CASE STUDY-1

Kumari Sunita, a twenty eight years old unmarried law graduate is practicing as lawyer at Allahabad and earns her livelihood comfortably. Her father is a small businessman and her grandfather was a farmer. Her father’s monthly income is Rs. 10,000/-, he has completed his intermediate. Her mother is a housewife with very little education.

She believes that being a member of particular caste is a reason for people to discriminate. People used to discriminate on the basis of caste in terms of basic fundamental rights, due to this people belonging to Scheduled Caste are discriminated and she also believes that government has taken certain steps for the upliftment of these castes'. She feels the scarcity of schools for her community.

She is a law graduate but even she believes that the educational standards of her community are up to secondary level which specially limited for a girl belonging to her community because of the reluctance of the elders of the family, who feels that girl should be restricted to domestic circle only but she disagrees that girls should be treated equally in terms of attainment of education because it is necessary for maintaining household and socialization of children.

She agrees that sometime her association with her caste acted as an impediment in attaining a good education. She feels that women and men are equal so that they must be treated equally in every sense whether it is
related with education, gender or even politics. Because she has seen so many representations from her community in the politics.

She believes that voting is a right and duty of every Indian whether it is man or woman, that is why, she participates in election and a strong supporter of BSP.

She is also aware of some programmes and schemes started by the government for strengthening the educational status of the persons belonging to the scheduled caste and agrees that few of them are implemented in her locality too but very little women participation was there. Yes, she believes that women should be given equal chance of taking important decision in the family because women participation in every sphere is very important for a better tomorrow and vibrant India. During the past 62 years of independence the condition of her community has improved, she agrees. But she never went through any initiative being taken by elders of her community, rather she has seen some initiatives taken by the community itself for the better education of women because now the community believes that educating girls has been a tool to reduce gender inequality and by getting educated women can use education as a tool with which they can participate in community more vigorously and with determination which has been prove to a tool to reduce gender inequality.

She feels that education of girls is gaining popularity among her community to a definite extent and there is still a long way to go for
women to get emancipated by education. She believes that women are being emancipated by seeing things in a better way at domestic and social level and education is also helpful for women to get independence at domestic front also. She says that patriarchal set-up of society is the main reason for gender in-equality in her community which forces women to be unequal to men.

She denies that women in her community are still behind in gender inequality and decision making in her family and she also agrees that the community is more receptive towards education of girls now than before because they have seen fruits of girl-education and community is responding to the demands of modern society, political leadership is also active in this regard that educating women is providing beneficial in educating children, management of household and additional income of the family.

CASE STUDY-2

Yogita Kashyap, is a 17 years old unmarried girl, living in awasvikas colony. She has just completed her senior secondary examination from CBSE Board, she is living in the city. Her father is a well-reputed business man and mother is active in politics. Her family consists of a grandmother, who never went to school, father who is post-graduate in law, mother is a graduate, elder sister who’s pursuing M.A. from Agra University, two younger brothers one is studying in High School and 2nd
is in VII standards respectively. Their family’s monthly income is nearly Rs. 25,000.

She denies that, being a member of a particular caste she has faced any sort of discrimination and also doesn’t know about any certain necessary steps for the upliftment of their caste.

She feels that there is no discrimination in terms of availability of schools for her community with respect to other communities, says that there is a lack of good schools as a whole. She says that the educational standards of her community is still not in good position. Most of the people are uneducated or their education is confined up to secondary level only, and also believes that girls of her community are far behind from boys in terms of educational attainment and also tells the reason that most of the scheduled caste families are having low income, that is why, educating girls proves hectic for the family. She says that in terms of attainment of education, girls must be treated equally with boys because it is necessary to educating girls for maintaining household and socialization of children being an educated wife and mother can only take care of these things. She doesn’t agree that her association with her caste acted as an impediment in attaining good education but she believes that women and men should be treated on equal terms and should have equal rights. She was never been a member of panchayat or of some local body but she has seen her mother in such a body. She doesn’t participate in elections as her age doesn’t allow but a strong supporter of BSP and
agrees that women should be given equal chance like men to participate in elections. Being a daughter of a political mother she’s known to some plans for development of her community adopted by government, they were not implemented in her locality rather they were implemented in working area of her mother. She believes that women should be given equal chance for taking important decisions in her family and also strongly in favor of women participation in every sphere of life for a better tomorrow and vibrant India. She agrees on that during the past 62 years of independence the condition of her community has improved. She is known to an initiative taken by the elders of her community which was a *kanya pathshala* was opened up by the members of her community for their better future at her native place. She agrees that educating girls in her community has been a tool to reduce gender inequality because education makes women to assert their rights in family and outside. She says that now education for women is getting popular among her community to a moderate extent. Being a member of scheduled caste community she strongly believes that education is providing to be a tool for emancipation of women, by getting educated they can take part in important decisions making vis-à-vis family and society. It also helps women to get economic independence at domestic front. She believes that the adherence to the age old system is responsible for gender inequality in her community. She says yes, that educated women in her community are leading better lives in terms of gender inequality in decision making in
family and agrees that educated women are providing to be a reference group for uneducated women. She says that community is more receptive towards educating women now than before because community has seen the fruits of girls education and community is responding to demands of modern society, political leadership has being a force to act in this regard and last but not the least that educating women is providing beneficial in educating children, management of house-hold and additional income.

