

sept / 06 / 2025 ①

Date: Friday

Topic Orthodoxy and women's liberation: a consistent conflict

Outline:

1 Introduction

Thesis statement: Orthodoxy and women's liberation remain a persistent conflict in societies that dictate women's freedom and participation. However, by implementing pragmatic solutions, society can shift from an orthodox mindset to moderation and promote women's liberation.

2 Historical background of conflict between orthodoxy and women's liberation

3 How orthodoxy and women's liberation is a consistent conflict

a) Conservative mindset often stops women from participating in politics, citing traditions and religious justifications

b) Orthodox restricts women from economic activities through religious misinterpretation

c) An orthodox mindset instills patriarchy in society, which curtails the freedom of women.

d) Orthodox tradition often discourages women's

Date: _____

access to formal education

e) Rigid orthodoxy upholds limitations on women's right to consent in marriage and inheritance.

f) Women adopt modern values, while orthodoxy resists change and seeks to maintain cultural continuity

g) Orthodox groups often label feminist movement as western agenda, immoral, and anti-religion

4 Repercussions of the conflict between orthodoxy and women's liberation

a) Deprivation of women from education

b) Limited role in politics and governance

c) Marginalization of women and glass ceiling

d) Honor killing of women in the societies

5 Recommendations to overcome the conflict

a) Redefining the gender roles to encourage women empowerment

b) Leaders training and education for modernity

6 Conclusion

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Date: _____

Essay:

A young girl in a conservative village loved to study, but tradition barred her from school. Her dreams clashed with rigid orthodoxy, showing how society celebrates women in words, yet confines them in reality. Thus, orthodoxy and women's liberation remain a consistent conflict in society. Conservative mindsets often stifle women's liberation in politics and restrict from economic activities through religious misinterpretations. Moreover, An orthodox mindset promotes patriarchy and discourages women's access to formal education. Parallel to these, rigid orthodoxy upholds limitations on women's right to consent in marriage and resists women from adopting modern values. Orthodox groups often label feminists movements as western agenda and anti-religion thought. These opposition of orthodox affects the liberty of women like as deprivation of women from education. Along with education, they limit the role of women in politics and governance. In the

Date: _____

same way, traditional mindsets marginalize women and act as invisible barriers to their liberty. Honor killings of women become common in societies due to rigid orthodoxy. However, pragmatic measures can ~~be taken~~ to overcome the conflict and encourage women's liberty in the society. This includes redefining the gender roles to encourage women empowerment and liberty. In addition to this, training and educating leaders is important to instill modernity and change their behaviours. In short, orthodoxy and women's liberation remain a persistent conflict in societies that dictate women's freedom and participation. However, by implementing pragmatic solutions, society can shift from an orthodox mindset to moderation and promote women's liberation.

The conflict between orthodoxy and women's liberation has deep historical roots, as traditional societies tied gender roles to religious or cultural interpretations that prioritized male dominance. In many civilizations, orthodox structures resisted reforms

Date: _____

in education, property rights, and political participation for women. For instance, in Europe, the suffrage movement faced fierce opposition from clerical groups who argued that women's participation in politics would disrupt family life.

(Often, European Feminisms, 1700-1950).

Similarly, in South Asia, colonial-era reformers like Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and later feminist activists struggled against entrenched orthodox mindsets that considered women's education as un-Islamic, despite Islamic history recording active female participation in knowledge and trade (Ahmed, Women and Gender in Islam).

Thus, the historical tension arises from the clash between the preservation of traditional authority and the quest for gender equality.

To begin the discussion of the topic, the first argument is that conservative mindset often stops women from participating in politics, citing tradition and religious justifications. Orthodoxy believes that male is a sole breadwinner while limits

Date: _____

women to household. Orthodoxy often conflict with women's liberation. They restricts women from participating in governance and administration roles. traditional mindsets use religion and misinterprets it, ~~and~~ citing them against the women's liberation.

They often upholds the principle of their tradition ~~that~~ and discourages women's freedom and confines them to the domestic sphere. A conservative mindset often blocks women from meaningful political participation by using appeals to tradition and selective religious reading to justify restricted roles, limited public presence, and barriers to leadership. (UN WOMEN, JUNE 2025).

Hence, rigid orthodoxy restricts women's liberation in political ~~roles~~ and governance roles.

Similarly, orthodox restricts women from economic activities through religious misinterpretation. They cite that this destroys the family structure and culture of society. A conservative mindset often

Date: _____

links women economic participation with their family structure and culture. Rigid minds forbid the freedom of women. They stop women from doing jobs and other economic activities. They distort the teachings of religion and use these misinterpretations to justify their stance against women's liberation in economic participation. World Bank (2022) report on women's economic rights highlighted that nearly 2.4 billion women globally do not have the same economic rights as men, with 178 countries maintaining religious barriers that prevent their full economic participation. This substantiates that orthodoxy and women's liberation remain a consistent conflict, restricting women from economic activities through religious misinterpretation of religion.

