

A Sociological Study on Health Seeking Behavior of Women with Reference to Hepatitis and Gall Bladder Stone in South Assam

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ABSTRACT Health seeking behavior of women is an important area of study. Since prevention of disease and its cure lies more on behavior disposition than on medicine, the question that arises is whether women in India can behave in a manner favourable to their health. Unequal status of health of women is a worldwide concern. Notwithstanding, universal declaration of human rights aim to provide a common standard of living and women are by and large victims of poor health in almost every nook and corner of the world. Socio-cultural values of Indian society places women in lower rank of the gender strata. Women lack liberty in consuming food, nurturing health-oriented behavior etc. Moreover, their behavior must reflect on the honour of their husbands. A young girl is brought up to believe that her own wishes and interests are subordinate to those of her husband and his family. And women are to depend on their male counterparts regarding health care facilities as well as in decision-making related to health care, such as preference in selecting doctor, place of treatment, types of medicine and so on. Thus, they are not only alienated from health care facilities but also from right to liberty. Hence, the present paper aims to study the health seeking behavior of women in Barak valley with reference to hepatitis and gall bladder stone. These diseases are endemic in the valley and occurrences of which rely on behavior disposition of people.