

WOMEN IN A SOCIETY AND THEIR STANDING WITH REGARD TO THE YOUNG GENERATION

Koushiki Bandyopadhyay

Student, B. A (JOURNALISM & MASS COMMUNICATION) Amity School of Communication (ASCO)

Abstract—Since the beginning of time as we have known women have been portrayed as a secondary character in every situation. Be it something as old as Adam and Eve (the first humans said to be on earth by the bible) or today where female representation is still something the whole globe is struggling with. There is not one issue that women are dealing with, the whole world is shaken by problems concerning women like wage gap, lack of education, poverty, voting rights, less representation in higher positions. These are the problems that an urban woman faces on an everyday basis. Women in rural areas go through a much tougher life with no access to proper education, genital mutilation in young girls for marriage, child marriage, improper sanitation etc. The list is endless and as the list goes longer the problem goes deeper. Even though measures regarding this have been taken eg: UN's Article 1 of its Charter talks about gender equality but the effects of these initiatives have still not touched the grass root level which in the end does not benefit womankind in any way. The lower and upper strata of the society are the main points that influence the behaviour of the overall society and women are an integral part of it because they raise children who shape the future.

Keywords: Women, issues, Violation, Sexual, Modern, Rural.

INTRODUCTION

For centuries women have been regarded as the inferior gender. First wave feminism of the 19th and early 20th centuries dealt mainly with issues like women's suffrage. Second-wave feminism (1960s–1980s) had thrown light on cultural inequalities, gender norms, and the role of women in society. Third-wave feminism (1990s–2000s) was a kind of continuation of the second there were both progress and failures during this period. Even after all this the woman of this generation deal with problems which obviously are not as bad as they were before but are an issue enough to taken into consideration. The proper way to define a 'Modern Woman' has a job, not entry level, has done very well for herself and maintains or does not maintain a family. In the 1950's when the term first came to use, it was also a sexual saying. A modern woman can have as many romantic interests as she sees fit. The modern woman pursues affairs and is equal to the man when it comes to sexual partners. Marking the end of the 'nice girl era' in which women were only supposed to have one sexual partner as opposed to men, who could pursue interests of a sexual nature. The definition of modern woman is not just limited to this. A modern woman fights for equal rights and equal exposure. The struggles of women are well known but the issues that women face in the 21st century face have been less discussed. Some of the issues include women not having powerful positions, domestic violence, female genital mutilation, reproductive rights etc.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

This article talks about the 8 major issues which exist in the modern scenario regarding women in the present. This article states the 8 reasons as gender bias, the power of women's votes, women in powerful positions, debate over reproductive rights, life changing realities about teen pregnancy, the cycle of domestic abuse, female genital mutilation and the betrayal of cheating partners. The in depth information about genital mutilation and how it takes place is presented. Genital mutilation takes place to get young girls as young as 15 years to get ready for marriage. The reasons for the existence of all the other issues are mostly the glass ceiling effect which signifies It refers to gender equality, primarily in the workforce, and great progress has been made over the years.

It is no longer an unusual thing for women to fully handle businesses, even the biggest corporations, have job titles in the upper ranks of management. Many women also do jobs that are traditionally thought to be done only by males. (Morris, 2019).

The article titled “ What are the biggest problems faced today?” Talks about more about the social perspective of these issues such as patriarchy which is one of the main reasons behind the inferiority of women in society. Patriarchy started because men inherited the property of their father. This led to men being more important in a household. From a global perspective, one of the biggest challenges facing women is educational inequality. Despite the many gains of modern feminist movements in the

Americas, Africa, Asia and beyond, many still believe that women are less worthy of the same educational opportunities afforded to men. Another problem includes not having enough women in crucial areas such as politics, academics the main law making process has negligible participation of women. The economy for women is also a concern maternity leave and career navigation after that stops companies from appointing women for jobs.