Parallel to economic restriction, an orthodox mindset instills patriarchy in society, which curtail the freedom of women. The reason is that such mindset imposes

Date: _____

strict ~~decreases~~ ^{restrictions} and on women's freedoms.

A traditional mindset believes on male dominance in ~~the~~ society ^{than} ~~and~~ women. This

mindset stimulates the patriarchy and strictly enforce ~~that it is not in the society~~.

When patriarchy emerges in the society,

it strictly confines women in domestic works and curtails the complete freedom

of women. It also lowers the status of women in respect to men and women becomes

the victim of inferiority. The Patriarchy,

upholds by an orthodox mindset in society,

systematically strips women of their autonomy

and perpetuates glaring inequalities. They

perceive women's liberation as threats to the

established social order (Patriarchy and sexual

Dynamics: Advancing women's Liberation, ResearchGate, Jan 2025). This demonstrates that an orthodox

mindset restricts the freedom of women

by encouraging patriarchy in society.

In the same vein, orthodox

tradition often discourages women's access

to formal education. It is because, educated

Date: _____

women challenges the patriarchal structure and orthodox practices in society. Conservative minds curtail educational opportunities of women. They remain a big barrier to women's education. Educated women often upholds the freedom and liberty ~~and~~ ^{Resultant} she questions the orthodox practices ~~and~~ ^{raises} ~~result~~, the voices against such practices and mindsets. This is a threat to orthodoxy and patriarchal mindset. Therefore, orthodoxy restricts women from acquiring education and remains a consistent conflict with women's liberation. A research article highlights that the education of women is often limited due to orthodoxy, as women who acquire education can challenge their structure of power and practices. (The culture of learning of women, LEHRHAUS, May 2024). This illustrates that conservative minds curtails ^{women's} ^{acquiring} the opportunities of education in society.

Along with education, rigid orthodoxy upholds limitation on women's right to consent in marriage and inheritance.

Date: _____

The reason is that they believe that women's consent in marriage and right in inheritance is against their will and patriarchal practices. Conservative mindsets often impose their will in family and against women because they believe that they are superior and women are inferior to them. Therefore, they impose restrictions on women's consent in marriage as they decide about their marriage. These mindsets also do not give inheritance rights to women because they are blood winner. Therefore, they keep whole inheritance. According to the Rural Development Report on women's inheritance rights to land, property and consent on marriage in South Asia ~~that~~ states that traditional mindset and culture are obstacles that hinder women's right to marriage with consent and right to inheritance in South Asia. This highlights that women's liberation in marriage and inheritance is restricted due to rigid orthodoxy.

Not only ^{does conservative mindset} ~~hinder~~ ^{limit} women's

Date: _____

right to consent in marriage and inheritance, but it also acts as resistance to women who adopt modern values. They seek to maintain the traditional values of culture in society.

Orthodox often resists women for ~~adopt~~ embracing modern values ~~which~~ that upholds their liberation. They try to confine women in domestic household and act as a barrier to societal changes and modernity. They often maintain and continue these cultural practices, which upholds their superiority and restricts women's liberation.

A book explores that Orthodox Christianity traditions often uphold patriarchal structures, resisting changes that promote gender equality. It discusses the tension between maintaining traditional values and the evolving roles of women in society (Orthodox Christianity and Gender, Helena Kupari, 2020)

This proves that Orthodox often resists the change in society and women roles who ~~adopt~~ embrace modernity.

Last but not the least,

Date: _____

Orthodox groups often label feminist movement as western agenda, immoral, and anti-religion. This is because they challenge the structure of society and patriarchy. Conservative mindsets oppose the feminist resistance and liberation ~~at women~~ ^{movements}. These movement raise the questions against old patriarchal and conservative mindsets. They speaks for their rights and liberty. Owing to this, orthodox labels ~~these~~ ^{such} feminist movements as a western agenda ~~and~~ against the morality and religious teachings. Some Islamic women's organizations accuse the United Nations of promoting women's rights initiatives that do not align with the cultural and religious values of Muslim. These groups argue that such initiatives often reflect western agenda. (Islamic women's organizations confront western feminism, Kilden, August 2024). This highlights that orthodox groups label feminist movement as a western agenda, immoral, and anti-religion.

These orthodox practices

Date: _____

affects the women's liberation in society. This includes deprivation of women from education. The reason is that education upholds equality in the society and promotes modernity/modernisation in thinking of women. When orthodox mindset remains in the society, ~~that~~ it creates hurdles for women's education and act as a barrier between education and women. As a result, women deprive from acquiring education and ~~remain~~ confine in domestic household works. For instance, take an example of Afghanistan where Taliban ~~not~~ banned women's education due to conservative mindset. They often use religion as a base ~~for~~ ^{to} ~~this~~ justification ~~of~~ restrictions on women's education. Thus, conservative minds deprive women from acquiring education in society and confine them in household works.

