

Q2a. Discuss in detail Gender Critiqued of structural Adjustment Policies (SAPs). (CSS-2022)

Ans. I - INTRODUCTION: GENDER CRITIQUED OF STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT POLICIES (SAPs)

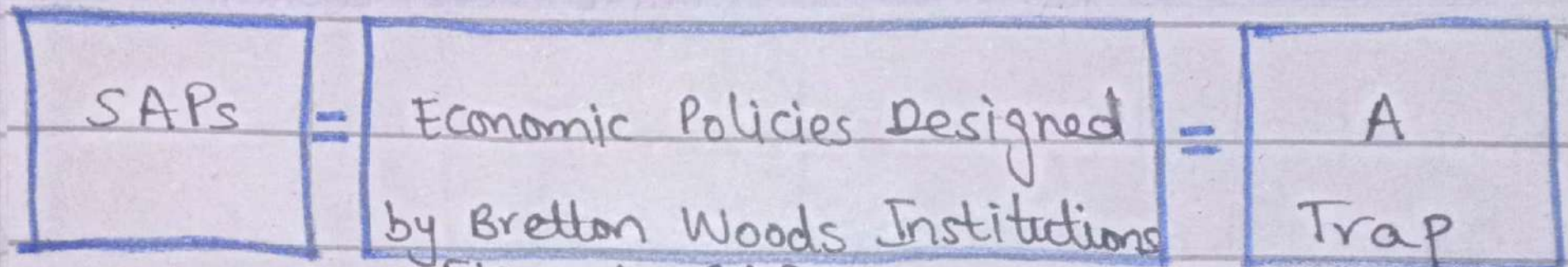


Figure 1: SAPs

The Structural Adjustment Programs (SAPs) are a series of economic policies designed to lessen the role of government in an economy and move it closer to a market economy. These policies are in fact a trap and have created a series of vicious problems for developing countries. Especially, they have ^{badly} severely impacted the women of the borrower country in all aspects of their lives. Thus, the developing countries need to devise strategies to boycott SAPs and taking loans.

II - STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT PROGRAMS

a) Background

Structural Adjustment Programs (SAPs) were introduced by the Bretton Woods Institutions i.e. ^{the} International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank (WB) in the 1980s in response to a series of economic crisis in the global south.

b) SAPs

Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs) are economic policies for developing countries. The adoption of these policies are conditional on

the provision of Structural adjustment loans to the developing countries. SAP policies aim to achieve long-term or accelerated economic growth in poorer countries by restructuring the economy and reducing government intervention.

c) The Policies

The SAP policies are: export-oriented open markets, specialization in the production of cash crops, liberalization of trade, cuts in social spending, elimination of subsidies, currency devaluation, and so on.

d) Criticisms

SAPs have been heavily criticized for undermining national sovereignty, deepening social inequality and further marginalizing many poorer countries in the global economy.

III - THE CRITICIZED GENDERED-IMPACTS OF SAPs

a) Increased Unemployment

SAPs cause women unemployment due to downsizing of employees during privat-

ization. In such a case, women are the ones who are expelled first.

Example: The Labour leaders at the National Labour Council (Sindh) pointed out that hundreds of thousands of workers had lost their jobs as a result of privatization in the past since the 1990s.

b) High Inflation

Women are shock absorbers of adjustment policies because they bear the burdens of inflation imposed by the governments as a result of taking loans.

c) Reduced Social Spending

Cutbacks under SAPs result into a greater workload for women as they struggle to pay extra fee to secure health care and education for the family.

Example: In 1988, when in Tanzania economic reforms were introduced, 71 mothers died ^{with-} in the first thirteen weeks due to reduced budget in health sector.

d) Destruction of Indigenous Industries

The export-oriented open markets have benefitted only the developed nations. Resultantly, the higher imports and lower exports in developing countries have caused the collapse of indigenous industries.

Example: According to reports, Pak-China bilateral trade ratio is 83:17 (83 exports, 17 imports)

e) Increased Poverty and Old-Age Poverty

The inflation caused by the implementation of SAPs have has resulted in increased poverty. Further, as the private companies have no old-age benefit (pension) schemes, as such the women of those firms are further dragged into poverty at old-age.

f) Reduced Women's Self-Esteem

The loss of women's jobs due to downsizing of employees results in increased dependence of women over men, for their economic needs. This in turn reduces the confidence level of women.

g) Promoted Women's Illiteracy

The developing countries are mostly patriarchal and against the women's education. The privatization of education sector increases educational expenses, which the poor citizens cannot afford.

