



CRWP-5970 of 2024 (O&M)

1

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRWP-5970 of 2024 (O&M)

Date of Decision: 26.06.2024

Manjinder Kaur and another

...Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE RITU TAGOREPresent: Mr. Sukhbir Maandi, Advocate
for the petitioners.Mr. Dharminder Singh Lamba, DAG, Punjab
for respondents No.1 to 3.

RITU TAGORE, J. (ORAL)

Petitioners claim that they have attained majority and are in a live-in-relationship with each other against the wishes of their family members. Apprehending threat to their life and liberty from respondents No.4 to 7, they have filed the present petition for protection under Article 226 of the Constitution of India.

Petitioners claim to have submitted a representation (Annexure P-3) dated 20.06.2024 in this regard to the Senior Superintendent of Police, Tarn Taran. Learned counsel for the petitioners restricts his prayer to the effect of deciding the representation of the petitioners.

Heard.

Record perused.

The petitioners have placed on record copies of their Aadhaar Cards (Annexures P-1 and P-2) as proof of their age, from the same it is



prima facie made out that petitioners are major.

Herein, the petitioners, have taken a decision to reside together without the sanctity of marriage and it is not for the Courts to judge them on their decision. In *S. Khushboo vs. Kanniammal, (2010) 5 SCC 600*, it has been held that live-in relationship is permissible and the act of two adults living together cannot be considered illegal or unlawful, while further holding that the issue of morality and criminality are not co-extensive.

In view of the above, without going into the merits of the case and expressing any opinion as to the sanctity of their live-in-relationship because the safety of the petitioners is the first and the foremost concern at this stage, this petition is disposed of with a direction to respondent No.2- Senior Superintendent of Police, Tarn Taran, that representation filed seeking protection of life and liberty of petitioners, be looked into and contents thereof be duly verified and if necessary, requisite steps be taken, strictly in accordance with law for grant of protection of life and liberty to the petitioners. Petitioners are directed to appear before respondent No.2 within a period of one week from today.

It is made clear that the observations made herein are only for the purpose of deciding the present petition only. This order shall have no affect on civil/criminal proceedings, if any, pending/instituted against the petitioners.

It is further made clear that if petitioners are otherwise found to be involved in any other case, in such an eventuality, this order shall not preclude the competent authority from taking appropriate action against the petitioners, that law permits.

(RITU TAGORE)
JUDGE

June 26, 2024
Manpreet

Whether speaking/reasoned	:	Yes/No
Whether reportable	:	Yes/No