

A Sociological Analysis of Dowry System in India

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ABSTRACT

India is a patriarchal society. The status of women in India is below that of men while in our constitutions both have equal rights. Showing the status of women in the society, there is a bad practice called dowry system, which shows the status of women as low. Dowry system has been going on in our society for centuries. Continuous efforts are being made by our government to end the dowry system but this practice still exists in our society. The purpose of this research paper is to analyze the factors leading to dowry systems and to give some suggestions to solve this problem. Secondary sources have been used for this research papers, articles, journals TV shows, newspapers have been selected and also observation method used by authors regarding primary data from some fields.

Keywords; gender discrimination, education gap, social factors, economic factors, women status

I. INTRODUCTION

Dowry is a social immoral in our society that has caused unimaginable abuses and offence toward women and dirty that Indian marital system. dowry is payment made in cash or kind to a bride in law at time of her marriage. many such films have been made in our film world which exposes the dowry system in which, Lajja, Yeh aag kab bhjuhegi, mehndi movies are prominent. Through this film the Violence happening in our society due to dowry has been exposed how brides are burnt for dowry, how the procession goes out the door for dowry, how bride's father dies to save his honor because the procession returned from his house. The dowry system can put great financial burden on the bride's family by Anderson, Siwan (2007). In some cases, the dowry system leads to crime against women, ranging from emotional abuse and injury to even death by Anita Rao and Svetlana Sandra Correia (2011). According to (2017) articles, the payment of dowry system has long

been prohibited under specific Indian laws including the dowry prohibition Act 1961 approved by the parliament of India and subsequently by Sections 304B and 498 A of the Indian penal code. The dowry prohibition act 1961 defines dowry. 'Dowry means and property or valuable security given or agreed to be given either directly or indirectly by one party in marriage to the other party in marriage.

In India's modern age, dowry was a prevalent tradition. Based on geography and class, around some distinctions on dowry pervasiveness. Of all classes, states in north are more to be involved in dowry system, and settlement is more to be in from of substantial in addition to movable goods. The bride system is additional common in the south and is more frequently in front of terrestrial or other tradition products. The social construction of wedding, which holds matrimonial within or adjacent to family ties, is related to this scheme. In most cultures, religious, castes and regions of India, tradition of dowry is predominant. However, because of direct monetary benefits, caste, and region of India, tradition of dowry is predominant. However, because of direct monetary benefit, culture and group variations don't prevent this activity. The tradition of dowry is highly prevalent in Indian states of Bihar, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh; these states likewise report high rates of dowry related deceases. The customs of dowry is practiced in both northern and southern regions, even among Christian as well as Muslim societies; but settlement is experienced among both high in addition to lower classes in northern region, but it is mainly among high class people in southern regions.

FACTOR INFLUENCE OF DOWRY SYSTEM

There are many factors influence of dowry system. these are some example

- **Gender discrimination;**The Indian constitutions provide for gender equality. In 1990, the Parliament set up the national commission for women in order to protect and advance women's rights. The 73th and 74th Amendments to the Indian constitutions reserved political seats for women. Furthermore, the country has been ratifying some convention in order to eliminate discrimination against women. This was the case with the convention on the Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW), in 1993. Notwithstanding all these actions, the status of Indian women continues to be inferior to men's (Chowdhury and Patnaik, 2010; Savvasi and varre, 2013). Economic, cultural and social barrier continue to deny the most basic rights to women (CSSS, 2011; World Bank, 2011). There is a wealth of evidence that Indian society is male dominated the disproportionate gender ratio, female infanticide and the belief that the primary role of women is to serve men from their birth until death. starting by serving their fathers and brothers at the time of marriage women perpetuate their subservient role toward their husband. Currently, arranged marriages prevail Matrimonial rights, such as rights to property, adoption, divorce, or rights for widows to remarry, have been denied to women for a longtime. The low status that women have in Indian society is one of the causes of the offence perpetrated against them (CSSS, 2011). These are important factors of dowry system.
- **Education gap; Education** is considered to be a fundamental human right. As per Teach for Indian statistics, 4 percent of our children never start school. 58 percent don't complete primary schools. 90percent don't complete school. closely related to achievement gap and opportunity gap a learning the academic progress he or she has made and what the students was expected to learn at a certain point in his or her education, such as a particular age or grade level. In our present society the educational opportunity of boys and girl are not equal while the educational opportunity is equal by the government. If people financially weak then he considers it appropriate to teach boys instead of girls.
- **Social factors;**In parts of India, the arrangement and kinship of marriage relate to dowry. Matrimony typically follows a patrilocal

structure in the north, where groom is not related with family member. Perhaps because of exclusion of bride's family after marriage as method of ore mortem inheritance for the bride, this scheme promotes dowry. Marriage is most frequently done within bride's family in the south, for instance with close relations or cross cousins' marriage, besides at a closer corporeal distance to family. Furthermore, brides will be able to receive property, which type her more attractive in matrimonial, reducing probability of dowry over the price arrangement of the bride. The researcher obtained some information by observing some area in Bihar due to dowry many girls became much older than the marital age but their marriage is not yet. The mother of some girls told that if the dowry is not enough, then the marriage gets postponed or canceled due to some reason. by observation some people from economically weaker section choose marriage between their child's education and marriage because dowry will have to be given in marriage.

Objective

Study of factor influence dowry system & give some suggestions reduce dowry system

II. CONCLUSION

This research paper based on secondary sources and some primary sources in which some journals, articles, movies and observation have been used for this research paper. This paper based on qualitative study and descriptive design also. This research paper analysis social factors influence dowry system. gender discrimination and education gap is also responsible of dowry system. many types of acts were made by the government for the empowerment of women, but even today the condition of women in our society is pathetic. Education is considered to be a fundamental human right. As per Teach for Indian statistics, 4 percent of our children never start school. 58 percent don't complete primary schools. 90percent don't complete school.

Consequences of dowry system

Dowry has resulted in an increase harassment and murder cases. it places an economic burden on the bride's family; it has also contributed to an increase in child marriage, which has not yet been totally eradicated; and above all, it diminishes the status of women in society

Suggestions

- Educate your daughter
- Promote love marriage
- Promote inter caste marriage
- Give equal rights between sons & daughters
- Choose career instead of marriage
- Avoid any type of demands by groom's family
- Stop son preferences

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