



# REVIEW OF RESEARCH

ISSN: 2249-894X

IMPACT FACTOR : 5.7631(UIF)

UGC APPROVED JOURNAL NO. 48514

VOLUME - 8 | ISSUE - 9 | JUNE - 2019



## AWARENESS OF FEMINISTIC RIGHTS ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION OF PASCHIM MEDNIPUR DISTRICT, WEST BENGAL

**Dr. Smriti Kiran Saimons<sup>1</sup> and Srabani Jana<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Associate Professor, Dept.of Education, Dr. C. V. Raman University ,  
Kargi Road Kota Bilaspur (C.G.) India.

<sup>2</sup> M.Phil Scholar, Dept.of Education , Dr.C.V.Raman University  
Kargi Road Kota Bilaspur (C.G.) India.

### ABSTRACT

***"Human Rights are women's Rights, and Women's Rights are Human Rights."***

***- Hillary Clinton.***

*In recent times, more attention needs to be paid to empowering women throughout the world. Creating a suitable environment in which every woman can enjoy her feminist rights is very important. The fact that most women are not even conscious of their own rights is a matter of great concern, primarily because they are deprived of proper education and because of their lack of awareness; they are gradually subjugated by the male dominated society. It's true that in the last few decades, many women enjoy equal status as men, but every woman from every corner of the world should have the opportunity to enjoy their every single right. Through government initiatives, legal aid and shifting the traditional perspectives of society against women, we will create a society in which women and men can thrive by engaging in the world's social, cultural, economic and political spheres.*



**KEY WORDS:** - social, cultural, economic , male dominated society.

### INTRODUCTION:

The subject of women's empowerment by ensuring women's rights has recently been a burning issue around the world. Women Empowerment is not the process of giving women power because they already have ample power — mind power, intelligence power, information power, and so forth. Women advancement happens from a regional viewpoint, through

change.

D.G. Anderson aptly said: "Feminism is not about strengthening women. It's about changing the way the world perceives the abilities, women are already powerful. Men dominate the social, political, economic life of women in Indian patriarchal society. Across all facets of life Indian women are disempowered and

discouraged.

Women empowerment is a prerequisite for a society's very growth, as it increases the quality and quantity of human capital available for growth. Women empowerment is possible in educational, political, economic, social, cultural aspects of life by ensuring equal opportunities for women.

**“Human Rights are women’s Rights, and Women’s Rights are Human Rights.” - Hillary Clinton.**

India's Constitution grants women distinct rights, but given all of these guarantees, women's status is not much improved as women’s fundamental human rights are being violated even in recent times. Many social movements around the world are struggling to ensure the rights of women to work freely to be free from sexual violence, to hold public office to own property, education, fair wages or equal pay. The recognition of women's human rights in India or elsewhere has had many hurdles. But for the betterment of our society we must certainly achieve such women's rights.

**“There is no chance of the welfare of the world unless the condition of women is improved. It is not possible for a bird to fly on one wing”- Swami Vivekananda.**

**SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

Gender discrimination is an injustice of women, of humanity. Women's are also perpetrators within society of this injustice. As our culture embraces democracy, gender inequality is slowly diminishing. Yet women are often discriminated against in our society and in other aspects of society women's equality with men is still disregarded. Our culture is engaged in the provision of women's equality in all fields. It is sometimes alleged that female students are discriminated against in higher education institutions and that fair justice is not permitted.

Feministic rights and opportunities of women are a matter of human rights. These need to be maintained carefully. Their right to higher education needs to be recognized and protected by the higher education institutions. The institutions need to provide resources and associated services for women students as part of social justice.

The present study aims at focusing on the feministic rights and opportunities of higher education to female students maintained for the ensured to them. It will illuminate how female students are treated in higher educational institutions. The study will benefit the society in its effort to ensure equality to female students of higher education and to protect them against institutional neglect and injustice.

**• Statement Of The Problem:-**

The problem for the present study is stated as follow:

**“Awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Higher Education of Paschim Mednipur District, West Bengal”.**

**Operational Definition and Terminologies:-**

- **Awareness:** Awareness is the state or condition of being aware, conscious of something. It is the knowledge, perception, understanding of a fact or event.
- **Feministic Rights:** A feministic right refers to those social, political, economic rights which solemnly assert women’s equal positions to that of men.
- **Women Empowerment:** women empowerment refers to the process of improving and enhancing the social, political, cultural, economic strength of women. It also refers to the process of creating an environment where women can improve their capacities and strengthen their abilities to live independently.

