

Patriarchal Values – A Boon or Bane for Men?

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Abstract—*The purpose of this research paper is to develop an understanding of the rising anti-men sentiment, spreading of myths like the gender pay gap in urban India, the attitude of people towards patriarchy and the peoples opinion on masculinity of men being taught or biological. This survey conducted shows the side of rising anti-men sentiment with more and more people thinking masculinity is something that taught rather than being biological in nature. On the contrary some of the results were quite shocking where people were accepting that third wave feminism is indeed obnoxious and failed to promote equality of genders. According to the surveys attained we find over half the respondents agree that feminism is obnoxious yet the people don't support the patriarchal values that made and developed the current society which promotes equality of sexes and also not only strives and lives for freedom and freedom of expression but also focuses and ensured law and order is maintained. Also one more contradicting feature noticed in the survey was even though majority of the people did not support or believe in patriarchal values. There was also and fifty / fifty divide among them that patriarchy does not allow women to advance in workplace and also almost a equal divide of people believing of the existence of the gender pay gap. This research paper tackled and questioned the above instances and gave an insight on the feminist movement, wage gap, the actual tyrannical patriarchal societies and the concept of masculinity and how that term is thrown around and become something which it is not.*

Keywords: *Masculinity, Patriarchy, Feminist, Feminism, Football, Biological.*

Introduction

Patriarchy as coined by various websites often refers to a social organization in which the male of the family is marked supreme and the lawful reliance of spouses and youngsters, and the descent and inheritance in the male line.

From the above definition it seems patriarchy is more of an ideology than a societal structure rather it is both in uneven ratios which together framed the current and existing tyrannical society and termed by Cathy Newman.

The society is based on patriarchal values where men are now being undervalued in their own structure that is patriarchy. Being a strong father figure often correlates to strong gender roles of working and earning in the family. Psychologically speaking this is highly valuable for the members of the family that is the child and the mother. On the contrary these notions are now being challenged with eroding of mental health and

stigmatising of gender roles with crucifixion of the societal standards set up.

The research paper will also focus on the historical narrative, and the development of patriarchy, patriarchy in ancient times, the science behind such roles and the narrative being pushed towards it.

The research paper also focuses on the tackling of such notions objectively with both in contrast to current social and political climate such patriarchal values.

Review Of Literature

Gillette Toxic Masculinity Ad

The Guardian reported on 15th January 2019 about a Gillette advertisement that promoted and supported the notion of toxic masculinity. The advertisement showed two kids fighting and the people saying “Boys will be boys”, and many more instances where men were shown in light of aggressor and cat calling woman. This anti-men ad by a company that sells razers to men was met with a lot of backlash. With 90% of their market base of men this wasn't welcomed at all. This advertisement is speculated to have costed 8 billion dollars. Gillette according to P&G (the parent company of Gillette) reported that they lost 8 billion dollars after the advertisement went live.

The anti-men advertisement is one the few examples of society churning masculinity into something which it is not. According to psychology and scientific researches showed men to be generally more assertive and aggressive in nature. These two terms may sound horrific to use but if you think about it these are some of many traits that men biologically possess and are necessary in certain fields. For example a firefighter using his aggressiveness to rush through a burning building. Some of comments shown in the article showed how such advertisements are emasculating men which I agree with. The context in this is depriving men of their masculinity which is biologically proven is something to be ashamed of.

([Topping, 2019.](#))

The Elite Feminist Movement

A Times of India Blog Post by Jawahar Suriseti explains how the elite feminist movement in India is defeating the actual purpose of feminism that is required in the middle and lower class strata. Jawahar gives an example of the gender pay gap that is screamed in the movie industry where apparently men are paid more than women. She defies that answer by clear economic logic. The more numbers (in this case viewers) one brings in the more money one gets paid. And it turns out that is correct. Many of female artists are paid much more compared to their male counterparts, not because of their gender but because of the numbers they bring in. The feminist agenda behind the gender pay gap which is time and again proven to be a myth by economists has ravaged the idea of some of the actual pay gap that exists in blue collar jobs and not the corporate world of urban India.

