

Q2

Introduction to ~~Women~~ WOMEN STUDIES

Women studies emerged as an area of academic study in the 1960's in USA. The studies came into being to address the gaps and imbalances in academic knowledge due to inadequate incorporation of women into academics.

It can be defined as:-

A disciplinary academic field devoted to topics concerning women and feminism.

Early on courses drew especially on history and literature but later expanded to social sciences and humanities.

Gender Studies

Gender studies originated from women studies in 1990's. Gender studies is a multidisciplinary field that critically analyzes the construction of gender in society with reference to class, race and other social factors.

In other words, it looks at the world from the gender perspective.

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Difference in WOMEN and Gender studies

(a) Origin

Both the disciplines ~~are~~ have different origin. Women studies emerged during the second wave of feminism in the 1960's.

Gender studies emerged from the women studies in 1990's during the third wave of feminism.

(b) Scope

The scope of women studies is limited to women only whereas gender studies is concerned with all types of gender.

(C) Objectives and Nature.

Women studies is interdisciplinary in nature and major objective is to demand equality of women and call for their liberation.

Gender studies is multidisciplinary in nature and demands equity for all genders.

(d) Theoretical development

Women studies focus on the Women in development (WID) approach.

Gender Studies focus on the Women and development (WAD) and Gender and development (GAD).

Autonomy vs Integration debate

The debate started in 1982 at suffrage movement that whether women and gender studies should be an independent unit at university or merged with another discipline as a subfield. Two opposing views emerged :-

Autonomy :- separatist approach that advocate that gender should be kept independent discipline.

Integration :- it should be merged and integrated with other subjects or disciplines.

Both have arguments to support their view points.

Arguments in Favour of Autonomy:-

(a) More focus on women

By keeping discipline separate, focus would be entirely on women. This would be more efficient way in bringing their problems to light.

Integration would diminish the value as their problems would be studied with the lens of existing norms.

(b) Separate identity as key to progress

Autonomy focus on the concept of separatism and ^{advocates that} the only way to progress this discipline is when it is free from the influence of other disciplines.

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(c) Best way to gather knowledge :-

Separatists argue that best knowledge would be gathered when all the resources like funds, teachers are only focused on women issues and this would be possible if it is kept separate.

(d) Best way to develop professional identity.

Arguments in Favour of Autonomy.

(a) Greater outreach :-

if it is integrated it would lead to greater outreach.

(b) Autonomy will lead to ghettoization → integration

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would confront gender blindness
and help to include feminist
perspective in each canon.

(c) Integration would help to
inculcate gender in various
fields.

(d) Compel people who can change
the society.

(e) Integration is essential to
promote change: women role in
the society cannot be understood
without taking social factors
into account.

Conclusion :-

Both approaches can
coexist to yield the best
result.

Q #3

Introduction

There are group of theories that claim gender behaviour is due to social convention.

These theories are collectively called the social construction theories of gender.

These theories claim that gender segregated activities create gender specific behaviour.

Theories of Social Construction of GENDER

① Gender Role Theory

Proponents - John Money
- Gilbert Herdt

Key Points

This theory treats different distributions of women and men into roles as the primary origin of sex differentiated social behaviour and how their impact on behaviour is mediated by social process.

Hence, according to Meehan, all those things a person does to disclose himself/herself as boy or girl is referred to as gender role.

- Socially constructed gender roles are hierarchical with male advantaged gender hierarchy.

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② Functionalist Theory

Proponent :- Talcott Parson

Key Point / feature

This theory sees society as a complex system whose parts work together to promote stability.

This theory suggests that gender inequality exists as an efficient way to create division of labour or a social system where one segment is responsible for certain act and other is responsible for other act.

Hence, this theory views predefined role of gender as complementary

Criticism:-

- do not address discriminatory gender roles.
- ignores women suppression and subjugation.

③ Doing Gender

Proponent:- Zimmerman

Points:-

- Gender is understood as maintained while actors perform certain social roles. It means doing a task associated with certain gender perpetuate meaning that define ^{who} ~~what~~ a person is and what it means to be a man or woman.

For example cooking is a social

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Caring for kids has gendered meaning for girls and when they do this role, they are doing gender.

① Gender Schema

Proponent :- Sandra Bem

Key Points :-

This theory is influenced by cognitive revolution.

This theory proposes that child cognitive development combined with societal influences develop gender schema. Hence, children learn what it means to be male and female from their culture and then adjust their behaviour to fit in that

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culture.

⑤ Gender Performativity

Proponent: Judith Butler

Key Point:-

Central concept of this theory is that gender is fluid and is constructed through one's own repetitive performance of gender.

According to Butler, an individual is always doing gender which means that he is either performing or deviating from socially accepted gender stereotypes.

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⑥ Feminine and Masculine

Proponent :- Geert Hofstede

Main Points:-

This dimension focus on to what extent society stress achievement or nurture.

→ Masculine and feminine refer to dominant sex role pattern in society with males being assertive and female more nurturing.

Masculinity → Society with distinct gender roles. Men are more assertive and women more tender.

Femininity → Society with overlapping gender roles. Men and women both are modest and concerned with quality of life.

① Psycho social development

Proponent → Erikson

Theory considers external factors on personality development. According to this theory, a person passes through 8 interrelated stages over the entire life cycle that develops personality. Stages are:-

- ① Trust vs Mistrust
- ② Autonomy vs Shame
- ③ Initiative vs Guilt
- ④ Industry vs Inferiority
- ⑤ Identity vs Confusion
- ⑥ Intimacy vs Isolation
- ⑦ Generativity vs Stagnation
- ⑧ Integrity vs Despair.

Q7

INTRODUCTION

Any type of violence directed against a person is known as gender based violence.

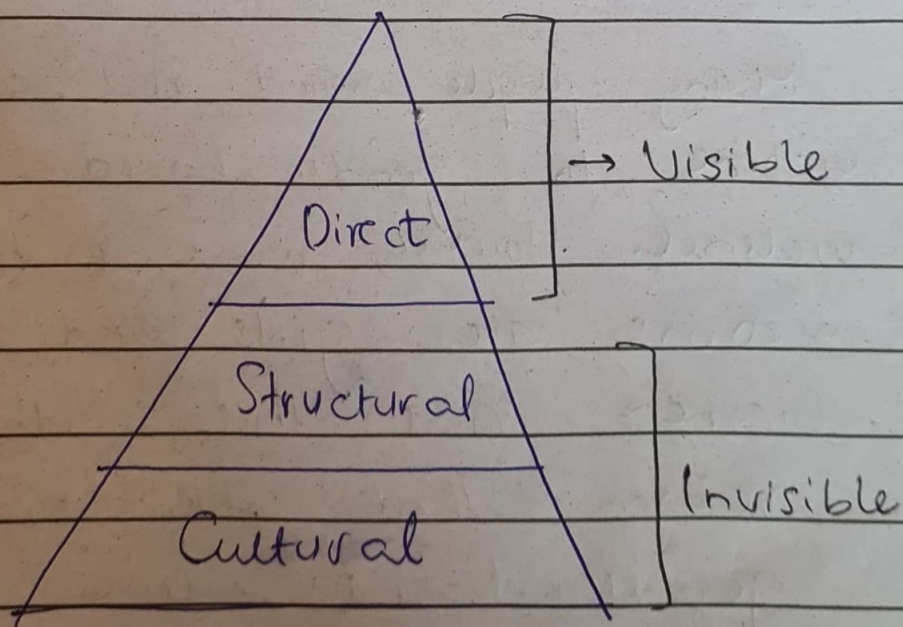
According to UN "gender based violence is violence that targets individuals or groups on the basis of gender."

Many people around the fall victims to gender based violence. However, most of the victims are girls and women and this is the reason that often times gender based violence and violence against women are used interchangeably.

Forms of Violence

Proponent :- Johan Galtung

According to sociologist Johan Galtung, there are 3 types of violence. This pyramid of violence can be used to explain the various forms of gender based violence prevailing in Pakistan.



Cultural :-

This type of violence is invisible but is the root cause ~~of all types~~ that leads to other forms of violence. It refers to the prevailing beliefs and attitudes that legitimize the structural violence.

For example, Pakistan has patriotic culture and it seems natural to subjugate and control women.

Structural :-

Refers to injustice and exploitation built into the social system that builds wealth for few and poverty for others.
e.g. racism ^{and} denial of rights

Direct violence:-

This type of violence is what we see in our society with our own eyes.

Direct violence includes all forms of gender based violence that result in physical, psychological or sexual harm to an individual especially women.

Major forms of direct violence include:-

- murder
- rape
- acid attack
- human trafficking
- sexual harassment
- verbal attacks
- domestic violence.

GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN PAKISTAN

Pakistan is a country where women face all types of violence (direct, cultural and structural).

The major types of violence faced by women in Pakistan is as follow :-

① Honour killing

It refers to killing of a woman for allegedly bringing shame to the family and is highly prevalent in rural areas.

According to Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, 470 cases were reported in 2021.

However, this might not be true figure as family

members are involved in the killing and they may try to cover up the issue, hence actual data may be greater.

② Domestic violence

It occurs with in home against women.

A survey indicated that 39.1% of women between 15 - 49 years are faced domestic violence as they are physically and emotionally abused.

UN data also indicated that 70% of Pakistani women experience violence from their spouses.

③ Acid attacks

It refers to throwing of acid on girls to damage their face. Between 2007-2017, Acid Survivor Foundation Pakistan (ASF-P) identified 1385 cases of acid attacks.

④ Forced / Child Marriage

It is a very serious problem in Pakistan and Pakistan is ranked in no 6 for having highest number of girls getting married before 18.

These young brides are then subjected to Marital rape, abuse and Harassments. ~~ASF~~ 1026 cases of forced marriage were

reported in Pakistan.

⑤ Women trafficking

It refers to illegal trade of women.

Pakistani women are mostly trafficked to Gulf countries.

In 2019, Chinese nationals were involved in women trafficking under the name of bride trafficking scheme.

⑥ Dowry Related Murders

Pakistan reports thousands of deaths related to dowry and the rate is exceeding. Women who are not able to meet dowry expectations are tortured and killed.

⑦ Sexual violence

Around 5000 cases of sexual violence including rape and sexual assault were reported in Pakistan in 2020.

⑧ Denial of inheritance

In Pakistan, women do not get their due share of inheritance which is a form of structural violence. This practice is common in Sindh and other rural areas.

SOLUTIONS

Solutions should target not only direct violence but the underlying cultural aspects. Solutions may include:

① Education

This has two aspects. Firstly, girls should be given education so they are aware of their rights and confident enough to stand against injustice.

Secondly, the community should be educated about the human rights and the rights of women. This can be possible through rigorous campaigns and awareness.

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② Economic independence

Most of the women face violence in Pakistan because they are dependent on men. Hence they quietly suffer. Hence, if they are made dependent then they will not be ~~valuable~~ vulnerable to men.

③ Strict laws

The laws against violence are not implemented in Pakistan and the accused are not ~~sent~~ convicted. This should change so that people refrain from violence due to fear of punishment.

④ Support groups

Women should get access of support groups.

⑤ Marriages law

Marriage age should be delayed till 18 and this law should be strictly implemented.

⑥ Political participation of women

⑦ Role of media

media should promote positive image of women rather than weak and vulnerable.

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Q # 8

(a) Liberal feminism

Major advocates :- Mary Wollstonecraft
- John Stuart Mill

Origin :-

Emerged in the 19 and early 20th century and was aimed to achieve equal political and educational rights for women.

It all started when Mary Wollstonecraft published "A Vindication of rights of Women" and proposed equal opportunities for women in education, work and politics.

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Features :-

- focused on personhood and provide individual autonomy, rights and liberty to women.
- They advocated equal opportunity for women in terms of education, politics and economy.
- The primary focus was to get voting rights for women that later translated into suffrage movement.
- The key battle was to get equal access to political and educational rights.

Liberal feminists wanted to bring change through acts of legislation that would

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grant equal opportunity to
women.

Success:-

- Political Rights to women through 19th Amendment of US constitution.

Criticism:-

- it did not focus on the patriarchal structure
- included only white, middle class and heterosexual female and ignored other class of women.

Gender and Development

Background

Emerged in 1980's from socialist feminism and sought to bring together the lessons learned from the limitations of WID and WAD.

Key Points

(a) Not women exclusive

it explores all the gender roles and how these roles are allotted by gender relations

(b) Address gender inequality in society
- it focuses on the social and gender relations and addresses issues of access and ~~power~~ control over resources and power.