

A Study on Delayed Trial Proceedings in Civil Cases and Its Impact on Public

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ABSTRACT:

This study delves into the significant issue of delayed trial proceedings in civil cases and its broader impact on the public. Delayed trials not only hinder the efficient resolution of disputes but also pose a range of socio-economic and psychological consequences for the public at large. This research employs a comprehensive approach, incorporating both quantitative and qualitative methods to analyse the causes, consequences, and potential remedies for delayed trial proceedings. Through a meticulous examination of court records, case law, and interviews with legal professionals, litigants, and experts, Objectives, To find out the effectiveness of the Supreme Court, High Courts, District Courts, providing speedy justice without unnecessary delay. The main aim of this research is to find out the delayed trial proceedings in civil cases and its impact on the public that is examined. This study follows empirical research. Both primary and secondary data are used for the study. The primary data in this research is collected by sample method convenient sampling. The secondary data in the research is collected from books,blogs,etc. The sample size is 202. The independent variable is gender, age, occupation, educational qualification, place of living. The dependent variable is the question posted. The tools of analysis used in the study are table,percentage,pie chart, chi square. Major findings, most of the people are impacted due to delayed civil proceedings and many reasons stated by people lead to delay civil cases. Major conclusion, majorly all courts do not follow the guideline given by superior courts and do not follow procedure in law in sufficient time it leads to much confusion and mental and physical affects every aspect of the individual.

KEYWORD: Delayed proceeding, Reason, Causes of Delayed Proceedings.

INTRODUCTION:

The timely and equitable resolution of civil disputes is not only fundamental to the functioning of a just legal system but also crucial for maintaining public trust and confidence in the rule of law. However, the persistently prevalent issue of delayed trial proceedings in civil cases has emerged as a significant concern, casting shadows on the efficacy and accessibility of justice. This research embarks on an exploration of the intricate relationship between delayed trial proceedings and its profound impact on the general public.

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While legal systems across the globe are designed to provide a swift resolution to civil conflicts, the reality often deviates due to a confluence of factors leading to trial delays. These factors, which encompass procedural complexities, institutional inefficiencies, backlog accumulation, and resource limitations, collectively contribute to the extended duration of civil trials. Consequently, the impact of such delays extends beyond the courtroom, influencing the public's perception of the justice system's effectiveness. This study aims to uncover the multifaceted repercussions of delayed trials on the public. Beyond the immediate litigants, the broader society is affected economically, socially, and psychologically. This situation is exacerbated when the number of cases filed surpasses the available judicial resources. Procedural Complexity, Complex legal procedures, documentation requirements, and formalities can lead to delays as cases navigate through intricate processes. The Technology Integration has influenced many legal systems and has been exploring the integration of technology to streamline court processes and reduce delays. This includes the adoption of electronic filing systems, virtual court hearings, and online case management platforms to facilitate more efficient proceedings. Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), There has been a growing emphasis on promoting alternative dispute resolution methods, such as mediation and arbitration, to expedite case resolution and alleviate the burden on traditional court systems. ADR offers parties more control over the process and can lead to faster outcomes. Online Dispute Resolution (ODR), ODR platforms are being developed to resolve disputes entirely online. These platforms provide an efficient way to handle certain types of civil cases without the need for physical court appearances. The comparison of many countries such as the United States, In the United States, the issue of delayed trial proceedings varies by state due to differences in court systems and caseloads. The Civil Procedure Rules promote early settlement discussions and the efficient management of cases. The country has introduced initiatives like Fast Track Courts to expedite certain cases, and technology adoption for virtual hearings has gained momentum, thus the Efforts are ongoing to improve court infrastructure and reduce adjournments.

OBJECTIVES:

- To evaluate the peoples about their impacts towards the delayed trial proceedings in civil cases.
- To estimate the main reason for delay in civil cases.
- To analyse the level of awareness of people about the legal drawbacks.
- To find out the effectiveness of the Supreme Court, High Courts, District Courts, providing speedy justice without unnecessary delay.
- To analyse the constitutional provisions for the Right to speedy trial.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

1) **Konstantinos Kalliris, Theodore Alysandratos, (2023)** This paper is a discussion of whether single-member judicial panels are an effective way of accelerating the delivery of criminal justice. We use a reform which introduced single-member courts in Greece, where delays in court proceedings are common according to the European Justice Scoreboard and the European Court of Human Rights. We use a novel dataset of 1463 drug trafficking cases tried between June 2012 and January 2014. As our measure of efficiency we use the time to issue a decision, and we find that single-member panels are as efficient as three-member ones. We take advantage of a feature of the reform to control for several confounding factors and support a causal interpretation of our findings. We complement our analysis with a survey of 142 judges to guide our interpretation of the results.

2)**Stjepan Srhoj, Dejan Kovac, et.al., (2023)** Different types of bankruptcy restructuring procedures are used in most legal systems to decide the fate of businesses facing financial hardship. We study how bargaining failures in an under-researched type of restructuring procedure, a formal out-of-the court procedure impacts the economic performance of participating firms. Croatia introduced a “pre-bankruptcy settlement” (PBS) process in the wake of the Great Recession of 2007–2009. A novel dataset provides us with annual financial statements for both sides of more than 180,000 debtor–creditor pairs, enabling us to address selection into failed negotiations by matching a rich set of creditor and debtor characteristics.

