New Era of Twenty First Century: Literate Women and Societies

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Abstract

From the ancient time, women have made marvelous contributions to the development of their respective societies. These are vary according to each successive stage of human development. They contribute extremely well in different stages of life ranging from child birth, moral upbringing, superior health and hygiene, nutritional values, advice to men as mothers, wives, sisters and kinswomen, religious, socio-economic and political developments. That’s why, women are described as the heart-beat of the society, because almost nothing can be achieved without their impact either directly or indirectly in the concerns related to men. This paper contains importance of education, barriers for getting it, significance of female education, social importance and hurdles of women’s after being educated.

Keywords: - Education, barriers, women education, social impact and hurdles of educated women

INTRODUCTION

Two major component of Society are men and women. According to our tradition men are considered as dominant part of Society, but at some point it’s not true. Women are equally dominant part of Society. In today’s world the sentence is famous that “Men and Women are equal.” but to fulfill its requirement human awareness is most important thing and education is huge component to create awareness. Women have always been – and remain – the providing guidance on the quality of life and welfare of their families and societies.

Education

Education is related to the process of learning, understanding and implementing or executing gathered knowledge to create awareness in our own mind or making other people aware about the right things. By digesting right knowledge, people can make their own decisions. According to research illiterate woman had to survive in bad situations. Illiterate woman never know their rights and are not aware about the moral duties of other family member’s towards her. Women who are literate can easily understand their rights and duties very well.

She is also able to make her own decision. She has knowledge to understand any problem deeply or we can say more widely. Literate women have multiple solutions of any problem or she is capable to find multiple solutions only because of knowledge which she got from her study. It is said that “If you educate a man, you educate one person. If you educate a woman, you educate a nation” [1]. By familiar with an education everyone is aware that it is honorable to educate girls and boys, women and men. But enlightening girls and women is particularly operative due to educate them, the welfares are handled all over the community. It’s a magic multiplier in the development equation [1].
HURDLES FOR GETTING EDUCATION

A report by the International Programs Centre for the U.S. Department of Commerce (Velkoff, 1998) lists the chief barriers to women's education in India as inadequate sanitary facilities, shortage of female teachers and gender bias in curriculum. One generalist Kaushik Basu (2004) had noted that 59% of school could not provide drinking water to their students and 89% of schools are not providing even sanitary facilities out of a review of 188 government-run primary schools. [2]

Some of the barriers to women's education are sociological, rooted in gender typecasting and gender discrimination, and others are driven by economic concerns and restraints. Women and girls receive far less education than men, due to predominant social norms and sometimes terrors of dubious activities.

As a young girl, Malala Yousafzai defied the Taliban in Pakistan and demanded that girls be allowed to receive an education. She was shot in the head by a Taliban gunman in 2012. Following are the main reasons for not getting education [8]

- A lack of funding for education
- Having no teacher, or having an untrained teacher
- No classroom
- A lack of learning materials
- Being the ‘wrong’ gender
- Living in a country in conflict or at risk of conflict
- Distance from home to school
- Hunger and poor nutrition
- The expense of education

IMPORTANCE OF FEMALE EDUCATION

An educated woman perform extremely well to educate her own children who, in turn, will be more likely to receive school education themselves. The family will likely be healthier, with a lower prospect of infant mortality and better maternal nutrition, including while pregnant and nursing [3].

A) Diminish Human Trafficking

According to the United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking, when women are undereducated and poor than they are most vulnerable to trafficking and become victim of injustice. By getting education, they will also be less likely to fall victim to the scourge of human trafficking and forced child marriages. Through providing young girls with fundamental skills and opportunities, this billion-dollar industry can be considerably undercut.

B) Political Representation

Across the globe, women are underrepresented as voters and delimited from political involvement. The United Nations Women’s programmers on leadership and participation suggests that civic education, training and all around empowerment will ease this gap. For illustration, Angela Merkel, Trained as a physicist was born in West Germany, on July 17, 1954. She entered in politics after 1989, and Rising to the position of chairwoman of the Christian Democratic Union party, Merkel became Germany's first female chancellor and one of the leading figures of the European Union, following the 2005 national elections

C) Thriving Babies

According to the survey, children of educated mothers are more likely to survive past the age of five.
D) Safe Sex

An Educated girls can be better able to protect themselves from contracting preventable ailments like HIV. A girl who completes primary school is one third less likely to contract HIV. With these statistics in mind, The World Bank calls education a “window of hope” in obviating the spread of AIDS among today’s generation. Some countries have achieved a decline of 50% or more in new HIV infections among adults over the last 10 years [4].

