

QUESTION # 07

ANSWER

I. INTRODUCTION:

Gender is considered a socially constructed identity of a person, which is influenced by various factors such as family, culture, religion, media, language and education. These factors can be linked with many theories of gender, which emphasizes it as socially constructed instead of a natural phenomenon. Division of labor, assignment of gender roles, expectations, perspectives, beliefs related to binary division of gender can be explained through participation of environment and society. Thus, contributing to it as a socially constructed identity.

II FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR GENDER

i. Family:

Gender is a socially constructed, which can be demonstrated by key involvement of family to assign gender role to a concerned human from the birth.

Example: Family participate in the upbringing of children according to traditional gender roles e.g. Girls are made to play with dolls while boys are made to play with toys in eastern societies.

Argument According to Gender Theory:

The contribution of family in construction of gender is perfect illustration of gender roles theories which describes that genders are assigned roles based on traditional ideology and from the birth.

(ii) Society:

Gender identity is further empowered by social norms, values, and traditions. It plays crucial role in construction of gender.

Example: Society emphasizes the females to do domestic house chores while men are obliged to do outside work. This gender roles and discrimination of labour insisted by social norms and values.

Argument According to Gender Theory:

Social performative theory demonstrate the performance of gender roles as assigned by society, which clearly indicate gender as constructed by outside world.

(iii) Media:

Gender construction can be fostered within society by media and journalism. Media houses promote traditional ideas and jobs related to genders, and thus contribute in the growth of strict gender roles and perspectives.

Example: Many programmes or digital platforms promote women-used items or interested material to women users.

Moreover, the drama or film industries shows women as a ally of a leading hero participating for his aim or wish.

Argument according to Gender theory:

Symbolism theoretical perspective of gender construction by society demonstrates the role of media in participation of society to inborn women role as a ally of man and support him in his work.

iv. Religion:

Religion plays a crucial role in construction of gender in many parts of world. Many religions subordinate women or considers women as a duty for men to provide her.

Example: Gender role assigned to men by some religions to do outside work and take the responsibility of their family depicts construction of gender based on religious beliefs.

Arguments according to Gender theory:

Intersectionality theory explains role of religion, tradition or class in construction of gender in any society.

iv. Culture:

Gender is largely constructed by cultural values, norms and affiliation. It plays a part to demonstrate ideal life for specific subject which can vary from culture to culture.

Example: In old western culture (Aryan or Roman culture), prevents women to work in public domain which old Islamic era promoted the involvement of women in medical, judicial and defense domains.

Argument according to Gender theory:

According to Social Learning theory people do certain roles which they learned from their societal culture, norms and tradition over the course of their lifetime. Thus, gender roles are learned from their society and thus society constructed.

vi. Education and language:

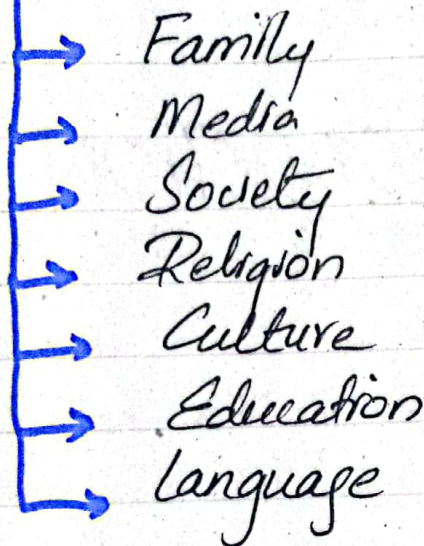
Children learn their ideas and perspectives of this world at an early age through their curricula and education. The type and quality of education or language participate in the construction of strict binary classification of genders in the society.

Example: The pronouns used in many language for the classification and identity of materials are strictly binary. Moreover, education system also emphasizes traditional gender roles and identities by demonstrations of girls always playing with dolls in books.

Argument according to Gender theory: The role of education and language can be explained by symbolic theory of gender construction. Many symbols are used for derogatory purposes referring to women and female gender.

