

Usman Khan
Batch: 342
LMS: 29938

Gender
Studies

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Introduction:

Gender studies emerged in the third wave of feminism. In Pakistan, gender studies was initiated with the formation of Center of Excellence for Women Studies (CEWS) in 1989. Since then, a number of departments in various the country adopted gender studies as a subject in under-graduate and graduate level programmes. In Gender Studies, the autonomy versus integration debate refers to the two prominent perceptions of feminism: isolation from men - considering men as rivals and potential threat (autonomy), and inclusion principle of promoting equality among all genders (integration).

• Gender Studies in Pakistan

→ CEWS (1989)

→ PAWS (2002)

→ FPSC Curriculum Revision Committee (2003)

→ Universities having Gender Studies as a Degree program

→ Gender Studies as a subject in CSS (2016)

Status ~~of~~ Gender Studies in Pakistan:

The Status of Gender studies in Pakistan is as follows:

a) Center for Excellence of Women Studies - 1989.

The CEWS was the first step towards achieving women studies as a discipline in universities.

It was inaugurated in 1989 in University of Karachi.

b) Pakistan Association of Women Studies - 2002.

PAWS was inaugurated to enhance the status of women studies in Pakistan. It was proved to be a basis for the promotion of Gender Studies in Pakistan.

c) FPSC Curriculum Revision Committee - 2003.

The committee envisaged to introduce Women studies in CSS as a qualifying subject. However, it faced many delays.

d) Universities of Pakistan conducting Gender Studies

The following universities conduct Gender/Women studies as a degree-program.

- 1) University of Sindh
- 2) University of Punjab
- 3) University of Karachi
- 4) University of Lahore College for
- 5) Women University
- 6) Baideezam University, Islamabad.
- 7) NUML University, Islamabad
- 8) Benazir Bhutto Shaheed Uni., Pesh
- 9) Sardar Bahadur Khan University
- 10) Fatima Jinnah University ^{Quetta}
Rawalpindi.

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c) Gender Studies as a qualifying subject in Central Superior Services (CSS) - 2016.

In 2016, eventually, Gender Studies was introduced in CSS as a qualifying subject as a result of FPSC curriculum revision committee 2003.

Autonomy Versus Integration debate in Gender Studies :

In Gender Studies, the autonomy versus integration debate means two perspectives.

The one advocating for women as being dominant and empowered while ignoring the male counterpart.

While, integration means the inclusivity of all genders on the basis of equality.

Difference between: Date: / /

Autonomy

Integration

a) It is a result of Radical feminism

It is a result of Liberal and post-modern feminism

b) Major proponents are: Mulanathi Firestone, Andrea Dworkin, and Bapsi Sidhwa

Major proponents are: Judith Lorber, Ksimeu Gonslow, and Mary Wollstonecraft.

c) It advocates for women studies

It advocates for Gender studies.

d) Miss America Trash can.

Intersectionality and suffrage movements.

e) It is biased towards women.

It is unbiased for all genders.

f) It has rigidity

It has flexibility.

g) It is narrow-minded.

It is broad minded.

h) It demanded equal job opportunities and inclusion in every sphere of life.

It demanded voting rights, non-discriminatory and inequalities in between women eg white and black women.

i) Major books are The dialectic of sex, Objectification of women, The second sex, Intercourse, The water, and Ice candy man.

Major Books are: A vindication for the rights of women, International political economy, Gender Trouble, Intersectionality, and Queer Theory.

g) It is criticized for ignoring other genders.

It is criticized for promoting homosexuality.

Conclusion:

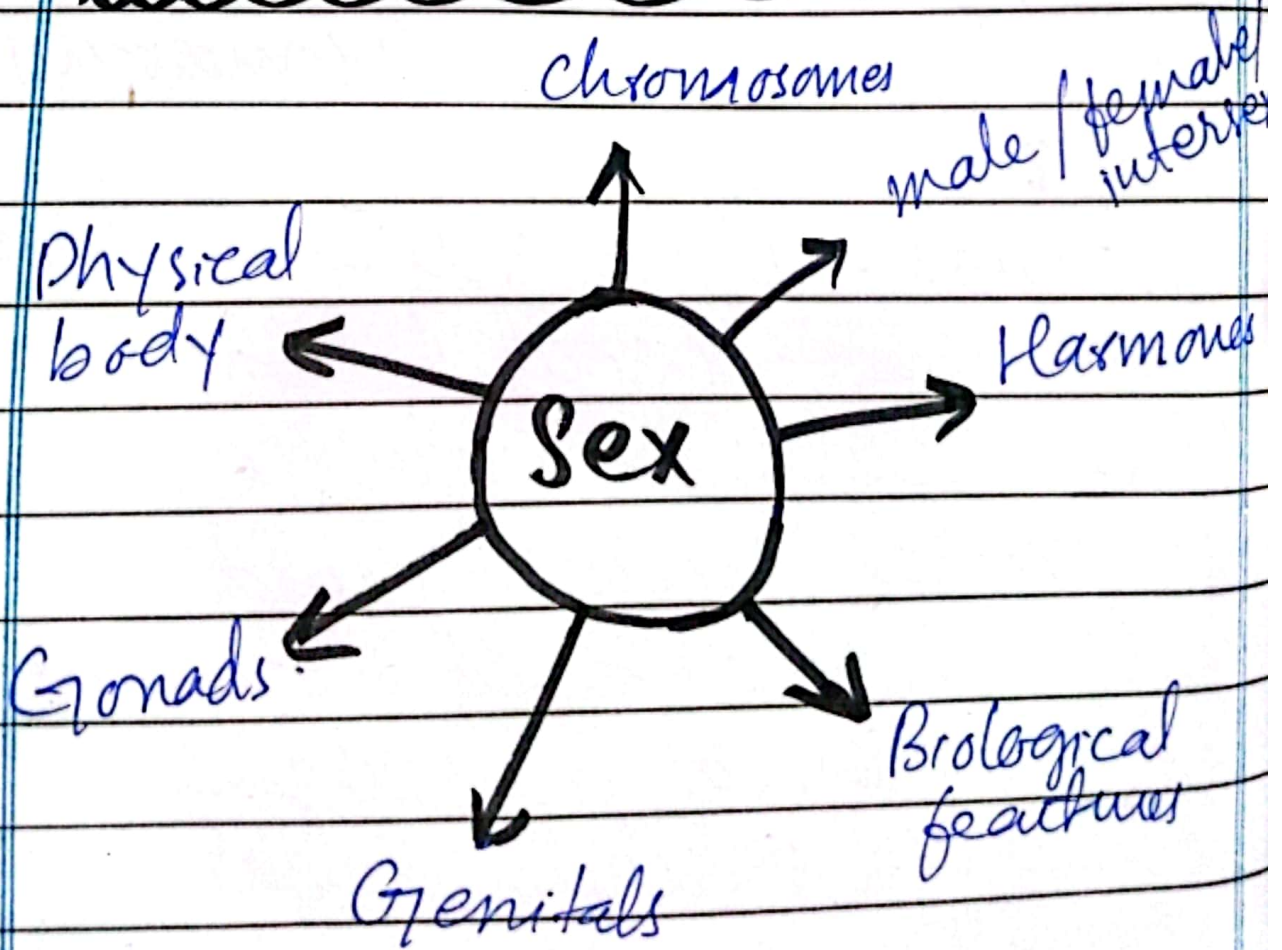
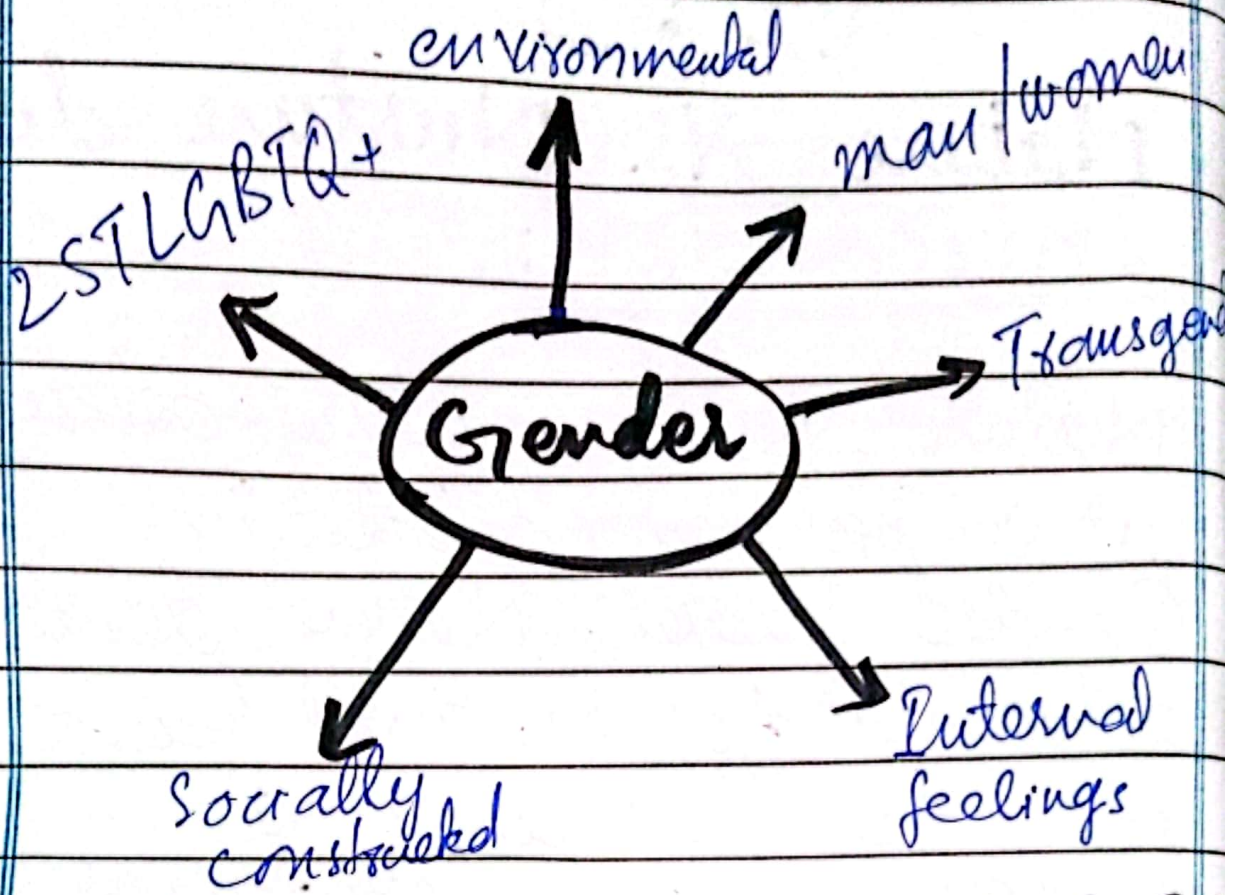
Gender studies was derived for its precursor Women studies which was initiated as a result of radical feminism in the second wave of feminism. The Gender studies main aim was to study the interaction and intersexuality among different genders. It's a social and academic discipline that studies women, men, and 2SLGBQ. In Pakistan, it has recently been in action and has got a new impetus after 2016 CSS's inclusion. On the other hand, the autonomy versus integration primarily means considering men as rival and or as partners in the feminist movement.