3)**Iris van Domselaar, Ruth de Bock, (2023)** A classic avenue that victims can take to hold a corporation to account and obtain redress for the harms they have suffered is civil litigation. In the past decades, such attempts have been pursued against corporations in the tobacco industry, the pharmaceutical industry, the asbestos industry or industries working with asbestos and, more recently, the extractive industries. However, it is notoriously difficult for victims whose rights have been violated by corporations to obtain effective redress in civil procedures. A rich body of burgeoning scholarly literature and policy documents has addressed the extent to which systematic and institutional factors are obstacles to victims seeking justice for corporate misconduct.

4)**Leonid Lichman, Andrii Dryshliuk, (2022)** The principle of reasonableness holds a prominent place in the system of principles of any procedural activity. To achieve the goals and objectives of civil proceedings, reasonableness is either present or should be present in the daily routine of a judge in the administration of justice and is expressed in the judge's reasonable procedural actions upon consideration of each particular case. The aim of the study is to highlight the statutory consolidation and reflect the role of the principle of reasonableness within international standards of justice, the legal positions of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) and procedural law of some European states.

5)**Michael Berlemann, Robin Christmann, (2020)** Court delay frustrates economic behaviour. This paper examines the nexus between the case disposition time and the availability of prior court decisions for the civil law. We model litigation as a rent-seeking game, and find that prior court decisions curb strategic behaviour in similar cases. Thus, the excessive use of party resources in litigation, such as time, is reduced if prior decisions clarify the interpretation of the law. Using judge-level data, we provide empirical evidence on a potential role of such ‘precedents’ for case disposition time in a civil law country.

6)**Yunfeng Ge, Hong Wang, (2019)** The social development and judicial reforms in mainland China over the past 40 years have greatly influenced the way courtroom trials are conducted and how courtroom discourses are purposively constructed to fulfil a variety of judicial, social, and cultural functions. This creates a research gap between the former monolithic understanding of courtroom language as a homogeneous legal entity and the examination of the present hybridising nature and characteristics of judges' discourse.

7)**Ed deHaan, Simi Kedia, (2015)** We investigate the consequences of the “revolving door” for trial lawyers at the SEC’s enforcement division. If future job opportunities motivate SEC lawyers to develop and/or showcase their enforcement expertise, then the revolving door phenomenon will promote more aggressive regulatory activity the human capital” hypothesis). In contrast, SEC lawyers can relax

enforcement efforts in order to develop networking skills and/or curry favour with prospective employers at private law firms the rent seeking hypothesis.

8)**Carlo Cusatelli, Massimiliano Giacalone, (2014)** The reform that by Presidential Decree introduced telematics civil procedure Italian judicial system has the objective of a more efficient and rapid justice. The combination of justice and Information and Communications Technology is now a path to be not only in terms of functionality and cost management, but also to adjust the Italian quality standards respect to the other European states From the statistical point of view as an indirect measure of the judiciary evaluation, we analyse the indices of average length in the various proceedings, as the main tool for assessing the efficiency court, noting the repeated condemnations against the Italian state, by the European Court of Human Rights, for failure to comply with the principle of reasonable duration of the process, a further confirmation of the unfortunate situation that our country is facing on the topic of judicial authority.

9)**Karine Poitras, Rachel Birnbaum, et.al., (2021)** The vast majority of parental separations and divorces are resolved without resulting in a trial in family court, but the cases that proceed to trial have both higher financial and emotional costs for families. A better understanding of the factors associated with the use of a trial to resolve family disputes can assist the family justice system to develop triage models to identify these cases at an early stage, and to provide resources to families to reduce the likelihood of a trial. A court file study was undertaken at two family courts in Quebec, Canada.

10)**Daniel, P. Kessler, Daniel, L. Rubinfeld, (2007)** In this essay, we discuss empirical research on the economic effects of the civil justice system. We discuss research on the effects of three substantive bodies of law contracts, torts, and property and research on the effects of the litigation process. We begin with a review of studies of aggregate empirical trends and the important issues involving contracts and torts, both positive and normative. We survey some of the more interesting empirical issues, and we conclude with some suggestions for future work. Because studies involving property law are so divergent, there is no simple description of aggregates that adequately characterises the subject.

11)**Andrew Macintosh, Phillip Gibbons, (2018)** Environmental impact assessment (EIA) promotes considered and participatory decision-making, which can delay development and, at times, lead to projects being temporarily halted or permanently discontinued. Over the past decade, governments in a number of jurisdictions have proposed ‘streamlining’ reforms to eliminate perceived causes of unnecessary delays and stoppages. A target of these reforms has been environmental citizen suits (ECS): legal or merits-review proceedings initiated by private parties to uphold public environmental rights or interests for predominantly public purposes in order to generate public environmental benefits.

12)**Jacqueline, R. Kanovitz, (2010)** This chapter provides the overview of constitutional safeguards during the trial and punishments. The chapter examines a variety of constitutional safeguards designed to ensure fair trials and humane punishments. These safeguards include the Fifth Amendment prohibition of double jeopardy, Sixth Amendment right to a speedy and public trial before an impartial jury, the Sixth Amendment right to confront adverse witnesses, and the Eighth Amendment ban on cruel and unusual punishments. The double jeopardy clause prevents the government from trying or punishing an accused person more than once for the same offence.

13) **Abdil Mughis Mudhoffir, (2022)** This paper examines the limits of Indonesian civil society activism in advancing democratic politics. This activism, mainly by middle-class reformers, has not only failed to prevent democracy from being hijacked by illiberal interests but also contributed to justifying the deepening of political illiberalism. A predominantly anti-political approach among civil society activists mainly aims to establish new institutions and policy designs to generate reforms, while allowing entrenched power relations to remain unchallenged and to pervade new institutions.

