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Part II.

Q 4

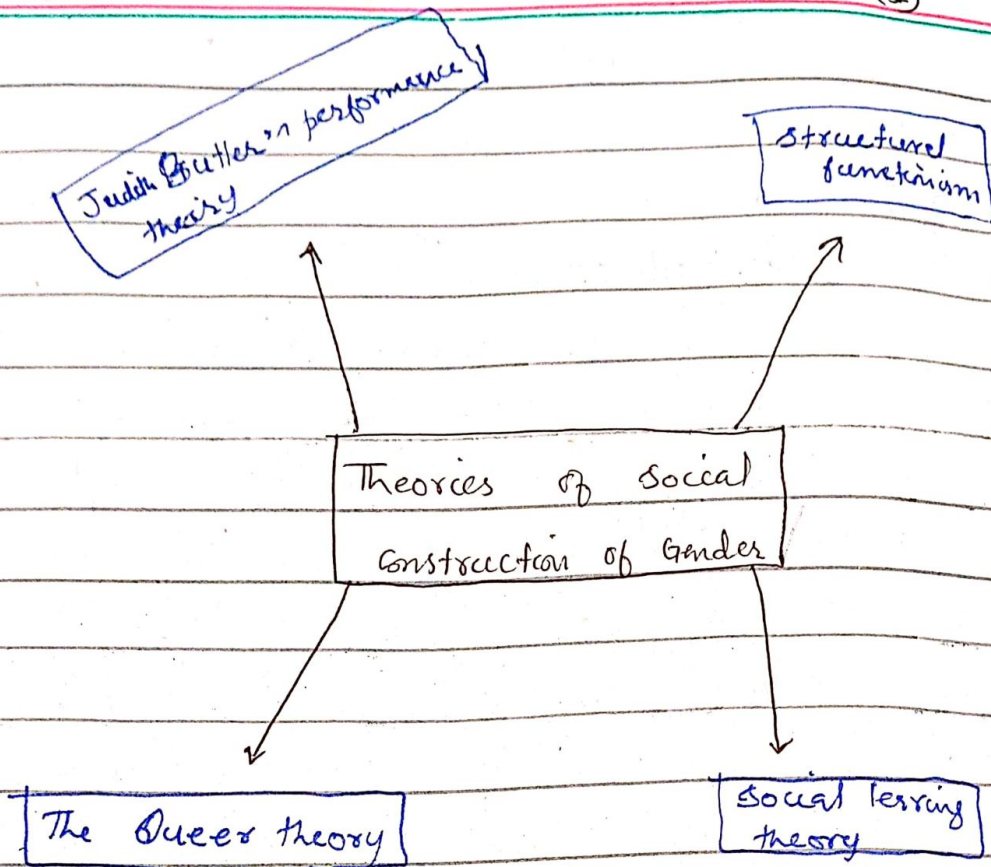
Ans:

Introduction:

Gender refers to the roles associated with the phenomenon of masculine and feminine. These gender roles are socially constructed, meaning masculinity and femininity is determined by society. As Simone de Beauvoir said, "one is not born woman; one becomes woman". This quote clears that society constructs the gender of a person by assigning it different roles. The social construction of gender is done through several ways such as norms, mores and family. Moreover, there are several theories about social construction of gender. Some of them are given below.

(1) Different theories of social construction of gender.

Numerous theories have given a frame work regarding how gender is constructed by society. Some most important theories are given below.



(b) Judith Butler's performance Theory:

Judith Butler's performance is of great significance. Judith Butler in her book "Gender Trouble" writes, "Gender is not real, rather its repeated performance makes it real". To put differently, if a person stops performing specific gender roles assigned to it by society, that person can change his/her identity. Therefore, repeated performance of gender ascertain the gender of a person.

(3)

(ii) The Queer Theory:

The queer theory has addressed the issue of gender construction in a great length. The Queer is a umbrella term for Lesbian, Gays, Bisexual, Transsexual and Transgender. This theory claims that gender is fluid concept, meaning its meaning is not fixed. It emphasizes that fluidity of gender can seen in the these different genders other than binary divide (Male and female). It also questions the heteronormality of sex as a preferred mode for a society.

(iii) Structural Functionalism Theory:

This theory emphasis on the division of labour forces on the basis of genders: Men to public sphere and Women to private sphere. This theory emphasizes on social norms and values which are constructing gender roles to maintain status quo. Thus, gender of a person is socially constructed.

