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**Social Exclusion of Gender and Sexual Minority Groups:
Insights from Kolkata Metropolitan Area**

ABSTRACT

The title of this thesis is “Social Exclusion of Gender and Sexual Minority Groups: Insights from Kolkata Metropolitan Area”. This research mainly deals with gender and sexual minority people who are generally termed as non-binary people. This research describes their present social position, their existence in the past, especially their exclusion and marginalization in the society. Kolkata Metropolitan Area (KMA) has been selected as the study area of this research because population diversity with a pluralistic culture is seen here. The target group of this research is LGBTIQK people, i.e. lesbian (L), gay (G), bisexual (B), transgender (T), intersex (I), queer (Q) and kothi (K). Hijra people also have been included in this study and discussed here in minute detail. The total sample size for this research is 302. As the target group is a hard-to-reach group, snowball sampling technique has been used for collecting primary data and the descriptive type of research method has been selected for conducting this research. This study is mainly based on primary data because there is no secondary data for the KMA area separately. The study period is taken from 2014 to 2022 because in 2014 they got a very important verdict from the Supreme Court in India that the transgender and hijra people are called as third gender and they are defined as socially and economically backward classes. This research analyzes different problems of the target groups which they are facing in their day-to-day lives and especially their social exclusion and marginalization. On the another hand, movements, protests, rights acquired and the larger legal issues involved are also analyzed here based on the different laws and the transformation of social attitudes necessary for achieving an inclusive society. The reasons behind the exclusion of the target groups from the society and its impact on their lives have been investigated in this research in minute details. Based on these findings, some policies deemed necessary for attaining an inclusive society. Implementation of these policies through inclusive models, social mainstreaming of the target groups will be outlined through practice and supervision.

Keywords: Gender and sexual minority people, LGBTIQK, hijra, case studies, social exclusion, marginalization, policy, model.

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