Político magazine, 2019

The article titled 9 key issues affecting girls and women around the globe talks about similar issues that women face such as Access to Education A 2013 report by UNESCO found that 31 million girls of primary school age were not in school, and about one out of every four young women in developing countries had never completed their primary school education. Employment Opportunities: Even in a country as wealthy and developed as the US, women still experience major inequality in the workforce: By some estimates, women earn only \$0.77 for every \$1 earned by men. Globally, the gender gap is even wider. 225 million women in developing countries have an unmet need for family planning, contributing to 74 million unplanned pregnancies and 36 million abortions every year. Gender-based Violence: 1 in 3 women experience physical or sexual violence in their lifetimes, according to WHO. Whether it's domestic abuse, rape, or sexual trafficking, gender-based violence denies far too many women the opportunity to live happy, healthy, and fulfilling lives. He also talks about issues like child marriage, female genital mutilation etc. some of the important things that he talks about is water and sanitation which is a very neglected topic in developing countries. In India alone over 12 lakh girls drop out of school because of menstruation because of unhygienic measures to deal with it. Even today women in developing countries use cloth instead of pads and other hygienic alternatives. He also talks about gender inequality which is the foundation to all problems.

Hans Glick, 2015

4) Global issues: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Globally, women have fewer opportunities for economic participation than men, less access to basic and higher education, greater health and safety risks, and less political representation. In this article the author talks about gender-based violence *Gender-based violence*: Violence against women based on their perceived subordinate status (e.g., physical abuse, sexual assault, psychological abuse, trafficking) and *Maternal health*: The health of women during pregnancy, childbirth, and during the postpartum period. *Gender parity*: Relative access to resources for men and women, often used for education is also something the author throws light on.

Peace Corps,

Because we are talking about modern women it would be just wrong to not cover the workplace environment part of the topic. This article deals with the issues that women face in the workplace because of which they fail to succeed. Equal Pay: Women around the world continue to face a wage gap. In fact, women on average will need to work more than 70 additional days each year just to catch up to the earnings of men. Sexual harassment remains a widespread problem, and at least one-quarter of women having reported some sort of harassment on the job. This inappropriate behavior costs employers in many ways. Non-Inclusive workplaces When women (or any employee) feel like outsiders in the workplace because of their unique qualities or differences (e.g., gender, race/ethnicity, nationality, age, religion, sexual orientation), they feel excluded. Exclusion comes at a great cost to organizations in the form of lowered job satisfaction, reduced work effort, diminished employee voice, and greater intention to leave. Double bind is also an interesting concept that they talk about which means that the stereotype that men "take charge" and women "take care" puts women leaders in various double-binds. For example, women are judged as being too hard, too soft, and never just right. The world is still opening up to up to the LGBTQIA community Misperceptions and exclusionary behavior can make LGBT women feel like the "other" at work, leading them to choose to stay in the closet by not disclosing their sexual orientation. This can push them to further separate themselves from developing relationships with colleagues and hold them back from bringing their whole selves to work and being their most innovative and engaged.

Catalyst, 2017

This article by united nations talk about half the population that is women Women and girls represent half of the world's population and, therefore, also half of its potential. Gender equality, besides being a fundamental human right, is essential to achieve peaceful societies, with full human potential and sustainable development. Moreover, it has been shown that empowering women spurs productivity and economic growth. Though there are some good initiatives that have been taken like International Women's Day is observed annually on 8 March. International Women's Day first emerged from the activities of labour movements at the turn of the twentieth century in North America and across Europe. It is a day, observed by many countries around the world, on which women are recognized for their achievements without regard to divisions, whether national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic or political.

