



GENDER EQUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

Social work is about ensuring that everyone has access to everything and helping to develop the capacity for it. Social work also helps people become socially and mentally fit and helps them meet their needs. Equality is the strength of human society. Equality is a component of social justice. The maturity of a developed society is to create equality. When a woman feels an environment of equality, she can contribute to this society. Equality is essential to achieve sustainable development. Women can contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals when they feel they are in an equal society. A lack of equality will not promote sustainable development. This paper discusses the need for gender equality for sustainable development. It also discusses the constitutional provisions for equality. This research paper will help sustainable development by overcoming ups and downs and creating an egalitarian society.

Keywords: *Equality, Social Work, Society & Social Justice.*

Introduction

Equality is the hallmark of a developed society. Democratisation's vital point is gender equality (Inglehart et al., 2003). The ultimate goal of any activity is to use human resources. If society follows equality, then it would be a developed society. Developed societies must treat people equally. In any society that does not uphold equality, it is normal for development to go backwards. Showing differences between people is not a good sign for a civilised society. Without women, the world cannot be complete in any way (Ahamad & Mishra 2016). Human resource utilisation is essential for sustainable development. Sustainable development is a much-discussed area (Leach & Prabhakaran, 2016).An egalitarian society is the hallmark of a developmental society.

Equality

Equality is the hallmark of a developed society. Treating anyone as superior or inferior is anti-human. Globally, poverty affects women more than men (Buckingham-Hatfield, 2002). To discriminate against people on any basis is to question their birth. It turns out to be a theory against human society. Instead, if everyone lived together in society, there would be no discrimination. Everyone must work together to make the country progress. If people want to do something, they have to work together.

There is no place in morality or law for any discrimination based on birth. Based on birth, language, and caste, there is no way in the law to appreciate any differences; showing differences based on birth is against the country's progress, and when there is no difference among the people, people will feel united. People can live in brotherhood when they feel united. Whenever brotherhood prevails among people, all people can live together. People living together can do things that benefit society.

Need for Equality

A sign of community acceptance of people is recognising them as a part of the community without discrimination. When people feel recognised by this society, they can feel they have achieved their



birthright. When a woman believes she is included, she can provide the service society needs. Whenever a woman feels that this society neglects her, she will move away from it. Through this, the distance between individuals and society is created or increased. Development is utilising all resources for survival and development by all people without discrimination (Mitlin, 1992).

The relationship between individuals and society is to be maintained. Everyone should be treated equally in society, without any discrimination.

If there is no trouble between people, brotherhood should develop among them. It is the duty of all to treat all people equally if brotherhood is to grow. In particular, the government's laws and programs should be geared towards inclusive development for all people. Based on social justice, providing benefits to the weaker people is only appropriate. It will make society progress.

Sustainable Development

Sustainable development is about meeting the needs of present generations and using resources to make progress. Future generations will thrive without compromising their development. (Brundtland, 1986). Development should include all people without any discrimination. Women's participation is crucial to developing the country; they also have the right to access all resources without restriction.

Role of Equality In Socio-Economic Condition

People need to work together to improve their social and economic situation or fulfil their basic needs. When everyone is equal, the social environment will be better. People can get the financial benefits they need when their social conditions improve. When people work together to create a better social environment and strengthen their economy, they can contribute not only to their families but also to society as a whole. An innovative approach to sustainable development also ensures grassroots participation (Barrier, 2017).

Economic progress is paramount if all are to meet their needs. When the economy is good, people can do things to protect their health and well-being. When people are not economically well off, they cannot meet their needs. When people cannot meet their needs, they become dependent on others. When people depend on others, they will deny that everyone is equal. When people take care of their own needs, they can see themselves as equals in society. For one's economic status to improve, one's social environment must improve. An excellent social environment creates an economic climate. Although many factors contribute to one's financial well-being, the environment in which society operates becomes the most important.

If people want a better social environment, they must understand people better. When people have a better understanding of others, there will be no confusion or hesitation in accepting others. However, they cannot work with people who do not understand them or have no sense of brotherhood. People who cannot understand others cannot work in this society.

Whenever there is an environment where people cannot work together, citizens cannot contribute to our country. When the people do not contribute to the country, the country's economy cannot progress. Therefore, when they develop the tendency to understand and accept the social environment, they will appreciate people from all walks of life. When they know people from all walks of life, they can work together with others in society.

