



A study of womens right in India

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Abstract

India which is said to be a land of goddess and land of worship but at the same time various crime takes place sexual abuse ,harassment, Rape, Dowry related problems etc .Many women's have fought for them and their country and they have choose their dignity .Sati, Draupadi, Rani laxmi bai and many other women's taught us to fight for their respect and dignity, History keep teaching us the same lesson ,they never negotiate their self respect.Child education is very important for our todays generation to know that every girl or women's need to know their rights. In todays world women's are fighting from their freedom, protection, fundamentals, domestic violence, acid attack etc. From 1500 – till date women's face various problems with their rights and here are their rights with legal protection including IPC sectors and special acts. My subject centers on women's rights to guarantee that each girl knows her rights. Their rights are very important for their safety and their rights despite the existence of laws, numerous women still lack awareness of them. Thus, by means of my research paper, I intend to furnish information and. raise awareness regarding these rights among individuals. In this all the past history of the women's from 1500 – present date all the information has been given in short.

Keywords: Women's rights, gender equality, sexual abuse, harassment, rape, dowry system, domestic violence, acid attacks, legal protection, IPC sections

Introduction

Women Rights focuses on with the goal of ensuring that every girl understands her entitlements, since numerous women remain unaware of the legal protections and rights set in place for them. The aim is to spread important information about these rights via this research, focusing on both women and men since it is vital for men to grasp women's rights as well. This understanding enables men to advocate for, assist, and protect the rights of the women in their lives, such as their sisters, wives, mothers, and female friends, thus creating a cooperative atmosphere for empowerment .Increasing awareness among both genders is vital, as despite being in the 21st century, women are still deprived of their fundamental rights and persist in experiencing atrocities and oppression. Women's rights in India are secured with the fundamental rights to equality and freedom under the article 14, 15, and 21 of the constitution.

Historical Background

The history of women rights has been complicated so here we see all the faces which the women have faced .These are all the four era of history of women's Prehistoric Era: The Vedic Period (approximately 1500–600 BCE) during the early Vedic age, women enjoyed a range of freedoms and held a relatively elevated position in society. Equality: They were actively involved in religious ceremonies and public assemblies (Sabha and Samiti), often recognized as equals (sahadharmini) beside their spouses. Education: A minimum of 20 women are acknowledged for composing Vedic hymns (for instance, Lopamudra and Ghosha); girls received education and had the potential to become scholars in Vedic studies. Autonomy: The tradition of Swayamvara empowered women to choose their partners, and practices like child marriage were virtually nonexistent.

Medieval Era: The "Dark Age" (c. 500–1800 CE)^[3]

The condition of women worsened during this period due to heightened patriarchal control and external invasions. Social Injustices: Repressive customs became prevalent, such as Sati (the practice of widow burning), Purdah (women's

seclusion/veiling), and child marriage (often occurring at ages 8–10). Limitations: Women were predominantly restricted to household duties, barred from formal education, and seen as the property of male family members. Spiritual Avenues: The Bhakti and Sufi movements offered a rare opportunity for women (like Mirabai) to defy conventions and assert their spiritual autonomy

Pre-independence: Reform and Nationalism (1800-1947)

The 19th century witnessed a transformative social renaissance spearheaded by reformers who employed education and legal frameworks to contest societal injustices. Savitribai & Jyotirao Phule: Launched the advancement of women's education by establishing India's inaugural school for girls in 1848. National Movement: Mahatma Gandhi's appeal for widespread involvement engendered the participation of countless women in the freedom struggle, thereby shifting the focus of the movement from social reform to political empowerment.

Post Independence (1947 – present)

The Indian Constitution of 1950 introduced modern rights. were given equal rights to inherit property under the Hindu Succession Act (1956/2005).P.V Narasimha Rao gave women 33% of seats in local government entities (Panchayats and Municipalities) were set aside for women by the 73rd and 74th Amendments (1992). Protections against sexual harrasment at work were introduced by the Vishakha Guidelines (1997) and the POSH Act (2013), Articles 14 (Equality), 15 (Non-discrimination), and 16 (Equal Opportunity) officially guaranteed gender equality. The Supreme Court ruled in the triple Talaq Verdict (2017) that speedy divorce between Muslims is unconstitutional.

Women's Constitutional provisions

The Indian Constitution forbids sex-based discrimination and ensures women's equality, dignity, and affirmative action through fundamental rights and directive principles (Articles 14, 15).

- **Article 14:** This article provides equality before the law or equal protection of the law within the territorial territory of India
- **Article 15:** This article includes the right to prevent discrimination based on sex.
- **Article 16:** This article ensures equal employment opportunities and forbids gender-based discrimination
- **Article 21:** This article ensures the right to life and individual freedom.
- **Article 51A (e):** This article reaffirm the practices offensive to the dignity of women

Measures to improve women's Rights

1. The measures to improve women's rights are the one which can improve the status of women in our society .Women's know their rights which make them hard and seek justice in every field
2. To educate women is major thing which help them to be confident and independent .To work , to vote, and known their rights in a better ways .They should also know how to ensure that the criminals are punished and the victims get protection too
3. To ensure the girls get access to education, to work and live their life freely .Therefore the government too the initiative for girls and starts the yojna of" BETI PADHAO BETI BAHAO" and PRADHAN MANTRI YOJNA" to the women's of India to stay with freedom with security and every possible ways to improve their life in a better ways.

Conclusion

When women advance, the family progresses, the community advances, and the country progresses." It is crucial as their ideas and their value systems foster the creation of a strong family, a healthy society, and ultimately a prosperous nation .An adequate understanding of women's rights can guarantee their safety and protection, along with proper enforcement .Genuine equality can promote an improved democratic framework and principles, safeguarding the most essential rights and protection

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