

Review Article

Review Article on Attitude of Parents towards Girls Education

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Abstract: Education is a modern word, which is derived from the Latin word 'educase', means to nourish, to cause to grow. Education is the right of every human being regardless of gender, race or region. Female education plays an important role in the societal progress and improvement. Recruitment of more women teachers should be done who can serve as role models for girls and may make girls' parents feel more comfortable. Providing girls with access to sport can also contribute to achieving gender parity in education. The schools should be protected so that parents will not hesitate to send their daughters to schools. Many girls drop out of school at the onset of menstruation, partly because there are no separate toilet facilities. Many girls are kept at home to help with domestic tasks. A tradition of early marriage, social norms and values undermine the importance of educating girls. Education of a girl is like educating a family while educating a boy is merely educating a person. The aim of this study was to review the literature on attitude of parents towards girl's education.

Keywords: attitude, parents, girl's education

INTRODUCTION

Education is a modern word, which is derived from the Latin word 'educase', means to nourish, to cause to grow [11]. Education is the right of every human being regardless of gender, race or region. Female education plays an important role in the societal progress and improvement. Education is most powerful tool for change and can put girls on the path of economic and social empowerment. Making education free and compulsory is the keystone of any national plan to eliminate gender disparity in education and achieve universal education. Recruitment of more women teachers should be done who can serve as role models for girls and may make girls' parents feel more comfortable. Providing girls with access to sport can also contribute to achieving gender parity in education. The schools should be protected so that parents will not hesitate to send their daughters to schools [6]. Many girls drop out of school at the onset of menstruation, partly because there are no separate toilet facilities. Many girls are kept at home to help with domestic tasks. A tradition of early marriage, social norms and values undermine the importance of educating girls. Education of a girl is like educating a family while educating a boy is merely educating a person. Urban people are more interested in the education of their daughter than the rural ones [8].

The aim of this study was to review the literature on attitude of parents towards girl's education.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

As reported by Pakistan [1] it was found that majority of the parents discontinued schooling of girls at the initial level due to misconception about religious teaching and perceptions of the special treatment towards females in their grooming. Rural communities believe that a college or university education can empower women to disagree with the decisions of the elders of the family.

Buchmann and Hannum [2] expressed that cultural behavior of head of the household, cultural beliefs and attitude towards women's role in society play an important role in deciding the educational levels of girls in family.

A number of studies found the conservative attitude of parents responsible for less schooling among females [3-5].

A study in Pakistan reported that (7)majority of the parents have a positive attitude towards daughters education. 56% female respondents were not sending their daughters to school because of distance problem; 21.3% due to financial problem, 17.3% because of shortage of trained teachers, 2.7% due to lack of government policies and family tradition. 52.3% of male respondents were not sending their daughters to school because of distance problem, 20% due to

shortage of trained teachers, and 17.3% because of financial problems.

In a study in Pakistan [9] it was found that girls being visible within the public sphere during travel to and from school and in mixed-gender schools were other causes of parents not in favour to send their daughters to school. More than one-half of the respondents (52.3%) agreed to the statement that higher education causes girls to become 'rebellious'. Below are the some of the statements:

By educating daughters, the family's respect can be destroyed. When they will be away from home, they will act according to their will. Who is watching over them then? These older girls should be kept at home. We [parents] should be aware of whether a daughter is standing or sitting. (Female, Age 39)

In our rural society, sons are our heirs. Fathers avoid higher level schooling of daughters as highly educated girls make demands for inheritance and start behaving like brothers in demanding the same status...Parents experience difficulties for marrying highly educated daughters, as within family (marriage within kin group) highly educated matches are rare. (Male)

Girls in our society are not allowed to wander outside the home. Therefore, we are not willing to send them to cities for education. (Male, age 53)

Our son would be head of the household. He has to earn and feed the family, whereas daughters are paraaya dhaan and have to eventually move to another home; why should we educate them? We will educate our sons and get them recruited in the Police or Army...we will train her (daughter) for household chores and then marry her off. (Female)

Another study [10] in India reported that overall the attitude of the respondents was found to be moderately favorable towards education of their children. The study also throws light on the fact that time has change and parents are aware regarding literacy and education; persistent campaigns through mass media around the country and attempts at mainstreaming have significantly affected all sections of the society, including the rural population.

A study in tribal area in Orissa in India [12] reported that 68 per cent of respondents have girl children in their family. Regarding sending girl's child to the school, the study shows that 50 percent of them send their girl child for schooling regularly. Most of the parents showed their interest to send their girl's child outside for the higher study. It was also found that parents allow their girls for the job. Majority (84 percent) of respondents visit the school where their girl

children study. And 76 per cent of respondents have Rs. 2000-3000 as their monthly income for their livelihood. The study also reveals that 94 per cent of respondents are aware of various government of program being implemented for girl child education. Now tribal people are giving priority for education even if they invest for girls education, realizing the importance of education in the modern era.

In another study of Pakistan [13], it was found that all the parents were interested in education of girls but they could not do so due to poverty. Majority of the parents were in favour of school/college education. Major reason of girl's dropout was poverty, marriage and religious constraints. Factors hindering female education were found to be poverty, lack of awareness or incentives, uneducated parents and early marriages. Majority of the parents were in favour of allowing the females to do jobs. Majority of the parents needed their girls in homes for domestic work. Majority of the parents were not in favour of co- education.

CONCLUSION

To ensure the attendance of teachers, special administrative and managerial arrangements should be taken. Providing transport facility to female teachers and special incentives for the teachers serving in remote tribal areas can be proved helpful. Teachers should motivate parents to enroll their daughters in schools

Especially the parents who are reluctant to do so due to unawareness and ignorance. The parents who focused only on religious education for their daughters also need motivation and inspiration. Up gradation of girls' schools is also recommended. Giving stipend to enrolled girls is a good solution. Early marriage of the girls should be discouraged. Poor parents should be given stipends so that they might be able to educate their daughters. To overcome the social problems institutions of higher education should be established for female education only.

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