

# ESSAY CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES OF FEMINISM IN CONTEMPORARY WOMEN'S RIGHTS MOVEMENTS

## Outline

### 1) Introduction

#### Thesis Statement:

Contemporary women's rights movements could not eliminate the controversial issues of feminism. Because, they face many encumbrances in their way (of movements) like strong patriarchal culture, ineffective implementation of laws etc. However, these could be unravelled by strong lobbying, pressurising the governments to eliminate patriarchal culture etc.

Not a convincing thesis statement  
(Total words: 48)

### 2) Why there is pervasive their controversial issues?

### 3) Controversial issues of feminism:

(a) Untamed sexual violence at work places.

(b) Domestic violence faced by women.

(c) No protection of reproductive

rights.

(d) Gender gap inequality and pay inequality

(e) Poor dispensation of matrimonial property rights.

4) Handicaps in the provision of <sup>movements</sup> rights in contemporary rights.

(a) Ineffective implementation of laws by authorities.

(b) Deep-rooted patriarchal culture

(c) Strong lobbying by feudal groups and their presence

(d) Backwardness in tribal <sup>and rural</sup> areas

(e) Lack of education about women's rights.

5) Way forward to the <sup>controversial</sup> issues of feminism.

(a) Pressurising governments to stem out patriarchal culture

(b) Large <sup>by people</sup> mass demonstrations

(c) Effective implementation of laws pertinent to the women.

(d) Mass awareness in tribal <sup>and rural</sup> areas.

(e) Providing education about rights of women.

6) Conclusion

Topic understanding is faulty

# ESSAY

According to Malala Yousufzai, "no struggle can ever succeed without women participating side by side with men. There are two powers in the world; one is the sword and other is the pen. There is third power stronger than both, that of women." But the modern world is still reluctant to grant women with rights like sexual protection at work places, matrimonial property rights, pay equity rights etc. These rights are being demanded by contemporary women's rights movements. But the bitter fact is that, women still face deprivation in their rights, despite campaigns by women's rights movements. The controversial issues faced by women today include sexual violence at workplaces, domestic violence, weak protection of reproductive rights, pay inequity and gender-seg inequality, poor dispensation of matrimonial property rights. These are handicaps in the provision of these rights like ineffective implementation of laws, deep-rooted

patriarchal culture, strong lobbying by feudal groups, backwardness and lack of education about women's rights. And the way forward to them entails (pressurising governments to stem out patriarchical culture, effective implementation of laws, large mass demonstrations, mass awareness in tribal areas etc.

Contemporary women's rights movements could not eliminate the controversial issues of feminism. Because they face many encumbrances in their way like strong patriarchal culture, ineffective implementation of laws etc.

However, these could be unravelled by strong lobbying, pressurising the governments to eliminate patriarchal culture etc.

The controversial issues of feminism are pervasive in contemporary women's rights movements.

There are many factors which deter the progress on (controversial) the rights of women like the patriarchal

culture. According to a 2011 poll of experts by the Thomson Reuters Foundation poll, Pakistan is ranked the third most dangerous country for

(Patriarchy and Gender-Based Violence in Pak,  
Women. Similarly, researchgate.net) ineffective implementation

of laws devised specifically for the protection of women is also another reason for the penetrating controversial issues of feminism. Many offenders who commit heinous crime against women, are then released on bail. Another reason for the penetration of these controversial issues is the powerful lobbying by feudal groups. These groups pressurise the government to be cavalier towards women's rights in society. So, these are the reasons why there

is prevalent these controversial issues of feminism, in contemporary rights movements.

One of the controversial issues of feminism include the untamed sexual violence at workplaces. This is because, while working at jobs, they are subjected to sexual violence and harassment by the (office) compatriot men and despite the women's rights movements, it can't be curtailed. In Pakistan and many countries of the world,

The protection of women from (domestic) sexual violence is not achieved completely. For instance, according to the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, there were reported 52,000 rape cases across the country (Pakistan rape cases turns harsh spotlight on misogyny, justice... - , asia.nikkei.com, Feb 2023). In this way, the women remain prone to sexual violence despite the women's rights movements.

Just like sexual violence, another <sup>controversial</sup> issue of feminism is the domestic violence faced by the women. This is because, being a patriarchal society, man tries to suppress women and often use torture against them. There are many countries including Pakistan, where this (discrimination) <sup>violence</sup> against women is not stemmed out completely despite the fact that rights' movements are advocating for their rights. For example, according to Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey (2012-2013) a

Staggering 32 percent of women have experienced physical violence in Pakistan and 40 percent of ever-married women have suffered from <sup>spouse</sup> abuse at some point in their life (Gender-based violence, [pakistan.unfpa.org](http://pakistan.unfpa.org)). In this way, despite women's rights movements, the domestic violence against women can't be eliminated.

Another contemporary <sup>(faced by women)</sup> and controversial issue of feminism include <sup>poor</sup> protection against reproductive rights.

This is because, being a conservative society, women are not given the right to carry out their abortion at their will and <sup>and</sup> contraceptives use is minimal and has to face various stigmas. The delivery of these services and <sup>and children</sup> rights could save women from deaths and <sup>rescue</sup> save many lives.

For instance, contraception yields cost savings by reducing unintended pregnancies and would save US \$4.52 in cost of maternal, newborn and abortion care for all women of reproductive age in



the country (Investing in the Reproductive Health of Adolescents in Pakistan, Guttmacher.org, Feb 2023). In this way, poor protection against reproductive rights is another controversial issue of feminism.

Just like poor protection against reproductive rights, another controversial issue of feminism is that women still face gender-inequality in workforce and pay inequity. This is because, women are considered less dexterous as compared to men and due to prevalent patriarchal culture in the societies. Due to this culture, women are grappled with the issues of gender inequality and pay inequity in Pakistan and all across the globe. For instance, Pakistan is ranked in the Gender-gap inequality Index 141/146 countries in 2023, This is still the high number as compared to other countries. Similarly, the gender wage gap in the country is estimated to be about 34%. still higher than the global average of 23%. Gender gaps in the workforce of Pakistan,

lips.com.pk, Mar 2023). In this way, despite contemporary women's rights movements, there are still present the controversial issue of gender inequality and pay inequity.

Just like gender gap inequality and poor pay inequity, another controversial issue of feminism is the poor dispensation of matrimonial property rights. This is because, despite the contemporary women's rights movements, women throughout the world are not deemed eligible to hold property and due to ignorance total population of. Due to this, women throughout the world could not get successfully the matrimonial property rights even if they are entitled to it. For instance,

The World Bank "Women, Business and 2021", found that only 2% of women in Pakistan own property despite many laws like the Women Property Act of 2020 (Making the case for matrimonial property rights in Muslim Family Laws, Musawah.com). In this way, women still /to date are subjected to poor dispensation of matrimonial

property rights.

of the  
The <sup>&</sup> handicaps in the provision of the  
Women's rights is the ineffective  
implementation of laws by authorities.

This is because, many countries do not  
have strong governance system <sup>due to</sup> which  
there is weak implementation of laws  
by authorities. Due to this weak

and ineffective implementation of laws  
Women throughout <sup>across</sup> the globe are to

date victims of enjoying unequal  
rights. For instance, there are many  
laws regarding the rights of women

like Women's Property Rights Act 2020,

The Married Women's Property Act, 1874

etc but there is weak enforcement  
of these laws. In this way, many  
rights of women becomes controversial  
due to the ineffective enforcement  
of laws.

Just like ineffective implementation of  
laws by authorities, another impediment  
in the provision is the prevalent  
deep-rooted patriarchal culture in the

societies across the globe. This is because men do not allow women to work, have property because they do not consider them the head of the families who have the responsibility to raise families, and think that they are the beauties of house. Due to this, many rights of the women becomes controversial despite the passage of many laws, and contemporary women's rights movements which are championing for their rights. For instance, according to 2019 Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement (PSLM) survey, 40% of women require permission from a family member to seek or continue paid employment (Gender gaps in the workforce of Pakistan, ips.com.pk, )

In this way, women's rights become controversial issues of feminism due to the constraints like patriarchal culture.

Just like deep-rooted patriarchal culture, another handicap in the provision of rights/making the rights controversial

Issues <sup>and their presence</sup> is strong lobbying by feudal groups. This is because, these feudal lords due to the embedded patriarchal norms pressurise the governments to not provide rights to women. Due to this, the women are deprived of right to education, love marriages etc, despite the fact they are entitled to these rights.

For instance, the feudal system is blamed for not providing rights to women like of education because they thought that education would harm their interests (Feudal system blamed for women's plight, Dawn.com, Oct 2013). In this way, the rights of women become controversial due to feudal lords' lobbying and presence.

Just like strong lobbying by feudal lords and their presence, another constraint in the provision of rights/making the issues controversial is the backwardness in tribal <sup>and rural</sup> areas - This is because, the tribal areas have not seen the women enjoying their rights and due to their conservative and backwardness of (feminist) feminism mentality, issues become controversial.

