



7a)
4

The effects of technology, ~~on~~ discrimination and socio-economic status, ^(SES) on access to socially valued resources in society can be one of a double edged sword. By this one means that there can be benefits for some members of society there can be disadvantages for other members.

Technology is defined as any instrument that has been developed by humans to assist humans in their everyday lives. If we look at the socially valued resource of access to childcare facilities we see that women of ~~the~~ Australian society are ~~equally~~ ^{severely} disadvantaged.

While the stereotypes and ideologies of a woman's place in society is slowly changing over time there is still this belief and ideology that once a woman has a child they should stay at home and look after the child and not go back to work. However for some this may be the case ~~and~~ ^{but} the fact that they aren't able to receive paid maternity leave it just isn't something that is financially sustainable for that family.

In Australian society today there is much discussion



~~at~~ and debate about paid maternity leave. Various levels have completed reports on the issue but no action as of today has been taken. ~~There~~ are only two institutions that offer such a resource is employees of the Australian Catholic University and Sydney City Council. These mothers are able to stay at home with their child in the first year of cognitive development with no worries.

For mothers ~~there~~ ^{there} don't have such a luxury have to find child care facilities that can cater to their working times and one that is not expensive. This is where we see the double edged sword taking place. While some mothers are able to find child care services the high cost of childcare means that many parents are put into an awful decision of deciding what do I do. This decision and problem leaves many parents feeling disillusioned about having a children and as a result of this we see that the Australian population is experiencing a declining birth rate.

This lack of access to a socially valued resource of childcare can not only place health and stress problems on the parents but on the child as well.



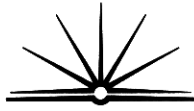
Discrimination based on appearance and gender has long been a problem to women when applying for jobs and employment opportunities in the past.

The patriarchal society and the myth that women belonged in the home and weren't able to make decisions of power and be assertive meant that many women weren't employed.

The Sex Discrimination Act of 1984 was something that ~~started~~ started to change the patriarchal beliefs of society and the systems of hegemonic power. The act established that no person could be

- refused a job as a result of their sex or gender.
- sexually harassed either ^{in the} ~~at work~~ work office environment or at any work related function
- fired as a result of pregnancy, sex, marital degree or parental responsibilities.

This act allowed ^{women} ~~women~~ to enter professions that had been previously dominated by men and to break down the ideologies and myths that had surrounded women and their capabilities of employment that had stood in the past. The success of the Sex Discrimination



BOARD OF STUDIES
NEW SOUTH WALES

Act can be seen in the ~~past time~~ ^{numbers of} female ~~undergraduates~~ ^{undergraduates} out numbering males in the medical occupations.

This out number can be due to the fact that females are now undertaking more positions at university and breaking into professions that had previously been male dominated and held an androcentric way of thinking.

This the effect of the Sex Discrimination Act has allowed discrimination based on gender to occur in society ~~at often~~ ^{less often} than it did in the past. It has given hope to show that women can do anything that they want.

The effect of socio economic status on women with access to socially valued resources of education and employment is an increasing problem within Australia. More and more migrant people are coming to Australia and as a result of qualifications not being recognised and not being able to speak the language the migrants ~~women~~ ^{and their} are families have low SES. Then with this low SES ~~there~~ ^{there} is a limit of education ~~resource~~ ^{resource} for families and the chances that the child has to learn the language. With such a limited range of



facilities we see that depression is high. Without a high level of education many migrant women are forced to work in jobs such as sewing and manufacturing clothes for little to no money provided.

This abuse of power and authority is in many cases left unreported as many migrant women fear the Police and authority figures in an Australian environment. This in many cases is due to abuse and trauma that could have been subjected by people from similar positions of authority in their homeland. The vicious cycle means that these women stay in the low ~~set~~ socioeconomic status of society and continue to be denied access to socially valued resources.

While technology and the internet has allowed the people of Australia that can afford such connections and the price of a computer to have access to the information highway & more land. This can be due to lack of financial resources and education on how to use such technology. It is trends like this that allows one to say that in terms of technology the ~~the~~ and ~~SE~~ the access to socially valued resources has



only improved for some and deteriorated for others. The Sex Discrimination Act in terms of discrimination has only allowed for access to increase for all women in the area of employment and job opportunities within the workforce and areas that used to be male dominated and patriarchal.