

## Understanding the Women in Rural and Tribal Communities

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### **ABSTRACT:**

The individuals, belonging to rural and tribal communities are required to reinforce the viewpoint that women are equally capable as compared to their male counterparts. They need to be provided with the opportunities to excel. The women in rural and tribal communities need to be provided with the opportunities to promote enhancement of competencies and abilities. The individuals need to be provided with the opportunities to enable them to acquire good-quality education and getting engaged in employment opportunities. The individuals need to ensure, they make provision of equal rights and opportunities as compared to their male counterparts. Furthermore, they need to ensure, there is not any type of discrimination in terms of any factors. The agriculture and farming practices are regarded as one of the primary occupations of individuals, belonging to rural and tribal communities. Furthermore, they are getting engaged in production of different types of artworks and handicrafts. Hence, they are contributing in sustaining their living conditions in an effective manner. Therefore, it is well-understood, individuals will have to acknowledge the competencies and abilities of rural and tribal women and make provision of equal rights and opportunities to them. The main concepts that are taken into account in this research paper are, women in rural and tribal communities are leading to progression of families and communities, factors highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities and social problems experienced by women in rural and tribal communities.

**Keywords:** *Communities, Effectiveness, Rural, Social Problems, Standards of Living, Tribal, Women*

### **INTRODUCTION:**

In India, more than 70 percent of the population resides in rural communities. There are, 6,40,867 villages throughout the country. The agriculture and farming practices are regarded as the primary occupations of the individuals in rural and tribal communities. In accordance to the 2011 census, the population of rural women, who are literate account for 58.8 percent. On the other hand, there are women, who are non-literates as well, they are overwhelmed by impediments within the course of putting into operation different types of tasks and activities in a well-organized manner (Bhasin, 2007). The women are dedicating themselves towards putting into operation different types of household chores and taking care of needs and requirements of family members. The women have one of the primary goals of sustaining their living conditions in an effective manner. In order to achieve this goal, they are committing themselves towards the production processes as well. They are engaged in the production of artworks, handicrafts, food items and so forth. Therefore, it is well-understood, women in rural and tribal communities are dedicating themselves in order to bring about improvements in their overall standards of living.

The women, belonging to rural and tribal communities are inculcating the traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness. These traits are facilitating in

doing well in one's job duties, generating desired outcomes and meeting the expectations of others. Furthermore, individuals will be able to cope with various types of dilemmas and challenging situations in an effective manner. These will be prevented from giving rise to impediments within the course of putting into operation different tasks and activities (Chapter 1, n.d.). These women are committed towards putting into operation personal as well as professional job duties. The women make sure they are rendering an important contribution in promoting well-being of family and community members. They make sure, they differentiate between various types of appropriate and inappropriate aspects. This will be facilitating in carrying out all types of job duties and responsibilities in a well-organized and disciplined manner. Therefore, it can be stated, women in rural and tribal communities are hard-working and dedicated towards their job duties and responsibilities within as well as outside the homes.

### **Women in Rural and Tribal Communities are leading to Progression of Families and Communities:**

The women in rural and tribal communities are putting into operation the household responsibilities. The different types of households responsibilities that are implemented are, cleaning, washing, sweeping,

preparation of meals, fetching water, rearing of the livestock, and managing the overall functioning of the households. These are complicated as well as manageable and are implemented in less amount of time or are more time-consuming. But these need to be implemented in order to promote well-being of family members. The women are putting into operation these job duties with diligence. They are putting into practice their tasks on an individual basis as well as through working in collaboration and integration with other members. The women make sure, they put into operation their job duties in a well-organized manner. They ensure, they promote well-being and goodwill of family members. The women are engaged in different job duties, which would enable them to generate income and they put into operation all types of household responsibilities. Therefore, it can be stated, women in rural and tribal communities are leading to progression of families and communities, when they are taking care of their family members.

The women have recognized the factor that in order to promote well-being and goodwill of themselves and their families, they need to augment their competencies, abilities and aptitude. They have recognized the meaning and significance of education. They have reinforced the viewpoint that education is the instrument, which not only imparts information in terms of academic subjects and lesson plans, but also in terms of ways that are necessary in emerging into moral and ethical human beings and productive citizens. Hence, they are getting enrolled in educational institutions of all levels and training centres. They are migrating to urban communities in order to augment their educational skills and abilities. As a consequence, they are rendering an important contribution in augmenting competencies, abilities and aptitude. They are required to make use of these in a well-organized and disciplined manner. Therefore, it is well-understood, women in rural and tribal communities are leading to progression of families and communities, when they are developing enthusiasm towards acquisition of education.