United Nations

Health issues are one of the very important things that need to be discussed and this article talks about the health aspect of women now. Reproductive health: Sexual and reproductive health problems are responsible for one third of health issues for women between the ages of 15 and 44 years. Maternal health: Many women are now benefiting from massive improvements in care during pregnancy and childbirth introduced in the last century. Violence against women: Women can be subject to a range of different forms of violence, but physical and sexual violence – either by a partner or someone else – is particularly invidious. Mental health: Evidence suggests that women are more prone than men to experience anxiety, depression, and somatic complaints – physical symptoms that cannot be explained medically. Depression is the most common mental health problem for women and suicide a leading cause of death for women under 60 .Being young: Adolescent girls face a number of sexual and reproductive health challenges: STIs, HIV, and pregnancy. About 13 million adolescent girls (under 20) give birth every year.

Dr Flavia Bustreo, 2015

The recent abortion laws are a reflection enough of how far we actually are and what still needs to change about our society and not just for India or other developing countries but worldwide. The right to safe and legal abortion is a fundamental human right protected under numerous international and regional human rights treaties and national-level constitutions around the world. These instruments ground safe abortion in a constellation of rights, including the rights to life; liberty; privacy; equality and non-discrimination and freedom from cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment. Human rights bodies have repeatedly condemned restrictive abortion laws as being incompatible with human rights norms. The very disturbing and sad reality about abortion laws are that there are no women in the board to get the perspective of the matter there are just men who decide the future of all women.

Reproductive rights

OBJECTIVES

- To study the standard of living of women of the younger generation.
- and
- To study problems, challenges that women face in these recent times.

HYPOTHESIS

- Above 50% of women must have faced harassment at some point in their life.
- Majority of them are young adults i.e belongs to the age 18-25.
- About 80% of women have been stopped from wearing the item of clothing that they wanted.
- Body insecurities in women are increasing and more than 70% of women feel this way.
- Women have better lives now as compared to 50 years ago.

RESEARCH METHOD

The essence of survey method can be explained as “questioning individuals on a topic or topics and then describing their responses”. In business studies survey method of primary data collection is used in order to test concepts, reflect the attitude of people, establish the level of customer satisfaction, conduct segmentation research and a set of other purposes. Survey method can be used in both quantitative as well as qualitative studies.

Survey method pursues two main purposes:

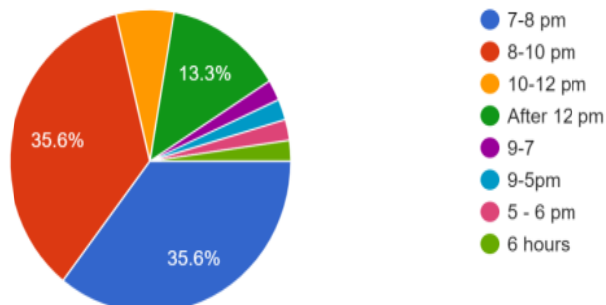
1. Describing certain aspects or characteristics of population and/or
2. Testing hypotheses about the nature of relationships within a population.

Survey method can be broadly divided into three categories: mail survey, telephone survey and personal interview.

The research was conducted on the basis of these:

How many hours do you stay stay outside for work or studies.

45 responses



The survey shows that 35.6% come home between 8-10pm

The survey shows 35.6 % come home between 7-8

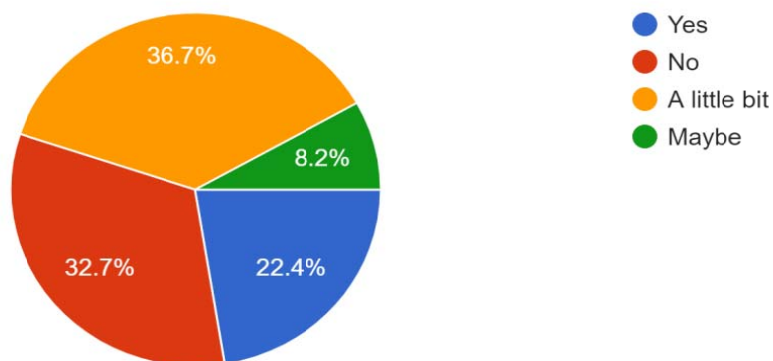
The rest 27.9% include 10-12pm, after 12 pm, 9-7pm and others.

