

WOMEN AND ENVIRONMENT : A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AMONG THE WOMEN OF ORISSA

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Analysis of the environmental awareness in the present study showed poor environmental awareness among the women of Orissa. Urban women understood environmental issues better than their rural counter parts. There was significant difference for environmental awareness between low and high age group women. Urban women were more aware of pollution and balance of nature issues than on natural resources & biodiversity, conservation and environmental sanitation. Generally low as well as high age literate, middle and high socio-economic women categories were more knowledgeable than others. Though rural women were poor in their awareness, they were found to be relatively better in issues like balance of nature, natural resources & bio-diversity and conservation. Environmental awareness was noted to increase with increase in education in years among young especially middle as well as high socio-economic women categories. Further a positive correlation was found between total environmental awareness and attitude reflecting that increase in awareness helps in improving the attitude of women both in rural and urban localities.
