

## IS WOMAN GENDER AN INFERIOR BEING???

**Pri. Dr. Pratik Arvindbhai Dave**

Principal

Sahu Shriyans Prasad Jain Arts & Commerce College,  
Dhrangadhra -363 310 (Dist. Surendranagar- Gujarat)

### Abstract

Since the Vedic and Epic ages, the subject of woman's equality and liberty has been viewed, reviewed and debated much. Feminine gender has been the equal half for the existence and survival of unisex on this earth. Even though the drastic imbalance in the sex ratio of male and female in Gujarat and in India- particularly in the tribal areas have been astonishing. The present paper shows there is snail speed awareness has been achieved in India even after many government awareness schemes and government exchequer utilized.

**Key Words:** Physiology, Gender Revolution, Family Planning

Writers like Mary Wollstone Craft in 'A Vindication of the Rights of Women' (1792), male author like J.S.Mill in 'The Subjection of Women' (1869) and Fridrich Engels in 'The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State' (1884) wrote of the need to rethink the role of women and social oppression against them. Jane, the protagonist in Charlotte Bronte's 'Jane Eyre' (1847) speaks "I am no bird, and no nest ensnares me. I am a free human being with an independent will." Elaine Showalter writes in her "Towards a Feminist Poetics", 'Feminist criticism is not visiting. It is here to stay, and we must make a permanent home for it'. After 1920 and on wards, women rejected both imitation and protest of male cultures as they were both the forms of dependency and the minority literature became an autonomous art. Feminist writers like Dorothy Richardson and Virginia Woolf started writing in female and male sentences, and dividing their work into 'masculine' fiction and 'Feminine' fiction. After 1920 and on wards, women rejected both imitation and protest of male cultures as they were both the forms of dependency and the minority literature became an autonomous art. Feminist writers like Dorothy Richardson and Virginia Woolf started writing in female and male sentences, and dividing their work into 'masculine' fiction and 'Feminine' fiction.

In 'A Room of One's Own' too we find Woolf constantly comparing the situation of women with men at creative, political, social and economic level. In this matter Jane Guiguet writes,

"The basic complain Virginia Woolf makes against men is that they consider women as inferior being and that no the strength of this arbitrary postulate, whose only foundation is their own pride, vanity and egotism they maintain women in a semi servile state; at the same time,

they keep them out of all activities, particularly those that determine the course of society and civilization.”

Physiology affirms that woman kind is genetically stronger than man. So far as the emotional, sentimental and onus entrusted upon her, woman is far ahead of man. Gender Revolution has already proven by women in the different sections and different positions bestowed upon and enjoyed by women. If Woman gender is part and partial for the human existence, the following gaps between sex ratio in Gujarat in particular and India at large lead us to rethink seriously about the psyche of male gender.

Even though, the sex ratio is very uneven so far as female sex is compared with the male sex. During the census of 1961, the social scientists warned the social stake holders regarding the decreasing ratio of female sex. Today there are 940:1000 average of female male ratio in India. The alarming figures are of the boy girl ratio in-between the age of 0 to 6 years, where there are 914 female child per 1000 male child and Gujarat stands at 24<sup>th</sup> rank as there are 886 female child per 1000 male child as per the census of 2011. In the census of 1991, there were 928 female child in between the age ratio of 0 to 6 years, decreased to 886 in 2011 census. It means percentage wise, this decrease is of 42%. Ironically the better sex ratio is seen to be preserved by the scheduled tribe districts of Gujarat on the eastern side. It does not mean the ratio is maintained here. Compared to the 1991 figures, the explicit decrease in female child is also noticeable here, but lauded thing is that the so called under developed, ill or semi educated districts have not only given births to the female child but also survived them. The figures of Dang district (963/1000); Tapi district (944/1000); Dahod district (937/1000); Narmada district (937/1000); Valsad district (926/1000) and Panchmahal district (923/1000). These districts stand at 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 in the state so far as the male female ratio between 0 to 6 years children are concerned. On the other hand the so called developed districts of Gujarat have alarmingly decreased in the female child. Ahmedabad district (859/1000); Rajkot district (854/1000); Gandhinagar district (847/1000); Mahesana district (845/1000) and Surat district (836/1000). These districts stand at number 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26 in Gujarat. Isn't it a matter of deep brooding that the state's developed districts have shown aversion in rearing the female child. The save female child drive has not been responded fruitfully in the best developed districts of Gujarat irrespective of any government in the state, let it be the 1991 congress or 2011 BJP government. The districts with majority scheduled tribe people were ahead in sex ration maintenance in 1991 and (with decrease) in 2011. It leads us to believe that the definition of the development must also be viewed and analyzed in altogether different way. The Super Malls, Metro trains, BRTS, best universities, internet connectivities are not the yardsticks of the development is for sure, when the sex ratio remains unbridged and which may lead to social unbearable disaster.

At a broader level, if we analyze the figures across the country, where the Scheduled Tribe population is maximum, the sex ratio of male female is very pleasing. Sikkim (960/1000); Arunachal Pradesh (1032/1000); Nagaland (976/1000); Manipur (1002/1000); Mizoram (1007/1000); Tripura (983/1000); Meghalaya (1013/1000). Save female child drive has not only been welcomed by the semi or ill educated Scheduled Tribe in Gujarat and India but also contributed in the national drive. The survey on the welcome of female child in the scheduled tribe in Gujarat and India is to be made and is to be publicized nationally.

