

Wednesday

Assessment # 1

25/2/26

Women Empowerment

~~Introduction~~

Introduction:

"Give me an educated mother, I shall promise you the birth of a civilized nation." Napoleon's words echo a very pertinent sentiment that women play a ~~a~~ critical role in uplifting society. History, however, shows a very different story, one in which men's rights were given utmost precedence, and women's rights were merely an afterthought. In the United States for instance, universal male suffrage was adopted in the early 1800s. It wasn't until the introduction of the 19th Amendment in 1920 when women were also given universal suffrage, over one hundred years later. Though great changes have occurred within the 20th century, discriminatory behaviour against women still persists across a variety of spheres, whether it be the workplace, the household, or even their own minds, conditioned to hold onto feelings of instilled inferiority and subservience. Though the issue is more pronounced in developing nations, it is not simply a matter of any single dominant factor that leads to a shortage of opportunities for women to realize their potential and apply themselves. In 2024 for example, the World Bank reported that female Labor Force Participation in Pakistan was 24%. Meanwhile, in Vietnam the same year, this statistic was around 70%. Therefore, even among developing nations, there exists great variance in regards to opportunities available for women. The factors that determine women's empowerment are by nature multifaceted. To ensure women's rights and empowerment requires us to tackle multiple spheres ~~such as~~ ~~from~~ such as financial security, cultural norms, political representation, legal rights and protection, social opportunity, and mental health.