Promoting enrichment of career prospects is regarded as one of the major goals of women, belonging to both rural and tribal communities. In order to achieve this goal, they are required to make selection of suitable fields. They need to ensure that in the fields, which they select, they are able to put into practice their job duties and responsibilities in a well-organized manner. Hence, after they have completed their education, they are aspiring to get engaged in good employment opportunities. When they are in jobs, they are not only bringing about improvements in their financial positions, but they are rendering an important contribution in promoting enrichment of their career prospects. In all the fields, the job duties are put into operation in order to promote well-being and goodwill of community members. Within the course of

promoting enhancement of career prospects, there are occurrences of various types of dilemmas and challenging situations, hence, through reinforcement of traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness, the women are able to cope with these in an adequate manner. Furthermore, these are prevented from giving rise to impediments within the course of putting into operation job duties and responsibilities. Therefore, women in rural and tribal communities are leading to progression of families and communities, when they are rendering an important contribution in promoting community well-being.

### **Factors highlighting the Conduct of Women in Rural and Tribal Communities:**

The women in rural and tribal communities are different from each other in their age groups. The women, who are above 70 years of age and are experiencing health problems and illnesses sits around the house and obtains support and assistance from their family members. The women, who are in middle age groups are residing in their villages or they move to urban communities in order to promote better livelihoods opportunities. On the other hand, women, who are younger, i.e. below 40 years of age are getting enrolled in educational institutions of all levels and training centres.

In other words, they are working diligently in order to augment their competencies and abilities. Furthermore, they will be able to bring about improvements in their overall standards of living. With advancements taking place and with the advent of modernization and globalization, transformations are taking place in overall standards of living of rural and tribal women (Das, & Das, 2006). When conducting research on rural and tribal women, it is necessary to be well-informed in terms of different factors highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities. This signifies, how they are living their lives.

### **These factors are stated as follows:**

#### **Inculcating the Traits of Morality and Ethics:**

The women are inculcating the traits of morality and ethics in putting into operation their job duties and responsibilities. Furthermore, they are dedicating themselves towards putting into operation different types of household chores and taking care of needs and requirements of family members. The women have one of the primary goals of sustaining their living conditions in an effective manner. In order to achieve this goal, they are committing themselves towards the production processes as well. They are engaged in the production of various types of artworks, handicrafts, food items and so forth. Hence, it is well-understood, women in rural and tribal communities are dedicating themselves in order to bring about improvements in their overall standards of living.

The women make sure they are rendering an important contribution in promoting well-being of family and community members. They make sure, they differentiate between various types of appropriate and inappropriate aspects within as well as outside the homes. This will be facilitating in carrying out all types of job duties and responsibilities in a well-organized and appropriate manner. Therefore, inculcating the traits of morality and ethics is regarded as one of the indispensable factors highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities.

Implementing the Traits of Diligence, Resourcefulness and Conscientiousness

Implementing the traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness are regarded as an integral part of lives of individuals. They form the viewpoint that through reinforcing these, they will be able to carry out all tasks in a well-organized manner. The women, belonging to rural and tribal communities are inculcating the traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness. These traits are facilitating in doing well in one's job duties, generating desired outcomes and meeting the expectations of others. Furthermore, individuals will be able to cope with various types of dilemmas and challenging situations in an effective manner. These will be prevented from giving rise to impediments within the course of putting into operation different tasks and activities.

These women are committed towards putting into operation personal as well as professional job duties. The women make sure they are rendering an important contribution in promoting well-being of family and community members. They make sure, they differentiate between various types of appropriate and inappropriate aspects. This will be facilitating in carrying out all types of job duties and responsibilities in a well-organized and disciplined manner. Therefore, implementing the traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness is one of the significant factors highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities.

### **Putting into Operation Household Responsibilities:**

The women in rural and tribal are putting into operation the household responsibilities. The different types of households responsibilities that are implemented are, cleaning, washing, sweeping, preparation of meals, fetching water, rearing of the livestock, and managing the overall functioning of the households. These are complicated as well as manageable and are implemented in less amount of time or more time-consuming. But these need to be implemented in order to promote well-being of family members. The women are putting into operation these job duties with diligence. From the stage of early childhood, they are trained in terms of these and implement these throughout their lives.

They are putting into practice their tasks on an individual basis as well as through working in collaboration and integration with other members. The women make sure, they put into operation their job duties in a well-organized and satisfactory manner. These are facilitating in bringing about improvements in their overall quality of lives. They ensure, they promote well-being and goodwill of family members. The women are engaged in different job duties, which would enable them to generate income and they put into operation all types of household responsibilities. Therefore, putting into operation household responsibilities is an eminent factor highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities.

