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Women Empowerment & Inspire Inclusion

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Abstract: "Women empowerment" and "women equality with men" is a universal issue. Women empowerment is a term that is used to encourage, inspire and celebrate women. It is also used to celebrate the strides that women and girls have taken in terms of gender equality, financial independence and high confidence. Women empowerment is all about giving women the power and control of their lives to become anything they want and to do what they want in situations where they were not allowed once upon a time. It refers to the creation of an environment for women where they can make decisions of their own for their personal benefits as well as for the society. Nature of our society is male dominating from starting so work done by women were never recognized and appreciated. Nobody has ever mentioned about their contribution in music. The campaign theme for International Women's Day 2024 is **Inspire Inclusion**. When we inspire others to understand and value women's inclusion, we forge a better world. And when women themselves are inspired to be included, there's a sense of belonging, relevance, and empowerment. Collectively, let's forge a more inclusive world for women.

Key Words: Women Empowerment, Inspire Inclusion, Education.

Introduction:

Women Empowerment refers to increasing and improving the social, economic, political and legal strength of the women, to ensure equal-right to women, and to make them confident enough to claim their rights, such as:

- freely live their life with a sense of self-worth, respect and dignity,
- have complete control of their life, both within and outside of their home and workplace,
- to make their own choices and decisions (right to choose: to say yes or no),
- have equal rights to participate in social, religious and public activities,
- have equal social status in the society,
- have equal rights for social and economic justice,
- determine financial and economic choices,
- get equal opportunity for education and employment opportunity without any gender bias,

• get safe and comfortable working environment.

Importance of Women Empowerment

Empowering women is important because women aren't getting what they deserve.

- Underemployed and unemployed: Women population constitutes around 50% of the world population. A large number of women around the world are unemployed. The world economy suffers a lot because of the unequal opportunity for women at workplaces.
- Inspiration for others: There are a lot of women in India who have done exceptionally well in various fields of life. Women like PT Usha, Hima Das, PV Sindhu, Sania Mirza, Saina Nehwal, etc. have won various trophies and medals in their respective fields and showed the girl power to Indian people. After looking at them, a lot of girls came out of their houses and showed what actual talent they carry inside them.
- **Talented:** Women are as talented as men. Previously, women were not allowed higher education like men and hence their talents were wasted. But nowadays, they are also allowed to go for higher studies and it encourages women to show their talents which will not only benefit her individually but to the whole world at large. Today, Many women are occupying the top position of multinational companies
- **Overall development of society:** The main advantage of Women Empowerment is that there will be an overall development of the society. The money that women earn does not only help them and or their family, but it also help develop the society.
- Economic Benefits: Women Empowerment also leads to more economic benefits not to the individuals but to the society as well. Women empowerment leads to more financial independence of women and girls. They are taught on how they can use their skills to get income that they can use to support their families. Women empowerment helps women to stand on their own legs, become independent and also to earn for their family which grows country's economy.
- **Reduction in domestic violence:** Empowering girls also leads to **reduced levels of domestic violence.** Educated women and girls are able to stand for themselves and escape from incidences of domestic violence.
- **Reduction in corruption:** Women Empowerment is also advantageous in case of corruption. Women empowerment helps women to get educated and know their rights and duties and hence can stop corruption.
- Reduce Poverty: Women Empowerment also reduces poverty. This also contributes significantly to the family welfare. This is because their children are more likely to acquire good education and they are also able to save and invest for the benefit of their families.
- National Development: Women are increasingly participating in the national development process. They are making the nation proud by their outstanding performances almost every spheres including medical science, social service, engineering, etc. This leads to more developed economies. This is because the women are able to work and acquire income which translates to higher levels of a country's GDP. By empowering women, we enable the nation.
- Availability of Quality workforce: Large organizations need a large pool of high quality workforce. Empowerment of women would help in increasing the total workforce of quality people.
- Self-esteem: Women should be treated equally with men in all spheres of life. This would help her develop a good emotional health.

- Improved health: Another importance of empowering women is that it leads to healthier societies. This is because women by nature are the care takers of their homes and when empowered, they are better able to take care of their homes and families.
- **Human rights:** Every Woman deserves to be treated with respect and dignity. Not allowing them to get educated or not providing them with a safe working environment is against basic.
- Cleanliness and hygiene: Empowering women also include providing them education related to cleanliness and hygiene. When they understand the benefits of maintaining a clean and hygiene environment, they would obviously make effort towards it.
- Educated society: Women empowerment leads to increased levels of literacy in the world. This is the case when these girls gain education that can help them better their lives. Many people do want their daughters to study and thus a lot of women remain illiterate. But, girls should be allowed to study till the time she feels it is good for her. This is not only good for her but also from the country's perspective as well.
- Gender equality: Empowerment of women is also important in accomplishing the world goal of gender equality. By empowering girls, this goal is achieved as they are better able to compete with their male counterparts in places such as government, learning institutions and even leadership positions.
- **Political representation:** Girl empowerment also **contributes to equality in political representation**. This is because the girls have more confidence to compete for leadership and political seats.
- Women empowerment helps realize the potential and the dreams that are manifested in the female population hence giving them momentum to propagate themselves.

Largely speaking, there are three sorts of women empowerment:

• **Political empowerment**: It is concerned with augmenting the power of voice and collective action by women. Besides, it confirms equitable representation of women in decision-making structures, both formal and informal, and strengthens their voice in the formulation of policies affecting their societies.

