

THE INTERSECTION OF RACE

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AND GENDER:

(M T W T F S)

HOW WOMEN OF COLOUR EXPERIENCE DOUBLE DISCRIMINATION

Introduction

Thesis Statement:

Women from past to present has always been considered as a suppressive entity. However, when the women and race are black women are considered subordinate to the women. This takes us back to history from which the discrimination between the 'blacks' and 'whites' emanated. Since then the whites have been dominant over the black, specifically the black women. Thus, leading to double discrimination, which have impacted women's position in society. However measures can be helpful in addressing the problem.

2. Women of Colour and Double Discrimination

3. Reasons for women facing Discrimination on Basis of Race and Gender.

(i) Slavery in history has instilled in the minds of people that the black people women belong to a lower status.
(⇒ The African slaves and the colour)

(ii) White has always been dominant over the black ^{and hence} making the black women a marginalized group.
(⇒ white man's burden) _(book publication by whites)

(iii) Women and their race are two intertwined concepts which ~~are~~ is not highly talked upon leading to alienation of women, specifically the black women.

(black occupying labor class, facing harrasments)
 → case of Mukhtaran Mai

(iv) Women belonging to black race have been deprived of basic necessities which makes her incapable enough to speak for herself ^{HTS} leading to isolation.

(philosophical quotation on women).

(v) From the first day till date women on the basis of race have been segregated. Black women appear to be more marginalized than white.

4. Impact of Women facing Discrimination because of their Gender and Race:

(2) Historical concept of slavery has led the people to push the black women to lower status depriving her of the position she deserves in society.

(black women in American history)

(education for all → Prophet)

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- (ii) The dominance of the whites have led ^{to} the black women suppression and thus have alienated them.
- (iii) The absence of dialogue on the topic of suppression of black women have further aggravated the situation.
- (iv) The deprivation from basic necessities have created a barrier between black women and their education, as well as their desires.
- (v) Segregation between the white women and blacks have led to distinctions, and have confined them to lower positions and employments in the society.

5. Measures to overcome The gap between the segregations in society on basis of Gender and Race

(i) Through awareness and education masses could be taught the importance of each and every individual in society, specifically the black women.

(ii) The concept of dominance of women white should be brought to an end as countries where each segment of society functions in unity become prosperous.

(iii) The black women should be integrated as a topic in curriculums to teach the masses and children that they too are humans and deserve to live like others.

(vi) The sea marginalized groups should be given platform where they could speak for themselves, and their needs.

(v) The segregation should be brought to an end through governance and policies.

Conclusion

⇒ (Zig Ziglar Quote)

The intersection of Race and Gender: How Women of Colour Experience Double Discrimination

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When it comes to attractions and disapprovals, the white and black hues have always participated in this discussion. From past to present segregations have been made on the basis of 'black colour' and 'white colour'. Historically, the concept of black first emerged with the emergence of slavery. Slaves from America were a high demand for the purpose of agriculture and crops harvesting. With the increase in demand, more and more slaves were transported from Africa to different nations or the then super powers. Since the Africans appeared to be black in colour, the concept of discrimination on the basis of black emanated. Thus considering the person with black coloured skin subordinate to the one with white. This idea further created distinction between the white women and black women.

The 'women' themselves were considered a suppressive and subordinate entity in the past. Even today, women are deprived of their rights, but on the basis of race the white women are considered superior than the blacks.

This internal segregation has badly impacted the black-skinned women in the society and has increasingly marginalized them. Due to this, the women have been facing double discrimination — one externally ~~out~~, on the basis of gender, and other within the women; on the basis of race and colour.

In any society or any part of the world, two women between two women — one black and the other white, the later is given more attention than the ~~white~~ black former. This is because since childhood it has been engraved in the minds of people that the black colour is subordinate and the white colour is superior. People having a black skin tone has always been looked down upon which has led to their isolation ~~into~~ within the community or society. Moreover, women with black skin tone have ~~further~~ been deprived of their rights and basic necessities. The doubled discrimination of faced by women have had a huge impact not only on women but also on the society.

