

## **Moral Policing - Anti-Romeo Squads**

### **Why in news?**

\n\n

The setting up of “anti-Romeo squads” was one of the election promises in Uttar Pradesh.

\n\n

### **What is the purpose of these “squads”?**

\n\n

\n

- They were meant to curtail eve-teasing and provide greater security to women.

\n

- It is aimed at taking action against boys who are found outside girls’ colleges, and are involved in eve-teasing and molesting girl students

\n

- But couples were stopped just for being spotted together, though the squad admittedly had no legal jurisdiction to stop them.

\n

\n\n

### **Why it is bad?**

\n\n

\n

- If the police can’t tell the difference between molesters and amicable couples, the squads disperse humiliation, extortion and violence on innocent young people in public places.

\n

- It violates citizens’ rights and dignity

\n

- It brings back medieval repressions especially at a time when walls between the genders are breaking.

\n

- They make it unsafe for women to step out with men of their choice, inhibit families and foist retrograde notions about the sexes meeting.

\n

- Earlier accusation of “love jihad” to describe mixed-religion marriages as was aggression targeted minorities. It included references to an incident of alleged abduction, gangrape and forced conversion of a Hindu girl to Islam in Kharkhoda area of Meerut.

\n

- The current move has expanded hatred towards all young people.

\n

- It is also against the concept of minimum government.

\n

\n\n

\n\n

**Source: The Indian Express**

\n

