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WOMEN BASED PROGRAMS IN PUBLIC, PRIVATE AND COMMUNITY RADIO STATIONS AS A TOOL FOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT: A STUDY IN CHENNAI, INDIA

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Article Ref. No.:	Abstract:
20013058N2AANM	In India, public, private and community radio stations air several radio programs for development. It is essential that in a developing country like India, the active participation of women is crucial to lead development plans successfully and for programs related to family, education, health, and nutrition, etc. There is awareness regarding the importance of women and the problems faced by them. Though women based radio stations are very less in India, the commercial radio stations tend to regularly
Article History: Submitted on 30 Jan 2020	broadcast programs that are based on timely women-centric issues. In this connection, the present study intends to analyze whether women based
Accepted on 07 May 2020	programs are useful. The study reveals that the programs of All India Radio
Published online on 14 May 2020	(AIR) act as a tool for sharing knowledge and information intended for women's development and for achieving gender equality. Private radio stations use social media more than public broadcaster for popularizing their programs and events conducted for women's development. The campaigns conducted by private radio stations created awareness on the safety of women and the facilities available to ensure women's safety and
Keywords:	encouraged women to learn self-defence. Due to the health awareness
radio, women's development,	programs aired by the community radio stations, women in the community
radio stations, listeners, community	got information about remedies and treatment for women-related problems, thereby resolving their fear about health problems.
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1.0. Introduction

For many centuries, radio has been an important and effective communication medium. Due to the development in technology, nowadays, radio programs are listened through different technologies such as Mobile phone, DTH,

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Radio device, Internet radio, and smartphone applications. In India, three tier radio broadcasting system is followed. The first tier is public radio broadcasting, the second tier is private radio broadcasting, and the third tier is community radio broadcasting.

The development of women in the society began with the act of finding their own voices and playing an active role in public and academic life after the World Wars. (Ahoojapatel, 1995). For a developing country like India, the active participation of women is crucial to successfully lead development plans and programs, related to family, education, health, and nutrition, etc. Hence, it is necessary to train women and girls with knowledge, information, and skills for human resource development (Rathod, 2009).

Communication is vital for women's development, and mass media plays a key role in influencing people through all types of new technologies (Ross & Byerly, 2006). In India, all types of media have women audience, especially television and radio while the radio stations play a major role in women's development (Nirmala, 2015). The concept of development not only depends on economic development but also on human and social development. Empowering women at the grassroots level and building their capability is a major concern for social development (Mitchell, 2000). Radio was the first electronic medium to produce programs for women's development, especially community radios in India, run by Non-Government organizations, Educational Institutions, and Self Help Groups, play a better role by involving women in program production, administration and collecting news about the community (Nirmala, 2015). Community radio involves participatory communication, which enables the people of the community to take part in community development, using radio as a medium to reach the masses (Pavarala & Malik, 2007). In both government and private radio stations, women-oriented programs are aired for 1-2 hours from Monday to Friday (Nirmala, 2015). The content of the programs are cooking and beauty tips, awareness about the laws and rights, interviews with women entrepreneurs and doctors, and educating students through interviews with teachers and motivational speakers. The workshops and campaigns conducted for women by the community and private radio stations are a platform for women to gain knowledge and show their talents (Kamal ,2007). The radio programs motivate leadership quality among the women listeners, and when compared to other media, radio has the potential to reach people in remote areas of India (Pavarala & Malik, 2007). Women in these remote areas learn about their rights and gain awareness about the problems faced in their family and society (Nirmala, 2015).

2.0. Rationale of the study

In India, public, private and community radio stations air several radio programs for development. It is essential that in a developing country like India, there is awareness regarding the importance of women and the problems faced by them. In comparison to other media outlets, radio could play a significant role in women's development. Especially in a highly populated country like India, radio tends to be the most easily accessible and women-friendly medium, which enables the listeners to listen to their favourite radio programs even in their busy time schedule. Though women based radio stations are very less in India, private and public radio stations tend to regularly broadcast programs that are based on timely women-centric issues.

The community radio is an important tool for women's development in India (Pavarala & Malik, 2007). The community radio programs cover important aspects of women – psychological, social, economic, cultural, and political (Nirmala, 2015). Women who are working in the community radio show their abilities by producing women based radio programs, which in turn give confidence to women listeners to speak in public, to make choices for improving their lives, to know about their rights in a property, etc. (Balan & Norman, 2012). In this connection, the present study analyses the women based programs in public broadcasting, private broadcasting, and community radio through case studies.

