



## COMPARISON OF THE ADOLESCENT GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL AND URBAN AREA IN DEHRADUN DISTRICT

Neerja Dhankar  
Professor & Dean\*

Alka Gaur  
Research Scholar\*

\*Himgiri Zee University, Dehradun, India

Received : 07/03/2017

1st BPR : 10/03/2017

2nd BPR : 13/03/2017

Accepted : 18/03/2017

### ABSTRACT

Family is the most important and basic unit of society and a women is the most important part of family. Women is considered as the foundation of the human society. But position of women is contradictory in our country, on one side we considered her has Goddess and on the other side she is considered as a burden on the family. In this situation women empowerment is needed to improve their condition and status in the society.

*Key words:-* Adolescent, Girls, Empowerment, Development

### INTRODUCTION

India is a vast country of a mixture of various religion, caste, class, language and groups. In Indian society family is the most important basic and smallest unit and women is an important part of the family. We can not imagine a family without women. Women play a vital and dynamic role in her whole life, she plays a role of a daughter, wife, mother and many other also. Mandal (2003) stated that women are considered foundation of the human society from every angle. Without the active and significant role of women no family can be imagined thus they are the foundation stone of the nation, family being a unit of it.

Everyone knows that women form the most weak section of the society. They are far back then men in every field, whether it is economically, socially or educationally. There are many reasons behind it, one of them is patriarchal system in the family. Our society followed the patriarchal system which is responsible for the declining status of girls in their own family and society. They play double role in their family as they work outside their home to earn money and also take care of their family inside their home. But their position is still considered lower than men.

This is our old custom and culture to protect and save the respect of our girls. But the position of girls in our country is contradictory. On the one hand people considered them as a Goddess, they worship them in the form of Durga but on the other side they considered them burden on the family. They don't give them equal status as men. Gender discrimination is another problem which are facing by most of the women in our country. Gender discrimination is responsible for their decreasing status. It start from the very first day of the birth of a child. Shastri (2014) stated that when a child birth takes place in a family then the process of gender discrimination arose automatically and the process of gendering starts. When a son takes birth in the family, the day of his birth celebrated like a festival but on the other side when a girl take birth in a family they feel her as a burden. And thus gender discrimination starts from the very first day of her birth. Girls do not have their own choices to choose their dressing style, education, occupation. Even they are not free to choose their life partner. Parents do not feel need to ask their



daughter about their marriage. This is the reason that after marriage also they face lots of problems. They do not have equal respect and status in their own house.

Girls empowerment is the most important tool to remove all the obstacles of girls development. Even it is necessary for the nation's development also. Empowerment of girls means the overall development of the girls in every field. It involves economic equality, social and political activities, equal education and right to freedom. It gives the strength to the girls to improve their own life. Sarawan and Palanisamy (2013) said that in order to fight against the socially constructed gender biases girls have to swim against the system that requires more strength. Such strength comes from the process of empowerment.

#### OBJECTIVE

- To know the empowerment level of rural and urban adolescent girls
- To know the difference of empowerment level between the adolescent girls of rural and urban area.

#### HYPOTHESIS

1. There is no significance difference of Power and Entitlement between the girls of higher secondary school of rural area and urban area.
2. There is no significance difference of Autonomy & Self Reliance between the girls of higher secondary school of rural area and urban area.
3. There is no significance difference of Decision Making between the girls of higher secondary school of rural area and urban area.
4. There is no significance difference of Participation in Social & Developmental Activities between the girls of higher secondary school of rural area and urban area.
5. There is no significance difference of Capacity Building between the girls of higher secondary school of rural area and urban area.
6. There is no significance difference of Social Political & legal awareness between the girls of higher secondary school of rural area and urban area.
7. There is no significance difference of Exposure to Information media between the girls of higher secondary school of rural area and urban area.

#### RESEARCH DESIGN

##### SAMPLE

Sample of the present study consisted of 60 girls of the age group between 16-18 years studying in senior secondary school of rural and urban area of Dehradun district of Uttarakhand state. Sample was selected randomly from the senior secondary school of rural and urban area of Dehradun district.

##### TOOL

To assess the adolescent girls empowerment "Adolescent Girls' Empowerment Scale" developed by Dr. Devendra Singh Sisodia & Dr. Alpana Singh has been used in the present study.

#### STATICAL ANALYSIS

To analyze the data Mean, Standard Deviation and T-Test has been used in the present study.

**Table - 1**

Area	School Type	Mean	Standard Deviation	T-value	Result
Power and Entitlement	Rural	28.97	4.80	2.32	Significant
	Urban	30.70	0.62		

Table 1 shows that relationship of Power and Entitlement between adolescent girls of rural and urban area is significant at 0.05 and 0.01 level of significance.



