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Research Article

Analysis of the causes of women's inequality

Dr. Monika

Independent Researcher

E-mail: my9201845@gmail.com

Corresponding Author: *Dr. Monika

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Abstract

Gender inequalities are visible in the lives of women, which include unequal political, social, economic and cultural status of women. India, where there are 1020 women for every 1000 men, is in a slightly better situation recently. Women in India are deprived of basic human rights. Even today, across the world they are considered second gender or second-level human beings. At some places he is not even considered a human being. India is one of the worst countries in the world in terms of gender inequality, which is evident from the fact that India is ranked 140th out of 156 countries in the global gender gap. The reasons for gender inequality have been analyzed in this article.

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INTRODUCTION

Preface

Gender is a social status in which socio-cultural, economic, political responsibilities and rights are ensured on the basis of gender. Whereas gender is a biological concept in which men and women are different on biological basis. In India, the concept of gender is more dominant than gender. Due to this, gender inequality is happening with women. On the basis of sex assigned at birth, the mental condition of a woman is determined and she is deprived of equal rights. Sometimes even his right to be born is taken away. Even today, there is a class in India which is deprived of its equal rights because of being women.

Objective of the study: In the presented paper, the causes of gender inequality have been studied from the Indian perspective.

India's problem

According to the United Nations Development Programme's Human Development Report, 2020, India ranks 131st out of 189 countries in the gender inequality index. According to a report, there has also been a decline in women's economic participation and opportunities. The ratio of gender discrimination in this area has increased from 3 per cent to 32.6 per cent. While the number of women ministers was 23.1 per cent in 2019, it has come down to 9.1 per cent in 2021. The female labor force participation rate has fallen from 24.8 per cent to 22.3 per cent and the share of women in professional and technical fields has fallen to 29.2 per cent. Only 14.6 per cent of women are employed in senior and managerial positions. There are only 8.9 per cent of companies where top management positions are held by women.

Reasons for gender differences in India

Patriarchal society

Due to patriarchal society in India, boys are given preference to drive vehicles. For this, female foeticide keeps happening. After becoming a girl, she is deprived of the rights to take decisions for herself. Girls have to do things related to education, marriage, family and career 'against their will'. In the name of traditions, women are kept confined within four walls. His desires have no place in the family and society. Even the burden of respect of society and family is imposed on girls.

Priority to son

Even today in India, sons are considered the talisman of old age. According to traditions, only a son can light the pyre, in such a situation the importance of girls in the family decreases. It is a common belief that parents keep having children until they have a boy. For this he kills many girls in the womb itself. Girls are considered inferior in economic work in the society. Parents do not want to live their old age on the girls' earnings. Due to this kind of mentality, there is inequality with girls. According to a study, daughters have to face discrimination in the treatment of diseases. Poverty and lack of education

Countless women are unequally paid or overworked for low-paid domestic service, organized prostitution or migrant labor, and are offered only low-skilled jobs that pay low wages. is done. Educating the girl child is still seen as a bad investment as she is bound to marry and leave her ancestral home one day. Thus, without good education, there is lack of work skills in women at present, which shows that parents are not spending much on girls. According to a report, 36 per cent of girls in the country drop out of school before completing primary education.

Legal and constitutional protection against gender discrimination

The list of specific reforms is presented below:

1. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
2. Prenatal diagnostic testing ban
3. Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013
4. Hindu Succession Act, 1956 (amended in 2005, gives equal inheritance rights to daughters and sons, applies to Hindus, Buddhists, Jains and Sikhs)
5. Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act, 1937 (rights of inheritance governed by Shariat and women's share being equal to that of men mandated by the Quran.
6. Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019 passed which made triple talaq illegal in India.

Many sector-specific programs targeted at women have been launched in India and by various states and union territories.

Mudra and other women centric schemes are being run for self-reliance in the economic sector through schemes like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, One Stop Center Scheme, Women Helpline Scheme and Mahila Shakti Kendra.

Similarly, specific programs targeted at women were started. Some of these programs include Kaushalya Yojana, Mukhyamantri Rojgar Yojana, Balika Scooty Yojana, Mukhyamantri Awas Yojana, etc. by the Rajasthan Government to provide employment or self-employment to women. Similarly, many programs are being run for employment of women, poverty alleviation and increasing their self-confidence.

The conclusion is clear that governments and laws have been made so that women can be given equal rights but this is not possible unless the mentality of the society is changed. Women will have to be given equal rights as men in military fields. Women will have to be given the right to equal pay in all fields and at the same time they will have to be empowered themselves. Reservation and other facilities given to women are also making them weak, hence it is necessary that only social upliftment should be done so that the misconceptions about women can be removed. Only then can women get the right to equality.

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About the Author



Dr. Monika is an independent researcher with an interest in interdisciplinary academic research. Her scholarly work focuses on developing evidence-based perspectives, critical analysis, and systematic inquiry across diverse areas of knowledge. She is committed to contributing meaningful research, promoting academic discourse, and advancing knowledge through rigorous and innovative approaches.