

Gender Discrimination in Agriculture Land Who is responsible? Education, Culture, Law or Attitude A provoking thought

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Abstract: Present paper aims to explore gender discrimination in agriculture land between male and female child in India. 200 educated, middle and high socio economic status, urban middle age Indian parents were randomly selected from different parts of India for the present study. Sample was assessed by a simple questionnaire and personal interaction to the subject. The finding of the present study indicates that the gender biases for male were present in patriarch society of India. Role of Culture, Law and Attitude are significantly co- related to gender discrimination. Role of education is not seen much in influencing gender discrimination in middle age parents. Few psychosocial factors like Upbringing, Family environment, Cognition, Fear, Insecurity were also examined to see the correlation with gender biases. Culture and attitude are the prominent factors by factor analysis among others which are significantly correlated to gender discrimination. In my study Attitude is a thought provoking factor if it is changed the biasness can be change.

Key Words: Gender discrimination, Attitude, Culture, Education, Law.

1. INTRODUCTION;

A child's destiny can be determined by as simple a circumstance as whether his or her father contributed an X or Y chromosome. Pink or blue clothes. Guns or dolls. The provider and the homemaker. Female infanticide. The patriarchal system. The purdah system. The premium on virginity. Dashing bachelors and aging spinsters. What are they all about? They all revolve around the issue of gender biasness. The fact is that people are treated differently depending on their gender. Gender bias is so deeply ingrained in the system that the discrimination begins from the time a couple plans a baby. Today, science has advanced so far that it is possible to separate male and female sperm so as to predetermine the sex of a child. In some parts of the world the birth of a baby boy warrants a celebration whereas a baby girl may not be extended the same warm welcome. Despite the fact that India has crossed the billion mark in population, there will still be families with five daughters and the mother trying desperately to give birth to a son. Gender discrimination are seen at home as well as in the society in all the areas of human life like education, profession and land distribution which is one of the most prominent area of gender discrimination. Globally more than 400 million women engage in farm work, although they lack equal rights in land ownership in more than 90 countries. Women worldwide engage in non-mechanised farm occupations that include sowing, winnowing, harvesting, and other forms of labour-intensive processes such as rice transplantation. According to Oxfam (2013), around 80 per cent of farm work is undertaken by women in India. However, they own only 13 per cent of the land. Recent statistics released by the University of Maryland and the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER, 2018) state that women constitute over 42 percent of the agricultural labour force in India, but own less than two per cent of farmland. It has become an important area of contemporary research. The need for such research, particularly in a developing country like India, arises from a history of discrimination against women that goes back centuries.

2. METHODOLOGY:

- AIM: To study the Gender discrimination in agriculture land division in India.
- HYPOTHESIS: A) There is a significant correlation between attitude (egalitarian and traditional) toward women and gender biases
- B) Gender discrimination are significantly correlated with, Culture, Law and Attitude in relation to agriculture land division in India
- VARIABLES: Independent - Education, Culture, Law and Attitude
 - Dependant- Gender discrimination
- DESIGNE: A single group co-relational design is planed to see the relationship between the variables of the study.
- SAMPLE: 300 educated, middle and high socio economic status, urban middle age adults, Indian parents from different parts of India.

- TOOLS OF THE STUDY: The Attitudes Toward Women Scale (AWS) by Dr. Janet T. Spence and Dr. Robert Helmreich, brief gender biases questionnaire in relation to agriculture land division, brief psychosocial factor questionnaire and personal interaction related to property rights
- SCORING: Pearson product moment correlation method and factor analysis is used to find the result.

3. RESULTS:

- Gender discrimination found in the attitude scale towards women in India.
- Egalitarian attitude towards women and gender discrimination are found negatively correlated.
- Traditional attitude toward women and gender discrimination are found positively correlated.
- Correlation between Education and gender discrimination is negligible.
- Culture is positively correlated with gender discrimination
- Law is negatively correlated with gender discrimination
- Many psychosocial factors as Upbringing, Family environment, Cognition, Fear, Insecurity, are significantly correlated with gender discrimination.
- Culture and attitude are the prominent factors by factor analysis among others which are significantly correlated to gender discrimination.
- Attitude is the most prominent and thought provoking factor in gender discrimination

