

A STUDY ON EDUCATION AS A MEANS OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

***SPOORTHI B R**

Mount Carmel College Autonomous

Vasanth Nagar Bengaluru 560052

****AMANDEEP KAUR**

Mount Carmel College Autonomous

Vasanth Nagar Bengaluru 560052.

ABSTRACT

“If you educate a man you educate an individual, however if you educate a Women you educate a whole family. Women empowered means mother India empowered”

-Pt Jawaharlal Nehru

Education is an important aspect which determines the growth and development of a country In India quality education has evolved over the year. Empowering women through education has shown a favourable growth in economy. An educated Women can make a change in development of a family as well as society. Our Indian government has made a various Policies to educate a Women. Further among children, a girl child is given least importance for education compared to male child.

The present paper focuses on the importance of women education and problems faced by women due to lack of education as well as the psychology mind set of the people about women education.

The present empirical research has been conducted to gather information and analyse the attitudes and perceptions of one hundred respondents about women empowerment in education. A structured questionnaire has been used to collect the data. The results of the study have been scrutinized to obtain possible outcomes to the problems.

Key words: education, women empowerment, growth and development, economic growth, government policies.

INTRODUCTION

Empowering Women in our society has given her a strategic position. She has been recognised in almost all walks of the society. In previous ages she was confined to household chores whereas she made herself to recognize in space in current situation. The success is only because she is given the opportunity to educate herself. It is known “Education is key to success”, Almost all Women have become teachers and have taken prominent role in building up healthy society. (Dr.M.Shunmuga sundaram, Vol.2 Issue-12, (December 2014))

Women has been recognised and is given respectful and prominent position in the society because of the opportunity given to her to go to school and get educated. By acquiring specialisation in specific fields, she has become doctor, engineer, chartered accountant and it is proud to say that she has even become a war piolet.

Education is a strong means of empowering Women. It enables Women to gain knowledge and bringing self-confidence within her to face the challenges. It enables women to think freely and wisely, where she is able to judge situation and make decisions. (Smt. Sanghamitra Basak, Feb 2015)

In a society if Women are educated, she can provide good inputs to the development of the country. Education is tool for her through which she can be economically independent there by greatly contributing in reducing poverty level.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

- (KalpanaSaxena, (March. 2017))Highlights the problems faced by Women in India present and past. Emphasises the upliftment of women in political and social status. Author opines that Women empowerment is accomplished when monetary and social status established.
- (Nagaraja, February, 2018)Analyses the importance of higher education in Women Empowerment and mentioning the obstacles faced by Women. The paper focuses on the inner strength and confidence of Women in different aspects.
- (Bhat, Vol.6, No.10, 2015)elaborates about the literacy rate in India. Women takes her position through education. This paper emphasises on Women's active participation in political and administrative sector. Progress achieved in society through gender equality and Women empowerment.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To study the perception of women as a tool of empowerment
- To study the challenges faced by Women in educating themselves

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

The major purpose of the descriptive research is the state affairs as it exists at present. The data collected are both primary data and secondary data. The sampling size selected for the study is 212. The statistical tool used is percentage analysis.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

- The data is restricted only to Bangalore city.
- Sample size of the study is limited to 212.
- Time and resource constraint were also a major factor during the study.
- This study was conducted using convenience sampling method, which could result in selection bias and sampling errors.

ANALYSIS OF DATA

Is Women Empowerment essential to enhance the Economic growth of our country

207 responses

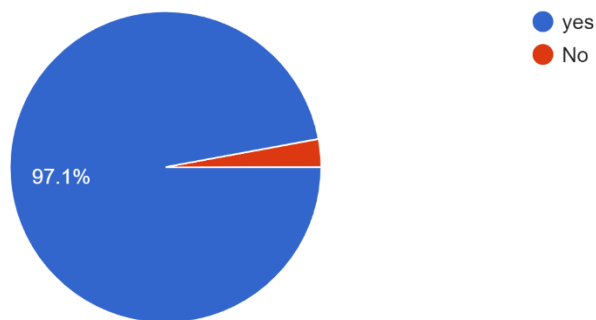


Figure 1 Economic growth

From the figure 1, it is evident that out of 212 respondents 97.1% agree to this statement. Hence, it is inferred that majority of the respondents are agreeing to the statement.

