

Q6: - GENDER BASED VIOLENCE - EXISTING LAWS & POLICIES

1. Introduction:

Gender Based Violence (GBV) is a rapidly growing concern not only in the developing countries but also in the western world as well. Unfortunately there are many significant forms of violence including physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence. There have been numerous policies to reduce and curb this vicious practice; however, it shows no signs of abating. Despite several policies, laws and legislations, Pakistan also, has been unable to control the gender based violence in the country. The subsequent paragraphs will shed a light on forms of violence and laws and policies in Pakistan and their effectiveness.

2. Forms of Gender Based Violence (GBV):

Various forms of gender based violence include sexual, physical, psychological and economical. It can broadly also be divided as structural or ^{non}direct forms of violence or non-structural or direct form of violence.

"Violence against women (VAW) is structurally embedded in our patriarchal systems and it can be manifested in all social, cultural, political and economic domains.... we are so busy attending to the basic needs of men and women that we have no time for advocacy"

Dr. Rubina Seigel
(Gender Rights Activist)

2.1) Physical form of Violence:

Physical violence refers to any violence physically inflicted on the individual. It involves but is not limiting to beating, hitting, burning, acid throwing, head shaving, and other such forms that cause physical harm to the individual. It is a form of direct violence.

2.2) Sexual Violence:

It refers to the violence done in sexual form like rape, marital rape, sexual assault, genital mutilation, forced prostitution, and such acts.

According to World Justice Report (2023), one of every 10 women, have been a part of marital rape in their lives.

2.3) Psychological Violence:

It is an indirect form of violence which involves bullying, stalking, abusing, emotional torture and harassment, threats, humiliation. They do not affect women physically but damages their psychological well being and mental health.

2.4) Economic Violence:

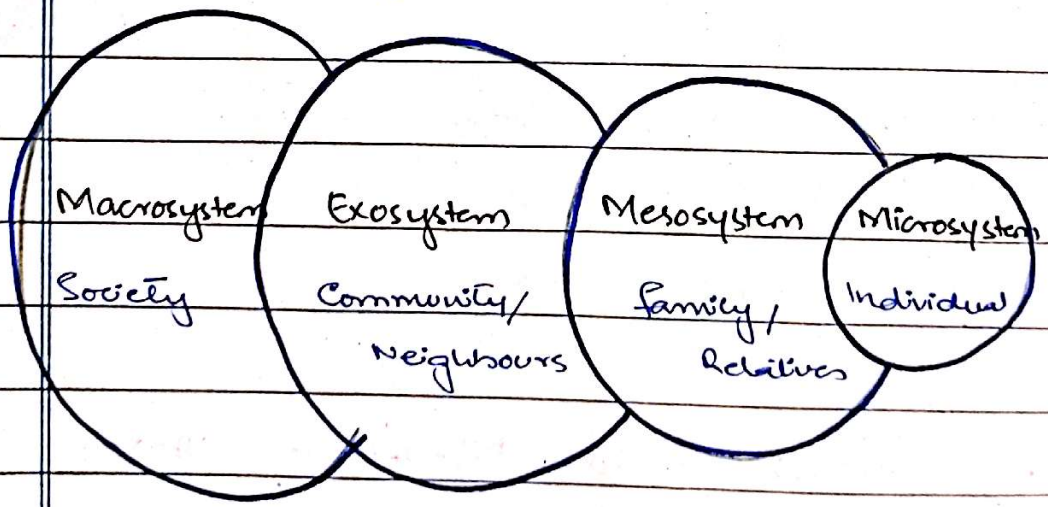
Such type of violence involves exploitation, low wages and pay, inappropriate labour practices, curtailment of right of inheritance, right to own property and other such misdemeanors. Such practices result in holding back women from getting economically sound and stable.

“ When we talk about violence,
 we do not merely talk about
 physical or sexual violence;
 rather economic, physiological
 and emotional violence that
 impairs the women's personalities ”

Oprah Winfrey
 (American Influential)

3. Theoretical Perspectives of VAW:

3.1) WHO Model of VAW - By Bronfenbrenner:



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The model suggests that the VAW starts at individual level leads towards the fear of isolation, resulting in reluctance of help from the family/relatives. No policies at the community level results in passive acceptance of VAW at society level. Hence, it gets structurally embedded in the society.

