

'Gender studies'

Part-II

Question NO. 01:

Gender studies Vs Women Studies

Introduction:

Women studies interrogates the history of women and the contributions to society (and how society treated them). Where as gender studies interrogates the way society conceives the gender, how those cultural elements affect the way individuals are treated within society and how these cultural understanding of gender shapes the role they perform and how it interacts with other products of culture.

Difference between Gender studies And Women studies :

Gender studies	Women studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gender studies is a broad concept with multidisciplinary approach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Women studies have narrow subject and only focus on women.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gender studies focus on social construction of Gender.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Women studies focus on elimination of male-dominance and patriarchy.

- It defines how gender defines role played in each and every aspect of life.

- Women studies relies on the history and literature to understand inequality against women.

- Gender studies is the product of third wave of feminism.

- Women studies had its roots in second wave feminism.

- It employs more liberal approach and is inclusive.

- It employs more radical approach and is exclusively focused on women.

3. Historical Development of Gender studies from Women studies

3.1 From Second wave feminism to Third wave

women are only a set of much larger spectrum of genders. Some facilities feel the need to study them separately, hence after the third wave of feminism, a more gender-fluid approach was adopted than the orthodox binary vision. So most of the women studies programs are now called as gender studies.

3.2 University Programs:

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University of Indiana and University of Victoria in 2016 changed their women studies subjects to Gender Studies.

3.3 LGBT Movement

The rise of social movements that advocated for other genders apart from the binary class; the LGBT, also shifted the focus to a more inclusive approach. The emergence of Queer study and Queer theory emphasized the need for a subject that advocates for the rights of all genders.

Conclusion:

In practice there is little difference between gender and women studies in terms of what is taught. Both utilizes feminist research and theory and discusses gender and inevitably discuss men as well as women and transgression of gender biases.

On the other hand

Sex Vs Gender Debate

Sex and Gender debate arised when the orthodox view of the male and female i.e the binary vision shifted from biologically identifying to a more socially constructed phenomenon.

'One is not born, one becomes woman'

Simone de bouveir

Following are some of the debated points of difference between sex and gender.

Sex

- Sex is a biological construct of a human being.
- Sex is determined internally i.e the anatomy.
- Sex is the given status at birth
- Sex is determined by the specific Genital Organs

Gender

- Gender is a Societal-cultural construct.
- Gender is determined externally i.e the performance of gender (doing gender).
- Gender is culturally assigned or the social constructed based on the 3 Rs (Reproduce

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i.e testes for male
vagina, cervix for female

• Sex is universal

• sex involves the
physiological
differences

• Sex is difficult to
change, it remains
constant.

• Sex is divided on
basis of primary
and secondary
sex characteristics
i.e primary charact-
eristics include penis
+ testicles + Scrotum
(biologically male)
and vagina, ovaries
uterus (biologically
female)
Secondary characteristics
include, facial hair
Pitch of voice etc.

• Gender is determined
by the specific attributes
allocated to each group.
i.e femininity, masculinity

• Gender is the
acquired and learned
status. non universal.

• Gender is differentiated
by the psychological
differences.

• Gender is variable.

• Division of Gender
is on the basis of
Gender identity.
It includes the
traditional masculine
and feminine, and
now the Gender
fluid and queer
identity i.e lesbian
Gay, bisexual, trans-
gender, Queer.

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Conclusion:

OKley in her book *Sex Gender and Society* (1972) writes;

'Sex' is a word that refers to the biological difference between a male and female: the visible difference in generalia, the related difference in procreative function. 'Gender', however, is a matter of culture: it refers to social classification into 'masculine' and 'feminine'.

Question No. 8

write short notes on:

a-Globalization and Women

'Globalization is the inter connectedness of the world societies through communication and transport'.

How Globalization emerged?

After world war II, and the beginning of cold war, a need for more cooperation was felt and under the liberal international order two of the world institutes were formed to enhance trade and multilateral cooperation. These institutes were the

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World bank and the United Nations. The reconstruction process of Europe after the WW II was also the beginning of industrialization and the world was divided into two spheres the Global South and the Global North. The Global South ~~and~~ ^{was} rich in resources required by the industrialized Global North for development and a need for interaction increased thus increasing communication, trade and transport.

Impacts of Globalization

Globalization has created both positive and negative impacts for women.

