THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM OF NEW WOMEN IN SHOBHA DE'S NOVELS

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ABSTRACT
Today's women should become self-sufficient and economic freedom and then the system based on their dependence on men will shatter. In Shobha De's fictional world, successful working women are no Utopian dreams. They live their lives as they please and take care of their mental health. These new women earn enough to sustain them and stand by their own strength without any support from any man. De's women break the general social rules which keep them under the supremacy of males. They are anxious to establish their separate, individual identity. They are not happy to be recognized as the wives of Mr. so and so. They crave for their own space and achieve it in the face of all odds. They are not afraid to take up challenges to achieve their desired goals. They have realized the new reality of their right to equality with man. They need and use man as a ladder to wealth and status. The present article highlights De's women economic freedom as a bludgeon in their fight against patriarchy.

KEY WORDS: Economic Freedom, New Woman, Patriarchy.