

Ayesha Monir  
Batch-350

QNO6

Compare and contrast liberal feminism and Radical feminism. Among these two feminism, which one is best applicable to elevate women status in Pakistan?

**Feminism:**

The word feminism itself originated from the french word feminisme. In the nineteenth century, either as a medical term to describe the feminisation of a male body or to describe women with masculine traits,

It soon became understood to denote a political stance of someone committed to changing the social position of women. Since then the term has taken on the sense of one who believes that women are subjugated because of their sex and that women deserve at least formal equality in the eyes of the law.

Mary Wollstonecraft - as 'feminists' in acknowledgement of the connections between their arguments and those of modern feminism. Women were given the right to vote in 1920 as a result of the feminist movements that began in 1850's

All feminists agree that women suffer social and material inequities simply because of their biological identity. They are all committed to challenging this idea, but they differ in the way they propose to challenge it.

**Liberal feminism:**

Liberal feminism draws on the diversity of liberal thought dominant in western society since the Enlightenment and affirms that women's subordinate social position can be addressed by existing political processes under

democracy.

they believe that women should be given the same opportunities in political, economic, educational and that they have the same mental capacity as men. For liberals the key battle is access to education because if men and women are educated equally then it follows that they will get equal access to society. Liberal feminists do not use the language of revolution or liberation favoured by radicals and socialists. They believe that democracy itself is naturally adaptable to equality for both sexes. It is based on individualism which states that all humans have same rational nature and share same values. In addition, liberal feminists would be more likely to accept in limited terms that women and men might well be suited to the separate sphere of home and the workplace and simply lobby for greater recognition of housework and caring (the wages for housework debate in 1970s emerged largely from this position.) However women should have the right to choose their future and have it chosen for them.

**Notable advocates:**

- 1) Mary Wollstonecraft wrote "A vindication of the rights of women"
- 2) John Stuart Mill also believed in equal rights for the both sexes

**Time Period:**

Began in 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> century with Mary Wollstonecraft.

**How can changes be brought:**

— through acts of legislation that remove the barriers for women.

- these acts of legislation demand equal opportunities and rights for women.

- liberal feminist believes that removing these barriers directly challenges the ideologies of patriarchy as well as liberates women.

### Salient features.

- women need to become like man by aspiring for male values through education etc.

- their primary focus is on individual autonomy, rights, liberty and independence. Emphasise the power of the individual to change things.

- they believe that change can be brought about by making important acts of legislation and raising consciousness through articles, columns, education etc.

### CRITICISM:

- It does not focus on the patriarchal social structure but on individuals.

- It focuses too much on the metamorphosis of women in men and disregards the traditional role of women and its importance.

- It is only for women who have a middle class, heterosexual, white background.

### Radical feminism:

Early radical feminism believed that men <sup>as</sup> apart of the problem should be part of the solution. This was a theme in early radical feminism, even though radical feminism is usually associated in the Popular Consciousness with separatism and man-hating. Radical feminists particularly in USA, emerged largely from new left and civil rights political groupings. Their politics was broadly radical left, but they became hugely disenchanted with male-dominated power play witnessed in

left wing radical groupings and formed the women's liberation movement in order to allow a space for the consideration of women's oppression outside of the male-oriented knowledge and politics. they believe that a women-centered politics could only be devised in a woman only space. so they focus on a policy of separatism at least at the level of policy making and meetings. they wanted a political formation free from the male defects based movements and hierarchal structures.

Many of their aspirants have been ridiculed or misunderstood by others and radical feminists are all too often sent up as dangerous, man hating lesbians, totally obsessed with the politically correct, partly because the way in which they wanted to shape their own movement was intended to reflect their rejection of anything that smacked of the male <sup>political</sup> imperative.

### Notable Advocates.

Mary Daly was an advocate of this theory.  
time period.

Arose during the second wave of feminism, in 1960's

### Salient features:

- women are being seen as the "other" to the male norm
- oppose patriarchy.
- then try to abolish patriarchy by challenging existings norm.
- reproductive rights such as right to abortion
- Sexuality is the root cause of oppression and women are oppressed by Sex Industry.

### Criticism:-

It does not address issues of race and class

- Radical feminism often resorts to violence and proclaims hate speech.
- Radical feminist methods for resolving tensions are impractical and inhuman.
- It is important to change a structure without involving men.

Liberal feminism is the best applicable to elevate women status in Pakistan.

Liberal feminism is the best feminism to elevate women status in Pakistan because they use soft tactic to bring a reform in society not revolution through hard tactic. they demands that:

- ① Individualism "All men created equal by God"
- ② they are the proponent of democratic system.
- ③ Proponents of reforms
- ④ demand for household wages.
- ⑤ Right to choose future.

