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IB-066

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## QUESTION # 1

### → Introduction

Gender Studies and Women Studies are two closely interrelated academic disciplines yet they are also different from one another in some grounds. Women Studies, talks primarily about women only and on the contrast Gender Studies represents the other complexities of gender based norms and cultures. However, both are influenced by the debates on sex vs gender.

## 2 → Difference Between Gender Studies and Women Studies

### (1) Scope

→ Women Studies focuses primarily on the issues related to the women. It highlights their experiences and gender inequality harms. It emphasizes on the importance to empower women.

→ Gender Studies is a broader concept and highlights the roles of other socially constructed gender. It includes the analysis and studies on masculinity, femininity, gays, lesbians, transsexuals and queers.

### (2) Interdisciplinary Approach

→ Gender Studies is drawn from anthropology, sociology, linguistics and Queer theory.

→ Women Studies is primarily

rooted in feminist theories and explaining the historical and social struggle and contributions.

### (3) Focus

→ Gender Studies explores the interaction between race, class, sexuality and other identity markers.

→ Women Studies only represents the oppression and subjugation of women within patriarchal society.

### (4) Evolution

→ Women Studies started in 20<sup>th</sup> century by the feminist movements. However became an academic discipline in 1960's.

→ Gender Studies is an expansion of women studies by adding the other social

characters. It was developed and came into existence in late 1990's and early 2000's.

## 2 → Sex vs Gender Debate

The debate between sex and gender revolves around the distinction between biological characteristics and the social construction of a person. These two terms are however, also used interchangeably in gender studies.

### 1) Sex: A Biological Perspective

Sex refers to the biological and physiological attributes of a person. Private parts or even called genitalia play an important role

in identification of a person's sex.

These biological attributes includes:

### 1) Chromosomal Differences

Males are usually having XY chromosome while females have XX chromosomes. In some cases, a person might have XYY or XXY chromosome who is called "Trid Gender", "Hijra", "~~Male~~ Male Women", "Female Men" etc.

### 2) Physical Parts / Genitalia

The presence of sexual parts on the body of a baby or a person, contributes to his identity.

Sex is often defined as a fixed and natural binary but the variations such as

Intersex challenges it.

## 2) Gender: A social and Cultural Construct

The term gender refers to the roles, behaviours and norms that distinguishes a male and a female. They are not natural but socially constructed. Unlike sex they are non-fixed and vary from society to society.

### • Social and Cultural Attributes Contains

1) Gender Identity: Person with male sex organs is regarded as men and with female body is called women.

2) Gender Roles: Certain roles are fixed with men and women which contributes to their masculinity and femininity.

3) Gender Expression: Certain colors, words, toys and professions are associated with both genders, who makes a clear distinguish between them.

2 → Difference between Gender and Sex.

## SEX

- Natural
- Remains same
- Internal Organs
- Universal term
- Born with and can't change

## GENDER

- Physical as socially constructed
- May vary from place to place
- Behaviour Attitudes
- Socially evolved
- Can be changed easily

## 2 → Conclusion

Both sex and gender holds their perspectives and roles. The debate between the sex and gender had led to the evolution of women studies and gender studies.

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## QUESTION # 4

### 2 → Introduction

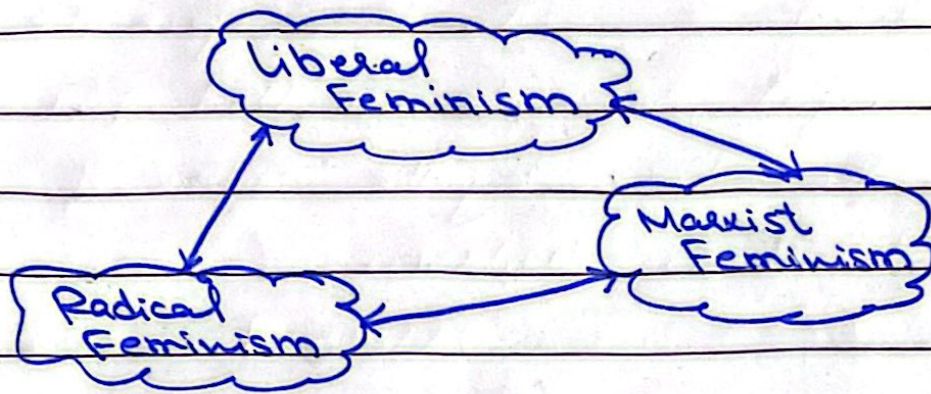
Feminism is a social, political and cultural movement, that was originated in 19<sup>th</sup> century after the French Revolution.

