

Pervasive Pseudo-Feminism Overriding the Feminist Ideology

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“Thus, gender ideology not only creates ideas about femininity, but it also shapes conceptions about masculinity.” — Patricia Hill Collins

Abstract

Women a decade earlier faced hardships and their presence in society was nothing more than a male manipulated societal slave. Women were deprived of their rights, isolated and suffered negligence by man as they were nothing more than objects of pleasure whose desires have been abandoned by the enslaver. By the coming of feminism, women just shattered the male-dominated show and put in their efforts to revive and gain their own individual identity and societal presence with their respective rights and duties. This research paper produces of what feminism actually is, stating some unarticulated boundations over Indian women, making it clear that why feminism is still needed and specifically looks upon the prevalent Pseudo-Feminism and Brahminical Patriarchy, which describe unidentical steps which were supposed to be identical over the pavement laid by the feminism.

Keywords: Feminism, Pseudo-Feminism, Brahmanical Patriarchy, Sexism, Misogyny, Misandry

Feminism:

The word Feminism as per Merriam-Webster is defined as "the theory of the political, economic, and social equality of the sexes" and as the "organized activity on behalf of women's rights and interests." Feminism is a word that refers to the belief that women are oppressed due to their feminity and is a cerebral pursuit that demands justice for women among all sexes. The word feminism is believed to have a long history subjecting the hardships faced by the women in addition to their aspiration of equal opportunities in male-dominated societies and thus changing the perspective of society on how they see the male and female rights. Feminism is attaining a lifestyle beyond physical body limits and making it a core thought of the ideology of feminism.

TYPES OF FEMINISM:**Liberal Feminism**

Liberal feminism promotes sexual equality among all the sexes through social, political and legal reforms. Liberal feminists do not differentiate between masculinity and femininity and strongly support women in achieving what they deserve to have. They work as a block to integrate women into a society which was earlier deprived. Abortion rights, equal wages, voting, and educational rights, female infanticide, health care, etc are some of its key objectives on which it stands for. Liberal feminism is much focussed on the present state of women and believes that revolution can be turned in favor with initial steps of equality and respecting women in society.

Radical Feminism

Radical is a Latin word, which means root. Radical feminism believes in affecting the fundamental nature of something by scrolling down to its roots.

Radical feminism suspects the male-dominated hierarchy to be responsible for the women oppression and they have a strong feeling that it can be amended by uprooting the barriers of gender. They proclaim the traditional family to be inherently sexist and want the dissolution of gender class to build out a perfect society without any privileges to men.

Cultural Feminism

Cultural feminism believes in the biological importance and anatomy of women to celebrate all the positive traits of women. Cultural feminism has a strong psychological and cultural perspective that promotes femininity, the unique features of women that are even superior to men if compared. Such feminists believe in correlated contributions of male and female dominance to enhance the society with the right inputs.

Separatist Feminism

Separatist feminism found heterosexual relationships to be the root cause of inequality in society. Such feminism promotes homosexual relationships and considers it the best way out to solve the concern of sexual differences that exist between the classes.

Separatist feminist doesn't promote men to be feminist rather they want the masculine class to step away from the concept.

They found to shun the relationships with men and start their own society, as the most effective remedy to uproot the discrimination.

Socialist Feminism

Socialist Feminism doesn't blame the patriarchy as the source of gender inequality. They believe that the financial dependence of women on men is the cause which attributes to uneven gender

balance and suppression of femininity. They believe in reforms to put an end to men dominated capitalistic society and thus to serve social, political and economic justice to women.

Ecofeminism

The ethics of ecofeminism are more philosophical and spiritual. Ecology deals with the relations of organisms to one another and to their physical surroundings and Ecofeminism are nothing but a combination of ecology, and feminism, that relates the symbolic relationship between feminism and environmentalism. They believe that men oppress women for their means and identically they do the same with the environment. Eco-Feminists promotes harmony with one another to repair suffered environmental and social injustice for long term positive consequences, just like nature teaches us to be harmonious.

Waves of Feminism:

First-wave feminism

Women in the early 20th century (1900 to 1959) had no political candidacy and property rights. Women protested against these laws and The First Wave of feminism goes back to World War I throughout the Western world, when members of the National Women's Party (NWP) strike against the government in the USA outside the White House, equipped with banners stating the undemocratic practices over the women and demanded their rights focussing on their sufferings. Their act was strong enough to influence and encourage other feminist movements to unite and gained the access to vote in addition to putting an end to legal discrimination, letting women's rights to be identified by law.

Second-wave feminism

The second wave of feminism was prevalent in the mid 20th century(the 1960s to 1980s) focussing on compulsive femininity and wanted women's liberation/radical feminism. It targetted upon eliminating existing sexual inequalities in the family, workplace and official legal differences making women inferior to men in the social structure. They were strong enough to take their stand against patriarchy and male violence. Women of this wave of feminism critically aimed at ending institutionalized discrimination and thus desire for equal opportunities at work and their own individual identity.

Third-wave feminism

The third wave (from 1900 to 2000) is more of liberal feminism focusing on embracing personal empowerment and diversified politics. It has broadened the range of considering women as individuals rather than a person with a menial job. It was against the societal framework addressing the concern that femininity is devalued and neglected. It played against the traditional ideas of masculinity and demanded liberalism, precisely liberal feminism.

