



# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

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## PUBLIC OPINION ON GENDER JUSTICE

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*‘I always thought that humanity has two wings, the male & the female, and these wings need to be equivalent in strength in order to fly.’*

**Kumari Babita**

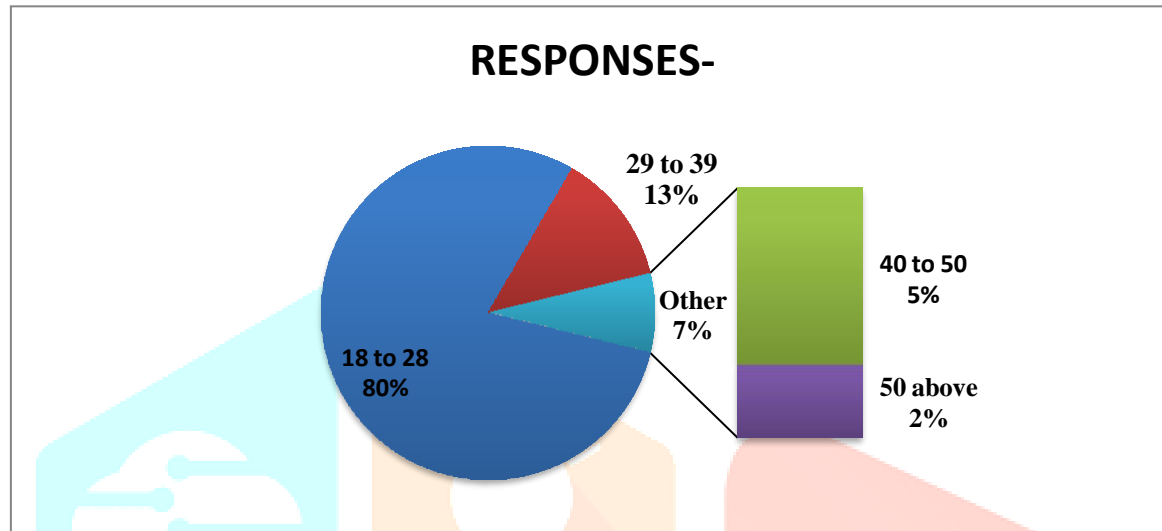
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*Whether efforts to bring about greater gender equality take place directly through changes in government policy or indirectly through efforts by civil society groups to change public attitudes, it is important to consider where the original drive for such change came from. The researcher conducted a survey, to look find out the public opinion in which the questionnaire was circulated, manually as well as online to find the problem and the solution on the issue of gender inequality. Before we look into the solution, let us now look into the public opinion of the circulated questionnaire in which sixteen questions were asked from the people, the targeted crowd include all the people who are above eighteen years of any gender and any profession even the unemployed and the homemakers are targeted too. The questionnaire is attached in the Annexure no.1 of the research while around 50 public Responses are attached in Annexure-II, A compendium of the public opinion will also be submitted by the researcher with this paper, separately.*

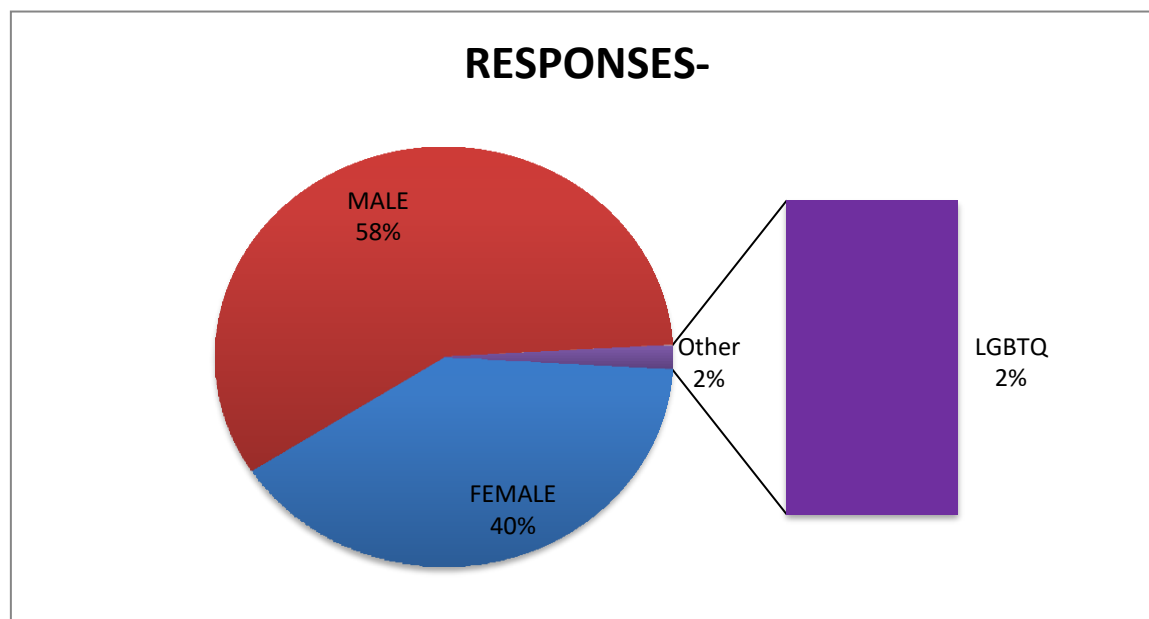
## Age

The responses are taken through the survey (questionnaire), targeted audience includes all above eighteen years of age. As per the analysis 80% are those who are between 18 to 28 years old, 13% people are between 29 to 39 years old, 5% belong to 40 to 50 years of age category while only 2% people who responded to the questionnaire are 50 years above.



## Gender

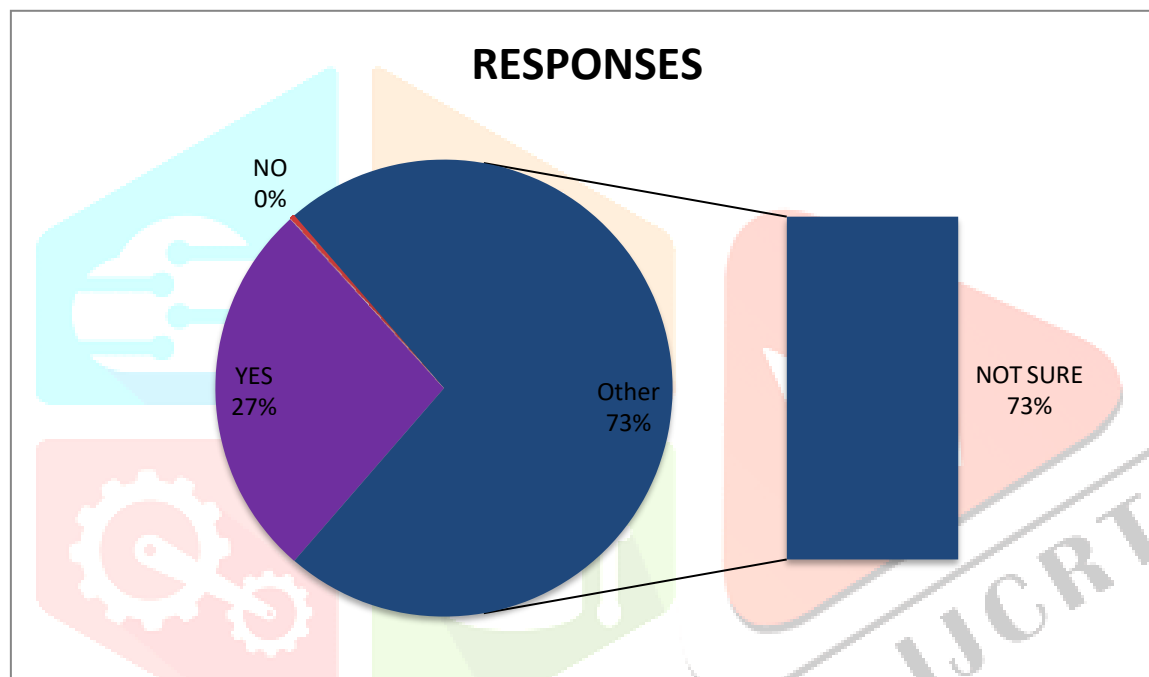
The responses are taken through the survey (questionnaire), targeted audience includes people from all the genders. As per the analysis 40% are those who are females, 58% people are male, while only 2% people who responded to the questionnaire belong to LGBTQI.



