

Case Story of Sharad Rai

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Often it is thought that only men work and not women. This is often the case in society and in family. Earlier this was also my thinking- because since the beginning I saw that my grandparents always asked the girls to do housework. Boys did not do housework. Boys only did work outside homes. We never used to help in any chores and it was usually said that this is your mothers' work.

When I went to study in Bachelor of Arts, there were girls in my class. Some friends used to tease them and I used to think that if their sisters had come to study, they would have also have been teased. I sometimes used to get scared. At this time, an incident happened which I still remember. There was a waiting room and boys were inside teasing girls. I kept watching this but could not say anything because there were security guards and people from administration present but they were not affected. Among the girls, there was one who used to talk to me sometimes. I asked her why she did not complain against the teasing and she said that if she did, her family would stop her from going out to study.

In society just as there are boys, they are girls. They also have the right to live free. Dr. Sanjay worked with MASVAW so I thought that MASVAW worked to change men's attitude and behavior. When I associated with MASVAW, I had to face up to the truth.

Girls were not created to do household chores. They also have a right to play, ride a cycle or a car. MASVAW explained that apart from changing one's behavior, we also have to support them in their work. Earlier all the household work was done by my mother or sisters. After joining MASVAW, I started cleaning the house and washing my clothes. But this was not liked by my friends and my family members, but I told my family that I could reduce some of their work by making my own bed.

MASVAW talks about big things like stopping violence. Yet there are some people in the society who we don't know when they will stop seeing women as objects and realize that women have a right to live freely. They must fully cooperate with women.