E) Later Marriage

As suggested by the United Nations Population Fund in the underdeveloped countries, 33% girls is married before reaching the age of 18. In the same region if a girl receives seven or more years of education, then she delayed her wedding date by four years. At the same time if the girl is graduated, the ratio of later marriage increase by more than 50% as indicate in Fig 1.

![Education is the best prevention](image)

**Fig. 1** As women started getting education the ratio of having more than two children is declining rapidly [8].

F) Income Potential

Education bust up a woman’s wallet through her earning capabilities. According to the, UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), a year of girl primary education raises monthly wages later in life by 20%. An educated woman’s household is more likely to flourish, that’s why it increase overall income and that is likely to increase as much as 25% if she learn one more year of secondary education.

Once she got higher degree she forward her step parallel with men. An educated woman helps boost economic output, as well as leading to greater wealth for her society. With the help of equal rights and equal access to education women sawing their interest in business and economic activity. Increased earning power rises current and future insufficiency in feeding, clothing and providing for full families.

G) Health Improvement

Girls and women are primary caregivers for children and families. They know healthy ways to take care of their families. Through education, they learn on how to live and lead a healthy lifestyle. Educated women will know the importance of health and maintaining proper hygiene. With the help of education health related diseases will be prevented. And that will help to decline popularity of person getting pain from various ailments. Finally that will lead to a healthy nation if women have proper knowledge of hygiene and practice it.

H) Opportunity to Select a Career of Your Own Choice

Educated girls can easily achieve their goals in various professions. Due to education girls dream new areas for career opportunities. Like doctors, pilots, engineers, politics, finance, chefs, professors, motivators, astronauts and many more.
Madeleine Jana Korbel Albright is an American politician and diplomat, the first woman who became the United States Secretary of State. Madeleine assisted from 1997 to 2001 under President Bill Clinton. She wrote her research thesis on the Soviet diplomatic corps. And she also got Ph.D. degree on the role of journalists in the Prague Spring of 1968.

Avani Chaturvedi is one of the first female fighter pilots completed her B.Tech from Banasthali University, Rajasthan in the declared as the first combat pilot besides with her two cohort, and Air Force exam. [5]

The first Indian women of Indian origin in space was Kalpana Chawla, she was also an American astronaut. She first flew on Space Shuttle Columbia in 1997 as a mission specialist and primary robotic arm operator.[6]

Chanda Kochhar is the managing director and chief executive officer of ICICI Bank. She acquired MMS degree from university of Mumbai. She is broadly renowned for her role in shaping retail banking in India [7].

The first woman sarpanch in India with an MBA degree is Rajawat. She did tremendous role in corporate job with one of firms to become the sarpanch of Soda.

Owing to, education infant mortality ratio, child marriages, population explosion, domestic & sexual violence, support for militancy are declining. However, involvement in political process, socioeconomic growth and literacy rate are increasing day by day.

SOCIAL IMPORTANCE

A) Honor and Dignity

Educated women always get respected by most of the societies. Moreover, education is one of the way to get dignity and honor from various community. That’s why in future educated women will be a source of inspiration for many young girls. Educated women will be perceived as role models for young generation.

B) Independence

Education leads to higher social standing, more independence, and greater autonomy in women’s lives and in the household. Educated women are independent in many various situations like, very first she can take own decision for her bright future. Secondly, education is the key to achieve the freedom to choose her own destiny. Thirdly, they are not considered as a burden to family. She is financially free to spend her money. Lastly, she is not blindly follow the religious rules, first she observed the importance of the rule and then decide which the best way is.
Hurdles after getting education

- Gender bias recruitment, salary and promotion.
- Balancing personal and professional life
- Managing marriage, husband and corporate life

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE TOWARD GIRLS LITERACY

There are lots of Government Schemes in India to encourage women’s power and all are successful schemes.

- Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme
- One Stop Centre Scheme
- Women Helpline Scheme
- Ministry approves new projects under Ujjawala Scheme and continues existing projects
- Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP)
- Nari Shakti Puraskar

CONCLUSION

By neglecting the education of women, whose contribution nearly half of the population never beneficial for the development of any nation. For enhancing self-esteem, self-confidence and helping to build a positive image education is the most important tool for women. Which is the most crucial point for developing their ability to think innovatively, promoting better decision making and helping to make choices about health, employment and even the education of their children. Women can enhance their participation in society on an equal footing in all areas. As a result, society becomes more advance, which will help to grow nation worldwide. According to Jawaharlal Nehru, ‘You can tell the condition of a nation by looking at the status of its women’.

REFERENCES