The above pie-charts shows the 'GENDER' of the people who participated in the survey, The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually, when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734 People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that more male persons participated. While there were very few from the LGBTQ gender.

## 1. Have you heard of feminism?

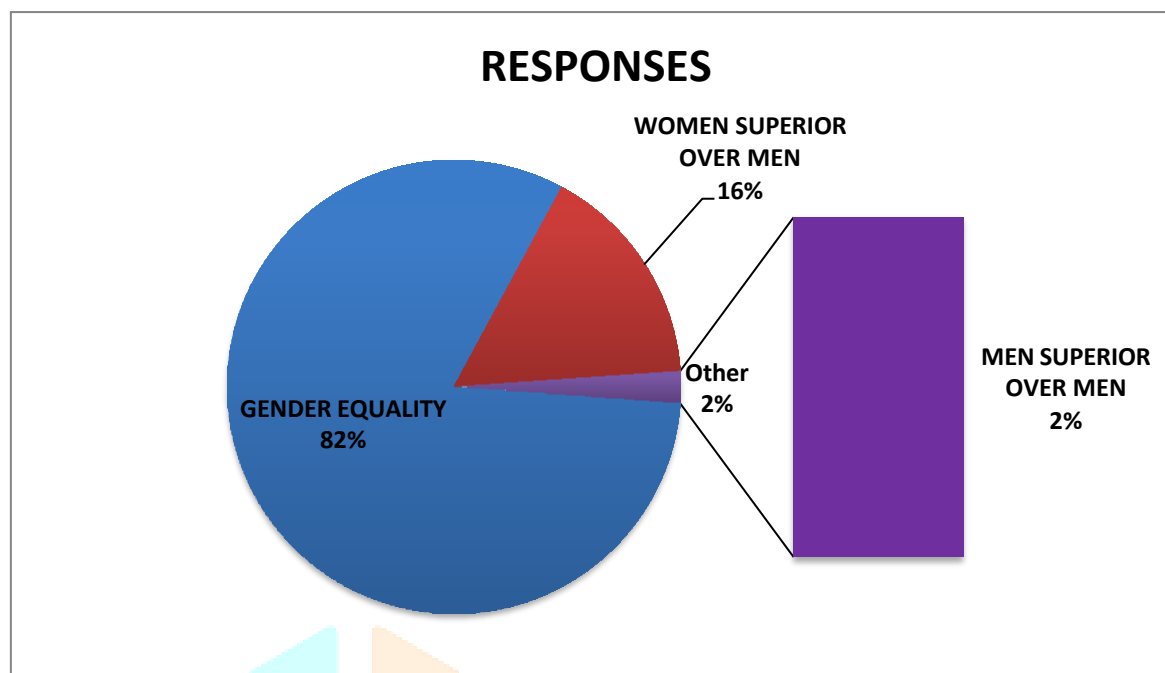
The responses are taken through the survey (questionnaire). As per the analysis 73% of the people know about feminism, 27% people have not heard about feminism.



The above pie-charts shows the response of the people who participated in the survey, The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually, when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734 People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people knew about Feminism.

## 2. What feminism means to you?

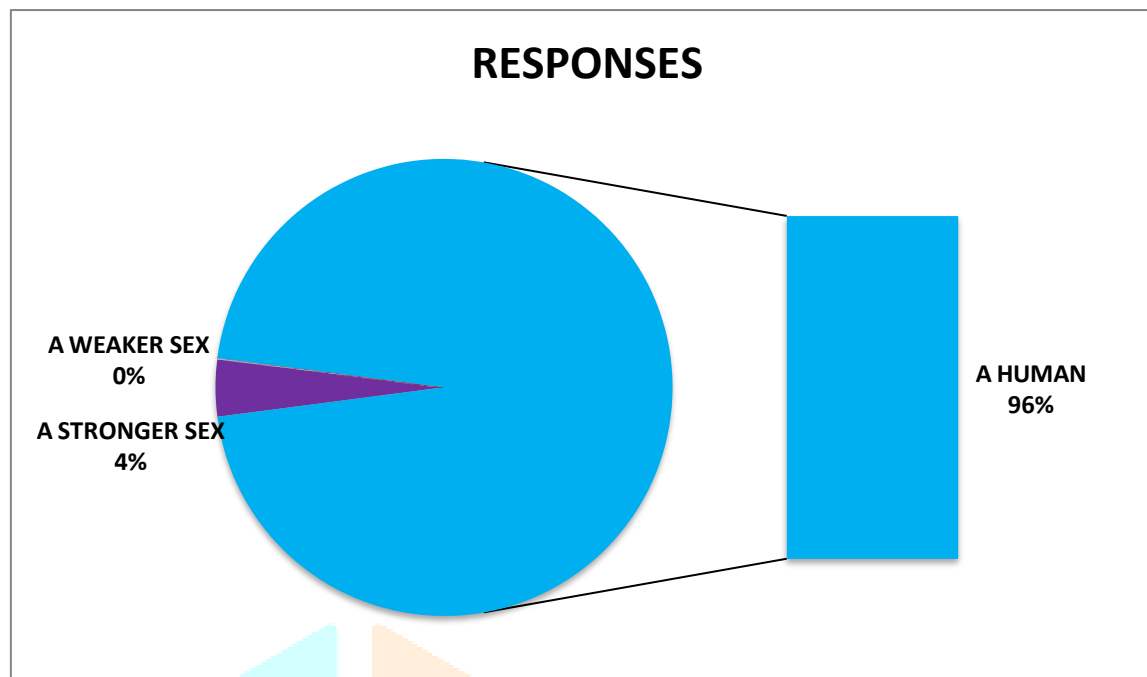
The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 82% of the people think feminism means gender equality, 16% people think feminism means that women is superior over men while for 2% of the people it means men superior over women.



The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734 People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people have an idea about feminism; they already know that the term feminism means gender equality and even after this people are not practising gender equality.

### 3. In your opinion which phrase best describes a woman?

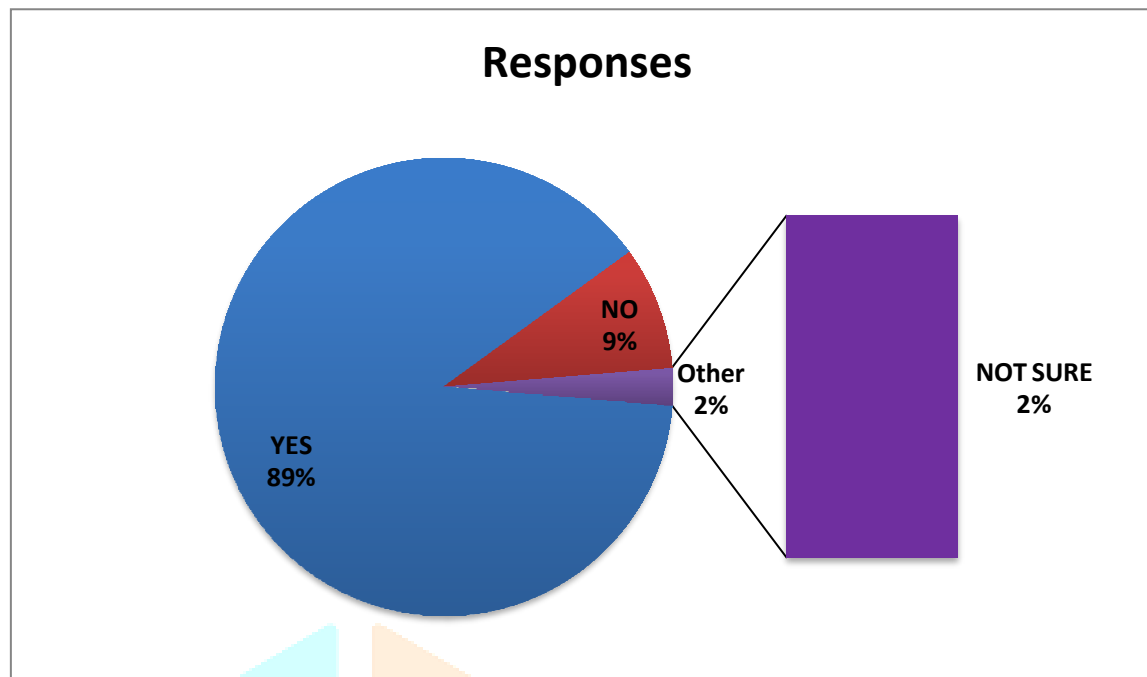
The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 96% of the people think the term woman comes under the definition of a human, 4% people think women are the weaker gender while for not a single person considers her to be the strongest gender.