14) **Mahrus Ali, Wahyu Priyanka Nata Permana, (2022)** Under existing Indonesian environmental legislation, the principle of punishment without culpability has been applicable exclusively in civil cases, closing the possibility to open prosecutorial window in criminal cases. This paper aims to explore the legal considerations and the scope of application of punishment without culpability in environmental offences. This paper employed doctrinal legal research focusing on the legal provisions of environmental legislation in which the culpability of the culprit was not stated in an explicit manner. In addition, this study analysed the judicial decisions in the application of punishment without culpability. The findings of the study show that most of the prohibited offences in environmental legislation deal with the malum prohibitum crime tied to the violation of a permit.

15) **David Maher, (2022)** It is typically argued that civil war acutely inhibits inward flows of foreign direct investment (FDI). However, the evidence is inconsistent and does not support the assumed negative relationship between civil war and FDI. Some studies suggest that FDI enters countries with internal armed conflicts unabated; others show that civil war economies exhibit strong increases in FDI during conflict. Underpinned by a liberal interpretation of war, this scholarship finds these trends to be surprising, counter-intuitive and curious, arguing that FDI enters conflict zones in spite of violence.

16) **Dewa Gede Sudika Mangku, Ni Putu Rai Yuliantini, (2022)** This study aims to find out the application of e-court in the settlement of civil cases in The District Court of Signarama Class IB and the juridical implications of one of the features of e-court, e-summon against valid and appropriate summons. The problems that arise are related to the maximum or implementation of some features of e-court, namely e-summon and e-litigation and e-summon features that deviate from the provisions in Herzen Infonetica Regalement (HIR) and Retroelement voor De Buitengewesten (RBG). Qualitative research of an empirical juridical nature conducted in the Signarama District Court Class IB shows that the application of e-court, in general, can contribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of the judiciary. This condition is seen in all registration of cases through lawyers in the Court has been done through e-filing, as well as estimates of fees and payment of case fees that have used e-SKUM and e-payment.

17) **Mohammad Nevisandeh, Abdollah Rostami Chalkasari, (2016)** Speed and accuracy in the proceedings, has been considered in domestic literature mostly with the negative approach such as prolongation of proceedings, in the judicial procedure as well as the legal doctrine, and has also been considered in international literature mostly with the positive approach and in terms of concepts such as rapid proceedings, reasonable and conventional proceedings, etc. The precondition for speed and accuracy in the proceedings is the existence of standard rules and also the existence of the judicial system and experienced and expert human resources and legal staff.

18) **Pavol Sokol, Laura Rozenfeldova, (2020)** Use of IP addresses by courts in their decisions is one of the issues with growing importance. This applies especially at the time of the increased use of the internet as a mean to violate legal provisions of both civil and criminal law. This paper focuses predominantly on two issues: the use of IP addresses as digital evidence in criminal and civil proceedings and possible mistakes in courts approach to this specific evidence, and the anonymisation of IP addresses in cases when IP addresses are to be considered as personal data.

19) **Yutian Jiang, Na Zhang, (2023)** Justice is the primary criterion for evaluating the law. Chinese free trade zones aim to attract foreign investment and promote economic development efficiency, but their judicial reform goal still needs to be justice. Given the importance of balancing justice and efficiency, this study assesses whether the judiciary sacrifices justice for the sake of economic efficiency in civil cases with Chinese free trade zone enterprises acting as the plaintiff. By introducing commercial factors such as enterprise subject and legal resource characteristics into a theoretical model, this study develops a hierarchical regression model to investigate the judicial process in free trade zones.

20) **Vytautas Nekrosius, (2021)** The article analyses the potential of information technologies in the Lithuanian civil procedure. A special focus is put on the operation of the systems of electronic case (both in the examination and enforcement procedures), submission of procedural documents, electronic auctions as well as LITEKO and CRIS systems. The ODR (Online Dispute Resolution) are helpful for the public to file the case, and also lessens the burden of the court to look over in the grounds for filing a case in the court for an party. The tribunals and the court of law are helpful for the courts to reduce the burden, to resolve the disputes in faster manner and award an fair justice to the parties.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

The main aim of this research is to find out the delayed trial proceedings in civil cases and its impact on the public that is examined. This study follows empirical research. Both primary and secondary data are used for the study. The primary data in this research is collected by sample method convenient sampling. The secondary data in the research is collected from books, blogs, etc. The sample size is 202. The independent variable is gender, age, occupation, educational qualification, place of living. The dependent variable is the question posted. The tools of analysis used in the study are table, percentage, pie chart, chi square.

Independent variables:

- Gender
- Age
- Educational Qualification
- Place of Living
- Occupation

Dependent variables:

- Whether you involved in a civil case with delayed trial proceedings.
- Major factors Contributing to Delayed Trial Proceedings.
- Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public

- In your view, what measures could be implemented to expedite civil trial proceedings and reduce delays
- On the Scale 1-10 Overall, Satisfaction with your current Civil Procedure Code, 1908.

