WOMEN PROBLEMS IN SOCIETY

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Introduction
Sex

- Sex indicates biological characteristics of man and woman.
- People are born male or female. With very few exceptions they remain male or female throughout their lives in terms of their biological make-up.
- The biological differences between men and women are identified at birth. For example: only women can give birth.
Gender indicates the characteristics, positions and roles of man and woman that a given society considers appropriate.

"Male" and "female" are sex categories, while "masculine" and "feminine" are gender categories.
EXERCISE

- Most drivers in AP are men
- Women give birth to babies men don’t
- Care of babies is the responsibility of women
- Only women can breastfeed babies
- Men have moustache
- Women cannot carry heavy loads
- Women are scared of working outside their homes at night
- Women are emotional and men are rational
- Most of the women have long hair and men have short hair
- Most scientists are men
- Cooking comes naturally to women.
- Men do not need tenderness and are less sensitive than women.
Boys and Girls are Equal?
**Gender Stereotype**

- It is a generalized view or preconception about attributes or characteristics that are or ought to be possessed by, or the roles that are or should be performed by women and men.

- A gender stereotype is harmful when it limits women’s and men’s capacity to develop their personal abilities, pursue their professional careers and make choices about their lives and life plans.

- Due to Stereotype most problems are faced by women.
Women Problems in Society
SELECTIVE ABORTION AND FEMALE INFANTICIDE

- It is the act of aborting a fetus because it is female.
- Feotal sex determination and sex selective abortion by medical professionals is still in practice.
- Social discrimination against women and a preference for sons have been promoted.
- According to the decennial Indian census, the sex ratio in the 0-6 age group in India went from 104.0 males per 100 females in 1981, 105.8 in 1991, to 107.8 in 2001, to 109.4 in 2011.
- The ratio is significantly higher in certain states such as Punjab and Haryana (126.1 and 122.0, as of 2011).
Dowry and Bride Burning

- Marriage very often is a financial transaction in India. With economic prosperity our greed has only grown.
- Rich and poor alike expect to make a small fortune when they get their sons married.
- Demands are often made on the bride’s family with not the least amount of compunction.
- This is one of the main reasons why families prefer to put girls to sleep in the womb.
- Non fulfillment of demands sometimes spells death for the woman.
- 6787 dowry death cases registered in India in 2005, a 46% jump over 1995 level of 4,648, which was 10-fold more than the figure of 400 deaths a year in the 80s.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Around 70% of women in India are victims to domestic violence according to survey by Maneka Sanjay Gandhi minister for women and child development.
- National Crime Records Bureau reveal that a crime against a women is committed every three minutes, a women is raped every 29 minutes, a dowry death occurs every 77 minutes and one case of cruelty committed by either the husband or relative of the victim.
DISPARITY IN EDUCATION:

- Girl education is one area where India is lagging.
- The literacy rate of females is 65.46% compared to males which is 82.14%.
- There are various causes for this, some being:
  - Fear of safety whilst going to school.
  - Lack of toilets.
  - Girls are expected to stay home and raise a family, whereas men are expected to work. Given this a lot of parents don’t see the need to send their girl children to school.
  - Girl who do happen to work will not support their parents after they are married into another house. Hence girl education isn’t a priority to a lot of parents.
  - Learning household chores is a priority because it increases the girl’s value in the marriage market, thus, a lot of parents prefer their girl child stay home and learn what will really be of any use to her.
CHILD MARRIAGES

- Many people marry their daughters off as children to escape dowry.
- In rural India, 70% girls are married before 18 and 56% of those married bear children before 19.
- Govt initiative in 1994 Apni Beti, Apna Dhan (ABAD to delay early marriages.
- These programs are effective to keep girls in school but no evidences to stop early marriages.
- Problems with child marriages
  - Early maternal deaths
  - Violence
  - Infant health
  - Fertility outcomes
Inadequate Nutrition:

- One of most understated problems facing the Indian girl child is that of poor nutrition.
- The World Bank estimates that India is one of the highest ranking countries in the world for the number of children suffering from malnutrition.
- Many programs
  - Midday meal scheme in Indian schools
  - Integrated child development scheme
  - National Children's Fund
  - National Plan of Action for Children
  - United Nations Children's Fund
  - National Health Mission
- Still the malnutrition happens due to bacteria caused by improper sanitation.
- The bacteria sickens them, and make it hard for children to consume nutrients, which results in malnutrition.
- 620 million people in India don’t have a toilet in their house and they use public toilet or just outside. Even some schools doesn’t provide toilet which is one reason for girl drop out after primary school.
SEXUAL HARASSMENT

