

# A Survey on Role of Education in Women Empowerment

K. Manisha<sup>1</sup>, K. V. N. R. Pratap<sup>2</sup>, T. Madhavi Padma<sup>3</sup>, V. Shiva Kalyan<sup>4</sup>, P. Srikanth<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Student (BDS), Department of Public Health Dentistry, Mamata Dental College, Khammam, India

<sup>2</sup>Professor & HoD, Department of Public Health Dentistry, Mamata Dental College, Khammam, India

<sup>3</sup>Professor, Department of Public Health Dentistry, Mamata Dental College, Khammam, India

<sup>4</sup>Reader, Department of Public Health Dentistry, Mamata Dental College, Khammam, India

<sup>5</sup>Lecturer, Department of Public Health Dentistry, Mamata Dental College, Khammam, India

**Abstract:** This article discusses the gender equality and women's empowerment. It explores the concept of women empowerment and highlights ways in which indicators associated with this goal on education, employment can contribute to it. Women empowerment has become the buzzword today women working alongside men in all spheres. They are increasingly gaining control over their lives and taking decisions with regard to their education, career, profession and life style. Although, they are running alongside with men in all sectors, still their continued inequality and vulnerability of women. In order to fight against the socially constructed gender bias women have to swim against system that requires more strength. Such strength comes from the process of empowerment and empowerment will come from the education. Hence, it is of at most importance to raise the level of education among women. This paper mainly aims to determine the role of education in women empowerment. In this survey, a questionnaire basis study was conducted among dental students in Telangana. It is designed to assess the level of literacy, women empowerment based on age and year of study. The dental students in Mamata Dental College were included.

**Keywords:** Education, Women empowerment.

## 1. Introduction

The position and status of women has been very low in the 18th and 19th century in India and elsewhere, when they were treated like objects that can be bought and sold for a long time, women in India remained within the four walls of their house hold. A long struggle going back to over a century has brought women the property rights, voting rights, inequality in civil right before the law in the matters of marriage and employment.

Women empowerment is the process in which women elaborate and recreate what is that they can do and accomplish in a circumstance that they previously were denied. Feeling entitled to make your own decisions to create a sense of empowerment in which education plays an important role.

Empowerment includes the action of raising the status of women through education, raising awareness, literacy and training. Women empowerment is all about equipping and allowing women to make life determining decisions through the different problems in society. Women empowerment has

become a significant topic of discussion in development and economics. Education increases people's self-confidence and also enable them to find better jobs and they can work shoulder to shoulder with men. They engage in public debate and make demands on government for health care, social security and other entitlements. A major concern in many countries is not only the limited number of girls going to schools but also the limited educational pathways for those that step into the classroom. So, women can also compete with men in every field. Women empowerment can be helpful in development of the country. So, the present study was conducted on dental women students to know whether they are going to continue their further studies and build their own career. The aim of the study is to determine the role of education in women empowerment. The objective of this study is to assess the level of literacy on women empowerment based on age and year of study.

## 2. Methodology

Permission was taken from the department of public health dentistry, questionnaire was explained and informed consent was taken prior to the study from the study objects.

### A. Study design

A cross-sectional questionnaire based study was conducted among students of Mamata Dental College in Telangana.

### B. Pilot study

Questionnaire framed based on related article are distributed among 30 students to know the reliability of the questionnaire.

### C. Inclusion criteria

All the 3rd, 4th year students and interns who were present during the day of the survey were included in the study. The duration of the study was from the dates 23-3-2019 to 3-7-2019.

### D. Exclusion criteria

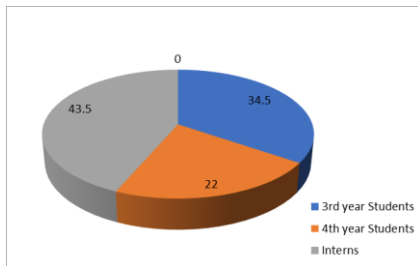
Students who were absent during the day of the survey and not willing to participate were excluded.

E. Study procedure

The study was conducted among 200 dental student’s questionnaire was distributed to 3rd, 4th BDS students and interns during their working hours from 9 A.M to 4 P.M. A questionnaire consists of personal data and 16 questions based on the dental students’ knowledge toward role of the education in women empowerment.

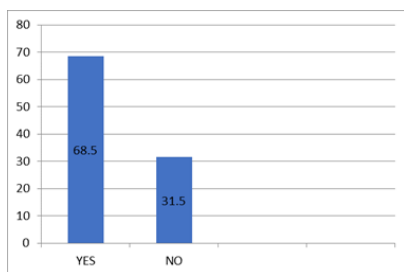
3. Data collection and Analysis

In order to extract meaningful information from the data collected, the data analysis and interpretation is carried out. The data is first edited, coded and then tabulated for the purpose of analysis. The analysis is basically aimed to determine the role of education in women empowerment. The following pie diagram depicts the demographic data of study participants.



From the above pie chart, out of 200 Students the participants in 3rd year were 34.5%,4th years were 22% and interns were 43.5% .

Bar diagram 1: Percentage of Students aware of Women Empowerment



From the above bar diagram, 68.5% students were aware of women empowerment and 31.5% were unaware of women empowerment.

Table 1

Percentage of students who agree that women can compete with men in every field

	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	98	49
Strongly Agree	84	42
Disagree	14	7
Strongly Disagree	4	2
Total	200	100

According to Table 1, 49 % students agree that women can compete with men in every field and only 2% students strongly disagree with that statement.

Table 2

Percentage of students who feel that scientific beliefs are one of the reason for women being uneducated

	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	62	31
Strongly Agree	46	23
Disagree	81	40.5
Strongly Disagree	11	5.5
Total	200	100

According to table 2, 40% students disagree with the statement that scientific beliefs are one of the reasons for women being uneducated and also 5.5% percent of students strongly disagree with that.

4. Discussion

From the above findings, women empowerment is relatively influenced by particular educational qualification. With more education, women have greater access to employment opportunities and increase ability to secure their own economic resources. During the data collection only 68.5% students were aware of women empowerment and 31.5% were unaware although being educated. Education is the primary source for employment, so, it has impact on empowerment. This study suggests that, general awareness program and importance of education, modern development of science and technology should be given to people in rural areas as, the literacy rate is very less in rural areas when compared to urban areas. Women should be self employed by utilizing their skills, arts and knowledge, irrespective whether they are educated or not. Women reservation policy in education should be strictly maintained so that, they can continue their studies to higher level.

5. Conclusion

This study concludes that most of the educated women can be able to compete with men in every field and women are strong enough to lead their life on their own. But, generally people think that women are capable of doing less work and less efficient than men. The lack of education becomes the obstacle in getting employment. Hence, if women empowerment is to be effected, it can be carried out only through the medium of education. So, it is important to raise the level of education among women.

References

- [1] Hartstok, N., 1983. Money sex and power: Towards a Feminist Historical Materialism Longman, New York
- [2] DaCosta, D, 2008, “Spoiled Sons” and Sincere daughters, Security and empowerment in rural west Bengal, India. Signs: Journal of women in culture and society 33 (2),
- [3] Kabeer, N, Resources, agency achievements: reflections on the measurement of women’s empowerment and change, vol. 30, 1999.
- [4] Murphy-Graham, E, 2008. Opening the black box: Women’s empowerment and innovative secondary education in Honduras. Gender and education, 20(1).