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## Role of women education in empowering the spirit of freedom

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### Abstract

The idea of women empowering the spirit of freedom via education is a potent one that emphasizes the life-changing effects that education can have on women. Education gives women what they need to overcome various forms of oppression and limits, enabling them to live happy, independent lives. The major goal is to investigate how women's education might be used as a weapon to foster the spirit of freedom. It is a critical review study with extensive reviews that is based on secondary sources including book chapters, journals, articles, research, and the internet. The literature research was conducted analytically, and a conclusion was reached after carefully examining all the information. It is found that despite advancements in some areas, gender inequalities and societal norms still have an impact on women's participation in a range of professions. Initiatives to expand women's representation and opportunities are still crucial for developing a more inclusive and fair society. Defying gender norms, self-expression, economic independence, autonomy in decision-making, empowerment against violence, political participation, health and well-being, impact on the next generation, cultural and social change, resilience, and dealing with advice are just a few scenarios of how education can encourage the spirit of freedom among women.

**Keywords:** Women education, Empowering, Spirit of freedom, Equality and Participation of women

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### 1. Introduction

In order to achieve social, economic, and cultural growth for both women and society as a whole, women must be educated in the spirit of empowerment. Women are empowered by education because it gives them the knowledge, abilities, and confidence to make wise decisions about their lives. Education among women is associated with higher political participation. Women with higher levels of education are more likely to participate in politics, fight for their rights, and influence how policies are made. On the other hand, inclusive education that encourages female participation in STEM subjects can result in a diversity of viewpoints and creative responses to the world's problems (Bhat, 2015) <sup>[1]</sup>.

The idea of women empowering the spirit of freedom via education is a potent one that emphasizes the life-changing effects that education can have on women. Education gives women what they need to overcome various forms of oppression and limits, enabling them to live happy, independent lives. Defying gender norms, self-expression, economic independence, autonomy in decision-making, empowerment against violence, political participation, health and well-being, impact on the next generation, cultural and social change, resilience, and overcoming advice are just a few examples of how education can encourage the spirit of freedom among women. Women's education can help countries realize the full potential of their female citizens, resulting in more inclusive and egalitarian communities. Women who are empowered through education become forces of change, breaking down barriers and contributing to a freer and more just world (Bhat, 2014) <sup>[2]</sup>.

The idea of offering equal opportunities and resources to all people, regardless of their background, socioeconomic level, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, or other distinctive trait, is known as educational equality, educational equity, or educational justice. Ensuring that everyone has equal access to high-quality education and the chance to realize their full abilities is the aim of educational equality.

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Addressing systemic disparities and developing laws that guarantee fairness and inclusivity in education are essential for achieving educational equality. Governments, educational institutions, communities, and other stakeholders must work together to provide educational opportunities for all, irrespective of their past or current situation (Sindhu, 2012).

### Objectives of the study

The major goal is to investigate how women education might be used as a weapon to foster the spirit of freedom.

### Research Questions

- RQ1. What is the importance of women education?
- RQ2. The spirit of women empowering is how much freedom through education?
- RQ3. What is literacy rate in India?
- RQ4. How much importance is women participation in education?
- RQ5. What is educational equality?

### Research design and methodology

It is a critical review study with extensive reviews that is based on secondary sources including book chapters, journals, articles, research, and the internet. The literature research was conducted analytically, and a conclusion was reached after carefully examining all the information.

### Discussion of the present study

#### 1. Importance of Women Education

It is impossible to exaggerate the value of education for women. It is essential to attaining social, economic, and cultural advancement for everyone, regardless of women themselves. Women are empowered by education because it gives them the knowledge, abilities, and confidence to make wise decisions about their lives. It makes possible for people to actively engage in societal activities including politics, the economics, and family life. Achieving equal access to education for men and women is crucial in fostering the cause of gender equality because it is a fundamental human right. Women's education dismantles conventional gender roles and stereotypes, fostering a society that considers all women equal. The level of education among women directly affects economic growth. Educated women are more likely to find better job opportunities and contribute to the workforce. This, in turn, leads to economic growth for the nation as a whole. Education improves women's knowledge of nutrition and health, which results in healthier families and lower rates of infant mortality. Furthermore, educated women are more likely to have fewer children and make sure their kids have the educational and medical services they need. Women's education aids in ending the cycle of poverty (Sindhu, 2012). Education gives women the tools they need to find work and maintain a steady income, moving their families out of poverty. They are more likely to take part in community development projects that encourage positive social change and deal with problems like discrimination and gender-based violence. Education enables women to make knowledgeable decisions regarding family planning and reproductive health, improving overall health and reducing labor problems. Education among women is associated with higher political participation. Women with higher levels of education are more likely to participate in politics, fight for their rights, and influence how policies are made (Mahalinga, 2014)<sup>[4]</sup>. On the

other hand, inclusive education that encourages female participation in STEM subjects can result in a diversity of viewpoints and creative responses to the world's problems. As educated women transmit knowledge and values to future generations, it is essential for maintaining cultural legacy and traditions. Women's education is a catalyst for positive change and advancement in every sphere of society, not simply as a question of fairness and equality. We can create a more just, wealthy, and peaceful world by funding women's education.

