

A Study of Women's Education in Rural Area



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Abstract

Women who form one-half of the population have always played a specific and crucial role subtle as well as visible, in society and history. Undoubtedly, women is a magnificent creature-a power of benevolence and tolerance, a protection and provider, an embodiment of love and affection, an epitome of integrity and understanding-all wrapped in one. They play an active role in day-to-day life doing house chores and in some cases running the household. However, there is an urgent need to acknowledge the role played by women in the society and address the marginalization of their rights. No nation can achieve success unless education is accorded in all its citizens. Mothers are the first educators of the children, who establish virtues in all its citizens. They encourage the child to acquire perfection and good manners, warn him against unbecoming qualities and encourage him to show firmness and endurance during hardships and advance on the road of progress. Due regard for education of girls is therefore necessary. Furthermore, the education of women is more important, for woman is the trainer of the child from its infancy. And if women were imperfect, then it will imply a condition of imperfection for all mankind. In proclaiming the oneness of mankind the thought that men and women are equal in the eyes of God and there is no distinction to be made between them is important. The only difference between them is the lack of education and training. If woman is given opportunity of education, the distinction and inferiority complex will disappear. However, the women are denied the right and privilege of equal development. If equal opportunity is granted to her, there is no doubt she would be the peer of man. Educated women in Jammu and Kashmir can play an important role in all round development of the state. So, we cannot ignore the importance of women's education in reference to women.

Keywords: Abortion; Birth Spacing; Fertility; Gender; Ideal Family Size; Number of Children; Unintended Pregnancy; Women's Empowerment.

Introduction

The women in the rural area have faced several crucial problems in the fields of education, employment, healthy, hygiene, family, marriage and so on. Due to these factors the problems of women could not be solved wholly but were expanded and intensified. The root cause of problems faced by women in these fields is less emphasis on imparting basic education to them. Women could play a major role in these fields, only when they are fully educated. But unfortunately, if we look into the present scenario of the rural area, women still are far from men in educational field. No, doubt government has provided various facilities like free education, free uniforms, free books, free meals etc. for improving education standard of women herein. But unfortunately some sections of our society still consider women inferior to men and therefore do not bother about their education. The Indian government has expressed a strong commitment towards education for all. A woman's lack of education also has a negative impact on the health and well being of her children. For instance, a recent survey in India found that infant mortality was inversely related to mother's educational level. Additionally, the lack of an educated population can be an impediment to the country's economic development. As we are known to the fact that women play a major role in the development of a nation. So, a nation can only be strong and developed when its women are educated. The future of a society is secure only when its future generation is advanced enough to create opportunities and stand firm in their decisions. But the future generations get this strength only if

the women in our homes are educated because it is the mother who is the first school of the child. Education of women calls for urgent attention in order to reduce the inequalities, exploitation and discrimination against the marginalized groups of society and thus, eliminating the thousands of social evils with the best remedies called "education". Women still lag behind men in education in most developing countries with far reaching adverse consequences for both individual and national well being. A developing country like India can ill afford if half of the human capital remains unutilized thereby being a liability and not an asset for the nation. Promoting education among women and girls particularly in rural areas would go a long way in bridging the wide gap of inequality and accelerate the process of social, economic and political change in the status of women.

India's Constitution guarantees free primary school education for both boys and girls up to age of 14 years. This goal has been repeatedly reconfirmed, but primary education in India is not universal. Overall the literacy rate of women is approx 39% verses 64% for men with less than 40 % of the 330 million women age seven and above being literate, according to the current report to census, which means today there are over 200 million illiterate women in India. The Situation of women in rural areas is pitiable Situation of women in rural areas. Despite the key role played by rural women in community life, but they still suffer from the constraints and difficulties make them suffer in their daily lives, and that mainly due to the exclusion of economic, social and cultural development, they remain deprived of their rights in several areas such as education, health, entertainment etc...The suffering of rural women period commencing from childhood, where we find children in rural areas live childhood disadvantaged and marginalized. And in the rural areas, we find that some of hard work that is the prerogative of the men assigned to women may make them busy for study. At the present time, the greater part of the country, people lives in rural areas. It is some times extremely difficult for girls and women in those areas to receive either school education or adult education.

