

A STUDY OF POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION OF WOMEN EMPLOYEES

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Abstract: Women in India are a politically weaker force. This is primarily due to their economic dependency, male chauvinism, conventional and traditional roles. But the one going social changes have been influencing the wider social context including women's participation in politics. Hence, it is very much important to study the political culture of women. Analysis of women's attitudes, and orientations towards politics and their cognitive, affective and evaluative traits of their political actions explain their sensitivity towards politics. Among the total women population of India the women employees constitute the crux of the productive forces, who are the seminal agents of gearing social changes. Among these women employees, the women working in industries play a vital role in the development of nation and social consciousness. Women employees can be good mothers and wives who can be full of aspirations and challenges. They contribute towards the economic growth and production for the betterment of human life. They take active part in socio-cultural part of life. They involve in the growth of industrialization commercialization, administration and in many other social activities.

Keywords: Political Culture, Leadership.

Introduction: In a democratic political system the women can occupy a position on par with the men. But in the present India scenario, women representation and participation in politics in general and power politics in particular is significantly low. In spite of many constitutional provisions, economic liberalization and other developmental programmes, they play a little role in the political decision making process of society. The number of women representatives is insignificant compared to the female population which is half of total Indian population. Though political participation of women as a particular section of the society became apparent since the dawn of the present century, they have not yet emerged as a dominant section. Political culture of women can be best understood by unfolding the necessary and sufficient objective conditions which vary according to time, space and the specifics of the process of social production. The socio-economic and historical studies reveal the complex texture of political culture of Indian women. Women in India are a politically weaker force. This is primarily due to their economic dependency, male chauvinism, conventional and traditional roles. But the one going social changes have been influencing the wider social. Therefore, an attempt has been made in this work to study the political culture of the women employees of Khammam district in Telangana State. A general view tells us that there is a significant change in their life styles, ideas about their profession, work orientation and attitudes and also in their political awareness and culture.

The present study makes it possible to understand how the laws and the constitution are observed by individuals and groups. It allows us to understand the attitudes of citizens towards the political system. This work is useful in explaining the structural and functional characteristics of the political system.

context including women's participation in politics. Hence, it is very much important to study the political culture of women. Analysis of women's attitudes, and orientations towards politics and their cognitive, affective and evaluative traits of their political actions explain their sensitivity towards politics. Among the total women population of India the women employees constitute the crux of the productive forces, who are the seminal agents of gearing social changes. Among these women employees, the women working play a vital role in the development of nation and social consciousness. Women employees can be good mothers and wives who can be full of aspirations and challenges. They contribute towards the economic growth and production for the betterment of human life. They take active part in socio-cultural part of life. They involve in the growth of industrialization commercialization, administration and in many other social activities. Their way of life, status, socio-economic structure, cultural and family background and particularly their beliefs, attitudes, orientations, aptitudes and interests will have definite impact on human life in general and political life in particular.

Objectives of the study:

- (i) To study the political awareness of the respondents
- (ii) To examine the political attitudes and political participation of the respondents.
- (iii) To study the political culture of women employees.

Sample Design: The sample of this study of women employees were taken on a simple random sampling procedure. Women from all categories and organizations of Khammam district in Telangana State have representation in the sample. Gazette Officers-13, Non Gazetted Officers-31, Teachers-26,

Nurses-18, Lecturers-24, Office Subordinates-32, Lawyers-16 i.e. Total-160 of members.

Data Collection Tools:

For the purpose of collecting data, different methods of social enquiry have been employed. A structural

questionnaire and interview schedules are administered. 160 women employees and the information had been elicited.

Table – 01. The Respondents’ Political Awareness (Education-wise)

Awareness	% High	% Medium	% Low	% Total
Education				
Professional	29.68 19 (30.64)	48.43 31 (63.26)	21.88 14 (28.55)	100.00 64 (40.00)
P.G.	64.00 16 (25.80)	16.00 04 (8.16)	20.00 05 (10.22)	100.00 25 (15.65)
Degree	62.50 20 (32.25)	21.87 07 (14.28)	15.63 05 (10.22)	100.00 32 (20.00)
Inter	35.72 05 (8.06)	14.28 02 (4.08)	50.00 07 (14.28)	100.00 14 (8.75)
Secondary Education	8.00 02 (3.25)	20.00 05 (10.22)	72.00 18 (36.73)	100.00 25 (15.65)
Total	38.76 62 (100.00)	30.62 49 (100.00)	30.62 49 (100.00)	100.00 160 (100.00)

* Source: Field Survey

Table – 01 indicates that, 38.76% of the respondents posses highly political awareness. Among this category Higher education category respondents are posses highly political awareness. The views of the respondents about the past and recent political changes expressed at state and central level politics.

It is also observed that, 30.62% of the respondents are medium level of political awareness category. Interestingly 30.62% of the women employees could not give clear cut responses about politics. Among this category 36.73% of the respondents are not aware about politics.

