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Gendered Satisfaction about Quality of Life of Indian Elderly: An Inspection

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Abstract: *Gender and aging have been the topic of primary interest for researchers of social sciences in recent period of time due to their growing importance, dynamism and diversified aspects. In this context, this study tries to bring in a new dimension in light through understanding of the difference about perception of quality of life of among male and female elderly in relevance to various socioeconomic backgrounds. An inspection at national level is being done using the WHO-SAGE, 2007 elderly data to understand how gender and economic status simultaneously plays a role determining the level of satisfaction about life in elderly. Bivariate analysis along with some multinomial logistic regression is carried out for this purpose. The study finds that overall satisfaction about the quality of life in higher in female elderly as compared to male. Interestingly, poor elderly women are more unsatisfied compared to their counterparts. Thus, there is a need for deeper introspection to understand this scenario in context of the extent of economic deprivation along with other social discrimination faced my poor female elderly, which may lead to genuine help in changing policy measure and enhance the welfare of elderly women in the country.*

Keywords: *Aging, Quality of Life, Gender, Predicted Probability*

1. Background

Successful aging requires an individual person to understand the quality of their life in context of their surrounding environment; in other words successful aging is an equilibrium state of satisfaction in relation to characteristics of an individual and their surrounding environment. Satisfaction of needs, feelings of well-being etc. is often measurable constructs of quality of life. Paul Demeny (1968) suggests that due to the demographic transition, societies move from an older to a new

demographic equilibrium. Therefore, aging process along with being the final stage of transition is most distinguishable, inevitable and a very predictable process (Demeny, 1968). This study inspects into these constructs to understand the differences that arise in satisfaction about life in elderly with respect to gender.

As study of Easwaramoorthy stated the need for an integrated approach in understanding the aged and hence formulating welfare policies that makes the concept of quality of life an integral part of Gerontology. Moreover multidimensionality of aging is a well established empirically fact, encapsulating economic, physical, psychological and social dimensions of an individual. These dimensions are interactive and interdependent and best introspected in the light of a multidimensional approach (Easwaramoorthy, 1999).

2. What is the significance of Quality of Life approach?

Multidimensional nature of Quality of Life in an individual is generally assessed under the constructs of "Health status", "Lifestyle", "Life satisfaction", "Mental health" and "Well-being" as per the study made by Barua in 2007. Holistic nature of quality of life approach doesn't only consist of individual's physical, psychological and spiritual dimensions, but also their connections with their environments and scope for sharpening their skills. Ageing leads to compromising quality of life through a decline in functional capability, economic dependence on the young generation, and limited social network. Thus, there is an earnest need to understand the perplexing dilemma of increasing longevity on one hand and enormously compromised quality of life on other (Mudey, *et. al,* 2011). India still majorly clings on to the notion of joint family and elderly as a responsibility of children in terms of payoff for their upbringing and cultural hooks. Though this picture is fast changing, the concept of studying issues and problems regarding quality of life of the elderly is still not popular in India.

In a study in Maharashtra on quality of life of the elderly, the elders living in the urban slum area have significantly lower level of quality of life in the domains of physical and psychological score than the rural elderly populations, whereas the rural elderly population scores low in the domain of social relationship score and environmental association. As per the study, elderly in urban areas have more opportunity to socialize themselves along with the fact that physical safety and security, home environment, financial resources, health care availability and quality of social care are very high in urban areas. The study also shows that in rural areas, literacy plays a major factor in improving quality of life of elderly, especially taking in consideration physical and psychological aspects because of their better understanding of their ageing process and lifestyle changes. Thus, functional capacity, lifestyle pattern, living arrangement, social network and economic status affect the quality of life of elderly. Socio-demographic factors; chronic diseases; accessibility to social and financial resources; and lifestyle pattern proves fatal to understand the difference in the quality of life of rural and urban areas, as per the study. To enjoy a higher quality of life after 60 years of age, Mudey, *et al*, 2011, in their study suggests that provisions should be made from the age of 30 it, as preventive maintenance is wiser and economical than crisis management. Right mental attitude and sound physical health in adult life are the keys for enjoying an active ageing and having higher satisfaction about the quality of life in later ages (Mudey, et al, 2011).