Another representation of the conflict between orthodoxy and women's liberation is limiting the role of women in

Date: _____

politics and governance. It is because women try to change the structure and mindset of people that upholds women liberty. The presence of conservative mindset often obstacles to women from acquiring governance and administration roles. When women come in policy-making roles, they formulate gender transformative policies and gender ~~sensitive~~ sensitive policies. This threatens the superiority of orthodox mindset. Therefore, conservative mindset restrict them from politics and governance. As per the report that religious traditions intersect with broader societal norms that often relegate women to domestic roles, thereby limiting their access to political power and governance. (UNESCO, women's education and political participation, 2022) ergo, orthodox affects the rights of women ^{from access to} in politics and governance.

Besides, limited role in politics and governance, conservative mindset marginalizes the women and creates invisible

Date: _____

barriers against women. Orthodox upholds
 male dominance over women, as a result,
 male impose their will on women and
 girls. When society practices orthodoxy,
 it affects women's liberation in the
 environment. They marginalize the women
 from all aspects and make them inferior
 to them. They confine women and girls
 in domestic works and restricts ~~the~~
 them to come out of home. Women becomes
 subordinate of men and lives as a
 slave of men. Furthermore, ^{woman} ~~they~~ faces
 invisible structural and cultural barriers
 to due conservative mindset. A research explores
 that in countries with orthodox christian
 majorities, a significant share of adults hold
 traditional views on the role of women and
 the family that resultantly marginalizes the
 women and make them subordinate to ~~men~~.
 (Gender Issues, and orthodox christian countries
 with conservative views, 2021) PEW Research Center.
 This highlights that orthodox mindset marginalize
 women's and their liberty.

(16)

Date: _____

② ~~Prosocial~~ Analogously, orthodox mindset leads to commonality in honour killings of women. The reason is that traditional mind upholds cultural practices that contribute to ~~honour of~~ ^{fulfilling} ~~men~~ marginalization of women. When orthodox exists in society, it imposes their will on girls and women. This subordinate women and ~~perpetuates~~ perpetuates the honour killing of women. When a girl tries to marry with her consent, conservative mindset restricts ~~them~~ her from doing this and kill a girl on the name of honour and culture. It is because she ~~only~~ ^{does} not accept their will, therefore, she becomes victim of honour killing. A research indicates that honour killing are deeply ingrained in patriarchal cultures and traditional beliefs, which leads to killing of women on the name of restoring family honour. (Violence against women in the name of Honour, Amnesty International, 2021). This exhibits that presence of orthodox in society increase and honour killings of women.

Date: _____

However, by taking some pragmatic measures, this conflict can be overcome.

One of the significance recommendations among them is redefining the gender roles to encourage women empowerment. This ensure equality in the society between men and women, promote equal opportunities to women in education, work, and politics for women.

This can be done through positive discrimination in which government by allocating quotas for women to ensure equality in opportunities in employment. Moreover, challenge traditional stereotypes of orthodoxy through education and media. It also ensures women's voice are heard in decision-making at all level.

For example, the government of Pakistan allocates quota for women in civil service exams to ensure equality and promotes gender-inclusive opportunities to bring women in governance and administration roles. Thus, by redefining the gender roles through equal opportunities to women this orthodox mindset can be overcome and women's liberation is ensured.

Date: _____

Another ~~recommodation~~ ^{and} is that train ~~leader~~ educate leaders for modernity. This ensure gender sensitive and gender-inclusive budget policies. Through training of leaders and educating them about morality and gender, the conservatives mindset can be transformed into moderation and ended the conflict of orthodoxy and women's liberation. This not only ~~test~~ ^{reduces} the conflict but also promotes women's liberation through gender transformative and gender-inclusive policies in the society. A book explores that training and educating leaders that fosters critical reflection can transform oppressive norms, including gender norming and promote gender equality, resultantly, gender-transformative works and reduce conservative practices. Hence, by promoting education and training to leaders, these conservative mind can be reduced and women's liberty can be ensured in society.

Date: _____

To conclude the whole discussion, orthodoxy and women's liberation remain a consistent conflict in society. Orthodox mindset often restricts women from governance and administrative roles. These conservative minds also discourage women from acquiring education and remains a barrier and resistance to change. They confine women in domestic household by citing religious and cultural justifications. Owing to this, the traditional mindset affects women's liberation by depriving women from getting education. Additionally, they marginalize women and limit the role of women in decision-making authorities. However, this conflict can be overcome through ~~gender~~ redefining gender roles in society. In addition to this, educating and training leaders also help in reducing conflict, thereby promoting gender-equality, women's liberation, and modern values in society.