

Forensic Medicine Tutorial 4: BATCH 28

Sexual Abuse, Child Abuse, Abortion, GBV

A 15-year-old girl and a 32-year-old man were brought for medico-legal examination by an officer from the Ragama Police station. The girl was missing from home for 3 months and the man was a suspect on bail for a triple murder of his wife and two kids. The parents alleged that the man has abducted the girl and abused her. They were also worried about his drug addiction. You are the Medical Officer-Medico-Legal who is attending to these individuals.

- 1.1. List Five (05) medico-legally most important aspects that you would consider in the examination of these two individuals. (10 marks)

During the history taking the girl stated that she was his 'wife' but recently he started to assault her physically. 12 hours ago he has 'restrained' and sexually assaulted her with another two friends of him for more than 8 hours. She stated that she was forced to perform oral sex on the friends and all of them had penetrated her vagina and anus. Further, she was given some tablets and a drink which made her dizzy and she cannot clearly recall all the details.

- 1.2. List the possible findings that you expect to see in this girl to prove each of the above allegations. (30 marks)

Examination of the girl revealed that she was drowsy anxious and worried. There was a suction buries in the right neck, multiple healed patterned injuries over the breast (bite marks), atram line contusions in the back red in colour, tenderness of labia, attenuation of the posterior hymen, mucosal abrasion of the fossa navicularis area, mucosal abrasion and redness in the posterior vaginal wall, laceration of the anus and bleeding at the anus. Uterus palpable above the pubis and urine positive for Beta gravindex.

- 1.3. State your opinion to the police regarding the above findings. (25 marks)

While the examinations were going on police produced another two adult men for medico-legal examination as possible perpetrators.

- 1.4. Describe briefly how you would help the judiciary to prove the guilt or the innocence of the perpetrators produced with scientific evidence. (30 marks)

- 1.5. List three (03) most important steps you would take to ensure the wellbeing of this victim. (15 marks)

- 1.6. Briefly describe the management plan that you would carry out in this victim. (15 marks)

At the clinical case conference, the child stated that she wants to come back to home and continue schooling. The parents requested an abortion.

1.7. State your explanation to the girl and the parents considering the laws of sexual offences and abortion laws in Sri Lanka. (10 marks)

1.8. Describe briefly the mechanisms available in Sri Lanka to protect the woman from domestic violence by her husband. (15 marks)

Drafted by AE