Consequences of Inequality

Men and women should move the country forward together (Pandurangarao & Narendra Kumar, 2016). Self-respect is the beauty of a free man. When this society thinks it has recognized the person, accepts the activities, gives alternatives to immoral activities, and respects them as a part of it, people may feel respected. Recognition is a necessity in human life. When people lose self-esteem, they may lose the opportunity to move on to the next stage in life or progress.

Whether a man advances or regresses depends on the way society treats him. If society accepts it, it can realize that it is a part of society and work. When they refuse to accept, they cannot work for this society or nation and cannot be together. So, eliminating any differences and welcoming everyone is imperative not only for the times but also for human relations. It is necessary to accept everyone without any differences.

Gender-Based Discrimination

Everyone's contribution is crucial for sustainable development. Sustainable development is a much-discussed area. (Leach & Prabhakaran, 2016). It is impossible to move towards sustainable development when there is discrimination based on gender. Equal treatment of all, regardless of gender, contributes to sustainable development. Equal treatment, without gender discrimination, is conducive to all progress.

On the other hand, discrimination based on gender will create divisions among people and build an inferiority complex in them. All are equal, but society is not ready to accept it due to ignorance and prejudice. Women and the third gender are helpful for this nation's sustainable development. Society must accept all genders without any discrimination or anti-human activities. Showing any differences in people will be a hindrance to growth.

Social justice provides for those who are significantly affected or in need. Social justice is not about providing one-size-fits-all services to all, but about delivering services to people based on need. Social justice is essential to ensuring that everyone can bring about or advance it without discrimination. People will get a chance without discrimination once social justice is maintained. When social justice is not guaranteed, then people will suffer tremendously.

It is the critical responsibility of the government and non-governmental organisations to provide the necessary assistance to the people so they do not suffer. Realising people's needs and providing services to them is a quality of a good personality or a good manager. Government agencies and non-governmental organisations are beginning to see sustainable development as a new way of development (Lélé, 1991). When social justice is preserved or cherished, everyone in that society can be happy. Moreover, it can contribute to this society. When people feel that they are the best in their society, they can contribute beyond their means to that society. When people contribute beyond their means, it is the most crucial contribution to sustainable development. So, social justice has become an essential tool for growth.

Talking about sustainable development in different places and with different people can create both problems and opportunities for solving them (Elliott, 2012). Government and non-government organisations can create unity among the people without discrimination by selecting people from all walks of life and providing them with the necessary assistance. To establish this unity, the government and non-governmental charitable organisations must have an overarching philosophy of social justice. Whenever an organisation or government has a social justice philosophy, it can create an environment where everyone is equal by dissolving differences based on gender. Social justice is an essential tool for

the country's progress, and the environment can improve society by taking action to advance gender equality. It contributes to sustainable development by empowering communities.

Positive Discrimination

The law provides opportunities for the most disadvantaged people to improve themselves. In any country, the constitution is the fundamental law (Subasini et al., 2021). In particular, the Indian Constitution recognises positive discrimination in statute to give rights to oppressed people. Reservation is the Constitution of India's most crucial objective for advancing any severely disadvantaged or underrepresented community. Equality means valuing women equal to men and treating them with respect (Deobhanj, 2014).

The Constitution of India gives importance to women, children, and oppressed people. This emphasis is not on creating divisions among the people but on taking India on the path of progress. The Constitution of India says that all are equal before the law. However, positive discrimination is a right granted by the Indian Constitution to uplift the marginalised community. Any community suffering or being subjected to problems has a legal place to seek relief. Those seeking to approach or treat all people equally require some legal activity.

However, affirmative action is a way of protecting the rights of oppressed or marginalised people. Whenever this society recognises women and ensures their rights, they can contribute immensely to the country's progress. It is guaranteed in the Constitution of India. If women want to contribute to the country's development, their activities should be recognised or given the necessary facilities. Discrimination and denigration of women are some of the biggest problems that women face in society. It is not only the government's duty but also that of non-governmental charitable organisations to treat everyone equally.