**Table - 2**

Area	School Type	Mean	Standard Deviation	T-value	Result
Autonomy and Self Reliance	Rural	28.90	3.61	0.84	Not Significant
	Urban	29.43	3.32		

Table 2 shows that relationship of Autonomy and Self reliance between adolescent girls of rural and urban area is not significant at 0.05 and 0.01 level of significance.

**Table - 3**

Area	School Type	Mean	Standard Deviation	T-value	Result
Decision Making	Rural	29.05	3.46	1.54	Not Significant
	Urban	29.97	3.03		

Table 3 shows that relationship of decision making between adolescent girls of rural and urban area is not significant at 0.05 and 0.01 level of significance.

**Table - 4**

Area	School Type	Mean	Standard Deviation	T-value	Result
Participation in Social and developmental activities	Rural	29.32	3.70	2.01	Significant
	Urban	28.03	3.28		

Table 4 shows that relationship of participation in social and developmental activities between adolescent girls of rural and urban area is significant at 0.05 and 0.01 level of significance.

**Table - 5**

Area	School Type	Mean	Standard Deviation	T-value	Result
Capacity building	Rural	29.40	3.51	0.81	Not Significant
	Urban	29.87	2.73		

Table 5 shows that relationship of capacity building between adolescent girls of rural and urban area is not significant at 0.05 and 0.01 level of significance.

**Table - 6**

Area	School Type	Mean	Standard Deviation	T-value	Result
Social political and legal awareness	Rural	29.13	3.52	0.40	Not Significant
	Urban	29.38	3.18		

Table 6 shows that relationship of social political and legal awareness between adolescent girls of rural and urban area is not significant at 0.05 and 0.01 level of significance.

**Table - 7**

Area	School Type	Mean	Standard Deviation	T-value	Result
Exposure to Information media	Rural	28.67	3.65	0.84	Not Significant
	Urban	29.17	2.79		

Table 7 shows that relationship exposure to Information media between adolescent girls of rural and urban area is not significant at 0.05 and 0.01 level of significance.



#### MAJOR FINDINGS

1. Findings show that there is a significance difference of power and entitlement between adolescent girls of rural and urban area. Hence the hypothesis is rejected.
2. There is no significance difference of autonomy and self reliance between adolescent girls of rural and urban area. Hence the hypothesis is accepted.
3. There is no significance difference decision making between adolescent girls of rural and urban area. Hence the hypothesis is accepted.
4. There is significance difference of participation in social and developmental activities between adolescent girls of rural and urban area. Hence the hypothesis is rejected.
5. There is no significance difference of capacity building between adolescent girls of rural and urban area. Hence the hypothesis is accepted.
6. There is no significance difference social, political and legal awareness between adolescent girls of rural and urban area. Hence the hypothesis is accepted.
7. There is no significance difference of exposure to information media between adolescent girls of rural and urban area. Hence the hypothesis is accepted.

#### CONCLUSION

On the basis of the above findings of this study we concluded that there is no significance difference of autonomy and self reliance, decision making, capacity building, social, political and legal awareness, and exposure to information media between the adolescent girls of rural and urban area. Although there is a significance difference between the adolescence girls of rural and urban area in the areas of power and entitlement and, participation in social and developmental activities.

Further it shows that mean score of the rural girls are less than the mean score of urban girls, which shows that rural girls are less empowered in the areas of power and entitlement, autonomy and self reliance, decision making, capacity building, social, political and legal awareness and, exposure to information media.

Hence there is a need to empower the adolescent girls in India especially in the rural areas, because adolescent girls are the future of our developed nation. We cannot imagine the development of our society and country without girls' empowerment. Thus girls empowerment is a way to achieve our nations development. Girls' empowerment is necessary for a better and secured future of girls as well as our country.

#### REFERENCES

- Mandal J. (2003) "Women and reservation in India". *Kalpaz Publication, New Delhi*, pp-98.
- Mukhopadhyay, H (2008) The role of education in the empowerment of women in a district of West Bengal India:- Reflection on a survey of women. *Journal of International Women's studies*. Vol - 10 (2) PP 201-225.
- Agbalajobi D.T. (2010). Women's participation and the political process in Nigeria: Problems and Prospects. *Africal Journal of Political Science and International Relations* Vol4(2) pp 75-82.
- Saravan S and Palanisamy M. (2013) "Impact of education on women empowerment in India." *International Journal of social science and interdisciplinary research*. Vol-2 (11) pp-1.
- Kumar, D. (2014), Socio-Cultural influence on women Entrepreneur: A study of Uttarakhand state. *International Journal of Trade and Commerce*. Vol-3 (1) pp 128-139.
- Nandal and Rajnish (2014), Status of women through ages in India. *International research journal of social science*. Vol-3 (1) pp 21-26.
- Shastri A. (2014) "Gender in equality and women discrimination." *IOSR journal of humanities and social sciences*. Vol-19 (11) pp-27-30

