

Q2:

Write note on following.

- i) Is Sex Socially constructed too?
- ii) Radical feminism.

a) Is Sex Socially constructed?

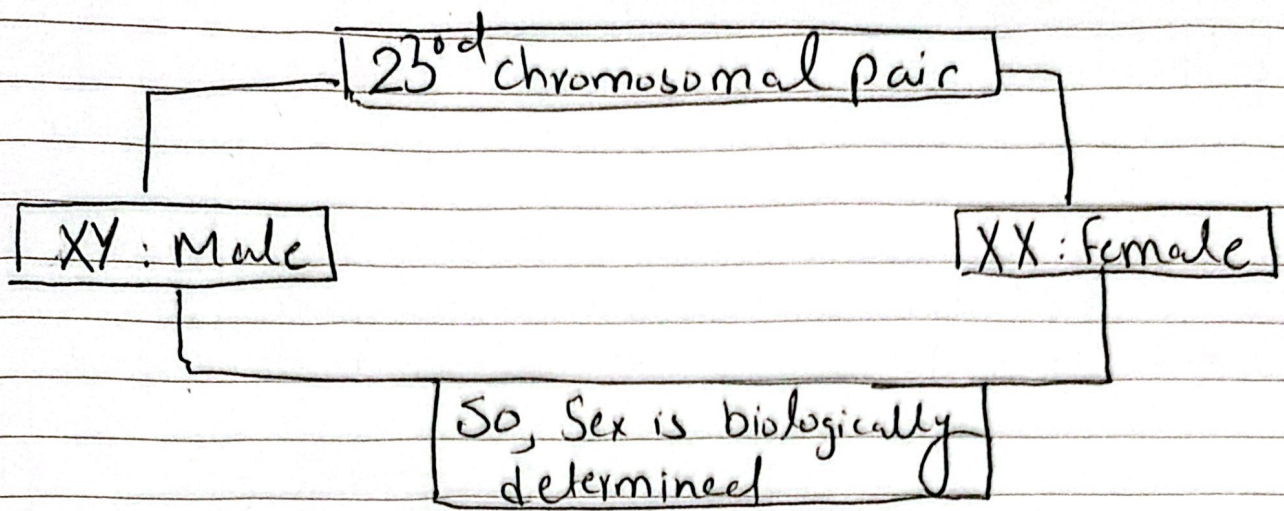
Introduction:

A commonly held notions says that "Gender is social and sex is biological". Generally, the answer of question, is sex also socially constructed is no. But, if we review this, in light of gender studies, then the answer may be or even yes.

"Even biological sex categories are shaped by social and biological/scientific processes". (Fausto-Sterling, 2000).

Biological Basis for Sex:

People who believes that sex is solely determined by biological basis, contend that sex is solely determined by the pairing of 23rd chromosomal pair. The situation is illustrated in flow chart below.



How Sex is Socially determined?

i) Nutrition and Exercise play a vital role in effecting Psychological changes:

It is widely accepted that nutrition plays a crucial role in shaping psychological amenities in human. Women, owing to patriarchy and gender inequality, do not have access to adequate nutrition. The lack of food leads to their smaller sizes.

"Uniformity in muscular shape, size, and strength within sex categories is not stem entirely by biological factors".
(stanford.oog).

ii) Sexual characteristic are not clear-cut:

"Around 17% of the population failed to fall within the usual sex categories, possessing various combination of different sex". (sterling).

She grouped inter sexual individuals into following classifications:

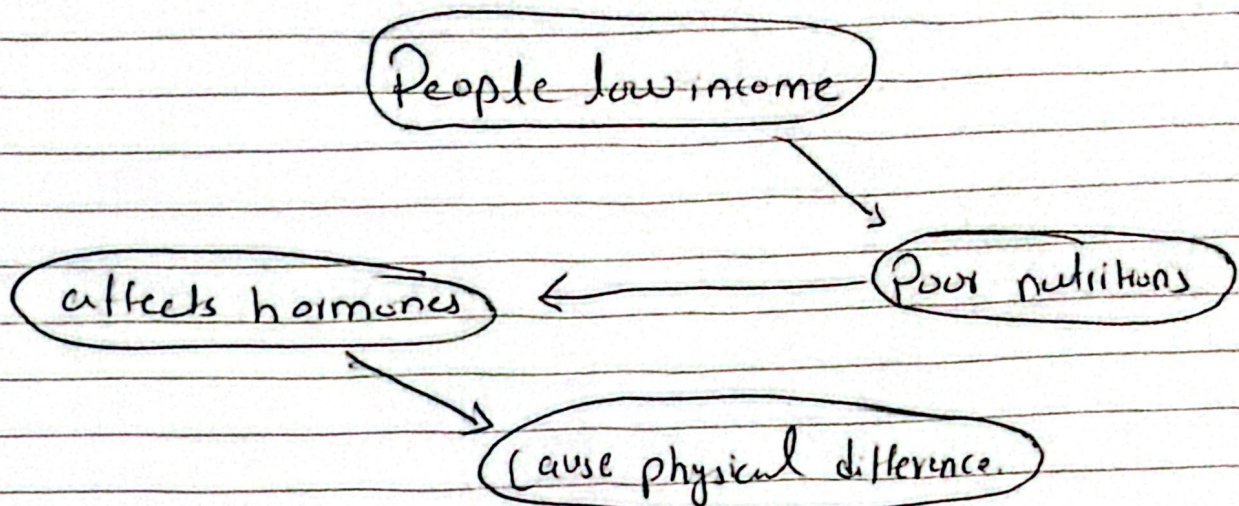
Hermes: One testis one ovary.

