

EFFECT OF FEMINISM ON WOMEN” (HAS FEMINISM HELPED OR HARMED WOMEN)

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ABSTRACT

To become an important member of society, women had to overcome numerous challenges, difficulties, and impediments. In the past, women lacked all kinds of status and privileges and were mistreated by society and men alike.

This dissertation explores a woman's hopes, aspirations and capacity to alter her role in society from that of a daughter, wife, or mother to that of an ordinary citizen's typical rights and responsibilities. This research produces several key findings: recent research and statistics that confirm a significant development of women's participation in different fields such as economic growth, and cultural upheavals together with social and political frameworks.

The main conclusion drawn from this research is that the Feminist efforts were efficient in many ways in which they brought a huge change in the position and the role of women. By establishing women's political, economic and social rights, they were able to eliminate most, if not all, of the conventional images and increase her status in society.

CHAPTER-1

INTRODUCTION

Feminism is a set of political movements that broadly highlight the interest of women. Women's studies and social psychology have both found feminist identity to be an interesting issue for research, and several different frameworks and tools have been created to organize what it means to be a feminist. Gender has various features and dimensions that must be considered to understand how and why gender influences attitudes and behaviours. Nonetheless, gender is a variable that is frequently included in studies without much thought as to why. For instance, gender disparities are frequently discussed without considering their underlying reasons. First, gender is rarely operationalized in greater detail beyond categorizing persons as either male or female. A little over half of the world's population are women. Due to their multiple responsibilities in both the social and political spheres, women play a larger role in the social, political, and economic development of societies than males do. They are an important part of the balance of power in societies all over the world. All the decisions in the world today- economic, social, political, educational, and artistic are made equally by men and women, but this was not always the case. the reality years before. Women through all this time tried to look for their rights by all means and thanks to the idea of Feminism that helped her to be a partner in all the domains of society. The social and political rights of women were always at the top of Feminism demands. Through her position in all occupations as well as at home, the woman demonstrates that her effectiveness in society is equal to that of the man.

SOCIO-HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Women have always protested against the dominant patriarchy, in whatever shape it has historically existed, and have sought means to show their disapproval, even before feminism took on its current form in Europe and America. The term feminist perspective refers to viewpoints that in some manner strive to challenge, contest, and develop alternatives to the prevalent male viewpoints that are associated with what feminists refer to as universal patriarchy. There are several ways to understand women's subordination and strategies to liberate women and give them justice and equality, demonstrating that feminism is not a single, rigid viewpoint. Feminism emerged from the 17th century onwards in England, the United States and France. The arrival of industrial capitalism, as well as economic and political developments inside the family, resulted in a shift in the standing of women.

“Feminism” originated in France and was first used in the United States in the early twentieth century. It was first used to describe a group of women who advocated for women's rights and were known as romantic feminists because they were preoccupied with the uniqueness of the female sex and their parenting position. The sexual rationalists, on the other hand, claimed better status for women since they considered women equal to men and wanted men to relinquish their authority over women.

ORIGIN OF FEMINISM

Hunburtine Auclert used the term feminism in her journal *la Citoyenne* as *La Féminité* in late 1880 to criticize male dominance and to seek women's rights in addition to the freedom promised by the French Revolution. By the first decade of the twentieth century, the term appeared in English first in Britain and then in the 1910s in America and by the 1920s in the Arab World as *Niswia*. Feminism is derived from the Latin term *Femina*, which refers to women's issues. Feminism is concerned with females not just as a biological category, but also as a social category, and so feminists agreed that women's oppression is linked to their sexuality. This happened because biological distinctions between men and women were represented in societal organizations, and women were viewed as inferior to males based on these disparities. Feminism, whether as a philosophy, a social movement, or a political movement, focuses on women's experiences and highlights various forms of oppression to which the female gender has been subjected in society.

Whether considered a social or political movement, Feminism explicitly and primarily focuses on women's experiences in their daily life, which she is subjected to in society. Since Feminists can feel and experience the pain and suffering of women they are convinced of what it means to be a “woman” in Patriarchal societies. Feminists want to eliminate all barriers to equal social, political, and economic possibilities for women, and they reject the belief that a woman's worth is decided primarily by her gender and that women are fundamentally inferior, subservient, or less clever than men.

Society and Women

Women's roles are critical in today's society, as men continue to dominate and play the most important roles in society. In the last few years, women's roles in society have substantially expanded in comparison to their previous status as housewives whose sole responsibility was to care for children and obey man's dictates.

Women and Education

Women were discouraged from studying and education because it would drive them to doubt the mandatory strength of the traditions and beliefs that kept them in their place, and it would show them how to obtain their indeed may even push them to assume leadership. Therefore, Feminist researchers and writers emphasize the importance of education in woman's life like Marry Wollstonecraft who paved the way for other Feminists to look

for equal opportunities for both boys and girls.

