

Question no 2

Introduction

Gender based violence is the physical or structural violence inequality or harmful practice against an individual because of its gender.

It can be further divided into

two broad categories that are structural and non structural. The

structural violence includes the social and institutional inequalities and difference due to gender discrimination while the non structural gendered violence contains

the physical harmful practices such as physical, sexual and

economic violence. Pakistan also witnesses several forms of gender based violence

cases which needs strict policy formulation

Gender-Based-Violence

Definition

Any act of gender based violence that results in or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women including threats of such acts

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Coercion or arbitrary
deprivation of liberty,
whether occurring in public
or private life.

United Nations Declaration

This is United Nations declaration
standard definition formulated in 1993.

Various Forms of Gender- based violence in Pakistan

Pakistan is a developing country
that witnesses every day cases of (GBV)
in the country. The gender based violence
occurring in Pakistan can be divided
into two categories.

Direct form
OR NON structural

Structure
based GBV

- Physical violence
- sexual violence
- emotional / Psychological violence
- educational disparities
- Economic inequalities
- healthcare inequalities
- Media biases

- cultural practices

- Political underrepresentation

1- Physical violence

Physical violence such as domestic violence, femicide, homicide, killing in the name of honor, direct assault against wife, daughter and sisters are reported in Pakistan.

2- Sexual violence

Sexual gender based violence which is prevalent in Pakistan is rape and sexual harassment in public, private and online places.

3- Psychological violence / emotional

verbal abuse, threats, intimidation, isolation and gaslighting are common forms of GBV in Pakistan.

4- Educational disparities

restrictions on girls education, harassment in schools, on the way of schools, and forceful school dropouts of girls are common structural gender based violence.

5- Healthcare disparities

Healthcare based gendered violence in Pakistan includes, improper maternal care, lack of reproductive health services, biases in medical treatment of girl and considering women as she does not need proper healthcare in maternal conditions such as neglecting postpartum depression.

6- Media biases

Media biases also contribute to gender based violence when there is underrepresentation or under-reporting of gender based violence to preserve the name of family and its honor.

7- Cultural practices

Cultural GBV practices such as early marriages, forced non consensual marriages, and unpaid care and labour work for lifetime. It also includes giving women as 'Nani' on compensation of a dispute.

8- Political underrepresentation

Political underrepresentation such as giving women quotas but restricting her presence in politics, cabinets and opposing her policies in parliaments are examples of GBV in Pakistan.

Practical and policy-Oriented Strategies to Reduce GBV in Pakistan

1. Strengthening Legal Framework and enforcement

Ensure uniform implementation of GBV laws across provinces such as Domestic Violence act and Anti Harassment laws. Establish fast track GBV courts with time bound trials. Strict punishment for honour crimes, forced marriages and acid attacks should be implemented without compromise. Most importantly in formal justice systems - Jirgas should be avoided in GBV cases.

2. Police and Criminal Justice reforms

Create women only police desks at all police stations. Each desk should be coordinated by a female police officer to neglect biases. There should be gender sensitivity training mandatory for all police, prosecutors and judges. Introduce standard operating procedures (SOPs) for GBV reporting and investigation.

3- Accessible Support and Protection Services

Expand shelter homes such as Dar-ul-Amaan with adequate funding monitoring. Provide free legal aid, medical care and psychological counseling to survivors. Establish one window GBV response center in every district. Moreover, strengthen national and provincial GBV helplines with 24/7 availability.

4- Education and Social norm transformation

Pakistan should integrate gender equality and consent education in the curricula. Launch nationwide awareness campaigns through media, mosques and community center. Engage religious scholars to challenge cultural justifications for violence and promote male engagement in GBV curtailment programs.

5- Economic empowerment of women

Expand skills training, microfinance, and employment opportunities for women. Enforce workplace protection laws against harassment. Provide financial support programs for GBV survivors to reduce dependency cycle. Country should

increase women access to property and inheritance rights.

Conclusion

Gender Based violence is a common issue in Pakistan that has been persistent throughout decades because of lack of awareness, education and strict policy measures. Hence, legal institutions and social structures must curtail this issue with strict measures.

Question no 4

Introduction

Gender studies is a interdisciplinary academic field that examines how gender identities, roles and relations are socially constructed and how they interact with power, culture, politics, economy and law. It studies both male and women as well as all the nonbinary identities, focusing on issues of inequality, discrimination and social justice. Gender studies analyses how gender intersects with race, class, religion, ethnicity and nationality to shape lived experiences in a society.

Gender studies

An interdisciplinary field that studies how gender is socially and culturally constructed. In this regard Judith Butler says.

Gender is not something that one is. It is something that one does. An act "A doing" rather than "A being".

— Judith Butler

Difference between gender studies and women studies

1 Definition	Women studies	Gender studies
	A field that studies roles, experiences and achievements of women	An interdisciplinary field that defines gender a social and cultural construct.
2 Focus	Women studies solely focuses on women	Gender studies focuses on all genders-men

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		women and non-binary identities.
3-	Purpose	Its purpose is to do women rights advocacy. Purpose is to know how genders intersect with power, culture and identity.
4-	Scope	Scope of women studies is narrow. It has broader scope which sees gender as spectrum and social construct.
5-	Historical roots	historical roots of women studies can be traced back to second and first wave of feminism. The third and fourth waves of feminism along with post modern and queer theories are the true roots of gender studies.
6-	Example of studies	History of women suffrage. societal norms shaping binary and non-binary identities.

