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# Globalisation and Its Impact on Women in India: A Review

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## Abstract

Globalization is the process by which economies and society become more interdependent, linked, and integrated to the point that events in one region of the world have an impact on individuals in other regions. We've heard a lot about global economic integration and global culture. Conflict and fragmentation result from this process, however, since it is inconsistent globally. In India, women's roles have been evolving as they move beyond historical customs and into a new period of liberty and rights. This paper's main goal is to investigate how globalization has affected women's roles in Indian society. This issue is fundamental to India's growing development process and is not just an intellectual one. It is necessary to assess how globalization has affected Indian women and to understand both the advantages and disadvantages of this phenomenon for the current status of Indian women.

**Keywords:** Globalisation, interdependence, integration, global culture etc.

## Introduction

The phenomenon of globalization has several dimensions. Opening up the economy to make it easier to integrate with the global economy is known as globalization. Under such circumstances, it becomes simple to offer products and services globally and to purchase them from any location. In the 1960s, the word "globalization" gained popularity in the West, and in 1990, it was also frequently used in India. The phrase is contentious and has been defined in a number of ways. The globe is more linked now than it was in the past, according to globalization. "Globalization is the expansion of management and process across international borders," according to Advised S. Herman. Simultaneously, it is a state of facilities and economic relations that is continuously growing and evolving. In addition to guaranteeing gender equality, the Indian Constitution gives women preferential treatment. Three articles include them: Article 14; Article 15(3); and Article 15(A)(e). These are all essential rights. Therefore, if a woman experiences prejudice, she has the right to go to court. Marriage, children, abortion, crimes against women, and inheritance continue to be the most significant topics. Crimes against women include things like rape, abduction, eve teasing, and indecent exposure. In India, women's roles have been evolving as they move beyond historical customs and into a new period of liberty and rights. This paper's main goal is to investigate how globalization has affected women's roles in Indian society. This issue is fundamental to India's growing development process and is not just an intellectual one. It is necessary to assess how globalization has affected Indian women and to understand both the advantages and disadvantages of this phenomenon for the current status of Indian women. India, a nation where women are gaining prominence, yet

Women are combating long-standing stereotypes in greater numbers. There is still a lot of pressure on women to follow societal norms; for Indian businesswomen, following conventional responsibilities in the home is just as difficult as breaking through the all-too-thick glass ceiling in businesses. Even though women have advanced significantly in the business sector over the last three decades, family members still too often dissuade women from pursuing occupations that excessively interfere with their home lives.

**Impact of Globalisation**:

various groups of women in various areas are impacted by globalization in different ways. On the one hand, it may open up new avenues for women to lead the way in social and economic advancement. Although not significantly, there seems to be a shift in women's standing with the emergence of international communication networks and cross-cultural interaction. Globalization has, however, sparked awareness and served as a catalyst for women's fight for equal rights and opportunities by promoting ideals and standards of equality for women. However, in patriarchal societies, particularly in developing nations, it can make gender disparity worse. In terms of the economy, it can result in women being even more marginalized in the unorganized labor market or in poverty as a result of losing their traditional sources of income.

Advantageous Impacts More businesses and other international organizations have entered India as a result of globalization, which has also improved communication channels. This gives women, who are making up a greater portion of the workforce, possibilities in addition to working males. Women now have more chances for higher-paying occupations, which boosts their self-esteem and fosters independence. Consequently, this has the potential to advance gender equality, a topic Indian women have long struggled with. In order for women to be treated equally in society, globalization has the ability to dismantle old attitudes regarding them. In India's rural regions, agriculture continues to be the primary source of income and livelihood for women. "A little more than 30% of the GNP comes from agriculture, which also provides 60% of jobs. Compared to 78 percent of women, about 63 percent of all economically active males work in agriculture. Women do more than two-thirds of the inputs in the three rice-growing states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal. These tasks include harvesting, threshing, winnowing, drying, stacking, hauling, weeding, manuring, and fertilizing. In Orissa's tribal economy, women worked on shifting agriculture for 105.4 hours annually, while males worked for 50.11. According to a study conducted in the Himalayas, a woman works 3,485 hours annually on a one-hectare farm, while a man works 1,212 hours and a pair of bullocks 1,064 hours. In agricultural tasks such as weeding, irrigation, manure transportation, and threshing and harvesting, a woman typically works 640 hours, 384 hours, 650 hours, 557 hours, and 984 hours. It is sometimes overlooked that women have the dual strain of working long hours in the field and taking care of daily domestic duties like cooking and fetching fuel and water. Women are being forced to adapt to the technologies employed in agriculture. Smaller new sectors with very flexible organizational structures and basic infrastructure have been established in emerging nations as a result of the global market's rise and the policies of liberalization, privatization, and "stabilization" that go along with it. The feminization of labor is closely associated with this "in formalization" of work. Because they may be employed at cheap wages, labor-intensive enterprises relocate to underdeveloped nations where women are the preferred work force. Women are given the opportunity to work, but only as unorganized workers who lack the ability to establish unions or defend their fundamental rights. One example of this is the condition of women employed in the apparel business. Low-skilled occupations that pay little, require a lot of overtime, and lack