Women and Health

Women had the availability of all types of comfortable life, such as education, work, and health, which is the foundation of any successful country. The value of health may be in the first range. Feminism from the beginning was calling for the importance of taking care of women not just by giving them jobs or letting them vote but also by giving their health priority since she has the most sensitive and fragile body structure in addition to pregnancy and other mother activities.

Women and Economics

Women are participating in many fields, including economics in which the female employment rate rose to 20.5% in 2000. By the beginning of the 1890s women started to participate in political debate and economic challenges. Swelling numbers of women entered the workforce in seeking new equal opportunities and forming a new image and profile of them.

THEORIES OF FEMINISM

Various feminist theories aim to create a complete account of women's subordination, and the underlying causes of women's subordination, including its alleged essence and origin. Feminist perspectives offer several challenges, "Social Constructionists" explanations for the pervasiveness of the relationships of domination and lesser between men and women for understanding the changes that are required to rectify exploitation and dictatorial relationships. Each feminist theory attempts to describe women's oppression, and suppression to explain its causes and consequences.

- **Liberal Feminism**: It can be acknowledged as equal rights feminism or peculiarly the 'First wave' of the women's movement. Throughout the nineteenth century, liberal feminism had bloomed often as an extension of other emancipatory movements. It is one of the earliest forms of feminism, affirming that women's secondary status in society is based on unequal opportunities and segregation from men. It focused on achieving gender equality through political and legal reform within the framework of liberal democracy and informed by a human rights perspective. In this approach, the ultimate explanation for women's position in society is seen in terms of artificial barriers to women's participation in the outer world, beyond the family and household chorus. Women struggled for their right to education, professions, the right to own property and hold public office, and suffrage. Furthermore, it emphasized reform rather than revolutionary change because society believes that women are by nature less intellectually and physically adept than males, hence excluding women from many chances and allowing women's full potential to go unfulfilled. For the same Liberal feminist argued that women share the same rational human nature as men do and should be given the same opportunities in all domains as men are given. The ultimate goal of women's liberation is freeing women from oppressive power roles: sexual and gender equality. Liberal feminism led to advances in the economic spheres, inequality of opportunities and civil rights.

- **Marxist Feminism**: The concept that women's subordination is a historically particular outcome of class society is central to all Marxist Feminists. Marxist feminism is a philosophical concept of feminism that assimilates and extends Marxist theory. Marxist feminism scrutinizes how women are exploited through capitalism and the individual ownership of private property. Marx claimed to provide a comprehensive explanation of human history and society. Family and sexual relationships are other aspects of social organization,

the product of a particular stage of economic development. They cannot be separated at will, it can be changed or replaced with socioeconomic factors. Sexual oppression is considered a facet of class power in Marxist feminism since hierarchical division relations are seen as the foundation of coercive power and oppression of all disparities. They accept some variation of what is described as the base-superstructure model of society, that is social relations including those related to sexual inequality are perceived as crucially shaped by the economic structure of society rather than by the ideas and attitudes.

- **Radical Feminism**: It is essentially a theory written by, for, and about women. It is a feminist viewpoint that advocates for a radical reorganization of society in which male supremacy is abolished in

all circumstances be it social or economic spheres, while identifying that women's experiences are also affected by other social divisions such as caste, class and sexual and sexual orientation. Radical feminists see society as inherently patriarchal, with men dominating and suppressing women. They want to eradicate patriarchy to liberate women and girls from an oppressive society by challenging and changing existing social norms and practices. Such an agenda encourages some degree of separatism from men and this identification with women and denial of male domination involves both a critique of the existing system of heterosexuality as prioritizing men and a recognition of other identities as a challenge to that priority. Men as a group are identified to be the beneficiaries of this systematic approach to power.

MODEL OF FEMINIST THEORY

The core concepts in feminist theory are gender, race, sex, equality, discrimination, differences and choices. There are systems and structures in society that work against individuals based on these dimensions and against equality and equity. Research in critical paradigms requires the belief that, through the exploration of these existing conditions in the current social order, truths can be revealed. This investigation raises awareness of oppressive institutions while also providing spaces for varied voices to speak for themselves (Egbert & Sanden, 2019). Systems and structures of power and oppression exist.

(THEY WORK AGAINST)

Sex, gender, equality, difference, race, ability, etc. (THIS CREATES)

Discrimination and exclusion.

(THROUGH ACTION)

Power and oppression are acknowledged and disrupted. (THIS SUPPORTS)

Understanding, advocacy, and change.

Feminist research has made significant contributions to understanding the intricacies and shifts in the gendered division of labour. Men and women should be politically, economically, and socially equal, and this concept does not discuss differences or similarities between men and women, nor does it advocate for excluding males or pursuing women's causes exclusively. The feminist model works to support change and understanding by acknowledging and disrupting power and oppression.