3.2) Feminist Theory By Andrea Dworkin & Rebecca Walker:

This theory suggests that VAW goes with the rule of power and control relationship which are pinned down in the patriarchal structures. Men have an inherent need to subjugate women and hence, they do that by doing violence.

3.3) Human Rights Model of VAW by HR Activists :

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HR model suggests that by international law, every individual has an inherent right to life, liberty and property. However, when faced with violence they should follow 3Ps strategy.

- P - Prevent the violence from happening
- P - Protect the victims of violence
- P - Prosecute the perpetrators.

3.4) Psychoanalytic Theory By Donald Dutton:

This theory suggests that VAW occurs because of the psychological and mental patterns of the men. It also refers to the disorders and mental fragile structures - could be because of mental illnesses or because of biological factors which lead them towards committing violence.

4- Effectiveness of Existing Laws and Policies in addressing GBV in Pakistan:

In Pakistan, various laws, policies and even the Constitution itself protects women from GBV and various acts and bills have been passed to eliminate this. However, still its existence and persistence in the society is a big question mark on the societal patterns.

"When female victims of violence resort to judicial system for redress, they are likely to face more trauma and victimization. It is likely to face the assault of the violence than to seek the satisfaction of getting justice done"

Deniz Kanyollu

(The Status of women, Islam and Pakistan)

4.1) key laws and Policies:

Various laws and policies have passed in Pakistan regarding GBV.

- The Punjab Protection of Women Against Violence Act (2016)
- Women Protection Bill (2006)
- The Criminal Law Act (2004)
- Protection of women against harassment at work place (2010)

Apart from that various organizations that have been working are:

- National Commission on Status of Women (NCSW)
- Bedari
- Amnesty International

Unfortunately, despite legislations, GBV has not been curbed. Owing to our weak institutions, our policies have predominantly remained ineffective mostly.

" 75% of Pakistani population lives in rural areas. An average Pakistani woman is beset with the crippling handicaps of illiteracy, constant motherhood, poor health, chadar (veil), parda and chardveri (confinement) that bar her freedom from deciding anything for herself but to abide by the dictations of her male counterparts "

Ayesha Jalal

(The Convenience of subservience, women and state in Pakistan)

4.2 - Reasons of Ineffectiveness of policies and laws:

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Various hindrances come in the way of weak implementation of laws and policies.

- Deep rooted patriarchal systems
- No regulation of laws and policies
- Avoidance of punishment of the offenders and perpetrators
- No strict punishment

5- Conclusion:

To conclude, it can be stated that GBV exists in various forms in our society; however in order to curb that, the only way is the strict implementation of policies and existing laws to ensure justice and fairness.

No law and policy can ever be effective if the violators are not addressed and publicly punished and no crime can be eliminated without that

Q8:

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a) GLOBALIZATION AND WOMEN

1. Introduction :

Globalization, as a phenomenon of interconnectivity and networking has on one side benefited both genders, while on the other side has resulted in exploitation of women in various forms. Globalization has indeed opened a vast arena of opportunities for all genders in terms of employment opportunities and study and exchange of goods and services. At the same time, it has drawn certain drawbacks because of too much connectivity. A few theoretical perspectives also explain that like World Systems Theory and Dependency Theory and Modernization Theory which all look for positives and negatives of globalisation.

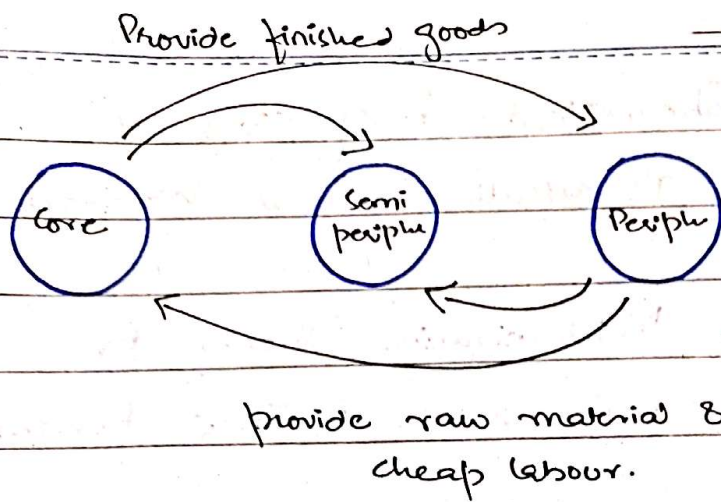
2. Theoretical Perspectives of Globalization and Women:

2.1 - Modernization Theory By Walt Rostow and Talcot Parsons:

The theory suggests how societies move from traditional societies with dependency on rural economy to Global economy with mass production and consumption. Also it evaluates how it affects various segments of society in the way.

