rape Case

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8-year-old girl, Asifa Bano, was abducted, gangraped, and murdered in January 2018.
It is said that she was raped in order to drive her nomadic Muslim community out of the village.
The victim belonged to the nomad Bakarwal community.
A total of eight people, including four police officers, a juvenile and a senior citizen have been arrested so far.
The arrests of the accused led to protests by the Panthers Party, a local extremist party.
These pro-rape protests were attended by two ministers from the Bharatiya Janata Party.
This lead to widespread protests in India against the ruling party.
Knowledge Question

How can the beliefs of an individual affect their ability to make decisions?
How the RLS and the KQ Connect

Asifa Bano belonged to a nomad Bakarwal community that settled in the Rasana village near Kathua. This community practised Islam in a Hindu dominated village. Sanji Ram, the main accused wanted to get rid of this community and thus chose to kidnap Asifa. His juvenile nephew who helped him in kidnapping the girl, raped her for 15 days in a Hindu temple. She was also raped by Ram’s son and 4 others. The police also helped Ram by destroying the evidence. This crime took place due to the difference in ideology between the Hindus and Muslims. The knowledge question explores the relationship between one’s beliefs and the ability to take decisions. In this case it was the religious belief of Sanji Ram that motivated him to take an unethical decision like kidnapping a girl and allowing his son, nephew and 4 others to gangrape her for 15 days.
AOK’s and WOK’s

AOK’s : Ethics, History

WOK’s : Faith, Reasoning
Religious rapes are justified thus ethical, as it is God’s will

WOK: Faith

Conversation in the US House of representatives

Rep. Cory Williams: “Is rape the will of God?”

Representative George Faught: “If you read the Bible, there’s actually a couple circumstances where that happened and the Lord uses all circumstances.
COUNTERCLAIM #1

Rape is always unethical

WOK: Reasoning

“Krishna teaches us to love all living entities including humans and animals alike, as our own brothers and sisters. This not only places the responsibility of peaceful coexistence among individuals, communities and nations, irrespective of caste, creed, color, religion or nationality, but also emphasizes the importance of conserving our environment by a responsible and compassionate approach to all living forms.”

- His Grace Madhu Pandit Dasa became a full-time member of ISKCON in 1981. Presently he is the Governing Body Commissioner.
History can be used to justify one's unethical actions in the present

WOK : Reasoning

“The defeat of Germany in the First World War also had a great impact on Hitler’s world view and political beliefs. Hitler was a soldier and – like many other German soldiers – found it hard to accept the defeat of the German Empire. He believed that Germany had not lost the war on the battlefield but due to betrayal from within, by a ‘stab in the back’. Socialists, communists and particularly Jews were blamed.” This was used by Hitler to justify the Holocaust and invasion of Poland.

- Anne Frank's House
COUNTERCLAIM #2

Nothing can justify your actions if you hurt someone in doing so

WOK : Reasoning

Support : Deontological Ethics

In moral philosophy, deontological ethics or deontology is the normative ethical position that judges the morality of an action based on rules that can’t be broken.

“Nothing in the world—indeed nothing even beyond the world—can possibly be conceived which could be called good without qualification except a good will.”

- Emanuel Kant
CONCLUSION

It is important to think about this KQ because now more than ever religion influences the decisions that people make. This is because the impact of these decisions affects more people due to globalisation.

Even though Hindu extremists think that this rape is justified because it was against a Muslim and thus is justified and the rapists should be released.

The modern school of thought thinks that the rapists were wrong as even though their intentions were right according to them the way they did it was wrong thus the action is unjustifiable.

Another RLS can be terrorism as most terrorist groups follow particular religions and want to spread their religious ideology. They thus use violent methods in order to achieve their goals. Their actions affect the entire world today. A specific case could be the 9/11 or the Manchester bombing or the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks.
Citations

Does Gita Encourage Violence?

How wicked is India? Asifa's Name Becomes Top Trending Search On Porn Websites | Kashmir Gazette
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Deontology: Definition, Theory, Ethics & Examples - Video & Lesson Transcript | Study.com

For a fair trial: on shifting the Kathua rape and murder case