Nationalist projects and gender relations

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Summary/Abstract: Nationalist projects are multiplex, multi-dimensional and historically specific. The main aspects looked at in this article are those relating to genealogy and origin, those related to culture and tradition and those related to citizenship and state. In all of them gender relations play crucial roles, constructing notions of femininity and masculinity, naturalize power relations and reproduce biologically, culturally and symbolically national collectivities. Feminist politics, aimed at the promotion of women's position and power in all societies has had to confront the reality that their positions, as that of the men in their national collectivities, are constructed by a myriad of social divisions and other historical forces. Only by acknowledging and confronting differences among women as well as among men, can there be any process of political dialogue which could transcend and bridge these differences.
Differentiation of gender roles and gender inequality that are inherent to such forms of gender relations – although not openly endorsed in the legislation – represent essential elements of this ideology. 'Traditional values' for the nation. So far, the mobilisation of the 'traditional values' ideology and related legislation changes in Russia have been analysed by experts as a primarily nationalist project. First, restrictions of reproductive and sexual rights implemented under the umbrella of 'traditional family values' have been shown to underpin the state's biopolitical goals of improving Source for information on Gender and Religion: Gender and Hinduism: Encyclopedia of Religion dictionary.

There are many ways to approach women's and gender studies in Hinduism. A more-descriptive, less-analytical approach usually deals with the traditional scriptural injunctions relating to women, the concept of strīdharma, feminine archetypes, symbolic structures, divine manifestations, and the ways these matters impact both male and female religious practices and identities. nationalist rhetoric and both reinforced and contested via the perspectives of women who, respectively, support and oppose it. In the rapidly-changing political environment of Myanmar, the project will make immediate and regular contributions in the form of bi-annual policy briefs distributed to and discussed with religious and civil society actors, governments, foundations, and other international actors supporting these groups.