

TRANSGENDER PERSONS: A STUDY BASED ON LEGAL PERSPECTIVE

Dr. Vishav Jyoti¹ & Anil Kumar Thakur²

¹*Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology, Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Kangra, India*

²*Advocate, District and High Court Shimla HP India*

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ABSTRACT

A newborn has both male and female sex at birth. In particular, the fact that our Indian society only recognises male and female genders makes it extremely conservative. However, what about those individuals who were unable to categorize them into either of the two groups? There are two categories of transgender people: male-to-female (MTF) and female-to-male (FTM). Transgender people who identify as FTM are born with a feminine body but a predominately masculine gender identity. MTF transgender people identify as female even if they were born with male bodies. Transgender community are sidelined and treated as untouchables and the society is unwilling to contain or embrace different gender identities and expressions. They are constantly abused by everyone as a 'chhakka' and 'hijra' Transgender persons have few avenues to gain their livelihood. Nevertheless, in India transgender persons are legally recognized as the 'third gender' or 'other' gender. Still this third genders are treated as a curse to the society. Thus, it becomes very important to investigate the legal rights that the transgender population has been granted in India. The study focuses on secondary data that was collected from various books, journals, articles, newspapers, bare acts and websites.

KEYWORDS: *Transgender, Gender, Identity, Rights, Legal*