This survey tells us that women work about the same time as men. This survey was done by women only.

2) Prejudice faced at work, college, school

Have you faced prejudice in work / college / school?

49 responses



36.7% say a little bit

32.7% say No

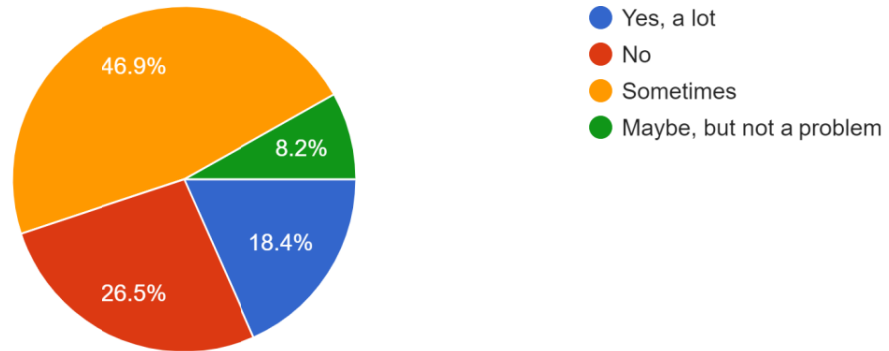
22.4% say Yes

8.2 say Maybe

3) Difficulty faced while travelling

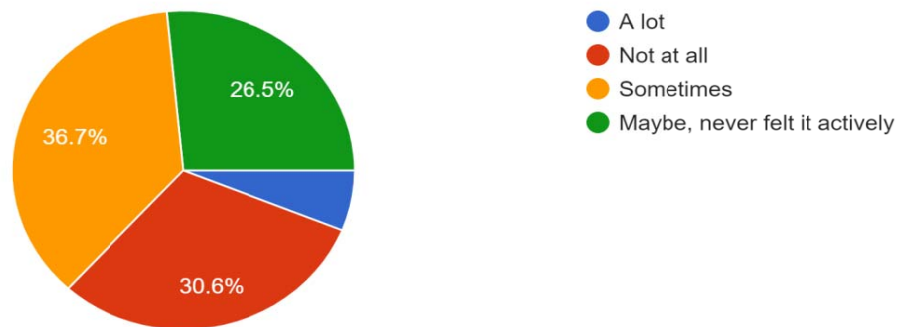
Have you faced any difficulty while travelling

49 responses



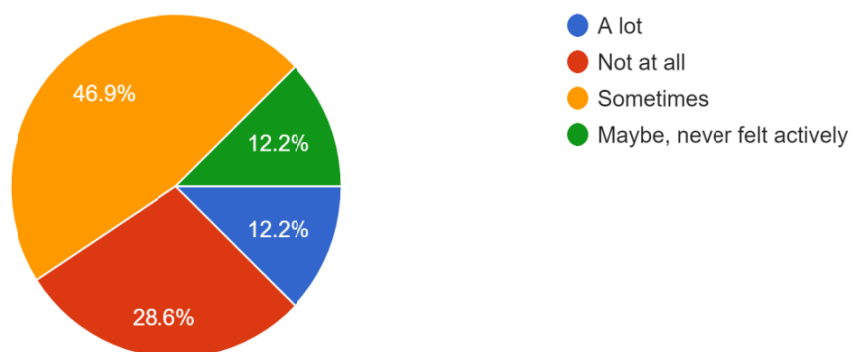
Have you ever faced violence, harassment outside home?