Example: As of 2022, the female literacy rate in Pakistan is 48%, whereas that of males is 70 percent.

h) High Domestic Violence

SAPs provide an opportunity to men to dominate ^{over} women. As a result of women's deprivation, domestic violence might take place and women get victimized.

Example: According to Human Rights Watch study, an estimated 70 percent of women in Pakistan suffer from some form of abuse.

IV- RECOMMENDATIONS

Following recommendations may be adopted by the developing countries in order to avoid the trap of SAPs:

1. Form an alliance of developing countries to help

- one another
~~each other~~ financially in difficult times.
2. Encourage bilateral and multilateral trade cooperation among developing countries.
 3. Focus on women's and youth's empowerment since they have great potentials.
 4. Improve the education sector.
 5. Promote research and development and science and technology.
 6. Equip the indigeneous countries and strengthen the export sector.

V - CRITICAL ANALYSIS

Now-a-days, financial problems are the mother of all problems. The Bretton Woods institutions, in order to address the financial problems of developing countries have developed SAPs. The proponents of SAPs claimed that they would encourage economic growth. However, the binding conditions of SAPs are totally against the plight of developing countries. The oppressed, especially the females bear the brunt of SAPs. Thus, the developing countries are required to take immediate actions - as mentioned in the recommendations - to avoid

getting into the vicious circle of problems.

VI - CONCLUSION

To conclude, the Structural Adjustment Programs (SAPs) are a set of economic policies binding on the borrower countries by the IMF and WB. They are designed to economically uplift the developing countries. Actually, they have further deteriorated the poor nations. The females are hit hard by these policies. Thus, the developing nations need to boycott ^{taking} the loans from such institutions.

Q21. Comment on the power and control relationship in gender-based violence. (CSS-2020)

Ans: I-INTRODUCTION: POWER AND CONTROL RELATIONSHIP IN GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

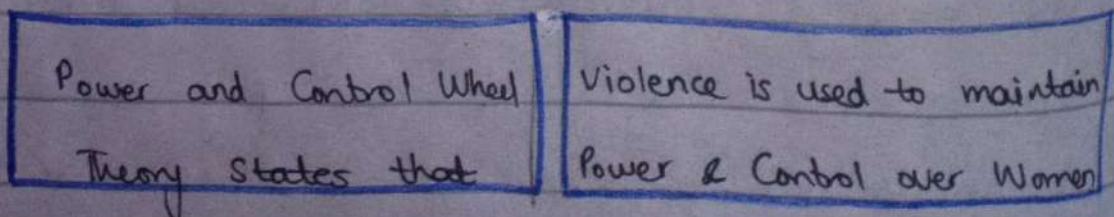


Figure 1: Power and Control Wheel Theory

The Power and Control Wheel Theory consists of a power and control wheel which describes the different tactics an abuser uses to maintain power and control over his partner. The tactics include coercion, threats, intimidation, isolation, economic abuse, etc.

These tactics are used ^{mostly} by men towards women and hence, they constitute gender-based violence. Thus, in response to power and control wheel, an Equality wheel is developed which ensures a healthy men-women relationship by incorporating equality, kindness, shared responsibility, respect, etc.

II - GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

"Gender-Based Violence (GBV) is the violence that is directed against a woman because of her gender, or that affects women disproportionately."

(CEDAW)

"Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is

used by one partner to gain or maintain control over another intimate partner."

(United Nations)

III - THE POWER AND CONTROL WHEEL



Figure 2: The Power and Control Wheel

The power and control wheel was developed by the Domestic Abuse Intervention Project in Duluth, Minnesota in 1984 to help describe the experience of victims of violence and the tactics that abusers used. In an abusive relationship, the batterer uses the pattern of tactics described in the power and control wheel to reinforce his use of physical violence. The Power and Control Wheel is based on the assumption that the purpose of violence is to exert power and control over the women.

The YWCA Power and Control Wheel diagram is a particularly helpful tool in understanding the overall pattern of abusive and violent behaviors, which are used by a batterer to establish and maintain control over the partner.

