

ANSWER TO QUESTION #02

1) GENDER STUDIES AS A DISCIPLINE

Gender studies as a discipline meaning that it advocates the problems faced by everyone in the society. Gender study, along with women, studies the political, economic and social marginalization of all of the prevailing genders such as men, women, LGBTQ+, and others.

a) Multi-Disciplinary in Nature

Gender studies as a discipline correlates with other sociological disciplines to find causes of gender inequality and to make policies for gender emancipation.

b) Separate Subject taught in Universities

Gender studies as a discipline can be witnessed because it is taught widely in Pakistan and across the globe.

For example Quaid-e-Azam University Islamabad accepts admissions in Gender studies.

c) **Advocating women rights**

women studies is also merged in Gender studies to study and analyze the social, political and economic subjugation of women.

d) **Research and Journal writing on Gender studies**

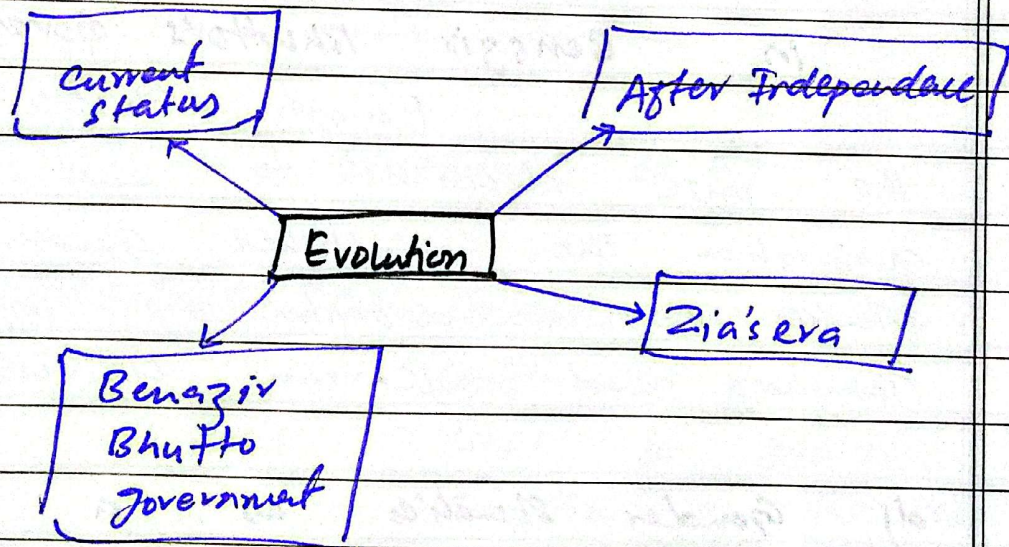
The discipline of Gender studies also got importance owing to spread of research and Journal writings. For example, Punjab University Journals, Pakistan Institute of development economics and United Nations Women Fund presents researches on Gender studies.

e) **Supporting women's political and economic Rights**

Gender study as a discipline calls for women political rights such as right to political representation (Today women

participation in the National Assembly of Pakistan is ~ 17% - NA data base). The subject also advocates for women economic rights such as right to employment, equal wages and economic development.

g) Evolution of Gender studies in Pakistan:



a) After Independence struggle for women rights

After Pakistan's independence, Begum Rama Liaquat took a step to preserve women rights. She founded "All Pakistan Women Association" which gave an illumination in the dark times.

b) Zia's Anti-Women Policies
aided to women struggle

Zia's policies such as Hudood Ordinance and Qisas and Diyat Laws erupted women struggle at that time. Women across Pakistan stood against these policies.

c) Main work on Gender Studies
in Benazir Bhutto's Government

Benazir Bhutto took the wise decision to end women subjugation. She established Gender Studies as a department in Jamshoro and Karachi Universities.

d) Gender Studies as a
department in Pakistani
Universities:

- Karachi University
- Quaid-e-Azam University
- Beacon House Colleges
- Punjab University
- Sindh University, Jamshoro

1) Current status of Gender in Pakistan

There are multiple rights movement activated in Pakistan. Firstly, "Mera Jism Meri Marji" was launched in 2018 by women rights activists. Secondly, a debate on LGBTQ+ Laws is still spreading and it is ambiguous to say whether it will get passed or not.



