

ROUTLEDGE FOCUS

Gendering the Massification Generation

Higher Education Access and
Choice in India

EMILY F. HENDERSON,
NIDHI S. SABHARWAL,
ANJALI THOMAS, JULIE MANSUY,
ANN STEWART, SHARMILA RATHEE,
RENU YADAV
AND NIKITA SAMANTA



Gendering the Massification Generation

Gendering the Massification Generation examines why young people from the same families and communities in India experience different decision-making processes regarding higher education access because of their gender. In India and other contexts where higher education is massifying, and gender parity of enrolment has been achieved at the undergraduate level, there are still many questions to be asked about gender and access to higher education. Based on an exploratory study of gendered higher education access and choice within the state of Haryana, India, the authors explore the gender inequalities of higher education access and choice in the Indian context and connect these with the broader international phenomenon of widening participation.

Through an in-depth analysis of the 'massification generation', where young people from relatively disadvantaged backgrounds are accessing higher education, often for the first time in their families and communities, readers are encouraged to apply a lens of social disadvantage and gender and to recognise the norms and transgressions of femininity and masculinity in relation to higher education access and choice.

With global implications for the ways in which gender is analysed and framed in widening participation research and policy, this is the ideal book for scholars, students and policy makers working on higher education, as well as for researchers and NGOs specialising in gender, school-to-higher education transitions, international development, sociology and area studies.

Emily F. Henderson is Reader in Gender and International Higher Education, Department of Education Studies, and Director of the Doctoral Education and Academia Research Centre, University of Warwick, Coventry, United Kingdom. She is also Visiting Professor at the Centre for Policy Research in Higher Education, National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, India.

Nidhi S. Sabharwal is Associate Professor at the Centre for Policy Research in Higher Education, National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, India, and is Honorary Associate Professor in the Department of Education Studies at the University of Warwick, United Kingdom.

Anjali Thomas is an early career researcher, recently holding post-doctoral roles at the University of Warwick on the 'Fair Chance for Education' project and University of Liverpool; she holds a PhD from Department of Education Studies, University of Warwick, United Kingdom (funded by WCPRS and Fair Chance Foundation).

Julie Mansuy is Founder and Director of Active4Research Ltd. and was the 'Fair Chance for Education' Project Research Coordinator and holds a PhD from the Law School, University of Warwick, United Kingdom.

Ann Stewart is Professor of Law in the Law School, University of Warwick, United Kingdom, and previously Visiting Research Professor, Centre for Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India.

Sharmila Rathee is Assistant Professor at the Department of Elementary Education, University of Delhi, India, and a Recipient of the American Disability Act Inclusive Education Fellowship.

Renu Yadav is Associate Professor in the Department of Teacher Education, Central University of Haryana, Mahendragarh, Haryana, India. She is also Convenor of the Women's Empowerment Cell and Deputy Dean of Students' Welfare.

Nikita Samanta is a PhD researcher in Gender and Education at the University of Warwick Law School, funded by WCPRS and Fair Chance Foundation.

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This book is dedicated to trailblazing young people in Haryana, across India and worldwide, who transgress gender norms in carving out their own futures and thus make the way easier for others following in their footsteps.

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Abbreviations

ASER	Annual Status of Education Report
BA	Bachelor of Arts
BCA	Backward Classes A (Haryana designation for part of the Backward Classes section)
BCB	Backward Classes B (Haryana designation for part of the Backward Classes section)
BCom	Bachelor of Commerce
BEd	Bachelor of Education
BSc	Bachelor of Sciences
CPRHE	Centre for Policy Research in Higher Education
DEd	Diploma of Education
EWS	Economically Weaker Sections (official designation)
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GER	Gross Enrolment Ratio
GPI	Gender Parity Index
IIT	Indian Institutes of Technology
JBT	Junior Basic Training
MA	Master of Arts
MBBS	Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery
MCom	Masters of Commerce
MDC	Mahendragarh District College (college pseudonym)
MHRD	Ministry of Human Resource Development
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoI	Medium of Instruction
NCC	National Cadet Corps (the youth wing of the Indian Armed Forces)
NCR	National Capital Region
n.d.	No date
NEP	National Education Policy
NIIEPA	National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (formerly NUEPA)
NSO	National Statistical Office
NSSO	National Sample Survey Organisation

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NUEPA	National University of Educational Planning and Administration (former name of NIEPA)
OBC	Other Backward Classes (official designation)
PLFS	Periodic Labour Force Survey
RTE	Right to Education
SC	Scheduled Castes (official designation)
SDC	Sonipat District College (college pseudonym)
SiDC	Sirsa District College (college pseudonym)
ST	Scheduled Tribes (official designation)
UGC	University Grants Committee
WCD	Women and Child Development
WPR	Workforce Participation Rate