CASE STUDY-3

Miss Manisha Maurya, an 18years old unmarried girl, resident of pratibha colony, doing preparation of medical entrance examinations and for that she is taking her coaching in Delhi. She belongs from a family of educated elders, her mother is a graduate housewife, and father is a government employee in SBI. Her family comprises of four, i.e., her parents, she and her younger brother who is also studying in reputed convent school in Aligarh. Her father’s monthly income is Rs. 20,000.

On being asked about the caste based discrimination as Indian society is divided into various castes. She said that she never went through any caste based discrimination. She is not aware about the steps for the upliftment of her caste taken by the government or district administration. She disagrees about any sort of discrimination in terms of availability of schools for her community with respect to other communities but says that the educational standards of her community is still up to secondary level in which girls are not far behind than boys in
terms of educational attainment, she believes that the low family income is responsible for this cause and educating girls is still a taboo in her community so that she is strongly in favor of equality of girls in terms of educational attainment because education is necessary for maintaining house-hold and socialization of children. She disagrees that her association with her caste acted as an impediment in attaining good education. She is in favor of equality of women and men in her community and should have equal rights.

She was never been a member of panchayat or some local body. From this year she is eligible to participate in elections and will give her vote for congress. She feels that women should be given equal chance to participate in elections. She is not aware of plans for development of her community or her caste adopted by government. She agrees that women in her community should be given equal chance for taking important decisions in her family because women participation in every sphere of life will help in making India’s better tomorrow. She also agrees that during the past 62years of independence the condition of her community has improved, any initiative being taken by the elders of her community is not known to her rather she knows about an initiative being taken by the community has been a tool to reduce gender inequality, she believes that with the education as a tool they can participate in community more vigorously and with determination has proved to be a tool to reduce gender inequality, it also makes women to assert their rights in family and
outside, that is why, education of girls gaining popularity among her community to a definite extent. Being a member of scheduled caste community she feels that education is providing to be a tool for emancipation of women with the help of education. Women can see things in a better way at domestic and social level and educated women can easily get economic independence at domestic front, she agrees. She says that adherence to the age old system is responsible for gender inequality in her community. She also agrees that educated women are leading better lives in terms of gender inequality and decision making in family and these educated women are providing to be reference group for uneducated women. Because of all these reasons, she says that the community is more receptive towards education of girls now than before. She says that community has seen the fruits of girls education, community is responding to the demands of modern society, political leadership has been a force to act in this regard and educating women is providing beneficial in educating of children management of house-hold and additional income.

**CASE STUDY-4**

Mrs. Kalpana Maurya, forty five years old married lady and Chairman of Khair Tehsil of Aligarh District is a Post Graduate, her husband is a businessman and also a great supporter of her at both house­hold and work place. They are very much receptive towards the changes taking place in the society so that, they have maintained their family in
that way. Her family comprises of four children, two boys and two girls, the eldest daughter is doing post-graduate course in Hindi, younger daughter has passed her senior secondary and now preparing for some competitive examinations, elder son is doing higher secondary from an English medium school and the youngest son is in 8th standard. Their family’s monthly income is Rs. 20-30,000.

She says that society is divided into various castes, she, as a member of a particular caste feels discriminated and the discrimination was based on occupation. She agrees that the district administration or government has taken certain necessary steps for the upliftment of her caste. She disagrees that there is any sort of discrimination in terms of availability of school for her community with respect to other communities and educational standards of her community is confined up to middle level and she says that the girls of scheduled caste community are not at par with boys in terms of educational attainment because educating girls proves hectic for the family as the income is low. She feels that girls of her community should be treated equally in terms of attainment of education because education to girls is necessary for maintaining house-hold and socialization of children. She disagrees that her association with her caste acted as an impediment in attaining good education, she feels that the women and men whether they belong to scheduled caste or any other caste should treated on equal terms and they should also have equal rights. She is the present chairman of Khair Tehsil
and there she felt almost nil participation of women belonging to her community and believes that the women should come forward and should get some representation in such kind of bodies. She always participates in elections and votes for BSP. She is a great supporter of the fact that the women should be given an equal chance like men to participate in elections. She is also aware of some plans for development of her community adopted by the government and those plans were also implemented in her locality and their women were also given opportunity to get participated in those plans or schemes. She says that she takes part in making important decisions of her family so that all women should be given equal chance of taking important decisions of their family because it is necessary to get participated in every sphere of life which is beneficial not only for them but better for nation's better tomorrow. As India has completed 62 years of independence, during this period the condition of her community has improved, she agrees. She also agrees that the elders of her community are very much aware now for the education of boys and girls on equal terms and for that cause they also have taken some important initiative for the education of women because the community believes that education for girls is very necessary to reduce the evil of gender inequality. With education as a tool they participate in community more vigorously and with determination. She feels that education of girls gaining popularity among her community to a definite extent. She says that being member of scheduled caste
community education is providing a tool for emancipation of women because through education women are being vested with freedom, they can see things in a better way at domestic as well as social level, women takes part in important decision making vis-à-vis family in society and lost but not the least women assert their rights properly to fight for justice. She agrees that education is helpful for women to get economic independence at domestic front; she says that economic dependence of women on men is the main reason for gender inequality. She agrees that educated women in her community are leading better lives in terms of gender inequality and decisions making in family, as well as in the society, educated women are providing to be a reference group for uneducated women. Educated women are economically independent, self-reliant and having more respect in the society as compared to uneducated women. For this, she gives her own example, people of her community and caste gives her respect and considers her as a role model for the women in their family, so that the community has become more receptive towards education of girls now than before because community has seen the fruits of girls education.

Community is responding to the demands of modern society, political leadership has been a force to act in this regard and educating women is providing beneficial in educating of children management, management of house-hold and additional income.
CASE STUDY-5

Smt Sharda Devi, a forty-six year’s old married woman, literate up to 5th standard use to serve the people of her locality. Her work is sweeping and cleaning of roads and toilets of the houses of her locality; her husband is a rikshaw-puller and used to take school children to their respective schools. Sweeping is their family occupation but doesn’t like their profession and also didn’t want to leave his family so that her husband left a job in a mill in Mumbai and he also doesn’t want his wife to do this work. Their family comprises of five persons, Sharda Devi, her husband, two daughters one is married and another helps her in her work and an intermediate pass, jobless son. Their family’s monthly income is Rs. 8,000 which is quite low. Sharda Devi believes that economic backwardness and her occupation are the two main reasons responsible for discrimination and gender inequality. Illiteracy among scheduled castes’ and specially the women belonging to this community is responsible for gender inequality.

She says that being a member of scheduled caste she feels discriminated which is based on occupation because people consider her occupation dirty. She doesn’t know about certain necessary steps taken by district administration or government for the upliftment of her caste for that she is having some complaints. She says that there are schools but due to the low family income Scheduled Caste people are not able to get their children admitted in those schools. Because of this reason Scheduled
Caste people enrol their sons only in schools. This is considered as the main reason for the backwardness of girls in terms of education. Even then she believes that the girls should be treated equally in terms of attainment of education. She has not decided that which of the reason is responsible for the low educational level among them, low family income or their association with their caste. She says that women and men from their community should be treated on equal terms and should have equal rights. She was never been the member of panchayat or some other local body and also not aware of women representation in such bodies but strongly in favour of the women representation. She always participates in election and votes for Congress. She agrees that women should be given an equal chance like men to participate in election. She never heard of plans for development for her community or caste adopted by the government. She adds that she always takes part in making important decisions in her family, all women should also be given the same chance in their families too and not only in decision making but they should participate in every sphere of life for their betterment. She maintains that during the past 62 years of independence the condition of her community has definitely improved. She doesn’t know about any initiative taken by the elders of her community itself or the initiatives taken by the community in terms of education of women. She says that for reducing gender inequality the education of girls is necessary, because education is providing women job security so that they can participate in building
economy of their family. She says that education of girls gaining popularity among her community to a definite extent. She says that being a member of scheduled caste community, education is providing a tool for emancipation of women because by getting educated they are being vested with freedom, they can see things in a better way at domestic level, they can take part in important decision making in family as well as in the society, they assert their rights properly to fight for justice and yes, education is helpful for women to get economic independence at domestic front, she adds that economic dependence of women on men is responsible for gender inequality in her community. She totally agrees with the fact that educated women in her community are leading better lives in terms of gender inequality and decision making in the family. They are providing to be a reference group for uneducated women. She feels that, now, the community is more receptive towards education of girls than before, for that she thinks that all the following reasons are responsible that the community has seen the fruits of girls education, community is responding to the demands of modern society, political leadership has been a force to act in this regard and finally educating women is providing beneficial in educating children, management of house-hold and additional income.

CASE STUDY-6

Fifty-seven years old Kanchhilal, lives in a village of Tehsil Khair of district Aligarh. He is a farmer and also a peon in a school nearby. He
is literate up to middle level, his wife is fifth pass whether they both are
not very much educated even they are very much aware of the benefits of
education, that is why, they encouraged their children to study and have
done everything they could do for their better future. His family
comprises of him, his wife, his three sons, a daughter and two little
grandsons. His all children are well educated, the eldest son is science
graduate and married to a girl who is an intermediate, having two sons
both of them are taking education in a convent school, working in Indian
Army, Nagpur, his middle son is also a science graduate and also working
in Indian Army, the youngest son is doing his graduation from B. R.
Ambedkar University, Agra and his daughter who is literate up to
Intermediate level also have done some vocational courses and married to
a person having a large piece of land an district Bulandshahar. His
Family’s monthly income is around Rs. 20,000, in which they are living
happily. He says that education is the foundation for happy and
prosperous life and education also helps to explore our self to different
spheres of life, he understood the importance of education because he was
not very well educated and faced so many difficulties just because of the
lack of higher education, he realized the value of education. In the last he
maintains that girls and boys are equal and should get equal chance.

He says that being a member of scheduled caste community,
sometimes he faced some discrimination based on the status. He believes
that district administration or government has taken certain necessary
steps for the upliftment of their caste and denies any sort of
discrimination in term of availability of schools to his community with
respect to other communities. He thinks that educational standards of his
community is not in good condition and it is limited up to middle level
only and the girls of his community are still not at par with boys in terms
of educational attainment because people are having very low family
income and educating girls proves hectic for the family but he strongly
believes that girls should be treated equally in terms of attainment of
education because by getting education they can maintain their house­
hold and socialization of children. He totally disagrees that his
association with his caste acted as an impediment in attaining a good
education and believes that women and men from his community should
be treated on equal terms and should have equal rights. He was never
been a member of panchayat or some other local body, also never gone
through of any representation from the women of his community in such
bodies and disagrees that women should get some representation there.
He participates in elections and gives his vote for BSP. He believes that
women should also get equal chances to participate in elections like men.
He heard some plans for development of his community or caste adopted
by the government and those plans were also implemented in his locality
and there was very little participation of women in them. He allows the
women of his family to participate in important discussions and decision
making and also want that, women should be given equal chance of
taking important decisions in the family. He believes in equality, that’s why, he also believes that women participation must be there in every sphere of life for a better tomorrow and vibrant India. He agrees that during the 62 years of independence the condition of his community has improved. He doesn’t know about the initiatives being taken by the elders of his community, for the community or for the education of women of his community. He agrees that educating girls in his community has been a tool to reduce gender inequality because education makes women to assert their rights in family and outside. He thinks that education of girls is gaining popularity among his community up to a definite extent. According to him education leads to the emancipation of women because by getting education they are being vested with freedom, they see things in a better way at domestic and social level. He believes that education is helpful for women to get economic independence at domestic level. Patriarchal set up of society force women to be unequal to men. He agrees that educated women in his community are leading better lives in terms of gender equality and decisions making in the family, that’s why, educated women are providing a reference group for uneducated women. He agrees that community is more receptive towards education of girls now, than before because he thinks that educating women is providing beneficial in education of children, management of house-hold and family income.
CASE STUDY-7

Kumari Nisha, a twenty five years old, unmarried girl is living in Naurangabad locality of Aligarh. She is a science graduate, pursuing B. Ed. through correspondence and with also a teacher in a convent school with her twin sister. Her father is a government servant in Uttar Pradesh Roadways; her mother is an intermediate pass housewife. There are four members in her family, her parents and two sisters. She believes that education is very important to survive in the present society, she realizes that education helps women to walk equal to men. She says that education is necessary for every person whether it is a boy or a girl. She says that education helps a person to fulfill his/her desires. Their family’s monthly income is Rs. 20,000.

She maintains that she never felt discriminated because of a member of a particular caste instead she got appreciated everywhere. She feels that the district administration or government has taken certain necessary steps for the upliftment of her caste and there was no such kind of discrimination in terms of availability of schools to her community with respect to other communities. She maintains that the education standards of her community is still not very much improved and is up to senior secondary level only. She agrees that girls from her community are not at par with the boys in terms of educational achievement because people of her community believes that girls should be restricted to domestic circle only but she says that girls should be treated equally in
terms of attainment of education because it is necessary for maintaining house-hold and socialization. She denies that her association with her caste acted as an impediment in attaining a good education. She believes that women and men in her community should be treated on equal terms and should have equal rights. She was never a member of panchayat or some other local body but she has seen some representation from the women of her community in such bodies. Yes, she participates in election and gives her vote to BSP and also believe that women should be given an equal chance to participate in election to men. She is known about the plans of development for her community or caste adopted by the government those plans were implemented in her locality too and there was a women participation too.

Respondent agrees that women in her community should be given equal chance for taking important decisions in their families. One being asked about the women participation, she replied that there should be women participation for better tomorrow.

Respondent also agrees that during the past 60 years the condition of her community improvers. She maintains that the elders of her community took equal steps for the education of boys and girls.

The respondent believes that educating girls in her community proved to be a tool to reduce gender inequality because it provides women, job security so that they can participate in building economy of their families. On being asked about the education’s popularity among her
community she says that education is getting popular to a moderate extent. Being a member of scheduled caste community respondent feels that education is providing a tool for women’s emancipation because with the help of it women gets freedom, they can see things differently at both i.e. domestic and social level. Educated women can also give their views in the family on important issues and lastly they can use their education properly to fight for justice. She also believes that education is helpful for women to get economic independence at domestic front also. Respondent says that patriarchal set-up of society force women to be unequal to men which is responsible for gender inequality in her community.

On the discussion whether the educated women in her community are leading better lives in terms of gender inequality and decision making in family, she says yes and also said that educated women are also a reference group for uneducated women.

Respondent agrees that the community is more receptive towards education of girls now than before because of so many reasons like community has seen the fruits of a girl education, community is responding to the demand of modern society, political leadership has been a force to act in this regard, educating women is providing beneficial in educating children, management of house-hold and additional income.

CASE STUDY-8

Srimati Uma Devi, a sixty five years old illiterate, widow living in a village named Gomat of tehsil Khair of the district. This village is one
of the main villages of Khair, having its historical importance also, Uma Devi’s husband was a landless farmer and due to his bad health and illness, he expired eight years before, leaving behind his wife, two married sons and one unmarried daughter. Her family’s financial condition was so poor. After her husband’s death, her sons started giving money for their livelihood. Her elder son is an I.T.I. holder and does the electrical fitting and repairing of electrical goods in the village whereas the other son is an intermediate and work as a compounder at a doctor’s clinic. Uma Devi, her daughter and two daughter-in-laws are engaged in making agarbatti and candles at their home. Their family’s financial condition is now improved. She says that just because of having some awareness about the schemes and plans, their condition has improved.