49 responses



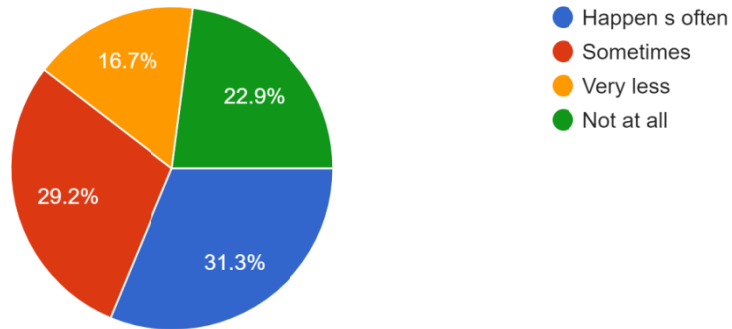
Have you ever felt you were not assigned a task because you are a woman?

49 responses



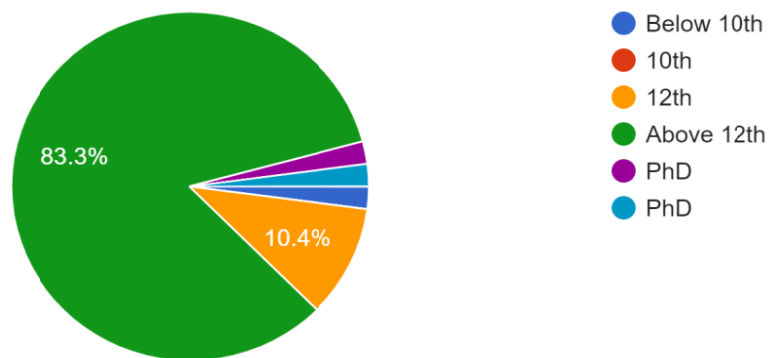
Have you ever restricted yourself or has your family ever restricted you from wearing certain clothes because of how people would react?

48 responses



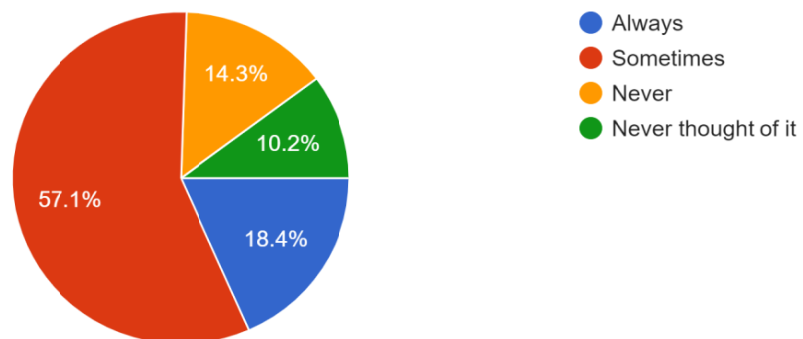
What is your academic qualification?

48 responses



Do you ever feel affected by social media?

49 responses



Content Analysis**Findings :**

- 1)Most women come home between 7-8 and 8-10 pm.
- 2) 36.7% women experience a little bit of unfair behaviour in school, college or in the workplace.
- 3) 46.9% women say that they have sometimes faced difficulties while travelling.
- 4) 36.7% women say that they have faced sometimes faced some kind of harassment outside of home.
- 5) 46.9% women which is also a clear majority women think they have sometimes not been assigned a specific work because they are women.
- 6) 31.3% of women think that they have often been stopped from wearing certain clothes or have stopped themselves from wearing them.
- 7) 57.1% women say that they are affected by social media sometimes.
- 8) 83.3 % of women are above the 12th standard.

Study of objectives:

The objective of this research paper is to find out the standard of living of women in the young generation. The standard of living as compared to 30 years ago is different, of course not day and night different but there have been some improvements like with education campaigns like Beti bachao, Beti padhao has been a great initiative to get the female population their rights. The challenges that women face in this generation are less of child marriages but more of wage gap, improper representation, voting rights etc. The objective was to find out proper information to deeply understand why women face what they do, the percentages of it, and ways in which it can be controlled.