3. Development of the Quality of Life Concept

There has been some research done to develop accurate and realistic understanding about the quality of life concept. Initially, UN's 'Human Development Index' that includes measures of life expectancy, literacy and education as well as income, and 'Human Poverty Index' uses access to safe water, health services and underweight children under five as measures of standard of living (UNDP, 1999) were proxies for quality of life but found to be insufficient. Later, Sen, suggested a new welfare measure of quality of life, incorporating 'functioning' i.e. the capability to perform an

action of desire Sen (1980, 1985, 1992). As Kenny 2005 mentioned, Sen's approach was different than the one used by Pigou of "revealed preference". He states the classical Aristotelian idea of happiness was present in Sen 'functioning' measure, which is basically to ask people how happy they are about their own life. Sen believed that this will produce a more realistic estimate of happiness of the population than estimates based income or functional capability. Questions in the form of 'taking your life as a whole, would you consider yourself very happy, somewhat happy, or not happy at all' is one of the most popularly used measures of understanding wellbeing and quality of life in surveys in recent times. Though Kenny, 2005 says that actually what one means by 'happiness' depends greatly on the relationship between income and happiness. He states that the validity of these polls as a measure of happiness or quality of life depends primarily on two conditions: first, that respondents should actually know how happy they are; and second, that they answers the questions truthfully. Both Aristotle and Sen have argued that the first condition is questionable at best, as per the study. Aristotle believed that virtuous activity made a person happy not the level of pleasure and improved the quality of life. Kenny questions by saying that individuals are often poor judges of their own virtuousness. On the point of people's truthfulness in responding, there is be no common understanding of the question asked or people feel better off by lying - perhaps to safeguard their self esteem. These concerns are real, Kenny (2005) states that there is evidence that answers to these polls do correlate with other features that both utilitarian and Aristotelians would recognize as symptoms of 'happiness' and satisfaction about quality of life. According to the study, those who declare themselves 'happy' smile frequently, appear happy to their friends, have higher self-esteem, feelings of self-control, trust others more, are more likely to initiate social contact and have a higher degree of social interaction. These all are signs of a positive and healthy living and can be taken as a proxy of satisfactory quality of life. The study also says that they are more likely to respond to requests for help, less likely to be absent from work and less likely to be involved in disputes (Kenny, 2005). Thus, though subjective in nature ranking of the responses

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of these polls are also fairly consistent over time, suggesting that are not just capture of temporary feelings of bliss or misery, but of longer periods of realization such as 'satisfaction about the quality of life' (Myers and Diener, 1996; Graham and Pettinato, 1999).

Initiative for elderly in India

Unfortunately, this diversified nation has always had its contradictions in every path of life. The society has always upheld the staunch position of children being the indisputable source of physical, economic and emotional support, overlooking the undercurrent of change. The real picture is once of elderly living alone in poverty, helplessness and destitution, more so if they are women and widowed for reasons related to declining levels of fertility, aspirations of children to move out in search of a better life, change in cultural values, employment criteria of the children and most importantly the shaken economic condition of the progeny itself failing to take up the responsibility of parents. Realizing the indigence of a government action to prevent worsening of elderly quality of life further, especially in the poorer section in aspects of health, social support, removal of discrimination, productive aging Government of India (GOI) came up with National policy for Older Persons, 1999, providing guidance and government support for elderly especially women and poor. Unfortunately, when the National policy for Older Persons, 1999, fell short of expectation to change the scenario of older people from worsening, and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) in 2007 pressurized the government to come up with more flexible, executable and comprehensive policy covering the various dimensions of aging Government of India decided to come up with the National Policy for Senior Citizens, under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. It was a step in the right direction in pursuance of the UN General Assembly Resolution 47/5 to observe 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons and in keeping with the assurances to older persons contained in the Constitution. The well-being of senior citizens is mandated in the Constitution of India under Article 41 (Draft, NPSC, 2011).

4. Need for the Study

The importance of the study arises from the fact that both gender and aging are the two most cumbersome and dynamic issues to deal with. Not only is there is a problem of feminization of aging, but also the perception matters especially in this age. Not policy and program can be truly called successful unless it is perceived by the one for whom it is aimed. This satisfaction about life is more so, critical in the older ages, as it is affected by health, social behavior and economic environment for which the government of the country is struggling to provide for. With the voracious growth of the elderly in the country and the predicted soon to be a gigantic aging population of India the study about gender difference in satisfaction about life in different scenario can truly be a path-breaking one for policy-makers.