### **Acquiring Good-quality Education:**

The women, belonging to rural and tribal communities have recognized the meaning and significance of education. They have reinforced the viewpoint that education is the instrument, which not only imparts information in terms of academic subjects and lesson plans, but also in terms of all the essential factors that are necessary in emerging into moral and ethical human beings and productive citizens of the country. Hence, they are getting enrolled in educational institutions of all levels and training centres. They are migrating to urban communities in order to augment their educational skills and abilities.

Throughout the country, within urban communities, the system of education is in a well-developed state, as compared to rural and tribal communities. Hence, in order to acquire higher education, they migrate to urban communities. As a consequence, they are rendering an important contribution in augmenting competencies, abilities and aptitude. They are required to make use of these in a well-organized and disciplined manner. Hence, it is well-understood, women in rural and tribal communities are leading to progression of families and communities, when they are developing enthusiasm towards acquisition of education. Therefore, acquiring good-quality education is an expedient factor highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities.

### **Getting Engaged in Employment Opportunities:**

Getting engaged in employment opportunities is regarded as one of the major goals of women, belonging to both rural and tribal communities. In order to achieve this goal, they are required to make selection of suitable fields. They need to ensure that in the fields, which they select, they are able to put into practice their job duties and responsibilities in a well-organized manner. Hence, after they have completed their education, they are aspiring to get engaged in good and suitable employment opportunities. When they are in jobs, they are not only bringing about improvements in their financial positions, but they are

rendering an important contribution in promoting enrichment of their overall standards of living.

In all the fields, the job duties are put into operation in order to promote well-being and goodwill of community members. Within the course of promoting enhancement of career prospects, there are occurrences of various types of dilemmas and challenging situations, hence, through reinforcement of traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness, the women are able to cope with these in an adequate manner. Furthermore, these are prevented from giving rise to impediments within the course of putting into operation job duties and responsibilities. Therefore, getting engaged in employment opportunities is a renowned factor highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities.

### **Enhancing Career Prospects:**

In promoting enhancement of career prospects, the women are required to make selection of the fields, which would be suitable to them. The different types of fields, which they select are, arts, literature, science, engineering, medical, health care, journalism, business, management, administration, journalism, technology, law and so forth. Hence, in accordance to their competencies, abilities and aptitude, the women are making selection of suitable fields in order to promote enrichment of their career prospects. In all the fields, women are required to prepare themselves in an adequate manner. They need to possess satisfactory information in terms of various types of methods and techniques, which would be facilitating in doing well in their job duties and generating desired outcomes.

Furthermore, they are inculcating the traits of morality, ethics, diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness. These traits are facilitating in doing well in one's job duties, generating desired outcomes and meeting the expectations of other individuals, i.e. educators, employers and supervisors. Furthermore, individuals will be able to cope with various types of dilemmas and challenging situations in an effective manner. These will be prevented from giving rise to impediments within the course of putting into operation different types of job duties and responsibilities. Therefore, enhancing career prospects is a vital factor highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities.

### **Promoting Family and Community Well-being:**

Promoting family and community well-being is regarded as one of the essential goals of women, belonging to rural and tribal communities. They are putting into practice various types of tasks and activities, which would be facilitating in achievement of this goal. The individuals need to ensure, they are carrying out all types of tasks and activities in a satisfactory and regimented manner. The agriculture and farming practices are regarded as one of the

primary job duties of individuals. Women are also engaged in these in order to generate income. Furthermore, they are committing themselves towards the production processes as well. They are engaged in the production of artworks, handicrafts, food items, jewellery, basket making, silk weaving, candle making, and so forth.

In the present existence, they are getting enrolled in educational institutions of all levels and acquiring education. In this manner, they are rendering an important contribution in leading to up-gradation of competencies, abilities and aptitude. One of the important aspects that needs to be taken into account is, management of financial resources need to take place in an effective manner. Furthermore, wastage should be prevented. These need to be utilized in an appropriate manner in order to promote well-being of family and community members. Therefore, promoting family and community well-being is a crucial factor highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities.

### **Augmenting Skills and Abilities:**

The women, belonging to rural and tribal communities augment different types of skills and abilities. The different types of skills are communication skills, decision-making skills, time-management skills, analytical skills, critical-thinking skills, problem-solving skills, leadership skills, negotiation skills, creative skills, technical skills, personal skills, professional skills, presentation skills, public-speaking skills and intellectual skills. On the other hand, abilities, which need to be honed are, management, administration, convincing, persuasion, directing, planning, organizing, emotional intelligence, systems thinking, possessing the abilities to work under stress, putting in efforts to one's best abilities, coping with different types of dilemmas and challenging situations in a satisfactory manner, prevent problems from assuming a major form and carrying out all types of tasks and activities in a well-organized manner.