Aim of the Study

The present significance of the problem of the education of girls and women in rural areas, the status of women and girls is the fact that they are much desirable than other aspect. The aim of this analysis school education and out of school education have been examined separately. In rural areas after which the quality of the education provided has been considered. The compression between the opportunities of girls and women's in rural and urban areas to obtain the same type of education.

The Indian government has not been unresponsive to such findings. The promise of free and compulsory education has been earnestly pursued it is worthwhile to study the general aspects of SSA before addressing its specific programmers for taking gender disparity. By examining the various aspects of education such as the literacy rates, years of schooling completed and school enrolment ratios, it

can be safely stated that gender equality in school education has not been achieved.

The aim of this study is to examine the status of women's education and causes of decreasing female literacy rate in rural areas.

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV)

These schools are specifically opened to provide free education to the girls who are orphans or belong to families which are Below Poverty Line (BPL). Besides providing free education all the basic facilities like free meals, uniforms, books and other convenience facilities are also provided. These schools cover almost 5% of the total population of the district.

The urban female literacy rate is 64% and rural women literacy rate is half of it i.e. 31% . as with India as while many state have large rural – urban differences in female literacy. in six of the 24 state, 25% or less of women in rural areas are illiterate . In rajasthan less than 12% of rural women are literate. This low level of literacy not only has a negative impact on women lives but also on their families and country's economic development.

Essential Need For Education For Rural Women

Numerous studies shows that illiterate women have high levels of fertility and mortality, poor nutritional status, low earning potential and little autonomy within the house hold. A women lack of education also has a negative impact on the health and well being of her children. For instance a recent survey in India found out that infant mortality is inversely related to mothers educational level.

In this may there is a need for minimum threshold of education (more than 5 or 6 years) that must be achieved bringing about significant improvements in female autonomy the literate women in India appx 59 percent only have primary education or less. This level of education may not be sufficient to meaningfully improve the status of these women.

Barriers for Female Education

There are four major barriers for girls education in India is as follows:

High Dropout Role

The major educational problem faced by girls especially girls from rural /remote areas, is that although they may be enrolled at the beginning of the year, they don't always remain in school. It is estimated the 45% of the girls dropout of the school between adolescence age as they are often taken out of school to share the family responsibilities such as caring for younger siblings etc.

Girls are also likely to be taken out of school, when they reach puberty because of the high premium placed on virginity. The data on school attendance shows only 55% attending girls aged 11-14 years compared with another age of group.

Priority to Son Education Compared to Daughter's Education

If a family has to choose between educating a son or daughter because of financial restrictions, typically the son will be chosen. Negative parental attitudes towards educating daughters can also be a barrier to a girl education.

Many parents view educating sons as an investment because the son's will be responsible for caring for aging parents. On the other hand parents may see the education of daughters, a waste of money as daughter will eventually live with their husbands families, and the parents will not be benefited directly from their education. In addition to daughters with higher levels of education will likely have higher dowery expenses, as they will want a comparably educated husband.

Lack of Adequate Number of Female Teachers

Lack of female teachers is also a potential barrier to girls education. Girls are more likely to attend school and have higher academic achievement. The proportion of teachers, who are female is even lower at the university level, although the level of proportion are likely to change in future as women currently being trained and appointed as teachers.

Gender Bias is Curriculum Still Exists

As far back as previous years shows that the Indian government agreed to rewrite textbooks so that men and women would not be portrayed in gender stereotyped roles. However a study of Indian textbooks found that men were the main characters in the majority of lessons. In these lessons men held high prestige as strong and intelligent.

In contrast, when women were included they were depicted as weak and helpless. These depictions are strong barriers for improving women position in society.

In India, the status of the girl child has been a subject of much discussion, controversy and debate. There are some overwhelming cultural and economic reason, why female children are not

receiving the some medical emotional and educational attention as their male counterparts.

From the start, girl children are seen as burdens rather than blessings bearers of exorbitant dowries, who will eventually move into the homes of their husbands. The result is low literacy rate among women.

Lastly, in the conclusion of importance of educating female children in India is very essential and Adult- literacy should be linked with girl education. In fact Education is the only way a girl can be an informed citizen, leading the way for her to having her voice heard in society.

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