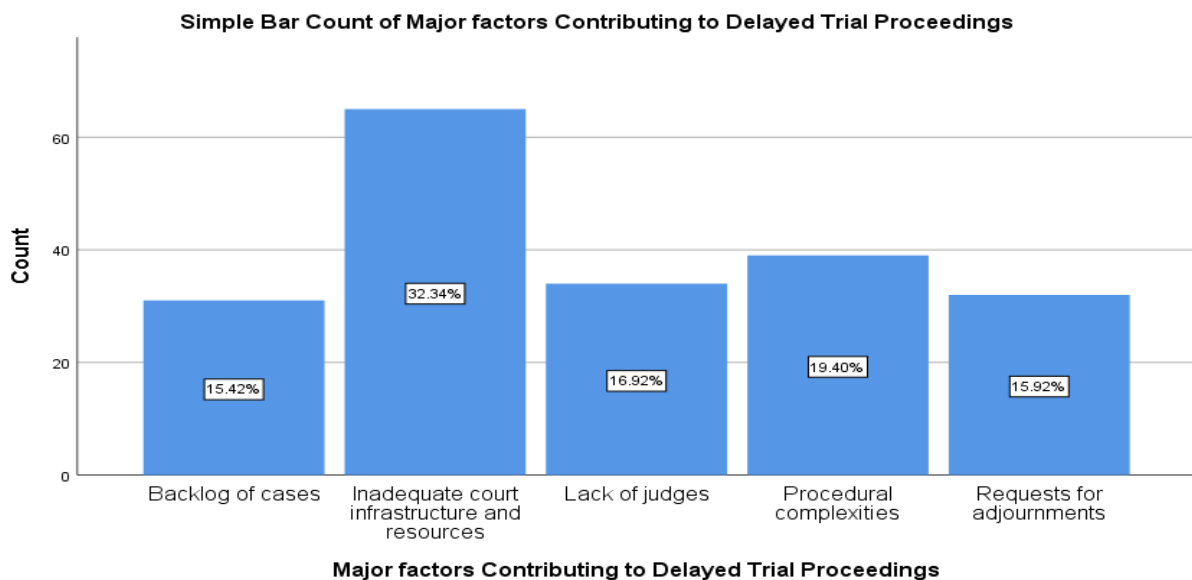
ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION:

FIGURE:1



LEGEND: Figure 1 shows that Whether you involved in a civil case with delayed trial proceedings of sample respondents.

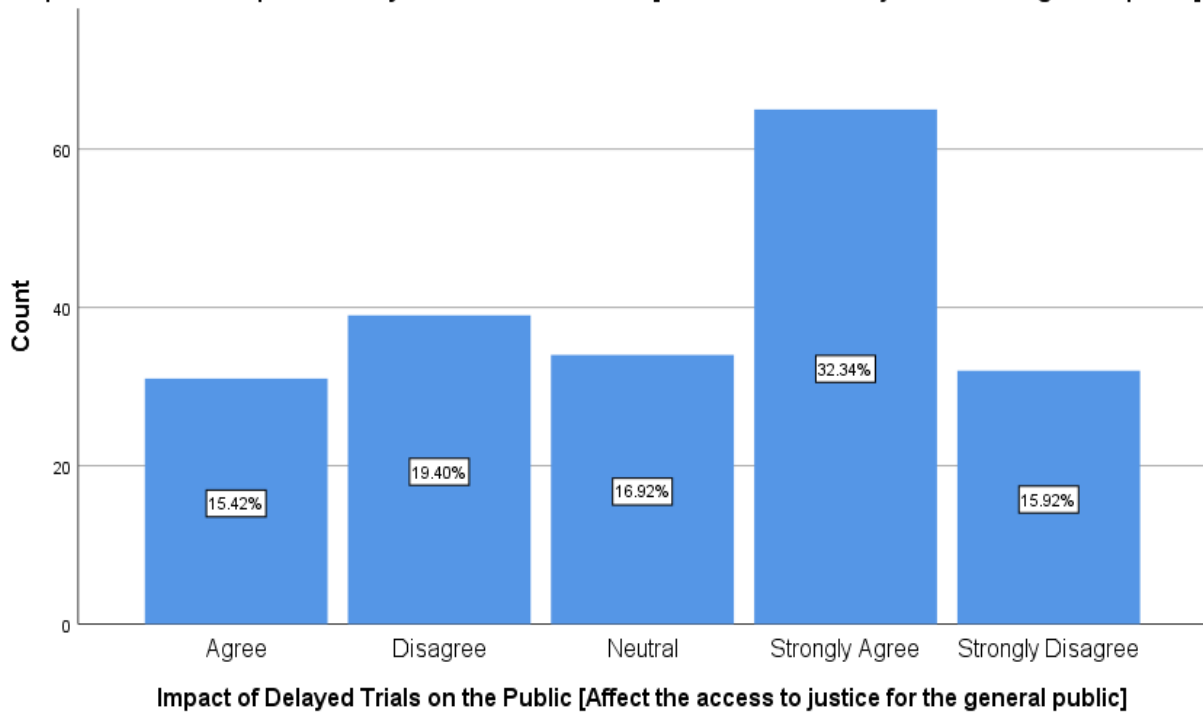
FIGURE:2



LEGEND: Figure 2 shows that Major factors Contributing to Delayed Trial Proceedings of sample respondents.

