

A VOICE FOR DIGNITY WHICH HAS BEEN RUINED

Dr. Ramesh Singisala

Assistant Professor, GNITC, Ibrahimpatnam, Hyderabad, TS (State), India.

Abstract:

The present paper deals with gender and disability, disabled women. There are different theories on gender and disability. Gender extends beyond the home to the community. In society, women's and men's roles are emphasized based on gender. In the name of gender, socially and biologically their responsibilities won't be changed until the end of their life. In society, women's existence is connected with different cultural boundaries, their struggles are unexplainable in day-to-day life. Being women, their roles and responsibilities do not change if the women have a disability, their life anguish is unbearable. They have a voice, and they will become voiceless, they used to discriminate and were stifled at various periods of their personal and professional lives. In society abled women suffer as a result of gender inequity including being disabled women also suffer from inequality because of their disability, poverty, and illiteracy. In society, they have fewer opportunities in comparison to abled men & women. Based on this argument, the paper emphasizes several difficulties and opportunities for people with impairments, particularly women with disabilities.

Key Words: Disparities, Discrimination, Disability, Inequalities, Gender Opportunities, Neglecting, differently-abled women

Introduction:

The purpose of this article is to discuss the urgent need for women with disabilities to be included in discussions about issues that affect them. In the context of women with disabilities, India has intersected and reinforced each; efforts would be made to provide the essential possibilities for women of varying abilities. Their life experiences in society have been linked to gender and disability. Their lives are lived on the margins of society, where they face exclusion, stigma, and prejudice daily. They are denied autonomy, respect, dignity, and personhood equality. The mug up of their inferior complex because their reality is invisible to understand. Disability, class, caste, ethnicity, and rural-urban residence all play a role in their lives.

I

Gender equality is existent and they are being treated as the same individual and are not being discriminated against due to their genders it all depends on the idea and articles in different groups to how they portray each individual (Benjamin, Jeryl 01).

One of the most important fields of social science is gender studies. Other sciences are interested in and connected to these topics. Different hypotheses and divisions on biological distinctions exist in the medical industry. It would be divided into gender as per the social sciences into various topics such as social and sciences. However, there are biological differences between men and women. The argument about how much biological variations influence gender identity formation. Biological sex, sex-based societal institutions, and gender identity are all examples of gender traits. Many, if not all, societies utilize a gender binary with two distinct names: 'men' and 'women'.

Discrimination between the man and women is a very old phenomenon and is been faced by a female for a long period. There are some places where a girl is been not given the respect she deserves and she faces discrimination at every stage. For instance, the bride has to pay dowry to the bridegroom because she is a girl, a girl is not allowed to go to the office still at many places because she is a girl, only a girl is been meant to do household work because she is the girl(Sahini 05).

Gender identity refers to the social roles of women and men. Gender roles will not be altered. They will gain an identity as a result of this. Historically, the notion and word 'woman' has been used to symbolize the feminine body. This 'woman' language is used by a variety of feminist activists. However, it was invented by someone for the class divide in society and dominance. Gender and its topic matters have been subjected to various qualitative analyses. They must be conscious of their societal responsibilities.

Judith Butler says, "the concept of being a woman to have more challenges, owing not only to society's viewing women as a social category but also as a felt sense of self, a culturally conditioned or constructed subjective identity." In society, social identity refers to the social category that gives rise to diverse cultures among a group of people. This theory is crucial in the area of self-respect. Individuals believe they must be at one end of a linear variety and must identify as man or woman, rather than being permitted to choose a part in between, when men and women are classified into societal roles.

The psychological and cultural components of gender are generally conceptualized as sex roles. The need to gender-categorize both other people and ourselves is exhibited in many contexts. Knowing that a newborn is alive and healthy, for example, is insufficient without being told whether it is a boy or a girl (Phyllis Katz 01).

In this world, different communities have different rules and regulations, in that communities especially they used to focus on women's life, they are bonded with culture and tradition. If in this communities' women have a disability just imagine their position. They are completely voiceless. If biological differences between men and women create a set of social expectations that describe the behaviors. Men and women determine access to their rights, resources, power in society, and health behaviors. Although the specific differences vary from one society to the next, they still tend to typically favor men, creating an imbalance in power and gender inequalities within most societies.

