

Indian Penal Code, 1860, S. 498A – When an offence has been committed by a woman by meting out cruelty to another woman, i.e., the daughter-in-law, it becomes a more serious offence – Mother-in-law is held to be guilty for the offence under Section 498A of IPC – Being a lady, she ought to have been more sensitive vis-à-vis her daughter-in-law – If a lady, i.e., the mother-in-law herein does not protect another lady, the other lady, i.e., daughter-in-law would become vulnerable – Husband of the victim was staying abroad – The victim was staying all alone with her in-laws – Therefore, it was the duty of the appellant, being the mother-in-law and her family to take care of her daughter-in-law, rather than harassing and/or torturing and/or meting out cruelty to her daughter-in-law regarding jewels or on other issues – Therefore, as such, no leniency is required to be shown to the appellant in this case.

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