



ATTITUDE OF YOUTH TOWARDS STATUS OF WOMEN

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ABSTRACT As we all know, Indian society is known to have gender inequalities from its early history, which had been built into the structure of traditional Indian society. Women became victims of the most horrific acts socially, economically and politically in the name of traditions and customs. Girl children get discriminated in terms of basic necessities of life such as food, clothing and shelter. This gender inequality has negative outcomes for society as a whole. The main factor for this is that India is predominantly patriarchal and patrilineal, so practice of patrilocality is common. Religion also plays a dominant place regarding this. The popular interpretations of Hindu mythology have very fixed views on how women should behave. At the same time rapid urbanization and exposure to mass media are also changing the mindset of youth especially young girls who are demanding equality and refuse to accept traditional ideas.

KEYWORDS : women, society, inequality, differentiation

Introduction

The main **objective** regarding this research is to find out that how far equality (among women and men) has been reached among the mentality of our society by focusing on some points, which is also my **hypothesis**:

- In Indian society, women need protection from the crepe minded people (patriarchal society) of our country.
- Men use to differentiate between their wife and sister, daughter and daughter – in – law, regarding dress, attitude, veil, etc.
- Motto of studying of girls is not to learn but to achieve equality in society.
- Still equality is a matter of debate regarding reservation system, in politics, job opportunities, equal pay for equal work, freedom to choose partner, etc.

I have opted for random sampling technique and a quantitative analysis.

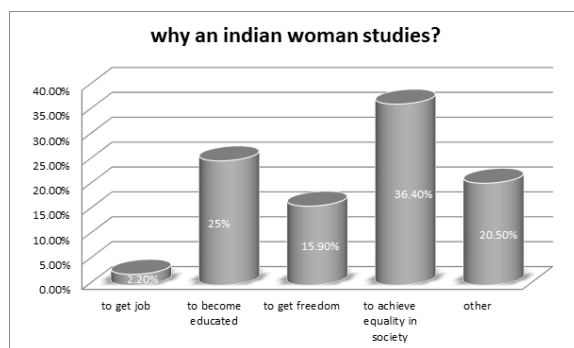
This is the research among the **youth (both boys and girls) of college students of Durg-Bhilai of Chhattisgarh**, which includes 50 students. Among them, 43.2% are male and 56.8% are females, 9.1% are married and 90.9% are unmarried; age varies between 18 to 28 and mostly are Hindus.

Women need protection

Most of the youth have thinking that women are physically and mentally weak. Majority of them blame society for this, as society makes such rules and regulations for women that they are forced to be regarded as weak, while only 15% of the youth agree to the biological reason behind this. 43% of the youth agree that women need protection from the society and the reasons are mainly the narrow minded and male dominating society.

Differentiation

Youth of Durg-Bhilai don't have different attitudes regarding dress between their wife and sister. Most of the youth judge women by her nature and only 18.20% by her attitude. They consider that it should depend on girls regarding the age of marriage, while few of them consider maturity as their criteria, while few says that they should make their career first. Most of the youth agree that women are free to choose their partner; among them only 5% of boys disagree. In terms of education, Most of the youth regards girl's education to be as per their wish, while few considers that graduation is enough for them, and only 2.3% considers only 12th. 100% of the youth agree that women who want to continue working after having kids are good mother. Here 82% of the youths doesn't consider as an insult for a married women without veil. Less than half of the youth thinks that country would be governed better, if women were in political office, while shamefully few regards as it worse.



Equality

Most of the youth says that women should have equal job opportunities with men; women need opportunity to speak rather than to be listened. Almost half of the youth says that there should not be reservation system for the women as both boys and girls are equal now a days, while remaining are confused regarding this and very few thinks that women should be given opportunity. A women who drinks and smokes are no longer consider as immoral by most of the youth and who considers it, give the reason of society, old customs and of course patriarchal society. Most of the girls want to remain as a child, but majority of the youth's viewpoint is that they should behave maturely, especially after marriage as they have to now take the big responsibility of family and upcoming next generation. Now if we talk about social networking sites, women who remain active on this, are no longer consider as desperate for men, as they used to be considered before. There should be equal pay for equal work, no one has regretted it. Among youths, boys no more consider any difference in intelligence capacity between men and women, while interestingly; few women consider themselves as more intelligent than men. In this country, still society favors men over women and very less as equal. In workplace, now there is no more differentiation.

