

NEED FOR POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The role of women in development is intimately related to the socio-economic and political development of a country. Any country, which neglects the need for enhancing the role of women as a dynamic factor and a valuable asset, for the overall process of development would be left trailing behind. In India the role of women in the socio-economic and political development of a society is underestimated and underscored. Empowerment is not characterized as achieving power to dominate others, but rather power to act with others to effect change. Political participation is a major component of empowerment. The paper tries to highlight the impediments faced by the women in entering politics like personal and familial factors, triple role women are forced to play, illiteracy, character assassination, reservation etc. It also tries to draw attention to the position of women in Indian politics and the adverse effects of low participation of women in political process. It also tries to suggest some strategies for political empowerment of women in India.

KEY WORDS: Empowerment, Impediments, Political Empowerment of Women, Position of Women, Strategies.