The economic interdependency of countries and the rise of capitalism encouraged economic liberalization created job opportunities, which increased women participation and incorporation in the economy. The traditional role was replaced by more advanced role which required academic as well as technical knowledge, this helped to increase professional knowledge, industrial knowledge as well as increase in Scholarships for women.

On the other hand, Globalization has

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an international organization that focuses on the global financial system. It was established in 1945 to promote international monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, and promote high employment and sustainable economic growth and development. The IMF provides technical assistance and financial support to member countries, particularly in the areas of macroeconomic policy, balance of payments, and monetary policy. It also monitors the global economic situation and issues reports on the state of the world economy.

↳ Autonomy Vs Integration debate

Autonomy vs integration debate in gender studies discusses the autonomy of gender studies as a discipline versus its integration with other subjects. Existing curricula, faculty, administrative, are used to advance the goals of gender studies.

History / Background:

In 1982, discussion emerged at the National Woman Suffrage Association

about the autonomy and integration as alternate strategies for women studies in higher education.

Florence Howe says

'Women studies has now two strategies, with integration, the ultimate one.'

Integration point of view:

phase theory:

Peggy McIntosh, defines five phases of women studies' curriculum development, with history as a paradigm in her interactive process

- phase 1 : womanless history
- " 2 : women in history
- 3 : woman as a problem
- 4 : women as history
- 5 : History redefined.

This approach suggested that

- Gender studies should be first integrated into social fabric.

- Masses should be sensitized about the gender discrimination and the pre-vailing practices
- And then incorporating Gender Studies as a discipline into the curriculum.

Autonomy Point of view: suggests that :

1) **Study women in Isolation** to not let the focus scatter to other issues and only focus on women.

2) **Radical tendencies:** Autonomy debate suggests radical approach and is absolutely exclusive and creates isolation.

3) **Women Studies as a discipline :**

autonomy debate suggest that Women Studies be kept as a seprate and distinct discipline and not merged with other subjects.

Conclusion: Gender studies is a inclusive

Subject and has the same common grounds as women studies, relying

• on the feminist research and theories.

Therefore studying it as an integrated

subject gives its more scope and

diversity the aspects of women

and their problems and solution

in the modern context.

Q no. 6

FORMS OF GENDER based VOLENCE

Introduction:

According to UN,

'Any act of violence that results or likely to result in physical,

sexual or mental harm, or

subjugation of women including

threats of such acts, coercion or

arbitrary deprivation of liberty

whether occurring in public

or private space.'

Hillary Clinton Says;

'Beating women is not culture, it's crime and it needs to be addressed and treated as such.'

Forms of Gender based violence:

Gender based violence has the following forms;

1) **physical violence**: the violence or harm committed by using physical methods like force or beating, exploiting the integrity of one's body. There are two studies conducted on violence that highlights physical as well as the other forms of violence. The 'Marriage License as Hitting License' shows that men as the head of family acts as a monarch with absolute power and unanswerable to anyone has the exclusive right of using physical violence.

② **Emotional violence:** is defined as the used of acts or tactics to cause psychological harm to a person. This includes acts of harassment such as stalking, cat calling etc. This is the most serious form of gender based violence. 93% of the women suffer from harassment in public places. Pakistan has passed the 'Sexual Harassment Act 2010' but no ^{real} measures were taken still for the correct enforcement of the law.

③ **Sexual violence:** is 'any act of - that ~~maintains~~ forces women to maintain or participate in unwanted sexual contact or advancement by means of emotions like use of intimidation, threats, use of force or coercion'. This includes marital rape as well. In a nut shell any sexual activity without consent is considered sexual violence.

④ **Economic / financial violence**: is the deprivation of resources needed for physical and psychological well being like health care, nutrition, education, means of livelihood etc.

⑤ **Structural violence**: includes the violence through norms and cultures of a society. The traditions like Swara, badal, honor rape etc represents structural violence. The case of Mukhataran Mai in 2006 who was a woman belonging to tribal district of Sindh, ~~was~~ raped.

Law of Gender based violence in Pakistan

An official figures from Ministry of human rights indicates 8,648 cases of violence were recorded between 2012 and 2015, many of which are left unrecorded. These case included

- incidents of acid burning
- domestic violence
- honor killings

- gang rapes
- sexual assault/harassment
- and violence against women

• This number is even high now, as no day passes by without a ^{new} case or incident of rape emerging on social media. Just yesterday, a girl in a well known private institute of Lahore was gang raped by her male-class-mates.