It stood for the women's issues such as rights, opportunities and representation and to challenge the gender-based society. Focusing on liberty, voting rights, jobs and equality in society, feminism was



was divided into various types, such as: Liberal Feminism, Radical Feminism and Marxist Feminism.

## → Types of Feminism (major)



### 1) Liberal Feminism

Also known as the first type and sometimes associated with the first wave of feminism. It was started in 19th century by the influence of French Revolution. Moreover, 1848, with the falls of Seneca Convention

it turned its peak.

## 2 → Contributions of Liberal Feminism

1) Legal Reforms: led to the anti discriminatory act and the Equal pay act.

2) Access to voting: In 1920, gain the right to vote in USA for the time, by the orders of Woodrow Wilson.

3) Workplace Equality: Helped in the approval of parental leave and to reduce the wage gap.

4) Political Representation: Encouraged the participation of women in politics and in policy making.

5) Education Access: Efforts to ensure girls access to educational institutes to overcome the patriarchal society.

## 2 → Impacts of Liberal Feminism

liberal feminism helped women to empower them socially, culturally and politically. Moreover it lifted the barriers of subjugation from women.

## 2) Radical Feminism

Radical feminism, associated sometimes with the second wave of feminism, has its roots in 1960s-1980's. However it saw its peak in 1969, after the Miss America event in New York in 1969. Radical feminists marched and threw their gender oriented items, such as: bras, eyelashes, heel etc in trash bin as a protest against their discrimination.

### 2.1) Argue of Radical Feminists

Radical feminists stand against the male dominated society and argued that the patriarchy is deep rooted in the social institutions and achieving true equality requires a complete reconstruction.

## → Key Contributions of Radical Feminism

1) Awareness on Gendered Based Violence; They advocated for the laws against the gender based violence. Such as: rape, marital rape, pornography etc.

2) Reproductive Right: Got the right for abortion and reproductive healthcare. Also, it allowed women to live their

live with freedom.

3) Challenged Cultural Norms and the Construction of Gender: Questioned the traditional cultural norms regarding genders and pushed for more progressive attitudes in media, education and service sectors.

4) Introduced the Concept of Queer:

They argued on the availability of more than two genders. Also highlighted that a man is free to live in which shape and order he wants.

2) Impacts of Radical Feminism

It significantly highlighted the social norms and cultures and transformed them into a safer environment for the existence of women.

### 3) Marxist Feminism

This type of feminism is influenced by the idea of Marxism through the work of Karl Marx and Engels. It highlights that how the capitalist world is exploiting the women in third world countries.

⇒ How women is exploited in capitalist world?

It highlights that the role of a woman is same like the role of a worker in the factory (ie Proletariat), she receives low wages from the work. Most importantly, in domestic affairs, she is representing a character of free labour by reproducing children and growing them without wage.

## 2 → Contributions of Marxist Feminism

1) Economic Policies: Advocated for the equal wage and time of women in work. Social welfare and paid parental leave would help the women to maintain a balance between her health and her family.

2) Recognition of Unpaid Labor: For the better economic condition of women at home, it pushed them for the inclusion of work in domestic sphere.

3) Workers Rights: Supported the organizations of female to stand against the capitalistic male dominated society and to protect the condition of

Women in the society.

