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A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF THE ROLE OF GENDER GAP IN URBAN COMMUNITY OF INDUSTRIAL CITY

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Abstract:

The present study focus on the sociological study of the role of gender gap in urban community of Industrial city. The Industrial Revolution commenced in the 18th century and subsequently spread across France, Germany, America, Denmark, Portugal, and other nations. This led to the emergence of large industries in these countries. The Industrial Revolution was accompanied by a process of urbanization. Urbanization significantly influenced the status of women. In India, urbanization enhanced women's status. Rights are shared between husbands and wives. The distribution of workload based on gender has diminished, allowing women to work alongside men. The objective of this study is to (i) to find out the socio-economic differences on the basis of gender in urban community, (ii) to find the family perspective based on gender in urban community, (iii) to find out the role of socio-economic status of women in the family, to find out the gender discrimination faced by working women at work-place. The respondents were selected from Industrial City Bhilai Nagar of Durg district. There are 11 sectors in Bhilai Nagar. Out of which four sectors is chosen for the present study. According to the census 2011, the population in Chhattisgarh is 2.56 Crores. The population of selected sectors is 49,734. The numbers of population are 18531, 7514, 16923 and 6766 in sector 5, 7,8,10 respectively. 20 respondents are selected from each sector. Thus, total 80 respondents have been selected for the present study. Interview schedule and observation method & purposive sampling method has been used for data collection. The results of the current study indicated that a significant number of females receive family support in social and economic aspects, while both males and females are granted authority within the family in urban communities. Additionally, working women in urban areas experience less gender discrimination as compare to men.

Keywords : Gender-gap, Urbanization, Industrial city , Gender-discrimination

Introduction:

The gender gap refers to the disparity between women and men as evidenced in social, political, intellectual, cultural, or economic achievements or perspectives. The Global Gender Gap Index seeks to assess this gap across four primary domains: health, education, economics, and politics. For instance, the economic gap highlights the differences in salaries, leadership roles, and workplace participation between men and women. Education pertains to the availability of both basic and advanced educational opportunities, while health focuses on life expectancy, and politics investigates the representation of men and women in decision-making bodies.

The term 'patriarchy' translates directly to 'father's reign' and was first introduced in the 17th century to describe a form of 'male-dominated household,' exemplified by the patriarch's large residence. This dominant male exercised authority over women, younger males, children, slaves, and domestic workers. Today, it is more frequently employed to denote male domination, the power dynamics through which men exert control over women, and to characterize a system that keeps women in a subordinate position in various ways. In both communal and private spheres, patriarchy signifies male supremacy. The term 'patriarchy' is often utilized by feminists to illustrate the power relations between men and women. Consequently, patriarchy transcends mere terminology; feminists leverage it as a concept, and like all ideas, it serves as a tool for enhancing the understanding of women's realities.

Consequently, men possess all authority and rights within the household, community, and state. Due to the influence of patriarchy, women have been deprived of their legal rights and opportunities. These patriarchal principles limit women's



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freedom of movement and undermine their autonomy over their own bodies and property. A woman serves as the essential unit of society. She forms a family, which subsequently creates a home, which in turn builds a society, which ultimately establishes a nation. A nation cannot prosper unless its women assume leadership positions in developmental initiatives. The status of women in India is a contentious issue that is fervently debated daily, as an increasing number of women become cognizant of the injustices and prejudices they encounter.

Concept of Gender gap :

The alterations in female representation within the upper echelons of a company's organization influence gender-specific outcomes throughout the various levels of the firm. We commence by formulating a theoretical model of a hierarchical organization, wherein the representation of gender in the highest organizational tiers can impact the probabilities of gender-specific hiring and promotions in the lower tiers. Subsequently, we utilize a recent reform in France that mandated gender representation quotas on corporate boards to evaluate the predictions of our model against empirical data. Our findings indicate that the reform effectively diminished gender wage disparities and representation gaps at the upper levels of the organization; however, it did not yield similar results at the lower levels. It is essential to differentiate between gender inequality and gender gaps. Not every gender gap necessarily signifies gender inequality, as certain gaps may not stem from the absence of equal rights, responsibilities, and opportunities for women and girls. This distinction carries significant implications for the formulation of policies aimed at addressing gender inequity.

Constitutional Provisions For Women In India :

Constitutional provisions for women in India are a series of safeguards embedded within the Indian Constitution aimed at ensuring gender equality and empowering women across various facets of life. These provisions are designed to protect women against discrimination, promote their well-being and ensure their equal participation in the political, economic and social spheres.

Fundamental Rights like Articles 14, 15 and 16 establish the right to equality and prohibit discrimination based on gender, enabling women to live with dignity and have equal opportunities. Directive Principles, including Articles 39, 42 and 43, advocate for economic justice, equal pay and support during maternity. Moreover, Articles 51A(e) emphasises the moral duty to renounce practices derogatory to women's dignity.

Additionally, constitutional amendments have facilitated women's participation in local governance through reservation of seats in Panchayats and Municipalities, underlining the commitment to enhancing women's representation and involvement in decision-making processes. These provisions collectively constitute a robust framework for advancing women's rights and status in India.¹

Objectives:

1. To find out the socio-economic differences on the basis of gender in urban community.
2. To find the family perspective based on gender in urban community.
3. To find out the role of socio-economic status of women in the family.
4. To find out the gender discrimination faced by working women at work-place.

