

Raising Awareness of Women's Legal Rights and their Role in Society

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Abstract

In India, on one side we worship our women as a goddess, although on the other hand we also burn our women. We have always seen the honour of women no more than in idols and not in real life. We see only give heaven the status of a mother and why not give women the status of heaven. That is why many rights have been made for women in our law, but if she knows her rights very well then she can easily survive in that society. But in today's era women are not aware of their own rights that's why she doesn't know how to stand for their own rights. And that time legal awareness plays the most significant tool to spread the knowledge of law, acts and legal rights. This creates a good environment in the society where everybody feels that they are equal and they can live their life in their own ways. It is the duty of the government to bring such a policy from time to time so that women should know their rights and be aware of this. The knowledge of law gives us the power to act judiciously and its only possible by legal awareness about the law. And in this paper I will discuss the legal rights of women.

Keywords: India, women, society, legal awareness, government, policies, legal rights, knowledge of law

INTRODUCTION

"If you don't know now... when will you know?"

For the last hundred years, there has been developing realization in the piece of women for equal rights. They won the Right to vote though long enduring battles in England, Europe and America. Our constitution grants them this right. But there is still a long way to go in many other fields of affecting women's right of law [1]. The constitution makes the Rights of women but today's era women were not well aware of their own rights, position and power in the society. The government in India has the legislature in enacting a variety of laws like Dowry Prohibition Act, Sati Prevention Act etc. [2] to guarantee the protection of the rights of the women [3]. Especially in a rural area, women are not aware of their rights, and even if they are aware of their rights, they can not take any action regarding this just because of the fear of the society and that time first of all it comes to her mind that what will people say, what society think, and the most important that will the family members support?

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Women's right is the fight for women that women should have equal rights with men [4]. In taken as a whole history, women had been facing many trouble but not men. In old times, women had no right to choose their life partner [5]. Only few women had the right to choose their life partner who belongs in a high profile family, and women had no right to do work, they could not work freely. Even though they had no right to education, Parents gave their daughter only basic knowledge they thought was enough for her. And

after 12 year they had done the daughter's marriage, even though the daughter was not able to handle these conditions.

In India, One side we worship women like a Goddess like Laxmi, Saraswati etc. but on the other side we don't respect women. There have pending many cases about Sexual harassment, molestation, Dowry, Johor, Rape etc. In India, crime is done in one second but in the time of justice victims suffer for many years, and moreover if a person belongs in a high profile family, then they can also easily be released even if he commits a brutal crime. And after some days the case was closed. These types of conditions happen in India. Women face many problems. No one wants to marry her, Society decides Women mistake, and they think women invite men for Sexual offences. In India women, judge not by their knowledge or talent, they judge by her clothes, if she wears shorts, she is characterless. Women have the right to wear anything they want [2]. If she wants to wear saree then she can wear saree but if she wants to wear a dress or western clothes it should always be her decision, neither society nor family. She is not wearing shorts to invite men; she wears only for her comfort zone. Why can't men stop to think that Women are not their own will, they treat them like their own property. If a woman has more male friends it doesn't mean she is characterless.

EDUCATION IS THE FIRST WEAPON OF WOMEN [6]

In my point of view, if women are educated then countries are also educated. Because of education, knowledge she can get the respect that she deserves. If men start to respect women and they treat women like a responsibility not an opportunity and that time women are safe in India. Many laws remain only on the paper, most cases are not even heard. And the result is that women face tolerance, Violence, sexual Assault, rape etc. She never think about the divorce and she suffered the worse then worse to save status of family but she can't go to the police status because she have loads of responsibility in her soldier to teach her child to make food for in laws but she never think about herself that she is happy or not. This is the biggest reason why they do not come and complain against crime. And some cases are also here, where parents can give permission for complaint against the crime. Intelligent and educated women should have some basic knowledge about the law and not only to save herself but also can they help her less fortunate sister. And if women have knowledge about the basic law and women's rights they can aware more women about the rights or laws [7].

Starting with the Indian Constitution was made on 26 January 1950 by B. R. Ambedkar. Our Indian Constitution grants the fundamental Right to Equality to Women. Article 14 of the Indian Constitution, 1950 [8], says that The State shall not deny to any person equality before law or the equal protection of the law. States have the right to give equal protection; it doesn't matter if the person is she or he.

Article 15 of the Indian Constitution, 1950, talk about the state shall not be differentiate against any citizen in a group only if gender, be subject to any disability, liability, condition or restrictions with on the subject of right of entry to the shop, public hotels restaurants and place meant for the use of the general public. No one can stop him from using public property. They have the right to use it [9].