#### 2. Women empowering the spirit of freedom through education

The idea of women empowering the spirit of freedom via education is a potent one which emphasizes the life-changing effects that education can have on women. Education gives women the skills and information that are required to overcome various forms of oppression and limits, enabling them to live happy, independent lives. Defying gender norms, self-expression, economic independence, autonomy in decision-making, empowerment against violence, political participation, health and well-being, impact on the next generation, cultural and social change, resilience, and dealing with advice are just a few scenarios of how education can encourage the spirit of freedom among women. Education dismantles preconceived notions about gender and enables women to pursue their interests and objectives without limitations. It inspires people to go beyond traditional norms and chart their own course. It supports a woman's growth in self-expression and self-assurance. Women develop greater self-confidence and a stronger voice for what they want and freedoms as a result of acquiring knowledge about and connecting with other views and perspectives. Education provides access to higher-paying jobs and greater career chances. Women can choose their lives without being constrained by their financial situation if they are financially independent. Women with greater education are more likely to participate in decision-making at the family, community, and society levels. They can fight for their rights and make decisions that are consistent with their moral principles. Education gives women the information they require to make informed decisions about their rights and how to use available tools to defend themselves against all kinds of abuse and violence. It increases their capacity to resist persecution. It promotes women to take on political and executive positions. They may support laws that advance social justice and gender equality due to the fact that they are informed citizens. It improves women's health literacy, resulting in better lifestyle choices and easier access to medical care. Their general well-being and quality of life are consequently enhanced (Chibber, 2010)<sup>[3]</sup>. Women with more education are more inclined to put their children's education first, starting a chain reaction that will give women more power and independence in the future. Critical thinking is encouraged by education, which also pushes social standards. Education empowers women to act as catalysts for change in their locales, advancing equality and progress. Women who pursue education develop the resilience and problem-solving abilities necessary to overcome adversities in life. They are given the skills necessary to overcome challenges with courage and grit (Suguna, 2011)<sup>[6]</sup>. Women's education can help countries realize the full potential of their female citizens, resulting in more inclusive and egalitarian communities. Education-based empowerment of women allows them to be

agents of change who dismantle barriers and advance a more liberated and equitable society.

### 3. Literacy rate in India:

As of my last knowledge update in September 2021, the literacy rate in India has been steadily improving, but there are still significant disparities between different groups, including male and female literacy rates. Please note that the figures provided below are based on data available up to 2021, and there might be more recent data available from official sources.

The total literacy rate in India varies depending on the data source and methodology used. However, it was estimated to be around 77% to 79% as of 2021. The male literacy rate in India is generally higher than the overall literacy rate. It was estimated to be around 84% to 86% as of 2021. The female literacy rate in India lags behind the male literacy rate, but it has been steadily increasing over the years. As of 2021, it was estimated to be around 69% to 71%. <https://uis.unesco.org/en/topic/literacy>.

It's important to note that these figures represent an overall picture, and there are significant variations in literacy rates among different states and regions within India. Additionally, efforts have been made by the government and various organizations to address the gender gap in literacy and improve overall literacy rates through educational initiatives and awareness campaigns. For the most up-to-date and accurate data on literacy rates in India, I recommend referring to official reports and publications from organizations like the Government of India, the Ministry of Education, or reputable international agencies like UNESCO. ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ministry\\_of\\_Education\\_\(India\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ministry_of_Education_(India))/[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Government\\_of\\_India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Government_of_India))

### 4. Importance of Women Participation in education

As of my last update in September 2021, the percentage of women's participation in various fields in India varies significantly. It's important to note that these percentages are subject to change over time and might have evolved since then. Additionally, the level of women's participation can differ based on factors such as region, urban/rural divide, education levels, and cultural norms. ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Government\\_of\\_India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Government_of_India)). Here is a general overview of women's participation in some key fields:

**Education:** The enrollment of girls and women in educational institutions has been increasing steadily in India. In recent years, the female literacy rate has improved, but there are still disparities in certain regions and among different socioeconomic groups.

