

TRIBAL WOMEN IN TRANSITION- ROLE OF SHGS: A STUDY IN SIDHI DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

The empowerment of women refers to the attributes of economic opportunity, social equality, and personal rights. Ironically women are deprived of these essential human rights. Often these rights are denied as a matter of culture and tradition of certain regions especially in rural areas. In rural areas, it is generally considered that women are not capable enough to generate income. As a result, they are considered mainly to household duties and low wages for the same nature of work as is being done by its counterpart. Since, they are economically unequipped, therefore, ineligible for availing a powerful position in the society and raising voice in traditionally patriarchal societies. Rural women as opposed to women in urban settings, face inequality at much higher rates, and in all spheres of life. Keeping in view the present research paper mainly focuses over the efforts taken by the NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations) through SHGs (Self-help Groups) to inculcate necessary attributes among the tribal women. The paper, in order to exemplify the scenario in which the women SHGs are functioning, tries to extract the essence of SHGs and its impact over the personality of women to raise their understanding and claim their rights both in the household scenario and the government promoted schemes and programmes. The paper emphasizes over the power structure of upper caste and the segregation of tribal community as well as the preparation for the reclaiming of their human rights through awareness and economic empowerment.

KEYWORDS: Cluster, Decision-Making, Group Discussion, Mahila Mandal, Participation