Who are the main income provider in your family

191 responses

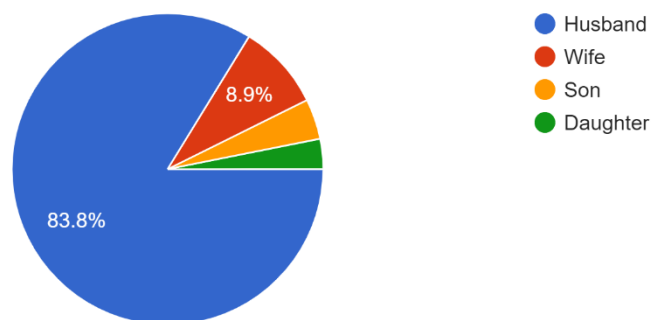


Figure 2 Income provider

From the figure 2 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents 83.8% Income providers are husband. Hence, it is inferred that majority of the respondents are agreeing to the statement.

Does the government schemes really help the Women to get educated

206 responses

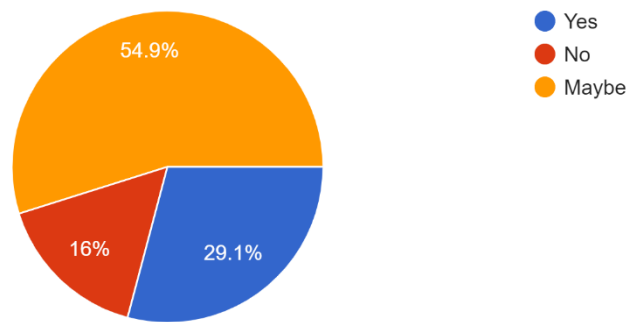


Figure 3 Government schemes

From the figure 3 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents, there are mixed opinion of the people. According to the result many respondents are unaware about the schemes provided by the government.

Has the girl child within the age of 14 attended the school in your family

206 responses

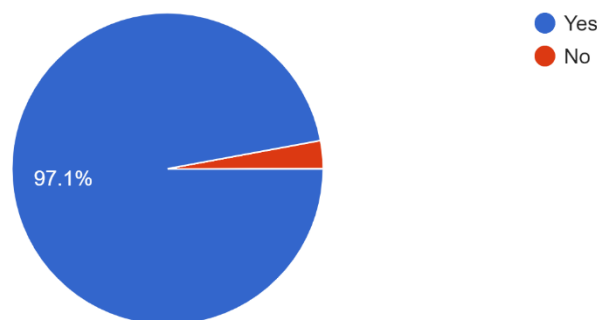


Figure 4 Girl child

From the figure 4 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondent's majority people send their girl child to the school. Hence, it is inferred that majority of the respondents are agreeing to the statement.

Educating Women helps to develop a society

206 responses

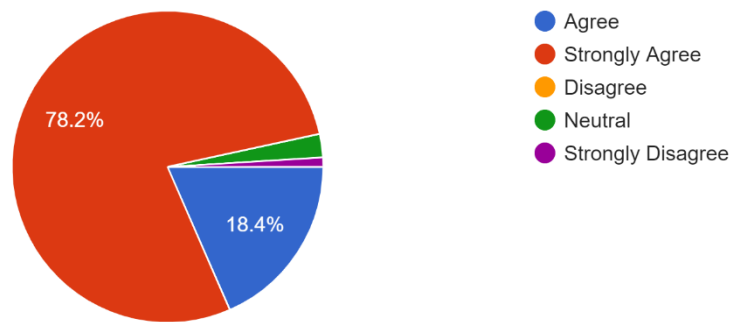


Figure 5 Society development

From the figure 4 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondent's 78.2% strongly agree with the statement.