3.0. Review of literature

Sen (2014) has discussed about commercial radio stations in India. The statecontrolled nationwide AM transmission was shifted to corporate-owned local FM broadcasting signals in India, which was an important change in the philosophy of the radio in India. Kolkata has an extended population of 14 million people who are served by 16 FM stations, out of which nine are commercial, three are nonprofit, and the rest are run by AIR. Started in May 2003, Radio Mirchi, Kolkata, was one among the four pioneers in private stations in the city and has consistently been the top station in Kolkata ever since. In order to understand the nature of FM broadcasting in India, four key aspects such as ownership, organization, audience, and programming were examined. FM stations introduced a new version of radio that was different from its forerunners in all aspects, including industry structure, revenue model, organizational practices, programming policies, personal profiles, and audience management. The changes that occurred in the radio over the years has put an end to the radio's mission of nation-building and citizen formation. Apart from representing the advancement in the technology of broadcasting, FM in India represents the birth of a whole new form of radio and also forms the most visible face of contemporary Indian radio.

De Hanas (2010) has discussed in length about the women belonging to the Muslim Community Radio (MCR) in London who broadcast programs regarding environmental ethics and women's empowerment. De Hanas (2010) focused on the 'women's hour' program, which was hosted by women and broadcasted for one and half an hour on Tuesdays and Mondays for a period of one month. The themes of the program were mostly based on the suggestions given by women listeners during focus group discussions. Women's hour program, in general, explained the empowerment of women, and it also focused on issues such as environmental activities.

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Nirmala (2015) has claimed that radio can be the source for the empowerment of women in India. Radio can change the lives of women; it gives them a voice; it gives them the courage to fight for their rights; it creates awareness about various rights, including the rights of women to health, maternity, violence, and nutrition. Women are also educated about their political rights, voting rights, women's reservations in Panchayati Raj institutions, Assembly and Parliament through radio.

Sharma (2015) has discussed the role of community radio stations for women in India run by women. Sangam Radio was India's first community radio station completely owned and managed by marginalized Dalit women of the Deccan Development Society (DDS). The program content is a mix of interviews, discussions, songs, folk tales, and plays. Transcending their barriers of illiteracy, the women have produced successful programs by themselves.

4.0. Methodology

A case study was carried out in public, private, and community radio stations in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. For a public radio station, women-based radio programs in both AM (Chennai A 720 KHz) and FM (Rainbow FM 101.4 MHz) stations of the All India Radio were taken for the study. For a private radio station, Big FM (92.7 MHz) was taken for the study. Big FM conducted an awareness campaign for women's safety in Chennai, and it was taken for the purpose of analysis. For a community radio station, *Thendral* FM (91.2 MHz) in Chennai was taken for the study. The feedback and impact of the FM Rainbow programs were got through SMS, letters, and comments on their official Facebook page. In addition, the feedback of the public, private and community radio stations were collected from the listeners through interviews. 30 listeners of the public radio station, 30 listeners of the private radio station and 20 listeners (a few of them also produced programs for the station) of the community radio station were interviewed.

5.0. Analysis & Interpretations

5.1. Case Study 1: All India Radio (AIR) – Public Radio Station

5.1.1. About AIR AM and FM Radio Stations

In Chennai, AIR programs are broadcasted under both Amplitude Modulation (AM) and Frequency Modulation (FM). Primary channels Chennai A and Chennai B are broadcasted through AM, while the channels FM Rainbow and FM Gold fall under the FM broadcasting. AIR Chennai A is one of the AM channels of AIR and is aired in the frequency of 720 KHz. FM Rainbow (101.4 MHz) provides programs in different informal programming styles and new genres of entertainment that grab the attention of youth. The programs of FM Rainbow include film songs, classical and devotional music, informal chat shows, phone-in programs, and more. Each program is broadcasted for one hour. In between each program, the news is

broadcasted live for three minutes. For this study, the women based programs aired in AIR Chennai A and the Rainbow FM were taken for analysis.