2→ Impacts of Marxist Feminism:

By addressing the economic root cause of female exploitation through the hands of capitalist world, it helped women to earn and stand equal to the men.

2→ Conclusion

Feminism is further divided into many other categories but these three are the main types who has helped women to come out of the glass ceiling and to live an equal and wealthy life.

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## QUESTION # 6

### 2 → Introduction

Gender based violence is a socially evil phenomenon which exists in all over the globe. It is due to the patriarchal society and the ineffectiveness of governance which leads to it. There exist a number of forms of gender based violence, however they can be both: Physical and Non-Physical. The situation goes more worse in the case of Pakistan. According to the latest report of EU Commission 51% women in the world has even once experienced the gender based violence in their phase of life.

## 2 → What is meant by Gender Based Violence?

Gender Based Violence refers to the harmful act which is directed towards an individual on the grounds of their gender, class, race or equality. It can not affect only women, girls but also the other genders through the process of domination.

## 2 → 7 Gender Based Violence

- Domestic Violence
- Honor Killing
- Murder on the name of dowry
- Child Marriage
- Girls as Compensation
- Sexual Violence
- Harassment
- Psychological Torture

- Abusing
- Trafficking and Exploitation.

### 1) Domestic Violence

It is the form of violence in which the women has to face physical and psychological abuses. It is the most common type of violence.

### 2) Honor Killing

Killing of women in the name of honor, as they do something against the norms, traditions and expectations of family.

### 3) Dowry related murders

Happens specially in Pakistan and India's rural areas.

Dowry becomes a reason behind their subjugation.

### 4) Child Marriage

Marrying a girl of minor age

with an older man. Sometimes even lead to physical abuses and the death of minor girls.

### 5) Girls as Compensation

In many tribal areas in Asia, especially in Pakistan, girls are given to the victims' family as a compensation.

### 6) Sexual Violence

Forcefully involving women and girls in sexual activities such as prostitution and adultery or pornography.

### 7) Harassment

Teasing or associating with a girl through physical means or through media platforms.

## 8) Psychological Torture

Imposing psychological stress on a person to damage his/her mental health.

## 9) Abusing

Uttering harsh and non-acceptable words for someone to disturb their self-respect and honor.

## 10) Trafficking and Exploitation

Transferring girls and boys to other places or countries for sexual activities and works - for the sake of personal benefit.

## 2 → Effectiveness of existing laws and Policies in Pakistan

Several laws and policies exist in Pakistan to combat gender-

based violence. Their effectiveness however remains a challenging solution to be implemented due to the societal norms, attitudes and the awareness.

### • Domestic Violence Laws

The Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act has been enacted in <sup>various</sup> provinces, providing a legal remedies to curb this. However enforcement remain weak due to the authority <sup>of govt.</sup> and awareness of the local people.

### • The Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act (2016)

This law and such other similar laws provides a safe and secure ground for the women at their workplaces. But due to the

non serious behaviour of many organisations and companies is remains weak.

#### • Criminal Law (Amend) Act 2016

This law provides a strict punishment for the murder of women or girl in the name of 'Honor Killing'. But due to the tribal customs, it also lacks effectiveness.

#### • Anti Rape Act 2021

Guarantees the speedy trial of the offender and the strict punishment of the abuser through proper mechanisms.

#### • Child Marriage Restriction Act

Prohibits the marriages of underage age children but it lacks enforcement due to deeply ingrained cultural

and social norms.

## 2 → Challenges in Implementation of Laws in Pakistan.

- 1) Poor Governance and Political Instability
- 2) Lack of Education / Awareness
- 3) Limited Access to Justice System
- 4) Corruption in Public Sphere
- 5) Financial Crises
- 6) Cultural and Social Barriers

## 2 → Conclusion

While Pakistan has made laws regarding the violence against gender but lacks effective due to the cultural, economic and social factors in the country. In order to implement them, a strong enforcement power along with awareness is the need of the hour.

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