

## CHANGING STATUS OF WOMEN IN THE CONTEMPORARY INDIAN SOCIETY

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### ABSTRACT

*The present study will be on the social value and panorama of college girls in Faridabad district of Haryana for thousand of centuries, women all over the world and particularly in India have been subjected by men and have suffered from all sorts of restriction and socio cultural injustices. But in the 21st Century, women's emancipation, adult suffrage and equal rights for the both sexes in the context of the secular democracy and modernization have become manifest social realities after all. There is now freedom and equal opportunity for all to come up and progress socially, culturally educationally, economically and spiritually in our country.*

### INTRODUCTION

When I first began to think about the subject that eventually became this work, I was concerned with my initial assumptions. Having just spent a few years pondering the connection between Youth and Culture, and their changing perception of college girls in Faridabad. The study will be focus on the changing status of women in the contemporary Indian society.

Focus of the study: - The study will be focus on the changing social value of the changing status of women in the contemporary Indian society  
Plan of the study:-

This Empirical study will consist an original research questionnaire to discover the college girl's changing social value.

### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study the different changing life styles and attitude of Indian girls.
2. To study the changing status of women in the contemporary Indian society in Faridabad district.
3. To suggest functional suggestions to help Indian college girls to form healthy and meaningful perspectives and face the challenges of future.

### METHODOLOGY SAMPLE

It is proposed to take up a sample of 150 college girls from the colleges in Faridabad District.

The sample will include girls from these categories:-

- Form all communities
- From all social class- Upper ,middle & lower
- From academic as well as professional course of study.
- From urban as well as rural backgrounds.

Sample will be taken purposively keeping in mind the mentioned to be included.

### METHOD

**Questionnaire-** Personally administered as well as through post .The question will have the format of a case study blank.

### ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE DATA

The following Table presents the perceptions of the college girls towards the various aspects of the changing status of women in the contemporary Indian society.

**TABLE -  
RESPONDENTS' PERCEPTIONS ON THE  
CHANGING INDIAN WOMEN-----  
(n=150)**

S NO.	Value Statements	Agree	Disagree	Uncertain
1.	I believe that the Indian women are even now being treated merely as objects of pleasure,	92 61.33%	44 29.33%	14 9.34%

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2.	In believe that the growing incidence of rape and dowry murders in India in recent years only shows that the Indian women's security and honor are at stake in the modern Indian society.	126 84.00%	14 9.34%	10 6.66%				
3.	I believe that the sex related crimes. Against women (like rapes, prostitution, call girl racketts etc.) are mainly due to the growing exploitation of women.	108 72.00%	17 11.33%	25 16.66%				
4.	I believe that marriages by choice (love marriages) are more successful than arranged marriage in India.	38 25.33%	72 48.00%	40 26.66%				
5.	I believe that the divorce rate in all communities in	63 42.00%	42 28.00%	45 30.00%				
6	India is more in love marriages than the arranged marriages.							
	I believe that due regard for Indian Women is decreasing in the Indian Society now-a-days and most of them are suffering due to the unjust attitudes of their husbands.	79 52.6%	48 32%	23 15.3%				
.7	I believe that education has done a lot improving the lives of the Indian women and their status in society.	135 90%	10 6.6%	5 3.3%				
8	I believe that nuclear families alone can provide full security, satisfaction and happiness to women, and not the joint families.	42 28%	80 53.3%	28 18.6%				
9	I believe that most of the Indian women are still being deprived of their legitimate rights as under=====	96 64%	42 28%	12 8%				
(a)	Equal say in deciding their marriage partners.							
(b)	Equal rights in family property of parents and	90 60%	40 26.6%	20 13.3%				
(c)	husband. Ownership and enjoyment of their Stridhan (personal property)	78 52%	62 41.3%	10 6.6%				
(d)	Proper health and nutrition provisions.	72 48%	66 44%	12 8%				
(e)	Equal status in family - woman is treated as a house-hold slave, rather than as a companion,	85 56.6%	36 24%	29 19.3%				
(f)	To move outside freely.	64 42.6%	70 46.6%	16 10.6%				
(g)	To pursue higher studies.	89 59.3%	25 16.6%	36 24%				
10	I believe that all matters concerning women of all communities in India should be guided by one uniform marriage code.	125 83.3%	09 6%.	16 10.6%				
11	I believe that demanding and giving of dowry are highly undesirable and harmful.	120 80%	20 13.3%	10 6.6%				
12	I believe that although there is anti- dowry legislation in India, in most of the marriages dowry is still given, as it gives respect to	125 83.3%	13 8.6%	12 8%				
	and facilitates the adjustment of the woman in her in-law's house.							
13	I will not like to marry a man who expects or demands dowry in marriage.	125 83.75%	15 10%	10 6.6%				
14	I believe that a college educated girl should prefer to marry at per her own choice rather than to have an arranged marriage.	86 58%	20 13.3%	44 29.3%				

