



## Study about the theme of submission and assertion of a women in Shashi Deshpande’s Novel “That Long Silence”

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**Abstract :** That Long Silence, is not an imaginary story. It is a story that happens in every middle class and educated Indian woman's life. This is a story of submission and assertion of a women. The Indian women in this era are born at a time when there is much awareness about her rights, liberty to express her ideas, freedom to enjoy finance and the chance to stand for a cause. Still... the silence continues!

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According to the author Indian husbands take in for granted their wives emotions, likes and dislikes to be same like them and here author reciprocates the emotions in vivid detail. The husband never realizes where he lacks and the agony behind his wife's destined roles.

It is a story of an urban middle class women, born in a small place but living in Mumbai, whose identity is trapped in being a wife and a mother, amongst other family relationships, who feels she has lived in silence all her life, only in the end to realize that it was her choice and not something others had imposed on her. It is actually not a story; these are monologues happening in the mind of the protagonist Jaya, as she is hits a point in life where things around her may change, status quo may go, although it does not happen in the end. It all happens in her mind, she keeps thinking about things that happened, that did not happen, that could have happened, that should have happened, that may happen and that may not happen. In a period of few days, she goes through all her life, talking about all her relationships with each and every member in the family and with other people around her, her hiding behind the veil of a wife and a writer.

The protagonist Jaya is an educated middle class woman who lives with her husband Mohan and their kids Rahul and Rati. She is the typical Indian middle class woman in the present century who is confined between her realizations and the restrictions. Her father brought up Jaya as an