

Assignment

On

Feminism

Subject :- Gender, School &
Society

Submitted by :-

Chhawi (340)

Submitted to :-

Sunaina Maam

B.Ed - II (Sem-IV)

Feminism :->

* Concept :- The term "feminism" derived from Latin word femina which means women, having equality of females. It believes in the liberation of women from such subordination. Feminism, in the earlier stage, focussed on the equality of women in the political and economic realms. It brings many things to philosophy including not only a variety of particular moral and practical / political claims, but ways of asking & answering questions.

* Meaning :-> Feminism is the belief that all people should be treated equally in legal, economic and social arenas regardless of gender, religion, sexual orientation and other similar predominant identifying traits. Feminists are the people who try to acknowledge social inequality based on gender and stop it from continuing. It points out cultures throughout history men have received more opportunities than women.

* Definition :-

Acc to Oxford Dictionary, "Feminism is the advocacy of women rights on the ground of equality of sexes."

Acc: to Merriam Webster, "Feminism is the theory of political, economic and social equality of sexes and organised activity on behalf of women's rights and interests."

* History of Feminist Movement's

① The First Wave: →

- In early 19th century and 20th century in UK & US.
- It won improved rights for women in marriage & property. Its biggest achievement was winning some political power.
- In 1888, women over 30 who owned property won the vote and in 1928 it was extended to all women over 21.

② The Second Wave: →

- In 1960s & 1970s
- It extended the fight beyond political rights to education, work and the home.
- It presents reports of American presidential commission on the status of women which caused the enacting of equal pay act till 1980s.
- Feminism last incident, the Japanese Equal Employment Opportunity Law of 1985, prohibits gender discrimination with respect to recruitment, hiring, promotion, training & job assignment.

③ The Third Wave :->

- 1990s - present
- Widened the feminist movement and its ideas beyond middle class, white women, addressing the different disadvantages women experience because of, for ex -> race, ethnicity & class.
- History of feminism in just these three waves can ignore the fight for equal rights & end to discrimination by women outside the large feminist movements in UK & US.

* Basic Feminism Ideas :->

1.] Focuses complete participation :-> It focuses on idea that since women comprise one-half of the population, social progress can never be achieved without complete participation of women.

2.] Expanding human choices :-> Both men & women should have the freedom to develop their human interests & talents even if those interests and talents conflict with the status.

3.] Eliminate gender stratification :-> Feminists oppose laws and cultural norms that limit income, educational & job opportunities for women.

- 4.] The goal of feminism is gender equality: → It advocates for the political, social & economical equality of genders. It asserts that women should have the same rights as men and have access to the same opportunity including equal pay for equal work.
- 5.] Feminists are everywhere & thriving: → Feminist issues have become a major topic of interest in popular culture, with many celebrities & politicians speaking on behalf of the movement.
- 6.] Ending sexual violence and promoting sexual freedom: → Feminism stresses that women should have control over their sexuality & reproduction.
- 7.] Seeks to create non-discriminations: → Feminism seeks to create non-discrimination, which is essential for creating equality to ensure that no one is denied their rights because of factors such as race, gender, language, religion, gender identity, property or birth.

* Types of Feminism :->

- 1.] Radical feminism :-> It is a movement that believes sexism is so deeply rooted in society that the only cure is to eliminate the concept of gender completely. It suggests some changes, such as finding technology that will allow babies to be grown outside of a woman's body, to promote more equality between men & women. This will allow women to avoid missing work for maternity leave, which these feminists argue is one reason women aren't promoted as quickly as men.
- 2.] Socialist feminism :-> It is slightly less extreme but still calls for major social change. It basically socialist feminism argues that capitalism strengthens and supports the sexist status because men are the ones who currently have power & money. Women are given fewer opportunities & resources. This keeps women under control of men. It focuses on economics & politics.
- 3.] Cultural feminism :-> It is a movement that points out how modern society is hurt by encouraging masculine behaviour, but society would benefit by encouraging feminine behaviour instead.
- 4.] Liberal feminism :-> It focused its energy on concrete & pragmatic change at an institutional

and government level. Its goal was to integrate women more thoroughly into power structure & to give women equal access to positions men had traditionally dominated.

* Indian feminism: In this increasing numbers of highly-educated and professional Indian women have entered the public arena in fields such as politics, business & scientific research. Here are some of the feminists who advocate women's rights.

Conclusion: In Broadest sense it comprises any theory which is grounded on the belief that women are oppressed or disadvantaged by comparison with men, and that their oppression is in some way illegitimate or unjustified.