VARIABLES IN STUDY

- **ATTITUDE AND COMPETENCY**

Attitude is a psychological construct that is a mental and emotional entity that a person possesses or characterizes, it is their attitude to something, their opinion about that idea... It involves their mindset, outlook and feelings. Gender role attitude, on the other hand, refers to individuals' beliefs about the roles men and women should perform in society. It is a set of beliefs regarding the appropriate roles of both genders. Attitudes towards women in the workplace are rapidly becoming more similar to those towards men. When hiring or promoting employees, education and exposure are generally given greater weight than gender. Women occupy top positions in almost all professional fields- law, government, technology, medicine, engineering, and scientific research and tend to be well-accepted by colleagues and subordinates.

Although attitudes towards women in the Indian workplace are improving, the path for women to get there might be arduous. For women who enter the professional world, the many outside roles and responsibilities of Indian women are not generally recognised or taken into consideration. Many women are still expected to take care of the home and family. Women in India have collectively raised their voices in recent years in an attempt to obtain more equality, not only in jobs but also in society. Although it's an uphill battle that is going to take much time and effort, the first step to bring about change has been taken, and the hope is that it will only progress from here. Psychological research has shown that women tend to excel in empathy and interpersonal relationships and tend to minimize hostility and conflict. Men view intimacy as a threat, but women regard separation as a threat.

- **FEMINISM HELPED OR HARMED WOMEN?**

Physiological- food, water, sex, warmth, air, and shelter.

Women do not have strong needs that force them to think of nothing else when they are in discomfort. The pill was invented in the 1960s so a woman had some control over her body. However, slut shaming women who are sexually active is still a common activity today in 2023, just take a look at the press. Every time a woman engages in sexual activity, she risks practically holding the baby and having her entire life transformed forever, not to mention how the media perceives the societal label: single mother. When it comes to food, often starving women carry on in discomfort and think of everything and everyone.

Safety- Personal or job security, employment, health, property

Do the women you know to feel safe while walking down the street? If they live alone, do they feel safe knowing that people know where they reside? Not just physically but psychologically too.

According to Aristotle, the fundamental condition for psychological safety in a team is the confidence that the team will not embarrass, reject, or punish someone for speaking up. Men's legitimacy is recognised by society in a way that women's legitimacy is not.

Social- love and affection, intimacy, belonging, friends

Connection to others is our life force. It gives our life a meaning. There must, however, be a balance between giving and receiving. How many women get the love, affection and appreciation they need from their family and friends?

Self Esteem

Humans must respect themselves and be respected by others. They do this through their achievements, actions, prestige, accomplishments, feelings, reputation and position in society. It is hard to achieve when you are constantly on standby for other people and you are organizing other people's days. However, the cultural devaluation of women starts at home with the mother, and when you choose to be a child-free working woman it is often disrespectfully assumed that you don't mind picking up the slack because you have nowhere else to be.

Self-actualisation

Society continually bombarded women with messages about how they should look, behave and be, what they cannot accomplish, and how they should present themselves in the world.. Worth of a woman is so tied up with the way we look and are perceived by others that even if we know, we still have to do it and be lovely, slender, modest, and use all possible attractiveness resources.

CHAPTER-2 REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Who likes competent women? - was published in (1972) by Janet Taylor Spence and Robert Helmreich. Until the women's liberation movement, Janet Taylor Spence's research had focused primarily on anxiety. The American psychologist, however, turned to gender-related concerns after reading research performed by two of her colleagues regarding how competency in males was associated with likeability. She decided to perform a comparative study that focused completely on women after noticing that the study did not examine the female gender. Taylor Spence set out alongside Robert Helmreich to see if men and women preferred competent women over inept ones. Only people who believed in sexual equality, the two psychologists suspected, would favor competence. To their hypothesis, they designed the ATTITUDE TOWARDS WOMEN SCALE, which assesses attitudes towards the roles and rights of women by asking questions about education, marriage, professional life, habits, intellectual leadership, and social and economic issues. The outcomes were unexpected. Subjects not only preferred more competent women over less capable women, but they also gave the highest scores to women who were competent in stereotypically masculine ways. The pioneering study was instrumental in establishing gender research as a subfield of social psychology.

(Mason et al., 1976; Thornton and Freedman, 1979; Thornton et al., 1983) conducted a study on Gender- Role attitude change of Young Women: Influential factors.

Results of this panel study document liberal shifts in the sex-role attitudes of a sample of 294 young women between 1979 (as high school sophomores) and 1981. The women's adolescent attitudes were associated with mothers' education and subjects' later educational attainment, but not with their marital status, fertility, employment or mother's early work status. Gender - role attitude change was positively connected to employment, income, and education throughout 11 years. However, mothers' education tempered the modernizing effect of daughters' advanced schooling. Married women modified their attitudes more than unmarried women among the employed. The gap, however, decreased as time in the labor force increased.

