



Between Tradition and Globalization: The Evolution of Feminine Identity in Preeti Shenoy's *Life is What You Make It*

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Abstract:

This paper discusses the construction of femininity in the novel *Life is What You Make It* by Preeti Shenoy and how the central character, Ankita Sharma, goes through her identity in the post-liberalization India as a young woman. This paper explores the clash between the old Indian values and the new global forces on women characters by a critical examination of the text. Another aspect of how the novel relates to the genre of Chick Lit and Working Girl Lit is also reviewed in this paper, as well as the views on mental health, self-evolution, and the demands of society. Through the case of Ankita, the paper brings to the fore the challenges and opportunities of the post-millennial Indian women as they attempt to remain with their identities in the fast-transforming social scene. This paper examines the impact of cyberspace on feminine identity and the influence of globalisation on the aspirations and decisions of the young Indian women. It also examines the way the novel can be included in the greater debate about femininity in contemporary Indian literature. This paper aims at illuminating on the evolving nature of feminine identity and the engagement of tradition and modernity in shaping the lives of women of young Indian women as this sets the novel *Life is What You Make It* within the context of post-liberalization India.

Keywords: Femininity, Globalization, Mental Health, Post-liberalization, Identity, Tradition, Modernity, Feminist Criticism, Cyber Space.