Their family’s monthly income is raised up to Rs. 12,000. So, here she makes the difference that being illiterate is the worst thing. Earlier, it was the illiteracy which was the main hurdle in the way of their happy life but what they did best is they gave education to their sons and today her children are educated and aware which is the reason for their better condition.

We started our discussion with whether she felt discriminated because she is a member of a particular caste, she replied, yes, caste sometimes plays a very important role in terms of exercise of basic fundamental rights.
Respondent also agrees that the government has taken certain necessary steps for their upliftment but people are unaware of those plans. She disagrees that there is any sort of unavailability of schools for her community with respect to other communities but says that the educational standards are still up to secondary level which should be increased in which girls and boys should be treated equally because girls in her community are far behind than boys, the reason behind the cause is educating girls roves hectic for the family as the income is low. She says that educating girls is necessary for maintaining household and socialization of children.

On being asked that one’s association with the caste acts as an impediment an attaining a good education, she disagrees and maintains that one can get a good education if there is a will, whether the person belongs to the scheduled caste or any other caste.

The respondent maintains that women and men from her community should be treated on equal terms and should have equal rights.

The respondent was never been the member of panchayat or some other local body and never seen any representation of women in such bodies but feels that there must be the women representation in such bodies from her community. She participates in elections and votes for BSP, she believes that women should be given an equal chance like men to participate in elections.
Respondent is also aware of plans of development for her community or caste adopted by government and also adopted some plans for the betterment of their family, those plans and schemes were also implemented in her village also. Yes, there was some scope for women participation also, she adds.

Respondent agrees that during the past 62 years of independence the condition of her community has improved. She never went through with the initiative being taken by the elders of her community even in terms of education of women.

On being asked, do education of women has proved to be a tool to reduce gender inequality, she replied yes, she gave her example and said that short vocational courses provide women with economic independency but she also said that education of women is gaining popularity among her community to a little extent only.

Respondent says that being a member of scheduled caste community she feels that education also help women to get emancipated. With education they can get more freedom, they can see things in a better way both at domestic as well as social level. Women are more efficient to take part in important decision making vis-à-vis family and society; they assert their rights properly to fight for justice.

On the further discussion whether education is helpful for women to get economic independence at domestic front, she said yes.
Respondent also threw some light on the reason responsible for gender inequality in her community, she says that adherence to the age old system is mainly responsible for it. She agrees that educated women are leading better lives in terms of gender inequality and decision making in their family and says that educated women are providing to be a reference group for uneducated women.

Respondent believes that community is more receptive towards the education of girl now than before because the community has seen the results of girl education, that’s why, community is responding to the demands of modern society, political leadership has also been a force to act in this regard, educating women is providing beneficial in educating of children, management of house-hold and additional income.

CASE STUDY-9

Mr. Munne Singh, 58 years old, male, living in A.D.A. colony, Ramghat Road, Aligarh. He is an Income tax Officer. He is having two married sons in his family. Earlier he was doing his job in All India Radio meanwhile he got selected in Income Tax Department, so he left his job in All India Radio. He is post Graduate in Mathematics, his wife is also graduate and a house wife. His two sons are working and both are engineer, one is at Ranchi and other one in NOIDA. Mr. and Mrs. Munne Singh are living at their residence at A.D.A. colony. His monthly income is twenty thousand rupees.
On being asked whether he belongs to a particular community, does he feel discriminated? He says no.

Respondent also agrees that district administration or government has taken certain necessary steps for the upliftment of his caste. Respondent disagrees that there is any sort of discrimination based on unavailability of schools for his community with respect to other communities.

Respondent believes that the educational standard of his community has improved and nowadays it is up to graduate level. He said no on being asked about the educational status of girls is not at par with boys.

Respondent believes that boys and girls are equal and they should also be treated equally in terms of attainment of education as education is necessary for maintaining house-hold and socialization of children. He disagrees that his association with his caste acted as an impediment in attaining a good education. He also says that women and men from his community should also have equal rights. He was never been a member of panchayat or some local body but feels that they should get representation. Respondent participates in election and castes his vote for BSP.

Respondent believes that women should be given equal chance to participate in elections. He is known to the plans for development of his community or caste adopted by government those plans were also
implemented in his locality. He also says that yes, there was scope for women participation also. Respondent says that women in his community should be given equal chance for taking important decisions, he maintains that participation of women in every sphere of life for a better tomorrow and vibrant India. Respondent agrees that during the past 62 years of independence the condition of his community has improved. He says that the elder of his community took equal steps for both boys and girls in terms of education.

He threw some light that education makes women to assert their rights in family and outside, that's why educating girls in his community has been a tool to reduce a gender inequality. He also adds that education of girls is gaining popularity in his community to a moderate extent.

Respondent believes that being a member of scheduled caste community he feels that education is providing to be a tool for emancipation of women because education leads to freedom and one can see things in a better way at domestic and social level, they can take part in decision making in family and society and they can also assert their rights properly to fight for justice.

