



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND SOME OPINIONS OF THE GREAT MEN

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Article History

Received: 21.02.2025

Accepted: 29.03.2025

Published: 15.04.2025

Abstract: In every civilization and in every age, the women's role and participation in the labor force have been the center of attention. In order to promote social mobility and provide them equal rights and advantages, it is obviously essential to implement the desired adjustments. Since the dawn of time, women have found it difficult to adjust to a male-dominated society. Despite years of anticipated expansion, women's position remains low in India, and their socioeconomic circumstances are far worse than men's. **Objective:** The study's aim is how to empower women in India and search the opinions of the great men of the world. **Design and methodology:** The integration of both quantitative and qualitative data has yielded a thorough comprehensive study from secondary sources. **Results and Discussion:** The Third World countries are very much rich having quantum of human beings, which is also quite inadequate in terms of human resources. On the opposite direction, the developed nations are very much rich possessing a large number of human resources but very much poor having quantum of human beings. Therefore, to get developed, the human beings must be converted into human resources. The women constitute half of the population. They must be converted into human resources first to get all round development of any country. If India wants to be developed and make New Viksit Bharat 2047, India has to give more emphases on women and give equal opportunity to them. Some of the important points in favour of women are discussed below. **Conclusion:** Proverb goes that "the happiness of a family lies with the virtues of women". However, how can a pragmatic society aspire to a happy and wealthy life without empowering women? Families are, in fact, a partnership between men and women. Therefore, both men and women should have equal authority in managing families and, consequently, in advancing the country.

Keywords: Social mobility, planned growth, Human beings, Human resources, Prosperous life.

Cite this article:

Yakar, M. B., (2025). WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND SOME OPINIONS OF THE GREAT MEN. *ISAR Journal of Multidisciplinary Research and Studies*, 3(4), 19-23.

Introduction

Women show love, kindness, sympathy, patience, tolerance, perseverance and tenacity of purpose in the face of adversity. They do not try to run away from responsibilities. They possess immense talent and when used fully, the potential is really very high. Even if she holds high profile jobs which may demand time and energy, she never hesitates to discharge her role effectively. She fits into different roles at different places. It is the responsibilities of a mother, wife, daughter, and daughter-in-law or official roles - she accommodates herself to each situation quickly. The role and work participation of women has been everybody's focus of attention in every society and in every age. Naturally, it is vital to bring about the desirable changes for social mobility and granting them equality in the matters of rights and privileges. Women have struggled to adapt to a male-chauvinistic environment since the beginning of time. Even after years of

planned growth, women's position remains low in India, and their socioeconomic circumstances are far worse than men's. The education of girls should receive emphasis not only on grounds of social justice but also because it accelerates social transformation," declared the National Policy on Education resolution (1968), emphasising the value of women's education.

When examining the sex ratios of the majority of Indian states, it is also important to take into account the differences in mortality trends between men and women. Furthermore, the sex-selective migratory factor could have a role of its own. The sex composition in this particular instance is undoubtedly inflated by the sex-selective movement of the male labour, which leaves the family at the place of origin. These women still endure exploitation and neglect even after 75 years of independence.

Objective: The study's aim is how to empower women in India and search the opinions of the great men of the world.

Design and Methodology

Using both quantitative and qualitative methodologies, this study is mostly descriptive in character. Secondary data served as the basis for its layout. Secondary sources of Indian knowledge, including articles, books, blogs, and websites are where the information is acquired. The integration of both quantitative and qualitative data has yielded a thorough comprehensive study from secondary sources.

Results versus Discussion

Despite having a large number of people, Third World countries are extremely poor in terms of human resources. Conversely, industrialized nations are extremely wealthy in terms of human resources but extremely impoverished in terms of human population. Therefore, to get developed, the human beings must be converted into human resources. The women constitute half of the population. They must be converted into human resources first to get all round development of any country. If India wants to be developed and make NEW VIKSIT BHARAT 2047, India has to give more emphases on women and give equal opportunity to them. Some of the important points in favour of women are discussed below.

