

North Asian International Research Journal Consortium

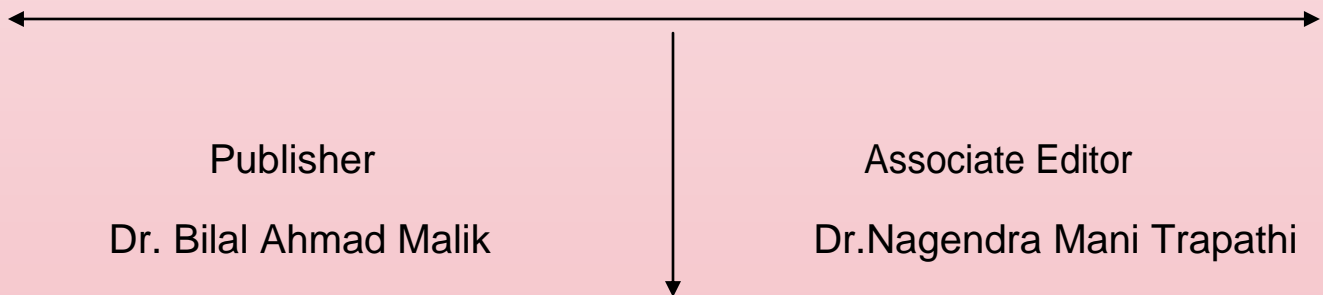
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‘A STUDY OF ROLE OF EDUCATION IN CREATING LEGAL RIGHT AWARENESS AMONG FEMALE GRADUATE & POST GRADUATE STUDENTS’

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ABSTRACT:

Dr. A. P. J. Kalam opined that empowerment of women is essential as their value systems lead to the development of a good family, good society and ultimately a good nation. Therefore various women empowerment programmes have been launched for the purpose of nation building activity. In India also various constitutional and legal provisions have been guaranteed for enhancing the status of women. Efforts have been provided through various suitable economic policies and social welfare programmes for women. Despite of these efforts, Indian society fails to achieve the goals of equality, social justice and protection of women. Gender discrimination, high infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rate, crime against women, child labours etc. have become major challenges facing by the Indian society at present.

This study is undertaken mainly to find out what proportion of the female graduate and post graduate students posse's legal awareness. The crimes against women in India are growing at a rampant speed. Women, irrespective of their class, caste and educational status, are not safe. The lack of any serious effort to rectify the weaknesses in dealing with the crimes against women further compound the situation and result is that the conviction rate remains low have been selected for the purposes of the study. The tools used for the study is consist of the five major areas .i.e. discrimination, divorce, marriage, property right and dowry. The findings among the women shows the higher awareness of legal rights with respect to the dimension like divorce, discrimination, legal marriage, nearly half of them are aware of the legal aspects related to divorce and discrimination. The knowledge about legal rights related to dowry and property right they possess an average awareness.

KEY WORDS: *Legal right, Awareness, Graduate, Post Graduate Students.*

INTRODUCTION:

“Without education we cannot recognize the universality of human aims and aspirations”----- Kofi Annan, 2002. Human rights education is basically different from general education as the focus of human rights education is on Nouns and Values and also on still to attain them. Further ,human rights education is education with definite social purpose to bring about social changes and so it is prospective rather than retrospective, it seeks to effect transformation in the form or structure of thought and in the actions of the learners. Good human rights education programs should ultimately makes human rights norms, values become the underpinnings of social change, altering positively all the conditions impending change.