- Among the worst countries in crime, India has an abhorrent track record in all forms of sexual exploitation.
- In homes, on streets, in public transports, at offices, even on vacations. No place is safe.
- This terribly creates lack of self worth and feeling of degradation following the emotional and physical trauma by the harassment.
- Delhi has earned the nickname of the ‘Rape Capital’.
- Most cases go unreported as it is considered an act that puts one to shame, only 20% of the registered cases are for sexual harassment.
- In every 10 rape cases, 6 are of minor girls. Every 7 minutes, a crime is committed against women. Every 26 minutes, a women is molested. Every 34 minutes, a rape takes place. Every 42 minutes, a sexual harassment incident occurs. Every 43 minutes, a women is kidnapped.
STATUS OF WIDOWS

- The genesis of the problem lies in the culture of our country where a widow is considered worthless and inauspicious.
- While the practice is on the decline, women who have lost their husbands are still forced to don only white garments and shave their heads etc.
- They are treated poorly, hardly given proper food and sometimes altogether abandoned.
- One can witness them in the streets of Vrindavan and Varanasi nowadays as well.
- No remarriage.
EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

- While there have been several court rulings guaranteeing the right of earning the same pay for the same amount of work, it remains a distant reality in practice.
- This is particularly true of the unorganized sector especially dealing with manual labour where the Minimum Wage Act norms are often violated.
- Besides these women get no maternity leave, or proper transportation facilities especially in the night shifts.
- Unequal pay for the same job happens to be one problem that men sometimes face as well.
PROPERTY RIGHTS

- The law of the land enshrines equal property distribution to the family of the deceased in the absence of a will irrespective of the sex, this is again normally just on paper.
- In practice most families leave daughters out of property rights and payment or dowry is symbolic of the girl’s disinheritance of finance.
- Besides different religions have different takes on the matter.
Girls are pressurized (direct or indirect ways) for being responsible & well behaved.

They are always held responsible for maintaining the reputation of the family.

Society boycott a person and his son as he married to other caste’s girl.

After communal meeting with community head a they are asked to pay penalty amount and then community decided to include them.

For girls society banished her parents from community and asked to pay penalty but the girl is never ever allowed to meet her parents, she is banished for life time from the community.

Honour killing, Particular attention is given to ensure that a person does not marry outside his caste, community, religion, social status, etc. If does the girl is put to honour killing.
MOLKI SYSTEMS

- Molki means one who has price.
- Women from Assam, west Bengal, Jharkhand, and Odissah are bought for less than 5 or 10 thousands and brought to Mewat in Haryana.
- They are promised for marriage. But the selling happens repeatedly.
- The women is used by all the male members of the family.
- This system roused due to killing of girl child and the women rate is less when compared to male.
PAY DISCRIMINATION

fig 1.1
The Great Salary Divide
Overall national salary average by men vs. women and by organization type in Canada.

37% men vs. women

$89,300

Corporate
$92,800
Non-Profit & Assoc.
$95,000
Third Party
$84,100

$65,100

Corporate
$61,200
Non-Profit & Assoc.
$61,000
Third Party
$76,500
MILITARY SERVICE

- Women are not allowed to have combat roles in the armed forces.
- Recommendation was made that female officers be excluded from induction in close combat arms, where chances of physical contact with the enemy are high.
- Permanent commission could not be granted to female officers since they have neither been trained for command nor have they been given the responsibility so far.
**Religious Impact**

- The main religions of the world all contain certain ideas about the appropriate roles for men and women in society, and traditionally, this has placed women in the home and men in the ‘outside’ world.

- Jews, Christians, and Islam believe that women is made from the man and provides superiority of men.

- A women can never become preach on the podium of church.

- Muslim women stay away form mosque.

- Women should cover their head with saree.

- Hindus treat women with regular cycle as unclear or impure.
CULTURES

- The world dropped the practice of arranged marriages in the 18th century, India is still going strong with the tradition.
- Honor killing.
- Baby Dropping
  Baba Umer Dargah near Sholapur, Maharashtra, and Sri Santeswar temple near Indi, Karnataka, this ritual has been prevalent for about 700 years
- Exorcism by marriage
  - “mangal dosh”: such a women are said to endanger the life of her husband.
  - To exorcise her, the shocking ritual in India is to get the woman married to a tree.
  - Another way to exorcise a manglik woman is to get her married to an animal instead of a tree.
- **Kesh lochan**
  - If husband is dead the women are forced to shave the heads.
- **Eating the baby's placenta.**
- **Babies dunked in boiling water**
  - After along time if child is blessed.
- **Polyandry in India**
  - himachal pradesh, kerela, uttarakahand
CULTURES

- Fulani female tattooing
  - Fulani tribe tattoo the girls when they are ready for marriage.
  - This is a slow process still has to bear the 3 hrs pain without moving or crying.
  - If boys need to be considered as men the sister’s has to undergo the whip tormenting blood.