The feminization of work in unorganized industries is often characterized by job stability. In general, the state backs the management and disregards any labor law infractions. Even if it is obvious that the women are being taken advantage of, they may not speak out against the

sexual harassment they could experience at work. In metropolitan environments, women are becoming increasingly self-reliant and autonomous. The dynamics of family relationships are changing among the lower middle class. Traditionally, women took care of the children and household chores while staying at home. Nowadays, the majority of women are leaving their homes to work. Certain wants based on capitalist impulses have been developed by globalization. The people develop a vicarious hunger for more and more commercial goods as a result of daily advertising that promotes new wants. Families now want more family income in order to purchase these things as a consequence of this. In order to finance a certain lifestyle, women must work and contribute to the home income. In India, the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) is a union of women workers who are eager to put in a lot of effort and take advantage of any employment possibilities that present themselves. Their possibilities have benefited from globalization in a number of ways. With the help of globalization, SEWA was able to reach women in rural India and create a Women's Cooperative Bank with 125,000 members. Indian women who participate in enterprises or who make crafts and have export permits may now access markets in other regions. These women are improving their level of life by earning more money thanks to their increased freedoms and possibilities. In India, technology that may seem outdated to the United States is considered contemporary. Computers and satellites have helped SEWA reach more women to disseminate information on self-help. For many women, even the telephone is a step forward in their commercial endeavors. One of the SEWA ladies was able to contact more people after taking out a four-dollar loan to purchase a telephone, which boosted her revenue. For instance, one of the SEWA ladies, Mauna Dave, has achieved great strides and is educating other Indian women about the global economy and globe so they may improve their own lives. Dave credits SEWA for helping her develop her talents since it gave her the chance to talk to and hear from other women in the organization. This laureate of the UNIFEM Social Responsibility Award is the director of Kutch Craft, an organization including 110 craftswomen's organizations and employing more than 6,000 people. She supported the empowerment of the craftswomen, giving them the negotiating leverage they need to compete in the global market. According to Dave, staying up to date with the world economy and India's rapid changes are two of the most challenging issues. She and other Indian women have been able to network in foreign marketplaces and exchange ideas thanks to globalization (UNIFEM). Liberalization has a significant impact on the effect. Women now have a more powerful voice because to globalization. The rights of women are becoming more widely accepted. Women speak out more. Women's liberation began in the 1970s and is still expanding and growing. The options and capabilities available to women have changed significantly. The government has increased the use of radio and television adverts that show women in senior positions and serving in the armed forces. Various non-profit organizations from all over the world have been introduced to India. Women now possess the abilities necessary for advancement, including literacy and vocational skills, thanks to these groups ~ 338 ~ International Journal of Applied Research. A variety of initiatives have been introduced by one group, India Corps, to assist women in assisting themselves. In Ahmedabad, India, a program has educated impoverished women how to make various crafts in order to make money. Through this initiative, moms may generate their own income and allow their children to go to school rather than working to earn additional money. Additionally, the women acquire business skills that help them discover employment options. Globalization has affected women in rural areas via the media and other interventions.

programs—non-profit organizations—that consistently make significant investments in women's concerns. These non-governmental organizations are raising awareness and suggesting solutions. The ladies are stronger and more powerful than ever. There is no specific