5. Objectives

1. To study the difference in perception about the quality of life of male and female in older ages
2. To bring out the difference in gender satisfaction about life in poor and non-poor economic situation.
3. Predict the probability of quality of life for male and female with respect to different economic condition.

6. Data Source and Methodology

This paper has used WHO-SAGE India data, 2007 conducted by the World Health Organization (WHO) in seven countries with India being one of them, in association with International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai. The state from which the data are collected are Rajasthan, U.P., Punjab, Assam, Maharashtra and West Bengal, which are selected taking consideration the proportion and volume of the elderly population with respect to overall country's elderly population. The total elderly sample of 50+ in the study is 6560. A random selection of states was carried out keeping in consideration that one state was selected from each region and each level of development category. The nationally representative sample was stratified by state and locality (i.e. urban and rural) resulting in a total of 12 strata. Two stages and three stage

sampling technique were adopted in rural and urban areas, respectively.

In the study a satisfaction about the current state of life is being asked which includes dimensions of health, functional capability, personal relationships, condition of living place and some more dimensions. Bivariate and multivariate analysis is being carried out taking in consideration variable 'sex' as a proxy for studying the difference in satisfaction level about their quality of life. Further the study carries out in depth analysis about the individually for male and female in terms of economic condition (i.e. 'poor' and 'non-poor') in order to inspect the variation with respect to other social, cultural and demographic characteristics. Finally some multinomial logistic regression is being carried out to understand the contribution of background variable in developing the level of satisfaction about life for both elderly male and female.

However, caution must be adopted in explaining the results as the responses to the questions about quality of life are self-reported as perceived by the individual elderly and hence consist of a certain degree of arbitrariness in them.

7. Results

Overall Satisfaction about Quality of Life

Table 1 shows that overall satisfaction about life in different age group in higher in elderly females than elderly males. Elderly living in urban females have higher satisfaction about life as compared to urban males. In every age group the satisfaction about life is much higher in elderly females than elderly males. Moreover, as age increases the satisfaction about life decreases in males, whereas increases in females. In the case of place on the residence satisfaction level is high in females both in urban and rural areas, i.e. 58 percent compared to 42 percent in urban and 57 percent compared to 43 percent in rural areas. Among every religion higher proportion of females are happier than their male counterparts. Among all religion in "other religion" i.e. Christian, Sikh, Buddhist and higher

proportion of women express highest satisfaction about life compared to their male counterparts, probably because of belonging from a well-off section of society i.e. 66 percent compared to 57 percent of Hindus and 54 percent of Muslims. Similar results are seen in terms of caste where scheduled castes where a higher proportion of women express satisfaction about life compared to their male counterparts with respect to the proportion of satisfied elderly women belonging from general class. With a rise in education in females, the proportion of females express greater satisfaction about life compared to male counterparts i.e. 89 percent in highest educated female (where satisfied male are 11 percent) compared to 37 percent in illiterate women (where 63 percent of males are satisfied). Again higher proportion of elderly females express satisfaction about life compared to their male counterparts in higher wealth quintiles comparing to low economic condition. This is mainly due to other social and cultural discrimination attached to the poor women more in their elderly ages.

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Table-1: Overall Satisfaction about Life

Source: SAGE, 2007

	Overall satisfaction about life					
	Male			**Female**		
	satisfactory	average	unsatisfactory	satisfactory	average	unsatisfactory
Age Group						
50-59	43.25	49.19	56.41	56.75	50.81	43.59
60-69	42.2	55.35	56.88	57.8	44.65	43.12
70-79	43.47	45.98	49.37	56.53	54.02	50.63
80+	38.6	55.71	63.63	61.4	44.29	36.37
Place of Residence						
Urban	41.94	55.42	57.3	58.06	44.58	42.7
Rural	43.26	49.08	55.19	56.74	50.92	44.81
Religion						
Hindu	42.85	51.47	55.31	57.15	48.53	44.69
Muslim	45.8	43.74	55.26	54.2	56.26	44.74
Others	34.06	59.55	69.65	65.94	40.45	30.35
Ethnic Background						
schedule tribe	56.28	37.58	55.11	43.72	62.42	44.89
schedule caste	34.22	55.88	52.75	65.78	44.12	47.25
other caste	43.44	50.6	56.61	56.56	49.4	43.39
Marital Status						
currently married	36.4	81.4	43.01	63.6	59.36	14.12
widow and others	74.31	40.64	85.88	25.69	18.6	56.99
Education						
no education	62.06	64.73	65.91	37.94	35.27	34.09
Primary	28.17	28.45	37.94	71.83	71.55	62.06
Secondary	15.4	15.3	11.4	84.6	84.7	88.6
Higher	10.93	19.93	21.87	89.07	80.07	78.13
Wealth Quintile						
Poorest	46.2	54.01	51.79	53.8	45.99	48.21
Poor	50.74	44.47	54.76	49.26	55.53	45.24
Middle	38.87	52.43	61.53	61.13	47.57	38.47
High	41.03	48.83	54.81	58.97	51.17	45.19
Highest	39.73	54.68	60.37	60.27	45.32	39.63
Total	42.84	50.8	55.74	57.16	49.2	44.26