**Workforce:** Women's participation in the formal workforce has been lower compared to men. As of 2021, the female labor force participation rate in India was around 23-25%, significantly lower than the male participation rate. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Labour/workforce\\_in\\_India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Labour/workforce_in_India)

**STEM Fields (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics):** Women's representation in STEM fields remains relatively low. Efforts are being made to encourage more women to pursue careers in these areas and bridge the gender gap (Bhat, 2015) <sup>[1]</sup>.

**Politics:** The representation of women in Indian politics has been increasing over the years. As of 2021, women held around 14% of seats in the lower house of the Indian Parliament (Lok Sabha) and around 24% of seats in the upper

house (Rajya Sabha).

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Politics\\_of\\_India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Politics_of_India)

**Entrepreneurship:** Women entrepreneurship is on the rise in India, with a growing number of women starting and managing their businesses.

**Sports:** Women's participation and recognition in sports have been increasing, with female athletes achieving success and gaining visibility at national and international levels.

**Armed Forces:** Women's participation in the Indian Armed Forces has been expanding in recent years, with opportunities for women officers in various branches.

**Media and Entertainment:** The representation of women in the media and entertainment industry has improved, but there are still challenges related to gender stereotypes and unequal opportunities.

**Social and Cultural Fields:** Women play crucial roles in various social and cultural spheres, including arts, literature, activism, and community development.

It's essential to recognize that despite progress in some areas, gender disparities and societal norms continue to impact women's participation in various fields. Efforts to promote gender equality and empower women in all aspects of life are ongoing, and initiatives to increase women's representation and opportunities remain important for fostering a more inclusive and equitable society. For the most up-to-date and detailed information on women's participation in specific fields, it is advisable to refer to official reports and research studies conducted by reputable organizations in India.

### 5. Educational Equality

Educational equality, also known as educational equity or educational justice, refers to the principle of providing equal opportunities and resources to all individuals, regardless of their background, socioeconomic status, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, or any other characteristic. The goal of educational equality is to ensure that every person has the same access to quality education and the opportunity to reach their full potential. All individuals should have equal access to educational opportunities, including enrollment in schools, colleges, and universities, without discrimination or barriers. By upholding the same high standards for all pupils, educational equality makes sure that all kids receive instruction of a constant, high caliber. As a way to eradicate inequities and give extra encouragement to those who most require it, it entails allocating resources and assistance in accordance with the requirements of the pupils. All students, including those with disabilities or learning challenges, should have access to an inclusive education that meets their individual requirements. It also entails making education accessible and cheap for everyone, regardless of their financial situation. Inclusion, diversity, and avoiding prejudices should all be reflected in the curriculum and instructional strategies or biases. In order to improve student learning and opportunities, educational equality aims to eradicate all forms of prejudice and discrimination. It entails addressing and narrowing achievement inequalities between various student groups, including those based on socioeconomic class, race, or ethnicity. Beyond formal education, educational equality provides chances for skill development and lifetime learning.

Building a just and equitable society requires educational equality. Equal access to education and opportunities encourages social mobility, lowers poverty, stimulates economic growth, and gives people the means to fully engage

in society as a whole. Additionally, someone that has access to education helps a country advance and flourish as a whole. Addressing systemic disparities and developing laws that guarantee fairness and inclusivity in education are essential for achieving educational equality. Governments, educational institutions, communities, and other stakeholders must work together to provide educational opportunities for all, irrespective of their past or current situation.

### Conclusion

Women with more education are more inclined to put their children's education first, starting a chain reaction that will give women more power and independence in the future. Education encourages critical thought and questions social conventions. Women who are educated become catalysts for change who promote equality and growth in their communities. Education gives women the strength and problem-solving abilities they need to face problems in life. It equips people with the abilities to overcome challenges with courage and tenacity. Women's education can help countries realize the full potential of their female citizens, resulting in more inclusive and egalitarian communities. Women who are educated yet empowered become catalysts of change who dismantle obstacles and help create an era that is more liberated and just.

It's critical to understand that, despite advancements in some areas, gender inequalities and societal norms still have an impact on women's participation in a range of professions. Initiatives to expand women's representation and opportunities are still crucial for developing a more inclusive and fair society. There are ongoing efforts to promote gender equality and empower women in all facets of life. It is essential to consult official publications and research studies carried out by respected organizations in India for the most relevant and comprehensive information about women's participation in particular fields.

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