pattern to this transformation, and it is not ubiquitous. As a result of the efforts of a select few, we may see pockets of change. For this effort to continue, we need additional investments and initiatives of this kind. One may consider the media to be a benefit of globalization. The media has the power to connect with people worldwide and spread a message. The best women's magazine for Indian ladies is named Femina. It was founded in 1959 and has had a lot of reaction from Indians worldwide since launching its website in 1996. Femina inspires women who read magazine by showcasing the achievements of many Indian women worldwide. Even though the majority of Indian women are employed and make some kind of economic contribution, a large portion of their labor is not recorded or included in official statistics. In the informal sector, women sell food and collect wood; in the domestic industries, they weave and create handicrafts; and on farms, they plow fields and harvest harvests. In addition, women have historically been in charge of the everyday domestic tasks, such as cooking, getting water, and watching the kids. The informal sector is crucial for women since Indian tradition prevents them from working in factories, retail establishments, and government agencies. Over 90% of working women are thought to be employed in the unorganized sector. Jobs like field worker on a family farm, small merchant, craftsman, and domestic helper are all considered to be in the informal sector. The majority of these positions are low-paying, unskilled, and provide no benefits to the employee. But more significantly, regional differences in cultural customs exist. North India tends to be more patriarchal and feudal than South India, albeit this is a wide generalization. In northern India, women are subject to greater behavioral constraints, which limits their employment opportunities. Women are more prevalent in society and have comparatively more freedom in southern India, which has a tendency toward greater equality. Though the lack of jobs nationwide adds to low female employment, cultural barriers are shifting and women are now more free to engage in the formal sector. However, working women's circumstances in India have significantly improved in recent years. As more and more companies are filled with women working on equal terms with men, more and more women are occupying prestigious and respected positions. Working is now a tool for self-worth and personal development rather than merely a necessary adjustment. In addition to finding their place in the workplace, women increasingly want to play a role in government. There have been overt efforts to boost women's political involvement in recent years. As a symbol of political empowerment, women are represented in the Panchayati Raj system. At the village council level, there are several elected female members. Women are gradually changing things at both the federal and state levels. Today, India has a female president and a small number of female chief ministers in its major states. Political involvement is expected to be considerably strengthened under the Women's Reservation Policy Bill. Compared to former times, women nowadays are more sensible and pragmatic. Indian women nowadays are more autonomous and vocal than ever before. Women nowadays are no longer sentimental.

Negative Effects Indian women have suffered as a result of globalization. Their predicament is comparable to that of women in other emerging nations, including Asia and Africa. Many multinational firms have become billions wealthier as a result of globalization. The majority of people are unaware, nevertheless, that the growth of corporate empires is causing significant misery for women in these emerging nations. Women produce half of the world's food and labor two-thirds of the world's working hours, yet they only get 10% of global income, according to figures from the World Development Indicators.

income, yet own less than 1% of the world's property. Globalization, in conjunction with the backing of institutions like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, has led to the creation of slave wages, according to Indian economist and researcher VandanaShivea. These salaries are caused by the reality that global commerce diminishes the value of people's lives

and labor, not necessarily by "unjust" society. Even while globalization has created opportunities in formerly unemployed rural and emerging regions like India, these positions seem to be wolves in sheep's clothing. Women are almost invariably offered low-paying, physically and emotionally harmful, degrading, or unstable jobs. Women suffer in two ways. Women's household duties are not lessened when they enter the workforce in emerging nations. Two full-time occupations are held by women. at the one, they are paid almost little at a workplace, while in the second, they are paid nothing at home. Development for impoverished women has resulted in males moving to cities, rising commodity prices, and fewer employment options, claim Merlin A. Taber and Sushma Batra, authors of the book Social Strains of Globalization in India. The Noida Export Processing Zone, located 24 km from New Delhi, is one instance of how women's labor is being exploited. "The combination of corporate capitalism and Western culture models is dissolving family and community social controls as witnessed by higher rates of family violence, rape, divorce, and family breakdown." Because women are “more docile and more productive in men,” these “zones” prefer to recruit them. In other words, women are simpler to manage and less likely to rebel against subpar working circumstances, which is precisely what thousands of women experience every day. The area is filthy, hot, and hazardous. Body searches that aren't essential are common. The minimum wage is never enforced, and there are no maternity benefits. Women who get married or become pregnant are dismissed right away. Although women are paid less than males, overtime is required. “Respiratory problems, pelvic inflammatory disease, and severe cases of dehydration and anemia are common.” ~ 339 ~ International Journal of Applied Research Some examples are: India has been impacted by globalization in many ways. Women resort to unsafe abortions performed by unqualified “doctors” in order to avoid being fired. A gradual shift in favor of Americanization has occurred. Pop culture has an impact on media and television. Given how conservative India is, globalization entails more liberalization. In urban places, the changes are clearly visible. Moral views among people have loosened, if not relaxed. Moral views have loosened as a result of globalization. Women are more likely to smoke and drink, to the extent that these behaviors have come to represent female empowerment. At the grassroots level, women's rights have also received more attention. While some women are gradually moving toward empowerment, there has been a tendency toward their dressing and speaking more traditionally. By adopting a more Western fashion sense, other women empower themselves. Depending on the parents, dating is also more appropriate. Women must put forth a lot more effort to achieve equality in society, and their legitimacy is often called into doubt. Reducing female infanticide and getting girls into education are ongoing issues. The usage of contraception is still a problem. Globalization has more drawbacks than advantages. In several respects, it has weakened state sovereignty. Simply put, globalization is the proliferation of businesses with no accountability and no checks and balances. It is ludicrous to think that democracy and capitalism are compatible. Alongside India's economic liberalization came the involvement of the mass media, particularly satellite television. The western principles that underpin satellite television have been at odds with Indian values. An ordinary Indian household has experienced conflicts as a result. Native Indian aspirations are no longer in line with what people are seeing on television. Women have been strong-willed and independent in the rural areas. In a few of instances, they have been the main providers of income. The