Barbara H. ones and Kathleen McNamara (1991) investigated the effects of intrinsic and extrinsic religious orientations on attitudes towards women and their employment positions. Subjects with a strong intrinsic religious orientation prioritize family over work in their predicted general lifestyle, compared to those with a low intrinsic religious orientation. Subjects with a high inherent religious inclination were also more inclined to expect the female spouse to work less throughout the children's early years. Males showed more traditional attitudes toward women than females, but there were no gender effects on measures of preferred career involvement for the

wife. Subjects from mainline and conservative denominations had no significant differences in their attitudes towards women on their employment positions.

RATIONALE

The portrayal of women as abject victims of the patriarchal family has been challenged and modulated in contemporary feminist philosophy. The ultimate goal of the study is to explore the psychological differences between men and women and to understand the effects of feminism on women using different scales. Despite significant advances in a few years, women are still under-represented in terms of research. The role allocated to women in modern society is different and least looked upon as a good topic for research in the past.

Gender studies is a discipline that advocates gender equality and works to eliminate discrimination against women and other marginalized groups. With an aim to spread awareness and to look over the least preferred area for research I have chosen Gender studies as an area for my study. It also provides a unique viewpoint on the world's most pressing social concerns. One of the reasons why most people refuse to participate in gender studies conversion research is that they view gender as something that only affects women.

Gender is a pervasive status issue that explicitly or implicitly places a lower value on women and female-gendered roles than on men and male-gendered roles. The study revolves around the concept and relationship that the feminist chain of command, the idea of self-actualisation, and self-efficacy have helped or harmed women. Not only to understand how women's experiences are different from men's experiences but also to examine how they interact with each other.

The pyramid of Needs applied to women in the workplace, and social environment.

To apply the same principles to the career of a female employee, we will have to make the following modifications:

- In Maslow's hierarchy of needs, life becomes a career, and dying or the loss of life is replaced with resignation.
- The physiological needs become the ultimate demand for physical, the most basic requirement for a woman going to work is to know that she will not be harassed sexually.
- Moral safety takes the place of security: knowing that one's will not be ridiculed or threatened and will be allowed to perform the tasks she was hired to serve.
- The concepts of family and friends were replaced by the concept of team. The feeling of belonging to the team is closely related to the ability to be treated fairly, not be discriminated against, and to be given the same opportunities as male peers.
- In our context, "Esteem" becomes "Sanctity of the Self". This stage is achieved when a woman is able to achieve her career goals by compromising on her femininity.
- Finally, the version of "self-actualisation" is "total fulfilment": which means that the woman employee knows that she did not get her current position through random means. Because she is an accomplished professional, she now seeks to share her expertise and knowledge with other women to help them benefit from her experience and achieve their dreams.

CHAPTER-3 METHODS OF STUDY

PURPOSE:-

The purpose of the study is to understand the effects of “Feminism on women ” and how the concept of “feminism has helped or harmed women”.

HYPOTHESIS:-

1. Investigate the prevalence of equality and the importance of women’s position and participation in the workplace and society.
2. Examining the role and impact of feminism among women and comparing the level of participation in society. Also, Examining the importance of the hierarchy of needs and the actual prevailing reality among women in society.
3. Feminism recognises that women have the right to equal opportunities, access to resources, and protection from discrimination and oppression. Feminism also acknowledges the diversity of women’s experiences and identities and seeks to address intersectional issues of race, class, sexuality, and more.
4. Feminism recognises that women have been marginalized and somewhat oppressed in aspects of society and based on Maslow’s hierarchy of needs, which is a widely accepted framework for understanding humans, because of which general hypotheses can be made about the hierarchy of needs.

VARIABLES

In psychology, a variable is any factor or attribute that can vary or change in quality, quantity, or type and can influence the outcomes of research or experimental studies. Variables are any measurable attributes or characteristics that can take on different values or levels across individuals, situations, or time. They are used to study the relationship between different phenomena or events and to test theories about how these phenomena or events are related.

There are two main types of variables in psychology: independent variables and dependent variables

- Independent variables are variables that are manipulated or controlled by the researcher in an experiment. They are the variables that are thought to cause changes in the dependent variable, and their effects on the dependent variable are examined.
- Dependent variables are variables that are measured by the researcher in an experiment. They are the variables that are thought to be affected by the changes in the independent variable, and their changes are used to infer the effects of the independent variable.

Other types of variables used in psychology include mediating variables, moderating variables, and confounding variables.

