DATE: Anum (065)

# Part - II

Q2 What are the fundamental differences between Gender studies and woman sludies? Substanliate your arguments with examples. Highlights the current status of woman sladies in Pakislan!

| Gender Studies | Woman studies |
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| **Emergence** | |
| Gender studies emerged in 1980s | Woman studies emerged in 1960s. |
| **Focus on as a Social Construct** | |
| Gender studies explores the concept of gender as a social and cultural construct that effects all people, including men, women, and non-binary individuals For example, focuses on how males, females are portrayed in media. | Woman studies primarly only focuses on the social and cultural experiences of women. For example, "The Feminine Myshique" by Betty Friedan explained the experience of woman in 1960s. |

## Scopes

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| Gender studies have a broader scope covers a wide range of topics related to gender including masculinity, femininity, queer studies and the intersectionality of gender with race, class etc. | Woman studies have narrow scope focused on women's role and their contribution. |

## Roles in Society

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| Gender studies explores how gender roles influence various aspect of life or society, including economics, politics, and family life. for example; role as a parents etc. | women's study focuses on how women's roles have been shaped by and contribute to society. For example: women role as a wife, role in office etc. |

## Power Dynamic and Patriarchy

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| Gender studies explores power dynamic related to gender, including how power is distributed between men, women, and different gender identities. For example, Powers at workplace. | Woman studies focuses on understanding and challenging the patriarchy and how it has historically oppressed women. |

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## Current Status of Women's Studies in Pakistan:-

Women's studies in Pakistan has gained more recognition in recent years, with a growing focus on addressing gender inequality and promoting women's rights through academic research and activism. Several universities now offer women's studies programs, such as the **University of Karachi** and **Quaid-i-Azam university** in Islamabad, where courses are designed to explore women's roles in society, history and culture.

One notable example is the **Centre of Excellence for Women's studies (CEWS)** at the University of Karachi, which has been actively involved in research and advocacy for women's issues in Pakistan. The center conducts seminars, workshops, and research projects focused on topics like women's health, education, and legal rights.

Another example is the **Aurat Foundation**, a leading women's

rights organization that collaborates with academic institutions to integrate Women's studies into broader educational and social programs. The foundation has been pivotal in pushing for policy changes and raising awareness about issues such as domestic violence, child marriage, and women's political participation.

Despite these advancements, women's studies in Pakistan still faces challenges such as societal resistance to feminist discourse and limited resources for acadmic programs. However, the increasing involvement of universities and NGOs in promoting gender equality indicates a positive trend in the development of women's studies in the country.

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Q.No.7:-
Discuss different theories of Gender Based Violence. What form of violence is more prevalent in Pakistan and how it can be eradicted?

## Gender:-
According to WHO, Gender refers to the characteristics of women, men, girls and boys that are socially constructed. This includes norms, behaviors and roles associated with being a women, man, girl or boy as well as relationships with each other.

## Gender based Violence (GBV):-
Gender based violence (GBV) is violence directed against a person because of that person's gender or violence that affects persons of a particular gender disproportionately

It can include violence against women, domestic violence against women, men or children living the same domestic unit. Although women and girls are the

main victims of gender based violence, it also causes severe harm to families and communities.

## Theories of Gender-Based Violence :-

### 1- Patriarchal theory :-

Patriarchal theory explains that gender based violence is a result of patriarchal societies where men hold power and control over women. It argues that such violence is a way to maintain male dominance.

In many societies, including parts of Pakistan, violence against women can be linked to traditional views that men should control women's behaviour and choices.

### 2- Social learning theory :-

Social learning theory posits that people learn behaviour through observing others. If individuals witness violence or are exposed to violence behaviour in their environment, they may come to see it as normal or acceptable.

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For example, if children grow up in households where domestic violence is prevalent, they might learn to accept ~~ther~~ this behaviour in their own relationship.

3- Structural theory:-

This theory focuses on how societal structures and institutions contributes to GBV. It looks at how social, economic, and political system creates environment where violance can thrive-

→ Prevalent forms of violence in Pakistan:-

In Pakistan, honor-based violence is particularly prevalent. It includes acts like force marriages, domestic violance, and acid attacks.

One recent disturbing example is the case in Karachi where father cuts legs of his daughter as a punishment for seeking divorce, This extreme form of violence highlights the severe consequences of patriarchal attitudes and the misuse of traditional

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Customs to control women's lives.

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