The fact that women may be independent and do not have to depend on males for existence is something that society does wish to embrace. But our worldview is still shaped by old roles, and we still think that women are oppressed. In ways that are typical of patriarchal countries, they are. While it does not claim that women are free and powerful, it does provide a novel viewpoint that suggests to the Western reader that women in rural areas are better equipped to

care for themselves than those in metropolitan areas. Women have suffered as a result of globalization, particularly in poor nations. Women are subjected to occupational dangers and labor exploitation as producers, and as consumers, they are increasingly confronted with a consumer culture that treats them like commodities. Due to their many responsibilities as prospective moms, mothers in charge of their children's and families' health, and working women both within and outside the house, they are significant users of healthcare goods. A significant problem has emerged in recent years: a number of women's health items that were deemed harmful and prohibited or limited in affluent nations were sold in underdeveloped nations. These goods and medications are conveniently dumped in underdeveloped nations by transnational corporations (TNCs). Due to the easy access to inexpensive labor, several transnational corporations have recently established some of their businesses and manufacturing facilities in developing nations. Women who work as producers must also endure exploitation in the form of low pay, unfavorable working conditions, job insecurity, and denial of their right to representation. Change must be fought for at all levels by the women's movement. Women must take action on many levels in order to empower themselves. Numerous international organizations are likewise pursuing this goal. Globalization is a complex process of political, cultural, ideological, and economic transformation, as the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization emphasizes. Its effects on women's rights have been conflicting. On the one hand, the decline of the welfare state, the feminization of poverty, the growth of religious fundamentalism, and new forms of war and militarism have all contributed to a rise in the breaches of women's economic, political, and cultural rights. Many international women's organizations, for instance, have pointed out that the new trade deals violate the text and often the spirit of international treaties on women's rights, labor rights, and human rights. However, certain parts of globalization have given women more chances to demand their rights by organizing in solidarity at the regional, national, and worldwide levels. Their goal is to support the advancement of policies that bolster the benefits and outcomes of globalization, particularly in relation to gender equality and women's rights. The state's retreat from social responsibility and its effects on women's livelihood and health are connected issues as well. Although there have always been some worries about public welfare under global capitalism, the market economy's expansion to almost every isolated island or mountain community has exposed the connections between governments and large enterprises. With intentions to privatize all productive resources, neoliberalism—the most current type of global capitalism—has challenged ideas of the public good.1 Strict population control measures are also part of structural adjustment, which is seen as a magic bullet for economic expansion. This way of thinking mirrors the classic Western paradigm that sees the issue of famine and food security in Malthusian terms: shortages emerge when population growth outpaces food supply. I want to emphasize that "in the end, the food problem is not just concerned with the availability of food but with the disposition of food," without downplaying the significance of population control. Politics, economics, and even the law are all involved. In addition to productive potential, ownership and trade are ultimately linked to starvation and malnutrition.2 This raises concerns about how global capitalism functions. Therefore, there are undoubtedly some positive aspects of the economic reform process, such as the diminished influence of

the state in forestry and more convenient access to global markets for the goods of impoverished women. However, it is crucial to control and lessen the negative effects of liberalization and mechanization over the long term by fostering women's creativity and abilities and creating insurance coverage to reduce the dangers they face. In order to avoid marginalizing a significant segment of society in the pursuit of economic growth and empowerment, this necessitates active interventions.

**Conclusion**

Due to globalization, women's roles in India have been evolving, and they are now leaving behind their traditional positions and entering a new period of independence and rights. Even though women have achieved significant progress in the business sector, Indian society's patriarchal culture prevents them from pursuing occupations that excessively interfere with their home lives. ~ 340 ~ Journal of Applied Research International Due to their contributions to the Indian economy as a whole, women are now able to support their families with two sources of income, which increases their voice both at home and in Parliament for 50% reservation. They must perform the duties of both a paid employee in an organization and an unpaid servant at home. at addition, they must deal with strain and stress at both locations. These days, women see themselves as their husbands' real "ardhangini." She is more aware of his current environment and the demands of his job. Many people believe that having more money gives them the ability to express their views on more important issues.

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