

## **Base Review and Status of Iranian Women in the Past Half Century, Emphasizing the Lack of Professional Women in Isfahan Province**

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### **ABSTRACT**

During the years after the Islamic Revolution, facilities and educational opportunities for women and in practice is provided Version, given the growing number of educated women. Concept "sexism" has appeared. Compared with an increasing rate of educated women, the requirements for promotion and management of high-level employment in positions not provided. A new approach to men's and women's economic activity and employment are invited and both have their own income, but also the constraints imposed such other matters.

Meanwhile, some limitations of employment for those who are married, and with this signing, and optionally, some of his salary to his wife adopted. The couple have a set of rights and obligations towards each other in a careful balance between the rights and obligations are.

In this paper and base status of Iranian women in recent decades are briefly reviewed.

**KEYWORDS:** Woman activity, participation , feministic view. employment, active population

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### **1. INTRODUCTION**

While empowerment has been extensively talked about and practiced in various settings the exact meaning of "empowerment" does not seem to be well considered. Empowerment clearly has to do with power. Empowering an individual / group means enabling the individual / group to direct their own life and reach a stage where they are more likely to succeed in whatever they attempt to do. Empowerment is an ongoing process and not an end by itself. The processes involved in empowering are: Growth in people's awareness and confidence; Ability to articulate problems; Gaining access to resources and public facilities and Negotiating over relations between different social groups (Reddy,S.S. 2002p 68).

#### **Economic empowerment:**

Economic empowerment entails women gradually increasing control over economic process, not merely as producers of some products and services, but also initiating them into regular delivery system for credit and support services. This requires transfer of skills of management and control of the economic activities to women's groups over a period of time to enable to feel confident and empowerment (Sahay, 1998p150).

There are women's rights and equality in the couple`s leading role for inside and outside the home. In general, through all historical periods, the participation of women in social, political, economic, and even had a responsibility to the public. But these differences should not be inferior to the other side is a group.

#### **Political empowerment**

Women's political participation takes many forms: it includes not only voting and holding public offices, but also collective action in associations and organizations. The major sphere of women's groups and Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on the local, national and international levels. This type of participation is no less important than participation in government (Karl, 1995p4-5).

A lot of women in different societies and ignoring her role in half of the world's population are ignored.

Many of them were arrested and some were executed on a shelf or even. Iranian women during the revolution, has played an important role. In partnership with men and women struggling to achieve this goal. It is quite remarkable that some women hugging their children, who were participating in the protests. The women, in every region, including the establishment of the committee and organize their efforts to help those looking to protect or build explosive tanks to explode. Women`s big role in this social movement in history is unique. It can be said that during this period, the gap between men and women was forgotten. Also during the war, their great sacrifices and her husband and their children in the front lines and providing the necessary equipment for your help.

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## Theories of Empowerment

Theories of empowerment at different levels, developed by social scientists, can be classified into three categories. The first theories of empowerment at the personal level, which focus primarily on ways in which individuals can develop feelings of personal power and self efficacy. Developing a sense of personal power can be effective in both enhancing mental health and enabling individuals to work toward broader social change (Berlin and Kravitz, 1981, Simmon and Parsons, 1983).

According to Young (1993), the concept of empowerment is used by organizations refers mainly to entrepreneurial confidence. Enabling organizations to develop a critical view of the use of the term, is a young country, long focus throw capacity within mainstream people to be more entrepreneurial, more self-reflect. This is nearly the emphasis on individualistic values of the united front is to empower people to lift themselves by their laughter.

The concept of women's empowerment appears to be the outcome of several important critiques and debates generated by the women's movement throughout the world, and particularly by Third World feminists. Its source can be traced to the interaction between feminism and the concept of "popular education" developed in Latin America in the 1970s (Walters, 1991p17).

When an equal opportunity for men and women there, only those women who are higher education than their male counterparts, it is really a form of sexual discrimination. What women are doing equal work for women?

In grassroots programmes and policy debates like, empowerment has virtually replaced terms such as welfare, upliftment, community participation, and poverty alleviation to describe the goal of development and intervention" (Batliwala, 1993p23).

Discrimination of women from womb to tomb is well known. The National Perspective Plan for Women 1988-2000 (1988) which has made a free, frank, objective and masterly analysis of the impact of development plans and programmes of Indian women and concluding "there is continued inequality and vulnerability of women in all sectors-economic, social, political, education, health care nutritional and legal" (Pillai, 1995p60).