The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734. People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people are right about the fact that women are just HUMAN and no gender is either stronger or weaker.

#### **4. Do you think that both genders (male/female) are entitled to the same social, economic and political rights?**

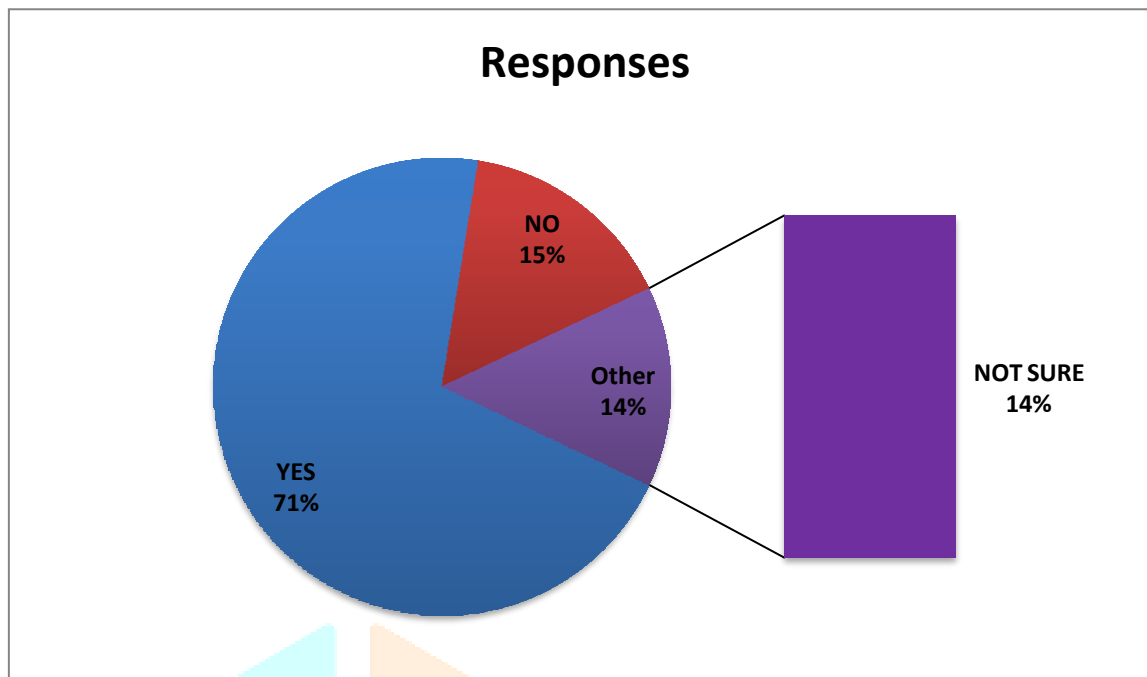
The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 89% of the people think that 'YES' both genders are entitled to the same social, economic and political rights, 9% people think 'NO' both genders are not while 2% are 'NOT SURE' whether both genders are entitled to same rights or not.



The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734. People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people are right about the fact that both genders either male or female are entitled to the same social, economic and political rights. Even if we look at the present scenario, the third gender is also entitled to the same rights as male and female.

#### **5. Do you think Feminism is misunderstood and carries negative connotation?**

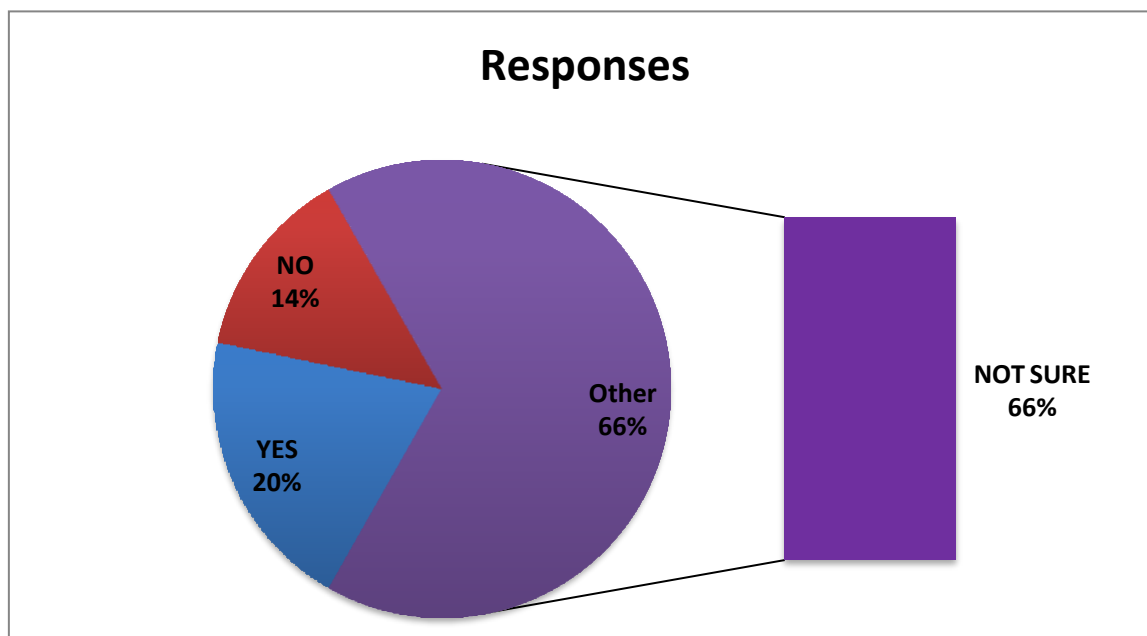
The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 71% of the people think that 'YES' feminism is misunderstood and carries negative connotation, 15% people think 'NO', while 14% are 'NOT SURE' whether feminism is misunderstood and carries negative connotation or not.



The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734. People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people are right about the fact that FEMINISM is been misunderstood by people, though most of them say Feminism means gender equality still they do not practise what they preach.

