

Feminist Approach in Women Sustainability

Dr. Dhruv Kumar Tripathi

Associate Professor

Department of Sociology

Vidyant Hindu PG College

University of Lucknow

E.mail: drdhruv06@gmail.com

Abstract

Women's empowerment is essential for our society to ensure the sustainable development of the country. Many world leaders and scholars have argued that sustainable development is impossible without gender equality and women's empowerment. Sustainable development accepts environmental protection, social and economic development, and without women's empowerment, women wouldn't feel equally important to the process of development as men. Women empowerment refers to making women powerful to make them capable of deciding for themselves. Women have suffered a lot through the years at the hands of men. In earlier centuries, they were treated as almost non-existent. If every individual and government come together then it can happen to empower women. Education or literacy also plays an important role in empowering women. Women must be given equal opportunities in every field, irrespective of gender. And also given equal pay for that. By delaying child marriage, we can also empower women.

Key words: Sustainability, Barrier, Relationship, Mobilization etc.

Feminism is defined by the movement's goal of creating women's empowerment. To create women empowerment, feminists commonly use consciousness rising. When raising consciousness, women not only become knowledgeable also it can related to political and economic issues. Raising consciousness create awareness of their problems will initiate selfmobilization which precisely creates empowerment. In addition, feminists, specifically feminist organizers, focus in building relationships as a medium for creating women empowerment. It results in empowerment because the increasing presence of power gaps in society are due to lack of relationships that are needed to bridge them.

Barriers

Many of the barriers to women's empowerment and equity are the result of cultural norms. Studies show that women face more barriers in the workplace than men. Gender-related barriers involve sexual harassments, unfair hiring practices, career progression and unequal pay where women are paid less than men are for performing the same job. There are barriers to women empowerment that needs to be addressed, though the current situation has become better for the growth and development of women still it needs to be improved further. Though the situation has changed now in urban areas, still women face challenges in villages and rural areas in India. Barriers to women empowerment in India: - 1. India is a male – dominant nation 2. Women have always been considered weaker than men in society 3. They do not enjoy equal rights as men 4. Women are not free to express their opinion on anything 5. Gender

discrimination is a big barrier and is common in society 6. The discrimination of women in families and societies is a barrier to empowering women 7. Doing a job and earning money by women is not considered good in many families 8. Women also face several safety risks in their workplace 9. One of the barriers is general mindset that women are made for household chores only.

Issues on Women Empowerment

Women's empowerment is the process of empowering women. It may be defined in several ways including every individual's perspective. Women's empowerment can be defined, making an effort to seek them, raising the status of women through education, awareness, literacy and training. Now a days women's empowerment has become a significant topic of discussion in development and economics. Economic development allows women to control and benefits from resources, assets and income. It also manages to improve women's well-being. Women empowerment helps in boosting the status of women through literacy, education, training and awareness creation. Women empowerment is made up of two words women and empowerment. Empowerment means to give power or authority to someone. So, women empowerment means power in the hands of women. It signifies that women should be given equal opportunity in every field, irrespective of any discrimination. It is the process that creates power in women to live a happy and respectable life in a society. They are empowered when they are able to access opportunities in a variety of fields such as in education, profession, lifestyle, etc., without any limitations and restrictions. It includes raising their status through education, awareness, literacy and training. It also includes the authority to take decisions.

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Objectives

1. There are various ways in how one can empower women. The individuals and government must both come together to make it happen.

2. Education for girls must be made compulsory so that women can become literate to make a life for themselves.
3. Women must be given equal opportunities in every field, irrespective of gender. Moreover, they must also be given equal pay.
4. We can empower by abolishing child marriage.
5. Various programs must be held where they can be taught skills to fend for themselves in cases, they face a financial crisis.
6. Parents must teach their daughters it is okay to come home divorced than in a coffin.

Methodology

This paper is about feminist perspective in women sustainability so the data has been collected from skilled and unskilled women working in different sector. Firstly a pilot survey has been conducted to get knowledge about working and non-working women. Secondly a list has been prepared for working and non-working women from Government and Private sector. After listing of all eligible women random sampling method has been administered to select eligible women.

Role of Education

Education empowers women to make choices that improve their children's health, their wellbeing and chances of acquiring survival skills. Education informs others of preventing and containing disease. Such education empowers women to make choices that can improve their welfare, including marrying beyond childhood and having fewer children. Education can increase women's awareness of their rights, boost their self-esteem, and provide them the opportunity to assert their rights. Education as a means of empowerment of women can bring about a positive attitudinal change. It is therefore crucial for the socioeconomic and political progress of India. Education is the milestone of women empowerment because it enables them to respond to the challenges to confront the

Various Government Scheme for Women Empowerment

Women can be empowered through government schemes as well as on an individual basis. At the individual level, we should start respecting women and start giving them opportunities equal to men. We should promote and encourage them to take up jobs, higher education, business activities. The government has come up with various schemes such as

- 1.BETI BACHAO BETI PADHAO YOJANA
- 2.MAHILA-E-HAAT
- 3.MAHILA SHAKTI KENDRA

4.WORKING WOMEN HOSTEL

5.SUKANYA SAMRIDDHI YOJANA

These are the schemes to empower women. Apart from these schemes, we as individual can be empower women by abolishing social evils like the dowry system, child marriage. These small steps can change the situation of women in society and make them feel empowered.

Empowerment of women would mean encouraging women to be self-reliant, independent, have positive self-esteem, generate confidence to face any difficult situation and invite active participation in various socio- political development endeavors. The growing conscience is to accept women as individual capable of making rational and educated decision about them as well as the society, increasing and improving the economics, political and legal strength of the women to ensure equal-right as men, achieve internationally agreed goals for development and sustainability, and improve the quality of life for their families and communities. It is also important to provide a society where women feel safe and secure and confident is sustainable in the long term. When women have freedom, they can involve in unexpected areas like politics. Women at the helm of affairs can articulate their problems better and it becomes easy to implement policy changes. Key development indicators like food security, sanitation and health can be significantly improved by increasing awareness among women. It can also solve problems like sexual harassments as they would inculcate better values in their sons.

Conclusion

Women empowerment is empowering the women to take their own decision for their personal dependent. Empowerment of women helps them to take their own decision by breaking all personal limitations of society and family. It also refers to the creation of an environment of women where they can make a decision of their personal benefits as well as for society. It is to bring equality in the society for both male and female in all areas: by increasing and improving the social economics and political and legal strength of the women.

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