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**Batch    83 (41203)**

**Mock Exam    (1%)**

**Gender Studies**

Q NO.2

Describe Gender studies as a Discipline. Also trace the background of Gender Studies with Special referen to its evolution in Pakistan

a **Introduction:**

Gender studies is an interdisciplinary field

that examines gender roles, power relations and inequalities in society. It goes beyond biological differences to explore social, cultural, political and economic dimensions of gender. Its main aim is to promote gender justice and equality.

*Add main headings*

**b Interdisciplinary :**
Draws from Sociology psychology, political science and literature.

**c Focus on Inequality:**

Highlights systemic discrimination and power imbalances

*Increase content under headings*

**d Analytical Perspective:**

Challenges patriarchy, stereotypes and gender-based norms.

**e** **Applied Aspect:** Provides insights for policy-making and social reforms.

**f** **Background and Evolution**

Global Origins: Emerged in the 1960s-70s with 2nd wave feminism, focusing on women's rights and equality. Later expanded to include intersectionality, queer theory and masculinity studies.

# Evolution in Pakistan

g

**1970s – 80s:** influence of global feminist ideas, NGOs worked on women's education and rights.

**1990s – 2000s:** Establishment of women's studies Centers in Universities (e.g: Quaid-i-Azam Uni.)

**2000s – present Psychology** and Sociology departments introduced Gender Studies Courses, Beaconhouse National University was a pioneer.

**Current Trends:** Focus on intersectionality, LGBTQ+ rights, gender based violence economic empowerment and Climate Vulnerability.

h **Conclusion**

Gender Studies is both academic and

activist oriented, providing tools to understand, challenge and reform gender inequalitie. In pakistan, it has evolved from global feminist influences to institutionalize courses, research centers, and policy initiatives contributing to awareness and social change.

*(editorial markings: "too much child")*

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## Q:NO.3

"feminism in the 21st century needs to address the concerns of all genders and sexual orientations". Discuss ....

# Introduction

**a**

Feminism today has expanded beyond the traditional focus on women's rights to a more inclusive approach, addressing the concerns of all genders and sexual Orientations. Modern feminist movements recognize that gender inequality intersects with sexuality, class, race, and other social factors requiring broader perspectives.

**b** Intersectionality: Coined by kimberlé crenshaw intersectionality emphasizes how multiple forms of oppression overlap, **Example**

Add headings from the question statement

Women of different ethnicities, classes or sexual orientations face unique collages. Modern feminism addresses marginalized groups not just cisgender womens

## c) Queer and LGBTQ + inclusion:

Contemporary movements actively advocate for LGBTQ + rights, challenging rigid gender binaries. Recognizes that gender identity and sexual orientation are diverse and socially constructed.

## d) Men and Masculinity:

21st century feminism engages men to challenge toxic masculinity and promote gender equality. Hegemonic masculinity is questioned to create more equitable social structures.

## 2 Global and Digital Feminism

Feminist movements leverage social media digital campaigns and global networks to address issues like gender-based violence pay inequality and reproductive rights. Transnational feminism links global struggles, ensuring inclusivity across borders.

**f** **Policy and Legal Adovocacy**

Focus on laws and ~~policies~~ **policies** that protect all genders and sexual orientations.

Example: anti-discrimination anti-violence legislation and marriage equality.

**g** **Conclusion**

21st century feminism is no longer limited to women's issues alone. It seeks to include all genders and sexual orientations, recognizing intersectional oppression and the diversity of lived

experiences. Contemporary feminist movements in both global and pakistan contexts reflects this inclusive holistic approach promoting equality justice and human rights for all.

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## Q.NO: 4
Gender is a socially constructed phenomenon. Discuss in the light of theories of social construction of gender.

a **Introduction:**
Gender is not merely a biological reality but a socially

constructed phenomenon shaped by cultural norms social practices and institutional expectations. While sex refers to biological attributes gender reflects the roles behaviors and identities that societies assign to individuals. Several theories explain how gender is constructed and maintained through social processes.

## Social Constructionism

Social Constructionist theorists argue that gender is created through social interaction language and cultural meanings. Society defines what

is masculine and feminine.
These meanings vary across
cultures, and historical
periods, proving that gender
is not fixed but socially
produced.

c Simone de Beauvoir's
Theory

Donot priotize this theory

Simone de Beauvoir argued
that
"One is not born, but
becomes a woman".
Gender identity develops
through socialization not
biology.
Institutions such as family
religion and education teach
women submissive roles
while encouraging men

toward authority and
independence.

## d. Judith Butler's Theory of Performativity

Judith Butler claimed that
gender is performite.
Gender is created through
repeated acts, behaviors,
and performances expected
by society.
There is no essential or
natural gender instead,
gender exists because peopl
continuously "perform" it .