FIGURE:3

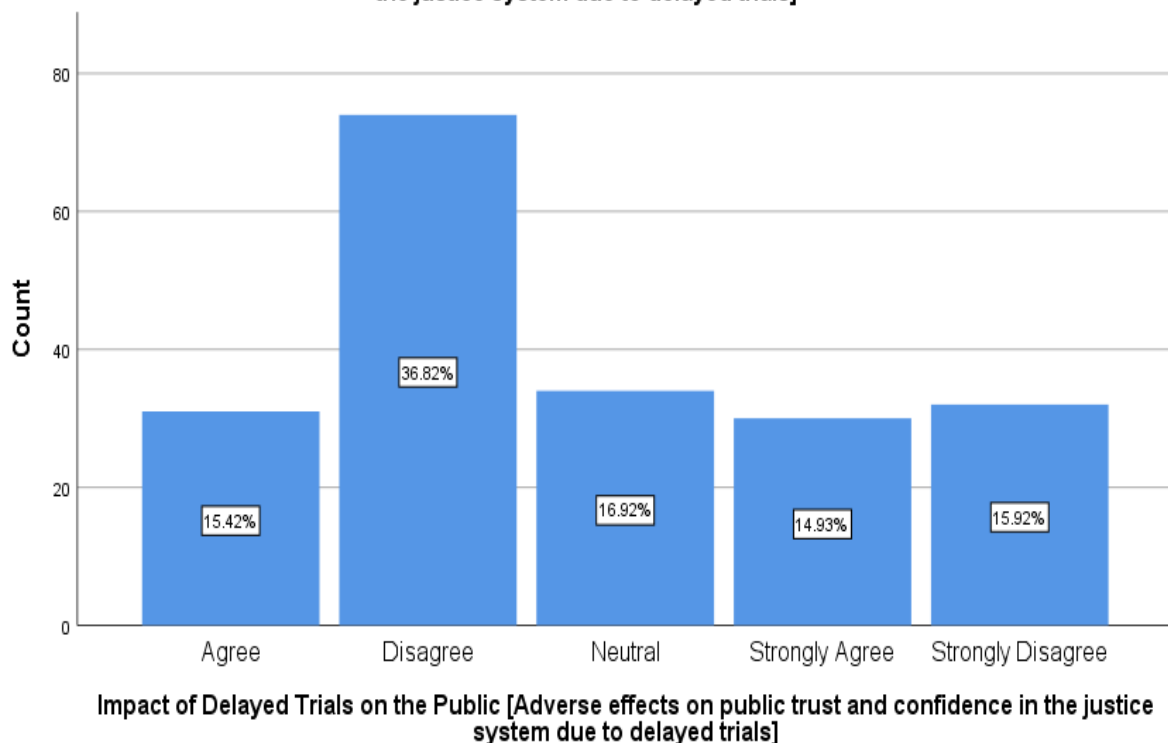
Simple Bar Count of Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public [Affect the access to justice for the general public]



LEGEND: Figure 3 shows that Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public of sample respondents.

FIGURE:4

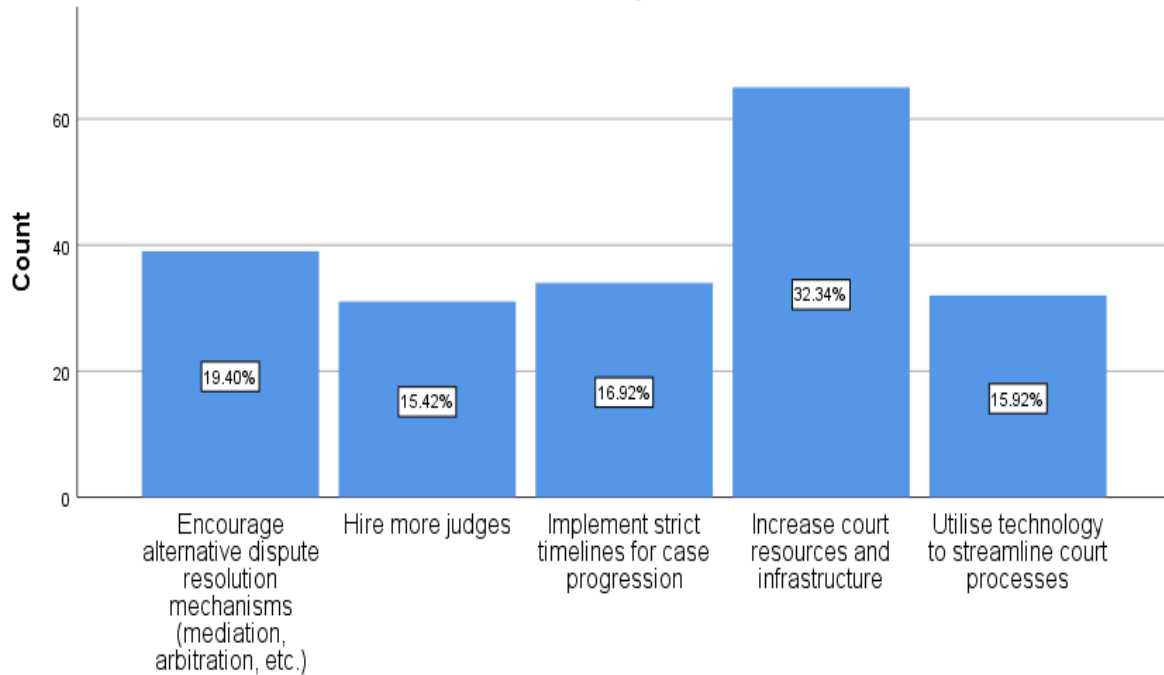
Simple Bar Count of Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public [Adverse effects on public trust and confidence in the justice system due to delayed trials]



LEGEND: Figure 4 shows that Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public of sample respondents.