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Nature Vs. Nurture debate

Introduction:

Nature versus nurture debate is a prevalent debate in Gender Studies. Nature debate advocates for natural factors in the formation of a person's personality and identity, such as chromosomes, hormones, genitals and gonads. While nurture debate considers social factors like cultural norms, environmental factors and other factors that contribute to formation of a person's identity. Nature debate describes sex. While nurture debate describes gender.



Different factors involved in the construction of Gender Identity

The Gender identity is constructed through a series of biological and social factors involved. Thus, this divided the feminists into two — those advocating for the natural identity, based on sex, and those in favour of the social factors, based on gender.

Nature Vs. Nurture Debate

The natural debate advocates for the identity of a person on the basis of natural factors like ~~sex~~ chromosomes, hormones, genitals etc and refer to these set of characteristics as "sex". While, the nurture debate believes that certain social factors contribute to the formation of identity. Such as, the social environment, cultural norms and upbringing — coining this set of characteristics as "gender."

The Nature debate : describing sex.

The Nature debate describes sex on the following basis :

a) Chromosomes.

Chromosomes are the building blocks of a sex. Every person has a total of 46 chromosomes, divided into two parts. The 22 chromosomes are same while the 23rd chromosome decides the sex of a person. Males have XY chromosomes, females have XX chromosomes, while intersex have YXX chromosomes.

b) Hormones:

Females have special hormones like Progesterone and oestrogen.

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White, male has testosterone hormones. An intersex has a mixture of these of these hormones.

c) Genitals

A male has penis and testes and a female has a vagina and womb. White intersex's genitals are ambiguous.

d) Gonads:

Gonads are sexual and reproductive glands in human body. Males have testes that produce testosterone. White a female has a womb.

e) Physical body:

Males have a stronger body with taller height, stronger bones and a tougher skin. White females shorter height (usually), softer skin and

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less hair on her body

f) Primary features

The features that inborn are called primary features. Males have Adam's Apple bone in neck and a straight collar bone. While females don't have any Adam's Apple bone in their necks, and their collar bone is in V-shape.

g) Secondary features.

The features that are acquired. Such as men have a grave voice, beard and hairs on their body while a female has a shrill voice, no beard, and less hair. Her voice is softer.

The Nurture Debate: Describing Gender.

The nurture debate describes gender. There are some prominent theories regarding this.

a) Gender performative Theory of Judith Butler.

In his book "Gender Trouble", he argues that a gender is constructed on the basis of a person's performance; what he performs is his/her gender.

b) Queer Theory of Judith Lorber.

Queer theory identifies several types of genders. There are 26 types of genders. However, the most common are as: two-spirited, lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgender and straights etc.

c) "Doing Gender" theory by Zimmerman

According to this theory, a person's identity is formed by the actions he or she does. What someone has been doing, forms his or her gender-identity.

d) "Functionalism" Theory by Talcot Parson.

Parson believes that the functions of a male and those of a female are pre-decided, and there is no concept of acquiring a new gender on the basis of performance.

e) Psychological development by Sigmund Freud

The German psychologist Freud describes five stages of gender development, such as:

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a) Oral stage (0-6 months)
when the only way of sensing something is mouth.

b) Anal stage (6 months - 3 years)
The toilet training plays its role in a person's behaviour track.

c) Phallic stage (3y - 6y).
The child develops Oedipus or Elektra complex for his or her parents.

d) Latency stage (6-9y)
when the child's genitals are formed. He/she develops superego in this stage.

e) Genital stage. (9-19y)
In this stage, the genitals are matured and the boy or girl develops "libido".

Conclusion:

Gender is a constructed phenomena. It is constructed as a result of one's exposure to the society and cultural norms in the life. The external factors forms different traits in a person. For instance, women in Pakistan are associated with emotions, submissiveness and shyness, while, men are associated with aggression, power, initiatives, and leadership. These characters are developed via a system enforced way, and are not natural. On other side, what natural is the biological features of a human he or she is born with. This is known as the nature vs. nurture debate.

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Three Waves of Feminism:

Introduction:

The feminist movement in the late 18th century when women were not allowed to even publish books with their names. The first wave advocated mainly for the voting rights of women called the suffragist movement. The second wave, was more radical in nature. It applied violent means and demanded more rights. The third wave advocated for the inclusion of all genders in the feminist movement addressing the intersectionality among different genders. These movements had a influential impacts on Pakistan.

3 waves of feminism

1st wave

- Suffragette movement.
- AFWA

2nd wave

- Equal opportunities.
- WAF, AF, HRC

3rd wave

- Queer theory
- Intersectionality
- CEWS, PAWS, Purat March

The three waves of feminism:

The three waves are described as follows.

a) The first Wave: Liberal Feminism

The first wave started with Mary Wollstonecraft's book "A Vindication for the rights of women" in 1792. Its major movement was the 1848's Seneca falls convention having "Declaration of Sentiments" by Elizabeth Cady and Lucretia Mott. Its main goal was to get voting rights for women. As a result, the New Zealand government gave voting rights to women in 1893; House of commons in 1918; and the Congress in 1920. It was called Liberal feminism and the principle of inclusion.

b) The second wave.

Radical Feminism

This movement started in the mid of 20th century. The key initiators were Engel Fred in "International Political Economy" and other prominent proponents were Shulamith Firestone, Bepi Sidhwa, Andrew Dworkin, and Judith Butler etc. This movement advocated for women's participation in the overall sphere of life. Major events were "Miss America Trash Can", Dun and Anderson case that led to homosexuality. This movement acquired some violent means like protests, putting off clothes in public place and challenging the world system. It got more opportunities in work and outdoor life for women. It continued from 1960s — 1990s.

c) The third wave:

Post-modern feminism.

The third wave feminism started in late 1980s.

The marginalized women felt that the feminist movements are only advocating for the rights of the white and middle class women. Karen Greenshaw was first to address this issue in his book "Intersectionality" in 1989. There were racial and class-differences in women. The black women felt marginalized. Hence, they struggled for inclusion of all women as well as the other genders like homosexuals, bisexuals and Transgender, called 2STLGBTQ+.

This movement called for a more inclusive society where all genders could feel interested in the mainstream.

Impacts of these waves on Pakistan

The feminist waves had significant impacts on Pakistan as:

a) Impacts of the first wave on Pakistan:

In the wake of the first wave, All Pakistan Women Association was made in 1949 by Begum Rana Ali Zaheer. Besides this, Women Guard by Fatima Jinnah was formed to train women as nurses in health. In Pakistan's parliament, there were women parliamentarians like Shaukat Khanum and Shah Jahan Ara Begum. This was the initial phase of women inclusion into the society. However, the women were marginalized upto a great extent, and there was much to achieve.

b) Impacts of the Second wave on Pakistan.

In the second wave, women of Pakistan faced great discriminations as a result of General Zia's Hudood ordinance and Ansari Commission. As a result, women formed "~~the~~ Women Action Forum" and "Aurat Foundation" as well "Human Rights Commission" to counter Zia's draconic amendments in the laws. The line between rape and consensual sex was blurred.

c) Impacts of the third wave on Pakistan.

In the third wave, women were more active, ~~APWSA~~ - ~~all Pakistan women~~ PAWS - Pakistan Association for Women Studies was formed, in 2002 that aimed to introduce

Women Studies in Palurkar's educational institutions. FPSC curriculum Review Committee was set in 2003 to oversee the inclusion of women studies in CBSE exams. Bhrat March in 2018 took place. In 2016, FPSC included women Gender studies in the syllabus.

From 2009 to 2023, various acts were passed to empower women like:

- Harassment of women act of 2010
- Anti women practices act 2011.
- Anti-acid crime act 2011
- Prevention of honour killing act - 2016.
- Anti-fake act - 2022.
- child marriage act

Conclusion:

To conclude, women of the world went through phases in order to achieve their rights. This struggle is divided into three waves, namely: the Liberal feminism, Radical, and post modern feminism. The first wave demanded voting rights, while, the second wave demanded equal opportunities, and the third wave called for inclusion of all genders like homosexuals in the mainstream. Pakistan received great impacts in the wake of these waves since inception. Great awareness has been provided in the country, regarding women empowerment.

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GBV in Pakistan

Introduction:

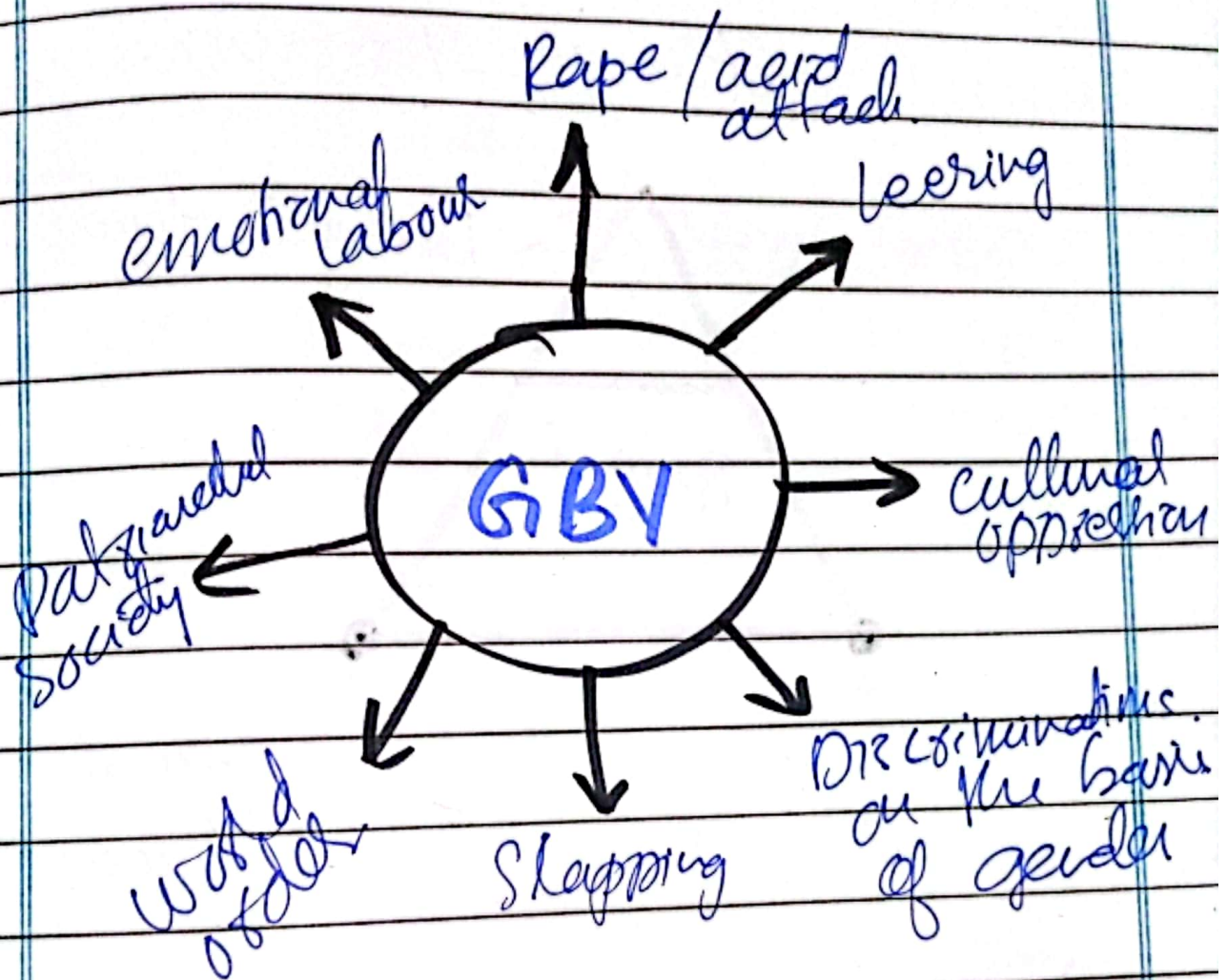
There are two forms of Gender based violence (GBV):

Direct violence and Indirect violence. The

most prevalent form of violence in Pakistan

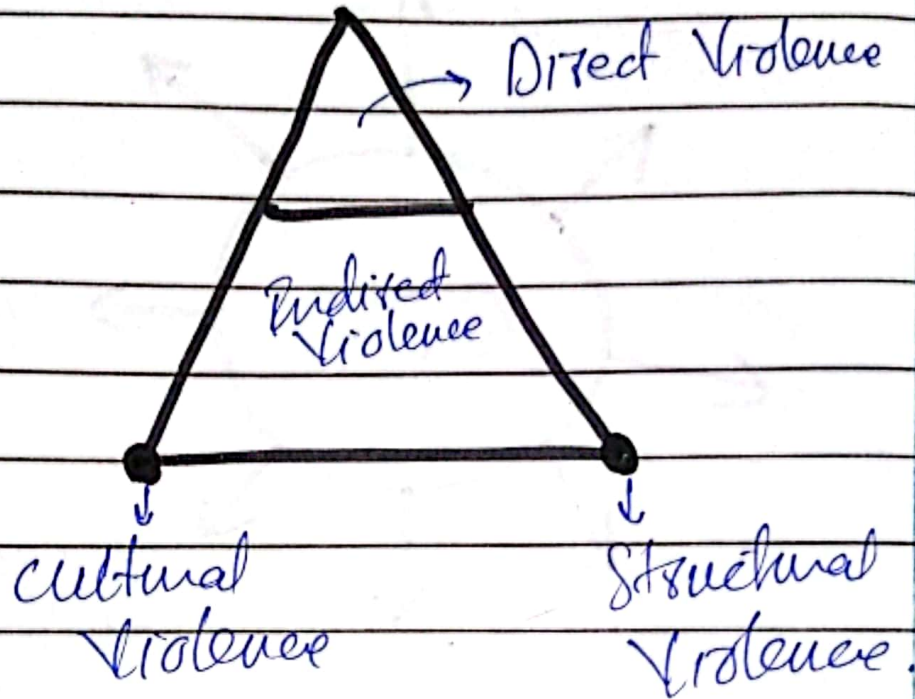
is direct violence, including rape, acid attack and honour killing etc. There are various solutions to the eradication of GBV.

Such as strengthening the laws, empowering women, spreading awareness, ~~not~~ including men and youth in the struggle against achieving a gender-just society.



Various forms of GBV

The forms of GBV are described by "Galtung" in Galtung's Triangle.



a) Direct Violence

It is the surface level violence that is visible. such as:

- Rape
- Acid attack
- Harassment
- Beating wife
- Honour killing etc.

b) Indirect Violence

It is often hidden form of violence. It has two types.

i) Cultural Violence.

Certain cultural norms perpetuate violence against women. such as.

- The practice of Sati.
- Underage - marriage
- Johar by Rajput women.
- Bending feet in Chinese Tribal culture.
- Mutilating genitals of women in African Tribes.

ii) Structural Violence.

It involves the overall structure of the world portraying discriminatory policies towards women. Such as the SAPs of IMF.

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Such policies enforce sanctions on countries or ask for austerity measures that directly affect women.

The most prevalent form of violence in Pakistan

The most prevalent type of violence in Pakistan is Direct Violence.

According to Human Rights Commission survey of 2019-2021, there were 4000 murder cases of women in Pakistan. It included 1000 murder cases in the name of honour. There were 100 acid attacks, 10,500 torture cases while 5000 fake cases

country wide.

In another survey
"Samara Survey - 2021", after
every 2 hours, ~~the~~ a woman
is raped in Pakistan.
While the conviction rate
in rape cases is 0.2%.

Thus, direct violence is the
most prevalent form of
violence in Pakistan.

Other forms of violence in Pakistan.

Other forms of violence are
cultural violence in Pakistan.

- early age marriage is
the most prominent cultural
violence in Pakistan.

- Moreover, cultures like Ghag,
Swara, Karokari, and

marriage with Quran
are also prevalent in
Pakistani society.

How to eliminate GBV from Pakistan.

GBV can be eliminated
from Pakistan through
several steps as given
here under.

a) Strengthening the
laws, to form deterrence.

b) Spreading awareness.

c) Media should play
the role in portraying
a better image of
women in dramas.

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d) Including Men and youth in the process of women empowerment.

~~e) Including~~

"Men as partners"

by UN Women is a good initiative in this regard.

e) Including communities in the mainstream like the intersex community of Pakistan. Since they have great potential.

Doctor Nisha Rao, AECT qualified Sana Khan, Lecturer Aysha Mughal and Model Neha Ali are epitome of intersex's wisdom in Pakistan.

f) Implementing gender studies as a subject in high schools.

Conclusion:

Gender based violence is prevalent worldwide.

It has various forms in action, like direct and indirect violence. Cultural norms also perpetuate

GBV in certain ways that are against women's will and dignity. In Pakistan,

the most prevalent form of cultural violence is

direct violence which entails honour killing, acid attacks,

tapes, leering, staring, and beating. Besides this, cultural

based GBV like ~~Almag~~, ~~80~~ Karokai and Swara are

also prevalent in the country.

The country's feudalist structure also portrays GBV. However,

GBV can be eliminated with strengthening laws, and spreading awareness