

Sandhya Manoj Wankhade v. Manoj Bhimrao Wankhade, (2011) 3 SCC 650

Human and Civil Rights

Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005

S. 2(q) & proviso thereto and Ss. 12, 18, 19, 20 & 22 - ``Respondent" - Meaning - ``Relative" of husband or the male partner - Whether include females - Held, legislature never intended to exclude female relatives from ambit of complaint that could be made under 2005 Act - Though expression ``female" is not used in proviso to S. 2(q), but no restrictive meaning can be given to expression ``relative" nor has said expression been defined to make it specific to males only - Courts below erred in holding otherwise, (2011) 3 SCC 650-