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Gender Discrimination

Sometimes discrimination is seen in the upbringing of boys and girls in our country. Awareness in this matter has spread in the last two decades. In this regard, the government is also making various schemes and efforts to ensure that there is no discrimination. Our country is a country of diversity. In modern times, boys and girls have been given equal rights in education. Because of traditional beliefs in some areas, girls have difficulty in achieving the right to education. The prevailing discrimination has an effect on the social system in the long run. Some evil customs still prevail in the society. This discrimination is one of the reasons why child marriages still take place in some places. As a result of child marriages, most women are unable to get higher education and their development is stagnated. It also has a detrimental effect on women's health. Many such problems can be solved if gender discrimination is eliminated.

In addition to men and women around us, third gender has been accepted. Sometimes men are paid more than women for the same work. This kind of discrimination becomes a crime. In modern times, women are found in all fields. Women work as doctors, engineers, lawyers and pilots, etc.

Gender differences are mostly seen in villages. Although primary education is provided by the government, parents are found reluctant in providing higher education to their daughters. Higher education has become easier for daughters due to government assistance.

Upbringing of boys and girls according to Indian Beliefs

In the 2001 census, a large difference was found in the number of boys and girls between the age group of 0 to 6 years. Inequality in the number of boys and girls has increased because of the female foeticide. For this, the government enacted an anti-foeticide law. It is also a crime to test the gender of baby in the womb. According to the Indian belief, the son was given importance among the offsprings to carry on legacy of the family. The participation of women has made a huge impact on this belief in the last decade. You may have participated in various events in your school. Note the activities of boys and girls in the school program.

Activities done only by girls	Activities done only by boys

Traditional beliefs

There are many myths prevalent in our country about gender discrimination. There are many differences found in the upbringing of boys and girls. In some areas, girls were not even allowed to complete primary education. For the last two decades, special efforts have been made by the government



so that the girls can complete their primary education.

With the special efforts by the government, the number of girls in our army and police is increasing today. Parents prefer their daughters to work in their own area instead of sending their daughters out of city for studies or job. For the last a few decades, women are seen in various fields. Women also join the space sector. The government is constantly striving for the safety and protection of girls. On the basis of traditional beliefs it is observed that even today, in some communities problems are faced in educating girls. Less number of girls are given opportunity of higher education. Lack of interest among the parents is seen for girls education. Special assistance is given for this purpose by the state government for higher education.

Inequality in Household work

We have seen that there is discrimination between boys and girls in simple matters. This discrimination becomes a problem later on. Such discrimination is more commonly seen in driving and learning bicycles or other vehicles or in small to large household chores. We may see such discrimination at home, school or at public places. Let's discuss about some of these things.

Activities of girls in the house	Activities of boys in the house

Women Empowerment

The task of making a house into a home is possible only by women. You can see a perfect example of this at home. Women are seen at the forefront of caring for children and other responsibilities at home in addition to their professional duties. In modern times, women are facing such challenges. In addition to all her duties at home, she also participates in the management of the house in fulfilling financial responsibilities. In modern times, women have succeeded in establishing their own identity. In today's times women are advancing with their unique identities in various fields. Apart from sports, films, entertainment, politics, space, women are also getting involved in the areas of science and research. Women are moving forward in difficult fields like defence. Many women in our country have achieved extraordinary feat.



There have been a number of programmes and planning by the government in the last two decades to empower women. Assistance is provided for animal husbandry, industries and other ventures. Under 'Startup India' and 'Make in India', many schemes are implemented for women empowerment. Women are given financial assistance to start an industry. Many organizations also work for women empowerment. Government schemes, public bodies and others help women to become self-sufficient. In addition to schemes for women empowerment, special arrangements and schemes for girls have also been implemented in education. Let's look at women of different fields of our country.

