J. s. mills the subjection of women: how does j. s. mill argue for womens equalit...

History



J. S. Mill's argument on women's equality with men J. S. Mill's argument on women's equality with men Introduction As seen in the work of Mill (1992), it is evident that the argument on women's equality with men is based on a utilitarian basis. Mill (1992) indicates that the subordination of women has been termed as decadent, and a major face up to the completeness of human life. This is one of the major themes as portrayed by Mill. This paper shall assess the strong points of Mill's argument, and what makes his arguments more convincing.

Body

In the viewpoint of Mill (1992), denying women equal chances like the men not only ruins the progress of the women as human beings, but also minimize the contributions they are likely to offer in the society. This is because a lot of women are not given an opportunity to put their talents into practice. Furthermore, the thought of regarding the women as second to men is indeed one that is a thoughtless practice (Mill, 1992). Indeed, there is no single claim that indicates that men are equally superior to women. However, the only documented proof of the superiority of men is one that focuses on the physical strength of the men over the women. Mill (1992) is of the thought that the claim of the inferiority of women is likened to the slavery.

A proper analysis of this work postulates that what terms Mill's argument persuasive is the fact that Mill says that, for the society to develop, there is a dire need for the utilization of talents, skills and abilities from both men and women (Mill, 1992). All persons are then required to be given an equal opportunity to pursue their dreams and develop their talents, so long as they

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do not pose any form of threat to the society. This explains why there has been unequal representation of women in various sectors in the society. Therefore, the persons in doubt of the ability of the women in the society are indeed misguided. Mill (1992) brings out the fact that despite the fact that analysts indicate that Enlightment of women will destroy the family setting, women should be accorded respect, an aspect that will render the women less subordinate and objects to the men.

Conclusion

Conclusively, Mill (1992) indicates that the mobilization and liberation of women will be of fundamental importance to the society. This is because in the long run, women have the ability of contributing productively to the entire society, and the same will allow them attain independence that is of essence to happiness for the women. This is to mean that the women are equally important, and should be accorded the same importance as that of the men. In terms of the utilitarian argument, Mill (1992) indicates that it is evident that liberty of the individual is pivotal in a democratic society. This will in the long run allow the women become self determined and have a leveled ground to offer their ideas to the society. It is in this line of thought that Mill was able to champion for social equality for women (Mill, 1992).

Reference

Mill, S. J. (1992). "The Subjection of Women" in M. Schneir, Feminism: The Essential Historical Readings, ed., New York: Vintage Books.