Overall Satisfaction about Quality of Life in Poor and Non-Poor Male Elderly

Table 2 is an in-depth study into the dimension of gender playing a role in shaping up the perception of life for elderly. In this table, we speak about the male perception followed by a female in the next. As expected in male, in every age group non- poor (last three quintiles of the wealth) elderly males in every age group express higher satisfaction about quality of life compared to their poor (first two quintiles of wealth) counterpart. The proportion is highest in the young-old age group were in non-poor male the satisfaction of life is 66 percent. We see a massive difference in the level of satisfaction among poor and non-poor elderly male in both rural and urban areas, i.e. 75 percent of the total satisfied population is non-poor in urban areas, whereas 56 percent in urban areas. A similar result is shown in terms of religion too. 65 percent of the satisfied general caste population of elderly male is non-poor, whereas it is 47 percent in scheduled caste and 40 percent in scheduled tribe. Marital status plays a significant role even in non-poor male elderly, in elder ages as a proportion of satisfactory male in higher in currently married than single (widowed, divorced or never married). As the level of education rises, the proportion of people satisfied about their quality of life rises in non-poor and declines in the poor category.

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Overall satisfaction about life in Male Elderly					
	Non-Poor			**Poor**		
	satisfactory	average	unsatisfactory	satisfactory	average	unsatisfactory
Age Group						
50-59	65.72	57.06	44.09	34.28	42.94	55.91
60-69	60.91	54.65	49.26	39.09	45.35	50.74
70-79	51.53	52.73	43.67	48.47	47.27	56.33
80+	47.88	69.22	48.36	52.12	30.78	51.64
Place of Residence						
Urban	75.19	69.35	65.39	24.81	30.65	34.61
Rural	56.19	50.5	38.97	43.81	49.5	61.03
Religion						
Hindu	63.24	57.31	49.5	36.76	42.69	50.5
Muslim	54.32	47	28.01	45.68	53	71.99
Others	65.39	50.78	39.79	34.61	49.22	60.21
Ethnic Background						
schedule tribe	39.98	35.88	45.28	60.02	64.12	54.72
schedule caste	46.62	31.28	24.12	53.38	68.72	75.88
other caste	65.71	63.51	51.71	34.29	36.49	48.29
Marital Status						
currently married	64.29	60.36	50.51	35.71	39.64	49.49
widow and others	57.24	49.59	40.76	42.76	50.41	59.24
Education						
no education	54.61	50.34	39.27	45.39	49.66	60.73
Primary	81.66	79.86	75.29	18.34	20.14	24.71
Secondary	95.18	100	95.58	4.82	0	4.42
Higher	100	100	100	0	0	0

Table 2: Overall satisfaction about life in Male Elderly

Source: SAGE, 2007

Overall Satisfaction about Quality of Life in Poor and Non-Poor Male Elderly

Table 3 reflects the difference in the level of satisfaction of quality of life for elderly female in different economic stratum. Majorly the study shows that a higher proportion of women in all background condition, express higher un-satisfaction about life compared to males. This is because of

long existing persistence of discrimination against female which has been a part of the cultural and societal structure all through the country. We see that almost 60 percent of unsatisfied women in age 50-59 are poor, and the proportion increases as age increases. I interesting result is that in urban areas, of the total unsatisfied elderly, almost 57 percent a non-poor, while in rural the percentage in 34. While studying the caste background, we see that more than half of the unsatisfied population in all the castes in poor i.e. 52 percent in general caste and 78 percent in scheduled caste for all elderly women in the sample. This highlights the importance of the economic status of female elderly in lieu of their overall quality of life. Again re-confirming the importance of economic wellbeing in female elderly for having an overall satisfied life, we see that 71 percent of the current married and satisfied females are non-poor compared to 64 percent of the single and widowed non-poor female. Illiteracy is vastly prevalent in elderly and more so in females. Illiteracy and poverty are vastly connected, so we have seen that among the women with no education who are unsatisfied about their quality of life almost three- forth (73 percent) are poor.