2.2 - World Systems Theory By Immanuel Wallerstein:

It suggests how the world is divided into Core, Semi periphery and Periphery countries and how some countries exploit the others.



3 - How Women Are Benefited Through Globalization:

3.1) Increased opportunities of Employment:

Women, owing to globalization, were able to expand and increase their opportunities of ~~income~~ generating and expanding income.

Case Study:

Bangladesh Garments Factory Expanded after globalisation.

3.2) Increased Education Opportunities for Women:

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It becomes convenient for women to expand their education base by studying at worldwide institutions and exchange programs.

Case Study :

- Erasmus Mundus Scholarships
- Ugrad Programs

3.3) Expansion in Businesses:

Globalization assisted women in expanding their businesses worldwide and getting massive audience for their products.

Case Study :

Economy of Kenya grew when their Agriculture and Textile expanded.

4- How Globalization Affects Women Negatively:

4.1 - Exploitation of Labour:

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When it comes to Globalization, women workers ~~are~~ become a prey of far more exploitation than men.

Case Study:

- Sweatshops in Cambodia are known for their poor working conditions and exploitation.

4.2 - Women Considered as Low-wage workers and Cheap labour:

Women are considered to be the cheaper alternative to men and hence are being misused by paying low and being exploited and hence they become a prey of further victimization.

Case Study:

Global Care Chains: Mass migrations of women in lieu of cheap labour & low wages.

4-3) Women Become a prey to Sexual Victimization:

The global economy turned women into slaves of slaves. They became a part of sex workers, forced prostitution and sex slavery, resulting in the loss of their free will, identity and choice.

5- Conclusion:

It can be fairly argued that while globalization has positively impacted women by expanding educational and economic opportunities, at the same time it has resulted in immense exploitation that did not use to exist before. Such practices lead women towards a more vulnerable victims gradually getting trapped in the inescapable cycle of slavery.

B- Autonomy V/s

INTEGRATION

DEBATE

1. Introduction:

Autonomy V/s Integration debate in Gender Studies refers to the idea of keeping Gender Studies as an autonomous discipline or integrating it with other disciplines. While keeping it autonomous, keeps its essence, maintains more focus and keeps it unique; at the same time, making it integrated results in expanding its vastness and more outreach. However, Both perspectives have its pros and cons and they will be elaborated in the further paragraphs.

2. Claims of Autonomy V/s Integration Debate:

Autonomy

Integration

Debates on keeping Gender Studies as an autonomous Subject

Debates on Integrating Gender with other Social Sciences Subjects

i) Ghettoization

The subject would be isolated and distinct

i) Dilution

The subject would be merged into other disciplines

ii) Autonomous

keeps the autonomy and uniqueness

ii) Integration

Makes it integrated into other subjects

iii) Focused

Will keep it focused on women and gender related concepts and issues

iii) Less-focused

Will keep the discipline less focused killing the secondary significance.

iv)	<p>Narrow Approach</p> <p>Studies Gender under a narrow spectrum</p>	<p>iv) Broad Approach</p> <p>Considers Gender studies with a broader lens.</p>
v.	<p>Distinct Epistemology</p> <p>keep the terms and terminologies distinct and unique.</p>	<p>v. Mainstream</p> <p>Makes the concepts mainstream and more generic in nature</p>
vi)	<p>Preserves feminist perspective</p> <p>Gender studies would allow the preservation of feminine perspective</p>	<p>vi) feminism might lose essence</p> <p>would result in the losing the essence of the very nature of the subject.</p>
vii)	<p>Less Scope</p> <p>Subject would remain less tapped and explored</p>	<p>vii) Vast Scope</p> <p>The subject has broader and vast audience.</p>

"Gender Studies is not just about women; its about the social construction of gender and how it shapes our lives"

Judith Butler
(Gender Trouble)

3- Conclusion:

The debate of keeping Gender Studies as an autonomous disc' discipline or keeping it integrated with other disciplines has been long going. While being autonomous, it does reap benefits of its uniqueness and individuality and while integrating it enjoys a vast scope but the essence getting compromised. The subject, however, has started gaining individual recognition at local and national, international institutions.