Examples:
(dress, speech,
mannerisms)

# Social Learning

## Theory (Bandura)

According to social learning Theory:
Children learn gender roles through observation, imitation, and reinforcement. parents, teachers and media encourage gender-appropriate behavior, shaping individuals into masculine or feminine roles.

## Gender Schema

## Theory (Bem)

Sandra Bem argued that societies that create

gender schemas — mental frameworks about what men and women should be. People internalize these schemas and judge themselves and others according to cultural expectations. These schemas reinforce stereotypes and maintain gender differences

## g Functionalist Perspective

Functionalists argue that gender roles were socially constructed to maintain social order. Women were assigned roles (caregiving). Though now **outdated**, this theory show how society assigns roles for perceived stability.

Men were assigned instrumental roles (breadwinning)

## Conclusion:

The theories collectively show that gender is not biologically determined but culturally produced, socially reinforced and historically variable. Gender roles exist because societies, create, teach, and reproduce them across generations. Understanding gender as a social construction helps challenge stereotypes and promote equality.

The question has two parts
Elaborate these

# Q NO. 5 Critically analyze the women vulnerability in the contemporary Societies in the light of Modernization and Dependency theories.

## a Introduction

Despite global progress, women in many Societies continue to face structural vulnerabilities in economic, political and **social** Spheres. Modernization Theory and Dependency Theory offer contrasting lenses to understand why these vulnerabilities persist in both developed

and developing contexts.

# b Women's Vulnerabilities Through Modernization Theory

Modernization Theory argues that societies progress from traditional to modern stages through industrialization education and rationalization. Yet women face vulnerabilities because this progress is uneven and selective.

# c Persistence of Patriarchal Norms

Even as societies modernize, Patriarchal structures

remain embedded in culture, limiting women's mobility, autonomy, and decision-making.

## d Unequal Access to Education & Technology

Modern sectors often prioritize skilled labor, while women especially in developing states, lack equal access to education digital literacy, and employment opportunities.

## e Gendered Labour Segregation

Modernization expands the

service and industrial sectors but women are often pushed into low-paid, informal or care-based work due to modern yet gendered job markets

## f Exclusion from Political Modernity

Despite democratization women's political representation remains low, reflecting a gap between modern institutions and traditional gender attitudes.

## Women's Vulnerabilities Through Dependency Theory

Dependency theory argues that inequalities between the Global North and South reproduce Underdevelopment. These global power structure deepen women's vulnerabilities

## g. Global Economic Exploitation of Female Labour.

Multinational Corporations rely heavily on cheap female labour in textiles, agriculture and electronics reinforcing economic dependency and exploitation

## h. Feminization of Poverty

Unequal global wealth distribution coupled with structural adjustment policies (SAPs) increases poverty risks for women, reducing access to healthcare, land and social protection.

## (ii) Cultural Dependency

Global media flows often reproduce stereotypical images of women, shaping local gender attitudes and consumer cultures that commodify women.

## J Migration & Trafficking Risks

Economic dependency fuels

labour migration making wome
more vulnerable to traffick
domestic servitude, and
exploitation under global
capitalist systems.

# Critical Analysis

Both theories reveal
structural factors behind
women's vulnerabilities
yet both have limitations.

## Modernization Theory:
assumes linear progress but
ignores local cultural
realities and persistent
patriarchy.

## Dependency Theory:
highlights global inequaliti

but underplays internal gender discrimination and agency within developing States. Thus contemporary vulnerabilities emerge from both internal patriarchal structures and global capitalist system.

## Revamping Women's Status Globally

(i) **Gender Responsive Economic Policies**

Introduce equal pay laws women friendly tax policies property rights and childcare support to bridge economic gaps.

(ii) **Invest in Girls Education**

Education and technological inclusion can break inter-generational cycles of poverty and dependency.

(iii) **Strengthen Labour Protections**

Ensures safe workplaces, maternity benefits and protection from exploitation in global supply chains.

(iv) **Support Political Representations**

Gender quotas, leadership training and political mainstreaming can integrate women's voices into policymaking.

## v) Reform Global Economic Structures

Fair trade frameworks ethical sourcing and international conventions can reduce the exploitative aspects of global capitalism.

## vi) Social Norms Transformation

Media literacy community programs and men's engagement are essential to dismantle patriarchy at the cultural level.

## Conclusion

Women's Vulnerabilities today stem from the intersection of internal systems and unequal global economic structures. Modernization and Dependency theories together provide a holistic understanding of these challenges.

Revamping globally local empowerment Shift in global and local power relations to equality, dignity and inclusive development

women's status requires structural reforms Socio economic