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Table 3: Overall satisfaction about life in Female Elderly

	Overall satisfaction about life in Female Elderly					
	Non-Poor			**Poor**		
	satisfactory	average	unsatisfactory	satisfactory	average	unsatisfactory
Age Group						
50-59	70.04	58.44	41.02	29.96	41.56	58.98
60-69	69.59	48.2	33.42	30.41	51.8	66.58
70-79	76.47	51.54	44.16	23.53	48.46	55.84
80+	58.36	43.78	49.48	41.64	56.22	50.52
Place of Residence						
Urban	87.46	69.45	57.29	12.54	30.55	42.71
Rural	61.92	48.55	34.23	38.08	51.45	65.77
Religion						
Hindu	71.93	54.49	41.59	28.07	45.51	58.41
Muslim	61.69	48.67	34.2	38.31	51.33	65.8
Others	61.47	52.88	18.23	38.53	47.12	81.77
Ethnic Background						
schedule tribe	55.29	29.43	8.92	45	70.57	91.08
schedule caste	42.12	32.9	21.87	57.88	67.1	78.13
other caste	76.08	60.23	48.33	23.92	39.77	51.67
Marital Status						
currently married	70.87	54.57	40.18	29.13	45.43	59.82
widow and others	63.66	45.1	38.6	36.34	54.9	61.4
Education						
no education	50.33	36.38	26.77	49.67	63.62	73.23
Primary	72.76	60.23	51.1	27.24	39.77	48.9
Secondary	84.9	82.33	54.99	15.1	17.67	45.01
Higher	96.47	89.51	92.42	3.53	10.49	7.58
Total	70.32	53.68	40.03	29.68	46.32	59.97

Predicted Probability about Overall satisfaction about life in Male Elderly

Table 4 studies the predicted probability of the overall quality of life for elderly male in various socioeconomic perspectives. The rural unsatisfied category shows pretty significant result, where it is predicted that around 15 percent in while 29 percent of rural elderly will have satisfied quality of life. In the case of religion, 16 percent of Muslims are predicted to have unsatisfactory quality of life. While in

caste 53 percent and 9 percent of general caste is predicted to have average on no satisfaction about the quality of life in elderly males. While in single and widowed, 56 and 18 percent is predicted to have average and unsatisfied quality of life. In case of education, 41 percent of secondary educated and 25 percent of higher educated elderly male is predicted to have average and poor quality of life respectively. Wealth quintile shows a significant association with quality of life and 59 percent and 19 percent of the poor, elderly male is predicted to have average and poor quality of life.

Table 4: Predicted Probability about Overall satisfaction about life in Male Elderly

Notes: Significant at: *p<0.1,**p <0.05 and ***p <0.01.

Source: SAGE, 2007

Predicted Probability about Overall satisfaction about life in Male Elderly		
	Satisfactory (base)	**average**	**unsatisfactory**
Age Group			
50-59	34.5	55.4	10.1
60-69	31.5	56.7	11.8
70-79	33.2	51.2	15.6
80+	24.8	54.1	21.1
Place of Residence			
Urban	41.9	52.3	5.7
Rural	29	56.3	14.7**
Religion			
Hindu	33.5	55.3	11.2
Muslim	30.8	52.9	16.3**
Others	24.1	58	17.8
Ethnic Background			
scheduled tribe	16.4	60.4	23.2
scheduled caste	12.7	66	21.2
other caste	38.2	52.5***	9.4***
Marital Status			
currently married	37	54.6	8.4
widow and others	26.1	56**	17.9***
Education			
no education	29.3	56.8	13.9
Primary	43.2	51.6	5.1
Secondary	56.8	41.2*	2
Higher	73.6	25.1**	13.4
Wealth Quintile			
Non-Poor	41.8	51.7	6.5
Poor	21.8	59.3***	18.9***
Total	32.9	55.1	12.0

