

Q) Give a critical gender analysis of development theories.

Introduction

Development theories involves modernization and dependency theory. Modernization theory states, that if a country develops system of Europe and North America, they can achieve growth. On the other hand, dependency theory asserts that, rich countries exploit poor countries. Both, theories claims to emancipate women, but in real, they oppresseed women. Nevertheless, later feminist develops new approaches to rectify this issue.

"The idea of development carries the traces of colonial power and the imposition of western models on the Global South".
(Walsh).

Modernization theory - the new name of coloniality

Modernization theory asserts that, if a country develops tradition of Europe

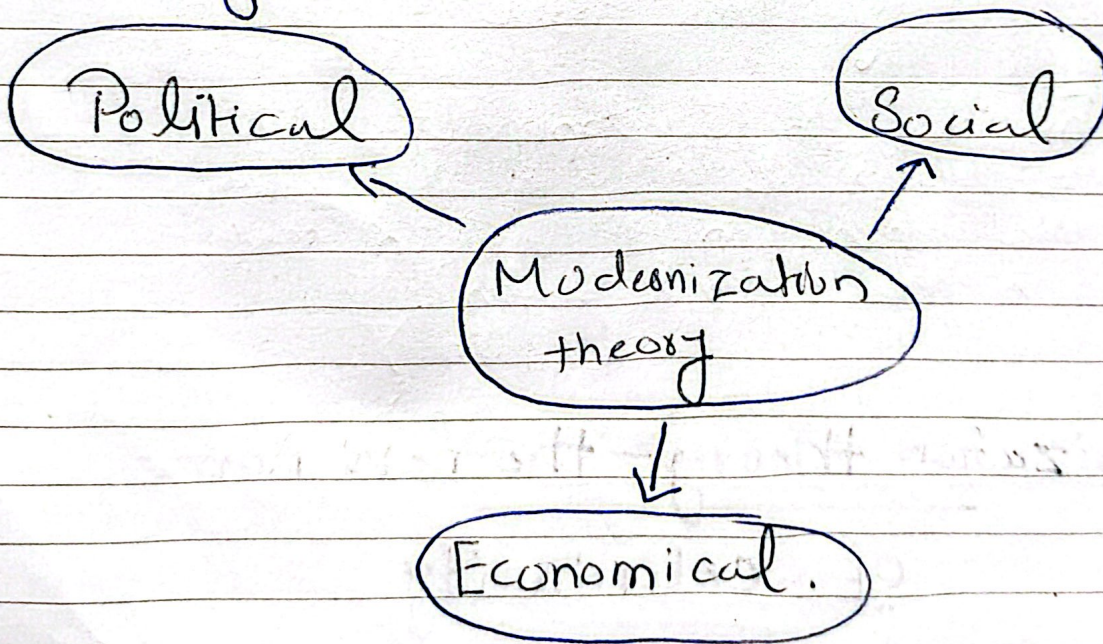
and North America, they can achieve a significant growth. Countries need to develop same political, social, and economic systems like Europe and America. However, this is only the new name coloniality.

"Modernization is a process of change towards those types of social, political and economical system that are developed in Europe and North America".

(Eisenstadt, 1966).

↳ Key features of modernization theory:

The key features of modernization theory are illustrated below.



i) Economic modernization:

Economic modernization illustrates that, if

a country has industrial and mechanical modernization like of Europe, they can increase the productivity and employment. Thus, making it easy for women to participate.

ii) Social modernisation:

: Social modernisation claims that, if a country improves the mindset of their youth, they can achieve growth. Social modernisation emphasizes on education, urbanization, and media to modernize mindsets. As a result, if mindset of a country can be shaped, it helps to eradicate patriarchy from society.

iii) Political modernization:

Political modernization is a process of developing political system like Europe or North America. Political modernisation emphasizes on advocating democracy, rule of law, and equal rights for everyone.