As a consequence of leading to up-gradation of different types of skills and abilities, the women will do well in their job duties and generating desired outcomes. Furthermore, they will be able to meet the expectations of other individuals, within as well as outside the homes. As a consequence, they will incur the feelings of pleasure and contentment and lead to up-gradation of overall personality traits. Therefore, augmenting skills and abilities is a fundamental factor highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities.

### **Putting in Efforts to one's Best Abilities:**

The occurrences of various types of dilemmas and challenging situations are regarded as an integral part of the lives of women, belonging to rural and tribal communities. The various factors in terms of which

these take place are, job duties, responsibilities, methods, techniques, approaches, work pressure, poverty, illiteracy, backwardness, unawareness in terms of various factors, inability to create a balance between personal and work life, scarcity of financial, technical, information and material resources, lack of infrastructure, amenities and facilities and so forth. But the commitment of the women towards putting into operation their tasks and activities in an adequate manner is regarded as vital in putting in efforts to one's best abilities.

As a consequence of leading to up-gradation of different types of competencies, abilities and aptitude, the women will do well in their job duties and generate desired outcomes. Furthermore, they will be able to meet the expectations of other individuals, within as well as outside the homes (Dhaske, 2016). As a consequence, they will incur the feelings of pleasure and contentment and bring about improvements in their overall living conditions. Therefore, putting in efforts to one's best abilities is a key factor highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities.

#### **Possessing the Abilities to Work under Stress:**

It is understood on a comprehensive basis that rural and tribal women are overwhelmed by various types of stressful situations. The various factors in terms of which these take place are, job duties, responsibilities, procedures, strategies, approaches, work pressure, poverty, illiteracy, backwardness, unawareness in terms of various factors, inability to create a balance between personal and work life, scarcity of financial, technical, information and material resources, lack of infrastructure, amenities and facilities and so forth. But the determination of the women towards putting into operation their job duties and responsibilities in an adequate manner is regarded as crucial in possessing the abilities to work under stress.

As a consequence, the women will reinforce their confidence levels and overcome the feelings of apprehensiveness and vulnerability. In this manner, they will do well in their job duties and achieve desired goals. Furthermore, they will be able to meet the expectations of other individuals, within as well as outside the homes. As a consequence, they will reinforce a constructive approach, be successful in their tasks and activities and incur the feelings of pleasure and contentment. Therefore, possessing the abilities to work under stress is a fundamental factor highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities.

#### **Promoting Good Health:**

The health conditions of women need to be promoted from physical as well as psychological perspectives. The rural and tribal women are well-informed in terms of factors, which are facilitating in promoting good

health and well-being, physically and psychologically. These are, focusing on diet and nutrition; getting engaged in exercises and physical activities; practicing the techniques of yoga and meditation; being well-versed in terms of job duties and responsibilities; being well-informed in terms of methodologies and procedures; coping with psychological problems of anger, stress, anxiety, frustration and depression; promoting a normal mind-set; forming cordial and amiable terms and relationships with family and community members; maintaining cleanliness within as well as outside the homes and forming positive viewpoints in terms of various factors and individuals. The acknowledgement and up-gradation of all these factors will be facilitating in promoting good health from physical as well as psychological perspectives. The women put these into operation regarding themselves as well as in promoting well-being of family and community members. The women contribute efficiently in imparting information in terms of these factors among family members. Furthermore, they integrate with community members as well, hence, they are conveying to them as well in terms of these factors. Therefore, promoting good health is a favourable factor highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities.

#### **Leading to up-gradation of overall Standards of Living:**

Leading to up-gradation of overall standards of living is regarded as one of the vital goals of women, belonging to rural and tribal communities. In order to achieve this goal, there are various factors in terms of which women are required to be aware of, i.e. honing communication skills and interactive abilities; making wise and productive decisions; inculcating the traits of morality and ethics; implementing the traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness; taking out sufficient amount of time for all job duties; being well-versed in terms of job duties and responsibilities; being well-informed in terms of methodologies and procedures; coping with psychological problems of anger, stress, anxiety, frustration and depression; promoting a normal mind-set; forming cordial and amiable terms and relationships with family and community members; maintaining cleanliness within as well as outside the homes and forming positive viewpoints in terms of various factors and individuals.

