

SELF EVIDENT- THE PLACE OF WOMEN IN TODAY'S MODERN SOCIETY

AARTI KUMARI

Abstract: Purpose - The purpose of this paper is to review the position of women from Early Vedic Period to independent India. Paper revolves around Indian society and women. This Paper addresses all hardships and complications that a woman goes through during various stages of a life. Various stages of life include its primary stage of pre- birth to last stage i.e. death. Hardships comprise of issue arising out of religion, for instance Sati and prohibition on widow remarriage. Problems relating to society, law, culture and social work. Methodology - Paper draws on by ancient sources of law and texts like Manusmriti, reflecting the status of women in a society. Arthshastra is another text dealing with marriage laws for women. Other methods are recent survey like National Crime Records and Thomas Reuters foundation conducted a survey on violence against women. Findings - Paper concludes that violence against women is increasing and spreading like a virus. Lack of implementation of law creates more problems as it implies no fear of law. Punitive measures with stricter foundation and rise of feminism would create a better place for women. Value - Paper presents the analysis of violence against women and status of women in India.

Keywords: India, Violence, Inequality, Women

Introduction : Indian society depicts women as a mere tool for procreation and ritual purposes only. Since ages, this mindset has been continually deteriorating women in our society. From Vedic era to the modern era, the position of women remains unbearable. Evolution of women as a suppressing class is entailed within the ambit of religion and culture. The prime foundations of Indian society are religion and culture. These foundations derive their existence and continuity, from male dominance. Combination of religion and male dominance creates a society where women remain under a system of constant scrutiny and control. They evolve a society which harasses women during various stages of their lives. When a girl is born with Indian boundaries from the stage of pre infancy to final stage i.e. death, she survives in a constant fear of being killed and harassed. At pre infancy stage problem of sex determination practices lead to abortion of female

fetus then come the stage of a girl child when she is deliberately killed to eliminate unnecessary expenses that she would create on her family. From 3 to 10 years, she becomes a victim of sexual abuse, child labor, child marriage. When she attains the age of a teenager, she faces stalking on social media, voyeurism and abduction. Young adult's faces sexual harassment from seniors during internships. As a single woman, violence like rape, acid attacks, forced labor, prostitution. After marriage, she acquaints herself with marital rape, domestic violence, cruelty by husband. At attaining age of 65 years, she is abandoned by her family to curtail expense on her. An inference or discovery is drawn up to represent the set pattern or mentality of Indian society. Religion contains rules with respect to men and women. Rule of multiplication is followed where 0(zero) represents rules of religion. M stands for male and F stands for Female.

S. No	Topic	Male	Female
1.	Marriage	Marriage i.e. 0 multiplied by Male is equal to male. This represents that husband's consent is necessary. He gets all rights and privileges in a wed lock.	Marriage (zero) multiplied by Female is equal to zero. Zero implies that during solemnization of marriage, consent of a girl is immaterial. She is not given any rights arising out of wed lock. She is made subject to cruelty and offences like marital rape, domestic violence.
2.	Remarriage (when former husband or wife dies)	0(zero) * Male = Male Option of re marriage is availed.	0(zero) * Female = 0 Option of re marriage is prohibited. After husband's demise, sati is practiced and puts an end to her life.
3.	Dowry	0 * Male = Male Male gets immunity from granting dowry to girl's family.	0 * Female = 0 No immunity is afforded to females. Dowry is kept as most pivotal element for the solemnization of marriage. Without dowry, marriage is not completed.

4.	Type of Society(Patriarchal or matriarchal)	0 * Male = Male Only patriarchal society exists (irrespective that person is capable enough to manage the affairs of a family)	0 * Female = Female Matriarchal Society does not exist.
5.	Education	0 * Male = Male More educational opportunities are availed.	0 * Female = Female Education is waste as it leads to more expenses.
6.	Society – Status and rights	0 * Male = Male Receives better status and rights in a society.	0 * Female = Female Inequality exists.
7.	Law	0 * Male = Male Laws are framed in a manner to support men.	0 * Female = Female Laws are not implemented in favor of women.