- Mediating variables are variables that explain the relationship between the independent variable and dependent variable.
- Moderating variables are factors that influence the intensity or direction of the relationship between the independent and dependent variables.
- Confounding variables are variables that are not of interest in a study but may affect the relationship between the independent and dependent variables.

Variables are an essential part of the scientific method in psychology. They allow researchers to systematically study the relationship between different phenomena or events and to test theories about how these phenomena or events are related. By carefully examining variables and using appropriate statistical techniques, researchers can draw valid conclusions about the relationships between different variables and make meaningful contributions to the field of psychology.

TOOLS

Feminism and Maslow's hierarchy of needs are both relevant concepts in today's society and there are many ways in which they intersect.

On a basic level, feminism seeks to address many of the issues and needs outlined in Maslow's hierarchy, such as physiological needs, safety and security, and love and belonging. For example, feminism advocates for equal access to healthcare, the elimination of gender-based violence, and the recognition of women's contributions and value in society.

There are several scales and tests in psychology that can help us understand feminism and its impact on individuals and society. Similarly, two main scales have been used in the study to explain and identify the level of Maslow's hierarchy of needs and the fulfilment of these needs among women. These tests are just a few examples of how psychology can contribute to our understanding of feminism. By using these measures, we can gain insight into the ways in which gender inequality affects women and society, and how they work towards a more equitable and just world.

THE FIDS(feminist Identity Development Scale)

Feminist Identity Development Scale is a measure developed to assess an individual's level of feminist identity development. It was developed by Bargad, A., & Hyde, J.S.(1991) and has since been revised and updated.

The FIDs were based on the feminist Identity Development theory proposed by Downing and Roush(1985). According to this theory, individuals go through a series of stages in their development of feminist identity. These stages include:

1. **Passive acceptance**: The individual is aware of sexism and discrimination but does not see it as a personal problem.
2. **Revelation**: The individual experiences a personal awakening and recognises the impact of sexism on their life.
3. **Embeddedness-Emersion**: The individual becomes immersed in feminist thought and activities, seeking out others who share their beliefs.

4. Synthesis: The individual develops a more nuanced understanding of feminist issues and is able to integrate feminist beliefs.
5. Active commitment: The individual becomes actively committed to feminist causes and works to make changes in their own life and society.

The FIDS consists of 48 items that assess an individual's beliefs and attitude towards feminism, as well as their level of involvement in feminist activism by assessing an individual's beliefs, attitudes, and behavior related to feminist issues. The scale consists of 48 items, each rated on a 5-point likert scale from 1(strongly disagree) to 5(strongly agree).

The FIDS has been used in numerous studies to investigate the relationship between feminist identity development and various outcomes, such as mental health, academic achievement, and political activism. It has been found to have a good reliability and validity, meaning that it is a reliable and accurate measure of feminist identity development. However, some researchers have criticized the FIDS for being limited in its focus on white, middle class women and not for fully accounting for the intersectionality of multiple identities, such as race, class and sexual orientation. Despite these limitations, the FIDS remains a significantly widely used tool for measuring feminist identity development and has contributed to our understanding of the development of feminist identity.

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs Motivated Person Questionnaire

There is no specific scale used to measure Maslow's hierarchy of needs, as it is a theoretical framework rather than a formal assessment tool. However some researchers have developed self-report questionnaires that attempt to assess different levels of the hierarchy.

The Maslow self actualisation Inventory is a self report questionnaire developed by Abraham Maslow himself to measure an individual's level of self actualisation, which is the highest level in his hierarchy of needs.

The Maslow's hierarchy of needs motivated person questionnaire consists of 26 items that are designed to assess various aspects of self actualisation, including creativity, problem solving skills, and peak experiences. The items of the questionnaire are scored on a five point Likert scale, ranging from "strongly disagree" to "strongly agree". The categories of needs in model of hierarchy are:

1. Physiological needs- Air, water, food, shelter, warmth, sleep, and sex are the most basic needs for survival.
2. Safety needs- once physiological needs are met, individuals seek safety and security, including personal safety, financial safety, and protection from harm.
3. Love and belonging needs- these needs are related to social interactions and the desire for love, affection, and a sense of belongingness such as friendship, family and intimacy.
4. Esteem needs- once the lower level needs are met, individuals seek to satisfy their self esteem needs, such as achievement, recognition, respect, and status.
5. Self-actualisation - the highest level of Maslow's hierarchy of needs is self actualisation, which is the need to realize ones full potential and become everything that one is capable of achieving. This involves personal development, creativity, problem solving, and pursuing one's passion and goals.

ADMINISTRATION

Introduction

Before proceeding further I would like to thank everyone for agreeing to participate in our study on women and social attitudes. The purpose of the two questionnaires is to measure attitude towards feminism and gender equality. We believe that understanding people's attitudes towards these issues is important for creating a more equitable society.

