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Outline

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SOCIAL STEREOTYPES RATHER THAN ECONOMIC FACTORS HINDER FEMALE EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION

SOCIO-CULTURAL BARRIERS TO FEMALE EDUCATION

- 1) Tribal mindsets hinder female education
- 2) Flawed religious beliefs impede access to education
- 3) Females are expected to fit into cultural roles that negatively affect their education
- 4) A pervasive concept of segregation of the sexes results in barring girls from getting an education
- 5) Rampant gender discrimination also acts as a deterrent to female education
- 6) The concept of Early marriages for women acts as a barrier to complete education
- 7) An investment in boys education is preferred since they are considered the primary bread winners
- 8) Terrorism and conflict ridden areas also suffer from a lack of female literacy rate

a much bigger role

ECONOMIC FACTORS PLAY A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN IMPEDING ACCESS TO EDUCATION

- 1) Poverty remains the biggest impediment to female education
- 2) Lack of post-primary schools, particularly in rural areas act as a hindrance to achieving female literacy

WAY FORWARD: CHALLENGING SOCIAL STEREOTYPES

- 1) Providing incentives to ensure attendance
- 2) Awareness campaigns in collaboration with the private sector to challenge stereotypes
- 3) Effectively using media to portray stronger females
- 4) Gender-awareness programs being added to curriculum
- 5) Hiring more female teachers to encourage female education, positive role models

Introduction

"No nation can rise to the height of glory, unless women are side by side with you", remarked the founder of Pakistan's nation Muhammad Ali Jinnah. Education remains the cornerstone of societal progress and development. Yet, in Pakistan, millions of girls are denied this right not only owing to the poor infrastructure and economic factors but also because of the entrenched social stereotypes that stigmatize women's education. Women are restricted to patriarchal gender roles due to tribalistic codes and religious dogmas. Since the concept of segregation has been so pervasive, men and women are not socialized properly to interact with the opposite sex, leading to unhealthy gender discrimination.

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practices. As a consequence of these socio-cultural norms, women's education isn't given much preference and instead they're married off early, further exacerbating the gender inequality existing in society. The presence of terror outfits further adds to the issue. While economic challenges such as poverty and poor infrastructure do pose difficulties, the ^{role} presence of socio-cultural beliefs plays a much bigger and deeper role in women's education. Therefore, social stereotypes, more than economic factors remain the primary barriers to female education and must be addressed through socio-cultural reform, awareness and policy intervention.

Date: 14/05/20 female education

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Social stereotypes rather than economic factor
Body Paragraph.

Deeply ingrained tribal mindsets perpetuate the social stereotypes that stop women from getting an education. In countries like

Pakistan and Afghanistan tribalism

still runs rampant. As such, citizens from tribal areas prefer strictly adhering to tribal codes of keeping women within the four walls of the home instead of furthering their education. Moreover, any semblance of departure from these tribal codes is considered a threat

by these societies. According to Dr Saadqat's research, the markedly lower literacy rates of FATA compared to KP and the rest of the country prove the effect of tribalism on women's access to education.

CONCLUSION

The role of finances can not be negated altogether in female education, but it is the deep-rooted social and cultural norms that obstruct the educational journey of women. Patriarchal systems rooted in tradition coupled with rampant religious conservatism acts as an impediment to women's access to education. Moreover, a preference for the male gender at homes, in schools and in workplaces deters women from having equal access to education. The continuation of these stereotypes along with the external factors such as poverty and proper infrastructure yields a disappointing result. As such, in order to grapple with these multifaceted hindrances,

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gender disparities need to be addressed through awareness campaigns, gender sensitive trainings ~~and~~ curricular updation and incentivized programs. ~~to tackle~~. Better representation of women in media and real-life will also have a positive impact. With collective effort, the barriers that hinder female education can be dismantled — by challenging one outdated norm at a time.