(vi) Social Learning Theory:
 According to this theory, a person learns to be masculine or feminine through social learning in family, among peers or at social institutions. When a boy or a girl is born, they behave in a similar way. However, their behavior takes a paradigm shift when their interaction with society is increased. The Boys are taught to tough, aggressive and out-going. Similarly, the girls are taught to be kind, stay at home and be more obedient to male members. Therefore, all gender roles are learnt through socialization of individuals.

Conclusion:

There is no doubt that gender is socially constructed. It is society that decides whether a person be male or female. The society uses different mechanisms

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Such as norms and values to accomplish this task. ^{Moreover,} there are numerous theories about social construct of gender. The most important of theories are Judith Butler's performance theory, The Queer theory and so on. These theories throw light on the fact that how society constructs the gender identity of a person.

Q 6

Radical & liberal feminism:

Ans

Introduction

Feminism is the name of movement, aiming at achieving equal rights and opportunities for women. Its primary focus is to achieve gender equality in all aspects of life. There are different variants of this which uses different tactics and means to achieve the same goal: liberation of women and gender equality. Of them, two most important types of feminism are: Radical and liberal feminism. These two types are quite different from each other in their approach, objectives and strategies. Before discussing its differences, let's take a brief view of these two variants of feminism.

(A) Overview of liberal feminism:

liberal feminism started in 19th and 20th century in the Europe. The primary aim of this movement was to end subjection and oppression

of women in every form and shape. It aims to accomplish it through changes in social norms and legal means.

The Main ^{liberal} theorist and Their views

① Mary Wollstonecraft: Book: "A Vindication of Women's Right"

She was the first woman to talk about women right. She said: "I do not want women to have power over men, but over themselves"

(ii) Judith Butler:

Another ^{feminist} liberal feminist is Judith Butler. She writes in her book, "Other Sex", "Women are treated and subjected as other sex throughout history"

(B) Overview of Radical Feminism

Radical feminism emerged to address the issues of liberal feminism. It is more militant in its approach as the term radical indicates, meaning rooting out. It took radical approach to uproot patriarchy once and for

all- It is more androgynistic approach as it wants to do away with all andro-centric institutions which are at the heart of subjugation of women. As Germaine Greer says, "All men hate some women some of the time - Some men hate all women all of the time".

Comparison and Contrast of Radical and Liberal Feminism:

These two types of feminism are poles apart in their approach, strategies, tactics and nature. Some of their variant points are discussed below.

(i) Different Objectives:

Liberal Feminism aims at achieving suffrage rights, more autonomy and more education rights.

Whereas Radical feminism focuses on elimination of patriarchy, more reproductive liberation and equal pay rights.

(ii) Difference in Approach.

Liberal feminism focuses on

achieving goals through changes in existing structure and through legal means.

Radical feminism focuses on dismantling of patriarchy and other andro-centric institutions.

(iii) Difference in scope:

Liberal feminism is more broader in scope as it aims to achieve women's rights in every aspect of life.

Radical feminism is limited to uprooting patriarchy and their views can stir up chaos in the society.

(B) Liberal feminism is more suitable for Pakistan to uplift women's status:

Liberal feminism is well-suited for Pakistan to elevate the status of women. It can be of great help to address several issues in our society. Some of them are given below.

(i) It can help Pakistani women to achieve equal opportunities:

liberal feminist focuses on education of women. "Mary Wollstonecraft says, " Women should be provide equal education opportunities so as to be more autonomous beings". This will help Pakistani women to achieve more education and be autonomous.

(ii) It can pave the way for legal reforms for Pakistani ~~for~~ women

legal reforms have been the main area of focus for radical feminists. This can help Pakistani women to implement laws regarding violence or other issues related to their oppression.

(iii) It can aid Pakistani women to achieve more suffrage rights.

Suffrage rights have been the top-most priority of liberal feminism. As Pakistani women are not given proper voting rights, this movement ^{would} help them to achieve that.

Conclusion:

liberal and radical feminism are worlds apart in their approach, focus, strategies and application. Radical are more militant, whereas liberal are more soft in nature. Moreover, liberal feminism can be of a great help to elevate the status of Pakistani women through legal reforms and more educational opportunities.

Q2

Ans

Introduction:

Autonomy vs integration has been a very hot debate in gender studies. Some feminists are of view that gender studies should be interdisciplinary and integrated into other disciplines. On the other hand, the majority of feminist thinkers hold this view that gender studies should be more autonomous, meaning it should emerge as independent discipline. This autonomous argument is stronger than integration view because it helps gender studies to maintain its unique identity, more independent research and more resources to focus on the issues of women.