In the 21st century India is fast emerging as a global power but for half of its population, the women across the country, struggle to live life with dignity continues. Women are facing problems in every sphere of life whether employment, access to health care or property rights. The attention required is still not being paid to the issues that concern this section of population. Women empowerment in India is still a distant dream. There still exists a wide gap between the goals enunciated in the constitution, legislation, policies, plans, programs and related mechanisms on the one hand and the situational reality of the status of women in India, on the other hand. India is fast developing but women's in India continue to be discriminated. The declining sex ratio in India amply portrays the discrimination shown towards women at the stage of birth. Women may be have stardom in any stream but are getting harassment every day by their surroundings. They are victims of crime directed specifically at them, rape, kidnapping and abduction, dowry-related crimes, molestation, sexual harassment, eve-teasing, etc. Around 40 per cent of married women in India are victims of domestic violence. The increasing violence against women shown in television and films and their vulgar portrayal as objects of sex is also an important contributing factor in the escalating violence against women in India. The crimes against women in India are growing at a rampant speed. Women, irrespective of their class, caste and educational status, are not safe. The lack of any serious effort to rectify the weaknesses in dealing with the crimes against women further compound the situation and result is that the conviction rate remains low. One key factor for the gap in implementation of laws and policies to address discrimination economic is advantages, and violence against women at the community level is the largely patriarchal structure that governs the community and households in much of India. As such, women and girls have restricted mobility, access to education, access to health facilities, and lower decision-making power, and experience higher rates of violence. Political participation is also hindered at the Panchayat (local governing bodies) level and at the state and national levels, despite existing reservations for women.

REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

Many studies reveals that the contribution of Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar to the development of education of women in Bengal. The study brought out how Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar spreader the awakening of Indian Womanhood in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, despite apathy from the government and severe opposition from the social orthodoxy. Mahesh R et.al (1991) reveals that the levels of political participation is very low among rural women irrespective of material status, religion women is higher in nuclear families than in joint families. Around 89% respondents have a lower level of obligatory and spectacular political participation and all of them have a very low level of voting campaign participation. Padmavati, A.S (1992) in her meaningful analysis of the population policies of the India vise women's reproductive right, find that there is need for adequate health education for both the sexes about the control over sexuality.

OBJECTIVES

- To identify the level of awareness of women's legal right.
- To study level of the awareness of women in five areas of legal rights.
- To study the relation between their religions, caste, family and marital status w.r.t. women's legal right.
- To study the relation between their educational qualification and level of awareness in women's legal right

HYPOTHESIS

Educational Qualification of women does not have any influence on the degree of awareness of women with respect to legal rights.

METHODOLOGY

Normative survey research was applied for this study .It concern itself with the present phenomena in terms of conditions of practices, beliefs, trends.

Sample

Simple random sampling techniques were used to select 150 Female Students.

Tool

Check list – a form of questionnaire was thought to be most convenient for data gathering too to check the degree of awareness among the women teachers. Check list consist of 50 items belongs to the five areas chosen for studying the degree of awareness of women teachers. They are discrimination, divorce; dowry, Legal marriage and protection of women under constructed for each area 10 question were developed with the help of expert teachers in political science & social science studies.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

df =2 significant p level 0.01

The table values reveals that the legal awareness is not distributed equally in the sample. It is interesting to know that nobody in the sample is identified with low legal awareness with respect to women's right. There for the null hypothesis is rejected. Being a backward district Gulbarga has the lowest literary level. The total literacy level of the district is 38.54 percent which is for less than the state literary rate. Out of 38.54% literacy rates the 24.49% females. Major finding of the study is the age group specially 20-35 has a higher level of legal right awareness. Religious influence will be there on some extent on the area of divorce marriage and dowry. Caste does not have any bearing on the degree of awareness of woman with respect to legal rights investigator consider but on some degree of influence been found. Marital status of women does not have any influence on the degree of awareness of the women Highly qualified female have the higher level of knowledge ,As they have the study of human rights in their degree level as well as their Post Graduation level were having the awareness towards their rights. Presently Gulbarga city also shows the impact of nuclear family system which can be some impact on the legal awareness of their rights.

CONCLUSION:-

The Female student's shows higher awareness of the legal rights with respect to the dimension like divorce, discrimination, legal marriage nearly half of them are aware of the legal aspects related to divorce and discrimination. The knowledge about legal rights related to dowry and property right they possess an average awareness. Gulbarga women's population ratio is higher as compare to men in education field.

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