

# INTRO'S 2022

## GENDER STUDIES

### Question 2

Gender studies developed as a subject during the third wave of feminism. The subject aimed to include all the important tenants essential to this arena. Gender studies does not focus unilaterally on one gender i.e. female; instead, it incorporates all gender and takes into account all perspectives. The multidisciplinary nature of the subject is such that it incorporates sociology, psychology, biology, economics and all other disciplines that aid in providing the perspective needed for a person examining the gender discourse. Gender studies does not float individually, it takes necessary pieces from everywhere.

### Question 3

There are multiple schools of thought about feminism. The goal of all maybe same but the theoretical paradigms used to explain the reasons are different. Varying schools of thought associate different reasons to the prevailing scenario and also opt

for different solutions to tackle it. The two predominant western schools of thought are liberal and radical feminism. Liberal feminism advocates for state intervention and role in the gender discourse. Radical feminism on the other hand views the situation as an idea that needs absolute reformation; the roots of radical feminism lies in socialism. Both schools of thought hence differ in philosophies, theoretical paradigms and intervention approaches.

#### Question 4

"Feminism is like an iceberg, slow but moving." The feminist discourse has risen in the past decades. It all started in the late 19th century, before which a man could sell his wife in the market place and were not at all social equals of men. The entire movement since then has been in waves; the waves signify the points in history where the movement heightened due to certain circumstance to or to fight for something. The first wave of feminism was predominantly surrounding the right fight

for suffrage. It aimed to provide women with the fundamental right to vote. The third wave is a more contemporary movement. Essentially it is post modern in nature, embraces femininity, and rises up against structural issues in the society. The third wave focuses largely on the #MeToo movement; against harassment. These waves are hence important for the varying objectives that gave rise to them.

## Question 5

Pakistan ranks 164 on the gender balance index out of 167 countries. This explains the plight of women in Pakistan and the public affairs are no exception. The issues that a female representative face begin from mobility issues and lack of field knowledge due to culturally curtailed mobility. A man is equipped to know better and be a more contributing sister citizen. If at all women surpass all these hurdles and reach the representative position; they are then subject to harassment, mansplaining and being unheard. Female representatives hence has issues in reaching the post followed by problems

Felt after attaining the post.

## Question 6

Like feminist movements across the globe, Pakistan has also seen phases of feminism in its short history. The first movement was aligned with structures of the government and focused on the social service element. The organization APWA aimed to empower women by providing them means to earn. The second movement was centered around the concept of resistance; it began amidst Zia's islamization and influx of Afghan jihad. This movement was more radical in nature. It had rural and urban organizations and faced immense retaliation from the state through baton charges, arrests and censorship. The early 2000's saw an enlightened moderate era during Musharraf's regime. In contemporary times, the movement continues; it was revived under the Aurat March banner that began in 2018. The ongoing movement encapsulates #MeToo, Moorat March and the emancipation from patriarchy.

## Question 7

Capitalist perspective of gender entails how capitalism views gender in different connotations with respect to economics, policy; gender roles, identities and relations. There are various tenants of capitalism that support gendered division of work and labour. The phenomenon also commodifies femininity and thrives of economic coercion such as wage gap and pink tax. The marketing element of capitalism further ingrains gender stereotypes and focuses on surface level equality just for targetting a certain audience and creating a clientele.

## Question 8

Developing countries with bailout reliant economies often come under the attack of Structural Adjustment Programs, which appear to be a life line for the economies but are different in reality. The Structural Adjustment Programs are conditionalities by the organizations like IMF