5.1.2. Details of the program taken for the study

AIR AM has many sections, and women's section is one among them. In the women's section, radio programs are produced and presented by women in the frequency of 720 KHz (AIR - Chennai A). The first program of this section was launched in the year 1938; during that time, it was aired once in a fortnight. The women's program, produced by AIR AM women's section and taken for analysis, is titled 'Poovaiyar Poonga' (Women's Garden). This particular program is produced and broadcasted in radio magazine format and includes interviews, discussions, debate, drama, and radio talk. The program content is segmented under various topics, namely, female pioneers, daily life struggles, information catalogue, legal awareness, handlooms and human interest pieces about common women, including flower vendors and fisherwomen. It also has interviews conducted with sportswomen, Indian women forest officers, doctors, lawyers, manufacturers, auditors etc. This program is aired for thirty minutes from Monday to Friday. In FM Rainbow, the women-based program named 'Magalir Mattum' (Ladies only)is aired for one hour from Monday to Friday. It is taken for the study. The program mostly includes interviews, phone-in, talk etc. Interviews of female doctors, expert cooks, beauticians, celebrities, small scale entrepreneurs, and the information regarding women's welfare and development are aired.

5.1.3. Content

The programs include interviews with female doctors who provide remedies for health problems. There is a narrative storytelling segment which narrates awareness stories for the women who attempted suicide due to broken marriages. Also, there is a segment in which uses of pulses, the importance of hygiene in cooking, vegetables, flowers, greens, etc. that can be grown at home, and information about other countries is given. In another segment, the life and works of historical icons are enlightened, along with songs that correspond to the message shared by the announcer (RJ).

The programs enlighten the listeners on health aspects to increase their medical awareness. A few samples are given below.

- i) Depression has become a significant problem for all ages. The usage of electronic gadgets increases mental difficulties among children. Hence, children should be allowed to play outdoor games and parents should avoid fighting in front of children.
- ii) Pregnancy, menopause and the morning chores that are being done in a hurry are the main reasons for depression among women. Senior citizens have depression because of their loneliness. The depression rate differs based on how one handles problems.
- iii) Comedy is the best medicine for depression. Exposure to comedy and clapping the hands increase a hormone called serotine. A psychiatrist usually suggests exercise for the secretion of the hormone if the person is a moody person.
- iv) Nature, listening to music, and book reading are some ways to reduce depression. Personality development and stress management for women were also described.

v) The ideal level of hemoglobin for a female is between 12 Hb – 16 Hb, and for males, it is 14 Hb – 18 Hb. If the level of hemoglobin is below 8 Hb, it leads to anemia and tiredness. Consuming soaked dry grapes will help to increase hemoglobin. Spinach also helps to regulate hemoglobin.

Legal awareness is infused by providing knowledge of various legal provisions. Some of the samples are given below.

- i) Female children up to 18 years should not be allowed to work in any industry. According to the Women labour law 1973, if a woman meets with an accident during working hours, the industry has to take full responsibility for her well-being. The salary must be equal for men and women.
- ii) Other laws related to women's safety, dowry prohibition, Anti-rape Act etc. were also discussed. The segment also explains how criminal complaints can be filed online to the respective police station.
- iii) In terms of family violence, it is not necessary for the victim (female) to file the complaint. One of the family members of the victim can approach the district collector office directly.

5.1.4. Feedback

The reach of the Chennai A radio programs is exposed by the transmission executives of the AIR station. Feedback from the listeners shows that the programs which enlightened on the various government schemes for small scale business and entrepreneurship have benefitted them in a way that the listeners themselves became a beneficiary of the schemes and started their own small scale business. The interviews with doctors were eye-openers to many listeners who had certain symptoms and feared of the diseases related to the symptoms. The program diminished such fear and gave clarity on when to consult a doctor for such symptoms.

5.2. Case Study 2: Big FM - Private Radio Station

5.2.1. About Big FM

The launch of Big FM(92.7 MHz) Radio station in Chennai occurred in September 2006, and it has expanded at a phenomenal pace, launching 45 stations in a record-breaking time period of 18 months. Big FM is a nationwide private FM radio station in India owned by the Reliance Network group. In Tamil Nadu, Big FM operates only in Chennai.

