



ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER

English

WHY DO MOTHERS KILL THEIR CHILDREN?: A PSYCHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS.

KEY WORDS: Mother, murderer, victim, psychology, depression and transformation.

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays, women change their role from kind, affectionate mother to cruel murderers. She kills her own children violently by slitting their throats or throws them into water. To hear or read such incidents are a threat to society. Whatever problems comes in life individuals surrender themselves to their mother. If a mother started killing their children, where should they go?. The reason behind this is analysed in this article from psychological point of view.

INTRODUCTION:

"We consider women as the eyes of the country. But according to me, they are the heart and brain of a house."

(Vedaththiri Maharishi –Dinamalar -5)

It is true because women are the assets of a family and country. They are not only the eyes of the country but also the heart and brain of a house. Even, men are within women. The image of women is central to the story of literature all over the world. To know the mind and feelings of women one must know psychology.

There is also a close connection between psychology and art. Psychology helps to explain art. Both art and psychology are interrelated. In order to understand art, one must know the situation and feelings of the criminals. To study the inner feelings of women, one must know their psychological and social situations.

Indian Women:

Madhavananda and Majumdar quote the words of Swami Vivekananda in "Great women of India." in The Holy Mother Centenary Memorial. It is a striking remark about women after Swami Vivekananda's visit to the United States, "In the west, women did not very often seem to be women at all, they appeared to be replicas of men . . . In India alone the sights of feminine modesty and reserve soothes the eye . . . Still on this sacred soil of India, this land of Sita and Savitri, among women may be found such character, such spirit of service, such affection, such compassion, contentment and reverence, as I could not find anywhere else in the world.(537). No one excels a woman in affection, compassion and selfless service.

Psychological Victims:

In recent days shocking news we receive from this society is a mother kills her children either giving poison or throw them in water for silly reasons. Why these things are happening in our country? Are they cruel, hard hearted?. No. Because, they are psychological victims. Psychoanalytic feminists believe that women's way of acting is deeply rooted in women's psyche. As aptly observed by Ramsey, "Psychoanalytic feminism is based on Freud and Psychoanalytic theories. However, it maintains that gender is not biological but is centered on the psycho –sexual development of the individual." (168).

Women who kill their children never get a chance to express their feelings and sufferings to anyone. They show their hatred, helplessness to their children. They lose their temper. They are hyper sensitive. Their illness makes them to behave like that. Dr.Dale Hartley explains their state of mind in "The Bronx Hospital Shooter: A Chronic Catathymic Crisis?" as:

In a Catathymic crisis, the individual nurses grudges and ruminates over grievances to the point that he or she becomes hyper-obsessed and pathologically self-focused. This is most likely when a person is already psychologically disturbed. If he or she doesn't get help and won't let the matter drop, the obsession can build up

to a state of rage-fueled cognitive dissonance so profound that the person experiences a dissociative or psychotic state. (web.https://www.psychologytoday.com.)

After killing their children, they won't be happy. They feel guilty for killing their children till the end of their life. Mothers are not the only the criminals. Their family is also responsible for the crime. Doctors agree that there is a close connection between infanticide and psychosis. Dr. Khasakhala said, "Most of the mothers we examine get into depression because of lack of support from their spouses. Violence and neglect by intimate partners, according to me, is a big contributor to this kind of depression." (Daily Nation – Sep11-2018).The solution for avoiding these problems is family members should take care for them. If they commit mistake, it clearly shows that they are longing for love and affection. If they are happy, they will sacrifice their life for the sake of their family. Longing for love and care results in such disastrous act.

CONCLUSION:

Though killing others is a crime, the victim alone should not be blamed. Loss of their near and dear ones is the biggest punishment given by God. So, to avoid such problems in one's life, one should spend at least one hour with family in a day and try to make them happy. "There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so." says Shakespeare in Hamlet.(11) From this, it is clear that one can change one's thought about any threatening situation. Past is past. One cannot change the past and fate. By changing their mind by adding positive thoughts, they can also be successful. It is apt to quote the words of William James here. "The greatest discovery of my generation is that human beings can alter their lives by altering their attitudes of mind." (web.https://www.brainyquote.com). Positive transformation is necessary for all human beings to lead a happy and successful life.

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