

Women Universities: Agents of Change or proponents of patriarchy.

Outline

A. Introduction:

B. Women Universities are Agents of Change:

1. Ensure access to higher education for women in conservative societies.

(Evidence: A 2023 report by The Express

write credible references please

Tribune noted that 80% of the students enrolled at Govt. Women University Multan belong to conservative rural families who wouldn't be allowed to attend co-institutes.)

2. Promote education aligned with Islamic values of modesty and gender safety.

(Evidence: Pakistan's Council of Islamic Ideology stated in 2021 that women

universities are "complementary to Islamic ideals of women's dignity and honour in education.")

3. Provide a psychologically and physically safe/comfortable environment for girls seeking education.

(Evidence: A 2022 UNESCO survey found that girls in women-only universities in South Asia reported three times higher participation as compared to co-educational ones.)

4. Empower women to be financially independent by offering degrees in all domains.

(Evidence: Fatima Jinnah Women University's 2023 employment record of alumnis shows that over 68% of its graduates are now employed in private/public sectors.)

5. Demonstrate that women are sufficient for educating women - dismantling male dependency in this regard.

(Evidence :- A 2024 Aurat Foundation report praised Women Universities for "building belief that women can educate, inspire, and lead other women independently.)

6. Offer platforms for open debate on women's rights, feminism and social representation.

Date: _____

Day: _____

(Evidence: In 2023, Lahore College for Women University hosted a national debate competition on "Feminism in Pakistani Society" with 40 women-led teams.)

7- Actively implement gender-sensitive policies for convenience and confidence of women.

(Evidence: Government College Women University Faisalabad's "Women Welfare Policy" 2022 includes ^{with pay} health leave, day-care centres, and career counselling support.)

8- Facilitate scholarships for women facing financial constraints by keeping separate funds for the purpose.

(Evidence: Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University awarded 1200 scholarships to poor female students enrolled in undergraduate programs.)

9- Create confident and well-educated women serving in educational, legal, medical, media, political and civil services domains.

(Evidence: Muneeba Mazari, a lady

from Rahim Yar Khan, married at an early age of 18 soon after her bachelors from a college at her local town, is now a prominent symbol of human rights.)
(Case Study of Muneeba Mazari)

10. Redefining social roles by normalizing women in science, technology, and engineering.
(Evidence: In 2022, Lahore College for Women University's robotics team won 2nd prize in Punjab Youth Innovation Challenge beating mixed-gender universities.)

11. Promote research in the field of gender studies and social sciences that reform and challenge traditional narratives about gender roles.
(Evidence: FJWU's Department of Gender Studies publishes an annual journal "She Speaks" with peer-reviewed research on women's empowerment and enlightenment in Pakistan.)

12. Encourage professionalism in women by providing internship and entrepreneurship through start-up programs.

(Evidence: In 2023, Women University Swabi launched an "Entrepreneurship Bootcamp" that produced 13 women-led small businesses.)

13. Enhance national development by integrating educated women into workforce.

(Evidence: Pakistan Economic Survey (2023) shows that areas with women universities have seen a 12% rise in female employment over the last five years.)

14. Produce progressive mothers and teachers who further educate the next generation in conservative societies where co-education at higher level may not be possible.

(Evidence: FJWU, IIVI, LCWU have played great role.)

15. Challenge patriarchal ideas by empowering girls to make life decisions independently by educating women about their right and roles properly.

Evidence: A 2023 feature in Dawn covered five women university alumni who resisted early marriages and instead pursued their careers.

16- Women universities instill leadership confidence in female students by placing them in environments where women consistently hold key decision-making and leadership roles. well organized and quite relevant

(Evidence: A 2020 Harvard Educational Review found that female students in women-only universities were 47% more likely to pursue leadership roles due to increased exposure to women-led administration.)

C. Conclusion.