**• OBJECTIVES:-**

- The study broadly examines the **“Awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Higher Education of Paschim Mednipur District, West Bengal”**. The specific objectives are as under:
- **1.** To study the difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Male and Rural Male students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.

- 2. To study the difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Male and Rural Female students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.
- 3. To study the difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Female and Rural Male students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.
- 4. To study the difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Female and Rural Female students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.
- 5. To study the difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban and Rural students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.

• **HYPOTHESIS:-**

- **H01.** There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Male and Rural Male students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.
- **H02.** There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Male and Rural Female students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.
- **H03.** There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Female and Rural Male students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.
- **H04.** There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Female and Rural Female students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.
- **H05.** There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban and Rural students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.

• **DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY:-**

Delimitations are the boundaries of the study.

The present study was undertaken in order to study the Awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Higher Education of Paschim Mednipur District, West Bengal”.

- The research is delimited to Paschim Mednipur District, West Bengal.
- The research is delimited to the Urban and Rural B.Ed College students of West Bengal only.

**Research Methodology And Research Design**

• **Methodology-**

The materials and methods used for collecting and analyzing the data are explained under the following heads

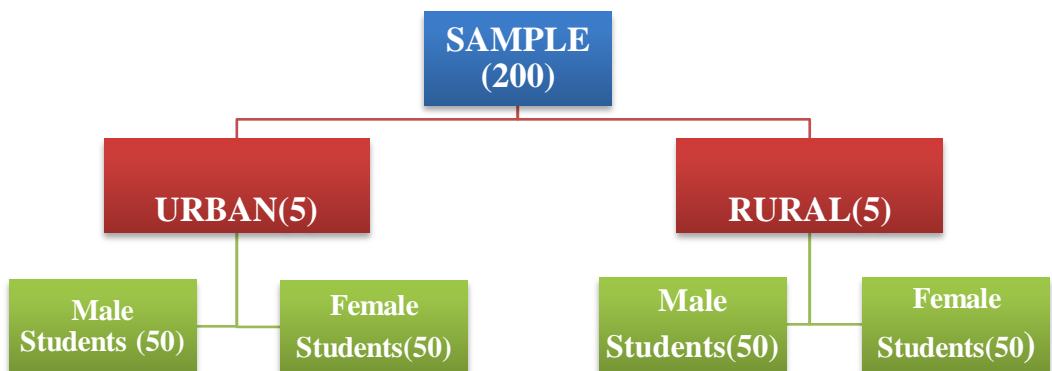
**Sampling**

**(1) For Schools -Purposive Sampling Method.**

**(2) For Students -Simple Random Sampling Method.**

It has been reported that if a small representative sample is drawn from the entire population. The parameters are represented and estimated by the sample statistics. In this present study, the investigator selected a sample of 200 B.Ed Students of B.Ed Colleges at Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.

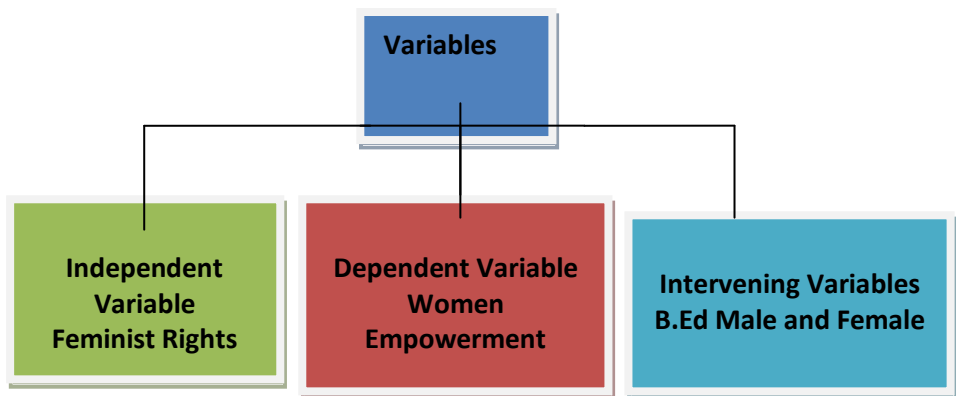
Thus, a sample is a small proportion of a population selected for observation and analysis. By observing the characteristic of the sample, one can make certain inferences about the characteristics of the population from which it is drawn.



**B.Ed Colleges**

- **Variable Used in the Study:-**
- **Independent variable –Feminist Rights**
- **Dependent variable – Women Empowerment**

**(ii) Intervening variables – B.Ed Male and Female.**



Independent variables that are not related to the purpose of the study, but may affect the dependent variable are termed as extraneous variables.

