



## Role of Education in Women Empowerment

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### Abstract:

*Empowerment is the ability to make choices and transform all those choices in to proper outcomes and desired actions. An educated, self-dependent, self-motivated and decision-making women is an empowered woman.*

*Empowering women and making them independent needs to be done for humankind to progress. women should have equal rights and opportunities to participate in education economics and politics. They should influence each other and boost the economic growth of the country. The most curial step is women empowerment is education.*

*Thus, women must understand the value of self-worth. This paper reflects the present position of women and importance of education in future building of women. letter status in society.*

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**Keywords:** *women empowerment, Education, self-dependent, self-motivated, decision-making*

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### 1. Introduction

‘Empower’ means giving power or authority to somebody. Women empowerment is the pivotal part in every society. Indian women are slowly getting empowered in many fields. As according to Rabindra Nath Tagore, ‘Women is the builder and moulder of the Nation’s destiny. Though delicate and soft like lily, she has a heart for stronger and bolder than men. She is supreme inspiration for man’s onward march, an embodiment of love, kindness and compassion’. But after 75 years of independence the condition of Indian women is not good. They are denied the opportunity of better education and other facilities.

Women Empowerment is a premier demand of the modern era and education is the most powerful catalyst in their context. According to Pd. Jawaharlal Nehru, “If you educate a man, you educate an individual, if you educate women, you educate a whole family. Pandit Nehru also remarked’, ‘To awaken the people, it is the women who must be awakened. Once she is on the move, the family moves, the village moves and the nation moves”.

### 2. Women Empowerment

Women Empowerment means to make women independent so that they can take their important decisions of life by themselves. They must have the right to live their life as they want.

From so many decades, women are grossly underrepresented almost in all spheres of public and private life. Women suffered a lot and they were treated as they have no existence. They had to think hundred times before doing anything. All their major decisions are taken by the men in the family. Though lot of promises are held out but very few get translated into action. In real life generally they denied the opportunity of better education and other facilities.

A.U.N. Survey conducted by Population, Crisis Committee (2009) on women and well being in five sectors- health, marriage and children, education. employment and social equality. in 99 countries indicates that 60% all women and girls in the world live under conditions which threaten their health, deny them about child rearing and marriage, limit educational attainments, restrict economic participation and fail to guarantee them equal rights and freedom with men.

The main indicators through which inequalities can be seen are mainly demographic, economic, social and political participation. Demographic inequalities can be indicated through sex ratio, birth and death rate, incidence of illness and malnutrition, child marriage, female literacy access to education, work-force participation rate, declining sex-ratio. High mortality rate is reported in girls. Female literacy is low and dropout rate is comparably higher specially at the primary level of education. Many girl are still excluded from enjoying facilities from education.

There seems to be virtually no law and regulation allowing discrimination based on gender. On the contrary equal opportunities and equal treatment are guaranteed by the constitution or by the law. The constitution of India, through its article 14,15,15(3), 16 and 25 confer gender equality in all political, economic, social and demographic sphere which are the major indicators of discrimination.

Thus, many laws have been made, but mere making law are not enough. One has to change people's mindset by changing the attitude, belief, values and lifestyle for empowering women. According to international conference on population and Development (ICPD), Programme of Action (2014):

“Education is one of the most important means of empowering women with the knowledge, skills and self-confidence necessary to participate fully in the development process. Empowering women through education means using education as a tool for bringing their self-worth, giving her a sense to choose between right or wrong, empowering her with skills to take advantage of opportunities.

But we can say that there are many obstacles in the path of women empowerment like.

1. Discrimination against girl.
2. Illiteracy.
3. Uneven opportunities.
4. Domestic violence.
5. Sexual Harassment.
6. Traditions & Beliefs.
7. Gender disparity.
8. Lack of decision-making power.
9. Lack of recognition women's work.

The National Education Policy (NEP,2020) provides education to be used as a strategy for achieving the basic change in the status of women. The entire education should be such so that it can work as a positive interventionist role in the empowerment of women and various institutions to be encourage for starting the programmes for the betterment of women.

UN HDR (Human development report) 2015 says that ‘Women are disadvantaged in the world of work, in both paid and unpaid work. Women and girls live within the confines of rigid gender norms, which frequently result in disproportionate access to essential services and major violation of their human rights.

In India, women and girls find themselves at the tail end of the progress. With a population of more than billion National Family and Health Survey between 2019 and 2021 points out that women in India earn just one fifth of what men earn Furthermore, “One in four women” endure ‘intimate violence’ at least once in their life time The report also indicates that literacy rate of women is also very low . All women deserve a life with the opportunity to be educated, to work, to be healthy and to participate in all aspects of public life with higher literacy rate and equal opportunity. Women are able to thrive economically and rise out of poverty.

### 3. Women empowerment through education

It is clear from the above discussion that education of women is the most powerful tool to change the position in society. Women education in India has been a need of the hour as education is a foundation stone for the empowerment of women. Education also brings a reduction in inequalities, and functions as a means of improving their status within the family and develops the concept of participation. The empowerment strengthens the innate ability by way of acquiring knowledge, power and experiences (Hashemi Schuler and Riley 1996) Women are the most important factor of every society Empowering woman has become the focus of considerable discussion and attention all over the world. Education as means of increasing self-respect and dignity among women.

It's time to realize that women empowerment is only possible if all the girls right from the primary level are to be literate. Many government schemes for strengthening of girls such as Kasturba Gandhi Balika vidyalaya, Mahila Samakhya programme, education for women equality, Meena Manch for U.P (a forum for adolescent girl to discuss their own issues) can be able to reach through informal education. Many informative programmes are telecasted by the media such as 'meena ki kahani' which is very encouraging the young girls. Through informal education women are able to know their strength and weakness and are making aware their rights and duties.

Only informal education cannot be able to make women empowered. School is a very important area of socialization and it can be an important promoter of gender equality.

### 4. Conclusion

Thus, education can be a great instrument in changing the personality of the women through making them sensitized about their strength Women empowerment is boon for growth and development of women. At the end we can say "There is no chance of the welfare of the world unless the condition of women is improved It is not possible for a bird to fly on one wing" {Swami Vivekananda} Thus women are our strengths, they are the real architects of our society. There is urgent need of empowering women. Women are the largest untapped reservoir of talent in the world. Let us empower them and encourage them to get quality education.

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