Do you think in Rural Area Women are getting education facilities

206 responses

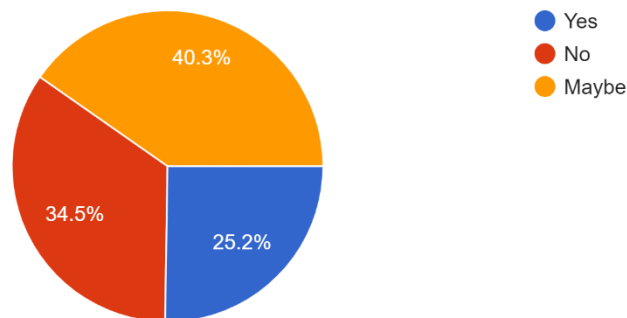


Figure 6 Rural area

From the figure 6 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents have different opinion, 40.3% respondents think that women may be getting education facilities in rural education. Hence, it is inferred that majority of the respondents are agreeing to the statement.

Who is the main decision maker at your house

200 responses

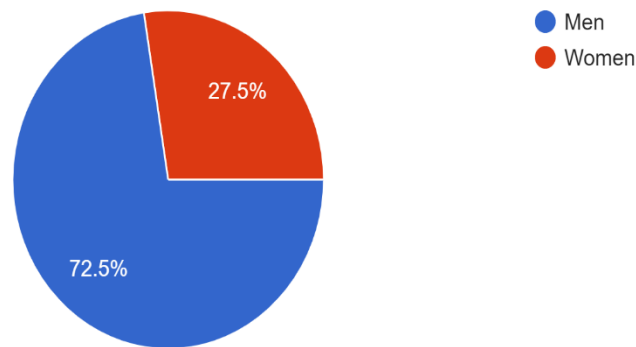


Figure 7 Decision maker

From the figure 7 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents 72.5% men are the main decision maker at house. Hence, it is inferred that majority of the respondents have referendum for men.

In your family what is the highest education a women has acquired

206 responses

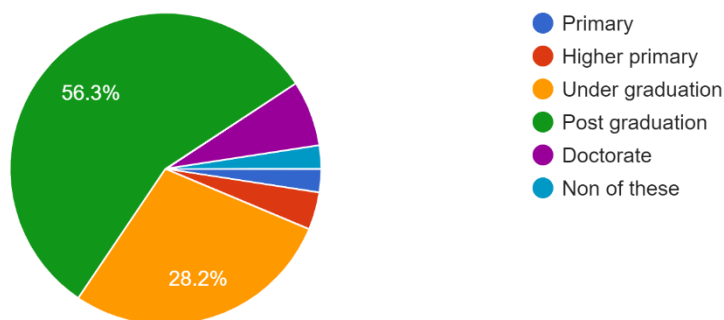


Figure 8 Highest education

From the figure 8 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents 56.3% of women have acquired their post-graduation. Hence, it is inferred that majority of the respondents are of the opinion that women have acquired highest education.

Do you know any successful Women entrepreneur

202 responses

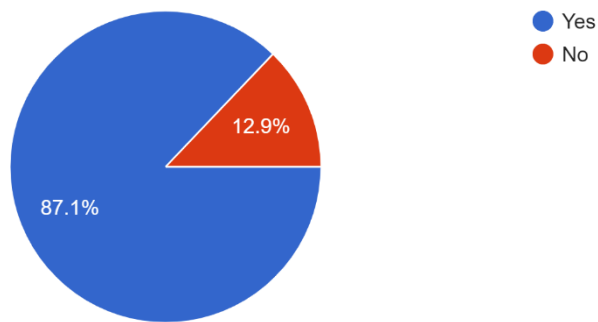


Figure 9 Women entrepreneur

From the figure 9 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents 87.1% know women entrepreneurs.

