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GENDER INEQUALITY IN INDIA

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Abstract

Gender inequalities are reflected in the daily realities of women's and girls lives including disproportional number of women among those living in poverty. In India women are work shipped as devi but still deprived of poverty. In india women are worshipped as a devi but still deprived of basic human rights. In spite of constituting half of the population, they are considered as marginalized group and second class citizen. The united Nations ranks India as a middle income country. Findings from the world Economic Forum indicate that India is one of the worst countries in the world in terms of gender inequality. In order to uplift her status and to give her egalitaria atmospheres, we must consider her human first and then we should provide all the rights given to human being. The Present paper will use secondary data from newspapers and various books, magazines, websites. The paper will also suggest some remedies for the upliftment of status of women in society.

Introduction :-

Gender inequality in India refer to health, education, economic and political inequalities between men and women in India. Various international gender inequality indices rank India differently on each of these factors, as well as on a composite basis and these indices are controversial.

Gender inequalities and its social causes, impact India's sex ratio, women's health over economic conditions. Gender inequality in India is a multifaceted issue that concerns men and women alike. Some argue that some gender equality measures, place men at a disadvantage. However when India's population is examined as a whole, Women are at a disadvantage in several important ways.

Definition and Concept of Gender Inequality :

'Gender' is a Socio- cultural term referring socially defined roles and behaviors assigned to 'males' and 'females' in a given society, whereas, the term 'sex' is a biological and physiological phenomenon which defines man and women. In its social historical and cultural aspects, gender is a function of power relationship between men and women where are considered superior to women. Therefore, gender may be understood as a man-made concept. While 'sex' is natural or biological characteristics of human beings.

Gender Inequality, in simple words, may be defined as discrimination against women based on their sex. Women are traditionally considered by the society as weaker sex. She has been accorded a subordinate position to men. She is exploited, degraded, violated and discriminated both in our homes and in outside world. This peculiar types of discrimination against women is prevalent everywhere in the world and more so in Indian society.

Type of Gender Inequalities :

There are many gender inequality or gender disparity which are as follow:

- 1) **Nativity inequality:** In this types of inequality a preference is given for boys over girls that many male- dominated societies have, gender inequality can manifest itself in the form of the parents wanting the newborn to be a boy rather than a girl. There was a time when this could be no more than a wish, but with the availability of modern techniques to determine the gender of the foetus, sex-selective abortion has become common in many countries.
- 2) **Professional or Employment inequality:** In terms of employment as well as promotion in work and occupation, women often face greater handicap than men.

3) **Ownership inequality:** In many societies the ownership of property can also be very unequal. The absence of claims to property can not only reduce the voice of women, but also make it harder for women to enter flourish in commercial, economic and even some social activities.

4) **Household inequality:** Basic inequality in gender relations within the family or the household, which can take many different forms. This is sometimes called "division of labour," though women could be forgiven for seeing it as accumulation of labour.

5) **Special opportunity inequality:** Even when there is relatively little deference in basic facilities including schooling, the opportunities of higher education may be far fewer for young women than for young men. Sometimes this type of division has been based on the superficially innocuous idea that the respective 'province' of men and women are just different.

Facts about Gender Inequality in India :

- 1) Over the last three years, there were over 24,000 reported dowry deaths in India.
- 2) As many as 70% of married women in India between 15 and 49 years of age are victims of beatings or rape.
- 3) According to a 2011 study 72% of acid - attack cases in India from 2002 to 2011 included at least one female victim.
- 4) According to unicef, foetal sex determination by unethical medical professionals has today grown in to a rs.1,000 crore industry in India.
- 5) Following the 2011, census, a number of activists raised concerns that up to 8 million female foetuses has been aborted in the previous decade.
- 6) Although child marriage is illegal in India, almost half of all women between the ages of 20 and 24 years were married off before the legal age at 18.
- 7) According to a report, India, shows 'extremely high' level of gender inequality, with a gender parity score of 0.48, compared to an ideal score of 1.
- 8) A recent survey revealed that the median wage for women in India was 27% lower than what men make.
- 9) According to the National Crime Record Bureau's 2014 report 39.8 % of rape victims in India are girls under the age of 18.
- 10) While the male literacy rate of India stands a 82.14% the female literacy rate is only 65.46% with Rajasthan having the lowest female literacy at 52.66%.
- 11) And despite an improving child sex ratio, India still ranks an abysmal 127th out of 146 in the united Nation's gender inequality index.

Conclusion:-

The efforts of both women and men would be able to found solutions to the problem of gender inequality and would take us all awards our cherished dream of truly modern society in both thought and action and political inequalities between men and women in India. Various international gender inequality indices rank India differently on each of these factors, as well as on a composite basis, and these indices are controversial. India needs to deactivate the gender Inequality. The needs of the day are trends where girls are not only able to break out of the culturally determined patterns of employment but also to offer advice about carrier possibilities that look beyond the traditional list of jobs. It is surprising that in spite of so many laws, women still continue to live under stress and strain. To ensure equality of status for our women we still have miles to go.

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