

International Multidisciplinary  
Research Journal

*Indian Streams  
Research Journal*

Executive Editor  
Ashok Yakkaldevi

Editor-in-Chief  
H.N.Jagtap

---

Indian Streams Research Journal is a multidisciplinary research journal, published monthly in English, Hindi & Marathi Language. All research papers submitted to the journal will be double - blind peer reviewed referred by members of the editorial board. Readers will include investigator in universities, research institutes government and industry with research interest in the general subjects.

### Regional Editor

Dr. T. Manichander

Mr. Dikonda Govardhan Krushanahari  
Professor and Researcher ,  
Rayat shikshan sanstha's, Rajarshi Chhatrapati Shahu College, Kolhapur.

### International Advisory Board

Kamani Perera Regional Center For Strategic Studies, Sri Lanka	Mohammad Hailat Dept. of Mathematical Sciences, University of South Carolina Aiken	Hasan Baktir English Language and Literature Department, Kayseri
Janaki Sinnasamy Librarian, University of Malaya	Abdullah Sabbagh Engineering Studies, Sydney	Ghayoor Abbas Chotana Dept of Chemistry, Lahore University of Management Sciences[PK]
Romona Mihaila Spiru Haret University, Romania	Ecaterina Patrascu Spiru Haret University, Bucharest	Anna Maria Constantinovici AL. I. Cuza University, Romania
Delia Serbescu Spiru Haret University, Bucharest, Romania	Loredana Bosca Spiru Haret University, Romania	Ilie Pinteau, Spiru Haret University, Romania
Anurag Misra DBS College, Kanpur	Fabricio Moraes de Almeida Federal University of Rondonia, Brazil	Xiaohua Yang PhD, USA
Titus PopPhD, Partium Christian University, Oradea,Romania	George - Calin SERITAN Faculty of Philosophy and Socio-Political Sciences Al. I. Cuza University, Iasi	.....More

### Editorial Board

Pratap Vyamktrao Naikwade ASP College Devrukh,Ratnagiri,MS India	Iresh Swami Ex - VC. Solapur University, Solapur	Rajendra Shendge Director, B.C.U.D. Solapur University, Solapur
R. R. Patil Head Geology Department Solapur University,Solapur	N.S. Dhaygude Ex. Prin. Dayanand College, Solapur	R. R. Yalikal Director Managment Institute, Solapur
Rama Bhosale Prin. and Jt. Director Higher Education, Panvel	Narendra Kadu Jt. Director Higher Education, Pune	Umesh Rajderkar Head Humanities & Social Science YCMOU,Nashik
Salve R. N. Department of Sociology, Shivaji University,Kolhapur	K. M. Bhandarkar Praful Patel College of Education, Gondia	S. R. Pandya Head Education Dept. Mumbai University, Mumbai
Govind P. Shinde Bharati Vidyapeeth School of Distance Education Center, Navi Mumbai	Sonal Singh Vikram University, Ujjain	Alka Darshan Shrivastava Shaskiya Snatkottar Mahavidyalaya, Dhar
Chakane Sanjay Dnyaneshwar Arts, Science & Commerce College, Indapur, Pune	G. P. Patankar S. D. M. Degree College, Honavar, Karnataka	Rahul Shriram Sudke Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore
Awadhesh Kumar Shirotiya Secretary,Play India Play,Meerut(U.P.)	Maj. S. Bakhtiar Choudhary Director,Hyderabad AP India.	S.KANNAN Annamalai University,TN
	S.Parvathi Devi Ph.D.-University of Allahabad	Satish Kumar Kalhotra Maulana Azad National Urdu University
	Sonal Singh, Vikram University, Ujjain	

## A STUDY ON VIEWS OF MALE GRADUATES ON GENDER EQUALITY

**Dr. D. Ramana**

Academic Consultant, Centre for Extension Studies & Centre for Women's Studies, S.V. University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.

### ABSTRACT

**G**ender equality is a human right. Gender equality is also a precondition for advancing development and reducing poverty. In the patriarchal society changing perception of male's attitudes on gender equality is sign and greatest achievement to develop gender sensitized society. With this background the present study has been undertaken to analyze the views of 125 male graduates between 21 - 25 years on gender equality in Tirupati town of Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh using Probability sampling technique.

