Population Density and Gender Roles



Robert Wyman

Jean Piaget

De Solla Price

Dr. Jordan Peterson

Robert Wyman is Professor Emeritus of Molecular and Developmental Biology at Yale University with Post Doctorate in Computer Science in 1966, he did extensive research in the areas of neurogenetics, neurobiology, human demography and animal behavior. He made explaination on development of "Cultural Norms" and "Gender Roles" in Human Groups based on their Demography according to Evolutionary Psychology and Anthropology.

Jean Piaget is known as father of Developmental Psychology and Child Psychology, he played a critical role in understanding the importance of both parents in the children's cognitive development. His theories turned out very useful for integration of machine learning and AI models into robots.

De Solla Price was a Physicist and Historian who studied scientific productivity. He proposed that half of the publications come from the square root of all authors.

Dr Jordan Peterson is well known clinical psychologist attempted to explain the tiny proportion of people do almost all the "useful work" with the help of Big 5 Personality model and Carl Jung's insights on Creativity. If we define creative as "new thing never done before" then people who are situated in developed economy can only do such things more often statistically.

We already know that "anything new" in any scientific or artistic domain came out by mixing two or more different things, few people with higher level of "Openness Trait" (in Big 5) stucked into some "Unique psychological and social situations" are able to do such things.

So, this makes us think "Is work the fundamental purpose of life for most people?" because creative person like Einstein can achieve something in 2 years what millions of normal people combined can't in their lifetime. It sounds unfair but this absurd inequality isn't really that bad because actual problem is not lack of money but lack of resources for which "financial tool called money" is created, this form of inequality born out of creativity is able to create more resources for everyone that's why we are able to uplift a lots of countries out of abject poverty at exponential rate in past 50 years.

Population density and gender roles

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1. Lower population density.

Land become the most valuable asset in agriculture but in Africa the food production capacity was quite low. There was no such thing as surplus food, mortality rate was quite higher means very few children survive. It means the value of humans was greater than the value of land or asset.

Attitude of men towards work,

Ancient African men said "agriculture, domestic, household, business etc are women work" the only work of men was "clearing the forest by chopping off trees and preparing the land suitable for agriculture and fight from outside people".

It means men only work 3 weeks per year and rest of the year women do everything.

Obviously one women can't sustain all such responsibility on her own so they prefer polygamous marriage with powerful men, it means most young men remain unmarried for longer time but it doesn't mean they had no relationships. Most of these young men had "illegitimate" relationship with younger wives of that powerful men. The children born out of these "illegitimate" relationships were accepted and treated properly because the "value of human was greater than land or assets due to higher mortality rate (higher death rate) and lower surplus food production". The ownership of "illegitimate" child always goes to "powerful men" not the biological father. Women in polygamous relationship finds easier to raise children because it was women responsibility, other wives were quite helpful with each other. It made culture quite matriarichal and less violent.

Attitude of women towards illegitimate relationships,

Ancient African women said "just like we use bull to inseminate our cows but the calf and the cow doesn't belong to the bull, it belong to us similarly for women they belong to husband not other men". The powerful man had no objection in all this because women do all work and he need bigger tribe as well to protect and expand his kingdom as well. Land was owned by community as there was no real incentive to keep infertile land so there were no such thing as very rigid caste or class system.

As women were more dominent at work so it made women really valuable which created the concept of Bride Price where man gives money or asset to the family of woman as token. Women in polygamous marriage were really cooperative with each other so when their king dies due to some reason and they won't find any man worthy of being king then they take responsibility of village on their own, women were really into work and they were powerful so we see female emporers in ancient africa in decent amount, they are known as Queen mothers.

Too much openness in culture or "unacknowledged/hidden polyamori" was responsible for too much STDs (Sexually Transmitted Diseases) and higher mortality (death) rate. Women were domiment in agriculture production so they were responsible in production of weaponery also. Men use to fight so they were supposed to create weapons as they understand the complexity of fight better but their withdrawn from leadership and work in the economy made their kingdom more weaker which was already weaker due to it's lower agriculture production capabilities. Women weren't physically strong as men on average which means they were incapable to protect their land, cattles and other assets of village. That's why African people got enslaved by european or any other people who belong to higher population density.

We can say African people trade "less violent matriarichal society + higher death rate + slavery from outsiders" for "highly violent patriarchal society + lower death rate + slavery from their own community".

People's prioroty was to "stay alive" not the "equality" that's why their society transformed into Patriarchy because physical strength was really more important in agriculture oriented economy.

It means if we wish to increase women authority at workplace then we need to automate the agriculture but the problem with automation is it's employment generation capacity, if primary (agriculture) sector can produce 100 jobs then secondary (manufacturing) can only produce 40 and tertiary (service) will limit itself to 20. It will be really bad for counties with higher population but really good for countries with lower population.

Either we need to create more countries which could be really counter productive or we need to unite more countries by understanding their common need/desires and it's origin and create better more energy efficient products (Smart Phone can be treated as one of the example, it can do a lots of things and yet requires less energy) and better resource distribution methodologies (Social media apps AI is capable to make people addicted, people can't get addicted to apps unless they are fulfilling their inner desires or activing dopamine, serotonin etc). We can also see that in music on spotify 500 songs played 1 billion times but only 0.7 million songs played more than a 1 million times and it goes worst and worse which means people like to hear similar songs, not the different things for most of the times. So, not only needs but desires of humans can't be infinite. Infact they are very skewed because that's how our nervous system is evolved.