5.2.2. Details of the program taken for the study

Big FM conducted a campaign called '*Thoaduvaanamthooramillai*' (The sky is not far) for creating awareness about safety among women. The campaign happened for 3 days, from 8 PM-8 AM. The main objective of the event was to showcase unknown facts regarding safety during the night in a metropolitan city like Chennai. Interviews of women achievers, celebrities, and working women who worked at night were aired along with songs on all three days during that particular time. The campaign took place in front of the Alandur metro station in Chennai, where a mini-audio studio setup was constructed, and the celebrities were interviewed. After the celebrity interviews, a group of 4 to 5 people, including the Radio Jockey (RJ) who conducted the campaign, roamed around the city and met women who worked in the night shift. About 50 women were interviewed for this campaign. The campaign was also promoted on social media. Photos and videos were uploaded on the Big FM Facebook page.

5.2.3. Content

The women achievers in the film industry, fashion, police department, sports, medical field, journalism, motivational speakers, NGO workers, and women who work during the night time in the metro, railway, and police stations were interviewed for this campaign. The campaign contained information to motivate women, create awareness, and educate them about safety measures. A few samples are given below:

- i) Women can move towards development with the support of their parents, who should place their child's happiness before society and let them work towards achieving their dreams. Family support is the main factor behind every woman who works during the night.
- ii) Women should face difficulties with courage and pride in order to overcome them. Faith in oneself will help us to reach our goals. Women should decide what they can do and not let others decide for them as there are many restrictions posed by others on women.
- iii) Women should not quit their job, and they should make development in their career after marriage and childbirth. Women should face all the troubles with courage and boldness.
- iv) A woman is judged on the way she is dressed, and the society does not see men with the same mentality. Men and women should be treated equally right from childhood. Hence, it is the responsibility of parents to teach their boys, right from their childhood, on how to behave with girls.
- v) Educating children in co-education will aid in a way to avoid harassment against women because once boys begin to know and understand girls, the harassment rate will decrease.
- vi) Writing is one of the best ways for women to express their feelings. Social media can be used as a platform to share and educate others with useful information.
- vii) Women have the self-confidence to travel by themselves. However, they should be cautious, use safety materials, and believe in their own guts.
- viii) The awareness of a woman about her safety, security, and how comfortable she feels should start at home because she undergoes many difficulties in her own home, but she does not open up about it because of the traditional factors.
- ix) Women who work at night should always travel in groups, as a precautionary measure. Also, a woman has to involve herself in any kind of self-defense such as karate and empower herself.
- x) There are many loan facilities given by the central government to women to start small scale business, but most of the women are not aware of this scheme. The Ministry for Women and Child Development in India post such information and schemes on their Facebook page and website.
- xi) NGOs and social workers have to help and educate the illiterate women by spreading such information among them.

5.2.4. Feedback

After listening to the above radio program in Big FM, some of the listeners came directly to the place where the campaign took place to share their views about it. Phone-in programs were aired for about an hour when the campaign happened and the impact of the campaign on the listeners was analyzed through this. From the feedback received from the listeners (interviews), it was clear that the campaign provided information that was both new and useful to them such as the information on loans for small scale business by the government and the information about the experience of the female journalists in the field of journalism. The women listeners said that through this campaign, they were able to know about the women who work in different challenging sectors, and the information regarding the safety measures taken in Chennai at night, especially for women.

5.3. Case Study 3: Thendral FM - Community Radio Station

5.3.1. About Thendral FM

Thendral FM (91.2 MHz) started in the year 2014 in *Neelankarai*, a seashore area in Chennai by *Nalamdhana*. *Nalamdhana* is an NGO, started in the year 1993 by a small group of members. The members of NGO use drama as a medium to reach out to people and spread awareness on behavioural change, communication, social and health issues. They concentrate mostly on women's development and health issues such as maternal and child health, precautions during the prenatal period, pre-puberty for young girls, and also address issues like anaemia, personal hygiene etc. Initially, they got a project for conducting radio programs for the patients in the Government TB (Tuberculosis) and AIDS (Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome) hospitals through cable radio.

For childbirth, *Thendral* FM airs a radio program titled '1000 days of a child' that follows the radio drama, song, and interview format. The radio station also gives training and awareness to girl children in schools about their safety and precautionary measures to defend themselves from abuse. Most of the programs are done for women's development, in about 600 episodes each, in this community radio station. The genres undertaken for women's development programs include interviews, talk shows, quiz shows etc. The women programs produced by the radio station mainly concentrate on health and safety awareness. One of the programs, in which an interview with a gynaecologist regarding the menstrual cycle of women was conducted, received a good response among the community people. Because of the domination of visual media, the radio medium gets less listenership. The radio programs in this community radio station, in particular, are heard by people who prefer to hear information rather than songs.

