

DATE: \_/ \_/ \_

①

Differentiate between gender studies and women's studies, discuss in detail the multidisciplinary nature of gender studies.

### Introduction

Gender studies are often mixed with women's studies. However there are some differences between them. Women's studies is concerned about the problems and struggles of women. While gender studies, studies the relationship of men and women, and also their relationship with their societies as a whole. How they are conceived and shaped, how they perceive their identity, and their roles within those identities. Its scope is inclusive as compared to women studies. Moreover gender studies is a multidisciplinary subject and has its strands extended into sociology, Anthropology, Psychology, Gender History, politics and Biology.

P. f. O

DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

(2)

Differences between women's studies and gender studies

① Difference in definition

women's studies is an interdisciplinary field that focuses on the role of women, their experiences and achievements, while gender studies are the social, political and economic roles, rights and responsibilities of male female and any other genders.

② Difference in origins

women studies emerged as a result of 2nd wave of feminism. It is an older field of study. on the other hand gender studies are the offshoot of 3rd wave feminism, which means that its root can be traced back to women warriors.

③ Difference in focus of research

women's studies only focus on the problem and rights of women particularly in patriarchy. Like it is gender specific. Gender studies are more inclusive. It focuses on all the genders constructed by society.

DATE:   /  /  

(4) Difference in goal of studies:  
 Women Studies demands equality for women. According to a prominent feminist claim, its main focus is to make the lives of women better, while Gender Studies demands equality. It explains the position of all gender based on class, caste, religion, ethnicity and sexual identity.

(5) Theoretical differences:  
 Women's Studies involve the theoretical perspective of feminism. Additionally, it involves "women and Development approach" and WAD approaches. While Gender Studies involve postmodern theory, Queer theory and encompass the GAD approach.

Multidisciplinary approach  
 A multidisciplinary approach involves multiple disciplines to address problems outside of the normal boundaries and reach solutions based on a new understanding of complex solutions.

P.T.O

DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

(14)

Gender studies: a multidisciplinary subject.

It examines all scopes of life including family, media, culture, education, personal rights, behaviors, non state actors and government. Gender studies offer to learn about various contemporary issues of society. Like sexual orientation, gender roles, The psychology of identity, Representation of gender in literature, and human reproduction and social constraints.

Sociology in the social construction of gender:

Sociology refers to the interaction of people in a society. It plays a major role in the construction of gender. The term 'gender role' was coined by John Money in 1955 paper where he defined it as "all those things that a person says or does socially to disclose himself or herself as having the status of a boy or man, girl or woman". Feminist within this subfield study a wide range of topics with a variety of research methods including things like identity, social interaction, power and oppression.

DATE: \_/ \_/ \_

(5)

And the interaction of gender with other things. Like race, class, religion etc. It is society that makes women emotional and men rational. This binary division of language is socially constructed and is studied in social field of gender studies.

### Psychology of identity (gender psychology)

This field deals with human mind and functions, especially those affecting their behaviours in a given context. One school of thought commonly known as B. Psychoanalytic feminism focuses on how gender identity describes the individual's psychological perception of being male, female, neither both, or somewhere in between. This school of thought has its roots in Sigmund Freud's theory of psychoanalysis and Nancy Chodorow propounds this theory by arguing that gender identity is the result of complex development process. She believed that mothering promotes gender's stereotype behaviour.

p. 10

6

DATE: \_/ \_/ \_

## Political science in understanding the gender politics:

\* "When women participate in politics, it ripples out the entire society". Hillary Clinton

Political science is the scientific study of politics and systems of governance. In 1976 ~~per~~ Peter Maral observed that the field of comparative politics had been woefully deficient concerning the study of women.

More than 40 years later, the study of women and gender in politics has flourished. This field of study has focused on gender regimes and the welfare state, state feminism and formation and implementation of women friendly policies.

## \* Integration with Biology

The study of living organisms is based on their anatomy, physiology, behavior, origin and distribution. Gender identity is a ~~multifactorial~~ multifactorial complex trait with a heritable polygenic component. This field of study determines what biological ~~parts~~ differences exist between male and female.

DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

(2) (7)

### Gender and Economics:

"when women do better, economies do better!" (Christine Lagarde)

Economics is the social science that studies the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. In the process of gender equality, economists need to admit that their discipline has a serious sex problem. Capitalism is exploiting women of all colors and races which needs a serious transformation.

### Gender History:

It is a sub-field of history and gender studies, which looks at the past from the perspective of gender. Initially, history was seen as "His story" and women were absent from social life. This discipline considers in what ways historical events and periods impact women differently from men.

p. f. o

DATE:   /  /  

8

### Conclusion:

Gender studies and women studies are two different disciplines dealing with various subject and areas of concern. Women studies deals only with issues of women, while gender studies are more inclusive and talk about all genders. Moreover gender studies is a multidisciplinary subject that has its own identity while dealing with various disciplines.

The disciplines of sociology, psychology, economics and history have their roots in gender studies.

Hence gender studies is a multidisciplinary approach which deals with other subjects while maintaining its own identity.