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**Gender Issues in Life and Literature and Empowerment of Women**

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**Abstract**

Gender equality is intrinsically linked to sustainable development and is significant to the belief of human rights for all. The overall objective of gender equality may be a society during which women and men enjoy an equivalent opportunities, rights and obligations altogether spheres of life. Equality between men and ladies exists when both sexes are ready to share equally within the distribution of power and influence; have equal opportunities for financial independence through work or through fixing businesses; enjoy equal access to education and therefore the opportunity to develop personal ambitions, interests and talents; share responsibility for the house and youngsters and are completely free from coercion, intimidation and gender-based violence both at work and reception. Gender equity is the process of being fair to women and men. To ensure fairness, strategies and measures must often be available to catch up on women's historical and social disadvantages that prevent women and men from otherwise operating on A level playing field. Equity leads to equality. Gender equality requires equal enjoyment by women and men of socially-valued goods, opportunities,

resources and rewards. Where gender inequality exists, it's generally women who are excluded or disadvantaged in reference to decision-making and access to economic and social resources. Therefore a critical aspect of promoting gender equality is that the empowerment of girls, with attention on identifying and redressing power imbalances and giving women more autonomy to manage their own lives. Gender equality doesn't mean that men and ladies become the same; only that access to opportunities and life changes is neither hooked in to , nor constrained by, their sex. Achieving gender equality requires women's empowerment to make sure that decision-making at private and public levels and access to resources are not any longer weighted in men's favor, in order that both women and men can fully participate as equal partners in productive and reproductive life.

**Keywords:** Gender equality, women's empowerment, equal opportunities etc

**Gender Issues in Life**

Taking gender concerns under consideration when designing and implementing population and development

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programmes therefore is vital for 2 reasons. First, there are differences between the roles of men and ladies, differences that demand different approaches. Second, there's systemic inequality between men and ladies. Universally, there are clear patterns of women's inferior access to resources and opportunities. Moreover, women are systematically under-represented in decision-making processes that shape their societies and their own lives. This pattern of inequality may be a constraint to the progress of any society because it limits the opportunities of one-half of its population. When women are constrained from reaching their full potential, that potential is lost to society as an entire . Women Empowerment has becoming a burning issue everywhere the planet including India since previous couple of decades. Many agencies of United Nations in their reports have emphasized that gender issue to be given utmost priority. Women's go after equality with man may be a universal phenomenon. The position and status of women has been very low in 18th and 19th centuries in India.

#### Gender Issues in Literature

Many people think that boys in our culture today are mentioned to define their identities through heroic individualism and competition, particularly through separation from home, friends, and family in an outdoors world of work .Girls, on the other hand, are brought up to define their

identities through connection, co-operation, self-sacrifice, domesticity, and community in an indoor world of love and caring. This view of various male and feminine roles is often seen throughout children's literature. Treasure Island and therefore the Secret Garden are two novels that are a superb portrayal of the narrative pattern of "boy and girl" books. When thinking of books that appear to be written specifically for young boys, Treasure Island may be a book that involves many minds. Treasure Island is that the epic tale of thrill seeking and adventure. Stevenson's main character is a small boy, Jim, who gets to go away from his mother and embark on a trip across the ocean. There are sea fearing pirates, sword fight, and bloody killings. These are typically things that interest boys. Stevenson also follows the literary pattern described by Perry Nodelman in his book, The Pleasures of Children's Literature. He describes that a lot of novels written by men follow a pattern when it involves the plot of their stories. "There is a unified action that rises toward a climax then quickly involves an end" (Nodelman 124). Treasure Island follows this pattern. The novel moves towards the climax of finding the treasure then ends quickly without too great of detail with how the treasure money is spent or what happens in the character's lives. In many ways, Treasure Island exemplifies the narrative patterns of a "boy book."

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On the other end of the spectrum, the key Garden seems to be written for women. The Secret Garden's main character is a young, orphaned girl named Mary. The story focuses on Mary finding friends, becoming a better person, and a family coming together at last. Frances Burnett seems to follow two literary patterns described by Nodleman. The first is that she seems to write down more about domestic events instead of adventures. Although the garden is an adventure for Mary, planting, weeding, and tending to the garden are chores that a lot of would accompany women. The other literary pattern she follows is how the plot is laid out. Nodelman describes plots of novels written by woman as having many less-intense climaxes instead of one.

**Importance of Women Empowerment:**

**1. Under-employed and unemployed:**

Women population constitutes around 50% of the world population. A large number of girls round the world are unemployed. The world economy suffers tons due to the unequal opportunity for ladies at workplaces.

**2. Equally competent and intelligent:**

Women are equally competent. Nowadays, women are even before men in many socio-economic activities.

**3. Talented:** Women are as talented as men. Previously, women weren't allowed

education like men and hence their talents were wasted. But nowadays, they're also allowed to travel for higher studies and it encourages women to point out their talents which can not only benefit her individually but to the whole world at large.

**4. Overall development of society:** the most advantage of girls Empowerment is that there'll be an overall development of the society. The money that ladies earn doesn't only help them and or their family, but it also help develop the society.

**5. Economic Benefits:** Women Empowerment also results in more economic benefits to not the individuals but to the society also . Unlike earlier days once they stayed reception only and do only kitchen stuffs, nowadays, they roam outside and also earns money just like the male members of the society. Women empowerment helps women to face on their own legs, become independent and also to earn for his or her family which grows country's economy.

**6.Reduction in violence :** Women Empowerment results in decrease in domestic violence. Uneducated women are at higher risk for violence than educated women.

**7.Reduction in corruption:** Women Empowerment is also advantageous in case of corruption. Women empowerment helps

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women to urge educated and know their rights and duties and hence can stop corruption.

**8.Reduce Poverty:** Women Empowerment also reduces poverty. Sometimes, the money earned by the male member of the family is not sufficient to meet the demands of the family. The added earnings of women helps the family to come out of poverty trap.

**9.National Development:** Women are increasingly participating in the national development process. They are making the nation proud by their outstanding performances almost every spheres including medical science, social service, engineering, etc.

**10. Irreplaceable in some sectors:** Women are considered irreplaceable for certain jobs.

**Conclusion**

Women represent half the world's population, and gender inequality exists in every nation on the planet. Until women are given the same opportunities that men are, entire societies will be destined to perform

below their true potentials. The greatest need of the hour is change of social attitude to women. The economic impacts of gender inequality are still felt decades after women achieved more equal rights in the workforce and financial sphere. Younger generations, who have benefited from comparative gender equality since birth, have closed the gender gap in education and appear to be closing it in wages. Although women are not yet equal in terms of economic participation, it is heartening to see how much progress has been made in forty years. Women and men are becoming more and more equal. Men deserve to be equal just as much as women; women just had to work harder to get that equality. Mahatma Gandhi very aptly said "if you educate a man you educate an individual, but if you educate a woman you educate an entire family". So education is also one of the prime needs of women towards its development and empowerment in the society.

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