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WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Women empowerment, a widely discussed topic of today, is all about the upliftment of women in every field of life i.e., education, labour, domestic and healthcare in an effort to create a society based on equality for all. For centuries, women have faced discrimination in the education field, from the European witch hunts of educated women to the suppression of female education in countries like Afghanistan today. Women have faced inequality not only in education but also in labour, as according to World Economic Forum, women in Pakistan earn 18% less than men for jobs of equal value. Moreover, 30% women worldwide are subjected to domestic violence according to World

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Health Organization. Last but not the least, women still face injustice in the health care sector as, in the case of Pakistan, no married woman can give consent of reproductive procedures on her own body without the permission of her husband, even if they're separated. The elimination of these challenges is the true essence of women empowerment and to eliminate them, following solutions must be adopted. First of all, governments should focus on increasing the enrollment and decreasing the dropping out rate of women from educational institutes to ensure an educated female population. Secondly, wage gaps should be addressed and fair compensation mechanisms should be adopted in both private and public sectors for equal pay distribution. Thirdly,

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no-tolerance policy should be adopted against domestic violence issues and women should be encouraged to report the violence they encounter. Lastly, healthcare policies should be revised, with women on board, and the female sex must be given their right to consent about procedures related to their own bodies.

Only this way, true women empowerment can be achieved and women can be uplifted in every field of life for a future based on justice and equality. As said by Melinda Gates,

“Investing in women means investing in the people who invest in everyone else.”

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