

# **On the Changes of Higher Education and Chinese Women's Social Status**

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**Abstract.** In today's society, women's status is increasing day by day, which is inseparable from the educational situation of modern women, especially the great changes in higher education. This thesis analyzes the relationship between the changes in women's social status and higher education. The following research experiences are made.

## **1. Important Role of Higher Education in the Advancement of Women's Status**

Women's access to higher education is a major phenomenon in modern society [1]. Therefore, women's acceptance of higher education is not only an important symbol for improving women's social status, but also a driving force for women's liberation. The important role of higher education in improving the status of women is mainly reflected in two aspects. Firstly, higher education plays an active role in improving women's political status, economic situation, family life and social psychology; Secondly, higher education can play a role in addressing the modern challenges that women face.

### **1.1 Close relation between educational level of women and family's economic situation**

In daily life, female friends can have higher employment opportunities only if they have a higher level of education. With a better level of employment, women will have a higher level of education, forming a virtuous circle. "If a man is a standard industrial worker, then a woman is a typical information worker." John Nasbitt and Patricia Aburdene said. The level of education of women is directly related to the employment rate of the local government. The situation in the United States, the most developed country in the world, may not fully reflect the actual changes in the world, but at least it can be said that the United States has always led the world trend in the relationship among women's employment, economic status and global education level [2]. Contrary to this trend, women who do not accept higher education or are even illiterate are forced to resign due to limited work capacity. Even if they work under gender barriers, they always engage in traditional women's industries such as agriculture and textiles. They put more energy but get less wages and safety guarantee. Such situation is clearly not conducive to improving the family and other related status, as well as the economic situation of women, so that women's access to education will be even more rampant.

### **1.2 Relationship between the extent of women's access to educational resources and their reproductive status and economic status**

The higher the education level of women, the higher the employment rate, which not only can improve the time and energy of caring for children, but also are appropriate and objective restrictions, but most importantly, the improvement of education level is conducive to women's transformation of their concept of birth. . As a highly educated woman, it can be said that their family status will no longer be measured by the number of children, and they will better resist the pressure from this, so that they can make efforts improve the quality of their children instead of just increasing the number. In addition, women with higher education have great economic opportunities due to the reduced number of children and guaranteed working hours. In turn, economic status, status and the good condition of children will help women achieve social progress in higher education. As a result,

women with higher education in both developed and developing countries usually have lower fertility rates than those with lower levels of education, while those with the highest fertility rates in developing countries often occur in rural areas. Lower levels of education, poor geographical environment, high birth rates and child mortality, and maternal diseases are all associated with a high degree of underdevelopment in the region. For women who are not well educated, they have little chance of gaining some opportunities for economic life activities. They think that they are only wives and mothers, thus giving them relatively few resources, thus reducing their chances of survival.

### **1.3 Relationship between the status of women and their participation in national political activities, social activities and the level of education**

Participating in the political life of modern society requires women to receive a higher level of education. The vast majority of outstanding political leaders in the world of women have received very good educational experiences. In a sense, in order to compete with men and break through the barrier, women must show that they have a higher education than men, and education comes from education, and the degree of education is in turn a positive promoter of women's social image and the overall status of women. On the contrary, the ability of these illiterate and illiterate women to participate in politics are always obviously be severely limited. Because it is very difficult for women to get higher honors and political status when they participate in the politics. Once women become irrelevant, the need for higher education even compulsory education is also excluded.

### **1.4 Subtle relationship between women's educational level and social psychology [3]**

Suppose that women do not have corresponding value for political and economic activities, they can be not gained a sense of identity from the whole society, cultural and psychological prejudice against women can't be eliminated, and they cannot have true self-confidence and self-improvement. Women who are not confident must be women without self-confidence and self-esteem. The core of self-confidence is education, especially today and in the future.

### **1.5 Summary**

Most importantly, higher education has a stronger professional nature. This kind of training is a necessary condition for women's work and politics in modern society, especially those women working in high-tech, information and other industries, most of whom have a high degree of education and high cultural quality. Higher education is a basic tool for the liberation of women and true equality. Secondly, with the deepening of the high-tech revolution, the scientific and technical personnel and cultural content of most industries in the world will increase day by day. Nowadays, the future of society will require higher education levels not only in one high-tech field but in many high-end industries. All departments need talents with advanced qualifications and require them to contribute ideas to the whole enterprise. Therefore, if the role of higher education in helping to improve women's past status is achieved by some senior or elite women, then this role will have an infinite universal impact in the future.