FACTORS RESPONSIBLE

FOR GENDER CONSTRUCTION



III. CONCLUSION:

Thus it can be concluded that gender construction in any part of the world is influenced by many factors such as family, media, society, religion, culture, education or language. The factors are also equally argued and justified according to many gender theories.

QUESTION # 04

ANSWER

I. INTRODUCTION

The debate between sex and gender evolved since the conscience and awareness of gender and sex as conflicting ideologies. Sex is considered as natural description of identity or natural phenomenon while gender is determined by society based on shared principles, values, culture, traditions and norms. Thus, sex is categorized under natural classification while gender is categorized under natural group based on its affiliation of environment and society.

II. SEX VERSUS GENDER DEBATE

i. Determination:

Sex is determined by biological factors such as chromosome, genetic makeup, hormones, secondary sexual characteristics and genitalia. While gender is determined by society based on culture, norms, values and tradition.

Reflection through Nature Versus Nurture:

Nature argument indicates the natural or biological contribution to the identity of humans which demonstrates sex. While nurture argument illustrated the role of environment, race, class or culture in assigning the identity of people. Thus, sex is an ideological factor of natural debate while nurture debate indicates gender construction.

(ii) Division:

Sex is divided into three categories ~~etc.~~ into male, female and intersex, while gender has no clear categories and can be divided into many different groups based on subjective ideology e.g. transgender, queer, lesbian, gay etc.

Reflection through nature versus Nurture

The sex is divided into natural composition of human sexual organs or genital makeup. However, gender is constructed according to perspective of individual or environmental factors which could be conflicting to the ~~roles~~ traditional roles of society.

(iii) Evolution:

The sexual orientation of any individual could not be evolved naturally, while gender orientation can be altered through experiences or with change or evolution of society or social norms.

Reflection through Nature Versus Nurture.

The natural identity of a person remains the same from the beginning if not intervened with any external factor, while nurtural composition of human personality, thoughts, ideas evolve with the time and personal growth. This illustrates the evolution of gender construction with the passage of time.

iv, Approach:

The scope of Sex is confined to the Individual Identity is fundamental principle and thus shows conservative approach. However, gender is approach through several ideas of society, culture, tradition or culture and thus have broad scope.

Reflection through Nature Versus Nurture:

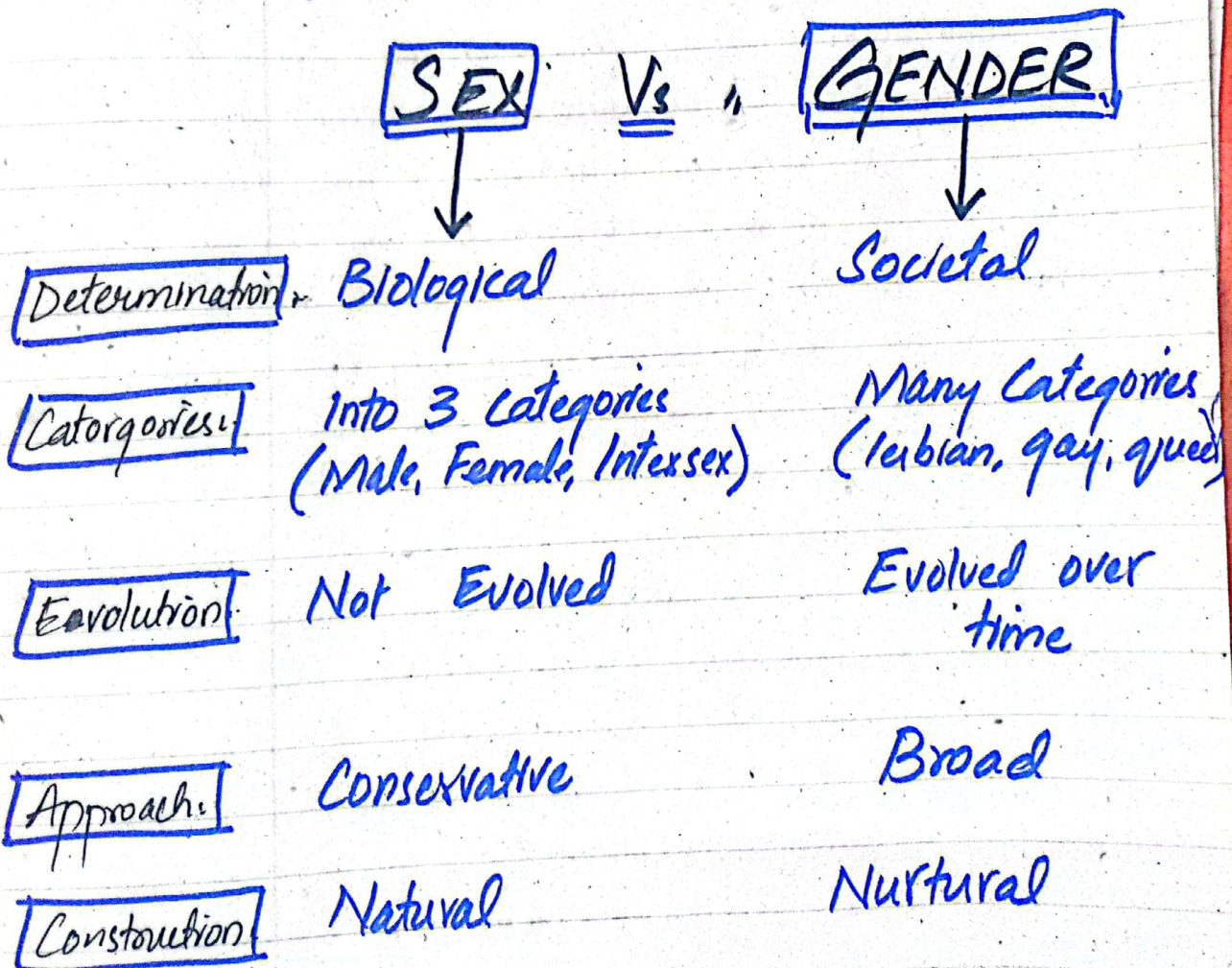
The natural ~~pro~~ argument of debate recognizes the narrow scope biological aspects for any individual, which nurtural argument assumes the part of external factors which contribute to human personality and ideology. Thus, natural arguments indicate sex as conservative reference which broad spectrum of ~~gen~~ nat nurtural ideas shows gender orientation.

v) Construction:

The sex is constructed based on biological set up such as body construction, body type or personality. While gender is constructed based on external factors such as body orientation, body perspective or body identification.

Reflection: through nature versus nurture:

The sex is constructed based on biological or natural factors from the birth. However, gender is constructed through nurturing mechanism of identification, perspectives and orientation.



CONCLUSION:

In a nutshell, sex is biologically determined. Natural argument in Nature Vs Nurture debate arguments sex as natural description, while gender is socially constructed. Thus, gender is illustrated through natural arguments of environment, culture, class, race and other external factors.

QUESTION # 03

ANSWER

INTRODUCTION:

Pakistani society faces many issues related to women problems, top among them is women subordination based on class distinction or patriarchy. The class distinction of women based on the societal standing can be justified by Marxist feminism or socialist feminism. It describes the discrimination of classes into bourgeois and proletariat indicates inequality from the core basic principles. Thus, Marxist feminism is best applicable to raise women status in Pakistani society.

MARXIST OR SOCIALIST FEMINISM:

(a) Class distinction:

The class distinction between Pakistani society is so much stretched that it sometimes overlooks the struggle of women in the country. The poor women are more prone to subordination of male and violence due to financial instability. Thus, the awareness of class distinction in the society explains the financial dependency of Pakistani women on their male partners.

