

Women, Caste and Reform (NCERT Solutions for class 8th)

If writing answers in Social Science feels challenging due to the terms you need to use, this is the right place for you. Here, you'll not only learn how to use effective terms but also get help in framing clear and concise sentences that align with the needs of the question while keeping your answers impactful. Understanding, learning, and writing answers will become much easier for you. Here are all the NCERT solutions (questions and answers) given below.

Exercise questions along with solutions:-

Let's recall:-

Q.1 What social ideas did the following people support –

Rammohun Roy

Answer:- (i) He fought for women's rights and helped abolish the Sati system.
(ii) He promoted modern education and encouraged rational thinking.
(iii) He also founded the [Brahmo Samaj](#) for social and religious reforms.

Dayanand Saraswati

Answer:- (i) He founded the Arya Samaj to promote Vedic teachings and reject idol worship.
(ii) He supported women's education and their active role in society.
(iii) He worked to end caste discrimination and promote equality.

Veerasalingam Pantulu

Answer:- (i) He advocated for the remarriage of widows.
(ii) He promoted education and social reforms in the Telugu region.
(iii) He believed education could lead to social progress.

Jyotirao Phule

Answer:- (i) He criticized the caste system and worked for the upliftment of lower castes.
(ii) He promoted education for women, especially from backward communities.
(iii) He founded the [Satyashodhak Samaj](#) for social equality.

Pandita Ramabai

Answer:- (i) She worked for the education of women, especially widows.
(ii) She started a school for widows to help them gain respect.
(iii) She supported women's equality in society and religion.

Periyar

Answer:- (i) He opposed caste discrimination and untouchability.
(ii) He fought for women's rights and equality.
(iii) He promoted rationalism and opposed religious superstition.

Mumtaz Ali

Answer:- (i) He supported women's education and social rights.
(ii) He fought against the purdah system and encouraged women to participate in society.
(iii) He promoted social reforms to improve the condition of women.

Ishwarchandra Vidyasagar

Answer:- (i) He led the widow remarriage movement in India.
(ii) He supported women's education and their right to attend schools.
(iii) He contributed to the development of Bengali language and literature.

Q.2 State whether true or false:

(a) When the British captured Bengal, they framed many new laws to regulate the rules regarding marriage, adoption, inheritance of property, etc.

Answer:- True – The British introduced many new laws regarding marriage, adoption, and inheritance.

(b) Social reformers had to discard the ancient texts in order to argue for reform in social practices.

Answer:- False – Social reformers used ancient texts to argue for reforms, not discard them.

(c) Reformers got full support from all sections of the people of the country.

Answer:- False – Reformers faced opposition from some sections of society.

(d) The Child Marriage Restraint Act was passed in 1829.

Answer:- False – The Child Marriage Restraint Act was passed in **1929**, not 1829.

Let's Discuss:-

Q.3 How did the knowledge of ancient texts help the reformers promote new laws?

Answer:- (i) Reformers used ancient texts to highlight past changes in social practices.

(ii) They linked reforms to ancient traditions, making them more acceptable.

(iii) They opposed unfair traditions that had no basis in ancient texts.

Q.4 What were the different reasons people had for not sending girls to school?

Answer:- (i) Families feared girls would neglect household work.

(ii) They worried education would corrupt women's morals.

(iii) There was a belief that educated women might become widows due to traditional superstitions.

Q.5 Why were Christian missionaries attacked by many people in the country? Would some people have supported them too? If so, for what reasons?

Answer:- (i) Indian people feared that missionaries would intrude upon their traditions and culture.

(ii) They blamed missionaries for forcefully or through manipulation converting people to Christianity.

Some people supported them too because of their help in providing education and health services to disadvantaged groups.

Q.6 In the British period, what new opportunities opened up for people who came from castes that were regarded as "low"?

Answer:-(i) Low-caste individuals gained factory jobs and urban work.

(ii) Schools offered them access to education.

Q.7 How did Jyotirao and other reformers justify their criticism of caste inequality in society?

Answer:- (i) Reformers condemned caste as unfair and outdated.

(ii) They cited ancient texts showing flexible caste systems.

(iii) They formed societies and organizations to raise awareness and challenge caste-based discrimination.

Q.8 Why did Phule dedicate his book *Gulamgiri* to the American movement to free slaves?

Answer:- (i) He wanted to inspire similar change in India.

(ii) He compared caste oppression in India to slavery in America.

(iii) Phule admired the struggle for freedom and equality.

Q.9 What did Ambedkar want to achieve through the temple entry movement?

Answer:- (i) The movement symbolized equality and dignity for all.

(ii) Ambedkar wanted Dalits to gain equal rights in society.

(iii) He aimed to break caste barriers in religious spaces.

Q.10 Why were Jyotirao Phule and Ramaswamy Naicker critical of the national movement? Did their criticism help the national struggle in any way?

Answer:- (i) This strengthened the movement by encouraging inclusiveness.

(ii) They criticized the movement for ignoring caste issues and favoring upper castes.

(iii) Their criticism highlighted the need to address social inequalities.

If you find the answers easy and effective, please take a moment to provide your feedback.

Thankyou!

Here are some other links related to the chapter:-

[Women Caste and Reform \(Class 8th\) All important SAQs](#)

[Women Caste and Reform \(Important MCQs for class 8th\)](#)

Category

1. Exercise and Additional questions for class 8th

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