Sans age bar, average ratio of male female sex in Gujarat is 918 against 1000 male. There are ten states in India having less than 900 girls per 1000 males which are Uttarakhand (886), Rajasthan (883), Maharashtra (883), Gujarat (886), Uttar Pradesh (899), Punjab (846), Jammu-

Kashmir (859), Haryana (830), Delhi (866) and Chandigarh (867). It shows that the female birth faces many hurdles in these 10 states except Kerala (1084) and Pondicherry (1038). This has alarmed the governors, administrators and social thinkers to save female child and prevent female foeticide in the country, otherwise, which may result in many serious and unimaginative consequences in the country. Even in Kerala and Pondicherry, the sex ratio of the children between 0 to 6 years are not inspiring viz 959 and 965 per 1000 male child. This social tendency leads us strongly to believe that our social beliefs think against the female birth. Compared to the census of 2001, the sex ratio of 0 to 6 years has decreased in the census of 2011.

The matter of the concern is to dissect the reasons behind such deterioration in the sex ratio. There are many social, economical, geographical, cultural and literacy reasons counted so far as the decrease in the sex ratio. The one among many reasons is the safety of the adolescent girl child in the society. The abuse of the female child and its aftermath procedure is such that the abused and her family entwine whirling inquires that the abused and her relatives feel themselves accused. Even in 21<sup>st</sup> century, there prevails such beliefs in many castes regarding female birth is a bad omen, girl child is the bundle of responsibility, to spend money behind girl child is unproductive and fruitless for the parents. In certain geographical areas, where the social security is at stake, the female birth rate is drastically relegated.

The literacy awareness among women has improved this scenario, but it affects in decrease of the sex balance in different way. The career oriented couples and women prefer 'Double Income No Kids' (DINKs) and a step ahead, the career oriented women do not want to sacrifice their liberty and freedom at the cost of marriage bond and extra responsibility including maintaining their physique and child care. The different schemes launched by the central government to empower women have led the women to be independent physically, socially and economically.

Genetically a girl child is mentally and physically tough, caring, careful, mature compared to the same aged male counterpart in addition to responsible and therefore the survey shows that the women as an employee and employer is far more competent and meticulous in the assigned duties than her male counter part.

Another interesting survey regarding female gender is of their awareness about the family planning and the adoption of means of family planning compared to their male partner. As the Socio- Economic survey of 2015-16, there are 19% families are residing jointly and 81 % of are nucleus families in India. The procreation rate, by and large, decreases in all castes and creed in India. The family planning came into effect in India since 1952 and after 64 years of journey, due to increased awareness, many family planning methods implemented like Vasectomy, Tubectomy, copper T, Condom and oral pills. The figures of usages of these methods published every year and it is a matter of great surprise that these family planning methods have been used by women and they exceed men so far as this awareness is concerned. If men are in thousands of numbers for Vasectomy operations, females are in lakhs. It should not be taken as the literacy of woman kind, but the real reason behind less numbers of male operations is due to male mentality and psyche. Average male tames so many myths like he is a male and therefore it is sole right to retain the virility!!!! And else he may lose the tag of 'male' and labelled as the castrated. Due to this mentality and social myths, women have been push forward to undergo family planning methods. The following tabulated figures may clear the picture.

Family Planning methods in India and Gujarat				
Family Planning Method	Year 2013-14		Year 2014-15	
	India	Gujarat	India	Gujarat
<b>1. Operative Methods</b>	41.44 Lakh	2.67 Lakh	40.3 Lakh	3.21 Lakh
<b>2. Copper T</b>	51.32 Lakh	5.57 Lakh	52.77 Lakh	6.06 Lakh
<b>3. Condom</b>	46.06 Lakh	2.92 Lakh	43.48 Lakh	3.13 Lakh
<b>4. Oral Pills</b>	30.45 Lakh	1.45 Lakh	30.85 Lakh	5.36 Lakh

The Government has launched various schemes viz National Mission for Women Empowerment, *Swavalamban Abhiyan*, *Beti Bachao (Save Girl Child)*, *Gaurav Nari Niti - Women's Pride*, *Gender Equality*, *Balika Samruddhi Yojna – Girl Child Development*, *Kishori Shakti Yojna – Adolescents' Strength and Awareness*, *Swayamsidh Yojna – Self Reliance and Empowerment*, *Vidhya Sahay and Talim Yojna*, *Saraswati Sadhna Yojna*, *Kunverbai nu Mameru Scheme*, *Saat Phera Samuh Yojna*, *Mahila Vrudh Ashram*, *Chiranjeevi Yojna*, *Nari Adalalt*, *Sakhi Mandal Yojna*, *Krishi Talim Yojna*, *Fish Entrepreneur Yojna* the *Mahila Sureksha Setu* programme, *Abhayam Yojna* and 1008 service to protect women against any kind of harassment.

The fact seems from the pathetic sex ratio data, the various schemes floated by the government have not been translated upon the psyche of the male gender. The details are enough to prove that woman is still considered to be the doll rather puppet in the hands of the masculine dominant society and if publically we cry aloud to be give her equal status, internally the within knows the reality. Do we call Woman as an equal half after pursuing the data???

### Work cited

- Brontë, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre*. London: Penguin Books, 1996.
- Engels, Friedrich. *The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State*, Penguin Classics, 1884.
- Guignet, Jean. *Virginia Woolf and Her Works*, trans. Jean Stewart, The Hogarth Press, London, 1965.
- Mill, John Stuart. *The Subjection of Women*, Longmans, 1869.
- Showalter, Elaine. *Towards a Feminist Poetics*, Ed. K. M. Newton, Twentieth Century Literary Theory, Macmillan Publishers Limited, 1997.
- Wollstonecraft, Mary. *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, W.W. Norton & Company, New York, 1988.
- Woolf Virginia, *A Room of One's Own*, Ed. Jenifer Smith, Cambridge University Press, New Delhi, 2001.

<http://www.grcgujarat.org/pdf/Gender-Responsive-Budgeting-2016-17.pdf>