



MY VISION FOR THE FUTURE

State Supported Utopia!

○ Asha Kachru

My vision for the future is a society in which we will live as free human beings in a caring and loving environment.

A society in which we will not only be bound to each other through blood relations or through marriage, but one in which we can live harmoniously together irrespective of gender, caste, class, colour and race.

A society in which we will love and respect each other not because of financial dependence or other social pressures, but because we bring meaning into each other's lives. A society in which we will give each other the energy to cope with difficulties as well as collectively create more and better alternatives for a happy and peaceful life for all.

A society in which we will have responsible sexual and emotional relationships. One in which we will take care of the children born out of such relationships, by organising the necessary legal, constitutional and socio-economic support.

A society in which children's well-being will not only be left to the capabilities of their parents or guardians, but the community and the state would be equally responsible.

A society in which women will have the choice to live with men they love, or to spend their lives with

women they love. Homosexual couples with children will be given the same rights by the state as the heterosexual families.

A society in which women will not have to fear sexual molestation, where men will be punished severely for these and any other acts of violence towards women.

A society in which men will fear women, if sexually provoked or molested, because women are likely to hit them back where it hurts.

A society in which sex will not be used as a weapon to dominate the other partner. A society in which women too can enjoy sexual love with more than one partner, if they wish to, without being branded as bad women.

A society in which women will not be solely responsible for maintaining moral and ethical values.

A society in which men will not be so indecent as to expose themselves before women and urinate over in public places.

A society in which women will be held equally responsible for any corrupt methods that their men indulge in to provide material comforts for their families.

A society, in which property matters will be totally transparent. No one will possess assets like land, gold, or cash, beyond a certain limit.

A society in which certain skills and capabilities will not be given more recognition than others.

One in which farmers and agricultural workers, especially female, will be given enough state support to lead dignified lives.

I strongly believe that once we realise the joy and happiness that such a life has the potential to give, we will all put in our best to achieve this vision. □

Asha Kachru is a social activist based in Medak District of Andhra Pradesh.

Gandhi and Women

by
Madhu Kishwar

Manushi Prakashan, 1986

An essay on Mahatma Gandhi's lifelong involvement with women's issues, and his drawing of women into the freedom movement

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