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A study of evaluations of women and female child in rural areas of Madhubani district

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Abstract

In this paper there are a growing number of interventions and evaluations of programmes aimed at changing gender norms and violence against women and girls, there remains a dearth of documentation outlining the challenges faced in conducting these interventions and evaluations, particularly in traditional and low literacy settings. The paper also outlines measures that may help overcome observed challenges and areas that require modifications and further investigation. The programme experienced several challenges. These included contextual issues, such as the lack of leadership skills of those delivering the intervention and the gap between expected responsibilities and activities of government platforms and reality. Implementation challenges were encountered in reaching men and boys, younger women and the community at large and ensuring their regular attendance and in maintaining the fidelity of the intervention activities. Our insights call for an evidence-supported dialogue on these challenges and how best to anticipate and address them.

Keywords: Rural girls, health status, malnourished, stunted, hygiene, complete treatment, discrimination

Introduction

India is amongst the fastest growing countries in the world today, with a GDP growth rate of more than 8% during the XI plan period. This high level of growth can, however, be sustained only when all sections of the society, especially women become equal partners in the development process. It is well recognised that societies which discriminate by gender tend to experience less rapid economic growth and poverty reduction than societies which treat men and women more equally. Gender equality and empowerment would, thus, need to be a core development goal if the growth planned in the XII plan has to be achieved.

Some deliberate policy steps are critical to achieve gender equality. Gender discrimination cannot be automatically corrected in the course of development. The institutions of economics, politics and the law must be considered in terms of how they related to each other and how they play out across the different area as where gender discrimination occurs; and gender assessments have to be undertaken continuously to reveal gaps and monitor progress towards gender equality. Empowerment of women is essentially the vehicle of change to achieve gender equality that is meaningful and sustainable.

Empowerment of women is a socio-political ideal, encompassing notions of dignity and equality, envisioned in relation to the wider framework of women's rights. It is a process of gaining control over self. Over resources and over existing societal perceptions and attitudes and would be achieved only when an improvement in the 'condition' of women is accompanied by an advancement in their 'position' by enlarging the economic, social and political freedoms and choices available to them.

Women and female children have been a constant source of controversy since long, so far their development is concerned. It is a general notion or it is a fact that rural areas have been neglected knowingly or unknowing by the politicians, social reformers and economists as well. The light of development gets extinguished while passing through the urban path. It is not that urban areas are very developed on all fronts, but here I mean to say that in comparison with the light of development in urban and rural areas, the intensity of light is more dazzling in urban area than in the rural areas. Now, even in rural areas the rays of development has not reached to the hand of women and female child. Even today a great deal of difference exists between the condition of men and women, may it be rural or urban areas.

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The overall condition of women and female child is worse in rural areas: They are totally dependent on male for almost all their day to day needs. It is not that the women and female child do not labour or do not earn, but the social and financial condition is such as is not conducive for the real development of women and female child.

In the present study, the women and female children of rural areas of Madhubani District selected as sample belong to the most disadvantaged group of the society which live not only in extreme poverty but also feel extremely discriminated and despised. Thus the study of socially disadvantaged or deprived people had been the concern of benevolent king's philanthropies, politicians and social reformers. In the recent years it had drawn the attention of social scientists to a great extent. Many sociologists and Psychologists are working in the areas of poverty and prejudice, poverty and personality. Thus it is very clear that a cross section of people have come to realise the gravity and importance of the problem research is also a part of the endeavour taken by the social scientist to discover the evil effects of social disadvantages with the rise of humanitarian approach for the study of individual, the psychological study of deprived people has assumed greater importance. From even the deprived people here we mean not both male and female. Here we are concerned only with the women and female children who are the worst sufferers from all angles.

The personality development is worst among them, when we go deeper into the real meaning of personality, we find that personality is a product of the interaction of the organic characteristics with the object opportunity for experience. Object opportunity means the opportunities provided by the social environment where in the child is reared, developed, operated and interacted. Social class stratifications, economic gradations, cultural variations, all contribute to the development of personality. Due to the hierarchical structure of society and unequal distribution of wealth and material resources, the high-ups have always availed the better and finer opportunities of life and it is why most of the eminent persons belong to that stock.

The women and female child taken together measure approximately half of the total population. Neglect, abhorrence and avoidance of such a large number of society may surely prove fatal for any society. If timely care regarding their development is not taken, before it is too late, the situation may worsen further and a tsunami like terror may explode which may cause the extinction of the society itself. Hence the subject is very important for the welfare of the society. The present study is more psychological in orientation than sociological and as such the major thrust of the study is to high light the adverse effect that socio-economic disadvantaged produce on the personality structure of the children who belong to the most neglected section of society, popularly called the down trodden

For convenience review of past studies is very important. This will help us as a torch light. There have been so many works in our country and abroad regarding the condition of women and female child in rural areas. The condition of women and female child is almost same everywhere except a difference of some environmental and social attitude. In the western countries, where social attitude towards women is somewhat better and the route of literacy is high. The condition of women and female child is somewhat better than the condition of women and female child in our rural areas of Madhubani. But when we take our overall condition of women and female child of rural areas anywhere we get

more or less the same conditions.

In the study the subject was related too much motive, and the scientist suggested that need for achievement a good result is related to society's economic and business growth. If the society's economic and business growth is well developed then the condition of women and female child will be comparatively better. It has been explained that apart from economic growth index there are other phenomena also which reflect indirectly the need for achievement of people of the groups. In the present study we shall try to find out if social disadvantage is detrimental to higher need achievement and also find out if the environmental or socio economic conditions are accountable or influensive for the present situation.

Conclusion

On the basis of all the works done and the findings of various tests will be exactly on the basis of data collected and reply of the interviewee and the suggestions of the scholar with the various eminent persons coming from different field of the society. They will have strength of acceptability in the field. They made in such a way that the situation in the field and the result obtained are both supplementary to each other. They must not be contradictory or hypothetical. Implementation challenges were encountered in reaching men and boys, younger women and the community at large and ensuring their regular attendance and in maintaining the fidelity of the intervention activities.

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