Methods :

Various methods are used for research paper and are as follows:

- a) Arthshashtra – only source from Kautilya's times that depicted women in a better condition and position than today. Kautilya has incorporated provisions which tend to strike an equal balance between men and women. Equal rights and punishments have been enumerated in Arthshashtra. Women were given equal rights in matters relating to marriage, re-marriage, contracts and property. Employment was provided to women depending upon their circumstances and means of livelihood. Many women were employed in agriculture and spinning activities. With passage of time, position of women started deteriorating and created a cruel place for women.
- b) Manusmriti – consists of 2690 verses, categorized into 12 parts. It is self-evident in lowering the status of a woman in Indian society. In few verses, Manu has glorified the character of women and clothed her in a better position, whereas reality is something else. A woman is considered to be protected by men. In childhood father protects her, during youth husband protects her and last stage, sons obtained the status of a protector. Manu's views revealed that a woman should be

- kept in cages like a bird. Manusmriti doesn't deal with matters like widow re-marriage, stridhan, rights of women in property and social status.
- c) National Crime Records Bureau – constituted on 11th March, 1986. Works under the ambit of Ministry of Home Affairs. It collects data and information relating to crimes in provided under IPC.
- d) Thomas Reuters foundation – ranks India as the most unsafe country for a woman to survive. In committing violence against women, India grabs 4th position after Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Conclusion : With each passing day, crime on women is spreading like a disease which has no cure unless people try to understand the importance of a woman. People need to empathize a woman instead of making her a mere commodity to pour out their anger and frustration. Affording equal opportunities to women would make a country a developed country. All citizens should take equal efforts rather than restricting women from participating. Blaming a government is not a key to all problems. Using law as an instrument for getting protection and security from violence is everyone's obligation. Using the force of law and seeking justice is the strongest initiative or remedy to curb violence against women. Prohibiting these carnal activities in every part of Indian society would result in curtailing violence.

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Aarti Kumari , Amity Law School, Noida, Uttar Pradesh.

FARM MANAGEMENT IN RURAL AREAS: ROLE OF WOMEN IN DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

DR. V. LALITHA , DR. T. VIJAYA KUMAR

Abstract: Indian economy is primarily based on agricultural and allied activities. In general, rural women in addition to participating in different farm operations and activities also help in decision-making with regard to farm practices, operations and household affairs. Successful management of the farm and family is totally dependent upon taking the right decision at the right time and execution of the same with proper zeal and ability. Thus, women have a considerable role in decision making in home as well as in farm affairs and thus play an important role in the development process. A study was taken up by the researchers with the objective of examining the role of women in decision making process of farm management. The study was conducted in Warangal district of Telangana state. Four villages in Warangal district were selected and from each village 30 families were selected as the sample, thus making it a sample size of 120 families. The data were tabulated and subjected to averages, percentages and chi-square. The findings of the study reveal that level of involvement of majority of the sample women in decision making with regard to farm input, area allocation for crops and marketing and disposal of farm produce is low.

Keywords: Farm management, Rural women, Decision-making and involvement

Introduction: The role of women has always been a multi-dimensional and significant as women have performed well in case of agricultural activities, domestic activities, marketing activities as far as labour requirement is considered. The decision-making process is an important segment of every household because the functioning of family resource management depends on the efficiency of decision-making progress. So, women's involvement in decision-making process has been of great importance because women play an important role. Rural women play a significant role in domestic and socio-economic life of the society. Indian rural women, in addition to participating in different farm operations and activities also help in decision making with regard to farm practices, operations and household affairs. Successful management of the farm and family is totally dependent upon taking the right decision at the right time and execution of the same with proper zeal and ability. Thus, women have a considerable role in decision making in home as well as in farm affairs and thus play an important role in the development process.

In rural society, there has been noticed a considerable fluctuation regarding the decision-making power of women. The state like Punjab and Haryana show positive role of women in decision-making process in many of the families. But it has become insignificant and negligible in rural families due to illiteracy of women. The contribution of rural women has not taken seriously because it is considered very disgraceful to accept the decision of women. This is because the abilities of women have been neglected and undermined as the responsibility of forming the policies is always regarded the job of male traditionally. How far, the role of women in

decision-making process has been noticed in positive manner is the major concern of our study. Thus to know the actual situation of women, their role in decision-making in different agricultural activities need to be properly looked into.

Review of Literature: The study done by Khan, M., et al., 2012 highlights the role of the invisible working hands of women in the field of agriculture, who are working side by side with the farmers and contributing a lot towards agricultural development. In addition, to the acknowledgement of the greater participation of rural women in agriculture activities, the study also brings the hidden talents of rural women to limelight and signifies the potentials of rural women for proper harnessing and the resultant improvement in farm income and productivity. M.A. Damisa and M. Yohanna, 2007 conducted a study in Zaria area of Kaduna State to examine the level of participation of rural women in the decision making in different areas of agriculture and to study the factors influencing their participation in the decision making process in farm management and concluded that the level of her participation in farm management decision making is quite low.

Objectives of the study: The present study was taken up with the objective of examining the role of women in farm management decision making process.

Methodology: This study was conducted in Warangal district of Telangana state. Four villages in Warangal district were selected and from each village 30 families were selected as the sample, thus making it a sample size of 120 families.

Out of the 120 samples, 30 samples were selected from each size group of farmers viz. Landless, Small, Marginal and Large size groups having holding size of