The creation of these roles dominated ideology; it has masculinity. Michel Foucault says, "as sexual subjects, humans are the object of power, which is not an institution or structure; rather it is a signifier or name attributed to complex strategically situation (Foucault 777-95)." In the name power roles of patriarchal ideology, 'power' is what determines individual attributes, behaviors, etc. and people are a part of an ontologically and epistemologically constructed set of names and labels. Women's roles, won't be changed until the universe end. Being female characterizes one as a woman, and being a woman signifies one as weak, emotional, and irrational, and incapable of actions attributed to a 'man'. It has come from the making women from of their family and again in the society.

Gender and sex are more like verbs than nouns. She reasoned that her actions are limited because she is female. 'I am not permitted to construct my gender and sex willy-nilly,' '[This] is so because gender is politically and therefore socially controlled rather than

‘woman’ being something one is, it is something one does (Mehrotra17)’.

II

Regarding the status of disabilities in India, their families are focused on survival in the context of deep poverty. In this concept and view, most of the social movements in India and disability rights mainly comprise elite, middle-class activists who generally mirror the goals of the disability rights movement in Western countries. In common public perceptions of disability in India are prejudiced by certain discourses that are generally rejected by the field of disability studies. Differently-abled people are often seen as wicked or deceitful, or as unable to progress to adulthood and dependent on charity and pity for assistance. This is opposed to an emphasis on the strengths people possess despite their disabilities and their potential for adaptation.

In India out of the 121 Cr population, 2.68 Cr persons are ‘disabled’ which is 2.21% of the total population. Persons in rural areas and 0.81 Cr in urban areas). In the case of the total population also, 69% are from rural areas while the remaining 31% resided in urban areas (Wiki).

In India, the population is divided into different groups and other social divisions such as class, gender, and caste. Every step of women with disabilities still struggled with their identity in different forms in the society, even disabilities are marginalized than their male counterparts. Some social activist groups particularly in Indian feminism have ignored the unique conditions disabled women live in. Disability itself is a huge term, covering multidimensional impairments, activity limitations, and participation restrictions.

Impairment or disability is a problem in body function or structure; an activity limitation is a difficulty encountered by an individual. In this individual part they are performing a task or action; involved in life situations. Thus, disability is a complex phenomenon, reflecting an interaction between features of a person’s body and features of the society in which he or she lives. All over the world, disabled people are not only the most deprived human beings but most of them are neglected.

The static report and web sources and different surveys on disabilities, the most of them are neglected. “Ten thousand of the population in the world or 650 million people live with a disability (Wiki)”. There is a marked unevenness in the burden of disability shared by developed and developing countries with the latter accounting for almost 80 percent of the total disabled population. The number of people with disabilities is expected to increase. They have been struggling with the multifaceted problems of their daily life.

The reasons are complex and multifaceted and largely due to the health, demographic, and development factors of the disabled population. People with disabilities are the largest minority group in the world. As a group they are starved of services and facilities available to the non-disabled and, consequently, they are the least nourished, the least healthy, the least educated, and the least employed. They have a long history of neglect, isolation, segregation, poverty, deprivation, charity, and even pity.

The gender differences in disability may arise due to two sets of factors in India. One set may constitute a different factor that affects males and females differently which further results in gender bias in disability. For example, comparatively a higher proportion of males, employed in more hazardous blue-collared occupations which are more prone to locomotor disability due to the high probability of mechanical accidents? Another set constitutes the same factors but affects two sexes differently due to physiological and social factors and resulting in different disability rates among males and females.

III

The preamble of the Indian constitution does not do any discriminate among the people. But unfortunately, they have been treated like a marginalized group in India. They are subject to a long history of neglect, segregation, isolation, deprivation, charity, welfare, and even pity. Differently able women are assumed to have fewer human needs at all levels-physical, biological & psychological. There are threats as per convenience by people around and with the same non-chance dumped out. Differently able women are more marginalized and discriminated in the society which has been taken care of in the present study.

