

Question

⇒ Explaining Queer Theory

1- Introduction

Queer theory is a strange theory that challenges the prevailed conception of sex and gender identity. Moreover, it challenges the essentialist view of sexual role and deconstructs the social interpretations about sex. It accommodates all genders and provide a sense of independence to them regarding their sexual preference.

2- Understanding Queer Theory: Explaining Background

The term Queer theory is attributed with the work of Tessa de Lauretis titled "Queer Theory: Lesbian and Gay". This was published in 1991. Simply, Queer theory explains that the traditional sexual role are imposed on various genders. Hence, they can be challenged at any age.

3- Scholars' view about Queer Theory

Michael
Foucault

Sexuality is imposed
on male and female.
It can be rejected

Judith Butler

Both are genders
are free to
choose their
respective sexual
identity

4- Features of Queer Theory

i) Gender performativity

Queer theory argues that the genders adopt different role by constantly performing them. Sex role theory also justifies the argument of Queer theory. Also, theory elaborates that the genders become male and female due to living in a specific identity.

ii) Rejection of Biological identity

Most radically, the Queer theory rejects the biological identity. Michael Foucault

has argued that biological identities do not define the specific identities of genders. Therefore, this can be rejected.

iii) Rejection of Heterosexuality

The proponents of Queer theory endorse that persons can be Homosexual and Bi-sexual. Hence, it is not necessary to be heterosexual. Michael Foucault has rejected heterosexuality.

iv) Penis is no longer a center of attraction

Under the influence of Radical feminism, Queer theory defines that the male penis is no longer a center of attraction for women. Women can be attracted by other things as well.

v) Accommodates Deviant Sexualities

Deviant Sexualities

↳ are bisexual, homosexual and transgender

Queer theory also provides a space to these kind of people. According to this theory, these people are free to choose their

desired way of sex.

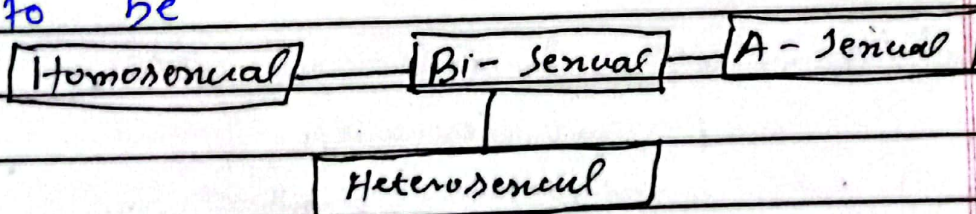
vi) Rejection of Identity

Queer theory rejects biological identity. It approves that it is created by the society. According to Simon De Beauvoir, "One is not born, but becomes a woman" (The Second Sex)

This argument of Simon de Beauvoir defines the social construction of gender identity.

vii) Independence in Sexual preferences

Queer theory allows to individual to adopt a way of sexual pleasure whatever appeals them most. It allows them to be



All kinds of sexual orientations are allowed in Queer theory.

viii) Women can be attracted to women

Queer theory argues that it is not mandatory for a woman to be attracted by a man all the time. She can be attracted by a woman. Radical feminism forces women to boycott heterosexuality and become lesbians.

ix) Intersectional Perspective for constructing a gender identity

Queer theory accepts that the role of religion, area, tribe and community can shape the sexual identity of a person. The African men are known by sense of erection. While in Asia, men still remains man without having the power of erection.

x) Rejection of Social construction of gender

Queer theory rejects the social construction of a

gender Social construction Theory allows favors the argument of Queer that gender is constructed through social pressure. Family, media, and peer pressure creates the identity of a person while Queer theory rejects it.

5 **Conclusion**

Queer theory rejects the pre-conceived notions of gender identity. According to this theory, gender is as should not be constructed through social pressure. It makes an individual independent in selecting his or her own method of being known to society.