It was observed that that more than two fifths (44.0 per cent) of the respondents agreed and less than one third (30.0 per cent) disagreed that Women are equally capable of performing any job as men. Majority (42.0 per cent) respondent's disagreed with the opinion that Women have the right to compete with men in every sphere of economic activity. Only one third (33.0 per cent) felt that "Women should be given equal opportunities as men for vocational and professional training". Interestingly more than half of the male graduates positively responded (57.0 per cent) for the equal pay for equal work for both the sex. More than two fifths of the respondents

*agreed that women should not be allowed to job if the husbands were able to support them.*

*The present study reflects the patriarchal attitudes of the respondents reflecting their attitudes towards the women in the family and society, which still have a strong hold on the gender equality. Hence gender sensitization of the male respondents irrespective of their educational status should be more emphasized. It should start from childhood at the family and school level through the mothers and teachers. Then only we can engage men and boys as advocates and agents of change in the effort to achieve equality. "When women are empowered, the whole of*

*humanity benefits,"*

**KEYWORDS:** Male Graduates , human right , economic activity.

### INTRODUCTION

"You can tell the condition of a nation by looking of the status of its women"

—Jawaharlal Nehru

The principle of gender equality is enshrined in the Indian Constitution in its Preamble, Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles. The Constitution not only grants equality to women, but also empowers the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favour of women. Empowerment is seen as a process by which the ones without power gain greater control over their lives. This means control over



material assets, intellectual resources and ideology. It involves power to, power with and power within.

The worth of a civilization can be judged by the place given to women in the society. One of several factors that justify the greatness of India's ancient culture is the honorable place granted to women. The Muslim influence on India caused considerable deterioration in the status of women. They were deprived of their rights of equality with men. Raja Ram Mohan Roy started a movement against this inequality and subjugation. The contact of Indian culture with that of the British also brought improvement in the status of women. The third factor in the revival of women's position was the influence of Mahatma Gandhi who induced women to participate in the freedom Movement. As a result of this retrieval of freedom, women in India have distinguished themselves as teachers, nurses, air-hostesses, booking clerks, receptionists, and doctors. They are also participating in politics and administration. But in spite of this betterment in the status of women, the evils of illiteracy, dowry, ignorance, and economic slavery would have to be fully removed in order to give them their rightful place in Indian society. Women in India have always been topics of concern. The family and society at large consider women as second class citizens. Though we respect and preach them of Durga, Saraswati, Parvati and Kali, we also show gender inequality.

Gender equality in terms of equal opportunities in accessing livelihoods, health and education, participation in different walks of social, economic and political life without discrimination and so on has been the focus of such initiatives. More than fifty years after the adoption of the Constitution, it is worthwhile to examine the extent to which the Constitutional commitment to equality and freedom for women has been realized in the country. India has been one among the pioneering countries, which ratified the UN Conventions; the Convention for the Elimination of All Form of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Beijing platform for Action. In the last few years, as an outcome of affirmative policies and programmes, important changes have taken place.

There have been remarkable changes in the status position of women in India in the last century especially after Independence – Constitutional equality of the sexes has been ensured various laws have been passed to improve the status of women; more and more women have been entering educational institutions, professional and public life.

Nayak, Purusottam Mahanta, Bidisha (2007) investigated on "Women Empowerment in India", an attempt to analyze the status of women empowerment in India using various indicators like women's household decision making power, financial autonomy, freedom of movement, political participation acceptance of unequal gender role, exposure to media, access to education, experience of domestic violence etc based on data from different sources. The study reveals that women of India are relatively disempowered and they enjoy somewhat lower status than that of men in spite of many efforts undertaken by government. Gender gap exists regarding access to education and employment. Household decision making power and freedom of movement of women vary considerably with their age, education and autonomy.

### **INEQUALITY STARTS BEFORE BIRTH:**

In India generally people are going for second child if the 1st is a female but if the 1st or 2nd child is a male then they prefer abortion. If by the test it knows that the coming baby is a boy than that pregnant lady get well treatment & caring. But it is different in the case of a female.

### **GENDER BIAS IN HIGHER STUDIES:**

Either for poverty, social stigma or the fear of crime as rape, prostitution & trafficking, they are deprived from getting higher education. The families are showing less interest to encourage girl child for higher education.

