

**LIBERALIZING THE KANDYAN LAW RELATED TO
PROPERTY RIGHTS OF SRI LANKAN WOMEN:
INSIGHTS FROM AN INTERNATIONAL JURISDICTION.**

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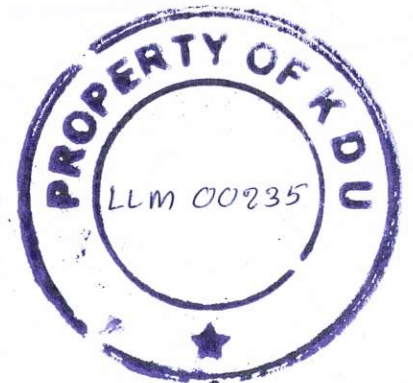
**KODITHUWAKKU ARACHCHIGE MANISHI PRAMODYA
ANGULUGAHA**

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ABSTRACT

LIBERALIZING THE KANDYAN LAW RELATED TO PROPERTY RIGHTS OF SRI LANKAN WOMEN: INSIGHTS FROM AN INTERNATIONAL JURISDICTION

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Despite the fact that International law and several Sri Lankan laws have aided the advancement of women's rights in Sri Lanka, and notwithstanding the fact that women constitute 50.7% of the Sri Lankan population¹, women are still denied the right to own property, which is a significant violation of their fundamental rights. Women's property rights are constantly discriminated, irrespective of several laws and other instruments relating to property at the national, regional and international levels. As a result, the legal system has been forced to emerge from its protective cocoon and offer solutions. The study's methodology involves analyzing the extent of gender discrimination against women in Kandyan law with regard to immovable property rights, primarily through the analysis of academic literature, case laws, and legislation. Further, considering the social, political, and economic context of Nepal and Sri Lanka, as well as the statutory and customary laws governing immovable property rights, a comparative study is conducted between the immovable property rights of women in Nepal and in Kandyan law. Most crucially, the study discovers that gender discriminations in Kandyan law are embedded into the statutes themselves, coupled with patriarchal interpretations that uphold them. Therefore, gender discrimination in this sphere must be addressed immediately. Additionally, the study's findings suggest ways to reconcile modern societal standards of men and women with regard to their equal rights to immovable property and provides suggestions with the aim of boosting the legal sector in relation to Kandyan law.

KEYWORDS:

Kandyan law, Immovable property rights, Gender Equality

¹'Sri Lanka Population' < https://countrymeters.info/en/Sri_Lanka > accessed on 16th February 2024