

Part - II

Q.1

Describe Gender Studies as a Discipline evolution in Pakistan.

Ans

Introduction

Gender Studies is a discipline that deals with relationship between different genders, their status and role in society's various aspects. This discipline aims at exploring different dimensions regarding gender and who they contribute towards shaping gender norms. Evolution of gender studies can be traced back in 1970 in Europe while in Pakistan after its independence Fatima jinnah and Begum rana Liaqat played significant role and laid basis for this discipline to flourish.

Gender studies as a discipline

Gender studies is an academic

discipline which deals with roles, behaviours and factors influencing different genders present in the world. It includes men, women, trans and other genders.

Gender studies deals with
Concepts :

patrilarchy : patrilarchy means a male dominated society where women are oppressed by males.

Social construction of gender

Social construction of gender is concepts which propagates that gender is constructed socially. Traditions, roles, and expectations of society decide how to behave being from certain gender.

Gender based violence

According to World Health Organisation's definition of gender based violence, it is a form of violence that is being done to anyone for his/her association with certain

gender or sex.

Intersectionality

In intersectionality concepts of genders are studied with respect to the factors that influence ~~this~~ different genders in different areas of world.

Goals of Gender studies

To educate and aware people of gender related concepts & issues education and awareness of public is necessary part to attain an inclusive society. Gender education is a step towards mainstreaming of gender related issues.

To open new avenues for gender related research

Before world became aware of this discipline there was very limited research on gender. To initiate new avenues for gender related research

gender studies, as a discipline, can play a central role.

To strive for equal rights

Gender studies strive for a humane society with equal rights for every gender.

To understand ~~ing~~ factors influencing gender roles and behaviour

Another important factor which is ~~not~~ studied under discipline of gender studies is the how various factors shape traditional gender roles and behaviours.

Evolution of gender studies

Gender studies is a relatively new discipline. Efforts to promote it started in late 19th century when writers like Mary Wollstonecraft and gradually with contributions of other prominent figures it got

important position across the world.

prominent figures in propagation
of gender studies world wide

- Mary Wollstonecraft.
- J.S Mill
- Simon De Beauvoir
- Kate Millet
- Betty Friedan
- Judith Butler

Evolution of gender studies in Pakistan

1) Role of Fatima Jinnah and Begum Rana Liaquat

After independence of Pakistan two prominent ladies played prominent role in highlighting women issues. Under supervision of Begum Rana Liaquat All Pakistan women association (APWA) founded in 1949. This was the ground work for promotion of gender studies in Pakistan.

2) Institute of Women Studies
Lahore (1986)

In 1986 first institute for women studies in Lahore was published.

3) Pakistan Association for Women Studies (1991)

Pakistan association for women studies in 1991 played a catalytic role in evolution of gender studies in Pakistan.

4) Center of excellence in women studies in (1989) Karachi, 1989.

To uplift status of women and to improve their condition in 1989 a center for women in Karachi was established.

5) Convention for Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

In 1996 in Pakistan under United Nations a convention for women was began to promote

welfare of women

6 National Action Plan

National Action plan (NAP) was framed to promote women role in different fields of life.

Conclusion

Gender studies is an academic discipline which ponders over nuanced aspects of gender role in society along with factors influencing it. Evolution of Gender Studies started in late 1960s century in Europe.

In Pakistan in 1970s it got attention. Various institutes have been established to promote this discipline in Pakistan.

Q#2 Autonomous debate in gender studies holds - - - - -

Ans

Introduction

In realm of

gender studies ongoing debate on Autonomous and Integrationist's School of thought has shaped the discourse. The proponents of autonomous view assert that gender studies must be a separate discipline. as there ~~must~~ is need for independent and distinct analysis of gender related issues owing to unique experiences and struggles for each gender. On contrary, integrationists believe that gender studies must be considered within horizons of politics, economy and social aspects. In this dichotomy of views proponents of integrationist view takes back seat.

