

PART:-II

Q.1

I. Introduction:

The women studies entered the area of academics after the realisation the women have been marginalised for centuries. It is centered upon women, having it's own set of theories.

Gender studies emerged a decade or so later, after there came people of various identities.

It's focus is rather broad, including other genders as well. Being a separate academic field it has it's own theories. The gender studies is based on concept that there exist stark differences between sex and gender.

Although, often perceived as same, these terms are different from one other. The sex is biological term, referring to difference in genital parts of human body. On the other hand, gender is psyhological term, referring to different roles an individual take on in their lives.

II. Difference between Gender and Women Studies:-

	Women Gender Studies	Gender Women Studies
Historical development	emerged in late 1960s, early 1970s	emerged in 1980s and 1990s
Conceptual focus	Concentrated on women	Analyze the concept of gender
Theories	Feminist theories	Queer theory, theory of performativity
Criticism	Narrow scope, Too Political	Might obscure women issues

II.1 Historical development :-

II.1.a Women studies:

women studies emerged in late 1960s to early 1970s, in response to marginalisation to women in academia. Florence Howe describes it as "to reverse the untold and misinterpretation of women". It was developed with aim to study every field of academics through feminine lens.

II.1.b Gender studies:

It emerged in response to narrow scope of women studies. It included by genders not only women. It was later realised that gender is identity formed through social

norms rather than identity: one gets from birth. Judith Butler explains this concept as "Gender is not someone is but sth someone does."

I.2 Conceptual focus:-

I.2.a. Women Studies:

The women studies concentrates solely on women. The foundational texts of women studies like Declaration of rights of women by Mary Wollstonecraft and others focuses primarily on women.

I.2.b. Gender Studies:

The gender studies talks about how genders are social construct and have no inherent existence. It includes various identities and sexualities (Feminine Mystique by Betty Friedman) Gender Trouble by Judith Butler introduces the concept of gender performativity and criticizes the binary notions of gender.

I.3 Theoretical approaches:

I.3.a. Women Studies:

Women studies are centered on feminist theories and largely criticizes the patriarchy. Various feminist theories like liberal feminism, Radical feminism and Marxist feminism are central to women studies.

II.3.b. Gender Studies:-

The gender studies include theories that are focused on all genders. for instance, the theories that mention and supports LGBTQ+ **Queer theory and performativity theory** are famously studied in gender studies

II.4. Criticisms:-

II.4.a. Women Studies:-

Women studies are criticized for too narrow a scope, focusing on only single gender. The criticism also comes for being too political. The writer **Robyn Wiegman** calls for transition from women to gender studies to 'de-politicize feminism'.

II.4.b. Gender Studies:

Gender Studies ~~was~~ ^{is} criticized for obscuring the women issues. Feminists are concerned that with arise of gender studies the women might be sidelined. **Elizabeth Grosz** mentions her concerns about gender studies saying "the danger of word gender is that it may erase the specificity of the struggles women face."

II Sex vs Gender Debate:

Sex	Gender
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- natural- Universal term- refers to biological differences in human body- David Reimer case	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Social Construct- Relative term- refers to behavioral patterns, related roles etc.- Maccoby & Tachyn research

II.1 Sex:-

II.1.a Sex is natural:

Sex is something that occurs naturally. After the birth, a child is assigned a certain sex. His later brought up and socio-cultural factors play no role in sex determination.

II.1.b. Universal term:

Sex is a universal term with its meaning denoting same sense irrespective of culture or societies. The term is used in same sense all across the world.

II.1.c. Biological differences in human body:

Sex refers to the biological differences in the human body. The differences in genital parts of human body denotes the type of sex a person has.

II.1.d. David Reimer case:

David Reimer was a ~~perfor~~ person whose penis was destroyed during circumcision. He was raised as a girl but later his behaviour and attitude resembles that of a man. This case proves that sex is natural and can not be determined by external factors.

II.2. Gender:-

II.2.a. Social Construct:

The Gender is not natural but a social construct. Before gender studies, it is perceived that sex and gender are both natural. But later on it was realised that gender is a social construct.

II.2.b Relative Term:

Gender is a relative term that varies across cultures. It has been found that there are some south asian communities which recognise three genders, 'hijra' community being the third while, worldwide only two genders were widely recognised.

II.2.c. Refer to roles assigned by social norms:

gender refers to role that has been assigned by social ~~com~~ institutions. The social norms have certain expectation of sexes that translate into gender roles and responsibilities.

1.2.d. Research by Maccoby and Tadjyn:

Maccoby and Tadjyn reviewed more than 1500 research articles and concluded the veracity of statement that gender is a social construct.

IV Conclusion:

To conclude, the women studies was established but focus on women issues. Later on, the realisation among people was raised and they started talking about other genders. Gender studies emerged as a result, which includes all genders. In Gender studies, there's continuous debate on sex and gender which were believed to be synonyms. There exist clear and stark difference between the two terms.