All women are ardent feminists; some sit on the fence; some are even misogynists. Women have often quietly accepted domestic constraints either because they wish to protect the family even at cost to themselves, or because they are relatively powerless in specific situations, or because in the domestic pecking order, even lowly daughters-in-law can eventually become powerful mothers-in-law (Raman, sita, 08).

In the case of employment also, people with disabilities are facing the problem, particularly women. Disabled men's condition is also measurable. The quota policy also covers just three types of disability-locomotors, hearing, and visual, after the 2016 disability act these people get 6% of reservations in the public sector in employment. Differently-abled men & women few opportunities are getting in the private sector. Their percentage is very less comparison than abled men & women.

Most of the private sector is not interested in giving employment to disabled people. If they provide certain reservations for this, they will get more opportunities and they stand on their own feet. According to Census-2001, there are 93.01 lakh women with disabilities, which constitute 42.46 percent of the total disabled population. Women with disabilities require protection against exploitation and abuse (WIKI).The status of disabled women and will become marginalized in society. Being disabled is not their fault. There are several factors for to become disabled:

- Traffic accidents
- Malnutrition of expectant and nursing mothers and children
- Environmental pollution

Disabilities vary in degrees and dimensions. But they are the largest minority in the world. So, we have to bring them to the mainstream for our inclusive growth.

Objectives:

- Provide equal opportunities, Equity & Social Justice and ensure confidence-building in the differently able women's life.
- To promote awareness and sensitize society and promote individual excellence in the field of the disability sector.
- To create or to facilitate the creation of facilities conducive to the recreation of differently able women's which may include inter alia tourism, educative.
- To develop content for the rehabilitation of different types of disabilities and to promote relevant activity/activities relating to creating awareness in the field of the disability sector.
- To support spreading awareness about universal accessibility by creating an enabling and barrier-free environment that includes accessible buildings, accessible transport, accessible websites, and carrying out accessibility audits.

Methodology: Research Design

This research is qualitative. In qualitative, the in-depth interview, a few case studies, observations, and results were discussed and tested by the social scientist experts. The research followed a diagnostic method.

Data Collection Procedure

Data were collected in both forms of primary and secondary sources. Primary data includes books and journals, autobiographies, memoirs, articles secondary data were collected from Governments reports, census reports, books, journals, newspapers, workshops, experts, orthopedic doctors, parents, guardians, neighbors, villagers, observations, websites, etc.

Recommendations:

- The study can be done on how to bring different abled women into the mainstream and rescue them from being marginalized.
- The study can be done on treatment/ therapy development in separate sections like leprosy, locomotors, hearing, brail, psychiatric treatment, etc.
- To identify the real problem of WWDs including their psycho-social, marriage, being misbehaved, sexual harassment, loneliness, empowerment, ill-treat by the near and dears, the responsibility of the family, the society, etc.
- More emphasis can be given to their sustainability and livelihood.

Conclusion

The paper highlighted many intact issues which can be sorted out of disabled women, they are fatalities of the family member's sometimes, society. It can be rivaled to find out the real problem of WWDs and execute their work accordingly. Government has to design and implement some proper interventions like providing more benefits to unemployed differently able women. The responsibility of the Government, family, and society does not end here. They have to monitor properly the disabled women up to become self-sufficient as per capability and lead a life of happiness and dignity.

The study tried to find out the real problem of WWDs in the name of gender and disability how they can be brought into the mainstream. The first problem lies with the family members, the caretakers have to be cautioned more that they will encourage the WWDs and try to make them self-sufficient. They will show real love and affection, accept their disability, and will not think of them as a burden.

The study also tried to find out the relations between categorization of disability, economic standard, educational qualification, monthly income with women empowerment, satisfaction level, sexual abuse, mental/ physical harassment, husband's extra-marital affairs, etc. It clearly shows that due to their disability, most of them are subject to violence, betrayed by the husband; they are deprived of a good education, livelihood for which they feel that they are being marginalized. Here the role of guardians, family members, society, social workers and the government is very important to make them inclusive and lead a happy life.

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