FAMILY DISCRIMINATION AND VIOLENCE AMONG THE TRANSGENDER IN SALEM DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

Transgender community is highly excluded and secluded from their parents. Family predominantly involve in physical, Verbal and Sexual abuse among the Transgender. The family fails to support them which pave way for their isolation, Stress, Depression, transphobia and attempt suicide and they develop hatred towards their life. According to recent survey of Times New India 2015, there are nearly 23,000 transgender people in Tamil Nadu, in that 55% of transgender population experience adorable family violence. This study aims to find out the Socio-economic background, Family discrimination and Violence of the Transgender population.

Descriptive research design with a non-random purposive sampling includes the snowball technique was adopted to collect data from 120 respondents cross the district of Salem, India. This study concludes that nearly 69% of transgender experience family discrimination.

I.   INTRODUCTION

Transgender is the state of one's gender identity or gender expression not matching one's assigned sex who is authorizes as third gender in our country. Transgender who existed in ancient India with more prestigious and they had great reputation in their field but in the recent era, they face many hardships and discrimination. The major issue of transgender is family discrimination which is an invisible thing in our society. The general view of transgender is they don't really need any ascribed and achieved status to and they just need a strong support. The family fails to support them which pave way for their isolation, Stress, Depression, transphobia, attempt suicide, and they develop hatred towards their life. Family predominantly involve in Physical, Verbal, emotional abuse to them after finding their change. They think their prestige and status lowers because of the changes, but they don't know that accept will increase their status as a faithful man. Because of family violence they tend go out of their family and started to go collection and various illegal works like prostitution, crime etc…, they try to get a economically balanced occupation still, discrimination was existing. Some of them may eventually find their way to Transgender (Hijras) communities. This means many transgender are not educated or uneducated and consequently find it difficult to get jobs. The transgender suffers a lot because of the rejection of their family members.   So the family is the key factor for all their sufferings.

II.Review of literature

Grossman and D'Augeli (2007) studied the risk factor of suicide among transgender. Factors significantly related to transgender identity experiences of past parental verbal and physical abuse and thoughts of how other evaluate them.

The survey was conducted in 2007 by Chennai based NGO. The survey was carried out among 200 members of the transgender communities. A huge 58 percent said they were rejected by their families and friends as soon as their gender status was known and added they were existing in the fringes of society despite intervention from NGO and the government.

A study by Ryan and to her team from the family Acceptance project at san Francisco state university 2010 shows that accepting behaviors of parents and caregivers towards their LGBT children are protective against mental health risks. LGBT Young adults who reported high levels of family acceptance during adolescence had significantly higher levels of self esteem, self support and general health, compared to peers with low levels of family acceptance. LGBT young adults who reported low levels of family acceptance during adolescence were over three times more likely to have suicidal thoughts and to report suicide attempts, compared to those with high levels of family acceptance. High religious involvement in families was strongly associated with low acceptance of LGBT children.

Sridevi and veena (2011) studied the nutritional status of transgender from the group of 20-70 years .They also collect their demographic profile, lifestyle patterns, psychological aspects and assessment of nutritional status. Transgender faced psychological problems and social exclusion is one of the most important one. They face exclusion starting from their family .Emotional changes had an impact on the food consumption pattern and hence they lacked nutrients. They were subjected to rejection and lack of medical healthcare.

III.OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

To know the socio-economic background of transgender.

To identify the family discrimination among the transgender in terms of Parental support, Type of abuse, contact with their families etc

To examine the attitude towards family discrimination.

IV.RESEARCH METHODOLOGY.

The research aims to study the family discrimination and violence of transgender in Salem district of Tamil Nadu .Tamil Nadu has occupied 7th position in India and its population is 22,364 out of which has roughly 3000 transgender people are in Salem. Salem district were chosen as many as migrant from their native place to meet their needs in industrialized area like Salem. Primary data was collected by the investigators by using interview –schedule method. The For the purpose of the study 120 samples were selected through Snowball technique. Data was collected from January12, 2018- march 2, 2018.The attitude towards family and society was measured with 5 point scale and score was given according to the scale .The negative statements were coded reversely. The selected data has been arranged by using simple percentage method and correlation was calculated to know the findings.