• **Tools used for Data Collection:-**

The present study being a descriptive survey, the tools used by the researcher were questionnaires. Self Made questionnaire were used for measuring Awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Higher Education of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.

• **Tools Description:-**

**Awareness of Feminist Rights Scale**

- **Description:** This Scale is Self Made. The tool contains **50 items** categories into **11 dimensions** namely. The items of the scale are arranged in the same order as the dimensions and they rotate in a cycle through the scale

- **Response Mode:** Respondents are asked to rate statements as to their own awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment ranging from 'yes' to 'No'
- **Scoring** The scale is scored separately for each respondent for "Yes"-1Score and "No"-0 Scores

**Statistical Analysis Of The Data**

Statistic is the basic tools of measurement and the research. Different statistical methods pertinent to formulated hypotheses are used to verify those hypotheses.

**H01.** There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Male and Rural Male students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District,West Bengal.

**Table -1**

Variables	N	Mean	SD	SED	t-test	df	Significance Level	Interpretation
Urban Male Students	50	31.54	9.45	1.828	0.1969	98	0.05-1.98	Accepted
Rural Male Students	50	31.18	8.82				0.01-2.60	

**Interpretation of the value of t- test**

The above table shows that, the calculated't' value is 0.1968 which is less than the table value at 0.05 level i.e. 1.98 and .01 level i.e. 2.60 with df 98 . Hence the hypothesis There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Male and Rural Male students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District,West Bengal is accepted.

**Result**

There is significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Male and Rural Male students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District,West Bengal

**H02.** There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Male and Rural Female students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District,West Bengal.

**Table -2**

Variables	N	Mean	SD	SED	t-test	df	Significance Level	Interpretation
Urban Male Students	50	31.54	9.45	1.791	1.4628	98	0.05-1.98	Accepted
Rural Female Students	50	28.92	8.43				0.01-2.60	

**Interpretation of the value of t- test**

The above table shows that, the calculated 't' value is 1.4628 which is less than the table value at 0.05 level i.e. 1.98 and .01 level i.e. 2.60 with df 98 . Hence the hypothesis There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Male and Rural Female students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District,West Bengal is accepted.

**RESULT**

There is significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Male and Rural Female students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District,West Bengal.

**H03.** There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Female and Rural Male students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District,West Bengal.

**Table -3**

Variables	N	Mean	SD	SED	t-test	df	Significance Level	Interpretation
Urban Female	50	31.78	9.64	1.848	0.3247	98	0.05-1.98	Accepted
Rural Male students	50	31.18	8.82				0.01-2.60	

**Interpretation of the value of t- test**

The above table shows that, the calculated 't' value is 0.3247 which is less than the table value at 0.05 level i.e. 1.98 and .01 level i.e. 2.60 with df 98 . Hence the hypothesis There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Female and Rural Male students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District,West Bengal accepted.

**Result**

There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Female and Rural Male students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District,West Bengal

**H04.** There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Female and Rural Female students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District,West Bengal.

**Table -4**

Variables	N	Mean	SD	SED	t-test	df	Significance Level	Interpretation
Urban Female	50	31.78	9.64	1.812	1.5788	98	0.05-1.98	Accepted
Rural Female students	50	28.92	8.43				0.01-2.60	

**Interpretation of the value of t- test**

The above table shows that, the calculated 't' value is 1.5788 which is less than the table value at 0.05 level i.e. 1.98 and .01 level i.e. 2.60 with df 98 . Hence the hypothesis There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Female and Rural Female students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District,West Bengal accepted.



**Result**

There is significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Female and Rural Female students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal accepted.

**H05.** There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban and Rural students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.

**Table -5**

Variables	N	Mean	SD	SED	t-test	df	Significance Level	Interpretation
Urban Students	100	31.66	9.50	1.285	1.2526	198	0.05-1.98	Accepted
Rural Students	100	30.05	8.66				0.01-2.60	

**Interpretation of the value of t- test**

The above table shows that, the calculated 't' value is 1.2526 which is less than the table value at 0.05 level i.e. 1.98 and .01 level i.e. 2.60 with df 198 . Hence the hypothesis There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban and Rural students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal accepted.

**Result**

There is significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban and Rural students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.

**Major Findings Of The Study**

- 1. There is significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Male and Rural Male students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal
- 2. There is significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Male and Rural Female students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal
- 3. There is no significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Female and Rural Male students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal
- 4. There is significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban Female and Rural Female students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal accepted.
- 5. There is significant difference between the awareness of Feministic Rights on Women Empowerment in Urban and Rural students of B.Ed college of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal.

**CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION**

In recent time, the empowerment of women must be given more attention in the whole world. It is very much important to create a suitable environment where every woman can enjoy their feministic rights. It is a matter of great concern that most of the women are not even aware about their own rights, mainly because they are deprived of proper education and due to their lack of awareness; they are more and more subjugated by the male dominated society. It is true that many women are enjoying equal status like men in the last few decades, but each and every woman from each corner of the world should

have the opportunity to enjoy their every single right. Through Government initiatives, legal assistance, and by changing society's traditional perspectives towards women, we can create a society where women along with men can flourish through participating the social, cultural, economic, political spheres of the world.

### SUGGESTION:

After this project work the investigator realized that the coming investigator can take the following things for further study in this field.

#### 1. Suggestion to Awareness of Feministic Rights

- **GENDER EQUALITY:** as a fundamental human right, Gender equality should prevail in the society so that women can enjoy equal opportunities, status without any discrimination.
- **RIGHT TO WORK:** Women should get the equal opportunity to participate in the public sphere and work freely without any fear of physical and mental harassment. There should not be any wage gap between male and female employees.
- **RIGHT TO PROPERTY:** There should be adequate legal measures in the legal system to establish women's right to property to support them financially.
- **PUBLIC AWARENESS:** there should be movements, campaigns all over the world to aware every woman (about their own rights) especially the marginalized women.

#### 2. Suggestion for Women Empowerment:

- **LIBERTY:** Women should have the liberty which is a human right. They should have freedom of movement, freedom of choice, freedom of speech, freedom of action.
- **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:** in our society women should be protected from domestic violence by providing proper legal assistance and by protesting against the culturally and socially accepted rules, norms and practices which treat women as a subordinate class in the society.
- **SEXUAL ASSAULT:** it is very important in today's scenario to take necessary steps to prevent sexual assault faced by women in their society even at their home. Stringent laws and implementation of those laws can prevent sexual violence.
- **ZERO TOLERANCE OF VIOLENCE:** The women victim should raise their voice against domestic violence, sexual assault and lodge hesitation. Awareness campaign should promote zero tolerance of violence and support the victim in all possible ways.
- **WOMEN'S EDUCATION:** proper attention should be given to priorities the issue of women education which can enlighten the women.

### REFERENCES

- Kour, Dr. T. (2007), Women Empowerment yet a distant dream, New Delhi, A.P.H. Publishing Corporation, ISBN No.: 9789331327383.
- Gonsalves, L. (2006), Women and Human Rights, New Delhi, A.P.H. Publishing Corporation, ISBN No.: 9788176482479.
- Naseema, C. (2008), Human Rights Education, Delhi, Shipra Publications, ISBN No.: 9788175413924.
- Singh, Pal, Dr. S. & Kaul, A. & Chaudhary, S. (2016), Peace and Human Rights Education, New Delhi, A.P.H. Publishing Corporation, ISBN No.: 9788131308226.
- Sharma, M.B. (2007), Women and education, New Delhi, For Commonwealth Publishers, ISBN No.: 8171693083.
- Agarwal, J.C. (1975), Educational Research an Introduction, New Delhi, Arya book depot, ISBN NO.: 9788170631705
- Best, John, W. (1986), Research Education Prentice, New Delhi, Hall of Indian Pvt. Ltd. 10<sup>th</sup> ed. ISBN NO.: 0205458408.



- Kumar, Dr. R. (2010) Research Methodology, Kolkata, SAGE Publication, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed, ISBN No.: 1849203016.
- Creswell, J. (2013), Research Design, New Delhi, SAGE Publication, 5<sup>th</sup> ed, ISBN No.: 1506386709.
- Forster, C. and Sagade, J. (2019), Women's Human Rights in India, London, Routledge India, ISBN No.: 9780429320200.
- Aneja, A. (2019), Women's and Gender Studies in India, New Delhi, Roulledge India, ISBN No.: 9780367202347.
- Mill, J. (1969), The Subjection of Women, London, British Library, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. ISBN No.: 0800759296019.
- Butler, j. (1999), Gender Trouble, New Delhi, Routledge India, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. ISBN No.: 0415389550.
- Wikipedia, "Women's empowerment",
- Libertarianism, "Feminism and Women's Rights".  
[https://www.libertarianism.org/topics/feminism\\_and\\_womens\\_rights](https://www.libertarianism.org/topics/feminism_and_womens_rights), (Browsing date:21<sup>st</sup> June 2020).
- Hasin, F. and Musa, H. (2018), Women Empowerment Model: Strategies to Overcome Challenges, ISSN No.: 1112-9867.