

The Study on Issue of Women's Representation in the Indian Judiciary

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Abstract: Gender in India has been the subject of numerous disputes throughout the years. A significant aspect is the societal positioning of women, encompassing their education, health, economic status, and gender equality, among other factors. It can be inferred from these deliberations that women have consistently had a contradictory position inside our emerging nation.

The representation of women in the Indian Judiciary has once again become a subject of debate, lacking precise numerical data. The representation of women in the legal system has been significantly lower. The Supreme Court of India has had the highest number of women, with a total of nine judges. The research study encompasses the analysis of statistical data pertaining to the Vidhi legal policy. The lower or subordinate judiciary is composed of the District Courts and the courts that are subordinate to them. The aforementioned courts are subject to administrative oversight of the High Courts. The study highlights that in India, each judicial district is equipped with a District Court, which is subordinate to civil and criminal courts with original jurisdiction. Additionally, the study reveals that a significant majority of judges in the subordinate judiciary across India, specifically 71%, are male.

Motivation/Background: The Supreme Court of India has had the highest number of women, with a total of nine judges. The representation of women in the legal system has been significantly lower.

Method: The primary focus of the research is on women, specifically their representation in the Indian Judiciary, particularly in the High Courts and the Supreme Court. What factors have contributed to the relatively low representation of women? In recent years, what has been the numerical representation of women on benches in High Courts and Supreme Courts?

Findings: Women were assigned to domestic roles and compelled to conform to the male-dominated patriarchal society, which has consistently been widespread in our nation. Indian women, who actively participated with men in the nationalist movement, were deprived of the opportunity to access unrestricted public spaces. They assumed the role of homemakers, primarily tasked with constructing a resilient household to provide support for their male counterparts who were tasked with establishing the just emancipated nation.

Conclusion: Women were relegated to a subordinate position within society. The literacy rate among females at the national level was very low, standing at 8.6%. In the age group of 11-14 years, the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for girls was recorded as 24.8% at the primary level and 4.6% at the upper primary level. The education of women and their access to organized schooling were hindered by persistent social and cultural hurdles that were difficult to overcome.

Keywords: Law Ministry Reports; Judiciary; Bench; High Court; Supreme Court