→ In 2009 - women literacy rate in Pakistan = 26%.

→ In 2010, 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment Article 25(a)

"Indicates that 5-16 yrs children free compulsory education."

→ And literacy rate turns into

2012-2013 = 46%.

QNo 7:

Discuss different theories of gender based violence. what form of violence is more prevalent in Pakistan and how it can be eradicated?

Gender based violence refers to any form of violence or discrimination that is directed towards individuals based on their gender identity or that disproportionately



A man can be violent because of these three factors:

→ Biological factor

→ Psychological factor

→ Social factor

### Loss of control theory

→ this theory link only with alcohol abuse.

→ larger consumption of alcohol will destroy mental health.

### Aggression theory

→ targets social factor.

A man have to go out to earn bread for family and in that case they encounter with alot of unreasonable person who teases them and provokes them. this results into frustration and finally it will become and come out in the form of violence.

### Exchange theory

→ this is a type of economic violence.

violence is done to seek certain reward or escape from punishment.

→ to escape: within the territory, remarks -

→ Reward from society → sense of appreciation  
from society → Acknowledgment due to his violence.

### Culture acceptance theory.

→ Violence persists as a result of cultural acceptability

→ Psychological and economical violence accepted by the society.

→ Honour killing is also accepted by culture.

### Evolutionary theory

Violence against women is a evolutionary process

- Historicizing constructionism  
Man commit violence to maintain the desired  
Pattern of behavior.

### Gender-Based violence in Pakistan.

- women in Pakistan suffer every possible injury violence and insult.
- Pakistan is one of the most dangerous countries for women where almost 80% women experience some of violence.
- where daily violence chart shows six women abducted, another six murdered, four molested and three driven suicide.
- Some other indicators of women's plight in Pakistan include the Global Gender Gap report 2023 which ranked Pakistan 145 out of 146 countries.
- UNDP also shows bleak picture of Pakistan in terms of providing security of women.
- the continuous violence is rooted in patriarchal structure, culture, acceptance of violence, considering women as an object etc.

### TYPES OF VIOLENCE IN PAKISTAN:

According to the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan the most common forms of domestic abuse are:

- shouting or yelling 76%
- Slapping 52%
- Threatening 49%
- Pushing 47%
- punching 40%
- kicking 40%



## Domestic violence:

- Domestic violence include physical and sexual attack against women at home, with in the family or within the intimate relationship.
  - domestic violence is any behavior the purpose of which to gain power and control over spouse, partner or intimate family members.
  - women are burnt, kicked, killed and abused for trivial reasons.
  - not doing small house chores
  - on the matter of property or second marriages etc
- the research showed that b/w 2018-19 there were 486 cases of domestic violence in Pakistan
- |     |               |
|-----|---------------|
| 296 | - Punjab      |
| 132 | - Sindh       |
| 4   | - Balochistan |
| 11  | - Islamabad.  |

## Sexual Harrassment:

- Sexually abused women at workplace
- A survey on the harrasment of women at the workplace mention that nearly 93% of women working in the public and private sectors are alleged to have been subjected to sexual harrasment.
- failure to comply with those demand may result in loss of employment.
- 2018 - 2019 there were 928 cases of sexual harrasment and 74 cases of sexual assault.

## Stove burning and Bride Burning.

- often burn by throwing kerosene oil
- Bride often burn upon refusal of her family to give additional dowry

- 2019 - 2020 38 cases of honour killing

### Acid throwing

- Done by throwing acid on girl's face
- The act is done upon marriage refusal, jealousy, vengeance, disloyalty etc.
- Also - thrown by fundamentalists on girls who adopt westernization
- In Pakistan 2018 - 19 36 cases of acid throwing.

### RAPE and Sexual Assault.

When men involved in sexual activity without her consent or will or consent achieved by threatening.

### women trafficking

Forceful transportation of women

2236 cases -

### honour killing .

Honour killing is the unlawful violence against women for her actual or perceived moral impure act.

- Case study of Parveen Baloch.

### Girls as Compensation

Practice of giving away girls as compensation to settle dispute related to blood-feud or honor or finance.

- KPK - SWARA

- BALUCHISTAN - IRJAE

^ PUNJAB VANI

### forced child marriage .

- marriage against the will of a girl / boy.
- forced to stay in marriage.

## Strategies to end violence.

- Role of Media
- counter narrative against conservatism
- Provision of Economic opportunities.
- Ensuring political participation of women.
- Awareness of women participation in development
- Access to education.
- Ensuring women liberty and freedoms.
- women empowerment
- Investing more on gender equality initiatives.