

Took  
1 hour  
to  
solve  
this question.

Shahzadi

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## Question # 01

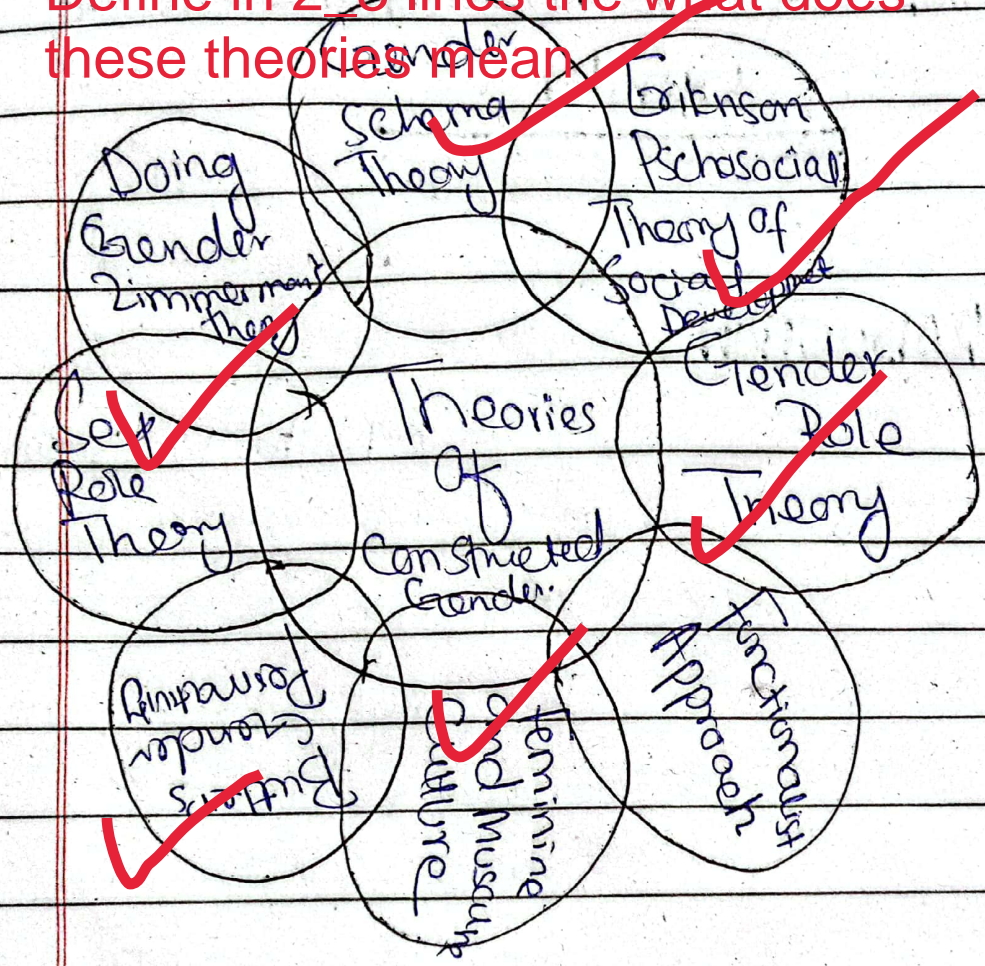
# Theories of Social Construction of Gender

### 1. INTRODUCTION

According to the author of "Night to his Day: Social Construction of Gender" Judith Lorber states that the social construction begins with the assignment to sex category on the base of genitalia look at the time of birth. This manifests that the social construction of gender begins in the early age of an individual. Moreover, Allan G. Johnson author of "Patriarchy" mentioned some of the social constructed qualities of men and women: Men are; assertive, cool, toughness and control. on the other hand women are; caring, compensate, cooperative and gentle. Furthermore, there are many theories which explain the social construction of gender, which includes Gender Role Theory, Sex role theory, Gender Performativity and Zimmerman's theory etc.

# 2. Theories of Social construction of Gender

Define in 2-3 lines the what does these theories mean



## (i) Gender Role Theory

The society has given everyone some task to do and the continuity of this process construct gender. According to Butler's famous work *Gender Trouble: Feminism and Subversion of gender* "the repetitious performance of male and female construct gender in the society. This indicates that the

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the performance according to sex born the term gender. Moreover, According to Gilbert Herold, Gender arose from the correspondent inference and according to Judith Butler famous work 'Gender Trouble and Undoing Gender'. The performances of female are not natural. It seems natural but in reality it is shows the tradition and assigned task of her. These theory tells that the task and roles of an individual construct a gender in a society.

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## (ii) Functionalist Approach

The society is a class system, where the division of labour is according to the sexes of the people. The labour can be assigned how an individual act, speak, dress and groom etc. This approach was presented by Talcott Parsons in 1940s to 1950s. It more emphasis on the function of the gender in the society. Female can cook, wash and bear children. She lives inside the house and shows compassion and care to all others, ~~whereas~~ whereas, the men can go outside and economically support the family.

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(iii)

## Feminine and Masculine Culture; Geert Hofstede's View

Feminine and Masculine have different social roles due to the fact of their biological difference on the base of their series. This theory says that, Femininity Culture stands for that culture the role of man and woman overlap. Such as both are gentle, caring and focused on quality of life. However, in Masculinity Culture stands where the gender social roles are clearly distinct. Here man focuses on achievement and success and woman can show care and nurturing.

## (iv) Butler's Gender Performativity

The roles of an individual in the society are not inherited instead, they are constructed by the society. Different culture, society and ethnicity the role can be different. Until the both men and women can perform their roles according to their norms and values. The gender can prevail over there.

## (vi) Sex Role Theory

According to this theory an individual can adopt behaviour according to their respective sex. Girls and boys can learn from their circle. Girls and boys like a passive sponge like absorption of the messages and role from their surroundings. Therefore, this leads to the difference between the girls and boys.

## (vii) Doing Gender: Zimmerman's Theory

Everyone has the division of tasks in the society. So, each person carries the tasks how heartedly. Until the actors fulfill the scripts of expectations of the gender in their day-to-day life. So, they are actually doing gender. The tasks and expectations lead a person towards gender constructions.

## (viii) Gender Schema Theory

This theory was presented by Sandra Bem. Schema means, the pattern of thinkings which.

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which influence an individual during his development. According to this theory, culture largely influencing the children to gather idea that how to be a man and woman in a society. Through their observation and daily learning the children automatically perform gender role.

### Viii) Erikson Psychosocial Theory of Social Development

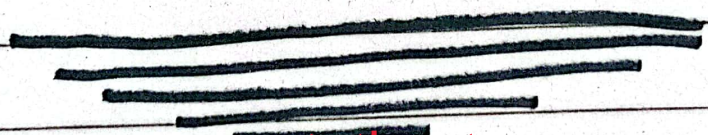
Erikson says that psychosocial development of an individual is impacted by the external environment, which includes, parents and society.

This theory says that everyone his life passes through 8 stages of their life. Like 1st stage, where learning from parents, second stage, individual himself getting skill and differentiation between wrong and right, moreover in later stages, the person faces difficulties, and work in their career. The last stage, he just only reflect on his life and spend the remaining days with prosperity.

### 3. Conclusion

Gender is socially constructed and with this different roles and characteristics are also assigned for an individual.

The Gender starts from the early age or ~~the~~ during <sup>the</sup> ~~born~~ of a person then till to end of his life it remain with him. The theories also explained how gender is constructed and how expectations are their from them. According to Wanjiku Makubi "Delusion: Essay on the gender construction" Gender construct and will continue till the end of the life.



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