Pakistan has taken some measures to curb gender based violence like

- the Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Bill in 2011 to represent acid attacks
- Protection of Women Act 2006
- convention on elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW), Pakistan ratified in 1996.
- Punjab Protection of Women against Violence Act 2016.

Despite the laws and policies by the government, incidents of gender based violence (GBV) are increasing. 32% of the women have experienced physical violence and 40% have suffered from and are suffering from spousal abuse ^{even} today, according to a report by UNFPA.

Recommendations:

- Ms. Rakshanda Parveen in her study of GBV in Pakistan, published by Aurat Foundation in 2011 proposes that:

- **Deconstruction:** the usual approaches of GBV be deconstructed in particular context of Pakistan.

- **Re-examining laws:** all laws ^{against woman} be re-examined including the Hudood Ordinance and to re-enact earlier rape laws with amendments making marital rape a criminal offence.

- **Sensitizing Police and Judiciary:** for gender concerns and eliminating the loopholes in laws that protects the perpetrators of GBV as in the case of honor killing of a girl highlighted by Sharmeen Obaid to amend the constitution, which protected the committers of honor killing.

- **Nexus between Gender and Health**

Pakistani government must improve its forensic services and training health professionals to address GBV issues in clinical settings.

- **Collaboration with NGOs:** to provide basic services for GBV victims and survivors. This should include shelters, medical care, counselling and legal aid.

- **Reliable data availability on GBV:** availability of reliable and detailed

data on nature, degree, and rates of prosecution and conviction and nature of punishment for detailed mapping on GBV in Pakistan.

~~At~~ In conclusion, Pakistan is the 6th dangerous country for women to live in. These statistics are alarming and showing that all the legislation and acts passed in regard of GBV issues are mere formal documentations that are still way beyond the fundamental changes that need to be done. GBV can not be completely eliminated but through steps in right direction it could be reduced and the well being of the 49% of the population be enhanced.

Question No. 7 'Obstacles in way of ' Women Political participation in Pakistan'

Introduction:

Women in Pakistan faces several obstacles in political participation from lack of party support to financial constraints. Women are denied party tickets on plea that they lack social and financial capital and are expected to run their election campaigns on their own resources. As well as the women wings are not well-connected to the decision-making circles within the party, so the primary barrier is the 'patriarchy'.

Obstacles:

• Lack of Power base:

Women representation in the national and provincial assemblies and in Senate is done by quota system that is filled indirectly by nomination. These indirectly elected women lack a

power base, because which increases their dependency on party leadership.

• Violation of human rights

The weak political and economic structure makes the women vulnerable to gender based violence and the basic human rights of women are violated with perpetrators escaping punishment.

• Socio-cultural Practices:-

The socio-cultural dependency of women in Pakistan, which is majorly male dominated gives little political empowerment to women and hinders political participation.

Impacts of Political Quota in Pakistan:

In the article 51 of the constitution there would be 60 seats reserved for women of the total 336. In 1995, the Beijing Platform for Action called on governments to make

measures to ensure women's equal access to, and full participation in power structures and decision making bodies.

decreasing gender gap:

Gender ~~gap~~ Quota for women in politics has decreased the gap in gender politics and encouraged women from remote background like Veeru Kholi, a Hindu labourer, belonging to a Schedule Caste decided to contest in 2013 elections in Sindh provincial assembly.

increased women participation:

The number of women participation in 2013 elections was unprecedented. Out of 171 National Assembly seats, 105 were awarded tickets by political parties.

Socio-political transformation

The political participation of women has

increased the socio-political transformation with prominent women figures like Bakhtawar Bhutto, Maryum Nawaz, Fehmida Mirza.

Participation in decision making:-

Quota system would also ensure that voice of women and issue related to women will be addressed directly. For example, the recall for recent amendments ~~under the first~~ in Protection of women against violence Act 2016 under the first female chief minister of Punjab called for a increase in fines and declaring it as a non-bailable offence.

Suggestions:

- a direct mode of election on reserved seats for women would be more viable option for women empowerment and political participation ~~removing~~ elimination the dependancy of women candidates on party leadership.