#### 6. Do you think Hyper-Feminism has resulted Meninism?

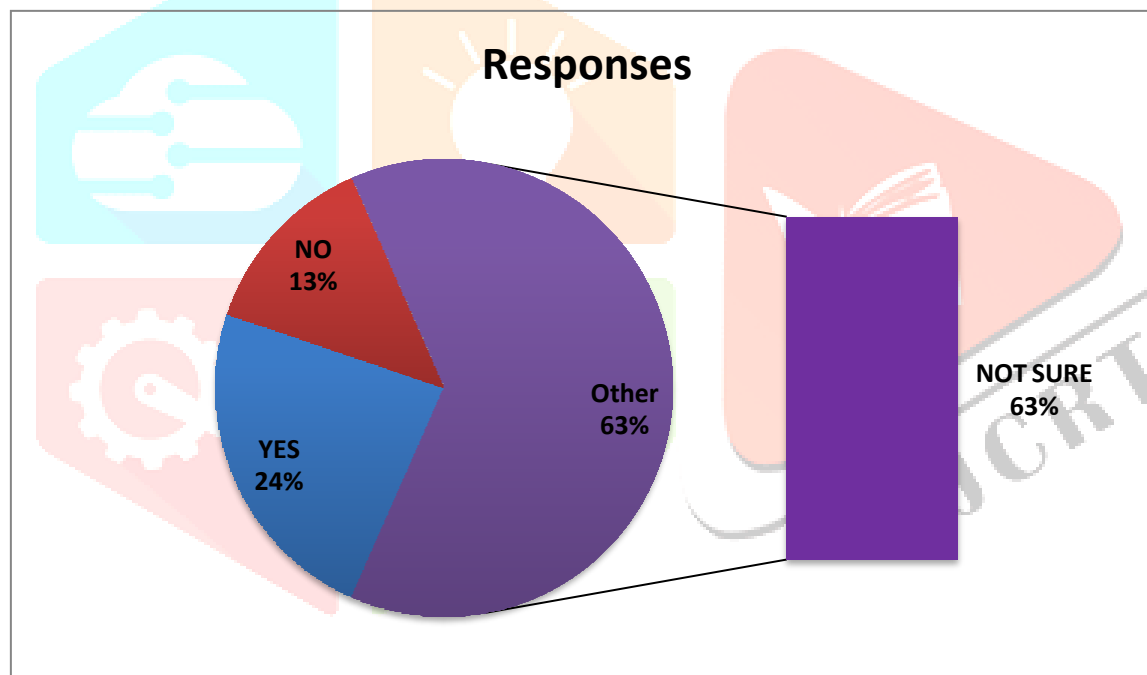
The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 20% of the people think that 'YES' Hyper-feminism is the cause of developing Meninism , 14% people think 'NO' , while 66% are 'NOT SURE' whether Hyper feminism has resulted Meninism or not.



The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734. People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people are right about the fact that MENINISM is the result of HYPER-FEMINISM. The meaning of Feminism has been misunderstood by people.

## 7. Do you think women are taking unfair advantages from women empowerment laws?

The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 24% of the people think that 'YES' women are taking unfair advantages from women empowerment laws, 13% people think 'NO' they are not doing so, while 63% of the people are 'NOT SURE' whether women are taking unfair advantages from women empowerment laws or not.

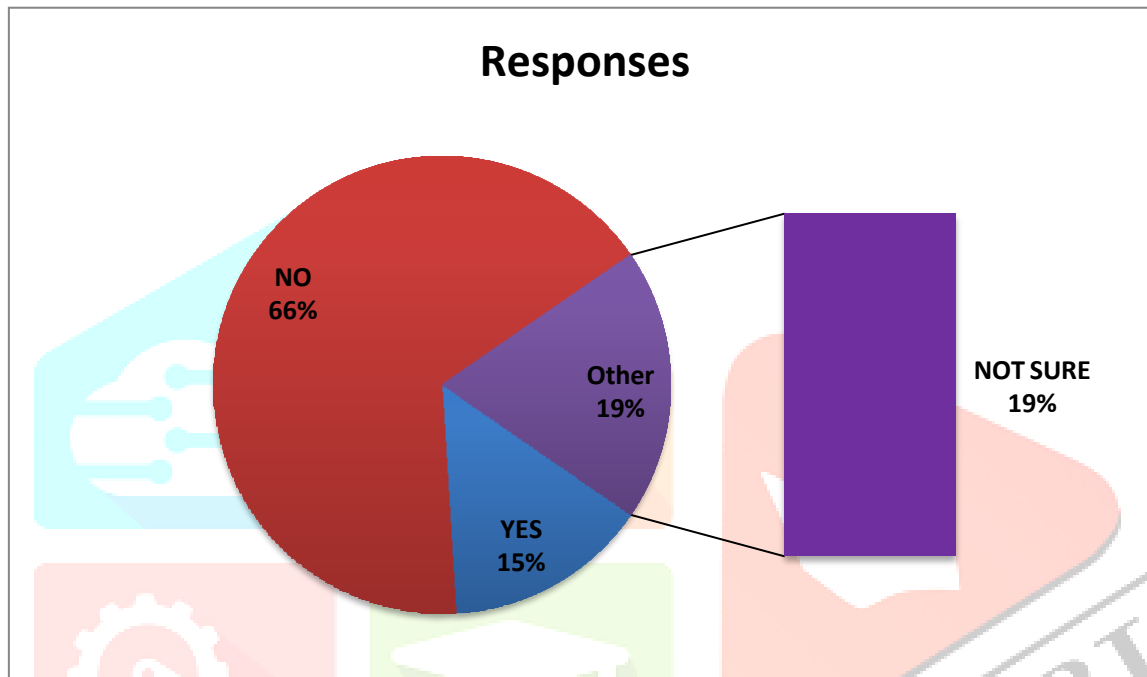


The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734. People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people are not very sure that women are misusing the laws made for them, but the basic example is the Section 498(A) of Indian Penal Code which talks about Cruelty and Domestic Violence. After enactment of this section fake FIRs increased which definitely affected right of Husband and his family.



## 8. Do you think hyper-feminism had made men the weaker section of the society?

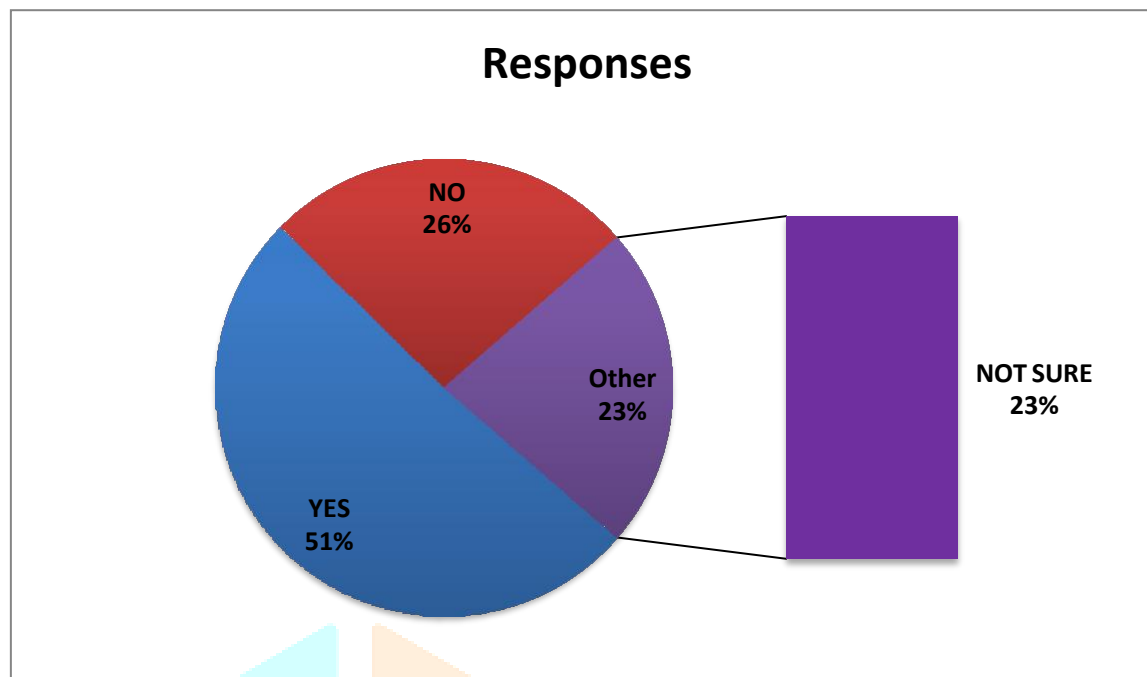
The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 15% of the people think that 'YES' hyper-feminism had made men the weaker section of the society, 66% people think 'NO', while 19% of the people are 'NOT SURE' whether hyper-feminism had made men the weaker section of the society or not.