(i) The female fetus is widely thought to have superior biological strength to the male fetus. It is frequently asserted that nations with low prenatal losses exhibit higher levels of masculinity in their sex ratios, while those with high prenatal losses exhibit less masculinity, because the differences in prenatal mortality between the sexes and the fact that more men die before birth than women define the natural sex ratio itself.

(ii) It's interesting to note that there have always been more women than men among scheduled tribes. Although a systematic study of population genetics is required to determine the generality in this instance, it may be useful to note that women sex is typically more powerful than male sex. Because the softer sex is biologically stronger, the female has a greater chance of living longer than the male, and as a result, more men die than females at all ages, not just at birth. The data plus the fact that women make up a larger percentage of the population than men in developed western nations may corroborate this. Similarly, Arunachal Pradesh's scheduled tribes have historically had a larger proportion of women than the overall population. Generally speaking, prenatal mortality may be a valid factor, but in this instance, a number of factors increase the likelihood of infant mortality, such as inadequate care at home, lack of maternity care, access to medical services both generally and in the interior, low awareness among females, reluctance to visit a male gynecologist, and superstitions during pregnancy. Data availability in this region is a limitation of the study.

(iii) In India, for every 100 males, 108 girls are born. Due to recessive X-linked lethal alleles that kill men while having little to no influence on the viability of the diverse females, there is genetic evidence that more males are destroyed during the gestation period than females. This may be a legitimate explanation for why, across all ethnic groupings, the state of Arunachal Pradesh has a larger proportion of females than males.

(iv) More females are dying in the general population as a result of inadequate care and attention given to them both during and after

pregnancy. It is an undeniable reality that women typically have a low social position, and this is generally taken into account for all Indian states. Above all, men are viewed as a family asset, but women are viewed as a social and financial obligation. Together, these factors have an impact on female health and lead to a comparatively high female death rate across all age groups and populations, whether they be tribes or non-tribes. In the instance of Arunachal Pradesh, the State's Health Service system scarcely offers any distinct maternity care. Apart from the previously stated factors, the persistent lack of females might be ascribed to the resurgence of endemic illnesses caused by the environment, including TB, hepatitis, malaria, diarrhea, and asthma.

(v) In tribal society, women are extremely busy aiding males in all spheres of life. Because the bride price is paid by the groom's family at the time of marriage, tribal culture enjoys equality and views women as assets. This is one of the legitimate explanations for why women in tribal societies fare better than those in the nation at large.

(vi) Many women are under the poverty level and also experience dietary deficiencies. The main cause of the high prevalence of nutritional deficiency diseases like anemia, diarrhea, night blindness, goiter, etc. during pregnancy is a lack of awareness and access to a balanced diet and appropriate foods. Inadequate intake of irons, proteins, and micronutrients like iodine and vitamins is also a contributing factor. Low body resistance brought on by starvation might exacerbate minor conditions and provide a health risk. Because of this, the death rate for women in the State's villages is significantly higher than that of men.

(vii) One of the main causes may be a high death rate during puberty from functional derangement and in the reproductive age range of 11–19 from females being married young or as children. Arunachal Pradesh has a high rate of child marriage due to socioeconomic and cultural causes.

(viii) Polygamy is a popular practice. As many wives as a guy desires and can afford is up to him. The standing of the husband in society increases with the number of wives he has. Additionally, this might negatively impact the beneficial sex ratio.

(ix) It is nevertheless evident that a certain percentage of rural women live below the poverty line, that there are inadequate medical facilities, very unsanitary living circumstances, a high infant mortality rate, a lack of prenatal and postnatal care, and a high death rate. The favorable sex ratio is negatively impacted by all of them.

(x) The son is regarded as the anti-aging insurance. This ensures that men are given primacy when it comes to healthcare and a healthy diet. For this reason, infant mortality rates for females under one year of age are significantly higher than those for men in India.

(xi) Another factor contributing to the falling sex ratio is high death rates among women of reproductive age. According to the National Sample Survey, women in the reproductive age range of 15 to 44 had a death rate that was almost 30% higher than that of men.

(xii) Soft Canon: Soft Canon against women is also a great lack of women empowerment in India. So many cases of rape and murder of women in India are under judicial trial for many years. R G Kar

case of rape and murder of lady doctor on 9th August 2024 is one of examples.

