

India- Patriarchy and Women

Dr. Santosh Singh, Associate Professor,
Department of Sociology
D.A.K. Degree College Moradabad U.P. India.

Abstract-

India is the second most populated country in the world. The sex ratio shows that female is less in number than males. From Google, I found the sex ratio in 2001 was 933 per 1000 boys. In 2011, the sex ratio was 943 females per 1000 males. Kerala is the only one state in India where girls are more than boys. Women are fifty percent of population. But still they are ignored. In this paper, I want to study how the woman had struggled to improve under patriarchy of India. She has continuously tried to prove to her counterparts. Today woman have reached to great heights.

Keywords- Patriarchy, Sex-Ratio, Women Status, Inferior, Economic Independence.

Indian women are trying very hard to make progress in life. Patriarchy is a social system, where male lineage inherits property and title. It is in this social structure in which women are oppressed, dominated and even exploited. Women in primitive societies were holding high positions. They held high self-respect in the society. She was worshipped just like goddess. Now, it is clear that high positions women were holding and had great respect. But it is a setback, when you see what respect a woman is having/getting today. Whatever would be the conditions, today's Indian women, knows she has to struggle with herself and then with the world outside.

Objective-

In this paper, I am trying to study how an Indian woman under Patriarchy puts efforts to improve her status. In a way, her life is filled with hard labor, struggle, exploitation, torture, sadness.

Hypothesis-

The Patriarchy affects the status of Indian women.

My study is based on secondary data. These studies already studied these aspects.

In India, women were in a sub-ordinate position in middle period. In primitive societies, she enjoyed high positions even called 'pandits'. It means she was very intelligent and respected in society. But slowly her social status came down and then she started to work hard to gain back her lost positions.

Social Status at Home

The social status of woman is seriously under pressure as she is in a subdued position at home. Father, husband, son are males who dominate her at home. So her struggle/hardships began at home. She had to step outside her home to prove to the society and for other reasons as well. She had to get education, exposure and to get economic independence. Patriarchy is an hindrance in her path of progress.

Economic Independence

A woman due to patriarchy, is considered weak, unable to do anything in life. So, her aim is to get a job and break the shackles and make her own identity in Indian society. Bread earning was important for her, so as to remove her dominance of males at home. Women are putting strenuous labor at home, which is not paid. Her status, when not earning was low

though she was working day night. Then she thought of working outside home, where she will be earning. Though we always talk of family, where, husband and wife should be equally treated. But this not the case in women of India.

Conclusion-

On the basis of various studies, it can be concluded that girls/women in India, do find little stressful to overcome the problems of patriarchy. Despite these hurdles, she was and still working hard to improve her way of life.

Sometimes, altogether a woman stops striving, because she feels that society is not going to support her. Above all, women who are having small children finds even more difficult to carry on her education or employment. So, we should inculcate a habit in our society especially youth to help women as a class. We should also provide, develop support system in our society, so that a congenial atmosphere can be given to her. Patriarchy is a big factor, which directly affects Indian women.

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