Why gender studies must be an autonomous discipline

1) Unique nature of gender experiences

Every gender has unique experience in different societies

So for example, a man in Europe has different roles, expected to play, than a man in Pakistan. Similarly, women of ~~various~~ various societies have different experiences. Owing to the unique nature of experiences by every gender, there is need for a distinct discipline to study these experiences separately.

Years of research will be undone by integration

Integration of gender studies in other disciplines will undo years of research. So there must be an independent status of gender studies.

Integration will dilute the essence of gender studies

Gender studies is an independent discipline that particularly deals with issues of gender by integrating it into other fields cannot justify its requirements and the real

purpose of the studies will be ignored.

Already marginalised groups will be sidelined

By integrating gender studies into other subjects those already marginalised groups of society will be sidelined as there is ~~see~~ dire need to have an independent discipline to explore their experiences in society. This would not be possible in integration of gender studies.

Gender studies, a complete science ✓

Gender study in itself is a complete science which study intricate relations between genders and society. it is not a small concept to be integrated in other subjects rather it sustains its autonomous status.

Integrationist's perspective

On contrary, integrationists believe that gender studies should be studied with other subjects such as economy, politics and biological sciences. They advocate for pervasance of gender study in relation with other subjects. However, it is obvious from above given arguments that integrating gender studies in other subjects cannot do justice to this discipline as it is an independent science which demands an autonomous status.

Conclusion

To conclude the debate, gender studies is an autonomous discipline owing to its unique nature and it being a complete science in it-self. Only autonomous status can do justice to this discipline.

Q#4

Gender is a socially constructed phenomenon-----

ANS

Introduction

Gender is a socially constructed phenomenon, various studies in this discipline presented this concept supporting it by multiple theories of gender construct. According to the concept of gender construction, societies, roles, behaviours and traditions shape and construct gender since childhood. The theories supporting the fact that gender is socially constructed include cognitive social theory, Epigenetic theory, and theory of gender constructions. Gender socialization also plays a pivotal role in this phenomenon, so unlike sex, gender is a socially constructed phenomenon. This perspective delves into the relation between societal expectations and individual

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Gender : a socially constructed phenomenon

The concept of gender a socially constructed phenomenon posits that behaviours and roles of males and females in society are directly influenced by those around them. The paradigm entails that there is an intricate relationship between expectations of society and construction of gender.

Theory of constructivism

Theory of constructivism contends that daily life interactions and experiences of people shapes their personality. It is a theory of sociology according to which human development is socially situated and knowledge is constructed through interaction with others.

For example a female during her childhood witness that her mother is obedient to her father and takes

care of her family while her father goes out and earn for them. She will learn that the same role she has to play in future as her mother is also from the same gender. ~~is~~ ~~has~~.

Theory of social Coagnition

According to theory of coagnition, coagnitive abilities are developed by day to day interactions of individuals with each other. They learn from other behaviours and adopt it unintentionally.

This theory, also, supports the concept of gender construction as social phenomenon. Males and females since their childhood develop their knowledge from socialization and from there they choose their roles which complement their genders.

Theory of Epigenetic: reconciliation of nature and nurture

Theory of epigenetics posits that genetic expressions are influenced by experiences of an individual in an environment he or she lives.

Theory of epigenetics also reinforces that gender is a socially constructed phenomenon as oppose to sex which is believed, by majority, as a biological construct.

Gender Socialization

The idea of gender socialization entails that gender roles are constructed by society. When a society sets particular standards for a man to be masculine and woman to be feminine it reinforces the social construction of gender in this way.

Simon De Beauvoir's

second sex

"one is not born woman but one becomes woman". Simon De Beauvoir in her book she advocates that gender is socially constructed phenomenon.

Kate Millet - sexual politics

Kate Millet in her book sexual politics writes that during childhood stage a person learns gender socialisation. She argues that gender is socially constructed and patriarchal family is the main source of this construction.

Judith Butler - Gender trouble

Argues that roles like femininity and masculinity are created through repeated performances.

Conclusion

To conclude, in realm of gender studies gender is considered as socially constructed phenomenon. Many prominent feminists propagated this concept. Also, there are multiple theories which support the fact that gender is a socially constructed phenomenon.