### **RIGHT OF WOMEN OVER DECISION MAKING:**

Generally in our society an adolescent woman have little right over sexual & reproductive decision making. Most of the time to conceive a baby the decision of male partner is taking into account. The normal drive that is sex drive is a desire for both partners. But it is usually found that the male partner always take advantage during this act. Even in decision making procedure within the home they are given less concern.

### Absence of freedom:

Female don't enjoy as much freedom and liberty as man. It is observed that women have to always depend on their parents before marriage & after they get married they depends upon their husband & in laws.

Yet in spite of all these changes, women in India are struggling from the old traditions and customs detrimental to the flowering of their personalities. The main hurdles in the way are the social and religious attitudes towards the role of women in the family and society which still have a strong hold on the minds of the people. This is mainly because the legal equalities and the constitutional directions that have bolstered the position of women have not, however, been supported by our educational programs to give social reality to the objectives of legislation. Both man and women need to be changed; in order to do this data on the attitude of the people regarding the various issues relating to the status of women is essential. As such the present study was undertaken.

## METHODOLOGY

### Objectives of the study

The present study was taken up with the following objectives:

- 1.To identify the attitude of male graduates regarding the status of women in general.
- 2.To assess the influence of education on the attitude of male graduates towards the position and role of women in society.
- 3.To study the status of women as perceived by men.

The area was purposively selected for the following reasons as it is one of the most literate places in Rayalseema region. The investigator hails from the same place and it is easy for researcher to build rapport and collect and reliable data.

**Sample and Sampling procedure :** The present investigation was carried out in Tirupati urban areas of Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh; the sampling unit for the study was men in the age group of 21 to 25 years. Probability sampling procedure was followed simple random technique was used for sample selection and total 125samples were collected from the present study.

Data was collected through primary and secondary sources. In primary data an exclusive schedule was prepared for the purpose of data collection.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Table -1: Distribution by opinion that "Women are equally capable of performing any job as men"**

Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Agree	55	44.0
Disagree	38	30.0
Undecided	32	26.0
Total	125	100.0

It is clear from the above data that more than one fourth of the respondent's (30.0 per cent) disagreed with the opinion that 'Women are equally capable of performing any job as men', where as more than two fifths (44.0 per cent) of the respondents felt that women an equally perform any job as men and the remaining one forth (26 per cent )respondent's were not able to decide

**Table -2: Distribution by opinion that “Women have the right to compete with men in every sphere of economic activity”**

Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Agree	36	28.0
Disagree	52	42.0
Undecided	37	30.0
Total	125	100.0

The above data (TableNo.2) represents that majority 42.0 per cent respondent's disagreed with the opinion that “Women have the right to compete with men in every sphere of economic activity”, where has more than one forth (28.0per cent) of the respondents felt that “Women have the right to competes with men in every sphere of economic activity”, and the remaining one third (30.0 per cent) respondent's were Undecided.

**Table -3: Distribution by opinion that “Women should be given equal opportunities as men for vocational and professional training”.**

Opinion	No, of Respondents	Percentage
Agree	41	33.0
Disagree	46	37.0
Undecided	38	30.0
Total	125	100.0

It is clear from the above data that more than one third (37.0 percent) of the respondent's disagreed that “Women should be given equal opportunities as men for vocational and professional training”, where as one third (33.0 per cent ) of the respondents felt that “Women should be given equal opportunities as men for vocational and professional training”, and the remaining 30.0 per cent respondents were Undecided.

**Table -4 Distribution by opinion that “Regardless the sex there should be equal pay for equal work”.**

Opinion	No, of Respondents	Percentage
Agree	71	57.0
Disagree	26	21.0
Undecided	28	22.0
Total	125	100.0

Table No.4 reported the response of equal pay for equal work. Majority (57%) of the respondents were agreed that wages are distributed equally by the nature of equal work and two fifths each disagreed the same (21.0 percent) and were not able to decide (22.0 per cent).