FIGURE:5

Simple Bar Count of In your view, what measures could be implemented to expedite civil trial proceedings and reduce delays

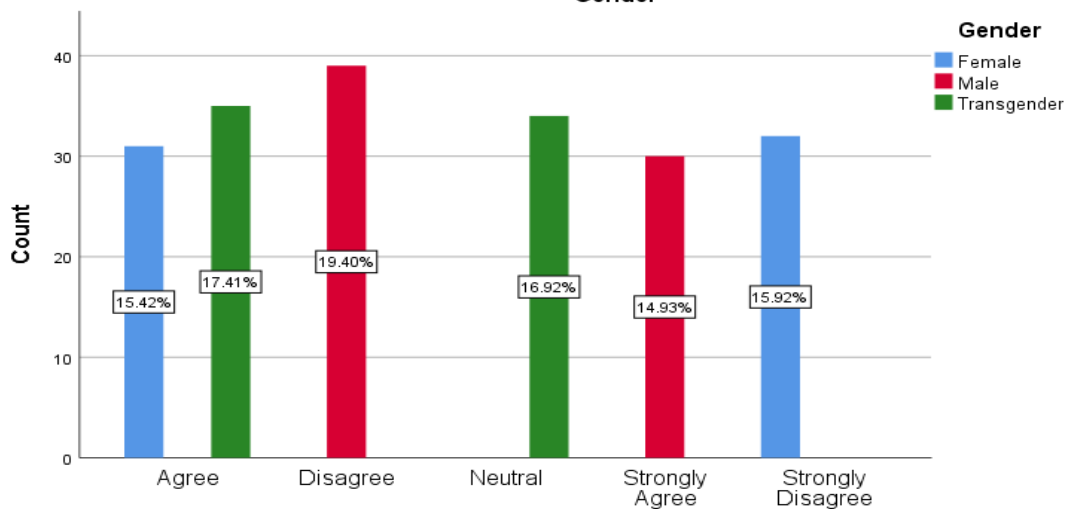


In your view, what measures could be implemented to expedite civil trial proceedings and reduce delays

LEGEND: Figure 5 shows that In your view, what measures could be implemented to expedite civil trial proceedings and reduce delays of sample respondents.

FIGURE:6

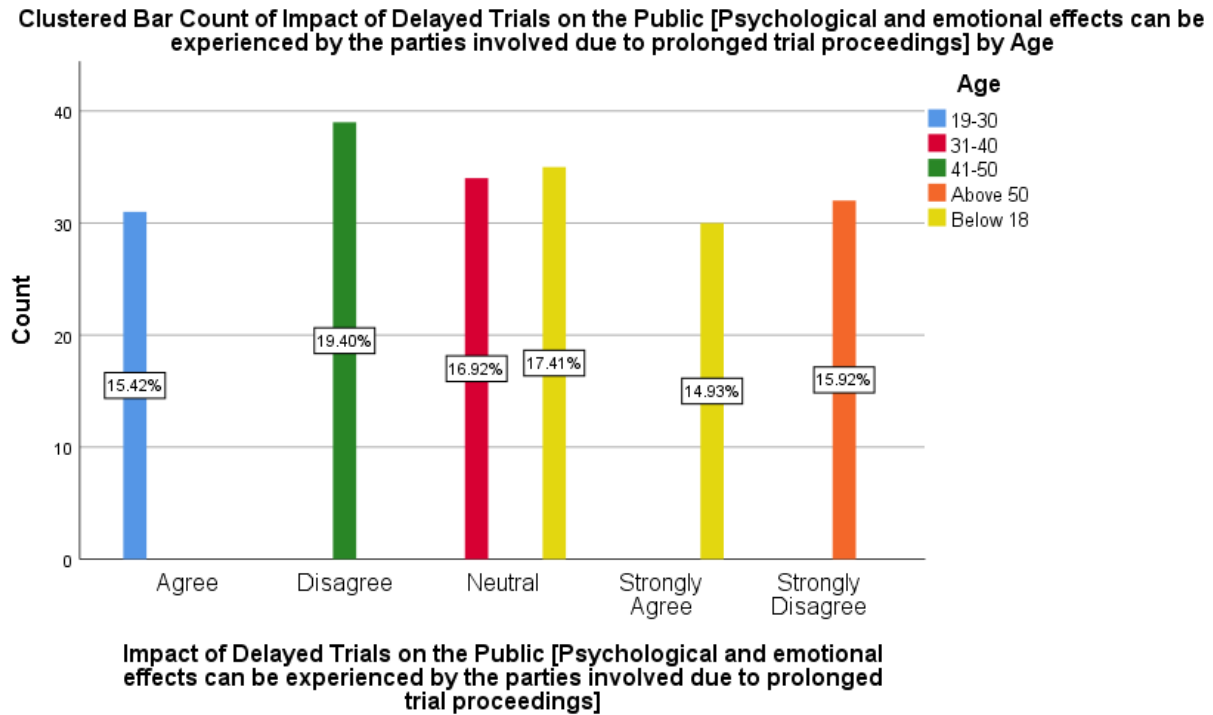
Clustered Bar Count of Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public [Financial burdens for the parties involved] by Gender



Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public [Financial burdens for the parties involved]