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One must know that every branch tree has its roots. In a similar way, the double discrimination of women, on the basis of gender and race, have reasons that has made the topic pervasive in today's world of discussions. Among the major reasons, one of the most important reason is the 'mindset'. This discriminatory mindset has been build in classrooms where on the first step in the ladder, the student are taught the historical emergence of the black. Not only historically but also in colours the black is not considered a good colour. It is represented as dark and hollow, and has no attraction.

These two possible reasons have lead to the marginalization of the people with black skin tone. Experiments have shown that children tend to choose white colour more than the black.

Moreover, the history of slavery in classrooms have taught the students the association of blacks with slavery and labour. Thus, the children are instilled with the idea that labour belongs to blacks. This mindset has also marginalized the black women as

women have not only been segregated on basis of gender but also on the basis of race. The history of slavery have thus increased the gap between the black women and society.

Besides, the white skin tone or the whites are always considered dominant. Because of this reason, the super powers in the past have exploited the oxidents, or others. The discrimination with the women community have also taken birth because of this. The white women, even today, are considered superior to the black women. This internal segregation have alienated the black women which has led to the fractures within the women community. Even though, women itself is looked down upon and considered a subject of suppression, but the black women faces double discrimination. History provides us evidences that the first book published by a woman was not a black skin toned woman, but a white. Later on, after many years the black women started publishing, but that too in little quantity. This marginalization has acted as shackles, and has impeded the

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progress of women. Even history also informs us that the blacks were considered as others, and the colonialists thought to believe that it was their responsibility to civilize them. This concept was known as white man's burden. The blacks or others were considered as a burden. Moreover, silence over the marginalization of the dark-skinned have further aggravated the situation.

In order to alleviate the position of women in society, one must be aware of the reasons that has caused alienation of this group of people. Women and race have been intertwined with one another. As earlier mentioned, women on the basis of gender have been subjected to violence and marginalized, but the addition of race with this concept have further impacted women, and alienated them. Moreover, this topic of segregation of the women have not been given attention, so it still looms over each and every corner of the globe and is yet to be addressed. However, there is a huge list of problems ahead of a double discrimination of women as

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this topic is not considered a priority. Due to the lack of attention towards this topic, women; and specifically black dark-toned women have been lagging in every important aspect of life. As an example, the labor and working class is mostly occupied by the dark-toned women when it comes to women centered employments. In every city mostly ^{dark-toned} women are seen as subordinates.

Not only have ^{these} women been given the lower positions in employments, but also have been deprived of basic necessities. Due to lack of availability of opportunities and facilities, these women have no awareness on how to speak for themselves. Not only this leads to their silence in important discussions, but also their lack of education have further pushed them to the bottom. These women or girls who have made it to schools or any institution have faced harassment not only at the hands of men, but also the white women. Reports show that black girls have been bullied more than the white women, world wide. ~~There~~

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From the past to present, women have faced subjugation. Not only the ~~and~~ uneducated segment of the society have looked down upon women, but also the highly educated and intellectuals have, through their works, shown suppression of women, and then the race they belong to.

According to a philosopher, "She is a mere incubator of men's seed". In addition to this, a Greek philosopher, Aristotle, was of the view that God mistakenly made women and slaves. This leads to the idea that women and slavery were two concepts that were discussed together. Slaves being the blacks, and women being the ~~sub~~ subordinates have been looked down upon since day first. These discriminations faced by women have impacted their day-to-day life and have alienated them in the society.

The concept of slavery ^{associated} attached to the black-women have had a huge impact of on women having dark-skin tone. Since the past, white has been considered the beauty standard. These marginalised women have been made insecure through the ideas that women who have a dark-skin tone belong to lower status in the society. This have, thus, hindered their path to progress and development, and have

deprived the women of the position she deserves in the society. Such as, white women in modeling are prioritized more than the black women. Similarly, women of dark skin tone have to wear more makeup to become beautiful. All the beauty standards made by the societies have given birth to insecurity within the women community. These insecurities have thus stopped them from achieving their desired goals. They have become confined to specific positions in the society. Not only does this affect women, but also this hinders the communities path to progress.