V.ANALYSIS AND INTREPRETATION.

Table No:1 Distribution of the respondents based on different characteristics

S,NO	CHARACTERICTICS	CATEGORY	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE %
1	Age	15-25 26-35 36-45 46&above	40 43 21 16	33 36 18 13
2	Educational	Illiterate Primary SSLC HSC UG and above	08 28 37 18 29	7 23 31 15 24
3	Occupational	Collect money from public. Dance Cooking Students others	46 17 38 09 10	38 14 32 0.7 0.8
4	Annual income	40,000-50,000 50,001-60,000 Above 60,000	77 24 19	65 20 15
5	Type of house	Rented Own	94 26	78 22

6	Home appliances	Basic items	84	70
		Luxury items	36	30
		Total	**120**	**100**

Source: Primary data

From the above table find 36% of the respondents lie between the age group 26-35, 33% of them lie between the age group 15-25,13% are the above the age group of 45. 31% of them completed their SSLC, nearly one fourth of the respondents completed their under graduate degree and above, only 7% are illiterate.38% of respondents Collect money from the public, 32% go for cooking .The major proportion of the respondents (65%) of them earns 40,000-50,000 per annum , 20% are in 50001-60000 and 16 % who earns above 60,000.Ahigh proportion of respondents (78%)live in rented house and rest of them live in own house.70 % of the respondents have basic appliances in their home and the rest of 30% have luxury items in their home.

Table No2: Distribution of respondents based on their Family discrimination and violence

S,NO	Characteristics	Category	No of Respondents	Percentage %
1	Family Discrimination	Father	73	61
		Mother	25	21
		Sibling	22	18
2	Family Support	Mother	23	19
		Father	5	04
		Sibling	21	17
		NOTA	71	59
3	Type of abuse	Physical	43	36
		Verbal	25	21
		sexual	32	27
		Emotional	20	16
4	Contact with family	Father	04	03
		Mother	29	24
		Sibling	17	14
		All of them	03	03
		NOTA	67	56
5	Causes of transphobia	Stressed	23	19
		Depressed	21	18
		Suicide attempts	76	63

		Total	120	100

Source :Primary data

This table shows that 61 % of the respondents were discriminated by their father,21% were discriminated by their mother and 18%were by their siblings. Nearly 60% were not supported by any of their family members, nearly20% were supported by mother , sibling made their support to 17% and only 4% had father's support. 36% of them were physically abused by their family and more than one fourth of them reported that they were sexually abused by their family members. More than half of the respondents attempted suicide because of transphobia and family rejection.

Percentage distribution of attitude towards the Family discrimination

SLNO	Attitude	Frequency	Percentage %
1	Low	2	1.67
2	Moderate	73	60.83
3	High	45	37.5

*Low   10-23

**Moderate   24-36

***High   37 and above

The above scaling denotes the level of their attitude towards the family discrimination measured with 5 point scale. Only 2 respondents have low attitude towards their family members. More than half of the respondents (60.8%) have moderate attitude towards their family members .Rest of the respondents 37.5%have high attitude towards their family members.

Correlation between Society and family relationship

Variables		Society	Family relationship
Society	Pearson correlation	1	0.813''
	Sig(2 tailed)		.000
	N	120	120
Family relationship	Pearson correlation	0.813''	1
	Sig(2 tailed)	.000	
	N	120	120

   The correlations between society and family relationship among transgender are 0.813 which is a significant positive correlation indicating that there was a improvement in society and family relationship.

Conclusion

Transgender are the most vulnerable group in the contemporary society. It gives a clear view that ,in the recent decades family had started accepting them, but majority of the population being discriminated by their family, through Verbal, Physical, and emotional abuse. This study concludes that nearly 69% of transgender experience Family discriminations.

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