

SAVE THE GIRL CHILD TO SAVE FUTURE

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Introduction :

It is said that East or West, girls are the best They are like roses, nurture them today, and give them a chance of survival for being the part and parcel of inclusive growth of a nation..

The naked fact of female child in India has been most vulnerable for centuries. We are committing the *worst crime against humanity* when we don't even allow children to be born just because they carry the stigma of being girls .The poor infant girls have no choice because they are killed inside the womb of their mothers or killed after birth in parts of Bihar ,Tamil Nadu ,Rajasthan, Maharashtra and other parts of India

The country has witnessed advancements in all fields but *bias against a girl child which is still prevailing in the country.* This social evil is deep rooted in Indian ethos and the most shocking fact is that the innovative and hard high end technologies are *brutally killing the Indian girl child.* Innovative techniques, like *biopsy, ultrasound, scan tests and amniocentesis, devised to detect genetic abnormalities, are highly misused by number of families to detect gender of the unborn child.* These clinical tests are highly contributing to the rise in genocide of the unborn girl child

Celebrating girl day (October 11) is not enough, there is a need to change the mindset of people to save the planet-Earth.

Definition and Meaning :

The number of female in the age group of 0 years to 6 years is termed as child sex ratio
The term the "girl child" describes a female child up to the age of eighteen. When referring to the girl child a clear distinction needs to be made between the terms sex and gender. Biological characteristics identify the sex of an individual as male or female. Gender, on the other hand, is a social construct. Gender is what it means in a particular society to be male or female. Gender attributes include codes of behavior considered appropriate to each gender, along with a division of labor between the two genders (Kilbourn, 2008). *The girl child quickly learns there is a high price to pay for being born a girl*

Research :

1. ***Girls are the world's most squandered gift-the Angels of our future***
2. They are precious human beings with enormous potential, but across the world, they are generally the last to have their basic needs met and the first to have their basic rights denied.” (World Vision, 2001).
3. ***There is no doubt that the Girl Child is the bearer of nation and custodian of mankind;***
4. Female feticide and infanticide are some are the major issues facing the girl child. For many girls in developing world, at every stage of life, they are discriminated and abandoned for education, living standard and basic nutrition.
5. ***.It is indeed important to save the girl child as today's girl will be the mother of a child tomorrow.***
6. The girl child is a living deity on this earth.
7. ***She plays a vital role in the upliftment of society as she usually full of care, kindness, adoration, and understanding. Everyone should bear utmost respect for her as she is the future of the world.***(Refer4)

Findings :

- United Nations (UN) figures out that about **750,000 girls are aborted every year in India**. Abortion rates are increasing in almost 80 per cent of the India states, mainly Punjab and Haryana. ***These two states have the highest number of abortions every year.***
- It is believed that **every year 12 million girls are born in the country** but unfortunately only 1/3 of those survive. Some are killed in the womb, some at the time of birth, some die due to ill health and some due to poor nutritional status. ***Only a few numbers of girls are able to survive till their 15th birthday.***
- In today's day and age most couples prefer the process known as a ***planned pregnancy***, because of various factors; prime amongst them being the financial well being to support the birth and nurturing of a child\
- Female feticide and infanticide is not the only issues with a save girl child in India.
- ***At every stage of life girl is discriminated*** and neglected for basic nutrition, education and living standard.
- If the abortion practice continues, then no longer a day will come when Mother India will have ***no mothers, potentially, no life.***

- A determined drive can initiate a spark to light the lamp and show the world that we all are part of the *great Mother India*..
- India is a country where *social disadvantage outweighs natural biological advantage* of being a girl. A whole range of discriminatory practices including female feticide, female infanticide, female genital mutilation, son idolization, early marriage and dowry have buried the future of the nation.
- *Girl child is the future of every nation and India is no exception*. A little amount of care, a handful of warmth and a heart full of love for a girl child can make a big difference. Close your eyes, free your thoughts and hear the voice of Almighty, He is saying something to all of us, “**Save Me**”.
- It is only a woman who understands that whether a male or female child, it should be healthy and given equal status. A woman has the power to end the evil of dowry system also.
- She is mother earth that sustains the very breath of humanity.

Suggestions :

- Can the Male dominated society imagine *Earth without females?*
- The future of Indian economy lies in attaining *gender equality* in true sense,
- The society should *not forget the contribution of women towards society*-(Mother Teresa, Indira Gandhiji, Savitribai Phule, Pratibhitai Patil etc) and their *relationship*-(daughter, wife, mother, mother-in-law)
- This is a high time that the customs, traditions and the *typical mindset* of the society which looks the girl child and women as inferior beings should *change by advertising every day* on media's like T.V.; radio; newspaper etc
- It is observed that more than two-thirds of the world's illiterate adults are women,. So *top most priority should be imparted to education and employment*
- Women's empowerment is not just about rights, improved economic opportunities for women lead to better outcomes for families, societies, business and nation.
- If they are *better educated*, they are no doubt they will be *more productive*, and they can *raise healthier, better educated children*
- There is *huge potential to raise income per head* in developing countries by saving a girl child.

It is imperative for us to *create a more inclusive environment* by increasing the number of *women in science, technology and communications* to enrich our talent pool, intellectual capital and economic opportunities by encouraging young girls and women to develop cross-functional hybrid skills from an early age.

- We need to collaborate across the ecosystem and achieve effective implementation of *programs and policies promoting equal human rights and opportunities for girls*. Let not the girl child face barriers at any stage of her life including violations of her right to get access to quality education, proper healthcare, and protection from abuse and exploitation.
- *Sustainable development in India will not be possible without a holistic approach to women's empowerment and livelihood.*
- Female feticide, infanticide, rape, sexual abuse of the girl child and violence against girl child and women should be considered as the most heinous forms of *crime against humanity and strictest forms of punishment* should be reserved for the perpetrators.
- It is equally necessary to prevent crimes against the girl child through education and communication which promotes gender sensitization and gender based equality.
- *Adopt a girl child to save our planet*(Refer5)

Conclusion :

All round girl child empowerment is only possible if " *We the People of India*" work at the grass root level and educate the society and root out regressive mindsets, customs and traditions in the society which are against the girl child.

Women are the guardians of the future generation and if they are in such pathetic condition wrought by the deliberate bias and discrimination against them then we can imagine the horrific future that is stored for the coming generations.

Just imagine the planet "EARTH" without the girl, women, mother, wife, sister etc Real Fact

I am father of my girl child, my *Angel*. I felt very proud on the day she was born and I distributed "Pedaas", the people mocked at me and laughed but on that day I made up my mind to give her all happiness and everything in my life, so my dear friends do not be ashamed of girl child. *She is Angel of family, society, nation, and of universe.*

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