

RESEARCH PAPER



GENDER STUDIES

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ABSTRACT:

The present article analyses the theme of the depiction of sufferings on the part of a female. It gives insight into the relations between gender and sexuality which serve as an interesting theoretical instrument from which we can think of normativity. What, according to society, is an ideal woman? This should be the most answered question.

Sometimes we fail to understand what we want and what we need? We need to realize that there is a vast difference between reality and fantasy. Life is an influential teacher. It keeps on giving us important lessons now and then. We need to keep in mind that one should not run for temporary happiness. We should try to attain a more subtle way to achieve real satisfaction. One cannot wake a person who is pretending to be asleep. It's better to choose someone less caring than someone more caring for yourself because the most formidable war is fought with the nearest people. So, it's better to maintain a reasonable distance from the people who are closer to you. It is better to remain broken than to get broken every time by others. One should not go through the same pain again and again. Strive to be someone's choice rather than their option. Hold power to choose in your hands.

Women are an integral part of human civilization. No nation or society can ever progress without the active participation of women in its overall development. Although the place of woman in society has differed from culture to culture and from age to age, one fact

common

To almost all societies is that a woman has never been considered equal to a man. Her status depends mainly on the simple biological fact that she is inferior to man, and that is why she is usually restricted to her traditionally assigned roles.

She has been the victim of male domination and oppression and is treated like a beast and pleasure object. Man has always looked down upon her as the weaker sex and his sole property. Besides, many religions of the world have given sanction to the female's subjugation to society's male members. Shobha De is one of the modern Indian women novelists. She probes into the fathoms of the modern woman's psyche and her cares and worries in her fiction. She explores the world of the modern urban woman as her novels are the slice of urban life. They deal with the contemporary issues related to subjugated and marginalized women. She realistically presents an intimate side of urban woman's life in her novels and at the same time reveals her plight in present-day society. It is a fact that the woman is a victim everywhere of the prevalent

social norms. She gets trapped within the set moral codes and social standards of the society and consequently leads an unhappy life. The woman of urban life is no exception to it. A woman is born to be as free as a man, but she is victimized and subdued by the male community everywhere in a patriarchal culture. She has been the subordinate sex, 'the second sex,' and has to conform to male standards.

The term 'man' usually reveals the entire human race, while 'woman' is silent and not mentioned. In a male-dominated society, a woman is still a second person and does not enjoy equal status with men. Even an educated woman cannot pursue her career without performing domestic duties. She has to pay attention to her career as well as home at the stake of her potentialities. This is one reason why the conflict between tradition and modernity finds a prominent place in women's portrayal by women novelists. Thus, to raise women's position, it is urgent to protect women from patriarchal subordination. It is the patriarchal ideology that makes us feminine and masculine, assigning different roles, rights, and responsibilities to women and men. Those so-called 'masculine' and 'feminine' qualities are human qualities and not specific to either men or women. Since both men and women do all works, there is no reason to differentiate pieces based on sex. Men made this differentiation of work only for their privilege, for their material benefit. Not every child in the family, just a male child, is allowed and encouraged to grow and flourish. So the culture which has been developed based on gender should be changed. Family can play a significant role by bringing a new dimension in reconstructing the ongoing socialization. Moreover, if men become more like women, i.e., look after children and older people, run homes, etc. It will make the man more gentle, sensitive, and human and will relieve women of some of the work burden. And if bravery, fearlessness, rationality, efficiency is considered 'male,' then women should imbibe

and practice these traits. Our double standards of morality and our laws, which give men more rights, should also be reformed. All that is needed is recognizing justice and the courage to end this injustice, male discrimination, and double standard. Given the fact that patriarchal oppression of women is rooted in the home/family sexuality and man-woman relationship, so this patriarchal oppression and exploitation of women within families should be protected by "personal matter of families" addressed and analyzed to change. It is essential to establish equal rights between men and women in all respects of life to bring equality.

The responsibilities of women should also be equally distributed. I believe that real democracies and egalitarian societies can only be established if we practice democracy, equality, and mutual respect within the family.

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