

## The Role of Theatre with Eco-feminist Approach in Combating COVID Pandemic

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### Appendix

This study is part of a broader study on effectiveness of theatre in raising awareness about eco-feminism. As a part of that broader study, a theatre script for promoting the core ideas of eco-feminism has already been scripted in Santhali and some of the respondents from Baragora are rehearsing it for performance in front of the rest of the respondents. The effectiveness of theatre will be measured by producing ‘participatory theatre’ following the idea of Augusto Boal of Brazil (Manukonda, 2013). Following is a photo of their rehearsal.



**Figure 1:** Some respondents from Baragora are rehearsing participatory theatre for spreading awareness about eco-feminism

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## ANNEXURE

### Eco-feminism

Warren (1991) says eco-feminism is the proposition which holds important connections such as historical, experimental, symbolic and theoretical between the domination of women and the domination of nature. “Eco-feminism is a movement that sees a connection between the exploitation and degradation of the natural world and the subordination and oppression of women... Eco-feminism brings together elements of the feminist and green movements, while at the same time offering a challenge to both.” (Mellor 1997) That eco-feminism is a social movement has been opined by many other academicians. (Brammer 1998, Eisler 1990, p. 23; Quinby 1990; Plant 1990; Nash 1989, Warren 1990, Lahar 1991, Cuomo 1992, Salleh 1992) This movement of eco-feminism is against the patriarchy that violently exploits both nature and women. Eco-feminism proposes that the violence against women (VAW) and violence against nature (VAN) are similar in nature and therefore when these two problems are addressed simultaneously the attempts to solve the two problems become easier and fruitful.

### Violence against Women (VAW)

It is any act of gender-based violence. This violence includes physical, sexual, economic, psychological and mental harm or suffering to women. It has been occurring in public or private life of women for ages.

### Violence against Nature (VAN)

Violence against nature or abuse of nature is a global problem. It includes an exponential increase in pollution, global warming, increased fossil fuel consumption, and depletion of natural resources. Tacey (2009) investigated the ecological crisis the world currently is experiencing. It is the severe biophysical depletion of nature and its resources. It is the loss of awareness of how each natural element was endowed to the world for prosperity of the mankind, and so the mankind began to treat the earth as a stock of resources that people insensitively use for personal gain, innovation and globalization (Tacey 2009).

### $\chi^2$ -test Statistic

The  $\chi^2$ -test statistic for testing for independence of two attributes is given as:

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{(O_{ij} - E_{ij})^2}{E_{ij}}$$

Where, -

m: No. of rows

n: No. of columns

$O_{ij}$ : The observed frequency in the cell corresponding to the  $i$ -th row and the  $j$ -th column

$E_{ij}$ : The expected frequency in the cell corresponding to the  $i$ -th row and the  $j$ -th column

The expected frequencies are calculated under the assumption that the two attributes are independent. Expected frequency of each cell is calculated by (Row Total  $\times$  Column Total)  $\div$  Grand Total, *i.e.*

$$E_{ij} = \frac{R_i \times C_j}{N}$$

Where, -

$R_i$ : Total observed frequency in the  $i$ -th row,  $i = 1(1)m$

$C_j$ : Total observed frequency in the  $j$ -th column,  $j = 1(1)n$

$N$ : Total frequency, *i.e.*

$$N = \sum_{i=1}^m R_i = \sum_{j=1}^n C_j$$

This statistic measures how much the observed frequencies are, overall, different from the expected frequencies.

At appropriate degrees of freedom and specified level of significance, if the observed value of  $\chi^2$  is larger than the tabulated value of the  $\chi^2$ , the test is significant, *i.e.* the null hypothesis cannot be accepted, *i.e.* it cannot be concluded that the two attributes are independent. If the observed value is less than the tabulated value, the test is insignificant, *i.e.* the null hypothesis cannot be rejected, *i.e.* it can be concluded that the two attributes are independent. The tabulated values are prepared under the assumption that  $H_0$  is true, *i.e.* the two attributes are independent.

The 'degrees of freedom' is calculated as (Number of Rows  $- 1$ )  $\times$  (Number of Columns  $- 1$ ), *i.e.*  $df = (m - 1) \times (n - 1)$ .

**Note on  $p$ -value:**  $p$ -value in the context of hypothesis testing for checking relations is the probability that the result obtained is due to real existence of such a relation and not due to sampling fluctuations. A low  $p$ -value may affirm that the result obtained is highly reliable; a high  $p$ -value suggests that the result obtained cannot be relied.

**A note on the broader study of which this study is a part**

As it was mentioned earlier, this study results from a broader and ongoing study that investigates the effectiveness of theatre for promoting the concept of eco-feminism. In that broader study, effectiveness of theatre is measured by tracing the change in perception of the people who primarily contradicted the idea of eco-feminism by producing a theatre promoting eco-feminism and showing them the play. That broader study nullifies the assumption (taken in this study) that people's preference towards theatre as the most powerful medium for creating awareness justifies theatre as the most powerful medium for creating awareness. At the time of preparing the present paper, such a theatre has already been scripted and its rehearsal is going on for presenting to the respondents mentioned in the present study. The said theatre is being produced by some of the respondents themselves for presenting to the other respondents. The present study establishes the ground why theatre can be selected for observing its impact for promoting eco-feminism over other mediums like dance, cinema etc. Theatre can be selected because people think theatre is the best for the purpose. Whether their choice is good enough or not is the subject-matter of that broader study.