Review of Literature :

Bina Agarwal, Pervesh Anthwal & Malvika Mahesh (2021) studied on gender inequality in land ownership. Land ownership is essential for assessing progress in women's economic empowerment, to effectively assess inter-gender gaps in land



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ownership, however, requires multiple measures. The objective of the study is to know which women are more likely to own land by tracing intra-gender differences.²

Clemens Tesch- Romer Andreas Motel – Killingebiel- Martin J. Tomasik (2007) have conducted research on the co-relation between gender inequality and subjective well- being. The result shows that the social gender inequality is related to the size of gender differences in subjective well-being in various societies .

Methodology:

Industrial City Bhilai Nagar of Chhattisgarh state is selected for the present study. There are 11 sectors in Bhilai Nagar. Out of which four sectors is chosen for the present study. According to the census 2011, the population in Chhattisgarh is 2.56 Crores. The population of selected sectors is 49,734. The numbers of population are 18531, 7514, 16923 and 6766 in sector 5, 7,8,10 respectively. 20 respondents are selected from each sector. Thus, total 80 respondents have been selected for the present study. Interview schedule and observation method & Purposive sampling method has been used for the collection of data.

Hypothesis of the study:-

H₁ The Social condition of females were one-third as compare to males.

H₂ The Monthly condition of females is less as compared to men.

H₃ The Family Perspective based on gender shows that male are more representative of society as compare to females.

H₄ The land ownership in urban community is given to males as compare to women.

H₅ In urban community males has given more authority as compare to females. H₆ Gender-Discrimination faced by Working Women in Urban Community.

Results and Discussion:

The acquired data concerned to the objectives of the study is analyzed here.

Table 1: Social Condition of Gender based on Education

S. No.	Education				
		Male		Female	
		Frequency	Perenatge	Frequency	Perenatge
1.	Illiterate	20	25	10	12.5
2.	Middle	10	12.5	15	18.75
3.	Secondary	10	12.5	10	12.5
4.	Sr. Secondary	10	12.5	20	25
5.	Graduation	25	31.5	30	37.5
	Total	80	100	80	100

The analysis of data concerning the social status of gender indicates that a significant one-third of female respondents have completed their graduation (37.5%), while male respondents account for (31.5%) of graduates. The table demonstrates that females in urban areas possess a higher educational attainment compared to their male counterparts.



Table 2: Monthly income of Respondents

S. No.	Monthly Income	Male		Female	
		Frequency	Percenatge	Frequency	Percenatge
1.	10000-20000	15	18.75	15	18.75
2.	20001-30000	15	18.75	20	25
3.	30001-40000	20	25	15	18.75
4.	40001-50000	20	25	20	25
5.	50001-60000	10	12.5	10	12.5
	Total	80	100	80	100

An analysis of the data revealed that 50% of the male respondents have a monthly income ranging from Rs. 30001 to Rs. 50000, while 43.75% of the female respondents fall within the monthly income of Rs. 10001 to Rs. 50000.

Table 3: Family's Perspective on gender

S. No.	Family Perspective based on gender	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Male	40	50
2.	Female	30	37.5
3.	Both Male & Female	10	12.5
	Total	80	100

The table presented above indicates that a greater proportion of family support is provided by males (50%) compared to females (37.5%) within the urban community.

Table 4: land ownership based on gender

S. No.	landownership based on gender	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Male	40	50
2.	Female	20	25
3.	Both Male & Female	20	25
	Total	80	100

The data presented above indicates that 50% of male respondents possess land ownership, in contrast to females.

Table 5: Authority based on gender

S. No.	Authority based on gender	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Male	52	65
2.	Female	28	35
	Total	80	100

An analysis of the data reveals that 50% of the male respondents were granted authority, while 28% of the females were afforded authority within the family.



Table 6: Gender Discrimination faced by Working-Women

S. No.	Gender Discrimination faced by Working-Women	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Agree	30	37.5
2.	Disagree	50	62.5
	Total	80	100

The above table shows that in urban community gender discrimination faced by working women was disagreed by the respondents (62.5%) & (37.5%) were agreed by the rest of the respondents.

Conclusion & Testing of Hypothesis :

H₁ The Social condition of females were one-third as compare to males.

Result :The social status of gender indicates that a significant one-third of female respondents have completed their graduation.

H₂ The Monthly condition of females is less as compared to men.

Result : 50% of the male respondents have a monthly income ranging from Rs. 30001 to Rs. 50000.

H₃ The Family Perspective based on gender shows that male are more representative of society as compare to females.

Result: A greater proportion of family support is provided by males i.e. (50%).

H₄ The land ownership in urban community is given to males as compare to women.

Result: 50% of male respondents possess land ownership, in contrast to females.

H₅ In urban community males has given more authority as compare to females.

Result: 50% of the male respondents were granted authority.

H₆ Gender-Discrimination faced by Working Women in Urban Community.

Result: In urban community gender discrimination faced by working women was disagreed by the respondents (62.5%)

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