(A) Understanding viewpoint of autonomy debate.

The pro-autonomy approach wants gender studies to develop as unique discipline, away from the influence of other disciplines.

It will help to maintain its uniqueness and creativity. It would provide more time and space to do research. As Mary Evans says, "We want more space and time to focus on the stories of women and formulate our strategies to address the problem of Women".

(2) Understanding Integration debate:

According to them, gender studies will progress rapidly if it is integrated into other disciplines. It will address gender-blindness of other disciplines and help to address other stereotypes associated with women. Therefore, they claim that women studies is better suited if it is integrated into other disciplines.

(3) How Autonomist debate holds stronger view than integrationist view:

Autonomists hold stronger views than integrationists in the

following ways:

(i) Enhanced Independent Research:

Autonomous view is more strong because it provides space for more independent feminist research in their own field. As it can be evident in USA, UK and other countries, gender studies has its own unique research facilities:

(ii) Proper allocation of Research:

With help of large financial pie and man power, gender studies can maintain its unique status, This is only possible if resources are utilized effectively. For that to happen, gender studies must emerge as autonomous discipline in its own right.

(iii) ^{More} Awareness of gender crimes:

Autonomist says that if gender studies is not independent, it could hurt gender studies status. The more the autonomy is a discipline, the greater the awareness of gender issues.

(iv) A source of inspiration for new feminist to vent their views:

Autonomous gender studies will act as a magnet to attract diverse and new feminist thoughts in discipline. In this way, it will flourish more rapidly -

Conclusion:

There is no doubt that autonomous debate holds more strength views than integration because it makes gender studies as independent and helps it to enrich its research, proper allocation of resources and more time to address gender issues - moreover, An independent gender study discipline can be a magnet for other feminist to vent their views -

Q 1

Ans

Introduction:

Gender studies is the outcome of a third wave feminism. Before it, women studies existed but it only focuses on the subject of women. Therefore, a need for more broader discipline to talk about the issues of other gender like lesbian, gays and queer was felt. This leads to emergence of gender studies. In simple terms, gender studies means the study of the world through gender perspective, how gender is constructed and what main problems ^{other genders} are facing.

(1) Emergence of Gender Studies as a Discipline:

Gender studies has emerged as a discipline due to several significant developments. Some of them are given below-

(i) Third wave feminism: A shift from binary to fluid identity:

The third wave feminism

acknowledges the fluid nature of gender. As Judith Butler says, "I am much more open about my gender identity". This provided much-needed impetus for the emergence of gender studies as a discipline:

(i) The Queer theory and LGBTs movement.

The movement of LGBTs and the term queer paved the way for gender studies to emerge as a discipline.

(2) Gender Studies as a discipline:

Gender studies refers to study of phenomenon of gender. Its primary focus is on how the society construct gender roles by assigning certain specific identities to different gender. It challenges heteronormativity and focuses on social construct of gender. It aims to understand how everything, like clothes, language is gendered. It helps to understand the double standards

of society. Therefore, gender studies is a discipline in a great significance.

(3) Evolution of Gender Studies in Pakistan:

Gender studies has evolved in different stages in Pakistan. Some of them are as follows.

(i) Creation of Center of Gender Studies in Uchre (1994).

This center provided much-needed impetus to gender studies in Pakistan. It provided safe atmosphere for independent research in Pakistan society and how gender is viewed and treated in our society. Moreover, it provided insights on lived experiences of gender crimes in our society.

(ii) Creation of Women Ministry (2005)

It was created with a motive to make women more independent and help

to pen down in their favour.

(4) Current status of gender studies in Pakistan.

At present, gender studies has gained more currency across the Pakistan as different universities are offering different courses of gender studies. Some of them are given below -

(i) Gender studies department in Quaid-e-Azam university

(ii) Gender studies department in Karachi university

(iii) Gender studies department in Allama Iqbal open university

Conclusion:

After the narrow approach of women studies, gender studies emerged as a discipline. It focuses on the social construction of gender and how the gender is

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constructed in society. It is outcome of third wave feminism. Moreover, gender studies has gained prominence in Pakistan as different universities are offering gender studies as independent discipline. Therefore, gender studies is going to gain more prominence in Pakistan in the days to come.