Men and women working in the same position, are entitled to equal rights. The evidence shows that after the Islamic Revolution, Muslim women's education in the proper position to make a decision. All evaluations have in the past and present basic statistical indicators In education based on the recognition of knowledge and the need for either men or women, social legislation makes clear that the barriers to science. Actually, women are limited not believe them before. It is clear that the quality and quantity of women's participation in politics is the straight path.

Whatever quality and quantity of their country is higher, the society takes useful and positive effects. Thus in massive politics such as 5 year programs of development, government attention to women and statistics show that attending women in medical centers, the numbers of female students is increasing in universities as in the year 2000 more than % 80 medical sciences students. It's necessary to mention that from 73357 students, 346342 persons (47.22%) are women. Also statistics of women students in the year 1999 presented 39.7% female students. Moreover, all female students and their marriage during g studying so many barriers are acceptable and proper. Recognizing effective factors on falling women's status is based on the technology and the sciences to plan the future life. Women leave labor market with own desire. But it's not acceptable for developing country that suffers the lack of specialized human force. Different scientific levels of men and women's job and income is not only for Iran, but also for all countries, especially developed countries, in all countries by increasing scientific level, attending women in the society is decreasing. It seems that main reasons of isolation of women are gender position in the society. It's hoped that Iranian women can show their capacities by clear image of the status women in industrial society to promote scientific level. (Ellis, p: 183)

### The level of changing in numbers women in universities since 2002-2006.

Average annual change % 12.08 is highest positive changes in the years 2005-2009 and % 17.11 is lowest change in the years 2003-2004 with % 4.13. (Table 7)

According to five-year plans, the object of social welfare is the attainment of social health which implies the realization of such objectives as adequate living standards, the assurance of social justice, opportunities for cultural development through individual and group self-expression and adjustment of human relations leading to social harmony (Sachdeva, 1993, p: 4).

Fahneeda Rahman Wahab (1995, p: 302) made a study on women's loan repayment behavior in four Asian countries Viz., Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan and Philippines.

While the conclusions of this study's findings, it has been observed that a blanket approach to the design and implementation of development strategies could possibly be successful. factory incentives of the poor in their actions., in other words, the study points out that issues related to local conditions, while respecting the repayment of credit in small groups.

### The Empowerment Theory

Ever since the debate over the issue of "women and development" was launched, various approaches for defining the content of its programs have emerged in various historical periods. Generally, one may attempt to classify these approaches, or theories, in three generic categories: welfarist, poverty eradication, efficiency, and empowerment (Moser, 1989).

Each of the above theories has its advocates but the theory of empowerment is more generally accepted and it is still being further developed and refined. The growth of empowerment theory was in part a reaction against criticisms put forward against the welfarist and poverty eradication theories which draw heavily from economics. Earlier we mentioned the failure of development programs previously adopted. An example of such failure is the theory of poverty eradication launched by the World Bank. This program not only did not lead to an improvement of women's situation but, based on the available data, worsened it (United Nations, 1993).

Thus, according to empowerment theory, direct participation in social life is, at the same time, both the result and the means of women's empowerment (Mosaffa, 1994). The empowerment theory was introduced by Susan Lange.

**Rising Age of the First Marriage.** One of the factors contributing to the change of their situation is a delay in their marriage which now usually takes place after the completion of the upper secondary education (Table 2).

**Declining Fertility Rate.** Rising age of marriage results in fewer years available for fertility. There are other resultant factors. For instance, the desired number of children is reduced as women's awareness increases. Hence lower birth rate and population growth. A reduction in population growth is a main factor contributing to development (Table 4)

Followers of generic theory of labor market rely on discussion of women basis in the home and society. He studied the situation of Middle East women and their limitations in Islamic religion, there is no equivalent they justify improper position of women in labor market. They believe that it is not a correct deduction that women do not paid jobs. Low ability to make an income main point in generic theory is followed the position of women in labor market and home and family that is a member of total social system by this rule that women should obey the men. (Lip men & Blue J, 1984 P: 129)

