

NGO's AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT: A STUDY ON SOME SELECTED NGO's OF BELGAUM DISTRICT IN KARNATAKA

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ABSTRACT

Women constitute almost half of the world's population. As far as their social status is concerned, they are not treated as equal to men in all the places, though in the western countries women are treated on par with men in most of the fields, their counterpart in the east suffers from many disabilities. The present study is aimed at understanding the role of NGOs in the women empowerment through analyzing the programmes and activities initiated for the empowerment of women. The study based on primary data. Simple random sampling technique was used for selection of respondents from NGO's. As a result programmes through NGOs are more effective and result oriented and reaches the target group at the grass root level. It does not mean that, all NGOs are successful in this direction. There are many NGOs, which are only in the paper and their contribution is very negligible in the women empowerment. But, such NGOs as Women Welfare Society, Janajagarana and Utthan Trust in the present study are non-political, selfless and service oriented in nature can bring a change in the rural and urban society. Therefore, only those NGOs who are really meant for serving the rural and urban community can contribute to the women empowerment. Such NGOs should be identified and used as an effective agent for the implementation of development programmes. The Government has no financial problem but they have no local knowledge and rural base. But NGOs have rural base and local touch. Such NGOs and the Government by joining their hands can make miracle in transforming the rural and urban society, through a number of programmes.

KEY WORDS: Women Empowerment, NGO's, Social Awareness, Health Awareness, Political Awareness.