(Suriseti, 2019)

Women's Football Gender Pay Gap Myth

The FIFA women's world cup was held between 7th June to 7th July. On 7th July 2019, USA's women's football team women the FIFA World Cup by defeating Netherlands. There were chants that roared equal pay in the stadium. After all the women's football team has one 4 world cups.

Forbes contributor Niall McCarthy reported how there is a disparity of 370 millions dollars between men and women's football. world cup earnings. And how male chauvinism has caused this disparity. But he did not mention why or the reasons which resulted in this proposed wage gap between the men's and women's football teams, why was there such a massive difference in the prize pool of women's and men's football that is 400 million dollars and 30 million dollars.

Shouldn't they be payed equal to men? Well that is all true until we come to the amount of money that the men football and women's football bring in. In 2018 during the Men's FIFA world cup, men brought in 6 billion dollars in revenue and were paid 9% from that revenue. In contrast to women's team which brought in only 100 million dollars in revenue but were paid 13% from the revenue generated. Where is the equal pay for men in that.

If one does not bring in the revenue how is FIFA supposed to pay equal amount of money to the women's team. If the total revenue is of 100 million dollars how is FIFA supposed to pool in 5.9 billion dollars for equality of outcome for both men and women? With men bringing in 60 times the money that women bring and getting less % of the cut shouldn't men be asking for equal pay.

(McCarthy, 2019)

Masculinity is taught

People now a days often assume that masculinity is somehow taught and is not biological. However some of these

assumptions might be true but saying nurture plays the entire role in the development is false. If we get technical masculinity is a social construct of the trait which are often found in when but these traits can be found in women too. But many of these traits are common in men and these include stoicism, resilience, strength, courage, independence and assertiveness. Men don't become simply masculine just because we tell them to "stop crying like girls" or "man up".

From the ancient times men are evolved to have aggressiveness, resilience and competitiveness. These traits were necessary during the ancient times for men to protect their tribes from other tribes. Sure after civilization we might not necessarily require these traits. So should we get rid of them or completely emasculate men. Masculinity shifts overtime now it's much easier for men to cry, marry other men and show his emotions. All these are genuinely astounding and certainly positive advances towards a better, increasingly harmonic world and none of these things corrupts a man's manliness. But these are the traits that feminists are not trying to suppress, men are often being stressed on for their biological traits of aggressiveness, toughness and domineering nature. These traits are being referred to as "toxic masculinity". But there is a difference being evil and harmful which are present in all the cross sections of the society. There is no complaints that men commit crime but either of the sexes is not perfect. But shunning of masculinity in men is much more harmful to men than actually doing them something good. We now live in a society where majority of the good men are shamed for something that minority of the men do such as crimes. This has pulled our eyes away from the various things good men do and is affecting their mental health and removing there sense of purpose in the world.

When are firefighter saves someone from a burning building that is masculinity doing good, when Fleming invented penicillin that was masculinity doing good, when men sacrifice their lives in the military to protect their countries that is masculinity indeed doing good.

Bad men will not become good is masculinity is removed from them rather they would become more frustrated and dangerous with no good masculine men to protect and defend someone from them. This has resulted men committing suicide at three times the rate of women, dropping out of school and 35 times more likely to be a victim of robbery. Several Swedish pre-schools have now replaced the term boy and girl with the word that is more gender neutral and that is "hen". Instead of allowing them to choose, in Sweden boys are being forcefully pushed to play with girl toys like dolls and kitchen set and girls are being forced to play with boy toys. "Shockingly" when boys and girls were given the free choice to choose their preferred toy to play with the boys chose cars over dolls. It looks like their biology somehow contemplated them to choose their specified gender roles rather than indoctrination of such roles. If masculinity was taught and not

biological there should have no need to make boys play with girl toys.

