



Register Number:

Date: 18-11-2020 (A)

**ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), BANGALORE- 27**  
**END-SEMESTER EXAMINATION: NOVEMBER 2020**  
**III SEMESTER /BVC GENERAL ENGLISH**  
**GE 318: MEDIA, CULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY (MCT)**

**TIME: 2 ½ Hours**

**Max. Marks: 70**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. This paper contains **TWO** printed pages.
2. You will lose marks for exceeding word limits and lifting from the question paper.
3. You are allowed to use a dictionary during the examination.

**I. Read the following excerpt from the article *The inaction of the 'good people' is exactly what enables casteists to keep attacking their victim* by Soumya Mandi from *Dalit Camera* dated September 11, 2020.**

My days at Jadavpur University and Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute (SRFTI) have been somewhat strange. I have not directly faced casteism because the rules in these institutions are in fact very strict and people lose their jobs over harassment complaints. But I can sense that some people do not like me and cunningly maintain an askew approach while conversing with me. Guess what? The casteists have evolved because they love their government jobs now. I don't take these people too seriously; I just smile and ignore them. But institutionalized and subtle casteist behaviour does not go unnoticed.

This is an act of segregation that doesn't leave any traces behind for a legal recourse. I could be standing in a group of people yet feel singled out. I could just stand beside my friends and feel that a certain comment has been deliberately thrown at me even though it goes unnoticed by the others. For my own peace of mind, I mostly shake off these comments but the problem is negating continuous personal attacks with hubristic mannerism acts only as an ointment rather than providing a permanent surgical cure. Then again, there is no such thing as a permanent cure. As long as there's a heterogeneous collective, the toxicity will continue to exist in our society.

Over the years I've seen many of these people turning into hypocrites, of course. I have been told that I have oily skin like a Santhal and therefore, do not require a winter moisturiser. That person is still on my 'friends list' and posts about equality and mental health issues. I have seen someone declaring proudly that he chooses the doctors by names only. Today, that person posted about the Black Lives Matter movement. He of course skipped any mention of the caste struggles in India.

I could name all these people who have been casteist to me, they are all on my 'friends list' and also probably reading this piece now. But I am choosing not to do so because the issue at hand goes beyond individual vendetta. It's not just about me. I am a privileged individual who is lucky enough to have the platform and the support for this kind of exposé. Rather it is about the countless other MANDIs, MURMUs, BESRAs, BASKEYs, SARENs and HEMBRAMs out there who do not have the voice to speak out yet. The time has come. Speak up, share your experience. Don't let them win.

