

INTRODUCTION TO GENDER STUDIES

By

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REASONS FOR OPTING GENDER STUDIES?

Reasons for opting gender studies

- **Easy**
- **Scoring**
- **General subject**
- **Less time consuming**
- **Short syllabus**
- **Helpful in essay**
- **Overlapping with other disciplines**
- **More linked with current affairs**

QUESTIONS: CHAPTER 1 OF GS

- **CSS 2016:** Write a note on the status of women's studies in Pakistan and give your views on the autonomy/integration debate in Women Studies.
- **CSS 2017:** Define and discuss the discipline of gender studies and also differentiate between women studies and gender studies?
- **CSS 2017:** Write a comprehensive note on autonomy versus integration debate in gender studies.
- **CSS 2018:** What are the fundamental differences between gender studies and women studies? Substantiate your arguments with examples. Highlight the current status of women studies in Pakistan.
- **CSS 2018:** Write short notes on the following;
 - Gender strategic needs and Gender Practical Needs
 - APWA AND WAF
- **CSS 2019:** How do you differentiate the discipline of Gender Studies from that of Women Studies? Historically trace the need for the establishment of Gender Studies as a distinct discipline and its scope and significance with especial reference to Pakistan.

Introduction to Gender Studies

- sustainability and equality.
 - Relationship between humans/gender qualities e.g assertion by e.g Michel Foucault: 'Thought'
 - Antagonism?
 - Q of "naturalness" of gender?
 - Gender be acknowledged as a structure enabling us to encounter each other/be subjected to gender
- learn gender roles
 - 'Boys will be boys'
- gender role encompasses
- Gender studies ...
- Gender Roles
 - Gender Differences...
Inter/Intra Differences

Introduction to GS

- **INTRA DIFFERENCES** are based on
 - class,
 - race,
 - sexuality,
 - ethnicity,
 - religion,
 - age,
 - (dis) ability to power,
 - citizenship,
 - nationality etc.

Introduction to GS

- **INTER DIFFERENCES**

- i. **Cultural Differences**

- ii. **Biological Differences:**

- Chromosomes,
 - genitals,
 - gonads,
 - hormones,
 - secondary sex characteristics

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SEX AND GENDER?

Introduction to GS

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SEX AND GENDER

No.	Sex	Gender
1	Biological	Cultural
2	Natural	Social constructed
3	Narrow	Wider
4	Universal	Changes
5	Policies are wro physical body	Policies are wro stereotype and traditional role
6	Generally fixed	May not be fixed. Gender roles are flexible and ever-changing. They vary across time and place and from one social group to another.
7	Divided into Male, female and she-male	May not divided
8	Identity	Role <u>Male:</u> activeness, intelligence, courage, aggression, determination, violence, obstinacy, and selfishness <u>Female:</u> passiveness, emotions, notably lust, excessive passion, shrewishness, and laziness.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WOMEN STUDIES AND GENDER STUDIES?

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DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WOMEN & GENDER STUDIES

WOMEN STUDIES	GENDER STUDIES
1960s	1980s
Off shot of 2 nd wave of feminism	Off shot of 3 rd wave of feminism
Specific to women's studies	Women, men and third sex studies
Criteria and method of assessing women status	Women studies and queer theory
Teaching and research on women's issues to break down hierarchies	Cross cultural studies of gender
Women's participation in men's trade	Overcome social differences and sex differences
Lack of freedom in sexual orientation	Freedom in sexual orientation

Introduction to GS

History of Women Studies

- First course developed in late 1960s, USA. San Diego State University, California 1969
- (Based on 54 pages work “A Changing Political Economy as it affects women” created by Mary Ritter Beard in 1934).
- First MA in University of Kent, UK 1980.
- PHD in Emory University, Georgia, USA 1990

MULTIDISCIPLINARY/TRANSNATIONAL NATURE OF GENDER STUDIES

- Every aspect of life
- Transfer of theories and actions from one context to another
 - e.g. an Arab/Muslim context? Western monopoly on theories?
 - Linking post-structuralism (essentialism) to multicultural feminism with historical materialism. Knowledge and experience?
 - challenged multiple hegemonic discourses?
- Gender Studies offers new ways of understanding gender as a socio-cultural, ethical and political process
 - The Iliad (epic) -Greek poet *Homer* -gendered forms/lives *e.g.* The strong-armed men and fragrant-breasted women
 - pretty faces of women are the objects through which men struggle with each other for status
 - Hector notes that he has "learned how to be brave, how to go forward always and to contend for honor," so that he feels shame at the thought of avoiding battle
 - Seriousness: the woman taunt is never serious about women, though it may become a serious criticism of a man.
 - Generalizations: "Frailty, thy name is woman"
 - Ethical realm: long hair is degrading to man, but pride for woman

MULTIDISCIPLINARY/TRANSNATIONAL NATURE OF GENDER STUDIES

- *trans-disciplinary area of study*
 - gender and sexuality studies, ethnic and race studies, area and postcolonial studies.
- *multiculturalizing the curriculum*
 - Includes all identities (LGBT)
- Gender Studies provides analyses the creation and rejecting norms relating to sex and sexuality.
- Requires rethinking of identity designations
 - genders, sexualities, races, classes, nations, and even continents which exist not as hermetically sealed entities but rather as part of a permeable interwoven relationality.