DATA ANALYSIS :

Time till when a person stays outside: the percentage came out to 35.6% from 7-8pm and 8-10pm. The highest percentage is 36.7% which says a little bit as opposed to 32.7 which says no. If we combine all the other percentages it comes up to a shocking 67.3% which has a clear representation of how women face difficulties. This result is good as well as bad. The good here is that women in the young generation go out for education work. This is a sign of the uprising equality. This also shows the increasing opportunities and resources.

36.7% say that they faced a little bit of prejudice in work or education environment which is the highest one among all others .Women in India slowly started recognising her true potential. She has started questioning the rules laid down for her by the society. As a result, she has started breaking barriers and earned a respectable position in the world. The percentages are staggering it shows that be it 30 years ago or now women feel that they are not being treated properly. This can be solved by more open talks about the factors which lead to prejudice. Example: it is assumed that women won't be able to pick up heavy weights by putting an end to stereotypes like these the solution can be found.

46.9% people said that they sometimes have a problem while travelling which was the highest percentage. Most women who commute to and fro by local trains everyday face the problem of crowding. The path towards total gender empowerment is full of potholes. Over the years, women have made great strides in many areas with notable progress in reducing some gender gaps. The progress and increase in the number of women who work makes no sense if those women can't commute to their colleges, schools and offices. Molestation and harassment in public transport is something every woman has to face at some point. That does not mean that men do not face difficulties as well but the frequency at which these problems take place with women is alarming.

36.7% women say that they have faced sometimes faced some kind of harassment outside of home. One in four young women are scared they will be sacked if they report sexual harassment at work, a study has found.

Carried out by the Young Women's Trust and released on the second anniversary of the #metoo movement, the research found that just 6 per cent of young women who had been sexually harassed at work reported the misconduct. This follows on from another recent study by the Trades Union Congress which found some two-thirds of young women had experienced harassment at the office.

Testing Hypothesis

With regard to the questions about travelling, harassment outside of home with a clear percentages of about 46.9 and 36.7% respectively gives the idea that majority of women do get harassed and leading normal everyday for them has become difficult. Anxieties around being harmed for reporting sexual harassment were found to be higher among young women of colour, or with a disability or long-term health condition – with 30 and 37 per cent respectively saying they were scared this would happen which is an equal concern. The result to our hypothesis is not exact but it comes close to our assumption.

In the survey of one's academic qualification more than 83% say they have passed 12th standard. The average age of a person who just passed 12th is from 18 or 19 and because the next option was given phd people between that can be assumed to be around 18-25 years of age. This also justifies the young generation part of our research because it shows that the people who did this survey belong to this age group. This gives a good insight into the young society and the problems that they deal with.

Our hypothesis which said that about 80% of women of women hesitate from wearing what they want to wear is clarified by our survey question in Have you ever restricted yourself or has your family ever restricted you from wearing certain clothes because of how people would react? The response to this question was the highest 31.35 %. This shows that women do hesitate from wearing clothes of their choice. It is less than the hypothesis but the percentage is certainly more.

The last question with regard to social media and the answers in which "happens often" and "sometimes" if combined gives out to 60.5% which is close to a 70% and justifies the assumption of 70%.

The assumption of women are living a better life as compared to the last 30 years can be justified by the question of academic qualification, time of coming back home etc. This is surely of the Urban population but the percentages are higher compared to earlier.

Conclusion

Women are important in our society. Every woman has her own job or duty in this modern society in which men are unfortunately still the 'strongest gender'. We can't forget that a woman's life is a lot more complicated than a man's life. A woman has to take care of her own personal life and if she is a mother, she has to take care of her children's life too. Worse still, if she is married, additional stress can be on her shoulders. Yet they will still perform very well in the work environment in some cases better than their male counterparts. We sure have a long way to go in terms of rights but the progress is noticeable and important.

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