Do you think the government has to come up with few more policies with regards to Women education

204 responses

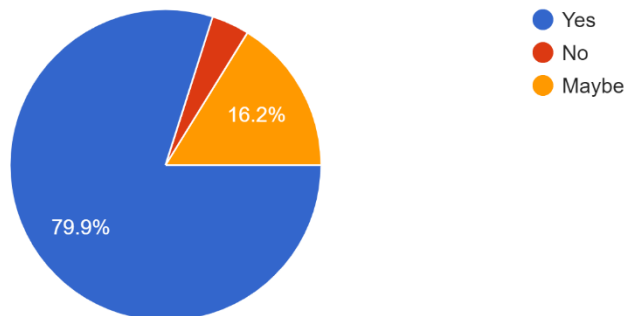


Figure 10 Government policies

From the figure 10 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents 79.9% agree to this statement. Hence, it is inferred that majority of the respondents are agreeing to the statement.

gender discrimination still exists our society

206 responses

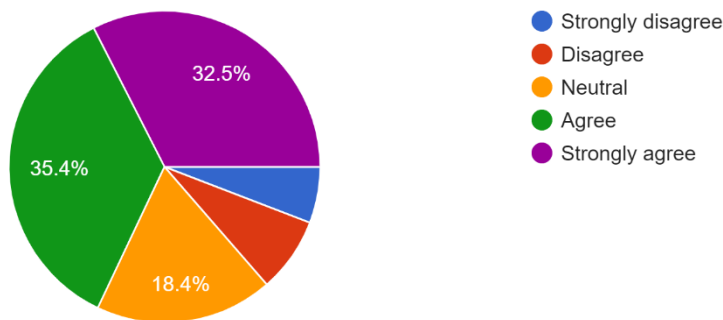


Figure 11 Gender discrimination

From the figure 11 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents have mixed opinion about gender discrimination. Hence, definite conclusion cannot be drawn.

Compare to the political changes in the past do you think employment of Women has

205 responses

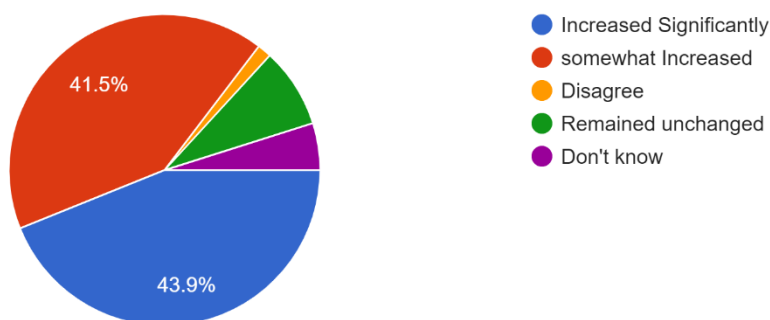


Figure 12 Political changes

From the figure 12 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents maximum are of the opinion that it is relatively increased.

By educating a Women , Is your life better than before

206 responses

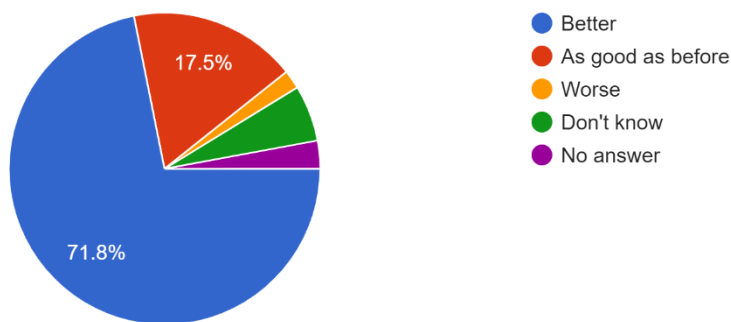


Figure 13 Better life

From the figure 13 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents 71.8% feels that by educating a women life is better than before.

