



My dearest Harnee,

I still remember the day I experienced my first period. It was such an overwhelming moment that I cried the whole day, thinking that my life was over and there was no one around to reassure me that it's normal to feel overwhelmed and lost.

Growing up can be quite challenging. It's full of uncertainties, chaos, and doubts. I'm writing this letter to let you know that it's perfectly alright to feel lost and to sometimes want to hide under your blanket. But it's also important to embrace and celebrate this significant milestone in your life—your first period.

From this day forward, you possess the immense power of a goddess, capable of shaping and influencing the world and I couldn't be prouder.

My love, now allow the women who love you, the honour of celebrating your beautiful transition into womanhood. Lean on us during moments of joy, love, heartache, and every unique milestone that comes with womanhood.

Love,
Amma

In a country where the word ‘period’ is still a taboo, a letter celebrating it works like a charm.

And it's not just about a mother doing her part, it reflects more on where you come from

TAMIL NADU IS A PIONEER IN WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Women's Remarriage - opposed by Gandhi, supported by Periyar

1929

Workforce participation of women in TN is higher than the national level, for both rural and urban areas.

2018

First state in the nation to sanction 33% reservation for women in local bodies elections. 40,000 women to become representatives in local bodies.

1980

Eight Tamil Nadu cities deemed as top cities for women in India

3rd lowest crime rate against women

2023

“A nation can’t grow without giving power to it’s women” - Periyar



Now, having said that, I can't help but think of addressing
Tamil Nadu as anything other than a woman.

TAMIL NADU-
SHE'S ALWAYS A WOMAN TO ME



A Devotional State

Cinema gives voice
to the lower caste .

Tamilians brought
cinema to their real
lives.



M.Karunanidhi

MGR

Jayalalitha

Making their screen hero's their real life saviours since 1969

AMMU *to* AMMA

The Life & Times of Jayalalithaa



Jayalalitha, one of the most influential woman in
Tamil Nadu, who we call Amma.

An epitome of woman ruling and breaking a more than 30-year-old culture of male dominance in politics, who's also known as the phoenix, bouncing right back from every trouble.

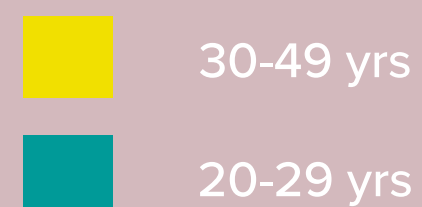
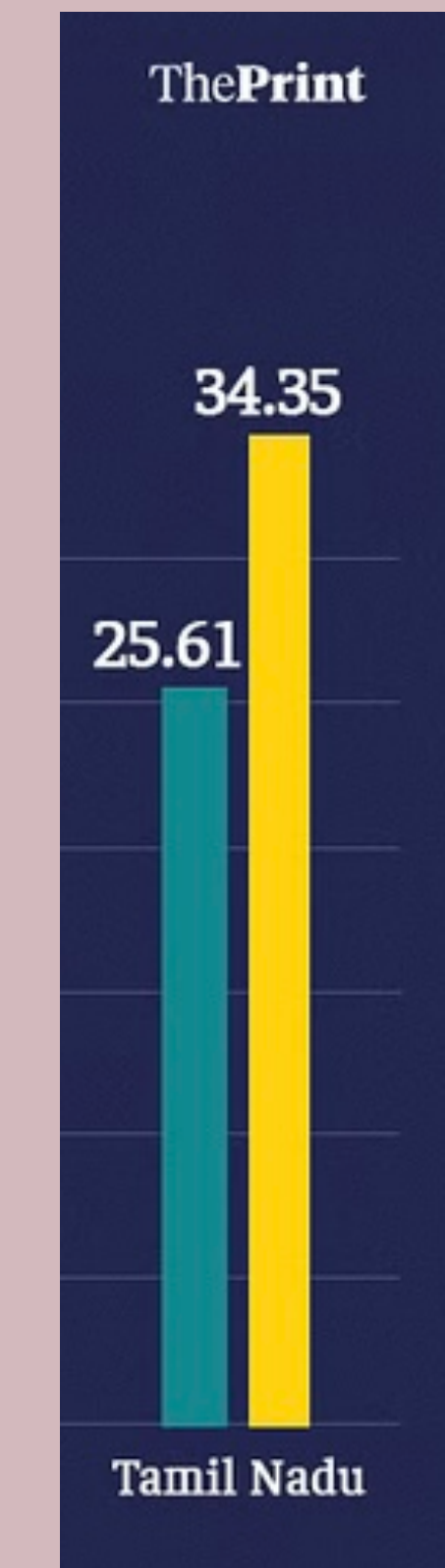
Jayalalitha was a convent-bred girl who had dreamt of a world of academic and legal studies with an interest in English theatre.