The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734. People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that few people do think the way Feminism has been misused the men's rights are very much affected. The fake rape, sexual harassment cases increased due to meetoo movement.

## 9. Do you think harassment/cruelty (of any kind- mental or physical) is done by women on men in India?

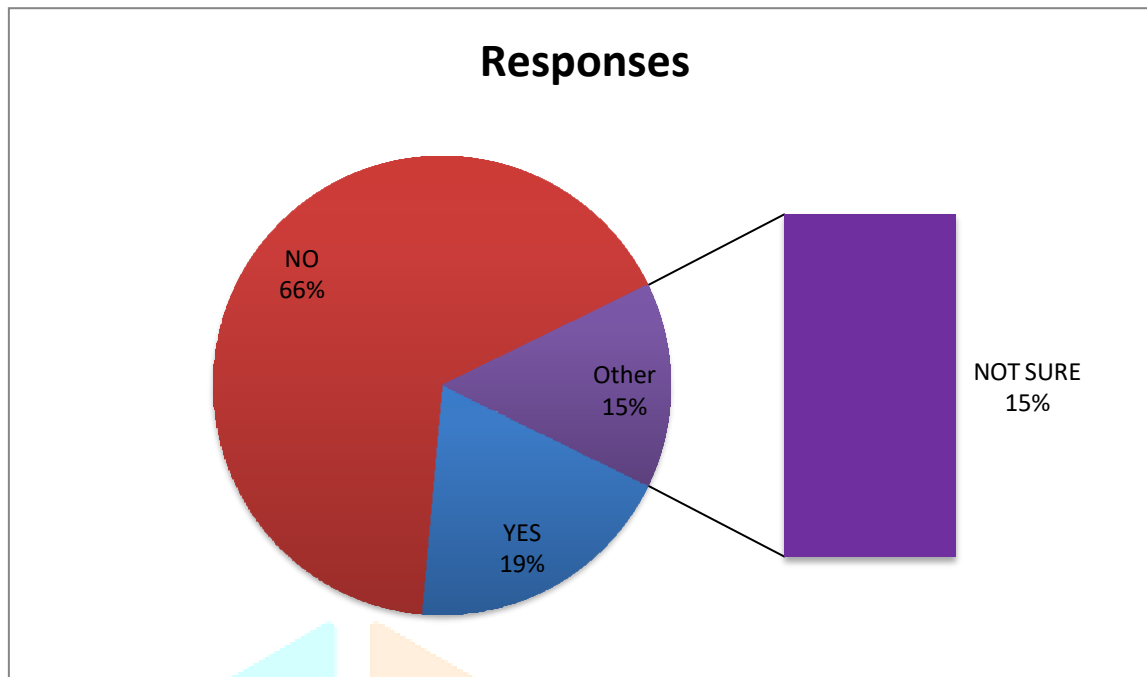
The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 51% of the people think that 'YES' harassment/cruelty (of any kind- mental or physical) is done by women on men in India, 26% people think 'NO', while 23% of the people are 'NOT SURE' whether harassment or cruelty is done by women on men in India or not.



The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734. People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people do believe that cruelty is done by women on men too. The time have changed, women are given equal right in every aspect so it is not the men only who is the culprit. There are two different sides of the coin which we forget to look at.

#### **10. Do you think if a man complains about any harassment done on him by a woman, is believed by society?**

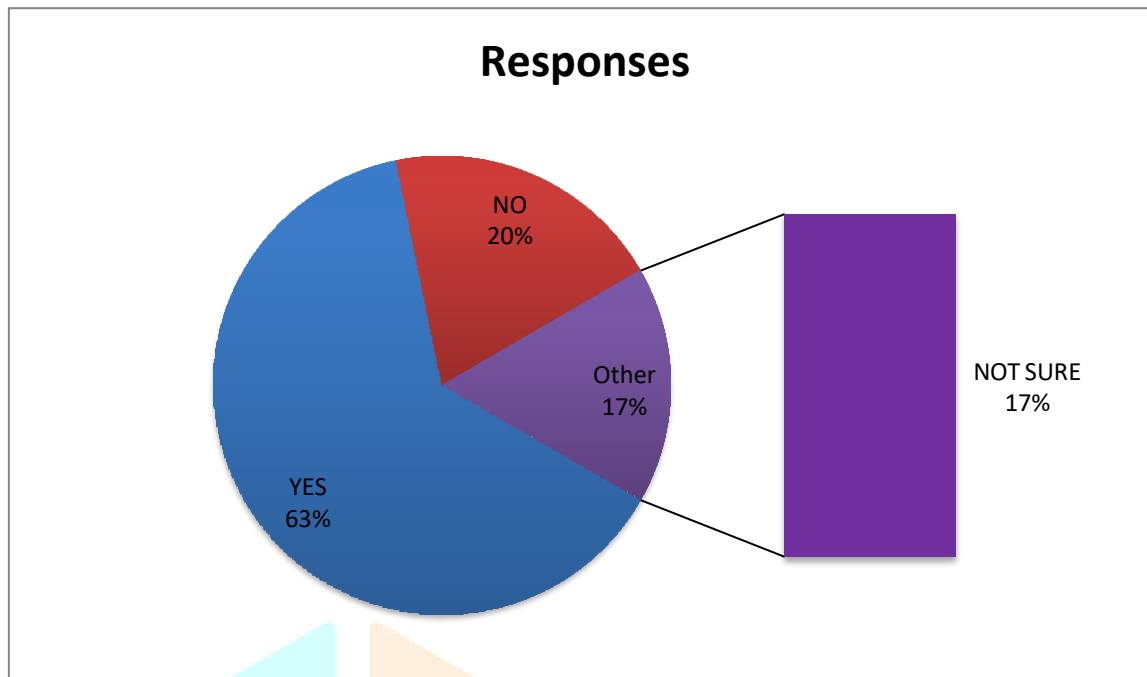
The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 19% of the people think that 'YES' if a man complains about any harassment done on him by a woman, he is believed by society, 66% people think 'NO' they are not believed rather mocked about, while 15% of the people are 'NOT SURE' whether such above victims(men) are believed or not.



The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734. People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people do believe that cruelty is done by women on men too. The time have changed, women are given equal right in every aspect so it is not the men who is the culprit. The harassment is also done by a women on man, but it's the stereotypical society that we belong too. When cases like these occur we always think that it's the man who is at the fault. This thought needs to be changed.

### **11. Do you think the past privileges/benefits given to women under various laws, are they still needed?**

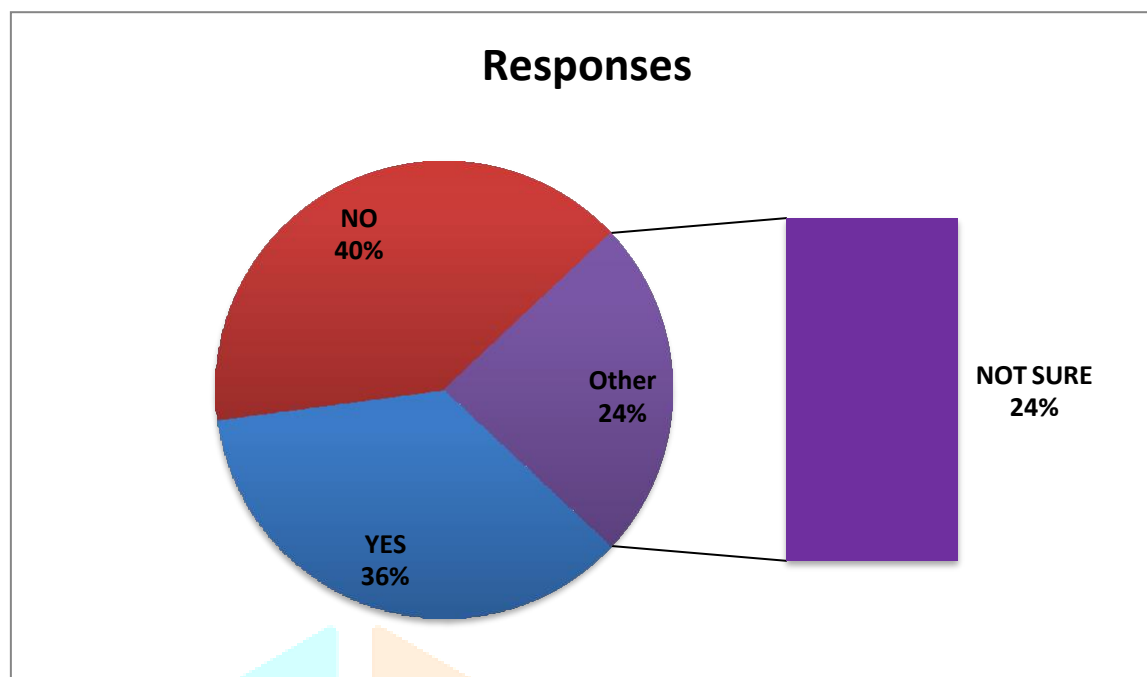
The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 63% of the people think that 'YES' the past privileges/benefits given to women under various laws, are still needed, 20% people think 'NO' they are not needed while 17% of the people are 'NOT SURE' whether such past privileges/benefits given to women, are needed or not.