Psychologists like Jean Piaget also mentioned that child need similar things to function properly. Same set of parents, same friends, same bench to sit (nobody teach the kids to sit of same desk, it is their natural proclivity). Some people believe that schools are useless or oppressive but in reality they are designed reasonably well at the fundamental level.

Human needs and even desires aren't really infinite at all and they are limited by senses and environment which means we can actually design a reasonably functioning resource distribution methodology in future.

2. Higher population density.

Land become the most valuable asset in agriculture but in India/China/Europe the food production capacity was quite high or the land was very fertile. There was plenty of surplus food, mortality rate was relatively lower means more children survive. It means the value of humans were lesser than the value of land or asset.

Higher population density leads to higher communicable diseases and death due to plagues were quite common.

There were always plenty of people available for work and protection of land or assets was really difficult, surplus food allow them to do more variety of work and a rigid caste/class system emerged out of this social structure. Lower caste men do all the labour and rich caste men manage everything. To protect the land, caste/class system become very rigid and the concept of purity of women become a virtue. People prefer monogamous marriages. Women were considered as burden because they were not the one who produce or hold assets infact most other men were considered as burden or enemy too because they were the threat for higher caste/class men's assets.

There exists heavy fine to death panelty on "illegitimate" relationships and children born out of these relationship were denied, killed and outcasted because they become threat to the assets/land owned by the father. Society used to be Patriarchal in it's structure as core and violent as well.

There was a concept of "Dowry" because women did nothing other than house hold works, neither they were allowed to and possess no understanding about the world. Women were seen as liability instead of asset unlike africa.

In countries like India there was the concept of Sati where female used to kill herself after death of husband.

British Army Captian Kemp in 1813, describe the incident as following, An astrologer predicted that the sick men will die within few weeks. So, family members took him along with her 16 year old healthy wife to river ganges (Ganga). Few men took the sick men and dipped him for some hours into river and then put him into sunlight and repeat that process for next 36 hours till the man died due to lack of food water and constant fluctuation in temperature meanwhile Captian tried to convince the girl, her mother, mother in law and all other family members that it is madness or insanity but no one had any guilt because of their faith on Astrologers and Pundits. Captain waited to see the whole incident, even at last moment almost nobody shed a tear or show any signs of regret for death of son and his sati wife". He reported this incident to british government but it took people more than a decade to pass it as law. Finally, Sati was banned under Governor Bentinck in 1829. Clearly such practices can't be sustained without society being deeply immersed into superstition.

Most women conditions were really bad, it doesn't mean that in china or europe things were good, things got improved after French revolution in the europe, it started improving since scientific revolution but in china things were as bad as India.

Female infenticide, it was not like some new phenomenon which started after the development of technology of ultrasound machines where people do abortion after sex determination, earlier things were more brutal, people leave female infant without care and let her die. Earlier men usually die in wars, plagues and other reasons so it might seems like gender ratio was balanced in the past according to their time but that wasn't the actual reality. Currently, 140 million female are missing in entire world (50 million from India), things are far better after years of Government efforts.

Women and work in west,

Most of western countries are rich with lower population, most people are employed in service sector and agriculture is automated and infrastructure is really great which means they don't require a lots of manual labour at work. In mid 30's women bail out of high end career like law because they wish to have a good family life because who wish to do 70-80 hour week job if they already have decent amount of savings and rights given by government. They pick medium to low paying jobs for sustaining themselves, these country have really strict labour laws which protect them from all sorts of exploitation.

Conditions are reasonably good but the only problem they have is relative inequality and the are trying to achieve "equality of outcome" instead of "equality of opportunities".

They are asking wrong question "why men are occupying such position of power not women" instead of asking "why these tiny proportion of men are insane enough to work 80 hours per week because most of them aren't doing some important work like they aren't Einstien solving some mystery for humanity neither they are military officer stuck at some war like situation, western states are reasonably stable. So why exactly?"

In India,

In agriculture oriented economy women can't sustain work for long term due to lack of availability of domestic help, higher crime rates due to inequality and exceptionally poor infrastructure in India. India has really high population and most jobs are very much labour intensive and less financially rewarding because company use employees as machines for their economic benefits instead of spending money on making deals with other companies, especially smaller ones.

India doesn't have a strong manufacturing or secondary sector which makes people involved in service sector vulnerable or dependent upon the work they get from outside India via Corporate. Due to this, cost of living in Urban area increases much faster than the salary of individual for most people which result into loss of huge amounts in savings along with heavy taxes. It makes lives of most people really uncertain and it is one of the main reason behind craze of government jobs because the number of jobs where people grow exponentially in career are always lower and even lower in India because of lack of self reliance and weaker infrastructure.

These things can't be improved without government's willingness to spend money on infrastructure and urbanization, it can't be done by any corporate and it requires lots of wisdom and good intentions of elected government.