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# Empowerment of Women a Social Aspect

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Abstract: The term empowerment is frequently heard today all over the world. It is clearly connected to the word power. The term power also has different meaning to control in the context of human society, it means control over resources. The resources could be human resources such as labour, interests, ability, intellectual, resources including information, ideas, knowledge, material resources such as money, financial resources and natural resources etc. Power is relational dynamism between individual or between groups of people and is often unequally distributed, many a time the domination is accompanied by exploitation. Empowerment is the process of decision making or self decision making processes. It is a process which is directly related to the power, and the power of control of resources and concepts. In the first point of this paper definition of empowerment by the different experts are explained. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> point need of the women empowerment, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> point women empowerment through social fields and it's indicators along with measures to empower the women are covered.

Keywords: Empowerment, Social Aspect

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Introduction:- During the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries the social reformation movements in India played a very significant role in changing the status of women through legislative reform along with a change in social attitudes. Rajaram Mohan Roy, Ishwarchandra vidyasagar, Mahatma fule, Maharshi Karve had fought very hard for changing some of the traditional values and practices that had been suppressing women. They had addressed the wide range of issues such as women educations, child marriage, widow remarriage and abolition of sati tradition.

Mahatma Gandhi encourages women to participate in the freedom movement. Women came out of their homes and joined the freedom struggle .During this period several organizations were established for the advancement of women's education and empowerment Today's world leaders ,experts and scholars are underlying the importance of empowering women and the need for critical endeavour. Strong women movements emerged which fought for greater space for women in the society.

1. Definition of empowerment —According to the Webster merrian new world college dictionary empowerment means (a) To gain power or authority, (b) To gain ability, (c) To enable

According to Ackerley, Empowerment can be considered as a change in the context of women or man's life that enable her/him increases capacity to lead a fulfilling human life, characterised by external quality such as health, mobility, education, awareness, and status in the family, participation in the decision making and level of material security, as well as internal qualities such as self awareness and self confidence.

Shrilata battiwala a well known women activities has defined woman's Empowerment as "the process by which women gain greater control over material and intellectual resources, and change the ideology of patriarchy and gender based discrimination against women in all institution and structures of the society".

Thus to empower the women in real sense is to enable them to flourish their talents, faculties and positive self image, self esteem, rights and duties, abilities, capacities and to realize their full potential and real adenitis. It also means to have the freedom of thought, expression, and action and strengthen them to handle in every sphere of life. It is essential for bringing about prosperity, peace and progress in the society.

www.ljrar.org (E-ISSN 2348-1269, P- ISSN 2349-5138) to sexual and health problems together with endemic ,infections and communicable diseases like malaria ,TB,

- c) Drinking water and sanitation:- Special attention should be given to the need of the women in the provision of safe drinking water as it consumes maximum time and energy of women sewage disposal, toilet facilities and sanitation within accessible reach of house, especially in rural areas.
- d) Housing and shelter: Special attention should be given for safe housing and accommodation for women including single women heads of house, working women, students, apprentices and trainees.
- e) Environment: Most of the rural women still depend on the locally available non commercial sources of energy as animal dung, crop west and fuel wood. Women should be involved in spreading solar energy, biogas and smoke free chulhas in order to bring changes in their life style.
- f) Violence against women: The Violence against women including sexual social, psychological violence like beating of female children in household, dowry related violence marital rape and other traditional practise harmful to women. All these form of violence's against women should be eliminated effectively.
- g) Mass media:- Media can be used in portraying the images of women consistent with their dignity, not to degrading and negative images. Meath of the women should be removed with the help of media.

# 5. Measures for women empowerment: - Measures to be implemented at the social level

- Equality of women created by stereotype should be totally removed.
- Marriages agreement should be based on mutual understanding, respect and freedom of choice. ii. iii.
- Future parent's young people and children should be educated to bring changes in attitudes towards women at all levels of society. iv.
- The value of home work should be considered equivalent of financial contribution. v.
- Education is the basic of full promotion and empowerment of the status of women; it is the basic tool that should be given to the women in order to fulfil their role as member of society.
- Government should strengthen the participation of women at all the level of national education policies. vi. vii.
- Public expenditure towards women health care, child care training, and education services for women viii.
- Mechanism should be developed to encourage the women to participate in the electoral process political activities and other leadership area.

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