5.3.2. Details of the program taken for the study

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) of the Government of India gave a one-year project to community radio stations in every state to create women health awareness radio programs. In Tamil Nadu, Thendral FM was selected for this project for the period of one year (2017-2018), with a mandatory condition of involving the community women in program production. Through this project, the community women came to receive varied forms of information and gained the knowledge to produce radio programs on many topics. With the help of radio executives, the community women were involved in the program after a lot of difficulties. They initiated this project by taking a survey among community women. First, the radio station selected 25 women for this project to conduct the survey, after which ten women were selected, and the radio program training was given to the selected ones. Finally, eight women were selected and trained by the Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA). The radio program was named as 'MagalaeUnakkaga' (For you, my daughter). This program was aired three times a day for about thirty minutes. The radio station planned to produce around 365 episodes.

The selected community women were appointed as program producers and one of them was appointed as the Program Coordinator. The women were excited to interview experts from the medical field and came to know about various information regarding women's health. The members of *Nalamdhana* played a major role in encouraging these women to produce radio programs. After a month, the program coordinator invited other women in the community to be involved in this project by making them listen to their radio programs. The Program Coordinator attended a meeting in Delhi regarding the project and presented the whole scenario of the project in front of all the representatives and was very proud to be a part of the meeting which helped her boost her self-confidence. The program topics were selected based on the needs of women in the community by taking a survey among them. Some of them hesitated to share their problems, but after listening to the radio programs, they voluntarily involved themselves and showed interest in program production.

5.3.3. Content

The radio program, '*MagalaeUnakkaga*' (For you, my daughter), was produced in the format of a radio magazine that included radio drama, talk show, songs about women's health, interview, a quiz show, phone-in etc. and was broadcast every weekend. The program producers got feedback from the community people about the show and broadcast it as well. The women of the fishing community are less literate and the aim of this program was to create health awareness among that particular section of women. The topics discussed in the programs included child marriage, save trees, sexual harassment etc. Experts from different NGOs and doctors from each speciality were brought to the show for providing counseling and information about diseases. First, the program producers WOMEN BASED PROGRAMS IN PUBLIC, PRIVATE AND COMMUNITY RADIO STATIONS ...

discussed among the community women regarding the topic. The questions for the expert interview were framed based on the doubts of listeners. At the time when the programs were produced, many people committed suicide in the area. Hence, the community people requested the radio program producers to produce a program regarding suicide and also requested to provide counselling. About 35 doctors were interviewed for this project.

5.3.4. Feedback of the program producers

The Community women who hesitate to share about the difficulties and tortures they face in their families make use of the program *MagalaeUnakkaga* (For you, my daughter) to know about the NGOs and the helpline number that is provided by them helps women and provides safety. Most of the fisherwomen take less-nutritious food, and through this program, the radio station gave awareness about a healthy food diet. Apart from health, the community women also wanted to know about the educational opportunities after the 12th std and also about employment opportunities.

One of the program producers came to this community radio as a listener to participate in the quiz program and gave her feedback on the programs. The development of the other program producers encouraged her to voluntarily join the project and help with the content of the programs and gather feedback from the community women.

Another program producer had worked in NGOs. The questions for the expert interviews, content for radio drama, and programs about child marriage and mentally challenged children were prepared by her. Through her experience, the program producer explained to others on how to choose the right path to manage their family problems and also encouraged the other community women to participate in their project. Her programs on saving trees, dental problems, breast cancer, and thyroid problem, received positive feedback.

Another program producer attended an event conducted by the community radio and spoke in front of all the community people. On seeing her courage, the members of the NGO approached her and gave the opportunity to be a program producer. Interviewing an oncologist over the phone, when she joined the community radio, was a proud moment for her.

According to the program producers, this community radio brought a rise in their life and broke the regular scenario of being a housewife. It played a major role in the development of their lives and also for the other people in their community. A lot of health awareness prevails among the community women, because of this radio program.

5.3.5. Feedback of the listeners

The feedbacks of the listeners were collected through interviews. Most of the listeners heard the radio program *MagalaeUnakkaga* (For you, my daughter) for 30 minutes every day and also participated in the quiz show. The impact of the

program was very high, and the radio station received immediate feedback from the listeners through quiz shows conducted among them. Every weekend they broadcasted the program called 'Community voices' with the voice clips from the listener's feedback.