Due to this backwardness, women become limited to houses only, to do chores only etc. For instance, women are deemed as economic assets in tribal areas of Pakistan and are exchanged for money, cattle, etc. and one study found that only 20% of marriages had taken place without any exchange of goods, money etc. Similarly, forced marriages are common in tribal and rural areas (Women in Northern Pakistan - protected by tribe, ucl.ac.uk) on this way, issues become controversial due to the impediment of backwardness of tribal and rural areas in the provision of rights. Just like backwardness in tribal and rural areas, another handicap in the dispensation of rights due to which issues of feminism become controversial is the lack of education about women's rights. This is because, illiteracy is common in (those) many areas due to which people are unaware of the women's rights. Due to this illiteracy, women are not granted with the rights to which they are entitled and are provided by the governments.

For instance, Pakistan's current literacy rate stands at 58.9%, this means that 40% of the population is still illiterate. As a result, almost half of the population is unaware of the women's rights. In this way, the issues of feminism become controversial despite the contemporary women's rights movements.

The way forward of the controversial issues of feminism lies in the pressurising of governments to stem out patriarchal culture. This is because, governments have the legitimate authority to clamp down against such <sup>who advocates patriarchy</sup> people and to safeguard the rights of women.

Due to this pressurising, governments will take action against such people as evident from the example of some countries. For instance, America got rid of patriarchal culture and succeeded in guaranteeing women's rights completely.

In this way, ~~for~~ such issues of feminism could be ditched by the government's action against the patriarchal culture.

Just like pressuring governments to take action against patriarchal culture, another way forward to protect and salvage women's rights is through large mass demonstration. This is because, these massive demonstrations exert pressure on the incumbent governments to protect the women's rights and address the controversial issues of feminism.

Due to this, the women can enjoy their rights. For instance, the bestowing of voting right to US's women in 1920 was the aftermath of large demonstrations by the public.

In this way, the controversial issues of feminism in the contemporary women's rights movements could be resolved through large mass demonstrations.

Just like large mass demonstrations, another way forward to controversial issues of feminism is the effective implementation of laws <sup>pertinent to women</sup> by the governments.

This is because, effective implementation of laws <sup>rights</sup> regarding women's.



would help to root out the inequality suffered by women and to unravel the controversial issues of feminism. Due to this, the (g)s women would be able to benefit from their prescribed and legitimate rights. For instance, many western countries remained successful in dispensing equal rights as that of men to women through effectively implementing the laws relevant to the women's rights. In this way, through effective implementation of laws, the women's rights would no longer be controversial.

Just like effective implementation, another way forward to the plight of women is via the mass awareness in tribal and rural areas. This is because, mass awareness would aid the people to become cognisant of women's rights and the potential economic benefits by allowing women to join labor force. Due to this, the women would be at edge in benefiting

from their rights. For instance, many many countries like India, Bangladesh etc. have become triumphant to a large extent in ensuring the rights of women through mass awareness in tribal and rural areas. In this way, women's rights can be guaranteed to them and the issues of feminism would no longer be controversial.

Just like mass awareness in tribal and rural areas, another way forward to end the apartheid against women <sup>and deterring issues from becoming controversial</sup> is through providing information <sup>and education</sup> about rights of women. This is because, it will help to make the masses <sup>and up-to-date</sup> aware about their rights <sup>which are</sup> & devised for them. Due to this, the women will become aware about their rights and also utilize them, as a result of which, the issues of feminism will no longer remain controversial.

For instance, many women in rural areas of Pakistan have no awareness about their health rights and (die)

according to World Population report, 178 women out of every 100,000 die while giving birth to child (Status of women's Health in Pakistan, the authentic post.com)

In this way, the controversial issues of feminism could be avoided by providing information and knowledge about their rights.

In the nutshell, women's rights become controversial despite contemporary women's rights movements. The controversial issues of feminism include sexual harassment at workplace, domestic violence, weak protection of reproductive rights etc. There are various handicaps in the provisions of these rights (and making) <sup>preventing</sup> the issues from becoming controversial) like ineffective implementation of laws, deep-rooted patriarchal norms, strong lobbying by feudal lords and their interests, backwardness and lack of education about women's rights. The way forward to these issues include pressurising governments to stem out patriarchal culture,

• effective implementation of laws, large mass demonstrations, mass awareness in tribal and rural areas etc. Contemporary women's rights movements could not eliminate the controversial issues of feminism. Because they face many encumbrances in their way like strong patriarchal culture, ineffective implementation of laws etc. However, these could be unravelled by strong lobbying, pressurising the governments to stem out patriarchal culture etc.

