

Difference between Gender studies and women's studies. Discuss in detail the multidisciplinary nature of gender studies.

Introduction :

Gender studies and women studies are two substantial disciplines, accentuating numerous social and cultural barriers.

However, both the discipline vary in their scope, focus and theoretical basis. Also, Gender studies is a broader discipline.

Its numerous concepts are entrenched in other disciplines including criminology, sociology, political studies, cinematic studies and physics.

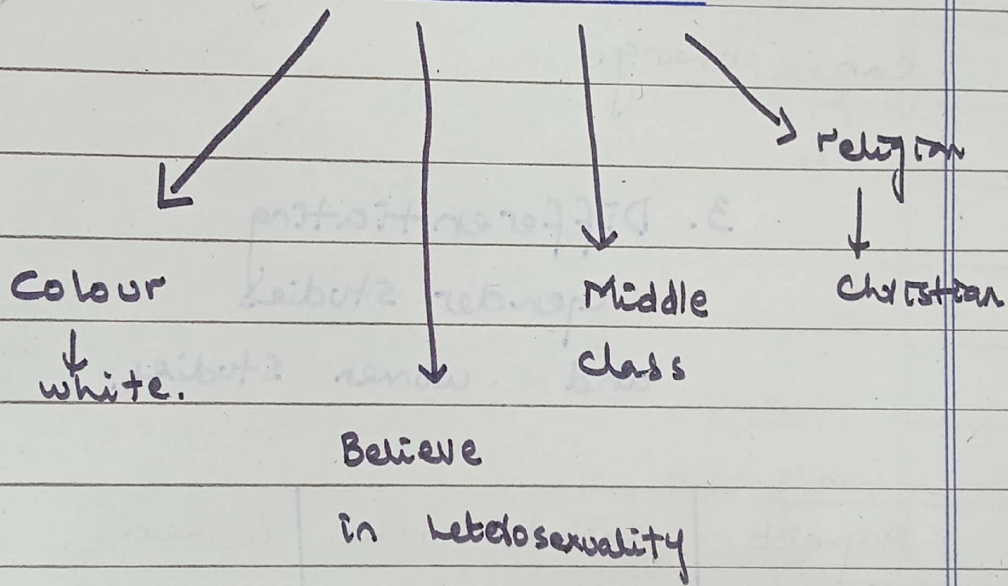
2. History of Gender and women studies.

2a. History of women studies.

women subordination has been a point of discussion since the beginning. After world war - I in 1920, women got the right to vote. After world war - II women related issues were discussed through different movements and books. In book "The second sex", the author accentuates the otherization of women i.e. how they are marginalize in a patriarchal society. After the 2nd wave of feminism, women studies was properly introduced as a subject. ^{For instance.} In the book, **Feminine mystique** the author highlights the four characteristic

of women.

Feminine
 Mystique.
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 First book
 discussing
 characteristics
 of women.



2c. History of Gender studies.