## **2. Further Improvement of China's Higher Education and Women's Status**

### **2.1 Status**

Since the founding of the Chinese government, the Chinese government has always attached great importance to improving the status of women and actively improving the education of Chinese women. Although there are many different kinds of difficulties, the Chinese government has made great progress in basic education, secondary vocational education and the eradication of illiteracy and Chinese women have also received a higher level of education. Compared with many developed countries mentioned above, the progressive higher education of women in mainland China is only a preliminary step, but if we consider the fact that China, as a developing country, undertakes teaching tasks which are nearly a quarter of the female world, because 90 % women in the old China were

illiterate and they hardly received higher education. The tremendous efforts and achievements of the Chinese government in higher education deserve positive confirmation. The facts and positive significance of the equal status of Chinese women in economy, politics, society, public life, marriage and family have attracted worldwide attention. Improving women's status, including equal access to higher education, is a historical and cultural process. In China, women's progress in education and higher education is in sync with changes in contemporary Chinese culture. The healthy development of Chinese society and culture will also depend on the equalization of women's access to higher education and the further advancement of women's status. As a developing country that has grown relatively rapidly in the past 10 years, China is likely to achieve this favorable development. Of course, we must realize that as the largest developing country in the world, women's educational tasks are very difficult in China. For China's actual national conditions, the issue of equality between men and women is facing daunting challenges. China must work harder than other countries and seek changes. At present, China is facing a contradiction between equality and development. To use limited resources, we must find the most suitable things for equality and development. Like ancient civilized states, China has enormous historical development characteristics. China is a country with the traditional culture as its core. The concept that "men enjoy higher status than women" has existed for many years in Chinese history. Although most Chinese people no longer believe that "the three obediences and the four virtues" and "lack of talent in a woman is a virtue", these traditional concepts have long been ingrained. In principle, they deny the achievements of women's liberation in modern society; many people still believe that women are liberated only because of their gender. Even women with higher education are likely to fail to achieve the success of successful men. Therefore, in the case of relatively limited educational resources, many men think women are not necessary to receive education. In addition, it is considered important that men and women have access to higher education. In fact, many developed countries believe that development should be pursued firstly, instead of justice. This "first development, then fairness" view basically ignores the need to improve women's access to higher education. In addition to education, China has traditional psychological, social and cultural stereotypes and some believe that women are born for marriage and children. This situation continues to make women still make some progress in some areas. Therefore, compared with material contribution measures and system improvement, China can still pay more attention to the modernization of national culture and psychology.

## **2.2 How to improve**

### *2.2.1 Enhancement of the social and cultural background of women's access to higher education*

Higher education in China is a sensitive area of social chaos, even if its purpose is to liberate women. This point emphasizes the low enrollment rate of colleges and the low enrollment rate of female college students. Higher education should not only be a carrier of negative influences, but should also be more actively involved in the efforts of the entire society to get rid of confusion. Higher education institutions must first seriously engage in the framework of the concept of gender equality for educating young people and future parents. Textbooks and other texts should be constantly evaluated, updated, redesigned and rewritten. If necessary to do so, it should be able to present some images of women's active participation in social activities. Women's issues should be integrated into the general curriculum in the university's curriculum and local research and learning should be encouraged. Women's research institutions should be strengthened and the adoption of appropriate methods should be actively supported, especially audio-visual technology, to clearly show equality between men and women. At the same time, colleges and universities should use themselves as a tool and basis for public opinion to provide training for talented, high-level women and transfer their influence to the macro-social system. This includes not only the true recognition of the concept of equality and freedom in society as a whole, but also the huge demand for high-level talents for future social progress, as well as the utilization of human potential, which accounts for half of the total population. More importantly, higher education institutions must be committed to achieving high levels of women through their own efforts. The cultivation of talents is to create a new image, overcome the

constraints of the times, make greater contributions to the society, thus playing a drastic role in eliminating the problem of female prejudice in culture, so that women will actively participate in the reform of traditional culture. Only by making full use of the above-mentioned higher education initiatives can we combine the efforts of other aspects of government, society and cultural construction to slowly create an atmosphere in which women and men have equal opportunities to get good educational opportunities, and only the harmonious atmosphere can be effectively improved.

#### *2.2.2 Encouraging the creation of the prerequisites for women's higher education*

It is necessary for the education sector to adopt some mandatory measures on its own input and output and throughout the education process. For example, preferential policies should be adopted to encourage women to enter higher education institutions; Special measures should be taken to promote the distribution of employment of graduates with social and national activities; in class, it is necessary for many female scholars to get more reward opportunities to increase their sense of self-esteem and honor. Self-confidence can make them truly independent, and independence becomes a reality, which is enough to prove that women need higher education.

#### *2.2.3 Adult higher education and higher vocational education are more oriented towards women*

According to China's current national strength, only a small number of people can accept formal higher education. Adult higher education and vocational education have become an additional form of higher education in China. These two additional forms of higher education are not important to women, which is because, most importantly, the number and proportion of women who are unable to receive higher education in mainland China is much higher than that of men. Secondly, the inertia of Chinese traditional culture has made Chinese women more concentrated in homework and child education at the time outside agriculture. Adult and vocational education opportunities with flexible forms of education are necessary if they are able to provide the same opportunities to female friends in need.

### **3. Summary**

Compared with the previous backgrounds of the times, it is not difficult to find a problem, that is, the status of Chinese women has undergone tremendous changes, and such change can be said to be unprecedented. In this new era, a new civilization cannot be separated from the full development of women's potential in the world, and it must be used as the greatest symbol of progress. Higher education in China has the opportunity not only to create opportunities for women to pursue higher education, but also to achieve this goal and further improve the status of women. If the focus of Chinese women's education in the past is literacy and basic education, I believe that its focus in the next new era will shift to higher education. I want to call on China's higher education to have this kind of future-oriented awareness from now on, and to provide a solid foundation and strong guarantee for the further development of the social status of females.

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