







Women Empowerment in a Time of COVID -19 Crisis



Conference Proceedings

Organized by

Women Self Défense Training Centre Annamalai University

Annamalainagar, Tamil Nadu, India

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)

Annamalai University

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PROBLEMS FACED BY THE TRANSGENDERS POST COVID 19

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Abstract

We live in a society which is deeply stratified by gender. Hence the trans people confront severe discriminations and harassments in all facets of life and they are subject to unjust treatments. Though there has been a positive movement for the LGBTQAI+ community in the recent years, many transgenders opine that there is still a lot more to do in the fight for equality. This article aims at providing an insight into the problems faced by them and to increase the awareness about their lives especially post Covid 19.

Key words: Transgenders, Denial of rights, Post covid problems.

Introduction:

Despite of the progress in economic, social, medical care and other fronts India is still engulfed by various biases and beliefs about transgenders. Trans people have existed and still exist in every race, class and society since the story of human life has been recorded. Shikhandi, Brihannala, Aravan, and Sudyumma are a few transgenders in Indian epics.

India very proudly claims to worship various deities like Ardhanarishvara form (combination of Shiva and goddess Parvati) as it depicts that the male and female attributes are inseparable. But the appalling affair is that transgenders sadly do not get the same respect and equal status.

The modern term 'transgender' arose in the mid-1990s. It seems many times that transgenders are not even acknowledged as human beings. People are still obstinate in their notions and develops stigma about transgenders despite of elevation in the education and knowledge. Woefully we are in a society where gender plays a major role in judging people around us. Patriarchy and gender inequality in society are the main causes of denial of human rights of transgenders.

In India it gives more rights and authority especially to men, enabling them to enjoy more power over the transgenders and they are suppressed, harassed, subjugated and deprived of even their basic rights. The outbreak of the Corona virus has drastically affected the lives of people despite of the status they hold in the society and transgenders are not eluded from the same.

Over the past many years, despite of important developments for eliminating the bygone discrimination towards transgenders, still there exist staggering deeds which harms their tranquillity. Some of the offences include insulting them verbally and physically in a gathering, enthralling them into prostitution, decisively decamping them from educational institutions and many other acts disparaging to human dignity.

India's Supreme Court recognized transgender people as a third gender on April 15, 2014. It was addressed by Justice K.S. Panicker Radhakrishnan as a human rights issue.

But unfortunately, laws cannot transform the mentality of the society as majority are incorrigible. It is true when we look at the quandary that the Indian trans people are still facing in their daily life.

Twenty-one transgenders were hired by the Kochi Metro Rail in 2017. But eight of them had to quit their jobs as they were denied accommodation by many. This is sufficient to hint the snags that the transgenders are facing.