In 1990 after the 3rd wave

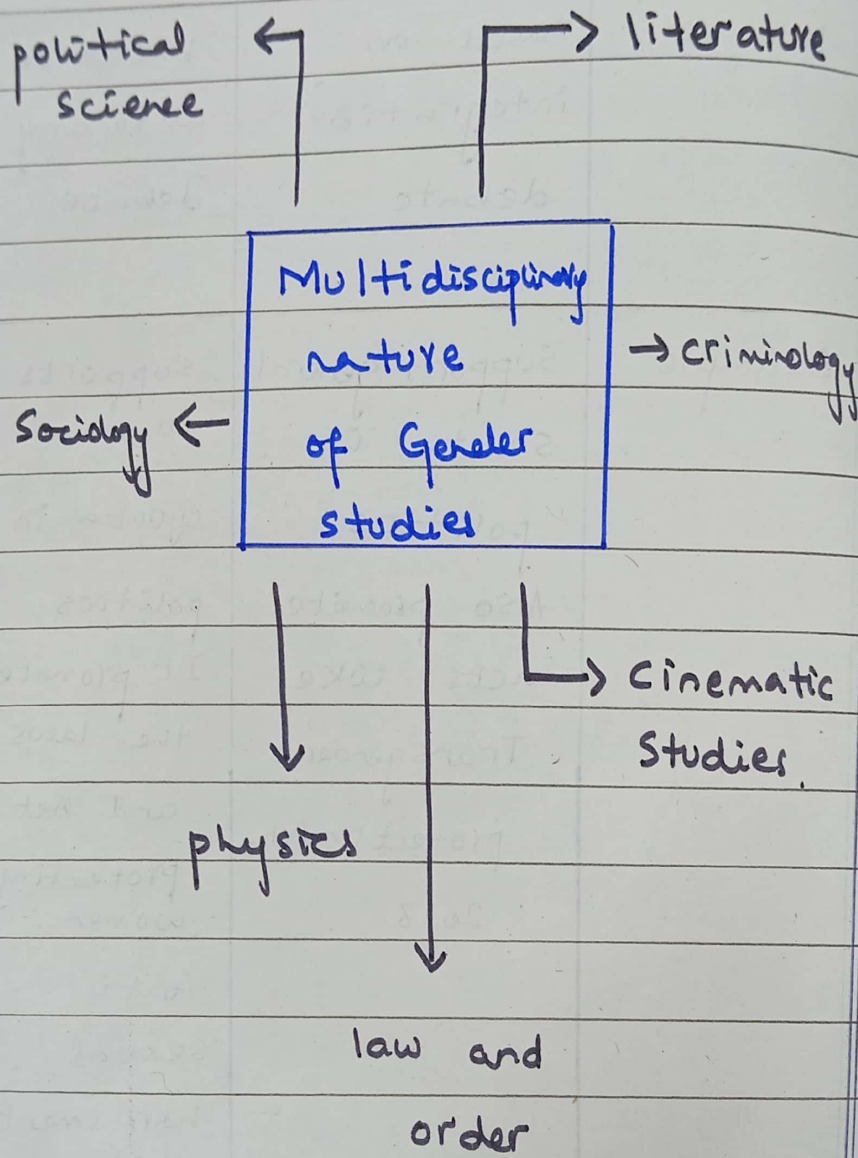
of feminism, women studies was changed into Gender Studies. Gender studies highlights how the Gender norms of the society impact all genders. In the book, **Gender trouble** by **Judith Butler** the author accentuates the fluid nature of identity i.e highlighting that ^{as per the} gender norms in the society, identity can change.

3. Differentiating Gender studies and women studies.

Aspect	Gender studies	women studies.
Focus.	challenges and issues of all genders.	challenges and issues related to women only.

Theoretical base	Feminism theories + Queer theory.	theories of feminism
Debate	Based on integration debate	based on autonomy debate
Example	Support + general seats in politics. Also promote acts like Transgender protection Act, 2018.	Supports women quota in politics. It promote the laws and Act protecting women. Antisexual harassment Act.

4. Multidisciplinary Nature of Gender Studies.



2* 4a. Gender studies and literature.

Literature has always highlighted various challenges

and problems of Gender. For example,

In the book "the doll house" the author highlights how a wife was exploited by his husband who treated her as a doll.

4b. political science and Gender studies.

In political science various aspects of Gender Studies are illuminated.

In the book "the Republic" plato accentuated his views on Gender by quoting that 'women is the property of state.'

4c. Criminology and Gender studies.

The theoretical perspective of Gender* criminology are interrelated to the crimes

Committed against women.

For instance.

The Sheldon theory divides the criminals into 3 categories, accentuating that the high level of testosterone and low level of hormones serotonin in individual is the major reason behind crimes such as acid attack.

4d. Cinematic studies and Gender studies.

Cinematic studies also depicts numerous aspects of gender studies.

"The movie 'Gangubai Kathiwar' depicts how the patriarchal society directed the women to be a prostitute."

4e. Law and Gender studies.

Numerous law deals with the issues related to gender studies. **Anti sexual harassment act** and **Domestic violence Act** are the prominent examples of this.

4f. Gender studies and sociology.

The theoretical perspective of sociology for example, **the social learning theory** forms the basis of different challenges related such as **Gender based violence.**

4g. Gender studies and Religion.

Religion provides the rights and duties related to all genders. In the book, **Islam : a misunderstood religion** the author accentuates how commands of religion are manipulated in order to exploit women.

5 - Conclusion

In a nutshell, both gender and women studies differ from each other in their scope, focus and theoretical base. Also gender studies is a multidiscipline i.e overlapping with various other disciplines including literature, criminology, cinematic studies, political science and sociology.