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Probability about Overall satisfaction about life in Female Elderly

Table 5 studies the similar for elderly male. Age groups 70-79 and 80+ in elderly female show a very significant relationship with quality of life. 58 percent by 70-79 age group and 19 percent of the 80+ age group are predicted to have an average and unsatisfactory quality of life in elderly female. In rural area 44 percent and 11 percent of females are predicted to have an average and unsatisfactory quality of life. While in Muslim 13 percent of elderly women are predicted to have unsatisfactory quality of life. In level of education, 30 percent of higher educated women is predicted to have an average satisfaction about the quality of life while 45 percent and only 3 percent of secondary and higher educated women is predicted to have unsatisfactory quality of life. In terms of economic status, 60 percent and 16 percent of poor elderly women is predicted to have average and poor quality of life.

Predicted Probability for Overall satisfaction about life in Female Elderly		
	satisfactory (base)	**average**	**unsatisfactory**
Age Group			
50-59	42.3	49.3	8.3
60-69	38	51.8	10.2
70-79	31.6	58.6**	9.8
80+	26.8	54.1	19.1**
Place of Residence			
urban	51.5	43.8	4.7
rural	33.6	44**	11.4***
Religion			
Hindu	39.4	51.2	86.5
Muslim	32.5	54.4	13.1*
others	43.8	38.6	17.6
Ethnic Background			
scheduled tribe	29.6	51.2	19.2
scheduled caste	25.9	61.3	12.8
other caste	42	48.9	8.1
Marital Status			
currently married	33.9	51.9	14.2
widow and others	39.1	51.8	9.1
Education			
no education	29.4	56.9	13.6
primary	38.8	53	8.2
secondary	48.7	46.8	45.1*
higher	67.3	30.1***	2.6**
Wealth Quintile			
Non-Poor	49.5	45.9	45.5
Poor	23.7	59.9***	16.3***
Total	38.6	51.9	9.5

Table 5: Predicted Probability about Overall satisfaction about life in Female Elderly

*Notes: Significant at: *p<0.1,**p <0.05 and ***p <0.01.*
Source: SAGE, 2007

8. Conclusion and Discussion

The study of Indian elderly population is indeed intriguing and diversifying. Moreover, research on subjective wellbeing and quality of life of the elderly is more fascinating because of the presence of subjectivity and different dimensions of social, economic and emotional aspects of life attached to it. The present study attempts to unravel the divergent views, perceptions and aspirations of the elderly regarding their Quality of life. The study clearly brings out the difference in

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the level of satisfaction about the quality of life as perceived elderly due to difference in gender. The study shows that economic status and level of education as the prime of ingredient in determining quality of life of elderly. Moreover the study vividly reflects the vulnerability of the elderly female and excessive on economic status for their level of satisfaction about the quality of life as compared to male. The study shows that

- Women in every aspect in elder ages express more grave quality of life compared to men.
- Economic instability makes women more vulnerable compared to men in elder ages.
- More aged, elderly, living single, Muslims, scheduled caste and elderly with no education expresses more dissatisfaction about quality of life in both genders compared to their counterparts. The feeling is more so in elderly female, reflecting the prevalence of gender discrimination in addition to existing vulnerabilities.
- Lack of education and poor economic condition are the most significant factors resulting in elderly's dissatisfaction about the quality of their life.

In 2007, patchy and inconsistent implementation Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) has been shown in the five-year review. Even 2010 global review shows that much left to be done in all the priority directions of MIPAA. Unfortunately, as Beales states, discrimination and abuse continue to be the part of life and work of older people (Beales, 2011). This situation will be terrifying when the domains of abuse, discrimination are studied from the perspective of women and poor. The study clearly shows that although some initiatives are being taken by NPOP but lot is to be done.

It is a pity story for a country like India, where so much importance is given to virtues which is imbibed in our culture, the reality remains one of appalling condition of life of an elderly, more due to the long legacy of gender discrimination. But over the years again and again this nation has proved its dynamism and strength of the democracy to make a cut in the world map through its

action. Thus, it's high time the society joins its hand with the government and give the elderly a truly discrimination free atmosphere of satisfactory quality of life.

Author Contributions

Conceived and designed the experiments: SC TVS. Experiments performed: SC TVS. Analyzed the data: SC. Contributed reagents/materials/analysis tools: SC TVS. Paper Written: SC TVS.

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