



Opinions about the Women's Empowerment of B Ed Students

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Introduction

Empowerment means a psychological sense of personal control or influence and concern with actual social influence, political power, and legal rights. It is a multi-level construct referring to individuals, organizations, and communities.

Women are known for delivering multiple roles in day-to-day life. Therefore they are considered the backbone of our society. In a patriarchal society, women play multiple vital roles, such as nurturing children and maintaining relations with others as family members like daughters, sisters, daughter-in-law, etc., and capable colleagues. Today she is trying her best to do every role. But still in our country women, and girls are given low status in the family and society. Many times neglect opportunities in their career, decision-making, giving property, etc.

The principle of gender equality is enshrined in the Indian Constitution in its Preamble, Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties, and Directive Principles. The Constitution already stated equality for women (article 14, article 15 & article 21) but also empowers the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favor of women. Therefore researcher intended to find out opinions about women empowerment among student-teachers. These are the future teachers who inculcate "equality" among the next generation.

Objectives of the research

The objectives of the research are as follows:

- To find out the Opinions about the Women's Empowerment

Need of the research: Women's empowerment is important for many reasons sustainable development, gender equality, social justice, a healthy nation, etc. India is constantly making efforts to empower women in all aspects.

Education is the main tool to empower women. Is education successful in achieving the goal? Therefore researcher's main focus is to take the opinions of student-teachers about Women's Empowerment.

Scope and limitations of the research: The research was restricted to the student teachers of Gokhale Education Society's College of Education and Research, Parel, Mumbai, and no other B Ed college student-teachers were involved in this study. A small sample size of 30 student teachers mentioned their opinions about women's empowerment. The medium of instruction of the student teachers is English only no other medium student teachers were involved in this study.

Importance of Research: Teachers are important catalysts for empowerment. They are an essential part of both a child's learning and her social, cultural, and economic development. They transmit and implant social values and nurture a child's creativity, talent, and interests. They equally provide children with the skills and knowledge to question and solve problems that they encounter in childhood and throughout their lives. Therefore, the researcher took the opinion about the women empowerment of B Ed student teachers.

Research Design: The researcher used a survey method to conduct descriptive research.

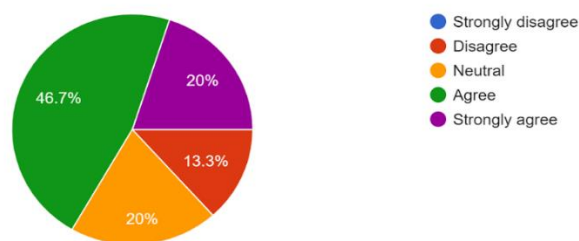
Research Method: The researcher used a survey method for this study.

Research Tool: A teacher-made questionnaire is used. The questionnaire includes 22 statements which is a 5-point Likert scale strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree, and strongly agree. The researcher collects the preliminary information and opinions through Google Forms.

Sample -In this study, the sample consists of 30 teachers residing in the Mumbai region.

Analysis of Research- The researcher has tried to analyze the collected data by using percentage statistics as follows: The researcher attempted to use the following percentage statistics to examine the data that was gathered:

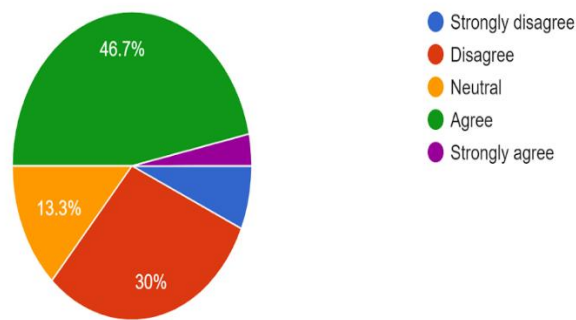
Women are not given equal status in India
30 responses



46.7% of student-teachers agreed, and 20% strongly agreed that women are not given equal status in India. 13.3% of student-teachers disagree with this. It means student-teachers believe that women are not given equal status in our country.

