

An Interstate Analysis of Seeing Like a Feminist (Niveditamemon)

Ms.Priyasingla, Manav Rachna University, India

Article Received: 10/03/2023

Article Revised: 11/04/2023

Article Accepted: 12/04/2023

Published Online: 14/04/2023

DOI:10.47311/IJOES.2023.5.04.170

ABSTRACT

In this paper, an attempt has been made to criticize one of the thoughts of Nivedita Menon in her novel: Seeing Like a Feminist. Her novel Seeing Like a Feminist promotes Feminism, and with that, she wrote about rape cases faced by women in society. Taking the portion of her novel about her thinking on rapists and rape victims, we have analyzed many of her thoughts. The analysis shows that her thoughts of her about feminism and rape cases are very different, and we can say that she provokes rape victims to live their life in a better way, but she just forgot about males as she focused only on Feminism. Finally, it suggested that Nivedita Menon should also think about males/ boys before any statements are made.

Keywords: Feminism, Rape victims, Male Society, Rapists, Equal Rights.

Background and Motivation:

The growth of society is to be made through Feminism. The word feminism may sound different to everyone, but the real meaning of Feminism is just to give equal rights to women as men and not to pull down men and promote just Feminism. If we are promoting Feminism, that doesn't mean we don't focus on the problems faced by the male society. Being a girl, it is also our right to protect men's rights also.

Introduction:

Feminism is an important factor that affects any country's progress. In all countries, Feminism should be promoted as when the promotion of women is there in the country; it will promote the country's development and growth. Most countries are now focusing on Feminism. Many writers, poets, and politicians also there who promoting Feminism; Nivedita Menon is also one of the writers and a professor of Political thought at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, who promotes Feminism and writes many articles and a novel: Seeing Like a Feminist, to promote female equality with the males. In her book, she mentioned rape victims and the laws against rapists too. She wrote that strict actions should be taken against the rapist as soon as possible after the allegations have been made against him anyhow, but

the false allegations could be there. In her book, she also mentioned the false allegations as there might be some chances that the false allegations could be made by the woman to a man, but it could be ignored as all the laws have been misused by the people, so what?? If this would also be misused by some women as others. And if any of the allegations are found to be false, there will only be a fine or up to 6 months in prison is there for the females. Nivedita Menon didn't state these problems faced by males in her novel: Seeing Like a Feminist.

Objective:

The objective should not only be the promotion of Feminism but mankind too. The following are the objectives to promote mankind:

- Protection of everyone as Feminism does not mean the protection of females only. The protection of mankind should also be promoted with that.
- To point out the mistakes of writers and politicians as their words got to impact millions of the population all over the world.

Analysis:

It is found many times that many false accusations have been made against males, and when a writer of a novel promotes that by her statement, it will not be good for society as well as mankind. If false accusations have been made against a person, it will not affect punishing him but his family too. False rape cases in India; In 2014, the Delhi Commission for Women submitted a report stating that 53.2% of rape cases registered between April 2013-July and 2014 in Delhi were false.

In India, the threat of false rape cases on one pretext or the other has been increasing since the new amendment to the rape law in 2013. This fact is evident from the study of court judgments and media reports by fast-track courts constituted across the country, including Delhi, and we have collected some data which will show the results of false accusations on people's life.

Case 1:Gurugram False Rape Case

On December 29, Gurugram police broke up a 'honey trap' scheme and arrested a 22-year-old Girl. She confessed to her crimes of accusing men of false charges of sexual assault and extorting money. In a video, she said: "Yes. I file a complaint against the guys who cheat on me, even if it's just a one-day relationship. Once, the boy left me in a room at Oyo for an hour, and ever since then, I have been afraid of the name Oyo. They arrested him after I complained," the defendant is heard saying in the audio. **Manager kills self After woman accusation sexual harassment.** Amit Kumar died by suicide on August 30; He left a 5-page suicide note alleging extreme humiliation by his company Optum Global Solution over charges of sexual harassment, which he said were false.

Case 2:Agirl from Jabalpur filed six false rape cases against six men

A girl from Jabalpur has filed six rape cases against five different men in the city of Jabalpur in a span of six years. She filed a rape case against the first man she implicated, married him, and then refiled dowry, domestic violence, and rape cases against him. After this, from 2021 to July 2022, she filed four more rape cases against four other different men.

Case 3:Woman fined Rs 10k for a false rape case.

On April 26, 2022, A woman from Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh, who had accused her husband of raping her before marriage, was **fined Rs 10,000** by the Allahabad High Court for registering a false FIR against her husband.

Case 4:Man spent 20 years in jail in a false rape case

Vishnu Tiwari of Lalitpur spent two decades in jail for a crime he never committed. In September 2000, police arrested Vishnu in a rape case in which the woman, her husband, and her father-in-law testified that Vishnu had taken advantage of the woman in the field. He was charged with sexual and physical assault on a woman when she was five months pregnant. **After 20 years, the Allahabad High Court, accepting the truth, released Vishnu Tiwari from jail.**

Case 5:Woman accuses neighbour of raping daughter

In another incident in Ghaziabad, a woman accused her neighbor of raping her daughter at night. A person named Rajat was arrested by the police based on a complaint lodged against him. During the judicial process, the judge in the case found that the allegations against Rajat were false, and there was no evidence against him. The woman was **fined Rs 20,000** and would be **imprisoned for 15 days** if she did not pay the amount.

Case 6:Younger daughter falsely accuses father of rape

In 2017 in Ghaziabad, a girl accused her own father of rape. At the instigation of the maternal uncle, the girl lodged a false complaint. His father was arrested by the police based on a complaint and **spent three years in jail for a crime he never committed**. Later during the trial, the daughter admitted that she had filed the complaint at the insistence of her uncle and that her father was innocent. His maternal uncle has been sentenced to one month in jail and a fine of Rs 50,000.

Conclusion:

This study tries to distinguish various meanings of Feminism, which may vary from different- different thoughts of society. But as the future of the country, we have to clarify the real meaning of Feminism, i.e., the belief that women should have the same rights and opportunities as men, but many of the writers and especially female writers and poets, twist the real meaning of Feminism. The real meaning of Feminism is the same rights and opportunities by pushing the rights of girls upward, not by pulling and vanishing the male's rights. Nowadays, people do not feel about others' pain but let's imagine that a false accusation has been made against any male in our family. That will not ruin him only but the full family's reputation, and we can say it will destroy the whole family. By analyzing all the cases mentioned above, it is suggested that writers and poets be very clear about the results of what they are writing, as millions of us may follow them and their thoughts.

References:

<https://groundreport.in/false-rape-cases-in-india-8-times-when-women-falsely-accused-men/>
<https://www.britannica.com/topic/feminism>