Q4: Types of FEMINISM & THEIR CONTRIBUTION :

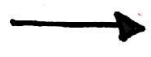
1. Introduction :

The debate for getting the women their due rights and making their status at par with men has been going on for decades. Various movements and types of feminism emerged in order to explicitly claim the rights of women and to ensure their participation in socio-economic and political sphere. They involve liberal feminism, radical feminism, psychoanalytic feminism, men's feminism, social or marxist feminism, post modern and digital feminism. All of these movement talked about varied provision of rights for women and contributed towards women empowerment to a certain extent.

2. Types of feminism and their Inter-connection with the Waves of feminism:

Liberal feminism
First-wave of feminism
1848 - 1920

Liberal + Radical
Second wave feminism
1960's, 1980's



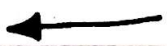
Equity

Universality



Digital feminism,
Post-Modern
Fourth wave feminism
2010 -
Onwards

Social / Marxist,
Psychoanalytic feminism
Third wave feminism
1990's -
2000's



Transversality

Particularism

2.1 - Liberal Feminism

Emerging in early 1840s and stayed till 1920, Liberal Feminism primarily called for the independence of women and asked for their legal rights.

Proponents:

- Mary Wollstonecraft (Vindication of rights of women)
- John Stuart Mill
- Taylor Mill (Subjugation of women, Enfranchisement of women)
- Grimke Sisters (Angelina & Sarah)
- Abigail Adams

Demands:

- Right to Vote
- Independence and free will
- Pragmatism
- Rights of custody of child
- Right to divorce

2.2) Radical Feminism:

Emerged in 1900's, talked about vanishing the patriarchal systems and abolishing power-control relationships. It aimed at empowering women.

Proponents:

- Kate Millet (Sexual Politics)
- Shulamith Firestone (Dialectics of Sex)
- Mary Daly (The MetaEthics of Radical Feminism)
- Betty Friedan (The Feminine Mystique)
- Simon de Beauvoir (The Second Sex)

Demands:

- No more low wage jobs
- No more sexual objectification
- No more binary sexualities
- Personal is political

• Non-Universality

• Intersectionality

• Pluralism

• Cultural Relativism

2.3) Socialist / Marxist Feminism,

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This type of feminism aimed at countering the exploitation done to towards the ~~low~~ women. In terms of low socio-economic status, low wages, boring jobs and exploitation of poor by the rich (proletariat and bourgeois)

Proponents:

- Clara Zetkin
- Bell Hooks (Feminism is for everyone - 2000)

Demands:

- Elimination of economic inequality
- Equal wages
- Representation of women in all sectors
- No more low paid jobs

2.4) Post Modern Feminism:

Post modern feminism involves various domain (psychological feminism, men's feminism, Eco feminism) which involves the rights of escaping men subjugation, participation of men in gender equality and conducive environment for females

Proponents:

- Judith Butler

(Gender Trouble, Bodies that Matter)

- Emma Watson

(He for She, Times Up,

BlacklivesMatter, #MeToo)

Demands:

- Inclusiveness

- Intersectionality

- Involvement of indigenous

and colonial perspectives

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3. Contribution of Feminism on Socio-economic Status of Women Globally:

Going on for decades, these Feminist
feminist movements ~~expon~~ exponentially
raised the status of women at
socio-economic political levels at
global Framework.

3.1 - Liberal Feminism got Women Legal Rights:

- Right to Vote
- Right to Own property and
have share in inheritance
- Right of custody of the child.
- Right of full citizenship.

3.2) Radical feminism and elevation of Status of Women.

- Women became part of NASA
- US Navy.
- 1994 - Considered Year of Women
- 1994 - Marital rape considered illegal.
- 1995 - Representation at 4th Global Conference of UN

3.3) Marxist feminism and Economic Role.