(xiii) A population's job structure, sex crimes, gender inequality, and discrimination are only a few of the socioeconomic ramifications of an uneven sex ratio. Since men and women have responsibilities that are partially complimentary and partially opposing in an economy or society, a society's sociocultural environment is sure to be threatened, which will have an impact on population growth.

(xiv) 20th century has witnessed many human achievements like technological breakthrough, unparallel economic prosperity, remarkable advances in human survival and transition of former colonial states to political independence. However, the fruits of progress have not been equitably shared. The major challenges include, eradication of mass poverty, protecting human rights, stabilizing the environment, empowerment of people especially women, rectifying economic inequalities and a sustainable economic development. We may hope that all the good fruits of development will be equally shared by both men and women and gender equality will be prevailed in all spheres of live in the 21st century.

(xv) While their urban counterparts have greater access to education, skills, basic amenities, resources, and development activities, rural women's role in the developing non-agricultural sectors is limited due to their lack of access to these resources, healthcare facilities, and education. Numerous programs have been introduced by the federal and state governments to assist rural women; nevertheless, the majority of these programs have more of a focus on protecting livelihoods than on generating income and wealth over the long term.

(xvi) The important role that women play in the home, particularly in raising children, as well as in social, political, economic, and cultural life was acknowledged in the 1967 United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women. The Declaration's Article 9 recommended that "all appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure to girls and women, married or unmarried, equal rights with men in education at all levels." These include:

(a) Equal opportunities for admission to and education in all kinds of educational establishments, such as colleges and professional, technical, and vocational schools;

(b) Regardless of whether the schools are coeducational or not, the same selection of courses, tests, and teaching personnel with the same level of training, as well as the same calibre of facilities and equipment;

(c) Equal opportunities to get educational funding, including scholarships;

(d) Equal opportunities to sign up for adult literacy and other continuing education classes;

(e) Availability of educational resources to support families' health and welfare.

Some Selected Opinions

According to President Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, "Building a good nation requires empowering women. When women are empowered, a stable society is guaranteed." Women must be

empowered since it is through their ideas and values that a good family, good community, and eventually a good country are developed.

Jawaharlal Nehru famously remarked, "Women are meant to awaken the people; once they are awakened, the family, village, and nation move."

Jawaharlal Nehru reportedly said, "There is really no need for an argument to support women's education. Personally, I have always maintained the firm belief that women's education cannot be neglected, even though men's education may be. The explanations are clear. Men will most likely be impacted if you educate women, and children will be impacted in any case.

"As for women's education, I am not sure whether it should be different from men's and when it should begin," M.K. Gandhi said quite plainly in his True Education. However, I firmly believe that women ought to have access to the same amenities as males, and in certain cases, even more specialised ones. Without concurrent attempts to address women's education, the issue of children's education cannot be resolved. I also have no qualms about stating that, despite attending school, our children will stay ignorant as long as we lack actual mother instructors who can effectively teach them. She needs to be particularly knowledgeable about house management, child care, schooling, etc.

Again, Mohandas K. Gandhi stated, "There is no occasion for women to consider them subordinate or interior to men".

"Women are human beings and have as much right to full development as men have," Dr. Radhakrishnan has said unequivocally. Any society's status regarding women is a reliable indicator of its degree of culture and spirituality.

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose said, "The best means of conquering lust are to visualize the mother image in all women, to invest women with the halo and to worship God in the mother form, such as Durga and Kali. When man contemplates God or Guru in the form of the Mother, we learn to see divinity in all women...."

Additionally, Swami Vivekananda once stated, "Unless the status of women is improved, there is no chance for the welfare of the world." One wing is not enough for a bird to fly. Similarly, since women make up half of a country's human capital, no country can prosper if half of its citizens are careless and ignorant. A contemporary society cannot achieve holistic development if its women's talents are not utilised.

We do not believe any other option if we do not raise WOMEN, who are the living manifestation of the Divine Mother. By treating women with the respect they deserve, all nations have achieved greatness. That nation and that country that does not value women have never been great and never will be. In the Vedic and Upanishadic eras, Rishis were replaced by Maitreyi, Gargi, and other women of hallowed memory. Gargi boldly confronted Yajnavalkya in a debate concerning Brahman in front of a thousand Brahmanas, all of whom were knowledgeable about the Vedas--Swami Vivekananda (1863-1902) (*The complete Works of Swami Vivekananda*, Vol VII).