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Autonomy v/s Integration debate in gender studies

The autonomy v/s integration revolves around whether women studies should remain a distinct, separate field (autonomy) or it should be integrated discipline.

Arguments from autonomy side

1. Unique perspectives and methodologies

Women studies introduces unique feminist methodologies and perspective that challenge traditional, patriarchal ways of knowing and studying a women. Integrating it with other disciplines causes dilution of such practices.

2. focus on marginalized voices

women studies as a distinct subject would more focus more on the black women and women with disability. Integration of women will further marginalise

and sideline different women experiences.

3. Creating safe spaces for discussion activism

Women studies as a separate study program would provide safe and supportive environments for discussing sensitive issues related to gender, sexuality and power.

These spaces would also serve as hubs for feminist activist and advocacy.

4. Preserving the radical roots of feminism

Autonomy also helps to preserve the radical roots of feminism which can be diluted if women studies is absorbed into mainstream disciplines that may not prioritize social justice and activism.

5. Ensuring dedicated resources and support

In an autonomous field it would be easy to secure dedicated resources, faculty position and institutional support that might not be available if it were integrated into other disciplines.

6. Quickly responding to emerging issues
 programs Autonomous women studies programs can quickly adapt their curricula as research focuses to respond to emerging gender related issues and social movements.

Arguments from Integration side

1. Mainstreaming gender perspective

The integration side debates that inculcating women studies into other disciplines would mainstream gender perspective. For example, integration would allow one strong course of women studies into Psychology, literature and anthropology.

2. Broadening impact and reach

Integration side argues that while mainstreaming gender studies the institutions can cause broader access and reach to gender which single subject or institution of gender will not allow.

3. Institutional support and Legitimacy

Integration allows the gender studies to gain legitimacy

legitimate support from historical dominant institutions. A new gender studies department would not have such a strengthened immediately.

4. Reducing marginalization within Academics

Integration argues that by making gender studies a autonomous discipline may marginalise it. People would be less focused and devoted towards it, which may cause its marginalization. Hence, integrating it would prevent its sidelining.

5. Promoting social justice and equality

Integration argues that while integrating and mainstreaming gender into other disciplines it would cause a combined social justice and equality by giving different disciplines the awareness regarding gender.

Conclusion

The disciplines of women studies and gender studies are interchangeably used to refer marginalized gender's voices. Hence there is important debate regarding the integration and autonomy of these subjects.

Question no 1

Introduction

Development strategies in the world have long been criticized for their role in ignoring women's roles. They often neglect the importance of women's perspective, involvement, policy making and even in giving them development roles. Hence, over time three major approaches emerged, the (WID) Women in development, (WAD) women and development and (GAD) which is gender and development. Each of these has different focus on women's inclusion in development programs.

Women in Development

Definition

Focuses on integrating women into existing development projects for instance, in efficiency and economic growth projects.

Approach

Project target women usually as worker or beneficiary and pays

them wages

Criticism

- ① Treats women as homogenous group
- ② Focuses mainly on income generation ignoring structural inequalities.
- ③ It does not challenge patriarchal norms or power relations.

Women and Development

Definition

It recognizes that women are active participant in development and women work especially unpaid labour must be recognized.

Approach

Development affects men and women differently, emphasize women's contribution in economy especially agriculture and informal sectors

Criticism

- ① Focuses women as separate category rather than addressing gender relations
- ② Does not fully consider the power dynamics between men and women.

Gender and Development

Definition

It comprehensively focuses on the gender relations, not just women as distinct genders in the development process. Includes idea that gender inequalities are socially constructed.

Approach

It mainstreams gender in policy, planning and institutional reforms and engages both men and women to challenge structural inequalities.

Advantages:

- ① addresses the root cause of gender inequality.
- ② It recognizes intersectionality, like class, ethnicity and cultural effects on women.
- ③ Promotes sustainable, and inclusive development.

Most effective approach for Pakistan

The most effective approach for Pakistan would be **GAD** in

gender and development approach as it addresses the both structural and cultural factors that perpetuate gender inequality.

1. Addresses gender inequality

Pakistan's society is deeply patriarchal, with laws, traditions and institutions often favouring men.

GAD promotes policy reforms such as:

- ① Gender sensitive laws and enforcement mechanism eg. domestic violence.
- ② It mainstreams gender in public planning, budgeting and governance.

2. Challenges cultural norms and power relations

Cultural beliefs in Pakistan often restrict women's mobility, education and economic participation. GAD emphasises changing gender relations, such as:

- ① Programs engaging men as allies in gender equality
- ② Awareness campaign that challenge harmful tradition like child marriage and gender based labour division

3. Inclusive and Intersectional

women in Pakistan are not homogenous group disparities persist in region, class, caste, religion, urban rural divide. GAD recognizes these differences and designs policies that are inclusive.

① Especial support for rural women

② Education and employment programs tailored for marginalized groups.

4. Promotes Sustainable Development

GAD links women's empowerment with societal development. By involving men and transforming social structures it ensures long term gender equality. For example.

① Gender responsive budgeting in Pakistan ensures resources located for both men and women to achieve equality

5. Aligns with International Commitments

Pakistan a signatory to CEDAW Convention on elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against women and committed to SDG-5 gender equality.

GAD provides practical framework

to implement these obligations through legal, political and advocacy measures.

Conclusion

Among INVID WAD and GAD, GAD is most effective approach for Pakistan as it goes beyond economic inclusion addresses structural, cultural and legal barriers to promote intersectional sustainable and systemic gender equality.