Gendered Contexts in the Select Works of Dr. Sudha Murthy

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Abstract: This paper attempts to study gender consciousness in the select works of Dr. Sudha Murthy. Gender is a neutral term that describes biological identity of any individual. Gender consciousness helps to generate respect for the individual regardless of biological sex which will further reach to gender equality.

Due to monopoly of patriarchal society, women and issues faced by women were rarely represented through literature until women writers like Nayantara Sahgal, Rama Maheta, Kamla Das, Anita Nair, Susan Viswanathan, Dina Maheta,Kamala Markandaya. Shashi Despande, Aniita Desai, Bharati Mukharji, Indira Goswami, Ruth P. Jhabvala,Manju Kapoor, Shobha De, Arundhati Roy, Kiran Desai came forward. This gave birth to the emergence of gender consciousness and women writers across the world picked up the issues and worries faced by women. Women writers expressed their outrage against patriarchal society for ill treatment given to women and helped in spreading awareness about gender equality. Women suffered discrimination and they have been the victim of subjugation. English literature is abundantly filled with women writers like Shashi Deshpande, Nayanthara Seghal, Arundathi Roy, and Kamala Markandaya who expressed themselves about the pains and pangs they underwent because of subjugated treatment they received even in educated families also. Psychological crisis - As the pollutants we breathe affect our body , in the same way, social factors exist around us in all forms, all the time, and when they influence our behaviour, we call them psychosocial factors. In India, patriarchy is the biggest inducer of them, affecting women's mental health at different stages. Women suffer is also prominently highlighted by women writers.

Keywords: Gender consciousness, Patriarchy, isolation.