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COURT OF RECORD

Body Shaming in Marriage Deemed Cruelty

Kerala High Court Expands Scope of Section 498A IPC

Sheikh Rayees • November 19, 2024

PUBLISHED REPORT

In a landmark interpretation, the Kerala High Court has ruled that body-shaming a wife constitutes marital cruelty under Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The judgment also clarified that the spouse of a husband's sibling residing in the same matrimonial home qualifies as a "relative" under the same provision. Justice A. Badharudeen highlighted that body-shaming and questioning a woman's professional qualifications fall under "willful conduct" likely to harm...

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