

# GENDER ISSUES IN SRI LANKA ESSAY

*Gender inequality in Sri Lanka is centered on the inequalities that arise between men and women in Sri Lanka. Specifically, these inequalities affect many.*

Share This Article. Among the Tamils of Sri Lanka, women tend to avoid public life although LTTE Leader Prabhakaran had brought thousands of women to fight his battles, making them commanders of female regiments. Sri Lankan women, especially those of poor economic status, are still traditionally considered the caretakers of the household and family members along with their responsibilities at their jobs. The ability to exercise their reproductive rights is an ability closely tied to the capability of utilizing economic and political rights. That's just the tip of the iceberg: we've got many more leads to chase down. That female migration is not an unmitigated evil, and that it is desired, is evident in the fact that many women are repeat migrants, going from one contract to another over years. The depiction of women and men in traditional gender roles alongside the emphasis on the need to follow tradition to uphold society leaves very little space for teachers or students to challenge the status quo. Another landmark was set in , when Sirima Bandaranaike became the first woman Prime Minister in the world. Being the overwhelming majority of workers in the tea plantations, women have had a big role in securing foreign exchange for the country. Challenging these deeply entrenched practices will require the explicit integration of gender equality training for all those involved in the education system from policy makers to teachers. Even though couples are typically sought out and arranged by their families, since domestic violence has been seen as an ethnic struggle, the law allows women the right to initiate a divorce from their spouse. Basically there are two reasons why women have kept out of politics. The Muslims and Tamils additionally use the Kudi, a matrilineal system that is expressed in marriage and religious festivals. Find out more and support our work here. They are treated as a different species, grouped in a different and exclusive organisation and are rarely admitted to the higher echelons of business organisations. And this was just 11 years after American women got the vote. However, the beginning of the movement toward gender equality was encouraging. Boys were perceived to be adventurous, problem solvers who could think outside of the box and therefore are more suited to science and technology subjects. Sri Lanka or Ceylon as it was called earlier, was the first British colony to get universal adult franchise. Though they agree that gender equality is important, many teachers believe that because girls are doing so well in schools there is in fact no gender inequality in schools or Sri Lanka for that matter. Although while eighteen is legally the age of consent a girl must be to get married, there has recently been a noticeable increase of the average of girls getting married to the age of twenty. She was elected following the assassination of her husband. War affected communities had been sheltered from mass media and globalization for close to 30 years and are now dealing with the consequences of open access to everything from Facebook to pornography. These factors work in tandem to maintain the status quo when it comes to challenging traditional gender norms. Even while women may work at the same time as doing the majority of the housework and childcare, they are still marginalized as it is deemed socially incorrect to venture outside of the domestic sphere. The girls respond for the sake of love. Because of patriarchal policies imbedded in the history of this region, women are over-represented in the low-paid, laborious industries of the country. Geske 1 July But the road to gender equality is still long and hard. Women and technology In a recent seminar on Women and Technology organised by Internews, several other problems faced by women were brought out. Unfortunately in Sri Lanka it is difficult and very uncommon for a divorced woman to get re-married especially to a man who has never been previously married. With economic development, spread of higher education, and a rise in awareness through the phenomenal growth of the media, particularly social media, significant changes are taking place. The characteristics attributed to boys and girls respectively also impacted their engagement in learning. Poor representation However, despite the head start Sri Lanka has had in participatory democracy, its women are yet to get their due share of power and influence in the country. In driving home her claim that women are discriminated on gender basis, she said that a young woman whose dream was to be a Nobel Laureate had applied for a job in the research and development sector of a company and though she had the necessary qualifications and experience for the post she was rejected as the company insisted that they were looking for a male for the job. Many were sent on suicide missions. This has been the case in Sri Lanka, where utilitarian

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goals have side-lined the agenda of promoting values of gender equality.