• **Social empowerment:** This is a process of attaining information, knowledge and skills; and auxiliary participation of women in social organizations without any gender biasness in day-to-day activities. It is also concerned with inculcating a feeling of equivalence instead of subservience among women.

• Economic empowerment: Women are economically endowed when they are supported to engage in a productive activity that permits them some degree of independence. This type of empowerment is also concerned with the quality of their economic involvement, beyond their presence as poorly paid employees.

Inspire Inclusion

The campaign theme for International Women's Day 2024 is **Inspire Inclusion**. When we inspire others to understand and value women's inclusion, we forge a better world. And when women themselves are inspired to be included, there's a sense of belonging, relevance, and empowerment. Collectively, let's forge a more inclusive world for women.

What does it mean to truly inspire inclusion?

To **inspire inclusion** means to celebrate diversity and empowerment on International Women's Day 2024 and beyond. International Women's Day (IWD) is a global celebration of the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. Each year, this day serves as a powerful reminder of the progress made

towards gender equality and highlights the work that still needs to be done. In 2024, the campaign theme **Inspire Inclusion** emphasizes the importance of diversity and empowerment in all aspects of society.

This year's campaign theme underscores the crucial role of inclusion in achieving gender equality. It calls for action to break down barriers, challenge stereotypes, and create environments where all women are valued and respected. <u>Inspire Inclusion</u> encourages everyone to recognize the unique perspectives and contributions of women from all walks of life, including those from marginalized communities.

One of the key pillars of **Inspire Inclusion** is the promotion of diversity in leadership and decision-making positions. Women, especially those belonging to underrepresented groups, continue to face barriers when seeking leadership roles. By championing inclusion, organizations and communities can harness the full potential of diverse perspectives, leading to better decision-making and innovation.

Education and awareness play vital roles in fostering inclusion and empowering women. Through initiatives such as mentorship programs, educational workshops, and advocacy campaigns, individuals and organizations can create opportunities for women to thrive. By providing support and resources, women can be empowered to overcome obstacles and achieve their full potential.

The entertainment industry, particularly film, has a significant influence on shaping societal perceptions and attitudes. In line with the **Inspire Inclusion** theme, filmmakers have a unique opportunity to promote diversity and representation on screen. By telling diverse stories and showcasing the experiences of women from diverse backgrounds, filmmakers can inspire audiences and challenge existing stereotypes.

In recent years, there has been a growing movement within the film industry to prioritize inclusion and representation. However, there is still much work to be done to ensure that women from all backgrounds have equal opportunities to participate and succeed in the industry. By supporting and amplifying the voices of female filmmakers, we can create a more inclusive and representative cinematic landscape.

As we celebrate International Women's Day 2024 and reflect on the theme of <u>Inspire Inclusion</u>, let us reaffirm our commitment to creating a world where all women are empowered, valued, and included. By working together to break down barriers and foster diversity, we can build a more equitable and inclusive society for generations to come.

Get involved for IWD 2024

With well over a century of history and change, the first International Women's Day (IWD) was held in March 1911. IWD isn't country, group or organization specific. It's a day of collective global activism and celebration that belongs to all those committed to forging women's equality.

World-renowned feminist, journalist and activist, Gloria Steinem, <u>reportedly once explained</u>: "*The story of women's struggle for equality belongs to no single feminist nor to any one organization but to the collective efforts of all who care about human rights.*"

So together, let's all help fight the good fight. All IWD activity is valid, that's what makes IWD so inclusive. Join in and make IWD your day by doing what you can to support and advance women.

Committing to inspire inclusion

When women aren't present, we must ask: "If not, why not?" When women are discriminated against, we must call out poor practice. When the treatment of women is not equitable, we must take action. And we must do this each time, every time.

Everyone everywhere can inspire inclusion

Organizations, groups, and individuals worldwide can all play a part - in the community, at work, at home, and beyond.

To truly include women means to openly embrace their diversity of race, age, ability, faith, body image, and how they identify. Worldwide, women must be included in all fields of endeavour.

How will you inspire inclusion?

On an individual basis, it's important to understand, value and seek out the inclusion of women and girls. Additionally, sharing this knowledge, support and encouragement with others is key.

On an organizational or group basis, there are many ways to ensure the needs, interests and aspirations of women and girls are valued and included. Organizations and groups can **Inspire Inclusion** through action in areas such as:

- forging women's economic empowerment
- recruiting, retaining and developing diverse talent
- supporting women and girls into leadership, decision-making, business and STEM
- designing and building infrastructure meeting the needs of women and girls
- helping women and girls make informed decisions about their health
- involving women and girls in sustainable agriculture and food security
- providing women and girls with access to quality education and training
- elevating women and girl's participation and achievement in sport
- promoting creative and artistic talent of women and girls
- addressing further areas supporting the advancement of women and girls

Conclusion

Emerging a dynamic and relevant content for women continues to remain as a major challenge. Adequate resources need to be allocated for this activity, if profits from resources invested in connectivity and hardware have to be copiously realized. Women were denied a lot of opportunities and they missed out on a lot of things that would have changed their lives. However, they deserve equal opportunities for education, in their careers, in the society, and so much more. The empowerment of women is a very important task that every one of us should undertake. This is because empowering women is equal to empowering the whole community and generations to come. There are many ways in which we can empower girls and women and the task does not solely lay with the government but with everyone in the society.

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