Moreover, the white-skin-toned people have dominated each and every corner of the world. From alpha to omega, the whites are the rulers and the blacks are the suppressed. Similarly, black women have not only been subjugated at the hands of black men, but also the white women. Reports show that black women working as maids in under-developed countries face violence at the hands of the white women and, sometimes, even her husband. This

violence inflicted upon her becomes a perennial trauma ~~to~~ that she carries throughout her life. Not only the tale doesn't end here, she faces threats, harassment, and even rape. Many of these cases remain unreported or ~~either~~ ^{such} these reports are given no attention at all.

Furthermore, silence on their subjugation and suppression have further aggravated the situation. ~~with~~ The impunity has led the perpetrators continue the cycle of suppression and violence. These women have now become an easy access and there is no fear of harm inflicted upon them. Lack of laws against such events of violence have made it easy for the perpetrators to harm this segment of society.

The case of Mukhtaran Mai is a highlighted example as to how the perpetrators are released and the case remains pending.

Besides, Education being the most important part of human progress is ~~not~~ not mostly not accessible to this part of the society. Because of lack of education, most of the basic problems of this part of society remains unaddressed. Most of

the women who are capable enough to hold high positions in society are deprived of it merely because of their skin tone. Their desires remain within them from cradle to grave, and they remain unable to live their life according to their desires. In under developed countries, such as Pakistan, the black-skin toned-women or girls since childhood take part in labour for bread and butter.

Additionally, this segregation have led the ~~the~~ black women, in different parts of the world, confined to small and lower positions in the society. They do not get access to employment, neither are they provided with such opportunities. Due to this, not only they suffer but their children also remain inside the box. Their 'mindset' remains such that they too are not eager to occupy the high position.

This is because it is instilled in them by the society, that they do not deserve the higher position in the society. This gap cannot be brought to an end, however, measures could be taken to minimize the gap between the black-women and other segments of the society.

For this, awareness and education can play a crucial role to inform the masses about the importance of how these women can play role in development of society. Through education one can inject in the minds the idea that these women are humans and deserve to live a life as other humans do. These women should be integrated in every field. Also, should be provided access to education. On the importance of education Prophet Muhammad P.B.U.H once said, "Education is mandatory for both men and women."

Moreover, the concept of dominance should be brought to an end. This would take centuries to be eradicated. However, efforts can be made to end ~~the~~ minimize ~~the~~ reduce the concept of dominance and bring equality. A country ~~can~~ cannot prosper when there is a huge gap and discrimination between its citizens. In order to foster, society must work together, hand-in-hand, to become prosperous. Every religion teaches the importance of equality, and so everyone must keep in mind that even God favours equality and is averse to discrimination.

Moreover, the 'Black-women's' their and segregation should be integrated as a topic in subjects so the students understand how history have manipulated the minds of the people. Also, through this awareness the gap between the marginalized group and society could be reduced. This will also lead to the progress of the nation and society. This time we must learn from history and prove a philosopher wrong, who once said, "we learn from history (that we do not learn from history."

In addition to this, the marginalized group should be given a platform where they could speak up for themselves. This way the common people will become aware of their problems, and thus could decrease the gap between different segments of society. For this, the government should play a crucial role in providing them with such platform platforms where these women could keep their demands. In this matter, social media and other similar platforms can be helpful in decreasing & addressing their problems.

Thus, this segregation could be easily minimized through good governance and policies.

Not only will this strengthen the marginalized community, but will also bolster the nation and community. Co-existence and equality plays a huge role in development. Such policies where equality is promoted can bring a huge difference.

In order to conclude, women of colour experience double discrimination, because of multiple reasons. It involves history and many other aspects which have impacted the position of such women in society. However, these issues can be minimized by giving them careful attention. "If you can dream it then you can achieve it" - Zig Ziglar.