The listeners got a lot of information regarding their health issues from this program and felt that it was easy to hear radio programs rather than watching TV and also wanted to know about the employment opportunities and safety awareness for women. Their favourite topics include 'child care' and 'food as a remedy to treat diseases'.

The interviews of doctors were very helpful to the listeners and they also recommended the program to others. Some of them begun listening to the program after the involvement of family members in the program production. The remedies given by the doctor who treats diabetics was very useful to the listeners and they were inspired to avoid going to the doctor for an unnecessary reason. The fear regarding health problems among the listeners was solved by the doctors who came to the programs. The prevention method for diseases and problems related to women were also discussed in the program. The tips given for the preparation of nutritional foods for children were very helpful to the women listeners. According to the listeners, education is the major resource for women's development. Women's development is measured by female literacy level.

Type of Radio Station	Public Station		Private Radio Station	Community Radio Station
Name of Radio Station (frequency in Hz)	Chennai A (720 KHz)	FM Rainbow (101.4 MHz)	Big FM (92.7 MHz)	Thendral FM (91.2 MHz)
Name of Radio Programs	Poovaiyar Poonga (Women's Garden)	<i>Magalirmattum</i> (Ladies only)	<i>Thoduvaanam Thooramillai</i> (The sky is not far)	<i>MagalaeUnakkaga</i> (For you, my daughter)
Focus of Radio programs	Women's development	do	Women's safety	Women's Health
Program Format	Radio Magazine	Phone-in, interview, discussion and talk	Interview and Phone-in	Quiz, interviews, and discussions
Target	Women and general listeners in Chennai	do	do	Women and general listeners in particular area of Chennai. (Neelankarai)
Feedback	Letters	SMS, comments on the Facebook page.	Comments on the Facebook page, live reply from the listeners through phone and in person.	Quiz show, phone- in interaction with community people.

Table 1
Overview of the Case Studies

Source: Data compiled by the authors

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5.4. Scope of women's development and gender equality

The development of women in the society began with the act of finding their own voices and playing an active role in public and academic life. For a developing country like India, the active participation of women is crucial for successfully executing development plans. Empowering women is essential not only for ensuring gender equality but also for the development of the nation. Hence, it is necessary to train women with knowledge, information, and skills which are essential for their development.

Media brings modernization into the society and it provides a variety of opportunities to women. Table 1 indicates that programs related to family, education, health, nutrition, etc are provided by the radio stations in India. The public radio stations give equal importance to both entertainment and information genre radio programs, giving special importance to education. They also produce special programs that concentrate on women involved in small scale business and inspire other women in terms of career. The campaigns and awareness programs conducted by some of the private radio stations have created a huge impact on women listeners to the extent of inspiring them to get empowered in terms of finance, self-confidence, and self-defense and have also removed the fear among the listeners. Community radio stations are used as a tool by the government to take various schemes of the government to the people through the involvement of the community people, especially women.

6.0. Conclusion

Radio is an influential medium, and the spread of the radio is immense, even in the era of the Internet, as it has made use of different technologies such as mobile phone applications, internet radio, etc. to reach its listeners. In addition, radio helps in women's development, and the intervention of radio in women's development makes positive changes in the life of Indian women. Reduction of entertainment and addition of education and information by the radio stations in the program content for women would go a long way in changing the lives of urban and rural women in India.

The radio medium strives hard to be in harmony with the evolving technologies and has also fairly succeeded in its attempts. Hence, the present study would serve as a guideline to those who intend to do research on the impact of radio on its audience in general and on the women audience in particular. The study could be extended in many possible ways. A study can be done about the possible usage of smart phone applications by the radio stations to reach women of various sectors. Also, a study can be done to understand the impact of usage of the latest technologies by the radio stations (public, private and community radio stations) on the development of women. In addition, a comparative study can be done to analyze the influence of women's radio stations in India and other developing countries.

Appendix 1 Interview questions

- What is your opinion about the women-based programs in private, public and community radio stations?
- Which radio program (for women) was the most useful to you? How?
- What sort of impact was created by the women-based radio programs on you?
- What were the developments that happened among the community women due to the women-based programs?
- Your suggestions or recommendations to improve women's programs produced by radio stations?

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