Before starting with the process, I assured my participants that the responses will be kept confidential and anonymous. Participation in the process was completely voluntary, and the participants had the right to withdraw any time without penalty.

However, we do ask the participants to answer each question honestly to the best of their ability to ensure the accuracy of the results.

Consent

Title of the study:- Effects of feminism on women and how the hierarchy of needs play a crucial role in the lives of women.

"You are being invited to participate in a research study on gender and social attitudes. This study is being conducted by Ritika Dhaka, a researcher from Amity University Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. The purpose of the study is to better understand feminism in several aspects".

Procedure

"If you agree to participate, you will be asked to complete a questionnaire enquiring about the idea about feminist identity and significance of hierarchy of needs among women. The questionnaire will ask you about your beliefs and attitudes towards feminism and hierarchy of needs. The questionnaire will take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete".

Risks and benefits

There are no known risks associated with participating in this study. However, some participants may find the questions on the questionnaire sensitive or personal in nature. There are no direct benefits to the subject for participating in the study. However, the information provided by them may help researchers better understand attitudes towards feminism.

Confidentiality

The responses of each participant will be kept confidential and anonymous. The data collected from the questionnaire will be used for research purposes only and will be kept securely in accordance with the Data Protection Act.

Voluntary Participation

Participation in this study is voluntary. The participants have the right to withdraw from the study at any time without penalty. And if the participant decides to withdraw, the responses will not be used in the study.

Scoring

Scoring of both the tests will be done using Likert scale. Scores on each subscales are calculated separately, and a total score is calculated by adding up the scores on all subscales for both the tests. The scoring of both the test dimensions includes: feminist identity development, feminist identity synthesis, feminist consciousness, feminist leadership, and feminist connectedness.

Data Analysis

Statistical analysis was performed using appropriate software, such as SPSS (Statistical package for the social sciences). Correlation analysis was conducted to examine the relationship between the two variables.

CHAPTER -4

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

TABLE1:- Showing correlation coefficient between raw score1 and raw score2.

Correlations		Rawscore-1	Rawscore-2
Rawscore-1	Pearson Correlation	1	.336**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		<.001
	N	96	96
Rawscore-2	Pearson Correlation	.336**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	<.001	
	N	100	100

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

1. Significance:

- The p-value associated with the correlation coefficient is <0.001 (highly significant).
- This indicates that the observed correlation between “Raw Score-1” and Raw score-2” is unlikely to have occurred by chance.

2. Sample Size:

- The “N” represents the number of observations available for each variable, which is 96 in this case.

TABLE2:- Showing Descriptive statistics between Raw Score-1 and Raw Score-2

Descriptive Statistics			
	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
Rawscore-1	106.83	9.987	100
Rawscore-2	129.69	15.829	100

- The table provides descriptive statistics for two variables, “Raw Score-1” and “Raw Score-2”.
- The descriptive statistics include the mean and standard deviation for each variable, as well as the sample size (N).

CONCLUSION AND INTERPRETATION

The analysis conducted examines the correlation between Raw score- 1 and Raw score- 2. The Pearson correlation coefficient, a statistical measure that indicates the strength and direction of the relationship between the two variables, was employed to determine the correlation.

The obtained correlation coefficient between Rawscore-1 and Rawscore- 2 is .336 *. This positive correlation coefficient indicates that as Raw Score- 1 increases, there is a tendency for Raw Score- 2 to increase as well. Moreover, the correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed), implying that the observed relationship is unlikely to have occurred by chance.

The significance level, denoted by the Sig. (2-tailed) value of <.001 indicates a very high level of confidence in the obtained correlation. This means that the likelihood of obtaining such a strong positive correlation due to random chances is extremely low. Thus, it provides evidence to support the presence of a genuine relationship between Raw Score-1 and Raw Score- 2.

To interpret these results within the concept of feminism, we can relate Raw Score- 1 to feminist identity development and Raw Score- 2 to the hierarchy of needs among women. Feminism is a social, political, and ideological movement that advocates for gender equality, challenges gender based discrimination and oppression, and promotes women’s rights. Feminist identity development refers to the process through which individuals develop a sense of identification with feminist values, beliefs and principles. On the other hand, the hierarchy of needs is a psychological concept introduced by Abraham Maslow, which proposes that individuals have a set of needs arranged in a hierarchical order. According to Maslow's hierarchy, individuals strive to fulfill their basic physiological needs, safety needs, social needs, esteem needs, and self actualisation needs in that order.

In the context of the provided analysis, we can explore potential associations between feminist identity development and the prioritization of needs among women.