Respondent says that the education is very important for women to get economic independence at domestic front. He believes that patriarchal set-up of society force women to be unequal to men and it is the main reason for gender inequality in his community. He feels that educated women in his community are leading better lives in terms of gender
inequality and decisions making in family, educated women are providing to be a reference group for uneducated women, he agrees.

Respondent agrees that community is more receptive towards education of girls now than before because community has seen fruits of girls education, community is responding to the demands of modern society, political leadership has been a force to act in this regard, educating women is providing beneficial in education of children, management of house-hold and additional income.

CASE STUDY-10

Smt Maya, a thirty-five years old female, married to a government servant, living in Khair Tehsil. She also belongs to a village of the Tehsil itself, she is a graduate and her husband is post-graduate, they are having two children one boy and one girl. Both are studying in 5\textsuperscript{th} and 1\textsuperscript{st} standard respectively in a reputed school. This couple gives importance of education because they have seen results of being educated. Her husband got opportunity in government sector just because of having good education. Their family’s monthly income is Rs. 15,000.

Respondent disagrees when asked about the discrimination based on caste. District administration or government has taken necessary for the upliftment of her caste, she denies. She said that there is no discrimination in terms of availability of schools to her community with respect to other communities. She believes that educational standard of her community is limited upto senior secondary only.
Respondent agrees that girls from her community are not at par with boys in terms of education attainment because it is the reluctance of elders of family, who feel girls should be restricted to domestic circle.

When asked about does she, as a member of particular community feels that girls should be treated equally in terms of attainment of education, she agrees that education for girls is necessary for maintaining house-hold and socialization of children. She do not think that her association with her caste acted as an impediment in attaining a good education, she feels that women and men of her community should be treated on equal terms and should have equal rights.

Respondent was never being a member of panchayat or some other local body, have seen some other women to represent in such bodies, she participates in election and gives her vote to BSP.

Respondent thinks that women should be given equal chance like men to participate in elections. Respondent is not aware of the plans for development of her community or caste adopted by government. She believes that women in her community should be given equal chance for taking important decision in her family and women participation must be there in every sphere of life for a better tomorrow and vibrant India.

Respondent agrees that during the past 62 years of independence the condition of her community has improved. Respondent told that a nursery school was started up by the elders of her community and the community also took initiative in terms of education of women.
Respondent believes that educating girls in her community has been a tool to reduce gender inequality because education makes women to assert their rights in family and outside. She says that education of girls is gaining popularity among her community to a definite extent.

When the question asked about that being a member of scheduled caste community feel that education is providing a tool to be for emancipation of women she agrees and says that women have been emancipated by education they are getting more freedom, they can see things in a better way at domestic and social level, by getting educated they are capable of taking part in important decision making vis-à-vis family and society, they also assert their rights properly to fight for justice.

Respondent thinks that education is helpful for women to get economic independence at domestic front. She believes that economic dependence of women make women equal to men and it is the main reason for gender inequality among her community.

She is also known of the fact that women in her community are leading better lives in terms of gender inequality and decision making in the family and agrees that educated women are providing to be a reference group for uneducated women.

On being asked that, do you feel that community is more receptive towards education of girls education now than before, she agrees and also gave some reasons that community has seen the fruits of girls education.
community is responding to the demands of modern society. Political leadership has been a force to act in this regard and last but not the least education for women is providing beneficial to children, management of house-hold and additional income.

CASE STUDY-11

Smt. Mithlesh, forty years old married female, living in Chaudhana village of tehsil Khair of District Aligarh, her husband works in a lock factory in Aligarh city. She is not very well educated and has passed class fifth only. Her husband has passed intermediate. By occupation she is a maid, therefore, she goes to people’s houses for sweeping, swabbing and cooking. Her husband goes to Aligarh daily with local transportation and she lives in the village with her in-laws and three children. She has two sons and a daughter. Among her children, her daughter is the eldest, who is studying in class third, helps her mother in her work and also looks after her younger siblings.

Their family’s monthly income is near about five thousand. Their financial condition is not so well, that is why, have are not able to afford the expenses of the school fee for their children. Respondent and her husband wanted to settle down in Aligarh for the purpose better future of their children but due to the lack of sufficient income and resources which are easily available in their village, their could not make it possible.

Respondent believes that having insufficient income is much more responsible of being discriminated than being a member of a particular
caste, so according to her, status is the main reason for being discriminated.

Respondent is not aware of any step for the upliftment of her caste, adopted by the district administration or government. She disagrees when asked about existence of any sort of discrimination in terms of availability of schools for her community with respect to other communities but says that the educational standards of her community are limited up to primary level only, in which girls are not at par with boys in terms of educational attainment, the reason behind for this cause is that most of the families are living below poverty line and educating girls proves hectic for the family as their income is low.

On the other hand, she states that girls should be treated equally in terms of educational attainment because education of girls is necessary for maintaining household and socialization of children. According to the respondent, her association with her caste never acted as an impediment in attaining a good education and she maintains that women and men in every community should be treated on equal terms and should have equal rights for the betterment of the society.

