
Is education the most effective tool for achieving gender equality?

Outline

1. Introduction:-

- 1.1: Hook
- 1.2: General Statement
- 1.3: Thesis Statement:

Education plays a fundamental role in achieving gender equality. But it needs to counter certain socio-economic, cultural and political challenges which hinders the gender equality.

2. Education is not the most effective tool for achieving gender equality:-

- 2.1: Economic challenges deprived the girls from achieving their fundamental rights.

- 2.2: Overpopulation is a big hurdle in gender equality
- 2.3: Misconceptions of religious perspectives are ineffective for gender equality
- 2.4: Cultural differences plays great role in gender inequality
- 2.5: Vested political interests are main obstacle in gender equality
- 2.6: Lack of concentration of international organizations to ensure gender equality.

3. Education is most effective tool for gender equality (counter-narrative) E-

- 3.1: Providing education is not enough, there is a need of how to improve institutional infrastructure.
- 3.2: Distant educational institutions are hinderance in gender equality
- 3.3: Expensive education are not available for every citizen

4. Strategies have to be taken for effective gender equality:-
5. Conclusion:-

The Essay

In the era of world war II, Churchill received the letter from Hitler in which he said that if you don't attack on our institutions then your building will also remain save.

Churchill accepted his offer and thought that if institutional buildings are safe, Germany will gain progress very soon.

Education has remained a fundamental factor in the progress of every nation. The nations succeed in every field of life which put fronts education in every ground. Above all, education remains an effective tool for gender equality.

Education is the first step towards progress and good achievements for one nation.

Besides education, gender equality can be improved by ensuring economic improvements,

maintaining institutional infrastructure and by reducing hike prices of education. There is a need of improvements in institutional framework and in international organizations for ensuring gender equality. There are various problems that acts as great hinderance in the way of gender equality such as poverty, overpopulation, misunderstandings about religious concepts, cultural and social differences in different areas, vested political interests and lack of concentration of international organizations. Gender equality can be made effective by ensuring certain socio-economic reforms, institutional infrastructure and hygienic facilities and by removing the vested political interests related to illiteracy of women. Gender equality is the first step towards prosperity and success of a nation. Unless these issues are solved, country neither become prosperous nor succeed.

Begin with the economic challenges, the hindrance in the achievements of fundamental rights for gender equality. In 21st century, the inflation reached at its zenith. Due to this, an ordinary man is unable to fulfill its needs. There is no employment sources and poverty is all around. According to world Bank, 44.7m people lived in poverty and 25% of total population of Pakistan lived in extreme poverty.

"Poverty is the mother of Crime."

Gender equality can be ensured by provided equal opportunity of education; employment and other resources. But in this modern age, education is not enough for employment. According to Ishrat Hussain: there are 67% of the unemployed education holder and 33% of employed educated in Pakistan. Education is served as a big remedy for the gender equality in various countries such as Japan, China, Britain. But Pakistan needs to focus on its employment and fundamental resources which are necessary for gender

equality.

Along with economic challenges, overpopulation also remained a solid problem for gender equality. Population is increasing rapidly and one day it will explode as a ticking bomb. At the time of independence, natural resources are enough for population but with time population is increased and the resources are same. Due to overpopulation, parents are unable to facilitate every child with education. So, they are out-of-school and working on different workshop and increase child labor. According to World Bank, there 25 million children are out-of-school in which 65% are females and 35% are male of the age of 4-16 years. According to constitution of Pakistan **Article 25A**, state will provide the primary educational rights to every citizens and give free education of 16 years. Overpopulation is the main reason due to which parents not focus on girls education and other fundamental rights. Gender equality can be made

more effective by countering the issues of overpopulation.

Further, (misconcep^t) misperceptions of religious concepts prove a huge hurdle in gender equality. Several Ulama and perists thought that women is made for house. There is no role of women in outside places. These misconceptions instilled in the minds of males that they are made for rule on females. Due to this, females are deprived from their share of inheritance.

But in Quran, Allah declares the share of inheritance is female's right.

In rural and slum tribal areas, female has no right of education. But in Quran Allah said:

"Education is mandatory for both (male and female)"

Gender equality can only be ensured, when women will have all equal rights as men. Moreover, the restrictions on women education and outdoor activities in Afghanistan is also a bad impact

on gender equality. So, there is a need to remove misperceptions of religion to ensure effective gender equality in the world.

Moving ahead, there are cultural differences in different part of the world which are obstacles in the gender equality. Girls have not same fundamental rights in 21st century as boys. Certain developed regions agreed on the gender equality and women enjoys the same rights as men. But in tribal areas, women have no right of education, job, marriage.

Case of murder of Noor Bano in Baluchistan is the anger of cultural outdated traditions. **Tradition of early marriages** is not in the favor of gender equality.

16% of the total population of women faced early marriage of the age of 16 years. So, traditions are the main hurdles in the effectiveness of gender equality. Gender equality can be improved by ensuring awareness against the outdated cultural

traditions.

Next, the increasing political interests are the main obstacle in the way of gender equality. Major political parties play a great role in gender inequality by restricting the fundamental resources of women. They control on the mind the heart of people and instilled their outdated ideas in peoples. They prefer women to work in houses and raise children, no interference in other decisions. 50% of the political parties rule on the minds of people and use them to maintain their position in political field. They think that if women is enlightened with education, they would become out of control and this is danger for us. So, for ensuring effective gender equality it is needed to provide women with their fundamental resources.

At last, the ineffectiveness of international organizations are main hurdle in gender equality. These international forums are made to secure the rights of every citizen

For example, the **UNESCO** is established under the United Nations for securing women rights. But still there are only two women headed the UNESCO. In this forum, there are also male dominance. International organizations needed to be taken steps at grass root level to secure women rights. Gender equality can be ensured with the help of Governmental organizations, NGOs, and International organizations.

There is a need of hour to take step for ensuring gender equality.

On the other hand, education is not enough to ensure gender equality, there is a need to maintain institutional infrastructure. For example, there are **40% ghost schools** in Sindh and **45%** of the public schools have not proper hygienic facilities and infrastructure needed for girls. There are no separate libraries and classrooms for girls. There is a lack of security measures in the public school which results in higher severe accidents in schools. Due to all these reasons, drop-

out rate of school is higher in girls than boys.

Further distant educational institutions are great hinderance in getting education for women. There is a lack of proper transportation hinders the parents to let their girls for education. The lack of facilities of transportation is also a main obstacle which is to be improved. For example, In Japan, a train was revived on a route for a single girl student till her education has completed. Pakistan is need to work on the case studies of other countries to improve education system. By improving educational facilities and transportation, gender equality can become effective.

There is a need of how to take certain strategies by the government to enhance effectiveness of gender equality. Gender equality is to provide equal fundamental rights to every citizen without any preference and nepotism. Gender

can be made effective by ensuring employment opportunities, reducing over-population, controlling poverty, providing socio-economic rights and education to every citizen. This can be done by certain rule of law and provisions in effectiveness of international organizations. International organizations should not to be favored of vested political interests of developed countries.

In a nutshell, education is mandatory for every citizen. Education plays a fundamental role in solving several socio-economic challenges of a nation. But just education is not enough a tool for effective gender equality. Alongwith education, there is a need to focus on economic challenges, socio-cultural problems, poverty, misperceptions of religious concepts are the hurdle in the way of gender equality. Gender equality can be ensured by solving these issues. Only education is not enough, good infrastructure

for education is also need of hour.
We have to work for facilitate our
youth with their fundamental rights and
grow as an independent nation. An
independent citizen having all rights is
the first step of gender equality.