In every aspect of life, the union of a man and a woman will symbolize perfect cooperation with the accumulation of human history on equal terms (Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941).

Women should have the chance to learn about the Vedas from all angles, according to the Vedas. —Atharved: 14.1.64.

According to the Vedas, women are instructors since they are referred to as undershirt of wisdom.—Rigged: 1.3.11.A teacher is ten times more revered than a simple speaker, a father is a hundred times more revered than a teacher, and a mother is a thousand times more revered than a father.—Mnusrmriti 2.145.

The gods are pleased when women are revered; when they are not, all labour and effort are in vain. Manusmriti once said, "There is no hope of rise for that family or country where they live in sorrow."

"Several savant sages, like Agastya, etc., reside in this region," was Atreyi's response. I'm come from Valmiki's ashram to learn the Vedas from them. The pursuit of education by women in ancient India is evident—Ramcharitmanas Uttar: 2.3.

Indeed, education must start even before birth if it is to have the greatest possible impact. As part of her education, the mother must observe that her thoughts are always pure and lovely, her feelings are always noble and lovely, and her material surroundings are as simple and harmonious as possible- The author Aurobindo (1987–1950).

"Several forms of gender discrimination emerged from a contradiction in the Indian Constitution. It ensures equality for all before law and prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth but it also guarantees freedom of religion – the right freely to profess, practice, and propagate religion. This provision of religious freedom takes away much of the freedom and equality extended to women by the Constitution."

Prof. S.C.Dube, Sociologist

(*Indian Society*, NBT, 1990)

"If the Indian civilization has survived for the past several thousand years, while others there have vanished, it is because of our strong sense of culture and morality which is rooted in our families. Central to this is the role of women. Whether the woman is a wife or mother, she has always played a crucial role. Can we afford to vulgarize her?"

Promod Navalkar, Maharashtra Minister of Transport and

Culture (Replies to S. Balakrishnah's question),

The Sunday Times of India, August 6, 1995.

"Education must be illuminated and re-illuminated in the light of the soul.... The new community of girls and women in India must be a community of Light. And Light knows no distinction or creed or community." -Sadhu T.L.Vasvani

Despite my thirty years of research into the feminine soul, I have not been able to answer... the great question that has never been answered what does a woman want"?- Sigmund Freud

"The history of woman is the history of the continued and universal oppression of one sex by the other. The emancipation of woman is her restoration to equal rights and privileges with men".- Tennessee Claflin

"The history of men's opposition to women's emancipation is more interesting perhaps than the story of that emancipation itself".-Virginia Woolf

"Why are women ... so much more interesting to men than men are to women"?- Virginia Woolf (The Times of India, 8th March 2007)

Conclusion

According to a proverb, "the happiness of a family lies with the virtues of women". However, how can a pragmatic society aspire to a happy and wealthy existence without empowering women? Families are, in fact, a partnership between men and women. Therefore, both men and women should have equal authority when it comes to managing a family. In order to empower women in their respective territories, the federal government and state governments have implemented policy measures. It is envisaged that increased involvement in women's empowerment initiatives in all areas of life will soon enable women to collaborate with men on an equal basis and in all contexts.

It is matter of fact that introducing and amending laws and rights is not enough. Change of attitude within each person in the direction of gender equality is must for empowerment of women. They have challenged the social structure for their justice and rights. Economic and social vulnerability have been reduced considerably. As a result, the widely accepted assertion is cent per cent accurate that the "The transformation of any society has to begin from women, because women are the centre of a family – the foundation stone on which the family is built. When a woman is changed, the family is changed and a change in the family brings changes in the society". Despite improved educational, economic, political, cultural, and social conditions, the state and federal governments' attempts to end poverty have had little effect on society, primarily because nearly all of their programs do not involve women. Since the introduction of the Women's Empowerment Policy in 2001 and the Women's Empowerment Policy in 2010, women have become an essential component of the development plan, which aims to eradicate poverty and gender inequality in all of its manifestations.

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