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GENDER DISCRIMINATION

Discriminate positively

People fight against gender discrimination. I say there should be gender discrimination...a very positive discrimination. Take a hen and cock. Hen needs a certain cozy place to lay its eggs and to hatch them. Does a cock need? No. Nature has a gender discrimination? No. Nature has different moulds for different genders. That's where the beauty lies in nature. It's called Diversity!

To ask for equality doesn't mean that the fish should be brought to the ground and be treated as a dog is treated. It's to give that customized treatment to each creature with which the quantum of wellness remains the same to each being. Put the fish in water and the dog on the ground. Don't put both either in water or on the ground.

"When women are claiming for equal rights, why should I get up and give a seat to the standing woman in the bus?", questioned a man in a discussion of women's rights. Yo! Man! Do you need san-

itary napkins every month to claim your equality with women then? In a balance, a quarter kg iron block is on one side and four tomatoes are on the other side. It required four tomatoes to weigh one block of quarter kg. That's called equality. We cannot call it inequality because the tomatoes are four and the quarter kg block is just one. Please don't ask for maternity leave because women are sanctioned. Ladies! Let's not madly demand meaningless equality with men. We don't aim for six packs. We don't need razors and shaving creams. Let's question our selves : How many woman soldiers are there as against male soldiers. A man stands and empties his bladder. Can a woman? No. It's not a comfortable proposition.

So nature has endowed men with some qualities and faculties and women with different ones. Both should recognize the difference and treat each other in such a way that both have the same

quantum of wellness. Woman should never lose their sensitivity to get their quota in the parliament or anything else. They can ask their legitimate quota maintaining their sensitivity and sobriety. Losing sensitivity and sobriety to meaninglessly equal the men means losing the very dignity and natural texture, nature has so graciously and creatively endowed us with.

In a thorough soul-search, man should understand as to how much a woman is shouldering the burden in the family. People who are still expecting woman to do all the house hold work like cooking, cleaning, taking care of children etc etc....and yet do a nine to five job and earn money without lending any helping hand is not justified. Man confining himself just to his job expecting his wife to get him water, coffee, serve breakfast, lunch, dinner, make his clothes ready etc etc and bear his chauvinistic ego which hurts her at every step, is called MCP (Male Chau-



vinistic Pig). If a woman thinks that only to decorate herself well and demanding luxuries from her husband expecting him to shoulder all the burden or not sharing any responsibility, should also be called WCP (Woman Chauvinistic Pig).

I took it bit too harshly on both the genders as much disturbance erupts in society from undue gender-discrimination. Nirbhaya, Daisha are not rare cases. These kind of cases are featuring in media almost on daily basis. Men are taking advantage of woman's physical variation. The faculty with which women are endowed with for the human race to continue, is being treated as a weakness and taken undue advantage of.

Actually the special faculty of bearing a child and the nature of rearing and raising the child with lot of love, care and sacrifice, should be the prime reason, for which a woman should be respected. A woman excels in her love and care towards her husband, child, sibling, parents naturally, - compared to a man. Her forbearing and pardoning capacities are much higher than man. Nature has made her strong mentally as the man is made physically strong.

The higher proportions of love, care and compassion make a woman have an edge over man. It's a woman that can make a family, there by a society. The divine energy of the universe is expressed in a woman much more when compared between a good man and good woman.

In Assam, Holy Mother Kamakhya stands for the creative faculty of a woman. "Bhagavati Amma" menstruates in Chengannur, Kerala and temple is closed during those days. It's the very faculty in a woman, which a man is taking undue advantage of and creating a violent society. Woman has a hidden power in her. This is well established allegorically in "Devi Bhagavatam". There is a way to salvation (Moksha) in worshipping the female aspect of The Divine as The Holy Mother. It's called "Shaakteyam".

When we see a monkey responding to our prayers, like monkey taking a coconut piece in our Puja room, we attribute it to Lord Hanuman. When we see a peacock in our premises after Saraswati Puja, we attribute it to the grace of Goddess Saraswati. During our house-warming ceremony, an eagle

flew making rounds over our house. It was an amazing sight to one and all. His Holiness Chinna Jeer Swami said that, that was an evidence of Srimannarayana's presence and grace.

So also every woman is a symbol of The Divine Mother, "Adi Parashakti". The Divine Mother is specially worshiped during "Dasara". It's an auspicious time when the Grace of Divine Mother is easily accessible. While you worship Her in Puja alter, in physical world, please your mother, sister, wife, servant-maid, lady friend. Their happiness becomes a true blessing for you. See The Divine Mother's aspect in all the woman. That would amount to real Shakti Puja.

Do not be the cause of a woman's tears. They become "Mantra Jalam" (Consecrated water) and curse you, though she may not intend to, deliberately. It's also said in our ancient scriptures that where the women are worshiped and where they are happy, there,- all the angels are present.

Happy Dashara friends!

(Author is a well-known musician, Devotional singer, writer and composer.) 