**Table -5. Distribution by opinion that “Married women should not allowed to do job if their husbands are able to support them”.**

Opinion	No, of Respondents	Percentage
Agree	52	42.0
Disagree	30	24.0
Undecided	43	34.0
Total	125	100.0

Interestingly in the present study the majority (42.0 percent) of the respondents agreed that women should not be allowed to do job after the marriage if the husbands supports them as against one fourth (24.0 per cent) of the respondents agreed that women should be allowed to do the job even after marriage and one third (34.0 per cent) of them were undecided on this issue. This shows the patriarchal mind set of the respondents. The feminist movements are stated that the patriarchal society suppressed the women in the world



**Table -6 .Distribution by opinion that “The highest posts in offices should only be handled by men”.**

Opinion	No, of Respondents	Percentage
Agree	49	39.20
Disagree	68	54.40
Undecided	8	6.40
Total	125	100.0

The data in the above table shows that majority(54.40 percent) of the respondents disagreed that only men have capabilities for maintaining highest positions followed by two fifths than (39.20%) of agreed the same. Only 6.40 per cent of the respondents were undecided. In spite of education still one third doesn't agree that women can manage managerial positions showing the attitude of gender inequality. Hence in the higher education system there is a need to implement the gender sensitization programmes to desecrate the stereotyped opinions on the role and status of women in the present gender segregated society.

**Table -7 distribution by opinion that “In your family, would a daughter be permitted to choose her field of education”**

Opinion	No, of Respondents	Percentages
Yes	86	69.0
No	39	31.0
Total	125	100.0

It is evident from the data that more than two thirds (69.0 per cent ) of the respondents agreed that daughters are permitted to choose their field of education as against less than one third (31.0 per cent ) of the respondent's disagreed the same.

**Table -8: Distribution by opinion that “Do women have a role in decision making in your family”.**

Opinion	No, of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	80	64
No	45	36
Total	125	100

It is evident from the data that less than two thirds (64.0 per cent ) of the respondent's agreed with the opinion that women have a role in the decision making on the issues of their family, where as more than one third (36 per cent ) of the respondent's disagreed for the same.

## CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS

Over the past 40 years the level of women's and girls' education and health standards in developing countries has improved. Their life expectancy, for example, has increased by some 20 years. Over the same period their economic position has remained relatively unchanged. In low income countries women are generally the poorest of the poor. They still trail men in income levels, formal labour force participation, and access to credit, entrepreneurship rates and inheritance and ownership rights.

Gender equality is a human right. Women are entitled to live with dignity and with freedom from want and from fear. Gender equality is also a precondition for advancing development and reducing poverty: Empowered women contribute to the health and productivity of whole families and communities, and they improve prospects for the next generation. Still, despite solid evidence demonstrating the centrality of women's empowerment to reducing poverty, promoting development and addressing the world's most urgent challenges, gender equality remains an unfulfilled promise.

For more than 30 years, UNFPA has advocated for women and girls, promoting legal and policy reforms and gender-sensitive data collection, and supporting initiatives that improve women's health and expand their choices in life. Despite the fact that women in developing countries provide nearly 70 per cent of the agricultural

labor, they continue to account for over 60 per cent of the world's hungry. Lack of gender equality limits a woman farmer's access to agricultural inputs, credit services and a market to sell her products. These constraints lead to lower crop yields, produce sold at a lower price and, ultimately, continued poverty and hunger for her and her children. Gender-equal access to these agriculture resources could increase the average woman farmer's crop yields by 20-30 per cent.

Given the opportunity to generate and control an income, women routinely invest significant portions of their income in food, healthcare and education for their families. Unfortunately, at the moment, the majority of women in developing countries lack economic power, resulting in a higher rate of girls kept out of school, minimal access to basic health care, increased HIV/AIDS prevalence and higher maternal mortality rates. Yet women continue to bear almost all responsibility for meeting the basic needs of the family.

A proven way to overcome many systematic barriers to a woman's success has been increased participation by women in local, regional and national legislation as empowered change agents. In just 10 years, the amount of women holding seats in houses of national parliament in South Asia rose from seven to 18 per cent. But a global goal of equal representation is still a long way off, with only one woman for every four men in parliamentary houses.

Women's Leadership Workshops in India, a Women's Empowerment Program throughout Africa and specialized animator trainings worldwide empower women to seek positions of power and train all of our partners, women and men, to take responsibility for improving lives in their communities.

## WHAT CAN BE DONE

Provide access to microfinance. Many women food farmers are increasing their incomes through our training, credit and savings program, and strengthening their clout in the marketplace. Thousands women and men were participating in the Microfinance Program, with over 80 percent of loans distributed to women.