The management of financial resources is regarded to be of utmost significance. These are the resources, which are utilized to make purchases of various items, bring about changes in various aspects, transfer to different places, enhance career prospects, fulfil various types of needs and requirements and bring about improvements in their overall standards of living. These are considered to be of utmost significance and need to be managed in an adequate

manner. Furthermore, wastage should be prevented. Therefore, leading to up-gradation of overall standards of living is an advantageous factor highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities.

### **Social Problems experienced by Women in Rural and Tribal Communities:**

Within rural and tribal communities, the women are overwhelmed by different types of challenging situations. These are experienced in a major or minor form. The social problems are, poverty, illiteracy, backwardness, unemployment and crime and violence. These are regarded as major impediments within the course of putting into operation different types of tasks and activities. As a consequence, women and their families are overwhelmed by barriers within the course of promoting family and community well-being. Hence, women, belonging to all age groups need to be well-versed in terms of various types of methods in order to curb different types of social problems (Dutta, n.d.). The main reason being, they need to pay attention towards promoting well-being and goodwill of their family and community members. The social problems have been stated as follows:

#### **Poverty:**

The conditions of poverty are referred to when the individuals do not possess sufficient amount of financial resources. They are overwhelmed by different types of problems within the course of fulfilment of different types of goals and objectives. As a consequence, individuals will have to give up their goals and objectives. In some cases, they are unfortunate to even afford two square meals in a day. Hence, when women are experiencing poverty, they will have to give up certain types of goals and aspirations. Therefore, poverty is regarded as one of the adverse social problems experienced by women in rural and tribal communities.

#### **Illiteracy:**

Illiteracy is referred to the condition, when women are unable to implement the basic literacy skills of reading, writing and arithmetic. As a consequence, they are unable to augment their information in terms of different types of subjects and concepts, which would be facilitating in promoting enhancement of their overall standards of living. Furthermore, women will not be able to hone different types of competencies and abilities, which would be facilitating in promoting enhancement of overall standards of living. One of the major disadvantages is, women will be overwhelmed by different types of setbacks within the course of putting into operation different tasks within as well as outside the homes. Therefore, illiteracy is one of the critical social problems experienced by women in rural and tribal communities.

#### **Backwardness:**

Backwardness is characterised by seclusion and loneliness. As a consequence, they are unable to augment their information in terms of different types of factors and subjects, which would be facilitating in promoting enhancement of their overall personality traits and standards of living. Furthermore, women will not be able to hone different types of competencies and abilities, which would be facilitating in leading to progression. One of the major weaknesses is, women will be overwhelmed by the problem of unawareness in terms of different factors. Hence, these women need to integrate with the mainstream society in order to lead to their up-gradation. Therefore, backwardness is an unfavourable social problem experienced by women in rural and tribal communities.

#### **Unemployment:**

The agriculture and farming practices are regarded as primary occupations of individuals, belonging to rural and tribal communities. The research studies have indicated that they are engaged in these occupations during peak season, when productivity season is high, the rest of the time of the year, they remain unemployed. In some cases, the women are engaged in the production processes, whereas, in other cases, they remain unemployed. As a consequence, they struggle in order to sustain their living conditions in an effective manner. This escalates the conditions of poverty and financial problems. As a consequence, they will have to give up certain types of goals and aspirations. Therefore, it is well-understood that unemployment is regarded as one of the disadvantageous social problems experienced by women in rural and tribal communities.

#### **Crime and Violence:**

Women in rural and tribal communities are experiencing different types of criminal and violent acts. These are, verbal abuse, physical abuse, sexual harassment, dowry harassment, arson, grievous hurt, domestic violence, emotional abuse, neglect and discriminatory treatment. These are experienced by women and girls within homes, educational institutions, employment settings and various types of public places. These affect them physically as well as psychologically. These acts give rise to different types of impediments in leading to progression. Therefore, it is understood on a comprehensive basis by women, belonging to all age groups that crime and violence is a detrimental social problem experienced by women in rural and tribal communities.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

Women in rural and tribal communities are focused towards their work within and outside the homes.

Factors highlighting the conduct of women in rural and tribal communities are, inculcating the traits of morality and ethics, implementing the traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness, putting into operation household responsibilities, acquiring good-quality education, getting engaged in employment opportunities, enhancing career prospects, promoting family and community well-being, augmenting skills and abilities, putting in efforts to one's best abilities, possessing the abilities to work under stress, promoting good health and leading to up-gradation of overall standards of living. Social problems experienced by women in rural and tribal communities are, poverty, illiteracy, backwardness, unemployment and crime and violence. Finally, it can be stated, these women work diligently in promoting well-being of family and community members.

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