These responses are really very significant:

1. The belief that the Indian women are even now being treated merely as objects of pleasure has been held by 61.33 per cent respondents, but about 29.33 per cent respondents have disagreed with this observation.
2. As many as 84 per cent respondents believe that the growing incidence of rape and dowry murders in India in recent years only shows that the Indian women's security honor are at stake in the modern Indian society.
3. About 72 per cent respondents have expressed their belief that the sex related crimes against women (like rapes, prostitution, call girl rackets etc.) are mainly due to the growing tendency of terrorizing and exploiting women.
4. The belief that marriages by choice (love marriages) are more successful than the arranged marriage in India has been held by 25.33 per cent respondents, whereas 48 per cent respondents did not share this belief. This is a startling revelation which goes Inst the popular public belief that the modern girls are desperate for love marriages.
5. As many as 42 per cent respondents think that the divorce rates in all communities in India are higher in love marriages than those in the arranged marriages, but 28 per cent respondents have disagreed with this view; about 30 per cent respondents preferred it not to express their view as they were undecided on this point.
6. More than half of the respondents (52.6 per cent) believed that due regard for Indian women is decreasing in the Indian society now-a-days and most of them are suffering due to the unjust attitudes of their husbands, but 32 per cent of the respondents do not believe so.
7. It is very interesting to note that about 90 per cent of the respondents have opined that education has indeed done a lot to improve the lives of the Indian women and their status in society. The importance of education as such has been duly recognized by them.
8. Modern nuclear families alone can provide full security, satisfaction and happiness to women, and not the joint families only 28 per cent of the respondents have agree to this statement, whereas 53.3 per cent of the respondents have disagreed with it. This shows that the importance of joint families is accepted by the modern girls.
9. Majority of the college girls believed that the Indian women are still deprived of their legitimate rights, such as equal say in deciding their marriage partners (64 per cent); and enjoyment of their parental and husband's property (60 per cent; or stridhan(52 per cent); proper health and beautification for them (48 per cent): status at par with husband in the family (56.6 per cent); freedom to move out (42.6 per cent). However, while 42.25 per cent girls feel that the Indian women are not allowed to pursue higher education, more percentage than them (59.3 per cent) hold that they certainly allowed freedom by their families to pursue higher education.
10. About 83.3 per cent of the respondents hold the believe that all matters concerning women of all communities in India should be guided by one uniform marriage code, but about 6 per cent did not agree with this statement.
11. That demanding and giving of dowry are highly undesirable and harmful acts is the confirmed belief of about 80 per cent respondents.
12. The wide-spread belief that although there is anti-dowry legislation in operation in India yet in most of the marriages dowry is still invariably lends, as it gives respect to the bride and facilitates her adjustment in her in-laws' house, was accepted by 83.3 per cent respondents.
13. It is heartening to note that the majority of the respondents (83.75 per cent) have agreed with the statement that they will not like to marry a man who demands dowry in marriage, but 10 per cent of the respondents would not say so.
14. Should a college educated girl prefer to marry a men as per her own choice rather than have an arranged marriage? About 58 per cent girls, said 'yes', whereas 13.3 per

cent of the respondents disagreed with the statement, and 29.3 per cent chose not reply.

These responses clearly show that the modern college girls in Faridabad are quite realistic about their value perceptions on the changing social situation of the Indian women in the sing years of the 21st Century.

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