

ONE IS NOT BORN  
A WOMEN, BUT  
BECOMES ONE

1) Introduction

Society constructs  
the gender ~~role~~ rather  
than biological differences

2) Difference between sex  
and gender

3) Gender roles are  
socially constructed

Not just roles, the gender itself is a  
social construct.

a) Gender roles develop through  
early childhood experiences  
and learning

Work on your  
handwriting.

b) Societal expectations shape  
the gender roles in a  
society

Too broad

c) social stigmas and discrimination construct the gender roles.

d) Education system reinforces the gender roles.

e) Specify 1 2 Role of media and religion in shaping the perception of gender.

f) Too broad. Patriarchal structure of society restricts women to perform specific roles.

Also the point is nky what restricts them. The point is what shapes their identity.

g) Legal and institutional barriers in constructing gender roles.

h) Limited employment opportunities for women and division of labor

# GENERAL FEEDBACK FOR ESSAYS

Day: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Content (40%)

Your interpretation should be in depth, comprehensive and academic.

Always address the asked part. It should be evident in your outline, which should be self-explanatory in nature. Essays/Outlines that give related information without addressing the asked part do not qualify.

The whole essay should be relevant. Even if 2 arguments are irrelevant the essay will not pass.

Distribution of topic should be according to the demand of the topic statement i.e. if there is one scoring point it should be given more weight, if there are 2 or more scoring points all should be given equal weight.

All claims made in the essay must be substantiated. Out of 15-17 arguments at least 9-10 should be academically backed with proper references. The rest should be backed by either case studies or generally known information.

Evidence must be authentic and come from proper and authentic academic sources.

Newspapers do not qualify as an academic source. Illustrations and vague mentions of events do not qualify as academic evidence.

Essays that are lacking in evidence do not qualify.

## LANGUAGE (25%)

Focus on enhancing your grammar as any essay with 4-5 grammatical mistakes does not pass.

Your essay must be in the tone and tense of the topic statements. Essays that fail to comply do not pass.

Your sentence structure should be simple, yet clear and diversified.

Vocabulary used should be simple, clear and concise. Expression should always be formal and academic.

You are never to write in 1st and 2nd person pronouns.

You must always use the given keywords and your topic for your thesis statements and main headings in your outline.

## STRUCTURE (20%)

Your essay must follow the selected pattern and that structure should be maintained throughout.

**INTRODUCTION:** The introduction is the longest paragraph of the essay, at least 200 words. It should start with a hook, must give the glimpse of what's to come and must have a thesis statement. Besides hook, your introduction should not have any sort of information and reference. Avoid definitions in introduction.

**BODY PARAGRAPHS:** Approximately 150 words at most and all the body paragraphs must be consistent in length. Should follow the proper structure of an academic paragraph i.e. it must have a topic sentence, supporting point, evidence and concluding sentence. The topic sentence and concluding sentence must align with each other. There should be no new information in the concluding sentence. One paragraph represents one subheading in the outline and consists of one idea.

**CONCLUSION:** Must start with the concluding phrase. There should be no new information in the conclusion. It should recap the arguments. Conclusion does not have any examples and information. If you are ending it on a hopeful note, remember that solutions and hope are not the same.

## COHERENCE (15%)

"Frailty, thy name is women" - (Shakespeare) women are perceived as weak, fragile and unintellectual. They discriminated on the ground of gender roles which are constructed by society. Physical differences are not responsible for the standard social behaviours and norms. It is the society which pushes women to internalize their role in society and to behave in a specific manner. Children learn through early childhood experiences and they come to know the societal expectations and discriminations. Moreover, education system, patriarchal structure and division of labour are all the means to reinforce the gender roles.

No connectivity between the quote and the next sentence.

So you are saying here that discrimination happens because of gender roles not the other way round, this contradicts your argument number

You said they came to know gender roles not discrimination. These are not interchangeable.

Moreover, role of media and religion play their part in defining gender roles. Hence, society constructs the gender roles rather than biological differences.

This does not cover the arguments in the outline.

There is a difference between the concept of gender and sex in defining the gender roles. Sex discriminates on the ground of biological differences including physique, hormones and chromosomes. Moreover, gender is a social construction of norms which are attributed towards

There is a difference in every sense between the two not just in gender roles.

Sex doesn't discriminate. Sex is what you are assigned at birth. There is no discrimination in sexes.

women and set their roles in society. For example, theory of biological determinism justifies the discrimination of gender.

Misconception and understanding of basic ideas. That is why you are told to write definition from an academic source.

That's not the topic, what's the point of discussing it. The paragraph if it must should describe how gender and sex differ from each other.

roles on the basis of biological differences. They perceive women as emotional, unintelligent and sensitive.

~~Furthermore~~ However, some critics argue that gender roles are purely the result of social construction. For

example, Judith Butler in 'Gender Trouble' explains the gender performativity on the basis of social norms and values. Hence, sex and gender are two opposing concepts and perceptions which define the gender roles.

irrelevant to the topic.

Link and connectivity to the topic and in between paragraphs

Gender roles develop  
through early childhood  
experience and learning.  
Differences between men and  
women and their roles are  
fixed by society. Children

learn these differences when they interact with their peers, parents and family. They internalize the difference between men and women and their roles according to their position and functions in society. For

How does that result in social construction of gender.

Your point is to argue that difference exists because of the society not the society learns from the differences.

example, when they interact with their peers, they come to know that boys prefer to play with toys and girls prioritize to play with dolls. They shape their personality according to this

Not an example.

internalization of gender differences. Psychoanalytic theory by Sigmund Freud argues that children are unconsciously shaping their personality and behavior by interacting with same sex parent. Hence, gender

How does that relate to social construction of gender.

roles and differences are the result of early childhood experiences.

