



GENDER SENSITIZATION FOR WOMEN – AN URGE FOR EQUALITY

Yogyata Pendkalkar Singh

Asst. Prof, school of law, D.Y Patil deemed university, Mumbai

ABSTRACT

“Gender discrimination”, rather I would say awareness for society. This is a very sensitive topic. As a citizen of our nation we always have that urge to be responsible and to behave in a beholden manner in each and every matter that has been inter-connected or co-related with the values and sensitivity of our society, in which we live. This research paper is a small contribution to pinpoint the significance of ‘Gender’. When we say ‘Gender’ it covers all types of people including ‘Males’, ‘Females’, ‘Transgender’, ‘Lesbians’ and ‘Gays’. One need to understand and eradicate those gaps by stop differentiating between the categories as mentioned above. The prime objective of vanishing this practice is to start providing equal rights and opportunities to all genders. Owing with the same motive, let’s see various other unknown facts wherein gender discrimination were on the hike.

Gender Misandry, can be cause due to many reasons. One such reason is related to the communication. Most of the individuals face this issue because of the communication gap that they have amongst their parents and them. During the growing process of a child, it’s a prime rationale of their parents to first make them understand about the concept ‘Sex education’. It’s a two way process. ‘Males’ should be guided in that appropriate manner and so as the female. Also, because here we are discussing about all the category of gender, we cannot forget to mention the LGBTQ communities. They are a part of society and yes they should be treated with all such equal opportunities.

Keywords: Discrimination, Sexism, Gender misandry, LGBTQ, Equal rights, Discrimination, Protection, Communication gap, Peer pressure, Awareness, Sensitivity, Society, Sensitization.

1.1 INTRODUCTION

‘Sexism’, has always been a trending topic since quite a while now. We had witnessed the time when there was so much of chauvinism taking rounds and how the rights were slowly and steadily got evolved for them. Whenever we talk about gender we always speak about the female group of victims and we somewhat neglect the group of males those who also been a dupe. A survey suggests that more than 60% are the males who have been traumatized or being sexually abused when in childhood and the accused was 70% of their family members. Constant disrespect and acceptance from the society certain groups of individuals are still seeking for equality. There were certain challenges that had been faced by them, those challenges are being mentioned as follows:-

A. PERSECUTION, ON THE BASIS OF SEX¹

Females, have been hassled in terms of their sex. Especially when they were told to be in proper attire so that, no one can look towards them and that they should not wear short dresses. Mentality for women to not wear such type of dresses only proves the narrow mindedness of such group. Society, blame females of being victimized of rape for various unreasonable reasons but, what about the baby girl child who were reported to be sexually assaulted when they were only about 8-9 months old. These were only the stereotypes. Protection and rights, they are equally bound to have both. The LGBTQ communities, are mostly been harassed due to the peer pressure as well, in which they were being put into.

B. INFERIOR REMPANCY²

An image, that others set about certain gender categories especially those who are heterosexual, they are the only reason as to why they have been called and treated differently which again psychologically makes them feel that they are being entertained sarcastically. Keeping names and degrade such group of people can bring no change for removing these barriers from its root. Government, had made rehab centers for bringing confidence in them but how well efficacious were they, that's the main question. There should be a proper team of counsellors who can counsel them and more importantly who can make them feel special as others. Inferior rampancy arises when there is insecurity amongst each other or within self. This is only because of the peer groups who contributes their part. Bullying and getting into someone's personal space and privacy is something which breaches your right to life and liberty.

1.2 RIGHTS OF ALL GENDERS

As under Article 14 of the Indian constitution rightly mentioned that, equal rights should be given to all human beings and it was also considered to be on the same social platform irrespective of any gender. Under SDG indicator however, 84% of the total legal framework were with the criteria to promote the same in terms of gender egalitarianism. Right to vote, Right to freedom of speech and expression, Right to education are the three primitive rights of all the genders. Racial discrimination, was also been one of the major problem for people to survive in a healthy environment. There should be a need to regularize and bring changes the way society and other look towards them. Government, had contributed a lot to annihilate these kinds of prejudices but unfortunately, lot more changes are still to be made in order to transpose the mindset of the society, at large. Sexual harassment at workplace act, 2013, Dowry prohibition act of 1961, The Maternity benefit act of 2017(after been amended as from 1961) and the 73rd and 74th amendment of the constitution that mandates 33% reservation for women are some of the important rights of people. These above laws or acts are the contributions made on the legal grounds to bring more sensitivity for gender equality.

1. SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF WOMEN AT WORKPLACE ACT, 2013³

There were several cases that came across with the safety and security of women and when they were not given safety measures at workplace. Some of the factors pertains to it are keeping evening shifts for females, making females to sit even after their working hours by giving target based assignments, not to have POSH committees at workplace thus, boost and give rise to

question her safety. One such case was related to Rajasthan popularly known as, “Vishakha vs. State of Rajasthan”, where a woman was gang-raped in front of her husband during her working hours. With the awareness of this case the security and protection were given to women with this act of sexual harassment at workplace act, 2013.

2. DOWRY PROHIBITION ACT, 1961

This cruel practice, were only performed with the females which again questions the gender sensitivity and inequality for her. Maximum of females death was reported because of the ‘Dowry pratha’. Now, it has been prohibited with this said act but, still in some small states it’s been practiced in the namesake of ‘Gift’ and ‘Will’.

3. MATERNITY BENEFIT ACT, 2017

The Act was amended as well, but the benefit for the pregnant women were still not been given in some states. Most of the women due to the poor financial background forced to work until their due date to earn. One such case was of Rachna Chaurasia vs. State of Uttar Pradesh, where she claimed for her maternity rights but, the rights were not given to her for which she had filed a case and the said judgment was in favor of her.

4. EQUAL RIGHTS TO VOTE

According to the 73rd and 74th amendment, voting rights were reserved for females of about 33%. Also an appeal was made for LGBTQ communities wherein they should also be given a right to vote as a part of the citizen but, most of the rights were still to be given.

1.3 FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH SENSITIZATION

1. PEER GROUPS

Peer pressure, is something where a child grows and articulates self-attributions. It’s simply known as influence. A female can be victimized being in such group, as well. Whatever they hear, they start adapting the same.

2. SHOWCASING FEMALE, AS A PUPPET

In many of the countries or states, females have been showcased in a very wrong way. Even media, played a biggest role in highlighting the same. Through various modes such as television, radio, etc. it has been portrayed an image that, all sacrifices will be made by her. To change such stereotype image it’s prominent to think in a way broader sense for which the government should be more alert and should bring amendments first in terms of bringing and giving the position to women just like the male, in the society.

1.4 REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What all things can be more contributed for making females getting all their rights?
2. What important measures government should implement in terms of bringing sensitization amongst female communities?
3. How women can self – safeguard themselves and their rights?

1.5 LITERATURE REVIEW

Not only females, but all the genders should get their rights for which they should not strive for. The major contribution which all can make and bring is to make people aware about their place in the society, not to always show sympathy towards them as it makes them feel more weak and insecure. Government, had already passed the rule after the 2012 Nirbhaya rape case and the Priyanka reddy's hyderabad case that, whenever there is an emergency and when it comes to protect oneself, if a girl or a woman is killing someone in self-defense, the crime shall not be counted under a criminal offence. Despite of this also we find that, many women cannot protect their life as when the problem suddenly arrives you are not prepared enough to react or come into action. In such a case, government should rather start a free counsel aid or a free defense cell for training the females as to how she can confidently face any challenge. Also, there is a need of starting a sensitization club wherein all the women should get an opportunity to raise her voice, if any inequality is taking place with her, this is how she can safeguard themselves and their rights. Moreover, not to keep quiet if something wrong happening with them and to report it immediately.

1.6 CONCLUSION

“Change in society, is the change for nation” and “treating all genders equally, means giving a new shine and success to the nation”. We always say that “When India will study, then only it will grow”, instead the slogan should “Change the thinking India, then only you can study”. So, it's all about the grasping capacity of an individual and the way they look towards it. Maximum education and employment are now in the favor of women, it's just that all needs to be awake. We have quota systems, reserve systems, I think that should be and can be implemented by the government so that, all should get equal opportunities, for showcasing their caliber on the given plenitude.

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