The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734. People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people do believe that there are various benefits or privileges that are given to the weaker section that is the woman. But in past few years they are also been misused by few, and that is the major cause due to which the genuine cases that come across are also not believed.

## 12. Do you think the women empowerment laws are biased ?

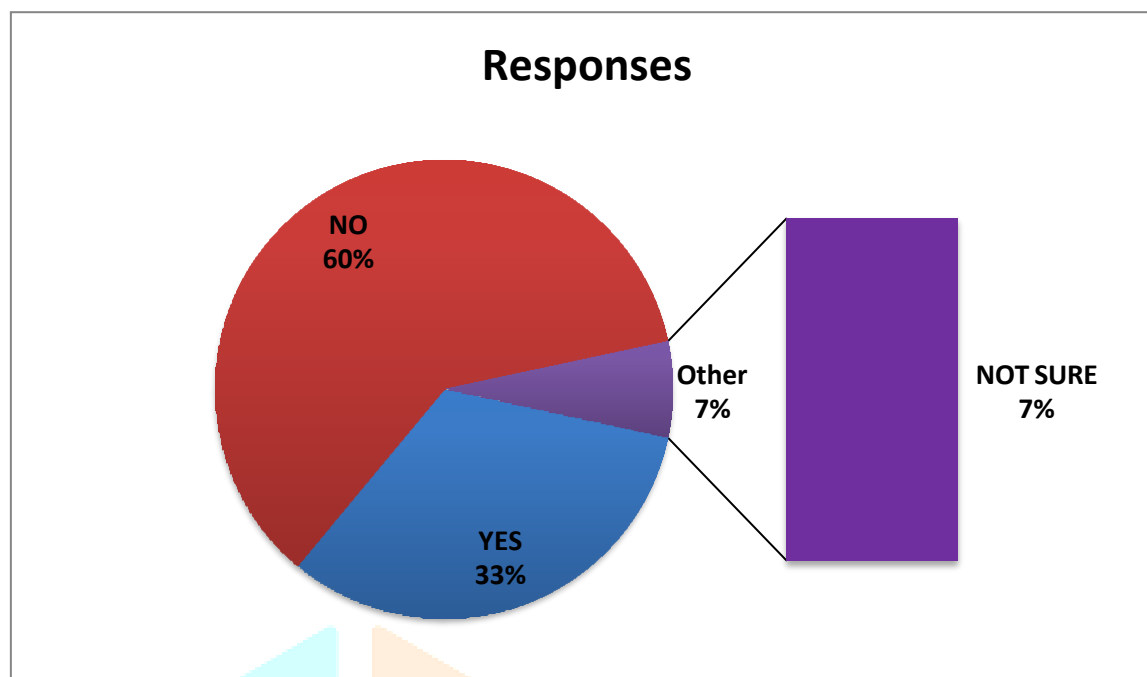
The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 36% of the people think that 'YES' the women empowerment laws are biased, 40% people think 'NO' they are not while 24% of the people are 'NOT SURE' whether the women empowerment laws are biased towards other gender or not.



The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734. People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people do believe that to an extent the law was made for the betterment of the weaker section (women) but when it was misused, it do portrayed to us that they are too women centric and a little biased towards men. Example Section 498(A) of Indian Penal Code.

**13. In present scenario, women have been progressively moving up the social ladder, so do you think women are still the weaker section of the society?**

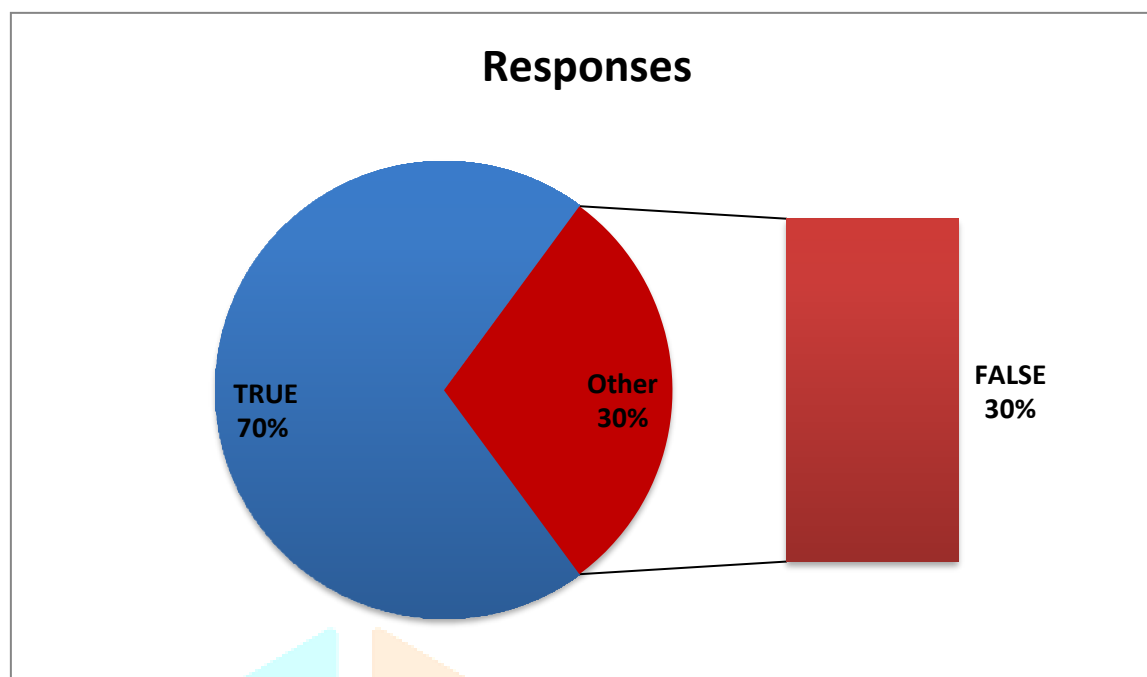
The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 33% of the people think that 'YES', 60% people think 'NO' women are not in the present senerio, the weaker section of the society, while 7% of the people are 'NOT SURE' whether the women today can be said as the weaker gender ornot.



The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734. People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people do believe that as women are also growing and given the equal position like men in every area, they have become developed, but this doesnot mean that they are still not the weaker gender, because biologically they are the weaker and they will always be. Itsthat economically they are growing.