- Mentawai Teeth Chiseling
  - Shaping the teeth's like shark teeth’s by the young girls.
  - Sharpening the teeths is done to please the spirits.

- Female circumcision
  - As WHO defines it as procedure to remove external female genitalia. This is more in Africa. Few parts of Pakistan and India as well. Dawoodi Bohra community, A Shia Muslim sect in Mumbai follow this.
CULTURES

- In the Menses rituals of Uaupes, Brazil, girls are brought to the streets and are beaten to death or till they are unconscious.
- Breast ironing in Cameroon, Nigeria and South Africa.
- Girls of Paraguay and Brazil get extensive body tattoos to make their bodies look beautiful.
- In Mauritania, young girls are brutally force-fed a diet of up to 16000 calories a day to prepare them for marriage.
- Bride kidnapping by Romani Gypsies.
CULTURES

- Wearing rings to have a giraffe's neck in Thailand.

- Crying marriages - Southwest China's Sichuan
**Overseas Indian Marriages**

- Abandonment of the wife for various reasons
- Domestic Violence.
- NRI husband already married
- Continued demands for dowry, pre and post marriage
- Lenient legal system abroad in respect of grounds for divorce etc.
INCEST AND TABOO

- Marriage/sex between determined relatives is taboo.
- But these days Incest is increasing.
- Within the family itself women is not safe.
**Pink Tax**

- This is the additional tax imposed on women items.
- This is mainly applied in foreign countries.
- Same item for women it is more cost than the men.
- It is applied even for the toys as well.
USE OF TECHNOLOGY

- Now a days cell phones increased and the use of internet is also increased.
- 60% of internet is used for wrong purposes.
- Even the tea stalls, chat center are facilitated with WIFI.
- They encourage to misuse the internet by attracting the men in order to enhance their sale.
- In Delhi even a tea sold in huts is providing the facilities.
- The wrong use of technology is creating neural disorders and hence making man to behave like animal which is a big problem for women.
GENERAL COMMENTS

- If she's skinny they are like, "Omg she is so skinny, look at her legs, look like a rod.
- If she's fat they come up with, "Yeah that's obvious, she eats a lot.
- If she's tall, "See it's good to be tall, but this tall? How will she get a guy to marry?
- A pretty short girl, and they are like, "She must make a habit of wearing heels.
- If she's a dusky girl, "I think we should give her 'fair and lovely' as a birthday present.
- If she can't cook, then according to people's views either she is too lazy to learn cooking.
Identity of Women

- At birth I was declared as someone's daughter
- Then I grew up and either known as someone's sister or someone's girlfriend
- When I got married people started calling me as someone's wife or someone's daughter in law
- When I had kids I was known to be someone's mother
- And even when I grew older people knew me as someone's grandmother
- Every now and then I heard a name being called for myself and I relate myself with that name
- When I die, I was wondering who am I as it looks like no one knew me and none cared.
- I hope in another life I will be known as ME.
- Identity is the problem that the women face in India society.
Solutions to solve the Women problems
Gender sensitization
- At individual, society, cultural, religious and government level.

Educational System
- Counter gender stereotypes from kinder-garden to university

Talk to women and girls
Make them use technology
Stop child marriage and sexual harassment
Raise aspirations of girls and their parents
Empower mothers
Give proper value to ‘women’s work’
Beware the backlash
Activities to develop self-esteem and self-confidence;
Promotion of gender awareness.
To have the ability to make their own decisions and negotiate;
To raise the women's awareness of their civil rights;
To provide skills for income generation;
To make participation in community/society more effectively; and •
Preparing them to be good women leaders.
Lessons on health and nutrition;
Integration of technical, entrepreneurial, cultural and communal aspects;
Provision of planning and thinking skills.
Bringing together donor agencies, governments and NGOs;
Linking women's movements all over the world.
Organizing mass media campaigns to raise awareness;
Creating a social climate friendly to women's issues;
Resisting the tendency to send women back to the kitchen
Women in the 21st Century are thought to have:

- Freedom of Speech
- Freedom from Fear
- Freedom to Vote
- Freedom from Torture
- Freedom of Choice
- Freedom from enslavement
- Freedom of Religion
"all human beings are gifts of women."

WHERE IS MY INDIA (1).mp4

Thank you