(b) Patriarchy:

Intertwined nature of gender discrimination and patriarchy is engendered in Pakistani society. This is why many men get away from criminal activities related to

women abuse and harassment. The capitalism is established in a way to uphold the strength of elite men on the global economy. This domination of men in public as well as private life halt the freedom of women in Pakistan.

c) Division of labor:

The capitalism establishes clear demarcation between the division of labour, where elite groups make economic policies favorable to them, while poor people work under them according to their objectives. The instable financial opportunities for poor halt women economic growth and can not participate in the economy of the country.

d) Unpaid domestic work:

The marxist feminist believes that the system is established to provide men in every aspect of life. Women are commanded to

do housechores and domestic work without any pay along with public work. This is why, females are burdened with dual responsibility of home as well as outside work. Many Pakistani women faces psychological stress due to abundant pressure faced in everyday life routine and unlimited roles.

e) Gender pay gap:

Marxist feminist believes that women are given underprivileged job and also low wages as compared to males. As demonstrated by many fields or professional jobs in Pakistan, most of jobs or policy-making opportunities are given to males due to their societal place. Furthermore, they are also given less wages in media, journalism or industries of the country.

(A) Gender based Violence

Pakistani women face abuse, harassment, violence due to their gender. Marxist feminist believed that the patriarchy in the capitalist system harbors gender based violence. Recent incident of Noor Mukadam illustrates the extreme discrimination against the women so much as their lives are considered as a mere commodity. Thus, women issues related to capitalism in Pakistan society ^{are} clearly illustrated by Marxist feminist.

MARXIST FEMINISM

APPLICABLE TO WOMEN

ISSUES IN PAKISTAN

- Class distinction
- Patriarchy
- Division of Labour
- Unpaid Domestic labour
- Exploitation of Women
- Gender based Violence

CONCLUSION:

In a nutshell, women issues in Pakistan can be best demonstrated by marxist or socialist feminism, which indicates women subordination in every field of life.

QUESTION # 06

ANSWER

I. INTRODUCTION:

Throughout the history of gender consciousness, many theories were evolved demonstrating the factors contributing to gender discrimination, inequality and polarity. The theories of modernization and dependency illustrates the relevance of economy and industrialization on gender equality. These theories also demonstrates the role of capitalism and free trade in subjugation of women in social and economic spheres of life.

ii, Modernization THEORY:

Modernization theory explains the pathway of modernization and progress is only through western ideology. Developing nations must evolve their policies and values according to industrial or western countries. Every nation passes through various stages from beginning to end. The peak of progress is only attained if nation cooperate industrial growth based on modern values or western policies.

Relevance with Gender Equality:

Modernization theory in gender studies depicts the traditional gender roles and division of labour. Furthermore, unpaid labour or gender pay gaps in developing countries further strengthens gender inequality. Marginalized groups or genders are empowered by peer groups in the industrial society and thus halt gender equality in society.

(iii) Dependency Theory:

Dependency theory illustrates two groups of countries which are dependent on each other. Core countries extract raw materials from peripheral countries, exploit cheap labour and are developed industrial countries. While peripheral countries are developing countries which are poor industries and import manufacturing goods from core countries.

Relevance with Gender Equality.

Dependency theory demonstrates the exploitation of genders in public domains with disproportionate access to resources, austerity measures imposed by developed countries and disproportionate division of labour. This impacts gender equality and distribution of resources for marginalized genders.

iv. Subordination of women In the light of theories

a. Division of labour:

Women are made to work domestically in private domain, while men are emphasized to work outside the home in public domain. This division of labour often contribute to subordinate women financially as well as physically.

b. Unpaid Domestic Work:

Women are subordinated financially by pushing them to remain in homes and do domestic house chore and care work. For these domestic job, they are not paid, ~~and~~ conversely, they are ~~not~~ also not allowed to work outside for their financial needs.

(c) Access to resources.

The dependency theory evaluate the division of resources within the society. The developed countries allocate less resources to developing countries by importing cheap raw materials and cheap labour. In return they export expensive manufacturing goods, which ultimately affect women in private domains.

