

Parental Love and Upbringing: A Complete Analysis of Urban and Rural Perspectives on Disabled Children in Indian Cinema

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Abstract: *A disabled child learns things and gains maturity from the behavior of their parents. His adult or teenage upbringing happens with parents because able-bodied children don't want them to have a place in their group. In this paper, we're going to analyze urban and rural parents' upbringing, love for disabled children, and the impact of their disability on them. For this, we will be taking 3 Indian movies, namely BLACK (2005), AHAAN (2020), ANANYA (2022), and a documentary, ROOTING WITH ROONA (2020), in order to describe rural parents' behavior and also the tendency of urban parents towards their differently abled children. A proverb prevails for the parents of disabled children, which says, "If you want your children to improve, let them overhear the nice things you say about them to others."*

Keywords: upbringing, discourse, social orthodoxy, sexuality, intersectionality

1. Introduction

Since civilization and culture emerged in Indian society, parents have been considered the embodiment of God and someone who remains in close contact with their child. They provide every kind of affection and happiness to them, whether they are disabled or an abled child. It seems to be harder in Indian society to become the guardian of a disabled child, one of the reasons being the stress of raising a child with a disability, which makes them isolated in their life. Society tries to keep itself away in such cases because of the false stigma of friendship. This separation gives them mental trauma and leads them into a state of alienation, but despite this, the affection of the parents for their disabled children doesn't decrease. If we assume the upbringing of the child in an inferior environment, where its parents consider him or her the object of society, then he may become a coward or a meek person, invariably living with inferiority and accepting the tyrannous tendency of the able-bodied person over him. We see that the instincts of parents become mutable according to place variations. Rural and urban parents' behavior is distinguished according to class, ethnicity, and culture because ethnicity reflects the emotions of parents. However, it happens mostly in the urban affluent class, where they find a positive attitude toward the disabled child, which provides relief to the parents. The rural and conservative society always demean parents as well as children in the name of disability

Parents of urban disabled child:

The good upbringing of a child depends on the wealth potentiality of parents and how many basic resources or amenities they can provide in order to help him fit into an abled society. Affluent-class parents are capable of providing an environment where the disabled child gets special education, which can further provide him with special knowledge like braille or gesture education, which makes them capable of competing with normal children. Apart from this, parents may provide sensory equipment or other amenities, be they an electric wheelchair or a disability-friendly environment. Similar descriptions are

evident in Sanjay Leela Bhansali's movie Black, where the protagonist's role is played by Rani Mukherjee. She plays the role of a deaf woman who is loving towards her mother but can't get much affection from her father because he is a businessman who fails to make time for her. He hires a special tutor (Mr. Debraj Sahni) for her to make sure that she's able to get a good education from a reputed institution. She is provided with ample support from her parents, but her emotional desire for love remains incomplete, and she asks her tutor to kiss her, which may show that the upper class still follows conservative stereotypes. When Mr. Debraj is shown suffering from Alzheimer's, her parents insist that she cure him and bring back his memory.

The perception of good parents is implied only in the elite class, while in the middle class, parents are often frustrated with their children's activities. For instance, in the movie AHAAN, the protagonist suffers from a low syndrome, which makes him different from the others, but he's a desirable child who wants to achieve everything in his life. He says to his friend Oozy, who earlier disliked him, that he wants a car, a job, a wife, and two children. This shows that he has desires like a normal person, but the social discourse on the disabled puts obstacles before him. Therefore, his father resists him from playing with colony children because he considers him a disabled child who can't do anything. His mother makes bread, and he delivers it to houses. When he goes to AnuAunty's house, she makes a portion of delicious food for him, but her husband, who also deals with cynicism for cleanliness, dislikes him because of his messiness, which causes the separation between Anu and Oozy. There, Ahaan helps him to reunite with Anu and says to her, "Tum bahut chalu apna kam nikalte ho." This shows that he can understand the perspective of people, but still, his father denies him the opportunity to play outside and resists the job, subsequently asking shopkeepers and clerks for the job and fleeing from the house to do it. This shows how able-bodied parents dominate disabled children and get their individuality in their hands. Parents must show empathy and feelings for the disabled person in the house.

