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Prem Rog: Screening the Social and Familial Plight of Widows



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## **ABSTRACT**

Women centric films in Indian cinema are limited but they do exist. The patriarchal society has its root's ingrained within the social network. The breeze of social change has even swept the pillars of art and the scripts are penned down, characters are crafted keeping in minds the changing social roles of women. There have been many innovative scriptwriter's and film producers who have given a unique importance to woman in Bollywood. The traditional Indian society limits woman's individual development and growth. The tears and protests would have no meaning as they remain unnoticed by the outside world. The main reason for publishing this paper is to describe the problems faced by the widows in the film Prem Rog at social and familial level.

Bharat Muni has said that when the characters manifest their emotions through actions and words then action and words along with them become the medium to revoke the same emotion in the hearts of the readers. A film not only entertains but also inspires the viewer. They make us cry and laugh. They make us think. The film depicts a realistic picture of the widows and the difficulties faced by them at that particular time. Widow in India is called as "Vidhwa" which originates from the Sanskrit

word "Vidh" which means "to be destitute". The film represents the various changes in the life of women when she became a widow. The loss of husband is more than any other loss which disrupts the lives of women. Indian women have hardly any autonomous existence because she is covered with many thick layers of prejudice, convention and ignorance.

With the changing time women issues have been more properly addressed in Indian films. Films portrayed unique concepts illuminating the role of women in the society. Directed by Raj Kapoor, the film has a brilliant character transition portrayal by Padmini Kolhapure and great supporting act by all the other actors involved. The film questions the feminist moral concerns through the detailed examination of social and familial relationships with the widow although the Government of India has implemented several schemes in India for a widow; the problem of widows is not lessoned by society. The research is an effort to throw light on the difficulties faced by the widows.

## **KEYWORDS**

Widow, Woman Centric Films, Familial plight of widows, Social plight of widows, widows remarriage, Prem Rog.