

# Question 01

CSS-2017:

Write a comprehensive note on autonomy versus integration debate in Gender Studies.

## A) Introduction:

The autonomy versus integration debate revolves around two contrasting approaches for addressing the gender issues. The debate also explores whether the field should function independently or be incorporated in the existing disciplines.

## B) Stances Of Autonomy Approach:

Following are the stances of autonomy approach:

### i) Independent Subject

The autonomy approach considered the women as an independent subject which allows for the focus exploration of women issues.

### ii) Women Lead Movement - (Women Representation)

The autonomy approach advocates for women representation to empower women in their interests, & fosters authentic advocacy.

### iii) Women are the true-representatives :

women are best suited for presenting their challenges.

### iv) Defining Women Autonomy

Women autonomy has been defined as "control over their lives/ self directive norms" that they are capable to make decisions for herself.

### v) Independent Struggles

Women should struggle independently for their initiatives of rights (i.e: Education, Health etc)

### vi) Independence in leadership

"Of social relationships causes autonomy to develop, a lack of appropriate social relationships can also stunt its development."

(~ Friedman 1997)

## c) Integration Approach :

The stances of integration approach are mentioned below :

### i) Collaborating Efforts

Integration approach present their stance that there should be participation of all entities, especially

men, to empower women.

## ii) Diverse Representation

### a) Representation of all Sexes:

Ensures the representation of all entities / sexes in discussions and solutions.

### b) Representation of all classes:

Assures the illustration of all classes in discussions and solutions.

### c) Representation of all colours:

Validates the demonstration of all colours in discussions and solutions.

## iv) Multipdisciplinary Integration

They advocates for combining the Gender Studies with other disciplines as the subject is new. While the feminist oppose this idea, as the subject is young so it will not develop, if integrated.

## v) Simultaneous Strategies

Integration approach considered to integrate the women strategies in all fields simultaneously.

## vi) Educational Reforms:

Calls for educational reforms & social movements for all men & women to foster equality.

D) **Analysis :****AUTONOMY APPROACH**

i) It emphasizes women's independent subject, advocating for self-representation & the control over their lives.

ii) Argues for the distinct representation of women's struggles among various factors (Education, etc)

iii) Highlights women's need for separate space, to develop unique theories and methodologies for deep exploration of women issues, without patriarchal constraints.

**INTEGRATION APPROACH**

i) Advocates for incorporation of subject, to empower including men to empower women.

ii) Supports for combining it with all other disciplines to foster equality.

iii) Argues for the integration of subject to prevent marginalization of all entities.

E) **Flourishing Expression of Support of Autonomy Approach - "Implicit Theory of Maternal Autonomy:"**

The theory states that the more autonomous women are, the better equipped & to act upon their perspectives related to reproductive health care & even when confronted with competing challenges among their households

(Such as husbands, Co-wives, mother-in-laws) and on their broad community such as Marital, Political, Social, cultural, economic, legal, etc

## F) Conclusion :

In conclusion, both the approaches debated for addressing gender inequality issues but with differ in perspectives, methods, theories & its implementation.

