

Q.4. Describe Nature Vs Culture: A debate in gender development?

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Q no. 4

Nature vs Culture:  
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development

Ans: Introduction:

Gender development is based on two notions i.e., either it is biological factors that determine the social role of individuals based on genders or it is the society that dictate or socialize a set of approved patterns for gender identified roles. Both the notions have their norms and factual evidence for their justification. However, contemporary world showcase that it is socially constructed factors that identify gender roles.



## I. Gender - Culturally determined factor:

Gender is determined and shaped by the culture through the process of socialization. Socialization is the phenomena by which culture is imparted and shaped by the society. Culture is the determined set of patterns associated for performance through desired actions in terms of gender roles.

### A. Family - the first factor of Socialization:

It is the family that asks individuals to behave in a set of patterns based on their genders. Boys are appreciated to take their decisions on their own.

Girls are advised to seek help while taking decisions.

### B. Schooling - the second factor shaping gender:

The educational institutions guide the gender identified as

Highlight the references



as male or female to wear certain suit for male and female to cover their heads or wear "dupattas", sash etc. They also nudge students if they do not follow that pattern of behaviour as advised by institution. Even certain "uniform set" is showcased in school front view to make it easy for students to see what's the actual uniform pattern they have to follow. Thus, schooling institutions also play their key role in constructing the gender.

### C. peer pressure - the essence of shaping the rebels:

Peer means the group of same-aged individuals growing and acting together in acknowledging and accepting the dictated pattern of certain traits. Any individual within the peer group and is not upto the approved pattern is labelled as "rebel" and either through isolation or through punishment is shaped or



forced to take the desired role.  
D. Society - the shaping force:

"Woman is not born ones, but becomes ones"

"Simon de Beauvoir"

- the second sex

Society is the main culprit of socialisation process or socialisation is the product of constructing the gender. Society through its established glass ceiling forces its individuals to behave in certain patterns. Whoever violates such pattern to follow, faces sanctions as highlighted in the case of Qandeel Baloch. Her provocative gender role led her to be murdered by her own brother.

Media - the defining and reinforcing schema:

Media the ultimate agent of approving and reinforcing the the themes. Masculinity - the



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approved traits or figures associated with male - they are aggressive, robust muscular body, self-determined, confident. "Combo - the muscular hero" with gun in his hand depicts the true hegemonic masculinity whereas Barbie, the delicate body figure, shy personality, talkative, less rational, dependent on male hero, showcase the true figure of femininity.

## II. Nature - the gender factor of development:

The antithesis of gender is that it is the natural phenomena that determines the gender and it is biological aspects of individuals that shapes the



behavior of male or female.

## I. Brain size - rationality determinant:

It is believed that the brain size of male are large and therefore, the rationality of male are more as compared to females.

Whereas such stereotype "Male are good at Mathematics" is totally approved because of their large brain size. However, body mass to the brain mass determines that the female has big brain as compared to their body mass in contrast of male. Thus, the predetermined gender role of boys association with accountants is justified through this fact.

## B. Chromosomal determinant of sex:

The chromosomal presence of Y determine the gender to be called "male". In Turner Syndrome the allocation of second chromosome



is not identified and therefore it is not <sup>given by</sup> gender identification of male or female.  $\times$ . Thus biological presence of genome determine the masculinity and femininity of an individuals.

### C. Muscular weight of Male - the natural phenomena of gender identity:

The muscular weight of males are more as compared to females and thus huge muscular weight shaped that boys are robust and muscularly strong. Hence, they can survive independently. Their roles can be productive whereas female are weak and their physical and biological determinants support reproductive roles for them.

Menstrual cycle, pregnancy, childcare are more prone to domestic household for women as compared to male.

Add more arguments



A 20 marks answer should have around 15 subheadings and be on 9-10 sides of a page

Improve the paper presentation and the references part

## Conclusion:

Thus, gender is determined through both socio and biological factors and both provides rationality for believing on their set of beliefs. However, Queer theory shapes the gender debate further by considering that even "sex" is self-perceived phenomena and gender is fluid.