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Q: Differentiate between gender studies and women's studies. Discuss in detail the multi-disciplinary nature of gender studies.

Introduction:-

Gender studies is an interdisciplinary study or field that focuses on gender identity and gendered representation. On the other hand, women studies is an interdisciplinary study or field that focuses on roles, experiences and achievements of women in society. The key difference is that the gender studies basically focuses on women's studies, men's studies as well as queer studies, whereas women studies basically focuses on women. The multi-disciplinary nature of gender studies means to understand and analyzing social, cultural and biological setup of gender in society by including it in different disciplines.

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2- Difference Between Gender Studies And Women Studies

The difference between gender studies and women studies are as follows

2-1 Definition

-> Gender Studies:

It is an inter-disciplinary study or field that focuses on gender identity and gender representation as central categories of analysis.

-> Women Studies:

It is an inter-disciplinary study or field that focuses on the roles, experiences and achievements of women in society.

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2.3 Origin Of The Studies

→ Gender Studies:

It is basically established on the basis of women studies. i.e. it emerged out of women studies.

→ Women Studies:

It began in late 1960s. It is an older subject than gender studies.

minimum description under a heading should be 5 lines.

2.4 Theories Supporting The Studies

→ Gender Studies:

Gender studies is based on number of theories including constructivist, psychological, critical study of masculinity, queer studies, ecological feminism, materialistic feminism etc.

add and highlight references/examples against these arguments.

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→ Women Studies:

Women studies is based on number of theories including patriarchal theory, matriarchal theory, Theory of the force etc.

2.5 Borders Of The Studies

→ Gender Studies:

Gender studies is multidisciplinary. It means that it crosses the boundary of its own discipline and goes to different discipline like economic, biology etc.

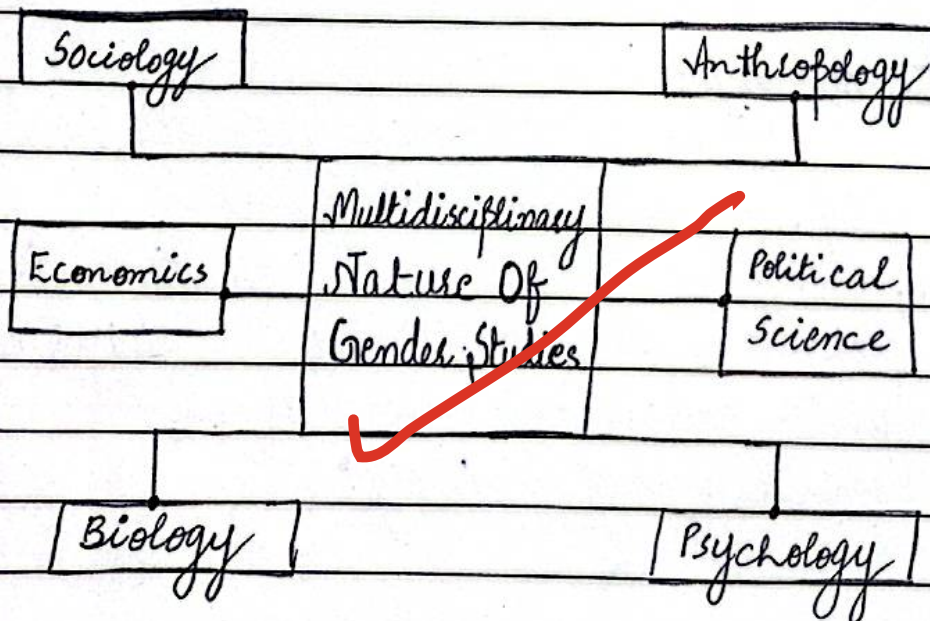
→ Women Studies:-

Women studies is interdisciplinary. It means that women studies revolves around social sciences, arts and humanities. Gender studies is multidisciplinary whereas Women studies is interdisciplinary.

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3- Multidisciplinary Nature Of Gender Studies:

Multidisciplinary means that combining or involving more than one discipline or field of study. A multidisciplinary subject is that in which people from different backgrounds having specialization in different fields, study and work together and produces a combined piece of work. In simple words, people from different academic disciplines and professions approach to a problem or a topic. It draws knowledge from different fields such as



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3-1 Sociology:-

Sociology refers to the social behaviour, society, patterns of social relationship, social & cultural interaction that surrounds everyday life. Under Sociology we study gender studies to see that how society gives different genders their rights and how genders are categorized in a society.

Example:-

- Men in general are paid better than women.
- Transgenders are not hired and are given charity.
- Women and girls are more likely to injure their knees while playing.

3.2 Anthropology:

It is the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behaviour, human biology and societies in both the present and past. Under the discipline we study gender studies on how different genders evolved through history.

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Example:-

→ People in past used to fry and prepare their food on fire, but people today plant seeds and harvest through machines.

→ Pink Sais are worn by the Ghalasi Gang, a group of vigilantes in Northern India. In the modern world, still women do wear Sais in different colours.

3.3 Psychology:

It is the scientific study of mind and behaviour. Under Psychology, one study gender studies to understand human nature and particularly the human nature of sexuality.

Example:-

→ Candidates are given different situations to check their nature and nerves.

→ Different blood tests are conducted of candidates who do participate in airforce.

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3.4 Biology:-

This discipline can help in developing the understanding regarding the biological difference between different genders. Gender is basically determined by two biological factors.

* Hormones

* Chromosomes

Example

- The Chromosomes (Female: XX, Male: XY)
- Reproductive Organs (Ovaries, Testes)
- Hormones (Oestrogen, Testosterone)

3.5 Political Science:

Gender and politics, also called as Gender in Politics is a field of study in political science that aims to understand the relationship between people's gender and phenomenon in politics.

Example:-

Women participation in politics helps advance gender equality and affects both the range of policy issues.

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→ Women's Lack of influence marks political decision making the world power.

3.6 Economics:-

Gender economics builds on economic theories and empirical methods to understand the mechanisms behind gender inequalities.

"Out of 190 countries surveyed, women were on equal legal standing with men in just 12 countries."

-World Bank-

4 - Critical Analysis:-

The field of gender studies explores the way that femininity and masculinity affects individual thought process. Gender studies is a discipline created originally by activists. People who study gender studies in different fields do not have complete idea about the issues related to different genders.

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Those who study just study it to clear the subject. The government, NGO's and different institutions do not focus on the men's issues and especially on transgender issues. Those who do, just do it for the sake of their channels and name promotion. No one is serious to the issues and solutions of gender.

5- Conclusion:-

Gender studies is contributing in all the disciplines and all these disciplines are also contributing in gender studies. There are researches involving gender studies with other disciplines. Gender awareness has become integral to disciplinary field as diverse as history, literature, science, sociology, economics etc, as well as emerging as field of studies. It is a much positive sign, that every subject do touches gender studies and every student knows and gets somewhat information on issues and solutions of it.

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We cannot change what we are not aware of, and once we are aware, we cannot help but change."
- Sheryl Sandberg -

improve the first part of the answer.