By acquiring education is Women able to guide her children

206 responses

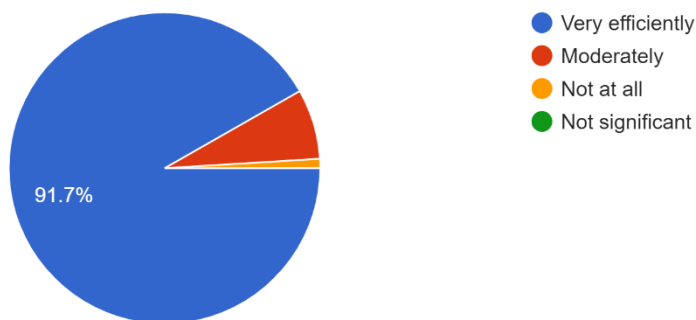


Figure 14 Guide children

From the figure 14 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents 91.7% are in the opinion that educated women can efficiently guide her children.

Has education help Women to recognize herself in the society

205 responses

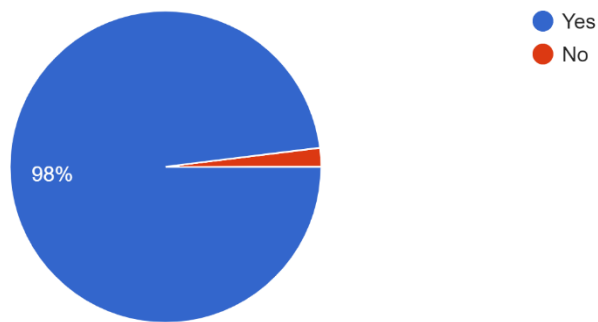


Figure 15 Recognition in society

From the figure 15 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents 98% agree to this statement. Hence, it is inferred that majority of the respondents are agreeing to the statement.

Has reservation for the Women in the political field helped her to serve the society

203 responses

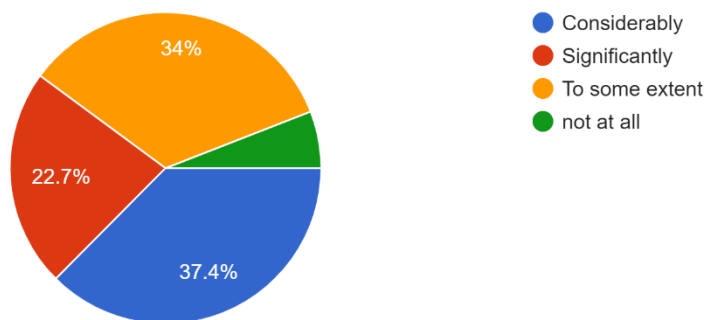


Figure 16 Reservation

From the figure 16 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents 37.4% are of the opinion that reservation in the political field has helped a woman to serve in the society.

Is Women able to manage both household and profession

205 responses

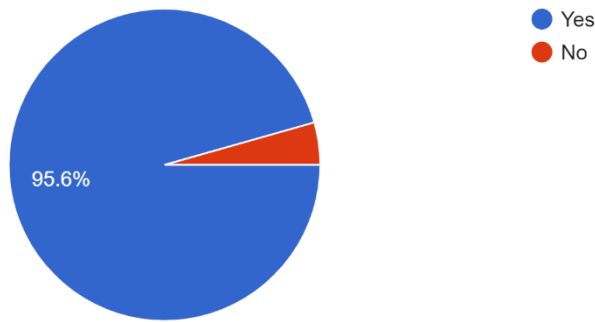


Figure 17 Household and profession

From the figure 17 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents 95.6% agree to this statement. Hence, it is inferred that majority of the respondents are agreeing to the statement.