IV - BEHAVIORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TOWARDS VICTIMS

The victims of domestic violence lists the following behaviors demonstrated by the offenders:

a) Cultural Abuse

Using cultural norms as a tool to limit physical movement, justify beating, or demand subservience. Limit woman's role as "wife" and "mother", prevent her from working, etc.

b) Using Coercion and Threats

Forcing her to do something or threatening her, threatening her to commit suicide, or do illegal works, etc.

c) Using Isolation

Confining her to a place, preventing her from social life, control what they do or who they see, meet or talk to, etc.

d) Using Immigration status

Threaten deportation of her, or

her children, not fill out their paperwork to file for citizenship, reporting against her at immigration, etc.

e) Intimidation

Displaying weapons, damage property, make partner afraid through looks, actions, gestures, etc.

f) Emotional Abuse

Committing acts to make her psychologically disturbed, playing mind-games, humiliating her, calling names, etc.

g) Economic Abuse

Making her economically dependent on oneself, blaming for any financial gaps, limiting access to family income, etc.

h) Using Children

Using children to compel or annoy her, threaten to take children away, force pregnancies, etc.

i) Minimizing, Denying and Blaming
Making light of the abuse
and not taking concerns seriously, shifting
responsibility for abusive behaviour, etc.

V - THE EQUALITY WHEEL



Figure 3: The Equality Wheel

The Healthy Relationship wheel/ Equality wheel provides aspects of what a healthy relationship would look like. The components of a healthy relationship are:

1. Non-Threatening behavior
2. Respect
3. Trust and support
4. Honesty and Accountability
5. Responsible parenting
6. Shared responsibility

7. Economic partnership
8. Negotiation and fairness

VI - CRITICAL ANALYSIS

Women are one of the oppressed and deprived communities all over the globe. They face violence both at home and outside home. In this regard, the power and control wheel correctly pointed out that men dominate/suppress women in order to get power and control. In this era, when domestic violence is high all over the world, there is a dire need to implement the healthy relationship wheel tactics in order to support and empower women. The governments, all of all countries need to ensure the implementation of a healthy relationship throughout their countries.

VII - CONCLUSION

In a nutshell, the power and control wheel theory describes the different tactics an abuser uses to maintain power and control over his partner - woman. In contrast to the

power and control wheel, a healthy relationship wheel has been developed which all tactics to build a healthy relationship between partners. Thus, every one must ensure that ~~the~~ his/her relationship is healthy and secure in order to thrive in real means.

Q22. Modernization Theory blames internal cultural factors for women's subordination in the developing world. Discuss and elaborate the given statement in respect to Modernization Perspectives. (CSS-2021)

Ans. I - INTRODUCTION : MODERNIZATION THEORY AND THE SUBJUGATION OF WOMEN IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

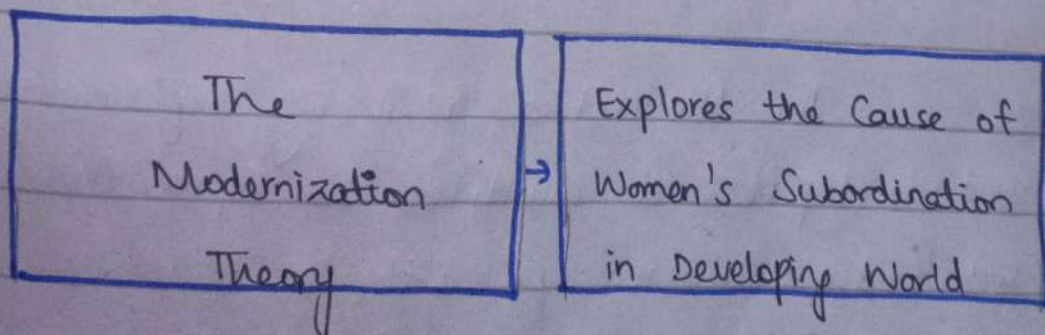


Figure 1: The Modernization Theory

The modernization theory is a description and explanation of the processes of transformation from traditional or underdeveloped

Societies to modern societies. It blames that the internal cultural factors cause the women's subordination in the developing world. It is because women in the developing world have poor conditions as compared to the developed world's women. Modernization theory suggests that traditional societies will develop as they adopt more modern practices and empower women.

II - THE MODERNIZATION THEORY

"Modernization means the appearance of modes of social life or organization which emerged in Europe from about the seventeenth century onwards and which subsequently became more or less worldwide in their influence."

The Modernization theory explained the underdevelopment of countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America primarily in terms of cultural and social barriers to development. It stated that undeveloped societies subscribe to value systems and institutions that hinder the development process. Thus, in order to develop the undeveloped countries are needed to adopt

Western cultural values and industrialize
in order to promote economic sectors.