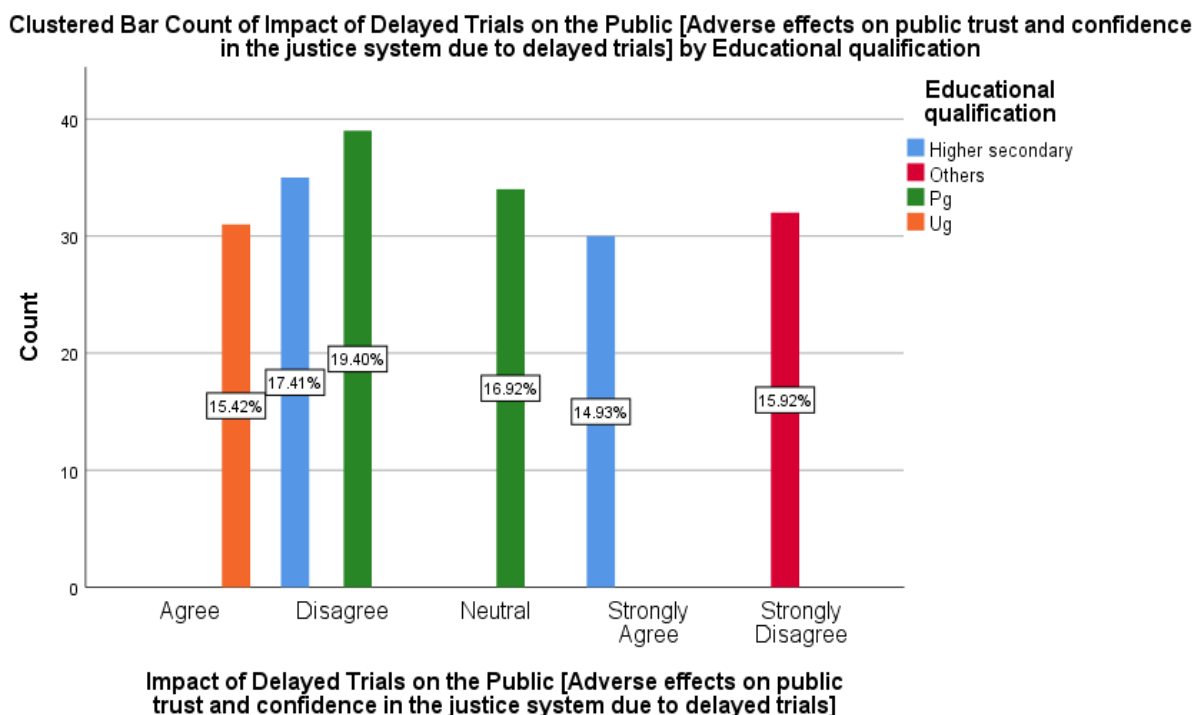
LEGEND: Figure 6 shows that Gender of the respondents, agreeability and their opinion on Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public of sample respondents.

FIGURE:7



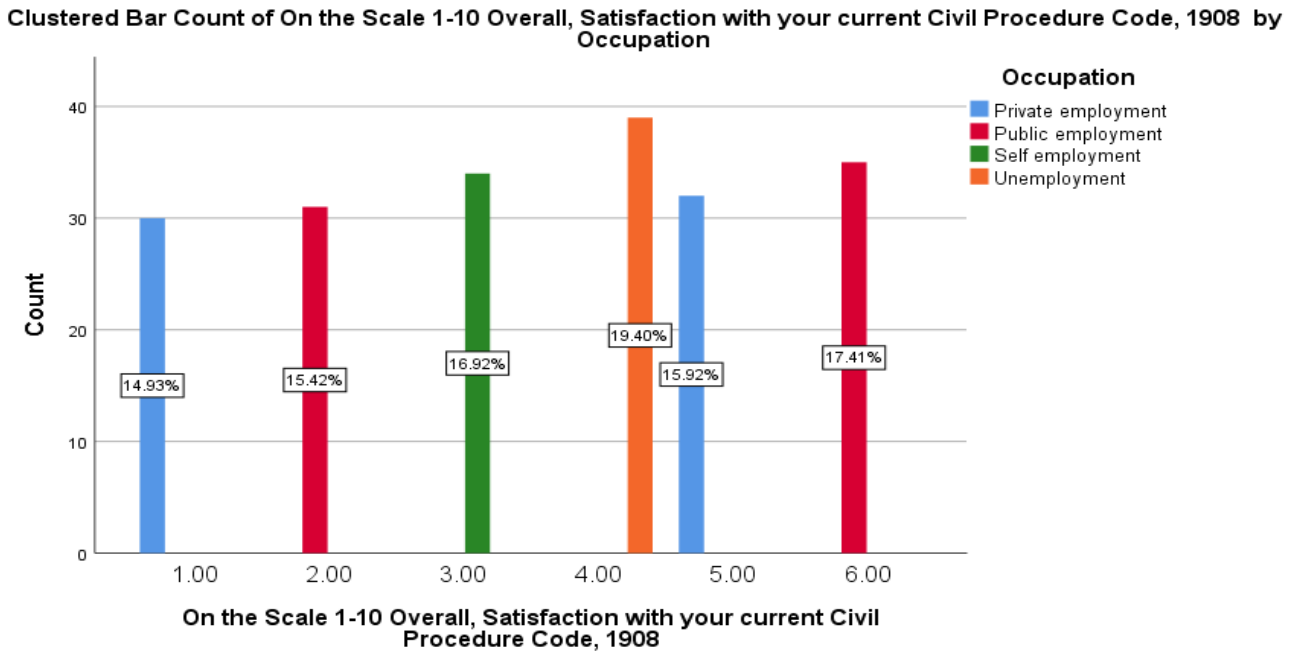
LEGEND: Figure 7 shows that Age of the respondent, agreeability and their opinion on Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public of sample respondents.

FIGURE:8



LEGEND: Figure 8 shows that Educational qualifications of the respondent, agreeability and their opinion on Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public of sample respondents.

FIGURE:9



LEGEND: Figure 9 shows that Occupation of the respondent and their opinion on the Scale 1-10 Overall, Satisfaction with your current Civil Procedure Code, 1908 of sample respondents.

FIGURE:10



LEGEND: Figure 10 shows the Place of living of the respondent and their opinion Whether you are involved in a civil case with delayed trial proceedings of sample respondents.

RESULT:

(Figure:1) The table reveals their opinion about Whether you involved in a civil case with delayed trial proceedings of sample respondents. Yes - 47.76%, No - 52.24%.

(Figure:2) The table reveals their opinion about Major factors Contributing to Delayed Trial Proceedings of sample respondents. Backlog of cases - 15.42%, Inadequate court infrastructure and resources - 32.34%, Lack of judges - 16.92%, Procedural complexities - 19.40%, Requests for adjournments - 15.92%.