Table-02. The Respondents’ believe structure about the democracy (Age-wise)

Believe structure	% Yes	% No	% No Response	% Total
Age				
18-25 years	58.82 10 (7.19)	29.41 05 (31.25)	11.77 02 (40.00)	100.00 17 (10.62)
26-35 years	96.07 49 (35.25)	3.93 02 (12.50)	-	100.00 51 (31.87)
36-50 years	92.18 59 (42.44)	7.82 05 (31.25)	-	100.00 64 (40.00)
Above 50 years	75.00 21 (15.10)	14.28 04 (25.00)	10.72 03 (60.00)	100.00 28 (17.51)
Total	86.87 139 (100.00)	10.00 16 (100.00)	3.13 05 (100.00)	100.00 160 (100.00)

* Source: Field Survey

Table-02 reveals that, nearly 90% of the respondents’ reposed confidence in the democracy. Across all the age groups, they expressed their believe in

democratic methods and democracy. Another pertinent observation is that, 10.00% of the respondents did not believe structure in democracy.

Naturally a meagre number of respondents 5(3.13%) did not respond to the question, because they don't know the concept of democracy and democratic methods. Hence they did not respond to the question.

Table-03. The Respondents' Participation (Age-wise) in political discussions.

Age	%	%	%	%	%
Political discussions	18-25	26-35	36-50	Above 50	Total
Frequently	14.40 17 (100.00)	39.83 47 (92.15)	43.22 51 (79.68)	2.55 03 (10.71)	100.00 118 (73.75)
Rarely	-	4.36 01 (1.96)	34.78 08 (12.50)	60.86 14 (50.00)	100.00 23 (14.37)
Never	-	15.78 03 (5.89)	26.33 05 (7.82)	57.89 11 (39.29)	100.00 19 (11.88)
Total	10.62 17 (100.00)	31.87 51 (100.00)	40.00 64 (100.00)	17.51 28 (100.00)	100.00 160 (100.00)

* Source: Field Survey

Table-03 shows that, majority of the respondents (73.75%) frequently participation in political discussions. They discussed state and central politics with their friends, family members and employees association leaders. Majority respondents i.e. Teachers, Lecturers, Lawyers frequently political discussions about governmental policies and public

issues. It is also observed that, 14.37% of the respondents rarely participated in political discussions with friends and relatives. Another observation made from this table only 11.88% of the women employees expressed that, never participate in political discussion.

Table-04. The Respondents' Political Participation (Caste-wise)

Level of participation	%	%	%	%	%
Caste	High	Medium	Low	Nil	Total
S.C.	34.48 10 (20.40)	24.13 07 (9.58)	27.58 08 (32.00)	13.81 04 (30.76)	100.00 29 (18.12)
S.T.	23.80 05 (10.20)	42.85 09 (12.32)	23.80 05 (20.00)	9.55 02 (15.38)	100.00 21 (13.12)
OBC	18.91 14 (28.58)	66.21 49 (67.12)	9.45 07 (28.00)	5.43 04 (30.76)	100.00 74 (46.25)
Other Castes	55.55 20 (40.82)	22.22 08 (10.98)	13.88 05 (20.00)	8.35 03 (23.07)	100.00 36 (22.51)
Total	30.62 49 (100.00)	45.62 73 (100.00)	15.62 25 (100.00)	8.14 13 (100.00)	100.00 160 (100.00)

* Source: Field Survey

Table-04 shows that, a majority of the respondents high and medium level of political participation. They participate different issues like governmental policies employees issues, positive or negative irrespective of all caste categories. It is also observed that 15.62% of the women employees low participation. Among this

category majority of the respondents belong to SC, ST and OBC communities. Only 8.14% of the respondents did not participate any political issues and programmes due to lack of their political awareness.

Table-05. The Respondents' voting behavior (Occupation-wise)

Voting behaviour	%	%	%	%	%
Occupation	On their own	Family	Political parties	Political Leaders	Total
Gazeted Officers	84.62 11 (10.78)	-	7.69 01 (5.88)	7.69 01 (5.55)	100.00 13 (8.12)
Non-Gazeted Officers	45.16 14 (13.72)	29.04 09 (39.13)	12.90 04 (23.52)	12.90 04 (22.22)	100.00 31 (19.37)
Lecturers	79.16 19 (18.62)	-	12.50 03 (17.64)	8.34 02 (11.11)	100.00 24 (15.00)
Teachers	73.07 19 (18.62)	7.69 02 (8.70)	7.69 02 (11.76)	11.55 03 (16.66)	100.00 26 (16.25)
Lawyers	81.25 13 (12.74)	-	-	18.75 03 (16.66)	100.00 16 (10.00)
Nurses	55.55 10 (9.80)	16.66 03 (13.04)	11.13 02 (11.76)	16.66 03 (16.66)	100.00 18 (11.25)
Office Subordinates	50.00 16 (15.68)	28.12 09 (39.13)	15.62 05 (29.41)	6.26 02 (11.11)	100.00 32 (20.00)

* Source: Field Survey

Table-05 indicates that, all the women employees participated in elections and casting their vote during the elections. It is also observed that 63.75% of the respondents casting their vote with out any influences. Among this category Gazetted, Lecturers, Teachers and Lawyers are casting their vote on their own decision. Interestingly Nurses, NGOs, Office Subordinates also i.e. 50.00% of the respondents casting their vote on their own. It is also observed that, 14.37% of the respondents casting their vote with the influenced by their family members. Nearly 20.00% of the respondents casting their vote with

influenced by the political parties and political leaders respectively.

Conclusions: In the above study a clear picture on the political participation of women employees emerges. The women employees are highly aware of the current trends in political affairs. The respondents with high political awareness belong to all the caste categories and age groups. The major findings of this study most of them frequently participation in political discussions and debates with their friends and occupational circles. The most of the women employees casting vote in elections without any influences.

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