Constitutional Provisions

The Constitution of India has a democratic doctrine (Chauhan, 2022). The Constitution of India ensures that all are equal before the law. The Constitution of India guarantees equality under Article 14, stating that everyone should be treated equally and be guaranteed equal protection. The right to equality is a fundamental human right. A basic right is that whenever people lose their rights, they can approach the courts of India to assert their rights, as guaranteed by the Constitution of India. No one can deny the rights ensured by the Constitution of India. The Constitution of India has guaranteed equal rights and protection, but the government must implement and protect them. When this right is waived or restricted, the state must protect it. The essence of Article 15 is that everyone should be treated equally without any discrimination on the grounds of religion, language, sex, caste, place of birth, or any other ground. This article ensures that no discrimination is based on birth. Therefore, the state must treat all equally without any discrimination. No government can either prohibit it or act against its rights. Article 15 of the Constitution of India makes it mandatory the equality for all government institutions to exist in India.

Article 16 of the Constitution of India is an express right to non-discrimination in government jobs. So, Article 16 of the Constitution of India ensures that no discrimination shall be made on the basis of birth. No one shall attempt to circumvent or restrict this right, and the state reserves the right to punish those who try to do so.

When people lose their rights, they can resort to the law. Discrimination based on gender or following it is against the Constitution of India and becomes not only against law and order but also against humanity. It is a well-known fact that discrimination based on gender creates divisions among people and does not help development in any way.

Awareness of Gender Equality

To achieve gender equality, all government policies and activities should be gender-equality-oriented. All political initiatives seeking to achieve gender equality must raise sufficient awareness among the public. When people realise their rights or gain knowledge, they can move towards them. When men and women have power and influence, it will be treated as equality (Malik, 2021).

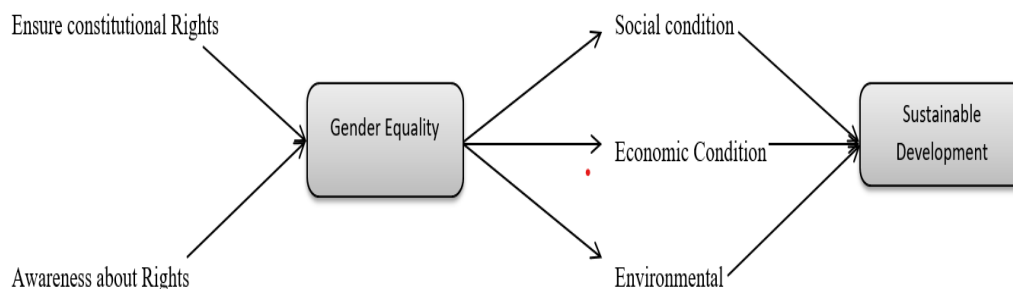
All government activities should promote gender equality. Activities that promote or encourage gender inequality need to be prohibited by law. It is essential to create awareness among people. Awareness about gender equality should be raised in public places and educational institutions. In a society without gender equality, advertisements must explain the problems that will arise. Whenever people are aware of gender equality, they can work to achieve it. This effort to achieve gender equality must start with every family. Awareness of gender equality, starting in the family, significantly impacts society.

The government must protect the laws and rights given to women. Considering this, gender equality should be guaranteed. They can understand the importance of gender equality when it creates an understanding for them to avoid causing hate propaganda to others while establishing gender equality. When people understand the importance of gender equality, they can accept it. They will recognise women, in particular, as part of this society.

Women can protect their rights when considered an essential part of society. When women feel accepted in this society, they can do their best to work for the people and this country. When women direct their activities toward this society, this society can move toward sustainable development. Sustainable development should be a collective effort. When all people work together, they can make a huge difference. It is only possible to think about a country's progress or sustainable development with women.

Gender Equality and Sustainable Development

Women will get equality when they are aware of their constitutional rights. As women's equality develops, their social, economic, and environmental status will also improve. Equal opportunity must be ensured in the social sustainability system (Harris.,2003). Society can reach sustainable development.



Conclusion

For sustainable development, everyone's contribution is significant. Inclusive development, free of discrimination, paves the way for sustainable development. All the resources are essential for sustainable development. It is necessary to utilise human resources fully. Without any discrimination, the Sustainable Development Goal can be attained. Everyone's contribution is significant for sustainable development. Especially if we want to include everyone, regardless of gender, it becomes essential to raise awareness among people and teach it. The country will progress significantly whenever education about human resource utilisation reaches the people. It will achieve sustainable development.

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