



## **Reflections on Women's Empowerment: An Ethnographic Case Study of Women Victims in an NGO in Delhi**

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**ABSTRACT** Empowerment of women is a much discussed subject in recent times and has gained a significant concern within the field of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and in the developmental discourse in general. A number of NGOs in India have developed strategies with a mission to empower women by organizing miscellaneous self-improvement programs. Women empowerment is one of the essential tools to fight against gender disparity in our society and help women exercise equal status with men in all aspects of life. This paper attempts to highlight the programs conducted by a Delhi based NGO as part of empowerment to improve the lives of those women who have been victims of gender-based violence. Qualitative methods have been employed for the collection of data and its analysis. A total number of eighteen participants including ten women clients and eight NGO professionals along with experts engaged in conducting the programs participated in the study. The clients who were staying at the shelter home during the fieldwork took part in the programs. This paper critically analyses the existence of power dynamics between the professionals and clients that thwarted the aspects of empowerment. This paper also explains how power dynamic has influenced the interaction that effectively weakened and partially failed to serve the purpose of empowerment.