(Douglas, 2017)&(Goodwin, 2018)

The True Form of Tyrannical Patriarchy

Women were allowed after 40 years to enter to the football stadium in Iran. Patriarchy has done more good than bad in the east and west. Where women face negligible issues or in some cases superior rights over men. But where we see the tyranny of absolute unevolved patriarchy is in the middle east. Where women are murdered, raped and have no grounds of protection by the law. Women cannot basic things without a support or allowance of a man. This is tyrannical patriarchy. Not false propositions mentioned above. Women here are mentioned and treated as 2nd class citizens with no human rights, forced to Burqa, Hijab and indoctrinated kids with male superiority. The astonishing part comes in where we see people from the west supporting such traditions which are cruel forms of patriarchy in the middle east where women are putting their self at risks of removing niqab and burqa to liberate themselves. Is this issue rather fitting to be empowered to be removed or the other issues which are created for no reason. Women getting lashed, beaten just for not wearing something is punishable but the west promotes wearing of the same thing that is punishable in the middle east. Irony?

(MatiasGrez,2019).

Importance of men as Father Figures and them working after child birth

The blog post by Sophia Moskalenko claims in patriarchy women are considered as less. This can be said for the middle eastern countries but not the same for west or east. She also claims that how men should take also take paternal leave like women do and a child must simply should not alone raised by a other who is taking. She also in the next line answers here own question that this something not nurture but biology.

It's very important to stress the importance of father figure in a child's life. Statistically speaking fatherless kids are twice as likely to drop out of school, become obese and four times as likely to be poverty stricken. On the other hand fatherless girls are 7 times as likely to have teenage pregnancy.

This a hard working strong father figure is essential during the growth of a child as it provides a role model to the child's first impressions. But that does not women should not work psychologically speaking women should spend time with her kids this gives the most important emotional intelligence and a strong father figure gives more sense of determination and courage to the kid.

(Moskalenko, 2018.)

Objectives

- To understand patriarchal values.
- To understand the concept for masculinity and it's claims of toxicity.
- To rising anti – men sentiment.

Hypothesis

- Patriarchal values are being deemed as something which is horrifying.
- Masculinity is being termed as toxic.
- Masculinity is now believed to taught rather than being biological.

Research Method

The data for research will be collected by using survey method. The survey method involves people answering 13 question on the topic. The sample size is of 71 people between the age demographic of 17 – 40. Since the population was not easily identifiable snowball sampling method has used to carry out the survey. Snowball sampling has been used to reach out the right demographic requirement. The data has been collected from college students of different universities and colleges. And majority of respondents were indeed college students un Delhi NCR. Each angle was measured through four sentiments Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree and Strongly Disagree.

Findings (Survey)

The questionnaire was answered by majority females (75%) and males (25%).

- Approximately 60% of the respondents do not believe in patriarchal values.
- Approximately 31% of the respondents believe to have to hide their emotions.
- Approximately 62% of the respondents agree that patriarchy shaped the current society.
- Approximately 41% of the respondents strongly agree and 38% agree find masculinity toxic.
- Approximately 48% of the respondents agree that men and women are inherently similar.
- Approximately 57% of the respondents disagree that workplaces are anti feminine.
- Approximately 50% of the respondents agree that patriarchy does not allow females to advance in workplaces.
- Approximately 47% of the respondents disagree and 41% agree that the gender pay gap exists.

- Approximates 58% of the respondents agree and 11% strongly agree that third wave feminism is obnoxious.
- Approximately 52% of the respondents disagree and 10% strongly disagree that third wave feminism promotes equality.
- Approximately 51% of the respondents agree and 17% strongly agree that there is rising anti men sentiment.
- Approximately 66% of the respondents disagree that masculinity is biological.
- Approximately 47% of the respondents agree and 33% strongly agree that masculinity is taught.

Data Interpretation:

Study of objectives-

Patriarchal Values: From the survey conducted it was found that 60% of the respondents do not believe in Patriarchal Values. The reason for such high surge against the patriarchal values can be given to fact that patriarchy is often termed and represented as something which is made to suppress women. Even though this is not the case. In most of countries where democracy is prevalent both men and women have equal rights and are treated equally. And why is that so? It's because of the patriarchal values that this has happened. The values which have changed overtime and have equalised both the sections of the society without any discrimination and yet in the survey 50% of people believe patriarchy does not allow women to advance in the workplace.

Concept for Masculinity and Its Claim of Toxicity: Masculinity is a social construct of the traits that men generally possess. Yet in the survey we find Approximately 41% of the respondents strongly agree and 38% agree find masculinity toxic. And 66% of the respondents disagree that masculinity is biological. And 47% of the respondents agree and 33% strongly agree that masculinity is taught. This is especially alarming to think that people believe so because the traits such as stoicism, assertiveness and aggressiveness are biologically present in men. These are present throughout the history and we are trying to artificially change them such as case in Sweden.

