

Chapter 13

Women Empowerment and Social Change Through Education: A Brief Study of Chennai City

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ABSTRACT

Education is an eye opener for every woman who is deprived of the privilege/self-esteem she deserves within a society. Social and economic empowerment cannot ignore the power of women in any society or a nation or a state. Empowerment is a gentle process of transforming the lives of people irrespective of gender. Empowerment of women is possible through education as it acts as the road from where one achieves financial security, decision-making power, and honor within the family and in the society. It is a key that can accelerate the engine of economic growth and social advancements in various economic sectors such as banking and finance, medicine, education, aviation, technology, space, and many more. Education makes women powerful.

INTRODUCTION

Women are the most important and powerful organ of the entire mechanism of the system called Universe. They are simply an extra ordinary gift to the world, however sad, they are totally neglected or taken for granted by the school of old thoughts where superstitions and false beliefs prevail which treat women as mere source of bearing and rearing of kids. The society has become a tough male dominating one so

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women are always sealed in the four walls of the house. In this whole study we are going to see the other side of the women who not only bear and rear the family but can powerfully spin the economy towards development and steady growth with a bang on healthy environment. Women are very subtle yet mentally strong beings. When they are biologically fit to bear the future, they are equally fit to handle any given situation. With this positive note we are going to have an insight of what is women empowerment and what can a woman achieve if good education is imparted to her. Time is history, where women have shown their valour and brains in all spheres of life, be it battle field, or space, she is fully into it. Here we will throw some light of the concept of women empowerment through education, and discuss the problems, obstacles and measures and suggestions to improve the subject which is definitely going to have an impact on women. Before we start the study let us clearly bring out the objectives of this topic. Women are no longer a weaker or a deprived section of the society. They have to be treated equally. Women are stronger mentally and physically, it's just they are very subtle and patient. They have to be respected equally. When they are strong and equal, they are subject to a healthy diet and provided all necessary medical facilities. Women are subject to the right of the best education they can attain at par equal to men. The day when every person in our country believes in the strength of woman, we will achieve the desired heights of economic and social development of the entire nation.

Women Empowerment is my chosen topic which should be reiterated again and again till women do not achieve equal ratios in all the aspects such as health, education, employment and so on. India produces as many strong ladies like Indira Gandhi, Kalpanachawla, Mary Com but they are very few which can be easily counted who shine in different fields, whereas a majority of women fall prey to the mishaps of socio-cultural trauma. As per the latest Census in the year 2011, the total female sex ratio in India is 940 per 1000 males, which is to an extent bearable though not equal. The census- 2011 also indicated a 2001-2011 decadal literacy growth of 9.2 per cent, which is slower than the growth seen during the previous decade. There is a wide gender disparity in the literacy rate in India: effective literacy rates (age 7 and above) in 2011 were 82.14 per cent for men and 65.46 per cent for women, is disheartening and non- acceptable. Why is there a difference between men and women. Women should be considered as the key components in many areas like family, society and a nation. So women have to be looked up and join them in their steps when we want our nation to grow. Nation is nothing but the combination of male and female and their thoughts. In a country like India where women cover nearly half of the population, no real development is possible neglecting women. Therefore, it is evident that to ignore women's role is to harm not just women but the entire communities and a nation because women, after all are half of the human race. And when we talk about development of the nation there is no other option except for educating women.

EDUCATION FOR WOMEN

Education is the creative and smartest platform for women which can guarantee the positive changes in the life of especially illiterate, unskilled, disabled, and uninformed women. Education gives women entrance to the world's enormous store of knowledge. The procedure of learning develops thought capacity and enhances creativeness, awakens women to the value of their own humanity and enables them to strive for distinction denied by patriarchal cultural norms and backward traditions. When women become aware and empowered of their rights and position, the remaining half part of the sky according to population

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