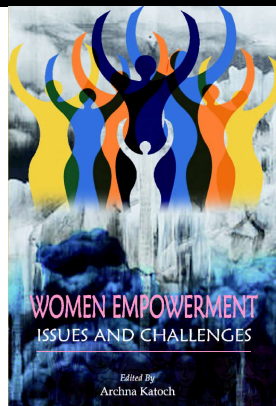


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WOMEN EMPOWERMENT Issues and Challenges

Edited By
Archana Katoch

Women empowerment and gender justice result in the development of a nation, reinforcement of its economy, invigoration of society, and eventually the establishment of peace every-where. An effort has been made in this book to raise the voice of women to achieve gender equality and women empowerment, which is the United Nations' fifth Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) by defying patriarchy, discrimination, exploitation, poverty, and violence against them. It endeavours to explore actual conditions of women in the society, different aspects of women's liberation, various issues related to imparting quality education, apposite health care, various constitutional and legal provisions, and to improve their social, economic and political status. The book comprises research articles on different issues, which advocate how women's empowerment can be achieved by raising their living levels, creating conducive conditions to their growth, increasing their freedom, and removing sexism, gender bias, and stereotypes. Despite various constitutional and legal provisions in India to protect the rights of women, gender inequality remains a primary barrier to meet the UN Sustainable Development Goals because just endorsing the laws without public support and opinion is nothing but a bundle of papers. This book attempts to create a strong public opinion by disseminating relevant information, knowledge, illumination, and creating public awareness to change the mindset of patriarchal, orthodox and tradition-oriented society. When women become aware of their rights and break the glass ceiling to access all the opportunities available to them without any prejudice, only then development, prosperity, and harmony will take place.

Archana Katoch is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala, India.

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