Pseudo-Feminism:

Feminism isn't about becoming a bindi babe and applying black matte lipstick, wearing a white Gucci top with FEMINIST AF written in red and then shouting on the streets that "All men are filth, Girls run the world" or about to post naked pictures on Instagram exposing sensitive parts with a kickass caption to prove that women are no less than men and after then abusing the men's mentality and morality in comments. This, in my opinion, is not feminism because feminism wasn't actually ever against men rather it has a goal of eliminating gender biases to hold back someone from achieving their desires. Contemplating feminism as misandry i.e, being prejudiced against men will not pave the way which will lead to unity and women empowerment because empowering a specific gender doesn't mean to eliminate the opportunities and contributions of others.

Feminism is used as a magical cloak these days to hide the horrible mentality and arrogant behavior against human evolution. Feminists today have to become sensible enough to know that their stand against patriarchy and being anti-man is different, thus preventing themselves from becoming Pseudo-feminists. Using the word Feminism to suppress men will build up internal conflicts and bound massive participation thus deflecting the unsaid motto of equality. Men, fighting for the women in this movement are feminists who are investing in creating a responsible society and take a stand for women's safety weighing the barbarity against women that is being caused. Pseudo-feminism must be condemned to enhance the uniqueness of the word Feminism because such views could mark the beginning of pseudo masculinism which will severely affect the growth of mankind and would bring us close to extinction.

Unarticulated Societal Directives Bounding Indian Women:

Women in our country are expected to follow some unspoken traditions for peaceful survival. Being woman she is expected to participate in the household chores at a very young age. She is supposed to excel cooking while growing up and there is no personal choice for it. She is taught to follow certain behavioral manners that are to be performed by her regardless of her own natural behavior. Even in some parts of our country women are bounded to talk to men. She is brought up in a manner that her decisions are needed to be approved by a male member of her family. Among working mothers and fathers, it is just the mother who is expected to cook and do all the housework, simply because of the societal stereotype that Men Doesn't Cook. These unarticulated societal directives are imposed upon her to such an extent that even after her marriage she has no choice other than to follow them. This is something which arouses the need for feminism.

Need for feminism:

Initially, a human is born which is further classified in gender based on biological structure. Feminism is needed because the world should not just revolve around a man granted with manhood but even around women bearing a fire to hold it. Feminism is needed to shatter the

active and irrational societal stereotypes which are biased towards the manhood. Feminism is needed to make it loud and clear that women aren't sexual objects to please the manhood, they aren't the leg piece of your tandoori chicken served hot. They have the right to wear skirts in a pub as they please to and it isn't consenting and doesn't allow a man to touch them and brand her as a slut. Feminism is needed to elaborate on the meaning of the word NO, and that it is not followed by an insult. She isn't a whore when she abandons an asshole and the guy being a stud for doing the same. Feminism fetches the right to the women to get her breast examined by a male gynecologist without a second thought. It allows her to freely buy her bra without the fear of being trolled by a male salesman. Feminism is needed to sustain professionalism over harassment, as women aren't the objects of personal satisfaction manipulative to the men's desire. We need feminism for the men too, who have been treated identically by the women. Humans should understand that feminism is for the society embedded with all the sexes and is not limited to a specific gemstone.

Brahmanical Patriarchy:

Recently, Jack Dorsey, Twitter CEO was mocked on Twitter when his picture with some women journalists was out in which he was holding a poster titled "smash Brahmanical patriarchy". A storm was set off against Jack and it was proclaimed that he is a Brahmin hating racist, a bigot who is personating to be a Feminist". It was revolted to an extent that Twitter had to apologize for it immediately making a statement "I'm very sorry for this. It's not reflective of our views". It just happened because people are not aware of what Brahmanical patriarchy and feminism is and they just took it as an offense of defamation against the Brahman Caste system and started to protest.

Patriarchy by definition means "a system of society or government in which men hold the power and women are largely excluded from it" as per google. Since Brahmins was the originator of the caste system so it is frequently called as Brahmanical Patriarchy. The depiction of the word Brahmanical or Brahmanism against the Brahmin community cannot be correlated in any manner, doing it would be similar to that of considering patriarchy against men which exactly is way too different. Dr. BR Ambedkar, the Chairman of the drafting committee of the Indian Constitution once said that "There are in my view two enemies which the workers of this country have to deal with. The two enemies are Brahmanism and Capitalism. By Brahmanism, I do not mean the power, privileges, and interests of the Brahmins as a community. By Brahmanism, I mean the negation of the spirit of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity. In that sense, it is rampant in all classes and is not confined to the Brahmins alone, though they have been the originators of it". So we must understand the fact that Brahmanical patriarchy is not against Brahmanism viewed from any angle. However, it can be desired that the word must be replaced with something which just topples the delusion.

Conclusion:

Feminist Movements are to be appreciated for bringing women participation in every sphere of life, nearer or in excel to that of men, if compared and giving them an independent status to their will which was earlier restricted and privileged by men.

A Feminist should neither be against patriarchy nor matriarchy rather they both must be prevalent and should take stand for one another wherever and whenever Necessary. The motto of being a feminist is not to rule the men, preferably it is to create a society in which issues are more of humankind, fought collectively by all human sexes. Considering biological anatomy both males and females are unique and biology is not an ample justification for oppression and discrimination, so, Rather than letting anyone be dominant, they both must be the dominant ones according to the responsibilities and situation. Dominance is the necessity to avoid conflicts and if it can be proved irrespective of the situations, allowing both males and females to take it up then it should be considered open heartedly because masculine and feminine traits are not limited to gender, they are different but equal.

Well, the word egalitarianism seems to perfectly fit the theory but the word feminism just brushes up the injustice imposed upon women and enthusiastically accumulate the masses against it.

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