(d) Gender Based Violence:

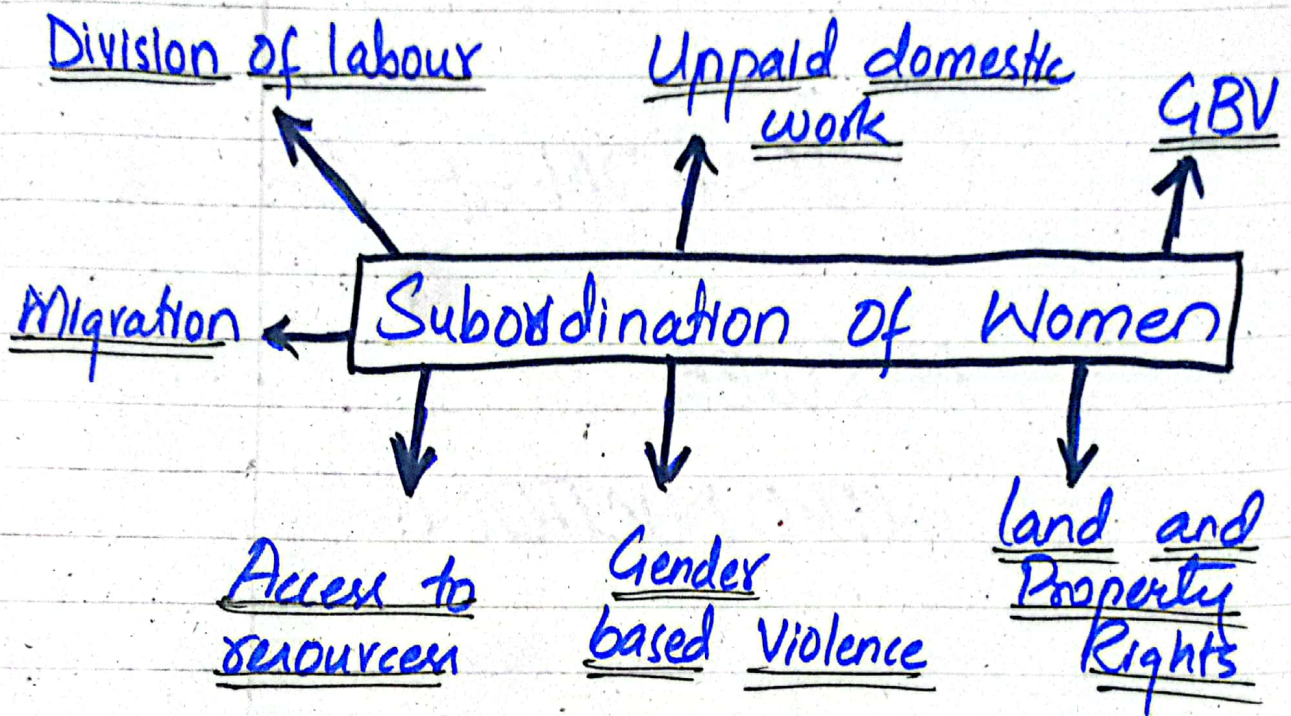
The modernization theory illustrates different stages and factors involved in the evolution of any nation. Many factors such as patriarchy or traditional gender roles are demonstrated as unmodernized in contrast to western modern practices. The prevalence of patriarchy in developing countries contributes violence on women based on their gender, class or race.

e) Land and Property Rights:

Women are emphasized to live under protection of male partners. The dependency theory involves the role of males in acquiring land and property rights to participate in capitalism ideology of developed countries. The subjugation of women by preventing their property rights as seen in early 20th Century clearly indicates subjugation of women in public domain.

f) Migration:

The dependency theory contributes to the migration of people from developing countries in core countries for better opportunities. They leave behind their families increasing the burden of women to actively participate in private as well as public jobs.



CONCLUSION:

Thus, modernization and dependency theories contribute to gender inequality and subordination of women in public domain such as access of resources, division of labour and private domain such as gender based violence, property rights, unpaid domestic work.