Societal expectations about the roles, behavior and practices shape the gender roles. Society has fixed some standards for both males and females.

They are expected to perform in society according to these standards;

otherwise, they are not accepted in a confined society and cultural norms

People are bound to follow the same standards while living in a society. For

example, in Pakistani culture and societies, women are expected to behave and speak in a low tone which

You are to prove that these expectations are a construction of society. They do not exist as innate characteristics.

Example

shapes their behavior.

Moreover, beauty standards and dressing codes are different for women which shape their overall appearance. Radical feminism pointed all these objects which are related to

specific gender. For example, they consider lipstick, heels and dress<sup>s</sup> as a tool of women oppression and used the metaphor of 'trash can' to throw these objects which distinguish men and women. Hence, societal expectations shape the gender roles.

Social stigmas and discriminations constructs the gender roles. In constructing gender roles, society is

*Subject*

This is unrelated to social construction of gender.

The ~~best~~ major factor which discriminates men and women. Many social stigmas are attached to women which shape their role in society. They are perceived as a tool of reproduction which defines their roles. They are discriminated on every ground including social, economic and political because they are considered appropriate for domestic roles. Furthermore, many stigmas are attached which bound them to stay in a limited boundary. For example, many employed women are considered immoral and wicked in rural areas. Co-education system and

Paragraph structure.

western ideas have another set of bad perceptions and social stigmas. Hence, social stigmas and discrimination shape the gender roles by pushing women to perform their domestic task.

Education system reinforces the gender roles by teaching the children their role in a society. Children learn their roles when they go to educational institutions. They are learn how to speak, behave and dress according to their gender. Moreover, punishments and reinforcements shape their gender roles. According

What does this have to do with education system??

To Social Learning Theory, humans learn according to previous experiences.

What does punishment have to do with the education system

Punishments and not reinforcements further teach them how to behave in a specific situation. Furthermore,

discrimination on career path and subject selection further shape their identity.

Unrelated to education system

According to a research,

What research??

there are more men in STEM fields than women.

Unrelated to social construction of gender.

Hence, education system shapes the role, identity and personality of children according to their gender.

Role of media and religion play a part in shaping the perception of gender roles. Media

Separate entities and separate argument.

portrays women as a weak, fragile and suppressed entity and men as an aggressive, rude and dominant.

So how does that result in social construction of gender?

~~Economic independence of women and financial suppression are the cause & result of media perception and misinterpretation~~

Not what the argument is.

According to Irving Goffman in "Gender Advertisements", gender roles are portrayed in advertising which perpetuates certain stereotypes.

Moreover, restrictions on family planning, abortions and contraceptives are the outcome of religious misinterpretation. On the ground of religious teachings, women stay at their

homes and perform the gender duties. Hence, media and religion are the hurdle for women to chase their dreams and career opportunities.

Patriarchal structure of society restricts women to perform specific roles. It is perceived that women are dependent on men and men are dominant on women. Men are responsible to earn and women are responsible for childcare. These roles are considered as an extension of their personality. Theory of 'Structural functionalism' by Talcott Parsons argues that these gender roles

~~Relevance~~

You are to prove that this mindset is a social construct. Not an innate condition. Not that this mindset leads to restrictions.

Irrelevant to the argument and the context.

maintain the social stability and structure. Their roles and functions are according to their personality which is essential for a balanced society. This perception discriminates gender on the basis of their ability. Hence, patriarchal structure of society makes a woman suppressive and dependent on men.

Legal and institutional barriers are the major factor in constructing gender roles. Many institutions avoid the dominance of women in business, firms or offices. They have

The limited role in politics and decision-making process. Many countries have no legal laws which provide women in politics and parliaments. As a result, they cannot properly communicate their issues and participate in policy making process. These barriers push them to perform their roles at home. For example, globalization benefits elite women, and as a result, 70% of world poor are women (UNDP report). Hence, legal and institutional barriers construct the gender roles and position of women in society.

Unrelated to social construction of gender.

Limited employment opportunities for women and division of labor in a society construct the gender roles. Women get jobs according to their perceived ability and intellectual level. They are considered better to perform in garment shop, watch shop and teaching as they are extension of their roles in a society. According to a report of International Labor Organization, only 28% women are at major managerial positions. Furthermore, gender pay gap and harassment at workplace force them to perform specific roles in a society. Hence,

Limited employment opportunities for women bound them to perform the domestic roles which further define their position in a society.

Violence and discrimination are the tools ~~of women oppression~~ and ~~to~~ <sup>used to</sup> construct their roles. Women are considered fragile, ~~op~~ suppressive and dominant. Men take it this as an opportunity to rule in a society. ~~Women are considered to obey their male partners and shape their identity according to their will.~~ Rape culture theory normalizes the violence against women. It is usually said, "boys

will be boys". These are norms, values and perceptions suppress the women & in a society and benefit the males. Hence, violence and discrimination play their part in social construction of gender.

In a nutshell, it is wrong to perceive women as ~~a suppressive~~, weak and independent just according to the ~~biological difference~~. Women are not weak on the ground of their sex differences, rather it is a society which defines their roles. Society constructs their roles by ~~intentional~~

shaping their personality and identity. Many tools including social stigmas, patriarchal structure and misinterpretation of religion are used to justify their roles in a society. Women are perceived for domestic work, childcare and reproduction which are the roles given by society. Men are perceived intelligent, strong and aggressive which suits their role of earning and ruling in a society. Hence, it is the society which makes women dependent on men and defines their role and position in a society.

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