Gender discrimination

Gender discrimination may encompass sexism and is discrimination towards people based on their gender identity or their gender or sex differences. Gender inequality acknowledge that men and women are not equal and that gender affects an individual’s living experience. From the birth males and female are raised differently and experienced different environment throughout their lives, to illustrate if we consider the family treating of a child if it’s a baby boy their parent give them guns and cars to play, as they are the most preferable toys for the baby boy, on the other hand for the baby girl the most preferred toys are dolls and cooking pot. Even if we let them free to choose and play with such toys, naturally the boys will play with cars, mining equipments, guns and the girl will play with Barbies, Rupanzellashouse and cooking pot. Such question may poke on mind that why the boy and girls even in their earlier stage showed preferential differential in  playing  with different toys, when they don’t even know about biologically and psychological differentials between gender and sex . Regarding such concern Lise Eliot a neuroscientist in her book namely “pink brain, blue brain” has opined that “there is a good reason why parents so often comment on boys and girls different toy preference; this is one of the largest difference between the sexes that psychologist have uncovered”. Such differential of the faints has been found by another psychologist Eliot as fascinating and misleading too, which she has opined in on of her book “Cinderella Ate My Daughter”.  The most prefers colour for the men is blue and the pink colour is for the women. Even in family boys get more privileged rather then a girl in every step such as in decision making, in practicing social and family practices in achieving higher education and serving in the occupational sectors due to the influence of the  patriarchal societies.

There are some group of Bangladeshi women who have been struggling to establish their rights in family, society and in the state. Particularly in the society and the implementation of law, women are still facing discrimination, exclusion and injustice and have negligible influence in decision making process. Discriminatory laws and policies hinder formal equality and social political conditions prevents the women from the proper exercise of their rights, girls are often considers as a burden, especially for poor house hold, where they are at risk of marriage at an early age and where the practice of dowries though illegal continues and its burdensome. 30 per cent of the women are chronically malnourished. Violence against women makes the women as vulnerable and prevents them from fully participating in societ1y. Such above mention factors might be the causal of women’s retrogradation in society and such subjugation of women to subordinate roles benefits men and capitalism.

As we have said societal influence of Bangladesh is one of the barriers in the development of women in Bangladesh. If we see the job sector we may see that there are some preferred job which is allocated by the society for women, rather being preferred by the women, such job are the occupation of nurse, air hostess, teachers, doctor, librarians. On the other hand the most preferred job for the man army , engineers , mining works and other heavy job which impossible to be done by the women .

Someone we might oppose with the above statement by saying that time has changed, society has developed, presently women’s are also working in a shame platform with men, then my answer is that we are talking about the major portion of the society not the exceptions. If it is a wrong opinion than a counter question may raise that then why we are struggling still for the women right, struggling for women wages gap even though the women is working in the same platform with men why they are getting paid lesser wage rather then a men even though serving the same service. In 2007 Bangladesh occupational wage survey reveals the existing wages gap between men and women, according to the survey the man earns 21 per cent more per hour wages then a women worker. The rationale of such gap might be due to women’s reluctance to negotiate about their wages and the inability to do heavy work compared to men’s job, possible reason might be passivity of women.

In the service sector even though having a higher degree or being well educated and qualified the women’s are not getting the highest rank of job or promotion in the service sector. The possible rationale behind such retrogradation might be the less ability of governing experience, ability to handle a tough situation.

However over the past few decades the society has developed and thereby embraces the women position in society. The government has demonstrated strong commitment to achieving gender equality through implementing a number of policy reforms and development programmes. Besides the government being a social human being and conscious citizens of Bangladesh it is our moral duty to refrain ourselves from the old age patriarchal societal thought.

*The writer is a freelancer*