#### **14. The concept of #METOO had increased fake FIR's?**

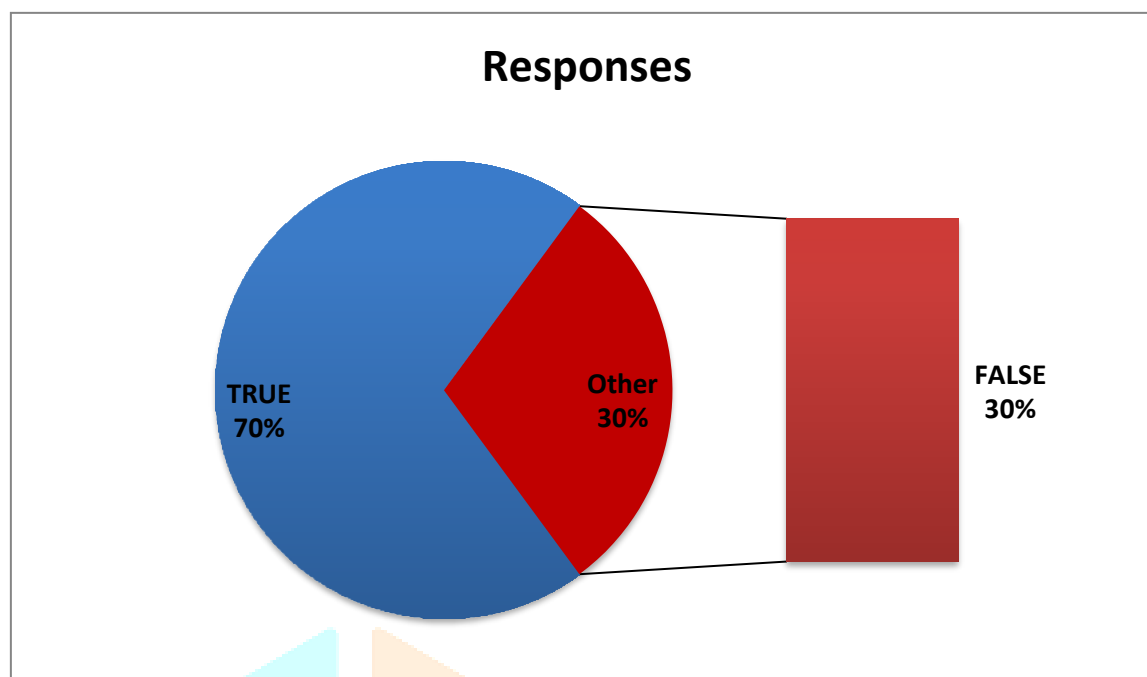
The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 70% of the people think that it is 'TRUE' that the #METOO had increased the fake FIR, while 30% people think 'FALSE'.



The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734. People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people do believe that movement like #METOO had definitely increased the fake cases and fake FIR's in India. Probably it is the social media who had given them the platform.

#### **15. The Promotion of #METOO is wrongly done by elite sector?**

The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 70% of the people think that it is 'TRUE' as the promotion of #METOO is done by the elite society, while 30% people think 'FALSE'.

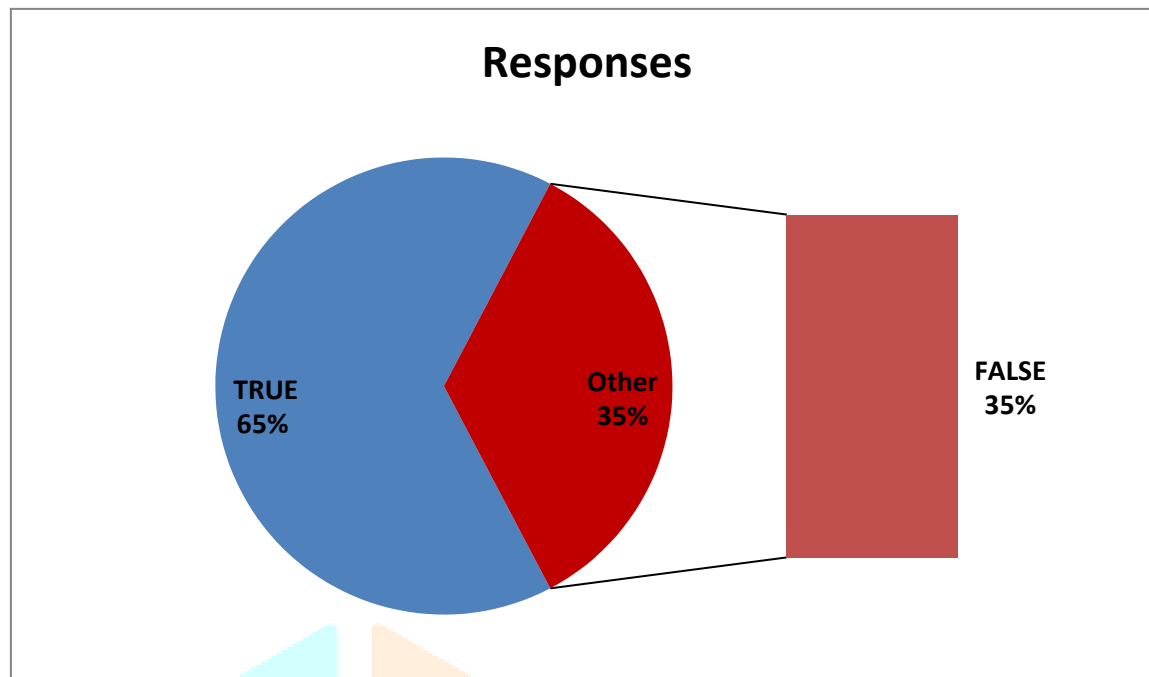


The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734. People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people do believe that it is the Elite sector who acted the leader in this #METOO movement. Most of the people do follow their idols, and these idols are none other than the elite sector of the society. Due to this idol worship this movement was given a lot of push in the society and thus became a fashion or the so called culture.

#### **16. The defence of #METOO that is #YOUTOO is reasonable?**

The responses are taken through the questionnaire. As per the analysis 65% of the people think that it is 'TRUE' as the defence of #METOO that is #YOUTOO is reasonable, while 35% people think 'FALSE'.





The questionnaire was circulated online as well as manually; when the survey responses were collected it was shown that 734. People responded to the survey. The above pie-chart shows that maximum people do believe that the defence of METOO movement that is YOUTOO is reasonable but what the researcher is of view is, this is definitely not right as it will create a rivalry. The best would be only to focus on Gender Equality and not creating any biasness by developing such movements.

## **PUBLIC SUGGESTIONS**

Economic insecurity is a primary cause of concern for women. This insecurity diminishes autonomy and makes women and girls vulnerable to violations of their bodily security and integrity.

Human rights considerations to improve economic insecurity include:

- An increased minimum wage,
- Equal pay for equal work, pay equity,
- Collective bargaining,
- Social security

These are all options recommended through gender analysis that assesses how diverse groups of women, men and gender-variant groups may differ in their experience of practices, policies and programs available.

Intersections with additionally relevant consideration such as ability, age, race and statuses related to citizenship, employment, family or living arrangements and marriage may also need to be taken into account. During the collection of data through the questionnaire various suggestions have been given by people they are as follows:-

1. Women need to be respected more and trusted more...they need to have their own space...not ever be looked down upon As weaker sex...harassment should not be taken at any level special laws against harassment should be introduced- a stronger woman mentally and physically means a better and a balanced society!!!
2. Feminism isn't about making women stronger. Women are already stronger
3. People should not crossover their limits!
4. Gender equality should be the ultimate motive of the women empowerment laws in India.
5. All should be treated equally.
6. Women need not show that they are superior to men because God only chose women for all the difficult tasks of life and we give responsibility to only whom we have trust and we have no doubt of their capabilities.
7. Reformation should be active after the formation of a law
8. Women and men both should be treated equally.
9. Few of the women are really misusing the laws given in favour of women.
10. In present scenario, women have been progressively moving up the social ladder but it doesn't mean that they are abusing the law.
11. For me there is nothing as feminism or meninism .in today's time there are various privileges for women that has made women equal to men. But apart from that women are no less in using their privileges in a wrong way.men have been doing it for so long and now even women are doing same .misusing law and all the privileges given to them which affects many other things related to it.
12. We should all believe in equality be it gender or ethnicity or anything. We're all equals!
13. Much importance to be given too gender equality rather than focusing on women feminism
14. Laws need to be amended in such a way that there is no need of any special act for women. Everything should be fair and equal for everyone.
15. More stringent laws should be made in this country for those committing offences against women.
16. Some questions should be added on that's women who are living in lowest class in society, feminism is not salutations of women problems.
17. We should create a healthy society, environment.
18. Developing Meninism needs to be checked more
19. According to latest studies Equality is a right of every human person. Every human person need equality.
20. Men and women share equal freedom and rights under constitution of India (article 15). People need to be aware of this. And harassment simply means to bother or to attack someone against someone. It should not be looked as gender biased. It's done by one human to another. So it can be from men to women or vice

versa. Its totally depending on particular person nature/ character.