- Formation of National Commission on Status of Women (NCSW) by John. F. Kennedy
- Women Civil Rights Act
- Equal Pay Act

3.4) Post-Modern feminism and its contribution:

- Intersectionality (Inclusive of all races and classes)

- Inclusion of diverse curriculum
- Increased participation of women in media
- Involvement of men in being an ally towards gender equality

4. Conclusion:

While the various types of feminism held distinct and varied notions with them, they were, overall, aiming for more women representation, more inclusion in socio-political spheres and broader visibility. More often than not, they succeeded in overcoming the mass exploitation done towards women and getting some exclusive rights to them. However, the struggles to completely empower women is still a distant dream.

Q7: OBSTACLES IN THE WAY OF POLITICAL PARTICIPATION - EXAMPLES

1. Introduction:

Women in Pakistan are still struggling with getting the basic rights and escaping gender based violence. Participation in socio economic and political spheres is still a distant dream for many. Despite various legislations, policy frameworks, waves of activism, women fail to enjoy their political rights. Societal and cultural barriers, over-dependence on male counterparts and less inclination towards global development have been the major hindrances in their political participation. The quota system has somewhat managed to bridge the gap but the women representation is still a far cry from what is expected and required.

"We are victims of evil

customs. It is a crime
against humanity that our
women are shut within
the four walls like prisoners.

Let us try to raise the
status of women according
to Islamic ideals and
standards. You should
take your women along
in all spheres of life;
avoiding the corrupt
practices of the west"

(Quaid-e-Azam.)

2. Women and their political participation:

Women, in our country, have been
very reluctant towards participating

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in political sphere. Even, their presence in casting a vote is negligible, let alone other areas of politics.

2.1) Social and Cultural Barrier - Hampering Women from actively Participating in Politics:

Women, has inherently, been considered as the gender bound to home and fulfill the nurturing duties and domestic responsibilities. She is not expected to have her say in the country level decision making.

"The emancipation of women is not possible unless she starts her contribution towards production on a large scale and domestic work does not take up

anything more than an
insignificant amount
of her time"

Friedrich Engels

(The evolution of family,
private property and Ownership)

2.2- Over-dependence on Men
and considered as a fragile
Sex with limited Opinion:

It is a common notion in Pakistan that
women are overly dependent on men
to fulfill their emotional, economic,
psychological needs. They are
considered frail ~~and~~ who cannot
have an opinion of her own.

Not only that, they are
beset with crippling handicaps of
obiding by the words and
dictations of their male counterparts.

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"Gender equality is not a goal in itself - it is a precondition to fulfill global goals - illiteracy elimination, achieving SDGs and achieving Global Governance"

- Kofi Annan

(Ghanaian Diplomat and International Civil Servant)

2.3 - Participation in Politics Considered as a Taboo:

Despite such modernization, participation of women in politics is still considered a taboo in most parts of the country. Women are not allowed to take part in political hemisphere and generate their narrative.

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"How can we all
succeed, when half
of us are held back?"

Malala Yousafzai
(Women Rights Activist)

2.4 - Fear of Harassment in Male-Dominated Society:

Women, unfortunately become a victim of harassment, assault and blackmailing when she ~~she~~ tries to become a part of politics. Even though standing for ones own personal rights becomes ~~an~~ a hindrance for many. In this male dominated society, women victimization is common and very much prevalent.

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“ Every woman should be able to walk freely, every woman should be able to speak her mind and every woman should be able to lead her life according to her own principles ”

- Hilary Clinton

3- Quota System in Pakistan - Impacts and Shortcomings:

In Pakistan, in order to maximize the ~~quo~~ women participation ~~to~~ quota system was introduced so that a fixed proportion of seats would be allotted to women irrespective of the number of men. This would ensure somehow equal presentation of women.

Women Quota:

17% seats in
National Assembly
and Provincial Assembly
reserved for women

Minor Party Quotas:

Political parties
reserve quota for women
candidates.

Despite reservation of seats, there
have been cases where participation
of women in politics was considered
"Unacceptable" by her family.

Constitutional Rights

Article 32:

Women participation in
Local Government

Article 56 and 107:

Reserved seat for women
in legislature

" Gender Equality is not
about making women
strong. Women are already
strong; its about making
the world see their
strength "

(G.D Anderson)

4. Conclusion:

Women, unfortunately, despite legislations
and quotas are unable to participate
freely in the political sphere. Not only
the laws, but the need of hour is
to shift the global and cultural
perspective towards more gender
inclusiveness and more acceptable
towards women participation.