She was never been the member of Panchayat or other local body and have not seen any representation of women from her community in such bodies but is a strong supporter of women representation in these local governmental bodies. She always participates in elections and votes for BSP, according to her women should also be given equal chance like
men to participate in elections. She is known to some plans of development of her community or caste adopted by the government but those were not properly implemented in her locality, so that she also did not get chance to take benefits of those plans. She believes that women of scheduled caste community should be given equal chance like men to take important decisions in the family and they should also have freedom to move freely in the society for the better tomorrow of the nation she denied, when asked about the condition of the community has improved after independence.

Respondent maintained that the elders of her community took some initiatives for their betterment; they took some equal steps for both boys and girls in terms of educational attainment which led to reduce gender inequality in her community.

She says that education of women has proved to be a tool to reduce gender inequality because education is providing women job security so that they participate in building economy of the family but it is gaining popularity only up to a little extent.

Being a member of scheduled caste community she agrees that education is really helpful for the emancipation of women because with education women are being vested with freedom and it gives women to be economic independence at domestic front also.
Respondent believes that patriarchal set up of society force women to be unequal to men, which is the main reason responsible for gender inequality in her community.

She feels that women, who are educated, are leading better lives in terms of gender inequality and decision making in the family and are also providing inspiration for uneducated women.

She is not sure about the community whether it is receptive towards the education of girls now than before.

CASE STUDY-12

Mr. S. K. Singh is 60 years old male, living in Gyan Sarover locality of the city Aligarh. He is also the native of a village of Khair tehsil. He is teaching in an agricultural university, Kanpur. His family is residing in Aligarh. There are five members in his family, Mr. Singh, his wife, two daughters and a son. His monthly income is near about Rs. 35000/-.

He is very aware about the importance of education, therefore, does not believe in gender biasness. One of the main reasons for his awareness is related to his son’s illness. His son is suffering from a kind of mental syndrome because of that could not able to speak properly, unable to do his daily routine work also and therefore could not take his education more than 8th standard. That’s why Mr. Singh took keen interest to educate his daughters. His elder daughter has completed her MBA after Mass Communication and working in American Bank, Delhi,
and younger daughter has passed her +2 examinations and taking coaching to get admission in engineering.

When asked about the discrimination, the respondent replied that there is no discrimination as such for their caste but due to the lack of good educational background, members of his community are facing difficulties. He said that if there is discrimination then it is limited to the exercise of religious and that too in rural areas only because only rural areas are untouched or there is lack of awareness about the government schemes running for the betterment of scheduled caste and other backward classes. He doesn’t agree, when asked about any discrimination in terms of availability of schools for his community with respect to other communities.

He said that still the educational level of his community has not increased up to a desired level and it is only up to graduation level, in which girls are far behind than boys because it is the reluctance of elders of the family, who feel that girls should be restricted to domestic work and should take care of the household whereas he maintains that this practice should be stopped and one should treat girls equally because educated girls are good at maintaining household and socialization of children.

He agrees that sometimes one’s association with his or her caste acted as an impediment in attaining a good education.
The respondent has seen women representation in Panchayats and other local bodies but he was never been a member of it. He participates in elections and casts his vote for BSP. He thinks that women should be given equal chance like men to participate in elections because there are so many opportunities for women in politics as well as in different plans for their development adopted by government and those plans were also implemented in his locality also and there was women representation.

He maintains that women in every community should have equal rights for taking family's important decisions because it will help India to make its better tomorrow.

The respondent agrees that during the past 62 years of independence the condition of his community has definitely improved because the community itself has taken some initiatives, like opening of schools for both boy's and girl’s education, which has been proved as a tool to reduce gender inequality in the society but this educational popularity is only up to a definite extent.

As a member of scheduled caste community he feels that education is providing to be to emancipation of women because educated women can assert their rights properly to fight against injustice and education also help women to get economic independence at domestic front.

He said that adherence to the age old system is mainly responsible for gender biasness in his community.
The respondent maintains that educated women are providing to be a reference group for uneducated women because being vested with education, women can lead better lives in terms of gender inequality and decision making in and out of the family and nowadays the community is also very much receptive towards education of girls than before with this he also adds that this mentality if the people is confined only the people residing in urban areas and specially in those families which are already educated and think that education of women is providing beneficial in educating of children, management of household and additional income are some of the possible reason of it.

CASE STUDY-13

Ms. Suman Devi, a 32 years old, divorcee, is a native of village Sangrampur of Tehsil Khair of Aligarh District. Her father is a land laborer and also looking after his own small piece of land. Suman is literate in her family and is graduate. Her father’s monthly income is very low and it is not stable also, therefore, he was not able to send his daughters to school, even he was very willing to send them.

After completing her graduation, her father gave her hand to a resident of Rajpur village of the same tehsil. He was intermediate and was running a daily needs shop in the village. Due to the lack of money and other resources, Suman tied the knot with that person.

When some time passed after marriage, Suman came to know about the habits of her husband, he used to drink and beat her in front of
his family members and soon he sold off the shop, which he owed. According to the respondent, “after six years spending in the hell, and decided to take divorce”. She moved out from her husband’s house and applied in court for divorce.

In the course of taking divorce, she met with so many persons, who helped her a lot and told her about the plans for development and other schemes run by the government.

Now she is independent and working as a teacher in “Shiksha Mitra”.

The respondent says that, those who are uneducated and unaware, discrimination still exists and on the other hand who are aware about the plans, policies and schemes, are living their lives freely.

