

GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IS A HUMAN RIGHT: GLOBAL ISSUES

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Abstract

Empowerment is the process of obtaining basic opportunities for marginalized people, either directly by those people, or through the help of non-marginalized others who share their own access to these opportunities. It also includes uneasy attempts to deny those opportunities. This paper clarify that gender equity and women empowerment is what important for the growth of economy. Paper also helps to understand the scenario being changed from Vedic period to contemporary India. It also give recommendations to resolve the global issues of gender sensitive and women empowerment.

Keywords: Gender Equity, Woman Empowerment, Issues, etc.

Introduction

Gender equality and women empowerment is a human right but globally, we see persistence gap in equality of men and women. Globally women have less opportunities than man in field of education, decision making powers, in political representations, etc. Most of top executive positions still remain in hands of men only. World faces a persistent gap in decision making power for men and women mostly the head of family called men take decision for their family. When a women being literate it can say more than one family being literate and when the literacy began to rise it having multiple effect on growth of society as whole. Guaranteeing the rights of women and giving them opportunities to reach their full potential is critical not only for attaining gender equality, but also for meeting a wide range of international development goals. Empowered women and girls contribute to the health and productivity of their families, communities, and countries, creating a ripple effect that benefits everyone.

Objectives

- To know position of women from history to contemporary times in India.
- To know effect of gender disparity effect on economic growth of country
- Essentials to bring gender equality and women empowerment need to resolve global issues

Research Methodology

Data collection of paper is based on secondary sources. Secondary data collected by the way of study the published research papers, articles, government sources.

History of Position of Women from Vedic Period to Contemporary India

During Vedic period position of women held in high esteem. They enjoyed equal amount of opportunities and rights. 'Gargi and Maiteryi' were the leading philosophers who composed Rig Vedic Hymns. There are also instances of women rishis such as Ghosa, Indrani, Urvashi, etc. In Vedic culture women had high status. They allowed to choose their partner as per their wish by conducting 'Sawyamvar'. Women enjoyed major role play during the Vedic period. During Mughal Empire, many immoral practices like Pudah Pratha, Sati Pratha, child marriage, female foeticide, etc. surfaced into the Indian society. During the British period amongst the great reformers ram Mohan Roy enact the Bengal Sati Regulation, 1829 declare practice of burning alive Hindu windows to be punishable. From time to Vedic period to post and contemporary India position of women change a lot. Men and women of India have an equal fundamental rights includes right to education, participate into economically, social, political practices. Constitution of India provides an equal right to both and offer protection to women against its exploitation. Nevertheless, women states on ground of social evils practices like gender inequality, sexual harassment, domestic violence, no education to girls, prostitution, etc. to bring gender equality the society together have to make efforts to make these social evils practices to nil of ground.

Gender disparity effect on economic growth of country

World Bank Data reveals 70% of the 1.2 billion people living in poverty are female. Women do more than 67% of the hours of work done in the world but earn only 10% of the world's income and own only 1% of the world's property. The value of remunerated

work was estimated at about \$16 billion, from which \$11 billion represents the invisible contribution of women. Women are paid 30-40% less than men for comparable work on an average. 60-80% of the food in most developing countries is produced by women. Women hold between 10-20% managerial and administrative jobs. Women make up less than 5% of the world's heads of state. Sprawling inequalities persist in their access to education, health care, physical and financial resources and opportunities in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres.

Recommendations to resolve gender sensitive issues

- Treat men and women both with equal respect and consideration.
- Openly communicate with the considerate of the multitude of views and opinions that are different than your own.
- Women suggest to take over the opportunities and get aware of all the rights they have.
- Not only the men but also the women also need to take an active role and get the best of opportunities whether politically, economically, socially, etc.
- Awareness of things is essential to resolve gender sensitive issues is must. Many of times people are not aware about the major issues and how to handle the issues. If they get aware about the situations happens and awareness of rights they have, things can be improved.

Conclusion

Empowerment of women and gender equity concludes that women should be independent, self-reliant, able to face difficult situations, able to take decision of their own. Many of times women are not aware of their rights they have which need to create awareness among them so that they can take active role of their rights and responsibilities. These issues should be resolved timely which will be beneficial for society and its development. Government activities alone cannot achieve the goal of gender equality and to resolve global issues society have to take major and active participation to bring it.

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