The rising anti – men sentiment – From the survey conducted approximately 51% of the respondents agree and 17% strongly agree that there is rising anti men sentiment. This brings us to a question of why is such the case. The reason being while good men are being emasculated from their biological trait of masculinity, bad men even if you remove their masculinity will be frustrated and commit more crimes and there are no good masculine men to stop them. Such contradictory behaviour may be a result rising anti – men sentiment.

Testing of Hypothesis

Patriarchal values are being deemed as something which is horrifying – This statement is acceptable because approximately 60% of the people do not believe in patriarchal values. These values which led to greatest civilization strive and survive for thousands have adapted and shaped themselves according to the centuries that have gone by and the centuries that are to come. But these values have all the right to be questioned and scrutinized but we must find plausible replacements for replacing these values which are “horrifying”.

Masculinity is being termed astoxic – This statement is acceptable to be true as approximately 41% of the respondents strongly agree and 38% agree find masculinity toxic. Being an evil or disingenuous person for man is now being labelled as toxic masculinity. This made up word is creating a lot of stigma for men being able to have a freedom of expression being reduced leading to more mental health problems which we are trying to ironically avoid.

Masculinity is now believed to taught rather than being biological – This statement is acceptable because approximately 66% of the respondents disagree that masculinity is biological. Approximately 47% of the respondents agree and 33% strongly agree that masculinity is taught. This hypothesis questioned the biology of males and surely we can find people are more leaning towards the idea of masculinity being taught rather than being biological.

Conclusion

Men and women are inherently different and people tend to agree on the fact that patriarchal structure is something which they do not believe in and also third wave or the current wave feminism is also found to be obnoxious by them. The rising anti-men sentiment is agreed upon by the people surveyed and not is not limited to the fact that men are shamed for their masculinity, are vilified for the structure of patriarchy that brought in wonders of great discoveries, achievements and equality of sexes to the society. Patriarchal in some cases might be bane for men but most of the time in majority are important for both the sexes and are boon. Patriarchal values of masculinity being biological, a sense of purpose to men and also men being earners in a family are important for the societal structure of the future, for the children, the women but also and most importantly the men. Such gender roles established over the period of thousands of years are important for mental health of men and must be recognised as such of rather being important not as something to be ashamed of or frowned upon. I whole heartedly agree that men and women should be provided with equality in opportunities but equality of outcome is something that should be refrained upon. It should be accepted that men and women are inherently different and enforcing of gender roles is not something problematic and not something to be looked down upon. The figure of almost 62% of respondents having to hide their

emotions must be taken into account and both men and women should be allowed express themselves freely. Toxic behaviour is not something limited to masculine men or men in general. Toxic behaviour is found in all different classes and we must not paint masculinity as such that makes men ashamed of who they are.

In conclusion, patriarchal values are not perfect. There are many pros and cons to it. But if we start to emasculate men in the name of patriarchy and show resentment to a structure that build the foundation of the human existence without providing any alternatives to the method or just simple shunning down men into guilt. It is not the way to do say. Patriarchy is not perfect but the best we have got for both the equality of sexes. This statement of mine was proven by approximates 58% of the respondents agree and 11% strongly agree that third wave feminism is obnoxious but on the other hand 60% of the respondents disagreeing on the patriarchal values to be believed in. With over 65% of the respondents having agreed to rise in anti – men sentiment. It must and should be looked upon that men are simply emasculated just because they are men. Boys and girls just like the case in Sweden should not be forced away from the biological pull of their body and rather be allowed to choose want they want to do. The indoctrination and child abuse of forcing kids to certain activities which aren't natural to them like the Sweden's children through must be stopped. One of the quotes from psychologist Dr. Jordan B. Peterson who has experience of over 30 years in psychology with over 20000 hrs of practice clearly highlights and gives a gist of this research paper - "Women deeply want men who are competent and powerful. And I don't mean power in that they can exert tyrannical control over others. That's not power. That's just corruption".

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