**Table (1): Iran's population changes: 1957-2007**

	Population	Increased Volume		Index changes	Ratio changes The base year	Average annual growth (percent)
		Absolute	Relative			
1957	18954704	-	-	100	-	-
1967	25788722	6834018	1/36	1/136	1/36	13/3
1977	33708744	7920022	7/30	8/166	8/66	71/2
1987	49445010	15736266	7/46	5/213	5/113	91/3
1992	55837163	6392153	9/12	4/226	4/126	46/2
1997	60055488	4218325	6/7	234	134	47/1
2007	70495782	10440294	3/17	3/251	3/151	62/1

The center Statistical Yearbook of Iran, the years 1956 to 2006

**Table (2) : The Mean Age at the First Marriage for Women**

Year	The Mean Age At the First Marriage
1976	19.7
1996	22.4
2002	23.5
2003	24.1

(Statistical Centre of Iran, 2003)

**Table (3): Percent Literate population aged 6 and more sex in urban and rural areas**

Year	Population 6 years and over (thousands)			Literate (percent)		
	Male and female	Man	Woman	Male and female	Man	Woman
The whole country.						
1987	38 709	19 822	18 887	78/61	02/71	08/52
1997	52 295	26 534	25 761	51/79	67/84	21/74
2005	63 920	32 494	31 425	60/84	74/88	34/80
Urban						
1987	21 210	10 907	10 304	11/73	36/80	43/65
1997	32 500	16 593	15 907	71/85	56/89	70/81
2005	43 963	22 372	21 590	93/88	19/92	55/85
Rural						
1987	17 307	8818	8488	37/48	95/59	33/36
1997	19 625	9857	9768	61/69	74/76	41/62
2005	19 865	10 075	97 898	20/75	12/81	00/69

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**Table (4) : Population Growth in Various Years**

Year	Rate of Population Growth
1956	3.1
1966	3.1
1976	2.7
1986	3.9
1991	2.5
1996	1.5

(Statistical Centre of Iran, 2003)

**Table (5) : Percent of Girls Completing Upper Secondary Education and their Admission to Universities**

Academic Year	Girls Completing Upper Secondary Education	Girls Admission to Universities
1992	44.97%	28.93%
1997	55.25%	42.68%
2001	55.59%	50.55%
2002	55.76%	51.91%
2003	55.56%	52.91%
2004	58.64%	53.94%
2005	59.11%	53.65%

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**Table (6): basic groups of womanly job**

Year	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
<b>basic groups of womanly job</b>					
Skillful workers of farming , forest protection, fishery	19.43	26.63	28.54	23.22	28.74
Industrial worker, & related workers	40.80	37.41	33.40	36.30	31.55
Specialists	19.41	19.31	20.15	19.31	19.41

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**Table (7): Number of educated women in universities and higher education centers**

Percentage of change number of female educated students against previous years	Number	Year
11.12	55090	2002
14.15	62855	2003
4.3	65485	2004
13.82	74536	2005
17.11	82856	2006
12.8	69057	Average

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## Suggestions

It violates the rights of women in search of work, the government is working to the detriment of men. There are good laws to women, but women's unemployment rate increases, and sometimes in front of their legal right to do that. This is the law that makes employers refused to hire women or their use is temporarily out of work.

Women need to encourage employers to hire women legislation. The abuse, increased costs and difficulties of fighting unemployment. Only the employer's commitment to the rule can be useful. Should such a reduction of working hours, reduction of retirement age, pregnancy and maternity leave, sick leave wife and child care for working women to be considered.

Establishment of nurseries for children, along with numerous startup companies and institutions that provide services to domestic affairs, including cooking, shopping and cleaning solutions that are responsible for the domestic needs of working women, which focused on the roles of wife and is the mother, makes clear, it leads to job creation for women and other men, of course, if labor laws are fully implemented and of forcing women to work towards low paid and no benefits is not news.

## **Conclusions**

In the coming years, the level of education of women will be given the high proportion of girls among the programs is not acceptable. Education does not have enough force to restrict the number of students. As a result, planning is important for the labor market. Development of new jobs in different sectors, procreative, educational, cultural, commercial and artificially deliver the optimal platform for using specialized instructions to suitable job opportunities to be inspired by the experience of countries with in terms of their social, cultural and economic opportunities of the new jobs we need to maintain the family system, the best use of specialist force to achieve political, economic, social and cultural development. With measures that will provide the background for other jobs, why is that employed women have the obligation to work excessive hours at work daily spend. It is clear that he wanted to create a balance between individual and family, institutions through which he will need help in performing duties.

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