The obtained correlation coefficient is .336** suggests a significant positive correlation between the two. This indicates that as feminist identity development increases, there is a tendency for the hierarchy of needs among women to also be positively influenced. In the context of feminism, this correlation can be interpreted in a couple of ways:

- Firstly, it suggests that as individuals develop a stronger feminist identity, they may prioritize needs that align with feminist norms and values. For instance, women who identify strongly as feminists might prioritize needs related to empowerment, autonomy, equal opportunities, and gender equity. This could manifest as a higher focus on self-actualisation needs, such as personal growth, pursuing meaningful goals, and achieving one's full potential (as represented by raw score-2).

For table 2 the descriptive statistics provided give us information about the mean, standard dev, and sample size(N) for Raw score- 1 and Raw score- 2. For Raw Score- 1 the mean is 106.83, indicating the average score of

the participants on the measure of feminist identity development. The standard deviation indicates a wider range of scores. The sample size of 100 indicates the number of participants included in the analysis. Similarly, for Raw Score- 2, the mean is 129.69, representing the average score on the measure of the hierarchy of needs among women. The standard deviation is 15.829 indicates the degree of variability in scores around the mean. The larger the standard deviation, the greater the variability in participants' scores.

Furthermore, within the feminist framework, it is crucial to consider the intersectional impact of women's experiences. Intersectionality recognizes that individuals embody multiple social identities and that their experiences are shaped by the intersections of these identities (such as gender, race, class, sexuality, and more). Therefore, women's hierarchy of needs may vary depending on the intersectional aspects of their identities. For example, women who face multiple forms of oppression and discrimination due to their intersecting identities may have unique needs and priorities that differ from women who hold more privileged positions. The correlation analysis can provide insights into how feminist identity development and the hierarchy of needs intersect among women from diverse backgrounds.

However, it's important to note that the provided analysis does not establish a case relationship between feminist identity development and the hierarchy of needs. The correlation coefficient indicates an association between the two variables but does not imply causation. Further research would be needed to explore the underlying mechanisms and to determine the directionality of the relationship.

In summary, within the context of feminism, the analysis demonstrates a significant positive correlation between feminist identity development (raw score- 1) and the hierarchy of needs (raw score- 2) among women. This suggests that the individuals with a stronger feminist identity may prioritize needs that align with feminist principles. However, it is crucial to consider the intersectionality of women's experiences and to conduct further research to better understand the complexities of this relationship.

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APPENDIX

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Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs Motivated Person QUESTIONNAIRE

(Please read each statement carefully and place a tick in the appropriate column. Try to be objective and honest in your answers. Do not leave any statement unanswered.)

No.	Statements	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	I believe in having a safe and secure home before establishing a family.					
2	I believe that children need to be provided a secure place to live than sending them to orphanage schools.					
3	I prefer to provide quality food for my children than investing heavily in an educational facility.					
4	I prefer to have my basic needs like food and a secure shelter before earning power and status.					
5	I will not spend extravagantly visiting friends and relatives when my basic needs are not met.					
6	I believe that one needs good health and family support for power and money.					
7	I will travel in a house before I get married.					
8	I will get married only after I am sure that I can provide for my family.					
9	If I do not have my basic needs fulfilled, I will not work or marry a family.					
10	I will give priority to my own needs over my family's needs.					
11	I prefer to live in a secure environment than in a risky one.					
12	I believe that it is important to get love and affection from family and friends than money and power.					
13	I am interested in my social status because of the privilege and material wealth it brings to me.					

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14	I prefer to concentrate on gaining power and status at work after I have done my part as a husband and father.					
15	I will seek to engage in professional learning and development only after I start enjoying a sense of belonging from family and friends.					
16	I will concentrate on getting recognition and appreciation at work once I have the assurance of peaceful family life.					
17	I will try to satisfy my self-esteem needs after I have fulfilled the needs of my family.					
18	My would rather protect my family from disasters and diseases than seeking professional growth in my career.					
19	I will first seek to provide financial security for my family before achieving success at work.					
20	I will concentrate on ensuring financial reserves for post-retirement before gaining popularity and recognition at work.					
21	I prefer to have cordial relationships with my colleagues first and later pursue power and status at work.					
22	I value the emotional support I receive from my colleagues and friends than being successful at work.					
23	I am willing to sacrifice my needs for self-worth and self-esteem for the sake of family happiness.					
24	I will begin to seek prestige and status only after I have my social needs fulfilled.					
25	I will take initiatives for achieving my fullest potential when I am sure that I have satisfied the needs of my family.					
26	I will take steps to do my job efficiently and satisfy my love manager before I seek self-actualization.					