Answer to Question # 04

2) INTRODUCTION: Gender is socially constructed in the light of social construction theories of Gender

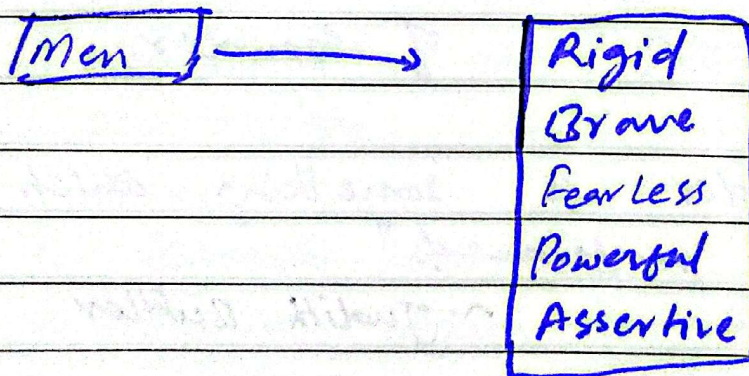
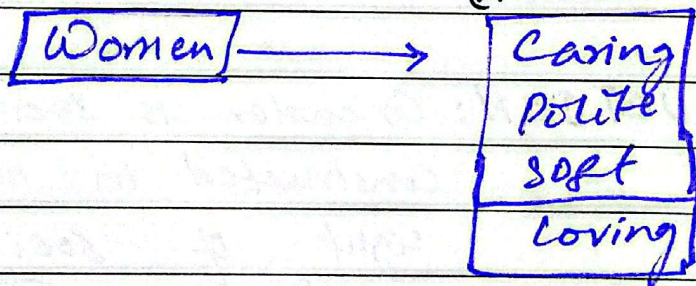
"Gender is something which is performed."

~ Judith Butler

Gender is a socially constructed phenomenon. It is a masculine or feminine characteristics

done by any one in the society. The decision or identity of someone's gender is marked by his social behavior. In this context, a number of theories has been incorporated to understand the gender as socially constructed. Theories like social construction, social learning and operant conditioning are to name few.

2) Gender as a socially constructed (Attributions)



3) THEORIES IN THE LIGHT OF

SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF GENDER

3.1) Judith Butler's Social Construction

She said "Gender is what we perform". Social activities lead to identity of any gender. If a boy cries, he is considered as feminine and tagged as women-like. Similarly, women, when does any job, lives independently, she is considered like-man. So, social role defines the gender of an entity.

3.2) Social Learning Theory

This theory suggests that behaviors are socially learned. For example, a girl after noticing her mother caring for her husband become more caring and expected to repeat the same role. Similarly, boy helping his father in his childhood is expected to help his sisters when getting adult. Hence, socially learned behaviors define the gender.

3.3)

Operant Conditioning

This theory proposes that gender is defined on the basis of reward and punishment mechanism. This shows the masculinity and femininity of characters. Women going outside without permission ~~and~~ becomes scolded and disliked as a punishment. However, boys are rewarded with money or anything else for doing external chores. Thus, operant conditioning says that gender is rewarded and punished.

3.4)

Queer Theory

Queer means arcane, ambiguous and dualism. It stretches to the spectrum of genders. The focus of theory is that there are not only two or dual nature of genders. However, there are also others which possess duality at the same time. Theory suggests that gay people, lesbians and other LGBTQ+ should

treated socially. They also possess rights and duties in the society.

3.5) Theory of Gender Performativity

"Gender is what we perform."
~ Zimmerman

This theory is of the view that people attached with gender-identity on the basis of role they perform or what they do. A man becomes feminine in character, when he spends all of his time in home. In the same way, a woman becomes masculine in character when living independently.

4) CONCLUSION

Gender is basically socially constructed signs because roles, behaviors and character are measured in the context of masculinity and femininity. So, theories like Queer, social learning, operant conditioning and others best advocate the social construction of gender.