The government policies and present laws are not helping to resolve the situation

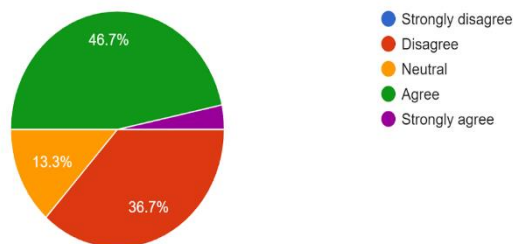
30 responses



3.3% of student-teachers strongly agreed that government policies and present laws are not helping to resolve the situation. 46.7% of student-teachers agreed with the same. 6.7% of B Ed student-teachers strongly disagreed and 30% of student-teachers disagreed that government policies and present laws are not helping to resolve the situation. While 13.3% of student-teachers are neutral about it. It means that student-teachers believe that the government policies and present laws are not helping to resolve the situation in the country.

Reservations and special quotas for women are not really helping the cause

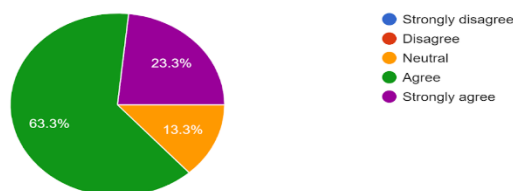
30 responses



Student-teachers strongly agreed (3.3%) that reservations and special quotas for women are not helping the cause. 46.7% of student-teachers agreed with the same. 36.7% of student-teachers disagree with this while 13.3% of the student-teachers are neutral about it. This means that the student-teachers believe that reservations and special quotas for women are not helping the cause.

The government and other agencies (schools, etc) are adequately spreading awareness about women empowerment and its need in the society

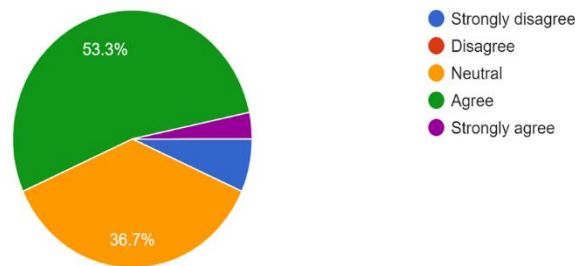
30 responses



63.3% of student-teachers agree that the government and other agencies, schools, etc.) are adequately spreading awareness about women's empowerment and its need in society. 23.3% of the student-teachers strongly agree with this while 13.3% of student-teachers are neutral about it. This means that the student-teachers believe that

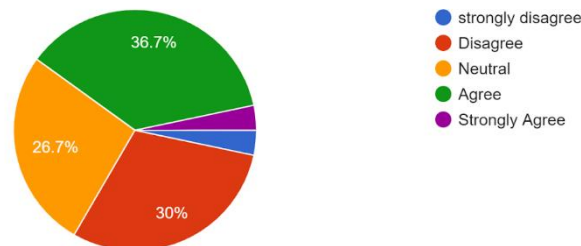
the government and the other agencies, schools, etc.) are adequately spreading awareness about women's empowerment and its need in society.

In a culturally (paternally) strong country like India, women empowerment will become a reality.
30 responses



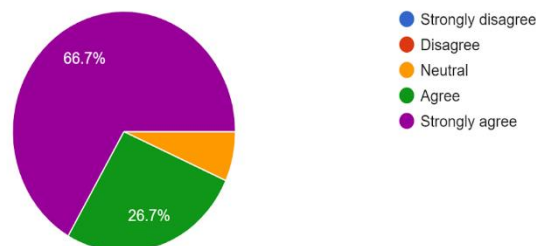
3.3% of student-teachers strongly agree, and 53.3% of student-teachers agree that in a culturally (paternally) strong country like India, women empowerment will become a reality. 36.7% of student-teachers are neutral about it. This means that the student-teachers believe that in a culturally (paternally) strong country like India, women empowerment will become a reality. 6.7% of student-teachers strongly disagree that in a culturally (paternally) strong country like India, women empowerment will become a reality.