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• AUTONOMY VS INTEGRATION DEBATE IN GENDER STUDIES

AUTONOMY:

- i. Independent Subject
- ii. Self-lead (Self representation).
- iii. Members of various sexes are true representatives of their issues.
- iv. “control over their own lives/self directive norms”
- v. Independent struggle for every factor/initiative e.g. education
- vi. Independent struggle for every field.
- vii. Independent struggle for each status of individual
- viii. Independent struggle for every color of individual
- ix. Independence in leadership and
- x. “to manipulate (their) personal environment”.

Introduction to GS

• AUTONOMY VS INTEGRATION DEBATE IN GENDER STUDIES

INTEGRATION:

- i. Collaborating efforts. Participation of other entities esp. men to empower women.
- ii. Representatives (reflection) of all entities/sexes..
- iii. Representatives (reflection) of all classes.
- iv. Representatives (reflection) of all colors.
- v. Combine in other disciplines as a course because it's new subject. Feminists opposed the idea of integrating the subject into mainstream higher studies curriculum citing the reason that the subject is still young and if integrated, it will not develop.--
- vi. Integrate strategies of women's development in all fields simultaneously.
- vii. Education reforms and social movement for both male and female.

STATUS OF GENDER STUDIES/WOMEN STUDIES IN PAKISTAN

ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE

- i. Nighat Said Khan helped establish the Institute of Women's Studies Lahore (IWSL) in 1986 aiming to close the gap between theory and practice in political and social movements.
- ii. Five (5) departments were established in five universities under Ministry of Women Empowerment (MoWD) in 1989
 - a) Quaid-i-Azam, University (QAU) – Women Studies Centre
 - b) Fatima Jinnah Women University (FJWU) Rawalpindi –Women's Research and Resource Centre
 - c) Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) -- Women Studies Department
 - d) Karachi University – The Centre of Excellence for Women's Studies (CEWS)
 - e) University of Sindh, Jamshoro -- The faculty of Institute of Women Development Studies

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Karachi University – The Centre of Excellence for Women's Studies (CEWS)

- i. The Centre conducted two certificate courses in 1992 and 1994 in order to introduce the discipline of Women studies in Pakistan.
- ii. The first 2-year M.A in Women's Studies in Pakistan began in 1996 when students were enrolled.
- iii. In 2002 Centre initiated M.Phil / Ph.D program.
- iv. From 2004 the discipline of Women's Studies was introduced as a subsidiary course at First Year (Hons.) level.
- v. From January 2007 BS (Hons.) 4 years program was launched and From January 2010 M.A (Evening) program has also started.

STATUS OF GENDER STUDIES/WOMEN STUDIES IN PAKISTAN

POLITICAL INITIATIVES FOR GENDER ROLES

- i. (PAWS) The idea for the Pakistan Association for Women's Studies (PAWS) was first conceived in 1991 at the National Workshop on Women's Studies.
- ii. A Pakistani Perspective by the Centre of Excellence in Women's Studies at the University of Karachi.
- iii. PAWS was formed in March 1991 in Karachi by activists and academics with feminist consciousness to acts as a catalyst to bring about the empowerment of women, transforming a gender biased society into one inclusive of gender equity and social justice.

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SCOPE OF GENDER STUDIES IN PAKISTAN

- i. Taking genders as human being
- ii. Granting identities to all genders
- iii. Acknowledging their potentials
- iv. Accepting their roles
- v. Providing level playing opportunities


SIGNIFICANCE OF GENDER STUDIES IN PAKISTAN

- i. Making all genders as active participants of society e.g. Marvia Malik is a Pakistani transgender newsreader and media figure.
- ii. Increasing efficiency
- iii. Ensuring effectiveness
- iv. Establishing rule of law
- v. Promoting healthy competition
- vi. Maintaining peace of society
- vii. Making better life

FACTOR BEHIND RECOGNITION/ ACCEPTABILITY OF WOMEN STUDIES/ GENDER STUDIES?

CONCLUSION

**INSTITUTES
ROLE OF MEDIA
LEGISLATION
ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY**



Thank you for your attention !

Questions ?