She agrees that district administration or government has taken certain necessary steps for the upliftment of her caste. She also agrees about the discrimination in terms of availability of school not only for her community but as a whole.

Respondent believes that the educational standard of her community is below graduation level and members of her community rarely head towards any other professional course.

She maintains that girls not only from her community but in general also, are far behind than boys in every sphere, they are bound to live only in domestic circle and this is due to the reluctance of the elders of the family.
Being a member of a particular community, she feels that girls should be treated equally in terms of attainment of education because educated women are much better in maintaining household and socialization of children, whereas she also agrees that one’s association with his/her caste sometimes act as an impediment in attaining a good education. In spite of all above negative factors, she believes that women and men belonging from her community should be treated equally and should also have equal rights.

She was never been the member of Panchayat or some other local body but she has seen some women representation in those bodies. She always participates in elections and casts her vote for BSP. She is also known about so many plans for development for her community adopted by the government and also personally thank them as because whatever she is now, because of those plans only.

She believes that women should have equal rights in politics and at home for taking important decisions in their family which is necessary not only for them but for the nation also. She agrees that during the past 62 years of independence, the condition of her community has improved.

She is not aware about the initiative being taken by the elders of her community for the education of women. She agrees that girl’s education helps a lot to reduce gender inequality because short vocational courses provide women with economic independency; she also maintains
that this practice of women education is gaining popularity among her community only up to a definite extent.

She maintains that education enables women to take part in important decision making vis-à-vis family and society, so that women can easily get emancipated. She believes that education is helpful for women to get economic independence at domestic front. She also maintains that adherence to the age old system is the main reason for gender inequality in her community.

Respondent also believes that educated women are providing to be a reference group for uneducated women and educated women belonging to scheduled caste community also leading better lives in terms of gender inequality and decision making in the family. On the other hand she also feels that in case of education of girls, the society has still a long way to go.

**CASE STUDY-14**

Mrs. Shalini, forty five years old, married lady residing in the locality of the city Aligarh. She is a graduate. She knows very well how to maintain her household and family. Her husband is a Doctor in a Government hospital near Etawah. He used to be outside and be able to come only on weekends. Mrs Shalini has to take care of her home, family and children. Her father and mother-in-law also used to live with them. Her father-in-law is also a retired Govt. servant. Mrs Shalini has two children, a son and a daughter. Her elder son has passed his higher
secondary examination and wants to be an engineer. Therefore, he has been sent to Kota in Rajasthan, where he is doing his +2 and also taking coaching for IIT. Her younger daughter is studying in class 8th in D.P.S., Aligarh. They are a very happy family where family’s monthly income is Rs.40,000/- (approx.) per month. They are liberal minded and pay equal attention to the education and facilities for their children. They wanted their son to be a doctor but he wanted to be an engineer, so they did not impose their will on their son and sent him to prepare for his own interest. Mrs Shalini said that they would do the same in case of their daughter too.

Respondent agrees that being a member of particular caste sometimes they felt discriminated and that discrimination was based on status. She further added that district Administration or Govt. may have taken certain necessary steps for the upliftment of her caste but people belonging to rural areas are still far from those benefits.

Respondent denies about any sort of discrimination in terms of availability of schools for her community with respect to other communities. She maintains that her community’s educational standard is upto Graduate level. She believe that girl’s of her community are still at par with boys in terms of educational attainment because in her view most of the Schedules Caste families are still living below poverty line which proves hectic for them to send their girls to school as their income is low.
She maintains that girls from her community should be treated equally in terms of attainment of education.

She agrees that girl’s education is necessary for maintaining household and socialization of children. When asked about, whether the association with her caste acted as an impediment in attaining a good education, she disagrees. Further she added that women and men should be treated on equal terms and should have equal rights because it will help them to come out from the old social stigma and to reach upto a new heights.

Respondent was never been a member of Panchayat or some other local body but she maintains that women in modern India are actively participating in political sphere. She always castes her vote for BSP. Respondent have heard about so many plans for development of her community adopted by the government, some of them are National Educational Policy, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Mid-day Meal, etc. These plans were successfully implemented in her locality and helped the women to raise their educational and living standards, which later on helped them to take part in the decision making in their families. Taking part in such activities automatically lead to a better tomorrow and vibrant India.

She maintains that after almost 60 years of independence the condition of her community has definitely improved because now the elders of her community are more open and concerned about their next
generation and now they are equally taking steps for both i.e. boys and girls in terms of education. She agrees that educating girls in her community is definitely a tool to reduce gender inequality because education makes women to participate in various institutions of decision making.

Respondent also maintains that even after so many efforts by the government and the community itself the education of girls is gaining popularity among her community only upto a definite extent. The community has a long way to go. She agrees that education is providing to be a tool for emancipation of women. Education help women to see things in a better way at domestic as well as social level and also helpful for them to get economic independence at domestic front.

When asked about the reason for gender inequality in her community, she replied that patriarchal set-up of society is mainly responsible for gender inequality which force women to be unequal to men. On the other hand, women who are educated are leading better lives in terms of gender inequality and decisions making in family, those women are definitely providing to be a reference group for uneducated women.

Respondent also agrees that her community is more receptive towards education of girls now than before. The reason behind this response is that community has seen the fruits of girl’s education.