Most of the youth now thinks that the overall position of women compared to men in this country has improved and if they are given a chance to born again, majority of the youth wants to be a woman, while less than half have no effect regarding this.

Important data have been shown here:

Question	Options	Result
Whether the country would be governed better or worse, if women were in political office?	No difference Worse Better	61.4% 4.50% 34.10%
If you were to be born again, would you want to be a man or woman?	No difference Women Men	34.10% 50% 15.90%

· Do women need protection?	Yes o Boys o Girls No May be	15% 24% 27% 30%
· Should a married woman has to act 'mature' i.e. she should move over 'childish' things like giggling uncontrollably with her girlfriends, playing cracks, cracking jokes?	Yes o Boys o Girls No o Boys o Girls	69% 6% 5% 20%
· Are women active on social networking sites, desperate for men?	Yes No May be	6.80% 65.90% 27.30%
· Criteria for a girl to get married	Boys o Maturity o Should know cooking o it depends on her o Should make her career first	6% 21% 42% 31%
	Girls o Maturity o Should know cooking o it depends on her o Should make her career first	24% - 58% 28%
· Minimum educational qualification for a girl	Boys o As per her wish o Graduation o 12 th	73% 21% 6%
	Girls o As per her wish o Graduation o 12 th	72% 28% -

Reference

1. Data source – scroll.in "India falls 21 places in Global Gender Equality Report, ranks 108 in 144- nation list" (published on Nov 02, 2017) indianexpress.com (published on March 22, 2017)
2. Article – "Attitude towards women among college students in urban India" –By Dr. Shobha.A.Menon.
3. Thesis on "A study on the attitude of youth towards status of women in the matrilineal society at Jaintia hills" by Ms. Neelam.
4. Thesis on "Status of women in the Khasi society with special reference to Smit village" by Ms. Neelam.

Conclusion

The youth of Durg-Bhilai are no longer reserve now. They want equality in all matters. But they want the so called society...the patriarchal society to get changed and this can only be brought by our young generation. Here, the youths are open minded, as they don't differentiate between their sister and wife (or to be wife) regarding everything like dressing, attitude, putting veil or not and so on. But if we talk about, still the matter is worse. Today, the education is no more a dream for girls, even after marriage, they are freed to learn, but their motto of studying is not to learn but to achieve equality in society. Most of the youths agree that that there should be equal pay for equal work; while hiring employees, there is no differentiation regarding gender; should have equal job opportunities as men; reservation system is no more essential, means but, still equality is a matter of debate as few youths are confused regarding this

Suggestion

The trend of demeaning women and restricting them to stereotyped roles needs to be changed by making people educated and aware that Indian women need to be respected and honored as equal partners in society. In this context our future citizen's adolescents have an important role to lead the society on a progressive path. It is very essential that adolescents should develop a positive attitude regarding status of women. A women's status in the family is the key indicator of her status in society. So, a change in the attitude of family members is of great significance in improving the status of women in the family. The husband should treat her with as a co-partner and step forward to help in the domestic sphere. Changed attitude is not only important among husband but also among the other family members especially the adolescents who have an important role to play in the future. They can challenge the old values, express their ideas and can bring change in the fabric of society. It is important to make females know their rights and use it.

India ranks 125th on the gender inequality index and 108th on the global gender gap index. Women's literacy and education enrollment rates have increased over time, but labor force rates have decreased instead of increasing. According to The Asia Foundation many women are able to get an education, but the idea of women working is still culturally hard to accept. So, mentality and culture is needed to be changed through various methods.