

5th National Memorial Writing & Drafting Competition by The Law Communicants

MOOT PROPOSITION

Saloni Verma and Prashant Verma were living together in Green Park, Delhi, and their marriage was solemnized on October 15, 2019, under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955. Initially, the marriage was harmonious, but one day, things took a dark turn in their relationship when Prashant met with an accident on January 21, 2021, leaving him completely bedridden for a year. Due to the accident, Prashant lost his job.

Prashant and Saloni faced financial difficulties as Saloni became the family's sole bread earner, shouldering all household and Prashant's medical expenses which provided the consolidated support to Prashant which he used to appreciate but meanwhile there was a sudden change in Prashant's behaviour which was clearly noticeable. On December 18, 2021 Saloni's found undisclosed financial transactions and text conversations in Prashant's phone with her high school friend and that made Saloni suspicious.

In March 11, 2022, Saloni found several intimate messages and pictures on Prashant's smartphone, exchanged between him and his high school friend, Vinita Choudhary. Despite Prashant's assertions of the innocence of his interactions with Vinita, Saloni's trust was shattered but she tried to save the marriage.

The matter escalated when, in June 15, 2022, Saloni received an anonymous package containing photographs of Prashant and Vinita at a secluded hill station, coinciding with a period Prashant had claimed to be attending a solo meditation retreat. When Saloni confronted Prashant, he responded with forceful denials and accused Saloni of mistrust and paranoia.

Saloni also came to know that Vinita is currently undergoing a contentious divorce from her own husband, who has accused her of infidelity, further complicating the narrative. Saloni was clear that Prashant has transferred a significant portion of his assets to Vinita, alleging financial infidelity alongside the physical and emotional betrayal.

The issue between Saloni and Prashant has garnered media attention because of neighbours, with leaked documents and photographs circulating on social media platforms, raising issues of privacy invasion and public defamation. Prashant countered with accusations against Saloni for violating his privacy by accessing his personal communications without consent and for defamation for allegedly leaking the information to the media.

Unable to reconcile their differences and the erosion of trust, Saloni filed for divorce on the grounds of adultery in September 2023.

****This moot court problem is purely fictional and created for the purpose of a simulated court exercise. It is not based on any real case or individuals.**

****Participants are to prepare memorials from both the petitioner's and respondent's perspectives, addressing the complex layers of legal, ethical, and social issues presented by this case.**