To what extent is the influence of Women empowerment upon men sector

206 responses

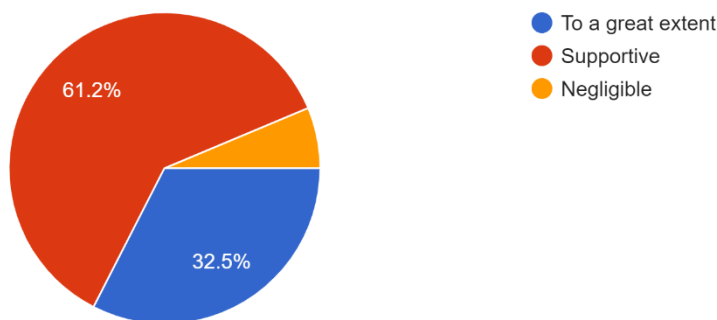


Figure 18 Influence on men

From the figure 18 it is interpreted that out of 212 respondents 61.2% think that women empowerment is supporting men sector.

CHALLENGES FACED BY WOMEN IN EDUCATING THEMSELVES

Education is essential for an individual to establish his/her unique identity in a society. Educating girl can transform a society in several angles. An educated girl contributes in building economy of a nation. It can put her on the path of success. In this way women can play active role in leading their communities and country.

Despite this progress, girls are not getting a quality education especially in rural areas where many girls deprived of education till today. The problem faced by them are (Winthrop, Friday, June 26, 2015)

- Economic Risks
- Gender inequality (Sahoo*, Vol. 6 Issue 7, July 2016)
- Lack of infrastructure facilities in government schools
- Foot-Dragging of the female teachers to serve in rural areas
- Lack of encouragement

SUGGESTIONS

- The Government should give more importance to develop literacy rate of girls
- The Government must produce few more policies with regard to Women education
- Provide good schooling environment
- Number of educational institutions should be opened in rural areas
- Educational loans must be given to girls up to 12th std
- Ease the workload of girl at home
- Various campaigns should be conducted to bring an attitudinal change in society towards girls. (Somani, 2017, Volume 7)

CONCLUSION

A pen is stronger than a sword and books are our best friends, if a woman is educated then the whole family is educated, if the family is educated then we can get good citizens to our country, if we have good citizens then definitely our country would become a developed nation. Education plays a key role towards empowerment; it enables a woman to gain knowledge and making her self confident to take up any challenges. As education is both input and output of human development, educational quality will ensure enabling the entrepreneurial development. Today we can find women is in all the walks of the society. There are certain fields where women have to improve. Economic development efforts to combat poverty can only succeed if women are part of the solution. (Khatri., November 2016)

References

- Bhat, R. A. (Vol.6, No.10, 2015). Role of Education in the Empowement of Women in India. *Journal of Education and Practice* .
- Dr.M.Shunmuga sundaram, D. (Vol.2 Issue-12, (December 2014)). WOMEN EMPOWERMENT: ROLE OF EDUCATION. *IJMSS*.
- KalpanaSaxena. ((March. 2017)). Status of Women Education in India with Particular Reference to Women Empowerment and Development. *IOSR Journal Of Humanities And Social Science (IOSR-JHSS)* , 4.
- Khatri., D. R. (November 2016). THE ROLE OF EDUCATION TOWARDS WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN INDIA. *Int. J. Adv. Res.* 4(11), 550-555.
- Nagaraja, K. (February, 2018). EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION. *ISSN: 0975-833X*.
- Sahoo*, S. (Vol. 6 Issue 7, July 2016). GIRLS' EDUCATION IN INDIA: STATUS AND CHALLENGES. *International Journal of Research in Economics and Social Sciences (IJRESS)*.
- Smt. Sanghamitra Basak, D. P. (Feb 2015). AN APPRAISAL OF WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN INDIAN HIGHER EDUCATION. *ISSN - 2249-555X*.
- Somani, T. (2017, Volume 7). Importance of Educating Girls for the Overall Development of Society: A Global Perspective. *Journal of Educational Research and Practice*.
- Winthrop, E. M. (Friday, June 26, 2015). Today's challenges for girls' education. *GLOBAL ECONOMY & DEVELOPMENT*.