

DATE: 25/08/2024

Essay outline:

## The Controversial Issues of Feminism in Contemporary Women's Rights Movements.

1. **Introduction:** From history till present, the demands of women's rights movements are to have equality, liberty, and fraternity in all walks of life. However, some of the rights groups became a controversial issue for contemporary feminist groups, which needs to be

2. **An Overview on the Topic.** ... addressed.

2a) A Broad Overview on the concept of Feminism.

2b) Historical development of feminist movements in the West and in Pakistan. ("Meatless days" by Saira Sulehri)

3. **The Controversial Issues of Western Feminism and its backlash by far Right Feminists groups:**

3a) Addressing issues in marginalization of women as "others" by the male-cent of the society.

("The Second Sex" by Simone De Beauvoir)

3b) The Identification of women focusing on white and ignoring Black women.

("Feminine Mystique" by Betty Friedan)

3c) The opposing ideas of left Feminists groups, focusing on women inclusivity and intersectionality.

("The Dialectic of Sex: The case for Feminist Revolution" by Shulamith Firestone)



3d) Promoting the ideas of lesbianism and "My body, my choice".

(("The Myth of Vaginal Orgasm" by Anne Koedt, in 1970).

4. The Controversial Issues of Women's rights Movements in the light of Aural March in Pakistan.

4a) Advocating the Freedom, Equality, and Justice for women.

("Gender Equality is more than a goal in itself --- Kofi Annan).

4b) Depicting the slogans of "Mea Jinn Mei Marzi" and "Me too movement" for end to Gender Based Violence.

("A Girl in the River", a documentary film in the name of 'honourkilling' by Sharmeen Obaid).

4c) Criticizing the social taboos and traditional gender roles assigned to women.

(Fauzia Saeed's book "Taboo")

4d) Demanding end to negative Media representation and gendered language.

(Noam Chomsky's book "Manufacturing Consent")

4e) Confronting obstacles related to Psychological exploitation of women and promoting Intersexuality.

("On Femininity" by Sigmund Freud)



4f) Rectifying Concerns on Educational Deprivation of Women.

("I am Malala: The Story of the Girl who stood up for Education and was shot by the Taliban" by Malala Yousafzai)

4g) Challenging the issues of women's Political Marginalization.

("steering Towards change" by Urova Hameed)

4h) Demand to End Economic Violence.

("On the origin of family, private property of the state" by Engels).

5) Impact of Controversial Issues on Feminist Movements.

5a) The clash of 'Haya March' with 'Aurat March' because of spreading immorality and anti-Islamic principles.

("Raising slogans like "Mea Jism Allah Ki Mazzi")

5b) literary Figures criticizing Western Feminist's ideologies.

("Against white Feminism: Notes on Disruption" by Rafia Zakaria)

6) How to Resolve the Controversial Issues of contemporary women's rights Movements:

6a) Government and far right groups should approve the demands of women's rights groups and make gender friendly policies.



6b) Society must understand the right interpretation of the demands of contemporary feminist movements and create eco-friendly environment for peaceful marches.

## 7) Conclusion.

From the beginning of recorded history, the world was never kind to women, whether in terms of freedom of education, politics, economy or sexual rights. The major reason behind this disease is the prejudice or patriarchal mindset that always <sup>have</sup> hindered the progress of the women. Furthermore, to prove this notion, **as per UN report**, Pakistan tops the list of the countries holding prejudice views against women. The report states that at least **99.81%** of the population holds at least **one sexist bias**. <sup>Moreover,</sup> Pakistani is considered the world's sixth most dangerous country in the world for women. This is the primary reason behind the objectives of contemporary women's rights ~~to~~ movements across the world. However, the notion of Western Feminists groups are slightly different from South-Asian movements. Although, they have demands for freedom, but also <sup>have</sup> promoted white feminism and lesbianism. This



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very ideology is not applicable for the countries that restricts such immoral rights which is against Islamic Principles. However, the basic notion of demanding equality in all segments of society for women and promoting intersectionality in contemporary movements are same.

Moreover, in the context of 'Aurat March' that has started since 2018, in Pakistan sheds the light on demanding an end to sexual violence, equal representation in media along with political, economic, and educational empowerment of women.

Conversely, a big backlash has been faced by women during this march by the ~~Conservative~~<sup>ser</sup> conservative groups that supports Islamic ideologies. They are misinterpreting the agenda or motive behind 'Mein Jism, Meri Marzi' slogans raised by the far left feminist groups.

They <sup>have</sup> criticized them of adopting western ideologies and threatening them not to spread such beliefs. Hence,

from history till present, the demands of women's rights movements are to have equality, liberty, and fraternity in all walks of life. However, some

far right groups have become a controversial issue of contemporary feminist groups in achieving their goals, which needs to be addressed.