III - WOMEN'S STATUS IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

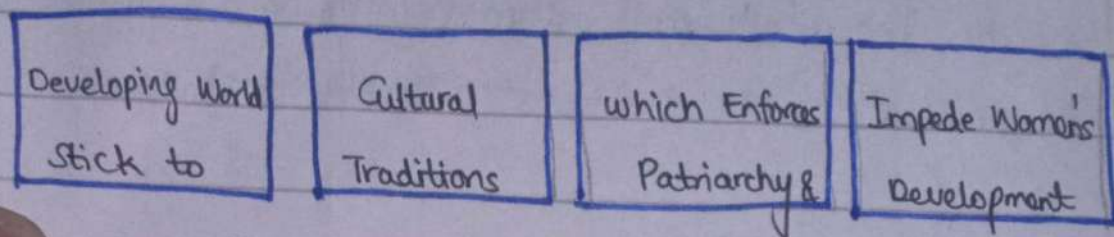


Figure 2: Women in Developing World

The following points depict the status of women in the developing world:

1. Women are expected to be obedient and submissive.
2. They adhere to the cultural values and societal norms.
3. Mostly, they have no say in important matters of their life.
4. Women are assigned to domestic and reproductive labour.
5. In case girls and women exercise their desires, they ~~are~~ ^{get} mostly subject to honor killings. In 2019, the United Nations estimated that 5,000 women get victims of honor killings each year.

IV - HOW CULTURAL FACTORS CAUSE WOMEN'S SUBORDINATION IN DEVELOPING WORLD?

In the developing world, the entire life of girls is based upon patriarchal norms. The following points show the influence of culture in women's subordination:

a) Girls' Grooming

In the developing countries, the household practices of the parents and the societal practices reinforce the boy's desire to dominate and girl's willingness to cooperate and compromise in their agency. This affects girl's self-esteem and self-confidence. In developed world, the girls are groomed to instill confidence in them.

b) Female Education

The developing world's people are mostly against women's education and they consider girls as men's property. It is due to this reason that the literacy rate ^{girls} in such countries is lower than that of boys.

Example: As of 2022, Pakistan's (a developing country) female literacy rate is 48%, whereas that of males is 70%.

c) Girl's Marriage

In the developing countries, there is a prevalent norm of forced and child marriages. In such countries, mismatched couples mostly exist.

Example: In India, the famous actor Shahid Kapoor married at the age of 34 to a girl of age 20 years.

d) Women's Employment

The developing countries' women, mostly being uneducated, are employed to low scale jobs and labor-intensive works. Whereas, in the developed countries, girls and women are encouraged to be financially independent.

Example: As of 2021, according to Statista, the female labour force participation in India was 19.23%, whereas in China it was 61.61%.

e) Women's Fertility Rates

The men of developing countries regard women as reproductive machines and as such women of such countries are mostly limited to domestic work and child-caring. It is due to this reason, that the fertility

rates of women there are higher.

Example: In Bangladesh, the average birth per day stands at 9000+ births.

f) Female's Authoritative Positions

Women in the third world countries are mostly appreciated for their domestic contributions. They do not support women's jobs (especially in male-dominated jobs).

Example: As of 2021, no women serve in the governments of Azerbaijan, Armenia, and other developing countries.

g) Women's Health

A prevalent notion in underdeveloped countries is that they do not take a patient to the doctor until their condition becomes critical. It is due to this reason that in 2018, almost 300,000 women died from complications in pregnancy and childbirth (globally).

V- HOW TO IMPROVE THE STATUS OF DEVELOPING WORLD'S WOMEN?

According to the modernization theory,

the introduction of western values and culture could play a key role in bringing about modernization. The following steps would be helpful in improving the overall status of women in developing countries:

1. Educate women and girls
2. Improve the public sectors like public health, education, etc.
3. Invest in bilateral and multilateral partnerships.
4. Focus more on development projects - ensuring women's participation.
5. Adopt population control strategies.
6. Seek assistance from developed countries.
7. Promote gender equality.

VI- CRITICAL ANALYSIS

The cultural and traditional norms play a key role in the identification and distinction of people. However, culture is also a tool being used to oppress women, especially in developing countries. The modernization theory blames the internal cultural factors for women's subordination in developing countries. It states that women's status there can only be improved

by adopting the western culture. Actually, the women's status can only be improved by adopting a balance between ones culture and modern needs. This is also stated by Allama Iqbal:

عہی سبق دیتا ہے ہمیں ہر شام کا سورج
کہ مفری کی طرف جاؤ گے تو ڈوب جاؤ گے

(علامہ اقبال)

VII - CONCLUSION

In a nutshell, the modernization theory attempts to explain the causes of women's subordination in developing countries. It blames cultural factors which enforce patriarchy as the main factor of women's subjugation. Thus, in order to improve women's status in developing countries, this theory states the adoption of modern cultures - especially the capitalist system.