Parents' Reaction to Female Intersectionality and Disability in Urban

Middle-Class Society

Introduction: In Indian society, girls are the marginalized section of society whose existence is seldom found in a patriarchal society. They already face the stigma of inferiority, so what happens when a female person becomes disabled and practices it in her life? She faces double marginalization in her identity. The depiction of Ananya in a Marathi movie pertains to this very idea, where she experiences normal and disabled people's lives. When she was a normal child, having the desire to become a chartered accountant overwhelmed her father and family members. Her father, who plays the role of a clerk in this movie, wants his daughter to become CA and the daughter-in-law of a well-to-do family that may allow him to boast about his daughter. Everyone in her family adores her. But when her exams are about to happen, the Sarpotdar family asks for her hand in marriage for their child, Shekhar, who is a businessman. This comes as a big surprise for her and the Sarpotdar family because they wanted a beautiful, well-educated lady while following the conventional system. She seems like the perfect fit for them except for her desire to become a CA, which she hopes she can fulfill after her marriage. One day, when her fiancé forces her to wander outside, a car strikes her, and she subsequently loses both arms. All her dreams shatter, and her family, which is positive about the Sarpotdar family, comes to know the truth when her fiancé Shekhar leaves without meeting her in the hospital along with his future wife. This indicates how society leaves disabled people in a terrible state because they seem helpless and can't seem to proceed further in their lives without any help. She laments in her fallen state, where only her father stands with her, and even her mother considers her to be a burden to the family and blames her for everything. They give her chiding remarks through the use of anecdotes and also when her other daughter flees from home because of her. In any case, her father provides her with hope and enlightenment. One day, when a fire breaks out in her house, she observes the potential of her legs and extinguishes the fire. With this, she finds new hope in her legs and learns to hold a book and write words from her legs. She prepares for and cracks the CA exam, but, in the whole journey, we can also reflect on the behavior of her parents, where only her father supports her in bad situations while her mother and brother torture her. This happens not only in the movie but also with other disabled girls in society. Ananya is a well-educated girl who, despite facing disability and trouble in her house, where she becomes a victim of harassment and bullying in her own family, rises to achieve her dream.

Parents of rural disabled child

Rural areas are deprived of basic amenities and resources, and because parents do daily wage work to earn a livelihood, they survive on a meager amount of money. It's hard to survive for a disabled child's parents because they often fall short of money to provide their child with proper nutrients. According to the Dimes Global report (2006), at birth, 70 percent of children in rural areas are born with disabilities. However, most of them can cure their disability

through treatment. Still, 30 percent of them embrace a lifelong disability.

The Indian documentary "Rooting with Roona" (2020) talks about Roona, who is a small baby who belongs to (JIRONIA KHOLA VILLAGE TRIPURA) and suffers from hydrocephalus. Her parents are daily wage laborers who don't know about her illness. Over time, this disease becomes lethal for Roona, and because of poor financial conditions, it becomes impossible for her family to provide treatment for her, which is why the behavior of the parents towards her becomes affectionate. People tease them with anecdotes and impart Roona's birth curse on them. They insist in her parents' psyche that their baby is a curse for them. Her parents became victims of this social discourse. When a national photographer visits the village with his team and tries to capture the beauty of the village with his camera, the villagers tell him about the strange girl. They then, after understanding the crisis of the situation, send Roona to a reputed hospital, where, after eight surgeries, she is cured. Her parents try to do everything for her, but unfortunately, she dies. Roona can receive help through a charity trust, but what about those rural disabled children whose parents aren't concerned over their disability and can only lament and grieve in their lives and reckon that disability is the wish of God? In India, rural people go to the temple to treat their children's disabilities rather than to the hospital. Therefore, due to the unconsciousness of the parents, the child is not mature enough in life and lives like an animal, a desireless child

2. Conclusion

The projection of these cinematic presentations is truly relevant to our culture and society, however, cinema moves to go for metaphorical rather than normal presentation, but it is said that in the 21st century, we have to shape our beliefs for society according to the cinematic presentation, most of the child upbringing with the cartoons, from where they have been shaping the thought for people. So we have analyzed parental love through a few movies It's conceivable that parental love for disabled children is ignorant in society even people also contribute their love for disabled children, which would enhance the emotions of parents. We have seen through the movies how a special educator changed the whole life of a disabled girl, so people need to be conscious of such sorts of institutions, where special educators would provide them with education. Disable activists insist that the social model is the best and as soon as possible eliminate stereotypes regarding the disabled, society would lead to inclusion. The meaning of inclusion is that no distinction between able and disabled-bodied persons. people look after the disabled person in an empathetic way, which precedes civil society. If society contributes its affection to disabled children then parents give them a good education, rather than remain in alienation. Today our Indian govt has launched various schemes for disabled people. So the mainstream media is the convenient medium to make a conscious of society, through which we can reach toward charitable trust, and poor parents can cure the disease their children in the same order Narayan Sewa, Sansthan is the best charitable trust, which is meant for only

disables. we always respect those parents, who brought up a disabled child.

References

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