



A Review on Women in Research and Empowerment

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ABSTRACT

As women's education has become one of the important development objectives in the nineties, it is crucial to examine the assumptions under which policies, programmes and projects are formulated towards this goal. More recently, the concept of empowerment has been tied to the range of activities undertaken by and for women in different areas, including education. In all these, a related question is: From what and whose perspective are we going to evaluate such assumptions and its empowering outcomes? UNESCO Institute for Education (UIE) is able to contribute to the dissemination of the diversity of ideas on women's education as well as providing a venue for critical reflection on women research and empowerment. Presently, the women's perspective is taken as the reference point for evaluating the effectiveness of educational policies, programmes and projects. UIE is able to contribute to the dissemination of the diversity of ideas on women's education as well as providing a venue for critical reflection on empowerment. This manuscript mainly focused on role of women in education, research, and empowerment. Broad reasons why women are less in managerial positions, tips to overcome all the hindrances, undertaking a project and many other strategies have been summarized.

KEYWORDS : Women research, projects, 6Cs, professionalism, entrepreneur etc.

Introduction:

The promotion of action-oriented research and the improvement of cooperation with various institutions focusing on women's education needs will be one of the priorities of the Institute in the coming years. Earlier there were 3 ks- which means Kitchen, kids, knitting, then came 3 pcs :means powder, papad, pickles, but, at present there are 3 Es: means electronic, energy, engineering.

Strategies for women empowerment:

Empowerment through education is ideally seen as a continuous holistic process with cognitive, psychological, economic and political dimensions in order to achieve emancipation. The characteristics of empowered women are: They are Imaginative, Hard working, desire to take risk, profit earning capacity, accept challenges, ambitious, enthusiastic, patience, industrious, motivator, skillful, optimistic, adventurous, conscious, studious, innovative thinking. self-confidence and self-esteem and has ability to prevent violence. In order to promote women's empowerment, it is necessary to create an environment that will allow women to participate in educational programmes and share the benefits. It was therefore emphasized that while there is a need to set up specific education programmes for women, there is also a necessity to develop forms of education that will sensitize people towards gender discrimination and will raise their acceptance of women's promotion. Even then,

Why women are less in managerial position? Reasons:

1. Family responsibilities, 2. Family constraints, 3. Priority, 4. Lack of encouragement, 5. Social reasons, 6. Phobia, 7. Multiple roles, 8. Dependency, 9. Lacking confidence, 10. Stereotypic nature, 11. Lack of awareness, 12. Discrimination of gender, 13. Hindrances, 14. Security, 15. Lack of time, 16. Stress, 17. Limited aspirations and so on....

Why women education:

It was also necessary to clarify the goals of women's education.

The important objectives are:

- To eliminate illiteracy;
- To develop self-esteem and self-confidence;
- To have knowledge about themselves;
- To have the ability to make their own decisions and negotiate;
- To raise the women's awareness of their civil rights;
- To provide skills for income generation;
- To make participation in community/society more effective; and
- To prepare them to be good women leaders.

You can further stimulate the discussion on major problems in the field of women's education as well as to explore ways and means of carrying out efficient and innovative programmes for empowering women. The formal and non-formal education systems would need to be considered. It would be important to analyze the gender content and to ascertain the manner in which it is addressed/not addressed in the educational system. On the basis of the analysis, curriculum changes would need to be brought about. Likewise, it would be important to reorient the teachers on gender issues so that overall gender sensitization in the educational system could be brought about.

Why specifically WOMEN:

Women plan, organize, bold enough to take risk, and decide ideally. But, the actual working and living conditions of women also prevent many of them from meaningful participation in women's education programmes/projects. The suggested components are:

- promotion of gender awareness;
- lessons on health and nutrition;
- integration of technical, entrepreneurial, cultural and communal aspects;
- information and lessons on politics; and
- provision of planning and thinking skills.

Actually, self-empowerment means that women gain autonomy, are able to set their own agenda and are fully involved in the economic, political and social decision-making process. It was stressed that it is equally important to convince men that better education of women will be beneficial to the entire family and the society as a whole.

When women move forward, the family moves, the village moves and the nation moves.....

Why WOMEN are not able to succeed in higher education? The Constraining factors:

- Heavy work load of women;
- Isolation of women from each other;
- Traditional views that limit women's participation;
- Lack of funds;
- Disagreements/conflicts among women's groups and so on....

Even then, some women are nowadays overcoming all the above and are involved in research and getting ready to attend some professional meetings by taking few tips. They are,

1. Be prepared for unpleasant comments
2. Avoid being emotional
3. Maintain knowledge
4. Don't worry about lobbying
5. Have self confidence
6. Maintain networking
7. Careful planning. Thus, maintains 'professionalism' where more women are involved as they are, Responsive, +ve attitude, Communication skills, Initiative, Smartness, Innovative, Charismatic, Scientific, Experience, Commitment and so on....

When you are Professional- 6 "C"s are important: They are,

1. Courage
2. Competence
3. Commitment
4. Creativity
5. Capability
6. Confidence

Research/Documentation: Why women in research?

1. To make the women visible
2. To have membership in research committees
3. Empowerment
4. Work with congress, media, and community.

The importance of doing participatory and action research was underscored. It is considered to be important for organizing workshops to train grassroots women to conduct participatory research where they could develop skills to critically analyze their existing conditions. This will facilitate them in organizing for collective action. While participatory research is considered to be important, it is recognized that traditional quantitative research is also necessary. The guiding principle, however, has to share the results with the women in a language and manner that is understandable to them. Research as a strategy would therefore entail:

- Disseminating information;
- Producing and disseminating information leaflets regarding women's rights;
- Referring to women in all national and UN statistics;
- Collecting oral history of women;
- Documenting and analyzing successful and failed programmes of the women's movements;

analyzing successful advocacy cases in order to learn about the arguments that persuade policy makers

- Collecting Case studies;
- Constantly evaluating research; and
- Involving women as agents (instead of objects) of research.

Campaign, Networking and Training are also important to be a successful professional as through campaign, networking, share experiences and learn from one another. They would therefore entail networking at the national, regional and international levels linking women's movements all over the world. Training capable female leaders at all levels in form of making them to involve in conferences, workshops, seminars, symposia's etc. make the women more perfect.

Project: How and why to do?

When WOMEN involve in projects, she should know the following:

1. Definition of the project
2. Purpose of the project
3. Requirements/Parameters of the project
4. Alternatives
5. Methodologies used
6. Procedures involved
7. Modelling formulas
8. Computational work etc.

To do Research some of the Project granting Centres are: CSIR, UGC, DST, DBT etc.

Types of Projects: 1. Minor, and 2. Major projects which can be Basic or Applied.

Research process: Objectives:

1. Research questions
2. Methodologies used
3. Planning a project
4. Writing of Proposal
5. Ethical considerations etc.

Selection of the topic:

1. Novelty, 2. Feasibility, 3. Value, 4. Outcomes, 5. Original / Plagiarism

People think that men get their security from jobs, Women from marriage. But NO..... Women get security from EDUCATION. At last she can become a great entrepreneur who is a risk taker and is ready to face any challenges.

Finally, the destination of women should be "RE-SEARCH".



So, My Dear Women WAKE UP & CREAT "A NEW YOU"