Empower elected women representatives. More than 80,000 women who have been elected to their village councils have participated in India's Women's Leadership Workshops. They are now effective change agents for ending hunger in their villages. They form district- and state-wide federations to ensure that their voices are heard at top levels of government.

Promote community leadership roles for women. The Women's Empowerment Program (WEP) empowers women to become strong leaders in their households and communities.

Attitudinal changes. Most important thing is attitudinal changes of both men and women are required.

The present study reflects the patriarchal attitudes of the respondents reflecting their attitudes towards the women in the family and society, which still have a strong hold on the gender equality. Hence gender sensitization of the male respondents irrespective of their educational status should be more emphasized. It should start from childhood at the family and school level through the mothers and teachers. Then only we can engage men and boys as advocates and agents of change in the effort to achieve equality. "When women are empowered, the whole of humanity benefits,"

## REFERENCES

1. Baig, Tara Ali (Ed). 1998. Women in India. Delhi. The publication of Division.
2. Cousins, M.E. 1997. Indian Womanhood Today. Allahabad Kitabistan.
3. Das R.M. 1991. Women in Manu and His seven Commentators. Varanasi: The Tata printing Works.
4. Hammond Dorothy & Alta Jablow. 1996. Women in cultures of the world. California: cummings publishing Company.
5. Hate, Chandrakala A. 1998. Hindu women and her Feature. Bombay: New Book Co., Ltd.
6. ICSSR. 1995. A Synopsis of the Report of the National Committee on Status of Women in India. New Delhi: IIPA Hostel Building Indraprastha Estate.
7. Iswarn, M.A. 1996. Tradition and Economy in village India. Bombay: Allied publishers.
8. Kapadia, K.M. 1996. Marriage and Family in India. Madras: Oxford University Press.
9. Kapur, Promalia. 1994. Changing Status of the Working Women in India. Delhi: Vikas Publications.



10. Lal A.K. 1999. Status of Women in an Urban Setting: an Analysis of Role-Differentiation in the family. Man in India. 59(4): 289-297.
11. Law B.C. 1994. Ancient India Kshatriya Tribes Calcutta Thacker Spink and co.
12. Linton. R. 1991. The study of Man. New York. Tree of Culture. Alfred A. Knopf.
13. Mehta, Sushila. 1992. Revolution and the Status of Women in India Delhi: Metropolitan Book Co. (pvt). Ltd.
14. Muzumar, vira. 1992. Towards Equality? Status of Woman in India. In Urmilaphadnis & Insia Malani (eds). Women in the world. Pp. 17-29. New Delhi Vikas publishing pvt. Ltd.

**WEB SITES:**

1. [www.indiaparenting.com/articles/data/art09\\_027.shtml](http://www.indiaparenting.com/articles/data/art09_027.shtml)
2. [www.childreninneed.com/magazine/gender-html](http://www.childreninneed.com/magazine/gender-html)
3. [www.vedamsbooks.com/women'sStudies](http://www.vedamsbooks.com/women'sStudies)
4. [www.experiencefestival.com/women\\_in\\_india\\_](http://www.experiencefestival.com/women_in_india_)
5. [www.opppapers.com/.../role-of-women-in-india](http://www.opppapers.com/.../role-of-women-in-india)

**Dr. D. Ramana**

**Academic Consultant, Centre for Extension Studies & Centre for Women's Studies, S.V. University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.**

# Publish Research Article

## International Level Multidisciplinary Research Journal

### For All Subjects

Dear Sir/Mam,

We invite unpublished Research Paper, Summary of Research Project, Theses, Books and Book Review for publication, you will be pleased to know that our journals are

## Associated and Indexed, India

- ★ International Scientific Journal Consortium
- ★ OPEN J-GATE

## Associated and Indexed, USA

- Google Scholar
- EBSCO
- DOAJ
- Index Copernicus
- Publication Index
- Academic Journal Database
- Contemporary Research Index
- Academic Paper Database
- Digital Journals Database
- Current Index to Scholarly Journals
- Elite Scientific Journal Archive
- Directory Of Academic Resources
- Scholar Journal Index
- Recent Science Index
- Scientific Resources Database
- Directory Of Research Journal Indexing

Indian Streams Research Journal  
258/34 Raviwar Peth Solapur-413005, Maharashtra  
Contact-9595359435  
E-Mail-ayisrj@yahoo.in/ayisrj2011@gmail.com  
Website : www.isrj.org