The constitution provides that the State is free to make special provisions for Women in India. Article 16, Indian Constitution, 1950; says that guarantees equality of opportunity in employment under the government sector. Women have the right to job without any partiality, they are not like Women who were physically weak but no one knows Women are the mentally strong compared to men. They should be treated the same as men. They have the right to do their jobs freely.

Aside from these fundamental rights, which can be enforced by the High Court of the Supreme Court, These are the guidelines for improving the condition of women. These are the values taken in by international conventions; they can not be enforced though by a court of law. Article 39, (a) Of Indian Constitution 1950 States; the state shall try to save and sound to all denizens men women

equally the Right to a sufficient means of livelihood. Article 39, Of the Indian Constitution, 1950; enquire the Government to make sure that there is equal for equal work whether they are women or men. Equal pay for equal work has been an objective for which women have fought for so long. If they work equal men so they have the right to equal income and equal treatment. The little known Equal Remuneration Act was Passed in 1976.

The Minimum Wages Act, 1948; does not permit discrepancy in nadir rates if wages on the ground of gender.

BENEFITS OF GESTATION

The central Government passed a law, The Maternity Benefits Act in 1961, to provide job security for women during and after pregnancy and provide maternity benefits to pregnant ladies. This law applies to women working in industries, factories, organisations who was working women. The provisions of the Maternity Benefits Act protect not only the mother, they also protect unborn children. Under section 4, women can not do any work by their employer during 6 weeks immediately following her delivery or miscarriage. The woman must have to work at least 160 days in the establishment before claiming Maternity benefits, but if women die during the benefit period time then they can not get benefits but if woman die, or child lives then employers have to pay the benefit to the child.

Organisation has to provide all facilities for pregnant women. According to Section 9 [10], case of the miscarriage than the woman can claim to the leave and maternity benefits for 6 week. According to Section 10, if the woman suffers the illness out of pregnancy, delivery or miscarriage. She would be to leave with maternity benefit for a maximum of 1 month. According to Section 11, a nursing mother has allowed two breaks in pregnancy.

In 1971, the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act was passed by the Parliament in India. In 1975 various rules and regulations regarding the abortions were also passed for women. The law says that in India abortion is crime. This Act does not mention "abortion". They mention the miscarriage. But both words did the same thing. Even in India Many people do these types of things only because of their Son, They think Girl is a waste of money And Boy is the full investment. That's why abortions cases are mostly happen in rural area. But they don't know waste of money is better than black money.

LEGAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN

The law has made numerous acts keeping in the mind the condition of women and these acts are proved fruitful for women. Some following legal rights of women are:

Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (2005)

In this act, if a woman who have in the relationship with the abuser and they face many trouble like Sexual assault, mental and physical violence. Then women can complaint against her person in police station under this act.

Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act (1956)

In this act, No one have to right the sell a girl or woman, Woman is not your personal property but in today's era, This is the business kidnapped women and sell in others country for the purpose of prostitution.

Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act (1987)

This act talk about the women rights, No one have right to Sati, in past time if a husband was died than wife face sati. That's why this act come and save women's life because widow have also right to second marriage.

Family Courts Act (1984)

This Act comes for family issues in India for women.

Indian Penal Code (1860)

This act for the most important act for Women. In this Act, women can raise her voice against the Crime under the Indian Penal Code. Dowry death, rape, kidnapping, cruelty and other offences are under the Indian Penal Code.

Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act (2013)

If women face these type of conditions like her boss force for the sex, Touch her body parts without her permission etc. than Women have right to complain Police control Room or Police stations Under the Sexual harassment of Women at Workplace Act.

Hindu Marriage Act (1955)

In Hindu Marriage Act, women have right to choose their life partner. And No one can force her to marriage without her permission or consent. This act provides the equal right to marriage and divorce.

Dowry Prohibition Act (1961)

Giving or taking tradition are come in old time, But in that time Dowry have new name, And the name is GIFT. But now day's dowry is a crime. And give or take both party have responsible for this.

CONCLUSION

If Women have to aware of their rights, they can easily urge in their society. Otherwise every one is come and use her and finished her value and the value so it's important to her know their own rights which is beneficial for her. If she want marry than she get marry she want sexes before marriage or after Marriage it's her choice. This is her right they have to right of freedom. They leave her life according to her not according to society. In India many women are also here who is not aware of their rights and also not raise her voice against crime, because they have pressure of society or parents, Society give statement Women was wrong that's why these things are happen.

So we have to aware of women of their rights, If they aware of their rights they can protect herself, they can fight against the crime. Because the time was gone when Shri Krishna used to come to save Draupadi's respect. So now its time to show that everyone who thinks that you are not capable, show them that you are Durga, you are Jwala.

Suggested

If a female realises her own value and works on the same whereby she puts up an example for males, it will be all to not to allow them to take the former for granted.

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