

## ABSTRACT

# EMPOWERMENT OF ELDERLY WOMEN NEED AND CONCERNS

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*India is home to 103 million elderly persons, among them around 60 million are females. These women are most vulnerable in all respect. This paper presents the need for empowerment of elderly females and the factors that work against them. According to the census 2011, literacy among female elderly is only 28% and most of the elderly females were not the part of workforce throughout their life. This means they have no income of their own and most of them do not possess valuable assets to fall back upon in their old age. The present study is aimed to examine the position of elderly women belonging to Below Poverty Line families. 231 elderly women in the age group of 60 years and above were selected from Nagar Nigam Sagar and Jesinagar block of District Sagar (M.P.). Data was collected using interview schedule to find out the position of women in their families and the need for social work intervention for the betterment of elderly females. All the respondents were the beneficiaries of the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS). The findings of the study revealed that due to lack of awareness and illiteracy these women face a lot of challenges in their life and there is a need for the awareness generation among them so that can lead a better life in their silver years.*

**Key Words: Elderly Women, Empowerment.**