On Child Marriages

Mumbai, 29 April 2003

Some people love sensationalism

Some people and press both love sensationalism. Press carries generalized statements without investigating for adequate proof. The adequacy of proof in statistical terms is necessary before generalization. People who love sensationalism play the game differently. Who is behind such people and public does not know what their motives are. They read the news in print and believe it to be wholly true. The manner in which these people present the so-called distorted facts that they sound very sincere and genuine and create the impression that what they are talking represents the common phenomenon. This has become typically the cunning game of the few.

"NGO said: 'the effect of child marriage on the girl is particularly harsh. The age of the marriage is about 12 years and often the boy's family does not wait for the girl to reach puberty. She is taken out of the schools and is used as bonded labour by the boy's family. Sexual abuse and rape is common as the girl is used by the males of the boy's family. She gives birth to child very early while still a minor and has many children. She then dies young, it said narrating the life story of a girl in child marriage." The Free Press Journal, May 7, 2003, p3

This is utter non-sense and shows total lack of understanding of the situation. It is overly generalized statement and produces absolutely misleading impressions in the minds of those English educated who read this and think of the villagers as inhuman rapists and killers. Apparently, these people who make such generalized statements reveal their own inner dirty thought processes.

First, the NGO does not give any evidence, leave aside if the evidence is scientifically adequate or not.

Secondly, the NGO does not realize that the marriage is a ceremony after which the girl stays with her parent until the age of consummation of marriage. At the right age the girl is sent to her husband's house. This tradition is called 'Gauna' in northern belt of India. There may be other names in other places.

Thirdly, the bride traditionally appears before all elder male members of the family in *Ghoonghat* whereby always a distance is maintained. The question of other males of the family raping simply does not arise. It is the invention of the NGO's mind. Western press will

simply love this idea and project India's already badly tarnished image to make it worse. And these stupid NGOs play in their hands. In fact, they sell their nation by this kind of malicious propaganda.

One young woman of 32 TM [initials only, full name withheld] born in USA wrote to me in May 2002 that she was made to have oral sex by her stepfather since very young age (I think it was seven or nine) on a consistent basis and her mother knew it very well and did not object because her second husband was wealthy and powerful. Based on this, our NGO types can very well generalize that entire Western society as made of sex maniacs where elder males in the family have sex with children girls and can promptly give a statement to the newspapers. But our NGO won't do it because NGO's white forefathers could not have committed such crime [it was a misfortune that the NGO was born with brown skin and now must clean the brown society].

Fourthly, marriage at 12 makes the girl look forward to her future association with her husband when later *Gauna* takes place. Similarly, the boy also knows that he is now married. They both have moral restraints at any untoward extra-marital sex. Compare this with Western society where at less than 12 girls have sex with boys and urban Indian society is already moving in that direction slowly.

The situation in the so-called educated civilized Western society is so bad that few months ago I read a news item that schools in Britain were going to encourage oral sex amongst students to avoid early motherhood! What a great civilization and great social norms!

Now these NGOs what all are they doing? In their opinion these uneducated stupid villagers are doing a crime because they are breaking the law. What the students in West are doing in those educated societies? These education systems are those on which our NGOs gloat over.

Your modern civilized system is breaking all the norms of civilization already within few hundred years of modern education and you fools are gloating over it. First shed your stupid arrogance about the supremacy of modern education and of modern social system and then go back a bit to learn something from yesteryears. But you won't do that because your ego won't allow it.