Of course,

She made sure the women in the state had access to education with many of her schemes focusing on empowering women.

Currently, 82.31% of urban and 64.55% of rural women are literate in TN, whereas in a state like Rajasthan, the literacy rate is as low as 57.6%

If the literacy rate of women is so high then what about the working women in Tamil Nadu?



According to the statistics, more percentage of women in the age group 30-49 years are in the workforce rather than 20-29 years old .

Which is interesting to look at!!

Coming from such a culturally strong embedded society, usually you expect more young women in the workforce because later she would have her family duties .

But, it's a Tamilian woman we're talking about, She can't be convicted, she's earned her degree.



She fulfils her expected duty of giving a child to the world and taking caring of the family to go back into the world.



The environment in Tamil Nadu is highly encouraging of women to rejoin work force after a career break, because of maternity and other domestic responsibilities.

-The Hindu



**She has not just earned her degree,
she's also ahead of her time.**

Tamil Nadu



8.11 lakh women live by themselves in Tamil Nadu.

Which means out of the 4.39% of households of the total
1.84 crore are one woman households.

In a country like India it's beautifully reflected.

Owing to the awareness about the family planning and contraception, fertility rate in Tamil Nadu has also declined. Which leads to more number of nuclear families.



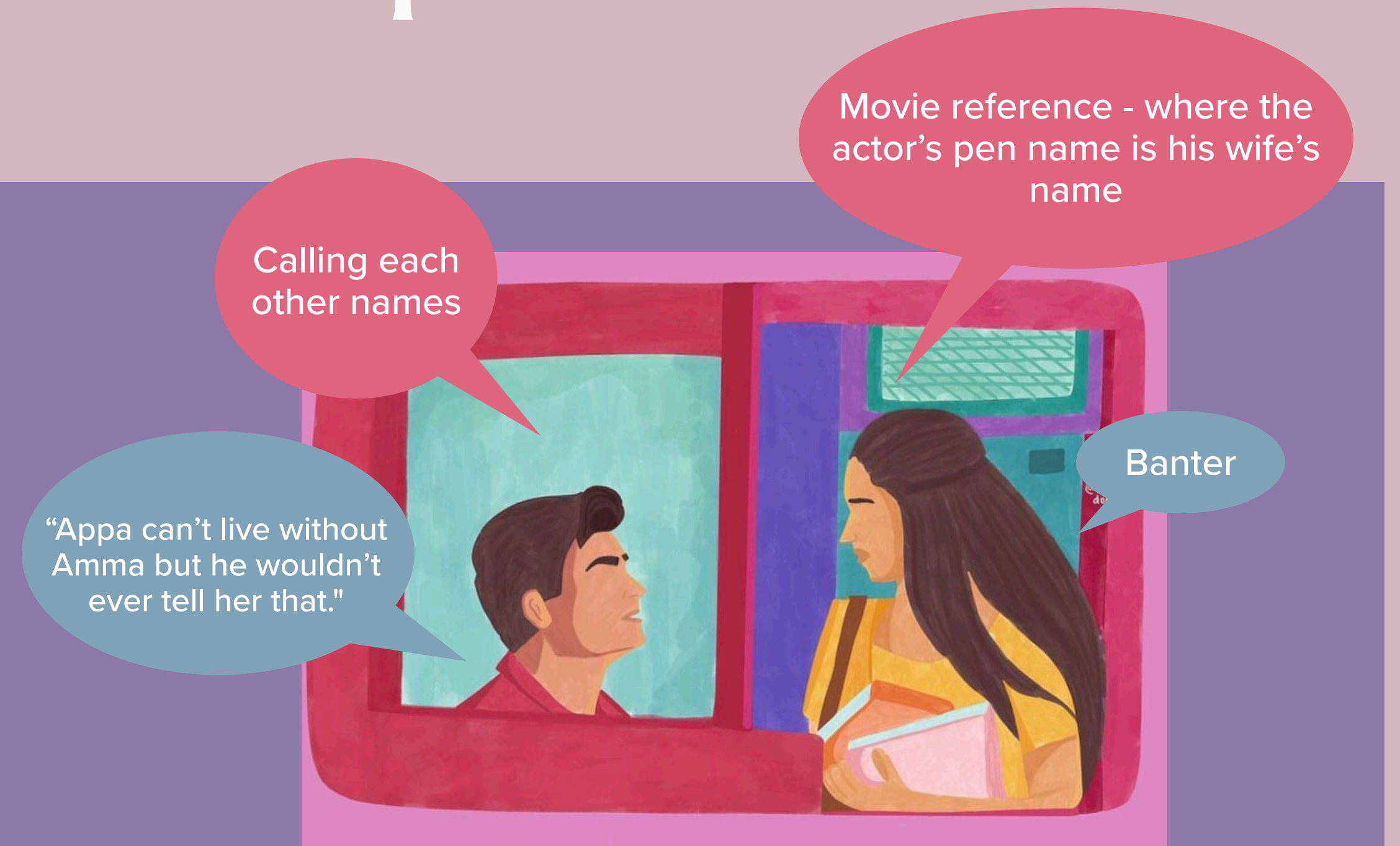
More number of nuclear families, means more decision making power lies in the hands of the wife now!