Women in various fields

 <p>Pratibha Patil</p>	<p>Mrs. Pratibhasingh Patil has got the honour of becoming the first woman President of our country. Such an honourable position was adorned to this woman leader of Rajasthan. She is remembered for her simplicity and instinctive lifestyle.</p>
<p>Indira Gandhi</p> 	<p>Indira Gandhi is remembered as the first woman Prime Minister of our country. In the year 1971, when she was Prime Minister, India achieved a glorious victory against Pakistan, which is recorded in the history of the country. She is known around the world as an Iron lady.</p>
 <p>Sushma Swaraj</p>	<p>We recognize SushmaSwaraj as the first woman Foreign Minister of the country. This woman, who spent many years in politics, was proud to be the youngest cabinet minister in the Haryana state government.</p>
<p>Lata Mangeshkar</p> 	<p>Lata Mangeshkar, who has made a name for herself in the world as a Queen of Melody. She has sung more than 40 thousand songs in various languages. The government of India has awarded her with the 'Bharat Ratna'.</p>
 <p>Kalpana Chawla</p>	<p>Kalpana Chawla was of Indian origin. On her way back as an astronaut, she had an accident and died. Her name will always be associated with the space.</p>
<p>Sarita Gayakwad</p> 	<p>Starting from 'Kheilmahakumbh', Sarita Gayakwad has earned India a gold medal in Asian games. She has been selected by the Gujarat government as an ambassador for 'Malnutrition free Gujarat'.</p>



Birth Ratio

Millions of people across the country are involved in the census. The census is conducted in the year in which the unit number is one. The last census was carried out in 2011. The first census was conducted in 1871. The census is conducted every ten years by the Central Government. When will the next census take place ?

Drastic change is noticed in the birth rate in rural and urban areas. Here, we see difference in gender ratio in Gujarat. These details show number of women against thousand men. Discuss the questions given below on the basis of this table.

Table showing Gender-ratio

Sr.	Details	Gujarat	India	Difference
(1)	Total - Gender Ratio	919	943	24
(2)	Rural	949	949	–
(3)	Urban	880	929	49
(4)	Gender Ratio according to 0-6 years of age	886	914	28
(5)	Rural	906	919	13
(6)	Urban	852	902	50

Discuss

- Which problems occur due to this difference ?
- How can this problem be solved ?
- Why is there a lot of difference between urban and rural area ?
- Why gender ratio is important along with population growth ?

We feel the gender ratio of women and men similar around us. The ratio of women in the country is estimated to be about half. According to the census so far, gender inequality between men and women is observed in India. Below is a note about the ratio of women in different years.

1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
972	964	955	950	945	946	941	930	934	927	933	943

We saw that the number of females per 1000 male in 1901 was 972 which has decreased to 943 in 2011. Discuss the following based on this detail.

Think and Say

- In which year is the ratio of women highest ?
- In which year is the ratio of women lowest ?
- What happens if the ratio of women decreases ?
- What steps does the government take to eliminate gender inequality ?



Study of Women's - Movement

Before our country became independent, many agitations took place against the British who ruled the whole country. Various agitations took place under the leadership of Gandhibapu. Many women from all over the country, including Gujarat joined with Kasturba in this movement. Sometimes agitations take place against the government to satisfy demands. Sometimes small and big movements happen around us. In Bihar, women staged a successful agitation against the government for banning alcohol. Especially in the summer, sometimes the women of the city area agitate for water. Many other similar important movements for women have taken place. Women join this movement and agitate for their problems.

Think and write about any women - movement

- What do you know about that women - movement ?

- Why had that movement taken place ?

- What was the effect of that movement ?



Exercise

1. Fill in the blanks :

- (1) The effect of gender discrimination is mostly seen in
- (2) Ratio of female was per 1000 male in 2011.

2. Answer in short :

- (1) What kind of discrimination is seen in the upbringing of children ?
- (2) What are the differences seen in the distribution of household work ?
- (3) Who is more likely to complete a formal primary education traditionally ?

3. Answer the following questions in one-two lines each :

- (1) What efforts does the government make for women's empowerment ?
- (2) In which fields women are still rarely seen ?
- (3) How did women join the movement at the time of independence ?

4. Write short notes :

- (1) Women empowerment
- (2) Education and traditional beliefs in India

Activity

Find out the ratio of male and female in your village based on the birth-death register of the village.