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on

# GENDER DISPARITY AND WOMEN SECURITY

ISSUES, CHALLENGES & SOLUTION

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### STATUS OF WOMEN IN INDIAN SOCIETY

Dr. Vineeta Singh

#### Abstract

The status of women in the ancient Indian society was quite better. Manu, the great law-giver, said long ago, 'where women are honored there reside the gods'. However in the middle age it got deteriorated and mentality of people towards women. Various ill practices came into existence against women which deteriorated the women status. The practice of polygamy, sati pratha, dowry system, female infanticide, etc became dominated and gave rise to the male dominated country and women were started to be treated as man's slaves. Slowly they became the weaker sex in the society because men used to keep women under their thumb. They were forced to obey men blindly as a dumb cattle living under four walls of the house. At some place in the country, women are still ill treated by the men even after the fast changes in the society. Women are treated as living things of the house following all the old cultures, traditions and restrictions of the society. Earlier the elders of the family were not be happy on the birth of a female child in the home however they became double happy if the child was male. They understood that male child will be source of money whereas female child will be consumer of money. Birth of daughter was supposed as curse to the family. Great Indian leaders had worked a lot to again raise the status of women in the Indian society.

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