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	1 strongly disagree	2 disagree	3 neither agree nor disagree	4 agree	5 strongly agree
17. I've never really worried or thought about what it means to be a woman in this society. (1)					
18. I evaluate men as individuals, not as members of a group of oppressors. (4)					
19. I just feel like I need to be around women who share my point of view right now. (3)					
20. I care very deeply about men and women having equal opportunities in all respects. (5)					
21. It makes me really upset to think about how women have been treated so unfairly in this society for so long. (2)					
22. I do not want to have equal status with men. (1)					
23. It is very satisfying to me to be able to use my talents and skills for my work in the women's movement. (5)					
24. If I were married and my husband was offered a job in another state, it would be my obligation as his spouse to move in support of his career. (1)					
25. I don't think there is one "right" way to be a feminist. (NS)					
26. I tend to be careful when I interact with men. (NS)					
27. I believe that when people choose a career, they should not let sex role stereotypes influence their choice. (NS)					
28. I think that most women will feel most fulfilled by being a wife and mother. (1)					
29. When you think about most of the problems in the world—pollution, discrimination, the threat of nuclear war—it seems to me that most of them are caused by men. (2)					
30. I am angry that I've let men take advantage of me. (2)					
31. Being a feminist is one of a number of things that make up my identity. (NS)					
32. It only recently occurred to me that I think that it's unfair that men have the privileges they have in this society simply because they are men. (2)					
33. I feel that I am a very powerful and effective spokesperson for the women's issues I am concerned with right now. (5)					

	1 strongly disagree	2 disagree	3 neither agree nor disagree	4 agree	5 strongly agree
34. I feel angry about the way women have been left out of history text books. (NS)					
35. If I were to paint a picture or write a poem, it would probably be about women or women's issues. (1)					
36. I think that men and women had it better in the 1950s when married women were housewives and their husbands supported them. (1)					
37. Some of the men I know seem more feminist than some of the women. (4)					
38. When I see the way most men treat women, it makes me so angry. (2)					
39. I can finally feel very comfortable identifying myself as a feminist. (NS)					
40. Generally, I think that men are more interesting than women. (1)					
41. Men and women are equal but different. (NS)					
42. Recently I read something or had a specific experience that sparked my greater understanding of sexism. (2)					
43. I think that rape is sometimes the woman's fault. (1)					
44. On some level, my motivation for almost every activity I engage in is my desire for an egalitarian world. (5)					
45. I am not sure what is meant by the phrase "women are oppressed under patriarchy." (1)					
46. I think it's lucky that women aren't expected to do some of the more dangerous jobs that men are expected to do, like construction work or race car driving. (1)					
47. I have a lifelong commitment to working for social, economic, and political equality for women. (5)					
48. Particularly now, I feel most comfortable with women who share my feminist point of view. (3)					

NOTE: Numbers in parentheses at the end of items indicate the stage for that item. NS = No Stage. These items are not part of the final scales but were present in test development. They can be omitted if desired.

Feminist Identity Development Scale (FIDS)

Source: Bargal, A., & Hyde, J. S. (1991). Women's studies: A study of feminist identity development in women. *Psychology of Women Quarterly*, 15, 181-201.

Instructions

On the following pages you will find a series of statements which people might use to describe themselves. Read each statement carefully and decide to what degree you think it presently describes you. Then select one of the five answers that best describes your present agreement or disagreement with the statement.

For example, if you **strongly agree** with the statement, "I like to return to the same vacation spot year after year," you would rate the statement with the number **5** in the space provided as shown below:

	1 strongly disagree	2 disagree	3 neither agree nor disagree	4 agree	5 strongly agree
5. I like to return to the same vacation spot year after year.					

Remember to read each statement carefully and decide to what degree you think it describes you at the present time.

	1 strongly disagree	2 disagree	3 neither agree nor disagree	4 agree	5 strongly agree
1. I don't think there is any need for an Equal Rights Amendment; women are doing well. (1)					
2. Being a part of a women's community is important to me. (3)					
3. I want to work to improve women's status. (5)					
4. I feel that some men are sensitive to women's issues. (4)					
5. I used to think there wasn't a lot of sex discrimination, but now I know how much there really is. (2)					
6. Although many men are sexist, I have found that some men are very supportive of women and feminism. (4)					
7. Especially now, I feel that the other women around me give me strength. (3)					
8. I am very committed to a cause that I believe contributes to a more fair and more just world for all people. (5)					
9. While I am concerned that women be treated fairly in life, I do not see men as the enemy. (4)					
10. I share most of my social time with a few close women friends who share my feminist values. (3)					
11. I don't see much point in questioning the general expectation that men should be masculine and women should be feminine. (1)					
12. I am willing to make certain sacrifices in order to work toward making this society a non-sexist, peaceful place where all people have equal opportunities. (5)					
13. I would describe my interactions with men as cautious. (NS)					
14. One thing I especially like about being a woman is that men will offer me their seat on a crowded bus or open doors for me because I am a woman. (1)					
15. When I think about sexism, my first reaction is always anger. (NS)					
16. My social life is mainly with women these days, but there are a few men I wouldn't mind having a non-sexual friendship with. (3)					