

# Essay

Is Feminism a clearly understood conception in our society?

## Outline:

### 1) Introduction:

**Thesis statement:** Indeed, the prevalence of gender based discriminations and inequalities testify the fact that feminism is a misunderstood term in this country. However, by rooting out the issues of feminism gender equality can be achieved in our society.

### 2) Contextualizing feminism.

3) **Counter perspective:** Feminism is a well understood notion in our society, for women are given equal rights to men.

### 4) Why is feminism not a well understood notion in our society?

- 4.1) Misogynists have associated negative ideas with feminism (Feminism advocates misandrist beliefs).
- 4.2) Extremist religious mindset falsely portray feminism a western agenda, inimical to Islam.
- 4.3) Male chauvinist labels feminism "obscenity and vulgarity" to reinforce patriarchal culture.
- 4.4) Feminism itself is straying from its original path. (Rift between Islamic feminism and secular feminism).
- 4.5) Biased media industry shows feminism in a negative light (critiques on #metoo movement and Aurat March).
- 4.6) Lack of political support to feminism and political will to implement pro-women laws.
- 4.7) Dearth of ~~that~~ awareness and gender sensitization has made society <sup>too</sup> sexist to understand feminism.

### 5) What are the impacts of not comprehending the idea of feminism in our society?

- 5.1) Women will be more vulnerable to gender stereotyping, marginalization and gender based violence.
- 5.2) Less women participation in electoral process and economic activities will further tarnish the soft image of Pakistan.
- 5.3) The overall progress of our society is receding because half of its population is deprived of their rights.
- 5.4) Ill-educated women nurture & nourish poorly to their children, hence, a loss of manpower.

## 6. Some pragmatic steps to make our society considerate of feminism by promoting and reinforcing it:

- 6.1) Implementation of pro-women policies, legislations and international obligations to end institutionalized patriarchy.
- 6.2) Empowerment of women in political and economic domains to reduce violence and social marginalization.
- 6.3) Provision of equal and quality education without any discrimination.
- 6.4) Media's constructive role to retrieve the issues of feminism along with well versed religious scholars on board.
- 6.5) Islamic and secular feminism must shun off their differences to promote the actual conception of feminism in our society.

## 7. Conclusion: