

# QUESTION # 02

## ANSWER

### 1. INTRODUCTION:

#### Gender Studies:

"Gender Studies is an interdisciplinary subject which highlights social, cultural, political and economic aspects of gender, considers to the end of to gender inequality and injustice and advocating gender equality at every level."

#### Women's Studies:

Women's studies is an academic discipline, which highlights women participation in society, social, cultural and economic aspects on the lives of women and advocate for gender equality and gender indiscrimination.

## WOMEN STUDIES

### II. GENDER STUDIES

#### 1. Definition:

"It is an interdisciplinary field in which social, cultural, political and economic aspects of society are considered to evaluate gender roles, discrimination and injustice. It advocates for gender justice and equality."

"It is an academic discipline in which social, cultural, political and economic aspects of society are evaluated on the lives of women. It advocates for gender equality and an end to gender discrimination."

#### 2. Historical Background:

Gender studies came as an academic field in late 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Women's studies ~~est~~ was established as an academic subject during second wave of feminism.

#### 3. Advocacy:

Gender studies advocates ~~of~~ for all genders irrespective of their entities.

Women's studies advocates for equality, ~~for~~ justice and end of discrimination for women in every aspect of life.

4. Theories:

It includes Queer theory, poststructuralism and intersectional theories.

Women's Studies include feminist theories which support women's liberation and justice from oppression and polarity in society.

5. Subjects:

Gender Studies participates to analyze gender roles, division of labour, power dynamics, socio-cultural aspects, gender discrimination and inequality.

Women's studies on the other end analyze socio-cultural aspects of society on women's life, role of patriarchy, economic disparity as well as societal structure.

6. Stereotypes:

It advocates end to toxic society gender expectations, roles, identity and essential binary categorization of gender.

Women's Studies highlights toxic patriarchy in the society as a key element for women's oppression, economic dependency, and social taboos related to women's lives.

7. Approach:

Gender Studies provides wide and liberal approach to include every entity or gender within its field.

Women's Studies provides narrow and conservative approach, which only includes women and gender roles with respect to women only.

8. Aims and objectives:

It aims to have gender fluidity and equal rights to every gender, end of gender discrimination and injustice.

It aims to provide freedom from ~~the~~ oppression, patriarchy, social and cultural expectation from women, equality and justice for women.

9. Contemporary Issues:

~~The~~ Contemporary issues of gender studies includes gender fluidity (queer), transgender rights, end to gender roles and discrimination.

Contemporary issues of women's studies include reproductive rights, gender pay gap, women oppression, domestic violence and disparity in society.

### III. AUTONOMY Vs INTEGRATION:

There has been a long debate on the ~~type~~ form of subject (Gender studies) to be included in academics. Some advocates for an autonomic approach while some argue that Gender Studies should be integrated in other disciplines. Following arguments advocates and illustrates their opinions about gender studies as an academic subject:

#### ARGUMENT # 01

People which advocate autonomy for gender studies argue that it will help to have independent approach and more focus on gender issues. While their counter advocates for integrated approach to have integrated approach and broad focus.

#### ARGUMENT # 02

Autonomy will provide distinct rationale free from biasness and impact of other disciplines while integration will enhance cross-subject collaboration and broadened ideas.

### ARGUMENT # 03

Autonomy helps to have independent methodological way for research without being influenced by other subjects. While Integration in other disciplines will help open discussions, various approaches and enrich studies.

### ARGUMENT # 04

Autonomy will have more focussed participation without any impact from other fields while on the other hand integration will create synergetic approach and <sup>will</sup> establish weight in arguments advocating every opinion.


### ARGUMENT # 05

Autonomy will provide independent representation for women issues and other marginalized gender problems. While Integration will help integrated representation of many genders with integrated approach and ideas about various fields.

# AUTONOMY Vs INTEGRATION DEBATE OF GENDER STUDIES

## AUTONOMY

- a. Independent Approach
- b. Free from biasness and influence
- c. Independent research methodology
- d. Focussed participation
- e. Independent representation

  
GENDER STUDIES

## INTEGRATION

- a. Integrated Approach
- b. Cross-Subject Collaboration
- c. open discussions and various approaches of fields
- d. Synergic effect on discussion
- e. Integrated representation

# QUESTION # 03

## ANSWER:

### 1. INTRODUCTION:

Gender is considered as socially constructed influenced by various social, cultural, political and psychological aspect of society. Throughout the history, people gave many theories to substantiate their ideas to argue gender as socially constructed. The theories include Performative theory, Gender Schema theory, Social learning theory, symbolic interactionalism, intersectionality, Gender roles theory. These theories demonstrates the social and psychological influence on gender roles, identity, expectations, power dynamics and division of labour. This fosters gender inequality and discrimination, resulting in gender oppression, violence and marginalized genders.



## ii. THEORIES OF SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIONISM OF GENDER

### i. Performative theory:

This theory was given by "Judith Butler" in the book "Gender trouble". In this theory instead of considering gender a noun or adjective, she considers as a "verb". Gender is performed in the form of roles and jobs given to an individual in any society. These roles and expectations are performed in daily life and can vary from society to society.

#### Example:

For example, female gender is obliged to do domestic chores and home care activities thus they perform their gender. However, men are dictated to work outside their homes and support economically to the family. Thus, it is the society that distinguishes performative gender roles in the society.

## ii, Gender Schema Theory :

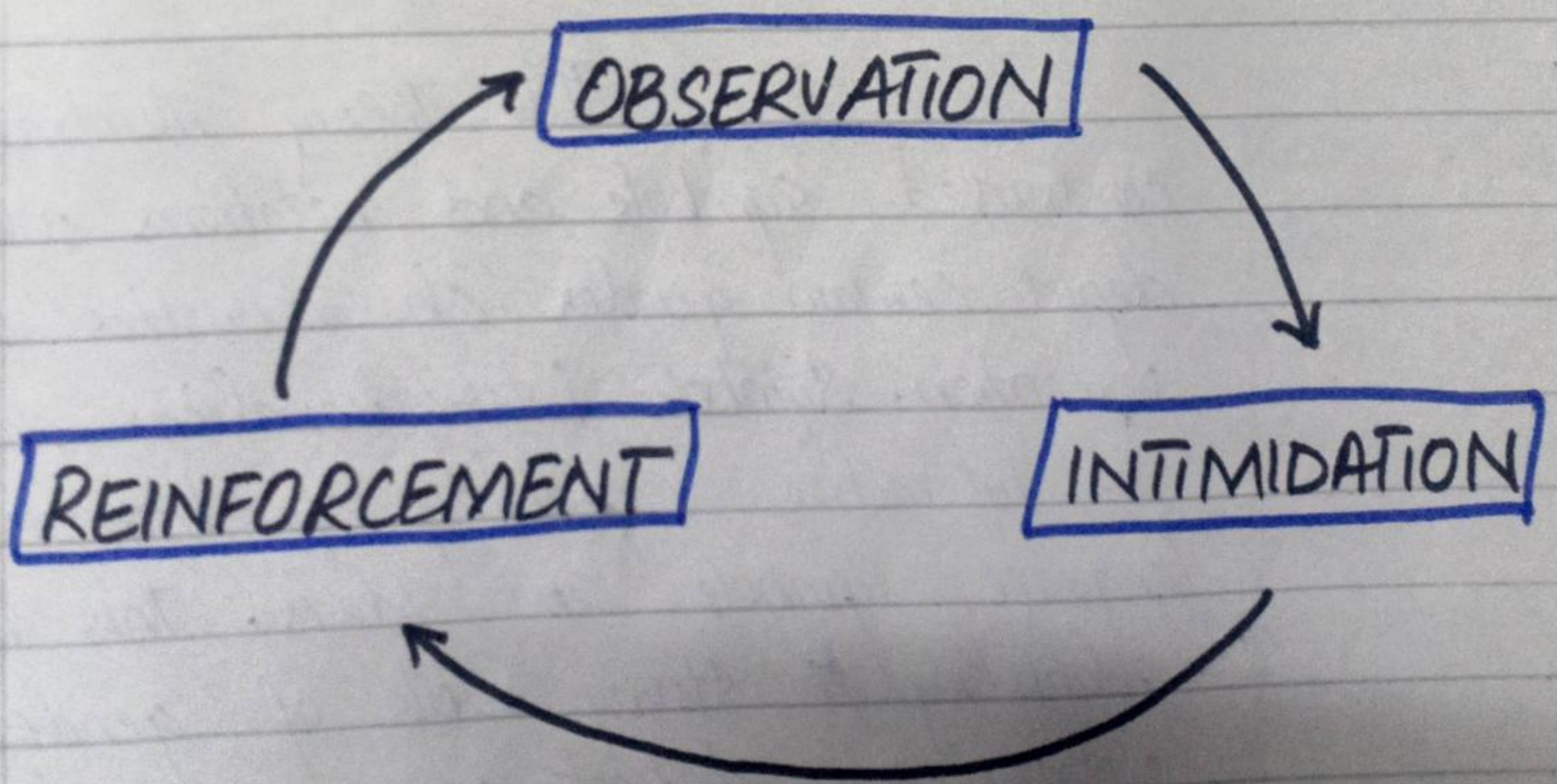
This theory was given by "Sandra Bem", in which she illustrated that it is individual's framework and mental approach (schema), on which person considers its identity, roles and expectations. Thus, it is not natural instead a socially constructed because mental framework to gender identity, and roles can vary within society.

### Example :

This theory may include example of transgender and queer gender groups, who consider their gender identity according to their mental approach and inner feelings. They deny their assigned biological sex or essential gender roles and opt for more distinct and counter gender roles and expectations. Thus, it may be considered that gender is socially constructed depending upon individual's own identity and opinions in a society.

### iii, Social learning theory:

A human is a social animal, which demonstrates its ability to interact with his society in various means. This theory demonstrates the impact of society on human's learning experience. A person observe the roles assigned to each gender and try to validate and intimidate by performing the same gender roles. Then, he reinforces those same gender expectations to other human race. Thus it is a cycle of socially learning behaviour



∴ Social learning theory:

Example::

When a child is grown in a house with distinct division of labour with mother being the caregiver and father as a provider for the family. He observes and when he enters in practical life, he internalize this division of labour in the house and then re-enforces to his child that male should work outside while female should provide domestic care and do house chores. Thus, this cycle repeats in society and construct gender by their will and ideas.

#### iv. Symbolic Interactionism::

This theory illustrates socially constructed symbols and notations which depict certain gender characteristics and perception. Symbolic interactionism demonstrates the interactive capability of humans through language, symbols and ideas. This helps in establishing strong roots of gender interpretation and distinct roles assigned by society.

Example:

In any society, many writers before introducing their characters in novel or story, provide some symbolic characteristics for particular gender, for example a fragile, emotional, beautiful skinny symbolises female gender while strong, aggressive, bulky symbolises male gender.

Furthermore, many pronouns and names included in the language depict gender distinction.

Thus, gender is socially constructed through symbols, notations and language.

## v, Intersectionality:

Intersectionality theory considers various dimensions of different gender identity, expectations, roles and jobs based on culture, ethnicity, race, disability and religion. It demonstrates that gender's perception and interpretation intersect with above mentioned areas. Thus, it cannot be uniformly determined instead socially determined.

### Example:

Many women of middle-class, educated, living in urban areas ~~are~~ have support to do ~~for~~ public work and jobs in private or public sector. While lower-class, uneducated, living in ~~in~~ rural areas, if step out of the house to support their families financially are considered rebellious and immoral. These gender roles and expectations may vary on the basis of race, class, ethnicity, culture, and religion and thus ~~are~~ socially constructed.

### vi. Gender Role Theory:

This theory analyses particular roles and jobs assigned to particular gender in any society. Thus, society demarcates a distinction between normal or abnormal gender roles. Moreover, they are deep rooted ~~to~~ ~~to~~ implemented in the society for a stable social structure. #

### Example:

Male genders are considered to have authoritative role in domestic as well as public issues, whereas females are considered to be a second-class citizen who is to be under supervision and authority of his male partner. Thus, gender roles and expectations are considered and determined socially.

## SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIONISM OF GENDER

- Performative theory
- Schema theory
- Social Learning theory
- Symbolic Interactionalism
- Intersectionality
- Gender Roles Theory

# QUESTION # 06

## ANSWER

### 1. INTRODUCTION:

Women's participation is an important pre-requisite for gender equality and genuine democracy. Women are facing worst problem at workplaces which hinders their active participation in political arena. Following steps should be taken to facilitate women's participation in politics.

#### a. Facilitate Entrance in Politics:

Women should be encouraged and facilitated to enter in political sector. This will help them to consider their problems and authoritative level and make strategies based on their experiences and obstacles.



## b) Quality Education:

Womens should be educated with qualitative and Intellectual efficiency, which will broaden their horizon and help their enterance in the political game.

Pakistan have almost 51% of female population with, very low literacy rate, giving quality education will help them grow in political field with various issues and considerations.

## c) Safe Environment:

Many female politicians face violence and discrimination at workplaces, which is in great proportion if political field is concerned. Female politicians should be facilitated with safe environment with equality, justice and without any discrimination at policy-making level.

d. End to Abuse:

Most of females resist entering in politics because of social abuse at individual and personal level. Women should not be considered rebellious or immoral if entered in politics. Many political opponents verbally abuse female politician. Recent incidence at ~~a~~ sindh ~~pro~~ assembly where "Musrat Seher Abbasi" was verbally assaulted and harassed by her counter opponent. Thus, women should be encouraged rather abused and humiliated.

e. Challenge the decision-making ability

Womens are considered low intelled and poor decision making entity. Thus, they are prevented from political post which hold executive authority and decision making power. This hinders women's participation in politics.

## QUESTION # 05

### ANSWER:

#### 1. INTRODUCTION:

Women's evolution for their equality, justice and independency is illustrated through three waves of feminism. The first wave of feminism illustrated legal and political rights for women in the form of "suffrage movement". The second wave of feminism advocates equal civil and social rights with a revolution in society. The third wave of feminism include more marginalized gender advocacy, end to strict gender roles, inequality and discrimination. All these three waves had a great impact on ~~the~~ Pakistan as it gave a path for many legal and political reforms for women equality, justice and participation in various fields.

## II. FIRST WAVE FEMINISM:

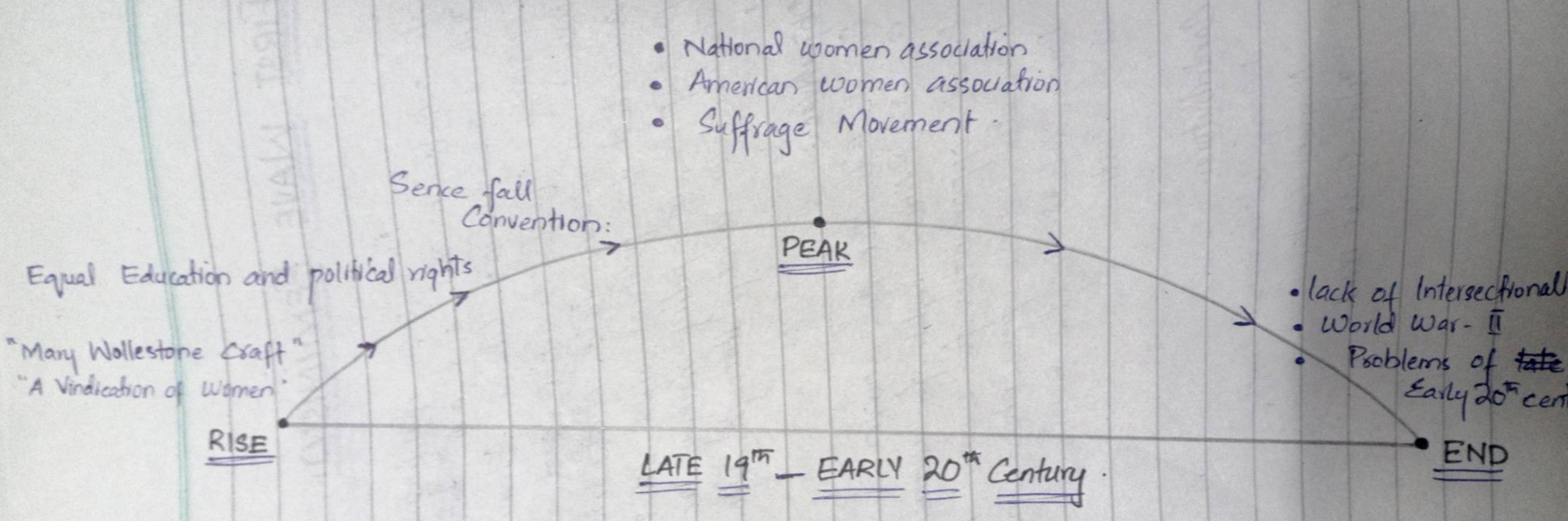
First wave feminism started in late nineteenth and end in ~~late~~ <sup>early</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> century. This wave include liberal feminists, who considers equal education and opportunities for women in every field. Furthermore, they advocated for political right so that women participate in policy-making and can bring change in society through reformist policy.

### Objectives:-

- a, Equal Education for women.
- b, Equal Political rights for women.
- c, Equal opportunities for women in every fields.
- d, Advocates women personhood and Individualism.
- e, Bring reforms in the society for women equality and Justice.

### Contributors:-

- " Mary Wollestone Craft "
- " Harriet Taylor "
- " John Stuart Mill "



## II. SECOND WAVE FEMINISM:

Second wave feminism started in mid 20<sup>th</sup> century and end in late 20<sup>th</sup> century. This wave bring revolutionary ideas, end to patriarchy and strict gender roles and expectations. It advocated for equal gender opportunities in political, social and economic fields. This wave includes radical, marxist and socialist feminist who considers patriarchy, capitalism and unstable society as real problem for women's oppression and injustice.

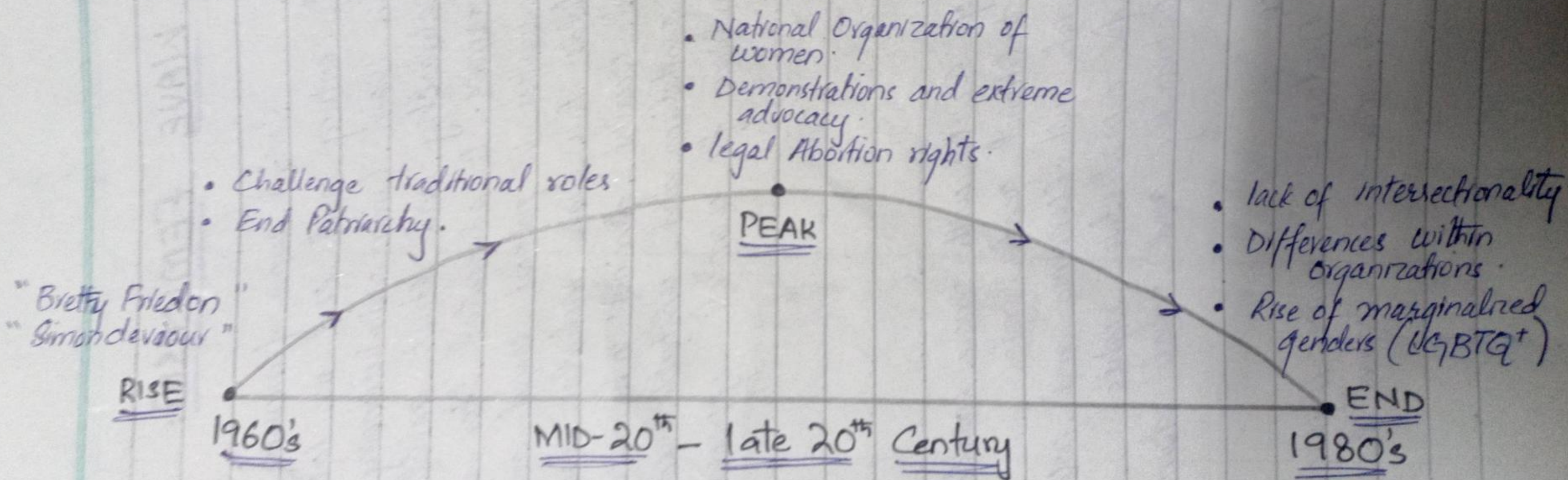
### Objectives:

- a, Revolution of society with more broader approach
- b, Challenge traditional gender roles.
- c, Equal social, civil, economic and political rights.
- d, Advocacy for reproductive rights.
- e, End to patriarchy and male domination.

### Contributors:

"Betty Friedan" - "Feminine Mystique"  
"Simone de Beauvoir" - "The Second Sex"

## SECOND WAVE OF FEMINISM:



### III. THIRD WAVE OF FEMINISM:

Third wave of feminism started in late 20<sup>th</sup> century ~~or~~ till date.

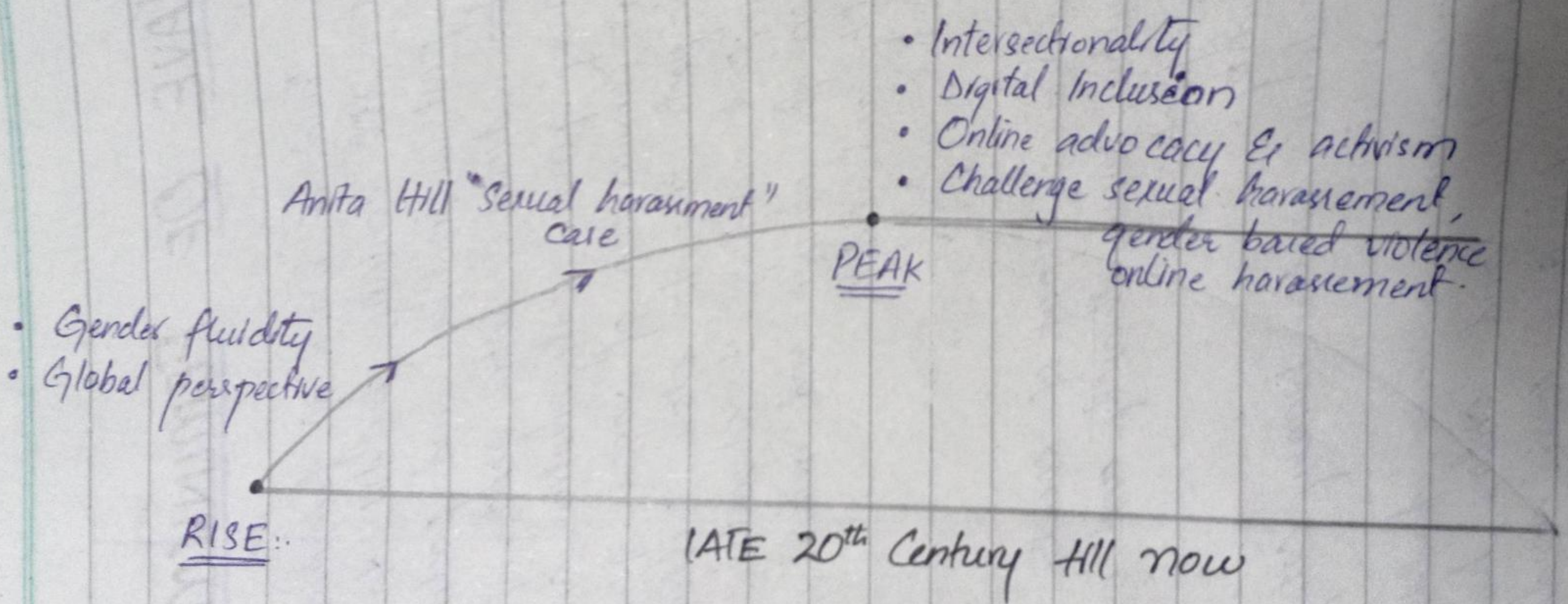
The rise of poststructuralism and postmodern feminism ~~den~~ advocates more gender fluidity, end of binary gender categorization and gender roles, consideration of various genders and their impacts due to class, culture, race, ethnicity and religion. It advocates more digital inclusion for women and more gender justice, equality and strength.

#### Objectives:

- a, To consider various aspect of society +  
i.e class, culture, race, ethnicity and religion.
- b, Global perspective
- c, Gender fluidity.
- d, End to extreme gender binary categorization.
- e, Reproductive rights
- d, End to gender based violence, traditional roles, sexual violence and online harassment
- e, Inclusion of digital and social media in post-modern era to advocate female opinions.



# THIRD WAVE FEMINISM



#### IV. IMPACT ON PAKISTAN

All these three waves of feminism impacted greatly on Pakistan, many organizations were formed for women rights, government took legal and political steps to end gender based violence, advocated women participation in various fields, gave representation in politics, economic opportunities, education and health care facilities.

- Formation of "APWA" (All Pakistan Women Association).
- Inclusion of gender studies in educational institutions.
- Legal and political initiatives for ~~the~~ end of GBV, sexual assault and harassment.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Muslim woman as "Prime Minister of Pakistan" Benazir Bhutto
- Malala Yousufzai "Noble Peace Prize Winner"
- Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy "Oscar Award Winner"