India has somewhere lost what the concept of equality is all about
30 responses



The student-teacher's (36.7%) opinion is that India has lost what the concept of equality is all about. 30% of student-teachers disagree about it while 26.7% of student-teachers are neutral about it. 3.3% of the student-teachers strongly agree that in our country we lost 'equality'. At the same time, 3.3% of the student-teachers strongly disagree that in our country we lost 'equality'.

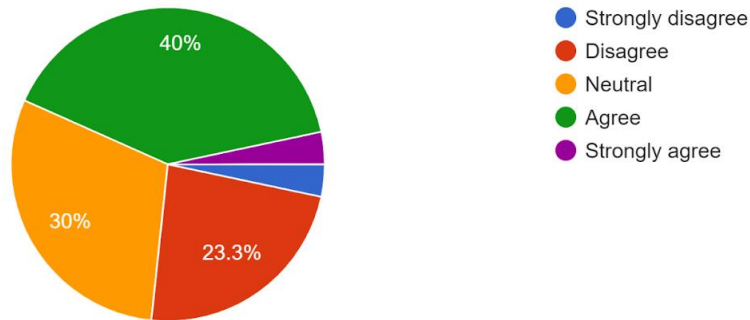
Education is the major factor that will develop women empowerment.
30 responses



93.4% of student-teachers either strongly agree or agree that education is the most significant factor in developing women's empowerment. Only 6.6% of student-teachers reported a neutral opinion on this matter. This implies that student-teachers generally believe that education plays a crucial role in empowering women.

Women empowerment will lead to westernisation of India

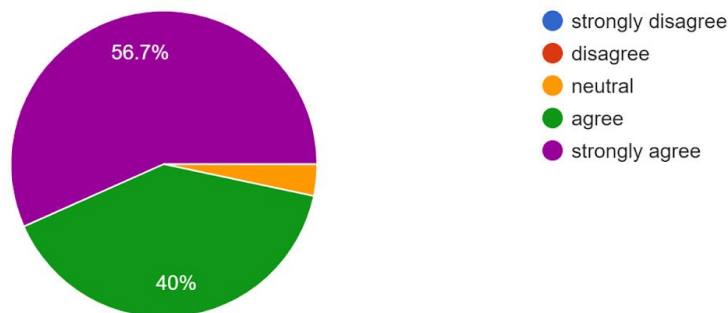
30 responses



the student-teachers opinion is that 40% of the student-teachers agree that women's empowerment will lead to the westernization of India. 30% of the student-teachers are neutral about it, while the 23.3% of student-teachers disagree with this.

Women empowerment is a positive step towards the development of any society.

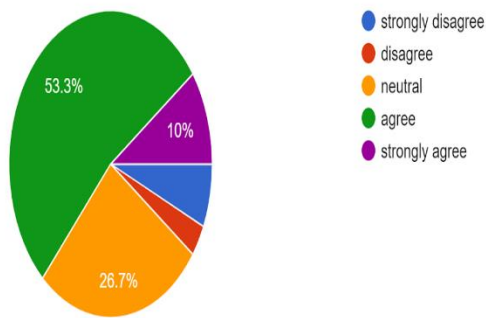
30 responses



56.7% of student-teachers strongly agree that women's empowerment is a positive step towards the development of any society. While 40% of student-teachers agree with the same.

In a culturally (paternally) strong country like India, women empowerment will become a reality

30 responses



From the above data it is seen that 53.3% of student-teachers agree that in a culturally (paternally) strong country like India, women empowerment will become a reality. 26.7% of the student-teachers are neutral about it while 10% of student-teachers strongly agree with this. This means that the student-teachers believe that in a culturally (paternally) strong country like India, women empowerment will become a reality.

CONCLUSION

Based on the survey findings, it is evident that there is a prevailing belief among student teachers that women are not granted equal status in India. Moreover, the consensus suggests a lack of confidence in current government policies and laws to effectively address this issue. Despite the existence of reservations and special quotas for women, there is skepticism regarding their efficacy in advancing gender equality. However, there is optimism regarding the efforts of the government and other agencies in spreading awareness about the importance of women's empowerment in Indian society.

Overall, there is a shared sentiment that in a culturally rich nation like India, women's empowerment can indeed become a reality with concerted efforts and continued advocacy.

References:

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