Table: 1. CORRELATION CO-EFFICIENT OF BIASES IN RELATION TO ATTITUDE TOWARDS WOMEN

VARIABLE	CORRELATION CO-EFFICIENT	INTERPRITATION
Egalitarian attitude and gender biases	-.60	Moderated ,negative
Traditional attitude and gender biases	+.77	High, positive

Table: 2. CO-RELATION CO-EFFICIENT OF BIASES IN RELATION TO PSYCHO-SOCIAL FACTORS

FACTORS	CORRELATION CO-EFFICIENT	INTERPRETATION
Upbringing,	0.54	Moderate positive correlation
Family Environment	0.45	Low positive correlation
Education	0.22	Negligible correlation
Cognition,	0.56	Moderate positive correlation
Fear	0.43	Low positive correlation
Insecurity	0.46	Low positive correlation
Culture	0.62	High positive correlation
Legal rights	-0.50	Low negative correlation
Socio Economics Status	0.12	Negligible correlation
Family back ground	0.12	Negligible correlation

Table 3. PROMINENT PSYCHOSOCIAL FACTORS BY FACTOR ANALYSIS

FACTORS	LOADING
Culture	0.78
Attitude	0.87

4. DISCUSSION:

- Results of the present study indicates that gender discrimination is present with 0 .77 co-efficient of high positive correlation in people who have traditional **attitude** towards women in India. According to Mandy Boehnke (2011) women do not get their rights on land because of the traditional attitude of society towards women.

- Indian **culture** is male dominating. The qualities traditionally most admired in an Indian culture for woman are modesty of manner, shyness and self-effacement. Culture is positively correlated with 0.62 high coefficient of correlation which indicates that mostly people want to follow their culture and believe in gender discrimination. In Indian culture if a daughter ask their equal share in the property or land after/before the father's death her brother and other relatives feel this against culture or wrong and consequently she loose her respect for her in her parents' house.. According to Zoe Kinias, Heejung S. Kim (2011) Culture and gender inequality is responsible for many Psychological problems. Case of a daughter who belonged to a very rich and status family but father didn't give any share of his property to her in his will. After marriage she got some financial problems which turned as a matter of stress and depression for her. Brother also not supported her financially; she couldn't fight for property due to shame and committed suicide. Gender Discrimination in Land Ownership examines the dominant role played by cultural and customary practices in depriving women of legal rights which they may have had (Prem Chaudhry (2017)
- **Law or legal rights** are negatively correlated with gender discrimination. The coefficient of correlation is -0.50 which means if women has legal rights on agriculture land parents discrimination is less. In other words if legal rights increase discrimination decrease. Personal laws like the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 apply to devolution of rights in agricultural land only in a few states such as Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan. In Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh etc daughters and sisters do not inherit agricultural land. This silence can be interpreted to mean either recognition or thwarting of women's inheritance rights (Akansha dubey 2019)
- Co-efficient correlation for **Education** is 0.22 which is negligible. Many middle age educated parents also have traditional attitude for women and do not want to give equal rights to their daughters hence education is not playing any significant role in discrimination.
- There are so many psychosocial factors like Upbringing, Family environment, Cognition, Fear, Insecurity are significantly correlated with gender biases . Many boys are brought up by saying that you will be the head of the house after your father so you have to take care of all the property. Your sister will be a part of other family. Women has fear of losing their family bound specially with father and brother if they ask their right in property/land. Family head has insecurity to give equal share of his property/land to daughter because their land will be shared by other house. Culture, education, upbringing and experience have all written their influences into our minds and they all affect how we think, Godlman (1997).

5. CONCLUSION:

- The conclusion generated from the study is that traditional attitude rather than egalitarian attitude for women role is very much present in middle age parents which is related to gender discrimination in the society.
- Culture and law among many other psychosocial factors did impact more on the onset and development of gender biases in property/land division.
- Educated people are also having gender biases because culture plays more dominating role than education.
- Consequently, it is important for parents to change their attitude which will bring change in their culture for the betterment of the society.
- Gender equality in property/agricultural land is positively related to the progress of the nation Rocheleau and Edmunds (1997).
- According to the Food and Agricultural Organization ([FAO, 2011](#)), empowering women through land and ownership rights has the potential of raising total agricultural output in developing countries by 2.5 to 4 per cent can reduce hunger across the world by 12-17 per cent.

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