21. Especially in India certain concepts are politicised and hence loses its importance, this needs to be done away with in order to hold the essence of the concept. Similarly 'me too' as an idea started with a very positive wave but it's criticism at a mass levelled to its throttle.
22. People in India still think that women is weaker than men but in reality I believe a woman is way more stronger than any men either it's in sports/law or any field.
23. Proper propagation of the meaning of feminism is necessary. Feminism is not about who is superior to whom. It's about equality. Women should be treated at par with men. Excess of everything is bad.
24. The society should treat both the genders equally and not to blame one another for more power. Men and women both need protection and respect in the society for the upliftment of the society. Feminism has now become a sham.
25. It should be understood that feminism is the equality of the sexes and not just woman empowerment. Social notions followed for a long duration do not change overnight.
26. Effecting equality among sexes requires a substantial amount of conscious effort on part of every individual. Equality would begin from our home.
27. Feminism is gender neutral and not just oriented towards woman rights.
28. Women is not the weaker section of the society I can say this because I am a woman in 2019 who is in her 20s but if we talk about the elder people they won't agree.. I don't say they are wrong as so many year of patriarchy does that to a person.. but we know deny the fact that at times at places.. we are considered as the weaker section, who needs support, guidance and care. This is not true as this something which every human needs.
29. All the females and males do need to understand that feminism means equality and not superceding any gender at all..
30. Now if we talk about the #METOO campaign . There were a lot of genuine complains but let's not forget there were a lot of bogus one's too.. so I think we as educated individuals should educate people that lying and spoiling someone's life is not the answer we have been searching for so many years .
31. Feminism and meninism both are carried far away and gender equality is left behind. Humanism is what we need.
32. In my opinion I believe that still. In india there are atleast 70%,-60%..man's are there who are the beliver and propogater of male chauversim they don't want the females to be on top. If they monitor or master the female that's is OK.. For them but when they are govern or master by their oppisite gender they get offended.. And it's a bitter truth
33. Women's are not weak ...they are the stronger section of the society.
34. Laws should change with change in society, Laws for men should also be implemented and executed. Feminism should be a constructive and object oriented movement. The online campaigns and public protests in name of feminism result in inviting negative criticisms because of the way it is portrayed. The

real empowerment

should target in making the religious practices and policy framing gender neutral. Since these are the two main things that can bring real changes in the society.

35. Equality should be in the mindset and not just in laws. Laws are required for the protection of rights and life which should not be taken advantage of just to prove your point on who is more superior or for any other various means.
36. Feminism doesn't and shouldn't mean that women are superior. It means that women are capable of doing all that a man and with same conviction and dedication and hence, they deserve the same respect and position in the social order as men do.
37. Structural sexism exists despite of the women empowerment laws like on the grassroot level. Women are still considered, in certain sects, incapable of sitting on a higher position at an organisation. It doesn't exist everywhere but it exists at all levels. Even the working status of a woman is still questioned sometimes by the millennials. These should be resolved.
38. To provide the access of laws as well as unbiased implementation of laws. If a woman is in police station to file a complaint of harassment, it should be taken at once without questioning inappropriately, It's human nature that we take advantages of everything either it is men or women. So, we should see the actual facts of every situation and then give the justice.
39. Hike of everything is always leads to Negative results, hence it needs to be balance in such a way Right of both the gender equally protected, either of them shall not be left vulnerable.
40. The society needs to educate itself as anyone and every one are twisting the laws beyond proportion and blowing their own horn to gain recognition, mileage and an upper hand. Let's be sensitive and sanitize ourselves towards each other to create a balanced society full of peace, respect and care for each other.
41. Well, gender equality is a must! Sexual Harassment laws should be gender neutral. Section 498A of IPC to be modified.
42. Laws on Adultery (under IPC) should be equally applicable to women. I suggest give the society time to grow and people will eventually realize that gender equality is the essence of humanity. Please don't consider my opinion to mean that I consider women or men to may be equal in each and every field. Just like any other living beings there may be some things primarily meant for the male gender and some primarily meant for female gender. Equality means respect to every gender equally and not that presence of women or men be the same in all fields of civilized society.

43. Women Empowerment is essential but should not be taken advantage of. Feminism means gender equality should be understood and implemented by everyone.
44. To bring the gender equality in our society we should start making awareness in villages (rural areas). Because a major portion of our population resides in the village areas and so, the champion about the gender equality should start from there than I think it should be more effective. But instead of doing that we organise conferences and speeches in the school or colleges or in urban areas where people are already aware about the fact. So if we want the gender equality to start the awareness campaign where it is really necessary..
45. Feminism is a powerful ideology, a weapon in the hands of the oppressed. However, like all powers it is very likely to be misused through a misplaced understanding of the notion. While technically feminism is a harmless ideology, various approaches masquerade as feminism have been used to bully the opposite sex and sometimes even women themselves (calling fellow females 'dumb enough to stand against their own cause'), when sane females speak of true feminism and outrightly reject self-serving narratives of 'feminism' taken up by a few to usurp social recognition/support or even power.
46. My suggestion would be that females must recognise that they have a golden opportunity in this century when a considerable number of men stand for feminism under the umbrella of equality. The stray incidents of misplaced use of this notion to serve own purposes by a few of them can, in a long term, undermine the much celebrated paradigm shift in the 21st century's men's approach towards women equality. It's a power but, before that it's a responsibility.

**Conclusion:** Proper awareness for laws should be there that is law should not be restricted to papers only but the implementation of law should be there so that every woman can be familiar with her rights. Significant steps should be taken to implement all the laws which are amended to facilitate detection, prevention and punishment of crimes against women.

Women education has to be made compulsory and women should be encouraged to become literate because without being educated women cannot have access to her rights.

Strict implementation of the schemes and policies for women empowerment should be done. Awareness camps for women should be organized where they can become familiar with the framed schemes and policies and can take benefit of those schemes and policies.

Complete gender justice is complex to achieve typically in a country like India. The diversity of cultures, subcultures, is vast and there is a lot of rigidity in traditions and beliefs. Lack of education, lack of development, poverty, improper enforcement of the laws, lack of awareness among women, deep rooted patriarchy, economic dependence of women, all lead to the subversive condition of women in our society. Gender hierarchies in Europe and USA are relatively more balanced than in India.

Quite simply, most of their sex equality laws are mostly centred on employment and workplace. Not only that, their sex equality laws also explicitly include trans-genders and the rights have been extended to gay and lesbian communities which is unprecedented in India. Gender development in any sphere in any country is a key component of the development and overall welfare of any state. Various NGO's and governmental agencies, UN agencies, activists have been promoting gender rights and vocal in their protest against discrimination. .Even though, there has been progress in securing gender justice, there is still a lot to be done.

As it can be clearly understood from the Gender Development Index ranks, gender inequity, in the present perspective, in UK and USA is not as grave as the gender dynamics that exist in the developing countries. The human right violations with regard to gender might not be as appalling as in Africa or the Middle East or South East Asia but there are dichotomies that exist between men and women in various other aspects. One of which is particularly in cases of employment and work.