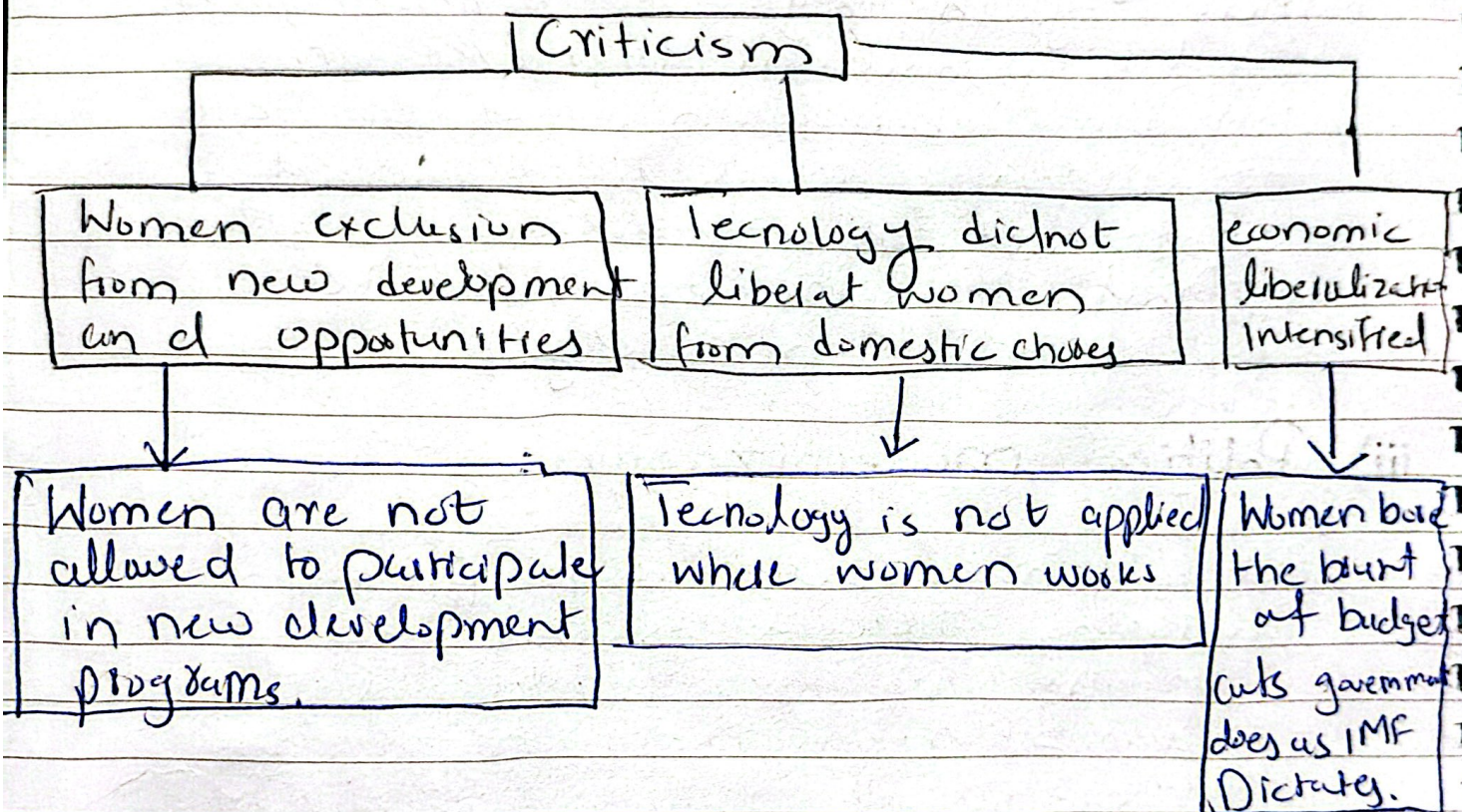
Gender Analysis - coloniality as the new name of development

Modernization claims to emancipate women

from patriarchy. But, in practice it perpetuated colonial hierarchies and patriarchy through economic and cultural dominance.

"The first development decade was devoid of any specific reference to: women". (Kabeer).

↳ Key criticism on modernisation theory:



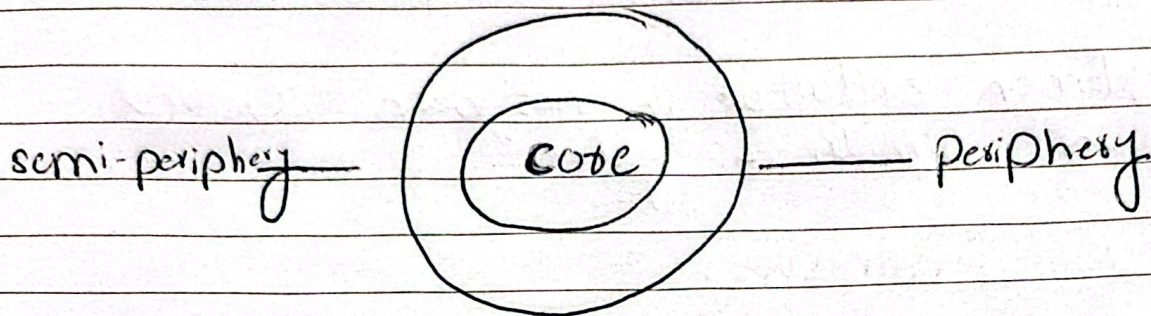
"Women becomes the shock observers of SAPs".

(Hillary Campbell)

The above chart shows that, how women are exploited under the name of modernization. Feminists gave modernisation as the new name of coloniality,

Dependency theory:

Dependency theory claims/interprets that causes of underdeveloped countries are rich countries. They exploit the poor countries by extracting their resources, and unfair trade between them.



Core asserts for rich countries and periphery delineate poor countries.

"The development of core, is underdevelopment of periphery" (Andre).

Key assumptions of Dependency theory

- i) Whatever happens in rich countries, is going to affect poor countries.
- ii) Rich countries are exploiting poor countries by unfair trades and deals.
- iii) Poor countries can only develop by weakening their ties with core.

Feminist critiques on dependency theory:

i) Marxist feminism:

The countries in periphery are poor. They mostly have capitalist system and which exploit women. They hire women when needed and fire them when do not.

"Women exploitation has been intensified in capitalist system".

ii) Social feminism:

Social feminism is a mixture of radical and marxist feminism. The women in periphery are doubly oppressed, patriarchy and exploitation.

Conclusion:

The development theories has played a crucial role in highlighting exploitation of women. The base of these theories are different, to improve the fairness in societies or countries. But, later the feminist argues that, these are just new methods to form dominance on women and to control them.