(Figure:3) The table reveals their opinion about Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public based on the Affect the access to justice for the general public of sample respondents. Agree is 15.42%, Disagree is 19.40%, Neutral is 16.92%, Strongly Agree is 32.34%, Strongly Disagree is 15.92%.

(Figure:4) The table reveals their opinion about Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public based on the Adverse effects on public trust and confidence in the justice system due to delayed trials of sample respondents. Agree is 15.42%, Disagree is 36.82%, Neutral is 16.92%, Strongly Agree is 14.93%, Strongly Disagree is 15.92%.

(Figure:5) The table reveals their opinion about In your view, what measures could be implemented to expedite civil trial proceedings and reduce delays of sample respondents. Encourage alternative dispute resolution mechanisms (mediation, arbitration, etc.) - 19.49%, Hire more judges - 15.42%, Implement strict timelines for case progression - 16.92%, Increase court resources and infrastructure - 32.34%, Utilise technology to streamline court processes - 15.92%.

(Figure:6) The table reveals their opinion about Gender of the respondents, agreeability and their opinion on Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public based on the Financial burdens for the parties involved of sample respondents. Female Agree is 15.42%, Male Disagree is 19.40%, Transgender Neutral is 16.92%, Male Strongly Agree is 14.93%, Female Strongly Disagree is 15.92%.

(Figure:7) The table reveals their opinion about Age of the respondent, agreeability and their opinion on Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public based on the Psychological and emotional effects can be experienced by the parties involved due to prolonged trial proceedings of sample respondents. 19-30 Agree is 15.42%, 41-50 Disagree is 36.82%, 31-40 Neutral is 16.92%, Below 18 Strongly Agree is 14.93%, Above 50 Strongly Disagree is 15.92%.

(Figure:8) The table reveals their opinion about Educational qualifications of the respondent, agreeability and their opinion on Impact of Delayed Trials on the Public based on the Adverse effects on public trust and confidence in the justice system due to delayed trials of sample respondents. Ug Agree is 15.42%, Higher Secondary Disagree is 36.82%, Pg Neutral is 16.92%, Higher Secondary Strongly Agree is 14.93%, Others Strongly Disagree is 15.92%.

(Figure:9) The table reveals their opinion about Occupation of the respondent and their opinion on the Scale 1-10 Overall, Satisfaction with your current Civil Procedure Code, 1908 of sample respondents. Private employment 14.93% is 1% not satisfied, Public employment 15.42% is 2% not satisfied, Self employment 16.92% is 3% not satisfied, Unemployment 19.40% is 4% not satisfied.

(Figure:10) The table reveals their opinion about Place of living of the respondent and their opinion on whether you are involved in a civil case with delayed trial proceedings of sample respondents. No Rural is 32.84%, No Semi-rural is 19.40%, Yes Semi-urban is 16.92%, Yes Urban is 30.85%.

DISCUSSION:

(Figure:1) In this figure most of the respondent aware about delayed trial proceedings because most of them suffered by any of the legal problem which causes them delay of getting justice and continued in the trial.

(Figure:2) In this figure most of the respondent majorly contributing delay of proceedings was inadequate court and judges, procedural complexities, because not only this, there are many other reason like leave of judges, natural calamities, advocate delays etc.

(Figure:3) In this figure most of the respondent mostly thinks general public not able to access justice, only the economically wealth and political supported person is gain advanced of this legal procedure by delaying proceeding thereby satisfy their needs.

(Figure:4) In this figure most of the respondent leads to strong believe in legal procedure based on that they survive there life by believing mostly in legal procedures.

(Figure:5) In this figure most of the respondent go to the alternative method of legal proceeding to escape from delay in proceedings and also increase courts to conduct legal proceeding to reduce the burden of the courts to conduct pending cases.

(Figure:6) In this figure most of the respondent proceedings not delay due to the financial reason for the parties involved many other reason like leave of judges, natural calamities, advocate delays etc.

(Figure:7) In this figure most of the respondent think the prolonged trial proceedings it leads the parties to physically, mentally affect them huge, based on the age it affecting percentage will increase.

(Figure:8) In this figure most of the respondents strongly believe in legal procedure based on that they survive there life by believing mostly in legal procedures.

(Figure:9) In this figure most of the respondent not well aware about the civil law followed by courts and Acts etc.

(Figure:10) In this figure most of the respondent aware about delayed trial proceedings because most of them suffered by any of the legal problem which causes them delay of getting justice and continued in the trial.

CONCLUSION:

The timely and equitable resolution of civil disputes is not only fundamental to the functioning of a just legal system but also crucial for maintaining public trust and confidence in the rule of law. However, the persistently prevalent issue of delayed trial proceedings in civil cases has emerged as a significant concern, casting shadows on the efficacy and accessibility of justice. This research embarks on an exploration of the intricate relationship between delayed trial proceedings and its profound impact on the general public. While legal systems across the globe are designed to provide a swift resolution to civil conflicts, the reality often deviates due to a confluence of factors leading to trial delays. These factors, which encompass procedural complexities, institutional inefficiencies, backlog accumulation, and resource limitations, collectively contribute to the extended duration of civil trials. Consequently, the impact of such delays extends beyond the courtroom, influencing the public's perception of the justice system's effectiveness. This study aims to uncover the multifaceted repercussions of delayed trials on the public. Beyond the immediate litigants, the broader society is affected economically, socially, and psychologically. Economic implications arise from the financial burdens imposed on litigants, deterring potential plaintiffs and exacerbating existing inequalities.

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