Mermes: have testis and some female traits.

Fermes: have ovaries and some male traits.

iii) Socio-Economic factors:

Socio-Economic factors plays vital role in shaping physical characteristics. Dearth of medical resources may induce female physical characteristics in men.



Case studies:

Dr. Sara Gill: (Pakistan's first transgender doctor)

She completed her Mbbs from Jinnah medical college, karachi. But faced massive discrimination and rejection during her education tenure, because of her gender identity. (BBC, 2022).

Radical feminism:

Introduction:

Radical feminism argues that patriarchy is the root cause for women's oppression.

"The threat of violence and rape, is the way patriarchy controls women". (Judith Lorber).

According to Lorber, patriarchy is very difficult to eradicate, because of its roots, that women are inferior to men are profoundly embedded in most men's consciousness.

Patriarchy and social spheres:

Patriarchy exist in every social spheres of life:

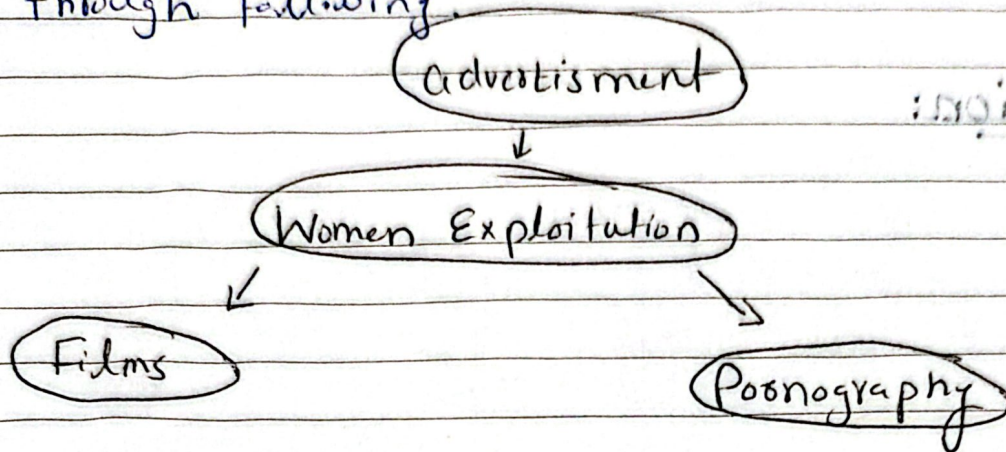
- Society.
- Family.
- Culture.
- Religion.

Men employ violence and psychological control to maintain their dominance.

For instance, women changes her titles from 'Miss' to 'Mrs' after her marriage, that creates an image for women that, they are inferior and they need someone to depend on for rest of their life.

Patriarchy and Economic Exploitation:

Radical feminist argues that women's should be completely segregated by men's influence. They propose that women are exploited through following.



Radical feminist thoughts that women are forced to be put into prostitution for men's profit.

Solutions for Women Emancipation:

- i) There should be formation of non-hierarchical women-only spaces.
- ii) Build health and support centers for women who are victims of rape.
- iii) Obliterate pornography, prostitution, and other exploitative practices.

Success of Radical feminism:

Radical feminism plays a vital role in success of women in socio-economic and political spheres of life. Due to radical feminism, following are the actions undertaken:

- i) Formation of women only consciousness groups.
ii) Radical feminism leads to development of women studies programs in universities.
iii) Radical feminism spread awareness and built unity among women's oppression.

Conclusion:

~~Radical feminism is seen as stem to highlight women's abuse. Radical feminism has played an crucial role for this sphere problems~~
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severe