Along with the share of chores and income between the couple.

What's an average Tamil couple like?



Simple, Reserved, Economical and proud deal seekers



Value of subtle romance

Coughs hard

I wouldn't even
cry if you die
coughing



*Coughs even
harder*

*Ends up crying
the whole night*



A hot cup of tea and a
little bit of 'tea' hurt
nobody



She can do as she pleases
she's nobody's fool

TAMIL NADU

Tamil Nadu is a proud proud state



LANGUAGE

There's no way you can enter Tamil Nadu without Tamil

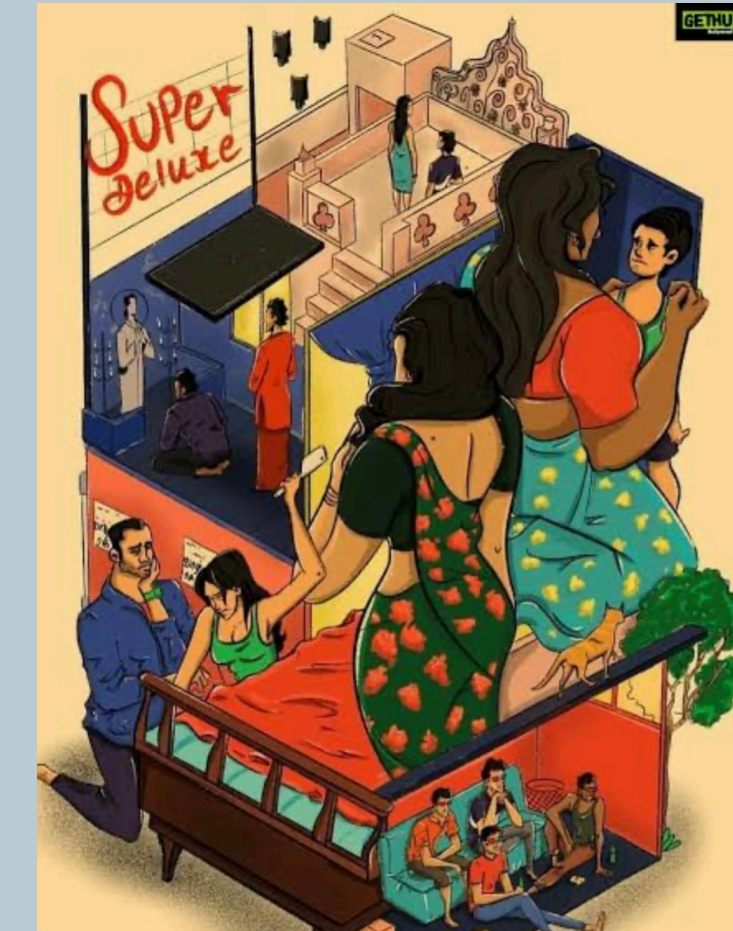
Over 2000 years old language



MUSIC

Tamil music has been thriving with rap music like 'Enjoy Enjaami'

Artists like Dhee have been gaining a lot of fame recently



KOLLYWOOD

Movies like Super-Deluxe exploring the modern aspects of cinema

Tamil Nadu is a proud proud state



FOOD

“Our Rasam is packed with nutrients which makes our people smarter”

Primary spice growing state -Turmeric, fenugreek, coriander, pepper chilli

They even have their own masala brands - Aachi, Shakhti

Gen-z of Tamil Nadu (Chennai) have been exploring a lot of food and different cuisines

Food bloggers - Foodie Prabhu, Rolling sirr

Tea stalls unite Tamilians

Tamil Nadu is one state which is self sufficient (in many ways), built for survival on it's own

A state being so progressive in nature, yet not receiving the recognition for it, turns the inferiority complex into an ultimate superiority complex which makes the state proud of everything they call their's

However,

**It's important to understand that even though,
Tamil Nadu is a progressive state it still comes with a lot restrictions on how a woman should be.**

Tamil Nadu is a devotional society which spawned a social revolution, their practices are traditional yet skills are modern, they strive for scientific education but are vulnerable to the cult of hero-worship.

But whatever happens, “The Tamil is genetically programmed for survival.”

She can take care of herself

Tamil Nadu

Well, that's about it!

Thank you for your time &

special thanks to @suneh.doodles, your doodles saved me. You're a rockstar!

Cheers!